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A HISTORY
OF
BLACKBURN PARISH.



The Rev Robert Bolton B.A.

Robert Bolton

Born at Blackburn Lancashire 1572

Engraved by W. J. Alais for Abrams History of Blackburn

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Parish of Blackburn, County of Lancaster.

A

HISTORY

OF

BLACKBURN,

Town and Parish.

BY

WM. ALEXANDER ABRAM,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY; CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE
HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

"Out of the old fieldes, as men saithe,
Cometh al this new come fro yere to yere,
And out of old bookes, in good faithe,
Cometh al this new science that men lere."

—CHAUCER.

BLACKBURN :

J. G. & J. TOULMIN, *THE TIMES* OFFICE,
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1877.

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TO THE LIVING
AUTHOR-ANTIQUARIES OF LANCASHIRE,
WHOSE COMBINED LABOURS
HAVE RECOVERED SO MUCH LOST TREASURE
FROM THE BURIED HOARDS OF TIME,—
AND TO THE CONSTANT
PATRONS OF COUNTY HISTORICAL LITERATURE,
WHOSE SUPPORT
HAS CONTRIBUTED TO MAKE ACCESSIBLE IN BOOKS
THE RICHES OF ANTIQUE LORE
WHICH LAY HID IN OBSCURE MUNIMENTS
AND REMOTE ARCHIVES,—
This Volume of Parish History
IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

while the price of the book has not been raised, I do not grudge in the least, so long as I can indulge in the belief that the credit of thoroughness will be accorded me by discriminating readers, and by experienced antiquaries who know what a Parish History ought to be and to comprehend.

I have bestowed much space and expended an unusual amount of work upon the accounts of old native families of inferior social rank to the Manorial Lords, namely, to the smaller Freeholders, lesser Gentry and Yeomen, as well as to those of the Merchant class who have attained to local repute within the last century or so. My reason for inserting such sketches of families of our old yeomen and lesser gentry as can be made out by parish registers and public records, in conjunction with family papers and title-deeds, is the fact that the history of families is the history of estates in the case of the smaller as of the larger properties; and to ignore the succession to the minor freeholds is to leave the memorials of many a rural township practically unretrieved. The total number of families and distinct branches of families genealogically noticed in this History is nearly 300. Of necessity, some of the more obscure descents have not been traced to the last survivor or in much detail; but even in the slightest outline of a family story, clues may be afforded to readers, now or hereafter, who may have a personal interest in pursuing the traces of ancestral alliance, estate, and domicile. Ampler and more minute genealogies have been carefully worked out of all the more important and long-standing territorial families, who are both many and honourable in the history of this Parish.

My final and very conscious obligation is to acknowledge the invaluable help which I have received from some of the highest authorities in archæology, genealogy, and general antiquities, and to offer my grateful thanks to those literary friends, generous as learned, who have thus given me the benefit of their extensive knowledge and large experience in authorship. To William Langton, Esq., a veteran genealogist whose sheaved and garnered harvests of research have enriched so many publications of the Chetham Society, I am deeply beholden for the freest communication of exclusive information respecting the intricate descents of the important ancient families of Banastre, Langton, Hoghton, Cliderhou, Talbot, Osbaldeston, Shuttleworth, Holland, Southworth, and others. Mr. Langton's name is the assurance of severe and scrupulous accuracy among antiquaries, and I am fortunate to have enlisted his most kindly interest in my work. From the Rev. Canon Raines, M.A., F.S.A.—both in references to his published works and in private communications of notes from his noble collection of *Lancashire MSS.*—I have derived an unreckoned number of interesting and authentic items bearing upon the ecclesiastical and civil annals of this parish. Mr. W. Angelo Wad-

dington, of Burnley, besides various other kindnesses, has made specially for me a very pretty drawing of the old Manor-House of Martholme, after which the engraving was executed which is inserted in the volume. Wm. Haworth, Esq., of Fence-in-Pendle, has supplied a mass of interesting particulars respecting the several families of Haworth seated in this parish, and other allied families. To J. E. Bailey, Esq., F.S.A., of Stretford; J. P. Earwaker, Esq., F.S.A., of Withington; Wm. Dobson, Esq., F.S.A., of Fulwood; Lt.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A., of Carr Hill, Rochdale; and Wm. Gourlay, Esq., of Blackburn, I owe the gift of valuable items scattered through the work. My friend, Wm. Thomas Ashton, Esq., of Ashdale, Darwen, has helped me heartily and liberally in the preparation of my account of that important town and township. From John Walmesley, Esq., of Totnes; Edgar S. Holland, Esq., of Liverpool; Rev. C. B. Norecliffe, of York; Rev. M. Hedley, M.A., Vicar of Langho; Thomas Woodcock, Esq., of Haslingden; Robert Hubberstey, Esq., of Samlesbury; Mr. D. Geddes, Librarian of Blackburn Free Library; and Mr. H. Stevenson, junr., of Haslingden, I have had sundry communications which have been utilised in the accounts of families, churches, &c., in the different townships, and hereby express my thanks for the same.

No small proportion of the original materials employed in the composition of this history has been secured to me by the favour of the Vicar of Blackburn, the Venerable Archdeacon Birch, who from the first has given me the utmost facilities for repeated reference to the Parish Registers, and for the transcription of a large number of documents relating to the history of the Parish Church of Blackburn with its dependent Chapels, and of the Rectory and Vicarage of Blackburn. But for this enlightened liberality of Archdeacon Birch, an indispensable branch of Parish History must have been left comparatively imperfect, which I have thereby been enabled to fill from those voluminous sources—the Coucher Books at the Vicarage. In the annals of the Blackburn Grammar School, I have in like manner been obliged by A. I. Robinson, Esq., Clerk to the Governors, with the free use of the Manuscript Records of the Foundation, covering three centuries, hitherto entirely unnoticed.

My learned neighbour, whom I esteem it a privilege to call my friend, the Rev. Alexander B. Grosart, LL.D., has with characteristic generosity given me the use of his fine library of the old literature and the benefit of his literary counsel and practical aid in the preparation of my pages.

From William Harrison, Esq., F.S.A., of Samlesbury Hall, I have received many valuable suggestions, and materials from the muniment-chest of the Samlesbury manor-estate; and have to thank that gentleman

also for the use of his papers concerning the Samlesbury Charities, and of the engraved blocks of Samlesbury Church and Lower Hall, &c.; and for his permission to copy by autotype the beautiful plate of the exterior of Samlesbury Hall prepared for the folio *History of Samlesbury Hall* privately printed for Mr. Harrison. Jonathan Peel, Esq., of Knowlmer Manor, has favoured me with notes from his extensive manuscript collections for the family history of the Peels which has just been printed privately in a neat volume. Colonel Butler-Bowdon, of Pleasington Hall, courteously lent me two large MS. volumes in his possession relating to the descents of the families of Butler and Bowdon and to the manor-estate of Pleasington. Alderman John Pickop, of Blackburn, placed at my use a large and useful series of deeds of his family estate in Livesey and Tockholes. Messrs. Edward and Joseph Dugdale kindly allowed me to make extracts from the deeds of their estates of Oxendale and Studlehurst in Osbaldeston.

I have cause to lament the decease, before my work had reached its close, of several gentlemen who had manifested a friendly interest in its progress. The late Sir James Phillips Kay-Shuttleworth, Bart., gave me the kindest encouragement and assistance in various ways, and commended my work in influential quarters. Sir Henry de Hoghton, Bart., of Hoghton Tower, who died in December last, had honoured me by the expression of his desire to see this History, in which the ancient family of Hoghton occupies an eminent place, and of his confidence that the work would be competently done. My familiar friend the late Alderman T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S., of Burnley, died soon after the work of printing this volume had begun, the preparation of which he had often urged me to undertake, and by his decease I am deprived of the pleasure of placing the result of my toil in the hands of an able and experienced Lancashire antiquary—a native of this Parish.

I cannot refrain from placing on record my indebtedness to George Toulmin, Esq., proprietor of *The Preston Guardian*, whose friendly promptings did much in the outset to stimulate my adventure upon the somewhat formidable undertaking of producing this volume, and whose business sagacity and technical knowledge have been brought to bear in the printing of the work. Mr. Toulmin's sustained and liberal efforts to promote the illustration of local history in the columns of *The Guardian* have received due recognition by men of learning and research in Lancashire.

In conclusion, whilst bespeaking, as I trust I may, a not ungenerous reception of my book by those whose judgment will be held authoritative, let me confess I cannot suppose that much of its subject-matter will appear of great import to readers who have no personal nor family

association with this part of the country. He who writes local history is aware that on the wide field of a nation's historical literature his work must occupy an obscure nook ; and that details which may give it a special interest on the spot, will be passed by as paltry and tedious by distant critics. Except, perhaps, in certain particulars of the archæology of the district ; in the narrative of local transactions of the great Civil War, including important battles ; in memorials of men of public fame sprung from the Parish ; and in illustrations of early domestic architecture in several of our fine old halls and mansions, I do not claim a more than provincial usefulness for the product of my labour. Albeit it has been settled by a consensus of high literary authorities that full and careful Parish Histories should be written, as tributary streams to the main current of the national history. If, then, this volume should be accepted as a fair type of the needful local record, my expectation will be fully satisfied.

WM. ALEXANDER ABRAM.

Blackburn, August, 1877.

CORRECTIONS.

PAGE.

- 44 line 2 : for "Narman" read "Norman."
158 line 19 : for "disotdered" read "disordered."
200 line 16 : the initials "W H M" stand for "William and Mary Harwood."
213 line 4 from bottom : for "1698" read "1693."
261 line 14 from bottom : add that Myles Aspinall, gent., who married in 1763, died, aged 80, Sept. 11, 1799, and was father of John Aspinall, born in 1757, died Feb. 27, 1833, whose son, Lawrence Aspinall, born in 1791, died May 11, 1840.
269 line 13 from bottom : for "Nov. 9, 1645," read "1615."
292 bottom line (note) : for "Little Harwood" read "Mellor."
335 line 13 : for "Lang" read "Lacy."
349 line 5 : for "1791, ceased 1787" read "1787, ceased 1791."
362 line 5 : for "June 18th" read "June 25th."
369 line 9 : for "1865" read "1875."
374 line 12 from bottom : for "Feb. 5th, 1875" read "1874."
376 line 6 from bottom, col. 2 : for "John Dean, Esq.," read "T. H. Pickup, Esq."
382 line 21 : for "Markland" read "Martland."
392 line 15 from bottom : after "Rev. W. Higgin" add "D.D., afterwards Bishop of Derry."
397 line 19 : Peter Haworth, second son of Thomas, had issue, Thomas, of London, apothecary; John, of Bristol; Hugh; and Richard of Chancery Lane, London, apothecary.
403 line 4 : after "Richard" add "bapt. Dec. 29, 1767."
404 line 11 from bottom : Alice Sudell, who married Joseph Hankinson, was daughter of John Sudell who died in 1733, not of the John who died in 1785.
406 Note : in this epitaph for "Pretate" read "Pietate," for "præcipiæ" read "præcipue," and for "indentus" read "intentus."
411 line 9 from bottom : for "565-6" read "365-6."
433 line 26 : for "died before 1570" read "was buried Sept. 9, 1564."
433 line 33 : for "before 1586" read "Oct. 23, 1580."
447 line 8 from bottom : after "Cunliffe" add "He was buried Nov. 2, 1594."
469 line 18 : after "Ryvington" add "His son and heir, John Bradshaw, was aged 22 years."
469 line 15 from bottom : after "rent" add "derived from his mother, Anne, daughter and heir of John de Ardern, lord of Nether Darwen."
479 line 19 from bottom : for "Thomas" read "John."
482 line 12 from bottom : for "no" read "not."
510 line 12 : for "1832" read "1852."
510 line 3 from bottom : for "died about the year 1627" read "buried April 18, 1628."
538 line 9 : for "the land meadow" read "the low meadow."
572 line 11 from bottom : for "All Soulue" read "All Soulne."
576 line 15 : for "1693-4" read "1694."
722 line 3 from bottom : for "with rental" read "with a rental."

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HISTORY OF BLACKBURN.

BOOK I.—GENERAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.—ROMAN AND SAXON PERIODS.

Name—Physical Features—Aboriginal Condition—Roman Conquest and Occupation—Roman Roads and Stations—Ribchester—Walton-in-le-Dale—Romano-British Tumulus at Whitehall, Over Darwen—Withdrawal of Roman Garrisons—Advent of Saxons—Saxon Wars—Battle of Billingham—Conflicts of Saxons and Danes—Battle of Brunanburh—Danish Treasure discovered at Cuerdale—Saxon Settlements in the Parish, and local Nomenclature.

BLACKBURN is the name borne since Saxon times by one of the chief territorial divisions of Lancashire, as well as by a parochial subdivision of that division and by a town or township within the parish so named. It has been matter for curious but fruitless speculation how the descriptive designation of one of the smallest of the streams that water this extensive tract—the Blake-burne—should have come to be adopted originally as the appellation of a shire—*i.e.* Blakeburneshyre,—afterwards of the Hundred, in addition to its appropriation as the name of a large parish of many townships constituted within the Hundred, and naturally as that of the particular township through which the stream runs in its short course of two or three miles. Had the town of Blackburn been anciently a central fortified place of Blackburnshire,—the seat of the chief lord of the district,—the comprehensive use of the name would be more explicable; but this is not the case. Blackburn was not primitively either the civil or ecclesiastical centre of the Hundred; it was not even a corporate town, as Clitheroe, the focus of

Norman authority in East-Lancashire, or Preston, the capital of Amounderness; and it was not until a very modern date and through the establishment of manufactures within it, that the town of Blackburn became distinguished in the district by its populousness and commercial supremacy.

It is intended to limit the present historical survey to that portion of Blackburn Hundred forming the ancient Parish of Blackburn. This Parish, at an early period not exactly ascertained, was separated from the older parish of Whalley, as is mentioned in an ancient document hereafter to be referred to.

The Parish of Blackburn is estimated to contain 43,569 statute acres. Its physical geography is comprised chiefly in the northern slopes of two ranges of hills which trend N.E. and S.W. across this portion of Lancashire, and the valley lying between these ranges. The series of hills occupying the mid-portion of the parish is that which commences with the rock of Hoghton and continues in the successive ridges of Billinge Hill, Revidge Heights, Wilpshire Moor, and Billington Moor. Mellor Moor and Ramsgreave Heights form a spur of the range. Southward of the Parish, forming its bound and the water-shed of Mid-Lancashire, extend lofty moorlands, the largest masses of which are Tockholes Moor, Darwen Moor, and Cranberry Moss. Cartridge Hill, the westerly summit of these moors, rises 1,316 feet above the sea-level. Projecting northwards from this range are the hills of lower altitude between the townships of Over Darwen, Livesey and Tockholes, and, more to the east, a ridge descending gradually from Blacksnape Heights through Hoddlesden to Lower Darwen and Blackburn. These hills surround the upper portion of the valley of the Darwen. The Ribble is the boundary of the Parish on the north side, from end to end; and the Calder, a main affluent of the Ribble, is with its tributary the Hyndburn the parish limit on the east. The river Darwen may be said to belong to the parish through its entire course. Its source is among the swampy wastes of Cranberry Moss, on the line of the division between Salford and Blackburn Hundreds. It descends rapidly through the town of Over Darwen, is joined at Dob Meadows by the Sunnyhurst brook, passes through Lower Darwen township, and thus reaches the township of Blackburn, of which it is the boundary to the west. At Feniscliffe bridge, in Witton Park, the Darwen is replenished by the Blakewater, a stream which descends from the hills of Oswaldtwistle, combines to the east of Blackburn with the Little Harwood brook, and flows through the midst of the townships of Blackburn and Witton until it merges into the Darwen. Another subsidiary stream is the Roddlesworth, which springs on the high ground above Hollinshead Hall, flows northward between

the townships of Tockholes and Wheelton, and, until it mingles with the Darwen, divides the Hundreds of Blackburn and Leyland. Its point of junction is the grounds of Feniscowles Hall. Flowing onwards through the ravine beneath Hoghton Tower, the Darwen is the boundary of the Parish until the line branches off to embrace the township of Walton-le-Dale on the left bank of the Darwen, which discharges itself into the Ribble near Walton bridge.

No historic account of this or any other part of Britain exists of an older date than the first Roman invasion. Accordingly, obscurity rests upon the movements and settlements of the native races prior to that period. The Romans, on their advent, found the northern provinces of the country peopled by various tribes of Celtic extraction; and of these the great tribe of the *Brigantes* was reputed to be the most powerful. The realm of the Brigantes was then, and had probably been for some centuries, the belt of territory now embraced in the counties of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Westmoreland and Durham. The Roman historians, in chronicling the spread of the Roman power in Britain, became also the earliest annalists of a land destined one day to eclipse their own in all the elements of national greatness.

When the civilisation of Greece was passing into senility, and even that of Rome had attained its zenith, our island was still the hunting-ground of savages. The face of the land was for the most part covered with morass and forest, through which wandered naked men, who abhorred the settled habits of systematic husbandry. The personal aspect of the Brigantes and the British tribes generally is described by Strabo and Tacitus. The Teutonic and Scandinavian types were found in the natives of Southern England and Eastern Scotland; but in the North of England the inhabitants had the swarthy visage and black curly hair of the Celtic variety of mankind. In stature, Strabo says, the Britons were taller than the Gauls, but their limbs hung loosely, and their bodies were not so symmetrically formed. The stalwart Brigantes of Lancashire, and the intrepid Silures and Ordovices of Wales, were among the best types of the nomadic races which filled the borders of Britain at the epoch when our country emerges from the cimmerian shadow of a *terra incognita*, and first begins to figure in the written story of human development.

Dwelling, as they did, in rude and temporary habitations, and having no towns of any note, it is not strange that the aborigines of this country should have left few enduring marks behind them. The sole vestiges of that period of British antiquity that Time still spares are the ranges of massive stones which constituted their temples, and the earth-mounds of their burial places.

Very slight traces of the ancient language of Britain survive in this

locality. The geographical nomenclature of East Lancashire is almost wholly Saxon. In the names of two or three of our hills and streams the Celtic element is, however, recognised, as in that of our highest mountain, *Pendle* (formerly *Penhull*), in which the first syllable is Celtic. *Ribble*, *Calder*, *Darwen*, *Irwell*, the appellations of our principal rivers, possibly are of British origin. *Rigodunum*, the ancient name of Ribchester, is said also to be British,—that being one of the few urban settlements or permanent fortresses of the Brigantes before the Roman appropriation which raised it to the celebrity of a chief Roman station and city.

The first invasion of England, by Julius Cæsar, took place 55 years before Christ; but it was not until A.D. 78, that the Lancashire aborigines were made effectually to feel the force of martial Rome. In that year Agricola, the ablest general that ever commanded the Roman army of occupation in Britain, was despatched hither. Having pacified Wales during the winter, Agricola, in the spring of the year 79, made preparations to consummate the conquest of the country lying beyond the Mersey and the Humber. He concentrated at *Deva* (Chester) the largest Roman force that had ever operated in Britain, numbering, it is said, about 30,000 foot and 6,000 cavalry. He made a preliminary survey of the country he now proposed to occupy, and then, passing the Mersey, marched his army across the plains and mountains of South and East Lancashire, into Yorkshire. The native warriors offered what resistance they might in their desultory mode of fighting, but they could make no stand against the disciplined legionaries of Agricola, who at the end of a single year was master of all the fastnesses of the Brigantes.

ROMAN ROADS AND STATIONS.

The slender testimony of history regarding the victories of the Romans and the acts of their generals, is to some extent supplemented by the mute but honest evidence afforded by the remains of the engineering works they undertook, and of the military camps and civil colonies they established. The Roman Roads of Britain exist to this day, after the lapse of eighteen centuries, as proofs of the thoroughness of the Roman conquest of the island. Lancashire presents abundant remains of these wonderful roads, and the Parish of Blackburn contains many interesting vestiges. Three of the four principal roads constructed by the Romans in Lancashire traversed some portion of the Parish:—
 1. The lower road from the south to Carlisle, intersected the township of Walton-in-le-Dale. 2. The road from Manchester to Overborough crossed the Parish at its broadest part. 3. The road from the sea to the interior, which formed the communication between the “Sistuntian Port”

(on the Wyre) and Ribchester, Ilkley-in-Wharfedale, Aldborough and York, enters Blackburn Parish at Ribchester, by a ford over the Ribble, and after traversing the townships of Salesbury, Dinkley, and Billington, crosses the Calder at Potter Ford, a little below Whalley Abbey. Besides the broad and solid Roman roads forming the great military routes, a number of vicinal or branch roads, of much simpler construction, were used for communication between stations situated on parallel lines of main road. In Blackburn district some of these vicinal ways have been traced out. One such by-road proceeded along the vale of Calder by Whalley to Burnley, and through Cliviger over the mountains to *Cambodunum* (Slack). The late Rev. E. Sibson, in a paper on the Roman Roads of the Wigan district, speaks of a road of this kind which branched off eastward from Blackrod, "Street-fold and Water-street, near Rivington, and by White Hough, in Tockholes, to the small Roman station at Blackburn, near the new road to Preston." "This road is traced in the fields near Anglezark, and a tradition is still preserved among the inhabitants of that district, that this was the old road to Blackburn."¹

The Roman military roads—the few great lines first constructed in a newly-entered territory, to quicken the march of the cohorts and the transport of material—were the most massive of their works in road-making. The plan of their construction was as follows:—Two deep furrows were cut parallel to each other, about twenty-one feet apart, and the subsoil between them was dug out until a solid surface was reached. This hollow was filled up with layers of small stones and gravel, in some instances mingled with lime, and hammered down to a state of great hardness. Upon the surface the road was paved with large pebbles brought from the beds of streams, or with squared flagstones carefully adjusted. The same road at different places is paved either with pebbles or flag-stones, whichever lay convenient. The public roads, built when the military roads were no longer equal to the commercial requirements of the Roman colonists, were usually about fourteen feet in width, and unpaved. The broad military roads were constructed with rigid geometrical accuracy, being carried forward in straight lines, regardless of obstacles in the shape of bog-lands, steep gradients, or rough water-courses. No deviation from the line was permitted, except an angle might be struck at the summit of a hill, in order to preserve the high ground through the remainder of the route. In the inferior roads the straight line is less strictly kept, and the low courses of valleys are sometimes followed. These characteristics enable us generally to determine to which of the varieties of construction any Roman road belongs.

¹ Hist. Lanc., first edn., v. iii, p. 585.

The Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester which bisected the Parish of Blackburn had apparently been a military road of the first importance. It was solidly underlaid with gravel and carefully paved; it preserves the straight line throughout, and it keeps the high ground, commanding the country on either hand. Some Lancashire antiquaries insist that this was the veritable Tenth Iter of Antoninus; others, influenced by the fact that Ribchester (*Rigodunum*) is not specified as upon that Iter, pronounce the road through Wigan and Walton to be the Tenth Iter—a road, judged by its existing remains, of inferior construction to the higher road. However this may be, the road which went through Blackburn parish and town was certainly one of the most useful of the military ways of the Romans in the North of England. It directly connected the two most renowned Roman stations in Western Brigantia, namely, *Manucium* (Manchester) and *Rigodunum* (Ribchester). It enabled the Roman generals to penetrate the interior of the country, and to overawe the sullen barbarians who made the vast woods of East Lancashire their covert. It might well be that the construction of this indispensable road was one of the chief works of the indomitable Agricola in his second campaign (A.D. 79); and that throughout the summer thousands of hardy Roman warriors swarmed upon this mountain-track, some keeping guard on its highest summits, while the rest diligently laid the road under the direction of the imperial engineers.

This road left Manchester at or near the line of the modern street called "Strangeways," and continued for some miles along the ground now traversed by the New Bury-road.¹ In the neighbourhood of Manchester every trace of the ancient pavement has been obliterated, but its tradition is preserved in the name of a back-street upon the line in Higher Broughton. The route passes through the village of Prestwich, crosses the Irwell near Radcliffe Bridge, and proceeds about two miles to the west of Bury, where it abuts upon a lane which still bears the name of "Blackburn-street." Afterwards it runs by Tottington, Turton, and Edgeworth, over the highest part of a hill called Offside, and enters the Parish of Blackburn a short distance to the south of the village of Blacksnape. The writer has at various times examined the line of the road from Blacksnape to Ribchester. Standing on the top of Blacksnape Heights, where the weather-beaten cottages of the coal-miners straggle over the bare hill, a long stretch of the Roman route is visible both southwards and northwards. The present highway from Bury to Blackburn keeps very near to the ancient road for some miles until it approaches Blackburn. In the valleys the modern road breaks away

¹ See an account of the road, with sketch-map of route, by John Just, in *Memoirs of Manch. Lit. and Phil. Soc.*, v. vii (N.S.), pp. 1-21.

here and there from the straight line, to ease the descent and ascent, but rejoins the Roman work where it approaches the summit of a ridge. Looking south from Blacksnape the road is seen running boldly over the brow of Offside; and in the opposite direction it pursues the high ground of Lower Darwen township, descends the Whinny Heights into the valley of the Blakewater, and again strikes the line on the tops of Revidge, of Ramsgreave, and of Longridge Fell in the far distance. The Ordnance surveyors found that this road never swerved from the direct line, except by a slight angle at Blacksnape. The remains of the road itself are not easy of detection for a great portion of the distance. Wherever the modern road stands on the old military agger it is impossible that after the wear and tear and repairs of so many centuries any external traces of the original pavement should present themselves. In the neighbourhood of large populations, also, the constant disturbances of the surface have effaced such remains; and, again, in parts of the route where the land has been repeatedly ploughed and drained, the pavements laid by Agricola's legionaries have been torn up and carted away by the farmer, with whom the interests of archæology are naught to the effectual clearance of the land from stones. Accordingly, as a rule, the only spots at which complete and continuous portions of the Roman roads can now be distinguished are where their firm, rigid tracks cross unfrequented moorlands, and now and then on the surface of unbroken pasture-land, or where the old road has been utilised as an occupation-road upon the farms. In its descent from Blacksnape in the direction of Blackburn, the Roman line is identical with that of the highway for about half-a-mile, when the modern road bears a little to the left where it is intersected by the old bye-road from Hoddlesden to Darwen. At this point, under the wall at the corner at which the Roman road enters the field, are some signs of a hard pavement, but through the fields beyond a close inspection failed to detect any certain indication until the ruinous tenements at Harwood Fold are reached. There, at the corner of the field, remains on the exact line of the agger are exposed. On the descent of the hill towards the coal-pit the footway down the fields, precisely on the Roman line, is paved for some distance with thick flag-stones. The ground hereabouts, if carefully examined, could hardly fail to disclose evidences of Roman work. Passing the coal-pit on the left, the Roman road rejoins the present road, at the point known as the "Flash," and thence it proceeds on nearly the same line, crossing the Eccleshill Brook a little to the right of the bridge, through the village of Blackamoor; beyond it the present road once more bends to the left for its descent into Blackburn. The Roman road still kept its undeviating way, its direction being indicated by a tree standing in the middle of a

field at Whinny Heights, a short distance to the west of the Union Workhouse. Crossing the Belthorn road at Brandy House Brow, the Roman road drops over the scarp of the stone-quarry. No remains of the road have been noted where it crosses the town of Blackburn, but the direct course it took would lie over the hill of Lower Audley to Cicely Bridge, past the east end of the Railway Station, over the site of Dutton's Brewery, across the thoroughfares of Salford, Penny Street, and James Street. Thence, through the Brookhouse Fields, it ascended the hill, and rejoined the modern road at the Hole i'th' Wall Inn, Shire Brow. The Roman road then runs through the meadow on the left of the highway to Lane Ends, over the site of the School. Here the heights of Ramsgreave come in view, and the line of the Roman road is hit by a farm-house on the top of that hill. It crossed the intervening valley a little to the left of the farm-house of Higher Waves. In these fields the traces of the road are slight and unsatisfactory. But when the summit of Ramsgreave is passed, an interesting section of the agger is presented. A well-paved farm-road goes down from the farm-yard into the fields. From the top of this road, standing strictly on the line of the Roman way, the Ribble valley is seen spreading itself finely before the spectator. A little to the west, on the summit of Mellor Moor, are still to be seen the *fosse* and *vallum* of a small Roman camp of observation. Ribchester, once the centre of Roman power in these parts, is well in view at the bottom of the extended valley, and lines of fences mark out the track of the road from where we stand to the Ribble bank opposite the station. As the background to Ribchester rises Longridge Fell, and the plain appearance of a lighter strip running across the dark sward of the Fell shows the continuation of this great road to the top of Longridge. The lane to which we have referred ends in a footpath, following which for about three hundred yards is come upon a palpable specimen of Roman road. For several yards the pavement lies bare and regular in the midst of the pasture, every stone lying where the Roman road-maker set it in the first century of the Christian era. The pebbles or boulders of which this pavement is composed are very similar in size to those which were used for the streets of our English towns before the general substitution of squared "setts." Beneath the paved surface is a hard bed of gravel, the depth of which could only be ascertained by hacking up a portion of the road. A little further on in these fields, before reaching the cottages, a second portion of the agger appears distinct above the ground. Again, near the gate at the end of the occupation road which runs forward from Midge Hall, another perfect example of the road is exposed to view. On reaching the farm-house called Harwood Fold (the second homestead of that

name which stands upon the road in this parish), once more appears an obvious specimen of the pavement at the margin of the meadow, just beyond the farm-yard. The vestiges here mentioned are but the results of superficial examinations ;—if arrangements could be made to cut across a segment of the road in the vicinity of these remains, useful information as to the dimensions and substratum of the road might be supplied. After leaving Harwood Fold, the agger crosses the Preston and Whalley turnpike some hundreds of yards to the east of the Royal Oak Inn, advances across the fields past Stubby-Lee House, and down the occupation-road towards Ribchester. On reaching the high bank of the Ribble, the road is for the first time diverted by a sharp angle and carried down to the ford of the river below Ribchester Bridge.

The second road carried through a portion of the Parish by the Romans during their occupancy of the island, is that which extends from the Sistuntian Port to York. Near Ribchester this road crossed to the south bank of Ribble, and passed a short distance above Salesbury Hall. Mr. Just, who carefully surveyed the road, observes¹ :—

Fine continuous remains hence mark the course of the road, and the investigator can see the line before him now in bold elevations across the fields, or, still more marked, near farm houses and outbuildings, and not unfrequently in occupation roads, from such continuing along the Roman line for early and present advantage.

From Salesbury the road advances into Dinkley, and then crosses Dinkley Brook below Langho Chapel. It proceeds in a direct line behind Brockhole to Hacking, where it runs in the rear of the Hall, and had its ford over the Calder below the modern crossing-place at Potter's Ford. What seems to be a section of the agger is a very evident rib crossing the large field immediately to the south of Crow Wood, exactly on the line of road as marked by the ordnance surveyors. Beyond the Calder the route is through the Parish of Whalley to the Yorkshire border.

The other Roman road to the North, through Wigan, Preston, and Lancaster, at Walton-in-le-Dale crosses an extremity of the Parish. Mr. Hardwick, who has made diligent search for Roman remains in Walton township, and was the first to demonstrate the existence there of a considerable Roman station, asserts that a "broad agger is still traceable" southward from the Ribble through Walton village ; that "during the erection of Mr. Calvert's shed, which crosses its line," the workmen "came upon a compact mass of road material, so hard that a pickaxe could scarcely penetrate it ;" and that "near Brownedge Chapel there appears still to exist a large fragment of the Roman highway, now used as a private road, but marked on the ordnance map as 'Mainway gate.'²"

¹ Hist. Soc. Lanc. and Ches. Papers, v. iii, p. 6. ² Ib. v. viii, p. 13a. 2

Other traces of the causeway, both to the north of Ribble and to the south of Walton, authenticate this line of road, and prove that the Romans possessed duplicate lines of road and stations throughout the length of the county. Whether the two great parallel roads were constructed simultaneously; or, if not, which of the twain was first undertaken, is unknown; but it has been suggested that the difficulties of the more elevated route over Blacksnape, Longridge, and Croasdale caused it, as the country became pacified, to be neglected for the level and less-exposed road through the plains of West Lancashire. The cross-road from Ribchester to Preston would supply a roundabout communication with Manchester, Lancaster, and the other Lancashire stations. In summer the highland road would be practicable and even pleasant, but during the gales and snows of winter even the inured Roman soldiery might be fain to seek a more sheltered path.

It is not necessary here to extend the retrospect of the long period of the Roman occupation of Britain. That occupation endured, so far as this part of the island is concerned, for about 369 years, from the advance of Agricola, A.D. 79, to the final withdrawal of the Roman garrisons, about the year 448. The tranquillity of subjection established by the considerate policy of Agricola lasted, with occasional interruptions, for more than a century; and the prosperity of the empire of Rome, in which its British colonies shared, culminated in the reign of Antoninus Pius, who acceded in the year 138. In the preceding reign the Emperor Adrian conducted in person a series of military operations against the tribes of North Britain, and built the celebrated wall which bears his name from Solway to Wallsend on the Tyne. From the middle of the second century the degeneracy of the Roman government and people was rapid, and the anarchy of the home provinces influenced for ill the condition of the distant dependencies of Rome. In the year 208 Britain received another imperial visitor, the Emperor Severus, who, hearing that the colony was overrun by marauders out of Caledonia, hastened hither to restore order and to reduce these northern tribes. Severus established his court at *Eboracum* (York), where, in the year 211, he died. Again, A.D. 306, Constantine, who had been declared Emperor of the western half of the partitioned empire, sojourned in Britain, and also died at York, when his son, Constantine the Great, was proclaimed emperor in that city. The garrisons of the Romans in Britain consisted, for many generations after the conquest, of three legions—the Second, spread over the southern provinces of the country; the Sixth, whose head quarters were at York; and the Twentieth, which was quartered at Chester, with detachments at various stations in the north-western territory.

ROMAN RIBCHESTER.

Of the numerous stations occupied by the Romans in Lancashire, those of *Rigodunum* (Ribchester), and *Coccium* (Walton), were situated in the lower portion of the Vale of Ribble. Ribchester was a station of the first importance. *Rigodunum* was the name by which it was known to Ptolemy as a British post. The ancient name of its beautiful river was *Belisama*. The Roman nomenclature of the place is not yet satisfactorily settled. It stands as *Coccium* on the Tenth Iter of Antoninus, if we accept for that Iter the great road from Manchester to Overborough; and a local antiquary made an ingenious attempt to find the etymology of *Coccium* in *Rigodunum*. But subsequent researches in the perplexed subject of the Roman topography of Lancashire have led to the fixing of *Coccium* at Walton-in-le-Dale.

The position of Ribchester, lying in the centre of the Lancashire portion of the valley of the Ribble, was, in a military point of view, at once commanding and secure. Across Ribchester, the valley shows its greatest expanse, and one of the few fords of the river is hard by. The station stood, like the modern village, on the north side of the Ribble, protected in front by the steepness of the other bank and by the deep pools of the river; and having to the east a natural defence in the brook which there descends into the Ribble. The western wall was washed by a small canal connected with the river below Anchor Hill. In the rear the ground is sufficiently open to permit of effectual precaution against surprise. Moreover, the station occupied the intersection of two principal roads of the Romans in the north-west of England, which supplied the city with four grand routes, answering to the four points of the compass, affording direct communication with every portion of the British colony. The foundation of the Roman station here is supposed to date from the latter years of the first century. The notion that Ribchester was a Roman seaport, occasioned by the discovery there of small anchors, mooring rings, and other nautical implements, has been exploded. The Ribble could never have been a tidal and navigable water up to Ribchester since the geologic epoch, incomputably remote, when the marshy lands of West Lancashire emerged from the sea, for those districts lie considerably below the level of Ribchester; and as we know that the Romans had both stations and roads in the Fylde country, it is obvious that Roman shipping could at no time have been floated on the tides of Ribble so far inland. The anchors and rings seen at Ribchester must have belonged to barges employed to ferry men and stores across the river opposite to "Anchor Hill." The area of the Roman circumvallation at Ribchester is ascertained to have been about

ten statute acres. The length of the rectangle of the fortifications was 300 yards, and its breadth from 130 to 140 yards. Over a considerable portion of this area the current of the Ribble now flows. The river, after running due west until it reaches Ribchester, bends quickly to the south opposite the village, the situation of which, being at the outer edge of the curve, is exposed to the inroads of the current. The Ribble is subject to heavy floods after continued rains, being fed by many streams coming down from the fells, and on these occasions large portions of the north bank are frequently torn away by the impetuous torrent, in spite of recent attempts to break its force by facing the bank with massive stones. This process of encroachment, going on without intermission for 1,800 years since the Roman ramparts were reared, has shifted the bed of the river at this point to an extent more than equal to the width of the stream; and has submerged about one-third of the site of the ancient station. The eastern angle of the Roman camp now lies separated from the rest of the area on the south side of the Ribble, and within the township of Clayton-in-le-Dale in Blackburn Parish.

The limited dimensions of the walled enclosure at Ribchester may hardly be consonant with the conception of a populous and spacious city; but it should be considered that these lines only covered the camp of the Roman garrison. According to the Roman castrametral system, even such an area as that of Ribchester was capable of holding in an emergency one entire legion with its auxiliaries, about 9,000 men. The villas of the affluent and the huts of the indigent civilians of ancient Ribchester might, at the period of its highest prosperity, surround for some distance the military enclosure. The garrison of Ribchester consisted, as appears from inscriptions found there, of detachments of the Sixth Legion from *Eboracum*, of the Twentieth Legion from *Deva*, and of wings of the Sarmatian horse and of the Astures—auxiliaries brought from distant subject territories of the empire. The Sarmatians, who were of the same race with the Cossack horsemen of the modern Russian armies, are believed to have constituted the ordinary garrison of this station.

A brief summary of the numerous discoveries of antiquities which have been made at this famous spot may not be out of place in these pages. The earliest note of the remains here is made by Leland, antiquary to Henry VIII., who made his itineration of the kingdom within the years 1544-50. He leaves of the Ribchester of his day this short but expressive record:—"Ribchestre is a vii. miles above Preston, on the farther Ripe of Ribyl as Prestun is. Ribchestre is now a poore thing; it hath been an aunciente towne. Great squarid stones, voutes, and antique coynes be founde ther; and ther is a place wher the

people fable that the Jues had a temple [the common folk attributed Roman remains to the Jews]. Whaulley Abbay a 4 miles above Ribchestre on the same Ripe. Sawley Abbay a — miles above that, but it stonidith *ripa citeriori*. There is no Bridge on Rible betwixt Prestun and the Se. It flouith and ebbith in Ribyl most comunely more then half way up betwixt Prestun and Ribchestre, and at ragis of Spring Tydes farther.¹

Camden, who was at Ribchester twice, in 1582 and 1603, published a description of the visible vestiges of the Roman city, and offered decipherings of the inscriptions, some of which have been corrected by subsequent writers. In the account of his first visit Camden writes:—
“Here the Ribell, presently turning west, gives its name to a village at present called *Ribchester*, where so many remains of Roman antiquities, statues, coins, columns, capitals, bases of columns, altars, marbles, and inscriptions are continually dug up, that the inhabitants seem not much mistaken in their lame rhyming proverb:—

It is written upon a wall in Rome,
Ribchester was as rich as any town in Christendom.²

More than a century later (1725) an able antiquary, Dr. Stukeley, examined the spot, and his observations are printed in the *Itinerarium Curiosum*.³ His narrative of the aspect of the place and the inroads of the river is graphic, and well worthy of quotation:—

The River Ribble is very broad at this place, rapid and sonorous, running over the pebbles, and, what is much to be lamented, over innumerable Roman antiquities; for in this long tract of time it has eaten away a third part of the city. I traced round the old ground plot, and where the wall and ditch went round it, it lay in length east and west along the north side of the river, upon its brink, eight hundred feet long and five hundred feet broad. . . . Originally, I apprehend, two streets ran along its length, and three crossed them at its breadth. By symmetry I find the whole channel of the river lies at present within the precinct of the old city, the original channel on the other side being filled up with the city walls and rubbish, for it bends with a great elbow towards the city. The eastern limit of the city, or that upward of the river, lies against a brook, there falling in; and the two streams playing against that angle, have carried it away, and still threaten it. At the western end of the city, or down the stream, a whole road, and some houses too, by a barn, are absorbed, and a great quantity of ashler, the remains of the wall, has been carried off for building. Much remains in the ground, and on the edge of the stream. Further up the land and all along the west side of the church wall the ditch is perfect, and the rampart where the wall stood pretty high, and the foundation of the wall a little apparent. They tell me the ashler stone still lies its whole length.

Dr. Stukeley further describes that a subterraneous canal or sewer, paved at the bottom, and high enough for a man to walk upright in it, entered the river just below the Red Lion Inn. The current there was so strong at times that “two or three bridges had in modern times

¹ Hearne's Leland, v. iv, pp. 22-3. ² Gough's Camden, v. iii, p. 378. ³ V. ii, pp. 36-38.

been swept away by floods." The hostelry referred to had been partially built out of the Roman ruins; its doorway was "the base of a pillar, and a most noble shaft, seven feet long, handsomely turned, which was fished up out of the river;" and "one corner of the house had a Roman partition wall." As an example of the aggression of the river upon the bank, Stukeley relates that "within memory a great many houses (and among them the chief inn of the town) were washed away"; and "further on down the river a great part of an orchard fell down last year (1724)." This writer enumerates a great quantity of minor relics which had recently been picked up at the time of his visit, such as fragments of pottery, two intaglios of Mercury, gold and brazen fingers broken from images, &c.

John Horsley, who published in 1733 his *Britannia Romana, or, Roman Antiquities of Britain*, supplies additional particulars in regard to the altars exhumed at Ribchester, with amended readings of their inscriptions. He also gives representations of inscriptions found on isolated stones about the place. Of one of these inscribed slabs, "lying at the door of a dwelling house," he remarks that "it has probably been an honorary monument to Severus and Caracalla, for the other inscriptions to these Emperors begin much after the same manner. It has been erected by a vexillation of one of the legions, but which of them is not so certain. The place lies most in the way of the Twentieth Legion, quartered at Chester." The inscription in question is rendered thus:—"Imperatori Cæsari. Imperatori Cæsari. Vexillatio Legionis. Sub. Sextis." Of a second fragmentary inscription noted by Horsley—and deciphered as "*Imperatori Cæsari. Marco Aurelio. Consul Pontifici Maximo. Tribunitia Potestate*"—that author says:—"The form of this looks somewhat like a military pillar. It was lying in a garden at the west end of the town, and near the river. So much of the inscription is quite effaced as makes it hard to guess at the meaning of the whole."¹

A remarkable batch of relics of the Roman period was accidentally turned up at Ribchester in the year 1796. In a hole which had been made in some waste land near the bend of the Ribble, in front of the village, a youth named Walton discovered, about nine feet below the surface, a group of articles of Roman manufacture, which had apparently been secreted at the spot, and surrounded by a quantity of sand. The most striking of these objects was a beautiful bronze helmet, richly ornamented with embossed figures. Along with this was a small Sphinx of the same metal, which had probably formed the crest of the helmet; also a bust of Minerva, three inches in diameter; the remains

¹ Brit. Rom., p. 302.

of vases, a number of circular brazen plates with mouldings, a circular plate with hinges for four buckles, carved and gilt; a number of pateræ; portions of a candelabrum; and, besides some smaller articles, a circular basin of earthenware, with the words inscribed upon it "*Boriedi officina*," supposed to be the name of the maker. The material of most of these remains was bronze. There were also found at the same time the tusk of a boar, and fragments of wood implements. The whole collection was purchased by Mr. Charles Townley, of Townley Hall, by whom a description thereof was given in a letter to the Society of Antiquaries. The helmet is now to be seen at the British Museum, and several engravings of this fine work of Roman metallurgy have been published. Describing the workmanship of this handsome relic Mr. Townley writes:—

The helmet deserves the particular attention of the curious as the remains of remote ages; very few ancient ones, decorated with embossed figures, have as yet appeared. The three or four which are preserved in the Museum at Portici are esteemed to be the most richly ornamented, and the best as to state of workmanship; but when this helmet was in its proper state, it must have been equal, at least, to those in point of decoration, and in respect to its having a visor imitating so exactly the human features, I believe it to be the only ancient example of the kind that has yet been discovered. This singularity may excite a doubt whether such a helmet was destined for real combat, or only for the enrichment of occasional trophies which were erected in the celebration of military festivals, or carried in procession amongst the Greeks and Romans. Trophies of this sort are seen on various medals, with the names of the people whose subjugation such trophies are meant to record inserted upon them, as, for example, *DE SARMATIS—DE GERMANIS*, on the medals of Marcus Aurelius and Commodus. The superior style of workmanship of the mask to the headpiece is also remarkable; in the former, the beauty of the features, the excellent work of the figures in relief, and more particularly the sharp edges and lines with which the eyebrows, eyelids and lips are marked, after the manner of the Grecian art preceding the Cæsars, denote it to have been executed some ages before the headpiece, the coarse and heavy work of which corresponds with that of the artists employed in the reign of Septimus Severus, and particularly with the sculpture upon the arch of that Emperor, situated near the Capitol Hill of Rome.¹

Dr. T. D. Whitaker paid much attention to the Roman remains at Ribchester, and brought his classic knowledge to bear upon their elucidation. Whitaker revised the readings of partially-destroyed inscriptions suggested by Camden, Leigh and Horsley. Amongst the inscribed stones mentioned by Camden, Whitaker states that a votive stone was in his time remaining in a garden wall in the village; and another stone with the inscription, "*Legio XX. Valerian victricis fecit*," which the doctor thinks had been the corner-stone of a building, was still to be seen in an outhouse by the church. The latter stone, he says, had then "two sides exposed, and on the second was a rude figure

¹ *Vetusta Monumenta*, v. iv, pp. 1-12.

of a boar, the well-known cognisance of the Twentieth Legion." This stone is stated to be now at the mansion of the Whitakers, The Holme. Dr. Whitaker remarks, further, that "besides inscriptions, the smaller antiquities discovered here are innumerable; the coins, of which many are found of the large brass, are generally so much corroded as to be scarcely legible. Denarii of the upper empire are not uncommon. A very pretty intaglio in a ruby is engraved by Leigh; and I have a gold ring, found here some years since, set with a cornelian of many faces, with a dove in the centre, and round it the words '*Ave mea vita*,' the present, as it should seem, of a lover to his mistress. Tradition also records a singular discovery at Ribchester, viz., the skull of an ox, covered with some remains of leather, and studded with gold." Both Camden and Horsley had noted certain stones of Roman character built in the structure of Salesbury Hall, at a short distance from Ribchester, and Whitaker was enabled to give a stricter description, the stone being removed from the wall in his presence, in 1815:—

I had long suspected that if ever the stone containing the sculpture of Apollo, which stood as a corner-stone at Salesbury, were removed, one of the two concealed sides would exhibit Camden's inscription; and when, by the favour of Lord Bulkeley, the stone had been detached from the situation it had occupied during two centuries, I beheld the original, which had been so strangely misrepresented. The connection between the sculpture and the inscription now became obvious. On the front side is a basso-relievo of Apollo, *reposing upon* his lyre, better designed than any work of a Romano-British artist I have ever seen. On the second are the figures of two priests in long robes holding the head of some horned animal between them; on the third is the inscription; the fourth is rough—had been originally attached to a wall. It now turns out to be a dedication to Apollo Aponus, or the indolent Apollo (or, as it may be read, Apollo the Healer), the god of medicine, who restores health by relaxation or repose, on behalf of an emperor who unfortunately is not mentioned. This accounts for the reposing attitude of the principal figure.¹

This altar became the property of Dr. Whitaker, and, with other antiquities, was bequeathed by him to St. John's College, Cambridge. A rude figure of Hercules is noticed by Whitaker as being, in like manner, built into the wall of Osbaldeston Hall; this, too, was subsequently removed to Tabley Old Hall, in Cheshire. Other remains were brought to light during the lifetime of this historian, and received the benefit of his exhaustive commentary. In the year 1811 were exposed the foundations of an extensive Roman temple at Ribchester. Some workmen were employed on the bank of the Ribble, opposite the Church, to stop the encroachments of the current, when they came upon the bases of two strong and well-cemented walls, standing nearly north and south, and parallel with each other at the distance of about

¹ Hist. Whalley, new edn., v. i, pp. 23-24.

72 feet. Portions of the floor of the edifice were found within the included space, and close to the southern end lay a large inscribed slab, which unluckily was shattered by the workmen. On the fragments being adjusted, however, the complete inscription was presented, which was deciphered by Whitaker as follows:—“*Deæ Minervæ—Pro salute Imperatoris Alexandri Augusti, et Julæ, matris Domini Nostri, et castrorum suorum, et Valerii, Crescentis Fulviani legati, Provinciæ Presidis, propratore, Natalis legatus Præpotenti et Reginae templum a solo restituit et dedicavit.*” (To the Goddess Minerva,—for the safety of the Emperor Alexander Augustus, and of Julia, mother of our lord and of his camps, and of Valerius Crescens Fulvianus his lieutenant, governor of the province, the proprietor, Natalis the lieutenant, restored this temple and dedicated it to the most powerful goddess and queen). The historic value of this inscription is considerable; it proves the existence of a temple, formerly desolated and then restored, and dedicated to the Goddess Minerva, to an image of whom the helmet to which we have made reference may have belonged; and it adds new names to the previously-known list of Roman legates in Britain. The interest aroused by this discovery was great, and two years afterwards, in the summer of 1813, renewed investigations were made on the spot, with successful results, recorded fully in the *History of Richmondshire*:—

Leave having been obtained to dig in the adjoining gardens, between the river and the churchyard, the first appearances, at the depth of about three feet, were a stratum of charcoal, evidently formed by the conflagration of the roof, and nearly in the centre a cavity in the earth had been made, by the uniting of the ends of the beams at their fall, large enough to contain a man sitting. Beneath this was a confused mass of large amphoræ, some almost entire at first, and many beautiful remnants of pateræ in the red Samian ware, mingled with which lay several human skeletons, all of the largest size, in every direction. Every appearance about the place indicated that it had been taken by storm, and that the defenders had been buried in the ruins of the roof; but the absence of tiles or slates seemed to prove that the outer covering of the building had been previously stripped by the assailants. Here, too, was found a very curious Roman *statera* or steelyard, very exactly graduated, and a singular bodkin of polished stone. The progress of discovery was once more suspended, till the sexton, digging a grave where no interment had taken place before, on the left hand of the entrance of the churchyard, found the base of a column and an *anta* or square moulded corner of the *naos* itself, upright and in their original situations. Measurements were now accurately made from the place where the inscription was found (which must have been the front of the building) to the base of the column. This gave the entire length, excepting one intercolumniation, for the whole had evidently had a peristyle. The distance of the *anta* from the column, by the rules of architecture, gave the distance also between column and column; by which data, with the help of a very conspicuous line of mortar about 45 feet westward in the churchyard, the site of the west wall was ascertained; a ground plan of the building

1 V. ii, p. 464.

was laid down; after which, by the known proportions of Doric architecture, a complete elevation was obtained. . . . Let all these circumstances be laid together, and it will scarcely be doubted that this was a temple of Minerva, restored by command of Caracalla; that the temple had been stormed and burned in some eruption of the Caledonians, during the last period of Roman power in Britain; and that the precious object of worship itself had been carefully deposited in the earth, on the approach of the threatened danger. Within a few yards of the east wall of the temple was disclosed the statue of a lion, of tolerable workmanship, which, from the roughness of one side, must have been an architectural ornament.

The dimensions of the temple, deduced by architectural rules from the above data, were—length, 112 feet; breadth, about 72 feet; with sixteen columns in the front. The last of Whitaker's discoveries was that of the lower part of an altar among the stonework of a dilapidated chimney in a house in Ribchester. The inscription upon it was almost effaced. In the year 1819, the Rev. S. J. Allen, of Salesbury, reported that another altar was found in the basement of the White Bull Inn. In 1829, again, some Roman coins were dug up at Anchor Hill, along with pieces of a Saxon cross and other Saxon relics. In 1833, another notable discovery was recorded. This was a fine altar which was taken out of the churchyard. This altar stood for years in the lobby of the Vicarage, but it has recently been sold to the Marquis of Rothwell. The altar is two feet six inches in height, one foot ten inches in breadth, and one foot seven inches in depth. Its sides are ornamented with vine-branches, and on its front is an inscription, very clearly chiselled, but mutilated on the lower left-hand corner by the breaking of the altar block. The legible lines read thus:—“*Pro salute et victoriae invicti Imperatoris Marci Aurelii Severi Antonini Pii, felicitis Augusti, et Juliae Augustae, matri Domini et castrorum.*” (For the health and victory of the unconquered Emperor Marcus Aurelius Severus Antoninus Pius, the fortunate Augustus, and Julia Augusta, mother of the Emperor and of the camps.) The emperor in whose behalf this altar was reared, Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, reigned from A.D. 161 to 180, within which period the work must have been executed and dedicated. When found it bore marks of the action of fire, and with it were secured a fibula, or brooch, a ring of brass, a bulla, inscribed with some illegible characters, and three coins, one of Trajan, another of Valerian, the third with its superscription obliterated.

Numberless small matters have been found at intervals during the last forty years, both at Ribchester itself and at places adjacent. Many coins of gold and silver have fallen into the hands of various persons from time to time. In the year 1837, workmen digging in the garden of the late Mr. Patchett, surgeon, reached the paved floor of what was suggested to be a Roman bath, but might as probably be a Roman villa.



SEPULCHRAL SLAB WITH ROMAN SCULPTURE IN RELIEF, TAKEN OUT
OF THE RIBBLE, OPPOSITE RIBCHESTER, APRIL 8TH, 1876.

See Appendix.

NO. 1111
RIBBLE

The dimensions of the discovered apartment were ascertained to be thirty feet by fifteen feet. The walls of it still stood four feet above the floor, and were three feet thick. Some stone pillars, about a foot in height, were taken out in the excavation. Many of the tiles of the floor were removed, and underneath was found a layer of cement, upon a course of boulder-pavement similar to that of the Roman causeways. At Harwood Fold, in the township of Clayton-le-Dale, by which passed the Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester, there was found, in 1834, a perfect and finely-wrought fibula of bronze; this passed into the possession of Mr. John Eccles, of Leyland. The figure of a Roman standard-bearer, at Standen Hall, near Clitheroe, may have been brought from Ribchester.

The latest systematic scrutiny of the vestiges of Roman Ribchester took place August 20th, 1850, on the occasion of the visit of the Archæological Association. For this Congress extensive excavations were authorised, and numerous articles were found in the trenches dug, both near the western wall and in the gardens at the eastern corner of the station. A statement of the discoveries here was prepared for the Association by the late Mr. Harland and Mr. Just. The excavations of 1850 "laid bare the outer wall to its foundation on the western side. It consists of loose stones without mortar, or the cement grouting common to such foundations. On the opposite side, in the angle between the river and the junction of the brook, a large quantity of Roman pottery was found, consisting of numerous fragments of Samian ware, chiefly of pateræ, many marked with the potter's name; one ampulla, with both handles perfect, and others broken; fragments of glass, of common pottery, nails, bones of animals, in which were tusks of boars and swine, five Roman coins, three of which are silver, but are much corroded; two of the coins appear to be coins of Vespasian and Titus, the third of Vitellius; two of copper, much corroded, but apparently of the same period."¹ Similar specimens of pottery, of various descriptions, including the Samian ware, are still continually turning up; the writer has himself found a number of interesting remains of this character.

The coins recovered here embrace within their dates more than three centuries of the epoch of the Roman occupation of Britain. They begin with coins of Augustus, B.C. 29 to 14; and include coins of Titus Vespasian, 79 to 81, A.D.; of Nerva, 96 to 98; of Trajan, 98 to 117; of Hadrian, 117 to 138; of Commodus, 180 to 192; of Septimus Severus, 193 to 211; of Caracalla, 211 to 217; of Dioclesian, the persecutor of the Christians, 284 to 305 A.D.; and one of a Christian

¹ Journal Brit. Archæol. Assn., v. vi, p. 249.

emperor, bearing the cross and the motto of Constantine, "*in hoc signo vinces.*"¹

Could the whole of the objects of Roman work disinterred at Ribchester be brought together, they would display a collection as varied and as rich as have been procured from any single station of the Romans in Britain. But they are now irrecoverably scattered, and are chiefly hidden from public view in the cabinets of private collectors. The resident student in Roman archæology must therefore content himself with such acquaintance with these remains as he can make through the medium of written descriptions by those who had the good fortune to inspect them on their discovery.

The recent extension of the churchyard at Ribchester on the west side of the Roman site may lead to further disclosures of buried remains in the course of time. In the excavation of graves in the new ground, the Roman level is reached at a depth of three or four feet, defined by charred portions of oaken beams, and a layer of charcoal in which are contained fragments of Roman pottery, human bones, and other suggestive relics. The most interesting object yet secured in the new cemetery is a *statera* (the Roman steelyard), found in the spring of 1874 by the sexton when digging a grave. This instrument is perfect in its parts; the lever is of brass, with distinct graduation and numeral letters; the suspenders and hooks of brass; and the two weights of lead, conical-shaped. The steelyard lay embedded in the ashes of burnt timber.

THE ROMAN STATION AT WALTON.

The claim of a Roman foundation has been advanced on behalf of Walton-in-le-dale in this parish. It is but recently that evidences of the existence of a Roman station at Walton have been disclosed, although the probability of such a station on the Ribble, in the neighbourhood of Preston, had been previously recognised. This belief was the sequence to the fact that a Roman military road traversed the west side of the County, and crossed the Ribble in that vicinity. It was not to be supposed that the Romans would leave so critical a point as the ford of a large river unguarded by camp or fort, or permanent garrison. Mr. Sibson, in a lengthy contribution on the Roman ways of West Lancashire, about forty years ago remarked that at Walton "it was probable there had been a fortified camp to protect the pass of the Ribble." Some writers thought that the station might have stood a short distance to the north of the river, to reconcile the distances from station to station given in the *Iter* of Antoninus, if this route were accepted as the Tenth *Iter*, and the station of *Coccium* were placed near the Ribble on this

¹ T. Baines, *Lanc. and Ches.*, v. i, p. 277.

line of road. Proof that Walton was the site of a Roman camp was at length produced by Mr. C. Hardwick. The circumstances that led to the disclosure were accidental. Mr. Hardwick, in the year 1855, was in quest of vestiges of the battle of Cromwell with the Scottish army in 1648, when the traces of Roman occupation manifested themselves. The workmen of the Preston Corporation were then digging for stones and gravel on the Walton bank of the Ribble, and among the excavated material were some coins of brass, one of which was sufficiently legible to be pronounced a Roman coin of the reign of Domitian. The spot at which these remains appeared was the space on the left of the river, between the bridge and the confluence of the Darwen. The Ribble makes a quick turn just before passing beneath the bridge, and proceeds at a right angle to its former course until the Darwen joins it, and thus the site is protected wholly on three of its sides by the two rivers. At present the channel of the Darwen before its junction is nearly straight, but it formerly made a great bend here, almost doubling upon itself, and so covered the Roman site on the greater part of the fourth side. The strength of the position as a military post, at least against such enemies as the Romans had to contend with, is obvious. The supposed track of the Roman road from Warrington to Lancaster crosses the parallelogram near its eastern limit. Stimulated by the indications of Roman tenure upon which he had stumbled, Mr. Hardwick prosecuted his investigation with diligence, and made such further discoveries as to leave no room for doubt that a Roman fort had occupied this ground.

The Roman antiquities dug up at Walton embrace the usual varieties of pottery found at the imperial stations. There are some fragmentary specimens of the Samian bowls, with their fine grain and durable glaze, bright red colour, and beautiful embossed designs, which are figured by Mr. Hardwick. Two portions of the large vases of the common red clay, called amphoræ, are mentioned, consisting of the neck and handle of those vessels. A piece of the rough unglazed earthenware, marked after turning with dots and figures by the hand of the potter, was also got. A great number of pieces of the coarse blue-black pottery, manufactured in urns and dishes for ordinary domestic use, have been picked up in the station. All the above are similar in make to the varieties of Roman pottery occasionally laid bare at Ribchester. In coins, four or five brass ones, of the reigns of Titus Vespasian, Domitian, and Antoninus, are all that have yet been secured at Walton. Of personal ornaments, a brass fibula (the Roman brooch) and the button of another in bronze, are mentioned. The fibula, which is three and a half inches long, "is of fine brass, ornamented in the centre with a circular figure in bright red enamel, resembling the stone setting of a

modern finger ring.” A number of large iron nails, fragments of lead and copper, and of vessels in pewter, were got during the search, along with a large portion of the lower stone of a quern, or hand corn mill ; fragments of “riders,” or upper quern stones ; a small wheel or spindle head, about an inch and a half in diameter, formed of a fine bluish stone ; portions of the jaw of a horse or ox, with other bones ; and “the core of a horn of one of the extinct species of oxen, the *Bos longifrons*.” Some additional fragments of pottery and a few coins have since been found on the site. The above constitute the greater part of the antiquities of the Roman period which have been revealed at Walton. They are not very extensive in quantity, or remarkable in their character ; but they suffice to attest the presence and prolonged occupancy of the first subjugators of Britain. Probably this was a strictly military post, without a civil settlement superadded. The space of the plot is too restricted for erections on any great scale, and the situation too low and damp to be chosen as a residence by a civilian population. Mr. Hardwick is led by certain indications to the opinion that the native British had a fort here anterior to the Roman advent ; and it is hardly likely they would neglect to occupy such a point for the command of the passage of the river. The identification of Walton as a Roman station sheds light upon the Roman system of fortified places in Lancashire, if it does not altogether clear up the ambiguities of the old Itineraries.

The vestiges of an ancient fort on the summit of Mellor Moor, are assumed to belong to a minor post in the chain of Roman military stations in Ribblesdale. This camp is a rectangular entrenchment, about 100 feet by 75 feet. The surrounding *fosse* has partially filled up, but its depression is still marked. The position overlooks Ribchester, some three miles off, northward, in the recess of the valley ; at the same time that it commands the lower station at Walton, and the estuary of Ribble from Preston to Lytham, at some point on which, probably near Freckleton, was the Roman harbour. Mellor Moor was therefore well chosen for a *speculum* or a signalling-station to Ribchester and other stations seaward, that could communicate immediately by means of a semaphore worked from this conspicuous outpost. To the south, also, the sentinel on Mellor Moor covered with his observation the dozen miles of Roman Road from Blacksnape to Longridge, excepting a short length of it down in the Blackburn valley.

ROMANO-BRITISH REMAINS AT WHITE-HALL, DARWEN.

Before we quit the period of Roman dominion in Britain, it will be needful to refer to sepulchral remains, attributed to that era, which have

¹ Hist. of Preston, p. 42.

been disclosed in this parish. The presence here of the Romans, as the governing race, for more than three centuries, influenced to a large extent the manners of the subject aborigines. The Latin language, in corrupted forms, was in use among the conquered peoples; the Roman toga became the fashionable garment of the British youth, and the Roman paganism supplanted the rites of native Druidism. Among domestic arts, the Celtic-British acquired from the Romans the manufacture of pottery, and in ruder forms reproduced the bowls, urns, and jars of the Roman earthenware. About the reign of Sylla the Roman people began generally to practice the burning of the dead, and the enclosure of the ashes in the funeral urn for deposition in the tomb. Following the example, the Celtic inhabitants of Britain partially abandoned their former mode of burying the bodies of their dead entire for the method of cremation. Within the century many tumuli, or burial mounds, have been opened in this country which have been found to contain earthenware urns and small cup-like vessels filled with the ashes of human bones, a circumstance which marks a distinction between the sepulchral mounds of the Romano-British epoch, and the barrows erected by Saxon and Dane in a later age. In some districts of the country, however, the system of cremation survived until Saxon times. The pottery found in the Saxon graves is more finely moulded and artistically wrought than the British cinerary urns.

An interesting discovery of sepulchral remains, apparently of the Roman-British period, was made in Blackburn Parish in the month of October, 1864. Excavations were in progress to prepare the foundations of a villa at White Hall, Over Darwen, on the estate of William Shorrock Ashton, Esq., when the workmen fell in with extensive relics of an ancient place of sepulture. The situation of these remains was a mound upon the top of the knoll which rises to the right of the road to Bolton, a short distance beyond the Bowling Green Mill, in Darwen. Upon the spot now stands the villa of Ashleigh. The Roman Road from Manchester to Ribchester passes over Blacksnape a mile or so to the eastward. Upon the communication of this important discovery to Mr. Ashton, that gentleman took steps to preserve the whole series of remains. Subsequently, Mr. Ashton supplied particulars of these to Mr. Llewellynn Jewett, F.S.A., who published a paper on the subject in *The Reliquary*.¹ Mr. Jewett describes the barrow and its contents as follows:—

The barrow overlooked the Darwen valley on the east, but was sheltered by the high hills which separate that river from the Roddlesworth on the west. It was within the grounds of White Hall, and near to Low Hill House, the seat of Eccles

¹ V. vi, pp. 137-8.

Shorrock, Esq. It was formed on the summit of a natural mound, and is about thirty yards in diameter ; its height from the natural surface of the hill varying from one to ten or twelve feet. The centre of the barrow was, to the extent of about six feet in diameter, sunk in its centre. Some half century ago the barrow was planted with trees, and it is only recently that the site—a most charming one for a villa residence—has been determined to be appropriated to building purposes. The trees were felled in the autumn of 1864, and it was during the course of the excavations for the foundations of the house that the real nature of the mound was discovered. A careful examination of the place was made by Mr. Ashton, and the result was the bringing to light of no less than ten distinct interments. One of these was simply a heap of burnt bones without any cist or urn ; and others were enclosed in urns, only one of which was found in an inverted position. On the top of each of the cinerary urns was a rough flat stone, and they were each surrounded and covered by small stones carefully piled up. Two of the cinerary urns were found in a tolerably perfect state ; the others were very much broken.

Two small vessels, usually called “incense cups,” were found within the urns. The most perfect of the urns is twelve inches in height, and ten inches in diameter at the top. It is circular in form ; the lower portion somewhat resembles a common flower-pot, narrowing quickly to its base ; at the central and widest part the sides of the vessel are vertical for three or four inches ; above is a deep rim or collar. The ornamentation consists of a number of dotted indentations, produced by the point of a stick while the clay was unbaked. This urn was found filled with burnt bones, on the top of which lay the incense cup, also containing human ashes. The dimensions of the minor vessel were one and three-quarter inches in height, two and a half inches in diameter at the mouth, and four inches in diameter at the middle. This vessel is void of ornament. The second urn figured in the woodcut is considerably smaller than the one already described, being but seven and a half inches in height, and seven inches in diameter. The shape when complete (it is materially mutilated) was substantially similar to the other. Instead of the rows of indentations on the upper exterior of the larger urn, this vessel, upon its middle part and collar, is “elaborately covered with a reticulated ornament, produced in the usual manner by pressing a twisted thong into the pliant clay.” The contents of this urn, too, were charred bone fragments and an incense cup of the same make with the former smaller vessel. The other seven urns had been reduced to fragments. Some were more ornamental in their reticulations than either of the examples described. One fragment of the collar of an urn is of the “herring-bone” pattern, produced with the twisted thong indented into the soft clay. The vessels and other sepulchral relics collected on this discovery were presented by Mr. Ashton to the Museum of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, and are now exhibited in the Public Free Museum at Liverpool.



UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

CINERARY URN AND INCENSE-CUP, FOUND AT
WHITE-HALL, OVER DARWEN.

TO VINDI
ALPHONSO

The story of the Roman occupation in Britain closes upon a scene of national helplessness and desolation. The conquest of the country by the Roman generals was marked by many acts of ruthless repression ; but the decay of the Roman power was a worse misfortune to the British than the former triumph. Relying upon the arms of their martial masters, the native people had long neglected the art of war ; and when their protectors had gone they became the prey of fierce hordes, that rushed into the gap left by the Romans from every adjacent territory. Over the greater part of this northern region bands of Pictish robbers prowled unchecked, preying upon the inhabitants of the Romano-British towns from which the garrisons had departed, and obliterating with barbarous avidity every remnant of civilisation. In the year 418 the Romans "collected all the treasures that were in Britain, and some they hid in the earth, so that no one has since been able to find them ; and some they carried with them to Gaul."¹ The ruins of Roman Ribchester reveal tokens that the city had been carried by sudden assault, its temples and shrines consumed by fire, and its feeble defenders buried in ruins. The fate of Ribchester was but the general doom of the fifty beautiful walled towns the Romans left behind them in Britain on their final migration. Three hundred years of contact with the foremost race in the then-civilised world had given the Britons a glimpse of the blessings of a cultured state of society ;—but now, for a melancholy space, the land was to lapse into the miseries of a worse than the original barbarism ; and the dark disc of Gothic Paganism was to eclipse the genial orb of Christianity, newly risen upon Britain's horizon.

It is probable that before the relinquishment of the land by the Romans, the Christian religion had made its way to our shores, and had been embraced by no small proportion of the native populations. But the appearance of the Saxons and Angles, pagans of the most ferocious type, extinguished the nascent faith in those districts of the country over which their power extended. In the time of King Edwin, a fresh movement took place for the evangelization of Britain. Pope Gregory the Great, on his accession, sent to England forty missionaries, under the charge of Augustine. Edwin, king of Northumbria, having espoused Edilberga, daughter of Ethelbert the Kentish king, a Christian princess, embraced the same faith, and when his queen set out for the Northumbrian court she was accompanied by Paulinus, a zealous missionary of the Roman Church. A.D. 627 Paulinus was consecrated archbishop of Northumbria, and Christianity became the State religion of the northern Angles. The king, with all his nobles, was baptised at York on Easter Sunday, 627, and the common people of the Anglian race,

¹ Saxon Chron., Bohn's edn., p. 308.

following the royal example, adopted the Christian name in great numbers. It is recorded that no fewer than 10,000 converts were baptised at one time by Paulinus. The inhabitants of Lancashire listened to the preaching of Paulinus, and accepted the new faith. Churches were planted in various parts of our county. In the Hundred of Blackburn, Paulinus prosecuted his propaganda with great success, and the mother-church of the district was founded by him at Whalley, about the year 625. In the churchyard at Whalley are seen interesting monuments of the memorable event of the introduction of Christianity here, in the three antique crosses which are believed to have been erected in the time of Paulinus, and probably by his direction. There is a tradition that twelve Saxon castles were reared in the part of Lancashire south of the Ribble during Edwin's reign. The sites of these castles are placed at Whalley and Walton (in this district), at Childwall, Winwick, Blackstone, Sephton, Standish, Penwortham, Wigan, Rochdale, Middleton and Bury. Edwin, first Christian king of Northumbria, was killed in battle, A.D. 633, and his kingdom spoiled. Paulinus died in the year 644.

It would be tedious to pursue step by step the history of the Saxon dominion in the North of England. It is the story of a succession of civil wars and usurpations, of the rise and fall of petty dynasties, undiversified by the record of local transactions of interest. Towards the close of the eighth century, however, an event of national importance transpired in the valley of the Ribble. At this period the nation of the Northumbrian Angles was distressed by the quarrels of internal factions. At Easter-tide, in the year 774, says the Saxon Chronicle, "the Northumbrians drove their King Alcred from York, and took Ethelred, the son of Moll, to be their lord; he reigned four years." In 778 the opposite party had its turn of triumph. "Ethelbald and Herbert slew three high reeves, and then Athwold obtained the kingdom [of Northumbria] and drove Ethelred out of the country; and he reigned ten years." A.D. 789 saw the downfall and death of Athwold, who was slain by Siga in October, and Osred, the son of Alcred, then succeeded. In the subsequent year Osred, too, was betrayed and banished, and Ethelred regained the kingdom. These brief chronicles show into what a state of confusion the regal succession had at this time fallen in Northumbria. To increase its wretchedness, the kingdom was afflicted by a severe famine in the year 793, and the Northmen had now begun to harass the dwellers on its coasts. In the same year "dire forewarnings came over the land of the Northumbrians, and miserably terrified the people; there were excessive whirlwinds and lightnings;

and fiery dragons were seen flying in the air." Ethelred, like his predecessors, was deposed and killed by his own people in May, 794, and, after many months of anarchy, Eardulf succeeded to the perilous and unstable dignity of the Northumbrian crown.

Three years afterwards a rival faction had gathered head, and was prepared to contest with Eardulf the government of the kingdom. The decisive battle between the King and the abettors of this revolt took place at Langho, near Whalley, in this parish. In the year 798, Eardulf was compelled to take the field against the leaders of a formidable revolt in the western parts of Northumbria. The chiefs of the conspiracy were Wada and with him Alric, both implicated in a former rebellion, that had ended in the deposition and death of the previous king, Ethelred. Eardulf encountered the insurgent army on the frontier of his kingdom (for the country south of Ribble was then a part, not of the Saxon kingdom of Northumbria, but of that of Mercia). Wada and his army had probably been driven upon neutral territory before the decisive battle took place. At all events, it was here that the rebellion of Wada was crushed. The account of the battle, in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, is rendered:—"A.D. 798. This year there was a great fight at Whalley (Whællæge), in the land of the Northumbrians, during Lent, on the 4th before the Nones of April; and there Alric, the son of Herbert, was slain, and many with him." Another chronicler, Simeon of Durham, not only mentions Whalley as near the place of conflict, but more closely indicates the spot. His account is as follows:—"A confederacy was made by the murderers of King Ethelred; Wada, chief in that conspiracy, with his force went against Eardulf, in a place called by the English *Billangahoh*, near Walalege, and on either side many were slain; Wada, the chief, with his men, was put to flight, and King Eardulf regally achieved victory over the enemies." The name *Billangahoh*, here assigned to the place of battle, may be taken to refer to the line of low hills near to the Ribble bank, between Hacking and Braddyll. The present name of *Langho*, given to the inner side of this elevated ground, apparently is a contraction of the Anglo-Saxon *Billangahoh*. The historian of Whalley endeavoured to elucidate the position of the battle, the written record of which he found confirmed by an oral tradition of some ancient battle on the lower ground of Billington. On the right bank of the Ribble, opposite Hacking Hall, are two large tumular mounds, rising from the level ground on the inner side of the bend of the river at this point. The mounds are plainly artificial in structure, and probably monumental in intent. The tumulus nearest to the river is a prominent object, and bears the name of the "Lowe." Into this mound Whitaker had some excavation

made about the year 1815, but found the work heavy, and gave it up without reaching the centre of the tumulus, where the relics of sepulture should lie. Nearly forty years since, a discovery, apparently connected with the battle of Billangahoh, was made on the Billington side of the Ribble, in the flat ground called Brockhole Eses, near the river. Raines has a note of this disclosure :—"In the year 1836, as Thomas Hubbersty, the farmer at Brockhole, was removing a large mound of earth in Brockhole Eases, about 500 yards from the bank of the Ribble, on the left of the road leading from the house, he discovered a Kist-vaen, formed of rude stones, containing some large human bones and the rusty remains of some spear heads of iron. The whole crumbled to dust on exposure to the air."¹ The occupation-road from Brockhole farm-house passes close by the site of the mound in the direction of the river to the ford at this place, the only one across the Ribble for some miles up and down the river. The tumulus was so completely cleared away at the time of the finding of the central Kist-vaen, that no trace of it remains ; but its position has been indicated on the large ordnance map. This mound must have been smaller in bulk than the great mounds across the river opposite Hacking, or the farmer would not have undertaken to level it. If, therefore, the larger mounds be also sepulchral, and date from the same event, they may be supposed to contain more important relics than the Brockhole tumulus. This battle, by which the fate of a kingdom was decided, and in which a king was in command on one side, was no insignificant conflict ; the combatants would probably number some thousands ; and the battle-field might extend not only to Hacking but over the whole plain of lower Billington on the west side of the Calder ;—may indeed have begun on the Whalley side of that river ; have attained its deadliest fierceness about Hacking ; and have closed on the slope between Brockhole and Braddyll, where the fugitives of Wada's broken army would be driven in hurried flight to the ford of the Ribble. The memorial of this important battle, fought nearly eleven hundred years ago, inscribes the names of Billington and Whalley for the first time upon the page of written English history. King Eardulf's victory hereabouts did not prevent the formation of fresh combinations against him, which brought about his overthrow and banishment eight years afterwards, in A.D. 806.

Throughout the ninth and tenth centuries, a period marked by the desperate conflict of the Saxons and Angles with the Danes and Northmen for possession of the soil of England, in which the Saxon King Alfred appears as the most noble and heroic actor, no event of historic

¹ Notit. Cestr., v. ii, pt. ii, p. 286.

significance is known to have had these eastern parts of Lancashire for its theatre, unless the hypothesis of recent origin be accepted, which places the site of the famed battle of *Brunanburh* (A.D. 937), upon the hills near the border of the county about Burnley. The battle was the decisive close of the campaign between the Anglo-Saxon army under the command of King Athelstan, and the forces of a Dano-Scottish confederacy led by Anlaf the Dane, and Constantine King of the Scots, wherein the latter were routed with great slaughter. Much difficulty has been found in determining the spot on which this battle took place, and several sites have been suggested by historians and antiquaries, on trifling grounds, in Northumberland, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and Cheshire. Mr. T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S., has, however, presented a series of circumstances tending to his assumption that the veritable battle-field of Brunanburh is in the vicinity of Burnley.¹ The main grounds of this conclusion are, that the meaning of the Saxon name *Brunanburh* is, in modern English, *the fortified place by the Brun*; that on the slopes of the hills on the right bank of the river Brun by Burnley are found abundant traces of extensive military earthworks, attributed to Saxon and Roman times; that local tradition and the existing nomenclature of the neighbourhood indicate the occurrence of some ancient battle there; and that the probabilities point to the west rather than to the east coast of the Northumbrian Saxon Kingdom as the scene of the advance, defeat, and retreat of Anlaf's expedition, which was organised in Ireland, and the remnants of which, according to the Saxon chronicles, retired in their ships to Dublin after this signal discomfiture. The proofs of Mr. Wilkinson, if not absolute, are strong enough to demand attention, if not to justify the introduction of the victory of Athelstan, in the year 937, as a prominent feature of the archæologic record of the district.

DISCOVERY OF A GREAT DANISH HOARD AT CUERDALE.

A highly important disclosure bearing upon the Danish occupation of England, reported upon about thirty-five years ago in this parish, seems to require the association of some such transaction as the Brunanburh battle for its explanation. I refer to the extraordinary discovery of coins and other treasure of the Saxon and Danish period, made in the township of Cuerdale, in Ribblesdale, at the western corner of the Parish of Blackburn. If the army of Anlaf the Dane was vanquished by Athelstan near Burnley, in the campaign decided at Brunanburh, its best line of retreat to the sea-coast would be the valley

¹ Hist. Soc. L. and C., Trans. v. ix, pp. 21-42.

of the Calder to its confluence with the Ribble, and thence the valley of the Ribble to the estuary, where the Danish ships might have been anchored. It will be seen in the remarks which follow how the deposition of the mass of Danish treasure on the Ribble bank at Cuerdale appears to synchronise with and confirm the conception of the local determination of a memorable tenth-century war.

The discovery of the celebrated collection of ancient coins and valuables at Cuerdale happened on the 15th of May, 1840. Floods in the Ribble had inflicted damage upon its banks, displacing the earth which supported a wall constructed to preserve the channel and to prevent encroachments upon the land; and workmen were employed in carrying earth to repair the mischief. While delving for material they lighted upon an enormous hoard of treasure, a little below the surface of the ground, at a distance of about forty yards from the Ribble. The hoard had originally been deposited in a leaden chest, enclosed in a wooden one, but both of these receptacles had become much decomposed. The treasure consisted largely of silver coins, and also of a number of ingots or lumps of silver, silver armlets, brooches, rings, and other ornaments. The discovery is said to be the most remarkable and extensive of the kind ever made in this country. The coins were the most important portion of the collection; their exact number, however, cannot be stated; for although, on the discovery being made known, the treasure was promptly claimed on behalf of the Crown, a considerable number of the articles had been secreted or disposed of by the finders before the claim was enforced, and fell into the hands of private collectors. On the 22nd August following an inquisition was held at Preston concerning the treasure, at which it was found that the coins secured to the Crown numbered about 6,800, weighing 304 ounces troy; and that the silver ingots included sixteen large bars, weighing 132 ounces. The bulk of the treasure which accrued to the Crown was distributed to the British Museum and other public collections, including the University Museums of Oxford, Cambridge, and Glasgow. A selection of coins and ornaments was presented to Mr. Assheton, lord of the manor of Cuerdale. Specimens were also sent to the *Bibliothèque de Roi*, Paris, and to the Danish Museum at Copenhagen. A discovery so extensive and unique drew the attention of many distinguished archæologists and numismatists, British and foreign; and, before the distribution of the treasure, opportunity was afforded to competent authorities for a minute inspection of the coins and ornaments. The late Mr. Edward Hawkins, of the British Museum and the Numismatic Society, published the results of his scrutiny in several elaborate papers,—those devoted to a description

of the coins appearing in the *Numismatic Chronicle*,¹ and the remarks upon the ingots, armlets, and other ornaments in the *Journal of the Archaeological Institute*.² Mr. Lindsay, author of a work on the *Coinage of the Heptarchy*, also gave a synopsis of these coins; and the eminent Danish archæologist Worsaae, after careful investigations, reviewed the collection in his work on *The Danes and Norwegians in England*.³ Dr. Skaife, of Blackburn, an experienced numismatist, contributed a letter to the journals upon the subject. A summary of the descriptions given of the contents of the treasure chest is subjoined.

“The coins consisted of Anglo-Saxon pennies, pieces of the second race of the French kings, a few oriental coins, and some which partially resemble both the Saxon and French series, which certainly do not belong to the dynasty of any country, but were probably struck by some of those piratical northern chiefs who obtained at different times a temporary authority both in England and France.” The dates of the various reigns of English and foreign princes whose coins are exemplified, extend from about the year 860 to 930. This latter date must therefore indicate approximately the period at which the secretion of the treasure took place. The date of the battle of Brunanburh being within seven years of the date of the latest coinage found at Cuerdale, it is easy to conjecture that the campaign of Anlaf, of which Brunanburh was the catastrophe, was, if fought in Lancashire, the occasion of the deposit of this immense collection of coins and bullion at Cuerdale. The deposit was evidently made by the Danish party during their temporary tenure of West Lancashire. It has been suggested that the hoard might be a Saxon one; but it is hard to understand why, if the Saxon authorities had ever been under the necessity thus to secrete their military chest, they should not have taken steps for its recovery after the district had been cleared of its invaders. The wealth here forsaken was too great to have been forgotten by its depositors, or intentionally suffered to remain in the earth. But if the Danes after their defeat, unable to carry off their chest, buried it at Cuerdale, they probably did not return to the immediate neighbourhood at any future time, at least within the same generation, and might thus have no chance of regaining the treasure. Other Danish invasions did, indeed, afterwards occur, but they took different directions. There are, moreover, intrinsic grounds for the conviction that the secretion of the treasure was the act of the Danes. The singular admixture in the hoard of Scandinavian, French, and other continental coins, with a number of Anglo-Saxon coins, strengthens this presumption. The roving chiefs of the Danes and Northmen would gather quantities of the coinage of France and other

1 Vol. v, p. 104 et seq. 2 Vol. iv, pp. 111-130. 3 Page 49 et seq.

European States which they overran about this time, and their military treasury would be replenished from these sources. To the mixed moneys of foreign mintage Anlaf and his allies brought with them on their invasion of England would be added collections of Saxon coin taken from the Saxon inhabitants of England during their occupation of portions of the country; and so we can account for the curious conglomeration of native and foreign coins displayed in the Cuerdale treasure. Had the hoard been the property of Saxon chiefs, one can hardly suppose that it should have presented such a variety of coinage, and the Saxon element would have predominated over the Scandinavian, which it does not, there being, as Worsaae remarks, nearly three thousand Scandinavian and one thousand French coins, with other foreign examples, to two thousand seven hundred Anglo-Saxon coins in that portion of the Cuerdale collection preserved for the Crown. The following synopsis of the coins is supplied by Mr. Hawkins:—

ANGLO-SAXON COINS.		A.D.	A.D.
2	Ethelred (East Anglia)	about	860
23	Ethelstan	870 to	890
2	Ciowlf (Mercia)	874	
867	Alfred	872	901
45	Edward	901	925
1770	St. Eadmund.....	—	—
1	Archbishop Ceolnoth	830	870
59	Archbishop Phlegmund	881	923
2	Sitric (? Danish)	—	—
FRENCH COINS.			
34	Louis	814 to	929
727	Carolus	840	923
7	Carloman	879	884
197	Eudes, or Odo	888	898
11	Lambert.....	894	898
13	Berengarius	883	924
UNCERTAIN (? SCANDINAVIAN).			
304	.....	Sigfred.	
486	.....	Ebraice, or Evreux.	
23	.....	Quentovici, or Quanage.	
1860	.....	Cunnetti.	
1	.....	Avaldus.	
315	.....	Various.	
ORIENTAL COINS.—27.			

Mr. Hawkins's exhaustive series of papers elucidatory of these coins fill the greater portion of one volume of the *Numismatic Chronicle*, and are illustrated by 140 engraved examples of the coins. A few sentences from his comments upon the principal types in the series of English coins discovered, are all that can be cited here. The first of these, in

chronological order, are two coins of *Ethelred*. Hawkins remarks thereon: "All that can be said with strong probability is, that the Ethelred who struck these coins was a contemporary of Eadward, and that he held dominion in East Anglia. The style of the coin and the name of the moneyer on the Museum coin, form the grounds of this opinion. The name of Headmod upon the Cuerdale coins does not appear upon any piece at present known, and therefore contributes nothing to shake or confirm this opinion." *Coins of Ethelstan*:—"Twenty-three are of a king whom I suppose to be Ethelstan, though upon most of them it is difficult to recognise the name; it is, then, to be considered to which of the kings so named these pieces belong—to Athelstan, the sole monarch and the immediate successor of Eadward, or to Ethelstan, King of the East Angles; and there is not much hesitation in assigning them to the latter of these personages. This king was strictly contemporary with Alfred, by treaty with whom he was established in his kingdom, and with whom he was in close alliance during almost the whole of his reign, which terminated in 890, about eleven years before that of Alfred. The types of these coins exactly resemble those of Alfred, and of eleven moneyers named upon them, six, probably seven, are those of Alfred." *Coin of Ciolwlf*:—"The only Mercian coin found in this large collection." "This coin is in most perfect preservation, and is one of the most interesting of the whole Saxon series." "The type is very remarkable; the diadem and dress of the king are, like those of many other Saxon kings, copied from those of the later Roman emperors." *Coins of Alfred*:—"These numbered 867 examples, and are "the first of those in general circulation at the time of the deposit." "Amongst them are some types hitherto unknown, and half-pence of which the existence was rather surmised than ascertained." Among other coinages are twenty-three specimens of coins with the London monogram; twenty-four coins of the Oxford type; and about 110 pieces of the Canterbury type. The Alfred half-pennies include one of Oxford mint; three of the Canterbury type, and seven of the ordinary type like the pennies. *Coins of Eadward*.—These are forty-five in number, "six only of the type which bears his bust, and thirty-eight of his more common type, having his name and title on the obverse as a legend, with a small cross in the centre of the type." There is but one specimen of the half-pennies of this reign. *Coins of St. Eadmund*.—These are by far the most numerous of the Saxon collection found at Cuerdale, there being 1,770 specimens. "The type consists of the letter A on the obverse, with the name of the sainted king as legend; on the reverse is a small cross, with the name of the moneyer." "It has generally been supposed that

the coins of St. Eadmund were struck at the mint of the abbots of St. Edmundsbury, the earliest notice of which is a grant made to them by Edward the Confessor, in 1066. The name of the place does not occur upon the coins, but has been supposed to be intimated by the name of the mint. If such be the case, it would appear that the privilege of a mint must have been granted at the time of the canonisation of St. Edmund, all the circumstances of which are involved in much obscurity, but which it is now quite clear must have taken place very soon after his murder, in 870. The discovery of about 1,800 coins, mixed with those of a large number of Alfred, would be strong presumptive evidence that they were contemporary, but the fact is proved by four coins which are found in this hoard, bearing on one side the name of Ælfred, and on the other that of Eadmund, with his saintly title." "Eadmund was murdered in 870; he was succeeded by Guthrum, the Dane, who subsequently acquired the friendship of Alfred, and was converted to Christianity in 878; it is, therefore, somewhat probable that these coins, which give the name of Saint to Eadmund, were struck about this period; that there is some connection between the conversion of Guthrum, the canonisation of Eadmund, and the striking of the coins which commemorate the event; and that all the circumstances occurred under the sanction of Alfred." *Coin of Ceolnoth.*—"Of the coins struck by Archbishops of Canterbury there is found here not one prior to Ceolnoth, and of his only one." "Of his successor, Ethered, who occupied the see from 871 to 891, not a piece was found;" but there are fifty-nine coins of his successor Phlegmund; among them several varying in some peculiarities from any previously known.

Mr. Hawkins attempts to determine the probable date, and to guess at the possible occasion of the deposit. His first surmise is that the collection may have "belonged to a worker or dealer in silver, who had been suddenly interrupted by some alarm in the midst of his operations for reducing his stock into ingots, preparatory to the further processes of his peculiar trade;" but later he concludes that the mass of treasure must have been brought from a distance, by parties of strangers; and as the only parties of strangers likely to visit Lancashire at this period were warlike parties, the opinion is a corroboration of the view that the hoard was the military treasury of some invading Danish leaders. This authority observes:—"It may be remarked that these coins were probably collected within a limited district, for there is but one coin of any Mercian King, not one of the usual Mercian type, even of Alfred himself." "It must be observed that there is not amongst these coins any of either an Archbishop of York, or a King of Northumbria, which may be accounted for by the circumstance that

the treasure consisted entirely of silver, and that no coins of that metal were current in Northumbria before the time of Regnald, who commenced his reign in 912." "There is every appearance of this treasure having been collected in the South, and transferred in one mass to the place of its deposit. It may be supposed, then, that the Cuerdale treasure was deposited *immediately upon the arrival in this neighbourhood of the party or parties who brought it from a distance.*" Now, if these parties had been peaceable, coming in peaceable times, the hiding of the treasure was needless; but if the owners of it were invaders of the land, its secretion, either just before a great battle or after a severe defeat, is quite accountable. As to the question of date, Mr. Hawkins's opinion is expressed as follows:—"Looking at the list of personages who may be considered to have struck the coins comprising the English portion of the Cuerdale treasure, it appears that the far greater number bear the name of Alfred or St. Eadmund; it is clear, therefore, that these were strictly contemporary pieces, and that the deposit was made very soon after the death of Alfred, before his coins had been displaced by those of his successor. Archbishop Phlegmund occupied the see of Canterbury for eleven years before the death of Alfred, and survived him twenty-three years; of his coins there are here fifty-nine specimens. He was the last prelate of Canterbury who struck coins in his own name, and it is not improbable that he may have discontinued the practice some years before his death; indeed, while the occurrence of the name of Alfred upon one of Phlegmund's coins proves that some of his coins were struck during that King's reign, there is not any evidence that he struck coins after the King's death, and it is probable that all his coins here found may have been struck during the life of Alfred. There are, however, forty-five coins of Edward, the successor of Alfred; he died in 924, and this is the very latest year in which any of the coins here discovered could have been struck. While, then, these coins prove that the interment must have taken place after the death of Alfred, the smallness of the number—forty-five—leads to the presumption that it took place very soon after his death, probably not later than the year 910." In this supposition the writer may have affixed too early a date to the deposit. It must be borne in mind that Hawkins wrote in ignorance of the evidence which seems to connect Athelstan's defeat of Anlaf with this part of Lancashire. While, too, the year 924 is the last date on which any of the Saxon coins could have been minted, the year 928 is given by Hawkins himself as the latest possible date of one of the French types represented here; and some of the Scandinavian series were of the same period. As the treasure most probably belonged to an army of the Danes, the coins would not be likely to include the

last Saxon coins in circulation on their arrival in Lancashire. Thus the treasure may as well have belonged to the chiefs who invaded England in the years 934-7 as to predatory bands of the same race that might have infested the Lancashire coasts some twenty years earlier.

The articles of Mr. Hawkins on this treasure were supplemented by communications to the *Numismatic Chronicle* from Mr. Daniel H. Haigh, an accomplished Manchester numismatist, and from M. Adrien de Longperier, of Paris. Mr. J. Yonge Akerman comments upon several of the English coins embraced in the foregoing enumeration of the Cuerdale examples. The third sovereign here represented is Ciolwlf, King of Mercia, of whose mint there are two coins. Akerman says: "Of the pennies of Ciolwlf, who seized the kingdom on the deposition of Burgred (A.D. 874), there are several varieties which are rare. Some of them were struck at Canterbury, and have *Dorobernia Cibitas* on the reverse."¹ Of the coins of Alfred the same authority remarks: "Many of the coins of Aelfred (Alfred) found with the large hoard at Cuerdale, in Lancashire, a short time since, have the portrait with a monogram on the reverse,"² and he figures an example "which, instead of the name *Aelfred*, as usual around that bust, has the word *Heribert*."³ "There were half-pennies of Aelfred discovered at Cuerdale." Two examples are given—"one bearing the name of the place of mintage, *Orsnaforda*; the other with an unintelligible inscription. Barbarous imitations of pennies of the London type also occurred in the Cuerdale find, and among them the examples engraved." "There was also a type of Alfred, the florid ornaments of which seem to have been suggested by the devices of one of the coins of Offa."⁴ It has been noted that there are no fewer than 867 coins of King Alfred in the Cuerdale list. Forty-five coins are counted of the succeeding prince, Eadward, on which Akerman writes: "The pennies of Eadward the Elder are interesting, though of rude execution. There are many varieties. Some have the representation of a building; others, a flower in a compartment of the reverse; and the hand of Providence, a type derived from the Byzantine artists, appears on a third variety. But two specimens of his half-pennies are known." The coins of the next Saxon monarch, the martyred and canonised St. Eadmund, King of the East Angles, are 1770 in number, the most numerous of any English mint represented in the Cuerdale hoard. Following these are a few coins of the ecclesiastics, Archbishops Ceolnoth and Phlegmund.

The observations of Worsaae, the Danish antiquary, upon the Scandinavian, French, and other foreign coins, in the collection, are learned and valuable:—

¹ *Anc. and Mod. Coins*, p. 113. ² *Ib.* p. 117. ³ *Ib.* p. 119. ⁴ *Ib.* p. 119.

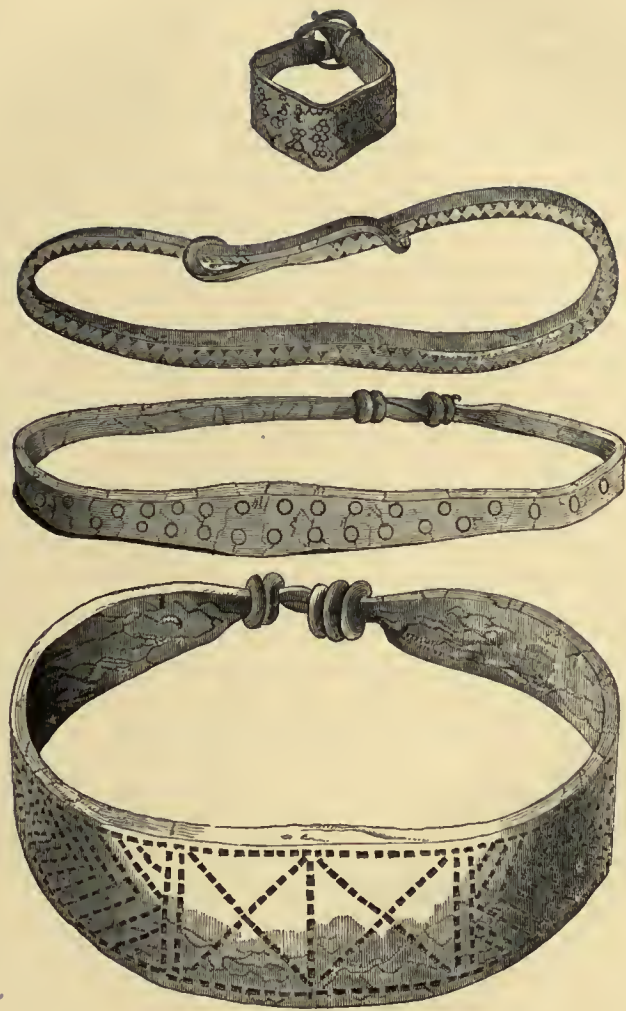
Among the coins, besides a single Byzantine piece, were found several Arabic or Kufic, some of north Italy, about a thousand French, and two thousand eight hundred Anglo-Saxon pieces, of which only eight hundred were of Alfred the Great. But the chief mass, namely, three thousand pieces, consisted of peculiar coins, with the inscriptions "Siefredus Rex," "Sievrt Rex," "Cnut Rex," "Alfden Rex," and "Sitric Comes" (jarl); and which, therefore, merely from their preponderating number, may be supposed to be the most common coins at that time, and in that part of north England where the treasure had been concealed. Cnut's coins were the most numerous, as they amounted to about two thousand pieces, of different dies; which proves a considerable and long-continued coining. Not only are the names of Sitric (Sigtryg), Alfden (Halvdan), Cnut (Knud), Sievert (Sivard), and Siefred (Sigfred) visibly of Scandinavian origin, but they also appear in ancient chronicles as the names of mighty Scandinavian chiefs, who in the ninth and tenth centuries ravaged the western lands. Sitric Comes is certainly that Sitric Jarl, who fell in a battle in England about the year 900. Alfden is undoubtedly the same King "Halfden" who at the close of the ninth century so often harried South England—where he even besieged London, till he fell in the battle of Wednesfield, in 910. Cnut, whose name is found inscribed on the coins in such a manner that one letter stands on each of the four arms of a cross, while the inscription R E X (Rex) is enclosed between them, is probably he whom the Danes called "Knud Daneast" (or Danes' Joy), a son of the first Danish monarch, Gorm the Old; as it is truly related of him that he perished in Vesterviking (the Western lands). Sigfrid must either have been the celebrated viking, for whose adventurous expedition France, and its capital, Paris, in particular, had to pay dearly; or that Sigefert, or Sigfred, who, in the year 897, ravaged the English coasts with an army of Danes from Northumberland. The steady connection which the vikings in England maintained with France, affords a material explanation why their coins were imitations both of contemporary English, or Anglo-Saxon, and of French coins. Thus on the reverse of Cnut's coins just mentioned, we sometimes find the inscription "Elfred Rex," which is purely Anglo-Saxon; and sometimes the particular mark for Carolus, or Charles (Karl), which otherwise is only found on the French Carolingian coins. A very frequent inscription on the Scandinavian coins here alluded to is "Ebraice Civita," or "The City of York," whose ancient name "Eadhroig," and in the barbarous Latin of the time "Eboracum," was converted into "Ebraice." On other contemporary coins struck at York, namely, on some of what is called St. Peter's money, York is also called "Ebraice" and "Ebraicit." For the Cuerdale coins, in order to express the name "Ebraice," coins of French kings of the city of "Ebroicas," or Evreux, in Normandy, seem to have been particularly chosen as patterns; for, by a slight change of a few letters, this Ebroicas could be converted into Ebraice, which was the casier process at a time when the art of stamping coins was not much practised. An additional proof that these coins were really minted by Scandinavian kings in Northumbria, and in the city of York, is, that none such have been found in any other part of England; whilst, on the contrary, one of Canute's coins, which have been so frequently mentioned, was dug up, together with English and French coins of the same kind as those found at Cuerdale, at Harkirke, near Crosby, also in Lancashire; and consequently at places whose names ending in *kirke* (church), and *by* (town), bear witness no less than that of Cuerdale (from *dal*, a valley), to the dominion of the Northmen in these parts. Should any doubt still exist that, so early as the ninth century, Danish-Norwegian Kings and Jarls minted a considerable number of coins in York, in imitation of contemporary Anglo-Saxon and French coins, it is at all events certain that the Northumbrian

As an exposition of the degree of skill attained in the manufacture of jewelry and other silversmith's work at the period of the deposit, the Cuerdale treasure is exceedingly useful.

The ornaments accompanying are of various kinds, but the silver armlets and portions of armlets are the most numerous. They exhibit many diversities of shape, workmanship, and embellishment. Upwards of forty of these armlets and parts of armlets are engraved by Hawkins. Some of them are almost beautiful in design; others are little more than thin bands of silver narrowing to the ends, where the circle is formed by the twisting of the wires. The following may be taken as a type of the ruder forms:—"A small armlet, probably not quite finished, having been merely hammered into form, the edges and sides still rough and sharp, and retaining traces of the hammer; it is almost entirely without ornament. It is perfectly flat, broad at the middle, becoming gradually narrower towards the extremities, where it terminates in blunt round ends. Armlets of this description vary in breadth at the middle from $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$, and perhaps more; it is probable that they did not quite encircle the arm, the ends being, when worn, at some distance from each other. Sometimes the ends were elongated, and rounded into the form of a thick wire, and twisted together into various forms." The ornamentation consists for the most part of parallel indented lines, producing a ribbed appearance, zigzags or lozenges punched into the metal; in some examples the punches are mere dots or small rings; in others the form of the stamp is more artistic. "The patterns are numerous, but the forms of the punches are very few, the variations being produced by combining the forms of more punches than one, or by placing the same or differently formed punches at a greater or less distance from each other, or by varying their direction. Patterns of the period and localities to which these ornaments belong are scarcely ever found finished by casting or chasing; it would appear also that the use of solder, to unite the various parts of objects, was either little known or little practised, for the ends of these ornaments are tied together, and upon other occasions, where union is necessary, rivets are employed." The punches, besides the blunt chisel punch and the zigzag, are annular, heart-shaped, egg-shaped, triangular, crescent, quatrefoil, conical, &c., and although the tool is in all cases more or less rude, the varieties of pattern produced by them on the outer surfaces of these primitive jewels are very considerable.

SAXON SETTLEMENTS AND NOMENCLATURE.

During an occupancy of some five centuries as the dominant race, from the period of their advent in the beginning of the sixth century to



SAXON SILVER RING AND ARMLETS, FOUND AT
CUERDALE.

the Norman Conquest in the eleventh, the Anglo-Saxon colonists in Lancashire had settled to the pursuit of husbandry upon the patches of land they had reclaimed from the natural wilderness. Evidence of the Saxon appropriation of lands in the district is supplied in the existing nomenclature of townships and smaller territorial divisions, which is essentially Anglo-Saxon. If, which must be supposed, the population of the preceding Romano-British epoch had made some impression upon the soil in the way of cultivation, and had established fixed dwellings upon, and proprietary rights in, the restricted portions of the land then cleared from the forest, the Saxons and Angles, when seizing upon these lands as the victor's perquisite, not only dispossessed the British settler but discarded or ignored the name given to the British settlement, and substituted a new series of names of localities based upon the language of the intruding races. Thus, with rare exceptions, the Roman and British names of places in use for ages before the Saxon Conquest were dropped and forgotten, and the fresh terms of topographical description were invented, which in modified forms have survived to this day, and, being stereotyped in popular use, must now endure to the end of England's record.

Unless in the names of the two local rivers, Darwen and Calder, and the range of hills to portions of which the name of Billinge is given, it would be difficult to discover the most faint traces of the aboriginal nomenclature in the modern names of places within this parish. Darwen is thought to be derived from the British terms *Dwr-gwyn*, meaning, the Clear Water; and Calder from *Col-dwr*, Narrow Water. Billinge is also imagined to be British, but the root of the word is not suggested. The Saxons did not attempt to change the name of the river Darwen, but in the Saxonised form of *Derewent* retained it and applied it to two of their settlements upon the banks of that stream, Over Derwent and Nether Derwent. The other names of the ancient manors, or landed occupancies, in Blackburn Parish have a Saxon root-meaning more or less distinct. The central town of Blackburn is named from A.S. *Blac-burne*, meaning Dark (or opaque) Brook—descriptive of its stream. In the same township occurs Audley, apparently from the Saxon words *Ald-ley*, Old Field (or place); Whitebirk, from *Hwite-byrc*, the White (or silver) Birch; Beardwood, probably from *Beorh-wuda*, the Wood on the Hill. The Anglo-Saxon word *Tun*, a residence, or homestead, modernised to Town, was frequently used in the naming of places, with some distinguishing prefix; and several of the townships in Blackburn Parish thus obtained their nomenclature, namely, Billington, the town on Billinge; Osbaldeston, the settlement of Osbald or Oswald; Balderstone, an altered form of Osbaldeston; Plesington, the seat or homestead of Plesyng;

Witton, the place of one Wyta, it may be ; Clayton, perhaps named from the character of its subsoil, *Clag-tun*, the clayey place ; and Walton, which may have been composed of the two words, *Weall-tun*, the walled settlement, indicating that it was held as a fortified post in the Saxon as well as in the Roman colonisation. Rishton may be taken to have been compound of *Risc*, A.S. a rush, and *tun*, that is, the place of rushes,—a description still accurate of the partially-recovered bog-land of Rishton Moor. The Saxon termination of *bury* (*byri*, a city or burgh), implying a settlement made strong for defence, is exemplified locally in Salesbury and Samesbury, townships in the Ribble Valley. Harwood, the name of two townships in the parish (Great and Little), is deducible from *Hara-wuda*, the wood or covert of hares ; doubtless a part of that extensive woodland which is recorded to have covered the hills in the centre of the parish at the date of the Conquest. Ramsgreave, the next township to the west of Little Harwood, receives its name, probably, from *Romms*, a Saxon family name, and *graf*, a grove, and implying, the grove or greave of Romms or Romes. Wilpshire, a township on the hill south of Billington, was anciently spelt Wilipsceyre or Wilpshire, and may mean the *share* of Wilip, from the Saxon *Scyre*, a shire or share. In the names of Dinkley and Eccleshill townships appear the Saxon affixes *ley*, a field, and *hull*, a hill, and the first part of both names may enshrine those of the ancient settlers in these places. The derivation of the names of three other townships in the parish, namely, those of Livesey, Tockholes, and Mellor, is not so evident. Livesey and Tockholes sound like Saxon words, but Mellor has a hint of Danish, and the heights of Mellor may at one period have been held by the Danes of West Lancashire as an outpost of their fortified places in Lower Ribblesdale.¹ The word *dale* is Danish, the Saxon equivalent being *dæn*, as in Hoddlesden, Haslingden, and Baxenden more to the east ; and a reminiscence of Scandinavian tenure on the west side of the parish is therefore found in the names of Clayton-in-le-Dale, Oxendale, Cuerdale, and Walton-in-le-Dale ; as well as in the name of the Ribbleside estate of *Sunderland* in Osbaldeston. The mixed Saxon and Danish nomenclature of the valley of the Ribble between Salesbury and Penwortham points to the inference that this was for a period contested ground by the Saxons of the hill district of East Lancashire and the Danes of the coastward plains of Leyland and Aounderness.

In the names of numerous places of early settlement within townships the Saxon element is visible, *ex. gr.* :—Revidge, Royshaw, Oosebooth,

¹ Respecting the derivation of the names of Mellor and Harwood, Mr. T. T. Wilkinson, a good authority in Lancashire etymology, suggests :—“ I should derive Mellor from the Keltic *moel-ar* the place or speculum (*ar*) upon (*moel*) the round hill. Harwood might also come from *higher-wood*, or *har* (gray) wood ; as well as from the words given in the text.”

and Peel in Blackburn township ; Langho, Cunliffe, Braddyll, Brockhole, Hacking, Elcar, Nabbe, and Snodworth in Billington ; Showley, in Clayton-le-Dale ; Green Lowe, Astley, Turncroft, and Sunnihurst in Over Darwen ; Th'Hurcroft, Oakenhurst, and Fearnhurst in Lower Darwen ; Martholme, Overton, and Netherton in Great Harwood ; Bankhey in Little Harwood ; Feniscliffe, Whithalgh, Moorgate, and Ewood (Heywood), in Livesey ; Arleys and Stanley in Mellor ; Stidlehurst in Osbaldeston ; Fenisowles in Pleasington ; Tottleworth, the Holt, Mickle Heys, and Sidebight in Rishton ; Loveley, in Salesbury ; Huntley, and Sowerbutts, in Samlesbury ; Lowe, and Red Lee, in Tockholes ; Brownedge in Walton ; Pyethorne in Wilpshire ; and in the names of the united township of Yate and Pickop Bank.

CHAPTER II.—MEDIÆVAL PERIOD.

Lancashire in the time of Edward the Confessor—The Norman Invasion and Conquest—March of the Norman Army across the County—The Domesday Survey—Lordship of De Lacy in Blackburnshire—Ancient Ecclesiastical record of the district—Landed tenures in the reign of Henry II.—Foundation of Whalley Abbey—The Great De Lacy Inquisition—Tenants of the First Duke of Lancaster—John of Gaunt's estate in Blackburnshire—Wars of the Roses—Capture of Henry VI. near Clitheroe—Rewards to his captors—Fall of Richard III. at Bosworth Field.

AT the commencement of the eleventh century the Lancashire territories were under the sway of two powerful nobles. The northern half of the county, to the line of the Ribble, was portion of the Danish earldom of Northumbria. The part to the south of the Ribble, described as "*Terra inter Ripam et Mersham*" (the land between Ribble and Mersey), was attached to the earldom of Mercia or Chester. Wulfic, Earl of Chester, by his will, dated A.D. 1004, devised his lands between the Ribble and the Mersey to his sons Elfhelme and Walfarge, subject to a payment by each of 3,000 sceattas. But in the reign of Edward the Confessor the territories between Ribble and Mersey had passed into royal possession; they had, in fact, been sequestrated by Canute. The position of King Edward in relation to the bulk of these lands was that of superior lord, but certain particular estates were in immediate tenure of the Crown. In Blackburnshire this Saxon King had several estates under his direct control, and of which he drew the revenues. Ecclesiastically, the region of South Lancashire was a part of the diocese of Lichfield, and remained so until the Reformation, when the diocese of Chester was constituted.

In 1051, William, Duke of Normandy, came to England on a state visit to Edward, accompanied by a great array of Norman followers. Edward received him with profuse honours and hospitalities. William found the country swarming with Normans, occupying every post of

authority and trust, and everything apparently favourable to the usurpation he had then resolved upon. Edward had before this entered into a secret engagement with William that the latter should succeed him upon the throne of England. This compact was viewed with aversion by many of his subjects, who rallied to the leadership of Harold, son of Godwin, Saxon Earl of Wessex. Edward the Confessor died in February, 1066, and the popular voice promptly declared Harold should be King. On hearing of this, Duke William immediately began his preparations for the invasion of England. The army of invasion was constituted, not of Normans alone, but of "all the professional adventurers and all the military vagabonds of Western Europe." The Norman army of 60,000 men landed at Pevensey Bay, near Hastings, and on the 13th of October, 1066, the battle of Hastings was fought. By the superior tactics of the Normans, the English were defeated. Harold and his brothers fell in the thickest of the battle, and in the space of one brief autumn day the domain of England passed into the hands of a new race, to whom the native English were doomed to pay the duty of perpetual servitude. William was crowned by his Normans King of England in Westminster Abbey, on Christmas Day of that same year. William and his barons now proceeded with the work of partitioning the lands of the English amongst themselves. Royal Commissioners traversed the country in every direction, and made careful inventories of every kind of property. To enforce a sweeping sequestration, the Conqueror's troops ravaged the kingdom with atrocious severity.

Lancashire was among the last of English territories to feel the scourge of the Norman visitation. Many, indeed, of its bravest men must have participated and perished in the final bitter conflict for national existence; but the western parts of Northumbria and Mercia were out of the direct track of conquest. Not until the year 1070 was the county entered by a Norman force. It was the followers of the banner of De Lacy, to whom the earldom of Pontefract had fallen, that were the first to penetrate our mountain barrier, and to seize upon some portion of land in East Lancashire. "The great domain of Pontefract," writes Thierry, "the spot where the Norman troops had forded the river Aire, was the share of Gilbert de Lacy, who, following the example of nearly all the other Norman captains, built a strong castle there. It appears that this Gilbert was the first who with his troops passed the mountains west of York and invaded the adjoining county of Lancaster, which then formed part of Cheshire. He appropriated to himself in this county an immense territory, the chief town of which was Blackburn, and which extended south and east to the borders of Yorkshire. To form this great domain, he expelled, according to an ancient tradition,

all the English proprietors from Blackburn, Rochdale, Tottington and the vicinity. Before the conquest, says the tradition, all these proprietors were free, equal in rights, and independent of each other; but after the Norman invasion, there was in the whole county but one lord." Soon afterwards, William himself, having finished the work of subjugation in the east of Northumbria, resolved upon the capture of Chester, the sole remaining city of any note which had not yet received a Norman garrison. As the King was preparing to start from York on this expedition, he learned that a feeling of strong repugnance to the enterprise pervaded his soldiery. According to Ordericus Vitalis, the Norman army had been alarmed by exaggerated accounts of the difficulties of the country between York and Chester, and of the "terrible fierceness of the enemy" in this region. Having overcome this opposition by lavish promises of rewards in lands and other property to those who assisted in this new conquest, William marched over the Pennine mountains to the city on the Dee. It is natural to suppose that the main body of the Norman army, following in the footsteps of De Lacy's men, would take the route through Craven into Ribblesdale, the most open of the passes through the hill ranges of the eastern border of Lancashire; and it is something more than a vague conjecture that the great Conqueror himself rode, at the head of his martial array, through the length of our Hundred while upon this journey. Ordericus Vitalis writes that in this march the Norman leader made his way with unwearied vigour "through roads never before travelled by horses, across lofty mountains and deep valleys, rivers, and rapid streams, and dangerous quagmires in the hollows of the hills. Pursuing their track, they were often distressed by torrents of rain, sometimes mingled with hail. At times they were reduced to feed on the flesh of horses which perished in the bogs. The King often led the way on foot with great agility, and lent a ready hand to assist others in their difficulties." The result of this laborious march was the immediate occupation of Chester and of all the Mercian country on both sides of the river Mersey.

From the statement above it would appear that the first Norman possessor of Blackburnshire was Gilbert, or Ilbert, de Lacy, whose major acquisition was the lordship of Pontefract in Yorkshire. Other early records, however, state that Blackburn Hundred, with the rest of Lancashire, was in the first instance conferred upon the Norman Earl Roger de Montgomery, better known in English annals as Roger de Poitou. The grant is believed to have been made about the year 1068. This Roger of Poitou was the third son of Roger, Viscount of Montgomery. His services to the Conqueror were recompensed by the

¹ Conq. of Engl., trans. by Hazlitt, v. 1, p. 229.

earldom of Lancashire, the superior lordship of almost the whole county, and near 200 manors in other parts of the country. Apparently, Ilbert de Lacy, although a baron in Yorkshire, held his estates in East Lancashire, at the first, under Roger de Poitou as superior lord. This, at least, is the simplest explanation that suggests itself of the discrepancy noted.

The memorable survey of landed tenures in England, undertaken by order of William the Conqueror, the record of which is contained in *Domesday Book*, was begun about the year 1080, and finished in 1086. The passage relating to the Hundred of Blackburn is found in the survey of lands between the Mersey and Ribble. The "King Edward" alluded to is Edward the Confessor, the last Saxon King of England according to the Normans, who refused to recognise the brief sovereignty of Harold. The following is an English version of the entry relating to the district :—

King Edward held *Blacheburne*. There are two hides and two carucates of land. Of this land the church had two carucates of land ; and the Church of St. Mary in *Whalley* two carucates, both of them free of all customs. In the same manor there is a wood one league long and the same broad, and there was an aery of hawks. To this manor or hundred were attached twenty-eight freemen, holding five hides and a half and forty carucates of land for twenty-eight manors. There is a wood there six leagues long and four broad, and the manors were all subject to the above customs. In the same hundred King Edward had *Hunicot* (Huncoat), two carucates of land, and *Wale-tune* (Walton-in-le-Dale) two carucates, and *Peniltune* (Pendleton) half a hide. The whole manor, with the hundred, yielded the king a farm rent of thirty two pounds and two shillings. *Roger de Poitou* gave all this land to *Roger de Busli* and *Albert Greslet*, and there are so many men who have eleven carucates and a half ; to whom they have granted freedom (from all customs) for three years, wherefore it is not now valued.

Unfortunately for the precision of our knowledge of the topography of the district in the eleventh century, the Norman surveyors made a much less particular report on the Hundred of Blackburn than was usual with them in describing other districts. Of twenty-eight manors in the Hundred held by freemen at the Conquest none are named in the survey. Only the names of the four Royal manorial estates of Blackburn, Huncoat, Walton and Pendleton are specified. The names of the Saxon freeholders under the last of the Saxon Kings are unrecorded, and the territorial nomenclature of the period is left to be doubtfully gathered from later historical references. In the Parish of Blackburn, Blackburn and Walton-in-le-Dale are entered as Royal Manors under Saxon rule. How many of the twenty-eight other manors of the Hundred were contained within the Parish of Blackburn cannot be exactly made out ; but we know from other sources that the larger townships of Billington, Salesbury, Clayton-in-le-Dale, Osbaldeston, Samlesbury and Pleasington, and

probably Harwood, Rishton and Livesey, have embraced manors in fee under the chief lords of the Honor from the beginning of the Norman appropriation, and it may be inferred that the Saxon manors within the parish were generally identical with the Norman manorial tenures that succeeded.

Some explanation of obsolete terms employed in *Domesday Book* may be useful to the general reader. The *hide* of land was originally a Saxon measure, and signified as much arable land as would suffice to support one family. Obviously the extent of the *hide* must have varied according to the quality and situation of the land, and thus it has been found impossible to fix any measure as the uniform equivalent of the Saxon *hide*. The *carucate* in South Lancashire was equal to the sixth part of a *hide*, in other parts of England it was but one-twelfth. The meaning of the term is, as much land as could be tilled by one plough, from the Latin *caruca*, a plough. Dr. Whitaker says that in Blackburn Hundred the manors averaged about one and a half carucates each; that the "oxgang" was sixteen acres, and the carucate 128 acres, or eight oxgangs. This gives an average area of the twenty-eight private manors of Blackburnshire of 192 acres each.

The tenure of the earldom of Lancaster, with its valuable appurtenances, was not long retained by Roger de Poitou. In the year 1074, during the King's absence in Normandy, a conspiracy was formed to dethrone him, and to separate England into three kingdoms—those of Northumbria, Mercia, and Wessex. The three principal agents in this sedition were Roger de Poitou, Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland (an English noble who had made his peace with the Norman), and Adolphus, Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk. Between these it was intended that the country should be divided. William's prompt return to England disconcerted the conspiracy, and the foiled plotters paid the penalty of their ambition, Waltheof with his life, and Roger de Poitou by the forfeiture of his English estates and banishment from the country. The Norman monarch himself assumed the proprietorship of the Lancashire lands of which his rebellious noble had been deprived, and they were kept as royalties until the King's death in 1087.

The rise of the town and fortress of Clitheroe dates from the first years of the Norman tenure of East Lancashire. It was then that Clitheroe became the seat of local authority, and gave its designation to the "Honor of Clitheroe," which embraced the older division of Blackburnshire, along with portions of other Hundreds in Lancashire and Yorkshire. The Norman fortress at Clitheroe was built either by Ilbert de Lacy in the reign of William I., or by his son Robert in the reign of William Rufus. The De Lacy family, whose representatives figure con-

spicuously in the local history of the next two centuries, came from the Department of Calvadas, in Normandy ; and their name, originally spelt De Lascy, was derived from a place called Lassi, in the French province. The history of the Honor of Clitheroe,—which passed from the Lacies by marriage of an heiress to Henry Earl of Lancaster, and remained an appanage of the Earldom and Dukedom of Lancaster and of the Crown on the addition of the duchy to the titular dignities of the Monarch, until it was granted to General Monk, Duke of Albemarle, by Charles the Second,—has been written circumstantially by the historian Whitaker, and therefore need not be repeated in these pages. With the Honor of Clitheroe was associated the judicatory rights of the Wapentake of Blackburn, whose ancient court has but recently been abolished.

A Latin manuscript, supposed to have been written about the year 1347 by John Lyndelay, one of the Abbots of Whalley, contains a curious account, compiled probably from local traditions extant at the time, of the primitive circumstances of the district, both as respects its ecclesiastical and its civil settlements. This ancient document, which Whitaker styles *De Statu Blagborneshire*—“Concerning the State of Blackburnshire”—was translated by the late Mr. Harland for the new edition of the *History of Lancashire*.¹ All that need be recited here are passages referring to the first Christian foundations in the district and to the local manors of the Saxon period :—

Be it remembered, that in the time of Ethelbert, King of the English, who began to reign A.D. 596, the blessed Augustine, the Apostle of the English, sent by the blessed Pope Gregory, in the third year of his papacy, at the instance and request of the said King, preached in England, and taught the Christian faith. There was at Whalley in Blackborneshire a certain parish church built in honour of all saints, in the cemetery of which church were certain stone crosses then erected and called by the people the crosses of the blessed Augustine, which under the same name exist there to this day ; and the above-named church was called, at that time, “The White Church under the Legh.” Within the bounds and limits of the said parish church were comprised, at the time, all Blagborneshire and all Boland, and so it endured for many years. After these things, the devotion of the faithful increasing, and the number of believers in those parts being augmented, there were built other three churches in Blagborneshire,—namely, the Church of Blagborne, the Church of Chepen, and the Church of Ribchester,—the parishes of these churches being distinct, and marked out in certain limits on all sides, as they have continued to be to the present time, and are well known to all in those parts. In those times, while the said churches had thus been built, there was not, in Blackborneshire, at Cliderhowe, or elsewhere, a castle built, nor any chapel whatever besides the above-named churches, nor any lord who had ever claimed the patronage of the said churches, or of any of them ; but each rector held and possessed the land and vill in which his church was situated, as the endowment of his church ; and governed his church, so endowed, as if it were his own patrimony and inheritance ; and freely appointed his successor from among his sons or

¹ Vol. 2, pp. 1-3.

friends, acceptance or institution by the Bishop of Lichfield then taking place ; and, for a long time, the Rectors of Whalley and of Blagborne were for the most part married men, and the lords of vills. And those of Whalley were called deans, not parsons—the cause of which is thought likely to be, that at the time of the founding of this church, and through times long subsequent, the people of those parts were so sparse, and so untamed and wild, and moreover, there was such a multitude of foxes and hurtful beasts, and the place also seemed so inaccessible to men, that alike the Bishops for the time being, and their officials, left and continually committed the whole jurisdiction (pertaining to the office of common deans) over the ordinaries of these parishes, to the aforesaid rectors, on account of the inconvenience specified ; the more difficult and weighty causes, indeed, being reserved for the Bishop. Who held this lordship of Blagborneshire before the time of the said King William is not stated with certainty in the chronicles. Common opinion holds and asserts, that as many as were the vills or mansions, or the manors of men, so many were the lords, not only in Blagborneshire, but also Rachdale, Tottington, and Boland, and all the adjacent neighbourhood, of which none was held from another, but all in chief from the lord King himself.

In the reign of Henry II., and about a century after the Conquest, the names of several townships in Blackburn Parish appear in existing documents. For example, Gospatric, lord of Samlesbury, founded the Chapel of Samlesbury about the year 1190. In the twelfth century, the name of Rishton is found as the seat of a branch of the family of De Blackburns, the members of which changed the family name on their change of residence to De Rishton. The manor of Great Harwood is mentioned early in the same century as the gift of Henry de Lacy to Richard de Fitton, Justice of Chester. In the reign of Henry II., who died in 1189, the two *Darewents* (Upper and Nether Darwen), *Melver* (Mellor), *Heccleshall* (Eccleshill), and *Harawuda* (Harwood), are given in documents as members of the Knight's Fee of Walton, granted by Henry II. to Robert Banastre, founder of the great house of Banastre of Walton. Billington township is named so early as the reign of Stephen, who died in 1154. Osbaldeston is named in deeds of the reign of Henry II. ; and the townships of Wilpshire, Dinkley, Cuerdale, Salesbury, Tockholes, Pleasington, and Witton not much later. So that the settled lands of the Parish soon after the Norman occupation may be generally identified with the modern townships, and their anterior definition and apportionment may be assumed, the silence of Domesday notwithstanding.

The following extracts from the *Liber Feodorum* (Book of Fees), compiled by Ralph de Nevill in the reign of Henry III., have reference to the landed tenures in this parish :—

FEES OF THE HEIR OF ROBERT BANASTRE.

The same heir holds in the lord's chief manor one knight's fee in Waleton and Blakeburnscire of the fee of the Earl of Lincoln, and he in chief of the lord the king ; the land hitherto is in custody and belongs to the dower of the Countess of Lincoln.

FEES OF THE HEIR OF THE EARL OF LINCOLN IN BLAKEBURNSCIRE.

Inquisitors of the Wapentake of Blakeburnscire :—Simon le Harris, Adam de Blakeburn, Adam Noel, Henry de Cleyton, Adam de Billinton, William de Caldecotes, John de Wynketley, and Richard de Katlauhe.

LIVSEY, ACTON, AND MERLEY.—Ralph de Mitton holds the fourth part of a knight's fee in Acton, Merley, and Liveshey, of the demesne fee, and it belongs to the dower of the Countess.

RISHTON.—Gilbert, the son of Henry, holds the tenth part of a knight's fee in Ruston of the demesne fee, and it belongs to the dower of the Countess. Adam de Billinton holds half a knight's fee in the same of the demesne fee, and it belongs to the dower of the Countess. The heir of Hugh de Alvetham holds the eighth part of a knight's fee in the same of the demesne fee, and it belongs to the dower of the Countess.

HARWOOD.—Hugh Fiton holds the fourth part of a knight's fee in Harwood of the demesne fee. Henry de Cleyton holds the eighth part of a knight's fee in the same of the demesne fee.

Under the head of *Inquisition of the Earldom of Lancaster*, I find the following :—

Roger de Laci holds five knight's fees of the fee of Cliderhow, which was in the hand of the lord the King.

Under the head of *Drengages* are these entries :—

HARWOOD.—Roger de Samelisbury and Alexander [de Harwood] hold six carucates in Harewood of the aforesaid [Robert Greslet's] knight's fee. . . . Roger de Samelisburi and Alexander de Harewood hold one oxgang of land in Chappels [Sharples] by [a rent of] 8s., of Robert Gredle [Greslet].

Edmund de Lacy, Lord of Clitheroe Honor, who died in 1258, was found by escheat to have possessed, among his many estates in Lancashire and Yorkshire, the manor and lands in Blackburn Parish that follow :—Rishton manor, lands in Salesbuyre, Livysay, Samlesburye, Osbaldeston, Clayton, Dinkedley and Wolipshire.

FOUNDATION OF WHALLEY ABBEY.

By much the most notable event in the local history during the thirteenth century, was the foundation of the Monastery at Whalley by the Fraternity of Cistercian Monks previously domiciled at Stanlaw, in Cheshire. With the history of that Monastery, from its erection until its dissolution, a period of about two centuries and a half, the ecclesiastical affairs of Blackburn Parish are intimately associated ; while the endowments of Whalley Abbey included extensive territorial properties and rights of lordship within the parish. Prior to the translation from Stanlaw to Whalley, the Church of Blackburn and its dependent Chapels, with ample glebe and other lands in Blackburn, had been bestowed upon the Abbot and Monks of this fraternity by members of the De Lacy family, founders and chief patrons of the Monastery. Particulars

of these endowments will be hereafter furnished in the accounts to be inserted of the Parish Church and ancient dependent Chapels of the parish. In the year 1283, Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, finding that the original house of the Fraternity at Stanlaw had suffered greatly by its exposed situation on the estuary of the Mersey, and was threatened with total destruction, resolved upon the removal of the foundation to Whalley, and to facilitate the transfer, granted to the Monastery the advowson of Whalley Church. In 1289, in answer to a petition of the Abbot and Monks, Pope Nicholas IV. by his bull authorised the proposed translation. Boniface VIII., the succeeding Pope, first revoked, but eventually confirmed the permission of his predecessor. Before, however, the Abbot and Monks of Stanlaw could enter into possession of the benefice and patronage of Whalley, the death of the holder of the rectory, Peter de Cestria, had to take place. This event occurred in the year 1294, and shortly after the Abbot of Stanlaw removed his quarters to Whalley, bringing with him the majority of the Monks. Stanlaw was retained as a cell to Whalley. On the site selected for the new Abbey, on the right bank of the Calder immediately to the west of the Parish Church of Whalley, Henry de Lacy laid the foundation of the Abbey, June 12th, 1296. The first-completed portions of the buildings were consecrated in 1306, but the process of extension continued for two centuries, and until within a few years of the dismantlement on the dissolution of Monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII. Ample annals of this great Cistercian Abbey have been published by Whitaker and others, and it is not within the design of this history to describe the Abbey fabrics or to rehearse the history of the Monastery. Such of its territorial possessions as were contained in the townships of Blackburn Parish will be named in the several township histories; but it may be here stated that they included, besides the Rectorial and Vicarial Glebes of Blackburn, the lordship of the Manor of Billington with appurtenant estates, amounting to the greater part of the area of that township; and considerable lands, with barns, mills and messuages in the townships of Pleasington, Mellor, Eccleshill, Witton, Livesey, Walton-in-le-Dale, Samlesbury, Balderstone, Salesbury, Over Darwen, Wilpshire, Little Harwood, and Ramsgreave. Thus, for an extended period, the Abbots of Whalley were the largest landlords in Blackburn Parish, and their domains in Whalley Parish and in other parts of Lancashire were still more vast and valuable.

THE GREAT DE LACY INQUISITION.

On the 16th of February, 1311, inquisition was taken, by order of the Crown, of the situation, extent and value of the estates in

Lancashire, of which Henry de Lacy, Lord of Clitheroe, deceased a year before (February 5th, 1310), had died possessed. Of this account Whitaker says that "after the death of the last Earl of Lincoln (De Lacy), leaving only a daughter, on whose demise without male issue the vast estates were settled upon the Crown, it was thought necessary to make a strict and accurate survey." The original Latin copy of this Inquisition is not now extant, but an official copy of it, translated into English, is contained in an ancient MS. volume among the records of the Honor of Clitheroe in the custody of Mr. Dixon Robinson, of Clitheroe Castle. The Inquisition has been printed from this copy, edited by the late Mr. Harland, in the 74th volume of the Chetham Society's series. I cite of this return only such portions as relate to estates of De Lacy in the Parish of Blackburn, and to his superior lordship over the parish as parcel of Clitheroe Honor.

The record is headed:—

INQUISITION TAKEN AFTER THE RENDER OF HENRY DE LACY, LATE EARL OF LINCOLN, OF LANDS, TENEMENTS, &C., HELD OF THE KING, IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER, THE 16TH FEBRUARY, 4TH EDWARD II.

The Jury say that Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, had no lands or tenements in fee in chief of the King, but that he held all his lands and tenements in the County of Lancaster, immediately of the King by the service of fourteen Knights' fees and the third part of a Knight's fee, and by the rent of 105s. 8d., payable yearly to the Castle Guard of Lancaster, and a certain fee called sak fee, and doing suit to the Court held at Torn every six weeks. That King Edward I. granted to the said Earl of Lincoln and the heirs of his body all the lands and tenements hereinafter mentioned, remainder to Thomas, son of Edmond the King's brother, and to Alice his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, remainder to the right heirs of the said Thomas.

CLITHEROE.—That he was seised of the Castle of Clyderhowe with the moat and ditches, nothing worth above the reprises. Also of an Orchard under the Castle, with a Croft, the herbage of which is yearly worth 2d. There are also 20 acres of demean lands demised to several tenants-at-will, each acre yearly worth 4d.,—somm 6s. 8d. Four and a half acres of Meadow, yearly worth 3s. A Watermill, yearly worth £6 13s. 4d. A Fair on St. Mary Magdalene's day, the toll and profits thereof are yearly worth 6s. 8d. The Toll of Clyderhow, Blakeburn, and Bowland, yearly worth £4 13s. 4d.

The subjoined paragraphs refer to townships in this parish:—

RISHTON AND MAGNA HARWOOD.—Johanna, late the wife of Edmund Talbot, held two carucates of land in Risseton, by the fourth of a knight's fee, or the yearly rent of 1s. and suit of the Court of Clyderhou. William de Haskayth held two carucates of land by the service of a knight's fee and the yearly rent of 2s. 6d. and suit of the Court aforesaid.

BLACKBURN.—John Hilton held a carucate and a half in Blackburn freely by homage.

LIVESEY.—Sir Henry de Bury held Levesay in thanage and paid yearly 29s. at the Feast of St. Gyles, and did suit of the Court aforesaid.

TOCKHOLES.—John de Plesyngton and Adam de Tockholes held Tockholes in thanage, and did one suit to the aforesaid Court.

OVER DARWEN.—The heirs of Samlesbury and of Keuresdale held one carucate in On Derwent, by the service of the eighth of a knight's fee and suit of the Court of Clyderhou.

LOWER DARWEN.—Sir Adam Banestre held two carucates of land in Nether Derwent, and paid yearly 2s. 10d.

WALTON-IN-LE-DALE.—Sir John de Langeton held two carucates of land by the service of 4s. a year at Midsummer and suit to the Court aforesaid.

CUERDALE.—Adam de Keuresdale held a carucate in Keuresdale by the service of 9s. a year at the Feast of St. Gyles.

SAMLESBURY.—Lady Cecill de Evyhus and Lady Elizabeth de Holland held one carucate in Samlesbury in thanage, and paid yearly 12s.

MELLOR.—Nicholas de Evyas held half a carucate of land in Melore by the service of the sixteenth of a knight's fee and paid yearly 8d.

CLAYTON-IN-LE-DALE AND BILLINGTON.—Sir Adam de Huddelston held Clayton and Billington by the service of 10s. yearly at the Feast of St. Gyles and 3d. at Midsummer, and suit to the Court aforesaid.

WITTON.—Richard, son of Geffery de Chaterton, held one carucate in Witton by the service of the eighth of a knight's fee and the rent of 2s. per annum at Midsummer. Adam de Haldeley held an assart and paid yearly 1d. and suit to the aforesaid Court.

SALESBURY.—Hugh de [Clyderhow] held Salesbury and Little Penhilton in thanage, and paid yearly 23s. 10d. at St. Gyles's Feast and suit of the Court aforesaid. Richard de Tyndiheved held 11 acres in Salesbury, paying yearly 1d. Richard le Sorris held freely a Watermill, paying yearly 6s. 8d.

DINKLEY.—Roger de Clyderhow held an oxgang and a third of land in Dynkeley in thanage, and paid 2s. and suit of Court.

WILPSHIRE.—Bernard de Hackyng held in Whelipshire half an oxgang of land in thanage, and paid yearly 11d. and suit of Court. Henry de Bradhill held half an oxgang of land and a third there in thanage, by the rent of 1s. per annum and suit of Court. Henry de Boulton held one oxgang in thanage by the rent of 1s. per annum and suit of Court. John, son of Walter de Bradhill, held there two oxgangs of land in thanage, and paid yearly 1s. and suit of Court.

FISHERY IN THE RIBBLE.—The said Earl had a separate Fishery in Ribblewater in Samewell and Salewell [Sale Wheel] yearly worth 12d. Thomas Sorroys paid yearly to the Earl, by attachments of the Pool at Mitton Mill, 4s.

The following held their tenements as part of the Dower of the Lady Alice de Lacy, but did suit to the three weeks' Court at Cliderhou, viz:—

OSBALDESTON AND BALDERSTONE.—Thomas de Osbaldestone for his tenements in Osbaldestone and Balwestone.

To the above may be added the agistment and winter herbage of Hoddlesden Forest and Ramsgreave Chase, reckoned together with those of Trawden, Rossendale, and Pendle Forests, as worth yearly in total 40s.

The particulars of the Inquisition are of use in the authentic statement they embody of the territorial tenures of the parish at that period,

with the names of the free tenants holding under the last of the De Lacys as lords of manors by knight's fee and also in thanage. From this time the tenure of most of the chief local landed estates may be defined and their passage traced down to present possessors.

The Honor of Clitheroe or domain of Blackburnshire was the possession, in the fourteenth century, of the Earls and Dukes of Lancaster in succession, beginning with Earl Thomas, husband of Alice de Lacy, and Henry his brother, father of Henry, first Duke of Lancaster. A manuscript printed by Gregson in the *Portfolio of Fragments*¹ supplies a category of tenants of the Duchy of Lancaster in Blackburnshire at the period of the tenure of Henry, the first Duke (created A.D. 1352), in which the feudal tenants in Blackburn Parish are named as under:—

WALTON-IN-LE-DALE.—Robert de Langton, knight, holds one knight's fee of the Duke of Lancaster in Walton-in-le-Dale, in Blackburnshire, that Robert Banester once held of the fee of the Earl Lacy of Lincoln.

AIGHTON, MEARLEY, AND LIVESEY.—John de Harington, Knight, Thomas de Ardern, Adam de Hoghton, Richard de Nevill, and John Bayley hold the fourth part of a knight's fee in Aghton, Merley, and Levissay, which Ralph de Mitton once held of the fee.

RISHTON.—John de Radcliffē holds of the said duke the tenth part of a knight's fee in Rysheton, which Gilbert, son of Henry, once held.

BILLINGTON.—The Abbot of Whalley holds half a knight's fee in Billington, of the demesne of the duke, which Adam de Billington once held.

HARWOOD.—William de Hesketh, knight, holds four parts of a knight's fee in Harewood of the said duke, which Hugh Fyton once held.

SALESBURY.—The heirs of Richard Clidrowe hold the manor of Salebury of the Duke of Lancaster in socage [obligation to plough, &c., the lord's lands], and for the service of 38s. 8d. per annum at the Feast of St. Gyles.

SAMLESBURY.—William Lord Lovell, Burnell and de Holand and Richard Sothworth hold of the said duke the manor of Samlesbury in socage for the service of 12s. per annum.

TOCKHOLES, &c.—Richard, son of John de Radcliffe, holds the manor of Urdesale; a hundred acres in a place called Hollinshed and in Tockholes; forty acres in Salford, &c., all held of the King in chief by knight service for 2s. [per annum.]

John of Gaunt (Ghent), fourth son of Edward III., married Blanche, second daughter of Henry Duke of Lancaster, who had no male heir; and on the death, in 1362, of Matilda, eldest daughter of Duke Henry (who died in 1361), the whole of the estates attached to the Duchy of Lancaster and Earldom of Leicester passed to the Lady Blanche, as sole heiress of the deceased Duke. Thereupon, her Royal spouse, John of Gaunt, was created Duke of Lancaster, and the title was thus perpetuated. The wife of Duke John, the Lady Blanche, bore him a son, named Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards crowned as Henry IV., and founder of the dynastic House of Lancaster. Duke John of Gaunt had before

¹ Edn. of 1824, App. pp. lix-lx.

received, on his marriage with Blanche, daughter of Duke Henry, as her marriage portion, with other estates, "the Wapentake of Clyderhow, with the demesne lands there, the royal bailiwick of Blackburnshire, the manors of Tottington and Rochdale, the lordship of Bowland, the vacary of Bowland and Blackburnshire, the forest of Blackburnshire, and park of Ightenhill, with the appurtenances in Blackburnshire." Blanche, Duchess of Lancaster, died in the year 1369; Duke John of Gaunt, in 1398.

Henry of Bolingbroke, who succeeded to the Dukedom, was in exile at the date of his sire's demise, having been banished by Richard II., and his inheritance sequestrated. But returning to England, and placing himself at the head of a powerful disaffected party, Henry easily deposed the last of the Plantagenets, and was proclaimed King, with the title of Henry IV., on September 29th, 1399. By this elevation, the estates of the Duchy of Lancaster, among them the lordship of Blackburnshire, became appurtenant to the English Monarchy.

In that vindictive and ensanguined civil conflict which arose out of rival claims of the Dukes of York and of Lancaster—as representatives of the elder and younger branches of the stock of Plantagenet—to the Crown of England, the men of Lancashire, knights, gentry, and retainers, strenuously bore their part on one side or the other, and profited or suffered by the various events that alternately lifted and sunk the fortunes of the White and the Red Roses. But no significant military passage of that long intermittent war, which covered a period of about three quarters of a century, had for its scene these hilly parts of North-East Lancashire, nor demand, therefore, the notice of the local annalist. The great battles of the Wars of the Roses were those of St. Albans (A.D. 1454), Blore Heath (1459), Northampton (1460), Wakefield (1460), Mortimer's Cross (1461), Towton (1461), Hexham (1464), Barnet (1471), Tewkesbury (1471), and Bosworth Field (1485), some of which were among the bloodiest ever fought on English ground. Before the battle of Blore Heath, fought on the Staffordshire border in 1459, the Yorkist army, which had been mustered by the Duke of York at Middleham Castle in Yorkshire, was marched through Craven, and therefore through Ribblesdale, traversing a portion of the Parish of Blackburn, and passing on through West Lancashire into Cheshire and Shropshire. The Yorkist nobles were joined in the campaign by Sir Thomas Harrington, of Hornby Castle, Sir Richard Molyneux, of Sefton, and other Lancashire notables. In the course of these wars, several of the principal landowners in this parish, to be named hereafter, forfeited life or lands by adherence to the losing interest.

¹ Hist. of Whalley, New Edn., v. i, p. 252.

One remarkable and melancholy incident in the career of the unfortunate King, Henry the Sixth, is associated with Ribblesdale, and with members of two local families,—I refer to the capture of Henry near Clitheroe in the year 1464, by partizans of Edward IV., the Yorkist Prince, who had then forcibly possessed the throne. After the loss of the battle of Hexham, Henry was a fugitive, and sojourned for a time in hiding and disguise with faithful supporters among the gentry of West Yorkshire. Henry's first retreat was to Bolton Hall, in Craven, the mansion of his friend, Sir Ralph Pudsay. There he dwelt in concealment for some months. He is said to have been a visitant at Whalley Abbey during this period. Sir Ralph Pudsay, of Bolton Hall, had married Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Tunstall, who attended Henry as his body esquire. At Bolton Hall Henry left memorials of his sojourn, consisting of his boots, gloves, and a spoon; these interesting relics are still in preservation. In the garden of Bolton Hall is a well, called King Henry's Well, of which it is a tradition that the spring was discovered by Henry himself, and the well walled about during his residence there. After his departure from Bolton Hall, Henry was entertained a brief space at Waddington Hall, in the parish of Mitton, then the residence of another gentleman who had supported the King's interest—Sir John Tempest. Waddington Hall is situated a short distance from the Ribble, on the Yorkshire side. It is a strongly-built, moderate-sized house, most of the original features of which have disappeared. It has yet a room which is known as the King's Chamber; and a field between the hall and the river bears the name of King Henry's Meadow. Henry's presence in these parts was known to the Harringtons and the Talbots, as well as to Tempest and Pudsay. Induced by the promise of advantage from Edward the Fourth, these parties, with the honourable exception of Sir Ralph Pudsay, entered into a plot to take Henry captive for the purpose of handing him over to his arch-enemy. The chief agents in this cruel act of treachery were Sir James Harrington, of Hornby, and John Talbot, of Salesbury Hall. They set a watch upon the ex-King's movements at Waddington, and when he was known to be within, they and their myrmidons approached the house to seize Henry. Their victim is said to have escaped by a back window, and fled in the direction of the Ribble. He reached the ford of the river anciently known as Brungerley Hippingstones, close to the site of the modern bridge over the Ribble at Brungerley; crossed the river, and reached the Lancashire shore, where he was overtaken and secured by his pursuers. This capture is recorded in the *Annals of England* by John Stow, and in almost identical terms in the *Chronicle of Warkworth*, as follows:—"Also, the same yere [1464],

Kynge Henry was taken bysyde a howse of religione [Whalley], in Lancaschyre, by the mene of a blacke monke of Abyngtone, in a wode called Cletherwode [Clitheroe Wood], besyde Bungerely hyppyngstones, by Thomas Talbott, sonne and heyre to Sere Edmunde Talbot, of Basshalle, and Jhon Talbott, his cosyne, of Colebry [Salesbury], with other moo ; whiche disseyvide [him] beyng at his dynere at Wadyngtone halle ; and [he was] caryed to Londone on horsebake, and his lege bownd to the styrope, and so brought thugh Londone to the Toure, where he was kepte longe tyme." The black monk who was instrumental in the betrayal was William Cantlow. At Waddington Hall Henry left on his abduction a handsome leather penner ornamented with the heraldic rose and crown, and other insignia, in relief.

The betrayers of Henry were suitably rewarded by Edward IV. Sir Thomas Talbot of Bashall received a gift of £100, and Sir John Tempest and Sir James Harrington the sum of 100 marks each, from the Royal exchequer ; while to Sir John Harrington King Edward made a large territorial grant for his share in this transaction. Both the Talbots who aided in the capture of the inoffensive King were considerable landlords in Blackburn Parish. Talbot of Bashall was lord of the manor of Holt in Rishton township, and his relative, John Talbot, was seated at Salesbury Hall and lord of Salesbury manor. In the accounts of these two families of Talbots which will occur in the histories of Rishton and Salesbury townships, some references to the members implicated in this business will be found. John Livesey, of this parish, a connexion of the Talbots of Holt and Bashall, assisted in the abduction of King Henry, for which he received a reward of £20 from Edward IV. John Talbot of Salesbury received likewise from King Edward the Fourth a grant of lands and houses to the value of twenty marks per annum (£13 6s. 8d.) This grant was confirmed to his son by a deed of Richard III., brother of Edward IV., in the year 1484, in terms translated thus :—

Richard by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all to whom the present writing shall come, greeting. Whereas the Lord Edward, late King of England, our brother, in consideration of the good and faithful service of John Talbot, late of Salebury, Armiger, now deceased, in the capture of his great adversary, Henry, late in fact but not of right King of England, by his letters patent granted to the same John a certain annuity or annual fee of twenty marks, to have and to receive by the same John and his heirs so long as to him lands and tenements to the value of the foresaid annuity might be awarded by the lord the King or his heirs ; We, also, in consideration of the above-stated, and for the good and faithful service that our well-beloved John Talbot, of Salebury, Kt., son and heir of the aforesaid John, expends, and in time to come faithfully may expend, of our special favour concede, and by these presents grant to the same John the annuity or

¹ Camden Soc. Series, v. x, p. 5.

annual fee of twenty marks, to have and to receive by the same John and his heirs, so long as to him and his heirs lands and tenements of the annual value of the foresaid annuity by us or by our heirs shall be bestowed; receiving the same annuity annually out of the issues and revennes of our County Palatine of Lancaster, by the hand of our Receiver of the foresaid County Palatine of Lancaster for the time being. In attestation of which thing we have caused to be executed these our letters patent. Given under our seal of our Duchy of Laucaster, at the city of York, the 26th day of June, in the second year of our reign (1484).

Edward IV. granted by letters patent to his younger brother-Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in the year 1469, "the honour, castell, lord, ship, manor, and hundred of Clytherough [Clitheroe]; the forests of Blackburnshire and Bowland; the manors of Penwortham, Blaes, Walton, Padyngton, Colne, Penhulton, Werston, Chatburn, Acryngton, and Haselyngdon, in our countie of Lancaster; the manors of Skerton, Overton, Slynnes, Rygby and Wira, West Derby, Crosby; the castell and townne of Lytherpole; forests of Quernmoor, Amoundernesse, West Darbshire; Blesdale, Wyresdale, Penhull, Rossendale and Myrescogh; Toxtath, and Croxtath, in our said countie; the castell, manor, and lordship of Hulton; and the farmes of Runcorn, More, Wydnesse, Whitlegh, Congleton, in the countie of Chester."

The complete overthrow and death of Richard the Third by Henry, Earl of Richmond, at the battle of Bosworth, in 1485, ended the domination of the House of York, and closed the disastrous epoch of anarchy and confusion created by the conflicting pretensions to the throne of the several descendants of Edward Plantagenet. Henry Tudor, by his alliance with Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV., secured the interest of York, and gave to his heirs a stronger title to the sovereignty than he was able to exhibit in his own lineage.

CHAPTER III.—THE TUDOR PERIOD.

Sequestrations by Henry VII.—The Lancashire Contingent at Flodden—Subsidy Assessment in 1523—Ecclesiastical Valuation in 1534—"Pilgrimage of Grace," and Suppression of Whalley Monastery—Passage of the Abbey Estates—Military Levies in the Reigns of Mary and Elizabeth—Prosecution of Recusants—Loyal Declaration of Gentry—Free Tenants in 1600.

NOTHING of significance marks the record of this Parish in the reign of the first Tudor, Henry VII., beyond the act of confiscation which deprived the chief members of the vanquished party in Lancashire of their territorial possessions,—the Harringtons and the Lord Lovel, who owned manors in Blackburn Parish, being conspicuous sufferers by that enactment. Henry VII. paid a state visit to Lancashire in the year 1494, but did not proceed further northward in the county than Lathom, the seat of the Stanley family.

A Subsidy for the King was assessed upon Lancashire in 1496, and of the Commissioners appointed to collect the subsidy two were lords of manors in the Parish, viz., Sir John Talbot, Knt., lord of Salesbury, and Thomas Hesketh, Esq., lord of Great Harwood.

Henry Tudor died, and was succeeded by his son, as Henry the Eighth, in the year 1509. September 9th, 1513, the battle of Flodden Field was fought, in which the invading army of James the IV. of Scotland was routed by the English host under the Earl of Surrey. In this battle, the left wing of the English army was composed of a strong contingent of Lancashire men, marshalled by Sir Marmaduke Constable and Sir Edward Stanley. All the towns and parishes of the County were represented in this gallant array, and the steadiness and valour of the Lancashire fighting-men are specially commemorated in a quaint con-

temporary ballad-description of the campaign. These lines, often cited from the Ballad of Flodden, pourtray the characteristics of the bowmen and billmen drawn from the hills and plains of East and North Lancashire :—

From Waddecar to Waddington,
 From Ribchester unto Rochdale,
 From Poulton to Preston with pikes,
 They with the Standley howte forth went,
 From Pemberton and Pillin Dykes,
 For Battell Bilmen bould were bent,
 With fellows fearce and fresh for feight
 Which Halton fields did turn in foores,
 With lustie ladds, liver and light,
 From Blackborne and Bolton in the Moores.

From a Subsidy Roll in the Public Record Office I copy the particulars of an assessment upon that portion of Blackburn Hundred contained in Blackburn Parish, made in the years 1523-4. The MS. is headed :—

ASSESSMENT OF FIRST PAYMENT OF SUBSIDY GRANTED 15TH HENRY VIII. ON
 INHABITANTS WITHIN THE HUNDRED OF BLACKBURN.

[IN BLACKBURN PARISH.]

	Value	Levy
BLAKEBORNE—		
Robert Sharpulls, in goodes	£4	2s.
Roger Walley, in goodes	£4	2s.
William Haworth, in goodes	£4	2s.
Richard Haworth, in goodes	£4	2s.
Henry Lyvesey, in goodes	£4	2s.
Thomas Haspynhalgh, in goodes	£4	2s.
James Catterall, in goodes	£4	2s.
William Bolton, in goodes	£4	2s.
Lawrence Sharpulls, in goodes	£4	2s.
James Harwood, in goodes	£4	2s.
John Karvart, in goodes... ..	£4	2s.
Henry Whythalgh, in goodes	£4	2s.
MELLOR-CUM-ECKELLS[HILL]—		
James Whythalgh, in landes	£4	4s.
John Ward, in landes	40s.	2s.
Uxor Christopher Walley, in goodes	40s.	12d.
George Sharpulls, in goodes	40s.	12d.
DERWYND SUPERIOR—		
Rychard Crosse, in landes	40s.	2s.
William Berre, in landes	20s.	12d.
Rauf Hey, in goodes	£4	2s.
DERWYND INFERIOR—		
James Lyvesey, in landes	£3	3s.
William Mersden, in landes	20s.	12d.
Rauf Waddington, in goodes	£4	2s.
Edmond Haworth, in goodes	£4	2s.

	Value	Levy
DERWYND INFERIOR—		
Peter Haworth, in goodes	£4	2s.
Edmond Harwood, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Richard Haworth, in goodes	40s.	12d.
LYVESEY-CUM-TOCKHOLES—		
George Esteley, in landes	40s.	2s.
Rauf Crycheley, in goodes	£4	2s.
William Walmesley, in landes	40s.	2s.
William Holden, in landes	20s.	12d.
John Blaklach, in goodes	£4	2s.
Thomas Lyvesey, in goodes	£4	2s.
Hugh Marsden, in goodes	£4	2s.
Marsden's Widdow, in goodes	£4	2s.
PARVA HARWOD—		
John Ryshton, in landes	20s.	12d.
Roger Bolton, in goodes	40s.	12d.
PLESYNGTON—		
Lawrence Anysworth, in landes	£5	5s.
William Issherwod, in landes	40s.	2s.
Richard Aspden, in landes	40s.	2s.
Myles Mersden, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Barthylmew Sharpulls, in goodes	40s.	12d.
RYSHTON—		
Uxor Nicholas Ryshton, in landes	£3	3s.
Nicholas ffielden, in goodes	£4	2s.
George Lyvesey, in goodes	£4	2s.
George Abbot, in goodes	£4	2s.
Xpofer Whalley, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Rychard ffielden, in goodes	40s.	12d.
William Hogeson, in goodes	£3	18d.
WYTTON—		
George Cowbron, in landes	20s.	12d.
James Holdyn, in landes	20s.	12d.
John Hilliswyke, in landes	20s.	12d.
MAGNA HARWOD—		
Lynel ffole, in landes	40s.	2s.
Roger Cokshot, in landes	20s.	12d.
Robert Haytalgh, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Edmond Merser, in goodes	£4	2s.
Hugh Stanworth, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Xpofer Butlyff, in goodes	£4	2s.
BVLLYNGTON—		
John Deyne, in landes	40s.	2s.
John Braddyll, in landes... ..	40s.	2s.
Hughtride Morley, in landes	40s.	2s.
Edward Braddyll, in goodes	£4	2s.
Jamys fforster, in goodes	£3	18d.
Uxor William Choo, in goodes... ..	40s.	12d.
Jamys Broughton, in goodes	40s.	12d.
John Cedern, in goodes	£3	18d.
Edmond Wod, in goodes	40s.	12d.
William Pollart, in goodes	40s.	12d.

	Value	Levy
WYLLIPSHYRE-CUM-DYNKLEY—		
Nycholas Talbot, in landes	40s.	2s.
William Dewirst, in landes	40s.	2s.
Olyver Dewirst, in goodes	40s.	12d.
CLAYTON-CUM-SHOLEY—		
Thomas Walmysley, in goodes	£4	2s.
Rychard Hawkyshey, in goodes	£3	18d.
John Mores, in goodes	40s.	12d.
OSBOLDESTON—		
Robert Osboldeston, in landes	20s.	12d.
WALTON-IN-LE-DALE—		
George Banester, in landes	£3	3s.
Robert Heyton, in goodes	£4	2s.
Edmond Dansey, in goodes	£3	18d.
Edmond Sergeant, in goodes	£4	2s.
Edward Dansey, in goodes	£3	18d.
John Brerys, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Rauf Sergeant, in goodes	£4	2s.
BALDERSTONE—		
Roger Smalley, in landes	20s.	12d.
Thomas Clyff, in goodes	£4	2s.
Barnard Bolton, in goodes	£3	18d.
Jamys Radclyff, in goodes	40s.	12d.
SALEBERY—		
John Talbot, in landes	£10	10s.
John Bolton, in landes	20s.	12d.
Xpofer Bolton, in landes	40s.	2s.
SAMYSBERE—		
Hugh Walshman, in goodes	£4	2s.
Richard Cherneley, in landes	40s.	2s.
Xpofer Sede, in goodes... ..	£5	2s. 6d.
Hugh Michell, in goodes	40s.	12d.
HODILSDEN—		
William Yate, in goodes	£3	18d.
Robert Fyshe, in goodes	40s.	12d.
Robert Baron, in goodes	40s.	12d.

At the foot of the Roll appear the autographs of the Subsidy Commissioners for Blackburn Hundred, being the four principal personages in the Hundred :—"P. me JOHN TOWNLEY, Knyght ; p. me ALEYSANDER OSBALSTON, Knyght ; p. me THOM. SOTHWORTHIE, Knyght ; p. me THOMAS LANGTON, Esquier."

The preceding Subsidy Roll furnishes a useful list of the resident gentry and freeholders of the Parish at the beginning of the sixteenth century. It exhibits the division of lands in the townships, showing that Blackburn, Billington, Walton-in-le-Dale, Rishton, Livesey-cum-Tockholes, Lower Darwen, Great Harwood, and Pleasington, then contained the largest number of families of sufficient estate to be assessed to the public taxation. Several of the lords of local manors, being resident elsewhere, are not named in the return ; *ex. gr.* Barton of Smithells,

lord of Blackburn ; Radcliffe of Ordsall, lord of Tockholes ; Earl of Derby, lord of a moiety of Samlesbury ; Hesketh of Rufford, lord of Great Harwood ; Talbot of Bashall, lord of Rishton and Lower Darwen ; and the Abbot of Whalley, lord of Billington. The names on the Roll of the assessment for the second payment of the same Subsidy do not vary from the list for the first payment.

THE VALOR ECCLESIASTICUS OF HENRY THE EIGHTH.

In the 26th year of Henry VIII. (A.D. 1534) an Act of Parliament was passed authorising a survey and valuation of the ecclesiastical property and of the benefices of the kingdom, and Royal Commissioners were appointed to conduct the inquiry. The returns thus procured, known as the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, or Ecclesiastical Survey, of England, were made to a new state office, then instituted, called "His Majesty's Court of First Fruits and Tenth." The King had resolved to direct into his own exchequer the *Decimæ Decimorum*, or Tenth of the Tenth, which had up to that time been the perquisite of the Roman Pontiff, and it was necessary to ascertain what the tenths of these ecclesiastical revenues amounted to. The reports of the Commission are preserved in a celebrated MS. record, called the *Liber Regis*, said to have been transcribed by a monk of Westminster, for the Royal Library. I have translated the portion of the *Valor* which relates to the Parish and Deanery of Blackburn :—

DEANERY OF BLAKEBOURNE.

WORTH OF THE FORESAID DEANERY OF BLAKEBOURNE IN THE HANDS OF WILLIAM KNIGHT, ARCHDEACON.—It is worth in proofs of Wills and other casual farm-leases to Gilbert Haydock, clerk, per annum, 20s. Also in Pence annually received from divers churches within the Deanery aforesaid, for Synodals and Procurations, 66s. ; total £4 6s. ; the tenth thereout, 8s. 7d.

WHALLEY MONASTERY.—Values, as well spiritual as temporal, belonging to the Monastery of White Monks of Whalley, within the foresaid Deanery,—John Passelwe, Abbot there.—Temporals belonging to the foresaid Monastery, in the county of Lancaster :—WHALLEY—Rents of demesne lands in the hands of the said Abbot, lying in the parish of Whalley, per annum £20.—WISWALL.—Rents of assize in Wiswall, per annum, £6.—PENHULTON.—Rents of assize in Penhulton, per annum, 36s. 8d.—READE.—Rent of one parcel of land there, per annum, 32s.—CLYTERHOWE.—Rents of assize of lands and tenements, per annum, £10.—EDDESFORTHE.—Rents of assize and tenements there, per annum, 40s.—DOWNHAM.—Rents of lands there, per annum, 15s.—CHATBORNE.—Rents of assize of two tenements there, per annum, 13s. 4d.—WORSTON.—Rent of one cottage there, per annum, 2s.—PARVA MYTTON.—Rents of divers tenements, called Caldcotes, in the foresaid vill, per annum, £4 1s. 4d.—BURNELEY.—Rents of three tenements there, per annum, 34s. 8d.—CLYDERHOWE.—Rent of one tenement within the lordship foresaid, called Baldwyn Hills, per annum, 26s. 8d. Rents of two tenements near the foresaid vill, called Standen, per annum, £4 13s. 4d.—BYLLING-

TON.—Rents of assize there, within the parish of Blackborne, per annum, £30.—
 HARWOOD.—Rents of three tenements there, per annum, 68s. 8d.—WYTTON.—
 Rents of two tenements there, per annum, 53s. 4d.—ROMESGREVE.—Rents of cer-
 tain tenements there, per annum, £6.—[Rents of lands and tenements in divers
 townships in West and South Lancashire, of the collective value of £132 13s. 10d.
 per annum.]—RYBCHESTER.—Rent of one parcel of land there, per annum 2s.—
 DUTTON.—Rents of free tenants there, per annum 4s. Rents of one tenement there,
 per annum 13s. 4d.—PRESTON.—Rent of one parcel of land there, per annum, 2s.
 —CHATERTON.—Rent of one parcel of land there, per annum, 6d.—ROSSENDALE.
 —Rent of one mill, with a parcel of land there, 25s. Rent of one tenement there,
 per annum, 21s.—ACRYNGTON.—Rent of one parcel of land called Calfehey, 13s.
 4d.—Temporals belonging to the aforesaid Monastery in the County of Chester [in
 the city of Chester and six townships, total value per annum £45 3s. 10d.]—In
 WADDINGTON [Co. York.]—Rent of one parcel of land there, per annum, 2s.—
 Spirituals belonging to the aforesaid Monastery, in the said county of Lancaster:—
 WHALLEY RECTORY, appropriated to the foresaid Monastery; it is worth, in Rents
 of Land called Glebelande, per annum £7; in tithes of grain with hay, by estima-
 tion, annually £44 13s. 4d.; in tithes of lambs and wool, by estimation, annually £17;
 in oblations with secret tithes, and other privy tithes, with Easter Roll, per annum
 £22 13s. 4d.; altogether £91 6s. 6d.—BLAKEBOURNE RECTORY is worth in Rents
 of Glebe Lands per annum £10; in tithes of grain with hay, annually, by estimation,
 £44; in tithes of lambs with wool, per annum £4; in oblations with other small
 tithes, with Easter Roll, per annum £16 6s. 8d.; total £74 6s. 8d. [ECCLES RECTORY
 —total value £57 2s.; RACHEDALE RECTORY—total value £49 13s. 4d.] Sum total
 of clear values of Spirituals and Temporals belonging to the foresaid Monastery—
 £551 4s. 6d.—whereof Reprises:—Repaid Rents—that is to say, in rents repaid to the
 lord the King for lands in Edisworth, per annum 3s.; to the same the lord the King
 for lands in Romesgreve, per annum 66s. 8d.; rents repaid to the foresaid lord the
 King for lands in Baldwyn-hills, per annum 20s. 3d.; to the same lord the King for
 lands in Wythworth, per annum 12s. 8d.; to the same lord the King for lands in the
 lordship of Mawnton, per annum 6s.; to the same for lands in Ludworth, per annum
 3d.; to the same for lands in Burnley, per annum 7s. 2½d.; to the same for lands in
 Spotlande, 14s. 1d.; to the same for lands in Clyderhowe, per annum £4; to the
 same for lands in Downham, per annum 6s. 8d.; to the same for lands in Chatbourne,
 3s. 4d.; to the same for lands in Acryngton, 7s. 7d.; to the same for a mill in Rossen-
 dale, 26s. 8d.; to the same for lands in Penhulton, 20s.; to the lord of Worsley for
 lands in Swynton, 7s. 11d.; to the lord of Barton for the foresaid lands in Swynton,
 11d.; to Robert Holt, Esquire, for lands in Castleton, 3s.; to the Prioress of Hampull
 for lands in Whytworth, per annum 12s.; to the Prioress of Chester, per annum 10s.;
 to the Abbot of Chester per annum, for lands in Staney, 9s.; to the Castel of Lyver-
 pole, per annum, 2s.; to Thomas Langton, Kt., for lands in Harwood, 4s.—Sum of
 Repaid Rents, £16 3s. 2d.—PENSIONS.—Pension annually paid to Robert Paryshe,
 Vicar of Whalley, £12; pension annually paid to Henry Salley, Vicar of Blake-
 bourne, £10 13s. 4d.; pension annually paid to the Vicar of Eccles, by composition,
 £10 13s. 4d.; pension annually paid to Gilbert Heydoke, Vicar of Rachdale, by com-
 position, £8; and in pension annually paid to the College of St. Bernard in Oxon,
 43s. 4d.—Sum of pensions paid, £43 10s.—FEES.—Fees of the Most Noble Ed-
 ward Staneley, Earl of Derby, chief seneschall of the said Monastery, per annum 106s.
 8d.; fees of Alexander Nowell and Richard Cromboke, sub-seneschalls of the said
 Monastery, per annum 100s.; fees of Lawrence Forest, receiver of the Rectory of

Whalley, per annum £6 6s. 8d. ; fees of Ralph Lynney, receiver of the Rectory of Blakebourne, per annum 100s. ; fees of Robert Parryshe, receiver of the Rectory of Eccles, per annum £4 ; fees of William Heydock, receiver of the Rectory of Rachdale, per annum 66s. 8d. ; fees of Lionell Fulle, receiver of the lordship of Croynnton, Garston, and Akeberth, per annum 54s. 6d. ; fees of William Whithowe, bailiff of Stanney, per annum 20s. ; fees of Hinbabyn, bailiff of Acton, per annum 20s. ; fees of Christopher Smyth, Bailiff of Aston, per annum 20s. ; fees of Robert Fulle, bailiff of Byllington, per annum 40s. ; fees of Oto Holland, bailiff of Maunton, per annum, and of Swynton 40s. ; fees of Robert Borman, bailiff of Wolden, per annum 20s. ; fees of James Gartside, bailiff of Merland, Castleton and Spotlande, 60s. ; fees of Ralph Holland, bailiff of the Grange of Whytworthe, per annum 10s. ; fees of John Cromboke, bailiff of Roclyff and Brendwood, per annum 20s. ; fees of Giles Parker, bailiff of Clyderowe, per annum 40s. ; fees of Ralph Morton, bailiff of the Grange of Stanyngs, per annum 40s.—ALMS.—Alms annually distributed among the poor, viz., at the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord, in the price of 200 yards of woollen cloth, on the said day annually distributed by the foundation, 100s. ; alms annually distributed to all the poor persons coming to the foresaid Monastery, according to the foundation of John Lacy, on the day of the Lord's Supper, namely, in the price of 1,200 quarters of corn made into bread, £7 4s. ; of wheat, 12s. ; of eight quarters brewed into ale, of the price per quarter 6s.,—48s. ; of six "maise" of red and white allecar, of the price per "mais" 6s.,—36s. ; and annually distributed on the said day to the poor and the clerks, after the washing of their feet, 20s. in pence ; and also distributed to thirteen of the elder poor on the said day, to as many of them as take it, 2d., and one pair of shoes price 8d.,—10s. 10d. ; altogether, as appears by the foundation of the said Monastery, when examined in the presence of the Commissioners of the lord the King, £12 18s. 10d. ; for Pence applied to the support of twenty-four poor and infirm persons, annually supported within the said Monastery, according to the ordination of the lord John Lacye, that is to say, to each poor person weekly 8d.,—£41 12s., as appears by the foresaid foundation, in the presence of the said Commissioners exhibited and examined, and remaining in possession of the Abbot and Convent there ; alms annually distributed to the poor coming to the said Monastery in bread, namely, weekly two quarters of corn, price per quarter 12s., for the souls of the founders, as appears by the foundation of the said Monastery—£62 8s. ; total £104. Sum of all Reprises £229 15s. 4½d. ; and there remains clear £321 9s. 1d. ; the tenth part thereof £32 2s. 11d.

VICARAGE OF WHALLEY.—In the hands of Robert Parryshe, monk, worth, in annual pension received from the Abbot of Whalley, by composition, £12 ; thereout in pension annually paid to the Bishop of Chester 40s. ; in pence paid to the Archdeacon of Chester for sinodals and procurations per annum 43s. ; alms annually distributed on the death of Roger, formerly Bishop of Chester, 13s. 4d. ; in annual rent paid to the wardens of the Church of Whalley per annum 20s. ; and there remains clear, £6 3s. 4d., the tenth thereout 12s. 4d.

CHANTRY AT CLYDEROWE.—In the hands of Thomas Sylkoke, clerk. It is worth in rents and farms of certain lands and tenements lying there, per annum 77s. ; thence the tenth, 7s. 8½d.

CHANTRY AT PADYHAM.—In the hands of Hugh Hargreve, clerk. Valued in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there, per annum £4 13s. 4d. ; the tenth thereout, 9s. 4d.

CHANTRY AT HARWOOD.—Of the foundation of Thomas Esketh, esquire. In the hands of Richard Wood, chaplain. Worth, in rents and farms of divers lands and

tenements in the same, per annum £4 7s. 8d. Thereout, in alms annually distributed among the poor on the day of the death of the founder, 6s. 8d., and remains £4 1s.; the tenth thereout, 8s. 1½d.

CHANTRY AT BURNLEY.—In the hands of Peter Adlyngton, chaplain. Valued in rents and farms of lands there per annum 66s. 8d.; thence the tenth, 6s. 8d.—

CHANTRY AT BURNLEY AFORESAID.—In the hands of Gilbert Fayrbanke, chaplain. Worth, in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there, per annum 40s.; the tenth thereout 4s.

CHANTRY AT EDISFORDE.—By the foundation of the Burgesses of Clyderowe. In the hands of William Herde, chaplain. Valued in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there per annum, 26s. 8d.; the tenth thereout, 2s. 8d.

VICARAGE OF BLAKEBORNE.—In the hands of Henry Salley, monk. Worth in a pension annually received of the Abbot of Whalley, £10 13s. 4d. Thence, in pension paid to the Bishop of Chester per annum, 8s. 10d.; in pence paid to the Archdeacon of Chester for sinodals and procnrations per annum, 23s.; annual pension or rent of the Church of Blakeborne per annum, 20s.; and there remains clear £8 1s. 6d.; the tenth thereout, 16s. 2d.—CHANTRY AT BLAKEBORNE.—In the hands of Thomas Burges, chaplain. It is worth in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there, per annum, 66s. 8d.; the tenth thereout, 6s. 8d.—CHANTRY AT BLAKEBORNE AFORESAID.—In the hands of William Rishton, chaplain. Value in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements there per annum, 66s. 8d.; the tenth thereout, 6s. 8d.

"PILGRIMAGE OF GRACE" AND SUPPRESSION OF WHALLEY MONASTERY.

In March, 1534, Henry VIII. proceeded, with the consent of his Parliament, to substitute the royal supremacy over the Church of England for that of the Pope; this act was followed by the appointment of a Commission to make a Visitation of all the religious houses in the kingdom, to report upon the pecuniary resources of these monastic establishments, and upon the modes of life and moral character of their inmates. This Visitation was made in the year 1535. The visitors for Lancashire were Dr. Thomas Legh and Dr. Richard Layton. Upon the report of the Commission, an Act was passed suppressing the lesser monasteries, and providing for the reversion of their revenues to the Crown. All the monastic foundations in the county of Lancaster, with the exception of the three great abbeys of Whalley, Cockersand, and Furness, succumbed to this stroke of state. The measure led to the rebellion characterised "The Pilgrimage of Grace," organised and led by the abbots of the greater Northern Monasteries. John Paslew, Abbot of Whalley, was implicated in the rising, but his participation in the military operations was but slight. The "Pilgrimage of Grace" was quelled with little difficulty by the king's forces. In Lancashire, the Earl of Derby marshalled the loyal gentry and their men-at-arms at Preston, and marched through Blackburn to Whalley Abbey. On the

occasion, the king addressed autograph letters to sundry county knights, among them to Sir Thomas Langton of Walton-in-le-Dale, acknowledging their service. The letter to Sir Thomas Langton, knight, is found in the public archives, and runs :—

By the King.—Trustie and welbeloved we grete you well. And forasmuche as we have been credeably advertised howe that lyke a moste true and faythfull subject you have assembled all your force and joyned the same with our right trustye and right welbeloved cousyn the Erle of Derby, for the repressyon of certayne Traytours and Rebelles in those partes, lyke as we for the same gyve unto you our moste hartly thanks. So we thought as well convenient to require you to persist and contynue in your faythfull towardnes in the company of our said cousyn till the said Traytours shall be utterly subdued; as to signifie unto you that we shall not onely consider yourcharge therein, but lykwise so remembre your service in the same as you shall have cause to saye you have well employed your labours, paynes, and travailes in that behalf. Geven undre our signet at our Castell of Windesor the 28th day of Octobre, in the 28th yere of our Regne (1536). Indorsed—“To our trustie and welbeloved servant, Sir Thomas Langton, Knyght.”¹

There is also in existence a despatch from the Earl of Derby to the king, recounting the events that immediately preceded the Earl's advance from Preston to Whalley with the force of the Shire. Abbot Paslew and some of his monks were arrested shortly after the collapse of the insurrection, and were sent to Lancaster to be tried for high treason. The letter of instruction from the king's secretary, Thomas Cromwell, to the Earl of Sussex, in command of the royal army, dated March 11th, 1537, makes mention of some local incidents of the outbreak in the passage subjoined :—

Nevertheles, we thinke it necessary that you should not only duely examyn them all [the Monks of Furness] befor you shall dismisse any of that sorte that shall goo to other houses, as well for that we thinke some of the houses mentioned in your bill of their names be not well hable to receyve their nomber sett upon them as for that the house of Gervayse is in some danger of suppression by like offence as hathe been comytted at Whalley, but also that you shall retayne John Estgate [Monk of Whalley] who wold goo to Meth[e] [Meath], tyl ye may perceyve the cause whye he should desire to goo more to that place thenne to any other. . . . Thirde, whereas you have sent unto us the copie of the Lettre writen from our cousin of Norffolk to the Lord Darcey after his first departure from Doncaster, whiche you found in the Vicar of Black Burne's [Blackburne's] Chamber; forasmoche as by the same it appereth that there hathe been great intelligence amonges such personnes as were of that naughty inclination entent and conspiracye, We desire and praye you as wel by the strait examynation of the said Vicar as by all other meanes that you canne possibly devise, strongly to enserche howe the said copie was conveyed thether, who was the messenger, who was of counsel, and how many lettres or writinges of that sorte or any other were in that tyme conveyed in to those parties, to whom, from whom, and of what effect. For in the earnest folowing of this matier you maye doo unto us as highe and as acceptable service as canne be devised. Finally we desire and pray you

¹ Baines's Hist. of Lanc., 1st Edn., v. i. p. 477.

to sende uppe in sautie unto us Richard Estgate, late Monke of Salleye. Our servant Sir Arthur Darcy hath written that he doubteth not to declare suche matier against him at his repayr unto us as shall conveye some thinges to our knowlege whiche for our affaires shall be very necessary to be knowen. Which things being once conduced to some perfection we shall signifie our pleasure unto you touchinge the returne of our cousin of Sussex to our presence. T. C. [THOMAS CROMWELL.]

The above missive informs us of the circumstance that on a search being made in the house of the Vicar of Blackburn by the King's party, for proofs, probably, of his treason and of the ramifications and plans of the rebellion, the searchers lighted upon a manuscript in one of the chambers of the Blackburn Vicarage which astounded them not a little. It was the copy of a private despatch sent by the Duke of Norfolk, the King's General-in-Chief, to Lord Darcy, after his departure in custody from Doncaster. Manifestly the intelligence department of the rebels had been served by means of the perfidy of some of the Royal messengers, and the order of the King was that the mystery should be fathomed to the bottom. The Vicar of Blackburn at that time was Henry Salley, a monk of the monastery of Whalley, and doubtless a willing agent of his patron Abbot Paslew in all the plottings of this conspiracy. In the beginning of March, the Earl of Sussex held Whalley Abbey for the King with a considerable garrison. William de Trafford, Abbot of Salley, the Prior, and other monks of that abbey, had been captured by Lord Shrewsbury along with Paslew and the Whalley monks, and had been carried to Lancaster for trial. At length the trial of the abbots took place, and on the 10th March, 1537, Abbot John Paslew, Abbot William Trafford, the Prior of Salley, and the monks Haydock and Eastgate of Whalley, were found guilty of capital offences; and sentenced to death. The Abbot Trafford and his Prior were executed the same day at Lancaster. Paslew and his brethren were conveyed to Whalley Abbey, under a guard of Lord Derby's men. Thence the Abbot was conducted on the morning of the 12th March, 1537, to a spot on the Billington side of the Calder in Blackburn Parish, called the Hole Houses, at the foot of Whalley Nab, where the gallows had been reared upon the summit of a grassy knoll, and there the last Abbot of Whalley, with his monk Eastgate, was hung. The record of this melancholy transaction in the pages of Stow is this:—"The 10 of March, John Paslew, bachelor of divinitie, then beeing the 25 Abbot of the Abbey of Whalley, was executed at Lancaster [this is an error], and the same day with him was hanged, drawne and quartered, John Castegate [Eastgate], a monke of the same house, whose quarters were set up at divers townes in that Shire."¹

¹ *Annales of Eng.*, pp. 969-70.

The fiat of sequestration was pronounced upon Whalley Monastery directly after the execution of its Abbot for treason, and some three years before the general suppression of the greater monasteries of the kingdom, which was not decreed until the year 1540. In the case of Whalley there was no deed of formal surrender (as was made by the Abbot of Furness), and no resort on the King's part to parliamentary sanction;—the dissolution was the summary act of absolute kingly power, exerted for the punishment of rebellion. Three months after Paslew's fall, in June, 1537, a survey of the landed possessions and ecclesiastical properties of the convent was made by the King's agents, preliminary to the disposal of the same at the monarch's pleasure. The particulars of such parts of this survey as relate to the Abbey estates in Blackburn parish, will be found in the account of the several townships in which such lands are contained, at a later stage of this work. The territorial possessions of the Monastery were eventually sold by the Crown to various purchasers. The extensive demesne lands in the townships of Whalley and Billington, on both sides of the Calder, were on the 12th of April, 1539, placed under the bailiwick of John Braddyll, son of Edward Braddyll of Brockhole, and in the year 1553 (6th Edward 6th) the Abbey fabric and the manorial estate in Whalley were sold to John Braddyll and Richard Asheton. Braddyll also acquired rents in Little Harwood, Clayton, and Witton, in this parish, that had pertained to the Abbey, and many other properties in Lancashire and Yorkshire; and Thomas Holcroft, Esq., another great speculator in Abbey lands, secured the manor of Billington with its appurtenances. The Rectory of Blackburn became parcel of the rich estate of the See of Canterbury.

The suppression of the Chantries followed quickly upon the downfall of the Monasteries. The circumstances of the suppression of Chantry Priests attached to Chantry Chapels in the Parish Church of Blackburn and to certain of its dependent Churches will be mentioned in the historical narrative of these Church foundations.

MILITARY LEVIES AND TAXATION IN THE REIGNS OF MARY AND ELIZABETH.

The reigns of both the Tudor Queens were agitated by frequent intestine disturbances and by foreign wars or rumours of wars. To meet these emergencies of the State, the levies of armed men made upon the country were almost continuous, and in many instances large. Lancashire furnished contingents proportional to its population to all these levies.¹

The first Military taxation in Mary's reign is one made in the 1st Mary (1553). In that muster Blackburn Hundred was ordered to raise

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. i, p. 4.

400 armed men, and the following knights and gentlemen were their commanders:—Sir Richard Sherburne, Sir Thomas Langton, Sir Thomas Talbot, Sir John Southworth; John Townley, Thomas Catterall, John Osbolston (Osbaldeston), and John Talbot, Esquires.¹ The quotas of the townships in the Parish of Blackburn are added:—

PEROCH DE BLACKBOURNE.

	Men		Men
Blackbourne	viii	Harwood Magna	x
Osbaldeston	ii	Billington	x
Balderstone	vi	Nether Darwen	iii
Cuerdall	iii	Rishton	vi
Harwood Parva	vi	Mellor and Eccleshill	v
Plesington	xii	Over Darwen	v
Lyvesey	viii	Claiton-in-the-Daile... ..	v
Walton-in-le-Dale	xv	Witton	ii
Sailburye	ii		

In the 2nd of Queen Elizabeth (1559) several calls were made upon the county for soldiers. The first was a levy of 300 men to serve the Queen's Majesty at Berwick, in her operations against the Scotch and French troops under Mary of Guise. To this levy Blackburnshire contributed 55 men, of whom 15 were archers. The whole Lancashire contingent was placed "under the conduction of Sir John Southworth, Knight," lord of Samlesbury. Next, a levy of 200 soldiers and 267 pioneers, "to serve the Queen's Majesty at Leith, under the conduction of Thomas Butler, Esq.," was made in Lancashire, whereof the Hundred of Blackburn contributed 36 soldiers and 48 pioneers. A third and more important levy of men was made in the same year, in which the Hundred was required to muster 407 harnessed men, and 361 unharnessed, a total number of 768 soldiers.²

Again, in 1574, was a general levy of arms, armour and horses in Lancashire. The following is a list of the residents of Blackburn Hundred who had to furnish arms, &c., with the description given of the articles required of each:—Sir Richard Shirburne, Knight, to furnish:—Dymylnaunce 1, light horsemen 2, corselettes 3, coates of plate 2, pykes 3, long boes, 3, sheffe of arrowes 3, steele cappes 3, calivers 2, morrions 2.—John Towneley, Esq., to furnish:—Dymylnaunce 1, light horses 2, corslettes 2, coates of plate 2, pykes 2, long boes 2, sheffe of arrowes 2, steele cappes 2, caliver 1, morrion 1.—Sir J. Sowthworth, Knight, to furnish:—Light horses 2, corslettes 2, coates of plate 2, pykes 2, long bowes 2, sheffe of arrowes 2, steele cappes 2, caliver 1, morrione 1.—John Osbaldeston, Esq., to furnish same as Sir John Sowthworth, saving

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. i, p. 4. ² Ib. v. i, pp. 18-21.

he is chardged with almaine ryvettes of cottes of plate, and this is the wholle difference.—Thomas Caterall, Esq., to furnish :—Light horse 1, harquebut 1, long bowe 1, sheffe of arrowes 1, scull 1.—Thomas Nowell, Esq., to furnishe the same as Mr. Caterall.—Richard Ashton, Esq., to furnish :—Lighte horse 1, corslettes 2, coates of plate 2, pykes 2, longe bowes 2, sheffe of arrowes 2, steele cappes 2, caliver 1, morrione 1.—John Talbot, Esq., to furnishe the same as Mr. Ashton, saving he is not chardged with any steele cappes.—Nicholas Banestar, Ar., to furnishe :—Light horse.—John Rishworth, Ar., to furnish :—Light horse.—Richard Grymeshawe, Ar., to furnish :—Coate of plate 1, long bowe 1, sheffe of arrowes 1, caliver 1, scull 1, bill 1.—Thomas Walmysley, Ar., John Braddill, Ar., Henrie Towneley, Thomas Aynsworth, Nicholas Parker, to furnishe the same as Mr. Grymeshawe.—Alex. Howghton, gent., to furnishe :—Corslette 1, coate of plate 1, pyke 1, long bowe 1, sheffe of arrowes 1, steele cappe 1, caliver 1, morrione 1.—Roger Nowell, Esq., to furnishe :—Coate of plate 1, long bowe 1, sheffe arrowes 1, caliver 1, scull 1, bill 1.—William Barecroft, Henrie Banester, Thomas Watson, Ivan Heydocke, Edward Starkie, Robert Moreton, Olin Birtwisell, John Greenacre, Nicholas Hancock, to furnish the same as Mr. Nowell.—Thomas Astley to furnishe :—Coate of plate 1, longe bow 1, sheffe arrowes 1, steele cappe 1, bill 1.—Thomas Whittacre, George Shuttleworth, Frauncis Garsyde, to furnish same as Mr. Astley.—Robert Smithe to furnishe :—Long bowe 1, sheffe arrowes 1, scull 1, bill 1.—John Ashawe, Nicholas Robinson, George Seller, Nicholas Halstidd, Wm. Langton, Bryan Parker, Lawrence Whitacre, John Ormerode, Rawffe Haworth, Richard Cunlyffe, Richard Parker, Wm. Barker, Adam Bolton, George Talbot, Thomas Lassell, Thomas Isherwoodde, Richard Haberiame, Wm. Starkye, Rich. Harrison, Rich. Crounlowe, Tho. Houghim, Rich. Shawe, Rich. Bawden, Alexander Lyvesaye, William Churchlowe, Rawffe Talbotte, Edwarde Carter, Rich. Woodde, Tho. Holliday, Roger Nowell, Hughe Shuttleworth, Hughe Halsted, Henry Speake, Tho. Enot, Henrie Shawe, Peter Ormerode, Thomas Walmysley, Thomas Dewhurst, Olin Ormerode, John Nuttall, Gilberte Rishton, Nicholas Cunliff, Henrie Barecroft, Laur. Blakey, John Hargreve, James Fieldes, James Hartley, Thomas Ellys, Thurston Baron, Robert Craven, George Elston, Barnarde Townley, Oliver Halsted, John Seller, John Pastlowe, John Whittacre, John Aspinall, Roberte Cunliff, Richard Charneley, Geffrey Ryshton, Roberte Seede, Thurstone Tompson, Richard Bawden, Thomas Osbaldeston, John Holden, Gyles Whitacre, Richard Tattersall, Roberte Smithe, Nicholas Duckesburie, William Merser, to furnishe in everie respect lyke unto Robert Smithe.—*Summary for the Hundred* :—Dimilannces 2, light horses 13, corslettes 14, coates of plate or almaine

ryvettes 34, pykes 14, long bowes 112, sheffe of arrowes 112, steele cappes 109, calivers 26, morrians 7, billes 90.¹

A Certificate and Summary of the Muster of Men in the same year, shows the subjoined numbers of men supplied by the "Hundred de Blackeborne :—Archers, beinge able men furnished by the Countrey with bowes, arrowes, steele cappes, sword and dagger, 126; Bill men, beinge able men furnished by the Countrey with Jacke, sallet, bill, sword and dagger, 251; Archers, beinge able men unfurnished, 20; Bill men, beinge able men unfurnished, 402." The total number of Soldiers from the Hundred was 799.

In 1577, came another "Taxation of the Hundrethes within the Countie of Lancaster for the makeinge readie of 300 men within *one howers* warning;" this was made at Ormskirk, Jan. 30th, 1577, by Henrie, Earl of Derby, John Fleetwoodd, Esq., Sheriff of the County, Sir Richard Shereburne, and others. Of these three hundred conscripts, Blackburn Hundred had to produce 57 men, including 24 pickmen, six billmen, six archers, and 21 pioneers. The furniture of each Pickman cost £4 11s. 2d.; of every Billman £4 11s. 2d.; of every Archer £4 4s. 6d., and of every Pioneer £2 5s. 5d. The cost to the Hundred of Blackburn of its quota in money would be £209 15s. 9d.²

On the 18th of April, 1577, Commissioners appointed to raise and train three hundred men of Lancashire as gunners, made the division of the men to the various Hundreds of the County at Ormskirk. Of this levy Blackburn Hundred had to provide 57 gunners, who were to be trained by "Henrie Standley," along with a certain proportion of the men raised in Salford and Amounderness Hundreds.

Again, on the 16th of March, 1580, Queen Elizabeth issued to the leading gentry of Lancashire a Commission for a general muster of fighting-men in the county, under the evident fear of attack by some foreign Catholic State. Among the members of this important Commission were the following gentlemen connected with Blackburnshire :—Sir Richard Shirburne, Knt.; Sir Thomas Hesketh, Knt.; Ralph Ashton; Richard Ashton of Whalley; Robert Barton, of Smithells and Blackburn; Thomas Walmesley, jun.; Richard Braddill, and Nicholas Banister.

In 1581, an hundred men were demanded from the county, and the "furniture" or arms for the men was apportioned to the Hundreds at Wigan, by the Earl of Derby and others, on the 5th of April in that year. Blackburn Hundred had to furnish 19 suits of armour, including eight calivers, four bowes, three pickes, and four billes.

Several levies were made in 1584; among these, was a demand upon the county gentry for light horsemen; and appear in the list of

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. i, pp. 45-9. ² Ib. pp. 86-8.

“names of such persons as are appointed to fynde leight horsemen,” who are “everie one to bee furnished with a good, large, and serviceable horse or geldinge; a light horseman’s staf or a jacke, a burhonett, schlives of male, a case of pistoletts, and a cassock,”—the following gentry in this Hundred :—Sir John Southworth, of Samlesburie, 1 horseman; John Talbott, of Salisburie, 2 horsemen. This year, too, a call was made for 200 men for Ireland with their furniture and charges; whereof the Earl of Derby, Edmund Trafford, Sir John Radclyf, Sir Richard Shireborne, Richard Shuttleworthe, Sergeant-at-law, Ralph Barton, Esquire, and others, were the Commissioners; who apportioned the levy at Wigan, Sept. 2nd, and ordered the Hundred of Blackburn to furnish—Calivers, 16; bowes, 8; billes, 7; pickes, 7; total, 38.¹

In the month of November, 1585, another levy was made upon the county, of 600 gunners and pikemen, the rate of which, as fixed by Sir John Byron, Knt., and Sir Richard Sherburne, Knt., was 57 men for each 300, or 114 men altogether, out of Blackburn Hundred, placed under the direction of Sir Richard Sherburne. These 114 men, at the charge of £3 per man, cost the Hundred the sum of £342, equal to six-fifteenths of the whole charge of the county.²

Under date 1587, is found, among the *Shuttleworth MSS.*, “A note of the proceedings taken at Preston, the 19th daie of October, 29th Eliz., by Sir Richard Sherburne, Knt., one of the Deputie Lieutenants for this Countie, and other the Justices of peace and gentlemen of worshipp there present;” that is to say :—“First, that the Justices of peace of everie Hundreth, doe send for the Armor from the Croschall [Cross Hall, Ormskirk] the daie hereafter specified :—*Derbie* [Hundred], Tuesdaie the 24th of October. *Layland*, Wednesdaie the 25th of October. *Sallforde*, Thursdaie the 26th of October. *Blackborne*, Fridaie the 27th of October. *Amounderness*, Mondaie the 30th of October. *Lonesdalle*, Tuesdaie the last of October. *Item*, the Justices of peace of everie hundreth to provyde a convenient howse for the keepeinge of the saide Armor and weapons at these townes hereafter specifyed :—*Lonesdalle*, at Lancaster; *Amounderness*, at Preston; *Layland*, at Chorley; *Derbie*, at Ormiskirke; *Sallforde*, at Manchester; *Blackburne*, at Whalley. *Item*, it is appointed that the souldiers of everie hundreth shal be mustered and treyned at theis places. *Item*, the 600 souldiers are appointed to be mustered at theis places the daies hereafter specifyed, viz. :—Mondaie, the 6th of November, at Lancaster. Wednesdaie, the 8th of November, at Whalley. Mondaie, the 13th of November, at Manchester, Wednesdaie, the 15th of November, at Ormiskirke. Fridaie, the 17th of November, at Chorley.—*Item*, the horsemen to bee mustered as

¹ Lanc., Lieut. v. ii, pp. 144-5. ² Ib., pp. 158-60.

hereafter specified :—Lonesdalle, Amounderness, and Blackburne, upon Tuesdaie, the 21st of November, at Preston.”¹

The order concludes with “a note what everie Hundreth is to furnish of the 600 souldiers all readie appointed, and what Armour they are to receive for the same ;” the quota of Blackburn Hundred included—Shott [or Musketry] 74 ; Corslettes, 32 ; Pickes [or Pikemen], 32 ; total 138 ;—a larger number of men than was raised in the levy by any other Hundred save that of Derby, whose muster was 180 men. This call for men was made in preparation for the approaching invasion of the country by the Spaniards. In the same year, a contribution of twenty-five dimilances for the Queen’s service was asked and obtained from the gentry of the county, towards which the following in Blackburn district were contributors :—Thomas Hoghton, Esq. ; Sir John Southworth, Knt. ; Thomas Langton, Esq. ; Sir Thomas Hesketh, Knt. ; Thomas Walmisley, Esq. ; Edward Osbaldeston, Esq. ; John Talbot, Esq. ; and Thomas Barton, Esq.

Probably the last of the many military levies in Elizabeth’s reign was that of the year 1595, the particulars of which relating to the Parish I copy from a MS. in the Harleian collection :—

The Number of able Men in the Hundreth of Blackburne, as well furnished with armor and weapon as unfurnished, and viewed att Whalley the Third of Novr. Ano. P. Rne. Eliz. 37 (1595).

[Return for Townships in Parish of Blackburn.]						
	Bills.	Archers.	Shott.	Musketers.	Pyke.	Unfurnished.
Blackburne ...	2	1	5	—	—	55
Clayton-in-le-Dale ...	1	—	—	—	—	14
Harwood Parva ...	2	1	1	2	—	5
Harwood Magna ...	2	1	1	—	—	28
Sailburye ...	1	2	—	—	—	7
Billington ...	2	3	2	—	—	30
Livesey and Tockholes ...	9	2	1	—	—	22
Rishton ...	16	7	10	—	—	33
Wilpshire-cum-Dinckley ...	5	5	—	—	—	22
Mellor-cum-Eccleshill ...	20	2	2	—	—	16
Witton ...	—	—	—	—	—	9
Samlesbury ...	14	10	—	—	—	—
Nether Darwen ...	2	6	6	—	—	22
Pleasington ...	9	6	—	—	—	23
Walton-in-le-Daile ...	4	—	4	—	—	19
Over Darwen ...	4	8	5	2	—	5
Osbaldeston ...	2	2	1	—	2	1
Cnerdall ...	2	2	1	—	—	2
Balderstone ...	1	6	3	—	—	9
Total for Blackburn Parish	98	64	42	4	2	322
Total for Blackburn Hundred	204	173	139	42	21	1342

Armed 579 ; Unarmed 1342 ; Total 1921 Men.

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. ii, pp. 180-5.

The same MS. contains the following memorandum of appointments for training of the Lancashire levies in the year succeeding the above muster :—

Dayes appointed for trayninge of Soldiers sett down by the Commissioners at Wiggan the 22d day of April, 1596.

Captaines.	The first time of particular trayning.	The second time of particular trayning.	The general trayning of the whole Bands before theyr Captaine and Lyvetenant Brillges.
Mr. Osbaldeston	Blackburne ...7 of May.	The 15 of May.	Blackburne, the 26 of May.
Bande	Burneley ...4 of May.	The 17 of May.	
	Whaley ...5 of May.	The 19 of May.	
	Ribchester ...7 of May.	The 22 of May.	

1596.		June. Dayes appointed for treyninge of Souldiers.		
Captains and their Livetenants.		June.	June.	June.
John Osbaldeston.	Blackburne	1	2	3
	"	8	14	22
Edward Osbaldeston.	Burneley...	9	15	23
	Whaley ...	10	16	24
	Ribchester	11	17	25

PROSECUTION OF RELIGIOUS RECUSANTS—1567 TO 1592.

The reign of Queen Elizabeth was disturbed by numerous plots against the Protestant succession, and, as a consequence, was marked by constant informations and severe proceedings against those English gentry whom events had not moved from their allegiance to the Roman Catholic communion. In this county, particularly, the prosecution of Recusants was exceedingly fierce, for in Lancashire the Catholic party was exceptionally strong. In the Earl of Derby, however, who had espoused the Protestant cause, the Government of Elizabeth found powerful support in the county. It was about the year 1567 that the first efforts were put forth to repress the movements of the disaffected in Lancashire. Having been notified of the attitude of certain Catholics and recusants in these parts, Queen Elizabeth wrote two letters, to the spiritual and civil heads of the province, calling upon them to discover and bring to punishment all such seditious persons. One missive was addressed to William Downham, Bishop of Chester. The Bishop was ordered to make a visitation in Lancashire, to satisfy the Government that the churches were supplied with honest men and learned curates. This letter was dated the 21st February, 1567-8; and simultaneously a second mandate was sent by the monarch to Edward Holland, then High Sheriff of Lancashire, requiring him to arrest and imprison certain deprived clergy in the county. These names of marked men were written on the back of the letter to the Sheriff :—"Alen [afterwards Cardinal Allen], who wrote the late booke of Purgatory; Vause, ones

warden of Winchester [Manchester]; Murren, chaplain to Boner, late Bishop of London; Marshall, one dean of Christ Church in Oxford; *Hargrave, late vicar of Blackburne*; and one Norreys, tearing himself a physitian." The vicar of Blackburn here stigmatised was James Hargreves, instituted to the vicarage, on the presentation of Philip and Mary, in 1555, and deprived for "papisty" in 1563.

The Bishop of Chester made the tour of his diocese during the succeeding summer; the results of which he reported to Secretary Cecil, November 1st, 1568. The Bishop stated that all over the diocese, 120 miles in length, he had found the common people "very tractable, and nowhere more than in the furthest Parts, bordering upon Scotland." Enclosed with the report were certain documents, including:—A Decree of Edward, Earl of Derby, William Downham, Bishop of Chester, and others, Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in the case of certain persons of Lancashire, charged with recusancy, issued from Lathom, 31st July, 1568; and among answers made by divers persons to the articles objected against them by the Commissioners, those of John Talbot, of Bashall; and of Edward Osbaldeston, son of John Osbaldeston, of Osbaldeston. Another enclosed document was the articles preferred by the Commissioners against Sir John Southworth, of Samlesbury, Knt., "for not repairing to Church, nor receiving the sacrament, and for speaking against the Book of Common Prayer." Sir John Southworth was especially obnoxious to the ruling powers; and Bishop Downham, in his report, cites a copy of a form of submission that had been presented to Sir John, by order of the Privy Council, but which the Knight refused to subscribe. The form of submission is appended:—

Whereas I, Sir John Southworth, Knt., forgetting my duty towards God and the Queen's Majesty in not considering my due Obedience for the observation of the Ecclesiastical Laws and Orders of this Realm, had received into my house and Company, and there relieved, certain Priests, who have not only refused the Ministry, but also in my hearing have spoken against the present State of Religion, established by her Majesty and the States of her Realm in Parliament, and have also otherwise misbehaved myself in not resorting to my Parish Church at Common Prayer, nor receiving the Holy Communion so often times as I ought to have done:—I do now, by these Presents, most humbly and unfeignedly submit myself to her Majesty, and am heartily sorry for mine offence in this Behalf, both towards God and her Majesty. And do further promise to her Majesty from henceforth, to obey all her Majesty's Authority in all Matters of Religion and Orders Ecclesiastical; and to behave myself therein as becometh a good, humble, and obedient subject; and shall not impugn any of the said Laws and Ordinances by any open Speech or by Writing, or Act of mine own; nor willingly suffer any such in my Company to offend, whom I may reasonably let or disallow. Nor shall assist, maintain, relieve, or comfort any Person living out of this Realm, being known to be an Offender against the said Laws and Orders now established for godly Religion, as is aforesaid. And in this doing, I firmly trust to

have her Majesty my gracious and good Lady, as hitherto I, and all other her subjects, have marvellously tasted of her Mercy and Goodness.

In the reign of Mary, Sir John Southworth had been highly regarded by the Court, and he held the office of High Sheriff of the County even after the accession of Elizabeth. In October, 1557, Lord Eure and Lord Wharton had addressed a letter on the subject of military affairs in the North to the Earl of Shrewsbury in which the following reference to Sir John Southworth occurs:—"We named Sir John Southworth his going away: hee hath made request that wee would be a means to your lordship that hee might continue in service here with his hundred men, and to have also putt to his leading another hundred men. Hee sayes hee is a younge man and desirous to know service in warr, and as we think him to bee commended therein, being a toward and tall gentilman, wee require your lordship to favour this his honest suit." But their knowledge of the state of feeling in these parts which led to the Roman Catholic "Rebellion of the North," in the autumn of 1569, rendered Elizabeth's counsellors more distrustful than they had formerly been of any of the leading gentry known to be devoted to the Roman interest. After the suppression of that revolt, inquiries were made about persons in Lancashire who were believed to be concerned in it. In February, 1575-6, the Bishop of Chester wrote to the Privy Council, forwarding an account of all persons in the diocese who had been known to "refuse to come to the church," distinguishing those who had conformed on admonition from those who still "remained in their wilfulness." From the "Blagburne Deanry" the following names were rendered:—

BLAGBURNE DEANRY.—OBSTINATE.

John Sothworth Knight and ladie his wief.
 Thomas Sothworth his sonne and heir.
 John Sothworth, gent., sonne to John Sothworth, Kt.
 Anne Sothworth his daughter. Dorothee Sothworth [Rushton] his sister.
 John Talbot, ar. John Townley, ar. and his wief.
 Thomas Catherall, ar. and his wief.
 * Henrie Lowe, junior. Margaret Lowe, Vid.
 James Hargreves. Lucie Townlie.
 John Yate, sonne to John Townley, ar.
 Ellen Banester, Uxor Roberte Banester, gent.
 Anne Townley, Uxor Henrie Townley, gent.
 Jenet Paslowe, Uxor Francis Paslowe, gent.
 John Rishton, gent. John Rishton, husbandman.
 Randle Ferrand. Richard Wodde. Richard Hinley.

CONFORMABLE.

William Rishton, gent., and his wief. Ellen Rishton, Vid.
 Gilbert Rishton, gent., and his wief. Lau. Whittacre, gent.

Among the papers of Bishop Chaderton are found evidences of the proceedings taken in Lancashire, about the years 1581-4, for the prosecution of priests and recusants. In 1581, Sir John Southworth, Knt., had been arrested and committed to prison in the New Fleet at Manchester, one of the charges against him being that of harbouring at Samlesbury Hall the Jesuit Edmund Campion. By a missive dated June 22d, 1581, the Lords in Council wrote to the Earl of Derby and the Bishop of Chester, stating that humble suit had been made to the Council by Sir John Southworth, lately committed by the Earl and Bishop to the New Fleet in Manchester for his obstinacy in popery, to be suffered to abide at his own house upon bonds for his forthcoming, or else to have a servant to attend upon him in the prison. If (says the letter) Sir John will enter into bonds with sureties in good sums to observe the conditions offered to such recusants as are set at liberty, that he may be enlarged. If not, then to remain in prison, with a servant to attend him, till he shall conform according to the laws. In a postscript, the Council say they have yielded to Sir John's petition for his children to have access to him in prison. On September 7th in the same year, the Earl of Huntingdon, President of the North, wrote to the Bishop of Chester to keep a watch for Campion, who, he was sure, had been in different parts of Lancashire. He named Richard Simpson, formerly a schoolmaster at Gisburne, Yorkshire, but now a recusing priest, who was sometimes at Skillicorne's (of Prees, Kirkham), sometimes at Tarbot's (Talbot's) of Salesbury, and at Westby's. On the 7th of December, the Lords in Council wrote to the Earl and Bishop, notifying their choice of Manchester "for bestowing the recusants of the diocese," as being more convenient than Chester Castle; and remarked that if all the recusants were committed to one place, their diet would be more easy to their keepers, for of the few at Manchester, but one (probably Sir John Southworth) was able to bear his own charges. In January, 1582, the Council write that they were glad to find that the imprisoned recusants had been removed from Chester Castle to the New Fleet in Manchester; and go on to commend the Earl and Bishop for their care and diligence in the search of *Talbot's house* in *Salesbury*, and bid them convey the thanks of the Queen and Council to Lord Strange for his towardness, and to Messrs. Atherton and Banister, who assisted him in that service; the schoolmaster there (at Salesbury) apprehended to be proceeded against by law, and search to be made for the priest and others known to have been there at Christmas. And seeing, by the family not going to church and the superstitious stuff found in the house, they probably went further, that point should be inquired after, and every of them proceeded against according

to law. In the course of the same letter the Lords in Council say, that as some persons evil-minded to religion make great account of the abode of Sir John Southworth in London (whither he had been temporarily transported), as though he had received great favour, to the Papists' encouragement and the defacing of the Ecclesiastical Commission and their lordships' authority, Sir John is to repair to Manchester, to remain there, and to be there ordered as the Earl and Bishop see cause. February 25th, 1582, the Council wrote to Henry Earl of Derby that Sir John Southworth had been commanded to appear before him, and they had caused bond to be taken of Sir John for his personal appearance before the Earl on or before the 25th of March. If still obstinate, the recusant Knight was to be recommitted to the prison at Manchester, with liberty only to walk abroad at times, in the open air of the gardens or open places about the college, in company of his keeper, and then not to confer with any one. In another letter of the 4th September the Lords in Council inform the Earl and Bishop that great suit having been made to them on behalf of Sir John Southworth, in respect of his age and former good services, the Council were content that he should receive as much favour as lawfully might be, and their lordships are directed to examine into a statement that this prisoner was surcharged in the fees of his diet and lodging, above the rates set down and used in the London Fleet Prison. In the year following (1583), on the 7th of February, the Council wrote to Lord Derby and the Bishop of Chester, agreeing with their reasons why Sir John Southworth should not have his liberty further than that of walking with his keeper in Aldport Park and in the College Garden; but added that he might be allowed at all times to talk and confer with others on his private affairs, in the presence of Mr. Worsley or such as he shall appoint. Lord Burleigh, in a letter of the 20th November, 1583, wrote to the Earl and Bishop, that Sir John Southworth, prisoner for matters of religion in the New Fleet at Manchester, had complained of some extreme dealing by Mr. Worsley, the Warden; this was denied by Mr. Worsley, and the Earl and Bishop were wished to inquire into the allegations of "abridging him of his ordinary walk, diet, and such like matters." More letters passed between the authorities during the year 1584 on the subject of Sir John Southworth's imprisonment and treatment. On February 23rd, the Council wrote to the Earl of Derby, the Bishop, Sir John Byron, Mr. Edmund Trafford, &c., stating that Sir John Southworth's son having besought for his father more liberty and better usage, Mr. Worsley had shown that Sir John had been more strictly confined for refusing to be present at grace before and after meals, and at the reading of chapters out of the Old and New Testament, as at first he was wont to do. Nevertheless, his son having undertaken that

Sir John should do this again, and behave himself in good and decent manner in the prison, and Mr. Worsley being contented that he should have such favour as theretofore, and only to take 13s. 4d. weekly for his diet, and to allow him such liberty of walking as their lordships should think meet, the Commissioners were instructed that they might suffer Sir John to have at convenient times the liberty of walks, and Mr. Worsley to take no more of him than he had promised to the Council. On the 2nd May, Sir Francis Walsingham wrote to the Bishop of Chester that the Privy Council, having been informed that Sir John Southworth proposed to disinherit his eldest son, only because he was not, like the father, ill-affected, but well given in religion, and to dispose his lands to his other children, the Bishop was bidden to learn what he could of Sir John's proposal, so that in case the bad father had so ill a meaning towards his eldest and best son, some order might be taken to stay his purpose, and to preserve the inheritance for his right heir. In another letter from the Council of the 24th May, it transpires that Sir John Southworth had again complained against Mr. Worsley, his keeper, who had answered the complaint, but the Council sent both complaint and answer to the Bishop to be examined into, and directed him to take Sir John's bond to the Queen for £500 for his repairing with all speed to London to attend before the Council, but before he went he was to pay Mr. Worsley all money due for his diet. Again, on the 5th July, 1584, the Lords in Council wrote to the Earl and Bishop, stating that both Sir John Southworth and Mr. Townley having paid their fines according to law, they cannot be longer imprisoned, for that would be a double punishment for one offence; still, as the Council thought them, at liberty, more dangerous in Lancashire (where they were greatly allied and friended), than in London, it was considered better to bind them to remain in the metropolis; besides, some of them had pretended diseases and sickness, and demanded the best advice; so that they could not touch the honour or credit of the Earl and Bishop, or boast of favour or friendship at Court; but if their lordships thought it necessary for their own credit's sake or in good policy, the Council would send them back to Lancashire. Finally, on July 13th in the same year, the Council wrote to the Earl and Bishop that Sir John Southworth's son having been a suitor for his removal to London, the Council were willing he should be allowed to come up, both from the son's good character, and to promote his father's good will to him. But if the Earl and Bishop were against it, the Council had no more to say.¹

The *Harleian MSS.* furnish documents containing the names of all bishops, doctors and priests, prisoners in the Fleet for religion since

¹ Chaderton Corresp., in Peck's *Desid. Curiosa*.

the first year of Queen Elizabeth (1558). Among the persons who, on the 10th of September, 1586, were reported as "detected for receipting priests, seminaries, &c., in the County of Lancaster," are mentioned the cases given below of residents in the Parish of Blackburn:—

This appeareth by the presentment of Ralph Serjeant, Churchwarden of Walton-in-le-Dale.—Jane Eyves, of Fishwick, widow, receipted [received] Sir Evan Banister, an old priest, &c.

This appeareth by the presentment of Law. Procter, sworne man of Brihilt.—One Duckson, an old priest, continueth in Samlesburie by common report.

This appeareth by the presentment of the Vicar of Whalley.—John Lawe, a seminary Priest, receipted in divers parts of Lancashire, as specially in the parishes of Ormskirk, Preston, Blackburne, and Whalley.

This appeareth by the presentment of Tho. Sherples.—James Cowper, a seminary Priest, receipted, relieved, and maintained at the Lodge of Sir John Sowthworthe in Samlesburie Park by Mr. Tho. Sowthworthe, one of the younger sons of the said Sir John; and at the house of John Warde dwelling in Samlesburie Parke side; and the said Priest sayeth Mass at the said Lodge and at the said Warde's house. Whither resorte, Mr. Sowthworthe, Mistress Ann Sowthworthe, John Walmsley, servante to Sir John Sowthworthe, Tho. Sowthworthe dwelling in the Park, John Gerrerde, servant to Sir John Sowthworthe, John Singleton, John Wrighte, James Sherples, junior, John Warde of Samlesburie, John Warde of Meller the elder, Henry Potter of Meller, John Goulden of Winwick, Thomas Goulden of the same, Robt. Anderton of Samlesburie and John Sherples of Stanleyhurst, in Samlesburie. . . This also appeareth by the presentment of Tho. Sherples.—At the house of James Sherples in Samlesburie was a Masse done on Candlemas Day by one Henry Dueson alias Harry Duckesson. And these persons were at it, viz.—John Sherples of Stanleyhurst in Samlesburie and his wife, and his son Thomas and his daughter Ann, and Rodger Sherples and his wife, and Richard Sherples, and the wife of Harry Sherples, and the wife of Hugh Welchman, and Thomas Harrison, and the wife of Thomas Welchman the elder, the wife of John Chitome, Robt. Blackehay, Thomas Duckesson of Houghton, James Duckesson, the wife of Harrie Bonne. . . At the Lodge in Samlesburie Parke there be masses daily and Seminaries diverse resorte thither, as James Cowpe, Harrison, Bell, and such like; the like unlawful meetings are made daily at the house of John Warde, by the Park side of Samlesburie, all whiche matters, masses, resorte to Masses, receipting of Seminaries, will be justified [substantiated] by Mr. Adam Sowthworthe, Thomas Sherples, and John Osbaldston.¹

The last documentary evidence of the prosecution of the lord of Samlesbury for his religion is found in the *Egerton Papers*, and is an "Inventorie of such superstitious thinges as were found in Sir John Southworth his house at Samlesburie, by Richard Brereton, Esq., one of her Majesties Justices of the peace, at a search made there, 21st November, 1592," and is accompanied by the names of persons then dwelling at Samlesbury Hall, about forty in number.² Sir John Southworth died in 1595.

About the year 1585, at a time when the Queen, the Privy Council,

¹ Baines's *Hist. of Lanc.* v. 1, p. 180. ² Croston's *Hist. of Samlesb. Hall*, p. 173.

Parliament, and the Country were not a little perturbed by the revelation of a plot for the dethronement of Elizabeth, it was deemed meet that the principal nobility and gentry of Lancashire who were loyally disposed should unite in a public declaration of their allegiance to the Queen and the national establishment of religion. Appended to the declaration are eighty-three signatures, headed by the name of Henry, Earl of Derby. The names of those signatories who resided or had properties in the Parish of Blackburn, are, Thomas Hesketh, Thomas Hoghton, Rychard Ashton, Edward Osbaldeston, Thomas Talbot, Rauffe Ashton, Robert Langton, and Edward Braddell.

On the 18th day of June, 1588, Queen Elizabeth, from her Manor of Greenwich, issued a proclamation to the Earl of Derby, Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire and Cheshire, calling for the supply of as great a quantity of munitions of war as these counties could furnish, to assist the Government in withstanding the Spanish invasion. Lancashire responded loyally with men and arms to the Queen's appeal, and sent a large contingent to the English army marshalled to repel the expected attack by the Armada of Spain. A month after the royal summons to Lancashire, on the 19th of July, 1588, the Spanish Fleet arrived in the English Channel. The story of the repulse of this invasion is universally familiar.

Harleian MS. No. 2042, in the British Museum Library, contains lists of Free Tenants in all the Lancashire Hundreds, made out in the year 1600 (43rd Eliz.). From the "Free Tenants within the Hundred of Blackeburne" I extract the names of such Freeholders as were resident in the Parish of Blackburn :—

Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury, Esq.	Edward Gillibrand of Ramesgreave, gent.
Thomas Langton of Walton, Esq.	Robert Woodruffe of Walton, gent.
John Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq.	Henry Speake of Billington, gent.
[John] Talbot of Salesbury, Esq.	Thomas Ainsworth of Pleasington, gent.
Edward Walmisley of Banister Hall, Esq.	Lawrence Duxburie of Gt. Harwood, gent.
Edward Braddyll of Brockhole, Esq.	Robert Cunliffe of Samlesbury, gent.
Thomas Astley of Astley [Stakes], gent.	John Clayton of Little Harwood, gent.
William Walton of Walton, gent.	John Dawson of Walton, gent.
Henry Lussell of Osbaldeston, gent.	Henry Morley of Braddyll, gent.
Ralph Holden of Ewood, gent.	[] Parker of Hole House, gent.
James Aspden of Arley, gent.	Christopher Marsden of Tockholes, gent.
Richard Whithalgh of Livesey, gent.	Thomas Stanley of Mellor, gent.
Richard Livesey of Fearnhurst, gent.	Christopher Smith of Bankhead, gent.
John Parker of Loveley, gent.	Thomas Witton of Green Tockholes, gent.
Robert Barker of Wheatley, gent.	[John] Livesey of Feniscolles, gent.
Hugh Marsden of Tockholes, gent.	Nicholas Grimshaw of Okenhurst, gent.

CHAPTER IV.—THE STUART PERIOD.

Accession of James I.—Loyal Address—Military Muster in 1608—Subsidy Assessment in 1611—Samlesbury Witchcraft Trials in 1612—James I. at Hoghton Tower—Ship-Money Levy in 1635—Civil War [1641-51], Local Transactions and Operations—Rupture between King and Parliament—County Meeting at Preston—Royalist Preparations for War—Parliamentarian Organization in Blackburn Hundred—Militia called out—Blackburn occupied by Sir Gilbert Hoghton—Retaken by Colonel Shuttleworth—Second Royalist Attack on Blackburn repulsed—Ambush at Salesbury Hall—Roundhead Assault upon Preston—Tragedy at Hoghton Tower—Preston recovered by the Earl of Derby, and Blackburn occupied—Battle at Whailey and Retreat of Royalists—Further Roundhead successes—Passage of Rupert's Army and Fight at Blackburn—Col. Nicholas Shuttleworth at Blackburn—Skirmish at Walton—Distress in Lancashire—Sequestration of Royalist Estates—Presbytery Established in the County—Campaign of 1648—Battle at Preston and Walton—Cromwell's Despatches—Colours taken in the Battle—Petition to Parliament from Blackburn Hundred—Fight at Brindle and Walton in 1651—Further Parliamentary Sequestrations—Restoration of Monarchy—Act of Uniformity—Its local results—Nonconformist Congregations—Subsidy Assessment in 1663—Prosecution of Nonconformists—Revolution of 1688.

QUEEN ELIZABETH died March 24th, 1602-3, and with her ended the Tudor line of English Sovereigns. James Stuart, King of Scotland, was acknowledged as rightful successor to the throne, and was proclaimed as James the First of England. On his accession, seventy-nine Lancashire gentry presented a loyal address to the new monarch. The following proprietors in the parish signed the address:—Sir Richard Hoghton, Knt., lord of Hoghton and Walton-in-le-Dale; Randal Barton, Esq., lord of Blackburn and Smithells; Thomas Southworth, Esq., lord of Samlesbury; John Osbaldeston, Esq., lord of Osbaldeston; William Farrington, Esq., of Worden and Audley in Blackburn; Sergeant Thomas Walmesley, of Dunkenhalgh and Hacking in Billington, the Judge of Common Pleas; John Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield and Brockhole in Billington; and Robert Hesketh, Esq., lord of Great Harwood and Rufford. King James's progress from Edinburgh to London occupied from the 6th of April, 1603, to the 7th of May; and during the journey he conferred the honour of knighthood

upon two hundred of the gentry. Among the knights created at this time were Sir Thomas Walmesley and Sir Thomas Hesketh.

Considerable tracts of land were emparked on the estates of the chief landholders in this part of Lancashire in the reign of the First James. Speed's Map of Lancashire, drawn in the year 1610, affords information as to the principal park-lands at that time, which are indicated on the map by a paled circle. Osbaldeston Hall is shown by Speed surrounded by a large park, of which no traces now remain, and Samlesbury Hall likewise is the centre of a paled ring, denoting a park enclosure. In a somewhat older map than Speed's, made about the year 1598, by one William Smith, there are but two of these paled circles in the Parish, those of Martholme Park, on the Hyndburn and Calder, the seat of the Heskeths of Martholme and Rufford; and the Park around Samlesbury Hall, the seat of the Southworths. Neither of these estates is now imparked to any extent.

In the 6th James I (1608), there was ordered a general muster of men-at-arms in Lancashire, the returns of which are preserved in the Harleian collections. The return from Blackburn Hundred is headed:—

Blackburne Hundreth mustered by Sr. Edmund Trafford and Rychard Holland, Esq.,
att Blackburne, the 26 of September, 1608.

[Particulars of Musters from Townships in Blackburn Parish.]

	Muskettes.	Caliverers.	Bills.	Archers.	Corselettes.
Osbaldeston	—	1	—	2	1
Balderstone	2	1	14	2	—
Witton	1	—	4	1	—
Walton	1	2	10	5	—
Pleasington	—	1	7	6	—
Tockholes-cum-Lyvesey	—	7	28	3	2
Cuerdale	—	3	—	—	—
Upper Derwin	3	6	1	6	—
Billington	1	3	16	13	—
Rishton	—	8	20	8	5
Samlesburye	—	6	8	15	—
Clayton-in-le-Daile	—	—	—	—	—
Blackburne	—	5	21	11	—
Lower Derwin	—	22	17	3	16
Mellor-cum-Eccleshill	—	6	18	7	—
Wilpshire-cum-Dinkley	—	—	5	10	1
Harwood Magna	—	7	7	2	2
Harwood Parva	—	6	9	2	3
Salesburye	3	18	4	—	—

At this muster a little army of 1453 men of various arms was gathered out of the Hundred at Blackburn for review.

SUBSIDY ASSESSMENT ON THE PARISH, A.D. 1611.

I copy from the Subsidy Rolls the appended local assessments to a Subsidy levied in 1611. The parchment is headed:—"Amount of

Assessment upon each Inhabitant chargeable to the Second payment of Subsidy granted 7th James I. within the Hundred of Blackburne."

		[IN BLACKBURN PARISH.]		Value	Levy
BLAGBURNE—					
	John Gelybrand, in goods	...	...	£6	6s.
	Thomas Haworth, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
	John Livesey, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
	William Sudall, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
	William Haworthe, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
SAMLESBURYE—					
	Thos. Sothworth, Esq., in lands	...	...	£26 13s. 6d.	37s. 8d.
	Richard Blakey, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
	William Alcar, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
	John Dewhurst, in goods...	...	...	£3	3s.
	Henrie Cowburne, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
HARWOD MAGNA—					
	Lawrence Ducksburie, in lands...	...	...	£3	4s.
	William Hindle, in goods...	...	...	£4	4s.
	John Harwood, in goods...	...	...	£3	3s.
	George Cockshott, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
BILLINGTON—					
	Antonio Bleuet, gent., in lands	...	...	40s.	2s. 8d.
	Henrie Speake, in lands...	...	...	30s.	2s.
	Richard floole, in goods	...	...	£4	4s.
	Richard Chewe, in goods...	...	...	£3	3s.
	John Sclater, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
PLEASINGTON—					
	Margaret Ainsworth, Widow, in lands...	...	...	£3	4s.
	John Smith, in lands	...	...	40s.	2s. 8d.
	James Astley, in lands	...	...	20s.	16d.
	John Livesey, in lands	...	...	20s.	16d.
	Richard Ainsworth, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
	William Marsden, in goods	...	...	£4	4s.
	Oliver Whalley, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
CUERDALE—					
	Edward [] of Ellen [ ]	...	...	—	—
	William Cowpe, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.
	William Sudall, in goods...	...	...	£3	3s.
MELLOR-CUM-ECCLESHILL—					
	Edward Gelybrande, in lands	...	...	20s.	16d.
	James Ward, in lands	...	...	20s.	16d.
	Richard Walmsley, in goods	...	...	£4	4s.
	Richard Ireland, in goods	...	...	£4	4s.
	George Hey, in goods	...	...	£4	4s.
	Rauf fishe, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
	Thomas Shorrocke, in goods	...	...	£5	5s.
WALTON-IN-LE-DAILE—					
	Robert Woodruffe, gent., with William	...	...	...	...
	Osbaldeston, in lands	...	...	£3	4s.
	William Walton, in lands	...	...	20s.	16d.
	Thomas Leighe, in goods	...	...	£3	3s.

	Value.	Levy.
WALTON-IN-LE-DAILE—		
Relict of Edward Jackson, in goods	£3	3s.
Relict of Edward Bawden, in goods	£3	3s.
Relict of James Woodcocke, in goods	£3	3s.
Richard Woodcocke, in goods	£3	3s.
Oliver Toogood, in goods	£3	3s.
Nicholas Langton, in goods	£3	3s.
George Hawkshead, in goods	£3	3s.
Thomas Gorton, in goods	£3	3s.
Ewan Catterill, in goods	£3	3s.
Thomas Conwell, in goods	£3	3s.
Relict of Henrie Banestre, in goods	£3	3s.
LIVESEY-CUM-TOCKHOLES—		
James Livesey, gent., in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
Thomas Astley, gent., in lands	£3	4s.
James Whithalgh, in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
Myles Marsden, in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
Randal Holden, in goods... ..	£5	5s.
Matthew Walkden, in goods	£4	4s.
Hugh Marsden, in goods... ..	£4	4s.
John Houghton, in goods	£4	4s.
Alexander Waddington, in goods	£3	3s.
WILPSHIRE-CUM-DINKLEY—		
John Dewhurst, gent., in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
George Talbott, in lands... ..	20s.	16d.
William Smith, in goods... ..	£4	4s.
Oliver ffeilden, in goods	£3	3s.
James Ward, in goods	£3	3s.
Richard Craven, in goods	£3	3s.
HARWOD PARVA—		
John Cleyton, in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
Randall Rishton, in lands	20s.	16d.
William Rishton, in goods	£4	4s.
Richard Paidge, in goods	£3	3s.
SALEBURIE—		
John Talbott, Esq., in lands	£5	6s. 8d.
Richard Parker, gent., in lands	20s.	16d.
Robert Barker, in lands... ..	20s.	16d.
WITTON—		
Thomas Holden, in lands	20s.	16d.
Margaret Cowburne, in lands	20s.	16d.
NETHER DARWIN—		
Lawrence Haworth, in goods	£5	5s.
Henrie Crosse, in goods	£5	5s.
Edward Harwood, in goods	£4	4s.
CLEYTON-IN-LE-DAILE—		
Edward Lawe, in goods	£3	3s.
John Calvard, in goods	£3	3s.
Uxor of John Hesmenhalgh, in goods	£3	3s.
Uxor of Richard Walmisley, in goods... ..	£5	5s.

RISHTON—	Value.	Levy.
George Livesey, in goods	£3	3s.
Thomas Livesey, in goods	£3	3s.
James Whalley, in goods	£3	3s.
Henrie Duckworthe, in goods	£3	3s.
Uxor of Edward Rishton, in goods	£3	3s.
Thomas Abbott, in goods	£3	3s.
John Hindle of Tottleworth, in goods	£3	3s.
Thurstan ffeilden, in goods	£3	3s.
BALDERSTON—		
Roger Smaley, in lands	20s.	16d.
John Osbaldeston, in lands	30s.	2s.
William Bolton, in goods	£4	4s.
Robert Sykes, in goods	£3	3s.
OSBALDESTON—		
Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in lands	£16 13s. 4d.	22s. 2¾d.
Richard Brookes, in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
Henrie Lassells, in lands	20s.	16d.
Lawrence Osbaldeston, in lands	20s.	16d.
Thomas Hackin, in goods	£5	5s.
UPPER DARWIN—		
Mr. John Crosse, in lands	40s.	2s. 8d.
The heires of John Baron, in lands	20s.	16d.
Henrie Livesey, in goods	£7	7s.

TRIALS FOR ALLEGED WITCHCRAFT AT SAMLESBURY.

The year 1612 was marked by the trial at Lancaster of a number of persons charged with witchcraft. In the summer of that year, nineteen persons were lying in Lancaster Castle awaiting trial on this, at that time, capital charge. Ten of these belonged to the district of Pendle Forest; one resided at Gisburn, in Craven; one at Windle, near Prescott; and eight others were from the township of Samlesbury, in this parish. Most of the accused from Pendle Forest were convicted, sentenced to death, and executed; but the so-called witches of Samlesbury were fortunate enough to be acquitted. A curious record of their trial is preserved, from which the following particulars of the Samlesbury cases are derived.¹

The persons arrested and committed for trial from this township were, Jennet Bierley, Ellen Bierley, Jane Southworth, John Ramesden, Elizabeth Astley, Alice Grey, Isabell Sidegreaves, and Lawrence Haye. Only three of them appear to have been arraigned at the assizes—Jennet Bierley, Ellen Bierley, and Jane Southworth. The chronicler introduces his report of their trial with a reference to them as “the famous witches of Samlesbury, as the countrey called them, who, by such a

¹ Potts' *Discov. of Witches in Co. Lanc.*, Ed. by Crossley (Cheth. Soc. Publ.)

subtill practice and conspiracie of a seminarie Priest, or as the best in this honorable assembly thinke, a Jesuite, whereof this countie of Lancaster hath good store," &c., "are now brought to the barre, to receive their triall, and such a young witness prepared and instructed to give evidence against them, that it must be the act of God that must be the means to discover their practices and Murthers." Thus writes perspicacious Master Potts, and then, with an apparent self-contradiction, observes "how and in what sort Almighty God delivered them from the stroake of death, when the Axe was laid to the Tree, and made frustrate the practice of this bloudie Butcher;" that is, of the Jesuit priest, their accuser.

The three prisoners, Jennet Bierley, Ellen Bierley, and Jane Southworth, were placed at the bar together to stand their trial. The indictment was that they had feloniously "practised, exercised, and used diverse devillish and wicked arts, called Witchcraft, Inchauntments, Charmes, and Söceries, in and upon one Grace Sowerbutts, so that by means thereof her bodie wasted and consumed," &c. The prisoners pleaded not guilty.

The first witness against them was Grace Sowerbutts herself, the supposed subject of their sorceries. She is described as "the daughter of Thomas Sowerbutts, about the age of fourteene yeares." Her father is mentioned in the record as "Thomas Sowerbutts, of Samlesbury, in the countie of Lancaster, husbandman." The account Master Potts gives of this girl's testimony is so curious in many points, and so characteristic of the strange superstitions and dark imaginings of the people in regard to witches and their practices and powers, that it is worth while to insert the deposition in full. Grace Sowerbutts swore:—

That for the space of some years now last past shee hath beene haunted and vexed with some women, who have used to come to her; which women, shee sayth, were Jennet Bierley, this Informer's Grandmother; Ellen Bierley, wife to Henry Bierley; Jane Southworth, late the wife of John Southworth; and one Old Doewife, all of Samlesburie aforesaid. And shee saith, that now lately those foure women did violently draw her by the haire of the head, and layd her on the toppe of a Hay-mowe, in the said Henry Bierleyes Barne. And she saith further, that not long after, the said Jennet Bierley did meet (her) neare unto the place where shee dwelleth, and first appeared in her owne likenesse, and after that in the likenesse of a black Dogge, and as (witness) did goe over a style, shee picked [pitched or pushed] her off; howbeit shee saith shee had no hurt then, but rose againe, and went to her Aunt's in Osbaldeston, and returned back againe to her Father's house the same night, being fetched home by her father. That in her way homewards she did then tell her father how shee had beene dealt withall both then and at sundry times before that; and before that time shee never told any body thereof; and being examined why she did not, shee sayth, shee could not speake thereof, though she desired so to doe. And she further sayth, that upon Saterday, being the fourth of this instant April, (witness) going towards

Salmesbury bote [boat] to meete her mother coming from Preston, shee saw the said Jennet Bierley, who met (her) at a place called the Two Brigges, first in her owne shape, and afterwards in the likenesse of a blacke Dogge, with two legges, which dogge went close by the left side of (witness), till they came to a Pitte of Water, and then the said Dogge spake, and persuaded this Examinee to drowne her selfe there, saying, it was a faire and an easie death. Whereupon this Examinee thought there came one to her in a white sheete, and carried her away from the said pitte, upon the coming whereof the said blacke dogge departed away; and shortly after the said white thing departed also. And after (she) had gone further on her way, about the length of two or three fields, the said black dogge did meete her againe, and going on her left side, as aforesaid, did carrie her into a barne of one Hugh Walshmans, neere thereby, and layed (her) upon the barne floore, and covered (her) with straw on her bodie, and haye on her head, and the dogge itselfe lay on the toppe of the said straw, but how long the said dogge lay there, this examinee cannot tell, nor how long her selfe lay there, for she sayth, that upon her lying downe there, as aforesaid, her speech and senses were taken from her, and the first time shee knew where shee was, shee was layed upon a bedde in the said Walshmans house, which (as shee hath since beene told) was upon the Monday at night following; and shee was also told, that shee was found and taken from the place where shee first lay, by some of her friends, and carried into the said Walshmans house, within a few hours after shee was layed in the barne, as aforesaid. And shee further sayth, that upon the day following, being Tuesday, neere night of the same day, shee was fetched by her father and mother from the said Walshmans house to her father's house. And shee saith, that at the place before specified, called the Two Brigges, the said Jennet Bierley and Ellen Bierley did appeare unto her in their owne shapes; whereupon (witness) fell downe, and after that was not able to speake, or goe, till the Friday following; during which time, as she lay in her father's house, the said Jennet Bierley and Ellen Bierley did once appear unto her in their owne shapes, but they did nothing unto her there, neither did shee ever see them since. And shee further sayth, that a good while before all this, (she) did goe with the said Jennet Bierley, her grandmother, and the said Ellen Bierley her aunt, at the bidding of her said grandmother, to the house of one Thomas Walshman, in Salmesbury aforesaid. And coming thither in the night, when all the household was a-bed, the doores being shut, the said Jennet Bierley did open them, but this Examinee knoweth not how; and being come into the said house, (witness) and the said Ellen Bierley stayed there, and the said Jennet Bierley went into the chamber where the said Walshman and his wife lay, and from thence brought a little child, which this Examinee thinketh was in bed with its father and mother; and after the said Jennet Bierley had set her downe by the fire, with the said childe, she did thrust a naile into the navell of the said child, and afterwards did take a (quill) pen and put it in at the said place, and did suck there a good space, and afterwards laid the child in bed againe; and then the said Jennet and the said Ellen returned to their owne houses, and (witness) with them. And shee thinks that neither the said Thomas Walshman nor his wife knew that the said child was taken out of the bed from them. And shee saith also, that the said child did not crie when it was hurt, as aforesaid; but shee saith, that shee thinketh that the said child did thenceforth languish, and not long after dyed. And after the death of the said child, the next night after the buriall thereof, the said Jennet Bierley and Ellen Bierley, taking (witness) with them, went to Salmesburie Church, and there did take up the said child, and the said Jennet did carrie it out of the church-yard in her armes, and there did put it in her lap and carryed it home to her owne house, and having it there did boile some thereof in a Pot, and some did broile on the coales, of both of which

the said Jennet and Ellen did eate, and would have had this Examinee and one Grace Bierley, daughter of the said Ellen, to have eaten with them, but they refused so to doe; and afterwards the said Jennet and Ellen did seethe the bones of the said child in a pot, and with the fat that came out of the said bones they said they would anoint themselves, that thereby they might sometimes change themselves into other shapes. And after all this being done, they said they would lay the bones againe in the grave the next night following, but whether they did so or not, this Examinee knoweth not; neither doth she know how they got it out of the grave at the first taking of it up. And being further sworn and examined, she deposeth and saith, that about half a yeare agoe, the said Jennet Bierley, Ellen Bierley, Jane Southworth, and this (witness) [who went by the appointment of the said Jennet her grandmother], did meete at a place called Red banck, upon the North side of the water of Ribble, every Thursday and Sunday at night by the space of a fortnight, and at the water side there came unto them, as they went thither, four black things, going upright, and yet not like men in the face; which foure did carrie the said three women and (witness) over the Water, and when they came to the said Red Banck they found something there which they did eate. But (witness) saith she never saw such meate; and therefore she durst not eate thereof, although her said Grandmother did bidde her eate. And after they had eaten, the said three Women and (witness) danced, every one of them with the blacke things aforesaid. . . . (Witness) further saith upon her oth, that about ten dayes after her Examination taken at Blackborne, shee being then come to her Father's house againe, after shee had been certaine dayes at her Unckles house in Houghton, Jane Southworth, widow, did meet (witness) at her Fathers house dore and did carrie her into the loft, and there did lay her upon the floore, where shee was shortly found by her Father and brought downe, and laid in a bed, as afterwards shee was told; for shee saith, that from the first meeting of the said Jane Southworth, shee (witness) had her speeche and senses taken from her. But the next day, shee saith, she came somewhat to herselfe, and then the said Widow Southworth came againe to (witness) to her bed-side, and tooke her out of bed, and said to (her) that shee now would after doe to her, and thereupon put her upon a hay-stack, standing some three or foure yards high from the earth, where shee was found after great search made, by a neighbour's Wife near dwelling, and then laid in her bedde againe, where shee remained speechlesse and senselesse as before, by the space of two or three daies. And being recovered, within a weeke after, shee saith, that the said Jane Southworth did come againe to (witness) at her fathers house and did take her away, and laid her in a ditch neare to the house upon her face, and left her there, where shee was found shortly after, and laid upon a bedde, but had not her senses againe of a day and a night, or thereabouts. And shee further saith, That upon Tuesday last before the taking of this her Examination, the said Jane Southworth came to (witness's) Fathers house, and finding (witness) without the doore, tooke her and carried her into the Barne, and thrust her head amongst a companie of boards that were there standing, where shee was shortly after found and laid in a bedde, and remained in her old fit till the Thursday at night following. And being further examined touching her being at Red-banck, shee saith, That the three women, by her before named, were carried backe againe over Ribble by the same blacke things that carried them thither; and saith that at their said meeting in the Red-banck, there did come also divers other women, and did meet them there, some old, some young, which (witness) thinketh did dwell upon the North side of the Ribble, because shee saw them not come over the water, but (she) knew none of them, neither did shee see them eate or dance, or doe anything else that the rest did, saving that they were there and looked on.

Such was the extraordinary yet circumstantial story of this girl, upon the strength of which, mainly, the reputed Witches of Samlesbury were incarcerated and arraigned. She was afterwards moved to confess that the whole evidence was a cunning piece of perjury, fabricated by a priest to bring certain parties whom he hated under the law. The further evidence by which the allegations of Grace Sowerbutts were in part sustained, included the statement of Thomas Walshman, the father of the child supposed to have been bewitched to death by the prisoners. Thomas Walshman, on being sworn, deposed that "hee had a childe died about Lent twelvemonth, who had beene sicke by the space of a fortnight or three weekes, and was afterwards buried in Samlesburie Church; which childe when it died was a yeare old; but how it came to the death of it [witness] knoweth not. And he further saith, that about the fifteenth of April last, or thereabouts, the said Grace Sowerbutts was found in [his] father's barne, laid under a little hay and straw, and from thence was carried into [his] house, and there laid until the Monday at night following, during which time she did not speake, but lay as if she had been dead."

Another witness was one John Singleton, yeoman, whose deposition had been taken at Samlesbury, August 7th (a few days prior to the assize), before Robert Houlden, Esq., Justice of the Peace (Holden of Holden Hall, Haslingden). Singleton swore that he had "often heard his old master, Sir John Southworth, Knight, now deceased, say, touching the late wife of John Southworth, now in the gaole, for suspicion of Witchcraft, that the said wife was as he thought an evill woman, and a Witch, and he said that he was sorry for her husband, that was his kinsman, for he thought she would kill him." The witness also said "that the said Sir John Southworth, in his coming or going between his owne house at Samlesbury and the Towne of Preston, did for the most part forbear to pass by the house where the said wife dwelled, though it was his nearest and best way; and rode another way, only for feare of the said wife, as [witness] verily thinketh." A subsequent deposition of one William Alker, of Samlesbury, yeoman, taken before Mr. Justice Holden, corroborated the last witness's statement as to the superstitious dread felt by Sir John Southworth of Mistress Jane Southworth. William Alker swore "that he hath seene the said Sir John Southworth shunne to meet the wife of John Southworth, now Prisoner in the Gaole, when he came neere where she was; and hath heard the said Sir John Southworth say that he liked her not, and that he doubted she would bewitch him."

These references to the family of Southworth, lords of Samlesbury, will be rendered more intelligible by a few notes. The lady, Jane

Southworth, who was put on trial for witchcraft, was the widow of John Southworth, Esq., eldest son of Thomas Southworth, Esq., son and heir to the Sir John Southworth whose imprisonment at Manchester for "recusancy" is referred to in the preceding chapter. John Southworth was therefore the grandson of Sir John, and the heir to the entailed estates, but he died young, and in the lifetime of his father, Thomas Southworth; the exact date of his death is not apparent, but it was about 1611 or 1612, and only, at most, a few months before his widow was arrested and thrown into prison as a witch. She was a natural daughter of Sir Richard Sherburne of Stonyhurst, and married John Southworth about 1598 probably, for their eldest son, Thomas (eventual heir to his grandfather), was born in the 42nd Elizabeth (1599-1600). The pair had other children, John, Richard, Gilbert, Christopher, Mary, Anne, and Rosamond. John Southworth and his wife resided at the Lower Hall, Samlesbury, and, after the husband's decease, Jane Southworth, the widow, had that house as a jointure, and continued to reside there. The seminary priest who was declared on the trial to have incited the girl Grace Sowerbutts to make the charge of witchcraft against Jane Southworth and the other females, called himself by the name of Thompson, but he was asserted to be Christopher Southworth, fourth son of Sir John Southworth, Knt., and therefore uncle to John Southworth, the husband of the accused Jane Southworth. Christopher Southworth was a priest of the Roman Church, and endured a term of imprisonment in the Castle of Wisbeach for recusancy in Elizabeth's reign. The representation of the friends of the accused on her trial seems to have been that Christopher Southworth was inimical to John Southworth's family on account of their disposition to forsake the former religion of the family, Jane Southworth having recently entered the Protestant Church. The witness John Singleton had been a servant, as he alleged, of old Sir John Southworth; and in Sir John's Will occurs the legacy:—"I doe give unto John Singleton, my servant, one Annuitie or yearly rent of 40s. for tearme of his liffe." The other witness, William Alker, was doubtless a son of Richard Alker, another retainer of the Samlesbury Knight. These two men, as recorded, both attested that old Sir John Southworth was in fear of Jane Southworth, his grandson's wife, as a witch, and made a detour to avoid her house when riding from Samlesbury Hall to Preston. Concerning this evidence, a point occurs which was not noted by the Court. Sir John Southworth died in 1595, seventeen years before the trial of Jane Southworth for witchcraft. Now, as Thomas Southworth, son and heir of Sir John, was born in 1561, it is not likely that he would have married before 1580 or 1581; and if his eldest son, John, had been born in

1581, he would have been but fourteen years old at the time of Sir John's death in 1595. He could not have been married long before 1600, the year of birth of his heir, Thomas. The conclusion is that Jane Sherburne was still in her young maidenhood in 1595, and did not marry John Southworth, or come to reside at Samlesbury Lower Hall, until three or four years after Sir John Southworth's decease. A reference to Sir John Southworth's Will proves explicitly that his grandson John Southworth was unmarried at that date. The Will is dated September 17th, 1595, within six weeks of the testator's death, which happened on November 3rd in the same year; and therein appears this sentence:—"The said Thomas [Sir John's son] maye," &c., "give, lymit, and dispose unto Rosimond now his wife," &c., "or to such wife as John Southworth, sonne and heire apparent of the said Thomas, shall marrie, a full third parte and no more of the said Mannors," &c. Subsequent expressions in the Will confirm the fact that John, the grandson, was yet unmarried, and as the testator was then lying on his death-bed, it was simply impossible that the old knight could ever have believed Jane Southworth to be a witch, or have shunned her house in his rides to and from Preston. The audacious perjury of this part of the testimony against Jane Southworth is thus demonstrated.

Beyond the evidence of these two men, John Singleton and William Alker, with their figment about the terrors of their long-deceased master, there was absolutely no evidence to corroborate the extraordinary charge of Grace Sowerbutts, except the statement of Thomas Walshman as to the death of his child, which amounted to little, for infant life is of the frailest tenure. Our chronicler, Potts, adds that Thomas Sowerbutts, father of Grace Sowerbutts, was at length called before the Court. But he could depose to nothing save "the finding of the wench upon the hay in her counterfeit fits." The presiding Judge, after he had heard the whole of the evidence against the prisoners, demanded of them what answer they had to make; when the accused "humbly upon their knees with weeping teares desired him for God's cause to examine Grace Sowerbutts, who set her on, or by whose means this accusation came against them." What followed is thus described:—"Immediately the countenance of this Grace Sowerbutts changed. The witnesses, being behind, began to quarrel and accuse one another. In the end his Lordship examined the girle, who could not for her life give any direct answer, but strangely amazed, told him shee was put to a master to learne, but he told her nothing of this." The Court then ordered the girle's father, Thomas Sowerbutts, to be re-examined, as to "what master taught his daughter," but the man "in general termes denied all." Still the wench refused to disclose the conspiracy. But

“in the end some of them that were present told his lordship the truth,” and the prisoners assured the Court that the lass “went to learn with one Thompson, a Seminarie Priest, who had instructed and taught her this accusation against them, because they were once obstinate Papists, and now came to church.” This was the tenour of the assertion of the three prisoners, Jennet Bierley, Jane Southworth, and Ellen Bierley. The widow Southworth mentioned a meeting she had with the Priest who had originated the charges :—

Jane Southworth saith she saw Master Thompson, alias Southworth, the Priest, a month or six weeks before she was committed to the gaole ; and had conference with him in a place called Barn-hey-lane, where and when shee challenged him for slandering her to be a Witch ; whereunto he answered that what he had heard thereof, he heard from her mother and her aunt ; yet she, this Examinee, thinketh in her heart it was by his procurement, and is moved so to thinke, for that shee would not be dissuaded from the [Protestant] Church.

The issue of the case was that the girl, Grace Sowerbutts, was taken out of her father's charge, by the Judge's order, and “committed to M. Leigh, a very religious preacher, and M. Chisnall, two Justices of the Peace, to be carefully examined.” Being closely interrogated, the wench at length confessed that all the strange statements she had made of the witchcraft of the prisoners were utter falsehoods ; for that “one Master Thompson, which she taketh to be Master Christopher Southworth, to whom she was sent to learne her prayers, did persuade, counsell and advise her” to make these singular charges against her grandmother, aunt, and widow Southworth. This was enough, and at the close of the examination of the witness and the prisoners, the Jury were directed to acquit the prisoners, and they were immediately liberated. What was done to the chief agents in the conspiracy is unrecorded.

KING JAMES THE FIRST AT HOGHTON TOWER.

In the month of August, 1617, King James the First made his return journey from Scotland to London, progressing through the length of Lancashire. The monarch and his retinue were at Hornby Castle on the 11th, the guests of Lord Gerard ; and on the 12th set out for Myerscough Lodge, near Garstang, the seat of Edward Tyldesley, Esq. At Myerscough the Court abode two days ; and during that interval many of the Lancashire gentry reached Myerscough Lodge, and made their obeisance to the King ; among them Sir Richard Hoghton, his next entertainer. From Myerscough, on the 15th, the King and his Court advanced to Preston, where a grand reception had been prepared. After the civic banquet at Preston, which must have taken place early in the day,—the 15th of August,—the Royal party sped to the next lodging-

place, the mansion of Sir Richard Hoghton. Passing over the Ribble at Walton Bridge, and along the old road to Blackburn, the party had in full view, through the greater part of the route, the bold wooded hill of Hoghton, with the castellated frontage of the Tower on its summit, the high central tower, blown up in the Civil War, and the numerous chimney stacks of the buildings forming the quadrangles. Arrived at the foot of the hill upon which the Tower is built, the royal party alighted from their equipages and advanced in state up the grand avenue. The tradition is that the whole length of the avenue was laid with velvet cloth. In front of the Tower were assembled the tenantry of the Hoghtons, together with those of surrounding families, all wearing for the occasion the Hoghton "livery cloaks," to express the homage of neighbouring esquires and gentry to their King. Nicholas Assheton mentions that a speech was made on the arrival of his Majesty at the Tower. After this ceremony, although the day must have been considerably advanced, a short hunt in the Hoghton Park was ordered before supper was served. The "Journalist" closes the record of the day with the words:—"Hunted and killed a stag. We attend on the Lords' table."¹

The noblemen and gentlemen who attended King James at Hoghton Tower composed a numerous and distinguished company, including some of the most celebrated courtiers of the time. A list of the guests of Sir Richard Hoghton during these days of the King's visit has been preserved. Among the highest in rank were the powerful favourite of the monarch, Villiers, Earl and afterwards Duke of Buckingham; the Earls of Richmond, Pembroke, Nottingham, and Bridgewater; Lords Zouch, Knollys, Mordaunt, Grey, Stanhope, and Compton; the Bishop of Chester, Dr. Moreton; many Baronets and Knights; and the following Lancashire notables:—Sir Edward Mosley, Knt., M.P. for Preston (1614-23); Sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford, Knt., Sheriff of Lancashire in that year; Cecil Trafford, Esq., knighted by the King at Hoghton Tower; Richard Towneley, of Towneley, Esq.; Ralph Assheton, of Whalley, Esq.; Richard Sherburne, of Stonyhurst, Esq.; Richard Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, Esq.; Nicholas Girlington, of Thurland Castle, Esq.; William Anderton, of Anderton, Esq., and one hundred other gentlemen of the county.

On the 16th of August, the second day of King James's sojourn at Hoghton, the Royal party went out hunting in the morning; and in the afternoon paid a visit to the noted Alum Mines at Alum Scar, in the township of Pleasington. The day was excessively sultry. The Downham "Journalist" notes:—"Aug. 16, Houghton. The King hunting: a great companie. Killed affore dinner a brace of staggs. Verie hott;

¹ Journal of Nich. Assheton (Cheth. Soc. Publ.), p. 38.

soe hee [the King] went in to dinner. Wee attend the lords' table ; and about 4 o'clock the King went downe to the Allome mynes, and was ther an hower, and viewed them preciselie, and then went and shott at a stagg, and missed. Then my Lord Compton had lodged two brace. The King shott again, and brake the thigh-bone. A dogg long in coming, and my Lord Compton shott again and killed him [the stag]. Late in to supper."¹ The Alum Mine visited by the King is about a mile north from Hoghton Tower, on the Blackburn side of the Darwen river.

The 17th of August, the third day of James's presence at the Tower, was the Sunday ; and the day was observed by the Bishop preaching in the great hall before the King and Court in the morning ; while the after part of the day was given up to amusements, including a rushbearing after dinner, and a grand masque in the gardens at night. Nicholas Assheton writes :—"Aug. 17, Hoghton.—Wee served the lords with biskett, wyne, and jellie. The Bishopp of Chester, Dr. Morton, preached before the King. To dinner. About four o'clock ther was a rushbearing, and pipeing afore them, affore the King in the middle court ; then to supp. Then, about ten or eleven o'clock, a maske of noblemen, knights, gentlemen and courtiers, afore the King, in the middle round, in the garden. Some speeches : of the rest, dancing the Huckler, Tom Bedlo, and the Cowp Justice of Peace."²

The popular custom of the "rushbearing" was exhibited before the monarch in the afternoon of this day, and after it, probably, was presented the memorial petition of the Lancashire peasantry and others, complaining to the King of the restrictions by the Queen's Commission in 1579, which prohibited the people from indulging in any kind of out-door games or sports on the Sunday, after evening prayer, or upon holidays. James received the petitioners graciously, and acknowledged the justice of the remonstrance against the prohibition of the "lawful recreations and honest exercises" of the "good people" of Lancashire. This petition is regarded as the precursor of the celebrated "Book of Sports," published by royal authority, in May, 1618 ; by which "dancing, archery, May-games, Whitsun-ales, and May-poles" were permitted to be indulged in on a Sunday evening ; a liberty which, while it gratified the commonalty, gave such offence to religious people in Lancashire and elsewhere that the publication by King James, and the re-publication by Charles his son, of the "Book of Sports" is reckoned one of the causes of that revolutionary movement which hurled the Stuart monarchy from its seat of rule in England.

This sportful Sunday of the Court's revel at Hoghton was wound up with the grand Masque in the gardens, the name of which has not

¹ Journal of Nich. Assheton, p. 40. ² *Ib.* pp. 41-45.

been ascertained ; but in which many of the nobles and gentlemen of the King's retinue were actors. Nicholas Assheton also says that "some speeches" were delivered on this night, and a number of curious dances and popular farcical representations of the period enacted ; and it was at some period of his stay at Hoghton that the following poetic address was recited before King James, the text of which has been kept in the archives of the Hoghton family.¹

A Speeche made to Kinge James at his cominge to Hoghton Tower, by two conceaved to be the Household Gods : the first attyr'd in a purple taffata mantle, in one hand a palm-tree branch, on his head a garland of the same, and in the other hand a dogge :

This day, great Kinge for government admired !
 Which these thy subjects have so much desir'd,
 Shall be kept holy in their hearts' best treasure
 And vow'd to James as is this month to Caesar.
 And now the Landlord of this ancient Tower
 Thrice fortunate to see this happy hower
 Whose trembleinge heart thy presence sett on fire
 Unto this house (the heart of all the shire)
 Does bid thee hearty welcome, and would speak it
 In higher notes, but extreme joy doth breake it.
 Hee makes his Guest most welcome, in whose eyes
 Love-teares do sitt, not he that shouts and cryes,
 And we the gods and guardians of the place,—
 I of this house, he of the fruitfull chace,—
 [E'er] since the Hoghtons from this hill took name
 Who with the stiffe, unbridled Saxons came
 And soe have flourish't in this fairer clyme,
 Successively from that to this our tyme,
 Still offeringe upp to our Immortall Powers
 Sweet incense, wyne, and odoriferous flowers ;
 While sacred Vesta in her virgin tyre
 With vowes and wishes tend the hallowed fyre.
 Now seeing that thy Majestye we see
 Greater than country gods, more good than wee ;
 We render upp to thy more powerfull guard
 This house ; this Knight is thine, he is thy Ward,
 For by thy helpinge and auspicious hand
 He and his home shall ever, ever stand
 And flourish in despite of envious fate ;
 And then live, like Augustus, fortunate.
 And longe, longe mays't thou live ! to which both men,
 Gods, saints and angells say, ' Amen, amen !'
 [The Second Tutelar God begins :]
 Thou greatest of mortalls ! [He's nonplust.

¹ This poetic address of welcome was probably the "speech" made, as Nicholas Assheton mentions, on the King's arrival at the Tower.

[The Second [First] God begins againe :]
 Dread Lord ! the splendor and the glorious raye
 Of thy high majesty hath stricken dumbe
 His weaker god-head ; if t' bimselpe he come
 Unto thy service straight he will comend
 These Foresters, and charge them to attend
 Thy pleasure in this park, and shew such sport
 To the Chief Huntsman, and thy princely court,
 As the small circuit of this round affords,
 And be more ready than he was in's words.

On Monday morning, August 18th, 1617, the King and his retinue breakfasted at Hoghton, and then set forth, about noon, to Lathom House. While at Lathom, James conferred the title of knight upon John Talbot, of Salesbury, and other Lancashire gentry who had paid their service to him during his progress. Nichols' prints the bill of fare at the royal table during the last day of James's stay at Hoghton Tower from a family manuscript, headed :—"Notes of the Diet at Hoghton at the King's cominge there" :—

SUNDAY'S DINNER, THE 17TH OF AUGUST (1617).—FOR THE LORDS' TABLE.

FIRST COURSE.—Pullets, boiled capon, mutton boiled, boiled chickens, shoulder of mutton roast, ducks boiled, loin of veal roast, pullets, haunch of venison roast, burred capon, pasty of venison hot, roast turkey, veal burred, swan roast (one, and one for to-morrow), chicken pye hot, goose roast, rabbits cold, jiggits of mutton boiled, snipe pye, breast of veal boiled, capons roast, pullet, beef roast [Sirloin?], tongue pye cold, sprod boiled, herons roast cold, curlew pye cold, mince pye hot, custards, pig roast.

SECOND COURSE.—Hot pheasant, one, and one for the King, quails, six for the King, partridge, poults, artichoke pye, curlews roast, peas buttered, rabbits, ducks, plovers, red deer pye, pig burred, hot herons roast, three of a dish, lamb roast, gammon of bacon, pigeons roast, made dish, chicken burred, pear tart, pullets and grease, dried tongues, turkey pye, pheasant tart, hogs' cheeks dried, turkey chicks cold.

SUNDAY NIGHT'S SUPPER.

FIRST COURSE.—Pullet, boiled capon, cold mutton, shoulder of mutton roasted, chicken boiled, cold capon, roast veal, rabbits boiled, turkey roast, pasty of venison hot, shoulder of venison roast, herons cold, sliced beef, umble pye, duck boiled, chickens baked, pullet, cold neat's tongue pye, neat's tongue roast, sprod boiled, curlews baked cold, turkeys baked cold, neats' feet, boiled rabbits, neats' tongue, rabbits fried.

SECOND COURSE.—Quails, poults, herons, plovers, chickens, pear tart, rabbits, peas buttered, made dish, ducks, gammon of bacon, red deer pye, pigeons, wild boar pye, curlew, dry neats' tongue, neats' tongue tart, dried hog's cheek, red deer pye.

MONDAY MORNING'S BREAKFAST, THE 18TH OF AUGUST.

Pullets, boiled capon, shoulder of mutton, veal roast, boiled chickens, rabbits roast, shoulder of mutton roast, chine of beef roast, pasty of venison, turkey roast, pig roast, venison roast, ducks boiled, pullet, red deer pye cold, four capons roast, poults roast, pheasant, herons, mutton boiled, wild boar pye, jiggits of mutton boiled, jiggits of mutton burred, gammon of bacon, chicken pye, burred capon, dried hog's cheek, umble pye, tart, made dish.

† Progresses of James I., v. iii, pp. 397-9.

LABOURERS [SERVANTS]—For the pastries—John Greene, Richard Blythe, William Aldersey, Alexander Cowper. For the ranges—John Coleburne, Elias James, John Rairke, Robert Dance. For boiling—John Murryer, William Parkes. For pullets—John Clerke, John Bibby.—Chief Cooks—Mr. Morris; Mr. Miller.

Many readers will have heard the local tradition that it was at Hoghton Tower that King James, in a fit of humour, knighted a loin of beef which was set before him at dinner, by which, as the story goes, that particular joint of meat acquired the name of *Sirloin*. There is no evidence except the folk-lore of the district that the eccentric monarch actually perpetrated the practical joke of knighting a piece of beef that pleased his palate, either at Hoghton or elsewhere; and a similar story being told of a later Stuart king (Charles II.), the two traditions tend to invalidate each other. Some writers have suggested, indeed, that the original etymology of the word was *surloin*, from the French *sur*, signifying *upon*; and the modern French name for the same joint the English call *sirloin* is *surlonge*. The legend of the knighthood is therefore doubtful. James the First was notoriously given to punning, and it is not unlikely he may have remarked, as he partook of the savoury *surloin* at Hoghton, that its merit was such that its name might appropriately be altered from “surloin” to “Sir-Loin.”

LEVY OF SHIP MONEY IN LANCASHIRE IN 1635.

Among the chief provocations to that disaffection of the English people to the Stuart dynasty, which, gradually increasing and extending during the reign of Charles I., eventuated in the great Civil War, and the dethronement and death of that King, was the action of the Crown and Council in re-instituting, in a more oppressive form, the ancient levy of “Ship-Money.” This levy, which in former periods had been made upon the coastland counties for the providing of armed ships to defend the coasts from the incursions of pirates and sea-marauders, was now exacted from the whole country for a purpose totally apart from its nominal and ostensible one, namely, to furnish the Crown with means for the payment of royal debts, and for government without the assistance of a suspended Parliament. In the year 1634-5, when the impost called ship-money was thus levied upon Lancashire, the High Sheriff of this county, to whom the Orders in Council relating to the levy were addressed, was Humphrey Chetham, Esq., of Turton Tower, the noted Lancashire merchant, and the enlightened founder of the Chetham Hospital and Library in Manchester. The family papers of the Chethams¹ include several interesting documents concerning the levy of ship-money in the county. From these papers one or two extracts,

¹ Foundations of Manchester (Appendix), v. iii, pp. 257-76.

showing the proportions of the county-levy paid by the different Hundreds and corporate towns of Lancashire, may be inserted here. First, is a letter from the Lords of his Majesty's Council to the High Sheriff, dated from Whitehall, August 12th, 1635, which directs the attention of the Sheriff to the royal writ commanding the county to provide "one Shipp of Three hundred and fifty Tunnes, to be furnished with men, tackle, munition, victuall, and other necessaries." It is made known by this mandate, that "upon a due and just calculation wee [the Lords in Council] find that the charge of a ship of that burthen so manned and furnished will be three thousand five hundred pounds;" and it is added:—"To prevent difficulty in the dividing the Assessments upon the Corporate Townes, wee having informed ourselves the best we may of the present condition of the Corporate Townes, and what proportion of that charge each of them is fitt to beare, doe conceive That the Towne of Preston may well beare Fifty pounds, Lancaster Thirty pounds, Liverpoole Twenty pounds, Wiggan Fifty pounds, Clitheroe five pounds, Newton five pounds; and the residue of the said three thousand and five hundred pounds is to bee assessed upon the rest of the county."

In obedience to these orders, the Sheriff proceeded to assess the tax upon the Hundreds and Corporate Towns. He issued his warrants to the "Maier, Bailiffes, and Comonalties of the Towne of Lancaster, the Maier and Bailiffs of the Towne of Liverpoole, the Maier and Burgesses of the Towne of Preston in Amounderness, the Maier and Burgesses of the Towne of Wiggan, the Bailiffs and Burgesses of the Towne of Cliderow, and the Steward and Burgesses of the Towne of Newton;" and at a meeting of the foresaid Mayors, Burgesses, and officers of the Towns, assembled by the Sheriff, the sum-total of the levy upon the Towns was accepted, but "some small alteration made in the dividing thereof." As the central town of the county, Sheriff Chetham appointed Preston for the place at which the sums required from the Hundreds and Towns should be paid over by the local authorities. The tax was paid in Lancashire with great reluctance, and collected with difficulty. The Sheriff reported that on proceeding to Preston, where he had expected that money should readily come to his hands, he "met with nothing for the first two days, but complaints and loud exclamations against unjust and unequal taxations." The clergy especially complained of the distressing pressure of the tax; and the Sheriff ordered that they should be leniently dealt with. Subjoined is a copy of the return sent up to London by Sheriff Chetham of the proportions in which the sum of £3,500 for ship-money was paid by the six Hundreds of the County, and the six Corporate Towns. The return also shows the amount contributed by the clergy in the several districts to the levy:—

THE HUNDREDS OF THE COUNTY.	£ s. d.	Whereof the Clergie paid £ s. d.
West Darbie Hundred, excepting the burroughes of Wigan, Liverpoole, and Newton in that Hundred - - -	757 10 0 - -	23 19 2½
Salford Hundred - - - - -	490 0 0 - -	12 8 6
Leyland Hundred - - - - -	315 0 0 - -	3 11 0
Blackburne Hundred, excepting Cliderowe	622 10 0 - -	0 18 6
Amonderness Hundred, excepting Preston	625 0 0 - -	1 8 4
Loynsdall Hundred, excepting Lancaster -	530 0 0 - -	7 8 6
THE BURROUGHES.		
Lancaster Towne - - - - -	30 0 0 - -	2 0 0
Preston in Amondernes - - - - -	40 0 0 - -	0 8 0
Wiggan - - - - -	50 0 0 - -	5 0 0
Liverpoole - - - - -	25 0 0 - -	Nil.
Cliderowe - - - - -	7 10 0 - -	Nil.
Newton - - - - -	7 10 0 - -	Nil.
Suma totalis £3,500, of which the Clergie paid £57 2s.		

These returns afford evidence as to the distribution of wealth in Lancashire in the reign of Charles I. Wigan was then the richest town in the County, and Preston came next. It is a significant illustration of the extreme poverty of the Church endowments in Blackburn Hundred at this time, that while the Hundred paid to the levy £622 10s., against £757 10s. by the Hundred of West Derby, the clergy of our Hundred could only pay a paltry 18s. 6d. to the tax, as against £23 19s. contributed by the relatively well-endowed clergy of West Derby division.

THE GREAT CIVIL WAR (1641-1651).—LOCAL TRANSACTIONS AND OPERATIONS.

We have now arrived at that period of stirring events, the great Civil War between King Charles and his Parliament. Lancashire bore its share in the strife and suffering of that long conflict, and the men of Blackburnshire were not behind the rest of their countymen in the sturdiness with which they fought out the quarrel, under the leadership of the gentry of the district. The record of the war in this work limits itself to those military incidents of which Blackburn Parish was the theatre, with such passing mention of outside occurrences as seems needed to connect and explain local movements.

Early in the year 1640, King Charles, who had reigned as an absolute monarch since 1629, found it indispensable to summon a Parliament. The House of Commons returned in April, 1640, was so little disposed to second the Crown in its arbitrary policy that it was dissolved after an existence of a few weeks. The next Parliament, summoned in

November of the same year, was longer-lived, and much more remarkable. It was the Parliament known in history as the "Long Parliament." To it were returned for the borough of Clitheroe, Ralph Assheton, Esq., of Whalley, and Richard Shuttleworth, junr., gent., of Gawthorpe; for Preston, Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., of Gawthorpe, and Thomas Standish, Esq. Of fourteen members returned to this Parliament from the Lancashire boroughs and for the county, eight were for the Parliament, and six were Royalists, in the contest that ensued.

In the month of January, 1641-2, the rupture between the King and the other Estates of the realm being complete, both parties began to prepare for the inevitable resort to arms. Charles withdrew from London, and by the end of April, 1642, was at York, issuing his summons to the trusted loyalist gentry of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and other counties to meet him there with their forces. The first step of the Parliamentary leaders to make their influence felt in Lancashire was the nomination to the King, on February 12th, 1641-2, of Lord Wharton to be Lord Lieutenant of the county, in the stead of Lord Strange. The King rejected the nomination, and upon that the Parliament, on March 5th, absolutely appointed Lord Wharton to the post. The new Lord-Lieutenant at once nominated a fresh batch of deputy-lieutenants from among the gentry favourable to the Parliament. Soon after this, a petition was presented to the House of Commons, signed by "divers Knights, Esquires, Ministers, Gentlemen and Freeholders" of the County, thanking the House for the appointment of Lord Wharton to the Lieutenancy; acknowledging with gratitude "the fidelitie, patience, and unparalleled industry of this Honorable House in the indevours to restore to order the discomposd condition of this Church and State; and to put the same into a way to unite, puretie and peace;" and praying, with other prayers, "that the number of preaching ministers be augmented in the Countie;" "that a Fleet of small ships may be appointed for the guard of this Coast;" that the Recusants of the County might be disarmed, and the County Militia put in a position of defence; and "that the petition concerning the breach of privileges at the Election of Knights for this county (unparalleled by any Election in this Kingdome as your Petitioners beleieve), as also the other grievances of the Countie," &c., "may receive examination and redresse."¹ Another petition, evidently from the same parties (the Puritan interest in Lancashire), was presented to the King at York, May 2nd, 1642, beseeching his Majesty to return to London, and to his "great Councill," *i.e.*, Parliament. These Lancashire Puritans would seem to have had faith in the power of petitioning, for on the 27th of the same month they presented a second petition

¹ Civil War Tracts, pp. 2-5.

to the King at York, "subscribed by 64 Knights and Esquires, 55 Divines, 740 Gentlemen, and of Freeholders and others above 7000"—a formidable array of signatures. The King was besought to carry out his understood resolution "of ruling his people according to the laws of the land;" of defending the doctrine, liturgy, and government of the Church; of advancing learning, and encouraging "painfull orthodox Preachers;" and to condescend unto whatever Parliament should offer to his royal view, conducive to the common good. To this latter petition Charles vouchsafed an answer, dated June 6th, 1642, accepting the loyal expressions of the petitioners, and assuring them of his zeal for the "maintenance of the true Protestant profession," and his acquiescence in their "desire of a good understanding between His Majestie and his two Houses of Parliament."¹

These pacific expressions amounted to little; they could not close up the wide breach between King and Parliament, and they were quickly succeeded by hostile dispositions. On the 11th of June, 1642, Charles issued from York his commission of military array for Lancashire. William, Earl of Derby, whose name stands first in the Royalist Commission of Array, was an aged man at this time; his death occurred in September, 1642. His son and successor, James, Lord Strange, was from the first the recognised chief of the King's party in the county. His action, the moment he saw the war to be imminent, was bold and prompt. So early as the last week of May, there had been a muster of Royalist Catholics in the vicinity of Lancaster, and a few days later, Lord Strange, with a following of 700 armed men, appeared at Lancaster, and pounced upon the Magazine there, from which he appropriated the powder and the match. The great county meeting at Preston, convened by Sir John Girlington, the High Sheriff, on the 20th of June, 1642, is, however, the first remarkable occurrence in the annals of the Civil War in Lancashire. The rendezvous of Royalist partizans at Preston, and the proceedings thereat, are recorded in a letter from a gentleman in York to a friend in London; and more in detail in a letter from Alexander Rigby to the Speaker of the House of Commons. Both these narratives were written by adherents of the Parliament, which will explain the terms in which the King's friends and their doings are characterised. The gentleman from York writes that Sir John Girlington, the High Sheriff, on receipt of a letter from the King, proceeded "to sum up all protestant subjects with all speed at *Preston*, to heare his Majestie's two declarations and the Lancashire Petition to the King and his Majestie's answer thereunto"; at which meeting "some of the Committee for Lancaster desired the forbearance of them to be read,

¹ Civil War Tracts, pp. 8-12.

but hee [the Sheriff], in contempt of their order from the Parliament, departed with some of his friends, and cryed out, 'All that are for the King go with us,' crying 'For the King, for the King !' and so about 400 persons, whereof the most part of them were Popish Recusants, went with him and ridde up and downe the moore, and cryed, 'For the King, for the King !' but far more in number stayed with the Committee, and prayed for the uniting of the King and Parliament with a generall acclamation, so that 'tis thought, since the Committees going there, it hath wonderfully wrought upon the hearts of the people."¹ A fuller account (being by an eye-witness) of the incidents of the Preston demonstration is contained in the letter of Mr. Alexander Rigby, who, with Mr. Richard Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe, being sent into Lancashire to organise the resistance of their friends to Lord Strange and the King's party, was present at the assembly on Preston Moor.²

This Preston meeting was the first rencontre between the opposing parties in Lancashire ; and though the adherents of the King and of the Parliament met on this occasion without blows, and parted without bloodshed, it is manifest that the partizan feeling already ran very high, and that very little was needed to have brought on a collision. Messrs. Rigby and Shuttleworth, as Members of the House of Commons and the Commissioners of Parliament, displayed courage in confronting the High Sheriff, the Lord Strange, and the other members of the King's Commission of Array for Lancashire, and in challenging the legality of their proceedings. The Royalists, on their part, made their preparations for war with decision and celerity, as Rigby's account of the removal of gunpowder stored at Preston, and of their collection of "great store of horses for service," attests. The Parliament party were somewhat less prompt in their measures, but they were by no means asleep. The day after the Preston meeting Mr. Rigby and Mr. Richard Shuttleworth were summoned to Manchester, to concert with their fellow-commissioners plans for the defence of the county against Royalist attacks. In Manchester there were at this juncture "ten barrels of powder and some few bundles of match lodged in a room of a house, belonging to Lord Strange ;" these the local Royalist leaders sought to carry away, but were "prevented by Mr. Ashton, who with Mr. Thomas Stanley took it, and removed it into other places in the town ;" while Lord Strange, who had seized upon thirty barrels of powder and a great quantity of match in the county magazine at Liverpool, "did, with many armed Forces, repair to a town called Bury," whence his lordship made a demonstration against Manchester, demanding the restoration of his powder and match, which was refused.

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 13-14. ² *Ib.* pp. 325-30.

At the beginning of the next month (July, 1642), there was a great muster at Manchester of the Lancashire Militia, called out by the Parliamentarian Lieutenantcy, when 7000 or 8000 men, "well furnished with muskets and pikes, and completely trained by the captains that were there," were reviewed, after which "there was a greate shoute for halfe an houre—'For the King and Parliament—For the King and Parliament'!"—and at night they were dismissed.¹

There is a contemporary story of the interception at Walton-in-le-Dale, by Sir Gilbert Hoghton, of a letter written by Mr. Alexander Rigby to the Manchester Committee. Mr. Rigby's messenger was "stayed at Walton by a watch which was set by Sir Gilbert Houghton, before whom they brought him, and he delivered him Master Rigbie's letter, and upon Sunday in the morning Sir Gilbert sent for Mr. Rigby [probably to Walton Hall, where Sir Gilbert Hoghton, eldest son of Sir Richard, sometime resided], and being come he told him he had a commission from the king to break open all such letters; Master Rigbie asked him if he had taken the protestation, and he told him he had. Then he demanded his letter from him in the name of all the Commons of England: and further told him, if he broke it open, it might be he might be the first man that should be made an example in Lancashire; and then he delivered him his letter unbroken up, and intreated him to stay and dine with him, which he did; and when they were at dinner one Mr. Dawton, a great recusant, and M. Tylsley, came in as familiarly to Sir Gilbert as if they had been *Haile fellow well met*. And M. Rigbie told [Sir] Gilbert and M. Tylsley he could like them well, if they were not so familiar with Papists."² This incident occurred upon Sunday, July 3rd, 1642. On the following day, Mr. Rigby was again at Manchester, present at a meeting of the Manchester Committee of Safety.

King Charles's anxiety to strengthen his party in Lancashire at the beginning of the war, is illustrated by a letter under the Royal sign manual, dated from York, July 1st, 1642, addressed to William Farrington Esq., of Worden, and his son William. These gentlemen had been threatened with arrest and removal from the county by the Parliament, on account of their activity in executing the King's Commission of Array; and the King, apprehensive that fear of personal danger might lead the Farringtons, father and son, to withdraw privately from Lancashire, wrote the missive which contains this peremptory order:—"Wee straightly require you upon your allegiance, that you depart not nor absent yourself out of that Our County Palatine of Lancaster, neither suffer yourself to be engaged, detained, or kept from giving your ready attendance accordingly, beinge thereto called or

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 20.

² 1b. pp. 20-1.

summoned by Us, or Our Command, whilst we shall continue here, upon any pretence, order, warrant, or command whatsoever from either or both Houses of Parliament."¹ Three days later, on July 4th, William Farrington, Esq., with the other Royalist Commissioners of Array in the county, were required by Sheriff's Warrant "forthwith to convene and summon all the severall Captaynes of their severall regiments to appeare before theme, together with armes, to be viewed, trayned, and exercised." What happened during the next two or three days among the Royalists mustered at Walton and Preston, is narrated, with a Puritan bias, by the writer of the "Perfect Diurnall," a Parliamentarian, who seems to have been a resident at Preston.² This unnamed personage writes, Wednesday, July 6th, to his friends in London, as follows :—

As I returned home from Manchester to Preston, in Walton, I overtooke M. Kirbie, the Knight of our Shire, and there was in his companie one Chorley of Chorley (a seducing Papist, a fit companion for so lukewarm a Protestant), and these were very familiar together. A false messenger came this day to Sir Gilbert Houghton, and told him that the Lord Wharton was come to Manchester with 20,000 men, whereupon he sent with all speede to all his tenants, and commanded them, that they should be readie upon an hower's warning, and set a stronge watch about his house, but I think there was no brags in our towne [Preston] for that day. [The false alarm from Manchester had sobered the Preston Royalists for the nonce.] Then they let honest Protestants go through the streets without scoffing at them, and calling them Roundheads, and Tylsley posted up and downe in great feare ; it was well if he kept all cleane ; and how should it be otherwise, seeing they oppose the King's Majesties Royal authority, in the High Court of Parliament, the old and good government of England.

The next day, July 7th, the same purveyor of intelligence from Preston and Walton writes :—" My Lord Strange this night is at Walton, with Sir Gilbert Houghton and the High Sheriffe, and Tylsley is there, and they have commanded all between 15 and 60 to be at Preston tomorrow, with the best armes they have. My Lord intends to be there himselfe, but what the event will be, I cannot yet tell." What came of the mustering of men-at-arms at Preston the following day (Friday, July 8th, 1642), is also recounted, with gossip of the great personages at Walton Hall and their doings :—

M. Tylsley yesterday night said unto Luke Hodgkinson in Sir Gilbert's buttery that he was told M. Major [the Mayor] of Preston had thought to have him cast in Prison, which if he had he would this day have pulled downe the prison, and M. Major's house should have been set on fire, if he would not have released him. Truly it were well if the Parliament would send for this Tylsley, for he is a Captain, one of the Commission of Array, and doth more harm than any man I know. Yesterday night when the Lord Strange was at supper he received a packet of letters from York ; what they were I cannot tell. This day in the morning I spoke with the Sergeant,

¹ Farrington Papers, pp. 77-8. ² C. W. Tracts, pp. 21-3.

and he hath delivered that order from the House to the Lord Strange, and he first told him he would return an answer by word of mouth by him, and afterwards he told him he would send an answer himselfe to Parliament. Five men gave one Roger Haddock of Chorley very sore strokes and broke his head to the very scull, because he went with the Sergeant as a messenger to show him my Lord's house. The soldiers are all marched out of the Towne to the number of 4,000, as I thinke, but the post is in going, and what this day will bring forth I cannot tell, but they say they shout 'For the King, and my Lord Strange,' and the Sheriffe have set foure barrels of beere abroache at the high Cross to make the soldiers drinke as they returne back. The Sergeant is here to arrest the Sheriffe, but it is to no purpose till the company be gone. . . I shall write you more of this dayes proceeding the next poste. My Lord is with them over the Moore. Read this letter be sure to M. W., my brother W.; provide for our safety: we are beset with Papists. I dare not go to the Moore, but my . . . was there, and they told him he was a Roundhead, and swore they would kill him. So he came from amongst them. I am in haste. Vale.

A week after the military promenade on Preston Moor, Lord Strange was at Manchester, to be present at a banquet at the house of one Mr. Greene. This audacious visit to the Puritan head-quarters led to a rather serious collision between the rival parties. Sir Thomas Stanley, and Captains Holcroft and Birch, were exercising the Militia in another part of the town, when some of the Militiamen got to blows with the body-guard of Lord Strange. Several mortal wounds were received in the affray on both sides, and Lord Strange and his men hastily retreated out of the town to Sir Alexander Radcliffe's house at Ordsall.¹ This was the first bloodshed of the war, and the tidings of the conflict were received throughout the country with trouble and dismay.

Nothing further of moment transpired in the county until the last week in September, when Lord Strange returned to the neighbourhood of Manchester with a formidable force, avowedly to reduce the place in the King's interest. The Manchester Puritans had made the best use of the interval since Lord Strange's former visit in throwing up mud walls and other rude fortifications at the main entrances to the town; and were thus enabled to present a firm front to the Royalist array on their appearance to besiege the town. It was on Saturday night, September 24th, 1642, that Lord Strange sat down before Manchester, with a force of from 2,000 to 3,000 men. On the 26th, the defenders of Manchester wrote to Richard Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe and John Starkie of Huntroyd, as the leaders of the Parliamentary interest in Blackburn Hundred, asking for ammunition.

Lord Strange's assault upon Manchester was successfully repelled, and his lordship raised the siege after a week's duration, having lost about 200 of his men in an attempt to storm the town.² Among the Royalist officers in the besieging force were two gentlemen from

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 30-34.

² Palmer's Siege of Manch., pp. 26-36.

Blackburn Hundred—Master Towneley of Towneley, and Master Nowell of Read. While Lord Strange lay at Manchester his father, the Earl of Derby, died, September 25th, 1642, and Lord Strange succeeded to the earldom. He is therefore spoken of henceforth as the Earl of Derby. The march of the King's party to Manchester, though it led to no serious result, aroused the friends of the Parliament to greater activity than had hitherto been exhibited; and very speedily thereafter, as a Puritan chronicler relates, "we are raised up and put into armes severall Companies under Captaines of the best ranke and qualitie in all the Townes and County, as Captaine Birch, Captaine Bradshawe, Captaine Venables, Captaine Ratcliffe, with others; Commissioners being granted by the Parliament to put the County into a posture of War for its owne defence. And Collonels allso apointed for every Hundred in the County. As Colonell Ashton of Middleton, Colonell Holland of Heaton, for Salford Hundred; Colonell Shuttleworth, elder, Colonell Starkie, for Blackburne Hundred; Colonell Alexander Rigbie for Leyland and Amounderness Hundreds; Colonell More and Colonell Egerton for Derby, and Colonell Dodding for Lonesdale."¹

A proclamation ordered to be published by the House of Commons on September 29th, 1642, announces the resolution of Parliament to raise 1000 dragoons, to be sent down to Lancashire "for the suppressing of the Malignant Party" in the county, and that Colonel Sir John Seaton, an experienced Scottish soldier, was selected for this command.² By the middle of October, the men required for this service had been enlisted, and Sir John Seaton with his "1000 Dragoons" was marching to Manchester. On the other side, the Earl of Derby, on retreating from before Manchester, marched to join the King's army in Warwickshire.

At this time, Colonel Richard Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe, a member of the House of Commons, and a staunch supporter of the Parliament interest, was taking measures to render the Hundred of Blackburn impervious to Royalist attacks, and his neighbours John Starkie of Huntroyd and John Braddyll of Portfield energetically seconded his efforts. Mr. Alexander Rigby, the Parliamentary leader in Amounderness, was in London in the beginning of October, 1642, and seems to have expressed some doubt as to the fulness of the intelligence of Royalist movements in Lancashire sent up to town by his friend Colonel Shuttleworth. The latter, in a letter dated Oct. 7th, 1642, remonstrates with Colonel Rigby upon these unmerited suspicions, and vindicates his conduct with dignity and spirit, reminding Rigby that he had something at stake as well as his friend, having "a little estate in two Hundreds

¹ Discourse of Warr in Lanc., pp. 9-10. ² C. W. Tracts, pp. 40-1.

of the County," namely, Gawthorpe Hall in Blackburn and Barton Lodge in Amounderness, and asking if it was likely he would wish to have them pillaged. Colonel Shuttleworth continues that he had not yet asked for armed assistance from beyond the limits of the county because he "never knew or heard of any force sent into any county before any actual violence broke out there." But he had done his utmost to procure ammunition, and competent commanders to direct the local resistance.¹ The truth was, albeit, that up to this time the gentry of this part of Lancashire had been cherishing the vain hope of being able to avert the miseries of war from their homes and estates by a friendly understanding between the adherents of the two parties. A correspondence was opened between Roger Nowell, of Read, a Royalist, and Colonel Shuttleworth, on a proposal of Mr. Nowell to invite a meeting of the neighbouring gentry of the opposite interests, to attempt some arrangement for escaping the obligation of fighting against each other. The project was that half a dozen gentlemen of either party should meet at some appointed place, their safe conduct being guaranteed, to negotiate a sort of treaty of neutrality in the war. It was about the 8th of October that the correspondence commenced; and, on the 11th, the subjoined letter was despatched to Roger Nowell, from Richard Shuttleworth and others, enclosing the response of the Manchester leaders, Colonels Holland and Egerton, to the invitation to attend a proposed peace meeting at Blackburn, on Thursday, the 13th of October:—

COZEN,—Wee according to your and our last conclusion, at our parting withoute delaie sent unto Mr. Holland and some others within Salford Hundred, for the meeting at Blackburne on Thursdaie next, from whom (even nowe) wee received this enclosed answeare, which wee thought fit to send unto you to consider of; which when you have done, and that you then resolve to meete at Boulton ether Mondaie or Tuesdaie next (whether daie is left to your election) wee desire you to signifie unto us what you conclude hereabouts, that we may speedilie (if occasion bee) acquaint Salford men thereof and prepare ourselves to perfect (what is in our power) the intended, and wee shall not cease to continue, Your verie lov: cozens, RIC. SHUTTLEWORTH, JOHN BRADDYLL, JOHN STARKIE.—In hast from Padihame this 11th of October, 1642.—To our verie lo: cozen, Roger Nowell, Esq., this.—Hast.²

The Manchester Parliamentary Colonels, Richard Holland and Peter Egerton, were unwilling to go out of their own Hundred to a meeting, and it was at their suggestion that Bolton was substituted for Blackburn as the proposed place of meeting. Receiving the above letter, Roger Nowell wrote from Read, Oct. 12th, to William Farrington, Esq., inclosing the Padiham and Manchester missives, and proposing Tuesday, October 18th, as the date of meeting. But he added that he

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. ii, pp. 274-7.

² Farrington Papers, p. 81.

could not himself be present at it, for he was ordered to set forward on Friday, October 14th, to join Lord Derby's command; so desired William Farrington to name two other deputies from the Royalist side instead of himself and his cousin Byron; and he would speak to Mr. Saville Radcliffe to be there. On receipt, Mr. Farrington, with Messrs. Rigby, of Burgh, and Fleetwood, of Penwortham, wrote to Sir Thomas Barton, Knt., of Smithells, and Robert Holte, of Castleton, apprising them of the proposed peace conference at Bolton, and informing them that the six gentlemen appointed to represent the Parliament interest were, Richard Holland, Peter Egerton, John Bradshaw, Esqrs. (from Salford Hundred), and Richard Shuttleworth, John Braddyll, and John Starkie, Esqrs. (from Blackburn Hundred); while on the Royalist part, the subscribers to the letter, Farrington, Rigby of Burgh, and John Fleetwood were named, with Saville Radcliffe, Esq., and it was desired that Sir Thomas Barton and Robert Holt, Esq., should consent to make up the six representatives of that interest. The same parties wrote from Chorley the same night to Colonel Shuttleworth, concerning the arrangements for the meeting, and suggesting that the hour of meeting should be ten o'clock in the forenoon. But these overtures ended abortively. The Houses of Parliament, having received intelligence of attempts to preserve neutrality and to circumscribe the operations of the war, in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Devon, and Cornwall, severely discountenanced the projects; and the correspondence is brought to an abrupt close by a letter from Colonel Holland, at Manchester, to Messrs. Shuttleworth and Starkie, dated Oct. 15th, informing them that since their former communication they had received in Manchester "commands both by letter and declarations set forth from Parliament, how much it is against lyking to have any treaty," and on this ground declining to be parties to the conference. Having this notification, Messrs. Shuttleworth and Starkie wrote from Padiham, Oct. 16th, to Messrs. Farrington, Rigby, and Fleetwood, inclosing Mr. Holland's letter,¹ and saying that the meeting at Bolton "could not hold."¹ Thus the friendly negotiation terminated, and the parties to it met thereafter only as foes upon the battle-field.

After this, no further effort was made by the Parliamentarian and Royalist gentry to avoid participation in the struggle that had now fairly begun. Hostile ventures were now concerted by the Lancashire adherents of King and of Parliament. It was the middle of October when the proposal for a peace meeting broke down, and within a couple of days of that date detachments of armed men in Blackburn Hundred were pushing on to the attack of houses of gentry committed to the King's interest. Charles Townley, Esq., of Townley Hall, was one of

¹ Farrington Papers, pp. 81-6.

the most influential of Charles the First's friends in these parts ; and he was the first to encounter the hostility of the Parliamentarians of his district. A few days before, he and other Roman Catholic gentlemen of Lancashire had supplicated the King to relax the law affecting religious Recusants, which forbade them to keep arms in their houses, asking that the arms previously taken from them might be "redelivered in this tyme of actuall War," and that by his Majesty's special direction they might be enabled to furnish themselves with "a competencie of weapons" for the security of the King's person, their country and families. To this application the King returned a favourable answer. By an order of the Court at Chester, Sept. 27th, 1642, these loyal "Recusants" were bidden to provide sufficient arms for themselves, their servants, and their tenants, to be used in defence of their own persons and property, and of the royal interests.¹ The permission was not granted too soon, for almost the first act of the enemy in the Hundred of Blackburn was to make a raid upon the Townley estate, for the capture of Townley Hall. In the beginning of October, the Parliament's Committee at Manchester, "to keep their soldiers in exercise," sent some of their Captains "upon designs advantagious unto them;" as, for instance, "Captaine Birch was sent into Blackburne Hundred, to take in Townley Hall; and others were sent to fetch prizes from malignant cavaliers."²

At the outset of the Civil War the Royalist party were so much the stronger in the four westerly Hundreds of West Derby, Leyland, Amounderness, and Lonsdale, as to exercise complete sway, and to hold with their garrisons every strong castle, embattled mansion, and fortified town within those Hundreds. The Royalist leaders, with Lord Derby at their head, included Sir John Girlington, Knt.; Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Bart.; Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt.; Thos. Tyldesley and Wm. Farrington, Esqrs.; and other powerful gentlemen. The two Hundreds of Blackburn and Salford remained as the strongholds of the Parliamentary interest. Manchester was their most defensible place, and their political and military head-quarters. Bolton likewise was held for the Parliament, and partially fortified. In Blackburn Hundred, the only place of artificial strength in possession of the Roundheads was Clitheroe Castle. The town of Blackburn, though very much exposed to the enemy, had no fortifications worthy of the name. Burnley, Colne, and Haslingden, the other market towns, were better protected by the badness of the roads that led into the interior of the Hundred than by any temporary rampart of mud that may have been hastily thrown up to strengthen them. Though the friends of the Parliament in the district outnumbered the partizans of the King, there were several local Royalists of note.

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 33-40.

² Discourse of Warr, p. 10.

Some families were as good as neutral in the war: such was Richard Sherburne of Stonyhurst, a poor ally, though he must be classed on the King's side. The Southworths of Samlesbury make no appearance in the field. Thomas Southworth, Esq., was just defunct (1641) without heirs, and there was, therefore, no male scion to risk the estate by committing himself to either of the contending parties.

It was chiefly the Roman Catholic families of the Hundred,—Towneley of Towneley, Sherburne of Stonyhurst, Talbot of Salesbury, and Walmesleys of Dunkenhalgh and of Banister Hall,—that rallied to King Charles's standard. Roger Nowell of Read was the only Protestant churchman of any influence who sided with the King. The local feeling being decisively for the Parliament, all that the Royalist gentry could do was to get together as many as they might of their personal dependants, and, leaving their properties to the mercy of the enemy, march to join the Royalists at Preston and elsewhere, in the hope that the tide of war would soon bear them back to their forsaken estates. Sir John Talbot tarried a while in his strong house at Salesbury, professing neutrality, until, his treachery being discovered, he had to decamp. Richard Walmesley had his house at Dunkenhalgh occupied and ransacked by the Roundheads very early in the first campaign. Radcliffe Assheton of Cuerdale became an active agent of the Royalist party in the county.

While the Parliamentarian Committee were collecting their forces and disposing them for the defence of Blackburn and Salford Hundreds, the Royalists were straining every nerve to be ready for the onset in West Lancashire. That the Royalists about Preston were at this time equally fearful lest the Roundheads of Blackburn and Salford Hundreds should swoop down upon them unawares and discomfit them, as the Parliamentarian conclave at Padiham were lest the Royalists from Preston should attack them while unprepared, is evident from the Sheriff's letter to Wm. Farrington and others, dated the 23rd November, in which allusion is made to the source of anticipated mischief to the Royal cause:—"Fforasmuch as the rebellious Route under the conduct of Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., and others within this County palatine of Lancaster, doe daylie swell and increase in a greater rebellious body, which committ severall outrages and notorious wicked acts and offences, ffor speedie redresse and suppression whereof I am required to raise and have in readiness the power of the County." The Sheriff therefore ordered all the Royalist gentry of Leyland district and their tenants to be in readiness to take the field "upon fower and twenty howres further notice and warninge, on paine and forfeiture of their lives and estates."¹

¹ Farrington Papers, pp. 89-90.

In obedience to these directions, Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Bart., of Walton Hall, had, in conjunction with Wm. Farrington, Esq., of Worden, been employed during the months of October and November in getting their levies in fighting order for the King. Sir Gilbert's position at Hoghton or Walton was a standing menace to the town of Blackburn. The inhabitants of that town appear to have been from the beginning ardent Parliamentarians, as were several of the neighbouring gentry. But the place was small; dominated on every hand by the hills surrounding it; and destitute of any kind of defences. It seemed to offer an easy prey to an enterprising enemy. When, some time before, the Roman Catholics in the Hundred had been disarmed by order of Parliament, the arms secured had been deposited at Whalley. Sir Gilbert Hoghton determined to seize those arms, and to carry them to Blackburn, making the latter town a Royalist advanced post. The first incursion of Sir Gilbert into Blackburn Parish was with this object. It was made towards the end of November; the author of the *Discourse of the Warr* fixes it about the middle of October, but it could not have been so soon as that, for Messrs. Shuttleworth and Starkie had no men in arms at that date, and could not have attacked Sir Gilbert Hoghton as they did. Other narratives give the 27th of November as the date of the first collision in the neighbourhood of Blackburn. An undated letter from the Bailiff of Clitheroe¹ and others to Richard Shuttleworth indicates the belief at Clitheroe to have been, on Sir Gilbert Hoghton's appearance in the Ribble valley, that he meant to capture Clitheroe Castle, the fact being that he had no such present design, the deposit of arms at Whalley being the real object of his raid.

The stroke fell upon the Blackburn Roundheads at last, and was replied to by an effectual counter-stroke. Sir Gilbert advanced at the head of his troopers to Whalley, and seized the arms there; then retired upon Blackburn, which he had simultaneously occupied by a body of foot. The affair and its ending a Puritan chronicler records as follows:—

The Armes within Blackburn Hundred being laid up at Whalley, Sir Gilbert Houghton, one of the Deputy Lieutenants for the Earle of Darbie afforesaid, no doubt but by and with the counsell and direction of the Earle and to make their Partie stronge, called up the Trained Band of Amounderness Hundred, and marched to Whalley to fetch the said Armes from thence, and the 16 or 17 of October, 1642, carried them to Blackburne and quartered there that night. And that same day ould Colonell Shuttleworth (having received intelligence of his designe) had a Randavous of the Clubmen of Blackburne Hundred upon Houley [Healey, near Burnley?] More, wher they held a consultation what course to take about those Armes, the general vote being not to let them goe out of their Hundred, but eyther Reskowe

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. ii, pp. 305-6.

them or adventure themselves to the hazard. Soe that at night, hearing that Sir Gilbert with his Companie and the Armes had taken up their quarters at Blackburne, they silently fell down upon Blackburne beating up their quarters, tooke many of Sir Gilbert's soldiers prisoners, [and] seased upon the Armes. Sir Gilbert himselfe fled out of the Towne, and the prisoners that were taken being brought before Colonell Shuttleworth he released them, counselling them to be honest men and keep at home.¹

Other accounts, which may be compared with the above, of this victory of the East Lancashire Roundheads over Sir Gilbert Hoghton's array, are found in two curious Puritan records of the period. One, the quaint, pietistic anonymous tract entitled *Lancashire's Valley of Achor is England's Doore of Hope*, published in London in 1643; the other, a shorter tract, printed in London, Dec. 9th, 1642, purporting to be *A True and full Relation of the Troubles in Lancashire* in the form of a letter from one Thomas Jesland, of Atherton, a Lancashire Puritan, to a "Reverend Divine in London." An engagement between Colonel Shuttleworth's force and that of Sir Gilbert Hoghton is stated in one of these accounts to have been fought on "Hinfield Moor," which I take to mean Enfield Moor, a low hill to the north of Accrington, about midway between Blackburn and Burnley,—a central eminence commanding the valleys of the Calder and Hindburn. The other, and probably the accurate version, agreeing as it does with that above quoted, is that "Hinfield Moor" was but the place of the Parliamentarian rendezvous and consultation, and Blackburn, the town occupied by the Royalist leader, the scene of the conflict and defeat of Sir Gilbert's troops. The passage from *Lancashire's Valley of Achor* is given below:—

BLACKBURNE HUNDRED.—When God had thus gloriously appeared in Salford Hundred, the first and forwardest Hundred, He went and displayed His banner in Blackburne Hundred, that only other Hundred in this Countie that appeared in the same cause. About November the seven and twentieth, the [Royalist] Array, with some three hundred armed men (as is conceived) besides Clubmen, possessed themselves of Blackburne, whence they sent a party to disarme Whalley. This alarm awaked the Militia to awake the people by precept. They being awaked, were soone up and marched towards Blackburne about two hundred armed men, some companies of Clubmen, and some Horsemen, but without arms. The want of skill in souldiers, and skilfull captains to supply that want, caused a consultation on Hinfield-Moore, which received Determination (not from the Discoverie of hidden skill but from the resolute will of these stirring Souldiers) to dispossesse those forcible Tenants. They speed on with shouting, dividing themselves unto the conduct of two chosen captains, and come within sight of the Town [of Blackburn] about eight of the clock, when the Queen of the night, that had shined upon their March, did discover them to their enemies, who soon let flie from the Steeple [of the Parish Church]; which ordered one Captain and his companie to the South side of the Town, and the other Captain with his companie to the East end of the Town, where they found (though not so high, yet) as hot entertainment out of the Town for the space of two houres. But God that

¹ Discourse of Warr, pp. 11-12.

varieth His providence according to His people's occasions, and had maintained the passages of Manchester (that a rightful people should not be wronged), did now open a difficult passage to let in his friends, from whom the Array [Royalists] hasted, having disburdened themselves of their arms, and restored what they took from Whalley. Now had God added an experience of favourable providence, in a new kinde, formerly in a way of defence, now in a way of offence, declaring His all-sufficiencie and compleatnesse for Warre, to those two united Hundreds, giving a Shield to Manchester and a Sword to Blackburne.¹

The narrative of Thomas Jesland, written four or five days after the event, and from hearsay probably, is less correct in particulars. He magnifies the Roundhead force to 8,000 men (a highly improbable number), and places the action between the hostile forces at "Hinfield Moor" instead of at Blackburn. Having described the simultaneous defeat of the Earl of Derby at Chowbent, in which he was an actor, Thomas Jesland writes :—

Now the men of Blackburn, Paduam, Burneley, Clitheroe, and Colne, with those sturdy churles in the two forests of Pendle and Rossendale, have raised their spirits, and have resolved to fight it out rather than their Beefe and fatt Bacon shall be taken from them. For the last Weeke Sir Gilbert Houghton set his Beacon on fire, which stood upon the top of Houghton Tower and was the signal to the countrey for the Papists and Malignants to arise in the Field [Fylde], and in Lealand Hundred ; whereupon great multitudes accordingly resorted to him to Preston in Andernesse, and ran to Blackburne, and so through the countrey, disarming all and pillaging some ; which Master Shuttleworth, a Parliament man, and Master Starkie hearing off, presently had gotten together out of the places formerly mentioned about 8,000 men, met with Sir Gilbert and his Catholique Malignants at Hinfield Moor, put them to flight, tooke away many of their armes, and pursued Sir Gilbert so hotly, that he quit his Horse, leaped into a field, and by the comming on of the night escaped through fur [furze] bushes and by-ways to Preston, and there makes great defence by chaining up the Ribble Bridge and getting what force he can into the Towne for its securitie, out of which the countrey swears they will have him, by God's help, with all his adherents either quicke or dead ; so that by the next post I hope I shall certifie of some good posture that the countrey will be in. O that Parliament had but sent downe their 1,000 Dragoniers into the countrey—wee would not have left a Masse-monger nor Malignant of note but we would have provided a lodging for him.²

The motive-cause of the popular rising in these districts, to repel the Royalist invasion, as assigned by this narrator, was not perhaps of the most exalted kind. It was not so much that the peasantry of these parts hated the absolutist proceedings of the monarch, or fell in with the puritanic ideas of religion and morals favoured by the King's adversaries ;—it was simply to save "their Beefe and fatt Bacon" from the clutches of an enemy credited, and not without reason, with the intention to appropriate them to his own use. But unromantic as the fact may be, the phase the spirit of patriotism assumes in the minds of the

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 123-4.

² *Ib.* pp. 65-6.

majority of any race, in any age or country, is that of a sense of the necessity to rise in arms in defence of home and family, crops and property. The "sturdy churles" of Pendle and Rossendale Forests, in mustering for the defence of their herds of cattle and swine, obeyed that instinct of self-preservation which possesses all mankind, and is the most powerful actuating motive of human conduct. These mountain boors and forest churls of Blackburnshire were possibly not more selfish in the impulses that moved them to fight than were the more distinguished actors in the Civil War, from the King downward.

The chief supporters of the Parliament in Blackburn Hundred, the families of Shuttleworth, Starkie, Braddyll, and Assheton, manifested their devotion to the cause, not only by the active services of the heads of those families, rendered during the course of the conflict both in the field and in council, but likewise in the acceptance of military duty by the sons of each of these leading Parliamentarians. Old Colonel Shuttleworth sent no fewer than four of his sons to fight against kingly usurpation. The eldest of these was Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., M.P. for Clitheroe, who was a colonel in the Roundhead army, and, after a successful service, died before the contest was quite concluded, in 1648. Two other sons of the Gawthorpe veteran, Nicholas and Ughtred, entered the army as captains, and became colonels both; while William Shuttleworth, the fourth son, was made a captain at the outset of the war, and was slain at Lancaster early in the first campaign. Sir Ralph Assheton, Bart., who died in 1644, gave an energetic soldier to the conflict in the person of his son and successor, Ralph Assheton, Esq., M.P. for Clitheroe. John Starkie, Esq., of Huntroyd, also lent his heir, Nicholas Starkie, to the service of Parliament, and knew a father's grief on the death of his son, by a disastrous accident, within a few weeks of his commission to a captaincy. John Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield, experienced a like bereavement in the loss in battle of his son, Captain John Braddyll, who was mortally hurt at Thornton in Craven, in July, 1643. There is a record of the appointment of these gallant sons of gallant sires to commissions, in the following passage from the *Discourse of the Warr*:—"After that the Armes were recovered from Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Colonel Shuttleworth and Colonel Starkie were very diligent and industrious to put their Hundred of Blackburn in a position of warr, and therefore gave commissions to several Captaines to raise Companies. Four of Colonel Shuttleworth's sons were made Captaines, viz., Nicholas, William, Edward [?], and Hute [Ughtred]. Colonel Starkie's sonne and heyre, and Mr. Bradell's sonne and heyre, they were the first Captaines in the Parliament service in that Hundred, and they raised companies which proved stout men, and

were of good repute for hardness and manhood everywhere they came."¹

This was done about the beginning of December, 1642; and on the 10th of the same month another Royalist conclave took place at Preston. The meeting was convened by James Earl of Derby, "Lord General of the County," and Sir John Girlington, Knt., High Sheriff. It was there resolved "that the soome of 8000 and 700 pounds shall be ratably assessed upon the several Hundreds of the County;" and the money thus obtained was to be "employed for the pay of 2000 foot and 400 horse, and also for provision of a Magazine and ammunition for the said County."² Collectors of the Subsidy were appointed for the several Hundreds, in which capacity were nominated for Blackburn Hundred, Sir John Talbot, Knight, of Salesbury, and Radcliffe Assheton, Esq., of Cuerdale.

On Christmas Eve (December 24th), 1642, the town of Blackburn was subjected to another hostile demonstration by the Royalists of Sir Gilbert Hoghton. Since the first encounter there, four weeks before, the few hundreds of Parliamentary Militia left as a garrison in Blackburn had made an effort to strengthen their position by casting up some fortifications about the town—nothing more, probably, than rough earth-works to guard the four entrances to the town; at the top of Northgate, on the Ribchester road; beyond Astley-gate, perhaps at the bridge near Whalley Banks, on the road to Preston; about Darwen-street bridge, on the road to Darwen; and somewhere between Salford Bridge and Bottomgate, to protect the entrance from Burnley side, which, however, was in little danger from Royalist partisans. It was from the Revidge side that Blackburn was threatened on that Christmas Eve. Sir Gilbert Hoghton and his men got up to the vicinity of the town by the old lane from Mellor and Samlesbury. Two interesting narrations of this so-called Siege of Blackburn, which was really a very desultory and abortive affair, remain. The first is that of the well-informed author of the *Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire*, who writes somewhat circumstantially. It is well to record the history of these times, as far as possible, in the words of the chroniclers of the period, considering that the language of these useful contemporary documents conveys a more vivid picture of events than any modernised version of the facts could do. The authority mentioned narrates the incidents of this attack on Blackburn in the following passage:—

The Hundred of Blackburne being put into a Warlike posture, many Companies of Resolut Souldiers being raised within it. The Colonells Oulde Shuttleworth and Starkie, having a speciall eye to Blackburne towne, being soe neare unto Preston, as

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 15.

² C. W. Tracts, p. 67.

also fearing inroads into the Hundred by the enimie besydes Plundering, laid some Companies of Souldiers in it and caused some fortifications to be maid about it, in some measure to secure it, and so till about Christmas 1642 it continued in a reasonable quiet condition. But Blackburne lying within three miles of Hoghton Tower, the principal house of Sir Gilbert Hoghton, a Deputie Lieutenant for the Earle of Darbie and a Commissioner of Aray, He tooke it into consideration how unsafe it was for him in respect of his person and estait about Hoghton, but especiallie how dishonourable it might prove to his reputation with the King, if he suffered a Garrison of the Enimie soe neare unto his howse and used no means to dissipate it, was moved about the latter end of December 1642 to thinke upon the reducing that Garrison to the King's part. And thereupon resolved to set upon it, having the assistance of most of the Popish affected Gentlemen in Amounderness Hundred, with there Tenants in Armes, the Trained Bands, and the Clubmen of the Field [Fylde] and other parts. He marched forward from Preston the twenty fourth daye of December, being Christmas time, up the way to Mellor loan head, soe upon the North syd of Blackburne; set downe most of his forces about and neare the house of . . . a husbandman by a bye-name called Duke of the Banke, and having a small piece of Ordnance plaid most of that night and the day following against the Towne, the greatest execution that it did, as was hard of, a bullet shot out of it entered into a house upon the South side of the Church Yard and burst out the bottom of a fryen pan. There was noe nearer assault to the Towne than a quarter of a Mile. They wear afraid of comming near one another. The Souldiers within the Towne went out of it and dischargd there muskets towards them at randome, for any thing was knowne there was not a man sleyne or hurt. Upon Christmas Day at night Sir Gilbert withdrew his forces being weary of his Siege, and his Soldiers and Clubmen were glad of it that they might eat their Christmas pyes at home. But they did the good man about whose house they lay much harme not only in eating his provision of Meale and Beefe and the like, as also in burninge his barne doors with his Carts, wheels, and other husbandry stuff. This was all the expedition of Sir Gilbert Hoghton against Blackburne.¹

According to this account, the point at which the Royalist troops were posted in this approach to Blackburn was the high bank just above the junction of the modern Branch Road with Preston New Road. It was close by the house of a farmer nicknamed "Duke of the Banke." Bank-house, at Higher Bank, an old gabled house, and the only tene-ment of any antiquity among the many villas that now cover the Bank, was probably the place plundered and ransacked by Sir Gilbert Hoghton's militia. The by-name of "Duke" borne by the occupant suggests the name *Duke's Brow*, given to the old road leading up to Higher Bank, and prolonged on the top of the hill in the disused lane that in those days was the only road to Mellor. The other account of this Royalist reconaissance is in the tract, *Lancashire's Valley of Achor*. The extract is subjoined:—

The like Christmas kept our forces at Blackburn; the Militia having in the Town four hundred armed men, and some clubmen, the array came against the Towne on Christmas Eve with five thousand, and three field pieces; very early in the morning,

¹ Discourse of Warr, pp. 21-2.

they shot off their pieces, with shouting, saying, "Take heed, you Roundheads." God took heed for us, for we were not afraid of the noise, nor hurt once by the eight-pound Bullet, though directed against us eight and twenty times. We called on them (in vain) to come within musquet shot. About twelve a Clock they called a Parley; the pretence was if we would yielde the Towne and the Arms, and submit to the Earl of Darby, they would mediate with him to supplicate the King to grant a pardon. The intent was to carry their god (the greatest Field Piece), nearer the Towne, he was too farre off to doe any harme. We (Scot-like) knew not the meaning of a Pardon, professing ourselves to be for King and Parliament. When we would no Pardon, they laboured to punish us, having set up their idoll nearer, by the counsell (as they report) of four or five Priests and Jesuits, and other great Papists whom they had at hand in a tythe Barn; Till sun-setting both sides plaid fiercely, but then taking advantage of the darkness, they fled in fear, and overrun their great pieces, trusting more to the night for protection than to their own courage or strength.¹

Thus beleaguered and bombarded, after a desultory fashion, the townfolk of Blackburn kept their Christmas in 1642, for the attack, according to both accounts, took place on Christmas Day, Sir Gilbert Hoghton having appeared before the town on Christmas Eve, and planted his men and ordnance on the rising ground to the north-west of the town, ready for the morrow's attack. At the period of the Civil War, Blackburn was but a small town, though it had then a weekly market of some importance. Its population could not have been more than two or three thousand souls. Its four or five hundred tenements were clustered about the north, north-east, west, and south-west precincts of the Parish Church, along the streets called Church-street, Salford, Darwen-street, Astley-gate, and Northgate. No published map of Blackburn older than the century is known, and any description of its street-plan two centuries back must be largely conjectural, and based upon knowledge of the ground on which the old tenements stood, most of which have been demolished. In 1660 a great proportion of the houses in the town were detached, standing in the midst of their own garden plots. The six or seven hundred Roundhead soldiers garrisoning the town when Sir Gilbert Hoghton came against it at Christmas, 1642, would appropriate all the lodging accommodation of the town, and be quartered in nearly every house.

It may be mentioned, as illustrative of the dislocating effects of the political agitations which disturbed men's minds during the continuance of this unhappy conflict, that the Blackburn Parish Registers exhibit a gap for the twelve years between the latter part of 1637 and the beginning of 1650. During that terrible interval, the people thought only of war and its dread issues: parochial clergy and their clerks absconded or forgot their functions; children were born and people died and were

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 126.

buried without a record ; and the whole social economy underwent utter disarrangement.

No fresh descent was made upon Blackburn by the Royalists after this repulse for three months, when the Earl of Derby came with his troops and temporarily occupied the town. But throughout the winter the people and garrison were excited by frequent alarms. An authority says :—"There was this winter also divers Allarums given to Blackburn by the King's partie, but with no effecte."¹ Episodes of conflict occurred, however, in the parish. At Salesbury Hall, within six miles of the town, Sir John Talbot hatched a plot in the Royalist interest which ended in his own discomfiture. Affecting neutrality, the Salesbury Knight invited a party of leading Parliament men to his house, with the design of treacherously making them his prisoners. One of the news-sheets of the period, published on January 12th, 1642-3, relates this story :—

It being also informed from Manchester that there was one Sir John Talbot, a great Papist, but one that hath all this while stood as a neuter betwixt the King and Parliament, who, living within two or three miles of Manchester [Blackburn?], sent thither in a very friendly manner, and invited some of the chiefe of them there to come to his house, promising them very kinde usage and some other courtesies by way of compliyanse with them. But they of Manchester, placing little confidence in his word, sent out a small party of horse to the said Sir John Talbot's to discover the preparations he had made for their entertainment, and whether the same was not a treacherous plot to betray them into his hands, as indeed upon enquiry it proved to be ; for the said Sir John had secretly provided in his stables above an hundred horses fitted with all accoutrements, theire riders being near at hand upon occasion to set upon the Manchester men. But this being discovered, the Manchester forces being too few to deal with them, retreated back to the towne [Blackburn?], and about three hundred of them went presently to the said Sir John Talbot's (who was then with all his horse upon flight), pursued them and killed divers of them, took about twenty of his horses, drove others into a river [the Ribble], where the riders were drowned, and their horses taken, and have seized upon the said Sir John's House, where they found good pillage.¹

This was the first, and, so far as appears, the last attempt the Knight of Salesbury made to distinguish himself in the Royal service. He became, after this rash design, a marked man by the Parliament, and it was probably years after before he ventured to return to his seat on the Ribble. In the subsequent campaigns of the war Sir John Talbot does not occur in any military capacity. His estates were sequestered so soon as the Roundhead party had acquired the ascendancy. The sequestration was taken off on the payment, in 1647, of a very heavy fine. Sir John was afterwards pardoned, and resumed possession of his lands at Salesbury. He died in December, 1659, a few months before the Stuart Restoration.

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 22.

² C. W. Tracts, pp. 70-1.

A letter, parts of which are cited below, was written by the local Puritan commanders to Manchester soon after the attacks upon Blackburn. The copy of the letter is unsigned and without date:—

Gents,—Wee had began to have given you a perticular of the passages att Blakeborn, but were presently taken off it by new alarums, and since could never have opportunity to impart it, by reason of continued feares and business. Wee have now sent you here inclosed a warrant from the Sheriffe, under the seale of his office, directed into this Hundred, and copie of his warrant into Loinsdale hundred, wherein we hope you will take note of the difference of his expressions, and whereby wee doubt not but you will evidently discerne the danger threatened against us, or you, or both. . . . It is evident by these warrants what their [the Royalists'] great preparations are, and it is noe less probable that whenn they have their whole force assembled att Preston, their intentions are presently to march forward against this hundred. . . . Howe wee shall bee able to withstand them the Lord knoweth, beeing in want of armes and having noe horse att all. And in this exigence, if you could bee upon the confynes of your [Salford] Hundred, with what strength of horse and foote you can conveniently spare, to bee ready to joyne, and assist us if occasion be, it might (through God's blessing) prove advantageous to us, to you and to the cause. Wee give you hearty thanks for the powder and match you sent us, and shall bee answerable to you in payeing for it, and if nowe you could spare us twice as much as you did before, it were a great flavour, and for that purpose wee hope to send horses to you for it.¹

Encouraged by the success of their defensive disposition at Blackburn, the Parliamentarian Committee for Salford and Blackburn Hundreds decided to assume the aggressive, in the beginning of the next year (1642-3). The arrival in Lancashire of an experienced officer of the Parliament, Sir John Seaton, with his regiment of one thousand "dragoniers," appeared to warrant this bold resolution. Sir John Seaton was a Scotsman by birth, who had served a long probation in the military science in continental wars. When his regiment was added to the home musters of militia and clubmen, a force of some 3000 men was available for an offensive movement. The town of Preston was the first object that invited the attention of the Roundheads. Preston had been chosen as the Royalist rallying-point; being by its situation the natural centre of West Lancashire, and the majority of the inhabitants being warmly attached to the King's interest. It was, moreover, a partially-fortified place, and one that could be made strong by moderate additions to its defences. The Royalist gentry who had been obliged to flee out of Blackburn Hundred took refuge there. Sir Gilbert Hoghton, with the levies of Leyland and Amounderness, had his head-quarters there, and so long as it remained in Royalist hands, Preston was a convenient base for hostile operations against Blackburn and Ribblesdale. It was, therefore, imperative on the Roundhead leaders to attempt the capture of Preston, and they did not shrink from the duty so soon as the

¹ Lanc. Lieut., v. ii, pp. 312-14.

· military skill and force at their command seemed to promise a favourable issue.

Several narratives remain of this first assault upon Preston. One chronicler says that "Blackburn Hundred being well provided of Soldiers," having "many companies in it of resolute men, and Colonells Shuttleworth and Starkie having received intelligence from divers the friends to the Parliament in Preston of the state of the town and how weakly it was kepte, and withall desired by them to help to free them of that bondage they were under,—it was resolved and agreed that they would try what they could doe to reduce Preston with all Amounderness Hundred to the obedience of the Parliament (but it was exceeding close raised)." In pursuance of this intent, "in February their forces were gathered up towards Blackburne; together with some of Amounderness Hundred, who were fled out of the country for fear of the King's party;" and Sir John Seaton and Major Sparrow came up from Manchester, "to assist and give them their counsell."¹ Monday, February 6th, 1642-3, Sir John Seaton and his men marched in the direction of Blackburn. He was "attended with Serjeant Major Birch; with them three or four companies, and as many from Boulton; all these came to Blackburn on Tuesday night [Feb. 7th]; thence marched along with them four or five foot companies of Blackburn Hundred, under the command of Captain Nowell of [Little] Mearley, and other Captains, towards Preston, together with two thousand clubmen, upon Wednesday night, and betimes the next morning." It was thus on Wednesday night, Feb. 8th, that the march of the attacking force from Blackburn to Preston was made, and early on the morning of Thursday, Feb. 9th, that Preston was assaulted and stormed.

The Walton suburb and Ribble Bridge were occupied at daybreak by the Roundheads, and after two hours' severe fighting, Preston was in the hands of Sir John Seaton.¹ In the assault were killed, on the Royalist side, Adam Morte, Mayor of Preston; Captain Radcliff Hoghton, younger brother of Sir Gilbert, and other officers. The prisoners taken included Captain Farrington of Worden; George Talbot, son of Sir John of Salesbury; Captain Anderton of Clayton; two or three cadets of the house of Hoghton; Richard Fleetwood, Ralph Sharrock of Walton, and many more. Three ladies of position, Lady Hoghton, Lady Girlington, and Mrs. Townley, fell into the hands of the Parliamentary commander. Charles Townley escaped with difficulty. Sir Gilbert Hoghton made good his escape to Wigan, where he was joined by the Earl of Derby, and whence, some days after, he issued to make an attack upon Bolton, which was repulsed.

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 23.

² C. W. Tracts, pp. 71-5; and p. 127.

The week succeeding the capture of Preston was spent, by Sir John Seaton and his East Lancashire auxiliaries, in the construction of earthworks and other additions to the former fortifications of the town. Having done this, under the direction of Rosworm the engineer, the Parliamentary general began to make excursions into the surrounding country. On the 14th of February, 1642-3, a detachment of Blackburnshire men was sent to make a demonstration at Hoghton Tower, it having been ascertained that Sir Gilbert Hoghton had left the Tower very weakly garrisoned. On the appearance of three companies of Roundheads before the mansion it was at once surrendered. But the exultation of the Parliament men over their easy conquest of a place of so much natural and artificial strength was quickly turned into grief by a sad catastrophe that occurred, by which many lives were sacrificed. An explosion of gunpowder destroyed a portion of the Tower within a few minutes of its surrender, and buried a company of soldiers in the ruins. The details of this misfortune are given in documents of the period. The writer of the *Discourse of the Warr* has this reference:—"They [the commanders for the Parliament] also sent some companies of Souldiers to Hoghton Tower, who seased upon it and kepte garrison there. But a fearfull accident befell them to their losse and grief, for through want of heedfulnesse some Gunpowder was set on fyer, which blew upp and threw downe some part of the House, and slew divers Souldiers, amongst whome Captaine [Nicholas] Starkie the Colonell son was one, which was greate sorrowe to his father."¹ A tract dated February 14th, 1642-3, affords minuter information of the circumstances of this calamity. It seems that young Captain Starkie, being a forward soldier, was the first to enter the Tower with his company, and the explosion occurring while they were housed in the upper apartments, killed the whole number of them almost instantaneously.

My intent is to proceed to relate of what hath happened since [the Preston affair] in our parts, viz., That upon Tuesday, being the 14th of this instant, there was sent from Preston three captains and their companies, to the number of about three hundred, the most of Blackeborne men, to take a castle called Houghton Tower (belonging to Sir Gilbert Houghton) which lies between Preston and Blackeborne, and was fortified with three great pieces of ordnance, and some say with betwixt thirty and forty musqueteers, and some say more. Our men approaching near the said Tower, first shot against it to summon it, wherenpon they in the Tower desired half an houres time to consider what they should doe, which was granted to them accordingly, after which the result of the parley was that they would deliver up the Tower to our men upon quarter, which was by our men granted unto them as they desired. Whereupon our men (thinking all had beene as was pretended by them) entered the Tower; and Captain Starkey of Blackeborne [Huntroyd], a worthy gentleman, and his company, was the first that entered into the said Tower, and in the same found good store of

¹ Discourse of Warr, p. 24.

armes and powder strewed upon the stairs ; wherefore he with his company going into the upper rooms of the said Tower to search for more, were most treacherously and perfidiously blown up by two of them to whom they had before given quarter, who had a traine of powder laid, and when Captain Starkey and his men, to the number of above one hundred, were above in the House, gave fire to the said traine, and blew both him and all his men, with the top of the House up, threescore whereof were afterwards found, some without armes and some without legges, and others fearfull spectacles to looke upon. Six of them whom they had given quarter unto they had in hold, the rest got away before ; but our men have the Tower and three pieces of great ordnance that were cast besides divers armes. And thus ended this lamentable Tragedy of these perfidious creatures whose religion will allow them to make no conscience of dealing treacherously with Protestants, as also to blow up whole states and kingdoms at one blast, &c.¹

The above narrator assumes that the fatal explosion at Hoghton Tower was an act of treachery. But proof is lacking that Sir Gilbert Hoghton's men were guilty of the dishonourable conduct of killing by a premeditated piece of unsoldierly revenge the enemies to whom they had capitulated, and from whom they had obtained quarter. Probably the accident arose out of the recklessness of the Roundhead soldiers themselves in lighting their pipes in a place where gunpowder was lying strewn about the floors and stairs. Indeed, the author of the tract *Lancashire's Valley of Achor* dismisses the suspicion that naturally arose on the moment in Puritan circles that the Hoghton disaster was the result of a plot to massacre their foes, laid by the "Papists," and confesses with grief that it was a consequence of the baneful habit of tobacco-smoking practiced among the Parliamentary soldiery. His allusion to the Hoghton Tower explosion is subjoined :—

HAUGHTON TOWER.—It was not long after that this glorious victory [at Preston] was clouded by a dark and terrible blow at Haughton Tower, where the miscarriages of great and small in the taking of Preston did us more mischief than all our enemies from the entrance of our hostility to that time ; as sometimes Israel's sin through Balaam's counsel prevailed to punish them more than Warre or Witchcraft. Our men were going down to take the Tower, and finding it prepared for entrance, possessed themselves of it, till being burdened with the weight of their swearing, drunkenesse, plundering, and wilfull waste at Preston, it dispossessed them by the help of Powder to which their disorders laid a Train fired by their neglected Matches, or by that great Soldier's Idoll, Tobacco. However it was, sure it is, that the place so firmly united chose rather to be torn in pieces than to harbour the possessours. O that this thundering alarm might ever sound in the eares of our Swearing, Cursing, Drunken, Tobacco-abusing Commanders and Souldiers, unto unfained Repentance ! For do they think that those upon whom the Tower-fell and slew them, were sinners above the rest of the Army ? Let Christ that asked a like question, Luke viii., 4-5, give the answer :—"I tell you nay, but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish," &c. Though our Sinnes thus clouded our Sun in the cleare daye, yet was not the praise of God's glorious goodnesse and power to be darkened.²

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 79-80.

² *Ib.* pp. 127-8.

The portion of Hoghton Tower destroyed by the accident cannot now be traced in the appearance of the fabric; but Kuerden, who lived hard by, and must have known the nature of the damage, states that it was "a very tall tower or gate-house" between the inner square court and the second or outward, that was blown up. In the original design of the buildings, a tower of greater altitude than the existing outer gateway tower surmounted the gateway which gives admission into the inner court. The gateway itself remained uninjured, but the upper storeys were shattered and the roof blown away. In the restoration this central tower was dispensed with, and the structure of the block reduced to the same elevation as those on the other sides of the upper quadrangle.

The Parliamentary movements in the latter end of this month (February) and the beginning of March embraced the occupation, without opposition, of Lancaster Castle and town, by several companies under the command of Captain William Shuttleworth, a cadet of the Gawthorpe family; and a reconnaissance from Preston against some Royalists collected in the Fylde, conducted by Colonel Shuttleworth, who considerably afforded to the Royalist gentry the chance of getting safely away.

Thus far, the first campaign of the East Lancashire forces in Amounderness and Lonsdale had been successful. But the licentious, plundering disposition of the Parliamentary levies had been painfully manifest after the capture of Preston. These rough fellows out of Pendle Forest and Rossendale, so soon as the exigence of battle ceased to inspire their animal courage and force, betrayed a total absence of discipline, and, on the attempt of their commander, Sir John Seaton, to enforce military rules, they broke out into open mutiny, and so menaced his life that he was obliged to fly, first to Lancaster, then to Manchester.¹ By this untoward procedure, the way was paved for ignominious defeat, and the loss of all that had been gained by good generalship and sturdy fighting. While the Roundheads were misbehaving themselves at Preston, the Earl of Derby crossed the Ribble with all the force he could raise, and marched to Lancaster, which was reached on Friday, March 17th. In his attack upon the town, which was instantly made, Captain William Shuttleworth, the brave son of Colonel Richard Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, met his death. "Upon Friday, they [the Royalists] entered the Towne of Lancaster several waies, their being very few soldiers, if any, to resist them save those that kept the Castle. Captaine William Shuttleworth and some souldiers with him being not far from the Castle, and not being wary of their entrance at soe several waies, was sodenly surprised and slayne before he could recover it."² But the

¹ Seton's Letter in Chetham Miscellanies, v. iii.

² Disc. of Warr, pp. 28-9.

small garrison of Parliamentarians held the Castle. A Royalist account of the attack states that Lord Derby had under his command about 4,600 men; that the Roundhead defenders numbered 600 musketeers; that the assailants, "after two hours' hot service, forced the mote, and drave the Rebels into the Castle;" and that Captain Shuttleworth, and many of the townsmen, "were killed at the Castle Gate, the Maior and divers of the townsmen, such as were most seditious, being taken prisoners."¹

Tidings having reached the Manchester Committee that the Earl of Derby was attacking Lancaster, Colonel Assheton of Middleton marched from Manchester, on March 18th, with 2,000 men for its relief. The Colonel reached Preston the same day, and the bulk of the garrison there was joined to his force. The Earl of Derby quickly heard of the purpose of Colonel Assheton, and being unwilling to meet him in the field, stood until he knew the road the enemy was taking; then withdrew from Lancaster, and marched on Preston by another route, designing to capture the latter town while the Roundheads were away upon a bootless errand on the Lune. This astute project was realised; and the night of Monday, March 20th, found the Earl's little army on Fulwood Moor, ready to surprise Preston before daylight. The town, deprived of the major portion of its defenders, was stormed after a stiff fight, in which the few hundreds of Parliamentarians in the place were cut to pieces.²

Colonel Assheton, commanding the main body of the Roundheads, pushed on from Lancaster to relieve Preston, but too late to effect that object; and finding the way blocked in that direction, passed by way of Chipping and Whalley into East Lancashire, where his disorganised soldiers, finding themselves among friends and kindred, might recover from their consternation. The local chronicler writes:—"The Parliament Partie was much dejected by these disasters. Nevertheless the Colonell within a short space after his return home, calling up the Country about him to Rochdall, made known unto them his condition, how he wanted money to supply his souldiers withall, as also for other . . . which the Countrey people furnished him with all speed. And he had a further designe in his minde, and prosecuted it, as shall be shewed."³ The tactics of both parties at this time seem to have been, not to seek out the enemy with the purpose of fighting a pitched battle in the field,—the troops on either side being yet too new to soldiering for such decisive action to be risked,—but rather to pursue a system of sudden attacks upon weakly-protected points of the enemy's lines. The Earl of Derby had, indeed, expressed his determination to make a renewed

1 C. W. Tracts, p. 85.

2 Disc. of Warr, pp. 29-30.

3 Ib. pp. 30-1.

attack upon Manchester after his Preston success, but found a good excuse for abandoning that enterprise, and contented himself with a second advance upon Bolton. His forces delivered this assault upon Bolton on Thursday, March 28th, 1643.¹ He was again vigorously received and repulsed. Colonel Assheton's design was an attack upon the Royalist towns of Wigan and Warrington. Wigan was approached by the Roundhead force on March 31st, and was captured on the 1st of April. The assault upon Warrington, April 5th, did not succeed.

In the beginning of April, while the Lancashire forces of the Parliament were making offensive movements in the south-west of the county, the Earl of Derby suddenly re-appeared on the western border of Blackburn Hundred. The Earl advanced as far as Blackburn during this foray, and occupied that town apparently with little resistance. No particulars are left on record of this second Royalist capture of Blackburn. The only allusion to the event is found in the news-sheet entitled the *Perfect Diurnal*, of the date of April 6th, 1643, and the sum of the information is that the Royalists, shortly before that date, and after the storming of Preston, had advanced eastward and taken Blackburn.² Possibly the forces of the Earl, after the repulse at Bolton, were divided, one contingent being marched westward to check the Roundhead attacks upon Wigan and Warrington, while the other was sent north through Leyland Hundred to Preston; and the latter detachment might be turned aside as far as Blackburn, which had been left with few defenders, and so became an easy spoil. The *Perfect Diurnal* adds, however, that Blackburn was very speedily recovered by Sir John Seaton, who had again been sent from Manchester with a considerable force to re-take Preston, if possible, and to afford assistance to the native levies in this part of the county in their attempts to withstand the attacks of Lord Derby's men. Some ambiguity rests upon this occupation of Blackburn, as to its place in the order of events; whether it was on his way from Preston to Bolton that the Earl of Derby fell upon Blackburn, or whether he came thither after his defeat at Bolton on March 28th. The writer of the *Valley of Achor* tract makes a passing reference to the occurrence, after his narration of the operations on the Lune. How "our forces" were "divided and diverted," writes this chronicler, "walked and breathed to and fro, whilst the Earle fires Lancaster, recovered Preston, and rifled *Blackburne*, I have no mind to inquire, but doe sadly remember."³

Sometime during the Civil War,—either in the course of the Earl of Derby's movements between Preston, Bolton, and Blackburn in the Spring of 1643, or the year after during the passage of Prince Rupert's

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 133-4.

² *Ib.* p. 96.

³ *Ib.* p. 132.

army,—severe fighting took place about the lower part of Tockholes, in the vicinity of the church. This could not have been the scene of either of the affairs near Blackburn between Colonel Shuttleworth and Sir Gilbert Hoghton before described, for in both those cases the attack came from other directions, and the fighting was confined to the immediate neighbourhood of the town. About forty years ago various relics of a battle were disclosed in a field on Mr. Parker's farm in Tockholes. Baines notes the discovery :—"Forty horses' heads, bones, cannon-balls, and clubs were, in 1826, dug out of a field in this township [Tockholes], called 'Kill Field,' in which a battle is believed to have taken place in 1642."¹ Of course the date given by Baines is quite conjectural, and there is no account of any battle on this side of Blackburn in 1642. Upon local inquiry I ascertained that it was in the year 1833 the remains mentioned by Baines were discovered. The pit in which they were found is situated at the upper end of a field that slopes towards the dingle below Crowtrees farm. The spot is about a quarter of a mile to the west of Tockholes Church. According to the statements of elderly persons in the neighbourhood, who saw the remains that were brought up in the cleansing of the pit, the exact number of skulls of horses found in the muddy bottom was thirty-eight, and there were also several horses' feet and leg-bones. One informant mentions that some large metal buttons were turned up. The bones were removed to the farm-yard by the farmer, and what became of any other relics is not remembered. The field in which the pit lies is marked "Pit Field" on the Ordnance map. At the time of the discovery, there was a similar pit in another part of the same field, which it was conjectured might have been made the receptacle of other bones; but this pit was filled up without being cleaned out. There is no mention of any battle implements having been found with the bones, but several cannon-balls have been picked up in other parts of the township within the last forty years. One of these ancient missiles was found in a field called "The Green," just above the Bethesda Chapel. Another was found on Cartridge-hill, a lofty fell a mile or so further to the south. Some musket-bullets, also, were once gathered in a small field behind the Old Independent Chapel, a short distance from the pit where the bones were found. These are all the traces of the fight in this vicinity of which information can now be gleaned. They suffice to indicate a battle of some severity, in which both troops of horse and musketeers were engaged, and at least one piece of ordnance brought into use. A skirmish in which forty horses were killed, not to consider what bones of dead horses may have been interred in other pits, cannot have been of an insignificant character. The

¹ Hist. of Lanc., new edn., v. ii, p. 81.

battle-ground being so near the old Church of Tockholes, it may be supposed that the bodies of the soldiers killed in the action would afterwards be removed for burial to the consecrated ground ; which would account for the absence of human bones along with those of the horses.

For some days after the encounters of the hostile parties at Bolton, Wigan, and Warrington, there was quiescence in both camps. The time was spent in the concentration of troops and the collection of supplies. The Earl of Derby was too ardent and enterprising to rest in inaction a day longer than the necessities of the situation required, and so soon as he found his forces sufficiently recruited, he set forth on another adventure. This was an expedition into the heart of Blackburn Hundred, intended to effect the subjugation of the whole Hundred to the King's authority. About the 19th of April, 1643, the Earl began to move up the Valley of Ribble in prosecution of his aggressive design. The time was well chosen, for not only were the Parliamentary colonels in the Hundred weak and unprepared for the encounter, but their soldiers were dispirited by recent defeats. Colonel Assheton was posted in Salford Hundred, too far off to render immediate assistance to Colonel Shuttleworth in his efforts to repel the enemy. A private letter relates " that the Earl of Derby, the Lord Mollineaux, Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Colonell Tildesley, with all the other great Papists in this County, issued out of Preston, and on Wednesday noon [April 19th] came to Ribchester with eleven troops of horse, 700 foot, and infinite of Clubmen, in all conceived to be 5,000."¹ Other estimates of the Earl's strength reckon it at about two thousand soldiers of all arms. The mean of 3,000 to 4,000 men may be accepted as the correct statement. The Earl moved with silent celerity, and got a good many miles up the valley before the enemy became aware of his advance. From Ribchester he marched " over Ribble at Salesbury Boat and by Salesbury Hall, and soe was well neare gotten to Whaley before he was discovered ; his Clubmen according to their practice plundering in most of the townes [townships] they passed by or thorough."² The Puritan party were evidently disconcerted by the movement. A small body of Roundhead soldiers was at the time posted at Dunkenhalgh on the Hyndburn, a tributary of the Calder ; a few troops also were with Colonel Shuttleworth about Padiham. One " E. F.," writing from Padiham, narrates :—" We lying at Dunkenhalgh hall with our two Troops, hearing of his [the Earl's] great force retreated to Padiham, having before sent to Colonell Shuttleworth to raise the country, which he did ; all the firemen [musketeers] came in the next morning (though they have had no pay this 5 weeks), and some few clubmen ; I did compute us to be 60 horse, and some 400 foot, not

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 96. ² Disc. of Warr, p. 31.

above five hundred I am sure at the first."¹ Another annalist says:—"The Earle accompanied with 2,000 (as is judged) came to Ribchester over night, to Whalley by eight of the clocke to a green not far from Padiham. Our side had but two or three hundred Fire-men, and four-score or a hundred Horse, so that in means there was no possibility of safety."² Old Colonel Shuttleworth did all that man could do in the emergency, and put a bold face upon the matter. The news of Lord Derby's approach was brought "to Padiham and Galthrop to Colonell Shuttleworth in the night tyme," Blackburn Hundred "being then in a weak condition to rescist him, the souldiers at that tyme in no parte of it in any bodie or companies, but dispersed and also wanting ammunitiion and powder. Nevertheless the ould Colonell sent intelligence into the Hundred before morning of the Earle's approach, summoning all to come up to him in the morning with speed with their best weapons."³ Before the Earle could reach Whalley the place had been visited by a Round-head scouting party:—"We marched with our horse towards Whalley, where we tooke a man and 2 geldings of Mr. Latham's the great Papist, and retreated to Read Bank."⁴ Of the skirmishes that ensued between the hostile forces, by which a general action was brought on, against the purpose of the Parliamentarian commander, the following particulars are recorded in the two principal narratives of this fight:—

Betymes in the morning the Earle's armie were all drawne up and over that River that runs by Whalley called Calder, and there they with the piece of ordnance were set in a bodie as to receive an Enemie. The Earle with other of his commanders were up at the Abbey, Sir Ralph Assheton's House, whilst Mr. Tildsley with others scouted up towards Padiam, yea, as far as Reed-head. Now the Colonells Shuttleworth and Starkie being both come to Padiam with some of the Captaines were in a great perplexitie, knowing not what to doe, being (as was said) unprovdyed. Yet some Captaines were sent, some souldiers accompanying, to scout towards Whalley as far as Read, Mr. Nowell's House, to hear whether my Lord advanced or no, and making a stand there, consulting amongst themselves what was likeliest to be done upon the exigent. The Captaines were all of one mind as that it was not safe to withstand the Earle there. He was a strong partie and came on purpose provided, and they weake, their companies away scattered. Therefore the safest way was to retreat and preserve themselves out of their Enemies hand till their Companies could be gathered into a bodie with some aid and withal furnished with Ammunition which now they wanted, this being their resolution at Preston. This pleased not the Souldiers then by, that they should turn their backs upon their enimies before they saw their faces. Therefore a many of the Muskietiers, being resolut men, replyed to the Captaines boldly, bidding them take what course they pleased for their safeties, yet they would aventure themselves, see the enemie and have one bout with them if God will. And therefore gathering themselves together mad themselves readie to receive the enemie. And belyke eyther imagyning of themselves or having intelligence from others that the enemie would pass that way, they planted themselves in fields on the highway sid,

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 96. ² Ib. p. 135. ³ Disc. of Warr, pp. 31-2. ⁴ C. W. Tracts, p. 96.

betwixt Whaley and Padiam, under the Stone walls with their muskets readie charged, being hid, to give their enemie a volley of shot if they appeared. Long they lay not before they espied some of the Earles Horse and Foot mounting out of a hollow dingle betwixt Ashterley and Read-head. And Maister Tildsley was one of the foremost, and having gotten the tope of the Hill he enquired of a woman that dwelt in a little house by, where he was or how that place was calde. "Sir," said she, "you are at Read-head above the house of Mr. Nowell of Read." "I am the more sorrie," said he; "I would not have his wyffe disquieted." (Mr. Nowell was a strong malignant). Not long after this Discourse the Muskietiers under the walls waiting their opportunitie let goe a volley of shot against them very hotly, which did put such a fear into them that immediately without delay they turned againe, and downe towards Whaley with all the speed they could make. And (as the report was) Mr. Tildsley was soe terrified and amazed that forgetting his way for haste tooke into that lane that leads to Mr. Shuttleworth's house at Ashterlee, and then forced his horse to leape over a yate and passed down by Portfield to Whaley. The Muskietiers perceiving them flee soe fearfully pursued them hotly and took divers Foot Clubmen. Presently, upon the Report of the Muskets, many came unto them, and some carried the Prisoners to Padiam, and the rest joyned with the Muskietiers to pursue the enemie.¹

The writer of the Padiham letter on the affair, with the initials "E. F.," tells the same story in brief, and was evidently an active participant in the fight; indeed, he claims to have been the instrument of leading the Royalist troopers into the trap that had been set for them:--

Here [at Read-bank] we discovered about 150 horse to follow us, and when our foot was come thither to us, our horse retreated more, our foot advanced close under a wall, only myself stood and faced the enemy. I made as though I fled, they pursued me; when I knew they were in the command of our men, I advanced againe and shot off my pistoll (being the signe for our foot); whereupon our men discharged with a great shout; the enemies' horse fled in great disorder, we wounded many, took forty prisoners, some horse, and 60 musquets; our firemen pursued them to Whalley.²

The scene of this ambushade (so successful in its results that it was the starting point of the Royalist defeat at Whalley by a far inferior force) will be identified by the reader familiar with the country between Whalley and Padiham, or by others on a reference to the six-inch Ordnance map. The present road from Whalley to Padiham is of modern construction. It branches off from the Accrington and Whalley turnpike near Park Head, and at first follows closely the right bank of the Calder, through the lower portion of Read Hall Park. The old road between these towns ascended the hill to Portfield, thence descended into the glen through which the Sabden Brook makes its way, crossed the stream by Read Old Bridge, and abruptly ascended the other slope to the summit of the eminence known as "Read Head," a short distance above Read Hall to the north; it then skirted the north side of Read Park, keeping the high ground to the hamlet of Read, and so on to Simonstone and Padiham. It was up this ancient road that the Royalist

¹ Disc. of Warr, pp. 32-3.

² C. W. Tracts, p. 97.

Colonel Tyldesley and his troopers spurred their horses on the Spring morning in 1643, with the object of reconnoitring the Roundheads under Shuttleworth and Starkie, who were expected to be somewhere on the westward side of Huntroyd and Gawthorpe, guarding the mansions of their leaders. On quitting the glen and reaching the hill-top above Read Hall, Tyldesley, as related, made inquiries at a cottage as to his whereabouts, and was told by the woman of the house that he was at Read Head, hard by the house of Mr. Nowell, himself an ardent Royalist, then absent on military service. With characteristic gallantry, Colonel Tyldesley expressed his fear that the lady of Read, Mistress Nowell, might be terrified by the sound of firing and other noises of warfare near her mansion. From this point Tyldesley and his horsemen decided to advance a little further along the hill-road, not suspecting the close proximity of the enemy. But a few yards further on, concealed behind the walls of the lane and in the thickets on either hand, were the two or three hundred Roundhead musketeers, awaiting the signal of the approach of the Royalist horse to fire their volley. No sooner had Tyldesley and his over-venturesome troopers placed themselves between the muzzles of their hidden foes, than a sudden volley of musket-shot burst upon them. Saddles were emptied, horses and riders were struck down, and those who were unhurt turned about and rode back towards Whalley at their utmost speed. Tyldesley, the leader of the troop, lost his way in the hastiness of his retreat. A little to the west of Read Old Bridge, a by-lane connects with the road to Whalley on the left hand. This by-road leads up to Easterley (called "Ashterlee" in the narrative), on the estate of a family of Shuttleworths (an old, substantial house situated on the crest of the high bank above the Sabden-brook), and there terminates in the farm-yard. Colonel Tyldesley got into the by-lane by mishap, and, when he emerged in the fold at Easterley, discovered his error; made his charger leap the gate, and rode across the couple of fields which separate Easterley House from the ancient seat of the Brad-dylls at Portfield. Here he recovered the right road, and mingling with his flying horsemen rode down into Whalley. There the sight of the retreating troopers, and the loud firing of the enemy's match-lock-men in close pursuit, created a movement of panic among the Earl of Derby's militiamen and clubmen, posted in the village and church. I now proceed to quote further particulars of the engagement which the skirmish above-described rendered unavoidable, and which, through the consternation produced by the Parliamentary ambuscade at Read, resulted in the rout, almost without an attempted stand, of the Earl of Derby's army. After the episode at Read Head, the conflict proceeded as follows :—

Amongst those that came in then to them [the Roundheads in pursuit of Tyldesley's men], was . . . Marsden, then a Lieutenant, after made a Captaine, a man of courage and hardie spirit. He incoradged the souldiers much with manly words to goe on, God would fight for them, and the like. So they pursuing with great shouting, and the nearer that they came to Whaley the shouting was more and greater, the hills and valleys giving the echoes, besids more comming and increasing. Whalley standeth in a Vale, having the hills on every side on which was much people standing and all shouted, putting amazement into the Earles Armie. The Earle being in the Abbey and divers of his companie in the Church and Tower, upon that great noyse made haste to get ther. The peice of ordenance was discharged twice or thrise at the most towards the Tower; but with noe execution that was hard of. A boy that was upon a steele in the field was shot about his knees, whether with a musket or the Ordenance was not certaine whereof hee died immediately. He was all that was slayne of the Parliament parte. Off the Earles companie an emenent captaine of much respect with him (yet a great plunderer), his name was Conney, was shot in the one of his eyes whereof he died afterwards and was carried away with them. The Earles Clubb men, being in the reare of his army, hearing the great noyse of shouting, apprehending it fearfully, fled through the River [Calder] in much haste, he being most happie that could get through it with most speed and run the fastest away. Noe command of the officers nor force of the horsemen could make them turne again or stave, but gone they would be; which wrought so upon the rest of the armie that they lyke-wise turned their backs and fledd soe disorderly and confusedly that (as relation was) the Earle himself had much adoe to cause them to take their Ordenance with them, he being of the last companie that was with it. Thus having turned their backes of Whaley, the shouters increasing, they pursued them with a greater noyse. And dyvers horsemen comming in followed with more speed taking some prisoners, and fynding Armes of all sortes cast in the way, not leaving of till they came so far as Salesbury Boat. The prisoners taken were most of them Clubmen of the feild, about fortie who weare kept at Padiham till they were released.¹

Other accounts of the Royalists' panic and retreat from Whalley accord with the foregoing. The Padiham missive continues:—

The Earl of Derby and the rest were in the Abbey; much ado we had to keep our Souldiers back; the enemy (who were ten for one of us) discharged his cannon 5 times, but hurt not a man of us (blessed be our good God), he drew into a body, we being out of order ran under hedges, played upon them with our muskets, and routed their foot, which fled over the Water, their horse still facing us; our men still pursued them to Lango-green where Captain Ashton and myselfe with much ado caused our first men to stay till more came up, then our men shot; their horse fled; then all our horse came up and pursued them through Salisbury [Salesbury] Park, and to Ribchester; and most of their great ones had some touch, or some narrow escape, as themselves report. And having thus driven them out of the Hundred, we retreated to Padiham.²

Then comes the short, complacent chronicle of the victory by the author of *Lancashire's Valley of Achor*, who tells gleefully how the hand-ful of Shuttleworth's musketeers, by reason of the "resolution God gave them, above and against all sense and reason," would needs let fly at the

¹ Disc. of Warr, pp. 33-4.

² C. W. Tracts, p. 97.

enemy, who were suddenly turned to flight; when "our encouraged souldiers pursued them to Whalley, where their two or three shots of Powder (all they had at first to accomplish so great a work) were well increased by their enemies store; from thence to the Sands [the ford of Calder], thence to Lango Green, thence to Ribble-side, called Salsbury Boat; the Horse and Foot took Ribble, many of the Foot wading to the chin. In all this chase, being about five miles in length, they [the Royalists] often turned their faces, but as often turned their backs, and hasted away, till they had quit the Hundred and no more infested it."¹ The pursuit thus commenced in the township of Read, and extended in a westerly direction over the township of Whalley, across the Calder, through the townships of Billington, Dinkley, and Salesbury in Blackburn parish, terminating across the Ribble at Ribchester. Pursued and pursuers had to ford two considerable rivers, both ordinarily running high in April, the month in which the battle took place, and one narrative indeed states that where the Ribble was crossed near Salesbury Hall the soldiers of both forces were immersed to the chin.

The reports that reached London of this Roundhead success are summarised in the *Parliamentary Chronicle* of the time in the passage that follows:—

Much about the same time also, namely, the latter end of April aforesaid, letters out of Lancashire enformed for certain that the Earl of Darbie with 500 horse, 500 foot, and about 2000 clubmen went to Whaley, a Towne nere Blackburn, sodainly seised on the towne and got into the Church and Steeple; but the Inhabitants of that Hundred presently armed 300 musketeers, 300 horse and 200 clubmen, and with this small strength set upon them in the towne, beat the Earl and his men out and recovered it again; and being the same time provoked and challenged by the Earl to come out into the field they did so, and set upon him there, slew 300 of his men, routed all his armie, and chased them six miles at the least. The truth whereof was firmly ratified by divers letters from those parts.²

The same chronicler again alludes to "the victory nere Blackburn in Lancashire" as one of several important engagements won by the Parliamentarians in the Spring of 1643.

The Parliamentarians of Lancashire were unbounded in their thankfulness for this unlooked-for victory; and well they might, for it completely changed the aspect of affairs in the county. Puritan perfervidity of religious sentiment saw in this marvellous escape and triumph a signal example of Divine interposition. Shuttleworth's victorious soldiers returned to Padiham, where, wearied as they must have been, "having a good minister, some hours were spent in thanksgiving for the great deliverance, and be assured it is to be taken (next the first great bout at

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 136.

² Parl. Chron., pt. i, p. 320.

Manchester) the greatest deliverance we have had. We had one day last week, and on Friday next we are to observe a Thanksgiving both in Salford Hundred and this, with praises to our God. The intent of the enemy," concludes the writer, "was to overrun this Hundred, and so to Bolton and Manchester (as upon examination appears by the prisoners) and be assured if the Lord had suffered this part to fail, we had in all probability bin totally undone. The enemy stole all horses and beasts as far as they went ; I hope our Gentlemen in this county will consider to joyn and clear the county. This part which before was dejected, is now through God's mercy united and raised, and the common people never more forward, and the souldiers more couragious, but the Lord is our preserver."¹

The discomfiture of the Earl of Derby's levies at Whalley was discouraging and damaging. But before impugning the Earl's military capacity on account of this untoward affair, the circumstances of his position must be considered. Lord Derby had been very scurvily used by the King and his advisers from the commencement of the war. He was the object of unjust suspicion at court, and had been systematically weakened by drafts of his men to serve under other leaders in the King's main army. The Earl's influence was so great in West Lancashire that his ability to raise troops to fight for the Royal cause seemed almost unlimited ; but once and again he had been required to send his best-equipped and trained regiments away from the county to be employed in distant operations, leaving himself almost destitute of men and means. Yet this ill-usage, which would have driven most men to the opposite camp in resentment, had no effect upon the high spirit of honour and the disinterested loyalty of the Lord of Lathom, though these frequent withdrawals of his ablest troops seriously prejudiced his efforts to maintain the ascendancy of the Crown in his native shire. The force with which the Earl advanced from Preston into Ribblesdale, for the subjugation of Blackburn Hundred, though considerable in numbers, was chiefly composed of recent levies of tenantry and peasantry, with but a small proportion of trained and steady troops. The groundless fright which seized upon the Earl's forces on the appearance of the enemy, speaks the inexperience and want of confidence of the general body ; and the few skilled musketeers and horsemen in the force were unable to arrest the stream of fugitives, when once the movement of retreat had begun. In these campaigns, very little science was displayed on either side, at least in the desultory operations in the various provinces of the country in which the combatants were principally the newly-embodied local militia and trained bands, and the leaders the

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 97-8.

local gentry, to whom the rudiments of military practice were unknown a few months previously. Adventitious, however, as had been the victory and the defeat at Whalley, its influence upon the issue of the strife was great. A chronicler thus remarks the Earl's dejected condition, and the recovery of hope among the Parliamentarians, after the Whalley passage-of-arms :—

The Earle much dismayed and disconsolat with his Disasters made no stay till he came to Mr. Fleetwood's house at Penterthom, where he lodged that night in a very sad pensive condition, by reason of the dastardlines which appeared in his Army. What became of it afterwards was not material, but truth it was he never headed Army in Lancashire after till his last comming out of the Isle of Man, when he was defeated near unto Wiggon not long before his Death. Their Defeate at Whaley was strange and admirable, for to the judgment of Reason he had strength and power sufficient (as the Hundred of Blackburne then was) to have subdued it to the King, if not Salford Hundred to, for that Hundred, all but Manchester, was in a scattered condition. Colonell Ashton newly returned from Lancaster, his Army soe dissipated and discontented through want of pay that he could not gather them into a body till the Country had supplied him, which then was not done.¹

The East-Lancashire Parliamentarian chiefs took full advantage of the Earl of Derby's despondent state, and the demoralisation among his men. At once on receipt of the news of the victory at Whalley and the enemy's confused retreat, Colonel Assheton (of Middleton) marched westward with the forces of Salford Hundred, horse and foot, reinforced by some of the troops of Blackburn Hundred and "some volunteers of Amounderness, who being exyled from their dwellings by the enemies, put themselves under the leading and command of Captaine Edward Robinson."² With an army of about 2,200 men, Colonel Assheton's offensive movement commenced on the 28th of April. His route into West Derby Hundred was through Holland and Billinge. Colonel Tyldesley, after the rout in Ribblesdale, had gone to Wigan, which he held for Lord Derby with nine troops of horse and 700 foot. But the Royalists had not yet recovered courage, and, on the appearance of Colonel Assheton, Tyldesley and his force decamped from Wigan. The Parliamentarian commander occupied the town, and before he left it, he "demolisht all the outworks and fortifications, burnt the new gates and posts that had been set up," and "took an oath of the townsmen never to bear arms against the King and Parliament." He then pursued the Royalist army, retreating northwards,—Lord Molineux and Col. Tyldesley in command. The enemy making no stand anywhere, Assheton "marched by Knowsley, the Lord's House, not offering any the least evil towards it."³ The Earl of Derby, fearful of the sack and destruction of his mansion by the victorious Roundheads, had written to Col. Assheton,

¹ Disc. of Warr, pp. 34-5.

² Ib. p. 37.

³ Ib. p. 37.

praying him not to burn his seat at Lathom, and offering a sum of £300 to purchase its immunity. But, says the record, "the noble Colonell sent him word that he scorned his money or the firing of his house, and desired nothing more of him than to meet with him, and to give him battell."¹ On reaching Ormskirk in his advance, Colonel Assheton learnt that Molineux and Tyldesley with their forces had escaped him by crossing the Ribble some distance below Preston. They were "marched over Ribble Watter at Hesketh Bankes into the Fyld," and were then, it was reported, quartered in Kirkham. The Earl of Derby had gone to Warrington with the remnant of his force, but leaving his men there as a garrison, the Earl secretly passed through the western parts of the county; forded the Ribble; and while Lord Molineux's quarters were in Clifton and Col. Tyldesley's at Kirkham, they were surprised by the apparition of the fugitive Earl, who, "with a few horse, passed by Clifton with litle or no speech of him, and soe into the North to White Haven, and taking shipping there went into the Isle of Man, leaving his Countess and children at Lathom."² So writes the author of the *Discourse of the Warr*, but other records say that the Earl first betook himself to Hornby Castle, thence to Skipton Castle, before he quitted the country for the Isle of Man. A news-sheet issued in the early part of May, 1643, relates that the Lancashire gentlemen, knowing from intercepted letters from Lathom to the King what a quandary the Royalists were in, "immediately advanced, have taken Preston, and fetched away the twenty peeces of ordnance from Lancaster, and enforced the Earl of Derby to quit the countrey, and flye from Hornby Castle into Yorkshire, into Skipton Castle in Craven."³ Whichever report be true, it is certain that the Earl did not long remain in Lancashire after the Whalley disaster; but went to secure the Isle of Man, and left his strong-hearted Countess to defend Lathom House.

The recapture of Preston, and movements in the Fylde and in Lunesdale subsequently, are recounted in detail in the *Discourse*. Out of the Fylde the King's force retired to Lancaster, Colonel Assheton in brisk pursuit; from Lancaster to Hornby, thence to Kirkby Lonsdale. Although the Royalists under Molineux and Tyldesley did not make a stand at Hornby, but continued their precipitate retreat up the valley of the Lune, and so quitted the county, Hornby Castle was defended by a party of cavaliers for a brief space. The Castle was very strong in itself, and occupies an almost unassailable position on the summit of a high knoll hard by the confluence of the Wenning and Lune. Col. Assheton would probably have passed on without attempting to carry so formidable a place, either by siege or assault; but a few of his soldiers,

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 99.

² Disc. of Warr, p. 37.

³ C. W. Tracts, p. 100.

without orders, audaciously took the Castle by escalade. The Parliamentarian general, having driven the enemy out of Lancashire, commenced the return-march southward on the 9th of May; and, passing through Lancaster, took away from the Castle there some cannon which had been taken out of a Spanish ship ashore at Rossall. Through the inimical Fylde country the Roundhead soldiery plundered at discretion, and when they got to Preston began to fall out among themselves about the division of the captured cattle and other booty.

Some days before Midsummer, 1643, Alexander Rigby, Esq., M.P., was sent down into Lancashire with a colonel's commission from Parliament, "to raise forces to put the Hundreds of Layland and Amounderness into a posture of Warr." Colonel Rigby prosecuted his appointed task with energy, and mustered a considerable array out of these Hundreds. Captain Edward Robinson, who belonged to Kirkham, had previously raised a troop of horse in that part of Amounderness, with which he had served under the command of Colonel Shuttleworth. This officer and his troop were now detached from Colonel Shuttleworth's force, and placed under the command of Colonel Rigby. Colonel Rigby's first military enterprise, in which he displayed the soldierlike qualities for which he was afterwards distinguished, was the reduction by siege of Thurland Castle in Lunesdale. To Rigby's contingent, raised in and about Preston, were united, for this undertaking, some "forces from Salford and Blackburne Hundreds."¹ Thurland Castle was invested in the beginning of August. It was, however, not easy to get at. "It was moated about so that it could not be come to." Rigby's small ordnance "plaid oft against it with little execution. It was stronge. Out of it they shot desperately when they spied occasion. They killed many that adventured too near it. Edward Breres [Breres of Walton], a Captaine of the Volunteers of Preston, was killed by adventuring too neare."² But Rigby having defeated an attempt by Colonel Hudleston, coming out of Cumberland, to relieve the castle, the garrison were so disheartened that they surrendered the castle a few days after. Colonel Rigby returned to Preston in good heart after his victory, and spent some succeeding weeks in strengthening his regiments, and providing them with suitable officers.

Meantime the Hundreds of Blackburn and Salford were menaced from a new direction. At the beginning of July, 1643, the Earl of Newcastle, commanding one of the King's main armies, having won some advantage in encounters with the Parliamentarian army under Lord Fairfax in Yorkshire, appeared in force upon the eastern border of Lancashire, and forwarded to Manchester a summons to submission, which

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 41. ² Ib. p. 41.

was boldly rejected. The Parliamentarians in these parts were in some alarm at the proximity of the Earl of Newcastle's army, and took immediate measures of defence. They "placed a garrison of twelve hundred men in Rochdale, and eight hundred more upon Blackstone Edge, to guard the passage into their county out of Yorkshire."¹ Reports in the news-sheets of the period (July—August, 1643), refer to several attempts of Lord Newcastle to penetrate the mountain passes between Yorkshire and Lancashire, all of which were repulsed. First, it is related that the Royalist general sent "200 horse to break through the passage at Blackstone Edge into their countrey, but with no successe, for their garrison in that place slew and took some of them, and sent back the rest to tell their fellows that they will hardly have passage that way, because it is naturally so strong that 500 men can keep 1,000." Foiled at Blackstone Edge, a portion of Lord Newcastle's force appears to have attempted a passage over the hills in the neighbourhood of Colne and Clitheroe; for in the sheet of *Certaine Informations*, dated July 31st, it is stated that "some of Newcastle's forces had been defeated in Lancashire, near Colne; some slain, and about forty taken;" and further, on August 14th, it is reported that accounts from travellers are to the effect that "Lancashire is quiet since they [the Parliamentarians] beat the Newcastlelians from Colne, Clitheroe, and Thornton."² These scanty statements are all the information to be had of the series of skirmishes the hostile forces fought upon the county border, in which the defenders of Lancashire for the Parliament were victorious. But by the local annalist of the war it is stated that about this time, or perhaps a little later in the year, "most if not all the companies [at Preston, under Col. Rigby] were called upon receiving Order to march into Blackburne Hundred to Healey More to a Randavow, and after that they had Order to March two myles further to Colne, to a Generall Randevouse betwixt both Hundreds, in the most remote part of the county, upon the borders of Yorkshire, to a place called *Emmot Loane head*, to be a terror to the Yorkeshire Caviliers who that Winter ranged up and downe."³ The concentration of both Roundhead and Royalist troops in this hilly country, the former on the Lancashire, the latter on the Yorkshire side of the frontier-line, was continued until the close of the year (1643).

Prior to the victories of the summer of 1643, which placed the whole of Lancashire (with the solitary exception of Lathom House, held by the Countess of Derby) at the mercy of the Parliamentary party, the Houses of Parliament, in urgent need of means to carry on the arduous contest with the King, had passed an ordinance confiscating the estates of "Delinquents and Papists," and appointing sequestrators for the

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 146.

² *Ib.* p. 147.

³ Disc. of Warr, p. 43.

various counties. The Lancashire Sequestration Commission consisted of twenty-three persons, seven of whom were connected with the Hundred of Blackburn, viz. :—Assheton of Whalley, Assheton of Downham, Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe, Nicholas Cunliffe of Hollings, Starkie of Huntroyd, Robert Cunliffe of Sparth, and Nowell of Little Mearley. In September, 1643, the deputy-lieutenants of the county were ordered by Parliament to appoint auditors to keep accounts of monies and goods taken by virtue of the sequestration ordinance, and the auditors chosen under this order were Ralph Assheton, Richard Shuttleworth, John Moore, and Alexander Rigby, Esqrs. Immediately upon the conclusion of these appointments the arbitrary process of sequestration commenced. One of the first to suffer was William Farrington, Esq., of Worden, a steady Royalist. In the *Farrington Papers* is preserved an inventory of Mr. Farrington's household goods sequestered on the 12th of September, 1643, and other documents relating to the procedure. The master of Worden was at this time absent from his estate, serving with the King's forces in the field. His wife, Mistress Margaret Farrington, laid a petition before Sir Thomas Stanley, Bart., Ralph Assheton, Richard Shuttleworth, Richard Holland, Alexander Rigby, and John Moore, Esqrs., Colonels of the Lancashire forces of Parliament, in which she shewed that the agents of the Sequestrators, in their unwelcome visit to Worden, had not only carried off her other household goods, but had also sequestered the family heir-looms, which the ancestors of Worden had given and bequeathed "to the successive heires male of the house of Worden." These heir-looms the gentle petitioner prayed might be suffered to remain at Worden, seeing that her husband, whose fidelity to his King had incurred this forfeiture of his property, had only a life-possession of the heir-looms. To this petition, the Sequestrators appealed to returned answer that "if Mrs. Farrington will speedily pay £350 for the goods of her husband now sequestered, there will remaine sufficient proportion to allow her and her children accordinge to the power committed to us by the Parliament; wherefore if shee pay this wee order that all the goods may remaine with her at the house."¹ The lady of Worden was unable to find the required sum of redemption money, and accordingly her household goods were impounded. But she was allowed "purparture of the goods to the value of £100 in lieu of her purparture of land;" and parts of the remainder were bought in her behalf by Messrs. Richard Clayton and William Farrington, yeomen, from Oates Holme and Edward Cowper, agents to the Sequestrators, for the sum of £83. The total amounts of the Parliamentary sequestration on this estate are computed at £645 in goods, cattle, and movable property; £263

¹ Farrington Papers, p. 96.

in value of lands sequestered at different times; and in rents £46; altogether £954. In like manner, other prominent Royalists were mulcted at this period of depression in their party's fortunes in the county.

At the beginning of September, 1643, the county had been so entirely cleared of the King's adherents (excepting the few companies shut up in Lathom House) that it was reported in letters from Manchester to London "that the whole county palatine of Lancaster enjoyeth yet ease, quiet, and freedom both from internall and externall enemies." Also that not only had the forces of Lord Newcastle been foiled in the movement towards Lancashire through the passes of the hills between the valleys of Aire and Ribble, but that the Roundheads were making raids into the parts of Yorkshire beyond Colne and Clitheroe; for the *Mercurius Britannicus* of September 2nd reports that "the Lancashire horse still make incursions into Craven, in Yorkshire, and get horses, cattle, and sheep, from off the lands of those in arms against the Parliament."¹ While the men of Blackburn district were thus keeping the eastern border of the county, those of Salford Hundred, commanded by Colonel Assheton, were away in Wales and Cheshire, subduing the country thereabouts to the Parliament, and with this work, in conjunction with the Cheshire Roundheads under Sir William Brereton, proceeding almost unopposed until the close of the year 1643. But in December, three thousand Irish soldiers brought over in Charles's interest landed at Wirral, and were joined by the Royalists under Lord Byron, who, taking command of the united force of about 4,000 men, assumed the offensive, and obliged Sir William Brereton to retire to Nantwich. Colonel Assheton, while marching to Middlewich, was attacked suddenly by Lord Byron, in the beginning of January, 1643-4, and completely beaten, leaving a hundred prisoners in the enemy's hands. The reverse was quickly retrieved. On the 19th of January, Lord Fairfax, who had transported his army out of Yorkshire, marched on from Manchester to relieve the Parliamentarians beleaguered at Nantwich; his force consisting of 2,500 foot and 28 troops of horse. In co-operation with Brereton's and Assheton's forces, Fairfax, with an array of about 8,000 men, gave Lord Byron battle before Nantwich. The battle was stubbornly contested, but ended in the utter defeat and dispersion of the Royalists; of the Irish troops under Lord Byron many were slain, and 1,500 were taken prisoners. In this battle, Colonel Assheton's Lancashire men exhibited great valour.

To Lathom House, that, like a sea-surrounded rock, still withstood the wave of revolution that surged over the county, numbers of the

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 148.

fugitive cavaliers of Lancashire had resorted as the sole place of refuge after the defeats their party had suffered. Though the lord of the house was not within its walls, deeming his presence even more essential in his Island of Man, the spirited Countess of Derby was prepared to stand a siege before surrendering Lathom. The place was strong; with its massy embattled and moated towers it was well fitted to defy assault and to resist the effects of a cannonade by such small ordnance as was then in use. Among her garrison the Countess counted many gallant gentlemen, who were ready to defend their admirable lady-leader to the death, if need were. The house was, fortunately, well provisioned. On Saturday, February 24th, 1643-4, the Manchester Committee of Parliamentarians, after frequent consultations, resolved "that Mr. Assheton, of Middleton, Mr. Moore, of Banck hall, and Mr. Rigby, of Preston (three Parliament colonels) should with all speed come against Lathom." The Countess of Derby received vague information of this movement in the morning of the next day, and at once took measures to meet the danger. Marching by Bolton, Wigan, and Standish, the Parliamentarian army appeared before Lathom on Tuesday, February 27th. Sir Thomas Fairfax had joined the force, and on the 28th he sent an officer up to the House, conveying to the Countess the ordinance of Parliament requiring her to surrender Lathom and cast herself upon the mercy of the Parliament. After some parleying, Colonels Assheton and Rigby were admitted into the House on Saturday, March 2nd, and offered the Countess free exit for herself and her troops, and permission to carry all their goods to Chester, and that the Countess with her family should be permitted either to dwell at Knowsley under protection, or follow her husband to the Isle of Man. The Countess rejected these terms, and proposed others of a temporising character, to which the enemy would not listen; finally, to counter proposals of Sir Thomas Fairfax, the proud lady returned an answer of point-blank defiance. The siege then commenced, and took the form of a blockade; Fairfax, misled as to the quantity of food in the place, thinking soon to starve the garrison into capitulation. In this the besiegers were disappointed; and before Lathom fell the cause of the King in Lancashire was destined for a time to be reanimated, and Lathom to be relieved, by a very formidable diversion by the most dashing of the Royalist leaders—Prince Rupert.

When the siege of Lathom House had lasted some ten or eleven weeks (from the last week in February to the first week in May, 1644), with no effect, by the confession of a Roundhead annalist, "but the losse of men's lives and spending of much treasure and victuals," a rumour became current that occasioned as much disquietude to Colonel Rigby and his Parliamentarians, as it awakened hope in the hearts of

Lady Derby and her garrison. The report, which proved to be authentic, was that King Charles, influenced by the appeals of his hard-pressed friends in Lancashire, had resolved to despatch Prince Rupert into the county, at the head of a powerful army, first to relieve Lathom; then to strike at the King's enemies where he might bring them to bay, and to storm the chief towns forming the Puritan quarters; and thereafter to march hence into Yorkshire for the relief of the city of York, held for the King against the beleaguering armies of English and Scottish "rebels." It was on the 8th or 9th of May that the news of Rupert's approach was spread through the county. The Roundhead generals before Lathom, on assuring themselves of Rupert's advance, held a council of war, at which it was decided to raise the siege. Colonel Rigby knew that his little army of two to three thousand men would be utterly incompetent to cope with Prince Rupert's army in the field, for the estimates of the Royalist general's force were from 10,000 to 15,000 men. Accordingly, on the 12th of May, Colonel Rigby with part of the besieging force moved away on the Preston road as far as Eccleston Green. Colonels Holland and Moore at the same time marched off their regiments, the former to Manchester and the latter to Liverpool, to aid the defence of those towns against the invader. For a short space Colonel Rigby remained at Eccleston, in doubt as to which way it would be safest for him to turn. Naturally, "the Colonel was in great feare of his familie in Preston, giving them Order to pack up his goods and flee up into Yorkshire, which was done."¹ He was aware that the eventual object of Prince Rupert, his task done in Lancashire, would be to relieve York; and "imagining," says one writer of the period,² that "the Prince would either march through Blackburne or Lancaster for the releefe of Yorke,"—the only passes through the Penine mountains practicable for a large army being by the valleys of the Ribble and the Lune, and across Craven into the valleys of the Aire and Wharfe,—Colonel Rigby came to the decision to leave both these routes open to the Prince's march, to abandon the whole north and north-east of the county, and to retire upon Bolton. As Rigby marched into Bolton his force was augmented by "some other auxiliaries from Coll. Shuttleworth to the number of 4 or 5,000 in all;" and there he awaited the progress of events.

Prince Rupert, having recruited his army in Shropshire and Wales, appeared in Cheshire on the 19th, with an army of 10,000 men, chiefly horse, and reached the border of Lancashire on the 25th of May. At Stockport, after a brisk fight with the Roundheads posted there under Cols. Duckenfield and Mainwaring, the Royalist general forced the pass.

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 49.

² C. W. Tracts, p. 183.

Deeming Manchester too strong to be carried by assault, Rupert avoided that town, crossed the Mersey at Trafford, and advanced upon Bolton. On the 28th of May the Royalist army was before Bolton ; and after a desperate conflict, the Prince, whom the Earl of Derby had joined before the attack, stormed the town, and put the greater part of its defenders and inhabitants to the sword. This capture of Bolton by Lord Derby and Prince Rupert is memorable as one of the most terrible and sanguinary episodes of that war, and many piteous stories of the assault and "massacre" have been preserved. Of the twelve or fifteen hundred Parliamentary soldiers said to have perished in that dreadful carnage, many must have belonged to those Blackburnshire regiments mustered by Messrs. Shuttleworth, Braddyll, and Starkie.

Colonel Rigby, commander of the garrison of Bolton, seeing the day lost, contrived to escape in the *melee*. The Roundhead soldiers who escaped the fury of a vindictive victorious enemy at Bolton made the best of their way to Manchester and Blackburn, where they joined the forces of the Parliament occupying those towns.

Lord Derby and Prince Rupert, after their triumphant exploit at Bolton, proceeded first to Lathom, which flung open its long-sealed gates in joyful welcome to the Earl and Prince and their relieving army. All the colours taken from the enemy at Bolton were presented by the Prince to Lady Derby. Two or three days of rest and festivity were spent at Lathom ; and then, contrary to the anticipation of the enemy that he would proceed forthwith into Yorkshire, Rupert turned southward, resolved to reduce Liverpool before he quitted the county. In the attempt to carry Liverpool by a *coup de main* Rupert was frustrated. After two repulses, however, and a siege of about a fortnight, the Royalist force prevailed by its vastly superior numbers, and entered the town, which had previously been evacuated by the garrison.

Prince Rupert returned to Lathom for the purpose of directing the extension of its defences in anticipation of the contingency of a second siege. By his advice, the Countess of Derby, and family, left the place, and repaired to the Isle of Man. From Lathom, about the 19th of June, the Prince commenced his long march to York, for the relief of the garrison there besieged. He selected the route through Blackburn, Colne, and Skipton, into the valley of the Wharfe.

Rupert paid a hasty visit to Preston just before his departure from Lancashire, to marshal the recruits gathered for the Royal service in these parts. It is recorded :—"His [Rupert's] army was at its greatest when he went from Preston. It increased not in his march to York, for what forces Westmoreland and Cumberland afforded him came to him at Preston."¹

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 54.

Colonel Shuttleworth was at this time lying at Blackburn, having under his command the remnant of the Blackburnshire men that had not been sent to Bolton to share in that bloody defeat, with perhaps a few fugitives who had escaped thence. At most, his force cannot have exceeded from two to three thousand men; and any serious attempt to bar the passage of Rupert was out of the question. For the Royalist army, in spite of its heavy losses at the storming of Bolton and Liverpool, had been so greatly recruited during the month's sojourn in Lancashire, that the Prince was able to set out for York with a force estimated variously at from 14,000 to 20,000 men. Nevertheless, Colonel Shuttleworth would not suffer the imposing host of the enemy to pass without some resistance. The second day of Rupert's advance, the 20th of June, brought him to the vicinity of Blackburn. Near Blackburn a sharp encounter took place between Rupert's vanguard and the Roundheads of the neighbourhood under Shuttleworth. This fight at Blackburn is mentioned in several contemporary publications, but no details of the action are supplied. The affair at Blackburn on Rupert's passage was something more than a mere skirmish; for Sir William Dugdale, in his *Short view of the late Troubles in England*,¹ while he omits all notice of minor local occurrences of the war, names the action at Blackburn and the defeat of the Roundheads:—"Colonell Shuttleworth defeated (20 June) at Blackburn in Lancashire by Prince Rupert." Two Parliamentary chronicles mention the engagement; one stating that Prince Rupert skirmished with Colonel Shuttleworth near Blackburn; and the other referring to *two* combats, one at Blackburn on June 20th, and the second near Colne, June 25. Sir Charles Lucas is said to have commanded the Royalists in both, and Colonel Shuttleworth to have been wounded in the second.

What have been supposed to be vestiges of some fight during the campaigns of the Civil War were found about fifty years ago upon the lower part of the Bank-hey pastures, in Little Harwood, which now form the public Cemetery of Blackburn. The place is about a mile from the centre of Blackburn, and lies on the left of the old road from Blackburn to Whalley and Clitheroe. It is believed that Prince Rupert, on his march through the parish in 1644, divided his army at Blackburn, pushing on one division by way of Clitheroe, and the other by Burnley and Colne, into Craven, thus facilitating the transit of his army, and extending the field of his foraging parties for its supply. Colonel Shuttleworth may have endeavoured to block the progress of the division directed to march through Ribblesdale, shortly after its detachment at Blackburn from the force marched on the Burnley road, through Enfield and Padi-

¹ Folio, Oxfd., 1681, p. 195.

ham. It is therefore not improbable that the traces of battle disclosed on the Little Harwood and Wilpshire side of Blackburn may belong to an encounter of the hostile forces at the spot on that occasion. I am informed by an old inhabitant, whose father was hind upon the farm of Bank-hey, of the existence of a local tradition of a battle fought on the heights of Bank-hey. About the time, fifty years ago or more, that Mr. Rodgett, of the firm of Rodgett and Sparrow, bought the estate, some labourers employed on the improvement of the farm were engaged in draining the slope now forming the south corner of the Cemetery, when they came upon (in my informant's words) "a tremendous quantity of bones." The land at the spot was black, boggy land, and the Little Harwood brook flows at the foot of the declivity. When my informant lived on the estate the site of the discovery of bones was called, and had been long antecedently, the "War Stables." During the construction of the Cemetery, a workman found a number of bullets in the ground hereabouts while turning over the sod.

The division of the Prince's army taking the more northerly route passed through Whalley and Clitheroe, crossing the ground where the Earl of Derby had suffered defeat fourteen months before. At Clitheroe the Castle had hitherto been held for the Parliament, but the Royalist commander took it and left in it a small garrison. Captain William Pateson, whose company had formed part of Colonel Dodding's Roundhead garrison at Lancaster, at this juncture "marched downe the Trough of Bowland and so into Blackburn Hundred to Clitherall [Clitheroe], till Prince Rupert marched up to Yorke." Then, when Rupert had passed on, this officer followed in his rear, and "marched towards Leeds, carrying some prisoners thither out of Blackburn Hundred from Colonell Nicholas Shuttleworth," and Colonel Dodding, quitting Lancaster, "within two daies after Captain Pateson, went away marching thorow the dale countries of Yorkshire [Upper Ribblesdale and Wharfedale] up to the Leaguer of York, and Captain Swarbreck with him; they were in the battle there, where Colonell Dodding lost many of his Regiment."¹

The Blackburnshire Roundheads under Shuttleworth had a second brush with Rupert's horse a little to the east of Burnley, which may have been the action near Colne above-noticed, between Sir Charles Lucas and Colonel Shuttleworth, in which the latter was reported wounded. Mr. T. T. Wilkinson is led by an entry in the Burnley Parish Register to fix upon the hamlet of Haggate, among the hills of Briercliffe, on the old road from Burnley to Colne, as the scene of this engagement. The Burnley Church Register records the burial of "Robert Ecroyd, a souldier for Thomas Eastwood," on June 27th, 1644, and also

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 50.

of "Nicholas Starkie," "James Gabbott, of Billington," "Peter Hitchin, of Hackgate," and "Bernard Smith;" all entered as "slayne at Hackgate." As the report of the affair near Colne was dated June 25th, it is very likely to refer to the skirmish at Haggate, in which these soldiers fell. But it is possible that a third conflict took place in the more immediate vicinity of Colne. There is evidence of the predations of Rupert's troopers on the estates around Burnley in the memorandum in which Mr. John Halsted records that on the 24th of June, 1644, the Royalists of Prince Rupert stole from his place at Swinden five beasts, and a horse of his from Rowley. What Halsted suffered in loss of livestock during this visitation of the enemy was the common fate of every "rebel" gentleman and yeoman in Blackburn Hundred.

The appended letters, found among the MSS. of the Earl of Denbigh at Newnham Parrox, refer to the days during which Rupert was forcing his way through Blackburn Hundred and across the Yorkshire border to Skipton:—June 25th, 1644, Sir Thomas Middleton writes from Nantwich:—"Satt. night. Prince [Rupert] is still in Lancashire, and not likely to get thence in any short tyme, soe that if wee can but be able to get together into a bodye in some short tyme, wee may then bee in possibility to doe good service. Sir John [Meldrum] assures mee that the Prynce is not above 6000 foote and 8000 horse." June 27th. Ferdinando Fairfax to Sir William Brereton, at the rendezvous at Knutsford:—"Haste, post haste. Prince Rupert is upon his march to endeavour the raisinge of the seidge at Yorke, part of the forces being already advanced as farr as Skipton in Craven, and hee is expected very shortly to follow with the mayne of his army."

Rupert, having reached York at the end of June, by a skillful flank movement relieved the city and raised the siege, and then, accepting the challenge of the Parliamentary generals to a battle in the open field, the great and decisive battle of Marston Moor was fought on the 2nd of July. In that memorable battle, the forces on either side numbered from 25,000 to 30,000 men, and included the finest regiments in both services, commanded by the ablest generals the war had produced. The Royalist army was under the command of Prince Rupert, with whom was the Earl of Derby, and of the Marquis of Newcastle. The army of the Parliament was commanded by the already famous General Cromwell, Sir Thomas Fairfax and General Lambert. Rupert and Cromwell, the two boldest warriors of the age, were opposed to each other in this battle; and the gallant Royalists of Lancashire found themselves confronted by Cromwell's invincible Ironsides. The struggle between the right wing of the king's army under Rupert and the left

† Hist. of Paroch. Church of Burnley, p. 55.

wing of the enemy under Cromwell was deadly. Lord Derby and Sir Thomas Tyldesley, at the head of the Lancashire regiments, performed prodigies of courage; the Earl is said to have rallied his soldiers thrice when they recoiled before the onset of the Ironsides. But every effort proved vain; and the close of that sanguinary day saw the Royalist host completely vanquished. Rupert fell back upon York with the loss of his artillery train, and the next day commenced a disastrous retreat, with the broken fragments of his army, through Richmondshire into Lancashire. The 20,000 men with which he had marched to York had been reduced by the heavy losses of battle to about 6,000, and among the killed and taken many hundreds of Lancashire loyalists were numbered.

No official roll has been found of the Lancashire officers and regiments that participated in the battle of Marston Moor; and I can only mention with certainty a few of the principal Royalists of the county who were in the battle besides the Earl of Derby and Sir Thomas Tyldesley. Colonel Goring was present with the contingent out of North Lancashire, which had been reviewed by Prince Rupert on Preston Marsh a fortnight before the battle. Probably William Farrington, of Worden, also marched to York, between the two sieges of Lathom, in both of which he played an honourable part. Colonel Edward Chisenhale, a member of the Chisenhales of Chorley, appears in this campaign. Among those out of Lancashire who perished at Marston Moor were Captain Christopher Anderton, probably of the Andertons of Lostock; Charles Townley, Esq., of Townley; and, according to Vicars's *Chronicle*, "Colonel Houghton, son to Sir Gilbert Houghton."¹

Retreating rapidly by forced marches, Rupert distanced his pursuers detached from the victorious enemy at York; and, fearing that his way through Blackburn Hundred might be blocked by forces from Manchester uniting with those left in the Hundred, performed his backward movement through Lunesdale. On July 8th, 1644, six days after Marston Moor battle, Colonel Shuttleworth wrote from Padiham to the Committee for Parliament at Manchester:—"I have this morning intelligence from Captain Porter att Lancaster that Prince Rupert will bee this night at Horneby, but how strong we know not, and intendeth for Liverpool as wee understand."² A week later, July 15th, Sir George Booth wrote from Dunham to the Commander-in-chief at Nantwich:—"I am informed that Prince Rupert is come to Preston, or very neare it, with 6000 horse and some foot, and that Lieutenant Generall Cromwell left the pursuit of him, and is returned to York to the Leaguer, so as the enemie hath more scope and liberty to advance as he pleaseth. And, there-

¹ Pt. i, p. 271.

² MSS. of E. of Denbigh.

fore, it will behove us of this countie [Cheshire] to stand well upon our ward, and rally our fforces for the publike safetic."¹

There is no account of encounter with any force of the enemy during Rupert's retreat through Lancashire. At the period of his transit the county was almost denuded of Parliamentary soldiers. On his return march the Prince had not with him any portion of the Lancashire contingent. It was left behind ; one detachment under Colonel Goring, and a larger force under Colonel Tyldesley, that was wandering to and fro in West Lancashire a month afterwards. The Royalist garrison Prince Rupert had left at Clitheroe in his eastward advance, being under an incapable captain, had lost little time in evacuating the post on getting tidings of the great defeat at York. Says the local annalist of the War :—"Clitherall Castle was committed to the trust of Captain Cuthbert Bradkirk of Wray, a man of small account and of no good caring. He caused it to be repaired about the Gate House where it was ruined. He fetched out of the Country about great stores of good provisions of all kinds—Meall, Mault, Beef, Bacon, Butter, Cheese, and the like. [This officer was manifestly a smart forager, if a poor fighter.] He kept it [the castle], much to the prejudice of the country, till the Prince had lost the Battell at York. And when that was known to him, no enemie coming to oppose nor anie visible thing appearing against him, but out of the feare and guilt of his owne mind upon a sudden he caused the Draw Well within to be filled with some of the provisions he had plundered from the country, and without taking any leave he and his company did run away and left it."² Perhaps the Roundhead writer is a little unjust in his stricture upon Captain Bradkirk ; for it is difficult to see with what prudence this officer and his band could have tarried longer at Clitheroe, when all the rest of the King's forces were being driven in headlong flight out of the county, without any hope of returning within a reasonable period. By his sudden withdrawal from Clitheroe Castle on hearing of the lost battle, Captain Bradkirk, at the least, saved his company from an inevitable surrender as prisoners of war a few weeks later. However, the other Royalist garrison left in the Earl of Derby's castle of Greenough, near Garstang, under the command of Captain Anderton, of Lostock, did bravely keep its post, in the midst of a district soon swarming with foes, and it was not until many months after that the castle was reduced by Colonel Dodding.

On the 8th of August, it was decided by the Parliamentary conclave that "the Lord Fairfax should take care of Yorkshire, and send 1,000 Horse into Lancashire to join with the forces of that Countie against Liverpoole, as also Cheshire and Derbyshire, for the reducing the

¹ MSS. of E. of Denbigh.

² Disc. of Warr, p. 53.

rest of Prince Rupert's broken forces."¹ By the time the detachment sent west by Fairfax reached Lancashire, some successes were scored by the local forces. The *Perfect Diurnall* for Monday, August 12th, 1644, reported the receipt of letters to the effect that "Colonel Ashton (a valiant active gentleman) had taken 200 of the Earl of Darbie's Horse neere to Preston, and that Sir William Brereton, Major Generall of the Association of Chester, had sent a party of about 1,500 foote to join with the Lancasterians in beleaguering the town of Liverpool."² Other movements, in the vicinity of Blackburn and Preston, in which Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth and Sir John Meldrum victoriously attacked the rear-guard of the retreating Royalist army, the author of the *Discourse of the Warr* describes with some minuteness. He states that Sir John Meldrum, "about the 10th of August, being designed to clear this County and furnished with forces of Salford and Blackburne Hundreds with the remainders of Amonderness and a Regiment of the Yorkshire Horse,"—"set forward into Darby Hundred to seek them; but they fled over Ribble Watter into the Fylde, out of which upon a false Alarum they had fled not above five days before." While Sir John Meldrum was trying to find his enemy south of Ribble, who had doubled back into the Fylde, "some scatterings of the Enemy aboad in or about Preston." The narrative proceeds:—

Now Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth lying at Blackburne with his Troop, upon the 15th of August he with a part of his Troop and some Countrymen, being desirous to go to Preston if possible (it being the Fair there), when they came to the Coppe at Walton they meeting with some of the King's part scirmished with them and put them to the flight. And in the pursuit they took a Scottish Lord called Ogles [Ogleby] and with him one of the Huddlestons of Millam Castle. And after that they met with more of that Companie about Ribble Bridge Hill and there had a sore disput with them, killing one of them at the Bridge End, a brave, portly man; what his name was they could not learne, for they were so hard put to, that it was with great difficulty that they came off with honour and safetie—yet did, and brought some butties and their Prisoners to Blackburne that night, and went not to Preston [that is to say, did not enter the town, as they had purposed, to see the Fair].³

A despatch of Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth, concerning this fight, is in existence, written from Whalley:—

Right Honourable.—Upon Thursday last [Thursday, August 15th] marching with three of my troops upon Blackburne towards Preston, where the Enemie lay, I met 11 of their Colours at Ribble Bridge within a mile of Preston, whereupon after a sharp fight we took the Lord Ogleby, a Scotch Lord, and Col. Ennis, one other Col. slaine, one Major wounded, and divers officers and souldiers to the number of 40 in all taken, besides 8 or 9 slaine, with the losse of 12 men taken prisoners, which afterwards were released by Sir John Mildrum upon his coming to Preston the night following, from whence the Enemie fled.—Your humble Servant, NIC. SHUTTLEWORTH.⁴

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 203. ² *Ib.* p. 204. ³ *Disc. of Warr*, pp. 54-5.

⁴ Baines's *Hist. of Lanc.*, ii, p. 447.

There is likewise a record of this affair in Vicars's *Parliamentary Chronicle* :—

August the two and twentieth, came credible information by letters out of Lancashire to London, that the Lord Ogleby, a Scotch incendiary, fell upon Colonel Doddington, neer Preston in Lancashire, as hee was marching out of Yorkshire to Sir John Meldrum, then in Lancashire. Colonell Doddington, the first, had the worst, but young Colonell Shuttleworth, who indeed deserved to be an elder brother for his activity and gallant performances in the service, came in timely to the relief of that valiant gentleman, Colonell Doddington, and put the enemy, consisting of foure hundred horse, to totall rout, slew many on the place, and took many prisoners; among whom were the Lord Ogleby himself, Colonell Mynne, and Lievtenant Colonell Huddlestone, a man of power and much repute in Cumberland; and divers other persons of quality, Scottish commanders and gentlemen, were taken prisoners; they also took three score Horse with their riders, and a party of these also endeavouring to get to Lathom House as a place of retreat, was surprised by our forces who lay before Lathom House, and every man of them taken prisoners.¹

The flying visit of Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth to Preston was immediately succeeded by the permanent occupation of the town by the Parliamentary regiments under Sir John Meldrum, and the flight of the Royalist partizans into the rural districts of Amounderness. The most circumstantial narrative of the war in this county says :—“ At this tyme little was known at Blackburn of Sir John Meldrum's March, and yet the 16th day of August [the day after Shuttleworth's fight at Walton Bridge], about ten or eleaven of the clock at night he entered Preston, the Enemy flying from the towne downe into the Fylde; for being far in Darbie Hundred and hearing that those Enemies that were there fled into the Fylde over Ribble Watter, he marched fast that day although it was a sore wet day. He quartered his Army in Preston about Saturday and Sunday. Upon Saturday late at night came up to him a Regiment carrying all Black Cullurs that came out of Cheshire.”² This was the regiment that Sir William Brereton detached from his Cheshire army to aid the Lancastrian Roundheads in clearing the county of the enemy. At the same time, also, “ Colonell Dodding in his return from York Battell, quartering some while in Blackburne Hundred recruiting his Forces and furnishing them with Cullers and other necessaries, hearing that Sir John was come up to Preston, came up to him with his Regiment that night.” Meldrum thus found himself in command of a force of four or five thousand men, with which he gave active pursuit to the elusive Royalists.

August 19th, 1644, Sir John Meldrum re-entered Preston, having expelled the enemy from the Fylde country. ¹ On the 20th of August, he moved southward to pursue the enemy retreating through North Meols and the westerly townships of West Derby Hundred, with the

¹ Pt. iii, p. 11.

² Disc. of Warr, pp. 55-6.

object of gaining Liverpool. Sir John had previously despatched Dodding's regiment to besiege Greenough Castle. Liverpool was surrendered by the Royalist garrison on Friday, November 1st, 1644.

By an Ordinance of the 29th of August, 1644, the two Houses of Parliament had appointed a Committee for Lancashire, for the sequestration of the estates of "Malignants" (as the Royalists were termed); for the assessment of the tax called the "Soldier's Ley" upon the county; and the reduction of the forces. The committee were to hold general monthly meetings at Preston. One instruction to this committee was that no person unfit in the judgment of seven or more of the committee "to be intrusted with arms, should reside or dwell within any of the towns of Manchester, Warrington, Liverpool, Lancaster, Clitheroe, or Preston," and every able-bodied inhabitant of these places was to be required to bear arms, or to provide a substitute. Among the twenty-eight members of this Lancashire Committee of Assessment are found the following representatives of local families:—Sir Ralph Ashton, Bart.; Richard Hoghton, Esq.; Richard Shuttleworth, Esq.; John Starkey, Esq.; Richard Ashton, Esq.; Nicholas Cunliffe, gent.; and Robert Cunliffe, gent.¹

The famine of food and general distress in those parts of Lancashire which had been the scene of Rupert's ravages and the military operations of that memorable summer of 1644 had been so extreme, that on the 11th of September the matter was brought before Parliament, and the subjoined Order was passed by the House of Commons:—

Whereas there hath been such Spoil, Rapine, and unheard-of Cruelties, lately committed by the Enemy within the County of Lancaster, insomuch that in some parts the people have hardly anything left them to cover their Nakedness, or their Children Bread to eat; which extreme Misery being represented unto the Commons assembled in Parliament: It is Ordered, That upon the Twelfth Day of this Instant September, being appointed for a solemn Fast, the One-half of the public Collection to be made in all the Churches within the Cities of London, Westminster, and within the lines of Communication, shall be employed for the Relief of those poor distressed People within the said County of Lancaster; and the Money so gathered, being certified under the Hands of the Ministers and Churchwardens of every Church, to be upon Tuesday following, being the Seventeenth Day of this Instant Month, paid unto Mr. Herle and Mr. Case, Ministers, Members of the Assembly of Divines, at the Deane's House at Westminster: Which Money is by them forthwith to be conveyed and paid unto Mr. John Hartley of Manchester, and by him to be disbursed, according to such Directions as he shall receive under the Hands of Mr. Herrick Warden of Manchester, Mr. Harper Minister of Boulton, Mr. Ward Minister of Warrington, Mr. Lathom Minister of Douglass, Mr. Ambrose Minister of Preston, Mr. Shaw Minister of Aldinham, and Mr. Hipworth Minister of Whaley [Whalley], or any Four of them; who have hereby authority to dispose and distribute the same; the several distributions being first seen and allowed by Three or more of the Deputy Lieutenants of the same County.²

¹ Journals of H. of Commons. ² Ib.

During the winter Greenough Castle, by Garstang, was won for the Parliament by the besieging force, mostly of Blackburnshire men, under Colonel Dodding. This Castle, owned, as formerly stated, by the Earl of Derby, was totally demolished. Lathom House, the last refuge of broken Royalism in Lancashire, was surrendered December 2nd, 1645, after a second siege or blockade of sixteen months. Within three years of the commencement of the conflict of the hostile parties in Lancashire, not a solitary Royalist soldier remained in arms in any part of the county. The men of Blackburn and Salford Hundreds, with the minority of Puritan confederates in Amounderness and from Liverpool, had proved more than a match for the Royalists of the four western Hundreds of Lancashire, joined by not a few friends of the King out of East Lancashire, and led though they were by the most powerful nobles and gentry in this province of the Kingdom. The result of the strife was singular, and is but partially accounted for by the drain of Lancashire loyalists to reinforce the King's chief armies, fighting in distant parts of the country. It was, however, a miserable and disastrous contest to all involved, and hardly less to the adherents of the victorious, than to those of the defeated, cause.

At the commencement of the year 1646, the Royalist interest in Lancashire had been crushed out of existence; and by midsummer of that year, the victory of the Parliament all over the country was so complete that it was confessed that "the Kinge hath no armye in the field to the number of 100 men, nor anyone garrison unbesieged."¹ King Charles, feeling the game was lost, had surrendered himself to the Scottish Army at Newark, in May, 1646, and on the 10th of June the captive monarch issued his warrant to those few supporters who still held fortified places (Sir Thomas Tyldesley was one), to evacuate them and to disband their forces.

The Lancashire Committee of Sequestration were very active in their proceedings about this time. It was not the great landowners alone who were subjected to their penalties. The smaller gentry and yeomen who had taken the losing side were fined in proportion to their means. It was generally found convenient by the sequestrators to allow the "delinquent" parties to compound for their estates by the payment of an assessed sum in money. The gentry of the district driven to compound at this time were:—Roger Nowell of Read, Esq., who paid £736 4s. 6d. as the price of his retention of his estates; John Southworth of Samlesbury, Esq., paid £358 18s. 9d.; Sir John Talbot of Salesbury, Knt., paid £444; Edward Walmesley of Banister Hall, gent., £114; William Winckley of Billington, gent., £26; William

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 214.

Farrington of Worden, senior, Esq., £536; William Farrington, junior, gent., £117.

In the autumn of 1646, the experiment was made of the establishment of a Presbyterian form of church discipline as the legalised ecclesiastical system in Lancashire. Presbyterian Classes were appointed for each Hundred and all the churches were furnished with ministers approved by the Lancashire Presbytery, and supported by stipends supplied out of the funds of the County Sequestration Committee in cases where there was no sufficient endowment attached to the benefice. The Classis of Blackburn Hundred was constituted of the following ministers and laymen:—

THE MINISTERS FIT TO BE OF THE THIRD CLASSIS.—Mr. Adam Boulton of Blackburne; Mr. Robert Worthington of Harwood; Mr. Richard Redman of Low Church; Mr. William Walker of Whaley; Mr. Henry Morrice of Burneley; Mr. John Briars of Padiham; Mr. Wm. Ingham of Church; Mr. John King of Chipping.

OTHERS FIT TO BE OF THE THIRD CLASSIS.—Sir Ralph Ashton, Baronet; Richard Shuttleworth, senior, Esquire; John Parker, Esquire; Richard Ashton of Downham, Esquire; John Livesay of Livesay, gentleman; Thomas Barcroft of Barcroft, gentleman; Nicholas Cunliffe of Wycollar, gentleman; John Cunliffe of Hollins, gentleman; Robert Cunliffe of Sparth, gentleman; Nicholas Rishton of Anteley, gentleman; Roger Gelliborn of Beardwood, gentleman; William Yates of Blackburne gentleman; John Howorth of Clayton, gentleman; Thomas Whalley of Rishton, gentleman; Charles Gregory of Haslinden, gentleman.¹

The ordinance of Parliament creating the Lancashire Provincial Presbytery of nine classes is dated Oct. 2nd, 1646; and on the 17th of November following, the Assembly met for the first time at Preston and framed a declaration of polity, published under the title of "The Deliberate Resolution of the Ministers of the Gospel within the County Palatine of Lancaster, with their grounds and cautions according to which they put into execution the Presbyteriall Government upon the present Ordinances of Parliament."² During its existence, the Provincial Assembly held twenty-two half-yearly meetings, usually at Preston; one meeting only was held at Blackburn. The functions of the Lancashire Presbytery were spontaneously suspended in 1659.

The year 1647 was passed in tranquillity in Lancashire, and throughout England. At the close of the year, it was resolved to effect large reductions in the standing army, the support of which had severely taxed the resources of Parliament. Accordingly, on the 23rd December, 1647, the House of Commons appointed a Committee to go down to the army in the various counties, to disband the supernumeraries, pay the troops, and take off free quarter. The gentlemen sent down into Lancashire upon this duty were Colonel Assheton, Mr. Fell, Mr. Peter Brook, and Mr. Shuttleworth, junior.

¹ Journals of H. of Commons.

² London: Printed for Luke Fawne, 1647.

But this interval of calm was the prelude of another stormy outburst of strife. King Charles was in the hands of his enemies, but among his friends in England and Scotland was cherished a determination to put forth another effort to restore the fallen sovereignty. A plan for the invasion of England was matured by the Stuart party in the North, whilst, in concert with the projectors of that design, Sir Marmaduke Langdale was employed to collect the fragments of the Royalist forces in the northern English counties. In the Spring of 1648 the army raised by the Duke of Hamilton among the Scottish nobility had grown to such proportions, that the prospect of an advance southward of the Duke and Langdale began to create uneasiness in Parliamentary quarters, particularly among the Roundheads in Lancashire, who were likely to bear the brunt of the new attack. By the middle of May, rumours of the coming forward of the Royalist Scottish army had become so positive that the House of Commons ordered Colonel Assheton and other officers to repair to Lancashire to employ means for the safety of the county. The mandate was promptly put into execution by Colonel Assheton and his colleagues. There yet remained embodied in Lancashire a force of several regiments, which formed a nucleus for the Lancashire army. Colonel (now Major-General) Assheton was engaged to muster for the defence of the Parliamentary interest there.

Sir Ralph Assheton called up with speed the militia of Lancashire, which had fought under him in former campaigns. June 12th, it was reported that "The Committee of Lancashire have ordered four colonels of foot and two of horse, with their regiments, now in readiness in the northern part of this county, forthwith to join with Major-General Lambert's forces in Yorkshire against the enemy in Westmoreland and Cumberland;" that "Colonel Ashton is Commander-in-chief, and under him Lt.-Col. Rigby commandeth one regiment of horse, and Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth the other; the colonels are Col. Dodding, Col. Standish, commandeth his own and Lt.-Col. Rigby's foot, Col. Ashton [Assheton of Downham], and Col. Oughtred Shuttleworth."¹

After some bootless delay on the Border, Duke Hamilton at last moved onward into England in the last days of July, 1648. "Some of his army was in the North about Appleby and those parts a good space. And Colonel Lambert with the forces of Yorkshire and Lancashire for the Parliament had some little bout with them, but not being able to withstand them, they retreated downe into Yorkshire, there expecting and looking for Generall Cromwell with his Forces to come in to them to make head to resist the Duke. About the latter end

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 252.

of July the Duke's Army was moving towards this country, and by the beginning of August was entered it."¹

To General Cromwell it was that not only the advanced guard of Lancashire and Yorkshire, but the country, looked for the discomfiture of the combination of Hamilton's Presbyterians, and Langdale's Prelatists and Roman Catholics, for the re-imposition of the Stuart dynasty. Cromwell had some time been employed in military operations terminating in the tedious Siege of Pembroke. It was thought Cromwell would be compelled to raise that siege, by the more serious distractions demanding his presence in the North. But he persisted in the investment, closely calculating the time when the Welsh business must close, and the campaign against Hamilton must open. On the 11th of July, Pembroke capitulated; and Cromwell, released from that duty, marched swiftly into England, in the direction of Yorkshire. His route lay through Gloucester, Leicester and Nottingham; and by the 27th of July, his horse regiments had effected the junction with Lambert at Barnard Castle. Cromwell himself, at the head of his foot regiments, did not join until about the 9th of August, when the combination was effected at Wetherby. Thence the united army, under Cromwell's command, marched to Knaresborough, and was at the latter town on the 11th of August. The design was then to enter Lancashire, which Cromwell hoped to reach in time to intercept the invading army in its passage through the county.

Hamilton, less regardful of the importance of time, both to himself and the enemy, was more leisurely in his movements than Cromwell. It took him nearly a fortnight to reach Preston after his entrance into Lancashire at Burton-in-Kendal and Kirkby-Lonsdale. From Hornby the Duke marched to Lancaster, which he did not stay to invest, and lodged one night at Ashton Hall; thence, with his vanguard, "his Artillery and three Carriages, came to Preston on the 14th or 15th of August."²

BATTLE AT PRESTON AND WALTON.

Throughout the long conflict between Monarch and Parliament, no more signal military transaction took place than the Battle at Preston and Walton, between Cromwell and Duke Hamilton, in August, 1648. Not Marston Moor battle, the turning point in the contest, when for the first time the star of Cromwell rose in the ascendant, and that of Rupert suffered occultation; nor Naseby, the expiring effort of the English Cavaliers to save the cause of Charles; nor Worcester, where the heir of the then beheaded King drank to the dregs the bitter cup of defeat that had been ordained for the Stuarts in these wars; was regarded at

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 64.

² *Ib.*, p. 65.

the time, by either section of a divided nation, as of more supreme consequence than the collision of the opposing forces on the banks of the Ribble and Darwen. The particularity with which the brief campaign, which began and was determined by this battle, was dwelt upon by those engaged in it; the lengthy despatches of the victor, Cromwell; the vindictory narrative of Langdale, the English general on the vanquished side; the proceedings in Parliament on the announcement of the battle and its results; and the private histories of the event by subordinate participants in the battle, all serve to betoken the contemporary estimate of the magnitude of the issue here decided. Measured, too, by the material gains to the conquerors, and by the losses of life and liberty by the defeated, this battle gives place to none fought in that war, nor, indeed, to any waged on English ground before or since.

On Wednesday night, August 16th, 1648, the last of Duke Hamilton's troops had arrived in the neighbourhood of Preston. The Duke's army numbered in all about 12,000 foot and 5,000 horse; a total of some 17,000 men. But this considerable army was very much scattered and disordered. On the morning of the 17th August, a large portion of Hamilton's vanguard of cavalry was as far ahead as Wigan. Of his infantry, some thousands were across the Ribble, and posted in the village of Walton and on the rising ground beyond Darwen Bridge. Other regiments were on the Preston side of Ribble Bridge and in the town of Preston; while a body of the Scottish horse was out foraging in the Fylde. Sir Marmaduke Langdale, with the English contingent, comprising some 3,000 foot and 600 horse, had just reached his quarters on the Ribbleton side of Preston, on the termination of his march out of Craven. The Royalist army was therefore spread over about twenty or more miles of country, from north to south, and was utterly unready for an attack upon any part of its extended line. Moreover, between the Scots of Hamilton and the English of Langdale there existed religious and political differences that rendered concerted action very doubtful. Even had it been probable that Cromwell's attack would come either from the north or the south, the position of Hamilton's army was one of extreme weakness; though had the blow been struck either upon the heads of the Duke's columns at Wigan, or upon his rear behind Preston, the assailed regiments might have retreated upon the main body. But it was a necessity of the case that if Cromwell attacked at all, at this stage in the invader's advance, it must be upon his left flank, and consequently that any troops lying apart from the main body would be entirely out of the fight. Only the conviction on the part of Duke Hamilton and his council of war that Cromwell was

not strong enough to attack, or could not come up in time to confront the Duke on the Ribble, could explain, much less justify, the careless disposition of the Scottish forces. Sir Marmaduke Langdale, indeed, had his English regiments well in hand, and having come to Preston by the same road that the enemy might be expected, his troops were posted precisely where they would be wanted in the event of a sudden flank attack. Langdale's position was at the edge of Ribbleton Moor, a short distance east of the town of Preston. He knew that an hostile force was within three miles of him; and he communicated the fact to Duke Hamilton, but the Duke could not credit that Cromwell was so near, and supposing that the enemy was merely a small force of Lancashire militia hovering on his flank, he made no preparation to meet a formidable onslaught.

Lieut.-General Cromwell, meanwhile, had got across the frontier passes into East Lancashire with great celerity. On the 13th of August he was at Otley, in Wharfedale; on the 14th he entered Skipton; on the 15th had reached the verge of Yorkshire, at Gisburn; and on the 16th, having marched from Gisburn to Clitheroe, through Rimington and Chatburn, and from Clitheroe over Edisford Bridge to Mitton, he had arrived towards evening at the old bridge over the Hodder, the ruins of which still remain, a few yards below the modern bridge. Here Cromwell halted, and held a council with his officers, to consider if they should turn to the left, taking the road to Whalley, and by that route march to Blackburn and Bolton, and so strike the enemy somewhere in South Lancashire or in Cheshire; or should cross the Hodder, and, following the right bank of the Ribble to Preston, try to catch the enemy before he had quitted his quarters there and force him to a general action. In favour of the latter move it could be urged that it was more likely to permit of the surprise of an unguarded adversary. Fortunately for the issue, Cromwell resolved to cross the bridge, and by a forced march to reach and beard the foe upon the Ribble. The Roundhead army encamped that night in the fields about Stonyhurst. At daybreak next morning it began the march of nine miles to Preston, the destined battle-ground. The weather was wet, and the roads and fields very heavy for marching of foot or horse. But after a toilsome march by Hurst Green and Longridge, the Roundhead vanguard came in view of the foe late in the afternoon, between Longridge and Ribbleton. Cromwell's army was but small, not more than 8,500 men, including a portion of the Lancashire regiments that had joined him near Clitheroe. The odds against him were nearly three to one, for the united forces of Hamilton and Langdale were variously reckoned at from 22,000 to 24,000 men. The day too was fast waning, and not more than four or

five hours of daylight were left for a fight that seemed likely to be stubborn. Nevertheless, Cromwell gave orders for an immediate attack. The decision, though apparently rash, was really wise—the intuition of a consummate general. Cromwell divined that the enemy's force was squandered beyond all chance of concentration, should the attack be at once delivered; whereas by a few hours of delay some thousands of outlying troops might have been called in by Hamilton to aid him in withstanding the onset of the Parliamentary general. Cromwell's army, though overmatched in numbers, was highly disciplined and confident in itself and its invincible general.

The battle commenced by an attack with foot and horse upon Sir Marmaduke Langdale's force, "drawn out," says Cromwell, "upon a moor betwixt us and the Town." Langdale's Englishmen fought very stoutly, and although the assailants were very superior in strength at the point struck, it took from three to four hours to dislodge the Royalists, and to force the entrance to the town. Langdale, finding himself worsted, judiciously moved his troops little by little to his right, in the direction of Ribble Bridge at Walton, to bring him in closer communication with Hamilton's army, the major portion of which remained in its quarters at Walton, and on both banks of the Ribble. Eventually, a remnant of Langdale and Hamilton's troops was driven into, and through, the streets of Preston, by four troops of Cromwell's own horse-regiment, and completely detached from the main army. The rest of Langdale's men debouched upon the Bridge at Walton, and in conjunction with some Scots there posted, stiffly maintained the bridge against the advance of Cromwell's regiments, of which the Lancashire contingent here came to the front of the action. At last, the Lancashire Roundheads stormed the bridge, and pursued the beaten enemy through the village of Walton to Darwen Bridge. At this second bridge another fierce conflict took place; but again the Royalists had to yield; the troops of Cromwell carried the bridge over the Darwen, and occupied the cluster of houses that stood near it. When darkness set in, Cromwell was in possession of the town of Preston; of the ground on both banks of the Ribble; of Ribble Bridge, Walton village, and Darwen Bridge. Those regiments of the Royalist horse cut off from the main army, and driven out of Preston on the north side, were hotly pursued ten miles on the road to Lancaster, and many hundreds of the men and horses captured.

The battle-ground traverses several miles of country; commencing upon a stretch of boggy waste known as Ribbleton Moor, having a slight descent towards Preston burgh; on the west skirt of the moor were the enclosed lands of Fishwick and the crofts and gardens of the eastern

suburb of Preston. Where Ribbleton Lane ended in its junction with the main street of the town, the road to Wigan and the South branched to the left in the direction of the Ribble Bridge at Walton ; and on the east side of this road the plateau of Fishwick terminates in a bluff, descending to the low level holme expanding here on the north side of the river. West of the Walton road, the Swillbrook ran at the bottom of a dingle between Frenchwood and Preston, that deepens until the brook reaches the Ribble below Avenham. A tradition exists, recorded by Patten, writing in 1716, that in the hollow, where a way from the town to Walton Bridge crossed the brook, Cromwell, when riding between these points on the right wing of his army, was put in great peril of his life by the sinking of his horse's feet in a quagmire, while the steep ground in front was lined by the enemy's firemen or pikemen, and barely saved himself by hastily dismounting. The old road made a quicker descent near the bridge over Ribble than the modern road ; and when once the musketeers of Cromwell had been suffered to occupy the high banks flanking the road, the position of the Scots defending the bridge could not long have been tenable. Forced to yield the bridge at length, the Royalist foot fell into confusion, and in the contracted space were unable to make another stand until the bridge over Darwen, a quarter of a mile distant, was gained. Boldly advancing, Cromwell's disciplined troops pushed the enemy through the village, and carried Darwen Bridge ; after which, any bodies of Scots that had missed the second bridge in the *melee*, or straggled upon Walton Flats, or been driven along Darwen bank on the church side, would be cut off from Hamilton's main body, and reduced to surrender at discretion. The nature of the position of Walton village, all but surrounded by two rivers too deep to ford in rainy seasons, renders it probable that the greater part of the thousands of prisoners taken in the battle were secured in the *cul de sac* between the two bridges, by the Lancashire regiments of Cromwell, that, perfectly knowing the ground, first joined in the victorious rush to seize Darwen Bridge, and then surrounded and made prisoners in batches the scattered detachments of the beaten army.

The losses of the day on the part of the defeated armies of Hamilton and Langdale were about a thousand killed, an indefinite number wounded, and full four thousand taken prisoners. The victors, according to the despatches of Cromwell, which have not been impugned, had remarkably small losses in killed, but a considerable number wounded and disabled.

The wreck of Langdale's forces, united with the confused masses of Hamilton's troops, retired at nightfall to the eminence a little beyond

the Darwen Bridge to the south, on the east side of the road to Wigan, between Walton and Bamber Bridge, and there made their bivouac. During the night Hamilton's council of war decided that the only course was to march on into South Lancashire; a suicidal decision, but Cromwell had barred every avenue of retreat towards Scotland, and left his antagonist no alternative but a withdrawal further into the interior of what was now a hostile country. Long before morning the Scottish army had resumed the retreat in the direction of Wigan, leaving all its artillery and baggage on the hill at Walton, to fall into the hands of Cromwell, who ordered the pursuit immediately upon the flight of the enemy becoming known at the Parliamentary head-quarters.¹

The narrative of this battle by the Roundhead officer who wrote the *Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire* is very interesting and useful. He relates that Cromwell's army encamped in the Park at Stonyhurst the night before the battle, after a council of war at which "it was concluded to fight the Duke if he aboad;" and the morning after "followed in the rear of Sir Marmaduke Langden's army, who came out of the north by Setle towne and so into Blackburn Hundred, and through Ribchester and downward to Preston; but some of them staying about the upper syd of Fulwood and Ribbleton, lodged there that night." The account proceeds:—

Generall Cromwell made no stay, but in the morning marched towards Preston after them, and when he was come as far as Ribbleton Mill, there he found them. He set upon them very fearsly, beating them up all along the way to Preston (being three miles). Many were killed, some being trodden into the dirt in the Lanes, with the horses' feet, the wayes were soe deep [in mire]. Abundance were killed in the feildes on the East syd of Preston, and so did drive them doune towards Ribble Bridge. The Duke with his forces and carriages being passed over before, having Barricaded up the bridge, stood at resistance. It was reported that when word came to the Duke that Generall Cromwell was in the rear of Sir Marmaduke Langden's Army fighting and killing them, his answer was, "Let them alone,—the English dogs are but killing one another." So little regard had he of them. At the Bridge they had a great Dispute for a long time, but at last Cromwell's Army did beat them off and they fled over

¹ It may occur to readers not familiar with the locality that the story of this memorable battle, known in history as the Battle of Preston, hardly comes within the range of any parish history except that of Preston. But when it is explained that the westerly extremity of Blackburn Parish forms the south bank of the Ribble fronting Preston as far down as the lower railway viaduct; that the second and possibly the severest stage of the battle, in which the Scots army joined issue with the Lancashire forces, began on Ribble Bridge and rolled on through Walton village in Blackburn Parish to Darwen Bridge; that both armies lay the night after the battle in Walton township; that Cromwell probably wrote his first despatch from a Walton hostelry, where he spent a part of the night; and that the retreat and pursuit next day began in the Parish; it will be seen that the battle belongs as much to the history of Blackburn Parish as to that of Preston. Add to these circumstances, as further justifying extended reference to the battle in these pages, that the Lancashire troops that fought so well on the conquering side had been chiefly raised in Blackburn and Salford Hundreds, and marched from their posts in North-East Lancashire to the fight; and that the one natural object on the battle-field associated with the conflict in Milton's martial-toned Sonnet to Cromwell is the river Darwen,—“Darwen stream with blood of Scots imbrued,”—a stream that both rises and debouches within Blackburn parish boundaries.

Darwen Bridge and soe up that hill above Walton Toune. In the feilde upon the east of the way they maid Cabbins and lodged there that night. [This sentence exactly indicates the spot where the defeated army lay on the night after the battle.] Where the Duke quartered I hard not. So night comming the Armies guarded both Bridges ; and Generall Cromwell returned to Preston and there quartered, giving orders to our Lancashire forces there to abide. . . Providence so ordered that Generall Cromwell fell upon the Scotch army in the very flank thereof, for (as we said before) the Duke, with the Infantrie, traine of Artillery and Carriages, came all to Preston at once, with Langden's [Langdale's] forces, and upon these it was that the Generall fell and defeated them. Now the great bodie of the Duke's Cavalrie and Horse was a daies march behind him, and coming up when the Battel was at hand, the Generall when he had well beaten them up gave Orders that a strong bodie of his Horse should fall down to the lower side of Fulwood More near the way betwixt Garstang and Preston, to hinder, if possible, the Reare of the Duke's Army for comming up ; upon the sight of those horse and hearing of the Musketts and Defeat given to the Duke his Reare durst not come out. Great number of them turned not back by the same way. They came, but tooke other waies and fled downward into the Fyld Country and in great feare, as was thought, parted themselves into sundry roads or waies. The Duke's Artillery and Carriages were all taken, standing upon Walton Coppe. What number there was of them I never hard.¹

This writer gives an unfavourable account of the behaviour of Hamilton's army and the depraved female camp-followers while about Preston :—

The cariag of Duke Hamilton's Army in their march was very evil, for they plundered extreemly ; yea, abundance of suttie vagabound women that followed the Duke's camp vexed the pore country sore ; yet in their retreat without doubt it was well paid home into their bosoms, many getting by them, though against their wills. The better sort of them were well stored with money, and when they saw themselves defeated and that there was noe way for them to escape but to be taken prisoners, some hid their money in the fields about Preston, and have, since the times were more quiet, come and found their owne money, and enjoyed it. And it was thought that Preston and the townes about it lost not, but gained much by their flight.²

The next document is the vindicatory letter of Sir Marmaduke Langdale, the English Royalist general. The copy is from the *Fairfax Correspondence*³ :—

Sir,—This will give you a final account of my employment, which is now ended, being a prisoner in Nottingham Castle, where I have civil usage. You have heard the condition I was in at Settle and Giggleswick, with about 3,000 foot and 600 horse, the 13th of August, where, hearing the Parliament forces were gathered together, and marching towards me, I went to acquaint Duke Hamilton therewith to Hornby, when he determined to march to Preston, where his army being numerous in foot, he might have the greatest advantage upon his enemy in these inclosed countries. I marched neare Clitherow, towards Preston ; in the march I met with the Lord Calender, and divers of the Scottish officers quartered in my way, with whom it was resolved to march to Preston ; but for the present the Intelligence was, that the Parliament Forces were divided, some part whereof were marched to Colne, and so to Manchester, to relieve

¹ Disc. of Warr, pp. 65-7.

² Ib. p. 68.

³ Ed. by Bell, v. ii, pp. 60-2.

that Towne in case we should press upon it; this made the Officers of Horse more negligent in repairing to Preston, but quartering wide in the country. The same night certain intelligence came that Lieutenant-General Cromwell, with all his Forces, was within three miles of my quarters, which I immediately sent to the Duke, and told my Lord Leviston to acquaint Lieutenant-General Middleton therewith, and drew my forces together in a field, and so marched towards Preston betimes in the morning, where I found the Duke and Lord Calender with the most part of the Scottish foot drawn up. Their resolution was to march to Wigan, giving little credit to the Intelligence that came the night before; but suffered their horse to continue in their quarters ten or twelve miles off. Within halfe an hour of our meeting, and by that time I was drawn into the closes near Preston, the Enemy appeared with a small body of horse; the Scots continued their resolution for Wigan, for which end they drew their Foot over the Bridge [Ribble Bridge at Walton]. The enemy coming the same way that I had marched, fell upon my Quarters, where we continued skirmishing six hours, in all which time the Scots sent me no relief; they had very few horse come up, so as those they sent me at last were but few, which were soon beaten; but if they had sent me 1,000 Foot to have flanked the Enemy, I doubt not the day had been ours. Yet I kept my post with various success, many times gaining ground of the Enemy; and as the Scots acknowledge, they never saw any Foot fight better than mine did. The Duke being incredulous that it was their whole army, sent Sir Lewis Dives to me to whom I answered that it was impossible any forces that were inconsiderable would adventure to press upon so great an Army as we had, therefore he might conclude it was all the power they could make, with which they were resolved to put all to the hazard, therefore desired that I might be seconded, and have more powder and ammunition, I having spent nine Barrels of powder. The Scots continued their march over the river, and did scour a lane near the Bridge, whereby the Parliament Forces came upon my flank; neither did the forces that were left for my supply come to my relief, but continued in the rear of mine, nor did they ever face the Enemy, but in bringing up the Rear. When most part of the Scots were drawn over the Bridge, the Parliament Forces pressed hard upon me in the Van and Flanks, and so drove me into the Town, where the Duke was in person, with some few horse; but all being lost [the Duke] retreated over a ford to his Foot. After my forces were beaten, the Parliament Forces beat the Scots from the Bridge presently, and so came over into all the Lanes that we could not join with the Foot, but were forced to Charlow [Chorley], where we found Lt.-General Middleton ready to advance towards Preston to the Foot, which he did, but not finding them there, retreated towards Wigan, where the Duke was with his Foot; mine totally lost; there they took a resolution to go to my Lord Byron, for which end they would march that night to Warrington, &c.

Sir James Turner, a Scotch Royalist in Duke Hamilton's army, supplies particulars of the fighting between Ribble Bridge and the eminence beyond Darwen Bridge in Walton, not found elsewhere:—

Beside Preston in Lancashire Cromwell falls on Sir Marmaduke's flank. The English [under Langdale] imagined it was one Colonel Ashton, a powerful Presbyterian, who had got together 3,000 [Lancashire] men to oppose us, because we came out of Scotland without the General Assembly's permission. Mark the quarrel. While Sir Marmaduke disputes the matter, Baillie, by the Duke's order, marches to Ribble Bridge, and passes it with all the foot except two brigades. This was two miles from Preston. By my Lord Duke's Command, I had sent some ammunition and com-

manded men to Sir Marmaduke's assistance ; but to no purpose ; for Cromwell prevailed,—so that our English first retired, and then fled. It must be remembered that, the night before this sad encounter, Earl Calendar and Middleton were gone to Wigan, eight [seventeen] miles from thence, with a considerable part of the cavalry. Calendar was come back, and was with the Duke, and so was I ; but upon the rout of Sir Marmaduke's people Calendar got away to the Ribble, where he arrived safely by a miracle, as I think ; for the Enemy was between the Bridge and us, and had killed or taken most part of our two brigades of foot. The Duke with his guard of horse, Sir Marmaduke with many officers, among others myself, got into Preston town, with intention to pass a ford below it, though at that time not rideable. At the entry of the Town, the enemy pursued us hard. The Duke faced about, and put two troops of them to a retreat ; but so soon as we turned from them, they again turned upon us. The Duke facing the second time, charged them, which succeeded well. Being pursued the third time, my Lord Duke cried :—“ To charge once more for King Charles !” One trooper refusing, he beat him with his sword. At that charge we put the enemy so far behind us that he could not so soon overtake us again. Then Sir Marmaduke and I entreated the Duke to hasten to his army : and truly here he showed as much personal valour as any man could be capable of. We swam the River Ribble ; and so got to the place. Lieutenant-General Baillie had advantageously lodged the foot, on the top of a Hill, among very fencible enclosures. After Calendar came to the infantry he had sent 600 musketeers to defend Ribble Bridge. Very unadvisedly ; for the way Cromwell had to it was a descent from a hill that commanded all the champaign ; which was about an English quarter of a mile in length between the Bridge and that Hill where our foot were lodged. So that our musketeers, having no shelter, were forced to receive all the musket-shot of Cromwell's infantry, which was secure within thick hedges ; and after the loss of many men, were forced to run back on our foot. Here Claud Hamilton, the Duke's Lieutenant-Colonel, had his arm broke with a musket bullet. The Bridge of Ribble being lost, the Duke called all the colonels on horseback together to advise what was next to be done. We had no choice but one of two : either stay, and maintain our ground till Middleton (who was sent for) came back with his cavalry : or else march away that night, and find him out. Calendar would needs speak first ; whereas by the custom of war he should have told his opinion last,—and it was, To march away that night so soon as it was dark. This was seconded by all the rest, except by Lieutenant-General Baillie and myself. But all the arguments we used,—as, the impossibility of a safe retreat from an enemy so powerful of horse ; in so very foul weather, and extremely deep ways ; our soldiers exceedingly wet, weary, and hungry ; the inevitable loss of all our ammunition,—could not move my Lord Duke by his authority to contradict the shameful resolution taken by the major part of his officers. After that drumless march was resolved upon, and but few horse appointed to stay in rear of the foot, I inquired, What should become of our unfortunate ammunition, since forward with us we could not get it ? It was not thought fit to blow it up that night, lest thereby the Enemy should know of our retreat, or rather flight. I was of that opinion too ; but for another reason ; for we could not have blown it up then without a visible mischief to ourselves, being so near it. It was ordered it should be done three hours after our departure, by a train : but that being neglected, Cromwell got it all. Next morning we appeared at Wigan Moor ; half our number less than we were ;—most of the faint and weary soldiers having lagged behind, whom we never saw again.¹

The confusion and dismay that pervaded the Royalist camp on

Memoirs of his own Life and Times, pp. 63 et seq.

“Walton Coppe” the night following the battle is nowhere so fully exposed as in this letter of the Stuart partizan. The abandonment to the enemy of the ammunition of Hamilton’s army, which the Royalists could not remove and dare not blow up for fear of the enemy, illustrates the egregious mismanagement that marked the campaign on the Scottish side. Captain Hodgson, a Yorkshire officer in Cromwell’s army, well sets forth the part sustained in the battle by the Lancashire troops :—

I met Major-General Lambert, and coming to him I told him where his danger lay, on his left wing, chiefly. He ordered me to fetch up the Lancashire Regiment, and God brought me off, both horse and myself. The bullets flew freely; then was the heat of the battle that day. I came down to the muir, where I met with Major Jackson, that belonged to Ashton’s Regiment, and about three hundred men were come up; and I ordered him to march, but he said he would not till his men were come up. A serjeant belonging to them asked me where they should march. I shewed him the party he was to fight, and he like a true-bred Englishman marched, and I caused the soldiers to follow him, which presently fell upon the enemy; and losing that wing the whole army gave ground and fled . . . The Lancashire men were as stout men as were in the world, and as brave firemen. I have often told them they were as good fighters, and as great plunderers, as ever went to a field . . . Col. Bright’s regiment, Col. Pride’s, and Col. Deane’s kept the field; the Lancashire Regiments and my Lord Cromwell’s Regiment of foot passed towards Ribbald [Ribble] Bridge, with most of our horse, where the Scots had six regiments of horse and foot, that had been in no service [*i.e.*, that had not yet been engaged], besides their great army, with their waggons, near Walton Hall, drawn up in readiness. There was a long dispute before the Bridge was gained, and our horse and foot having routed that party, above Walton Hall they came to their main body, and a matter of six or eight horsemen, commanded by Captain Pockley, kept a gapstead of their whole army, while some of our troopers lighted, and turned about Hamilton’s waggons, and threw over that wherein was all his plate, as they brought it down the hill; but the Scots having no mind to rescue it, suffered them to carry the prize away in the face of their whole army, though nothing to fright them, but a forlorn-hope of horse. . . . That night our regiment was appointed quarters in Preston.¹

Each of the above accounts has its special items of information; still the most circumstantial and interesting description of this historic battle is left in the Despatches of Lieutenant-General Cromwell, to whose redoubtable courage and swift decision this signal triumph was even more plainly due, than to the discipline and bravery of the army under his orders. These Despatches are four in number :—(1) a brief letter, written from Preston on the evening of the first day of the conflict (August 17th) addressed to the Lancashire Committee at Manchester; (2) a fuller and lucid description of the battle and its results, in a Despatch intended to be read to the House of Commons, and addressed to the Speaker, William Lenthall;—this Despatch is dated from Warrington, on the 20th of August, and reports the three days’ operations down to

¹ Narrative, cited in C. W. Tracts, pp. 261-2.

the last Lancashire fight at Winwick; (3) a letter to the Committee at York; and (4) a letter from Wigan, dated 23rd August, to the Committee at Derby House, respecting later circumstances and movements. Cromwell's first report of the victory was as follows :—

FOR THE HONOURABLE COMMITTEE OF LANCASHIRE SITTING AT MANCHESTER ;—(I desire the Commander of the Forces there to open this letter, if it come not to their [the Committee's] hands).—Gentlemen,—It hath pleased God this day to show His great power by making the army successful against the common Enemy. We lay last night at Mr. Sherburn's of Stonihurst, nine miles from Preston, which was within three miles of the Scots quarters. We advanced betimes the next morning towards Preston, with a desire to engage the Enemy; and by that time our Forlorn had engaged the Enemy, we were about four miles from Preston, and therefore we advanced with the whole army; and the Enemy being drawn out on a Moor betwixt us and the Town, the armies on both sides engaged, and after a very sharp dispute, continuinge for three or foure houres, it pleased God to enable us to give them a defeat, which I hope we shall improve by God's assistance to their utter ruine; and in this service your countrymen have not the least [*i.e.* a great] share. We cannot bee particular, having not time to take accompt of the slaine and prisoners, but we can assure you we have many prisoners, and many of those of quality, and many slain, and the Army so dissipated. The principal part whereof, with Duke Hamilton, is on south side Ribble and Darwen Bridges, and we lying with the greatest part of the army close to them, nothing hindring the ruine of that part of the Enemies Army but the night; it will be our care that they shall not pass over any ford beneath the Bridge, to goe northward, or to come betwixt us and Whalley. We understand Colonel-General Ashton's are at Whalley; we have seven troops of horse or dragoons that we believe lie at Clitheroe. This night I have sent orders to them expressly to march to Whalley, to joyne to those companies, that soe we may endeavour the ruine of this Enemie. You perceive by this letter how things stand; by this means the Enemy is broken, and most of their Horse having gone Northward, and we having sent a considerable party at the very heels of them, and the Enemy having lost almost all his ammunition, and near four thousand armes, so that the greatest part of the Foot are naked; and therefore in order to perfecting this worke, we desire you to raise your county, and to improve your forces to the total ruine of that enemy, which way soever they go; and [so] that you shall accordingly do your part, doubt not of their total ruine. We thought fit to speed this to you, to the end you may not be troubled if they shall march towards you, but improve your interest as aforesaid, that you may give glory to God for this unspeakable Mercy. This is all at present from your very humble servant,

OLIVER CROMWELL.

Preston, 17th August, 1648.

The letter was received the next day by the Manchester Committee, and by one of them was sent on to the House of Commons, with a letter dated August 19th, signed with the initials "W. L."¹ Cromwell's missive was read in the House on the 21st of August.

This despatch was penned in Cromwell's head-quarters in Walton at once upon the cessation of the battle, while yet it could not be known what the discomfited Hamilton would essay to do with his broken army. The Royalist army was then encamped on the rising ground in Walton

¹ C. W. Tracts, pp. 256-8.

township, just beyond the bridge over the Darwen, and the mass of Cromwell's army was posted in Walton village, between Ribble Bridge and Darwen Bridge, prepared to attack at the first glimmer of the summer dawn. Cromwell's solicitude was to prevent Hamilton and his Scots escaping him, either by re-crossing the Ribble by the ford near Penwortham, and retreating northwards, or else by getting into the valley of Ribble, and retiring towards Scotland by the route Langdale's English Royalists had advanced to join before the battle. To frustrate any such designs, Cromwell had strongly guarded the Ribble at fordable places; and by holding Darwen Bridge and the east bank of the Darwen effectually blocked the entrance to Ribblesdale. Duke Hamilton had thus no chance of moving his shattered host Scotland-ward, but was driven to retreat further into England, where, as Cromwell knew, forces were gathering from every hand to intercept the invader now turned fugitive. He bade the Manchester Committee raise the county and face the enemy boldly should he march in the direction of Manchester. All these dispositions reveal the soldierly skill and sagacity of Cromwell. Hamilton commenced his retreat on the only route left open during the night—Cromwell's troopers resistlessly pursuing to Chorley, Wigan, and Warrington. Three days later, writing from Warrington, the Republican General had a more complete account to give of the enemy, by that time wasted almost to annihilation. Cromwell's celebrated despatch to Speaker Lenthall, announcing his victory to the House of Commons, is inserted at length below:—

To the Hon. William Lenthall, Esq., Speaker of the House of Commons: these.—Sir,—I have sent up this gentleman to give you an account of the great and good hand of God towards you, in the late victory obtained against the enemy in these parts. After the conjunction of that party which I brought with me out of Wales with the northern forces about Knaresborough and Wetherby, hearing that the enemy was advanced with their army into Lancashire, we marched the next day, being the 13th of this instant August, to Oatley [Otley], having cast off our train and sent it to Knaresborough, because of the difficulty of the marching therewith through Craven; and to the end we might with more expedition attend the enemy's motion, and on the 14th to Skipton, the 15th to Gisborn, the 16th to Hodder Bridge over Ribble, where we had a Council of War, at which we had a consideration whether we should march to Whalley that night, and so on to interpose between the Enemy and his further progress into Lancashire, and so southward, which we had some advertisement the Enemy intended, and since confirmed that they intended for London itself; or whether to march over the said Bridge, there being no other betwixt that and Preston, and engage the Enemy there, who we did not believe would not stand his ground, because we had information that the Irish forces under Munro lately come out of Ireland, which consisted of twelve hundred Horse and fifteen hundred Foot, were on their march towards Lancashire to joyn with them. It was thought that to engage the Enemy to fight was our business, and the reason aforesaid giving us hopes that our marching on the north side of the Ribble would effect it, it was resolved that we

should march over the Bridge, which accordingly we did, and that night quartered the whole army in the field by Stonihurst Hall, being Mr. Sherburn's house, a place nine miles distant from Preston. Very early the next morning we marched towards Preston, having intelligence that the Enemy was drawing together thereabouts from all out-quarters. We drew out a Forlorn of about Two hundred Horse and Four Hundred foot, the Horse commanded by Major Smithson, the foot by Major Pownal. Our Forlorn of Horse marched within a mile where the Enemy was drawn up in the inclosed grounds by Preston, on that side next us; and there upon a moor, about half a mile distant from the Enemies army, met with their scouts and out guard, and did behave themselves with that valour and courage as made their Guards (which consisted of both horse and foot) to quit their ground, and took divers prisoners, holding this dispute with them until our Forlorn of foot came up for their justification, and by those we had opportunity to bring up our whole Army. So soon as our foot and horse were come up, we resolved that night to engage them if we could, and therefore advancing with our Forlorn, and putting the rest of our army into as good a posture as the ground would bear (which was totally inconvenient for our horse, being all inclosure and miery ground) we pressed upon them. The Regiments of foot were ordered as followeth. There being a lane very deep and ill, up to the enemies army, and leading to the town, we commanded two Regiments of horse, the first whereof was Col. Harrisons and next was my own, to charge up that lane, and on either side of them advanced the Battel,—which were Lieut. Col. Reads, Col. Deans, and Col. Prides on the right, Col. Brights and my Lord Generals on the left, and Col. Ashton with the Lancashire Regiments in reserve. We ordered Col. Thornhaugh and Col. Twisletons Regiments of horse on the right, and one regiment in reserve for the lane, the remaining horse on the left; so that at last we came to a hedge dispute, the greatest of the impressions of the Enemy being upon our left Wing, and upon the battel on both sides the lane, and upon our horse in the lane, in all which places the Enemy were forced from their ground after 4 hours dispute, until we came to the town, into which four troops of my regiment first entered, and being well seconded by Col. Harrisons regiment, charged the Enemy in the Town, and cleared the streets. There came no bands of your foot to fight that day but did it with incredible Valour and Resolution, among which Col. Brights, my Lord Generals, Lieut. Col. Reads and Col. Ashtons had the greatest work, they often coming to push of pike and close firing, and always making the enemy to recoyl; and indeed I must needs say, God was as much seen in the valour of the Officers and Soldiers of these before-mentioned, as in any action that hath been performed; the Enemy making (though he was still worsted) very stiff and sturdy resistance. Col. Deans and Col. Prides outwinging the enemy, could not come to so much share of the action; the Enemy shogging down towards the Bridge, and keeping almost all in reserve, that so he might bring fresh hands often to fight, which we not knowing, but lest we should be outwinged, placed those two Regiments to enlarge our Right Wing, which was the cause they had not at that time so great a share in the action. At the last the Enemy was put into disorder, many men slain; many prisoners taken; the Duke with most of the Scots horse and foot retreated over the Bridge, where, after a very hot dispute betwixt the Lancashire Regiments, part of my Lord Generals and them being at push of Pike, they [the enemy] were beaten from the Bridge, and our horse and foot following them, killed many, and took divers prisoners; and we possessed the bridge over the Darwent and a few houses there, the Enemy being driven up within musquet shot of us where we lay that night, we not being able to attempt further upon the Enemy, the night preventing us. In this position did the Enemy and we lie the most part of that night;

upon entering the town, many of the enemy's horse fled towards Lancaster, in the chase of whom went divers of our horse, who pursued them near ten miles, and had execution of them, and took about five hundred horse and many Prisoners. We possessed in the fight very much of the Enemy's Ammunition; I believe they lost four or five thousand arms. The number of the slain we judge to be about a thousand, the prisoners we took were about four thousand. In the night the Duke was drawing off his army towards Wiggon; we were so wearied with the dispute that we did not so well attend the Enemy's going off as might have been, by means whereof the Enemy was gotten at least 3 miles with his rear, before ours got to them. I ordered Collonel Thornhaugh to Command two or three Regiments of horse to follow the Enemy if it were possible, to make him stand till we could bring up the army. The Enemy marched away seven or eight thousand foot and about four thousand horse; we followed him with about three thousand foot, and two thousand five hundred horse and dragoons; and in this prosecution that worthy gentleman Collonel Thornhaugh, pressing too boldly, was slaine, being ran into the body, and thigh, and head, by the Enemies Lancers; and give me leave to say he was as faithfull and gallant to your service as any, and one who often heretofore lost blood in your quarrel, and now his last. He hath left some behind him to inherit a father's honour, and a sad Widdow, both now the interest of the Commonwealth. Our horse still prosecuted the Enemy, killing and taking divers all the way. At last the Enemy drew up within three miles of Wiggon; and by that time our armie was come up, they drew off again, and recovered Wiggon before we could attempt anything upon them. We lay that night in a field close by the enemy, being dirty and weary, and having marched twelve miles of such ground as I never rode in all my life, the day being very wet. We had some skirmishing that night with the Enemy near the town, where we took General Van Druske and a Collonel, and killed some principal officers, and took about a hundred prisoners; where I also received a letter from Duke Hamilton, for civil usage towards his kinsman Collonel Hamilton, whom he left wounded here. We also took Collonel Harvey and Lt.-Col. Jones, sometime in your service. The next morning the Enemy marched towards Warrington, and we at the heels of them. The town of Wiggon a great and poore town, and very malignant, were plundered almost to their skins by them. We could not engage the Enemy until we came within three miles of Warrington, and there the Enemy made a stand at a passe near Winwicke. We had them in some Dispute till our army came up, they maintaining the passe with great resolution for many hours, ours and theirs coming to push of pike and very close charges, and forced us to give ground, but our men, by the blessing of God, quickly recovered it, and charging very home upon them, beat them from their standing, where we killed about a thousand of them, and tooke (we believe) about two thousand prisoners; and prosecuted them home to Warrington town, where they possessed the bridge, which had a strong barricado and a work upon it, formerly made very defensive. As soon as we came thither I received a message from Lieutenant-General Baily, desiring some capitulation, to which I yielded, considering the strength of the passe [over the Mersey], and that I could not go over the river within ten miles of Warrington with the army; I gave him these terms, that he should surrender himself and all his officers and souldiers prisoners of War, with all his arms and ammunition and horses to me, I giving quarter for life, and promising civill usage, which accordingly is done, and the Commissioners deputed by me have received, and are receiving, all the arms and ammunition, which will be, as they tell me, about four thousand compleat arms, and as many prisoners, and thus you have their infantry totally ruined. What colonells and officers are with Lieut.-General Baily, I have not received the

list. The Duke is marched with his remaining horse, which are about three thousand, towards Nantwich, where the gentlemen of the county have taken about five hundred of them, of which they sent me word this day. The country will scarce suffer any of my men to passe, except they have my hand [certificate], telling them they are Scots. They bring in and kill divers of them as they light upon them. Most of the nobility of Scotland are with the Duke. If I had a thousand horse that could but trot thirty miles, I should not doubt but to give a very good account of them ; but truly we are so harassed and hagged out in this business, that we are not able to doe more than walke an easy pace after them. I have sent post to my Lord Grey, to Sir Henry Cholmely, and Sir Edward Roads, to gather altogether with speed for their prosecution, as likewise to acquaint the Governor of Stafford therewith. I heare Munro is about Cumberland with the horse that ran away [from Preston], and the Irish Horse and Foot, which are a considerable body. I have left Collonel Ashton's three regiments of Foot, and seven troop of Horse, six of Lancashire and one of Cumberland, at Preston, and ordered Collonel Scroop with five troops of Horse and one of Dragoons, with two regiments of Foot, viz. Collonel Wastals, to embody with them, by which I hope he will be able to make a resistance till we can come up to them, and have ordered them to put their prisoners to the sword, if the Scots shall presume to advance upon them, because they cannot [in that case] bring them off with security. Thus you have a narrative of the particulars of the successe which God has given you, which I could hardly at this time have done, considering the multiplicity of businesse ; but truly when I was engaged in it, I could hardly tell how to say lesse, there being so much of God, and I am not willing to say more, lest there should seem to be any of man : only give me leave to adde one word, shewing the disparity of the forces on both sides, so you may see and all the world acknowledge the great hand of God in this businesse. The Scots army could not be less than twelve thousand effective Foot, well armed, and five thousand Horse ; Langdale not less than two thousand five hundred foot and fifteen hundred Horse ; in all, Twenty-one thousand ; and truly very few of their foot but were as well armed, if not better than yours, and at divers disputes did fight two or three hours before they would quit their ground. Yours were about two thousand five hundred Horse and Dragoons of your old Army ; about four thousand Foot of your old Army ; also about sixteen hundred of Lancashire Foot, and about five hundred Lancashire Horse, in all about Eight thousand six hundred. You see by computation about two thousand of the enemy slaine, betwixt eight and nine thousand taken prisoners, besides what are lurking in hedges and private places, which the country daily bring in or destroy. Where Langdale and his broken forces are I know not, but they are exceedingly shattered. Surely, sir, this is nothing but the hand of God ; and whenever anything in this world is exalted, or exalts itself, God will pull it down, for this is the day wherein he alone will be exalted. It is not fit for me to give advice, nor to say a word what use you should make of this ; more than to pray you, and all that acknowledge God, that they will only exalt him, and not hate his people, who are as the apple of his eye, and for whom even Kings shall be reproved, and that you would take courage to doe the work of the Lord, in fulfilling the end of your Magistracy, in seeking the peace and welfare of the people in this land, that all who will live quietly and peaceably may have countenance from you ; and they that are implacable and will not leave troubling the Land may speedily be destroyed out of the Land ; and if you will take courage in this, God will blesse you, and good men will stand by you, and God will have glory, and the land will have happiness by you in despite of all your enemies ; which shall be the prayer of your most humble and faithfull Servant,

20th August, 1648.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

POSTSCRIPT.—We have not in all lost a considerable officer but Collonel Thornhaugh, and not many soldiers, considering the service, but many are wounded, and on horse much wearied. I humbly crave that some course be taken to dispose of the prisoners; the trouble and extreme charge of the Country where they lie, is more than the danger of their escape. I think they would not go home if they might without a convoy, they are so fearfull of the country from whom they have deserved so ill. Ten men will keepe a thousand from running away.

Lieut.-General Cromwell did not continue the pursuit of the remnant of Duke Hamilton's force beyond the Mersey. He left that to the forces of the counties to the southward, which were mustering with alacrity to surround the flying invaders.

The tidings of Cromwell's splendid series of victories in Lancashire were received in the Capital with vast excitement, and by the adherents of the Parliamentarian and Republican parties with exultation.¹ It took in those times three days for a military courier, riding at his utmost speed, with relays of horses provided at intervals, to accomplish the distance of two hundred miles between Lancashire and London. To do the journey even in that time must have been a considerable feat, for an average of seventy miles per day upon the ill-kept roads of England in 1648 required desperate exertions both by rider and horse. General Cromwell's Despatch to the Speaker of the House of Commons, written on August 20th, reached its destination within three days, and on the Minutes of the House of Commons for August 23rd, 1648, the following

¹ The partizans of Royalty in London and the South were, as might be imagined, eagerly expecting and awaiting tidings of successes by the forces of Hamilton and Langdale, and received the first sinister rumours of disaster with real or pretended incredulity. What was thought and said in those circles at this crisis is indicated by passages in the Royalist "Mercurius Pragmaticus," published in the week succeeding the battle of Preston. This chronicler writes, about August 22nd :—"A letter also was read in the House of Commons from the Committee of Lancashire sitting at Manchester, and directed to Sir Ralph Ashton a Member, wherein was inclosed a pretended letter from Cromwell, the contents whereof were to give the Committee an account at Manchester of a successe against the Scots about Preston in Lancashire, where, this paper kite saies, they engaged the maine of the Scottish armie early in the morning on Thursday, August 17th, and after 3 or 4 hours dispute worsted them, took between 3 and 4,000 arms, killed and took many prisoners, whereof some of quality, but that Duke Hamilton was fled with a party of horse." Upon this news the Royalist journalist casts contemptuous discredit. But in his next issue he has dejectedly to record its full confirmation :—"Tuesday, August 22, was a day of refreshing to the poor baited Faction. For the letter read before the House, which was sent by the Lancashire Committee, &c., touching the rout of the Scottish army, and which I then slighted in the close of the last week, because it came only from their own creatures, the partes of it very rude and indigested, and had nothing to second it, till on Tuesday there came a more probable relation under Cromwell's own fist; wherein he gives account of the numbers of each army before the Engagement, the manner of the fight, and the successe of both parties. He makes the Scots and Langdale united to have been 21 thousand, now that they are beaten, tho' before they were undervalued, and it was malignauncy to reckon them above 10 or 12 thousand at most. As for the manner of the fight, it was acted on severall stages: First it began at Preston, in Lancashire, where the Duke being worsted he retreated to Wigan, and from thence to Warrington, where Lieut.-Generall Baily, Lt.-Gen. of the Scotch Foot, yielded up himself with 4000 arms and 5000 prisoners, by which means the infantry being quite ruined, the Duke himself fled with 4000 horse towards Namptwich, but whither since you shall heare by and by. He [Cromwell] computed about 2000 of the enemy slain, betwixt 8 and 9000 prisoners."

record is entered of the reception of the despatch by the House, and of its Resolutions thereupon :—

A Letter from Lieutenant General Cromwell, of 20 August, 1648, relating the Particulars of the wonderful great Victory, bestowed, by the great Mercy of God, against the Scotts whole Army, on the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth instant, in Lancashire, now this day read; and ordered to be forthwith printed and published.

RESOLVED, &c. That there be a Day of Solemn Thanksgiving, through the whole Kingdom, unto Almighty God, for his wonderful great Mercy and Success, bestowed upon the Parliament Forces under the Command of Lieutenant-General Cromwell, against the whole Scotts Army under the Conduct and Command of Duke Hamilton, on the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, and Nineteenth of this present August, in Lancashire. And that this Day be Thursday come Fortnight, being the Seventh Day of September next, 1648.

RESOLVED, &c. That a Collection be made in all the Churches and Chapels through the whole Kingdom, on Thursday come Fortnight, the Seventh of September, the Day appointed for a General and Solemn Thanksgiving for the great Victory against the Scotts: And that the Monies, bestowed and collected upon that Day, be employed for the Relief and Supply of the wounded Soldiers in Lancashire; and of the poor and visited People and Places there.

It was at the same sitting further—

ORDERED, That a Letter of suitable hearty Thanks, to be signed by Mr. Speaker, be sent to Lieutenant General Cromwell, taking notice of his great Valour, Vigilancy, and wise Conduct, in this great Service against the Scotts in Lancashire; desiring him to give the thanks of this House to all his Officers for their good Service; and to let them know, that his Desires by his Letter are taken into consideration. Mr. Lisle is to prepare the Letter.

ORDERED, That a Letter of Thanks, to be signed by Mr. Speaker, be sent to Colonel Ashton, for his good service against the Scotts Forces. Sir Ralph Ashton to prepare the Letter.

ORDERED, That a Letter of Thanks, to be signed by Mr. Speaker, be sent to the Committee of Lancashire, taking notice of their seasonable and ready assistance against the Scotts Forces. Colonel Moore to prepare the Letter.

Some further references to the victory are found in the Commons Journals of the 25th August.

Two days Cromwell remained about Warrington, and on August 23rd he began to retrace his steps, purposing to return into Yorkshire, and from Wigan he wrote to the Parliamentarian Committee at York, advising them to be prepared for the contingency of Hamilton's appearance in their direction.

Another interesting letter of Cromwell has been brought to light.¹ The story of the great battle would hardly be complete without this letter, passages of which are subjoined. This letter is addressed to the Committee of Lords and Commons at Derby House :—

Wigan, 23rd Aug., 1648.—My Lords and Gentlemen,—I did not (being straitened

¹ Printed in Appendix to Carlyle's Letters, &c., of Cromwell.

with time) send you an account of the great blessing of God upon your Army;—I trust it is satisfactory to your lordships that the House had it so fully presented to them. My Lords, it cannot be imagined that so great a business as this could be without some loss;—although I confess very little compared with the weightiness of the engagement; there being on our part not an Hundred Slain, yet many Wounded. And to our little army it is a real weakening, for indeed we are but a handful. I submit to your Lordships, whether you will think fit or no to recruit our Loss; we having but Five poor Regiments of foot, and our horse so exceedingly battered as I never saw them in all my life. . . . I offer it to your Lordships that Money may be sent to pay the foot and horse to some equality. Some of those that were here seventy days before I marched from Windsor into Wales have not had any pay; and amongst the horse my own Regiment and some others are much behind. . . . We have very much to do which might be better done if we had the wherewithal. Our Foot want clothes, shoes and stockings; these ways and weather have shattered them all to pieces: that which was the great blow to our horse was (beside the weather and incessant marches) our March ten miles to fight with the Enemy, and a Fight continuing four hours in as dirty a place as ever I saw horse stand in; and, upon the matter, the continuance of the Fight two days more together in our following the Enemy, and lying close by him in the mire. . . . I have sent Major-General Lambert with above Two Thousand horse and dragoons and about Fourteen Thousand [hundred] foot in prosecution of the Duke and the Nobility of Scotland with him; who will, I doubt not, have the blessing of God with him in the business. But indeed his horse are exceedingly weak and weary. I have sent to Yorkshire and to my Lord Grey to alarm all parts to a prosecution; and if they be not wanting to the work, I see not how many can escape. I am marched [marching] myself back to Preston,—and so on towards Monro or otherwise, as God shall direct. As things fall out I shall represent them to you; and rest, my Lords and Gentlemen, your most humble servant,

OLIVER CROMWELL.

Two days after the date of this missive, on August 25th, 1648, Duke Hamilton and the remains of his army, including many personages of distinction, surrendered to the Parliamentary forces at Uttoxeter in Staffordshire. On this announcement, Major-General Lambert at once turned his pursuing force about and hastened to rejoin his chief. Cromwell, as he states at the close of the letter just given, proceeded to Preston, there to decide upon his future course.¹

From Preston, after resting his overwrought regiments two or three

¹ The Colours taken from the King's army by Cromwell in the Preston campaign were eighty-five in number. Harleian MS. No. 1460, Codex 2, is a folio volume of illuminated representations of all the colours captured in the battles of Preston and Dunbar, with the title engrossed:—"A Perfect Registry of all the Colours (and Standards) taken from the Scots at Preston, Co. Lancaster, by the then Lord General Cromwell, anno 1648, &c. (also Colours taken at Dunbar, anno 1650); and for the perpetuall memoriall of those signall Trophies of his Highnesse Victories and Valour to succeeding ages, carefully attested and compiled by F.F.F.F. (f. Fitz.-Paganum Fisherum, Fitz.-Pagani Filium), Historiographer of his Highnesse Warres in Ireland and Scotland, &c." Of "the Ensigns taken at Preston, 1648," the first is a blue flag, inscribed with gold letters DATE CÆSAR, surmounted by a crown gilt. The second colour is a blue and white cross, with emerald wreath on the intersection of the cross, and the legend distributed in the interspaces:—"For Religion, Covenant, King, and Kingdoms." This, with differences in the colours forming the crosses, and verbal variations in the mottos, is a type of a large proportion of the standards captured at Preston. Full half the colours taken are represented as more or less torn and fragmentary; not a few are almost reduced to the bare staff, or a mere shred at the staff-end,—a token of the fierceness of the struggle before their capture and surrender.

days, Cromwell marched back by the same route he had advanced to open the campaign, through Blackburn Hundred into West Yorkshire, with the intent of pushing forward to Scotland by the eastern road through Durham and Northumberland. The Lancashire annalist of the war, describing the course of Cromwell's movements after his return from pursuing Hamilton, writes:—"His [Cromwell's] purpose being to march again into Yorkshire, he therefore sent order to all his forces that with all haste they should follow him, being then gone to the Stonyhurst, where he quartered the first night he came into the county."¹ Cromwell had thus proceeded, with his staff and a body-guard, perhaps, from Preston to Stonyhurst, and quartered at Mr. Sherburne's mansion on the first night of his return-journey. Thence he went into Craven, leaving orders that his regiments, scattered over the western parts of Lancashire, should follow him immediately. Some of these troops were in Preston; others in the Fylde; and others at points between Preston and Wigan. The Preston troops, united with the detachments in the Fylde, would take the road by Longridge to Clitheroe, in the direct track of their General and the vanguard; others, posted more to the south, would concentrate and march through Blackburn to Whalley or Burnley, and so fall in with the other part of the army on the borders of the two counties.

Such is the story of the remarkable Lancashire campaign of 1648. Its results were the destruction of the Stuart party in Scotland, to whose succours the captive Monarch and his friends had confidently looked when the resistance of the Cavaliers of England had been borne down. The whole body of the Scottish nobility and gentry of the Royalist party were either slain or captured in fight during these days of successive disasters, or finally surrendered with their leader at Uttoxeter. The victory of Cromwell at Preston was the real "Death Warrant" of Charles the First, for there can be no doubt that from the hour when Duke Hamilton commenced his flight with his broken and dispirited host from the banks of the Darwen, on the morning of August 18th, 1648, the doom of the imprisoned King was silently sealed in the minds of Cromwell and his political associates.

Archdeacon Echard quotes a statement of Ludlow regarding the reception by King Charles of the news of the Battle of Preston, in his place of confinement at Carisbrooke Castle, to the effect "that when the news of the loss came to the Isle of Wight, the King said to the Governor, 'That it was the worst News that ever came to England;' to which he answered, his Majesty had no reason to be of that opinion, since if Hamilton had beaten the English, he would have certainly possessed himself of the throne of England and Scotland. The King

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 67.

presently reply'd :—' You are mistaken ; I could have commanded him back with the motion of my Hand.' ”

The Lancashire troops, under the command of Col.-General Assheton, among which were the regiments of Blackburn Hundred, after the battle were detached from Cromwell's army and left at Preston, with orders to march north in pursuit of those Royalists who had retreated by the northern roads. The remnants of Langdale's force, on reaching the neighbourhood of Lancaster, united themselves with a body of English troops under Sir Thomas Tyldesley, which had been engaged in the siege of Lancaster Castle, but had desisted on report of the disaster to the main army on the Ribble. Col.-General Assheton marched into Lonsdale after Tyldesley, who retired into the mountains of Westmoreland and Cumberland. The retreat and pursuit were continued for several weeks without any important encounter between the hostile forces ; but at length, in the first week of October, 1648, the Roundhead commander brought Sir Thomas Tyldesley to bay. The Royalist force would have retreated upon Carlisle, but was headed by Assheton, who had relieved Cockermonth Castle, and forced the enemy to abandon the hope of gaining Carlisle. Some of the Cavalier troops, seeing escape cut off, broke up and dispersed over the country ; but the major portion preserved their discipline, and retreated to Appleby Castle in Westmoreland, then held by a small Royalist garrison. Tyldesley's men had no sooner shut themselves up in this castle than Col.-General Assheton approached, and invested the place. The Castle of Appleby was not capable of standing a siege. Col.-General Assheton at once summoned the garrison, and by Saturday, October 7th, the conditions of surrender had been agreed to. There were 1,000 horse-soldiers in the place, besides the garrison, and 1,200 horses ; but the horses were bought by the Roundhead soldiers at small prices before the capitulation was carried out. The conditions of surrender were that all inferior officers and common soldiers must lay down their arms and return home in quietness ; and that the chief officers, Sir Philip Musgrave, Sir Thomas Tyldesley, and others, should retire beyond seas within six months, and obey all orders of Parliament. The number of superior officers taken prisoners at Appleby was remarkable. They included no fewer than fifteen colonels, who had apparently lost their regiments, nine lieutenant-colonels, six sergeant-majors, forty-six captains, &c.

This capture was the termination of hostilities on the western side of the country ; and Cromwell, operating on the eastern side, before this time was in Edinburgh, dictating terms to the enemy in his northern strongholds. Colonel-General Assheton's Lancashire forces, numbering

some four thousand, after the victory at Appleby marched leisurely down to their native places in East Lancashire.

On the 30th of January, 1648-9, the sternest and saddest act of that conflict between King and People was accomplished in the execution of King Charles at Whitehall. Necessary or unnecessary, Charles's death did not end the strife of contending parties, nor settle the question of the English form of government.

After the execution of Charles the First, the Houses of Parliament, more at their ease than hitherto, began to effect the reduction of the standing army that had been brought into existence by the war. This was done by disbanding the county militia regiments and other provincial levies. Some opposition was offered to the orders to disband in Lancashire and elsewhere. The militia regiments were composed of men who had become weaned from peaceful avocations and fond of the adventurous, predatory occupation of soldiering; and there was also a religious feud between the army of Cromwell, that was kept intact, and the local forces that were ordered to disband. The Lancashire troops deemed themselves the mainstay of that Presbyterian Establishment to which the Cromwellian soldiers were generally averse. In the beginning of 1649, the order to disband was received by the commanders of the forces of Blackburn, Salford, and Amounderness Hundreds. The first difficulty that arose in carrying out the order was in the matter of pay; and in the House of Commons, on March 6th, 1648-9, Lieutenant-General Cromwell reported from the Council of State, "That they think fit there should be an addition of Money for disbanding the Forces under Colonel Shuttleworth,"—that is, the militia of Blackburn Hundred. About March 20th, letters received from Lancaster reported "that the forces of Col. Ashton, about four thousand, refuse to disband, profess for the Covenant, and are encouraged by the [Presbyterian] clergy;" and further "that Major-General Lambert is gone to disband them by force, if there is no other way." The mutinous regiments shortly afterwards left Lancaster, marched over the hills of Bowland to Clitheroe, and attempted to fortify themselves in the Castle of Clitheroe. This revolt of the local Militia was quickly suppressed. By March 27th intelligence reached the Government that "the Lancashire forces had submitted to disband, and had quitted Clitheroe Castle." On that day, the House of Commons passed the following orders:—"Ordered, That it be referred to the Council of State, particularly to take into consideration the present demolishing of Bolsover Castle and *Clitheroe Castle*, and also to take into consideration all such other Inland Castles as they shall think fit, for the present demolishing thereof.—Ordered, That Captain Carter's Troop in Lancashire be forth-

¹ C. W. Tracts, p. 277.

with disbanded ; and that the Deputy Lieutenant of the said County be required to take special care to see them speedily disbanded accordingly.”¹

In accordance with the foregoing order, the Castle at Clitheroe was afterwards razed, with the exception of the keep, which still stands the solitary local memorial of the Norman age. A century ago, some fragments of the fallen castle-walls were yet strewn around the scarp. Grose writes :—“The old gate and chapel were demolished in the Civil War ; large pieces of the wall, strongly cemented, still lye on the side and at the foot of the rock, probably disjointed and thrown thither by the force of gunpowder.”

At the beginning of April, 1649, a Petition was presented to Parliament from the Inhabitants of the Hundred of Blackburn, setting forth the services of the signatories to the cause, and their desire that Parliament should consider what compensation might be due to them for their sacrifices and losses in the war. A minute relating to the presentation of this Petition on the 4th of April, 1649, is entered :—“The Petition of the well-affected Inhabitants of the Hundred of Blackburne in the County of Lancaster, was this day read.—*Ordered*, That Mr. Rigby do return the Thanks of this House to the Petitioners, for their faithful Service and good Affections to the Parliament and Commonwealth.—*Ordered*, That the said Petition and the business therein, be referred to the Consideration of the Council of State.”² One of the matters about which Parliament was appealed to was the considerable sums of money due to the soldiers of the Lancashire regiments, now disbanded, for arrears of pay ; and the two Houses discussed means for the immediate discharge of this obligation. On April 9th, the House of Commons passed two Orders, one providing for the prompt payment of the Lancashire forces, and the other dealing with contingent cases of refusal to obey the order to disband. The terms of the Orders were these :—

ORDERED, That the Three Thousand One Hundred Fifty-five Pounds Fifteen Shillings and Tenpence, late due to the Lord Willoughby of Parham, out of the Receipts of Goldsmiths’ Hall, and assigned to be paid to the Lancashire Forces, by Order of the House of Commons of the Twenty-fourth of October last, as is pre-engaged to other uses, shall be discharged from any Engagement to the said Forces ; And that the Treasurer of Goldsmiths’ Hall do forthwith pay, out of their Receipts, to Mr. James Wainwright, of the City of London, Haberdasher, for the use of the said Forces of Lancashire, towards their Arrears, the Sum of Four Thousand Six Hundred Pounds, out of the Second Moiety of the Fine imposed upon the Lord Molineaux, for his Delinquency, notwithstanding any former engagements thereof to the contrary : Which Monies, the said Mr. Wainwright is, without delay, to pay over unto Mr. Wm. Cottom, of Preston, Alderman, who is to pay the same over in manner following ; viz. : For such of the said Forces as marched under Command of Major-General Ashton, in the late Expedition against the Scotts, the sum of Three Thousand

¹ Journals of H. of Commons. ² Ib.

Four hundred Pounds, according to such order and directions as he shall from time to time receive from the said Major-General Ashton ; and the sum of Twelve hundred Pounds unto the other Forces of that County, that were under the Command of Colonel Nicholas Shuttleworth.

It is also ORDERED, That if any of the Forces shall continue together, or at any time hereafter gather together contrary to the Order for their Disbanding, that all and every such person and persons, so continuing and gathering together, shall lose the Benefit of this Order, and shall not have any part of the money aforesaid ; but all such of the said Monies as otherwise should have been paid unto them, shall be paid to Major-General Ashton, to be paid among the residue of the Forces, as he shall think fit.¹

The country now enjoyed peace for two years. But in the Spring of 1651, another attempt was made to reinstate the Stuarts, which again took the shape of an invasion of England from Scotland, the English Royalists actively co-operating. Charles Stuart, eldest son of the late King, reappeared in Scotland, in the early part of the year. An army was raised to sustain him, and when it was found that Cromwell, occupying with the English army the fortified places on the east side of Scotland, could not be dislodged, it was resolved to march the forces of Scottish Royalists into England, on the westerly route, by which it would be impossible for Cromwell to come up with the invaders until they had advanced into the heart of the country. Charles Stuart crossed the Border, with an army of 16,000 men, in June, 1651. Cromwell, with his army, was far in the interior of Scotland, in the neighbourhood of Perth, when the enemy's movement southward commenced ; but evidently did not regard the advance as a serious danger to the Commonwealth, for he made no haste to follow, but sent orders to General Lambert, commanding a force of horse, to place himself upon the left flank of the Scottish army, and to offer resistance if favourable occasion should present.

On Thursday, August 14th, 1651, Charles Stuart and his army entered Preston. He did not lodge in the town, but rode on to Euxton Hall to spend the night. A writer to *Mercurius Politicus* reported :—“ Upon Thursday his [Charles's] foot having the van over Ribble Bridge, that night he lodged at Euxton-Burgh, six miles on this side of Preston, being Mr. Hugh Anderton's house, who was prisoner at Lancaster, but set at liberty by the Scots.”² The next night, the Stuart slept at Bryn Hall, the seat of the Gerards. Thence Charles passed over Warrington Bridge into Cheshire, Lambert hanging upon his flank, with an occasional skirmish along the whole route.

At Northwich, in Cheshire, on Sunday, August 17th, the Earl of Derby reached Charles and had a consultation with him. The Earl had landed on the previous Friday, at Presall Sands, on the Wyre. In

¹ Journals of H. of Commons.

² C. W. Tracts, p. 288.

seven vessels he brought over from the Isle of Man 300 Manx-men, and the gentry who had taken refuge in the Island. The Earl and his followers marched through the Fylde, being joined by several Roman Catholic gentlemen of the district; crossed the Ribble on Saturday, the 16th August, and reached Lathom House the same day. From Lathom he posted after the Scottish army, and appeared at the Royal headquarters, as stated, on the 17th. At the interview with Charles, it was arranged that the Earl should return to Lancashire, and endeavour to raise the old adherents of the dynasty within the county. The nucleus of the Earl's command was the Manx troops, about 60 horse and 250 foot. Lord Derby was at Warrington on the 20th August, and had returned to Preston the day following. On the other side, a regiment of horse and some companies of foot under Col. Lilburne were ordered out of Cheshire to watch the Earl of Derby's movements in Lancashire and to frustrate his intentions.

At Preston, Lord Derby was very active in sending out agents into various parts of Lancashire to enroll men for the Royal service; and for a brief time the King's party in this district "put a great fear into the country, as if they could have conquered all and had it at their will."¹ But on Saturday, August 23rd, Colonel Lilburne approached Preston, and quartered his regiment of horse at Brindle, four miles south of the town. A sharp skirmish occurred between the Earl's men and Lilburne's somewhere between Brindle and the Ribble, probably in Walton township, in which the Royalists were worsted. Lilburne's troopers—

Had put their horses to grasse in those low meadows between [Brindle] Church and Preston, the soldiers taking their ease, being laid down by their saddles in the closes where their horses were feeding; which, as the event proved, was made known to some of the Earl's party in Preston by some secret enemy (they being all enemies thereabouts) what a prize might be had of Lilburne's Soldiers' horses, the men being all at rest. This being sodenly apprehended by a company of young striplings, Gentlemen's Sons with other like to them, new fresh men, altogether ignorant of such warlike exploits, to the number of twentie and two or thereabouts,—these, rashlie, without orders or advice, adventured upon the desperate designe in the day tyme to make a prize of the horses of some of Colonel Lilburne's Troopers. They were directed through a secret private way in woody, close places into the Meadows where the Horses were feeding, which gave soe sudden alarm to the Soldiers halfe asleepe that they were at a mighty stand, not knowing what to think, conceive, or doe in the business; for the guard that was set in the loane below, nearer to Preston, neyther seeing nor hearing any thing of any enemy. Upon the allarum they cryed "Armes, Armes," which when they had done they disputed so vehementlie with the young men that they were soundly payed home for their forwardness. None escaped but eyther slayne or taken, save one called Newsham, who forsaking his horse fled into a thick Oller tree and there hid himself in the leaves thereof and at night went away. There

¹ Disc. of Warr, p. 73.

was slain — Butler, the young heir of Racliffe; — Hesketh, a second son of Mr. Hesketh of Maynes, and a young lad of the North country called Knipe, with others whose names I hard not. Richard Wilding servant to Mr. Stanley, of Eccleston, left his service to be a soldier and to attend young Butler. He was not killed downright in the skirmish, but sore wounded and cut, that being caryed to Preston he died within ten daies. John Clifton, second son to Mr. Clifton of Lythom, was grievously wounded and taken prisoner.¹

This affair took place in the afternoon of the day of Colonel Lilburne's arrival at Brindle—Saturday, Aug. 23rd. The next day, Sunday, Aug. 24th, Lilburne, who had retired a little, by way of precaution, in the direction of Hoghton, was joined by the venerable Puritan leader Colonel Richard Shuttleworth, who had mustered a body of men in Blackburn Hundred to aid in the expulsion of Lord Derby from the county. The chronicler narrates that on the Sunday above dated, "ould Colonel Richard Shuttleworth and the country thereabouts came to him [Lilburne] at Houghton Tower, and there stood in a bodie the most of that day, making so great a show that they were discovered to Preston." Fearing the enemy's strength, the Earl of Derby's troops "in the silence of the night secretly marched from Preston, making noe stay before they came to Wiggon. . . . It was eight or nyne of the clocke the next morning [Monday, August 25th], before Colonel Lilburne had any intelligence of their marching away and totall leaving of Preston, which when he was certaine of and which way they marched, with as much convenient speed as possible he gathered his Regiment into a bodie and made after them, and was come within a myle and a halfe of Wiggon by one of the clocke, being resolved and disposed to give the Earle battell if he stayed. And Providence had so ordered it that there were come up to his assistance two Foot companies from Chester under the leading of Captaine Robert Jollie and Captaine Samuel Smith, and another Foot Companie of new raised men from Liverpoole. These were quartered within Brindle, and kept guard in the Church of Brindle the Saturday night after the defeat of the young men spoken of before. These were all the Foot that Colonell Lilburne had marching with him to Wiggon."²

The decisive conflict between Colonel Lilburne and the Earl of Derby was fought in the afternoon of the same day, August 25th, at Wigan Town End. The battle is known as that of "Wigan Lane." Its result was a defeat for the Earl of Derby. Sir Thomas Tyldesley was there slain, and the Earl himself was wounded, but was able to escape. Four hundred Royalists, including many important officers, were captured. In one of Colonel Lilburne's despatches after the battle, the Colonel refers to the movements about Preston and Brindle, immediately

¹ Disc. of Warr, pp. 73-4.

² Ib., pp. 74-5.

precedent to the fight :—"The next day, in the afternoone, I having no foot with me, a party of the Enemies' Horse fell smartly amongst us where our horses were grazing, and for some space put us pretty hard to it ; but at last it pleased the Lord to strengthen us so as that we put them to the flight, and pursued them to Ribble Bridge . . . and kild and took about 30 prisoners, most officers and gentlemen, with the loss of two men that dyed next morning ; but severall wounded, and divers of our good horses killed. That night came three regiments of Foot, and the next morning hearing of your Excellencie's Regiment coming towards Manchester, I only marched two miles to a more convenient ground, thinking to have staid there till your Regiment could come, which I expected this day, but their weariness frustrated that expectation, and this morning I had intelligence that the Enemy was upon their march, which I thought was a running away from us, being that they began at 11 in the night, and marched so fast and privately, but their confidence was much otherwise raised, having increased their number at Preston."¹ Then follows the victor's description of the Wigan-Lane battle.

The Earl of Derby, though hurt at Wigan, succeeded in reaching the principal army of the Royalists, and shared in the battle and defeat at Worcester, Sept. 3rd, 1651. Charles Stuart contrived to make his escape, but the unfortunate Earl of Derby was shortly afterwards taken, conducted to Chester, and thence to Bolton, where he was beheaded, Oct. 15th, 1651. With this tragedy, the story of the Civil War of 1641-51 dolefully closes.

FURTHER PARLIAMENTARY SEQUESTRATIONS IN 1652.

After the suppression of the last rising of the Stuart party in 1651, Parliament addressed itself afresh to the work of sequestration of the estates of those landowners who had joined with the dynastic house in the struggle for supremacy between Monarch and Parliament. Many who had escaped the former compositions in 1643 and 1646 were now swept into the net as the proper prey of the ascendant party, and under the "Additional Bill for the Sale of several Lands and Estates forfeited to the Commonwealth for Treason," before the House of Commons in October, 1652, some hundreds of Lancashire Royalist gentry, the majority of them being Roman Catholics, were subjected to legalised plunder. The names of sufferers on this occasion connected with Blackburn parish are not numerous, the parish containing fewer Royalist families than other districts of the County, but the following are embraced in the categories of this sequestration :—John Talbot of Dinckley, Esq. ; Alexander

¹ Lilburne's Letter to Cromwell, in C. W. Tracts, pp. 303-7.

Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq. ; Robert Osbaldeston of Oxendale, gent. ; Edward Rishton of Mickle-hey, gent. ; John Parker of Loveley, gent. ; John Barker of Wheatley ; Robert Craven of Billington ; Robert Fowle of Billington ; Laurence Park of Cuerdale ; and Thomas Sowerbutts of Samlesbury.

RESTORATION OF MONARCHY IN 1660.

The month of May, 1660, was signalised by the return to the palace of his ancestors of Charles Stuart, son of the monarch beheaded eleven years before. The change in Government, from a Commonwealth back to a monarchy, was not only effected without a fresh resort to arms, but with general acquiescence; for after the voluntary resignation of Richard Cromwell, son of the late Lord Protector, no man being found capable of assuming the Protectorship, the recall of the representative of the old Royal House was a political necessity. Charles the Second was crowned April 23rd, 1661. The restoration of the Stuarts produced little change in the aspect of civil and social affairs in this part of Lancashire. The survivors among the gentry of Blackburn Hundred who had borne conspicuous parts against the dynasty in the late war made their peace with the new Government, and retained their properties by no greater sacrifice than their acknowledgment of the King's supremacy. It was in matters ecclesiastical that the reinstatement of the monarchy occasioned the most significant revulsion. The Presbyterian Church-establishment in this county did not outlive the political conditions that called it into being. While the return to an Episcopal Church Establishment was greatly welcomed in England, there existed among the Puritan party a strong dislike to some portions of the Book of Common Prayer, on the ground that in its formulas were vestiges of the errors and superstitions of the Church of Rome. The King and his advisers were not favourable to a revision of the Prayer Book in the direction of a more pronounced Protestantism, but insisted upon the restoration of the Church's worship in its old forms, and this many of the more determined Puritans could not brook. Hence the passing of the Act of Uniformity, in May, 1662, resulted in the exclusion of a number of clergymen from the cures they then held, and in the refusal to conform of many Puritan lay-churchmen. The Uniformity Act, and the ejections and prosecutions under its provisions, have the credit of causing the first extensive development of Protestant Nonconformity in England. Those who had declined to observe the Anglican ritual and obey Episcopal government before this time were denominated "Separatists," or "Sectaries" and "Schismatics," by their antagonists, but not "Nonconformists." In some parts of England the party called

“Independents,” of whom the Baptists were a branch holding similar opinions as to Church government, but divergent views upon the rite of Baptism, was rather numerous before the Commonwealth period; but not many avowing these principles were found in Lancashire, and in the parish of Blackburn hardly a trace appears of this earlier Dissent before the Civil War and general overturn of ancient institutions in Church and State set men cogitating upon new theories of government, civil and ecclesiastical.

The Act of Uniformity enacted “that every parson, vicar, curate, lecturer, or other ecclesiasticall person, neglecting or refusing, before the Feast Day of St. Bartholomew, 1662, to declare openly before their respective congregations, his assent and consent to all things contained in the Book of Common Prayer established by the said Act, *ipso facto* be deposed, and that every parson, vicar, curate, lecturer, or other ecclesiasticall person, failing in his subscription to a declaration mentioned in the said Act to be subscribed before the Feast Day of St. Bartholomew, 1662, shall be utterly disabled, and *ipso facto* deprived, and his place be void, as if the person so failing were naturally dead.” This Act was not put into force until the lapse of a period of more than two years after the fall of the Commonwealth, and the return of Charles II. to the throne. In those two years, circumstances had compelled some of the “preaching ministers” holding the poor benefices in this part of the country to cease their ministrations, without waiting for the decree of ejection. The endowments pertaining to the majority of the parochial chapels and chapels of ease in Lancashire were so insignificant that many of them had never possessed a regular resident ministry since the Reformation, until the imposition of the Presbyterian Government in 1646. Under that establishment, the miserable provision for ministerial maintenance from the ancient endowments of most of these churches and chapels had been supplemented by an annual grant towards a minister’s stipend by a County Committee, and afterwards by a body called the “Committee of Plundered Ministers,” administering a fund derived from the sequestration of the estates of Royalist “delinquents.” These grants varied from £30 to £50 per annum, and by their means competent ministers were maintained in residence in the poorest benefices. But this provident Committee and its fund must at once have ceased to exist when the Stuarts had been brought back, and when those who had been fined and punished as “delinquents” found themselves masters of the situation. With the stoppage of their allowances, the ministers in those chapelries where the former endowments were too small to support a curate would be driven to suspend their services, and to seek some other employment, except in the cases where the parishioners were willing to subscribe sums

adequate for their support. Such cases would not be numerous in those unsettled times; and it is certain that a number of the preachers by appointment of the Presbytery had ceased their duties and withdrawn from the cures of their own accord, months before the Act of Uniformity came into force to compel their assent and consent to the Book of Common Prayer. The fact is thus accounted for, that in this part of the kingdom so few of the ministers who held appointments under the Presbytery a few years before are mentioned either as having conformed or among the ejected in 1662.

In this parish the only benefice the endowment of which afforded a sufficient stipend for a minister was the Parish Church of Blackburn, the fixed value of which was £49 10s. 9d. per annum. The Vicar, Mr. Leonard Clayton, has been instituted by the Presbytery on the nomination of the parishioners in 1647; but there had been no expulsion of a prior incumbent of episcopal ordination and appointment, for the former Vicar, Adam Bolton, had accepted the Presbytery in 1646, and retained the living until his death in the following year. Vicar Clayton reconciled himself to Anglican creeds and forms in 1660, and thus continued Vicar on the Act of Uniformity coming into force. None of the dependent churches in the parish at this date possessed a maintenance for a resident minister. The three ancient parochial chapels of Lawe (Walton), Samlesbury, and Great Harwood had each no more than £4 per annum of a settled revenue, and the Act of Uniformity found Walton and Samlesbury churches already destitute of curates and left them so. At Great Harwood the minister under the Presbytery, Mr. Sandford, had remained after the failure of his allowance from the County Committee, and declining to conform, was ejected in 1662. This was the only clerical ejection in Blackburn Parish. The chapels-of-ease at Langho, Balderstone, Tockholes, and Over Darwen, had no endowment whatever in 1650, and in 1662 had no ministers left in possession by the extinct Presbytery to be subjected to the tests of an exacting statute.

A considerable number of the Puritan laity in the parish, however, withheld conformity to the reconstituted national Church; and, in the years of religious persecution which followed, observed religious worship according to their preference, casually, as occasion served, and furtively, in secret meetings, for fear of legal penalties. These Nonconformist congregations continued to meet in several private houses in the district until the relaxation of the prohibitive laws permitted more public assemblies in stated meeting-houses. The ejected pastors visited these groups of Nonconformists and preached to them in turn, and eventually settled as resident ministers of churches formed upon Congregational and Presbyterian principles.

SUBSIDY ASSESSMENT IN 1663.

To the four Subsidies granted to Charles II. in the year 1663 (the last of such levies made in England) the return of the assessment upon the Inhabitants of Blackburn Parish, for the third and fourth payments of the Subsidies, is copied as below from the Subsidy Roll,¹ 15 Chas. II.:

	Value.	Payment.
BALDERSTONE—		
Alexander Osbaldeston, gent., in terris ...	30s.	12s.
Roger Berley, in terris ...	20s.	8d.
Richard Ratcliffe, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
Richard Calvert, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
BILLINGTON—		
William Chew, of Olgreave, in bonis...	£4	21s. 4d.
William Holker, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
William Wood, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
CLAYTON-IN-LE-DALE—		
Richard Walmesley, gent., in terris ...	30s.	12s.
Richard Hawkesley, in bonis ...	£5	26s. 8d.
John Talbot, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
John Entwistle, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
Robert Tattersall, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
DARWEN, UPPER—		
John Cross, in terris ...	20s.	8s.
Robert Waddington, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
John Crouchley, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
William Yates, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
DARWEN, LOWER—		
Thomas Haworth, in terris ...	£3	24s.
Peter Haworth, junr., in bonis ...	£5	26s. 8d.
Robert Piccop, in bonis ...	£5	26s. 8d.
John Aspinall, in bonis ...	£4	21s. 4d.
HARWOD MAGNA—		
— Boulton, in bonis ...	£4	21s. 4d.
— Taylor, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
Edmund Cockshutt, in terris ...	30s.	12s.
Robert ffeilden of Lower Town, in bonis ...	£3	16s.
HARWOD PARVA—		
John Clayton, gent., in terris ...	40s.	16s.
Thomas Rishton, in terris ...	20s.	8s.
John Peele, in terris ...	20s.	8s.
Richard Dewhurst, in bonis ...	£5	26s. 8d.
LIVESEY-CUM-TOCKHOLLS—		
Ralph Livesey, Esq., in terris...	£3	24s.
Thomas Astley, in terris ...	50s.	20s.
Richard Whitehalgh, in terris...	30s.	12s.
William Marsden, in terris ...	26s. 8d.	10s. 8d.
Lawrence Ainsworth, in bonis ...	£4	21s. 4d.
James Piccop, in bonis...	£4	21s. 6d.
William Walmsley, in bonis ...	£3 10s.	18s. 8d.
Richard Aspden, in bonis ...	£3	16s.

¹ Unaccountably, the township of Blackburn does not appear upon the roll of this Subsidy.

	Value.	Payment.
MELLOR-CUM-ECCLESHILL—		
Edward Houghton, gent., in terris	20s.	8s.
William Ward, in bonis	£4	21s. 4d.
Peter Ireland, in bonis... .. .	£4	21s. 4d.
Richard Battersby, in bonis	£4	21s. 4d.
William Shorrocke, in bonis	£5	26s. 8d.
Thomas Haydocke, in bonis	£5	26s. 8d.
OSBALDESTON—		
Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., in terris ...	£5	40s.
Lawrence Osbaldeston, in terris	20s.	8s.
Robert Boulton, in bonis	£3	16s.
John Sharples, in bonis... .. .	£3	16s.
PLEASINGTON—		
Thomas Aynsworth, in terris... .. .	40s.	16s.
Thomas Livesay, in terris	20s.	8s.
Gyles Astley, in terris	20s.	8s.
Richard Aynsworth, in bonis	£5	26s. 8d.
Lawrence Abbat, in bonis	£4	21s. 4d.
Thomas Whaley, in bonis	£3	16s.
RISHTON—		
Thomas Whalley, in bonis	£3	16s.
Thomas Talbott, in bonis	£3	16s.
Christopher Hindle, in bonis	£3	16s.
William Berry, in bonis... .. .	£3	16s.
Christopher Duckworth, in bonis	£3	16s.
Robert Dewhurst, in bonis	£3	16s.
John Baron, in bonis	£3	16s.
SALESBURY—		
John Parker, gent., in terris	20s.	8s.
SAMLESBURY—		
John Southworth, Esq., in terris	20s.	8s.
William Walmesley, gent., in terris ...	£5	40s.
James Livesay, in terris... .. .	20s.	8s.
John Holmes, in bonis	£5	26s. 8d.
George Hey, in bonis	£5	26s. 8d.
Thomas Smith, in bonis	£4 10s.	24s.
John Marsden, in bonis... .. .	£4 5s.	22s. 8d.
WALTON-IN-LE-DALE—		
Edward Walmesley, gent., in terris ...	40s.	16s.
Thomas Walton, gent., in terris	20s.	8s.
William Osbaldeston, in terris... .. .	20s.	8s.
John Jackson, in terris	20s.	8s.
John Woodcocke, junr., in terris	30s.	12s.
John Woodcocke, senr., in terris	20s.	8s.
Francis Estham, in bonis	£3	16s.
William Dandy, in bonis	£3	16s.
Katharine Holland, in bonis	£3	16s.
Thomas Woodcocke, junr., in bonis ...	£3	16s.
Thomas Shaw, in bonis... .. .	£3	16s.
Alice Gerrard, Widow, in bonis	£3	16s.

WALTON-IN-LE-DALE—				Value.	Payment.
Roger Breers, in bonis ...	...	...	...	£3	16s.
James Waring, in bonis...	...	...	...	£3	16s.
William Duddell, in bonis	...	...	...	£3	16s.
Richard Tasker, in bonis	...	...	...	£3	16s.
James Walton, in bonis...	...	...	...	£3	16s.
Jane Estham, in bonis ...	...	...	...	£3	16s.
WILPSHIRE-CUM-DINKLEY—					
John Talbot, Esq., in terris	...	...	...	£5	40s.
Robert Collinson, in bonis	...	...	...	£3	16s.
Thomas Blackburne, in bonis	...	...	...	£3	16s.
Thomas Craven, in bonis	...	...	...	£3	16s.
John Breeres, in bonis ...	...	...	...	£3	16s.
WITTON—					
George Toulson, in terris	...	...	...	20s.	8s.
Christopher Marsden, in bonis...	...	...	...	£3	16s.

MEASURES FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF NONCONFORMITY.

The Government of Charles the Second did not cease from designing means for rendering the situation of persons dissenting from the Church of the State intolerable, hoping thus to exterminate all "sectaries," and to restore the national religion to at least external uniformity. The Act of 1662 not appearing to be effectual, it was supplemented by an "Act for Suppressing Conventicles," which came into force on the 1st of July, 1664, and enacted that any person present at a meeting for religious exercises, "in other manner than is allowed by the Liturgy of the Church of England, where shall be five or more persons than the household," shall suffer three months' imprisonment, or be fined £5, for the first offence, six months, or £10 fine, for a second offence, and seven years' banishment to the American plantations, or £100 fine, for a third offence." Those who lent their houses or barns for use as conventicles were made liable to the same penalties. This Act was renewed, amended in the direction of greater stringency, in 1670. Next succeeded the "Five Mile Act," which obtained the Royal Assent Oct. 31st, 1665. The chief clause of this Act provided that "Nonconformist ministers shall not, after the 5th of March, 1665-6, unless in passing the road, come or be within five miles of any city, town-corporate, or borough; or within five miles of any parish, town or place wherein they have been parson, vicar, or lecturer,—upon forfeiture, for every such offence, of the sum of forty pounds, one-third to the King, another third to the poor, and a third to him that shall sue for it."

In 1671-2, matters assumed a somewhat more comfortable aspect for Nonconformists, for on the 15th March, of that year, Charles II. published a Declaration of Indulgence, in which, exercising his prerogative as supreme head of the Church, the Monarch "declared his will and

pleasure to be, that the execution of all and all manner of penal laws in matters ecclesiastical, against whatsoever sort of nonconformists, or recusants, be immediately suspended." Upon the strength of this Royal declaration, the Government issued licenses to applicants for Nonconformist preaching and meeting-houses. The registers of licenses granted in 1672 have recently been discovered among the national archives, and are now accessible in the Public Record Office. The following entries relate to licenses applied for and granted for preaching places in this district:—

LICENSES TO PREACH (No. 185. Record Off. St. Papers Dom. Chas. II. 1672).¹

License to John Harvie to be a Pr. [Presbyterian] Teacher in a meeting house in Tockley [Tockholes] erected for that purpose, in the Parish of Blackburn, Lancaster. 1 May, '72.

The meeting house in Tockley [Tockholes] in the parish of Blackburn in Lancashire. Pr. [Presbyterian] Meeting. 8 May, '72.

The house of John Horwood [or Harwood] in the Hundred of Blackburn, Lancaster, licensed for a Congr. [Congregational] meeting place. 2 May, '72.

Thomas Jollie to be a Congr. [Congregational] Teacher in his house at Wymond-houses in the Hundred of Blackburn, Lancaster. 2 May.

The house of Thomas Jollie at the Wymond-houses in the Hundred of Blackburn, in Lancaster. Congr. meeting place. 2 May, '72.

The house of Robert Whitaker in the Hundred of Blackburn, Lancaster. Congr. place. 2 May, '72.

The house of Richard Cottham in the Hundred of Blackburn, Lancaster. Congr. place. 2 May, '72.

The house of Richard Sagar in the Hund. of Blackburn, Lanc. Congr. place. 2 May, '72.

[Sept. 20.] A new built house on Langoe Green in Blackburn, Lancaster.

[Dec. 9.] An erected meeting house in Blackburn, in Lancash. Pr. [Presbyterian.]

Dec. 23, '72. A meeting place erected by the people adjoining to Langoe Greene in ye P'ish of Blackborne in Lancash. Congr.

License to Charles Sagar Pr. [Presbyterian] Teacher of Blackborne, Lancashire. Feb. 3.

The house of Thomas Anderton, at Samsbury. Pr. meeting place.

The house of William and Henry Berry in Upper Darwin to be a Pr. [Presbyterian] meeting place.

The barn of John Pickop in Dedwinclough [in Newchurch-in-Rosendale] to be an Indep. [Independent] meeting place.

The house of John Durden in Yatebanke to be a Pr. meeting place.

The house of John Harris in Withnell to be a Pr. meeting place.

Within a year, the King was constrained by the resistance of Parliament to the relaxation of statute law by the mere fiat of the Crown, to

¹ These excerpts of the official records of Licenses granted for Nonconformist preaching-houses in the district in 1672, have been kindly communicated by Mr. J. E. Bailey, of Stretford, who has extracted the whole of the license-entries relating to Lancashire. Annals of the permanent Nonconformist congregations afterwards established in the parish, and the meeting-houses built at Over Darwen, Tockholes, Walton, &c., will be inserted later under the respective townships.

revoke his Declaration of Indulgence to Dissenters and Roman Catholics, and to suspend the licenses for places of worship which had been granted ; and measures of repression were passed by the authorities with more severity than before. Still, in spite of all, conformity was by no means universal. Local prosecutions of the Nonconforming ministers and their supporters were instituted in 1675, in 1677, in 1678, and in 1679, in which the prime movers were Justices Nowell of Read and Ratcliffe of Mearley, and the chief sufferers Thomas Jollie, the Independent minister at Wymond-houses, near Clitheroe ; Charles Sagar of Blackburn, ex-Master of the Grammar School ; Mr. John Parr, preacher at Walton and Preston ; and several of their faithful communicants. The crisis of this sharp conflict between the relentless force of civil authority and the passive resistance of personal conviction equally inflexible and persistent, was reached in 1684, when the notorious Jeffreys,—whom history brands as the most unjust, venal, and cruel judge that ever sat upon an English Bench,—taking the Northern Circuit, had several of the Nonconformist preachers brought before him at Preston, and indulged his animosity by inflicting upon them the heaviest penalties law would permit. Less than five years after this visit to Lancashire, Jeffreys died a miserable death in the Tower of London, at the age of 40, the object of universal contempt.

Charles the Second died Feb. 6th, 1684-5, and his brother, with the title of James II., succeeded. The rule of the second James was not more enlightened than that of former monarchs of his race. The term of the Stuart dynasty was now near its end. The nation, that had hailed its return to authority in 1660 with delight, had after a second probation of a quarter of a century become satiated with its caprice and estranged by its perverseness. Religious persecution was rife during the first two years of James the Second's reign ; but in April, 1687, the King (in the interest of his Roman Catholic co-religionists) published a Declaration of Liberty of Conscience to Nonconformists and Recusants. The relief was welcome to many who had borne the pressure of an intolerant policy for fourteen years since the cessation of the Indulgence of 1672, though the mode of it was disliked as arbitrary and illegal, and its motive suspected.

At length, in the last month of 1688, James the Second was driven from the throne and into exile, and William of Orange, who had come to England to place himself at the head of the Revolution, and his wife Mary, daughter of the ex-king, were invested with joint sovereignty with the titles of William III. and Mary II.

CHAPTER V.—MODERN PERIOD.

Jacobite Trials at Manchester in 1694—Antiquaries Thoresby and Stukeley in East-Lancashire—Distress in 1706—Rebellion of 1715—Local Non-Jurors—Rebellion of 1745—Fate of Francis Towneley—Visits of John Wesley—Early Textile Manufactures—Blackburn “Checks” and “Greys”—James Hargreaves of Stanhill—His invention of the Spinning-Frame—Popular jealousy—His house attacked and machines destroyed by the mob—Quits Blackburn and settles at Nottingham—His invention patented—Its specification—Other machines invented by Arkwright and Crompton—Death of Hargreaves—Rise of the Calico-printing industry—Claytons of Bamber Bridge—The Peel Family—Robert Peel of Hole-house—Peels of Peel Fold—Robert Peel of Peel Fold—His connexion with the Haworth Family—Resides in Fish Lane, Blackburn—Commences Calico-printing—Invents the parsley-leaf pattern—Partnership with William Yates—Brookside and Altham Factories destroyed by rioters—Robert Peel's removal to Burton—Subsequent enterprise of the Peels—Their local calico-printing concerns—Other print-works at Mosney in Walton, Mill Hill, and Darwen—Growth of the Factory System and popular resistance—Modern commercial development in the Parish—Road improvements, Canal, and Railroads.

JACOBITE confederacies in England (or the suspicion of them), and a dynastic war in Ireland, disturbed the peace of the Kingdom during several years after the accession of the House of Orange, and chequered the general popular satisfaction with the constitutional changes effected by the Revolution of 1688. In the trial at Manchester, in 1694, of a number of influential Lancashire Jacobites indicted for conspiracy against the Government, one of the accused was Bartholomew Walmesley, Esq., of Dunkenhalgh Hall, lord of several manors within this parish. The witnesses for the Crown swore that Mr. Walmesley was sojourning at Dunkenhalgh in 1691-3, the date of the alleged conspiracy; but in the defence several witnesses of standing were brought to prove that Mr. Walmesley was then absent from the country. One Oliver Pearson, in a deposition taken after the trial in 1695, deposed that “about seven years ago he called at a house within a mile of Blackburn, where some gentlemen were drinking in an inner room, and the room door being open deponent enquired of some of the people of the

house, who those gentlemen were, and answer was made that one of them was Mr. Walmesley, which said Walmesley deponent took particular notice of, because there was then a great talk in the country of Mr. Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh coming to his estate ; and about four years ago deponent met the same Mr. Walmesley in Church-parish about three quarters of a mile from his house called Dunkenhalgh, on horse-back with two or three men of his company."¹ But, on the other hand, Thomas Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield, a Justice of the Peace, had testified "that he lived within two or three miles from Dunkenhalgh, Mr. Walmesley's house, and never heard that Mr. Walmesley was there since he left England in the year 1689, and verily believed that Mr. Walmesley and so many gentlemen with him could not have met there but that he (Mr. Braddyll), being so near a neighbour, should have heard something of it, which he affirmed he never did."² The trial ended in the acquittal of all the accused gentlemen.

The half century between 1700 and 1750 was comparatively barren of important local events. The commercial enterprise for which this with other divisions of the county has in recent times been noted, had hardly begun to develop before the first years of the second half of the eighteenth century. What this part of Lancashire was when William of Orange ascended the throne, that it remained in its social aspects throughout the reigns of William and Mary, Anne, and the two first Georges. It was a singularly unproductive era, in every department of action, in constitutional change, in the useful arts and mechanical sciences. Agriculture was unprogressive ; architecture was debased ; wealth did not advance greatly nor labour improve its oppressive condition ; the population did not increase, and the towns of Lancashire, as of every other part of England, hardly grew from year to year amid the general stagnation. The local annalist finds little to dwell upon in the period I have mentioned ; and what few incidents present themselves may be summarily noted.

THE ANTIQUARIES THORESBY AND STUKELEY IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

In the autumn of 1702, Ralph Thoresby, the Leeds antiquary, performed a journey through the Hundred of Blackburn with the object of observing the antiquities of the district, and of visiting his learned friends, Charles and Richard Towneley, Esqrs., of Towneley. It was the Guild year at Preston, and one purpose of Thoresby's tour was to witness the quaint pageantry of the Preston Guild. The antiquary reached Towneley on Sept. 1st. In his Diary he notes the numerous

¹ Beamont's Jacobite Trials at Manchester (Chet. Soc. Series), p. 74.

² *Ib.* p. 100.

curious matters he saw at Towneley Hall, which included some valuable philosophic appliances and scientific instruments; "a chariot of Mr. Towneley's own contrivance, to pass over these mountainous tracts of stones;" the collection of original letters of Christopher Towneley, the antiquary, Gascoigne, Crabtree, and Horrocks, the eminent mathematicians of the previous century; the "ancient manuscripts in the library," and "curious modern prints;" also "Mr. Towneley's own pedigree upon skins of parchment, with the matches, &c., blazoned, and the old short deeds inserted," which he speaks of as "most noble and curious, and attested by the King-at-Arms, being drawn from original writings," &c. From Towneley, Thoresby continued his journey through Burnley, Padiham, and Blackburn, to Preston, his destination. He writes:—

We returned to Burnley, and thence, in our way to Padiham, or Padingham, we had a distant prospect of Hapton Tower [now long levelled] which stands melancholy upon the mountains on the left-hand, and Towneley Royal [Royle] on the right. We stepped aside to see Lady Shuttleworth's turretted house at Gawthorp. Thence, by Altham Church, to which only one house in view, though more afterwards at a distance, through Dunkenhalgh, which has nothing remarkable but the hall of Mr. Walmsley, which seems considerable, but, like most seats of the gentry in these parts, has so many outbuildings before it, as spoils the prospect. Thence to Blackburn, a market-town, which gives name to the whole Hundred, the third of the six in Lancashire; here, while the dinner was preparing, we viewed the church and town, but found nothing remarkable as to the modern state. Of old, William the Conqueror gave Blackburnshire to the Ilbert de Lacy, grandfather of Henry Lacy, who built Kirkstal Abbey, anno 1159. Thence by Hoghton Tower, which gave name and habitation to an eminent and ancient family; Sir Charles Hoghton is the present possessor; its situation is remarkable, being upon a very steep hill, almost a precipice on three sides, and so high that it is seen at many miles distance. Then through Walton, which seems to have been a Roman station, and where we are told the noted Kelly [the alchemist] was born, but it is now chiefly famous for the manufacture of linen-cloth: we saw vast quantities of yarn whiting [bleaching]. In the vale we saw another good house [Walton Hall] that belongs to a younger branch of the family of Hoghton Tower.¹

A few years later, another antiquary visited the district. This was Dr. Stukeley, author of the *Itinerarium Curiosum*, who, in the summer of 1725, travelled the northern and western parts of England in company with Roger Gale, the York antiquary. Besides the important Ribchester references (previously cited), Stukeley has left some topographical observations on the district generally. He describes Pendle Hill as "a vast black mountain, which is the morning weather-glass of the country people: upon it grows the cloudberry plant." He also speaks of Hoghton Tower, visible in the distance; Salesbury Hall, and the river scenery thereabouts; in the subjoined passages:—"Hoghton Tower is within view, a great castle upon a precipitous hill. . . Above the town [Rib-

¹ Diary of Ralph Thoresby, v. i, pp. 386-9.

chester] half a mile is a noble bridge of four very large archés, built lately by the country [county]; over this I went to Salesbury; but all the inscriptions are carried away, probably to Mr. Warren's other seat near Stockport, in Cheshire. I found a large stone in the corner of the house, which has been a Roman monumental stone, foolishly placed there for the sake of the carving; there are three large figures upon it, sweetly performed, &c. [This was the stone removed from Salesbury Hall by Dr. Whitaker, in 1814, and bequeathed by him to St. John's College, Cambridge.] . . . This [Salesbury Hall] has been a very large seat, with a park. They told me there were some carved stones at Dinkley, another seat of Mr. Warren's, a mile further; but I found they were all carried elsewhere, save two altars, both obliterated, but well cut; one stood in a grass-plot in the garden, covered over with moss and weeds; another used in the house as a cheese-press. This is a romantic place, hanging over the river purling across the rocky falls, and covered with wood. The late Mr. Warren was very careful of these learned remnants."¹

A petition, forwarded, in 1706, by the inhabitants of Blackburn to the House of Commons, and mentioned by Whittle, illustrates the impoverished condition of the country. The petitioners represented that in Blackburn "people were seen walking their desolate streets, hanging down their heads under disappointment, wormed out of all branches of their trade, uncertain what hand to turn, and necessitated to become apprentices to their unkind neighbours, and yet, after all, finding their old trade so fortified by companies and secured by prescriptions, that they despaired of any success therein."² The system of restriction by which all trades were surrounded in those days could not receive a more decisive condemnation than is contained in the foregoing statement.

THE JACOBITE REBELLIONS OF 1715 AND 1745.

The year 1715 is memorable for the rebellious outbreak of the Stuart or Jacobite party, after twenty-five years of uneasy submission to the dynasty established on the throne by the Revolution of 1688. In October of that year the army raised in Scotland by the Chevalier and the Scottish nobility who supported his claims entered England, under the command of the Earl of Derwentwater and General Forster, the latter an English Jacobite. The invaders entered Preston on the 9th and 10th of November, and on the 12th were attacked by the royal army under the command of General Wills. On Sunday, the 13th, the force under General Carpenter, which had marched down Ribblesdale out of Yorkshire, united in the attack, and on the 14th the rebels, being

¹ Itin. Curios., v. ii, pp. 37-8.

² Blackburn as it is, p. 217.

completely surrounded, surrendered. Thus the attempt to overthrow the Brunswick dynasty was speedily suppressed.

At this crisis, the Protestant Nonconformists of Lancashire zealously took up arms in defence of the House of Hanover, and a body of male members of neighbouring Nonconformist congregations, armed with muskets, pikes, and scythes, marched under the leadership of two of their ministers, Mr. James Woods of Chowbent and Mr. Walker, to Walton-in-le-Dale, some hours in advance of the regular army, and held the Ribble Bridge and Walton village without being attacked by the Rebels until the arrival of General Wills. For this bold service Mr. Woods and Mr. Walker were both rewarded with grants or pensions from the Government, on the recommendation of General Wills.

During the few days that the insurgents occupied Preston, before their surrender, small detachments penetrated into Ribblesdale, in search of forage. One party of Rebels appears to have crossed the southern portion of Blackburn Parish, by Tockholes to Darwen; for after the restoration of peace the Nonconformist minister at Darwen claimed and obtained compensation from the Government for damage suffered by the depredation of the Rebels. The people of the town and parish of Blackburn displayed hearty loyalty on the occasion; and after it was known at Blackburn that the Rebels had occupied Preston, the inhabitants "prepared to defend themselves from the invaders with guns, clubs, pikès, and scythes. They were headed by one Captain Aynesworth, of Pleasington. The entrances to the town were barricaded; and, to stimulate their loyalty, the Rev. John Holme, the Vicar, assembled the inhabitants in the Parish Church, addressed them, and offered up prayers for the welfare of the Brunswick family." Whittle also notes that "Captain Douglas made a sally out of Preston as far as Balderstone, in search of arms and horses for the Rebel army, but could not obtain any. He entered Blackburn as a [pretended] friend of the Brunswick family, but was discovered at the Dun Horse Inn, and had to beat a hasty retreat, but escaped."¹ This Captain Robert Douglas was a notorious Borderer, in command of a Northumbrian troop of Border freebooters. He was previously celebrated for his Border forays. He was taken prisoner in the Rebel surrender at Preston, but escaped from the gaol of Liverpool or Chester, and returned to the North, much to the disgust of the Border farmers who had suffered from his predations.

The many Scottish and English noblemen and gentlemen captured on the surrender were lodged, pending trial, in all the prisons of the county. The peers were impeached before the House of Lords for high treason, and convicted. Two of them—the Earl of Derwentwater and

¹ Blackburn as it Is, p. 101.

Lord Kenmore—suffered decapitation on Tower-hill; the rest escaped the capital penalty. The other generals and inferior officers, to the number of forty-nine, were tried by courts-martial. Forty-seven were subsequently executed, of whom sixteen were hanged at Preston, four at Garstang, others at Manchester, Wigan, Liverpool, and Lancaster. In this insurrection several of the Roman Catholic gentry and other natives of Blackburn Hundred had been led to participate. Richard Towneley, Esq., of Towneley, and Mr. William Walmesley, of Showley in Clayton-in-le-Dale, were the most noteworthy of the local Jacobites taken at Preston. Both these gentlemen were put upon their trial on the capital charge, but both, by an exceptional good fortune, were acquitted. The names also appear in the record of Thomas Cowpe, of Walton-in-le-Dale, yeoman, executed at Preston, Jan. 27th, 1715-16; William Harris, of Burnley, Stephen Seager, of Burnley, and Joseph Porter, of Burnley, all of them followers of Mr. Towneley, executed at Manchester, in February, 1715-16; also James Finch, of Walton-in-le-Dale, labourer, executed at Wigan; and William Whalley, of Walton-in-le-Dale, whitster, executed at Wigan, Feb. 10th.

As those Englishmen who had overtly taken part with the Scottish lords and gentry in the rising of 1715 were chiefly Roman Catholics, one of the consequences of the suppression of the Rebellion was a disposition on the part of the Government to treat the Roman Catholic portion of the nation with increased harshness, as persons dangerous to the public security. With the object of enabling the Government to lay its hands with more facility upon Roman Catholics and their possessions in the event of a renewal of rebellious attempts, an order was issued commanding all Catholic and Non-juring landowners to register statements of the extent and value of their estates. Those were styled "Non-Jurors" who had refused to take the oath of allegiance to his Majesty King George the First. These returns were to be transmitted to the "Commissioners for forfeited Estates in England and Wales;" and they were published, to assist in the discovery of seditious persons, during the Rebellion of 1745. The registered Non-Jurors residing in Blackburn Parish are extracted from the list as follows:—

THE NAMES OF ROMAN CATHOLICS, NON-JURORS, &C., 1715:—John Cowell, of Walton, £6 5s.; John Gerrard, of Walton, —; Edward Eastham, Estate at Walton, in possession of Richard Fielding, £9 10s.; James Coupe, of Walton, —; Thomas Catterall, of Walton, —; John Sherrington, of Walton, —; John Cottam, of Ribchester, £14 5s. 8d.; Elizabeth Duckworth, Estate at Richton [Rishton], in possession of George Haworth, £8 12s.; Thomas Bolton, Estate at Billington, in possession of Wm. Gabbot, £12; Robert Brindle, of Samlesbury, £4 17s.; James Turner, of Samlesbury, £6 10s.; Margaret Turner, of Samlesbury, —; Hugh Walmesley of Samlesbury, —; James Woodcock, of Walton, £12; William Orain,

of Walton, —; John Burscough, of Walton, £20; Matthew Worthington, of Walton, £2 5s. 6d.; William Gregson, of Samlesbury, £9; Thomas High, of Samlesbury, —; John Wilcock, of Balderston, £21; John Adkinson, of Walton, —; William Moulden, of Samlesbury, £5 18s.; Ann Cocker, of Samlesbury, £5; Ann Blackburne, of Billington, —; Richard Craven, of Billington, —; Richard Wilson, of Osbaldeston, —; John Jackson, of Balderston, £11 10s.; John Bolton—Estate at Walton, in possession of Thomas Billinge, £70 5s.; Robert Osbaldeston, of Billington, £14; Richard Cunliffe, of Harwood Magna, —; John Woodcock, of Walton, £20; John Jackson, of Walton-in-le-Dale, £50 8s.; George Gregson, of Walton, £3; Hugh Heatley, of Samlesbury, £4 5s.; James Dilworth, of Samlesbury, £6 5s.; Henry Darwen, of Balderston, —; Edward Osbaldeston, of Cuerdale, —; Elizabeth Bolton—Estate at Salesbury, in possession of Richard Wood, £25 12s.

The last Jacobite Rebellion makes notable the year 1745. Prince Charles Edward Stuart entered Preston with his Highlanders on the 27th of November. The clansmen, impressed by the fact that on two former invasions, in 1648 and 1715, the Scottish army had been arrested and conquered at Preston, deemed this the critical stage of their march, and fancied the river Ribble was the fated limit of Scottish invasions. Sir Walter Scott states that "to counteract the superstition, Lord George [Murray] led a part of his troops across the Ribble-bridge, a mile beyond Preston. The spell which arrested the progress of the Scottish troops was thus supposed to be broken." From his quarters at Preston, the young Pretender despatched letters to the English Jacobite gentry, conjuring them to join his standard. The appeal evoked but a feeble response.

In Lancashire, where the adherents of the Stuarts had once included almost the whole of the nobility and many other old landed families, the Jacobite fervour had so much subsided, and the acceptance of the Hanoverian succession was so general, that excepting Francis Towneley, a younger son of Charles Towneley, Esq., and two or three citizens of Manchester, no significant accessions to the abettors of the insurrection were made during the passage through this county. Edward, eleventh Earl of Derby, was the most active of the county nobles in the promotion of measures for resisting the Stuart invasion on this occasion. About two months before the Rebel occupation of Preston, when it was known that the Pretender's son would venture into England, the Earl of Derby had called a County Meeting at the Town Hall of Preston, to which the representatives of the best families of Lancashire came in great numbers, when the Earl had proposed the formation of a Defensive Association, to raise a force of 5,000 men; and in accordance with this resolution a large militia force had been mustered, which was disposed in garrisons in the chief towns. Blackburn, and the other towns in Blackburn Hundred, had armed a number of citizens in response

to the call of the Government, and two companies of Blackburn militia were marched to Lord Derby at Manchester to serve in defensive operations.

Prince Charles Edward advanced to Manchester, where about three hundred Lancashire recruits were embodied as the Manchester Regiment, with Francis Towneley as colonel. Thence the forward march was continued to Derby, and then it was found necessary to commence a retreat. The Rebels were back in Manchester by December 9th; and on the 12th, at nine o'clock in the morning, after a night march, the dejected clansmen of the Stuart's army arrived at Preston. There was a very short pause in the retreat at Preston, for now the Duke of Cumberland's troopers were but a few miles in the rear. Throughout Friday, December 12th, the Rebels straggled through the town. It was the design of General Oglethorpe,—who with a body of horse detached from Marshal Wade's army, despite severe winter weather had performed the distance from Doncaster to Preston in three days, traversing the mountain roads from West Yorkshire into Blackburn Hundred,—to overtake the Rebels on the Ribble; but having failed by a few hours in the attempt to intercept the insurgents at this point, Oglethorpe rested his dragoons at Preston a short time, and the pursuit slackened somewhat. Prince Charles, however, did not loiter. Within six days after leaving Preston his troops had gained Carlisle on the morning of December 19th. The men of the Manchester Regiment had deserted in numbers while marching past their homes in Lancashire, and on reaching Carlisle it was found that Colonel Towneley's command had been reduced by these desertions from 300 to 114 men. Towneley and his men, with about 270 Scots, were left as a garrison in Carlisle, while the Prince retreated into Scotland with the main body of Rebels. The Duke of Cumberland presently arrived at Carlisle and invested the city. The small Rebel garrison was soon forced to surrender. Its commander, Colonel Towneley, was sent to London, and lay in Newgate until his trial for high treason in July, 1746. He was convicted, and executed with others on Kennington Common, July 30th.

VISITS OF JOHN WESLEY TO THE PARISH.

The earliest visits of John Wesley, the Father and Founder of Methodism, to this Parish and Hundred constitute noteworthy incidents in the history of a generally dull and obscure period of the local chronology. Wesley appears from his own record of his journeyings to have made at least twenty distinct visits to North East Lancashire. These visits extended over a period of about forty-three years, from 1747 down to 1790, the year before Wesley's death, and to the following

towns and villages in the Hundred :—Blackburn, Lower Darwen, Over Darwen, Walton-in-le-Dale, Chipping, Ribchester, Burnley, Padiham, Southfield (Marsden), Colne, Rough Lee in Pendle Forest, Bacup, Newchurch, and Haslingden. In each of these places Methodist societies were subsequently established. In 1747-8, the town of Colne and the hamlet of Rough Lee in Pendle Forest were the scenes of Wesley's missionary labour and of his persecution by the mob. In April, 1751, Wesley rode through Darwen and Blackburn on his way from Bolton to Ribchester and Chipping, but did not tarry in either of those towns to preach. Wesley made the same journey from Bolton to Chipping through Blackburn parish in 1753. About five years later, John Nelson, one of Wesley's most active travelling preachers, came to Lower Darwen, in this parish, and set on foot the first Methodist Society hereabouts. Ralph Haworth, yeoman, resident in Lower Darwen, and his sons were among the earliest adherents. John Haworth, one of Ralph's sons, heard Nelson preach, and became a convert to Methodism. His brothers shortly followed his example. In the *Methodist Magazine* for 1812, appears a biographical notice of Mr. John Haworth, written by his son, the Rev. William Haworth, who became a minister in the Connexion. Mr. William Haworth writes :—"My late father was born near Blackburn, in Lancashire, August 28th, 1730. His parents were persons of some property. They were sober and steady, and regularly attended the Established Church. . . . In the year 1758 the Methodist Preachers came, for the first time, into that part of the country where he lived. The late Mr. John Nelson was the first Methodist preacher he heard." One James Oddie formed a Methodist society or class in the village of Lower Darwen, which John Haworth, his father and three brothers, joined. The class met in the outset at the house of the Haworths, and numbered several persons from Blackburn. "At that time," adds Mr. William Haworth, "the little society met with much opposition. But they stood their ground; they were closely united together. . . . When the society was first formed, my father's brother-in-law was the leader; but, after some time, he removed to another place, at a distance, and my father was appointed the leader in his place; and he continued in this important office till within a short time of his death."

In 1759 the recently-formed society in Lower Darwen was stimulated by a visit from Wesley himself, who travelled this road from Bolton to Lancaster to look in upon his little band of adherents on the outskirts of Blackburn. Wesley preached at Lower Darwen on this occasion, but not at Blackburn—perhaps fearing to encounter violent prejudices in the town. The journal entry of the visit is :—"1759.

Wednesday, May 9.—I preached at Bolton, and on Friday, the 11th, about 9 [o'clock], at *Lower Darwent*, a small village near Blackburn." It was not long before Wesley favoured the Methodists at Lower Darwen by a second visit. Mr. Grimshaw, incumbent of Haworth, was with Wesley in this journey, and both these great preachers preached at Lower Darwen, Mr. Wesley in the evening of one day, and Mr. Grimshaw on the ensuing morning, having spent the night there. Wesley writes:—"1761. Thursday, April 16th.—After preaching at noon [at Bolton], I rode to Lower Darwen, near Blackburn, where a large congregation behaved with deep seriousness. Leaving honest Mr. Grimshaw to preach in the morning, I set out early, and in the evening reached a little quiet house a few miles beyond Kendal."

In the centre of the village of Lower Darwen is an old yeoman's house, and on the opposite side of the road a barn of equal antiquity. The lintel of a door in the barn bears the date, "1691," and the initials "W. H. M." In this old barn, according to tradition in the village, John Wesley preached on one or other of his earlier visits to Lower Darwen.

Although John Wesley rode through Blackburn on his way from Lower Darwen to Lancaster, on Saturday, May 10th, 1759, and again on Friday, April 17th, 1761, he did not halt to preach in the town on either of these occasions. It is likely that the Blackburn people were rather influenced against Methodism up to this time. Between the years 1778 and 1780, a small band of adherents in the town had formed a society, and opened a temporary preaching-house. At length, affairs being rendered propitious, the Founder of Methodism came to Blackburn for the purpose of preaching to the people. The visit was an event of great local interest. The repute of Wesley was now so high, that the most respectable of the inhabitants of Blackburn were glad of the opportunity of seeing him, and hearing his exhortations. Wesley gives in his Journal a note of the encouraging reception he had on this appearance at Blackburn:—"May 27th, 1780. I preached in Todmorden Church with great enlargement of heart. In the afternoon we went to Blackburn. It seemed the whole town was moved. But the question was where to put the congregation. We could not stand abroad because of the sun, so as many as could squeezed into the preaching-house. All the chief men of the town were there. It seemed as if the last will be first." In the following year Wesley was again invited to Blackburn to preach at the opening of the first Methodist Chapel erected in the town. The subsequent annals of the Methodist denomination in Blackburn and Darwen, and other places in the parish, will be inserted hereafter in the separate accounts of townships.

EARLY TEXTILE MANUFACTURES IN THE DISTRICT.

That great Cotton Trade, without which four-fifths of the people of Lancashire could not subsist in their present dwelling-place, has a history as interesting as any of the developments of human energy the world has witnessed. But it is not within the limits of these pages to traverse all the stages of that history, or to enter with minuteness into the details of the changes and processes by which the manufacture has been brought to its present perfection, and the commerce to its existing proportions. The Cotton Trade has not lacked annalists, who have placed upon record the facts of its origin and extension. The present writer has only to narrate some of the circumstances by which the advance of inventive art as applied to this large industry is associated with the careers of inventors and pioneers in enterprise, the scene of whose work was the town of Blackburn or its vicinity.

Blackburn,—or, rather, the district of which the town of Blackburn is the centre,—has long been noted for the production of certain specialities of textile manufacture. The old itineraries and gazetteers do not fail to mention, with exact iteration, that Blackburn had a name for the manufacture in succession of two particular kinds of cloths,—first, the “Blackburn Checks,” and, secondly, the “Blackburn Greys.” It is nowhere stated, however, at what date and in what manner the first of these manufactures was introduced into the Blackburn district, and became its chief important handicraft. Whether the art and mystery of check-weaving was imported hither by foreign craftsmen in exile, or was of local origin and invention, is left to speculation. So long ago as the reign of Elizabeth, Blackburn, Colne, and other places in East Lancashire, were the seats of a manufacture of textiles called “cottons,” friezes, &c., that were subject to the statutory regulations of *alnage*, and the town of Blackburn was one of the places to which the *Alnager*, or Government officer who had to measure, and by sealing to certify these fabrics, periodically came to supervise the manufacture. These Elizabethan “cottons,” were not made of the cotton fibre, but of *wool*, as is proved by the mention of their subjection to the milling and friezing processes, applicable only to woollens. There was a considerable local manufacture of linen cloths in the reign of Charles I.¹ The Blackburn “check” manufacture is supposed to have first sprung up in the time of the Commonwealth, between 1650 and 1660. The checked cloths

¹ A statement dated April, 1635, under the hands of three eminent local Justices, Sir Gilbert Hoghton, and Thomas Walmesley and William Farrington, Esqrs., sets forth that flax was then an article “so frequently used in the County of Lancaster, that if it be taken away all the poorer sort of people who live by spinning and weaving of Linen Clothes [cloths] only all yeare long (except in the time of harvest) will be forced to begge,” &c. This proves the extent of cottage spinning and weaving in the district, so early as the year 1635.

made here consisted of a linen warp and a cotton woof, one or both of which being dyed in the thread gave to the piece when woven a striped or checked appearance. Fabrics of a small blue and white check continued to be made in East Lancashire, and were extensively worn by the working people as shirts and aprons, until recently.

The appended petition of clothiers in this parish, for redress and protection against the violent seizure of their wares at Preston by agents of the monopolist trading companies of that borough, indicates the activity of the manufacture of cloth and the enterprise of the local chapmen. The petition bears no date, but by the names inserted and the caligraphy of the original is proved to belong to the period between 1660 and 1680.

To the Right Worshipful the Justices of Peace and Quorum in the County of Lancaster.—The humble petition of some of the inhabitants within Great Harwood, Billington, Whalley, and Rishton, beeing Clothiers, humbly sheweth :—That whereas your said petitioners or some of them have come to Preston to the Market there with Cloath to sell of their and their servants making for the space of fifty yeares and upwards, and had free liberty to sell theire said Cloath in the said Towne without any molestation or trouble by any of the Inhabitants thereof or any other person whatsoever, untill within this two yeares and under. That some of your said petitioners being in the said Towne and in open Markett had their Cloath taken from them in a forcible manner by Thomas Loxam and John Cadman, both Inhabitants of the said Towne, and kept by the said Loxam and Cadman from your said petitioners eight or tenn weekes together, which putt some of your petitioners to great cost in coming to the Towne many times and making best friends they could before they gott their Cloath againe, besides the benefit of soe many Markett dayes as your said petitioners Cloath laye out of their hands, which hath beene a hinderance to some of your petitioners for making Cloath which make many poore people want worke which have been accustomed to work and bee employed in such tradinge. And your petitioners or some of them which have been thus troubled, being not able to try out the reason of this theire trouble and greevance, doe humbly desire your Worships to take the premisses into consideracion that such course may be taken that your said petitioners may have free liberty and accesse to and in the said Towne and Markett. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever praye, &c.

LAWRANCE HINDLE	EDWARD BARON	MYLES ASPINALL
JAMES HARWOOD	RICHARD DOBSON	JOHN HINDLE
WILLM. WIGAN	LAW. ROBERTSHEY	ADAM HALL
JOHN BARON	ROBERT POLLARD	ROBERT FFEILDEN
MATTHIAS TAVLOR	JOHN POLLARD	

At the beginning of the last century many of the inhabitants of Blackburn town and parish gained a livelihood by plying the hand-loom, in the weaving of linen, woollen, and mixed cloths. Thoresby, in a passage of his Diary already quoted, writing in 1702, speaks of Walton-in-le-Dale (probably the Bamber Bridge end of the township) as then "famous for the manufacture of linen cloth," and says he saw "vast quantities of

yarn whiting," or bleaching, in the fields there. In the year 1748, the Vicar of Colne sought to incite popular enmity against the Methodists by declaring the effect of the new religion would be to destroy the "Manufactory in and about Colne." In the town of Blackburn tokens of the manufacture are given in a list of tenants of the Vicar's Glebe, about the year 1720, when upon that small estate of about 100 acres were several tenants of houses with "yarn crofts" adjoining. A more definite indication of the prevalence of this industry is afforded by entries in the Blackburn Parish Registers. From 1720 to 1750 a large proportion of the names in these registers have the affixes of "webster," and "weaver," and "fustian webster." For example, in the year 1723, out of 149 entries of baptisms, 68 were children of weavers, and 81 of parents of all other occupations; and of 60 entries of burials, the names of 34 heads of families have the employment of "weaver" assigned. The trade must therefore have been widely diffused at that time. The yarns used in the weaving of the Blackburn checks would need to be dyed prior to being taken by the weavers; and that the dyeing process, also, was done upon the spot, is shown by the title of "dyer" appended to a few names in the same Registers.

Before the middle of last century, the "checks" had to a great extent given place to the "Blackburn Greys," as the leading textile manufacture of the district. The "greys," like the "checks," were a mixed fabric of linen and cotton; the difference being that the "greys" were woven, as the calico is now, without the yarns being dyed previously. They were made to meet the demand of the public for printed goods, and were sent to be finished to London, where the art of printing the linen and cotton mixtures had been developed to a large extent.

The antecedents of the old Lancashire hand-loom are obscure. Who brought it hither, and by what makers the early weavers had their "shops" provided with this clumsy wooden machine, cannot be stated. The hand-loom of 1730 was even a ruder contrivance in some essential respects than the old-fashioned structure still seen in the cottages of Mellor and Blacksnape. A useful improvement was applied to the loom by John Kay, of Bury, who in the year 1738 produced the "fly-shuttle" instead of the method previously practised by the weaver of throwing the shuttle from hand to hand. The "fly-shuttle" and "picking-peg" improvement is said to have enabled the Lancashire weaver to double his former production by the facility of its movement, as well as to weave wider webs. This enhanced speed, however, led to a difficulty, for it was found that the female spinster with her wheel and spindle could no longer keep pace with the demand for yarn of the weaver. The "fly-shuttle" was thus the parent of the "spinning-jenny," and that was the

precursor of an unended series of improvements in spinning and weaving machinery.

JAMES HARGREAVES OF STANHILL, THE INVENTOR.

It was to the ingenuity of an intelligent weaver living in the neighbourhood of Blackburn that the conception of a machine for the spinning of yarn is attributed. James Hargreaves, about the year 1764, was living in a cottage at the hamlet of Stanhill, situate on the hill-ridge that bounds the township of Oswaldtwistle on the north. Stanhill is about two miles to the eastward of Blackburn. James Hargreaves had seen that Kay's improvement of the hand-loom deranged the economy of the weaver's trade by leaving the spinster with her wheel behind-hand. Mr. John Wyatt, of Birmingham, had shortly before patented a machine for spinning by rollers; but there is no evidence that this process was known to the weavers of Lancashire, when Hargreaves directed his attention to the means of increased expedition in the spinning department. Another ingenious man, Thomas Highs, of Leigh, appears to have been working at a design of his own for a new spinning frame, simultaneously with the secret labours of Hargreaves in this direction.

Prior to his conception of the spinning frame, Hargreaves had brought out an improvement in the stock cards, which displaced the hand cards formerly used for cleaning and straightening-out the cotton-fibres in the process preparatory for spinning it. The old hand-card was a sort of brush made of fine wires closely placed in a piece of leather. Hargreaves's stock-card was in its turn improved upon in the cylinder carder, which was introduced into Lancashire about the year 1760. It is stated that Mr. Robert Peel, having heard of the carding cylinder, and got a notion of its construction, obtained the assistance of his neighbour Hargreaves in making a cylinder for use in his own spinning factory, then recently established at Brookside, Oswaldtwistle.

A couple of years Hargreaves spent in working out his idea of a more expeditious mechanical operation for the spinning of yarn. His first frame was put together secretly in his own house. The year 1767 was named by Richard Arkwright, a rival inventor, as the date of the introduction of Hargreaves's machine to the public. There is evidence, however, that the machine was completed, and had been purchased by various parties, two years before that date. The first spinning-frame Hargreaves made was kept for the use of his household, and answered its purpose fully. Some months elapsed before he was disposed to make other machines on the same model for sale. The machine was christened the "Spinning Jenny," either by Hargreaves and his family, or by the weavers of the neighbourhood who became

acquainted with its performances. The original machine is described as a wooden frame, having at one end eight rovings placed in a row, and in another part a row of eight spindles. The rovings when extended to the spindles, passed between two horizontal bars of wood, forming a clasp, which opened and shut somewhat like a parallel ruler; when pressed together this clasp held the threads fast. A certain portion of roving being extended from the spindle to the wooden clasp, the clasp was closed, and was then drawn along the horizontal frame to a considerable distance from the spindles, by which the threads were lengthened out, and reduced to the proper tenuity; this was done with the spinner's left hand, and his right hand at the same time turned a wheel, which caused the spindles to revolve rapidly, and thus the roving was spun into yarn. By returning the clasp to its first situation, and letting down a presser wire, the yarn was wound upon the spindle.

Between the years 1764 and 1767, Hargreaves had made several of his "jennies," and had privately sold some of them to his neighbours who had enterprise enough to purchase such a machine. For a time the "jennies" were in good request by such weavers as could afford to get them, and did not excite jealousy on the part of others less thrifty. But when it was seen that the new machines were likely to come into common use, and to dispense with a good deal of female labour at the ordinary spinning-wheel, the antagonism of the populace became roused. The cottage spinsters began to look upon the invention as a mischievous innovation. Mr. Peel's new spinning mill at Brookside had been supplied with "jennies," and it was found that Capital, with its new-fangled appliances, would drive unfurnished Labour out of the market. The resentful spirit of the people against the inventor and his invention reached such a pitch in the year 1768, that it betrayed itself in acts of lawless violence. On a fixed day in the Spring of that year, parties of weavers from Darwen, Mellor, Tockholes, and Oswaldtwistle assembled in Blackburn, and were joined by a body of Blackburn craftsmen, forming together a mob of some hundreds of persons. In those days there were neither police nor soldiery in Blackburn at hand to disperse rioters and to protect obnoxious citizens. A tradition goes that the rioters, whose design was to march to Oswaldtwistle, to sack the cottage of Hargreaves and to demolish the factory of Peel, halted at the "Cross," in Blackburn (at the junction of Church-street with Darwen-street), and obtained refreshment at the inns that lay convenient. Having done this, the mob proceeded along the Burnley-road to Furthergate, and there turned off by a bye-road, on the line of the present Accrington-road, to Knuzden, and thence to Stanhill. Hargreaves and his family had doubtless heard of the intended attack, and had quitted the homestead, else it is likely

that they would have been roughly handled. The rioters burst into the cottage, found the "jenny" used by the family, and broke it up. The inventor's looms shared the same fate, and the house itself, with whatever furniture it contained, was also demolished. From Stanhill the machine-breakers went to Brookside, about half a mile distant, and did not desist from their purpose until they had reduced to wreck the mill of Mr. Peel, with all its machinery, including the "jennies" in use there, and other mechanical appliances of which the proprietor, himself was the inventor.

After this ill-usage, James Hargreaves disappeared from the neighbourhood of Blackburn, and settled in the town of Nottingham. It is stated that in the first months of his sojourn in Nottingham Hargreaves was employed by a Mr. Shipley, to whom he communicated his invention, and in whose house he made several "jennies" privately. Another individual, Mr. Thomas James, then invited him to become his partner in a spinning factory. Mr. James was to find the capital for building the mill, which he borrowed on the mortgage of some freehold property, and Hargreaves was to stock it with spinning machines. The mill was built at a place called Hockley, and there the partners spun yarn for the hosiers of the district. Two houses were also built adjacent to the mill, in one of which the family of Hargreaves was domiciled. Hargreaves now considered it necessary to protect his invention by letters patent, which he had not hitherto been in a position to do. The patent for the "Spinning Jenny" was obtained in the year 1770. It had then been in use by its inventor about five years. Hargreaves's Specification of his patent is headed, "Machinery for Spinning, Drawing, and Twisting Cotton." Its preamble is as follows:—

Whereas, I, James Hargreaves (of the town of Nottingham) did, by my petition, humbly represent to His present most Excellent Majesty King George the Third, that I had after much application and many trials, attended with expense, at last invented and brought to perfection "A Method of making a Wheel or Engine of an Entire New Construction (and never before made use of), in order for Spinning, Drawing, and Twisting of Cotton, and to be managed by One Person only, and that the Wheel or Engine will Spin, Draw, and Twist Sixteen or more Threads at one time by a turn or motion of One Hand, and a draw of the other;" and that in regard I was the first and true Inventor thereof, and that the same had not been made by any other person or persons to my knowledge or belief, I therefore most humbly prayed His said Majesty that He would be graciously pleased to grant unto me, my executors, &c., His Royal Letters Patent, &c., for the sole use and benefit of my said Invention within Great Britain, &c., for the term of fourteen years, according to the Statute in that case made and provided; His said Majesty being willing to give encouragement to all arts and inventions which might be for the publick good, was graciously pleased to condescend to my request, and therefore, by His Royal Letters Patent, bearing date at Westminster, the Twelfth day of June, in the Tenth year of His reign, &c., did give and grant unto

me, the said James Hargreaves, &c., license to make, use, exercise, and vend his said invention.

Hargreaves describes the *modus operandi* of his invention, as exhibited in the accompanying diagrams, in these terms:—

One person with his or her right hand turns the wheel in the plan marked G, and with the left hand takes hold of the clasps, in the plan marked I, and therewith draws out the cotton from the slubbin box, in the plan marked P, and being twisted by the turn of the wheel in the drawing out, then the piece of wood marked N in the plan is lifted up by the toe, which lets down the presser wire in the plan marked A, so as to press the threads so drawn and twisted, in order to wind or put the same regularly upon the bobbins, which are placed on the spindles standing in the box in the plan marked C.

The specification is signed and sealed by the patentee, on the 30th of July, 1770, in presence of "Wm. James" and "Robert Evans," witnesses. The invention was enrolled on the 18th of August in the same year.

The drawing of the patented "jenny" shows a range of sixteen spindles, being double the number inserted by Hargreaves in his first experimental spinning-frame. It is stated in the description that the frames might embrace a larger number of spindles if desired. When Hargreaves had secured legal protection for his invention, he took measures to prevent the use of imitations which had been made of the machine since its first appearance. An unfortunate circumstance frustrated the inventor's hope of making large profits out of his patent:—"Finding that several of the large manufacturers were using the jenny, Hargreaves gave notice of action against them; the manufacturers met, and sent a delegate to Nottingham, who offered Hargreaves £3,000 for permission to use the machine; but he at first demanded £7,000, and at last stood out for £4,000. The negotiations being broken off, the actions proceeded; but before they came to trial, Hargreaves's attorney (Mr. Evans) was informed that his client, before leaving Lancashire, had sold some jennies to obtain clothing for his children (of whom he had six or seven), and in consequence of this, which was true, the attorney gave up the actions, in despair of obtaining a verdict."¹ In this way, Hargreaves was disappointed in his reasonable expectation of obtaining the adequate reward of his useful ingenuity. Lack of capital at the outset was the cause of the commercial unsuccess of his patent. He had been forced by poverty to postpone the application for legal protection, and the same exigency had obliged him to sell machines before the invention was patented.

In spite of popular resistance, the spinning "jenny" had before the

¹ Baines's Hist. of Cotton Manufacture.

year 1771 been adopted to a great extent by spinners in Lancashire. Samuel Crompton, subsequently distinguished as the inventor of the "Spinning Mule," was, in the year 1769, when but sixteen years of age, supplied with one of Hargreaves's frames by his parents at Bolton,—a machine of eight spindles on which he spun the coarse yarn he afterwards wove into quilting; and it was after working five years on this jenny, and having become thoroughly familiar with its mechanism and its capacity for doing the work required, that the younger inventor set about the construction of an improved spinning machine for finer spinning, which should combine with the successful features of Hargreaves's "jenny" some new arrangements.

Richard Arkwright, the Preston barber, working at the idea of spinning by rollers that had been already embodied in the machine patented by Paul and others, produced, about the year 1767, his first example of a spinning machine. Arkwright's machine was exhibited in the Grammar School at Preston in that year, but on the outbreak of the Blackburn weavers who destroyed Hargreaves's machines in 1768, Arkwright, in fear that the machine might bring the mob to Preston, packed up the machine, quitted the town, along with his partner Smalley, and found his way to Nottingham, the town which had afforded a retreat to Hargreaves. Arkwright was a man of greater energy than the Blackburn inventor, and although the "jenny" had been in use two or three years before his own frame was completed, Arkwright got his invention patented twelve months earlier than Hargreaves. The specification of Arkwright's patent is dated July 3rd, 1769. His machine consisted of four strong upright pillars, bolted together with cross-pieces. The motive power was a horse, that turned the driving drum. The driving strap at once turned the rollers at the top and the spindles at the bottom of the frame. The "cotton roving" was wound upon bobbins running in a frame behind the rollers; and from the bobbins passed through a pair of wooden rollers, &c., and by one pair of rollers moving quicker than the other, drew it finer for twisting, which was performed by the spindles.

It is a coincidence in the record of British invention that the Steam Engine was first patented by James Watt the same year that Arkwright patented his spinning machine. The years 1769-70 will thus be memorable as the date at which the significant inventions of Watt, Arkwright and Hargreaves were presented to the world of industry.

Samuel Crompton's "Mule" Spinning Machine was the sequence of the inventions of Hargreaves and Arkwright. The Bolton manufactures at that time included numerous finer textile fabrics, such as muslins, the yarn for which could not be spun by the somewhat simple

process of twisting performed by the "jenny." Crompton felt his ability to add important improvements to the machines both of Hargreaves and Arkwright. After five years of ingenious and unassisted work, Crompton had perfected his new machine in 1779. It was from the first a success. It was called, when it became popularly known, the "Muslin-Wheel," but soon it acquired the suggestive name of "Spinning *Mule*," implying its union of the best characteristics both of Hargreaves's jenny and the machine of Arkwright. Crompton's machine had numerous good points, but what proved its grand merit was its "spindle carriage," whereby the strain was kept off the thread until it had been elongated to the required tenuity.

James Hargreaves died at Nottingham in the Spring of 1778. The register of his burial in the Parish Church of St. Mary, in that town, reads:—"1778, April 22, *James Hargreaves*." The statement printed by some careless chronicler, and repeated by others, that the author of the "Spinning Jenny" died in extreme poverty, and left his family in want, has been entirely disproved. After taking out the patent in 1770, Hargreaves remained in partnership with Mr. James in the spinning mill they had built near Nottingham, and had prospered well enough to uphold a respectable position, and to leave at his death, for the benefit of his widow and children, property of the estimated value of £4,000. He died at his house near the mill at Hockley. After his death his widow received from the surviving partner a sum of £400, as the value of her husband's share in the concern. Mrs. Hargreaves was otherwise sufficiently provided for to permit her to save the £400, and to bequeath the sum to her children when she died. This, though not much in the way of success for a man whose invention was so serviceable to the staple trade of Lancashire, is at least more satisfactory than the tradition of absolute indigence in his latter days. After the death of his widow, some of the children of the inventor became very poor. A writer in the year 1860 says:—"Two of his daughters were living in Manchester until within the last few years, when the late Mr. Brotherton [M.P. for Salford], hearing of their condition, endeavoured to raise a subscription on their behalf; but he had great difficulty in collecting sufficient from the wealthy manufacturers of that town to preserve them from destitution."

The year after Hargreaves's death (1779) occurred a second violent outbreak of peasant-craftsmen in this district against the "jenny" and kindred labour-saving machines. The riot in 1779, which originated in a temporary dearth of employment for the weaver, culminated in more extensive machine-breaking than that of 1768. On this occasion a mob of rude fellows "scoured the country for many miles

round Blackburn, destroying all the jennies, carding engines, and every machine driven by water or horses. Mr. Peel had his machinery at Altham thrown into the Calder, and he himself with difficulty escaped personal violence at the hands of the rioters. Many of the machine spinners were driven from Blackburn to Manchester and other towns, and years elapsed before machine spinning was resumed at the former place. Even the upper and middle classes in those days entertained a great dread of machinery, and they connived at, and actually joined in, the opposition of the working classes to its extension. On some occasions the magistrates, at the head of a body of soldiers, stood quietly by watching the outrages, and they were afterwards found ready to screen the rioters from punishment." Mr. French, in the *Life of Crompton*, says that the mob spared those "jennies" that had fewer than twenty spindles. Crompton had then just finished his more elaborate contrivances for finer spinning. He was so afraid of being attacked that he took his machine to pieces, and hid the parts in the garret of his house at Hall-i'th'-Wood, and it was not until the end of the year 1780 that the Bolton inventor's beautiful machine was advanced to public notice.

It is not within my purpose to narrate the subsequent history of the inventions of Hargreaves, Arkwright, and Crompton. Crompton's "Spinning Mule," being a great improvement on former machines, in time superseded the frames modelled on the plan of the "Jenny" and the machine of Arkwright. The adoption of the "Mule" was also facilitated by the fact that Crompton did not get a patent for his invention, but gave it to the trade in the expectation of adequate voluntary compensation by the leading capitalists who made use of his machine—a hope destined to be disappointed. According to a return obtained by Crompton himself in the year 1810, there were ascertained to be in use at that date of Crompton's "Mule," machines with an aggregate of 4,600,000 spindles; while at the same time there were 310,516 spindles in use on Arkwright's water-frames; and 155,880 spindles on Hargreaves' "Jenny" machines. So far from being surprised at this prevalence of the latest-invented machines, one is inclined to wonder that the simpler machines of earlier invention had in many factories held their ground so long.

ORIGIN AND EXTENSION OF CALICO PRINTING IN THE PARISH.

Simultaneously with the spread in East Lancashire of the cotton spinning trade from the beginning of the factory system, a considerable calico printing industry was planted and flourished in the district. The date at which the first calico pieces were printed in this neighbourhood cannot be fixed. Baines refers the commencement of calico printing in Lancashire to the Messrs. Clayton, of Bamber Bridge, in Walton town-

ship, who "began the business on a small scale as early as the year 1764." The Peels of Blackburn are stated to have speedily followed the Claytons in this trade. That calico printing was rapidly developed in the town of Blackburn after its importation is proved by the record of the antiquary Pennant's visit to Blackburn in the year 1773, when he wrote concerning the local trade:—"The manufactures are cottons; considerable quantities are printed here; others are sent to London. The fields around are whitened with the materials which are bleached for them. The thread, which must be ranked with them, is brought from Ireland." The parish of Blackburn was the original seat of the calico printing trade of Lancashire, and the town of Blackburn and its vicinity continued for some years to be the principal emporium of the calico printers. Information is scant concerning the calico-printing establishment of the Claytons at Bamber Bridge. Mr. S. Potter states:—"The trade was established in Lancashire in 1764 by Messrs. Clayton, of Bamber Bridge, near Preston; the cloth that was printed being made with linen warp and cotton weft, and produced principally at Blackburn. This was the reason of many printers settling near Blackburn, which was for a long time the great seat of the print trade. The introduction of power-loom cloth caused the migration of a considerable print trade to Stockport, Hyde, Staleybridge, and North Derbyshire."

The Claytons who entered into this business were descendants of the ancient family of Clayton of Clayton-in-the-Woods. Mr. Edward Clayton, of Bamber Bridge, conducted the business of linen printer for some time before his death in 1767, and it was his sons, John and George Clayton, who developed the art of printing calico in their works at this place. For a few years the Bamber Bridge printers of linens and calicoes had no local competitors, and several Blackburn makers of cotton fabrics for printing purposes sent their pieces to the Messrs. Clayton to be ornamented with printed patterns. But soon the original firm found energetic rivals in Blackburn, the first of whom were the Peels, in conjunction with their family connexions, the Haworths and Yateses. Another family of Blackburn merchants, the Liveseys, also entered the trade, and prosecuted it on a large scale at Mosney, in Walton township.

The old process of printing textiles by means of wooden blocks was a slow and uncertain one, whose only merit, if merit it was, was that of simplicity. It was evidently suggested, at first, by the process of letterpress printing. The cloth to be imprinted was stretched upon a table whose board was covered by a fine woollen blanket. The printer had a boy to spread the colouring fluid, or mordant, by means of a brush over the surface of a woollen cloth stretched in a frame. The printer took

the wooden block, on which the pattern had been cut in relief by the block-cutter, pressed its face upon the colouring blanket by his side, then adjusted it upon the cloth to be printed, and produced the impression by means of a stroke from a mallet. Where more than one colour had to be used, a separate block was needed for each colour, and great nicety of manipulation was needed to secure perfection in the production of the design. This system of block printing was largely replaced by cylinder printing from the year 1785, but it did not altogether disappear from the print-shops for many years after that date.

THE PEEL FAMILY.

The Peel family, in the persons of several notable representatives, were incomparably the most successful of the pioneers both of the cotton manufacture and the calico-printing trade in the Blackburn district. As diligent, ingenious, and bold projectors and commercial men the Peels distanced all competition in the outset of these great branches of Lancashire commerce. The Peels had been settled in or near Blackburn for several generations, but are supposed to be originally a Yorkshire family.¹ Sir Lawrence Peel,² whose account of the early history of the illustrious family to which he belongs is the most authentic published, deduces the descent of Robert Peel, the great manufacturer, and his son the Prime Minister, from a certain member of the Peels who removed to Blackburn out of East Marton in Craven, about the year 1600, and who settled on the farm of Hole House, in Blackburn. William Peele was the name of the member who leased this farm, a portion of the Blackburn Rectory Glebe. It is believed that the father of this William Peel accompanied him to Blackburn, and was the "Robert Peele of Hole House" who appears in the Blackburn Parish Register as having been buried on the 27th of June, 1608. William Peele farmed this estate until his decease in October, 1623; he was buried in the Parish Church of Blackburn, Oct. 11th, in that year. To him succeeded in the tenancy a son and namesake, William Peele of Hole-house, who married, in Blackburn, on the 24th of December, 1619, Margaret Livesey, by

¹ From Jonathan Peel, Esq., of Knowlmere Manor, I am favoured with a note upon the probable original seat of the family of Peel. Mr. Peel writes:—"There is a vague tradition in the family that the Peels came originally from Devonshire. The author of 'The Norman People,' published last autumn, has kindly sent me a detailed account of a Norman family bearing the name, in addition to that of a Norman lordship, and almost the identical arms, and possessed of extensive estates in Devonshire, from which he concludes we are descended. I have, however, quite lately found that a family of Peels dwelt at 'The Peel' in Bolton-by-Bowland from the 10th Ric. 11. (A.D. 1395) to the 13th Jas. I. (A.D. 1616), and that in the 16th Car. I. (A.D. 1641) Thomas Peele and Janette his wife sold lands there. Since that date all connection of this family with Bolton appears to have ceased. The subject however, is under investigation."

² Life of Sir Robert Peel, 1860.

whom he had a son Robert, and other children. This William Peele died March 9th, 1651-2, and was buried at Blackburn on the 16th of the same month.

About the next representative somewhat of interest has been preserved by tradition. Robert Peele of the Hole-house was, says Sir L. Peel, "a manufacturer of woollen cloths at Blackburn. This was about the year 1640. The cloth was stamped with patterns from wooden blocks on which they were cut. Some of these blocks were seen by my father, when a boy, lying neglected in a lumber-room in his grandfather's house. He expressed his regret that they had not been preserved, and described them as curious from their very rudeness. His grandfather was the eldest son of Robert the manufacturer. Robert the woollen manufacturer was the first prosperous man of the family. He was reputed wealthy, and was so for the times; to each of several daughters he left by his Will, which was in the registry of the Archdeaconry of Richmond, in Yorkshire, the sum of 'nine score pounds,' a sum which, mean as it would now be considered, was not then an inconsiderable portion for a daughter in families of the middle class." To this Robert Peele, besides the daughters above-mentioned, two sons were born, the eldest Robert, the second Nicholas. Nicholas, the younger, entered the Church and obtained the curacy of the Blackburn Parish Church in the Vicariate of the Rev. Leonard Clayton. The Rev. Nicholas Peele was the preacher of the funeral sermon for Vicar Clayton in the year 1677; and a year after, on the 17th of March, 1678-9, is registered the interment of "Rev. Mr. Nicholas Peele," curate of Blackburn.

Robert Peele, son of Robert, had to wife Ann Warde, of Blackburn, whom he married on the 10th of October, 1681. She belonged to a respectable family of yeomen in Blackburn, who have a tombstone still existing in the Parish church-yard at Blackburn, inscribed with the names of "Henry Ward," buried in "1710," father probably of Ann; and of William Ward, of Blackburn, who died November 30th, 1734. By his wife, who died in June, 1721, Robert Peele had a numerous progeny, of at least four sons and seven daughters. The sons were—William, the eldest; Nicholas, baptized Oct. 26th, 1684; John, baptized March 15th, 1690; and Joseph, baptized Sept. 28th, 1701; buried Feb. 4th, 1718-19. The daughters were—Alice, born in March, 1686, died in March, 1691-2; Margaret, born in April, 1688; Elizabeth, born in February, 1698; Ann, born December, 1695; Easter, born May, 1698; Mary, born Feb., 1704-5, died May, 1712; and Susannah, born Jan., 1706-7, died May, 1709. The sire must have been a thrifty man, for in spite of the large family he had he found means to purchase

a small freehold estate in the township of Oswaldtwistle. This was the messuage anciently known as Oldham's Cross, with the land appertaining. The estate had belonged to the Oldhams, a family of antiquity in Oswaldtwistle, which gave the name to the tenement. After its passage to the Peels, its name was altered to that of "Peel Fold." Robert Peele acquired the Oldham's Cross farm in the month of April, 1731, and he lived at this place until his death in February, 1733-4. The Hole-house, the older home of the Peels, has disappeared, and the farm has been partially converted into building sites for factories and cottages. The situation of the farm is near the Burnley Old-road, between Furthergate and Whitebirk.

William Peele, Robert's eldest son, succeeded him in residence at Peel Fold, and farmed the freehold, which he inherited by a deed of settlement made by his father. William Peele had to wife Jane, daughter of Lawrence Walmsley, gent., of Over Darwen, whom he married on the 9th of August, 1713. The issue of the marriage were—Sons, Robert; Lawrence; William, died in infancy in 1726; Nicholas, and Joseph; and daughters Ann, Elizabeth, Jane, and Margaret. All the information given concerning this William Peele is that he was a man "of very delicate constitution, who was prevented by continued ill-health from exerting himself to improve or maintain the condition of the family." A family tradition of the Peels was that there were usually two working bees in the male succession, followed by a drone; and the above William Peele, though rather by the fault of nature than his own, was not able to add anything to the family's acquisition of property. He died in 1757—the Register of Blackburn gives "William Peele of Oswaldtwistle, yeoman," as buried on the 24th of July, 1757. His widow survived him some fifteen years, dying in March, 1772.

Now comes a member of this family of much greater note than any of his progenitors, who was destined to start the race on the path to distinction and opulence which one of his sons and his still greater grandson pursued with great address and high honour. This was Robert Peel, eldest son of William Peel, and the first of an unbroken succession of Robert Peels, of whom the last is the present baronet, of Drayton Manor. Robert Peel was born at Peel Fold, in the year 1723; he is believed to have been educated at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Blackburn. Having attained his majority, he married, on the 28th of August, 1744, Elizabeth, daughter of Edmund Haworth, of Walmsley Fold, Lower Darwen, gent. It is stated that after his marriage Robert Peel went to live at the Hole-house farm, in Blackburn, formerly referred to; his father, William Peel, of course, remaining in possession of Peel Fold estate, in Oswaldtwistle, until his death in 1757. His first two sons,

William and Edmund, were both born at the Hole-house, the one in June, 1745, and the other in January, 1747-8. About the year 1750, Robert Peel had found another abode near the centre of the town of Blackburn. This was the messuage in Fish-lane, off Astley-gate. This old lane may have derived its name from a family of yeomen named Fish, who lived in Blackburn, and not improbably at the farm house tenanted by Robert Peel, a tenement of considerable age, judging by its appearance before its demolition. At Fish-lane Robert Peel at first engaged himself as a farmer on a small scale, and there, in the month of April, 1750, was born his third son, Robert—the future baronet and father of the great statesman. The infant was baptized at Blackburn Church, April 23rd, 1750.¹ The house at Fish-lane has now been taken down some years. The house stood near the top of Fish-lane, on the north side. It was a low tenement, with mullioned windows and a gabled porch near the midst of the south front; the barn attached at the end of the building. Twenty-five years ago the old house stood isolated in the lane, which was then but a narrow foot-road at the lower end, leading between walls and hedges from Astley-gate to Blakey Moor. The situation is transformed by the modern streets that now cover the ground.

Shortly after the time that this third son Robert first saw the light, Robert Peel was led to join in a small calico-making and printing business. The circumstances of his commencement in business are supplied by the family biographer. Edmund Haworth, of Walmsley Fold, father-in-law of Robert Peel, was engaged as a “chapman” or dealer in woven fabrics, and he had sent one of his sons, Mr. Jonathan Haworth, to London to acquire a knowledge of the art of printing calicoes, at that time confined to a few print-works in the Metropolis. On the return of young Mr. Haworth to Blackburn, proposals were made to his brother-in-law Peel to become his partner in a factory to be started in the vicinity of the town. Sir L. Peel writes:—“My maternal grandfather, Mr. Haworth, was reputed in his family, and I believe with truth, to have been the first calico-printer in Lancashire. He had learned the business in London, where he resided several years when a young man. . . . On his return to Lancashire, he was bent upon introducing the business of a calico printer into his own neighbourhood. He communicated his design to his brother-in-law, Mr. Robert Peel. They

¹ The tradition is positive in Blackburn that Robert Peel, the first baronet, was born at the Fish-lane tenement in the town, and the house has several times been pictured in topographical works as the birth-place of this eminent personage; but Jonathan Peel, Esq., informs me that he has repeatedly heard this popular notion denied by old members of the family. Mr. Pee does not remember where it was stated the birth really took place, whether at Hole House or Peel Fold; but adds that Robert Peel was attended at Fish-lane in early infancy by his relative Dr. Thomas Haworth, as appears from the Doctor's account book, now in possession of Mr. Jonathan Peel.

consulted together, and, after mature deliberation, resolved upon a trial of the scheme. Mr. Peel raised money for the undertaking by the mortgage of his small paternal property. Mr. Haworth had some money, but their united means did not furnish capital enough, and they therefore looked out for a partner with money. Mr. [William] Yates, or his parents, had kept a small inn at Blackburn, called, I believe, the Black Bull. In that line he, or they, had made and saved some money; he was willing to embark it in a scheme which promised well, and the three commenced business together under the name, style, and firm of Haworth, Peel, and Yates; they manufactured and printed their own cloth, and established a warehouse in Manchester for its sale."

It was while living at Fish-lane, sometime between 1755 and 1760, that Mr. Robert Peel made his first experiments in block-printing. The process was conducted with secrecy in the first instance; and the printed pieces were ironed, instead of being put through a calender, by his wife. On one occasion,

Mr. Peel was in the kitchen, making some experiments in printing on handkerchiefs, and other small pieces, when his only daughter [Anne], then a girl, afterwards Mrs. Willock, brought him in from their "garden of herbs" a sprig of parsley. . . . She pointed out and praised the beauty of the leaf, and said she thought it would make a very pretty pattern. He took it out of her hand, looked at it attentively, praised it for its beauty, and her for her taste, and said he would make a trial of it. She, pleased not to be pooh-poohed as discoverers amongst juniors often are, lent her aid with all the alacrity of fourteen. A pewter dinner plate, for such was then the common dinner plate in families of that degree, was taken down from the shelf, and on it was sketched, say rather scratched, a figure of the leaf, and from this impressions were taken. It was called in the family Nancy's pattern, after his daughter. It became a favourite; in the trade it was known as the parsley-leaf pattern; and apt alliteration, lending its artful aid, gave its inventor the nickname of "Parsley Peel," which not having the least mixture of ill-nature in it, no barb to make it stick, did not adhere.

Besides the three sons that have been named—William, Edmund, Robert—Mr. Robert Peel had other sons:—Paul, died in infancy; Jonathan, afterwards of Accrington, baptized September 21st, 1752; Lawrence; Joseph, born in September, 1765; and Robert John. Sir Lawrence Peel's statement that there was but one daughter Anne, or Nancy, is not strictly accurate; she was the only daughter who survived to womanhood; but there was also two daughters that died in infancy—Betty, baptized March 5th, 1762, buried June 22nd, 1764; and Jenny, baptized April 1st, buried April 10th, 1768. A statement is made by Whittle, that two of Mr. Peel's sons, Robert and Jonathan, were apprenticed to a calico-printer in Livesey, near Blackburn, named Mr. Thomas Yates. There was a Thomas Yates in business as a dyer of calicoes at Moor-gate Fold in Livesey before the year 1748; and it might be this person with whom the two sons of Robert Peel served their time.

Mr. William Yates, who about the year 1760 entered into a partnership with Mr. Peel and Mr. Haworth as calico printers, at Brookside, Oswaldtwistle, was a Blackburn man, whose father kept the Black Bull Inn. The relations of William Yates with the Peels, both commercial and domestic, were in the sequel very intimate. He was four times married. By his first wife Mary he had a son Edmund, named hereafter; then a daughter Ellen ("Ellen daughter of William and Mary Yates of Blackburn, Chapman"), baptized April 2nd, 1766, afterwards famous as the wife of the first Sir Robert Peel and mother of the celebrated Minister; also sons Thomas, born in September 1767; and John, baptized June 11th, 1768. The mother died in childbed of this son, and was buried the day of his baptism, June 11th, 1768. Mr. Yates's second wife, Nancy, bore a son Giles, born in April and died in June, 1771; and daughters Jane and Ann, twins, baptized June 6th, 1773; Jane, one of the twins, became the wife of Col. Peel of Ardwick. Mr. Yates had other sons, Jonathan, afterwards General Yates; William, who entered the Church, and became Rector of Eccleston, Chorley; John; and Thomas Yates of Bury, calico printer. William Yates the father died in 1813, aged 73.

The partnership of Haworth, Yates, and Peel did not continue many years. The two elder partners seceded, and subsequently commenced business at Bury; Robert Peel remaining in sole possession at Brookside. It has been mentioned that, in 1762, Robert Peel and James Hargreaves conjointly constructed the carding cylinder and introduced this greatly improved mode of carding into the factory at Brookside. He also bought from Hargreaves several of his spinning frames and stocked his rooms therewith. Thus Mr. Peel, at an early date in his commercial career, combined in his works the branches of cotton carding and spinning, and of calico weaving on the hand-loom, with the subsidiary art of calico printing. The tradition is that his machines at Brookside were destroyed by the gang of rioters that attacked the house of Hargreaves and broke up his machines in the year 1768. He refitted his factory when the fury of the populace had subsided, and erected other works at Altham, to enable him to meet the increase of orders for his printed pieces. Still the enterprising printer was not permitted to develop his trade in East Lancashire in quietness. The year 1779 found the Blackburn weavers suffering from temporary privations from the dearth of employment, which they attributed to the multiplication of new machines and the progress of the factory system, and Robert Peel, as the chief local agent in this industrial revolution, was the object of popular hostility. Not only were his mills at Brookside and Altham demolished, and all the machinery broken up; but it

is related that Mr. Peel was in danger of personal injury by the mob. This second onslaught convinced Mr. Peel that he could not continue to prosecute his businesses with any degree of security in the Blackburn district; and he resolved to sever his connexion with his native town, to leave his wrecked factories behind, and to make a new start in a more hospitable locality. He removed his family and movable property to the vicinity of Burton-upon-Trent, in Staffordshire, where "he took a lease for three lives, from the Earl of Uxbridge, of some land favourable to his purpose, part of which abutted on the Trent. He built three mills there, to supply one of which with water he cut a canal, at the cost of £9,000." It is not necessary here to notice the future history of Mr. Peel with any particularity. His business in Staffordshire was remarkably prosperous, and after conducting it in person for about a dozen years he retired, and left the mills at Burton-on-Trent in the hands of some of his sons. Sir Lawrence Peel says respecting his habits and personal aspect:—"Old Mr. Peel was rather an absent man. When he walked the streets of Burton he used to look downwards, and seemed ever to be calculating some stiff question, and the common folks, shrewd enough commonly in their perception of eccentricities, dubbed him 'The Philosopher.' . . . He stooped a little in his latter days; in his youth he had been remarkably erect. He wore a bushy Johnsonian wig; like that sage, he was dressed in dark clothes of an ample cut, he leaned as he walked upon a tall gold-headed cane, and as he was a very handsome man, he looked a figure stately enough for a mediæval burgomaster." The gold-headed cane referred to, after Robert Peel's death, became the property of one of his sons, Mr. Jonathan Peel, of Accrington House, and by him it was carefully preserved as a relic. On the death of Mr. Jonathan Peel, it was presented to Sir Robert Peel, the Minister. The stick retained the leathern string, well-worn, which used to encircle the wrist of the venerable founder of the fortunes of the Peels. A tradition of the personal appearance of Robert Peel in his less stately days, when he lived as a plain Blackburn farmer in Fish-lane, represents him as "a tall robust man, whose ordinary garb included a woollen apron, a calf-skin waistcoat, and wooden-soled clogs, and whose hair was grizzly, and of a reddish colour." This was Robert Peel at forty years of age, when his calico printing venture was in its humble beginnings; the picture of Sir Lawrence Peel is drawn at sixty to seventy, when his enterprise had yielded its ample harvest.

On retiring from business, Mr. Peel went to reside in a house he had bought at Ardwick, near Manchester. There he ended his life in comfortable repose. Sir Lawrence Peel has a pleasant anecdote of a

conversation between old Mr. Robert Peel and his excellent wife, a short time before the end of their long married life of fifty-one years :— “One evening near the close of their lives, as they were seated by the fireside, surrounded by some of their descendants, conversing with the calmness of age upon death, the old lady said to her husband, ‘Robert, I hope that I may live a few months after thee.’ A wish so opposite to that which wives in story are made to express, surprised her hearers, but not her husband, who calmly asked her ‘Why?’ as if guessing her thought. ‘Robert,’ she replied, ‘thou hast always been a kind, good husband to me ; thou hast been a man well thought of, and I should like to stay by thee to the last, and keep thee all right.’” The good wife’s considerate wish was fulfilled. Robert Peel died in September, 1795, aged 72 ; and his widow followed him to the grave within a few months, in March, 1796, aged 73 years. The brief space of her widowhood Mrs. Peel spent chiefly at the house of her only surviving daughter, Mrs. Willock, wife of the Rev. Borlace Willock, incumbent of Great Harwood, and it was at the parsonage of Great Harwood that the old lady died. Both Mr. and Mrs. Peel were interred in a family vault built by Mr. Peel at St. John’s Church, Manchester. The place of sepulture of the ancestral Peels was in the middle aisle of Blackburn Old Parish Church. When the old church was demolished in 1820, all the graves of the chief local families within the church area, including those of the Walmesleys, Liveseys, Ainsworths, Feildens, Sudells, Peels, and others, were left unprotected, and it became the duty of the representatives of these families then living, to cover the graves with suitable tombs, which in most instances was done, and the group of closely-placed monuments and railed memorial slabs above the vaults of these families indicates the situation of the former fabric in the Churchyard, and marks the relative positions of the burial places of the families in the ancient Parish Church. The erection of a family tomb to the Peels was undertaken jointly by the first Mr. Jonathan Peel of Accrington House, fourth son of Mr. Robert Peel, and by Mrs. William Peel, “a lady,” says Sir Lawrence Peel, “the sorrows of whose life, in the early deaths of her husband and of her only child, a son, distinguished at Oxford, destined for the Church, and promising a life of good, left unappropriated a never-failing spring of love, which flowed thenceforward for the use of those who mourn.” The Peel tomb in the Parish Churchyard at Blackburn is a plain square one of massive stone slabs, surrounded by a palisade. The inscription it bears is simply the surname of this now historic family—“PEEL.” Many years have passed since any member of the Peel family was interred in the Blackburn Vault.

Robert Peel, third son of the above Mr. Robert Peel, takes an

eminent position in the family history as the first Sir Robert, and father of the illustrious statesman. From an early age, Robert Peel displayed a peculiar energy and intellectual ability that led his friends to anticipate his future distinction. Sir L. Peel says that when he had reached the age of 18 (that would be in 1768), he remarked to his father that he thought the members of the numerous family were "too thick upon the ground," and proposed that he should receive £500 from his sire and go forth to make his own way in life. The father at the time was not disposed to make this advance; perhaps the drain upon his capital in the working of his mill at Brookside forbade it. Two or three years after, however, an opening for young Robert's business talents was presented. His uncle, Mr. Haworth, and Mr. William Yates, decided, about the year 1770, to commence new calico printing works at Bury; and on starting that business, Mr. Haworth manifested his confidence in his nephew by selecting him for a junior partner. The Bury firm in process of time became one of the most extensive in the trade. Robert Peel was recognised as the soul of the business by his seniors, one of whom (Mr. Haworth) soon retired from the partnership, and the other, Mr. Yates, left the entire direction to young Peel. On his first settlement in Bury, Robert Peel dwelt as a lodger with Mr. Yates, and displayed a strong affection for the little daughter of his host, Ellen Yates, who was then but a child of five years or so. Robert Peel often nursed this pretty wench, and used to ask her if she would wed him when she arrived at womanhood, to which the child would artlessly answer in the affirmative. The singular attachment did not pass away, although the young man was sixteen years the senior of his child-sweetheart. Ellen Yates grew up a beautiful and fascinating young lady, received a first-class education, and when she reached the age of seventeen, and Robert Peel that of thirty-three, the early pledge was redeemed. Robert Peel married Ellen Yates on July 8th, 1783; and, after the birth of two daughters, a son was born to the pair on the 5th of February, 1788, who was named after his sire and grandsire, "Robert Peel." This son became, forty-six years after, Prime Minister of England, having previously taken a high political position in Parliament. The events in the life of Sir Robert Peel, the statesman, are too well remembered to require rehearsal. It should be a source of pride to the inhabitants of Blackburn that this renowned politician and party-leader, whose name has become historical, sprung of Blackburn parentage both on the father's and the mother's side, for both Robert Peel, the first baronet, and Ellen Yates, his first wife, mother of the statesman, drew their first breath in the then dull old town. Thus it may be boasted that Blackburn energy, intelligence, and thrift produced one of the most honourable and successful



PEEL FOLD,
NEAR BLACKBURN, BIRTH-PLACE OF THE FIRST SIR ROBERT PEEL.

statesmen whose hands have guided the destinies of the Empire. The first Sir Robert Peel was not less remarkable as a mercantile man than his son was as a Parliamentary leader. In 1790, the elder Robert Peel entered Parliament as Member for Tamworth, and continued to represent that borough for thirty years. In 1800, at fifty years of age, he received a baronetcy. In 1803, his business operations were so large that it was reckoned he employed 15,000 workpeople, chiefly at Bury and Tamworth, and was paying excise duty of more than £40,000 per annum on his prints. He had five sons besides the Minister, and several daughters; and so great was his wealth at his decease, aged 80, on May 3rd, 1830, that it was found he had left personalty to the amount of between one and two millions, and had bequeathed legacies of £135,000 each to five younger sons; £52,000 each to three surviving daughters; and numerous liberal bequests to his connexions and to public objects. All his landed estates in Staffordshire and Warwickshire descended to his eldest son Robert with the title; and the settlement of £9,000 a year which had been made on him at the age of 21, on his entrance into Parliament, was a part of the inheritance of the second Sir Robert Peel out of the princely fortune amassed by the first baronet.

Among the other businesses in East Lancashire in which the Peels were principal partners, were the works at Church Bank, Church Kirk, founded sometime before 1770 by Robert Peel, of Blackburn. With these works, after the father's retirement from business life, William Peel and Jonathan Peel, his eldest and fourth sons, were chiefly connected. Mr. William Peel inherited the farm at Peel Fold, Oswaldtwistle, and lived at the old house there after his marriage until his removal to a larger residence at Church Bank. This representative married, in the year 1766, Mary, daughter of Thomas Haworth, doctor of medicine, of Blackburn, and had issue sons, Thomas (afterwards of Peel Fold and Sawley), Joseph, died young in 1781; Robert, of Taliaris, Wales; Edmund, of Church Bank; William, of Burnley; Jonathan, and John, of Burton; with daughters Elizabeth and Anne. Mr. William Peel, like his grandfather William Peel, had not the robust health common among the Peels, and died comparatively young and before his parents, in 1791; the Blackburn Parish Register shows "William Peel, of Church Bank," as buried there April 2nd, 1791, aged 47 (an error in the record—he was hardly 46). His widow died in March, 1794, aged 49, and was also sepultured at Blackburn, March 25th.

The Peel-fold estate still belongs to the elder line of the Peels, the descendants of the above-named Mr. William Peel. The old house at the Fold remains, and is occupied by the farmer of the estate. It is a very fair example of a yeoman's house of the seventeenth century with

implements used by the block printers of a past generation, removed from the rooms preparatory to a restoration of such portions of the buildings as are to be applied to a new industry. Altogether the old Brookside Print Works look what they really are, the forsaken haunt of a trade once of vast proportions and amazingly profitable, but now contracted to humbler dimensions, and stripped of its former affluence. The name of Brookside, however, will not soon be erased from the commercial record of this county.

MOSNEY PRINT-WORKS—THE LIVESEY FAMILY.

Allusion has formerly been made to the extensive print works established at Mosney, in Walton-in-le-Dale, by a family of Liveseys and parties in partnership with them. The Liveseys, who took a notable part in the development of calico printing in this district a century ago, were collateral connexions of the ancient territorial family of Livesey of Livesey. One of them was Thomas Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn, and another, John Livesey, Esq., of the same place. The former, Mr. Thomas Livesey, was the son of James Livesey, gentleman, who died in 1747, and a kinsman of Ralph Livesey, Esq., of Livesey Hall, who died in 1766. "Thomas, son of James and Margaret Livesey of Blackburn, gent.," was baptized in Blackburn Church, July 12th, 1734. There were other children, including three sons named James, all of whom died in infancy, and sons Robert and Richard; with daughters Alice, born in 1741, and Ellen. Mr. Thomas Livesey was eventually heir to a considerable estate, but he also engaged in the local manufacture, in the first instance as a merchant in the Blackburn fabrics, and afterwards as an extensive calico printer. His place of residence about 1760 was the handsome stone-built house with classic frontage, which stands on the north side of King-street in Blackburn, near the opening into Paradise-lane. This, the most elegant of the old Blackburn residences, was built in the early years of last century by a Mr. Falkner. I have it on the statement of an old lady in Blackburn that when Mr. Thomas Livesey dwelt in this mansion he used the basement floor for a warehouse for the reception of the calico pieces in which he traded, and had the whole of the flagged floor boarded over to make the place more comfortable for his warehousemen. Mr. Thomas Livesey married, first, Elizabeth Livesey, a daughter of a family of Liveseys in Manchester that also sprang from the old stock of Livesey of Livesey. They were married May 6th, 1766. The children of this marriage were, James, born in February, 1767, and died in March, 1771; Margaret, born in 1768, died in April, 1775; Ellen, born in 1770, died in August, 1793; and Elizabeth, born in March, 1771. Mrs. Livesey died in

child-bed of this daughter, and was buried March 21st, 1771. Mr. Thomas Livesey, for his second wife, married, June 15th, 1775, Lydia Bancroft, of Manchester, by whom he had a son Joseph; and a daughter, Maria, born in 1777. Miss Alice Livesey, a sister of Mr. Thomas Livesey, who lived with him in the house in King-street, Blackburn, had married, in 1763, Henry Sudell, gent, and had by him a son, Henry. Mr. Thomas Livesey's daughter by his second wife, Miss Maria Livesey, was married to her cousin, Henry Sudell, junior, in the year 1796.

The other member of the Liveseys connected with the rise of cotton spinning and calico printing in Blackburn Parish was Mr. John Livesey, of Blackburn, who by his wife Mary, daughter of Samuel Clowes, Esq., of Manchester, whom he married in 1772, had sons, Robert, born in February, 1774; John Pearson; and Thomas, born in July, 1784; with daughters Mary, Elizabeth, Frances, and Anne.

The works at Mosney, started about 1780, were the property of a firm under the style of Livesey, Hargreaves, Anstie, Smith, and Hall. The firm secured the services of a Mr. Thomas Bell, a Scotsman, who brought to the business his practical talent as an engraver, and who proved also a successful mechanical inventor. Indeed, the Walton calico printing concern is now chiefly remembered from the circumstance that it was there that cylinder-machine printing of calico was first introduced. Mr. Thomas Bell, of this establishment, was the original inventor and patentee of the cylinder printing-process. The specification of Mr. Bell's first patent bears date the 17th of November, 1783. In it the inventor "Thomas Bell, of Mosney, in the county of Lancaster, copper-plate Printer," recites that by Royal Letters Patent dated July 17th, 23rd Geo. III., he had granted to him power to make, use, and vend his invention, described as "A new and peculiar art or method of Printing with one colour or with various colours at the same time, on Linnens, Lawns, and Cambricks, Cottons, Callicoes, and Muslins, Woollen Cloths, Silks, Silk and Stuffs, Gauzes, and any other species or kind of Linnen Cloth, or Manufactured Goods whatever." The nature of the invention is then set forth, and the inventor's affidavit is attested by "William Waterhouse, of Mosney, within the township of Walton-in-le-Dale, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, Gentleman, and John Emmett, of Preston, Cabinet Maker." The large sheet of drawings accompanying the specification exhibits the parts of a six-colour cylinder-printing machine, the mechanism of which is thus described:—The six rollers are arranged round a large central bowl. The colour is supplied to each roller by what is yet called the "box doctor." Springs and screws are shown for pushing the box doctors up to the rollers, and

cogged wheels to drive the rollers simultaneously. The machine has attached a winding-on frame, by which the unwinding of the cloth from one roll, before printing, winds the printed cloth on another, with a coupling-box to detach the roll when filled. Such was the first form of the cylinder machine for calico printing, as brought out at Mosney works by Mr. Thomas Bell, in 1783. In the following year Mr. Bell patented an improved machine, of which one of the features is the construction of the centres of the printing rollers of iron, covered with copper or other metal, which can be taken off at pleasure, and other patterns engraved on the movable copper plates fixed upon the rollers as needed. The drawing of this specification shows a three-colour cylinder machine. The inventor's affidavit is sworn at Mosney, August 4th, 1784, and the specification enrolled on the 8th of November.

The Mosney firm of calico printers extended their works, and for some years prosecuted a flourishing business, and bore a high reputation in the trade; but a succession of pecuniary losses very much shook the credit of the concern, and resulted at last in the suspension of business. The bankruptcy of the firm was announced in the year 1788. The works at Mosney were stopped, and do not appear to have ever been re-started. After lying idle a few years, the buildings at Mosney were demolished, and the machinery taken out of them. Mr. William Assheton, of Cuerdale Hall, bought the site from the executors of Thomas Livesey, in 1792, and sold it to Mr. Richard Calrow about 1797.¹ It is said that the mansion of the Calrows at Walton Lodge was built partially of the bricks brought from the demolished Mosney works. The only vestiges now to be seen of the once extensive arrangements for calico-printing at this spot are a portion of an old wall, and remains of the brick culvert constructed for turning the water used in the works into the River Darwen. Mosney estate is still the property of the Calrow family. An informant mentions that the Liveseys had bleach-works at

¹ Among the Piccope MSS. in the Chetham Library, Manchester, I find brief abstracts of deeds in the possession of the Rev. J. S. Birley relating to the acquisition of part of the site of the Mosney Print Works in Walton. By indentures dated Jan. 13th and 14th, 1783, between John Atherton of Banister Hall, of the first part, Joseph Atherton of the second part, Richard Atherton and John Hindle of the third part, and John Livesey, John Hargreaves, Peter Anstie, Joseph Smith, and William Hall of the fourth part, is conveyed a close called Barn flatt to the parties of the fourth part, who were the firm of calico-printers. On the 18th June, 1788, a joint Commission of Bankruptcy was awarded against the said John Livesey and the other members of the firm. An indenture of the 24th Sept., 1789, between John, Joseph, and John Atherton of the one part, and Thomas Livesey of the other part, recites the indenture of Jan. 13th, 1783; and the Will of John Atherton, dated Oct. 18th, 1785. The said Thomas Livesey died in March, 1790, Joseph Livesey, his son and heir, being then a minor; and appointed Lydia Livesey, his wife, her son Mathew Bancroft Lister, Esq., Henry Sudell of Blackburn, Esq., Joseph Tipping of Manchester, Esq., and John Hysall of London, Esq., executors. Thomas Livesey's Will was dated Feb. 21st, 1787. By indentures dated May 17th and 18th, 1792, Lydia Livesey, of Burwell Park, Co. Lincoln, widow, Mathew Bancroft Lister, of Burwell Park, Esq., Henry Sudell of Blackburn, Esq., and Thomas Tipping of Manchester, Esq., sell to William Assheton of Cuerdale, Esq., the close of land called Barn Flatt, &c.

Bamber Bridge, and also a cotton mill at Higher Walton, which was purchased by Rodgett Brothers about 1859, and afterwards pulled down and a new mill built. Mr. Thomas Livesey resided at Knott House, and died there; this house had previously been the residence of Mr. Anstie, one of the masters of the Mosney print-works; Mr. Hall, another partner, resided at Darwen Bank, now the property of Mr. Rodgett. Knott House was since the mansion of Edmund Calvert, Esq.

PRINT-WORKS AT PRIMROSE AND MILL HILL.

Another local printing establishment of celebrity in its day was that founded by Mr. James Thomson, at Primrose, near Clitheroe. Mr. Thomson began business at Primrose about 1811, in the first instance in premises that had been previously used for cotton manufacturing purposes. Mr. James Thomson was the son of a Scotch gentleman who had migrated to Blackburn, and was engaged in the local trade there. The son was born in the year 1779, and was educated at Glasgow University. He commenced life as a chemist at the printing works of Messrs. Peel, at Church-bank, and stayed there until he had obtained a partnership in the business. On his commencement of a new business at Primrose, he had for his partners Mr. John Chippendale, the son of a Blackburn trader in cotton goods, and Mr. James Burton. The firm was styled Thomson, Chippendale, Burton, and Thomson. The Primrose Print-works quickly established a good position in the trade; and the concern was found so profitable that, a few years after its commencement, Mr. Thomson was able to purchase the estate upon which the works stood for £28,000. The secret of Mr. Thomson's eminence as a calico printer was his devotion to the scientific improvement of printing processes. He took out patents for some of the most important of his novelties in the application of colours. The first of his specifications is one dated March 3rd, 1813, entitled "A new method of producing patterns in cloth previously dyed Turkey Red, and made of cotton, or linen, or both." In February, 1815, the Primrose printer patented certain "improvements in the process of printing cloth," consisting of the art of printing earthy or metallic solutions, such as the sulphate, acetate, or nitrate of alumina, iron, or copper, on cloth already dyed. Mr. Thomson, finding some of his most original designs pirated by unprincipled competitors, took a leading part in procuring the passage of an Act of Parliament for the protection of the inventor of any pattern within a period fixed by the Act. When the Primrose print-works were at the height of their activity, near 500 operative printers were employed on the premises, besides large numbers of men engaged in bleaching and other departmental processes. The most skilful chemists

were engaged in the laboratories of this firm, and able engravers in the cutting of patterns. About the year 1840, Dr. Lyon Playfair, who now sits in Parliament as Member for the Scottish Universities, accepted an appointment as experimental chemist from Mr. Thomson, and gave the Primrose print-works the benefit of his chemical knowledge for two or three years. Mr. Thomson was a liberal patron of men eminent in science, literature, and art, and among his personal friends was the poet Campbell, who sometime sojourned at Primrose as the guest of Mr. Thomson, and whose portrait was painted by an eminent artist, at Primrose House, at the order of Mr. Thomson, who paid five hundred guineas for the work. Mr. Thomson died, aged 72 years, on the 17th of September, 1850, and four years afterwards the works at Primrose were stopped. These extensive premises, once the seat of one of the most celebrated industries in the county, have now for twenty years been abandoned to decay.

A family that should be mentioned as having built up a large business in calico printing in the vicinity of Blackburn is that of the Turners, whose works at Mill Hill, in Livesey township, about a mile south-west of Blackburn, were once of considerable note, but have now been discontinued about thirty years. Mr. Robert Turner, a son of Mr. Thomas Turner, of Martholme, in Great Harwood, settled in Blackburn as a "chapman," or dealer in calico woven on the handlooms. It is probable that this gentleman commenced calico printing at Mill Hill some years before his death (Oct. 17th, 1811, aged 77); for Dr. Aikin notices, in 1794, that a mile from Blackburn on the Preston Old Road was "a large printing-ground." The calico-printing trade was prosecuted by Mr. Turner's sons, Thomas, John, Robert, and William Turner, all of Mill Hill. The Mill Hill works of this family extended along the bank of the Darwen river from Stakes, in Livesey, to the site of an existing weaving shed below Mill Hill House. In 1822, the Turners appear to have had two separate businesses in calico-printing. One was carried on at Mill Hill by the firm of Robert Turner, junior, & Co., and the other by Mr. Thomas Turner, whose works were situated at Stakes, in Livesey, and his house or warehouse at 92, Darwen Street, in Blackburn. Mr. Thomas and Mr. John Turner, the first and third sons of Mr. Robert Turner, both died in the year 1825. Mr. Robert Turner (the son), died in 1842. Mr. William Turner, the youngest of the brothers, was one of the first Members returned to Parliament for the borough of Blackburn on its enfranchisement in 1832; and he sat as M.P. for Blackburn in three succeeding Parliaments. He had acquired a landed estate in Cheshire, and had a seat at Shrigley Hall in that county. He died at Mill Hill, July 17th,

1842, aged 65. The Mill Hill print-works and estate were sold in 1843 to the late Mr. Joseph Eccles, of Mill Hill House, who demolished the old print shops, and erected on their site the Mill Hill Mills, about the year 1844.

Other former firms of printers in the Parish are those of Greenway, Potter, and Co., of Over Darwen; and C. Swainson and Co., Banister Hall Print-works, in Walton. With the exception of the last-named firm, that of Messrs. Swainson, which is yet in the business, the calico printing branch of the cotton manufacture, once so valuable and so widely diffused in this part of Lancashire, has at the present time hardly an existence throughout the parish of Blackburn.

PROGRESS OF COTTON MANUFACTURING.

The start in the English cotton manufacture, strictly so called, dates from the year 1774, when Parliament passed an Act reducing the duty of sixpence per yard upon fabrics made wholly of cotton (which amounted to a prohibition), to threepence per yard. The preamble of this Act recites that "whereas a new manufacture of stuffs wholly made of cotton wool hath been set up within this Kingdom," it is enacted that "no higher duty than threepence for every yard in length reckoning a yard wide shall be imposed;" and that "it shall be lawful for any person to wear any new manufacture made wholly of cotton." In Blackburn it is a tradition that the first cotton piece woven was made for Mr. Bertie Markland (a local merchant who built the house in King-street in which Mr. Hornby afterwards resided), by a weaver at Copster Green. But there is another claimant for the honour of having woven the first piece of calico, according to the following entry in a family Bible at Rishton:—"15th of Sept., 1776. Thomas Duxbury, of Rishton near Blackburn, sold to Messrs. Peels, Yates, and Co., Church Bank, two common fine calico pieces for £5 9s. 8d. These were the first calico pieces ever manufactured in the kingdom." John and Thomas Duxbury built, it is said, at Rishton, the first hand-loom weaving shop in the district; and in 1779 a weaver at Duxbury's "shop" was paid £1 16s. for weaving a piece of calico, out of which he had to pay 18s. 6d. to his family or others for carding the cotton and spinning the web.

In 1785, the Lancashire manufacturers and merchants became affrighted at the prospect of competition by Irish traders, in whose interest certain resolutions were presented to Parliament; and petitions were sent from Blackburn and other towns to the House of Commons, praying for consideration. The Journals of the House record the reception of the Blackburn petition as under:—

Resolved, "That this House will, this Day, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House, to consider further of so much of His Majesty's most gracious Speech

to both Houses of Parliament, upon the 25th day of January last, as relates to the adjustment of the Commercial Intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland." In Committee of the House, "a Petition of the Merchants, Cotton and Callico Manufacturers, and other Traders of the Town and Neighbourhood of Blackburn, in the County Palatine of Lancaster, was presented to the House and read, setting forth, That the Petitioners, with every consistent wish for the prosperity of their Fellow Subjects in Ireland, are desirous that a lasting Plan may be adopted to put the Interest of the two Kingdoms upon a just and equitable footing as to Commerce in general, but, from the Resolutions lately brought before the House, respecting the Trade of Ireland, they are fearful that they will tend to very great injury of the Manufactures throughout this Kingdom, and of this part of Lancashire in particular: And therefore praying, That the Merchants, Cotton and Callico Manufacturers, and other Traders of the Town and Neighbourhood of Blackburn, in the County of Lancaster, may be heard in support of this Petition, by themselves and Counsel, at the Bar of the House." It was thereupon "Ordered, That the said Petition be referred to the consideration of the Committee of the whole House," &c.

The category of merchants, warehousemen, sizers, and cotton spinners who assisted in the establishment of the local trade between 1770 and 1830 includes the names of Sudell of Blackburn; Markland of Blackburn; Fleming of Blackburn; Feilden of Blackburn; Birley of Blackburn; Cardwell of Blackburn; Smalley of Over Darwen; Eccles of Lower Darwen; and, somewhat later, the Hornbys, Pilkingtons, Rodgetts, Liveseys, Hopwoods, and Eccles of Blackburn; Shorrock of Over Darwen, &c. Notices of these families will be given later on in this history. The commercial descriptions applied to the local traders were, in succession, those of "chapman," "merchant," "sizer," and "cotton spinner and manufacturer," expressing the evolutions of the manufacture, from the time antecedent to the spinning machine, the steam engine, and the power-loom, when the smaller gentry and yeomanry who had accumulated a little capital employed it in putting-out material and receiving the woven pieces from the handloom weavers, and did their business in warehouses in which the goods were stored and packed for the market, down to the present highly-elaborated mill system, in which the master-capitalist and the perfected machinery leave to the operative craftsman so comparatively secondary a part in the process of the manufacture.

The absorption of this once scattered manufacture into the factories involved a corresponding concentration of labour in the towns, and the migration of the weaving peasantry from the rural upland townships into the towns and villages of the valleys. The first buildings erected in the town of Blackburn specifically for the reception of cotton spinning machinery were those at Wensley Fold and at Spring Hill. The mill-building on Spring Hill, afterwards called "Factory Hill," is the oldest in Blackburn; the place was built by a Mr. Anderton. Robert Hopwood,

the founder of the great firm of Hopwood and Sons in Blackburn, came from the neighbourhood of Clitheroe to start the machinery in this mill, and lived in one of four houses adjacent. Mr. Anderton cannot have long continued in occupancy, for it is stated that in the year 1797 this factory was being worked by Mr. Samuel Horrocks, brother of Mr. John Horrocks, afterwards M.P. for Preston. Mr. Samuel Horrocks removed to Preston, and the place was afterwards worked by Mr. Richard Haworth. The building remains, and is a small brick structure, situated upon the rising ground to the east of Station-road.

The old mill at Wensley-Fold, near the western boundary of the town, demolished a few years ago, was built sometime before 1795. Baines says the first spinning mill at Wensley Fold was erected before the year 1779, and was demolished in the disturbances of that year. In 1823 the Wensley Fold factory is named as one of the largest in Blackburn, and as employing 320 hands. The Wensley Fold Mills afterwards passed to the late Mr. William Eccles.

Several other spinning mills were built in Blackburn between 1800 and 1825. Mr. James Livesey, father of Mr. John Livesey, built the mill on the banks of the Blakewater, below King-street Bridge, destroyed by fire in May, 1840, and afterwards rebuilt. Mr. William Feilden, of Feniscowles, who entered Parliament in 1832, and was created a Baronet, commenced an extensive cotton-spinning business in the factory erected in Harley-street, the original portion of the large mills now carried on by Mr. R. R. Jackson. Mr. William Thorp built the mill called King-street Mill; and Mr. James Rodgett the old stone mill on the canal-side near Eanam Bridge. These were all the considerable mills in Blackburn in the year 1824. A little later, Messrs. Hornby and Birley, who had for a number of years carried on business as calico manufacturers and merchants, at their warehouse in Clayton-street, erected the first spinning mill at Brookhouse, where they had previously a size-house, a small stone structure which has but lately been demolished to make room for enlargement of this now very extensive range of mills. By the improvements in machinery subsequently introduced by Mr. Kenworthy, a partner with the Messrs. Hornby, the Brookhouse Mills became celebrated in the trade.

The late Mr. Eccles Shorrocks, of Low Hill House, Over Darwen, was the first cotton spinner on a large scale in that township. It was by him that the Bowling-green Mill was built at the south end of Darwen about forty years ago, and other mills subsequently, and he was the original head of the firm which built the splendid India Mills in Darwen, in 1866-7.

The "Dandy" Factory in Blackburn, erected by Messrs. Bannister

Eccles and Co., about 1820, derived its popular appellation from the circumstance of the introduction there of an improved hand-loom, in which a light iron frame work was substituted for the heavy wooden frame of the old loom, and which was christened the "dandy" loom on account of its neatness and compactness. But it was, I believe, at the same mill that the invention in weaving machinery so much dreaded by the weavers of fifty years ago—the power-loom—was first started in Blackburn. This was about the year 1825. The power-loom had then been gradually appearing in the large weaving-shops of the Lancashire manufacturers for some years, and had already been subjected to the destructive attacks of the angered weavers in West Houghton and other places. The master-manufacturers of the Blackburn district, remembering the fury with which the hand-loom weavers had opposed the spinning jennies on their introduction, were slower in the adoption of the power-loom than the capitalists engaged in the textile trades in other parts of England ; for, while it was computed that there were more than 12,000 power-looms at work in England in 1820, there were not probably a thousand power-looms in all the factories in Blackburn Hundred at the close of the year 1825. The hand-looms at that time numbered many thousands in the district.

It was an untoward coincidence that at the time the valuable invention of the power-loom was making its way in the Lancashire factories, the trade and commerce of the country were in a state of utter stagnation. Great numbers of the peasantry of the county, wholly dependent upon the occupation of calico-weaving for subsistence, were deprived of this employment ; and it was not strange that the half-starved hand-loom weavers should regard with suspicion a new invention that threatened to aggravate the already terrible hardship of their situation. At the outset of the year 1826 the condition of the working-classes in Blackburn was deplorable. In March, 1826, a computation was made that in the townships of Blackburn, Witton, Lower Darwen, Rishton, Mellor, and part of Oswaldtwistle, with a collective population of about 32,000 souls, the number of persons depending for work upon the cotton manufacture was 10,686,—a large proportion of the adult and adolescent population of these townships ; and that the state of employment about the 25th of March, 1826, was as follows :—Employed, 2,807 ; half-employed, 1,467 ; unemployed, 6,412. Thus about two-thirds of the workfolk in the Blackburn district were in a state of absolute indigence. The results of this industrial desolation were seen at first in aimless and desultory acts of violence. On the night of March 24th, the residence of William Carr, Esq., Clerk to the County Justices, at Shadsworth, Blackburn, was assaulted by a mob ; and for this offence eight of the ringleaders were

apprehended and sent to prison. Four days afterwards, the local journals record, March 28th, 1826, that at Blackburn one of the market coaches between Blackburn and Manchester was pelted with stones, by an angry crowd of people in the street, and a similar incident occurred on the 22nd of April. These demonstrations against the coaches were, doubtless, directed against the local merchants and manufacturers going to Manchester to market, whom the hungry people supposed to be the authors of all their misfortunes. The distressed weavers held assemblies, took counsel of their fears, and came to the resolution to rise and destroy the power-looms in every factory in which they were known to be working.

The following is a brief record of the incidents of the loom-breaking disturbances :—On the forenoon of Monday, April 24th, 1826, a mass meeting of weavers was held on Enfield Moor, a convenient rendezvous, being near the junction of roads from Blackburn, Burnley, Whalley and Clitheroe, and Haslingden and Accrington. After listening to several addresses, the crowd was detached into two or three parties, which set forth on their task of destruction. Five hundred of the men who met at Enfield were armed with rude pikes made with pieces of sharpened iron attached to staves, scythes, sledge-hammers, with a few guns and pistols. A body of the rioters proceeded first to Accrington, about noon, broke into the newly-built mill of Messrs. Sykes ; and in less than half an hour had broken up sixty power-looms, with the other machinery, had destroyed the warps and cloth in the looms, and had injured the spinning throstles and the steam engine. The shops of the provision dealers in Accrington were plundered. The mob went on to Wood Nook, and broke twenty looms at work there ; then to a factory of Mr. Benjamin Walmsley's, at Rough Hey, and destroyed twenty looms ; next the rioters marched to White Ash Mill, belonging to Mr. James Bury, and found there 74 power looms, which were rapidly reduced to fragments. From White Ash the mob, of some 6,000 men, marched in the direction of Blackburn. On the road they encountered a troop of eighteen dragoons of the Queen's Bays, who rode through the mass, but did not arrest the progress of the insurgents. On reaching Blackburn, by Eanam and Salford, the mob first looked about for refreshment. A party took forcible possession of the Bay Horse Inn, and under compulsion the landlady served a large quantity of drink, and gave away all the bread in the house. The work of devastation was resumed at the Dandy Factory, off Darwen-street, belonging to Messrs. Bannister Eccles and Co. Here 212 power looms were found and smashed. This was about three o'clock in the afternoon. Immediately after the mob and the military came into collision in Darwen-street. The rioters began the

fray by stoning the dragoons, and one soldier was seriously hurt. The Riot Act was read at half-past three o'clock. While a number of the rioters were still within the mill of Messrs. Eccles, completing the work of breakage, the detachment of cavalry had managed to surround the building, and some of the men inside the place, finding their exit barred leaped out of a second storey window and escaped across the Blake-water, where no soldiers were posted. The main body of the rioters proceeded to the factory of Messrs. Feilden, Thorp, and Townley, in King-street, which was built for the reception of power-looms, but none of the new machines had yet been set up, and the building was left untouched by the mob. Another body of the weavers went up to a small mill of Mr. John Houghton's, in Grimshaw Park, and destroyed twenty-five power-looms in that manufactory, in spite of the attempted interposition of the military. The warps and twist in the place were thrown into the canal. Here there was bloodshed and loss of life, for the mob having again stoned the soldiers, some of them fired off their carbines, by which one rioter was shot dead, another was severely wounded in the back, and a third was shot through the ear, the ball passing out at the mouth. There were other fatalities during the conflict.

In the evening of the day, ten thousand excited weavers triumphantly paraded the streets of Blackburn, and were able to say that not a single power-loom in the neighbourhood had been left unbroken. The Riot Act was again read, and at eight o'clock the dragoons were bidden to clear the streets, which was done by charging through the crowd and striking the rioters with the flat edge of the soldiers' sabres.

On Wednesday, April 26th, the demolition of all the power-looms at work in Rossendale was carried out by a similar mob. Altogether in Rossendale 215 power-looms were broken up, and other damage inflicted. The rioters also visited Darwen, and broke thirty-six looms in the factory of Mr. James Garsden, and sixteen in that of Messrs. Carr. Throughout the Hundred of Blackburn the total number of looms destroyed was 768, and the estimate of the damage committed, which was subsequently recovered from the County authorities, was £11,593 16s. 11d., besides the sums of £4,458 for the 219 looms and other machinery destroyed in Salford Hundred, and of £489 for 100 looms broken in the factory of Mr. Sudell at Chorley in Leyland Hundred. Some of the losses sustained were not included in the above category of claims at the County Sessions, and it was computed that in all nearly 1,000 looms were destroyed, and that the aggregate value of the property ruined approached £30,000.

For the offences committed in the course of these lawless proceedings a number of the rioters were indicted at the Lancaster Assizes in

the August succeeding the riots. Of the batches of Blackburn prisoners several were acquitted, and the following were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment :—James Chambers, Simeon Wright, Richard Entwistle, William Winder, John Howard, James Riding, William Sutcliffe, Richard Kay, James Latham, James Ormerod, and James Howard. The six last-named were particularly charged with having taken part in breaking the looms at the mill of Bannister Eccles and Co. The evidence of the late Mr. Eccles Shorrocks, one of the partners, describes what took place at this manufactory during the riots :—

Mr. Eccles Shorrocks deposed :—I had a cotton mill in Blackburn, in April last, for spinning and weaving by power looms. My partners were, Bannister Eccles, Joseph Eccles, and John Eccles. On the 14th of April last, about three o'clock in the afternoon, I saw a mob of persons coming towards my mill. The outer gates and the doors of the lower rooms, containing 212 power looms, a lathe, and other machinery, were locked. In the upper rooms there were dressing machines. The looms in the lower rooms were fastened down to the stone floor by a hole drilled into the stone, and a wooden peg driven into it. The power of motion is communicated to those looms by a steam engine, which is on the premises. The mob consisted of several hundred persons. After they broke open the gates, one party formed to the side of the mill. That party, consisting of about thirty persons, were armed with pikes. There was an equal number similarly armed on the other side of the mill. Others of the party broke in the doors of the mill, which I entered in about thirty-five minutes afterwards. I was in the warehouse, which overlooks, and I saw the people break into the mill, and shortly afterwards they brought out the twist beams (part of the power-loom), and several pieces of cloth which had been in the looms. The cloth was torn in the yard in the presence of the mob. The doors appeared as if they had been broken by large hammers. The looms in the lower rooms were all broken. The cast-iron wheels and the drums of the engine were broken. It would require considerable force to break them. The shafts were thrown down, but they being made of wrought iron, about an inch and a quarter in diameter, could not be broken. The shafts were in cups or gallowsses, which must either have been broken or forced before the shafts could be thrown down.

After these disturbances the commercial depression increased rather than diminished, and the state of the working population in the district was for many months most distressing. The poor rates were enormously high, and the machinery of the Poor Law being unequal to the necessity, a public subscription was inaugurated. The King (George IV.) kindly forwarded, through the first Sir Robert Peel, a donation of £1,000 for the relief of the starving weavers of Blackburn and the neighbourhood. The adult male indigent were employed during the distress in cutting a road through the rock on the summit of Revedge hill, and at this spot a memorial stone is inscribed :—“Mount Pleasant, Revedge.—The Road at this Place was made by removing the Rock during the Distress in 1826 & 7.”

In the interval of half-a-century, from 1826 to the present time, the

cotton manufacture, stimulated and facilitated by the continuous improvements of steam-driven spinning and weaving machines, and by the organisation of the factory system, has become the chief productive industry and means of popular subsistence in this as in many other Lancashire parishes. With the decline of calico printing, the district has been rendered almost solely dependent upon cotton spinning and manufacturing for its commercial prosperity and importance; and albeit the cotton trade has been liable to periodical panics and suspensions, which while they lasted greatly afflicted all classes of the people,¹ the substantial increase of local wealth by this commerce is everywhere visible. Blackburn parish at this date contains, besides the chief seats of the cotton trade in the large towns of Blackburn and Over Darwen, the considerable manufacturing villages of Great Harwood, Rishton, Lower Darwen, Hoddlesden, Cherrytree-in-Livesey, Bamber Bridge and Moon's Mill in Walton township, and Walton village; and there are also a number of isolated cotton mills in the townships of Billington, Mellor, Samlesbury, Eccleshill, and Tockholes. The only townships in the parish exclusively given up to agriculture are those of Pleasington, Yate-and-Pickup-Bank, Ramsgreave, Wilpshire, Dinkley, Salesbury, Clayton-in-le-Dale, Osbaldeston, Balderstone, and Cuerdale, having a population of 3,281 only of the 132,744 in the whole parish at the Census of 1871. At the same Census in the Registration District of Blackburn (which takes in Oswaldtwistle without the parish (14,733) but excludes Walton (9,057), representing an industrial district of which the town of Blackburn is the centre, its total population being 143,810 persons of all ages), of 74,760 persons aged 20 and upwards, there were entered:—of the Professional Class 1,065; Domestic Class 20,829; Commercial Class 2,055; Agricultural Class 2,030; Industrial Class 45,629; Indefinite and non-productive Class 3,152. The Industrial Class includes 3,804 males, 15 females, engaged in Mechanic productions; 16,799 males, 18,552 females, engaged in making textile fabrics and dress; 3,488 males, 17 females, working in minerals (coal mines and stone quarries). The 35,351 adults working in textile fabrics are nearly all engaged in the various occupations of the cotton manufacture, and to them must be added about an equal number of juvenile workers,

¹ There was great local distress by reason of the depression of the staple trade in 1847, and again in 1857. Through the terrible Cotton Famine of 1861-5, the Blackburn district suffered excessively; and at the worst strait of the distress, towards the end of the year 1862, in the town of Blackburn alone 32,000 persons had become dependent upon charity. The Blackburn Relief Committee distributed about £100,000 in relief during the famine; the Corporation paid £12,500 for labour of factory workers; and the Poor Law Guardians expended in relief in Blackburn nearly £70,000. The charity of the religious bodies, and of private individuals, over and above these general payments, was extensive. Full and exact details of this period of abeyance in trade have been recorded by Mr. William Gourlay, in his excellent "History of the Distress in Blackburn, 1861-5," 8vo., 1865.

from 8 to 20 years of age, the services of young persons and children being more largely used in the Blackburn district than elsewhere in this trade, by reason of the weaving department being here the principal branch pursued, and requiring more young workers than the spinning branch. Within the strict limits of Blackburn parish in the year 1875, not fewer than 55,000 persons of all ages were at work in the cotton mills and subsidiary trades, of whom 36,000 were engaged in the factories in the townships of Blackburn, Witton, Livesey, &c., forming constituents of the town proper of Blackburn; 9,000 in Over Darwen and Hoddlesden; and the remaining 10,000 in Great Harwood, Rishton, Lower Darwen, and Walton townships, &c. The machinery for the production of cotton cloths in the parish would be represented roundly by 2,000,000 spindles and 70,000 power looms; driven by steam engines whose collective power would amount probably to 15,000 horse-power.

ANCIENT ROADS AND MODERN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

Down to about a century ago, good public roads were a convenience almost unknown in Lancashire. No English county was more notorious for the badness of its highways. The local road system as it existed before the first of the new road trusts came into being is not now easy to trace out. A few of the ancient lines of highway have been followed by the new roads through their entire length, but these have been transformed by widening, straightening, levelling, and paving. Others of the original roads coalesce with the modern highways at some points, and elsewhere are only to be discovered in isolated remains, inclosed between high hedges, choked with bramble, and rarely trodden by human foot. Other old lines of road have been abandoned entirely for new routes of directer course and easier gradient. An observation of some undisturbed stretch of forsaken upland road illustrates the opposite principles of ancient and modern road structure. The old roads, being generally intended merely for use by travellers on foot and horseback, in hilly districts were frequently carried along the summit of the ridges, so as to escape the necessity for building strong bridges to cross the streams that augment on the lower ground. The roads were apparently made by digging out the earth until the rock was reached, where the substratum was rock, and by using the soil thus removed to make a high copse on both sides of the road. The level of the road is thus often several feet below that of the land on either side, and forming an open channel for the drainage of the fields abutting, becomes more like a mountain beck than a highway in the rainy season. These old roads were very narrow,—not more than one-fourth the width of some of the modern turnpikes; and seem to have been seldom repaired, nor

more scientifically than by the deposit of unbroken boulder stones in the larger holes and ruts.

The most important ancient road in the district was the highway from Preston to Blackburn, Burnley, and Colne, into West Yorkshire. The road crossed the Ribble at Walton Bridge, and the Darwen over Darwen Bridge, in the village of Walton, and branched from the Wigan Road near Cuerden Green. The road then wound, as now, round the southern side of Hoghton Tower Hill to Riley Green and Feniscowles, through the townships of Livesey and Witton, to Blackburn. From Blackburn the road proceeded by Whitebirk through the townships of Rishton and Clayton-in-les-Moors, to Altham, and crossing the Calder at Altham Bridge, passed through Padiham, and so on the skirts of the Ightenhill demesne to Burnley. The present route from Preston to Blackburn, and from Blackburn to Burnley, follows generally the old line of road, but these roads have been so greatly improved under the provisions of road trusts that it is impossible to realise their former condition. Traces of several wayside crosses betoken the antiquity of this east and west route through the Hundred.

From Blackburn to Preston there was a second but indifferent road by way of Ribblesdale. Some remains of this road are still visible, though the old track was in several parts obliterated by the construction of the new Preston turnpike in 1825. The old road left the town of Blackburn at Little Peel, and ascended Duke's Brow to Revidge; continued down the other slope to Beardwood; near Beardwood are still two hedge-bound portions of this disused road, from which a notion may be formed of its pristine character. Forward, the road is covered for some distance by the new one, but it reappears in the vicinity of Mellor, and trends to the west through the township of Samlesbury by Samlesbury Green. It reached the Ribble opposite Brockholes, which was crossed by a ford or ferry.

The road from Blackburn in a south-westerly direction, through Tockholes to Longworth and Sharples, is one of considerable age, and was anciently the only available road from Blackburn to Bolton.

The ancient road from Blackburn into the valley of the Irwell, to Bury and Manchester (following closely the track of the Roman road built by Agricola) rises out of the valley at Blackburn, and having topped the ridge at Lower Darwen, maintains the summit level through Eccleshill and Blacksnape, and enters the Hundred of Salford at Grime Hills. This road is continued in the opposite direction from Blackburn up Shire Brow, and there divides into two roads, one by Ramsgrave Heights to Showley and Ribchester, and the other by the hamlet of Pleckgate in the direction of Salesbury.

The old road from Blackburn to Whalley and Clitheroe proceeded by Cob Wall, behind Little Harwood Hall, and past Bank Hey to the top of Wilpshire Moor at Snodworth Cross, continuing along the ridge of Billington Moor to the Nab (where it is now called the Old Nab-road), and, bending to the north, descends the Nab very steeply to Calder Bridge at the entrance to Whalley. From Whalley to Clitheroe the road formerly deviated from the direct line of the existing highway, passing by Standen Hall to the Four Lane Ends, where is the base of an ancient wayside Cross, and then turning towards Clitheroe by the Pendleton and Clitheroe road.

Another ancient road in the Parish that should be mentioned is one which crosses the valley of the Darwen from east to west, beginning at Pickup Bank heights and ending among the opposite hills of Tockholes township. Tradition says it was once the only road across this part of the country from Preston to Haslingden, and it is most likely a portion of that old pack-horse road called the "Limersgate," which traversed the northern side of the Forest of Rossendale, and is said to have been at one time the principal means of communication between the west of Lancashire and the eastern side of the kingdom.¹ The road descends from Pickup Bank heights, and entering Long Hey Lane a little to the south of the Independent School, crosses Pickup Bank Brook into the township of Over Darwen, a short distance from the village of Hoddesden. The track successively passes Meadowhead Farm and Langshaw Head; it then proceeds by Whitehall to Bury Fold, and past Astley Bank to Radfield Fold. The road is continued from Radfield along the slope of Darwen Moor to Sunnyhurst Clough, where it crosses the glen and ascends Winter Hill into Tockholes township, which it crosses in a westerly direction. There are some traces of the old road from Blackburn to Darwen through Lower Darwen and Darwen Chapels.

Between the years 1770 and 1780 the first projects were started for the reconstruction of the road system of this part of the country. In the adjoining parts of Yorkshire, the celebrated blind road-maker, John Metcalf, known popularly as "Blind Jack of Knaresborough," had been employed in making some new public roads, one of the first being the road between Harrogate and Boroughbridge, completed about the year 1766. John Metcalf, though totally blind, had displayed so much skill in this department of engineering during the construction of the Yorkshire roads that his fame extended into Lancashire, and his success encouraged Lancashire capitalists, sorely in need of roads for the conveyance of their merchandise, to promote schemes for the accomplishment of this object.

¹ Old Roads, &c., of Darwen, by W. T. Ashton, p. 6.

Several of the main roads in the Hundred east of Blackburn were made under the plans of Metcalf, including the new roads from Blackburn to Haslingden, from Bury to Haslingden, from Haslingden to Accrington, and from Burnley to Colne. Metcalf's first undertaking in the district was the road from Blackburn to Haslingden and Bury, which surmounts the hills of Lower Darwen and Oswaldtwistle, passing through Haslingden Grane into the valley of the Irwell. This road was planned about the year 1789. Though traversing high ground, and crossing a wild moorland, it is an excellent road, and not difficult for cart traffic. This road was a portion of the undertaking of the Elton and Blackburn Trust. The road between Haslingden and Accrington, with a branch to Bury, is stated by Mr. Smiles to have been the last line of road built by Metcalf, and it was also "one of the most difficult he had undertaken." Among the ancient roads improved about the same period was that of the Old Preston and Blackburn turnpike, diverted, widened and re-bridged under the provisions of the Blackburn and Walton Cop Trust; and by another Trust the old road from Blackburn to Burnley was entirely transformed. About the year 1798 an important new road from Blackburn to Bolton was carried along the upper portion of the Darwen Valley, through the town of Over Darwen, by the Bolton and Blackburn Road Trust; and more recently a useful road was carried from Walton Bridge, through the southern townships of Ribblesdale, to Whalley, in connection with which are branches from Blackburn to Whalley and from Whalley to Clitheroe. Two essential modern lines of road remain to be mentioned, both of which were carried out some fifty years ago, viz., the new route from Blackburn to Accrington by way of Knuzden and Church Kirk, and forward from Accrington to Burnley by Huncoat and Habergham Eaves; and the new Blackburn and Preston road through Mellor and Samlesbury. The first of these is a much shorter line from Blackburn to Burnley than the older route by Rishton, Clayton-in-les-Moors, and Padiham. The Preston New Road, constructed in 1825, brought the town of Blackburn within eight miles and a half of Preston by the highway, instead of eleven miles by the ancient road through Livesey, Hoghton, and Walton. Twenty years after the latest of these excellent roads was opened, the first Railroad through the district was completed, and thereby a revolution in the system of inland conveyance was inaugurated. But in spite of the celerity of transport offered by the Railway Companies, the good roads which had been previously made in every part of the country have not lost their utility. They are still well-travelled, and the tolls usually suffice for the maintenance of the roads in repair.

The Journals of the House of Commons contain the following

notices of Petitions and Bills relating to some of the earlier schemes for the construction or re-construction of local roads submitted to Parliament, and for which Acts were obtained :—

In the 16th Geo. III. (1776) a Bill was presented for “repairing and widening the Road from the Market Cross in the Township of Clitheroe, to Salford Bridge in the Town of Blackburn.”—In the 29th Geo. III. (1789), a petition was laid before Parliament of Gentlemen, Clergy, Freeholders, and others, showing “that the Roads from the Town of Bury to the Town of Haslingden, and from thence to the Town of Blackburn, &c., are in a ruinous state, narrow, and incommodious, and it would be advantageous to the neighbourhood, and of public utility, if the same were properly amended, widened, and kept in repair.” A Bill was introduced the same year, “for amending, widening, turning, varying, altering, and keeping in repair, the Road from a certain Dwelling-house in Bury, now or late in the occupation of Wm. Walker, Gentleman, to Haslingden, and from thence to the east end of Salford Bridge, in Blackburn, and also the Road from Haslingden aforesaid to the east end of Cockshutt Bridge, in the Town of Whalley, and also the Road from Haslingden aforesaid, through Newchurch and Bacup, to Todmorden.”—In the 33rd Geo. III. (1793), Sir Henry Hoghton presented a Bill, which was passed, “for more effectually repairing the road from Blackburn to Burscough Bridge.”—On the 14th Feb., 1797, a Petition of Merchants, Landowners, Manufacturers of Cotton, &c., living in Blackburn, Over Darwen, and Bolton, was presented to the House, setting forth that the road leading from Bolton through the village of Over Darwen to Blackburn was a high-road, about fifteen miles in length, in which were several steep hills, some rising seven inches at the yard; that the same road was very indirect and circuitous, with many windings and turnings, and “in many places so narrow, bad, and foundrous, that carts and carriages loaded cannot pass to and from the said towns of Bolton and Blackburn without much difficulty;” that the said road might be diverted and shortened to twelve miles, with gradients of not more than two inches in the yard; but could not be widened or amended by the laws in being, which was to the danger of passengers, to the prejudice of trade in general, and especially of the Cotton Manufactures carried on in Blackburn and Bolton and the villages between; and praying that leave be given to straighten, widen, divert, and amend the said road, and to erect turnpikes upon it. A Bill was passed the same Session providing for the reconstruction of this important road-communication.

In the BLACKBURN MAIL for August, 1797, it was notified that on Friday, August 25th, “at the house of John Haworth, the sign of the Golden Cup, in Lower, Darwen,” would be let “the forming, fencing, and making a Road from the Golden Cup to the top of Fearnhurst Eyes, being about 90 perches;” plans to be seen at Mr. Pettinger’s, surveyor, Bolton, and information to be had also from Mr. Edward Haworth, of Turton, attorney-at-law, and Mr. Thomas Eccles, of Lower Darwen.

PROJECTION AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE LEEDS AND LIVERPOOL CANAL.

A bolder undertaking than road-making, in fact, the greatest public work executed in Lancashire before the era of railroads, was the construction of a navigable canal between Liverpool and Leeds,

connecting the River Mersey flowing into the Irish Sea with the Aire, which passes into the German Ocean. The most difficult engineering works upon this Canal are over that section of it which traverses the Hundred of Blackburn.

Half a century elapsed between the adoption of the project of this canal and its completion. Mr. Longbottom, of Halifax, the author of the scheme, surveyed the country between Leeds and Liverpool, and laid his plans before a number of capitalists in the two counties. A committee of gentry eventually resolved to submit the question of the practicability of the canal to Mr. Brindley, the ablest engineer of that day. Brindley made an independent survey of the country to be traversed by the proposed canal, and reported to meetings at Liverpool and Bradford, in December, 1768. The eminent engineer pronounced the scheme feasible, and gave as the estimate of its cost a sum of £259,777. The canal as planned was to be 103¾ miles in length; with a width of 42 feet at the top, and a general depth of five feet. An Act of Parliament was obtained for the work in the 10th Geo. III. (1770). The canal as scheduled was to commence at Leeds Bridge, and to continue along the Aire valley by Armley to Shipley, with a branch thence to Bradford; onward by the same valley to Bingley, Keighley, and Skipton; from Skipton to near Barnoldswick on the Lancashire border, where the canal attains its summit level of 411 feet above the Aire at Leeds, distant 41 miles. Of that part of the canal which passes through East Lancashire the course is indicated as follows:—

The canal passes by Barnoldswick and Salterford to Foulridge, where the great tunnel commences, whose height is 18 feet, width 17 feet, and the length 1,640 yards. The surface of the ground on the highest part over the tunnel is at an elevation of 60 feet above the water in the tunnel. Within a little distance of the tunnel are two reservoirs, for the supply of the canal, which cover 104 acres of land, and will contain 1,200,000 cubic yards of water. From Foulridge the canal proceeds to near Barrowford, where it locks down from the summit 70 feet towards Liverpool, crosses Colne Water by an aqueduct, passes near Carr Hall (a seat of Colonel Clayton's) and Dancer House, to the town of Burnley, which it circumscribes on three sides, and at which place an embankment is carried for 1,256 yards in length, at above 60 feet high, and aqueducts made over the Rivers Brun and Calder, and a road aqueduct under the canal; thence the canal proceeds to near Gannah, where there is another tunnel 559 yards in length; thence by Hapton, Altham, Clayton Hall, Enfield to Church Valley, whence Messrs. Peel's short branch runs to their print works at Church; now crossing the river Hindburn by an aqueduct, the main line proceeds past Rishton and White Birk to the town of Blackburn, sweeping on the south side of this town to a place called Grimshaw Park, where by six locks there is a fall of 54 feet 3 inches; thence passing over the Derwent [Darwen] Water by an aqueduct it runs by Livesey Hall, and passing Roddlesworth Water by another aqueduct, proceeds to near Chorley;

thence to Cophurst Valley, and here locking down 64 feet 6 inches by seven locks into the head level of the Lancaster Canal, at Johnson's Hillock, &c.¹

This length of the Canal, from Foulridge near Colne to Roddlesworth Water, which is the S.W. boundary of Blackburn Parish, thus required two long tunnels, three supply reservoirs (at Foulridge and Rishton); seven massive stone aqueducts; two embankments (at Burnley and below Blackburn); and series of locks at Barrowford and Blackburn, by which the level of the canal is lowered 124 feet.

By the Act of 10th Geo. III. (1770) the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Company were empowered to raise a capital of £260,000 for the construction of this work, with further power to raise an additional £60,000 if necessary. In July, 1770, the work was begun simultaneously at the Leeds and Liverpool extremities, under the superintendence of Mr. Longbottom, and by the year 1777 thirty-three miles of the canal, from Leeds to Holmbridge near Gargrave, on the Yorkshire side, and twenty-eight miles, from Liverpool to Newburgh, on the Lancashire side, had been opened for navigation. The cost of these two sections had been £300,000 for the 61 miles; and the capital of the Company being all spent thereon, a new Act was got in the 30th Geo. III. (1790), giving powers to raise a further sum of £200,000 to complete the canal. Mr. Whitworth, the company's engineer, directed the works. In May, 1796, the canal was opened from Burnley to Enfield Warehouse, a distance of nine miles and 37 chains, and level. The 17½ miles from Foulridge to Enfield cost it is said, £120,000, of which £9,000 are set down for the Foulridge reservoirs, £22,000 for the great embankment at Burnley, and £10,000 for the construction of the tunnel at Ridge, a little to the west of Burnley. The remaining sections, from Enfield to Blackburn, Chorley, and Wigan, consumed fifteen years more in their construction. The eight-mile section between Enfield and Blackburn was opened for boats in June, 1810; and the final stretch of the canal, from Blackburn to Wigan, which included costly works in lockage, embankments, and aqueducts near Blackburn across the valleys of the Darwen and the Roddlesworth, was opened in October, 1816. The navigation from Leeds to Liverpool was then complete. With regard to the commercial benefits secured to the districts through which the canal runs, Mr. Priestley writes:—"This gigantic concern, which was no less than 46 years in executing, and which has cost £1,200,000, has proved highly beneficial to the country through which it passes, giving facility to the transport of coal, limestone, lime for manure, and all agricultural produce, connecting the trade of Leeds with Liverpool and with Manchester, Wigan, Blackburn, Burnley, Colne, Skipton, Keighley, and Bradford."²

1 Navig. Rivers, Canals, and Railways, by Priestley, pp. 420-1. 2 Ib. p. 427.

RAILWAYS IN EAST LANCASHIRE.

The origin and extension of the Railroad system of transit are still too recent to require more than a short record of the chief events of local railway enterprise. A company was formed in 1843, later called the East Lancashire Railway Company, which undertook the construction of a railroad from Preston to Blackburn, Accrington, Burnley, and Colne, and a connecting line from Accrington to Manchester, with a branch for Rossendale. The works were commenced between Blackburn and Preston in 1844; this section was completed and opened for traffic on Whitsun Monday, 1846. The extension from Blackburn to Accrington was opened on Monday, June 19th, 1848. Another local scheme was inaugurated in September, 1844, to construct a railroad from Blackburn to Bolton, to be styled the Blackburn, Darwen, and Bolton Railway, thirteen miles in length, and a company was formed with a capital of £250,000. This company afterwards obtained further powers to continue the line from Blackburn to Whalley, Clitheroe, and Chatburn, and was then styled the Bolton, Blackburn, Clitheroe, and West Yorkshire Railway Company. Mr. W. H. Hornby, of Blackburn, was chairman. A portion of this railroad between Blackburn and Darwen was opened for traffic in August, 1847, and, on the completion of the costly works of the Sough tunnel, the section from Blackburn to Bolton was opened on Monday, June 12th, 1848. The two companies by which these railroads were projected and carried out were eventually amalgamated, and a later amalgamation took place in 1854 with the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, of whose system these lines form valuable sections. A loop-line from Blackburn to Great Harwood and Padiham is in course of construction. In 1864 a company was formed to construct a new line from Blackburn to Chorley, Wigan, and St. Helens, connecting at Huyton with the Manchester and Liverpool Railway, opening a new route between Liverpool and the towns named, and shortening the distance by rail between Blackburn and the towns of South-west Lancashire by many miles. The series of short lines to complete this connection, about thirty miles in length, were completed at a cost of £900,000 in 1869, and the route was opened for traffic on Dec. 1st in that year. The line is now used jointly by the London and North-Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire Companies.

BOOK II.—TOWNSHIP HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY.

CHAPTER I.—THE TOWNSHIP AND TOWN OF BLACKBURN.

Ancient obscurity of the Town—Its aspect temp. Elizabeth—Camden's Notice—Market and Fairs—Descent of the Manor—De Blackburns, original lords—De Hulton and De Radcliffe—Barton—Belasyse, lords Fauconberg—Enclosure of Waste Lands in 1618—Ancient Freeholders, &c.—Abbot—Aspinall—Barcroft—Bolton—Memoir of Revd. Robert Bolton, B.D.—Dewhurst—Edge—Lawe—Mawdsley—Sharples—Ward—Whalley—Parish Church of St. Marie—Foundation and Endowment—Impropriation of the Rectory—Records of the Rectory—Lessees of Rectorial Estate—Records of the Vicarage—Vicarial Glebe—List of Vicars—The Old Church Fabric—The Chantries—Chapels—Demolition of the old and erection of the present Church—The Bells—Monuments, &c.—The Parish Registers—Chantry Song School—Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth—Its origin—Charter—Attempt to recover Chantry School Lands—Decree of 1585—The School Records—Parish Contributions to augment Endowment—Original Statutes, A.D. 1597—Annals of School and Elections of Governors from 1593—List of Masters—Charities of the Town—Poor Stock—Poor's Lands—Girls' Charity School—Minor Charities—Churches of the Establishment—Roman Catholic Missions, Chapels, and Convent—Nonconformist Foundations and Churches, Congregational, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, &c.—Schools, public elementary, and private—Blackburn School Board—Parliamentary Borough—Elections since 1832—Municipal Borough—Charter of Incorporation—List of Mayors—Corporate Buildings and Institutions—Town Hall, Market House and Market Place, Corporation Park, Public Library, Baths, &c.—Corporation Works—Gas Works—Water Works—Poor Law Union—Workhouses—Burial Board and Cemetery—Blackburn Dispensary, and Infirmary—Exchange—Clubs—County Court—County Police Court—Savings Bank and other Institutions—Families of Blackburn Merchants and Modern Gentry—Ainsworth—Ashburner—Armistead—Baldwin—Baron—Birley—Briggs—Cardwell—Carr—Chippendale—Cunliffe—De la Pryme—Dugdale—Falkner—Fleming—Hargreaves—Haworth—Hindle—Hopwood—Hornby—Leyland—Livesey—Markland—Neville—Pilkington—Rodgett—Smalley—Sudell—Whalley—Wilkinson—Yates—Blackburn Inventors, Authors, &c.—Population of Township and Town.

THE Town of Blackburn, though possessing antiquity equal to many existing English towns, as a Colony of the Saxon era, and from unrecorded time the most considerable urban settlement in the shire or Hundred to which it gave a name, was not until almost within the memory of living natives of advanced age, ever noteworthy or eminent, whether on account of its populousness, its natural or artificial features, its civic privileges, or as a military post or focus of baronial or ecclesiastical authority. Other ancient towns in Blackburnshire enjoyed precedence in one or other of these respects. Ribchester in the centre, and Colne and Walton at the extremities of the Hundred, were military

stations in the remote centuries of the Roman occupation. Clitheroe was the seignorial fortress of the Norman period, and a chartered burgh for ages subsequent. The extensive and strongly-built structure on the crest of Ightenhill (by Burnley), now long razed, was a royal manorial seat of the Plantagenets; and the solitary Castle of Hapton was the stronghold of the De La Leghs, Seneschals of Blackburnshire, in the same period. Whalley was famed as the primitive church foundation and parochial centre of the region, and later as the site of a vast and stately Monastery, whose Abbots ruled as lords over all the ecclesiastical estates and over many secular estates in East Lancashire. Through the centuries when other places surrounding were thus in succession promoted each to its peculiar distinction, Blackburn remained a common non-corporate town, without castle, abbey, or other structural feature to dignify its aspect to the eye of the passing pilgrim. Its Church of St. Marie, founded before the Conquest, was the single object capable of attracting notice among the cluster of timber-framed tenements that formed the town. The lords of the manor of Blackburn had from an early date been non-resident, and there was no knightly family of repute and power to reflect some of its lustre upon the place; no goodly manorial hall within the vill to lift its front boldly above the level uniformity of the tenements of yeomen, husbandmen, and craftsmen.

The names of Great Peel and Little Peel, still maintained in the nomenclature of spots a few yards apart on what was once the western outskirt of the town, are supposed to indicate the sites of two of those ancient square towers denominated "peels" that supplied a retreat and a defence rather than a home to the lords of the land in the Norman age. If this surmise be a right one, the situation of Great and Little Peel might be the domicile of the De Blackburns some seven hundred years ago, as the fortified manor-place of the western moiety of this manor; but the "peels" that may have stood here were abandoned and destroyed so long ago that in the earliest documentary records of Blackburn there is no mention of them. An old farm-house stood at Great Peel until the land was appropriated as sites for mills and cottages.

To the north of the town, at the date of the Domesday survey, and for some centuries after, extended a forest that covered most part of the present townships of Ramsgreave, Great and Little Harwood, Wilpshire, and Clayton, and reached from the ridge of Revidge nearly to the Ribble. This great woodland was preserved in the time of Edward the Confessor as a Royal Chace; and remained a hunting-ground for the Norman Barons to whom Blackburnshire was granted after the Conquest. It is to be conjectured that most of the personages of rank who visited the town of Blackburn from the tenth to the fifteenth century were

brought hither by the contingencies of the chace, in quest of refreshment from the hinds of this little settlement on the border of the wooded wilderness.

Onward into the Tudor period, Blackburn was still a town obscure and little known of strangers ; being quite out of the track of travellers performing the journey between London and the South and the Northern Counties and Scotland. Leland, the first English itinerant antiquary of note, who was in Lancashire about 1540, does not seem to have looked at Blackburn, and does not name the town, though he penetrated Ribblesdale from Preston as far as Ribchester and Whalley and Salley Abbeys ; and crossed the Darwen and Ribble at Walton, on the way from Chorley to Preston. James Pilkington, the zealous Bishop of Durham, visited Blackburn in 1564, observing church affairs, and in a letter to Archbishop Parker relates an incident of his brief sojourn :—

Among many other things that be amiss here in your great cures, ye shall understand that in Blackburn there is a fantastical (and some think a lunatic) young man, which says he has spoken with one of his neighbours that died four years since or more. Divers times he says he has seen him and talked with him, and took with him the Curate, the Schoolmaster, and other neighbours, which all affirm that they see him [the apparition] too. These things be so common here, and none of authority that will gainsay it, but rather believe and confirm it, that everyone believes it. It is too lamentable to see and hear how negligently they say any service here, and how seldom.¹

Of the moral condition of the town the good Bishop draws a melancholy picture ; concerning its material aspect he remarks nothing. The old church had been partially rebuilt a few years before, and looked much the same edifice it was until taken down in 1820. In the churchyard were the Vicarage and School-House, both dilapidated and calling for replacement in 1564. The street plan of the town was an irregular cross, the four arms being the thoroughfares of Northgate, Astley Gate projected towards the modern King Street, Darwen Street, and Church Street. Salford Bridge on the east, Darwen-street Bridge on the south, would be the limits of the main streets in those directions ; the old town Corn Mill was near the stream at the end of a lane from Darwen Street, long known as Mill-lane. Great part of the houses and shops forming the town *temp.* Elizabeth were grouped, gable-wise to the street, on both sides of the four streets named, with a few detached houses in the angles between the four streets, and dotted over the Vicar's Glebe east of Salford Bridge. The town-population would not exceed 2,000 people. At the junction of Church-street with Darwen-street stood the chief Inn of the place, in close proximity to the Church. In the midst of the street here was the Market Cross, re-edified shortly before his fall by Paslew, last Abbot of Whalley, in the form of a graceful floriated gothic shaft ;

¹ Corresp. of Abp. Parker (Parker Society), p. 222.

beside it were the draw-well and the town-stocks. Other ancient wells from which the folk of Blackburn drew their water-supplies were the Hallows Spring on Spring Hill (reputed for medicinal or miraculous curative properties), and the Folley Well, near the messuage of the Brook-house upon the Rectory Glebe. Such was Blackburn, as nearly as can now be realised, when Elizabeth ascended the throne; and such it stood with but slight change or increase until the beginning of the last century.

Sir Thomas Talbot, Knight, lord of Bashall and Rishton, having obtained a lease of the Rectory estate of Blackburn, sojourned frequently at Audley Hall in Blackburn in the reign of Queen Mary (1553-8), and being a soldier in command of a considerable force, raised for service in the war on the Scottish border, the presence of Sir Thomas with bodies of armed men must have given the town an aspect of unwonted stir and animation. Sir Thomas died at Audley in 1558, and, with that event, Blackburn life relapsed into its normal dulness.

Camden, who traversed Lancashire near the close of the reign of Elizabeth, has this short reference to Blackburn:—"Below Preston the Ribell receives the Darwen, a small river, which first waters Blackburn, a noted market town (so called from a black water), which formerly belonged to the Lacies, and gave to the tract adjacent the name of Blackburnshire." It is, indeed, as Camden has it, solely as a market town that Blackburn was "noted" down to the period of the rise of a special textile manufacture there. In 1649 it was reported:—"In Blackburn there is every Monday a Markett, and some fairs." Blome says in 1673 that Blackburn had on the Monday a great weekly market for cattle, corn, and provisions. Its cattle market and fortnightly and annual cattle fairs were of early importance. Some entries in the *Shuttleworth Accounts* from 1583 to 1590 betoken the attendance of the farm-bailiffs of the district gentry at the Blackburn cattle fair for the purchase or sale of stock, *ex. gr.* :—

1583. Bought in Blackburne the firste Daye of Maye of Robert wyffe Whalleye one cowe 26s. 10d.—1584. Payed for haye in Blackbourne for fiffe beastes which was there all nighte and for dryvinge the same to Tingreave 12d.—1586. May. Towe oxen in Blackburne unto Thos. Whalleye £6 11s. 8d.—1587. Boughte in Blackburne of Mr. Vicar towe oxen £5 6s. 8d. Wyllyam Jenkenson two styres £5 10s. ; Thomas Baley one oxe tynter 48s. 2d. &c.—1590. Boughte in Blackburne one oxe 52s. 6d. ; towe oxen £5.

The annual fair, for cattle and produce, in Blackburn was held in 1583 on the 1st of May. In "Rider's Fairs, 1746," Blackburn Fair is still fixed for May Day. Not many years after two additional fairs were appointed in the year, on Easter Monday and at Michaelmas (Oct.

17th). Monday's market was given up in 1774 in favour of bi-weekly markets on Wednesday and Saturday, and this is the present arrangement. Blakey Moor, a patch of common land in the rear of Northgate and Astley Gate, has for several hundred years been the place of the cattle fairs and markets of Blackburn.

In the *Shuttleworth Accounts* it is mentioned that a house of correction was built in Blackburn in 1611; this, perhaps, was the origin of the small dingy structure, long used as a town "lock-up" or house of correction, that stood on the south end of the Darwen-street bridge over the Blakewater, and that was demolished on the removal of the old stone bridge in 1872, when the roadway was widened and the present iron bridge erected. In 1621, the same Accounts record payments for building of a bridge "on the south side of Blackburne," and of "another bridge hard by Blackburne."

So late as 1760, the compact portion of the town, as shown upon a plan of that date, covered an area of not more than ten acres; in contrast with which the town of 1875 is estimated to cover the better part of 1,500 acres in the townships of Blackburn, Witton, and Livesey. Very few are the vestiges of Old Blackburn remaining after the street-improvements and reconstructions of the last thirty years. Several antique houses stood on the west side of Northgate, at the bottom of Church-street, and in Darwen-street, until recently; but the last of them has now disappeared.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR—THE DE BLACKBURN FAMILY.

The primitive lords of Blackburn, bearing the name of the vill, must be referred to hereafter in the account of Blackburn Church as furnishing the first known incumbents of Blackburn in an hereditary succession, both the rectorial and manorial rights pertaining to the De Blackburns for some generations. The descent of the race is partially recorded, with differences, in ancient documents. According to an accepted statement, the genealogy is traced from Gamaliel de Blackburn, about the time of the Conquest, to Gilbert, from Gilbert to John, and from John to Henry de Blackburn, living about 1160. Henry had sons Richard and Adam. Richard de Blackburn, eldest son of Henry, had a son and heir Adam; and Adam de Blackburn had two daughters, co-heiresses, who married brothers: Agnes marrying David de Hulton, and had issue Richard de Hulton; and Beatrice marrying William de Hulton, but having no issue. Thus the manor of Blackburn passed to the De Hultons, and the chief line of the De Blackburns finished in the male descent.

Adam de Blackburn, younger son of Adam and brother of Richard,

had a son Roger. About the same date, appear other members whose connection is not easily defined.

BRANCHES OF DE BLACKBURN FAMILY.

Several branches of the De Blackburn stock should be remembered. One branch settled in the next township of Rishton as chief territorial proprietors, and thenceforth bore the style of De Rishton. The first of these was Gilbert de Rishton, son of Henry de Blackburn. Under the name of De Rishton the descent of this branch will be pursued in a later page of this work.

Another branch, owning lands in Walton-in-le-Dale and Cuerden, is traceable in charters abstracted in one of the HARLEIAN MSS. (No. 2112). Richard, son of Adam de Blackburn, and Alice his wife, are named in a dateless charter concerning an estate in Cuerden. Richard de Blackburn granted to Henry de Walton a rent of 40s. of lands in Wiswall.

Alice de Blackburn, widow, late wife of William son of Adam de Blackburn, gave to Hugh son of Henry de Whithull portion of her land in Whithull (Whittle). William de Blackburn gave to William his son and heir all his lands in the vill of Kerden (Cuerden).

Then, in the 9th Edward II. (1316), William son of William de Blackburn of Kuerden conveyed to John, son of Richard son of Ralph de Magna Hole (Much Hoole) all his lands in Kuerden.

In the 13th Edward II. (1320), Henry de Blackburn of Walton gave to Richard de Billington and William his son, all his land which he had of the grant of Robert Banester, lord of Walton.

The 16th Edward II. (1323), John son of Henry de Blackburn released the same lands to Richard de Billington; and in the 5th Edward III. (1332), John son of Henry de Blackburn of Walton demised to Richard de Billington his right in 6s. per annum he had of his father's gift.

Richard, son of John de Blackburn, of Walton, in the 22nd Edward III. (1349), gave to William son of John de Walton and his heirs, two messuages, &c., with 12 acres of land in Walton, which Roger, son of Adam de Blackburn, and Adam son of Roger Dobson, formerly held.

The Robert son of Richard de Blackburn to whom, before the 40th Edward III. (1367), John de Alvetham had feoffed the fourth part of the Bailiwick of Blackburnshire, possibly was a member of this branch of the Blackburn family.

There was a family of this name seated at Wiswall in Whalley Parish, contemporary with, and doubtless derived from, the De Blackburns lords of Blackburn. In the TESTA DE NEVILL, Adam de Blackburn appears early in the thirteenth century as holding with Roger de Archis the fourth part of a Knight's fee in Wisewall and Apton. A record is entered in the Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey (to which Mr. Hulton, the editor, adds a note) respecting the descent of the Blackburns of Wiswall, to the effect that Sir John de Blackburn, Knt. (perhaps a son of the above Adam), lord of the vill of Wysewall, had a son and heir Sir Adam Blackburn, Knt.; he, by Alice his wife, had a son and heir John de Blackburn, who married Margaret, sister of Sir Robert de Holand, and had three daughters, Alice, Agnes, and Johanna, between whom after the death of John their father the manor of Wysewall and his other lands, &c., were divided. Alice, the elder daughter, married Sir Robert de Sherburne, Knt.; the second did not marry; and Johanna, the youngest, was wife of Thomas de Arden. In 1311, Sir Robert Sherburne and Thomas de Arden were in joint tenure of Wiswall

manor by virtue of their wives' inheritance therein; but the father, John de Blackburn, last male scion of the Blackburns of Wiswall, occurs in title-deeds of Whalley after this date, and as late as the year 1336.

DE HULTONS AND DE RADCLIFFES, LORDS OF BLACKBURN.

The half of that moiety of Blackburn manor inherited by Agnes de Blackburn, was conveyed to the De Hultons by her marriage to David de Hulton, son and heir of Richard de Hulton, lord of Hulton. David de Hulton by his wife Agnes had sons Richard, Adam, and John, and a daughter Cecilia. William de Hulton, lord of Flixton, younger brother of David, who married Beatrice de Blackburn, had with her the other share of the estate; but on his death without issue, his brother David became his heir. David surrendered the estate to his brother's widow, Beatrice, as her dower for life; and after her death, Richard de Hulton, eldest son of David, obtained the estate as heir of Beatrice his aunt. This Richard de Hulton, of Hulton, living in 1304, had by his wife Margery, daughter of Robert de Radeclive, sons Richard, Adam, John, and Roger. Richard the father gave the moiety of Blackburn manor to John, his third son, for life. This John de Hulton, in 1311, was returned as holding a carucate and a half of land in Blackburn freely by homage; he was still living in 1326. His elder brother, Richard, died before John, but left a son and heir, Richard, who, after the death of John de Hulton his uncle, sold the moiety of Blackburn manor to Robert de Radcliff.

This Robert de Radcliff was second son of Richard de Radcliff, of Radcliff Tower; and it was in the 8th Edward III. (1335) that Richard de Hulton quit-claimed to him all his lands in Blackburn. Robert de Radcliff was founder of the important line of Radcliffes of Smithells, for nearly two centuries lords of Smithells and Blackburn. He had a son and heir William Radcliff of Smithells, Esq., whose son and namesake, William Radcliffe of Smithells, had a son and heir Ralph, knighted in the latter part of the fourteenth century.

Sir Ralph Radcliffe of Smithells, Knt., had a son Ralph, and died before 1406; for on the 18th June in that year (7th Henry IV.), is dated the precept issued to the Duchy Escheator to give to Ralph, son and heir of Sir Ralph de Radclif, chevalier, deceased, livery of the moiety of the manor of Blackburn, holden of the King *in capite* by knight service and 4s. payable yearly for the ward of the Castle of Clithero and doing suit at the Wapentake of Clithero, and of the moiety of the manor of Flixton, and certain tenements in Harwood, &c., taking security of the said heir for payment of his relief for the two moieties of the manors of Blackburn and Flixton. Ralph the son received knighthood as well as the father.

The second Sir Ralph Radcliffe of Smithells, Knt., entering in 1406, an doocurring again in 1409, had by Cicely his wife a son and heir Ralph, the third Sir Ralph Radcliffe, Knt.; and the latter had sons Ralph, the heir, and Edward; and a daughter Joan, who married, after 1450, Ralph Barton of Holme, Esq., and was mother of John Barton, afterwards of Smithells. In the 20th Henry VII. (1505), John Barton gave letters of attorney to Robert Rishton to receive possession of the Manor of Blackburn from Joan Barton, widow.

Ralph Radcliffe of Smithells, Esq., son of Sir Ralph, married Katherine, daughter of Sir Richard Molyneux, Knt., and had issue a daughter and sole heiress, named Cicely, who became the wife of the above-named John Barton, son of Ralph Barton of Holme. By these two alliances of Ralph Burton and his son John with successive heiresses of the Radcliffes, both Blackburn manor and Smithells passed from the lineal house of Radcliffe to the Bartons, and were held by John Barton of Smithells, Esq.

BARTONS OF SMITHELLS, LORDS OF BLACKBURN MANOR.

John Barton of Smithells, Esq. (son of Ralph), who married Cicely Radcliffe, heiress of the manor, had issue by her, sons, Andrew; Alexander, a clerk; Leonard, and Francis (the two latter died without issue). John Barton died before the year 1516, and on the inquisition taken 8th Henry VIII., was found to have been seized of the manors of Smithells and Tingreve, with landed estates there and in many townships in South and West Lancashire, and also of messuages, lands, &c., in Blackburn. Andrew Barton, son and heir, was then aged 18 years.

Andrew Barton, of Smithells, Esq., lord of Blackburn, had to wife Ann, daughter of Sir William Stanley of Hooton, Co. Chester, Knt. Issue, sons, Robert; Rauf; Henry, and Thurstan; daughters, Cicely, wife of Robert Holt of Stubble, gent.; Margaret, wife of John Westby of Mowbreck, gent.; Dorothy, wife of William Gerrard, Recorder of Chester; and Eleanor, wife of Edward Singleton, of the Tower. Andrew Barton, Esq., died in 1548; by his Will, dated Feb. 7th, 3rd Edw. VI., he directs "that my sone Robert Barton, or he that shall hapen to be my heyre, shall have the one halfe of the lordshipe of Oswentwysyll [Oswaldtwistle] wyche I lately purchased of the right honorabyll Henry [Radclyffe, second earl of Sussex] bounden to my brother-in-law, William Westby, esquier, in severall obligacyons to pay unto hym yet beyng behynde fourscore marks for the maryage of Margaret my doughter to John Westby, his sone and heyre apparent." Also testator wills that Thurstan Tyldesley, Esq., and others, "shall take twentie pounds yerly of my lands in Blakburne and Roumsgreve to pay my detts whiche I

stond bounde to my frends by bylles," &c. The escheator's return shows that Andrew Barton held the manor of Smithells, two messuages in Smithells, of the King, as of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, in socage, by a rent of 12d., worth £14; the manor of Tingreve, in the parish of Eccleston, in Leylandshire, and two messuages with appurtenances in Eccleston, of the King as lord, in socage, by a rent of 4s. 7d., worth 52s. 4d.; the manor of Hole, with one watermill and 5s. 11d. issuing in rent, and lands in Hole, of Thomas Stanley, Knt., Lord Monteagle, in socage, by a rent of 6d., worth £16. Also 12 messuages in Querlton, of the King, as late of St. John of Jerusalem, in socage, by a rent of 2s. 2d., worth £6. Four messuages with appurtenances in Lostock, of Thomas West, Lord de la Warre, in socage, by a rent of 7d., worth £5 5s. 4d. Half the manor of Blackburn, 30 messuages there, with 3s. 4d. yearly rent issuing out of land there, of the King, in socage, by a rent of 4s., worth £15. 2s. 10d. Twelve messuages in Romesgreve [Ramsgreave], of the King in chief, by one-twentieth of a knight's fee, and 19s. 2¾d., worth £8 2s. 9d.; and other estates.

Robert Barton, Esq., succeeded, being 24 years of age. He married Margery, second daughter of Sir Piers Legh, Knt., of Lyme, Cheshire, who, after his death, married Richard Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, Esq. By this lady Robert Barton had no male issue, and at his death, in 1580, the landed possessions of the house passed to his brother, Ralph Barton. An inquisition after his death, taken 22nd Eliz., records that Robert Barton, Esq., held the manor of Smithells, three messuages and one mill there, of the King; the manor, with the capital message of Tingreve, with two messuages there, of the King; half the manor of Hole, 26 messuages and one mill there, of Richard Sherburn, Knt., in socage; half the manor of Blackburn, 50 messuages, and a rent of 4s. 6d. there; lands in Ramsgreve, of the King; half the manor of Flixton and Horwich; and the manor of Oswaldtwisel, 12 messuages and a rent of 10s. 1d. there, of the King, by half a knight's fee and a rent of 2s. 3d., worth £18; with other lands in Lostock and Bradshaw. Ralph Barton, brother and next heir, was aged 57 years.

Ralph Barton, Esq., of Grey's Inn, afterwards of Smithells, the next successor in 1580, died in 1592. Escheat taken 42nd Eliz. (1599). His estates in Blackburn district embraced, according to this return, the manor of Oswaldtwistle, with 37 messuages, 37 gardens, one water mill, 1000 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, and 200 acres of pasture; 12 messuages, 80 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 80 acres of pasture, 50 acres of woodland, and 140 acres of moor and moss in Ramsgreave; and half the manor of Blackburn, with 50 messuages, 120 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 100 acres of moor and

turbary, and 4s. 4d. rent in Blackburn. Ralph Barton, his son and heir, was aged 43 years and upwards.

Ralph Barton, Esq., lord of Blackburn and Smithells, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Wood, of Turton, and had a son Thomas. Ralph Barton was Sheriff of the County in 1605. He died before 1613, seized of Oswaldtwistle and Blackburn manors, with lands pertaining; of lands in Ramsgreave and Witton in this parish, and of the other estates named before as possessed by the family.

Sir Thomas Barton, of Smithells, Knt., son of Ralph, and the last male representative of this race of Bartons, is found in possession of Blackburn manor in 1613. He was a governor of Blackburn Free Grammar School. He was knighted before 1621. This knight died July 17th, 1659, and was buried the 19th August following, at Bolton. His only daughter and heiress, Grace Barton, was married to Henry Belasyse, Esq., M.P., eldest son of Thomas, first Viscount Fauconberg, and conveyed Blackburn manorial estate, with the rest of the estates of the Bartons, to that ennobled Yorkshire house.

BELASYSE, VISCOUNTS FAUCONBERG, LORDS OF BLACKBURN.

Henry Belasyse, Esq., who by his marriage with Grace Barton acquired for his family the manors of Blackburn, Smithells, Oswaldtwistle, &c., in this county, was son and heir of Thomas Belasyse, first Viscount Fauconberg, of Newborough Abbey, Co. York. He served in the Long Parliament as Knight of the Shire for the County of York. By the Barton heiress he had sons, Thomas; Henry, died unmarried; Rowland (see hereafter); daughters, Grace, married George, Viscount Castleton; Frances, married Sir Henry Jones, of Aston, Knt.; Arabella, married Sir William Frankland, Bart.; and Barbara, married first, Walter Strickland, Esq., of Sizergh, and, secondly, Sir Marmaduke Dalton. Dying in his father's lifetime, Henry Belasyse, Esq., left his Lancashire estates to his sons Thomas and Rowland, the first of whom succeeded his grandfather in the title and patrimonial estates.

Thomas Belasyse, second Viscount Fauconberg, on his grandsire's decease in 1652, married, first, Mildred, daughter of Nicholas, Viscount Castleton, who died young, and left no issue. He married, secondly, Nov. 18th, 1657, at Hampton Court, Mary, third daughter of Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector. The marriage was celebrated, says Clarendon, "with all imaginable pomp and lustre." Burnet says of this daughter of Cromwell:—"She was a wise and worthy woman, more likely to have maintained the post [of Protector] than either of her brothers; according to a saying that went of her, that 'those who wore breeches deserved petticoats better; but if those in petticoats had been in breeches, they

would have held faster." Andrew Marvel composed "Two Songs at the Marriage of the Lord Fauconberg and the Lady Mary Cromwell."¹ By this lady, however, Lord Fauconberg had no issue. April 9th, 1689, on the accession of William III. and Mary, he was created Earl Fauconberg by letters patent. He died December 31st, 1700, and in default of issue the earldom expired, and the other honours and the estates reverted to a nephew, Thomas Belasyse, Esq., son of Sir Rowland Belasyse, K.B.

Margaret, eldest sister of Thomas Earl Fauconberg, married Sir Edward Osborn, of Kiveton, who after her death married, secondly, Ann, daughter of Thomas Walmesley, of Dunkenhalgh, Esq.

Sir Rowland Belasyse, K.B., younger brother of the Earl, was lord of the manors of Blackburn and Smithells, and is described as "of Smithells" in 1688. By his wife Anne, daughter and heiress of J. Davenport, Esq., of Sutton, Co. Chester, he had sons, Thomas, who succeeded his uncle as third Viscount; Henry; John, and Rowland; and daughters, Grace, Frances, Arabella, and Barbara. Sir Rowland died in 1699.

Thomas Belasyse, third Viscount, son of Sir Rowland, and nephew of Earl Thomas, succeeded to the title and estates of his uncle in 1700. His wife was Bridget, daughter of Sir John Page, Bart., by whom he had sons, Thomas and Rowland, and three daughters. This representative died Nov. 20th, 1718.

Thomas Belasyse, his son, succeeded as fourth Viscount. By him, soon after his accession, the Lancashire estates held by the family were disposed of. The Manor of Blackburn was sold by him, in 1721, for £8,650, to William Baldwin, Henry Feilden, and William Sudell, Esqrs.² In 1722 Lord Fauconberg sold Oswaldtwistle Manor to James Whalley, of Sparth, and Christopher Baron, of Oswaldtwistle, gents.; and about the same date Smithells Manor was sold to the Byroms of Manchester. Thomas, fourth Viscount Fauconberg, died 4th Feb., 1774, and was succeeded in the title and Yorkshire estates by his only son Henry (by his wife Catherine, daughter of John Betham, Esq.) Henry Belasyse, fifth Viscount, was created an Earl, and married twice, but had no male issue, and on his death, in 1802, the Earldom lapsed. Rowland, son of Anthony, son of Rowland, fourth son of Sir Rowland Belasyse, succeeded as sixth Viscount, and dying without issue in 1810, was succeeded by his brother, Rev. Charles Belasyse, D.D., of the Roman Catholic Church, as seventh Viscount, at whose death, in 1815, the barony and Viscounty of Fauconberg became extinct.

¹ Printed in Grosart's Complete Works of Marvell, v. i. (Verse), pp. 139-145.

² The Baldwins, Feildens, and Sudells will be noticed hereafter.

ENCLOSURE OF THE COMMON AND WASTE LANDS IN
BLACKBURN, A.D. 1618.

In the year 1616, upon a Petition of Sir William Fleetwood, Knt., lessee of the Rectory Glebe, Thomas Barton, Esq., lord of the temporal half of the manor, John Morres, Vicar, as holder of the Vicarial Glebe, all the charterers and copyholders of the township, and the undertenants of the Glebe lands, praying for the enclosure and allotment of waste and common lands, an inquisition was taken regarding the ownership of the lands in Blackburn; which was followed by an application to the Court of the Duchy for a Commission to survey and adjust the allotment of the said common and waste lands. The Commission was granted by the Crown, and the Commissioners held an inquiry at Blackburn on the 24th of April, 1617. It then appeared that 680 acres of land customary measure, equal to 1,266 acres or so, statute measure, out of some 3,600 statute acres in the township, were still common and waste. The Commissioners, having by their inquisition ascertained the particulars of ownership, and the situation and extent of the commons and wastes, and reported thereon, the Chancellor of the Duchy published his Decree, dated the 20th June, 1618, by which the whole of the waste lands were ordered to be enclosed, and to be allotted *pro rata* among all owners of land in Blackburn. An abstract of the decree is presented below:—

DECREE MADE 20TH JUNE, 1618, ASCERTAINING THE RIGHTS OF THE LORDS
OF THE MANOR OF BLACKBURN, IN THE COMMONS OR WASTES THERE,
AND THE VICAR AND SEVERAL FREEHOLDERS AND COPYHOLDERS IN THE
SAME.

[ABSTRACT.]—This cause was “between the King and John Dewhurst and Thurstan Mawdesley, Customary Tenants of the Crown within the Manor of Blackburn, in the County of Lancaster, of the one part; and George [Abbot], Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and Thomas Barton, Esq., Lords of the Manor of Blackburn aforesaid, and Edward Fleetwood, Knight, Farmer of the Rectory of Blackburn, within the Duchy, and Thos. Holden, and other Freeholders within the same, of the other part.” The preamble recites that, “by an Inquisition taken at Blackburn, &c., upon the 20th day of September, 1616, before Humfrey Davenport and John Hart, Esqrs.”—upon the oaths “of John Rhodes, of Thornley, in the said county; Henry Hammond, John Ward, Nicholas Crombleholme, John Rodes, of Thornley, in the said county; John Moore, Thomas Ryley, James Aspinal, John Middleton, Richard Parker, Robert Parker, Edward Houghton, Henry Hurst, and John Cottom, gentlemen,”—it was found “that the now Archbishop of Canterbury is seised in his demesne as of fee, of and in the Rectory and Parsonage of Blackburn, &c., and of and in the moiety of the Manor of Blackburn aforesaid, belonging to the said Parsonage. And that Thomas Barton, Esq., is seised in his demesne as of fee, of and in the other moiety of the said Manor. And that there are certain wastes lying near unto Blackburn town, containing in all about 680 acres, after seven yards and a half to the perch, whereof all (save 90 acres or thereabouts) do lye within the township of Blackburn.

And the said 90 acres were, at the time of the said Inquisition, in controversy between the said Archbishop and the said Thomas Barton, on the one part, and the Lords, charterers and others of the town of Nether Darwen, on the other part, whether the said 90 acres did lye within the township of Blackburn, or within the township of Nether Darwen." It appeared by the same inquisition that the Archbishop, in right of his Archbishopric, was seized in his demesne as of fee of the moiety of the soil of the said Wastes within the township of Blackburn; that Thomas Barton was seized in his demesne as of fee of the other moiety of the soil of the said Wastes. It further appeared that since the inquisition the parties interested had agreed to a partition of the ninety acres of waste in question between the townships of Blackburn and Nether Darwen, which gave 35 ac. 3 r. of the said 90 acres to Blackburn, and the residue to Nether Darwen. Of the 35 a. 3 r. declared to be in Blackburn, the Archbishop and Thomas Barton were severally seized, each of a moiety. And it appeared that all the Wastes of the soil, whereof the Archbishop and Thomas Barton were respectively seized in the township, were "three several Wastes, Moors, or Commons, the one called Colepit Moor, alias Whinney Edge, the other called Revidge Moor, and the third, which is a small moor, containing about three acres, called Blakey Moor." It further appeared that John Morris, Clerk, Vicar of Blackburn, in respect and right of the said Vicarage; and Thomas Holden, William Barcroft, Thomas Kenyon, Richard Lawe, Miles Aspinall, and James Aspinall, in respect of divers lands and tenements lying in the township of Blackburn, of which they had several estates of inheritance, had and ought to have common in the said Wastes and Moors, and that Thurstan Maudsley and John Dewhurst, copyholders of divers lands and tenements in the said township belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster, had and ought likewise to have common in the said Wastes and Moors, and the under-tenants of the Glebe, and the farmers of Thomas Barton's lands, had in the right of their landlords common in the said wastes; and further that Sir William Fleetwood, Thomas Barton, John Morris, Thomas Kenyon, Richard Lawe, James Aspinall, and Miles Aspinall, and the under-tenants of the glebe, had divers times petitioned the Archbishop to consent to the "enclosing of the said moors, wastes, and commons, as being a thing tending to the good of the common wealth of the Kingdom, and to the private good of the said petitioners," who desired upon the said enclosure to have their proportionate part of the said wastes, &c., according to their several and respective inlands. And the Archbishop, after inquiry, having found it to be true "that the said wastes or moors had, by reason of non-culture, yielded very little profit" unto those who commoned in them, and if enclosed would yield a far larger revenue and profit, did condescend to their petition, and applied to the King's Highness to award a Commission out of the Court of the Duchy, for the allotting, unto those who had right of common there, of convenient portions of the said Moors and Wastes. The Commission was granted accordingly, with orders to view and survey the said wastes, and to take evidence of the tenants, and with full power and authority to apportion and allot to the interested parties competent and convenient portions of such common lands, &c. The Commission had held an inquiry at Blackburn on the 24th of April, 1617, and had found that the only copyholders of the King in the said township were Thurstan Maudsley and John Dewhurst; as to Maudsley's title, they found "by a copy of Court Roll, that there was a presentment made the 23rd April, 35th Queen Elizabeth (1593), at a Court holden for the said Queen, at the Castle of Clitheroe," that "one Edward Maudsley died a little before the Court so holden, being, at the time of his death, seized in fee, according to the custom, of and in one messuage and other buildings, and of and in 14 acres of land, called Ousbooth," in Blackburn, and that his brother and heir, Henry Maudsley, prayed to be admitted

and was admitted tenant of the said lands ; and that the said Thurstan Maudsley claimed to hold the said copyhold lands, &c., as son and heir of the said Henry ;" as to Dewhurst's title, a copy of Court Roll showed that at a Court holden at Clitheroe, May 25th, 26th Eliz. (1584), came William Dewhurst, and John Dewhurst his son and heir, and surrendered into the Queen's hands one messuage and certain buildings, and 34 acres, 1 rood and one eighth of a rood of land, in Blackburn, called Beardsworth Green, to the use of one Robert Barcroft and their heirs, &c. ; and that the said John Dewhurst claimed to hold the said copyhold lands and tenements. The Commissioners had accordingly allotted to the said Thurstan Maudsley 7 acres of Waste and Common land, after the measure used in the township ; and to the said John Dewhurst, 17 acres and the half and sixteenth of a rood of Waste and Common ; by which the said Thurstan Maudsley and John Dewhurst were very well satisfied and contented." Upon which Commission, certificate and return, the Chancellor and Counsel of the Duchy ordered, on the 16th July, 1617, "that all the tenants of Blackburn, and those who were any ways interested in the said Commons and Wastes, should shew cause in the Duchy Court, in Michaelmas Term the next following, why a decree should not be entered by consent, for the establishing and confirming of the enclosing of the said Wastes." By affidavit made in that Court, it appeared that "the said John Dewhurst had his proportionable part of the said Waste, lying fitly, &c., set out and measured, in and upon Revidge Moor, being one of the said Wastes ;" and "the said Thurstan Maudsley had his proportionable part of the said Wastes, lying fitly, &c., set out and measured in and upon the said Moor called Revidge Moor ;" in full satisfaction of such Common as they claimed. And it appeared, by affidavit and by the acknowledgment of John Morris, Vicar of Blackburn, that unto the said Vicarage there belonged "not above 50 acres of glebe at the most, lying and being within the said township of Blackburn ;" that in right of the Vicarage he the said Vicar was to have Common in the said Wastes ; and that "there was apportioned and set forth by certain measures and bounds, for the use of him the said Vicar of Blackburn and his successors for ever, in full satisfaction of his said Common in the said Wastes, divers parcels of Land, lying in several places in the said Moors, called Revidge Moor, and Cole Pit Moor, or otherwise called Whinney Edge Moor aforesaid, 23 acres, 1 rood, 13 falls of Land, after the measure used in the said Township of Blackburn, with which said portion and share of the said Wastes, he the said John Morris was well satisfied and contented." The Freeholders in the township were, first, Thomas Holden, who had "about 26 acres of Inland being his inheritance in fee," of which said Inland of the Holdens, John Bolton had an estate for life or lives ; and in satisfaction of his common there was allotted, set forth, and measured unto the said Thomas Holden, &c., divers parcels of Land of the said Commons, situate on Revidge Moor, containing 11 acres 2 roods or thereabouts, after the measure used in the said township, with which portion of the said Wastes, "the greatest part whereof being of the best sort of ground in the said Moor, he the said Thomas Holden was and is well satisfied and contented." It also appeared that William Barcroft had about 24 acres of Inland, his inheritance in fee, in the township, which gave him right of Common in the said Wastes ; and in lieu of that right "there was allotted, apportioned, measured, and set forth unto him the said William Barcroft, a certain parcel of land in the said Wastes upon Cole Pit Moor, alias Whinney Edge Moor," containing 11 acres or thereabouts, after the measure used in the said township, wherewith he William Barcroft was well satisfied and contented. Also, Thomas Kenyon, Richard Lawe, and Miles and James Aspinall, had divers parcels of Inland, containing about 45 acres, being their inheritance in fee, for which they had Common in the said Wastes, and in lieu of which these four Free-

holders received divers parcels of land on the Waste and Moor called Revidge, containing 18 acres 2 roods or thereabouts, to be shared amongst them, according to their several quantities of Inland, with which share they were all well satisfied, pleased, and contented. After the disposal of these lesser claims, the bulk of the Waste Lands enclosed remained to be divided between the lords of the two moieties of the Manor, Thomas Barton and the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Court found that Thomas Barton had in Fee simple the Moiety of the Manor of Blackburn as aforesaid, and divers parcels of Inlands, as parcel of the said moiety, amounting to 600 acres or thereabouts, after the measure in the said township, in regard whereof he was lord of one moiety of the said Waste Lands, and the Court in lieu of his and his tenants' Common in the said Wastes, allotted, apportioned, measured, and set out unto the said Thomas Barton, and his heirs, divers parcels of land on the Wastes and Moors called Revidge Moor, and Cole Pit Moor, alias Whinney Edge Moor, containing 255 acres $0\frac{1}{2}$ rood 9 falls, or thereabouts, according to the measure used in the township, and with this allotment the said Thomas Barton was very well satisfied, contented, and pleased. Lastly, it appeared that the Archbishop of Canterbury had, in right of the said Archbishopric, the other Moiety of the Manor of Blackburn and divers parcels of Inlands, being the Glebe of the said Parsonage of Blackburn, amounting to 500 acres or thereabouts, according to the measure used in the said township, in regard whereof the Archbishop was lord of the moiety of the soil of the said Wastes, and his Farmer of the Parsonage and Tenants of the Glebe had Common in the said Wastes; wherefore the Court in lieu of such common, allotted, measured, and set forth to the said Archbishop and his successors, for ever, divers parcels of Land of the said Wastes and Moors, lying on Revidge Moor, and Cole Pit Moor, or Whinney Edge Moor, containing 231 acres, 3 roods, 16 falls or thereabouts, after the measure used in the township, which is very near double so much after the statute acre; and with this share or portion the Archbishop and his Farmer of the Parsonage were well satisfied and contented. But the Lords of the Manor, the Archbishop and Thomas Barton, were to set out in Whinney Edge Moor two acres of land, and in Revidge Moor one acre of land, of the customary measure of the township, "for the getting of stones" for their farmers and tenants. The Court further ordered that the said Archbishop and the said Thomas Barton should "set out of the said Moor or Waste, called Cole Pit Moor or Whinney Edge Moor, a quantity of land, lying next unto Blackburn Town's End, containing upon admeasurement thereof made, ten acres, according to the said measure, used and employed for ever for the service of his Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for the mustering and training of people in that part, and for the recreation of the Inhabitants of the said Town, and for the good and profit of the said Town and Poor thereof, as a gift given for ever, for the uses aforesaid, by them, the said Archbishop and the said Thomas Barton, of the parts and portions of the said Wastes and Moors now intended to be inclosed." It was also made known unto the Court that the Archbishop had caused his Lessee of the Rectory Lands, Sir William Fleetwood, to promise to the under-tenants, that they should have amongst them, to be divided as they should agree amongst themselves, 160 and odd acres, parcel of the property of the Archbishopric, after the measure of the township, for the residue of the term of years that the said Sir William then had the Parsonage, which was about twenty years, for the yearly rent of 12d. the acre, and for every small fine or income, about 28s. the acre, one with another, to be paid to the said Sir William Fleetwood; and that the Archbishop "had caused the said Sir William Fleetwood, during his term, to give and pay yearly unto the said Vicar, Churchwardens, and Sidesmen of the said Parish of Blackburn, for the term," &c., "£5 of lawful money of England, to

be paid yearly, at two Feasts in the year" (Michaelmas and Annunciation Day); the same to be distributed yearly at Michaelmas, by the Vicar and Churchwardens, to the Poor Tenants of the Glebe of the Parsonage; and the Archbishop had further ordered that all future Farmers or Possessors of the said Parsonage for the time being should for ever pay a like sum of £5 to the Vicar and Wardens for the like charitable distribution. It was therefore upon the above premises finally ordered, adjudged, and decreed on the 29th of June, in the 16th of James the First's reign (1618), by Sir Humphrey Muir, Knt., Chancellor of the said Duchy of Lancaster, &c., with the King's consent, and with the consent of all the parties, that the said Moors or Wastes, called Revidge Moor and Cole Pit or Whinney Edge Moor (except the plots of ten acres and of three acres before mentioned as to be excepted), should and might be with all convenient speed taken in and enclosed, and for ever hereafter should be; and that the several and respective allotments above specified should be taken, held, and occupied by all the parties before named, for ever; and the Court also decreed that the aforesaid 10 acres adjoining to Blackburn Town End "should for ever lye, be, and continue open, and not enclosed, and that the same shall be employed and used for ever," &c., "for the mustering and training of Soldiers in these parts, when occasion shall require, and to and for the recreation of the People of the said Town; and the profits, pasture, or herbage of the said ten acres should from henceforth for ever be received, used, taken, and enjoyed, to and for the good and profit of the said Town, and of the Poor thereof." The Decree is given under the seal of the Duchy, 11th July, 16th James I. (1618).

ANCIENT FREEHOLDERS AND LESSER GENTRY.

Subjoined are some particulars respecting certain families of the standing of lesser gentry, yeomen or freeholders, formerly seated in the township and town of Blackburn.

ABBOT OF WHITEBIRK.

John Abbot of Blackburn became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1596.

George Abbot married, Feb. 4th, 1615, Margerie Duckworth. George Abbot of Whytebirk occurs in 1622, when his wife was buried; and was a warden of Blackburn Church in 1636.

John Abbot of Whytebirk, named in 1636, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1646.

James Abbot, of Higher Whitebirk, died in December, 1659.

Thomas Abbot of Blackburn, yeoman, by his wife Ann, had a son John, born in 1701, and other issue.

John Abbot of Whitebirk was buried Nov. 18th, 1721.

George Abbot of Blackburn married, Dec. 4th, 1710, Elizabeth Gardner of Preston.

George Abbot of Blackburn, attorney-at-law, Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, was buried Oct. 24th, 1775.

George Abbot of Blackburn, gentleman, married Mary Shorrocks, May 21st, 1758, and had a son John, born in December, 1761. George Abbot, gentleman, was buried June 24th, 1790, aged 53.

ASPINALL OF ROYSHAW.

Thomas Haspynhalgh, of Blackburn, is assessed to the Subsidy of 1523. William Asmall, of Blackburn, is taxed to a Subsidy in 1570.

Myles Aspinall of Blackburn, a Governor of the Grammar School, died in 1595. "George Asmolle," probably son of Myles, was elected a Governor of the School the same year. In the appropriation and enclosure of waste lands and commons of Blackburn township in 1618, Miles Aspinall and James Aspinall were awarded plots of waste for their parcels of freehold land.

William Aspinall, of Royshaw, was buried at Blackburn, August 10th, 1622. Mary Aspinall, of Royshaw, was buried August 21st, the same year. Robert Aspinall, townsman, was buried Oct. 19th, 1624.

Thomas Aspinall, of Royshaw, died in March, 1630-1. His widow was buried at Blackburn, Nov. 22nd, 1632.

Myles Aspinall, of Blackburn, married Jenet Bayley, and had sons Richard, born in 1619; Peter, born 1625; and John, born in 1627, married Sept., 1655, Isabel Whitaker; also a daughter, Christabel. "Uxor Myles Aspinall" was buried in August, 1635.

Myles Aspinall, called "Myles o' Gyles," was buried Jan. 19th, 1657-8.

James Aspinall, of Royshaw, had a son George, who died young in 1622. A son, Christopher, of James Aspinall, was baptized Sept. 28th, 1634. A daughter, Ann, married, in 1656, Thomas Alston of Wiswall. James Aspinall, senior, was living in 1658. Isabel, wife of James Aspinall of Royshaw, died in June, 1658.

James Aspinall of Royshaw ("junior" in 1656-8), had several children:—John, born in 1658; James, born in 1669; Thomas, born in 1671; a second John, born in 1673; Joseph, born in 1677; and a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1656.

The following died in the years stated:—Thomas Asmoll, of Blackburn, 1674; George Aspinall, of Blackburn, 1676; John Aspinall, of Blackburn, 1678.

Myles Aspinall, of Blackburn, occurs in 1679, when Ellen, his wife, was buried, March 9th, 1679-80. He died in 1687. A daughter, Ann, of Myles Aspinall, of Royshaw, died in 1659.

Myles Aspinall, of Royshaw, married Nov. 5th, 1678, Elizabeth Core, and had issue between 1680 and 1690.

The particular relation of the above Aspinalls to each other cannot be proved by the church registers alone; but most of them appear to have belonged to the family that had the Royshaw freehold.

Later, Myles Aspinall, of Blackburn, chapman, occurs in 1757, when he had a son John born, and when Elizabeth, his wife, deceased.

Myles Aspinall of Blackburn, gentleman, married, Sept. 25th, 1763, Mary Dewhurst, widow.

BARCROFT, FREEHOLDERS IN BLACKBURN.

The freeholder named Barcroft who had an estate in Blackburn at the date of the Survey of 1617, was a member of the Barcrofts of Barcroft, in Cliviger. Robert Barcroft, of Barcroft, who died in April, 1612, was proved by inquisition for the escheat to have been seized (besides lands in Cliviger) of the half of one messuage and a cottage, with 40 acres of arable land, meadow, and pasture, in Blackburn, held of Thomas Barton, Esq., in socage.

William Barcroft, son of Robert, had, by the Decree of 1618, eleven acres of Waste in Blackburn allotted him, on account of his 24 customary acres of freehold land there. He died in 1620, in possession of a messuage and lands in Blackburn, as well as his lands in Cliviger, Worsthorpe, and Hurstwood. His eldest son and heir was Thomas Barcroft.

BOLTON OF BROOKHOUSE.
NOTICES OF REV. ADAM BOLTON, AND REV. ROBERT
BOLTON, B.D., THE PURITAN AUTHOR.

The Boltons were lessees of the estate of the Brookhouse, in Blackburn, a portion of the Rectory Glebe, and may also have possessed at some period a small freehold in the township.¹ William Bolton, of Blackburn, was assessed to the Subsidy in 1523.

Richard Bolton, living at the Brookhouse in 1545, had sons Adam, Giles, and Robert.

Adam Bolton, tenant of the Brookhouse estate in 1570, a first Governor of Blackburn Free Grammar School in 1567, died in 1593. By his wife Elizabeth, who died in 1610, he had sons Adam, Giles, Thomas, James, John, and Robert—the youngest being the distinguished Puritan divine.

Adam Bolton, eldest son of Adam, farmed the Brookhouse tenement from 1593 until his death in 1639. He had a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1605. The Will of Adam Bolton, of Brookhouse, yeoman, is dated Feb. 28th, 1639-40, and was proved April 3rd, 1640. Testator desires to be buried in Blackburn Church; and bequeaths to his daughter Elizabeth, whom he appoints his executrix, all his goods whatsoever.

Several of the younger brethren of Adam must be noted. Giles Bolton, who also occupied Brookhouse, became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1625. He died in 1641. He had sons, Adam, died in 1616; Robert; Thomas; John, "of Brookhouse, gentleman," a Governor of the Grammar School (elected in 1662), and Clerk of Blackburn Parish Church, died in 1688; and James.

Thomas Bolton, third son of Adam, died in 1622.—James Bolton, fourth son, who died in 1635, had sons James, Joseph, and Adam. The younger son, Adam, entered the church, and was instituted to the Vicarage of his native parish in June, 1628, on the appointment of Archbishop Abbot. Vicar Bolton married Ann, sister of William Farrington, Esq., and died in 1646. His Will is dated Sept. 24th, 1646. In it reference is made to Ann, wife of testator, a son Samuel, a daughter Hannah, two brothers, James and Joseph, and several sisters. Ann, wife, and William Farrington and Henry Tomlinson, brothers-in-law of testator, executors. Samuel Bolton, son of the Vicar, is supposed to have been the well-known Doctor of Divinity, Samuel Bolton, but this is doubtful by the dates, and his biographers give us no hints of his Blackburn parentage. Dr. Samuel Bolton was born in 1606, educated at Cambridge. He was in succession Vicar of St. Martin's, in the City of London, St. Saviour's, Southwark, and St. Andrew's, Holborn. Upon the death of Dr. Bainbrigge, he was chosen Master of Christ's College, Cambridge, and held that office until his death. He died October 15th, 1654, aged 48 years; and was buried in St. Martin's Church, Ludgate-street, London. Calamy, his friend, preached his funeral sermon. Dr. Samuel Bolton's published writings include a sermon preached before the House of Commons on Humiliation Day, March 25th, 1646; and numerous theological treatises. His works were published between the years 1644 and 1657. A collected edition, issued in 1657, has for frontispiece a portrait of the Doctor, engraved by Van Horn.

John Bolton, of Blackburn, another son of Adam, was lessee of Thomas Holden's freehold estate in the township in 1617.

Robert Bolton, youngest of the sons of Adam Bolton of Brookhouse, was the famous Greek scholar and preacher, who by his gifts and graces dignified the humble yeoman stock from which he sprung. The original source of information concerning him is the memoir composed by "E. B." (Edward Bagshawe, his intimate friend), entitled "The Life and Death of Mr. Bolton," which is prefixed to the four editions of

¹ See, for interesting particulars of this family, a "Genealogical Account of the Family of Bolton in England and America," by Robert Bolton, A.M. New York, 1862.

Mr. Bolton's last work "Of the Four Last Things," published in 1632, 1633, 1635, and 1639. Of his birth and birth-place Bagshawe writes :—"He was borne at Blackborne a towne of good note in Lancashire (a country fruitfull of good wits, witness those two great lights of learning, the unkle and nephew, Dean Nowell and Dr. [William] Whitaker), on Whitsunday Anno Dom. 1572. His parents being not of any great meanes, yet finding in him a great towardliness for learning, destinated him to bee a scholler, and strugled with their estate to furnish him with necessaries in that kind, apprehending the advantage of a singular School-master that was then in the towne [Mr. Yates, Master of the Grammar School]. Hee plied his booke so well, that in short time he became the best Scholler in the Schoole. He continued long at Schoole, and came not to the University till about the twentieth yeare of his age. He was placed at Oxford in Lincolne Colledge, under the tuition of Mr. Randall, a man of no great note then, but afterward became a learned divine and godly preacher at London. In that Colledge he fell close to the studies of logicke and philosophie, and by reason of that groundwork of learning he got at schoole, and maturity of yeares, he quickly got the start of those of his owne time, and grew into fame in that house. In the middest of these his studies his father died, and then his meanes failed, for all his father's lands fell to his elder brother now living." Anderton, another brilliant youth, was Bolton's schoolfellow at Blackburn; and the acquaintance was renewed at Oxford. When the death of his father had left him almost in penury, Robert Bolton did not succumb to the difficulties of his situation. No longer able to purchase books, he borrowed from his tutor Randal, and copied large portions of many works into manuscript books, so as to have the contents available when the borrowed volumes had been returned. It was in the classic languages that Bolton displayed the greatest proficiency, especially in Greek, in which Anthony Wood says he "was so expert that he could write it and dispute in it with as much ease as in English or Latin." After a few years' residence at Lincoln College, Bolton transferred himself to Brazenose College, with the view of striving for one of its fellowships. He proceeded Bachelor of Arts in 1596. For six years, until the coveted fellowship was won, Robert Bolton had to depend upon friends for assistance, and was much beholden to Dr. Brett, of Lincoln College, for many acts of service. It was in 1602 that Bolton was elected a Fellow of his college, and he took the degree of Master of Arts in July of the same year. By this time his singular abilities becoming widely known, procured for him the posts of Lecturer in Logic and in Moral and Natural Philosophy in Brazenose. On a visit of King James the First to Oxford, Mr. Bolton was chosen as one of several to exhibit their powers of disputation for the monarch's entertainment, and the royal pedant was so impressed by Bolton's gifts that he afterwards spoke of him as the "brightest ornament" of his college. At this period of his life it is recorded that Bolton had no religious feeling, but was a swearer, a Sabbath-breaker, and had a fondness for cards, plays, and similar recreations. His associate, Anderton, known for his eloquence as "Golden-mouthed Anderton," a zealous adherent of the Roman Church, employed all his persuasiveness to induce Bolton to join that Communion. He had exacted his promise to go with him to the Continent, to enter one of the Catholic seminaries in Flanders, tempting the poverty of Bolton with promises of abundant gold. An accident frustrated this design of Anderton, and Bolton was restored to Oxford and the reformed faith. "A day and place were appointed in Lancashire, where they should meet and from thence take shipping and be gone. Mr. Bolton went at the day and place, but Mr. Anderton came not, so hee escaped that snare." After Anderton's departure, the character of Robert Bolton underwent a rapid transformation through the instructions of the excellent Mr. Thomas Peacock. On taking the degree of Bachelor of

Divinity in 1609, he resolved to enter upon the clerical office, and in 1610 was presented by Sir Augustine Nicolls to the rectory of Broughton in Northamptonshire. He was then thirty-eight years old, and two years after, in 1612, Mr. Bolton married Anne, youngest daughter of Vincent Boys, Esq., of Bakesbourne, Kent. Mr. Bolton remained at Broughton more than twenty years, until his death in 1631. He was remarkably assiduous alike in his parochial duties and his pulpit ministrations. Throughout his ministry he preached thrice on the Sunday and catechised in the afternoon. All his sermons and writings are marked by a great ardour of personal religion. Of his domestic relations, his biographer writes that "for the better settling of himself in housekeeping upon his parsonage, he resolved upon marriage, and took to wife Mrs. Anne Boyse, a gentlewoman of an ancient house and worshipfull family in Kent, to whose care he committed the ordering of his outward estate, hee himselfe onely minding the studies and weighty affaires of his heavenly calling." Five children were born to him, the only son being named Samuel Bolton, afterwards an eminent churchman, a D.D. of Oxford, Prebendary of Westminster, and Chaplain in Ordinary to King Charles II., a man "of extraordinary ability and great integrity," who died 11th February, 1668, and was buried in the South transept of Westminster Abbey, where his grave slab remains. The four daughters of the Rev. Robert Bolton werē Hannah, Mary, Elizabeth, and Sarah.

The ministry of this learned native of Blackburn was brought to a close by a quartan ague, which seized him in the year 1631. His illness was long and painful, but was endured with exemplary fortitude of spirit. Of the incidents of his death-bed, his biographer mentions these:—A little before his departure, and expecting every moment to be his last, being told that some of his best friends were about to take their last farewell, he caused himself to be raised up, and bowing himself upon his bed's head, after a few gaspings for breath, he spoke as follows:—"I am now drawing on apace to my dissolution. Hold out, faith and patience, your work will speedily be at an end." Then shaking them all by the hand, he said:—"Make sure of heaven, and keep in mind what I have formerly delivered to you. The doctrine which I have preached to you for the space of twenty years is the truth of God, as I shall answer at the tribunal of Christ, before whom I must shortly appear." This he spake when the very pangs of death were upon him. A dear friend, taking him by the hand, asked him whether he felt much pain. "Truly no," said he, "the greatest pain I feel is your cold hand;" and presently expired. The date of his death was Saturday, December 17th, 1631. He was then in the sixtieth year of his age. He was buried December 19th, in the chancel of his own church, St. Andrew's, Broughton, North-hants. Against the chancel wall is fixed the monument of Bolton, which is not unsimilar in design to the well-known monument of Shakspere in the chancel of Stratford Church. Bolton's memorial consists of an alcove containing the half-length figure of the rector, his hands placed in the attitude of prayer, and his arms resting upon an open book; the face and figure are those of a somewhat robust man; the forehead is high, the hair rather crisp, the beard and lip unshaven, the general aspect reverend. Underneath the effigy is a Latin inscription, translated:—"Here liēs, peaceably sleeping in the Lord, the body of ROBERT BOLTON, who died December the seventeenth, in the year 1631. He was one of the first and most learned of our Church; his other excellencies all England knoweth, lamenting the day of his death."

Mr. Bolton's funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. Mr. Nicholas Estwick, B.D., minister of Warkton, North-hants, and was published in 1635, entitled "A Sacred and Godly Sermon preached on the 19 day of December, A.D. 1631, at the Funerall of Mr. Robert Bolton, Batchelour in Divinity," &c.

A portrait of our Worthy, painted on wood, is in the Chetham Library, Manchester. Another portrait on panel is said to be at the Holme, in Cliviger. Bagshaw's edition of Bolton's last work, published in 1632, the year after his decease, is enriched by a portrait on steel, engraved by John Payne; with a Latin quartet below, Englished on the title-page thus:—

Behold an Image onely : There is none
That BOLTON'S ghost can paint : To Heav'n it's gone,
More learn'd or good, I know not : This is true,
Whom one day lost, scarce can an age renew

E. B. [EDWARD BAGSHAW.]

The testimonies of Robert Bolton's contemporaries to his character, abilities, and learning are of the highest kind. Wood, the historian of Oxford, speaks of him as "a most religious and learned Puritan, a painful and constant preacher, a person of great zeal for God, charitable and bountiful; and so famous for relieving afflicted consciences, that many foreigners resorted to him, as well as persons at home, and found relief." Fuller records:—"The same year [1631] died Robert Bolton, born in Lancashire, bred in Brazenose Colledge, Oxford, beneficed at Broughton, North-hants. An authoritative preacher, who majestically became the pulpit, and whose life is exactly written at large by my good friend Mr. Bagshaw." A seventeenth-century diarist (Rev. John Ward, Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon), says of Bolton:—"What was Nazianzen's commendation of Basil might bee Bolton's: hee thunderd in his life, and lightend in his conversation." The biographer of Joseph Alleine (A.D. 1672), records that "Reverend Mr. Bolton, while walking in the streets, was so much clothed with majesty, as by the notice of his coming in the words 'Here comes Mr. Bolton,' as it were to charm them [the populace] into order, when vain or doing amiss."

Another writer of the time remarks:—"It is observed of this holy and reverend divine, that he was so highly esteemed in Northamptonshire, that the people, who beheld his white locks of hair, could point at him and say, 'When that snow shall be dissolved, there will be a great flood,' and so it proved; for there never was a minister in that county who lived more beloved or died more lamented. Floods of tears were shed over his grave." The Will of this illustrious native of Blackburn is dated Broughton, November 12th, 1631, and was proved at Canterbury in June, 1632. After a pious declaration, testator wills that Anne Bolton, his wife, shall have his messuage and lands in Broughton, for so long as she shall continue unmarried, towards her maintenance and the good education of testator's children; if she marry, she shall resort to her dower and thirds of the said messuage and lands. To Hannah Bolton, testator's eldest daughter, £250 on the day of her marriage or of the death of her mother; to Mary, Elizabeth, and Sarah, younger daughters, certain parcels of land in Broughton and £40 in money amongst them. All testator's other messuages, tenements, &c., in Broughton, not otherwise devised, to descend and go to testator's son and heir, Samuel Bolton. Anne Bolton, testator's wife, to have the use of all his plate and household stuff while she lives. Three pounds given to be distributed to the poor of Broughton. Anne Bolton, wife, made sole executrix. After the signature of testator follow the words:—"O Lord, into thy hands I commend my Spirit! Thou has redeemed it! O Lord, God of Truth, Lord Jesus, receive my Spirit!"

The following is a category of the published works of Mr. Bolton:—

1. A Discourse about the State of True Happinesse, Delivered in Certaine Sermons in Oxford and at St. Pauls Crosse. (First edition, 1611; seventh edition, (Works) 1638.)
2. Some Generall Directions for a Comfortable Walking with God: Delivered in the Lecture at Kettering, &c. (First edition, 1625; fifth edition (Works), 1638.)

3. Meditations of the Life to Come. 1628.
4. Instructions for a Right Comforting Afflicted Consciences. (First edition, 1631; third edition (Works), 1640.)
5. Helps to Humiliation. Oxford. 1631.
6. [Posthumous] Mr. Bolton's Last and Learned Worke of the Foure Last Things, Death, Judgement, Hell, and Heaven. With his Assize Sermon and Notes on Justice Nicolls his Funerall. (First edition, 1632; third edition (Works), 1641.)
7. Assize Sermons and other Sermons. 1632.
8. The Carnall Professor; or the Woful Slavery of Man Guided by the Flesh. 1634.
9. A Three-Fold Treatise: Containing the Saints Sure and Perpetuall Guide, Selfe-enriching Examination, and Soule-fating Fasting; or Meditations concerning the Word, the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, and Fasting. 1634.
10. The Saints Soule Exalting Humiliation. 1634.
11. A Short and Private Discourse with M. S. concerning Usury. 1637.
12. Devout Prayers upon Solemn Occasions. 1638.
13. A Cordiall for Christians in the Time of Affliction. 1640.
14. The Last Visitation, Conflict, and Death of Mr. Thomas Peacock, B.D. &c., 1646.

The Workes of the Reverend, truly Pious, and Judiciously Learned Robert Bolton, B.D., &c., as they were finished by him in his life time. (Include Life, by E.B.; Discourse of True Happiness; Comfortable Walking with God; Instructions, &c., for Afflicted Consciences; Four Last Things; and his Funeral Sermon, by Estwick.) London: Printed by George Miller, 1641. (3 vols.)

BURY OF OUSEBOOTH.

John Bury, townsman, appears on the Blackburn Church Register in 1624, when his wife was buried.

Myles Berrie married, August 6th, 1615, Ann Livesey.

Mr. Robert Bury, of Ousebooth, was a Governor of the Grammar School in 1681.

John Bury, of Blackburn, yeoman, was buried Feb., 1730-1.

Mr. Miles Berrie, of Ousebooth, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School, Dec. 21st, 1720. He was buried at Blackburn Church—"Miles Bury of Blackburn, yeoman"—Jan. 20th, 1763. By his wife, Elizabeth, he had sons, Robert, bapt. Aug. 7th, 1724, and John, bapt. Jan. 6th, 1729-30; also a daughter Alice, born in 1726.

DEWHURST OF BEARDWOOD GREEN AND BILLINGE CARR.

The Dewhursts were copyholders in Blackburn township. William Dewhurst of Beardwood Green, a first Governor of the Grammar School in 1567, by a copy of Court Roll of Clitheroe, dated May 25th, 26th Eliz. (1583-4), was entitled to a message and $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres of land in Blackburn. He had a son and heir, John; and a younger son Roger was born in 1568, who had a son Thomas, born in 1608, died in 1625.

John Dewhurst, of Blackburn, a copyholder in 1617, by the Decree for the enclosure of Waste Lands in Blackburn was awarded for his $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres customary measure 17 acres of waste. He died in July, 1626. He had, I think, sons John; Henry, born in 1600, died 1633; and William, a warden of the Church in 1635, died in 1639.

Next comes John Dewhurst, of Billinge Carr, Blackburn, who by his wife, who died Dec., 1623, had sons John and James,—the latter died in Oct., 1603. John Dewhurst the father was a juror at the Parliamentary Survey of 1650.

John Dewhurst, Junior, was a juror also on that Survey. "John Dewhurst of Blackburn, freeholder," is named in 1657.

Thomas Dewhurst, of Billinge Carr, buried Janet, his wife, April 24th, 1656.

Arthur Dewhurst of Blackburn (a son of William who died in 1639), was buried March 8th, 1679. His son Roger died in Oct., 1675.

Thomas Dewhurst of Blackburn, had a son John, born in 1675. Richard Dewhurst of Blackburn, son of Thomas, had a son Daniel, born in 1674.

James Dewhurst, of Blackburn, yeoman, was buried April 7th, 1763. John Dewhurst of Blackburn, yeoman, died in March, 1765.

EDGE OF BLACKBURN.

William Edge, of Blackburn, gent., is found in a list of free tenants in 1621.

Ellis Edge, of Blackburn, married, in 1618, Ann Gerrard, and had a son Ellis, who died in 1626, and another son christened Ellis, who survived him.

Peter Edge married Ellen Hodgson, Feb. 27th, 1602. Peter Edge of Blackburn, yeoman, was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628.

A younger Peter Edge was elected a Governor of the same foundation, Jan. 12th, 1634-5.

Ellis Edge, a Governor of the Grammar School in 1654, died in July, 1688.

In the petition for Vicar Clayton in 1660, John Edge, another John, and Giles Edge are petitioners.

William Edge of Blackburn, yeoman, died in August, 1753.

Henry Edge of Blackburn, yeoman, by his wife Elizabeth, had a son John, born in 1748.

LAWE OF BLACKBURN.

The oldest grave-stone in Blackburn Parish Churchyard is supposed to be that of one Christopher Lawe; it has the initials "C L" with the date "1510," filled in with lead.

Eighty years later, according to Dugdale the herald, another Christopher Lawe of Blackburn made his Will, dying about 1590. He had sons Richard; Thomas; James of London; John; and Miles—the three last-named living in 1590; and a daughter Ame.

Richard Lawe, of Blackburn, son of Christopher, was a Governor of the Grammar School from before 1590 until after 1628. In the decree concerning the allotment of Blackburn Waste Lands in 1617, Richard Lawe is named as a freeholder. He married Katherine, daughter of John Bolton of Bank-hey, Little Harwood, and by her had issue five sons and four daughters. The sons were—Christopher, bapt. March 14th, 1592; Miles, of Roysbaw, Blackburn; John; Thomas; and Benjamin. The daughters were—Ann, wife of William Sudell of Preston; Katherine, wife of Richard Agworth; Mary, wife of Thomas Drinkall; and Christabel, wife of Edward Snape. It will be necessary to note separately the posterity of Richard Lawe by four of his sons—Christopher, Miles, John, and Benjamin.

Christopher Lawe, first son, had two sons, John, whose son Christopher Lawe was a "citizen and grocer of London;" and George. The latter, George Lawe of Blackburn, who died in December, 1692, had by Jennet, his wife (died in October, 1678), a son Richard, who died, probably, in 1733.

Miles Lawe of Roysbaw, next brother of Christopher, was warden of Blackburn Church in 1636. He married, June, 1619, Jenet Kenion, and had sons Richard, Thomas, and John—the last born in 1635; also a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1630. His wife—"Uxor Myles Lawe de Roysbaw," was buried March 18th, 1651-2.

John Lawe, of Blackburn, third son of Richard, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Proctor of Lower Darwen, had a son John, of Preston, born in 1632 (who married Jane, daughter of Evan Wall of Preston, and had a son John and two daughters prior to 1664). The father died about 1658. Whitaker's List of Seneschals of Blackburnshire gives the names of Andrew Holden, gent., and John Lawe, gent., as holding the office from 1656 to 1658, during the Protectorship of Cromwell. In the Grammar School annals, printed in this history, it appears that in 1634 "John Lawe the younger" (most likely the above John, who had an uncle John that might then be living) was made a Governor of the School, and appointed to keep the school-key, kept by his grandfather.

Benjamin Lawe, youngest son of Richard, is entered in 1664 by Dugdale as then of Blackburn, "Benjamin Lawe, widower," married March 2nd, 1656-7, Margaret, daughter of Alexander Baron, of Rishton, and had sons Richard, born before 1664, John, died 1674, Thomas, died 1675, and probably Robert. Benjamin Lawe, of Blackburn, buried July 2nd, 1697, may refer to this representative.

Richard Lawe of Blackburn, yeoman, cannot be clearly distinguished among three Richards—sons respectively of Miles, Benjamin, and George Lawe. He died in September, 1729. He had issue sons John and Thomas, twins, born and died April, 1688; another John, died 1692; and Samuel, born 1694; and daughters Martha and Mary, twins, born May, 1696.

Robert Lawe of Blackburn, husbandman, I suppose to be a son of Benjamin by his naming his son Benjamin, bapt. December 3rd, 1704; he had also a son Robert, born in 1709.

Christopher Lawe and Ellen Orrell, both of Blackburn, married February 12th, 1710-11.

MAUDSLEY OF OUSEBOOTH, &c.

Thurstan Maudsley, in the 1st Eliz. (1558) was lessee under Sir Thomas Talbot of lands in Blackburn belonging to Blackburn Parsonage. In 1567 he was made a first governor of Blackburn Grammar School.

Edward Maudsley of Ousebooth, a governor of the Grammar School, died in 1592, leaving no issue. Henry, his brother, was his heir.

Henry Maudsley, of Blackburn, was made a governor of the Grammar School in 1593. By copy of Court Roll of Clitheroe, dated April 23rd, 1593, it was recorded that Edward Maudsley, then recently deceased, had held a messuage called Ousebooth and 16 acres of land in copyhold, and Henry, his brother and heir, claimed to be admitted into the tenement, and was admitted. He died about 1614, when his son Thurstan entered into possession of the copyhold.

Thurstan Maudsley, of Ousebooth, gent., in 1617, had seven acres of waste land allotted to him on account of his copyhold farm. He was made a governor of the Grammar School in 1616; in 1637 appears as a juror, and died about 1654. He had sons, Thurstan; Henry, born in 1632; and Thomas, born in 1635; and daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1614, married John Cunliffe, of Hollins; Katherine, born in 1620, died 1621; and Ann, born in 1625, died in 1633.

Thurstan Maudsley, of Ousebooth, gent., son of Thurstan, became a governor of the Grammar School in 1654. He married in 1656—"Thurstan, son of Thurstan Maudsley deceased, and Alice, daughter of William Rishton, within the parish of Deane, gentlewoman," banns "published at Blackburn Market Cross," in April, 1656. His eldest son, Thurstan, was born December 3rd, 1657; and he had a younger son, Henry. Thurstan Maudsley the father died in June, 1677.

His son, Thurstan Maudsley, gent., in the year 1684 gave a benefaction of £5 to the endowment of Darwen Chapel, and died in March, 1685-6.

Henry Maudsley of Ousebooth, gent., on the decease of his brother Thurstan gave a sum of £10 to the Poor of Blackburn. This Henry married, February 5th, 1686-7, "Mrs. Anne Haworth," and had issue sons, Thurstan, bapt. October 19th, 1690; Henry, of Blackburn, yeoman, died in May, 1755; and Thomas; daughters, Ann, born in 1692; Mary, born in 1694; and Elizabeth, born in 1696. Mr. Henry Maudsley was made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1686; and he died in 1697-8, buried January 13th.

Thurstan Maudsley, son of the last Thurstan, died in October, 1752, having had issue by his wife, Lettice, who died in 1756.

A later Thurstan Maudsley, whose parentage I have not noted, by his wife Grace had sons John, born in 1761, Thomas, James, and William.

Thomas Maudsley of Ousebooth, gent., probably a son of the Henry Maudsley who died in 1686, was a Governor of the Grammar School in 1711, and living in 1731.

Another Thomas Maudsley, of Ousebooth, gent., by Catherine, his wife, had sons Hilton, born in 1732, and Thomas, born in 1735.

Thomas Maudsley of Ousebooth, apothecary, who died in August, 1757, was of this family. He had married, July 12th, 1744, Elizabeth Hindle, of Blackburn.

SHARPLES OF BLACKBURN.

There was a family of Sharples of some estate domiciled in Blackburn in the reign of Henry VIII., and to the Subsidy of 1523 both Robert Sharpulls, of Blackburn, and Lawrence Sharpulls were assessed; as well as one George Sharpulls in Mellor township.

Robert Sharples, of Blackburn, in the reign of Elizabeth, married Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Sharples, of Sharples, gent.; a family from which Sharples of Blackburn not improbably was an offshoot.

Lawrence Sharples, of Blackburn, died in 1606; his wife died in 1605.

Geoffrey Sharples, of Blackburn, had a son Richard, born in 1600. "Richard Sharples, oppidan," was buried at Blackburn Church, October 14th, 1623. Perhaps this was the Richard Sharples who had married, in October, 1622, Cicely Holden.

John Sharples, of Blackburn, gent., appears as a townsman of position in the reigns of the first Stuarts; as a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1634. He married, November 13th, 1614, Jane Harwood, and had a son, Randal; and a daughter Hannah, married at Preston, January 26th, 1655-6, to William Shaw, of Shaw Hall, Leyland, gent.; and (I think) Anne, wife of William Yates of Blackburn, gent.

Randal (or Randolph) Sharples, of Blackburn, gent., son of John, was baptized November 9th, 1655. He married, at Church Kirk, February 11th, 1654, Anne, daughter of William Rishton, of Dunnishop, gent. Issue included sons, John, born May, 1650; Elkanah, born July, 1654 ("Mr. Elkaney Sharples" buried at Blackburn Church, March 6th, 1674-5); Joseph and Benjamin, twins, born March 15th, 1657-8; and daughters, Elizabeth, born June, 1656; and Hannah, born January, 1659-60. The father, Mr. Randal Sharples, was a remarkably active partizan of the Parliamentary interest in the Civil War of 1642-51. He was placed in the Commission of the Peace for the county, and in his capacity as Justice officiated at most of the marriages by civil process in Blackburn on the abolition of the clerical ceremony in 1653. These magisterial marriages were registered in the Parish Books according to this example:—"Nicholas Rishton, of Oswaldtwistle, and Susan Ratcliffe, of the same, were married in the presence of Raudle Sharples, Justice of the Peace, July 11th, 1652." "Randell Sharples, of Blackburn, gent.," was buried May 27th, 1673.

Joseph Sharples, of Blackburn, tenant of the Rectory estate, and John Sharples occur about 1663. John Sharples, of Blackburn, died in May, 1684.

Joseph Sharples, of Blackburn, gent., one of the twin sons of the above Randal, was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1679. He had a son Randal, who died in infancy in 1681; and a son John, born in 1684. In 1689, the heirs of Joseph Sharples, of Blackburn, for Okenhead Wood, provided a Greave of Rossendale.

In the Manchester Parish Register appears, April 20th, 1710, the death of "Mr. John Sharples, dyed at Manchester, buried at Blackburne."

There was another Randal Sharples, contemporary with the Justice of that name, who died in 1672, and had a son Randal; the latter, living in 1715, had a son John, born in 1715; died in 1718. He might be the "Randall Sharples of the Parish of Whalley," who married, in 1697, Isabel Cross, of this parish.

Other and later members, whose relation cannot be positively defined, are:—John Sharples, of Blackburn, living at the East Bridge in 1656, had a son John, born that year. "Mr. George Sharples, of Blackburn, apothecary," had a son Edward, born in 1700. Thomas Sharples, of Blackburn, chapman, had a son John, born in 1701. John Sharples, of Blackburn, yeoman, married, in 1737, Anne Tarrant, of Livesey, and had a son Thomas, born in 1742; the father died in 1762. Henry Sharples, of Blackburn, born in 1718, died in 1791, aged 73.

WARD OF BLACKBURN.

Robert Warde was a first Governor of the Grammar School in 1567.

William Warde married, December 19th, 1616, Mary Ainsworth.

William Ward, a juror, on the Parliamentary Survey of 1650, was living in 1660.

Henry Ward, of Blackburn, probably father of Ann Ward married to Robert Peel in 1681, died in 1710, as his gravestone in the Parish Church-yard records:— "Henry Ward, 1710."

William Ward, of Blackburn, chapman, son of Henry, died in 1734; his name is on the same tombstone:—"William Ward, of Blackburn, who died Nov. 30th, 1734."

Among the Vicar's tenants in Blackburn, about the year 1716, were Henry Ward, occupying a house, barn, and garden, and Richard Ward, tenant of a house and yarn-croft.

A later William Ward, of Blackburn, chapman, had a son William, born in 1740.

Henry Ward, of Blackburn, yeoman, was buried January 3rd, 1784, aged 76 years.

Mr. Michael Ward, of Blackburn, surgeon, was made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1789.

WHALLEY OF TODHOLL.

Roger Whalley, of Todholl, Blackburn, married, December 28th, 1617, Jane Sothworthe. He had issue, sons Thomas, Thurstan, and James; also a daughter Jane, married, February 26th, 1655, to John Clayton, of Little Harwood, gent.

A later Roger Whalley, of Blackburn, yeoman, by Margaret, his wife, who died in 1702, had a son Roger, buried February 21st, 1700-1; and by a second wife, Mary Bramley, whom he married August 18th, 1704, another son Roger, died 1724.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARIE.

Reference has previously been made to the traditionary memorial of the foundation of the Church of Blackburn as centre of a parish detached from Whalley at some undetermined period of the Saxon era,—it may have been centuries anterior to the Norman Conquest; also to the first precise record of the existence and endowment of this Parish Church in *Domesday Book* (1080-6), when two carucates of land in the

Parish were found on the survey attached to Blackburn Church ; and two other carucates of land in Whalley Parish, free of all customs. It is further written in an ancient MS. that the primitive rectors of Blackburn, as of Whalley, were lords of the vill, who married and transmitted the rectory to their heirs as inheritance along with the secular estate. Gamaliel de Blackburn was Rector and Lord of the Manor about the time of the Conquest ; his son Gilbert succeeded, and John de Blackburn, son of Gilbert, was the next rector, whose son and heir Henry de Blackburn was living in 1160.

About the middle of the 12th Century the Church of Blackburn is found under the right as superior lord of that Henry de Lascy who, in 1147, founded Barnoldswick Abbey (removed later to Kirkstall) ; and by a Charter undated, but given soon after the year 1160, Henry de Lascy granted to Henry, Clerk of Blackburn, the Church of Blackburn in all its completeness, viz., with the Chapel of Walton with all its liberty, in land and water, wood and plain ; likewise a certain benefice in the Church of Whalley and in the chapels of that church, which grantor's ancestors formerly assigned to Blackburn Church, as fully as John or any other precedent person had held the same.¹ Peche, Bishop of Coventry, confirmed the above presentation ; naming Gamaliel and Gilbert as predecessors of Henry de Blackburn in the benefice.

Some years later, Robert de Lascy, son and successor of Henry de Lascy, granted to Adam de Blackburn, his clerk, that mediety of the Church of Blackburn which Richard, his ancestor, held ; and further gave that benefice in Whalley Church that belonged to the Church of Blackburn.² Adam de Blackburn, clerk, was son of Richard, and grandson of Henry de Blackburn, whom Henry de Lascy had presented about 1160. This Adam surrendered the dependent chapel of Walton to John de Lascy. Another Adam, brother of Richard and son of Henry de Blackburn, is mentioned below as holding one moiety of Blackburn Church.

By grant referred to the year 1230, John de Lascy, Constable of Chester, gave in spontaneous charity "to God and the Blessed Mary and the Abbot and Monks of my Blessed Place of Stanlawe in pure and perpetual alms the moiety of the Church of Blackburn which Adam, son of Henry, holds, with Walton Chapel, and their appurtenances, as much as belongs to the lay gift, for the health of my soul, and of my wife, and for the health of the lord, my father and mother, and of my ancestors and successors."³ The gift was confirmed by another charter in 1238 ; and about the same time John de Lascy also bestowed upon the Abbot and Monks of Stanlawe that other moiety of the Church of Blackburn

¹ Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey, v. i., pp. 75-6. ² *Ib.* pp. 76-7. ³ *Ib.* pp. 72-3.

which Roger, son of Adam, son of Henry de Blackburn, held, with all appurtenances within and without the bounds of the same parish, with his body for sepulture.¹ The donor, John de Lascy, died A.D. 1240.

Edmund de Lascy, son of John, by charter "done at Ightenhull" manor, A.D. 1251, confirmed to the Monks of Stanlawe that moiety of the Church of Blackburn which Roger de Blackburn once held, with his body for burial at Stanlawe, if he should happen to die in England.² The grant was sanctioned by Roger de Meuland, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, by charter dated 1259. From this time the Parish Church of Blackburn and its dependent chapels remained in the hands of the Cistercian fraternity of Stanlawe—Whalley until the suppression of that Monastery in 1537.

The endowment of the Vicarial benefice of Blackburn remains substantially to this day as it was fixed six hundred years ago, by ordination of Roger de Meuland, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, to consist of a glebe of two oxgangs of lands, a parsonage-house, and a pension or stipend of 40 marks per annum from the holders of the Rectorial estate. Of course, the rental-revenue from the glebe has increased enormously in the lengthened interval. The episcopal charter conferring this endowment is dated from Heywood, the 14th kalend of May, 1277, being the triple ordination of the Vicarages of Blackburn, Rochdale, and Eccles. Bishop Roger de Meuland, having made diligent inquiry concerning the income and wealth of these churches, upon the design to augment their vicarages, appoints and ordains concerning Blackburn that the vicarage of Blackburn consist of a suitable manse, to the Vicar ministering in the said Church previously assigned, with two oxgangs of land, and 40 marks annually to the Vicar for the time being from the Abbot and Convent of Blessed Place of Stanlawe (afterwards of Whalley) as impropiators of the Rectory of Blackburn. The Bishop, or the Archdeacon of Chester, to have power on appeal to enforce payment of the pension in case of neglect. The Vicars so endowed to perform service personally in the church, unless prevented by the diocesan, or otherwise legitimately hindered, and then to find other proper ministers in their stead, and at all other times, at their own charge, to cause service to be faithfully performed in the chapels belonging to the Parish Church by proper ministers and clerks.³ The first Vicar appointed after this ordination was probably John de Habyngdon, who is named as "late Vicar of Blackburn" in a deed dated 1289. William de Lench was instituted as Vicar in 1289, and by the Bishop's direction gave an undertaking to the Abbot of Stanlawe not to disturb the Conventual authorities respecting any augmentation of the

¹ Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey, v. i., pp. 74-5. ² *Ib.* p. 77. ³ *Ib.* pp. 85-6.

vicarage. Thereafter, for about two centuries and a half, the Abbot and Monks of Whalley quietly received the Rectorial revenues, and nominated on each vacancy monks of this foundation to the Vicarage of Blackburn.

The value of the Church of Blackburn is registered at several periods during the tenure of the Abbots of Whalley. In the *Valor* of Pope Nicholas (1288-92) the Church of Blackburn with chapel is returned as worth £33 6s. 8d. In the Abbey *Compotus* of 1478 the receipt for the Church of Blackburn is entered as £89 16s. 9d.; and in that of 1521, the value of Blackburn Church with chapels is given as £133 1s. Then, at the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1534 (cited before), the Rectory of Blackburn is returned as worth £74 6s. 8d. (including Rents of Glebe £10; tithes of grain with hay £44; tithes of lambs with wool £4; oblations, small tithes, and Easter Roll £16 6s. 8d.). Finally, on the Survey in 1538, after the suppression of the Monastery, the return of revenue for Blackburn Rectory is:—"The Parsonage of Blackburne with the Glebe Land and other tyeth belonging to the same by the year £99 2s. 11d." Whereout was paid the Vicar of Blackburn's pension, £26 8s. 4d.

ANNALS OF THE RECTORY SINCE THE REFORMATION.

The estate of the Rectory of Blackburn remained in possession of the Crown about ten years after the Dissolution of Whalley Monastery and its alienation therefrom; and then, by a deed of exchange between Edward VI. and Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, dated June 12th, 1547 (1st Edw. VI.), were conveyed to the See of Canterbury "all those our Rectories and Churches of Whalley, Blackburn, and Rachdale, late to the Monastery or Abbey of Whalley lately dissolved formerly belonging, and also all those our Chapels of Padiham, Clyderhow, Coln, Brunley, Churche, Altham, Haslingden, Bowland, Penhull, Trawden [Marsden], and Rossendale [Newchurch], and our Chapel of Clyderhow, with all those our Chapels of Law, Samlesbury, Saddleworth, Butterworth, &c., and the advowson and right of patronage of the aforesaid Churches of Whalley, Blackburn, and Rachdale, to the said late Monastery formerly belonging."

Thenceforward, the Rectory Glebe, of 500 customary acres, was farmed on leases from the Primates. The first lessees after 1547 were John Comberford and Robert Billott, who sold the residue of their lease to Sir Thomas Talbot, of the Holt and Bashall, Knt., before 1550. Sir Thomas Talbot sub-leased portions of the estate. In the 1st Eliz. (1558), Oliver Livesey, claiming by a lease, had a suit with Thurstan Maudsley, lessee of Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt., concerning a barn of three bays in Blackburn, parcel of Blackburn Rectory. Sir Thomas Talbot

died at Haudley, the Rectory Parsonage, in 1558, and by his Will bequeathed to his daughter Anne his "lease of the Parsonage of Blagborne." In the Inventory of this Knight's effects, prysed at Haudley in July, 1559, Blackburn Parsonage is valued at £300.

Anne Talbot, daughter of Sir Thomas, to whom this lease was devised, had married William Farrington of Worden, Esq., who executed Sir Thomas's Will, and paid £140 10s. for his funeral expenses. William Farrington was about this time rebuilding his ancestral house at Worden, and abode *interim* at Audley Hall in Blackburn. In 1559, Robert Barton and William Farrington were against Sir John Southworth, Knt., and his tenants, in a suit as to pasture in Mellor, in right of Blackburn Waste, as parcel of the Rectory of Blackburn parsonage. Another action-at-law took place in the 7th Eliz. (1564), when William Farrington, claiming the estate and interest in the Manor of Blackburne of Sir Thomas Talbot, as lessee of the Archbishop of Canterbury, confirmed by the Dean and Chapter, was against Nicholas Hayworth and others, claiming as lessees of Sir Thomas Talbot, as to divers specified lands, parcel of the Rectory and parsonage of Blackburne, for alleged enclosures and encroachments by the defendants, by buildings on Blakeley Moor, and particularly on the Marsh there. In the year 1569 (11th Eliz.) an attempt was made to assert Royal rights in the manor of Blackburn, as well over the Rectorial as the temporal moieties of the manor. A suit was instituted in the Duchy Court, in which the Attorney General of the Duchy, on behalf of the Queen, as seized of the Manor of Blackburne in fee, and in right of the Duchy, was plaintiff, and Robert Barton, claiming by descent in fee, and William Farrington, claiming the interest of John Cumberford and Robert Billotte, lessees of Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop, and the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, defendants, seeking to recover divers lands, tenements, waste grounds, &c., in Blackburn Manor and Parsonage, and digging for coals in Blackburn Moor. Canon Raines, in his memoir of William Farrington, refers to this singular action, and notes its issue:—"Mr. Barton and the See of Canterbury, after a hearing, established their joint claim, and the Queen, without much grace, retired from the contest, foiled in her rapacity."¹ After this successful defence of their titles, Mr. Farrington and Mr. Barton united with their tenants in framing by-laws for the government of their estates in Blackburn. William Farrington, Esq., dwelt at Audley occasionally throughout his life. In 1594, going to London on legal business, Mr. Farrington records that he paid at Lambeth Palace a sum of £79 11s. 6d., for rent, &c., due on the 3rd May, of the Rectory of Blackburn. He died July 3rd, 1610.

¹ Stanley Papers (Introdn.), Part II, p. xxxii.

This profitable lease was next acquired by the Fleetwoods, a branch of the Fleetwoods of Heskeyn. Sir William Fleetwood, Knt., son of Sir William, Recorder of the City of London, and brother of Sir Robert, is found lessee of Blackburn Rectory lands before 1616. Onward for about a century members of the Fleetwoods held the glebe by a succession of leases from the Archbishops.¹

Upon a Survey of the possessions of the Archbishopric of Canterbury in Lancashire, taken at Blackburn, September 20th, 1616, by virtue of the King's Commission of Survey dated the 19th June, 14th James I., before Roger Nowell, Humphrey Davenport, and John Hart, Commissioners, it was proved on the oaths of the Jurors, "that George [Abbot], the Lord Bishop of Canterbury, was seized in his demesne as of fee," &c., "of and in the appropriate Parsonages or Rectorys of Blackborne, Whalley, and Rachdale, in the said County of Lancaster, with all and every of their appurtenances, and of and in the patronage of the Vicarages of Blackborne, Whalley, and Rachdale; and yt first concerning the Rectory of Blackborne, within the Parish of Blackborne, there is the Mother Church of Blackborne and these churches and chappells belonging to the said Mother Church, viz.: Law Church, Samlesbury Church, Harwood Church, Langho Chappell, Darwen Chappell, Tockholes Chappell, and Balderstone Chappell."

On the allotment of Blackburn Waste lands in 1618, as already recorded, 231 acres of waste and common were allotted to the Rectory estate, which was thus augmented by enclosure to 731 customary or about 1359 statute acres.

¹ The descent of the branch of the Fleetwoods that for several generations enjoyed the valuable tenancy on lease of Blackburn Rectory estate is indicated below:—William Fleetwood of Heskin, by Helen his wife, daughter of Robert Standish, had issue John, of Penwortham; Thomas, father of Edward, the first of Rossall, and of Sir William Fleetwood (grandfather of Charles, who married a daughter of Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector); Robert; Edward, a monk; Agnes, and Jennet. Robert Fleetwood, gent., third son of William, was father of Sir William, appointed Recorder of London in 1569. He resided on an estate he had acquired at Misenden, Co. Bucks, where he died, February 28th, 1594. By his wife Marian, daughter of John Burleigh of Kingsley, Esq., he had sons, William; Sir Robert, Attorney General to Prince Henry, son of James I.; Sir Thomas; Edward; James, and Francis; daughters, Elizabeth and Cordelia. William Fleetwood, eldest son of Sir William, also received Knighthood. The younger Sir William acquired the lease of Blackburn Rectory lands soon after the death of William farington, Esq., in 1610. He married Ann, daughter of Robert Barton of Smithells, Esq., and had sons, John; Francis; Thomas; Edward, and William; daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Sir John Woodward, Knt.; Anne; Margaret; Cordelia; and Katherine. Sir Edward Fleetwood, a younger son of Sir William, appears as next lessee. In 1650 "Mrs. Marriane Fleetwood," (daughter of Sir William or widow of Sir Edward), held the Rectory estate on lease, to expire in 1661, when it was renewed. To Cordelia Fleetwood (a daughter of Sir William was named Cordelia), a lease of the Rectory of Blackburn was granted, December 24th, 1676, for a term of 21 years. In 1679, "Cordelia Fleetwood, of the City of London, Spinster," is named as holding an estate in Samlesbury (the Fleetwood Hall estate, being glebe land of Blackburn Rectory). In 1695, "John Fleetwood, Esq., Farmer of the Rectory of Blackburn," was elected a Governor of the Grammar School. His widow, I suppose, was "Mrs. Sarah Fleetwood, widow," lessee of the Rectory in 1706; Mr. Johnson being her steward. In 1714, Mrs. Marian Fleetwood was the occupant of Fleetwood Hall in Samlesbury; but in 1725, a Mr. Franks was assessed for the Fleetwood Hall tenement.

In 1649, during the Commonwealth period, the Commission appointed by Parliament for the sale of Bishops' lands surveyed the Rectory of Blackburn, and returned an account of the mill and glebe lands belonging to the Rectory, and the tenants thereof; also reporting that "nearly half the houses in the said town did belong to the late Archbishop of Canterbury in right of his said bishopric," and that many of the said houses in the town, and all the farmers' houses near the town, had land belonging to them all enclosed, which said houses and land were called glebe.

Quickly followed the Survey made June 25th, 1650, on the order of Parliament for inquiring into all ecclesiastical estates in the country. The return for Blackburn Parish is abbreviated below:—

BLACKBURN HUNDRETH.—An Inquisition indented, taken at Blackburne, in the Countye of Lancaster, the 25 Day of June, 1650, before Richard Shuttleworth, John Starkie, Peeter Bould, Thomas Whittington, George Johnson, John Sawrey, Jeremiah Aspinwell, George Piggott, and William West, Esquires. By virtue of a Commission under the Greate Seale of England, dated the 29th of March, 1650, to them and others directed, for the inquiringe of and certifying the certain number and true yearly value of all parsonages and vicaridges presentative, and of all and every the spirituall and Ecclesiastical liveinges and benefices and donatives within the said County, by the oathes of John Harwood, William Chew, Richard Osbaldeston, William Walmisley, James Whalley, Edward Lowed, William Ward, John Aspden, John Dewhurst, Robert Radcliffe, Richard Dewhurst, John Dewhurst, junior, Richard Ainsworth, Jeremy Wood, and Edward Boulton, good and lawfull men of the parishes of Blackburne and Whalley, in the said Countye, whoe upon their oathes present and saye that the Parische of Blackburne, within the Hundred of Blackburne, doth containe one parische church, vizt. Blackburne, a vicaridge presentative by the late Archbishop of Canterbury, the impropiator Mistress Marriane Fleetwood, farmer of the tythes by a demise on lease made by the said Bishopp yett'in beinge; besides there is a demesne called Haudly, yett in lease under the said Bishopp to the said Mrs. Fleetwood for the terme of eight years or thereabouts, and by her demised att eighty pounds per ann., and alsoe an ould rent of thirty-five poundes fourteene shillings per ann., besides fines of tenements and one water come milne of the yearly value of []. All which are in lease under the said bishopp with the said Mrs. Fleetwood for the tenure, aforesaid. And the said Mrs. Fleetwood hath tyth within the chappellry of Lawe, in the parische aforesaid, worth per ann. £119; and £52 per ann. for glebe land; and in Nether Darwen £27 per ann.; and in Plesington £13 10s. per ann.; and in Whitton £8 per ann.; and in Mellor-cum-Eccleshill £30 per ann.; and in Harwood Parva £10 per ann.; and in Samlisbury £30 per ann.; besyde three acres and a halfe of glebe land att 7s. 3d. rent per ann.; and in Clayton in le Dale, Salisbury, Wilpshire-cum-Dinckley, and Billington, their tythes worth £72 per ann.; and in Tockholes £13 6s. 8d. per ann.; and in Overdarwen £30 per ann.; and in Blackburne £60 per ann.; and in Harwood Magna £40 per ann.; and in Rishton £35 per ann.; and in Cuerdale £5 per ann.; and in Livesaye £20 per ann.; and in Osbaldeston and Balderston £13 13s. per ann.; besyde Yatebank and Piccopbank, part of the forest of Rossendall, but parcell of the rectorye of Blackburne, their tythes worth to the abovesaid farmer £5 per ann. And the said Jurors likewise saye that there is belonginge to the said

[vicarage] a vicaridge house, and thirte acres of land worth per ann. £20 to the present minister at Blackburne; besydes there is other auintiente tenements which prescribe to pay a rent of £2 16s. 10d. per ann. to the said Viccar (all which the said viccar receyveth for his sallary), besydes £26 13s. 4d. per ann. which he receaveth from the said Mrs. Fleetwood, and alsoe that hee hath an augmentation of £50 per ann. from the Committee of Plundered Ministers, but as yett hath received noe benefit thereof. And the said Jurors further saye that the said parishe dothe contain within itselfe nyneteene townships, which are distant from their parish church as is here expressed, vizt. Blackburne, in which the parish is situated; Nether Darwen, two myles; Over Darwen, four myles; Livesey-cum-Tockholes, four myles; Plesington, three myles; Witton, one myle and a halfe; Samlisbury, six myles; Osbaldeston, five myles; Balderston, five myles; Walton in le Dale, nyne myles; Cuedale, eight myles; Mellor-cum-Eccleshill, four myles; Whilpshire-cum-Dinckley, four myles; Clayton in le Dale, four myles; Billington, five myles; Harwood Magna, four myles; Harwood Parva, one myle and a quarter; Rishton, three myles; and Salisbury, four myles. The jurors also saye that there are in the parish seven chapels: Law [Walton]; Samlisbury; Langoe; Tockholes; Over Darwen; Balderston; and Harwood [see Chapelries].

On the restoration of Episcopacy in 1660, Dr. John Juxon was made Primate; and by deed dated February 10th, 14th Charles II. (1662), his Grace gave a sum of £70 per annum out of the issues of the Rectory for the increase of the Vicarial benefice of Blackburn. The charge was added to the rental of the estate paid by the lessee on a renewal of the lease in 1661; but the lessee, Mistress Mariane Fleetwood, did not fail to transfer this extra payment to her under-tenants, in the shape of increased rents, whereat the latter made bitter complaint to the Primate, in these terms:—

Upon the renewal of the Lease of the Rectory of Blackburne with Archbishop Juxon, immediately after his Majestie's Restauration, his Grace was pleased to grant an augmentation of £70 per annum to the Vicar of Blackburne and his successors, to be payd by the farmer of the Rectory, who not long after likewise renewed the Leases to the under Tenants, advancing every one of them both in fine and rent over and above their former payments, to their great impoverishment and severe usage, the officers and agents of the farmer alleging (supposed to be by their master's directions) that his Grace had imposed the annual payment of £70 to the Vicar over and above the Reserved Rent formerly payd, without any consideration to the farmer, or defalcation of fine in renewing his lease, and therefore were constrained to reimburse their master by advancing the Tenants' fines and Annuall Reserved Rents to equal the sayd summe of £70 augmentation to the Vicar. The agents and officers of the farmers, from time to time have affirmed and reported the contents above-written for a certain truth. The present agent, Mr. Ogle, still continuing to affirm the same, with the greatest confidence imaginable, to the great grief of the under-tenants, and greater dishonour of the present Archbishop and his predecessors.—(Signed)—Tenants:—Joseph Sharples, Thurstan Maudsley, Richard Hilton, Henry Maudsley, Adam Raby, Richard Gelibrand, Ben. Lawe, Edward Smith, Robert Peele, John Yates, Thurstan ffogge, James Cowper, William Yates, William Haworth.—We whose hands are subscribed, not being tenants to the said farmer, do some of us know and others believe the contents above-written to be true:—Thomas Clayton, Giles Clayton,

George Rishton, Thomas Walmsley, Thomas Sharples, Evan Wilkinson, James Brindle, William Pickering, Ric. Haworth, James Crosse, Jacob Edge.

The Coucher Book of the Parish Church of Blackburn contains an abstract of a lease obtained by Cordelia Fleetwood, in the year 1676. The terms of this lease were, an annual rent of £139 2s. 2d. paid direct to the Rector, and £70 on his account to the Vicar of Blackburn; the total rental of the Rectory Glebe was thus at that date £209 2s. 2d. per annum :—

MEMORANDUM OF LEASE OF RECTORY TO CORDELIA FFLEETWOOD.—A Lease granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury to Cordelia fleetwood. Dated 24th Dec., 1676, of all that the Rectory or Parsonage of Blackburn in Com. Lanc., with the Chappells of Law and Samlesbury to the same parsonage belonging, with all houses, buildings, lands, tenements, Glebe Lands, Tythes of Corn and Hay, Oblations, Obventions, Privy Tythes, and all and every other tythes, profitts, comoditys, advantages, emoluments, and appurtenances whatsoever, &c. To have for 21 years from the making. Rent yearly £139 2s. 2d. att the Annunciation and Michaels by equall portions. Rent also on the days aforesaid £70 to be paid by the said Archbishop and his successors yearly to the Vicar for the tyme being, &c., in pursuance of the King's Majesty's directions for Augmentations, &c. And that the said Cordelia F., &c., shall repaire, &c., the chancell of the Church of Blackburn, and also the Mansion House called Haldley, in Blackburn, and all barns and other edifices thereunto belonging. And the said Cordelia F., for herself, exors, &c., doth covenant, &c., by and with the Vicar of the Parish Church of Blackburn for the tyme being, att all tymes, &c., peaceably and quietly to receive, take and enjoy to his and their own use and behoof all and every the church duties of marriages, christenings, and burials, without any account to be made or given for the same.

THE SANCROFT TRUST.

Some account may here be inserted of an important augmentation made to the endowments of the parish chapelries through the bounty of Archbishop Sancroft. William Sancroft was consecrated Primate in the year 1678 as successor to Sheldon. Sancroft found that the livings of the chapels-of-ease under this Parish Church were lamentably small. Not one of the chapelries possessed the advantage of weekly Christian worship. The zealous Primate therefore felt himself called upon to do somewhat towards placing the affairs of the Church upon a better basis in a parish from which he drew a certain yearly revenue as Rector. He decided to make a substantial gift to each of the chapels. First, however, the Archbishop required a correct statement of the nature and extent of the existing endowments, the arrangements for serving the chapels, and the disposition of the inhabitants to assist in the work of augmenting the stipends of the curates. At the Rector's request, the Vicar procured from the wardens of the several chapels the necessary details upon these points, and forwarded them to Lambeth. There

were seven chapels, of which Balderstone was in ruins, and out of use. Of the six remaining chapels, three, Walton, Samlesbury, and Harwood, were esteemed to be parochial, and got a small allowance from the Vicar of the parish. In the other four chapels none had been permitted to administer the sacraments, marry, or bury. The curates had been always maintained by the bounty of those that resorted thither, without charge to the Rector or Vicar. It was further represented that "the Vicar of Blackburne aforesaid allows to the curates of all the chapells above-named all the church dues belonging to the said vicar, besides the above-mentioned £8 to Law and Samlesbury, though none of the aforesaid chapells do by the Records at Chester appear to be parochial, but chapels of ease."

The Rev. Francis Price was at this time Vicar of the Parish, and in addition to the accounts he gave to the Rector which have been mentioned, sometime in the earlier part of the year 1684, Vicar Price wrote to the effect that:—"The Vicar of Blackburn will freely oblige himselfe to pay £4 yearly to Law Church and £4 to Samlesbury; to remitt the dues for marrying, &c., in the 4 chapells of ease, about £3 10s. or sometymes £4 per annum, and to permitt them to sever themselves from the mother Church, and become parochiall." As to the disposition of the parishioners to be united, Mr. Price said:—"The Inhabitants of each Chapelry are not willing to be united to any other, though they may better consider of it hereafter." As to Easter Dues:—"Easter Dues are commonly one year with another £25 or £26 per annum. Piggs, geese, &c., as is already given in by Mr. Halsted in the accounts." The under-tenants of the Rectory lands in Blackburn were reported to the Archbishop by the Vicar as in a condition of abject poverty:—"Most of the under-tenants are miserably poore, and the houseing out of repaire, and are distinguished and taken notice of to be Mrs. fleetwood's tenants from other landlord's houses. If any of her tenants now build, the new houses are often taken from them upon the expiration of their leases, and some before. The last renewing of their leases, the tenant was raised trible in his reserved rent, and double in his fine, the ffarmer pretending that an augmentation of £70 was given to the Vicar, and no allowance made for it, and therefore the tenants must advance that summe." Soon after the receipt of the Vicar's missive, John Tillison, Esq., the Primate's Comptroller, was sent down to Blackburn to advance the business.

Mr. Tillison found that down in the Parish of Blackburn the good intent of his right reverend master was being "evil spoken of," and having communicated the current slander to the Archbishop, received the following letter from Sancroft:—

Mr. Comtroller,—To doe well and even for soe doinge to be evill spoken of, is many times in this world the portion of well-meaning men. That a suit concerninge Tyth Hay is commenced or threatened by my particular directions (or by any direction at all from me) is a great and foule slander upon mee, whoever is the author (of which, I pray, informe yourself particularly). But that I intend an augmentation of the chapelries to be had out of the purses of the inhabitants is a most mallicious and unmannerly calumny. God Almighty knows (and better than any man, but my selfe, you know) that what I should receive upon the renewinge of this lease I intended should bee bestowed for the good (the spiritual good) and wellfaire of those inhabitants, and when their heats are over, and their eyes a little clear'd to look upon things as they are, I hope they will forgive me this wrong. They may consider, if they please, that wise men will never throw away an opportunity of doeing themselves good which (for ought they know) will never returne. And sure I am they cannot bee certaine, that the next Archbishop will frankly and unaskt throw a thousand marks into their laps, to be expended entirely for the good of their souls. And that I am prepared and resolved to doe this for them (if they be so jealous and ill-natured as not to believe my words) they may, if they will, soone bring mee to a Reall test, and shame me, if I faile in performance of what I here solemnly declare. But all this under the privitie of my former and most express proviso,—that if they expect I should doe for them what I am noe waies obliged to, they should doe something also for themselves, for both God and man justly abandon those that will not helpe themselves when they may. Had I design'd my owne worldly advantage, I might have spar'd my selfe and you a great deal of care and trouble, and concluded the matter with my tenant without noise and long since have taken the money into my Pockett. But (I thanke God) my charitie to them showed me a more excellent way. And though I am not by them handsomely rewarded for it, yet I know Who it is that accepts intentions and endeavours (if they be reall and sincere) and writes them up in His booke of accompt as actuall performances. But though I can thus satisfy and comfort my selfe, yet I am infinitely unwilling to give over a design in which God may have some glory and men some benefitt, because of a frowardnesse or peevishnesse of those I have to deal with about it. There are a sort of men to whom we must do good whether they will or not, and therefore I will give them time to bethinke themselves by houldeinge to the resollution I have constantly declared to the Lord Cheney never to Renew the Lease unless it may bee to the advantage of those unendowed chappellries. As for my unwillingness to interpose between my tenant and the under-tenants, which I perceive hath further exposed me to the scourge of tongues, I think I had noe reason to doe it till I was perfectly assured of the true state of the case, which was one occasion of your journey, and accordingly given you in charge by me; and if before your returne I find there is just cause of complaint, I conceive it not seasonable for mee to medle with it till I and my tenant goe about the renewinge of the Lease in good earnest, which will not be till the Chappells be in some measure provided for. God Almighty, who hath put into our mind some good desires, so enable us, if it be His will, to bring the same to good effect, the hearty daily prayer of—Your very ob. friend W. CANT.

Lamb. H., July 5th, 1684.—For my Lo. friend, Mr. John Tillison.—Leave this at the Post House in Preston, Lancashire.

It is evident from the allusions in the letter that the cause of the local distrust of the projected increase of the parochial chapel endowments was the exacting treatment of their tenants by the lessees of the Rectory glebe. After this the Primate proceeded with the necessary

formalities for the execution of his intention, and in the Spring of 1685 notified Mr. Price, the Vicar, that he "had prepared a declaration of trust for the receipt of one thousand marks [£666 13s. 4d.] to be applied towards the maintenance of the Chapels in Blackburnshire, according to the directions of a settlement intended."

On the 24th of March, 1687-8, Sancroft communicated to Vicar Price an outline of the legal arrangements his Grace had made for the completion of the long-pending business. Appended is a copy of the Archbishop's epistle:—

Sir,—It is more than time that we should finish what we have begun some while since, and finally settle the little provision I have made towards the endowment of the poor chappellries within your Vicarage. But whenever I have gone about it I have found that I could not fully satisfy myself in it, without advising with you about the manner of the settlement, and the particular allotments and proportions in which 'tis to be done, and such other circumstances, in which I would not willingly be mistaken; for the next Act I doe about it will be for perpetuity, and put it quite out of my hands. A commerce by Letter for debate of these things would be slow and troublesome; and more might be done with you and I together one day, than in a Month's intercourse the other way. This is therefore in the first place heartily to thank you for the great care and diligence you have us'd hitherto in this Affair; and in the next place earnestly to desire you not to be weary of well-doing, but as soon as the approaching great Festival is past, to come up hither to me. I have long had this in my mind, as having a great desire to see you. But the Winter was not a proper season for so long a journey. It will now be pleasant travelling; and London, methinks, should be worth the seeing (especially being so improved and beautified, as it is) once in 20 years. But whatever other Invitations may draw you hither, you are to remember that you came about my business, and therefore that I must, and will, defray the whole expense of your journey. Wherefore taking it for granted, that you will come, I desire you to bring with you the Names of 4 or 5 persons more, fitt to be joined with you in the Trust, for the Lawyers advise me, that if I settle it that way, it should not be fewer than seven, because of death and frequent change. Bring also the best directions you can (both of your own, and of your colleagues), in whom, and in what proportion it shall be placed, which together with such particulars as I have received before, will guide me to a final Resolution herein. But now that estate being in you 3, and you having by your Declaration of Trust covenanted to convey it as I should direct; I have caused a good Lawyer here to draw such a Conveyance, which you are to get ingrost there, and seal'd, and executed, and to bring it with you, in exchange for which you shall receive my last, and final Settlement. I have written it [the accompanying Draft of Conveyance] in my close hand, and with such abbreviations as you will know easily how to decipher, and transcribe, and so deliver it to be ingrost, for the ease and conveniency of carriage. Till I see you, I think nothing else needful to be added, but to wish you a prosperous journey; and to desire you very kindly to salute Mr. Bradyl and Mr. Osbaldeston, my good Friends, in the Name of,—Your very affectionate Friend,

W. CANT.

Lambh. H., Mar. 24th, 1687.

The final proceedings in connection with the Sancroft Trust were taken in the Spring of 1688. The following Agreement between Arch-

bishop Sancroft and Vicar Price is the last of the original documents concerning the donation among the Vicarial MSS. :—

By Indenture dated 26th May, 4th of James II. [1688], between Archbishop William and Vicar Price.—Whereas the Curates of the several Chapelries of Law Church, Samsbury Church, Harwood Church, Langho Chapel, Darwen Chapel, Tockholes Chapel, and Balderstone Chapel, have not sufficient maintenance for their subsistence respectively, and whereas the said William, Archbishop, &c., with a pious intent to provide and settle an augmentation of maintenance upon the said Curates respectively, or some of them, in manner hereinafter expressed, hath purchased the several messuages, lands, &c., and by good conveyances in law the same are conveyed unto the said Archbishop and his successors for ever. And it is hereby declared and agreed by the said parties, that the said purchase and conveyance are only upon trust, that the said Archbishop and his successors should without fine demise and lease the same unto the said Francis Price in the manner and form set forth. And further that the said Archbishop and his successors for ever shall hold the freehold and inheritance of the said premises in trust and confidence to lease and demise the same in manner aforesaid, and accordingly leases the same unto the said Francis Price for the term of 21 years, if the said Francis Price so long continue true and lawful incumbent, upon trust that he the said Francis Price shall from time to time manage, set, and let the premises, and also receive the rents, issues, and profits of the said premises, and shall pay the same, so received, unto and amongst the curates for the time being of the said several Chapelries of Law Church, Samsbury Church, Harwood Church, Langho Chapel, Darwen Chapel, Tockholes Chapel and Balderstone Chapel, or some of them, for the time being, annually or half-yearly upon the Feasts of the Nativity of our Blessed Lord and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or one of them, unto such of the said curates, and in such shares and proportions as the said Archbishops of Canterbury shall from time to time direct and appoint, and for default of such appointment then in such shares and proportions as to the said Francis Price and his successors, Vicars of Blackburn, from time to time seem most just and expedient, with regard as well to the merits as to the necessities of the said several curates respectively. And it shall be lawful for the said Francis Price to deduct and defalk out of the yearly rents, yearly, the sum of 40s. to his own proper use in satisfaction for his pains and trouble in the execution of the trust aforesaid, and also all other sums of money by him necessarily expended for the charges of the said management, and the said Francis Price shall upon the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord yearly during the said term, and also within six months after the expiration thereof, make a full and perfect account of all the receipts, payments, and transactions whatsoever relating to the said trust, for each and every year, and deliver the said accounts unto the Archbishop of Canterbury for the time being, without any falsity, omission, protraction, or delay. In witness whereof the parties above-named have interchangeably set their hands and seals, the day and year first above written.¹

¹ The Thornley estate, purchased by Archbishop Sancroft as a benefaction to the chapels of Blackburn parish, consists of lands in the township of Thornley-cum-Wheatley, in the parish of Chip-ping. These lands are leased by the Rector to the Vicar for the time being, who relets them to the tenant farmers. The estate was originally in one farm-holding, but for more than a century has been divided into two farms. The following list of successive leases will show the rental-value of these lands at different periods. The Rhodes family have farmed part of this land for more than a century and a half:—1707. Lease granted by Vicar Holme to Wm. Rhodes—Rental £32. 1726. Lease by Vicar Holme to Wm. and James Rhodes, £35 per annum for nineteen years. 1746. Lease granted by Vicar Wollin to Wm. and James Rhodes, £38 10s. per annum. 1767. Leases from Vicar Wollin

This Indenture bears date the 4th of May, 1688, and it is worthy of remark that at the very time the negociation for the improvement of the church livings in this remote Lancashire parish was being brought to an issue, the prime mover therein, the venerable Sancroft, was engaged in a memorable constitutional struggle with the Crown. On the 27th of April, 1688, King James the Second had followed up his Declaration of the previous year by a second Declaration of Indulgence to Roman Catholics and Dissenters. This second Declaration, by an Order dated May 4th, of the same year, was commanded to be read in all Churches of England on two successive Sundays, and the Bishops were bidden to disseminate the Declaration among their clergy for that purpose. Archbishop Sancroft and six of the Bishops met and resolved to disobey the Royal order. It was on the 12th of May, 1688, eight days after the date of the Indenture completing Sancroft's benefaction to Blackburn Parish, that the Bishops and others who opposed the arbitrary conduct of James II. met at the Primate's palace at Lambeth. The sittings were continued until the 18th of May, on which day a petition to the King, written by Sancroft himself, declining to distribute the Declaration of Indulgence, was adopted by the conclave, and was presented to the King, who in a rage pronounced it to be "a standard of rebellion." Nevertheless, the seven prelates persisted in their refusal, and were sustained by many of the clergy of London. On the 8th of June, the seven Bishops were cited before the King in Council, and on their continued recalcitrancy were committed to the Tower. This procedure by the King forced on the political crisis that had long been impending. The question soon became a national one, and in a few weeks the revolutionary movement in favour of the Prince of Orange was in full sweep. Singularly, Archbishop Sancroft, though one of the foremost actors in the events that led to the deposition of James II. and the advent of William of Orange, was afterwards among the prelates known as "non-jurors," on account of their refusal to take the oath of allegiance to William and Mary. For this, Sancroft (with five bishops) was deprived in February, 1690, and ejected from Lambeth in 1691; Thomas Tillotson being consecrated Archbishop on Whitsunday of that year. His deprivation so embittered the mind of Sancroft that he became, in his last days, a passionate assailant of the Church of England. He

to Robert Rhodes, at a rental of £29 10s. 6d. per annum for 21 years; and to John White, at a rental of £19 19s. 6d. per annum for 21 years. 1783. Leases from Vicar Starkie to Robert Rhodes, at a rental of £38; and to John White, at a rental of £24 per annum; total rental of the estates, £62. 1807. Leases from Vicar Starkie to Isaac Rhodes at a rental of £52 per annum; and to James White, at a rental of £36 per annum;—total rental £88. 1814. Leases from Vicar Starkie to Isaac Rhodes, at a rental of £85 per annum; and to William Woods, at a rental of £60 per annum; total rental in 1814, £145.

lived some years after his ejection on his estate at Fressingfield, Co. Suffolk.

A subsequent benefaction out of the Rectory property to the "poor curates" of Blackburn Parish, amounting to the sum of £14 per annum, was renewed by Archbishop Tenison in 1706. This was obtained through the undertaking of Mrs. Sarah Fleetwood, on her receipt of a lease of the Rectory Glebe, in 1689, to pay that additional sum of £14 annually. Below is cited the legal instrument investing the Vicar for the time being with power to receive, as trustee for the recipients, the curates of the seven chapels:—

Know all men by these presents that we, Thomas, by Divine Providence Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, have and do hereby constitute, nominate, and appoint our well-beloved John Holme, Clerk and Vicar of the Parish Church of Blackborne, in the County of Lancaster, our true and lawfull Attorney for Us and in our Name to ask, demand, and receive the full and just sum of Fourteen Pounds per annum, on the Feasts of St. Michael the Archangell and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by even and equal portions, of and from our now Lessee, Mrs. Sarah Fleetwoode, Widdow, being Farmeress by Lease from us of the Improprate Rectory of Blackborne aforesaid, and of her Executors and Assigns. Which said Fourteen Pounds was a new augmentation made and confirmed in the year of our Lord 1688-9 by Mrs. Cordelia Fleetwoode, then the Farmeress of the Rectory aforesaid, and she confirmed it by giving a covenant in her said Lease in pure charity for the use and benefit of the poor curates of the severall chappells belonging to the said Vicarage of Blackborne. And also giving and granting to my said Attorney upon the receipt of the said sums, full power and authority to dispose of them to those curates in such proportions as Mr. Francis Price, late Vicar of Blackborne, did pay the same. Or according as he, my said Attorney, shall in his owne judgment think fitt and reasonable, with regard to the deserts and merits of the said curates. Provided always that my said Attorney shall at the end of every year give an account to us or oure successors in writing how he has disposed of the said Fourteen Pounds, that he may receive from us or them directions for the future payment of it to the said curates.—Given at our Palace at Lambeth, the seventh day of May, A.D. 1706, and in the Fifth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Anne, &c.—THO. [Seal] CANTUAR.—Signed and sealed in the presence of Lem. Bradley, Will. Lovejoy.

The Feildens succeeded the Fleetwoods as lessees of the Rectory Glebe, and in 1758 Joseph Feilden is named in one of the Vicar's receipts as "one of the farmers of the Rectory of Blackburn." Successive leases of these lands were granted to Henry Feilden, son of Joseph, and to his son, the late Joseph Feilden, Esq. A large portion of the Rectory Glebe was sold in the last century to Henry and John Feilden. In 1853, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners assumed control of the Rectorial estates. The lands in Blackburn vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners comprised two separate estates, known as the Audley and Brookhouse estates. In 1856 the Audley Estate consisted of the following tenancies:—Audley Hall Farm, of 184 acres and 25 perches;

Audley Higher Barn, of 34 acres and 24 perches; Fish Field and Five Acres, of 18 acres, 2 roods, 39 perches; Great and Little Maudsley, of 15 acres, 2 roods, 3 perches; Long Meadow, 1 acre, 33 perches; New Hey and Little Meadow, 3 acres, 3 roods, 30 perches; Nearer and Further Dam Hey (Cicely Hole), 6 acres, 2 roods, 30 perches; Smalding's Farm, 24 acres, 2 roods, 35 perches; Snape Fields and Higher Walks, 7 acres 1 rood, 19 perches; Three Lawnds, 16 acres, 2 roods, 9 perches; Town Green, 3 acres, 2 roods, 28 perches; occupation road from Grimshaw Park to Smalding's Cottage, 2 roods, 16 perches. The total extent of Audley Estate, the remnant of the ancient Rectorial demesne, is 317 acres, 1 rood, 11 perches. Since 1856, some plots of the estate have been sold; and the residue has been laid out and leased for building purposes. Since its enfranchisement, a new town has risen upon the estate, and its rental value has increased incalculably. The Brookhouse Estate is situate on the north side of the Blakewater at Brookhouse, and extends to the farm of Lower Ousebooth in one direction and to the Hole ith Wall, Shire Brow, in another. It consisted, in 1856, of two tenancies, of a total area of 78 acres, 1 rood, 23 perches. The estate has since been further curtailed by the sale of considerable parcels to Mr. Hornby and Mr. Ward. The aggregate annual revenue of all the Rectory property in lands, leases, and ground rents must now amount to many thousands of pounds.

The mansion of the Rectory was the Hall of Hauldley or Hawdley, now spelled Audley, standing in a hollow near a small rivulet between the hill of Higher Audley and Whinny Heights, on the south-east side of the town. In 1616, the old Hall at Audley is described as being built of stone, timber, and brick; situate half a mile from the town, and surrounded by lands known as Haudley Demesne, containing by measurement 143 acres and 10 perches. Before the appropriation of the Rectory, and under the control of the Abbots of Whalley, a Sisterhood of Benedictine Nuns is said by Whittle¹ to have been housed in Audley Hall; but I have met with no memorials of the existence of such a sisterhood. Audley Hall is now, although partially inhabited by the farmer, in a state of utter dilapidation. Most of the buildings have fallen or been taken down, and in what still stands every feature of architecture has been effaced. There are remains of large mullioned and transomed windows in the north-western end of the building. The external walls are of stone and brick intermixed. Anciently the house is said to have been approached by an avenue of trees, but the land about is now bare of timber.

¹ Blackburn as it is, p. 326.

ANNALS OF THE VICARAGE.

The history of the Vicarial benefice of Blackburn during its subjection to Whalley Monastery is marked by few recorded events of moment. In the Abbey Chartulary, the names of two or three Vicars of Blackburn Church occur. John de Habyndon, Vicar before 1289, and William de Lenche, his successor, have before been mentioned. To Adam de Walboncke (Vicar next in order to William de Lenche), succeeded John de Gristhwayth, before the year 1333, when he, as Vicar of Blackburn Church, receives of William Russel of Magna Harwood his land situated within Snodworth field in Billington. The same Vicar acquired other lands in Billington in 1338; and, in 1340 Vicar Gristhwayth conveyed these lands to the Abbot and Monks of Whalley. This Vicar again, in 1342, with John de Topclif, Vicar of Whalley, had possession of lands in Burnley from John de Brunley, which the two Vicars jointly conveyed to the Monastery in 1343. John de Gristhwayth occurs later as Vicar in 1356, and he probably died about 1362.

John de Lyndelay, instituted Vicar of Blackburn October 15th, 1362, was the learned and industrious fifth Abbot of Whalley, who transcribed into a Coucher Book all the title deeds of his Monastery. He died about 1378 and was succeeded as Vicar of Blackburn by William de Wetherby, whose vicariate probably extended from 1378 until 1419.

Galfridus [Geoffrey] Banastre, the next Vicar known, instituted June 3rd, 6th Henry V. (1419), will again appear in this History as founder of a Chantry in Blackburn Church, in the year 1453. He died in 1457, and the next Vicar found is Robert Salley, a Monk of Whalley, who occurs in 1480, and died in 1489, when another Monk of the same family, Henry Salley, was instituted, December 16th, 1489. He had a lengthened tenure of the benefice; for he is returned as Vicar in the *Valor* of 1534, forty-four years after his institution. If still alive in 1537, Vicar Henry Salley would suffer dispossession in the suppression of the Monastery to which he was attached in that year, the Vicar of Blackburn being implicated in the rebellious rising of Abbot Paslew by documents discovered in the Vicar's house.

Ralph Lynney, installed as Vicar about 1537, is before described in 1534 as receiver of the Rectory of Blackburn. He was witness to the Will of John Talbot of Salesbury in 1552, and resigned upon a pension before 1554. His successor, James Hargreaves, presented by Philip and Mary, instituted October 24th, 1555, was deprived soon after the accession of the Protestant Queen Elizabeth for "papistry," and was yet in the district and reported for an obstinate recusant (Roman Catholic) in 1575.

John Hylton, presented to the Vicarage March 20th, 1561, may be regarded as the first Protestant Vicar of Blackburn Church. Vicar Hylton was in 1567 nominated a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School by the Charter of Queen Elizabeth. By him the Vicarage House was probably re-edified about 1579. This Vicar resigned in 1580, and died in 1582. The Will of John Hulton, clerk, late Vicar of Blackburn, is dated May 15th, 24th Eliz. (1582). Testator desires to be buried in the churchyard of Blackburn.

Edward Welche was instituted to the Vicarage October 1st, 1580, and held the benefice until 1606, when he was deprived for his refusal to wear the surplice, and retired to a small property called Walsh Fold, in Over Darwen, where he died in 1627. He had a son Thomas Welche, Parish Clerk of Blackburn, who had a son Edward, born in 1625.

John Morres, instituted February 23rd, 1606, by the Primate, was next Vicar. It was he to whom, as Vicar, in 1618, a portion of Waste land in the township was allotted on account of his Glebe. "Mr. John Morres, Vicar," was buried at Blackburn Church, May 23rd, 1628.

Adam Bolton, instituted June 20th, 1628, was a native of Blackburn, and has been noticed in the sketch of his family (Bolton of Brookhouse). Vicar Bolton was regularly appointed by Archbishop Abbot; but on the establishment of the Presbytery in 1646, he retained the Vicarage and accepted nomination on the third classis of the Lancashire Presbytery. He died towards the end of 1646.

Leonard Clayton was chosen Vicar by the process of popular election in 1647, during the Civil War distraction. In the Parish Register is entered:—"On Sunday, the 4th of July, 1647, Mr. Leonard Clayton, Mr. of Artes of St. Mary Hall in Oxford, tooke possession of the Vicaridge of Blackburne. The said Leo: Clayton is sone of Gyles Clayton of Little Harwoode." This Vicar has made also an entry in the Register opposite the record of his own baptism as follows:—"Leonard sonne of Gyles Clayton," bapt. May 26th, 1616. [Added]—"Of Little Harwood, now Vicar of this Church. The said Leonard Clayton was inducted into the Vicaridge of Blackburne, in the year 1647, and was also presented and inducted into the Parsonage of Stockport, in Cheshier, in the yeare 1674, and is yett possessor of both this present yeare 1676." Upon an application for an increase to this benefice, made to the Committee of Plundered Ministers in 1649, the order is recorded upon the Minutes of that Committee in these terms:—"Blackburn. Of large extent, and 4000 Communicants, and that in regard of the greatness of the charge, the smallness of the means there, and the vicarage thereof being worth but £50 a year, no minister would accept thereof. £50 a year to be paid to Mr. Leonard Clayton, present minister, to be

taken out of the Rectory of Bolton."¹ The record mentions a sum of £75 6s. 8d. set apart by the late Bishop of Chester for this vicarage. The Committee appointed by Parliament for Sale of Bishops' Lands surveyed the Rectory and Vicarage of Blackburn the same year (1649), and as to the Vicarage the surveyors reported :—

Mr. Leonard Clayton, the present Vicar of Blackborne, is an able and paynefull Divine, approved of by the Assembly of Divines, and placed there by the Committee of Plundered Ministers, who have ordered him an augmentation of Fifty Pounds per annum out of the Rectory of Boulton in Lonsdale, in the County of Lancaster, sequestered from Sir Henry Compton, Knight of the Bath, Lessee under the late Bishop of Chester for three lives, and upon the said Sir Henry's composition the Councill at Goldsmith's Hall bought his terme then to come in the said Rectory. The Vicar's Glebe of antient enclosure in Blackborne lies near the Town, and is accompted to be 50 acres, besides 20 acres of new enclosure at Blakenmore and Refidge Moor. The antient enclosure hath two houses and a barn upon it in the field. The Vicar's best old glebe, per annum, £20; the Vicar's antient rough ground by the demesne, per annum, £10; New enclosures of 20 acres, per annum, £5. [Then follow the allowance out of the Bishop's Rent Dues, &c.] There are also certain houses that are parcel of the Glebe belonging to the Vicaridge of Blackborne, in the occupation of the severall Tenants hereunder mentioned :—John Sharples holdeth one house with appurtenances, and payeth rent per annum 6s. 8d.; but it is worth upon rack £4. John Marsden holdeth two houses with appurtenances, and payeth rent 4s.; is worth upon rack £6; Thomas Welch, clerk, holdeth one house, and payeth rent 2s., worth upon rack £2; Jane Morris holdeth one fair house by the School, and payeth rent 1s. 8d., worth upon rack £1 13s. 4d.; George Shaw holdeth a good house by it, and payeth rent 1s.; Alice Edge, widow, at Toalbridge End, holdeth one croft, and payeth rent 2s. 6d.; Richard Pomfret holdeth one house, and payeth rent 3d.; Robert Ashton holdeth one house, and payeth rent 5d.; George Simpson holdeth one house, and payeth rent 4d.; John Cowper holdeth one house, and payeth rent 2d.; Widow Cunliffe holdeth one house, and payeth rent 6d.; Robert Collinson holdeth one house, and payeth rent 4d.; Nathaniel Feilden holdeth one house, and payeth rent 6d.; Maria, wife of Peter Lodge, holdeth one house, and payeth 1s., worth rack £1 13s. 4d.; Nathaniel Feilden holdeth one house, and payeth rent 4d.; William Hayhurst holdeth one messuage, and payeth rent 6d.; Thomas Verwi holdeth one house, and payeth rent 6d.; John Jackson holdeth one house, and payeth rent 1s.; Thomas Astley holdeth one house, and payeth rent 5s.; John Siddall holdeth one house, and payeth rent 5s.; Richard Siddall holdeth one house, and payeth rent 7s.; Christopher Duckworth holdeth one house, and payeth rent 5s.; Lawrence Whalley holdeth one house, and payeth rent 2s.; John Astley holdeth one house, and payeth rent 3s.; Edward Walmesley holdeth one house, and payeth rent 6d. Total of present rent, £2 17s. 10d. All the last mentioned houses belonging to the Vicar, upon which we have set no improvement, we value every house to be worth per annum 10s., in total £9 10s.

A second order of the Committee of Plundered Ministers respecting this Vicarage, dated February 14th, 1650, describes Blackburn as a Parish containing a market town and ten villages, and a place of great

¹ Plund. Ministers, Bodl. MSS., p. 169; extracted for this history by Mr. J. E. Bailey.

resort. £50 ordered for it from the "impropriate Rectory of Pulton in the ffeild, sequestered from Sir Thos. Tilsley, Delinquent," and out of the tithes of Melling "for the maintenance of a weekly lecture in the said Church of Blackburn;" and it is further ordered that Mr. "Michael Briscoe, a godly minister, be appointed to preach the said lecture."¹

Vicar Clayton had no difficulty in adapting himself to altered circumstances after the restoration of Prelacy in the Church of England. In 1660, the Parishioners are found humbly but hopefully petitioning the King to give the Vicar elected by the Parish in 1647 a legal title, with an augmentation of the living. The Petitioners were careful to profess penitence for past political errors, and to declare their revived attachment to the Stuart dynasty, a change of sentiment they attributed to the judicious preaching of their Vicar. The Petition is printed below :—

To our dread sovereigne and mighty monarch Charles the Second, by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, &c. —The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Parische of Blackburne, in the County of Lancaster. (Subscribed August the 24th, 1660.) Humbly sheweth :—1. That the Inhabitants of the Parische of Blackburne did, in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred ffortie and seaven, unanimously without the opposition of one man elect and chuse Mr. Leonard Clayton, Master of Arts of St. Marie Hall in Oxford, to be our Vicar, the place being vacant by the death of the former incumbent. 2. That the said Mr. Clayton, upon the signification of our election, procured an order for the place, from the Committee of Plundered Ministers, bearinge date May the 21st, 1647, without which (as the tymes then were) he would not have staid with us or enjoyed the profits of the place. 3. That the said Mr. Clayton is a man of able parts for the work of the ministerie, is verie industrious and paynfull in his callinge, and pious in his conversation, as also one that is faithfull, and hath testified good affection to your sacred Majestie, and hath contynewed to discharge his conscience, and to speak the truth boldly, whereby many of the Inhabitants of our Parish have been convinced of their former miscarriages in the late warres, for which they have begged pardon of the most high God, and now begge the like of your most sacred Majestie. 4. That the tythe and glebe of Blackburne Parische is impropriate to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Vicaridge endowed with some Glebe Lands to the quantitie of thirtie pounds per annum, as also 40 marks in money, due out of the parsonage, out of which 40 marks our said Vicar payeth (as also did his predecessors) the summe of eight pounds per annum to the ministers of two of our chappels in the said Parische, there being also in the same parische 5 other chappells which have no means at all appertaininge to them. 5. That the glebe and tythe of the impropriate Rectorie of Blackburne was farmed and leased out by the Bishop of Canterbury to Miss Mariana fleetwood, which said lease expires in or about May next.—The premisses considered, your petitioners and liege people of the said parish humbly beseech your sacred Majestie to give our said minister, Mr. Clayton, a more legall title to the place, and likewise to grant him and his successors such an augmentation of revenues out of the profits of the Impropriate Rectorie as may make a competent and comfortable

¹ Bodl. MSS., Plund. Ministers. Mr. Michael Briscoe was later minister of Walmsley Chapel, and a Nonconformist after 1662.

subsistence, accordinge to his deserts and the greatness of the congregation. And this wee are the more engaged to begge of your royal Majestie because the said Mr. Clayton hath severall tymes had invitations to places of farr greater value, and yet hath refused them, being more willing to stay with us. And your petitioners doe yet further humbly desire that your Majestie, having settled a competency uppon our Parische Church (where there is a great congregation, the towne being a market towne, and many villages adjacent verie populous, the inhabitants of all which resort to the same church), you would be pleased alsoe to take order that something out of the proffitts of the said Rectorie might be allowed to the severall chappells in the parishe, there beinge seven of them in number. And that it would likewise please your sacred Majestie to order that your said petitioners and faithfull subjects, or some of the cheiffe of them in behalf of the rest, may be farmers of the tythes of our Parish, that soe they might not be leased out to strangers, wee beinge willinge to give for them a valuable consideration to the right owner of them. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c. [Signed by the following Inhabitants of the Parish.]

Alexander Osbaldeston,	Thomas Clayton,	William Shorrock,
John Clayton,	Lawrence Walmsley,	John Sudall,
John Harwood,	John Gillibrand,	Thomas Clayton,
Thurstan Maudsley,	William Sudall,	Myles Lawe,
Edward Boulton,	Richard Lawe,	Lawrence Whalley,
Richard Wilkinson,	Thomas Harwood,	Richard Marsden,
John Abbott,	Henry Clayton,	James Cunliffe,
Lawrence Ainsworth,	Thomas Pickeringe,	Richard Livesey,
Thomas Gerston,	John Peele,	John Sharples,
Roger ffoster,	William Marsden,	James Whalley,
Randle Cooke,	Walter Haworth,	Thomas Aspinall,
William Browne,	William Duhurst,	Richard Dewhurst,
Robert Holden,	William Ward,	Matthew Walkden,
William Haydock,	Ralph Lyvesey,	Thomas Cook,
Thomas Aspinall,	James Walmesley,	Oliver Whalley,
James Whalley,	William Marsden,	Richard Ainsworth,
Thomas ffishe,	William Walmsley,	Richard Isherwood,
Edward Smalley,	R. Harwood,	Thomas Cooke,
George Ainsworth,	Michaell Harwood,	Gyles Edge,
Ellis Edge,	John Edge,	William Pickeringe,
John Crosse,	John Edge,	Richard Ainsworth,
Thomas Whalley,	Robert Osbaldeston,	John ffishe,
Lawrence Ainsworth,	Thomas Abbott,	John Baron,
Roger Gillibrand,	John Clayton,	Edmund Calvert.
Robert Dewhurst,	Thomas Tomlinson,	

Vicar Clayton himself petitioned the Primate some weeks later, as follows :—

To the Right Reverend Father in God John, by Divine providence Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace. The humble petition of Leonard Clayton, Minister of the Gospell, in Blackburne, in Lancashire, September 12th, 1660. Sheweth,—1. That the Vicaridge of Blackburne was endowed with some Lands to the value of Thirty Pounds, as also with forty markes in money due out of the Rectory of Blackburne, as appears by an order bearing date May the 14th, A.D. 1277. 2. That the said Leonard Clayton was chosen by the inhabitants of the Parish of Blackburne to beq their minister,

and thereupon had an order for the place from the Committee of Plundered Ministers, bearing date May the 21st, 1647. The place being vacant by the death of the former Incumbent. 3. That the Rectory of Blackburne is impropriate to the See of Canterbury, and was leased out by the late Bishop of Canterbury to Mrs. Mariana fleetwood, which said lease expires in or about May next. 4. That the said Leonard Clayton payeth to the minister of the parochiall chapell of Walton the yearly summe of 4 pounds, as also the like summe to the minister of the parochiall chappell of Samlesbury, both in the said Parish, and yet there are 5 other chappells in the same parish which have no meanes at all appertaining to them. The premisses considered, Your petitioner humbly beseecheth your Grace to grant, and by law to settle upon your petitioner and his successors for ever, such a competent and comfortable subsistence out of the profits of the said Rectory as may be an encouragement for able, orthodoxe, and godly men to accept of the Vicaridge, the parish being very large, the Towne a Market Towne, and the congregation very great. And that your Grace would likewise be pleased to grant something out of the profits of the said Rectory to the severall chappells therein, there being seven of them in number. And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

It was in response to these applications by Vicar and Parishioners that Archbishop Juxon granted, in 1662, the augmentation of £70 a-year to the Vicar's stipend out of the Rectory rents, as previously recorded.

Particulars of the Vicarage house and glebe appear in the following copy of a Terrier remaining in the Registry at Chester, made in the year 1663 :—

There belongeth to the Vicaridge of Blackburn in Lancashire one large ancient house consisting of eight bays of building. There is also two Barnes, the one consisting of four large bays, the other consisting of four little bays. There also belongeth to the Vicaridge of Blackburn aforesaid certain closes of ground, some of which are in the possession of the Vicar yearly; other some have ever been in the possession of tenants. The grounds which are in the Vicar's possession lye in two Places;—some of this ground lyeth close to the Town, to witt, five Closes, one called Lower Alleys, containing by estimation about two acres; another called Upper Alleys, about two acres; another called Syke, about four acres and a halfe; another called Larkehill, about five acres; and another called Clay Pitts, about four acres. All these bound upon the easte and south upon the demesne belonging to the Rectorie, and north and west to divers closes belonging to the tenants of the Lord Fawlkenbridge and some cottage Crofts belonging to the glebe of the Rectorie. The other Grounds, which are yearly in the Vicar's possession, lye half a mile distant from the town, commonly called the Vicar's Heys, divided into five closes. Two of those called the Nearer Heys, both are about eight acres. The other four called the Further Heys, being in quantity about tenn acres. All these grounds last mentioned are bounded south, east, and west upon the demesne belonging to the Rectorie, and upon the north upon the highe Rode. There are dyvers Cottage Houses upon the Vicar's Glebe which have noe ground belonging to them save backsydes and gardens, for the which the Vicar hath a small accustomed Rent. There are also about thirty acres of Land in the possession of dyvers tenants, for the which the Vicar hath an accustomed rent.—Oct. 13th, 1663,—We the Churchwardens of Blackburn whose names are subscribed doe deliver in this Account by the Information of Mr. Leonard Clayton, Vicar of the same. Thomas Lound, John Boulton, Churchwardens.

After more than thirty years tenure of this benefice, Vicar Clayton died in 1677. The Will of Leonard Clayton, Vicar of Blackburn, is dated October 9th, 1677. Testator refers to an estate he had in Little Harwood, and names his wife Mary, brother Thomas, and daughters Elizabeth (then dead) and Katherine Warren.¹ Gives a sum to be dispensed as a twopenny dole to the poor of the parish. The Blackburn Burial Register records:—"Mr. Leonard Clayton, Vicker of Blackburne," buried October 20th, 1677. The Revd. Nicholas Peele, then Curate of Blackburn, preached the funeral sermon for his Vicar.

Revd. Francis Price, M.A., was instituted to the Vicarage of Blackburn Dec. 5th, 1677. One of the first acts of the new Vicar was to raise a fund for the re-edification of the Vicarage House, which had fallen out of repair. The Vicarage then standing had been partially re-built about a century before; for on the removal of the house built in 1679, in August, 1826, fragments of the older structure were found, among them a stone that had formed a door-lintel, inscribed with the date "1579," put in, no doubt, at the time of the prior renovation. The site of the manse of 1679, as of the older domicile, was in the churchyard, on the south side of the Church. The subjoined certificate of the completion of the new House was sent to the Bishop in 1680:—

NEW VICARAGE HOUSE, 1680.—To the right reverend Father in God, John, by divine permission Lord Bishop of Chester,—Wee whose names are subscribed, Inhabitants of, and Neighbours to, the Parish of Blackburne, in the County of Lancaster and Diocese of Chester, due reverence and obedience. We humbly certifye your Lordship that the late Vicarage House, since the institution of Francis Price, Master of Arts, our present Vicar there, was soe ruinous, infirme, and decayed, in the roofo, walls, ffloors, and other parts of it, that it was become uninhabitable, and very dangerous to dwell in. That in the place thereof there is now erected a very goodly, strong, and sufficient ffabrick of very durable stone, well built, of a capacity (as wee conceive) very competent to the said Vicarage, and very commodiously contrived for residence and keeping of house there. In witness whereof we have hereto subscribed our Names, this — day of —, anno domini 1680. Attested by

Jo. Warren, Esq.	Ralph Livesay, Esq.	Will. Yates, gentleman.
Joh. Braddyll, Esq.	Will. Bury.	Edw. Warren, Esq.
Stephen Gey, Vicar of Whalley.	Rich. Haworth.	Alex. Nowell, Esq.
Oswald Mosley, Esq.	George Rishton.	Richard Astley, Esq.
Henry Walmsley, Clerke.	James Bolton, gentleman.	Joseph Yates, Esq.
Edward Osbaldeston, Esq.	James Haworth.	John Adshead.
Henry Banestre, Clerke.	Edward Smaley.	William Pickeringe.
	James Crosse.	
Edward Calvert, Th. Broughton, Th. Craven, Robert Peele, Churchwardens.		
John Oddy, schoolmaster. Tho. Walmsley, Usher.		

The chief event in the vicariate of Mr. Price was the measures he found it requisite to take, in the years 1687-8, for preventing the detach-

¹ Further notice of Vicar Clayton's family will be inserted under Little Harwood township.

ment from the Parish Church of the Chapels-of-ease of Langho and Over Darwen, the first of which had been appropriated by Mr. Walmesley, lord of Billington manor, for use as a Roman Catholic Chapel, and the second had been used by the Nonconforming inhabitants of Over Darwen for a place of worship, on James the Second's Declaration of Indulgence. The Vicar of Blackburn succeeded in recovering both the chapels to the Church of England, by proceedings which will be recorded in the history of the chapelries. Vicar Price died in 1705-6:—"Francis Price, Revd. Vicar of Blackburn, departed this mortall life the 14 day of March, and was buried the 19 of the same month."

The Revd. John Holme was presented to the Vicarage of Blackburn in 1706; instituted April 30th. Dated 1706, is an "Account of Fences belonging to the Vicar of Blackburn, as given to Vicar Holme, May 18th, 1706, by John Isherwood, servant to the late Vicar, in the presence of Mr. Johnson, steward to Mrs. Fleetwood, who measured the same." The glebe plots named in the paper are Lower Allows, Upper Allows, Sike, Clay Pitts, Lower Larkhills, Upper Larkhills, Heys, Moss, and Linna Field. Some ten years after the appointment of Vicar Holme, in 1706, the subjoined list of the Vicar's customary tenants in Blackburn, who held tenements and gardens on his glebe at nominal rentals, was drawn up:—

A RENTALL BELONGING TO THE VICARIDGE OF BLACKBURN.

	Yearly Rent.			Yearly Value.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mr. John Sharples, 2 houses, 1 barn, 1 stable, two gardens	-	0	7 2	-	8	0 0
Mrs. Emma Yates, 1 house, 1 stable	-	0	2 0	-	5	0 0
Matthew Smith and Matthew Ainsworth, 2 houses, 1 barn	-	0	2 0	-	4	0 0
John Edge, 1 house, 1 garden	-	0	2 0	-	2	10 0
Richard Whitehead, 1 house	-	0	1 0	-	3	10 0
Nicholas Holker, 1 house	-	0	0 8	-	3	6 0
Mr. Robert Sharples and Mary his wife, 1 house, 1 garden	-	0	0 4	-	1	0 0
Hugh Shorrock, 2 houses, 1 barn, and 1 garden	-	0	2 6	-	5	10 0
Hen. Ward, 1 house bought of William Peel and another of Lawyer Yates, 1 barn and 1 garden	-	0	0 6	-	2	0 0
Robert Ashton, 1 house and 1 garden	-	0	0 3	-	0	10 0
" " 1 house and 1 garden	-	0	0 3	-	0	10 0
" " 1 house	-	0	0 2	-	3	0 0
" " 1 house	-	0	0 2	-	0	10 0
" " 1 yarn croft	-	0	0 6	-	0	5 0
John Ashton, 1 house and 1 garden	-	0	0 7	-	0	16 0
" " 1 barn	-	0	0 4	-	0	5 0
Thomas Watson, 1 house and 1 croft	-	0	0 7½	-	3	10 0
Jane Edge, 1 house and halfe of another house	-	0	0 2	-	—	—
Mr. Peter Edge, halfe of one house and halfe of another house	0	0	2	-	—	—
			<hr/>			<hr/>
			1 1 4½		44	2 0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward - - - -	1	1	4½	44	2	0
Mr. Peter Edge, 2 houses and ground lying at Fura Gate -	0	5	0	1	10	0
Richard Ward, 1 house - - - -	0	0	3	1	10	0
„ „ 1 yarn croft - - - -	0	0	6	0	6	0
Roger Walmsley, 1 house, 1 yarn croft - - - -	0	1	3	1	6	0
Ralph Holme, 1 house and croft - - - -	0	1	0	1	10	0
Richard Sharples, 1 house - - - -	0	0	6	0	10	0
Mr. James Burton, 1 house - - - -	0	0	2	0	8	0
Thomas Massey, 1 house - - - -	0	0	6	0	18	0
Jane Sagar, 1 house - - - -	0	0	4	0	10	0
Henry Hayhurst, 1 house - - - -	0	0	2	0	10	0
Grace Pollard (alias Barne), 1 house 6d., and 1 garden 3d. -	0	0	9	0	10	0
Thomas Abbott, 1 house, 1 barn, and some ground at Linney gate	0	2	0	1	0	0
Thomas Sudal, 12 acres of the last enclosed common -	0	12	0	6	0	0
John Tomlison, 1 house and 5 acres of the last enclosed common	0	5	0	2	10	0
Thomas Sharples, 3 acres of the last enclosed common -	0	3	0	1	6	0
Mr. Randal Feilden, 2 acres of the last enclosed common -	0	2	0	1	0	0
Thomas Dale, 1 house 2d., and 1 house 6d. - - - -	0	0	8	0	10	0
James Wittingham, junior, 1 house - - - -	0	0	6	0	10	0
Edward Osbaldeston and Henry his brother, 2 houses and garden	0	0	9	0	18	0
James Cunliff, 1 house - - - -	0	0	1	0	10	0
Henry Penington, 1 house and 1 garden and a barn - - - -	0	0	2	0	16	0
In all - - - -	£2	18	0	£64	0	0

Bishop Gastrell, when compiling his *Notitia Cestriensis*, noted these matters, *inter alia*, concerning Blackburn Vicarage, about the year 1717:—

The right of choosing the Parish Clerk adjudged to Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., according to ancient custom, anno 1662. The Vicar names the Curates of all the Chappells. In Balderstone, the inhabitants pretend to pay a prescriptive rent in lieu of all Tyths. [The Vicar's enclosed common lands, 22 acres] are now in possession of 5 tenants, who pay only 12d. an acre per annum to the Vicar, which they call a prescriptive rent; but 'tis said they have alwayes paid small fines at the death of every Vicar or tenant, and all of them paid the present Vicar fines at his coming in; but the person to whom 5 acres were leased in May last, refuses to pay any fine to the Vicar, or to give him possession. All the dues the Vicar pretends to in Harwood, Lango, Law, and Samesbury, are Surplice Fees, and a half-penny for every Communicant, which he allows the Curate to take. Four Wardens and four Assistants. One warden chosen by Ralph Livesey, Esq.; one by Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq.; one by John Warren of Dinckley, Esq.; one by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Mr. William Baldwin, Mr. Henry Feilden, and Mr. William Sudell, gentlemen [lords of Blackburn manor]. Families, 1800 in the whole Parish. Papists, 532, [in the Parish] 1024. Papist Meeting, 3; Dissenting Meeting, 3 Presbyterian, Dissenters, 844, Presbyterian.¹

Vicar Holme married, December 10th, 1706, Martha Greenfield of Witton, and had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. October 5th, 1707; John, bapt. March 29th, 1709, buried August 9th, 1710; a second John, bapt. November 11th, 1711; and Henry, bapt. April 18th, 1722; and daughters, Martha, bapt. June 7th, 1715, married, March 2nd, 1741,

¹ Notit. Cestr. (Cheth. Socy. Pub.), Ed. by Raines, v. ii, pt. ii, pp. 274-7.

Mr. Richard Cardwell; Jenny, bapt. April 17th, 1717, died in 1742 ("Miss Jenny Holme of Blackburn," buried November 23rd, 1742); Elizabeth, bapt. May 19th, 1720; and Mary, bapt. March 15th, 1723-4. Vicar Holme's eldest surviving son, John, was a clergyman, and resident in Blackburn at the date of his decease. The family tomb of this Vicar in Blackburn churchyard is inscribed with these names:—"I. H. [John Holme, infant son of Vicar Holme, died] 1710. Here lyeth the body of Revd. John Holme, late Vicar of this Church, who died April the 29, 1738, aged 63 years. Martha Holme [the Vicar's widow], died June 4th, 1757. Revd. John Holme [son], of Blackburn, died 16th of Jan. 1776, aged 65." "Henry Holme of Blackburn, gent.," younger son of this Vicar, was buried July 15th, 1745. The burial of "the Revd. Mr. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn," is registered May 5th, 1738.

The Revd. John Potter was instituted to this Vicarage by his father, Thomas Potter, Archbishop of Canterbury, August 25th, 1738. While holding this benefice he buried, Nov. 8th, 1740, an infant son John, and had another son John, bapt. May 5th, 1742. Of this Vicar's personal history the following is a short record:—Born 1713; entered at Christ Church, Oxford, 1727, took M.A. in 1734; presented to Blackburn Vicarage in 1738; to the sinecure living of Elme-cum-Enneth in 1739; to the Deaconry of Oxford in 1741; later to the livings of Lydde, and Wrotham, in Kent, and to a prebend of Canterbury; finally, was made Dean of Canterbury in 1776. By marrying one of his servants, he so offended his father the Primate, that he left his personal fortune, some £70,000, to his second son, Thomas, Recorder of Bath. Vicar Potter resigned Blackburn Vicarage in 1742.

Previous Vicars having been troubled to recover possession of cottages upon the Glebe from occupants who asserted a right to them by prescription, Vicar Potter resolved to bring the question of title to an issue by legal means, and, in 1741, submitted a case to counsel, upon which the following opinion was returned:—

Upon the state of this case there is ground to apprehend that the Houses, Gardens, and Lands which have all along been called the Vicar's, and for which Rents have been paid to the Vicars of Blackbourne for the time being, belong to the Vicar as parts of his Glebe. And in such instances as the present Vicar can prove that fines or acknowledgments have been paid to his predecessors upon the change of Tenants, or that his predecessors have made leases or agreements with persons to hold during their incumbencies, or have altered the tenants and given leave to build or improve, I conceive the present Vicar may recover the possession-at-law in an action of trespass and ejectment; but if such proof cannot be made, I apprehend the proper method is to exhibit one or more Bills in equity of some of the Tenants for the discovery of their Title, and I think it advisable to begin with such only against whom the best proof can be made, or who are likely to make the most material discoveries by their answers. And I apprehend the fines levied in this case and a non-claim by the Vicar for five

years will not bar him if the Lands whereof they were seased appear to be parts of the Glebe, and the tenants have continued to pay their rents after the fines.—EDW. CHETHAM.—August 5th, 1741.

Acting upon this advice, Mr. Potter proceeded to file declarations of ejection against tenants of glebe houses. The Vicar being evidently in earnest, the tenants soon yielded. In June, 1742, an Indenture was made between John Potter, Vicar, and James Haworth, whitesmith, by which the Vicar granted and let to James Haworth, a certain messuage, shop, &c., in Salford, Blackburn, in consideration of a rent of ten shillings yearly. On May 20th, 1742, William Tomlinson and Henry Tomlinson, two of the Vicar's tenants, surrendered the cottage, barn, and five acres of land they occupied, as belonging of right to the Vicar, who upon this acknowledgment gave the same parties a lease of the premises. At the same time, other tenants acknowledged the Vicar's proprietary right in their holdings.

John Wollin, M.A., previously Rector of Emley, Co. York, was instituted to Blackburn Vicarage August 16th, 1742, and held this benefice thirty years. By his wife Mary, he had a son John, bapt. at Blackburn Church, October 25th, 1749. Vicar Wollin's receipt in 1758 for his stipend from the Rectory estate is copied below:—"Received 22nd April, 1758, of Frederick [Cornwallis], Archbishop of Canterbury, by the hands of Mr. John Feilden, one of the Farmers of the Rectory of Blackburn, &c., the sums of £13 6s. 8d. and £35, being the first moiety of the yearly augmentation of £70, allowed by the Archbishop, &c., and also the sum of £7, the moiety of the new augmentation of £14 given to the curates by Madame Cordelia Fleetwood, by covenant in a lease granted to her by Dr. W. Sancroft," &c. This Vicar gave before his death in 1772 a sum of £10, the interest to be expended in books for the use of the poor of this parish.

John White, B.A., instituted August 7th, 1772, was, says Whitaker, "brother to the elegant historian of Selborne, and himself an excellent naturalist." He was the son of John White, Esq., of Selborne, Hampshire. Vicar White corresponded with his brother Gilbert on matters in natural history, and is named several times in the *History of Selborne*. Writing of the early appearance of swallows, Gilbert White states that "at Blackburn, in Lancashire, swifts were seen April the 18th," (1774); and when writing on the severity of the winter of 1776, mentions that in January of that year the thermometer "stood at nineteen at Lyndon, Rutland; at Blackburn in Lancashire, at nineteen; and at Manchester, twenty-one, twenty, and eighteen." Gilbert White also "transcribes a 'Natural History of Gibraltar,' written by the Reverend John White, late Vicar of Blackburn, in Lancashire, but not

yet published." Mr. White was at Gibraltar in 1770, shortly before his appointment to Blackburn, but in what capacity I am not informed. He died Nov. 21st, 1780, and was buried in Blackburn Church, Nov. 25th.

Thomas Starkie, M.A., presented to this benefice in 1780, was a member of the family of Starkie of Twiston, and eldest son of James Starkie, Esq. He was a fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. His eldest son, Thomas Starkie, Esq., Q.C., married Lucy, daughter of Dr. T. D. Whitaker, the antiquary. In the time of Vicar Starkie, an important change was effected with respect to the letting of Vicarial Glebe Lands. Being heretofore precluded from leasing any part of the glebe for lengthened terms, the Vicar had been unable to make the best rental of the estate by parcelling it out as building sites; and thus the Vicar's land, although situate centrally in the township, remained in pasturage. In 1796, however, Vicar Starkie obtained a special Act of Parliament giving power to make long leases. The value of the Vicarage as then returned was as follows:—

Glebe in Mr. Starkie's hand, 5 acres, £20; Ditto let to Rt. Pickup, 14½ acres, £63; Ditto let to Rd. Veevers, 21 acres, £37 16s.; Surplice Fees and Easter Offerings, £55; Pension from the Rectory, £88 13s. 4d.; a building let for a warehouse, £7 17s. 6d.; Glebe rents, £2 18s.; Rents of Gardens, £10; for receiving and distributing Thornley Rents, £2; total £287 4s. 10d.; less taxes and repairs £12; net value £275 4s. 10d.—The Duty so great as to require an Assistant.

An abstract of the Vicar's Act of 1796, by which powers were given to grant leases of Glebe lands, may be found useful for reference:—

ACT ON VICAR'S LEASES, 36 GEO. III., 1796.—An Act to enable the Vicar of the Parish of Blackburn, Co. Lancaster, to grant Leases, with power of renewal, of part of the Glebe Lands, belonging to the said Vicarage. Whereas the Reverend Thomas Starkie, M.A., Vicar of the Parish of Blackburn, in the Diocese of Chester, in right of his said Vicarage, is seized of certain Glebe Lands, containing forty acres and a half, customary measure of the country, part of which is very conveniently situated for building upon, for the use of the Inhabitants of the said Parish, and whereas great benefit would accrue to the Vicarage if power was given for the time being to grant Leases of the said Glebe Lands, for a term of years sufficient to encourage persons to build thereon, and to improve the same, it is enacted that from and after the passing of this Act, it shall be lawful for the Vicar of the Parish of Blackburn, &c., for the time being, to demise or lease all or any part of the said Glebe Lands (except such parts thereof as are hereinafter excepted) unto any persons who shall be willing to build upon the same, in the manner by such leases respectively to be specified, &c., for any term or number of years not exceeding 999 years; so as in the said leases there be reserved the best and most improved ground rents that can be had for the benefit of the said Vicar and his successors without taking fine or foregift, and so as the Lessees enter into covenants to pay the rent thereby reserved, and to build and keep in repair the messuages and buildings intended and agreed to be built thereon, and to surrender the same at the expiration of the term of such lease, and so as in every such lease there shall be contained a power for re-entry for non-payment of the ground rent thereby to be reserved, and so as such leases be

respectively approved by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Chester for the time being, before the execution thereof, and so as in every such letting there shall not be comprised in any one lot any greater quantity of the said glebe lands than 4,840 square yards, being one statute acre. It is further enacted that it shall be lawful for the said Thomas Starkie to receive from the person to whom he shall grant building leases as aforesaid, any sum of money, by way of fine or foregift, not exceeding in the whole the sum of £300, and to apply the same to reimburse the said Thomas Starkie, &c., such sums as he shall have expended in obtaining this Act. It is further enacted that it shall be lawful to and for the said Thomas Starkie, and any of his successors, Vicars of the said Vicarage, to accept from time to time a surrender of any such lease as shall be made, and it shall be lawful for any Vicar to re-let any such tenements, unto any other person, for any term of years not exceeding the then residue of the said term of 999 years, and to take such fine or foregift upon the granting of which lease as shall be necessary for the repairing of the tenements to be surrendered or re-vested, so as such fine or foregift shall be immediately expended in repairing such tenements, and so as every such new lease contains the same clauses, covenants, and agreements as are hereinbefore directed to be inserted upon the granting of any original lease by virtue of this Act. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to empower the said Thomas Starkie or his successors, Vicars of the said Vicarage, to grant any lease by virtue of this Act, of the Parsonage House belonging to the said Vicarage, or of the gardens adjoining to the said house, or of any barns or stables now belonging to the said Vicarage, or of the fields called The Lower Alleys, the Further Vicar Heys, The Mosses, and The Linney Meadows, containing in the whole thirteen acres, three roods, and twenty-five perches of the customary measure there used, being twenty-five acres, three roods, and seventeen perches statute measure of land, or any part of them.

Immediately upon the passing of the Act, Vicar Starkie put in operation its provisions. A large portion of the glebe was leased in building plots at ground rents from 1d. to 2d. per yard. Among the first lessees were William Carr, Ralph Latus, Richard Cardwell, Christopher Hindle, Robert Pickup, William Holme, Richard Veevers, Thomas Hart, Jonas Bradley, John Smalley, William Eastham and others, and Robert Bannister, all of whom had their leases made out the year after the passing of the Act. Thirty-three building leases were issued by the same Vicar between the year 1797 and the year 1808. The number of leases now running under the Act is about 135. The appropriation of glebe lands as building sites has greatly increased the revenue from this ancient endowment of the benefice. The fact that the estimate of the value of the living has increased from £275 per annum in 1796 to £1,250 at present, is sufficient proof of the advantage that has accrued from the enfranchisement of these lands. The estate is now covered with houses and manufactories. The main parcel of land forming the Vicarial Glebe in the town of Blackburn, lies to the south of Penny-street and the road to Whalley, between that road and the street and road known as Salford and Eanam, extending eastward beyond Larkhill and Primrose Bank in the direction of Daisyfield; also on the south side of Salford, between that street and Mount-street, near the present

line of the railway; with a plot, abutting on the Rectory Glebe, on the south side of Coppy Nook and Bottomgate. The existing streets named Starkie-street, Vicar-street, Syke-street (which owes its name to a syke or small rivulet that had its course through the midst of the Glebe), Cleaver-street, Moor-street, Lark-hill-street, and a number of streets in the vicinity of Holy Trinity Church, which also stands on Glebe land, as well as the streets named High-street, Mount-street, Bow-street, Hallows-street, &c., on the south side of Salford, occupy glebe land leased from the Vicar.

On the 6th August, 1818, Vicar Starkie presided at a Vestry meeting, at which it was resolved to apply for an Act of Parliament giving power to take down and rebuild the Parish Church. The Vicar died a few days after, August 26th, 1818, and was buried at Downham Church.

Thomas Dunham Whitaker, D.D., L.L.D., F.S.A., the eminent antiquary and historian, succeeded Mr. Starkie as Vicar of Blackburn, to which he was presented November 7th, 1818, by the then Primate, and which he held (with his former benefice of Whalley) until his death, a period of three years. The full memorials of Dr. T. D. Whitaker printed elsewhere render superfluous any biographical notice of this Vicar in the present work. It may be mentioned, however, that after his presentation to Blackburn Vicarage, "he resided in that town the greater part of the year, and took his full share along with the curates in performing three services every Sunday, in a large Church, and to a crowded congregation." Dr. Whitaker's brief term as Vicar of this Parish was fittingly signalised by the commencement of the erection of a new Parish Church, the corner-stone of which was laid by him, September 2nd, 1820. Several of Vicar Whitaker's Sermons preached in the Parish Church and other Churches in the Parish were published. Dr. Whitaker died at the old Vicarage house in Blackburn Churchyard, on Tuesday, December 18th, 1821, aged 62; and was buried on the 26th December, at Holme Chapel, Cliviger.

John William Whitaker, D.D., was instituted to the Vicarage, Feb. 16th, 1822. His Vicariate was marked by the energetic prosecution of the work of Church extension in the Parish, which has been sustained under the two succeeding Vicars. Dr. J. W. Whitaker was an excellent scholar and an acute polemical writer; and was the author of numerous theological and controversial treatises. He died at Blackburn, August 23rd, 1854, aged 63. By his wife Mary Haughton, daughter of Sir William Feilden, of Feniscowles, Bart., Dr. Whitaker had issue six sons and four daughters; the eldest daughter is the wife of R. Raynsford Jackson, Esq., of Blackburn.

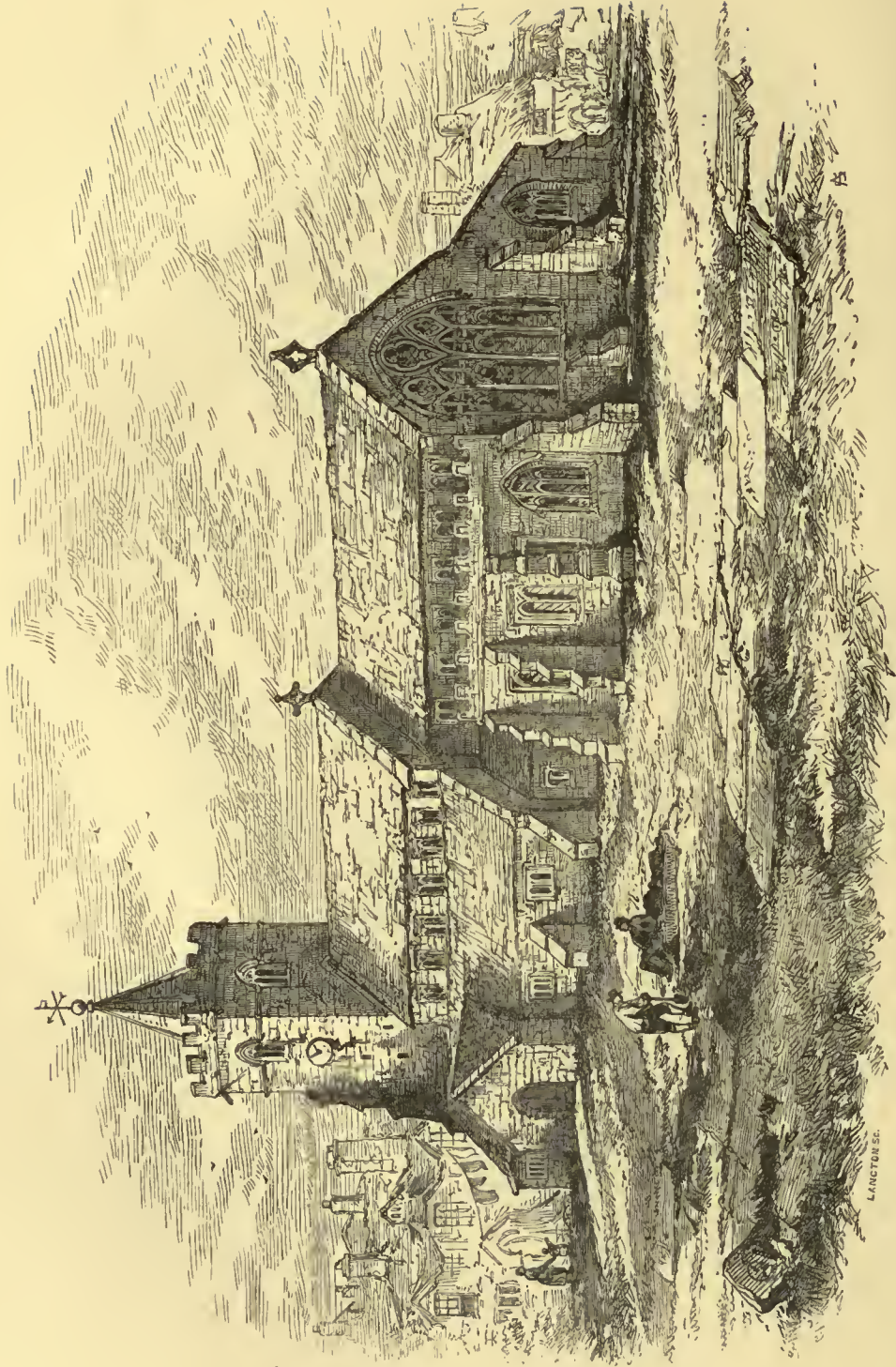
John Rushton, D.D., instituted to this Vicarage August 9th, 1854, was a son of James Rushton, yeoman, of Newchurch-in-Rossendale, born at Newchurch, May 5th, 1798. He obtained the Curacy of Langho in this Parish, in 1822, and that of Newchurch-in-Pendle in 1825. He was appointed Archdeacon of Manchester in 1843, and in 1847 was presented to the Rectory of Prestwich. On his preferment to Blackburn, Dr. Rushton resigned the Archdeaconry. In the fourteen years of his vicariate, six new churches were provided in the parish, and to four new parishes Vicar Rushton granted endowments of £50 per annum each out of the Vicarial revenues. Dr. Rushton died February 21st, 1868, and was buried February 27th, at Walton-in-le-Dale Church.

Edward Birch, M.A., the present Vicar, was instituted April 2nd, 1868. He matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and in 1836 was presented to the vicarage of Chorlton-on-Medlock, which he held until his preferment to the Vicarage of Blackburn. In 1866 he was appointed honorary Canon of Manchester. Canon Birch, since his acceptance of this benefice, has advanced greatly the educational institutions of the Mother Church of this Parish by promoting the erection of the new School-buildings in the Parish Churchyard.

LIST OF VICARS OF BLACKBURN.

Adam de Blackburn		John Hylton, - -	1561-1580
John de Blackburn		Edward Welche, - -	1580-1606
Henry de Blackburn	- A.D. 1160	John Morres, - -	1606-1628
Adam de Blackburn		Adam Bolton, - -	1628-1646
Roger de Blackburn		Robert Worthington, ¹ -	1647
John de Habyndon, before	- 1289	Leonard Clayton, - -	1647-1677
William de Lenche, -	1289-1313	Francis Price, - -	1677-1705
Adam de Walboncke, -	1313-1333?	John Holme, - -	1706-1738
John de Gristwayth, -	1333-1362	John Potter, - -	1738-1742
John de Lyndelay, - -	1362-1378	John Wollin, - -	1742-1772
William de Wetherby, -	1378-1419?	John White, - -	1772-1780
Geoffrey Banastre, -	1419-1457	Thomas Starkie, - -	1780-1818
Robert Salley, - -	1457-1489?	Thomas Dunham Whitaker,	1818-1821
Henry Salley, - -	1489-1535	John William Whitaker, -	1822-1854
Ralph Lynney, - -	1537-1554	John Rushton, - -	1854-1868
James Hargreaves, - -	1555-1561	Edward Birch, - -	1868-

¹ Robert Worthington officiated as Vicar a short time (not longer than two months), between the death of Vicar Bolton and the appointment of Vicar Clayton, as I find by a note kindly extracted by Mr. J. E. Bailey from the records of the Plundered Ministers' Committee (Bodl. MSS. 324, p. 241), dated March 20th, 1646-7; the minute runs:—"Whereas the Vicarage of the P'ishe Church of Blackburne in the County of Lancaster is void by the death of Adam Bolton the late incumbent, and the same is in the gift of the Archb'opp of Cant., it is therefore ordered that Robt. Worthington, a godly and orthodox divine, doe forthwith officiate the cure of the said church as Vicar, and preach diligently," &c.



THE OLD PARISH CHURCH OF BLACKBURN, TAKEN DOWN A. D. 1820.

THE OLD CHURCH FABRIC.

The statements published respecting successive re-edifications of the Parish Church of Blackburn are conjectural and traditional ; at least, the present writer is not aware of the existence of any documentary records indicating precisely the date and circumstances of restorations carried out in the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries. The Saxon church-structure found standing at the Domesday Survey may not have been the original building, for the foundation was even then to be reckoned by centuries, and the rude erections of wood that exhausted the architectural skill of the primitive church builders in this part of the kingdom could not have withstood long without sign of decay the influences of a humid climate like that of Lancashire. It is likely that Blackburn Church would be rebuilt or restored by one of the De Lacys after the conveyance of the church to that Norman baronial house in the twelfth century, and previous to its transfer to the religious fraternity under the patronage of De Lacys. Two more centuries of time had reduced the Norman fane to a state of dilapidation, when, about the reign of Edward the Third (1327-77), the first Gothic structure was reared. Some of the materials of the older church were used in the erection, and blocks of carved stone after Norman patterns, which could not be placed visibly in the new Church of that date, were buried in the foundations ; these fragments were brought to light on the digging out of the foundations in 1820 ; they included portions of arcuated stones with dog-tooth ornaments, the remains of a doorway, and sculptured Norman capitals.

The Church of Edward the Third's time had in its turn become impaired with age, perhaps also by neglect, in the reign of Henry VIII., when by the overturn of the Monastery to which it was attached it passed under new authority ; and shortly after that change, about the year 1540, the upper portion of the church walls and the roof were extensively renovated. The nave and chancel were covered with handsome roofs of timber, with transverse beams and panelled compartments ; and the tracery and moulded heads of some of the windows were replaced. With these new features, the main structure of the former church was retained, and lasted until the final demolition of the ancient fabric and the erection of the present Church upon another site in the churchyard. The general character of the old Church as it was left after the alterations of 1540 will better be understood by reference to the drawing of it engraved for this work than by any verbal description. This perspective view of the edifice, taken from the south-east angle of the churchyard, exhibits the components of an early Lancashire Church, as seen with variations in the oldest examples yet extant. A rather

short nave, with small circular-headed clerestory lights in couplets; low-walled aisles, with roofs sloping up to the line of the clerestory window-sills; gabled porch at the west end of the south aisle, with pointed-arched doorway; chancel of equal length with the nave, having also a clerestory, and an elaborately traceried east window of four lights; gothic crosses at the eastern apexes of nave and chancel roofs; at the west end, the strong embattled square tower of three storeys, surmounted by a stunted spire; flanking the chancel the two mortuary chapels of the Osbaldestons (on the north side) and of the Walmesleys (on the south side), the latter with embattled roof-line; tower, aisles, chapels, and chancel walls supported by deep graduated buttresses. The interior of the Church was diversified by few enrichments beyond the carved bosses of the Tudor roof and an interesting east window of painted glass in heraldic devices; the nave was divided from the aisles by pointed arches resting upon cylindrical pillars with moulded capitals. Eight old oak stalls, with grotesque carvings under the hinged seats, said to have come from the dismantled Conventual Church at Whalley, were placed in the choir, four on each side, as seats for the wardens; these stalls are retained in the fittings of the modern church. The elevation of the Church was disproportionately low to its length and breadth. Beneath the floor, the ground was filled with the graves of the principal inhabitants, who for many generations had claimed right of burial within the area of the Church. It was at length found necessary to restrict these interments inside the fabric, and a rule was made at a meeting of the Vestry held on August 12th, 1789, "that no corpse shall be interred in future within the Church unless the friends of the deceased do pay, over and above the common dues to the Vicar, Clerk, and Sexton, Three Guineas, to be laid out in the repairs and improvement of the Church;" and "if the interment is made in that space which extends from the East Window to the centre Arch, the above sum of three guineas is to be paid to the Lessees of the Rectory, in consideration of their supporting the roof over that respective part;" the regulation is "not to extend to the two Chapels at the East end of the Church."¹ The site of the old Church was but a few paces in the rear of the houses on the south side of Church-street.

THE CHANTRIES AND CHANTRY CHAPELS.

The earliest of the chantry services attached to the Church of Blackburn was founded by the provision of John de Blackburn, son of Henry, who by Charter in Norman-French, given at Blackburn, A.D. 1321, for the salvation of his soul and of the souls of his father and mother,

¹ There is a minute of this decision in the Church Register.

his ancestors and heirs, granted to God and to the Church of St. Marie of Blackburn (*leglise seint Marie de Blakeburn*) an annual rent of four livres to be paid yearly for ever at the Feast of St. Martin to the wardens of the Church, to sustain two torches lighted at the high altar of that Church. The deed of grant to remain in charge of the Vicar of Blackburn and his successors. This Chantry had probably fallen into abeyance after the lapse of more than 200 years, for it is not noticed in the returns of the Chantry Commissioners of Henry VIII. that preceded the suppression of Chantry Priests by statutory enactment.

In the year 1453, Geoffrey Banastre, then Vicar of Blackburn, founded a Chantry in this Church, and endowed it with the annual rent of £4 13s. 4d., secured by the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St. Mary, of Leicester, on the rectorial tithes of Preston, in Lancashire, in consideration of two hundred marks having been paid to them by Mr. Geoffrey Banastre or by his executors. The record of the *Valor* of 1534 names this Chantry as in the hands of William Rishton, Chaplain, worth yearly in rents of lands and tenements 66s. 8d. In the report of the Chantry Commission, A.D. 1546, "The Chantrye at the High Altar within the Paroche Church of Blakborne," is found served by "Willyam Usherwoode, preiste, incumbent there of the foundation of Galfrede Banastre, somtyme Vicar of the same Church, to celebrate at the high altar there for the sowles of his founders. The same is within the Paroche Church of Blakborne, and the saide preist doth celebrate there accordinge to the statute of his foundation." The endowments of the same are thus certified:—"The same Incumbent receiveth yearly for his salary, at two terms in the year, an annual rent of £4 13s. 4d., going forth of the parsonage of Preston, which parsonage was given to the same Chantry by Richard Androwe and his brethren, he then being Dean of the New College of Leicester, for the sum of two hundred marks to them paid, as appeareth by their grant to the said Chantry, dated in the Chapter House under their common seal, the 26th day of February, in the year of our Lord God 1453, due at the Feasts of Saint Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of our Lady equally—£4 13s. 4d.—Sum total of the rental £4 13s. 4d. Reprises none."¹ In 1548, William Risheton, aged 53, is returned as Chantry Priest, and the houseling people of the parish were 2,000. At the suppression of Chantries William Risheton, priest here, was pensioned, and in 1553 was living on his pension of £4 6s. 8d.

A Chantry, dedicated to the B. V. Mary, was founded by Thomas, second Earl of Derby, and the inhabitants of Blackburn, in the year

¹ History of Chantries of Lancashire, Edited by Canon Raines for Chetham Society, v. i, pp. 152-3.

1514. The foundation deed is dated at Lathom, April 6th, 5th Henry VIII. The following is a summary of the charter :—

The purpose of the founder was the maintenance of a Chantry Priest in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin on the south side of the Parish Church of Blackburn; and while the parishioners purchased certain freehold and copyhold lands in this county and in the county of York, the Earl of Derby gave in trust to John Yorke, George Cowburne, Raufe Waddyntone, Raufe Critchlawe, Henry Feilden, William Ysherwood, Xpofer Bolton, and Richard Hawkeshaye the estate of Eggye-hey, in Brunley, of the yearly value of 15s., to the use of the said Chantry as endowment. The said Earl within twenty days was to make "Sir Edward Bolton Chantry Prest of the said Chantré;" after his decease or resignation the said Earl and his heirs for ever should name "another able secular Prest, that is expert, and can sing both pricke song and plane songe, and hath a sight in Descant, if such can be gotten, which shall teach a fre Song Scol in Blackburne aforesaid, and also shall kepe the quere in the said Parish Church, every holy-day through the yere, at the time of al devine service kept there." Also it is agreed by the said parties "that at all such tyme as it shall happen all the fefes of the said lauds and tenements afor apointed for the sustentation and mayntaining of the said Chantri, except four, or three at the least, to decease, that then every of the said Chantri Prests then and there being, shall make deligent labour to cause other 12 of the most honest men of the said parish to be named by the said Church reve's ther for the tyme being yf they can agree thereupon, to be fefes of the premisses." The Priest of the said Chantry was not to take any other care or charge, but should he say any trentals, or pray otherwise than according to the present foundation, one half of the profit of the same should go towards the reparation or making of ornaments for the said Chantry. The priest was to pray by vowe for the souls of Thomas, Earl of Derby, late deceased, of my Lady his wife, and George Stanley, Lord Strange, of my Lady Jane, his wife, and for their children's souls, and for the prosperous estate of the then Earl of Derby and of my Lady of Derby his wife, and for their issue and posterity for ever; and for the welfare of all the parishioners of Blackburn, and of all who had been benefactors, helpers, and contributors to the purchasing of lands, jewels, or ornaments for the said Chantry, quick or dead, and for all Christian souls. The said Chantry priest, every Sunday and holiday in the year, after offering mass, should turn to the people and exhort them to pray for all the said persons and for their souls, and say the Psalm of De profundis, with a Pater Noster and an Ave Marie, with special suffrage after, and Funeral Collect for the quick and dead, either by themselves. The Priest also to sing or say mass of our Lady, to note every holiday and every Saturday, and the priest and his scholars and others who may be gotten, four times in the year for ever to sing a solemn dirge for the souls aforesaid, and also on the morrow next after such dirge song the priest to sing a mass of requiem with note, and on every Wednesday and Friday to say mass of Jesus, or of the five wounds of our Lord Jesus Christ, in the said Chantry Chapel; and on all other days of the week to say mass as he conveniently may. The priest to sing or say masses in the same chapel about eight o'clock in the morning in summer-time, *i. e.*, from Easter to Michaelmas, and in the winter-time about ten o'clock in the forenoon. A penalty of 4d. to be paid to the churchwardens out of the lands for every default or negligence of duty, without sufficient and lawful excuse.

In the *Valor* of 1534, it was found concerning this Chantry that it was in the hands of Thomas Burgess, chaplain, and worth in rents and

farms of lands and tenements 66s. 8d. per annum. The King's commission appointed 37th Henry VIII. (1546) to ascertain the origin and value of the Chantries returned the subjoined account of this Chantry:—

THE CHAUNTRIE AT THE ALTER OF OUR LADY WITHIN THE SAID P'OCH-CHURCH [OF BLACKBURN]:—Thomas Burges, preist, incumbent ther of the foundacon of the ancestors of the Erle of Derby, to celebrate ther for their sowles, and to maneteyne the one side of the quere [choir] to the uttermost of his power everie holie day, and also the incumbent herof to be sufficientlie lerned in gramer and plane songe to kepe a fire skole contynuallie in Blakburne biforesaide. The same is at the alter of our Lady within the said paroch church, and the said incumbent doth celebrate and manctene the quere every holie day accordinglie, and also doth teache gramer and plane songe in the said fire skole accordinge to the statutes of his ffoundacon.

The Endowments are thus returned by the Commissioners:—

Willyam Smithson holdyth one tenemente with the appurtenances, lienge in Slathborne, in the countie of York, by yere 13s. 4d.; and Alice Parkinson holdyth one tenemente there, 34s.; in all by yere, 47s. 4d. Robert Smith holdyth one tenemente with the appurtenances in Burneley, in the countie of Lancastre, rentinge yerlie, &c., 14s. Nycholas Dogeson holdyth one tenemente with the appurtenances lienge in Padiham, in the said countie, rentinge yerlie, 19s. Thomas Whitehalgh and John Sudley holden one tenemente with the appurtenances lienge in Oughe Boughe in the said countie, rentinge, &c., 17s. Richarde Haddoke and his fellowes holden one tenemente with the appurtenances lienge in Leveshey, in the said countie, rentinge, &c., 13s. 4d. Suma totall of the rentall 110s. 8d., whereof payd to our sovereigne Lorde, for a rent goinge furth of the landes by yere 2s., and so remanyth 108s. 8d.¹

The Chantry was soon afterwards dissolved with the rest; its chaplain, Thomas Burgess, aged 58, receiving a life pension; and in consideration that a free school had been taught by the Chantry Priest, in obedience to the terms of the foundation, a pension of £4 7s. 4d. in lieu of the Chantry lands escheated to the Crown was charged on the revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster, payable to the Schoolmaster at Blackburn. The Chapel of our Lady, on the south side of the choir of Blackburn Church, in which the Chantry-priest officiated, had existed, it would seem, before the foundation of the Chantry in 1514, and was held to have pertained anciently to the Rishtons, being a branch of the ancient Rectorial family of De Blackburn, and was claimed as the appanage of the lordship of Rishton by the Talbots of Holt after the suppression of the Chantry; and later by the Walmesleys of Dunkenhalgh, as purchasers of the Rishton estate, against John Talbot of Salesbury, who asserted a claim to the Chapel. The dispute took the form of a reference to the Bishop of Chester in 1611, whose award was the division of the Chapel between the contesting houses, the Talbots taking the north half, and the Walmesleys the south half of the Chapel. The Chapel was repaired subsequently to this decision as to ownership.

The Chapel on the north side of Blackburn Church does not prove

¹ Raines' Lancash. Chantries, v. 1, pp. 154-6.

to have been endowed as a chantry for the family of Osbaldeston to which it from early time belonged; but was used as a private oratory and mortuary chapel. The Wills of several members in succession of this house appoint their sepulture in their chapel within Blackburn Church, and here were several monuments of Osbaldestons, to be noted on another page along with other monuments formerly fixed in the Church. With this chapel was enjoyed by the same family the right of nominating the Parish Clerk and one churchwarden. The last lineal member of the Osbaldestons, in 1747, by Will granted to Thomas Clayton of Little Harwood, Esq., his "chappells, seats, pews, burying-ground, and all his right in Blackburn Church." Pennant noticed in the chapel a century ago much miscellaneous painted glass collected by one of the Osbaldestons, including four pieces of great beauty, Our Saviour, St. James the Greater and Less, and St. Matthew. The east window of this chapel was a traceried one of three lights.

THE NEW CHURCH FABRIC.

The last service was held in the old Parish Church on Sunday, November 10th, 1819, and the Church was demolished in the course of the year following;¹ its replacement by a new edifice having become imperative both on account of its dilapidation and of its inadequacy for the reception of the congregation of the Mother Church. A special Act of Parliament, passed June 14th, 1819, empowered a body of trustees² to raze the old fabric and to obtain a sum of £15,000 by a general parish rate to defray the cost of a new Church. The corner-stone of the new Church was laid by Vicar T. D. Whitaker, September 2nd, 1820. Mr. John Palmer was appointed architect. The building had made some progress by 1823, when the sum realized by the first special Church rate being expended, a further rate was levied. A second Act of Parliament had to be obtained in 1824, giving the trustees power to raise an additional £18,000 by means of a rate. The consecration of the Church by the Bishop of Chester took place September 13th, 1826. The cost of the fabric was £25,979 11s. 9d.; organ £850; expenses of Acts of Parliament £1,279; and the incidental expenditure in diverting the river for extension of the church-yard, in purchasing lands and in compensation for the grammar school, was upwards of £10,000. A

¹ The old Tower was left standing until the year 1870.

² The trustees were:—Hon. Robt. Curzon, John Bailey, Thomas Ainsworth, Richard Cardwell the elder, Richard Cardwell the younger, clerk, Abraham Chew, John Cunliffe, Robert Chadwick, William Carr, Thomas Carr, Robt. Dewhurst, John Emmet, Thomas Edmundson, Joseph Feilden, William Feilden, John Fleming, James Greenway the younger, Thomas Glover, James Glover, John Hornby, John Fowden Hindle, John Hargreaves, John Harper, Christopher Hindle, William Maude, James Nevill, George Petre, William Pickering, Proctor Ratcliffe, Dixon Robinson, Le Gendre Starkie, Henry Sudell, James Taylor, William Townley, Thomas Turner, William Turner, William Walker.

third rate was levied in 1827 to obtain the cost of lighting and warming the church. On January 6th, 1831, during morning service, the roof of the church took fire through some defect in the flue, and was entirely destroyed, and other damage was done, repaired at a cost of £2,500.

The present Parish Church is a large and handsome edifice, of the 14th century gothic in style; the plan consists of nave, chancel, north and south aisles, western tower and porches, and north and south vestries at the east end. The lateral aspect of the exterior presents aisles about 110 feet in length, upheld by graduated buttresses with pinnacles heading each buttress, between which are six large windows of three lights, transomed, with heads of elegant tracery, the alternate design of which is borrowed from Roslyn Chapel; the clerestory has twelve lights on each side, placed in couplets, trefoil-headed; the east end exhibits the entrance to the vaults, beneath a large east window of five lights, elaborately traceried; above this, a circular window filled with tracery; pinnacles rise from the angle-buttresses of nave and aisles. At the west end, a very bold tower of three storeys rises in the centre, and is flanked by porches with recessed pointed arches. An effective feature of the tower front is the lofty recessed arch which encloses the principal doorway and a traceried window above it. Upon corbels in the west front are sculptured the royal arms in duplicate, with those of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop of Chester; and on the porches are the arms of the two vicars (T. D. Whitaker and J. W. Whitaker) during whose vicariate the Church was rebuilt. In the interior the nave arches, six in number, are sustained by cylindrical columns surrounded by four semi-cylindrical shafts; these noble columns, with one or two exceptions, are monoliths. The bases and capitals are plainly-moulded. The chancel is a continuation of the nave, and is recessed by a series of nine arches, resting upon lofty cylindrical columns, in close succession, and contracted eastward to the east window, which is a fine painted window of five lights, filling the space above the altar screen. The roofs of nave and aisles are groined, with rich bosses floriated or faced with heraldic shields displaying the arms of numerous native families. The organ loft and gallery for the choir occupy the west end of the nave above the central entrance, and rest upon pointed arches arranged in semi-octagonal form. Side galleries are erected the entire length of the aisles, supported by slender iron pillars behind the nave columns. During the last summer (1875), the church-interior has been wholly renovated and re-benched; and a new organ,—one of the finest Church organs in the county,—has been presented to the Church by William Coddington, Esq., the cost of which was £2,500. The last measurement gives 1,450 sittings, of which 700 are free.

The internal dimensions are :—length of nave, 103 feet ; chancel, 11 feet ; breadth of nave, 28 feet ; aisles, 19 feet each ; tower, 15 feet square ; height of nave, 46 feet ; aisles, 29 feet. The height of the tower to the square is 86 feet ; to the top of the pinnacles, 112 feet.

THE CHURCH BELLS.

Blackburn Church had anciently a peal of six bells, inscribed thus :—First bell : “*Vivos voco, mortuos plango, fulgura frango* ;” second bell : “*Laudo Deum, plebem voco, congrego clerum ; defunctos ploro, pestem fugo, festa decoro* ;” third bell : “*Funera plango, fulgura frango, Sabbata pango* ;” fourth bell : “*Excito lentos, dissipato ventos, paco cruentos* ;” fifth bell : “*Nomen Jesu Christe ; tu attendas et defendas* ;” sixth bell : “*Te laudamus et rogamus ; nos a morte tristi*.” In 1690, the bells had been reduced to five ; and in 1737 the old peal of five bells were recast and six new bells founded by Abel Rudhall of Gloucester. The tenor bell, being cracked, was recast in 1747. The six bells are now ranged as follows :—1, weight 6 cwt. ; motto, “When you do ring we will sweetly sing ;” 2, 6 cwt. 3 qrs. ; “Peace and good neighbourhood ;” 3, 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. ; “May the Church of England for ever flourish ;” 4, 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs. ; “We are all cast at Gloucester, by Abel Rudhall ;” 5, 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs. ; “The Rev. John Holme, Vicar ;” 6, 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs. ; “Thomas Martin, John Cross, Henry Drewitt, Robert Whitacre, churchwardens, 1747.” The bells remained in the old tower until 1832, when they were hung in the new tower ; and in 1851 four new bells were added, making a good peal of ten bells. The founders of three of the new bells were Messrs. Mears, of London. These three bells weigh 4 cwt. 17 lbs., 4 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lbs., and 5 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lbs. respectively. The fourth is a memorial bell, presented by the Hopwood family, whose name it bears, with the inscription, “John Turner Hopwood, Esq., Barrister-at-law, Rockcliffe House, Blackburn, March 2nd, 1849.” The weight of this bell is 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb.

THE SEPULCHRAL MONUMENTS.

It is ground for complaint by all who value the preservation *in situ* of ancient sepulchral memorials of deceased citizens, that on the removal of old churches such monuments attached to the walls are often destroyed or disappear, or are tossed into vaults and lofts as worthless refuse, and can no more be found by the interested searcher. This is what happened on the demolition of the old Parish Church fabric of Blackburn. Of numerous mural tablets formerly found within the walls of this Church few are now visible or to be heard of. I can only therefore note such as received mention by visitants to the former Church at various dates, and two or three that have been brought out of their hiding-place under

the Church stair as a result of my own inquiries. I am unable to indicate the present whereabouts of any that have fallen into private hands.

One of the oldest monumental inscriptions in the Church was that copied in the *Dodsworth MSS.*, and stated to have been in the window of Sir John Talbot's Chapel (*i.e.* the south Chapel in which the Chantry Priest endowed by the Earl of Derby chanted his daily prayers). The inscription ran :—

A.D. 1521. Pray for ye prosperous Estate of ye Rt. Hon. Thomas Erle of Derby, Viscount Kynton, Lord Strange, Lord of Knokyn.

In the same Chapel was erected at a later date the costly monument of Sir Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalth, the Judge of Common Pleas, who had made out his claim to a share in this Chapel shortly before his death in 1612. This stately monument, which must have filled a good portion of the Chapel-area, consisted of a statue in alabaster lying on a sarcophagus beneath a recessed arch, with an inscribed tablet behind, and an heraldic shield in an upper compartment. The obituary inscription and a poetic epitaph will be given in my sketch of the Walmesley family. The monument was broken to fragments within thirty years of its erection, during the Civil War of 1642-51, by the Parliamentary garrison or the inhabitants of Blackburn, as a proof of their enmity to the Walmesleys, who were doubly obnoxious as both Royalist and Roman Catholic. A small remnant of the monument, consisting of the arms of Walmesley impaled with those of Shuttleworth of Hacking, surmounted by the knightly helm and crest of the judge, is now fixed in the wall of the south vestry of the present Parish Church.

In the Osbaldeston Chapel at the east end of the north aisle were memorial tablets and windows to several members of the family owning that Chapel. Elena Osbaldeston, second wife of Sir Alexander, by her Will, dated 1560, directed that three stones with inscriptions on brass should be fixed in her Chapel in Blackburn Church, over the remains of herself, her husband, and her brother Sir Thomas Tyldesley; and doubtless this was done as ordered; but no trace or record of these brasses survives. Other tablets in the Chapel, inscribed to later members of the family, and the two painted windows of the Chapel, were observed by Pennant¹ in 1773 :—

Against the walls are two brasses; one with the bald head of an old man with a great beard, his body armed; inscribed :—“Here lyeth the body of Sir Edward Osbaldiston, a charitable, courteous, and valiant Knight, qui obiit A.D. 1636, æt 63.” The epitaph is concise, but contains a character replete with all the requisites of chivalry in its period of utmost purity. The other brass is in memory of another Osbaldiston [Edward, son of Alexander], which acquaints us with nothing further than that he died in 1689, aged 38.

¹ Tour from Downing to Alston Moor, pp. 66-7.

A local chronicler finds that a gravestone placed in 1521 near the altar of Blackburn Church had upon it the sentiment :—"Our Fathers find their graves in our shorte memories ; and sadly tell us howe we shall be buryed in our survivors. Lett me be found in the regystre of heaven, not in the recorde of man. A.D. MDXXI. Dom. J. Catherall."¹

Baines gives the inscription from another monumental tablet placed in the wall of the south aisle of the old Church of Blackburn, as follows :—

Before thou doe thy worke begine
Then of God crave pardon for thy sin :
And then thy worke shall prosper soe
As want shall never breed thee woe.
.) (. 1614 I. M.
George Ryley.²

To an infant son of Vicar Potter is inscribed a small square tablet of white marble :—

Io. Potter Natus Mortuus Sepultus Nov. 1740.

I also note an oval white marble tablet to the last direct representative of the Astley family, inscribed :—

To the memory of the Revd. George Astley, who departed this life the 7th of July, 1777, aged 43, this Monument is erected.

Broken into four or five fragments I find the tablet to Vicar White, a large oblong square, of white marble, inscribed :—

Under the Communion Table is interred the Revd. John White, B.A., Vicar of this Parish, who departed this life Nov. 21st, 1780, aged 53 years. He was a sincere Christian and conscientious pastor, an affectionate husband and good parent, a kind and faithful friend, an ingenious and accurate naturalist.

A brass affixed to wood, lying also amongst lumber, is inscribed :—

Sacred to the Memory of Mr. George Cape, Merchant and Drysalter, Old Swan Stairs, London, who died at this place, June 2nd, 1789, in the 38th year of his age.

In the Burial Register of the Church, "George Cape, a rider from London," is entered as buried June 4th, 1789.

Several Memorial Windows are placed in the present Church. The vaulted tombs in the churchyard on the site of the old Church, include those of Walmesley and Petre of Dunkenhalgh ; Feilden of Witton ; Hindle of Blackburn ; Sudell of Blackburn ; Peel of Blackburn ; Birley of Blackburn ; Chippendall, Livesey, Lancaster, Yates, Forrest, &c.

The old Communion Plate of the Church was inscribed :—"Ex dono Thom. Smith, 1630," and "Ex dono Edwardi et Roberti Bolton, dat Ecclesiæ Blackborne, A.D. 1653."³

¹ Whittle's Blackburn as it Is, p. 62.

² Hist. of Lanc., New Edn., v. ii, p. 66.

³ The "Statement of Facts relative to the taking down and rebuilding of the Parish Church of Blackburn," printed in 1827, by Thomas Rogerson, Market Place (an ample and useful compilation of

THE PARISH REGISTERS.

The Parish Registers begin connectedly about A.D. 1600, but I find a few detached entries as far back as 1568. The first Register Book, on parchment, has been seriously tampered with at some period, and the leaves containing the entries between 1568 and 1600 may have been destroyed during the Civil War of 1642-51, when the Registers exhibit another gap between the years 1637 and 1651. The first volume is bound in calf, about an inch in thickness. The entries are in English from 1608, when James Hodgkinson became Parish Clerk. On the resumption of the record in 1651 it is inscribed:—"Leonard Clayton, Pastor. Here followeth a perfect Register of all Names of those who have been baptized att our Parish Church of Blackburn, from the 20th of Aprill, 1651." Onward from this date the entries are continuous until the present time. The second volume opens with this certificate of the appointment of Parish Clerk in 1653:—

Richard Morres of Blackburn in Co. Lanc., gent., being chosen by the inhabitants and householders of the Parish of Blackburn to be their Parish Registr., came before us this 22th of September, 1653, and was by us approved on to bee the said Registr. for the said Parish, to have the keepinge of this Booke, and was by us approved on and sworne accordinge to the Acte of Parliament of the 24th of August last in that case made and provided.

RIC: SHUTTLEWORTHE.

JOHN STARKIE.

The civil marriages during the Commonwealth were usually performed in presence of Randal Sharples, Esq., a local Justice devoted to the party then in power. After the Restoration the old form of registration of marriages is reverted to. The Parish Clerk was then

88 pages) mentions that the following relics of the old Church were preserved in the present structure:—"In the north vestry, several monumental tablets not yet re-erected; in the south vestry, the arms of Walmesley, impaling Shuttleworth of Hacking, part of the monument of Judge Walmesley, formerly in the Dunkenhalgh Chapel; in the window of the same vestry are fragments of painted glass bearing the figures of the Blessed Virgin, and a Saint in the monastic habit of the Cistercians, probably intended for St. Bernard the founder of that order, which was the one established at Whalley Abbey; also, on glass of inferior antiquity and beauty, several busts of the Apostles; four herald-badges, viz., the White Rose of York, the portcullis of the House of Tudor, the Peacock, and the couchant Stag; and a full-length portrait of the celebrated Erasmus. Some fragments of painted glass from the old church are also preserved in the windows of the clerestory and side-aisles; that in the east window is modern, and was furnished by subscription. The stalls, at present occupied by the churchwardens, were also part of the furniture of the ancient church, and exhibit in the grotesque carvings on the under parts of the seats or misereres decided indications of a date anterior to the Reformation. One of these contains a rude representation of the temptation of Eve, and the ejection of our first parents from Paradise; three bear emblems usually attributed to the Evangelists, viz., the Angel of St. Matthew, the winged Lion of St. Mark, and the winged Bull of St. Luke; two others represent a Fox in a pulpit edifying a congregation of Geese, and a Huntsman with his huge horn encouraging the hounds in pursuit of a family of apes, one of which has fallen into their clutches, while the parent is endeavouring to escape with a young one at her back. The rest are of foliage" (pp. 26-7). The Vicarage-house in the church-yard being taken down, the present house in King-street was secured for the Vicars' residence.

appointed by the Osbaldestons; and I find these entries of such appointments:—

John Bolton began as Parish Clerk of Blackburn, 9th July, 1676, presented by Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., and approved by Leo. Clayton, Clerk and Vicar there.

Adam Rabye began the office of Parish Clerk, April 5th, 1683, presented by Edward Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq.

Thomas Nevil elected Clerk of Parish of Blackburn 28th May, 1708.

The Parish Registers are now kept in a strong room lately built between the north vestry and the chancel. Previously they had been in a wooden cabinet in the Vestry, and had suffered from the damp.

The appointment of Sexton was claimed by the same parties who put in by prescription the Parish Clerk, but the claim has been disputed by several vicars. An affidavit made in 1781 states that in 1734 one John Nevill was appointed Sexton on the death of Robert Lathom, former Sexton; but the Vicar, Revd. John Holme, appointed John Hindle to be Sexton. A week after, Mr. Feilden and Mr. Ainsworth sent for John Osbaldeston (then living) to a public-house in Blackburn, and desired him to bring John Nevill to them at that house. They told Nevill they had appointed him Sexton, and desired John Osbaldeston to go to John Hindle for the key, or, if he refused, to send a constable. John Hindle thereupon gave up the key to John Osbaldeston, who delivered it to Mr. Feilden and Mr. Ainsworth, and they to their nominee John Nevill, who afterwards kept it and the office of Sexton until his death in March, 1781.

THE FREE GRAMMAR SCHOOL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

It has been shewn that the original Free School in Blackburn was founded and endowed in conjunction with the Chantry of the B. V. Mary in Blackburn Church, endowed by Thomas, Earl of Derby, in the year 1514. The Chantry being suppressed, Edward VI. soon after (A.D. 1551), granted in trust for the use of the Chantry Priest, Thomas Burgess, for the term of his life, in lieu of the rents of certain chantry lands, a sum equal to the ancient endowment of £4 7s. 4d., out of the revenues of the Duchy, the said priest being required to continue the duties of school-master of the said school. The school was thus nominally perpetuated, but inadequately sustained; and in A.D. 1567, upon a petition from the inhabitants, Queen Elizabeth granted a Charter for the new foundation of a Free Grammar School in Blackburn, of which a translation¹ is subjoined:—

Elizabeth, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these present letters shall come, greeting. Know ye that we, upon the humble Petition, as well of the Inhabitants of the vill and Parish

¹ This translation was made by Mr. John Clough, of Blackburn.

of Blackburn, in our County of Lancaster, as of very many others, our subjects of the whole country in the neighbourhood thereof, to us, for a Grammar School to be there erected and established, for the institution and instruction of boys and young persons, of our special grace, and our certain knowledge and mere motion, we will, grant, and for us, our heirs and successors, ordain, that henceforth there be and shall be one Grammar School in the said vill of Blackburn, which shall be called the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, for the education, institution, and instruction of boys and young persons in grammar, to be and remain for ever; and we do by these presents erect, create, ordain, and found that school to continue for ever, of one master, or pedagogue, and one sub-pedagogue or under-master. And that this our aforesaid intent may take the better effect, and that the lands, tenements, rents, revenues, and other issues to be granted, assigned, and appointed for the support of the aforesaid school, may be better governed for the continuance of the same, we will and ordain that henceforth for ever there be and shall be in the vill and Parish of Blackburn aforesaid, fifty men of the more discreet and honest of the Inhabitants or Freeholders of the aforesaid vill and Parish for the time being, who shall be and shall be called Governors, of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said Free School, commonly called and to be called the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster. And therefore know ye that we have assigned, chosen, named, and appointed, and by these presents do assign, choose, name, and appoint, our beloved Gilbert Gerrard, Esq., our Attorney-General; also our beloved Sir Thomas Langton, Knight; Sir John Southworth, Knight; Sir Thomas Hesketh, Knight; Sir William Ratcliffe, Knight; John Osbaldiston, Esq.; Henry Talbot, Esq.; John Talbot, Esq.; Robert Barton, Esq.; William Farrington, Esq.; Ralph Rissheton, Esq.; John Braddell, Esq.; John Hylton, clerk, Vicar of Blackburn aforesaid; also Richard Livesaye, gentleman; Lawrence Ainsworth, gentleman; George Astley, gentleman; Robert Morley, gentleman; William Clayton, gentleman; Robert Astley, gentleman; Thomas Walmysley, gentleman; Alexander Osbaldeston, gentleman; John Isherwoode, James Whithalgh, James Garstange, Thomas Holden, Evan Holden, Robert Bolton, Richard Cunlyff, Thomas Gillibrand, Thurstan Maudesley, William Dewhurst, William Barker, Christopher Mersden, Robert Warde, Robert Waddington, Richard Page, William Page, John Cowburne, Henry Mersden, John Linnols, Richard Ducksburye, Roger Gillibrand, Richard Heyworth, Thomas Whitehalgh, George Assheton, John Hodgeson, Alexander Bolton, Richard Edleston, Adam Bolton, and Randal Feilden, Inhabitants and Freeholders of the said vill and Parish of Blackburn, to be and remain first and new Governors of the possessions, revenues and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, &c., the same office well and truly to exercise and occupy, from the date of these presents, during their lives, and the lives of the longer livers of them. And that the same governors in deed, in fact and in name be and shall be henceforth one body corporate and politic of themselves for ever, by the name of the Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, incorporated and erected. And by these presents we incorporate these governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn. And we really and fully create, erect, ordain, make, and by these presents appoint, a body corporate and politic to continue for ever by the same name. And we will and by these presents do ordain and grant that the said Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, have perpetual succession, and by the same name be and shall be persons able and in law capable to acquire, receive, and take and hold demesnes, manors, lands, tenements, rents, reversions,

tithes, possessions, revenues, hereditaments whatever, or of what kind, nature, or sort soever they shall be, to themselves and their successors in fee and perpetuity; and likewise to give, grant, let and assign the same lands, tenements, and hereditaments, and all and singular other acts and deeds to do and execute by the name aforesaid. And that by the name of the Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, they have power and be able to plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in whatsoever courts, places, and steads, and before whatsoever judges and justices, and other persons, and any officers, in all and singular actions, suits, complaints, causes, matters, and demands whatsoever, and of whatsoever kind, nature, and sort they may be, by the same manner and form as other our lieges of this our kingdom of England, persons fit and in law capable, have power and are able to plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, and have, acquire, receive, possess, give, grant, and let. And that the aforesaid governors and their successors, henceforth for ever have a common Seal, that shall serve for the transacting of whatever causes and businesses of their own, and of their successors. And moreover we grant, ordain, and by these presents decree, that whensoever it shall happen that one or more of the said fifty Governors for the time being shall die, that then and so often it shall be lawful for the said other Governors surviving, or the major part of the same at that time residing and living in the said vill and parish of Blackburn, to elect and nominate another fit person, or other fit persons, of the Inhabitants or Freeholders of the vill and Parish of Blackburn aforesaid, into the places of him or them so dying, to succeed in the said office of Governor, and this so often as the case shall happen. And furthermore, of our further grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant, to the aforesaid new Governors and their successors, and to the major part of the same, full power and authority of naming and appointing a Master and Under Master of the said School, so often as the same shall be void of a master or under master; and that the same Governors for the time being from time to time make, and have power and authority to make, fit and wholesome Statutes and Ordinances in writing, concerning and touching the preservation and disposition of the rents and revenues appointed for the support of the said School, which statutes and orders so to be made, we will, and grant, and by these presents command inviolably to be observed from time to time for ever. And furthermore know ye, that in consideration that the said Governors of the said Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth in Blackburn, in the county of Lancaster, and their successors, may the better sustain and support the charge of the same school, and of the master and under-master thereof, from time to time, of our special grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant unto the aforesaid new Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in Blackburn aforesaid, and their successors, special and free license and lawful faculty, power, and authority of having, receiving, and acquiring, to them and their successors for ever, as well of us, our heirs and successors, as of any other person or persons whatsoever, whatever manors, messuages, tenements, rectories, tithes, or other hereditaments whatsoever, within the kingdom of England or in any other place within our dominions, which are not held of us immediately in chief, provided that they do not exceed the clear annual value of Thirty Pounds, to the aforesaid Governors and their successors as above related, as being granted by us in form aforesaid, the statute of lands and tenements in Mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, or provision, &c., notwithstanding. And we will and by these presents do grant to the aforesaid new Governors that they have and

shall have these our letters patent under our Great Seal of England duly executed and sealed, without fine or fee, great or small, to be yielded, paid, or made to us in our Hanaper Court, or in any other place, in any wise for our use; so far, at least, as express mention is made of the true yearly value or of any other value or certitude of the premises, or any part thereof, or of any other gifts or grants made by us in these presents, or by any of our progenitors, to the aforesaid new Governors of the possessions, revenues, and goods of the said Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in Blackburn aforesaid, and their predecessors before these times, any other statute, act, ordinance, provision, proclamation or restriction, made, published, ordained, or provided, &c., to the contrary notwithstanding. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness Our Seal at Gorhambury, the Eighth day of August, in the Ninth year of our reign. By Writ under Privy Seal, and of the date aforesaid, by authority of Parliament. (Signed) BUGGYN.

Eighteen years after the date of this Charter, a cause was pleaded in the Duchy Court for recovery of the copyhold lands originally granted for the endowment of the Chantry and Free School, which had been appropriated by the Crown. This cause was heard in the Michaelmas term, 27th and 28th Elizabeth (1585). The plaintiffs were Richard Livesey and others (the Governors of the School), Inhabitants of Blackburn, and the defendants were Richard Goodshaw and Nicholas Halsted; the matter in contest being the right and interest in certain messuages and lands, lying in Burnley, Padiham, and Blackburn, in Lancashire, and in Slaidburn, in Yorkshire, being copyhold of the manors of Ightenhill and Slaidburn. An indenture was produced, dated 5th Henry VIII., as well as a Decree of the Duchy Court, of the 2nd Elizabeth (1560), to the effect that "the said premises were given principally for the maintenance of a chantry priest, to sing and say mass, and other superstitious services in the Chapel of Our Lady, in the Church of Blackburn, which chantry priest should teach a Grammar School and a Song School." It was shown further that "by virtue of a commission granted by Edward VI., in the fourth year of his reign, after the statute made for the dissolution of the Chantries, to the stewards of the said manors, the said lands and tenements had been devised by copy of court roll, to certain persons and their heirs, to the use of Thomas Burgess, late chantry priest of the said Chantry, for his life, and afterwards to their own use, and that those persons had paid certain sums of money for the said premises, and that the defendants and the copyholders of the said premises, or their ancestors, had likewise paid sums of money for the same to the first purchasers, and that the title of the said copyholders had been by the said decree of the 2nd Elizabeth confirmed and allowed." The following record of the pleas and answer in this cause is found in the "Burleigh Papers" (*Lansdowne MS. 46*), in the British Museum Library:—

[Endorsed] 10 Feb. 1585-6. The case touching the Free Schole of Blackburne

in Lancashire, with the objections answered.—The Quene's Ma'stie hath incorporated a free Grammer Schole in Blackburne in Lancaster, called the Free Grammer Schole of Quene Elizabeth in Blackburne, and that they may purchase landes not exceeding a certaine vawew. Before this corp'acon ther was a Schole ther not incorp'ate, and certaine feoffees were seased of coppeholde landes p'cell of the Quenes Mannor to them and their heires, to th' intente to fynde a Schole Master w'ch should be the preyst and maynteyne the Quyeres and saye masses and diriges for the sowles of the founders. fforasmuch as Coppyholde landes w'ch were in the handes of others then the Chantrye Preysts are excepted out the Statute of Chuntries, these landes were not taken from the feoffees by the statute, but they by warrante from King Phillypp and Quene Marie surrendered the same in 1 and 2 Phil. et Marie to certaine newe feoffees and their heires to th'yntente to fynde a scholemaster at Blackburne and to th' use of a Schole to be kepte at Blackburne. Accordinge to this warrante, the newe feoffees were admitted to the use of the Schole. The newe feoffees of coppyholde landes p'cell of the Quenes Mannor, have exhibited their peticion in the Duchie, and have humble prayed that they may have and enjoye the coppieholde landes to the use of the Schole, as by lawe they oughte in righte to have the said landes. It ys objected by Mr. Attorney of the Duchie, that however the righte of the feoffees be, yet they may not have the landes, because they and diverse other copieholde landes in Lancaster were solde in 4^{to} Ed. VI. by surrender in the Coppeholde Courte. And yf the feoffees should have those landes, other feoffees wolde by lyke petycion take away all the other copiholde landes which were solde, and hinder the Quenes Ma'stie.

To this firste parte it is answered, that her Ma'stes pleasure ys (as they thinke) that her subjectes for her own Schole shoulde of her owne lawes have justiciam et rectum, beinge claimed by them as their inheritance and allowed by her Ma'ste and all her noble progenytors. Secondlye, the generall myschieffe of other cases (alleged) dothe not extende to this case, because in this case there was a good use for a free grammer Schole, w'ch was mente to be mayntayned by the Statute of Chuntries, and not overthrowne, and in the other cases there be noe Scholes to be considered. And in this case there ys a new admyttance of new feoffees, and to the use of a Grammer Schole, and a decree accordinglye for the Schole, w'ch is not in other cases.

The Quenes Ma'stie shall have the olde rente of the feoffees of the schole yearlie paid, and so noe loss to her Ma'stie, and for the ffyne due to her Ma'stie upon surrenders or upon deathe, yt is but a yere's rente, and the feoffees did lett yt by surrender to the tenants, who paid ffynes and most part of all the copieholders landes there are usuallie putt in feoffees hands, and order hath been taken that notwithstandinge the Lorde shall be answered of her ffyne, w'ch order the feoffees will performe. And these feoffees for the Schole are allreadie by speciall warrante of Kinge Phillippe and Quene Marie admitted and allowed, and so that exception is not to be objected again to those feoffees.

Upon this case the report of the Attorney General of the Duchy, dated February 22nd, 1585-6, is as follows:—

The estate of the Copiholde Landes claymed by the feoffees for the mayntenance of the Schole of Blackburne.—It is trewe that her Ma'tie hath incorporated a free Grammer Schole in Blackburne with lycense to purchase landes to a certen vawew and hath appointed the now Mr of the Rowles to be one of the Governours thereof. And longe before the incorporacon of the saide Schole c'ten feoffees were seased of copiholde landes of her Ma'ties Mannor to th'intent to maynteyne a chaunterie preist in the Church of Blackburne, w'ch preist should teach a Grammer Schole and a Songe Schole

(if such a one could be had), if not, then a Songe Scole, and should saye Masse and diriges for the soule of the founder of the said Chaunterie in the said Church. So as the landes were given for the mayntenance of a chaunterie preist, w'ch preist should be qualited as aforesaide, if such a one could be gotten, and not otherwise geven for the mayntenance of a scole. And there was not almost any Chaunterie Preist in a manner but he was tied and bounde to doe some Godlie and lawfull thinge. By the Statute made in primo Ed. VI., all Chaunteres were dissolved, and the said Kinge in the fourth year of his raigne did by his Comysson comande that all such copiholde landes holden of his highnes should be seased into his hande, blayminge his officers w'ch had suffered the copiholde landes of his Mannor to be surrendered to such uses and such incorporacions, whereby he was prejudiced in his fynes and inheritance, and after seasure made to grante them out againe by copie to Sr Edwarde Warner, Knyghte, Henrie Savile, and James Gardyner, for reasonable fynes, reservinge the auncient rent, wherupon seasure was made and the same graunted for tenne yeres fyne; which Copiholde landes amounted to the value of fyve hundreth pounde a yere and above, and is now dispersed amongst almost a thowsand persons, who have bene at charge in purchasing of them and in buildinge uppon them. All wrde soe the M'te [?] of whome such copiholde landes geven to such sup'stitious uses were holden after the uses were inhibited did sease the said copiholde landes and did dispose them at ther pleasure. There be sev'all decrees made in the Duchie that the nowe copiholders should enjoye the saide copiholde landes as they have done sithence the saide seisure made by the saide Kinge Edwarde and the graunte made as aforesaide. Sr Walter Myldmay, Knt., and Mr. Kellewaye, by vertue of a comysson in Kinge Edwarde's tyme to them directed, for the contynewinge of Scoles and erectinge of Scoles, did allowe £4 7s. 4d. yerelie for the better mayntenance of the Scole in Blackburne, w'ch was as muche or more then was employed in that respecte as it seemed. The laste terme, by meanes of y'r Lo: lettres and some other of her Ma'tys most hon'able Privie Counsell, Mr Chancellor of the Duchie, Sr Gilb'te Gerrarde, Knighte, John Clynche, one of her Ma'tes Justice of Assises within the Countie of Lancaster, where the saide landes doe lie, Willm. fletwoode, Sergyant at the Lawe, and the rest of the Counsell of the saide Duchie, assembled themselves, to the end the same schole might be in reasonable manner maynteyned, and that her Ma'ties dere brother's grant should not be called in question, noe such a number of people molested touchinge ther habitacon [upon] copiholde landes by them p'chased as aforesaid; noe yet her Ma'tie thought in honour bounde to restore so greate a some, being levied by reason of the seasure and grauntinge of the said copiholde landes beinge fower thousande pounde or therabouts; noe yett fermor decrees touchinge the said landes re-examyned; did order and decree that ther shoulde be yerelie paied towards the mayntenance of the saide scole the yerelie rent of £4 7s. 4d. allowed as aforesaid, and that the some of £100 or therabouts should be paied and delivered to the Mr of the Rowles to be employed in the purchasing of landes to the use of the said scole for the better mayntenance thereof.

The Decree of the Duchy Court upon this suit, bearing date Feb. 22nd, 1585-6, I copy *in extenso* from the original writing in the School Chest:—

ELIZABETH dei gra Anglie fraunce et Hib'nie Regina fidei defensor OMNIBUS ad quos p'ntes Ire nre p'venerint saltm. INSPEXIMUS tenor cuiusdem decret sive Record in camera ducat nro Lancaster apud Westm inter Record eiusdm ducat ibm remanen' et exlsten' in hec verba: Termio M'chis Annis regni Regine Elizabeth &c. xxviii^{mo}

et xxviii^{mo} die ven'is viz. xxv^{to} Novembris 1585. Inter Ricm. Livesey et al' Inhabitant' de Blackeburne quer' et Ricm. Goodshawe et Nichol' Halsted defend'.— WHEREAS matter of variance is dependinge in this honourable Courte betwene the said p'ties for and concernyng the right interest and title of in and to certen mesuages landes ten'tes and hereditamentes with th' appurtenances sett lyinge and beinge in Burnley, Padiham and Blackburne in the countie of Lancaster and in Sladburne in the countie of Yorke beinge copieholde landes and ten'tes holden of her Ma'tie accordinge to the customes of the mannors of Ightenhill and Sladburne and the Wapentage of Cliderowe p'cell of the possessions of the duchie of Lancaster claymed by the said compl'ts to be given and assured in the fite yere of the Reigne of the late Kinge Henry the eight to and for the mayntenn'ce of a free gramer schoole in the Towne of Blackburne aforesaide, and alledged by the deffend'ts to have bene given and assured for the maintenn'ce of a Chauntrye in the Churche of Blackburne aforesaid which said cause hath bene at sev'all daies in this p'nte terme of St. Michaell herde and debated in open courte before the Chauncellor and Councell of this Courte by the Counsell lerned of both the saide p'ties and now this p'nte fridaie beinge the xxvith of November above-saide the said cause hath eftsones bene herde and debated before the said Chauncellor Sr. Gilb'te Gerrard Knight master of the Rolles John Clenche one of the Justices of her Highnes Benche Will'm fletewoode Sergent at lawe and John Brogreve esquier Attorney gen'all of this courte and by them fullie understoode and considered of and for asmuche as uppon the hearinge thereof yt appeared as well by an Indenture dated the thirde daie of April in the fite yere of the reign of the said late Kinge Henrie the eight showed furthe by the said compl'tes as also by a decree made in this courte in the terme of St. Hillarye in the seconde yere of the quenes Ma'tes reigne that nowe ys, that the said landes ten'tes and other the pr'misses were given especiallie and principallie to the use and mainten'nce of a chauntrye priest to singe and saie masse and other sup'stitious service in the chappell of our ladie in the churche of Blackburne aforesaide w'ch chauntrye priest should teache a gramer scole and a songe scole if suche a one cold be hadd, and if not then a songe scole and for that the said pr'misses are and at the tyme of the dissolucon of chauntries were copieholde landes holden of her Majestie and her progenitors according to the customes of the said mannors of Ightenhill and Sladburne and the wapentage of Clitherowe. And for asmuche as it appeared that the late Kinge Edward the Sixte did directe a comission under the seale of this Courte after the Statute made for the dissolucon of Chauntries, that is to weete in the fourthe yere of his reigne emongest other to the Stewardest, under-stewardest, surveyour, and receyvoirs of the said Lordshippes sookes lib'ties and ffranchises aforesaid, rehersinge that for somuche as by the sufferance and negligence of them and their predecessors officers of the said Lordshippes mannors sookes lib'ties and franchises divers and sundry p'celles of landes ten'tes and rentes holden by copie of courte rolle of the said severall lordshippes and mannors contrary to the pollitique lawes and statutes of this realme and againste the custome of the said lordshippes and mannors to his disherison with the losse of his fines customes and s'vices were surrendered and given up to feoffees and otherwise to th' use of chauntrye priestes and stipendarye priestes and other incorporacons intentes and purposes menconed in the statute whereby colledges and chauntries were geven to his possession, yet nev'thelesse althoughe he might as well for the causes aforesaid as for divers forfeitures and other consideracons enter into the same immediatellie, his heighnes was contented and pleased that eny such p'son and priestes and other spirituall and eccl'iasticall p'sons as had the profittes of the same at the tyme of the makeinge of the said statute should have and enjoye the profittes thereof duringe their naturall lives according to the statute aforesaid and to th'intente to reduce the

said premisses into their former estate so that afterwarde the said Kinge his heires and successors might justlie and dylie have all suche fines, relifes, rentes customes and s'vices as he at any tyme before or any his noble progenitors had of the premisses accordinge to the severall customes of his said lordshippes and mannors, his heighnes therefore by the advice of his Chauncellor and Councell of this courte for the tyme beinge did will and comaunde the said officers that immediatly upon the sight thereof they and any of them sev'allie within their offices by vertue of the said comission at the courtes to be holden within the said lordshippes and mannors shoulde with all spede graunt demise and lett by copie of courte rolle unto Sr Edwarde Warner, Knight, Henry Savile Esquier and James Gardiner their heires and assignes, or to such other p'son and p'sons as they shoulde name and appointe, and to their heires and assignes, all those landes ten'tes and hereditamentes holden of the said severall lordshippes and mannors by copie of courte rolle and then in the sev'all tenures and occupacons of the said priestes or of any other p'son or p'sons to the use of the said priestes or other intentes and purposes menconed in the said statute, To have and to holde accordinge to the customes of the said sev'all lordshippes and mannors to the uses of everie of the said priestes duringe their lives and after their sev'all deathea to remayne to the said Sr Edward Warner Henry Savell and James Gardiner and to their heires and assignes or to such other p'son or p'sons as they should name and appoint, and to their heires and assignes for ever accordinge to the custome of the said sev'all lordshippes and mannors with a proviso for the takinge of the accustomed fyne upon every of the said grauntes and reservinge thereupon to the said late Kinge his heires and successors th'olde and accustomed rentes and s'vices of and for the premisses to be paide when the said p'sons should be in possession of the said premisses and not afore. And with another proviso that the said premisses should not conclude the title of any stranger other than the priestes and feoffees seased to their uses, and for asmuche as it appeared that the said premisses nowe in varyance by force and vertue of the said comission were by the said stewardes demised and letten by coppie of courte rolle accordinge to the sev'all customes aforesaid to certen p'sons sev'allie and their sev'all heires named and appointed by the said Sir Edward Warner Henry Savile and James Gardiner to th'use of one Thomas Burgesse, clerke, late chauntrie prieste of the said chauntrie duringe his liffe and afterwarde to their owne uses accordinge to the purporte of the said comission. And for that it appeared that the said purchasers paide div'rs somes of money for the said p'misses as well to the said late Kinge Edwarde the Sixte as to the said Sr Edward Warner Knight Henry Savile and James Gardiner, and that the said def'tes and cther the nowe ten'ntes and coppieholders of the said p'misses or their auncestors have likewise paide greate somes of money for the said p'misses to the said first purchasers or others from whom they clayme and derive their title. And for that the said Thomas Burgesse, clerke, received and toke the issues and p'fittes of the said p'misses duringe his naturall life by vertue of the said comission and admission, and for asmuche as sithence the deathe of the said priest the title of the said defend'tes and other purchasers and copieholders of the said p'misses was by the said decree made in this courte in the said seconde yere of the quenes Ma'tes reigne confirmed and allowed of and an injunction awarded to the underten'ntes of pr'misses to paie the arrerages of the rentes to the then def'tes and other copieholders and from thenceforth to p'mitt them to occupie and enjoie the said p'misses and a comission thereupon awarded to the said stewardes to putt the said then def'tes and other copieholders into possession of the same p'misses and from tyme to tyme to mayneteine and p'serve them in the same. And for that it appered by decree or decrees made in this courte that the titles of the said newe copieholders have bene from tyme to tyme allowed of by the courte and

that the accustomed rentes and services of the said p'mises have bene trulie answered and paied to her Ma'tie and her progenitors. And for asmuche as the dismissal made in this Courte in the fourth and fifth yeres of the late Kinge Phillippe and Quene Marie shewed by the said compl'tes semed to be obtained upon a surmise that the said p'misses were geven onelie or cheeflie for the use of the said free scole w'ch appeareth otherwise by the said Indenture, It ys therefore this 26th daie of November in the eight and twentieth yere of the reign of our sov'eigne ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God Quene, &c., ordered and decreed by the Chauncellor and Councell of this Courte that the said defend'tes and other copieholders havinge estates from the said purchasers and their heires and assignes w'th in the said mannors and wapentage of Ightenhill Sladburne Cliderowe and Blackburne shall from henceforth for ever sev'allie have holde occupie and enjoye the said sev'all messuages landes ten'tes and other the p'misses w'th th'appurten'nces by them sev'allie claymed w'thout lett troble sute vexacon eviccon disturbance denyall or interupcon of the said compl'tes and inhabitantes of Blackburne aforesaide or any of them or any of their heires or assignes or of any other p'son or p'sons havinge or clayminge any estate or title in or to the said p'misses or any p'te thereof by from or under the said compl'tes and inhabitantes their heires, &c., or by their or any of their assente consente or procurement or by from or to the use of the said scole of Blackburne in any wise. And it ys further ordered and decreed by the said Chauncellor and Councell of this Courte that the said Richard Lyvesey, one of the said compl'tes and such other p'sons as have or clayme to have any estate or interest in or to the said premisses or any of them by force of a Surrender in the tyme of the late Kinge Phillippe and Quene Marye by reason of a warrante from the saide late Kinge and Quene or otherwise to or for the use and maynten'nce of the said Scole shall after the feast of Saint Michell th' archannell next and before the feast of the birthe of our Lord God next ensuinge in the open Courtes of the said sev'all mannors and wapentage lawfullie and accordinge to the sev'all customes thereof at the coste and chardge in the lawe of the said def'tes surrender release and extinguishe all their and every of their estate and estates right title interest and demaunde of in and to the said Mess'es landes and ten'tes to the said nowe copieholders thereof and to their sev'all heires and assignes. And that the said compl'tes their heires or assignes shall also before the said feaste deliver or cause to be deliv'ed to the said Nicholas Hasted one of the said def'tes all the copies of courte rowles w'ch they have for the mainten'nce of the said p'tended title for the use of the said Scole so as the said nowe copieholders maye from hereafter quietlie have and enjoye the said p'misses without any further troble sute or vexacon. And in consideracon of and for asmuche as it appeared by the said Indenture that the said chauntrye preist sholde be sufficientlie lerned in grammer yf any such could be gotten that shoulde kepe continuallie a free grammer scole whereby it semeth that the founders of the said chauntrye had some respecte to the said scole, and for asmuche also as the said late Kinge Edwarde the VI after the dissolucon of chauntries did directe his commission unto Sr Walter Mildemay Knight and Rob'te Kellewaye Esquier and others authorisinge them (amongest other thinges) to appointe what scoles within the said countie of Lancaster were necessary to be maintained and kept and to lymit and appointe what stipend shoulde be allowed for the same by force whereof the said Commission'rs thought it convenient that the said free scole of Blackburne shoulde be contynewed and appointed the some of ffoure poundes seaven shillinges and fower pence for and towards the stipend thereof as by the certificate of the said comission remayninge of recorde in this Courte appeareth w'ch said stipend hathe not bene before this tyme demanded or paide. And for that the right honourable Sr Willm Cicill Knight Lorde Burleighe and Lorde Threasorer

of Englande and some other of her Ma'tes most honourable privie Councill have directed their l'res in favour of the mainten'nce and contynuance of a free gramer scole there. IT ys therefore ordered and decreed by the said Chauncellor w'th the full consent of the said Sr Gilbert Gerrard Knight John Clinche Willm. fleetwoode and the reste of the Councill of this Courte that the said some of 4li 7s. 4d. shalbe from henceforth the yerlie allowed and paied by her Ma'tie her heires and successors out of the Revenewes of the said duchie of Lancaster by the Receivour of the same county of Lancaster for the tyme beinge in or at her Ma'tes Castell of Cletherowe in the said Countie of Lancaster att and uppon the first daye of Maye accordinge to the direction and appointment in effecte of Sr Walter Myldmay Knight and Rob't Kellewaye by vertue of the comission to them directed as aforesaid to and for the better maynten'nce of the said free grammer scole in Blackburne aforesaid w'ch is nowe incorporated by her Ma'tie and commonly called her Ma'ties free scole. And this decree shalbe a sufficiente warrant to the receiver for the tyme being to make paiement thereof and the Auditor in those p'tes to give allowance for the same. AND it is thought good by the said Chauncellor Sr Gilberte Gerrard Knight John Clinche Willm. fleetewood and to the Councill of this Courte that in respecte of the arrerages of the said some or stipend allowed by the said Comissioners as is aforesaid w'ch amounteth to the some of 131li 15s. 8d. or thereabouts and w'ch hath not bene heretofore required or paied as is foresaid that ther be allowed out of the Revenewes of the said duchie the some of Threescore Poundes to be paied unto the handes of the said Sr Gilberte Gerrarde one of the Gov'nors of the said Scole before the feast of the Nativitie of St. John Baptist next cominge to the use of the said scole in Blackburne aforesaid. And that every of the p'chasors and p'prietors of the said landes shall also paie towards the said arrerages for every acre of the said copieholde landes to be measured accordinge to the sev'all customes of the said Mannors where the said landes doe lye tenne shillinges or else the some of fiftie and fyve poundes of lawfull mony of Englande at the choise and election of the nowe copieholders at the great Courte to be holden at the sev'all mannors after the saide feast of St Michael the archangell next and before the saide Birthe of our Lorde God next followinge to be employed and bestowed by and w'th the good and grave advice of the said Sr Gilbt. Gerrarde Knight for the better maynten'nce of the said free gramer scoole to have contynuance for ever. PROVIDED alwaies that non of the p'sons that are nowe in possession of any p'te or p'cell of the p'misses shalbe displaced or removed from his possession duringe the naturall lief of the now possessor or occupier w'thout the privitie or consent of the Chauncellor and Councill of the duchie of Lancaster for the tyme being. Nos autem tenor decret sive record pred ad instancia pred Nicholam Halsted et als & duximus exemplificand p p'ntes IN CUIUS REI TESTIMONIUM has l'ras n'ras fieri fecimus patentes DAT apud palac'm n'r'm Westm sub sigillo ducat n'ri Lancaster pred vicessimo secundo die ffebruarii anno regni n'ri vicessimo octavo.

The moneys received for arrearages under the above Decree accumulated for several years, until they amounted to above £100, when, by a subscription of the parishioners, a sum of £250 was added thereto, and the whole invested in the purchase of an annual rent charge of £20. This was done in 1590, by an indenture dated the 30th of September in that year (32nd Eliz.) This deed is a covenant between Edward Eltoftes, of Fearnhill, Co. York, of the one part, and the Governors of the possessions of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in

Blackburn, Sir John Southworth, Knt., Thomas Talbot, John Osbaldeston, and William Farington, Esquires; Edward Walmsley and Robert Walmsley, gentlemen, of the other part; by which the said Edward Eltoftes, in consideration of £360 paid by the said Governors, covenanted that he and Thomas Eltoftes, his son and heir, would levy a fine to the said Edward Walmsley and Robert Walmsley, of the messuage called Fearnhill Poole, in Fearnhill, Yorkshire, and the lands thereto belonging, and of all the other messuages and lands of the said Edward in Fearnhill; and Edward Walmsley and Robert Walmsley agreed, by the same fine, to grant to the said Sir John Southworth, Thomas Talbot, John Osbaldeston, William Farington, and the heirs of the said Sir John, an annual rent-charge of £20, issuing out of the said messuages and lands, of which the said Edward Walmsley and Robert Walmsley should stand seized. In the same year, a fine was levied in pursuance of this covenant, and in the following year, the said Sir John Southworth and others conveyed the said rent-charge of £20 to the Governors and their successors.

I give below, copied from the School Records, an interesting category of contributors to the Parish Subscription for augmentation of the School endowment, made sometime between the years 1585 and 1590:—

The names of such p'sons as of their Godlye and charitable dispositions bestowed any benevolence towards the purchasing of a yearlye rent of twentye poundes for the use of the free gramer schole of Quene Elizabeth in Blackeburne, and the severall somes bestowed by everie suche person.

	£	s.	d.
Gylbert Gerrard Knight by his tenantes of Sholley, Mellor, Balderston, and , the some of - - - - -			
Thomas Walmysley one of her Majestes Justices of the Benche, of his owne gyfte the some of a hundrethe markes - - - - -	66	13	4
Sr John Sothwoorthe Knighte his tenantes and followers the some of twentie seven poundes - - - - -	27	0	0
John Osbaldeston Esquire his tenantes and followers the some of thurte poundes - - - - -	30	0	0
Willm. farrington Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of tenn poundes	10	0	0
Thomas Talbot Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of fyve poundes -	5	0	0
Edwarde Braddill Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of fyve markes -	3	6	8
Thomas Sothwoorthe Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of fyve markes	3	6	8
Rauffe Barton Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of ffoure poundes -	4	0	0
Thomas Langton Esquire Baron of Newton his tenants and followers the some of - - - - -	5	0	0
The ladye Anne Ratsclyffe of her owne gyfte the some of - - - - -			
Willm. Harwoode clerke otherwyse called P'son Harwoode of his owne gyfte three poundes - - - - -	3	0	0
Thomas Holcrofte Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of twentye shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Rauffe Assheton Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of twentye shillings - - - - -	1	0	0

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	£	s.	d.
Edwarde Walche Vicar of Blackeburne of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Edwarde Walmysley gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Roberte Walmysleye gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Roger Nowell Esquire of his owne gyfte the some of thirtie three shillings foure pence - - - - -	1	13	4
John Braddill sonne and heire apparent of Edward Braddill of his owne gyfte the some of thirte shillings foure pence - - - - -	0	13	4
Raynolde Burscoughe servant to Sr Edwarde Anderton Knight, L. Cheiff Justice of the Comon Pleas of his owne gyfte the some of -	5	0	0
Roberte Morley gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings -	1	0	0
George Talbot of the Carre gen. of his owne gyfte the some of ffortie shillings whereof twentie shillings for the Carr and twentie shillings for Wytton - - - - -	2	0	0
Richard Walmysley gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twentie shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Lawrence Aynsworth of Lyvesay of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Thomas Gelibrande of Ramesgrave of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Lawrence Haworthe of Nether Darwyn of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Lawrence Duckesburye of Moche Harwoode of his own gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Richarde Parker of Loveley gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Gylbart Risheton of Doneshoppe of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
John Gelibrande of Bearwood of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
John Talbot of Whalley gen. of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
William Dewhurst of Wylpshire of his owne gyfte the some of twenty shillings - - - - -	1	0	0
Nycholas Ryshton of Antley of his owne gyfte the some of tenn shillings - - - - -	0	10	0
William Ryshton servant to Mr. Justice Walmysley of his owne gyfte the some of tenn shillings - - - - -	0	10	0
Randle Lyvesay the archar of his owne gyfte the some of tenn shillings	0	10	0
Isabell Cunlyffe laite wyffe of Robt. Cunlyffe of the Sparthe of her owne gyfte - - - - -	0	10	0
John Cowbrand of Ediholes of his owne gyfte the some of syxe shillings eighte pence - - - - -	0	6	8
George Bolton by his laste Will the some of syxe shillings eight pence	0	6	8
Robert Catterall of monye for fyftenes w'che remayned in his handes thirtie eight shillings syxe pence - - - - -	1	18	6
The Inhabitants of the towne of Ryshton the some of seven poundes nynetene shillings twoe pence - - - - -	7	19	2

	£	s	d.
The Inhabitants of the towne of Wytton the some of ffortie shillings -	2	0	0
The freeholders and tenants of Mr. Justice Shuttleworthe and Rauffe Barton Esquire in Blackburne the some of thirteen poundes twoe shillings -	13	2	0
The freeholders and tenants of Willm. ffarrington Esquire fermar of the Rectorie of Blackburne the some of eleven poundes -	11	0	0
The Inhabitants of the towne of Lytle Harwoode the some of syxe poundes tenn shillings -	6	10	0
The Inhabitants of the towne of Nether Darwyn besydes some that remayneth yet unpayde the some of foure poundes nyineteen shillings twoe pence -	4	19	2
Mr. Holcroftes tenants in Billington, and foure of Mr. Ashtons tenants there the some of fyftie shillings and twoe pence -	2	12	2
The Inhabitants of the Over-towne of Harwoode the some of fyftie shillings -	2	10	0
The Inhabitants of the Lower towne of Harwoode the some of twelve shillings syxe pence -	0	12	6
The Inhabitants of Accrington, Oswaldtwysle, Claiton, and Church, as p'te of their benevolence collected by Gilbt. Rishton and Thomas Ryley the some of thirtie fyve shillings and eleven pence	1	15	11
The Inhabitants of Walton-in-the-Dale the some of -			
The Inhabitants of Tockeholes the some of -			
George Yates of Yate-bancke by his last Will -	0	6	8
Willm. Holden the some of -	1	0	0
Thomas Holden of Eywood by his last Will, payed by Randell Holden his executor -	1	0	0
Thomas Aynesworthe Esquire and the Inhabitants of the towne of Pleasington, whereof Mr. Ainsworthe paid for himselfe 40s. -	5	17	8½

[LIST OF GOVERNORS, CIRCA 1586.]—Gylberte Gerrarde, Knighte, Mr of the Rolles; Thomas Walmysley, one of her Ma'tes Justices of the Benche; Sr John Soothworth, Knighte; Sr Richarde Shuttleworthe, Knighte; Robert Heskethe, Esquire; John Osbaldeston, Esquire; Thomas Langton, Baron of Newton; Thomas Holcrofte, Esquire (*modo Miles*); Thomas Talbot, Esquire (*mort. primo Maii 1598*); Rauffe Barton, Esquire (*mortuus 1592*); Rauffe Ashton, Esquire; Willm. ffarrington, Esquire; Edwarde Braddill, Esquire; John Talbot of Salburie, Esquire; Roger Nowell, Esquire; Edwarde Walmysleye, gen.; Thomas Aynesworthe, gen.; Rycharde Lyvesey, gen. (*mortuus 1590*); James Ryssheton of Mycklehey; Edwarde Walshe, Vycar of Blackeburne; Thomas Astley, gen.; Richard Parker, gen. (*mortuus 1592*); George Talbott, gen.; Alexander Osbaldeston, gen. (*mortuus 1598*); Robert Morley, gen. (*mortuus 1592*); Richarde Walmysley, gen.; Hugh Dyconson of Tockeholes (*mortuus 1599*); John Cowborne of Ediholls; Thomas Gelibrande (*mortuus 1595*); Lawrence Aynesworthe; Willm. Houlden (*mortuus 1593*); James Garsden (*mortuus 1595*); Willm. Boulton (*mortuus 1594*); Willm. Crosse (*mortuus 1599*); Lawrence

Haworthe; Lawrence Duckesburye; George Lyvesaye of Sydebighte (1592 *mortuus est*); Richarde Page (*obiit 23 die Januarii 1590*); Thomas Whithalge (*obiit 1592*); Roger Smalley; John Claiton; Xpofer Marsden of ffeniscoles (*obiit 1590*); Edwarde Mawdisley (*obiit 1592*); John Gelibronde; Myles Aspmall (*mortuus 1595*); Nycholas Haworthe (*mortuus 18 of December 1597*); Richard Lawe; John Hodgson (*mort. 1597*); George Ashton (*mortuus 1599*); Adam Bolton (*obiit 1593*); Lawrence Aspmall; John Baron; Myles Marsden; Robt. Walmysley; Roger Gelyburne; (John Hulton elected 17 Sept. 1600 in the place of Roger Gelibronde).

EVIDENCES CONCERNING THE SCHOLE OF BLACKBURN, A.D. 1591.

- 1.—Imprimis a lycence of mortmayne from the Queene, being the foundation of the same scole.
- 2.—Itm. a Decree of the Courte of the Duchie touchinge the ancient landes of the scole of Blackeburne.
- 3.—Itm. a l'tre of attorney made by the governors of the scole of Blakburne to Tho. Clayton.
- 4.—Itm. one Indenture of covenante for th' assuringe of the yearlye rente of twentie poundes to be issuyng oute of the capitall messuage or mancion house called Farnehill peelee in ffarnehill in the countye of Yorke, and all lands known by the name of the demaynes of ffarnehill, &c., made between Edwarde Eltoftes, Esquire, on the one partie, and the Governors of the same Schoole, Sir John Southworthe, Knighte, Thomas Talbot, John Osbaldeston and William ffarrington, Esquires, Edward Walmysley and Robert Walmysley gen. on the other partie bearing date the last day of September, 32 Eliz. (1590).
- 5.—Itm. one obligacon bearing date the saide laste of September [32 Eliz.] maide by the said Edward Eltoftes and Thomas Eltoftes sonne, &c., to the said Governors, wherein the same Edwarde and Thomas stande bonde in the some of seven hundrethe poundes w'the condicon for p'formance of the covenante in the same indenture conteyned.
- 6.—Itm. one p'te of a cyrographe of a fyne layd [32 Eliz.] betwene Edward Walmysley and Robert Walmysley gen. and the same Edward Eltoftes, Thomas Eltoftes son, &c., Sr John Sootheworthe, Knighte, Thomas Talbot, Esquire, John Osbaldeston, Esquire, and Willm. ffarrington, Esquire, deforciantes of tenn messuages, tenn gardaynes, fourtie acres of land, a hundrethe acres of meadowe, fyve hundrethe acres of pasture, and fourtie acres of wood w'th th' appurtenance in ffarnehill, withe a Render.
- 7.—Itm. the copie of dyv's offices of the Eltoftes landes.
- 8.—Itm. the copie of an ancient piece of evidence of Mr. Eltoftes landes, of a yearlye rente of twentie poundes w'the a clause of distresse for the same, and a now penc issueinge oute of the same landes to the said Sr John, Thomas, John, and Willm. and the heire of the said Sr John.
- 9.—Itm. a Recoverie termino hillarii Anno 33 Eliz. by Willm. Risshton and Thomas Claiton demandantes againste Edwarde Walmysley and Robert Walmysley tenants of tenn messuages, tenn gardeyns, ffourtie acres of lande w'the th' appurtenances in ffarnehill w'th double coucher exemptyfied under the Seale of this Courte of the benche at Westminster w'che was hadd to cutt off the ffomer estate tayle of the same landes.

10.—Itm. the Quene's l'pres patente of the ffoundacion of the said scoole. Md. that the evidences above specified weare delivered the 16th of Aprill [33 Eliz.] by Mr. Justice Walmysley to the use of the Governors, and put in a large boxe, w'che boxe is nowe remaining in a greate cheste in the Churche of Blackburne. [Signed] John Sotheworthe Knight, John Osbaldeston, Wm. ffarington, John Clayton, Edward Welshe, Nicholas Haworthe, Hugo Dyconson, Thomas Astley, John Gelibrond, George Boltone, Ric. Lawe, Thomas Gelybrond, Wylliam Bolton, Myles Marsden.

WRITINGS OF THE FOUNDATION, A.D. 1594.

- 1.—Itm. there is an exemplificacon under the seale of the Comon Plase of a ffyne levved by Edward Eltoftes esquire Thomas Eltoftes his sonne and heire apparente and othres w'ch ffyne is before mencioned and a Recov'ye also before mencioned.
- 2.—Itm. an Indenture of Bargaine and sale made by Sr John Southworth Knight John Osbaldeston Thomas Talbot and Willm. ffarington Esquires, unto the Governors of the said scoole of a Rente Charge of £20 dated the seacond of Aprill Ao xxxiii^o Eliz. M'ie and enrowled in the Comon Plase Termino Pasche Ao xxxiii Eliz. Rotulo xii^o.
- 3.—Itm. an Indenture made betwixte the said p'ties of the same Rente dated li^o die Aprillis Ao M'ie Eliz. xxxvi^o and enrowled in the Comon Plase Termino Pasche Ao xxxvi^o Eliz. Rotulo secundo.
- 4.—Itm. one obligacon made by Willm. Bolton and others to the said Governors for the paym't of £20 in moneye alredie to hym and others deliv'd to the use of the usher.
- 5.—Itm. an Indenture and feoffament of landes in Lyvesaie made by Thomas Duckesburie to James Whithalge and others dated Ao xii^o H viii^o.
- 6.—Itm. an old p'chm't conteneinge the first foundacon of the Scole unsealed and a copie also of the same in paper.
- 7.—Itm. the copies of a Bill Answere Replicacon and Rejoinder towching the said Scoole.
- 8.—Itm. a copie of a Case concerning the said Scoole.
- 9.—Itm. a copie of an Order taken in the Duchie Termino Michalis Ao xxvii et viii^o Eliz. Regno towching the said Scoole.
- 10.—Itm. an olde Booke of orderes notes charges and paym'tes in paper towching the said Scoole.
- 11.—Itm. the Comon Seale of the said Scoole.

Md. that the evidences and writings last before menconed were putt in a blacke square boxe to the use of the said Scoole the xxviiith of September 1594 et Anno M'ie Eliz. xxxvi^o in the p'sence of THO. WALMYSLEY, WM. FFARINGTON, THOMAS ASTLEY, EDWARD WALSHE, JOHN CLAYTON, JOHN GELIBROND, WYLLIAM BOLTON, GEORGE BOLTON, MYLES MARSDEN, RIC. LAWE.

THE SCHOOL STATUTES, A.D. 1597.

I insert next a draft of the original Statutes of the foundation :—

Certaine Statutes and orders to be kepte in the free gramer Schoole of Queene Elizabeth in Blackburne, agreed upon by the Governors of the same Schoole December 21th, 1597, and afterwarde consented unto the 17th of September, 1600.

After the ringinge or towlinge of a bell, if that can be had, soone after six of clocke in the morninge, the Schoole Mr and usher with their Schollars in as dutifull manner as conveniently may bee, shall dayly come to the Schoole and there shall have prayers such as the Governors shall from tyme to tyme apointe.

After prayers they shall begin to teach at or before seven of the clocke, and shall continue until xi. And in the afternoone they shall begin to teach at or before one of the clocke, continuing till after fyve of the clocke, and shall then also have and use prayers.

After Mychalmas day the Schoole shalbe taught from the Monday next after Mychelles Day, until Thursday in the whole weeke next before St. Thomas Day.

After Christemas, upon Monday or Tuesday next after the feast of the Epiphane, until Saturday next before the 6th Sunday in lente.

After Easter from the Monday next after Easter weeke, untill Thursday next before Whitsuntide.

After Whitsuntide, the Monday next after Trinitie Sunday untill the Saturday next before the Eve of St. Mychelles.

All Sundays and holidayes in the year excepted, Shrove Monday and Tuesday, all Thursdayes and Saturdayes after noones.

Licence to play shall not be granted to scollars at their dep'tinge from the Schole, nor to any other p'sons, than to p'sons of honour, or worshipp, or to M'rs of Arte, or other p'sons of equivovente accounte, and by consente of some of the Governors in after nones onely and once at the most in .

Petties [small boys] shall be taught by the Gramarians onely, at the appointement of the Schoole Mr or Usher, who shall see that they be diligently instructed.

Uppon dayes and tymes excepted from teachinge, the schollars may be caused by the Schoole Mr and the usher to lerne to write, cipher, cast accounts, singe or such licke, and allsoe upon holidayes and other convenient tymes.

Noe Scriviner shall teach writinge schole termes without urgente cause oftener than once in the year for the space of one moneth: onely in the moneth of September if conveniently it may be, but not at all betweene Monday next after St. Mychalles day and the first Monday in lent.

Sith discontinuance is the greatest hinderence to p'seedinge in larninge, parentes and frendes are not to discontinew schollars from the Scholes, which if they doe, the discontinuers are to be signified to the Governors for reformation thereof.

Noe Schollars are to be admitted to the Schole under the age of fyve yeares, and such onely as shall be in fittinge soarte, fitt to conceave larninge, &c.

The Schollars shall diligently apply there bookes, dutifully and decently bechave themselves in all thinges, in all places, and at all tymes, and to all p'sons, esppecially to the Governors, and shall frequente divine service upon Sundayes and holidayes, for which purpose there parentes and frendes shall apparell them decently, that all excuses of absence may be removed.

The formes or sieges may be Seaven if the capabilities and proceedinge of the Schollars so require.

The authors in lattin for any Introduction may be the gramar, Cato de Moribus, supitiis, verulamis, de moribus in mensa, Esopes fables, &c. In poetrie Terence, Ovide, Vergill, Horrace, Juvenall and Persius. In histories, Salust, Cecars Commentaries and Tullus Liuius Decades. In Cicerowes workes, his familiar Epistelles, officiis, tusculans, questionis, his Retoricke and Oracions; for epistelles Macropidius, for Themes, Aphonius; for the principles of Religion, some chathachisme allowed by the ordinarie, the spalter and such licke.

The authors in greeke may be Cambdens or Cleniades gramar, Basilles Epistelles, Isocrates Oracions, Hesiod, Homer, Theocritus, Pindarus, Olinthrace, Demostenes oracions, and the Greeke Testament.

In Hebrue if any bee willinge and fitt thereunto, some Hebrue Grammar or spalter.

The principles of arithmetick, geometrie, and cosmographie with some Introduction into the Sphere, are p'fittable.

The exercises may bee Englishe speakinge, lattin variacions, duple translacions, disputacions, verses, epistelles, themes, and declamacions in lattin and greeke.

Once yeerly at some convenient tyme, espetially in September, the Schollars shall exercise themselves in verses or other exercises generally in praising God who of his fatherly providence hath moved the Governors and benefactors of this schole to prepare the same, for the bringinge upp of youth and proffitt of his church, prainge God that others by there example may be sterred upp to bestowe there goodes upon such licke godly uses.

ANNALS OF THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The following Annals of the School, from 1593 onward, are compiled from the Record Books of the foundation:—

An eleccion of Governors at Blackburne the 9th day October, 1593, made by the more p'te of the Governors then lyvyng, being then and there p'sonally p'sent, so whose names so elected are as followeth.

ferdinande Earle of Derby	-	-	20s. [mortuus est 1594]
Sr Thomas Gerrarde junior	-	-	20s.
Randle Barton Esquier	-	-	20s.
Thomas Soothworthe Esquier	-	-	20s.
John Parker of Loveley gen.	-	-	20s. (6s. 8d. pd.)
Henry Mawdysley	-	-	20s.
James Astley of Plessington	-	-	20s.

William Boulton and George Astley are appointed by all the Governors to collecte and gather the severall Somes above sett down.

1595. April 17.—James Aynesworthe, Henrye Feilden, George Boulton, and Lawrence Cotton were elected Governors.

1596. Dec. 20.—The Governors met and elected to fill vacancies:—John Abbott of Blackburn, Giles Aynesworthe, Edwarde Jelybronde, and George Asmolle, three of them giving 10s. and the other 5s. to the School as donation.

1597. Dec. 21.—“At an assemblye of the Governors of the free Scole of Blackborne, by one comon assente Mr. Rycharde Rusheton sonne of Ranofe Rusheton esquyre disseased was elected to be usher of the sayd scolle and appointed to rec. all sutch stypend, fees, and wadges as is or shalbe yerlye due or app'tayning to the usher of the sayd schole from tyme to tyme.”

“W'ch daye Mr. Thomas Walmesley, eldeste sonne of Mr. Justyse Walmesley, was elected a Governor of the said free scolle in the place of Nycolas Haworth gen., latelye deade; and hath geven towards the stocke of the s'd scolle 20s.”

“Itm. the same daye Mr. Justyce Walmesley dydde bring in the some of twentye shillings as a legacie bequethed by one Barnarde Smythe late scollem'r [schoolmaster] of Blackburne by his last testam't, and w'ch sayd some of 20s. was delyvered over unto the sayd Mr. Ric. Rusheton then usher of the sayd scolle by comon consente.”

1598. April 21.—At an assembly of Governors “Jhon Sotheworthe being sonne and heyre apparante of Tho. Sotheworthe, of Samlesbury, Esquyre, and Edwarde

Osbaldeston heire apparant of John Osbaldeston Esqyre, by one comon assente were elected to be Governors of the sayd gramer scolle in place of John Talbot and of John Hodson, being then lately dep'ted oute of this worlde, and hath geven 20s."—Sept. 30.—John Talbot of Bashall, Esq., was elected a governor in place of Thomas Talbott Esq. "his late brother now disseased," and gave 20s. on his election.

1599. Aug. 21.—Sr. Richard Houghton Knight is chosen Governor in place of Alexandr. Osbaldeston. Willm. fleetwood likewyse chosen Governor in place of George Ashton. James Lyvesaye of Lyvesaye gen., likewise chosen Governor in place of Willm. Crosse.—Dec. 21.—Among other proceedings, the Governors elected John Crosse, of Over Darwen, gent., a Governor, who gave a benevolence of 20s.

1600. Sept. 21.—In presence of Mr. Justice Walmesley and other Governors, it was "ordered that all such as have any of the Schole money in their hands and have not entered into bonde for the payment of the same againe, shall now from Michelmes next enter into bonde with two sufficient sureties for the payment of the same. And Mr. Lyvesay, Mr. Astley, John Clayton, Henry Maudisley, John Gelebrond, Rychard Lawe, and Henry ffelden are desired to see the said bonds taken in the names of the Governors."

1602.—It is recorded that on the 29th Sept., 1602, George Aynsworth, as executor to George Waddington, had paid a legacy of 20s. bestowed by the latter; and that Richard Houghton had paid 15s. 4d. interest on money in his hands, to Mr. Richard Risheton, usher of the School.

1606.—Md. That the some of ffortie poundes p'cell of a greater some given to the use of the said ffree gramer scoole by the last Will and testament of Mr. John Astley is the 23 daie of Aprill 1606 deliv'd into the handes of Willm. Rishton of Moche Harwood gen. and George Lyvesaye of Rishton yeoman to be repaide upon their bondes to the said scoole, &c.

1607.—The whole sum of money belonging to the School is £110 in the hands of the following persons:—Thomas Asteley, gent., £20; Ric. Mollyneux, gent., £20; X'pofor Shorrocke, yeoman, £10; Ric. Rysheton, gent., the usher, £51 17s. 10d.; Ric. Walmysley and Lawrance Haydoke, £5 2s. 2d.; Tho. Forrest, £3.

1608. Aug. 1.—Md. that this p'nt daye there is delivered unto the handes of the Governors of the Schoole by John Clayton gent. the some of fortie shillings w'ch was geven to the use of the said schoole by Thomas Clayton deceased brother of the said John Clayton.—Md. that this daye is delivered unto the handes of the Governors of the Schoole by Robte. Kenyon clerk p'son of Harpley in the countye of Norffolk the some of £30 17s. 6d., beinge the Residue of a legacie of £80 17s. 6d. geven to the said Schoole by Mr. John Astley deceased, w'ch said some of £30 17s. 6d. and the aforesayd some of 40s. geven by Mr.

Clayton is delivered to the handes of Mr. Rysheton the usher to bee by hym employed for the use of the schoole and securitye to bee taken for the same, according to the former rule therein, viz. by the pryvytye and consent of some of the gov'nors neare adjoynynge." The same day, at the assembly of Governors, "Mr. Edward Browne, now schoolmaster at Whalley, was elected to bee Mayster of the said schoole and appointed to receive all such stipend, fees and wages as is or shalbee due or apperteyninge to the Schoolmayster of the said schoole from tyme to tyme." [The School Stock, Sept. 29th, 1608, is returned at £142 17s. 6d.]

1611.—Mr. Rusheton, usher, showed the bonds taken for the school money in the hands of divers persons.

"Md. that Sr Gylbert Houghton Knight beinge moved by the appointment of the Governors to bee a Governor of the said schoole, hath this day certyfyed the said Governors that hee is pleased to take upon him the said place, wherenpon the said Sr Gylbert Houghton is this day nominated and elected by the said Governors to bee a Governor of the said schoole in place and stead of Wm. Farrington Esqr. deceased, and the said Sr Gylbert Houghton is pleased to bestowe one tree or twoe towards the reparacions of the said schoole, and the same day Rauffe Rysheton gent. is elected Governor instead of Mr. Richard Walmsley and hath paid in this day of his free gyft 10s."

1612. Sept. 29.—Mr. Browne; Schoolmaster, was then lately deceased, and—"Md. that Mr. Browne late Scholem'r dyd gyve 40s. for a legacie to the Schoole which is this day paid in by John Bolton his ex'or." Mr. Collinson was appointed Schoolmaster.

1613. Dec. 21.—"Md. that it is this day certyfyed unto the Governors of the Schoole that the right worshipfull Sr Thomas Walmsley Knight nowe deceased dyd gyve and bestowe upon the Schoole at Blackburne 53s. 4d. for a legacie," &c. The same day "Mr. Robt. Osbaldeston bachelour in artes" was elected usher.

1614. Sept. 29.—The following were elected Governors, and each gave 10s. towards the increase of the School Stock:—John Smyth, gent., Thomas Lussell, gent., Thomas Whalley, gent., Thurstan Maudesley, senr., gent., and Seth Clayton, gent.

1616. Oct. 15.—Robert Osbaldeston, usher, dismissed.

These new Governors elected and gave the respective bounty mentioned:—Raphe Asheton, Esquire, gave 20s.; John Braddyll, Esq., 10s.; Richard Osbaldeston, gent., 10s.; Thomas Walmsley, sonne and heire of Thomas Walmsley, Esq., 20s.; Tho. Sothworth, sonne and heire of John Sothworth, Esq., deceased, 10s.; Jo. Osbaldeston, sonne and heire of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., 10s.; Sr. Richard Mollineux, junr., Knight, 22s.; Sir Tho. Gerrard, junr., Knight, 22s.; Mr. Ric. Walmsley, of Showley, 10s.

1619. Oct. 4.—Mr. Bradley appointed usher.—Dec. 21. Amount of School Stock £180; Interest thereon £17 7s. 7d., added to principal.

1621. Sept. 29.—Stock put forth in several hands, the sum of £207 16s. 2d.

1623. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected “John Hargreaves, master of artes, to serve ffor the Scholem’r of the ffree schole of Blakeburn so long as the Governors shall like well of.”

“Younge Mr. Sherburne and Mr. Walmesley of Couldcottes” elected Governors, and gave together 22s.

1624-5. Jan. 8.—Mr. Richard Halsted, M.A. appointed Schoolmaster.

1625. Aug. 22.—Wm. Seller, Gyles Bolton, John Brocke, Henrie ffeilden, Ric. Harwood and George Holden the younger elected Governors, and gave 10s. each. Mr. John Clayton elected at the same time, gave 20s.

1628. Dec. 21.—John Talbot, Esq., Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., “Mr. Bolton, Vicar of Blackburne,” Adam Morte and John Talbot [of Carr], gent, elected Governors.

1630. Dec. 21.—“Adam Boulton, servant to Sr Thomas Walmysley, Knight,” appointed School Accountant, and to be allowed 13s. 4d. yearly for making the account.

Sir Alexander Ratcliffe, John Ainsworth, Esq., Mr. Raphe Livesey, Mr. Edward Rishton of Mickelheyes, Mr. Thomas Astley, and Mr. Roger Gillibrand of Beardwood, elected Governors.

1634. Jan. 12.—These Governors were elected:—George Tomlinson, Henry Walmesley of Mellor, Edmond Cockshoote of Hårwoode, Thurston Maudisley, John Sharples, Peeter Edge, William Marsden of Tockholes, Christopher Hill of Blackburne, Thomas Haworth of Darwen, and Thomas Fish of Eccleshill. Mr. Thomas Haworth gave 20s., and the other Governors elect 10s. each to the school. The same day a legacy of 20s. bequeathed by “James Warde laite of Mellor,” was received.

1637. Dec. 31.—“John Ward, Doctor of Phisicke, comiter of the bodie and landes of Edward Osbaldeston Esq., his Majesties ward,” was elected a Governor.

1641. Aug. 9.—At an assembly of the Governors “they did electe John Swinlehurst gent. Scholem’r of the said ffree Schole (the said Schole being then voyd of a Mr)”

John Lawe the younger was elected a Governor, and paid 10s., and “it was then ordered that the said John Lawe should have the keeping of the key of the schole chest being late in his grandfather’s keepinge.”

1641. Dec. 21.—At an assembly of the Governors, “Richard Bradley, usher, by reason of his recusancie,” was “displaced for continuinge usher any longer in the said Schole.”

1642. April 18.—Richard Morres elected usher “uppon tryall of his behavior, for w’ch he hath geven bonde.”

Elected Governors:—“Richarde Walmysley of Dunkenthalgh, Esq., his Ma’tie’s warde,” and paid 20s.; Mr. Henry Walmesley of Church, gent.; Henry White, servant to Mrs. Mariana ffeetwoode; and Mr. Edward Hoghton, who each gave 10s.

— Dec. 21.—It was ordered, “by reason that the Mr [Schoolmaster] could not receive his wages the tymes beinge soe distracted, that there should £5 be lent him till a full assembly of the Governors may bee assembled.”¹

¹ This was at the outset of hostilities in Lancashire in the Civil War between Charles I. and Parliament. Only six Governors were present at this yearly meeting and signed the record: their names are:—GYLES BOLTON, THURSTAN MAUDESLEY, PETER HAWORTH, THOMAS HAWORTH, PETER EDGE, JOHN SHARPLES.

1643. Dec. 21.—At an assembly of Governors, “it was ordered that Mr. Swinlehurst the Scholem’r beinge at wante of money, beinge three Rentes behind [*i.e.* of the school lands], by reason of the distracted tymes, that hee shall have ten poundes out of the stocke money, till the rentes due to the said schole come in, and then to be added to the Stocke againe.”

1644. Dec. 21.—In the accounts presented to the Governors appear the following significant items:—“Item, given the glasciers January the 17th, 1643, for 32 foote of newe glase and leadinge, 19 foote of ould glase, the schoole windowes beinge in ill frame, *beinge broken by the Souldiers*, and soe new glazed, which coste 15s. 9d.”—“And three yeares Rentes all readie due for the Schoole Landes in Mellor being now withoute a tenante.” [What follows is a pitiful example of the ravage and individual ruin inflicted by Civil War.] “Two yeares rentes of the said three owinge by Mr. Hoghton, deade, nothinge worth. The therde yere’s rente owinge by Jenkine Gillibrande, who was taken by Mr. Hoghton appointm’t, with all his cattell, in tyme of war, his beastes loste, he paid his Ransome to the Armie, Returned home and died; soe I looked for noe rente.”

1644-5. Jan. 7.—At an assembly of Governors “it is ordered that Mr. Swinlehurst the Schoole Mr beinge at wante of money, beinge fyve rentes beehinde by reason of the distracted tymes, that hee shall have twentie ffyve poundes out of the Stocke money, till the rentes due to the said Schoole come in, and then to bee added to the Stocke againe.”

1645. Dec. 21.—Among the accounts presented at the yearly meeting of Governors appear the items:—“Geven souldiers for straininge at Farnhill, theire meate and drinke that day; and drivinge the cattell strayed to Paitnowle, the some of 19s. 6d.”—“Item for feching them at Paitnowle after the seidge was raysed 2s. 6d.”—“Item for breakinge open the Chestre where the Schoole Evidences lye 4d.”

1646-7. Jan. 4.—At an assembly of Governors the persons following were elected Governors:—“Alexander Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq., Tho. Greenfeilde, John Lawe, John Abbot, Thomas Whaley of Ichill, Thurstan flogg, and Willm. Walmsleye, and every of them paid 10s. a peice.”

1647. Dec. 21.—At an assembly of Governors “Mr. Clayton, now Vicar of Blackburne, Coll. Nicholas Shuttleworthe, Robt. Redding, gent., Richard Hoghton, gent., and Lawrence Haworth of Preston, Inkeeper, were chosen Governors, and paid each 10s.”

1649. Dec. 21.—In the accounts:—“Item, given Mr. Willm. Yaites in full of a noate under his handes, for eighteen bookes boughte at London and carriage downe, beinge nominated what bookes should be boughte by Mr. Claiton, Vicker,” the sum of £6 4s.

1652. Dec. 21.—The Governors assembled “did electe Adam Bolton to be a Gov'nor of the schole of Blakeburne in regard of the great panes taken about the schole busines.”

1654. Feb. 16.—The Governors at an assembly elected “Randle Sharples, Esq., and Thurstan Maudesley, gent.” Governors, who each gave 10s. to the School.—Dec. 21.—At an assembly of Governors, William Yates, John Talbott, Ellis Edge, and James Whalley elected Governors. Stock of School Money was £104 7s. 4d.

1655-6. Jan. 21.—“Md. that the daye and yeare above written the Gov'nors have elected and chosen Charles Segar gent to serve for the Schole Master of Blackeburne so longe as the Governors shall like well off.”—It was ordered “that Mr. Morres the usher shall have £5 for his panes taken in teaching of the schole since the death of the late Mr.” This record is signed by these Governors:—JOHN TALBOTT, ALEXANDER OSBALDESTON, JOHN TALBOTT, NIC: SHUTTLEWORTHE, LEO: CLAYTON, PETER HAWORTH, and RALPH LIYESAYE.

1657. Sept. 14.—At an assembly of Governors it was ordered:—“That Sr. John Talbott Knight and Ric. Haworth Esq. should be willed and required to convey and assure a Messuage and Tenement within Mellor with th'app'tenn'ces to the said Governors and their successors to the use of the free schole of Blackburne for ever, which said p'misses heretofore (in consideracion of a certaine some of money paid by the said Governors) were conveyed and assured by James Whithalge, gent. deceased, and Rauf Walkeden, to the said Sr John and Richard Haworth, and others who are dead, and they the said Sr John Talbott and Ric. Haworth surviving.”

1660. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected Lancelot Bolton, the school accountant, and Mr. John Clayton of Little Harwood, gent., to be Governors.

1660-1. Jan. 21.—The Governors elected Thomas Walmisley, gent., to be usher, and ordered that the old usher's widow should have £5 out of the School Stock. They at the same time elected Thomas Braddill, Esq., John Law, gent., and James Walmisley, gent., to be Governors; and “the key of the schole cheste, which was in the keeping of Mr. Law, was delivered to Mr. Thurstan Maudisley to be kept in the schole.”

1662-3. Jan. 12.—At a Meeting the Governors elected the following to be Governors, who paid 10s. apiece:—Law. Haworth of Blackburne, gent., James Whalley of Blackburne, gent., John Entwistle of Clayton-in-le-Dale, gent., John Boulton of Brockhouse, gent., and Richard Livesey of Baron-mylne, gent.

1666. Dec. 21.—In the accounts appear the items:—“Pd. Mr. Sager late Schoolemaster 23 Maie last in full of his wage before his goeing out of his place the some of £3 6s. 8d. Pd. Mr. Sherburne the present Schoolem'r 23 Maie last his p'porcionable p'te of the augmentation money 33s. 4d.”—At a Meeting of the Governors on that day, Mr. Richard Duckworth was appointed usher.

1667. Oct. 7.—At a Meeting of the Governors it was ordered that “Mr. Thomas Wyld shall bee Schoolmaster.”—Dec. 21. In the accounts:—“Payde Mr. Sager the late Schoolmaster May 1, 1667, the some of £5.”

George Talbott of Salesbury, gent., and Thos. Talbott of Cowell, gent., elected Governors.

1667-8. Jan. 20.—“Mr. John Wareinge of Brindley” appointed Usher.—March 9. Mr. Oliver Halliwell appointed Schoolmaster.

1668-9. Jan. 18.—At a General Meeting of Governors “there was ellected Governors of the said Schoole, Sr Richard Houghton Bart and paid 20s.; also Charles Houghton son and heire to the said Sr. Ric. Houghton Bart. and also pd. 20s.”

1669. Dec. 21.—In the account of disbursements occur:—“Pd. Mr. Sager the master att the same tyme the some of £5.” “Pd. Mr. Sager more the some of £3 15s.”—Amount of the School Stock £124 18s.

1670. Dec. 21.—In the accounts appears:—“Pd. Mr. Oddy the Schoolmaster the some of £5.”

At this date, of the School Stock of £126 4s. 1d., the sum of £105 was lent out to interest as follows:—

Lent John Ingham of Ridge the principal some of	£25
Lent Willm. Crosse of Upper Darwen ,,	£15
Lent John Clarkson of Aughton ,,	£20
Lent John Hoyle of Haslingden ,,	£20
Lent Thomas ffelden of Rishton ,,	£10
Lent Joshua Dineley of Church ,,	£10
Lent Arthur Ashton of Blackburne ,,	£5

1672. Dec. 21.—Thomas Whalley of Black-lane-head, junior, was elected a Governor.

1673. Dec. 21.—“Memorandum that at a general Meeting of Governors, they, in consideration of a yearly rent hereafter reserved to be paid, have demised and granted, &c., to Leonard Clayton, Vicar of Blackburne, and Willm. Yates of Blackburne, gent., two of the Governors, &c., all that Barne and the lands thereunto belonging, situate, &c., in Mellor, belonging to the said ffree schoole,” to hold from the second day of February now next ensuing, for the term of 21 years, yielding and paying unto the Governors the yearly rent of ten pounds.

1675. Dec. 21.—At the audit of the accounts by the Governors “Mr. Raph Livesey son of Raph Livesey, Esq., and Mr. John Clayton sonne of Mr. Leonard Clayton Vicar of Blackburne” were elected Governors; as also were “Mr. Tho. Haworth of Thurcroft, Mr. James Whalley of Itchill, Mr. Raph Walmsley of the Hill in Tockholes, Mr. Richard Astley of the Stakes, Mr. Tho. Cockshutt, Mr. James Ainsworth, and Mr. Evan Wilkinson.”

1676. Dec. 21.—At the General Meeting Edward Southworth, Esq., Thomas Ainsworth of Pleasington, Esq., Richard Haworth of Beardsworth, gent., and Thomas Abbot of Mellor, gent., were elected Governors.

1678. July 1.—At a Meeting of Governors “Mr. Hugh Wareinge present usher” was “absolutely discharged from henceforth of being usher;” and “Mr. Tho. Walmsley of Blackburne” was elected usher.

Mr. Francis Price, Vicar of Blackburne, Thomas Abbot of Mellor gent., and Henry Walmsley of the same, gent., were elected to be Governors.—Dec. 21. At a meeting of Governors, Edward Warren, Esq., Richard Walmsley the younger of Dunkenhalth Esq., and Mr. Joseph Yates of Blackburne, were elected Governors.

1679. Dec. 22.—“Recd. from the worshipfull Madam Walmsley of Dunkenhalth as a gratuity from Richard Walmsley, Esq., her sonne for increase of the Schoole Stocke the sune of £2.”—The following were elected Governors:—“Sr Raph Ashton of Whalley, Bart., Richard Ashton of Cuerdall, Esq., Edward Rishton of Antley, Esq., Joseph Sharples of Blackburn, gent., Willm. Shuttleworth of Asterleigh, gent., Thomas Lang of Winckley, Esq., Thomas Walmsley of Showley, gent., Edward Chew of Potterford, gent., and Thomas Ainsworth of Knusden, gent.”

1680. Dec. 22.—In the Receipts:—“Recd. of Mr. Tho. Greenfeild and Mr. Stephen Woodgate being elected Governors £1.”

1681. Dec. 21.—The following are named in the accounts as having paid gratuities on being elected Governors:—“Mr. Nicholas Townley of Clifton, Mr. John Harwood of Showley, Mr. James Marsden of Tockholes, Mr. Robert Bury of Ousbooth, Mr. Willm. Chrichlowe of Tockholes and Mr. James Bolton of Blackburne.”

1682. Dec. 21.—At the Governors’ yearly Meeting there were elected Governors:—“Mr. John Braddill sonne and heire apparent of Thomas Braddill of Portfield, Esq.,” Mr. John Clayton of Little Harwood and Mr. Theophilus Ainsworth of Pleasington.

1683. Dec. 21.—At a meeting of Governors were elected Governors:—Bartholomew Walmsley of Dunkenhalth Esq., Alexander Nowell of Morton Esq., and Sr Edmund Ashton of Whalley Bart.

1684. Dec. 22.—“Received from Sr Edmund Ashton Bart. the sum of five pounds upon his being elected as a Governor,” &c. Elected Governors:—The Worshipfull Sr Richard Shuttleworth, Knt., Henry Currer, Esq., Thomas Hesketh of Rufforth, Esq., and John Warren, Esq., Justice of the Welsh Circuit.

1685. April 2.—Mr. James Abbot of Mellor appointed usher. The £4 18s. 8d. due to Mr. Thos. Walmsley, late usher, paid unto Mrs. Anne Walmsley his widow.—Dec. 21. Thanks of the Governors returned to Sir Edmund Asheton Bart., for a further “seasonable gratuity of five pounds” bestowed to the increase of the Stock of the School.

1686. Dec. 21.—Mr. Henry Maudsley of Ousbooth clected a Governor.

1687. Dec. 21.—Received of Sir Edmund Ashton Bart. the further sum of £10, “as a signal demonstracion of his kindness and great bounty for the augmentation of the Stocke” of the School.—“Mr. Lawrence Osbaldeston son of the high Constable for the Hundred of Blackburne and Mr. Thomas Ainsworth sonne and heire of Mr. Richard Ainsworth” elected Governors.—Mr. Oliver Shaw appointed usher.

1688. Dec. 21.—Roger Lacy of Hackinge gent., Willm. Hayhurst of Preston gent., and Thomas Whalley of Itchill, elected Governors.—Thanks of the Governors returned to Sir Edmund Ashton Bart. for a further gift of £10, “as a great example

to others, a good encouragement to learninge, and a perpetuall testimony of his generous disposition to pious and charitable uses."

1689. Dec. 21.—Governors elected :—Revd. Dr. Willm. Skippon, and Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., son and heir of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq.—Received from Sir Edmund Ashton Bart. a further gift of £10, "for which the thanks of this assembly and all succeeding Governors and Schoolmasters is to be acknowledged and had in perpetuall remembrance."

1690. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected "Edward Sherdley, gent., Curate of the Parish Church of Blackburn, Mr. Abraham Townley of Dutton, Mr. William Yates and Mr. John Sudell of Blackburne, and Mr. Tho. Ogle," Governors.

1692. Oct. 17.—It was ordered "that James Burton of Salisbury in the County of Lancaster, gent., shall execute the office of usher" during the pleasure of the Governors.

— Dec. 21.—Mr. George Entwistle of Clayton-in-the-Dale elected a Governor.

1694. Dec. 21.—Elected Governors :—Robt. Hesketh of Rufford Esq., John Southworth Esq., Benjamin Hoghton Esq., Edward Sharples of Ramsgreave gent., and Randle ffelden of Blackburne gent.—"Recd. then as a further gratuity from the right worshipfull Sr Edmund Ashton Bart. the some of tenne poundes which with what sums he hath already given exceeds all particular gifts given by any p'son or p'sons whatsoever since the foundation of this Schoole." Sir Edmund Ashton of Whalley had now given £10 annually to the School for eight years, and £5 yearly for two previous years, making a total donation of £90 to the foundation—a munificent benefaction for the period.

1695. Dec. 21.—It was ordered that Joseph Yates, Esq., and John Clayton of the Green, gent., both Governors, should have a lease of the Barn and Lands in Mellor belonging to the school, containing twenty-nine acres of land, meadow, and pasture, for 21 years, at the yearly rent of £10.—"John fleetwood Esq., farmer of the Rectory of Blackburne," elected a Governor.

1698. May 2.—Benjamin Hoghton, Esq., elected a Governor.—"Recd. of the aforesaid Mr. Benjamin Hoghton, one of the Exors. or trustees of the worshipfull Henry Houghton, Esq., his uncle, deceased, the some of fifty shillings as a ffree gift of the said Mr. Henry Hoghton," &c.—Dec. 21. Thos. Hesketh of Rufford, Esq., and Samuel Crooke, Esq., elected Governors.

1698-9. Feb. 13.—Barton Shuttleworth of Blackburn, gent., and William Rishton of Livesey, gent., elected Governors.

1701. Dec. 21.—Henry Hodgkinson Esq. (of Preston), and the right hon'ble Thomas Lord flauconberg, elected Governors.

1702-3. Jan. 11.—Roger Nowell, Esq., elected a Governor.—1703. Oct. 11.—Ordered that Mr. Burton, usher, "shall receive the sallery due to Mr. Oddy, late head Master," from the 4th of Aug. last "untill another schoolmaster bee elected and resident instead of Mr. Oddy."—Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., of Pleasington, elected a Governor.

1704. July 3.—At a general meeting of the Governors, "Mr. Robt. ffoster, Batchellor of Arts of Jesus Colledge in the University of Cambridge," elected "head Schoole Master of the said ffree Gramer

School," and to "take the rents and sallery belonging to the place for and duringe the pleasure of the Governors."—Oct. 2. James Livesey of Over Darwen, gent., elected Usher, "after the death of Mr. James Burton, late usher."—Jan. 29. Ordered that Mrs. Burton, widow of the late Mr. James Burton, usher, should receive certain sums due to the deceased for salary.

1705. Aug. 20.—Mr. George Smith of Burnley, B.A., of Brazenose College, Oxford, appointed Head Master instead of Mr. Robert Foster, deceased.

1706. May 13.—"The Reverend John Holme, Vicar of Blackburne," elected a Governor.—Dec. 21. Mr. Thomas Cockshutt of Great Harwood, gent., and Mr. William Wilkinson of Royshey, gent., were elected Governors.

1708. Dec. 21.—Mr. Richard Walmsley of Showley and Mr. C'rofer Baron of Knuzden, elected Governors.

1711. Dec. 21.—"The hon'ble Sr Henry Hoghton, Barrt., and the wor'pp'll John Warren, Esq.," elected Governors; also, "Tho. Maudsley of Ousbooth, gent., and Thomas Whalley, M.D., and John Ainsworth of Pleasington, gent."

1712-3. Feb. 23.—Ordered that George Smith, the head master, shall collect and receive all monies appertaining to the school; shall yearly deposit the same before the Governors, and shall keep the accounts of the School in regular and due order.

The Hon'ble Lord Petre, Sir Ralph Asheton of Whalley, Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., John Fleetwood, Esq., Mr. Hamerton Astley, Mr. Dickson, Curate of Blackburne, and Mr. John Whalley, elected Governors.—Mar. 23. Willm. Hesketh of Maines, Esq., Mr. Clayton of Adlington, Mr. Joseph Yates of Manchester, and Mr. John Wildman of Billington, gentlemen, elected Governors.

1713. Dec. 21.—"The School-Stock is as follows, vizt.:—Mr. Alex. Osbaldeston £20; John Forrest £20; Thomas Tipping £5; Miles Aspinall £6; John Kemp £6; Thomas Osbaldeston £40; Thomas Dineley £10; Adam Livesey £20; Lawrence Walmesley £10; Mr. Wildman £12; Thurstan fishwick £4 17s. 6d. Total £153 17s. 6d." Interest £9 16s. 6d.

1714. Dec. 21.—Elected Governors:—Captain Porter Livesey, Mr. James Bolton, Mr. Johnson, Mr. John Hopkinson, Mr. James Dewhurst, Mr. Hugh Pickering, Mr. Will. Sudell, and Mr. Peter Haworth of Thurcroft.

1715. Dec. 21.—Mr. Willm. Baldwin of Blackburne, and Mr. Thos. Haworth of Lower Darwen, elected Governors.

1715-6. Feb. 20.—The Governors elected "in the room of Mr. James Livesey late deceased, Mr. Thomas Moon, of Wesham in the Parish of Kirkham, to be Usher."

1716. Sept. 28.—Ralph Asheton of Cuerdale, Esq., and Mr. Willm. Walbank of Pleasington, elected Governors.—Dec. 21. In the accounts:—"Recd. of Richd. Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, Esq., Governor elect, £5."

1717. Dec. 21.—Elected Governors:—Hon. Ld. Petre of Dunkenhalgh, Mr. John Winckley of Preston, Thomas Hesketh of Martholme, Esq., Mr. Henry Feilden, of Blackburne, and Roger Nowell of Read, junior, Esq.

1720. Dec. 21.—"At a publick meeting of the Gent. Governors they were

pleased to elect Haworth Curren of Kildwick, Esq., Dr. Thos. Clayton of Manchester, Mr. Miles Berrie of Ousbooth, Mr. Ralph Whalley of Blackburne, and Mr. Henry Haworth, apothecary in Blackburne, to be Governors of the School."

1722. Dec. 21.—Mr. John Stokoe and Mr. Robt. Feilden of Manchester elected Governors.

1724. Dec. 21.—Mr. William Livesey, of Livesey, elected a Governor.

1725. Dec. 21.—Banister Parker, Esq., Mr. Thos. Whalley of Blackburne, and Mr. Henry Sudell of Blackburne, elected Governors.

1726. Dec. 21.—In the receipts:—"Recd. of Mr. Henry Sudell and Mr. Joseph Hankinson, Execrs. to Mr. Willm. Sudell of Blackburne, ye some of 20 pounds left to ye Free-School of Blackburne by the said Mr. Willm. Sudell." "Recd. of Mr. Jno. Whalley, senr., of Blackburne, ye some of Ten pounds towards ye augmentac'on of ye Stock of ye Free-School of Blackburne."

1727. July 3.—"Mr. Thomas Wright of St. John's Coll., Cambridge," elected Usher.

1728. Dec. 21.—Mr. Clayton of Adlington, Mr. John Whalley, junr., of Blackburne, and Mr. John Entwistle of Madghill-bank, elected Governors.

1729. Dec. 22.—Edward Warren, Esq., Mr. Willm. Kippex of Blackburne, Mr. Thos. Livesey of Wensley ffold, Mr. Roger Walsh of Darwen, Mr. Hugh Baldwin of Blackburne, and Mr. James Osbaldeston of London, elected Governors.

1731. June 23.—"Mr. Thomas Holme of Brasenose Colledge in Oxford, elected Head Master instead of Mr. Geo. Smith resigned." Mr. Thos. Walmsley of Showley elected a Governor.—Ordered:—"That noe Girles shall be taught in the chamber over the School."

— Dec. 21.—Mr. Thos. Johnson of Bolton, Mr. James Horridge and Mr. James Marsden, both of Upper Darwen, and Mr. Ralph Pollard of Blackburn, elected Governors.

1731-2. March 23.—Mr. Peter Livesey of Pleasington appointed Usher.

1733. Dec. 31.—Mr. Henry Baron of Knuzden and Mr. Joseph Whalley of Blackburne elected Governors; also Charles Stourton Walmsley, Esquire, elected a Governor at the same time.

1734. Dec. 21.—Money and securities belonging to the School:—Mr. Stanley Werder's Bond £40; Richard Walche's ditto £30; Thomas Dineley's ditto £10; Henry Griffith's ditto £50; Wm. Baldwin's ditto £63; total £193. Interest £9 13s.—James Whalley of Blackburn, Esq., elected a Governor.

1735. Dec. 21.—Elected Governors:—Richard Clayton of Adlington, Esq., Mr. Thomas Clayton of London, and Mr. James Livesey of Blackburne.

1736. Nov. 1.—Mr. Henry Feilden, a Governor, chosen Treasurer.—"Mr. Daniel Markland of Middlewatch, Batchellor of Arts of Brasenose Colledge in Oxford," elected Head Master, in place of "Rev. Thomas Holme late head-master and treasurer," resigned.

1736. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected Doddyn Braddyll, Esq., a Governor.¹

1737. Aug. 2.—The Governor elected, “instead of Mr. Daniel Markland late deceased,” “Mr. Thomas Hunter, of Queen’s Colledge in Oxford,” Head Master.—Dec. 21. Alexr. Nowell and Allen Harrison, Esqrs., and Mr. Thos. Johnson junr., elected Governors.

1738. Dec. 21.—Rev. John Potter, A.M., Vicar of Blackburn, elected a Governor.

1739. Dec. 21.—Among the receipts appears:—“A Legacy left by the late John Sudell laid out in a Mortgage on Pollard Grid at £4 10s. per cent. interest—£30.”

“The Rev. Mr. Thos. Holme, Mr. Robert Whalley, Mr. Richard Haworth, and Mr. Richd. Falkner” elected “trustees,” *i.e.* Governors.

1740. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected Mr. Robt. Garthside, of Manchester, and Mr. Thos. Haworth, Apothecary, of Blackburn, to be trustees.

1740-1. Jan. 20.—“John Ainsworth of Pleasington, Esq., Mr. Henry ffeilden of Blackburn, and Mr. John Whalley to erect a new Building on the lands in Mellor, and do all other things with respect to repairs about the School as to them shall seem most meet.”

1742. Dec. 21.—“Rev. Mr. Woollin, Vicar of Blackburn, James Shuttleworth, Esq., of Gawthorpe, Ralph Asheton, Esq., of Cuerdale,” elected to be trustees.

1742-3. Feb. 25.—“Mdm. It is this day agreed to that the Cock-pennys, which have formerly been divided betwixt the Master and Usher equally, shall for the future be paid to each Master separately from the Boys under his particular care, provided the Boys under the Master’s care be admitted by him six months before the usual time of Cock-pennys, or the Boys admitted within the aforesaid six months, to

¹ Under date Dec. 21, 1736, is entered the following “Rental of Lands and Rents belonging to the Free Grammer Schoole of Blackburne.” At the same date the School Stock stood at £221.

<p>A clear yearly Rent of Twenty Pounds issuing out of the Capital Messuage or Mancion House called Farnhill Peele in Farnhill, Co. York, pd. by the Hon’ble Geo. Fox Esq. at Whit. and Martinmas - - - 20 0 0</p> <p>Itm. One Messuage and Tenement in Mellor called Whitagh House, cont. by estimation Twenty-nine acres of land and also one Barne one Close called Sedyhole wherein the said Barne now stands, at the yearly Rent of Twelve Pounds payable at Michelmas and Candlemas - - - - - 12 0 0</p> <p>Itm. Out of the Revenues of the Duchie Manor, is to be pd. by the then Receiver the sum of four Pounds seven Shillings and four pence on every 1st of May at the Castle of Clitherow - - - - - 4 7 4</p>	<p>The Twenty Pounds from Farnhill Lands has been customarily allow’d the Master as P’te of his Sallery - 20 0 0</p> <p>The Twelve Pounds from Mellor Lands has been customarily allow’d and divided betwixt the Master and Usher of this Schoole - - - 12 0 0</p> <p>The Duchie Rent has been customarily pd. the Usher of this Schoole - 4 7 4</p> <p>Also a Salary of four Pounds eighteen Shillings and eight Pence every 2nd day of Febr., out of the Interest money belonging to the School.</p>
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pay their cock-pennys to the Usher."—Mr. Robt. Sutton, junr., of Skipton in Yorkshire, appointed Usher.

1743. Dec. 21.—Mr. Richard Marsden of Pleasington, Mr. William Leyland and Mr. John Bolton of Blackburn, and Mr. Edmund Winder of Lovley, elected Governors.—Ordered, "that the Gentlemen to be elected Governors hereafter shall within twelve months after their election pay at least one Guinea to the publick Stock of the School, otherwise his or their election to be declared void."—"Whereas the rents of the Mellor Estate have hitherto been equally divided betwixt the Master and Usher, but a new Building being raised upon the said estate, whereby the School Stock, from the Interest of which the Usher's Salary has been raised, is diminished, and not sufficient for the payment of the said Salary, it is therefore agreed that two Pounds fifteen shillings and sixpence shall be paid to the Usher over and above his equal share of the remaining Rent of the said estate, being the Interest of £55 10s. laid out upon a House in the Sagar Field."

1744. Dec. 21.—"Mr. Edward Ainsworth of Pleasington, the Reverend Mr. Bolton of Rochdale, Mr. James Bolton of Preston, Mr. John Whalley, junior, B.A., and Mr. Sam. Smith," elected trustees. The following townships had made free gifts towards repairing the Free School of Blackburn:—Blackburn £2 10s. 5d.; Over Darwen £1 15s.; Lower Darwen £1 5s. 10d.; Tockholes 18s. 1½d.; Little Harwood 17s. 6d.; Osbaldeston 11s. 8d.; Wilpshire-with-Dinkley £1; Salesbury 15s.; Pleasington £1 7s. 6d.; Witton 16s. 3d.—1745. Mellor-cum-Eccleshill £1 10s.; part of Rishton 9s. 1d.—1746. Livesey £1 6s. 10½d.; Balderstone 15s.

1746. Dec. 22.—"Mr. John Whalley at the Mill in Blackburn," appointed Treasurer. "John ffielden gentleman," elected a Governor.

1747. Sept. 22.—The Governors agreed to purchase from George Ward of Mellor, weaver, the Messuage and Tenement of Pianot Nest at Brookfoot in Mellor, for the sum of £113.—Dec. 21. Ordered:—"That the original Charter of the free Grammar School in Blackburn be translated into English and read publickly in the said School every Saint Thos. Day yearly."—Ralph Livesey of Livesey, Esq., and John Shorrock of Little Harwood, elected Trustees.

1748. Dec. 21.—William Ainsworth of Pleasington, Esq., and John Walmsley of Goodshawe, within the Parish of Rochdale, elected Governors.

1749. Aug. 15.—Mr. Nicholas Parker of Garstang Churchtown, elected Usher.

1749. Dec. 21.—Mr. John Clayton of Little Harwood, and Nathaniel Haworth of Blackburn, chapman, elected Governors.

1750. Aug. 29.—The Governors appointed Rev. Robert Smith, B.A., of St. Alban's Hall, Oxford, Head Master, in place of Rev. Mr. Hunter, resigned.

— Dec. 21.—Robt. Parker of Cuerden, Esq., Mr. John Sudell and Mr. Ralph Whalley, elected Governors.—Pianot Nest tenement in Mellor leased to George Ward, at a rental of £5 per annum.

1751. Dec. 21.—Mr. Thos. Walmsley of Micklehey in the township of Rishton, elected a Governor in place of Mr. Ralph Whalley, of Liverpool, withdrawn.

1752. Dec. 21.—Thos. Cross of Shaw Hill, Esq., and Mr. Wm. Roberts of Blackburn, chapman, elected Governors.

1753. Dec. 21.—Nicholas Winckley of Preston, Esq., and Mr. John Styth of Blackburn, elected Governors.

1754. Dec. 21.—The Governors elected the following to be Governors:—Alexander Nowell, of Read, Esq., in the room of William Hesketh, late of Mains, Esq., deceased; Thomas Walmsley the younger of Showley, Esq., in the room of Thomas Livesey late of Blackburn, yeoman, deceased; and James Chew of Billington, gentleman, in the room of the Rev. Thos. Holme, D.D., deceased.

1755. Sept. 6.—Mr. Richard Guest of Wigan appointed Head Master, in place of the Rev. Mr. Smith, resigned.

1755. Sept. 30.—The Governors agreed “that the Master shall take the Boys out of the Usher's end in the Cordery or sooner if he shall see it proper and convenient, and that the Usher shall take in such Boys as can read in the Testament agreeable to the Master or Usher after having examined them.”—Dec. 21. Mr. Thos. Livesey of Blackburn elected a Governor in the room of Mr. Walmsley of Showley, deceased.

1756. Dec. 21.—Mr. Joseph Sigston of Blackburn, and Mr. Wm. Fox of Clayton-in-Ie-Dale, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Wm. Roberts and Mr. Saml. Smith, deceased.

1757. Dec. 21.—George Warren, Esq., of Dinkley, and Thos. Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield, elected Governors in room of Mr. R. Haworth and Mr. Nath. Haworth, deceased.

1759. Dec. 21.—Piers Starkie, Esq., of Huntroyd, Asheton Curzon, Esq., and Mr. Henry Sudell, junior, elected Governors in the room of Ralph Asheton, Esq., Dr. Clayton, and Mr. Winder, deceased.

1760. Dec. 21.—Mr. Robert Livesey and Mr. Joseph Feilden elected Governors in the room of Piers Starkie, Esq., and Mr. John Whalley, deceased.

1761. Dec. 21.—Mr. John Hankinson and Mr. Thos. Bolton elected Governors in the room of Mr. John Shorrocks and Mr. Edwd. Bolton, deceased.

1762. Dec. 21.—Mr. Henry Feilden of Manchester elected Governor in the room of Mr. John Styth, deceased.

1763. Dec. 21.—Chrstr. Baron, Esq., Edmund Starkie, Esq., of Huntroyd, Mr. John Hindle and Mr. Jonathan Haworth, elected Governors in room of Mr. Miles Berry, Hamerton Astley, Esq., Mr. Thos. Johnson, junr., and Mr. Robt. Livesey, deceased.—On complaint of Mr. Guest and Mr. Parker, the Master and Usher, that certain Scholars had insulted them “in open defiance of all power and authority,” the Governors ordered:—“That every schollar offending as aforesaid, after due correction given him by the Master or Usher for the time being, shall be expelled the school and for ever exempted the benefit thereby as a schollar.”

1764. Dec. 21.—Mr. James Sudell, Mr. Hugh Hesketh, and Mr. Robt. Haworth of Clitheroe, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Thomas Johnson, Mr. Henry Sudell, and Mr. William Leyland, deceased.

1765. Dec. 21.—George Wilson, Esq., of Osbaldeston, elected Governor in the room of Mr. Thos. Walmsley, deceased.

1766. Dec. 21.—Mr. Thomas Roberts and Mr. Thomas Baron, both of Blackburn, and Mr. Edward Bolton of Preston, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Christopher Baron of Blackburn, Mr. James Bolton of Preston, and Ralph Livesey, Esq., of Livesey, all deceased.

1767. Dec. 21.—Sir Peter Leicester of Tabley, Co. Chester, Baronet, Peter Legh, Esq., of Lyme in the same County, Mr. Thomas Yates of Livesey, and Mr. Richd. Bleasdale of Blackburn, elected Governors in the room of Mr. John Whalley,

Mr. Jos. Whalley, Mr. Henry Baron of Blackburn, and Mr. John Walmsley of Rochdale, all deceased.

1768. Dec. 21.—George Abbott of Blackburn, gentleman, and Edward Brewer of Blackburn, gentleman, elected Governors in the room of Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart., and James Chew of Billington, gent., deceased.

1769. Dec. 21.—Mr. John Calvert of Preston, and Mr. Henry Heaton of Blackburn, elected Governors in the room of Dr. Robt. Whalley and Mr. James Sudell, both deceased.

— Aug. 28. John Wilson, of Tockholes, clerk, appointed Head Master in the stead of Mr. Richard Guest, deceased.

1770. Dec. 22.—Mr. John Livesey of Blackburn, Mr. William Sudell of Lancaster, Mr. John Smalley of Billington, Mr. Abraham Chew of the same place, Mr. Ralph Eccles of Upper Darwen, and Mr. Thos. Johnson of Manchester, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Hugh Hesketh, Mr. Henry Sudell, Lawyer Clayton, Sir Peter Leicester, the Rev. Dr. John Potter, and Mr. Johnson, late of Bolton, gent., all deceased.—On complaint by the Head Master that the lower part of the School had become “crowded by petty boys,” the Governors ordered that no boy should be in future admitted under the Usher “to be instructed in the reading of English, unless the sum of five shillings at the least shall be paid by way of entrance to the Usher by the Parents or Guardians.”

1771. Dec. 21.—John Parker of Millhouse in Cheshire, Clerk, Charles Ford of Manchester, merchant, Joseph Tipping of Manchester, merchant, and William Yates of Blackburn, chapman, elected Governors in the room of Mr. James Horridge, Mr. Richard Marsden, Mr. John Feilden, and Mr. Richard Bleasdale, gentlemen, all deceased.

1772. Dec. 21.—Rev. John White, clerk, Vicar of Blackburn, Mr. Bertie Markland, Mr. John Yates, and Mr. Edmund Peele, all of Blackburn, elected governors in the room of the Rev. Mr. Wollin, Alexr. Nowell, Esq., and Mr. Joseph Sigston, deceased, and Mr. Thomas Johnson, who had refused to act.—Ordered: “That no days of playing usually called Remedys shall for the future be allowed.”

1773. Dec. 21.—Robt. Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe, Esq., Le Gendre Starkie of Huntroyd, Esq., Mr. Geo. Hargreaves of Hoddlesden, and Mr. John Talbot and Mr. Benjamin Walmsley of Blackburn, elected Governors in the room of John Entwistle, James Shuttleworth, Joseph Yates, Esqrs., Mr. Thos. Roberts and Mr. Ralph Eccles, all deceased.

1774. Dec. 21.—Mr. Samuel Cable, of Blackburn, surgeon and apothecary, and Mr. Benjamin Bulcock of Rishton, elected Governors in room of John Hankinson, gentleman, and John Talbot, gentleman, both deceased.¹

¹ The list of Governors about a century ago may be of interest :—“A list of the present Governors of the free Grammar School of Blackburn, Dec. 21, 1774 :—1, James Whalley, Esq.; 2, Mr. Richard Falkner; 3, Mr. Robert Gartside; 4, Mr. Thomas Haworth; 5, Mr. John Bolton; 6, Edward Ainsworth, Esq.; 7, John Clayton, Esq.; 8, Robert Parker, Esq.; 9, Mr. John Sudell; 10, Thomas Evans, Esq. (non residt.); 11, Nicholas Winckley, Esq.; 12, Thomas Walmsley, Esq.; 13, Mr. Thomas Livesey; 14, Mr. William Fox; 15, Sir George Warren; 16, Thomas Braddyll, Esq.; 17, Ashton Curzon, Esq.; 18, Mr. Joseph Feilden; 19, Mr. Henry Feilden; 20, Mr. Thomas Bolton; 21, Mr. John Hindle; 22, Mr. Jonathan Haworth; 23, Mr. Robert Haworth; 24, George Wilson, Esq.; 25, Mr. Thomas Baron; 26, Mr. Edward Bolton; 27, Peter Legb, Esq.; 28, Mr. Thomas Yates; 29, Mr. George Abbott; 30, Mr. Edward Brewer; 31, Mr. John Calvert; 32, Mr. Henry Heaton; 33, Mr. John Livesey; 34, Mr. William Sudell; 35, Mr. John Smalley; 36, Mr. Abraham Chew; 37, The Rev. Mr. John Parker; 38, Mr. Charles Ford; 39, Mr. Joseph Tipping; 40, Mr. William Yates; 41, The Rev. Mr. John White; 42, Mr. Bertie Markland; 43, Mr. John Yates; 44, Mr. Edmund Peel; 45, Robert Shuttleworth, Esq.; 46, Le Gendre Starkie, Esq.; 47, George Hargreaves, Esq.; 48, Mr. Benjamin Walmsley; 49, Mr. Benjamin Boocock; 50, Mr. Samuel Cable.”

1775. Dec. 21.—Mr. Richd. Birley, Mr. Walter Freckleton, Mr. John Haworth of Blackburn, and Rev. Daniel Wilson of Lancaster, elected Governors in room of Thos. Walmsley, Esq., Mr. Thos. Yates, Mr. George Abbott, and Mr. Edmund Peel, deceased.

1776. Dec. 21.—“Memorandum.—The Estate of Farnhill Peel, which is charged with an Annuity of £20 payable to the Schoolmaster of Blackburn, is now in the possession of Sr. John Goodricke, of Bramham Park, Yorkshire.”

Mr. Wm. Peel, Mr. Thos. Clayton of Little Harwood, Mr. John Hargreaves, Mr. Thos. Chippindale, and Mr. Wm. Haworth, elected Governors in place of Geo. Wilson, Esq., Mr. Thos. Haworth, Thos. Braddyll, Esq., and Mr. John Hindle, deceased, and Mr. Richd. Birley, who declined acting.

1777. Dec. 22.—Rev. Mr. Armistead of Mitton, and Mr. Calvert of Preston, elected Governors in place of Mr. Robt. Gartside and Mr. John Calvert, deceased.

1778. Dec. 21.—Mr. Christopher Marsden and Mr. John Hindle elected Governors in place of Mr. John Bolton and Mr. Benjamin Walmsley, deceased.

1779. Dec. 21.—Mr. Edmund Haworth and Mr. James De la Prime elected Governors in room of Edward Ainsworth, Esq., and Robert Parker, Esq., deceased.

1780. Dec. 21.—Rev. Thos. Starkie, A.M., Vicar of Blackburn, and James Whalley, Esq., of Clerk-hill, elected Governors in room of Rev. John White, A.M., Vicar of Blackburn, and Thomas Whalley, Esq., of Clerk-hill, deceased.

1781. Dec. 21.—Mr. Thos. Bulcock, Mr. Wm. Carr, Mr. Wm. Charnley, and Mr. Peter Ellingthorpe, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Edmund Haworth (refused the trust), and of Mr. Winckley, Mr. John Yates, and Mr. Wm. Haworth, deceased.

1783. July 3.—Ordered that the School forthwith receive necessary repairs.

— Mr. John Thornton and Mr. Thomas Bancroft, both of Blackburn, elected Governors in place of Mr. Chr. Marsden, deceased, and of Mr. Thos. Bulcock, declined the trust.—Ordered that “the Master and Usher do equally divide betwixt themselves the Entrance Money, Cock-pennies, and the rent of the Governors’ Room or writing chamber, and every other perquisite arising from the School or Scholars except their respective salaries, and that this regulation do take place from the 21st December, 1782.”

1784. July 1.—Mr. Robt. Turner and Mr. Robt. Ashburner, both of Blackburn, elected Governors.

1785. July 7.—Mr. Henry Sudell, Mr. John Hornby, Mr. Wm. Chippindale, and Mr. John Fisher, surgeon, elected Governors in room of Mr. John Sudell, Rev. Mr. Wilson, Mr. Henry Heaton, and Mr. John Haworth, all deceased.

1786. July 6.—Mr. Edmund Haworth of Mill Hill, and Mr. Henry Feilden of Blackburn, elected Governors in the room of Mr. Jonathan Haworth and Mr. Robt. Haworth, both deceased.

1787. Jan. 5.—The Governors appointed Mr. Samuel Dean, of Manchester, Upper Master of the School, the place being vacant by the resignation of Rev. John Wilson, clerk.—Oct. 10, 1787. Mr. James Radcliffe of Mosney, appointed writing-master and accountant.

1789. July 2.—Mr. Isaac Glover, Mr. John Hall, surgeon, and Mr. Michael Ward, surgeon, all of Blackburn, elected Governors in room of Mr. Henry Feilden, senr., Mr. Charles Ford and Mr. Walter Freckleton, all deceased.

1790. Aug. 3.—Rev. Jno. Langton Leach and Mr. Thos. Walmsley Bulcock

elected Governors in room of Mr. Thos. Livesey, deceased, and Mr. Michael Ward, declined.

1791.—In the accounts :—“By Mr. Cardwell as a Benefactor £5 5s.”—April 27. Rev. Thomas Jackson of Bentham elected Usher, in place of Rev. Mr. Exton, resigned.—Ordered, that all Scholars learning the Latin language shall be taught by the Upper Master.

1792. Aug. 17.—Rev. Saml. Dean, Upper Master, resigned.—Sep. 20. The Governors elected Rev. Thomas Jackson Upper Master.—Mr. John Feilden elected a Governor.—Oct. 18. Mr. Christopher Inman of Burnsall, near Skipton, elected Usher.

1793. May 9.—The Governors agreed to a proposal by Mr. Sudell for an exchange of certain lands in Mellor belonging to the School, known by the name of the Lower Great Meadow and a small corner of the Barn Meadow, for certain other lands in Mellor belonging to Mr. Sudell, being the Nearer Green Meadow, Further Green Field, Shorrock Green Croft, and part of the Meadow Field ; Mr. Sudell to give the sum of £15 in consideration.

1794. July 2.—Mr. Wm. Feilden and Mr. Samuel Bowen elected Governors in the room of Joseph Feilden, Esq., and Mr. Thos. Chippendale, deceased.

— July 3.—Mr. Edward Chippendale, Mr. John Nevill, and Mr. R. Latus elected Governors in room of Peter Legh, Esq., Legendre Starkie, Esq. and Mr. Wm. Peel, deceased.

1797. July 6.—Mr. William Aspinall of Blackburn, elected Governor in the room of Mr. Charnley, deceased.

1798. July 5.—James Chew, M.D., Mr. Jonathan Wood and Mr. John Birley, King-street, elected Governors in the room of Mr. G. Hargreaves, Mr. J. Hargreaves, and Mr. Ashburner, deceased.

1799. April 2.—Rev. Wm. Lutener, of Blackburn, elected Usher in the place of Mr. Inman, resigned.

1800. July 3.—Mr. Carr, Mr. Richard Cardwell, senr., Mr. John Birley, junr., and Mr. Alexander Butler, elected Governors in room of Mr. Carr, Mr. A. Chew, Mr. J. Tipping, and Mr. W. Bulcock, all deceased.

1801. June 2.—The Governors agreed to sell to Henry Sudell, Esq., three Messuages, Farms, or Tenements in Mellor, known as the Higher School Lands, the Lower School Lands, and the Middle School Lands, now in the occupation of Mrs. Ashburner or her under-tenants, for the sum of £2,600. “The estates contracted to be sold contain 31 acres and 7 perches, and the clear profits to the Master and Usher are £20 11s. 8d.”—The Governors resolved that all interest accruing from the said sum of £2,600, and all rents thereof should thereafter accrue from lands purchased and conveyed in exchange for lands sold, subject to deductions by the Governors for repairs of the School and the improvement of lands and buildings belonging thereto, should be divided half yearly between the Master and Usher in the proportion of five to three.

— July 2.—Mr. Hugh Hornby Birley elected a Governor in the room of Edw. Brewer, deceased.

1802. July 1.—Mr. A. Chew, Mr. Thos. Carr, Mr. Richd. Ellingthorpe, and Mr. Wm. Maude elected Governors in the room of Sir Geo. Warren, Mr. Wm. Fox, Mr. Thos. Baron, and Mr. Thos. Bolton, all deceased.¹

1803. June 30.—The Governors appointed Mr. James Holme, of Ealing, Middlesex, to be Upper Master in the place of the Rev. Thomas Jackson, deceased.

Rev. Mr. Stephenson, Messrs. John Cardwell, Abm. Pryme, Jos. Birley, Warren Maude, and D. Blissett elected Governors in room of John Clayton, Thos. Cross, and Edw. Bolton, Esqrs., Mr. Robinson Shuttleworth and Mr. Hugh Birley, deceased.

1804. Aug. 2.—Mr. Robt. Cross and Mr. Thos. Beardsworth elected Governors in room of Mr. John Smalley and Mr. Benjamin Bulcock, deceased.

It is not necessary to continue in detail the annals of the School during the present century, so far as they relate to the election of Governors to fill vacancies and to current business of the foundation. The present Clerk to the Governors, Arthur I. Robinson, Esq., kindly supplies from the Minute Books the following notes of appointments of Masters since 1806:—"Mr. Holme, the Upper Master, resigned Dec. 21st, 1807.—Rev. Wm. Boardman elected Head Master, 26th Sept., 1808.—Mr. Thomas Atkinson elected Head Master 23 Dec., 1819, *vice* Boardman, resigned.—Rev. John Bidgood Bennett, M.A., elected Head Master 18 Dec., 1845, *vice* Atkinson, resigned.—Mr. Thomas Ainsworth, M.A., elected Head Master 23 Nov., 1855, *vice* Bennett, resigned.—Rev. Ralph Leeming appointed Usher 4 Oct., 1812, *vice* Lutener, resigned.—Rev. Richard Garnett appointed Usher 10 Nov., 1814, *vice* Leeming, resigned.—Mr. Garnett resigned in Oct., 1819, and Mr. Boardman, Head Master, resigning about the same time, the Governors decided to combine the offices owing to the income of the School Estate being insufficient to pay two salaries."²

¹ RENT ROLL [1802].—Nov. 11th, due from Mr. Sudell, £65; May 13th, due from Mr. Sudell, £65; at Whitsuntide and Martinmas, due from Mr. Wilkinson of Winterburn near Skipton from an estate in Yorkshire called Farnhill Peel, £10 half yearly, £20; at Candlemas and 2nd Feby., due from Thos. Ward of Mellor, £2 10s. half yearly, £5; July or Aug., Dutchy Rents due from the Dutchy Court, £4 7s. 4d.; Rent of the Pew from E. Chippindall, £1 10s. 6d.; at May Day, Rent of the Writing Master's Room, £3 2s.; total, £164 os. 10d.; Deduct from the Duchy Rents, 10s.; £163 10s. 10d.; of the above, five-eighths due to the Master, £102 4s. 3d.; of the above, three-eighths to the Usher, £61 6s. 7d.; £163 10s. 10d.

² The present (1875) List of Governors of Blackburn Grammar School is as follows:—Wm. Henry Hornby, Esq.; Wm. Thos. Carr, Esq.; Montague Joseph Feilden, Esq. (Lt.-Col.); Robert Lund, Esq.; Henry Master Feilden, Esq.; Thos. Ainsworth, Esq.; John Livesey, Esq.; Sir W. H. Feilden, Bart.; Rev. Chas. Greenway; John Turner Hopwood, Esq.; Robt. Raynsford Jackson, Esq. (Col.); Rev. Henry John Marlen; Danl. Thwaites, Esq.; Robt. Hopwood Hutchinson, Esq.; Wm. Leyland Feilden, Esq.; Richd. Barton Dodgson, Esq.; Hy. Unsworth Hargreaves, Esq.; Thos. Lund, Esq.; Rev. Geo. Alexr. Hamilton Ashe; Rev. Chas. Wright Woodhouse (Canon of Manchester); James Cunningham, Esq.; Joseph Harrison, Esq.; Wm. Dickinson, Esq.; Rev. Robt. Atherton Rawstorne; Rev. Philip Graham; Arthur Ingram Robinson, Esq.; Thomas Ratcliffe, Esq.; William Harrison, Esq.; Wm. Henry Hornby, junr., Esq.; James Thompson, Esq.; Wm. Coddington, Esq.; Rev. Edwd. Birch (Hon. Canon of Manchester); Thos. Hartley Pickup, Esq.; Thos. Clough, Esq.; John Thwaites, Esq.; John Bolton, Esq.; Thos. Lewis, Esq.; Adam Dugdale, Esq.; Thomas Bury, Esq.; Robert Parkinson, Esq.; John Tattersall, Esq.; Robt. Duckworth, Esq.; John Pickup, Esq.; Thos. Hutton Baynes, Esq.; Robt. Carr Radcliffe, Esq.; Wm. G. Cort, Esq.; Henry John Robinson, Esq.; Jas. Lewis, Esq.

The purchase money (£2,600) of the School lands in Mellor sold to Mr. Henry Sudell in 1801, remained in Mr. Sudell's hand at interest until 1812, when an estate was purchased therewith in Dilworth, called "Clayton's," contains 31 acres 1 rood 25 perches of land, customary measure (about 58 statute acres), and at the time of this transfer was leased to Thomas Clayton at a rent of £110. In 1816 the farm was relet at a rental of £80; in 1823 was relet at £60; and in 1826 was leased to another tenant at £80 annual rental, which is about the present revenue of the School from this source. The Pianot Nest tenement in Mellor, purchased in 1749, yielded in 1825 a rental of £16 yearly; the rent charge of £20 on Farnhill estate, and the sum of £4 7s. 4d. from the Duchy (less 9s. 10d. deducted for fees), making a total endowment of £119 7s. 6d. About ten years ago the annual income of the School from endowments was reported to be £118 7s. 8d. gross, and £113 net.

The old School House in the Parish Churchyard was disused and taken down in 1820, on the conveyance of the site, for a sum of £850, to the trustees for rebuilding the Parish Church. The same year, the Governors secured a new site called the "Bull Meadow" on the Rectorial Glebe from the lessee of the Primate, for £141 2s. 5d.; the plot contains 4,610 square yards, and upon a part of it the present School and Master's House were erected in 1825. The rest of the land is enclosed for a playground. The school-room is not large, and but poorly meets the necessities of the 100 scholars now usually receiving education upon this foundation.

A project for rebuilding the school on a pleasanter site in the suburb near the Corporation Park, and for augmenting the endowment by means of a public subscription, has been mooted recently, but has not yet proceeded. At present (July, 1875) the Commissioners under the Endowed Schools Act of 1874, are making local inquiries preliminary to the drawing-up of a Scheme for the reconstruction of the government of the foundation. Should the scheme when published be generally approved by the inhabitants, the proposal to build a larger School on another site and to increase the endowment may be expected to assume practical shape.

LIST OF HEAD MASTERS OF BLACKBURN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Of some of the earliest Masters of the School from the Queen's foundation in 1567 there is no definite record. The first met with is—

Mr. — YATES, *circa* 1580 to 1592.

He was instructor of Robert Bolton, whose biographer speaks of him as a singular (good) Schoolmaster that was then in the town. Bolton left the School about A.D. 1592.

BARNARD SMITH, died before 1597.

A legacy of 20s. left to the School by this Master was paid Dec. 21st, 1597.

EDWARD BROWNE, appointed Aug. 1st, 1608, died in 1612.

He was before sometime Master of Whalley School; and he bequeathed 40s. to Blackburn School, which was paid by his executor Sept. 29th, 1612.

THURSTAN COLLINSON, appointed Sept. 29th, 1612, ceased before 1623.

JOHN HARGREAVES, M.A., appointed Dec. 21st, 1623, ceased 1624.

RICHARD HALSTEAD, M.A., appointed Jan. 8th, 1624-5, ceased 1640.

JOHN SWINLEHURST, appointed Aug. 9th, 1641, died Nov., 1655.

CHARLES SAGAR, appointed Jan. 21st, 1655-6, resigned in 1666.

Some account of this Master, who afterwards taught a private school in Blackburn and was a Nonconformist Minister, will be inserted hereafter in the sketch of the Lower Chapel, Over Darwen, of which Mr. Sagar became Pastor.

Mr. — SHERBURNE, appointed 1666, ceased 1667.

THOMAS WYLD, appointed Oct. 7th, 1667, ceased 1667.

OLIVER HALLIWELL, appointed March 9th, 1667-8, ceased before 1669.

Mr. SAGAR seems to have temporarily resumed as Master in 1669, during a vacancy.

JOHN ODDIE, appointed 1670, died 1703.

Mr. Oddie was an antiquary, a friend of Dr. Charles Leigh, who inserts in his "Natural History of Lancashire," &c., a letter on the supposed Roman port at Ribchester "from the ingenious and learned Mr. Oddy, School-master at Blackburn." In Blackburn Parish Register I find the burial, Sept. 2nd, 1703, of "John Oddy of Blackburn, yeoman, schoolmaster of the Free School of Blackburn, buried three yards deep." Mr. Oddie was of a family seated at Grindleton.

RICHARD WARDE, appointed 1703, died June, 1704.

ROBERT FOSTER, B.A., appointed July 3rd, 1704, died 1705.

GEORGE SMITH, B.A., appointed Aug. 20th, 1705, resigned 1731.

THOMAS HOLME, appointed June 23rd, 1731, resigned 1736.

Rev. Thomas Holme was eldest son of Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn. He was born in 1706, educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, Master of this School from 1731 to 1736, elected a Governor in 1739, received the title of D.D., and died in 1754.

DANIEL MARKLAND, B.A., appointed Nov. 1st, 1736, died 1737.

THOMAS HUNTER, appointed Aug. 2nd, 1737, resigned 1750.

Rev. Thomas Hunter, of a Cumberland family, born about 1710, of Queen's College, Oxford, was Master of this School thirteen years, and is spoken of by a pupil (Dr. Edward Harwood, to be noticed hereafter) as having "the best school at Blackburn of any gentleman in the County." While here, Mr. Hunter published, in 1744, "A Letter to Col. John —, in Flanders, on the Subject of Religion;" and married, Feb. 28th, 1738, Mrs. Mary Baldwin, widow of Hugh Baldwin, gent., by whom he had sons Thomas and Joseph (both died in infancy in 1745), William, born 1741, and a second Thomas, born 1748. In 1750 Mr. Hunter resigned the Mastership of the School on his appointment, June 1st, 1750, as Vicar of Garstang. He was next preferred, April 18th, 1755, to the Vicarage of Weaverham, Co. Chester, which he

held until his death, Sept. 1st, 1777, aged 67; and was succeeded as Vicar there by his son Thomas. His widow died March 10th, 1782, aged 71. A monumental tablet to Mr. Hunter and his wife is fixed in the chancel of Weaverham Church. Mr. Hunter was author of several printed books, including:—"Observations on Tacitus," 1752; "Funeral Sermon on Dr. Stratford," 1754; "Character of Lord Bolingbroke," 1770 (this work procured him the title of M.A. by diploma); "Moral Discourses on Providence," 2 v., 1774; "Reflections on the Letters of the late Earl of Chesterfield," 1776; "Letter to a Priest, &c., on Image Worship;" "A Fast Sermon," &c. He is said to have been afflicted with blindness in his later years, when several of the above works were composed.

ROBERT SMITH, B.A., appointed Aug. 29th, 1750, resigned 1755.

RICHARD GUEST, appointed Sept. 6th, 1755, died 1769.

JOHN WILSON, M.A., appointed Aug. 28th, 1769, resigned 1786.

Mr. Wilson was sometime Curate of Tockholes in this parish, and also Vicar of Milnthorpe, Westmoreland.

SAMUEL DEAN, appointed Jan. 5th, 1787, resigned 1792.

Rev. Samuel Dean was author of a volume of Sermons, printed at Blackburn in 1795. He was Minister of St. Paul's Church after 1792.

THOMAS JACKSON, appointed Aug. 17th, 1792, died 1803.

JAMES HOLME, appointed June 30th, 1803, resigned 1807.

WILLIAM BOARDMAN, appointed Sept. 26th, 1808, resigned 1819.

THOMAS ATKINSON, appointed Dec. 23rd, 1819, resigned 1845.

Mr. Atkinson was a successful Master during his term, and on his death, some years after his retirement, a tributary column was placed at the angle of the School ground in St. Peter-street, on two sides of the pedestal of which is the inscription:—"To Thomas Atkinson, Head Master for 20 years of Queen Elizabeth's Free Grammar School, Blackburn,—Erected by his Pupils in grateful remembrance of his faithful and zealous services. A.D. 1855."

JOHN B. BENNETT, M.A., appointed Dec. 18th, 1845, resigned (having greatly reduced the School by neglect) 1855.

THOMAS AINSWORTH, M.A., appointed Nov. 22nd, 1855; present Head Master.

LIST OF USHERS.

RICHARD RISHETON, appointed Dec., 1597, ceased 1613.

ROBERT OSBALDESTON, B.A., appointed Dec., 1613, dismissed 1616.

RICHARD BRADLEY, appointed Oct., 1619, dismissed 1642.

RICHARD MORRES, appointed April, 1642, died 1660.

THOMAS WALMESLEY, appointed Jan., 1660-1, ceased 1666.

RICHARD DUCKWORTH, appointed Dec., 1666, ceased 1667.

HUGH WAREING, appointed Jan., 1667-8, dismissed July, 1678.

THOMAS WALMSLEY, appointed July, 1678, died Jan., 1684-5.

JAMES ABBOT, appointed April, 1685, ceased 1687.

OLIVER SHAW, appointed Dec., 1687, ceased 1692.

JAMES BURTON, appointed Oct., 1692, died 1704.

JAMES LIVESEY, appointed Oct., 1704, died 1715.

THOMAS MOON, appointed Feb., 1715-6, ceased 1727.

- THOMAS WRIGHT, appointed July, 1727, ceased 1731.
 PETER LIVESEY, appointed March, 1731-2, died Jan., 1742-3.
 ROBERT SUTTON, appointed Feb., 1742-3, ceased 1749.
 NICHOLAS PARKER, appointed Aug., 1749, ceased 1782.
 THOMAS EXTON, appointed Dec., 1791, ceased 1787.
 THOMAS JACKSON, appointed April, 1791, made Head Master, August, 1792.
 CHRISTOPHER INMAN, appointed Oct., 1792, resigned 1799.
 WILLIAM LUTENER, appointed April, 1799, resigned 1812.
 RALPH LEEMING, appointed Oct., 1812, resigned 1814.
 RICHARD GARNETT, appointed Nov., 1814, resigned Oct., 1819.
 The office of usher was abolished in 1819.

CHARITIES OF BLACKBURN TOWNSHIP.

POORS' STOCK AND POORS' LANDS.

An ancient gift of £20 to the Poor of the Parish, "by a person unknown," is recorded by Bishop Gastrell, as returned by Vicar Holme and his Wardens in 1718.

A.D. 1685. Mr. Henry Maudsley of Ousebooth, at the funeral of his brother Thurstan (1685-6), gave £10 to the Poor of Blackburn; increased by interest to £13 in 1716, when the amount was in the hands of Mr. John Sudell.

A.D. 1694. Mr. William Yates gave by Will dated 1694, £20 to be set out by the Vicar, one Warden, and one of the most honest Mercers or Fustian Men of Blackburn, the interest to be disposed annually among the Poor of Blackburn.

A.D. 1696. Joseph Yates, Esq., and his Sisters Mrs. Mary Moseley and Mrs. Abigail Drake, at the funeral of their Mother, gave £20 for the Poor of Blackburn.

Before 1703. Ralph Clayton, of London, Grocer, gave £30; and Mr. Edward Clayton, Master of Manchester Free School, by Will, gave £6 13s. d8., half of which was lost before 1718.

A.D. 1704. Mr. Joseph Yates by Will dated June 21st, 1704, gave to the Churchwardens and Overseers of Blackburn township, £10 to be bestowed yearly to poor persons on St. James' Day.

A.D. 1706. Mrs. Elizabeth Wilkinson, at the funeral of her Brother, Rev. Francis Price, Vicar, gave £20, the interest to be given to the Poor of Blackburn by the Vicar and two Inhabitants.

A.D. 1710. Mr. Joseph Yates by Will gave £100 to be lent out at Interest by the Vicar and Curate and one substantial Tradesman; interest yearly to the Poor of Blackburn.

A.D. 1711. Mr. William Yates of Blackburn, by Will dated May 7th, 1711, gave to Mr. Holme, Vicar, William Dickson, Curate, and John Sudell, £100 to be given to poor persons not receiving parish relief; and interest of £5 to be spent by Trustees at yearly meeting.

With accumulated Poor Stock was purchased for £205 2s. in 1744, a copyhold estate in Yate Bank, of 13 acres of land, messuage, barn, &c., which was then let to the trustees of William Kenyon at a yearly rent of £11 10s.

A.D. 1737. Mr. John Sudell by Will dated Feb. 9th, 1737, directed a sum of £70 after his decease to be put out at interest or laid out in land by Vicar Holme, Henry Sudell, testator's son, and his sons-in-law Henry Feilden and John Whalley; out of yearly interest to be bought two new Bibles to be given to two poor children of Blackburn; the residue to be distributed by way of Dole amongst poor persons not receiving parish relief.

A.D. 1762. By Deed dated Feb. 16th, 1762, John Sudell and John Feilden purchased for £210, from Richard Dewhurst and Elizabeth his wife, an estate of land in Mellor called Southworth tenement, and closes called Little Meadow, Higher Croft, Lower Mill Field, Well Field, Witch Croft, a new inclosure called Whitehill on Mellor Moor, and Wall Field, containing 13 acres. July 16th, 1762, John Sudell and John Feilden conveyed the same tenement to Vicar Wollin, Henry Sudell, and John Whalley, their heirs, in trust to let the same and distribute the rents annually among the industrious Poor of Blackburn. It is declared therein that of the sum of £210 paid for the estate, were £13 given by a Mr. Maudsley, £70 by Mr. John Sudell, deceased, and a donation of £127 by Mr. Henry Sudell. The Trustees of this charity in 1825 were Vicar Whitaker, Henry Sudell, Esq., and Joseph Feilden, Esq.

A.D. 1825. Blackburn Poores' Lands, as reported to the Charity Commission, were:—1. Copyhold estate of Lang House in Yate Bank; a house and 10a. 1r. 24p. land customary measure in the occupation of Henry Sharples at a rental of £36. 2. Estate in Mellor called Southworth Green Farm, containing 10a. 2r. 10p. customary measure, in occupation of Roger Haydock, rent £28.—At the distribution on Jan. 1st, 1825, was given in money to 203 poor persons £15; 90 pairs of blankets £39 15s.; Church rates and allowance to tenants 15s. 6d.; balance £8 7s. 10d.; total income £13 18s. 4d.

GIRLS' CHARITY SCHOOL.

Founded A.D. 1763, by William Leyland, Esq., who by Will dated 18th July, 1763, gave £200 to Richard Cardwell, John Shepherd, and Joseph Feilden, in trust to establish in Blackburn a Charity School after the pattern of that in Kirkham, &c. To the above legacy was added by subscriptions of other persons the same year £262 10s. Subsequently these further gifts have been made to the Charity:—In 1764—Joseph

Whalley £50; John Whalley £50; John Shepherd £50. 1796—Part of residuary property of Mrs. Mary Smalley, received from Rev. Richard Penryn £100. 1807—Mrs. Feilden of Halsnead £100. 1811—Richard Birley £100; Mr. Yates of Bury £50. The School in Thunder Alley, Blackburn, was built and opened in 1764. A house for the Mistress adjoins the School. In 1765, Richard Cardwell, John Shepherd, and Joseph Feilden nominated John Fielding and John Thurston to be trustees with them. In 1825, the trustees were:—Rev. J. W. Whitaker, Vicar; Messrs. John Hornby, Joseph Feilden, William Maude, and John Hargreaves. The School Stock at the same date was £2,416 13s. 4d. in the hands of Messrs. Birley and Hornby. Ninety girls were then attending the School. Salary of Schoolmistress £30 and £4 for firing. Expenditure in 1824, £155 2s. 4d. The trustees met twice a year to choose girls, children of poor people in the township of Blackburn.

MINOR CHARITIES OF BLACKBURN.

WOLLIN'S CHARITY.—The Rev. John Wollin, Vicar of Blackburn, 1742-72, gave £10, the interest to be expended in books for the poor of the parish.

DUCKWORTH'S CHARITY.—Mrs. Duckworth, widow, bequeathed 40s., the interest to be laid out in bread for communicants of the parish.

THE LADIES' SOCIETY, established in 1808, affords relief to poor married women in child-bed.

THE STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, established in 1808, provides for visiting and relieving Sick and Distressed Persons. The fund, dispensed by visitors under direction of a committee, is derived from donations and annual subscriptions, and a chief item of income is a yearly gift of £100 by Wm. Henry Hornby, Esq.

THE TURNER ALMSHOUSES, Bank Top, (according to an inscription upon the front of the houses) "were erected and endowed by William and Jane Turner, Mill Hill, A.D. 1833." They comprise six small one-storied dwellings, for the reception of that number of indigent aged women, who have each allowed along with the house a sum of 3s. weekly for maintenance.

CHURCHES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT.

The churches in the township besides the Old Parish Church are the following:—

ST. JOHN'S.—This was the first new Church founded in Blackburn Parish in the modern period. It was built by subscription in 1788, as a proprietary Chapel of Ease to the Parish Church, and of the cost, £8,000, the moiety was given by Henry Sudell, Esq., who also gave for the endowment of the living an estate called Becket Fold in Yate-cum-Pickup Bank, to meet a grant from Queen Anne's Bounty. The Church was consecrated July 31st, 1789. The architecture is classic, and the external walls are of dressed freestone. The body of the Church is a parallelogram about 70ft. by 60ft. The entrances are in the west front; the central doorway is under a tower terminating in an octagon with domed roof and lantern. The organ chamber is above the vestry on the east side of the structure. The interior has galleries on three sides. There is a good organ, reconstructed in 1868. Sittings ("Calendar" return) 1,166.

A large grave-yard surrounds the Church. St. John's was constituted a Parish Church in 1847. Patron: The Vicar of Blackburn. Value of Living £357. Rev. J. Baker is present Vicar. Former Incumbents:—Rev. John Langton Leach, M.A. (1789-1810); Rev. James Dodgson, B.A. (1811-26); Rev. Jackson Porter (1826-41); Rev. R. T. Wheeler, M.A. (1842-51); Rev. H. J. Marlen (1851-60); Rev. John Smith (1860-66).

ST. PAUL'S.—This Church was built by subscription in 1791, but the then Vicar of Blackburn refusing to certify for consecration, the trustees of the Church placed it under the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, and it was served by a minister of that Connexion until 1829, when the Church was consecrated, Dec. 20th, and the minister (Rev. John Price) admitted to Priest's orders in the Church of England in 1830. The Church is a very plain structure, consisting of a nave, low tower, and a chancel added in 1867. The interior is galleried on three sides, the organ standing in the west gallery. The Church has recently been much improved internally. Sittings 926. Patron: The Vicar of Blackburn. Value of Living £300. Present Vicar, Rev. W. Thompson, M.A. Former Incumbents:—Rev. Samuel Dean (1792-99); Rev. John Price (1799-1841); Rev. A. G. Edouart (1841-50); Rev. H. W. Marychurch (1850-70); Rev. W. Mayor.

ST. PETER'S.—This spacious Church was built in 1819-21, at a cost of £13,000, provided by grant from Parliament aided by private subscription. Its style is decorated gothic, designed by the architect of the Parish Church (Mr. Palmer). Consecrated Sept. 11th, 1821. The edifice is composed of nave without clerestory, north and south aisles; a short chancel; vestries; and western tower. The roofs of nave and aisles are vaulted internally. The length of the nave is 96ft., and the width across nave and aisles 67ft. There are commodious side galleries; and a noble organ (opened Feb. 27th, 1865, and enlarged in 1874) fills the upper space at the west end, with a gallery for the choir in front of the organ. The great east window of the chancel is a painted Memorial window given by the late Richard Cardwell, Esq. The clustered columns supporting the nave arches are massive, with moulded capitals. Sittings, 1,432. Patron: The Vicar of Blackburn. Value of the Living £300. Present Vicar, Rev. H. G. Youard, M.A. Former Incumbents:—Rev. T. H. Backhouse, M.A. (1821-28); Rev. Chas. A. Hunt, B.A. (1828-39); Rev. T. Sharples, M.A. (1839-58); Rev. C. W. Woodhouse, M.A. (1858-74).

HOLY TRINITY.—This Church was projected in 1836, to be built by subscription, and the first stone was laid in January of that year, but the work was delayed, and it was not until January, 1846, that the Church was completed and opened. It was consecrated July 12th, 1846. The architecture is transitional gothic and the design included nave, north and south aisles, north and south transepts, chancel, and western tower and spire. The tower was left incomplete until 1855; and the spire yet remains to be added. The site is a conspicuous one on the crest of an eminence. The interior is lofty and effective. Galleries surround the nave and are extended into the transepts. Sittings, 1,474. Patron: Vicar of Blackburn. Value of Living £350. Present Vicar, Rev. W. R. Stephens, M.A. Former Incumbents:—Rev. E. C. Montriou, M.A.; Rev. Edward Parker (1846-50); Rev. Christopher Robinson, LL.D. (1850-69).

ST. MICHAEL'S.—A Chapel erected by the Wesleyans was purchased in 1839 and opened as a Mission of the Church of England by license from the Bishop Sept. 29th, 1839. This building was consecrated in 1844. A new Church, the corner-stone of which was laid by W. H. Hornby, Esq., Jan. 6th, 1866, was finished in 1869; consecrated Jan. 28th. The new Church is a gothic structure, designed to have when completed a tower and spire 146ft. high rising above the entrance on the south-east

side of the Church. The plan includes a nave and side aisles, 72ft. by 51ft.; chancel; and organ aisle. Cost of the Church £5,000. An organ was placed in the Church in 1875. Sittings 827. Patron: Vicar of Blackburn. Value of Living £300. Vicar, Rev. J. W. Pengelly (1846-75).

CHRIST CHURCH.—The erection of this Church was commenced in 1857; and it was consecrated Sept. 2nd, 1859. Cost £6,000. The late Robert Hopwood, Esq., was chief donor to the Church, and provided also an endowment. The Church is of gothic architecture, and consists of nave and side aisles (90ft. by 53ft.); south porch; chancel; and tower and spire at the east end (148ft. high). There is a gallery at the west end of the nave. Sittings, 930. Patrons:—Bishop and Trustees alternately. Value of Living £300. Vicar, Rev. R. Moss, D.D. (1860-75.)

ST. THOMAS'S.—This Church was built in 1864-5; consecrated Oct. 30th, 1865. The edifice comprises a nave with aisles, 95ft. by 50ft., a chancel apse at the north end, and western porch. Cost £4,000. Sittings, 920. Patron:—The Bishop. Value of Living £330. Vicar, Rev. H. Wescoe (1865-75).

ALL SAINTS'.—This Church was erected by subscription in 1870-2, as a Memorial Church to the late Archdeacon Rushton, D.D., Vicar of Blackburn. Consecrated April 25th, 1872. The architecture is geometric gothic; the plan includes nave, chancel, north aisle and north chancel aisle; and organ transept. At the south end is a bell-turret. The old organ of the Parish Church, restored, was put in this Church in 1875. Cost £5,000. Sittings, 800. Patrons:—Vicar of Blackburn and Trustees jointly. Value of Living £100. Vicar, Rev. W. T. Vale.

ST. JAMES'S.—The site of this Church, given by W. T. Carr, Esq., is on the hill at the top of Shear Brow. The edifice was built to supersede a school-church at Pleckgate, in 1873-4. Consecrated June 8th, 1874. It is a plain gothic structure, with nave, aisles, octagonal chancel, organ chamber, and north porch, above which a tower and spire are intended to rise to finish the design. Cost £4,200. An organ was purchased for the Church in 1875. Sittings, 644. Patron:—Vicar of St. John's for life; then Bishop. Vicar, Rev. G. Whalley.

ST. LUKE'S.—For this ecclesiastical district, detached from St. Peter's parish, service is celebrated in St. Luke's School. Sittings, 350. A subscription has been started for a new Church. Curate, Rev. J. Noble.

ST. SILAS'S.—This new district, severed from St. Paul's, has services conducted in Billinge School. Sittings, 350. A site at Billinge End is secured for a new Church, to be dedicated to St. Silas; and the foundations have been prepared. The new Church will contain 600 sittings; the style will be early English, and the design includes nave, side aisles, chancel, organ chamber, and tower with spire 150ft. high. Cost, about £5,000. Curate, Rev. Wilson Stones.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN BLACKBURN TOWN AND PARISH.

No systematic narrative has yet been attempted by any member of the (Roman) Catholic Communion who has access to the records of the missions of that Church in the Northern District of England, of the history of its organisation, congregations, and priesthood in Lancashire during the more than two centuries of statutory proscription of English Catholicism that was suffered before the passage of the Catholic Relief Act in 1791. The incidental information we have suffices to show an uninterrupted maintenance of religious worship by the members of the

Roman Church in Lancashire throughout that trying interval. But it was a necessity of the case that the service of the Catholic priests in those penal days should be more or less private and surreptitious. For long no public Chapels of that communion were allowed to be erected. It devolved upon the Catholic gentry and richer families to provide for the worship of their tenants and poor neighbours of the same faith in Chapels connected with private mansions. In this parish, ever since the Reformation, the presence of several powerful old families of Catholic landlords afforded in the worst times a degree of protection to the adherents of the Church of Rome, and an asylum and subsistence to its missionary priests. In former pages I have noticed the prosecutions of some chief local families of the parish for "recusancy,"—*ex. gr.* the Southworths of Samlesbury and Talbots of Salesbury—in Elizabeth's reign; the severe sequestrations endured by loyalist Catholics in the Civil War of 1641-51; the accusation of one neighbouring Catholic esquire of complicity in a Jacobite Plot in 1694; and the compulsory registration of Catholic freeholders in 1715. Traces are frequent of the existence of a respectable minority of Roman Catholics in this district throughout the 300 years of Protestant ascendancy, and it is a question if in some parts of Ribblesdale, under the countenance of landlords of that faith, the Catholic section of the population was not at times in the majority.

Among the English Missionary Priests of the Church of Rome who suffered death for their faith, Chaloner names William Thompson, born in the Parish of Blackburn, and who sometimes passed by the name of William Blackburn. He was a student in the English Catholic College at Rheims, and being sent to England as a missionary was soon apprehended, tried, and convicted of being a priest of Rome contrary to the statute, and executed at Tyburn in 1586, as Stow thus records:—"William Thompson, *alias* Blackburn, made priest at Rheims, and Richard Lee, &c., removing here [into England] contrary to the statute, were both condemned, and on the 20th of April, 1586, drawn to Tyburn, and there hanged, bowelled and quartered." Another victim of the law was Edward Osbaldeston of the Osbaldeston family in Blackburn parish, also educated at Rheims, made a priest in 1585; sent upon the English mission April 27th, 1589; arrested Sept. 30th, 1594, at Towlerton in Yorkshire; incarcerated in York Castle; tried and condemned to die as a priest of Rome, and executed accordingly at York, Nov. 16th, 1594.

The local Roman Catholic owners of the soil included the Southworths of Samlesbury, Talbots of Salesbury, Osbaldestons of Osbaldeston, of Sunderland, and of Cuedale; Warrens of Dinkley and Salesbury; Walmesleys of Dunkenhalgh, lords of Billington, Rishton, and Lower Darwen; Walmesleys of Lower Hall, Samlesbury; Walmesleys of Showley

in Clayton-in-le-Dale; and Sherburnes of Stonyhurst. In these old mansions the Chapel was a principal feature, and the family priest a constant inmate, and thither, on Sundays and feast days, the Catholic tenantry and peasantry regularly resorted to attend mass. In the records of the Parish Church of Blackburn is found a note, dating about 1690, of priests reported as being in the parish, as follows :—"The Names of some Persons who are reported Priests within the Parish of Blackburn : Mr. Kennet, of Walton-in-le-Dale; Mr. Hardin, of Samlesbury; Mr. Brookhouse, of Sunderland [in Balderstone]; Mr. Mullins, of Orbeston [Osbaldeston]; Mr. Hutchinson, of Brindle." Brindle is out of the parish, but the priest there had very likely some relation with Catholics on the south-west border of Blackburn parish.

A letter written in the year 1709 by the Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn, to the Primate (and lately copied by Mr. Lee from the original MS. in the Lambeth Palace Library), betokens the strength of the Roman Catholic party in Lower Ribblesdale at that time. The letter is subjoined :—

Blackburne, Nov. 3, 1709.—May it please your Grace,—According to your Lordship's Directions, I have made the best inquiry I could to find out the particular circumstances of the Popish Bishop's Visitation within my parish, and the Discoveries I have made are as follows :—The first week in July (which was the next week after my Lord of Chester held his Visitation here) Bishop Smith [Roman Catholic] came to Mr. Walmsley's, of Lower Hall, in Samlesbury, within my Parish, and confirmed there on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, vizt., the 8th, 9th, and 10th of July. I cannot find that any Persons of Note were there, or any Protestants, except one or two of Mr. Walmsley's Servants, who dare make no Discoveries of these matters. The number of the Papists that were there was very great; Mr. Hull, my Curate at Samlesbury Chappell, tells me that he saw multitudes goe that way past his house, some on foot, some on horse-back, most of them with little children in their arms. But the greatest concourse of people was on Sunday, because the Bishop was to preach that day. The neighbouring Protestants seemed to take little Notice of the matter, it being no novelty with them, the same Bishop having been there upon the same occasion about 5 years ago. I think the Papists have been a little more reserved this, that they were the last time the Bishop was in this Neighbourhood. For then they made great Boasts of their vast Numbers, but now I have heard nothing from any of them of this matter. If this account be not so perfect as your Grace could wish, I desire you will not impute it to my negligence, but to the unwillingness of people in this country to intermeddle against Papists, which if it should come to any of their Ears they would study to requite them with the greatest mischief they could think of. And indeed 'tis dangerous meddling with them here, where they hear down all before them with their Power and Interest. I do not know that my Lord of Chester has any Notice of this matter, but if your Grace think fitt I shall communicate it to him. I am, my Lord, Your Grace's most obliged and obedient Son and Servant, JO. HOLME.

I derive from the Brindle Catholic Chapel Register mention of other Roman Catholic episcopal Visitations to the district in 1749, 1755, 1760, and 1766, when considerable numbers of the youth of

Catholic families in Samlesbury and Walton were presented for confirmation. Eight or nine years after the date of Vicar Holme's letter, Gastrell, Bishop of Chester, in his diocesan *Notitia*, enters his information that in the townships of which Blackburn was the parochial centre (not including Walton and Samlesbury) there were then in existence three "Papist Meetings;" and 532 professed "Papists;" or, in the whole parish, 1,023 avowed "Papists" out of a total of 1,800 families; that some of the inhabitants of Billington and Dinkley "are said to goe to Mass to Sir Nich. Shirburne's at Stonihurst;" that Walton and Cuerdale possessed four or five "Papist Meetings;" Samlesbury one; and Balderstone one. These neighbouring missions will be found referred to later under their respective townships.

In the town of Blackburn there was found in the hardest times of the penal laws against "Popery," a small colony of staunch Roman Catholics; and in 1641 one of their number, Mr. Richard Bradley, who had been appointed Usher of Blackburn Free Grammar School in 1619, was dismissed from his office "by reason of his recusancie." The Blackburn Catholics may have found it unsafe to have their place of worship in the town, for I find no trace of any public chapel of that communion in Blackburn until about a century ago. It is stated that the Catholic Chapel in an area between King Street and Chapel Street was built in 1773. This was a plain structure of brick, concealed by houses surrounding, and this Chapel sufficed for the needs of the Roman Catholics about fifty years, until the erection of St. Alban's in 1824, when the old Chapel in Chapel Street was sold. The walls are yet standing, but since its disuse for Christian worship it has been used as a workshop. About seven years after this Chapel was built, the Rev. William Dunn was appointed priest of the Blackburn mission. This useful priest died suddenly at the altar when offering mass, on Sunday, Oct. 27th, 1805. A memorial of Dr. William Dunn was fixed in St. Alban's Chapel in 1844, consisting of a marble mural tablet surmounted by the religious emblems of Bible, Cross, Chalice, and Dove, and bearing the inscription:—"D. O. M. Here lie the remains of the Rev. William Dunn, D.D., twenty-four years pastor of this congregation. He was born in the year 1749, and closed an edifying life whilst offering up the Sacred Mysteries, on Sunday, Oct. 27th, 1805. R. I. P." A succeeding priest of this "mission" was the Rev. R. Abbott, who occurs in 1819, when a return was made of the Catholic Congregation in Blackburn, numbering 1,200 persons. Father Abbott was still priest in Blackburn in 1824. Below is a brief record of Roman Catholic Chapels in the town founded subsequently to the first Chapel in Chapel Street.

ST. ALBAN'S.—This Chapel was built for the use of the original congregation in

1824-6, upon a site at Lark-hill (now called St. Alban's Place) which also embraced a spacious burial-ground and site for priest's house. The exterior walls are of brick, with stone quoins at the angles. The entrance is by a porch at the north-west end, supported by Ionic pillars. On the west side, a recent addition, is an elegant gothic mortuary Chapel. The chief enrichment of the interior is expended upon the altars, above which the roof is domed, and the walls enclosing are adorned with fresco paintings. There is a gallery at the north end, in which are the organ (placed in 1835) and choir. The Chapel has sittings for 750 persons. The Rev. James Sharples, D.D., was priest of St. Alban's from about the time of the removal of the congregation of the older Chapel thither until 1842, when he was consecrated Bishop of Samaria. He was succeeded by the Rev. Peter Kaye, who died August 6th, 1856; and was followed by the Rev. Canon Irving. Rev. R. Parker is present Rector. Assistant, Rev. W. S. Berry.

ST. ANNE'S.—A second mission was established by the members of the Church of Rome in Blackburn in August, 1849. A house and ground in France street had previously been purchased for a priest's house and home for a Sisterhood, and for a site for a Chapel. The latter, dedicated to St. Ann, was opened on May 4th, 1851. It is a brick and stone structure, externally without any striking feature, and enclosed on each side by houses. The Chapel has since been enlarged, and its plan now consists of nave, western aisle, east transept and porch, and sanctuaries. A gallery at the south end contains the organ. Sittings, 800. Rev. Joseph V. Meaney was priest in charge of the Mission from 1849 until his death in 1875.

ST. MARY'S.—This third Roman Catholic mission in Blackburn was commenced in 1864. The corner stone of St. Mary's Catholic Chapel was laid by the Bishop of Salford on Whit-Monday, 1864. The edifice was opened on May 4th, 1865. It is a gothic Church, the plan including nave, side aisles and chancel-apse. On the west front a bold turret rises from the south-west angle. A presbytery adjoins the Chapel on the south side. At the west end of the nave is a gallery for organ and choir. Cost with organ and reredos subsequently added, about £5,000. Sittings, 600. Priest in charge (1864-75), Rev. Richard Dunderdale.

ST. JOSEPH'S.—A fourth mission of this Church was founded about 1870, served by the priests of St. Alban's. In 1874 a distinct cure was constituted and the Rev. Fr. Maglione appointed priest. The mission room temporarily used as a Chapel is about to be displaced by a new Church, dedicated to St. Joseph, on a site in Higher Audley, given by Mr. R. Shakeshaft, the corner-stone of which was laid on Whit-Monday (May 17th), 1875. The edifice will be the largest Roman Catholic Church in the town. Its architecture is Italian; the plans will include schools in the basement; above which will be the church, with nave area, 105ft. by 66ft.; two transepts; and apsidal chancel and sanctuary. A tower at the south end of the Church will be 82ft. in height. Cost £9,000. Sittings, between 900 and 1,000.

CONVENT OF NOTRE DAME.—The house of the late Edward Kenworthy, Esq., called Brookhouse Lodge, was purchased in February, 1859, and converted into a Convent for the reception of a company of the Sisters of Notre Dame, by whom a seminary for young ladies is conducted. The private Chapel of the Convent is served by the priests of St. Alban's.

PROTESTANT NONCONFORMIST CONGREGATIONS IN BLACKBURN.

It does not appear that on the enforcement of the Act of Uniformity in 1662 any regular Nonconformist Ministry or Meeting was set up in the town of Blackburn. Some of the inhabitants, indeed, declined to

conform to the re-established Episcopal Church; and these for some years frequented the occasional assemblages of local Nonconformists in secluded places to hear the preaching of several of the ejected Ministers who sojourned in the district or found a place of protection at Hoghton Tower. The Act for Suppressing Conventicles in 1664, and the Five Mile Act in 1665, made it impossible for the nonconforming preachers to appear in or near parish churches or market-towns. In 1666, Mr. Charles Sagar withdrew from the Mastership of the Grammar School of Blackburn, and still residing in Blackburn preached at times on the moors or in private houses to small meetings of Nonconformists of Blackburn and of the townships around, until in 1687 he became stated pastor of an Independent Church in Over Darwen. Under Charles the Second's Indulgence, as formerly noted, a license was granted, Dec. 9th, 1672, for "an erected Presbyterian Meeting House in Blackburn in Lancashire." I think the term "erected" did not signify that the building used had been specially built for a Chapel. It had probably been altered from some dwelling-house in the town, and was disused as a place of meeting when the King's licenses were withdrawn, as they were in 1675. After this, until 1687, the Government's repression of conventicles was so rigorous, that neither in Blackburn nor any populous place could meetings for worship be held without great peril to personal liberty and estate. Everywhere, for a time, Nonconformity lay crushed and terror-stricken, and the few laymen that stood out shared with the ejected ministers many losses and hardships.

The Revolution of 1688 ended these troubles, and under the Toleration Act religious societies on a mixed Presbyterian-Independent basis were organised out of the remnants of local Nonconformists in Tockholes, Over Darwen, and at Hoghton Tower. It is not apparent whether or not a meeting-house was opened in the town of Blackburn also in 1688. If there was, it was not long continued, for on a return of Meeting-houses furnished in 1715 no congregation at Blackburn is mentioned. Yet the fact that a Ministers' Meeting of Lancashire Presbyterian and Independent Ministers is on written record as having been held at Blackburn in 1693, and that several lesser meetings of Ministers took place at Blackburn after a general meeting at Manchester in 1696, suggests the presence in the town at those dates of some resident Nonconformists.

A Nonconformist minister under the Act of Uniformity was the Rev. John Bailey, afterwards one of the most eminent Congregationalist Pastors in New England.¹ He was born (according to the statement of the Rev. Increase Mather who preached his funeral sermon) near Blackburn in Lancashire, Feb. 24th, 1643-4. The American biographer does not name his father, but he would be Thomas Bailey, a member of

¹ Mr. J. E. Bailey of Stretford gives me an original note on this namesake of his.

Rev. Thomas Jolly's church at Altham and later at Wymond-houses. Thomas Bailey died in 1673, and Mr. Jolly preached his funeral sermon. He had once been a "notorious evil liver," but his wife, mother of the minister, was a pious woman. It is recorded in the Church-Book of Mr. Jolly's church that John Bailey, at the age of 12, was a "wonderful child" for religion, and had been "the occasion of good to his father and a schoolfellow." He was educated under Mr. Charles Sagar, "an eminent school-master," at the Blackburn Free Grammar School, and was afterwards placed under the tuition of Dr. Thomas Harrison, minister at Chester. He began to preach at the age of twenty-two, but was not ordained until the year 1670, when he would be in his 27th year. After having been imprisoned in Lancaster Jail for nonconformity, he removed to Dublin, about the year 1670, and soon after married his first wife, Lydia, who died in America, April 12th, 1690. The Duke of Ormond offered Mr. Bailey a chaplaincy, a Deanery, and a Bishopric on the first vacancy, if he would conform, but he would not. He was fourteen years Pastor of an Independent Church in Limerick. But being again persecuted and incarcerated, he resolved to quit the country for America; which he did in 1683, and after his arrival, May 8th, 1684, writes to his "dearly beloved Christian friends in and about Limerick." Mr. Bailey was appointed assistant to Rev. Samuel Willard at Old South Church, Boston; and about three years later, Oct. 6th, 1686, he succeeded Rev. John Sherman as Pastor at Watertown. In 1688 he wrote to Mr. Jolly and his friends in this locality, as to how matters were in New England. A younger brother, Thomas Bailey, who had accompanied him to America, died there Jan. 21st, 1689, leaving issue; he had another brother Henry, living at Manchester in 1688; his mother was then still living in Lancashire. Mr. Bailey wrote a treatise, "Man's Chief End," edited by "J. M.," and published in duodecimo at Boston in 1689. He had no children by his first wife. His second wife, Susannah, married after his death Rev. Peter Thatcher. Mr. Bailey became assistant Pastor at First Church, Boston, July 17th, 1693. He died in 1697. Two of his great-grand-children were living in 1771. A painted portrait of Rev. John Bailey, representing the minister with pensive, somewhat feminine face and long flowing hair, is now in possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

I notice in the Parish Church Register of Blackburn a separate list of "the Names of such Children that were borne, but not baptized after the ceremonies of the Church of England," between the years 1697-1705. These would be chiefly the children of Protestant Nonconformists, and of, perhaps, two or three Roman Catholic families. Among the family names in this category are those of Bridge, Entwistle, Bury, Whewell, Bolton, Ratcliffe, Fish, and Grime, all of Over Darwen; Fish of Blackburn; Boardman of Livesey; Fish of Eccleshill; Kenion, Shorrock, and Harwood of Lower Darwen; Holden and Yates of Yate Bank; Aspinall of Pickup Bank; Baron, Haydock, Haworth, Waddington, Eatough, Marsden, and Walmsley of Tockholes; and Ellison of Wilpshire. The descriptions of "yeoman" and "chapman" given to the heads of these families, with two or three exceptions, denote the social standing of the early Nonconformists of this district. The Cravens of Billington and Osbaldestons of Oxendale, Roman Catholic families, occur in the same special registration.

One "Mr. Thomas Whalley, of Blackburne, a Dissenting Minister,"

is entered as buried at Blackburn Church, Oct. 25th, 1705. This minister was no doubt a native of Blackburn, and would be dwelling in the town just before his decease, but whether he was officiating as a Dissenting Minister in Blackburn or not cannot be affirmed.

The settlement in Blackburn, before the middle of last century, of a number of Scotsmen, drawn hither to trade as "chapmen" in the local textiles, strengthened the Dissenting party in this parish, for most of them were Scottish Presbyterians, of the Secession Church (now United Presbyterian) and easily adapted themselves to the connexion with Lancashire Independency with a Presbyterian tinge. There being then no Meeting-House in Blackburn, some of these Scotsmen, together with the English Dissenters in the town and in Lower Darwen and Livesey, attended worship in the Lower Chapel Meeting, Over Darwen, and the rest either went to the Tockholes Meeting or to the Hoghtons' private Chapel at the Tower.

In 1777, the Blackburn Independents deemed themselves able to support a minister and a place of worship, and having induced the Rev. James McQuhae, for six years previously pastor of the Independent Church at Tockholes, to join them in founding a Meeting-House in the town under his ministry, a Church-society was constituted in 1778, consisting of the Blackburn portion of the Tockholes congregation, of members of about twenty Blackburn families that had attended the Lower Chapel at Darwen, and of two or three families that had formerly attended the private Chapel in Hoghton Tower. Mr. McQuhae removed to Blackburn about the same time, and during the year 1778 the Chapel built for the new congregation in Chapel-street was completed and opened.¹ Mr. McQuhae continued minister of the Independent Church in Blackburn until his death. He died suddenly, April 29th, 1804, aged 63. He was buried in the graveyard of the Chapel, May 5th. His funeral sermon, preached in the Blackburn Independent Chapel, May 20th, 1804, by Rev. Edward Parsons, was afterwards published. His wife, Mrs. Lydia McQuhae, died at Blackburn, Nov., 1802.

An attempt at a religious census of the parish was made, at Episcopal request, by the Vicar in 1804, when it was returned that in the

1. The first trust-deed of the Chapel is dated May 2nd, 1778, and recites an indenture of lease and release between John Sudell of Blackburn, Merchant, of the first part, and the trustees, John Parker, William Kenyon, Thomas Smalley, Richard Smalley, Adam Sanderson, all of Blackburn, chapmen, Richard Sanderson, of Chorley, chapman, and Alexander Kay, Robert Parker, John Currie, James Jordan, Charles Waugh, George Sanderson, William Little, Thomas Wright, James Irving, and William Smalley, all of Blackburn, chapmen, whereby John Sudell conveyed a plot of land, parcel of a close called nearest Ryecroft, adjoining the Bull Meadow, containing 1440 square yards, subject to a yearly rent of £6, and the building lately erected thereon, in trust to suffer the said building to be used for a Meeting-house for a church-society or congregation of Protestant Dissenters whereof Mr. James McQuhae was pastor.

part of Blackburn parish including the town and the contiguous townships of Little Harwood, Ramsgreave, Mellor, Witton, Pleasington, Lower Darwen, and parts of Livesey and Rishton (but excluding the Chapelries of Darwen, Tockholes, Great Harwood, Langho, Salesbury, Balderstone, Samesbury, and Walton), there were found "1,490 Presbyterians, 396 Independents, 71 Anabaptists, 13 Quakers, 765 Methodists, and 745 Papists." There was then no Presbyterian Chapel in this part of the Parish, so that the 1,490 persons entered as Presbyterians must have been the Scottish section of the Independent Congregation in Blackburn.

The second minister of the Independent congregation was the Rev. Joseph Fletcher, appointed in August, 1806. The Church-society then numbered 69 communicants. In May, 1808, the Chapel was taken down for enlargement, and the enlarged Chapel was re-opened on Nov. 6th, 1808. Mr. Fletcher resigned his ministry in Blackburn in July, 1822, on taking the pastorate of the Independent congregation at Stepney Meeting in London. He died in 1845. Dr. Fletcher married, while in this town, at Blackburn Parish Church, Dec. 20th, 1808, Mary, second daughter of Mr. John France, of King-street, Blackburn, and had issue Robert, born Sept. 26th, 1810; William Wolfe, born Dec. 8th, 1813; Joseph, born Jan. 7th, 1816; Elizabeth, born Feb. 5th, 1818; and Henry, born July 8th, 1819. Mr. Fletcher had graduated M.A. at Glasgow University, and in 1830 the Senate of that University conferred on him the degree of D.D. A memoir of Dr. Fletcher and selections from his Works were published in three volumes in 1846, edited by his son, Rev. Joseph Fletcher. His printed works included, besides special discourses, and Posthumous Sermons, "Lectures on the Principles of the Roman Catholic Religion," &c. (delivered in Blackburn in 1816); "Poems," by Dr. Fletcher and his sister Mary Fletcher; "Six Views on Infidelity;" and several theological treatises. Dr. Fletcher was a son of Mr. Robert Fletcher, goldsmith and citizen of Chester, where the son was born Dec. 3rd, 1784. Succeeding ministers of this Church were the Rev. Luke Forster (1825-32); Rev. Thomas Parry (1834-39); Rev. Alexander Fraser, M.A. (appointed Oct., 1841, resigned July 30th, 1863, died at Blackburn Jan. 17th, 1869, aged 62); Rev. J. McEwen Stott, present minister, appointed Oct., 1866.

The old Independent Chapel in Chapel-street was a square structure of brick, with a two-storey addition at the west end, the lower floor being a school-room, and the upper, opening by a broad arch into the Chapel, was used as gallery for organ and choir. The other three sides of the Chapel were galleried. A porch stood at the east end on the exterior view. The fabric had no architectural merit. It seated about 900 persons. A fire which broke out in the organ chamber, Jan. 10th, 1872, destroyed the organ and consumed the roof-timbers. It was therefore resolved by the congre-

gation to demolish the Chapel, and to erect a new Church on the same site, extended towards the west by the removal of several houses in Chapel-street and Cross-street. The present imposing and capacious Church was begun in the Spring of 1873 (corner-stone laid on Good Friday, April 11th, 1873), and was opened for worship on Thursday, June 18th, 1874. The style of the Church is Early Decorated Gothic. The plan consists of nave, side aisles, double transepts, semi-octagonal apse; organ chamber adjoining the north transept; and two vestries at the east end of the south transept; an arcade at the west end forming the principal entrance; and a tower at the south-west angle. The only galleries are in the transepts. The interior walls are lined with bath-stone with bands of blue bath-stone. The three end bays of the apse are lighted by two-light traceried windows (the centre one a painted memorial window to the late Henry Shaw, Esq.); the space between floor and window sills is filled in with handsome traceried panelling, surmounted by a moulded and enriched cornice. The moulded nave arches spring from massive moulded and polished granite columns with carved capitals and moulded bases. The total internal length of the nave and apse is 132ft. 3in.; width across aisles 54ft. 4in.; across the transepts 75ft. 4in.; width of transepts 42ft. The roof is open timbered and panelled, with moulded circular ribs, springing from stone columns. The height to ceiling of nave is 42ft. 6in.; to apex of roof 56ft. 6in. On the exterior, the main front, in Cross-street, consists of lofty centre gable pierced by a five-light tracery-headed window, with attached columns on jambs and mullions. The entrance lobbies extend along the front, with three large doorways opening into them, and a side door from the tower entrance. The tympanum of the gable over the central doorway is filled with tracery panels and carving. The tower and spire rise to the height of 187ft. The tower is in three stages, the lower being an entrance to the Church, the second a floor for ringers, and the third, which has eight two-light windows with traceried heads and carved and crocketed canopies, is designed for a belfry. The angle buttresses of the tower are graduated, and carried up 25ft. above the tower cornices in form of pinnacles. The spire is octagonal, relieved by bands of carved diaper, and on four faces by handsome spire windows, with canopied heads. The side elevations of the Church, towards Chapel-street and St. Peter-street, show ranges of three-light traceried windows in the aisles and clerestories. Two ranges of windows light the transepts, the lower in groups of three single lights, and above them four-light traceried windows with attached columns on the jambs. The transept fronts show double gables with moulded and perforated finials. The roofs of vestries and organ chamber are carried up in pointed octagonal form. The walls are supported by bold buttresses; and a deep moulded plinth runs round the structure. Architects, Messrs. Tarring and Son, of London. The organ, a fine one built by Mr. Willis, at the cost of £1,000, was opened simultaneously with the Church. The entire cost of this stately Church, including purchase of property for extension of site £1,355, organ, building contract with extras, boundary walls, heating, lighting, and furnishing, architect's commission, &c., was £18,000. Sittings, 1,330.

The other Independent congregations formed at intervals by detachments from the Chapel-street society during its something less than a century of existence (besides one at Mill Hill in the township of Livesey), are the following in Blackburn township:—

JAMES STREET CHAPEL.—In accordance with a resolution passed at a meeting of Chapel-street Church, held April 3rd, 1837, declaring it expedient that another place of worship of the Congregational order be erected in the town, a subscription

was opened by the members of the congregation, and a site was soon afterwards secured in James-street (formerly called Chippendale-lane) for the projected new Chapel. The Chapel was not commenced until the year 1841, and it was opened on Thursday, June 27th, 1842, with sermons by Revs. Dr. Raffles and Dr. Fletcher. Twenty-nine members of the old Church withdrew with their families to form the second congregation. The cost of the Chapel was about £4,000. James-street Chapel is a large and lofty structure of brick with Italian porch supported by stone columns. The interior is galleried on three sides; and in 1873 an organ apse was added at the south-end, with vestries and class-rooms, and a new organ purchased, built by Willis. The organ and additions cost £1,500. Under the Chapel is a spacious school-room. The Chapel contains 1,000 sittings. The first minister of this Chapel was the Rev. Edward Jukes, appointed Jan. 12th, 1843, resigned in 1853. Succeeding ministers:—Rev. E. W. Shalders, M.A.; Rev. J. B. Lister (1859-69); Rev. John Byles, present minister.

PARK ROAD CHURCH.—A mission-service was commenced in 1851 by the late Rev. Alexander Fraser, of Chapel-street Chapel, in the schools then newly-erected in Park Road, Grimshaw Park, by Messrs. James and William Pilkington and Edward Eccles. A separate congregation and Church were formed, by whom a new Church was projected about 1856. The corner-stone of this place of worship, called Park Congregational Church, was laid on Good Friday (April 10th), 1857, and the Church was opened Feb. 24th, 1858. It is a neat gothic church of the decorated period, consisting of nave, side aisles, north and south transepts; vestries, lecture room, and gallery for organ and choir at the east end; and a tower and spire, 138ft. high, at the south-west angle. The interior has side and end galleries. Cost, with organ added in 1868, and boundary walls, £6,000. Sittings, 850. Architect, Mr. Oliver, of Newcastle. First minister, Rev. D. Williams; succeeding ministers, Rev. M. Macfie; Rev. A. B. Paton; Rev. A. S. Maclean; Rev. Wm. Parkes; Rev. A. Foster, M.A., present minister.

MONTAGUE STREET CHAPEL.—This Chapel, with school in the rear, was built in 1864. It is a brick edifice with stone dressings. The interior has no galleries. Cost, £2,100. Sittings, 400. Minister, Rev. John Morgan.

FURTHERGATE SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—This mission was started about 1873 as a branch of James Street Church, worship being conducted temporarily in the school erected in 1850-1. Sittings, 300. A project to erect a Church is progressing, and a fund has been subscribed. Minister, Rev. W. E. Coller.

BLACKBURN INDEPENDENT ACADEMY.—This collegiate institution, for the education of students for the Independent Ministry, was founded in 1816, and was the original of the Lancashire Independent College, Whalley Range, near Manchester. The principal lay patrons of the Blackburn Academy in the outset were Roger Cunliffe, Esq. (of Blackburn), Dr. Garrold, Robert Kay, Esq., George Hatfield, Esq., John Potter, Esq., Samuel Fletcher, Esq., &c.; and its ministerial projectors and directors included Rev. W. Roby, Rev. Thos. Raffles, Rev. Joseph Fletcher, Rev. Joseph France, and others. The Rev. Joseph Fletcher was first Theological Tutor and President; Rev. Wm. Hope, first Classical Tutor, succeeded by Mr. William Hoole in 1819, who resigned in 1821; and the Rev. Gilbert Wardlaw, M.A., then became Classical tutor, who afterwards was appointed Theological tutor. The college premises were situate in Ainsworth-street. On Dec. 20th, 1838, the supporters of the Academy resolved that it be removed to Manchester, and a subscription for the erection of college buildings there, to the amount of £15,000, was raised before 1840. By removing the Academy from Blackburn the Committee had to sacrifice a handsome

bequest left by the late Roger Cunliffe conditional upon the institution being maintained at Blackburn, but the widow of that patron was a liberal donor to the Manchester scheme. While the Academy was at Blackburn, fifty-five Ministers were trained therein, some of whom have taken eminent positions in the denomination. The new College was built in 1841-2 (opened April 26th, 1843) on a site of seven acres obtained from the late Samuel Brooks, Esq., of Whalley House, near Manchester. The Lancashire Independent College (the offspring of Blackburn Academy), has now an income of £4,000 per annum, and an average of forty-four students in residence.

BAPTIST CONGREGATIONS IN BLACKBURN.

The first Baptist preaching in or near Blackburn is stated to have been about the year 1726, by Mr. David Crossley, the Baptist minister at Bacup, who made preaching visits to Blackburn district and usually preached at Shorrock Green. No regular service was established here by Mr. Crossley, but about the year 1757 one Mr. Adam Holden, a preacher among the Baptists, a native of Rossendale, came to live in Blackburn, and in 1759 married Mrs. Boardman of Fenisccliffe in Livesey, about a mile from Blackburn. The house at Fenisccliffe soon after was used as a Particular Baptist place of worship. A church-society of local Baptists was formed in 1760. Mr. Holden preached there; but finding the house too small for a chapel, he commenced the building of a chapel in Blackburn in 1764. Mr. Holden died in the midst of this project, Sept. 9th, 1764, but left a legacy of £80 to the fund for completing this chapel, which was also largely assisted by his widow. This new Baptist Chapel was built on a site in Islington Croft, on the edge of the Town's Moor, for which Mr. Holden paid £10. The meeting-house was opened on May 29th, 1765, the preachers being Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Liverpool, and Rev. Joseph Piccop, of Bacup. It was the first structure erected specially for Nonconformist worship in Blackburn. The original trust deed of the Chapel, dated 1765, names as trustees, Edward Holden, James Holden, John Holden, Henry Holden, James Turner, Joseph Pickup, John Johnston, James Hartley, Henry Butterworth, John Miller and John Milner, who held the fabric in trust to permit "the said edifice to be used and employed for and as a place of meeting or assembling of a particular congregation of Protestant Dissenters from the Church of England, commonly known or distinguished by the name of Baptists," for the public exercise of their religious worship. A second trust was made in 1790, and a third in 1823. After Mr. Adam Holden's death, Mr. James Miller, a member of the Church, succeeded as minister, and held the office more than forty years. In 1803, three cottages near the Chapel were purchased for £220, chiefly subscribed by the Boardman, Miller, and Clayton families, which were put in trust, the rents to be paid to the minister for the time being. In

1808, galleries were erected in the Chapel to increase the sittings. Mr. Miller resigned the pastorate about 1809, and died Oct. 31st, 1810. He was succeeded in August, 1809, by the Rev. William Dyer; resigned 1816. Succeeding ministers:—Revs. Charles Grey, John Worral, Michael Horbury; J. Archer, present minister. A minister's house, attached to the Chapel, was given to the foundation by Mr. Robert Boardman of Cherry Tree House; and school-rooms were annexed in 1832, when the Chapel itself was restored and re-roofed. Later bequests to the Chapel are:—£100 left in 1833 by Mrs. Howson, interest to poor members and minister; £100 left by Will of Mr. James Boardman in 1842, interest as part salary to Schoolmaster; £100 towards maintenance of minister, and £200 towards day school endowment, bequeathed by the late Miss Boardman. This oldest Baptist Chapel in Blackburn is a small square stone structure of plain exterior. Sittings, 300.

BRANCH ROAD CHAPEL.—This Chapel was built in 1843 for a congregation of General Baptists. Its architecture is Early English. The Chapel was renovated internally, re-benched, and galleries placed in three sides, and a school erected in the rear, in 1871. The organ is in a recess at the east end. Sittings, 600. Present minister, Rev. J. Douglas, A.M.; Former ministers, Revs. W. Barker; Robert Cameron; Thomas Crabtree.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN BLACKBURN.

About the year 1810, a party of seceders from the Chapel-street Independent Congregation established a church-society in the town on Presbyterian principles, in connection with the Burgher Seceders from the Church of Scotland. For the congregation thus formed, a Chapel was built in Mount-street in 1810, and the Rev. Joseph Sowden was appointed minister. The congregation afterwards became connected with the Lancashire Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, and the Chapel was improved in 1829; in 1836 a portico was added at the west end, and a school building, forming wings at right angles to the Chapel, was erected at the east end. Rev. Francis Skinner, M.A., became pastor of this congregation in 1830, and continued minister for thirty-six years. Mr. Skinner was author of several published books, chiefly controversial letters and theological pamphlets. He married, at Blackburn Parish Church, March 29th, 1837, Martha, eldest daughter of Mr. John Eccles, of Lower Darwen, and sister of Bannister Eccles, Esq. (who died, aged 39, April 16th, 1838), and, secondly, Dec. 5th, 1844, Catherine, eldest daughter of William Martin, Esq., of Bolton, who survives. He received from the Glasgow University the degree of D.D. in 1864. The Mount-street Chapel was become too small for the congregation in 1865, and on March 4th in that year, Dr. Skinner laid

the corner-stone of a new Church in Preston New Road. Dr. Skinner died before the completion of the Church, Dec. 29th, 1866, aged 67. He was succeeded by the Rev. Alexander B. Grosart, previously of Liverpool. The Mount Street Chapel was continued in use by a section of the congregation after the new Church was opened, and the Rev. Arthur McArthur, present pastor, was appointed to minister in the old Chapel. This Chapel is a stone structure with semi-circular-headed windows, having a small burial-ground in front. The interior is galleried on three sides, and behind the pulpit is an opening for the choir-gallery. Sittings, 600.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, Preston New Road, the second Church built in 1865-8 for the use of the major portion of the original United Presbyterian congregation, was opened June 18th, 1868. It is a spacious and handsome edifice on a prominent site, with a three-storied school building at the south end of the Church. The Church is in the early decorated style of gothic architecture. The front has a central and two side entrances with recessed moulded arches; and over the central doorway is a large three-light window, with tracery heads, the centre-light divided by a mullion. One of the side entrances is in the tower, at the north west corner, from which rises an octagonal belfry, surmounted by a spire; the height of tower and spire is 126ft. The sides of the Church are divided into six bays by buttresses capped by gables; the walls are finished by a parapet. In each bay is a window of two lights. The roof is surmounted by three lofty ventilating turrets. The interior, reached by a spacious vestibule, is a parallelogram, about 90ft. in length above from north window to school partition-wall, and 50ft. wide. The roof, open to the collar-beam, divided into six bays by arched principals, is carried on iron columns with ornamental caps. The columns are in two tiers, the first supporting the galleries, which occupy three sides of the Church. The pulpit is a large square one of artistic structure, the back, somewhat recessed in the wall, is panelled, and finished with cornice, cut-cresting, and finial. Behind the Church are vestries for minister and elders, four large class rooms, lecture room 60ft. by 30ft., and other rooms, occupying three floors. Cost £9,100. Sittings in Church, 1,000. The present pastor, Rev. A. B. Grosart, is an eminent writer and literary antiquary, author and editor of the "Fuller Worthies Library," "Chertsey Library," Prose Works of William Wordsworth, and many other published volumes.

WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETIES IN BLACKBURN.

In the general historical narrative I have mentioned the local introduction of Wesleyan Methodism in Lower Darwen about the year 1758, and the earliest visit of John Wesley to Blackburn for the purpose of preaching in 1780. Wesley was again at Blackburn in 1781. His *Journal* records:—"1781, Wednesday, June 23rd. Having appointed to preach at Blackburn, I was desired to take Kabb in my way (from Bolton). In the evening I preached in the new House at Blackburn." The "new house" referred to, opened by Wesley either on this or on the visit in 1780, was the original Methodist Chapel in the town, known as the Old Calendar House from its previous use, and purchased and adapted for a Chapel by the newly-formed Society of Methodists about the year 1780.

This building still exists, but has been many years used as shops and workshop. It stands on the N.E. side of Old Chapel Street. It is a brick structure, hardly to be distinguished from the other premises on either side. Its interior must have been small and incommodious. Wesley preached here on a third visit in 1784, as he narrates:—"1784, April 17th. In the evening I preached at Blackburn, where the Society is lively and constantly increasing. Sunday, 18th. I preached at five [a.m.] to a numerous congregation, but not one well-dressed person among them, either morning or evening. Poor Blackburn!" If the first Methodists in the town included few of the "quality," they soon grew in numbers until the Old Calendar House could not hold them, and, in the Spring of 1785, a project to erect a larger Chapel was afoot, of which the main promoters were Mr. William Banning and Mr. George Walkden. A site was got in Clayton-street, now near the midst of the town, but then an open suburb, surrounded by gardens and several respectable houses of tradesmen. The first Chapel in Clayton-street was opened in 1786. Wesley again came to preach, but the Chapel would not hold the large concourse of people. Wesley records in the *Journal*:—"1786, Monday, April 17th. I went on to Blackburn, which was sufficiently crowded, it being fair-day. No house would contain the people, so I stood abroad and expounded that awful scripture, 'I saw the dead small and great stand before God.' All was still as night, unless when they sung,—then their voices were as the sound of many waters."

The trust deed of the Chapel of 1786 names as trustees:—Mr. William Sagar, Colne (Southfield, in Marsden); John Wood, Padiham; Roger Crane, Michael Emmett, and William Bramwell, Preston; John Crossley, Hoghton; John Walmsley, Walton; William Banning, John Haworth, Nicholas Aspinall, and George Walkden, Blackburn. Messrs. Banning and Walkden were the Blackburn leaders of Methodism in its infancy. Mr. Banning was a tradesman in Astley-gate, at whose house Wesley lodged on several of his visits. Mr. George Walkden, a "yeoman," as described in the trust-deed, was a laborious local preacher in the district.

Wesley's next journey through the parish was in 1788. The Wesleyan Conference had shortly before made Blackburn a circuit, severed from the older Colne circuit. In Wesley's *Journal* appears the entry:—"1788, Monday, May 21st. I went on through miserable roads to Blackburn, where, notwithstanding continued rain, the new preaching-house was thoroughly filled with serious and well-behaved people." Wesley's journal of his last year's tour in 1790 is destroyed, but it is on record that he had fixed to be in Blackburn on the 13th of April, 1790, and he was certainly in Lancashire about that time. Wesley died in 1791.

Blackburn Circuit returned 878 members in 1788, the year after its formation; and by 1794, 1,180 members were enrolled. A feud in the Connexion in 1795 caused a numerical decrease in this as in other Circuits. The first ministers appointed to Blackburn Circuit were Rev. Francis Wrigley and Rev. Edward Burbeck. Mr. Burbeck died before entering upon his ministry here, and was succeeded by Rev. William Bramwell, a native of Elswick in the Fylde. Other preachers of note in turn served this Circuit. In 1798-9, Rev. T. Wood was second minister of Blackburn Circuit; he was the author of "A Defence of the late National Fast," "Essays on Civil Government," and "Christianity Established by Reason and Revelation," treatises printed in Blackburn and published during the author's residence in the town. A leading Methodist layman in Blackburn at this period was Dr. Nathaniel Aspden, a surgeon of position in the town. He was a son of Mr. William Aspden, of Cliff, Great Harwood, born Jan. 21st, 1766, educated under the eminent Rev. Thomas Wilson at Clitheroe Grammar School, and married, in 1788, Miss Edmondson of Barnoldswick. He died, aged 32, in 1798. His epitaph at Clayton-street Chapel is inscribed:—"In memory of Nathaniel Aspden, surgeon, who departed this life Sept. 24th, 1798, aged 32 years." The circuit minister published an account of Dr. Aspden's life in the *Methodist Magazine* for 1799, and also "A Sermon preached on the Death of Mr. N. Aspden, in the Methodist Chapel, Blackburn, on Sunday, Sept. 30th, 1798, by T. WOOD. Blackburn: Hemingway and Nuttall."

In 1799, the Societies of Preston and its district were separated from Blackburn Methodist Circuit. In 1809, Blackburn Circuit contained 527 members in societies at:—Blackburn 198 members; Lower Darwen (reckoned with Blackburn); Over Darwen 70 members; Mellor 98 members; Hoghton 96 members; Tockholes 16 members; Bankfoot 6 members; Rishton 6 members; Great Harwood 12 members; Stanhill 28 members.¹

The Clayton-street Chapel in Blackburn was enlarged and almost rebuilt in 1816. Externally, the Chapel remains as it stood after this renovation. It is a square brick and stone fabric, with pointed windows, and two doorways, flanked by pillasters, on the north front. The interior measures about 65ft. by 55ft. Galleries are on the north, east, and west sides, and organ and choir are in a recess at the south end. The Chapel has been twice or thrice restored internally since 1816; the last improvements were made in 1857-8 at the charge of the late Miss Newsham. Sittings, 950.

¹ Some of the above facts are derived from an interesting account of the rise of "Wesleyan Methodism in the Blackburn Circuit," by Rev. John Ward, Wesleyan Minister, published in 1871.

Particulars of other Wesleyan places of worship in the township are appended :—

A Chapel built at Daisyfield in 1826 was after a few years disposed of to the Vicar of the Parish and converted into a Chapel of the Establishment.

HARWOOD STREET CHAPEL.—In the year 1864 a School Chapel for the Wesleyan Methodists was erected in Harwood Street, Furthergate, costing about £1,000. By the congregation worshipping there a new Chapel has since been erected, the corner-stone of which was laid on Good Friday (April 3rd), 1874, and which was opened in July, 1865. This Chapel is in the Italian style, and consists of a parallelogram 66ft. by 49ft. The interior has galleries on three sides. The cost (with site) was £3,300. Sittings 650. The original structure adjacent is now used solely for school purposes.

WRANGLING MISSION.—A building in Stout-street, Wrangling, was altered and fitted as a ragged school and preaching place in the year 1870. Sittings 140.

KENDAL STREET SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—The first stone of a Wesleyan School-Chapel was laid in Kendal-street, Brookhouse Fields, on Feb. 21st, 1874. The Chapel was opened for worship the same year. Cost (with site) £1,600. Sittings 400.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPELS IN BLACKBURN.

The Primitive Methodist Connexion, soon after its origin, had a meeting-room in Eanam, in this town, and a society was formed about the year 1820. About sixteen years later, the Chapel in Montague-street was built; opened in 1837. The chapel is a plain brick structure; the interior is galleried. School-rooms were attached in the rear in 1871; and larger schools were built contiguous to the Chapel, at a cost of £3,000, in 1875. Sittings 500. Subsequent Chapels of this Connexion have been founded in the township, as under :—

OXFORD STREET CHAPEL, HIGHER AUDLEY.—In 1867, the Primitive Methodists erected a School-Chapel in Mawdsley-street, Higher Audley, seating about 450 persons. On the 18th Sept., 1873, the corner-stone of a more spacious edifice, in the classic style, for the use of this congregation, was laid by Mr. John Hindle. This Chapel adjoins the former building, now used as a school, but fronts to Oxford-street. The interior of the Chapel measures 60ft. by 42ft., and is galleried round. A second school-building of brick is attached to the east end of the Chapel. Cost £4,000. Sittings 600.

INFIRMARY STREET CHAPEL.—This Chapel was built in 1872, and is used both for preaching and Sunday School purposes. Cost £600. Sittings 250.

CHAPELS OF THE UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.

The Wesleyan Association, founded in 1835 by a separation from the Wesleyan Methodist Connexion, formed a congregation in Blackburn in that year, which built, in 1836, a Chapel in Paradise-street. A later secession from the Wesleyan body in 1849, called "Wesleyan Reformers," set on foot a society also in Blackburn, the members of which built, in 1853, a Chapel in Barton-street. After the junction of the Methodist seceders of 1835 and 1849, assuming the name of United Methodist Free Churches, it was found expedient to unite the two congregations above mentioned, the Chapels being but a few yards apart. This was

effected in the year 1870; and the Barton-street Chapel was converted into Schools. In 1871, the Paradise Chapel was taken down, and on the site was built the present large and handsome Chapel, with frontage to Feilden-street. The architecture of this Chapel is classic, and the interior is galleried round. Cost £4,800. Sittings 1,000. There are two other Chapels of this Connexion in the township, viz. :—

KNUZDEN SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—A School-Chapel was built on the border of the township at Knuzden in 1863. Cost £1,000. Sittings 325.

DAISYFIELD SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—The corner-stone of a School-Chapel for the United Methodist Free Church Connexion was laid in Derby-street, Daisyfield, July 26th, 1875. Cost £1,000. Sittings 300.

OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP.

The **FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE**, Paradise-terrace, off King-street, was built in 1818. It is surrounded by a walled grave-yard. Sittings 226.

The **NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH**, Brookhouse-fields, was built in 1854. The interior was restored and rebenched in 1873, and an organ added in 1874. Sittings 214. Minister, Rev. Wm. Bates.

The **METHODIST NEW CONNEXION** opened a mission-room in Bolton-road in 1865; removed to an adapted room in Lower Audley; and later to the Rechabites' Hall, Cable-street.

The **CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' MEETING HOUSE**, Russell-street, built in 1872, contains about 150 sittings.

The **CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC CHURCH** have recently fitted up a preaching place, with about 200 sittings, in Town Hall-street, in the building formerly used for the Free Library.

Small meetings of Baptists and of Old Scotch Independents are held respectively in Exchange-street, and in Cobden-rooms, Corporation-street.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN BLACKBURN.

The first Sunday School in Blackburn owed its establishment, about the year 1786, to the Rev. Thomas Starkie, Vicar of the Parish; this School was superintended by the Vicar, and soon after its foundation numbered 300 children. Other Sunday Schools were opened somewhat later by the Wesleyan and Independent Congregations in the town; and, in 1824, it is recorded that the Church of England Sunday Schools in the town had 1,100 children in attendance; Chapel Street Independent School 600; Clayton-street Wesleyan Methodist School 500; Mount-street Presbyterian School 120; Roman Catholic School 100; and Unitarian School 56; a total of 2,476 children attending the various Sunday Schools. After the lapse of about 50 years since this return, and of ninety years since the first of these Schools was founded, it may be estimated roundly that in 1875 there were connected with Sunday Schools in that part of the town of Blackburn within the township about 21,000 children and young persons, whereof some 9,500 belong to

Church of England Schools, 8,000 to Protestant Nonconformist Schools, and 3,500 to Roman Catholic Schools.

DAY SCHOOLS IN THE TOWNSHIP—BLACKBURN SCHOOL BOARD.

In the last generation, a National School in Thunder Alley and two or three small private schools connected with the larger factories were all the provision for the education of children of the labouring class in Blackburn; but during the interval of thirty years great progress has been made in the provision of school buildings for Day and Sunday School purposes, and many large and good Day Schools under Government inspection have been established and maintained by the religious bodies. Among the first important schools erected were those at Brookhouse, built by Mr. Wm. Henry Hornby in 1839-40; St. John's Schools, built in 1844; Holy Trinity Schools, built in 1845; Park Schools, Grimshaw Park Road, built by Messrs. James and William Pilkington and Edward Eccles in 1850; the Hopwood Schools, Grimshaw Park, built by the Hopwood family in 1850, replaced by Christ Church Schools in 1858; St. Paul's Schools, in 1858; Chapel-street Independent Schools, in 1859; and the Wesleyan Schools, St. Peter-street, in 1861.

A School Board was established by the spontaneous action of the burgesses in 1870. The first Board was elected without a contest on the 27th of December, 1870. Mr. Wm. Ditchfield was appointed Clerk.¹

A census of children of school age and attending school was taken by order of the School Board conjointly with the general Census, April 3rd, 1875. It was found that the Municipal Borough and Township of Blackburn then contained 17,453 children of school-going age (between 3 and 13 years). Of these, 13,073 were returned as in attendance at some school, and 4,380 not in attendance at any school. To Church of England Schools, 6,901 children were returned as attached; to Roman Catholic Schools, 2,317 children; to Nonconformist and British Schools, 2,743 children; to private schools, middle class and elementary, 925 children; and to schools out of the borough, 217 children. An inquiry was at the same time made respecting School provision. The accommodation in existing schools was found to be for 16,908 children; and in other school buildings about to be provided, 2,025; total of prospective accommodation for 18,933 children. The provision in the principal schools then in use or projected was as follows:—Parish Church Schools, 1,040 children; St. John's Schools, 1,138; St. Paul's, 503; St. Peter's (new), 604; Holy Trinity, 687; St. Michael's (with Infant School), 755; Christ Church, 1,115; St. Thomas's (new), 856; St. Luke's, 525; Pleckgate, 183; Billinge, 261; Wensley Fold, 228. [All Saints' Church School since built, for 300 children.] St. Alban's Roman Catholic Schools, 775; St. Anne's, 868; St. Mary's, 661; St. Patrick's, 217; St. Joseph's, 266 [New Schools under Church now building to provide for about 700 children]. Chapel Street

¹ The School Board was composed as follows:—Mr. W. H. Hornby, junr. (chairman); Mr. Mark Knowles (vice-chairman); Revs. R. Dunderdale and W. S. Berry; Messrs. W. A. Abram, T. Bertwistle, A. S. Eury, W. Crossley, James Eccles, W. Orrell, Giles Parkinson, Isaac Ward, and J. A. Watson.—To the second Board, elected in 1874, the Vicar, Rev. Canon Birch, was returned in place of Mr. Knowles, and appointed vice-chairman; and Messrs. Launcelot Porter, H. Shuttleworth, and John Thompson were returned in the stead of Messrs. Eccles, Orrell, and Bertwistle.

Congregational Schools, 1,174 children; Park Road Schools, 1,019; Nova Scotia, 406; Bank Top, 406; Furthergate, 369; Mawdsley-street, 552; Montague-street, 384; St. Peter Street Wesleyan School, 363; Barton Street United Methodist Free Church School, 637; Town's Moor Baptist, 103; Mount Street British, 231; Paradise Street Science School, 112; Girls' Charity School, 135. The following Dissenting School buildings were not in use as Day Schools:—St. George's United Presbyterian, provision for 508 children; Primitive Methodist, Branch Road, 202 (new schools now building); Montague Street Baptist, 340; James Street Independent, 459. The Four Lanes End (Independent) School, providing for 311 children, has since been opened as a Board School.

Under the action of the compulsory clause of the Education Act adopted by the School Board, the number of children in attendance at inspected public elementary schools had been increased at the end of the year 1874 to 14,846, and the average attendance to 9,609. (In 1871 the number attending inspected Schools was 10,532, average 7,023.) There are also still from 500 to 1,000 children frequenting indifferent private adventure schools of the lower class.

The middle-class population in the town furnishes from 600 to 700 children attending the superior class of schools. These include the Free Grammar School; the Lower Bank Academy, founded by Mr. Edmundson in 1826, and of which Mr. George Weild is now principal, a well-conducted commercial school with an average of about 90 pupils; one or two boarding schools for boys in the vicinity of the town; and several seminaries in private houses for the daughters of middle-class families.

THE PARLIAMENTARY BOROUGH.

Blackburn was first constituted a Parliamentary Borough, returning two Members, by the Reform Act of 1832. The town had then a population of 27,091; and 627 electors. The first election took place after the dissolution of Parliament in December of that year. Four candidates were in the field for the two seats, viz., Mr. William Feilden of Feniscowles (afterwards Sir William), a Conservative; Mr. John Fowden Hindle of Woodfold Park, Conservative; John Bowring, LL.D., of London (afterwards Sir John), a Reformer; and Mr. William Turner of Mill Hill, near Blackburn, a Whig. Mr. Feilden and Mr. Bowring were the favourite candidates, and it was expected they would be returned together, but Mr. Turner brought local influences to bear that secured his election against Dr. Bowring. The nomination took place on Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 1832. Returning officer, John Fleming, Esq. The hustings were erected in the "Bull Meadow," on the site of the present Reform Club, Market Place. Mr. Feilden was nominated by his uncle, Mr. Joseph Feilden, and by Mr. James Cunliffe, banker. Mr. Hindle was nominated by Dr. James Barlow and Mr. Wm. Henry Hornby. Dr. Bowring was nominated by Mr. James Pilkington and Mr. Joseph Eccles. Mr. Turner was nominated by Mr. John Hargreaves (Coroner) and Mr. Thomas Dugdale. On the eve of the poll Mr. Hindle retired. The first day's polling resulted—Feilden 346; Bowring 324; Turner 314. The second day's poll ended Feilden 376; Turner 347; Bowring 334. The defeat

of Dr. Bowring, the popular candidate, led to some disturbances in the streets.

At the next General Election in 1835, James Pickup, Esq., was returning officer for the borough, and the candidates nominated were the retiring Members, Mr. William Feilden and Mr. William Turner; and Dr. Bowring. The polling took place on June 6th and 7th, 1835. At the end of the first day, Mr. Turner and Dr. Bowring had the majority of votes; but at the close of the poll on the second day the numbers were—Turner 432; Feilden 316; Bowring 303. Dr. Bowring was, however, in the meantime, elected Member for Kilmarnock, in Scotland. Rioting supervened on the result of the election being known in Blackburn. A procession of many thousands of the working classes met Dr. Bowring on his passage through Blackburn on his way to London from his Scottish constituency.

At the dissolution in July, 1837, on the death of William IV., the borough was not seriously contested. Mr. Feilden and Mr. Turner were again nominated, and also Mr. J. B. Smith, of Manchester, but the latter retired before the poll was taken, which resulted—Turner 515; Feilden 416; Smith 9.

At the General Election on July 1st, 1841, the nominated candidates were—Mr. William Feilden and Mr. John Hornby, Conservatives; and Mr. William Turner, Whig. The polling issued in the return of the two former:—Feilden 441; Hornby 427; Turner 426. The military had to be fetched to stop the rioting on this occasion. Mr. Turner being defeated by a single vote, petitioned for a scrutiny, which commenced on Wednesday, April 20th, and lasted seven days. At the close, Mr. Hornby was decided to have sustained his election. Mr. Turner died within three months of the failure of the petition.

The next Election occurred on the dissolution in July, 1847. Sir William Feilden retired from parliamentary life, and the candidates nominated were:—Mr. John Hornby, Conservative; Mr. James Pilkington, Liberal Free Trader; Mr. William Hargreaves, of the Grange, Milnthorpe, Whig; and Mr. W. P. Roberts, Chartist. The contest resulted in the return of Mr. Hornby and Mr. Pilkington; the polling being—Hornby 649; Pilkington 602; Hargreaves 392; Roberts 68.

Parliament was again dissolved July 1st, 1852. In Blackburn the candidates at this Election were the retiring Members, Mr. Hornby and Mr. Pilkington; and Mr. William Eccles, as a Liberal-Conservative. Parties were in some degree confused in this contest. The result of the poll was—Pilkington 846; Eccles 580; Hornby 509. Mr. Hornby's supporters petitioned against the return of Mr. Eccles on the ground of bribery and corruption, and the House of Commons Committee declared the charges proved and the election void. Mr. Eccles, unseated in March, 1854, died on June 17th following, aged 59.

The extraordinary Election occasioned by this vacancy took place in March, 1852. The candidates were:—Mr. William Henry Hornby, brother of the former Member, Conservative; and Mr. Montague Joseph Feilden, a younger son of the late Sir William Feilden, Liberal. The contest was fierce, and resulted—Feilden 631; Hornby 574.

At the General Election in March, 1857, the borough was not contested; as Mr. Jonathan Peel of Knowlner, who had made overtures to the constituency, did not persevere in his candidature. The other candidates were Mr. Pilkington, the retiring Member, and Mr. William Henry Hornby, whose claims were now so generally admitted that he secured the seat, along with Mr. Pilkington, without a poll.

At the General Election of 1859 three candidates were presented to the constitu-

ency :—Mr. Pilkington, Liberal, and Mr. Hornby, Conservative, the retiring Members ; and Mr. John Patrick Murrrough of London, as an advanced Liberal. The poll, taken April 30th, resulted :—Hornby 832 ; Pilkington 750 ; Murrrough 567.

The next Election was on the dissolution in July, 1865. The retiring Members, Mr. Hornby and Mr. Pilkington, were candidates, and it was the disposition of influential persons of both parties to re-elect these gentlemen. But a section of the Liberal party opposed the arrangement, and nominated Mr. John Gerald Potter, of Mytton Hall. The Conservative Committee upon that nominated Mr. Joseph Feilden of Witton House, as its second candidate. The poll closed with the following result :—Hornby 1,053 ; Feilden 938 ; Pilkington 771 ; Potter 576. Two Conservatives were thus returned, and Mr. Pilkington, who had sat in Parliament eighteen years, was defeated. The constituency at this election, the last under the old £10 franchise, numbered 1,845 electors.

Consequent upon the Reform Act of 1867, the dissolution of Parliament in November, 1868, occurred. By the Boundary Act of 1868, the boundaries of the Parliamentary Borough of Blackburn, originally coincident with those of the township, were extended to include the suburban parts of Witton township lying between the Blakewater and the Darwen, and of Livesey as far south as the hamlets of Waterloo and Moorgate. The new franchise and this extension of limits combined, increased the number of electors to 9,708. The candidates nominated were the retiring Members, Mr. Wm. Henry Hornby and Mr. Joseph Feilden, Conservative, and Mr. John Gerald Potter and Mr. Montague Joseph Feilden, Liberal. The poll was taken on Tuesday, November 15th, 1868, and resulted in the re-election of the former Members. The numbers were—Hornby 4,907 ; J. Feilden 4,829 ; Potter 4,399 ; M. J. Feilden 4,164. A petition against the return was heard at the Town Hall, Blackburn, by Mr. Justice Willes, March 13-16, 1869, by whom the election was pronounced void on account of intimidation of voters by expulsion from several factories by partizan workmen.

At the extraordinary Election which followed upon the judgment, the Conservative Candidates were Mr. Edward Kenworthy Hornby and Mr. Henry Master Feilden, both sons of the former Members. The Liberal Candidates were Mr. John Gerald Potter and Mr. John Morley (editor of the "Fortnightly Review," and a native of Blackburn). The result of the polling, March 30th, was as follows :—Hornby 4,738 ; Feilden 4,697 ; Potter 3,964 ; Morley 3,804.

The last General Election transpired in January, 1874. The candidates in this borough were Mr. H. M. Feilden, Conservative (Mr. E. K. Hornby retiring) ; Mr. Daniel Thwaites, an independent candidate ultimately adopted by the Conservative Committee ; Mr. William Edward Briggs and Mr. Richard Shackleton, Liberals. The polling, on Thursday, February 5th, 1875, resulted in the return of Mr. Feilden and Mr. Briggs—the numbers being declared :—Feilden 5,532 ; Briggs 5,338 ; Thwaites 5,323 ; Shackleton 4,852. This was the first election in which the voting was taken by Ballot under the provisions of the Ballot Act of 1873.

Mr. H. M. Feilden, the senior Member, died September 5th, 1875, and for the vacancy thus caused in the representation, Mr. Daniel Thwaites again presented himself as a candidate. Mr. William Coddington (Mayor 1874-5), who appeared as a second Conservative Candidate, retired. Mr. John Tomlinson Hibbert (formerly Member for Oldham) was induced to contest the seat with Mr. Thwaites in the Liberal interest. The election took place on September 30th, 1875, and the numbers declared were :—Thwaites 5,792 ; Hibbert 4,832. Mr. Thwaites was thus returned. Number of Electors on the Roll, 11,709.

THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH.

The town of Blackburn possessed no local governing authority (beyond the town constable) prior to the appointment by statute, in 1803, of a body of twelve Police Commissioners, who were invested with the duty of paving, lighting, watching, and cleansing the town. These Commissioners had the power of selecting persons to fill vacancies on the Commission. The powers of the Police Commissioners were merged in those of the Blackburn Improvement Commissioners, appointed under a local Act of Parliament passed in 1847; and Mr. John Hargreaves, Clerk to the former, became Clerk to the latter body of Commissioners. William Hoole, Esq., was Chairman of the Improvement Commissioners. The Commissioners laid out the new Market Place, built the Market House, and published a code of Bye-Laws for the regulation of the town in sanitary respects. In 1854, the borough having been some time incorporated, the functions of the Improvement Commissioners were transferred to the Town Council, and the Commission was wound up.

By Petition dated Nov. 28th, 1850, the inhabitant landholders and ratepayers of the Parliamentary borough of Blackburn petitioned the Queen in Council for a Charter of Incorporation for the borough, setting forth that the "important, populous and increasing borough of Blackburn is without any efficient or responsible local government adequate to its necessities," and that the petitioners desired "the control of the municipal affairs of the said borough should be vested in a responsible local government." Compliant with the prayer of this Petition, the Queen in Council, by writ of Privy Seal, granted a Charter of Incorporation to the borough, which bears date the 28th August, 15th Victoria (1851)

The Charter, reciting the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Acts and the consideration of the Inhabitants' Petition, grants that the inhabitants of the said borough of Blackburn shall be for ever hereafter one body politic and corporate in deed, fact and name, to be called "The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Blackburn." The said body corporate to have, exercise, &c., all the acts, powers, authorities, immunities, and privileges held, enjoyed, &c., by the boroughs named in the schedules to the Act for regulating Municipal Corporations in England and Wales; that the said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses shall have a Common Seal and shall assume armorial bearings and devices; that the said Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses shall be able to purchase, take, and acquire lands, tenements, &c., to any value, situate within the borough, and other lands, tenements, &c., out of the borough not exceeding the sum of £5,000 by the year, to have and hold to them, their successors, for ever; that the Council of the said Borough shall consist of a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, and thirty-six Councillors, the first election of Councillors to be holden on Nov. 1st, 1851, and the first Aldermen with the first Mayor, to be elected on Nov. 10th; and the first election of auditors and assessors to be held on March 1st, 1852; that the said Borough be divided into six Wards, to be respectively called St. Mary's, St. John's, Trinity, Park, St. Peter's, and St. Paul's Wards, the boundaries whereof

are described ; that each of the six Wards shall return and have six Councillors ; that Thomas Croke Ainsworth, Esq., make out, on the 15th Sept., 1851, a Burgess Roll, to be completed on or before the 24th October ; and that William Hoole, Esq., act as returning officer at the first election of Councillors, Aldermen, Mayor, Auditors and Assessors.

The Seal of the Municipal Borough of Blackburn bears the arms of the borough, with the words "Seal of the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Blackburn, 1851." The Borough Arms, enrolled in the Herald's College in the same year, are :—"Argent : a fesse wavy sable, between three bees volant, proper ; on a chief, vert, a bugle horn stringed, argent, between two fusils, or." Crest :—"On a wreath of the colours, a shuttle, or ; thereon a dove, wings elevated, argent, and holding in its beak the thread of the shuttle, reflexed over the back, and an olive branch, proper." Motto :—"ARTE ET LABORE."

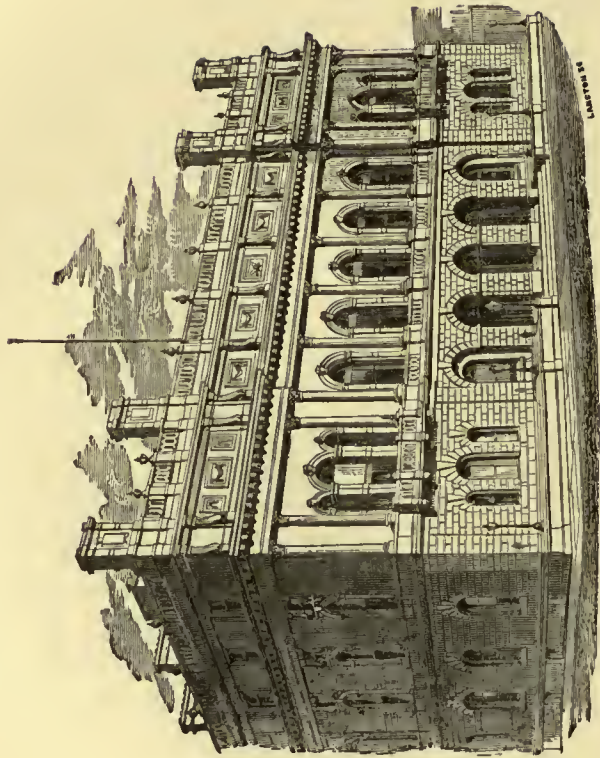
The first election of Councillors for the several wards of the newly-incorporated borough took place on the first of November, 1851. The Councillors elected were :—St. Mary's Ward :—John Polding, Oliver Roycastle, Leonard Wilkinson, James Boyle, Christopher Parkinson, Henry Briggs. St. John's Ward :—Thomas Hart, Benjamin Brierley, Thomas Dutton, William H. Cartwright, John Thwaites, Doctor W. Forrest. Trinity Ward :—Daniel Thwaites, William Kenworthy, James Forrest, William Yates, Richard Backhouse, John Rutherford. Park Ward :—William Pilkington, Robert Hopwood, junior, Henry Shaw, Thomas Dugdale, John Baynes, Thomas Bolton. St. Peter's Ward :—William Dickinson, Charles Boardman, Joseph Harrison, William Peel, John Ratcliffe, George Stones. St. Paul's Ward :—James Cunningham, John Railton, Robert Raynsford Jackson, James Pemberton, Miles Baron, George Dewhurst.

At the first meeting of the first Council, Nov. 10th, 1851, the Aldermen were elected :—To serve five years :—William Henry Hornby, Richard Martland, John Livesey, William Hoole, William Eccles, Thomas Thwaites, Esqrs. To serve two years :—James Pickup, Robert Hopwood, senr., William Sames, James Hartley, William Mosley Perfect, George Jackson, Esqrs.

William Henry Hornby, Esq., was chosen first Mayor of the Borough at the same meeting of the Council ; and on Thursday, March 25th, 1852, a rich and costly gold chain and civic badge was presented to Mr. Hornby as Mayor, bearing the inscription :—"Presented to William Henry Hornby, Esq., J.P., by a number of the Burgesses and other Inhabitants of Blackburn, as a memento of their esteem for him as a fellow-townsmen, and especially to mark their gratification at his having been chosen to serve as Mayor by the first Municipal Council for the Borough, to which he was elected on the 10th November, 1851."

MAYORS OF BLACKBURN 1851-1875.

1851-2.	William Henry Hornby, Esq.	1863-4.	Thomas Lund, Esq.
1852-3.	Robert Hopwood, junior, Esq.	1864-5.	William Stones, Esq.
1853-4.	} Thomas Dugdale, Esq.	1865-6.	James Thompson, Esq.
1854-5.		1866-7.	John Dean, Esq.
1855-6.	William Hoole, Esq.	1867-8.	} John Smith, Esq.
1856-7.	} William Pilkington, Esq.	1868-9.	
1857-8.		1869-70.	John Dean, Esq.
1858-9.	John Baynes, Esq.	1870-1.	Thomas Hartley Pickup, Esq.
1859-60.	James Cunningham, Esq.	1871-2.	Thomas Bury, Esq.
1860-1.	Thomas Thwaites, Esq.	1872-3.	John Thompson, Esq.
1861-2.	Robert Hopwood Hutchinson, Esq.	1873-4.	John Pickup, Esq.
1862-3.	James Barlow S. Sturdy, Esq.	1874-5.	William Coddington, Esq.



BLACKBURN TOWN HALL, WEST FRONT. [PAGE 377

The Town Council of Blackburn for 1874-5 was composed as follows :—William Coddington, Esq., Mayor. Aldermen :—John Pickop, R. H. Hutchinson, John Thompson, William Dickinson, John Ratcliffe, Roger Haworth, Thos. H. Pickup, Thomas Lewis, John Robinson, Thomas Bury, Robert Duckworth, Henry Duckworth. Councillors :—William Chambers, J. C. Fisher, W. H. Hornby, junior, Richard Shakeshaft, James Beads, Edward Dugdale; James Briggs, John Ingham, A. S. Bury, R. D. Coddington, Robert Parkinon, Joseph Eatough; Thos. Higson, T. Fletcher, John J. Thompson, Denis Towers, James Dickinson, George Duerden; Isaac Ward, R. H. Pemberton, W. Stuart, John Stones, Robert Parker, John Land; Eli Heyworth, W. Dixon, William Coddington, R. Alker, Wm. E. Briggs, Robert Whitaker; William Taylor, William Kay, C. H. Brindle, William Arthur, Henry Shaw, Thomas Brooks.

Town Clerks :—John Hargreaves, Esq. (1851-4); Thomas Ainsworth, Esq. (1854-9); Henry Saward, Esq. (1859-65); C. G. H. Beck, Esq. (1865-75); W. E. L. Gaine, Esq. (1875).

CORPORATION BUILDINGS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The TOWN HALL occupies a site of 3,832 square yards on the north side of the New Market Place. The corner-stone was laid Oct. 28th, 1852, by Joseph Feilden, Esq., lord of the manor, and the Hall was completed and opened Oct. 30th, 1856, by William Hoole, Esq., then Mayor. It is a large and handsome fabric in the classic style. The west front, 120ft. wide, with an elevation of 62ft., presents the main entrance in the centre, by three massive arched doorways. The front is emboldened by corinthian columns resting upon a rusticated basement; upholding a broad entablature surmounted by a perforated parapet. On the south front is a doric porch in the centre; and at the east end are the entrances to the Police Offices and Court yard of the prison of eighteen cells. The interior of the Hall comprises a noble Assembly Room, 114ft. by 50ft., with orchestra at north end, occupying the entire upper storey of the west frontage, above the vestibule and offices; on the south side on the same level a handsome Council Chamber and ante-room; two rooms of corresponding dimensions on the second storey of the south wing; offices and ante-rooms in the upper floors of the north wing; and, on the ground floor, the Borough Court, a second Court Room, Mayor's Parlour, offices for Town Clerk, Borough Treasurer, Borough Surveyor, and Collectors. At the rear are the Police Offices and Chief Constable's House. The cost of the Town Hall, inclusive of later additions and decoration, has exceeded £35,000. Architect, Mr. James Paterson; Contractors, Messrs. Richard Hacking and William Stones.

The MARKET HOUSE and MARKET PLACE were planned by the Improvement Commissioners in 1845; and the Market House was opened Jan. 28th, 1848, by the Chairman of the Commissioners, William Hoole, Esq. The building is in the early Italian style, and presents a frontage of three gables, with a campanile seventy-two feet high rising in the centre at the west end, and forming a main entrance. There are other entrances on each of the four frontages. The upper compartment of the tower contains a large illuminated clock. The interior is 186ft. 6in. long by 109ft. 6in. wide. The roof, in three spans, is supported intermediately by two rows of iron columns. Architect, Mr. T. Flanagan. Cost £8,000. Since the property was conveyed from the Improvement Commissioners to the Corporation in 1852, great enlargements have been made of the area of the Market Place by the removal of property on the south side that formed the Old Square, and a second Market House, at first designed for a Fish Market was built in 1870-2 at a cost of about £8,000. Altogether probably £40,000 have been expended in providing market accommodation

for the borough. The Blackburn Market for produce is now one of the best in Lancashire, and the market tolls now yield an annual revenue to the Corporation, paid by a lessee, of £4,500. Wednesday and Saturday are the Market Days, but the Market Houses are open daily.

The CORPORATION PARK is situate on the north-western side of the town, and extends from Preston New Road to the crest of Revidge Hill. The estate forming the Park was purchased by the Corporation from the lord of the manor, Joseph Feilden, Esq., in January, 1855; its extent is 50a. or. 18p., and the purchase-money, at the rate of £65 per acre, was £3,237 6s. 3d.; in addition to which the Corporation were required to construct public roads on the east and west sides of the estate, which was done at an expenditure of £4,480 17s. 1d. Towards the outlay in procuring the land for the Park, a sum of £4,701 19s. 7d. in the hands of the Overseers was applicable; this sum accrued from the sale, about the year 1845, of the remnant of the public recreation ground on the Town's Moor (set apart on the enclosure of Waste Lands in 1618), to the East Lancashire and Blackburn Railway Companies, with accumulated interest during the interval. The entire cost of the Park at the date of opening had been £14,701 19s. 1d., so that the balance of money borrowed on that account on security of the rates was £10,000. The Park was opened, with a public ceremony, by William Pilkington, Esq., Mayor, on October 22nd, 1857. The whole population of the borough, as well as some thousands of visitors, took part in the demonstration. The natural picturesqueness of the wooded dingle and rugged hill slope forming the site of the Park has been greatly enhanced by artificial means, such as the planting of shrubberies and groves of young trees, the introduction in the hollows of fountains of elegant design, the conversion of the former reservoirs into ornamental lakes, the construction of terraces, and the erection of a battery for cannon (trophies of the Crimean War) on the top of the hill. The floral features of the Park have been made very attractive. The principal entrance to the Park from Preston New Road is under a handsome arcuated gateway, having a large central archway for carriages, and smaller side arches for the footways, flanked by lodges; above the entablature on both faces the borough arms appear sculptured in stone, with crest surmounting. In the gateway are inserted two tablets, recording that:—"This Park was publicly opened on the 22nd day of October, 1857, during the mayoralty of William Pilkington, Esq., by whose munificence the four ornamental Fountains were presented to the Borough;" and that "The adjoining 50 acres of land were purchased for a Public Park, and the erection of these gates and porter's lodge was commenced during the mayoralty of Thomas Dugdale, Esq., in the year 1854-5." Two other entrance-gates to the Park, with porters' lodges, are erected at the upper sides to give access from the boundary roads. During the Cotton Famine, in 1863-4, some hundreds of operatives were found employment in the improvement of the scarped slope of the hill within the Park and the construction of a carriage-drive to the summit. About the year 1867 the Red Rake Farm on Revidge, of 12 statute acres, was purchased by the Corporation for £1,200 with the intent of adding this land at some future date to the enclosure of the Corporation Park.

THE PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

The Blackburn Public Free Library and Museum were established under the provisions of the Public Free Libraries Act of 1850. They originated in a vote of the Blackburn Town Council, on the motion of Councillor Thomas Clough, August 11th, 1853, followed by an almost unanimous resolution of the Burgesses assembled in public meeting, Sept. 13th, 1853, to adopt the Act. After a period of abeyance, the Town Council took the first steps in the formation of a Free Library in 1859, during the



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mayoralty of John Baynes, Esq. A Free Library Committee was appointed by the Council March 1st, 1860, by whom Mr. W. A. Abram was appointed Librarian (resigned 1867). A Town's Meeting to inaugurate a public subscription towards a fund for the purchase of books was held in the Town Hall, August 23rd, 1860, presided over by the Mayor, James Cunningham, Esq. The principal donors of money and books were the two Mayors above-named (Mr. Baynes and Mr. Cunningham); James Pilkington, Esq., then M.P. for the borough; Joseph Feilden, Esq.; John Tattersall, Esq.; James Heywood, Esq., F.R.S. The working-classes subscribed, in a separate fund, a sum of £400. On the 17th of February, 1862, the Library was opened, in the large rooms in the second storey of the south wing of the Town Hall, with a collection of 6,817 volumes, and a printed Catalogue was at the same time issued. The issues of books in the first year numbered 38,464 volumes. In March, 1862, a rate of one halfpenny in the pound upon the assessment of the township was voted by the Town Council for the maintenance of the Library. In 1871, the rate was increased to one of a penny in the pound. The Library was removed from the Town Hall to premises in Town Hall street in 1864. In December, 1870, the Library Committee resolved, with the sanction of the Council, to proceed in the provision of a permanent building for the Library and Museum; and in 1871, a site was purchased on Richmond Terrace, for £1,120, subject to an annual ground rent charge of £12 18s. A competition of architects for a design for the proposed fabric was invited, and 38 designs were exhibited. The Committee, aided by an eminent architect, selected for adoption the design of Messrs. Woodzell and Colcutt, of London. The corner-stone of the Library building was laid on the 18th of July, 1872, by Thomas Bury, Esq., Mayor, and the edifice was opened on the 11th of June, 1874, by the Mayor, John Pickop, Esq., who at the same time opened an Exhibition of Works of Art and Industry. The Exhibition remained open about three months, and resulted in a balance of £1,066 to be expended on the purchase of books and objects for the Library and Museum. The cost of the building for the Library, including fixtures, was about £10,000. The Library now (1875) contains more than 20,000 volumes, in distinct Reference and Lending Libraries; and the Museum contains interesting collections in natural history and a valuable series of fossils and mineral specimens collected and presented by James Eccles, Esq. Mr. D. Geddes is present Librarian. A second catalogue of the Library was printed in 1872. The income of the Library from the rate is now about £1,000.

The new Library and Museum Building is a fine edifice in the early decorated gothic style, with imposing frontages to Frances street and Richmond Terrace. The main entrance in the centre of the Frances street front is a recessed arch protected above by a corbelled-out canopy decorated with carvings and the Borough arms flanked by the arms of the ancient manorial lords (De Blackburn), and of the present lord (Feilden of Witton). On each side of the entrance is one single and one double-light window. On the first floor are five triple-light windows, three of them with pointed and pierced quatrefoil heads. On the Richmond Terrace front are in each storey six windows corresponding to those on the other front. At each corner of the building is a gable set at some distance inside the parapets, and having open tracery for ventilation. The external walls are of Bradford pierre-points with Longridge stone dressings; and with three tiers of carved string courses in Warwick stone. Under seven of the first-floor windows on the two chief fronts are panels, each ten feet long and four feet high, finished with sculpture by Mr. Seale of London. Of the three panels on the west front, the centre group of sculpture, representing "Literature," was charged in the building contract; the left group, representing "Art," was given by James Thompson, Esq., chairman of the Free Library Committee; and the right

group, "Science," by members of the Committee. On the Richmond Terrace front the first panel of sculpture, "Agriculture," was given by the late H. M. Feilden, Esq., M.P., lord of the Manor; the second, "Iron Manufactures," given by W. E. Briggs, Esq., M.P. for Blackburn; the third, "Cotton Manufactures," given by John Fish, Esq., Cotton Spinner, of Waterfall Mills, Livesey; and the fourth, "Commerce," given by John, Edward, and Joseph Dugdale, Esqrs., Machinists and Cotton Spinners, of Blackburn. In the interior of the building, a spacious vestibule leads to the hall and staircase, lighted from the top by a large lantern light; on the right of the entrance hall is the Lending Library, and on the left is the Reference Library, for 80 readers, having an arcade of columns, with carved caps, the whole length of the room; two students' reading rooms are at the west end of the Reference Library; and on the right of the entrance is a ladies' reading room. The librarian's room is placed opposite the entrance to the hall, which it commands, and communicates with both libraries. By a staircase of stone the first floor is reached, which contains three spacious rooms, the whole of which will be devoted to museum or picture gallery. The Libraries are designed to hold 60,000 volumes. Contractors, Messrs. Marshall and Dent.

The Library and Museum are managed by a Committee, a proportion of the members of which are not members of the Town Council. In 1875, the Committee was constituted thus:—Chairman, James Thompson, Esq.; the Mayor, William Coddington, Esq.; Aldermen Lewis, John Pickop, Thompson, Ratcliffe; Councillors Lund, Ward, James Briggs, W. E. Briggs, Arthur, Parker, Bury, Ingham, Whittaker, Heyworth, Chambers; Rev. A. B. Grosart; Dr. Skaife; Messrs. Thomas Clough, William Gourlay, Joseph Brierley, W. A. Abram, W. L. Constantine, John Brandwood, and R. C. Pilling.

The PUBLIC BATHS, on a site adjoining St. Peter's Churchyard, were provided by the Corporation, at the expenditure of £3,500, and were opened July 11th, 1868, during the mayoralty of Mr. John Smith. The building is of brick with stone dressings; the internal arrangement includes a large swimming bath, 60ft. by 33ft., and 40 private baths for both sexes, for the use of which a small fee is paid.

CORPORATION WORKS, &c.

The SEWAGE WORKS of the borough have been carried out at a vast expenditure of money, and are still incomplete. The system of public sewers, which consists of main sewers more than 30 miles in length collectively, was constructed at a cost of about £90,000. On the bank of the Blakewater at Wensley Fold, on the south-west border of the town, the sewage-outlet works consist of five tanks for settlement of sewerage, store shed, &c., and cost £10,000. Under the obligation to keep the discharge of the sewer out of the river, the Corporation proceeded to construct a culvert three miles long from the outlet, through portions of Witton, Livesey, and Pleasington, to Hoghton Bottoms, where lands have been leased from Sir Henry de Hoghton for sewage-irrigation, and a sewage farm has been laid out and cultivated. More land being needed for irrigation purposes, the Corporation obtained powers to acquire a portion of the estate in Samlesbury of Edward Petre, Esq., and the price of an estate of 374 acres was fixed by arbitration in 1875 at £44,800. Other parcels of the same estate have been purchased at public sale; and it is intended to construct an extension of the culvert conveying the sewage from Hoghton to Samlesbury. The Corporation's outlay in the necessary works for the disposal of the town's sewage has already exceeded £100,000, beyond the cost of main sewers and original outlet works.

Other Corporate Properties are the Fire Engine Station in Clayton-street, built to accommodate six engines with house for Superintendent of Fire Brigade; the



FREE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM, BLACKBURN. [PAGE 380

Islington store yard, covering 10,000 square yards of ground, with store, sheds, stables, and offices, and other store yards at Daisyfield and Canal Dock.

The BLACKBURN GAS WORKS, established in 1819, are still the property of a private company. The original works are in Darwen-street, with branches near Wensley-feld and in Grimshaw Park Road.

BLACKBURN WATER WORKS.—The first public supply of water to the town, beyond the ancient wells, was from two small reservoirs in Pemberton Clough, now converted into ornamental lakes in the Corporation Park. The Blackburn Water Works Company was formed in 1844; obtained its first Act in 1845, and in 1848 began to supply water to the town. The Company has obtained other Acts, extending its borrowing powers and enabling it to acquire fresh water-rights, in 1861 and 1875. The original series of reservoirs situate on the hills on the south side of the town, between Whinney Heights and Pickup Bank, were constructed to hold 100,000,000 gallons of water. A larger reservoir, to hold 360,000,000 gallons, at Fish-moor in Lower Darwen, was completed in 1866. The expended capital of the Company amounted to £180,000 in the middle of 1875, when the Works were conveyed to the Blackburn Corporation on the terms of a guaranteed dividend to the shareholders of 9 per cent. for five years, and after of 9½ per cent. per annum in perpetuity. The average rainfall at Blackburn is about 39 to 40 inches.

POOR LAW UNION AND BURIAL BOARD.

The BLACKBURN POOR LAW UNION was formed in 1836, and the Board of Guardians for the Union met for the first time on Jan. 21st, 1837. John Lister, Esq., was elected Chairman. Mr. Peter Ellingthorpe was appointed Clerk, and held that office until his death in 1875. The old Workhouse, on the skirt of the Town's Moor, dated from 1764. In 1841, the Overseers of the township obtained power from Parliament to let the public land of the Town's Moor for building-sites. The New Union Workhouse, erected on the summit of the ridge on the south-east border of the town, at a cost of £30,000, was commenced in 1861, and opened April 2nd, 1864. It is an extensive group of structures, built of stone, and is designed to accommodate 700 inmates. The site, of 30 acres, was purchased for £96 13s. 4d. per acre from Mr. Feilden. Richard Eccles, Esq., present Chairman of the Board of Guardians, has filled that office since the year 1844. Thomas Clough, Esq., is Vice-Chairman. This Poor Law Union embraces all the townships in Blackburn Parish excepting those of Samlesbury, Cuerdale, and Walton-in-le-Dale at the western extremity, and, as well, the townships of Clayton-le-Moors, Church-Kirk, and Oswaldtwistle in the parish of Whalley. The offices of the Board and Overseers for Blackburn are in King street (the house formerly the residence of the Cardwell family), to which a new wing was added in 1874. Mr. Thomas Brennand is now Clerk to the Board. Assistant Overseer for the township, Mr. John Clough.

The BLACKBURN BURIAL BOARD was formed in 1854, and purchased portion of the estate of Bank Hey, in Little Harwood, abutting on the Whalley Road, north of the town, consisting of 119 acres of land, and of which 74a. 2r. 6½p. were sold by the Board, leaving about 45 acres to be appropriated for a public Cemetery. The cost of the land, with enclosing walls, three mortuary chapels, and of laying out as a cemetery, was £19,000. This sum, borrowed on mortgage of the Poor's Rate, has been nearly liquidated by a sinking fund. The Cemetery was opened July 1st, 1857. The annual revenue of the Burial Board from Burial Fees is more than £1,600, and the number of interments annually has reached about 2,500. Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., is Clerk to the Burial Board.

BLACKBURN DISPENSARY AND INFIRMARY.

In the year 1823, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the office of surgeon of the old Parochial Infirmary, a project was mooted to found a public Dispensary to combine, with medical service to the pauper class, relief to the indigent not being paupers in time of sickness. A meeting of promoters was held at the Sessions Room, Dec. 19th, 1823, when a Committee was appointed to draw up rules, collect subscriptions, and propose terms to the select vestry for attendance upon sick paupers. The Committee consisted of the Vicar (Rev. J. W. Whitaker), and Mr. John Hornby, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. J. F. Hindle, Mr. John Cunliffe, Mr. Dixon Robinson, and Mr. Silvester Fraser. The Committee proposed to the Overseers and Select Vestry to perform the duties of the Parochial Dispensary for one year for £250, but at a General Town's Meeting, held Dec. 26th, 1823, it was decided to allow £225 for this service. This offer was accepted by the Committee. On the 1st of January, 1824, the first meeting of Governors was held; donors of ten guineas with an annual subscription of one guinea, and yearly subscribers of two guineas, being entitled governors. At a second meeting on January 22nd, Mr. John Fleming reported that he had treated as ordered for a building at No. 56, King-street, for which he had agreed to pay a yearly rental of £38. At the same meeting Dr. Markland was appointed superintendent physician, Messrs. James Bailey and John Cook superintendent surgeons, and Mr. John Skaife surgeon apothecary to the Dispensary with house attached, at a salary of £120 per annum. These gentlemen were appointed trustees:—Rev. J. W. Whitaker; Messrs. John Hornby, John Hargreaves, Dixon Robinson, and John Cunliffe. Auditors:—Messrs. William Hoole and John Foster. Treasurer, Mr. James Cunliffe.

The Dispensary was opened on Feb. 1st, 1824. The patients treated during the first year numbered 1,513. At the first annual meeting, Jan. 3rd, 1825, a fund for the erection of a permanent building was advanced to £650; Messrs. John Hornby, Joseph Feilden, William Feilden, John Lister, and Richard Cardwell were among the best contributors. An address to the public, issued by the Governors, urges the need for the erection in the town of a General Infirmary for the Hundred of Blackburn. At the next annual meeting, Jan. 5th, 1826, the subject of an Infirmary was again put forward, and a committee was named to obtain subscriptions for that object. Nine gentlemen promised an aggregate sum of £2,150 to the Infirmary fund, as follows:—Joseph Feilden, Esq., £500; John Hornby, Esq., £300; William Feilden, Esq., £300; Henry Sudell, Esq., £300; Adam Cottam, Esq., £200; John Lister, Esq., £150; John Turner, Esq., £150; John Fleming, Esq., £150; James Cunliffe, Esq., £100. But the depression in trade and popular distress in that year (1826) arrested the project; and in 1827 and 1828 the design was still in suspension. In 1829 the Governors' address to the public recalled the purpose cherished from the first of eventually founding a general Infirmary, and it was reported that the permanent fund amounted to £1,250; that £2,150 had been subscribed to be paid whenever required for the erection of an Infirmary; and that this aggregate of £3,400 was sufficient to

warrant a prompt commencement to erect a building for the accommodation of 52 patients, at an estimated cost of £4,221 13s. Still, however, the scheme flagged, and from this date the public interest in the proposal declined, while even the subscriptions to the current fund of the Dispensary suffered decrease. Again in 1834, when the permanent fund had reached £1,723 4s. 11d., a committee was appointed to obtain donations towards a new building, but once more the effort failed. At length, in 1838, on the passing of the Poor Law, the grant by the Overseers to the Dispensary being withdrawn, and the subscriptions having fallen low, the Governors resolved to close the Dispensary, after a useful existence of fifteen years. The permanent fund, about £1,500, was invested by the trustees, and twenty years later, when the Infirmary Scheme was at length revived and successfully launched, this Dispensary fund had increased by accumulated interest to about £3,000, which were paid over by the surviving trustees, Mr. Dixon Robinson and Mr. John Hargreaves, to the endowment fund of the Infirmary.

The revival of the project of a local Infirmary was due to William Pilkington, Esq., of Wilpshire Grange, an Alderman of the borough, who, on his election as Mayor on Nov. 10th, 1856, offered £2,000 towards a fund for the erection of an Infirmary, and £100 per annum to an endowment fund. In support of the proposal, a public Meeting was held in the Town Hall on the 30th of December following, at which further donations to the sum of £3,000 were promised, and £100 to the endowment. A Committee nominated for the purpose selected after much inquiry a site on the Hollin Bank estate belonging to Joseph Feilden, Esq., lord of the manor. The site, eight acres in extent, was conveyed in October, 1857, and of the purchase money, Mr. Feilden, the vendor, returned the moiety (£1,600) as a donation in addition to a first donation of £500, and £20 annually to the endowment. Plans for an Infirmary building were meantime obtained, the selected design, out of 73 exhibited in competition, being that of Mr. James Turnbull of Manchester. The corner-stone of the structure was laid by Mr. William Pilkington (who had been re-elected Mayor in November, 1857), on Whit-Monday (May 24th, 1858), when a Public Procession to the site heralded the ceremony. The stone was laid with Masonic formalities. Afterwards there was a balloon ascent and other festivities. At the date of these proceedings the building fund amounted to £14,000, including £9,241 in donations, £1,127 from a working-class subscription, and £1,419, half the proceeds of a bazaar. The endowment fund then stood at about £5,000, which included £3,000 from the Dispensary Trust, and £1,419 from the bazaar proceeds. The Infirmary fabric was completed and partially used during the Cotton Famine. The entire cost of building and site was about £25,000. A fresh subscription to reduce a debt on the building, in 1866, was headed by Mr. William Pilkington with £1,000. The institution, which is styled the "Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary," is now (1875) entirely free from

debt; and the report for 1874 returns 620 in-patients and 1,258 out-patients treated within the year; and an average of 43 patients housed in the Infirmary. The investments for endowment amount to £17,800. The revenue for 1874 was £4,162, and the chief items were, subscriptions £780; donations £805; church and chapel collections £485; Collections at Mills and Workshops £1,695; and £784 from invested funds. Besides Mr. William Pilkington and Mr. Joseph Feilden, the Infirmary has been handsomely aided by most of the chief gentry and merchants of the district.

The Infirmary stands upon an eminent site in the south suburb of the town, and is surrounded by extensive gardens and shrubberies. In plan the building consists of separate blocks, two floors in height, placed alternately, at intervals of 20 feet, on opposite sides of a principal corridor. Thus a series of quadrangles is obtained, each quadrangle 60ft. wide. The blocks extend 47 feet at right angles to the main corridor, and contain on each floor a ward of eight beds, with five windows on each external side wall. Above the windows are placed permanent ventilating openings. Opposite the wards, projecting 14ft. on the other side of the corridor, are dining and sitting rooms for convalescents. The centre block of the building, 32ft. wide, contains in the basement the general kitchens, &c. On the ground floor is the principal entrance hall; in the projecting wings, right and left, are the board room, secretary's room, house surgeon's and matron's rooms, &c. Behind the entrance hall are the waiting room, dispensary, consulting room, accident room, &c. On the first floor of the range in front is the chapel, and on each side a balcony 20ft. long, for the use of patients able to take exercise in the open air. Other rooms on the upper storey include the operating room, lighted from the roof, and various chambers. The front of the middle block is elevated an additional storey, containing the servants' dormitories.

BLACKBURN EXCHANGE.—A considerable trade in cotton yarn has existed about forty years between Blackburn, as a centre of the weaving branch of the calico manufacture, and Manchester and other towns in South Lancashire in which spinning is the larger industry. A weekly yarn market to facilitate this local trade was established, which is held on the Wednesday afternoon. The place of meeting formerly was the Old Bull Inn. About the year 1851, a project for a public Exchange was published; it was then proposed to build an Exchange at the Old Market Cross, now the site of the new bank of Messrs. Cunliffe, Brooks and Co., and a design for the edifice was prepared. This scheme subsided; but on the opening of the Town Hall the Wednesday 'Change was held in the vestibule of the Hall, and rooms allotted for an Exchange News Room in the south wing. In 1860, a Company was formed to provide the necessary capital for building an Exchange. Plans for the proposed structure were displayed in competition in 1862, and the design of Mr. Brakspear, a Manchester architect, was selected for adoption. The corner-stone of the Exchange was laid on March 10th, 1863 (the marriage-day of the Prince of Wales), and the edifice was opened in April, 1865. It was designed to consist of two separate blocks, one fronting the Town Hall and the other in King William-street, connected by a tower at the angle of the frontage; but one wing only has yet been erected. The architecture is Gothic of the fourteenth century. The completed portion comprises a large hall, with ante-rooms; a range of offices on the basement floor; and two storeys of an octagonal tower, forming the principal entrance, having two external doorways consisting of pointed arches, recessed and gabled, with tracery heads, approached by flights of steps.

The interior of the tower is a handsome octagonal hall, opening into the Assembly Room and the News Room, with groined roof, and large traceried windows of three lights above the porches. The upper storey and the domed roof of the design for the tower have not been added. The exterior of the main structure presents a series of projecting bays, the dividing walls buttressed; and the front is lighted with large mullioned, transomed, and tracery-headed windows. The parapet is embattled, and above the buttresses rise bold pinnacles. A private entrance at the west end of the front is under a neat recessed arched doorway. The west wall is pierced for a beautiful wheel window of stained glass. The interior of the Exchange Room, 140ft. by 53ft., is separated into nave and aisles by arches supported by fluted columns of iron; the nave has an elaborate open timber roof of good design; the aisle roofs are panelled in pitch pine, with carved bosses. A fixed platform at the west end is provided for use at public meetings and as an orchestra for concerts. The cost of the parts of the Exchange buildings yet erected was about £9,000. 'Change hours are from 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.

CLUBS OF BLACKBURN.

BLACKBURN SUBSCRIPTION BOWLING CLUB existed so long ago as 1734, and most of the Blackburn gentry from that date onward have been members. The old Bowling Green of the Club was at the foot of the slope at Cicely Hole, and was removed about 1844, when that land was taken as part of the site of the railway-station. The Green near the Grammar School was then formed; and again in 1869 the Club removed to a new Green constructed for its use in Shear Bank Road. The number of members in 1734 was 18, and is now limited to 100.

The UNION CLUB is an association of gentlemen formed about 1849. Its news-room, billiard-room, and other rooms occupy the central part of a large house in Church-street, originally built for a town residence by Henry Sudell, Esq., about eighty years ago, but recently altered, refronted, and the side portions converted into shops.

The REFORM CLUB was set on foot about 1861, and in May, 1864, the erection was commenced of the present Club House in Victoria-street, New Market-place. It is a stone edifice with a lofty Italian front. The cost of the club-house and shops on the wings included in the design exceeded £5,000. The ground floor and basement of the building are used as business premises; the entrance to the club-rooms is by a handsome hall and staircase. On the first floor is the news-room, and on the upper storey a spacious and lofty billiard room; in the rear are minor rooms and offices. The Club is composed of gentlemen of Liberal politics.

The CONSERVATIVE CLUB was organised in the year 1864, and in June of the same year the premises in King William-street, which had been leased and adapted as a commodious Club-house, were opened. The Club-rooms include a news-room, billiard-room, and several other rooms for various uses connected with the accommodation and recreation of the members. The club is frequented by a large number of members of the Conservative party in the borough.

The COUNTY CLUB is an association of gentlemen recently formed. Its Club-rooms are in New Market-street.

The LITERARY CLUB, started in 1863, occupies a suite of rooms built for Club purposes in Cort-street.

The CATHOLIC CLUB, Astley Gate, was established several years ago.

The COUNTY COURT is held in a substantial building of brick and stone, erected in 1861-2 for Court Room and Registrar's Offices. Cost £3,000. The Court Day is Monday in each week. The jurisdiction of the Court covers the townships included in

the Blackburn Poor Law Union. W. A. Hulton, Esq., is the presiding Judge. About 5,000 plaints are heard annually in this Court. John Bolton, Esq., is Registrar of the Court.

The COUNTY POLICE COURT was held in the smaller Court Room of the Town Hall until August, 1873, when the new Court-house and Offices for the County Constabulary were completed and opened. The building is situate in King-street; it has an effective frontage with entrance-archway in the centre; the style is Venetian Gothic; the walls are of red brick with stone dressings. The internal planning includes a Court-room 48ft. by 40ft., magistrates' room, charge room, store room, weights and measures' office, police waiting rooms, lock-up cells, &c. Mr. W. S. Varley was the architect. The cost of the fabric was about £4,000.

BLACKBURN SAVINGS BANK was established in 1831. The present building for this Bank, situate opposite Corporation-street, was erected about ten years ago. The accounts of the Savings Bank for 1874 exhibit the sum of £226,204 10s. 7d. due to 6,501 depositors; and the Bank's assets are stated to be £230,169 2s. 1d.

BLACKBURN PHILANTHROPIC BURIAL SOCIETY, formed in 1839, has about 140,000 contributing members, in Blackburn, Darwen, Accrington, and the intermediate villages. Its yearly income reaches about £14,000.

FAMILIES OF MERCHANTS AND MODERN GENTRY.

Brief sketches are given below of a number of families whose members have been foremost in the affairs of the town, or in the development of the local trade, during the last and the present century; or have attained to social or political eminence within the same period.

AINSWORTH OF BLACKBURN.

John Ainsworth, gent., a member of the Feniscowles branch of the territorial family of Ainsworth of Pleasington Hall and Feniscowles, built the house in King-street, Blackburn, now the King's Head Inn. He married Miss Ellen Ainsworth, by whom he had issue a son Thomas.

Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., of Blackburn, attorney-at-law, married Jennett, daughter of Thomas Haworth of Revidge Fold, Blackburn, yeoman, and had issue, sons, John; Thomas; William-Haworth, died in infancy; and a second William; also daughters, Susannah, Ellen, and Anne. Mr. Ainsworth died, aged 77, January 8th, 1846.

John Ainsworth, Esq., eldest son, died unmarried, June 2nd, 1830, aged 26 years.

Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., of King-street and Revidge Fold, Blackburn, attorney-at-law, born May 2nd, 1808, is the living chief representative of this branch of Ainsworths. He is unmarried. Mr. Ainsworth holds the public appointments of Clerk to the County Magistrates for the Lower Division of the Hundred of Blackburn and the Accrington Petty Session Division, and of Clerk to the Blackburn Burial Board. He was second Town Clerk of the Borough, from 1854 to 1859, when he resigned that office; and was Law Clerk to the Blackburn Water Works Company to the time these works were disposed of to the Corporation of Blackburn, and for many years Law Clerk and Treasurer to the Governors of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn; and during the period above named was, and still is, a Governor of that institution. He also took a very active part in the formation and completion of the Blackburn Infirmary, and was legal adviser to the Committee for building and raising subscriptions for that institution.

William Ainsworth, Esq., brother of the above, died January 4th, 1848, aged 38. By his wife, Helena Dalrymple, daughter of John Pickup, Esq., of Galligreaves,

Blackburn, he had sons, John Pickup; and Thomas William, of Houghton Bank; and daughters Helena Dalrymple and Jessie Jennett.

ARMISTEAD OF COB WALL HOUSE.

Mr. Fisher Armistead, cotton manufacturer, of Blackburn, died unmarried August 17th, 1841, aged 39. His brother—

Mr. Thomas Armistead, of Blackburn, born in 1799, died April 7th, 1833, aged 34 years. He married Betsy, daughter of Mr. John Fish, and had issue, sons, James Fisher Armistead; and Walter, who died, aged 3, April 7th, 1833.

James Fisher Armistead, Esq., J.P., of Cob Wall House, Blackburn, born in 1827, married, in 1851, Miss Emily Wingfield, and has issue five daughters, Florence Alice; Lucy Maud Mary (married, September 9th, 1875, Mr. James Bullough, eldest son of Adam Bullough, Esq., of Blackburn); Blanche, Kate, and Theresa.

ASHBURNER OF BLACKBURN.

An elaborate pedigree of the Lancashire Ashburners, compiled and privately printed by Mr. T. Helsby, supplies particulars of those members settled at Blackburn. Several generations of the family held an estate near Dalton in Furness. Robert Ashburner, son of Francis Ashburner, of Paddock Hall, near Dalton, gent., had property at Lindal, near Dalton. He was a Sea Captain, and was lost at sea and buried at Dalton. He had sons, Robert, and John, the latter lived at Ulverston.

Robert Ashburner, of Blackburn, gent., who practised as an attorney-at-law, was son of Robert of Lindal, born in 1754. By his wife Peggy, daughter of Rev. Mr. Wilson, vicar of Milnthorp and incumbent of Tockholes, he had sons, John, born Nov. 27th, 1786, and died abroad without issue; Robert, heir to Lindal estate, which he sold, and died unmarried in 1832; William, noticed below; James, also again noticed below; and Francis, died in 1813, aged 30, without issue; and two daughters Ann, the first dying in 1803; the second, an infant, in 1813. Mr. Helsby states concerning the father:—"This Robert succeeded to a good estate in Lindal; he left property valued from £150,000 to £200,000, but two of his sons ran through the most of it, one curious habit being the occasional lighting of their cigars with £10 and £20 notes." Robert Ashburner died at Blackburn in 1798. His widow died in 1803.

William Ashburner of Blackburn, gent., died in Blackburn, about 1818, aged 27, and was buried at St. John's Church. By his wife Nancy, daughter of Mr. John Hall, of Blackburn (she died in 1836), he left an only daughter and heiress, Margaret Ashburner, who married, in 1834, John Morrell France, of Yorkshire, gent., and has issue.

James Ashburner of Blackburn, gent., brother of William, died unmarried in 1824, aged 29, leaving his estate to Mr. Walmesley Stanley, of Liverpool, in trust for his niece, Miss Margaret Ashburner.

BALDWIN OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. William Baldwin, living at Blackburn in 1706, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1715. By Mary, his wife, he had sons, Hugh, baptized Feb. 6th, 1706-7; and John, baptized April 6th, 1709; with a daughter Esther, married, Dec. 18th, 1722, to Mr. William Whalley, of Liverpool. "Mrs. Mary Baldwin of Blackburn" was buried Jan. 23rd, 1709-10. "William Baldwin of Blackburn, gent.," died in May, 1750. Mr. William Baldwin was joint purchaser with Mr. Henry Feilden and Mr. William Sudell, in the year 1721, of the Manor of Blackburn, which eventually was entirely vested by purchase in the Feilden family.

Hugh Baldwin of Blackburn, gent., eldest son of William, was elected Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1729. He married, at Walton Church, Oct. 28th, 1729, Mary Herbert of Eccleston. Mr. Hugh Baldwin died in January, 1736-7. His widow, Mary Baldwin, married, secondly, Rev. Thomas Hunter, clerk (Feb. 28th, 1738), and died March 10th, 1782, aged 71.

"William Baldwin, gent.," of Blackburn (maybe a brother of Hugh), married, Jan. 7th, 1738-9, Rose Kenyon of Blackburn.

BARON OF KNUZDEN AND LARKHILL.

James Baron of Stanhill occurs in 1636; Ralph Baron of Knuzden in 1644; and John Baron of Duckworth in 1644, when William, his son, was baptized.

William Baron of Roegreave, Oswaldtwistle, had issue sons, Christopher, born about 1660, and George, died in 1687. William Baron the father died Feb., 1704-5.

Christopher Baron, gent., purchased the manor of Oswaldtwistle in 1722; he was then seated at Knuzden Hall. "Mr. Christopher Baron of Knuzden" was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1708. He died in 1733, aged 72, and was buried at Church-Kirk. He had married, at Church-Kirk, July 25th, 1711, Ann Bayley, of Darwen (who died, aged 68, Nov., 1754), and had issue, sons, William, born in 1712, died in April, 1723, aged 11; Henry, bapt. July 1st, 1713; Christopher, bapt. Sept. 11th, 1714; and George, bapt. Sept. 27th, 1717; and daughters, Ann, born 1715, died 1716; Alice, born 1720, died 1758; Margery, born 1721, died 1723; a second Ann, born 1723, died 1767, aged 44; and Ellen, born 1725.

Henry Baron of Knuzden Hall and Blackburn, Esq., eldest surviving son and heir of Christopher, married Ellen, daughter of Thomas Whitaker, of Symonstone, Esq. (she died Jan. 6th, 1784, aged 68), and had issue, sons, Christopher, born in 1737; Thomas, born in 1741; and Henry, died in infancy in 1748. Henry Baron, Esq., was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1733; and died, aged 54, March 26th, 1767. In 1757 Mr. Henry Baron had acquired the Highercroft estate and other lands in Lower Darwen as legatee of Richard Haworth, of Th'urcroft, gent.

The second son of Henry Baron, Esq., was Thomas Baron, Esq., of Knuzden Hall and Blackburn, who by Catherine his wife (she died Aug. 15th, 1802, aged 49), had issue four daughters, Ellen, died at Brighton, April 19th, 1862, aged 83; Eliza, married, Feb. 21st, 1811, Lieut. John Parsons Hoey, had issue a son Henry, and died at Brighton, Feb. 16th, 1866, aged 82; Alice, died, aged 20, in 1803; and Mary, died at Lisbon, Sept. 10th, 1819. Thomas Baron, Esq., died Nov. 28th, 1801, aged 60, and was buried in Church-Kirk Church.

Christopher Baron, Esq., elder brother of Thomas and son and heir of Henry, was sometime Officer of Excise in Blackburn; he built, in 1762, the mansion called Larkhill House in the town, on a wall of which are the initials "C B A," and date "1762." Mr. Christopher Baron was a Governor of the Grammar School. He married, first, May 23rd, 1759, Miss Sarah folds, and had a son Christopher, born 1761, died young. By his second wife Anne (she died Sept., 1765), he had issue a son Roger, bapt. Jan. 6th, 1762; and a daughter Ellen, born in 1764. Christopher Baron, Esq., died, aged 29, in 1766, buried at Church-Kirk, April 27th. In July, 1766, were publicly sold part of the estates of the deceased gentleman, including the following:—Larkhill, Blackburn, houses and 4½ acres of land; Oakenhurst farm in Lower Darwen, 30 acres; Aspden's farm, Lower Darwen, 12 acres; Pomfret's farm, Lower Darwen, 8 acres; Arcroft (Highercroft) estate, Lower Darwen, 56½ acres; Pole Farm, Over Darwen, 6 acres; Ellison Fold farm, Over Darwen, 67 acres. The Oswaldtwistle estate passed to his son Roger.

Roger Baron, Esq., of Blackburn and Cabin End, surviving son and heir of Christopher, married Nov. 3rd, 1783, Ellen, daughter of Mr. Thomas Smalley, of Blackburn (she died in 1784), and by her had issue a son Henry, died young in 1791; and daughters, Ellen and Anne. The first, Ellen, married, Oct. 2nd, 1811, Mr. William Haydock, of Blackburn (had issue daughters, Mary, married, first, Mr. Hugh Clitheroe; secondly, Mr. Knowles; thirdly, Mr. John Clayton, and had issue a daughter by each of the first marriages and a son by the third; and Anne Ellen, married, Feb. 8th, 1844, Richard Greenwood, son of Mr. W. H. Greenwood, and left issue). Roger Baron, Esq., died Feb. 18th, 1820, aged 60, and was buried at Church-Kirk.

BIRLEY OF BLACKBURN.

The Birley family belong originally to Kirkham. John Birley, of Skippool, Poulton Parish, whose Will is dated 1732, and who died in 1733, had issue an only son John.

John Birley, of Kirkham, West Indian Merchant, son of the above, married, first, Ellen Harrison, by whom he had four children, all of whom died without issue. He married, secondly, May 6th, 1741, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Shepherd, and by her had issue sons, Thomas, of Kirkham, born 1741; Richard, of Blackburn, born Dec. 4th, 1743; John, born Nov. 27th, 1747; and William, born April 24th, 1750, died unmarried in 1792; and four daughters. Mr. John Birley died May 12th, 1767. His widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Birley, died June 27th, 1780.

Richard Birley, of Blackburn, Merchant, was second son of Mr. John Birley, of Kirkham. He married, Dec. 15th, 1772, Alice, daughter of Hugh Hornby, Esq., of Kirkham (she died April 19th, 1812, aged 61). Issue, sons, John, born August 30th, 1775, bapt. at Blackburn Church, Sept. 21st; Hugh Hornby Birley, born 10th, bapt. 25th March, 1778; Joseph, born 31st May, bapt. July 3rd, 1782; and daughters, Margaret, bapt. Oct. 13th, 1773, died in infancy; Elizabeth, bapt. Sept. 25th, 1780, married John Cardwell, Esq., and was mother of the present Lord Cardwell; a second Margaret, died in 1844; Jane, bapt. June 28th, 1787, died 1823; and Mary, wife of Joseph Baxendale, Esq., of Woodside, Co. Middlesex. Mr. Richard Birley was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1775, but declined to serve. He died Jan. 11th, 1812, aged 69.

"Mr. John Birley of King-street, Blackburn," became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1798. He was, I assume, the next brother of Richard; and must thus have been sometime resident in Blackburn, though named as of Kirkham in Burke. John Birley, Esq., died in May, 1831. His wife was Margaret, daughter of John Yate, Esq., of Liverpool; and he had sons, William, of Kirkham; Thomas, of Millbank (who married Ann, daughter and co-heir of John Langton, Esq., of Kirkham, and was father of the late Thomas Langton Birley, Esq., J.P.); Edward, of Kirkham (whose only daughter, Margaret Susannah, married William Henry Hornby, Esq., of Blackburn); Charles; a second Charles; and Yate Birley, of Ramsay, Isle of Man; and three daughters. William Birley, Esq., eldest son of John of Kirkham, by his wife Mary, daughter of John Swainson, Esq., was father of Rev. John Shepherd Birley, J.P., of Moss Hall; William Birley, Esq., of Preston, and Edmund Birley, Esq., J.P., of Clifton Hall.

John Birley of Blackburn, Esq., eldest son of Richard of Blackburn, was a merchant and cotton spinner in Blackburn and Manchester. He became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1800. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Daniel Backhouse, Esq., of Liverpool. Issue, Richard, born March 15th, 1801; Daniel, born, 1807, died 1839; Hornby, born 1811; William, in holy orders, born 1813; John; George; Elizabeth, Alice, Margaret, and Frances—the latter wife of the late

Daniel Hornby, Esq., of Raikes Hall. Mr. John Birley resided in Manchester in the later years of his life, and died there, Dec. 25th, 1833.

His eldest son, Richard Birley, Esq., who died in Canada in 1845, by his wife Mary Ann, daughter of John Hardman, Esq., left issue, sons, John James, Charles, and Richard William, and four daughters.

BRIGGS OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. James Briggs of Blackburn, cotton manufacturer, was buried April 6th, 1840. By Lettice his wife he had issue, sons, Edward; George, of Blackburn, died in July, 1854; and William, born Dec. 24th, 1820; and daughters, Ann, born July 29th, 1811, married Mr. Henry Shaw, of Blackburn; Jane, born in 1813, married Mr. William Dickson; Elizabeth, born in 1815, married Mr. Samuels; Sarah, born in 1818, married Rev. J. Dewsnap; Mary, born in 1823, died unmarried in 1870; Ellen, born in 1826; Alice, born in 1828, married Rev. Robt. Bruce; and Emma, born July 12th, 1831, unmarried.

Mr. Edward Briggs, of Blackburn and Wilpshire Grange, cotton spinner, eldest son of James, was born Jan. 22nd, 1809; married Ann, daughter of Thomas Slagg, Esq., of Manchester (she died Jan. 7th, 1853), and had issue, sons, James, and William Edward; and a daughter Margaret Ann, born in 1841. Mr. Edward Briggs died June 10th, 1857, and was buried at Chapel-street Chapel.

James Briggs, Esq., of Beardwood, Blackburn, eldest son of Edward, married, April 27th, 1867, Eliza, daughter of Mr. Thomas Slagg, of Lytham, and has issue.

William Edward Briggs, Esq., of Beardwood, second son of Edward, was elected M.P. for Blackburn at the general election in February, 1874. He was born in 1848, and educated at Rugby and Worcester College, Oxford.

BROOKS OF BLACKBURN.

William Brooks of Whalley and Sunnyside, banker, who died Oct. 3rd, 1846, aged 83, by his first wife Sarah was father of William Brooks of Standish; Richard, of Blackburn; Samuel, of Blackburn; James, and Thomas, of Sunnyside, Calico Printers; and of daughters Elizabeth and Nancy.

Richard Brooks of Blackburn, surgeon, son of William, died March 17th, 1822, aged 32. He married, July 20th, 1815, Sarah, daughter of Thomas Aspden, of Rishton.

Samuel Brooks of Blackburn, later of Manchester, banker, son of William, died June 2nd, 1864, aged 70. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Mr. T. Hall, of Blackburn, by whom he had sons, William Cunliffe; and John Brooks, B.A.; and daughters Sarah, Mary Margaret, Alice, and Ellen.

William Cunliffe Brooks, Esq., of Manchester, M.P. for East Cheshire, son of Samuel, was born at Blackburn, Sept. 30th, 1819, baptized at Chapel-street Independent Chapel, Nov. 7th. He married, in 1842, Jane Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Orrell, Esq. (she died in 1865), and had issue, daughters, Amy, married, July 14th, 1869, Charles, eleventh Marquis of Huntley; and Edith.

CARDWELL OF BLACKBURN.

The Cardwell family was anciently of Barton, Parish of Preston. Richard Cardwell of Barton, yeoman, had a son William. William Cardwell of Barton also had a son William; and he had a son Richard.

Richard Cardwell of Barton, by Sarah his wife, had sons William and Richard.

William Cardwell, eldest son of Richard, bapt. May 17th, 1692, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Walmsley, of Tockholes, yeoman, and had a son Richard and other issue. He was progenitor of a senior line of Cardwells not connected with this parish. He died July 14th, 1773, aged 81.

Richard Cardwell, younger son of Richard, bapt. April 22nd, 1706, settled in Blackburn as a trader in local textiles when a young man. He married, first, March 2nd, 1741, Martha, eldest daughter of Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn. Issue, one still-born child, buried Dec. 4th, 1742. "Martha, wife of Richard Cardwell, gentleman," was buried at Blackburn, July 19th, 1743. Mr. Richard Cardwell married, secondly, Miss Elizabeth Stott, of Manchester, and their first and only living issue was a son, bapt. June 14th, 1749. Mrs. Elizabeth Cardwell died March 31st, 1763, aged 55, buried at Blackburn Church, April 3rd. Mr. Richard Cardwell died March 10th, 1785, aged 79, and was interred in a family tomb in Blackburn Churchyard.

Richard Cardwell of Blackburn, Merchant and Esq., only son of Richard, resided in the large brick house in King-street, now the offices of the Blackburn Poor Law Union, and made a fortune in the Blackburn trade. By his first wife, who died early, he had no issue. His second wife was Jane, sister of John Hodson, Esq., of Ellerbeck, M.P. for Wigan in 1820, from whom she heired the Ellerbeck estates; married Feb. 26th, 1777. Issue, five sons, viz., Richard, bapt. Jan. 9th, 1778; James, bapt. May 26th, 1779; John, bapt. Sept. 5th, 1781, died in London, May, 1831; Thomas Hodson, born in 1785; and Edward, born in 1787.

Richard Cardwell, eldest son of Richard, entered the Church, and became Rector of St. Paul's, Liverpool. "Richard Cardwell the younger, clerk," was with his father a trustee for rebuilding Blackburn Parish Church in 1819. He died unmarried, in 1839, aged 62, and the family estates passed to his next brother James Cardwell, Esq., of Ellerbeck Hall, Duxbury, near Chorley, who died, aged 76, May 31st, 1855.

Edward Cardwell, youngest son of Mr. Richard Cardwell of Blackburn, was the eminent Dr. Edward Cardwell, Principal of St. Alban's Hall, Oxford. He was born at Blackburn, and married Cecilia, youngest daughter of Henry Feilden, Esq., of Witton Park. He entered at Brasenose College, Oxford, in 1806, and became a Fellow in 1809; in 1814 was appointed a University Examiner, and in 1831 was appointed Principal of St. Alban's Hall. He was also sometime Private Secretary to successive Chancellors of Oxford. He died at Oxford May 23rd, 1861, aged 73. He was a learned classic, and an able Church historian. His published works are too many to be enumerated here.¹

John Cardwell, Esq., third son of Mr. Richard Cardwell of Blackburn, and brother of Dr. Edward, married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Richard Birley of Blackburn. He was later a merchant in Liverpool along with his brother Mr. Thos. H. Cardwell. John Cardwell had several sons, of whom the eldest and most noteworthy is the statesman, Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, now in the peerage.

Rt. Hon. Edward Cardwell, Viscount Cardwell of Ellerbeck, was born in 1813; married, in 1838, Annie, daughter of Charles Stuart Parker, Esq., of Fairlie, Ayrshire. He was educated at Winchester and Balliol Coll., Oxford (B.A. 1835, M.A. 1838, D.C.L. 1863); called to the Bar at Inner Temple, 1838, and practised a short time; M.P. for Clitheroe, 1842-7; for Liverpool, 1847-52; for Oxford, 1853-74; Secretary of the Treasury, 1845-6; President of Board of Trade, 1853-55; Chief Secretary for Ireland, 1859-61; Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster, 1861-4; Secretary of State for Colonies, 1864-6; Secretary of State for War, 1868-74. He was raised to the Peerage in 1874. Lord Cardwell's Lancashire seat is Nightingale House, Heath Charnock, near Chorley.

¹ The most important of his Works are, "A History of Conferences, &c., connected with the Revision of the Book of Common Prayer, from 1568 to 1690;" "Documentary Annals of the Reformed Church of England;" and "A Collection of Articles of Religion, Canons, &c., from 1547 to 1717, with Notes."

CARR OF SHADSWORTH, &c.

Mr. William Carr, of Blackburn, elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1781, died, aged 51, May 26th, 1800 (tablet in St. John's Church). By Grace, his wife (who died, aged 67, July 25th, 1817), he had sons, William, born in 1773; and Thomas, born in 1776; also a daughter Ann, born 1778, died unmarried, aged 86, February 9th, 1865. His eldest son was—

William Carr of Blackburn, Esq., attorney-at-law, appointed a Governor of the Grammar School in 1800. He held the office of Steward for the Honor of Clitheroe, and resided some time at Clitheroe Castle, but also possessed the freehold messuage of Shadsworth House, Blackburn. He was Clerk to the Magistrates for the Blackburn division of the County, and as such was an object of popular hostility in the loom-breaking riots of 1826, when an attack was made upon his residence at Shadsworth. He married a Miss Roberts. He had a son, William; and several daughters; of whom Alice, third daughter, married, in 1845, Rev. John Hopwood, Incumbent of Accrington; and Grace, youngest daughter, married, in 1844, Rev. W. H. Strong, B.A. William Carr, Esq., died at Shadsworth, Feb. 3rd, 1833, aged 59; his wife died in September of the year preceding.

William Carr, Esq., son of the above, was appointed Town Clerk of Clitheroe in February, 1833, and died in December, 1837.

Mr. Thomas Carr, of Blackburn and Clitheroe Castle, son of William Carr who died in 1800, died Jan. 14th, 1837, aged 60. He was a trustee for rebuilding Blackburn Parish Church in 1819. By his wife Alice, daughter of Dr. A. Chew, of Billington (she died at Whalley, aged 79, Jan. 9th, 1859), he had sons, William, died young; William Thomas; and daughters, Jane, died, aged 16, in 1827; and Grace Alice, married, in 1840, to Thomas Ashton, Esq., of Bashall Lodge.

William Thomas Carr, Esq., of the Temple, late of Bastwell, Blackburn, son of Mr. Thomas Carr, now resides in London.

CHIPPINDALL OF BLACKBURN.

Robert Chippindall of Blackburn, by Hannah Maria, his wife, had sons Thomas, bapt. Nov. 23rd, 1753; Edward, and Robert; and other issue.

Mr. Thomas Chippindall of Blackburn, chapman, born about 1753, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1777, and died March 12th, 1794, aged 40 years. By Sarah his wife (who died Nov. 6th, 1808, aged 49), he had issue a son Edward, died, aged 14, in 1805; and daughters Elizabeth, born 1778; Sarah, born 1785, died, aged 23, April 21st, 1809; and Mary, wife of Rev. Wm. Higgin.

Mr. Edward Chippindall, brother of Thomas, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1794, and was living at Blackburn in 1817.

Mr. William Chippindall of Blackburn, cotton manufacturer, died, aged 74, Dec., 1833.

Mr. Robert Chippindall, banker, of Skipton, of this family, died, aged 64, Aug. 7th, 1834.

CUNLIFFE OF GREAT HARWOOD AND BLACKBURN.

Thomas Cunliffe married, at Great Harwood Church, May 20th, 1577, Elizabeth feilden.

Richard Cunliffe married, Aug. 10th, 1600, Isabel Dean; and Isabel, late wife of Richard Cunliffe, was buried at Great Harwood, Nov. 24th, 1613.

Richard Cunliffe of Banks, Great Harwood, had a son Robert, born in 1647.

John Cunliffe of Banks died in March, 1691. Isabel Cunliffe, widow, of Harwood Banks, died in June, 1708.

Robert Cunliffe of Harwood Banks, was buried Feb. 17th, 1716-7.

Robert Cunliffe of Harwood, woollen webster, married Aug. 22nd, 1706, Margaret Horrobin of Whalley (who died Oct., 1738).

John Cunliffe of Sparth, linen webster and husbandman, married, Jan. 14th, 1722, Mary Jackson, and had issue, sons, William, bapt. Sep. 12th, 1725; Thomas, bapt. March 28th, 1731; Henry, born 1732; Edward, born 1733-4; and John, died 1746. John Cunliffe the father, "of Deans" in 1768, was buried June 18th in that year. Mary, his widow, died in May, 1770.

Thomas Cunliffe of Deans, Great Harwood, linen webster, had three sons, Henry; Roger; and John; each noted below; and daughters, Hannah, born 1769; Ann; a second Ann; and Jane, born 1777.

Mr. Henry Cunliffe, of Blackburn, son of Thomas, was born in 1764, and died June 29th, 1825. He was father of Mr. James Cunliffe.

James Cunliffe, Esq., of Blackburn, banker, married May 14th, 1823, Mary, daughter of John Ostley, Esq., of North Shields, and had issue, sons, Roger, born April 4th, 1824; John, born Sept. 12th, 1825; Henry, born April 17th, 1827; and daughters Mary, born 1828; and Ann, born 1832.

Roger Cunliffe, Esq., of Blackburn, banker, second son of Thomas, bapt. at Great Harwood, Oct. 18th, 1767; died at Blackburn, in 1822, aged 55, buried at Chapel-street Chapel, Aug. 20th, 1822. By Sarah his wife, married before 1804, he left no issue.

John Cunliffe, Esq., of Blackburn, banker, brother of James and Roger, bapt. Aug. 2nd, 1772; died May 13th, 1836. By Margaret, his wife, who died, aged 70, April 30th, 1843, he had no issue, but an adopted daughter, Margaret Cunliffe, became wife of Mr. Henry Hargreaves, of Beardwood.

DE LA PRYME OF BLACKBURN.

James de la Pryme, of Blackburn, Merchant, by his wife Jane, had issue, Abraham; Francis, born 1785; Charles, born May 28th, 1787; Elizabeth, born August 6th, 1788; and Mary, born Oct. 7th, 1789.

Mr. Abraham de la Pryme of Blackburn, elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1803, manufacturer and merchant in 1818, subsequently carried on business in Liverpool.

DUGDALE OF GREAT HARWOOD, BLACKBURN, &c.

John Dugdale, of Great Harwood, married Dec. 26th, 1721, Mary Mercer, of Great Harwood.

Edmund Dugdale, of Great Harwood, born in 1693, married, Dec. 26th, 1721, Ann Dawson; had a son John.

John Dugdale, of Great Harwood, who died in 1791, had sons, Nathaniel; Thomas, of Great Harwood, who died August 10th, 1833, aged 67; and Adam.

The youngest son of John was Adam Dugdale, of Dovecot House, near Liverpool, Esq., who married, Dec. 25th, 1800, Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. John Hargreaves, of Wheatley, and died April 8th, 1838, having bequeathed £100 to the Poor of Great Harwood.

Nathaniel Dugdale, of Great Harwood, married, March 27th, 1785, Ellen, daughter of Mr. John Smalley, and had issue, sons, John, of Dovecot; James, of Ivy Bank; and Thomas, of Blackburn; and a daughter Mary, married to Thomas Clegg, Esq., of Whittlefield. Mr. Nathaniel Dugdale died Aug. 23rd, 1816.

John Dugdale, of Dovecot, Esq., married Mary Marshall; his eldest son was James Dugdale, of Dovecot, Co. Lanc., and Wroxall Abbey, Co. Warwick, Esq., born in

1813, and married Mary Louisa, daughter of John Plummer, Esq., by whom he has numerous issue.

James Dugdale of Ivy Bank, Co. Lanc., and Craythorne, Co. York, Esq., second son of Nathaniel, born in 1792, died 1868, had issue, sons, James Tertius Dugdale, Esq. (married, in 1868, Alice, daughter of John Brooks, Esq.); Arthur Gustav, died in 1865, aged 24; daughters, Ellen Ann, wife of Henry White, Esq.; Maria, married, in 1850, Richard Shaw, Esq., now M.P. for Burnley; Charlotte, wife of H. L. Browning, Esq.; Mary Emma Margaret, wife of Captain Edward Waugh.

Thomas Dugdale, Esq., of Griffin Lodge, Witton, youngest son of Mr. Nathaniel Dugdale, born in 1797, married, in 1824, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Walmsley, of Blackburn, and had issue, sons, Thomas, born in 1831, married Ellen, daughter of Joshua Appleyard, Esq., and died in 1874; Adam, now of Griffin Lodge; and James Boardman; also, daughters, Mary, wife of Mr. Miles Rodgett, of Wareham; Elizabeth, relict of Mr. R. B. Rodgett, of Walton-in-le-Dale; and Anne, wife of Rev. W. T. Vale, Vicar of All Saint's Church, Blackburn. Thomas Dugdale, Esq., was Chairman of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, of the Manchester and County Bank, and of the Blackburn Waterworks Company. He was Mayor of Blackburn in 1853-5. He died March 17th, 1875, in his 78th year.

ECCLES OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. William Eccles, of Blackburn, by Betty, his wife (who died in 1794, buried Feb. 4th), had issue a son William. Mr. William Eccles, the father, died, aged 82, May 20th, 1831.

Mr. William Eccles, of Spring Mount, Blackburn, attorney and cotton spinner, married, in 1822, Janet, daughter of Mr. Robert Copeland, and had issue, sons, William, born Sept. 1st, 1824; Thomas; Henry; John; and Samuel; a daughter, Janet, born 1829, died 1830; a second Janet, born in 1836. Mr. William Eccles was elected M.P. for Blackburn, in July, 1852, but was unseated on petition. He died, aged 59, June 17th, 1853, and was buried at Chapel-street Chapel. His widow, and eldest son William, both died in Dec., 1863.

FALKNER OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. Richard Falkner of Blackburn, merchant, built, early in the last century, the handsome stone mansion in King-street, subsequently occupied by the Sudells and Liveseys. Richard Falkner married Dorothy, daughter and heiress of John Moss, of Little Hoole. No issue of this union can be traced. "Dorothy, wife of Richard Falkner, of Blackburn, gent.," was buried Oct. 27th, 1753. Mr. Richard Falkner was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1739, and continued a Governor until 1782, when he resigned. He was then in advanced age. He does not seem to have died at Blackburn.

FLEMING OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. John Fleming of Blackburn, born in 1778, was one of the most enterprising merchants of the town half a century ago. He was a trustee for the rebuilding of the Parish Church in 1819, and having purchased the materials of the old Church, he used them in the erection of the blocks of building forming the square called "Fleming Square," built in 1824, once a busy mart, but now comparatively forsaken. Mr. Fleming was a foremost man in town's affairs before the Improvement Commission had been appointed. He died Oct. 3rd, 1842, aged 64 years. His tomb is in the Parish Churchyard. He married Miss Ann Walker; and she died May 7th, 1815, aged 35. Mr. Fleming had no children.

GLOVER OF BLACKBURN.

Mr. Isaac Glover, of King-street, partner in the firm of Pryme and Glover, who built the large house afterwards purchased by Mr. William Hoole, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1789. By his wife Mary, he had two sons, Thomas, born May 23rd, 1795; and James; and also daughters, Elizabeth, Ann, and Mary. Mr. Isaac Glover died at Blackburn, April 17th, 1812, aged 51. Mary Glover, his widow, died July 3rd, 1816, aged 59 years.

Mr. Thomas Glover, in 1819 a trustee for the rebuilding of the Parish Church, was eldest son of Isaac. His brother, Mr. James Glover, of Blackburn in 1819, afterwards resided near Exeter.

HARGREAVES OF NEWCHURCH AND BLACKBURN.

George Hargreaves was father of John Hargreaves of Balladen, who died in 1706, and who, by Margaret his wife, daughter of Ralph Nuttall, of Coupe (she died in 1716), had issue sons, John, born in 1668; and Henry, born in 1673; also daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and Ann.

John Hargreaves of Newchurch, gent., eldest son of John, married Elizabeth Nuttall, and died without issue, aged 72, Oct. 11th, 1740.

Henry Hargreaves of Balladen, brother of the last John, married Susan, daughter of Richard Whitaker of Rawtenstall, and had issue, sons, John, born July 8th, 1709; George, a clergyman; Richard; Henry, of Lancaster; James; and daughters, Ann, wife of Rev. Streynsham Master, Rector of Croston; and Margaret, wife of Mr. John Lonsdale of Haslingden. Mr. Henry Hargreaves died, aged 62, Feb. 11th, 1735.

John Hargreaves of Newchurch, gent., was eldest son of Henry. He married Susannah, daughter of James Hargreaves of Goodshaw Fold (she died in 1777, aged 54), and had one son, Henry, born Dec. 13th, 1741; and daughters, Elizabeth (married, first, Mr. John Woodhead Blakey; secondly, Mr. William Yates of Bury); Margaret, Nancy, and Mary. Mr. John Hargreaves died June 7th, 1796, aged 87 years.

Henry Hargreaves, gent., of Newchurch, married Susan, daughter of John Lonsdale of Haslingden, gent. (she died, aged 86, May 24th, 1841). Issue, sons, John, of Blackburn; Henry, of Beardwood, Blackburn; George, of Newchurch. J.P.; and Richard; daughters, Susannah, wife of Mr. George Ormerod, of Greensnook; Margaret; Mary, wife of Dr. James Crabtree of Newchurch; Elizabeth Ann, wife of Mr. Harry Bolton of Colne, solicitor (father of Mr. John Bolton, County Court Registrar, of Blackburn); and Alice Martha, wife of Dr. John Crabtree of Newchurch. Henry Hargreaves, Esq., died Dec. 22nd, 1829, aged 88.

John Hargreaves, Esq., of Larkhill-house, Blackburn, was eldest son of Henry, born Oct. 12th, 1783. Admitted as an attorney in 1806, and commenced practice at Colne; appointed Coroner for Blackburn Hundred in 1810, and held that office until January, 1865. He served as Captain in the Blackburn Local Militia in 1803-4. In Blackburn he commenced legal practice as partner with the late Mr. William Carr. He held in succession the offices of Clerk to the Police Commissioners; to the Improvement Commissioners (1847); and of Town Clerk of Blackburn (1851-4). Mr. John Hargreaves married, Oct. 12th, 1812, Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Robert Hargreave, of Bury (she died, aged 79, Jan. 22nd, 1862); and had issue, one son, Henry Unsworth; and daughters, Susannah, Margaret, Mary, Elizabeth, Henrietta Alice; Ann Jane, married Rev. Wm. Brewster, M.A.; and Isabella, married Dr. A. C. Pope. John Hargreaves, Esq., died at Larkhill, Blackburn, in his 91st year, Dec. 21st, 1873.

Mr. Henry Unsworth Hargreaves succeeded his father as Coroner for the Blackburn district in 1865.

Henry Hargreaves of Beardwood, Esq., brother of John Hargreaves, Esq., married, Jan. 25th, 1830, Margaret, adopted daughter of the late John Cunliffe, Esq., banker, and had issue. Mr. Henry Hargreaves died, aged 82, July 31st, 1872.

HAWORTH OF SHEARBANK, &c.

William Haworth, and Richard Haworth, both of Blackburn, were taxed to the Subsidy in 1523.

George Haworth of Blackburn, and Nicholas Haworth, of the same, were assessed to a Subsidy in 1570.

Thomas Haworth of Blackburn, and William Haworth, of the same, paid the Subsidy levied in 1610. In the records of the Chancery Court of Lancaster is found the petition, dated 1608, of Thomas Haworth, clerke, executor of the Will of Thomas Talbot of Bashall, Esq., which sets forth that the executors nominated were Thomas Hesketh and Ralph Ashton, Esqrs., and complainant, Thomas Haworth, but that the two first refused to intermeddle.

"William Haworth of Shearebanke," Blackburn, was buried July 2nd, 1627.

Ralph Haworth of Shearbank, died Sept., 1636. Ralph Haworth, a warden of Blackburn Church, December, 1636, was probably a son of this Ralph.

William Haworth, of Blackburn, yeoman, married, November 25th, 1694, Ann Hopkinson. Thomas Haworth, of Blackburn, married Ann Dobson, of Whalley, June 30th, 1695.

HAWORTH OF FACTORY HILL, &c.

John Haworth of Blackburn, yeoman, married, in 1729, Martha Hall, and had issue.

William Haworth of Blackburn, yeoman, by Elizabeth his wife, had sons, John, bapt. Aug. 5th, 1733; Thomas, bapt. Aug. 7th, 1737; William, of Blackburn, died in 1781; and other issue. William Haworth, the father, died in Sept., 1758. His wife Elizabeth died in May of the same year.

Thomas Haworth, of Revidge Fold, Blackburn, yeoman, second son of William, married, in 1763, Susan, daughter of Mr. Robert Lonsdale of Dinkley, and had issue, William, born 1764, died 1767; John, born 1766, died 1772; a second William, born 1771; Elizabeth, born 1768; and Jennet, wife of Mr. Thomas Ainsworth. He was a Governor of the Grammar School, and died in 1777.

John Haworth, of Blackburn, yeoman, eldest son of William, married, August 14th, 1766, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Ellingthorpe, gent. (she died May, 1804, aged 73), and had issue, sons, William, died in infancy, June 23rd, 1775; Richard, bapt. Jan. 11th, 1774, died June 21st, 1775; William Ellingthorpe, bapt. May 27th, 1778, died unmarried, March 24th, 1805, aged 26; a second Richard, bapt. Nov. 24th, 1780; John, born Oct. 2nd, 1783, buried April 19th, 1802; Wilkinson; and Hatherton; and daughters, Dorothy, born 1771, died 1775; Elizabeth; and a second Dorothy. John Haworth, yeoman, died, aged 55, and was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 29th, 1789.

Richard Haworth of Northgate, Blackburn, draper, after of Factory Hill, cotton manufacturer, was fourth son of John. He married Elizabeth Pomfret (who died Aug. 16th, 1848, aged 72), and had issue, sons, John, born May 15th, 1803, died May 21st, 1807; a second John, born Dec. 8th, 1812, went to India, and has not been heard of since 1834; and William, born in 1816, died unmarried in 1840; and daughters, Ann, born 1802, died 1807; Elizabeth, born in 1805, married Mr. William Hart, and was mother of Mr. Thomas Hart, Richard Haworth Hart, and William Hart; a second

Ann, born 1807; Mary, born 1808, died unmarried, 1853; Margaret, born 1810, died unmarried, 1836; Jane, born 1814, died unmarried; Alice, born 1817, married Mr. Mc.Myn; and Dorothy, born 1821, married Rev. Wm. Ellison. Mr. Richard Haworth, in 1826, by an accident, shot his relative, Mr. Richard Ellingthorpe. He died, aged 60, April 5th, 1842.

HAWORTH OF BLACKBURN.

Peter Haworth of Lower Darwen (son of Thomas), who died in 1677, by Grace his wife (she died a widow, in Dec., 1698), was father of—

Richard Haworth of Blackburn, apothecary, died in 1694, buried Oct. 5th. By his first wife he had sons Thomas and John. He married, secondly, Feb. 22nd, 1681, Jennet Bentley, and had issue, Peter, born 1682; Henry, born 1689; Richard, born 1691; and Grace, born 1685. Oct. 29th, 1694, letters of tuition and curation were granted to Randle Feilden of Blackburn, chapman, and Robert Feilden of Great Harwood, mercer, of the persons and estate of Peter Haworth, aged 12 years; Grace, aged 9; Henry, aged 5; and Richard, aged 3; children of Richard Haworth of Blackburn, apothecary, deceased.

Thomas Haworth of Blackburn, gent., eldest son of Richard, died in 1699. He married Margaret Livesey. Letters of Administration were granted to his widow, Jan. 6th, 1700. He had sons, John, Peter, and Thomas (ancestor of the Haworths of Dunscair and Bolton-le-Moors).

Mr. Henry Haworth, of Blackburn, apothecary (second son of Richard), by Martha his wife, had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. Feb. 5th, 1715; Robert, born and died 1719; Henry, bapt. April 7th, 1723; Robert, born 1725; and John, born 1727; daughters, Mary, born and died 1717; a second Mary, born 1720; and Ann, born 1723. Mr. Henry Haworth became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1720.

Mr. Thomas Haworth of Blackburn, surgeon and apothecary, by his wife Sarah (who died in April, 1746), had a son Henry, bapt. Sept. 21st, 1743; and daughters, Mary, married Jan. 1st, 1767, Mr. Wm. Peel, of Church-bank, brother to the first Sir Robert Peel, Bart.; and Sarah, wife of the Rev. Thomas Armitstead, Vicar of Mitton. Mr. Thomas Haworth was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1740. He died in 1776. Letters of Administration were granted at Chester to his daughters, Mary (Mrs. Peel), and Sarah (Mrs. Armitstead).

Robert Haworth, a younger brother of Thomas, occurs in 1774 as "Robert Haworth, surgeon, of Clitheroe." He was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1764. He died in 1786.

HINDLE OF BLACKBURN, WOODFOLD PARK, &c.

John Hindle of Blackburn, Merchant, was buried March 22nd, 1754. Mary, wife of John Hindle of Blackburn, quartermaster, died Oct., 1762.

John Hindle of Blackburn, chapman, elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1763; married, first, Feb. 14th, 1749, Miss Ann Glover of Blackburn, who died in June, 1751, leaving a daughter Nancy Glover Hindle, bapt. Jan. 5th, 1750-1, married Mr. Bertie Markland. By his second wife, Elizabeth (died Jan. 2nd, 1798), he had sons, James, who died in 1759; and John Fowden, bapt. Feb. 9th, 1757. Mr. John Hindle, of Blackburn, died Sept. 12th, was buried Sept. 15th, 1776.

John Fowden Hindle, Esq., D.L., of Blackburn, afterwards of Gillibrand Hall, was educated at Manchester Grammar School, entered in 1769. He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School (elected in 1778). He had by Mary, his wife, sons, John Fowden; William Fowden; Henry Peter, died Dec. 25th, 1798; Fowden, born 1791, died 1795; and Henry James, died Oct. 31st, 1822, aged 23; and daughters, Elizabeth, married Oct. 18th, 1826, Captain Hay, of the Carbineers, and died March 14th, 1858; Ann Murray, born 1794, died 1802; a second Ann Murray, married, in July, 1838, Rev. — Green, of Blackpool; and Maria, married, Feb. 6th, 1833, to

Robert Inman, Esq., of Lancaster. The father, John Fowden Hindle, Esq., purchased the Woodfold Park estate, in Mellor, in 1831; and died at Walton Parsooage, July 5th, 1831, aged 74. "Mary, relict of John Fowden Hindle, Esq.," died at her house in Walton-in-le-Dale, July 15th, 1844.

John Fowden Hindle, Esq. (son of the last-named), of Woodfold Park, Mellor (his father having bought that estate on the sacrifice of it by Mr Henry Sudell), served the office of High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1844. He died at Dublin, Feb. 7th, 1849.

William Fowden Hindle, Esq., of Thelwall, and of Percy Lodge, Warrington, sometime Captain in the 6th Dragoon Guards, brother of John Fowden, had daughters, Mary Jahe; and Maria, the latter died in infancy in 1832. Mary Jane, his eldest daughter, married, March 8th, 1839, George Frederick Gregory, Esq. Wm. Fowden Hindle, Esq., died April 1st, 1853.

HOPWOOD OF ROCKCLIFFE, BLACKBURN, AND BRACEWELL.

Mr. Robert Hopwood, a native of Clitheroe, came to Blackburn in 1810 to engage in the cotton manufacture. He was founder of the extensive Nova Scotia Mills in Blackburn, and died one of the wealthiest of the local trade magnates. In 1851 he was elected one of the first aldermen of the borough. He died July 15, 1853, in his 80th year. He had issue a son Robert, born at Clitheroe, March 25th, 1800; and daughters Helen (married Richard Hutchinson, Esq., of Minton House, near Manchester,—younger son of Mr. John Hutchinson, of Darwen Chapels, who died, aged 64, Jan. 14th, 1828, by Susan his wife,—and was mother of Robert Hopwood Hutchinson, Esq., Mayor of Blackburn, 1861-2); Elizabeth, born 1806 (married Jan. 12th, 1828, William Dudley Coddington, Esq., of Manchester, afterwards of Blackburn, who died, aged 68, June 15th, 1867, and was mother of Robert Hopwood Coddington, Esq., of Liverpool; William Coddington, Esq., of Wycollar, Blackburn, Mayor of Blackburn, 1874-5; Charles Coddington, Esq., of Scuthport; Richard Dudley Coddington, Esq., Frank Coddington, Esq., and Albert Coddington, Esq., of Blackburn); Caroline, youngest daughter, married June 26th, 1839, Thomas Gomersall, Esq., of Cleckheaton; and Miss Hopwood, of Highfield, Blackburn, died unmarried, August 28th, 1860.

Robert Hopwood, Esq., of Rockcliffe, Blackburn, and Bracewell, son of Robert, second Mayor of Blackburn (1852-3), married April 3rd, 1828, Elizabeth, daughter of John Turner, Esq., of Copley House, near Huddersfield (she died in 1874), and had issue a son, John Turner; and daughters, Mary Jane, died, aged 5, in 1836; and Emily, wife of Rev. H. J. Marlen, M.A., incumbent of St. John's Church Blackburn, now of Ambleside. Robert Hopwood, Esq., died February 19th, 1860, and was buried at Bracewell Church. He was lord of the manor of Bracewell by purchase of the manorial estate.

John Turner Hopwood, Esq., of Bracewell, only son of the last-named, was M.P. for Clitheroe from 1857 to 1865. He married, April 7th, 1858, Mary Augusta Henrietta, third daughter of the Hon. Henry and Mrs. Coventry, and has issue a son and heir, born Oct. 12th, 1859.

HORNBY OF BLACKBURN.

Hugh Hornby, of Kirkham, gent., third son of Robert Hornby (who was son of William and grandson of Richard Hornby, of Newton), was born in 1719; married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Mr. Joseph Hankinson, of Kirkham, by his wife Alice, daughter of John Sudell, gent., of Blackburn. Issue, sons, Rev. Hugh Hornby; John, of Blackburn; William, and Thomas, both of Kirkham; Robert; and Joseph, of Ribby Hall; daughters, Alice, wife of Mr. Richard Birley, of Blackburn; and Elizabeth. Mr. Hugh Hornby died in Feb., 1781.

John Hornby, of Blackburn and Raikes Hall, Esq., born July 2nd, 1763, married Alice Kendall, daughter of Daniel Backhouse, Esq. (she died Dec. 8th, 1827); and had issue, sons, John, died, aged 12, in 1809; Daniel; Robert; William Henry; and a second John. Mr. John Hornby the father settled in Blackburn as a merchant; and was head of the firm of Hornby and Birley, that founded the Brookhouse cotton mills. He was a trustee for rebuilding the Parish Church in 1819. His Blackburn residence was the house in King-street, built by Mr. Markland. Mr. John Hornby died, aged 77, Jan. 29th, 1841; a handsome monument to his memory stands in the churchyard of St. John's Church.

Daniel Hornby, Esq., of Raikes Hall, eldest surviving son, born June 23rd, 1800, married Frances, daughter of Mr. John Birley, and had issue. He died Oct. 23rd, 1863.

Rev. Robert Hornby, Vicar of Walton-in-le-Dale, was next brother, born in 1804. He married Maria Leyland, daughter of Sir William Feilden, Bart., and had issue four sons and seven daughters.

William Henry Hornby, Esq., of Brookhouse Lodge, Blackburn, and of Poole Hall, Co. Chester, third son of Mr. John Hornby, was born July 2nd, 1805. He married, May 19th, 1831, Margaret Susannah, daughter and sole heir of Edward Birley, Esq., of Kirkham. Issue sons, John, born Dec. 2nd, 1832; Edward Kenworthy Hornby born June 16th, 1839 (M.P. for Blackburn, 1869-74); Henry Sudell, born July 4th, 1840, died in infancy; William Henry Hornby, junior, born August 29th, 1841 (first Chairman of Blackburn School Board, 1871-6); Cecil Lumsden, born July 25th, 1843; and Albert Neilson (the noted cricketer), born Feb. 10th, 1847; also daughters, Elizabeth Henrietta, Frances Mary, Augusta Margaret, Caroline Louisa. Wm. Henry Hornby, Esq., is a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School. He was first Mayor of Blackburn in 1851-2 (see p. 376); was returned to Parliament as Member for Blackburn in March, 1857, and sat for the borough in four successive Parliaments, until March, 1869, when he was succeeded by his son Edward. Mr. Hornby is in the Commission of the Peace for Lancashire and also for Cheshire.

John Hornby, Esq., fourth son of John Hornby, Esq., of Blackburn, born Aug. 19th, 1810, married Margaret, daughter of Rev. Chr. Bird, and had issue a son John Frederick, born in 1846. He was elected M.P. for Blackburn in July, 1841, re-elected in July, 1847, and held the seat until 1852.

LEYLAND OF BLACKBURN.

It was from a family of Leylands settled at Kirkham (of which Col. Fishwick gives the descent in the "History of Kirkham," p. 196), that the Leylands of Blackburn were derived. Christopher Leyland, of Kirkham, who died in 1716, by Margaret his wife, had a son John.

John Leyland, of Kellamergh, later of Blackburn, by Elizabeth, his wife, had sons, Christopher Leyland, of Kellamergh; Thomas, a clergyman; Joseph, Ralph, John; and William, of Blackburn. John Leyland was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 2nd, 1744-5. Elizabeth, his wife, died Oct. 12th, 1734, aged 74.

William Leyland, of Blackburn, merchant and gentleman, a townsman of good standing a century ago, married Cicely, daughter of Thomas Shepherd Birley, gent., and then widow of Edward Rigby of Freckleton (by whom she had a daughter Mary, described in 1767 as "Mary Rigby of Blackburn, spinster"). About 1740, Mr. William Leyland built for his residence the large brick house in King-street, Blackburn (now occupied as offices by Messrs. Dixon Robinson and Sons), and which bears on its front the initials "W L C" (William and Cicely Leyland), and the date "1741." By Cicely his wife he had no male issue, but the following daughters:—Jane, married,

in 1753, Thomas Langton of Kirkham, merchant; Elizabeth, buried Feb. 29th, 1735-6; Margery, baptized Sep. 27th, 1734, buried Dec. 6th, 1735. Elizabeth—Margaret, twins, baptized May 16th, 1737; one of the twins, Elizabeth, was buried Nov. 27th in the same year; the other, Margaret, married Sep. 25th, 1762, Joseph Feilden, Esq., of Blackburn, and died, aged 89, in 1826. Mr. William Leyland was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1743. Cicely, his wife, died April 26th, 1753, aged 57, and was buried at Blackburn Church, April 28th. By his Will, dated July 18th, 1763, Mr. William Leyland bequeathed £200 in trust for the foundation of the Girls' Charity School in Blackburn, which was established the following year, and a school building erected in Thunder Alley. William Leyland, Esq., died Nov. 12th, 1764.

LIVESEY OF BLACKBURN.

Richard Livesey of Manchester, living in 1782, was brother of—

Robert Livesey of Manchester and Blackburn, gent., elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1760, and died at Blackburn, 1763, buried July 10th. He had a son John; and a daughter Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn (see ante, pp. 224-6).

John Livesey of Blackburn, "chapman" and "Esq.," son of Robert, married, Jan. 23rd, 1772, Mary, daughter of Samuel Clowes, Esq., of Manchester, and had issue, sons, Robert, bapt. Feb. 27th, 1774; Thomas, born June 27th, 1784; and John Pearson; also daughters, Mary, born 1772; Elizabeth, born 1778; Frances, born 1781; and Anne.

LIVESEY OF BRINDLE, BLACKBURN, &c.

John Livesey of Hoghton, yeoman, married a Miss Nickson, and had, with other issue, sons, Thomas, James, and John. Mr. John Livesey died, aged 81, April 3rd, 1820.

Thomas Livesey, Esq., of Crabtree House, Brindle, and of Blackburn, cotton spinner, son of John, by Dorothy his wife (she died Sept. 8th, 1843, aged 73), had sons, James; John; and Richard Nickson; and several daughters.

James Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn, after of Beach Hill, Fairfield, near Liverpool, eldest son of Thomas, married Ann, eldest daughter of R. Edleston, Esq., solicitor, of Blackburn (she died Feb. 2nd, 1865), and has issue, sons, Thomas Livesey, Esq., married Miss C. S. Bates, of Croydon; and Richard Edleston; and daughters, Anne, married Rev. Charles Wright Woodhouse, M.A. (Vicar of St. Peter's, Blackburn, from 1858 to 1874; and now Canon of Manchester, appointed in 1874, and Rector of St. Andrew's, Ancoats, Manchester); Dora, married F. D. Lowndes, Esq., of Liverpool; Ellen, married C. E. Proctor, Esq., of Macclesfield; Mary; and Elizabeth.

John Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn, now of Manchester, brother of James, married, April 4th, 1843, Elizabeth, second daughter of Thomas Cardwell, Esq., of the Demesne, Lytham, and has issue two sons, Thomas John, and James; and one daughter, Dora.

Richard Nickson Livesey, Esq., of Blackburn, youngest son of Thomas, married, Jan. 31st, 1846, Mary daughter of John Lodge, Esq. (she died July 5th, 1847), and died March 30th, 1857.

MARKLAND OF BLACKBURN.

John Markland, by his wife Ellen, granddaughter of John Entwistle, Esq., of Foxholes, had a son John.

John Markland, of Manchester, tradesman (Constable of Manchester in 1749), by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Robert Wilson of Manchester, had sons, John,

born 1740 (who succeeded as heir to his grandmother to the estates of Entwistle of Foxholes, and took the name of Entwistle in 1787); Robert, Edward, Bertie, Ralph, and Samuel.

Mr. Bertie Markland, of Blackburn, was the fourth son of the above Mr. John Markland, born Oct. 18th, 1750. He commenced business in Blackburn as a merchant and calico manufacturer; became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1774; built, in 1778, the mansion on the south side of King Street, Blackburn, afterwards the property and residence of the Hornbys; and resided later at Cnerden Hall. He died at Cheadle Rectory, May 20th, 1817. An obituary notice of him, written probably by Dr. T. D. Whitaker, appears in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for 1817. His wife was Anne, daughter of Mr. John Hindle, of Blackburn; she died Oct. 29th, 1816.

NEVILL OF LIVESSEY AND BLACKBURN.

Oliver Nevell of Livesey, who died in April, 1623 (his wife died in 1621), had a son John, who died before his father in Sept., 1619, leaving sons, John, of Livesey (first of a Livesey branch of Nevills), and Thomas; and a daughter Margaret.

Thomas Nevill, son of John, married, in 1614, Eliz. Kinge, and had a son George, born in 1622, and a daughter Alice.

George Nevill had sons, John Nevill, who married, in 1665, Ann Southworth, and had four daughters; and Charles.

Charles Nevill married, in 1670, Jane Benson, and by her, who died in 1710, had sons, Thomas, and John, born 1679, ob. inf.; and a daughter Jane. Charles Nevill died in 1720. His son—

Thomas Nevill of Blackburn, yeoman, appointed Parish Clerk May, 1708, was buried Aug. 14th, 1732. He married Ann Lund, and had sons, John, baptized Oct. 2nd, 1702; and Thomas, baptized Oct. 15th, 1710. His second son was Thomas Nevill, of Blackburn, attorney-at-law, who died in April, 1770, leaving issue.

John Nevill, eldest son of Thomas, held the office of Parish Clerk after his father. By his wife Alice Brooks (died April, 1761), John Nevill had sons, Thomas, died July, 1746; James, born 1729; John, born 1731; and Peter, born 1736. The father was buried March 16th, 1781. Peter Nevill, younger son, succeeded to the Parish Clerkship, and by Catherine Cunliffe, his wife, had sons, John, born 1768; William, born 1770; and Peter; daughters, Betty; Alice, married Mr. Wm. Barlow, attorney; Sarah, and Jane. Mr. Peter Nevill, Parish Clerk, was buried Jan. 12th, 1790, aged 53 years.

James Nevill of Blackburn, eldest son of John, by Martha Slater, his wife (she died July, 1775), had sons, John, and Thomas; and daughters, Alice, born 1748; Mary, born 1749; Catherine, born 1751; Ann, Martha, and Betty. James Nevill died in May, 1783.

John Nevill, of Blackburn, attorney-at-law, son of James, married Nov. 17th, 1783, Miss Ann Ainsworth, and had issue a son James; with daughters, Ann, born 1784, died 1786; Elizabeth, born 1789, died March 13th, 1859; Mary, born Dec., 1790, died Feb. 1st, 1868; and Ann, born Aug., 1793, died Sep. 4th, 1857. Mr. John Nevill died in Aug., 1806.

His son, James Nevill, Esq., of Beardwood, Blackburn, attorney-at-law, born Jan. 4th, 1787; married Aug. 30th, 1823, Helen, daughter of Mr. Thomas Hargreaves, of Oak Hill, and had issue a son John Hargreaves, born Oct., 1828, died May 15th, 1829; also the following daughters:—Margaret, born Oct., 1824, married Sep. 11th, 1845, Henry Brock-Hollinshead, Esq. (died Mar. 19th, 1858); Catherine, born Jan. 6th, 1826, married Oct. 24th, 1850, Rev. Edward Parker (Parker of Browsholme), Vicar of Waddington, Co. York; Helen, born Aug., 1830, married Dec. 17th, 1863, Rev. C. G. Hervey; and Frances Mary, born Aug., 1832, married, in 1860, John

Bolton, Esq., of Blackburn (Registrar of County Court), and died Aug. 10th, 1866. Mr. James Nevill died at Beardwood, June 10th, 1848, aged 61.

PILKINGTON OF BLACKBURN.

James Pilkington, of Blackburn, merchant, by Mary his wife, had issue, sons, John, died Nov. 14th, 1800, aged 11 days; a second John, died April 14th, 1805, aged 2; James, born Aug. 29th, bapt. Oct. 7th, 1804; William, born Dec. 17th, 1807; a third John, born in 1816, died Jan. 19th, 1828, aged 11; Thomas, died in May, 1814; and daughters, Elizabeth, died unmarried, June 1st, 1864, aged 65; Mary, married, in 1837, Mr. Edward Eccles, of Liverpool; and Ann, died in infancy, March 7th, 1814. James Pilkington, Esq., the father, died Nov. 30th, 1837, aged 65. Mrs. Mary Pilkington, his widow, died Dec. 4th, 1844, aged 66.

James Pilkington, Esq., J.P., D.L., of Park Place House, Blackburn, and of Swinethwaite Hall, Bedale, Co. York, M.P. for Blackburn from 1847 to 1865, is eldest surviving son of the above. He married (May 21st, 1831), Mary Jane, sister of John Skaife, Esq., M.D., by whom, who died Dec. 1st, 1865, aged 59, Mr. Pilkington has had issue, sons, James Bowring, died Nov. 3rd, 1836, aged 1 year; John William, died April 7th, 1846, aged 8; James, died March 3rd, 1843, aged 3; and Edward, born Oct. 7th, 1842; also daughters, Ann Jane, born April 26th, 1832, died June 4th, 1875; and Mary Elizabeth, born May 2nd, 1844.

William Pilkington, Esq., J.P., of the Grange, Wilpshire, near Blackburn, brother of James Pilkington, Esq., filled the office of Mayor of Blackburn in 1856-7-8, and in 1857 founded and endowed the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary. Mr. Wm. Pilkington married, May 19th, 1853, Martha, eldest daughter of the late Henry Shaw, Esq. He has no issue.

RODGETT OF BLACKBURN AND BRINDLE.

James Rodgett, of Blackburn, cotton manufacturer in 1818, died March 4th, 1826, aged 50, and was buried at St. Alban's Chapel.

William Rodgett, Esq., of the firm of Livesey and Rodgett, of Blackburn, died Sept. 14th, 1849, aged 68. He had sons, Joseph Rodgett, Esq., died in 1856, aged 42; William; Edward; and James.

William Rodgett of Brindle, Esq., died May 11th, 1862, aged 33, by Ellen Jane, his wife, who died, aged 37, July 3rd, 1864, had a son Thomas Livesey Rodgett, died in infancy in 1858, and other issue.

James Rodgett, Esq., of Blackburn, married, March 30th, 1851, Isabella, daughter of James Bury, Esq., of White Ash, Oswaldtwistle.

SMALLEY OF BLACKBURN.

Thomas Smalley of Blackburn, mercer, was buried Feb. 2nd, 1705-6.

Mr. John Smalley of Blackburn, chapman, by his wife Anne, had sons, Thomas, bapt. Jan. 8th, 1719-20; Richard, bapt. Jan. 24th, 1723-4; John, bapt. May 12th, 1728; and Edmund, buried May 30th, 1732; also daughters, Alice, born 1716; Katherine, born 1717; and Elizabeth, born 1721. Anne Smalley, wife of John, died May 24th, 1732, in childbed of the son Edmund.

Richard Smalley of Blackburn, "gent.," died in Sept., 1786. He had issue sons and daughters who predeceased him.

The second son of John Smalley, of Blackburn, chapman, born in 1728, and named John, I believe to be the Mr. John Smalley, of Preston, in 1770, wine merchant, who is deserving of note as having assisted with money the inventor Richard Arkwright, and as his partner in a cotton spinning business at Holywell, in Derbyshire. He died at Holywell, Jan. 28th, 1782, aged 53.

SMALLEY OF LARKHILL.

Mr. Thomas Smalley of Blackburn, chapman, son of Mr. Richard Smalley of Over Darwen, married Oct. 24th, 1749, Miss Ann Sagar of Southfield, Marsden, and had issue a son Richard; and daughters, Ellen, married, Nov. 3rd, 1783, Mr. Roger Baron of Knuzden; Ann, married Jan. 17th, 1800, Dr. Abraham Chew, of Blackburn; a daughter who married Mr. Walton Freckleton of Blackburn; Catherine, died unmarried; and Lucy, married Mr. — Jepson of Blackburn. Mr. Thomas Smalley was buried at Chapel Street Chapel, Feb. 14th, 1785, aged 58. His widow, "old Mrs. Smalley from Larkhill," was buried March 1st, 1810.

Richard Smalley, of Larkhill, gentleman, son of Thomas, acquired the mansion and estate at Larkhill in succession to the Barons of Knuzden and Larkhill. He did not marry, and died at Larkhill in 1835, buried at Chapel Street Chapel, Oct. 5th, aged about 80. Will dated Nov. 21st, 1819.

Miss Catherine Smalley of Larkhill, sister and heiress of Mr. Richard Smalley, died in 1841, buried February 19th, and left her estate to the heirs of her sister Mrs. Ellen Baron.

SUDELL OF BLACKBURN AND WOODFOLD PARK, MELLOR.

The Sudell family, that in its later members held an eminent position in the commerce of Blackburn, as well as among the landed families of the parish, can be traced in connexion with Blackburn for longer than three centuries. John Sudley, a tenant of Chantry lands at Ousebooth in Blackburn in 1548, was an early member of the family. William Sudell, living at Blackburn temp. Elizabeth, had a son William, bapt. Sep. 13th, 1601. James Sudell, of Blackburn, who died in 1629, had sons, John, born in 1603, and William, died Sept., 1608.

John Sudell of Ousebooth, who died Oct., 1622, had sons, William, born in 1602, and James, born in 1604. The wife of John Sudell was buried in April, 1632.

A later John Sudell of Ousebooth, who died before 1670, refers in his Will to his wife Margaret, and nephews Thomas and Ralph.

William Sudell, of Blackburn, had a son John, born in 1631. "Uxor William Sudell" was buried Oct. 15th, 1633. William Sudell, of Blackburn, was buried July 25th, 1664.

The relation of the above persons to each other is obscure. The descent of the Sudells of subsequent note is traceable from Henry Sudell, townsman of Blackburn, who, by Alice his wife (she died in Oct., 1654), had sons, William, born in 1636; George, died in 1654; and Henry, born in 1651, with other issue. "Henry Sudell of Blackburn" was buried April 24th, 1680.

William Sudell, apparently eldest son of Henry, married, 26th Feb., 1654-5—"William, son of Henry Sudell of Blackburn, and Jenet, daughter of John Whaley of the same." William Sudell had sons, Henry, born Jan. 17th, 1658; John, born in 1662; and James, born Jan., 1662-3. Of Henry, the elder son, nothing beyond his birth has been noted.

John Sudell, of Blackburn, son of William, described as "yeoman" and "chapman," married, Jan. 5th, 1685-6, Ann Ashe. He had issue the following:—William, bapt. Nov. 21st, 1686; Henry; John, bapt. Feb. 15th, 1690-1; Thomas, bapt. Feb. 5th, 1693-4; Joseph, bapt. Aug. 5th, 1706; Alice, bapt. April 7th, 1689; Ann, born 1697, married Rev. Wm. Vaudrey; Jennet, bapt. Sept. 24th, 1699; Elizabeth, bapt. March 5th, 1701-2, married, in 1721, Henry Feilden, of Blackburn, gent.; and Jane, bapt. Oct. 28th, 1704, married John Whalley, gent. The father, "Mr. John Sudell of Blackburn, senr.," was buried April 22nd, 1739. His wife—"Ann, wife of

John Sudell of Blackburn, gent.,"—was buried Jan. 1st, 1733-4. Mr. John Sudell had been elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1690.

William Sudell, of Blackburn, Merchant, was eldest son of Mr. John Sudell; he married, Aug. 24th, 1714, Mrs. Jane Wagstaffe of Manchester. His only son, John, bapt. Feb. 5th, 1718-9, was buried April 28th, 1832, at the age of 13 years. Mr. William Sudell had also two daughters, Ann, bapt. Sept. 15th, 1717; and Lydia, bapt. March 5th, 1720-1. In 1721, Mr. William Sudell was joint purchaser, with Henry Feilden and William Baldwin, of the Manor of Blackburn, but afterwards his share of the estate was conveyed to the Feildens. Concerning his two daughters and their alliances, Canon Raines notes, that, after the death of their father, they became co-heiresses of their grandfather, Mr. John Sudell. "Ann Sudell, the elder daughter, married, Dec. 31st, 1736, Thomas Johnson of Tyldesley, Esq., Sheriff of Lancashire in 1752 (being his first wife), and dying in childbed Nov. 20th, 1739," left issue "a sole child, Anne Johnson, born in 1739, ob. 1825, and who married Charles Forde, of Claremont, Esq." Lydia, the other sister and co-heiress, married Robert Gartside of Manchester, Esq., and also dying in childbed, left an only daughter, Jane Gartside, co-heiress to her grandfather William Sudell, Esq., married to the Rev. John Parker of Brightmet. Mr. William Sudell was elected Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1714, and must have died about 1725, for his executors, Mr. Henry Sudell and Mr. Joseph Hankinson, paid a legacy of £20 to the Grammar School in December, 1726.

Henry Sudell of Blackburn, gent., second son of John and brother of Mr. William Sudell, married, April 25th, 1727, "Mrs. Alice Yates of Eccleshill;" by whom he had numerous children. The first issue were twin sons, John, and William, bapt. Dec. 10th, 1729. A pin-cushion, pricked on this occasion with the initials "I A S"—John (first-born of the twins) and Alice Sudell (the mother)—with the year "1729," is preserved. The other sons were, Henry; James, born 1737, died 1740; a second James, bapt. Nov. 27th, 1741, buried April 22nd, 1769. The daughters—Ann, bapt. Nov. 17th, 1731; Alice, bapt. Feb. 12th, 1734-5; and Nancy, died Dec., 1750. Mr. Henry Sudell, the father, was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1725; and on Sept. 12th, 1740, "Henry Sudell, of Blackburn, gent.," was admitted an in-burgess of Preston. He died in 1770, and was buried at Blackburn Church, June 12th. His widow was buried Sept. 20th, 1777.

Both of the elder twin-sons of Henry Sudell, John and William, born in 1729, died in the same year, 1785. "William Sudell, of Lancaster," one brother, was made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1770; and "William Sudell of Hornby, gent.," was buried at Blackburn, March 14th, 1785, aged 55. John Sudell of Blackburn, gent., died May 29th, 1785, aged 55 years;—his name is the first inscribed upon the Sudell tomb in Blackburn Churchyard. Mr. John Sudell married, and had a daughter Alice, who married Mr. Joseph Hankinson, of Kirkham, and had a daughter and heiress Margaret Hankinson, who became the wife of Mr. Hugh Hornby of Kirkham.

Henry Sudell, gent., third son of Henry, and next brother of John and William, married, May 1st, 1763, "Alice, daughter of James and Margaret Livesey, of Blackburn, gent.;" witnesses of the marriage: Thomas Livesey and John Sudell. He died about seven months after his marriage, and before the son was born who became his heir. "Henry Sudell of Blackburn, chapman," was buried Dec. 27th, 1763. His wife Alice, a widow in her 23rd year (she was born Jan. 15th, 1741-2), survived in widowhood nearly 60 years, and died of cancer, in 1823. Her only son, Henry, was born in 1764, bapt. May 4th. Her epitaph upon the family tomb is:—"Alice Sudell, Mother of Henry Sudell, who died July 18th, 1823, aged 81 years."

Henry Sudell, posthumous heir of Henry Sudell, gent., and born, as stated, in 1764, was the great Blackburn Merchant and landowner. On the death of his uncles John and William in 1785, Henry Sudell, Esq., became chief representative of the Blackburn Sudells, attaining his majority the same year. He married, at Burwell, June 13th, 1796, Maria, daughter of Thomas Livesey, Esq. (she was born in 1777). The house in Church-street (now the Union Club) was built by Mr. Henry Sudell for his town residence on his marriage in 1796. Having purchased large estates of land in Mellor and Samesbury, Mr. Sudell enclosed the Woodfold Park about the year 1799; and built Woodfold Hall, Mellor, an extensive mansion with a handsome classic portico. In his day, Mr. Henry Sudell was the most princely of local traders, and at the height of his affluence about 1820 was reputed to be a millionaire. His downfall was the result of losing speculations on a large scale as a merchant in the German and American markets. Mr. Sudell's suspension was announced in July, 1827, on which he quitted Woodfold Park with his family, and never returned to the neighbourhood of Blackburn. The major portion of his estate in Mellor, including Woodfold Hall and part of the Park, was settled upon his family, and was sold about the year 1831 to J. Fowden Hindle, Esq. The residue of Mr. Sudell's estates, in Pleasington, Mellor, and Samesbury townships, by order of his assignees were publicly sold, in September, 1828; they comprised about 842 acres of land, and their appraised value was near £60,000. Mr. Henry Sudell afterwards resided at Ashley House, Box, near Chippenham, Co. Wilts. Mrs. Maria Sudell died at Box, April 1st, 1848, aged 70. Mr. Sudell's family were:—Henry, eldest son, born in 1798, died unmarried at Ashley House, Aug. 21st, 1851, aged 52; Thomas, born Aug. 7th, 1802, sometime merchant in Liverpool, died at Ashley House, Chippenham, June 27th, 1857 (he was last surviving male representative of the Sudells of Blackburn); John Joseph, born Nov. 20th, 1804, died Dec. 13th, 1808; a younger son, born in 1808; daughters, Maria, died at Cheltenham, Jan. 21st, 1823, aged 23; Lydia, died at Versailles, July 4th, 1825; Alice, died, aged 59, Jan. 2nd, 1858; and Elizabeth, wife of Rev. Dr. Horlock, Vicar of Bath, died, aged 49, Jan. 3rd, 1858. Henry Sudell, Esq., died at Ashley House, near Bath, Jan. 30th, 1856, at the advanced age of 92.

WHALLEY OF RISHTON, BLACKBURN, SPARTH, AND CLERK-HILL.

The family of Whalley, of note in the last century as possessors of considerable estate in this parish and as connected by marriage with the Gardiner family, appears to have sprung from an old yeoman stock seated in Rishton township. Of this family was James Whalley, of Rishton, assessed to the Subsidy in 1610. In 1614, Thomas Whalley, gent., gave 10s. to increase the stock of Blackburn Grammar School. After him comes Thomas Whalley of Ichill in Rishton, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1647.

James Whalley of Sidebight in Rishton, was buried at Blackburn, July 30th, 1687. Sidebight is close to the west boundary of Rishton adjoining Blackburn, and the last-named may be one with the "James Whalley of Blackburn, gent.," made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1654.

Next occurs Thomas Whalley, gent., of Rishton, assessed to the Subsidy of 1663, whom I suppose to be the Thomas Whalley of Blackburn, attorney for Thomas Walmesley, Esq., at the Visitation of Dugdale in 1664; and also the "Thomas Whalley of Eachill," a Governor of the Grammar School of Blackburn in 1688. He is named Thomas Whalley of Sparth, gent., in a deed of 1679; and is stated to have purchased the Clerk-hill estate in Whalley from the Crombocks in 1699. Thomas Whalley of Sparth, in Clayton-les-Moors, gent., had, I think, these sons:—James, his

heir, baptized June 23rd, 1672; Thomas, born in 1673; John; Robert, buried Nov. 27th, 1689; William, buried in 1683; and Jonathan, born in 1679; also a daughter Isabel, buried Sept. 12th, 1683. A letter from Mr. Whalley of Sparth, on the affairs of Great Harwood Church, dated 1684, was by the above Thomas Whalley, gent. Thomas Whalley, senior, of Sparth, was buried at Great Harwood Church, Nov. 14th, 1712. Ellen Whalley, widow, of Sparth, was buried Oct. 13th, 1713.

James Whalley of Sparth, gent., son of Thomas, in 1722 purchased (in conjunction with Christopher Baron, gent.) the Mauor of Oswaldtwistle. He was made an in-burgess of Preston in 1702. Mr. James Whalley of Sparth was buried at Great Harwood Church, Sept. 13th, 1734.

Thomas Whalley of Sparth, M.D., brother of James, was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1711, and died in 1724, aged 51. He was buried at Great Harwood Church, Dec. 10th, 1724.¹

John Whalley of Blackburn, gent., another brother, continues in his posterity the family descent. He was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1712; and died in 1734; buried at Blackburn, April 4th. He had a large family, including sons, Thomas, born in 1698; John, bapt. Nov. 17th, 1700; James; Joseph, born 1705; and Robert, bapt. July 13th, 1713; and daughters, Esther, born 1701, died 1703; Ann, died 1709; Ellen, born 1711; Mary, born 1715, died 1726; Elizabeth, born in 1718, married, in 1741, Thomas Pickop; and a second Esther, born in 1720, married John Starky, Esq., of Heywood Hall.

Thomas Whalley of Blackburn, gent., son and heir of John, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1725. He had sons John and Thomas. The father occurs as "Thomas Whalley of Blackburn, Esq.," in the Guild Rolls of Preston, of which borough he and his sons and brothers were in-burgesses. He was buried at Blackburn, March 5th, 1747-8.

The next brother of Thomas was John Whalley, of Blackburn, gent., elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1728. He married, Oct. 8th, 1725, Jane, daughter of John Sudell of Blackburn, gent., by whom (she died in 1765, buried April 6th) he had issue, sons, John, born 1739, died 1740; Thomas, born and died in 1741; and daughters, Mary, born in 1729; Elizabeth, born in 1735, baptized July 16th; Ann, born 1738, died 1740; a second Ann, born in 1743; and Esther, born and died in 1744. John Whalley, Esq., died in 1767.

It will thus be seen that the last-named John Whalley, gent., had no male issue that survived; and several daughters also died in infancy. One daughter, Elizabeth, married Feb. 16th, 1764, Rev. Robert Master, D.D., rector of Croston, and had a daughter Jane, who will again appear in the genealogy of this family.

In 1762, James Whalley, Esq., Councillor-at-Law, brother of Thomas and John, is described as "of Clerkhill." Before the Preston Guild of 1762, were enrolled as in-burgesses—"John Whalley of Blackburn, Esq.; James, his brother, Councillor-at-Law, of Clerkhill; Joseph, his brother, of Blackburn, gent.; Robert, his brother, of St. Gyles, Oxford, M.D.; John, his [Robert's] son; Robert, his [John's] brother; James, his brother; Thomas, his brother." James Whalley, of the Middle Temple, Esq., appears as a

¹ Fixed in the head of a pillar, on the south side of Great Harwood churchyard, is a brass inscribed with a Latin epitaph on "Thomas Whalley de Sparth in agro Lancastrensi, M.D. and Collegii Oriel apud Oxoniensis nuper socius baud ignobilis, Theologia fuit sapiens, Phylsophia prudens, Botanices sciens, Medicinæ speculativæ simul et Therapeuticae peritus, Pretate, Probitate, Candore, et Modestia clarus, in egenos eroganda pecunia dives, Inopi ferens opem et concilium, quem capellæ de Downham et Altham et Harwood præcipiæ munificum, loquuntur ultra vires studiis indentus et assidua sedulitatæ fractus carnis exuvias tibi consumptas deposuit sexto die Decembris Anno D'ni 1724 ætat. 51, in cuius memoriam fratres Johannes et Jacobus H. P. M."

Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1734 until his death in 1780. In 1762 four members of this family were at one time on the governing body of the Grammar School, viz. :—Mr. John Whalley; Mr. Joseph Whalley; James Whalley, Esq.; and Dr. Robert Whalley.

Joseph Whalley of Blackburn, gent., another brother of John and James, was a Governor of the Grammar School from 1733 until his decease in Jan., 1767.

The junior brother was Robert Whalley, Esq., M.D., of Oriel College, Oxford. Dr. Robert Whalley married Grace, only daughter of Bernard Gardiner, D.D., and heiress apparent of her cousin, Sir William Gardiner of Roche Court, Bart. By this lady he had issue sons, John, born May 26th, 1743; James; Robert; and Thomas. Dr. Robert Whalley of Clerk-hill was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1739 until his death in 1769.

John Whalley, Esq., of Clerk-hill, first son of Robert, heired through his mother the estates of the Gardiners; assumed in succession the additional names of Gardiner and Smythe, and was created a baronet in 1782, the baronetcy of the Gardiners of Roche Court having become extinct three years before. Sir John Whalley Smythe-Gardiner died in 1797, having no issue by his wife, Martha, daughter of Dr. Newcome, Dean of Rochester, and his estates passed to his brother James.

James Whalley, Esq., of Clerk Hill, also in turn assumed the names of Smythe-Gardiner, and in his person the baronetcy was continued. He was born in 1748, was M.A. of Magdalen College, Oxford; and married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Assheton, D.D., Rector of Middleton, who died in childbed of her first-born, Sept. 8th, 1785, aged 23; her monument in Whalley Church bears the pathetic poetic elegy by Cooper which has often been printed. The infant child left at her death was a son, James. Sir James Whalley Smythe-Gardiner, Bart., married for his second wife his kinswoman Jane, eldest daughter of Robert Master, D.D., by Elizabeth, daughter of John Whalley, Esq.; the date of this marriage was Dec. 3rd, 1789; and the issue, four sons, Robert; John Master; William; and Thomas (who died in infancy); and four daughters, Elizabeth-Jane; Barbara-Smythe; Grace; and Caroline-Margaret. Sir James, prior to his succession to the title, was High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1783. He died August 21st, 1805; his widow died at Clerk Hill in 1843.

James Whalley Smythe-Gardiner, eldest son of Sir James, succeeded to the baronetcy, and to the estates of the Smythe-Gardiner families.

Robert Whalley, Esq., first son of Sir James by his second wife, inherited Clerk-hill; and added to the estate by the purchase of Wiswell Manor from the Welds in 1830. Robert Whalley, Esq., dying unmarried, the heir was the next son of Sir James, Rev. John Master Whalley, Rector of Slaidburn, who married Hannab, daughter of Joseph Nightingale, of Radholme, but died issueless, Oct. 17th, 1861, aged 68.

William Whalley, Esq., younger brother of the above, died at Whalley, March 10th, 1860, aged 63.

Elizabeth Jane, eldest daughter of Sir James, widow of Samuel Jellicoe, Esq., of Uplands, Co. Hants., on the death of her brother John claimed the Clerk-hill estate under her father's Will, and took possession; but after much litigation the estate was awarded to Sir John Brocus Whalley Smythe-Gardiner, Bart., son of Sir James.

WILKINSON OF ROYSHAW.

Richard Wilkinson, of Blackburn, occurs in 1660; he married Mary, daughter of Edward Gillibrand of Ramsgrave, gent.

Mr. Evan Wilkinson, of Blackburn, became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1675. Evan Wilkinson of Royshaw, yeoman, was buried Sept. 7th, 1706. He had a son William.

William Wilkinson, of Royshaw, gent., elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1706, died in June, 1744. His wife, Anne Wilkinson, died in June, 1737.

Mr. Evan Wilkinson was the son of Mr. William Wilkinson, bapt. July 24th, 1715.

Lawrence Wilkinson of Blackburn, gent., a "foreign burghess" of Preston at the Guild of 1682, had sons John and Richard.

WRAITH OF BLACKBURN, &c.

Mr. James Wraith, born at Mirfield, Co. York, was father of—

Rev. James Wraith, born at Elland, Co. York, May 28th, 1734, became minister of the Independent Church, Bolton, in 1772; in 1782 removed to Wolverhampton; in 1792 removed to Chorley in this county, and was afterwards Independent minister at Hampstead, Co. Middlesex. He died May 1st, 1815, in his 81st year. He had sons, James; and Benjamin, died at Liverpool, aged 81; daughters, Mary, Betty, and Priscilla.

Mr. James Wraith, eldest son of the Rev. James Wraith, settled at Blackburn, and died here, in 1806 (buried at Leyland Church). He married Betty Tassiker of Clayton Hall, Leyland, and had issue, sons, Hargreave; Thomas, born 1789, died in 1824 at Baltimore, U.S.; James, born 1791, died 1806; and Charles James Fox, died in infancy; also daughters, Mary, married George Weale; Betsy, married Benj. Haslam; Priscilla, born Aug. 27th, 1793, married Rev. John Alexander, Minister of Norwich Independent Meeting-House; Ellen, Agnes, Dorothy, Frances, and Margaret.

Mr. Hargreave Wraith of Blackburn, chemist, eldest son of James, was born in 1787; married Phoebe, daughter of Mr. Adam Hope of Blackburn, and had issue, sons, John Hope Wraith, born Feb., 1814, died 1862, leaving issue; and Samuel Hope Wraith (of Darwen), born May, 1817, married and had issue; and daughters, Elizabeth, born 1819, married Mr. William Dickson; Lydia, born 1821, married Mr. F. Sharp, of Norwich. Mr. Hargreave Wraith died Dec. 2nd, 1855, in his 69th year.

YATES OF BLACKBURN, STANLEY HOUSE, MELLOR, &c.

James Yates of Blackburn, living in the first half of the seventeenth century, and descended, probably, from the older stock of Yate of Yate Bank, had two sons, James and William. James Yates, eldest son of James, died without issue.

John Yates and William Yates occur about 1663 as tenants of the Rectory in Blackburn.

William Yates, of Blackburn, gent., second son of James, and heir to his brother James, is first noted in 1646, when he was appointed a lay member of the third classis of the Lancashire Presbytery. He married, before 1651, Ann, daughter and heiress of [John?] Sharples of Blackburn, by whom he had sons, James, died Dec., 1652; William; John, born March, 1651-2; and Joseph, born Oct. 9th, 1655; daughters, Mary, born Nov., 1652, married Mr. Moseley, of Manchester; Hannah, born 1656; and Abigail, born Oct., 1660, married June 3rd, 1680, William Drake, Esq., of Barnoldswick, Co. York. Mr. William Yates was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1649; and in 1660 is styled "William Yates of Blackburn, mercer." He had some estate in Mellor, and in 1673 leased certain lands of Blackburn Grammar School contiguous to his own there. William Yates was buried at Blackburn, March 18th, 1683-4. His relict, "Mrs. Ann Yates of Manchester, widow," was buried April 2nd, 1696.

William Yates, of Blackburn, Esq., eldest surviving son of the above William, by his wife Evangeline (who died in 1713), had sons, William, buried March 25th, 1689; and Joseph, bapt. Dec. 11th, 1687, and other issue. He was, I opine, though the descent is not clearly ascertained, progenitor of the family of Yates of Blackburn

associated in business and by marriage with the Peels, two or three generations later. This William Yates, Esq., was made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1690, and died about 1711. His Will is dated May 7th, 1711.

John Yates, of Blackburn, next brother of William, died in Oct., 1691. He had a son Thomas, born in 1674.

Joseph Yates, gent., brother of William and John, and younger son of William Yates, senior, resided at Stanley House, Mellor; afterwards in Manchester. He was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1678; and in 1695, Joseph Yates, Esq., and John Clayton of the Green, gent., both Governors, had a 21 years' lease granted of 29 acres of School land in Mellor. Mr. Joseph Yates married at Manchester Collegiate Church, Dec. 21st, 1682, Margaret Booth, of Manchester, and had issue, sons, Edward, bapt. Oct. 8th, 1688; Joseph, bapt. April 13th, 1690; Thomas, born 1691, died 1692; a second Thomas, born in 1692; Richard, born 1693, died 1720; John, died 1695; and Oswald, born 1704; daughters, Ann, bapt. Aug. 20th, 1685, married Mr. Henry Cottam, of Liverpool; Margaret, born and died Dec., 1686; Mary, born 1695; Abigail, born 1699; and Margaret, born in 1700. By his Will, dated June 21st, 1704, Joseph Yates of Manchester, Esq., gave £10 to the Poor Stock of Blackburn. He died in 1705, and was buried at the Collegiate Church, Manchester, April 18th. His widow died Sept. 3rd, 1727.

Joseph Yates, Esq., the second son of Joseph last-named, of Manchester, afterwards of Peel Hall, by Ellen his wife, daughter of William Maghull of Maghull, Esq. (she died in 1753), had sons, "Maile" (or Maghull), bapt. Nov. 1st, 1714-5; Edward, born in 1717; and Joseph, bapt. July 17th, 1722. "Mr. Joseph Yates, of Manchester," was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in Feb., 1712; and was High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1728. He died at Preston, in Nov., 1773, and was buried at Peel Hall Chapel, Dec. 1st.

Maghull (or Maile) Yates, Esq. (eldest son of Joseph), of Stanley House, Mellor, and Maghull, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Humphrey Trafford of Trafford, Esq., had issue two daughters, co-heiresses. Maria, his second daughter and co-heir, married, Oct. 20th, 1764, John Aspinall, Esq., of Standen.

Joseph Yates, of Manchester, younger son of Joseph, entered the legal profession, and was appointed Judge of the King's Bench and knighted in 1763. Sir Joseph Yates was advanced to a judgeship of the Common Pleas in Feb., 1770, and died at Cheame, in Surrey, June 7th, in the same year. His only son, Joseph Yates, Esq., married Charlotte, daughter of Baron St. John of Bletsoe.

YATES OF BLACKBURN AND BURY, &c.

John Yates of Blackburn, yeoman and innkeeper (of the Old Bull Inn), elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1772, and died in May, 1781, was father of William Yates. His widow, Mrs. Yates, died at Bury, aged 84, in June, 1797.

William Yates of Blackburn, chapman, born about 1739, elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1771; afterwards was the celebrated calico printer, of Bury (see ante, p. 217). He married, first, in 1764, Mary Bentley, and by her (who died in 1768) had sons, Thomas; and John, died young; and a daughter Ellen, wife of the first Sir Robert Peel, Bart. He had three other wives; by his second, Ann, daughter of Edmund Haworth of Walmsley Fold, he had sons, Edmund, Giles, Jonathan, William, John, and Thomas; and daughters Jane and Ann. His third wife was Elizabeth Blakey, widow, daughter of John Hargreaves of Newchurch, gent. His fourth wife, Ursula Robinson, died, aged 92, Dec. 9th, 1852. Mr. Yates died Jan. 17th, 1813, aged 73.

Edmund Yates, Esq., of Fairlawn, Co. Kent, eldest surviving son of William, married, first, Mary, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Haworth of Highercroft, by whom

he had issue, sons, Edmund, died young in 1802; and Jonathan; and a daughter Elizabeth. He married secondly, in 1809, Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan Peel, Esq., by whom (she died in 1825) he had no issue. Edmund Yates, Esq., died, aged 66, April 24th, 1835. Mr. Jonathan Yates, his son and heir, died before him, aged 26, in March, 1829.

BLACKBURN INVENTORS.

BULLOUGH, James, a native of West-houghton, settled in Blackburn in 1829, and while engaged with the firm of Hornby and Kenworthy patented several useful improvements in the power-loom, such as the roller temple, weft fork, loose reed, &c. He also, in 1855, patented a self-acting warping mill. Mr. Bullough afterwards was a cotton spinner at Baxenden. He died July 31st, 1868.

HARGRAVES, James, of Stanhill, near Blackburn, inventor of the "Spinning Jenny," &c. (See ante, pp. 204-9).

HARGRAVES, John, born in Nova Scotia, Blackburn, is remembered as the inventor and maker of a spinning frame, a carding engine, and a bobbin engine. On a popular rising against machinery, the mob attacked his workshop and destroyed his machines. He had to withdraw from the town, but returned, and died in Blackburn, towards the close of the last century. Mr. John Hargraves Scott, Mayor of Burnley in 1871-2, and Mr. William Dickson, of Blackburn, are grandsons of this inventor.

KENWORTHY, William, of Brookhouse Lodge, Blackburn, sometime partner with Mr. Wm. Henry Hornby in the Brookhouse Mills, was joint patentee with Mr. Bullough in several improvements of the power-loom, sizing machines, &c. Mr. Kenworthy died, aged 53, Oct. 14th, 1856. A handsome monument to Mr. Kenworthy was placed in Blackburn Parish Churchyard in September, 1858.

OSBALDESTON, John, born at Snig Brook, Blackburn, about the year 1777, patented, in 1842, an improved power-loom, and claimed to be the inventor of a number of important improvements in machinery for spinning and weaving cotton. He derived no pecuniary benefits from his ingenuity, however, and died in Blackburn Workhouse, Feb. 18th, 1862, aged 84 years; he was buried at Tockholes Church.

RAILTON, Robert, senior, of Blackburn, was known as the inventor of improvements in machines for winding, warping, including the "twist cop winding machine," the "hank warping mill," &c.

BLACKBURN AUTHORS.

BAILEY, Rev. John, Nonconformist Divine, a native of Blackburn; author of "Man's Chief End." Boston, U.S., 1680 (see ante pp. 358-9).

BARLOW, James, an eminent Blackburn surgeon, author of "Essays on Surgery and Midwifery." Blackburn: Printed by T. Rogerson, 1822. 8vo. pp. 418. Mr. Barlow died at Blackburn, aged 72, Aug. 20th, 1839.

BAYNES, Alderman John (Mayor of Blackburn 1858-9), author of "Two Lectures on the Cotton Trade" (historical, statistical, &c). Blackburn: J. N. Haworth, 1857. 8vo. pp. 112. He died Oct. 2nd, 1873.

BILLINGTON, William, a native of Blackburn; author of "Sheen and Shade: Lyrical Poems." Blackburn: J. N. Haworth, 1861. 8vo. pp. 160.

BOLTON, Rev. Robert, the Puritan Divine, a native of Blackburn; author of various works (see pp. 262-6).

CARDWELL, Edward, LL.D., a native of Blackburn; author of numerous works in ecclesiastical history (see p. 391).

DURHAM, William, a native of Blackburn, died in 1868; author of "Chronological Notes on Blackburn." Blackburn: C. Tiplady, 1866. 8vo. pp. 66.

FLETCHER, Rev. Joseph, D.D., Minister at Blackburn, 1806-22; author of several published works (see ante, p. 361).

GOURLAY, William, of Blackburn, author of "History of the Distress in Blackburn, 1861-5." Blackburn: J. N. Haworth, 1865. 8vo. pp. 180.

GROSART, Rev. Alexander B., of Blackburn, author and editor of "Fuller Worthies' Library" (printed partially at Blackburn, by Chas. Tiplady and Son), and many other works (see ante, p. 366).

HUNTER, Rev. Thomas, M.A., Master of Blackburn Grammar School, 1737-50; author of several works (see ante, pp. 347-8).

MORLEY, John, of London, a native of Blackburn, son of the late Dr. Morley; Editor of the "Fortnightly Review," and author of several published works, on French literature, &c.

PRICE, Rev. John, Minister of St. Paul's (C.H.) Church, Blackburn, 1799-1841; author of "The Hearer's Memorial" (a volume of Sermons preached in St. Paul's Church); Blackburn, printed by Wilcockson, 1816; and of a Selection of Hymns for use in that church.

ROBINSON, Rev. Christopher, D.D., Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, 1850-69; author of several works on Biblical Interpretation, &c. He died in 1869.

SKINNER, Rev. Francis, D.D., United Presbyterian Minister in Blackburn, 1830-66; author of several theological and controversial pamphlets. He died in 1866 (see ante, pp. 565-6).

STARKIE, Thomas, Esq., M.A., Q.C., eldest son of Rev. Thomas Starkie, Vicar of Blackburn, born at Blackburn, April 12th, 1782, was author of treatises on the Law of Slander, Libel, &c. (1813), and on Criminal Pleadings (2 vols., 8vo., 1814), with other legal works. He married Lucy, daughter of Rev. T. D. Whitaker, LL.D., and died in 1849.

WALCOT, James, M.A., author of "History of a Pious Indian Convert; or, the New Pilgrim's Progress." Blackburn: Printed by J. Waterworth, 1792. 8vo. pp. 268.

WARD, Rev. John (Wesleyan Minister at Blackburn 1868-70), author of "Rise and Progress of Wesleyan Methodism in Blackburn," &c. Blackburn: 1871. 8vo. pp. 80.

WHITAKER, Dr. T. D., Vicar of Blackburn, 1818-21, author of the "History of Whalley" and several other well-known topographical works.

WHITAKER, Rev. J. W., D.D., Vicar of Blackburn, 1822-54, author of several theological and controversial works.

WHITTLE, Peter, of Preston, author of "Blackburn as It Is;" 1852.

BLACKBURN NEWSPAPERS.

Blackburn Mail, started May 29th, 1793; ceased, 1832.

Blackburn Journal, started in 1832; ceased shortly after.

Blackburn Gazette, started in 1832; ceased, 1843.

Blackburn Mercury, started June, 1843; ceased about 1847.

Blackburn Standard, started in 1835; (*Patriot*, in 1860).

Blackburn Times, started June, 1855.

BLACKBURN ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS, A.D. 1798-1804.

In the year 1798, a corps of 250 men was raised to aid in the national defence, and was called "Blackburn Loyal Local Association of Volunteers." The corps was officered by members of the Sudell, Birley, Cardwell, Feilden, and Hornby families. The daily muster for drill was at 5 a.m. A pair of colours presented to the corps by Mrs. Sudell, on June 4th, 1800, were hung in the Parish Church after the association was disbanded, about 1804, and later were placed in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.

In the recent Volunteer movement two strong corps, one of Artillerymen and the other of Rifles, have been raised and maintained in Blackburn. For both corps permanent buildings for depôts, and drill grounds, have been provided.

POPULATION OF BLACKBURN—A.D. 1801-1875.

Township of	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.	
	11,980	... 15,082	... 21,940	... 27,091	
Blackburn.	1841.	1851.	1861.	1871.	
	36,629	... 46,536	... 63,126	... 76,339	
Census of 1871—Municipal Borough, boundaries coincident					} 76,339
with Township					
Do. Parliamentary Borough, embracing portions					} 82,928
of Witton and Livesey					
Estimated population, end of 1875—Municipal Borough, <i>circa</i>					83,000
Do. do. Parliamentary Borough, <i>circa</i>					90,000

CHAPTER II.—THE TOWNSHIP OF BALDERSTONE.

Situation of the Township, Acreage, Population, &c.—Ancient Lords—De Balderstone—Harrington—Stanley—Dudley—Radcliffe, Gerard, and Braddyll—Osbaldeston—Sunderland Grange and De Sunderland Family—Osbaldeston of Sunderland—Modern Proprietors—Feilden, Starkie, &c.—Parochial Chapel of St. Leonard—Balderstone Charities, &c.

BALDERSTONE is situate in the Vale of Ribble, on the northern side of Blackburn Parish, and extends a mile or so along the left bank of the Ribble, betwixt Osbaldeston and Samlesbury. Balderstone is a manor, and (along with Osbaldeston and part of Mellor) an ancient parochial chapelry. The area of the township is 1,710 statute acres. Being purely agricultural, the population of the township, which was 615 in 1801, had decreased to 475 inhabitants in 1871. Two centuries ago the chapelry contained eighty families, about the present population of the township.

I proceed to give some account of the early manorial landlords in Balderstone, beginning with the family that bore the territorial name.

BALDERSTONE OF BALDERSTONE.

The descent deduced of the De Balderstone family makes it a branch of that of De Osbaldeston, varying the name with the place of settlement. One of the sons of Eilfi de Osbaldeston was William de Balderstone. He was brother of Hugh de Osbaldeston; and was seated in Balderstone as owner of lands there in the year 1223. He had sons Richard, Henry, Adam, Alan, and Robert.

Richard de Balderstone, heir of William (living in 1266), had a son and heir named William de Balderstone, whose successor was Richard de Balderstone, named in charters from 1314 to 1325.

Several junior connexions of the proprietary family in Balderstone are mentioned in the Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey; *ex. gr.* Adam de Balderstone; Roger, son of Adam; Hugh de Balderstone (A.D. 1290); John, son of Hugh. Simon de Balderstone was Seneschal of Blackburnshire in 1303.

In the chief lineage, Richard son of William de Balderstone had issue, by Alice, his wife, daughter of Alexander de Keuerdale, a son and heir William; and a daughter Katherine, wife of Gilbert de la Legh.

William de Balderstone, who lived in the reigns of the Second and Third Edwards, and died before 1330, by Johanna his wife had sons, Richard, who succeeded; and Thomas, of Bretherton; also a daughter Margaret, married Geoffrey de Osbaldeston.

Richard de Balderstone married Agnes, relict of William Molineux, and had issue, sons, William, and Richard. Richard, the sire, died in 1383, when the writ of *diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Richard de Balderstone was issued.

William de Balderstone, following Richard, married Constanca, daughter of Edward Banastre, and had issue Richard, his heir; and Thomas de Balderstone; the latter, living in 1441, had a daughter Constanca, married, in 1448, to James Leigh. William de Balderstone died in the 7th Henry IV. (1406), and on Dec. 10th, in that year, the writ of *diem clausit extremum* was addressed to the County Escheator after the death of William de Balderstone, who held by Knight service, of the inheritance of his late wife Constance.

Richard his son succeeded, and on the 18th March, 1421-2, the escheator received the precept to give to Richard, son and heir of William de Balderstone, full seizin of his lands, he having sufficiently proved his age before the escheator. This scion was knighted. By Johanna his wife, he had sons, William, and Richard; daughters, Elizabeth, (Flower gives Anne), married to John Osbaldeston, Esq., in the year 1461; Ellen, married Sir Thomas Radcliff, Knt., of Wynmarleigh; and Isabella, wife of Sir William Atherton, Kt., whose monumental slab is in Samlesbury Church. These daughters were co-heirs with their brother William, and each of them carried to her husband the fourth part of the estates of the family. Sir Richard Balderstone, Knt., died Dec. 20th, 1456. *Inq. post mort.* dated Sept. 25th, 1457.

William Balderstone, lord of Balderstone, son of Richard, married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Gerard; secondly, Margaret, daughter of William Stanley, Esq.; by the latter wife he had issue two daughters, co-heiresses, viz., Joan, or Jane,¹ (married, first, Sir Ralph Langton, Kt., and, secondly, Sir John Pilkington); and Isabel, married in 1472, Robert Harrington, Esq., of Hornby Castle.

¹ By her Will dated Jan. 2nd, 1497, Dame Jane Pilkington, widow, bequeaths her body to be buried in the "Nunnes Quier at Monckton," in her habit, &c.; and "whereas Syr Henry Huntington, Preste, and Roger Radcliffe, gent., stande seised and be feoffees for and in all my moyety of the Manor of Balderstone and of all other messuages, landes, &c., which were William Balderstone's my father, in the townes and hamlettes of Balderstone, Mellor, Thornton, Holme, Singleton, Little Estake, Hamletoo, &c. in Co. Lancaster, and Rogerthorpe, Co. York, to me descended by inheritance;" testator wills that the feoffees suffer her to receive the rents and profits of the said lands during her life, and after

HARRINGTON, LORDS OF BALDERSTONE.

Sir Robert Harrington, Knt., by his wife Isabel Balderstone, heiress of a moiety of Balderstone manor, had issue a son James; and a daughter Jane, wife of Thomas Talbot of Bashall, Esq. He was attainted, and his estates were confiscated by Henry VII. on account of his attachment to the party of Richard III., after Bosworth battle; and given to Thomas Stanley, Earl of Derby. Sir Robert died about 1497.

James Harrington, son of Sir Robert, took holy orders and became Dean of York. After the death of his father and mother, he in the year 1503 petitioned the King and Council for the restoration of the forfeited estates inherited from his mother, describing himself as "James Haryngton, Prest, son and heir of bloode to Dame Isabel, late the wyfe of Syr Robert Haryngton, Knt.," and supplicates that he may have all the lands he ought to have inherited from his mother, Balderstone manor being chief thereof, "saving that this acte be not prejudiciall to Thomas Erle of Derby, or Sir Edward Stanley, and their respective heirs." This appeal was granted by the Crown, and the lands were given to James Harrington for his life. In the escheat of Edmund Dudley, in 1510, it is mentioned that at that date James Harrington held in fee half the manor of Balderstone. He died in 1512. The estates then reverted to the Earl of Derby.

STANLEY, EARLS OF DERBY, LORDS OF BALDERSTONE, &c.

Thomas Stanley, created first Earl of Derby, in 1485, received from Henry VII., in reward for his great service at Bosworth-field, the forfeited estates of Sir Robert Harrington of Hornby, lord of Balderstone; of Francis, Viscount Lovel, lord of a moiety of Samlesbury Manor; of Sir Thomas Pilkington; and of other great proprietors in this county. The Earl died in 1504.

Thomas Stanley, second Earl of Derby (son of George Stanley Lord Strange, and grandson of Thomas, first Earl), died May 23rd, 1521, and by the *Inq. post. mort.*, taken in the 13th Henry VIII., was found to have been seized of Balderstone manor, with lands appurtenant; of Samlesbury manor; and of lands in Walton and Eccleshill in Blackburn parish.

The Earls of Derby appear later, in the reign of Elizabeth, as lords of a portion of Balderstone manor.

her decease they shall stand seased thereof "to the use of Syr James Harrington, Knyghte, my sister's son, for terme of hys lyfe;" after his decease, &c., "to the use of Thomas Talbot of Bashall, son and heyre of Edmund Talbot, Esq., and Jane his wife, daughter and one of the co-heires to Sir Robt. Harrington of Hornby Castle, Knt., and the lady Isabell his wyfe my Sister," and the heirs of the said Thomas for ever, and "of Richard Radcliffe and Ellen his wyfe, which Ellen was Aunt to me the said Jane, and Sister to William Balderstone my father: and to the use of Richard Osbaldiston, son and heyre of John Osbaldiston and Elizabeth his wyfe, another sister of William Balderstone my father, and their heyres for ever."

SIR EDMUND DUDLEY, LORD OF A MOIETY OF BALDERSTONE.

Sir Edmund Dudley (son of John Dudley, Esq.), a commissioner of forfeiture to Henry VII., obtained a moiety of Balderstone manor, sequestered from the Harringtons, by the King's grant, and held the estate until his attainder and execution for treason, August 17th, 1510. This with other estates Dudley had acquired by nefarious means was then escheated to the Crown; and on the *Inq. post mort.* taken at Wigan, 1st Henry VIII., it was proved that Edmund Dudley had held half the manor of Balderstone (of which James Harrington was seized in fee), with 200 messuages, 2000 acres of land, 500 acres meadow, 1800 acres pasture, 40 acres woodland, 3000 acres of moor, moss, &c., and 100s. rents in Balderstone, Mellor, Preston, Ribbleton, Broughton, and some twenty other townships in Lancashire.

RADCLIFFE OF WYNMARLEIGH, LORDS OF BALDERSTONE.

Sir Thomas Radcliffe of Wynmarleigh, Knt., by his marriage with Ellen, daughter and co-heir of Richard Balderstone, acquired for the Radcliffes lands in Balderstone. He had a son and heir, Richard.

Richard Radcliffe, Esq., had a son Thomas. The father died about A.D. 1500, and was found possessed at death of lands in Showley-in-Clayton, Mellor, and Parva Harwoode in this parish.

Thomas Radcliffe, of Wynmarleigh, Esq., aged 17 years at the date of his father's death, had by his wife Alice, daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard of the Bryn, a son and heir, Thomas; and a daughter Cicelia, married first, Thomas Farington, gent.; secondly, Edward Radcliffe of Todmorden, gent. The father died about the year 1521, and was found seized of estates in Balderstone, Showley, Mellor, and Parva Harwood, within Blackburn Parish.

Thomas Radcliffe the son had by his first wife, — Redman, a son William; and by his second, Isabel Butler, a daughter Ann. He died about A.D. 1538; and his extensive possessions included messuages and lands in Balderstone, Mellor, Showley, and Pleasington, in this parish.

William Radcliffe, Esq., son of Thomas, had no issue by his wife Ann, daughter of Sir John Holcroft, Knt.; and he died in 1560, being then lord of Wynmarleigh, Astley, and Cliderowe manors; also of Showley in Clayton-in-le-Dale, held of Thomas Hoghton, Esq., in socage; of the fourth part of the manor of Balderstone, held of John Osbaldeston, Esq., in socage; and of 300 messuages, two water mills and one windmill, 2000 acres of land, 300 acres meadow, 2000 acres pasture, 100 acres woodland, 300 acres moor, moss and turbarry in the above demesnes and in Mellor, Pleasington, Little Harwood, and 28 other townships in Lancashire.

On the death of William Radcliffe without heir of his body, portions of the estates were heired by Joan Radcliffe, daughter of Edward Radcliffe of Todmorden by his wife Cicely, daughter of Thomas and aunt of William Radcliffe of Wynmarleigh, she being then aged 14 years; and by John, son of William Singleton of Staining by his wife Alice, daughter of Cicely Radcliffe by her first husband Thomas ffarington, gent.

The manors of Wynmarleigh, Astley, and Clitheroe, and the mesne lands in Balderstone and Clayton-in-le-Dale, had been settled by William Radcliffe, Esq., before his decease upon the issue of his sister Anne, wife of Gilbert Gerard, Esq., afterwards Sir Gilbert Gerard, Knt., Master of the Rolls, who died in 1592, seized of manorial lands in Wynmarleigh, Astley, Cliderowe, Balderstone, Showley, and estates in Mellor, Parva Harwood, Pleasington, and many other places.

Sir Thomas Gerard, Knt., son and heir of Sir Gilbert, would seem to have conveyed his Balderstone estate to John Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield, soon after his succession to his inheritance; for in the 40th Eliz. (1598), John Braddyll, "as lord of Balderstone Manor," sought to recover from George Wright, Hugh Pilkington, Thomas Wright, and Margery Talbott, the customary rents and services for mesne lands in Balderstone held by them under leases from Sir Thomas Gerard, Knt., formerly lord of that manor; and the same year, John Braddyll, lord of the manor, prosecuted James Snape for intrusion on a parcel of ground called Blyndhurst in Balderstone Manor. At his death in 1616, John Braddyll was seized, among other estates, of lands in Balderstone.

LORDSHIP OF THE OSBALDESTON FAMILY.

In the 16th century, the Osbaldestons of Osbaldeston appear as exercising manorial rights in Balderstone. In the 35th Henry VIII. (1543), Sir Alexander Osbaldeston at his death reckoned among his manors the manor of Balderstone, according to the escheat. In 1560, we have seen, the lands of the Radcliffes in Balderstone were held in socage tenure of John Osbaldeston, Esq.; and in the 18th Eliz. (1576), the same John Osbaldeston died seized of Balderstone manor, with lands and messuages appurtenant. In the 32nd Eliz. (1590), Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., was found in possession of Balderstone and Osbaldeston manors, &c. These rights in Balderstone were probably retained by the Osbaldestons until the alienation of the other contiguous demesnes by the last direct representative of that family in the last century.

SUNDERLAND GRANGE AND DE SUNDERLAND FAMILY.

Sunderland in Balderstone was from ancient time a Grange of the neighbouring Monastery of Salley, and numerous deeds in the Chartulary of Salley Abbey relate to the conveyance of this estate by members of the De Sunderland family, primitive owners, who were probably of the stock of the De Balderstones, lords of Balderstone.

Ailsi de Sunderland gave to the Abbot and Monks of Salley her lands of Sunderland, with common of wood in Osbaldeston and Balderstone, pannage for swine, &c.

Ailsius son of Hugh gave to God and the Monks of St. Marie of Salley, Sunderlandesholme, between the torrent of Sunderland and the Ribble, as far as Chippendes-clogh, and thence by the wood beyond Langhirst to the rivulet of Smalelie, and so by the west boundary of Smalelie to Sandiford. The same donor gave to Salley lands with wood upon Sunderlandesholme. Hugh son of Ailsius confirmed his father's grant.

William son of Ailsius, with consent of his brothers, Robert, Alexander, John, and Adam, and by the will of his mother Wimara, confirms to the Abbey all his father's gift. Peter de Archis also confirmed this grant.

Adam de Winkedelai, for the salvation of his soul and of his late wife Christiana, gave to the Monks of Salley all the land of Sunderlandesholme, with woods pertaining to the same manor.

Adam de Sunderland gave to Adam son of Henry de Turton in free marriage with Agnes his daughter a certain parcel of his land in Sunderlande. Agnes de Sunderland exchanged this land in Sunderland with the Abbot of Salley for a piece of land in Preston; and Robert Cementarii, son of Agnes de Sunderland, quit-claimed to Salley Monastery his right in the land which was Adam de Sunderland his uncle's, son of Adam de Winkedelai, in all the Grange called Sunderlande.

The above deeds are all without date, but belong to the first part of the 13th century. Later, Adam de Osbaldeston quit-claimed to Salley his right in that place of wood and pasture called le Mikelfal in Sunderland Wood; and Robert son of Thomas de Osbaldeston gave also his deed of quit-claim of the same place of land.

John son of Robert de Osbaldeston gave to the Abbot and Monks of Salley his right in the Common of Sunderlande, in land, meadow, and wood. William de Studelehurst, Henry de Brune, and William son of Henry de Osbaldeston, also gave to the Monastery their rights of Common in Sunderlande. William son of Richard de Balderstone gave quit-claim of Wood in Sunderland.

In the year 1271, the Abbot and Convent of Salley remit to Richard de Balderstone all their enclosures then made, with 10 acres of waste and 10s. 8d. of annual rent, and the said Richard, on his part, quit-claimed the tenements of Lebbelay and le Menefel and all his closes there made or to be made.

William, son and heir of Richard de Balderstone, quit-claimed to the Convent his right of Common in the woods, closes, and pastures of Sunderlande. Galfridus son of Hugh de Balderstone quit-claimed his right of Common in the enclosures made upon the Grange of Sunderland by the Abbot and Monks, by deed dated June 17th, 1292. John son of Hugh quit-claimed his right of Common in the Mikelfal in Sunderland Wood; and Thomas son of Adam de Birley, John his brother, Adam de Balderstone, Alexander de Keuerdale, Henry de Balderstone, John son of Hugh de Balderstone, and Richard son of John de Westewod, quit-claimed to the Convent their several rights of Common in the Mikelfal.

About A.D. 1320, a composition was made concerning Sunderlande between the House of Salley and the Church of Blackburn, by Stephen Abbot of Salley, and Roger and Adam, then Rectors of Blackburn, whereby the Abbots of Salley and Whalley agreed to submit their dispute as to tithes of Sunderland Grange to the Abbots of Fountains and Furness.

August 2nd, 1333, it was agreed at Whalley, between the two Houses, by mediation of the Abbots of Dora and Tynterna, that Salley should have the tithes of the Grange, except Lebbelay, during the agreement Henry de Tunstall then had in the

Grange, for 4lbs. of wax yearly; after the Grange reverted to the Convent of Salley, the Abbot and Convent of Salley to be free from tithes for the aforesaid wax, but to pay tithes to Whalley Abbey except for those lands they assarted after the old composition was made, viz., 4½ acres called Dobberudyng, 7½ acres in le Monkeflattes, 2½ acres in Rammesholme, 1 acre in le Pughull, 1 acre in le Facebystubbyng, and ½ acre in le Blakewelholme.

William son of Richard de Sunderland quit-claimed to Salley his right in lands and tenements the Abbot and Monks held in Sunderlande, Balderstone, and Osbaldeston, by deed dated April 2nd, 1325.

In the "Liber Locus Benedictus" of Whalley it is noted that Ailsius lord of Osbaldeston was seized of Osbaldeston and of Sunderland, and gave Sunderland to the Abbot and Convent of Salley within metes and bounds as contained in their charter. The said Abbot and Convent gave it in exchange to Adam de Sunderland for four bovates of land in Craven near Pathorn; afterwards the said Adam gave to Robert his son a certain place of land called Lebbelay with Sunderland, and the said Robert sold the same place to the Church of Blackburn. Afterwards, by common consent of Adam and Robert de Sunderland, the said place was sold to Adam de Balderstone, and the said Abbot and Convent of Salley acquired all that residue called Sunderland of the said Adam, so as before they had it, except the said place called Lebbelay.

OSBALDESTON OF SUNDERLAND.

Richard Osbaldeston, gent., son of Sir Alexander Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Knt., by his second wife Ellen, daughter of Thomas Tyldesley, Esq., settled at Sunderland in Balderstone upon an estate that was then lately acquired by the Osbaldestons. Richard Osbaldeston, by Eleanor his wife (who after his death married, secondly, Richard Rodgate), had sons, Alexander; William; Thomas; Cuthbert (who had sons Thomas and Richard); and Edward; and a daughter Alice. The youngest son, Edward Osbaldeston, gent., marrying eligibly Mary, daughter of John Molyneux, Esq., of Sefton, was father of Sir Richard Osbaldeston, Knt., Bencher of Gray's Inn, appointed Attorney General for Ireland by privy seal dated August 7th, 1636, who died in 1643, leaving by his wife (Anne Westrope), a son William Osbaldeston, Esq., and a daughter Frances. Richard Osbaldeston of Sunderland, gent., died April 8th, 1556, seized of lands in Balderstone, Osbaldeston, and Sunderland; Alexander, his son and heir, being then aged 10 years and 10 months. His Will is dated April 1st, 1556. Testator gives to Alice his daughter his part of his goods; makes Elizabeth his wife and Henry his brother executors, and gives 6s. 8d. to reparation of the chapel where his "father doth lye," and 6s. 8d. to be distributed amongst the poor. Some eight years after this testator's decease, in the 6th Eliz. (1564), Henry Osbaldeston, executor of Richard, deceased, and administrator of his goods, had a suit-at-law with Richard Rodgate and Eleanor his wife, late wife of Richard Osbaldeston, respecting possession of certain messuages and lands whereof Richard Osbaldeston, deceased, was seized in fee, in Sunderland and Cuedall, and which he granted and assured to certain persons, to the use of himself and Eleanor his wife, as a jointure for the life of the longest liver of them, with divers remainders over, and also of the goods and chattels of the said Richard.

Alexander Osbaldeston of Sunderland, gent., son of the above, married Rosamond, daughter of — Bradley of Bradley, Esq., and had a son and heir John. Alexander Osbaldeston rebuilt Sunderland Hall in 1596; and died Nov. 15th, 1598, aged 53. An inquisition of the escheator, taken at Ribchester, Mar. 13th, 41st Eliz., showed that he had been seized at death of one messuage or grange called Sunderlande, late part of

the possessions of the late monastery of Salley, with 40 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 40 acres of woodland, and 20 acres of rushland and heath. John Osbaldeston, son and heir, was then aged 7 years.

John Osbaldeston, gent., married Katherine, daughter of George Rogerley of Park Hall in Blackrod, and by her had two sons, Alexander; and John Osbaldeston, of the City of London; also a daughter Margaret. John Osbaldeston died April 26th, 1629, and on inquisition at Blackburn, July 26th, 5th Charles I., was found to have held the messuage called Sunderland in Balderstone, with one cottage, 3 gardens, 3 orchards, and 130 acres of land, meadow, pasture and woodland in Sunderland, Balderstone, and Osbaldeston. Alexander, son and heir, was aged 19 years.

Alexander Osbaldeston, gent., married Holcroft, daughter of Robert Hesketh of Rufford, Esq., and had issue one son, John; and seven daughters, Katherine, married, in 1657, to Thomas Sutton, gent., of Mawdsley; Jane, Margaret, Elizabeth, Anne, Dorothy, and Mary. The father, Alexander Osbaldeston, died, aged 72, in April, 1681, buried at Walton Church, April 21st.

John Osbaldeston, of Sunderland, gent., born in 1634, had to wife Anne, daughter of Richard Blakeburne of Goosnargh (she died in 1690), by whom he had issue, sons, Alexander; Richard, and John; daughters, Anne, and Margaret. John Osbaldeston died Nov., 1684.

Alexander Osbaldeston of Sunderland, gent., son of John, born in 1661, by his first wife Isabel (who died in 1704) had sons, Alexander, and Gabriel (died in 1729); also a daughter Ellen, died March, 1691-2. He married again, June 13th, 1706, Lettice Ainsworth of Pleasington, widow, by whom he had a daughter Mary. Among the estates of Roman Catholics ordered by Parliament to be registered in 1716, appears the return of his estate by "Alexander Osbaldeston of Sunderland, gent.," who reported that he had in Blackburn parish a messuage and 24 acres let to Ralph Waddicar, at the rent of £11 10s., "whereof Lettice my wife is tenant for life, and I am seized in her right." His other lands were subject to the payment of £311 of his debts, and £1000 for his daughter Mary's portion; and were conveyed to Alexander Osbaldeston and John Aynesworth, Esqrs., in trust for the payment of the said debts and portion. In the Preston Guild Roll of 1722 occur "Alexander Osbaldeston of Sunderland, ar., Alexander Osbaldeston his son, and Alexander his son." The above Alexander died in Sept., 1729.

Alexander Osbaldeston of Sunderland, eldest son of Alexander, had sons, Alexander, Thomas, Westby, William, and Francis, all of whom, with the father, were enrolled upon the Guild Roll of Preston in 1722. Alexander the father was dead before 1742.

Alexander Osbaldeston, son of Alexander, was, I think, the last of Sunderland. At the Preston Guild of 1742 "Alexander Osbaldeston, of Sunderland, Esq.," was enrolled as an out-burgess for himself alone. This gentleman died in 1750. He had probably daughters living in 1747 if no sons, for "Mr. Osbaldeston of Sunderland, his wife and children," are mentioned in that year in the Will of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., of Osbaldeston.

Sunderland Hall, the residence of this family, was taken down and rebuilt some years ago; but in the wall of the new farm-house is inserted an inscribed stone, a relic of the old hall, which displays the arms of Osbaldeston of this branch—"argent, a masle, sable, between three pellets, a canton gules"—and the initials of Alexander Osbaldeston and Rosamond his wife, "A O R" with the date of edification "1596." The site of the hall is on the left bank of the Ribble.

MODERN LANDED PROPRIETORS IN BALDERSTONE.

There is difficulty in tracing down the descent of each of the divisions of Balderstone manor from the seventeenth century to the present time.¹ An estate in the township to which manorial rights are attached was sometime held by a family of Cross, and was sold, about 1821, to Joseph Feilden, Esq., of Witton Park. This estate comprises about 389 statute acres. Balderstone Hall and an estate of 183 acres, no doubt also a portion of the ancient demesne, have been for several generations in possession of the family of Winckley of Preston, and now belongs to the female representative, Dowager Lady Shelley. Balderstone Hall as it now stands is a simple old farm house standing beside the Ribble, at the foot of a steep descent. The hall has not been a proprietary abode for centuries. The Sunderland Hall estate, comprising 260 acres of land and woodland, passed from the Osbaldestons to Starkie of Huntroyd, and is now the property of Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie. An extensive freehold estate of 355 acres in this township has long been held by the Calvert family, whose living representative is C. T. Calvert, Esq.² Other estates are those of Rev. R. A. Rawstorne, Vicar of Balderstone (163 acres); of Mr. Robert Radcliffe (94 acres); of the Exors. of John Greaves (104 acres); of Mr. Richard Carr (60 acres); and one of 77 acres part of the endowment of Bolton Charity School.

SMALLEY OF BALDERSTONE.

A family of Smalleys formerly had a freehold in the township. In the 8th Henry VIII. (1516) Robert Smalley, of Balderstone, and others, were prosecuted by Thomas Clyff on a charge of rape and abduction of plaintiff's daughter.

Roger Smalley was assessed on lands in Balderstone to a Subsidy in 1523. Ann Smalley, widow, in 1546, prosecuted Edward Osbaldeston and others for forcible entry on a messuage and lands in Balderstone, and for trespass of cattle on pasture.

Roger Smalley, gent., holding lands in Balderstone, is on the Subsidy Roll of 1570, and occurs as a freeholder in 1584 and in 1600. Roger Smalley, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, occurs about 1586.

Probably a son, Roger Smalley, was taxed on his lands in Balderstone to the Subsidy in 1610; and "Roger Smalley, of Balderstone, gent." occurs as a juror in 1614.

¹ Respecting this manor, Mr. William Langton notes it is mentioned in "Memorials of the Garter" that "the heirs general of the Banastres, whose heiress married Balderstone, were the Earls of Derby, as representing Ellen Radcliffe, and the heirs of Alexander Osbaldeston, who died 9th February, 1670." This note indicates the lordship about the end of the 17th century. In 1684, Mr. Osbaldeston is named as lord of the manor.

² I have noted the following members of the Calverts of Balderstone:—Richard Calvert, of Balderstone, yeoman, paid the King's Subsidy in 1663. Another Richard Calvert, of Balderstone, married, in 1696, Janet Duckson, of Brindle. A succeeding Richard Calvert, of Balderstone, gentleman, was buried at Blackburn, October 12th, 1766. Mr. John Calvert, of Preston, a governor of Blackburn Grammar School, 1768-77, was of this family; as was also his son, Mr. — Calvert, elected Governor in 1777. Rev. Thomas (Jackson) Calvert, Warden of Manchester College, 1823-40, was, I understand, heir of the Balderstone Calverts.

THE CHAPEL OF ST. LEONARD.

This Chapel, originally founded as a Chapel of Ease to the Parish Church of Blackburn, dates probably from *temp.* Henry VII. ; but no record of its foundation or early history is discoverable. A chapel at Balderstone is mentioned as existing in the 2nd Eliz. (1559). In the next reign (James I.), the chapel was reported in a decayed condition, and so it seems to have remained long afterwards. It had not been regularly served by a curate before 1646, having no endowment at all. But on the setting-up of the Lancashire Presbytery a minister was found, and a stipend granted. On the 25th Sept., 1646, a sum of £40 was allowed, by order of the County Committee, for a Minister at Balderstone ; one Mr. James Shaw having been approved as minister here by the Committee of Divines at Bolton, July 7th, 1646 ; and the minute of the classis states :—“He is paid upp till the 8th of Oct., 1647, by Charles Gregory.” Mr. Shaw evidently had quitted the place before the date of the Parliamentary Commission that surveyed this Parish in 1650, by which it was returned that Balderstone Chapel, four miles distant from the Parish Church, was then without endowment and minister, although eighty families should resort to it.

In 1683, the Registrar of Chester reported to the Primate that one of the Blackburn Chapels, viz., Balderstone, was in ruins ; and, in 1684, the Vicar of Blackburn, answering the inquiries of Archbishop Sancroft, reported :—

Balderstone Chapel, four miles from Blackburn Church, a mile and a half from any other chapell. The chapell almost ruined. No Curate, no maintenance. Adjacent to it Balderstone and Osbaldeston, the latter belonging to the mother church.

	£	s.	d.
ENDOWMENT :—Mrs. fleetwood promiseth yearly	-	-	-
	2	0	0
The inhabitants will give yearly while they live	10	0	0

The inhabitants will now build their chapel (which is not repayreable), and will give yearly during life (being tenants only for life) 33-fifteenes, which is a great sum among so few tenants, viz., £20. Mr. Osbaldeston is lord of the Mannor, but will not be persuaded to do any more than what his Tenants promise. The Donative of Stedd lyes within a mile and ½ or 2 att the most of Balderstone Chapel, and has but 6 Familys to the whole parish. Some of the Inhabitants of Balderstone resort to the Parish of Ribchester (which is about a mile and halfe from their Chapel) ; others to the Chapel of Samlesbury (which is about a mile and ½ from their Chapel), to divine service, to christen their children, and sometymes to bury their dead. But the generality of them resort to their Mother Church, to receive the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, to marry and to bury ; and some of them come to their Mother Church every Sunday to divine service and sermon, and they dwell 4 miles from thence. Balderstone is a small township of itselfe.

Matters had not much improved at this chapel in 1689, when the following note was made by Mr. James Bolton, of Blackburn, by authority of Vicar Price :—“Balderstone, another chapell in the said Parish, but

very ruinous, and long time discontinued from exercise of any holy offices ; noe maintenance at all belonging to it, the chappell itselfe overgrowne with briers and thorns, and requires a rebuilding, before it can be fitt for divine worshipping." The bounty of Archbishop Sancroft, who about this time made his gift in trust for the augmentation of the poor chapels in the Parish, does not seem at first to have been participated in by Balderstone, owing to some difficulty with the inhabitants ; for so late as the year 1714 is a record that there was still at Balderstone no endowment, "because they pretend to pay only a prescriptive rent in lieu of tithes. There is a popish meeting said to be within this chapelry." Four or five years later, Bishop Gastrell makes this entry in his *Notitia* :—

BALDERSTONE, certified that no endowment belongs to it. Anno 1705, certified that £7 belonged to it, viz., £5 from Thornly, and £2 from the Rector, which was divided among the curates of the other chapels, who supply this chapel in their turns, only the first Sunday in every month, at which time there is no service in their own chapels. The six other chapels in this parish are supplied by three curates; those two which lie nearest to one another being annexed by Archbishop Sancroft's order, viz., Darwen and Tockholes, Harwood and Langho, Law and Samlesbury. The lands given to these chapels were bought by Archbishop Sancroft in Thornly-cum-Wheatly. [Balderstone is] four miles from the Parish Church, and two miles from any other chapel. The inhabitants of Balderstone, Osbaldeston, and part of Mellor resort to it. Circumference about seven miles. No wardens.

In 1742 the first important augmentation to the endowment of the chapel was made. A benefaction of £200 by Rev. John Potter, then Vicar of Blackburn, by deed dated 19th June, 1742, procured a sum of £200 from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty. A second similar augmentation was received in 1755-6, when the payment of £200 by the executors of Dr. Stratford, on March 25th, 1755, was met by a grant of £200 from the Royal Bounty. In 1835 the value of the living was £125 per annum. The amount now given to Balderstone out of the revenues of the Sancroft Trust is about £14 per annum. The present value of the benefice is returned as £150. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

The fabric of the Chapel was repaired and enlarged by faculty in 1752 ; but was again dilapidated in 1818, and the further repairs in that year could not have been material ; for in 1852 the chapel was reported both to be incommodious and in decayed condition. It was then resolved to erect a new Church. The corner-stone of the present edifice was laid on July 22nd, 1852, by Joseph Feilden, Esq., lord of the manor. The site was the gift of Charles Thomas Calvert, Esq., of London. The church stands in a secluded situation in the midst of the township. Its style is decorated English ; the plan includes nave, 57ft. by 36ft. ; chancel, and north porch. A belfry rises above the west gable. The cost of

the fabric, exclusive of the stone given by Mr. Slater of Osbaldeston, was about £1,000, provided by subscription. Of 450 sittings, 70 are free.

The following curates have served the Chapelry of Balderstone since the increased endowment permitted the appointment of a stated minister:—1741. Rev. Thomas Hunter (Master of Blackburn Grammar School, 1737-50); 1756. Rev. Thomas Cooper; occurs in 1792; 1813. ext. Rev. Wm. Lutener, Perp. Cur., died, aged 46, Dec. 5th, 1815; 1816. Rev. Thomas Exton (occurs as incumbent in 1824); (Stip. curates—Josh. R. Jameson, 1817-9; G. Wilkins; Stephen Birkett, 1823); 1827. Rev. William Hartley, stip. curate and perp. curate from 1839 to 1859, when he resigned; 1859. Rev. Robert Atherton Rawstone, M.A., present Vicar.

CHARITIES OF BALDERSTONE.

About A.D. 1686. Margaret Radcliffe gave two cottages and half an acre of land in Balderstone, for poor house-keepers; at the last report of the Charity Commission, the land produced £2 12s. per ann., and the two cottages with gardens £14 4s. per ann.

A.D. 1716. Michael Waterhouse, by his Will dated July 20th, 1716 (proved at Chester in 1719), directed that his messuages and tenement with closes in Balderstone containing 15a. 3r. 15p. should be charged with 10s. per annum, to the Poor of Balderstone, to be distributed yearly by Alexander Osbaldeston, John Gregson, William Radcliffe, Thomas Turner, and his Nephew Michael Waterhouse [Michael Waterhouse of Blackburn, gent., buried March 28th, 1732], and his heirs for ever.—In 1786, the annuity, paid by Mr. Calvert, was received by the overseer from the tenant of an estate called Waterhouse, late the property of Mr. Calvert deceased; in 1825, the property of Rev. Thos. Jackson.

John Livesey of Balderstone gave £15 to the Poor of Balderstone, which, in 1718, was in the hands of Mr. Osbaldeston of Sunderland, and the interest distributed on St. Thomas's Day by John Jackson of Preston, the Trustee.

CHAPTER III.—THE TOWNSHIP OF BILLINGTON.

Topography of the Township, &c.—Descent of the Manor—De Bilyngton Family—De Hudleston—Abbots of Whalley as lords—Holcroft—Asheton—Hacking of Hacking—Shuttleworth—Walmesley and Petre as lords—Hacking Hall—Braddyll of Braddyll and Brockhole—Barker—Chew of Potter Ford, &c.—Cunliffe—Deane—Slater—Smalley—Speake—Talbot—Chapel of St. Leonard, Langho—Roman Catholic Chapel—Billington Charities—Commons Enclosure, &c.

BILLINGTON is a large township, having an area of 2960 statute acres, occupying the ground which falls northward from the ridge of moorland whose heights bear the names of Billington Moor and Whalley Nab, to the Rivers Calder and Ribble, which are confluent on the border of the township. Billington is a manor under Clitheroe Castle; and constitutes, with Wilpshire and Dinkley on the south-west side, the parochial chapelry of Langho. With the exception of three small cotton manufactories, the township is still given up to agriculture. The land is all in pasturage or woodland; and the soil on the levels near the two rivers is alluvial and good. The population of Billington in 1801 was 844; and in 1871 was 1204. The chapelry was reported to the Commission of 1650 to contain 300 families, or about 1500 persons; but probably this was a mis-statement, for nearly seventy years later (about 1718) a return gave but 100 families for the chapelry, or some 500 souls. It was on the lower ground of Billington that the battle of Billangahoh was fought in Saxon times, A.D. 798 (see ante pp. 27-8).

DESCENT OF THE MANOR—DE BILYNGTON FAMILY.

One of the De Lascys, Norman lords of Clitheroe Honor, granted the fee of Billington to Hugh, son of Leofwyne, a Saxon; and William, son of Hugh, conveyed his rights in this manor to Ralph, son of Geoffrey de Bilyngton.

After Ralph, appears Adam de Bilyngton, who occurs in 1211; and next comes Elias de Bilyngton, who had a son Adam.

Adam de Bilyngton, living *temp.* Henry III., had a daughter and

heiress Avicia, who married, first, Geoffrey de Whalley, and secondly, Henry del' Cho, by whom she had sons Richard and Thomas. To Henry del' Cho, Adam de Bilyngton granted land in Billington called the Halgh.

Geoffrey de Whalley, first husband of Avicia de Bilyngton, settling on this estate, acquired the surname De Bilyngton. To Geoffrey de Bilyngton, who occurs before 1250, his wife Avicia bore sons, Adam, Roger, Richard, Robert, Ralph, William, and Henry. Avicia de Bilyngton is named as in widowhood about A.D. 1270. Of the younger sons of Geoffrey and Avicia, Roger had to wife Agnes, who survived him; Richard, by his wife Cicilia, had a son Geoffrey, who had a son Richard; Robert had lands at Langale, in Billington; Ralph had a son Richard, who had a daughter Mabile, wife of Roger Ingol of Elston; William had six acres in Billington of his mother's gift; and Henry had lands in this township conveyed by him to Richard Pountchardon.

Adam de Bilyngton, son and heir of Geoffrey, had a son Adam. But the father conveyed his estate, being a moiety of Billington vill, to Adam de Hudleston, Knt., A.D. 1288, and so terminated the record of the family as manorial owners in the township.

DE HUDLESTON, LORDS OF BILLINGTON.

Sir Adam de Hudleston, Knt., who obtained the moiety of this manor from Adam de Bilyngton, secured for term of his life the other moiety by the gift of Henry de Lascy, Earl of Lincoln, by undated deed of grant, probably about 1304, when Sir Adam de Hudleston had from Edw. I. grant of free warren in Billington. Sir Adam, by his two wives, Joan and Isabel, had no issue, and his nephew Richard was his heir. At the De Lascy Inquisition in 1311, "Sir Adam de Hudleston held Clayton and Bilyngton by the service of 10s. yearly at the feast of St. Giles, and 3d. at Midsummer, and suit of the Court of Clyderhou." He died about the year 1321. *Inq. post mort.* was taken at Billington, before Thomas de Burgh, King's Escheator, the 15th Edward II. (1322), upon the oaths of William de Heriis, Philip de Clayton, Henry de Henthorne, John de Holt, Thomas del Grengore, Ralph de Revede, William de Wyswalle, Henry de Alvetham, John de Bradhil, Henry de Bradhil, John del' Riddinge, and Richard de Rischeton, to inquire what lands and what tenements Adam de Hodleston held of the Lord the King *in capite* the day in which he died. "Who say upon their oaths that he was seised in his lordship as of fee the day he died of the mediety of the Manor of Bilyngton, with a certain tenement in the same manor called Le Scho, and that he held of the King one carucate of land that was Henry de Lascy's, once Earl of Lincoln, by service, homage and fidelity, and by the 20th part of a Knight's fee and suit to

the King's Court of Cliderhou. Also that the same Adam held of others no other tenements in the County of Lancaster the day he died, and that the foresaid tenements are worth per annum 100s.; and that Richard son of John de Hodleston is kinsman and next heir to Adam de Hodleston, and is of the age of 40 years."

Sir Richard de Hudleston, Knt., sold, in the year 1323, to Thomas, son of Geoffrey le Scrop, Knt., the half of Billington manor he inherited, described as the "manor of Choo with its appurtenances, and half the vill of Bilyngton, with its appurtenances."

ABBOTS OF WHALLEY, LORDS OF BILLINGTON.

Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, by charter dated May 3rd, 11th Edw. II. (1317), granted to the Abbot and Monks of Whalley the reversion of the moiety of the manor of Billington which Adam de Hodleston, Knt., then held for term of his life. The next year Sir Adam attorned himself by the Earl's order to the Abbot and Convent; and received from the latter the sum of 23 marks and 10s.; receipt dated from "The Cho, Vigil of St. Mary Magdalene," A.D. 1318.

The other moiety the Abbey acquired by grant of Sir Geoffrey le Scrop, Justice of the King's Bench, second son of Sir William le Scrop, of Bolton, and heir to Thomas le Scrop, who had the moiety of this manor of Sir Richard de Hudleston, Knt. Sir Geoffrey's deed of gift to the Abbey, dated the 6th Edw. III. (1332), describes the estate as the manor of Cho, and the mediety of the vill of Bilyngton, with their appurtenances, and with homages and services of all the free tenants there.

Besides the manorial estates, the Abbot and Monks of Whalley acquired many parcels of freehold land in Billington from successive benefactors. In the Abbey "Coucher Book," 144 title deeds relate to lands in this township. The following gifts may be noted. A.D. 1259, Countess Margaret de Lascy gave the Abbot and Monks a site in Billington for a building to lay up their corn into. William de Dynkedley gave half an acre for a site for a barn. Adam de Hudleston, Knt., by deed dated 1318, gave to the Monastery right of pasturage upon Billington Common for eight beasts, also to dig turf, and to open a quarry for stone upon his land in Billington. Thomas de Pont gave parcels of land called Menefeld and Grenecroft. John de Gristwayth, Vicar of Blackburn, gave his land in the field called Snodde-worth; and other lands in the township. Richard de Bilyngton granted seven acres of his land called Longale, four acres called Betham, and other parcels of land. Adam de Standen, Richard del Heye, and Richard de Chaderton, severally gave parcels of land to the Monastery.

In the Abbey "Coucher Book," begun by Abbot Lyndelay in 1347, a record is made of the free tenants of Billington about the date of the acquisition by the Monastery of the manorial rights, which I translate:—

Memorandum, that of the same first part of Bilyngton the freeholders hold the underwritten, namely:—Henry de Bolton, whose charter is written in the same

preceding title, and pays by the year for his land 25s. 4d. Item, the place which is called the Hakkyng, and pays by the year 5s. 4d. Item, the mill of Hakkyng, and pays by the year 13s. 4d. Item, Robert de Cundeclif, two acres, pays by the year 8d. Item, John, son of J. Watson, holds the land which is called Bradhul, but that he has a deed of the same or not is doubted, and pays by the year 3s. 5d. Item, the land of Walbruk pays by the year 2s. Item, William de Bradhull holds a tenement for which he pays by the year 6d. Item, Alexander del Den [Dean] holds land within certain bounds and divisions, but has no deed, and pays by the year 4s.—Sum of the rents of the hereditary tenants 54s. 7d.; out of which we pay annually to the heirs of Hakkyng for the site of a certain tythe-barn, 6d., as in a certain charter concerning the foresaid barn to us made, in the title of Blackeburn, is fully contained.

At the Survey of Abbey estates in 1538, after the dissolution, the freeholders of Billington under the Abbey were these:—John Deane, holding Hodghouse tenement, 22 acres, paying 2s. yearly; also holding half a messuage called Townworth, paying 1s. 4d.; and a messuage called Deynehill, paying 4s.; Robert Cuneliffe, holding freely and paying £1 5s.; Robert Shuttleworth and Robert Blackborne, holding freely, paying 6s. 4d.; Nicholas Talbot, holding freely lands called Snodworth, paying 1s.; Robert Morley, holding freely lands called Braddill, paying 11s. 7d.; the heirs of William Barker, holding freely lands called Whetley, paying yearly a broad arrow and suit in the court; the heirs of Becking, holding freely Beckinsay field, paying yearly one pair of gloves and suit, &c.; Edward Braddell, holding lands freely; and Richard Showe, holding freely a close of six acres called Benson field, and paying yearly 10s. Total of services £3 4s. 1d.; rents from tenants-at-will £44 13s. 4d.

The following memoranda close the survey of Billington:—

To bring in all the wast grounds which is in the Lords' hands unlete, and what name of such lands is.—The Maner Place is clearly decayed and mencioned wheire the maner stoode is now called Chete yard, containing by estimation 2 acres.—There is a Common called Billington Common, which containeth about 2 miles and halfe, the tenants doth intercommon with the townships of Great Harwood and Wilpsheld [Wilpshire]. There is a wood called Elker-well, replenished with oke timber and few young trees and much underwoode, which is hasell and eller, containing about by estimation 60 acres, which cannot be sold, for it is little enough for the reparations of the tenants in the milnes, but only the underwood. There is another wood called the Nabe, replenished with oke timber and many faier ash trees, and but small underwood, and containing by estimation 40 acres.—The tenants of the same lordshippe houldeth there lands in the will of the lord, and payeth every alienation for their fine and incoming as they can agree with the lord or with his officers their for the time being.—There is kept within the same Lordshipp 2 Courts in the year at such time as it shall please the officer.—Under that Sir Thomas Southworth, knight, is appointed to have the ordering and ruling of the tenants their, with the gathering of the tyeth within the parish of Blackborne, untill the feaste and Nativitie of our Lord God next ensuing, yealding accompt their of to the King's use, for that their is no officer their.

HOLCROFT, LORDS OF BILLINGTON.

Shortly after the sequestration, Henry VIII. granted Billington manor to Thomas Holcroft, Esq. (second son of John Holcroft, Esq., and brother of Sir John Holcroft, Knt., of Holcroft); and the same court favourite secured extensive estates that had belonged to the Abbey of Vale Royal and the Friaries of Warrington and Preston. His wife was Juliana, daughter of Nicholas Jennings, a London alderman; by her he had a son Thomas. Thomas Holcroft, the father, for his service in the war in Scotland in 1544 was made a Knight-banneret. Sir Thomas Holcroft, Knt., died in 1558; and the *Inq. post mort.*, taken at Wigan, 5th and 6th Phil. and Mary, proved he had been seized of "Byllington manor" and several other Lancashire manors.

Thomas Holcroft, Esq., his son, was proved his heir. Thomas Holcroft held this manor until the close of his life. In 1597, "Thomas Holcroft, son of Sir Thomas Holcroft, Knt., lord of Billington Manor," brought a suit in the Duchy Court of Lancaster against Henry Morley, for alleged wrongful possession of lands in Braddill Fields in Billington, parcel of the possessions of the dissolved Monastery of Whalley. He died about 1598.

About the beginning of the 17th century, Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., purchased the manor of Billington of the representative of Holcrofts of Vale Royal. The new lord of the manor had before attached to his house the freehold of Hacking in Billington by his marriage with the heiress of that estate.

FREEHOLD ESTATE OF ASHETON OF GREAT LEVER.

The Ashetons of Great Lever owned lands in Billington, which had been portion of the estate of Whalley Abbey. Richard Asheton, Esq., died *temp.* Eliz., seized of Whalley manor and monastery, Downham manor, and certain messuages and lands in Blackburn and Billington. Ralph Asheton, Esq., lord of Great Lever, died on the 12th Jan., 30th Eliz. (1587-8); and by escheat was found to have held at death, among other estates, Downham manor; with six messuages, six cottages, one water mill, 100 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood, and 200 acres of moor and turbary in Whalley and Billington, and six messuages, 40 acres of land, 8 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 2 acres of wood, and 100 acres of moor and turbary in Billington alone. The next Ralph Asheton, who died Jan. 17th, 1621-2, was seized at his death of Great Lever manor, &c.; "the manor or house and site of the late Monastery of Whalley;" and of 16 messuages, 14 cottages, 1 water corn-mill, 100 acres of arable land, 40 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 10 acres of woodland, and 200 acres of moor and

turbary, in Whalley, Pendleton, and in the parish of Blackburn; also of lands in various townships in Co. Ebor; of 8 messuages, 40 acres of arable land, 8 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 10 acres of wood and underwood, and 100 acres of moor and turbary *in Billington*, in the parish of Blackburn; and of 1 messuage, 2 gardens, and 40 acres of land in Oswaldtwistle; and the "foresaid manors, lands, tenements, and other premises, and appurtenances, in Whalley, *Billington*, Pendleton," &c., were held of the King *in capite* by knight-service of the 40th part of a knight's fee; and were worth yearly £15. The Asheton's estate in Billington passed to the Curzons, and was eventually sold, by a member of the latter family, early in the present century, to Mr. Petre, lord of the manor.

HACKING OF HACKING.

The freehold estate of Hacking (anciently Hakkyng) occupies the north-eastern angle of Billington, at the confluence of the rivers Calder and Ribble. It was possessed for several generations before A.D. 1330 by a family known as Del' Hakkyng. To Bernard del' Hakkyng, living in 1240, Richard de Billington made a deed of quit-claim.

William del' Hakkyng succeeds, to whom, about A.D. 1283, Henry de Lascy, Earl of Lincoln, grants the Mill of Billington, erected by him upon the water of Ribble, to hold of him (the Earl) for himself, his heirs, &c. He had a son Bernard.

Bernard del' Hakkyng, son of William, occurs in 1292, in 1298, and in 1313. To him, by deed dated 1292, Ralph de Kirkeham demises all his right in that land in the vill of Billington which his mother had by the demision of William del' Hakkyng. In 1311, it was found that Bernard del' Hakkyng held in Whilpshire half an oxgang of land in thanage, paying yearly 11d. and suit to the Court of Clitheroe. Bernard's son and heir was William.

William del' Hackinge, son of Bernard, succeeded. By deed dated 2nd Edw. III. (1328-9), Bernard del' Hackinge gives to William his son and heir all his lands and tenements in the vills of Aghton, Billington, and Dinkedley, to have, &c., to himself and his heirs. This William del' Hackinge had an only daughter and heiress Agnes, who married Henry de Shuttleworth. Her sire, the last representative male of the Del' Hackinge family, was living A.D. 1332.

SHUTTLEWORTH OF SHUTTLEWORTH AND HACKING.

Henry de Shotilworth occurs in the 2nd Henry III. (1214), as then holding lands in the hamlet of Shuttleworth in Hapton. His son was Henry.

Henry de Shotilworth, son of Henry, lived *temp.* Henry III. and

Edward I. His wife was Emma. He was probably father of John, named below.

John de Shotlesworth was found at the De Lascy Inquisition in 1311 holding of the Earl Henry de Lascy freely 10 acres of land in Huncote, paying yearly at the Feast of St. Gyles 20s. and 2s. at Midsummer for Castle Guard at Cliderhou.

Henry de Shuttleworth, the next member, died before the year 1326. The *Inq. post mort.* taken at Clitheroe, July 22nd, 1326, showed that the said Henry had held at his death certain lands and a tenement in Shuttleworth (in Hapton), of John Talbot (who was under age and in the King's wardship), son and heir of Edmund Talbot, by fidelity and service of 4s. and 6 barbed arrows; of the lands 16 acres were arable, worth 5s. 4d. yearly; 4 acres meadow, worth 16d.; and 24 acres waste, worth 4s. yearly; also a cottage and 10 acres of land in Symondstone, by thanage, worth 3s. 4d. yearly. John, brother of the said Henry, was heir, and aged 22 years.¹

John de Shuttleworth is named in the Lansdowne Feodary as holding lands in Huncot; and in the 49th Edw. III. (1375), "John de Schotelworth the elder" enfeoffed John de Pilkington, Parson of Bury Church, Henry de Shotelworth, and others, of all his lands and tenements in Shuttleworth in the vill of Hapton, and in the vill of Huncote, to have and hold, &c., with the condition that after the decease of the said John and Henry, remainder be limited to William, son of Henry, and his heirs male; remainder to his brothers, Robert, Thomas, and Ughtrede.

Henry de Shuttleworth, the first of Hacking (brother or kinsman of the above John), married, before 1330, Agnes, only daughter and heiress of William de Hakyng, and had issue, sons, John; Thomas; Ughtrede; Robert; and William. By a deed dated 42nd Edw. III. (1369), John de Bridestwisel, chaplain, grants to Richard de Radcliffe for his life all his messuages, lands, &c., in the vill of Billington, with one mill, and also in the vill of Aghton, which he had of the feoffment of Henry de Shottolworth and Agnes his wife; after decease of the said Richard Radcliffe, remainder to Henry and Agnes de Shuttleworth for their lives; remainder to John, son of Henry, and his heirs; remainder to Thomas, Ughtred, and Robert, brothers of John, sons of Henry de Shuttleworth.

Ughtred Shuttleworth, son of Henry, is named as first of Gawthorpe.

John Shuttleworth, of Hacking, son and heir of Henry, possessed the lands in Hapton; and by deed dated 22nd Ric. II. (1398), John son of Henry de Shottlesworth quit-claims to John del Heye of Hapton all his right in ten acres of land lying near Shuttleworth in the vill of Hapton. The widow of this John, named "Magota," was living in 1422.

¹ *Lanc. Inquisitions*, Ed. by Wm. Langton (Cheth. Socy.), p. 152.

Henry Shuttleworth, of Hackinge, was son and heir of John, and by a deed dated 1st Henry VI. (1422), Magota, once wife of John de Shuttelworth, binds herself to pay to her son Henry, at the feast of the Nativity next ensuing, a sum of £40 sterling. Henry's son and successor was Robert.

Robert Shuttleworth, of Hackinge, held the estate in the middle part of the fifteenth century. He is first party to a deed (cited below), made in the year 1463. He had a son and heir, Henry.

Henry Shuttleworth, of Hacking, living in 1461 and in 1490, had to wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Winkeley (owner of Winkeley estate near Hacking on the other bank of Ribble). Indenture dated 2nd Edw. IV. (1463) between Robert Shotelworth, of the one part, and Thomas Winkeley, of the other part, witnesses that forasmuch as Henry Shotelworth, son and heir of Robert, has wedded Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Winkeley, the said Robert father of Henry grants to Thomas Winkeley that he shall enfeoff two or three persons nominated by the said Thomas, in certain rents, lands and tenements. Henry Shuttleworth's son and heir was Robert. Henry Shuttleworth and Robert his son are parties to an agreement, dated 6th Hen. VII., that the said Henry shall enter peaceably into a place in Simonstone, &c.

Robert Shuttleworth, of Hacking, gent., living in 1490 and in 1509, is party to a deed of bond to Ralph Katerall, of Parva Mitton, in a sum of £100, dated Sept. 30th, 23rd Henry VII. (1508-9), the condition of the obligation being that if the said Robert truly perform covenants contained in a pair of indentures made between the said Robert and Raufe Katerall concerning the marriage of Henry Shuttleworth the younger, son and heir of Robert, and Katherine, daughter of the said Raufe, bearing date Dec. 26th, 1508, the obligation to be void, &c. The son here named, Henry Shuttleworth, died before his father, before 1513, leaving by Katherine his wife a son Robert, born about 1510. Robert Shuttleworth the father died on the 9th September, 5th Henry VIII. (1513), and by escheat inquisition taken at Wigan, in the 7th Henry VIII., it was returned that Robert Shotilworth, late of Hakkyng in the vill of Billington, had died seized of one messuage, 4 acres of arable land, 4 acres of meadow, and 4 acres of wood, in Billington, held of the Abbot of Whalley, in socage, by a rent of 6s., worth 22s. 8d.; other lands in Billington, of the Abbot, worth 20s.; lands in Billington, of the heir of John Talbot, in socage, by a rent of 2d., worth 2s.; a messuage, 30 acres of land, 4 acres of pasture, 6 acres of wood, in Aghton, held of Hugh Sherburne in socage, by 1½d. rent, worth 40s.; a messuage, 24 acres of land, 8 acres meadow, 20 acres pasture, in Simonstone, held of the King in socage, by 2s. rent, worth

26s. 8d.; also a certain chantry in the Parish Church of Blackburn. Robert Shuttleworth, son of Henry, son of Robert deceased, was found next heir, aged 5 years and upwards.

Robert Shuttleworth of Hacking, gent., grandson and heir of Robert, married Isabel, daughter of John Hoghton of Pendleton, gent. (this lady survived him and subsequently married Robert Morley of Dinkley, gent.; she was living in 1568), and had issue a son Robert; I think a son Charles; also a daughter Grace, wife of Ralph Parkinson of Falsnape. This Robert Shuttleworth, on the survey of Whalley Abbey Lands in 1538, was found holding freely lands in Billington for which he paid 6s. 4d. to the Abbey yearly. By a deed dated 34 Henry VIII. (1543), Robert Shutilworth of Hackinge, gent., enfeoffed Richard Townley the elder, Esq., Alexander Hoghton, Richard Greenacres, and John Braddill, gentlemen, of all his lands and tenements, including the "manor of Hacking," in trust to the use of Robert Shuttleworth for his life, &c. He died soon after this deed was executed.

Robert Shuttleworth of Hacking, gent., son of Robert, married Jane, daughter of Evan Browne, and sister and co-heir of Richard Browne, of Ribbleton, and by her (who died before 1558) had one daughter and sole heir, who married Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh, Esq., and conveyed the Hacking estate to the Walmesleys after her sire's decease. She was born before 1550, married before 1570, and died, in extreme age, in 1635. Robert Shuttleworth, "in right of Jane, his late wife," is party to a deed of partition of the estate of Richard Browne, gent., deceased, among the representatives of his six sisters and co-heirs, dated 1st Eliz. (1558). Robert Shuttleworth, gent., died before 1570.

WALMESLEY, AND PETRE, OF DUNKENHALGH, LORDS OF
BILLINGTON.

Thomas Walmesley, Esq., eldest son of Thomas Walmesley of Showley, gent. (see *post*, under Clayton-in-le-Dale), married, before 1570, Anne, daughter and sole heiress of Robert Shuttleworth, gent., and thus secured the estate of Hacking to his line of Walmesleys. This notable lawyer was born in 1537; was a serjeant-at-law before 1586; a Queen's Commissioner for the Military Levy in 1580; on May 10th, 1589, was appointed Justice of the Common Pleas; and was knighted by James I. in 1603. Amassing wealth by his legal practice, Sir Thomas Walmesley acquired by purchase in rapid succession, between 1570 and 1610, manorial and other estates in Lancashire and Yorkshire; among them the manor of Clayton-les-Moors and demesne of Dunkenhalgh, which he made his family seat; the manor of Rishton; lands in Church; half the manor of Samlesbury; the manor of Nether Darwen; and the manor of Billington, purchased from Holcroft; as well as freehold

lands of the Cunliffes and others in this township. For possession of the "capital messuage called the Hackinge," with lands in Billington and Aghton, Thomas Walmesley and Anne his wife had several suits in the Duchy Court with one Charles Shuttleworth, a kinsman, perhaps, of Mistress Walmesley, about the year 1570. Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., rebuilt the halls of Dunkenhalgh and Hacking—the latter in 1607. Sir Thomas died, aged 75, on the 26th Nov., 1612, and was buried in the south chapel of Blackburn Church, where an elaborate monument in alabaster was erected to him, destroyed during the Civil War, about 1642-4.¹ He had settled his estates by deed of trust dated March 20th, 1606-7.² The *Inq. post mort.*, taken in the 11th Jas. I., returned that he had been seized at death of Rishton manor, held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster, for the fourth part of a Knight's fee, worth yearly £6 13s. 4d.; half the manor of Claiton-super-Mores, held of the King, for the 8th part of a Knight's fee, worth yearly 40s.; half the manor of Billington, held of the King, for the 40th part of a Knight's fee, worth yearly £10; the messuage called Cunliffe House, and lands and tenements in Billington; half the manor of Nether Darwyn, of the King, for the 8th part of a Knight's fee, worth yearly £5; lands and tenements in Church, of the King as of his manor of Clitherowe, in socage, worth yearly 4s.; lands and tenements in

¹ Lansdowne MS. 973, in the British Museum Library, contains a copy of Judge Walmesley's epitaph from this monument, which records that he was a Judge of the Common Pleas from the 31st Eliz., a space of 25 years, "during which time he went all the circuits of England, except that of Norfolk and Suffolk." The tomb also had inscribed upon it the elegy, the first and last lines of which are subjoined:—

Tombs have their periods, monuments decay,
And age and rust wear epitaphs away;
But neither rust, nor age, nor time shall wear
JUDGE WALMESLEY'S name, that lies entombed here,
Who never did, for favour or for awe
Of great men's frowns, quit or forsake the law.

For when as old age, creeping on apace,
Made him unable to supply his place,
Yet he continued, by the King's permission,
A judge until his death, still in commission;
And still received, by his special grace,
His fee, as full as when he served the place.

² By this deed, the parties to which are Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., of the 1st part; Thomas, his son and heir, of the 2nd part; Rt. Hon. Henry Lord Danvers, George Talbot, gent., and William Rishton, Thomas Clayton, and John Barker (servants of Sir Thomas), of the 3rd part, it is witnessed that Sir Thomas Walmesley the father, for the continuance of his manors and lands in his own name and blood, grants to the parties of the 3rd part, the manors and lordships of Rishton, Billington, and Nether Darwen, and half the manor of Clayton-les-Moors, Co. Lancaster; manor of Paythorne, &c., Co. York; and all estates in the above townships and in Whalley, Dinckley, Blackburn, Over Darwen, Pleasington, Church, Clitheroe, Ribchester, Ribbleton, &c.; with lands, tythes, &c., parcel of the possessions of the late Monastery of Selby; and lands had by purchase from Edmund Talbot, Esq.: to have and hold in trust to the use of the said Sir Thomas Walmesley and the heirs male of his body; with remainders in default of issue of Sir Thomas, or of Thomas Walmesley the son, &c.

Dinckley, of the King, as of his manor of Clitherowe, in socage, worth yearly 5s.; lands and tenements in Clitherowe, in free burgage of the Duchy of Lancaster, worth 20s., &c. The heiress of Hacking, Sir Thomas's widow,—“Ladie Walmsley, gen., de Dunkinhalge,”—was buried in Blackburn Church, April 19th, 1635; she died at a great age.

Thomas Walmesley, of Dunkenhalgh, Esq., lord of Billington, son and heir of the Judge, born before 1575, married, first, Elinor, daughter of Sir John Danvers of Dantsey, Co. Wilts., by whom he had issue, sons, John, died young in April, 1600; and Thomas, eventual heir; and daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Sherburne of Stonyhurst, Esq.; and Anne, wife of Sir Edward Osborne of Kineton, Co. York. His second wife was Mary, a sister of Sir Richard Hoghton, Bart., by whom (she died in July, 1632) he had issue a son Charles, born in 1608, of Stanger Hall, near Selby, Co. York. Thomas Walmesley, Esq., died March 12th, 1641-2; buried at Blackburn Church, March 16th; his son and heir, named below, being then deceased.

Thomas Walmesley, son of Thomas, was knighted by King James at Hoghton Tower, August 16th, 1617. He had married, early in the same year, Juliana, sixth daughter of Sir Richard Molyneux, Knt., lord of Sefton. He brought home his wife to Dunkenhalgh on July 14th, 1617, as recorded by Nicholas Asheton, the Downham Journalist:—“July 14. I to Dunkenhalgh. To Blackburn, to meete old Sir Ric. Molyneux, etc.; then we went past the Bund, and met Sir Tho. Gerrard and his lady; Sir Ric. Molyneux, junr.; his lady and hee came presently after, with young Mr. Walmsley, whose wyfe, Sir Ric. Molyneux's daughter, was her first tyme of coming to Dunkenhalgh.”¹ By this lady he had issue, sons, Richard; Thomas, and John, both died young; and William, of the Lower Hall, Samlesbury, married thrice, but died without issue; and daughters, Hellen, wife of Sir Godfrey Copley, Bart.; Anne, died unmarried; and Juliana, wife of Francis lord Carington. The father, Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., died in July, 1636; buried at Blackburn, July 13th. His estates at his death, by inquisition taken at Blackburn, Sept. 21st, 13th Chas. I., included (in Lancashire) the manors of Billington, Nether Darwyn, and Rishton; half the manor of Clayton-super-Mores; lands and messuages in Church, Dinkley, Ribchester, &c.; and, besides the manorial estate in Billington, is named the freehold messuage of Cunliffe-house, with garden, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture appurtenant to Cunliffe-house in Billington and Wilpshire.

Richard Walmesley, Esq., son and heir of Thomas, next lord of this manor, born in 1630, married Mary, daughter of Barthol. Fromund, Esq.,

¹ Asheton's Journal, ed. by Raines (Cheth. Socy.), pp. 25-6.

of Cheame, Co. Surrey, and had issue, sons, Thomas, born in 1658; Richard; Charles; and Bartholomew. Thomas, first son, died unmarried, at Paris, in 1677; Richard, second son, died in Rome, in 1680,¹ shortly after his father's decease, also unmarried; and the third son, Charles, also dying issueless, the youngest son, Bartholomew, became heir. There were two daughters, Anne, and Eleanor. Richard Walmesley, Esq., was on the King's side in the Civil War, and his mansion at Dunkenhalth was taken and ransacked by a detachment of Parliamentary soldiers. He died April 26th, 1679, aged 49, and was buried in Blackburn Church, April 30th.

Bartholomew Walmesley, Richard's youngest but last surviving son, inherited the estates. He was a minor some years after his succession. His wife was Dorothy, daughter of John Smith, Esq., of Crabbet, Co. Sussex, by whom he had one son, Francis, born Oct. 13th, 1696; daughters, Julian, born 1695, died Oct., 1702; Catherine, born Jan. 6th, 1697-8; Mary, died young, Nov., 1702. Bartholomew Walmesley, Esq., was tried at Manchester, in 1694, for complicity in an alleged treasonable Jacobite plot, but was acquitted. He died in January, 1701-2.

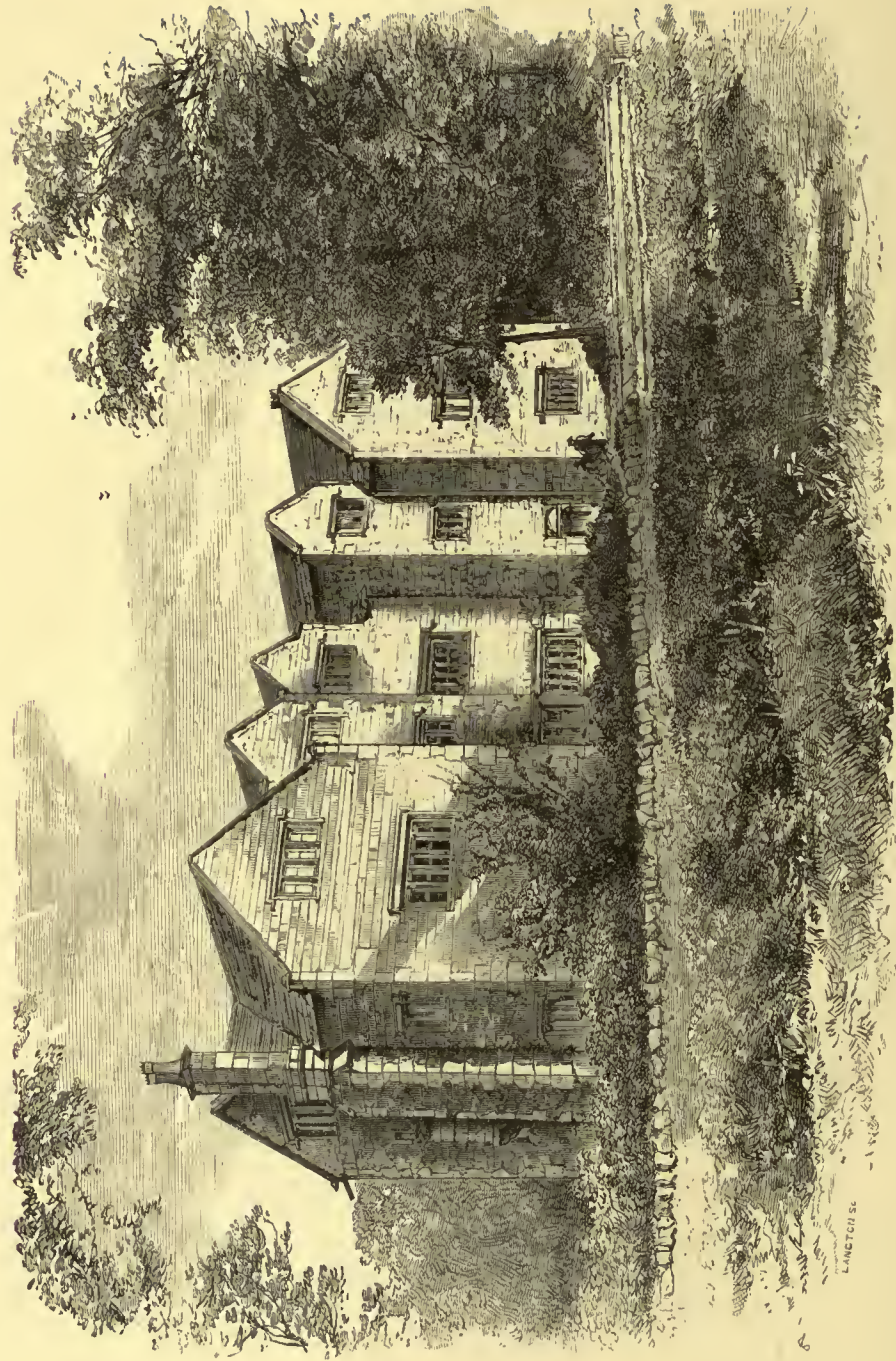
Francis Walmesley, Esq., only son, was five years old on his succession. He died unmarried, aged 14 years, in April, 1711, and was buried at Blackburn, May 2nd.

Catherine Walmesley, in 1711 sole surviving child of Bartholomew Walmesley and heiress of the family estates, married, at the age of 15, March 1st, 1712-13, Robert, seventh Baron Petre, of Writtle, Co. Essex, who died of small pox early in the following year. His widow, Lady Catherine Petre, gave birth to a son, June 3rd, 1713, christened Robert James, who duly succeeded to the title. Lady Petre married, secondly, in 1733, Charles Lord Stourton. She died, the last of the Walmesleys of this branch, in 1785, aged 88.

Her son, Robert James, 8th Baron Petre, married, in 1732, Lady Anne Radcliffe, daughter of James, Earl of Derwentwater, and had issue a son and heir Robert Edward; and three daughters. His lordship died in 1742. Robert Edward, ninth Lord Petre, married Anne, daughter and co-heir of Philip Howard, Esq., and had issue, sons, Robert Edward, tenth baron; and George William, who heired the Lancashire estates. Lord Robert Edward Petre died in 1801; Will dated July 25th, 1795, proved July 14th, 1801.

George William Petre, of Dunkenhalth, Esq., younger son of the

¹ His epitaph, in one of the churches of Rome, is as follows:—"D.O.M. Richardo Walmesley, secundo genito et ex morte primi fratris heredi, Richardi Walmesley nobilis armigeri de Dunkenhall, comitatus Lancastrensis, et Mariæ Fromounds de Cheame, nobilis item armigeri comitatus Surriensis, qui æt. an. xx urbem ingressus, decimo quarto post die, non tam celeri quam felici morte abreptus, in ea piissime quievit, secundo Dec. an. MDCLXXX. Charis filii cineribus Mater illacrymans posuit."



HACKING HALL, RILLINGTON, BUILT BY SIR THOMAS WALMESLEY, KNT., A.D. 1607.

LANGTON SC

ninth baron Petre, born in 1766, died in 1797, leaving, by Maria his wife, a son and heir, Henry William Petre, Esq., of Dunkenhalth; born in 1791, married, first, Elizabeth Jane, daughter of Edward Glyn, Esq., and had issue, sons, Henry, and George Glyn; and three daughters. His second wife was Adeliza Maria, daughter of Henry Howard, Esq., whom he married in 1830, and who died Sept. 9th, 1833, leaving issue, sons, Edward Henry, born Feb. 21st, 1831; and Oswald. Mr. Petre married, thirdly, in 1834, Martha Agatha Hoffnell; and he died Nov. 26th, 1852. His eldest son, Henry Petre, Esq., now of Dunkenhalth, inherited the Billington, Clayton, and Rishton manorial estates. He was born Aug. 27th, 1821; married, Aug. 13th, 1846, Miss Power, and has issue.

The extent of the manorial and other estates of Mr. Petre in Billington amounts altogether to nearly 2000 statute acres.

Hacking Hall, rebuilt by Judge Walmesley, *temp.* James I., stands close to the left bank of the Ribble. The frontage presents projecting wings at the flanks, within which on either hand are narrower bays somewhat withdrawn, with a central division further recessed. There are three storeys in elevation, and the roof-line is vandyked with five gables surmounting the wings and middle bays. The front entrance is by a doorway in the centre recess, having a slightly arched head under a heavy square lintel. The windows on this front, fourteen in number on the three floors, are mullioned (the larger and lower ones transomed), square-headed, with moulded dripstones. At each end of the building massive chimneys project exteriorly, and there is another bold chimney projection at the back of the house. The farm offices extend from the main building at its west end. The back of the hall has four gables, and both ends are double-gabled. The exterior is in good preservation. An inscribed stone fixed in the upper part of the chimney at the east end bears the date "1607," and the initials "T L" which must be those of Thomas Livesey, father of Sir Thomas Walmesley's mother. In the interior, the kitchen has the arch of the original open fire-place, which is 13 feet wide to the outside of the splayed jambs, and above six feet in height. The middle of the building on the ground floor is occupied by a large hall, about 30 feet by 20 feet, with diamond-flagged floor, and its wall at the west end panelled in square panels. The arch of the old fire-place is here also. At the east end of the house a spiral oaken staircase leads to the first floor, and a smaller stair, of similar construction, ascends from the opposite end; the steps of both are of thick oak. The principal chamber on the first floor is in the east wing; it had a polished oak floor, and was panelled in richly carved oak, one compartment of which bore the arms of the builder, Judge Walmesley.

The carved oak work was stripped off the walls some years ago, and conveyed to Dunkenhalth. On the upper floor of the hall the centre is open the whole length of the building, and has the appearance of a long arched gallery. The oak timbers supporting the roof are framed so as to form a succession of pointed arches, with the gable lights opening between them. The masonry of Hacking Hall is of durable gritstone, solidly built.

BRADDYLL OF BRADDYLL AND BROCKHOLE.

At Braddyll and the contiguous tenement of Brockhole or Brockhall, on the bank of Ribble, in this township, was seated of yore a family which took its name from the former of these residences—De Braddyll.

The early orthography of the name is *Bradhull*. Thomas de Bradhull occurs *temp.* John and Henry III. He had sons, Henry, the heir; Robert, who had lands in Salesbury; and Roger, who had a son Geoffrey, married to his cousin Alice, daughter of Henry de Bradhull.

Henry de Bradhull, son of Thomas, held lands in Billington, and had sons, Walter, the heir; John, and Henry; and a daughter Alice, married Geoffrey her cousin. Walter de Bradhull had to wife Alice de Dinkley, by whom he had sons, Roger and John. Roger de Bradhull had two sons, Henry and John, and a daughter Alice.

Henry de Bradhull, son of Roger, is probably the Henry who, at the De Lascy Inquisition of 1311, held in Wilpshire, the next township to Billington, half an oxgang and a third in thanage, and paid 1s. 3d. and suit of Clithero Court. Henry de Bradhull appears as witness to a deed of 7th Edw. II. (1313), and others of about the same date.

His son and heir, John de Bradhull, occurs in title-deeds of Whalley Abbey, in 1331-3-7. By deed of 7th Edw. III., "Joannes filius Henrici de Bradhull" quit-claims to the abbot and monks all his right and claim in certain lands in Billington. John de Bradhull, by his wife Margaret, daughter of Robert de Symonston, had a son Henry de Bradhull. The latter had a son John, whose son and heir was Edward Bradhull, and he had a son Richard.

Richard Braddyll, Edward's heir, was in possession of Braddyll and Brockhole *temp.* Henry VI. and Edward IV. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Sir Wm. Harrington, of Hornby Castle. His sons were, John; and William, a clerk.

The next member, John Braddyll, gent., by his wife Emota, daughter of Wm. Pollard of Billington, gent., had issue, sons, Edward, William, Henry, Richard, and Barnard, all living A.D. 1544.

Edward Braddyll, gent., eldest son of John, by his wife Jennet,

daughter of Robert Crombroke of Clerk Hill, gent., had issue, sons, John, Richard, and William; and a daughter Margery, wife of John Chatborne, gent. Edward Braddyll died in 1553.

John Braddyll, of Braddyll and Brockhole, gent., Edward's son, married, in 1533, Jennet, daughter of John Foster of Whalley, gent., and by her had sons, Edward, the heir; and Richard, who married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Catterall, Esq., and relict of Robert Sherburne of Mytton; and daughters, Jennet, wife of Uchtred Morley of Braddyll, gent.; Ann, wife of John Chew of Parkhead; and Cecilia, wife of Bernard Blakey, gent. John Braddyll followed the profession of law, and traded largely in lands of the suppressed monasteries. He was made bailiff of Whalley Abbey demesne, soon after its forfeiture, and, in 1541, purchased, jointly with Richard Asheton, the Whalley estate from the Crown, for £2,132 3s. 9d. John Braddyll, Esq., died in November, 1578. His Will is dated May 31st, 1575, and in it testator charges Edward his son, and John his grandson, son of Edward, as to their manner of spending the estate after his decease, seeing that "the most part of the lands which I leave unto them came unto me by special gift and suffrance of Almighty God, etc., by reason of buying and selling of lands that I bought of King Henry the Eighte," etc. To his son Edward testator gives specified chattels in his houses, barns, etc., at Brockehall and Whalley.¹ The *Inq. post mort.* was taken at Whalley, June 8th, 21st Eliz. (1579). Deceased was found to have been seized of Symondston Manor, with 12 messuages, and 30 acres of land, rents, etc. Also of 12 messuages, 6 cottages, 100 acres of arable land, 30 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, and 8 acres of wood in Whalley, held of the queen *in capite* by knight service; and one capital messuage in Whalley. Also of one capital messuage called *Brockhole in Billington*, with 80 acres of arable land, 16 acres of meadow, 70 acres of pasture, 8 acres of wood, and 100 acres of moor and turbarie in *Billington*, held in free socage of Thomas Holcroft, Esq. Also of ten messuages and two cottages, four messuages and one cottage, 40 acres of land, and one acre of wood in Dinckley. Also of three messuages in Wiswall, with 40 acres of land, and 60 acres of moor, etc. Also of three messuages in Parva Harwood, 40 acres of land and 5 acres of turbarie, etc.; with other estates. Edward Braddyll was son and next heir.

Edward Braddyll, Esq., married, first, Aug. 5th, 1554, Ann, daughter of Ralph Asheton of Great Lever, Esq., and had issue, sons, John, Richard, Edward (a priest), Ralph, Cuthbert, Gilbert, Thomas, and Bernard; and daughters, Anne, wife of Thomas Southworth, gent.; Dorothy, wife of John Talbot of Carr; Lettice, wife of John Nowell,

¹ *Lanc. and Chesh. Wills (Cheth. Socy.)*, v. ii, pp. 106-13.

gent.; and Jennet, wife of Thomas Brockholes of Claughton. Dame Ann Braddyll died in Dec., 1586. Edward Braddyll's second wife was Ellen, daughter of Henry Starkey of Aughton, Esq.; by whom he had a son John; and a daughter Katherine, wife of Gilbert Lawe, of Whalley. He married thirdly, Dec. 16th, 1594, Elizabeth Pollard; and died Oct. 6th, 1607; and by *Inq. post mort.* was found seized of one capital messuage called Portfield, etc., in Whalley; two messuages in Billington called Brockhole, with ten other messuages, two cottages, 80 acres of arable land, 16 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, 8 acres of woodland, and 100 acres of moor and moss, in Billington; two messuages, one cottage, 40 acres of land, meadow and pasture, and one acre of woodland in Dinckley; and of four messuages, lands and tenements in Parva Harwood. John Braddyll, son and heir, was aged 50 years.

John Braddyll, Esq., son of Edward, made his residence at Portfield, on the Whalley estate. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Brockholes, of Claughton. Issue, sons, Edward, John, and Thomas; the first and the last dying unmarried in their father's lifetime, and the second, John, falling heir; and daughters, Anne, died unmarried; Joan; Alice, married, first, Richard Towneley of Barnside, and, secondly, Christopher Towneley of Carr (the antiquary); and Dorothy, wife of Thomas Vavasour. John Braddyll, Esq., died Jan. 7th, 1615-6.

John Braddyll, son, was of age in 1620, and had livery of his estate May 24th of that year. His first wife, Milicent, daughter of John Talbot of Bashall, died in May, 1620, leaving a son and heir, John, bapt. March 22nd, 1618; and a daughter, Ann, born 1615, died 1616. The son of this marriage, John Braddyll, gent., died in his father's lifetime. Engaged in the Civil War, he was mortally wounded at Thornton Hall in Craven in 1643; buried at Whalley, July 27th. John Braddyll, the father, married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of John Crombocke, of Wiswall. Issue, sons, Thomas; Edward (married Margaret, daughter of George Halsted, of Bank-house, Burnley; and died at Dr. Halsted's, Manchester, Aug., 1684); Roger (born in 1634, of London in 1714); and John, buried Aug. 3rd, 1643. Daughters, Elizabeth (wife of John Brockholes, Esq.); Dorothy; Milicent (wife of Tempest Slinger, of Dunnow, Co. Ebor, gent.); Lettice (wife of Thomas Greenfield, gent.); and Alice. John Braddyll died in March, 1655; buried at Whalley, April 5th. He was an active soldier on the side of Parliament throughout the Civil War of 1642-51.

Thomas Braddyll, Esq., after the death in fight of his brother John, became heir and succeeded his father, in 1655, at the age of 24. He married, in March, 1655, Jane, daughter and coheir of William Rishton of Donishop, gent., and by her (she died in 1698) had issue, sons, John,

the heir, born Sept 18th, 1659; and Thomas, born 1663, died 1672; daughters, Anne, born 1655, died unmarried in 1732; Grace, wife of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq.; Margaret, and Alice. Thomas Braddyll purchased of Edward Southworth the hall and manor of Samlesbury in 1679. He died in May, 1706.

John Braddyll, Esq., of Portfield, married Sarah, daughter and sole heir of Myles Dodding, of Conishead Priory, Esq. Issue, sons, Dodding, died young; a second Dodding, born June, 1689; Thomas, died young; a second Thomas, born 1691, died, unmarried, in 1747; John, born 1695, died in 1753 (leaving sons, John, died unmarried in 1705, and Dodding, died issueless); William, born 1700, died s. p.; Roger, died, aged 13, in 1686; daughters, Jane, died unmarried; Margaret, married Christopher Wilson, of Bardsey Hall, Esq.; Sarah, died unmarried; Agnes, and Anne. John Braddyll, Esq., died March 3rd, 1727-8, buried at Ulverston.

Dodding Braddyll, Esq., his heir, by his wife Mary, daughter of Samuel Hyde, Esq., of London, had sons, Roger, died, aged 7, in 1726-7; Roger, died young; and Thomas. The father died Dec. 31st, 1748.

Thomas Braddyll, Esq., third son, was eventually heir to the estates. He was born May 6th, 1730, and died unmarried July 25th, 1776; having willed his estates to his cousin, Wilson Gale, Esq., (grandson of Margaret, daughter of John Braddyll, and wife of Christr. Wilson, Esq.,) who assumed the surname of Braddyll by royal warrant in 1776, and whose son, Thomas Richmond Gale Braddyll, before his death was forced to sell the family estates in Billington, Samlesbury, Whalley, and Furness, having ruined himself by foolish extravagance.

The Braddyll-with-Brockhole estate and other lands in Billington, were bought, about the close of last century, by James Taylor, Esq., of Moreton Hall. They comprise 740 acres of land, of which 173 acres are woodland. At Braddyll there is now only a small ruined tenement on the site of the old messuage. At Brockhole the hall has been modernised for a farm-house.

BARKER OF WHETLEY, &c.

William Barker held Whetley, in Billington, in freehold, in the reign of Henry VIII. At the time of the survey of Abbey lands in this township, in 1538, it was returned that "the heirs of William Barker holdeth freely certain lands called Whetley, and payeth yearly a brode arrow and suit in the court."

The Barkers also held land in the township of Salesbury. Robert Barker died before the 4th Phillip and Mary (1556), when Jane Barker, widow of Robert, was against William Barker in a suit as to title to lands called Fayrehurst, in Salesbury.

William Barker was taxed for lands in Salesbury to a Subsidy in 1570, and was assessed to furnish arms in the military levy of 1574. "William Barker, gent.," was a juror at John Braddyll's escheat in 1579.

Robert Barker, of Whetley, gent., is in a list of local freeholders in the year 1600. The same occurs as a juror in 1612, 1613, and 1616. Robert Barker is assessed upon lands in Salesbury to the Subsidy of 1611.

Bartholomew Barker, gent., who died about 1641, owned lands in several townships in Blackburn Parish. His escheat was taken at Blackburn, April 28th, 17th Charles I. The jurors said that the deceased Bartholomew Barker had been seized of these estates:—Two messuages, two gardens, 16 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, and 2 acres of woodland, in Salesbury, held of John Talbot, Knt., in socage; one messuage, one garden, and 8 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Dutton, of the King in socage; 20 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Billington, held of Thomas Walmesley, Esq., by fidelity; 20 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Wilpshire, held of John Talbot, Knt., in socage; and common of turbary on the waste called Browne Hill, in Little Harwood, of John Clayton, Esq.

John Barker, aged 35, in 1641 was found son and heir of Bartholomew. John Barker, of Salesbury, died in 1678.

CHIEF OF CHEW BANK, POTTER FORD, CHEW HOUSE, &c., BILLINGTON, AND OF BURY AND MANCHESTER.

The Chew family was an ancient freeholding family in that portion of Billington vill described in charters as the "Manor of Cho," and was allied by marriage to the De Bilyngtons, lords of the manor. By undated deed of the thirteenth century, Adam de Bilyngton gave to "Henry, son of Hugh del' Cho, and Avicia his wife" (daughter of the grantor), a portion of land in Billington which Henry del' Cho and Hugh his father and their ancestors had held of grantor, his father, and his ancestors. The estate is defined in the deed as lying between the land of Bernard de Dynkedlegh and the way called Mungate, and a portion called the Halgh, and a part called the Cho, between Busceburn and Calder. This area of land between the Bushburn rivulet and the Calder was, I believe, the manor-place of Billington in Saxon times. It is still called the "Castle Holme," and in the midst are traces of a square mound, conjectured to be the site of a Saxon tower demolished before the earliest local record. The mound rises about four feet above the level of the field, but has no vestige of masonry now. Henry del' Cho (modern Chew), by his wife Avicia, relict of Geoffrey de Bilyngton, was father of Richard del' Cho, who, about the year 1240, granted to Beatrice de Blackburn certain land in his place called Cho. Richard del' Cho is named a little later as seated at Cho-bonk (Chew-bank). He had a brother Thomas, to whom his father Henry gave his land called the Halgh, in Billington. These brothers were doubtless ancestors of the Chews named below.

William Choo, of Billington, lived in the last part of the fifteenth and first part of the sixteenth centuries. He died before 1523, for in that year "Uxor William Choo" was taxed to a King's Subsidy. This would refer to his widow.

Several tenants of Whalley Abbey, in Billington, of this name, occur in the Survey of 1538. Richard Chew held freely Benson's field, also Olgreave, with lands, and a fulling mill. Robert Chowe, Edmund Chowe, and Adam Chowe appear in the same Survey. Richard Chew, of Olgreave, in 1538, might be father of Richard Chew, senr., of Billington, taxed to a Subsidy in 1570; and who had a son, Richard Chew, assessed to a Subsidy in 1610. A later member of that branch, William Chew, of Olgreave, appears in the Subsidy Roll of 1663.

The Chews of Potter Ford were direct progenitors of members of the family now living. Robert Chowe, of Potter Ford (the ford over Calder a little lower down than Whalley Abbey), rebuilt the house there in 1562, as attested by a stone at Potter

Ford, dated "1562," and inscribed with his initials and his wife's:—"R A C." In the Will of John Braddyll, Esq., dated 1575, is a bequest to "Robert Chowe, of the Potter Forth;" and another, of £20 and a gelding, to testator's "servant John Chowe, in consideration of his honest and true service," &c.; perhaps this latter was John Chew, of Parkhead, Whalley, whose wife was Anne, third daughter of John Braddyll.

Edward Chewe, the next of Potter Ford, would be a son of Robert. On the lintel of a fire-place at Potter Ford are cut the initials of this Edward and his wife:—"E A C" and the date "1610." He had a son Robert, born in 1600.

Robert Chew, of Potter Ford, gent., son of Edward, married, May 25th, 1618, Mary Crombleholme, and had sons, Richard, born in 1619, who settled at Elkar, in this township, and was progenitor of that branch; and Edward, of Potter Ford. Robert Chew, of Potter Ford, was a freeman of Preston, and was enrolled at the Guilds of 1642 and 1662, with his sons Richard and Edward. The father died sometime after 1662.

Edward Chew, of Potter Ford, gent., son of Robert, married, first, in 1656, Ellen, daughter of William Chew, of Billington; and, secondly, before 1665, Elizabeth, daughter of James Moore, gent., of Lower Harrop, Co. Ebor, by whom he had issue, sons, Edward, bapt. at Great Harwood Church, Jan. 28th, 1674; and James. The father, Edward Chew, gent., was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1679, and was living in 1687, when he was a deponent in the case before the Lord Chancellor concerning Langho Chapel.

His younger son was "James Chew, of Poulton, gent.," so described in Preston Guild Roll of 1702; he died before 1722; leaving sons, Edward Chew, attorney-at-law, living in 1742; Thomas, James, and Christopher.

Edward Chew, of Billington, gent., was eldest son of Edward. He was a freeman of Preston, enrolled at the Guilds of 1682, 1702, 1722, and 1742. He died in 1743, buried at Blackburn Parish Church, April 15th. He built on his estate, in 1702, Chew House, now called "the Asylum;" on the lintel of the front entrance are his initials and his wife's, "E A C" and the date "1702." He had issue, sons, Edward, born in 1703; Abraham, bapt. Jan. 18th, 1707-8; Richard, born in 1710; and James, born in 1713; and a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1712.

Edward Chew, eldest son, was of Preston, and is enrolled at Guilds in 1742 and 1762. He married Catherine Croke, widow (daughter of Alex. Rigby, Esq., by his wife Ann, daughter and co-heir of John Townley, of Clitheroe, gent.), and was father of Townley Chew, "of Preston, attorney-at-law," in 1762, and "of London" in 1782.

Abraham Chew, of Billington, gent., next brother of Edward, was described as "of Oxfordshire," in 1742. He died unmarried, at Billington, aged 60, and was buried at Langho Chapel, April 17th, 1767.

The brother of the two last-named was James Chew, of Billington, surgeon and gent. He was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1754 until his death in 1768. He married Miss Ann Fothergill (she died Dec. 1759), and had issue, sons, Joseph, born in 1745, died young; Abraham, born Sept. 13th, 1747; Edward, born about 1749; Thomas, born 1752; James, born Aug. 22nd, 1758; and Richard, born 1759, died young; and daughters, Grace, born 1741; Mary, born 1742; Ann, born 1744; Janet, born 1746; Elizabeth, born 1754; and Sarah, born 1755. The father, Dr. James Chew, died, aged 54, in 1768; buried at Langho Chapel, July 5th.

Abraham Chew, of Billington, surgeon, eldest surviving son of James, was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1770, and died, aged 52, in 1800; buried at Langho, July 2nd. By Jane his wife (who died, aged 67, in 1807) he

had issue, sons, James, born in 1771; and Abraham, born in 1773 (he was the Abraham Chew, M.D., of Blackburn; married, in 1800, Ann, daughter of Mr. Thomas Smalley, of Larkhill, Blackburn; had no issue, and died, aged 45, April 2nd, 1819; a bust and tablet in St. John's Church, Blackburn, were erected to his memory by subscription); and daughters, Ann, wife of Rev. William Barton, incumbent of Langho, &c.; Jane, wife of Wm. Hesmondhalgh, died at Chew House, aged 90, April 7th, 1865; and Alice, born Jan. 27th, 1779; married Mr. Thomas Carr, of Blackburn, and died at Whalley Abbey, aged 80, Jan. 9th, 1859.

James Chew, of Blackburn, surgeon, younger son of James, married Margaret, daughter of Major Clayton, of Little Harwood Hall, but had no issue.

Edward Chew, second surviving son of James, and brother of the two last-named, was an attorney-at-law, of Haslingden, and later of Bury. He married, first, April 25th, 1773, Miss Elizabeth Christopher, of Salford, who died young, without issue; secondly, at Haslingden Church, Jan. 7th, 1777, Ann, daughter of John Grime, of Baxenden, gent., and by her (she died Sept. 11th, 1793) had issue, sons, John Grime Chew, died young, in July, 1782; James; Edward; Abraham, bapt. July 16th, 1786; and William Christopher, born Oct. 26th, 1788; and a daughter, Jane, born about 1781. Mr. Edward Chew's third wife was Alice, daughter of George Hargreave, Esq., of Haslingden, married May 22nd, 1794. Mr. Edward Chew died, aged 71, about the year 1820. James Chew, his son, had a son William, now living at Blacksnape.

Edward Chew, of Manchester, attorney-at-law, son of Edward, had sons William and George; and died after 1832. His son is William Chew, Esq., of Norman Lodge, Shirley, near Northampton.

William Christopher Chew, a younger son of Edward, sometime of Blackburn and London, eventually of Manchester, established in that city a successful practice as an attorney-at-law and solicitor, and was in practice more than 55 years. He married, July 2nd, 1811, Hannah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Heath, of Nantwich, and had issue five sons and seven daughters. His only surviving daughter is Mrs. Hannah Armstrong, wife of John Armstrong, surgeon, of Harpurhey. W. C. Chew, Esq., died, in his 80th year, Nov. 29th, 1867. His wife died, aged 70, at Lytham, Jan. 27th, 1861. His only surviving son is—

Thomas Heath Chew, Esq., attorney-at-law, of Manchester, born Aug. 23rd, 1816, educated at Manchester Grammar School; married Oct. 1st, 1841, Jane, daughter of Lawrence Hall, Esq., of Openshaw, and has had issue, sons, Francis, died young; and William Lawrence Chew, solicitor, in partnership with his father; and a daughter, Jane Eleanor, died young.

Of the Elkar branch of Chews I add the following sketch descent:—Richard Chew, of Elkar, son of Robert, of Potter Ford, died about 1664. His son, Richard Chew, of Elkar, born in 1654, died in Nov., 1721, buried at Whalley. His son, Richard Chew, of Whitwams, died in 1726. He had married, in 1701, Christiana Kendall, by whom he had sons, Kendall, born in 1703; John, born in 1705; Richard born in 1708; and Thomas, born 1713; and daughters, Elizabeth, Dorothy, and Jennet. Christiana Chew, widow, died in April, 1763. Kendall Chew, of Elkar, gent., Richard's eldest son, married, May 13th, 1736, Ann Stones, of Haslingden, and had a son, Richard; and daughters, Elizabeth, Ellen, Ann, and Betty. Mr. Kendall Chew died in July, 1764. His son, Richard Chew, of Billington, yeoman, married, Jan. 5th, 1763, Sarah, daughter of Edward Ainsworth, of Pleasington, Esq. (she died July 6th, 1802), and had issue, Kendall, bapt. Aug. 27th, 1766; Ainsworth, bapt. Jan. 23rd, 1770; Theophilus, bapt. Dec. 16th, 1771; Ann, born in 1768; and Ellen. Richard Chew died in 1782. His first son was Kendall Chew, of Billington.

CUNLIFFE OF CUNLIFFE HOUSE.

A family of Cunliffes possessed a small freehold estate called Cunliffe, in Billington, deriving thence the family surname. No complete descent can be given of them. Robert de Cundelive occurs A.D. 1250, and another Robert de Cundeclif is a witness to charters temp. Edw. I. A third Robert de Cundeclif lived temp. Edward III., and about 1347 paid rent to Whalley Monastery for a plot of land he held. Roger de Cundcliff, of the same period, had a daughter Margaret, wife of Adam de Lever. Later, a Robert de Cundecliff occurs in 1396.

In 1478, the Abbey of Whalley received 40s. yearly "de terris R. Cundecliff, viz., Brodmede et Grenehey."

Robert Cunliffe, of Billington, died before 1515. He is described in the escheat, dated 7th Henry VIII., as late of Wilpshire, gent., outlawed for felony upon Margaret Wood, late wife of Elie Wood. His estate was found to consist of one messuage, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, 4 acres of woodland, and 30 acres of moor and turbarry, in Billington, held of the Abbot of Whalley, value 10s.; and of one messuage, 30 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture, one acre of woodland, and 40 acres of moor and turbarry, in Wilpshire, held of the King in socage, value 40s.

A.D. 1521, Whalley Monastery received 4s. 8d. by the year "pro terris Roberti Cundcliff," then representing this family; and who, again, in 1538, was found holding freely lands in Billington, paying therefor to the Abbey £1 5s. yearly.

Richard Cunliffe, for his lands in Billington, was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570. Both Robert Cunliffe and Richard Cunliffe were taxed to the Military Levy in 1574.

The Cunliffe-house estate passed to Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., and was found in his possession at his death. It was leased to John Talbot, gent., of Whalley, who, by his Will, dated 1594, assigns to Elizabeth his wife the farming houses and grounds he had "by lease of Mr. Justice Walmysley in Billington and Wilpshire, laite the inheritance of one Richard Cunliffe;" also, "his lease of the tythe corn of Cunliffe." It remains with the lord of Billington Manor. The Cunliffes migrated to Hollins, in Accrington; thence, later, to Wycoller, in Trawden. The pedigree of Cunliffe, of Hollins and Wycoller, commences with "Robert Cunliffe, a younger son of Cunliffe, of Cunliffe Hall," in Billington.

DEANE, OF DEANE HILL, TOWNWORTH, &c.

The Deanes had a freehold tenancy in Billington from an ancient period. In 1340, Adam del' Dene's land in this township is mentioned; and some years later, Alexander del' Dene was in possession of an estate for which he paid 4s. yearly to the Abbot of Whalley, as lord of the manor.

John Deyne of Townworth and Downham, living temp. Edw. IV., had to wife Agnes, daughter of Richard Worsley of Mearley and Twiston.

About half a century onward, John Deyne was assessed to the Subsidy of 1523 for his lands in Billington. At the survey of Whalley Abbey estates, in 1538, is entered, under Billington:—"John Deane holdeth freely a tenement called Hodghouse, with 22 acres of land, meadow, and pasture, and payeth yearly 2s.; the same holdeth freely half a messuage called Townworth, and payeth by the year for the same, 1s. 4d.; the same holdeth a messuage called Deyne Hill, and payeth 4s." This John Deane then possessed three separate freeholds in the township—Hodghouse, Townworth, and Deane Hill.

In the Lansdowne MSS. (No. 205), I find a note of five descents of certain Deanes of Townworth, which appears to belong to this family, and furnishes two

generations precedent to the above John Deane, viz :—William Deane, of Townworth, who by Agnes his wife, daughter and heir of — Wrightington; had a son and heir, Henry Deane. Henry Deane, marrying Maud, daughter of William Ambrose, had a son John, who seems to synchronise with the John above who is found in possession in 1523 and in 1538. The same MS. gives William as son and heir of this John, and marrying a Nowell, according with information from other sources, as follows :—

John Deane, who held the estate at the time of the Survey of 1538 already noted, died November 24th, 33rd Henry VIII. (1541-2); the escheat was taken 35th Henry VIII., whereby he was found to have been seized of six messuages in Billington, with 100 acres of land, 100 acres of pasture, 50 acres of meadow, 40 acres of woodland, and 300 acres of moor and turbury; also of ten acres of land in Wilpshire, and lands in Mellor, Downham, and Twiston.

William Deane was son and heir of John. The manuscript in the Lansdowne collection states that this William married Maud, daughter to John Nowell, Esq., and the item is confirmed by the pedigree of Nowell, of Read, which gives as John Nowell's second daughter :—“Maude, married to William Deane, of Townworth, gent.” He had a son John, married, runs the manuscript, to — Holtoffe [Holcroft?].

John Deane was in possession in the year 1555 (3rd Phillip and Mary), when he disputed with Sir Thomas Holcroft, lord of the manor of Billington, a claim to rent, service, and free rent for a messuage and lands called Townworth, and a tenement called Deane Hill. John Deane, of Billington, was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570.

A succeeding “John Deane, of Townworth, gent.” is in a list of Freeholders dated 1585; and in 1587, the steward at Gawthorp “paid John Dane, of Townworth, by appointment of Mr. Sergeant Shuttleworth, £4.”

James Deane, of Billington, was assessed in 1611 to the Subsidy levied in that year. (Accidentally omitted from the return of the Subsidy printed in this work.)

Edmond Deane, of Billington, had a son Richard, bapt. May 6th, 1589.

Soon after the last date the Deanes ceased to be represented among the landholders of Billington, and no further account of the family descent can be afforded.

SLATER OF ELKER.

The Slaters were tenants of Whalley Abbey, both in Billington and Whalley, at the date of the survey on the suppression of the Convent. John Slater then (1538) held 18 acres in Billington, and a pasture in Whalley called Roger-ashes. Robert Slater held 3½ acres in Whalley.

John Selater, of Billington, married, in 1581, Alice Hindle; and he was assessed to the Subsidy of 1611.

John Slater, of Billington, who died in 1641, had a daughter Margaret, married to Francis Paslew, of Wiswall, gent.

In 1684, John Slater, of Billington, gave a donation to the endowment of Langho Chapel; and in 1688 appropriated a pew there, which yet bears his name.

“John Slater, Bayliff of Billington,” so stated on his gravestone in Whalley Churchyard, died May 23th, 1761, aged 84. His wife, Janet, died Nov. 28th, 1758, aged 72.

Andrew Slater, grandson of John, lived in Billington; his wife, Alice, died Jan. 10th, 1810, aged 77.

SMALLEY OF COLIARS AND GREENSNOOK.

Henry Smalley, of Billington, yeoman, was buried May 9th, 1694.

John Smalley, of Billington, had sons, Henry, born 1697; Edward, born 1705; and other issue.



CARVED CORBEL FROM WHALLEY ABBEY,
IN THE GABLE OF AN OLD HOUSE AT ELKAR, BILLINGTON. [PAGE 446

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Rev. Henry Smalley, curate of Blackburn in 1727, appears to have been of this family. In 1749, Rev. Mr. Smalley gave three guineas to the augmentation fund of Langho curacy.

John Smalley, of Coliars, whose wife, Jennet, died in 1732, rebuilt the house in 1712, over the door of which an inscribed stone bears this date, "1712," and the initials "I I S," which stand for John and Jennet Smalley. John Smalley, of Billington, was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 20th, 1753.

John Smalley and Ellen Birtwistle, both of Billington, married, Nov. 16th, 1721; and had issue.

John Smalley, of Billington, yeoman, by his first wife, had a daughter Jane, born in 1760. He married, secondly, Ann, daughter of Kendall Chew, July 25th, 1765, and had issue a son John, born in 1766; younger sons, Henry, born in 1768; and Kendall, born in 1770. "Mr. John Smalley, of Billington," was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1770. On the award of waste lands in Billington in 1791, John Smalley, of Coliars, and John Smalley, of Greensnook, are both named as freeholders in the township, being the above John Smalley and his eldest son. John Smalley, the father, died in 1804.

SPEAKE OF BILLINGTON.

Robert Speake is named as holding land in Billington so early as the 34th Edward I. (1305-6).

Henry Speake, in 1538, was tenant of lands in Billington under Whalley Abbey.

A succeeding Henry Speake, of Billington, was assessed to the Subsidy in 1570, and was taxed to the Military Levy of 1574.

Henry Speake, of Billington, gent., is on a list of freeholders dated 1600; and in the Subsidy of 1611 is assessed on lands in the township. Henry Speake, gent., is met with as a juror in 1612. Henry Speake died on the 30th of April, 1625, and the escheat return, taken at Blackburn, Oct. 30th, 5th Charles I. (1629), showed deceased to have owned one messuage, with 60 acres of land, meadow, and pasture, in Billington, held of the King, by the 100th part of a knight's fee, worth 10s. per annum. John Speake was son and heir, aged 40 years and upwards. This son was bapt. at Great Harwood Church, Sept. 8th, 1585.

TALBOT OF CUNLIFFE IN BILLINGTON AND OF WHALLEY.

John Talbot, gent., of Whalley, natural son of Sir Thomas Talbot, of the Holt and Bashall, had a lease from Mr. Justice Walmesley of the "farming houses and grounds" in Billington and Wilpshire, "late the inheritance of one Richard Cunliffe." By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Parker, of Extwistle, gent., he had a daughter Anne, wife of James Asheton, of Chadderton, Esq. By his Will, dated April 30th, 1594, John Talbot, gent., bequeaths to his wife his lease of the lands in Billington and Wilpshire, and also his "lease of the tythe corn of Cunliffe."

THE CHAPEL OF ST. LEONARD, LANGHO.

The parochial chapel of St. Leonard, with its graveyard, occupy a portion of Langho Green, near the western side of the township. The chapel is a simple nave, 62ft. by 29ft., and there is no chancel. The entrance is under an arched porch on the south side. At the west end of the roof-ridge is a wooden bellcot for one bell. Local tradition, asserting that the chapel was built of stones from the dismantled Abbey

of Whalley, is supported by the appearance of the walls externally ; which consist of dressed stones of large size for a building so small. Several of the stones are sculptured with figures, heraldic shields, and other devices. Above the east window are three such carved stones, the centre one appears like the ogee head of a decorated arch, and the other two bear heads of saints, now much battered and disfigured. Let into the south wall are other stones with emblematic sculpture upon them. On one of these is a deeply-relieved heraldic shield ; and upon another, a shield beneath tracery in low relief. Another stone, with embossed shield and tracery, is seen in the west wall. The windows, of perpendicular tracery, generally resemble some yet remaining *in situ* at Whalley Abbey. In the heads of several of the windows are fragmentary portions of old coloured glass, also, perhaps, from the Abbey. The west window is of the same style as the side windows, but larger, of four lights. The window at the east end is a plain mullioned one of three lights, the centre circular-headed ; and on the north side is a similar window, without tracery.

The interior of the chapel is plain. The roof is ceiled, and supported by moulded beams, the ends resting on wooden corbels. The pulpit stands against the north wall. A single aisle traverses the centre longitudinally, joining the entrance-passage from the south porch. In the wall near the S.E. corner, remains the piscina, beneath a recessed and moulded pointed arch, trefoiled. The font is modern. The chapel was repewed in 1688, and most of the pews of that date remain, with the initials of their then occupants.

Langho Chapel appears to have been built by Sir Thomas Holcroft, Knt., purchaser of the manor of Billington after the extinction of Whalley Abbey. The date of erection would be about 1557. Sir Thomas Holcroft, the presumed founder, died in 1558. Braddyll and Asheton, who at the same time acquired the Whalley demesne with the site and buildings of the Abbey, may have joined with Holcroft in the erection, being likewise owners of estates in Billington. Langho Chapel is first named in a bequest by John Braddyll, Esq. He, by his Will, dated May, 1575, gave :—

To the reparation of Langall Chapell ten shillings every year, to be paid out of one lease of the tithe corn of Brockhole, which lease I do give, &c., to Edward B., my son, and John B., my godson, upon this condition, that they pay out the said 10s. yearly at Christmas only, and see it bestowed yearly during the year in the said lease, if the said chapell so long do continue and have divine service in the same, and if it do not so continue, then the said Edward and John shall bestow the said ten shillings yearly upon mending of the highways in Billington, between the Chowe Milne and the said chapell.

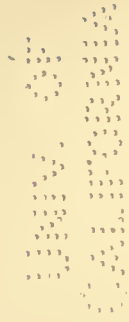
The Chapel was built as a chapel-of-ease for the use of the inhabi-



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LANGIO CHAPEL.

BUILT *circa* 1557, WITH STONE FROM THE DISMANTLED ABBEY OF WHALLEY.



tants of this part of Blackburn Parish. The service of the Chapel was long precarious. There was no endowment for a curate's maintenance ; but the vicars of Blackburn, or some curate of the mother church, periodically ministered here. To the Parliamentary Commission of 1650 it was reported concerning Langho Church that there was no endowment, but that Mr. Churchlowe, the minister, had an allowance of £40 from the County Committee ; that the Church was six miles distant from the Parish Church ; and that the chapelry contained three hundred families, who desired to be made a separate parish, and to have a fixed salary for their minister. Mr. James Critchley had been approved for Langho Chapel at a meeting of the second classis of the Lancashire Presbytery, held at Whalley, July 10th, 1649.

On the restoration of Episcopacy, the service of this chapel again became only casual. In 1684, Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, improper rector of Blackburn, intending to augment their endowments, asked for information as to the state of the chapels, and it was returned :—

Langho Chapell, 4 miles from Blackburn Church, 2 miles from any other chapell. No curate, because no maintenance. Onely one Mr. Braddell gave £10, the interest whereof repairs that ffabrick. Adjacent to it Billington and Wilpshire.

	£	s.	d.
Endowment.—Interest of Mr. Braddell's £10	0	10	0
Mrs. Fleetwood (lessee of the rectory lands in			
Blackburn) promiseth yearly	2	0	0
Billington promiseth to settle about	5	10	0

and hope for as much from Wilpshire and Dinkley when Mr. Warren (lord of Salesbury, Wilpshire, and Dinkley) returneth from Cheshire.

The same year (1684) the following further account of the chapel was furnished to Primate Sancroft :—

Langho Chapell.—Billington has subscribed a certaine sum for perpetuity. (See the list under their hands.) Mr. Warren, the lord of Wilpshire, &c., will not yet promise anythings, nor his tenants neither, until Mr. Warren give leave. (Mem. Dr. Stephen, Rector of Stopford, to be desired to intercede with Mr. Warren, the Father, or with the Grandfather, both of the same place, to perswade Mr. Warren, the sonn, of Dinckley, to give something to the chapel, and suffer his tenants to do the like.) There is some former animosity or difference between Justice Bradyll and Mr. Warren, which occasions Mr. Warren's averseness ; besides, Mr. Warren's wife is a violent ferme Papist. The generality of the Inhabitants of Billington in Lango resort to the Parish Church of Whalley (which is about a mile and ½ from Lango Chappell), to divine service and sermon, to christen and bury ; for other offices they come to the Mother Church.

A Subscription was entered into by the inhabitants in 1684, and a sum of £55 15s. 4d. was given, to which Sir Edmund Assheton gave £20 ; Thos. Braddyll, Esq., £10 ; Mistress Pollard, £4 ; Lawr. Osbaldeston, £4 ; Edward Chew, £2 ; &c.

Bartholomew Walmsley, Esq., of Dunkenhalgh, succeeded to the lordship of the manor in 1679. Being a Roman Catholic, finding that Langho Chapel was without a curate, and assuming that the fabric of the chapel, having been built by a former lord, was an appanage of the manor, he obtained the custody of the keys, took possession of the chapel, and, in the year 1687, had the seats, communion table, &c., removed, and the altar, and other fittings necessary to adapt it for the Roman Catholic ritual, substituted. For a brief period after this seizure, mass was celebrated in the chapel. The Vicar of Blackburn, Rev. Francis Price, promptly took measures to procure the restoration of the chapel to the Church of England. Failing to obtain a settlement of the dispute by private overture, Vicar Price petitioned the Crown for a mandamus for the restoration of the chapel. The petition was forwarded in May, 1688. I copy it below:—

To the Kings most Excellent Majestie.—The humble Petition of Francis Price, Vicar of the Parish Church of Blackburn in the County of Lancaster—Sheweth—That the Chappel of Lango in the said Parish of Blackburne hath time out of mind been a Chappel of Ease belonging to the Mother Church of Blackburne, wherein Prayers, Preaching, Sacraments, and other Ecclesiastical Rites have been celebrated by the Vicars and Curates of the said Parish, as appears by many affidavits taken before a Master extraordinary in your Majesties High Court of Chancery. That the said Chappel hath from time to time been repaired, both walls and Roofe, and the seats and Pews uniformly placed, and the Bell thereof bought at the only costs and charges of the adjacent and neighbouring Townes: And also Communion Plate and some other Endowments and Salaries given to it, according to the abilities of the neighbourhood, and particular Seats in it assigned to ancient families and Estates.—Now so it is (may it please your sacred Majestie) That a Neighbouring Gentleman, one Mr. Bartholomew Walmsley, hath lately seized on the said Chappel of Lango, and so (pretending a right to it) hath dispossessed your Petitioner of his just and undoubted Right in and to the said Chapell, which he is ready to make appear by and from Ancient Records.—May it therefore please your most sacred Majesty, out of your Princely Inclination to Justice, and accustomed Compassion, either to Order Mr. Bartholomew Walmsley to make Restitution of the said Chappel, taken so unjustly from the Mother Church, or else to refer the leaving of the whole matter to any person whom your Majestie shall think most fit to Report the merits of the cause to your sacred Majestie.—And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

This Petition was supported by a series of affidavits, taken previously before a Master in Chancery. Besides the affidavits, eighteen in number, the records of the case include copies of allegations made by the defendant, and of the answers thereto by the petitioner. Subjoined is the draft of Mr. Bartholomew Walmsley's allegations respecting the chapel:—

[Endorsed]—Mr. Walmsley's Allegations against Lango Chapell.—About ye 4th year of ye Reigne of Queen Mary (1556-7), Sr Thomas Holcroft became Lord of ye Mannor of Billington, and soon after began to erect a Chappel on Lango Greene, within his Mannor, which hee Intended for the ease of yt neighbourhood, that they

might hear Masse there. But it appears that the people never resorted to it, for wee find that the very Chappell yard was immediately let in lease to one Wood, then assigned to Osbaldeston, then to Chew, all along under the Rent of 3s. 4d. constantly pd. to Sr Thomas and his Assigns ever since. It is very probable yt ye change of Religion happening before the Chappell was finished might prevent Sr Thomas his intention of getting it Consecrated; the house itselſe has alwaies been employed as a Court house, except by chance some seldôme times a sermon was preached by one of ye predecessors of ye now Vicar of Blackburne without any obligation. There is noe chappelry knowne by bounds and limits as in cases of other chappells, soe yt it seems to be a chappell only in Reputation. And it is plaine the people of Billington have time out of Mind repaired to other places to hear Sermons, &c., and never subscribed to ye Maintenance of a Curate, nor ever was there a curate in this place.

The replies of the Vicar to these allegations are the next documents:—

Several Allegations, made by Bartholomew Walmsley, Esq., and his agents, against Francis Price, Vicar of Blackburne's title to the Chappel of Lango answered.

Allegation 1.—That the said Chappel of Lango is erected on a common or wast called Lango-green in Billington, where the said Mr. Walmsley is Lord of a manour.—To which the said Vicar replies, That though the said Chappel of Lango be erected on a common or wast, yet there are certaine charterers, viz., Sir Edmund Ashton, Baronet, Thomas Braddyll, Esq., and others, who are lawful and proportionable sharers in the said common or wast, and therefore the said chappel cannot solely belong to the said Mr. Walmsley.

Allegation 2.—That the said Chappel of Lango was never consecrated.—To which the Vicar replies, That the consecration of many chappels, and also churches, are not (or very difficultly) to be proved by Records or evidences thereof, any other way, but by long performance of Divine Service, and ministration of Sacraments and Sacramentalls there.

Allegation 3.—That Sacraments and Sacramentalls have seldom or never been performed in the said Chappel of Lango.—To which the said Vicar replies, That before the late unhappy times of confusion,—viz.: about 60 years since,—there was a constant hired curate there, who did read the prayers, preach, marry, christen, and administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper there; and that the predecessors of the present Vicar, namely, Mr. Morres, Mr. Bolton, and Mr. Clayton, have several times officiated at that chapel. And that the reason why the present Vicar did not imitate them in that particular was (1st) because he thought himself bound to preach constantly at the Mother Church of Blackburne, whither some hundreds of his Parishioners do constantly resort on the Lord's Day; and (2ndly) because he thought it sufficient to send a Curate to officiate at that Chappel of Ease, so often as anything could be procured to pay the said curate for his paines. To the foresaid allegation the said Vicar further replies, That tho' of late years there has been no constant settled Curate there for want of maintenance, yet henceforward there is like to be no complaints of that nature, there being £50 a year lately given by two charitable Persons, and other annual Pensions promised by others, for the Augmentation of the Salaries of the several Curates of that and other chappels in the said Parish of Blackburn, as Mr. Snowe of Lambeth can testify.

Allegation 4.—That a Rent of 3s. 4d. per annum has for many years together been paid by Mr. Chew, and others, to Mr. Walmsley and his ancestors.—To which the said Vicar replies, That the Business in controversy is, whether the Chappel of

Lango be an appendant to the Mother Church of Blackburn, and not whether the adjacent yard belongeth to Mr. Walmsley. The said Vicar being indifferent to whom the right to the said yard belongeth, provided that those who resort to the said chappel may have free passage through the said yard according to ancient custome.

Allegation 5.—That the Ancestors of Mr. Walmsley have kept Courts in the said Chappel of Lango for many years together.—To which the said Vicar replies, That the Vicars of Blackburn, or their curates, have more times a year for 80 years by past performed Divine Offices in that Chappel without the least control from any person whatsoever. And besides it's too notorious that severall other lords of manours in Lancashire do keep their courts in other chappels (so little regard have some of them to those sacred Places). Yet none of them, besides Mr. Walmsley, do draw argument from thence, that the said Chappels are their owne, no more than the Right worshipful the Chancellor of Chester does, that the Mother Church of Blackburne is his, because he keeps his Court of Visitation in it twice a year.

Allegation 6.—That the keys of the said Chappel of Lango, in the year 1684 (or thereabouts) were taken by Madam Walmsley from one Burton, a Schoolmaster, who taught scholars in that chappel.—To which the said Vicar replies, That those keys were taken from the said Schoolmaster without the consent or pre-knowledge of the Vicar of Blackburne, or of any of his curates, and were redelivered in lesse than 7 days time, upon complaint made to Mr. Braddyll, one of his late Majesties Justices of the peace, and that, excepting these few days, the said keys were never before October last in possession of Mr. Walmsley or any of his ancestors, but were constantly kept (if report say true) either by the Curate, or Schoolmaster of Lango, or else by some of the Inhabitants of the Chapelrie of Lango, for whose use and benefit the said chappel was erected.

Allegation 7. (Designed for the great prejudice of the Vicar of Blackburne).—Is an affidavit of one Blore of Billington, who affirms that he invited the said Vicar to preach at Lango Chappel, and received this answer:—That he the said Vicar was not bound by any Law to supply that place and therefore refused to do it (or to that effect).—To which the said Vicar replies, That the Deponent Blore does not fairly state the case, for thus in truth it was:—In September last (or thereabouts) the said Deponent Blore came to the Vicar of Blackburne at his house in Blackburne, and desired him to permit one Mr. Ellis to preach at the chappel of Lango, and to admit him to be Curate there. The Vicar replied, that he had heard a very ill character of Mr. Ellis, and therefore could not consent to admit him to be Curate there, 'till he the said Vicar was fully satisfied that the said Mr. Ellis was a man of good Principles and conversation. Whereupon the said Deponent Blore fell into a Passion, and said to the Vicar:—“If you will not permit Mr. Ellis to supply that chappel, will you come and supply it yourself?” This was all the Invitation he gave the said Vicar. To which the Vicar replied, That he knew no law that obliged him to leave the mother church, to officiate at a Chappel of Ease; yet did offer that whensoever the Inhabitants of the Chappelrie of Lango did recommend any worthy clergyman to be Curate there, he the said Vicar would freely consent to his admission, and would use his endeavours to procure the approbation of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. Which answer to Blore's affidavit the said Vicar asserts with as great seriousness as if he were under the obligation of an oath; and does most humbly submit both this and all the rest of his Answers to the forementioned Allegations to the great wisdom of the Right Honourable the Lord High Chancellor of England, to whom the case between Bartholomew Walmsley, Esq., and the said Vicar is referred by the King's most Excellent Majesty; on whom God Almighty multiply his Blessings.

The next document is a copy of the Royal notification of reference of the cause to the Lord Chancellor. The Vicar's Petition was returned, with the King's reference written on the margin, as follows :—

At the Court at Whitehall, May 29th, 1688.—His Majesty is graciously pleased to referre this Petition to the right honble. the Lord Chancellor of England, to heare all partys concerned and to report the State of the case with his Lordships opinion what his Majesty may fitly do in the matter, whereupon his Majesty will declare his further pleasure.
(Signed) SUNDERLAND LD.

A manuscript, which appears to be a draft of the Brief of the Case submitted to Lord Chancellor Jeffreys, is given below. It is endorsed :—
“ Price v. Walmsley. Upon a petition before the Lord Chancellor, on Tuesday, 12th June, 3 of the clock ”:—

Franciscus Price, Vicar of Blackburn, against Bartholomew Walmesley, Esqr. —That within ye Parish of Blackburne are severall Chappells of Ease, and particularly Lango Chappell, where time out of minde Divine Service hath beene read, Ministration of Sacraments and other ceremoniall Rites performed by ye Viccars of Blackburne or their Curats, and ye sd. Chappel was fitted with conveniences and ornaments for Divine Service, Communion Table, plate, pulpitt, seats, and a Bell, at ye charge of ye Inhabitants of Billington and places adjacent.

That in ye yeare 1616, upon a Survey and by a Jury touching ye possessions belonging to ye ArchB'pprick of Canterbury, ye sd. Lango Chappell was found to bee a Chappell of Ease belonging to Blackburn.

That ye Townships of Wilpshire-cum-Dinckley, Salbury, & Billington have time out of minde beene reported to bee within ye Chappelry of Lango, and ye Inhabitants thereof generally resorted thither, & yt ye sd. Chappell of Lango hath beene reputed a Chappell of Ease within ye Parish and subject to ye Mother Church of Blackburne.

To prove all which read ye Affidavits of :—Wm. Sager, aged 75 yeares ; Tho. Calvert, aged 88 yeares ; Tho. Braddyll, aged 57 yeares ; Nich. Holker, aged 82 yeares ; Robert Craven, aged 71 yeares ; Isabell Craven, aged 74 yeares ; Anne Whalley, aged 68 yeares ; Tho. Wilkinson, aged 80 yeares ; Edwd. Houghton, aged 85 yeares ; John Parker, aged 80 yeares ; Tho. Clayton, aged 68 yeares ; Wm. Calvert, aged 76 yeares ; Edwd. Chew, aged 50 yeares ; William Colton, Clerk ; Theo. Aynsworth, aged 52 yeares ; Edwd. Craven, aged 70 yeares ; Eliz. Craven, aged 80 yeares ; Richd. Slater, aged 74 yeares.

Note.—That ye Defendant pleading yt ye sd. Chappell of Lango is built upon a Common in Billington, & yt he is Lord of ye Mannor, & makinge some please of clayme to it, though in truth hee hath noe manner of right soe to doe, hath notwithstanding ye truth of ye case aforesd. dispossessed Mr. Price of ye same, & turned ye same into a place to read Masse in, upon which Mr. Price hath petitioned his Majesty, who hath referred ye same to ye Lord Chancellor to make his report herein.

Having heard the Petition, and the evidence by either party, the Lord Chancellor issued his decree, dated June 16th, 1688 ; the original copy of which, with the autograph of Jeffreys, is endorsed upon the back of the Petition itself. The terms of the decree were these :—

[Decree]—All parties concerned attended me this day, with the Counsel. Upon hearing what could be alledged on the other side, we do hereby order, by and with

the consent of all parties concerned, that possession of the said Chapel be forthwith delivered to the Petitioner Francis Price. And whereas the said Mr. Bartholomew Walmsley hath laid out several sums of money upon the repairs of said Chapel, I do by the like consent, order them to be referred to the Right Rev. Father in God the Lord Bishop of Chester, to order what sum of money shall be paid by the said Mr. Price and his Parish to Mr. Walmsley for the same. (Signed) JEFFREYS C.

On Vicar Price's recovery of Langho chapel, its interior was refitted with pulpit, communion-table, and pews for Protestant worship; and the Vicar made provision for a more regular performance of divine service. The sum assigned to Langho under the Sancroft Trust was £5 per annum, now increased to about £14. In March, 1689, it is recorded that "Harwood and Langho, two Chappells, were supplied by Mr. Sherdley, a conformable minister; his maintenance from both about £35 per annum or upward." By uniting the cure of the two neighbouring chapelries of Great Harwood and Langho, a stipend was obtained that, if small, sufficed then to procure the service of a competent curate. The Vicar signed an agreement, dated October 15th, 1690, with John Barlow, then curate of Church-kirk, by which the latter was admitted into "the curateship of Harwood Magna and Lango."

The chapelry records include the following note concerning the affairs of Langho Church in the year 1714:—"In Lango Chapel the offices of the Church were at that time performed only every other Sunday, by reason of the smallness of the salary. There are a great many Roman Catholics within this chapelry, who, 'tis reported, go to Mass at Nicholas Sherburn's at Stonyhurst." The endowments then were:—"Out of the Archbishop's Lands at Thornley (Sancroft Trust), £5; out of the Rectory of Blackburn, £2 6s. 8d.; total, £7 6s. 8d."

The maintenance for a curate at Langho was still small. But in 1746, a grant was made of £200, by lot, out of the Royal Bounty; and in 1749 a second sum of £200 was offered from the same fund to meet a local subscription to augment the endowment. Dated July 3rd, 1749, is a record of "Subscriptions towards raising the Bounty for the Chappell of Langoe, as collected by Robert Hayhurst and Dr. Chew, and paid to the Rev. Mr. Wollin, Vicar of Blackburn." The total then raised, including sums left by the late William Hayhurst (£20), by Mr. Braddyll (£10), and money formerly collected (£24 10s. 6d.) was £127 3s. The next year (1750) a further sum of £91 10s. 6d. was subscribed, making up the total towards augmentation to £228 12s. By these local benefactions the grant of £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty was secured, and a substantial addition made to the living. In 1806 a further grant of £200 was made to Langho from Queen Anne's Bounty; and in 1813, a sum of £600 to improve the benefice was acquired by Parliamentary Grant.

The annals of Langho Chapelry, for the succeeding 120 years, have been as uneventful as those of most of our rural churches. On July 19th, 1823, a statement of the value of the curacy was rendered :—

Tithes of Withnell, £63; Interest of £200 Royal Bounty, £4; Interest of £600 Parly. Grant, £24; From the Estates in Thornley, £14; Surplice Fees, 12s.

I add a list of incumbents of Langho, so far as known :—

Name.	Date.	Name.	Date.
— Decoy	circ. 1620-1625	Robert Smith	1751
— Johnson	„ 1630	Joseph Thompson	1754
Richard Bullock	„ 1631-1632	Thomas Elleray	1756-1780
— Woods	„ 1640-1645	William Barton	1795-1902
— Whitaker	—	George Wareing	1803-1813
— Midghall	—	Thos. Hy. Backhouse	1814-1822
James Critchlow	1649	John Rushton	1822-1825
William Colton	circ. 1682-1684	Robert N. Whitaker	1828-1840
Edward Sherdley	ext. 1689	Chas. Arnold Chew	1840
(Mr. Edward Sherdley, curate of Blackburn, buried Dec. 24, 1693.)		Thomas Dent	1841-1844
John Barlow	1690-1707	Jonathan Beilby	1845
Arthur Tempest, curate of Langho and Harwood, 1706-1717		J. F. Coates (killed, 1859)	1845-1859
Christr. Whitewell	circ. 1736	Dudley Hart, M.A.	1859-1868
		Matthew Hedley, M.A.	1868
		(Present Vicar.)	

CHAPEL OF ST. MARIE (R.C.).

A short distance south of Langho Chapel, stands the Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Marie, built about 1836. It is a small stone fabric in the Norman style, having a porch on the east side, an octagonal tower terminating in a conical spirelet at the north end, and narrow circular-headed windows. The dimensions of the chapel are about 65ft. by 30ft. Sittings, 250. The chapel is served by priests from Stonyhurst College, who cross the Ribble at Hacking Ferry to reach the mission. A small school-building is attached on the west side.

CHARITIES OF BILLINGTON.

BILLINGTON POOR'S LANDS.—A record, commencing in 1671, shews that Richard Waddington had before then bequeathed to the Poor of Billington £20, in the hands of four honest men as trustees, towards a Stock for the impotent poor of the said town for ever; interest to be distributed every St. Thomas's Day.—To the Stock these donations were added :—A.D. 1672, Thomas Braddyll, £2 10s.; Ellen Blackburn, £2; 1676, Ann Chew, £10; 1681-7, Sir Edmund Assheton, Bart., £52; 1682, William Chatburne, £1; 1683, William Wood, £3; 1684, Ellen Pollard, £10.—In 1715, the Trustees laid out the Stock, with interest, in the purchase, for £110, of land at Dinkley Moorgate. (Title deeds are missing.)—In 1779, John Smalley gave to Poor Stock £12, laid out towards the building of house and barn on charity estate, which consists of house, barn, and about 9 acres (customary) of land; let, in 1824, for £24 yearly rent. There were three trustees, self-

elective, besides the Minister of Langho *pro. tem.* accounted a trustee. The trustees distribute the amount of the rent annually on St. Thomas's Day, in sums from 8s. to 15s., to poor persons not receiving parish relief.

BILLINGTON SCHOOL.—Some time before 1743, Mrs. Mary Nightingale gave £10; interest to be paid for teaching to read poor children of Billington township in the Protestant religion; and Robert Hayhurst, a trustee, had appointed Dr. Chew and another co-trustee, and had placed £10 out with money of his own. This sum, with additions made by the Braddyll and Assheton families, was laid out in purchase of the reversion of fields in Great Harwood. The School Lands called Cunliffe Fields, were let, in 1824, by the Schoolmaster and a trustee to a yearly tenant, at a rental of £7 11s.—By indenture dated Jan. 31st, 1811, George Petre, Esq., lord of the manor, granted to Rev. George Wearing, incumbent of Langho Chapel, James Taylor, and John Harper, a plot of ground in Billington, of 144 square yards, and a house lately erected thereon, in trust to pay the clear rents to the Master of the School at Langho; the premises were occupied rent free by the Master.—In 1796, £100, part of residue of the personal estate of Mrs. Mary Smalley, bequeathed by her to Rev. Richard Perryn for charitable purposes, was appropriated by him for the benefit of this school, and laid out in purchase of £184 three per cent. consols, vested in the names of Abraham Chew, Adam Cottam, and John Smalley. A commodious new School was built in 1875.

ENCLOSURE OF BILLINGTON WASTE LANDS, A.D. 1788-91.

The Waste and Common lands in Billington with Wilpshire and Dinkley comprised some 900 acres, when, in the year 1788, a petition to Parliament of Sir George Warren, K.B., John Calvert, Esq., and others, owners of lands in the lordships of Billington and Wilpshire-cum-Dinckley, set forth that within those manors were "divers parcels of Common or Waste Ground, containing about 900 acres," then lying unenclosed, which, if divided and enclosed, would be of very great advantage, and praying for leave to bring in a Bill to have the said lands enclosed and divided amongst the petitioners. An Act was passed for the enclosure and allotment of these lands the same session; and the Commissioners under the Act, John Harper, Daniel Whittle, and Adam Cottam, gents., met to receive the claims of the several proprietors and to ride the boundaries on Monday, August 26th, 1788. The award of allotments was completed in April, 1791. The lands were allotted to Lord Petre, W. G. Braddyll, Pen Asheton Curzon, Le Gendre Starkie, John Smalley of Coliars, John Smalley of Greensnook, Thomas Porter, and Thomas Lund.

CHAPTER IV.—THE TOWNSHIP OF CLAYTON-IN-LE-DALE.

Situation, acreage, &c.—Descent of the Manor—Talbot and Warren as lords—Walmesley of Showley
—Clayton of Clayton Hey—Cowper of Showley Fold—Talbot—Harwood Fold—Mier, &c.

THE township of Clayton-in-le-Dale is situate on the left bank of the Ribble opposite to Ribchester, between Salesbury and Osbaldeston; and extends south to the slope of Ramsgreave Heights. The area of the township is 950 statute acres. It is an ancient manor in the Fee of Clitheroe. The population in 1801 was 419; in 1871 was reduced to 275. The land is parcelled out into small pasture-farms; and there is considerable woodland on the high banks and dingles near the river. The township contains no place of worship, but is embraced in the chapelry of Salesbury.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR.

In the lordship of Earl Henry de Lascy, who died in 1310, Clayton-in-le-Dale was united with Billington as one fee belonging to the Castle of Clyderow, with two carucates of land appurtenant; and on the great De Lascy Inquisition in 1311, it was recorded that Sir Adam de Huddleston held Clayton and Billington of the Earl, by the service of 10s. yearly at the feast of St. Gyles and 3d. at Midsummer, and suit to the Court of Clyderow.

At a later period the Talbots, lords of Salesbury, acquired manorial rights with lands in this township. I conjecture the manor may have passed in marriage with Sybil, daughter of Richard de Hudleston, to Robert Clyderow, lord of Salesbury, and from the Clyderows, with the heiress that married John Talbot, to the Talbots. This was in the early part of the fifteenth century. A century onward, in 1515, another John Talbot, lord of Salesbury, died seized of the manor of Clayton-in-le-Dale. In a deed of trust, dated the 6th Henry VIII. (1514), this John Talbot disposes of an estate in Clayton called Clayton Hey, in the holding of Hugh and John Clayton, and of another tenement in Clayton in the holding of Thomas Bolton. The John Talbot who died in 1589 was seized of the estates in Clayton at his death; and in the year 1609,

John Parker occurs as holding lands in Clayton of another John Talbot, Esq., as lord, in socage.

In succession by marriage to the Talbots, the Warrens held this with the other estates in Ribblesdale; and in the year 1800 Sir George Warren occurs as lord of the manor of Clayton-in-le-Dale. It was sold, with the manors of Salesbury, Dinkley, and Osbaldeston, by Lord de Tabley to Henry Ward, Esq., of Blackburn, in the year 1866. The extent of the estate now owned by the lord of the manor is 657 statute acres.

WALMESLEY OF SHOWLEY.

Thomas Walmesley of Showley, living 22nd Henry VII. (1506-7), is the first on record of this family; his antecedents are unknown. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of William Travers, of Neatby, Esq., and he had a son Thomas. Thomas Walmysley, of Clayton-cum-Sholley, was assessed to a Subsidy in 15th Hen. VIII. (1523-4).

Thomas Walmesley, of Showley, gent., married, about 1536, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Livesey of Rishton, and sister of James Livesey of Rishton, yeoman; and by her had issue, sons, Thomas (afterwards Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., of Dunkenhalgh, Judge of Common Pleas); Richard; Robert (first of the Walmesleys of Coldcotes); Edward (of Bannister Hall, Walton-in-le-Dale); William (of Lower Darwen, who died in 1622); Nicholas, of London; Henry, a clerk; and John, a barrister of Gray's Inn; and daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Christopher Nowell, of Little Mearley, Esq.; and Alice, wife of Richard Hothersall, of Hothersall, gent. The father, Thomas Walmesley, was reported as a recusant, or "obstinate" Catholic, in 1575. He died April 17th, 26th Eliz. (1584), found seized, by inquisition taken at Blackburn in Sept. following, of lands, &c., in Cundcliffe in Rishton, Dutton, Showley-in-Clayton, Cliderowe, Ribchester, Nether Darwyn, and other places in the county.

Richard Walmesley, gent., Thomas's second son and successor at Showley, was aged 46 years in 1584. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Mr. William Walmesley of Fishwick, and he had issue, sons, Richard; and Thomas (who died unmarried). Richard Walmesley, the father, died Oct. 24th, 1609. *Inq. post mort.* taken at Preston, Jan. 4th, 7th Jas. I., returns Richard Walmesley, gent., had died seized of a capital messuage, 100 acres of land, meadow, pasture, and woodland in Showley in Clayton-in-le-Dale, worth 20s.; and of 13 messuages, 4 cottages, 160 acres of land, meadow, and pasture, in Ribchester and Dutton, worth 30s.; and 9 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Fishwick. Indenture dated Oct. 10th, 6th James I., is cited between Richard Walmesley of Showley and William Gerrard of Radbourne in Brindle, gent., being

a covenant that a marriage shall be solemnised before the next Easter, between Richard Walmesley, son and heir apparent of Richard, and Ellen Gerrard, daughter of William; and that a sum of money by way of dower should be paid by William Gerrard to Richard Walmesley, the father, &c. Richard Walmesley conveys the house of Showley in trust. Richard Walmesley, son and heir, was aged 11 years in 1609.

Richard Walmesley, of Showley, born in 1598 (a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1616), married Hellen, daughter of Mr. William Gerrard of Radbourne, and had issue, sons, Richard, bapt. Nov. 25th, 1617; Gerrard, bapt. Sept. 9th, 1619; Thomas, bapt. April 2nd, 1621; William, born in 1622, died young; and John (of Buckshaw, ancestor of the Walmesleys of Westwood, near Wigan, who married Anne, daughter of Lawrence Breres of Buckshaw). The daughters of Richard Walmesley were, Margaret, born in 1615; and Janet, born in 1623, married John Sherburne, gent. Richard Walmesley, Esq., was buried at Blackburn, March 17th, 1678-9, aged 80.

Richard Walmesley, gent., eldest son, died in his father's lifetime, having had issue by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury, Esq., a daughter, Elizabeth, wife, first, of Mr. Thomas Cottam of Dilworth, and, secondly, of Mr. John Nowell of Mearley.

The next son, Gerrard, dying young, the succession was vested in Thomas Walmesley, third son of Richard.

Thomas Walmesley, Esq., of Showley, married Elizabeth, sister and heir of Henry Mossock, of Cuncough, gent., and had sons, Richard, born in 1656; and Henry, died young, in 1660; and a daughter Anne, born in 1656, who became a nun, and died at Aix in Flanders. Thomas Walmesley, of Showley, gent., was made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1679.

Richard Walmesley, Esq., of Showley, had to wife Jane, sister to William Houghton, Esq., of Park Hall, in Charnock Richard. The issue of the marriage were ten sons and six daughters. The sons were, Thomas, William, John, Edward, Richard, Robert, Charles, Henry, James, and Francis; the daughters were, Elizabeth, Juliana, Ann, Margaret, and two Dorotheys, the first dying young. Mistress Walmesley, mother of the above, died in Oct., 1722. Mr. Richard Walmesley, of Showley, became a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1708. He died before 1730.

William, second son of Richard, described in the record as "William Walmsley of Sholey near Preston," was tried at Liverpool, Jan. 11th, 1715-6, on a charge of complicity in the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715, but was acquitted.

Thomas Walmesley, the eldest son, born Oct. 21st, 1685, succeeded to the estate. He had to wife Mary, daughter of William Colgreave, Esq., and had sons, Richard, Thomas, Joseph and Francis; and a daughter, Mary. Thomas Walmesley, Esq., died April 20th, 1755. He was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1731.

The eldest son, Richard, having become a priest (as did also the third son, Francis), the patrimony went to the second son, Thomas Colgreave Walmesley, Esq., born August 28th, 1713; married, April 10th, 1758, Elizabeth, daughter of John Turner, Esq., of London, and had issue, Richard Joseph, born Aug. 22nd, 1764; Thomas William, born September 10th, 1767, died June 5th, 1825; Robert, a monk of La Trappe, born Feb. 12th, 1770; Catharine, born in 1758; Elizabeth-Marie-Magdalen, died in 1787; Marie, born 1761, died 1807; Anne, born 1763, died 1814; Francis, born 1772; and Ellen Monica. Mr. Thomas Colgreave Walmesley died May 12th, 1776. He was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School, elected in 1754.

Richard Joseph Walmesley, Esq., of Showley, married, August 25th, 1794, Miss Catharine Manby, and died May 26th, 1803. He left as his heir Thomas George Walmesley; and had other sons, Richard, Henry, and Michael; also a daughter Frances.

Thomas George Walmesley, Esq., of Showley, born Aug. 16th, 1795, married May 4th, 1824, Susan Elizabeth Trusler, of Shindon, Sussex; by whom he has issue, sons, Anthony, born Nov. 25th, 1826; and John, born January 26th, 1830. Thomas George Walmesley, Esq., disposed of Showley Hall and estate, in February, 1870, to the late Mr. James Eden.

Showley Hall stands on the skirt of the plantation that covers the bluffs and ravines on the south bank of the Ribble. It formerly consisted of three blocks at right angles, enclosing a court. All but the centre block at the south end has been demolished, and this portion was rebuilt in 1870 for a residence by Mr. Eden. In the grounds, a little to the north of the hall, the foundations of the ancient private chapel of the Walmesleys have recently been removed, and in the process, some antique coins are stated to have been turned up.¹

CLAYTON OF CLAYTON HEY AND COPTHURST.

John Clayton and Hugh Clayton, both of Clayton Hey, in this township, are named in a deed of trust made by John Talbot of Salesbury, Esq., in 1515. Henry Clayton, in 1565, held lands formerly belonging to Burnley Chantry in Clayton, Ribchester, &c. John Clayton of Clayton Hey, who died before 1626, when his widow was buried, had a son Thomas, born in 1617; and daughters, Ann, and

¹ Francis Petre, Roman Catholic Bishop of Amoria, Vicar Apostolic of the Northern District of England, resided at Showley Hall many years; he died in 1775, and his tomb is at Studd Chapel, Ribchester.

Jennet, wife of John Talbot, gent. Richard Clayton of Clayton Hey died in June, 1652. Roger Clayton of Cophthurst died in March, 1627-8; and George Clayton of Cophthurst, died in April, 1647.

COWPER OF SHOWLEY.

Richard Cowper of Showley Foulde, was buried at Blackburn, July 21st, 1626. Another Richard Cowper, of Clayton, buried Ann, his wife, Dec. 30th, 1655.

Henry Cowper of Showley, occurs in 1655, when Richard, his son, married Ellen daughter of Christopher Marsden of Witton.

Richard Cowp'[Cowper] of Showley, had sons, Thomas, died in 1689; James, born in 1663; and Edward, born 1666; also, I think, an elder son Richard, and a daughter, Alice. Ellen, his wife, was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 25th, 1682-3.

Richard Cowper, of Showley, also named "of Clayton-in-le-Dale, yeoman," married Ann Read, Jan. 28th, 1698, and had a son Robert, born in 1698, and a daughter Mary, born in 1703.

TALBOT OF CLAYTON.

John Talbot of Clayton-in-le-Dale, gent., was father of Ralph, John, and William Talbot.

Ralph Talbot of Clayton-in-le-Dale, gent., died in 1554; his Will was proved Sept. 18th in that year. Testator desires to be buried in the chancel of Ribchester Church; names John Talbot his brother; "my master John Talbot of Salesbury, Esq.;" Jane, wife of testator. Gives to Richard Talbot, his son, all his lands in the township of Ribchester; if son Richard dies, all said lands to revert to the child of which testator's wife is with child, if it be a boy; reversion to daughters. Jane Talbot, wife, Richard, son, William Talbot, brother, and Richard Norres, executors. John Talbot, Esq., supervisor.

John Talbot of Clayton, was assessed to a Subsidy in 1663. Thomas Talbot, of Clayton-in-le-Daile, was buried at Blackburn, Dec. 22nd, 1675.

Robert Talbot of Clayton, son of John Talbot, deceased, was an out-burgess of Preston at the Guild of 1682; as was also his brothers, John Talbot, Thomas Talbot, and Samuel Talbot. John Talbot of Clayton, married, in 1685, Ann Whalley.

John Talbot of Clayton, yeoman, died in 1762. His wife, Margaret, died in 1772. Another John Talbot of Clayton, yeoman, died in 1778.

At Showley Fold, in this township, is a freehold estate and messuage, the property and residence of T. S. Ainsworth, Esq. (see *post*, Ainsworth of Feniscowles). Harwood Fold is the messuage of another freehold farm, formerly the property of a yeoman family of Harwoods. "Mr. John Harwood, of Showley," was made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1681. His son William Harwood held the freehold in 1728, and restored the house, on a stone in which are his initials and his wife's "W E H," and the date "1728." The Mier estate is an old freehold, parcel of which, of 93 acres, was sold in 1832. The major portion of the Mier estate, consisting of 118 statute acres, was purchased, in 1874, by Messrs. John, Edward, and Joseph Dugdale, of Blackburn.

CHAPTER V.—THE TOWNSHIP OF CUERDALE.

Topography, Acreage, and Population—Descent of the Manor—De Keurdale Family—Molineux—Osbaldeston—Assheton—Cuerdale Hall.

CUERDALE is a small township on the south bank of the Ribble, adjoining Walton-in-le-Dale at the western end of Blackburn Parish. Its demesne consists of fertile river-side meadow and pasture. The area of the township is 500 statute acres; and it contains only ten inhabited houses. The population, which in 1801 numbered 170 persons, in 1871 was diminished to 60 persons. Cuerdale forms part of the ancient Chapelry of Lowchurch (Walton). It was in this township, in a field near the Ribble, a few paces lower down than Cuerdale Hall, that the remarkable hoard of Saxo-Danish treasure was discovered in 1840 (see ante, pp. 29-40).

DESCENT OF THE MANOR.—DE KEURDALE FAMILY.

Henry de Keurdale, living in the 13th century, was chief proprietor in Cuerdale. He had a son Richard.

Richard, son of Henry de Keurdale, by undated deed gave to the Abbot and Convent of Stanlaw (removed to Whalley in 1294) a rent of 12d. yearly, for the welfare of his soul, &c. Alexander and Roger de Keurdale, both witnesses to this charter, would be either sons or brothers of Richard.

Alexander de Keurdale, after Richard, held Cuerdale Manor *temp.* Edw. I. and II. He occurs as witness to a deed of 12th Edw. I. (1284). He had a daughter Alice, wife of Richard de Balderstone. The lords of Cuerdale also held an estate in Over Darwen in socage; and in a deed of gift to Stanlaw Abbey of a barn "in Superiore Derwent," by Roger de Whalley, is mentioned "the way on the west which leads to the house of Alexander de Keurdale." In 1311, by inquisition it appeared that "Adam (Alexander?) de Keuresdale held a carucate in Keuresdale by the service of 9s. yearly at the feast of St. Giles."

Geoffrey de Keurdale occurs after Alexander, and he had a son Robert de Keurdale, who, A.D. 1349, held three carucates of land in

Keuersdale in fee of the Duke of Lancaster and service. Also, on John de Keuerdale is witness to a charter dated 12th Edw. III. (1339). Robert de Keuerdale had a daughter and heiress Jane de Keuerdale, who married Thomas Molineux.

MOLINEUX OF CUERDALE.

Thomas Molineux, who had to wife the heiress Jane de Keuerdale, was a younger son of Richard Molineux of Sefton, and brother of William of Sefton. He settled in Cuerdale after his marriage, and in 41 Ed. III. (1368) I find "Thomas Molyneux de Keuerdale" giving deed of quit-claim to John de Gerston of his right in the hamlet of Tockholes within Livesey vill. Richard Molineux (presumably his father) gave to Thomas Molineux lands in Sefton, Thornton, and Litherland; remainder to Richard, his heirs, &c. He held, in 1377, in right of his wife, Kuerdale manor, the moiety of Over Derwent, and half the manor of Eccleshill. He had a son Thomas; and a daughter Katherine, married, first, to Alexander Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston; secondly, to Thomas Banastre of Osbaldeston; and, thirdly, to Robert Radcliffe. Thomas Molyneux, the father, was slain at Radcott Bridge in 1387.

Thomas Molyneux, the son, died Dec. 20th, 1387, leaving no male heir by his wife Katherine. *Inq. post mort.* was taken at Preston, Feb. 17th, 1388, when it was found that the lands the deceased Thomas Molyneux had held in Sefton, &c., were to descend to William, son and heir of Richard Molyneux; from William to his son and heir Richard; from Richard to William his son and heir; from William to his son and heir Sir William Molyneux, Knt.; and from him to his son Richard, living, under age, in ward to John of Gaunt, at date of the escheat (1388).¹ Of other estates of deceased, Katherine, wife of Thomas Banastre of Osbaldeston, daughter of Thomas Molyneux the father, and sister of Thomas then defunct, was heiress, and aged 40 years.

By marriage of Katherine Molyneux, heiress of her brother Thomas, to Alexander Osbaldeston, the lords of Osbaldeston acquired manorial estate in Cuerdale, and Richard Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, who died in 1507, was found to have held, among his possessions, "Kuerdall Manor, of Richard Langton, in socage, worth 20 marks." His son, Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, died in 1543, seized of Cuerdale Manor. Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., who died in 1590, kept a second mansion at Cuerdale Hall, for in his Will, dated 1588, he bequeaths a year's wages to "all my howsehold servants at Osbaldeston and Cewerdall." Some years after this the estate was sold to Radcliffe Assheton, gent.

¹ Lanc. Inquisitions, ed. by Mr. Langton for Cheth. Socy., pp.28-30.

ASSHETON OF CUERDALE.

The first Assheton who resided at Cuerdale was Radcliffe Assheton, Esq., second son of Ralph Assheton of Lever. He was born in 1582, and had to wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Hide, a citizen of London. Issue:—James, died young; John, eventual heir; Ralph, a citizen of London; Richard, died unmarried; Ellen, married, Sept., 1627, Edward Rawsthorne, of New Hall, Esq.; Joane, wife of Ughtred, third son of Richard Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, Esq.; Alice, wife of John Bancroft, citizen of London; Elizabeth, wife of Richard Greene of Poulton; Julian, wife of John Legh; Jane, wife of Richard Holt; Margaret, wife of Thomas Parker of Browsholme; and Dorothy, died young. Radcliffe Assheton purchased the manor of Cuerdale and settled there, the entailed estates of the family going to his elder brother Ralph. He joined the Royalist party at the commencement of the Civil War, and at a meeting at Preston, Dec. 10th, 1642, was appointed collector for the Hundred of Blackburn of the King's assessment of £8,700 upon the County. Radcliffe Assheton, Esq., died Jan. 19th, 1644-5. In his Will, dated Jan. 18th, 1644-5, testator names Elizabeth, his wife; sons, John, deceased (who had a son Richard); Ralph; and Richard; and his daughters, Joan, Alice, Elizabeth, Julian, Jane, and Margaret.

John Assheton, gent., eldest son of Radcliffe, married Anne, youngest daughter of Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., of Gawthorpe, and had a son Richard, born in 1643. He joined the King's party in the Civil War; was a soldier in the Royal army, and was raised to a colonelcy. He died in active service at Bristol, in 1643, the year before his father's death. His widow married Richard Towneley of Barnside and Carr, who was killed by a bull, baited at Gisburn, in 1655.

Richard Assheton, of Cuerdale, Esq., son of John, married Mary, daughter of George Pigot, Esq., of Preston. Issue:—Ralph, bapt. at Walton Church, Nov. 16th, 1666; Radcliffe, bapt. Feb. 23rd, 1668-9; John, bapt. Oct. 25th, 1670, buried March 4th, 1670-1; Elizabeth, bapt. Nov. 9th, 1673; Ann, bapt. Jan. 31st, 1675-6, buried Sept. 28th, 1676; Mary, bapt. Aug. 6th, 1677, married, Dec. 12th, 1706, Alexander Nowell, gent.; Lucy, bapt. Sept. 15th, 1679; Richard, bapt. Jan. 21st, 1681-2; Edmund, bapt. May 26th, 1684 (Edmund Assheton of Preston, mercer, Mayor in 1714), buried April 6th, 1746; John, bapt. Sept. 16th, 1690. This Richard Assheton, in 1679, by the settlement of his relative, Sir Ralph Assheton of Whalley, became heir of the estates at Downham and Whalley. This acquisition caused the removal of the head of the family from Cuerdale to Downham, but junior members of the family still occupied the hall of Cuerdale. Richard Assheton, Esq.,

died in 1709, buried Feb. 15th, 1709-10; his Will bears date Oct. 27th, 1707. His widow died in December, 1717.

Ralph Assheton, Esq., eldest son of Richard, married, Dec. 19th, 1695, Mrs. Sarah Bruen, of Hoghton; and had issue, Ralph, bapt. Dec. 28th, 1696; and Richard, who died without issue.

Ralph Assheton, Esq., married Mary, daughter of Thomas Lister, Esq., of Arnoldsbiggin, and had issue:—Ralph, born Jan. 25th, 1719-20; Richard, born Aug. 15th, 1727 (he was Rev. Richard Assheton, D.D., Rector of Middleton, who died in 1800); Elizabeth, born Feb. 12th, 1716-7, married Richard Assheton, Esq.; Sarah, born May, died June, 1718; and Mary, bapt. Nov. 7th, 1721, married, first, Rev. John Witton; and secondly, Peregrine Wentworth, Esq.

Ralph Assheton, Esq., of Downham, inherited the estates, and married Rebecca, daughter of William Hulls, Esq., of London. He had issue, sons, Ralph, born May 2nd, 1753, buried May 3rd; a second Ralph, born April 5th, 1754, died young; William, born in 1758; and four daughters, Annie, born May 28th, 1755, married, April 23rd, 1782, Rev. Wm. Cleaver, Rector of Foscot, Co. Bucks., afterwards Bishop of Bangor; Rebecca, Mary, and Elizabeth. He died Jan. 3rd, 1759.

William Assheton, Esq., of Downham and Cuerdale, in 1786 married Letitia, second daughter of Sir Richard Brooke, of Norton Priory, Co. Chester, Bart. Issue:—William, born March 16th, 1788; Thomas, died Sept., 1794; Robert, died Jan., 1797; Frances, died Oct., 1795; and Mary, wife of John Armytage, Esq.

William Assheton, Esq., the son, married, in 1816, Frances Arabella, daughter and co-heiress of the Hon. Wm. Cockayne. By her (she died in 1835) he had issue two sons, Ralph; and Richard Orme, born July 12th, 1835. William Assheton, Esq., was a deputy-lieutenant and a county magistrate of Lancashire. He died August 12th, 1858, aged 70.

Ralph Assheton, Esq., the present lord of Downham and Cuerdale, was born Dec. 20th, 1830. He was elected M.P. for Clitheroe in July, 1868, and re-elected in Nov., 1868, and in Feb., 1874. He married, in 1854, Emily Augusta, fourth daughter of Joseph Feilden, Esq., of Witton Park, by whom he has issue.

Cuerdale Hall, -long a mansion of the Asshetons, was partially rebuilt, in 1700, by Wm. Assheton, Esq. The hall stands on the south bank of the Ribble, about a mile above Walton Church. The later portion of the hall, facing the river, is a rectangular structure, of brick, with stone ornamentation. In the rear, some parts of the older hall remain. Since the hall ceased to be the residence of the Asshetons, the gardens and grounds have fallen into neglect. The farmer of the demesne now occupies Cuerdale Hall.

CHAPTER VI—THE TOWNSHIP OF NETHER DARWEN.

Topography—Descent of the Manor—Banastre—Langton—Ardern—Bradshaw—Talbot—Walmesley—Manor-place of Fernehurst—Haworth of Th'uroft, and branches—Aspinall—Bailey—Eccles—Grymshaw—Harwood—Haworth, of Walmesley Fold, Preston, and Newfield—Hindle—Livesey—Lomas—Marsden—Sanderson—Waddington—Walmesley—Yates—St. James's Church—Dissenting Chapels—Commons' Enclosure.

NETHER DARWEN (in modern style, Lower Darwen) is a township of considerable extent occupying the portion of the valley of the river Darwen between Over Darwen and Blackburn townships, and extending over the moorland heights that enclose the valley eastward and westward. These moors formed the ancient waste and common land of the township, but within the century have been enclosed and cultivated as pasturage. The area of the township is 2,490 statute acres. Its population in 1801 was 1646 persons; but by the introduction of cotton factories into the township, the population in 1871 had increased to 3,876 persons. The manufacturing population is chiefly collected in Lower Darwen village near the centre of the township, and in the village of Ewood (anciently *Ewode*), on the border of Blackburn, from which it is separated by the river Darwen. The oldest cotton mill in the village of Lower Darwen, a small square structure now disused, was built by Mr. Thomas Eccles, yeoman and manufacturer (see Eccles family, *post*), about the year 1774.

The principal storage reservoirs of the Blackburn Waterworks cover several acres of ground upon the acclivity on the east side of the township.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR—BANASTRE, AND LANGTON, AS LORDS.

In the Norman period, Nether Derwent is found as an appurtenance of the feudal estate of Walton-in-le-Dale; and about A.D. 1130, Henry de Lascy, lord of the Honor of Clitheroe, granted "the two Derwents" (Upper and Nether), along with Walton as its members, to Robert Banastre, for the service of one Knight's fee. The Banastres, lords of Newton, held Nether Darwen from the above date nearly two centuries; and in the De Lascy Inquisition of 1311, it is returned that

"Sir Adam Banastre held two carucates of land in Nether Derwent, and paid yearly 2s. 10d. and suit to Clitheroe Court."

Sir John de Langton, by his marriage with Alice, daughter and heir of James Banastre, acquired the lordships of Newton and Walton with their dependencies; and died about A.D. 1334. His son, Sir Robert de Langton, in 1349 was found in possession of "two carucates of land in Nether Derwent." After the lapse of 220 years, the lords of Walton still retained manorial rights in Nether Darwen at the death of Sir Thomas Langton, Knt., in 1569, who in his Will names "Nether Darwyne" among his manors, and messuages and lands he held there. But it is probable that before this the bulk of the demesne lands in Nether Darwen had somehow been acquired by other families, named hereafter. The manor had, I think, been divided about the fourteenth century; for then and later the Arderns and Bradshaws held one portion in fee; and Talbots of Holt and Bashall another portion.

ARDERN—LORDS OF PARCEL OF LOWER DARWEN MANOR.

Sir Thomas de Ardern, Knt., living in 1391, by Alice his wife, had a son and heir, John. John de Ardern, in the second half of the fourteenth century, held a large estate in Nether Darwen of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, in fee. This estate remained with the Arderns until the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. In the Chancery Rolls of the Duchy are found documents relating to the possessions of this family. April 27th, 2nd Henry VI. (1424), a mandamus was issued to the escheator to inquire what lands and tenements John de Ardern, Esq., held of John, Duke of Lancaster, the King's great-grandfather, *in capite*. It was found on inquisition that John de Ardern had died on the Eve of Pentecost, 15th Richard II. (1392), seized in his demesne as of fee of 16 messuages, one mill, 200 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, 1,000 acres of pasture, and 20 acres of wood, parcel of the manor of Nether Derwynd; and that Joan, wife of Nicholas de Aynesworth, Margaret, wife of Hugh de Bradshagh, Agnes, wife of Edward de Chernok, and Alianora, wife of John de Bradshagh, were the daughters and next heirs of the aforesaid John de Ardern. April 30th, 2nd Henry VI. (1424), precept was issued to the escheator to seize the above estate into the King's hand. It was found also by inquisition that Alice, widow of Sir Thomas Ardern, Knt., now deceased, after the death of the said John de Ardern, intruded upon the lands aforesaid and enjoyed the issues and profits thereof for her life.

May 5th, 1424, a precept was issued to the escheator to give to Nicholas de Aynesworth and Joan his wife, one of the daughters and heirs of John de Ardern, livery of her portion of her father's lands, taking security for payment of the relief.

This Joan in her father's lifetime had married William de Lever, but being afterwards divorced, she had married Nicholas de Aynesworth.

A like precept, at the same time, was issued for livery of lands to Edward de Chernok and Agnes his wife, another of the daughters and heirs of John de Ardern. This Agnes had first married John de Chorley, then dead, and, secondly, Edward de Chernok.

A like precept was issued for livery of lands to Hugh de Bradshagh and Margaret his wife, another of John de Ardern's daughters and heirs. She had married, first, Hugh de Dokesbury, and after his death, Hugh de Bradshagh.

A like precept was issued for livery of lands to John de Bradshagh and Alianora his wife, another of John de Ardern's daughters and heirs.

BRADSHAW OF NETHER DARWEN.

From one or other of the two Bradshaws who married sisters and heiresses of John de Ardern—Hugh and John de Bradshaw—descended a family that possessed freehold estate in Lower Darwen in the sixteenth century, the following particulars of which are drawn from the Duchy Escheats and from *Harleian MS.* 1987.

William Bradshaa died Oct. 10th, 3rd Henry VIII. (1511). After his death, on *Inq. post mort.* taken at Wigan, before John Worseley, Esq., escheator, April 4th, 5th Henry VIII., it was returned that he had possessed 30 messuages, with the ninth part of a Knight's fee, in the vill of Nether Derwyn, with 500 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, and 1,000 acres of moor and moss there. Altogether, an estate of 1,800 acres, amounting to about three-fourths of the entire acreage of the township. Thomas Bradshaa, son and heir, was then aged 34 years. In the 9th Henry VIII. (1517), in the matter of a writ of *amoveas manus Regis*, inquisitions taken at Lancaster and Wigan, and the return thereto of the lands and possessions of William Bradshaa, in the Manor of Nether Darwyn, were recited.

Thomas Bradeshagh, son of William, died Oct. 20th, 7th Henry VIII. (1515). His escheat was taken at Lancaster, Jan. 11th, 1516. It was found that Lawrence Bradeshagh, brother of deceased, was his heir, aged 30 years and upwards.

Lawrence Bradshagh held the above estate in Nether Derwyn until his death, September 20th, 1522, when by inquisition it was found that Richard Bradshagh was his son and heir, aged 5 years and upwards.

Concerning this infant heir, Richard Bradshaw, there is no record. John Bradshagh, perhaps brother of Thomas and Lawrence, is found in possession of the estate about 1540, when there occurred actions in the Duchy Court in which John Bradshaw was a defendant. John Bradshaw died Jan. 19th, 1542, seized, according to inquisition taken in the 35th Henry VIII., of twelve messuages, the 4th part of one fulling-mill, 67 acres of land, 67 acres of meadow, 330 acres of pasture, and 6 acres of

woodland, in Nether Derwynt, parcel of the Manor of Nether Derwynt, &c. John Bradshaw, aged 40 in 1543, was son and heir.

John Bradshaw, last-named, died about 1548 (2nd Edward VI.), seized of 12 messuages, the 3rd part of a fulling-mill, 66 acres of land, 67 acres of meadow, 336 acres of pasture, and 6 acres of woodland in Nether Darwyn, parcel of the Manor of Nether Darwyn; also of Bradshaw Manor, and other estates. This item connects the Bradshaws of Lower Darwen with Bradshaws of Bradshaw, near Bolton.

Another John Bradshaw succeeded the last-named John in this possession. In the 5th Elizabeth (1562), John Bradshawe had a suit in the Court of the Duchy with Henry Talbott and Ralph Lommas, respecting certain messuages, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and right of common in Nether Derwent and Derwent Common. John Bradshaw died about 1574, and the escheat of the 17th Elizabeth returned his estate as twelve messuages, the third part of a fulling-mill, 66 acres of land, 67 acres of meadow, 336 acres of pasture, and 6 acres of woodland, parcel of Nether Darwyn manor; with the estate of Bradshaw within Harvodd Manor, and lands in Sharples, Bolton, and Ryvington.

In a deed dated 1588, John Bradshaw, of Bradshaw, Esq., and Nicholas Bradshaw of London, are named as having some time theretofore sold to Richard Marsden certain lands in Nether Darwen.

The Nether Darwen estate afterwards was conveyed to Sir Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenthalgh, Knt., and remains the possession of the Petre family, lineal descendants of the Walmesleys.

TALBOT, LORDS OF NETHER DARWEN.

Sir Thomas Talbot of Bashall, Knt., who died in 1499, held at his death "Nether Derwynd Manor, by 2s. 6d. rent." His son, Edmund Talbot, Esq., held Nether Darwyn manor until his death in 1519. His widow, Ann Talbot, held this manor after Edmund Talbot's decease. Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt., died in 1558, seized of Nether Darwen manor. In certain depositions respecting the south chapel in Blackburn Church, made in 1612, it was deposed that the Talbots had for several generations held this lordship, and "the capital messuage of Fernehurst" in Nether Darwen, of which certain Liveseys were tenants; that Gilbert Talbot, uncle of Sir Thomas, "had the house of Fernehurst during his life, and died there," about 64 years before (1547)—"he was simple;" and that, before 1598, Thomas Talbot and his brother and heir, John Talbot, sold to the late Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., the lordships of Rishton and Nether Darwen, the messuages of Holt and Fernehurst, and all the lands and tenements there.

In the 20th Henry VIII. (1528), a plaint was heard in the Duchy

Court touching a contention as to right of tenancy of the manor place of Fernehurst in Nether Darwen. An abstract of this plaint, from the records of the Chancery Court of Lancaster, is subjoined :—

To the most hon. Sir Thomas More, Knt., Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; the plaint of William Clayton, clerk, and Alexander Clayton, sets forth that Ann Talbot, late wife to Edmund Talbot, deceased, in her widowhood demysed to William Compton, Knt., the manor of Fernehurst, in the lordship of Nether Darwen, Co. Lanc., to have and hold the said manor for term of his life; by virtue whereof the said William Compton was seized in his demesne as freehold of the premises, and so devised, &c., and to farm let the same to said orators for term of certain years yet to come, by virtue whereof said orators entered into possession; that one James Lyvesey, Thomas Lyvesey, Richard Walkeden, Xpofer Walmysley, and other ryotous persons unknown, to the number of twenty-one persons, the 20th day of April last ryotously and in forcible manner entered into the said manor, and the same ensyns [since] have kept and yet do kepe in ryotous manner and in no wise will suffer the said orators to come and enjoy the same according to their said right and title, which said ryotous persons daily kepe within the said manor long bowes, bylles, and other unlawful weapons as if it were an house of warr, to the entent to keep said orators unlawfully from possession of the premises, which said ryotous persons, at such time as the said Alexander, son of said orator, came to have entered into their premises, had their long bowes ready to shote, and would have shotte at the said Alexander if he had not perceived their ungracious intent and sodenly in eschewing the danger and peril thereof departed from the premises; which said ryotous demeanor of said persons contynuinge by so long season is the perilous example of all other the King's subjects in those partes abydyng if so reformation in the said premises be not had and provyded.

HAWORTH OF TH'URCROFT (HIGHERCROFT).

This family, a branch of the ancient Lancashire stock of Haworth of Haworth, was settled in Lower Darwen and Blackburn nearly four centuries ago. In the Subsidy Roll of 1523 (see ante, pp. 61-3), appear the names of three Haworths, heads of families, in Lower Darwen. viz., Edmond Haworth, Peter Haworth, and Richard Haworth, assessed to that Subsidy; and also of William Haworth and Richard Haworth in Blackburn township. Richard Heyworth was an original Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567.

A descent of this family is entered in Dugdale's Visitation of Lancashire (1664). It commences with Lawrence Haworth, said to be a son of Haworth of Haworth. About 1585, "Lawrence Haworthe of Nether Darwyn," gave to the Parish Subscription to augment the Grammar School Endowment 20s. Two Haworths were at that date Governors of the School, Lawrence, and "Nycholas Haworthe" (died Dec. 18th, 1597). By his wife, a daughter of — Dewhurst, Lawrence Haworth had known issue, sons, Peares (or Peter), and Richard.

Peares Haworth, of Th'urcroft in Lower Darwen, son of Lawrence, married Jennet, daughter of John Livesey of Sidebight in Rishton, and

had issue, sons, Lawrence, his heir ; and Richard and Thomas, who both died without issue. Peter Haworth of Nether Darwyn was taxed to a Subsidy in 1570.

Lawrence Haworth of Th'urcroft, gent., married Alice, daughter of Robert Holden of Pickup Bank (son of Ralph Holden, of Holden, gent.), and had issue, sons, Peter ; Thomas ; and Richard ; also daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1601; and Jenita, born in 1603. Lawrence Haworth died March 2nd, 1618, and by Inquisition taken for the escheat, at Blackburn, April 14th, 16th James I., was found to have died seized of one messuage called Hurcroft, in Nether Darwen, held of the King *in capite*, with 20 acres of land, 6 of meadow, and 20 of pasture in Nether Darwen ; also of one other messuage in the occupation of Edward Pomfret, with 6 acres of land, 4 of meadow, and 10 of pasture in Nether Darwen.

Peter Haworth, of Th'urcroft, gent., son and heir of Lawrence, was said to be over 26 years of age at his father's decease, so must have been born about 1592, but Dugdale has it that he was aged 77 in 1664. He married Grace, daughter and co-heir of Henry Crosse of Okenhead in Lower Darwen (by Alice, daughter and co-heir of John Lomas), and by this marriage a moiety of the Okenhead estate accrued to the Haworths. Issue, sons, Lawrence, bapt. Oct. 12th, 1623 ; Thomas, and Richard, both died young ; and daughters, Alice, born in 1616, wife of John Moore of Greenhead in Pendle ; Elizabeth, wife of Richard Webster of Hargreave ; Ann, wife of Roger son and heir of Roger Winckley, of Winckley, Esq., after of Hugh Curren of Kildwick, Co. York, Esq. ; and Jennet, wife of Thomas Astley of Stakes in Livesey, gent. Peter Haworth, gent., rebuilt the house at Highercroft in 1634, and a stone over the porch bears his initials and that of his wife Grace—"P H G" with the date "1634." He died in 1675, aged 83, and was buried at Blackburn Church, July 23rd.

Thomas Haworth of Okenhead in Lower Darwen, second son of Lawrence, married his brother Peter's wife's sister, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Henry Crosse of Lower Darwen (she died childless), and "Mr. Thomas Haworth of Okenhead" was buried Sept. 22nd, 1684, dying at an advanced age. In his Will, dated Aug. 30th, 1684, Thomas Haworth, of Lower Darwen, gent., names his (second) wife, Jennet (daughter of Wm. Walmsley, of Tockholes ; she subsequently married Jas. Grundy, M.B., of Great Lever), to whom he leaves £200 wherewith to treat for a moiety of the messuage and tenement of Okenhead from his sister-in-law, Grace Haworth ; and charges his tenement in Eccleshill, in tenancy of John Fish, with £100 for the benefit of his niece, Mrs. Alice Oldfield, &c.

The third son of Lawrence, and younger brother of Peter and Thomas, was Richard Haworth of Parkhead near Whalley, Esq., a Bencher at Gray's Inn. He was born about 1598, and married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of George Tipping, gent., of Manchester, who bore him two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, both dying young. He married, secondly, Jane, daughter of Roger Kenion, Esq., of Parkhead (*vide* Kenion of Dinkley), relict of John Stonehewer, and had by her one daughter Alice, born in 1657. Richard Haworth resided at Parkhead after his second marriage, and later chiefly in Manchester. He was made Recorder of Chester in 1651, and resigned in 1656. He was a County Commissioner for preserving the peace during the Protectorship of Cromwell. He died at Manchester, Nov. 24th, 1671, and was buried at the Collegiate Church, where a monument was erected to his memory with a lengthy epitaph in Latin. By his Will, dated July 3rd, 1663, Richard Haworth of Manchester, Esq., devised all his landed estates to his daughter Alice Haworth (afterwards wife of Leftwich Oldfield, Esq., of Leftwich Hall, Co. Chester); a third of his personal estate to his wife Jane; another third to his daughter Alice; and the other third to be divided among his brothers Peter and Thomas and his nephews Lawrence and Thomas Haworth.

Reverting to the elder succession of this family, Lawrence Haworth of Th'urcroft, eldest son of Peter, married Grace, sole daughter and heir of Roger Gillibrand, gent., of Beardwood, Blackburn (*vide* Gillibrand of Ramsgreave and Beardwood), and had issue, sons, Thomas, born in 1652, died same year; Richard, born Dec. 8th, 1656; a second Thomas, born Jan. 27th, 1657; Peter, died young; and Roger, born in 1664; also daughters, Anne, died an infant in 1651; Elizabeth, born in 1654, Hester, born in 1655, Mary, and Eleanor, all died young; Alice, born in 1660; and a second Mary, died in 1674. "Lawrence Haworth of Beardwood" (so described after his marriage with the heiress of that estate), died in 1675, buried at Blackburn, July 20th, aged 52. Mrs. Grace Haworth, of Blackburn, widow, died in 1698, buried Dec. 6th. In her Will, dated July 9th, 1698 (proved May 2nd, 1699), Grace Haworth, of Beardwood, widow, names her son, Thomas, daughter Anne Maudsley, and grandson Peter; mentions her real estates at Mellor, Balderstone, and Butterworth; appoints Theophilus Ainsworth of Pleasington, gent., John Marsden of Witton, and Richard Edmondson, of Mellor, executors.

Richard Haworth of Highercroft, Esq., son and heir of Lawrence, married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Haworth of Lower Darwen, and by her had sons, Peter, died in 1678; a second Peter, born Dec. 29th, 1689; and Richard, born in 1691, died Oct., 1716; and a daughter Grace, died in 1688. Richard Haworth died in 1694, buried July 28th.



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HIGERCROFT HOUSE,
LOWER DARWEN, BUILT A.D. 1634

Peter Haworth, of Highercroft, Esq., married Lydia Bailey of Lower Darwen (she was living in 1718), and had issue one son, Richard; and one daughter, Elizabeth, living in 1718. Peter Haworth died in 1718, buried April 16th, and his Will was proved Oct. 27th, 1718. In it testator names his wife Lydia, and her sister Grace Haworth; son, Richard; daughter, Elizabeth; mother, Elizabeth Haworth; mentions Ellison's tenement in Lower Darwen, and Th'urcroft. Chrstr. Baron, gent., and John Bailey, of Lower Darwen, executors.

Richard Haworth of Highercroft, Esq., son and heir of Peter, died unmarried in 1757 ("Richard Haworth of Oswaldtwistle, gent." buried at Blackburn Church, June 7th, 1757); and by his Will, dated May 13th, 1757 (proved Nov. 7th, 1758) devised all his estates to his kinsman, Henry Baron of Knuzden Hall, gent.; they included Highercroft, mansion and 56½ acres of land; "Pomfrets," messuage and 8 acres; Okenhurst, messuage and 30 acres; and "Aspdens," messuage and 12 acres, all in Lower Darwen, with other properties.

Highercroft House, the ancient seat of this family, is a pleasant-looking old mansion, situate beside a wooded hollow on the rise of the hill in this township, about a mile from the south suburb of Blackburn. The house was rebuilt by Peter Haworth in 1634, as attested by the initials and date inscribed above the porch. It has been modernised in the windows, but the other parts of the exterior are little altered. The accompanying engraving of the frontage will answer instead of verbal description.

HAWORTH OF LOWER DARWEN, TURTON, &c.

Richard Haworth of Lower Darwen, gent. (brother of Piers Haworth of Highercroft, who died in 1600), died in 1603. His Will, dated June 28th, 1602, was proved June 18th, 1603. Testator had already given freehold and copyhold lands to his sons James and Peter. Richard Haworth had sons, Lawrence, of Lower Darwen, who died before 1598, leaving daughters Lettice and Jennet; William, died s. p. in 1598; Thomas; James; and Peter; and daughters, Anne, and Jennet, both married before 1602; and had each received three-score pounds for their marriage portions.

Thomas Haworth of Lower Darwen, third son of Richard, died in 1637; he names in his Will two sons, Peter, and Thomas, by Dorothy his wife.

Peter Haworth of Lower Darwen, son of Thomas, died in 1677. By his wife, Grace, he had four sons, Thomas, of Lower Darwen; Richard; James; and John; and a daughter Mary. The Will of Peter Haworth, dated April 13th, 1677, confirms a settlement made upon his wife of one half of his entailed lands in Lower Darwen; the other half to his eldest son, Richard; remainder to the children equally.

Richard Haworth of Blackburn, apothecary, was second son of the above Peter, and besides other issue (see ante, Haworth of Blackburn), had a son Thomas. Richard Haworth died in 1694; buried Oct. 5th.

Thomas Haworth, of Lower Darwen, eldest son of Richard, died in 1699. He married, July 11th, 1683, Margaret Livesey, and had issue, John, born in 1685; Peter

(who had sons, Thomas, of London, apothecary; John, of Bristol; Hugh; and Richard, of Chancery Lane, London, apothecary); Thomas, bapt. Oct. 16th, 1696; and a daughter Ellen.

Thomas Haworth of Lower Darwen and Blackburn, younger son of Thomas, died in 1773. He married Ann Riley, and had issue, sons, John, bapt. Oct. 23rd, 1718; Peter, bapt. July 24th, 1720, died in London without issue; and Thomas, bapt. March 3rd, 1722.

John Haworth of Blackburn, eldest son of Thomas, married, Dec. 31st, 1745, Catherine, daughter of Edmund Marsh, of Blackburn, and had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. Jan. 10th, 1747-8, died without issue; Edmund, bapt. Sept. 24th, 1749; Peter, bapt. Nov. 18th, 1753, ob. s.p.; Peter, bapt. Jan. 2nd, 1757, ob. s.p.; William, bapt. July 5th, 1758; John, bapt. Nov. 7th, 1760; and James, bapt. Jan. 16th, 1762, died young.

Edmund Haworth, of Turton, solicitor, eldest surviving son of John, married, first, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Haydock of Mellor (she died Dec. 2nd, 1779), and had a son John, and two daughters. His second wife was Alice, daughter of John Knowles, of Entwistle (by his wife Hannah, only daughter of Mr. Adam Lomax, of Duns-car, near Bolton), and by her (who died in 1822), had seven sons, of whom five survived infancy, viz., Adam Lomax Haworth, solicitor, born, July 4th, 1789; Edmund Haworth, solicitor, born March 30th, 1801, died unmarried in 1855; Thomas Haworth, M.D., born Aug. 26th, 1804, died Aug. 5th, 1859, leaving a son Edgar; Rev. William Haworth, M.A., of St. John's Coll., Cambridge, Vicar of Fence-in-Pendle, born Nov. 27th, 1806, married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Roberts, Esq., of Fence, and has five sons and one daughter; and Rev. James Haworth, M.A., born Jan. 25th, 1809; also daughters, Hannah, born in 1787, married Rev. Robert Dobson, incumbent of Great Harwood, and died Jan. 12th, 1867, in her 80th year; Margaret, born 1791, died 1863; Elizabeth, born 1795, died 1872; and Alice, born 1797, married, Oct. 1st, 1833, William Houghton, Esq., of Liverpool (see post, Hoghton of Tockholes). Mr. Edmund Haworth died Dec. 30th, 1810. The Will of Edmund Haworth of Turton, gent., dated Jan. 28th, 1810, mentions landed property in Edgeworth, Tottington, Accrington Manor, Bolton-le-Moors, &c. Personalty £35,000. Will proved at Chester, June 23rd, 1812.

John Haworth of Turton, solicitor, first son of Edmund, born May 16th, 1778, married, in 1812, Mary, daughter of James Heywood, Esq., of Little Lever, and had three sons and four daughters. He died in 1837. His surviving son is John Bailey Haworth, Esq., born in 1824, who married Susanna, daughter of Adam Lomax Haworth, Esq., of Duns-car, and has three sons, the Rev. Thos. William Haworth, Charles Herbert Haworth, and Reginald Edmund Haworth.

HAWORTH OF LOWER DARWEN.

Thomas Haworth of Lower Darwen, yeoman (eldest son of Peter Haworth who died in 1677), died in 1693. His Will, dated Oct. 24th, 1693 (proved at Chester, Dec. 6th) mentions his wife Elizabeth; son Peter; daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Haworth (of Th'urcroft, who died in 1694), and Hannah, wife of Thomas Critchley of Livesey; to the latter he gives £100, which with £200 already given was equal to the sum testator had paid with his daughter Elizabeth Haworth.

Peter Haworth of Lower Darwen, only son of Thomas, died in 1699. His Will, dated Oct. 28th, 1698 (proved June 8th, 1699), names his sons, Thomas, and John (bapt. Dec. 31st, 1697); and daughter Elizabeth; appoints his brothers-in-law, Thomas Ainsworth and Thos. Critchley, Executors; had estates in Lower Darwen,

Witton, Mellor, and Pickup-Bank; charges his lands with £200 for his daughter Elizabeth. This Elizabeth, only daughter of Peter Haworth of Lower Darwen, bapt. Dec. 21st, 1694, married, Sept. 30th, 1720, Robert Feilden, second son of Randal Feilden of Blackburn, yeoman.

ASPINALL OF NETHER DARWEN.

The Aspinalls held a small freehold in Lower Darwen, and probably resided at the Messuage still named Aspinall Fold, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Thomas Aspinall, of this township, was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570. Lawrence Aspinall, of Lower Darwen, died before 1600; and a second Lawrence died before 1618, who by an escheat of the 16th James I. was found to have held three messuages and 36 acres of land in Nether Darwen. Robert Aspinall was his son and heir.

John Aspinall, perhaps a brother of Lawrence, died March 31st, 1620, and in the record of an Inquisition taken at Blackburn, September 14th, 18th James I., is named John Aspinall of Nether Darwen, yeoman, found seized of one messuage, five acres of land, two of meadow, one of wood, and the fifth part of a More or Waste in Nether Darwen, held of the King, by 4s. rent. Thomas Aspinall was his son and heir, aged 40 years at the time of his father's death.

Thomas Aspinall appears as a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628. He died March 31st, 8th Chas. I. (1633), and in the escheat, taken November 8th, 12th Charles I. (1636-7), is returned as possessed of one messuage, 5 acres of land, 2 of meadow, 1 of wood, and the fifth part of one Moor or Waste in Nether Darwen, held of the King. By his wife Anne, living a widow in 1638, he had sons, John, and Thomas; a daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Witton of Green Tockholes, yeoman, and other issue.

John Aspinall, son and heir of Thomas, was aged 30 years at his father's decease. In the Subsidy of 1663-4, John Aspinall of Lower Darwen was assessed in goods value £4, and paid a tax of 21s. 4d. Either he, or a son of the same name, was buried at Blackburn, April 11th, 1678.

BAILEY OF THE COAL PITS.

John Bailey of Darwen, living in 1718, had sons, John; William, born in 1707; and daughters, Lydia, wife of Peter Haworth of Highercroft, gent.; Christabel, born in 1691; Ann, born in 1693, wife of Christopher Baron of Knuzden, gent.; she died in 1754; Alice, born in 1702; Hannah, born in 1704.

John Bailey, the son, of Lower Darwen, married, April 27th, 1709, Ann Holden of Livesey. He built the house and barn at "Top o'th Coal Pits," where he resided. The house has a stone over the doorway, bearing the initials "I B A" (John and Ann Bailey), and the date "1722." On the barn is another stone, inscribed "I B" and the date "1720." "John Bailey of the Coal Pits in Lower Darwen," is named as testator's "uncle" (mother's brother) in the Will of Richard Haworth of Highercroft, gent., dated May 13th, 1757. He had a son Henry, born in 1711, and other issue.

ECCLES OF LOWER DARWEN, BLACKBURN, &c.

The Eccles family is stated to have had an estate at Eccles Fold, Garsden Fold, and Shorrock Fold in Pickup Bank for about two centuries. Edmnd Eccles of Pickup Bank, yeoman, died in March, 1734. Joseph Eccles, of Lower Darwen, webster, married, Aug. 24th, 1702, Ann Cowburne, of Blackburn.

Thomas Eccles and Elizabeth Shorrocks, both of Pickup Bank, married, Oct. 8th, 1717, and had issue a son Thomas; a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1726, &c.

Thomas Eccles, yeoman, of Pickup Bank and Eccleshill, resided at Mill Barn farm, his freehold, where the house has initials upon its chimney-piece "T E" (Thomas Eccles), with the date "1737." He married, Oct. 31st, 1739, Martha Haworth, of Pickup Bank, who died July 17th, 1777, by whom Thomas Eccles had sons, Edward, Thomas, and John; also twin daughters Martha and Mary, bapt. at Over Darwen Chapel, April 28th, 1740. "Thomas Eccles of Pickup Bank, yeoman," was buried at Blackburn, Sept. 18th, 1769.

Mr. Edward Eccles, son of Thomas, was steward to the first Sir Robert Peel for his local estates.

Thomas Eccles, the other son of Thomas, of Pickup Bank in 1771, subsequently settled in Lower Darwen. He engaged in the manufacture of "Blackburn Checks," and he built, about 1774, the "Old Mill" in Lower Darwen for a cotton spinning mill. Mr. Thomas Eccles was also steward to the Sudells of Blackburn. By his wife Mary (who died April 23rd, 1799, aged 58), he had sons, Joseph; Ichabod, died June 6th, 1803, aged 23; William; Thomas, who died in 1791, and whose sons, Edward and Richard, died in infancy; and John; his daughters were, Martha, born in 1778, married to Mr. Robert Boardman, of Blackburn; and Jane, married to Mr. Ralph Shorrocks, of Lower Darwen. The father, Mr. Thomas Eccles, died Sept. 11th, 1818, aged 75.

Joseph Eccles, Esq., of Lower Darwen, cotton spinner (eldest son of Thomas), married Mary Livesey, of Darwen, and had issue, sons, Thomas, born in May, 1806; Richard, born in 1807; Joseph, of Liverpool; William Eccles, of Blackburn; and Edward Eccles, who died July 2nd, 1872, aged 47, within a week of his marriage; and daughters, Mary, born in 1805, and was killed by a fall at Matlock, May 18th, 1835; and Ellen, married Aug. 18th, 1831, Christopher Shorrocks, Esq.

The two eldest sons of Mr. Joseph Eccles, Thomas Eccles and Richard Eccles, Esqrs., are the living chief representatives of this old local family; and are commercially connected in the firm of Messrs. T. and R. Eccles, cotton spinners, of Lower Darwen and Bamber Bridge. Thomas Eccles, Esq., who resides at Torquay, married Miss Mitchell, by whom he has had issue, sons, Alexander Eccles, of Liverpool; Thomas Mitchell Eccles, of Blackburn; Richard Eccles, junior, of Lower Darwen, died, aged 38, in 1875; Eccles Shorrocks Eccles, Esq., of Liverpool; and several daughters. His brother, Richard Eccles, Esq., of Highcroft House, has long filled the office of Chairman of the Guardians of the Blackburn Union.

Wm. Eccles, Esq., son of Thomas who died in 1818, had sons, Edward Eccles, Esq., of Liverpool (who married, May 18th, 1837, Mary, second daughter of the late James Pilkington, Esq., of Blackburn, and died in 1875, and whose eldest son is James Eccles, Esq., of London, late of Blackburn); John Eccles, Esq., of Leyland, who married, Aug. 12th, 1824, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., of Preston, and died in 1868; William Eccles, of Bamber Bridge, cotton spinner; and Joseph, who died young.

John Eccles, of Lower Darwen, yeoman (brother of Thomas and William), who had to wife a daughter of Mr. Bannister Pickop, of Tockholes, was father of Bannister Eccles, Esq., of Blackburn, and Joseph Eccles, Esq., of Mill Hill, Livesey. Mr. John Eccles also had two daughters; Martha, the eldest, married Rev. Francis Skinner, M.A., of Blackburn, March 29th, 1837, and died April 16th, 1838, aged 39; the other daughter married Rev. Mr. Smith, a missionary.

Bannister Eccles, Esq., of Blackburn, cotton spinner, &c., eldest son of Mr. John Eccles, married, Oct. 13th, 1825, Mary Jane, only daughter of Mr. William Eccles, of Blackburn (she died Dec. 3rd, 1859, aged 61); and had issue, daughters, Sophia, born 1831, died 1832; Elizabeth, born 1833, died at Golden Hill, Leyland, Aug. 2nd, 1852; and Harriet Maria, born Oct. 30th, 1838, died in London, aged 34, May 11th, 1873. Bannister Eccles, Esq., died April 17th, 1849, in his 49th year.

Joseph Eccles, Esq., of Blackburn and Mill Hill, Livesey, brother of Bannister, married April 12th, 1831, Frances Coates Parsons, third daughter of Rev. Edward Parsons, and had issue, a son Joseph, born June, died Aug., 1841; and daughters, Catherine, born June, died Dec., 1836; Frances Parsons, married, in 1854, Captain W. B. Elgee, and died Feb. 28th, 1858, aged 24; and Margaret, married Rev. J. D. Kelly, Vicar of Christ Church, Ashton. Joseph Eccles, Esq., purchased the Mill Hill estate in Livesey, in 1844; and died aged 60, May 3rd, 1861.

I add some particulars of a branch of this family settled in Over Darwen:—John Eccles, of Pole Lane, Over Darwen (a son of Thomas Eccles of Pickup Bank, who died in 1769), married, first, a Miss Walsh, and by her had issue, sons, Thomas and Matthew; and, secondly, Miss Haworth, by whom he had five children. His eldest son, Thomas Eccles, of Princes, Over Darwen, hand-loom manufacturer, born in 1766, died in November, 1824, aged 58 years. By Alice his wife he had issue, sons, John, who died, aged 68, May 10th, 1859; William, of Low Hill House, Over Darwen, died in Dec., 1829; Joseph; George, died, aged 71, in 1872; and Thomas, died at Edenfield, aged 69, Oct. 9th, 1875. The third son, Mr. Joseph Eccles, of Princes, died, in his 24th year, Dec. 21st, 1822; his wife was Mary Eccles, of Pole, and he was father of Mr. Thomas Eccles, of Hollins, Lower Darwen; and of Mr. Joseph Eccles, of High Lawn, Over Darwen, cotton spinner in Darwen and Preston.

GRYMSHAW OF OKENHURST.

Nicholas Grymshawe, gent., of this township, a younger son of Richard Grymshaw, of Clayton, Esq., occurs as a juror, temp. Elizabeth (1578-85). Nicholas Grymshawe, of Okenhurst, gent., is named as a freeholder in the year 1600.

Nicholas Grymshawe, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628, I suppose was husband of Maria Grymshawe, widow, who died before 1642, when an Inquisition was taken, Sept. 16th, 17th Charles I., returning that the deceased Maria Grymshawe, widow, had held of the King, as of his Duchy of Lancaster, one messuage, one garden, 6 acres of arable land, six of pasture, and 6 of moor in Nether Darwyne, of the yearly value of 6s. 8d.

Ralph Grimshawe, son and heir of the above, was defunct in his mother's lifetime, and the jurors at the escheat found that Nicholas Grymshawe, son of Ralph, was next heir to his grand-dame, and then (1642) of the age of 24 years.

This Nicholas Grymshawe was living in 1660, when his wife Ann was buried, and I conjecture he was progenitor of John Grimshaw, of Blackburn, architect, living in 1728, and of Nicholas Grimshaw, of Blackburn, tradesman, who married, Feb. 24th, 1738, Susan Briercliffe, of Cliviger, and had a son John, born in 1749.

The suburb of Blackburn contiguous to Lower Darwen derives its name of Grimshaw Park from these Grimshaws, who had a residence on this side of the town.

HARWOOD OF LOWER DARWEN.

Edmond Harwood of Nether Darwyn was assessed to the Subsidy in 1523.

A later Edmond Harwood, of Nether Darwyn, was taxed to the Subsidy of 1610-11; he died on the 24th July, 1616, and by escheat taken Oct. 4th, 14th James I.,

was found to have possessed a freehold in this township, held of the King as Duke of Lancaster. Margaret Harwood, widow of Edmond, was living when the inquisition was taken.

Richard Harwood was son and heir, aged 24 years in 1616. He was made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1625, and was still a governor in 1647.

Henry Harwood married, Nov., 1627, Ann Holden. Michael Harwood married, April 25th, 1628, Jane Feilden. Thomas Harwood, John Harwood, Richard Harwood, and Michael Harwood, signed the petition for Vicar Clayton in 1660; some if not all of them belonged to the Lower Darwen family.

Lawrence Harwood of Lower Darwen, had a son John, born in 1685. He was afterwards of Upper Darwen, and died in July, 1707. John Harwood of Upper Darwen, yeoman, had a son William, born in 1699.

William Harwood of Lower Darwen, yeoman, a trustee of the Lower Chapel, Darwen, in 1718, died in June, 1741. By his wife Mary, who died in 1718, he had a son Edmund; and daughters, Mary, born in 1700, married, Oct. 27th, 1735, John Piccop of Livesey; Margaret, died in 1703; and a second Margaret, born in 1705.

Edmund Harwood of Lower Darwen, yeoman, son of William, was born in 1711, bapt. June 1st, and was buried at Blackburn, Sep. 24th, 1764.

Edward Harwood, D.D., a Nonconformist divine and author, was of this family—I suppose a son of the last-named Edmund Harwood, yeoman. He was born at Lower Darwen, in 1728. The following autobiographic letter, written by this eminent scholar shortly before his decease, supplies the most authentic account of his history. I have abridged the letter somewhat :—

“I was first put by my good father under the care of Mr. Belsborrow of Darwen, one of the scholars of the famous Clarke of Hull. I learned Lilly’s grammar; [and] I was reading Ovid’s *Metamorphosis* with him in the year 1744, when Pope died. In the year 1745, when the Northern Counties were greatly terrified and alarmed with the invasion of the Scotch Rebels, I was put under the care of the Rev. Mr. Thos. Hunter, some time afterwards Vicar of Weaverham, Cheshire, who had the best school, at Blackburn, Lancashire, of any gentleman in the county. This most worthy Preceptor began and concluded every day in his school with some select parts of the Liturgy. This most learned and worthy clergyman, in the year 1748, wished to place me at Queen’s College, Oxford, to which he belonged; but my father, who was a stiff Presbyterian, I believe would have died if he had seen me in a surplice. I was then removed to one of Coward’s Academies, where I continued five years, the only blank in my life; for what systems of ethics and divinity I learned, I afterwards took pains to unlearn them all. In the year 1750 I taught a boarding school at Peckham; and preached occasionally for Dr. Benson at his Meeting in Crutched-Friars. In the year 1754 I removed to Congleton in Cheshire, where I taught a Grammar-school, delivered up to me by one of the most ingenious and learned men I have ever known, the Rev. Mr. William Turner, with whom I lived in friendship and harmony for seven years, preaching alternate Sundays to two small societies, Whitelock in Cheshire and Leek in Staffordshire. In 1765 I was invited to take the charge of a very small church in Bristol; but upon publishing a second edition of ‘*The Supremacy of the Father*,’ written by one Williams, I was constantly calumniated in the Bristol paper, as an Arian, a Socinian, a Deist, and worse than a Deist. On account of this public abuse, my salary diminished every year; and the last year, though I had a numerous family, it fell considerably. In Bristol, in the course of five years, I read carefully the Greek Fathers of the first three centuries; the Greek language, after many years’ study, being as familiar to me as the French is to any English gentleman; having had no occasion

to consult a lexicon for twenty years. At the desire of some friends, I came to London, and applied for a place then vacant in the British Museum; and it was happy that I was too late in my application, for a month afterwards I was in a situation more profitable. Since the year 1772 I have lived, on the whole, extremely happy among my old friends in London, by literary industry providing a sufficient maintenance for myself and family. I have written more books than any other person now living, except Dr. Priestley; having never spoken evil of dignities, but have lived on the best of terms with the established clergy, who ever respected me as a scholar. After expending a great deal of time in discussing the subject, I am neither an Athanasian, Arian, or a Socinian; but die fully confirmed in the great doctrines of the New Testament, a resurrection, and a future state of eternal blessedness for all sincere penitents and good Christians. I am your obliged old friend, in much affliction from the palsy, E. HARWOOD."¹

The above letter was addressed from Hyde Street, Bloomsbury, Nov. 8th, 1793. Dr Harwood had then suffered from the palsy about twelve years. He died in London, Jan. 14th, 1794. Dr. Harwood married a daughter of Dr. S. Chandler, and by her had numerous issue. His eldest son, Edward Harwood, was many years a surgeon in the Royal Navy; and it was he who furnished the following Latin epitaph for his father and mother:—

"H. S. E. Edwardus Harwood, D.D., Vir summo ingenio præditus, qui literas sacras, æque ac humanas, mirâ felicitate coluit, et ornavit. Ob. 14 Jan., anno 1794, ætatis suæ 65. Reliquiæ ejus uxoris, filiæ minoris natu S. Chandler, D.D., juxta hunc tumulum sitæ sunt; ob. 21 Maii, anno 1791, æt. suæ 58. E. H. Fil. pos."

Among many printed works of which Dr. Harwood was author or editor, the most important are:—"An Introduction to the Study of the New Testament," 1767; "Translation of the New Testament into Modern English," &c., 2 vols., 1768; and "A View of the various editions of the Greek and Roman Classics," 1775, which went through several editions. His degree of D.D. was granted by the University of Edinburgh in 1768.

HAWORTH OF WALMSLEY FOLD.

Thomas Haworth of Lower Darwen, yeoman, living in 1700, was father of—

Edmund Haworth, of Walmsley Fold, yeoman and chapman; he married, first, Catherine Pickering (Jan. 6th, 1713), and had issue, sons, Edmund, died in infancy in 1727; a second Edmund, bapt. Oct. 24th, 1727; Lawrence, died in 1731; Giles, bapt. Aug. 3rd, 1730; and Jonathan, bapt. Feb. 4th, 1732. Edmund Haworth had also daughters, Elizabeth, married, Aug. 28th, 1744, Mr. Robert Peel (grandfather of the statesman); Jane, wife of Dr. Browne, of Nevis; Ann, wife of Mr. William Yates, of Springside; and Alice. Mr. Edmund Haworth was buried at Blackburn Church, Oct. 31st, 1759.

Edmund Haworth of Blackburn, tradesman, eldest son of the above, by his wife Mary had a son William, bapt. Dec. 27th, 1751, and other issue. He was buried at Blackburn Church, August 5th, 1759, aged 32. His son, William Haworth, of Blackburn, chapman, died in May, 1781.

Giles Haworth, next brother of Edmund, buried August 23rd, 1759, left by Betty his wife a daughter Betty, but no male issue.

Jonathan Haworth, third brother, purchased and sometime resided at Highercroft in Lower Darwen, the old seat of the Haworths. He married, Sept. 26th, 1762, Mary, eldest daughter of John Pilling of Sissclough in Rossendale (she died at Bury,

¹ Nichols' Literary Anecdotes, v. ix, pp. 577-81.

Jan. 5th, 1819, aged 78), and had issue, Edmund, born Sept. 14th, 1764; John, born Aug. 8th, 1765, married Dorothy Tarbotom, and had issue, John, Jonathan, Edmund, Sarah, and Mary Dorothea; Jonathan, born in 1770, married Susannah daughter of Edmund Peel, Esq.; Alice, wife of Lawrence Peel, Esq., of Ardwick; Ann, wife of Joseph Peel, Esq., of Bowes House, and mother of Sir Lawrence Peel, Chief Justice of Calcutta; Mary, wife of Edmund Yates, Esq., of Tring Park; Elizabeth, wife of John Nuttall, Esq., of Bury; Sarah, wife of Jonathan Patten, Esq., of London; Jane, Harriet, and Charlotte. Mr. Jonathan Haworth was a merchant in Manchester, and partner in the noted firm of Haworth, Peel, and Yates, to which he brought most part of the original capital. The deed of partnership is dated 1770. Jonathan Haworth, Esq., was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1762. He died Jan. 30th, 1786; buried at St. John's Church, Manchester.

Edmund Haworth, Esq., of Mill Hill, Co. Lanc., Sale Lodge, Co. Chester, &c., eldest son of the last-named, married, Nov. 1st, 1786, Elizabeth Peel, and died (aged 91 years) in 1855, having had issue, sons, Jonathan, died unmarried in 1825; Edmund, born in 1797; Robert; and daughters, Mary, wife of Dr. Goodlad, of Manchester; Susannah, wife of Rev. Frederick Peel, Rector of Wellingbourn and Canon of Lincoln; Elizabeth; Charlotte; and Alice, wife of Canon Sergeant.

Edmund Haworth, Esq., now of Churchdale House, Co. Derby, J.P. (the eldest surviving son of the above), married, first, Eliza, daughter of Captain Wallace, and had an only son Edmund, who died young. He married, secondly, Feb. 20th, 1868, Harriett Dorothea (widow of Rev. John Charnock, and sister to Sir Cornwallis Ricketts, Bart.), but has no issue.

HAWORTH OF PRESTON, &c.

Lawrence Haworth of Preston, innkeeper, there is reason to believe was of the Haworths of Lower Darwen or Blackburn. He may have been the "Lawrence, son of Reginald Haworth," bapt. at Blackburn, Nov. 14th, 1604. He settled in Preston, and was enrolled a freeman of that borough before the Guild of 1642. He married Jennet, second daughter of Thomas Banaster of Preston, gent., and had a son William, born at Preston about 1633 or 1634, and enrolled with his father on the Preston Guild Roll in 1642. "Lawrence Haworth of Preston, Innkeeper," was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, Dec. 21st, 1647;—this would suffice to indicate his Blackburn connexion. He was deceased before the Guild of 1662.

William Haworth, son of Lawrence, a native of Preston, was a Puritan minister during the Commonwealth, and was among the clergy ejected for nonconformity in 1662. He was educated at Sedbergh Grammar School, and was entered at St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1652, as the following entry from the College Admission Books records:—

Gulielmus Haworth, filius Lawrentii Haworth de Preston in A'nderness in Comit. Lanc., ubi etiam natus, litteris grammat' institut' [instructus?] in Schola public' de Sedbergh, sub M'ro Jackson, p' annos viiii, et subsequente admissus est subsizator pro D'e Grandarge, tutore et fidejussore ejus, Ang. 24, 1652.

William Haworth on leaving college was appointed curate or lecturer at St. Peter's Church, St. Alban's, where his wife Mary was buried (Sept. 6th, 1661). By her he had issue two sons, Samuel, and John. Among the "foreign burgesses" of Preston on the Guild Roll of 1662 are these names:—"William Haworth de civitat' Lond. cler.; Samuel, fil. ejus; John, frater ejus" (William Haworth of the City of London, clerk; Samuel, his son; John his (Samuel's) brother.) It was about this date that Mr. Haworth was ejected from his church under the Act of Uniformity, and he

probably retired temporarily to London. The editor of the "Nonconformist Memorial" gives a short notice of Mr. Haworth's life, stating that he was "well skilled in the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew languages;" and that, after his ejection at St. Alban's, "he was desired on occasion of the death of some friend to preach a funeral sermon," and "had assembled a congregation for the purpose at some place in the town, but was hindered by certain malicious persons who obliged the people to disperse. Upon this, they went to the cloisters of the Abbey, where Mr. Haworth had resolved to perform the service. While he was in his sermon, a party of soldiers came to apprehend him when one of the hearers interposing to prevent it, was shot dead on the spot. Mr. Haworth was taken up, and on account of the affair was tried at the assizes, when he was discharged, but heavily fined, while the soldier who committed the murder escaped with impunity." In 1673, Mr. Haworth became pastor of Cowbridge Congregational Chapel, Hertford, and died there in January, 1703.

Samuel Haworth, eldest son of the minister, was born in 1660, educated in a private school at Chelsea, and at the age of 17, "Samuel Haworth fil' Gulielmi Haworth, presbyter," was admitted sizar at Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge, April 24th, 1677. This Samuel Haworth, an M.B. of Cambridge, and M.D. of Paris, passed his examination in the Royal College of Physicians, Oct. 12th, 1680. Dr. Samuel Haworth was living in Arundel-street, Strand, London, in April, 1683; and was sometime physician to the Duke of York (afterwards James II). He is believed to have been nearly connected with a Samuel Haworth who bought the Wear estate, Bacup, Co. Lanc., in 1716. The latter may have been a son of Dr. S. Haworth. He was direct ancestor of the Rev. John Haworth, of Penistone, Sheffield, whose only surviving daughter, Anne, is wife of James Maden Holt, Esq., of Stubby Lee House, Bacup, M.P. for North-East Lancashire. The title-deeds of the Wear estate are still in possession of this family of Haworths, and they have always had a family tradition of their descent from Dr. Samuel Haworth.

HAWORTH OF NEWFIELD, &c.

Edmond Haworth, of this branch, was assessed to the Subsidy in 1523. Giles Haworth, who had a small freehold estate in Lower Darwen, occurs temp. Elizabeth. On the 19th November, 1588, this Gyles Haworth writes from "Newfelde" to William Farrington, Esq., at Worden, saying that the writer and his daughter will meet Mr. Farrington at Preston on the next Saturday according to his appointment, upon some matter of recusancy. Giles Haworth died Dec. 7th, 1590; his Will is dated Nov. 2nd, 32nd Eliz.; and by inquisition taken some years after he was found to have been seized of one messuage, one garden, 6 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, and 6 acres of pasture in Nether Darwen. Ralph Haworth was his son and heir, aged 21 years and upwards.

Ralph Haworth, son of Giles, may have died without heir and left a brother Giles in possession. Giles Haworth, yeoman, of Lower Darwen, was agent in a horrible murder committed in this township in the beginning of James the First's reign, the curious discovery of which has been recorded by Dr. Webster, and other annalists. In the "Chronicle" of Sir Richard Baker, published in 1670, this murder is noted.¹ Dr.

¹ "In the second year of his [James's] reign a strange accident happened, to the terrour of all bloody Murtherers, which was this:—One Anne Waters, enticed by a lover of hers, consented to have her husband strangled, and then buried him secretly under the dung-hill in a Cow-house; whereupon the man being missing by his Neighbours, and the Wife making shew of a wondering what was become of him; It pleased God, that one of the Inhabitants of the Town dreamed one night that his neighbour Waters was strangled, and buried under a dung-hill in a Cow-house; and upon declaring his dream, search being made by the Constable, the dead body was found as he had dreamed; and thereupon the wife was apprehended, and, upon examination, confessing the fact, was burned. And now what hope can murtherers have of being concealed, when they are subjected to be discovered by a man's dream?"

Webster, a native of Clitheroe, in a work printed in folio in 1677, entitled "Displaying of Supposed Witchcraft," gives a fuller account, and states that the place of the tragedy was Lower Darwen. Webster's story of the murder was taken, on the 7th of April, 1663, "from the mouths of Thomas Haworth's wife, her husband being the dreamer and discoverer, and from his son, together with many more, who both remember and can affirm every particular thereof."¹

Giles Haworth being outlawed, on the 27th March, 1611, the King's Escheator took inquisition of his estate, when it appeared that Giles Haworth, attainted for murder, at the time of his attainder was seized of two messuages, 10 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of pasture and common of pasture in Nether Darwen, held in free and common socage and not in capite. His wife—"Uxor Giles Haworth"—was buried at Blackburn Church, June 30th, 1608.

Edmund Haworth was brother or son of Giles, and on the 23rd May, 1611, a grant was issued to Edmund Haworth of messuages and lands in Nether Darwen, lately belonging to Giles Haworth, attainted for murder. Edmund Haworth occurs as a warden of Blackburn Church in 1634.

At Newfield are two old houses with gabled porches, and on the door-lintel of a smaller house close by are the initials "E H C" and date "1725."

HINDLE OF HIGHERCROFT, &c.

John Hindle, tanner, of Hindle Fold, Great Harwood, who died in August, 1760, was father of Christopher Hindle, tanner, of Higher Fold, Great Harwood, born in 1710, whose eldest son was named Christopher. "Christopher Hindle of Harwood" died, aged 80, and was buried at Great Harwood Church, Oct. 2nd, 1789.

"Mr. Christopher Hindle of Bradley Hall," Great Harwood (so-named in 1777), son of the above Christopher, was bapt. at Great Harwood, Jan. 31st, 1747-8. This

¹ Webster relates:—"In the year 1604 John Waters, of Lower Darwen, in the county of Lancaster, gardiner, by reason of his calling was much absent from his family, in which his absence, his wife (not without cause) was suspected of incontinency with one Gyles Haworth, of the same town; this Gyles Haworth and Waters' wife conspired and contrived the death of Waters in this manner. As soon as Waters came home and went to his bed, Gyles Haworth and Waters' wife conducted the hired executioner to the said Waters. Who seeing him so innocently laid betwixt his two small children in bed, repented of his enterprise, and totally refused to kill him. Gyles Haworth, displeased with the faint-heartedness of Ribchester, takes the Axe into his hand, and dashed out his brains; the murderers buried him in a cowhouse. Waters being long missing, the neighbours asked his wife for him; she denied that she knew where he was. Thereupon public search was made for him in all pits round about, lest he should casually have fallen into any of them. One Thomas Haworth, of the said town, yeoman, was for many nights much troubled with broken sleep and dreams of the murder; he revealed his dreams to his wife, but she laboured the concealment of them a long time. This Thomas Haworth had occasion to pass by the house every day where the murder was done, and did call and inquire for Waters, as often as he went near the house. One day he went into the house to ask for him, and there was a neighbour, who said to Thomas Haworth, It's said that Waters lies under this stone (pointing to the hearth-stone), to which Thomas Haworth replied, And I have dreamed that he is under a stone no far distant. The constable of the said town being accidentally in the said house (his name Myles Aspinall), urged Thomas Haworth to make known more at large what he had dreamed, which he relateth thus. I have (quoth he) many a time within these eight weeks (for so long it was since the murder) dreamed very restlessly, that Waters was murdered and buried under a stone in the cowhouse; I have told my troubled dreams to my wife alone, but she refuses to let me make it known; but I am not able to conceal my dreams any longer, my sleep departs from me, I am pressed and troubled with fearful dreams, which I cannot bear any longer, and they increase upon me. The constable hearing this made search immediately upon it, and found, as he had dreamed, the murdered body eight weeks buried under a flat stone in the cow-house. Ribchester and Gyles Haworth fled and never came again. Anne Waters (for so was Waters' wife's name), being apprehended, confessed the murder, and was burned."

Christopher Hindle purchased, towards the end of last century, the Highercroft estate and mansion in Lower Darwen, and afterwards resided at Highercroft. By Elizabeth his wife, he had issue, sons, Christopher, born at Bradley Hall in 1777, bapt. at Great Harwood Church, Jan. 23rd; John, born in 1779; William, born in 1783; Thomas, born in 1790; Robert, born in 1793; and Joseph, bapt. Nov. 1st, 1795. Mr. Christopher Hindle of Highercroft died, in his 71st year, Sept. 5th, 1818, and was buried at Great Harwood, where the Hindles' tomb is in the churchyard. Elizabeth Hindle, his relict, died, aged 74, August 18th, 1835. Two younger sons of Christopher Hindle died early, viz., Thomas Hindle, fourth son, died, aged 30, in Jan., 1821, leaving a daughter Elizabeth, who died in 1846; and Robert Hindle, fifth son, died, aged 23, in November, 1816.

The eldest of Christopher's sons was Christopher Hindle of Highercroft, many years Chief Constable of the Lower Division of Blackburn Hundred; he died unmarried, at Higham, Kent, Feb. 20th, 1847, in his 71st year.

William Hindle of Newfield House, Lower Darwen, a younger brother of Christopher, died unmarried, aged 60, May 2nd, 1843.

Mr. John Hindle, second son of Christopher Hindle, senr., who succeeded his brother Christopher as owner of Highercroft estate, resided at Highercroft, and died unmarried, in his 75th year, March 26th, 1854.

Rev. Joseph Hindle, B. D., sixth son of Christopher, and heir of his brother John Hindle, became possessed of the Lower Darwen estate in 1854. He was 45 years vicar of Higham, Co. Kent, and died at the Knowle, Higham, in his 80th year, Dec. 23rd, 1874. His Will was proved in Jan. 1875; personalty under £45,000. He left issue, sons, Major John Wm. Hindle, now owner of Highercroft; Joseph Hindle; and David Bourn Hindle; and two daughters. The estate of the late Rev. Joseph Hindle in Lancashire was returned in 1873 as about 294 acres, with a rental of £1090 per annum.

LIVESEY OF FERNEHURST.

A branch of the Livesey family held in the 16th century the demesne estate of Fernehurst under the Talbots, manorial lords. James Lyvesey was assessed on lands in Nether Darwen to the Subsidy in 1523. In 1529, William and Alexander Clayton accused James Lyvesey and others of forcible entry and tortious possession of lands in Fernehurst manor; and in the 27th Hen. VIII. (1536), James Lyvesey, lessee of John (Paslew) Abbot of Whalley, had a suit with Richard Wamborseley and others respecting a disputed title to tythe corn and other tythes of Blackburn parsonage and Whalley Abbey in Livesey, Tockholes, and Fernehurst. James Lyvesey died before 1564, when "Ann Levesey, widow, late wife of James Lyvesey of Blackburn" appears as party to a suit in the Duchy Court.

Richard Lyvesaye, probably son of James, was taxed for lands in Nether Darwen on a Subsidy in 1570. In the 26th Eliz. (1584), Thomas Talbot had a suit with Richard Lyvesey respecting the messuages and lands called Fernehurst and Livesey Bradshay, with a corn mill in Nether Darwent. "Richard Livesay de Fernyhurst, gent.," appears on a list of freeholders in 1584, and again in 1600. Richard Lyvesey of Fernehurst, gent., on the marriage of his daughter Mary to Thomas Astley of Ewode, gent., in 1574, conveyed in trust to Thomas Holden of Ewode, and William Crosse of Over Darwine, gents., a tenement in Livesey called Oxelande, to the use of Thomas Astley and Mary his wife for term of their lives and of the longer liver of them, afterwards to the right heirs of Richard Lyvesey. (Deed in Towneley MSS., dated 1 Jan., 17 Eliz.)

Henry Livesey, a deponent in 1611, then aged 80, and Thomas Livesey of Nether Darwen, living in 1628, were of this branch.

LOMAS OF NETHER DARWEN.

Ralph Lommas, in 1562, was in tenure of messuages and lands in this township.

Thomas Lomas, temp. Charles I., gave a bequest to Darwen Chapel.

John Lomas, who died about 1641, held, according to an escheat return, three messuages, three gardens, 24 acres of land, 10 of meadow, and 20 of pasture and moor in Nether Darwen. He had no son; and three daughters, Alice, Elizabeth, and Maria, were found to be his heirs.

Alice, daughter and co-heir of John Lomas, was wife of Henry Cross of Okenhead in this township, whose two daughters and co-heirs, Grace and Elizabeth, married, respectively, Peter Haworth of Th'urcroft, gent., and his brother Thomas Haworth, of Okenhead (see Haworth of Th'urcroft).

MARSDEN OF OKENHURST, &c.

William Marsden is assessed on lands in Lower Darwen to the Subsidy of 1523.

Henry Marsden is named as a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567.

Christopher Marsden was assessed for lands in Lower Darwen to a Subsidy in 1570.

Henry Marsden, who died April 12th, 1619, possessed, as shown by inquisition taken Sept. 14th, 1620 (at Blackburn), half a messuage, 10 acres of land, 2 of meadow, 10 of pasture, 5 of wood, and 40 of moor and moss in Lower Darwen. Alice, widow of the same, was living in 1620. Christopher Marsden, his son and heir, was then aged 40 years and upwards.

Christopher Marsden succeeded, and dying June 11th, 1631, the Inq. post mort. was taken at Blackburn, April 25th, 9th Charles I., when it was found that he had held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster, by a yearly payment of 5s., one Messuage, and 16 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Lower Darwen. Henry Marsden was his son and heir, then aged 25 years.

Henry Marsden of Okenhurst, yeoman, occurs as a trustee of James Piccop in 1657.

Ralph Marsden of Okenhurst, was father of James Marsden of Lower Darwen, yeoman, who died April 14th, 1630; and on inquisition taken Sept. 7th, 1630, his estate was found to consist of one Messuage, one garden, 8 acres of land, 4 of meadow, and 6 of pasture in Lower Darwen. William Marsden, son of James, being dead before his father, James Marsden, the latter had conveyed the estate to William Marsden, of Tockholes, yeoman, and Christopher Marsden of Okenhurst, yeoman, in trust to the use of himself and his heirs. James Marsden, son of the late William, son of James, was found next heir, aged 15 years.

James Marsden, yeoman, grandson of the above James, held the property several years. He was dead before 1637. June 23rd, 13th Charles I., an inquisition taken at Bolton returned that James Marsden had been seized of one Messuage called Okenhurst in Lower Darwen, with one garden, 8 acres of land, 2 of meadow, and 8 of pasture appurtenant to the said Messuage of Okenhurst. William Marsden was son and heir, aged 9 months and 7 days.

Concerning this infant heir I have no particulars. The following names occur later:—John Marsden, of Lower Darwen, yeoman, died in 1698. Henry Marsden, yeoman, of this township, buried Elizabeth, his wife, in 1699. Another Henry Marsden, yeoman, married, April 13th, 1701, Ann Ainsworth of Blackburn. Nicholas Marsden of Lower Darwen, yeoman, who died in 1756, had sons Thomas and John, with other issue, by his wife Hannah.

SANDERSON OF FEARNHURST.

Adam Sanderson of Lower Darwen, chapman, was buried May 20th, 1706. He had sons, Richard, and William—the latter occurs as Schoolmaster at Tockholes in 1718.

Richard Sanderson, of Fearnhurst, chapman and yeoman, was son of Adam. The Sandersons were Nonconformists, members of the congregation at Darwen; and in the "Diary of Peter Walkden," edited by Mr. Wm. Dobson, several visits of the Diarist to the Sandersons at Fearnhurst, from 1725 to 1729, are recorded. Richard Sanderson died August 27th, 1729. His sons were—William, Adam, Thomas, and George. The first two are again named below. The third, Thomas Sanderson of Livesey, bapt. Oct. 13th, 1710, was buried May 9th, 1791, aged 80. The fourth son, George Sanderson of Livesey, chapman, died Sept. 3rd, 1749; he had sons, William and George; the latter, George Sanderson of Blackburn, chapman, was living in 1778.

William Sanderson, eldest son of Richard, born in 1704, is styled, late in life, "Mr. Wm. Sanderson of Fearnhurst, tradesman." He died in 1780, and was buried April 2nd. By Martha his wife he had sons, Richard, born in 1732; and Gyles, born in 1734, died in 1738; also daughters, Elizabeth, born and died in 1736; and Hannah, died in 1740. Richard Sanderson "of Chorley, chapman," in 1778, was the eldest son of William.

Adam Sanderson, brother of William, baptized June 10th, 1707, died July 3rd, 1757, aged 50. At the Lower Chapel, Over Darwen, a memorial marble tablet affixed to the chapel-wall is inscribed to this "Mr. Adam Sanderson," and also to his second son, Adam Sanderson, who died Sept. 30th, 1786, aged 48. The elder Adam had another son, Richard; and a daughter Catherine, who married, July 6th, 1767, Mr. Archibald Stewart, of Church Parish, Calico Printer.

Richard Sanderson, of Ewood, gent., son of Adam, was born in January, 1731; and died in May, 1774. By his wife, Mary, he had sons, Thomas Bromily William Sanderson, born Dec., 1762, bapt. Feb. 1st, 1763, died Sept., 1767; and a second Thomas Bromily William, bapt. Oct. 21st, 1768.

WADDINGTON OF NETHER DARWEN.

Rauf Waddington, of Nether Darwen, was taxed to a King's Subsidy in 1523. Robert Waddington, of Nether Darwen, paid the Subsidy in 1570.

Ralph Waddington, of this township, died Oct. 14th, 39th Eliz. (1597), seized of one messuage, 6 acres of land, 6 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of pasture in Nether Darwen, held of the Queen in capite. Anna, Elizabeth, Mary, and Grace, his daughters, were co-heiresses.

Robert Waddington, of Upper Darwen, paid the Subsidy tax in 1663. Thomas Waddington married, May 20th, 1662, Jennet Haworth. Thomas Waddington, of Nether Darwen, married, May 18th, 1708, Elizabeth Haworth, of the same.

WALMESLEY OF WALMESLEY FOLD, &c.

William Walmesley, sixth son of Thomas Walmesley of Showley, Esq., settled at Walmesley Fold in this township, on a small freehold. William Walmesley, of Nether Darwen, died April 5th, 1622, and on inquisition taken at Blackburn, the 26th Feb., 1622-3, it was found that he had been seized of one messuage, one garden, one orchard, and 24 acres of meadow and pasture in Nether Darwen, held of the King in socage. Christopher Walmesley, son and heir of William, was aged 54 years in 1622.

YATES OF LOWER DARWEN.

Lawrence Yates of Nether Darwen, who died Sept. 24th, 1606, was by inquisi-

tion taken Dec. 20th following found to have held parts of a messuage, and 24 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Nether Darwen, held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster. William Yates, son and heir, was aged 4 years, 7 months, 18 days.

William Yates, of Lower Darwen, yeoman, died November 23rd, 1637, and was found by inquisition taken Jan. 23rd, 13th Chas. I., to have been seized of one messuage, 8 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, and 6 acres of pasture in Lower Darwen. His son and heir was Lawrence Yates, aged 7 years, 11 months, and 20 days. Deceased William Yates had enfeoffed his estate to Thurstan Mawdsley and Peter Edge, in trust to the use of his family. Elizabeth Yates, wife of William, John Yates, his second son, Samuel Yates, third son, &c., are named in the deed of trust.

THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

Lower Darwen was made a district chapelry in 1829, and in that year a Church was built at the cost of £5,491 2s. 6d., obtained by a Parliamentary Grant. The Church, dedicated to St. James, is situate upon the hill near Newfield. It is a handsome edifice, of decorated gothic architecture. Its plan includes nave, side aisles, and pentagonal apse for chancel, and the elevation displays a slender hexagonal embattled tower, at the centre of the west gable. The windows of the aisles, clerestory, and apse are of double lights, with heads of graceful curvilinear tracery. The church contains 668 sittings, of which 410 are free. The value of the living (which has been augmented recently by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners) is £300 per annum; and the Vicar of Blackburn is patron. Rev. J. K. Glazebooke, M.A., admitted in 1841, is present Vicar.

The National Schools, adjoining the Church, built in 1838, were rebuilt and much enlarged in 1873, at a cost of £850, and now provide accommodation for 400 children.

Other Church of England Schools at Guide and "Golden Cup" in this township, have been licensed for divine service.

DISSENTING CHAPELS.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL, NEW ROW.—It has already been mentioned (see ante pp. 199-200) that a Methodist Society was founded in Lower Darwen by Wesley himself, who preached in the village in 1759 and in 1761. An early preaching place of this Society was in a farm-house at "Top-o'th-Coal-Pits;" and another was at New Row, a hamlet on the border of Lower Darwen and Livesey, by the road from Blackburn to Tockholes. At New Row a chapel was built in 1828, which is yet in use, and was rendered more commodious by the addition of galleries about twenty years ago. The chapel is served from Blackburn, and contains about 400 sittings.

WESLEYAN ASSOCIATION (NOW PRIMITIVE METHODIST) CHAPEL.—A chapel was built in Lower Darwen village by the Wesleyan Association (which had before a preaching-place in the township), which, after being used by the United Methodist Free Church, was taken by the Primitive Methodist Connexion in 1873. It contains about 300 sittings.

UNITED FREE METHODIST CHAPEL.—This handsome Gothic chapel in the village of Lower Darwen was erected in 1872-3; opened June 19th, 1873. The north front contains the main entrance, flanked by buttresses finished with crocketed pinnacles; and over the doorway is a five-light traceried window. The front is finished with gables and finials. The side windows are pointed, each of two lights. The chapel is designed to provide 550 sittings; the interior is galleried. Cost £2,030.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL MISSION-ROOM.—In the room built by the Messrs. Eccles near their works in the village for a Day and Sunday School, the Congregationalists conduct a religious service on the Sunday. Sittings, 200.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—In 1872 a school-chapel, dedicated to St. Edward, was built for the Roman Catholics in this township, near the Blackburn and Darwen road at the south extremity of Lower Darwen. Sittings, about 250.

NETHER DARWEN COMMONS ENCLOSED, A.D. 1779.

The waste and common lands of Nether Darwen amounted to 600 statute acres a century since, and on the 1st of February, 1779, a Petition to Parliament of the Rt. honourable Catherine Lady Stourton, lady of the Manor of Nether Darwen, and of other persons interested in the Commons, was presented to the House of Commons and read; setting forth, that within the said Manor or Lordship, and the Vill, Hamlet, or Township of Nether Darwen there is a large Common or tract of Waste Land, called Lower Darwen Moor, containing 600 acres or thereabouts, statute measure, which the petitioners apprehended might be greatly improved, if the same were enclosed, and divided into specific allotments amongst the said Lady Stourton, as lady of the Manor, and the other parties interested therein, and praying for leave to Sir Thomas Egerton and Major Stanley to bring in a Bill pursuant to the prayer of the Petition. The Nether Darwen Commons Enclosure Act received the Royal Assent, May 18th, 1779, and by virtue thereof the Commons were soon after allotted and enclosed.

CHAPTER VII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF OVER DARWEN.

Topography—Name—Ancient Forests—Coal Mines—Manufactures—Calico Printing—Bleach Works—Paper Works—Cotton Spinning and Weaving—Growth and aspect of the Town—Population—Local Government and Public Works—Free Library—Flood of 1848, &c.—Descent of the Manor—Banastre, and Langton, chief Lords—Osbaldeston, and Southworth—Plaint respecting Darwen Waste in 1556—Later Manorial Lords—Hoghton, Trafford, Duckworth—Families of Ancient and Modern Gentry and Yeomen—Ashton—Astley—Baron—Barton—Berry—Brandwood—Cooper—Crosse—Dewhurst—Fish—Greenway—Hargreave—Hilton—Hindle—Holden—Marsden—Maudsley—Pickup—Shorrock—Smalley—Walsh—Watson—Church of St. James—History of the Chapelry—Other Churches—Nonconformist Meeting Houses—"Lower Chapel"—Other Chapels—Wesleyan Methodism in Darwen—First and present Chapels—Other Dissenting Chapels—Roman Catholic Chapel—Schools—Charities of the Town.

OVER DARWEN occupies the northern slopes and spurs of the range of elevated moors which separate the Hundred and Parish of Blackburn from the Hundred of Salford and Parish of Bolton. These hills, which enclose the township on every side except the north, are of varying altitudes from 1000 to 1300 feet; their summits are almost flat, and present dreary expanses of swampy moss and heath; but the acclivities are found to repay tillage as rough pasture and meadow-land. Darwen Moor, a bold, abrupt fell which hems in the town on the west and south-west, reaches a height at its loftiest part of 1316 feet above the sea-level, and appropriates several hundred acres of unreclaimed waste land included within the bounds of the township. Cranberry Moss and Hoddlesden Moss are the names of the somewhat lower moorlands to the south-east, the summits of which are traversed by the township and parish boundary. The River Darwen has its source on Bull Hill, and in its rapid passage into the narrow valley in which the town of Over Darwen stands, it receives several considerable streams whose channels are the cloughs on the flanks of Darwen Moor. From a mere mountain beck the Darwen is thus increased to a river of some volume (especially in wet seasons) before it passes on into the subjacent township of Lower Darwen at Hollins.

The name of the township has undergone in the course of time numerous mutations. It is spelled "*Dereuenta*" in the latin charter,

about the year 1130, of grant of its lands to the Norman Banastre, lord of Newton. This, I think, is the first mention of the name in written record. In a later latin deed, made about A.D. 1280, the township is named "*Superior Derwent*;" this is a charter by which Roger, son of Henry de Whalley, gave to the Abbot and convent of Stanlaw (after of Whalley) "three perches of my land in Superior Derwent in length from the messuage on the east that John son of Bibby held of Richard de Alffton, unto the road on the west that leads to the house of Alexander de Keurdale, and two perches in breadth, for the site of one barn, with the house on that land built for their tenth sheaf (tithe) of the said vill." In a return for escheat dated 1311, the township is called "*On Derwent*." In documents of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries the name is given variously as *Derwynd Superior*, *Darwynt*, *Derwyn*, &c. It is named *Upper Darwin* on the Subsidy Roll of 1611; and from that date until about a century ago, the name is usually found as *Upper Darwen*; it has since been fixed in its present style, as "*Over Darwen*." The native folk-speech supplies, however, another variation, that of "*Heigher* (higher) *Darren*."

In the Saxon period, the upper reaches of the valley of the Darwen were covered probably with native forest, which for ages before then had occupied these rugged *denes* or cloughs. Existing local names of Saxon etymology indicate the presence of woods when the names were bestowed: *ex. gr.* Sunnyhurst, Oakshaw, Beech-hill, Woodhead, Greenhurst, Oakenhurst, Fernehurst, &c. A local tradition lingers that in old time a great wood extended from Wood-head in Darwen to Wood-head in Pickup-Bank, beyond Hoddlesden on the east side of the township. Even within memory groups of large oaks, beeches, and sycamores were to be seen in the valley. Two or three years ago a discovery was made on the northern flank of Darwen Moor above Sunnyhurst Hey, during the construction of a reservoir for the town's Waterworks, of the prostrate trunks of a primeval forest buried under the heather. Beneath the peat, which lies here about two feet in depth, appeared the roots, trunks, and branches of trees, chiefly oaks and birch, which were counted by hundreds in the limited space exposed. This part of the moor is now totally bare of timber.

In territorial area, Over Darwen is the largest township in Blackburn parish, containing 5134 statute acres. But the lands within the township sufficiently sheltered and fertile to be capable of the best agriculture are limited in acreage, and are isolated patches in situations near the river in the lower parts of the valley. A large quantity of inferior land is devoted to grass-farms, and fortunately much of the rocky and sterile ground has become valuable as building-sites with the

rapid growth of a town, and important manufactories, during the present century. The average rental of land in the township is rather more than 20s. per acre.

It is only into this portion of the Parish of Blackburn that the coal field of South Lancashire extends; the outcrop of the seam is found along the centre of the township of Blackburn. Coal has been got in Over Darwen, Eccleshill, Tockholes, and Lower Darwen at least three centuries, very probably for a longer period, and the presence of this mineral fuel has during the interval compensated the inhabitants of these townships for the barrenness of most of the soil of the district. Traces of old abandoned pits and workings are found in many places upon the hill-sides. In the reign of James I., and during the Commonwealth, coal-pits were worked on this side of the parish; and in the reign of Anne (1702-1714) a number of inhabitants of Darwen are described in parish registers as "coaler," and "coal-getter." At the beginning of the last century, and onward until the opening of the canal navigation between Blackburn and Wigan in 1816, the coal mines of Darwen and Eccleshill exclusively supplied house fuel for Blackburn and to distant places north of Blackburn. In 1729, Peter Walkden, Nonconformist minister in Chipping, enters in his Diary: "Dec. 17. Son John went to Eccleshill coal-pit for 2 loads of coals." The distance from Chipping to Eccleshill and back is about 30 miles, and there being no road fit for carts in 1729, the coals were carried in sacks slung on horseback. The coal measures in this township are shallow, and vary from 20 to 130 yards below the surface; the coal is not of the best quality, being mingled with shale. The Darwen pits have most of them been to a great extent worked out. So late as 1860, however, the annual value of the mines in Over Darwen was assessed to property tax at £6,082. The annual yield of the five collieries working in 1867 was estimated at 101,920 tons, and the value of the same at £42,588. The number of persons employed in these collieries was 477.

The weaving of checked-cloths and calicos on the hand-loom became in the seventeenth century an important industry subsidiary to husbandry for the inhabitants of Over Darwen. This primitive textile manufacture enabled the tenant farmers to employ their families at home in spinning and weaving, and to secure thereby a more comfortable subsistence than the profits of a small dairy farm could then afford. As long since as the years 1700-1720, a large proportion of the natives of Darwen are denominated "webster" in the parish registers. About half-a-dozen resident "chapmen," who were also chiefly yeomen or freeholders of land in the township, then supplied the material to the cottage-weavers, received the fabrics when made, paying the workers

the price of their labour, and found a market for the cotton-pieces in Manchester, Preston, or more distant towns. I note these names among the capitalist dealers in textile fabrics of local production earlier than 1720:—Ralph Ellison of Upper Darwen, chapman; John Fish of Upper Darwen, chapman; Richard Smalley of Upper Darwen, chapman; Richard Sanderson of Lower Darwen, chapman; Thomas Watson of Over Darwen, chapman; Edmund Haworth of Lower Darwen, chapman; and, some years later, members of the native families of Eccles, Barton, Ainsworth, and Shorrock, appear as “chapmen” or, as afterwards described, “hand-loom manufacturers.” This trade in hand-loom-woven cottons progressed until the invention of spinning-machines and power-looms and the erection of factories superseded the old system by one incalculably more scientific and more productive. The hand-loom weaving industry was at its height about a century ago. It has since been steadily reduced and displaced, and is now insignificant in this and neighbouring townships.

During the prosperous time of calico-printing in Lancashire, towards the end of the 18th century, several print-works were erected in Over Darwen; the best known and most permanently successful of which were the works established by Mr. James Greenway, grandfather of Rev. C. Greenway, of Darwen Bank (see *post*, Greenway family). It was about the year 1776 (just a century ago) that Mr. James Greenway commenced calico-printing at Livesey Fold. He had prosecuted the business there above thirty years when he built the larger print-works at Dob Meadows, in the year 1808. He took as partners Mr. Charles Potter and Mr. Maude, and subsequently retiring, the firm was continued as Potter, Maude and Co., until about 1830. This firm also built the now disused print-shop on the Bury Fold Brook. In 1832, the Dob Meadows works were leased by Mr. James Greenway, junr., to the firm of C. Potter and Wm. Ross; in 1841 Mr. Potter withdrew, and Mr. Ross continued the business until 1847, when he transferred it to Messrs. Heron, Baron, and Eddleston. Mr. Eddleston died in 1872, and the works are still carried on by Messrs. Heron and Baron. Mr. W. Henreys, manager of the Dob-Meadows works for the Greenways, who died in August, 1823, is stated to have been distinguished by his scientific knowledge, which he applied to the improvement of the art of calico printing, and thus greatly assisted the success of the concern.

Some extensive calico-bleaching works were established in Over Darwen, none of which now exist. The celebrated inventor of the spinning mule, Samuel Crompton, on obtaining the Parliamentary grant of £5000, came from Bolton to Over Darwen, in June, 1812, and

commenced the bleaching business in premises known as Hilton's Higher Works, now called Spring Vale Works, having as partners his sons George and James. Mr. Samuel Crompton built the older central part of Low Hill House, in which he resided several years. Partly owing to the sinking of coal pits near the works, which diverted the supply of spring water and led to a costly law-suit, but chiefly through the indifference of his sons, Mr. Crompton's Darwen business did not prosper, and it was given up about the year 1818. His eldest son, George Crompton, started a separate bleaching business at Hoddlesden, which also failed. Mr. George Crompton resided later in Blackburn, where he was some years cashier in the works of Messrs. Yates, engineers, and he died at Blackburn, aged 77, June 16th, 1858. Another bleaching business had been commenced in Over Darwen before the year 1800 by Mr. Richard Hilton, a native of Blackburn, son of Samuel Hilton (see *post*, Hilton family). One of his bleaching works it was that Mr. Crompton rented in 1812; but the Hiltons were still engaged in bleaching in 1818, when Christopher Hilton (son of Richard) is named as "bleacher" at Darwen. Sometime after this date, the Hiltons gave up bleaching to embark in the business of paper making.

The paper works erected in Over Darwen by Mr. Richard Hilton, about forty years ago, were of great extent, and when completed were reputed to be the largest in the kingdom. They stood near the river, surrounded by a series of reservoirs, on the site of the present paper mills of Messrs. Dimmock and Co. For some years Mr. Hilton and his sons prospered in the trade of paper making, and were the principal employers of labour in the town. But the magnitude of the concern eventually involved the firm in difficulties that led to its suspension, about the year 1843. Mr. Richard Hilton had died in 1836, and Mr. Henry Hilton, his second son, was head of the firm at the time of its failure and the stoppage of the works. These mills were temporarily worked by other parties, but were at length demolished. Paper-making has, however, since become one of the staple trades of the town; and, in 1867, four paper-mills in Darwen were returned as employing 440 workmen, and producing paper of the annual value of £170,000. The firm of Potter and Co., founded by Charles and Harold Potter in 1841, engaged in the combined businesses of paper-making and paper-staining, at the Hollins and Belgrave mills in Over Darwen. The paper-staining business of this house, of which Mr. James Huntington is resident director and partner, is one of great celebrity, and has been for many years highly profitable and largely productive. The two paper-staining works in Darwen employed 350 workmen in 1867, and produced figured paper for house decoration of the annual value of £130,000.



PAPER-WORKS OF MESSRS. HILTON AT DARWEN [PAGE 492
IN 1843.

1843

The spinning of cotton on the factory system was not introduced into Over Darwen before the beginning of this century. Mr. William Eccles, of Low Hill House, son of Mr. Thomas Eccles, of Princes, hand-loom manufacturer, built the oldest portion of the Bowling Green Mill about the year 1820. This mill was worked afterwards by Messrs. Carr, Hatton and Co., cotton-spinners, until the year 1830. The first power-looms had been set up in Over Darwen shortly before the loom-breaking riots in April, 1826, when the rioters came from Blackburn to Darwen, and broke thirty-six power-looms in a factory belonging to Mr. James Grime, and sixteen looms at the factory of Carr & Co. In 1830, Mr. Eccles Shorrocks, who had been partner in a cotton-spinning and manufacturing firm in Blackburn, settled in Over Darwen, having purchased Bowling Green Mill and the adjacent property of Mr. Carr. Mr. Shorrocks enlarged that mill, and carried on the manufacture there and at the New Mill, which he built in 1835. A few years before his death, in 1853, Mr. Shorrocks purchased Brookside Mill and the Darwen Paper Works, erected by the Hiltons; demolished portions of the latter works and on the site erected the large factory called Darwen Mill. Near the same spot the present firm of Shorrocks Brothers & Co. erected in 1867 the immense stone-built India Mills, which, with their massive Italian campanile chimney-shaft, 300 ft. high, form a striking architectural feature of the town. Within forty years other large cotton mills have been built in the township by important firms; and recently several extensive and well-appointed spinning mills have been erected by companies chiefly formed of the working-people. In 1867, thirty-six cotton-spinning and weaving mills were found in this township, employing 7,750 persons, and producing yarn and cloths valued at £2,541,000 annually. Since that return several new mills have been built and started, and the number of persons now employed in the cotton trade in Over Darwen can hardly be fewer than 9,000. A return made in February, 1876, gives the number of spindles in cotton mills in Over and Lower Darwen at 355,912, and of power-looms as 15,136.

The rise of the town of Over Darwen has been concurrent with the extension of the staple manufactures above-mentioned. A century ago there was no more than a mere village in the centre of the valley in which the town has spread out; besides which were three or four detached hamlets in the township at Chapels (surrounding the old Parochial Chapel and Nonconformist Meeting House), at Sough, Black-snape, and Hoddlesden. Prior to the construction of the present public road between Blackburn and Bolton, in the year 1797, the communication of Over Darwen northward and southward with these towns and with Manchester was by a narrow, circuitous, and ill-conditioned old

bye-road, passable only by pack-horses and pedestrians. The new road was a means of encouragement to external trading; and the construction of a railroad from Blackburn through Darwen to Bolton and Manchester in 1845-8, gave an additional importance to local manufactures. The Blackburn and Bolton road forms the main street of the town, and is flanked with buildings a distance of about two miles. The cotton factories and paper works are chiefly on the banks of the river Darwen; the streets of private houses and cottages ascend the hills on either side of the principal thoroughfare. Chiefly on the south-west side of the town, the mansions and villas of the gentry of Darwen occupy admirable situations on the knolls and slopes overlooking the glades and dingles at the base of the Darwen Moor, which form beautiful secluded shrubberies and plantations, enlivened by natural cascades. The town contains no public edifice of much architectural character excepting the places of worship, some of which are large and stately. The Co-operative Hall, the Market House and Liberal Club Rooms, and the Temperance Hall in course of erection, are the most important public structures for secular purposes.

The population of Over Darwen appears to have been not more than 500 or 600 souls in 1720. But the increase of population had begun to be material before the year 1795, when Dr. Aikin wrote of the place:—"This was formerly a small village, but is now a populous district, manufacturing a large quantity of cotton goods. It contains two printing works, and there are a proportional number of mechanics and shopkeepers." The subsequent progressive increase of inhabitants is shown in the returns of the Census from 1801 to 1871:—

	1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861	1871
Population -	3587	4411	6711	6972	9348	11,702	16,492	21,278

The rate of increase has been maintained since 1871, and in 1876 the population of Over Darwen may be computed at about 25,000.

The town is regulated by a Local Board of Health, which was constituted May 24th, 1854, and consists of eighteen members. The Board also acts as a Burial Board. The Public Cemetery, situate on the slope of the hill south of White Hall, was constructed in 1861; it has three mortuary chapels. The Gas Works were founded in the year 1839, at a cost of £8000, by a private company; but have been purchased on behalf of the town by the Local Board. The Waterworks, also originally constructed by a company, and since purchased for the town, have storage and service reservoirs in the valley below Darwen moor on the west side of the township, holding about 150,000,000 gallons of water. Public Baths, called "Peel Baths," were erected in 1854.

Over Darwen is the centre of a petty-sessional division of Blackburn Hundred, which also includes the surrounding townships of Tockholes, Lower Darwen, Eccleshill, and Yate-and-Pickup Bank. The County Magistrates acting for the division are R. S. Ashton, Joshua Baron, J. Dimmock, Richard Eccles, Jas. Huntington, J. G. Potter, W. B. Ranken, and Eccles Shorrocks, Esquires; and Revs. P. Graham and Chas. Greenway, M.A.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Over Darwen Free Public Library was established in 1871, in succession to a Mechanics' Institution, which was founded in 1839, and, after a successful existence of thirty-two years, was closed soon after the adoption of the Free Libraries Act by the ratepayers. The library of the Institution, consisting of 4000 volumes, was presented to the town, and formed a nucleus of the new Free Library. The Library is directed by a body of Eight Commissioners, half of whom are chosen annually at a ratepayers' meeting. A Library rate of 1d. in the pound upon the assessment of the township is levied yearly, and produces a sum of about £235, which covers the expenses of working. In 1876, after five years' operation, the Library contained 6000 volumes, and the annual number of volumes issued was about 20,000, to more than 2000 borrowers. The Free Library is housed in suitable rooms at the offices of the Local Board of Health. Wm. Snape, Esq., is Chairman of the Library Commissioners; and Mr. F. G. Hindle is Clerk.

A catastrophe memorable in the annals of Over Darwen happened on Wednesday, August 23rd, 1848, when by the bursting of the embankment of the reservoir below Radfield Fold, after a great storm of rain on the moors above, the lower parts of the town were overwhelmed by the suddenly liberated waters. Twelve persons were drowned in the flood, and the damage to property along its course was immense.

An extensive Art Exhibition, projected by Rev. James Macdougall, and very successfully carried out by a committee of local gentlemen, was opened in the India Mills by Lord Hartington, on May 7th, 1868, and was continued during the summer months of that year; the net proceeds, a sum of £1112, were added to a fund for the erection of the Bolton Road Congregational Schools.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR.

I have stated before that immediately after the Norman settlement the two upland tracts of Upper and Nether Derwent were not reckoned distinct manors, but were subordinate parts with Walton-in-le-Dale of one extensive knight's fee, which also embraced Mellor, Eccleshill, and

Harwood in this parish. This fee was held by the De Lascys, lords of Clitheroe, until, early on in the 12th century, Henry de Lascy by his charter granted Walton with its members, including the two Derwents, to Robert Banastre, who also held the lordship of Newton in Makerfield. The Banastres held Darwen with Walton until, near the close of the 13th century, the descent ended with an heiress, by marriage with whom, John Langton, son of Robert of Langton, Co. Leicester, brought this domain to the Langtons; who held Walton until its conveyance, in the 16th century, to Hoghton, of Hoghton. But Upper Darwen, as a detached dependency of Walton manor, had been granted away, on an inferior tenure, in two parts to the Hollands, lords of Samlesbury, and De Keurdales, lords of Cuerdale, before the year 1311, when, on the inquisition concerning the estates subject to Earl de Lascy of Clitheroe Castle, it was returned:—

The heirs of Samlesbury and of Keuersdale hold one carucate in On Derwent, by the eighth part of a knight's fee and suit of the Court of Clyderhow.

The heir of Samlesbury was then Sir Robert de Holland, Knt.; and on the death of a succeeding Sir Robert de Holland in 1372, it was found that he owned, among his large estates, the fourth part of the manor of Over Derwent, held of Ralph de Langeton by homage and fealty, worth yearly 6s. 8d. This parcel of Over Darwen manor remained with successive lords of Samlesbury, and in the 15th century the Southworths of Samlesbury Hall appear as possessing the share formerly pertaining to the Hollands.

The heir of Cuerdale in 1311 was Adam de Keurdale; his portion of demesne in Over Darwen descended to the heiress Jane de Keurdale, who married Thomas Molineux. Thomas Molineux, in 1377, was holding, in right of his wife, a moiety of Over Derwent. His granddaughter Katherine was heiress of Cuerdale and the part of this manor, which by marriage with Alexander Osbaldeston she carried to the house of Osbaldeston.

Between the Osbaldestons of Osbaldeston, and the Southworths of Samlesbury, each claiming rights in the reputed manor of Over Darwen, a feud subsisted long, and more than once proceeded to physical strife leading to litigation. There was a suit between the families respecting their rights to the common and waste land of the township *temp.* Henry VI., when Geoffrey Osbaldeston, Esq., was against Richard Southworth, Esq. About a century later (in 1556) the contest again waxed hot, and the parties had recourse to the Duchy Court for a judgment. The account of those proceedings respecting Over Darwen Waste in the 3rd and 4th Philip and Mary (1556) I summarise from the records of the Chancery Court of Lancaster:—

Petition of complainant to Rt. Hon. Robert Rochester, Knt., Comptroller and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, sheweth, that John Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq., Orator, was son of Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, Knt., deceased, who was seized of the Manor or Lordship of Over Darwynd, which said Manor descended to said Orator as son and heir, who entered into possession and is seized of the same, &c.; but that divers deeds, evidences, &c., of the estate had come into possession of Sir John Southworth, Knt., who by colour thereof, &c., about the 20th May, 1st and 2nd Philip and Mary (1554), wrongfully entered into a parcel of waste ground called Darwynd Moore, containing by estimation 6,000 acres, and the gresse [grass] of Orator there growing had eaten by his beasts and cattle, and also digged turves upon the said moor or waste to the amount of 1,000 lodes and above, and the same with force had carried away. And although said Orator had often required Sir John Southworth to deliver the said evidences, &c., and to pay for the said wrongs, the said Sir John did yet deny to do so; so that Orator cannot occupy nor enjoy the said moor or waste ground, to his great hurt and damage; and said Orator knoweth not the contents of the said evidences, nor wherein they be contained; he is therefore without remedy by common law for the recovery thereof. Royal letters of commission to sundry gentlemen had been issued, authorising them to call Sir John Southworth, and to take his answer on his oath; to examine witnesses, and thereupon to make an end thereof.

Sir John Southworth made answer to the said Bill that Sir Thomas Southworth, Knt., his father deceased, was lawfully seized in his demesne as of fee or fee payle with the Rt. Hon. Edward Earl of Derby by lawful conveyance in the law of the 4th part of the said Manor or Moor called Darwyn Moore, &c.

Depositions were taken at Preston, June 6th, 3rd and 4th Phil. and Mary (1556) before Thomas Langton, Knt., and others, Commissioners of the King and Queen concerning the matter in variance between John Osbaldeston, complainant, and John Southworth, Knt., defendant.

The depositions on the part of John Osbaldeston, plaintiff, were those of Christopher Horrocks of Turton; Lawrence Pycop, of Lower Darwynd, tenant to Richard Levesey, gent., of the age of 72 years; Christopher Walmsley, of Levesey, freeholder to Richard Levesey, gent., of the age of 70 years; John Crosse of Over Darwynd; Henry Hyndyll, priest, of the age of 65 years; John Pyllyn, of Over Darwen, tenant of John Osbaldeston, aged 63 years; and of Edmonde Barton of Over Darwynd, freeholder to complainant, of the age of 43 years (who, among other matters, deposed that the said Manor and demesne were of the yearly value of £20 to complainant, and the lands there of defendant were of the yearly value of 30s. or thereabouts). The deposition of Mr. John Crosse contains the chief facts deposed for the complainant.

John Crosse of Over Darwynd, of the age of 66 years, &c., saith that he knoweth the lordship of the Manor of Over Darwynd, and the Waste Ground now in variance, called Darwynd Moss. That Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, father to complainant, and his ancestors have been taken, reputed, and known as the only owners of the said Manor and Waste, and the said Sir Alexander was owner of the same at the time of his death. That the said Manor or lordship after the death of Sir Alexander came to John Osbaldeston as his son and heir; that John Osbaldeston did keep six years past a Court at Over Darwen aforesaid in his own name, without stop or let; that deponent hath heard his father say that the ancestors of John Osbaldeston kept Court in like manner; that Sir John Southworth was called to appear at the Court kept by John Osbaldeston, and that Lawrence Gorton, Rauff Baron and Henry Duckesbury,

tenants-at-will to Sir John Southworth, appeared at the said Court, &c.; that John Osbaldeston and his ancestors have always used to appoint the Constables in the said lordship of Over Darwynd as only lords, &c.; that John Osbaldeston hath enclosed parcel of the said Waste without any let of defendant, and that Sir Alexander his father likewise enclosed other parcels of the said Waste, and the tenants do occupy the same at the liberty of the said John Osbaldeston; that complainant and his ancestors have used to cause the said Waste to be driven, and the beasts and cattle of strangers, dwelling out of the said lordship, to be pynden or folden there in a pynfold belonging to the said John Osbaldeston; that divers persons out of the said lordship have asked leave of Sir Alexander Osbaldeston to get turves and slate in the said Moss, and that Sir Alexander had caused such got without his leave to be cut and broken; that Sir Thomas Southworth, father of defendant, did cause certain turves gotten on the said More by tenants of one Thomas Grymeslaw to be cut and destroyed, and that deponent was present when one Henry Mawdesley, servant to the said Sir Thomas, did aske the leave of the said Sir Alexander so to do, because of divers displeasures the said Grymeslaw had done to the said Sir Thomas; that at such time as any contention or bargain heretofore hath been, concerning the knowledge of the meres and bounds of the said Moss or Waste, between the said lordship and other lordships adjoining, the said John Osbaldeston and his ancestors have only taken on them in their own name and right to defend the said Manor as lords thereof; that deponent's father and other men of the said lordship report and say that such variance as was in times past between one Richard Southworth, ancestor to said defendant, and one Geffraye Osbaldeston, ancestor to said complainant, was for and about the said More and Waste now in variance; that during his remembrance the said John Osbaldeston and his ancestors have always used and occupied the chief house and Mansion Place of Over Darwynd and the demesne belonging thereto commonly called Darwynd Hall in severalty as sole tenants thereof.

Depositions on the part of Sir John Southworth, the defendant, were made by William Yate of Eccleshill, aged 70, tenant to Rauf Holden, Esq. (who "hath done service to Sir John Southworth and his father before him because of his libertie upon the Waste and Moor in varyance"); also by William Shorrocke, of Eccleshill, aged 66; Edward Baron of Eccleshill, tenant to Richard Grimshaw, gent., aged 50; Roger Walmesley of Samlesbury, tenant to Sir John Southworth, aged 70; William Fyssh of Lower Darwynd, tenant to Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt., aged 72; George Aspeden of Lower Darwynd, tenant to Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt., aged 76; and George Southworth of Edgeworth, tenant to Edward Tyldesley, Esq., aged 56 years.

The award in this case does not appear; but in the category of the estates of Sir John Southworth, who died in 1595, I find no mention of manorial estate in Over Darwen, from which it may be inferred that the Southworths had before then ceased to exercise manorial rights in the township. The Osbaldestons were recognised as lords of the manor at the escheat on the death of John Osbaldeston, Esq., in 1575, and again at the death of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in 1590. The latter, Edward Osbaldeston, in his Will dated June 18th, 1588, bequeaths "unto my miller and shepperde in Darwin, which shall be at the time of my decease," one year's wages; an indication that the then lord of the manor had a mill in Over Darwen, and that the hills sur-

rounding were then a sheep-run, and the lord's flock thereon was tended by his own shepherd. About A.D. 1593, Sir Richard Shuttleworth of Gawthorp purchased of John Osbaldeston, Esq., lands in Darwen and Eccleshill; and an entry in the Shuttleworth Household Books relates to payment for the same:—"March, 1593. Payed Mr. Osbaldeston in parte pamente for certen lands in Eccleshill and Derwen to the yerelye rent of £3 6s., the somme of £15, and remenethe more to be payed for the said landes the somme of £170, besides the redeming of the annuitie with the arreriges of the same, which is valued to the somme of £120, so that good assurance is to be made of the said landes." By an indenture in the Darwen Free Library, dated 1602, it is witnessed that John Osbaldeston, Esq., by deed of lease dated July 7th, 1595, had leased to William Witton a messuage and lands in Over Darwen, with common of pasture and turbary upon the moors and commons there. Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., of Osbaldeston Hall, occurs as reputed lord of Over Darwen in 1611 and 1619, when John Baron and John his son held at death lands there "of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in socage." At Sir Edward Osbaldeston's death, in 1636, he was found seized of Over Darwen manor, with "six acres lately improved from the Waste in Over Darwen."

It would seem that the Hoghtons of Hoghton Tower, as lords of Walton-in-le-Dale in succession to the Langtons, exercised certain rights of lordship in Over Darwen in the 17th century; for William Fische, who died in 1616, held his estate of "Richard Hoghton, knt. and bart., in free socage;" and John Crosse, gent., who died in 1641, held "of Gilbert Hoghton, knt. and bart., as of Walton manor, in socage." "White Hall," an old mansion which has in one of its walls a stone inscribed "R H," and the date "1614," may occupy the site of the ancient messuage pertaining to the lordship of Langtons and Hoghtons.

I cannot give the date at which this manor was alienated from the Osbaldestons, but think it was about the middle of last century, after the death of Alexander Osbaldeston in 1747. The Manor of Over Darwen was offered for sale in 1766, as appears by the following advertisement, copied from the *Manchester Mercury* for July 22nd, 1766:—

To be sold, the Manor or Lordship of Over Darwen in the County of Lancaster and Parish of Blackburn, on the 28th day of August next, at the House of Mr. John Yates, the sign of the Black Bull in Blackburn, with reversions to the value of £300 per annum or thereabouts. The Lordship is well stocked with Game. Under most of the Estate there is Coal, and the purchaser will be entitled to the Common Right of about 300 acres, under which there is coal also.

The manor of Over Darwen was acquired upon this transfer by John Trafford, Esq., of the family of Trafford of Croston and Trafford.

Mr. Trafford sometime resided upon this estate, and in the absence of an ancient manor-house, he erected a house upon the easterly edge of Darwen Moor, overlooking the valley of the Darwen. The house is known as "Lord's Hall;" but it had not long been the abode of Mr. Trafford before he left the township and re-sold the estate to George Duckworth, Esq., about the year 1810. "Lord's Hall" is now reduced to the purpose of a keeper's lodge. Its situation is very bleak and dreary, being at an elevation of 1200 feet above the sea-level. The estate of the lord of the manor is stated in the new "Domesday Book" to comprise 1032 statute acres, with a rental of £1,485, but there are about 300 acres of waste appurtenant to the estate.

DUCKWORTH, LORDS OF OVER DARWEN MANOR.

George Duckworth, Esq., who purchased this manorial estate, was of the family of Duckworth of Musbury, in Rossendale Forest, who trace a descent from Richard Duckworth, who had granted an estate there in the 30th Henry VIII. (1538). Thomas Duckworth was Greave of Rossendale Forest in 1572. Later, John Duckworth was Greave of the Forest in 1707; and another John Duckworth of Park House, Greave in 1735. Lawrence Duckworth of Musbury, was Greave of the Forest in 1775.

George Duckworth, Esq., died Nov. 21st, 1815. He had sons, Samuel, and William; and daughters, Eliza; and Anna, wife of Sir Thomas Coltman, Judge of the Common Pleas.

Samuel Duckworth, Esq., a barrister-at-law, and sometime M.P. for Leicester, and a master in Chancery, died unmarried, Dec. 3rd, 1847.

William Duckworth, Esq., J.P., of Beechwood Forest, Co. Hants., lord of Over Darwen Manor, born April 6th, 1795; married, first, Oct. 3rd, 1825, Hester-Emily, daughter of Robert Philips, Esq., of the Park, Prestwich (she died in 1835), by whom he had sons, George, born July 29th, 1826, captain 5th Dragoon Guards, died at Varna Bay, Aug. 24th, 1854; William-Arthur, born March 17th, 1829; Russell, born in 1830; and Herbert, born in 1833; also a daughter, Sarah Emily. Mr. Duckworth married, secondly, Margaret Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Yate Benyon, Esq., K.C., Vice-Chancellor Co. Palatine of Lancashire.

FAMILIES OF GENTRY AND YEOMEN.

I add some account of a number of ancient and modern residential families of gentry and freeholders in the township:—

ASHTON OF BLACKBURN AND OVER DARWEN.

Richard Ashton of Blackburn, married, Aug. 1st, 1665, Ann Haworth; he probably was father of John Ashton, of Blackburn, who had a son Richard, bapt. at Blackburn Church, Feb. 22nd, 1694-5, and other issue.

Richard Ashton of Blackburn, son of John, by his wife Elizabeth had issue, John, bapt. April 21st, 1722; Richard, bapt. Nov. 23rd, 1729; and several other children.

Richard Ashton of Blackburn, second son of Richard, by Betty his wife had (with other issue) a son Richard, bapt. Oct. 10th, 1762.

Richard Ashton, of Blackburn, son of the last-named, married Ann Livesey, and had two sons, William, born Oct. 4th, 1790; and Thomas, born Feb. 13th, 1798, bapt. at Chapel-street Chapel, Blackburn, Feb. 28th; with other issue.

William Ashton of Blackburn, cotton manufacturer, eldest son of Richard, married, in May, 1823, Susannah, youngest daughter of Joseph Barker of Beardwood Fold, Blackburn (by his wife Catherine, daughter of Mr. John Hindle of Oswald-twistle), and had sons, Richard, died, aged 4, in April, 1821; Joseph; and William Thomas, born in 1832; and several daughters. Mr. William Ashton died in his 43rd year, September 9th, 1835. His widow, Mrs. Ashton, died in 1871.

Mr. William Thomas Ashton, of Ashdale, Over Darwen, son of Mr. William Ashton, married, in 1860, Lydia Grace, eldest daughter of Mr. Henry Deakin, of Souton Hall, Wem, Shropshire, and has issue, sons, Henry Deakin, Sidney Antrobus, William; and several daughters.

Mr. Thomas Ashton of Darwen Lodge, third son of Richard Ashton of Blackburn, married, first, Mary, daughter of Mr. Ralph Shorrock, and sister of Eccles Shorrock, Esq., of Over Darwen, and by her (who died in 1829, buried at Chapel-street Chapel, Blackburn, March 4th) had issue, sons, Eccles Shorrock Ashton, and Ralph Shorrock Ashton; and a daughter Alice. Mr. Thomas Ashton married, secondly, Miss Hannah Shorrock, and had issue, sons, William Shorrock Ashton, James Christopher Ashton; and several daughters. Thomas Ashton, Esq., died in 1864, aged 65.

Eccles Shorrock, eldest son of Thomas, on the death of his uncle, dropped the paternal surname of Ashton, taking Shorrock for surname. Eccles Shorrock, Esq., J.P., of Low Hill House, Over Darwen, married, in 1851, Sarah Anne, daughter of Timothy Dimmock, Esq., of Hanley, Staffordshire, and has issue, sons, Eccles, Lionel, and Howard; and several daughters.

Ralph Shorrock Ashton, Esq., J.P., of Woodlands, Over Darwen, second son of Thomas, married, Sept. 22nd, 1852, Betsy, eldest daughter of James Shorrock, Esq., of Astley Bank, and has issue sons, Percy, Hubert, and other children.

William Shorrock Ashton, Esq., of Ashleigh, Over Darwen, third son of Thomas, married, Aug. 10th, 1859, Sophia Elizabeth, daughter of John Whalley, Esq., of Old Trafford, and has, with other issue, sons, Frank, Thomas-Rudolph, and Gerald-Whalley.

The landed estates of Eccles Shorrock, Esq., at present include, in Over Darwen, 400 statute acres; in Lower Darwen, 290 acres; and in Tockholes, the manorial estate of 890 acres. Ralph Shorrock Ashton, Esq., has a landed estate of 80 statute acres in this township.

ASTLEY OF OVER DARWEN.

Ralph Astley, of this township, died before 1642, when inquisition was taken at Blackburn, Aug. 31st, 17th Charles I., as to the estate of Ralph Astley and Margery his wife. It was proved to consist of a messuage, garden, and 24 acres of land, meadow, pasture, moor and moss in Over Darwen, held of Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Knt. and Bart., in socage. Thomas Astley, Ralph's son and heir, was aged 24 years and 6 months.

BARON OF OVER DARWEN AND ECCLESHILL.

Of this family, a Richard Baron occurs in 1562, and a William Baron in 1565, but there is no account of the nature of their property.

Edmund Baron was assessed on lands in Over Darwen to a Subsidy in 1570.

John Baron of Over Derwent, yeoman, died September 6th, 1611, and an inquisition after his death, taken at Preston, April 4th, 9th James I. (1612), showed that the deceased held in Over Derwent, of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in socage, two messuages and an estate called "Baron's Ouldlande," comprising 30 acres of land, 10 of meadow, 10 of pasture and 3 of moor and moss; as well as 4 messuages, 20 acres of land, 6 of meadow, and 6 of pasture, also in Over Derwent, and now belong-

ing to Edward Osbaldeston, Esq.; and in Eccleshill, held of the king as of the Duchy of Lancaster, 12 acres of land, meadow and pasture.

James Baron was son and heir of the above John, aged 14 years and 10 months at his father's death. In the Subsidy of 1611, "the heirs of John Baron" of Over Darwen, are assessed at 20s. in lands. This James Baron died on the 26th January, 1619-20, at the early age of twenty-three. His escheat was returned at Blackburn, April 6th, 17th James I., before Edward Rigby, Esq., Escheator, and it appeared that deceased had held in Over Darwen, of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in socage, 5 messuages, 10 gardens, 20 acres of land, 12 of meadow, 12 of pasture, and 10 of moss and heath; and in Eccleshill, of Nicholas Grymshaw, Esq., in socage, 10 acres of land, 16 of meadow, and 6 of pasture. James Baron had no male heir, and it was proved that Alice Baron and Elizabeth Baron were his daughters and co-heirs, aged 3½ years, and four months, respectively.

BARTON OF BARTON HOUSE, &c.

Samuel Barton of Over Darwen, gent., fifth son of Mr. George Barton, of Torkington (of the Bartons of Dean Water and Stapleton), had issue, sons, Benjamin, born in 1746; and Thomas, the latter died in February, 1761; and a daughter, Sarah, married, July 26th, 1759, Rev. George Astley, of Preston, and Stakes Hall, Livesey. Samuel Barton, gent., was buried Sept. 29th, 1768.

Benjamin Barton, of "Brick House," Over Darwen, "chapman" and "gent." by his wife Margaret, who died Dec. 18th, 1818, aged 68, had issue, a son Samuel, and daughters, Elizabeth, died young; Amelia, married in 1816, Mr. James Crompton; Ann, died Feb. 1785, aged 3; Mary, died June, 1788, aged one year; and Sarah, married Mr. Alexander McGhie, and died Feb. 16th, 1848, aged 68. Mr. Benjamin Barton died April 28th, 1821, aged 74.

Mr. Samuel Barton, of Manchester, surgeon and oculist, was the son of Mr. Benjamin Barton. He was for fifty years surgeon of the Eye Institution, and died, aged 81, in April, 1871. He had sons, Benjamin Barton, Esq., merchant in the city of Mexico; Samuel Milner Barton, of Manchester, solicitor, assistant clerk to the Manchester Justices; and Rev. James Barton, now Vicar of Hedley, Co. Salop.

BRANDWOOD OF TURNCROFT.

William Brandwood, of Entwistle, married Jane, daughter of Richard Orrell, of Entwistle. He had sons, John, born in 1784, and James, born in 1793.

Mr. John Brandwood, who settled in Over Darwen, purchased the Turncroft estate of Mr. Sudell, of Blackburn. By Ann his wife (she died Aug. 27th, 1822, aged 33), Mr. John Brandwood had issue, sons, William, born in 1813, died, aged 43, April 23rd, 1857; Thomas, born in 1816, died in 1819; and a second James, born in 1821, died, aged 27, March 12th, 1849; and daughters, Ann, born in 1820, died in 1821; and Jane, born in 1815, married, first, Eccles Shorrocks, Esq., secondly, Rev. Philip Graham, and died without issue, at Turncroft, aged 52, April 17th, 1867. John Brandwood, Esq., died at Turncroft, Nov. 12th, 1857, aged 73 years.

James Brandwood, Esq., J.P., of Turncroft, brother of John, died unmarried, aged 62, Dec. 13th, 1855.

The Turncroft estate now consists of 256 statute acres, with a rental of £1317.

BURY OF BURY FOLD, &c.

William Berre was assessed on his lands in Darwyn Superior to a Subsidy in 1523. A succeeding William Berye was taxed to a Subsidy in 1570. Another William Berye of this township, married, in 1625, Alice Yates, widow, and had issue. Andrew Burye, of Over Darwen, had a son Henry, born in 1653.

William Berry, of this township, and Henry Berry, being Nonconformists, had their houses licensed for preaching places in 1672.

Andrew Berry, of Over Darwen, yeoman, died in 1705. Mary, his wife, died in 1700. Another Andrew Berry, yeoman, died in 1727.

A succeeding Andrew Berry, yeoman, married, June 11th, 1701, Jennet Yates, of Eccleshill, widow. He had issue, sons, Andrew; William, born in 1703, died, aged 59, Aug. 23rd, 1762; Richard, born in 1708; Edmund, died in 1719; and Thomas, died in 1725; and a daughter Ann, born in 1706. This Andrew Berry, yeoman, a trustee of the Lower Chapel, Over Darwen, in 1718, died July 30th, 1753, in his 82nd year. Jennet Berry, his widow, died May 6th, 1755, in her 84th year.

Andrew Berry, of Berry Fold, son of Andrew, married Jane Townshend, and died in 1749. He had sons, Andrew, born in 1721; John; and Edmund, died in 1755.

John Berry, yeoman, a younger son of the last-named Andrew, married, in 1753, Ann Folds, and had sons, Andrew, born in 1754; John Berry (of Holly Bank, who died, aged 82, in 1845); James; and Thomas. John Berry the father died in 1783. Andrew Berry, of Over Darwen, his eldest son, died, aged 82, in 1836.

Andrew Berry, yeoman, of Berry Fold and Catshaw, died Dec. 25th, 1801. He had married, in 1744, Ann Buckley, of Livesey, by whom (she died a widow, aged 78, in 1802), he had sons, John, born in 1752; Andrew, born in 1755; Edmund, born in 1760; Benjamin, born in 1762; and Lawrence, born in 1764.

Andrew Bury, of Bury Fold, yeoman, was second son of the last-named Andrew. He died Jan. 8th, 1819, aged 63. By Nanny, his wife, who died in March, 1808, he had sons, Walmsley, born in 1778, died in 1821; Andrew, born in 1779; Hugh, born in 1781, died in April, 1808.

Lawrence Bury, of Bury Fold, son of Andrew, married Eleanor Bury, and had sons, Lawrence, and Edmund. Lawrence Bury, died, aged 62, about the year 1829.

Lawrence Bury, of Bury Fold, son of Lawrence, died some years ago. His brother, Edmund Bury, of Bury Fold, died, aged 54, Nov. 28th, 1854. He married Jane Shorrocks, who is now living a widow at Bury Fold, and farms the remnant of the old family freehold, containing about 36 statute acres.

COOPER OF OVER DARWEN.

Roger Cooper, of Over Darwen, yeoman, occurs in a deed dated 1602. Richard Cooper of Darwen, was a warden of Blackburn Church in 1687.

John Cooper of Over Darwen, yeoman, died July 2nd, buried at Darwen Chapel, July 5th, 1736, aged 59; by his wife Ann (died June 30th, buried July 3rd, 1736, aged 40), he had issue, Thomas, Elizabeth, Mary, and Sarah.

Thomas Cooper of Over Darwen, yeoman, by Alice his wife had sons, Singleton, bapt. Feb. 17th, 1736-7; and Benjamin, bapt. March 10th, 1740-1. Thomas Cooper died, aged 36, Feb. 2nd, 1745.

CROSSE OF TURNCROFT.

Richard Crosse, a trustee of the Earl of Derby's Chantry in Blackburn Church, founded in 1514, is the earliest member of this family noted. Richard Crosse of Upper Darwen was assessed on lands there to the Subsidy of 1523.

John Crosse, of Upper Darwen, was a deponent in the suit concerning Darwen Manor in 1556, when he was aged 66 years, so must have been born in 1490. William Crosse, of Over Darwen, was assessed for lands to a Subsidy in 1570. Probably this was the William Cross, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, who died in 1599. By Katherine his wife, daughter of (William?) Astley of Stakes, gent., he had a son and heir, John.

John Crosse, of Turncroft, gent., married Elizabeth (or Isabel), daughter of (Ralph?) Holden of Holden, gent., and had a son and heir Richard; also, I think, a son John. John Crosse was taxed to the Subsidy in 1611, and appears as a juror in 1612. He was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1599. He died in April, 1641, buried at Blackburn April 10th. He gave by Will £10 for the minister of Darwen Chapel. His escheat was taken at Blackburn, Aug. 31st, 17th Chas. I. The Jurors returned that John Crosse had held of Sir Gilbert Hoghton Knt. and Bart., as of Walton Manor, in socage, value 40s., one capital messuage called Turncroft in Over Darwen, with two gardens, one orchard, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, and 4 acres of more and moss, in Over Darwen; also, another estate in the township of ten messuages, five cottages, 20 gardens, 100 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, and 40 acres of moss and turbarry. Isabell Cross, his widow, was then living at Darwen.

Richard Cross, of Over Darwen, gent., son and heir of John, aged 40 in 1642, married Mary Ramsden, of Halifax, and had a son John, with other issue. William Cross, of Over Darwen, who died Aug. 7th, 1658, would be a kinsman of this Richard.

John Cross, of Over Darwen, gent., son of Richard, was assessed to the Subsidy of 1663. He married, first, Millicent, daughter of Thomas Astley, of Stakes, gent. (she died in July, 1652), and by her had a son William, and daughters, Mary, Margaret, and Millicent. His second wife was Margaret Whittham (named otherwise Margaret Hargreave of Goodshaw), whom he married in April, 1656. At the time of this marriage, the civil marriages before the magistrate were in vogue, and the banns were published at the Market Cross; thus recorded, ex.gr., in the Parish Registers:—"Called at the Markett Crosse in Blackburne (last time), April 21, 1656, John, son of Richard Crosse of Upper Darwen, gentleman, and Margaret Whittham of the same." By this wife, Mr. John Cross had sons, Thomas, born July 3rd, bapt. at his own house, July 14th, 1657; George, and John.

William Cross, of Upper Darwen, gent., eldest son of John, married, first, Ann Rogers, widow, daughter of — Bold of Carnarvon; the marriage was at Leyland, Aug. 28th, 1666. He had by her sons, John, bapt. at Leyland, July 10th, 1667; William, born in 1669; and Thomas; with daughters, Jane, born June, 1668; Grace; Gaynor, died in 1687; and Millicent. "Anne wife of William Cross, of Upper Darwen," was buried Dec. 5th, 1674. A second wife, "Margaret wife of William Cross of Over Darwen, Esq.," was buried Oct. 31st, 1692. It was this Mr. William Cross who, in the year 1687, took the leading part in the contest with the Vicar of Blackburn, for the possession of the chapel of St. James, Over Darwen, claimed by Nonconformist parishioners. He was buried at Blackburn, March 8th, 1697-8.

John Cross of Over Darwen, Esq., son of William, married Ann, daughter of Ralph Egerton, of Turton, Esq.; the marriage license is dated April 27th, 1689. Issue:—sons, Bold Cross, born in 1690; Egerton, born in 1691; Mainwaring, born in 1700; and Thomas, born in 1702; daughters, Gaynor, born in 1693; Elizabeth, born in 1697; and Mary Herbert, born in 1699, married Mr. Abel Fitchcroft—her Will is dated Feb. 29th, 1768. John Cross, Esq., died in 1706; his Will is dated April 27th, 1706, and was proved in that year. Testator names all the children above enumerated as then living.

Mr. Egerton Cross, second son of John, was father of Egerton Cross, Esq., of Kersley Hall, major in the Royal Lancashire Militia, who was heir to his aunt Mrs. Fitchcroft in 1768, and died, aged 70, in Nov., 1803. His sister, Ann Cross, died, aged 82, Jan 29th, 1814.

DEWHURST OF OVER DARWEN.

William Dewhurst of this township, yeoman, died June 10th, 1634. Escheat inquisition taken Aug. 25th, 16th Chas. I., proved him seized at death of one messuage, two gardens, 16 acres of arable land, 4 acres of pasture in Over Darwen. John Dewhurst, his son and heir, was aged 22 years at the date of his father's death.

FISH OF CHAPELS, &c.

Three centuries back I trace tenants or freeholders of the name of Fish in Over Darwen. One of the earliest is Ralph fishe, who is named in the Will of Edward Osbaldeston, made in 1588, as holding under the Osbaldestons, lords of Darwen Manor, "one parcell of grounde lying betweene Soughe and Coubron tenement in Over Darwin."

About the same date lived John fishe, whose wife died in 1604, and Lawrence fishe, buried Aug. 8th, 1603.

William Fishe, of Over Darwen, is the first who appears as a landowner in the township. He died June 21st, 1616, and at an Inquisition as to his estate, taken at Chorley, the 9th Jan., 14 James I., it was attested that the deceased William Fishe had held of Richard Hoghton, Knt. and Bart., in free socage, one messuage, one garden, and 20 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Over Darwen. Ellen Fishe, widow of William, was then living at Over Darwen; and James Fishe, aged one year, two months, and nineteen days, was William's son and heir.

James Fishe of Upper Darwen, who died Dec. 1689, may perhaps have been the same with the infant heir, James Fishe, of 1616.

But there were others of the name, distinct from William Fishe's family, resident in Darwen in the reigns of the first two Stuarts. Ralph Fish, possibly a son of the Ralph of 1588, had an estate in the township up till his death, which happened about 1623. The after-death Inquisition, taken at Blackburn, 8th April, 21st James I., shewed that Ralph Fish, deceased, possessed in Over Darwen one messuage, one garden, 10 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, 5 acres of pasture, and 4 acres of moss. He left no male heir, but two daughters, co-heiresses, viz., Augusta, the wife of James Cunliffe and Margery Fish.

Next I note Thomas Fishe, of Over Darwen, also a small freeholder. He died June 2nd, 7th Charles I (1631); his wife—"Uxor Thomæ ffshe de Upper Darwen," had been buried at Blackburn, Nov. 16th, 1623. The escheat, taken at Blackburn, April 24th, 9th Charles I., returned that Thomas Fishe had died seized of one barn, with 12 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Over Darwen, and 6 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Livesey, late improved from the waste of Livesey.

Thomas Fishe, aged 30 years and above in 1633, was son and heir of the above Thomas. He had a son John, born in 1634. The names of both Thomas Fish and John Fish are affixed to the petition on behalf of Vicar Clayton in 1660. The following notes of subsequent members are the sum of my information respecting the families of Fish in Darwen:—John Fish married Agnes Walsh, Aug. 21, 1632. William Fish of Upper Darwen was living in 1676. John Fish of Upper Darwen, yeoman and chapman, conveyed, in 1718, a plot of land to be the site for a new Nonconformist Meeting House, in Clarke's Field, on his estate. At Chapels, in Darwen, stands an old messuage, no doubt once the residence of this John Fish; a stone in the wall having the initials "I F E" (John and Ellen or Elizabeth Fish) and the date "1725." John Fish of Upper Darwen, chapman, had a son John, bapt. May 15th, 1702. This son was John Fish of Upper Darwen, chapman, who, by Jane his wife, had a son John, born in 1726. I also meet with a Ralph Fish of Upper Darwen, afterwards of

Blackburn, chapman, who married, Feb. 9th, 1697-8, Mary Wilkinson, of Blackburn, and had sons, Richard, born in 1699, and Ralph, born in 1701. Thomas Fish of Upper Darwen, chapman, was living in 1704. Ralph Fish, of Over Darwen, whose wife Nanny died in March, 1790, was buried Feb. 16th, 1796, aged 62.

GREENWAY OF LIVESEY FOLD, DARWEN BANK, &c.

Mr. James Greenway of Livesey Fold, in this township, calico-printer, who died, aged 82, May 18th, 1821, had sons, James and Charles.

Mr. James Greenway built the house at Darwen Bank for his residence. He was born Feb. 21st, 1777; married Oct. 7th, 1822, Miss Esther Edge, of Rusholme (she died in 1859), and died without issue, aged 89, July 8th, 1866, leaving his estate to his nephew, Rev. Charles Greenway.

Charles Greenway, Esq., of Ardwick and Darwen, brother of James, married, first, Ann, daughter of John Grimshaw, Esq., of Preston (she died, aged 39, in 1827), and had a son Charles, and several daughters; and, secondly, July 23rd, 1828, Mary Eliza, daughter of John Poole, Esq., of Manchester. His youngest daughter, Louisa Dorothea, married, in 1845, Rev. John Congreve, B.A.

Rev. Charles Greenway, M.A., of Darwen Bank, son of Charles, and heir to his uncle, James Greenway, Esq., is a Justice of the Peace for the county. Mr. Greenway was incumbent of St. James's Church, from 1851 to 1868. His estates in Over Darwen comprise 245 statute acres; and in Lower Darwen and Eccleshill 45 and 25 acres respectively.

HARGREAVE OF HODDLESDEN, &c.

George Hargreave of Haslingden, mercer, born in 1690, died Nov. 20th, 1725, was father of—

George Hargreave of Haslingden, gent., who married Mary, daughter and co-heir of James Marsden of Hoddlesden, gent. (she died Jan. 6th, 1796, aged 75), and had issue, sons, George; Marsden bapt. Feb. 14th, 1749; James bapt. July 7th, 1752; Oliver, born in 1754; John (of Manchester), born in 1755, died in 1797; and Henry, born in 1756, died at Haslingden, in 1828, having married Jenny, daughter of Mr. James Holt of Bridge-end; and daughters, Mary, wife of Mr. Wm. Douglas, banker, of Old Hall, Pendleton; Elizabeth, died in infancy; and Alice, born in 1757, married, in 1794, Edward Chew, Esq. Mr. George Hargreave died, aged 42, Oct. 14th, 1758. George Hargreave of Hoddlesden, gent., eldest son of George, bapt. Nov. 18th, 1747, married, in 1783, Mary, second daughter and co-heir of Wm. Hart of Ulverstone, gent.; and had issue, sons, George, born in 1787, died aged 11, in 1798; and Oliver, born Oct. 16th, 1788; and daughters, Maria, born in 1785, died in 1795; Eleanor, born Feb. 13th, 1790, married April 17th, 1832, Rev. Stephen Reay, sometime incumbent of Haslingden, sub-librarian of the Bodleian, Oxford, and died (as did her husband) in Jan., 1861; and Eliza, born in 1791, died, aged 81, in 1872. Mr. George Hargreave was made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1773, and died at Bolton, aged 49, Nov. 27th, 1796. His widow died Aug. 13th, 1835.

Oliver Hargreave, Esq., M.A., of Trin. Coll., Cambridge, of Hoddlesden and of Abbots' Langley, Co. Herts., married, first, Elizabeth Rattray, who died in 1841; secondly, in 1842, Elizabeth, daughter of Wm. Bayne, Esq., widow of George Ranken, of Tavistock, Esq., and dying without issue by either marriage, Oct. 17th, 1858, aged 70, the Hoddlesden estate passed to the son of his second wife by her first husband, Wm. Bayne Ranken, Esq., J.P., of Hoddlesden and London, whose estate in this part of Lancashire is returned at 667 statute acres.

HILTON OF BLACKBURN, DARWEN LODGE, &c.

Samuel Hilton, of Blackburn, by Ann his wife, had sons, Samuel, Richard, William.

Mr. Samuel Hilton, of Blackburn, married, at Manchester, Oct. 30th, 1787, Mrs. Jane Sale, and had issue, sons, Edward, born in 1792; James, born in 1793; and Robert, born in 1796; and daughters, Margaret, born in 1788; and Jane, born in 1794. Mr. Samuel Hilton was buried at Chapel Street Chapel, Blackburn, July 31st, 1819. His widow died in 1823.

Richard Hilton, of Blackburn and of Darwen Lodge, Over Darwen, a noted calico-bleacher and paper manufacturer, &c. (brother of Samuel), by Ellen his wife had issue, sons, Christopher, born in 1794; Henry; and Edward; and daughters, Ann, died in 1808, aged 19; Margaret, died in 1814, aged 16; a second Ann, married, in 1838, James Imray, Esq., of Brixton; and Maria, of Streatham, Co. Surrey. Richard Hilton, Esq., died before 1836; his widow died Dec. 31st, 1843, aged 72.

Mr. Christopher Hilton, of Darwen, bleacher and paper manufacturer, eldest son of Richard, died, aged 39, Oct. 17th, 1833.

Mr. Henry Hilton, of Darwen Lodge, Richard's second son, married, Sept. 5th, 1836, Mary Lawrie, daughter of Thos. Ainsworth, Esq., of Preston. His only daughter, Lydia, married Mr. Vicars. Mr. Henry Hilton left Darwen for Port Natal, S. Africa, and died shortly after his arrival there, May 4th, 1850.

Another brother, Edward Hilton, Esq., of Darwen and Manor Park, Streatham, married, first, April 30th, 1835, Louisa, daughter of Thos. Cartwright of Heaton Norris; secondly, in 1839, Eliz. Susan, daughter of Sir John Key, bart.; and thirdly, in 1860, Eliz. Ann, daughter of Joseph Leech, Esq., and had issue.

Mr. Wm. Hilton, younger brother of Samuel and Richard, died at Chorlton-upon-Medlock, aged 64, July 3rd, 1834. His widow, Mrs. Esther Hilton, died at Mottram, aged 80, Feb. 25th, 1858.

The estate of the trustees of the late Richard Hilton in this township comprises 81 acres, with a rental of £832 per annum.

HINDLE OF HOLKER HOUSE, HODDLESDEN.

Christopher Hindle of Cowbarrows and Holker House, yeoman, by Alice his wife had sons, John; Christopher, born in 1751; Thomas, born in 1758; and daughters Jane and Ann.

John Hindle of Holker House, yeoman, born in 1745, died, aged 71, May 23rd, 1816. By Mary his wife (who died, aged 65, Dec. 9th, 1811), he had, with other issue, a son, William Hindle, died, aged 30, May 21st, 1817.

Christopher Hindle of Holker House, son of Christopher, married Hannah Marsden, and had issue, sons, Ralph, who entered the army; and James; and a daughter Nancy, born Nov. 2nd, 1778, wife of Mr. James Shorrocks of Princes.

Mr. James Hindle, who now owns a small estate of land and other property in Over Darwen, is of this family.

Holker House is an old messuage standing at the upper end of the hamlet of Hoddlesden, having a gabled porch, over which is a stone with the initials "R E I" and the date "1591." I conjecture that a junior branch of the family of Entwistle of Entwistle anciently possessed this freehold.

HOLDEN OF HODDLESDEN.

Thomas Holden of Hoddlesden, yeoman, in his Will, dated Oct. 9th, 1647, names Alice, his wife; sons William and Robert; and daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Isabel, and Ann Yate, then a widow.

MARSDEN OF OVER DARWEN.

Henry Marsden, of Over Darwen, a freeholder, died in 1637. Escheat inquisition taken Nov. 8th in that year showed that he died seized of 5 messuages, 5 gardens, 30 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Chorley; and two messuages, 3 gardens, 60 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Over Darwen, the latter held of Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Knt. and Bart., as of Walton manor in socage, worth 40s. yearly. Ralph Marsden, his son, was then aged 16 years.

James Marsden married, in 1682, Alice Rothwell of Haslingden Chapelry. Mr. James Marsden, of Upper Darwen, buried sons George and James, March 3rd, 1717.

Mr. James Marsden, of Over Darwen, elected governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1731, would be the James Marsden of Hoddlesden, yeoman, born Jan. 8th, 1686, who died May 8th, 1733, in his 47th year, leaving by Mary his wife, daughters Ann and Mary. Mary Marsden, his widow, died Nov. 16th, 1771, in her 82nd year. Mary, the daughter, married George Hargreave, Esq., of Haslingden, and died, aged 75, in 1796.

MAWDSLEY OF OVER DARWEN.

Henry Mawdsley, who died before 1607, was found seized at death of two messuages, 26 acres of land, two acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture in Over Darwen, held of Richard Hoghton, Knt., in socage; also, of 13 acres of land, meadow, and pasture, in Clitheroe. Elizabeth Mawdsley, widow, died before the escheat was returned. Thurston Mawdsley was son and heir, aged 13 years.

PICKUP OF MARCH HOUSE, &c.

John Pickup of Sunnyhurst and Hey Fold, by his wife Hannah, daughter of Thomas Eccles, yeoman, of Pickup bank, had sons, William, bapt. June 19th, 1756; James Pickup of Sough; and John.

William Pickup of Hey Fold and March House, son of John, married Sarah, daughter of George Briggs, of Ellison Fold, and had sons, John; George Pickup of the Hattons (who married Jane Cooke, and had a son William and other issue); and William Pickup of Higher March House, who died unmarried. William Pickup the father died before 1820.

John Pickup of March House, eldest son of William, died a few years ago. He married Katherine Smalley, and was father of Mr. William Pickup, now of March House, and of Sarah Pickup, married to Mr. Robert Smalley Entwistle.

According to the recent Parliamentary Return of Landowners, the estate in this township of the exors. of the late John Pickup amounts to 279 acres; that of Mr. William Pickup, to 185 acres; a small estate of 36 acres also belongs to Jane Pickup; and I am informed that the exors. and family of the late Mr. George Pickup of Hattons own 164 statute acres in Over Darwen and 130 acres in Lower Darwen.

SHORROCK OF ECCLESHILL, LOWER DARWEN, AND OVER DARWEN.

William Shorrocks, of Eccleshill in 1651, was assessed to a subsidy in 1663. He had sons Thomas and James. Thomas Shorrocks, of Eccleshill, yeoman, died in 1728. He had sons, Robert, and William. William Shorrocks, of Eccleshill, born in 1690, died, aged 73, in May, 1764. Thomas Shorrocks of Eccleshill married, in 1741, Ann Thompson of Lower Darwen.

William Shorrocks, of Lower Darwen, had a son James, born in 1701. I think James Shorrocks was father of the next-named Ralph Shorrocks and of James Shorrocks.

Ralph Shorrocks of Lower Hill, Lower Darwen, yeoman, by Nancy his wife

(she died April 17th, 1817, aged 74) had sons, Ralph; James, born in 1771; John, born in 1775; and William, born in 1781, died, aged 62, Aug. 22nd, 1843; daughters, Jane, Mary, Nancy and Sally. Ralph Shorrocks died, in his 87th year, Sept. 28th, 1818.

Ralph Shorrocks of Lower Darwen, yeoman, son of Ralph, married Jane, daughter of Mr. Thomas Eccles of Lower Darwen, and by her (who died Nov. 1838) had issue, sons, Ralph, born in 1798, died unmarried, aged 18, May 8th, 1817; Thomas, died unmarried in 1832; George, born in 1801, died in 1802; and Eccles, born in 1804; and a daughter Mary, wife of Mr. Thomas Ashton.

Eccles Shorrocks, Esq., a younger son of Ralph, was the eminent merchant and cotton-spinner of Blackburn and Over Darwen. Mr. Eccles Shorrocks acquired a landed estate in Over Darwen, and resided at Low Hill House. He also purchased the Hollinshead Hall and manorial estate in Tockholes. His first wife was Eliza, daughter of Mr. James Bailey of Witton (she died, aged 46, Oct. 10th, 1850). Eccles Shorrocks, Esq., married, secondly, Jane daughter of John Brandwood, Esq., of Turncroft, by whom he had no issue. He died, aged 49, July 17th, 1853, having made his nephew, Eccles Shorrocks, eldest son of Thomas Ashton, Esq., his heir.

Another branch of the Shorrocks descends from James Shorrocks of Lower Darwen, brother of the first Ralph Shorrocks named above. James Shorrocks had sons, Ralph; James; and William Shorrocks of Sough (who by his wife, a daughter of Pickup of Sough had a son William Shorrocks, of Sough); and a daughter, wife of James Pickup of Sough.

James Shorrocks of Chapels, son of James, married Betty Pickup, and by her had sons, James, born in 1776; and Ralph; and daughters, Sarah, and Ann. Mr. James Shorrocks died in November, 1819.

Mr. James Shorrocks of Princes was eldest son of the last-named James. He married, in 1797, Nancy, daughter of Mr. Christopher Hindle, and by her (who died, aged 71, Dec. 5th, 1849), had issue, sons, Christopher, born Sept. 6th, 1804; James, born April 7th, 1806; and George, born in 1822, died in 1859; and daughters, Betsy, Sarah, Nancy, Mary Ann, and Jane. Mr. James Shorrocks died Dec. 28th, 1861.

Christopher Shorrocks, Esq., of Manchester, eldest son of James, married, in 1831, Helen, daughter of Joseph Eccles, Esq., of Lower Darwen, and by her (she died in 1837) had sons, Eccles, born in 1832; James born in 1833 (James Shorrocks, Esq., of the Beeches, Bowden, Cheshire, who married Miss Good, of Bowden, but has no issue); and Joseph Shorrocks, born in 1834; married Nancy, daughter of Mr. James Shorrocks of Astley Bank; has no issue. Christopher Shorrocks, Esq., died March 28th, 1862. His next brother—

James Shorrocks, Esq., J.P., of Astley Bank, married, in 1831, Miss Rachel Henrey, and by her (who is yet living) had issue, sons, Christopher; William Henry; Peter, James, Peter; and daughters, Betsy; Nancy; Sarah Maria, wife of Edward Elworthy, Esq.; and Rachel Henrey. James Shorrocks, Esq., died April 11th, 1869.

Christopher Shorrocks, Esq., of the Moss, Lower Darwen, eldest son of James, married, in 1863, Jane, daughter of James Chetham, Esq., of Chadderton, and has issue.

SMALLEY OF HEY FOLD, ASTLEY BANK, &c.

A small estate at Hey Fold, near Darwen Chapels, was the early freehold of this family. Richard Smalley, of Upper Darwen, died in 1709, and another Richard Smalley died in 1715.

Richard Smalley, of Upper Darwen, chapman, married, first, Oct. 22nd, 1717 Jane Marsden of Clayton, and had issue Richard, bapt. Feb. 18th, 1718-19. Jane, wife of Richard Smalley, was buried Jan. 10th, 1720-1. By his second wife, Mary,

Richard Smalley had sons, Thomas (see Smalley of Blackburn, ante), born in 1726; and Robert, bapt. May 25th, 1729.

Richard Smalley of Eccleshill and Blackburn, chapman, first son of Richard, died in August, 1773. By Margaret his wife he had sons, Richard, William, Robert, and Thomas; and a daughter, Margaret. His brother—

Robert Smalley, of Princes, younger son of Richard, was minister of the Lower (Independent) Chapel in Darwen, from 1751 to 1791. Rev. Robert Smalley died Jan 26th, 1791, aged 61; and was buried in the burial ground of the Lower Chapel. He married Miss Ann Yates, and had sons, Richard, born Jan. 9th, 1760; Robert Yates, bapt. June 14th, 1763; and Lawrence, bapt. June 29th, 1768.

Robert Yates Smalley of Hey Fold, yeoman, second son of Rev. Robert Smalley, married Miss Nanny Yates, and had issue by her (who died Feb. 14th, 1832, aged 87), sons, Robert, bapt. Oct. 18th, 1789; Yates, died young in 1798; Lawrence Yates Smalley (of the New Inn, Darwen); Richard of Hey Fold; and Thomas, of Hey Fold, died unmarried; and daughters, Nanny, and Ann, died young; Betty (wife of William Entwistle, and mother of Mr. Robert Smalley Entwistle); Kitty (wife of Mr. Pickup of March House); and Mary. The father, Mr. Robert Smalley, died aged 54, May 14th, 1824.

Rev. Richard Smalley, eldest son of Rev. Robt. Smalley, and for a short time minister of the Lower Chapel, died June 20th, 1800, aged 40. His wife was Ann, daughter of Richard and Ann Kershaw of Astley Bank, by whom he had sons Richard Kershaw, born Dec. 29th, 1795; and Robert Kershaw, born July 22nd, 1797; and a daughter Ann, born in 1794, died in 1795.

Richard Kershaw Smalley, Esq., son of Richard, built Astley Bank House, and died about 1840. He married his cousin, Ann, daughter of Mr. John Walker of Patricroft, and by her (who died at Battersea, aged 69, in 1861) had issue, sons, Robert Kershaw Smalley, now living in Australia; and John, died, aged 17, Aug. 22nd, 1848; and daughters, Ann Walker, born in 1819; Jane; Katherine; and Maria.

Robert Kershaw Smalley, surgeon, second son of Rev. Richard Smalley, married, in 1830, Maria, daughter of Mr. Wm. Henrey, and had a son Mr. Richard Henry Smalley, now of Over Darwen.

WALSH OF WALSH FOLD.

At Walsh Fold in this township sometime was domiciled a family of Walshe descended from Edward Welshe, a Puritan Vicar, of Blackburn, suspended in 1606 for nonconformity. In 1590, he being then Vicar, Mr. Edward Welshe was one of 17 Lancashire Preachers who signed an Address upon "The manifold enormities of the Ecclesiastical State in the most partes of the Countie of Lancaster," printed by the Chetham Society in 1875, from the original MS. in the Bodleian Library. Canon Raines, in a note to the Address, gives some facts about this Vicar of Blackburn, of which I cull the following:—Sept. 26th, 1596, he "appeared personally before the Commissioners at Chester, and said that he neither did nor would refuse to wear the surplice if the same was fit and tendered to him in good sort. He was enjoined to wear it hereafter." Eight years later, Oct. 3rd, 1604, he "was cited to appear before the bishop and was required to subscribe to the three Articles in the 36th Canon of 1603." He was deprived of his benefice about two years after, and retired to his little farm at Walsh Fold, Over Darwen. By Mary, his wife, he had a son Thomas, and other issue. The deprived minister died at Walsh Fold about the year 1627.

Thomas Walshe, son of Edward, occurs as Parish Clerk of Blackburn in 1627. He had a son Edward, born in 1625, whose baptismal register runs:—1625-6. Feb.

12. "Edwarde, sonne of Thomas Walshe, filii vicarii." He had also sons, Thomas ; and John. Thomas Walsh of Upper Darwen was buried Dec. 2nd, 1657. John Walsh, son of Thomas, married, July 18th, 1656, Mary daughter of William Ellison of Upper Darwen.

Thomas Walsh of Upper Darwen, son of Thomas, had sons, Ralph, born in 1657 ; Richard, bapt. April 6th, 1662 ; John, bapt. Aug. 23rd, 1664 ; and Roger ; and a daughter Ann born in 1667.

Ralph Walsh of Upper Darwen, yeoman, eldest son of Thomas, died in 1703.

John Walsh of Upper Darwen, chapman, another son, died Jan. 11th, 1732. His brother, Roger Walsh of Upper Darwen, chapman (made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1729), died, aged 65, Jan. 28th, 1739 ; his wife Elizabeth died, aged 71, Oct. 16th, 1740.

WATSON OF OVER DARWEN.

"Thomas Watson of Over Darwen, gent.," was buried Dec. 31st, 1732. His epitaph, inscribed on a tablet affixed to the wall in St. James's Church, Over Darwen, is as follows :—"Here lyeth the body of Thomas Watson of this town, chapman, son of Edmund Watson of Hague Hall in the County of York, gentleman, who departed this life the nineteenth day of December, 1732. And gave for the congregation of this Chappel, the sum of three hundred eighty-five pounds. DEUS AMAT LÆTUM DOTOREM."

THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

No chapel existed in Over Darwen before the Reformation in the middle of the 16th century. The date of this foundation cannot be fixed ; but it was probably in the first years of Elizabeth's reign that the inhabitants built a small fabric for a chapel-of-ease to Blackburn Parish Church. Harrison the itinerant names the chapel in 1577, in his reference to the course of the Darwen river :—"The Darwent divideth Lelandshire from Anderness [a mistake for Blackburnshire], and it riseth by east above *Darwent Chappell*." On the survey of Blackburn Rectory in 1616, "Darwen Chappell" is named as one of the chapels belonging to the mother Church. The chapel had, it would appear, no endowment whatever until one William Haydock gave £10 to be a stock at Over Darwen Chapel, to the use of a minister there. A curate from the mother church would now and then minister in the chapel, but no resident curate at Darwen occurs before the establishment of the Presbytery by Parliament in 1646. The Presbytery appointed, about the year 1647, Mr. Joshua Bernard to be minister at Over Darwen. Upon the minutes of the Blackburn Classis it is recorded :—"Mr. Joshua Bernard, Minr. at Over Darwin Chap. By an Order of the Com. at Manchester, of the — of Jan., 1648, there is £40 per an. allowed to Mr. Bernard, Minr. at Over Darwin, together with the arrears due unto him." "By a certificate of the Inhabitants of the Chappelrie of Over Darwin, it appears that Mr. Bernard was in arreare for two yeares and a qr. ending the 3rd of Decr. 1649. Mr. Bernard was ordained the 4th

of Decr., 1649, at the chappel of Over Darwen, by the Classis of Blackborne Hundred." To the Commissioners appointed by Parliament in 1650 to survey the parish churches and chapels it was reported respecting Over Darwen Chapel that it was four miles distant from the Parish Church, and was used by a population, including part of Rossendale, of 400 families, who desired that the chapel might be made parochial. It had no endowment, but the Committee of Plundered Ministers allowed Mr. Joshua Barnard, "an able and godly divine," £40 per annum.

Mr. Barnard had quitted Darwen before the restoration of Anglican forms of worship under the Act of Uniformity in 1662. From this time for some years there was monthly service only in the chapel, when a curate sent by the Vicar of Blackburn officiated. In 1683 the Vicar (Price) reported to the Primate:—

"Darwen Chapell, 4 miles from Blackburn Church, 4 miles from any other Chapell. N. N. officiates there once a month. Adjacent, Upper Darwen, Eccleshill, Yate Bank, and Piccop Bank. Endowment:—Interest of several small sums of money given by well-disposed persons, £4; Mrs. fleetwood [Lessee of Rectory estate] promiseth £2; Inhabitants will give at least £10, if Mrs. fleetwood raiseth not her 40s. from the Tith Hay."

The Chapel at Darwen being little used at this period, and many of the inhabitants being nonconformists, the latter, on their procuring the King's warrant for a meeting-house in 1687, construed it to give them liberty to use the old chapel, and proceeded to hold their worship therein. This appropriation of the fabric was stoutly resisted by Mr. Price, the Vicar of the Parish, who wrote an account of the transaction to the Bishop of Chester and appealed for aid from the Bishop in excluding the intruders and in reserving the fabric as a chapel-of-ease to the Parish Church. The Vicar's letter is printed below:—

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas, Lord Bishop of Chester, my honoured diocesan.—May it please your Lordship.—The regard your Lordship has for your clergie's concerns, and the justice you administer upon all occasions with so much integrity, have brought me to prostrate myself at your feete, to represent to your clemency in few words an affair which ought to be treated at large. Upon the eighth day of this instant August, 1687, one Mr. William Crosse, of Upper Darwen, in the Parish of Blackburn, in the County of Lancaster, demanded of me (the present Vicar of Blackburne), the keys of the Chappel of Darwen, to which, as Vicar of Blackburne, I hold an indubitable right and title, pretending that our sovereigne Lord the King had assigned that ancient and sacred fabrick for such of the inhabitants as did not conform to the Church of England. But because in the license which he showed me I did not find the word "Chappel" once mentioned, nor anything sounding like it, excepting one expression contained in this sentence:—"We have allowed, and do hereby allow of a meeting-place erected in Darwen, in the Parish of Blackburn,"—I could not consent to the delivery of the said keys, till I was fully satisfied that

by those words his Majesty did meane the Chappel of Darwen; yet freely did I offer to deliver up the said keys in case that three of the Justices of the Peace did apprehend that those words in the License were to be interpreted, viz., of the Chappel of Darwen, and not of another edifice in Darwen, which some of the Dissenters had before signified and made knowne to the Justices of the Peace they had set apart to assemble in. This reasonable motion was rejected, and since then the doors of the said Chappel have been broken open, and the Curate of that Chappel not permitted to perform his ministerial offices, which with agitation of grief and sorrow, I most humbly desire your Lordship to make knowne unto the King's most excellent Majesty, and to beseech his Majesty to certify your Lordship whether or no his Majesty did mean the Chappel of Darwen in those words:—"We have allowed and do hereby allow a meeting-place erected in Darwen." If your Lordship do finde that by those words his Majesty did not mean the Chappel of Darwen, I humbly beg that your Lordship would issue out an order to be affixed to the Doore of Darwen Chappel, that no minister whatsoever presume to preach in that Chappel, but such as are duly licensed by your Lordship. But if on the other side your Lordship do finde that by the foresaid words is meant the Chappel of Darwen, and that his Majesty thinks fit, from causes best knowne to himself, to waive my title and to determine against my curate's re-admission, we shall not immediately refuse, nor uncharitably censure, much less undutifully disobey, but in all becoming silence sit downe in submission to his Majesty's good will and pleasure; in which desire I will here rest, humbly beseeching the Almighty God to multiply his blessings upon the King's most excellent Majesty; and your Lordship to pardon my great boldness, who am, your Lordship's in all duty, FRANCIS PRICE, Vicar of Blackburne, in Lancashire.

The Bishop (Cartwright) referred the matter in contention to the decision of the King (James II.), by whom a warrant was issued, Oct. 20th, 1687, commanding the restoration of the chapel to the Vicar's custody, and also cancelling the license granted to the parties who had occupied the chapel for a meeting-place. The original warrant, bearing the royal seal and sign-manual, is among the Parish Records at Blackburn Vicarage. By the favour of Canon Birch, I print the text of this interesting document:—

James the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c.—To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Whereas by our Warrant under the Signett and Signe Manual bearing date the 25th day of July last past, We allowed of an erected meeting-place in Upper Darwen, in the Parish of Blackburne, in Our County of Lancaster, to be a Place for the use of such as do not conforme to the Church of England, who are of the persuasion commonly called Congregationall, to meet and assemble in, in order to their Publick Worship and Devotion. And whereas it hath been since humbly represented unto Us, that the Place claymed by virtue of Our said Warrant, is a Chappel belonging by an unquestionable title to the Vicar of Blackborne aforesaid, and that the Vicar thereof for the time being, hath constantly, time out of mind, nominated and the Bishop of Chester licensed Curats to officiate in the said Chappel; We have therefore thought fit to revoke and annull Our said Warrant, and We do accordingly by these Presents revoke and annull the same, and all and singular the clauses therein contained. And our Will and Pleasure is, that the Vicar of Blackborne aforesaid, now and for the time being, or his Curate duly constituted and licensed, have and enjoy the quiet and

full possession of the said Chappel, there to perform divine Service in such manner as heretofore hath been accustomed, without any hindrance or molestation, anything in Our said Warrant to the contrary thereof notwithstanding : Whereof all and singular our Officers and Ministers Ecclesiastical Civill and Military, and other persons whom it may concerne, are to take notice, and to yield due obedience to Our pleasure herein declared. Given at our Court at Whitehall the 20th day of October, 1687, in the third year of our reigne. By his Majesty's command, SUNDERLAND, LD.

The wardens of the Parish Church soon after certified as under the restoration of Darwen Chapel to the Vicar by three Justices of the Peace :—

We, whose names are subscribed, being Churchwardens for the Parish Church of Blackburne, do hereby testify that Thomas Braddyll, Esq., Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., and Ralph Livesey, Esq., three of his Majesty's Justices of Peace for the county of Lancaster, did give restitution of possession of the Chappel of Darwen, in the county of Lancaster, unto Francis Price, Vicar of Blackburne aforesaid, and William Colton, curate of Darwen aforesaid, upon the 23rd day of November, 1687. In witness whereof we have subscribed our names this 5th day of December, 1687. (Signed) GYLES WALMSLEY, WILLIAM CHATBURNE, RICHARD COOPER (his mark), churchwardens.

In the year following these transactions, the inhabitants were invited to repair the chapel, which was in serious dilapidation ; and some of them undertook, by writing dated Sept. 20th, 1688, "to put the chappel of Darwen into some fitting repairation before the 11th of November next ensuing." At the same time, the parishioners proposed to meet Primate Sancroft's gift to the chapel by paying "to the curate of Darwen, by way of benevolence, yearly, the sum of 5 Pounds at least, upon condition that the said curate will preach and read prayers at the said chappel twice every other Lord's Day from Candlemas to Michaelmas, and at least once every other Lord's Day from Martinmas to Candlemas." The Vicar (Price) of Blackburn now made an agreement with Mr. William Stones, curate of Blackrod, whereby the latter was admitted to the united curacy of Darwen and Tockholes ; Mr. Stones agreeing to reside constantly within one of the two chapelries, and to preach and read prayers every other Sunday at each chapel, twice in the day from March 1st to Nov. 11th, and once in the day during the other winter months.

The continued failure of the inhabitants of Darwen adhering to the Church to proceed with the restoration of the fabric, drove Vicar Price to issue his notification of a compulsory rate upon the chapelry to provide the sum needed for the repairs, which was "published at Blackburn and Darwen, September 12th, 1692." The notice runs :—

Dearly Beloved,—You perceive by this order of the Lord Bishop of Chester how zealously he is concerned for the repairing of the Chappel of Darwen ; and to that end, how earnestly in the first place he recommends the carrying on of that pious

worke to the care of the Inhabitants of that chappelry; and upon their neglect, how he enjoynes the Churchwardens of Blackburne (after publick notice given) to proceed to make such assessment or lay within the said chappelry, as shall be proportionable and sufficient to the said Chappel of Darwen. Now, in pursuance of that order, I do in the name, and by the directions of the said churchwardens, give publick notice that in regard the time allowed for the repairing of the said chappel is almost expired, and the work still undone, the said churchwardens (God willing) do intend to meet at the said chappel of Darwen upon Thursday next, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to make an assessment or lay for the foresaid purpose. Desiring and hoping that the said inhabitants will vouchsafe them their company, concurrence, and assistance at the time and place aforesaid; or at least (in respect to religion and their own good) they will not show any dislike to so publick, so useful, and so unavoidable an undertaking; and in so doing they will oblige the churchwardens, who remain their and the Parish most humble servants.

The chapel appears to have been rebuilt soon after the date above, partially, perhaps, by means of voluntary gifts; for in the books of the parish is a list, without date, of about seventy-five persons who had together promised a sum of £94 18s. "towards the rebuilding of Darwen Chappel." Canon Raines notes that "a Brief was obtained, and 1s. 6d. collected at Milnrow, for Upper Darwen Chapel in the County of Lancaster, September 22nd, 1722."

Respecting the sources of endowment of this curacy, information is afforded by a MS. in the Vicar's records, headed "A true Account of all the Monie that hath been given to Darwen Chappel, to be and remaine as Stocke there," which was taken by Thomas Ellison for the Vicar of Blackburn, on Jan. 26th, 1692. These items are contained:— Jan. 20th, 1638, William Haydock, of Overlock Shaw, in Livesey, left £10 to be "a Stock at Over Darwen Chappel, and the interest thereof to be and remaine to such a minister as shall be there resident from time to time." March 28th, 1642, John Crosse, of Over Darwen, gent., gave £10 in trust for the same use. Nov. 15th, 1641, Thomas Lomas, of Over Darwen, gave £10 in trust, the interest to be "used and disposed of for the mantayning of God's Word and his servis at the said chappel." The trustee of these gifts had at such times as no minister was resident kept the interest until it amounted to £10, which was added to the Stock, and made it £40. May 30th, 1673, Thomas Longworth, of Over Darwen, husbandman, gave £10 to be added to the Chapel Stock; interest thereof "to such a gospell minister as shall teach there." Nov. 27th, 1684, Thurston Maudsley, of Ousebooth in Blackburn, gent., gave £5 "towards the maintenance of an orthodox minister at the chapell at Over Darwen, which shall be conformable to the Church of England." Wm. Bury added 17s. interest to the Stock, amounting, in 1692, to £60.

Later, by a benefaction of £220 made to the chapel on Dec. 25th, 1718, by Mr. Edmund Eccles and others, a grant was secured of £200

from the Royal Bounty in 1719. With this united sum of £420, and some additions, was purchased, for £450, an estate at Yate Bank, of 35 acres, from Henry Eatough of Yate Bank and Christopher Brandwood of Inglewhite, by agreement dated Nov. 10th, 1719. Two other grants, each of £200, from Queen Anne's Bounty, were obtained in 1733, to meet two benefactions of similar amounts, the one dated Sept. 10th, 1733, by Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn, and Rev. John Folds, minister of Over Darwen; the other dated Sept. 20th, 1733, by Henry Feilden, Thomas Whalley, and J. Cooper, gents. This sum of £800 was laid out in the purchase of lands in the neighbourhood of the chapel. The two estates purchased by these means in 1719 and 1733 form the chief endowment of this benefice. A schedule of the extent and rental of the estates, made in 1823, gives the total acreage as 54a. 13p.; the lands were then in occupation of ten tenants, and the total yearly rental was £200 15s. The receipt from the Sancroft Trust at that date was £10 15s.; and from Surplice Fees £3 5s. per year. In the new return of landowners the Church of St. James's, Over Darwen, is stated to possess lands to the extent of 49 acres, yielding a rental of £53. The value of the living is now returned at £300 per annum. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

From the date of the re-edification about the end of the 17th century, the fabric of this church was not again much altered until the year 1852. In consequence of the excavation of coal beneath the site, the foundations had sunk, and caused serious fissures in the walls. The use of the church being pronounced unsafe by an architect, it was closed in Sept., 1851, and divine service was conducted in the School-house at Holden Fold. In 1852-3 the church was substantially restored; the walls were made sound, and the roof entirely renewed. The interior was repewed with open benches; new galleries were erected; and the organ was enlarged. The Church was re-opened on Sept. 11th, 1853.

The Church of St. James stands upon the hill on the east suburb of the town. The edifice is not large (about 60ft. by 40ft.), and is of low elevation. Its plan is a parallelogram, with a semi-circular apse at the east end. The style is mixed; the windows have the gothic pointed arch and traceried heads; but between them in the side walls are inserted flat pillasters, supporting an entablature; and the doorway, on the south side, is square-headed with a massive lintel. There are three windows on the south side, and four on the north side, each of three lights, trefoil-headed. The apse has two windows of three lights. At the west end, which has no doorway, the external masonry is relieved by semi-circular doric pillasters, with the entablature above; and in the gable are three small mullioned windows. A belfry surmounts the west

gable. The interior has no peculiar features. There are 522 sittings; 76 are free-seats. The grave-yard was extended in 1853.

The following list of incumbents extends back to the first regular clerical service of the chapel:—Mr. Joshua Barnard, 1647-50; Mr. William Colton, curate (certif. 1687); Wm. Stones, curate of Darwen and Tockholes, from 1688 till his death in 1720. John Folds, curate of Darwen, from 1720 till his death in 1772. (In the church is a mural tablet inscribed:—"John Folds, clerk, A.B., curate of this chapel upwards of 52 years, interred 15th February, 1772, aged 75 years; Ann, his wife, interred 31st August, 1781, aged 81 years"). Henry White, 1772-1783; Jeremiah Gilpin, 1783-1792; Thomas Exton, 1792-1815 (Usher of Blackburn Grammar School, 1787-91; also curate of Balderstone; he was drowned in the river at Lower Darwen); Matthew Yatman Starkie (instituted in 1815; he was non-resident, and the resident curate was Henry Dunderdale, vacated in 1851); Charles Greenway, M.A., instituted in 1851, resigned in 1868; W. H. Blamire, present Vicar, instituted Dec. 17th, 1868.

OTHER CHURCHES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT.

HOLY TRINITY.—This church was built in 1828-9, by means of a Parliamentary Grant of £6799; and was consecrated Sept. 13th, 1829. It is a large edifice of gothic architecture, built of reddish stone; in plan consisting of nave, side aisles, pentagonal chancel, south porch, and massive tower at the west end with eight crocketed pinnacles. The tower contains a peal of six bells. Its situation is a high bank overlooking the river near the centre of the town. The interior is fitted with galleries at the sides and west end. The organ is in the west gallery. Sittings 1310, of which 985 are free. Value of the living £300. Patron: the Vicar of Blackburn. Vicars in succession:—Rev. G. Park; Rev. E. C. Montriou, M.A.; Rev. R. Mayall (present Vicar).

ST. PAUL'S, HODDLESDEN.—This church is within the township, but is a mile from the town of Over Darwen, and was built for the service of the manufacturing village of Hoddlesden, in the year 1863; opened June 24th. The cost was £5050, of which £3000 were given by W. B. Ranken, Esq., owner of the Hoddlesden estate. The style is geometric gothic; and the plan consists of nave, side aisles, chancel, and tower at the north end, which has not yet been completed. Sittings 550, of which 209 are free. Value of the living £140. Patron: the Bishop. Vicars:—Rev. G. W. Reynolds, 1863-7; Rev. W. B. Berry, 1867 (present Vicar).

ST. JOHN'S, TURNCROFT.—The Church of St. John the Evangelist, built on the Turncroft estate at the south-east side of the town, the gift of the late Mrs. Graham (daughter of John Brandwood, Esq.), and Rev. Philip Graham, was consecrated July 7th, 1864. Cost, with endowment, £11,500. The church is a chaste example of gothic architecture, having a nave, with clerestory, side aisles, a spacious chancel, north and south transepts, and a tower and spire at the west end. The interior, which is not galleried, contains 701 sittings, 240 of which are free. A good organ by Willis was placed in the church in 1867. Value of the living £300. Patron: the Bishop. Vicars:—Rev. P. Graham, 1864-9; Rev. H. H. Moore, M.A., 1869 (present Vicar). St. John's Schools, contiguous to the church, are large stone buildings, erected at the cost of Rev. P. Graham, and opened in August, 1866.

ST. CUTHBERT'S.—This new church fronts to the Blackburn road, at the north end of Over Darwen. The corner-stone was laid on August 16th, 1875. The plan of the church is cruciform; and the style is gothic. The cost is about £4,000, defrayed by subscriptions. Rev. Charles Greenway gave the site, and is principal donor to the building fund. Sittings 500. The church is still (1876) in process of erection. Vicar designate, Rev. W. G. Procter

THE NONCONFORMIST FOUNDATION—THE “LOWER CHAPEL.”

The Act of Uniformity in 1662 created a numerous secession from the Established Church in this part of Blackburn Parish. The first Nonconformists in Darwen had no regular meeting-house during the ten years of statutory repression that followed; but tradition says that they met as occasion served in certain secluded places upon the moors, to receive one or other of several ejected ministers in this part of the county. Mr. Charles Sagar, of Blackburn, was one of these Nonconformist preachers, and he may be said to be the founder of the first Nonconformist Church in Darwen, of which he eventually became the regular pastor. Mr. Charles Sagar was born at Burnley, in 1636; his baptismal record in the Burnley Church Register is:—“Charles fil. John Sagar, de Parke” bapt. Oct., 1636. His father, John Sagar, was a Warden of Burnley Church in 1638. Charles Sagar was educated at Burnley Grammar School and at St. John’s College, Cambridge, and on leaving the University, with a fair repute for learning, was appointed Master of Blackburn Grammar School. The minute of appointment in the School Record reads:—Jan. 21, 1655-6. “Md. that the daye and yeare above written the Gov’nors have elected and chosen Charles Segar, gent. to serve for the Schole Master of Blackburne so long as the Governors shall like well of.” Mr. Sagar held this mastership nearly eleven years; and resigned when an Act was passed inhibiting schoolmasters who did not conform to the Church of England, to continue in their places. It has been said that he had been dismissed from the Blackburn School for nonconformity; but the books of the foundation show that the Governors took no action in the matter. On Dec. 21, 1666, appears in the School accounts:—“Pd. Mr. Sagar, late Schoolemaster 28 Maie last in full of his wage before his going out from his place £3 6s. 8d.” It would seem that Mr. Sagar temporarily served the Blackburn School again after the first withdrawal. The accounts give, in Dec., 1667:—“Payde Mr. Sagar, the late Schoolmaster, May 1, 1667, the some of £5;” and two years later, in Dec. 1669:—“Pd. Mr. Sagar the master att the same tyme the some of £5;” “Pd. Mr. Sagar more the some of £3 15s.” Mr. Oddy succeeds as Master in 1670. On quitting the Grammar School, Mr. Charles Sagar commenced to teach a private School in Blackburn, which was well favoured by some of the local gentry and tradesmen, and was continued with success about twenty years. He had married, Nov. 11th, 1663, Isabell, daughter of Mr. Henry Astley, of Blackburn, who was about ten years his senior, and he had a son, born in 1662, whose baptism is entered:—“Joshua filius Caroli Sagar, Blackburniensis Ludi Magister natus vicessimo nono Aprilis de dominico anno 1666.” In the year 1672, when Royal

licenses for Dissenting preaching-places were granted, is dated a "License to Charles Sagar, Pr. Teacher of Blackborne, Lancashire, Feb. 3," 1672-3; and at the same time:—"The house of William and Henry Berry in Upper Darwen to be a Pr. [Presbyterian] meeting place." Mr. Sagar thus preached at Blackburn and also, maybe, at Darwen during this brief toleration, which ended in 1675. In 1683 the measures of the authorities against Nonconformists were most severe; and Major Nowell, of Read, a Justice, arrested Mr. Sagar, charged with unlawful preaching, and had him sent to Lancaster Castle, where he was confined six months. In prison, Mr. Sagar preached weekly on the Sunday to the prisoners in the Castle, and to inhabitants of Lancaster who frequented the meeting. On his release, he returned to Blackburn, and continued to reside in that town after he became pastor of the Nonconformist Church at Darwen.

Under the "Indulgence" of Charles II., Mr. John Parr preached a short time to the Nonconformists of Darwen about the years 1672-3, but does not seem to have been fixed minister here; he settled at Preston, as minister of congregations at Preston and Walton. That the Nonconformist parishioners under the license of King Charles were suffered temporarily to conduct their service in the old Chapel of Ease is stated in documents of that date; and although, on the withdrawal of these licenses in 1675, the practice of public meeting in that chapel was suspended, yet when, in 1687, James the Second's "Declaration" for religious liberty was promulgated, the Nonconformist party again took possession of the chapel, and constituted it their meeting-place until, in November of that year, the Vicar of Blackburn recovered possession on the order of the Justices. The license granted by James the Second, dated 25th July, 1687, was worded:—"We have allowed and do hereby allow of a Meeting-place erected in Upper Darwen in the Parish of Blackburn, in our County of Lancaster, to be a place for the use of such as do not conforme to the Church of England, who are of the persuasion commonly called Congregationall, to meet and assemble in, in order to their publick Worship and Devotion." After the deprival, the Nonconformists petitioned James II. in the following terms:—

The humble petition of your Majesty's subjects in and about Darwen humbly sheweth—That whereas we formerly have had an erected meeting-house in Upper Darwen aforesaid, to worship God in after our own way, which your Majestie's subjects enjoy'd with a great deal of freedome in pursuance of a license formerly granted to us of the said place by your Majestie's late brother of ever blessed memory, and untill such time as the same was cancelled, and wee your Majestie's subjects put under new difficulties, though we behaved ourselves peaceably and loyally towards the Government; and further, that the said place was never visited by any Bishopp as farr as your Majestie's subjects can heare or understand, and since your Majestie's gracious

declaration the keys of the said house were taken away by the Vicar of the Parish or his order, on purpose to exclude your Majestie's subjects from the same ;—Wherefore your Petitioners doe humbly pray your Majestie that you would be graciously pleased to restore to your Majestie's subjects the use of the same house, it being out of repaire and ready to drop downe ; and we are willing to repaire the same, and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray for your Majestie's health and happiness, &c.

Failing to secure access to the Chapel of Ease, the Nonconformists soon after provided a meeting-house for themselves, and applied to Mr. Charles Sagar to become their regular minister. Mr. Sagar was ordained in 1687 ; and became the first stated pastor of the Nonconformist Meeting in Over Darwen. Under the Act of Toleration, in 1688, a license for a meeting-house in this township was obtained. Mr. Sagar was residing at Blackburn in 1691, when his friend, Rev. Henry Newcome of Manchester, records in his diary a visit to Blackburn :—

Oct. 20th. From Bolton Lecture I went to Blackburn. Strangers, and in the night. The way was perilous, but the Lord brought us in safety. Mr. Green came in late at night. In the interim I had the company of my old hearty friend, Mr. Sagar. The next day we went to Ribchester, when we visited and attempted to order the Charity School there, and despatched, so as I came to Hoghton Tower in good time. Mr. Sagar came to me, and there I stayed the next day in much content and freedom and hearty welcome with our old friend Sir Charles Hoghton.

In 1693, Mr. Sagar was fulfilling the office of "Scribe" or Secretary to the association then formed of Lancashire Nonconformist Ministers called the "United Brethren." Sept. 20th of the same year, Mr. Sagar's son, Mr. Joshua Sagar, who had been educated for a preacher at Rathmell, was ordained according to the Congregational form at his father's house at Blackburn ; the ministers taking part were, Mr. Sagar the father, Mr. Thomas Jollie, Mr. Waddington, and Mr. John Walker. Young Mr. Sagar had then just accepted an appointment as minister of an Independent Church at Alverthorpe near Wakefield, where he preached some years, and died there in 1710. Rev. Charles Sagar died after more than a year's illness from a stroke of paralysis, aged 61, Feb. 13th, 1697-8, when he had been ten years pastor, and about thirty years a Nonconformist preacher in this district. His burial is registered in the Blackburn Parish register :—"Mr. Charles Sagar of Blackburne," buried Feb. 17th, 1697-8. Calamy says of Mr. Sagar :—"He was a good scholar, very affable, blameless in conversation, and generally beloved."

The successor to Mr. Sagar was Mr. Griffith Griffith, who was ordained on the 24th June, 1699. He was minister here more than twenty years. In 1714, during Mr. Griffith's pastorate, it was returned to the Bishop of Chester respecting Darwen Chapelry that "A great many of the inhabitants frequent a Presbyterian Meeting-house there is within the chapelry, those Sundays they have no service in their own chapel."

Mr. Griffith married in 1711, at Manchester Collegiate Church—"Sept. 4, Griffith Griffith of Blackburne and Elizabeth Coulburne, of Leyland, per license,"—so the marriage is registered, and had, with other issue, a son Nathaniel, bapt. April 22nd, 1714.

In 1715, a return of Nonconformist Chapels names the Lower Chapel, Darwen, having then a congregation of 648 persons, of whom 25 were freeholding electors for the county.

It was during Mr. Griffith's ministry that the congregation erected a permanent Meeting-house to supersede the adapted building in which they had worshipped about thirty years (and which stood where the path from the minister's house joins the old road from Lower Darwen to "Chapels"). A site was conveyed to trustees by indentures of lease and release, dated respectively 1st and 2nd Jan., 1718-19.

The release is made between John Fish, of the one part, and William Yates, Richard Sanderson, John Bailey, William Harwood, James Halliwell, Thomas Entwistle, jun., John Walmsley, Thomas Kirkham, Henry Paulding, Andrew Berry, Ralph Cratchley, jun., Miles Eccles, William Eccles, Thomas Foole, Thomas Whalley, and Thomas Haydock, of the other part; and for the pecuniary consideration therein mentioned, all that plot or parcel of land lying on the north-east side of a certain close of land in Over Darwen, &c., called the Clark's Field, as the same was then marked, measured and staked forth, containing about 30 yards in length and 26 yards in breadth, was released and conveyed by the said John Fish to the use of the persons parties to the said Indenture of the second part; and by a deed poll bearing date the 1st and 2nd of January, 1718, declared that the plot was conveyed to them upon trust to permit an Edifice, Building or Meeting-house to be erected thereon, and from and immediately after the erection thereof upon trust to let, manage and improve the same to the best yearly profit and advantage that might be, and as they the said Trustees and the survivors of them, should in their discretions think fit, and convert, employ, and dispose of the clear yearly rents, issues, and profits of the said Edifice, Oratory or Meeting-place, parcel of land and premises either for the binding and placing forth 9 poor children apprentices, born and resident within Over Darwen, Lower Darwen, Eccleshill, and Yate Bank, to callings or trades, or to or for the purchasing of Linen and Woollen Cloth to be distributed yearly about Martinmas to such poor children as they the said Trustees should think most fit. Provided always, that so long as the Laws of this Realm should allow any preaching or teaching minister, such as are called Protestant Dissenting Minister, to preach and teach God's Word in any Chapel or place within England, they the said Trustees should permit and suffer Griffith Griffith, the then present Minister there, and such Dissenting Minister as should from time to time be elected and chosen by the trustees for the time being or the major part of them, and the communicants or such as did usually partake of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the said Meeting-place, and the constant contributors to the maintenance of the Ministers there or the major part of them, to preach and teach God's word, and to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper there, and to exercise all offices belonging to that sacred function in the said Edifice. The said other trusts to be suspended while such preaching was allowed by law, and to be revived and take effect in the event of such preaching being legally prohibited. And it was further declared and agreed that, so long as the laws would permit, there should be yearly two Anniversary Ser-

mons preached in the said Edifice, Oratory, or Meeting-house, by the Minister, the one upon Whitson-Tuesday and the other upon the Fifth of November, for recommending the works of charity and for the furtherance of the knowledge and practice of the Christian religion. The Trustees to meet for business of the trust twice a year also on Whitson-Tuesday and Nov. 5th. Provisions follow for the election of Trustees to fill vacancies, and for renewal of the trust on reduction by death or incompetency of the trustees.

The chapel was built upon this site during the year 1719. The work of building was chiefly done without charge by members of the congregation, and the building-materials also were given by other members, so that the pecuniary expenditure was not very large, and was subscribed before the chapel was opened. The edifice of 1719, great portion of which remains, was spacious, the dimensions being about 70ft. by 40ft., and the walls, though of small stones in irregular courses, were rendered strong by their thickness. The chapel was lighted by ordinary mullioned windows, and the only feature indicating its purpose was a heavy stone belfry. The meeting-house took the name of "Lower Chapel" from its site being rather lower on the hill than the older chapel-of-ease (St. James's Church); but its position is some 200 to 300 feet higher than the central part of the modern town of Darwen.

Rev. Mr. Griffith died minister here in 1722, and was buried at the foot of the pulpit-stairs, where a portion of the grave-slab was recently to be seen. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. Burgess, appointed about the year 1723, and resigned about 1733. The next minister was Rev. Benjamin Mather, who was appointed in 1736, and died, after twelve years' service, Jan. 23rd, 1748-9. He was buried in the graveyard of the chapel.¹ There had been some division of the society on Mr. Mather's appointment; and a seceding section chose for their minister Mr. Robert Yates, of the family of Yates of Pickup Bank, who had been educated for the Nonconformist ministry at Glasgow. For Mr. Yates a chapel was built by his adherents a few yards to the south of the "Lower Chapel." It was known as "Yates's chapel," and is still standing, converted into dwelling-houses. Mr. Yates preached in this chapel until his death in 1748. The minister who followed Mr. Mather at the "Lower Chapel" was Mr. Robert Smalley, who married a member of Mr. Yates's family, and the matrimonial event was the means of reuniting the two congregations at the old meeting-house under Mr. Smalley's pastorate; when the Yates' chapel was disused as a place of public worship. Mr. Robert Smalley was born at Over Darwen

¹ This minister's tombstone in the ground on the south side of the chapel has the following epitaph:—"In hoc tumulo mortalitatis suæ Exuviæ spe lactæ Resurrectionis deposuit Benjaminus Matheris, S. T. P., hujus Ecclesiæ per annos duodecim fidelis Pastor et inter omnes Pietatis et Amicitiaæ assiduus cultor. Eadem qui vixit æquanimitate sine ullo nisi cordis ad Christum suspirio animum expiravit 23 Januarii anno 1748-9, ætatis 60. Amantissimi conjugis, optimi Patris, Theologi vere Xtiani clarum reliquit posterio exemplum. Exuviæ Edwardi Matheris hujus Ecclesiæ Pastoris Filii, nati Decembris 31, 1727, denati 19, Decembris 13, 1746."

in 1729 (see Smalley family of Hey Fold, p. 509); and was educated first by Dr. Doddridge, and subsequently studied for the ministry in Dr. Jennings' academy. In 1749, Mr. Smalley was invited to become pastor of the Independent Church in his native town, and accepted the appointment, but did not enter upon the duties until the completion of his college term in 1750. Mr. Smalley was ordained Aug. 14th, 1751; Dr. Jennings, his tutor, preached the ordination sermon, and Mr. Guyse delivered the charge. The chapel was found too small for the re-united Nonconformists of Darwen, and it was made more commodious by the erection of a gallery in 1753, when the fabric was otherwise improved and restored.

A paper in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1775, on "Duration of Life in Towns and Country Parishes and Villages," contains vital statistics from several places in Lancashire obtained by Dr. Percival, who reports a return from Rev. Mr. Smalley of his congregation at Darwen:—"The Rev. Mr. Smalley's congregation at Darwent consists of 1850 individuals, viz., 900 males, 950 females, 640 married persons, 30 widowers, 48 widows, 737 persons under the age of 15, and 218 above 50. During the last seven years the births have amounted to 508, the deaths to 233." The congregation was then (a century ago) one of the largest Dissenting communities in Lancashire.

Rev. Robert Smalley died, aged 62, Jan. 26th, 1791. He had been 40 years pastor of this church. Mr. Smalley was a man of literary taste and attainments, and an associate of some of the first men of letters and science of his time. After his death, an indirect attempt to introduce his son, Mr. Richard Smalley (who had been educated for a minister but whose habits were not such as became the function), as successor to the pastorate led to trouble and the detachment of a section of the congregation, who formed a second society, and built a small chapel at Pole Lane. Mr. Richard Smalley had to resign his appointment as minister of the "Lower Chapel" after about a year's probation. The next minister, Mr. Barratt, appointed in 1792, resigned in 1795. In 1795 the present minister's house was built. Rev. Richard Bowden was appointed minister in 1796. He married, in 1797, a Darwen lady, Miss Nancy Catlow, who was subsequently drowned, Nov. 20th, 1804, when crossing a ford in the Darwen stream on horseback during a flood. Mr. Bowden resigned this pastorate in 1813 and removed to London, where he died Jan. 20th, 1830. Succeeding ministers of the "Lower Chapel" have been:—Robert Blake, from Feb., 1814 to Aug., 1819; Robert Littler, from 1822 to May, 1828; Samuel Nichols, from May, 1829, to April, 1848; R. P. Clarke, from 1848 to 1859. In 1852, it was reported that the chapel was unsafe from the sinking of its founda-

tions, occasioned by coal mining underground ; and a majority of the congregation resolved to erect a new chapel in the heart of the town. This was done, and the minister, Rev. R. P. Clarke, continued to preach in the edifice then built. A considerable number of the congregation, traditionally attached to the old meeting-house, refused to leave it, and undertook to restore its stability. The members who remained took down the walls of the chapel, and, after the foundations had been consolidated, rebuilt it chiefly with the old materials ; but the east front was constructed of new stone. After restoration, the "Lower Chapel" was re-opened July 10th, 1853. Rev. George Berry became minister of the remnant of the congregation in April, 1854, and is the present pastor.

The site of the "Lower Chapel" and its extensive graveyard is on the slope of the hill ridge, which extends along the east side of the Darwen valley. The Meeting-house is a parallelogram, with vestry and lecture rooms at the north and west sides, and a belfry surmounting the west gable, formed by ionic pillars, and resting upon a turret-like projection. The main entrances are at the east end ; and in the upper portion of the east wall are three stone panels inscribed with the dates of the original erection and of the two restorations :—"1719 ;" "1753 ;" "1853." In the re-edification of 1853, the mullioned windows were somewhat enlarged and increased in number, and the walls were carried a little higher. Interiorly, the pulpit is placed in the middle of the north wall ; to the right of the pulpit is the organ apse. Before the rebenching of the area, in 1875, the pews were of the old-fashioned high and straight-backed formation. One square pew, said to have been brought from the first chapel at "Bottoms" built for Mr. Sagar, had inscribed upon a panel the initials—"L W I" and date "1704." In accordance with an old custom, several ministers and members of the church were formerly buried under the communion pew and other parts of the area, and the floor is partly composed of inscribed grave-stones. The ceiling is new and substantially panelled in wood. A school-house was built on the north side of the chapel yard in 1855.

THE POLE LANE, EBENEZER, AND BELGRAVE CHAPELS.

The members that seceded from the Lower Chapel on the appointment of Mr. Richard Smalley to be minister in 1792, built soon after a chapel in Pole Lane, on the road from Darwen to Hoddlesden. The Pole Lane Chapel was opened May 6th, 1793. Rev. Henry Townsend, from Cockermouth, was chosen as minister. In August, 1806, Mr. Townsend retired from that pastorate and, assisted by his friends, built a chapel in the Bolton-road, known as "Townsend's Chapel," or "The Refuge." It was a small square structure, without galleries, and was opened in 1808. Mr. Townsend some years afterwards betook himself to secular pursuits. The congregation at Pole Lane Chapel appointed Mr. William Hacking their minister, and he held the



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BELGRAVE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, DARWEN. [PAGE 525]

post until 1822. In that year, the two congregations at Pole Lane Chapel¹ and "The Refuge" coalesced, and the latter chapel being most eligible in situation, it was selected for use, re-edified and enlarged, and re-named "Ebenezer Chapel." Rev. Richard Fletcher became minister there in 1823, and resigned in 1831, on his removal to Manchester. Rev. Joseph Hague succeeded, in Oct., 1831, and died in August, 1835. Rev. S. T. Porter followed, in 1836, and quitted Darwen for a pastorate in Glasgow in 1848. During Mr. Porter's ministry the "Ebenezer Chapel" became too small, and the stately chapel in Belgrave Square was built, at a cost of more than £8000. "Belgrave Meeting House" was opened Oct. 21st, 1847; when Dr. Raffles preached. Rev. G. B. Johnson succeeded Mr. Porter in 1848, and resigned in 1858. Rev. D. Herbert, appointed pastor in 1859, resigned in 1865. Rev. James McDougall, the present pastor, was appointed in 1866. The old "Ebenezer Chapel" occupied ground adjacent to the present chapel, a portion of which was taken for the site of the Belgrave Schools, erected at a cost of £2,300. Other spacious schools were erected by this congregation in Bolton Road, at the north end of the town, in 1868, which cost about £2000. A school at Blacksnape, attached to Belgrave Church, was built in 1823. The Belgrave Chapel is a large and commodious edifice in the transitional style of gothic architecture. Its plan comprises nave, side aisles, east transept, and chancel apse (disposed as vestries and organ chamber) at the south end. The salient features of the exterior are, a lofty porch at the north end of the nave and of equal elevation, gabled to the front, and opening on three sides beneath high pointed arches, flanked by massive buttresses. From the roof-line between porch and nave springs a rich arcaded screen, finished with three gablets, and flanked by conical turrets resting upon graduated buttresses. A second porch on the east side opens into the transept, by a pointed arched doorway, under coupled lancet-windows. The windows of the aisles are lancet-lights. The interior is surrounded by galleries. Sittings 1100. Large extensions of the Belgrave Schools are at present (1876) in progress, and the project includes a new organ for the chapel and other alterations, estimated to cost about £6000.

DUCKWORTH STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This church was built in 1852-3 for the major section of the congregation of the old foundation of Lower Chapel, and was opened by Rev. Thos. Raffles, L.L.D., on June 23rd, 1853. The first cost was about £4000; but the use of bath stone for the exterior dressings and carving, which was speedily destroyed by the humidity and smoke of the locality, rendered it needful that extensive restorations should be made in 1868, when the decayed stone was replaced with Longridge stone, vestries added, the church entirely re-roofed, and a large organ placed in the chancel-recess. The restorations involved an additional expenditure of £2000. Schools had previously been built on a site at the north side of the Church, at a cost of £2000, and a manse, costing £1200, had also been provided. The church is an elegant gothic design; consisting on plan of nave with side aisles enclosed beneath the same roof; the bays of the aisles terminating in gablets on the roof-line; north and south transepts; and organ chamber flanked by vestries at the east end. The entrances are at the west front under an arcade of three pointed arches. Large traceried windows pierce the walls of the west end of the nave and the transepts. The side windows also have traceried heads.

¹ The Pole Lane Chapel has been demolished, but its burial-ground is kept enclosed by a high wall, and contains gravestones of the Walmsley, Green, Hindle, Leach, and Fish families. The foundations of the chapel at the north-east angle of the enclosure, show the ground-plan of a building about 35ft. long by 21ft. wide.

There is no tower, but the gable of the nave is high-pitched, and finished with a lofty pinnacle. The interior is galleried on three sides; behind the pulpit the organ chamber is separated from the church by an arcade of two pointed arches. Sittings 1300. Rev. Thomas Davies, the present minister, accepted this pastorate in 1860, succeeding Rev. R. P. Clarke, removed to Uxbridge in 1859.

WESLEYAN METHODIST SOCIETY IN OVER DARWEN.

The original Wesleyan Methodist Society in Over Darwen was formed about the year 1785. John Wesley passed through the township several times on his way from Bolton to Blackburn, and is said to have sojourned at the house of Mr. Entwistle at Sough, but it is not known that Wesley ever preached in the village. Mr. William Banning, the Blackburn Methodist, came periodically to Darwen between 1785 and 1788, and preached in the open air upon "The Green." Among the first resident Methodists here were William Greenwood, John Entwistle, Richard Cross of Scholes Fold (father of the late Robert Cross, town's missionary), James Whittaker, William Crook, and Burgoin Fish. The first preaching-place was a room over a blacksmith's shop in Wellington Fold. A large room at the bottom of Water-street was fitted up as a place of worship and Sunday school, and opened in 1788. Next, a chapel was built upon a site in Back Lane, which Wesley visited when in course of erection, accompanied by Mr. Banning. This first permanent meeting-house of the Darwen Methodists was opened in 1791. It was a plain structure about 42ft. square, with vestries in the rear, and a small belfry on the roof. The chapel was taken down in 1838 to make room for the "Centenary Chapel," built in 1839 upon an extended site, fronting to Belgrave-square. This chapel on the north side of the square cost £2,500. It has a rather elegant classic frontage, and contained, when in use as a chapel, 600 sittings. The school-room was in the basement. In 1863, a site for a new chapel was obtained in Station Road, the corner-stone of which was laid on the 1st of January, 1864, by John Holgate, Esq. The new chapel, called "Wesley Chapel," was opened on Good Friday (March 30th), 1866, by Rev. John Farrer and Rev. Wm. Shaw (President of the Conference). The chapel is a large edifice of classic architecture, built of freestone; and has a striking frontage emboldened by an architrave resting upon massive corinthian columns. The internal dimensions are 92ft. by 62ft., and there are spacious galleries. Cost £7,700; sittings 1250. On the removal of the congregation from the "Centenary Chapel" to Wesley Chapel in 1866, the former was reconstructed internally for use as Day and Sunday Schools, at a cost of £1,000.

ASTLEY-STREET SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—Astley-street school, formerly used by the Independents, was taken by the Wesleyan Methodists in 1870, and is used by them as a mission-room for worship and for Sunday Schools. Sittings 250.

MISSION-ROOM, OLD WORKHOUSE.—In the building which was formerly the town's workhouse, the Wesleyan Society now conduct a Sunday School, and religious worship. The preaching room will contain about 200 persons.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPELS.

RED EARTH ROAD CHAPEL.—A Primitive Methodist Society was formed in Over Darwen about the year 1825. Its place of worship was a temporary one in Winter-street until the year 1832, when the original chapel in Red Earth Road was built. This chapel, with some enlargement and addition of school building served the congregation until the year 1875, when it was found requisite to build a more spacious chapel. The corner-stone of the new edifice, on a site adjacent to the old one, was laid by John Walmsley, Esq., April 10th, 1875. It will be a plain gothic chapel, consisting of nave with wings at the end; and vestries and gallery for orchestra behind the pulpit. The school-premises are in the basement floor. Interiorly, there is a gallery over the vestibule. Cost £3500; sittings 700. Rev. James Crompton is present minister.

SCHOOL-CHAPEL, SANDHILL.—A school-chapel in Sandhill, designed for a preaching place and Sunday School for the Primitive Methodists, was built in 1869. Cost £300; sittings 200.

SCHOOL-CHAPEL, SOUGH.—A mission chapel was built for the Primitive Methodists at Sough, in this township, in 1874. Cost £350; sittings 200.

OTHER DISSENTING CHAPELS.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, BOLTON ROAD.—A Baptist Church was formed in Over Darwen in 1858; for which a permanent chapel was built in Bolton road, in 1862. It is a neat square edifice, in the classic style, with frontage relieved over the central doorways by pillasters with carved capitals. The interior of the chapel is fitted with galleries; and behind the pulpit at the east end is the organ chamber. The schools are in the basement storey. Cost £3000; sittings 550.

UNITED FREE METHODIST CHAPEL, DUCKWORTH STREET.—The Wesleyan Association built in Over Darwen a chapel in 1838, at a cost of £2,200, which subsequently became the property of the United Methodist Free Church. This chapel was made much larger by an extension at the rear in 1861, costing £2400. The interior is fitted with galleries, and an organ. Sittings 700.

UNITED METHODIST SCHOOL-CHAPEL, HOLLINS.—The United Free Methodists erected, in 1870, school buildings at Hollins, bordering this township, which are used both as Day and Sunday Schools and for public worship. The school-chapel was opened Dec. 1st, 1870. Cost £300; sittings 300.

ST. WILLIAM'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—A structure for use as chapel and school was built and opened for Roman Catholic worship on June 29th, 1856. Subsequently another attached building has been provided for school-purposes and the original fabric is now used exclusively as a chapel. Sittings 250. The cost of the premises has been about £1500. Rev. D. Vanderweighe is the priest in charge of this mission.

DAY AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The Day Schools of Darwen are numerous and generally efficient, and conducted in excellent school buildings, erected by the religious denominations by which the

schools are sustained. In the Report of the Committee of Council on Education for 1874-5, the Schools in Darwen under Government inspection are the following :—

CHURCH OF ENGLAND (NATIONAL) :—		Average	Annual Grant.
		Attendance.	£ s. d.
St. James's	- - - -	95	78 10 0
Holy Trinity	- - - -	279	190 19 0
St. John's	- - - -	210	164 8 3
Culvert	- - - -	168	125 0 0
Hoddlesden	- - - -	74	54 15 0
St. Cuthbert's	- - - -	97	78 1 8
NONCONFORMIST (BRITISH) :—			
Wesleyan	- - - -	218	163 10 0
Belgrave Congregational	- - - -	196	139 8 2
Bolton Road	„ - - -	178	118 0 0
Blacksnape	„ - - -	42	29 0 0
Duckworth Street	„ - - -	272	204 0 0
Lower Chapel	„ - - -	60	39 15 6
Hollins U. Free Methodist	- - - -	109	89 12 11
ROMAN CATHOLIC :—			
St. William's	- - - -	133	116 6 3

The total of average attendance at these schools is 2131; but the number of children enrolled on the school-books exceeds 3500; and the total school accommodation in the schools named will not be less than for 5000 children. Towards the building of the schools, public grants have been made to St. James's School, of £72; Holy Trinity School £92 8s.; and Hoddlesden, £171.

The Sunday Schools attached to every place of worship in Over Darwen include an aggregate of more than 6000 Sunday Scholars.

MARY SMALLEY'S CHARITY.

Mrs. Mary Smalley, by her Will dated 16th Sept., 1794, gave to the churchwardens of Over Darwen for the time being a yearly rent of £1 10s., payable to testatrix and her heirs for 999 years from Feb. 2nd, 1791, by virtue of a deed made in consideration of a demise of part of a tenement in Over Darwen called White Hall, to be laid out in linen cloth annually for distribution amongst the Poor of that place. This donation was made void by the Act 9 Geo. II. c. 36; but a sum of £1 10s. has usually (but not regularly every year) been paid to the churchwarden of St. James's, and distributed by him amongst Poor parishioners.

CHAPTER VIII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF GREAT HARWOOD.

Topography—Name—Early industries—Population—Cotton Factories—Local Government—Descent of the Manor—Fytton, original Lords—Hesketh of Martholme—Martholme Hall—Nowell—Lomax, present Lord—Minor Families—Cockshutt—Duxbury—Mercer—Robertshaw—Turner—Church of St. Bartholomew—Annals of the Chapelry—Church Fabric—List of Vicars—Roman Catholic Church—Independent and Methodist Chapels—Charities—Sir Edmund Assbeton's Dole—The School Trust—Elementary Schools.

GREAT HARWOOD township, anciently designated *Harewode Magna*, or *Moche Harwode*, occupies the easterly side of the parish of Blackburn betwixt Billington on the north and Rishton on the south. The extent of the township is given as 2510 statute acres. On the north-west side of Great Harwood extends a moor which culminates in the conical hill of Bowlee and the heights above Allsprings Park, which command a noble landscape across the deep gorge of the Calder near Moreton, and up the ravine of Sabden with Pendle-hill for background. The fertile demesne of Martholme, an ancient seat of the Heskeths, comprises the low lands of the township along the left bank of the Calder river. The modern manufacturing village or town of Harwood extends down the southern slope of the moor in the direction of the Hyndburn, a tributary of the Calder, which here divides the township from Clayton-in-les-Moors in Whalley parish. United with a portion of Rishton township Great Harwood is an old parochial chapelry.

The name given in Saxon times to the vill, of *Harewode*, implies that its primitive condition was chiefly that of woodland. Yet its riparian levels must have invited agriculture at an early period, and doubtless formed the first clearing of land which soon after the Norman Conquest is found treated by the superior lord as a mesne manor. But as late as the sixteenth century, a great proportion of the soil of Great Harwood was still unreclaimed in moor and common, or covered with timber and underwood.

Although the population of this township was chiefly agricultural until a recent period, the weaving of rough linen cloths and of checks or plaids was an industry of some importance in Great Harwood at least

250 years since ; and the Harwood chapmen or dealers in these native wares were noted for their pushing habits as traders in the Commonwealth time. The native yeoman families of Hindle, Taylor, Mercer, Robertshaw, Dobson, Cunliffe, Dugdale, Turner, and Feilden, had long furnished energetic salesmen of the textile fabrics made in the district. Sixty years ago there was a busy cottage industry in weaving hand-loom calico ; and then the factory system came in to give its great impetus to trade and to population. A number of the people were also profitably employed at the large printworks just beyond the bottom of the village at Oakenshaw. The first cotton mill was started in Great Harwood by Mr. Lawrence Catterall, about the year 1846; and in spite of the want of railroad connexion with the Manchester and Liverpool markets (a deficiency now about to be supplied by a branch railway from Blackburn through the township), a considerable town has risen on the site of the old village of Harwood, made up of manufactories and cottages for the workpeople, with a good supply of shops, and an adequate provision of places of religious worship and schools.

The population of the township in 1718 was not more than 700 souls. At the census of 1801 the population was 1659 ; and its progress since has been as follows :—In 1811, 1676 persons ; 1821, 2104 ; 1831, 2436 ; 1841, 2273 ; 1851, 2548 ; 1861, 4070 ; 1871, 4907 ; 1876 (estimate), 5500.

The cotton manufacture of Great Harwood is carried on in four spinning mills (including a second mill of the "Butts Spinning Company" in process of erection) with an aggregate of 83,000 spindles, and nine weaving mills (including one mill of 612 power looms at present standing), having a total of 4390 power looms. The other trading industries of the town are the Great Harwood Coal Company, which works two coal pits, one at Martholme, and the other at the top of Water Street in Lowertown ; and the Clayton Street Iron Foundry.

The town is under the government of a Local Board of Health, composed of twelve members. The formation of the Board was gazetted Sept. 25th, 1863 ; and the first election of members took place Oct 22nd, 1863. John Mercer, Esq., J.P., was appointed Chairman at the Board's first meeting on Nov. 4th, in the same year. Thomas Clough, Esq., first Clerk to the Board, resigned in Nov. 1866, when Mr. Richard Chippendale, the present Clerk, was appointed. Mr. Joseph Haydock, present Chairman, has held the office since Nov., 1867. The Local Board have carried out, at a cost of about £12,000, a complete system of drainage, whereby the sanitary state of the town has been greatly improved, and serious outbreaks of typhoid fever, which before the existence of the Board had been frequent, have been prevented.

Great Harwood is supplied with gas by the Accrington Gas Company; and with water by the Accrington Water Works Company, who are constructing new reservoirs at the Dean in this township for the supply of water to Great Harwood, Clayton, Rishton, and Church-Kirk.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR.

After the Norman settlement, this manor remained in the hands of De Lascys, lords of Blackburnshire, until Henry de Lascy granted it to Richard de ffytton, who was Justice of Chester, A.D. 1233. The grant was confirmed by Robert de Lascy, son of Henry.

The ancient boundaries of the township are thus defined in Robert de Lascy's charter:—Beginning at the head of the Redbrok, following the Redbrok eastwards unto the Denecrage, and so on the west side of the same ascending northwards on the west unto the Stonerake in the way there, so following unto the foot of the Rissheham on the north side of the said way, and so from the foot of the Rissheham unto the lay below Sixcliff, following thence unto the Nabbnoke, following downwards unto the little rivulet, following the rivulet below the Fallingstone unto the water of Caldre, following the said water upwards unto the foot of the water of Hyndburne, and so up the watercourse of Hyndburne unto the foot of Northdene, following upwards the water of Northdene westward unto a certain rivulet crossing Dungecar, following the said rivulet up below Taggetstone, following the said rivulet as long as it continues, and thence straight to the head of Redbrok, the first boundary.

FYTTON, LORDS OF GREAT HARWOOD.

Richard de ffytton, who obtained the grant of this manor, was eldest son of Richard de ffytton of Bolyn, Co. Chester,¹ who had a second son John (named hereafter). Richard de ffytton died in 1246. His son and heir was Hugh.

Hugh ffytton, eldest son of Richard, had a grant from his sire of "all the manor of Harwode in Blackburnshire," with homage of Richard Phitun, grantor's uncle, and John, his brother. In the *Testa de Nevill*, Hugh Fiton appears, holding the fourth part of a knight's fee in Harwode of the Earl of Lincoln. He had a son Edmund.

Edmund ffytton, son of Hugh, had a son John, from whom descended the ffyttons of Bolyn and Gawsworth. But this Edmund ffytton had granted, before the birth of a son, to his kinsman, Richard ffytton, all his land of Harewode. Edmund ffytton died in 24 Edw. I. (1296).

Richard Fytton, grantee of Harwood Manor from Edmund last-named, was the son of John Fytton, brother of Richard first-named above. He had a son William, and three daughters, Maude, Amabil, and Elizabeth. William, Richard's son, died without issue, probably in his father's lifetime, and thus his three sisters, Richard's daughters, became co-heirs of this manorial estate. An indenture in Norman-

¹ The descent of Fyttons in the Hesketh Pedigree Roll is wrong. Mr. W. A. Hulston's account (Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey, pp. 245-6) agrees with known evidences, and is followed above.

French inserted by St. George in the Hesketh record relates to a dispute which was between John de Hesketh and Adam Nowell concerning tenements in Great Harwood which, after the death of William Fitton, were partitioned between his three sisters and heirs and their lords, viz., between William de Heskaith and Maude his wife, Edmond de Legh and Amabilia his wife, and Roger Nowell and Elizabeth his wife. This was in the reign of Edward II. By this division the Heskeths of Rufford, Nowells of Great Mearley, and De Leghs of Hapton, became joint lords of the manor; but presently one of the Heskeths purchased the portion of De Legh, and thereafter held two third-parts of the estate and manorial rights.

HESKETH OF HESKETH, RUFFORD, AND MARTHOLME.

Richard de Hesketh, the first known member of this ancient house, had a son and heir, William, who succeeded him. William de Hesketh married Anabel, daughter and heir of Richard de Stafford, and had a son Robert. Robert Hesketh of Hesketh was father of William.

William Hesketh had to wife Elbora, daughter and sole heiress of Richard and Isabel de Tottleworth (in Rishton township), and had issue a son William; and younger sons, John, and Adam.

This son was "Sir William Hesketh, Knt., lord of Heskaith and Beconsawe," who married, in 1276, Maude, daughter and co-heir of Richard Fytton, lord of Great Harwood. Sir William Hesketh is found holding, in 1311, two carucates of land in the township by knight service and rent of 2s. 6d. to Clyderhou court. Sir William had sons, Thomas, the heir, and Adam, who had issue William.

Thomas Hesketh of Rufford, lord of Great Harwood, married Alice, daughter of Waring de Bispham, lord of Bispham, and had issues Robert, died without issue; John; William; and Richard (who had a son Stephen); also a daughter Margaret, wife of Roger Nowell, Esq.

Robert, first son of Thomas, being dead without heir, the estates passed to the second son, John. Sir John Hesketh, Knt., married Alice, sole daughter and heir of Edmund Fytton, lord of half Rufford, and had issue, a son William, and a daughter Matilda.

Sir William Hesketh, Knt., son and heir of Sir John, was living in the 29th Edward III. (1355). Sir William had to wife Marcilla, daughter and co-heir of Twenge, of Kendal, and had sons, Thomas, and William.

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Banastre,¹ had sons, Robert, who died in 1399 without issue; Nicholas, next heir; and Gilbert. In 1377 Thomas Hesketh was returned as

¹ Of the branch of Banastres seated in Leyland Hundred. The Hesketh pedigrees all err in styling this Thomas Banastre lord of Newton and Walton. Mr. Wm. Langton points out that no Thomas Banastre ever held those lordships.

holding the fourth part of a Knight's fee in Harwood Magna of the Duke of Lancaster, and paying 5s. to the Court at Cliderhou.

Nicholas Hesketh, Esq., succeeding Thomas his father, married Margaret, daughter of — Minshull (she died in 1417, her husband being before deceased; for in April, 1417, the escheator received precept to assign to Margaret, widow of Nicholas de Hesketh, her reasonable dower out of her husband's lands). Nicholas de Hesketh died Aug. 10th, 1416. By inquisition taken at Ormskirk, Jan. 28th, 1417, it was found that Nicholas de Hesketh died seized in his lordship as of fee of the manor of Harwood, held of the king in chief as of his duchy of Lancaster by knight service, worth yearly £10; also of Roghford (Rufford) manor, held of the abbot and convent of Chester in socage by the rent of 40s. yearly, worth £22; also of one messuage in the vill of Risshton held of the heir of Edmond Talbot in socage, by the rent of 6s. 8d. yearly, worth 4 marks.

Thomas Hesketh, son and heir, was aged 10 years in 1417.¹ March 9th, 6th Henry VI. (1427), a writ *de etate probanda* was addressed to the escheator of Lancashire for Thomas de Hesketh, son and heir of Nicholas, being in the wardship of Sir Robert Lawrence, Knt.; and a few days later, the escheator received a precept to give to Thomas de Hesketh, son and heir of Nicholas, livery of the lands of his inheritance. Thomas Hesketh married, about 1417, Sibill, daughter and co-heir of Sir Robert Lawrence, Knt., and had issue, sons, Hugh, died without issue; Thomas, eventual heir; and Nicholas. Thomas Hesketh, Esq., died Dec. 18th, 1458,² being seized of Great Harwood and Rufford manors, and of a messuage in Rishton.

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., lord of Rufford and Martholme, &c., succeeded Sir Thomas his sire, and died Oct. 8th, 1463. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Hamon (or Hamnet) Mascye of Rixton, Esq., by whom he had a numerous progeny:—sons, Robert, the heir; William Hesketh, chaplain; Thomas; John, a priest; Hugh; William (father of Bartholomew, first of Aughton); Geoffrey; Richard; Henry; and Nicholas, a priest; also one daughter, Margaret.

¹ Inquisition taken March 5th, 1428, showed that Thomas de Hesketh was then of the age of 21 years and upwards, and that his father Nicholas de Hesketh said that Thomas de Hesketh was born at Laholmes 7th Henry IV. (1406), and was baptized at the church of Croston. (Lanc. Inquis., ed. by Mr. Langton.)

² The Inquisition for the escheat, taken May 9th, 1460, returns that Robert Hesketh, son of Thomas, was his next heir, aged 31 years; but the family Pedigree Roll differs here in placing another Thomas Hesketh as son and successor of Thomas who died in 1458, and Robert Hesketh as son and heir of the later Thomas. The printed pedigree of the family has been followed in the text, but it cannot be reconciled with the evidence of two inquisitions abstracted by Christopher Towneley, which clearly show Nicholas, dying in 1416, father of Thomas, died in 1458, father of Robert, aged 31 in 1460. For copies of these inquisitions I have to thank Wm. Langton, Esq.

Robert Hesketh, Esq., son of Thomas, died Jan. 1st, 1489-90. His wife was Alice, daughter of Sir Robert Booth, Knt., of Dunham Mascye, Co. Chester. Issue, sons, Thomas the heir; Robert; William; John; Hugh (Hugh Hesketh, clerk, ordained in 1500, chantry priest at Rufford in 1506, nominated Bishop of Man by Thomas Earl of Derby, in 1522); a second William; Geoffrey; Richard (Richard Hesketh, Attorney General to Henry VIII., died Aug. 17th, 1520); Henry, and Nicholas; and daughters, Margaret, wife of Henry Kighley, Esq.; Dowse, first wife of John Nowell of Read, Esq.; and Alice, wife of Sir Richard Aughton, Knt. The escheat inquisition was taken ten years after the death of Robert Hesketh, Esq., in the 14th Henry VII., when it was found that he had enfeoffed Robert Boothe and others in his estates, including Markithholme Manor in Magna Harwood, held of the King by knight service; lands in Nether Harwood and Totleworth, &c. Thomas Hesketh was his son and heir. After the death of Robert Hesketh, Esq., his widow, Alice, professed chastity, took the order of the Mantle and the Ring, and founded a chantry at the altar of St. Mary in Rufford chapel. Her sepulchral memorial is a Latin epitaph:—"Hic jacet Alicia Hesketh, vidua, quondam uxor Rob'ti Hesketh, armig, quæ obiit 17 die Sep. An. Dom. 1498 (14 Henry VII). Cujus anime propitiatur Deus."

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., next lord of Great Harwood, married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of William Fleming, Baron of Wath and lord of Croston. From her he was divorced, on her declaration that she had another husband, in the year 1497.¹ Thomas Hesketh had a son Robert, not born in matrimony, by Alice daughter of Christopher Haworth, styled his second wife in the Visitation of 1567; and had another bastard son, Charles, and a daughter Helen. He afterwards married Grace, daughter of Sir John Towneley, Knt. (she died June 29th, 1510). Thomas Hesketh, Esq., died Aug. 14th, 1523,² and the escheat,

¹ Documents in Harleian MS. 2077, relating to the process of this divorce, set forth that Thomas Hesketh married Elizabeth Fleming, both being under age, and either of them being entitled to fourscore marks yearly, and long after the marriage it fortuneed the said Elizabeth to be with child, and she confessed before the birth of that child that it was another man's and another husband's; also, that Elizabeth Fleming before the divorce had given to Thomas Hesketh that was her husband and his heirs part of her lands, worth yearly betwixt the value of £20 and 40 marks; and that after the divorce she had a son Edward Fleming, married Thurston Hall, and had by him four or five children, &c.

² An indenture dated the 6th Aug. 14 Henry VIII. (1522), witnesses that Thomas Hesketh, Esq., had delivered unto John, Abbot of Whalley, and to the Convent there, "thretnne peaces of evidences safely and surely to be kepud in ye said Monastrie to ye use of ye said Thomas for terme of his liff," and after his decease "to be kepud in ye said Monastrie to ye use of Robert Hesketh sone of ye said Thomas and of ye heirs male of ye said Robert," &c. No. 8 of these evidences is the exemplification of a recovery had by William Molyneux, Esq. and others, against Thomas Hesketh, Esq., of all his manors, mesnes, lands, &c., in the county of Lancaster, for the use of the said Thomas and his heirs in fee simple. Done at the Lancaster sessions, 3 Henry VIII. (1511). No. 12 is a Will made by Thomas Hesketh, Esq., of the same, dated 2nd July, 14 Henry VIII. (1522), for the "more plaine declaration of certen articles specyfyed in ye said former Will," &c. (Towneley MSS.)

of the 15th Henry VIII., returned him as having been seized of Rufford Manor and Chantry ; Hoghwick manor ; in Magna Harwode, of the manor of Martholme ; and of messuages, lands, woodlands, and rents in Totilworthe, Oswaldtwisell, Wiswall, Dynkley, Aghton, Walton-in-le-Dale, Witton, Mellor, and in about 57 other townships and hamlets in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Westmoreland. Robert Hesketh his natural son was then a minor, and was made by his father's Will successor to the hereditary estates.

Sir Robert Hesketh, Knt. (son of Thomas) is recorded to have "served King Henry VIII. in Fraunce, and for his valoure, forwardnes, actvytye and good service theare was knighted by the King's own hand with great countenance and many good woordes." This Knight married Grace, daughter of Sir John Towneley of Towneley, Knt., and by her had issue, Thomas ; Robert ; Ellen, wife of Richard Barton of Barton Row, Esq.; and Jane, wife of Richard Asheton of Croston, Esq. Sir Robert Hesketh died in 1539. The Hesketh tomb at Rufford church formerly bore the epitaph :—"Here lyeth under Sir Robert Hesketh, Knt., and Dame Grace his wife, which said Robert dyed the 8th day of February, A.D. 1539, and the foresaid. Grace dyed the 28th of May, A.D. 1543."

Thomas Hesketh, lord of Rufford, Martholme, Harwode, knighted Oct. 2nd, 1553, was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1563. He is stated to have "served his sovraigne (Elizabeth) in Scotland at the seige of Leethe (Leith), and theare was sore hurte in divers places, and had his ensigne strooken downe, which he recovered againe, with great commendacions for his forwardnes and good service, and was in his latter dayes a noteable good housekeeper, and benefactor to all men singuler in eny science,¹ and greatlie repaired the house at Martholme and Holmes Wood, and the Chappell at Rufford." His wife was Alice, daughter of Sir John Holcroft, of Holcroft, Knt., and he had sons, Robert, bapt. at Whalley, Jan. 20th, 1560 ; Thomas, bapt. at Great Harwood, May 15th, 1561 ; and Richard, bapt. at Great Harwood, July 28th, 1562 ; and daughters, Grace, bapt. at Whalley, Nov. 9th, 1554 ; Dorothy, wife of Henry Squier ; and Margery, bapt. at Whalley, Nov. 15th, 1557, married Nicholas Skillicorne, Esq., of the Fylde, and died May 10th, buried at Great Harwood Church, May 16th, 1606. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Knt., died in 1588. The wardens of Harwood have recorded :—"Thomas Hesketh knyghte dyed 20 daie of June in ye 30 yere of Quene Elizabeth, ano. dom. 1588, and was buryed in ye chappell." His Will is dated June

¹ John Gerarde, in his "Herbal" (1597), names the Lancashire asphodel as growing in moist places "near unto Mawdesley and Martom [Martholme], where it was found by a worshipful and learned gentleman, a diligent searcher of simples and fervent lover of plants, Master Thomas Hesketh, who brought the plants thereof unto me for the increase of my garden."

20th, 1588. His widow, dame Alice Hesketh, died at Penkith, March 25th, 1604-5, and was buried in Great Harwood Chapel.

Thomas Hesketh, second son of Thomas, dwelt at Martholme sometime with his widowed mother. He was a Roman Catholic; and the church-book of Harwood records:—"1593. Thomas Hesketh, Esquyer, a Recusante, dyd notifiye his cominge to the Martholme to dwell with his mother, to me W. Harris, Curat of the Chapel of Moch Harwood, the fourth daie of October ao. regni regine Eliz. 36."

Robert Hesketh, Esq., lord of Rufford, Martholme, &c., married, first, Marie, daughter of Sir George Stanley, Knt., of the Crosshall, and had sons, Thomas; Robert; Henry; George, married Jane Sherburne, and had a son Robert; John, married Mary Haydock, and had a son Robert. The daughters were, Holcroft, wife, first, of Lawrence Rawsthorne, of New-hall, and secondly, of Roger Dodsworth, gent., the antiquary; Jane, bapt. at Whalley, Nov. 14th, 1576, wife of William Reynolds; and Mary, wife, first, of Richard Barton, Esq., secondly of Thomas Stanley, of Eccleston, Esq. "Marie, wife of Robert Hesketh, Esq.," was buried at Great Harwood Church, July 21st, 1586. Robert Hesketh's second wife was Blanche, daughter of Henry Twyford, Esq.; she had no issue. His third wife was Jane, daughter of Thomas Spencer of Rufford (who afterwards wedded Sir Richard Hoghton of Hoghton Tower, Knt. and Bart.), by whom Robert Hesketh, Esq., had sons, Robert (born before marriage), and Cuthbert Hesketh, of Kenwick, Co. Salop. Robert Hesketh died in 1620.

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., next scion, married thrice, but had no issue by any marriage. His wives were: 1, Susan Powes; 2, Jane Edmonson; 3, Catherine, daughter of Alexander Briers of Lathom. Thomas Hesketh died in November, 1646.

Robert Hesketh, next brother, succeeded to the estates on Thomas's death without heirs. He had to wife Margaret, daughter of Alexander Standish of Standish, Esq., and by her had sons, Robert; and Hugh, died in July, 1622. The elder Robert Hesketh died in January, 1653.

Robert Hesketh the son died in his father's lifetime, in Sept., 1651; but left issue by his wife, Lucy, daughter of Alexander Rigby, of Middleton, Esq., a son Thomas, born in 1647; he had also a son Alexander, died young; and daughters, Margaret, died unmarried, aged 20; and Lucy, died young.

Thomas Hesketh, a child of six on succeeding his grandsire, married Sidney, daughter of Sir Richard Grosvenor of Eaton, knt.; had issue, Robert; Thomas; Richard, Sidney, Lettice, and Margaret (these four died young); Ann, wife of Hugh Warren of Poynton, Esq.; and Jane, wife of Henry Brooke, Esq.

Robert Hesketh, Esq., heir of Thomas, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Spencer of Ashton, Esq., had an only child, a daughter Elizabeth, who married Sir Edward Stanley of Bickerstaff, Bart., afterwards Earl of Derby. Robert Hesketh, Esq., is named by Leigh as being afflicted with the black jaundice in 1696.¹

Thomas Hesketh, next brother of Robert, became lord of Rufford, Martholme, &c., on his brother's death without male heir. He married Anne, daughter of Sir Richard Graham, Bart., and had issue, a son, Thomas; and a daughter Jane, died young.

The next Thomas Hesketh, Esq., was M. P. for Preston from 1722 to 1728. By his wife Martha, daughter of James St. Amand, of London, Esq., he had issue, sons, Thomas, and Robert, both died young; a second Thomas, born Jan. 21st, 1727-8; and Robert, born in 1729.

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., son of the last Thomas, was created a baronet in 1761, with remainder in favour of his brother Robert. He had married Harriet, daughter of Ashley Cooper, Esq., but was without issue. Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart., died March 4th, 1778.

Robert, his brother, succeeded to the estates and title. Sir Robert's wife was Sarah, daughter of William Plumbe, Esq. (she died in 1792). Issue, Thomas; Robert, a volunteer in the American war, killed at Bunker's Hill, unmarried; and Anne, wife of Henry Byne, Esq. Sir Robert Hesketh took the name of Juxon in 1792, and died in 1796.

Thomas Hesketh, Esq., son of Sir Robert, born in 1748, died in his father's lifetime in 1781. By his wife Jacinthia, daughter of Hugh Dalrymple, Esq., he had issue, Thomas, born 1772, died young; Thomas Dalrymple, born at New York, Jan. 13th, 1777; and daughters, Harriet Ann; Dorothea; Jacinthia Catherine; Charlotte Margaret; and Lucy, all of whom married (*vide* Burke).

The next baronet, Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh, by his wife Sophia, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Hinde, Vicar of Shifnall, Co. Salop, had sons, Thomas Henry, born Feb. 11th, 1798; and William Juxon, died young; daughters, Harriet; Sophia Elizabeth; Charlotte; and Maria Catherine. Sir T. D. Hesketh died July 27th, 1842.

Sir Thomas Henry Hesketh, Bart., died Feb. 10th, 1843, having held the estates and title only a few months. He had issue, by his wife Annette Maria, daughter of Robert Bamford, Esq., an only son, Thomas George; and a daughter Maria Harriet, wife of Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart.

Sir Thomas George Fermor-Hesketh, Bart., married, March 10th, 1846, the Lady Anna Maria Arabella Fermor, eldest daughter of the fourth Earl of Pomfret, and a co-heir of her brother the last Earl. Issue,

¹ Nat. Hist. Lanc. and Chesh., p. 96.

Thomas Henry, born Jan. 9th, 1847; Thomas George, born May 9th, 1849; Hugh Robert, born 1850; Edith Elizabeth; Constance Maria; and Augusta Sophia. Sir T. G. Fermor-Hesketh sat in Parliament as M.P. for Preston from 1865 until his decease in 1873.

Sir Thomas Henry Fermor-Hesketh, the next baronet, died without issue, May 25th, 1876, in his 30th year, when the estates and title were taken by his next brother, Capt. T. G. Fermor-Hesketh.

Of the long-deserted manorial mansion of Martholme, standing amidst the land meadow and pasture lands of its demesne near the left bank of the Calder, the fragmentary and contracted portions remaining serve but to suggest the general plan and character of its structure. Martholme Hall must have been built and rebuilt twice or thrice during several centuries that it was a seat of the Fyttons and Heskeths in succession. The last substantial restoration was carried out by Thomas Hesketh, Esq., early in the reign of Elizabeth, as attested in the record of him I have cited, that he "greatly repaired the house at Martholme." The house is reached by a by-road branching off to the east from the Accrington and Whalley highway. The approach is under a picturesque gateway, having a wide semi-circular arch in the centre, over the keystone of which is a shield emblazoned on stone, displaying the arms of Fytton, flanked by the initials "R H" and the date "1607." The wall on either side is carried over the gateway by a series of steps, and the centre-stone is surmounted by a columnar finial. The gateway opens into an outer court-yard, which leads to a second circular-arched gateway in the midst of a two-storied structure, which is also pierced on each side of the arch and in the upper storey by moulded mullioned windows of three lights. This archway is roughly moulded; and in a large stone panel above the arch is a sculptured shield, with mantlings, helmet, and crest, displaying the armorial insignia of the Heskeths. Above the shield are the initials "T H" (Thomas Hesketh), and the date "1561," indicating the period of this addition to the mansion. Within the gateway is an oaken door in a low pointed arch, under a square moulded head; and in the spandrils of the arch are two carved heraldic shields, one bearing a cross flory, the other, a garb, or. The inner view of the gatehouse presents a massive splayed circular arch; with a mullioned and transomed window above. There is a square chimney at one end of the roof-ridge, and the sculptured stem of a cross on the other. The house itself, at the north end of the inner court-yard, has suffered demolition of its whole west wing, and now shows on the south view a projecting east wing, gabled, lighted with mullioned windows; a recessed centre, gabled, with three ranges of window-lights; a pointed arched doorway in the westerly termination of the remaining



MARTHOLME, OLD MANOR HOUSE OF GREAT HARWOOD, REBUILT A.D. 1561.

(From a Drawing by W. A. WADDINGTON, Esq.)

wall, with remains of a mullioned and transomed window over it. This arch being in a direct line from the gateway has evidently been the main central entrance to the quadrangular block of the mansion as originally planned. It opens into a long passage having a pointed arch recessed under a circular one at the other extremity; and in the east wall of the passage are two narrow pointed-arched doorways leading into the dining room. In the south wall, between the second and upper windows, is a stone panel with sculptured frame, enclosing "an eagle displayed with two heads proper" having a garb on its breast; in the upper corners of the panel are the figures "15—77" (the date 1577), and in the lower corners the initials "T H" (Thomas Hesketh). In the interior of the portion of the house yet intact, the parlour has its broad low-arched fire-place, the arch being about 1 ft. wide by 6 ft. deep and 6 ft. high, and splayed on its outer edge. A similar arch encloses the kitchen fire-place. In the rear wall of the house are two small window lights of evident age, with trefoil heads, and one with head of rude tracery. In a field to the west of the buildings are traces of one side of the trench of the moat, running north and south. The tenant informed me that in the meadow west of the hall a very large ash tree formerly stood; and a little further on, out of a sluice or gutter an old oak chest was taken nearly forty years ago. A table made of the wood is now at Clayton Hall.

ESTATE IN GREAT HARWOOD OF NOWELL OF GREAT MEARLEY
AND READ.

Roger Nowell of Great Mearley, it has been stated above, married Elizabeth, third daughter and co-heiress of Richard Fytton, who brought to the Nowells the third part of the manor of Harwood Magna, that portion, namely, anciently called Netherton, now, Lowertown. By this heiress Roger Nowell had a son Adam, party to the dispute with John Hesketh concerning lands in Great Harwood (*vide* Hesketh); this Adam Nowell received from Edward I., in the 12th of his reign (1284), "for his good service expended for us in certain parts of Scotland," a grant that he, Adam Nowell, and his heirs for ever, should have "a market weekly on the Thursday at their manor of Netherton in Magna Harwode." Adam Nowell's son, Richard Nowell (living in 1351), by Johanna his wife had a son Lawrence Nowell, the first seated at Read; whose son and heir was John, seized of the manor of Read and portion of the manor of Magna Harwode in 1398. It was this John Nowell who, in the 13th Richard II. (1389), came to the chapel of Harwode and there, acknowledging that he held certain tenements in Harwode, of Thomas de Hesketh in chief by knight service, swore to the said Thomas Hesketh that he John Nowell would to him bear fealty for the

free tenements he held of him in Harwode, and would loyally perform all customs and services. John Nowell's son and heir Nicholas Nowell was father of Alexander Nowell, whose wardship, with custody of the manor of Read and half the manor of Great Harwood, was granted to Richard Towneley, Esq., in 12th Henry VI. (1434). Roger Nowell, next scion, married a daughter of Thomas Hesketh, Esq., lord of Great Harwood, but was divorced from her; and his son John Nowell, Esq. dying in 1526, was found seized, among other estates, of a third part of Magna Harwode manor. His son, Roger Nowell, Esq., died in 1566, seized of a third part of this manor, held of Thomas Hesketh, Knt., by knight service. His son Roger, dying in 1591, held the same estate; and his son, Roger Nowell, Esq.,¹ dying in 1623, by an inquisition taken at Preston, April 8th, 22nd James I., was found to have held at death Reade Manor; the third part of the manor of Magna Harwood, with 20 messuages, 100 acres of land, 50 of meadow, 10 of pasture, 40 of woodland and underwood, 200 of moor and 100 of turbary (a total of 500 acres of land) in Magna Harwood; also, two messuages, 15 acres of land, 10 of meadow, 16 of pasture in Dinckley in Blackburn Parish. The above notes show the continuance of the manorial estate in this township in the Nowells from the middle of the thirteenth to the seventeenth century. It remained with them onward until Alexander Nowell, Esq., seventeenth in descent from Roger Nowell who had the estate with the heiress of Fytton, alienated the Great Harwood property sometime prior to his death in 1772.

LOMAX, PRESENT LORD OF GREAT HARWOOD.

Richard Lomax, Esq., of Pilsworth, by his marriage with Rebecca Heywood (granddaughter of John Grimshaw, Esq., and sole heiress of the manorial estate of Clayton-in-les-Moors, long held by the Grimshaws) had issue a son and heir, James Lomax. The latter, after his succession, rebuilt Clayton Hall, and purchased from Alexander Nowell, Esq., sometime before 1772, that portion of Great Harwood manor and appurtenant estate which had belonged to the Nowells of Read during several centuries. James Lomax, Esq., died, aged 75, Jan. 6th, 1792. He married Elizabeth Lord (she died, aged 78, Sept. 8th, 1805), by whom he had sons, Richard Grimshaw; James (Captain in the Royal

¹ In 36 Eliz. (1594), Roger Nowell as seized in fee, was against Robert Hesketh, as occupier of two-thirds of the Manor of Much Harwood, in a suit in the Chancery Court of the Duchy involving a third part of lands and tenements there with right of common and turbary, stone, gorse and rush, on Harwood Moor and Bowlas Hill, as formerly the inheritance of William Fitton, and homage and fealty. Seven years subsequently (1601), Robert Hesketh, as son and heir of Sir Thomas Hesketh, Knt., laid a plaint against Roger Nowell, Christopher Cuoliffe, and Henry Hamood, claiming homage, fealty, escuage, and rent of messuages, lands, and hereditaments, called the Lower Town and High Town of Harwoode, in Great Harwood manor. (Cal. to Plead., iii, p. 309, and p. 461.)

Lancashire Volunteers, died, aged 40, April 15th, 1805); and John, died young; and a daughter Elizabeth, married to M. F. Trappes, Esq., of Nidd Hall, Yorkshire. Richard Grimshaw Lomax, Esq., acquired by purchase, early in the present century, the major portion of Great Harwood manor and the Martholme demesne from the Hesketh family, and thus this manor, which had been severed in the 13th century, was at length united under one proprietor. Richard Grimshaw Lomax, Esq., married, in 1797, Catherine, daughter of Thomas Greaves, Esq., of Preston, and had sons, James (died, aged 4, in 1802); Richard (died unmarried, aged 22, March 16th, 1822); John; a second James; William, Walter, and Charles, all in holy orders of the Church of Rome; Edmund; and Thomas; and daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, and a second Mary. The father died, aged 74, Jan. 20th, 1837. John Lomax, Esq., eldest son and heir, married Helen, second daughter of John Aspinall, Esq., of Standen Hall, but died without issue July 15th, 1849, and was succeeded by his brother James. James Lomax, Esq., lord of Great Harwood and Clayton, married, in 1845, Frances Cecilia, eldest daughter of Charles Walmesley, Esq., of Westwood, but has no issue. James Lomax, Esq., built, in 1839 (prior to his succession to his elder brother), the handsome mansion of Allsprings, in a very picturesque situation upon the Great Harwood estate. The extent of the Lancashire estates of the Lomax family (chiefly in Great Harwood and Clayton-in-les-Moors), is stated in the recent Parliamentary Return of Landowners at 2988 statute acres, with a gross rental of £6291. Some 2300 acres of the total are in the township of Great Harwood.

Subjoined are notices of several families of lesser gentry and yeomen of the township :—

COCKSHUTT OF GREAT HARWOOD.

Roger Cockshot was assessed on his lands in Magna Harwood to a Subsidy in 1523. In 1584, John Cockshot, gent. occurs as a juror. Thomas Cockshot was buried at Great Harwood Church, July 8th, 1608.

George Cockshot, taxed to the Subsidy in 1610, had twin daughters, Lettice and Elizabeth, bapt. Jan. 19th, 1609, and probably was father of Edmund, bapt. Jan. 20th, 1599; John, born in 1602; and Thomas, born in 1604. A George Cockshot died in 1653.

Edmund Cockshutt of Harwood, gent., married Alice, second daughter of Geoffrey Rishton of Antley, gent. Edmund Cockshutt was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1634. He had sons, Edmund ("Edmund Cockshutt, lieutenant," buried Jan. 29th, 1683); George, bapt. Sept. 18th, 1628; Thomas, bapt. Nov. 10th, 1630; John, born in 1635; and a daughter Alice, born in 1639, married, April 1st, 1661, Mr. John Kenyon. Edmund Cockshutt died in Oct., 1674; and his wife Alice died in Nov., 1678.

Thomas Cockshutt, gent., a son of Edmund, was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1675; and in 1680 was a trustee of the town's Poor Stock.

He married, Dec. 9th, 1658, Marie, daughter of Edward Rawsthorne of Higham (she died in 1670), and had issue, sons, George, born Jan. 12th, 1660-1; Edmund, born Feb. 14th, 1662-3; Thomas, born June 14th, 1665; and John, born Oct. 12th, 1667. "Thomas Cockshutt de Harwood, gent." appears on the Guild Rolls of Preston as a foreign burgess in 1662 and 1682. He was buried at Great Harwood Church, Nov. 26th, 1684.

George Cockshutt, of Lowertown, gent., eldest son of Thomas, signs the Petition of Inhabitants of the chapelry in 1688. By Ann, his wife, he had sons, Thomas, born July 10th, 1687; Josias, born in 1688; John born and died in 1690; Edmund, born in 1692; also daughters, Margaret, and Mary. George Cockshutt died in 1694, and a posthumous son George was bapt. June 3rd, 1694. "Mrs. Ann Cockshutt, widow, gentlewoman," was buried April 6th, 1705.

Thomas Cockshutt, of Lowertown, gent., brother or son of the last-named George, married, Dec. 12th, 1714, Katherine Lonsdale, of High Riley, and by her (who died in March, 1716) had a son George, born Feb. 5th, buried May 12th, 1715. By his second wife Elizabeth (who died in Feb., 1722), Mr. Thomas Cockshutt had a son Thomas, who died in 1736. Thomas Cockshutt, gent., was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1706 till his death in 1737; he was buried at Harwood Church, Nov. 15th in that year.

Edmund Cockshutt of Harwood, gent., a brother of Thomas, died at Newhall-hey, a mansion of his mother's family the Rawsthornes, and was buried at Haslingden Church, Aug. 17th, 1716.

Josiah Cockshutt, Esq. (a son of George who died in 1694), is named as paying £50 to Harwood Church Fund, left by one of his ancestors.

DUXBURY OF GREAT HARWOOD, TOTTLEWORTH, &c.

Robert Duckesburie was buried at Harwood Church, Jan. 8th, 1563. Thurstan Duckesburie died in 1584; and John Duckesburie died in 1595, whose relict, Ellen Duckesburie, died in 1599.

Nicholas Duckesburie, buried Sept. 27th, 1569, was father of Lawrence; also, probably, of Alexander Duckesburie, married, in 1569, Grace Hindle, and died in 1584; and Thomas Duckesburie, married, in 1562, Elizabeth Baron, and died in 1597.

Lawrence Duckesburie, gent., assessed for lands in Harwood Magna to a Subsidy in 1570, by his first wife, Agnes (who died in May, 1594), had sons, Nicholas, bapt. Aug. 19th, 1579; Alexander, bapt. Feb. 16th, 1582; and Lawrence, who died in 1621. In 1576, Lawrence Duckesburie the father was engaged in a law-suit with Thomas Walmesley, Esq.; and about A.D. 1593, Lawrence Duckesburie, gent., gave 20s. to Blackburn Grammar School Stock. He occurs again as a freeholder in 1600, and was taxed for his lands to a Subsidy in 1610. He had some estate in Clayton-le-Moors as well as in Great Harwood, for in his plaint in the Duchy Court in 1609, "Lawrence Duxburie of Much Harwood" is said to be possessed of messuages, cottages, and lands in Claiton. He died in 1619; buried Sept. 10th. His second wife Elizabeth had died in 1597.

Nicholas Duxburie, gent., eldest son of Lawrence, occurs as a free tenant in 1621. He married, Aug. 30th, 1601, Ellen Miller, and had a son Thomas, bapt. Nov. 11th, 1602; and daughters, Margaret, Jane, and Anne.

Thomas Duxburie, of Tottleworth, married, Dec. 15th, 1628, Elizabeth Feilden, and had sons, Henry, bapt. Oct. 16th, 1629, and Thomas, born in 1635. Thomas Duxburie was buried May 20th, 1670. Elizabeth, his wife, died in July, 1666.

Alexander Duxburie, of Tottleworth, brother of Nicholas above, died in 1619. A later Alexander Duxburie, of Altham and Deans, died in 1692. He had a son William, born in 1659.

MERCER OF HARWOOD MAGNA.

Edmond Mercer, of Harwood Magna, was assessed to a subsidy in 1523. John Mercer, of Great Harwood, died, aged fourscore and seventeen years, in 1589, buried Feb. 14th; he must thus have been born about 1493. William Mercer, of this township, was taxed to a subsidy in 1570, and to a military levy in 1574. Edmond Mercer had a younger son Edmond, buried March 11th, 1571, and Janet, his wife, was buried Feb. 25th, 1571. Edmond Mercer died in Dec. 1587. Thomas Mercer married, Jan. 23rd, 1580, Margaret Heyworth, and had issue. John Mercer married, Nov. 14th, 1581, Grace Osbaldeston (she died Nov. 1604), and had a son William, bapt. Dec. 13th, 1591.

Edmond Mercer married, May 18th, 1582, Alice Hesketh (she died Oct. 12th, 1587), and had a daughter Grace, bapt. Sept. 9th, 1587. Edmond Mercer married, secondly, Jan. 27th, 1588, Isabel Osbaldeston (she died July 14th, 1596). Edmond Mercer ("a recusant") was buried Jan. 26th, 1610.

William Mercer, tanner, of Harwood, had sons, Edward, bapt. July 11th, 1605; and Thomas, bapt. Aug. 19th, 1608. Elizabeth wife of William Mercer died Sep. 29th, 1613, and William Mercer died Oct. 10th following.

MERCER OF OVERTOWN, TAN-HOUSE, &c.

Alexander Mercer of Harwood, married Jan. 26th, 1560, Grace Mercer. He died April 16th, 1606. She died Aug. 26th, 1613.

Alexander Mercer, of Upper Town, bapt. Dec. 16th, 1597, had sons, Thomas, bapt. April 3rd, 1622; Christopher, born 1625, died 1656; and John, born 1636; and daughters, Ann, born 1626; Grace, born 1628; Ellen, born 1632, and Alice, born 1634.

Thomas Mercer of Overtown, son of Alexander, married, Oct. 5th, 1648, Joane Warburton, and had issue, sons, Alexander, bapt. Nov. 11th, 1649; Thomas, bapt. Dec. 11th, 1651; William, born 1654; John, born and died 1660; and Christopher, born 1662. The father probably was Thomas Mercer, warden of Great Harwood Church in 1663, and he died in Feb. 1663²⁴. His younger sons, "Thomas Mercer of Tan-house," and "William Mercer of Tan-house," died, respectively, in 1691 and 1687.

Alexander Mercer of Tan-house, had sons, Alexander, born in 1682; William, born and died in 1694; and other issue. This Alexander Mercer was a warden of Harwood Church in 1708; and was living in 1712.

Alexander Mercer of Tan-house, "junior" in 1712, had sons, Alexander, born in 1712; Leonard, born in 1715; Thomas, bapt. Feb. 19th, 1717; other sons, and several daughters. He rebuilt the "Tan-house" farm-house in 1734, and in the front wall of the house is a stone with the initials "A M E" and the date "1734." He died in 1756.

"Alexander Mercer of Blackburn," chapman, eldest son of Alexander, occurs in 1766 as a trustee of Harwood Poor Stock. He died in 1767.

Mr. Thomas Mercer, of Tan-house, brother of the last-named Alexander, born in 1717, was a trustee of Great Harwood Poor Stock at the time of his death, in 1793, aged 76. He was buried at Harwood Church, July 26th, 1793. By Jane his wife (died aged 72, buried Jan. 1st, 1799), he had sons, Alexander, bapt. Jan. 23rd, 1759; William, born in 1760; Thomas, born in 1766; and daughters, Ellen, born in 1754; Nancy, Catherine, and Jane.

Mr Alexander Mercer, Thomas's eldest son and appointed his successor in the local charitable trust in 1793, died about 1808. His brother —

Mr. Thomas Mercer, of Tan-house, a trustee of Harwood Poor Stock from 1814 to 1839, died July 12th, 1839, in his 73rd year.

MERCER OF SQUIRE'S.

Thomas Mercer, of Squire's, was buried in June, 1700. Edmund Mercer of Squire's, gent., by his Will, dated April 16th, 1726, gave £50 to the Public School of Harwood. He died Sept. 14th, 1726; buried Sept. 16th. He had a son, Edmund Mercer of Squire's, born in 1704, who had sons, Edmund, born in 1740; and John. Later, John Mercer of Squire's, son of Edmund, had sons, Edmund, bapt. June 17th, 1765; Thomas, born in 1777, and other issue.

MERCER OF LOWER-TOWN.

Robert Mercer of Lowertown, died in March, 1669. Jane, his wife, died the same year. He had a son John.

John Mercer, of Lowertown, was buried May 2nd, 1687. He had sons, William, bapt. April 26th, 1648; and Robert, bapt. June 30th, 1655.

Robert Mercer, clerk, of Great Harwood, by Catherine his wife, whom he married Aug. 5th, 1680, and who died Nov. 1720, had issue a son John, bapt. Sept. 22nd, 1681. A second wife, "Dorothy, wife of Robert Mercer, clerk," died in 1723.

John Mercer of Lowertown, son of Robert, the clerk, had sons, Robert, bapt. Feb. 24th, 1705-6; John, born 1707; and William, born and died 1712.

William Mercer, surgeon, of Harwood, who died Aug., 1785, perhaps would be the younger son of the above John.

ROBERTSHAW OF LOWER-TOWN.

Edmund Robertshaw, yeoman, married, Feb. 1st, 1624-5, Margaret Hindle, and by her (who died in Jan. 1663) had a son Lawrence, bapt. April 5th, 1639.

Lawrence Robertshaw, yeoman and "chapman," of Lowertown, a local trader who signed a petition (printed ante, p. 202) about 1660, had sons, Edmund, bapt. Nov. 15th, 1663, died in April, 1666; a second Edmund, died in March, 1676; Lawrence; and John, bapt. Feb. 23rd, 1672; and a daughter Ellen, born in 1665, died in August, 1702. He died in 1715, buried Sept. 5th.

Lawrence Robertshaw, I think a son of Lawrence, died in June, 1712.

TURNER OF MARTHOLME AND BLACKBURN.

Robert Turner, of Martholme in 1687, had a son Thomas, and other issue. He was buried at Great Harwood Church, Dec. 2nd, 1727.

Thomas Turner of Martholme, a trustee of township charities in 1743 and 1759, had sons, William, born in 1727; Thomas, born in 1732; and Robert, born in 1734, who settled at Blackburn (see ante, p. 228); also a daughter Jennet, died in 1738.

Thomas Turner of Altham, second son of Thomas, died, aged 80, April 10th, 1812. By Ellen his wife he had sons, Thomas, James, William; and Robert Turner of Shuttleworth Hall, Hapton, who died, aged 53, in 1843, having had issue by his wife Sarah, daughter of Roger Green of Whalley Abbey, sons, Thomas, Roger, Robert (of Shuttleworth Hall), James; and several daughters.

William Turner of Martholme, yeoman (eldest son of the first-named Thomas), married, in 1753, Jane Mitchell, by whom (she died, aged 66, in 1798), he had issue, sons, Thomas, died, aged 26, in 1781; Robinson, died, aged 11, in 1768; John, born in 1761; William; James (of Carter Place, Haslingden, first of the branch of

Turners of Helmshore, born in 1759, married Mary, daughter of Ralph Ellison of Accrington, gent., and died May 30th, 1832; Robert, born in 1764, died in 1782; Edward (of Woodlands, Manchester, born in 1766, died May 26th, 1833); Doctor Robinson, born in 1767, died in 1768; and a second Robinson Turner, born in 1769, died in London, Nov. 14th, 1814; also, daughters, Jennet, born in 1769 (married Mr. James Clegg of Hallfoot House, Clitheroe, and died June 1st, 1811); and Jane (born in 1772, married her cousin, William Turner, Esq., of Mill Hill House, Livesey, sometime M.P. for Blackburn). William Turner of Martholme, the father, died, aged 55, May 22nd, 1782.

William Turner of Martholme, a son of the last-named William, died, aged 38, in Feb., 1796; and after his death, his brother-in-law, Mr. James Clegg, became tenant at Martholme, and, in 1798, was appointed a trustee of the township charity, as the only representative of the Turner family of Martholme then living in the township. Mr. Clegg removed from Martholme in 1816. He had a son James, who died at Martholme, aged 3, in 1798.

THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW.

The parochial Church of Great Harwood has existed at least five centuries; and owed its sole ancient endowment and service to the foundation of a chantry annexed to this chapel-of-ease, in the fourteenth century, by the lord of the manor, Thomas Hesketh of Martholme. The earliest mention of the chapel that has been noted is in the year 1389, when John Nowell of Mearley, who held the third part of the manorial estate, called Netherton, did homage to the chief lord, Thomas Hesketh, Esq., "in the chapel of Harwood Magna." During nearly 200 years the priest who served the chantry also acted as incumbent of the chapel, celebrating the Sunday masses, and performing other clerical functions, and his pay for all services was the net issues of lands given to the chantry by the founder, and received by the Abbot and Convent of Whalley, to whom the chapel pertained. Priests from that monastery were nominated in succession to serve this chantry and chapel. From 1389 I find no reference to this chapel or its chantry-priests until, in the *Valor* of 1534, it is returned, concerning the chantry at Harwood:—"Of the foundation of Thomas Esketh, esquire. In the hands of Richard Wood, chaplain. Worth, in rents and farms of divers lands and tenements in the same, per annum £4 7s. 8d. Thereout in alms annually distributed amongst the poor on the day of the death of the Founder, 6s. 8d., and remains £4 1s.; the tenth thereout, 8s. 1½d." In 1535, the Subsidy Commissioners for Blackburn Deanery assessed the "*Cantaria apud Harwode ex fundatione Thome Hesketh, arm.*" at 8s. 1½d. for tenths; and 7s. 3½d. for the subsidy. The Chantry Commissioners of Henry VIII. in 1546 reported of the "The Chauntre in the Chapell of Harwoode" in the following terms:—

Richard Wood p'st incumbent ther of the ffoundac'on of the antecessors of Thomas Hesketh esquier ther to celebrate for ther sowles and the same chapell haith license to

crysten wedde and burie and to mynstre sacramentes to the Inh'tantes nigh adjoininge. The same is within the p'och of Blakborne and distant from the p'och church 4 myles and the same preist doth mynstre and celebrate ther accordinglie and ther is of the Inh'tantes nigh adjoininge reparyng to the same chapell the nombre of 400 houselinge people. (Plate) First one chaies of silver weinge by est. 8 onz. Item one vestmente of Tawny Chamlet. Item one vestment of black chamlet. (Endowment, tenants, and rental.) Christopher Duxforth holdyth one ten'te with th' app't'ances lienge in Oswaldetwisse in the countie of Lancastre rentinge yerlie at the feastes of Whitsonday and Martynmes equallie 26s. 8d. John Smythe holdyth one ten'te lienge in Croston in the said countie by yere 4s. Thomas Woode holdyth one cotage ther, 4s., and Willyam Walton holdyth one cotage ther 3s.; in all dewe, etc., equallie 11s. Willyam Fryth holdyth one ten'te with th' app't'ances lieng in Wigan in the said countie 19s., and James Sherington holdyth one ten'te ther 12s., in all by yere dewe at the said termes equallie 31s. Thomas Lathnate holdyth one ten'te with th' app't'ances lienge in Asheton in Makerfeilde in the said countie renting yerlie, etc., equallie 26s. Suma totall of the rental £4 13s. 8d. Reprises none. (Lanc. Chuntries, ed. by Raines, pp. 145-7.)

On the dissolution of chantries and of monasteries these lands were escheated to the Crown; but the amount of the chaplain's fee in the chapel of Harwood was charged on the revenues of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1548, Richard Wood, incumbent of Harwood, was yet living, and aged 80 years. Queen Mary's Commissioners in 1553 found belonging to the chapel of Harwood two bells weighing 5 hundredweight and a half, and reckoned worth, at 15s. the hundred, £4 2s. 6d.

In 1559 (2nd Elizabeth), the rood loft of the chapel was repaired, and other restorations of the fabric were made upon the advent of the Protestant Queen. In 1560 the registers of baptisms, burials, and marriages commence, and are a perfect register onward from that date to the present time. "Sir Richard Dean," perhaps the first Protestant curate of Great Harwood Church, died in 1578; buried Sept. 1st; his successor was William HERRIS, who appears as a witness of the marriage of Roger Nowell, Esq., in 1581; occurs again in 1593, and in 1608; and died, after some 40 years' service of the cure, in 1620 (buried in the church, March 4th, 1620-1). His wife, "Alice HERRIS wife of William HERRIS, clerk," was buried Dec. 9th, 1608. John Nowell is named as minister in 1627; and after him comes Richard HARGREAVES, who was curate in 1631, and about that date was suspended by the bishop for drunkenness and other misdemeanours. *Harleian MS.* 2103 contains the following record of proceedings before John Bridgeman, Bishop of Chester, concerning this incumbent and his abettors:—

Articles objected against William Hindle and Richard Mercer, of the chappellry of Harwood, within the parishes of Blackburn and diocesis of Chester, before the Right Reverend ffather in God John Lo. B'pp of Chester and other his Majestie's highe Commissioners for causes Ecclesiastical within the province of Yorke and the diocesis of Chester, att the promoc'on of Richard Tompson and Rob'te Dewhurste.

1. In primis it is articulated and objected that Mr. Richard Hargreaves, Curatt att your chappell of Harwood, was and is excommunicate, and soe hath stood for the space of 9 or 10 daies and this you knowe to be true for you saw the Excommunicacon sent forth under the seale of the office of the Ecclesiastical Judge before whom hee should for many of his Misdemeanoures have been convented and censured according to the lawes and ordinances of the Church of Englande. 2. Item, that you the aforesaid William Hindle are and were at the tyme of his Excommunicacon aforesaide, church or chappell Warden of the chappell of Harwood aforesaid, and unto you the Excommunicacon under seal aforesaid was broughte to take notice of yt, and you were sundry tymes or at least once warned to take notice of it and not to suffer the said Hargreaves to preache there untill such tyme as he should be absolved and restored to the Church and Sacraments again, butt you notwithstanding, in manifest contempt of Ecclesiastical authorities, answered you would take noe notice of it, and that it should not concern you, or words to that effect, and for all that you did allow, permitt, and suffer the said Mr. Hargreaves to preache and read prayers in the Chappell the Sundaie next following. 3. Item, that you the aforesaid Richard Mercer, knowinge the premisses to bee true, and knowinge the said Mr. Hargreaves to bee excommunicate, and seeinge the Excommunicacon against him aforesaid, you did take a staffe into the chappell or chancell of Harwood aforesaid, and sate downe in the seate where the minister should reade and pluckte the chancel dore after you and said openlie in the chancell that the Excommunicacon notwithstanding Mr. Hargreaves should preache, and you would bear him out. And this you did in manifest contempt of Ecclesiastical authoritie aforesaid. 4. Item, that you the aforesaid William Hindle and Richard Mercer, during the time of your several churchwardenshippes have known or at least credible hard and bene informed that the said Mr. Hargreaves hath made dyvers clandestine marriages both between parishioners and strangers, and that he hath bene of tymes drunke and that he is a comon alehouse haunter and doth usuallie or at least sometymes sitt in an alehouse.

Mr. William Kippax, minister of this chapel, occurs in 1638, and perhaps was appointed soon after the suspension of Hargreaves. In 1646, on the institution of the Lancashire Presbytery, Mr. Richard Worthington, minister of Harwood, is found a member of the third or Blackburn Classis; but he had quitted the place before the survey of Lancashire parishes in 1650, when it was reported of this chapel to the Commissioners:—

“Harwood, a parochial chappell, distant from the parishe church four myles, hath att present noe minister nor mayntenance, save only four pounds per annum paid out of the Duchy lands. They consist of about 200 families, with the inhabitants of Tottleworth and Rishton towne, who desire to bee annexed to the said church, and to bee made a parishe, and competent mayntenance allowed for a minister.”

One Mr. Sandford is named by Calamy as ejected from Harwood under the Act of Uniformity in 1662; but I have obtained no evidence of the service of this church by a minister of that name. After the restoration, Mr. Thomas Bentley was some time minister of Harwood. He died here in 1674 (buried Aug. 5th), and had a son Daniel, bapt. Oct 8th, 1672, who died at Harwood, aged 87, in 1759. Rev. William Colton, B.A., succeeded Mr. Thomas Bentley. Mr. Colton was a

Curate at the Blackburn Parish Church, in 1682, and he served Harwood and Darwen Chapelries some years prior to 1688, when he ceased on obtaining the joint curacy of Law Church and Samlesbury. (Mr. Colton had a son John, born in 1684, and daughters, Isabel, born in 1682; and Jane, born in 1686). In 1684, in answer to inquiry by Primate Sancroft, who proposed to augment the small endowments of the chapels in Blackburn Parish, the Vicar of Blackburn sent to Lambeth the subjoined statement respecting Harwood Chapelry :—

Harwood Chappell or Church, 3 miles and $\frac{1}{4}$ from Blackburne Church, 2 miles from any other chappell. They of Harwood Magna, Tottleworth, and east end of Rishton resort to it. The sacraments and all offices are here administered, and the curate hath the dues. Endowment—Paid yearly out of the Exchequer £4 6s. 8d.; Given by the ancestors of Thos. Cockshot £2 2s. od.; Dues for marrying, churching, burying, &c. £2.—30 acres of common set out, if the Parish would be at charge to enclose it; but it came to nothing; they now refuse.—Mrs. fleetwood promiseth yearly £2; The Inhabitants promise yearly (6-15) £10; and hope for £20 per annum from Mr. Hesketh, of Rufford.

In July of the same year, the subjoined additional facts were communicated to Archbishop Sancroft :—

HARWOOD MAGNA—The Inhabitants of Harwood Magna have nothing to show for the £4 6s. 8d. paid out of the Exchequer by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and given by Queen Elizabeth to that chapel, being hitherto paid, but with much charge and trouble. Nor can they produce any settlement of 42s. given by the ancestors of Mr. Thomas Cockshot, and if tymely care be not taken to secure the principal, it will be in great danger to be lost, being uncertain in whose hands it lies. The 30 acres of common cannot be granted, because there is no writt of partition sued out between their common and other commons belonging to other neighbouring towns; but they will answer his Grace's expectation another way. There has been common in the said [ground] within the few years last past notwithstanding this excuse. They continue their promise of 6-15th's, viz., £10 per annum dureing life, and the several lords of townships will oblige themselves and heyres, that upon the death or remove of any tenant or subscriber, his successor shall be obliged to continue the subscription of his predecessor. But this does amount to no more than a bare discourse.

The following is a letter from Mr. Bridge, agent to Mr. Hesketh, of Rufford, addressed to Mr. Whalley of Sparth, in reference to the 20s. given to Harwood Chapel by his master.

Mr. Wholey,—I have acquainted my Master with the result of our business yesterday, at Blackborne, as also of your answer, that is to be returned to the Arch Bishopp's Gentlemen upon Tuesday next. And he saith that as to the six-fifteenes he is content they be paid in case his Lordshipp's allowance will be considerable, and that there may be noe new Innovations brought up about the Tyth-hay, but as to the 20s. that he hath paid for some time yearly to Mr. Colten, the minister, he will not be tyed to pay it if the 6-fifteenes be paid, for that was given upon the account of his tenants heretofore, and he must pay part of the fifteenes himself for his demeaasne though he hath as little reason to give as any man, but that he is a true lover of the church, for he finds by antient deeds

that there was a very good quantity of land given by his ancestors to the Church of Harwood, which at the dissolution of Abeys and Chantreys was seized into the King's hands, which I believe was the reason of that allowance out of the Dutchy by Edward the 6th, and likewise land in Harwood was given by his ancestors to the Abott of Wholey, in lieu of the Tyth of Martholme demesne, which land belongs to the Abey to this day ; but my Master, notwithstanding as ill dealt with for his Tythes as any in the Rectory, I only hint these things to you to lett you know in some measure how things stand, and desire you to make use of as you see occasion, but not to part with it out of your hands, which is all at present from your humble Servant,

Rufforth, July the 3rd, 1684.

EDW. BRIDGE.

Mr. Wholey,—I desire that if it should happen that I be prevented of meeting the gentlemen at Black Leane Head upon Wednesday sennight, being the 16th instant, about considering how to defend themselves about Tyth-hay, that you will doe what you thinke good upon my Master's account and what the gentlemen conclude on my Master will joyne with them.

About the same date (1684 or 1685), the Inhabitants of Great Harwood addressed the Primate in the following Petition :—

To the most Reverend ffather in God Willm. Lord Arch-Bp. of Canterbury Primate and Metropolitan of all England.—The humble petition of several of the Inhabitants of the parochiall Chappellry of Great Harwood in the County of Lancaster, —Humbly Sheweth, That within the said chappellry there are above 200 considerable families and that for several years last past they have made collec'ons amongst themselves for the maintenance of a Minister att the Chappell of Harwood being within the parish of Blackburn in the afores'd county of Lanc'r, there being no stipend belonginge to the said chappell but onely thirteene nobles a yeare a gift bestowed upon the same (out of the Revenues of the Crowne in Lancashire) by the late gracion's Queene Elizabeth, w'th w'ch and your petitioners' contributions they have frequently kept a Minister, your petitioners being above 5 myles distant from their parish church of Blackburne and all other churches and chappells belonging to the same. And the tithes yearly collected within the said chappellry beinge of the yearely value of £60 p. annum and upwards and nothinge allowed out of the same towards the maintenance of a Minister. And the inhabitants of the said chappellry beinge very much of late years decayed in their estates, and the chappell at present being very well supplied by one Mr. Willm. Conlton Batchelor of Arts, your petitioners cannot continue him long amongst them without an additionall Maintenance which in respect of their poverty they are not able to contribnte unless your Grace would please to take the premisses into consideracon and dispose of some allowance towards his maintenance out of the tithes of the said chappellry, otherwise severall families are like to be deprived of the meanes of God's word preached, beinge soe far distant from other places, and the chappell will become voide and fall into ruine. All which your petitioners doe humbly recommend to your pious consideracon and humbly pray that your Grace willbe pleased to conferr some allowance upon the same, for the maintenance of Religion and the instructinge of soe many poore Soules as otherwise may suffer for want of the ordinance. And your petitioners as in dnty bound shall ever pray, &c.

Thos. Hesketh.	Henry ffeilden.	THOS. MARSER.	} Ch: } Wardens.
Roger Nowell.	Will. Duckworth.	JOHN FLETCHER.	
Alex. Nowell.	James ffeilden.	William Horrabin.	
Edmund Cockshutt.	W. Clayton.		

The Sancroft gift to the chapelries afforded to Great Harwood at first a sum of £6 yearly towards the curate's stipend, now increased to about £17 per annum from this Trust. Mr. Edward Sherdley was curate of Harwood and Langho from 1688 to 1690; and in March, 1689, it is recorded:—"Harwood and Langho, two chapels, supplied by Mr. Sherdley, a conformable minister; his maintenance from both about £35 per annum or upwards." Oct. 15th, 1690, the Vicar of Blackburn (Price), signed an agreement with John Barlow, curate of Church-kirk, by which the latter was admitted to the curateship of Harwood Magna and Langho, and covenanted to reside within one or other of the two chapelries, and to "read prayers and preach at the chapel of Harwood every Sunday in the forenoon, and likewise such Sundays in the afternoon as he did not officiate at Langho;" but by reason of the shortness of the days and badness of the ways in winter between the two chapels, it was agreed that the curate might leave Harwood chapel unsupplied one Sunday in the month during the winter season. The curate was to "receive of the inhabitants of Harwood Magna such surplice fees as by right do belong to the curate of that place;" and was to "testify his subjection to the Mother Church of Blackburn by preaching at it once a year if he be required." Mr. Barlow held this curacy until 1706, when Mr. Arthur Tempest succeeded him.

On the 18th June, 1714, it was reported respecting this church to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty:—"In Harwood Chapel divine service is performed only every other Sunday, by reason of the smallness of the salary. Endowment:—Out of the Duchy Exchequer £4 6s. 8d.; gift of Cockshutt's ancestors £40, interest £2 2s.; out of lands at Thornley £6; out of the Rectory of Blackburn, £2 6s. 8d.; total £14 15s. 6d." A few years later, Bishop, Gastrell notes that here "the curate has surplice fees, and a half-penny for every communicant. A *caveat* was entered by the Vicar against granting a license to Harwood and Langho, *anno* 1690. Harwood Magna, Tottleworth, and the east end of Rishton resort to [this chapel]. The same curate serves Harwood and Langho. Two wardens, chosen by the Minister and principal inhabitants." A benefaction of £200 by James Whalley, gent., to this church, made on 27th Sept., 1735, procured from the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty a grant of £200; and the united sum of £400 was invested for the increase of the living. A second similar grant of £200 from the Royal Bounty was made in 1772 to meet a local benefaction of £100 by Richard Cottam and Wm. Aspden, and a gift of £100 by Mrs. Pyncombe's trustees.

Rev. John Smith, minister of Harwood about 54 years from June 14th, 1719 to 1773, was buried at this church Jan. 26th, 1773. (His

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CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW, GREAT HARWOOD.

wife, Mary, was buried Aug. 25th, 1759). A few days before the death of this curate, a petition abstracted below was addressed to the Vicar :—

Petition of Wardens and principal inhabitants of Harwood Chapelry, dated Jan. 13th, 1773, to Revd. Vicar of Blackburn, praying that as the Revd. Mr. Smith, their Curate, is at the point of death, the Vicar will appoint to the curacy Mr. Elleray, Curate of Langho, a curate in the parish upwards of thirty years. Signed by William Aspden and Christopher Hindle, Chapel Wardens, and the following Inhabitants :— William Duckworth, Robert Duckworth, Joshua Duckworth, F. N. Williams, Edward Pickles, Thomas Taylor, Thomas Mercer, James Mercer, Wm. Peacop, John Hindle, Peter Brennand, Cuthbert Gibson, Henry Taylor, John Mercer, John Hoyle, Lancelot Pearson, Jonathan Calvert, John Dugdale, Thos. Royston, Thos. Hindle, Wm. Wilkinson, John Calvert, Roger Feilden, John Feilden, John Clayton, Thos. Pickles, Joseph Noble, Thos. Duckworth, John Duckworth.

A terrier of sources of minister's income, drawn out in 1779, includes :—Churchyard 44 perches (enlarged in 1814 by 20 perches customary measure, and again in 1858); estate called Nook, in Walton, 16a. 3r. 13p. of 7 yards to the perch (exchanged for estate at Goosnargh called Rig, 67a. 1r. 29p. statute measure); messuage and tenement in Great Harwood, called Mercer's, purchased out of Queen Anne's Bounty, 10a. 1r. 29p.; £1 3s. per ann. from School Lands; £3 16s. 2d. Duchy Rent; £3 interest of Cockshutt's money; £4 9s. 2d. half-yearly by Vicar of Blackburn.

In 1822, a Parliamentary Grant of £400 accrued by lot to this benefice; and on Oct. 6th, 1841, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners made an annual grant of £21 to Great Harwood Church.

The sources of income of this benefice I find stated as under in May, 1859 :— Glebe land and farm-house, £40; a cottage in Great Harwood, let with the Glebe Farm, £3 5s.; A pasture field in Great Harwood, £4 10s.; School-land, Great Harwood, £3; Cockshutt's Benefaction, paid by Mrs. Waterworth, Shaw House, Slaidburn, £2 10s.; Duchy rent, payable at Preston in November, £4 6s. 8d.; Sancroft and Fleetwood Trust, £16; Rig Farm, Goosnargh, £41; Queen Anne's Bounty on £495 7s. 11d., at 3 %, £14 17s. 2d.; Ecclesiastical Commissioners, £21; Rent of Church Yard, £1 10s.; Dues and Fees (this year), £35; total, £186 18s. 10d. The present value of the living is £300 per annum.

The Church of St. Bartholomew in Great Harwood stands on a prominent site on the hill slope, above the north end of the modern town. It is surrounded by a large graveyard which overlooks the vale of Calder northward; and is shaded with old trees. The fabric of the church is unpretentious, consisting of nave, with clerestory, north and south aisles, porch in the south aisle, vestry on the north side, and the stout square tower, buttressed and embattled, common to the old churches of North-East Lancashire. There is no chancel; the east window of the nave is a simple mullioned one of three lights; this and the smaller three-light windows of nave and aisles have semi-circular

heads without tracery. An old traceried window is above the doorway on the west aspect of the tower. The tower contains one bell. The interior has no gallery; the communion is separated from the nave by an altar-rail. In the south aisle at the east end, where stood the Hesketh chantry-chapel, the piscina is recessed in the wall. What remains of an ancient font is fixed in the porch; the font now used is an octagonal one of gritstone, initialed "I E" with the date "1662". Arcades of moulded arches springing from octagonal columns separate nave from aisles. The organ-chamber is at the east end of the north aisle. In the east window of the south aisle are pieces of antique stained glass, bearing the arms of Hesketh. The church is supposed to have been rebuilt early in the Tudor period; and again restored in 1559. Later alterations were made in the seventeenth century. The recent Parliamentary Return of Church-building records that this church was re-benched and re-roofed in 1864, cost £413; heating apparatus fixed in 1871, cost £95; new organ, 1872, cost £120; these sums were raised by voluntary subscriptions. Sittings 367, of which 70 are free.

The following is a list of incumbents of Great Harwood, so far as I have been able to trace their succession:—Richard Wood, chantry priest, occurs 1534 and 1548; Robert Elder, chantry priest of Harwood Parva (? Magna) occurs 1553; Sir Richard Dean, 1551-1578; William Herris, 1580-1620; John Nowell, occurs 1627; Richard Hargreaves, occurs circa 1630; William Kippax, occurs 1638; Richard Worthington, Presbyterian minister, occurs 1646; Thomas Bentley occurs 1672, died 1674; William Colton, B.A., occurs 1682, resigned 1688; Edward Sherdley, 1689-1690; John Barlow, 1690-1705; Arthur Tempest, 1706-1717; George Brown, 1717-1719; John Smith, 1719-1773; Thomas Elleray, 1773-1780; William Greenwood, 1780-1789; Borlase Willock, 1789-1802; William Barton, 1803-1818; Robert Dobson, 1819-1861; Rev. Wm. Maude Haslewood, B.A., present Vicar, instituted, April, 1861.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST. HUBERT.

This beautiful Gothic Church was built by James Lomax, Esq., lord of the manor, for the use of the Roman Catholic inhabitants, together with the adjoining Presbytery and Schools, at a charge of £7000. The church was consecrated in September, 1859, and is dedicated to "Our Lady and St. Hubert." The design was by Mr. E. W. Pugin, and the style is decorated gothic. The plan of the church includes nave, 80ft. by 30ft.; transeptal aisles; chantry chapel 12½ft. square; and octagonal chancel, 25ft. by 25ft. A handsome tower rises near the middle of the nave on the south side, and with spire has an altitude of 127ft. The belfry contains one bell weighing 13 cwt., cast by Warner and Sons. The windows of nave, transepts, and chancel are large, richly traceried, and filled with stained glass. The altar is a rich and artistic design. The site of the church is on an eminence at the east end of the Lowertown. It contains 700 sittings. The schools are of stone, well-built, and are used for Day Schools. Rev. Wm. Dunderdale is the rector.

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, QUEEN STREET.—In the year 1812, Roger Cuuliffe, Esq., a native of this township, fitted up a room in Great Harwood for public worship

and for a Sunday School, and founded this congregation of Independents. Students from the Blackburn Independent College were the ordinary preachers at this mission for about thirty years, until the removal of the College to Manchester in 1842. No permanent place of worship was provided until the year 1837, when the present chapel in Queen Street was erected, costing about £400. In 1839, the Great Harwood congregation was returned as consisting of 150 persons, and the Sunday School then contained 200 scholars. The chapel was improved by the erection of galleries in 1850, costing £200. The school-building in the rear of the chapel was added in 1854, and cost £500; and class-rooms were added later, costing £100. The minister's house was built in 1869, at an expenditure of £450. The Sunday and Day Schools are efficient and flourishing. The chapel, a plain structure, contains 350 sittings. Rev. J. Preston is the present minister.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—Great Harwood is named as a Methodist preaching-place in Blackburn Circuit in 1787. A local tradition exists that Wesley preached on two occasions in Harwood, once in a cottage in Church-lane, when he was stoned by the rabble, and a second time at the house of a Mr. Frank Clayton, at the back of Bowley Hill. Mr. Clayton's house was the first Methodist meeting-place; later their worship was conducted in a room at Cross Gates, and then a school-room at the Cliff was used for preaching. In 1822, a small chapel was built at Butts, which was the Wesleyan place of worship until 1849, when the reform party of seceders took possession of the chapel. The Wesleyan Society built the present chapel in Chapel-street in 1853. It was enlarged in 1857, and schools have been annexed. The chapel, a plain square building, contains 270 sittings.

UNITED FREE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A section of the Wesleyan Society in Great Harwood that separated in 1849, used the old Methodist Chapel at Butts some years, and then built the present chapel and schools in Cattle-street, opened in 1864. The chapel is a neat edifice, and contains about 400 sittings. The old chapel at Butts has since been disused for religious purposes.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A chapel was built by the Primitive Methodists in Great Harwood in the year 1860, which is called the "Jubilee Chapel." It is situate in Mercer-street, and contains about 300 sittings.

CHARITIES OF GREAT HARWOOD.

SIR EDMUND ASSHETON'S DOLE, OR POOR STOCK.—January, 1680, Sir Edmund Assheton of Whalley, Bart., gave £5 as a common Stock for the Poor. Interest to be distributed every St. Thomas's Day at the discretion of the Curate, Churchwardens and Overseers, and the two Trustees, Thomas Cockshutt and John Mercer. The following record is contained in the Trustees' Book of Accounts:—"1690, Dec. 20. Memorandum that the day and yeare abovesaide the Right Worshipfull Sr. Edmund Ashton of Whalley Baronet hath formerly been pleased to give and bestowe the sune of Thirty Pounds as a Common Stock to bee soe lodged, placed, and disposed of as may bee for the most advantage of the Poore within Great Harwood, and the Interest of the same to bee annually distributed upon every Saint Thomas Day before Christmas respectively among the most indigent poore within Great Harwood aforesaid at the discretion of John Barlow, clerke, George Cockshutt.

gent., Robert Feilden, chapman, and John Mercer of Heyes, yeoman, trustees for that purpose appointed for the time being. We the saide Trustees have distributed the due interest hereof as followeth, the day and yeare abovesaid. As witness our hands, JOHN BARLOW, GEO, COCKSHUTT, ROBT. FEILDEN, JOHN MERCER." Subsequent gifts had increased the yearly value of the Dole in 1741 to £4 9s. 4d.; among them a sum of £10 given by Will of Edward Mercer of Squires, in 1726, whose executors, Mr. Whittaker and Mr. James Nowell, paid the first year's interest of 10s. on Sept. 13th, 1727. Thomas Cockshutt, gent., gave £50 to the Stock in 1737. In 1742, Mrs. Mary Nightingale gave £173, the interest to be spent in bread for distribution amongst the poor. The capital of this gift was invested along with the former poor-stock in the purchase of an estate of 14 customary acres of land at Roughlee, in Pendle Forest, now called Dole House estate, in 1743, for the sum of £222 6s. The Dole House was repaired in 1749. Other benefactions accrued to the Charity in 1756, when Mr. Alexander Mercer gave £20, and Rev. Thomas Feilden £10. In 1765, the receipts of the trust were:—Dole House rent £8 5s.; Interest from John Slayter 15s.; Interest from James and Robert Cross 13s. 3d.; Interest from Thomas Taylor 10s.; total £10 2s. 3d. To Mr. Peacop for loaves £6 1s. 4d. Balance to distribute in money £4 0s. 11d. The interest from Thomas Taylor was on £10 left by the Will of Richard Walmsley of Great Harwood. The dole of bread Mrs. Nightingale the donor "ordered and appointed to be distributed at Harwood Chapel every Sabbath day, fourteen two-penny wheaten loaves to poor people belonging to the said township not having a weekly or other allowance for them, and not to any one else except they were not well or old and impotent and could not come there."

1770. The Rev. Mr. John Smith, Curate of Harwood, gave for the use of the poor of the said township five pounds; the interest thereof annually arising to be distributed every St. Thomas' Day amongst the most indigent Poor within Great Harwood at the discretion of Thomas Mercer, William Aspden, and Thomas Turner, nominated trustees.

THE SCHOOL TRUST.—Col. Roger Nowell of Read Hall built a school on his estate in the Netherton, in this township, in the year 1696; but he did not endow it, and more than twenty years after the school was erected it was found that there was no teaching in it, for the master could not get a maintenance. Mr. Edward Mercer, of Squires, by Will dated April 16th, 1726, bequeathed £50 to Thomas Hesketh and Roger Nowell, Esqrs., and their heirs, and to the churchwardens and overseers of Great Harwood, in trust to place the same out, and pay the interest thereof to such Schoolmaster as should teach in the School-

house erected by Col. Nowell, for the teaching so many poor children of the township of Great Harwood as to the trustees should seem convenient. Another benefaction was that of Mrs. Mary Nightingale, in 1742, who gave a sum to be "placed out at Interest by the discretion of her trustees hereafter named, and the interest arising yearly therefrom to be paid out and applied to the Schoolmaster in Harwood aforesaid, provided the said Schoolmaster teaches and instructs two such poor children of the said township as the said trustees shall think fit to put and place in the said school from time to time," and appointed the "Rev. Mr. John Smith, Curate of Harwood, Alexander Mercer, Thomas Mercer, and Thomas Swain, gentlemen, trustees in her place and stead to distribute the said charity and to place in the said school two poor children of the said township, and for them the said trustees or a major part of them to elect and appoint others when and as often as they shall think fit and so on to futurity." William Hindle, by Will dated Feb. 22nd, 1820, bequeathed to the minister of Great Harwood Church, R. G. Lomax, Esq., and others, £150 on trust, the interest to be applied for the sole benefit of the master of the School in Great Harwood, late the property of Alexander Nowell, Esq., upon condition that the inhabitants of the town should within one year raise and apportion the further sum of £150 upon the same trusts. The inhabitants thereupon subscribed £171 19s. 6d.; and thereout £150, added to the legacy of Mr. Hindle, made a sum of £300, which was placed at interest, and in 1825 was yielding £12 15s. per annum. In 1766, sums of £40 10s. belonging to the Poor, £64 belonging to the School, and £29 belonging to the Minister of Great Harwood Church, were laid out in the purchase of lands in Great Harwood called Moor Fields, and now called "The School Lands." The proportions of the rent of these lands paid in 1825 were:—To the School, £2 17s. 6d.; Poor, £1 16s. 6d.; Minister, £1 6s. The trustees of the School were, recently, Rev. W. M. Haslewood, Vicar of Great Harwood, and the Vicars of Blackburn and Whalley.

The present National School in Queen Street, built in 1837, superseded the old school built by Col. Nowell, which was converted into cottages, and the rents paid to the School Fund. Towards the erection, and enlargement a few years ago, of the new school, two grants of £123 and £139 13s. 4d. were obtained from Government. The master is appointed by the trustees of the endowment, and in respect of that income teaches 12 poor children as free scholars.

The three Day Schools in Great Harwood under Government inspection appear as follows in the Report of the Education Department for 1874-5:—

	Average Attendance.		Annual Grant. £ s. d.
National School - - -	294	-	228 3 1
Independent (British) School -	197	-	147 15 0
St. Hubert's Roman Catholic School	143	-	111 8 0

CHAPTER IX.—THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE HARWOOD.

Name—Topography and Population—Descent of the Manor—Clayton of Little Harwood Hall—Hoyle—Little Harwood Hall—Minor Freeholders—Bolton of Bank Hey—Clayton of Cunliffe—Foster, and Peel, of Bank Hey—Rishton of Hartstonley—Commons' Enclosure.

LITTLE HARWOOD, anciently named *Harewode Parva*, is a small township of 730 statute acres, contiguous to Blackburn on the north-east, and occupying the slopes of a hill which extends towards Great Harwood eastward. The population is agricultural, excepting that portion which occupies a number of cottages recently built for workpeople at the mills within the township of Blackburn. The population since the Census of 1801 has varied as follows:—1801, 104 persons; 1811, 126; 1821, 210; 1831, 341; 1841, 322; 1851, 316; 1861, 270; 1871, 311. The Public Cemetery of Blackburn is within Little Harwood, on the west border of the township. Little Harwood contains no place of worship, or Day or Sunday School; the inhabitants avail themselves of the church and school provision of Blackburn near at hand. The old road from Blackburn to Whalley and Clitheroe traverses the township.

DESCENT OF THE MANOR.

Harwood Parva on the Norman settlement was attached to Walton-in-le-Dale as one of its outlying members, and as such was granted by Henry de Lascy to Robert Banastre, lord of Newton, *temp.* Henry II. It remained thus feudally subject to the lords of Walton—Banastres, Langtons, and Hoghtons in succession—until the seventeenth century. But the manor lands of Harwood Parva were granted in the thirteenth century by one of the lords of the fee of Walton to one of the De Clayton family, lords of Clayton-in-les-Moors. The Langtons and Hoghtons, subsequently, received service and a rent from the Claytons on account of their estate in Little Harwood. The Will of Sir Thomas Langton, dated 1569, names testator's rights in "Little Harwodde" as a dependency of Walton; and half a century onward (1625), John Clayton was found to hold the reputed "manor of Parva Harwood" of "Sir

Gilbert Houghton, Knt., as of his Manor of Walton, in free socage," by 4s. per annum acknowledgment.

CLAYTON, LORDS OF HARWOOD PARVA.

There is difficulty in tracing the early descent of that branch of the Claytons of Clayton-in-les-Moors which settled upon the Little Harwood estate. These names occur :—Ralph de Clayton, living in 1251, was father of Henry de Clayton, seneschal of Blackburnshire in 1266 or 1277; he, I suppose, was the Henry de Clayton who, by the *Testa de Nevill*, held the 8th part of a Knight's fee in Harwode *temp.* Henry III. A later "Henry de Clayton de Harwood" was a juror at the inquisition respecting Henry de Shuttleworth's estate in 1326; and his son, Ralph de Clayton, son of Henry de Parva Harwood, occurs in 1349, as grantor of the corn mill of Dutton, by a deed dated 22nd Edw. III. This Ralph had a son, Henry de Clayton, who occurs in 1373, and held manorial estate in Dutton. He died before 1391, when John de Baylegh was found holding land in Dutton "of the heir of Henry de Clayton."

The genealogy of these Claytons is a blank during the next century, and the connected descent begins with Geoffrey Clayton, living *temp.* Henry VII. He, in the 19th Henry VII. (1504), vested the Manor of Harwood Parva in trust, during the nonage of the next male heir, in Sir Edward Stanley, after lord Monteagle, and died shortly after that settlement. He had two sons, John, and George. John Clayton married and had issue two daughters, Ellen and Rose, and died before 1516.

George Clayton, second son of Geoffrey, had a son and heir, Robert Clayton, to whom, as next male heir, Edward Stanley, Lord Monteagle, Geoffrey's trustee, released the estate in Little Harwood, A.D. 1516.

Robert Clayton, lord of Harwood Parva, had issue, sons, William, Lawrence, a clerk; Robert; and George. Robert Clayton the father died before 1540.

William Clayton, of Little Harwood, son of Robert, was in possession in the 31st Henry VIII., when he sued George Lyvesey and others for distress and rescue of cattle trespassing on his lands in Little Harwoode and Rishton. He had another litigation in 1556 with his brother, Lawrence Clayton, parson of Eythrop-roding, in Essex, in a dispute as to title to lands called Churchholde in Little Harwood and Blackburn. The dispute was renewed in the reign of Elizabeth. "William Clayton, gent." was named a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567. By his wife, a daughter of — Livesey, he had sons, John; Thomas (of Church-house, near Dunkenhalgh); Edward; and Ralph.

John Clayton succeeded his father before 1570, when he was assessed to a Subsidy for his lands in Little Harwood. John Clayton is

named in a list of "gentlemen of best calling" in the county in 1588 ; and, in 1600, "John Clayton of Little Harwood, gent." appears on a list of local freeholders. His brother, Thomas Clayton of Church-house, Parish of Whalley, gent., dying in 1608, gave 40s. to Blackburn Grammar School, which John Clayton paid to the trust, Aug. 1st, 1608. John Clayton died in January, 1624-5, and was buried at Blackburn Jan. 27th. His wife had died in 1621. The *Inq. post mort.* was taken at Preston, Oct. 1st, 1st Charles I. (1625). It was found that he had died seized of the Manor of Parva Harwood, held of Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Knt., as of his manor of Walton in free socage, by 4s. per annum, with six messuages, one water-mill, 200 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Parva Harwood ; also of 8 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Blackburn, held of the Archbishop of Canterbury as of the manor [Rectorial moiety] of Blackburn, in free socage ; and 6 messuages, one water-mill, 250 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Upper Wiersdale. John Clayton, son of Thomas Clayton, brother of the aforesaid John Clayton, was next heir, aged 19 years, 5 months, and 10 days. In the Escheat record the Will of the then deceased John Clayton is cited, which is dated Jan. 24th, 1624, in which testator, being seized to himself and his heirs in fee simple of and in one capital messuage with lands in Upper Wiersdale, called Lentworth, devises the said messuage and all lands appurtenant unto Thomas Clayton his nephew, younger son of Thomas Clayton his late brother deceased, for life, remainder to his heirs male ; in default to John Clayton, elder brother of the said Thomas, his heirs male ; remainder to Edward Clayton of Manchester, gent., testator's brother, and his heirs male ; remainder to Ralph Clayton, another brother, and his heirs male, &c.

Thomas Clayton, of Church-house, brother of the testator, who had died, as stated, in 1608, had by Bridget his wife, daughter of Robert Tunstall of Aldcliffe, the two sons above-named as heirs to their uncle, John, inheriting Little Harwood manor ; and Thomas, inheriting Lentworth in Upper Wyresdale ; also a daughter Margaret, wife of Thomas Birtwistle of Huncoat, Esq. Thomas Clayton of Lentworth, gent., married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Talbot of Salesbury, Knight, and had a son Thomas. Thomas the father died in 1658. Thomas Clayton the second of Lentworth, born in 1631, married Grace, daughter of James Moore of Harrock, Co. York, and had sons, Thomas, aged 5 years in 1664 ; John, and James ; and daughters Catherine and Margaret.

John Clayton of Little Harwood, gent., eldest son of Thomas and heir to John his uncle in 1625, was elected a governor of Blackburn Grammar School the same year. He married, first, Alice, daughter of George Coxe [? Cockshutt] of Great Harwood, gent., by whom he had

issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. May 7th, 1628; John, born in 1629; and William, died young; daughters, Bridget, married Robert Cowdrey, of Halifax; Alice, born June, 1632; and Margaret, bapt. Oct. 8th, 1637, married Bartholomew Shuttleworth, younger son of Richard Shuttleworth, of Gawthorpe, Esq. John Clayton married, secondly, Feb. 26th, 1654-5, 1655. John Clayton, gent., died in 1660, and was buried at Blackburn, Oct. 25th. "Mary Clayton, of Little Harwood, widow," was buried May Mary Shaw of Blackburn, and had by her a son Thomas, born Aug., 5th, 1679.

Thomas Clayton, gent., eldest son of John, died before his father in 1648. By his wife Dorothy, daughter of George Murray, parson of Bury, he had sons, John, and George, both of whom died in infancy, the last in April, 1654, so that on the death of John Clayton, gent., father of Thomas, in 1660, the estates descended to his second son John, and his heirs.

John Clayton, of Little Harwood, gent., entered at the Visitation of 1664, then aged 35, married, first, Feb. 26th, 1655-6, Jane, daughter of Roger Whalley of Toad Hole [Todd Hall], Blackburn, who had issue a son Thomas, born Jan. 3rd, 1657, died May, 1658; and a daughter Alice, born Oct. 7th, 1656, married, Jan. 8th, 1676-7, Albin Davenport of Bramhall, Co. Chester, Esq. John Clayton's wife Jane died in July, 1658. His second wife, whom he married June 21st, 1660, was Susan, daughter of Nicholas Rishton, of Antley, gent.; she died in 1668 (buried March 4th), leaving issue, John, bapt. April 8th, 1661; Susan, died young in 1666; Lydia; Ruth, born Feb., 1665-6; and Elizabeth, died July, 1677. John Clayton, gent., was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 19th, 1667-8, dying at the early age of 38. His infant son John, being the eldest surviving, was heir to the estate.

John Clayton, gent., married, first, Sept. 9th, 1684, Ellen Wilkinson, who died in childbed of a daughter, and was buried Aug. 9th, 1685; this child, Ellen, bapt. Aug. 7th, died in infancy. Mr. Clayton's second wife was daughter of Mr. Thomas Crook, of Abram Hall. Issue, sons, John, bapt. Jan. 8th, 1687, buried April 17th, 1688; Thomas, bapt. May 5th, 1688; William, born 1697; Christopher, born 1699; Edward, born 1701; Nicholas; Samuel, born 1705; John, born 1707; and Stephen, born 1711; also daughters, Susannah, born 1690; Mary, born 1693; and Alice, born 1695. John Clayton, gent., was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1682. He died in May, 1721 (buried at Blackburn, May 10th), aged 60 years.

Thomas Clayton, Esq., who succeeded his father, was a Doctor of Medicine, and in 1720, when elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, is described as "Dr. Thomas Clayton, of Manchester." He

married Abigail, daughter of Mr. — Derbyshire, about the year 1728. Issue, sons, John, bapt. Jan. 8th, 1728-29; William, bapt. June 18th, 1731; Thomas, bapt. April 1st, buried Oct. 7th, 1736; a second Thomas, bapt. Sept. 25th, 1737; and Edward, born Sept. 2nd, 1741. Thomas Clayton, Esq., M.D., died in May, 1759. In 1747 he had been made by the Will of Alexander Osbaldeston a trustee of his estate, and had conveyed to him and his heirs for ever the chapels, pews, and burial-ground of the Osbaldestons in Blackburn Church, with the right of nomination of parish clerk and one churchwarden. In 1760, "Abigail Clayton, of Larkhill, Blackburn, widow and executrix of Thomas Clayton," as surviving feoffee of Alexander Osbaldeston, nominated an incumbent to Lytham Church.

John Clayton, Esq., son of Thomas, married, in 1754, Margaret, daughter and sole heir of Richard Townley of Carr, Esq., and had issue, sons, Thomas, born May 16th, 1755; and Richard Townley, died an infant in June, 1756; and daughters, Martha, born in 1760, died unmarried, aged 74, Oct. 28th, 1834; and Margaret, married to Dr. James Chew. The mother, Mrs. Clayton, died in 1779. John Clayton, Esq., was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, elected in 1749; a Justice of the Peace for Lancashire; and Major in the Royal Lancashire Volunteers. He died at Little Harwood Hall, aged 74, April 17th, 1803.

Thomas Clayton, Esq., son of John, was Colonel of the Royal Lancashire Volunteers; fifty-eight years a magistrate for the county; and high sheriff of the county in 1808. Towards the close of his life, Col. Clayton sold the Little Harwood estate in lots to several parties, and afterwards resided on the estate inherited from his mother at Carr Hall, where he died, aged 79, Feb. 12th, 1835. He had married, Dec. 11th, 1788, Susan, daughter of Robert Nuttall of Bury (she died Dec. 23rd, 1789), but had no issue by her. He had a natural daughter Elizabeth, whom he adopted as his heiress, and she married (two days before Col. Clayton's death), Feb. 10th, 1835, Edward Every (second son of Sir Henry Every, Bart.), who took the surname of Clayton. Edward Every Clayton, Esq., by his first wife, the heiress of Carr, had issue Thomas Every Clayton, and several younger sons and daughters. His second wife was Eliza Mary Holgate, grand-daughter and eventual heiress of Nicholas Halsted of Rowley, gent.

John Hoyle, gent., of Haslingden, who purchased of Col. Clayton, in 1815, Little Harwood Hall and that portion of the estate called the hall-farm, resided afterwards at the Hall, and died there, aged 60, in June, 1834. By his wife Mary, daughter of Roger Brandwood, gent. (whom he married in 1801, and who died March 5th, 1824), John Hoyle, Esq., had issue four sons and six daughters. His son, Mr.

Henry Hoyle, succeeded to the Little Harwood property. He was a solicitor, and for twenty years was Clerk to the Blackburn Borough Magistrates. He died at Little Harwood Hall, in Dec., 1872, leaving issue two sons and two daughters. In June, 1873, was advertised for sale the remnant of the manorial estate attached to Little Harwood Hall, consisting of the hall and about 64 acres of land in Little Harwood, a piece of land in Blackburn called Church-hill, and several chief rents. Henry Robinson, Esq., bought the estate, and now resides at the Hall.

Little Harwood Hall, ancient seat of the Claytons, was rebuilt in the 17th century, and the south front of the hall yet exhibits the usual features of Lancashire halls of that date, gabled wings projecting from a central block, and numerous small mullioned windows. The north side was rebuilt about 1731, in the semi-classic style then in vogue for domestic structures, and has a plain red brick frontage, with pedimented doorway, and square windows. The situation of the hall, gardens, and plantations is an angle of ground bounded on two sides by the Little Harwood brook, which divides Little Harwood from Blackburn.

Other landowners in the township are Mr. William Carr, who has 400 statute acres in Little Harwood and Blackburn; Mr. John Clarke, Higher Cunliffe, 147 acres; Blackburn Burial Board, 45 acres.

BOLTON OF BANK-HEY.

About the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII., a family of Bolton appears in tenure of a small freehold estate at Bank-hey, in Little Harwood. In the Subsidy of 1523 Roger Boulton of Parva Harwood is assessed at 40s. in goods. It was probably the same Roger Boulton who, at the survey of the estates of Whalley Abbey, in 1537, held a house, garden, and 36 acres of land in Parva Harwood, paying 38s. 11d. rent.

William Boulton of Bancke-hey, a descendant, if not son, of the above Roger, held this freehold, and died in 1594. An Inventory dated the 12th March, 1594-5, "of all the Goods and Cattles which were latly Will Boultown of Banncke hey in Lyttl Harwood," makes the total value of effects £236 12s., including £51 9s. 4d. in "oxen, kyne, younge beasts, and horses;" £20 in "oats and barley;" £10 in sheep, £10 in "bedding and bedcloathes," and £14 16s. 2d. in "money in his chyste and all debts;" £3 13s. 4d. in "hay turves and coles;" and £3 13s. 4d. in "brass and pewdar."

George Bolton of Bank-hey, in the year 1600, gave 6s. 8d. to the Free Grammar School of Blackburn. He died Jan. 13th, 1617-18, his wife having died before him, Nov. 26, 1617. The escheat, taken at Blackburn, March 5th, 1617-18, shows that he held lands in Little Harwood of the King in socage, and cites the Will of the deceased, dated Jan. 2nd, 1617-18, in which testator, George Boulton of Banke-hey, desires to be buried near his father in Blackburn Church; directs that his eldest son, William Bolton, shall have the half of all his lands, and that the other half, then in the hands of his mother and brethren, shall be divided amongst his five younger sons and one daughter. Testator's loving friends, Thomas Barton of Smithells, Esq., Richard Rishton of Sparth, gent., and Seath Bushell of Preston, gent., to be supervisors of the Will. William Bolton, son and heir, was aged 20 years, 10 months and 1 day at his father's death. George Bolton's mother, Maria Bolton, was living at Blackburn at

the date of the inquisition. Thomas Bolton, a younger son of George Bolton of Bank-hey, was bapt. Feb. 5th, 1601; George, another son, was bapt. Aug. 15th, 1605.

William Bolton of Bank-hey, died about two years after his father, March 7th, 1619, seized of half a messuage, garden, 20 acres of land, 4 acres meadow, 10 acres pasture, 6 acres woodland in Little Harwood. His Will is dated March 1st, 1618-19. Richard Bolton, his brother, was next heir; and Mary Bolton, widow of William, was living at Blackburn in 1619. John Bolton, of Bank-hey, a brother of William, occurs in a list of Free tenants in 1621. He died in 1625, and was buried Aug. 15th.

Richard Bolton of Bank-hey, heir to his brother William Bolton, held the tenement from the year 1619 until his death in 1685. He had sons William and George, and a daughter Ann. In 1650, Richard Boulton appears as a freeholding tenant in Blackburn Wapentake, paying 11d. yearly to Clitheroe Castle.

George Bolton of Little Harwood, died in 1669. His Will, dated Jan. 4th; 1669-70, names his children and nieces (not distinguished), George Bolton, Robert, Katherine, Ellis, Ann, and Elizabeth Bolton; Ann Hoffman; and a brother Richard. Testator appoints his eldest son, George Bolton, sole executor, who proved the Will at Chester, Feb. 3rd, 1669.

George Bolton of Little Harwood, yeoman, died on the 24th April, 1731, and was buried on the 26th at Blackburn. The burial register is authority for the statement that he had reached the great age of "113 years."

CLAYTON OF CUNLIFFE.

William Clayton of Cundclyffe, in Little Harwood, gent., was second son of William Clayton of the Old Crook and Fulwood, gent., and by his marriage with Hannah, daughter of John Clayton of Little Harwood, Esq., acquired, it may be, the Cunliffe property in which he resided. He had issue, sons, Thomas, born in 1618; John, bapt. Oct. 2nd, 1626; Alice, bapt. Feb. 20th, 1624; and Hannah. The father, William Clayton, died in Jan., 1659-60, and was buried at Blackburn. Oct. 11th, 1660, letters of administration of the estate of William Clayton, "late of Cunliffe, in Little Harwood, gent.," were granted to his son, Thomas Clayton of Cunliffe, clerk.

Thomas Clayton, clerk, son and heir of William, was sometime minister of Chapel-in-le-Frith, Co. Derby; in the register of which is recorded, under date 1660:—"Mr. Thomas Clayton of Cunliffe in Little Harwood in the Parish of Blackburne, &c., clarke, sometime Minister of Chapel in ye frith, married Mrs. Elizabeth Bagshawe, daughter of Mr. Thomas Bagshawe of Ridge Hall."

FOSTER OF BANK-HEY.

The Fosters of Little Harwood appear to have come of the Fosters of Billington. James ffoster of Billington was taxed to the Subsidy of 1523. In 1537, at the Abbey estates survey, Robert ffoster was tenant of a farm of 22½ acres in Billington, and the wife of John ffoster held Great Nabbe farm and Little Nabbe pasture.

John Foster of Little Harwood, gent., is named in a list of free tenants dated 1621. John Foster of Little Harwood, gent., died Sept. 1st, 14 Charles I. (1638), and at the inquisition concerning his estate, taken at Blackburn, Sept. 27th, 14 Charles I., it was shewn that he had held of the King in capite one messuage, 8 acres of land, 3 acres of meadow, and 7 acres of pasture in Little Harwood called Le Bank Hey.

Roger Foster was found son and heir of John, aged 52 years. He had a son Roger. Roger Foster of Bank-hey, whose wife Elizabeth died Sept., 1658, is named in 1660; and was buried at Blackburn, Nov. 4th, 1672. I note no issue save a daughter Elizabeth, buried June 20th, 1671.

PEEL OF BANK-HEY.

Certain members of a family of Peel from Craven in Yorkshire acquired land on this side of Blackburn parish about 450 years ago. In the 5th Henry VI. (1427), Thomas de Pele and William de Pele of Craven granted to Roger Walmsley, chaplain, and John Walmsley lands in Salesbury and Wilpshire.

In 1538, John Peele held in Little Harwood under the Abbey of Whalley a house, 6 acres of arable land, 7 acres of pasture, and 4 acres of meadow, paying yearly 38s. 11d.

Thomas Peele, of Bank-hey, Little Harwood, yeoman, died in 1590. Inventory of his goods, amounting in value to £97 6s. 8d., is dated July 29th, in that year. Administration of his estate was granted, Sept. 3rd, 1590, to Anne Peele, his widow. He had sons, Edward, and John; and a daughter Elizabeth, wife of William Cleyton.

John Peele, son of the above, was, in 1594, one of four appraisers of the goods and chattels of his neighbour, William Bolton of Bank-hey, yeoman.

John Peele, of Bank-hey, a freeholder, died in 1641. Inquisition taken at Blackburn, April 28th, 17th Charles I., proves him to have died seized of one messuage with garden, 15 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 12 acres of pasture, and 4 acres of woodland in Parva Harwood, held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster, worth 30s. yearly; John Peele, his son and heir, was then aged 34 years.

John Peele, of Bank-hey, yeoman, son of John, had sons, Edward, born in 1651; Joseph, born in 1656, and other issue. To the Subsidy of 1663 John Peele is assessed for lands in Little Harwood. He died in April, 1687; buried April 25th.

The above John, or a son John succeeding him, rebuilt the family residence at Bank-hey, which has a stone over the doorway, inscribed "I P A" (John and Anne or Alice Peel), and the date "1687." The old house at Bank-hey (with the farm) is now the property of Mr. Carr, and has recently been partially rebuilt. The doorway with the inscription above it is in the east wing.

RISHTON OF HARSTONLEY.

Geffereye Rishton was assessed on his lands in Little Harwood to a Subsidy in 1570. Randal Rishton and William Rishton, both of this township were assessed to a Subsidy in 1610. Randal Rishton of Harstonley died May, 1634; his wife died in 1629. Another Randal Rishton who had land in this township occurs in a rental of Blackburn Wapentake in 1650. Jeffrey Rishton of Harstonley occurs in 1656. He had a son Jeffrey, and daughters Mary and Rosamond. Thomas Rishton of Little Harwood was taxed to a Subsidy for his lands in 1663. Jeffrey Rishton of this township married, Dec. 12th, 1676, Jane Shearburne, of the Parish of Whalley.

LITTLE HARWOOD COMMON-LANDS INCLOSURE.

A Petition of persons interested in the Commons of Little Harwood was presented in the House of Commons, Feb. 8th, 1776, setting forth that within the vill, hamlet, or township of Little Harwood were certain commons or tracts of Waste Ground, called Brownhill, containing 70 acres or thereabouts, customary measure, which the Petitioners apprehended might be greatly improved if the same were enclosed and divided into specific allotments amongst the parties interested therein, and praying that leave might be given to bring in a Bill for those purposes. Leave was given, and an Enclosure Bill, brought in by Lord Stanley and Mr. Lister, was passed March 18th, 1776.

CHAPTER X.—THE TOWNSHIP OF LIVESEY.

Topography—Acreage—Print Works and Cotton Mills—Population—The Manor—Ancient Landowners—Livesey of Livesey—Livesey Hall—Astley of Stakes—Dr. Richard Astley—Stakes Hall and estate—Present Landowners—Ancient Families of Freeholders—Astley—Boardman—Harwood—Holden—Livesey of Whithalgh—Pickop—Walkden—Witton—Feniscowles Church—St. Andrew's, Moorgate—Mill Hill Chapel—Waterfall Chapel—Day Schools—Charities.

LIVESEY Township comprises lands abutting upon the River Darwen on the south, separated by the river from the townships of Blackburn, Witton and Pleasington. On the west, the stream of Roddlesworth, which divides Livesey from Wheelton township in Leyland Parish, discharges into the Darwen at Feniscowles Bridge. The uplands of Tockholes, which formerly was nominally united with Livesey by the title of Livesey-cum-Tockholes, bound the township to the south-west, and Lower Darwen is the next township on the south-east. The land of Livesey is distributed over the slopes and summit of a considerable hill, which at "Bunker's Hill" is some 700 feet above the sea-level. The acreage of Livesey is 1890 statute acres. The agriculture is grass-farming solely; and the soil of the river-side pasture and meadow lands produces good crops. Coal was anciently got in the township, and many traces of the adits of old coal mines are found upon Bunker's Hill.

The lower parts of the township next to Blackburn have shared the manufacturing industries of that town during more than a century. Mr. Thomas Yates has been named in a former chapter (p. 216), as a dyer of calico at Moorgate in 1748. Later, the Haworth family, who were connected with the Peels in the development of calico-printing, had their print-works at Stakes Hall, which were transferred near the close of last century to the Turners (see ante, p. 228). By the firm of Turner these print-works were extended along the river-bank from Stakes to Mill Hill and Primrose; and the business of calico-printing was carried on by the Turners until the death of Mr. William Turner (sometime M.P. for Blackburn), the youngest of the brothers, in 1842.

The works and estate were sold to the late Mr. Joseph Eccles in 1843. The Mill Hill cotton mills were erected in 1844 on the site of some of the former buildings demolished. Within thirty years, more than a dozen mills for spinning and weaving cotton have been built in Livesey, the largest being the "Mill Hill Mills," now under the firm of Hodgkinson, Swain & Co.; the works of Mr. John Fish, called "Waterfall Mills;" of the late Mr. Thomas Dugdale; of the late Mr. George Whiteley, called "Albion Mills;" and the "Cherry Tree Mills" of Messrs. John, Edward, and Joseph Dugdale. It is computed that the cotton factories in Livesey employ from 5000 to 6000 workpeople. The local extension of this manufacture has had a marked effect upon the growth of population in the township. From 1801 the figures have ranged as follows:—1801, population 1184 persons; 1811, 1126 persons; 1821, 1664 persons; 1831, 1787 persons; 1841, 1996 persons; 1851, 2649 persons; 1861, 3581 persons; 1871, 4035 persons. In 1876, the population of Livesey approaches 4500.

The Boundary Commissioners, in 1868, in consideration of the extension of the town of Blackburn into this township and Witton, extended the boundary of the Parliamentary borough of Blackburn to embrace suburban portions of Livesey and Witton, containing now together a population of nearly 8000 persons, and adding about 1100 electors to the constituency of Blackburn.

THE MANOR OF LIVESHEY—ANCIENT LANDOWNERS.

Consecutive particulars of the early passages of the lands in Livesey cannot be furnished. These items occur:—In the *Liber Feodorum*, compiled about the middle of the 13th century, it is entered that Ralph de Mytton held the 4th part of a knight's fee in Acton, Merlay, and Liveshey, of the demesne fee of the Earl of Lincoln. Adam de Buri, in the same century, had lands in Livesey, of which he gave to Adam, son of Philip, presbiter, all his land of Astley land and Ewod between the water of Derwent and fallingslih and eslerletillecale and fernihirst. A generation later, before 1311, Sir Henry de Bury held Livesey in thanage under Earl de Lascy, and paid yearly 29s. and suit at Clyderhou Court. The hamlet of *Ewode*, now Ewood, on the east border of Livesey, gave its name to a family of proprietors of whom three or four generations are apparent. Nicholas de Wynkeley, chaplain, gave to Margaret de Ewode for life all messuages and lands in Livesey he had by the gift of the said Margaret. Richard de Ewode had a son Adam, who had lands conveyed to him by William de Livesey; and Adam had a son Adam de Ewode, living in the latter years of the 13th century, who bought lands of Richard de Livesey. This last-named Adam de Ewode might be father

of Richard de Ewode, who occurs in 1333. In 1346, one William de Ewode, by his felony, forfeited his estate in Livesey to the Crown, nominally 12 acres of land.

LIVESEY OF LIVESEY.

The earliest member of this family I have noted was one Galfrid de Levesaye, who by deed in latin dated at Livesey 4th Henry III. (A.D. 1220) gave to Hughe, his son, one messuage and certain crofts called the Estcroft and Westcroft at Grene-toccholes in the vill of Levesaye. One of the witnesses is Henry de Levesaye.

Henry de Levesaye, living *temp.* Edw. I., gave to the Abbey of Stanlaw one perch of his land in Livesey lying in Whitacre near the highway. Witnesses (with others), Adam, clerk, of Livesay, Galfred and Adam, brothers of Henry de Livesay. He had a son William.

William de Levesay, son of Henry, lived *temp.* John, and quit-claimed to the Abbot and Convent of Stanlaw a rent of 4d. from certain lands. The same William de Levesay gave to Adam son of Richard de Ewode parcel of his land in Levesay. He had sons, Richard, Henry, and Galfrid; and "William son of Henry de Levesay" gave to Richard son of William de Levesay portion of his land in Livesay called Le Mers. Witnesses: Henry de Plesyngton, Robert his brother, Galfred de Levesay. These deeds are without date, but belong to the latter part of the thirteenth century.

Richard de Levesey, son of William, gave to Adam, son of Adam de Hewode, for 4 marks sterling, parcel of land in the vill of Levesey called the Mers. Witnesses, Adam de Osbaldeston, Adam de Levesey, Richard de Rishton, and others.

Adam de Levesey had a daughter Matilda, who was wife of Henry de Whithkill, and by deed dated 11th Ed. II. (1313) granted to Thomas Talbot all her lands in Bashall and Wetelay which her father Adam de Levesey gave her.

John de Levesey, contemporary with Adam, had a son Robert.

Robert de Levesey, son of John, granted to Henry, son of Robert de Levesey, certain lands by deed dated 4th Edw. II. (1306).

Henry de Levesey, son of Robert, occurs in 2nd Edw. III. (1328), and had by Magota his wife a son Henry. Henry de Levesey the father was dead before the 17th Edw. III. (1344), when "Magota, who was wife of Henry son of Robert de Levesey" appears as party to a deed of that date.

Henry de Levesey, son of Henry, married Cecilia, daughter of Thomas de Sutton, and held the manor of Livesey *temp.* Edw. III.

John de Livesey, lord of Livesey, follows Henry, and was dead before 1389, his son and heir, John, being then a minor.

John de Livesey was heir to the manor of Livesey on his father's death, and the King's ward ; and on March 24th, 1389, the King and Duke committed to Richard de Hoghton, Knt., and Richard de Whalley, custody of the lands and heir of John de Livesay of Livesay, deceased, to have until the full age of the said heir, with his marriage, &c. In 1395 it is recorded, in the inquisition of John de Ardem, that John son and heir of John de Livesey held the manor of Livesey of the Duke of Lancaster by knight service, and was then under age and in custody of the lord Duke. This John de Livesey occurs as a juror in 1408, 1415, and 1422. He probably was father of Geoffrey de Livesey; and kinsman also of Robert de Livesey (who occurs 1419), William de Livesey (who occurs 1435), Thomas and James de Livesey (both occur in 1440).

Galfred (or Geoffrey) de Livesey, who appears as witness to a deed of the 20th Henry VI. (1442), and other deeds, was, I think, lord of Livesey at that date.

Succeeding comes John de Livesey, lord of Livesey, who had to wife Ann, daughter of Gyles Talbot of Slaidburn (a branch of Talbot of Bashall), and had issue, sons, Gyles, and William. John Livesey died in the 19th Henry VII. (1504).

Gyles Livesey, son and heir of John, aged 15 years at the time of his father's death, had to wife Alice, daughter of John Talbot, of Salesbury, Esq., and had issue, sons, James ; Henry, of Blackburn ; and Thomas, of Livesey ; and daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Robert, son of Christopher Bolton ; and Anne, wife of Roger Rishton of Ponthalgh. A bill of receipt dated 11th June, 5th Henry VIII. (1513), witnesses that Giles Lyvesay of Lyvesay, gent., had received of Jenet, wife of William Asteley of Livesey, in the name of the release of George Asteley son and heir of the said William, 4s. to him due for all lands which the said George held of him in Livesey. Gyles Livesey died before 1520, when the escheat record shows that he had conveyed his estate in trust. He was found seized of Livesey manor, with messuages, mills, and lands.

James Livesey, son and heir of Gyles, was aged 16 at date of his succession. His wife was Alice, daughter of Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, and he had issue, sons, Richard, born about 1525 ; Alexander Livesey ; and John Livesey, first of Sidebight in Rishton (*vide post*, Livesey of Sidebight). James Livesey, gent., was assessed on lands in Lower Darwen to the Subsidy in 1523. He died Aug. 18th, 1548, and by escheat dated Oct. 10th, 2nd Edw. VI., it was found that James Levesay had died seized of Livesey manor, with 10 messuages, 200 acres of arable land, 40 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, and 200 acres of moor and turbary in Livesey ; and 24s. of annual rents of lands and tenements there. A deed is attached to the return, whereby it is

covenanted that Richard Levesay, son and heir of James Livesey and Alice his wife, shall marry Ellen Lister, daughter of Christopher Lister of Midhope, Co. York. By a settlement cited, the estate and annuity of Alice Livesey, wife of James, were to go to one Alice Shuttleworth for life, remainder to James Livesey's son Richard and his heirs.

Richard Livesey, son and heir, was then aged 23 years. He married, at Whalley Church, April 26th, 1543, Ellena Lister, and had issue a son, John; and a daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Astley of Stakes, gent. He had also a natural son Thomas, of Skelbank. Richard Livesey's second wife, Isabel, survived him and married John Singleton of Chingle-hall. Richard Livesey, gent., was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567; occurs as a juror in 1584, and as a "gentleman of best calling" in Lancashire in 1588. He died in 1590, aged about 65 years. *Inq. post mort.* taken 33rd Eliz., shows that he was seized of Lyvesey manor, with messuages, lands, mills, &c.

John Livesey, son of Richard, had died in his father's lifetime, in the year 1571. He had been twice married, first to Jennet, daughter and co-heir of John Isherwood, by whom he had no issue; secondly, to Margery, daughter of Henry Talbot of Bashall, by whom he had issue, sons, James, and John; and a daughter Mary, wife of Thomas Parker of Loveley, gent.

James Livesey, eldest son of John, thus was next heir to the estate on the death of his grandsire in 1590. He married Alice, daughter of James Bradshaw of Darcy Lever, Esq., but had no issue. James Livesey, Esq., rebuilt Livesey Hall in 1608. In his Will, dated 1609, he names his wife Alice, brother John, and sister Mary. He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, and gave 20s. to the School Stock on his election in 1599. Being without issue, he constituted his nephew Ralph, son of his brother John, his heir by a deed of settlement dated Sept. 30th, 1617. He died in April, 1619. In a letter from one Leonard Smedley to St. George the herald, dated 1622, it is mentioned that "Mr. Levesey of Levese, gent., dyed in April, 1619, sance issue, and was Buried with escutcheons, whoe made his wyfe Alis sole executrix both of goods and lands for his lyfe, of whom I did demand the fees, the first day of May this month, having made divers Jurnes thether and could not speak with her before, whose answer was that at hir returne from London whither she was then going, she would either pay me or give me answer to the contrarie, which should be before midsummer next."¹ By *Inq. post mort.* taken at Blackburn, Jan. 8th, 19th Jas. I., before John Haworth, gent., deputy feodary, it is returned that James Livesey had died seized of Livesey manor with appurtenances, including 10 messuages, 6 cottages,

¹ Chetham Miscellanies, vol. v.

one fulling mill, 100 acres of land, 40 of meadow, 100 of pasture, 10 of woodland, 100 of rushland and heath, 40 of moor, moss and turbarry, and 5s. rent in Livesey and Tockholes; also, of one messuage, 30 acres of land, 20 of meadow, and 30 of pasture in Pleasington.

John Livesey, gent., brother of James, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of William Cartwright of Ossington, Co. Notts., had issue, sons, Ralph, born April 30th, 1610; John (John Livesey, of Blackburn, gent., married, first, Alice, daughter of Thomas Banastre of Walton, and secondly, the widow of — Rawstorne of Haslingden); William Livesey, of Staple Inn, London; Roger Livesey, living in Ireland in 1664; and daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1623, wife of George Sim, citizen of London; and Dorothy, born in 1626, who died "of the small pockes," in November, 1654.

Ralph Livesey, Esq., son of John, and successor of his uncle James in the estate, married, first, at Manchester Collegiate Church, Dec. 8th, 1632, Mary, daughter of William Radcliffe, of Manchester, and had by her a son James, who died young; and, secondly, Anne, daughter of Thomas Clayton of Fulwood, Esq., by whom he had sons, John, died young in 1654; James, born and died in 1654; and Ralph, bapt. April 16th, 1657; and daughters, Dorothy, born in 1651, died in 1655; Elizabeth; Martha, born in 1656, died in 1670; and Sarah. Ralph Livesey, Esq., built a new wing to Livesey Hall in 1666; and dying in 1694, aged 84, was buried in Blackburn Church, March 12th, 1694-5. He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from Dec., 1630, until his death. Anne, his wife, was buried Jan. 31st, 1693-4.

Ralph Livesey, Esq., of Livesey Hall, only surviving son of Ralph, heired the Livesey estate in 1695, at the age of 37. By Ann his wife he had issue, sons, Porter, bapt. Oct. 4th, 1683; William, bapt. Feb. 14th, 1687-8; and Ralph, born in Nov., 1693, died in July, 1694; and daughters, Ann, bapt. at Livesey Hall, July 5th, 1685, died in August, 1693; Elizabeth, born in Sept., 1686; Margaret, born and died in 1690; and Dorothy, born in 1691. Ralph Livesey, Esq., was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1675; he was a juror at the trial at Manchester of the Jacobite gentry accused of treason in 1694; and is named in 1720 as entitled to appoint one Warden of Blackburn Church. He died in 1725, and was buried in Blackburn Church, April 27th.

Porter Livesey, Esq., lord of Livesey manor in 1725, son of Ralph, appears not to have married. "Captain Porter Livesey" was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1714. He died about the year 1747, and his heir was Ralph, son of his brother William.

William Livesey, gent., brother of Porter Livesey, had, by his wife

Elizabeth, a son, Ralph, bapt. June 5th, 1728; and a daughter, Elizabeth, bapt. Sept. 10th, 1729, wife of Daniel Wilson, Esq. Mr. William Livesey was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1724. He died in 1729, and was buried in Blackburn Church, March 30th. His widow, "Elizabeth Livesey of Preston, gentlewoman," was buried at Blackburn, May 21st, 1755.

Ralph Livesey, only son of William, succeeded to the manorial and other family estates on the death of Porter Livesey, Esq., his uncle, in 1747. He was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1747. Ralph Livesey, Esq., married, on 26th Nov., 1754, Mary Bell, daughter of Ralph Bell of Thirsk, Esq. (she was born in 1729), and had issue an only daughter, Mary, born in 1755. Ralph Livesey, Esq., was buried in Blackburn Church, Oct. 9th, 1766, aged 38. His only daughter, Mary, died in 1774, at the age of eighteen, unmarried—"Miss Mary Livesey of Livesey, spinster, dyed at York," buried at Blackburn, March 2nd, 1774. In the Hall at Thirsk are portraits of Ralph Livesey, Esq., his wife, and daughter, by Van Loe.

Elizabeth, only sister of Ralph Livesey, Esq., married Daniel Wilson, Esq., of Dallam Tower, Lancaster, and died, aged 72, in 1801. Her obituary in the *Manchester Mercury* of Nov. 10th, 1801, reads:—"On Wednesday last (Nov. 4th), Mrs. Wilson, relict of the late Daniel Wilson, Esq., of Lancaster, and daughter of the late William Livesey, Esq., of Livesey Hall, Blackburn. In her the poor have lost a friend whose purse was always open to relieve their wants."

The Livesey estates were settled in 1760 by deed of demise of Ralph Livesey, Esq., in trust for Robert Bell Livesey. In July, 1769, shortly after Ralph Livesey's death, were advertised "to be let, the estates of the late Ralph Livesey, Esq., in the manor of Livesey and townships of Pleasington, Studlehurst and Balderstone." From an abstract of title of the owner of the Studlehurst estate I find information as to the nature of the conveyance of the Livesey properties by Ralph Livesey. An indenture, dated 1829, recites that by certain indentures of lease and release, dated Sept. 1st and 2nd, 1806, the latter between Robert Bell Livesey, Esq., of the first part, John Bell, Esq., of the second part, Robert Hubberstey of the third part, and Thomas Hubberstey of the fourth part, it is witnessed that a term of 1000 years of and in the hereditaments named was created by indenture of demise dated 30th June, 1760, made between Ralph Livesey, Esq., of the first part, Edward Dawson, carrier, of the second part, and Roger Gale, gent., of the third part, and was by divers mesne assignments then vested in the said John Bell, his exors., &c., in trust for the said Robert Bell Livesey, his heirs and assigns, and to attend the inheritance of the same hereditaments.

Robert Bell, second son of Ralph Bell, of Thirsk, heir in reversion to Livesey Manor and other estates of his uncle, Ralph Livesey, Esq., on succeeding thereto assumed the additional surname of Livesey. He married Jane, daughter of Rev. John Cleaver, D.D., of Malton, and had issue a daughter and heiress, Marianne Livesey, married, in 1822, to

Edmund Turton, Esq., of Upsall, Co. York. Robert Bell Livesey, Esq., sold Livesey manor, in 1805, to Henry and William Feilden, Esqrs.

Livesey Hall, the former seat of the Liveseys, lords of the manor, stands in a low situation, sheltered by trees, on the north-west border of the township. The hall is a long building with wings gabled to the south front, and massive chimney projections at the rear. Over the doorway in the central porch the arms of the Liveseys appear in a stone panel; and on a stone in the wall above is inscribed the motto, "*Deo soli Gloria*," with the initials "I L A L" of James Livesey and Alice his wife, and the date "1608" of the restoration of this portion of the mansion. The north-east wing, added by Ralph Livesey, Esq., has on its front a lettered stone with the motto, "*Virtus est vera nobilitas*," the initials "R L A L" (Ralph and Anne Livesey), and the date "1666." Another inscribed stone over the doorway in the opposite wing, which is evidently the most modern structure, has on it the initials "R L" "A L" and "P L" standing for Ralph and Ann and their son Porter Livesey, and the date "1689." The interior of the older end of the house, now in a state of decay, shows the wide arched fire-place in the kitchen; carved oak panels over the fire-place in the dining room; other panelled rooms, and a wide oaken staircase. A few years after the sale of the estate to William and Henry Feilden, Esqrs., in the early part of this century, the house was divided with the estate into two parts, and the yard and garden were divided by a wall. The portion of the hall that fell to the share of Mr. Feilden of Witton Park has been suffered to become ruinous; while the portion allotted to Sir Wm. Feilden, of Feniscowles, has been repaired and made the farm-house to the farm adjoining. Under a clump of trees on the east side of the hall garden is an artificial mound, beneath which is a strongly-built vault of brickwork, having deep arched recesses in three sides, and entered by an arched opening in the angle. The purpose of this chamber I cannot confidently assign.

ASTLEY OF STAKES, &c.

The Astley family, seated nearly three centuries at Ewood and Stakes Hall in this township, claim descent from the ancient house of Astley of Astley. The circumstances under which the family acquired estate in this parish are not apparent.

William Astley of Livesey, living in 1513, by Jenet his wife had a son and heir George.

George Astley, son of William, would be the "George Esteley," assessed for lands in Livesey to the Subsidy in 1523. "George Asteley of Blackborne, gent.," married Alice, daughter of Richard Langtree, of Langtree, Esq. In the 16th Henry VIII. (1524), George Astley is

named in a record that William Holden, son and heir of Thomas Holden de Ewode, held of George Astley all the land called Ewode in socage.

William Astley of Stakes, gent., the first named by the herald (Visitation of 1613), probably son of the above George, by his wife Eliza, daughter of — Wrightington, had a son and heir George.

George Astley, gent., son of William, married Jane, daughter of Sir James Stanley, Knt., of Cross Hall, and had issue, sons, Thomas, the heir; William; Gilbert; and Richard (see below); also daughters, Elizabeth; Rosamond; and Ann, wife of Richard Molineux of Hawkley, Esq. ("Ann, daughter of George Astley of Ewood, now of Stakes," so styled in the Molineux pedigree). George Astley, gent., and Robert Astley, gent., of this family, were named Governors of Blackburn Grammar School in its Charter (1567). In 1570, George Astley was taxed to the Subsidy for his lands in Livesey. The Will of George Astley of Heywood (Ewood in Livesey) is dated Aug. 24th, 1573. Testator's wife is left his house in Witton, and his son Thomas the "Manor-house [*sic*] of Livesey."

Before continuing the main descent, I must give some account of a younger son of the above George Astley, gent., who may be esteemed the most eminent personage in the genealogy. This was Richard Astley, D.D., Warden of All Souls College, Oxford. He was, as stated above, third son of George Astley of Ewood, near Blackburn, gent. He was born about the year 1560; and being a near kinsman of Judge Walmsley, who had well served All Souls' College, Oxford, in a long suit against Lord Cromwell, "he was very earnestly recommended by the Judge to that College," and Archbishop Whitgift joining in Sir Thomas Walmsley's recommendation, "he was elected into the College in 1595." He took his degree in divinity, and was returned with Dr. Twisden to the Archbishop for the office of Warden of his College, to which he was appointed July 23rd, 1618. Richard Astley, D.D., was sometime chaplain to George Abbot, Archbishop of Canterbury. He held the rectory of Chiddingington in Kent, which he exchanged for the rectory of Oddington within Oxford; he was also rector of Chadwell. He died in his college Feb. 25th, 1635-6, and was buried in the ante-Chapel of the College. Dr. Richard Astley's portrait some years since was in the possession of S. Crompton, Esq., of Manchester; and it was inscribed "Richard Astley, Doctor of Divinitie, Warden of All Soules College, Oxon. Deo Imago luceat in Prototypo meo," in large yellow letters on the background. His Will, dated Nov. 27th, 1635, is an interesting document, but too lengthy to be printed in full. I abstract its more material items. Testator, "Richard Astley, Dr. in divinitie and Warden of All Soule College in Oxon.," commends his body to be interred "within the quire of our Colledge Chapel of All Soulne;" and after his physicians' and apothecaries' and funeral expenses are discharged, bequeaths "to the poore of Blackeborne towne and parish in Lanc.," £50 in manner following, £10 "unto my coozen Thomas Astley's poore tenants in Livesey neere Blackborne," and the £40 remaining unto such impotent and distressed poor of Blackburn town, township and parish "as Mr. Walmsley, Mr. Vicar of Blackborne, my coozen Thomas Astley and Mr. Roger Gillibrand of Beardwood shall think to be most necessitous and most worthie," &c. Bequests follow to the poor of Oddington, Chiddingington, Oxford, Hytone in Lancashire, and others, to the sum of £11; also, bequests to divers almsmen, &c. To All Souls' College testator gives "all my studie bookes;" divinity books to the fellows and chap-

lains ; "40 humanitie bookes to Andrew Lathom," and half-a-dozen "tending to physicke" to Henry Elstone ; residue of humanity books to John Mitchell, William Harwoode, Law. Kinge, and Samuel Jones. "To my nephewe Thomas Astley of the Stakes neere Blackborne my fayrest and wydest duble guilte boule with the cover, to remaine at the Stakes with him and the heirs of his name after him so long as it shall please God to continue them ;" to him likewise and to his "six natural sisters and his unckle Randall and to his ante Millicente Banester, and alsoe to my brother Gilberte Astley's 2 daughters, Margaret and Marie (if shee be alive, or otherwyse to Marie's child), and to my coozen Mollinex his widowe," to each of them, twelve in number, £3 6s. 8d. a-piece. To the wife of "my kindsman William Astley, late Butler of our Colledge," £2 for the benefit of her children, with furniture and goods of testator at Colledge and at Oddington ; and unto her eldest son Richard "my parcell guilte beaker," "scarlet hoode, habite, cap and tipet." To "my Brother William Astley's 3 children, George, William, and Jane ; Sister Mollinex 7 children, James, John, Roger (if hee bee alive, otherwise to his two sisters unmarried), Elizabeth, Catharan, Ann, and Marie ; Sister Ockleshay's 4 children, Henry (if he bee alive), Richard, Theodore, and Margaret ; Sister Hatton's 2 children, Douratie fford, Margaret Page"—sixteen in all, £3 6s. 8d. a-piece. To Theodore Ockleshay, 2s. To George Astley (son of William) "my duble guilte boule and cover, whereon is the picture of an apostle," and "my ringe with deathea head ingraven." To his brotber William "my pipkin" and "my ringe with my seale of armes ;" to his sister Jane "my lesser can." "Henry Ockleshay my large silver can ;" to "Catharan Barford my duble guilte can and £5 ;" to "Douratie fford and her sister Margaret Page" each half-a-dozen silver spoons. To Randle Astley, named above, "my duble guilte silver spoone," and to his sister Millisent Banester "my least duble guilte bowle and cover." To "my coozen Alis Astley now at Dovcot, Mr. Tipping's house, my duble guilte salte," and sundry articles of study and chamber furniture. "To my brother-in-lawe, Mr. Richard Mollinex of Hawkeley neere Wigan" £3 6s. 8d. and one "duble guilte bowle with cover," to "remaine at Hawkeley with him and the heirs of his name after him." To "my coozen Roger Bires of Walton in Lanc. a wrought purse." Numerous bequests follow to Colledge Fellows, probationers, chaplains, and others. "To my coozen Thomas Astley my owne picture in a table in the corner chamber study, and 10s. unto him that shall safely convey it unto him." To Anne Astley, Widow Astley's daughter, "my ruffle bands," &c., and 10s., and "2 dormicke table-carpetts in my ambularie and my dormicke carpett upon ye table in ye great parlour." Further bequests of household things. "To the preacher of my funeral sermon £6 or a gowne at his choyce." Bequests to testator's servants, clerks, &c. After payment of all legacies and funeral expenses, all other his goods undisposed of testator gives wholly and clearly to "our Colledge of All Soulne, where God blessed me with the best livelihood of all my days." Testator constitutes "Dr. Martin Ayleworth, Dr. in the civell lawe, and fellow of our Colledge," his sole executor, and gives to him a wrought cup and bowl, and £13 6s. 8d.; and nominates "Dr. Sheldon, Dr. in divinitie and late fellow of our Colledge," one overseer of this his last Will, and "Mr. William Banester, Bachelour of lawe, and fellowe of our Colledge, my other overseer, for the better satisfaction of my Lancashire ffrriends, consideringe hee is well known amongst them." Gives to Dr. Sheldon "£2 13s. 4d. for a ringe, and a paire of velvet mittins, and allsoe our ffounder's picture in glasse ;" and unto Mr. Banester "my least white silver bowle." Sealed and subscribed (Nov. 27th, 1635) "by me the Testatour, Richard Astley, in the presence of ffrancis Gerard, William Page, John Watkins, William Bannester, Andrew Lathome. RICH. ASTLEY, L.S." The Will was proved April 27th, 1636.

Thomas Astley, of Stakes, gent., elder brother of Dr. Richard Astley, married, in the year 1574, Mary, daughter of Richard Livesey, of Fernehurst, gent. (she died in July, 1623), and had a son Thomas and other issue named below. Thomas Astley, gent., occurs as a freeholder in 1600, and is taxed to the Subsidy of 1610-11. He died in 1617; buried at Blackburn, Sept. 3rd. In the Will of Thomas Astley late of the Stakes in Livesey, gent., dated Aug. 29th, 1617, are named sons, William, Randle, Richard, and Edward; daughter Milicent; grandson Thomas, son and heir of testator's son Thomas; granddaughters, Ann, daughter of son Thomas; and Alice, daughter of Randle. Testator appoints sons Randle and Edward executors. Will proved at Chester, Oct. 9th, 1617. The daughter Milicent was wife of William Banester, Bachelor of Law, Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford.

Randle Astley, second son of Thomas as above, was "of Eccles-hill, yeoman." In his Will, dated Feb. 9th, 1640, Randle Astley names his late wife Margery (she died Nov. 1618); son Thomas; daughters, Elizabeth, Alice, Margaret and Millicent; niece Ann, daughter of Edward Astley. Daughters Alice, Margaret, and Millicent, executrixes. He died in Feb., 1640-1; buried Feb. 13th. Will proved April 21st, 1641. He had other sons, George Astley, of Witton; and James Astley, of Mellor.

Edward Astley, of Livesey, fourth son of Thomas, was born in 1568, and died unmarried, in Feb. 1624-5; his Will, dated Feb. 25th, names brother Randle; nephew Thomas, son of Thomas; and base daughter Ann, *alias* Duckworth. ("Anne, base daughter of Edward Astley, gent.," bapt. Dec. 23rd., 1618).

Thomas Astley of Stakes, gent., eldest son of Thomas, by his wife Ellen, daughter of Thomas Osbaldeston, gent. (she died July, 1623), had one son Thomas; and these daughters:—Mary, born in 1601; Margaret, bapt. May 20th, 1611; Elizabeth, wife of — White, of All Souls' College, Oxford; Alice, wife of Thomas Snape of Balderstone; Hellen, wife of John Marsden, of Blackburn; Jane, wife of Roger Dewhurst of Livesey; and Ann, wife of John Helme of Ribchester. Thomas Astley, gent., died in 1623; buried at Blackburn, June 20th. Escheat, taken 21st James I., shewed that he had held the Hall of Stakes, in Livesey, with 20 acres of land, 8 acres of meadow, and 12 acres of pasture appurtenant; other six messuages, and 20 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Livesey; also, 20 acres improved from the Waste of Livesey; 4 messuages, 30 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 12 acres of pasture in Witton; 34 acres of heath, lately improved from the Waste of Witton; and one messuage, 10 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of pasture in Mellor; altogether 190 acres.

Thomas Astley, gent., next in descent, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Preston of Preston, gent., and had issue, sons, Thomas; William, of Preston, born in 1631, died Aug., 1663; Christopher, bapt. at Preston, Aug. 14th, 1633, died unmarried; Richard, died unmarried; John, bapt. at Preston, Dec. 2nd, 1635, settled at Leeds; Edward, bapt. at Blackburn, Nov. 13th, 1636, died unmarried; George, settled at Leeds; and Randle, died unmarried; daughters, Elizabeth, died unmarried; Mary, wife of Wrightington Taylor, of Ireland; Anne, died unmarried; and Hellen. After his marriage with the Preston heiress, Thomas Astley resided alternately at Preston and at Stakes Hall. He died, says Dugdale, about the year 1643.

His son was Thomas Astley of Stakes and of Preston, gent., bapt. at Preston, 13th March, 1630. His wife was Jennet, daughter of Peter Haworth of Highercroft, Lower Darwen, gent. Issue, Thomas, bapt. at Blackburn, Aug. 21st, 1653, died Jan., 1662; Richard, bapt. Jan. 27th, 1655-6; John, born in 1657, died in 1685; George, bapt. March 29th, 1660 (named again below); Thomas, of Fishwick and Ribbleton (also named below); and William, born in 1666; and daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1661; and Martha, died in 1666. The father, Thomas Astley, gent., is assessed in 1663 to a Subsidy for lands in Livesey. He was buried at Blackburn Church, Feb. 7th, 1666-7.

Thomas Astley of Fishwick (fifth son of Thomas of Stakes Hall), is first of a branch of the family seated at Fishwick-hall, of which I have particulars, but can only insert here a brief notice. Thomas Astley of Fishwick, gent., had sons, John, born in 1684 (died young); John, born in 1686, by his wife Elizabeth Hedley, married at Manchester in 1717, had a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1721, married, in 1750, Mr. William Jordan of Manchester, and died in 1784; Thomas, born in April, 1689; and Luke, born in 1697 (Luke Astley of Ribbleton). The descent is continued in the issue of Thomas, second son of Thomas Astley of Fishwick, gent. The younger Thomas, by Elizabeth his wife, had sons, Thomas and John. He died at Fishwick Hall, in 1759; he was the donor of the Communion Plate to Preston Parish Church. His sons were both in business in Preston. Luke Astley of Ribbleton, brother of Thomas, married, in 1727, Ellen Lorrimer, and had a son James, named as a legatee in his uncle Thomas Astley's Will in 1759.

Coming back to the senior representatives of Astley of Stakes, after the death of Thomas Astley, gent., in 1666, his eldest son Thomas being dead, the estates in Livesey were heired by Richard, second son. Richard Astley of Stakes Hall, gent., married, Feb. 24th, 1678-9, Mary Banister of Little Harwood. Issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. June 9th, 1681; John, died in Oct., 1695; Nicholas, born in 1684, died in July,

1698; Banister, bapt. May 17th, buried June 4th, 1687; William, born in Nov., died in Dec., 1690; Ann, born in 1680; Elizabeth, born in 1682, died in 1699; and Millicent, born in 1684, died in July, 1698. "Richard Astley of Stakes within Livesey, Esq.," was buried at Blackburn Church, Oct. 22nd, 1729. His funeral sermon was preached the same day by Vicar Holme. He was aged 73. His widow, "Mrs. Mary Astley of Livesey, widow," was buried Dec. 21st, 1735.

Apparently the male issue of Richard Astley, Esq., were all dead at the date of his death, upon which event the estates fell to the heir of his younger brother, George Astley of Blackburn, apothecary, who had died in Dec., 1700. George Astley married, Jan. 20th, 1691, Alice Woodes (by whom he had before marriage a son George, bapt. March 28th, 1691, who bore the name of Astley, and was an apothecary in Blackburn), and had issue, sons, Hamerton, bapt. Jan. 5th, 1692-3; John, bapt. June 11th, 1693-4; William, bapt. March 29th, 1696; Philip, born in 1698; and Edward, born and died in 1700; also a daughter Eleanor.

Hamerton Astley, of Stakes, Esq., later of Preston, heir to his uncle Richard in 1729, married Mary, daughter of Richard Walmesley, of Coldcoates, Esq., and had issue three sons, George, bapt. at Preston, Dec. 22nd, 1733; Richard, bapt. Sept. 7th, 1735; and Thomas, bapt. June 15th, 1736. Mrs. Astley died in childbed of the last son, and was buried at Blackburn, May 13th, 1736. Mr. Hamerton Astley became a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1713. He died in 1763—"Hamerton Astley, Esq., of Preston," buried at Blackburn Church, April 24th, in that year.

George Astley, first son of Hamerton, took orders in the Church, and was sometime curate of Handforth near Cheadle, but after his father's death resided in Preston, at the family mansion there. By his wife Sarah, daughter of Samuel Barton, Esq., of Over Darwen (married July 26th, 1759), he had an only daughter Sarah, bapt. at Preston, Oct. 13th, 1770, buried at Blackburn in July, 1771. Rev. George Astley was buried at Blackburn, in July, 1777. In the old Church a mural tablet was placed:—"To the Memory of the Revd. George Astley, who departed this life the 7th of July, 1777, aged 43, this Monument is erected." Dying without son, and his only daughter being dead, Mr. George Astley was the last representative of the family of Astley of Stakes Hall in the senior descent. Some items respecting him are extracted from a letter by a relative, Samuel Crompton, Esq., of Manchester, who writes:—

"My aunt, Miss Elizabeth Barton (who was much with her aunt, wife and widow of Rev. George Astley) told me that Mr. George Astley was the only son of Mr. Astley of Preston; he spent £600 per annum at college; his library, consisting prin-

cipally of a fine collection of classics, is in possession of my uncle ; his name is in all his books, and there are copious marginal notes, in his beautiful handwriting, besides common-place books. . . He was a great spendthrift. I believe it was he who sold the Stakes estate. He bequeathed, however, property to his widow ; amongst other things, a quantity of old silver plate and many portraits. His own portrait is in our family ; we have also others which we cannot identify [and the portrait of Dr. Richard Astley, mentioned above]. I think I shewed you old Mr. Astley's hatchment. My aunt remembered it over his door at Preston. Mr. Astley visited with the Earl of Derby ; his house at Preston was opposite the Earl of Derby's."

The old Hall at Stakes, long the seat of the Astley family, was demolished many years ago ; but the name of "Stakes Hall" is still popularly given to the locality of its site, near the left bank of the Darwen river, the north boundary of Livesey township. At Overlockshay, a short distance to the south-west of Stakes, is a seventeenth century house which was built, apparently, for a residence of a branch of the Astleys ; for over the porch is a stone bearing the initials "T A" and "R A" (perhaps Thomas and Richard Astley), and the date "1691." The Stakes Hall estate passed by sale to the firm of Turner, Calico Printers, who built upon it their print works and two residential houses at Mill Hill. The late Joseph Eccles, Esq., bought the estate in 1843 ; and the unsold residue of the estate now in the possession of the heirs of the late Joseph Eccles is returned as containing about 78 statute acres (chiefly building sites), with a rental of £784 per annum.

The present chief landowners in Livesey are :—Col. Feilden of Witton Park, 922 statute acres ; Sir W. H. Feilden, Bart., of Feniscowles, 366 acres. Other owners are, Mr. Adam Dugdale, 70 acres ; Mr. James Boardman Dugdale, 10 acres ; heirs of the late Joseph Eccles, 78 acres ; Mr. John Pickop, 60 acres ; Exors. of William Whalley, 40 acres ; Exors. of Geo. Whiteley, 57 acres ; Mr. R. W. B. Sanderson, 46 acres ; Exors. of T. T. Mercer, 33 acres.

ASTLEY OF WITTON, LIVESEY, &c.

This was a branch of the Astleys of Stakes, whose members owned lands in Witton and Blackburn. George Astley of Witton Old Hall, a son of Randle Astley, of Eccleshill, and grandson of Thomas Astley of Stakes, gent., was baptized March 20th, 1609, and by Ellen his wife had sons, Henry, bapt. Nov. 8th, 1633 ; and John, born in 1636.

Henry Astley of Livesey, gent., son of George, married at Walton Church, June 11th, 1679, Lettice Balshaw, and had a son James, bapt. April 4th, 1680. Henry Astley died in 1686 ; was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 4th ; and letters of administration of his goods and chattels were granted, Aug. 25th, 1686, to Lettice Astley, widow, relict of Henry Astley, deceased.

James Astley of Witton, yeoman, son of Henry, and popularly called "Old Duke," married, at Tockholes, Sept. 26th, 1701, Mary daughter of Thomas Critchley of Holebottom near Brindle ; and had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. March 1st, 1709 ;

Richard, born in 1711; Henry Astley, bapt. June 1st, 1716, died, in his 90th year, Nov. 3rd, 1805; James Astley, born in 1718 (married, in Sept., 1746, Mary Ainsworth of Blackburn, and had sons, Richard and Thomas, and three daughters); and William, born in 1720, died an infant; and daughters, Hannah, Elizabeth, Ellen, Lettice, and Mary. James Astley the father, becoming impoverished, sold his estate in Witton with the Old Hall; and he is said to have walked without sleep from Blackburn to London. He died intestate (buried Dec. 17th, 1747), and letters of administration of his effects were granted to three of his sons, Thomas, Henry, and James. His relict, Mary Astley of Witton, widow, died in April, 1758.

Thomas Astley of Redlam, Witton, eldest son of James, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Sharples of Tockholes, and had issue (besides a daughter Ann), two sons, James, bapt. Feb. 15th, 1737; and Thomas Astley, born in 1743, who was overseer of Blackburn; organist at St. James's Chapel, Over Darwen, for forty years; and died, aged 69, Nov. 4th, 1812; he was buried in St. John's Churchyard, Blackburn.

James Astley of Witton, the elder brother, married, Feb. 26th, 1759, Mary, daughter of James Whalley of Livesey, and had sons, Thomas, bapt. Aug. 19th, 1759; and John, born in 1767; and daughters, Betty, wife of James Hardman; Alice, wife of Jeremy Grime; Ellen, wife of John Pemberton; Jennet, wife of Frank Nelson; Mary; and Hannah, wife of William Kenyon. John Astley, second son of James, by his wife Jane, had sons, James (who had a son Richard); John, born in 1784, had sons John and William; and Thomas. James Astley of Witton died March 30th, 1819, aged 82.

Thomas Astley, his son, married, in 1780, Betty, daughter of Benjamin Holden of Blackburn, and had sons, James, bapt. Nov. 11th, 1782; and John, who died unmarried; also a daughter Mary. Thomas Astley died, aged 65, April 16th, 1825.

James Astley, his son, married, in 1808, Peggy, daughter of George Jackson, and died, Feb. 5th, 1811, leaving an only son, John Astley, born April 2nd, 1809, who is now living at Salford, and has married, first, Ann Taylor, and secondly, in Aug., 1834, Nancy Ashton of Blackburn.

BOARDMAN OF CHERRY TREE HOUSE, &c.

Robert Boardman of Livesey, yeoman, was made a trustee of the Old Independent Chapel, Tockholes, in 1715. He and his family were Nonconformists. Edward Boardman, of Witton, very likely Robert's brother, was placed in the same trust at the same time. This Edward died in Dec. 1734. Martha Boardman of Witton died in 1744. Mr. Robert Boardman of Livesey, by Jane his wife, had sons, William; Edward, born in 1698; and John Boardman of Livesey, tanner, born in 1700, died in 1740. The father, Robert Boardman, yeoman, was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 28th, 1737-8. His relict, "Jane Boardman of Livesey, widow," was buried Oct. 19th, 1741.

One Robert Boardman, of Livesey, married, Sept. 27th, 1726, Esther Pickering of Lower Darwen; she died in Oct., 1765.

William Boardman of Livesey, yeoman, son of Robert, died in 1759, and was buried Jan. 8th. He had sons, Robert; and William, buried Feb. 5th, 1761; also daughters, Margaret, died in infancy; and Mary, who married, Dec. 20th, 1767, Mr. James Miller of Penwortham. William Boardman's wife survived him. "Mrs. Boardman, of Feniscliffe, widow," married, secondly, in 1759, Mr. Adam Holden.

Robert Boardman, gent., of Cherry Tree House, Livesey, by Elizabeth his wife (she died Dec. 6th, 1822, aged 73), had sons, James, and Robert; and died about 1824.

Mr. James Boardman, of Cherry Tree House, son of Robert, bapt. Jan. 9th, 1772, died in 1842, leaving female issue.

Mr. Robert Boardman of Coohill, Pleasington, and of King Street, Blackburn, married Martha, daughter of Mr. Thomas Eccles, of Lower Darwen (she died June 25th, 1845, aged 67), and had an only daughter, Mary Elizabeth, who married, first, June 7th, 1820, Mr. Wm. Towers of Blackburn (by whom she had issue a daughter Elizabeth Ann Towers, died unmarried, Sept. 26th, 1866, aged 45); and, secondly, the Rev. Robert Cameron, Baptist Minister in Blackburn; she died May 28th, 1860. Mr. Robert Boardman died in Sept., 1836, aged 58. The tombstone of the Boardmans is in the graveyard of Chapel Street Congregational Church, Blackburn.

HARWOOD OF LIVESEY.

George Harwood of Livesey, a freeholder, died on the 29th of August, 29th Eliz. (1586-7). The escheat, taken at Wigan, Aug. 17th, 36th Eliz. (1593-4), returned that George Harwood had been seized of a messuage and garden, with 10 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, and 9 acres of pasture in Lyvesaye, held of Richard Livesay, gent., in free socage, paying 18d. yearly at the Feast of St. Martin the Bishop. Mary, late wife of George Harwood, was then wife of Richard Whithalgh, and held the estate. She sued her son, John Harwood of Livesey, gent., for £41 lent money in 1610.

John Harwood, gent., was son and heir of George. Another son, probably, was George Harwood, who died before 1609, seized of 8 acres of land lately improved from the Waste of Livesey, held of the King as Duke of Lancaster. John Harwood of Livesey, gent., appears in 1621 in a category of freeholders.

Robert Harwood, gent., of Feniscliffe, in Livesey, acted as juror in the year 1608, and again in 1613. Robert Harwood of Livesey, yeoman, a party to a covenant made by Thomas Witton, yeoman, June 23rd, 1638, was probably the Robert Harwood who married, July 3rd, 1621, Rosamond Aspinall.

Robert Harwood of Livesey, fustian webster, farmed Potter Tenement on lease from Thomas Cross for a term of seven years from 1711, renewed in 1718 for nine years, at a yearly rent of £4 2s. By deed dated Sept. 28th, 1723, George Harwood of Oswaldtwistle, fustian weaver, assigns to Robert Harwood of Livesey, yeoman, his estate and interest in a tenement at Green Tockholes in Livesey, leased for his life by George Harwood from Jeremiah Walkden of Livesey, yeoman.

HOLDEN OF EWOOD.

These Holdens had a freehold at Ewood in Livesey for several generations. Thomas Holden de Ewode, living temp. Henry VIII., had a son and heir William. William Holden of Livesey had lands in 1523 taxed to the Subsidy. In the year 1524, William Holden, son and heir of Thomas, was holding lands at Ewode of George Astley in socage.

Thomas Holden of Livesey was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570. Thomas Holden of Ewood, gent., had, by Margaret his wife, sons, William, Ralph, Richard, and Lawrence. His Will is dated July, 1588. Testator desired to be buried in the Parish Church of Blackburn; and had given 20s. to Blackburn Grammar School. Randall Holden was his executor.

William Holden of Ewood, gent., a free tenant in 1585, died June 4th, 1593; after which an inquisition was taken at Preston, Jan. 18th, 1595, showing that William Holden held of James Livesey, Esq., in socage, one messuage called Ewode in Lyvesay, with 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture, inherited from his predecessor Thomas Holden and his antecessors; also two acres of moss and six acres of land of the new appropriation of the Waste in Livesey. In the escheat record it is mentioned that Thomas Holden, father of William, had feoffed Robert Holden, John Aynesworth, Thomas Astley, and Robert Harwood, in the above estate to hold

to the use of William Holden his son and his heirs male. The jurors said that Ralph, Richard, and Lawrence Holden, sons of Thomas, were then living at Ewood, and that Mary, daughter of William Holden, aged 5½ years, was next heir. In the year 1607 a plaint was entered in the Chancery Court of Lancashire, by Randal Holden of Eywood, gent., setting forth that William Catterall of Livesey was theretofore interested in the wardship of Mary Houlden, daughter and heir of William Houlden deceased, and the said William Catterall had, about the 37th Eliz. (1595), conveyed the same wardship to suppliant, Randal Holden, &c.

Ralph Holden of Ewood, brother of William, occurs as a freeholder in 1600; and is named as Randal Holden in the Subsidy of 1611. He died in 1623. Ralph Holden of Eawood, gent., and William Holden his son and heir, are parties to a deed dated March 23rd, 1614, conveying unto Lawrence Ainsworth of Tockholes, gent., and Christopher Marsden of Okenhurst, yeoman, for the benefit of William Marsden and Maria his wife, "all the parcel of the capital messuage and tenement called the Eawood," lying in Livesey, in tenure of Ralph Holden, comprising "the great daire, the shole, the butterey, the milkehouse, the kitchin, and the chambers above and beneath in the north end of the house," also that room between the said house and the "turffe house," three bays of a shippon at the lower end of the great barn, &c., half the dovehouse, half the garden, stack-yard, and orchard, &c., and "all those landes from the Eawood Foulde to the more yate and to the little hey," with that portion of the moor lying next unto the house, with free liberty "to wash or fetch water and water cattell at the stream and broad water;" also the moiety of lands in Livesey in tenure of William Catterall, to have and hold for term of 100 years, if Ralph Holden and Lawrence his brother, and the first son of Lawrence, so long live.

Richard Holden of Ewood, I conjecture another brother of Ralph and William, occurs as a juror in 1613. Lawrence Holden, brother of Ralph, is named in the above-cited deed. Lawrence Holden of the Moorgate, had a son Thomas, born in 1629.

William Holden of Ewood comes after Ralph his father. He married, July 5th, 1616, Alice Marsden, and died before 1630, when, by inquisition taken at Blackburn, Aug. 3rd, 6th Chas. I., it appeared that William Holden, late of Ewode and Livesey, had held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster, by a yearly rent charge of 12d., one messuage called Le Ewode in Livesey, with 10 acres of land, 3 of meadow, and 3 of pasture; also the third part of four messuages and six acres of land in Livesey, and four acres of land late improved from the Waste of Livesey. Alice Holden, widow of William, was then living at Blackburn; and Thomas Holden, son and heir, was aged three years on the 21st January before the inquisition.

Thomas Holden of Ewood, yeoman, in his Will, dated Nov. 26th, 1662, names Anne, his wife; a son Thomas, and daughters Alice, Anne, Elizabeth, and Jane.

"Mr. Thomas Holden, of Ewood," occurs in 1664; he had a son William, born Jan. 8th, 1655-6.

William Holden, of Ewood, had a son William, bapt. Feb. 2nd, 1674-5; and other issue.

The following names occur later:—James Holden of Livesey, yeoman, died in Sept., 1707; his wife Elizabeth died in July, 1703. Thomas Holden of Livesey, yeoman, married, in 1683, Elizabeth Blakey of Leyland; and died in Nov., 1723. John Holden of Livesey died in 1731; Margaret Holden, widow, died in 1732; Thomas, son of John, was born in 1720. Lawrence Holden of Livesey had a son Lawrence, born Jan. 18th, 1673-4. Lawrence Holden of Livesey, chapman, and yeoman, who died in Nov., 1769, by his wife Elizabeth (died in 1742), had sons, John, born in 1730; and James, born in 1731;—the last-named, James Holden of Livesey, buried at Blackburn,

Aug. 17th, 1789, aged 57. "Henry Holden of Livesey, found dead on the highway," was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 6th, 1670-1.

LIVESEY OF WHITHALGH.

A branch of Liveseys had a freehold at Whithalgh in Livesey. The house there has over the porch a stone inscribed with the date "1616," and the initials "T. L." and "G. M. R. R.;" the first standing for Thomas Livesey; the other initials to some unknown connexion of the builder of the house.

James Livesey of Whithalgh died in May, 1658. He had a son Richard.

Richard Livesey of Whithalgh, had a son James, baptized at Whithalgh, Sept. 14th, 1659; also a son Thomas; and a daughter Christabel, died in 1689.

Thomas Livesey of Whithalgh, living in 1694, had a son Lawrence, baptized April 27th, in that year.

PICKOP OF GREEN-TOCKHOLES AND LIVESEY.

From early in the seventeenth century the Pickops, prior to that date of Lower Darwen, have held a freehold estate, on the border of Livesey and Tockholes, anciently called Green-Tockholes.

James Piccopp of Lower Darwen, yeoman, married, Oct., 20th, 1634, Mary Eccles, and had a son and heir James. James Piccopp, the father, purchased of Thomas Witton, gent., in 1641, the messuage and eight customary acres of land in Green-Tockholes, for the sum of £50, and by deed of lease, dated April, 1642, leased to Thomas Witton, of Green-Tockholes, gent., for a term of 18 years, at a yearly rent of 20d., two closes of land in Tockholes called Further Greenheys, of 5 acres.

James Piccopp the younger, son of James, of Meadow Head in Lower Darwen, married Jane Yate; and by indenture dated Feb. 5th, 1657, it is witnessed that whereas a marriage is to be had between James Piccopp, son and heir of James Piccopp, and Jane Yate, daughter of Richard Yate of Graine in Haslingden, yeoman, before the 1st day of May next, James Piccopp the father, in consideration of £110 to be paid to him and his son as a marriage portion of Jane Yate, covenants with Richard Yate that he will, before March 1st next, convey unto Henry Marsden of Okenhurst and James Duckworth the younger of Musburie, yeomen, the messuage and parcel of land called Greene-Tockholes in Livesey, to stand seized in trust to the use of James Piccopp the elder during his life, after of James Piccopp the son and Jane his intended wife, during their lives, after of their issue. This covenant James Piccopp the father fulfils by deed of trust dated Feb. 11th, 1657. James Piccopp the son, of Livesey-cum-Tockholes, was assessed to a Subsidy in 1663. He had a son and heir, John; and a younger son James, bapt. May 29th, 1663.

Robert Piccop of Lower Darwen and Tockholes (probably a younger son of James Piccopp the elder, and brother of the above James), assessed to a Subsidy in 1663, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Crompton of Bolton (niece of Rev. Oliver Heywood), and by her, who died in 1672, had issue one child.

John Piccop of Green-Tockholes, yeoman, by indenture dated July 15th, 1690, sold for £100 to his brother James Piccop of Livesey, husbandman, the moiety of his messuage and lands at Greene-Tockholes, to have for a term of 500 years, paying the yearly rent of one peppercorn. John Piccop married Margaret Bannister, and had issue, sons, James, died in his minority, in 1703, without issue; Bannister; and William, of Livesey, yeoman. John Pickop died about the year 1691; his widow, Margaret Piccop, married, secondly, Thomas Holden, and died in 1731.

Bannister Piccop of Livesey, yeoman, born about 1686, married, Dec. 8th, 1708, Alice Abbot of Livesey (who died in Dec., 1738), and had issue, sons, John; James

Pickop, of Pickop Brow, Livesey, yeoman (born in 1718, buried May 4th, 1807, aged 88; and by Ann his wife had issue); and Bannister, born in 1723; also daughters, Margaret, born in 1709; Rosamond; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Darbyshire; and Grace, born in 1731. Bannister Piccop was living in 1739, when he had a lease from Lawrence Tomson of Livesey, for 87 years, at a rental of £23, of the messuage in Livesey called Horden, with 36 acres of land, which the lessor had by deed dated Jan. 12th, 1729, for 99 years, from Lawrence Ainsworth of Barr-house Fold in Livesey, yeoman.

John Pickop of Livesey, eldest son of Bannister, married, in 1735, Mary, daughter of William Harwood of Lower Darwen, but appears to have died without issue.

Bannister Pickop of Livesey, younger son of Bannister, by Catherine his wife (she died Aug. 23rd, 1772), had a son John, born July 5th, 1764; and daughters, Margaret, born in 1766; Alice; and Mary. Mr. Bannister Pickop died, aged 80, Dec. 4, 1803.

His son, John Pickop of Livesey, by Lucy his wife (she died Aug. 29th, 1814), had issue, sons, Bannister, born June 6th, 1803; William, born Feb. 18th, 1807; and James, born July 7th, 1810; and a daughter Ann, born in 1813, married, in 1835, Rev. John Fisher, incumbent of Heapey. Mr. John Pickop died June 8th, 1823.

Mr. Bannister Pickop, of Livesey, married Miss Catherine Hoghton, of Tockholes, and by her (who died Nov. 18th, 1827), had daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Thos. Ward, of Bolton; and Catherine, born in 1827, died in 1828. By Esther, his second wife (who died July 30th, 1865), Mr. Bannister Pickop had one son, John; and a daughter Lucy Ann, born June 10th, 1831, died Dec. 30th, 1867. Mr. Bannister Pickop died in his 32nd year, Dec. 13th, 1834.

John Pickop, Esq., J.P., of Winster, Blackburn, only son of Bannister, is the living representative of this family and owner of the freehold estate in Livesey. Mr. John Pickop was born Nov. 10th, 1832, and is unmarried. He was Mayor of Blackburn in 1873-4, and is now an Alderman of the borough. Mr. Pickop has recently retired from a successful practice in the law.

WALKDEN OF LIVESEY.

Matthew Walkden was one of several yeomen who, in the year 1600, claimed the right of common in Livesey township.

Ralph Walkden of Livesey, yeoman, living in 1642, had sons, Matthew, Peter, and John. Peter Walkden of Livesey, younger son of Ralph, had sons, Matthew (who had sons Peter and William), Ralph, and John, and was deceased in 1662.

Matthew Walkden of Livesey, yeoman, enrolled with his father on Preston Guild Roll in 1642, and dead before 1682, had a son Ralph.

Ralph Walkden of Livesey, yeoman, living in 1682, had sons John and Matthew.

John Walkden of Livesey, son of Ralph, died before 1702, leaving issue, sons, John Walkden (of Hoghton), living in 1722; Matthew Walkden, of Hoghton in 1742; and Richard Walkden, of Withnell.

WITTON OF GREEN-TOCKHOLES IN LIVESEY, &c.

Members of the Witton family are first met with in tenure of lands in Tockholes and Darwen towards the close of Elizabeth's reign. William Witton, of Green-Tockholes, husbandman, obtained, in 1595, from John Osbaldeston, Esq., lord of Over Darwen Manor, a lease of a messuage and tenement in Over Darwen, occupied by Roger Cooper, yeoman, for a term of three lives, those, namely, of William Witton, Grace his wife, and John Witton, second son of Thomas Witton of Slaidburn, Co. York, yeoman. Hence I infer that William Witton would be son or brother of Thomas Witton of Slaidburn. The moiety of this tenement in Darwen, then occupied by his brother James Witton, William Witton released, by deed dated June 3rd, 1602,

to John Wigglesworth, of Hayhead in Bolton-by-Bowland. William Witton had a son William, bapt. Jan. 30th, 1601-2, with other issue.

At the same time I note "Thomas Witton of Green-Tockholes, gent.," in a list of freeholders dated 1600, no doubt a near kinsman of William Witton above. Thomas Witton was buried at Blackburn, March 3rd, 1603-4. He was probably father of "Thomas Witton of Green-Tockholes, gent.," a freeholder in 1621; and of Nicholas Witton, of whom I have some further particulars.

Nicholas Witton, of Green-Tockholes, gent., by his wife Alice, had a son and heir Thomas; other sons, Ambrose, born in 1615; and William; and daughters, Ellen, bapt. Aug. 23rd, 1618; and Elizabeth, married to George Morris of Livesey. The title-deeds of the Green-Tockholes freehold, in possession of Alderman John Pickop, of Blackburn, help to elucidate the family affairs of the Wittons in the seventeenth century. An indenture made the 3rd March, 3rd Charles I. (1627), between Nicholas Witton of Green-Tockholes, yeoman, on the first part, Thomas Witton, son and heir apparent of Nicholas, on the second part, and Rauphe Walmsley and William Marsden of Tockholes in the said county, yeomen, on the third part, witnesseth that Nicholas and Thomas Witton (that a competent jointure may be had for Alice Witton wife of Nicholas), covenant with Rauphe Walmsley and William Marsden, that they, Nicholas and Thomas, with George Aynsworth of Knuzden, yeoman, John Cundliffe of the Woodheade in Aecrington, gentleman, and William Critchlowe of Tockholes, yeoman, will before the 1st April next coming, by their deed of feoffment convey unto Ralph Walmsley and William Marsden all the mesuage and tenement called Greene-Tockholes, in Livesay, in the occupation of Nicholas Witton, and all other the messuages, lands, &c., of them the said Nicholas and Thomas Witton, George Aynsworth, John Cundliffe, and William Critchlowe, situate in Livesay; all reversions; all rents, &c., upon any lease thereof formerly made, &c.; one messuage lately erected in Livesay, with two closes of land adjoining, containing $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres lately taken in and improved from the commons and wastes of Livesay, in the occupation of George Potter, the inheritance of George Aynsworth only excepted; to stand seized thereof to the intent that they Ralph Walmsley and William Marsden shall be perfect tenants of the freehold until a common recovery may be executed of the same premises against them, by John Cundliffe and William Critchlowe, or others nominated by Nicholas and Thomas Witton; the said Rauphe Walmsley and William Marsden to stand seized of the premises for 21 years, to the use of Nicholas Witton, then to the use of Nicholas Witton and Alis his wife for their lives; and after their decease to the sole use of the said Thomas Witton, his heirs, &c. Another indenture, dated March 21st, 1636, between Nicholas Witton of Greene-Tockholes, yeoman, and Thomas Witton his son, on the one part, and Ralph Morris and William Morris of Winwick, fustian weavers, on the other part, witnesseth that Nicholas and Thomas Witton, for the sum of £25, have let to Ralph and William Morris the barn standing in the hedgerow between Witton Croft and the Heefield, commonly called the Lower Barn, with the Heefield close, situate in Tockholes, containing three acres of land, for the term of 33 years, paying to Thomas Witton the yearly rent of 12d. Nicholas Witton, gent., died March 5th, 15th Chas. I (1640). The escheat record taken at Blackburn, April 28th, 17th Charles I., informs that Nicholas Witton had died seized of one messuage, two cottages, three gardens, 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of pasture in Green-Tockholes in Livesey, held of Ralph Livesey, Esq., in free socage, subject to a payment of 12d. yearly; worth 15s. The widow of Nicholas Witton was buried Jan. 14th, 1654-5.

Thomas Witton, son and heir of Nicholas, was aged over 34 years at the date of

this record. Thomas Witton, gent., married, before 1636, Mary, daughter of Thomas Aspinall, of Lower Darwen, as is shown by the next abstract of an Indenture made the 23rd June, 14th Chas. I (1638), between Thomas Witton, son and heir apparent of Nicholas Witton, of Greene-Tockholes in Livesey, yeoman, on the one part, and Robert Harwood of Livesey, yeoman, on the other part, attesting that Thomas Witton, in consideration of a marriage already had between himself and Mary now his wife, one of the daughters of Thomas Aspinall late of Lower Darwen, yeoman, deceased, and of the sum of £120 to him beforehand paid by Anne Aspinall, of Lower Darwen, widow of Thomas and mother of Mary, being the marriage portion of the said Mary, and that a competent jointure may be had for the said Mary, and for the natural love the said Thomas Witton hath towards the issue female of his said wife, covenants with the said Robert Harwood that he will presently convey unto William Walmsley, son of Ralph of Tockholes, yeoman, and Thomas his brother, all that messuage and tenement called Greene-Tockholes, in joint occupation of Nicholas Witton and his son the said Thomas, with the closes of land, &c., to stand seized of the said premises to the use of Thomas Witton and Mary his wife, for term of their lives; and to the use of Nicholas Witton and Alis his wife during their lives; subject to the expiry of certain leases, &c.; and after the decease of Nicholas and Alis Witton, to the use of Thomas Witton for his life, and a third part of the premises to the use of Mary, wife of Thomas Witton, for her life, in the name of her jointure and dower, and after to the use of the daughter or daughters of the said Thomas and Mary Witton, until such time as the lawful heir of Thomas Witton shall pay to the said daughters the sum of £120, to be divided equally amongst the said daughters; after such payment to the use of the right heirs of the said Thomas Witton. Another deed, in latin, is dated June 29th, 1638, by which Thomas Witton, son and heir apparent to Nicholas Witton, of Greene-Tockholes within Livesey, yeoman, in part performance of an indenture of agreement between Thomas Witton and Robert Harwood of Livesey, yeomen, concerning the marriage of Thomas Witton with Mary now his wife and a daughter of Thomas Aspinall, late of Darwen, deceased, gives, concedes, and confirms unto William Walmsley, son and heir apparent of Raulph Walmsley of Tockholes, yeoman, John Aspinall of Darwen, yeoman, and Thomas Aspinall brother of John Aspinall, and Mary wife of Thomas Witton, all that capital messuage with appurtenances, called Greene-Tockholes, in the tenure of Nicholas Witton, father of Thomas, with lands, &c., to have and hold to the said William Walmsley, and the others, to the uses in the said indenture specified.

In 1636, the above Thomas Witton is named as of Nether Darwen. He had, I think, no male issue. A daughter, named Rosamond Witton, was baptized July 3rd, 1636. Thomas Witton was living in 1647.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

IMMANUEL CHURCH, FENISCOWLES.—An elegant little church, of decorated gothic architecture, was built thirty years ago, at the charge of the family of Feilden of Feniscowles; and endowed by the same patrons. The corner-stone was laid by William Feilden, Esq., on Feb. 5th, 1835; and the church was consecrated Oct. 10th, 1836. The situation is a charming spot on the rising bank of the Darwen, on the Livesey side of the river, near Feniscowles Bridge. The fabric is built of grey grit-stone, and consists of a nave, lighted by windows of graceful tracery, and a neat tower with crocketed pinnacles, finished with a spire. Three painted windows, the gift of John Tattersall, Esq., were placed at the east end of the church, and on either side of the communion, in Nov., 1861. The value of the living, previously £215, has re-

cently been augmented to £300 per annum by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Sitings 473. Patron, the Vicar of Blackburn. Incumbents in succession :—Rev. Geo. Edmundson ; Rev. J. Beilby ; Rev. A. Gallagher, M.A., present minister.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, MOORGATE.—The National School at Livesey had been licensed for divine service more than twenty years before a church could be provided. The corner-stone of the church, dedicated to St. Andrew, was laid on Dec. 24th, 1866. The style is early English. The plan comprises a nave, 85ft. long ; north and south transepts, 64ft. across ; chancel, 35ft. by 24ft. 8in., with octagonal termination ; chancel transepts, divided on the north into vestry and north porch, and on the south into organ chamber and south porch ; the tower, which rises from the south side of the chancel, is in three stages, and with a spire (not yet built) will rise to a height of 160ft. The principal porch is at the south-west end of the church. In the interior the nave is divided from the chancel by a bold moulded arch ; and the tower from the nave by massive arches. The nave is lighted on the north and south sides by two-light lancet windows, and at the west end by two large windows with geometrical tracery. The transepts have handsome traceried rose windows. Mr. E. G. Paley was the architect. The church contains 644 sittings, and cost £5000. It has not yet been consecrated.

MILL HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—An Independent Sunday School was opened about the year 1844 in the farm-house at Stakes Hall, and public worship was casually conducted in the same room. In the year 1847, the late Joseph Eccles, Esq., of Mill Hill House, erected a building on his estate for a school and chapel, at a cost of £1300. The chapel on the upper floor of this building had become too small for the congregation, and on the 26th of February, 1859, the corner-stone of a new church, designed by Messrs. Hibbert and Rainford, was laid by Mrs. Eccles. The edifice, called Mill Hill Congregational Church, was opened Sept. 19th, 1860. The style of the architecture is Italian ; and the body of the church is a parallelogram, 72ft. by 50ft. At the north end is the entrance, comprising a portico of square stone pillars, and vestibules, above which a square clock-tower and spire of curved outline rise to the height of 135ft. The interior has galleries on three sides. The materials of the external walls are red bricks, with ornamental mouldings in white brick. The cost, inclusive of subsequent alterations, site, and organ, has been about £6000. Sitings, 950. Ministers in succession :—Rev. H. H. Scullard ; Rev. W. H. Mann ; Rev. E. Heath ; Rev. Isaac Davies, present minister. The former chapel is now devoted to Day and Sunday School uses, and new class-rooms were attached in 1876.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH, WATERFALL.—At Waterfall, near the north boundary of Livesey, a school-chapel of the United Free Methodists was built in 1861, and has since been extended. It is a plain oblong building, containing 270 sittings ; and has cost about £1200. It is served from Blackburn.

DAY SCHOOLS IN THE TOWNSHIP.

At the date of a return to the Education Department, published in February, 1873, the day-school provision in Livesey was as follows :—Immannel National School, Cherry Tree, for 234 children ; Waterloo Church of England School, Moor-gate, for 266 children ; Independent School, Mill Hill, for 486 children ; total provision for 986 children. Mill Hill Independent School has since been enlarged by new class rooms. In 1875, the inspection of these schools gave the following results in average attendance of scholars and Government grant earned :—

Mill Hill Independent School—	Average attendance	205,	Govt. grant	£150/15/4
Waterloo Church of England School—	„	172	„	£130/15/3
Cherry Tree National School—	„	73	„	£53/14/0

CHARITIES OF LIVESEY TOWNSHIP.

LIVESEY'S CHARITY.—Sarah Livesey, by her Will (the date whereof is not known), bequeathed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Blackburn £100 upon trust to use the interest towards putting out as apprentice to some trade, occupation, or craft, some such child or children of necessitous inhabitants of Blackburn, Livesey, and Pleasington townships, as the Vicar and Wardens and the owner of Livesey Hall for the time being should select, in the course following; first, one of the township of Livesey; secondly, of Blackburn, thirdly of Livesey, and fourthly of Pleasington; and so on by turns for ever. The Charity Commission of 1825 found no account of the application of the interest prior to the death of Vicar Starkie in 1818 (who had been the acting trustee). Since that date the wardens had received interest on the £100 of Sarah Livesey's bequest for seven years, of which they had applied £5 in 1820 in apprenticing a poor child of Blackburn; and paid £5 to the overseers of Livesey in 1821, and £5 to the overseers of Pleasington in 1823, for the same purpose. The principal was then in the hands of Messrs. Birléy and Hornby, who paid the interest to the wardens.

CHARITIES OF BLORE AND OTHERS.—George Blore, by his Will, dated March 1st, 1730, directed that £33 which was Mrs. Hothersall's should lie there till it was £40, and then the interest to go to the poor of Livesey, the heads of the town to have care of it. In 1786 it was returned to Parliament that £40 given by George Blore, and £10 given by Ralph Livesey, were then vested in Mrs. Wilson (sister of Ralph Livesey, Esq.). Down to the sale of the estate in 1805 to Messrs. H. and W. Feilden, the interest of the same had been paid regularly on behalf of Mrs. Wilson and Robert Bell Livesey, owners of Livesey Hall estate; but after that time the charge was disallowed. George Blore also left £40, the interest to be divided betwixt the townships of Livesey and Tockholes, for distribution to poor persons, in the proportions of three-fifths to Livesey and two-fifths to Tockholes. The £24 belonging to Livesey, with £6 given by Edward Boardman, £5 by Daniel Hall, and £3 by Thomas Sharples, making a sum of £38, were lent out on personal security, at the interest of £1 15s. yearly, until 1824, when a workhouse was built for the township, at a cost of £900, and the inhabitants agreed to apply the £38 towards the erection of the building, on condition that interest to the same amount as before was received should be paid out of the rates. Messrs. John Pickop and Robert Boardman distributed this fund to poor persons for many years prior to 1824. It appears from an inquiry made by the Charity Commissioners in January, 1868, that the parochial authorities in whom the principal was vested had long ceased to pay the interest upon the stock agreed upon in 1824.

CHAPTER XI.—THE TOWNSHIPS OF MELLOR-CUM-ECCLESHILL.

Mellor Township—Topography—Population—De Meluer Family—Descent of the Manor—Present Landowners—Ancient Freeholders—Abbot—Aspden—Astley—Clayton—Haydock—Hoghton—Osbaldeston—Walmsley—Ward—Whithalgh—St. Mary's Church—Methodist Chapels—Eccleshill Township—Ancient Proprietors—Recent Conveyances of the Manor—Other Estates and Freeholders—Eccles—Fish—Pickop—Shorrocks.

FROM the 12th century to the end of the 17th, the hamlets of Mellor and Eccleshill always appear in conjunction in local records, as forming together one township; although the two places are separated by a distance of three miles or more, the whole breadth of the townships of Blackburn and Lower Darwen lying between. In modern parochial definition, Mellor and Eccleshill are reckoned distinct townships.

Mellor township extends over the north and south slopes of two hills, the last of the range, between the defile of the Calder at Whalley and that of the Darwen, which is the natural bound of Ribblesdale on the south. The highest of the hills within Mellor is Mellor Moor (735ft. above the sea level), and the other rises behind Woodfold Hall. The modern road from Blackburn to Preston traverses the hollow between these eminences. The area of Mellor is 1830 statute acres. The land is all in pasturage, and the occupations of the inhabitants are those of farming and hand-loom weaving. There is one cotton factory at Mellor Brook. In the early period of the century, a large manufacture of cotton cloths on the hand-loom was localized here, and caused an influx of cottage weavers into the township; but this trade has been much reduced in dimensions by the competition of the power-loom. Since 1831, many hundreds of the weavers from Mellor have been drafted into the mills of Blackburn, with the effect upon the population of Mellor shown in the following figures. In 1801, the population of this township was 1439; in 1811, 1548; in 1821, 1981; in 1831, 2071; in 1841, 1844; in 1851, 1688; in 1861, 1398; and in 1871, 1178.

DE MELUER FAMILY.

Members of a proprietary family named after the township occur in the 13th century. William de Meluer (who with his brother Henry occurs about 1241) had a son Robert; and he (Robert de Meluer), by his charter, undated, gave to the Abbot and Convent of Stanlaw one perch of land in the territory of Meleur, contained in a croft called Linbottie, for a site of a barn, with free common of housbote and haybote in the wood of Meluer. Robert's eldest son, John de Meluer, gave to the same monastery half an acre of land in the vill of Meleur, lying on the upper side of Thornecroft next the land of Henry Faber, on which the monks might build a grange for their tithes. John de Meluer and his brother Henry de Meluer both witness a deed dated 1292, and John de Meluer attests an undated deed of Diana de Plesyngton. Adam de Meluer, chaplain at Clitheroe in 1343, may be named as of this family. There is nothing to connect these De Meluers with the manorial lordship of Mellor.

DESCENT OF MELLOR MANOR.

Melver with *Hecleshall* were detached appurtenances of the fee of Walton, held by Robert Banaster in the 12th century. But the uplands of Mellor were early severed from Walton and accounted a distinct manor, held by the lords of Samlesbury. In 1311, Nicholas de Evyas (of a family then holding Samlesbury) had half a carucate in Melore by the service of the 16th part of a knight's fee, paying yearly 8d. to the Clyderhou Court. Sixty years or so later, in a survey of Blackburnshire in 1377, the return was that Gilbert de Southworth, Adam Turton, and Agnes del Leghe held the 4th part of a knight's fee in Mellor, Eccleshall, and Nether Derwend, by 26d. per annum of rent; and that Richard de Hoghton held one knight's fee in Walton, Mellor, and Eccleshall. The Southworths of Samlesbury long time held the so-called manor of Mellor by socage tenure of the crown; and at the death of Sir John Southworth, in 1595, his Mellor estate consisted of 30 messuages, as many gardens and orchards, and 300 acres of land, 100 acres meadow, 200 acres pasture, 200 acres moor and moss, 100 acres gorse and heath, 40 acres of wood, and 50s. of rents; total acreage (besides gardens and orchards) 940 acres. The returned yearly value of the estate was £50, and the service payment to the crown was 16d. per annum. On the death, in 1642, of Thomas Southworth, Esq., who owned the manorial estate in Mellor, it consisted still of 30 messuages with gardens, 900 acres of land (200 acres being moor and moss), and 20s. of rents. This Thomas Southworth dying unmarried, the next heirs to the estate were his two sisters, Elizabeth, wife of Richard Walmesley of Showley; and

Jane, wife of Timothy Sumpner of Chorley. The manor and lands in Mellor subsequently were partitioned and passed by mortgage and sale into several hands in succession. Towards the close of the last century, Mr. Henry Sudell, of Blackburn, purchased several freehold estates in Mellor, some of which had been originally manor-lands, and imparked a portion of them, with contiguous lands in Pleasington and Samlesbury, to form the extensive Woodfold Park, in the midst of which stands Woodfold Hall, the modern manor-house of Mellor, erected by Mr. Sudell about eighty years since. The hall is a large stone-built mansion, having a handsome south frontage, with central portico, supported by four corinthian columns. A stone wall four miles in circuit, and nine feet high, encloses Woodfold Park. Henry Sudell, Esq., held his court leet for the manor of Mellor until the year 1827, when (as stated in an account of the Sudell family, pp. 403-405), his commercial losses caused him to leave Woodfold Hall, and necessitated the sale of parts of the estate. The portion of Woodfold Park situate within Mellor, and the residue of the manorial estate, had been settled upon Mr. Sudell's family. These were sold to Mr. J. F. Hindle in 1831. The present owner, and lord of the manor, is George Frederick Gregory, Esq., who married the only surviving daughter and heiress of William Fowden Hindle, Esq. Mr. Gregory resides in London; and the extent of his estate in this part of Lancashire is stated in the recent Return to Parliament at 836 statute acres, with an estimated rental of £1673. "Stanley House," an old mansion now in ruins, situate on an eminence to the north of Woodfold Park, is said to have been anciently the manor-house of Mellor. In the second half of the 17th century and beginning of the last century a branch of the Yates family (later of Manchester), resided at Stanley House and held the freehold attached to it (see ante, p. 409). Subsequently, Mr. Ramsbottom of Chorley acquired the estate and lived at Stanley House. A Mr. J. Bolton was next possessor, from whom Mr. Sudell bought this portion of the manor-lands of Mellor.

Other present landowners in Mellor are :—Mr. Henry Hargreaves, who has 184 statute acres; Nancy Hargreaves has 163½ acres; Alice Hargreaves, 33 acres; and Mr. James Shorrocks, who has in Mellor and Ramsgreave 179 acres.

Below are notes upon several old yeoman families in the township.

ABBOT OF ABBOT HOUSE.

Thomas Abbot of Mellor, was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 5th, 1624. George Abbot of Mellor, had sons, Thomas, born in 1620, and George, born in 1624.

Thomas Abbot of Mellor, clerk, son of George, elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, Dec. 21st, 1676, is then styled "Mr. Thomas Abbot of Mellor, gent." Mr. Thomas Abbot of Mellor was curate of Walton and Samlesbury chapels

between 1675 and 1688. He lived at Abbot House, where a room is known as the "Minister's Room." The Blackburn Burial Registers record:—"Thomas Abbot, of Mellor, clerk, buried in linnen," June 19th, 1688. He had sons, George and James.

George Abbot of Mellor, son of George and brother of Thomas, by his wife Alice (who died in June, 1663), had issue; he died in Nov., 1680. His widow, Mrs. Alice Abbot, died in 1723.

George Abbot of Mellor, yeoman, son of the minister, named in the Grammar School books in 1689, had sons, Thomas, living in 1722; John; George; and James, born in 1703; and daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1708; Alice, Mary, and Jane.

John Abbot of Mellor, yeoman, son of George, died in April, 1738. James Abbot of Mellor, yeoman, younger son of George, who died in May, 1767, had a son George, buried in 1744; and John. He was enrolled a freeman of Preston at the Guild in 1742, and died in 1767.

John Abbot, of Abbot House, Mellor, son of James, being reduced in means, sold the estate to Mr. Suden of Blackburn, and died about seventy years ago. Late in life he learnt to weave on the hand-loom, and so made a meagre subsistence.

ASPDEN OF ARLEYS.

Arleys in Mellor was in the reigns of the Tudor sovereigns the estate of a family named Aspden, which also had a small freehold in Pleasington adjacent. In 1523, Richard Aspden was assessed to a Subsidy for lands in Pleasington. In the 27th Henry VIII. (1535), Robert Aspden disputed with Peter Stanley the title to lands in Mellour.

Robert Aspeden, in the 6th Edward VI. (1552-3), prosecuted Giles Walmesley and others for obstruction of right of way to a messuage called Arley, and lands and tenements called Oxleys in Mellor. This person also, in the 4th and 5th Phil. and Mary (1557), had a suit in the Duchy Court, against Oliver and Christopher Whalley, and Roger Isherwoode, respecting a disputed right of way from a messuage in Pleasington called Bencoks, over Fulshawe Meadow, and the Hill Close, unto several inclosures of Hesketh, and a way from a messuage called Arley, otherwise Erley, in Mellor, to the Common of Plesington. A year earlier, the same Robert Aspeden, claiming by right of inheritance, disputed with the same defendants a claim to turbarry and pasture on Plesington More, in right of messuages called Bencocks and Arley.

Robert Aspden was assessed on lands in Mellor to a Subsidy in 1570.

"James Aspden of Areleys, gent.," appears in a list of free tenants in 1584, and again in 1600.

ASTLEY OF MELLOR, &c.

This yeoman family was a branch of the Astleys of Stakes, whose descent is sketched in another part of this work. James Astley, the first settled in Mellor, was third son of Randal Astley of Eccleshill, gent., third son of Thomas Astley of Stakes, gent. James, son of Randal and Margery Astley, was baptized Aug. 27th, 1615. James Astley died about 1636, and an escheat taken at Blackburn, July 8th, 11th Chas. I., showed that James Astley had died seized of one messuage, two gardens, one orchard, and 16 acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Pleasington, and of 3 acres of land in Mellor. Giles Astley was his son and heir, aged 50 years. He was father of—

James Astley of Witton and Mellor, yeoman, married, Feb. 25th, 1682, Katherine Walmesley, but she would be a second wife, for James Astley had twins, son and daughter (James and Ann), baptized Dec. 19th, 1655. By his wife Katherine he had a daughter Ellen, born in 1690, and a son Henry, born in Nov., 1692. James Astley died in June, 1709; in his Will, dated May 16th, 1709, he names his wife Katherine

and his son James. The will of Catherine Astley of Mellor, no doubt the widow of James, is dated 1720.

James Astley of Mellor, yeoman, son of the last James, had sons, James, bapt. April 24th, 1698, and Henry, bapt. March 13th, 1705-6; daughters, Elizabeth, married to William Clayton; and Ellen, wife of Lawrence Walmsley. In his Will, dated Dec. 15th, 1719, James Astley names his sons James and Henry, and his daughters Ellen Walmsley and Elizabeth Clayton. James Astley of Mellor was buried at Blackburn, March 9th, 1719-20.

James Astley of Mellor and of Bencock Hall, Pleasington, yeoman, married Elizabeth Bury, of Blackburn (who died in 1736), and had a son James. The Will of James Astley of Bencock Hall, Pleasington, is dated 1741. He died in May, 1752.

James Astley of Mellor, married, Nov. 3rd, 1737, Mary Hesmondhalgh of Wiltshire, who died in childbed in 1740, leaving a daughter Mary, bapt. April 23rd, 1740. By Elizabeth his wife he had a son Henry, bapt. Aug. 12th, 1750. The Will of James Astley of Mellor is dated 1760. Mrs. Forrest, of Blackburn, aged 80 in 1853, said her father paid rent to James Astley of Mellor, who lived at Bencock Hall, Pleasington.

CLAYTON OF BLACKBURN, AND SHORROCK GREEN, MELLOR.

Giles Clayton of Little Harwood, yeoman and chapman (related very likely to the Claytons lords of Little Harwood Manor), married Catherine Edge of Blackburn, and was living in 1653. He had sons, Leonard, bapt. May 26th, 1616; Thomas; and Henry (Henry Clayton of Little Harwood, died in Nov., 1660); and daughters, Anne, born in 1622; and Katherine, born in 1628.

The eldest son of Giles Clayton was Rev. Leonard Clayton, M.A., Vicar of Blackburn from 1647 to 1677 (see ante, under Vicars of Blackburn, pp. 287-292). Before he obtained the vicarage of Blackburn, Mr. Clayton was minister at Heyford, Co. York, where his first child was born in 1645. By Mary his wife (who survived him and died at Mellor in Jan. 1686-7), he had issue a son John, born Tuesday, Feb. 19th, 1650; and daughters, Elizabeth, bapt. Dec. 1st, 1645, died unmarried before 1677; and Katherine, born at Blackburn, Nov. 3rd, 1647, who married, first, in 1669, Rev. Henry Warren, Rector of Stockport, who died in 1674; and secondly, Jan. 2nd, 1678-9, Robert Holden of Holden, Esq., and died a widow in March, 1685. Vicar Clayton died in Oct., 1677, aged 61.

Thomas Clayton of Blackburn, chapman, brother of the Vicar and second son of Giles Clayton, born about 1620, married, Feb. 6th, 1653, "in presence of Randal Sharples, Justice of the Peace," Jane Hindley; and had a son William; and also, I think, a son Giles—"Giles Clayton of Blackburn," who had sons, William, born in 1683; Leonard, born in 1684; and Giles, born in 1686. "Thomas Clayton of Blackburn, chapman," aged then 68, was a deponent in the case respecting Langho Chapel in 1688; and stated that "whilst deponent's brother was Vicar of Blackburn, which was about 30 years together, he (deponent) did usually one or twice every year go with his said brother to Langho Chapel, and heard him preach and pray there in the service and liturgy of the Church of England," and was present at Langho Chapel when his brother, Vicar Clayton, "did marry one Oliver Whalley to his now wife, who being deponent's relation he did there give her in marriage to the said Oliver Whalley." Thomas Clayton died in 1694 (his gravestone is in Blackburn Parish Churchyard), and his son, William Clayton of Blackburn (who died in 1725) had by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of James Astley of Mellor, yeoman, a son, Thomas Clayton, yeoman, who died in 1759; and his son, William Clayton, died in 1762.

John Clayton of Shorroek Green, Mellor, gent., was the only son of Rev.

Leonard Clayton. He married,¹ in 1672, "Mrs. Davenport" (who had a marriage portion of £500); and had issue, sons, William, bapt. Sept. 9th, 1673, died unmarried; Thomas Clayton (described as "of London, gent." on the Guild Roll of Preston in 1722, and "Mr. Thomas Clayton of London" was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1735); Leonard, died young in 1679; John, born and died in 1684; Davenport, born and died in 1686; a second Leonard, bapt. Nov. 26th, 1688, of Mellor in 1717, when he married Ann Cowell, of Samlesbury, and was living in 1722; a second Davenport, bapt. Nov. 26th, 1689; a second John, born in 1693; and daughters, Anna, born in 1675; Mary, born in 1676; Katherine, born in 1678; and Margaret, born in 1683.

Davenport Clayton, son of John, a burghess of Preston in 1722, had sons, John, and Thomas, both enrolled with their father at the Guild of 1722. Thomas Clayton, the second son, had sons John and Thomas.

HAYDOCK OF MELLOR.

I have made out no connected descent of this family of yeomen. The subjoined names occur. George Haydock of Mellor died in June, 1670. Thomas Haydock of Mellor was taxed to a Subsidy in 1663. John Haydock of Mellor had a son Lawrence, born in 1690. Lawrence Haydock of Mellor, yeoman, had sons, Lawrence, born in 1701; and John, born in 1705. George Haydock of Mellor, yeoman, had by Ann his wife a son Lawrence, born in 1729, and other issue. John Haydock of Mellor, yeoman, died in 1753; and another John Haydock, yeoman, died in May, 1760. James Haydock of Mellor married, by license, Sept. 21st, 1734, Jane Loftus of Mellor. Lawrence Haydock of Blackburn, probably the son of Lawrence, of Mellor, born in 1701, married, by license, Feb. 10th, 1740-1, Mary Bracewell of Goosnargh. Mr. Thomas Haydock of Mellor had a daughter who married Mr. Edmund Haworth of Lower Darwen.

HOGHTON OF MELLOR.

Thomas Hoghton, of Mellor, was assessed for his lands to a Subsidy in 1570. A later Thomas Hoghton, gent., of Mellor, married Matilda, daughter of Robert Hoghton of Extwistle. This Thomas Hoghton paid Blackburn Grammar School Trustees, in 1641, £10 rent for lands in Mellor; and Thomas Hoghton of Mellor held a freehold in Blackburn Wapentake in 1650, and paid 6d. to Clitheroe Court.

OSBALDESTON OF MELLOR.

Thomas Osbaldeston of Mellor, yeoman, appears as a juror in 1611-12-13-17;

¹ From the MSS. of the late Nicholas Grimshaw, Esq., I have the following:—Oct. 1st, 1672, Rev. Leonard Clayton, being seized in fee of Shorrock Green tenement, did, previous to the marriage of his son John with Mrs. Davenport, and in order to it, covenant to convey the said estate within twelve months after the marriage to the use of himself for life, remainder to the son in fee. By the same articles it is covenanted that Mrs. Davenport's portion, £500, shall be laid out on land, and that such new purchased land shall be assured to the use of the son and his intended wife for their lives, and the life of the survivor of them, remainder to their heirs male, &c., remainder to the husband in taile male, remainder to his right heirs. John Clayton and Mrs. Davenport intermarried; and on May 30th, 1673, Leonard Clayton by demise reciting the articles grants the premises for 80 years in trust to permit Leonard and his assigns to enjoy the same during such part of the term as he should live. After the death of Rev. Leonard Clayton and his wife, John Clayton his son granted the premises in fee to Thomas Winckley in mortgage by lease and release and covenants that he with his wife should levy a fine thereof to him: which was done. July 9th, 1695, Thomas Winckley and John Clayton granted Shorrock Green tenement to Benjamin Hoghton in fee, who granted it in fee to Robert Sharples, who regranted it by way of mortgage to Mr. Hoghton in fee. John Clayton and his wife were both dead before Dec., 1706, leaving issue male then living.

and this, or a younger Thomas Osbaldeston of Mellor, occurs as a juror in 1637. Thomas Osbaldeston of Mellor died in Feb., 1672-3. Ellen Osbaldeston of Mellor, widow, died in June, 1687. Another Thomas Osbaldeston of Mellor had sons, Thomas, born in 1683, and Joshua, born in 1687; also a daughter, Abigail, born in 1685. Other of the Mellor Osbaldestons were:—Robert, died in Oct., 1683; Margery Osbaldeston, widow, died in Oct., 1689. Christopher Osbaldeston died in 1681. Robert Osbaldeston, yeoman, of Mellor, died in July, 1732; and Edward Osbaldeston, of Mellor, married, in 1742, Alice Hague of Blackburn. John Osbaldeston of Mellor and Eccleshill, husbandman, married, March 3rd, 1700-1, Esther Moulding, widow.

STANLEY OF MELLOR.

Peter Stanley of Mellor occurs in 1532 (24th Henry VIII.), when he disputed with Robert Aspeden and others, servants of Sir Thomas Southworthe, Knt., the title to a messuage, lands, woodlands, &c., in Mellor. Three years later Peter Stanley was against Robert Aspeden and Geoffrey Cowper in a suit concerning a disputed title to lands in Mellor. Again, in the 3rd Edw. VI. (1549), Peter Stanley was plaintiff, William Wodcock and others defendants, in a cause as to a disputed title to a messuage, lands, &c., and right of way over a certain parcel of land called Barker's Lane to Mellor Moor, and to common of pasture and turbarry there.

In the reign of Elizabeth, Thomas Stanleye of Mellor was fined at the manor court of Samlesbury, for "pullinge one saplinge spyre in the Grenehurst the which his man caryed awaye upon his necke." "Thomas Stanley de Melore, gent," occurs as a freeholder in 1600, and as a juror in 1617; again in a list of freeholders in 1621.

WALMSLEY OF MELLOR.

The Mellor Walmsleys are described both as of Whitecroft and the Reaps; their status was that of yeomen or lesser gentry. Richard Walmesley of Mellor was taxed to the Subsidy of 1610-11. James Walmesley, senior, of Mellor, died in June, 1614.

James Walmesley of Mellor, yeoman, died July 26th, 1616, and on inquisition at Blackburn, the 3rd Oct. following, it appeared that he had held lands in Mellor of Thomas Southworth in free socage.

Henry Walmesley of Mellor, gent., son and heir of James, aged 30 in 1616, appears as a juror in 1617, and as witness to a deed dated 1620. He, or a younger Henry Walmesley, of this township, was elected a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1634, and was living in 1656.

James Walmesley of Mellor, of the same generation with Henry, occurs in 1620; he had a son Christopher born in 1626, and was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1660. James Walmesley of Whitecroft died in June, 1671.

Henry Walmesley of Mellor, attorney, was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1647. His wife, Ellen, died in Dec., 1672.

One Henry Walmesley, of Mellor, described as "clericus," married Margaret Aspeden, May 5th, 1677, and had issue—James, born and died in 1681; Jeffrey, born in 1686; Henry, born in 1688; a second James, born in 1695; Edward; and Peter; Sarah, born Sept. 17th, 1684, Elizabeth, born in 1689; and Alice, born in 1691. Henry Walmesley of Mellor, gent., was elected a governor of Blackburn Grammar School, July 1st, 1678. He died in 1708.

The branch seated at Reaps, in Mellor, included:—James Walmesley, of the Reaps, who by his wife Ann (she died, a widow, in Dec., 1684), had Giles, born in 1658. Giles Walmesley of Reaps, yeoman, died in Sept., 1711. He had issue:—Joyce, born in 1681; James, born in 1685; Henry, died in 1701; Thomas, born in

1691; Michael and Richard, twins, born in 1697 (Michael died in 1699); a second Henry, born in 1702; Martha, born in 1687, died in 1700; and Jane, born in 1700. James Walmsley, of Mellor, who died in 1734, was, I conjecture, the son of Giles. Later members are indistinguishable.

WARD OF MELLOR.

John Ward, of Mellor, was assessed on lands to the Subsidy of 1523. Robert Ward was taxed on his lands in Mellor to a Subsidy in 1570. "John Ward of Mellor, the elder," was reported as a "recusant" in 1586.

John Ward of Mellor, who died on Nov. 3rd, 34th Elizabeth (1591), was found by inquisition taken April 4th, 1594, to have owned three messuages, one cottage, &c., 20 acres of land, 14 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture, and 4 acres of woodland in Mellor, Dutton, and Oswaldtwistle. The lands in Mellor were held of John Southworth, Knt.; those in Dutton of Henry Townley, gent.; and those in Oswaldtwistle of Robert Barton, Esq., and his heirs. James Ward was son and heir of John, aged, at the escheat, 13 years, 11 months, and 10 days.

James Ward of Mellor, by Jane his wife, had a son Richard, and daughters Janet and Thomasine. James Ward was assessed for lands in Mellor to the Subsidy of 1611.

Richard Ward, of Mellor, succeeds James. The inquisition after his death was taken at Preston, April 26th, 20th James I (1622). It was returned that Richard Ward was expectant possessor in rendition, after the death of Jane Ingham, the wife of Robert Ingham, and late wife of James Ward, late father of Richard Ward, of one messuage with appurtenances in Mellor, with 16 acres of land, 6 of meadow, and 14 of pasture, &c.; that Richard Ward had died at Mellor, March 17th, 18th James I. (1620-1); that Janet Cowborne, late wife of Thomas Cowborne, and Thomasine Ward were sisters and co-heirs of Richard Ward; and that the said Janet had died on the 20th December, 1621, leaving issue, by Thomas Cowburne, Richard Cowburne, son and heir, aged 6 years, 10 months, and 15 days; and Thomasine Ward, living at Mellor, was next heir of Richard Ward, &c.

These succeeding members occur:—James Ward of Mellor, left a bequest, paid in 1634, to the Grammar School of Blackburn. John Ward, Doctor of Physic, was made a Governor of the Grammar School in 1637. William Ward of Mellor, assessed to a Subsidy in 1663, was buried March 20th, 1671. By Mary his wife (she died in 1677) he had sons, George, born in 1636; William (died in 1696, by his wife Elizabeth had a son Richard, &c.); and other issue. George Ward of Mellor married in 1686, Alice Morris, and had sons, Thomas, born in 1687, died in infancy; John, born in 1689, died young; and other issue. George Ward of Mellor married, Dec. 31st, 1739, Ellen Piccop of Balderstone (buried, aged 76, May 5th, 1788), and had sons, John, bapt. Nov. 22nd, 1747; George, born in 1749; William, born in 1753; and other issue. George Ward of Mellor, conveyed, in 1747, for £113, his freehold estate in Mellor to the Governors of Blackburn Grammar School, and in Dec., 1749, had a lease of School lands in Mellor for 99 years, or lives of himself and son.

WHITHALGH OF LIVESSEY AND MELLOR.

The family of Whithalgh had freeholds in Livesey and Mellor in the sixteenth century. James Whythalgh was taxed on lands in Mellor to the Subsidy of 1523.

James Whithalgh was named a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in its charter (1567), and dying about 1569, was by escheat of the 12th Elizabeth found to have held messuages, lands, and woodlands in Lyvesay, Mellor, Cuerden, and Oswaldtwistle. His widow—"Uxor James Whithalgh," was assessed on lands in Livesey to a Subsidy in 1570.

Richard Whithalgh, gent., succeeded, and in 1595 held lands in Mellor under Sir John Southworth; he is found on a list of freeholders dated 1600. He died the 5th May, 1601, his eldest son being under age, having conveyed his estates in trust, as is stated in the record of the Duchy escheat, taken the 5th July, 44th Eliz., before Edward Leigh, Esq., Escheator. It was then found that "Richard Whitehalgh, late of Mellor," was seized at death of 10 messuages, 10 gardens, 60 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, and 2 acres of woodland in Mellor, held of Thomas Southworth in free socage; also of estates in Oswaldtwistle, held of Robert Barton by knight service; in Livesey, held of John Livesey in free socage; and in Cuerden.

James Whithalgh, of Whithalgh, gent., was found son and heir of Richard, aged 29 years, 11 months, and 12 days. James Whithalgh was assessed on lands in Livesey to a Subsidy in 1610-11. I find him serving as a juror in 1608, 1615, and 1617; and witness to a deed in 1620. He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628. He appears to have had sons, Richard; Henry, born in 1608; James, born and died in 1614; John, died in 1624; Uriah and Thomas; daughters, Mary, born in 1616; and Ann, died in 1632. His wife—"Uxor James Whithalgh, gent."—was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 25th, 1635-6. "Ann Whitehalgh, de Livesey," buried in 1652, may have been a sister of James. In the year 1625 (1st Chas. I.), James Whithalgh conveyed an estate in Mellor to trustees to the use of Blackburn Grammar School. The estate is described in a deed, dated 1687, as "the Messuage and tenement with appurtenances situate in Mellor, known by the name of Whithalgh House, or Whithalgh tenement, with several closes containing 29 acres of land, meadow and pasture, heretofore in possession of Richard Whithalgh, gent., deceased; and also the new barne and close called Sedge Hole, lately improved and inclosed from the common or waste of Mellor, heretofore in tenure of James Whithalgh, gent., deceased." The vendors in 1625 were James Whithalgh, gent., and Ralph Walkden, of Livesey, yeoman.

Richard Whithalgh, I think a son of James, was made a trustee, in 1649, of Ralph Walmsley's gift to Tockholes Church. In 1663, Richard Whithalgh was taxed to the Subsidy on lands in Livesey.

Henry Whithalgh, a younger son of James, is witness to a deed of the Grammar School trustees in 1657. "Henry Whithalgh of Livesey, gent.," appears on the Guild Roll of Preston in 1642, as do also his brothers, Lawrence, Uriah, and Thomas.

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY.—The church was built and consecrated in 1829. The cost was £5584, defrayed by a grant of that sum from the Parliamentary Commissioners, dated July 9th, 1830. The church is a spacious fabric in the early English style, consisting of nave, chancel apse, vestry, and western tower, beneath which is the chief entrance. The interior has a gallery at the west end in which the organ is placed. Sittings, 772. Henry Sudell, Esq., lord of the Manor, gave the site for the church; and was a benefactor to the endowment. The value of the living, originally £74, has been twice augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; first, in 1850, to £150, and recently to £300 per annum. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron. Incumbents in succession:—Rev. Francis Kirkpatrick; Rev. — Gregory; Rev. H. Stowe, B.A.; Rev. G. R. G. Pugh. The plain square tower and dwarf spire of the church form, from its elevated situation at the western edge of Mellor Moor, a conspicuous feature of the landscape in Lower Ribblesdale.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, MELLOR MOOR.—A tradition exists among the Methodists

of Mellor that Wesley preached there in one of his journeys across the parish. A society of Wesleyans was formed in Mellor about a century ago, and their meeting-place for some years was a room at Abbot House. Then they found a singular place for their service in the old windmill on Mellor Moor, now a ruin; this was fitted with benches and a gallery. The Mellor society occurs in 1790 on the books of Blackburn Circuit as a contributor to the Circuit Fund. In 1802, a small chapel was built on the north side of the road which crosses the Moor. In 1809, the society reckoned 98 members. The chapel has been twice enlarged and several times improved since the first erection on the site 74 years ago. It now appears a convenient fabric of simple design, surrounded by a grave-yard. The interior is fitted with galleries; and a new organ, costing £300, was recently placed in the chapel. The sittings are about 400.

MELLOR BROOK WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—A second Methodist society was formed in the township in 1843. The preaching-place was for some years a room in Messrs. Eccles' mill at Mellor Brook. In 1852, a chapel was built at Mellor Brook for the use of inhabitants of this part of Mellor, Balderstone, and Osbaldeston. The site was given by Mrs. Brierley and Mr. Thomas Counsell. The chapel is a small brick structure, and contains 210 sittings.

ECCLESHILL TOWNSHIP—ANCIENT LANDOWNERS.

The township of Eccleshill extends over the acclivities of the hill (alluded to in the name itself) to the south of Lower Darwen, from which it is separated by the Eccleshill Brook; the Darwen river being the natural boundary on the west. The area of the township is 792 statute acres. The population at each decade from 1801 to 1871 has been:— In 1801, 346; 1811, 374; 1821, 456; 1831, 715; 1841, 510; 1851, 598; 1861, 543; 1871, 633. The soil is poor and the situation bleak. The local coal measures extend underneath the land, and the Eccleshill coal mines have been worked at least three centuries. Extensive iron-smelting works have been erected recently in the township. A branch railway for mineral transit from Huddlesden to the junction with the Lancashire and Yorkshire line from Bolton to Blackburn traverses the hill-side in Eccleshill.

From the early period when *Eccleshull* was, as I have before stated, an appurtenance of the lords of Walton, to the present date, its lands have been possessed by sundry proprietors. The first resident owners of the soil bore the township's name for a surname. They were benefactors to Stanlaw Abbey about the date 1250-1270. Robert de Eccleshull gave to the monks of that convent one perch of land "in his vill of Eccleshull" for the site of a barn, lying on the "west side of the Bruderudng between Hoddisdenebrok [Huddlesden Brook] and the Mill of Eccleshull." A little later, after this donor's death, Matilda, relict of Robert de Eccleshull, quit-claimed to the Abbey of Stanlaw her right in the land he gave in the vill of Eccleshull. Henry de Eccleshull, who occurs in 1214, perhaps was father of the above Robert. I conjecture that the De Eccleshull family were akin to the Grimshaws,

who succeed them in this possession. In 1276 or 1277, Richard de Grymeshagh gave to the monks of Stanlaw half an acre of land in the vill of Eccleshull, contained in a croft called Bymmecroft, with easement and liberty to take timber there in his (donor's) lordship. Grymeshaw was a tenement in Eccleshill beside the stream below Hoddlesden, and the family that named itself from this place of settlement became, *temp.* Edward III., lords of half the manor of Clayton-les-Moors by marriage of Adam de Grymeshaw with Cecilia, daughter and heir of John de Clayton. Thereafter, the Grimshaws dwelt at Clayton Hall, but they retained the estate in Eccleshill for many generations. It was found part of the inheritance of the heir of Thomas Grimeshawe, after his death, in 1540; and John Grymshaw, who died in 1587, also was found on the *Inq. post mort.* to have held these ancestral lands in Eccleshill. I have not found when the estate passed from this family. They had it still in 1650, when, in a Rental of Blackburn Wapentake, it was found that "Grimshall Hall" in Eccleshill paid 6d. yearly to that court, and "Mr. Grimshaws tennants" there 1s. yearly.

The modern succession of owners of the manor lands of Eccleshill include Claytons of Adlington, who sold them to Wilsons of Preston Old Bank; and on the sale of the estates of Wilson in 1848, the purchaser of Eccleshill manor was the late James Hodgson of Liverpool, in whose trustees it is now vested, and consists of the tenements of Brocklehead, Grimshaw, Bent, Eccleshill Fold, Shaw Fold, Holden Fold, and Lower Eccleshill, having a total acreage of about 436 acres.

The Manor of Eccleshill was notified for public sale on the 27th of July, 1848, and was then described as "all that manor or lordship, or reputed manor or lordship of Eccleshill," and the messuages, lands, quarries of freestone, mines of coal, &c. The estate consisted of the farms of Lower Eccleshill, containing 61a. 3r. 3p. statute measure; of Eccleshill Fold, consisting of three farms, together 125 acres, with an Inn, wheelwright's shop, and several houses and cottages; of another farm containing 63 acres; of a public-house, dwelling-house, cottages, and a farm of 29½ acres; of Shaw Fold farm, 29½ acres; Harwood Fold, 46½ acres, with several houses, gardens, &c.; Brockle-Head, 97 acres, with several houses and cottages; altogether about 452 statute acres; also, a commuted rent-charge in lieu of tithes issuing out of lands in Eccleshill, being £25 16s. 9½d. yearly; the ground-rents of several houses in Eccleshill, £10 12s. 3d. yearly; the mines of coal under part of the said estates called the "New Mine north of Eccleshill," and the remaining coal to be got in the Great and Little Coal of the Old Mines, then in lease to Messrs. Johnson and Brandwood; also the valuable and extensive Mines of Coal called the "Deep Mine," under part of the said estates, of which no part had been got; the whole of the estates being tithe free.

The Osbaldestons, lords of Osbaldeston, from a remote date asserted some proprietary right in Eccleshill; but their estate in the township was limited, I imagine, to the one tenement called David Field House; and this was sold by John Osbaldeston to Sir Richard

Shuttleworth in 1592. This estate still belongs to the Shuttleworths of Gawthorpe; and the lands of Sir James P. Kay-Shuttleworth in Eccleshill now comprise the Davy Field farm, of $42\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and Whinsey tenement of 6 acres.

Other present landowners in Eccleshill are, Mr. Adam Bullough of Waterside, 54 acres; Mr. Wm. Pickup, 44 acres; Bolton Grammar School, $36\frac{1}{2}$ acres; Rev. Charles Greenway, 19 acres; Mrs. Nevill, Lower Grimshaw, $29\frac{1}{2}$ acres; Mr. James Hope, $22\frac{1}{2}$ acres; and Mr. Blake Jepson, 5 acres.

An estate in Eccleshill, which belongs to the Free Grammar School of Bolton, was purchased by the Governors for the sum of £890; and conveyed to them by indentures of lease and release, dated the 16th and 17th May, 1796, between Thomas Eccles and Joseph Peel, of the first part; Benjamin Rawson and John Ridgway of the second part; and the Governors of the Free Grammar School of Bolton of the third part. The estate consists of two dwelling houses and lands containing 36 statute acres, called Waterside; with a chief rent of $20\frac{1}{2}$ d. and two barbed arrows, payable out of lands then belonging to Sir Richard Clayton, Bart., later the property of the late Mr. Wilson. The Bolton School Governors also possess a farm called Bell Coney in Upper Darwen, purchased in 1818 from George Yates for £516; containing $10\frac{1}{2}$ statute acres. At Waterside the old farm-house on the estate is reputed to be the ancient manor-house of Eccleshill.

Subjoined are short notes of several of the old freeholding families of Eccleshill.

ECCLES OF ECCLESHILL.

The old yeoman family of Eccles had lands in Eccleshill (from the name of which the family surname probably was derived), as well as in the adjoining townships of Pickup Bank and Lower Darwen. (An account of several branches of the family has been inserted under Lower Darwen township, pp. 475-7.) Mr. Thomas Eccles, of Pickup Bank and Lower Darwen, sold his freehold in Eccleshill to the Governors of Bolton Grammar School in 1796.

FISH OF ECCLESHILL.

Rauf Fish of Eccleshill was taxed to a King's Subsidy in 1610. After him occurs Thomas Fish, of Eccleshill, who was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1635. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Hoghton, gent., of Redlee, Tockholes, and was named an executor under the Will of his brother-in-law, Gilbert Hoghton, gent., in 1639 (see Hoghton of Tockholes). Thomas Fish, gent., lived in the old house at Eccleshill Fold which is now accounted the manor-house of Eccleshill, and upon the lintel of the doorway of the older portion of the house are cut the initials "T E F" (Thomas and Elizabeth Fish), with the date "1641." He probably was father of John Fish of Eccleshill, who occurs in 1684; after whom comes Mr. John Fish of Eccleshill, yeoman and chapman, who married, May 14th,

1700, Ellen Walmsley of Lower Darwen, and had issue, sons, John, born in 1704; Joseph, born in 1706; William, born in 1709; David, born in 1714; Lawrence, born in 1715, died in 1717; Thomas, born in 1716; and James born in 1719; and daughters, Martha, born in 1701; and Elizabeth, born in 1712.

PICCOP OF ECCLESHILL, &c.

The Piccops of Lower Darwen and Eccleshill I think were related. In 1560 Edward Pycoppe was a tenant of the Talbots in Lower Darwen. Robert Piccopes, yeoman, died March 26th, 1603. The escheat was not taken until Sept. 14th, 18th James I. (1620), when it was proved that Robert Piccopes had been in possession of the fourth part of a messuage, 3 acres of land, one acre of meadow, 1 acre of woodland, and 6 acres of moor or waste in Nether Darwyn, held of the King, by a yearly payment of 2s. 8d. James Piccopes, son and heir, was aged 35 years at the date of Robert's decease. James Piccop died in Oct., 1623.

A gravestone in Blackburn Parish Churchyard gives data for the following descent of the Piccops of Eccleshill:—John Piccopes of Eccleshill, died 1623 (buried Feb. 3rd, 1623-4); Henry Piccop of Eccleshill, died 1650; William Piccop of Eccleshill, died 1675 (his wife Jane died the same year); Henry Piccop of Beardwood, Blackburn, died April 2nd, 1744. Before the last Henry I think should be inserted John Piccop of Beardwood, who had a son John, born 1712, and may have been father or brother of Henry. Edmund Piccop and Ann Threlfall, both of Eccleshill, married, May 17th, 1718, and had a son, John, bapt. Nov 20th, 1720. John Piccop of Eccleshill, married, Sept. 29th, 1737, Ellen Taylor of Yate Bank.

SHORROCK OF WATERSIDE.

William Shorrocks of Eccleshill was assessed to a Queen's Subsidy in 1570; and Thomas Shorrocks, succeeding, was taxed to a Subsidy in 1610. Then, William Shorrocks, of Eccleshill, who paid a Subsidy-tax in 1663, had sons, Thomas, bapt. Sept. 28th, 1651; and James, born in 1656. Thomas Shorrocks of Eccleshill, yeoman, son of William, by Ann his wife (who died in June, 1707), had sons, William, bapt. July 12, 1691; and Robert, died young in 1706. The father, Thomas Shorrocks, died in 1738, and was buried at Blackburn, Aug. 12th, of that year. William Shorrocks of Eccleshill, yeoman, son of Thomas, died, aged 73, in 1764. His son Thomas Shorrocks of Waterside, Eccleshill, married, Jan. 27th, 1740-1, Ann Thompson of Lower Darwen, and had issue, including sons Thomas, and John. A brother, John Shorrocks of Waterside, had a son William, born in 1762.

CHAPTER XII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF OSBALDESTON.

Name—Topography and Population—Descent of the Manor—De Osbaldeston Family—Recent passages of the Manorial Estate—Osbaldeston Hall—Present Landowners in the Township—Former Freeholders—Lussell of Studlehurst—Osbaldeston and Fox of Oxendale—Oxendale Hall—Roman Catholic Chapel.

OSBALDESTON is a rural township rising from the south bank of the Ribble towards the heights of Mellor on the south. Its name, which has undergone little variation in its orthography since the Conquest, signifies the *tun* or place of *Osbold*, its Saxon proprietor at some period unfixd. The area of the township is 980 statute acres. Its population, which slightly increased from 1801 to 1831, has been declining subsequently. The decennial census returns are subjoined:—1801, 252 persons; 1811, 278; 1821, 319; 1831, 349; 1841, 289; 1851, 250; 1861, 238; 1871, 224 persons.

From the earliest record the manor-estate of Osbaldeston is found in possession of a family bearing the name of the vill for surname. It was portion of the great fee of Cliderhou, and in 1311 is named as appendant to the dower of the Countess of Lincoln, widow of Earl Henry de Lascy.

OSBALDESTON OF OSBALDESTON.

The first member of this ancient proprietary family in Osbaldeston of whom we have any account was Hugo de Osbaldeston, living about the beginning of the 13th century. He had a son Ailsius or Eilfi de Osbaldeston. Ailsius de Osbaldeston gave lands in Balderstone to Salley Monastery. By Wimara his wife he had sons, Hugh, the heir, William (de Balderstone), Barnard, John, Robert, Alexander, and Adam.

Hugh de Osbaldeston, son of Ailsius, living 30th Henry III. (1245), confirmed his father's grant to Salley Abbey, and occurs as witness to a charter of Stanlaw Monastery. He had sons, Thomas, and Roger.

"Thomas de Osbaldeston, son of Hugh," occurs in a deed of Stanlaw Abbey, and was living 45th Henry III (1260). He had sons, Adam, and Robert.

Adam de Osbaldeston, next scion, quit-claimed to Sawley Abbey his right to woodland in Sunderland Grange in Balderstone. He had sons, Thomas, and John (occurs in 1336). Adam de Osbaldeston is witness to a deed dated June 17th, 1292.

Thomas de Osbaldeston was found at the De Lascy Inquisition of 1311 holding lands in Osbaldeston and Balderstone, and paying suit to Cliderhou Castle. This Thomas witnesses deeds in Whalley Abbey Coucher Book dated 1332 and 1333. He married Amabilla Ethelstone.

Alexander de Osbaldeston, next member, living about 1350, married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Molineux de Keuerdale; she survived him, and married, secondly, Thomas Banastre, and thirdly, Robert Radcliffe, and was living, aged 40, in 1387. It was by this marriage that the Osbaldestons acquired manorial estates in Cuerdale and Over Darwen; for, as noted in Flower's Visitation, "Tomlyn Molyneux" (second son of Sir Richard, of Sefton), whose "daughter and sole heire" this scion married, had to wife Jane, daughter and sole heir of Alexander de Keuerdale, who had married the daughter and heir of Darwyn of Darwyn, armiger.

Geoffrey de Osbaldeston, Esq., son of Alexander, had to wife Margaret, daughter of William de Balderstone, and had issue, sons, John; and Thomas (the latter married Isabella, daughter of Henry Langton, Baron of Newton, who died in 1445). Thomas de Osbaldeston probably was father of Geoffrey who succeeds, but some descents make the latter son of John.

Geoffrey de Osbaldeston, lord of this manor, was living about 1440-1450, and had a dispute respecting his rights in Over Darwen Manor with Richard Southworth of Samlesbury. He had sons, John; Geoffrey, William, Richard; and a daughter Cicilia, wife of Peter Standish, son of James, of Duxbury.

John Osbaldeston, lord of Osbaldeston, married, in 1461, Elizabeth, daughter and one of the heirs of Sir Richard Balderstone, Knt. (see ante, pp. 414-15), and had a son Richard; and daughters, Margaret, and Isabel.

John's son and heir, Richard Osbaldeston, married Grace, daughter of William Singleton of the Tower, Esq., and had two sons, Alexander, and Gilbert; and one daughter, Agnes, wife of Thomas Latham, of Parbould, Co. Lanc., Esq. Richard Osbaldeston, Esq., died the 22nd July, 23rd Henry VII. (1507), and on *Inq. post mort.*, taken the next year, he was found to have held Osbaldeston manor of the King in chief, worth £20; Keuerdale manor, of Richard Langton in socage, worth 20 marks; and Over Derwynd manor, of Richard Langton in socage, worth 20 marks.

Alexander Osbaldeston, his son and heir, was then aged 26 years. I cite the record of the Visitation of 1533, concerning him and his family:—"Syr Alexander Osbaldeston, knight, had to his furst wyffe Anne, dowghter to Sr. Xp'ver Sudworthe [Christr. Southworth], knyght, and they hadd yssue, John, whyche maryed Marget, dowghter to the Lord Strange. The sayd Syr Alexander had to hys second wyffe Ellyne, dowghter to Thomas Tyllysley of Wardley, and they hadd yssue Richard [Richard Osbaldeston, first of Sunderland, see ante, p. 419], Harry, Thomas, Wyllm, Thorston, Anne, Elizabeth, Siscelye, Alyce, Isabell, Elnor, and Jane. Anne is maryed to Edward Langton, sonne and heyer to Thomas Langton, Baron of Nyewton; Elizabeth ys maryed to Harry Kyghleys, sonne and heyer to Harry Kyghley." After this record, other daughters married: Alice, to John Talbot of Salesbury; Eleanor, to Thomas Clifton of Westby; Jane, to William Gerard of the Ince. Sir Alexander Osbaldeston was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1527. He died Jan. 17th, 35th Henry VIII. (1543); the *Inq. post mort.*, taken at Preston, March 31st, 1544, attests that the deceased knight had held Osbaldeston, Cuerdall, Over Derwynt, and Balderstone manors, with appurtenances; and the fourth part of seven messuages, 200 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 300 acres of pasture, 60 acres of woodland, 300 acres of moor, and 300 acres of rushland and heath, in Balderstone, Walton, and 24 other Lancashire townships; also, a fishery in Ribble. An inventory of the goods of this member is printed by the Chetham Society, and contains some curious items. His widow, Ellena Osbaldeston, by her Will, dated 1560, directed that three stones, with inscribed brasses, should be placed in the Osbaldeston Chapel in Blackburn Church, over the remains of herself, her husband, and her brother, Sir Thomas Tyldesley. These memorials have long since vanished. She also gave to her step-son, John, certain objects pertaining to the altar of the family chapel in Osbaldeston Hall "to remayne as erlomes."

John Osbaldeston, Esq., aged 36 years at his father's death, married, first, Margaret, daughter of George Stanley Lord Strange, by whom he had issue, sons, Edward, Alexander, and Thomas, and a daughter Margaret. By his second wife, Jane, daughter of Thomas Stanley, Esq. (and widow of Sir Thomas Halsall, Knt.), he had no issue. In 1557, John Osbaldeston was nominated captain in the army of Lord Shrewsbury, serving in Scotland. He died about 1575. The escheator proved that he held manorial lands in Osbaldeston, Balderstone, Kuerdale, Over Derwynd, and Edge, and other lands in Grene Tockholls juxta Lyvesey, Eccleshill, Walton-in-le-dale, and other places. His daughter, Margaret, married Robert, son of John Aspden, gent.

Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., succeeded his father, and held the

estates some 15 years. His wife was Maude, daughter of Sir Thomas Halsall, Knt. (marriage covenant dated 10th April, 1548). He had five sons, John, Thomas, Geoffrey, Leonard, and Hamlet; and one daughter, Cicely, married — Singleton. A letter of Edward Osbaldeston, dated Jan. 1st, 1584, addressed to William Farington, Esq., asking for a loan of £40, is preserved among the Worden MSS. He died on Sept. 7th, 1590; and the inquisition, taken at Preston, before Thomas Hesketh, Esq., escheator, in 1591, names the son, John, aged 35 years; the widow, Maud; and shows that the estates then consisted of Osbaldeston and Balderstone manors, held of the Queen, with suit to Clitheroe Court; and of 60 messuages, one water-mill, one fulling mill, 200 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 300 acres of pasture, 60 acres of woodland, 40 acres of moor, and 200 acres of rushland and heath in Over Darwyn and the other townships already named. Edward Osbaldeston had made his Will, June 18th, 1588, by which he desires to be buried in Blackburn Church; and divides his goods into three parts, the first to his wife Maude; the second to his younger sons, Geoffrey and Hamlet; the third to his son and heir, John; subject to payment of 100 marks to testator's daughter, Cicely Singleton; 40 marks to his sister Margaret; 40 marks to his brother Thomas; and other bequests. The Will was proved 25th Sept., 1590. An inventory of the goods of deceased, to the value of £474 1s. 8d., is dated Sept. 9th, 1590. Maud Osbaldeston, widow, died in 1592; inventory of her goods is dated Sept. 16th, 1592.

Thomas Osbaldeston, brother of Edward, had sons, Edward, and Thomas; and daughters, Margaret, Ellen, and Dorothy—all named in their uncle's Will, in 1588.

Geoffrey Osbaldeston, a younger son of Edward, attained eminence in the law, was made Justice of the Common Pleas, and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth. He died in 1590.

John Osbaldeston, Esq., eldest son and heir, married Ellen, daughter and co-heir of John Bradley of Bradley Hall, near Chipping, Esq., and had issue, sons, Edward, born in 1573; Thomas; Sebastian; John; and Richard, who married Margaret Walmsley of Fishwick; and daughters, Mary, wife of — Eccleston; Anne, wife, first of — Scarisbrick, after, of — Charnock; and Elizabeth, married to Edward Welsh, who was slain by her brother Thomas.¹ John Osbaldeston died in 1603,

¹ In the 4th Jas. I. (1606), Thomas Osbaldeston was convicted at Lancaster Assizes of the murder of Edward Walsh (his sister's husband); and on July 9th, 9th Jas. I., an inquisition was taken as to what lands, rents, annuities, goods, and chattels Thomas Osbaldeston, late of Cuerdale, gent., possessed at the time of his committal of the felony and murder named in the King's warrant. The jurors said that Thomas Osbaldeston, at the time of his felony, &c., was seized of one annuity or yearly rent charge of £20 for life, going out of the messuage called Bradley Hall in Thornley and the demesne lands belonging thereto, and of other lands in divers townships, late the inheritance of John Bradley of Betham, Esq., deceased, and late in the tenure of John Osbaldeston, Esq., deceased; since in the

and was buried at Blackburn Church; the register records "John Osbaldeston, armiger," buried 30th Nov., 1603.

Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., son of John, was next lord of this manor. His wife was Mary, daughter and sole heir of Francis Farington, of Hutton Grange, Esq., and his issue were, sons, John, born in 1599; Alexander, born in 1602; Francis (in holy orders); Cuthbert, died unmarried; and Robert (who by his wife, Jane Singleton, had sons Edward and Alexander); and daughters, Anne, wife of Thomas Blenkinsop; Maud, wife of Thomas Osbaldeston of Walton; and Elizabeth, died in 1632. Edward Osbaldeston was knighted temp. James I. His dame died in 1623—"Madame Osbaldestonn ux. Edwardi Osbaldestonn de O., Militis," buried at Blackburn, Dec. 6th, 1623. Sir Edward Osbaldeston was a noble example of chivalry, high-breeding and scholarship for a Lancashire knight of his day. Whatton states that he was "skilled in mathematics," in which he found "great entertainment" for his leisure; that his learning was acquired in France, whither he was sent in his youth. "In fencing and riding he excelled any one in the county; in natural philosophy he was a bright ornament, and many experiments were made by him" in science. He died in 1636; was buried at Blackburn Church, Feb. 6th, 1636-7; and over his tomb was placed a brass engraved with his effigy and inscribed:—"Here lyeth the body of Sir Edward Osbaldeston, a charitable, courteous, and valiant knight, *qui obiit* A.D. 1636, *æt.* 63." This monumental brass is lost, but on the opposite page is an engraving of the effigy, copied from an old plate. *Inq. post mort.* was taken April 19th, 1637, when Sir Edward was found to have been seized at his death of Osbaldeston and Over Darwen manors, held of the King in socage; with 20 messuages, one dovecote, one water-mill, 100 acres of land, 20 of meadow, 200 of pasture, 60 of wood, 100 of moor in Osbaldeston; with six acres lately improved from the waste of Over Darwen; and lands in Eccleshill and other townships. Edward, son of John, late son of Sir Edward deceased, was next heir, aged 9 years, 10 months, 17 days. Frances Osbaldeston, widow of John, and Alexander and Robert, his brethren, were then living at Osbaldeston Hall.

The heir of Sir Edward was John Osbaldeston, who died before his father. He married, first, Jane, daughter of Anthony Mounson, by whom he had a daughter Mary, who died unmarried; secondly, Frances, daughter of Sir Richard Tempest of Bracewell, and by her had sons, Edward; and Alexander, who died young. "A child of John Osbaldestonure of Ellen Osbaldeston, widow of John; then in the tenure of Richard Eccleston, Esq. Thomas Osbaldeston, gent., the homicide, had to wife Margery, daughter of Thomas Southworth, Esq. This family tragedy has given rise to a legend of a murder at Osbaldeston Hall, and of a ghost that haunts the old mansion.



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OF
COLLEGE

SIR EDWARD OSBALDESTON, KNIGHT,
FROM A LOST MONUMENTAL BRASS IN BLACKBURN CHURCH. [PAGE 604

tone, Esq.," was buried at Blackburn Church, 1623-4. John Osbaldeston died in 1634; and the escheat was taken Sept. 8th, 1635, which shows he was seized of Osbaldeston manor, held of the King, with the mesne or capital messuage of Osbaldeston Hall; 16 messuages, 16 tofts, one water corn-mill, 300 acres of land, 100 of meadow, 100 of pasture, 100 of woodland, 50 of rushland, 300 of moor, and 2s. rent in Osbaldeston; also, a free fishery in Ribble; and one messuage called the Boathouse, with one acre called Boathouse Field in Ribchester, in occupation of Robert Mitchell.

Edward Osbaldeston, son and heir, aged eight years at the date of his father's death, and not quite ten years old when he became heir to his grandfather, in 1636, died in 1642, at the age of fifteen.

Alexander Osbaldeston, uncle of Edward and second son of Sir Edward, was next heir. He married a near neighbour, Anne, daughter of Sir John Talbot of Salesbury Hall, and had sons, John, died young; Edward, bapt. June 4th, 1650; Alexander, bapt. June 3rd, 1652, died unmarried; Michael, bapt. Dec. 19th, 1656 (whose descendants are noticed hereafter); and James; and daughters, Mary, bapt. June 22nd, 1646; Katherine, bapt. April 27th, 1649; Margaret, bapt. Nov. 9th, 1653; Anne, bapt. May 9th, 1655; and Joane. Alexander Osbaldeston entered his family before Sir William Dugdale the herald, at Blackburn, Sept. 13th, 1664. He died Feb. 9th, 1670-1, and was buried in the north chapel of Blackburn Church, Feb. 11th. His widow, dame Anne, was buried in the same place of sepulture, March 19th, 1673.

Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., aged 20 at his sire's decease, married Grace, daughter of Thomas Braddyll, of Portfield, Esq., and had issue, sons, Alexander, bapt. at Blackburn, May 22nd, 1677; Thomas, bapt. April 5th, 1681, buried Feb. 7th, 1701-2; Edward, born in 1684; and John, born in 1686, died young; and daughters, Jane, born in 1679; and Anne, born in 1682, died in 1683. Edward Osbaldeston died in 1689, and was buried at Blackburn, June 4th. Pennant saw, in 1773, a brass in Blackburn Church to the memory of this scion. He died intestate, and on August 13th, 1689, administration of his estate was granted to his widow.

Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., succeeding his father, was in the same year (1689) made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School. He resided chiefly at Preston, and married, in 1706, Lettice Ainsworth, widow, but died without issue in 1747. His Will, executed two or three days before his death, is printed below:—

"I, Alexander Osbaldeston, of Preston, Esq., give all my messuages, &c., to Thomas Clayton, of Little Harwood, Esq., and Henry Farington, of Preston, upon trust, to pay my debts and the following legacies, namely:—To my kinswoman, Mrs.

Catherine Shuttleworth, £500, with all my plate (except my silver cup), in recompense for her care of my mother, when she lived servant with her. To Mrs. Mary Osbaldeston, of Preston, £150, in trust, to pay the same to Mr. Osbaldeston of Sunderland, or his wife or his children, as she shall think fit. To Mr. Thos. Bleasdale £10 10s. To my servant Thomas £500 and my silver cup, horses, furniture of my rooms and effects in my outhousing (save my books and ready cash). To my friends, Mr. Thomas Starkie, Mr. James Rawsthorne, and Mr. Gilbert Woosey, all my legacys left by the Will of Mrs. Ann Braddyll to my sister Jane. To the said Thomas Clayton and Henry farrington, £300, to lay out as an annuity for Mr. Hugh Wadsworth. To the said Thomas Clayton, his heirs, &c., for ever, my chapples, seats, pews, burying ground, and all my right, &c., in Blackburn Church, with my right of nominating a parish clerk and churchwarden there. To my acquaintance, Mr. Tom Stanley at Culcheth, £50. To Mr. Nicholas Starkie, of Riddlesden, in Yorkshire, £20 20s. To Mr. Nicholas, son of Mr. William Starkie, of Manchester, £31 10s. The residue, &c., to such housekeepers of the better rank as my executors shall think stand in need thereof. The said Thomas Clayton and Henry farrington, my executors. Dated 28th March, 1747."

A short time before the death of Alexander Osbaldeston, a mortgage of his landed estate to Allan Harrison, gent., son of John Harrison, Esq., of Little Mearley Hall, had been effected. By his Will, dated April 25th, 1752, Allan Harrison, of Lancaster, Esq., demised to Roger Hesketh of Rossall, Esq., and Richard Emmott of London, Esq., the Manor of Great Mearley, with lands, &c., in Great Mearley; also the Manor and Lordship of Osbaldeston, with messuages, lands, &c., in Osbaldeston and Ribchester, in trust for testator's wife, Mary Sybille, to receive the rents, &c., during her life, and to pay to her daughter Ann Sybille Harrison the yearly sum of £100 so long as she continued unmarried; with contingent reversions, &c. Ann Sybille Harrison, daughter and sole heiress of Allan Harrison, Esq., became the wife of George Wilson, Esq.; and the trustees sold the manorial estate to Sir George Warren. In August, 1774, a Fine was levied between Sir George Warren, K.B., and George Wilson, Esq., and Anne Sybille his wife, of the manor of Osbaldeston, with 14 messuages, as many gardens and orchards, 210 acres of land, 60 of meadow, 210 of pasture, 100 of woodland, 100 of furze and heath, 60 of land covered with water, and 20 of marsh, and 4s. rent; with common of pasture for cattle, common of turbarry, free fishery in Ribble, &c., in Osbaldeston, Ribchester, and Balderstone; and Osbaldeston Ferry over Ribble.¹ From Sir George Warren the estate descended to the present Lord de Tabley, who sold the

¹ The Ferry across the Ribble by Osbaldeston Hall has existed more than 500 years, and was long an appurtenance of the manor. In 1563, a cause was heard in the Duchy Court, between Robert Mychell, claiming by inheritance from his ancestors for 250 years, plaintiff, and John and Thomas Osbaldeston, Henry Bussel, and others, defendants, respecting a "claim to the Ferry Boat upon the Water of Ribble, called Osbaldeston Boat, for passengers and travellers from the North Bank to the South Bank of the River Ribble; also, to a house and land, and certain fees and maintenance called Boat Hire from divers parishes."

manor, manor-house, and estate in Osbaldeston, consisting of 659 acres of land, in the year 1866, to Henry Ward, Esq., of Blackburn.

Descendants of this ancient family are still living. Michael Osbaldeston, born in 1656 (third son of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., grandsire of the last-named Alexander), married and had issue, sons, John, and George. John Osbaldeston, of Preston, the eldest son, seems to have inherited the entailed estates on the death of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq., in 1747. He is said to have surrendered his rights in the estates to Sir George Warren, for £5000, and an annuity of £400. John Osbaldeston died without issue. His brother George Osbaldeston, living in Friargate, in Preston, in 1719, by his first wife, Ellen, had sons, George, and William (of Preston in 1742 and 1762, who had issue); and by his second wife had sons, John Stanley (of Preston, husbandman), and Joseph (who is described in the Guild Roll of Preston, in 1722, as "a soldier in Cornwallis' regiment"). George Osbaldeston, son of George, a thread-weaver at Knutsford in Cheshire, laid claim, about a century ago, to the Osbaldeston estates as next heir. The extract which follows is from a diary kept by this claimant:— "I, George Osbaldeston, went down to the family estate called Osbaldeston, to make claim to it, being heir at law, August 12th, 1778. And also I claimed it in the year 1782, August 14th. And also claimed it by turning over soil and putting a chair in the hall and turning out the tenants of it, March 6th and 7th, 1783. Also cutt down timber and offered it to sell, May 3rd and 4th, 1783. Mr. William Hollings, attorney, was with me there, and he said he would see and get me £50 per year to sine [sign] it away, May 7th, 1783. I also claimed it and turned over soil October 30th, 1783. I also cut down timber and offered it to sell December 26th, 1783. I had a bed and slept in Osbaldeston Hall April 21st, 1784. I gave J. Sharrock and W. Heskin notes to pay me rent, August 12th, and October 31st, 1784. Also I served the tenants in the manor of Osbaldeston with ejectments from ye Court of King's Bench, May 19th 1785. Also maid claim to the manors of Balderstone and Breidley [Bradley] by turning over soil, the 11th August, 1785. Also I filed a Bill in the High Court of Chancery against Sir George Warren for a discovery of his title under which he holds the family estate of the Osbaldestons, July 3rd, 1786. Also served him with an office copy of it, July 5th, 1786. A copy of the Bill out of Chancery on stamps, February 20th, 1787. As Sir George Warren hath not answered the Bill filed in equity, then moved the Court of Chancery for an Order to sequester his estate if not answered speedily, March 24th, 1787. Sir George Warren's plea was filed in Chancery, July 15th, 1787. Sir George Warren will not stand trial. Mr. Lyon delivered papers, Oct. 20th, 1787. Served ejectment on the Hall at Osbaldeston, May 19th, 1787." This persistent estate-hunter further records that "in searching after the estate to recover it he walked 1,832 miles and rode on horse or in coach 1,612 miles." His efforts were unavailing, however. John Stanley Osbaldeston, of Preston, brother of George the claimant, had a son George Osbaldeston; and the latter was father of Mr. John Osbaldeston, now residing at Farnworth, aged about 62 years.

Osbaldeston Hall, long time the seat of the Osbaldeston family, is situate on the left bank of the Ribble, about a mile west of Ribchester. The remains of the moat by which the hall was intrenched still exist behind the south and south-west walls of the garden. At the south approach a bridge crosses the ditch, leading to a gateway flanked by old yews. The Hall is reduced by demolitions to a mere fragment of what

has been a large mansion. The existing building, occupied by the farmer, consists of a block parallel with the river behind it, with a central projection to the south, constructed of brick with stone dressing, in the gable of which are large windows, mullioned and transomed. Above the upper window in this gable is attached to the wall a tablet, the emblazonment upon which is almost effaced. In the interior there is an interesting chamber in the upper storey of the building projecting to the south. This room is handsomely panelled in oak, in geometric designs. The mantle-piece is antique, and, with the chimney-breast above it, about twelve feet in width, is covered with elaborate scroll-carving. Above the family arms, carved in wood, which are placed in a panel in the centre of the ornamentation, appear the initials "E O" and "M O", and again, above these, the initials "E O" are repeated. These initials represent either the names of Edward Osbaldeston and his wife Maud, who held the estates from 1575 to 1590; or of Sir Edward Osbaldeston, Knt., who died in 1636. The wife of Sir Edward was named Mary. Probably these carvings and panels were prepared in Sir Edward's time and under his direction. No other curious feature is left at Osbaldeston Hall. On the north side of the house most of the windows are blocked up, and the general aspect of the building is unsightly. Anciently, the arms which follow were fixed in the dining-hall, as recorded in an old MS.:—"In the dyning roome att Osbaldston:—*Osbaldston*, paled with *Reynacres*:—Ar. 3 tygers' heads erased b. langued gu.; *Halsall*—ar. 2 barrs b. a border engld. sa.; *Bold*—ar. a griphon segreont, sa.; *Stanley*—ar. on a bend b. 3 staggs' heads caboshed, or.; *Harrington*—sa, a fretty, or; *Gerard*—ar, a cross, gu." On the lintel of the stable door in the old barn, but now inserted in the wall of the new barn, is an inscription, represented in the cut below:—



The shield is charged with the arms of Osbaldeston, impaled with those of Bradley. The date, 1593, points to the period of John Osbaldeston's tenure, and the inner initials "I" and "E" refer to this personage and his wife Ellen. The last initials are enigmatical, and perhaps refer to one of the Bradleys, John Osbaldeston having married the daughter of John Bradley of Bradley, Esq. "T B" would stand for Thomas Bradley, father of John; and "T O" for Thomas Osbaldeston, brother of John Osbaldeston.

LUSSELL OF STUDLEHURST.

In the beginning of Elizabeth's reign, Thomas Lussell, gent, possessed a small estate at Studlehurst in Osbaldeston under the lord of the manor. At the levy for a Subsidy in 1570 he paid tax for this freehold. At the military levy of 1574, Thomas Lussell had to furnish "one long bow, one sheaf of arrows, one scull, and one bill."

Henry Lussell, gent., successor of Thomas, occurs as a juror in 1582; as a freeholder in 1584 and in 1600; and in the Subsidy of 1611, "Henry Lussell" is assessed on lands at 20s. He died in Jan., 1618; his widow in July, 1623.

Thomas Lussell, gent., is the next member. He was a Governor of Blackburn Free Grammar School in 1614. He married, Feb. 16th, 1611-12, Alice Yates; and died in early manhood in 1616, leaving a son Edward and a daughter Grace, bapt. June 10th, 1616. An Inquisition taken at Blackburn, April 9th, 15th James I. (1617), before Edward Rigby, Escheator, returned that Thomas Lussell had died seized of a messuage and lands in Osbaldeston, held of Edward Osbaldeston, Esq., in socage; his death had taken place on the 26th September previous (he was buried at Blackburn Church, Sept. 28th), and his son and heir was Edward Lussell, aged four years.

Edward Lussell of Osbaldeston, gent., died on the 3rd June, 1637. The Escheat was taken at Blackburn, Sept. 21st, 13th Charles I., and it appeared that Edward Lussell had died in tenure of one messuage, one garden, 20 acres of land, 4 of meadow, and 10 of pasture in Osbaldeston, called Studfehurst; also of one messuage or house and croft in Preston, and one other burgage in Preston, &c. He had left no issue, and it was found that Grace Lussell was his sister and heir, aged 21 years and 3 months.

The Studlehurst freehold passed later into possession of the Liveseys of Livesey Hall, and was part of the inheritance of Robert Bell Livesey, Esq., who conveyed the estate, with other premises, in the year 1806, to Robert Hubberstey, yeoman, for £1400, for a term of 1000 years. Robert Hubberstey granted to Richard Hubberstey, for £1000, the lease of the Studlehurst farm, of 18¾ customary acres; and on the 27th July, 1874, the trustees of the late Richard Hubberstey (who had died in Nov., 1873), conveyed the estate to Messrs John, Edward, and Joseph Dugdale, of Blackburn, for £2560; when it was stated to comprise 30½ statute acres.

OSBALDESTON OF OXENDALE.

The Oxendale or Oxenden freehold estate apparently was detached from the manorial estate of Osbaldeston, and given to a younger son of the Osbaldeston family. This must have been nearly four centuries ago. In the title deeds of the Oxendale estate (reference to which has been kindly afforded me by the present owners of the property, Messrs J., E., and J. Dugdale), the oldest parchment is a latin deed, dated the 4th February, 23rd Henry VII. (1508), by which William Osbaldeston conveys to Robert Osbaldeston, his son and heir apparent, certain messuages, lands, tenements, rents, &c., in the vill of Osbaldeston, to have and hold to the said Robert for term of life of the foresaid William, paying for the same to William Osbaldeston 4s. yearly. Witnesses: Hugh Shyrburn, armiger, William Haryington, Robert Wadyngton, Thomas Colceby, Knt., Robert Assye, and others. By the date, the above William Osbaldeston might have been a younger brother of Richard Osbaldeston, Esq., of the senior line. Robert Osbaldeston, of the above deed, son of William, was in tenure of an estate in 1523, for which he was assessed to the Subsidy.

Henry Osbaldeston, of this branch, was taxed to a Subsidy in 1570; and Robert Osbaldeston, gent., appears in a list of Freeholders dated 1584. Lawrence Osbaldeston, gent. of this family, was taxed to a Subsidy in 1610-11. "Robert Osbaldeston de Oxenden" was buried at Blackburn, June 26th, 1624; Wm. Osbaldeston of Oxenden died in Sept., 1623, and his wife the same year.

"Lawrence Osbaldeston de Oxendale" was buried Jan. 9th, 1630-1. He had married, Nov. 13th, 1604, Maria Cowborn. She died in Nov., 1637.

Robert Osbaldeston, gent., had sons, Lawrence; John, died in 1653; and probably Robert; also a daughter Elizabeth. His wife died in July, 1637.

Lawrence Osbaldeston of Oxendale, gent., rebuilt Oxendale Hall in 1656; the inscription over the doorway "L R O" stands for Lawrence and his wife Rosamond Osbaldeston. His wife was Rosamond Critchley, whom he married Nov. 30th, 1630. "Rosimon, wife of Lawrence Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston," was buried at Blackburn, Oct. 7th, 1675. He had a son Lawrence; and daughters, Rosamond, bapt. Sept., buried Dec., 1655; and Isabel, born in 1657. The father died in June, 1683.

Lawrence Osbaldeston of Oxendale, yeoman, succeeded Lawrence his father. He was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in Dec., 1687, and is described in the record as "Mr. Lawrence Osbaldeston, one of the High Constables for the Hundred of Blackburn." In the year 1700, "Mr. Lawrence Osbaldeston of Oxendale" held a sum of School money of the Grammar School. By Margaret his wife he had a son and heir, Thomas; a younger son James; and daughters, Margaret, Elizabeth, Grace, Mary, and Anne, the last born in 1704. It was this member who alienated the estate. An indenture made the 2nd March, 1714, between William Gradwell of Preston, eldest son and executor of the Will of Thomas Gradwell late of Preston, grocer, deceased, on the first part; Richard Hayhurst of Ribchester, mercer, on the second part; Lawrence Osbaldeston of Oxenden within Osbaldeston, yeoman, and Margaret his wife, and Thomas Osbaldeston, yeoman, eldest son of Lawrence, on the third part; William Ffox of Goosnargh, yeoman, on the fourth part; and Geoffrey Prescott and John Richardson, both of Preston, gentlemen, on the fifth part; recites that whereas the said Lawrence and Thomas Osbaldeston, by their indentures of lease and release dated respectively the 21st and 22nd August, 1711, for considerations therein mentioned, did grant and convey to Thomas Gradwell, &c., the capital Messuage, &c., called Oxenden, with all lands thereto belonging, containing 48 acres, to his own proper use forever, by which indenture of release it was agreed that a common recovery then lately suffered should be and inure, and that the Recoverers should stand seized of the premises to the use of Thomas Gradwell, subject to a condition for making void the same on payment of £200 with interest on August 21st next ensuing; and whereas also the said Lawrence and Thomas Osbaldeston, by their deed dated Nov. 10th, 1713, did make the said mortgaged premises liable to the payment of a further sum of £70 to Richard Hayhurst; and whereas default was made in payment as well of £200 and interest as of £70 and interest, at the times limited for payment, whereby the said mortgage became forfeited, and the estate did on the death of Thomas Gradwell become and is now legally vested in William Gradwell his son and heir; and whereas William Ffox hath lately agreed with Lawrence and Thomas Osbaldeston for the absolute purchase of the said mortgaged premises and equity and right of redemption thereof, paying for the same the sum of £520,—now the indenture witnesseth that for the sum of £212 10s. paid to William Gradwell, and £80 paid to Richard Hayhurst by William Ffox, the said William Gradwell and Richard Hayhurst have, by direction of Lawrence, Margaret, and Thomas Osbaldeston, bargained, released, &c., by these presents, to William Ffox all the premises aforesaid, to have and hold to William Ffox, his heirs, &c., for ever. Eudorsed, Receipt of balance of purchase money, £228, by Lawrence Osbaldeston.

FOX OF GOOSNARGH AND OXENDALE.

William ffox of Goosnargh, yeoman, who purchased the Oxendale estate in 1714, had a son John, who inherited the estate in Osbaldeston.

John Fox of Osbaldeston, yeoman, by Ellen his wife, had issue, sons, William, bapt. May 9th, 1720; and Christopher, bapt. Sept. 28th, 1724; and daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Alston of Ribchester; and Alice, wife of Robert Slater of Whittingham. John Fox resided at Oxendale Hall, and died there in 1753; was buried at Blackburn, Aug. 29th. By his Will, dated Aug. 25th, 1753, John Fox of Osbaldeston, yeoman, gives to Ellen his wife certain household goods, and whereas he is entitled to a moiety of a tenement he and John Shorrocks leased under Alexander Osbaldeston, lord of the manor, known by the name of Parkes, gives his part to his wife Ellen for life, if lives in lease so long live; gives all his freehold estate in Osbaldeston called Oxenden to his son William Fox, his heirs, for ever, charged with £8 a year to Ellen, testator's wife, for life; £100 to son Christopher; £100 to daughter Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Alston of Ribchester; £100 to daughter Ails, wife of Robert Slater of Whittingham; to grandson John Alston testator's set of silver coat buttons. Ellen, wife, and William, son, executors. Will proved at Chester, Dec. 31st, 1753.

William Fox, of Oxendale Hall, yeoman, son of John, whose initials "W F" and the date "1763" are upon the house, died in 1802. The Will of William Fox of Ribchester, gent., is dated July 3rd, 1801. Testator gives to William Carr of Blackburn, gent., and Henry Seed of Ribchester, schoolmaster, his freehold estate of Oxendale, and a farm in Clayton-le-dale called Catteralls, on lease under Sir George Warren, and other properties in Dutton, &c., upon trust to receive the profits, &c., during the minority of such grandchildren of testator as attain the age of 21 years; to the use of his daughter Betty, wife of Christopher Wilkinson of Ribchester, apothecary, and in case her eldest son William Fox Wilkinson, or any other son, shall arrive at the age of 21, then upon further trust that the feoffees convey the same freehold and leasehold premises, subject to an annuity of £60 to testator's daughter for life, to the use of said grandson, William Fox Wilkinson; remainder to other children of daughter in default. Will proved May 26th, 1802.

The Oxendale Hall estate was conveyed by Thomas Howard, Esq., and others, mortgagees, by deed dated 27th Febr., 1846, to John Addison, Esq., of Preston, for a sum of £3400; and lastly, by deed dated 19th Nov., 1874, was conveyed by Lt.-Gen. J. F. Crofton, of London, and Anne Agnes his wife, daughter and heir of the late John Addison, to Messrs. John, Edward, and Joseph Dugdale, for £5139. This estate contains 76 statute acres of land, of which 17 acres are woodland.

Oxendale Hall is a quaint-looking old house of the 17th century, with a wide frontage, with four gables on the roof line, and a gabled porch in the centre bay. Over a low-arched doorway the lintel is inscribed with the date "1656" and initials "L R O" (Lawrence and Rosamund Osbaldeston). On the leaden easing pipe at the side of the porch are the letters "W F" (William Fox) and the date "1763."

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—A mission of the Church of Rome was established in Osbaldeston about the year 1836; and a chapel, dedicated to St. Marie, was opened on Oct. 25th, 1838. The site of the chapel is on the border of this township next to Mellor, near the turnpike from Whalley to Preston. Annexed to the chapel, which is a neat and well-kept structure, is the priest's house. The chapel contains 250 sittings; and is furnished with an organ. The priests who have served this mission include the Rev. Dr. Rooker (afterwards of St. Augustine's, Granby Row, London, who died, aged 66, in May, 1857); Rev. Thomas Irving (afterwards Canon Irving of Blackburn); and Rev. Thomas Smith, the present priest, who has been incumbent here about twenty years.

CHAPTER XIII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF PLEASINGTON.

Topography—Acreage and Population—Descent of the Manor—De Plesyngton Family—Ainsworth—Henry Ainsworth the Commentator—Sale of the Manor—Butler and Butler-Bowdon—Pleasington Old Hall—Feilden of Feniscowles—Present Landowners—Former Freeholders—Ainsworth of Feniscowles—Cunliffe—Ellingthorpe—Livesey of Feniscowles—Nowell—The Old Alum Mine—Roman Catholic Chapel—Pleasington Free School.

PLEASINGTON Township lies on the west side of Blackburn Parish. The lands of the township rise from the banks of the Darwen to an elevation of 700 feet on the ridge of Pleasington Moor; and on the north side are separated from Mellor by the stream which traverses the glen below "Alum Scar" to its confluence with the Darwen. Witton is the next township to the east, and Livesey adjoins on the south. Most of the land in Pleasington is within the park enclosures of Pleasington Hall (the Manor House), Feniscowles Hall, and Woodfold Park; and is well-timbered and in high cultivation. The Sewage Farm of Blackburn Corporation now extends over the sandy knolls overlooking the river near Hoghton Bottoms, on the estate of Sir Henry de Hoghton. There are no manufactories in the township. Its area is 1600 statute acres. The population has varied since 1801 as follows:—1801, 614 persons; 1811, 599; 1821, 625; 1831, 633; 1841, 517; 1851, 428; 1861, 422; 1871, 336 persons.

DE PLESYNGTON FAMILY.

The earliest known members of this family of ancient lords of Pleasington are named in charters of Stanlaw, Whalley, and Kirkstall Abbeys. Henry de Plesyngton, living *temp.* Henry III., by Diana his wife, had sons, Robert, Roger, Elia, and Adam; and a daughter Margery, wife of John de Stodleigh. He had also brothers Robert and Richard. By a deed undated, Henry de Plesyngton gave to the monks of Stanlaw half an acre in Plesyngton; with two oaks from his wood of Plesyngton for timber to repair their houses in Blackburn; dead wood for burning, and alder wood for fences; and pannage for 20 swine in Plesyngton Wood. After his death, Diana, relict of Henry de Ple-

syngton, quit-claimed her right in the same to the Abbey. To a deed dated 26th Henry III. (1242), Elias de Plesyngton (a son of Henry) is a party; and by another charter Helias (or Ely) de Plesyngton and Adam his brother quit-claimed to the abbot and convent of Kirkstall all his pasture between "le Kirkisic and Acrinton."

Robert de Plesyngton, eldest son of Henry, was living in 1284, and had sons, John de Plesyngton, and Robert, of Alsworth.

John de Plesyngton (Robert's son and heir), by Mabel his wife, had a son Robert. In 28th Edw. I. (1300), John de Holme conveyed to John de Plesyngton, son of Robert, lands and buildings in Plesyngton, which Adam, his father, had of the gift of Henry de Plesyngton. In 1315, Mabile, relict of John de Plesyngton, remits to Sir William de Holand, Knt., all her right of dower to lands her son Robert had granted in Plesyngton and Holme.

Robert de Plesyngton, son of John, in the 8th Edw. II. (1315), gave to Sir William de Holand, Knt., and Lady Johanna his wife, a piece of land and meadow in Plesyngton called Wodcokhull. In 1330, Robert de Plesyngton was acting as Abbot's attorney in a cause heard in the King's Court at Minister, respecting a claim of the Convent of Whalley to certain lands in the township of Read.

Here the evidences of the De Plesyngton descent fail. Possibly for another generation after the above Robert the family survived in the direct male lineage; but about the middle of the century (14th), a daughter and heir of Plesyngton of Plesyngton had married Adam de Wynckley, who held the manor until his death; and having a daughter Agnes for his heir, by her marriage with John de Ainsworth she carried the estate to him, who was in tenure before the year 1396.

It is conjectured that Robert de Plesyngton, appointed Chief Baron of the Exchequer, in 1380, was of this family. He died in 1393, and by his wife, Agnes, had a son and heir, Robert de Plesyngton. Of the latter Robert, Henry de Plesyngton was son and heir. From him, it is supposed, descended the branch of Plesington of Dimples, which continued to hold that estate until 1715, when it was forfeited by the treason of John Plesington of Dimples, a Jacobite. A Chancery Roll of the Duchy of Lancaster, contains a precept to the escheator, dated 16th August, 5th Henry IV. (1404), to surcease levying the issues of the third part of the manor of Ellale, and divers other lands in the County of Lancaster seized into the King's hands by reason of the alleged idiotcy of Robert, son and heir of Sir Robert de Plesington, Knt., until the next sessions, the said Robert having found security to appear in the Chancery Court at Lancaster, personally to be examined if he be an idiot or not.

AINSWORTH OF PLEASINGTON HALL.

John de Aynsworth (a younger son of John de Ainsworth who had lands in Ainsworth township) married Agnes, daughter and heir of Adam de Wynckley, lord of Pleasington, who brought to this branch of the Ainsworth family the manor lands of Pleasington. This John de Aynsworth occurs in deeds dated 1396-7, and 1398. He had a son Elia or Elice.

Elia Aynsworth of Pleasington was living in 1429 and in 1442. His son and heir was Lawrence. In the 20th Hen. VI. (1442), Elia de Aynsworth and Lawrence his son gave to Thomas Seed sufficient turbary in the vill of Plesyngton.

Lawrence Aynsworth, lord of Pleasington, married, before 1441, Margaret, daughter of John Talbot of Salesbury, Knt. In the 20th Henry VI., John Banastre de Walton released to Lawrence Aynsworth of Pleasington and Margaret his wife a field called Whitney feld, &c. Lawrence Aynsworth was living in 1453. He had sons, Henry, and John; and a daughter Jenet, wife of George Banastre of Darwyn Hall in Walton.

Henry Aynsworth de Pleasington, son of Lawrence, married a daughter of Thomas Radcliffe of Wynmerleigh, knt., and had a son Lawrence.

Lawrence Ainsworth, son of Henry, was, I conceive, father of a second Lawrence. At the Subsidy levy of 1523 the elder Lawrence Aynsworth was taxed on his lands in Pleasington valued at £5 per annum.

Lawrence Ainsworth, in possession half a century later than the above Lawrence, married Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Grymshaw of Clayton, Esq. (who died in 1550), and had issue, sons, Thomas, born before 1550; Henry; Richard, died in 1628; and George; and daughters, Elizabeth, Anne, Margaret, and Dorathe. He had also a sister Margaret, wife of Richard Critchley of Livesey. In 1538, Lawrence Ainsworth, chief lord of Pleasington, had a suit in the Chancery Court of the Duchy with Robert Aspden and others, concerning rights of common and turbary on Pleasington Common and Moss, Tykyll Moss, and the Tonghyll in Pleasington Manor, &c. In 1539, he had another dispute with Ralph Cunclif and Richard Mersedon, tenants of Sir Thomas Southworth, as to right of common on Pleasington More. Lawrence Ainsworth, gent., died in 1573. In his Will, dated March 26th, 1573, testator desires to be buried in Blackburn Church; mentions his capital messuage called Pleasington Hall; names his wife Dorothy; sons, Henry and Richard; daughters Anne and Dorothy; appoints Richard and Nicholas Grimshaw, gents., supervisors.

A distinguished Nonconformist divine and hebraist of the 17th century was of this family. Henry Ainsworth, second son of Lawrence Ainsworth, of Pleasington, was born about the year 1560. Probably he acquired the elements of learning at the Blackburn Grammar School founded in 1567, his father being a first governor. He was an orphan at the age of 13. He entered at the University of Cambridge. After leaving the University his strong Puritan opinions led him to join the sect of the Independents, or "Brownists" as they were then named by their opponents. These sectaries were rigorously prosecuted by Elizabeth's government, and their leaders were driven into exile in Holland. About A. D. 1593, Henry Ainsworth was forced to quit his native country on account of his peculiar tenets, and he betook himself to Amsterdam; where he first took service with a bookseller, who was prompt to recognise his proficiency in the Hebrew language. In conjunction with Mr. Francis Johnson, he formed an Independent Church in Amsterdam; and he published, in 1602, the "Confession of Faith of the People called Brownists." This was his first essay in print. Ainsworth's scheme of church-government differed somewhat from that of his coadjutor Johnson, and the result was a division of the church into two sections, one of which withdrew with Ainsworth and formed a distinct society. On the testimony of John Robinson, the pastor at Leyden, Henry Ainsworth displayed much moderation in this dispute, in contrast with the conduct of Johnson. Ainsworth's second church was founded in December, 1610. Mr. Ainsworth continued about twelve years to serve this church as its minister; and during those years he diligently plied the pen of a ready writer in the production of many controversial treatises and books of biblical exegesis. Some of his polemical pieces now afford curious illustrations of the religious contentions of his age. In the tract entitled "The Trying out of the Truth," &c. (1615), the editor, "E. P." notifies the "christian reader" that "having had some interest in the conveyance of the passages following," and "whereas the controverters were so different in judgment, and yet both of them for conscience sake suffer afflictions, being separated from the Church of England, the one [John Ainsworth] to the practice of a Roman Catholick, the other [Henry Ainsworth] to a way thereunto most opposite, and both of them being leaders and men of note in their so much different religions," he has "without prejudice put forth these things," &c. It further appears that Mr. John Ainsworth, a Roman Catholic, whilst a prisoner in London, put forth a challenge to debate in writing religious questions, and invited his "namesake Mr. Henry Ainsworth" to note it. Henry Ainsworth, in his first letter from Amsterdam, dated Sept. 4th, 1609, refers to John Ainsworth as "in nation and in name (and I know not whether also for nearer alliance) being meet." Four letters were written by each disputant; and Henry Ainsworth concludes with a short answer. Mr. Henry Ainsworth's last extended letter in this controversy is dated from Amsterdam, Nov. 7th, 1613. Shortly before his death, Henry Ainsworth visited Ireland, but returned to Amsterdam, where he died in 1623, "leaving an exemplary character for humility, sobriety, discretion, and unblameable virtue." "His death," writes Neal, "was sudden and not without suspicion of violence; for it is reported, that having found a diamond of very great value in the streets of Amsterdam, he advertised it in print, and when the owner, who was a Jew, came to demand it, he offered him any acknowledgment he would desire; but Ainsworth, though poor, would accept of nothing but a conference with some of his Rabbins upon the prophecies of the Old Testament relating to the prophecies of the Messiah, which the other promised; but not having interest enough to obtain it, and Ainsworth being resolute, it is thought he was poisoned." Another version is that Ainsworth procured the conference with the Rabbins, and so

confounded them, that out of pique they contrived to put an end to his life. There is now no possibility of testing the truth of this singular story. Concerning the quality of Henry Ainsworth's writings, and the value of his commentaries, Dr. Worthington, Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, wrote in 1660, in the following terms:—"There is another author whose remains are most worthy to be retrieved: I mean Mr. Ainsworth, whose excellent annotations upon the Pentateuch, &c., sufficiently discover his great learning, and his most exact observation of the proper idioms of the Holy Text; with every iota and tittle of which he seems to be as much acquainted as any of the Masoreths of Tiberias. I am told that there are these MSS. of his, viz.:—His 'Comment upon Hosea,' 'Notes upon St. Matthew,' and 'Notes upon the Epistle to the Hebrews,' which latter he was the more prepared for, by reason of his former labours upon the Pentateuch, the Epistle to the Hebrews being Moses unveiled. Mr. Cole (a bookseller at the printing press in Cornhill) told me that he had once these MSS. in his keeping, and thought to have printed them; but a kinsman (or a son, I do not well remember) of Mr. Ainsworth's, at Amsterdam, and John Caw, could not well agree, either about the right of disposing of the copy, or the price of the MSS. I have heard that Mr. Nye or Mr. Jessey knew something of these MSS. If they could be recovered, as they be like the other printed works of the author, it would be a good work indeed, and might be of singular use. Nay, if they be not throughout so completed as the author intended, yet the whole is too good to be lost or embessill'd." The writer suggests that the matter should be inquired of at Amsterdam, and adds that "if the MSS. can be found, and can be purchased at a fit rate, there is no fear of being a loser. His other works have always sold well, and at a good price, and were bought by men of different persuasion from him, who did esteem him for his modesty and singular learning, and were much obliged to him for his skill in Jewish Antiquities, lighting their candle by his." A short time after, Dr. Worthington, having learnt something of Ainsworth's son at Amsterdam, wrote, in August, 1661:—"If Mr. Drury be so well acquainted with young Mr. Ainsworth, he might (it may be) borrow those MSS. of his father's which relate to the explication of some parts of Scripture, and, by viewing them, he might judge of what moment they are."¹

¹ The following is a category of titles of the published works of Ainsworth in the original editions:—

1. A Confession of Faith of the People called Brownists. Amst. 1602.
2. Apology or Defence of such true Christians as are commonly but unjustly called Brownists. Amst. 1604.
3. An Epistle sent unto two daughters of Warwick from H. N. [Henry Nicholas] the oldest Father of the Familie of Love. With a refutation of the errors that are therein. By H. A. [HENRY AINSWORTH]. Imprinted at Amsterdam by Giles Thorp. 1608.
4. Counterpoison. Considerations touching the points in difference between the godly Ministers and people of the Church of England, and the Seduced Brethren of the Separation. Mr. Bernard's book intituled The Separatists Schism. Mr. Crashawe's Questions propounded in his Sermon preached at the Crosse. Examined and Answered by H. A. 1608. [Republished in 1612 and 1642.]
5. Annotations upon the Booke of Psalmes. Lond.: 1612. [Republished in 1626.]
6. Annotations upon the Five Bookes of Moses [published separately in 1619, 1621, and 1626], the Booke of the Psalmes, and the Song of Songs, or Canticles. London: Printed for John Bellamie, and are to be sold at his Shop in Cornehill, at the signe of the three Golden Lions neere the Royall Exchange. 1627. [Republished in 1639; translated into Dutch in 1690, and into German in 1692.]
7. An Animadversion to Mr. Richard Clyfton's Advertisement, who under pretense of answering Chr. Laurie's book, hath published an other man's private Letter, with Mr. Francis Johnson's answer thereto refuted: and the true causes of the lamentable breach that hath lately fallen out in the English exiled Church at Amsterdam, manifested. Imprinted at Amsterdam, by Giles Thorp. 1613.
8. The Communion of Saints. A treatise of the fellowship that the faithful have with God, and his Angels, and one with another, in the present life. Gathered out of the Holy Scriptures, by H. A. Reprinted in the year 1615. [Again reprinted in 1628 and 1640.]

Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., first son of Lawrence, was lord of Pleasington from 1573 to his death, after the year 1600, when he appears in a list of freeholding gentry of Blackburn Hundred. He was dead before 1610, when Margaret Ainsworth his widow (her maiden name was Charnley), was assessed to a Subsidy for her lands in Pleasington.

John Ainsworth a son of Thomas, married Anne, daughter of — Bradley of Betham; and died Dec. 31st, 1608. By *Ing. post Mort.*, taken at Blackburn, before Wm. Bromley, Esq., escheator, April 1st, 1609, it was found that John Ainsworth, Esq., died seized of three messuages, three gardens, 40 acres of land, 10 of meadow, 20 of pasture, and 10 of moor in Oswaldtwistle, held of Ralph Barton, Esq., in free socage; of a small parcel of land in Pleasington, held of the heirs of Wm. Radcliff of Wynmerleigh; and of lands in Livesey, held of James Livesey, gent., in socage. George Ainsworth, his son and heir, was aged 10 years. He was first of a branch of Ainsworths of Knuzden and High Stanhill, in Oswaldtwistle. Anne Ainsworth, widow of John, died in 1618.

Thomas Ainsworth, placed in the Visitation of 1613 as son of John, was, I think, his elder brother, and heir of Thomas named above. This second Thomas married Dorothy, daughter of John Halsted of Rowley, gent., and had sons, John; Richard Ainsworth of Witton, gent., who married Elizabeth, daughter of Lawrence Ainsworth of Tockholes; and Robert, who died in 1608. Thomas Ainsworth, Esq.,

9. The Trying out of the Truth, begun and prosequvted in certayn Letters or Passages between John Aynsworth and Henry Aynsworth, the one pleading for, the other against, the present religion of the Church of Rome. Published for the good of others, by E. P., in the yeare 1615.

10. A reply to a pretended Christian Plea for the Antichristian Church of Rome, published by Mr. Francis Johnson, a.d. 1617. Wherein the weakness of the sayd Plea is manifested, and arguments alleged for the Church of Rome, and Baptisme therein, are refuted. Anno 1618. Printed in the year 1620.

11. Certain notes of Mr. Henry Aynsworth his last sermon. Taken by pen in the publique delivery by one of his flock, a little before his death. Anno 1622. Published now at last by the said writer, as a love token of remembrance to his brethren, to inkindle their affections to prayer, that scandalls (of manie years continuance) may be removed, that are barrs to keep back manie godly wise and judicious from us, whereby we might grow to further perfection again. Imprinted 1630. [Title and preface signed "Sabine Staesmore;" sermon on 1 Peter ii, 4.]

12. Advertisement touching some objections made against the Sinsurity of the Hebrew Text, and the allegations of the Rabbins. London, 1639.

13. An arrow against Idolatrie; taken out of the Quiver of the Lord of Hosts, by H. A. Printed in the yeere 1640. [Another edition—"Nova Belgia, Printed 1640."]

14. The old orthodox Foundation of Religion. Left for a Patterne to a New Reformation. Collected long since in Amsterdam, by Mr. Henry Ainsworth, that judicious and learned man, for the benefit of his private Company: And now republished for the profit and information of Presbyterians, Iodependents, Papists, Anabaptists, Arminians, Antimoravians, Ranters, Quakers, Seekers, and all that desire to know Christ Jesus and him crucified, by S. W. [First edition 1641.] London, Printed by E. Cotes, and are to be sold by Michael Spark at the Blue Bible in Green Arbour, 1653.

15. A Seasonable Discourse, or, a Censure upon a Dialogue of the Anabaptists, intituled, A Description of what God hath predestinated concerning man, &c. London, Printed by W. Jones, 1642. [Other editions in 1643, 1645, 1651.]

died in the year 1613. The escheat was taken at Blackburn, Oct. 26th, 11th James I. Thomas Ainsworth held at death one messuage, 10 cottages, 80 acres of arable land, meadow, pasture, wood and underwood in Pleasington, held of John Winckley in socage; also 13 messuages, 13 gardens, 200 acres of arable land, meadow and pasture, and 200 acres of moorland in the same township; three messuages, one cottage, and 70 acres of land, in Livesey, held of James Livesey in socage; and one messuage and 6 acres of land in Witton. John Ainsworth was his son and heir, aged 4 years; and Dorothy Ainsworth, his widow, was then living at Pleasington.

John Ainsworth, Esq., next in the succession, married, first, Claudia, second daughter of Rev. Wm. Leigh, B.D., rector of Standish (she died in 1631, and was buried Oct 25th), and by her had two sons, Thomas, born in 1629; and William, bapt. Jan. 26th, 1630-1. His second wife was Jane, daughter of Leonard Ashawe, by whom he had sons, John, bapt. Dec. 12th, 1632; Theophilus; and Henry, born and died in 1647; and daughters, Mary, wife of Robert Dickinson of Chorley; Ellen; and Dorothy, born in 1636, wife of — Wrightington. Mr. John Ainsworth died in 1667, aged 58, and was buried at Blackburn Church, March 26th.

John Ainsworth, gent., second son of John, married Sarah Netherwood of Leeds; was living at Pleasington in 1671, and died in January 1692-3, aged 60. Theophilus Ainsworth of Pleasington, gent., a younger brother, was living in 1687, aged 52.

Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., of Pleasington Hall, eldest son of John, married, first, Mary Robinson, and had a son William, born and died in 1652; and a daughter Hellen, born in 1664. His first wife died in 1669 (was buried Aug. 4th); and by Jenet, his second wife (who died in Oct., 1686), he had sons, Thomas; and James; and a daughter Margaret, born in 1672, and died young. Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., was buried at Blackburn Church, Sept. 6th, 1672, aged 43.

Thomas Ainsworth, of Pleasington Hall, first surviving son of Thomas, by Mary his wife, had a son John. This Thomas Ainsworth died at an early age; he was killed by falling down the cellar-steps at Pleasington Hall, and was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 7th, 1701-2. Administration of his estate was granted, in 1710, to his widow, Mary Ainsworth, then of Manchester, he having died eight years before, leaving "no property, and great debts."

James Ainsworth, "of Pleasington, Esq.," I think a brother of Thomas, married, at Church-Kirk, in 1700, Ellen Hindle, and had issue.

John Ainsworth of Pleasington, Esq., son of Thomas, made, it is stated, "an entail of his estates." He occurs in 1724, as a Commissioner

concerning Tockholes Church; and in 1744 was made a governor of Blackburn Grammar School. By his first wife, Sarah, he had a son Edward, bapt. Nov. 25th, 1725; and a daughter Sarah, bapt. Oct. 8th, 1723. His second wife was Ann Stokoe, of Blackburn, by whom he had sons, William; Theophilus, born in 1729; John, born in 1731, died in 1734; Thomas, afterwards M.D., of Colne, who entered the navy; and daughters, Ann, born in 1727, married Thomas Law, and had a son Robert; and Margaret, born in 1733, married, first, James Anglezark, secondly, Henry Longworth. John Ainsworth had a third wife—"Elizabeth, wife of John Ainsworth of Pleasington, Esq.," buried July 13th, 1743. He died in August, 1746, and was buried at Blackburn Church, Aug. 25th.

Theophilus Ainsworth, "of Blackburn, schoolmaster," a younger son of John, died in September, 1772, aged 43.

Edward Ainsworth, of Pleasington Hall, Esq., the last direct male representative of this family, married, at Haslingden Church, July 14th, 1743, Ann, daughter of Henry Hargreaves, gent., of Heap Clough (she died in childbed, in June, 1751), and had issue, a son John, bapt. July 28th, buried Sept. 11th, 1751; and daughters, Anne, bapt. Nov. 16th, 1744, buried Nov. 7th, 1745; Sarah, bapt. Sept. 5th, 1745, married, Jan. 5th, 1763, Mr. Richard Chew of Billington (he died in 1782), and died July 6th, 1802, leaving issue; a second Ann, born in 1746, married, in 1769, Mr. Joseph Ramsbottom of Brindle, and was mother of Mr. Edward Ramsbottom, born in 1770, and other children; Alice, born in 1747; and Mary, born in 1749. Edward Ainsworth having no surviving male issue, and having previously mortgaged the estate, on the 17th of March, 1777, "the Manor of Pleasington and its fine demesne," consisting of 397 customary acres, or 738 statute acres, along with two pews in Blackburn Parish Church and a vault in the graveyard, were publicly sold, subject to the life of Edward Ainsworth, Esq., the purchaser being Richard Butler, Esq. Edward Ainsworth, Esq., died soon after this alienation of the ancestral lands, in 1779, and was buried at Blackburn, Oct. 27th.

BUTLER OF PRESTON AND PLEASINGTON HALL.

Henry Butler, Esq., second son of Henry Butler of Rawcliffe, Esq., by his first wife, Jane, daughter of Thomas Stanley of Eccleston, Esq., had sons, Charles, born in 1652; Philip; and Thomas; and daughters, Mary, Catherine, Bridget, and Fleetwood.

Charles Butler, Esq., son of Henry, by Elizabeth his wife, had issue, Launcelot; Fleetwood (living in 1759, died unmarried); and Jane. Charles Butler died in 1715; and his Will is dated in that year.

Launcelot Butler, Esq., son of Charles, married Alice, daughter and heir of Nicholas Taylor of Eccleston, gent., and had sons, Richard; Nicholas, who died without issue; Thomas (who was Rev. Thomas Butler, Catholic Priest at Hornby; he died in Oct., 1795, having demised the farm at Tonge Hill, Pleasington, to his nephew, J. F. Butler; his portrait is at Pleasington Hall); and Charles, died issueless; and daughters, Mary, wife of John Hodgson, gent.; Elizabeth, born in 1725; Ann, Teresa, and Margaret, all three nuns in Belgium; and Fleetwood.

Richard Butler, Esq., eldest son of Launcelot, married, first, in 1757, Anne, second daughter of William Bryer, of Lancaster, Esq., who died Oct. 21st, 1763, having had issue, Charles, William, and Anne, who all died in infancy at Preston. Richard Butler married, secondly, Charlotte, daughter of John Bowdon, Esq., of Baighton Fields, Co. Derby, and by her (who died at Fernyhaugh, aged 59, Aug. 20th, 1807), had one son, John Francis; and two daughters, Mary, and Anne. Richard Butler, Esq., purchased, in 1777, the hall and manor of Pleasington, and died at Preston in 1779.

John Francis Butler, of Pleasington Hall, Esq., only surviving son of Richard, was born at Preston, Jan. 19th, 1774. He built the New Hall of Pleasington in 1805-7, and the Catholic Church called Pleasington Priory in 1818-19. He married, in 1821, Miss Julia Rush, of Manchester, by whom he had no issue; and died the same year, aged 47.

Miss Mary Butler, elder sister of the last named, born June 15th, 1777, died unmarried March 9th, 1840, leaving the Pleasington estate to her cousin, John Butler-Bowdon, Esq., now of Pleasington Hall.

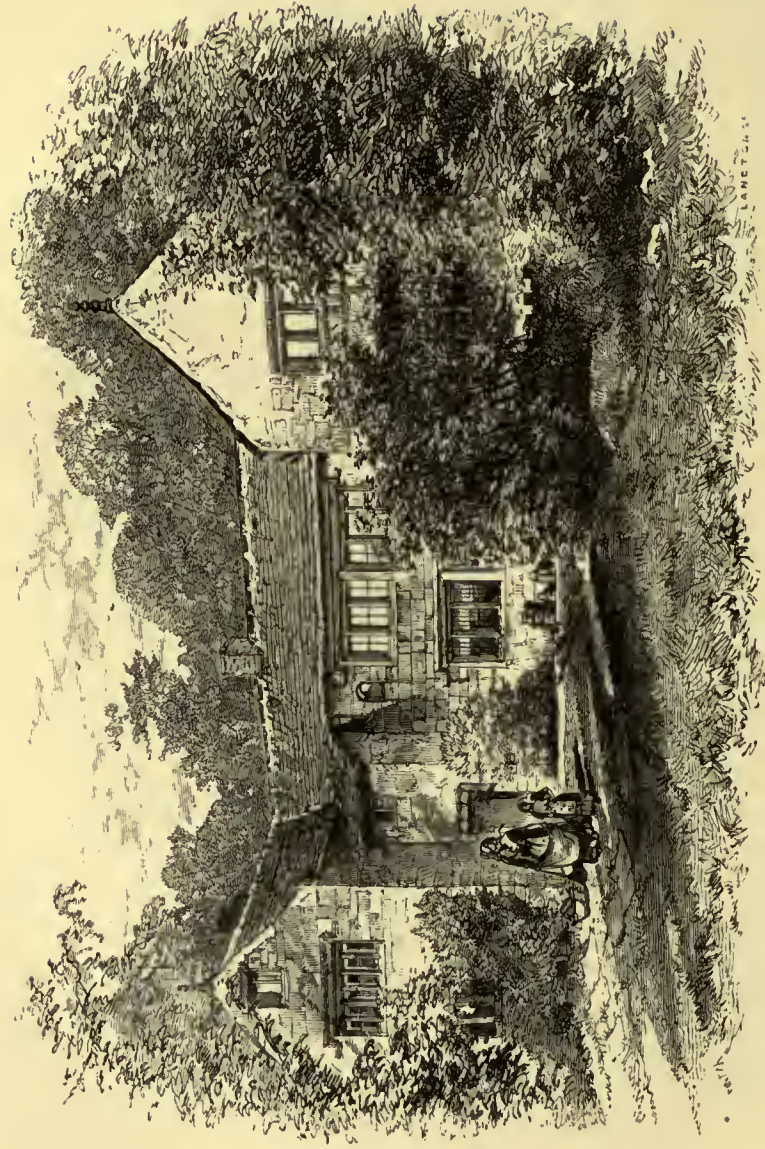
Anne Butler, second sister, born at Preston, Feb. 21st, 1778, married, July 18th, 1804, James Blanchard of Preston, gent., and had issue, sons, George, born in 1805, died in 1806; Edward, born and died in 1806; and John Blanchard, gent., born Sept. 22nd, 1807, died near Aleppo, July 16th, 1835.

BUTLER-BOWDON OF PLEASINGTON HALL.

Henry Bowdon of Southgate House, Co. Derby, married Mary, only daughter and heir of Joseph Enderwick, Esq., of Hartley, and had a son, John Peter Bruno Bowdon.

John Peter Bruno Bowdon of Southgate House, J.P., High Sheriff for Derbyshire in 1841, died Dec. 17th, 1850. By his wife Mary Martha, eldest daughter of Edward Ferrers, Esq., of Baddesley Clinton, he had sons, John; and Henry (of Southgate House, &c.).

John Bowdon, Esq., born Sept. 14th, 1815, succeeded to the manorial estate of Pleasington, by the Will of his cousin, Miss Mary Butler, in 1840, and by sign manual dated Jan. 28th, 1841, assumed the surname



PLEASINGTON OLD HALL.—REBUILT A.D. 1587.

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of Butler (with the arms) as a prefix to that of Bowdon. John Butler-Bowdon, Esq., J.P., D.L., of Pleasington Hall, married Amelia Catherine Frances, eldest daughter of G. T. Whitgreave, Esq., of Mosely Court, Co. Stafford (she died Nov. 24th, 1874), and has had issue, sons, John Enderwick, born Feb. 16th, 1850; Launcelot George, born March 28th, 1851; Jermyn Thomas, born in 1853; and Bruno Aloysius, born in 1858; and a daughter, Mary Frances, died in 1859.

John Enderwick Butler-Bowdon, the eldest son, is a Justice of the Peace for the County, and Captain in the 3rd Lanc. Militia.

The old manor-house of Pleasington (which has been superseded as a residential mansion by the New Hall, built by the late J. F. Butler, Esq., and lately enlarged by J. Butler-Bowdon, Esq.), stands in a sheltered spot in the demesne, fronting south. It consists of a central block with gabled wings. The east wing retains its original features in mullioned windows and the projecting chimney at the end of the hall; the middle portion and the west wing have been partially modernised. The interior contains nothing worthy of note; and the only curious object on the exterior is the lintel of the doorway, which is divided into five panels, containing carved initials and insignia as follows:—First and fifth panels, the initials "R H" (for Richard Hoghton), and the date "1587;" second, the initials "T H" (Thomas Hoghton), and the Hoghton crest, a "bull's head couped;" third, the arms (or crest) of Ainsworth, "three battle axes," with traces of effaced initials, perhaps of Lawrence Ainsworth; and fourth, the initials "I S" (for John Southworth), and the Southworth crest, a "bull's head erased." The reason for placing these several heraldic devices upon the manor-house was that the Ainsworths, Hoghtons of Hoghton Tower, and Southworths of Samlesbury, were the chief owners of lands in Pleasington when this Hall was rebuilt in 1587. An engraved view of the Hall is presented.

FEILDEN OF FENISCOWLES.

William Feilden, Esq., third son of Joseph Feilden of Witton, Esq., was founder of the branch of the family seated at Feniscowles. He was born in 1772; and married, on March 30th, 1797, Mary Haughton, eldest daughter of Edmund Jackson, Esq., of Woodlands, Jamaica. Issue, sons, William Henry; Montague Joseph; and John Leyland; daughters, Mary Haughton, wife of Rev. J. W. Whitaker, D.D., Vicar of Blackburn; Catherine Margaret, wife of James Hozier, Esq.; Georgina Amelia, wife of Daniel Mills, Esq.; Frances Eliza, wife of Andrew Hamilton, Esq.; Maria Leyland, wife of Rev. Robert Hornby; and Catherine Reid. William Feilden, Esq., was sometime engaged in the cotton trade, in Blackburn, in conjunction with his brothers Henry and

John. In 1798, he purchased the Feniscowles estate, and built the new Feniscowles Hall upon that property in 1808, having shortly before acquired the moiety of Livesey manorial estate contiguous to Feniscowles, a portion of which he converted into preserves and a deer-park. In 1832, Mr. Feilden was elected as one of the first Members of Parliament for Blackburn; and after being re-elected in 1835, 1837, and 1841, retired from Parliament in 1847, at the age of 75. He received a baronetcy 26th July, 1846. Sir William Feilden, bart., died, aged 78, May 17th, 1850, and was buried in the vault beneath Blackburn Parish Church. His widow, dowager Lady Feilden, died at Streatham, in her 90th year, Jan. 9th, 1867.

Sir William Henry Feilden, bart., successor to the estates and title married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of the late Col. Wemyss; and has had issue, sons, William Leyland, born in Nov., 1835; and Henry Wemyss Feilden, Capt. R.N., Naturalist to the Arctic Expedition of 1875-6; and several daughters.

William Leyland Feilden, Esq., J.P., eldest son, married, Feb, 16th, 1860, Catherine Jane, daughter of Edward Pedder, Esq., and has issue.

Feniscowles (New) Hall stands at the foot of a steep bank near Feniscowles Bridge, at the confluence of the Roddlesworth stream with the Darwen. It is an ordinary modern mansion; and contains a varied collection of objects in natural history, made by the present baronet, and a gallery of valuable paintings acquired by the first baronet.

The present chief landowners in Pleasington are, John Butler-Bowdon, Esq., the manor-estate, 620 acres; Sir W. H. Feilden, Bart., Feniscowles estate (in Pleasington and Livesey), 1121½ acres; Exors. of the late Peter Ellingthorpe, Shorrocks Hey estate, 131 acres; Ellen Higham, 63 acres; J. Higham, 11½ acres; Mrs. Harriet Openshaw, Feniscowles Old Hall, 47½ acres; Rev. John Peduzzi, R. C. Presbytery, 11½ acres.

AINSWORTH OF FENISCOWLES.

This branch of Ainsworths of Pleasington starts with Theophilus Ainsworth, gent., a younger son of John Ainsworth, Esq. By Sarah, his wife, whom he married about 1671, Theophilus Ainsworth had a son Thomas. Theophilus Ainsworth was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1682, and he died April 24th, 1702.

Thomas Ainsworth of Feniscowles, gent., son of the last named, married, Jan. 17th, 1697-8, Ellen Piccop of Lower Darwen. He had sons, John; and Richard; also a daughter Sarah.

John Ainsworth, son of Thomas, married Dorothy, daughter of John Livesey of Feniscowles, gent (married at Brindle, Oct. 29th, 1728). He had a son John, born in 1734, died young; also Thomas and John, twin sons, born in 1738 (John died in 1759); and a daughter Ellen, married to Mr. George Anderson of Annan, Scotland. John Ainsworth of Feniscowles died in Oct., 1756. Dorothy Ainsworth, his widow, died in May, 1776.

Thomas Ainsworth of Feniscowles, gent., son of John, was High Constable of the Lower Division of Blackburn Hundred. He married Jane Ramsbottom, of Brindle, and had sons, John, born about 1767; and Thomas; and three daughters, one of whom, Sarah, married William Eccles of Blackburn, and died in 1839, aged 61. Mr. Thomas Ainsworth sold Feniscowles estate to William Feilden, Esq., in 1798; and died in 1804.

John Ainsworth of Preston, Esq., son of Thomas, married Catherine Croke, of Preston, and had issue a son, Thomas Croke, and two daughters. Mr. John Ainsworth died at Leyland, in 1815, aged 48. His widow died at Bangor, in 1852, aged 82.

Thomas Croke Ainsworth, Esq., of Blackburn, attorney-at-law (born in 1802, and died in 1872), married Hannah Mary Somner of Chorley. His eldest son is Thomas Somner Ainsworth, Esq., now of Showley Fold, Clayton-in-le-dale.

CUNLIFFE OF TONGE HILL.

Thomas Cunliffe, of Pleasington, yeoman, lived in the reign of James I., and died before 1612; for the after-death inquisition was taken at Blackburn, April 8th, 20th James I., and proves that the deceased had held one messuage, with three acres of land and pasture in Pleasington; and a messuage and five acres of land, meadow, and pasture in Mellor. He had died on May 1st, in the year preceding; and James Cunliffe was his son and heir, aged 29 years. James Cunliffe of Pleasington, gent., is found in a list of freeholders dated 1621. He had sons, Giles, born in 1619, and James, born in 1626. Giles Cunliffe, of Tonge Hill, who died in Nov., 1675, had sons, Thomas, died young in 1654; William, born in 1655; and Giles, born in 1666. William Cunliffe of Pleasington had a son Giles, born in 1677.

ELLINGTHORPE OF SHORROCK HEY.

Richard Ellingthorpe of Pleasington, yeoman (of a Yorkshire family), died in Nov., 1782. He married Dorothy Ward, and had sons, Peter, bapt. April 22nd, 1750; and Richard, bapt. Oct. 16th, 1757, died in April, 1762; and daughters, Elizabeth, born in 1731, married Aug. 14th, 1766, John Haworth, of Blackburn, yeoman (see Haworth of Factory Hill), and died in May, 1804; Jane, born in 1743, died in 1744; a second Jane, born in 1745, died in 1751; and a third Jane, born in 1755, married, Oct. 18th, 1787, Mr. Henry Slater (he died Sept. 6th, 1788), and had a daughter Jane, born in Oct., 1788.

Peter Ellingthorpe, of Blackburn, chapman and yeoman, died Jan. 16th, 1809. He married Mary Rixon (she died, aged 71, April 26th, 1827), and had a son Richard, born June 28th, 1779; and a daughter Ann, born in May, died in Sept., 1781.

Richard Ellingthorpe, of Shorrocks Hey, Pleasington, gent., son of Peter, married, May 14th, 1809, Mary Edmundson (she died, aged 70, Feb. 13th, 1849), and had issue, sons, Peter, born Aug. 25th, 1809; and Rixon, born July 21st, 1818; also daughters, Jane, born in 1810, died unmarried, April 17th, 1859; Ann, born in 1812, died unmarried, Nov. 18th, 1832; Elizabeth, born in 1814, died in 1818; and Dorothy, born in 1815, died unmarried, June 17th, 1836. Richard Ellingthorpe, gent., died, aged 46, April 22nd, 1836.

Peter Ellingthorpe of Shorrocks Hey, gent., eldest son of Richard, was appointed, in 1837, Clerk to the Blackburn Poor Law Union, and held the office until his death, unmarried, April 8th, 1874, aged 67.

Mr. Rixon Ellingthorpe, brother of Peter, married, Dec. 30th, 1856, Elizabeth, daughter of John Parker (fourth son of Thomas Parker, Esq., of Alkincoats), and died without issue, April 6th, 1865, aged 46. His widow died June 20th, 1870.

LIVESEY OF FENISCOWLES.

This family of lesser gentry or yeomen, seated at Feniscowles Old Hall, Pleasington, was a branch of Livesey, lords of Livesey; but must have held this freehold during a long period, for so early as A.D. 1404, Thomas de Livesey de Fenischales occurs, of whose estate William de Wetherby, Vicar of Blackburn, was a trustee.

Two centuries later, John Livesey of Fenyscholes was assessed for his lands to a King's Subsidy in 1610, and died in July, 1626. Thomas Livesey of Fenischoles, assessed for lands to the Subsidy of 1663, died in 1686, buried Nov. 8th. He had sons, Christopher, born in 1656; Henry, Ralph, and John. John Livesey of Pleasington, married, March 6th, 1670-1, Dorothy Cunliffe. He was, I think, father of—

John Livesey of Feniscowles, gent., who by Mary his wife had issue, sons, Thomas, born in 1700; and John, born and died in Jan., 1700-1; and daughters, Mary, born in 1702, died in infancy; and Dorothy, bapt. Nov. 12th, 1704, married John Ainsworth, gent. John Livesey, gent., was buried at Blackburn, Dec. 24, 1729.

Thomas Livesey of Pleasington, yeoman, son of John, by Alice his wife had sons, John, bapt. Dec. 30th, 1726; and Thomas, bapt. Feb. 3rd, 1730-1. Thomas Livesey the father rebuilt the house at Feniscowles about 1726. He died in May, 1751.

Feniscowles Old Hall is a house of some antiquity situate upon a high bank near the river Darwen. It fronts to the south, and has a gabled porch, and retains some of the original features. In a passage near the kitchen are the initials (within a scroll):—"T A L" and date "1726;" showing that the house was restored at that time by Thomas Livesey. In the wall of the barn are two sculptured stones, one bearing the letters "T L + A L" (Thomas and Alice Livesey), and the date "1732;" the other has the letters "I L" (for John Livesey).

NOWELL OF PLEASINGTON.

Alexander Nowell, gent., (of Pleasington in 1714-37), was fourth son of Alexander Nowell of Read, Esq. He was born in 1682; married, at Walton Church, Dec. 12th, 1706, "Mistress Mary Ashton of Cuerdale," daughter of Richard Assheton, Esq. He had issue, Alexander; Richard, baptized at Walton, Nov. 18th, 1712; (while he resided at Pleasington, and baptized at Blackburn Church)—Roger, bapt. May 4th, 1715; Thomas, bapt. May 4th, 1716; James, bapt. April 15th, 1718; Ralph, bapt. April 27th, 1719; Rebecca, bapt. June 4th, 1714; Elizabeth, bapt. March 21st, 1716-17; afterwards—Edmund, baptized and buried at Samlesbury in 1722; Eleanor; and Lucy, buried at Samlesbury, Nov. 12th, 1721. Mr. Alexander Nowell of Pleasington was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, Dec. 21st, 1737. He died at Gawthorpe, in March, 1747, and was buried at Burnley, March 16th, where his wife had been buried May 3rd, 1746.

Alexander Nowell, gent., eldest son, living in 1736, had sons Charles and Richard.

Richard Nowell, brother of Alexander, who held an office in the Court of Chancery, was living, unmarried, in 1783.

Roger Nowell, of Altham Hall, gent., was the third son of Alexander the elder.

Ralph Nowell, Esq., of Gawthorpe Hall, sixth son of Alexander, later of Eccleston, by his wife Sarah, daughter of Thomas Whitaker, Esq., of Holme, was father of Thomas Michael Nowell, Esq., and of Alexander Nowell, Esq., of Underley, M.P. for Westmoreland, who died in 1842.

THE OLD ALUM MINE AT "ALUM SCAR."

Near the western border of this township, bounding the deep wooded glen below Woodfold Park, is a lofty cliff, known as "Alum Scar," composed of a thick stratum

of aluminous shale. This was an ancient alum mine of some celebrity, opened originally by Sir Richard Hoghton, the land on this side of the Darwen being a portion of the Hoghton Park estate. Webster, in a "History of Metals" (1671) writes:—"Sir Richard Hoghton set up a very profitable mine of Alum nigh unto Hoghton Tower, in the Hundred of Blackburn, within this few years, where store of very good alum was made and sold." When James the First visited Hoghton Tower in 1617, he was brought hither to look at the mine, as is mentioned in the Journal of Nicholas Assheton:—"Aug. 16. About 4 o'clock the King went downe to the Allome mynes, and was there an houer, and viewed them preciselie." The Crown had a royalty upon the mine, and on Oct. 22nd, 1617, the same diarist records:—"My brother Anderton was at Houghton upon a Commission from the Kynge to view the Allome mynes." Fuller, in the "Worthies of England" (1662), describing the natural commodities of Lancashire, has this allusion to the Pleasington Alum Mine:—"ALLUME.—I am informed that Allume is found at Houghton in this County, within the Inheritance of Sir Richard Houghton, and that enough for the use of this and the neighbouring Shires, though not for transportation. But because far greater plenty is afforded in Yorkshire, the larger mention of this mineral is referred to that place." Fuller says that much alum was then "daily employed by clothiers, glovers, dyers," &c. Canon Raines observes that later these alum works were held on a joint lease from the Duchy by Mr. Ramsay and Lady Sarah Hoghton, and that Lady Hoghton entered into articles of agreement with one Captain James Benson, in the year 1658, to work her ladyship's portion of the mines. Benson's speculation proved a ruinous one, and the lessee had his works seized by his creditors, and was himself imprisoned. This was in the year 1659, when Benson published a small tract of twenty pages, entitled "A Relation of James Benson's undertaking the making of Alum at the Alum Works in Lancashire, truly opened, and the instrumental causes of his present condition set forth." Herein the writer refers to the kindly consideration of a cousin of his, Mr. Justice Sharples of Blackburn, and of a Major John Wiggin; reproaching Dr. Fyfe, Major Ashhurst, and Mr. Thomas Wilson, who "had been great contrivers and assistants to my lady" [Hoghton], and from "professed friends became secret and sure enemies." He appeals to Lady Hoghton for some allowance in consideration of his losses, and offers to refer the matters between himself and her ladyship to the arbitration of two or four godly divines, naming Mr. Tyldesley and Mr. Eaton; but Lady Hoghton refused to compensate him or to accept his proffer of arbitration, and upon this Benson declares that he had "received the hardest measure that ever poor man received from any person professing truly to fear God," and vowed he "would never have any more to do with any business that concerned her ladyship's honour." This Captain Benson was Bailiff of Preston, and a Parliamentary partizan during the Civil War. The working of the alum mine ceased after his failure, but the mine was re-opened some time after by Sir E. Colebrooke, whose venture turned out no better than that of the former lessee. Evidence that the Alum works in Pleasington were carried on until towards the end of the last century is found in the Blackburn Parish Burial Register, which shows that one "Alexander Macknellin, of Pleasington, allum-worker," was buried in May, 1769; and "John Kitchin, Pleasington, allum-striker," was buried in April, 1771. A tenement near the "Scar" is called "The Alum House."

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.—This fine edifice was erected during the years 1816-1819, at the charge of the late J. F. Butler, Esq., who also, and his sister, Miss Mary Butler, endowed the mission. The chapel, which is usually called the "Priory," was opened on the 24th August, 1819. It is a large and lofty fabric, in

the early decorated style of Gothic architecture, and in plan comprises nave with clerestory, side-aisles, and octagonal chancel-apse. The external walls are of dressed freestone. The west front displays the gable of the nave, flanked by turrets finished with pinnacles, and having a latin cross springing from its apex. The entrance is by a central doorway in the west end, whose pointed recessed and decorated arch is enclosed within a lofty false arch; the space between the lesser and greater arch is relieved by three statues supported on corbels. Figures of kneeling monks enrich the front on either side of the doorway. Above the main arch is inserted an elaborate catherine-wheel window, 15ft. in diameter. The windows of the aisles and chancel are large ones of three lights, the heads filled with very elegant tracery; and the clerestory is lighted with lancet windows in triplets. The total external length of the chapel is 119ft., and the width 60ft. The height of the two turrets springing from the western gable is 86ft. In the interior, the aisles are divided from the nave by arcades of pointed arches springing from moulded capitals; and the nave from the chancel by a bold pointed arch. Mr. John Palmer was architect of the chapel; and inscribed upon the wall to the right of the west doorway appears this record:—*“JOHANNES PALMER, ARCHITECTUS; THOS. OWEN, SCULPTOR. DEO OMNIPOTENTE IN HONOREM BEATE MARIA SEMPER VIRG. ET SCT. JOHANNIS BAPTISTI DEDICATUM.”* The cost of the chapel was £20,000. The Butler family gave a glebe of 10½ acres adjoining the “Priory,” including a site for the priest’s house. A well-filled grave-yard surrounds the chapel. Rev. Father Kenyon was the priest in charge in 1819, and in that year returned a congregation of 200 persons. Rev. Father Peduzzi has been priest here many years.

PLEASINGTON SCHOOL.—Tradition refers back the origin of this school two centuries or more, but there is neither record of foundation nor trace of endowment earlier than the first half of the last century. William Wallbanck of Pleasington, gent. (who was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1716, and died in Nov., 1744), by Will gave £100 towards the support of a school in Pleasington. The sum was left in the custody of Edward Ainsworth, Esq., of Pleasington Hall, kinsman of the donor, who paid the interest to the schoolmaster, and the succeeding owners of the manor-estate, J. F. Butler, and J. Butler-Bowdon, Esqrs., have held the principal and paid interest thereon. Another item of the endowment consists of three cottages at Great Peel, in Blackburn, the rents of which produced about £8 per annum. These tenements were purchased for £160, raised by a township subscription, by indenture dated 12th June, 1787. The purchasing trustees were J. F. Butler, Esq., Henry Sudell, Esq., Messrs. P. Ellingthorpe, Jas. Astley, Edw. Heaton, Robt. Lowe, and Thomas Ainsworth; and the premises were described as a plot of ground on the south side of a close called Great Peel, upon which had been erected three messuages, subject to a yearly ground-rent of £2 12s. A further sum of £100, raised by Dowager Lady Feilden some years ago, is placed in the bank at 4 per cent. interest per annum. These items make a total of about £16 10s. yearly paid to the schoolmaster, to which is added the free use of a house built in 1796 by subscription of landowners and rate-payers. The school, which is a small low building of primitive rudeness, and the house, stand upon a plot of half an acre called “School Green,” on the edge of the hill above Pleasington Hall. The master is required to teach children resident in Pleasington reading, writing, and accounts, without other payment than a small yearly cockpenny. Recent masters have been—John Seed, who occurs in 1754, John Mitchell, senior (a noted mathematician); John Mitchell, junior; James Bond; and John Ward, present master, elected in 1836, and who is now (1876) in his 78th year.

CHAPTER XIV.—THE TOWNSHIP OF RAMSGREAVE.

Topography—Population—An Ancient Royal Chase—Estate and Tenants of Whalley Monastery in Ramsgreave—Estate of Bartons—Ramsgreave Hall Estate—Modern Landowners—Former Freeholders—Gillibrand of Ramsgreave and Beardwood—Hoghton—Sharples—Independent Chapel.

RAMSGREAVE lies adjacent to Blackburn township on the north, and occupies both slopes of the hill-ridge east of Mellor. Its area is 757 statute acres. Population :—In 1801, 298; 1811, 484; 1821, 534; 1831, 515; 1841, 453; 1851, 438; 1861, 320; 1871, 263.

Ramsgreave (anciently *Romesgreve*), was parcel of the chace attached to the King's manor of Blackburn, *temp.* Edward the Confessor, and doubtless was the situation of a portion of the "wood, one league long and the same broad" found in Blackburn manor at the survey of *Domesday*. This remained a hunting-ground of De Lascys and the Dukes of Lancaster until past the middle of the 14th century. In 1311, the rental of Earl de Lascy included £3 9s. 8d. from the winter agistment and herbage of the Forests or chaces of Trawden, Penhull, Rossendall, Hoddesdene, and *Romesgreve*, with a sum of 9s. 4d. from the profits of "old wood, charcoal, &c." from these woodlands sold for the use of iron-forges. Fifty years after this, Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Lancaster, by charter dated Jan. 2nd, 1361, gave to the Monks of Whalley two cottages, 7 acres of land, 183 acres of pasture, and 200 acres of wood called *Romesgreve*, all lying in Blackburn Chase. Of the same date is an indenture of agreement, found in the Rolls of the Duchy, "concerning tenements in *Romesgreave*, and the towns of Penhulton and Cliderhou," between the Duke and the Abbot and Convent of Whalley. The acreages named in the Duke's charter, being customary measure, would cover the whole area of Ramsgreave, and show that rather more than half the land, or 200 customary acres, were still in woodland nearly 300 years after the *Domesday* return. From 1361 to 1537, a period of 176 years, this estate was held by the Cistercian fraternity of Whalley; and in a *compotus* of the Abbey's revenue in 1478, the sum from *Romesgreve* per annum was £4. The rental of

Romesgreve was the same in 1521; and in 1534, by the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, the Monastery derived from Romesgreve, in "rents of certain tenements there, per annum, £6." On the dissolution of the Abbey, this estate with the rest was sequestrated to the Crown; and the survey made in 1538 returned the abbey lands in Remesgreve, held by tenants-at-will, as under:—

John Hey holdeth a house and garden, 1½ acre of arable land, 10½ acres of meadow and pasture called the Brodehead, and payeth 13s. 4d. The wife of William Calvard houldeth a house, a garden, and 2 acres of arable land, 8 acres of pasture, meadow, and wood ground, called Ramesgreen, by the year 7s. 4d. James Boulton, Wm., Edward and Robert Boulton holdeth the moyety of a tenement and a garden and 20 acres of arable land, pasture, and meadow called the Ramesgreen, and payeth by the year 7s. 4d. Richard Boulton holdeth a house, a garden, 4 acres of arable land, 2 acres of meadow, 7 of pasture, and payeth yearly 15s. Robert Boulton and William Boulton his brother houldeth 2½ acres of meadow called Newfield [with pasturage of two beasts on Worple Hills], by the year 5s. Edward Gelbourne holdeth a house, a garden, 6 acres of arable land, 20 acres of pasture and wast ground, 5 acres of meadow, and payeth yearly £2 5s. Jeffery Rusheton houldeth a house, a garden, 4 acres of arable land, 23 of pasture and wast ground, and payeth yearly £1 3s. 4d. James Woode houldeth 1 acre of pasture, 9 acres of meadow, and payeth yearly 6s. 8d. Sir Thos. Southworth, Knt., houldeth 6 acres of mosse ground parcill of Worple hills, and payeth 1d. Sir Alexr. Osbaldstone houldeth a house, 7 acres of moss ground parcill of Brodehead, and payeth £2 6s. 8d.

Besides the above, there were five tenants who held portions of waste ground upon Worple Hills, viz.:—James Boulton, Richard Walmsley, Richard Ireland, Henry Walmsley, and Gyles Whalley, and paid each 5s. The total rental of Ramsgreave was then £9 10s. 3d. But a large part of the township was yet in woodland, the remains of the "forest primeval;" and the surveyors note:—

"Memorandum, their is a wood called Romesgreen wood, which is wood well replenished with ould okes and fair timber, containing by estimation one nyle and half. Item, their is within the same wood a fair spring [plantation] of 3 years, growing, containing by estimation 2 acres."

On the sale of the Abbey lands of Whalley by the Crown, the Bartons of Smithells, lords of Blackburn manor, appear to have purchased the lands in Ramsgreave; for, as I have formerly stated (p. 253), Andrew Barton, Esq., died in 1548, seized of twelve messuages in Romesgreve, held of the king in chief by the 20th of a knight's fee, worth £8 2s. 9d., for which he paid yearly 19s. 2¾d. Robert Barton, Esq., who died in 1580, had the same estate; and in the escheat of Ralph Barton, Esq., who died in 1590, I find the acreage of the Ramsgreave lands of this family, being 12 messuages, 80 acres arable, 10 acres meadow, 80 acres pasture, 50 acres woodland, and 140 acres moor and moss; total 360 customary acres, equal to about 600 statute acres, the entire area of Ramsgreave being 757 statute acres. Lady Margaret

Shuttleworth, wife of Sir Richard, as widow of Robert Barton, held the Ramsgreave property until her death in 1592; and Ralph Barton, who died before 1613, in his time was possessor of the estate.

The Ramsgreave Hall estate is the largest of the old freeholds in the township; and probably was that which formerly belonged to the lords of Blackburn manor. The estate has passed in later times through several hands. It was notified for sale by auction, on July 5th, 1797, and then was described to be "the fee simple and inheritance of Ramsgreave Hall, three miles from Blackburn, with 179a. 3r. 24p. of arable, meadow, and pasture land thereto belonging, after 8 yards to the rood or pole," in three farms, and 10½ acres being in lease for life to Henry Whalley of Ramsgreave, aged 59 years. The estate became the property of Messrs. Benjamin and James Wilson, of Baxenden, both of whom died unmarried, when the property went to four nephews, sons of Mr. Edward Wilson, the last survivor of whom, Mr. John Rawsthorne Wilson of Lytham, died in 1865. The estate of the Exors. of the late J. R. Wilson is now returned as comprising 245½ statute acres, with a rental of £287. Ramsgreave Hall is situate on the hill near the centre of the township, and has been converted into two ordinary farm-houses.

Other landowners in Ramsgreave are:—Mr. James Shorrocks, of Mellor, who has 179 acres of land; Mr. John Harrison, of Bank Farm, 57½ acres; Exors. of J. Ainsworth, 60 acres; Mr. Christopher Charnley, 22 acres; Mr. John Walmsley, 29 acres; Mr. John Pemberton, 17½ acres.

GILLIBRAND OF BEARDWOOD.

The above family branched from Gillibrand of Chorley. Roger Gyllybrand of Chorley, by his wife Anne, daughter of William Chorley of Chorley, had a son John, the first of Beardwood in Blackburn. John Gelebrande of Beardwood is named in the Grammar School Records as a Governor, before 1590, and as giving, in the year 1592, 20s. to the School Stock. He was taxed to the Subsidy of 1611; and was witness to a Will in 1620. "John Gelibrand de Berdwood" was buried at Blackburn, Oct. 31st, 1630. "Uxor John Gelibrond, gent.," was buried Aug. 7th, 1623.

Roger Gillibrand of Beardwood, son of John, was elected a Governor of the Grammar School in 1630. Dr. Richard Astley, in his Will, dated 1635, names Mr. Roger Gellibrand of Beardwood a trustee of his bequest to the Poor of Blackburn. Roger Gillibrand was living in 1658, but died before 1660. By Ann his wife, Roger Gillibrand had an only daughter and heir, Grace Gillibrand, who became wife of Lawrence, son and heir of Peter Haworth of Highercroft, gent., and conveyed to him the Beardwood estate. This heiress, and last representative of the Gillibrands of this branch, died in 1686. Her mother, "Ann Gillibrand of Beardwood, widow," was buried Aug. 27th, 1683.

GILLIBRAND OF RAMSGREAVE.

In 1537, Edward Gelbourne held a house and 31 acres of land in Ramsgreave under the Abbot of Whalley.

Roger Gillibrand, of Ramsgreave, was a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567.

Thomas Gelibrande, and his mother, were assessed for their lands to a Subsidy in 1570. This Thomas, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567, gave £1 to the School Stock in 1593, and died in 1595.

Thomas Gillibrand of Ramsgreave, the first named by Dugdale the herald, died in 1610. By his wife, a daughter of Haversham of Haversham (she died in June, 1608), he had two sons, Edward, the heir, and William.

Edward Gillibrand of Ramsgreave, gent., occurs as a freeholder in lists dated 1600 and 1621; and as a juror in 1613-15-17. He was a Governor of the Grammar School in 1628. He died about 1640. By his first wife, a daughter of Roger Catterall of Crooke, he had one son, Thomas; and daughters, Anne, married to Edward Houghton of Redleigh, gent.; and Mary, born in 1602, married, Feb. 16th, 1628-9, Richard Wilkinson of Blackburn. His second wife, daughter of — Pilkington, died without issue.

Thomas Gillibrand, only son of Edward, a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, died before his father, without issue, and was buried July 25th, 1636.

William Gillibrand, brother of Edward, took holy orders, and was Rector of Warrington from 1607 until his death before 1621. He was father of Jonathan Gillibrand, Vicar of Leigh (1662-85), who by his wife Mary had sons, Jonathan, born in 1648; Andrew, and Edward; and daughters, Judith, Frances, and Martha.

HOGHTON OF RAMSGREAVE.

Edward Hoghton of Redleigh, Tockholes, gent., son of Richard, born in 1605, after his marriage with Ann, daughter and co-heir of Edward Gillibrand, resided at Ramsgreave on his wife's estate; and in 1687, Edward Hoghton of Ramsgreave, gent., made affidavit in the case of Langho Chapel (see ante, p. 453). He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School from 1642 until his decease. He had only female issue, one of whom, Alice Hoghton, married George Sharples of Freckleton, and had a daughter Anne. He died in 1693-4.

SHARPLES OF RAMSGREAVE.

George Sharples of Freckleton, who had to his second wife Alice Hoghton of Ramsgreave; had by his first wife, Dorothy Veale, sons, John, and George. John Sharples of Freckleton, the elder son, had a son Edward, who seems to have heired part of the estate of Mr. Edward Hoghton of Ramsgreave after his death. Edward Sharples of Ramsgreave, gent., was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1694; and "Edward Sharples of Ramsgreave, son of John of Freckleton deceased," was on the Guild Roll of Preston as an out-burgess in 1702. He had issue, George, and Margaret, twins, born in 1694, died young; also, Edward, born in 1701; and Mary, born in 1707. Perhaps the following also were sons of Edward Sharples:— John Sharples of Ramsgreave, yeoman, who died in 1747, having had issue by Elizabeth his wife; and Thomas Sharples of Ramsgreave, who married, in 1732, Ann, daughter of William Haworth, of Blackburn, yeoman (she was living, a widow, in March, 1758).

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.—The only place of worship in Ramsgreave township is a small school-chapel at Ramsgreave Heights, built in 1855, by the Congregationalists of Blackburn. In it are conducted divine worship and a Sunday school. Sittings 120.

CHAPTER XV.—THE TOWNSHIP OF RISHTON.

Topography—Population—Ancient lords of the Manor—De Rishton Family—Talbot of Bashall and Holt—Manor-house of Holt—Former Freeholders—Feilden of Holt, &c.—Hindle of Cowhill—Livesey of Sidebight—Rishton of Mickle-Hey—Talbot of Cowhill—St. Peter's Church—Dissenting Chapels—Day Schools.

RISHTON township extends over a tract of low moor-land on the easterly border of Blackburn parish. Its area is 2760 statute acres. Its population, which diminished with the failure of cottage-weaving on hand-looms between the years 1821 and 1851, has since increased apace, by the upgrowth of a considerable manufacturing village not far from the railway which traverses the township. The census returns from 1801 to 1871 supply these figures respecting the population of Rishton:—In 1801, 1051 persons; 1811, 1084; 1821, 1170; 1831, 919; 1841, 917; 1851, 800; 1861, 1198; 1871, 2577—having more than doubled in the last decade. The numbers in 1876 would reach 3,500.

DE RISHTON, ANCIENT LORDS OF RISHTON.

Robert Praers, living *temp.* Henry III. (1216-72) was seized of the manor of Ryssheton, near Harewode, in his demesne as of fee; who conveyed the same, by name of the whole town of Rustone, being two carucates of land, to Gilbert son of Henry de Blackburn (a younger son of Adam de Blackburn) in free marriage with Margery his (Robert Praers,) sister. This was in the 30th Henry III. (1245.)

This Gilbert, after settling upon the estate thus acquired, styled himself Gilbert de Ryssheton. In the *Liber Feodorum* it is written that Gilbert son of Henry held the tenth part of a knight's fee in Ruston of the demesne fee that belonged to the dower of the Countess of Lincoln. Gilbert de Rissheton, by Margery his wife, had issue Henry, his heir.

Henry de Rissheton's son and heir was Gilbert, issue of his wife Margaret, daughter of Clayton of Clayton-in-les-Moors.

Gilbert de Rissheton, whose son and heir was Robert, died in the 18th Edw. I (1290).

Robert de Rissheton succeeded, and had a son Gilbert. Gilbert de Rissheton, son of Robert, occurs in the Plea Rolls of the Duchy Court as petitioner for the manor of Rissheton against John, son of Richard de Radecliff, and Johanna his wife, and John their son, when he displayed his descent and heirship from Henry de Blakeburn, through Gilbert, Henry, Gilbert, and Robert, his father. His son and heir also was named Gilbert.

Gilbert de Rissheton, next in succession, had a son Robert, living in 1358. Robert de Rissheton's son and heir was Ralph.

Ralph de Rissheton, by Cecilia his wife, had sons, Richard and Roger. Ralph de Rissheton died in 1417; and by Inquisition taken at Rishton, 2nd Sept., 1417, by the oaths of Richard Rissheton of Rissheton, Richard Rishton of Clayton, and others, it was proved that Ralph de Rishton was not seized of any lands within the County of Lancaster; and that his son Richard was his heir, aged 22 years.

Richard de Rissheton had, in December, 1417, livery of the manor of Ryssheton, near Harewode, with appurtenances, which had been seized into the King's hands by reason of the forfeiture of Thomas Talbot, outlawed for treason. Richard de Rissheton had no issue; and he died, aged about 30, in 1425. By Inquisition taken Sept. 18th, 1425, Richard de Ryssheton was found to have been seized of Rissheton manor, held of the King *in capite* as of his Duchy of Lancaster, and of one messuage, 18 acres of land, and two acres of meadow in the town of Ryssheton, held of the King in socage; of the manor of Ponthalgh in the town of Chirche, held in socage; of one messuage, 30 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, and 8 acres of wood in Oswaldestwysell, held of Richard de Radclyffe, Esq.; and of one messuage, 24 acres of land, and 4 acres of meadow in Cliderhowe, held of the King in socage; and having died without heir of his body, his brother Roger (second son of Ralph), was his next heir, aged 30 years.

Roger de Rissheton, son of Ralph and heir of his brother Richard, received livery of his lands in Sept., 1426. He had a son and heir Richard; and a younger son Roger (first of the Ponthalgh branch, living in 1474, whose son was Richard, father of Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, who, by his wife Anne, daughter of Roger Nowell, Esq., had a son Roger, of Ponthalgh, whose eldest son, Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, died in 1566).

Richard Rishton of Rishton, son of Roger, by Margaret his wife, had sons, Henry, and Peter (a chaplain); and a daughter Alice.

Henry Rishton, of Dunkenhalgh, Esq., appears as son and heir of Richard in 1470. His wife was Agnes, daughter of Richard Sherburne of Stonyhurst, Esq. His son and heir was Nicholas; and the father

covenanted with John Radcliffe, of the Tower, Esq., that his son Nicholas should marry Margaret, daughter of John Radcliffe; and that he or his feoffees should make a lawful estate by deed in Rissheton and Clayton-upon-les-Mores, to the yearly value of 10 marks, for term of his life, to the said Nicholas and his heirs; for the which the said John Radcliffe agreed to pay to the said Henry Rissheton 40s.

Nicholas Rishton "of Dunkenhalgh, gent.," by his wife, Margaret Radclyff, had sons, Richard; Henry; and Nicholas; and daughters, Agnes (married thrice, to Holcroft, Worthington, and Robt. Boulton); Isabel, wife of — Hothersall, gent.; and Elizabeth, first wife of Roger Nowell of Read, from whom she was divorced in 1524. Nicholas Rishton died the 3rd May, 23rd Henry VII. (1508); and the escheat shows that his father, Henry Rishton, had been seized of "the Manor of Rishton, called Rishton Hall," with lands, tenements, rents, &c.; and that Nicholas Rishton died seized of Rishton Manor, Stodeley Manor, Co. Warwick, and of messuages, lands, woodlands, &c., in Dokenside [Dunkenhalgh], Cowhill [in Rishton], Clayton-super-Moras, Parva Caterall, Church, Reved [Read], and Haworth. His widow, "uxor Nicholas Ryshton," was taxed on her lands in Rishton, worth £3 yearly, to a Subsidy levied in 1523, and she died July 6th, 1528.

Richard Rishton, son and heir of Nicholas, aged 46 in 1509, married Anne, daughter of Sir John Talbot of Salesbury. Issue—sons, Henry, John, Nicholas, Robert, William, George, and Ralph (several of these younger sons died without issue); and Alexander Rishton, youngest son (of Sparth in 1567, who married, at Harwood Church, Nov. 6th, 1560, Ellen, daughter of Edward Mercer of Harwood, and had issue a son, Richard Rishton of Sparth, gent., who, by Ellen his wife, daughter of John Greenhalgh, Esq., had daughters, Ellen, bapt. April 2nd, 1601; Ann, bapt. April 28th, 1603; Elizabeth, bapt. Feb. 26th, 1606; Alice, bapt. June 27th, 1609; and Mary, born in 1611). Richard Rishton, father of Henry and Alexander, died April 30th, 1530, seized of Rishton Manor and the other family estates before specified. His widow, Ann Rishton, in 1539, disputed with Henry Rishton and others he title to lands called Cokasyd in Rishton and Cunliffe.

Henry Rishton, son and heir of Richard, married, about 1527 Elianor, daughter of John Butler of Rawcliffe, Esq. The husband is styled in the record of this marriage in the Butler descent:—"Harry Rusheton of Donkynsall." He had sons, John; and Geoffrey; daughters, Ann, Dorothy, Jane, Grace (wife of Roger Rishton of Ponthalgh), Elizabeth, Alice, and Benet. In 1536, Henry Rishton charged Roger Rishton in the Duchy Court with disturbance of divine service at Churchekyrke, and dilapidation and interruption of way at Dunkyn-

haughe Bridge, on his manor. He died about 1549, seized of 30 acres of land in Rishton, and other lands in several contiguous townships.

John Rishton, gent., son and heir of Henry, occurs in a return of "recusant" (Roman Catholic) gentry in Lancashire in 1575. He married, in 1542, Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Southworth of Samlesbury, Knt., and had issue, sons, Nicholas; and Geoffrey; and a daughter Anne. Mr. Wm. Langton mentions, in his valuable notes to the Visitation of 1533, that this John Rishton had been mixed up with a scandalous transaction in his early manhood. His kinsman, Ralph Rishton of Pont-halgh, having formed an improper connexion with Ann Stanley, daughter of Dame Ann Stanley of the Holt in Rishton, widow of Sir James Stanley of Cross Hall, Knt., the mother carried her daughter by night to Great Harwood Church (she being then three months gone with child), and forced her to go through the ceremony of marriage with John Rishton of Dunkenhalgh. A divorce eventually terminated this involuntary alliance.

Nicholas Rishton, son and heir of John, before 1582 had sold Dunkenhalgh and his estate in Rishton to Thomas Walmesley, Esq. He is afterwards described as "of Oswaldtwistle," and died about the year 1596, in possession only of a small estate in Oswaldtwistle.

TALBOT OF BASHALL, HOLT, &c.

The once-potent family of Talbot of Bashall, in Craven, Co. York, was during a long interval of time intimately connected with the Parish of Blackburn, being lords of Rishton and Lower Darwen Manors, and also lessees of the extensive Rectory lands in the township of Blackburn. It is therefore needful to give some account of the Talbots of that line in the present work. The Talbots had seats at the Manor House of Holt, in Rishton, and at the Rectorial mansion of Audley in Blackburn.

A charter of the Duchy evidences that between the years 1257 and 1310, Henry de Lascy, Earl of Lincoln, granted to Sir Edmund Talbot and Joan his wife, the manor of Rishton in tail male special, to hold as fully as Adam de Rishton, a bastard, held the same, and the reversion of the third part of the said manor after the death of Alice, widow of the said Adam. This, doubtless, was the origin of the Talbots' proprietorship in Rishton. In the De Lascy Inquisition of 1311, it was found that Johanna, late wife of Edmund Talbot, held two carucates of land in Risseton, by the fourth part of a knight's fee, a yearly rent of 1s., and suit to the Court of Clyderhou.

In the 3rd Henry V. (1415), the manor of Rishton is found to have been taken into the King's hands by reason of an outlawry for debt against Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt.

Canon Raines writes that "the Talbots had a seat at the Holt at an early period," and that in the 34th Henry VI. (1455), a licence was granted to "Edmund Talbot, Knt., to have an oratory within his manor of Holt, Pa. Blackburne." This private chantry chapel at Holt in Rishton is again named in 1516.

Sir Edmund Talbot of Bashall and Holt had issue a son and heir Thomas; a second son John, described, in the 14th Edw. IV. (1474), as John Talbot of Holt; a third son William Talbot, Rector of Ribchester; and daughters, Elizabeth; and Ann, wife of Hugh Sherburne of Stonyhurst, &c.

Sir Thomas Talbot, Knt. (eldest son of Sir Edmund), died on the 16th Feb., 1499. He had enfeoffed Thomas Tempest and others in tenements of Rishton lordship, held by the tenth part of a knight's fee and 9d. rent; and Nether Derwynd manor, by 2s. 6d. rent. The escheat, taken 15th Henry VII., returned Edmund Talbot as son and heir of Sir Thomas, aged 30 years.

Edmund Talbot, Esq., son of Sir Thomas, married Ann, sister of Sir Percival Hart, Knt., and had a son and heir Thomas. Edmund Talbot died about the age of 49, on the 13th Feb. 1519, and, on the escheat taken at Wigan, 11th Henry VIII., was returned to have been seized of the Manors of Ryssheton and Nether Darwen, held of the King as Duke of Lancaster, with thirty messuages, 100 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, and 200 acres of moor and turbary in those townships. Thomas Talbot, son and heir, was aged three years and above. After Edmund Talbot's death, his widow, Mrs. Ann Talbot, wedded, secondly, Sir James Stanley of Cross Hall, son of Sir George, and younger brother of Thomas Stanley Lord Strange, to whom she bore sons, Sir George Stanley, and Henry; and daughters, Ann, wife of Ralph Rishton of Dunkenhalgh, Esq.; Margaret, and Eleanor. Subsequently to the decease of her second husband, Sir James Stanley, Dame Ann Stanley dwelt at the hall of Holt, having Rishton manor for her dower as wife of Edmund Talbot; she died at Holt, about 1566, and was buried in Blackburn Church.

Thomas, infant son and heir of Edmund Talbot in 1520, was Sir Thomas Talbot of Bashall, Knt., a soldier of repute in the reigns of Henry VIII. and his successor. This Sir Thomas Talbot obtained the lease of Blackburn Rectorial estates after their alienation from Whalley Abbey, and had his frequent abode at Haudley (Audley) Hall in Blackburn. In the 4th Edward VI. (1550), Sir Thomas Talbot prosecuted Alice Livesey and others for setting fire to the barn of the parsonage at Audley. The prosecutor's plaint in the action is cited below:—

To the most Honorable Sir William Paggett, Knight of the most honorable

Order, comptroller of the Kinges most honorable Householde of his grate Duchie of Lancaster.—In moste humble maner and wise shewithe and complayneth unto your honorable Mastershipp your Supplyant and Oratorr Sr. Thomas Talbott of Bashall, within the Co. Palatyne of Lancaster, Knyght, That forasmoche as whereas that the said Oratorr ys lawfullie seasyd and possessed of and in the Parsonage of Blackborne within the said countie and of the mansyon howse belonging to the same called Hawdley, with all and singular the appurtyances, for dyvers yeres not yett expired, by sufficient conveyance in the lawe, and so being possessed did buylde upon the same a barne, to the charge of your said Oratorr at the least fortie powndes. So it is that the fourthe daie of October last past one Edmonde Dewhurst of Lyvesley within the said Countie, husbandman, by the commandyment, assent, abbetment and procurement of Alys Lyvesley of Lyvesley, &c., Wydowe, Thomas Whalley of Plesyngton, carpenter, and James Lyvesley of Brinhall, husbandman, did in the nyght time, betwixt x and xii of the clocke of the same daie, in most ungodlie maner and wise sett fyre of a barne of your said Oratorr, within wiche haie for the provision of your Oratorrs cattell, horses, and other beastes, by the occasyon of setting afyre the said barne and the haie therein was utterlie spilde and burnyd, to the hurte and damage of your said Oratorr at the least threescore powndes and by the occasyon of the said fyre your said Oratorr and all his familye and servantes being in their beddes had lykelye to have been brent and all the houses there being, but that speadye remedye was hadde therein by the Inhabitants of the said Towne of Blacbourne. And further the said Edmonde, by lyke comandyment, assent, &c., of the above-named persons, and lykewyse at the tyme aforesaid, putt a turve kindled with fyre in the yeasing and thatche of the said barne buylled by the said Oratorr as aforesaid, intending thereby to burne the same in lyke maner, wherein was the corne of your said Oratorr, haie, bestes, and cattles in severall devysyons within the same, but by the prevision of the thing was prevented by the espying of the smoke thereof before that it toke fyre, the whiche, if so hadd not chancyd, the said barne hadd lykewyse been burnyd and all the goodes and cattles of your said Oratorr. The wiche severall actes is not only to the greate inquyeting of your said Oratorr and to his great hurte, damage, and detryment, but also contrarie to all lawes, right, equitye and consciens, and to the evill example of lyke malicious persons to attempt the lyke onlesse that espedie reformation be herein hadde. In most tender consyderacion that it may please your honorable mastershipp, the premysses consydered, to award the Kinges Writt of privey seale unto the said persons, comandyng them under a playne personallacion to appere before your Mastershipp in the Duchie Chamber at Westminster, the morrowe after the purification of our Ladie, then and there to answeare to the premysses, and thereupon to take such order and dyrection as may stande with righte, equitye, and consciens, etc. (Signed) STANLEY.

Sir Thomas Talbot died the 1st August, 1558, and had sepulture in Blackburn Church. The will of Sir Thomas Talbot, "of the Holt and Bashall, Knt.," is dated Sept. 27th, 4 and 5 Phil. and Mary (1557); wherein the testator, "being appointed to repaire to the Queen's Majesties most noble affaires and warres towards Scotland," bequeaths to his daughter Anne Talbot his lease of the Manor of Bashall; also, his lease of the Parsonage of Blackburne, which he did lately buy of John Comberford and Robert Billot, gents., with all his interest and title in the same; also to Anne his daughter his great chain of gold, and all his silver plate; also all his household stuff at Audley. Testator

gives to John Talbot his bastard son his leases from Sir Ralph Assheton, &c. The inventory of Sir Thomas Talbot's goods is dated July 31st, 1559. The *Inquisitio post mortem* on Sir Thomas's estate was taken at Wigan, Oct. 9th, 1st Eliz. He was found to have been seized of Rishton and Nether Derwynd Manors, with a "messuage called the Holt" in Rishton, and certain lands. Henry Talbot, Esq., his son and heir, was then aged 25 years and upwards.

Anne Talbot, daughter of Sir Thomas, to whom he bequeathed the lease of Blackburn Rectory lands, became the wife of William Farington of Worden, Esq., and so it was that the Faringtons succeeded as lessees of the Rectory estate.

Henry Talbot, Esq., the next scion of this race, had two sons, Thomas, and John; also a daughter Marie, the covenant of marriage of whom with John Livesey of Livesey, Esq., is dated April 17th, 1571. Henry Talbot, Esq., died about the year 1570, seized of messuages, mill, and lands in Nether Darwen.

Thomas Talbot, Esq., eldest son of Henry, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Bradley, of Bradley, Esq., but had no issue. He died 1st May, 1598; and before his death, in conjunction with John Talbot, his brother and heir, he sold to Sir Thomas Walmesley his manors of Rishton and Nether Darwyn, with the messuages of Holt and Fernehurst. John Talbot his brother succeeded to Bashall, and by his wife, Ursula Hammerton, had a son Thomas Talbot, who died Feb. 25th, 1618-9, leaving two daughters, Elizabeth and Margery, co-heirs.

Some incidents of the connection of the Talbots of Bashall with Rishton lordship and the manor-place of Holt are brought out in the depositions taken before the Bishop of Chester, 17th March, 1611-12, in a reference of a disputed claim between Sir Thomas Walmesley, Knt., and John Talbot of Salesbury, Esq., to the south chapel in Blackburn Church. A chief deponent was Anne Rishton, then of Ormskirk, aged 80, widow of Ralph Rishton and daughter of Dame Ann Stanley. She had known, "70 years since, a lordship in Blackburn Parish called Rishton, in which was an ancient capital messuage called Holte Hall, which was moated about, and first had a drawbridge over the said moat, afterwards a plain bridge, which she did well remember; and there were certain edifices of the said house yet" [1611]; that Lady Stanley, wife of Edmund Talbot, Esq., in right of dower held the said capital messuage of Holte; and on coming to Holte did put Feilden (the tenant) out of the house and placed him in the gate-house. Another deponent, Robert Harwood of Blackburn, aged 71, had heard that old Sir John Talbot, Knt., grandfather of Sir Thomas living in 1611, did dwell at the Hall of Holte. Christopher Duckworth, aged 84, deposed "that Holt was encompassed about with a great draw-ditch and bridge, of which edifice some parts are yet [1611] remaining, viz., one kitchen, a dwelling-house in the end of a chapel belonging to the said house in time past; that Lady Stanley, wife to Edmund Talbot, Esq., and mother to Sir Thomas, after the death of Sir James Stanley came to dwell at Holte in right of dower." The chapel at Holt Hall named by the last deponent was the oratory which Edmund Talbot, Knt., in 1455 was granted

license to have "infra manerium suum de Holt" (within his manor of Holt); and the chantry chapel at Holt is mentioned again in 1516.

The Manor-house of Holt is thus shown to have been partially demolished more than 260 years ago. The farm-house that now stands upon its site is small, and of no interest or antiquity. There are traces still of the moat which anciently surrounded this mansion of the Talbots, as well as of the garden enclosures, and the site is slightly elevated above the level of the adjacent fields.

Henry Petre, Esq., of Dunkenhalgh, is present lord of Rishton, by descent from the Walmesleys. All but a very limited portion of the land of the township now belongs to Mr. Petre.

FEILDEN OF HOLT, SIDEBIGHT, &c.

Nicholas ffeilden and Rychard ffeilden, both of Rishton, were assessed to the King's Subsidy in 1523. Henry ffeilden of the Holt, in Rishton, was buried at Harwood Church, June 8th, 1569. Richard ffeilden of Rishton was assessed to the Subsidy in 1570; and a Richard ffeilden died in 1623.

Henry ffeilden of the Sydbight had sons, Randle, born in 1582; and Nicholas, born in 1592, died in 1621. Henry ffeilden died in 1617; his wife died in 1625.

Randal ffeilden of Rishton, son of Henry, had sons, Henry, born in 1611; and John, born in 1620.

Thurstan ffeilden of Rishton was taxed to a Subsidy in 1610. Peter ffeilden de Sydbight died in 1624. Richard ffeilden of Rishton was father of Richard, born in 1626.

Christopher ffeilden of Rishton had a son Thomas, born in 1628; his wife died in the same year. His son, Thomas Feilden, of Holt, had sons, Richard, born in 1658; Christopher, born in 1663, died in 1664; a second Christopher, born in 1673; and daughters, Anne, born in 1665, died in 1669; Elizabeth, born in 1668, died in 1672; and a second Anne, born in 1671.

John Feilden of Rishton had sons, John, born in 1669; and Ralph, born in 1677. Henry Feilden of Rishton had sons, Henry, born in 1692; and William. Christopher Feilden, of Rishton, yeoman, married, Aug. 12th, 1712, Anne Burton, and by her (who died in 1754) had issue. Roger Feilden of Rishton married, in 1721, Sarah Molden. Thomas Feilden of Rishton married, Aug. 24th, 1732, Mary Barton.

HINDLE OF COWHILL, &c.

The Hindles (or Hindleys, as the name was sometimes spelt) were a numerous race in Rishton and Harwood as early as the 16th century. A branch was seated as small freeholders at Tottleworth and Cowhill in Rishton. Two or three members had entered into trade as chapmen, dealing in the linen cloths of local production. Christopher Hindlie, one of them, in the year 1569, sold several pieces of linen cloth to the executors of Robert Nowell of Gray's Inn, for charitable distribution; and Robert, John, Jenkyn, and William Hindlie, all local traders, sold cloth at the same time to the same executors. Perhaps it was the same Christopher Hindle who died in 1597, and was buried at Harwood Church, Sept. 30th. Another Christopher Hindle of Rishton, born about 1539, married in 1563, Jane Hodgson, and about 1610, being then 71 years old, was deponent in a local inquisition. Christopher Hindle de Cowell was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 24th, 1609-10. A later Christopher Hindle, born in 1560, married, in 1594, Ann Bolton.

John Hindle, by Ann his wife (who died in 1597), had sons, Ralph; and also, I think, elder sons, John, and Christopher. The father, John Hindle of Tottleworth, paid the King's Subsidy tax in 1610. He died in Oct., 1627.

Ralph Hindle of Rishton, son of John, had sons, John, born in 1618; and Christopher, born in 1620. Ralph Hindle of Rishton died in Sept., 1626.

John Hindle, of Cowhill, married, in 1605, Margaret Livesey, and had sons, John, born in 1615; Christopher, born in 1616; and Lawrence, born in 1617.

Another John Hindle of Cowhill married, in 1625, Elizabeth Parkinson, and died in 1653. Roger Hindle of Cowell died in 1632.

A Christopher Hindle of Rishton had a son Thomas, born in 1617; and daughters, Grace, Mary, and Elizabeth. He died in 1632. A Christopher Hindle of Rishton died in 1654. Andrew Hindle, of Cowell, buried his wife Dec. 23rd, 1635.

Christopher Hindle, sometime Vicar of Ribchester, was of the Cowhill branch of Hindles. I think the Christopher Hindle bapt. at Harwood Church, 10th March, 1592, was the future minister; and that he was the son either of John Hindle, or of Andrew, both of Cowhill. Having been educated at the University, he was instituted to the vicarage of Ribchester, Feb. 17th, 1617. I find from the Ribchester Registers that Vicar Hindle had children born there:—"Andrew Hindley, son of Christopher Hindley, Vicker de Ribchester," bapt. Jan. 25th, 1623; Rhoda, bapt. Feb. 14th, 1624; Elizabeth, bapt. Jan. 25th, 1627; Anne, bapt. March 7th, 1630; and Jane, bapt. at Blackburn, April 28th, 1633.¹ On the outbreak of the Civil War, this clergyman was a bold Royalist, and when the fortune of war had given the ascendancy to the Parliament, Vicar Hindle paid dearly for his adherence to Charles the First. He was not deprived of his benefice on the setting up of the Lancashire Presbytery in 1646, though he did not join it. But he was had up before the Committee of Divines, who pronounced him "insufficient, and scandalous in his life and conversation," and, in form, suspended him. At the beginning of 1649 he was forcibly expelled from his place to make room for another minister, Mr. William Ingham, who had obtained his appointment to Ribchester from the authorities. As the story is told by Mr. Ogden, a later Vicar of Ribchester, writing in 1705:—"When Ingham had got into the pulpit one Sunday morning at Ribchester," Mr. Hindle entered the church, and "standing upon the highest pulpit step, uttered a speech to his friends, some of Cromwell's soldiers being present;" describing the King's death as "that scarlet sin of murder, the blood of one sacred person, of more value than ten thousand of the best of his subjects," &c. After his ejection, Mr. Hindle petitioned the Judge at the Assizes "for permission to sue in formâ pauperis, and for processes to be served upon the parties he accused of wrong to appear in court and answer the charges." Aug. 28th, 1650, Judge Thorpe referred the matter to Justices Saville Radcliffe and John Starkie, who returned that by an order of the Committee for Plundered Ministers, "the arrears of 12 marks per ann. till 1646 are paid, and that his wages for 1646 and ever since is in arrear," which were 20 marks per annum till the date of the said order, the 4th May, 1649, and ever since, £40 per annum. The Justices return is dated "Padiam, Nov. 25th, 1650." Vicar Hindle, being still kept out of his church, went to dwell with his kinsman at the Cowhill farm. It is stated that "Vicar Hindle had land of his own at Cowel, and there he lived many years and came and preacht at Ribchester, and at Cowel;" and that he "went every Sunday from Cowel, about seven miles, to Ribchester to preach there, after he was put out;" but no one there affording the preacher a meal, he used to take "a piece of bread and cheese, or a dried herring or two in his

¹ I think he had also a son Christopher, who may have been the "Christopher Hindley of Lancashire" admitted a Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, 7 April, 1647.

pockett." Rev. Christopher Hindle died at Cowhill in August, 1657; and was buried at Church Kirk, where the register records, Aug. 29, 1657:—"Christopher Hindle, Minister of God's Word, of Cowell," then buried. In 1705 the family of this clergyman at Cowhill possessed his MSS., on which they set great value.

Christopher Hindle of Cowhill, son of John (and perhaps nephew of Vicar Hindle), married, April 10th, 1654, Ellen Collinson, by whom he had daughters Margaret and Elizabeth. By his second wife, Ann Halliwell, married in 1658, he had sons, Christopher, born in 1659; Henry, born in 1661; and John, died in 1680. Christopher Hindle of Rishton paid the Subsidy tax in 1663. He died in Oct., 1663.

A George Hindle of Cowhill died in Nov., 1663. Henry Hindle of Cowhill died in 1662; his wife had died in 1657. John Hindle of Cowhill died in 1679, whose wife had died in 1657.

John Hindle of the Height, Rishton, had a son Christopher, born in 1688-9, whom I conclude was the Christopher Hindle of Rishton who married Oct. 30th, 1715, Elizabeth, third daughter of Robert Peele of Peele Fold, yeoman.

Christopher Hindle of Rishton (son of Christopher of Cowhill, above), had by Mary his wife (who died in 1718), sons, John, born in 1690; James, born in 1692, died young; a second James, born in 1696; Richard, born in 1699; Robert, born in 1705; Christopher, born in 1706; and Thomas; daughters, Margaret, and Mary. The father died in May, 1730.

Other Hindles of Rishton, doubtless related to these of Cowhill, are so numerous as to baffle genealogical arrangement.

Cowhill is an eminence in the midst of Rishton township, and three old farmsteads adjoin at Cowhill Fold, formerly tenanted by the yeoman families of Hindle, Talbot, and Whalley.

LIVSEY OF SIDEBIGHT.

The message of Sidebight in Rishton was once the possession of a family of Liveseys, a branch, haply, of Livesey of Livesey. George Livesey of Rishton was assessed to the Subsidy of 1523. He was living 31st Henry VIII. (1539-40), when William Clayton sued at the Duchy Court George Lyvesey and others, for distress and rescue of cattle, trespassing on messages and lands in Rysheton and Little Harwode.

The next representative is rather troublesome to identify, but it was almost certainly Thomas Livesey. In the 5th Edward VI. (1552), Anne Stanley, widow of Edmund Talbot, Esq., and of Sir James Stanley, a dame who at that date possessed the Holt in Rishton, prosecuted Thomas Lyvesey and others for tortious possession of lands and tenements on that estate. Thomas Livesey had sons, James, Thomas, and Oliver; and a daughter, Margaret, who became the wife of Thomas Walmesley of Showley, gent., and was mother of the celebrated Judge, Sir Thomas Walmesley. At Hacking Hall, built by Justice Walmesley, is a stone in the wall with the initials "T L" standing, no doubt, for Thomas Livesey, the Judge's maternal grandfather. Thomas Livesey was assessed for lands in Rishton to a Subsidy in 1570.

James Livesey succeeded his father in this tenement. By his wife Agnes he had four sons, George being the eldest. The Will of James Livesey of Ryssheton, yeoman (abstracted in the Piccope MSS.) bears date Dec. 23rd, 1563. Testator desires to be buried in the Parish Church of Blackburn; mentions Agnes, his wife; three younger sons, Thomas, John, and Gabriel; and the eldest son, George. Also names Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh, Esq.; Ellen Ryssheton of Ponthalge, widow; Oliver Lyvesey, testator's brother; Lawrence Oldome, and William Ryssheton. In a note to the Will testator styles Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh (the future Judge) "my

good neveve" (nephew—sister's son), a term which proves that the Justice's mother was a Livesey of Rishton, not, as hitherto conjectured, of the more considerable family of Livesey of Livesey. The Will of James Livesey was proved July 11th, 1565. Agnes, relict of James Livesey, was buried at Great Harwood, March 13th, 1564.

John Livesey of Sidebight, either brother or younger son of James, had a daughter Jennet, wife of Pears Haworth of Thurcroft, gent.

George Livesey of Sidebight, son of James, was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School; and he died in 1592, leaving sons George and Thomas.

George Livesey of Rishton, yeoman, occurs in 1606, and is assessed to the Subsidy of 1611.

Thomas Livesey of Sidebight, brother of the last-named, also was taxed to the Subsidy in 1611. He had sons, Thomas, of Sidebight; James, also of Sidebight; George, bapt. at Great Harwood Church, Dec. 9th, 1601, died in 1627; and Henry, born in 1604; and a daughter Marie, bapt. April 16th, 1606. "Thomas Livesey, senr., de Sydebight, et filius Georgii," was buried at Blackburn, April 18th, 1625.

"Thomas Livesey son of Thomas Livesey of Sidebight in Rishton," occurs in 1616, when he had a daughter Margaret bapt. at Great Harwood Church, Aug. 24th, who died in April, 1624. He had also daughters, Ellen, bapt. Feb. 2nd, 1617-8, and Anne, died in 1634. His wife died in Aug. 1637.

James Livesey of Sidebight, brother of Thomas, died in April, 1647. His wife was buried Jan. 5th, 1625.

RISHTON OF MICKLE-HEY.

This was first a branch, then the next in succession, of Rishtons of Ponthalgh. Roger Rishton of Ponthalgh, living in 1474, had a son Richard, who had Ralph, of Ponthalgh. The latter, by his wife Ann, daughter of Roger Nowell of Read, had a son and heir Roger; daughters, Grace; and Alice, wife of James Livesey, gent.; and he died in 1527.

Roger Rishton of Ponthalgh had to wife Alice, daughter of Giles Livesey, gent., and had two sons, Ralph and William.

Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, gent., married, first, Hellen, daughter of Richard Townley of Royle, gent.; by her he had no issue. By his second wife, Elizabeth Parker, he had five sons, Nicholas, Roger, William, Henry, and Jeffrey, all of whom died unmarried in the father's lifetime. His third wife was Anne, daughter of Sir James Stanley of Cross-hall, Knt., who survived her husband. Canon Raines says:—"Her life was almost as chequered as that of her worthless husband. . . This ill-used lady, having survived all her children, was living in Ormskirk, 11th March, 1611, and was then aged 80 years." She was a widow before 1598, when "Mrs. Rusheton widdow" is named in the funeral accounts of her brother, Henry Stanley, Esq.

Richard Rishton, usher of Blackburn Grammar School in 1597, was a younger son of Ralph Rishton, Esq.

William Rishton, gent., brother of Ralph, held the estate of Mickle Hey, upon which he resided; but after the death of his brother's sons without issue he became next heir to the principal patrimonial estates. William Rishton died about 1589. His wife was Eleanor, daughter, of Robert Charnock of Astley, Esq. By an indenture dated 11th January, 30th Eliz. (1587), between William Rishton of Ponthalgh, gent., on the first part, and Robert Charnock of Astley, Esq., and William Charnock, on the second part, it is witnessed that William Rishton is lawfully seized in demesne as of fee simple of and in diverse messuages, lands, tenements, rents, &c., in Church, Rishton and Oswaldtwistle, holden in socage tenure; that he, William Rishton,

grants, &c., to Robert and William Charnock, that before the feast of Easter next he will lawfully inbase Robert Charnock, Thomas Southworth, Esq., George Talbot of the Carre, and Robert Rysheton of Dunnishoppe, gents., of and in all and singular his messuages, cottages, tofts, lands, tenements, &c., to the use of the said William Rishton for his life, and after his death, for the education and bringing up of his five children, namely, Ralph, William, Marie, Ann, and Elizabeth; also for the reparation of the manor-house called Ponthalge, and the mylne called Ponthalge Mill; and for the payment of the debts of the said William Rishton. In William Rishton's escheat, the date of which is illegible, Ralph Rishton is named as his son and heir, aged 10 years; William Rishton as a younger son; and mention is made of Edward Rishton, eldest son of James Rishton of Mickle-hey. I imagine James Rishton was a younger brother of William, who took up his abode at Mickle-hey after William's removal to Ponthalgh. James Rishton of Mickle-hey was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1590, and his son, Edward Rishton of Mickle-hey, was elected a Governor in 1630. "Uxor Edward Rishton de Micle heyas" was buried Oct. 16th, 1624.

Ralph Rishton, heir of William, a minor at the escheat, afterwards married Dorothy, daughter of George Talbot of Carr. The issue were—William, born in 1606; Ralph; John, died young; Roger; Edward, of London; Anne, died unmarried; Margaret, wife of John Buck, of Gilling, Co. York; and Dorothy, died unmarried. He died about 1624.

William Rishton, gent., eldest son of Ralph, married Dorothy, eldest daughter of William Anderton of Euxton, Esq., by whom he had issue, William, his heir; Ralph; John (Rev. John Rishton, Vicar of Leyland, 1677-83); Edward; Dorothy, wife of John Barton of Cowbridge; Anne, Isabel, Alice, Margaret, Mary, Eleanor, and Katherine. William Rishton was living in 1664. William Rishton, of Ponthalgh, succeeded his father.

The tenement of Mickle-hey is situate on the hill near the border of Rishton and Little Harwood. The old house of the Rishtons is a low building with mullion windows, the date of which appears on the front upon an inscribed stone under a drip-stone head-moulding, which bears the initials "R H x I R" and underneath the date "1.5.9.1." The letters "R H" are repeated upon another stone in the front wall. The estate now belongs to Henry Petre, Esq.; and on the lintel of the barn door are the letters "T W A" and date "1737." The initials are those of Thomas Walmsley of Mickle-hey, a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1751.

TALBOT OF COWHILL.

This family was a branch of Talbot of Salesbury. Sir John Talbot, who died in 1588, had a son Robert, born before marriage. This Robert Talbot married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Hoghton of Lea, and had sons, John, George, Robert, Thomas, and Richard.

Richard Talbot, younger son, was of Rishton, and died at Cowhill in Nov., 1654. He married Alice Duckworth, and had sons, John; and Thomas, living in 1669.

John Talbot of Rishton, gent (son of Richard), married, Feb. 7th, 1631, Jennet, daughter of John Clayton of Clayton Hey, and had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. April 3rd, 1634; Robert Talbot (who married Isabel Lawson of Clitheroe); and John Talbot (who married Margaret, daughter of John Sudell of Stopen Hey, and had sons, Richard, born in 1666; Joseph and Benjamin, twins, born in 1667; and John, born in 1668; and daughters, Alice, and Mary); and a daughter Ann, wife of Leonard Nowell of Clitheroe. The father, John Talbot of Rishton, gent., appears with his sons on the Guild Roll of Preston in 1662.

"Thomas Talbot of Cowell, gent." (son of John) was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1667; he married Mary Cross, widow (daughter of John Elison of Altham), and died in Aug., 1675. He had sons, John, bapt. Sept. 28th, 1662; and Richard, bapt. March 16th, 1666, living in 1682; and daughters, Alice; Elizabeth, born in 1669; and Mary.

John Talbot of Cowhill, yeoman (son of Thomas), had sons, Thomas; and John, born in 1690. John Talbot the father and his two sons were out-burgesses of Preston at the Guilds of 1702 and 1722.

Thomas Talbot, son of John, married, in 1732, Mary Turner; was father of Thomas Talbot of Elswick; and was dead before 1762.

John Talbot of Cowhill, yeoman, brother of Thomas, married Margaret, daughter of Robert Peele of Peele Fold, yeoman, and had sons, John Talbot, and Thomas Talbot, both living in 1762; and Joseph, born in 1719. John Talbot the father was dead before 1762.

Joseph Talbot, of Rishton in 1762 and of Salesbury in 1782, was buried at Blackburn, aged 73, Sept. 1st, 1792. He had a son John Talbot, who had a son Joseph, described on Preston Guild Roll in 1782 as "Joseph Talbot, son of John, grandson of Joseph of Salesbury."

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.—The National School in Rishton was licensed for divine service in 1866. The corner-stone of a new church, dedicated to St. Peter, was laid on the 24th May, 1873, by F. W. Grafton, Esq., who was a donor of £1200 to the building fund. The church is a gothic edifice, consisting of nave, with clerestory, side aisles, chancel-apse, and tower at the south end (not yet completed). Cost of the building and site £5000. Sittings 600. The church has not hitherto (1876) been consecrated. The situation adjoins the Blackburn Road at the western end of the village of Rishton.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—A small Wesleyan society, founded here in 1805, gradually became extinct; but about the year 1852, Mr. George Clarke of Norden started a new society, and opened a small school-chapel in his premises in High-street. The society grew; and a new chapel was built in 1862, which cost £1500; a gallery was added in 1868, costing £500; in 1875 the chapel was extended at the rear, at a further cost of £1500; in April, 1876, an organ, costing £400, was opened; and in July, 1876, new schools adjoining the chapel, which have been built at a cost of £2000, were opened. The Chapel now contains 800 sittings.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOL-CHAPEL.—This school-chapel was opened in July, 1876, in place of the small school-room before used by the Primitive Methodists as a preaching-place. The cost of the new building was £1200. Sittings 550.

UNITED FREE METHODIST CHAPEL.—This school-chapel was erected in 1875, at a cost of £1100, and contains 300 sittings.

LAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL-CHURCH.—Built by a party of seceders from St. Peter's Church, and opened in 1876. Cost £300; sittings 300.

A **CONGREGATIONAL MISSION-ROOM** and Sunday School was opened in Rishton village in 1876; sittings about 100.

DAY SCHOOLS.

There are two elementary Day Schools under Government inspection in Rishton. The National School, in 1875, had 159 children in average attendance, and received a Government grant of £112 6s. The Wesleyan School, at the same date, had 215 children in average attendance, and obtained a grant of £170 10s.

CHAPTER XVI.—THE TOWNSHIP OF SALESBURY.

Topography—Extent—Population—Lords of the Manor—De Salesbury—De Clyderhon—Talbot—Warren—Mr. Ward—Salesbury Hall—Talbot of New Hall—Bolton—Parker of Loveley Hall—Loveley Hall—Church of St. Peter—Salesbury School.

SALESBURY is a township on the south bank of the Ribble, between Dinkley above, and Clayton-in-le-Dale below. The land rises rapidly from the river, in the direction of Wilpshire Moor, which is the summit of the acclivity. It is appropriated to pasture farms. The acreage of the township is 1140 statute acres. Formerly there was considerable cottage weaving in Salesbury, but there is little now. The population accordingly has dwindled in numbers since 1831. In 1801 it was 236 persons; 1811, 265; 1821, 427; 1831, 433; 1841, 399; 1851; 388; 1861, 331; 1871, 212.

DE SALESBURY FAMILY.

Gilbert de Salesburi was lord of this township within the century after the Norman Conquest. He had a son Siward de Salesburi.

Waltheus de Salesburi was brother of Gilbert, and under him held lands in Salesbury, whereof he gave sixty perches to the abbot and monks of Salley.

Ralph de Salesburi, son of Waltheus, afterwards confirmed to the Abbey of Salley the lands in Salesburi.

Richard de Salesburi, son of Ralph, in turn gave 11 acres in Salesbury to the Salley fraternity. He had a son Richard.

In the Coucher Book of Whalley Abbey appear the names of Adam de Saleburi, of Award, Gilbert, Randolph, Richard, Roger, and Swane de Salesbury, indistinguishable members of this family; also of William de Salesbury, who occurs as witness to a deed dated 1380.

Gilbert son of Ulkil de Salesbury gave certain small parcels of land in this vill to Salley. Another Gilbert, son of Robert, is witness to one of the first Gilbert's charters.

Adam de Helai was son of Gilbert de Salesbury; and his son, Hugh

de Helai, confirmed to the monks of Salley the 11 acres of land that Richard, son of Richard de Salesburi (above), gave to them. John de Salesburi also was a donor of lands in Salesbury and Helai to Salley Monastery. Ranulf de Salesbury had sons Hugh and Robert; the latter had a son William.

Hugh de Salesbury, son of Ranulf, had to wife Marjora, daughter of Hugh de Helai, by whom he had five daughters—Cecilia; Dionesia, wife of Thomas son of William de Hulton; Matilda, Alice, and Agnes. Cecilia, eldest daughter and heiress of Hugh de Salesbury, married, first, Hugh de Cliderhou, by whom she had issue; and secondly, Robert de Balderstone.

DE CLIDERHOU FAMILY, ANCIENT LORDS OF SALESBURY.

The De Cliderhou Family were in tenure of estates in Clitheroe, Mitton, &c., before the date when Hugh de Cliderhou, by his marriage with Cecilia, eldest daughter and co-heir of Hugh de Salesbury, son of Ranulf, added Salesbury manor to the family possessions. Hugh de Cliderhou had a son and heir, Hugh; and a daughter, Isabella, wife of Jordan de Wynkedley.

Hugh de Cliderhou, son of Hugh, occurs in deeds between the years 1276 and 1310. His sons were, Roger, and Adam.

Roger de Cliderhou had a grant of free warren in the demesne lands of Salesbury, dated 15th April, 1312.

Adam de Cliderhou, son of Hugh and brother of Roger, by his wife Cecilia (who occurs as his relict in 1340, and was living in 1349), had a son and heir, Robert. Adam de Cliderhou was probably dead before the 11th Edw. III (1337).

Robert de Cliderhou, Adam's son, married Sibilla (or Isabella) daughter of Richard son of John de Hodleston (marriage contract dated 1331), and had issue, sons, Robert; Thomas, living in 1343; Roger living in 1357; and Richard (of whom more presently). Robert de Cliderhou the father conveyed his estate of two parts of Saleberie manor in trust, by deed dated 17th Edw. III (1343). He died before 1346, in which year his widow married, secondly, William de Rilleston.

Robert de Cliderhou succeeded to his inheritance in infancy, and Adam de Hoghton bought his marriage (deed dated 24th Edw. III., bearing the arms of Adam de Hoghton, *on a shield three bars*, and an inscription in old capitals, SIGILLUM ADE DE HOGHTON). Robert de Cliderhou was probably of age in 1357. His wife was Sibilla, daughter of Richard de Hoghton (her first husband was William de Bold). Dated 31st Edw. III. (1357) is a defeasance of a statute acknowledged by Robert son of Robert de Clitherow, that he should preserve his inheri-

tance without any foolish demises or charges. He had an only daughter and heir, Sibilla. In 1371 he and his wife had license from the Bishop of Lichfield for an oratory at Salesbury Hall, for two years. A deed of Robert de Cliderhou, dated 44th Edw. III. (1370), contains on the seal his arms, *a saltire fusilee*, and the words in old capitals, SIGILL: ROBERTI DE CLIDERHOU. He died before 1376. His widow, who survived until 1387, had a license for her oratory at Salesbury.

Sibilla de Cliderhou, only daughter and heir of Robert, was thrice married; first (marriage contract dated 1362), to Richard, son of John de Radcliffe of Ordsall (she was his second wife, and he died 19th July, 1380), and bore him a son Roger, who died before 1408; and a daughter, Johanna, born about 1379, wife of Henry de Hoghton of Leagrim, second son of Adam de Hoghton. Dame Sibilla married, secondly, Sir Richard Mauleverer of Beamsley, who was dead in 7th Richard II. (1384); and thirdly (marriage contract dated 10th June, 1386), Roger de Fulthrop, Judge of Common Pleas, who was attainted in 1388, exiled to Ireland, and died about 1392. By the two last husbands the lady of Salesbury had no issue. In her last widowhood, a license dated 27th Dec., 1406, was granted to "the lady Sibill Fulthrop the ladie of Salisberie for a chapel or oratery in her manor of Salisberie, and to celebrate mass and other divine offices, provided it be no prejudice to the Mother Church;" to continue for three years. This lady, whose life had been so chequered, died the 21st Dec., 1414, and by inquisition taken the 7th June, 1415, it was found that Johanna de Hoghton was daughter and next heir, aged 36 years and upwards.

Johanna de Hoghton, wife of Henry, had no child, and accordingly, in the 10th Henry V. (1422), she was party to a settlement of the estates, by which there was allotted to her husband's family out of the estates lands worth £20 per annum; and by a later award the Hoghtons were allotted the manor of Pendleton, all the lands in Yorkshire, and lands in Preston, Ribchester, Clitheroe, and Wilpshire; all the rest to go to Talbot (see hereafter), and on failure of issue male of either family, the whole to go to the other. The heir of Henry Hoghton was his natural son, Richard Hoghton, Parker of Leagrim Forest, ancestor of Hoghtons of Pendleton.

I have now to add the descent of a younger branch of De Cliderhou, beginning with Richard de Cliderhou, brother of Robert. He was born before 1343; and by Agnes his wife he had sons, John, and Edmund, both of whom died without issue; and daughters, Isabella, and Johanna. The younger daughter married, first, William de Alston; secondly, Richard Golyn, or Colyn, and was living in 1425. In the 6th Ric. II. (1383), Richard de Cliderhou was witness to a grant by Sibilla, widow of

his brother Robert de Cliderhou, to her daughter Sibilla. He died before 1419. Agnes, his relict in that year, was living in 1427, when she quit-claimed her right in these lands to John Talbot and his wife Isabella (her daughter).

Isabella Cliderou, daughter and co-heir of Richard, married John Talbot, son of William (younger son of Edmund Talbot of Bashall who died in 1372). In Sept., 1423, a dispensation was obtained on the ground of their having married in ignorance of their consanguinity in the 4th degree (which was then a bar to marriage). In 1422, Isabella Talbot and her husband and issue were made heirs to the manor of Salesbury under the settlement of her kinswoman, Johanna Hoghton. She died August 1st, 1432; and *Inq. post mort.* was taken in the 11th Henry VI.¹

TALBOT OF SALESBURY.

John Talbot, son of William Talbot, a younger son of Sir Edmund Talbot of Bashall, Knt., after being divorced from his first wife Margeria, in 1415, married, before 1423, Isabella, daughter of Richard de Cliderhou, and by her had issue, sons, John, born about 1426; Hugh, Christopher, and Alexander, all living in 1448; Richard, named in his father's Will, 1449; Lawrence; and three daughters, who were represented with their mother in a memorial window in Ribchester Church. On Aug. 15th, 3rd Henry VI. (1424), John, son of William Talbot, and Richard de Townley of Clivachre, gave recognizance in 1000 marks to Richard, son of Henry de Hoghton, Knt., to submit to the judgment and award of John de Stanley, Knt., and William de Haryngton, Knt., in the suit between the said John Talbot and Isabella his wife, and Richard Godyn and Joan his wife, sister of the said Isabella, concerning the lands which Sybil, widow of Richard de Radclyf held in the counties of York and Lancaster; and at the same time Richard de Hoghton of Laythgrim, and Richard de Knolle of Thornley, gave recognizance to John Talbot to submit to the judgment of the said arbitrators. John Talbot died 18th April, 1449; his Will is dated April 16th, 1449, by which he bequeaths his body to be buried in the Church of St. Mary at the Abbey of Whalley; gives his best horse for a mortuary; and to his son John a cap, book, vestments, and all other things in his chapel. *Inq. post mort.* was taken the same year. His son and heir, John Talbot, was found to be aged 24 years.

John Talbot of Salesbury, Esq. (known as "Little John Talbot") son of John, assisted, in 1464, in the betrayal of Henry VI. near

¹ I am indebted to Wm. Langton, Esq., for the laboriously and carefully proved genealogy of the Cliderhou family embodied in these pages, the intricate descents of which have confounded former antiquaries.

Clitheroe, for which he was rewarded with a pension by Edward IV. One of his two wives was daughter of Sir John Radcliff of Ordsall. Johanna his first wife is named with her husband in 1464, in an inscription upon a window in the oratory of Salesbury Hall. Ann, his second wife, survived until 1487, and was mother of his daughter Lucy. John Talbot had issue, by his two marriages, sons, John; Ralph, a captain at Calais (who had a son Ralph); William (father of William and Hugh, both priests); Myles, who left issue; and Roger (who had three daughters); and daughters, Isabella, wife of Richard, son and heir of Sir Ralph de Ashton of Middleton; Lucy, wife of Ralph Ashton, brother of Richard; Elizabeth, wife of Lawrence Ainsworth; Margaret; Alice, wife of Giles Livesey; and another daughter, married in London. John Talbot, Esq., died before 1485.

Sir John Talbot, knighted at Hutton Field in 1483, succeeded his father as lord of Salesbury in 1484, and had from Richard III., in that year, reversion of his father's pension. He married Ann, daughter of Sir Ralph Ashton of Middleton (covenant of marriage dated 1452), and by her (who survived him, and was living in 1511) had issue, sons, John; Ralph; Richard; and Thomas; and daughters, Anne, wife of Richard Rishton of Dunkenhalgh; Margery, wife of Alan Singleton of Whitgill; and Ellen, wife of John Singleton. Thomas Talbot, of the Impes, was father of Richard, citizen of London; and of Anne, second wife of Sir Thomas Langton, Baron of Newton. Sir John Talbot, Knt., died August 10th, 1511. *Inq. post mort.* Oct. 10th, 3rd Henry VIII.

John Talbot, Esq., son and heir ("long John Talbot"), said to be aged 24 at his father's death in 1511, married Isabella, daughter of Richard de Towneley, who had issue, sons, John; Richard, and Hugh; and a daughter Anne, wife of Edmund Hopwood, gent. John Talbot died about the year 1515, and by an escheat return, dated 7th Henry VIII., it appears that he was seized at death of Salesbury manor, held of the King, worth £50; of Dynkeley manor; Clayton-in-le-Dale manor; and of messuages, lands, mills, and rents in those townships and in Whilipshire, Bylington, Dutton, Ribchester, and Clyderowe. His son and heir was John Talbot, aged 14 years.

Shortly before his death, by deed dated April 24th, 6th Henry VIII., John Talbot, Knt., had conveyed to Edward Ashton, clerk, and other trustees, the manors of Salesbury and Dinkeley, with messuages, lands, rents, burgages, mills, fishery, &c., with reversions of the same to the use and intent to fulfil the Will of John Talbot, as follows:—Feoffees to stand seized of above, suffering testator to take the issues, rents, &c., for life; and to make a lawful estate to Isabella, testator's wife, for life, of the manor of Dinkeley; after decease of testator and his wife, feoffees to be seized of closes called Hassilborowes and Menefield, with the wood, parcel of Salesbury manor, to the yearly value of 8s., to the use of his sons Richard and Hugh Talbot; and after the decease

of the longest liver of testator, his wife, and Dame Anne Talbot his mother, that feoffees shall make a lawful estate of tenements in Clayton called Clayton Hey, then in holding of Hugh and John Clayton, to the yearly value of 40s., and of another messuage in Clayton in holding of Thomas Bolton to the yearly value of 18s., to have and hold to the said Richard and Hugh Talbot for their lives. Feoffees to make a lawful estate of his hereditaments, after the form testator should make by any indenture concerning the marriage of John Talbot, his son and heir; and to stand seized of residue of premises and reversions during the nonage of testator's son and heir, John Talbot, to the use to suffer the aforesaid Isabel, if testator shall make her executor, or any other person executor or executors, to receive yearly all issues, rents, &c., during nonage only of said son and heir, and to pay all legacies, debts, &c.

The next scion is the member named in the Visitation of 1533:—
 “John Talbott of Saleberry, hadd to his first wife Anne, daughter to Hewe [Hugh] Sherburne, and they hadd yssue John, Jane, Anne, and Margaret. The said John had to his second wife Anne, daughter to Richard Bannester of Altham, and they had no yssue. A very gentle Esquier, and worthy to be taken payne for.” Thus testifies the visiting herald. After this return, however, John Talbot had issue by his second wife, sons, Thomas, Michael, John, Richard, Nicholas, and Robert; and daughters, Beatrice; Elizabeth, wife of Humphrey Wyke; and Isabel, married to Wilfred Banester. Anne, his second daughter by his first wife, married John Hothersall, gent. John Talbot, Esq., died Aug. 30th, 1551. His Will, dated Aug. 28th, is abstracted below:—

In the name, &c., I, John Talbot, of Salisbry, within the countie of Lancaster, Esquier, somethyng diseased in my bodie but hoole [whole] of mynde, &c., make and orden thys my present testamente, &c. First, I commende my soul to Almyghty God and to all the holy companye of heaven, and my bodye to be buryed within the Parisse Church at Blakeburne in the chapell on the southe syde of the church thear. And I geve and bequethe unto Sir Rychard Hoghton, Knyght, my best gowne to the entente to be supervisor of thys my last Will and see the same performed. I geve, &c., unto my son-in-law Wilfride Banester my Regalles and my Virginalles. I geve unto Anne my wiffe all suche leases and tackes as I have of Sir Thomas Talbot, Knyght, of certen tithes as in the said lease it doth appere, and also of Thomas Heskett, Esquier, of certen closes and landes lieng to the manor howse of Dynkeley. Moreover, all such tackes and bargaynes as my brother William Talbot hath graunted and made unto me of the manor howse of Dynkeley (which he maketh clame and title to by the gyfte of his father and myne), with all landes, medowes, &c., to the same belongyng I geve, &c., wholly unto Anne my said wyffe. And in case hys gyft be proved voide and of none effecte, then I wyll that all suche goodes and sommes of money as I have contented and payd unto my said brother and hys assignes by the order and awarde of Sir John Atherton, Knyght, my brother Edmund Hopwodde, esquier, for the premysses be contented and payd agayne unto my said wyfe and her assignes, to the use and profit of her and my chyl dren. Item, I wyll that all suche dettes and deuties as I owe of ryghte or of conscience to any person be well and truly contented and payd by myne executor hereinafter named. And after my dettes payd and my funerall expenses performed, I geve, &c., all my parte of goodes, dettes, &c., whearsoever they can be

founde unto Anne my sayd wyffe, my executrix, and Sir Richard [Hoghton], Knyght, abovesaid supervisor.—Wrytten the 28th day of Auguste, in the fyfte yeare of the reigne of our soveraigne lord Kyng Edward the Sixt, by the grace, &c. These beyng witnesses :—Ranulphus Lynney, Vicar of Blakburn ; Richard Marsten, chaplain ; Edmund Bolton, chaplain ; William —, Adam Bolton, with others.¹

Here I deviate from the chief descent to notice a younger son of the last-named John Talbot, who merits distinction as one of the earliest of Lancashire antiquaries. Thomas Talbot, named by Sir William Dugdale as “Clerk of the Tower Records” and “a noted antiquarian,” was second son of John Talbot of Salesbury, Esq., and first son by his second wife Ann Banestre. Little is recorded of the history of this personage. Gough has the following brief notice :—

Thomas Talbot, born at Salesbury Hall, in 1580 was Keeper of Her Majesty's Records in the Tower, and rendered assistance to Camden, furnishing him with a Catalogue of Earls for his “Britannia.” He also made considerable collections for the History of Yorkshire ; some of these are deposited in the British Museum, some in the Heralds' Office. In the epistle dedicatory to Mills' Catalogue of Honor, he is called ‘limping Thomas Talbot, a great genealogist, and of excellent memory.’”

A portion of Thomas Talbot's collections, containing many items concerning abbeys, and various historical matters, extracted from chronicles, rolls of noble families, and their pedigrees, is preserved among the *Cotton MSS.* (Vesp. D. 17). Other papers of his are in the *Lansdowne* and *Harleian MSS.* The letter copied below, written by Thomas Talbot the antiquary in 1578 to his brother-in-law, John Hothersall of Hothersall, gent., accompanying some Read evidences from the Tower, is not without local interest :—

“Brother Hothershall,—I comend me unto you and to the rest of my frendes, letting you to understand that I sent you a note of the matter that you did require me to search in the Tour, but by negligence of the carier yt came back againe to my handes contrarie to my will and meaninge, but now you shall receyve yt hereunder written word for word out of the recorde so muche as serveth for your frendes purpose. Brother, this is all I can find for Read alias Reved ; and the word thanagium [thanage] is the same whiche my eldest brother holdeth the maner of Salesbury by, which I take to be a free socage tenure. This with comendation to you and the rest of my frendes. I wish you wel as to myselfe. Written at London this ffriday the 6 of June, 1578. THOMAS TALBOT.”—[Addressed]—“To my assured good brother Mr. John Hothershall, yeoman, these, at Hothershall by Ribchester.”

John Talbot, heir of John, soon after his succession was defendant in an action brought by Anne Talbot, widow and executrix of the last Will of John Talbot deceased, for tortious possession by him of a dwelling house, and detention of goods and chattels, in Salesbury manor. This was in 1553. He married, first, at Ribchester Church, Alice, daughter of Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, Knt.; she died, without having

¹ Lanc. and Chesh. Wills (Cheth. Socy.), v. iii, pp. 105-6.

issue, in 1533. His second wife was Mary Moore, of Sheffield, Co. York, by whom he had sons, John, Robert, and Thomas, born before marriage; and a legitimate son, George; also daughters, Mary, wife of John Atherton, Esq.; and Frances, wife of Peter Barlow, gent. In 1553, John Talbot was a captain in the Lancashire array in Queen Mary's army. In 1581, Edmund Campion the Jesuit, on being tortured by the rack, divulged the names of certain Lancashire gentry who had harboured him, and among them was "Talbot of Salesbury, Esq." Richard Simpson, a recusant priest, was reported in 1581 to have sojourned at Talbot's house. In consequence, a search was made at Salesbury Hall for arms or other tokens of seditious designs by its master. John Talbot, Esq., died 1st Sept., 1588, seized of Salesbury manor, with ten messuages, 10 cottages, 20 gardens, 20 orchards, 200 acres of land, 40 of meadow, 40 of pasture, 100 of woodland, and 100 of moss and turbary in Salesbury; 30 acres of land in Dinckley; 30 acres in Whilphshire; 30 acres in Clayton; and lands in Dutton, Cliderow, and Ribchester. His grandson, John Talbot, son of George deceased, was next heir, aged 7 years.

George Talbot of Dinkley, gent., John's eldest legitimate son, married Mary, second daughter of Sir John Southworth, Knt. (contract dated Oct. 26th, 1573), and had a son John, born about 1581; and a daughter Mary, wife of John Singleton of Scales. George Talbot died in his sire's lifetime, Sept. 26th, 1584. The Will of George Talbot of Dinkley, gent., bears date June 14th, 26th Eliz.; testator to be buried in Blackburn Church; names his father, John Talbot, Esq.; brother Robert; sister, Mrs. Ann Southworth; cousin, William Talbot; his daughter, Mary Talbot, to be sole executrix. His widow was living in 1595.

John Talbot, son of George, was heir to his grandsire John Talbot, Esq., in 1588, at the age of seven years. He married, about the year 1607, Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Barlow, Knt., and had issue, sons, John, born Aug. 29th, 1608; Alexander, born in 1610, died *s.p.*; George, born June 8th, 1612; and Thomas, born Jan. 31st, 1617, died in Nov., 1628; and daughters, Margaret, wife of Thomas Clayton of Lentworth; Mary, died unmarried; and Anne, born in 1619, wife of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq. In 1611, John Talbot disputed with Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh the right to the mortuary chapel on the south side of Blackburn Church, and by the Bishop's award obtained the north half of the chapel. He was knighted by King James I. at Lathom House, Aug. 20th, 1617. When the Civil War broke out in 1642, Sir John Talbot affected neutrality, but was in secret concert with the Royalist party, and was appointed by the Earl of Derby's Preston meeting, in Dec., 1642, one of the two collectors for Blackburn Hundred of

the levy for the county subsidy of £8700 voted to the King. About a month later Sir John Talbot laid a plot for the capture at Salesbury Hall of some active Parliamentarians in his neighbourhood; but the scheme was frustrated, and Salesbury Hall occupied and pillaged, as already narrated. At the storming of Preston by Colonel Seaton, Feb. 9th, 1642, George Talbot, son of Sir John, fought on the Royalist side, and was taken prisoner. These overt acts of hostility to the Parliament made Sir John a mark for the vengeance of the Parliamentary party when it had won the mastery; and by the Sequestration Committee, in 1647, Sir John Talbot was fined in the sum of £444. The "Journals of the House of Commons," Dec. 28th, 1647, record this minute:—

Resolved, &c. That this House doth accept the sum of Four hundred forty and four Pounds, for the Delinquency of Sir John Talbot, of Salisbury, in the County of Lancaster, Knight: His offence, that he assisted the Forces raised against the Parliament: Rendered in January, 1645: His estate, in Fee, per Annum: One hundred and Forty Pounds. Out of which issue Two Pounds per annum, a Quit Rent. Which leaves the Fine, at a Sixth, Four hundred Forty-and-Four Pounds.—An ordinance for granting Pardon unto Sir John Talbot, of Salisbury, in the County of Lancaster, Knight, for his Delinquency, and for taking off the Sequestration of his Estate was this Day read, and upon the Question, passed; and ordered to be sent unto the Lords for their concurrence.

Among the muniments of the estate are found the general pardon granted to Sir John Talbot by King and Parliament in 24th Chas. 1. (1648); the survey and valuation of the estate of Sir John Talbot, taken by Commission of Parliament in 1652; and a deed, dated 1654, by which the said Commissioners, for £710 4s. 1½d., convey to Adam Boulton, gent., all the Talbot estates in Lancashire. Sir John Talbot died in Dec., 1659, and was buried at Blackburn Church, Dec. 26th. His dame had died thirty years before, and was buried at Manchester Collegiate Church, Dec. 26th, 1628. Sir John died intestate, and administration of his estate was granted in 1660 to Anne, his daughter, wife of Alexander Osbaldeston, Esq.

John Talbot, Esq., son and heir to Sir John, married, first, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Westby of Mowbreck, and by her (who died in 1634 and was buried at Blackburn Church, June 27th) had issue, a son John, who died young; and a daughter Margaret, who died in Jan., 1635-6. His second wife was Dorothy, daughter of James Wilford, of Newman Hall, Co. Essex, Esq. By her he had a son John, who died young; and a daughter Dorothy, born Feb. 15th, 1650. John Talbot, Esq., died in Oct., 1677, and was buried in Blackburn Church, Oct. 11th. His widow died in 1684, and "Mrs. Dorothy Talbot, of Dinckley, widow, buried in linnen," is registered as buried at Blackburn Church, Sept. 9th, 1684.

WARREN OF SALESBURY AND DINKLEY.

Dorothy Talbot, only surviving child and heiress of John Talbot, Esq., married, about 1678, Edward Warren of Poynton, Co. Chester, Esq. After his marriage, Mr. Edward Warren resided chiefly upon the estates of his wife at Salesbury and Dinkley Halls. Their issue were, sons, John, born July 15th, 1679; Edward, bapt. at Blackburn Church, Sept. 24th, 1680; and Talbot, bapt. Dec. 4th, 1686; and daughters, Hannah Dorothea (bapt. April 22nd, 1682, married Sir Daniel Byrne, Bart.); Margaret, bapt. Nov. 14th, 1683, died unmarried; Catherine (born about 1685, married Humphrey Davenport, Esq.); Mary (bapt. Aug. 8th, 1688, married, first, Edward Radcliffe, Esq., and, secondly, Rev. Thomas Dakin); and Elizabeth, bapt. April 29th, 1692. Mistress Warren died in childbed of the last daughter, and was buried at Blackburn, May 5th, 1692. Edward Warren, Esq., married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of the Honble. William Spencer, of Ashton Hall, Co. Lancaster, and by her had issue, sons, Spencer Warren, Rector of Bads-worth; and William Warren, incumbent of Up-Holland; and daughters, Mary, Alice, and Eleanor. Edward Warren, Esq. (then "of Chorley") died in 1719-20, and was buried at Blackburn, Jan. 28th.

His eldest son, John Warren, of Stockport, Esq., died, *s.p.* in 1729, and was buried at Blackburn, Sept. 30th. His younger brother, Talbot Warren, married Frances, daughter of Wm. Davenport, of Bramhall, and died in Dec. 1734.

Edward Warren, second son of Edward, married, in 1730, Elizabeth, daughter of George Earl of Cholmondeley; and died Sept. 7th, 1737. He had one son, George, and daughters, Harriet, and Elizabeth.

George Warren, Esq., of Dinkley, heir to his uncle John Warren, married, first, Jane, daughter of Thomas Revel, Esq.; and secondly, in 1764, Frances, daughter of Sir Cecil Bishop, Bart. He had an only daughter, Elizabeth Harriet, who married, April 26th, 1777, Thomas James, Viscount Bulkeley. George Warren, Esq., of Dinkley, was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1757. He was created a Knight of the Bath, and died Aug. 31st, 1801.

In default of issue, Lady Bulkeley, daughter and heir of Sir George Warren, by her Will constituted as her heir George Leicester, son of the first Lord De Tabley (who was great-grandson of Anne Dorothea Warren by her husband Sir D. Byrne). This George assumed the name of Warren in 1832. Sir George Warren, Bart., in 1827, succeeded his father as second Lord De Tabley. He held the Salesbury, Dinkley, Osbaldeston, and Clayton manorial estates in this parish. These estates were sold, in 1866, to Henry Ward, Esq., of Blackburn, for £140,000.

The following is a correct statement of the extent of the estates of Lord De Tabley in Ribblesdale as sold to Mr. Ward in 1866 :—

	A.	R.	P.
Dinkley Hall estate	369	3	12
Wilpshire estate	264	3	26
Salesbury Hall estate	887	0	34
Clayton-in-le-Dale estate	657	0	9
Osbaldeston Hall estate	658	3	33
Total in statute acres	2837	3	34

Salesbury Hall, the old manor-house and seat of the Talbots, is situate on the left bank of the Ribble, at a point where the river, escaping from a wooded ravine, bends abruptly to the northward, and forms a sort of whirlpool, popularly called "Sale Wheel." The hall has originally been an extensive cluster of buildings, placed to form a quadrangle. The blocks that remain were the south and west wings. The upper walls are of timbered structure ; in the south wing the massive oaken framework and projecting cornice are interesting features. Where the angle of the two blocks approach, they are splayed to make a passage between the buildings. The west wing has been curtailed at the north end ; and the front wall restored in dressed stonework. On this front is seen a wide depressed arch, now blocked up, which was formerly the central entrance into the court of the quadrangle. The interior of the main west wing has on the upper floor a series of rooms reached by a long corridor, and partitioned with oak wrought in panels. All the lower rooms have lost their antique aspect by successive alterations. Some old plate armour that formerly hung in the hall was removed to the Cheshire seat of Lord De Tabley. The hall has been surrounded by a moat, some traces of which are left. On the north side of the site are fragments of a massive rubble wall which must have belonged to the earliest structure built upon this ground. In the garden is a portion of a Roman pillar, with double band mouldings.

TALBOT OF NEW HALL.

George Talbot, gent., second son of Sir John Talbot who died in 1659, married, April 20th, 1657, Anne, daughter of Robert Parkinson of Fairsnape, gent. The marriage is registered at Blackburn Church, thus : " George Talbott of Salsbury, gent., and Mrs. Ann Parkinson of Balderstone, married by Richard Morres." George Talbot built for his residence the house called New Hall, which stands on the south bank of the Ribble just below Ribchester Bridge, within the boundary of Clayton-in-le-Dale. New Hall is a good example of the houses built for the lesser gentry *temp.* Charles II. It has a roof-line broken with gables, small mullioned windows and a gabled porch. In the front wall is a

stone inscribed "G T" (George Talbot), and the date "1665." Another stone contains within a moulded panel the sculpture of a "talbot" (dog), the crest of the Talbots. George Talbot, gent., was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1667; and was living in 1673. He had issue, I think, only one daughter.

BOLTON OF SALESBURY.

At the levying of the Subsidy in 1523, Christopher Bolton and John Bolton both were assessed for their lands in Salesbury. The Loveley estate in Salesbury appears to have been held by the Boultons at this period; for on the survey of the tenancies of Whalley Monastery in 1538, it was returned that "Eares [heirs] of Boulton of Loveley houldeth freely certain lands their, and payeth therefor yearly 4s." to the Abbey. Robert Bolton of Salesbury, married, in 1567, Agnes, daughter of Nicholas Rishton, gent., and he was assessed for lands in Salesbury to a Subsidy in 1570. Launcelot Bolton, of Salesbury, died in 1623. Henry Bolton, of Salesbury, died in 1656, and Robert Bolton, of Salesbury, died in 1671. Adam Bolton, gent., of this family, bought the estates of Sir John Talbot, on their sequestration in 1654, for £710; these estates reverted to Talbot at the Restoration in 1660. Launcelot Bolton of Copthurst, in Salesbury, yeoman, by Margaret his wife, had sons, Launcelot, died in 1671; Thomas died in 1665; and Richard, born in 1658. This Launcelot Bolton died in April, 1701. In 1715, Elizabeth Bolton, being a non-juror, registered an estate in Salesbury of the yearly value of £25 12s. Near Copster (or Copthurst) Green is an old house, called Bolton Hall, once the residence of this family of Boltons.

PARKER OF LOVELEY HALL.

The Parkers succeeded the Boltons in possession of Loveley messuage, perhaps by marriage of a Parker with a female member of the Boltons. In the Survey of Whalley Abbey estates, taken in 1538, it is reported that "the heirs of Boulton of Loveley houldeth freely certaine lands their, and payeth therefor yearly 4s."

Richard Parker was taxed for lands in Salesbury to a Subsidy in 1570; and Richard Parker de Loveley, gent., a juror in 1578 and 1584, died in 1592; he was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School.

John Parker of Loveley, gent., successor of Richard, was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1593. He occurs as a freeholder in 1600; and he died Dec. 29th, 1607. After his death, the Escheator took his Inquisition at Blackburn, April 1st, 6th James I., and found that John Parker had died seized of one messuage, one garden, &c., 16 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 10 acres of pasture in Salesbury, held of John Talbot in free socage; also two messuages, two gardens, 50 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture in Wilpshire, held of John Talbot in socage; and of three messuages, three gardens, 40 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, and 10 acres of woodland in Clayton-in-le-Dale, also held of John Talbot in socage.

Richard Parker was found son and heir to John, aged 21 years and 10 months. Richard Parker of Loveley, gent., is assessed to the Subsidy of 1611; appears as a juror in 1617; and as a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School prior to 1628. His eldest son was "John, son of Richard Parker of Loveley, gent.," bapt. in Dec., 1608. His first wife died in May, 1614. He married again and had issue, Richard, born in 1617; Robert, buried in 1634; Thomas, buried in 1622; a second Thomas, born in 1623; and a daughter Rosamond, born in 1615. His second wife died in Feb., 1623-24.

John Parker of Salesbury, gent., son of Richard, married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Walmsley of Coldcoates, and had a son John, bapt. Jan. 2nd, 1631-2; and daughters, Margaret, born in 1627; and Elizabeth, born in 1628. John Parker, gent., was taxed for his lands to a Subsidy in 1663, and died about 1688, and in that year, at the age of 80, was a deponent in the case respecting Langho Chapel.

A Thomas Parker of Loveley, gent., married Mary, daughter of John Livesey, gent., and had sons, Robert, born in 1631; and Thomas, born in 1636; &c.

John Parker of Loveley, gent., son of John, died in August, 1692. He had a daughter Jane, born in 1675. Richard Parker of Salesbury married, in 1671, Dorothy Duckworth. Richard Parker of Salesbury had a son John, born in 1709.

Early in the last century Loveley Hall and estate were in possession of John Winder, gent., whose initials, "I W E" and the date, "1735" appear on the easing-pipes in front of the house. Mr. Edward Winder, of Loveley, elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1743, died in 1759. The estate has now for many years belonged to Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, Esq., of Huntroyd, who has, within the last two years, enlarged and restored the Hall, to fit it for a temporary residence for himself. The old house dates probably from the 17th century, and consists of a central block and projected gabled wings. The Loveley Hall estate is 81½ statute acres in extent; and Mr. Starkie's lands in Salesbury amount to about 114 statute acres.

SALESBURY CHURCH.—The Parochial Chapel of Salesbury was built in 1806-7, and was consecrated on Sept. 7th, 1807. Dr. T. D. Whitaker, then Vicar of Whalley, preached the consecration sermon, which was afterwards printed. The church, consecrated to St. Peter, is a very plain structure, with large semi-circular-headed windows and doorway. There is a belfry at the west end. The interior is galleried; and contains 530 sittings, of which 300 are free. By benefactions of £200 each from Viscount Bulkeley and Rev. T. Starkie, Vicar of Blackburn, in May, 1809, a grant of £400 from the Royal Bounty was obtained in that year. In 1810, a further grant of £200 was made by lot to Salesbury. In 1813, a Parliamentary grant of £600 was obtained by lot for this benefice. The living was valued at £126 per annum in 1867, but has since been augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to £300 per annum; and the former curacy has been constituted a vicarage. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

SALESBURY SCHOOL.—Adjacent to the church is a National School. Towards the erection of the building a grant of £240 was made by the Government. In 1875, 49 children were in average attendance, and the Government grant earned was £33 2s.

CHAPTER XVII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF SAMLESBURY.

Topography—Acreage—Population—Descent of the Manor—De Samlesbury Family—D'Evyas—Southworth Family—Braddyll—Harrison—Samlesbury Hall—De Holand Family—Love—Earls of Derby as Lords—Walmesley and Petre—Present Landowners—Hoghton of Roacher—Roacher Hall—Walmesley of Lower Hall—Fleetwood Hall—Culcheth and Hubberstey, of Sowerbutts Green—Church of St. Leonard—St. Marie's Roman Catholic Church—Samlesbury Schools—Samlesbury Charities.

SAMLESBURY is a large township in Lower Ribblesdale, occupying a broad plain formed by a deep deposit of the boulder-clay; abutting upon the Darwen river upon the south, and upon the Ribble bank on the north. The area of Samlesbury is 4270 statute acres. In common with other rural townships in Blackburn Parish, Samlesbury has suffered in recent years a steady decline in population. In 1801 the inhabitants numbered 1646; 1811, 1589; 1821, 1979; 1831, 1948; 1841, 1728; 1851, 1435; 1861, 1215; 1871, 810. Thus, the population in 1871 was less than half the numbers returned in 1821 and 1831. There is one cotton mill in Samlesbury on the Darwen bank.

The succession of manorial lords of Samlesbury is presented hereunder.

DE SAMLESBURY FAMILY, ANCIENT LORDS.

The earliest recorded lord of Samlesbury was Gospatric de Samlesbury, living in the second half of the 12th century; who, about A.D. 1190, built a chapel in his manor for the use of his family and tenantry. Gospatric de Samlesbury had issue, sons, Roger; Richard; Alan, whose wife was Anabel de Blakeburn; and Uctred, a priest; and a daughter, who was wife of Geoffrey, Dean of Whalley. His lands in Samlesbury are stated to have been 14 bovates, of which he gave eight bovates to Roger, his heir, and the remaining six were divided amongst his three younger sons, Richard, Uctred, and Alan. These bovates contained 20 acres each, or a total of 280 customary acres in 14 bovates. This was all the cleared land in Samlesbury in the 13th century.

Roger de Samlesbury, heir of Gospatric, married, before 1194, Margaret, daughter and heir of Walter, son of Oseber', and had issue, sons, William, Robert, Adam, James, and Roger. He died before 1246.

William de Samlesbury, heir of Roger, was knighted. By his wife Avine he had no sons, but three daughters, co-heirs,—Cicely; Margery; and Elizabeth. Sir William de Samlesbury and his brothers were concerned in a suit in 1246, concerning their respective inheritances in the patrimonial estate.

Cicely de Samlesbury married, before 1258, Sir John D'Evyas, who *jure uxoris* had half Samlesbury Manor. Margery de Samlesbury married Robert de Haunton, but had no recorded issue. Elizabeth de Samlesbury, the third sister and co-heir, married Sir Robert de Holand, and conveyed her moiety of this manor to the De Holands. In 1311, Lady Cecill de Evyhus and Lady Elizabeth de Holand were found to hold under Earl de Lascy one carucate in Samlesbury in thanage, paying 12s. yearly.

D'EVYAS, LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

John D'Evyas, who married Cicely, eldest daughter of Sir William de Samlesbury, and thereby obtained the half of Samlesbury, was Knight of the Shire in 1295. He had a son and heir Nicholas; and a daughter Elizabeth.

Nicholas D'Evyas, who held, besides the moiety of this manor, half the hamlet of Brightmet, was living in 1335. He had issue a daughter, who became his sole heir, and marrying, before 1332, Gilbert de Sotheworth, conveyed to him her estate in Samlesbury, &c.

SOUTHWORTH OF SAMLESBURY.

Gilbert de Sotheworth, lord of Sotheworth and Croft, Pa. Winwick, was father of Gilbert, who married the daughter and heiress of Nicholas D'Evyas, lord of Samlesbury. He had other sons, Richard, and Matthew, and was living in 1325.

Sir Gilbert de Sotheworth, Knt., son of Gilbert, after his marriage abode at Samlesbury, and rebuilt the manor-house. Sir Gilbert was living in 1363. His son and heir was John Sotheworth.

John Sotheworth, lord of Samlesbury, who was knighted, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Richard de Hoghton, Knt., and had a son and heir, Thomas, born about 1393. Sir John Sotheworth was with the English army at the siege of Harfleur, and died of the dysentery, 5th Oct. 1415. The *Inq. post mort.* (printed by Mr. Wm. Langton), shows that Sir John Sotheworth had settled in trust his manors of Sotheworth, Samesbury, and the Folyhall, with all the lands he possessed in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and Notts, by deed dated July 25th, 1400.

Thomas Sotheworth, found son and heir of Sir John in 1416, and then aged 23 years, held these estates until his death, April 27th, 1432. He married Johanna, daughter of Sir John de Booth of

Barton. On the *Inq. post mort.*, taken at Ormskirk, Dec. 31st, 1432, it was found that Thomas Sotheworth de Sammesbury held at his death jointly with Johanna his wife (who had survived him) estates in Croft and Ebury by the deed of feoffment of his father, John Sotheworth, Knt., dated at Barton, May 4th, 1409; also that he had held two parts of the moiety of his manor of Sammesbury by feoffment of Galfrid Banaster, vicar of the Parish Church of Blackburne, and William Bolton, chaplain, by charter to him for his life, dated at Sammesbury, Oct. 8th, 1426, which the said Galfrid and William had of the feoffment of the said Thomas Sotheworth; the Samlesbury estate being held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster in socage and by service, and worth yearly 10 marks; other estates in Middleton, Ebury, Houghton, Sotheworth, and Croft; also he held of the King, as of the Duchy of Lancaster, two parts of certain lands in Meller, Overderwynd, and Alston in socage by service of 4s. 6d. yearly, worth 100s., &c. His son and heir was Richard, then aged 12 years; and he had other sons, Gilbert Sotheworth, who fought at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415; and John Sotheworth; and a daughter Elizabeth, wife of Richard son of Thurstan de Holand.

Richard Sotheworth, Esq., succeeding his father in this lordship, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Molyneux, of Sefton, Knt., and had a son and heir, Christopher; and daughters, Juliana, wife of Sir Richard Towneley of Towneley, Knt.; Anne, wife of Sir Thomas Molyneux; Elizabeth, wife of Sir Thomas Screven, Knt.; Margaret, wife of Richard Vernon; and Emma, wife of — Cholmley. Richard Southworth died Dec. 21st, 1472.

Christopher Southworth, next scion of this family, was knighted, says Dugdale, "on his expedition to Scotland," A.D. 1482. His wife was Isabel, daughter of Sir Thomas Dutton of Dutton, Knt. Issue, sons, John, the heir; Christopher, and Edmund; daughters, Anne, wife of Sir Alexr. Osbaldeston, Knt.; Margaret, wife of Sir William Hoghton, Knt.; and Johanna, wife of Ralph Langton, Esq. Sir Christopher Sotheworth, died in 1487; and in the 6th Henry VII. the *Inq. post mort.* was taken, showing him to have held Samlesbury manor, as of the manor of Cliderhou, Southworth manor, and lands in several other townships in Lancashire.

Sir John Southworth, Knt., son of Christopher, married Helen daughter of Sir Richard Langton, Knt., by whom he had sons, Thomas; Christopher (who had sons, John, died s.p.; and Edward, merchant of London, who had sons, Henry, of Week, Co. Somerset; and Thomas); Richard, who died s.p.; and James. In 1511, Sir John Southworth had a quarrel with John Paslew, Abbot of Whalley; and he died in 1519; the escheat (11th Henry VIII.) attests that he had estates in Samles-

bury, Mellor, Osbaldeston, Over Derwynt, Plesyngton, and Lyvesey, in Blackburn Parish, and divers lands in other parts of the county.

Thomas Southworth, his son and heir, also was knighted. It was this Sir Thomas who restored the north wing of Samlesbury Hall in 1532, and built the other wing in 1545. He was sheriff of the county in 1541. At his Visitation of Lancashire in 1533, the herald enters:—“Syr Thomas Sudworthe, Knyght, maryed Margery, dowghter to Thomas Butler of Bewse, father to Thomas Butler that now ys, & they have ishew, Elsabethe, Anne, Cysle, Katryn, and Dorothe. I spake not wt hym.” This record names not Sir Thomas’s son, who, however, is said to have been born sixteen years before this, in 1517. Of Sir Thomas’s daughters, Elizabeth was wife of Robert Farington, Esq.; Anne, wife of Richard Barton of Barton Row, Esq.; Cicely, wife of John Culcheth, Esq.; Katherine, wife, first, of Thomas Clifton, Esq., secondly, of John Westby, Esq.; and Dorothy, wife of John Rishton of Dunkenhalgh, gent. Sir Thomas Southworth died in 1546; and the *Inq. post mort.* was taken 38th Henry VIII.

Sir John Southworth, Knt., succeeded Sir Thomas, his father. He was in some respects the most noteworthy scion of this important family. Living in the age of ecclesiastical revolution completed in the reign of Elizabeth, Sir John Southworth adhered to the Roman Church through much civil penalty. In a former chapter (pp. 77-82) I have narrated fully the several prosecutions for “recusancy” Sir John Southworth underwent between the years 1568 and 1592. He was High Sheriff of the county in 1562. He married, July 23rd, 1547, Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Assheton of Middleton, and had issue, sons, Thomas; John; Richard; Michael; Christopher; Gilbert; and Leonard; and daughters, Anne, wife of Robert Singleton, gent.; Jane, married — Stanley; Mary, wife of George Talbot; and Margaret, wife of Bartholomew Hesketh, gent. During Sir John Southworth’s incarceration, his affairs became involved; and in 1588, he suffered a Recovery of his estates for the discharge of his debts. He died Nov. 3rd, 1595. His Will (a lengthy document, printed in the *History of Samlesbury Hall*), is dated Sept. 17th, 1595. Testator names as his executors, Jane Stanley, widow, Barthol. Hesketh and Margaret his wife; and Robert Singleton and Anne his wife, the said Jane, Margaret, and Anne being testator’s daughters; and devises to them all his manors of Samlesbury, Mellor, Southworth, Croft, Myddleton, Houghton, and Arbery, with messuages, lands, &c., in those places and elsewhere in Lancashire, to hold for seven years, for the payment of testator’s debts; the estates then to pass to Thomas Southworth, son and heir; remainder to John Southworth, son and heir of the said Thomas; with contingent remainders, &c.; names sons,

Thomas, William, Richard, Michael, Christopher, and Edward; also Bridget, Margery, Ellen, and Anne, daughters of testator's son Thomas; gives to his daughters Margaret and Ann 200 marks each; desires his loving cousins and friends, Thomas Hesketh of Preston and Humphrey Davenport of Gray's Inn, gentlemen, to be supervisors of the Will, and gives them £10 each; bequests to servants and others, &c. By the *Inq. post mort.*, taken March 3rd, 39th Eliz., the estates of Sir John Southworth were found to comprise:—the manor of Southworth, with 3380 acres of land and 100s. rents; Samlesbury manor, with 20 messuages, one water-mill, 1000 acres of arable land, 200 of meadow, 40 of pasture, 60 of wood, 40 of moor, 100 of moss, and 40 of gorse and heath in Samlesbury; in Mellor, 30 messuages with gardens, 940 acres of land, and 50s. rents; estates in Croft, Newton, Arbury, Houghton in Makerfield, Fernehead; 3 messuages and 94 acres of land in Pleasington; a messuage and 120 acres in Livesey; estates in Ribchester, Oswald twistle, Brockhall, and other places; and further, in Samlesbury, the fourth part of 50 acres common of pasture, and two parcels of land called Milnefield. The total extent of the lands was about 7600 customary acres, equal to about 14,000 statute acres.

Of the younger sons of Sir John Southworth, two are noteworthy:—Christopher Southworth, a priest of the Roman Church, and, like his father, subjected to severe penalties for “recusancy;” he was in prison in Wisbeach Castle on this account at the time of his father's death; and he was implicated in the cases of alleged witchcraft in Samlesbury, tried at Lancaster Assizes in 1612 (see ante, pp. 88-95); the other was Gilbert Southworth, a lawyer of some standing, who was living in 1607.

Thomas Southworth, Esq., son and heir of Sir John, married Rosamond,¹ daughter of William Lister, Esq., of Thornton in Craven; and had issue, sons, John; Thomas; William; Richard; Michael; Nicholas; Christopher; and Edward; daughters, Bridget, wife of — Duddell of Salwick; Margery, wife of Thomas Osbaldeston, gent.; Ellen, wife of William Dewhurst, gent.; and Anne. He sold his estates in Southworth, Pleasington, &c., and died in 1617; seized, by the escheat (15th Jas. I.),

¹ By deed dated Feb. 24th, 1607, between Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury, Esq., and Rosamond his wife (born Rosamond Lister), of the first part; Thos. Ireland of Bewsey, Esq., and Margaret his wife and John Harrington, gent., son and heir apparent of Percevall Harrington Esq. and Margaret his wife of the second part; Lawrence Lister of Thornton in Craven, Esq., Michael Lister of Brockden in Craven, Esq., and Martin Lister of London of the third part; and John Aston, Esq., son and heir apparent of Thos. Aston of Aston, Co. Chester, Knt., and Robert Singleton of Brockall, gent., of the fourth part: it is witnessed that Thomas and Rosamond Southworth, Thos. and Margaret Ireland, and John and Margaret Harrington grant unto Lawrence, Michael, and Martin Lister one annuity of £100 issuing out of the Manor-house of Thomas Southworth lately erected in Southworth, called Southworth Hall, and the lands belonging thereto, &c., to hold during the lives of Thomas Southworth and Rosamond his wife, and the life of the longest liver of them; to be paid half-yearly in the Church porch of Wynwick, on the 31st July and 20th Dec., &c.

of Samlesbury manor, with messuages, lands, &c. He was the first Protestant of the family.

John Southworth, eldest son, had died before his father in 1612. His wife was Jane, natural daughter of Sir Richard Sherburne, Knt., by whom he had sons, Thomas ; John ; Richard, Gilbert, and Christopher, all three died unmarried ; and daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, and Rosamond.

Thomas Southworth, son of John, was heir to his grandsire in 1617, being then a minor. He sold the Lower Hall of Samlesbury and lands therewith to Sir Thomas Walmesley (the son). His wife was Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Tyldesley, Knt., and he had two sons, John ; and Thomas ; and daughters, Elizabeth (wife, first, of Richard Walmesley of Showley, Esq., secondly, of John Nowell, gent., thirdly, of George Talbot of New Hall, gent.); and Jane, wife, first, of Timothy Sumner, secondly, of John Jackson. He died Feb. 27th, 1623-4, aged about 24 years, seized of a moiety of Samlesbury manor, with 16 messuages and 200 acres of land. His wife Ann survived him ; and his son John was found his heir.

John Southworth died unmarried, Jan. 12th, 1635-6 ; and his brother Thomas became heir, who also died without issue, April 1st, 1641 ; and on Inquisition it was found that the next heirs of Thomas Southworth were his two sisters, Elizabeth Walmesley, aged 21, and Jane Sumner, aged 19. But Sir John Southworth having, in 1595, made a strict entail of Samlesbury manor, litigation now ensued between these heiresses and their uncle, John Southworth, younger son of John who died in 1612, claiming as heir in taile. The issue appears to have been that John Southworth was left in possession of Samlesbury Hall and manor ; and the daughters of Thomas Southworth retained the estates in Mellor.

John Southworth last-named married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Langton of Lowe, Esq., and had sons, John, Thomas, Edward, Richard, Christopher, and William ; and daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Anne, Isabel, Rosamond, Helen, Bridget, and Mary. By a series of mortgages, John Southworth surrendered his custody of remaining portions of the family estate. He died in 1675. His two eldest sons, John, and Thomas, had died before without issue, and Edward, the third son, was heir to an estate encumbered beyond retrieval.

Edward Southworth, by an indenture of deseazance dated the 14th July, 1676, in consideration of £200, granted to Richard Walmesley, his heirs, &c., all his estate and interest in the manor of Samlesbury, with a proviso for redemption on payment of the several sums of £36, £36, and £636 at the Hall of Dunkenhalgh ; but the surrender became

final shortly afterwards, when, by indenture dated 10th March, 1679, to which Richard Walmesley was a consenting party in consideration that a sum of £6000 was well and sufficiently secured to him, by the direction, &c., of Edward Southworth, was sold unto Thomas Braddyll, his heirs and assigns for ever, the manor of Samlesbury, with the rights, members, &c. The indenture of conveyance, between Edward Southworth of Samlesbury, of the one part, and Thomas Braddyll of Portfield, of the other part, sets forth that Edward Southworth, in consideration of £3150 paid by Thomas Braddyll, grants to the said Thomas Braddyll all the manor or lordship of Samlesbury, with the manor-house of Samlesbury Hall, the demesne lands thereto belonging, and the water Corn Mill and the Kiln in Samlesbury.

The descent of the Southworths since the alienation of the last of the estates has been traced by Mr. Croston. Edward Southworth had two sons, of whom John, the eldest, had no issue. Thomas, the second son, born in 1690, had a son Thomas, born in 1724, who left Samlesbury and settled in London, as a bookseller in Bethnal Green. He married Ann Debonair, and had sons, Thomas, died young; John; a second Thomas, died in 1815; James (died abroad); and Samuel; and a daughter Ann. Thomas Southworth, the father, died in 1788. John Southworth, eldest surviving son, born in 1755, married Anne Denby, and had six sons and four daughters. John and Peter, the first two sons, died young; the third, Edward Lazarus Southworth, married Rebecca Stephenson, had a son John, and a daughter, and died in 1815. John Southworth, the son, was born in 1813, and was living at Bethnal Green, London, in 1870. He married, in 1836, Mary Ferry, and had five sons, and as many daughters. John Edward Southworth, eldest son, born in 1839, married, in 1862, Martha Gibbons, and has issue.

BRADDYLL, LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

The genealogy of the Braddylls, of Portfield and Conishead Priory, has been inserted in a former chapter (see *ante*, pp. 438-441). They held the moiety of Samlesbury Manor from the date of its purchase, in 1679, by Thomas Braddyll, Esq., until the middle of the present century. In 1691, Wilson Gale Braddyll, Esq., mortgaged to Richard Greaves Townley, for £10,300, "all the manor or lordship of Samlesbury, and the capital messuage, mansion, or manor-house, called Samlesbury Hall," &c. Under an order of the Court of Chancery the hall and manor of Samlesbury were sold in Nov., 1850, to John Cooper, Esq., of the Oaks, Penwortham. Mr. Cooper conveyed the estate, Nov. 13th, 1862, to Joseph Harrison, Esq., J.P., D.L., of Galligreaves Hall, Blackburn. Mr. Harrison is present joint lord of the manor of Samlesbury.

The Manor-house of Samlesbury, known as Samlesbury Hall, is one of the most complete and interesting examples of early domestic architecture remaining in the North of England. From 1862 to 1866 the Hall was admirably restored under the direction of Joseph Harrison,

Esq., who, in the internal decorative work, had the services of the late Mr. Shaw, F.S.A., author of *Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages*. As restored, the Hall is interiorly a model of antique grandeur and enrichment, and on the exterior presents the picturesque aspect exhibited in the view inserted in this work. The picture presents the north-east front of the Hall, with the oldest wing on the right; and reveals the various styles of the timber framework of the two blocks. The distinctive features of the more ancient structure are, the upright oaken timbers, connected by horizontal beams and fortified by diagonal bracing ribs, the interstices filled up with a composition of lime and clay, laid upon laths; the mullioned and transomed windows; the high-pitched roof; the many-angled oriel near the point of conjunction with the major building; and the gabled and casemented dormer-chamber projected over the oriel. The larger and later structure displays on this front walls of oak timbers fixed vertically and horizontally, the square interspaces being decorated by pierced quatrefoils picked out in white to contrast with the dark hue of the timber-work; the entrance-porch near the midst of the block; the large old-fashioned windows, divided with mullion and transome, on the lower storey; the corbelled projecting windows in the upper storey; and the roof with its boldly-projecting eaves and octagonal chimneys. The other front of this principal wing differs in detail from that which is seen in the drawing. The wall on that side has been faced with moulded brick with stone dressings. Three massive chimneys project from this wall; and upon the face of the chimney to the left hand is a stone shield, enclosing the arms of Southworth, quartered with those of D'Evyas. The bricks are of the small thin kind, and are supposed to be of foreign manufacture (perhaps Flemish, and made by Flemings who sought refuge in England in the 16th century from the oppression of D'Alva). The surface of the wall is diversified by diamond-patterns and other ornamental designs in dark brick. The windows are square-headed, with mullions and cinquefoil heads; the largest, near the east end on the ground floor, is a handsome four-light window, with tracery heads, cinquefoiled and sub-arcuated, and is believed to have been brought from Our Lady's Chapel in Whalley Abbey. The length of this front is 105 feet. The main doorway of the Hall was formerly on this front, near the centre; it remains, but in the restoration the principal porch has been placed on the other front. Turning to the interior, the Great Hall appropriates nearly the whole area of the original north wing. It is a noble apartment, 35 feet long, and 25 feet six inches wide; its height, from the floor to the spring of the roof, is 14 feet six inches, and to the ridge 29 feet seven inches. The hall was originally some feet longer than it is



SAMLESBURY HALL, NORTH EAST VIEW.

W. & A. GARDNER

now, having at some date been reduced by about half a bay ; and at the time of this curtailment, the *dais* or raised floor, for the chief guests at great feasts, at the north end of the Hall, was removed. The features of the Great Banqueting Hall which at once arrest the eye of the beholder, are the massive open-timber roof, and the elaborately-carved screen of dark old oak, at the south end of the hall, supporting the front of the minstrels' gallery. The roof has been described as "an excellent specimen of fourteenth century work," it is "acutely pointed and open to the ridge-piece, the frame-work being divided into bays, and so arranged as to form a series of Gothic arches." The erection of this wing is attributed to the reign of Edward III. (1327-77), and it is believed to be a portion of the re-edification of the Hall shortly after the destruction by fire of an older manor-house of Samlesbury during a raid of marauding Scots into Lancashire in 1323. But the carved oak screen at the south end belongs to a later addition to the Hall ; as also does the archway of the open fire-place, which superseded the brazier supporting the burning logs in the midst of the hall. The woodwork of the screen, and of the massive square pillars of oak which separate its compartments and support the cornice in front of the minstrels' gallery, is covered with cunning carvings of arcades, grotesque figures, cornucopias, and other emblematic devices. Two doors open in the screen, and in the centre is cut in three panels the inscription :—

Anno Domini | S. P. Bono Statu¹ | Thomas Southworth
 Mccccxxxii | J. D. R. J. | Knight.

The Southworth crest accompanies. Over the screen is the Minstrels' Gallery ; and at the rear of the gallery is a room designed for a "solar" or lord's chamber. At the south end the east wall of the Great Hall is embayed by the oriel recess. The form of the oriel is that of seven sides of a duodecagon ; and its window consists of five lights transomed. Above the oriel, forming an upper storey on a level with the floor of the Minstrels' Gallery, is a small chamber, lighted by a recessed window, supposed to have been used for an oratory. Besides the oriel window the Great Hall is lighted by two large windows, each of four lights, with deeply-moulded jambs, mullions, and transomes, which occupy the eastern wall. The fire-place is formed by a depressed arch, the jambs of which are splayed at the angles, and which measures 15 feet two inches in width, by six feet nine inches in height. The principal entrance to the Hall placed in the centre of the larger block, is by a gothic porch (which is modern). The

¹ The characters "S. P. Bono Statu," in the middle panel, may be taken to stand for "Supplicate pro bono statu," meaning "Pray for the good estate," &c., a variation of the more common wording of the invocation "Orate pro bono statu," &c., of ancient memorial inscriptions.

entrance-hall is spacious (23 ft. by 19 ft. 6 in.), and from the hall a handsome oaken staircase (part of the late restoration) leads to the upper floor. A corridor extending the whole length of the building conducts to the several apartments on the ground-floor. On the right are the dining-room, butler's pantry, kitchens and offices ; on the left are the library, and the morning-room. The morning-room, at the north-east end of the house, is the ancient Chapel of the Hall. Its ceiling is new, for the height of the chapel was formerly equal to the altitude of the building itself. The apartment is lit by windows on three sides, that on the south side is the window from Whalley Abbey ; and in the wall near it is inserted the piscina, betokening the ancient religious purpose of the room. The next apartment is the library, a room originally divided from the chapel by a parclose-screen, but now by a wall-partition. The ceiling is the old one of massive and deeply-moulded oaken beams, longitudinal and transverse, forming square compartments. This room now contains the noble library collected by William Harrison, Esq., F.S.A., who makes the Hall his residence. The largest apartment in this wing is the dining-room, which has a fine panelled oaken ceiling, a richly-carved cornice, and other tokens of age and dignity ; but the most striking of its decorations is the group of painted heraldic devices over the arched stone fire-place. The shields of arms were cut in stone, and surrounded with a series of circular panels displaying geometrical figures, at the date of the erection of the building ; but falling into indifferent hands, they had become almost invisible by coatings of whitewash or dirt. Mr. Harrison had the designs carefully cleared, and the tinctures of the arms replaced under the direction of Mr. Shaw, F.S.A. These shields and the geometric patterns in panel constitute a rich and most appropriate mural embellishment. The arms in the centre shield are those of the Southworths impaling Hoghton, with the Southworth crest above, flanked by the arms of Hoghton of Hoghton Tower quartered with Assheton, with the Hoghton crest and initials "R H, KNT.;" and the arms of Langton of Walton Hall, with the crest and initials "T L, KNT." Above these emblems is an interesting inscription, fixing, as it does, the date of the rebuilding of this wing of Samlesbury Hall in or before the year 1545, *temp.* Henry VIII. The inscribed words are :—

Thomas Southworth, Kut. Ao. Dni. Mccccxlv.

The dimensions of this room are twenty-seven feet by fifteen feet. It is lighted by two large square-headed windows, with stone mullions and traceried heads. The butler's pantry adjoining, and the kitchens beyond, are recent extensions of the original plan. In the range of chambers on the upper floor the open-timber roof has been preserved.

The spandrils of the curved bracing-ribs are finished with carved foliage. A cornice of handsome design surrounds the rooms. The partitions are new. On the south-west front these upper rooms have windows of three lights, square-headed and traceried. On the north-east side, the windows lighting the upper corridor are recessed, and supported by oaken corbels, the external surfaces of which are carved with human faces and other devices. Mr. Harrison has furnished the hall in a style which, while in strict keeping with its antique grandeur, greatly enriches the aspect of its interior.

At the time of its erection, Samlesbury Hall was semi-fortified, and was surrounded by a moat, remains of which are still existing. Recently, when making a deep drain near the conservatory, the workmen broke into the underground dungeon of the hall, a dark walled cavity, 15ft. by 15ft., and 12ft. in height. The bones of several human bodies also have been dug up in the grounds.

DE HOLAND, LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

Sir Robert de Holand (knighted before 1281, son and heir of Thurstan and grandson of Robert de Holand, lord of Up-Holand, Co. Lancaster), by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Sir William de Samlesbury, had sons, Robert, William, and Adam; and daughters, Joan, wife, first, of Sir Edmund Talbot of Bashall; secondly, of Sir Hugh de Dutton; and thirdly, of Sir John Radcliffe of Ordsall; Margery, wife of John, eldest son of Sir John de la Warre, baron of Manchester; and Avena, wife of Adam, son of Sir John Ireland, Knt., lord of Hutt.

Sir Robert de Holand, Knt., son of Sir Robert, a noted warrior of his time, married Maud, youngest daughter and a co-heir of Alan, Lord de la Zouch, and had sons, Robert; Sir Thomas de Holand, K.G. (who married Joan, daughter and heiress of John Plantagenet, Earl of Kent, and obtained, in right of his wife, the title of Earl of Kent); Sir Otho de Holand, K.G.; and Alan de Holand of Wirksworth. Between the years 1301-3, Sir Robert de Holand was engaged in the war in Scotland. In 1311, he was made Governor of Beeston Castle, Co. Chester, and in 1314-15 was again marching northward against the Scots at the head of the Lancashire levies. He was summoned to Parliament as a baron in 1314. In 1322, he joined with his forces the rebellion of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, after whose defeat Sir Robert de Holand surrendered to the King, when all his estates, including the moiety of the manor of Samlesbury, were confiscated. In 1328, Edward III. ordered the restoration of these forfeited possessions to Sir Robert de Holand. Sir Robert de Holand died in 1328, and his son and heir was found to be then aged 16 years.

Sir Robert de Holand, next heir of the Samlesbury estate, was summoned to Parliament, as second baron, 25th Feb., 1342, and died in 1372. By Elizabeth his wife he had issue, sons, Robert ; and John, who died without issue. Sir Robert de Holand held at his death, in 1372, the manors of Holland, Hale, and Orrell ; the manor of Samlesbury, held of the lord Duke of Lancaster by homage and fidelity and by the service of 6s., the said manor being worth yearly £30 12s. 11d.; and numerous other estates in the county, among them the fourth part of the manor of Over Derwent in this parish, held of Ralph de Langton, by homage and fidelity, worth yearly 6s. 8d.

Robert de Holand, son of Sir Robert, died before his father in 1359. By Joan his wife he had a daughter and heiress, Matilda (or Maud), who became wife of Sir John de Lovel, K.G., and by the union the estates of the Holands of this branch, including this half of Samlesbury manor, passed to the Lords Lovel. By inquisition dated April 4th, 47th Edw. III. (1373), it was proved that Sir Robert de Holand, the father, had died March 16th, 1372, and that Matilda, daughter of Robert, son of Sir Robert de Holand, deceased, whom Sir John Lovel had to wife, was next heir to the said Sir Robert, and was of the age of seventeen years and upwards.¹

LOVEL, LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

Sir John Lovel, K.G. (second son of John Baron Lovel of Tichmersh, and heir to his elder brother John), by Maud [Matilda] Holand his wife, had a son and heir John. Sir John was summoned to Parliament in 1375. Matilda Lovel, Sir John's widow, died in 1423, seized of the manors of Upholland and Halewood, and the moiety of the manor of Samlesbury, with other estates in Lancashire and Derbyshire.

John, Lord Lovel, died in 1414. He married Alianore de la Zouch, and had a son William, who had livery of the lands of his father's mother, Matilda, late widow of Sir John Lovel, Knt., by precept dated June 14th, 1st Henry VI., being then aged 26 years.

William, Lord Lovel, died in 1455. By his wife Alice, widow of Ralph Butler of Sudley, and sister and co-heir of William, Lord Deincourt, he had issue, sons, John ; William, married Alianore, heiress of Robert, Lord Morley ; Robert ; and Henry.

John, Lord Lovel, son and heir, died in 1465. His wife was Joan, daughter of John, and sister and heir of William Viscount Beaumont, and he had a son Francis ; and daughters, Joan, wife of Sir Bryan Stapleton, Knt.; and Frideswide, wife of Sir Edward Norris, Knt.

¹ Note by Mr. W. A. Hulton, in *Coucher Book of Whalley* (p. 979); and Mr. William Langton's edition of *Lanc. Inquisitions* (Cheth. Socy., v. xcix).

Francis, Lord Lovel, created Viscount Lovel 4th Jan., 1483, married Ann, daughter of Henry, Lord Fitzhugh, and died without issue. He was supposed to have been slain at the battle of Stoke, June 16th, 1487, fighting against the King (Henry VII). This peer had been attainted after the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, as a partizan of Richard III., and of his sequestrated estates the moiety of Samlesbury manor was granted by Henry VII., in 1489, to Thomas, first Earl of Derby.

EARLS OF DERBY AS LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

The moiety of Samlesbury Manor granted to Thomas Stanley, first Earl of Derby, by the Crown, on its forfeiture by Lord Lovel's attainer, was found in possession of Thomas second Earl of Derby at the date of his death; and in the escheat, dated 1521, Samlesbury Manor is named among the late Earl's numerous estates. Edward, third Earl of Derby, held his manor-court at Samlesbury, in conjunction with Sir John Southworth, June 30th, 1557; and in 1575 is dated a record of verdicts in the court of Henry fourth Earl of Derby and Sir John Southworth for this manor. At this court it was agreed "that the headge from the fowte of bosburnbroke unto the heade of beswalle shalbe the meires [bounds] betwene the Erle of Derbye and Sr John Sowthworth, Knight." This moiety of Samlesbury was sold by William, sixth Earl of Derby, to Sir Thomas Walmesley the Judge; who appears as lord in the 6th Jas. I. (1608). This estate is not named in Justice Walmesley's settlement of his estates in 1606, so that it was probably acquired by him between 1606 and 1608.

WALMESLEY AND PETRE, LORDS OF SAMLESBURY.

The Walmesleys of Dunkenhalgh held this moiety of Samlesbury from the beginning of the 17th century until their main descent ended in an heiress, Catherine Walmesley, who married Robert, Baron Petre, in 1712-13. From that time to the present the estate has pertained to the Petre family. Edward Petre, Esq., of Whitley Abbey, Coventry, is the present owner of the estate, which, in 1875, comprised about 2000 statute acres, extending over the west and south-west portions of the township. In 1875, the Corporation of Blackburn acquired by compulsory purchase, for the purposes of a sewage farm, 375 acres of the estate, the price of which was fixed by arbitration at £44,800. In July of the same year 405 acres were sold in lots, by public auction, to several parties for a gross sum of £23,700. The portions of the estate thus severed chiefly lie contiguous to the Darwen, on both banks of the river. Mr. Edward Petre still retains 1122 statute acres of land in Samlesbury.

Other landowners in Samlesbury are:—George Walmsly, Esq., who has 348 statute acres; J. C. Kay, Esq., 196½ acres; J. Fisher

Armistead, Esq., 125½ acres; Henry Gaskell, Esq., 120 acres; Robert Hubberstey, Esq., 106½ acres; Sir W. H. Feilden, Bart., 85½ acres; Daniel Thwaites, Esq., M.P., 55 acres; &c.

HOGHTON OF ROACHER HOUSE.

Henry Hoghton, Esq., was sixth son of Sir Gilbert Hoghton of Hoghton Tower, Knt. and Bart. At Brindle Church, Sept. 15th, 1656, "Henry Hoghton of Walton" married Dame Mary Stanley of Bickerstaff (widow of Sir Thomas Stanley of Bickerstaff, Bart., who died in 1653). I think there was no issue to this marriage. Henry Hoghton, Esq., sometime resided at Roacher House, Samlesbury, and on his estate at Brinscall. An indenture in the muniment chest at Samlesbury Hall is a deed of exchange, dated Jan. 10th, 1678, between Edward Southworth, Esq., and Henry Houghton of Brinscawe, Esq., of a pew in Samlesbury Church owned by Edward Southworth, for another pew "behind the north church door in the alley called Yeoman's Alley, belonging to the capital messuage of Henry Hoghton called Roacher, in Samlesbury." Henry Hoghton, Esq., died in 1682. His Will is dated 6th January, 1681-2; and was proved on the 5th February, 1681-2. Testator is described as "of Brinscall;" mentions his wife Mary; nephew Sir Charles Hoghton; sisters — Rigby of Middleton, Lady Stanley, and — Whitley; gives to Sir Charles Hoghton of Hoghton, Edward Rigby of Preston, Serjeant-at-law, Benjn. Hoghton, Esq., brother of the said Sir Charles, and Edwd. Fleetwood of Penwortham, Esq., three several sums of £50 for the benefit of the officiating clergymen of Heapy, Low Church (Walton-in-le-Dale), and Samlesbury, at the discretion of the trustees; refers to real estate of testator in Samlesbury and Wheelton; appoints wife Mary sole executrix.

Roacher Hall, Samlesbury, situate on the bank of the Darwen near Roacher Bridge, is a two-storied stone house of the seventeenth century, with mullioned and transomed windows on its south frontage, and a doorway in the centre, beneath a low moulded semi-circular arch; above is a stone with the Hoghton arms and crest sculptured upon it, and lettered with the initials "H H" and the motto "Malgre le Tort." In the end wall of the house is another stone with the arms on the left upper corner, and inscribed in capitals:—"This Bvlding was erected Anno Domini 1675 by Henry Hoghton, Esqr. son to Sr Gilbert Hoghton, Knight and Baranet." The barn in the rear is about the same age, and on the lintel of the main door are the initials "H H" and the year "1673." Inside the barn, in the hayloft, a stone in the wall with ornamented border displays the initials "H H" (Henry Hoghton), and "M S" (Mary Stanley, his wife); below, the date "1673."

THE
SCHOOL
OF
ARTS
AND
CRAFTS
OF
THE
CITY
OF
BOSTON
1863



LOWER HALL, SAMLESBURY. [PAGE 671

WALMESLEY OF LOWER HALL.

I have mentioned that Sir Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalgh (son of the Judge) purchased from Thomas Southworth, before 1624, the Lower Hall of Samlesbury and lands attached thereto. This estate was given to William Walmesley, Esq., second surviving son of Sir Thomas, who resided at the Lower Hall many years. In 1664, "William Walmesley of Samlesbury" is named in the family record made by Dugdale. His first wife was Anne, widow of Mr. Edward French of Preston, and daughter of Mr. James Walton of Preston. He was thrice married, but had no issue. He appears as a foreign burgess of Preston on the Guild Roll of 1682 and 1702. He died in Oct., 1712; and "Mr. William Walmesley of Lower Hall in Samlesbury" was buried at Blackburn, Oct. 23rd, 1712.

Lower Hall is a rather handsome old house, in a secluded situation on the bank of the Ribble. The hall fronts to the south, and has a three-storied gabled projection for the porch. The walls have been fronted with brick, and altered in other respects from their original character. Some good trees and orchard enclosures surround the hall. A large apartment in the hall was used as a chapel for the Roman Catholics of Samlesbury during a long period. The Lower Hall estate now belongs to Edward Petre, Esq.

FLEETWOOD HALL.

Fleetwood Hall, situated on the south side of the Darwen within the bounds of this township, was formerly a residence of the branch of the Fleetwood family whose members for several generations farmed the Rectorial Glebe of Blackburn; this estate being parcel of the glebe lands. I have before given some particulars of this family (ante, p. 275, Note.) The house is old, but has no feature worth mention excepting an oaken stair with carved spiral baluster. The estate, of 196½ statute acres, is now the property of Mr. Kay, of Bury. In the yard a stone that has formed the lintel of a doorway is inscribed with the date "1687" and some initials, partially effaced, which seem like "R H U L" and "A M S."

CULCHETH OF SOWERBUTTS GREEN.

Hector Culcheth, yeoman, occurs as a freeholder in Samlesbury between 1695 and 1710. An indenture dated July 16th, 1695, witnesses that in consideration of £350 paid to Christopher Moire of Hathbushes, Co. Durham, gent., and his brother John Moire of Preston, gent., by Hector Culcheth of Samlesbury, yeoman, the first parties sell to Hector Culcheth a tenement upon Sarbrose Green, in Samlesbury, containing 32 acres customary measure. Hector Culcheth had two daughters, Isabel, and Mary. Mary Culcheth married Robert Hubberstey, yeoman. A deed dated Jan. 7th, 1709, witnesses that Hector Culcheth, in performance of articles of agreement dated the 23rd June last past, between Hector Culcheth and Robert Hubberstey and Mary his wife and Isabel Culcheth, for securing the payment of a rent charge of £8 10s. yearly to Hector Culcheth for his life, releases, &c., to Robert and Mary Hubberstey, Isabel Culcheth, Roger Eastham and Thomas Lawrenson, the messuage on Sarbrose Green; Isabel Culcheth to receive a moiety of the rents thereof, and her sister Mary's

husband to receive the other moiety. Hector Culcheth was dead before 1727. His daughter, Isabel Culcheth, died in 1730; and by her Will, dated Jan. 2nd, 1729-30, Isabel Culcheth, of Samlesbury, spinster, gives her estate called Haydock tenement to her nephew William Hubberstey; with bequests to her nephews John and James Hubberstey, and nieces, Dorothy, Anne, and Elizabeth; sister Mary Hubberstey, and nephew William, executors.

HUBBERSTEY OF SOWERBUTTS GREEN.

Robert Hubberstey, yeoman, by his wife Mary, daughter of Hector Culcheth, had issue, sons, William; John (who had issue, by his wife Elizabeth, Robert, James, John, Mary, and Joane); and James; and daughters, Dorothy, Ann, and Elizabeth. Robert Hubberstey acquired, as stated above, the estate on Sowerbutts Green; and he died Oct. 10th, 1727, and was buried at Brindle Catholic Chapel. By his Will, dated Jan. 20th, 1727, testator gives each of his six children £20 a piece on attaining the age of 21 years; the residue of his goods to his wife Mary. Will proved at Chester, March 20th, 1727-8. Mary Hubberstey, widow of Robert, died in extreme old age, Nov. 22nd, 1766.

William Hubberstey of Samlesbury, yeoman, married, Dec. 2nd, 1732, Mary Eccles of Alston, and by her (who died in 1745) had a son Robert; and daughters, Elizabeth, married John Wilcock; Mary, married — Turner; and Dorothy, married, in 1760, Edward Simpson of Simpson Fold, Wheelton. William Hubberstey settled his estate by deed dated Feb. 13th, 1771, and died soon afterwards.

Robert Hubberstey, yeoman, son of William, married, in 1767, Mary, daughter of William Watson of Preston. He had sons, William; John; Robert, married Cicely Fazackerley; Thomas, James, Edward and Richard; and a daughter Catherine. Robert Hubberstey sold an estate he had in Brindle (Denham Hall estate), in 1776, to William Morris of Up-Holland, gent., for £584. He had on lease the estate of Over Brockholes. By his Will, dated Jan. 7th, 1794, Robert Hubberstey gives his estate at Sarbrose Green, Samlesbury, to his son William, subject to an annuity to testator's wife Mary; and the lease of Haydock's tenement, held under Edward Lord Petre, to his son John; to his younger children, each £200. Robert Hubberstey died June 8th, 1794.

William Hubberstey, yeoman, son of Robert, sold his estate in Samlesbury, in 1818, to Henry Sudell, Esq., for £4000; but Mr. Sudell became a bankrupt in 1827, before the purchase money had been paid, and so the estate came back to Mr. Hubberstey. He married Deborah Whittle, by whom he had two sons and a daughter. He died Jan. 20th, 1838.

Robert Hubberstey, gent., son of William, now owns the estate, to which he has made additions, and resides at Sowerbutts Green. He is unmarried. His lands in Samlesbury are returned as 106½ statute acres, with a rental of £170 per annum.

THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD.

In the second half of the 12th century the chapel of Samlesbury was built by Gospatric, lord of Samlesbury, for a chapel-of-ease to Lawe (Walton) parochial chapel, itself a dependent of Blackburn Parish Church. The earliest mention of Samlesbury Chapel is connected with the irregular consecration of a burial-ground there by two Irish bishops, about 1185-1191. An inquisition in the Coucher Book of Stanlaw and Whalley Abbey, taken some years after, shows that the chapel of Sam-

lesbury was at first a chapel of Lawe Church, having no burial-ground, so that the dead of Samlesbury were taken to Walton for interment; and the lord of Samlesbury and the men of the vill carried their first fruits and oblations to Lawe as to the mother-church, and paid the tithes to it until the time of Hugh de Nonant, Bishop of Coventry; in whose time, he being abroad, two bishops from Ireland came to Samlesbury; were received into the house of Gospatric, lord of Samlesbury; and at his request (with the consent of Henry, parson of Lawe and Samlesbury Chapels), consecrated a burial-ground at Samlesbury Chapel. On his return to England, the bishop (de Nonant), in anger revoked the consecration, but afterwards granted that there might be a cemetery there, after whose time the dead were buried at the chapel. The Abbot of Stanlaw prayed for this chapel to be confirmed to the mother-church by pontifical decree. By the bishop's grant of the right of burial at Samlesbury the chapel thus early acquired a parochial character.

By charter, in 1238, John de Lascy gave to the Abbot and Monks of Stanlaw the moiety of Blackburn Church "with the chapels of Walton and of Samlesbury." Thereafter, Samlesbury Chapel remained in the hands of the Cistercian fraternity at Stanlaw-Whalley 300 years, until the dissolution of the Abbey in 1537, and was served by monks of that foundation. John de Evyas, lord of Samlesbury *temp.* Edw. I. (1272-1307), quit-claimed to "the church of Samlesbury, and the rectors and parsons of the same church, that land in Northale called Capelruydyng."

After the suppression, the King's surveyor of Whalley Abbey estates, in 1538, valued "the chappell of Samblesbery with ye tyeth belonging to ye same by ye year" at £12 8s. 1d. Queen Mary's Commissioners, in 1553, reported that "Gylbert Sharples and Thomas Wynkeley, churchwardens of the chappell of Samesburye, sworn and examined, depose and say that there is one bell yet remaining at the said chapell which was seased to the use of our said late Kynge of famous memory, Edwarde the Sixth, by auctorytie of the said former Commysioners;" and computed the value of "one little bell, weighing fourscore pounds, at the rate of 15s. per cwt., belonging to the Chapell of Samesburie," at 10s.

From the suspension of the service of this chapel according to the ritual of Rome, in 1537, until 1558, the fabric fell into disuse and dilapidation, the lord of the manor, and his tenantry for the most part, being "recusant." But the Earl of Derby, owner of a portion of the manorial estate, was moved to restore the tottering structure, and wrote the following missive:—"13 May, 1558, Edward, Earl of Derby, to all his loving frendes. As I am crediblie informed the church at Sambery is in ruine, and indangeringe people that resort to heare God's worde, I

have thought good to move my loving frendes to help with ther charity towards the re-edifying thereof." The chapel would seem to have been partially rebuilt as the result of the Earl's interposition.

Among the names of clergymen in Blackburn Deanery at a Visitation in Aug., 1551, I find "Dno. Edwardus Moldinge ex stipendio Vic. de Blagburn," who was curate of Samlesbury. From the establishment of the Reformed Church of England, *temp.* Elizabeth, I fear the service of the Church in Samlesbury was long uncertain and interrupted, the stipend being too small to maintain a resident curate. James Whitworth, who had been minister here before 1609, was then reported suspended. In 1649, the Presbytery then recently set up in the county appointed a minister to Samlesbury, as the minute below attests:—

Mr. Richard Smethurst, Minister at Samlesbury Chappel. By an order of 13 Dec., 1649, there is 40l. per an. allowed to Mr. Rich. Smethurst, Minister at Samlesbury Chappel, and the arrears due unto him. Mr. Smethurst was ordained by the ministers of Blackborne Classis, and sent to Samlisbury Chappell by them the 4th of Dec., 1649. By a certificate the 10th Decr. under the hands of the chappelrie, it appears he hath served here 20 weekes.

At the Inquisition of the Parliamentary Commission in 1650, it was found concerning this chapelry:—"Samlisbury, a parochiall chappell, had auintiently foure pounds per annum paid by the former viccars of Blackburne to their minister, but now detained, and forty pounds per annum by order of the Committee of this countye. Their present minister, Mr. Smethurst. The inhabitants desire they may bee made a parishe, and that competent maintenance may bee allowed for a minister, they being above one hundred families, and six myles distant from their parishe church, and four myles from any other church."

After the Restoration, in 1660, this Chapel and Walton Church were served in turn by the same curates for about a century. In 1683, it was reported to Primate Sancroft concerning the benefice:—

Samlesbury Chapel or Church, five miles from Blackburn Church, and a mile and a half from any other chappell. They of Samlesbury resort thither. All offices performed there every other Sunday. The same person serves that and Law Church. Samlesbury is a great township. Endowment:—Out of the Vicar of Blackburn, £4; dues for marrying, &c. (coibus annis) £1 10s.; interest of £50, given lately by Mr. H. Houghton, £2 10s.; Mistress Fleetwood promiseth yearly £2; Inhabitants promise £3 14s. 8d. They have no common ground.

It was further stated that the three chapels of Law, Samlesbury and Harwood, although "originally Chapels of Ease, yet now enjoy parochial privileges; called sometime churches and receive stipends—the 1st from the Crown, and 2nd and 3rd from the Vicar, and 2 of them (Law and Samlesbury) are demised in the lease by name with the Rectory of Blackburne." In 1684, this further report of Samlesbury

appears :—“SAMLESBURY CHAPEL.—The inhabitants continue their promise of £3 14s. 8d. during life and no longer. The lord of that manor is a Mr. Braddyll, a merchant in Hatton Garden, London, whose brother has promised to write to him to move him for his assistance. Mr. Henry Halsted, who is his intimate acquaintance, has promised to do the same.” From the Vicar’s Books I get the annexed list of inhabitants who, in 1683, promised sums amounting in the whole to £3 14s. 8d. yearly towards a stipend for a curate :—

We whose names are hereunto subscribed being inhabitants in the chappelry of Samlesbury, and other townships adjoining, doe hereby promise to pay unto such Ministers as shall be appointed by the Ld. Archbishop of Canterbury to officiate at the Chappel of Samlesbury afforesd., such annuall or yearly sumes of money as is hereafter declared and sett downe, viz. :—Henery Anderton 2s. ; Ralph Couberne 2s. ; Robert Sharples 2s. ; Widow Warde 2s. ; Thomas Hey 2s. ; John Hey 2s. ; Richard Eccles 2s. ; John Hothersall 1s. ; Thomas Birley 1s. ; Ralph Harrison 1s. 4d. ; Thomas Silcocke 6d. ; Widow Haydocke 2s. ; James Nihill 2s. ; Matthew Walmisley 1s. ; John Bennet 1s. ; Richard Turner 2s. ; William Bryninge 1s. ; Thomas Heaton 1s. ; Christopher Sumner, 8d. ; John Whalley 1s. 4d. ; George Sharples, 6d. ; Roberte Cunliffe, 2s. ; George Blackowe 1s. ; James Walmisley, 1s. 4d. ; William Harrison 8d. ; William Southworth 1s. ; Thomas Smith 8d. ; Richard Southworth 1s. ; Henery Waddington 1s. ; Henery Southworth 6d. ; Ralph Southworth 6d. ; William Pope 8d. ; Thomas Wilcocke 8d. ; Ellen Shorrocke 8d. ; Mr. William Walmisley 5s. ; Gregory Hoole 1s. ; John Sudell 1s. ; James Turner 8d. ; Roger Haddocke 2s. ; John Lukas 1s. ; Roberte Collinson 1s. 4d. ; Richard Sharples 1s. 4d. ; Lawrence Ainsworth 2s. ; Hugh Shorrocke 2s. ; Thomas fforrest 2s. ; John fforrest 1s. ; John Haddocke, 8d. ; James Haiteley 1s. 4d. ; Robert Easthom 2s. ; Widow Browne 1s. 4d. ; Ralph Moulding 1s. 4d. ; Roberte Harrison 1s. ; Richard Turner, sen, 8d. ; Henry Walmisley 1s.

A return by Mr. Hull, curate of Walton and Samlesbury, dated June 14th, 1714, records :—

The Chappel of Samlesbury in the Parish of Blackburne has belonging to it ye township of Samlesbury, in circumference about ten miles. The number of Inhabitants about two thousand. Is distant from ye Parish Church of Blackburne near five miles. There is one meeting-house of Papists in this chappelry. The endowment of this chappel is as followeth :—Out of ye Vicarage of Blackburne, £4 ; out of ye Archbps. lands in Thornley, about £5 6s. 8d. ; given by ye Archbp. of Canterbury out of ye Rectory of Blackburne, £2 6s. 8d. ; Interest of £50 given by Henry Hoghton, Esq., at £5 10s. per cent., £2 15s. ; total, £14 8s. 4d.

Somewhat later, Bishop Gastrell enters in his *Notitia* these items (besides a statement of the endowment of the chapel):—“ Divine service performed every morning one Sunday, and every afternoon, in summer ; and every other Sunday in winter. Two wardens, chosen by the minister and the principal inhabitants.” Several augmentations of the living have been made since 1760. By a benefaction of £200, given by Mr. John Ainsworth, on Nov. 9th, 1763, two grants of £200 each from Queen Anne’s Bounty were secured in 1765. In 1812, a Parliamentary grant of £400 was made, by lot, to Samlesbury curacy ; and, in 1822, a

gift of £180 from the executors of a Mrs. Moulden, with £20 from parishioners, procured a Parliamentary grant of £300 to meet these benefactions. Oct. 6th, 1841, by an Order in Council, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England made an annual grant of £42 in augmentation of the benefice of Samlesbury. In 1867, the value of the living was given as £150 per annum; and it has since been again augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to £300 per annum. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

I add a list (imperfect in the early part) of incumbents of Samlesbury:—Edward Moulding, occurs A.D. 1551; Thomas Dale, occurs 1553; James Whitworth, susp. 1609; Richard Smethurst, occurs 1649-50; Thomas Abbott, occurs in 1676, died in 1688; William Colton, occurs 1688-9; John Hull, occurs 1703-14, died in 1721; William Vaudrey, 1722-63. (The four last-named were also curates of Walton.) Thomas Baldwin, 1763; John Lewes, 1763-4; George Astley, 1765-6; William Stockdale, 1767-86, or later; Thomas Middleton, 1790-97, or later; James Barnes, 1804-28 (died in 1828); Patrick Comerford Law, inst. April 11th, 1829; H. W. M'Grath, June 22nd, 1830; Francis Law, B.A. (present Vicar), inst. May 18th, 1832.

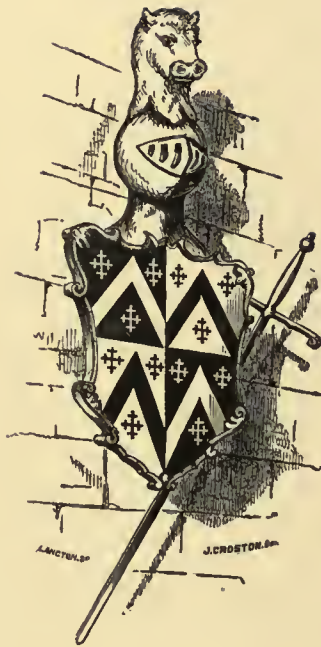
Samlesbury Parochial Chapel retains its ancient structure as restored in the 16th century. It is a plain fabric, about seventy feet long, and consists of a nave with clerestory, north and south aisles, and chancel. The side windows of aisles and clerestory are mullioned, of three lights, with semi-circular heads. The east window is of three lights, with perpendicular tracery; and the west window is a triplet of lancet lights. A pointed doorway (without porch) opens into the south aisle. A square wooden bell-cot at the west end contains two bells, one of them of some antiquity. In the gable-ends of the church, a difference in the masonry of the lower and upper walls may indicate the additions to the original structure, *temp.* Elizabeth. A capacious graveyard surrounds the chapel. In the interior, four pointed arches, rising from octagonal columns, divide the nave from the aisles. A gallery at the west end has on its front the inscription:—"This gallery was erected by John Walton of Preston, for the use of the children belonging to Roacher Factory, A.D. 1790." In the area, the old oaken pews bear in some cases the initials of former owners. The Samlesbury Hall pew is at the east end of the north aisle; and is distinguished by the knightly shield, sword, and crest of Southworth attached to the wall above it. The pew of Hoghton of Rocher is in the south aisle, and has on its door-panel the arms, crest, and motto of Hoghton, with the initials "H H" (Henry Hoghton) and the date "1678." In that year (June 10th) an exchange was made between Henry Hoghton, of Brinscall and Rocher, Esq., and Edward Southworth, of Samlesbury Hall, Esq., of a certain seat and parcel of ground in Samlesbury Chapel, behind the north church door, in the alley called Yeoman Alley, belonging to the capital messuage called Rocher,



PAROCHIAL CHAPEL, SAMLESBURY.

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1851



SOUTHWORTH ARMS AND CREST
IN SAMLESBURY CHAPEL.

for another seat in the said chapel, in the alley called Yeoman Alley, over against the place where the pulpit then stood, belonging to the manor-house of the said Edward Southworth called Samlesbury Hall. There are several modern monuments in the chancel, and a fragment of an ancient slab of alabaster, inscribed to Isabella, daughter of Richard Balderstone. The font is of seeming age, and without enrichment. A "Return of Seats in Samlesbury Church," in 1849, gives:—"Seats in pews, 254; in upper gallery, 70; in lower gallery, 56; total, 380." The Church Registers commence in 1722.

ST. MARIE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

From the date of the Reformation, a body of members of the Church of Rome in Samlesbury, supported by the Southworths, Walmesleys, and Petres, successive manorial lords, have maintained worship here according to the Roman ritual, secretly or openly as the times permitted. It has been stated (see ante, p. 355) that a Mr. Harden (Hawarden) was reported in 1690 as a priest resident in Samlesbury; and that in July, 1709, Bishop Smith came to Mr. Wm. Walmesley's house, the Lower Hall, and confirmed many children of Catholics for three days in succession. The chapel was an attached building at the rear of the Lower Hall until the beginning of the present century. It was dedicated to St. Chad. A tradition is preserved among the Catholics in Samlesbury that in the times of persecution of "recusants," a priest domiciled in the Lower Hall swam across the Ribble behind the hall, when the river was in flood, to escape the pursuivant; and there was formerly hung in the house a picture with a sword-cut through it, said to have been made by one of a party of searchers for a priest suspected to be concealed in the hall. The encroachment of the current of the river some years ago caused the fall of part of the old chapel, vestry, and priest's house into the Ribble; and the rest of the ruin was then taken down. A new chapel was built at South-bank in 1817-18. This chapel is dedicated to St. Marie; and is a plain fabric on the exterior, with semi-circular side-lights. The interior is decorated in the Byzantine style. The number of seats is 246. In 1819, a Catholic congregation of 200 persons was reported in Samlesbury. The succession of priests who have served the mission since 1749 is subjoined. Fr. Wm. Tootell occurs as priest at Samlesbury in that year. After him, in 1753, came Fr. Robert Painter, who died here in 1770, as recorded:—"1770. Martii 10. R. D. Robertus Painter ord. S. Francisci per 16 cercit. Annos apud aulam Inferiorum Missionarius; locus sepulture Samlesbury." It is said that this priest was a maker of weather-glasses. Fr. Alexander Whalley, priest here from Oct. 1770 to Jan., 1785; Fr. Richard Ravenhill, from Oct., 1785 to Oct., 1792, died at Samlesbury, and was buried at Samlesbury Church; Fr. Marsh, from March to May, 1793; Fr. Weetman, from May, 1793, to April, 1798; Fr. Casemore, 1798-1801; Fr. Wm. Pilling, 1801; Fr. Casemore, 1802; Fr. Waring, 1803, to April, 1816, died at Samlesbury, and buried at Samlesbury Church. Fr. Davison, 1816. (All the above were Franciscans; those who follow were seculars.) Fr. John Bell, 1817, to April, 1828; Fr. Wm. Carter, from 1828 to Oct., 1847 (after of St. Joseph's, Liverpool, and died in Sept., 1853); Fr. Wm. Fayer, from 1847 to Jan. 31st, 1875; Fr. Richard Gerrard, from Sept. 1st, 1875; present priest. The existing baptismal and marriage registers of the mission begin in Jan., 1753.

SAMLESBURY SCHOOL.—A school existed in Samlesbury two centuries ago. Its condition in 1685 may be gathered from an application made to the Vicar of Black-

burn in that year, as follows :—" Sir,—It is both the desire and the humble request of us whose names are here subscribed, that you should be pleased to give leave to William Abbott, that he might have the liberty into the chapel for to teach a few children, for he liveth in a little smoking cottage, and the children are almost spoiled, neither is there room enough for them to be taught in. WILLIAM CROSS, WILLIAM BURY, ROBERT YATES." The schoolmaster gave this undertaking :—" I, William Abbot, do promise to forbear teaching schoole at ye foresd. place whensoever I am commanded so to do by the Vicar of Blackburne. Witness my hand this 15 day of June, 1685. (Signed) WILLIAM ABBOT." In 1718 the curate reported "No school." The school has a small endowment; and in 1825 it was reported that the property consisted of a dwelling-house for the master, a croft containing 30 perches, and a piece of land containing about two acres, formerly part of the waste and stated to have been given for the benefit of the school by the lord of the manor. The master also received £8 yearly from the overseers, in pursuance of a resolution passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants, whereby it was agreed that a piece of the waste, about two acres, given to the township by Mr. Braddyll for building a poor-house thereon, should be let, and a portion of the rent paid to the schoolmaster; the rent was then £8 per annum. The master had been appointed by the minister and wardens, being the only persons who attended the meeting, which had been duly notified. He engaged to teach six poor children to read and write. The school was kept in a cottage at Turner Green. All the children were paying quarterages in 1825. The school trustees derive £20 yearly from 6½ acres of land; and the Vicar, Rev. F. Law, as sole acting trustee, has for some years applied the sum to the payment of a stipend for a schoolmistress at the National school, erected near the church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL.—A neat building at Sowerbutts Green, erected by subscription of the Roman Catholics in Samlesbury, was opened as a Day-School in 1875, and is now under Government inspection, with about 50 children in average attendance.

CHARITIES OF SAMLESBURY.

RICHARD HOGHTON'S CHARITY.—Richard Hoghton, Knt., in 1613, conveyed to Thomas Whittingham and others a close of five acres, called Wood Crook in Whittingham, the rent to be distributed amongst the poor of Alston, Preston, and those of Samlesbury Chapel. The proportion of this rent received for distribution to the aged poor in Samlesbury was £3 14s. in 1875. The Vicar, Rev. F. Law, was the almoner.

DOROTHY LANGDALE'S CHARITY.—Dorothy Langdale, wife of Jordan Langdale, by her Will dated Jan. 11th, 1715, set apart £200, after the decease of her servant Hannah Cocker, for the maintenance of aged and necessitous poor persons of Samlesbury, or for the binding out of poor apprentices there, according to the discretion of her executors, Sir Nicholas Sherburne and Geoffrey Prescott. Indentures of lease and release, dated April 19th and 20th, 1736, recite deed dated 14th May, 1715, wherein power was reserved to Dorothy Langdale, by name of Dorothy Walmsley, widow, to dispose of personal property amounting to £2945, by deed or Will. Indenture made July 31st, 1826, between James Wrigley of Manchester, Mary Platt of Glossop, widow, and Miles Southworth of Inskip, of the first part, George Hayes of Turner Green, Samlesbury, of the second part, Rev. James Barnes of Samlesbury, Clerk, William Sharrock of Roach Bridge, James Ward of the Lower Hall, William Brown of Stanley Coppice, William Sharrock of Sowerbutts Green, George Hayes, Alex. Brown and Thomas Sharrock, all of Samlesbury, of the third part, and Chrstr. Bland Walker of Preston, of the 4th part, recites that by indentures dated April 19th

and 20th, 1736, between James Wilson, Mary his wife, and Richard Wilson of the first part, Thomas Pickering, Roger Haydock, John Aspinall, and Henry Southworth of the second part, Martha Prescott and William Atherton of the third part, and Richard Dickson of the fourth part, setting forth that Dorothy Langdale by her Will dated Jan. 11th, 1715, gave £200 to the use of indigent and aged poor in Samlesbury, or for binding out poor apprentices there, and directed the sum to be laid out in the purchase of lands or placed out at interest, and the yearly rent or interest applied as above, and appointed Sir Nicholas Shireburn and Jeffrey Prescott executors; that the said Jeffrey Prescott was survivor, and laid out sums in binding poor children of Samlesbury apprentices, and died April 9th, 1727, having made his wife, Martha Prescott, William Atherton and John Atherton, and John Gillibrand, his executors, and that Martha Prescott and John Atherton proved the Will and undertook the above trust; reciting also a decree made in a cause in the Chancery Court of Lancaster, in conformity to which the sum above was laid out in the purchase of lands; and witnessing that in consideration of £203 3s. paid to the said James Wilson by the said Martha Prescott and William Atherton the said James Wilson did sell to the said Thomas Pickering, Roger Haydock, John Aspinall and Henry Southworth the messuage and lands described below, upon trust that they should employ the yearly rents for charitable uses as aforesaid; that John Aspinall, survivor of those trustees, died March 19th, 1780, leaving daughters, Jennet, Sarah, Catherine, and Elizabeth; of whom Jennet married John Wrigley of Manchester, and died in 1782, leaving a son James Wrigley who died in 1800, leaving a son James Wrigley, party to this indenture; Sarah Aspinall married Benjamin Hinchcliffe of Manchester, and died in 1815, leaving a daughter Mary Platt, wife of John Platt; Catherine Aspinall married Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury, and died in 1815, leaving a son Miles Southworth; and Elizabeth Aspinall married John Ogden of Blackburn and died without issue; and whereas at a meeting of the Inhabitants of Samlesbury held many years ago, William Alker, Thomas Forrest, John Hayes, and George Hayes were appointed trustees of the said charity, and George Hayes, the survivor, left a son George Hayes, party to these presents; and whereas at a meeting of the Inhabitants of Samlesbury, they appointed James Barnes, incumbent of Samlesbury Parochial Chapel, William Sharrock, James Ward, William Brown, William Sharrock, George Hayes, Alex. Brown and Thomas Sharrock, to be new trustees of the said charity, and the said James Wrigley, Mary Platt, Miles Southworth, and George Hayes have agreed to convey the said lands to the new trustees; now this Indenture witnesses that the said James Wrigley, &c., have sold, &c., all that messuage with closes of land in Whittle-in-le-Woods, containing 6 acres of land, &c., to the use of the said new trustees, upon trust for such purposes as are declared in the said Will, and in Indentures dated the 19th and 20th April, 1736; provided that the Incumbent for the time being of Samlesbury Chapel shall be a trustee, and that the trustees shall from time to time fill vacancies in the number of trustees, &c. The accounts of this charity show that the Incumbent of Samlesbury, Rev. F. Law, has acted from before 1853 to the present time (1876) as sole trustee, and has received the sum of £25 annually in rent of the charity lands, which has been expended in gifts, material for clothing, &c., to sundry poor persons.

MARY VALENTINE'S CHARITY.—Mary Valentine, by Will dated Dec. 14th, 1840, gave to her brother, John Valentine of Cuedale, yeoman, Rev. Robert Hornby, of Walton-in-le-Dale, clerk, William Calvert of Walton-in-le-Dale, cotton spinner, and Peter Haydock, of Preston, gentleman, trustees and executors of her Will, the sum of £1000, the interest whereof to be first disposed of for the benefit of certain

cousins of testator, and after the decease of the last survivor of them, then "upon trust to call in the said £1000, and apply the sum and interest in manner following:—As to £500, part thereof, to the Governors of the Bounty of Queen Anne, to be applied for and towards the augmentation of the maintenance of the resident minister officiating at the Church in Samlesbury," &c.; and as to a further sum of £250, directs trustees to pay the interest thereof "unto the Minister for the time being of Samlesbury Church aforesaid, to be by him applied for the support of the Sunday School at Samlesbury, connected with the Established Church;" and as to the residue of the said £1000, in trust to pay the interest thereof "unto the Minister of Samlesbury Church aforesaid, and the Churchwardens for the time being, to be by them applied for the benefit of such of the poor aged persons (not receiving parochial relief) resident in Samlesbury aforesaid, as are most needy and deserving, at or about Christmas." Miss Mary Valentine died Feb. 25th, 1842, and her Will was proved Aug. 22nd, 1842. In accordance with a decretal order dated Jan. 31st, 1862, her bequest of £1000 was paid into the Bank of England on June 30th, 1862, and was invested in 3% Bank Annuities. The dividends thereupon are distributed in charity and to the support of Samlesbury Sunday School by the Vicar and wardens.

BARNES' CHARITY.—Rev. James Barnes, sometime incumbent of this chapelry, who died in 1828, gave a rent-charge of £3 yearly in lieu of tithe on a farm in Osbaldeston, for a charity, which is distributed in clothing to poor persons in Salmesbury by the trustee, Rev. F. Law, the Vicar.

CHAPTER XVIII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF TOCKHOLES.

Topography—Extent—Population—Descent of the Manor—Radcliffes of Ordsall as lords—Garston of Tockholes—Hollinshead Family—Hollinshead Hall—Shorrock, present lord—Other Landowners—Old Freeholding Families—Aspden of Red Lee—Baron—Everfield—Halliwell of Halliwell Fold—Hoghton of Red Lee—Marsden of Ryall and Bradley—Richardson—Walmsley of the Hill and Ryall—Church of St. Stephen the Martyr—Old Nonconformist Meeting House—Tockholes School, and Charities.

TOCKHOLES is a township (anciently conjoined with Livesey) upon the south-western border of Blackburn Parish. The lands of Tockholes occupy the slopes and spurs of a high moorland, the ridges of which are Tockholes Moor and Cartridge Hill; and fall towards the Roddlesworth stream, the parish boundary, which passes down a narrow valley to its confluence with the Darwen. The employment is chiefly agricultural; but Messrs. Shorrock & Bror. have a cotton weaving-mill in the township. The acreage of Tockholes is 2050 statute acres. The population has been decreasing since hand-loom cottage weaving ceased to be a considerable industry. In 1801 the population was 758; 1811, 1077; 1821, 1269; 1831, 1124; 1841, 1023; 1851, 939; 1861, 820; 1871, 646.

The manor-estate of Tockholes has been successively held by the Radcliffes of Ordsall, Hollinsheads, and Shorrocks.

RADCLIFFE OF ORDSALL, LORDS OF TOCKHOLES.

The demesne of Hollinhead in Tockholes is named as a possession of the family of Radcliffe, lords of Ordsall, *temp.* Edw. II. A return of tenants of the Duchy of Lancaster, dated 1311, states that John de Radcliffe, who held "Urdsale manor," also had "100 acres in the place called Holinhead in Tokholes, held by the service of 2s. yearly."

The early descents of Radcliffe of Ordsall are recorded in an ancient document (*Harleian MS. 1925*) as follows:—Henry Radcliffe had a son John; the latter had a son and heir Richard; and Richard Radcliffe's son was named John. John Radcliffe, marrying Johanna de Holland, had a son and heir named Richard; and Richard was father of John Radcliffe, Knt.

Richard de Radcliffe died in 1380, his son and heir John being then aged 27 years, and was found to have been seized of Urdesale Manor and other estates ; and he held of the King and Duke in socage "le Holynded in Tokholes by the service of 2s. per annum, and there are there one messuage, 6 acres of arable land, whereof any acre is worth 6d. per annum, sum 3s ; 20 acres of meadow, worth 4d. per acre, sum 6s. 8d.; and 60 acres of pasture worth 4d. per acre, sum 20s."

Sir John de Radcliffe of Ordsall, Knt., is found giving recognizance to Sir Ralph de Radcliffe, Knt., of a debt of £100, March 20th, 1405 (6th Henry IV). Sir John Radcliffe was dead in 1422, when the escheator received precept (Aug. 9th) to give to John his son livery of his late father's lands. It appeared by inquisition that Sir John Radcliffe was seized of Ordsall Manor ; half the Manor of Flixton ; bailiwick of Rochdale ; Manor of Hope, &c.; that in the 19th Ric. II. (1396) Sir John had granted to John his son and heir, and to his wife Clemence, daughter of Hugh de Standish, and their heirs, Shoresworth Manor in the town of Pendlebury ; lands in Hope Manor ; and other messuages and lands in Lyvesey and Tokhols ; that the said Sir John Radcliffe, Knt., died June 30th, 1422, and that John Radcliffe was his son and heir, aged 40 years. This was Sir John de Radcliffe, Knt., who died in 1434. His son, Alexander Radcliffe, Esq., died in 1476 ; and his son, William Radcliffe, Esq., was father of Sir John Radcliffe, Knt. Sir John's son was—

Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt., lord of Ordsall, who died in 1548, aged 72, held at death the manor of Tockholes and Livesey, with 7 messuages, 60 acres of land arable, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 4 acres of wood and underwood, and 100 acres of moor, moss, and turbary in Tockholes and Livesey. This was the extent and nature of the agriculture upon the manorial estate in Tockholes for several generations of this family—a total acreage of about 214 acres customary, of which the half was moor, turbary, and woodland. Sir Alexander had died on Feb. 5th preceding the inquisition for escheat. William Radcliffe, Knt., was his son and heir, then aged 46 years and upwards.

Sir William Radcliffe, Knt., lord of Ordsall, who died Oct. 12th, 1568, was seized of the Manor of Tockholes and Livesey, and of one water-mill, 17 messuages, 60 acres of arable land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 4 acres of wood and underwood, and 100 acres of moor, moss, and turbary in Tockholes. His first wife was Margaret, daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford, Knt., by whom he had issue, Alexander, *ob. s. p.* ; John, eventual heir ; Richard ; Helene, wife of Edward Standish of Standish, Esq.; and Alice, wife of Francis Tunstall of Thurland Castle, Esq. His second wife was Ann daughter of Ralph Caterall of Mitton, relict of Sir John Towneley, Knt.

Sir John Radcliffe, Knt., who died in Feb., 1589, aged 53, was seized at death of Tockholes Manor, &c. His son and heir was Alexander.

Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt., died unmarried, slain at the battle of Cunley Hill, Ireland, in Aug., 1599. Escheat taken Dec. 19th, 42nd Eliz., showed that he was seized of Ordsall Manor, &c.; and of the reversion of one water-mill, 17 messuages, 60 acres of arable land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 4 acres of woodland, and 100 acres of moor, moss, and turbarry in Tockholes, held of the Queen as of the Duchy of Lancaster in socage, paying 2s. rent. Of this estate Sir Alexander was expectant upon the death of Ann Radcliffe, widow, mother of Alexander and relict of John Radcliffe, Knt.; she being survivor of her son, and living at Tockholes at the date of the escheat.

Sir John Radcliffe, Knt., lord of Ordsall and Tockholes, had by Alice his wife, eldest daughter of Sir John Byron, Knt., of Newstead, Co. Notts, issue, Alexander, son and heir, born April 27th, 1608; and daughters, Mary, Alice, and Anne. Sir John was Lieut.-Col. in the English army in Ireland; and he was slain in the Isle of Rhé, Oct. 29th, 1627 (or, according to the escheat, Nov. 5th). By inquisition taken at Bolton, Sept. 9th, 4th Charles I., Sir John Radcliffe, Knt., was found to have been seized of Ordsall Manor; other various estates; and of the Manor of Tockholes, held of the King in socage by fidelity and 2s. rent, value 40s., its appurtenances including 20 messuages, one water mill, 60 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 4 acres of woodland, and 100 acres of moor, moss and turbarry. Alexander Radcliffe was his son and heir, aged 20 years and upwards.

The last Sir Alexander Radcliffe sold his estates about the middle of the 17th century; but he still held Tockholes manor in 1650, when a Rental of the Wapentake of Blackburn names Sir Alexander Radcliffe, paying 2s. yearly for his tenure of this estate to Clitheroe Court.

GARSTON OF TOCKHOLES.

The Garstons of Tockholes traced their lineage up to William de Gerston of Penwortham, to whose son, John de Gerston, Thomas Molyneux de Keuerdale, by deed dated 41st Edw. III. (1367), quit-claimed all his right in the hamlet of Tockholes within the vill of Livesey. By Johan his wife, John de Gerston of Tockholes had a son Ludovic. John was dead prior to 1396, for in the 19th Richard II. Johan de Gerston, widow, released service for all her right in the vill of Tockholes.

Ludovic de Gerston held lands in Tockholes, let to Richard son of Roger de Whalley of Livesey, by deed dated 4th Henry V. (1416); witnessed by Richard de Hoghton, Henry de Hoghton, Knt., Thomas de Southworth, and Thomas de Osbaldeston. By his wife Elena, daughter of Thomas Dicconson Harrison, he had a son Ralph.

Ralph de Gerston, by Alice, his wife, daughter of Richard Haydock of Haydock, had a son James.

James de Gerston had a son John by Margery his wife, named as widow 22nd Edw. IV (1492).

John Garston, of Tockholes, died before the year 1500, and by several inquisitions taken in the 16th Henry VII., he was found to have been seized of 10 messuages, 40 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture in Tockholes and Livesey; also of one messuage and 14 acres in Whittle-in-le-Moores, by the 26th part of a knight's fee. John Garston was son and heir, then aged 8 years.

John Garston, the next in order, who died June 10th, 22nd Henry VIII. (1530), was found by the escheat to have held his lands in Tockholes of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt., in socage. James Garston, son and heir of John, was aged 8 years. Ann, widow of John, was living in 1531.

James Garston, infant heir of John, was the ward of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Knt., lord of Tockholes Manor; who, by indenture dated July 9th, 22nd Henry VIII., sold the wardship and marriage of James, son of John Gerstan, to William Clayton of Little Harwood for £10. James Garston of Tockholes, by Ella his wife, had issue, sons, James, and John, and was living in 1552.

James Garston the younger, of Tockholes, gent., occurs in the 6th Edward VI (1552-3). In the 1st and 2nd Philip and Mary (1554), Oliver Gerstane disputed at law with James Gerstane and others a claim to rent of a messuage, lands, and wood in Whittle-in-le-Woods.

A. D. 1611, is dated a complaint of Edward Osbaldeston of Osbaldeston, Esq. Whereas complainant ought to be lawfully seized of the whole manor and waste of Tockholes, heretofore inheritance of one James Garston, whose ancestor did sometime marry one of two daughters and co-heirs of the then lord of the manor of Tockholes, and thereby became lawfully seized of the said manor and waste, &c. So it is, if it please your Worshipp, that Dame Anne Radcliffe, widowe, and one Richard Bayley, Thomas Browne, Richard Halliwell, John Hindle, and William Critchlowe, all of Tockholes, yeomen, having combined, &c., with other persons not known to orator, and got into their hands ancient deeds, court rolles, terriers, &c., that beforetime did belong to said Garston or which in right appertain to orator, and have entered into the said waste or common of Tockholes, and have wrongfully expelled said orator, who having made a ditch and hedge round the said waste, &c., the said Dame Anne Radcliffe, Richard Barker, Christopher Astley, Thomas Browne, &c., being all armed, weaponed, and arrayed in warlyke manner, and being assembled at Tockholes aforesaid, did on the 8th June last repair to the said ditch and hedge, and pulled down, raysed, and laid waste the said hedge and ditch in ryotous manner, &c.

After this the descent of the Garstons becomes less clear. Some of the family were seated on the Whittle estate, and in 1574 Oliver and Lawrence Garstane were both taxed in the military levy for Leyland

Hundred. James Garsten, of Tockholes, was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1590. He died in 1595. William Garstane, of Tockholes, died in March, 1652-3. John Garston of Tockholes, died in August, 1690. William Garston of Tockholes, yeoman, died in August, 1703. By Jennet his wife (living as widow in 1710), he had sons, James, and Thomas; and a daughter Margaret. James Garsden of Tockholes, yeoman, son and heir of William, born in 1677, married, in Dec., 1708, Elizabeth Thompson of Eccleshill. Thomas Garsden of Tockholes, brother of James, born in 1679, had a son William, born in 1708. The old message that belonged to this family is yet called "Garstanes."

BROCK-HOLLINSHEAD OF HOLLINSHEAD HALL AND BILLINGE
CARR.

I have not succeeded in finding the date at which this family acquired manorial estate in Tockholes, or whether it was from the last of the Radcliffes of Ordsall. The Hollinsheads of Tockholes claim descent from those of Sutton and Copthurst; and it has been stated that they held Tockholes manor before the year 1400; and lands in Tockholes in the sixteenth century; but the name does not once occur in connexion with the township in escheats, Subsidy Rolls, or other documentary evidences down to the middle of last century. The modern descent of Hollinsheads is as follows:—Edward Hollinshead, son of Edward and grandson of William of Nottingham, had an only daughter, Emma, who was married to Edward Brock of Bothwell. A grandson, William Brock, assumed the additional name of Hollinshead on succeeding to the estates of a cousin, John Hollinshead. William Brock-Hollinshead, Esq., dying without issue in 1803, left the Tockholes estate to his nephew Lawrence Brock, Esq., who added to his own the surname of Hollinshead. By his first wife Margaret, daughter of Edward Edwards, Esq., he had a son Edward, who died, aged 13, Dec. 11th, 1820. By his second wife Mary, daughter of Roger Potts, Esq. (she died Aug. 18th, 1824), he had sons, Henry; Lawrence, died young; Clifford; and Frederick; and a daughter Emma, wife of James Whigham, Esq. He married, thirdly, Jan. 8th, 1829, Eliza, daughter of Rev. Wm. Hampson, and had a daughter Eliza, born in 1833. Lawrence Brock-Hollinshead sold the manor of Tockholes to the late Eccles Shorrocks, Esq., and he died, aged 60, July 25th, 1838. His son, Henry Brock-Hollinshead, Esq., born March 22nd, 1819, married, Sept. 11th, 1845, Margaret, daughter of James Nevill, Esq., of Beardwood, and had issue, a son Hugh Nevill, born Sept. 30th, 1846; and daughters, Beatrice, and Edith. Henry Brock-Hollinshead of Billinge Carr, Blackburn, died, aged 37, March 14th, 1858.

Hollinshead Hall, the manor-house of Tockholes, is now untenanted and in a state of decay. A wing of the existing hall is of some age, but has no interesting feature. The other block was rebuilt in 1776. Its situation is at the foot of a wooded knoll among the moors at the southern extremity of Tockholes and of the parish of Blackburn. In the garden is an antique well, enclosing a spring of water of curative properties to which, of yore, the name of "Holy Well" was given. The manor-estate, of 890 statute acres, is now the property of Eccles Shorrocks, Esq., J.P., of Low Hill House, Darwen.

Other present landowners in Tockholes are :—Marquis de Rothwell, about 208 acres; the Misses Lowe, 53 acres; Boardman Trustees, 88 acres; Col. Feilden, 114 acres; Cunliffe and Grundy, 48 acres; John Eccles' Trustees, 64 acres; Trustees of Independent Chapel, 11½ acres.

I add genealogical notes on some of the old yeoman or freeholding families in Tockholes.

ASPDEN OF RED LEE.

Henry Aspden of Tockholes was dead before 1570, when his widow paid the Subsidy tax. James Aspden of Tockholes died in 1621; his widow died in 1622.

Robert Aspden of Tockholes, gent., witness to a deed dated 1620, was the Robert Aspden of Red Lee who died in April, 1655; buried May 2nd. His widow died in 1658.

Richard Aspden of Red Lee, yeoman, was taxed to a Subsidy for lands in Tockholes in 1663. He occurs as a trustee in a deed of gift to Tockholes Chapel in 1670. He rebuilt the homestead at Red Lee in 1674. The initials "R A E" (for Richard and Elizabeth or Ellen Aspden), and the date "1674" are over the porch. He died in April, 1679.

Another Richard Aspden of Tockholes married, in 1677, Ann Gregson.

John Aspden of Tockholes, yeoman, probably son of Richard, occurs in 1715, and in 1726 as a trustee of Chapel Stock. His son—

Thomas Aspden of Red Lee, a Trustee of the Nonconformist Meeting House in 1735, died in May, 1749. By Hannah his wife (buried May 1st, 1759) he had a son John, and other issue.

John Aspden, of Tockholes, yeoman, married Mary Beardwood, and had a son Henry, born in 1755.

Henry Aspden of Tockholes, son of John, was many years overseer of the township, surveyor of highways and collector of assessed and property taxes. He was a trustee of the old Independent Meeting-house. Henry Aspden married Betty, daughter of Mr. Edward Gregson of Tockholes, and had a son, Moses (Moses Aspden, of Tockholes, born in 1807, married Mary, daughter of John Richardson, and died at Darwen in 1876); and daughters, Mary, and Hannah. Henry Aspden died, aged 75, Sept. 24th, 1830.

BARON OF TOCKHOLES.

"John Baron de Wenshead," in Tockholes, died in 1627. Myles Baron of Tockholes married, in 1620, Jenet Adlington, and died in 1651. His son, Thomas Baron, had sons, Myles, born in 1656; Thomas, born in 1663; William, born in 1665; and daughters, Jennet and Mary. Myles Baron, of Tockholes, yeoman, married, in 1665, Elizabeth Livesey, and died in 1728. He had sons, William, born

in 1704; James; Thomas, born in 1701, died in 1768; and a daughter, Mary. His son, William Baron, yeoman, died in 1771, leaving a son, Myles Baron, of Tockholes, yeoman, who married Lettice Stott, of Manchester, and died in 1774. He left issue, William Baron (of Bolton); Robert; Thomas (of Manchester); George (of Blackburn); Mary, died unmarried; Jane, wife of Mr. Thos. Hoghton; and Ann. George Baron of Blackburn, builder, son of Myles, died, aged 68, in 1835. He married Mary Shorrock, and had sons, Robert Baron (of Blackburn, father of William Baron, builder, now of Blackburn); Myles Baron of Blackburn, sometime alderman of the borough; and George Baron, of Blackburn; and a daughter, Miss Ann Baron of Blackburn.

EVERFIELD OF TOCKHOLES.

John Everfield of Tockholes, died March 24th, 42nd Eliz. (1599), and his escheat was taken at Blackburn, Dec. 15th, 1602. He died seized of one messuage, 10 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, and 30 acres of pasture in Tockholes juxta Livesey, held of John Radcliffe, Knt., in free socage. John Everfield, son and heir, was then aged 11 years.

HALLIWELL OF HALLIWELL FOLD.

Richard Halliwall of Tockholes was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570, and was defendant in an action for trespass in 1611. "Thomas Halliwall de Tockholes" died in 1627. James Halliwall married, in 1619, Alice Richmond, and had sons, Richard, born in 1623; and John, born in 1626. Richard Halliwell, of Tockholes, had a son William, born in 1621, and other issue. Lawrence Halliwell occurs in 1636. His wife died in June of that year. Thomas Halliwell of Tockholes had sons, Lawrence, born in 1618; William (of Tockholes, who died in 1660, having had issue by Jenet his wife); Thomas (of Tockholes, who had a son Lawrence, died in 1670); and James. Lawrence Halliwell of Tockholes, gent., by Jane his wife (she died in 1682), had, with other issue, a daughter Anne, born about 1650, who became first wife of Hugh, twelfth Baron Willoughby of Parham, and had issue a son Thomas who died young; she died before 1692. A later Lawrence Halliwell of Halliwell Fold married, June 12th, 1725, Margaret, daughter of Mr. Benjn. Wilson of Baxenden. The messuage in Tockholes once tenanted by this family is still called Halliwell Fold.

HOUGHTON OF RED LEE.

This family of lesser gentry was, there is little doubt, a branch of Hoghton of Hoghton Tower. Richard Hoghton of Tockholes, gent., who occurs in 1602, when he was entered as a foreign burgess on Preston Guild Roll, with his sons Gilbert and William, I conjecture was a son of Gilbert Hoghton, who is named in the military levy of 1574; and he was probably the Gilbert Hoghton mentioned hereafter in the Hoghton genealogy as a natural son of Sir Richard Hoghton, Knt., who died in 1558. At Preston Guild of 1622, Richard Hoghton of Red Leigh, gent., is again on the Roll, with his sons Gilbert, William, and Edward; his brother John Hoghton, and Thomas, Gilbert, Roger, William, and Richard, sons of John Hoghton. Richard Hoghton of Red Lee, gent., and his son Edward, appear as parties to a deed dated Jan. 28th, 1626-7. Besides the sons named, Richard Hoghton had daughters, Dorothy, died in 1658; and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Fishe. He was living in 1642. His wife Mary, daughter of James Livesey, gent., survived him, and "Mary, uxor Richard Hoghton, gent.," was buried March 13th, 1657.

William Hoghton of Red Lee, gent., second son of Richard, died in 1623; and was buried at Blackburn, Sept. 4th. He had a son William, born (as entered in the baptismal register) posthumously, in 1623.

Edward Hoghton of Red-lee and of Ramsgreave, gent., younger son of Richard, was bapt. May 3rd, 1605; and he married Anne, daughter of Edward Gillibrand of Ramsgreave, gent., and died in 1693. (See ante, p. 630.) His daughter Alice was bapt. Sept. 1st, 1629. He had a son William, who died in infancy, in 1636. His wife died in Oct., 1652.

Gilbert Hoghton, gent., eldest son of Richard, had sons, Richard, Thomas (born in 1633), Edward, William, Gilbert, John, and Leonard. He had also an unnamed daughter, born in 1629. He resided at Tontou, Pa. of Ashton-under-Lyne; and died there in June, 1639. The Will of Gilbert Houghton of Tontou, within Ashton-under-Lyne, gent., is dated 8th June, 1639. Testator mentions his sons, Richard, Thomas, Edward, William, Gilbert, John, and Leonard; sister Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Fische; appoints his brother Edward and brother-in-law Thomas Fische, executors.

Edward Hoghton, of Tockholes, younger son of Gilbert, died in March, 1685-6; was buried March 23rd; and on the 20th April, 1686, administration of his goods was granted to his widow, Mary Hoghton.

Richard Hoghton of Tockholes, gent., eldest son of Gilbert, bapt. Dec. 23rd, 1627, was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1647, and an out-burgess of Preston at the Guild of 1662. By Ellen his wife he had sons, Thomas, died in 1655; a second Thomas; William; Edward; and Richard, the latter was living in 1702; and daughters, Mary, Ann, Alice, &c. The father, "Richard Hoghton of Tockholes," was buried at Blackburn Church, Jan. 12th, 1666-7. His widow died in 1684. The Will of Ellen Hoghton of Tockholes, widow, dated 15th Jan., 1683-4, names sons, Thomas, William, Richard, and Edward; daughters, Mary, wife of John Ainsworth, and Alice Hoghton; son-in-law, Thomas Critchley; grandsons and grand-daughter, Arthur, Thomas, and Janet Lomas, children of daughter, Ann Lomas, wife of John Lomas; legacy to William Walmsley, son of daughter Alice. Son Richard and daughter Alice, executors. The Will was proved 14th May, 1684.

Thomas Hoghton of Tockholes, son of Richard, had sons, Richard, and Charles, enrolled with the father upon the Guild Roll of Preston in 1702. He had also a son William, born in 1684.

Edward Hoghton of Tockholes, brother of Thomas, had sons, Richard; Thomas, born in 1676; and John, born in 1678. John Hoghton of Tockholes, Edward's younger son, had, in 1722, sons, Edward, Giles, and John.

Richard Hoghton, of Tockholes in 1704, of Livesey in 1707, eldest son of Edward, had a son William, bapt. April 9th, 1704; and daughters, Sarah, born in 1707; and Mary, born in 1711.

William Hoghton of Tockholes (on Preston Guild Roll in 1722, 1742, and 1762) was eldest son of the last Richard. By Margaret his wife, who died in May, 1741, he had sons, Thomas, born in 1736; William; and James; and a daughter Catherine (wife of Banister Pickop). William Hoghton the father died in 1770, and was buried Sept. 2nd. His son—

Thomas Hoghton, of Tockholes Fold, married, first, Mary Marsden, and by her had issue, sons, William, bapt. Nov. 12th, 1759, died young; James, born Sept. 21st, 1761; and Thomas, born Oct. 3rd, 1766; and daughters, Mary, born Aug. 8th, 1758; and Margaret, born Aug. 12th, 1764. His second wife was Jane Peel, aunt to Sir Robert Peel, the first bart.; she died s.p. He married, thirdly, Jane, daughter of Mr. Myles Baron, by whom he had issue, sons, William, and Thomas; and a daughter Isabella (born in 1797, died unmarried in 1855). Thomas Hoghton, gent., died, aged 71, May 7th, 1807.

William Hoghton, Esq., of Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London (brother of Thomas, and described on Preston Guild Roll (1782) as "Wm. Hoghton of London, gent."), married Sarah Sykes Garland, daughter of Nathaniel Garland, Esq., of Michaelstone Hall, Co. Essex, but had no issue. By his Will, dated April 12th, 1806, he bequeathed £10,000 to his brother Thomas Hoghton of Tockholes, and the residue of his estate (after payment of other legacies) to be divided amongst the children of his said brother and of his sister Catherine Pickop.

William Hoghton, Esq., of Liverpool, son of Thomas and heir to his uncle William, was born in 1801; married, Oct. 1st, 1833, Alice, daughter of Edmund Haworth, Esq., of Tarton, and died in 1845, leaving issue, William (born Aug. 2nd, 1834, died without issue, Oct. 9th, 1868); Henry (born in 1836, of St. John's College, Cambridge); and Thomas Edmund, of St. John's College, Cambridge, late Lieut. 12th Lancers, born in 1839, married July 4th, 1866, Marie Georgiana, daughter of Augustus Cardinal, Esq., of Havannah.

The freehold messuage and lands at Red Lee, on the right bank of the Roddlesworth, are now the property of Col. Feilden of Witton Park.

MARSDEN OF RYALL, BRADLEY, &c.

This family held an estate in Tockholes four centuries since. Hugh Marsden of this township paid the King's Subsidy tax in 1523; as did also "Marsden's widdow" (perhaps his mother). In 1570, Henry Marsden of Tockholes was taxed to a Subsidy. Edward Marsden of Tockholes, gent., is party to a deed dated 1576; and James Marsden of Tockholes is party to a deed dated June 1st, 1588. Henry Marsden died in 1619. Hugh Marsden of Tockholes, gent., a freeholder in 1584 and 1600, and a juror in 1615, was buried June 5th, 1621; his wife was buried four days after. Christopher Marsden, gent., of Tockholes, occurs in a deed dated 1620. He married, in 1622, Ann Walmsley (she died in 1655), and was "of Mellor" later in 1623, when a son Richard was born. This Richard Marsden of Mellor had a son Edward, born in 1651.

Myles Marsden, of Tockholes, paid the Subsidy tax in 1610, and died in 1623; he had a son William. Hugh Marsden, taxed to the same Subsidy, was a freeholder in Tockholes in 1621.

James Marsden of Tockholes, gent., a freeholder in 1621, had married, Oct. 15th, 1609, Elizabeth Holden. He had issue, William, born in 1623; Ann, born in 1626; &c. He died in April, 1630.

William Marsden of Ryall in Tockholes, gent., was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1634. He married, Feb. 9th, 1621-2, Ann Alker, and had sons, Christopher, born in 1627, died in 1634; Myles, born in 1628; John, born in 1629; Henry, born in 1630; James, born in 1632, died in 1653; and Ralph, died in 1657; and a daughter Ann, married, March 25th, 1656, "Rev. Edward Lawrence, pastor of Garstange." In a rental of Blackburn Wapentake, dated 1650, William Marsden appears as a freeholding tenant; and he was taxed to a Subsidy in 1663 on his lands in Tockholes. He died in 1671, and was buried March 6th, 1671-2.

William Marsden of Tockholes, "junior" in 1660, married, Nov. 10th, 1656, Alice Hoghton of Ramsgreave, and had a son William, who died young in 1660; daughters, Jenet, and Lettice.

James Marsden of Tockholes, yeoman, paid the Subsidy tax in 1663, and in 1670 was trustee of an endowment of Tockholes Church. He had sons, James, who died young in 1676; a second James; Hugh, and Thomas. James Marsden, senior, was buried Sept. 30th, 1723. His son—

James Marsden, of Bradley in Tockholes, yeoman, married, in Sept., 1702, Ann Heaton of Samlesbury (who died in June, 1721), and had sons, James, born in 1703; Richard, born in 1710; and Christopher, born in 1712; also, daughters, Alice, born in 1705; and Ann, born in 1716, died in 1721. James Marsden died in April, 1741.

Hugh Marsden of Tockholes, yeoman (perhaps brother of James), by Mary his wife (who died in Nov., 1731), had (with other issue), a son, James Marsden of Tockholes (born Oct. 8th, 1699, died March 15th, 1777, aged 77; by Isabel his wife, who died in May, 1782, he had issue). Hugh Marsden of Tockholes, yeoman, died in Sept., 1745.

James Marsden (son of James who died in 1741), of Tockholes, yeoman, died in July, 1769. His son, James Marsden of Blackburn, died in March, 1776.

Ryall is a messuage situate at the foot of Tockholes Moor. The house is that of a respectable yeoman, built probably in the 17th century. The estate, of 48 acres, is now the property of Messrs. Cunliffe and Grundy.

At Bradley, on the lower side of Tockholes, is an old house, a low structure, with square doorways and small windows. On the wall of one of the bed-rooms are the initials "I M M" (James and Mary Marsden) and date "1704." The estate now belongs to the daughters of the late Mr. Lowe, banker, of Preston.

RICHARDSON OF LOWER HILL, SILK HALL, &c.

Adam Richardson, yeoman, of Tockholes, living in 1735, had sons, Walmsley, Ralph, and Adam; and daughters, Alice and Ann. His second son, Ralph Richardson, chapman, of the Silk Hall (which he built in 1764), by Susannah his wife had issue. Walmsley Richardson, yeoman, eldest son of Adam, married, May 7th, 1752, Lydia, daughter of Mr. Ralph Walmsley of the Hill, and had issue, Ralph, born in 1757; Jane, born in 1754, married James Towers; and Ann. His son, Ralph Richardson, had sons, Walmsley; and John Richardson, of the Crowtrees, who by Lucy his wife had sons, Ralph Richardson (now of Tockholes), Adam, and John. Walmsley Richardson of Preston, eldest son of Ralph, sold the Lower Hill farm some years ago to Mr. Thos. Sefton.

WALMSLEY OF THE HILL AND RYALL.

It is not unlikely that from the ancient stock of Walmerslegh or Walmsley of Tockholes branched the Walmsleys of Showley, from whom came the important houses of Walmsley of Dunkenhalgh, Westwood, &c. It is in Tockholes that the earliest residents of this name occur. Roger de Walmerslegh, who is named as a juror in 1334 and 1359, probably was progenitor of Roger and Richard de Walmerslegh de Tockholes, jurors in 1395. One William Walmersley is named in a letter of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, lord of Tockholes, written about 1450; and William de Walmersley of Livesey, yeoman, and Alice his wife, John de Walmersley, Hugh, and Christopher, occur in 1457.

William Walmesley was assessed on lands in Tockholes to a Subsidy in 1523. William Walmesley, of this family, aged 73 in 1611 (so born in 1528), was a witness in the inquiry respecting the Talbot Chapel in Blackburn Church.

Thurstan Walmesley, of Tockholes, had daughters Alice and Ann, who after his death, as his heirs, in 1568 had a dispute with John Holden, Robert Holden, and others, respecting lands, turbary, and a tenement called the Chamber, in Lyvesey and Tockholes.

Richard Walmesley of Tockholes, married, in 1615, Grace Bayne; she died in 1635. Henry Walmesley of Tockholes occurs in 1628.

Ralph Walmsley of Tockholes, gent., named as a freeholder in 1621, occurs in 1627 and 1635, as Ralph Walmsley of the Hill, yeoman, party to deeds of those dates. His son and heir, William, is also named in the deed of 1635. In 1649, Ralph Walmsley gave a piece of land on Chapel Green to Tockholes Chapel (see post, under Tockholes Church). He died in 1665—a centenarian. In Blackburn Parish churchyard is a slab inscribed:—"Here lyeth the body of Ralphe Walmslay, who died the [20] day of November, 16[65], circiter centum."

William Walmsley of Royle or Ryall, in Tockholes, yeoman, was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1646; and was a juror on the Survey of the parish in 1650. He bought the Ryall estate from James Browne in 1660. William Walmsley married, in 1637, Alice Shorroock, and had sons, Ralph; and John (of Ryall); and daughters, Anne; Hannah, died in 1660; and Mary, born in 1656. William Walmsley died in Oct., 1671. His son—

Ralph Walmsley of the Hill, gent., a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1675, married Alice, daughter of Richard Hoghton of Tockholes; and had sons, William, born in 1661; James, born in 1663; Ralph, born in 1667; and Thomas, born in 1674, died in 1719; and a daughter Alice, born in 1677. Ralph Walmsley the father died in 1716.

Ralph Walmsley of the Hill, yeoman, younger son of Ralph, died in 1722. He had a son Ralph. He was Ralph Walmsley of Tockholes, yeoman, who died in 1746, leaving issue, by Jane his wife, daughters, Jane; and Lydia, born in 1721, married, May 7th, 1752, Walmsley Richardson, yeoman.

James Walmsley, of Tockholes, yeoman and chapman (son of Ralph who died in 1716), had sons, William, born in 1699, died in 1705; James, born in 1702, died in 1711; a second William, born in 1709; Benjamin, born in 1706; and a second James, born in 1715; and a daughter Isabel. James Walmsley died in 1747. His son, James Walmsley of Witton, died in 1772.

Reverting to the branch seated at Ryall, I find that John Walmsley of Ryall, yeoman, son or grandson of William, the first of Ryall, was, in 1724, nominated a trustee of the Church Stock of Tockholes. John Walmsley of Ryall, son of William, by his wife, Elizabeth, had sons, William, born in 1676; and Richard, born in 1688; with other children. William Walmsley of Tockholes, yeoman, son of John, died in Sept., 1727; by Deborah his wife, who died in 1718, he had daughters, Eliza, wife of William Cardwell; and Ann; perhaps other issue.

The old residence of this family at the Hill is a good-sized 17th century house, with gabled porch and south wing, situated on the edge of the hill in the centre of Tockholes. The estate now belongs to the Marquis de Rothwell.

THE PAROCHIAL CHAPEL OF ST. MICHAEL (ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR).

I have found no evidence respecting the foundation of this ancient Chapel in Tockholes, or the date of it. Doubtless it was built as a Chapel-of-Ease by one of the Radcliffes, lords of the manor, and by the freeholders, who were numerous in Tockholes. The chapel is supposed to have been built *temp.* Henry VIII. It is not named in the *Valor* of 1534; and has no pre-Reformation endowment. The original fabric was in a condition of decay many years before its demolition in 1832. It was a diminutive building, low in elevation, about 52 feet in length, by 22 feet in width. It had no chancel. There was a small tower at the

west end, and a porch on the south side. On the north side were one two-light window, and two windows of three lights; on the south, two windows of two lights and one of three lights. At the east end was a three-light window. In the interior a central aisle traversed the church longitudinally. The pulpit stood on the north side towards the east end. The chapel contained 170 sittings. Over the east window was a stone bearing the initials of Sir John Radcliffe, Knt. Over the porch were other initials and the date 1620. The chapel may have been restored in that year. There was occasional celebration of divine service in the chapel by the Vicar of Blackburn and his curates, but no regular ministry before the setting up of the Presbytery in Lancashire. Mr. Isaac Ambrose, Minister at Preston, wrote to one Mr. Wales, in Oct., 1643, that Colonel Rigby would allow £50 per annum for Tockholes, if an able, honest minister could be provided. A minute of the Presbytery in 1646 records the order:—"Mr. John Worthington, Minister of Tockholes Chappell. By an Order of this Committee, of the 25 Decr., 1646, there is £40 per annum allowed to an orthodox divine, to officiate the cure at Tockholes Chappell." Mr. Worthington was transferred to Oldham in 1647; and Mr. Alexander Gilbert was ordained Minister at Tockholes Chapel, April 10th, 1649. The Parliamentary Commission of 1650 returned respecting the Chapel:—

Tockholes, a chappel distant from their parishe church three myles, consistinge of above fourscore families, and twentye foure families, in Withnell next adjoyninge to them, being seaven myles distant from their parish church of Leyland, desire to be annexed to Tockholes, and the same to bee made a parishe, and competent mayntenance allowed for a minister, they haveinge att present fortye poundes per ann. allowed by the Committee of this Countye.

The first endowment of the curacy was a benefaction given by Mr. Ralph Walmsley, of Hill, in Tockholes, in the year 1649. It consisted of a parcel of land in Tockholes, "upon a certaine place called Chappell Greene, containing by estimation Twelve Falls of ground or thereabouts," along with "one Messuage, Cottage, or Dwelling-house thereupon erected;" and was conveyed by the donor to William Marsden, Richard Whithalghe, Nathaniel Leighe, Lawrence Halliwell, Thomas Crichlowe, and John Benson, in trust, "to the use and behoof of such a preaching Minister or Ministers as shall bee resident at Tockholes Chappell from tyme to tyme." The deed of conveyance is dated Dec. 28th, 1649. The deed abridged below refers to a subsequent gift in 1670:—

Be it known unto all men by these presents, that wee Ralph Walmesley, James Marsden, William Chritchley, and Richard Aspeden, all of Tockholes, in the countie of Lancaster, yeomen, have received and had at and before the daye of the date hereof, of William Walmisley, of Tockholes aforesaid, within the said countie,

yeoman, the full some of seaventy nyne poundes seaven shillings fyve pence of current and lawfull money of England, beinge the full both of the ould Stock and Use belonging to Tockholes Chappell, in the countie aforesaid, which the said William Walmisley had anything to doe withal; and alsoe twentie two poundes, fyve shillings, fower pence, which Ralph Walmisley, late of Tockholes aforesaid, deceased, gave to be a newe Stock towards the maintenance of God's Word at the said Tockholes Chappell, and to free his house and land at Hill, in Tockholes aforesaid, and the inhabitants thereof, from payeing any money for the future to any minister or ministers that should hereafter preach at the said Chappell, and alsoe to free the house and land which William Walmisley his son purchased of James Browne, called the Ryle, and the inhabitants thereof, from payeing any money for the future to any minister or ministers that should hereafter preach and officiate at the said Chappell of Tockholes. The receipt of which said somes of money wee the said Ralph Walmisley, James Marsden, William Chritchley, and Richard Aspeden doe hereby acknowledge, and doe fully acquitte the said William Walmisley, his exors., &c., for ever by these presents. And wee the said Ralph Walmisley [and others] by these presents remyse, release, &c., unto William Walmisley, his exors, &c., all manner of accommodations, &c., which wee the said Ralph Walmisley [and others], our heirs, &c., have against the said William Walmisley, his exors, &c. In witness whereof we the said Ralph Walmisley, James Marsden, William Chritchley, and Richard Aspeden have hereunto sett our handes and scales the 11th day of March, 1670.

In the year 1684, Archbishop Sancroft received the information:—

Tockholes Chapell, 3 miles and half from Blackburn Church, 2 miles from any other chapell. Adjacent to it Tockholes and upper part of Livesey. Endowment—A dwelling-house belonging to it, per annum 17s. ; Interest of £100 given by — £5; Mrs. Fleetwood promiseth £2; the inhabitants nothing, till they see what I'll doe, unless they may chuse their minister.

Other items forwarded about the same date to Lambeth are contained in a second memorandum:—

TOCKHOLES CHAPEL.—There is a house belonging to the curate, in good repaire, and likewise a barn belonging to it. The stock given to the chapelry, see the certificate under the hands of the inhabitants. £100 is secured by mortgage on the Lands of Livesay of White Hough, £20 whereof was given by several families of Tockholes; the rest by well-disposed persons who cannot be discovered at present. There is £30 more left in feoffees' hands, who are responsible persons, and carefull to preserve the same.—The inhabitants of Tockholes resort to no other church but their Mother Church of Blackburn, for administration of the sacraments or any other holy offices.

In one of Sancroft's letters to the Vicar, he asks:—"Is the curate's house at Tockholes fit to dwell in?" And in regard to the conduct of the inhabitants, in refusing to promise money for the support of the curate "unless they may chuse their own minister," the Primate says:—"If Tockholes continues refractory, let them stand alone unassisted." The threat to deny a share of the Sancroft endowment to Tockholes was not carried out, for a few years later the curate was in receipt of £5 per annum from the Thornley Rents. In 1689, Thomas Johnson made a gift of Ten Shillings yearly towards the maintenance of a

minister here. At this time the chapels of Tockholes and Darwen were served by the same curate, Mr. Wm. Stones. Dec. 7th, 1691, is dated "An account of what money belongs to the chapel of Tockholes," and in whose hands it was held, as follows:—John Marsden, sen., of Lower Darwen, had £10, besides two years' interest; Richard Catterall of Tockholes, had £4; Hugh Gorse, of Tockholes, had £7; Richard Livesey, of Livesey, had £17, due upon bond; the same person had £100, due upon mortgage, besides many years' interest; Thurston Fishwick had £8, besides several years' interest. The other moneys were, an annuity of 10s. charged upon land; Mrs. Cooper's gift of £20, disposed of by James Marsden; and £2 in the hands of John Gelibrand, of Livesey. Total, £168 10s., besides interest overdue. In 1714 it is recorded:—"In Tockholes Chapel divine offices are performed every other Sunday, and most of the inhabitants frequent a Presbyterian Meeting-house there is within that chapelry those Sundays there is no service in their own chapel." The endowments of Tockholes chapelry then were:—Out of the Archbishop of Canterbury's lands at Thornley, £5; out of the Rectory of Blackburn, £2 6s. 8d.; a dwelling-house worth about 15s. per annum; and the interest of a gift of £30, £1 10s.; total, £9 11s. 8d." Bishop Gastrell writes, about 1720:—

TOCKHOLES.—Certified £15 1s. 8d.; out of Thornley £5; Rector £2 6s. 8d.; Interest of £140, £7; Dwelling-house, 15 shillings; £13 2s. 5d. Endowment (Vicar's account, anno 1704). The money is in the hands of Presbyterian Trustees, who will give no account of the Benefactors, but pay the curate punctually, viz., with the Interest of £140, except when the chapel wants repairing, when they apply it to that use to save themselves. Circumference, about 9 miles. The Inhabitants of Tockholes, and part of Livesey, repair to it. Divine service every other Sunday. No Warden. Three miles from the Parish Church, and two miles from any other chapel.

Dated August 27th, 1722, is a petition to Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn, signed by sixty-seven inhabitants of the Chapelry of Tockholes, the prayer of which is:—"We desire you will please to nominate the Rev. Mr. Clayton curate of our chapell, and you will thereby very much oblige us." The Vicar paid no regard to this application, for one William Crombleholme was nominated to the vacancy. In 1724, a Commission consisting of Thomas Towneley, Banister Parker, Robert Chaddock, John Ainsworth, Esqrs., and Henry ffeilden, gentleman, were directed to inquire by oath of twelve good and lawful men of the country into certain breaches of trust and misemployment of moneys belonging to the chapel at Tockholes. Before these Commissioners evidence was given that "for some time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary there hath been a consecrated chappel at Tockholes," which was used as a chapel-of-ease dependent

upon the Parish Church of Blackburn; that there had been "several gifts, donations, and charities anciently given to and for the use and maintenance of a preaching minister at the said chappel, by several charitable and well-disposed persons, amounting in the whole to the sume of £163;" that this money had been put out at interest upon security in the names of trustees, feoffees for the said chapel stock; that "there is a house, a barn, and some ground, situated at Tockholes, of the yearly value of £2, which of right belongs to the officiating minister;" that "James Marsden, Thomas Critchlow, Hugh Marsden, and John Aspden have taken upon them to act as trustees or feoffees for the said chapel stock, without any authority or warrant for so doing, and have got into their hands all the said moneys in specie or security for the same, and have misapplied, misconverted, and misgoverned the same," and had placed out such money at interest in their own names. The Commissioners decreed that the parties mentioned should within one month pay into the hands of Alexander Osbaldeston, John Warren, Ralph Livesey, Esqrs.; John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn, and John Walmsley, of Royle, within Tockholes, yeoman, the said principal sum of £163, to be by them invested for the use of the preaching minister for the time being at Tockholes Chapel. The decree is dated Nov. 3rd, 1724. It was confirmed by the Court of Chancery of Lancaster, by an Order dated March 3rd, 1726. In 1735, another gift of a parcel of land, in Goosnargh, was made to this chapel; this farm was let for £80 a year in 1830.

To meet a benefaction of £200 by Ralph Livesey, Esq., dated 9th Nov., 1725, the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty gave £200 for the augmentation of Tockholes benefice. A second sum of £200 was granted, by lot, from the said Bounty, in 1801; and in 1821, a Parliamentary grant of £100 was made to the endowment, by lot. The living was valued at £95 per annum in 1834; and was worth £160 prior to the recent augmentation by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to £300 per annum. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

In 1825, the old fabric having become infirm, a fund was started for a new church. A local subscription of £1000 was raised; the Church Building Society granted £200, and the Parliamentary Commissioners made a grant of £1,200. Mr. William Pickering gave a plot of 1,840 square yards for a site for the new church and for an extension to the church-yard. The old chapel stood a little to the south of the present edifice, and was not taken down until the new church was completed. The foundation stone of the new church was laid on Thursday, Feb. 23rd, 1832, by Lawrence Brock-Hollinshead, Esq., lord of the Manor. The Rev. Gilmour Robinson was then

incumbent. The church was completed in 1832, and was consecrated by the Bishop of Chester, November 26th. The church, dedicated to St. Stephen the Martyr, is a chaste structure, of the early English style. Its plan consists of a nave, chancel, porch on the south side, and a square projection at the west end in place of a tower, surmounted by angle turrets, each with four pinnacles. The windows are of lancet shape, coupled. The east window of the chancel and the west window of the tower consist of triplets of lancet lights. The main entrance is by a porch on the south side, under a pointed arch. The side walls are supported by buttresses with triangular heads. Interiorly, the dimensions are about 74 feet in length by 45 feet wide. There is a west gallery; and there are sittings for 804 persons, of which 410 are free.

The list of Incumbents of Tockholes subjoined is perhaps deficient in two or three names:—John Worthington (Presbyterian) 1646-1647; Alexander Gilbert (Presbyterian) 1649-1650; William Stones (Curate of Tockholes and Darwen) 1689-1720, died Nov. 1720; Samuel Simpson 1721-1724; William Crombleholme 1724-1729 (instituted Vicar of St. Michael-le-Wyre in 1729); Thomas Holme 1729-1736; John Hadwen 1736-1766; Thomas Baldwin 1766-17—; John Wilson 1769-17—; — Thompson; William Fletcher 1799; James Dodgson 1805; Richard Garnett, 1826; Gilmour Robinson, 1830-1856; W. M. Haslewood, B.A., 1857-1861; Charles Hughes, B.A., 1861 (present Vicar).

THE OLD NONCONFORMIST MEETING-HOUSE.

A congregation of Nonconformists has existed in Tockholes since the year 1662, when a number of parishioners refused compliance with the Act of Uniformity. They had probably no regular ministry until the King's licenses were granted for nonconforming preachers and meetings in 1672. May 1st, 1672, a license was obtained for "John Harvie to be a Presbyterian Teacher in a meeting-house at Tocklez [Tockholes] erected for that purpose in the Parish of Blackburne;" and a license for the Meeting-house at Tockholes is dated May 8th, 1872 (see *ante*, p. 189). Mr. John Harvey continued to preach at Tockholes for several years. A church-society was constituted on a Presbyterian-Congregational basis. In 1674, I find Mrs. Yates, wife of Mr. William Yates of Blackburn, dismissed from Mr. Thomas Jollie's church at Wymond-houses "to Mr. Hervey and his society," *i.e.*, to Tockholes. Mr. John Harvey went from Tockholes to Chester; and after an interval, Mr. Robert Waddington became the minister at Tockholes. He was son of Mr. John Waddington, of Whalley. He had been an elder in Mr. Jollie's church; and his desire to preach on trial is recorded in 1677. He was ordained a minister in 1682. Mr. Jollie entered in his Church Book, in 1681:—"Mr. Waddington not ordained when expected, from ministers and people failing, but done afterwards

honourably." A reference to the ordination is found in Hunter's "Life of Oliver Heywood." Mr. Hunter says that the ordination of Mr. Robert Waddington, who had been a ruling elder in Mr. Jollie's church, commenced on May 16th, 1682, at Mr. Jollie's; was adjourned to June 6th, when Mr. Oliver Heywood was there; Mr. Frankland (of Rathmell academy) and his son; Mr. Benson (of Hoghton Tower); Mr. Greenwood of Lancaster, and Mr. Kay. Mr. Jollie acted as moderator.

The "erected meeting-house" mentioned in the license of 1672 might be an adapted building; which was disused when the Nonconformists, I imagine after the Revolution of 1688, obtained for a time the use on alternate Sundays of the ancient Chapel-of-ease. It was only when the Bishop had at length inhibited this irregular arrangement, that the Presbyterians proceeded to erect a permanent chapel for themselves. Between 1690 and 1700, the names of James Walmsley, yeoman, Hugh Marsden, yeoman, Robert Etough, yeoman, Miles Baron, Evan Haydock, and William Haworth, all of Tockholes, and Robert Boardman of Livesey, gent., occur as prominent men of the Dissenters of Tockholes. A tradition exists that the eminent John Howe preached at Tockholes during his visits to Hoghton Tower from 1688 to 1700. In the beginning of 1710, a site was purchased on which to build a Meeting-house. An abstract of the conveyance of the site, dated April 1st, 1710, is appended:—

Indenture made the 1st April, 1710, between James Garsden, of Tockholes, yeoman, son of William Garsden, deceased, and Jennet Garsden, widow and relict of the said decedent on the one part, and James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, all of Tockholes, yeomen, on the other part,—Witneseth that James Garsden and Jennet Garsden, in consideration of £3 to them paid by James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, have sold, &c., unto James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, their heires and assignes, all that portion or parcell of land now meered and set forth in and ditched out of and from one close of land called the Upper Croft, in Tockholes, parcell of the tenement of him the said James Garsden (the said parcell conteyning by computation Twenty Yards square, and being intended to have a building erected upon it), to have and hold the same parcell of land and premises to the sole use of the said James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, for ever. (Signed), James Garsden, Jennet Garsden—Witnesses, Edward Eccles, Hugh Marsden, Henry Norris.

The chapel was built upon the site thus acquired, and was finished before October, 1710. It was a small oblong building, with thatched roof and square turret at the north-west end. The requisite certificate from the County Sessions was procured, and is copied below:—

1710.—Certificate of Justices in Session at Wigan, for Service in Tockholes Chapel—Lanc. SS: These are to certiffye that at the Generall Q'r Sessions of the Peace held by adjournment at Wiggan, in and for the County Pallatine of Lancaster, the Nynth day of October, Anno D'ni One Thousand Seaven hundred and Tenn, A

Certaine Edifice, newly erected within Livesey-in-Tockholes in the said County, is recorded for a Meeting-place for an Assembly of persons dissenting from the Church of England, for the exercise of their religious worshipp, pursuant to an Act of Parliament entituled An Act for Exempting their Majesties' Protestant Subjects dissenting from the Church of England from ye Pennalties of certaine Lawes, according to the tenor and purport of the said Act. All which is humbly certified by RICHD. EDGE, Clerk of the Peace there.

At this period the conforming and nonconforming inhabitants of Tockholes were not so clearly distinguished as now. Many attended the Chapel of St Michael and the Presbyterian Meeting on alternate Sundays. Dated 1714, a statement in the records of the chapelry is to this purport:—"Most of the inhabitants frequent a Presbyterian Meeting-house there is within the chapelry those Sundays there is no service in their own chapel." Mr. Robert Waddington, after being minister at Tockholes about thirty years, died before 1715. A small MS. book of accounts, in possession of the late Mr. Moses Aspden, shows the contributions for the minister's stipend from 1715 to 1750. Some leaves at the beginning of the book have been taken out and the first entry is dated May, 1715. The receipt is entered at the foot of the page:—"Received the contents hereof by me, John Waddington." (He was probably son of the deceased minister.) The pew-rents at Martinmas, 1715, produced £6 2s. 6d., and the contributors were:—

James Walmsley 10s.; Alex. Gerrard 2s. 6d.; George Woodcock 2s. 6d.; Thomas Marsden 5s.; Daniel Catterall 4s.; Wm. Bolton 2s. 6d.; Roger Fishwick 5s.; Alis Livesey 1s.; Thomas Withnell 1s.; James Haydock 5s.; William Halliwell 2s.; Widdow Topping 2s. 6d.; Wm. Haworth 2s. 6d., Ralph Walmsley 10s.; Oliver Pearson 5s.; Thurstan fishwicke 2s. 6d.; Thomas foole 5s.; Widow Marsden 5s.; James Marsden 2s. 6d.; John Aspden 5s.; Edward and Robert Boardman 5s.; Henry Norris, 5s.; James Marsden 5s.; Thomas Holden 6s.; Wm. Dewhurst 10s.; Robert Etough 10s.

About the end of 1715 Mr. Peter Valentine was appointed minister, and he gives receipt for stipend Feb. 9th, 1715-16. A category of Dissenting Meeting Houses in 1715, in the Dr. Williams Library, London, names "Tockholes; preachers (in succession) Robert Waddington; Peter Valentine 1715; James Towers; No. of hearers 265; Votes for the County 30; votes for borough (Preston) 1."

In 1716 the chapel fabric was transferred to trustees by the parties who had before held the property on behalf of the congregation. This first trust-deed of the chapel I cite below in abstract:—

Indenture made the 10th July, 2nd Geo. I., A.D. 1716, between James Marsden, senior, Robert Etough and James Walmsley, all of Tockholes, yeomen, on the one part, and Henry Norris, of Hoghton, gentleman, Robert Bury, of Hoghton, Edward Boardman, of Witton, Robert Boardman, of Livesay, Richard Dewhurst, of Withnell, Richard Haydock of Tockholes, and Thomas Marsden, of Whittle, on the other part,

reciteth that whereas certain of his Majestie's Protestant subjects, dissenting from the Church of England, heretofore had the use of the Parochial Chapell in Tockholes certain days monthly for the exercise of their Religious Worship, and being afterwards abridged thereof by the Bishopp of Chester, they have, rather than contest their liberty thereto with his Lordshipp, bought a parcell of land, part of the close called the Upper Croft within Tockholes aforesaid, being about Twenty yards square, and thereupon have built an Edifice which is now certified, recorded, and used for the worshipp of such Dissenters, and the estate in law thereto is now vested in them the said James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley; and witnesseth that they the said James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, to the intent to continue the place so purchased and recorded for the religious worship of such Protestant Dissenters according to the laws tolerating the same, and to that end for granting the title thereto to proper persons, and in consideration of 5s. to them paid by the said Henry Norris, Robert Bury, Edward Boardman, Robert Boardman, Richard Dewhurst, Richard Haydock and Thomas Marsden, &c., convey unto the said Henry Norris [and the others], their heires, &c., all that the aforesaid parcell of land, being about Twenty yards square, part of the said Upper Croft, in Tockholes, with the Edifice, Chapell, or Building thereupon erected, and all the whole estate, &c., of the said James Marsden, Robert Etough, and James Walmsley, to have and hold the said Edifice, Land and premises to the sole use of the said Henry Norris [and the others], as Feoffees and Trustees to the intent that they shall permitt the said Edifice to be quietly used and enjoyed for the religious worship and service of his Majestie's Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England, according to the laws in being, so long and so far as by law the same shall be permitted. And to this further intent, that the survivors of them [the said trustees], shall within twelve months after the death of any of them elect another Protestant Dissenter to be a Trustee herein in the room of such decedent, and that when there shall only be three of them surviving, such survivors shall grant over the said Edifice, Land and premises, and their title therein, to such new Trustees (and surviving old ones), being Protestant Dissenters, as shall be agreed upon by such survivors and new Trustees, on the trusts and for the uses aforesaid, to the end the said religious service there may be continued whilst the same shall by law be tolerated or permitted. (Signed) James Marsden, Robert Etough, James Walmsley.—(Witnesses)—William Shawe, Joseph Shawe.

In 1735, by an indenture dated March 2nd, the trustees mentioned in the first Trust Deed, being then reduced to three, viz., Henry Norris, Robert Boardman, and Richard Haydock, conveyed the chapel and site to a new body of Trustees. The trustees under the deed of 1735 were Adam Richardson, James Marsden (son of Hugh Marsden), Thomas Aspden, all of Tockholes; Ralph Walmsley, of Upper Darwen; James Marsden and Peter Marsden the younger, both of Withnell;—all yeomen.

The Hoghton family of Hoghton Tower were early patrons of the Nonconformist Church at Tockholes. When the chapel was pewed, two large square pews were allotted to the use of the Hoghton family and their domestics; to the door-panels of which were attached oaken shields, bearing the monogram of Lady Mary Hoghton, the letters M and H interlaced. These pews have recently been removed and replaced by rows of single pews;—one of the shields with the monogram

is now in the writer's possession. The first instance in which the Hoghtons appear in the accounts as occupants of pews in Tockholes Chapel is at the Martinmas collection in 1716. Lady Mary Hoghton, (widow of Sir Charles Hoghton who died in 1710) then paid for her pews, as entered:—"1st [Pew] of the Honrble. Lady Hoghton, 7s.; 2nd Ditto 7s. 6d." At Martinmas, 1717, the rent of Lady Hoghton's pews had been increased to 8s. for the first and 12s. 6d. for the second, and the total amount collected for that half year, and paid to the minister, Mr. Peter Valentine, was £9 14s. About this period the chief supporters of Nonconformity in Tockholes were, besides Lady Hoghton, five yeomen, who are found paying at each collection a rent of 10s. each for their pews. They were, Mr. John Aspden, Mr. James Walmsley, Mr. Ralph Walmsley, Mr. Wm. Dewhurst, Mr. Robert Etough, and Mr. James Marsden. Mr. Robert Etough acted as treasurer, and probably the entries in the account book are in his handwriting, from the beginning of the record until May, 1724, when another hand appears, and the minister's receipts, written at the foot of the account, are then to Mr. James Walmsley, instead of, as previously, to Mr. Robert Etough. Mr. Peter Valentine resigned his ministry here in 1721. His last receipt for stipend is dated August 6th, 1721. Mr. James Towers became minister in 1721; and continued about 27 years. In the Baptismal Register of Blackburn Parish Church is the entry:—"Nov. 26th, 1726. Isabel, daughter of Mr. James Towers, of Tockholes, Dissenting Minister." Dr. Halley describes the preaching of Mr. Towers as having been "strictly orthodox." His last receipt for salary is signed on May 7th, 1749. He died about 1749, and was buried, with his wife and a son John, in the chapel, underneath the pulpit. Other sons, James and Thomas Towers, are among the pew-holders in 1751. Mr. Towers had a grandson, Rev. George Towers, a Congregational minister at Whitworth.

The last entries in the old book of seat-rent accounts are dated November 17th, 1751. At that time the names of the pew-holders or subscribers to the minister's stipend were the following:—Jeremiah Grime, James Marsden, Robert Dewhurst, Elizabeth Plumb, Adam Richardson, Jane Walmsley, Lydia Walmsley, Joseph Grime, Robert Haworth, John Topping, Hannah Aspden, James Towers, John Woodcoke, Richard Houghton, Thomas Beardwood, Peter Marsden, Lawrence Haslam, Henry Jepson, Roger Ward, Hugh Wood, Benjamin Ingham, Widow Hodson, Esur Haworth, John Watson, Widow Kershaw, Lawrence Halliwell, William Boardman, Thurstan Marsden, George Berry, Widow Derbyshire, William Marsden, Robert Marsden, William Houghton, John Ward, Humphrey Gorse, John Marsden, Halliwell's Daughters, Quartus Marsden, Alice Marsden, Joseph Astmough, Jenet Houghton, Thomas Towers, Hester Astmough, Henry Bury, Margaret Marsden, Joseph Bury, Robert Boardman.

At various times, by several donors, sums have been given to this foundation to

assist the minister's stipend. Some of the bequests have been lost; others have been appropriated to repairs of the minister's house and of cottages on the estate. Of some gifts the only record is the entry in the seat-rent accounts of items of interest paid on account thereof. The following appear:—May, 1716, "Mrs. Coop's Interest £1."—Oct., 1719, "Andrew Makinson's Interest £1;" "Abbott's Interest £1."—May, 1720, "James Marsden, Peter's, Interest 5s."—May, 1724, "Interest from Edward Boardman £1 10s.;" "Interest from James Marsden 7s."—May, 1728, "Interest of William Grimshaw's wife £1 3s."—May, 1736, "I. M. [James Marsden] 6s.; W. G. [Wm Grimshaw] £1 1s. 3d.; E. B. [Edward Boardman] £1 10s."—May, 1733, "R. W. [Ralph Walmsley's] Interest £1 2s. 10d.; R. B. Interest 6s."—Nov., 1734, "E. B. Interest £2."—May, 1735, "Executors of E. B. Interest £1; A. B. Interest 6s.; I. M. Interest 6s."—About this time a benefactor named Cross left a sum of money, the half-yearly interest of which was at first £2 10s., and afterwards £3. The next entries are:—Nov., 1735, "Cross's Interest £2 10s."—"May, 1736, "Cross Interest £2 10s.; I. M. Interest 2s." &c.—May, 1738, "Cross Interest £2 10s., and 2s. 6d., one quarter for £20."—May, 1740, "Cross Interest £3;" and "I. P. Interest 6s."—May, 1743, "Pickop's Interest 11s."—May, 1744, "James Entwistle's Interest 16s."—Nov., 1745, "Received Interest from Preston, Six Pounds" (Interest on Cross's gift, probably).—Nov., 1746, "Six Pounds Interest from Preston received."

A small estate of land in Mellor was given to this Dissenting Community in the early part of the last century, by an unknown donor, perhaps by a member of the Hoghton family. The estate was exchanged for another in Tockholes a century since, and thus the title deeds of the original property are not accessible. By an indenture dated Aug. 20th, 1772, the trustees conveyed in exchange to Mr. Wm. Higginbotham of Manchester "all the several parcels of land, meadow and pasture, with the Messuages, barn, and other buildings lately erected," &c., being "parcel of a tenement called Little Areleys, in the Manor of Mellor," and consisting of plots called "the Two Old Areleys, the Further Marsh, the Nearer Marsh, the Further Field, and the Little Field," with dwelling house, barn, &c.; containing "by estimate eleven acres of land of the measure there used." The property in Tockholes secured in lieu had belonged to the Richardsons. By deed dated Jan. 2nd, 1769, Ralph Richardson and others mortgaged to Mr. T. Waldegrave (then Minister of the Chapel), for £650 and interest at £4 10s. per annum, certain houses and "four closes called Wall Bank, Hoghton Close," &c., in Tockholes. Revd. Thos. Waldegrave, the mortgagee, gave, by indenture of 3rd April, 1772, a lease to Thomas Bennett, of Derby, Wm. Higginbotham, and others, for possession of the same estate, described to be "the newly-erected Messuage or dwelling-house commonly called or known by the name of the Silk Hall," with "a cottage or dwelling-house thereto adjoining; also the newly-erected dwelling-house standing near the same, and the closes or parcels of land known as the Over Wallbank, Lower Wallbank, the two Hoghton

Closes," &c. In the deed of exchange above-mentioned, by which the property passed to the Trustees of Tockholes Chapel, the description is:—"All that Messuage or dwelling-house, cottages, closes, pieces or parcels of land" comprising the "dwelling-house known by the name of Silk Hall, and the cottage or dwelling-house thereto adjoining, and those two newly-erected cottages or dwelling-houses standing near the same, and the parcels of land thereto belonging, in Tockholes, named Hoghton Close and the Edge Barn, the Over Wallbank, Lower Wallbank, the two Hoghton Closes, formerly one close only called Hoghton Close; containing in the whole by estimation six acres of land of the measure there used" (customary measure). With this land was paid a "sum of £85 to make an equality in the said exchange." The estate has been extended somewhat by the addition of a portion of a subsequent enclosure of waste land. The house known as "Silk Hall" is a three-storied building, built in 1764 by Mr. Ralph Richardson, for a residence and for the purpose of his business as a chapman in silks, whence the name was derived. On the south-west front is a gabled projection, forming the porch on the ground-floor, and over the doorway are the initials "R S R" (Ralph and Susannah Richardson), and the date of erection, "1764." Since the exchange, the house has been appropriated as a manse.

A sum of £30 was added to the endowment by bequest of Mrs. Mary Guest, of Manchester. The deed of conveyance, endorsed, "1st December, 1773,—Mrs. Guest's Donation of £30, settled in trust to the use of a Dissenting Minister at Tockholes," is abstracted below:—

Indenture, made Dec. 1st 1773, between John Mellor, of Manchester, sole acting executor of the last Will of Mary Guest, late of Manchester, Widow, deceased, of the one part, and Adam Richardson, senior, of Tockholes, yeoman, James Marsden, of Blackburn, yeoman, Peter Marsden of Rivington, yeoman, Robert Dewhurst, of Withnell, yeoman, John Bury, of Withnell, yeoman, and Lawrence Halliwell, of Lower Darwen, yeoman, of the other part, hereinafter mentioned, witnesseth and it is hereby declared and agreed by and between the parties to these presents, that a sum of £30 has been paid by John Mellor as trustee for Mary Guest to the said persons upon trust that they shall place out the said sum of £30 at interest, or lay out the same in purchasing an estate or land of inheritance, and shall employ the yearly interest, so long as the laws of this Realm will permit, towards the finding, providing, and maintaining of an able, godly, pious preaching and teaching Protestant Minister or Ministers (such as are now usually called Protestant Dissenting Ministers) of the Presbyterian or Independent Denomination, at a chappel or Meeting-house at Tockholes, in the parish of Blackburn and the county of Lancaster aforesaid (wherein James M'Quhae now officiates as minister), or at such other chappel or Meeting-house as the congregation thereto belonging, or the major part thereof, shall hereafter erect within the parish of Blackburn, and for want of such chappel or Meeting-house belonging to the said congregation, and upon the cessation of public worship therein, then for and towards the finding and maintaining of a Protestant Dissenting Minister

at such other chappel or Meeting-house of the denomination aforesaid as to the said trustees shall seem proper, giving preference to such chappel of the said Denomination (if any such there be) within the parish of Blackburn. Provided always that if the laws of this Realm should disallow the public worship of the said Denomination, then and in such case the then trustees shall employ the produce of the said £30 to the benefit of such laborious poor as they shall think proper. Provided also that if after a prohibition of the said worship the laws shall re-grant a Toleration, the produce of the said £30 shall revert to the support of the Ministry of the said Denomination in the said chappel at Tockholes. And for the perpetual performance of the above uses, trusts, &c., it is declared that when death shall reduce the number of the said Trustees to three or under, that then the surviving trustees shall with all convenient speed elect fit and proper persons, being Protestant Dissenters, and such as stately attend on public worship of the Presbyterian or Independent Denomination within the said parish of Blackburn, to be Trustees with them or him so surviving to make up the number six or three at the least. (Signed) JOHN MELLOR.

In the Parliamentary Return of Owners of Land, made in 1875, the lands held by the Trustees of Tockholes Independent Chapel are stated at 11¾ statute acres, with an annual rental of £41 2s.

The successor of Mr. Towers as minister was the Rev. James Scott, who settled in 1750. Mr. Scott remained until 1754, when he removed to Heckmondwike, in Yorkshire, where he became tutor of a Dissenting Academy. Following Mr. Scott was Mr. Mercer, who came in 1754, and left in 1755. The next pastor was the Rev. Thomas Waldegrave, a preacher of note. He was a native of Norwich, son of Henry Waldegrave, a Roman Catholic gentleman whose estate was confiscated for his part in the Jacobite rising of 1745. The son became a Congregational Protestant, and attached himself to the Old Meeting-House at Norwich, of which Dr. Wood then was minister. He studied for the ministry under Mr. Scott, at Heckmondwike, and came to Tockholes in 1755. He removed to Bury St. Edmunds in 1771, and died in 1812. Rev. James M'Quhae succeeded him, and was minister here about seven years before his removal to Blackburn, where he founded the first Congregational Church in 1778. (See ante, p. 360.) In 1779 there were 74 householding families in attendance at this chapel, numbering 330 persons.

I add a list of Ministers of this Nonconformist community since 1672. The duration of the two first pastorates is somewhat doubtful:—John Harvie 1672-1680(?); Robert Waddington 1682-1715; Peter Valentine 1715-1721; James Towers 1722-1749; James Scott 1750-1754; — Mercer, 1754-1755; Thomas Waldegrave 1755-1771; James M'Quhae, 1771-1778; — Grimshaw 1779-1782 (removed to Forton, and died there, in 1838, aged 96); Noah Blackburn, 1782-1786; Thomas Whiteley, 1787-1819 (died at Preston, aged 82, Jan 9th, 1843); Joseph Speakman, 1822-1830; Richard Pearson 1831; John Birkby 1832-1834; J. Porter, 1836-1838; John Penkethman, 1840-1848 (died at Tockholes, May 1st, 1848); Robert Abram, 1849-1852 (died at Tockholes, July 30th, 1852); Charles Bingley, 1853-1857; Horrocks Cocks, 1857-1861; R. Crookall, 1861-1865; J. Robinson, 1867-1875; Robert Allan 1876 (present minister).

The Old Meeting-House at Tockholes occupies a site in the lower portion of the township. Its front aspect is shown in the engraving. Its plan is a parallelogram, about 41ft. by 26ft., with vestry in the rear. The two main doorways are square-headed, with splayed jambs and lintels. The original mullion windows have recently been replaced by plain modern lights. A stone bell-cot stands upon the west gable, supported on pillars. Surrounding the chapel is a graveyard, which has been several times extended. Internally, the meeting-house has the pulpit in the centre, against the north wall; an aisle traverses the midst of the chapel lengthwise, and two short aisles lead from the entrances across the chapel. There are galleries on three sides of the chapel. The west gallery was inserted in 1777, when the edifice was re-roofed; the east gallery was added in 1780, and the front gallery in 1822. In the area, most of the original pews remain, bearing the initials of the first occupants, and the dates "1710" and "1711." The former practice of burial within places of worship was observed by many of the families connected with this place, and the ground beneath the chapel floor encloses a large number of occupied graves. It was the usage to allow persons to inter under their respective pews.

A short distance from the old Meeting-house is a chapel known as "Bethesda Chapel," built in 1803, by a seceding party of the congregation. The seceders, who joined Lady Huntingdon's Connexion, after some years rejoined the original congregation. "Bethesda Chapel" then remained closed for a considerable period. In the year 1851, the minister and congregation of the Old Meeting-house purchased and restored the chapel, and it has since been used for occasional services. "Bethesda Chapel" is a good-sized structure, and has a graveyard.

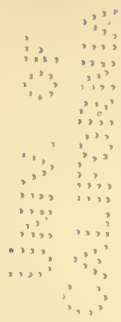
TOCKHOLES SCHOOL.—Early in the last century, a school-house was built in Tockholes, the existence of which was reported to Bishop Gastrell about the year 1718, who records:—"There is a School-house lately erected in Tockholes; the only endowment is 20s., the interest of which is applied to the repairs of the building by the Trustees, William Walmsley, James Marsden, James Walmsley, and Robert Aytok [Eatough]. The three last are Presbyterians [Nonconformists], and, as might be expected, Wm. Sanderson, a Presbyterian, is lately come to teach at the said school." Nothing appears respecting the subsequent maintenance of this school. The present building for the National School adjoins the church-yard.

GEORGE BLORE'S CHARITY.—Particulars of this charity have been given under Livesey township (p. 586). In 1786, the portion of Blore's gift belonging to Tockholes, being £16, was in the hands of John Anderton and Ralph Richardson, and yielded 16s. a year. In 1794, Mr. William Pickering received £11 19s., as part of this gift (the rest having been lost), and he still held the sum in 1825.



OLD NONCONFORMIST MEETING HOUSE, TOCKHOLES, ERECTED A.D. 1710.

(Page 70k.)



CHAPTER XIX.—THE TOWNSHIP OF WALTON-IN-LE-DALE.

Situation—Topography—Acreage—Manufactures—Population—Local Government—Descent of the Manor—Banastre Family—Langtons—Hoghtons as lords—Walton Hall and Hoghton Tower—Old Freeholding Families and later Landowners—Atherton—Banester of Banister Hall—Burscoe—Calrow—Kuerden (Jackson)—Osbaldeston—Pedder—Serjeant—Walton of Little Walton—Walmesley, and Winckley of Banister Hall—Woodcock of Cuerden and Walton—Woodcock of Lemon House, Walton—The Church of St. Leonard (Low Church)—St. Saviour's Church, Bamber Bridge—All Saints Church, Higher Walton—Roman Catholic Chapels of St. Marie, Brownedge, and of St. Patrick, Walton Village—Old Presbyterian Chapel—Wesleyan Chapels—Walton Schools—Walton Charities.

WALTON-IN-LE-DALE township extends about two miles along the left bank of the Ribble, opposite to the town of Preston and its eastern suburb of Fishwick; and from the river extends southwards nearly three miles to the stream of Lostock, the boundary of Leyland Parish. Its name describes its position in the lowland of the Lower Ribble, but the territorial surface of the township is broken by the ridges of low hills in the vicinity of that river. The river Darwen divides the township into two parts, and joins the Ribble in the demesne of the old manor-house of Walton. The acreage of Walton is large, amounting to 4630 statute acres. The Cotton Manufacture is represented by several mills in Walton village, and in the villages of Moon's Mill and Bamber Bridge. This industry has enabled the population to increase steadily. In 1801, Walton township contained 3832 persons; in 1811, 4776; in 1821, 5740; in 1831, 5767; in 1841, 6659; in 1851, 6855; in 1861, 7383; and in 1871, 8187. In 1877 the numbers approach 9000 persons. The township this year (1877) has been placed under the government of a Local Board of Health.

In seven centuries and a half the manor of Walton has been held in succession by representatives of the three families of Banastre, Langton, and Hoghton, as follows.

BANASTRE, LORDS OF NEWTON AND WALTON-IN-LE-DALE.

Robert Banastre, the first of his race who settled in Lancashire, was descended from Robert Banastre, said to have come to England with the Conqueror, who had a grant of Prestatyn, N. Wales. Robert

Banastre had the lordship of the Fee of Makerfield, which gave to his descendants the feudal title of Baron ; and, about the year 1130, Henry de Lascy gave to Robert Banastre Walatun (Walton), with its members, Melver, Eccleshull, Harawuda, and the two Derwentas, "for the service of one knight." This Robert Banastre had three sons,—the first, Richard Banastre, died, *s.p.*, before 1204, and his brother Warin became his heir ; the second, Warin, who also died without issue, was succeeded by the third brother, Thurstan.

Thurstan Banastre came into possession of the estates in 1215, and died in 1218 or 1219. By his wife Cecilia he had two sons, Robert, the heir ; and Thurstan Banastre, who had a grant from his brother of lands at Newton in Wirral, Co. Chester.

Robert Banastre being an infant of about a year old at the time of his father's death, his wardship and marriage were sold for 500 marks to Phillip de Orreby, Justice of Chester. He died, aged about 24 years, before July 27th, 1242, having had issue, by his wife Clementia, sons, John, who died in infancy, in 1241 ; and Robert, who was heir.

Robert Banastre, being a child when his father died, was left in ward to the Prior of Penwortham. In 11th Edw. I. (1283) Robert Banastre, Knight, gave lands at Walton to Stanlaw (Whalley) Abbey. His wife was Alice, daughter of Gilbert Wodecoker, and he had one son, James ; and a daughter Clementia, who married William de Lea, and died before Feb. 8th, 1290. She was mother of Sir Henry de Lea, and of Sibilla, wife of Sir Richard Hoghton. Robert Banastre appears as lord of Makerfield in 1278 ; was living in 1289, but was dead before 1292. Alice Banastre, his relict, quit-claimed to Stanlaw Abbey her right in land given thereto by her husband.

James Banastre, son of Robert, died in his father's lifetime, leaving issue, by his wife Elena, daughter of Wm. le Botiler, Baron of Warrington, a daughter Alice, who by her father's death became next heir of her grandfather. Before 1295, the marriage of this heiress was granted by Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, to John de Langton. Alice de Langton was living in 1304, but died before 18 Edward II.

LANGTON, BARONS OF NEWTON AND LORDS OF WALTON.

John de Langton was son of Robert de Langton of West Langton, Co. Leicester, and brother of John de Langton, Bishop of Chichester. By his marriage with Alice Banastre he assumed the lordship of Walton-in-le-Dale and of Newton. In 1300, at the instance of his brother, afterwards bishop, and then Chancellor to Edward the First, the King granted to John de Langton a charter of markets and fairs and free warren in Newton and Walton. The weekly market and a yearly fair of three days in

Walton are thus specified :—“ *Et unum mercatum singulis septimanis per diem Jovis apud manerium suum de Waleton in la Dale, et unam feriam singulis annis ibidem per tres dies duraturum videlicet in vigilia et in die et in crastino Sancti Luce Evangeliste.*” John de Langton was living in 1332. He had sons, Robert, the heir ; and John de Langton, who was presented by his brother to the Church of Wigan in 1334.

Robert de Langton, knighted in 1330, in 1349 was holding in demesne and service two carucates of land in Walton-in-le-Dale, one carucate in Over Darwent, two carucates in Nether Darwent, one carucate in Mellor and Eccleshill, and one carucate in Harwood Parva, for one knight's fee. By Margaret his wife, Sir Robert de Langton had sons, John ; Richard (probably Rector of Wigan in 1359); and Robert (from whom descended the Langtons of Lowe in Hindley). The father died Sept. 26th, 1361, seized (by the inquisition) of the manor of Newton, &c.; and the manor of Waleton in the Dale with appurtenances, by knight service ; there was in the same manor one capital messuage ; and in that demesne fourscore acres worth yearly per acre 15d.; and twenty acres worth 20s.; and two water-mills and one fishery worth yearly £4; with rents of free tenants there, 104s. 9½d.; and rents of tenants-at-will yearly £9 17s. 4d.; sum of the yearly value of the manor of Walton £24 2s. 1d.; of the manor of Newton £17 16s. 9d.

John de Langton, the first son, died in his father's lifetime, before 1361, leaving a son and heir Ralph, who was found to be 21 years old at his grandsire's decease ; and a younger son Richard.

Ralph de Langton, who succeeded his grandfather, was knighted. He married Johanna, daughter of William de Radcliffe, and had issue, sons, Henry, Nicholas, Thomas, and Geoffrey ; and a daughter Isabel, wife of Sir Richard Venables, Baron of Kinderton. Sir Ralph died about 1406. His widow was living in 1420.

Henry de Langton, Esq., next representative, married, about 1391, Agnes, daughter of John de Davenport, and had a son and heir Ralph ; younger sons, Hugh, James, Thomas, George, and Oliver (all named in a settlement dated 1422); and a daughter Isabel, wife of Thomas de Osbaldeston. Henry de Langton died Sept. 14th, 1419, and the *Inq. post mort.* dated 21st Oct., 1419, sets forth that Ralph de Langton being seized of the manor of Walton and the advowson of Wigan Church, by deed dated at Walton, 15th Ric. II., gave to his son Henry de Langton, and Agnes his wife, 15 messuages, 160 acres of land, 20 acres meadow, 20 acres woodland, 20 acres moor, 100 acres pasture, parcel of the said manor of Walton, &c.; and Henry de Langton had died seized of that manor and advowson, and of the Manor of Newton and other estates. Agnes de Langton, his widow, was living in 1422.

Ralph de Langton was son and heir, aged 23 in 1419. By Alice his wife he had a son Henry. The father was knighted, and Ralph de Langton, Knt., died the 26th Feb., 1431, having settled his estates ten years before (1421). His heir, Henry, was aged 12 years in 1432.

Henry de Langton, Esq., by Elizabeth his wife (she died Nov. 17th, 1472), had a son Richard; and a daughter Joan, wife, in 1472, of Richard Sherburne of Stonyhurst, Esq. Henry de Langton died Sept. 13th, 1471, aged 52. He had granted his estates of Walton and Newton, with 100 marks yearly, in trust to James Harrington, Knt., Walter Wrothesley, Knt., John Banastre, son of William, of Lostock, and James Banastre, chaplain.

Richard Langton, his son, was made a knight-bannaret at Hutton Field in 1482. He married Isabella, daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard of Bryn (she survived him, and was living in 1516), and had issue, sons, Ralph; and Henry (who had an annuity from his father in 1489); and daughters, Jane, wife of Thomas Rigmaden of Wedacre; Ellen, wife of Sir John Southworth of Samlesbury; Elizabeth, wife of John Clayton of Clayton; and Isabel. Sir Richard Langton died Aug. 23rd, 1500.

Ralph Langton, Esq., aged 26 in 1500, married, in 1490, Joan, daughter of Sir Chrstr. Southworth, Knt. (she died in 1505), and had sons, Richard; Thomas; and William (living in 1558, died at Walton); and daughters, Elizabeth, wife, first, of Nicholas Banastre of Altham, secondly, of Henry Byrom of Byrom; Isabel, wife of Richard Skellicorn; and Jane, wife of Thurstan Tyldesley of Wardley. Ralph Langton died July 29th, 1503. Richard, his eldest son, died June 16th, 1511, aged 17 years, unmarried, and Thomas, his brother, thus became next heir.

Thomas Langton, aged 14 when his brother died in 1511, was ward of Sir Edw. Stanley, Knt., Lord Monteagle, whose daughter Elizabeth was his first wife; she died in 1533, and left issue, sons, Edward; Richard (Rector of Wigan); Thomas; George; Anthony; Francis; Leonard (of whom hereafter); and Christopher; and daughters, Johanna, wife of John Fleetwood of Penwortham; Jane, wife of Richard Fitzherbert; Anne, wife of John Bold, gent.; Mary, wife, first, of Thomas Byrom, secondly, of Edward Winstanley; and Eleanor, wife of Edward Cholmondeley of Coppenhall. Thomas Langton married, secondly, Anne, daughter of Thomas Talbot, and had by her sons, Roger, living in 1542; Edward, living in 1582; and William, living in 1562; and a daughter Catherine. Thomas Langton was Knight of the Shire in 1554, and was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1556 and 1567. Sir Thomas Langton died in 1569, aged 72. His Will is

dated April 4th, 1569. Testator describes his estates as consisting of 600 messuages with gardens and orchards, 12 mills, 27,000 acres of land (customary measure), three-score pounds in rents, &c.; which had been conveyed to feoffees; desires to be buried in the chancel of Lawe [Walton] Church; names son Edward; several daughters; and "cousin" (grandson) Thomas, heir apparent. Dame Anne Langton, widow of Sir Thomas, died in 1572; her Will bears date April 23rd, 14th Eliz., and was proved in June, 1573.

Edward Langton, eldest son of Sir Thomas, had to wife Anne, daughter of Sir Alexander Osbaldeston, by whom he had a son Thomas, who died in infancy. Edward Langton died in his father's lifetime, before 1558, and his widow died before 1566. The five next brothers of Edward were all dead, without issue, in 1558.

Leonard Langton, sixth son of Sir Thomas, living in 1558, died in his father's lifetime before 1562; but by his wife Ann (widow of Wm. Singleton and daughter of Thos. Leyburne), he had a son Thomas, born in 1561, who was his grandsire's heir in 1569.

Thomas Langton had been betrothed in childhood to Margaret, daughter of Richard Sherburne, Esq., but the marriage contract was dissolved in 1580, and at the age of 19 Thomas Langton married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Savage of Clifton. He had no issue. In 1589, he was sore wounded in a faction fight at Lea Hall, with Thomas Hoghton, Esq., and his retainers. Mr. Hoghton was killed in the fray, and Thomas Langton is supposed to have ceded his manor of Walton to the Hoghtons in condonation of that mischance.

In the possession of the Hoghton family there was an exemplification dated 19 Feby., 33 Eliz., of a certificate given under hand and seal of certain justices of the peace, the Sheriff and under-Sheriff, dated at Lathom, 7th Jany., 32 Eliz., which was abstracted by Christopher Towneley, and is to be found in a volume of Hoghton evidences in the library at Towneley Hall, from which the following is extracted (kindly communicated by Mr. Wm. Langton):—"To the Queen, &c.—Certificate of Edward Earl of Derby, the Sheriffe, and of 16 justices of the peace. 7th Jany., 32 Eliz., (1590), that Friday 21st Nov. (1589), Ann Hoghton, late wife of Thomas Hoghton, Esq., gave information to the earl of Derby & Sir Richard Shirburne that a great riot had been made with armour & weapons at the Lea, in which Thomas Hoghton her husband and Richard Baldwin, late tenant to ye Barron, were slain. They ordered watch and ward to be kept, whereupon Thomas Langton, Esq., being sore wounded and accused to be an offender in the said action, was presently apprehended lying in his bed at Broughton Tower and committed to safe keeping, and likewise one Thomazene Singleton, widow, and others. Special sessions of the peace summoned same month, and 24 persons called. No sufficient jurors appeared for 2 days. Three that did appear were challenged; no presentment could be made; evidence proved that Thomazene Singleton, widow, late wife of John Singleton of Staining, in right of herself and daughters Alice and Elizabeth, pretended to a good right in certain oxen, kyne and other cattle which were 20th November pasturing on

the *Ley*, being the soil and inheritance of Thomas Hoghton, and adjoining his mansion house called the *Lea*, and whereof he had been in quiet possession for 2 years at least; and because the said cattle were before that time removed from the pasture in *Staining* which belonged to John Singleton by one George Singleton his brother who also claimed them, therefore William Anderton of the *Forde*, a near kinsman of Thomazene Singleton, on Thursday, 20th November at *Walton-le-Dale* required the ayde of Thomas Langton to take the said cattle from *Lea*, and Thomas Langton being persuaded that they might be lawfully taken, he ordered Edmund Toogood and James Mare to summon sundry of his tenants in *Walton* to accompany him with their weapons the same evening, and did also require then and there the assistance of Thomas Singleton of *Broughton*, Esq., for the execution of the said attempt. So Thomas Langton of *Walton*, Esq., William Anderton of *Anderton*, Esq., Thomazene Singleton, of *Staining* (and then follows a list chiefly yeomen of *Staining*, *Broughton*, *Walton*, *Anderton*, and among the rest one Francis Langton) armed with long pickes, gunnes, long staves, welshe-hooks upon long staves, swords & dagges, bows and arrows and bills, on 20th November at 11 at night assembled at *Preston-Marsh* about 2 miles from *Lea*, and agreed to go and drive away the cattle. They took a watchword "The crow is white." Arriving about one after midnight, 20th Novr., Thomas Langton and the others divided into 2 parts and entered the close, viz., 1 company entering by the gate leading to the upper court of the Mansion House, the other tooke down the gate and hedge of the close. Between 8 & 9 at night intelligence had been brought to Thomas Hoghton that Thomas Langton and Thomas Singleton were assembled to do him some displeasure; so he put himself, his household servants and such other persons as were with him in a readiness to make resistance, and one Bradshawe sent for 4 servants of Thomas Hoghton to come to the Mansion House. He mustered 30 persons, among the rest William Hulton, Esq., & his 2 sons & 2 tenants, and at 9 at night with staves, 1 pike, 1 gunne charged with haile shott, 2 pistols, 1 bow and arrowes & swords & dagges went out of the gate of his Mansion House into an outhouse very near the gate & standing in the said close where were the cattle, and going in and out expected the said Thomas Langton and his company, which entering the close at the gate, offered to drive the said cattle, and then Thomas Hoghton and his people offered resistance, and a great affray began within 60 yards of the house, in which Thomas Langton's company often used the watchword "The crow is white," and called for new and fresh men; and Thomas Hoghton's people used the word "Black-black," but whether as a watchword does not appear. And in a new & fresh assault made on Thomas Hoghton and his company by the said persons who had entered the close, Richard Baldwin, being one of the company of Thomas Langton, & Thomas Hoghton were then and there slaine, but by whom it does not appear."

Thomas Langton, Esq. was created a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of James I. in 1603. He died in 1604, and was buried in Westminster Abbey according to an inscription formerly in Wigan Church (but removed to Duxbury Hall) copied by Dodsworth, as follows:—

"To Oblivion and ye true bones of Sir Thos. Langton of ye Hon'ble Order of ye Bathe Knt. Baron of Newton Makerfeld ye last of his name and ye undoubted patron of this church descended from a most antient famous and farre renowned family of Langton in Leicestershire who some times were of great authority both in ye Church and Commonwealth of this Kingdome and for ye space of 300 yeres have flourished in this County. A gentleman yt many times tugged with extremities and

made warre with ye worst of misfortunes, &c. He departed this lief in ye City of Westminster 20 Feby. 1604 when he had lyved 44 yeres and lyes buried nere ye high altar in St. Peters Church adjoyning to ye Abbay."

DE HOGHTON, LORDS OF HOGHTON, LEA, DARWEN,
WALTON-IN-LE-DALE, &c.

In the *Testa de Nevill* it is written that Warin Bushel, Baron of Penwortham *temp.* William II. (1087), gave two carucates of land in Hocton and Eccleston to Hamo Pincerna, in free marriage with his daughter; and that, at the date of that record, Adam de Hocton held the same Hocton, namely, one carucate of land. Richard, second son of Hamo Pincerna, had Hoghton of the gift of his mother, after his father's death; and his son, Adam, succeeding to this estate, was styled Adam de Hocton. His descendant—

Sir Adam de Hoghton, was living in 1266, and was then written a Knight. By his wife Agnes he had sons, Richard, Thomas, and Adam. He was dead before Sept. 8th, 1307, when inquisition was made to find his heir, and it was proved that his son Richard was eight years older than his brother Thomas, and true heir to his father, Sir Adam de Hoghton.

Richard de Hoghton, Sheriff of Lancashire in 1282, 1291, and 1300, had by Christiana his wife a son Richard; and daughters, Johanna, and Margery.

Richard de Hoghton, son of Richard, died without issue. He was party to a deed of quit-claim to the Abbey of Whalley in 1309. To this Richard, Adam son of Richard Banastre confirmed one messuage and all his land in the vill of Wythenhill, &c., to hold of the chief lord of that fee; and if the said Richard de Hoghton should die without heirs of his body, remainder to Christiana mother of the said Richard; remainder to Johanna and Margery sisters of Richard; remainder to Richard son of Adam de Hoghton and his heirs.

Thomas de Hoghton, brother of Richard, died also without issue.

Adam de Hoghton, the other brother, married Avicia de Howick, widow of Roger de Alston, and had sons, Richard; and Thomas. He held the third part of a knight's fee in Hoghton, Clayton, Penwortham, Whelton-com-Hepay, Withenhill, and Rothelsworth, for which he paid 13s. 4d. yearly to the chief lord, the Duke of Lancaster. Adam de Hoghton was dead before 1307.

Richard de Hoghton, son of Adam, and heir to his cousin Richard son of Richard, was Knight of the Shire 16th Edw. II (1323). Sir Richard de Hoghton had married, in 1309, Sibil, daughter of William de Lea, and sister and heir of Henry de Lea, lord of Lea. By this marriage, the manor of Lea and other possessions of the De Lea family

were attached to the De Hoghtons. Sir Richard, by this heiress, had issue a son, Adam ; and daughters, Katherine, wife of Hugh Venables ; and Sibyl, wife, first, of William, son of Richard de Bold, and, secondly, of Robert de Cliderhou. Sir Richard de Hoghton occurs as witness to a deed in 1347, and died in 1349. His son—

Sir Adam de Hoghton, was Knight of the Shire in 1349. He was twice married, and Mr. Wm. Langton thinks the first wife, Philippa, was mother of his children, Richard, Henry, Agnes, and Sibyl. His second wife was Ellen Venables, who survived him, and re-married. Sir Adam de Hoghton occurs as party to a deed with Robert de Cliderhou, dated 1353. His daughter Agnes married, first, Thomas Banastre, secondly, Sir Wm. Molyneux, and thirdly, Richard de Balderstone ; the younger daughter, Sibyl, married Wm. Banastre, son of Adam Banastre, Knt.

Henry de Hoghton, second son of Sir Adam, was Knight of the Shire in 1408. Sir Henry, by his wife Jane, daughter and heir of Richard de Radcliffe, had no issue ; but he had a natural son, Richard, of Leagrim Park, whose son Henry Hoghton was the first of the Hoghtons of Pendleton. Sir Henry de Hoghton died Nov. 25th, 1424.

Sir Richard de Hoghton, son and heir of Sir Adam, was in possession before 1377, when, in a rental of Blackburnshire, it is recorded that Ric. Hoghton, chevalier, held one knight's fee in Walton, Mellor, and Eccleshill of the lord of that fee. He was Knight of the Shire in 1422 ; he occurs as Duchy Escheator in 1380 ; and as Seneschal in 1410. By his wife Johanna he had sons, William, and Edward. Sir Richard de Hoghton died June 30th, 1415. The *Inq. post mort.* taken at Preston 11th July, 1422, shows that he held at death the manors of French Lee and English Lee by knight service ; half the manor of Ashton ; the manor of Hoghton, with its members, Clayton, Queleton [Wheleton], Hepey, Rothlesworth, Wythinull [Withnell], and Conyldmores, of the King by knight service, as of the fee of Penwortham ; half the manor of Whithill in the Woddes ; also 40 acres of land in Livesey of the heirs of John de Livesey in socage ; and estates in other parts of Lancashire. Before his death he had enfeoffed William de Hoghton and Alice his wife in the manor of Gosenargh ; and Richard de Ewod, and William de Langton, chaplain, in the manor of Chernock Richard. Sir Richard de Hoghton founded a chantry in Ribchester Church in 1405.

Sir William de Hoghton, son of Sir Richard, died in his father's lifetime, leaving by his wife Alice a son Richard, born about 1399.

Richard de Hoghton became heir on his grandsire's death in 1415 ; by whom he had been endowed in 1410 with the manor of Charnock Richard. Richard de Hoghton was found heir of his great-uncle Sir Henry in 1425, being then aged 26 years. He was knighted in 1443.

By Margaret his wife he had sons, Henry, born about 1420; and Ralph. Sir Richard de Hoghton settled his estates May 10th, 1458; and died before February, 1468. The inquisition for the escheat, taken at Preston Feb. 14th, 1468, shows that he had enfeoffed Edmund Locke, Vicar of Kirkham, and Thos. Brown, Chaplain, in all his manors, messuages and lands in the counties of Lancaster and Chester.

Henry Hoghton, Esq., was found heir, aged 40 years in 1468. He had married clandestinely, or kept as his mistress, for eighteen years before his succession, Helen Mosson, and in April, 1468, a Bull from Pope Paul II. enabled him to make the offspring of that connexion legitimate. By Helen his wife he had sons, Alexander, William, Lawrence, George, and Arthur (in Flower's Visitation are added Thomas, and Edward); and a daughter Helen. He died in 1479, and shortly before that event, "Henry Hoghton, son and heir of Richard Hoghton, Knt., deceased," quit-claimed to John Hulton, gent., all right he and his father had in certain lands of the gift of John Hulton. In the 5th Henry VII. (1489), an inquisition was taken, proving Henry Hoghton to have been seized of the manors of Hoghton and Lee, and half the manor of Ashton, with 200 messuages, 2000 acres of land, 5000 acres of meadow, 2000 acres of pasture, 300 acres of woodland, 1000 acres of turbary, and 500 acres of moor in Hoghton, Lee, Alston, Grimsargh, Goosnargh, Whittingham, Halghton, Cuerden, Asheton-juxta-Preston, Tulketh, Ravensmeles, Chipping, Dilworth, and Goldborne. After his death, Helen Hoghton, his widow, founded a chantry at the altar of our Lady in the Parish Church of Preston, endowed with burgages in Preston, and parcels of land in Walton, Lea, and Fishwick.

Alexander Hoghton, his heir, was aged 26 years in 1489. He was created a knight-bannaret in 1482. He married Elizabeth Troutbeck, and had a daughter Anne. Sir Alexander Hoghton died before 1499, when it was found by inquisition that his daughter and heir, Anne Hoghton, was aged 11 years. She died before 1508, seized of divers lands in Lancashire.

William Hoghton, Esq., brother of Sir Alexander, succeeded to the entailed estates, and was subsequently knighted. He married, Margaret, daughter of Sir Chrstr. Southworth, Knt., and had a son Richard, born about 1469. Sir William Hoghton died before 1500; seized of Hoghton and Lea manors, and of the landed estates before enumerated. His son and heir, Richard, was then aged 31 years.

Sir Richard Hoghton, Knt., son of William, is referred to in the record of the heraldic Visitation of Lancashire in 1533:—"Sr Ric Houghton Knight, did mary [marry] Alice, daughter & one of the heyres to Sr. Thomas Asheton Knight. The said Sr Ric. hath putt away

his lady and wife, and keepeth a concubyne in his house, by whom he hath divers children, and by the lady he hath Ley Hall,¹ wh. armes he beareth quartered with his in the first qr., he says that Mr. Garter licensed him so to doe, and he gave Mr. Garter an angle noble, but he gave me nothing nor made me no good chere, but gave me proude woordes." Besides the daughter Katherine, only named in this record, Sir Richard had by his first wife, sons, Thomas, and Alexander; and a daughter Isabel, wife of — Holden of Duckworth. Sir Richard's second wife was Alice, daughter of — Morley, yeoman; by her he had sons, Thomas, and Rowland; and daughters, Agnes, wife of Richard Butler of Rawcliffe, Esq.; Alice, and Anne. His third wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Grygson, yeoman, by whom he had a daughter Bridget. His fourth wife was Anne, daughter of Roger Browne, yeoman, who had before been his mistress; by her he had no issue after marriage. By her or other mistresses, Sir Richard Hoghton had natural children, most of whom seem to have borne the father's surname, these: Richard Hoghton of Park Hall (who by Margaret his wife had a son, Richard Hoghton, of Park Hall gent. in 1613); Gilbert Hoghton (named as progenitor of Hoghtons of Red Lee, in Tockholes); Arthur, of Astley; Leonard, and George Hoghton; as well as daughters, Elizabeth (wife of Robert Talbot natural son of John Talbot of Salesbury); and another Elizabeth, wife of James Standish of Duxbury, Esq. Sir Richard Hoghton died in 1558, seized of the manor of Hoghton, with lands in Hoghton, Clayton, Wheelton, Hepay, and Withnell, held of the Queen as of her Duchy of Lancaster, worth £20; lands, &c., in Charnock Richard, Walsh Whittle and Sherrington, held of the Queen, worth 20 marks; lands in Ashton, held of the Queen, worth 5 marks; manor of Lee, held of the Queen, worth 53s. 4d.; half the manor of Alston, held of the Queen by fidelity, worth 20 marks; lands in Chipping, Hothersall, and Dilworth, held of the Queen, worth 20 marks; lands in Hawethe and Catterall, held of the Queen, worth 40s.; lands in Goldborne, held of Thomas Hoghton, worth 40s.; with other lands in Roddlesworth, Bromcroft, Ollerton, Plessyngton, Sholley, Ribchester, Ellston, Heskyne, Tockeholes, Sawreby, and Cophull, held of the Queen by fidelity, worth £6; tenements in Preston in free burgage, worth 100s.; lands in Chorley held of Edward Earl of Derby, Thomas Lord Monteagle, and Richard Shirburne, Knt., as of their manor of Chorley, worth 60s. 8d.; lands in Ince Blundell, held of the heir of

¹ Lea Hall did certainly not come by this lady, but as has been shewn from a remote ancestress, whose arms were borne quartered with a similar coat of counterchanged tinctures which the Hoghtons assumed as descendants of that heiress of Lea. The coat tricked by the herald gave the Ashton coat as borne quarterly; whereas, as those of a wife, they should have been impaled, or borne on an escutcheon of pretence.

William Blundell, Esq., worth 6s. 8d.; lands in Eukeston held of Richard Molyneux, worth 10s.; and lands in Walton-in-le-Dale held of Thomas Langton, Knt., worth 40s. Sir Richard Hoghton had died on the 5th August preceding; and Thomas Hoghton was his son and heir, aged 41 years.

Thomas Hoghton, Esq., succeeding Sir Richard, his father, in 1558, married, Katherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Gerard of Bryn, and had a daughter Jane, wife of James Bradshaw, Esq. Between 1563 and 1565, Thomas Hoghton built Hoghton Tower, to replace the former manor-house at the foot of the hill at Hoghton Bottoms. Connected with this work were suits which Thomas Hoghton had, in the 5th Eliz., with Barnard Townley and Ralph Holden respecting a contract for building and other works in Hoghton Manor; and in the 6th Eliz. (1563-4), with Jane Banister and William Mason, charged with trover and conversion of certain timber trees which had been felled by plaintiff for repairs, and were carried away by the rising and flowing of a river (the Darwen) through the Park of Hoghton; the place of their trover was Walton-in-le-Dale. Thomas Hoghton was not long permitted to enjoy his new mansion. He was a Roman Catholic, and being denounced to the Government as an associate of Cardinal Allen, he was forced to quit the country about the year 1569.¹ He sailed for the Netherlands, and remained there until his death, a period of about eleven years, having failed in an attempt to make terms with the Court for his return to England. Thomas Hoghton, Esq., died at Liege, June 2nd, 1580. It was found on the escheat that Alexander Hoghton, brother of Thomas, was next heir; and that Jane, wife of James Bradshaw, was Thomas Hoghton's daughter and heir, then aged 26 years.

Alexander Hoghton, Esq., was lord of Hoghton in succession to his brother during about one year. He married, first, in Feb., 1575, Dorothy, daughter of Richard Assheton, of Middleton, Esq., and secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Gabriel Hesketh, of Aughton, Esq.; but had no issue by either of his wives. He dwelt chiefly at Lea Hall, and died there in August, 1581. His Will, dated Aug. 3rd, was proved Sept. 12th, 1581. Testator "Alex. Hoghton of the Lea, Esq.," desires to be buried with his father Sir Richard and first wife Dorothy in Preston Church; makes Elizabeth his then wife sole executrix; names a bastard daughter Margaret, wife of Roger Crichlowe; and brother Thomas Hoghton of Brynescoules; and mentions a deed of agreement, dated 20th July, 1580, between testator and his younger brother Thomas, for

¹ There is preserved a pathetic ballad, purporting to be composed by Thomas Hoghton, Esq., when he had to leave his ancestral home and country for conscience-sake. It is entitled:—*The Blessed Conscience; written on the Departure from Merry England of Thomas Hoghton, Esq., of Hoghton Tower.* The ballad is printed in Harland's "*Ballads and Songs of Lancashire.*"

settlement of his manors, lands, &c. Failing issue of Alexander, the estates passed to his half-brother Thomas as next heir.

Thomas Hoghton, Esq., is the next scion. By articles between Thomas Hoghton, Esq., and Elizabeth Hoghton, widow, late wife of Alex. Hoghton, Esq., dated Aug. 19th, 1581, it was agreed that one capital messuage called Ashton Hall, and all lands, &c., late the inheritance of Thomas Hoghton, Esq., be conveyed to the said Elizabeth for her life; and she, at the request of the said Thomas Hoghton, should cause her brethren, Bartholomew and Thomas Hesketh, to convey to Thomas Hoghton all their estate in one messuage and one mill in Hoghton. Thomas Hoghton married Anne, daughter of Henry Kighley, Esq., and had sons, Richard; William (who married Grace, daughter of Sir Richard Sherburne, and had an estate in Grimsargh); Thomas (who married Katherine, daughter and co-heir of John Hoghton of Pendleton, gent., and had four daughters, co-heirs); Adam; and Henry; and daughters, Katherine, wife of Thomas Middleton, of Leigh-ton, Esq.; and Mary, wife of Thomas Walmesley of Dunkenhalth, Esq. The document below is an abstract of a plaint made in the Chancery Court of Lancaster by this lord of Hoghton, in 1582, soon after his entrance upon the estates:—

“To the Rt. Worshipp^l Sir Gilbert Gerard, Knt., M^r of the Roles, and Vice-Chancellor of the Co. Palatine of Lancaster.—Humbly complayning sheweth unto your worshippe Thomas Hoghton, Esq., that Richard Houghton of Parke-Hall, gent., bastard brother of the said compl^t, hathe as well duringe the tyme that Thomas Houghton, late of Houghton, Esq., deceased, was inhabitinge and abydinge within this realme and also after his departure out of this realme and beyond the seases [seas] had the rule and government of all or the most p^{te} of the landes, tenementes, leases, and goods of the said Thomas Hoghton, deceased, which said landes, &c., are lawfully descended and come to the said compl^{te}, and all and singular charteres, dedes, evidences, parchmentes, wrythinges, Corte Roles and Rentales are of right belonging to the said compl^{te}, and ought to be delivered to [him]; and also whereas the said Richard Houghton had an intereste, estaite and terme for divers yeares yet enduringe of and in the rectory and livinge of Xston [Preston], and also an estaite for divers yeares yet enduringe of the tythes of Houghton and also leases in the Parishe of Lealande of the demise of John fleetwoode, Esq., and by reason of havinge of the severall leases and estaite of the said last-recyted [], the said Rychard Houghton hath and had in his custodie dyvers original leases and assignmentes, grauntes, covenantes, boundes, and other wrytinges and appurtenances of the said Rectory and parsonage of Preston and the other tythes of Preston, &c., which said leases, &c., complainant hathe by conveyance, covenantes, boundes, and other wrytinges concerninge the same Rectory and tythes afforesaid and of ryghte belonginge to the said compl^{ainant}; and now so it is, ryghte Worshippful if it may please your Worshippe that the said charteres, dedes, &c., of the said manor landes and tenementes of the said complainant and the said original leases, grantes, &c., to be delivered to him by the said Richard Houghton upon his corporall othe, yt may therefore please your Worshippe to grante the breves, warrantes, precepts, &c., to be directed to the said Richard Houghton,

commanding him thereby to deliver to said compl't all and every the chartres, dedes, &c., he now hathe or at any time heretofore had touchinge or in any wyse belonginge, &c., to the manors, messuages, landes, tenementes, and hereditamentes of the said complainant, or any p'te thereof, lyinge and beinge within the County of Lancaster or elleswhere, and also all and every the originall leases, assignmentes, &c., which he now hathe or at any time had touchinge and concerninge the Rectory and tythes afforesaid, and every or any part thereof, and the complainant humbly prayeth that the said Richard may make his answeare uppon his corporall othe touchinge all and singular the premisses, and that the same answeare may be recorded in this Hon'ble C't, and your said orator shall dulye pray for the prosperous estaite of your worshippe in healt he longe to contynue." The plaint is signed "Thomas Morte." The answer of Richard Hoghton, the defendat, is signed "Thomas Walmysley."

The quarrel which occurred in the year 1589 between Thomas Hoghton, Esq., and his neighbour Thomas Langton, Esq. (referred to before in my account of the Langtons), terminated fatally to Thomas Hoghton. He died Nov. 20th, 1589. The *Inq. post mort.* taken 32nd Eliz., shows that Thomas Hoghton, Esq., had held the manors of Hoghton and Lea, &c., with 800 messuages, 400 cottages, 6 dovecots, 2000 gardens, 1000 orchards, 20 water-mills, 10 windmills, 6000 acres of land, 2000 of meadow, 3000 of pasture, 2000 of woodland, 1000 of moor, 1000 of turbary, 1000 of rushland and heath, and £20 of rents in Hoghton, Lea, Chipping, and many other townships. Richard Hoghton, son and next heir, was aged 20 at the date of the escheat. "In ye margine it is written that this Thomas Hoghton was slain at Lea; he marryed Anne, ye daughter of Henry Kighley, shee was afterwards marryed unto Richard Shirburne, sonne and heire of Sir Richard, his second wyfe." After Thomas Hoghton's death, Thomas Langton surrendered the Manor of Walton to his heir.

Richard Hoghton succeeded to the estates on his father's death, at the age of 19 (he was born Sept. 28th, 1570). During his minority he was ward of Sir Gilbert Gerard, Knt., Master of the Rolls, whose daughter Katherine he married, about 1590. He was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1598, and was knighted in 1599 by the Earl of Essex, with whom he was serving in Ireland. In 1603 he was returned to Parliament as Knight of the Shire. Sir Richard was a favourite of James I., and by that monarch he was created one of the first batch of baronets, on the institution of the Order, May 22nd, 1611. It was this Sir Richard Hoghton who received the King at Hoghton Tower in August, 1617 (see *ante*, pp. 95-100). By Katherine his wife (who died, aged 48, Nov. 17th, 1617), Sir Richard had issue, sons, Gilbert; Thomas; Richard; Ratcliffe (married Anne Walmesley, daughter of Thomas of Banister Hall); and Roger; and daughters, Anne, wife of Sir John Cotton of Landwood, Knt.; Frances; Catherine, wife of Robert Dewhurst of Alston, gent.; Elizabeth; Alice; Margaret; Gilibert; and

Eleanor. After his wife's death, Sir Richard Hoghton had two other sons by Jane, widow of Robert Hesketh, Esq., but whether in wedlock is uncertain. Sir Richard Hoghton, Knt. and Bart., died Nov. 12th, 1630, aged 60. The *Inq. post mort.*, taken at Blackburn, 7th Chas. I., showed that Sir Richard was seized of the estates before enumerated, for term of his life; remainder to his son and heir, Gilbert Hoghton, Knt., for his life; remainder to Richard Hoghton, Esq., son of the said Gilbert, and the heirs male of his body, &c.

Thomas Hoghton, Esq., second son of Sir Richard, and described as "of Hoghton Tower" in 1627, had sons, Thomas, bapt. at Brindle Church, Feb. 12th, 1625-6, buried Dec. 28th, 1627; Richard, bapt. July 22nd, 1632, died in 1658; and Gilbert, died young, in June, 1632; and a daughter Elizabeth, bapt. April 20th, 1628.

Sir Gilbert Hoghton, son and heir of Sir Richard, was born in 1591; and at the age of 15 was knighted at Whitehall, July 21st, 1606. He "was in high favour with James I., and had the honour to be in his service at Court." Canon Raines adds that "he was celebrated for his elegant accomplishments, and especially in dancing. He frequently took part in the beautiful masques of this reign, and is even mentioned by name in Ben Jonson's Antimasque 'for the honor of Wales,' presented before the King and his courtiers, in 1618-19." The brilliant Jacobean poet and satirist Nicholas Breton, dedicated, in 1614, his piece entitled "*The Good and the Bad, or Descriptions of the Worthies and Unworthies of this Age*," to "the Right Worshipfull and Worthy, Sir Gilbert Houghton, of Houghton, Knight, the noble favourer of vertuous spirits." In 1614, Sir Gilbert Hoghton was returned to Parliament as Knight of the Shire, and represented Lancashire in three subsequent Parliaments. In 1616 he went to France as a member of the English Embassy. He was Sheriff of Lancashire in 1643. Sir Gilbert Hoghton was one of the foremost leaders of the Royalist forces in Lancashire in the Civil War. His part in that conflict has been described in a former chapter. Sir Gilbert married, before 1613, Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Sir Roger Aston, Knt., of Cranford, Co. Middlesex. He had sons, George, died in infancy; Richard, born in 1616; Roger Hoghton, a Royalist officer, "slain with a cannon bullet at Hessam Moore, fighting on the King's part, 1643"; Gilbert Hoghton ("major in the regiment of Sir Gilbert Gerard, Knt.," Governor of Worcester to King Charles I.; he married Lettice, daughter of Sir Francis Gamall, Knt., and died in 1661); Thomas, died young; and Henry (see p. 670); and daughters, Katherine, wife of Thomas Preston of Holkar; Mary, wife of Sir Hugh Calverley; Margaret, wife of Alexander Rigby of Middleton; and Anne, died young. Sir Gilbert Hoghton, Knt. and Bart., died in 1647. His

widow, Lady Margaret Hoghton, died in 1657. Mr. Isaac Ambrose, the Puritan minister at Garstang, preached a funeral sermon for her, published with the title :—"Redeeming the Time ; a Sermon preached at Preston, in Lancashire, January 4th, 1657, at the Funerall of the Hon. lady, the Lady Margaret Houghton." The following letter, written from Walton Hall in 1634, by Sir Gilbert Hoghton to Roger Dodsworth the antiquary, I print from the *Dodsworth MSS.* on account of its reference to the early passages of local estates of the Hoghtons :—

To my very much esteemed loveinge friende Mr. Roger Dodsworth at Hutton Grange these. Being advertised of your return home, I have address these lynes to you, and my desire is, yt if you can possiblie you would come hither to Walton tomorrow or ye first day yt leasure will p'mit you, yt we may c'ferre together for ye manageinge of ye business whereof wee have had some former speech. And this is for proveing the tenure of Over Darwent. You know I have a deed of ye grant of ye body, lands and marriage of John de Keu[er]dale by Sir John de Langton unto Alice K. his mother, of lands in Parva Darwent. It appeares that this John K. dyed and Joan his sister became heire, and married Thomas Molineux de la Edge, who had issue Katherine, who married Alexr. Osbaldeston. I desyre you to informe yourselfe how to prove this Pedigree and yf Parva Darwent is Over Darwent. And whether this Alexander O. was ye heire of ye Osbaldestons, and how ye pedigree may be proved from him to Sir Edward yt now ys. As also how ye lands came from ye Banastres to ye Langtons Lords of Walton. I intend to sitt on office one of these days, and must intreat your furth'ance and testimony in ye premisses about Darwent. I pray you informe yourselfe fully, and thus with my love I reste, y'r very loveing friend, GILBERT HOGHTON.—30 Maii, 1634.

Sir Richard Hoghton succeeded his father in the estates and title. He married Sarah, daughter of Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, and had issue, sons, Philip, Ferdinando, Gilbert, Henry, Charles, and Benjamin ; and daughters, Lucy, Arabella, Cordelia (buried at Walton, May 29th, 1685), and Sarah, married, first, — Dymock, and, secondly, John Walmesley of Ince, gent. Sir Richard Hoghton was an energetic supporter of Parliament against the King. He was returned as Knight of the Shire in 1656. After the Restoration, Sir Richard adhered to the Presbyterian party, and was a great supporter of the ministers ejected under the Act of Uniformity. He died in February, 1677-8, and was buried at Preston Church, in which his funeral sermon was preached by the Vicar, Dr. Bushell. His widow, "Lady Sarah Hoghton of Ince," was buried at Walton, May 21st, 1698.

The four first sons of Sir Richard died unmarried in his lifetime, and the title devolved upon the fifth son, Charles, as next heir to the estates. The youngest son was Benjamin Hoghton, Esq., who was made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1694, and was living at Cuerden Green in 1695.

Sir Charles Hoghton, was born in 1643 ; married, in 1676, Mary,

daughter of John Visct. Massarene, and had sons, John ; Henry ; Philip ; Skevington (bapt. Oct. 7th, 1687 ; Skevington Hoghton died in Feb., 1768) ; Hugh, born in 1688 : and James, born in 1690 ; and daughters, Mary ; Cordelia (bapt. July 23rd, 1686 ; married Robert Davie, Esq.) ; Anne (married, Oct. 9th, 1721, Samuel Crook of Crook, gent.) ; Margaret (bapt. Feb. 10th, 1691-2 ; married at Walton, Aug. 27th, 1716, Samuel Watson of Hull, gent.) ; Elizabeth (bapt. May 2nd, 1693 ; married, Feb. 14th, 1715-16, to Thomas Fenton of Hunslet, Esq.) ; and Lucy (bapt. Oct. 29th, 1694 ; married, Feb. 6th, 1721-2, to Thomas Lutwidge, Esq.) Like his father, Sir Charles was a kind patron of the Nonconforming divines, among them of John Howe, Henry Newcome, and Oliver Heywood. Sir Charles built a new wing to Hoghton Tower in 1700. He was returned Knight of the Shire in 1681 and 1688. In 1709, he founded a school at Withnell, and endowed it with £400 by deed dated June 30th, 1709. He died June 10th, 1710, and was buried at Walton Church, June 15th. His widow, Lady Mary, survived him twenty-two years, dying on April 30th, 1732. " Dame Mary, relict of Sir Charles Hoghton, Bart.," was buried at Walton, May 4th, 1732.

John Hoghton, eldest son of Sir Charles, died in his father's lifetime, unmarried, in 1699, aged about 21. He had entered the Temple in 1698, and appears to have died in London. His funeral sermon, preached by John Howe, was published with the title "The Redeemer's Dominion over the Invisible World," prefaced by a dedication, dated May 17th, 1699, to "Sir Charles and the Lady Mary Hoghton of Hoghton Tower."

Sir Henry Hoghton, second son and eventual heir of Sir Charles, was returned to Parliament as Member for Preston four times, in 1710, 1715, 1728, and 1735. He also contested Preston at the election in 1722 ; and was shortly after returned Member for Eastlow, in Cornwall, in 1724. Sir Henry Hoghton held some years the office of Judge-Advocate General. He was the most active local supporter of the Government against the Jacobites in the rising of 1715, and took effectual measures at Preston and Walton to check the advance of the Rebel army. He was thrice married, first, to Mary, eldest daughter of Sir Wm. Boughton, Bart. (she died at Dover, in 1719) ; secondly, to Lady Russell, relict of Lord James Russell ; and thirdly, to Susannah, daughter of Thomas Butterworth, Esq., of Manchester (her marriage dowry was £8000). Sir Henry had no issue by any of these marriages, and on his death, in 1768, the title and estates passed to the son of his brother Philip Hoghton. The obituary of Sir Henry in the *Annual Register* runs :—" Feb. 23, 1768, [died] Sir Harry Houghton, baronet, at his seat in Lancashire, aged 90."

Philip Hoghton, Esq., married, first (at Brindle, Jan. 8th, 1724-5), Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Sclater, Esq., and by her had issue, sons, Charles (died in his father's lifetime, in May, 1743); and Henry, born Oct. 22nd, 1728; and two daughters, both of whom died unmarried. The mother died in March 1731-2. Philip Hoghton married, secondly, Mary, daughter of Edward Rigby of Middleton, Esq., by whom he had a daughter Anne, who married Rev. Humphrey Shuttleworth, Vicar of Preston. Philip Hoghton, Esq., was buried Nov. 14th, 1747.

Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart., son of Philip, who succeeded his uncle Sir Henry in 1768, at the age of 40, married, first, Elizabeth, only daughter of Wm. Ashhurst, of Heddingham Castle, Co. Essex, Esq., and had a daughter Elizabeth (married, July 15th, 1783, Lewis Magendie, Esq., and died in 1833). Sir Henry married, secondly, in 1766, Fanny, daughter and co-heir of Daniel Booth, of Hutton Hall, Co. Essex, Esq. By her he had two sons, Henry Philip; and Daniel. Sir Henry Hoghton was returned in the Whig interest as M.P. for Preston in 1768, and afterwards represented that borough in five successive parliaments until his death. He died, aged 67, March 9th, 1795. Sir Henry Hoghton was the acknowledged parliamentary leader of the Nonconformist party, for whose relief he introduced and carried some important measures.

Daniel Hoghton, second son of Sir Henry, born Aug. 27th, 1770, entered the army, and rose to the rank of Major-General. He fought in the Peninsular War, and was killed at the head of his regiment at the battle of Albuera, May 16th, 1811. On a white marble slab in the chancel of Walton Church is inscribed:—"Major-General Daniel Hoghton, died in the battle of Albuera, in Spain, May 16, 1811, aged 41."

Sir Henry Philip Hoghton, seventh baronet, was born June 12th, 1768. He was returned M.P. for Preston, in the stead of his father, in 1795, and sat in the House of Commons until 1802. He married, Nov. 12th, 1797, Susannah, daughter of Peter Brooke of Astley Hall, Esq., and relict of Thomas Towneley Parker, Esq., and had a son Henry, born Jan. 3rd, 1799; and a daughter Fanny Elizabeth, bapt. May 10th, 1800. Sir Henry Philip Hoghton died at Walton Hall, aged 67, Nov. 27th, 1835.

His son and heir, Henry Hoghton, married, May 25rd, 1820, Dorothea, second daughter of Peter Patten Bold of Bold, Esq.; she became, on her sister's death, sole heir of the Bold estates, and on that account her husband Henry Hoghton assumed, by royal license, the additional name and arms of Bold. Sir Henry Bold-Hoghton, Bart., had issue, sons, Henry, the heir; Charles, born Nov. 20th, 1823; Richard, born May 20th, 1828, married Martha, daughter of Septimus

Miller, Esq.; and daughters, Mary, married John Ireland Blackburne, Esq.; and Dora, married Priestley Birch, Esq. His first wife dying in Dec., 1840, Sir Henry Bold-Hoghton married, secondly, Miss Smith of Norwich, and by her had issue, sons, James, Daniel, and Gilbert, and a daughter Frances. He was High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1829. He died July 19th, 1862, at Anglesea, near Gosport, and was buried at Anglesea Chapel.

Sir Henry, ninth baronet, who succeeded his father, resumed by royal license the ancient prefix of *De Hoghton*. He was born Aug. 22nd, 1821; married, first, Aug. 14th, 1845, Louisa Josephine, fourth daughter of Joseph Sanders, Esq., by whom he had a son Cecil, born Feb. 5th, 1849. This marriage was dissolved by Act of Parliament in June, 1849. Sir Henry de Hoghton married, secondly, July 1st, 1851, Alice, third daughter of Sir Henry Jervis White-Jervis, Bart., by whom he had issue a daughter Alice Marion, born Dec. 8th, 1852. Lady de Hoghton died Dec. 29th, 1852. Sir Henry's third wife, married Sept. 6th, 1854, was Ellen Ann, daughter of Ralph Harvey, Esq. (she survives her husband), and by her he had issue a daughter Eleanor Isabel, born May 12th, 1860. Sir Henry de Hoghton served the office of High Sheriff of Cardiganshire in 1849. During the term of his tenure of the estates Sir Henry de Hoghton spent vast sums in their improvement, and also commenced the restoration of Hoghton Tower, the ancient family seat. He restored the church of Farnworth near Warrington, and beautified the chancel of Preston-Parish Church. He resided chiefly in London, and died there, aged 55, Dec. 2nd, 1876. His remains were interred in the Bold Chapel of Farnworth Church. His only son, Cecil de Hoghton having died unmarried before his father (July 24th, 1874, aged 25), Sir Henry was succeeded in the title and estates by his brother—

Sir Charles de Hoghton, the present baronet. He was born in 1823; and is unmarried. The heir presumptive is his brother, Richard de Hoghton, Esq. By the Will of Sir Henry de Hoghton, dated Feb. 9th, 1875, testator directs that the income of his real and personal estate shall accumulate for 21 years, subject to annuities to his wife, brothers, &c.; after that date all real estate to go to his brother Charles, if then living, with remainder to his first and every other son in succession; and other contingent remainders. The Lancashire estates of Sir Henry de Hoghton were returned in 1873 as comprising 4112 statute acres, with a rental of £10,144.

Walton Hall, the Manor-house of Walton-in-le-Dale, was demolished about 40 years ago. It had previously undergone alterations which



WESTERN GATEWAY, HOUGHTON TOWER.

gave it a modern aspect. (An engraved view of the Hall as it stood shortly before its removal will be found in Baines's *History of Lancashire*, first edition.) It was a large structure of brick and stone, with classic porch in the centre, in the pediment of which was the Hoghton arms, and projecting gabled wings. The park near the site still contains some fine old trees. The offices of the Hoghton estates, and the modern residence of Sir Charles Hoghton's steward, R. J. Flowerdew, Esq., J.P., now occupy a portion of the hall grounds.

Hoghton Tower occupies the summit of an isolated hill, four miles west of Blackburn. On the north-east side the hill is precipitous, and at its base the river Darwen passes through a deep wooded ravine. Built in the first years of Elizabeth's reign, the Tower presents the features of the Tudor style of domestic architecture. Its plan consists of blocks of buildings set at right angles, and forming two quadrangles, enclosing outer and inner courts. The south-western front is composed of three towers, with embattled parapets and connecting walls. The central tower is larger than the side towers, and has an entrance gateway under a depressed arch, 12ft. wide, springing from moulded capitals. On the outer wall above the gateway-arch is a panel containing sculptured figures in relief, and in the upper corners the initials of the builder's name "T H" (Thomas Hoghton). The panel is flanked by Ionic pillars supporting a cornice. On the left hand, entering the lower court, are buildings called the "King's Stables," said to have been built shortly before the royal visit in 1617; and a small building covering the windlass of the draw-well, which is 40 yards deep. On the right hand are buildings of three storeys, with square doorways and windows, added by Sir Charles Hoghton in 1700. On the wall is a moulded stone panel, bearing the initials "C H M H" (for Charles and Mary Hoghton), the date "1700" and a scripture text. The upper part of the outer court is a terrace, fronted by a low wall, with square pillars forming a gateway in the midst, at the top of a flight of semi-circular steps. In front, the block of building between the courts is pierced centrally by a gateway, 13½ft. wide, and 12½ft. high to the apex of the Tudor arch. An elaborate panel is seen above the arch, in which are sculptured the arms of Hoghton (*sable three bars argent*) quartered with Asheton (*argent a mullet sable*), with the Hoghton supporters (two bulls), helm, and crest (a bull passant). Here, again, are the initials "T H" of the founder. On the inner wall above the gateway the armorial sculpture is repeated, as are the initials "T H"; and in this panel there are traces of the date of the erection, A.D. 1565, of which the two last figures "65" alone are barely distinguishable. Passing into the inner court, which is a square 70ft. by 69½ft., the buildings on each side of the quadrangle appear to be of

the original fabric, excepting that the walls of the block over the middle gateway, above which rose the lofty tower¹ which gave the mansion its name (destroyed by the explosion of gunpowder during the Civil War) show indications of having been rebuilt. In the midst of the court stands a statue of William the Third, in bronze; the figure is six feet high, and stands on a square corniced pedestal, about 6½ft. in height. This statue was formerly at Walton Hall. The doorways opening from the inner court are low and square-headed, with massive lintels. The windows are square, with moulded mullions and transomes. On the north-west facade, above a flight of semi-circular steps, is a doorway with low pointed arch, beneath a square head-moulding; the spandrels contain carved flowers and foliage. Above this entrance the roof-line is gabled. The large window of the dining-hall occupies the middle of this front, to the right of which is a large bay window, surmounted by a projected gable. The interior of the wing contains the banqueting hall and kitchen and rooms in connection therewith. At the west end is a panelled oaken screen, supporting the Minstrels' Gallery, which is protected by a ballustrade. The broad arch of the original open fire-place has been built up, but is yet visible beneath the plaster. The transeptal bays at the east end of the Hall add largely to its capacity. Each bay forms five sides of an octagon, and is 10ft. deep by 11ft. wide. The bays are lighted by lofty oriel windows, mullioned and triple transomed. The main window of the Hall is of unusual size, extending laterally from the screen to the oriel, and is also lofty, having three lines of transomes. The roof of the Hall has been renewed in the recent restorations. In the basement of the same block is the kitchen, reached by a stair from the passage behind the hall-screen. Its fire-place is 8ft. 2in wide by 2ft. 9in. deep, and 6ft. high. Domestic offices are in the rear of the kitchen. The north-east wing of the quadrangle contains some of the state-rooms of the mansion. The chief entrance from the court admits to a spacious Hall, from which a stair, 6ft. wide, with spiral ballusters, called "The King's Staircase," conducts to "The King's Room" on the upper floor, a spacious apartment 27ft. by 20ft., used by King James the First when he was here as a reception room. The walls of the room are panelled in oak, in deep moulded panels; and the chimney-piece is of classic design, with a bold cornice. The King's Bedroom is a long narrow chamber, 26ft. by 12ft., at the north angle of the Tower, with panelled walls and ornamental cornices similar to those of the audience chamber adjoining. On the right of the first staircase in this wing is another of the state-rooms, a handsome

¹ Dr. Richard Kuerden, who knew the Tower before its mutilation, records:—"Betwixt the inward square court and the 2d, was a very tall strong tower or gatehouse, which in the late unhappy civil wars was accidentally blown up with powder," &c.

panelled room, 28ft. by 20ft.; with a massive arcuated stone fire-place, which has been restored. The south-east wing contains, on the upper floor, a suite of four large rooms which have been stately in their aspect, but prior to the recent restorations had become greatly decayed. The fifth room in the range is a smaller room behind the corridor, its walls covered with small oak panels, having gilt discs in the four corners of each panel, and therefore named the "Guinea Room." A panel over the fire-place displays the armorial bearings of the Hoghtons. The minor rooms on the ground floor of this wing and in the central block are too many to enumerate. At the north side of the Ministrels' Gallery is a large panelled room, which may have been used by the lord of the mansion and his favoured guests as a withdrawing room. It occupies a projection from the main block and has windows upon three sides, commanding charming landscapes down the vale of Darwen and towards the estuary of the Ribble and the sea-coast line of Lancashire. The external walls of the Tower are massively built of large blocks of compact gritstone, quarried from the rock on which the Tower stands. On the rearward aspect of the Tower are seen the wide and deep chimney projections. Over a square-headed doorway at the exterior angle on the north is another stone panel, enclosing the arms of Hoghton, with the baronet's badge, and the family crest. The projecting wing on the north side has circular-arched openings flanked by carved pillasters supporting a moulded string-course. The gardens and pleasure-grounds are enclosed by the old stone walls, which extend to the edge of the cliff on the north side of the Tower. Below the outer gateway an extensive lawn slopes to a boundary consisting of a pallisade with the pillars of a gateway opening opposite the central tower. On the north-east side of the lawn stands a large barn built by Sir Charles Hoghton, as attested by a stone above the barn-door, bearing the letters "C H" and the date "1692." In the keeper's house lies the old chapel-bell, removed from its place on the roof of the Tower some years since. The bell was cast, I conjecture, at an earlier date than the erection of the Tower, and may have been first used as the sanctum-bell or saint-bell of some local chantry. It is about 14 inches high, and bears the legend in missal characters :—

Benedicta sit Sanctus Trinitas +

Below are genealogical notices of some of the more important ancient and recent freeholding families in Walton.

ATHERTON OF WALTON.

A document in possession of Rev. J. S. Birley recites that John Atherton of Walton-in-le-Dale, Esq., had Banister Hall in Walton and other lands there; and

by his Will, dated 4 Feb., 1768, he leaves Banister Hall, &c., to his son John Atherton, Esq., remainder to his grandson John Joseph Atherton eldest son of John; remainder to Henry Blundell Atherton, second son of testator's son John Atherton; remainder to right heirs of said John. Testator's wife, Frances; son John; nephew John Atherton of Prescot; and Robert Richmond of Liverpool, gent., executors. John Atherton, gent., the son, died about 1785; his Will is dated Oct. 13th, 1785. John Joseph Atherton (son of John) of Walton Hall, Major in the 3rd regiment of Light Dragoons, married, in 1796, Miss Mitford, daughter of Bartram Mitford of Mitford Castle, Co. Northumberland, Esq. William Assheton, Esq., of Cuerdale Hall, eventually purchased the Banister Hall estate.

BANESTER OF DARWIN HALL (BANISTER HALL).

A family of Banesters, in the position of gentry, held an estate and resided in Walton-in-le-Dale until the seventeenth century, and was presumably a branch of the ancient manorial house of Banastre of Walton, merged in the Langtons. Flower the herald, in his Visitation of 1567, styles this family Banester of Darwin, which is misleading, and suggests one of the townships of Darwen as its place of residence. The correct description is Banester of Darwen or Banester Hall in Walton; the older name of Darwen Hall given to the seat of these Banesters obtaining from its proximity to the river Darwen.

John Banastre of Walton, occurring in 2nd Henry V. (1414), is the first member of this family I have observed. It is not unlikely that Geoffrey Banastre, Vicar of Blackburn from 1419 to 1457, was of this branch. Canon Raines remarks of this Vicar:—"He may have been the grandson of John Banastre of Walton-in-le-Dale, Esq." It was Richard, a son of John Banastre of Walton, who, by marrying Johanna, daughter and heiress of John de Alvetham, became possessor of Altham manor and founded the line of Banastre of Altham.

Another John Banastre of Walton appears in the 10th Henry VI (1432), as giving fines for certain writs of that date.

Flower's descent begins with Richard Banester, who must have lived early in the fifteenth century, and may have succeeded the above John. Thomas Banester, his son and heir, had a son and heir William Banester, whose heir was Lawrence.

Lawrence Banester of Derwyn, gent., had a son and heir, George Banester of Derwin; and the latter, who was assessed for his lands in Walton to a Subsidy in 1523, married Jennet, daughter of Lawrence Ainsworth of Pleasington, gent., and had issue sons, Lawrence, Henry, William, and George.

Lawrence Banester of Darwen Hall, in Walton, gent., son of George, had to wife Jane, daughter of Richard Hoghton, Knt., and had sons, Richard; a second Richard; Thomas, and William; and daughters, Alice, Mary, Grace, and Margaret. Lawrence Banester died August 6th, 1558, and the escheat taken at Preston, Oct. 4th, 1st Eliz., returned that he had possessed nine messuages, four cottages, 200 acres of land, 60 acres of meadow, 10 acres of woodland, and 100 acres of turbarry, in Walton, and one messuage, six burgages, two cottages, one mill, and certain lands in Preston—not a small estate. Richard Banester was his son and heir, aged 17 years.

According to Flower, Richard Banester, gent., eldest son of Lawrence, died without issue; and his next brother, Richard, succeeded to the estate. This Richard Banester married Isabell, daughter and one of the heirs of Piers Farrington, of Farrington, gent. In the Farrington descent Richard Banester is described as "of Preston, gent.," but he dwelt at Banister Hall after his father's death. He had sons, Thomas, Lawrence, and George; and daughters, Mary, Jane, and Alice. In

1581, Alexander Hoghton, Esq., in his Will, indicates a debt owing to him by his nephew, "Richard Bannister, gent., of Darwin Hall alias Bannister in Walton," of £15, "for which," it is added "hee hath pledged to mee all his wheate now growing."

Thomas Banester of Walton, son of Richard, had a daughter Alice, wife of John Livesey of Blackburn, gent.

William Banester of the Law Hall, yeoman (a younger brother or son of Lawrence above, and named in Sir Thomas Langton's Will in 1588), made his Will the 4th Sept., 1584; directing his burial at Law (Walton) Church; and naming Jane, his wife; Henry, his son; William, Jane, and Elizabeth, children of Henry; and Ellen Hoghton his granddaughter. Margaret Banester, testator's daughter, Jane, his wife, and Henry, his son, appointed executors.

Henry Banester of Walton died before 1610, when his relict was assessed to the Subsidy.

Before 1600, the Banister Hall estate had passed from the Banesters to Mr. Edward Walmesley, younger son of Thomas Walmesley of Showley, Esq.

The Guild Rolls of Preston furnish some later names of this family of Banastre. Richard Banastre of Banastre Bridge in Walton; and George Banastre his brother, were freemen of Preston in 1642. Richard Banastre, dead before 1662, had a son, Thomas Banastre of Banastre Bridge in Walton, a burgess of Preston in 1642 and 1662. He had sons, Richard, William, and James, all enrolled upon the Preston Guild Rolls for 1642 and 1662. Another member, Lawrence Banastre, living in 1642; had sons, John, Thomas, and George. John Banastre of Walton, son of Lawrence, living in 1642 and 1662, but deceased before 1682, had sons, Richard and John, enrolled on the Guild Roll for 1682.

BURSCOUGH OF WALTON.

Edmund Bruscoe of Walton was assessed to a Subsidy in 1570. He had a son Roger. Roger Burscough of Walton, gent., occurs in 1584.

Thomas Burscough, of Walton-in-le-Dale, gent., died in 1614. By his Will, dated April 29th, 12th James I., he desires to be buried at Lawe Church. Testator names Emie, Jane, Anne, and Roger Burscough, children of Edmund Burscough his brother; and refers to his lease to John Woodcock of Cuerden, and Arison Nilson, his sister-in-law. Makes his wife, Katherine Burscough, and John Woodcock of Cuerden, executors.

Edmund Burscough, brother of Thomas, had estate in Walton, and his son, Roger Burscough, probably was heir to his uncle. In 1650, Roger Bruske [Burscough] held lands in Walton under Blackburn Wapentake Court.

CALROW OF WALTON LODGE.

Richard Calrow of Adlington, Co. Chester, was father of Richard Calrow of Bury, Co. Lancaster, who purchased the Walton Lodge estate in this township. The son, Richard Calrow, Esq., of Walton Lodge, had sons, William; and Thomas Calrow, Esq., of Woodhill, near Bury. He died, aged 71, in 1830, and was buried at Walton Church.

William Calrow, Esq., J.P., of Walton Lodge, born Sept. 24th, 1786, married, Sept. 12th, 1808, Margaret, daughter of Robert Town, Esq., of Ulverston, and had issue, sons, Richard Calrow (born April 17th, 1815, married Margaret, daughter of John Grundy, Esq., and died in 1850); William Augustus, born in 1820; and Robert Francis (born in 1823, married Eleanor, daughter of John Lowthwaite, Esq.); and

daughters, Eleanor, wife of G. J. Wainwright, Esq.; Jane Judith, wife of William Walker, Esq.; Elizabeth, wife of Rev. C. Bickmore; Wilhelmina; Margaret, and Frances Rebecca, wife of the late Mr. J. H. Kay. William Calrow, Esq., died at Walton Lodge, March 6th, 1873, in his 87th year, and was buried at Walton Church.

Walton Lodge, situate two miles from Preston, was built by Mr. Assheton of Cuerdale, who sold the mansion and estate, early in this century, to Richard Calrow, Esq. In June, 1873, the estate was notified for sale, and described as a mansion and 348 statute acres of freehold land, tithe-fee, &c. The rental was returned in 1873 at £1076 per annum.

KUERDEN OF WALTON.

Richard Kuerden of Walton-in-le-Dale, living temp. Henry VIII., had a son Edward. Edward Kuerden was father of Thomas Kuerden.

Thomas Kuerden, of Walton, had three sons, Thomas, John, and William.

John Kuerden, son of Thomas, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Peter Farrington of Farrington, Esq., and had issue three daughters his co-heirs; Alice, wife of Henry Banaster of Bank, Esq. (whose daughter Alice was wife of Sir Thomas Haggerston of Haggerston, Bart.); Mary, wife of George Chatterton, gent.; and Isabel, second wife of Alexander Rigby of Wigan, gent.

William Kuerden, brother of John, had to wife Cicely, daughter and heiress of Richard Farrington of Southbrook, gent., and had issue a daughter Margaret, wife of Richard son of Gilbert Jackson of Kuerden, and known as Richard Kuerden, gent., who died in 1630, and through his son Gilbert was grandfather to Dr. Richard Kuerden the antiquary, born about 1623, and died in 1701.

William Jackson (Kuerden) in 1650 held lands in Walton and paid 1s. to Blackburn Wapentake Court.

OSBALDESTON OF WALTON.

Thomas Osbaldeston was assessed under Walton to a Subsidy in 1570. The same Thomas Osbaldeston, of Walton, yeoman, died in 1582. His Will is dated June 21st, in that year; proved Aug. 23rd. To be buried in Lawe churchyard. Elizabeth, testator's wife, and Ralph Osbaldeston his son, executors. Daughters Margaret and Elizabeth are named.

William Osbaldeston, with Robert Woodruff, gent., was assessed for lands in Walton to the Subsidy in 1610.

A later member, William Osbaldeston of Walton, was assessed for his lands to the Subsidy in 1663. Thomas Osbaldeston, of Walton, gent., occurs in 1673.

Osbaldeston House, in Walton township, is a brick structure, a little off the public road between Walton Church and Moon's Mill. It was rebuilt by the last-named occupant, William Osbaldeston, in 1661; as an inserted stone over the porch attests, bearing the date "1661" and the initials "W: O: D" (William and Dorothy Osbaldeston).

PEDDER OF PRESTON AND WALTON.

Thomas Pedder, gent., of Preston, married, May 16th, 1657, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Heilden of Preston; and died in Feb. 1679-80. His son—

Richard Pedder of Preston, born Oct. 26th, 1659, had issue, sons, Richard, Paul, Peter, and Philip; and daughters, Elizabeth, Jenet, and Ellen. He died in March, 1725-6.

Richard Pedder of Preston, born Feb. 12th, 1692-3, was Mayor of Preston in 1748 and 1756. He married, in 1711-12, Jennet, daughter of John Reed of Preston, gent., and had issue, sons, Richard (who by his wife Sarah, daughter of Robt. Ash-

burner, gent., had issue one daughter, died in infancy); Edward; Thomas, born in 1729, Mayor of Preston in 1779, died unmarried in 1781; and James, Vicar of Garstang; and daughters, Ellen, Jane, Ann, and Grace. The father, Richard Pedder, Esq., died in 1762. His second son—

Edward Pedder, Esq., of Preston, born in 1742, died, aged 76, Oct. 16th, 1818. By Margaret his wife (who died June 23rd, 1817, aged 73), he had issue, sons, Edward Pedder, of Darwen Bank, Walton; Thomas; James, &c.

SERGEANT OF WALTON.

Of this family was John le Sergeant, Vicar of Leyland, who by deed dated 15th Richard II. (1391), remits, &c., to Richard del Cross and his heirs all right he had in certain lands which the foresaid Richard held in Walton.

"Richard the Sergeant" (the style suggests the origin of the surname), living in Walton, occurs 18th Henry VI. (1440).

Rauf Sergeant and Edward Sergeant, of Walton, were both assessed to the Subsidy of 1523. The "Edmonde Sargeante" who had to wife Anne, daughter of Richard Charnock of Charnock, may be the same with the Edward of the Subsidy Roll.

Rauf Sergeant represented the family later in the sixteenth century. In the 23rd Eliz., (1580), Rauf Sergeant of Walton, and William Walton became bond to Adam ffoster of Standish, in eight marks of silver.

William Sergeant of Walton died before 1633. His son and heir was Richard.

Richard Sergeant of Walton died about the same date. The escheat is dated 14th Charles I. It appeared that he had possessed one messuage, one cottage, two gardens, 27 acres of land, meadow and pasture in Walton, called the Turfslack Hill. Richard Sergeant died at Walton, and afterwards, says the return, William Sergeant, his father, died. Thomas Sergeant, son of William, and brother of Richard, was then heir, aged 13 years. William Sergeant had a daughter Isabel, wife of Richard Chorley, of Walton.

Leonard Sergeant, most probably brother of William, held lands in Walton, and after his death, on inquisition, taken at Preston, Sep. 26th, 16 Chas. I. (1640), his estate proved to comprise a messuage and 30 acres in Walton, held of the King as Duke of Lancaster, by a yearly payment of 10s. Anna Sergeant, daughter of Thomas, late son and heir of Leonard, was next heir. Katherine, daughter of Leonard Sergeant, was wife of Richard Sharrock of Walton.

WALTON OF LITTLE WALTON.

This family, bearing the name of the township, from a remote period held an estate in Little Walton (on the south side of Walton-in-le-Dale) and in Cuerden. William de Walton-in-le-Dale had a son, John de Walton, living in 1327 and 1331.

William, son of John de Walton, acquired, in 1349, by grant of Richard de Blackburn, two messuages and 12 acres of land. In 1367, William de Walton had Wm. de Langley's remission of lands in Walton, with a house upon the bridge over Derwent, and a burgage in Preston. William de Walton was Mayor of Preston in 1378, 1386, and 1389. He occurs as "William Walton of Preston, mercer," in 1388.

"Robert de Walton de Walton" occurs in 1396; and John de Walton in 1397.

William de Walton, living in 1435, had in that year a writ of post disseisin issued in his favour against Wm. de Livesey concerning lands in Walton-in-le-Dale.

A later member, probably Thomas Walton, married Jenet, daughter to Richard de Kuerden, whose Will was dated 1529. About that date, Thomas Walton disputed with James Walton title to messuages in Preston. In 1553, Edmund Walton

plaint against Thomas Walton for forcible entry and tortious possession of lands in Cuerden and Walton-in-le-Dale.

William Walton, gent., of this township, occurs as a juror in 1582, and as a freeholder in 1600. In 1596, William Walton laid plaint against James Walmisley, his wife Katherine, and daughter Margaret, for intrusion on his estate called the Holme, &c., in Walton and Cuerden.

Thomas Walton, living in 1610, held the estate in Little Walton. By his wife Priscilla, daughter and heir of John Cottam of Tarnaker, he had sons, William; John; and James; and a daughter Anne. His son—

William Walton, gent., was assessed for his lands in this township to a Subsidy in 1610. His wife was Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Christr. Anderton of Hodgwick (she survived him, and married, secondly, Edward Walmesley, gent.), and he had sons, William; and Christopher. He died, Feb. 18th, 1625-6, seized, as returned by inquisition, of lands in Walton-in-le-Dale called Hunt's Land and Baldwin's Land, and other lands in Cuerden and Tarniker.

Thomas Walton, gent., son of William, aged ten years in 1630, paid the Subsidy tax for these lands in 1663, was living in 1682, but was dead before 1687. He was enrolled as a foreign burghess of Preston in 1662, with his sons, William, Thomas, and Roger.

At the same Guild appear upon the Roll, John Walton son of Thomas of Walton-in-le-Dale, deceased, and James his brother.

Thomas Walton of Winder, gent., "son of Thomas Walton late of Walton deceased," was an out-burghess of Preston at the Guild of 1702.

The residence of the Waltons was the old house at Bamber Bridge on the west side of the road from Preston to Chorley. The estate was alienated by Thomas Walton, gent., in 1682. By deed of demise¹ dated 26th Oct., 1682, between John Leigh of Preston, gentleman, on the one part, and Thomas Walton of Walton-in-le-Dale, gentleman, on the other part, it is witnessed that John Leigh, for the securing to Thomas Walton of sums of £200 and £400 (part of consideration agreed to be paid by John Leigh to Thomas Walton for purchase of the messuage, demesne lands, &c., mentioned), in pursuance of articles of agreement between these parties dated 12th Sept. last, has granted, bargained, sold, &c., to Thomas Walton, his exors., all that his capital messuage and tenement, &c., called Little Walton, with the demesne lands, &c., of him John Leigh in Walton-in-le-dale and Cuerden, and all his estate, right, title, &c., therein, to have and hold to Thomas Walton for 500 years, by yearly rent of one pepper-corn, provided always, and Thomas Walton covenants with John Leigh by these presents, that in case John Leigh shall pay to Thomas Walton £640—£200 on April 1st, 1683, and £440 on Feb. 2nd, 1683-4—that then these presents shall cease, and Thomas Walton shall re-grant, release, &c., the said Messuage, lands, &c., unto John Leigh. (Signed) THOMAS WALTON. (Witnesses) "Will: Rishton, Will: Hebson." Dr. Kuerden, writing about 1695, notices the old seat of the Waltons, which had then passed into the possession of the Asetons:—"Passing the Lostoc Water at a fair stone Bridge parting Leyland from Blacburn Hundred you meet with the other road from Chorley to Preston, and on your left the antient seat of Walton of Little Walton, but now belonging to Mr. Ratcliffe Ashton son of Mr. Ashton of Cuerdale." The house at Little Walton (Bamber Bridge) is an old-fashioned structure, with central porch and gabled wings, and the walls show a timber framework in parts. On the gate-post in front is carved the date "1675."

¹ This deed is in possession of Mr. H. C. Walton of Preston.

WALMESLEY OF BANISTER HALL.

Near the close of the sixteenth century, Edward Walmesley, fourth son of Thomas Walmesley of Showley, gent., obtained the Banister Hall estate in Walton. "Edward Walmsley of Banaster Hall, gent.," occurs in a list of freeholders dated 1600. His wife was Anne, daughter of William Hawksworth of Hawksworth, near Otley, Esq., and he had two sons, Thomas, and Edward; and three daughters, Rosamond, wife of Thomas Winckley; Anne, married to Richard Craven of Dinkley; and Elizabeth, married to Roger Hodgkinson, of Preston. Edward Walmesley died in early manhood, Oct. 9th, 1604, and by the Inquisition thereafter, taken by Thomas Tyldesley, Esq., escheator, Jan. 12th, 2nd James I., it was found that Edward Walmesley had died possessed of one Messuage called Darwyn Hall or Banister Hall, of five other messuages, 6 cottages, 30 acres of land, 20 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture in Walton-in-le-Dale, worth 60s. per annum, held of Thomas Langton, Knt., in socage. Thomas Walmesley, son and heir, was aged 9 years, 5 months, and 6 days. One other son and three daughters are mentioned in the escheat.

Thomas Walmesley, of Banister Hall, gent., son of Edward, married Frances, daughter of Edward Stanley of Moor Hall, Esq., and had an only daughter, Anne, who married Radcliffe Hoghton, Esq., fourth son of Sir Richard Hoghton, Bart. Thomas Walmesley, gent., died in June, 1637; his Will, dated June 14th, proved July 3rd, directs his burial in the Church of Low in Walton; gives the third part of testator's personal estate to his loving wife Frances; another third to Ann his daughter; and the other third to be distributed in legacies to his brother Edward; mother-in-law Mrs. Bridget Stanley; brothers-in-law Mr. Thomas Stanley, Richard Craven, and Thomas Winckley; sisters Anne Craven and Elizabeth Hodgkinson; nephew Thomas Winckley; to Mr. John Ainsworth of Crooke in Clayton; and to testator's servants and ancient tenants; residue of this third part to his wife. John Ainsworth and testator's wife, executors. The escheat, taken Sept. 23rd, 1637, proves that Thomas Walmesley had died seized of Darwen Hall or Banister Hall, with the same lands held by his father as above, and "10 acres lately improved from the Waste of Walton." Annie, his daughter, was aged 16 years; and Frances Walmesley, his relict, was then living at Banister Hall.

Edward Walmesley, gent., brother of Thomas, married Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Christopher Anderton of Hodgwick, widow of Mr. William Walton of Walton, but had no issue by her; she was buried Nov. 8th, 1666. In 1664, Edward Walmesley entered a family record before the Herald Sir William Dugdale. He died in July, (buried July 21st), 1673. He was on the Guild Roll as a burgess of Preston in 1642.

After the death of both her brothers without heirs male, Rosamond, eldest sister, wife of Thomas Winckley of Billington, gent., appears as inheritor of Banister Hall estate, which thus passed to the Winckleys; and her son, William Winckley, gent., is named of Banister Hall in 1628.

WINCKLEY OF WINCKLEY, BILLINGTON, AND BANISTER HALL.

The original settlement of this family (whence its name is derived) was the tcnement of Winckley, in the township of Aighton, on the right bank of the Hodder. Adam de Winckley, living in the 13th century, had a son Adam, who had sons Richard, Adam, and John. John de Winckley had a son Robert, living temp. Edw. I. A succeeding John de Winckley, who occurs in a deed dated 1323, had a son Adam. In the 50th Edw. III. (1376) Adam son of John de Winckley gave a toft in Aighton to John de Bailey. His son was John de Winckley, whose successor, Thomas de

Winckley, was living in 1446. The next member is Roger Winckley, whose wife was Maud Cancefeld. Another Roger Winckley succeeds, who occurs in 1534. The Will of Roger Winckley of Aighton, gent., dated Aug. 1st, 1556, names testator's wife Jane; sons, Roger, and Adam; daughters, Elizabeth, and Isabel. His son, Roger Winckley, of Woodfield, in his Will, proved in 1560, names wife Isabel; daughter Jane; brother Warine. Anthony Winckley, the next in possession of the estate, may have been a brother of the last Roger. Anthony Winckley, gent., married Marie, daughter of Nicholas Banastre of Altham, and had a son and heir Nicholas. Anthony Winckley died before 1566, and it was proved on the escheat that he had held a capital messuage called Winckley Hall and lands called Woodfyldes in Aighton; and that Nicholas, his son and heir was then aged 40 years. Nicholas Winckley married a daughter of Richard Holden of Chageley Hall, and was father of Thomas Winckley, gent., named as a freeholder in 1600, who married Cicely daughter of Thomas Parker, of Withgill, and had sons, Roger, and Edward, buried at Brindle Church, Feb. 11th, 1600-1; Thomas Winckley was living in 1613. Roger Winckley, aged 38 in 1613, married Martha, daughter of John Wrightington, and had sons, Thomas, born in 1606; and Roger; and a daughter Ann. Roger Winckley, described as son and heir of Roger, of Winckley, married Anne, daughter of Peter Haworth of Th'urcroft, and died before 1664; his widow married Hugh Currer of Kildwick.

Thomas Winckley of Billington, gent., in 1620, may have been a brother of Roger Winckley, or a descendant of a younger son of a previous generation. He married Rosamond, daughter of Edward Walmesley, gent., of Banister Hall (see ante p. 731), and had sons, William and Thomas, entered with their father on Preston Guild Roll in 1622. Thomas Winckley, senr., was dead before 1642, when his sons, Thomas Winckley of Billington, gent., and William Winckley, gent., were on the Guild Roll of Preston.

William Winckley, gent., son of Thomas, described in 1662 as "of Billington," and in 1682 as "of Banister Hall," inherited the Banister Hall estate through his mother, Rosamond Walmesley. William Winckley, gent., being a Royalist in the Civil War, had to compound for his estate in 1646 by payment of a sum of £26. By his wife Isabel (she died in June, 1688), he had sons, Edward; Thomas, born in 1674, died in 1675; a second Thomas, died young in 1677; and William, bapt. Sept. 9th, 1677; and a daughter Rosamond, died young in 1676. William Winckley, gent., died in December 1703. His younger son, William, was Rev. Wm. Winckley, a priest of the Church of Rome, and Rural Dean of Leyland Hundred, who died at Ulnes-Walton.

Edward Winckley, gent., of Banister Hall (whose name appears as a Burgess of Preston on the Guild Rolls in 1682, 1702, 1722, and 1742), by Mary his wife (she died in Dec. 1709), had issue, sons, Thomas, bapt. March 15th, 1697-8; Edward; and James, died in 1726; and daughters, Isabel, born in 1696, died young; and Jane, born in 1697. Mr. Edward Winckley sold the Banister Hall estate to Mr. Atherton of Preston, Feb. 1st, 1738-9; his sons Thomas and Edward being parties to the conveyance. He died in 1742, and was buried at Walton Church, Dec. 24th. His second son, Edward Winckley of Preston, gent., died in March, 1749-50.

Banister Hall, the seat in succession of the Banesters, Walmesleys, Winckleys, and Athertons, is situate near the right bank of the Darwen river, about a mile above Walton Church. The frontage, to the south, has been rebuilt in brick; but in the rear of the house the old walls of stone remain. At the east end of the main block is a gabled projecting wing.

WOODCOCK OF CUERDEN AND WALTON, &c.

The early settlement of this family was at Woodcock Hall (or Crowtrees) in Cuerden township. Dr. Kuerden, the local antiquary, about 200 years ago, noted: "There is another fayre-built house upon the lower Cuerden Green, called the Crow-trees, being the ancient inheritance of John Woodcoc and his family for 400 or 500 years."

Richard Wodcoc occurs in a deed dated 1356, by which William, son of John le Wright of Walton, gave to Richard Wodcoc and his heirs the fourth part of his land in Walton called le Farcole. Again in 1383, Richard Woddcok and William his son are found holding lands in Walton. Another Richard Woddcok occurs in 1413, who by Hanette his wife had two sons, Robert and Thomas. Seth Woddecok, living in 1451, had sons, William, and Seth Woddcok, a priest. William Woddecok, son and heir of the first Seth, in 1451 was granted in ward and marriage to wed Alison, daughter of Wm. Livesey of Livesey, gent. Next comes John Woodcock living in 1522; William Woodcock of Cuerden, gent., whose wife was Isabel, daughter of Edward Cuerden, gent., and who was living in 1549; and John Woodcock, who married Margaret, daughter of John Langton, gent. John Woodcock had sons, Thomas, and Edward.

Thomas Woodcock of Cuerden, gent., died in 1602. By Inq. post mort., taken at Wigan, March 21st, 1602-3, it was found that he had been seized of a messuage called Lostock in Cuerden, with 12 acres of land, 10 of meadow, and 10 of pasture; of two messuages, 40 acres of land, 20 of meadow, and 60 of pasture in Walton-in-le-Dale, held of Thomas Langton in free socage; and of two messuages, 10 acres of land, eight acres of meadow, and 10 of pasture in Mellor, held of Thomas Southworth, in socage; and one acre in Samlesbury; that Thomas Woodcock had died on the 14th Sept. previous, having on the 23rd Sept. 39th Eliz. (1597), enfeoffed his estate to the use of his children. John Woodcock, son and heir, was then aged 19 years.

John Woodcock, of Walton-in-le-Dale, gent., so described in a list of freeholders in 1621, had been made executor under the Will of Thos. Burscough of Walton in 1614. He appears on the Guild Roll of Preston in 1642, as "John Woodcock of Cuerden Green, gent.," with Thomas his son.

Thomas Woodcock of Cuerden Green, gent., son of John, is on the Guild Roll of Preston in 1622, 1642, 1662. He had two sons, John, and Thomas (of Walton, of whom more hereafter).

John Woodcock, son of Thomas, was of Cuerden Green, and was a burgess of Preston at the Guilds of 1682, 1702, and 1722. His son, John Woodcock of Cuerden, living in 1722, and then an in-burgess of Preston, had sons, Thomas; William; and Edward (living in 1768). Thomas Woodcock of Cuerden, yeoman, son of the last John, had no sons, but two daughters, Isabel, died unmarried; and Alice, wife of Wm. Winstanley, gent. Thomas Woodcock, gent., died about 1780.

Thomas Woodcock of Walton and Preston, gent. (brother of John and son of Thomas of Cuerden Green), had sons, Thomas, and William, named with their father on Preston Guild Roll in 1702; and daughters, Elizabeth (died unmarried, Will dated April 23rd, 1747); and Ann, married — Loxam. Thomas Woodcock, gent., died in 1725, and was buried at Walton Church, July 17th. His Will is dated June 24th, 1725. His son—

Thomas Woodcock, "of Preston, gent." in 1742, married Hannah Sargent, and had issue, sons, Thomas; John; William (living in 1762 and died unmarried); and James; and daughters, Mary, married — Siddall; Betty (Elizabeth) died unmarried; and Nancy (Ann), born in 1737, died, aged 89, in 1826. In the Will of the aunt,

Elizabeth Woodcock of Preston, spinster, dated 1747, are named the six younger children of her brother Thomas Woodcock of Preston, to wit, Mary, Elizabeth, John, William, Anne, and James. Thomas Woodcock, gent., was living at Brownedge in Walton in 1762, when he and his sons, Thomas, John, William, and James, and grandsons, William and Thomas, were entered with him on the Guild Roll of Preston. By deed dated 1783, Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart., appoints Thomas Woodcock of Preston, gent., his gamekeeper for the manor of Fishwick.

Thomas Woodcock, eldest son of the last-named, settled at Tottington near Bury, and had numerous issue. His younger brother, James Woodcock, was a surgeon at Ormskirk.

John Woodcock, of Walton in 1742 (second son of Thomas and Hannah Woodcock), married, in 1758, Rachel, daughter of Mr. Wm. Plant, of Elton, near Bury, and had issue, sons, William, born at Walton, June 3rd, 1759; Thomas (a surgeon at Bolton-le-Moors, died about 1790, unmarried); Samuel (born Dec. 25th, 1763, married, in 1791, Miss Betty Kay, and had sons, John, James, William Plant, Samuel, and Thomas, and several daughters; he died Sept. 4th, 1843); and daughters, Hannah, died unmarried, aged 21, in 1788; and Alice, wife of Mr. Thomas Howell of Bolton. John Woodcock was living in 1782, and an in-burgess of Preston at the Guild that year, and was buried at Walton Church about 1785. His widow, Rachel Woodcock, died May 24th, 1817. Her Will is dated Sept. 21st, 1804. Testatrix, described as "Rachel Woodcock of Bolton," relict of John Woodcock late of Walton in the Dale, gentleman, bequeaths her pew and burying ground belonging thereto in Walton Church to her son Samuel Woodcock; to him also a moiety of her freehold estates; and the other moiety to her daughter Alice Howell; to her son, William Woodcock, £100; residue of personalty to son Samuel and daughter Alice.

William Woodcock of Holcombe, gent. (enrolled on Preston Guild Roll in 1782, 1802, and 1822), married, May 15th, 1787, Mary, daughter of Mr. John Elton, of Loe, Tottington, and had sons, John (of Bury); Samuel, born in 1790, died unmarried in 1829; William Plant (of Holcombe); Robert, and Thomas, died in infancy; a second Thomas (of Haslingden); and daughters, Rachel (born Feb. 22nd, 1793, now living at Plant tenement, Holcombe); Mary (born July 3rd, 1805, now living at Plant tenement, Holcombe); Hannah (born Aug. 5th, 1814, also now living with her sisters). Mr. Wm. Woodcock died in June, 1827; his widow died Feb. 26th, 1849.

John Woodcock, of Bury, surgeon, eldest son, born March 4th, 1788, married Hannah, eldest daughter of Samuel Woodcock, solicitor, and had issue, sons, Samuel, died young; and William, born in 1825, died in 1868; and daughters, Elizabeth (of Woodfields, Stonyhurst, spinster), Mary (of Manchester, spinster), Ann, Rachel, and Janet (all of Woodfields), and Ellen (twin, born in 1825, died unmarried). Mr. John Woodcock died March 5th, 1840.

William Plant Woodcock (brother of John), surgeon, of Holcombe, married Eliza, daughter of John Rostron of Chatterton, and had sons, William Plant; and John Rostron Woodcock, surgeon, of Knutsford, M.R.C.S. Eng., &c.; and daughters, Mary Woodcock, spinster, of Woodside, Ramsbottom; and Alice Rostron, now of Priory Gate, Sale, wife of Mr. Fred. Kay, son of Robert Kay of Trowes, near Bury, calico-printer, who died in 1874.

Thomas Woodcock, of Haslingden, attorney-at-law (brother of the above), born Feb. 27th, 1811, married, July 13th, 1837, Ann, eldest daughter of John Lonsdale of Haslingden, Esq., and has had issue, sons, William, born July 7th, 1838, died in 1847; John Woodcock, of Haslingden, attorney-at-law, (born April 1st, 1840, married Emily, daughter of Mr. Henry King, and has issue); and Thomas Woodcock, attor-

ney-at-law, of West View, Haslingden, born Sept. 23rd, 1841 ; and daughters, Mary Ellen, wife of Russell Forbes Carpenter, third son of Dr. Carpenter, Registrar of London University ; Hannah, born Dec. 10th, 1847 ; and Rachel, born in 1851, died in 1868.

WOODCOCK OF LEMON HOUSE.

A branch of the Woodcock family held the Lemon House freehold tenement in Walton. Richard Woodcock, of Walton in 1610, died in 1641, and by inquisition it was found that he had held Bank Hall in Broughton, with lands there ; other lands in Whittle and Cuerden ; and in Walton, held of the King as of the Duchy of Lancaster, by a payment of 30s. yearly, two messuages, 30 acres of land, 10 of meadow, 30 of pasture and two of woodland. He had sons, James ; and John (entered on Preston Guild Roll of 1642 as son of Richard, deceased).

James Woodcock, son and heir, aged 21½ years, died in the same year as his father (1641), leaving a son James, aged 3 years.

John Woodcock of Walton Wood (son of Richard above), yeoman, had sons, Richard, James, John, and William (entered with the father on Preston Guild Roll in 1662 and 1682), and a daughter Margaret. John Woodcock the elder bought of Wm. Lemon, gent., in 1663, for £620, the Lemon House estate in Walton. He and his son and heir Richard are named in a deed dated 1688. He died in 1690, and by his Will, dated Sept. 4th, 1690, he devises an estate in Walton, formerly land of inheritance of Mr. Charnock of Leyland, to his younger son and executor John Woodcock, and Christopher Preston, gent.; gives bequests to sons, James and William, and daughter Margaret, and names his son and heir Richard.

James Woodcock, John's second son, was living in 1715, and had a son William, on Preston Guild Roll in 1702. John Woodcock of Walton, yeoman, son of John, and his executor in 1690, was living in 1702, and had a son James Woodcock, on the Guild Roll in 1702 and 1722, who had a son William.

Richard Woodcock, of Lemon House, Walton, and of Euxton, eldest son of John, by Elizabeth his wife, had sons, John ; and William (living in 1742). In 1690, he mortgaged Lemon House tenement, of 28 acres, to Thomas Winckley of Preston, gent., for £400. Richard Woodcock of Euxton, yeoman, died about 1694.

John Woodcock of Lemon House, was a minor at his father Richard Woodcock's death. He and his mother Elizabeth, widow, are parties to mortgage-deeds dated 1694 and 1709 ; and later to deeds by which the estate in Walton of 28 acres was conveyed to Susannah Ranald of Preston, widow, by way of mortgage, for £500. John Woodcock is described on Preston Guild Roll in 1722 as "of Lemon House, Walton," and in 1742 as "late of Lemon House." He had a son Richard Woodcock, living in 1722, but who apparently died in his father's lifetime, before 1742. Being Roman Catholics, John Woodcock had to register his estate in Walton in 1715 ; and his mother Elizabeth an estate at Euxton ; the first said to be of £20 yearly value.

THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD.

This is the most ancient of the chapels subordinate to the Church of Blackburn founded in the Parish. Being from eight to ten miles distant from the parish church, the inhabitants of Walton-in-le-Dale (with Cuerdale) procured permission soon after the Norman settlement to erect a chapel in Walton, which seems to have been at once made parochial. Samlesbury Church was made dependent upon "Lawe Church" in Walton, and we have seen (p. 672) that Samlesbury chapel

existed before 1190. This chapel must have been reared not later than the middle of the 12th century. When, about A.D. 1160, Henry de Lascy granted to Henry, clerk of Blackburn, the Church of Blackburn, the gift included "capella de Walton" (the chapel of Walton); and seventy years after, John de Lascy granted the church of Blackburn to the Abbot and Monks of Stanlaw "with the chapel of Walton" appurtenant; Adam de Blackburn having previously, by charter, about 1229, yielded to the Abbey, at the request of John de Lascy his lord, "the chapel of Walton, with the lands, tithes, and obventions thereto belonging;" subject to the payment of 20 marks for life to Richard, son of the dean; this Richard being incumbent of this chapelry. From 1230 until 1537, Walton chapel remained a possession of the Cistercian fraternity of Stanlaw—Whalley. On the survey of the Abbey estates after the suppression, the "chappill of Law, with the tieth belonging to the same by the year," was valued at £27 16s. 2d.

The chapel of Walton and its officiating priest are named occasionally in documents during the interval of three centuries the chapel was under monkish rule. In 1332, "William clerk of the Lawe" was prosecuted for wounding Richard Brown, son of William, at Chorley. In *Harleian MS. 2112* I find the record:—"Walton Church, 18 Hen. VI. (1439-1440). Edward of Farington, priest of Low [Walton Church], Nicholas of Clayton, John and Henry of Osbaldeston, John of Langley, Richard the Sergeant, William, Thomas, and James of Livesey, John Coke, cleric, Thomas Wilkinson, Henry Toynd, Thomas his butler, and Thomas Stretbarell, witness that Jauken of Wallis sware on the masse booke at the pulpit in Law Church on Sunday next before the date hereof, that he made never before that day any estate to his son William nor his wife, but a joynture of forty shillings of lively hood, and that Hary was his heire."

Walton Chapel was rebuilt *temp.* Henry VIII.; towards the charge of which Ralph Langton, Esq., who died in 1503, had left a bequest of 20 marks. The Chantry Commissioners, in 1553, reported that "Thomas Wynkeley and Edwarde Laman, churchereves of the chappell of Lawe, deposen and say that there is three belles, specyfyed in the sedule, yett remayninge at the said Chappell, which were seased to the use of our said late Kinge Edward the Sixt, by auctorytie of the former Comysioners." These bells weighed 18cwt., and were valued, at the rate of 15s. per cwt., at £13 10s. The chapel had, too, "one chales percel gilt," of silver, weighing 10 ounces. Dec. 16th, 1559, Wm. ffarington, Esq., as Justice of the Peace, was ordered by the Earl of Derby, by direction of the Privy Council, to apprehend "Sir" Thomas Heavanson, curate, and then serving within the Parish Church of Walton, alias Law, who

had lately openly and publicly said mass within the said church, being assisted by the Parish Clerk, William Langton, Edward Estham, John Weredon, and forty others, in contempt of her Majesty and the laws, and also requiring him to examine Ralph Clayton, the informant, and to protect him against the indignation of the people for shewing himself, "accordyng to his dutie to myslyke of theise lewde doyngs."

A story of some tricks of necromancy, performed by Edmund Kelly, the alchemist, at Walton park and churchyard, about the close of the 16th century, is related by John Weever in his *Ancient Funeral Monuments* (1631), as follows:—

This diabolical questioning of the dead, for the knowledge of future accidents, was put in practice by the aforesaid Kelley; who, upon a certain night, in the Parke of Walton-le-Dale, in the County of Lancaster, with one Paul Waring (his fellow-companion in such deeds of darkness), invocated some of the infernall regiment, to knowe certaine passages in the life, as also what might be knowne by the devil's foresight, of the manner and time of the death of a noble young gentleman, as then in his wardship. The blacke ceremonies of that night being ended, Kelley demanded of one of the gentleman's servants, what corse was the last buried In Law churchyard, a church thereunto adjoining, who told him of a poore man who was buried there but the same day. Hee and the said Wareing intreated the aforesaid servant to go with them to the grave of the man so lately interred, which he did; and withall did helpe them to digge up the carcase of the poor caitiffe, whom, by their incantations, they made him (or rather some evil spirit through his organs) to speake, who delivered strange predictions concerning the said gentleman. I was told this much by the said serving-man, a secondary actor in that dismall abhorrid business; and divers gentlemen, and others, are now living in Lancashire to whom he hath related this story. And the gentleman himselfe (whose memorie I am bound to honour) told me, a little before his deathe, of this conjuration by Kelley; as he had it by relation from his servant and tenant; only some circumstances excepted, which he thought not fitting to come to his master's knowledge.

The Lancashire Presbytery, set up in 1646, included among its clerical members, in the Blackburn Classis, Richard Redman, minister of Low Church; and in the records of the Presbytery appears the minute:—"Mr. Rich. Redman, Min'r of Low Church in Walton. By order of the Committee, there is £40 per ann. allowed to Mr. Redman Min'r of Law Ch. He is p'd till the 14 Aug. 1647." "By an order from the Com. for plund'd Min'rs, of April 21, 1647, there is £40 per ann. out of the Rectory of Exton, sequestered from James Anderton, Pap't, allowed to a Min'r at Low Church." The Commission for Parliament in 1650 found:—"Law, a parochial chapell, distant from the parishe Church of Blackburne nyne myles, to which is annexed the townships of Walton and part of Cuardale, consisting of above two hundred families, hath forty pounds per ann. allowed by order of the Committee for Plundered Ministers out of the sequestred tythes of James Anderton, a Papist delinquent; but in regard of other charges laide upon the said tythes for

the maintenance of other ministers the inhabitants have received no benefit of the said order; besides they had formerly four pounds per ann. paid to their ministers by the former vicars of Blackburne, which for three years last hath been detained, so that at present they are both without maintenance and minister. The inhabitants humbly pray the same may be made a parish, and competent maintenance allowed to a minister. The tithes of Law chapelry at that date, held by Mrs. Fleetwood as lessee of the Rectory of Blackburn, were worth £119 per annum, and glebe lands in this chapelry were worth £52 per annum.

After the restoration of Episcopacy, this chapel was served by a curate who also had to serve Samlesbury Chapel. Thomas Abbot, curate of Law and Samlesbury, occurs in 1676. To Primate Sancroft the Registrar of Chester gave account in 1683 that in the three chapelries in Blackburn Parish said to be parochial, the cures were "well and constantly served" by curates licensed by the Bishop in the Vicar's nomination; and as to Law Chapel, the inhabitants of Walton and Cuerdale resorted thither, and every other Sunday all offices were performed there. The endowment was made up of these items:—"Out of the Vicar of Blackburn £4; Dues for marrying, one year with another, £1 10s.; Interest of £50, lately given by Mr. H. Hoghton, £2 10s.; Mrs. Fleetwood promiseth yearly £2; They of Walton-in-le-Dale promise yearly £4; Mrs. Asheton of Cuerdale (during good pleasure) £4. Walton would have enclosed 20 acres of common for their chaplain (well worth £10 yearly) but Mr. Lee, of Croston, hindered it." In another return to Lambeth we have these particulars:—

LAW CHAPEL.—The Inhabitants desire longer tyme to consider what to do.—(See Mr. Dandy's Lettre.) One hundred pounds bequeathed by Mr. Henry Hoghton (see the copy of the clause of his Will) to the Chapels of Law and Samlesbury, was paid about a year ago to the Executrix of the Trustees therein mentioned, and since then, in great danger to be lost; for the 3 Brothers call'd Fiswicks, to whom it was lent upon Bonds, have fled their country for debt; but their Securetys have paid it to their Trustees, in whose hands it remains at present. Mr. Lee, of Preston, will not consent to the enclosing of the Common, pretending that it will be a prejudice to his tenants and a loss to himselfe. But 3 or 4 acres of another Common within the same Chapelry Mr. Dandy offers, both by way of purchase upon condition that the Interest and Principal be applied to the augmentation of the Curate. For a further tyme to consider Mr. Ashton refuseth to continue his gift of £4 per annum if he pay Tyth hay, or if noe hay be paid he will continue it longer then Mr. Abbot's life, the present curate.

Writing to the Vicar (Price) of Blackburn, the Primate desired "Mr. Hoghton's gift and others to be laid out in land;" that Mr. Asheton should be persuaded to make his temporary gift into perpetual; and that Mr. Lee might be asked not to hinder the enclosing of the

piece of common at Walton. A later record in 1689 mentions "Law and Samlesbury supplied by Mr. Colton, a conformable minister, who hath by an extraordinary charity of my L'd of Canterbury, together with a settled maintenance out of the Vicaridge of Blackburne, and other charities, about £43 per annum."

A.D. 1714, the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty had this account of the benefice :—

"Low Church is a Chappel in ye Parish of Blackburne in ye County of Lancaster, whereunto belong ye Townships of Walton-in-le-Dale and Cuerdale, ye extent whereof from east to west is about four miles, from north to south, three miles and a half mile ; the number of Inhabitants between four and five thousand souls, which daily encrease by reason of ye great manufacture of Linen Cloth in those parts. The said Chappel is distant from ye Parish Church of Blackburne between six and seven miles ; from Preston, a neighbouring Parish and next adjoining to it, one mile and a half. There are in ye said chappelry four or five conventicles of Papists, one of Presbyterians, one of Anabaptists. The endowment of the chappel is as followeth.—Out of ye Vicarage of Blackburne £4 ; one-sixth of ye Archb'p's Lands lying in Thornley, leased at £33 per annum (taxes and chief rents deducted) about £5 6s. 8d. ; an augmentation given by ye Archbishop of Canterbury out of ye Rectory of Blackburne £2 6s." 8d. ; one-tenth p't of ye yearly profits of Mr. Crook's estate at Whittingham, leased at £10 per annum, £1 2s. ; the interest of £50 given by Henry Houghton, Esq., £2 15s. ; total £15 10s. 8d."

In the *Notitia Cestriensis* of Bishop Gastrell, about this date, it is entered respecting Walton Chapel :—

"30s. per annum given by the Will of Mr. Crook, of Abraham, to Law and Samlesbury. Circumference about twelve miles. Walton and Cuerdale resort to it. Divine service is performed every forenoon one Sunday, and every afternoon the other, in summer time ; and every other Sunday in winter. The same curate serves Law and Samlesbury. Two Wardens ; one chosen by Henry Houghton of Houghton, Bart., and one by the minister and the principal Inhabitants. Seven miles from the Parish Church, and two miles from any other church."

At intervals subsequently several additions have been made to the endowment of this living. A benefaction by Henry Lutwidge, gent., dated April 4th, 1764, procured a grant of £200 from the Royal Bounty, made in 1765 ; and a second grant of £200 fell to Walton by lot in 1795. By a benefaction of £400 from Rev. Edmund Strongfellow Radcliffe, dated Nov. 19th, 1803, two sums of £200 each were obtained from the Royal Bounty in 1804. A subscription of £800 by the inhabitants, in the year 1810, was met in that year by a Parliamentary grant of £900 in three instalments of £300 each ; and in 1817 a sum of £400 came to the benefice by lot out of the Parliamentary grant. The value of the living in 1834 was £156 yearly. By grants from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the value has since been augmented to £320 per annum. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron. The Registers of Walton Church commence in 1653.

The following is a category of the succession of incumbents, so far as known :— Richard, son of the Dean, circa 1229; "William clerk of the Lawe," 1332; "Edward Farington, Priest of Low," 1439; Sir Thomas French, occurs 1551, 1553; Sir Thomas Heamanson, 1559; Peter Mackinson, occurs 1609 "egretat et decrepit;" Robert Osbaston, 1629; Richard Redman 1646-7; Thomas Abbot, 1676-1688; William Colton 1688-1703 (buried July 3rd, 1703); John Hull 1703-1721 (John Hull of Cuerden, clerk, married, July 17th, 1704, Miss Hannah Sharples of Blackburn; he was buried Nov. 4th, 1721); (Alexander Bagot, stipendary curate 1717-1721;) William Vaudrey, B.A. 1722-1762 (buried Dec. 27th, 1762); John Shorroock, 18th July, 1763; John Atkinson, 1769-1797 (buried Dec. 19th, 1797, aged 51); Edmund Strongfellow Radcliffe, LL.B., 1798-1826 (?); John Clay, Apr. 12th, 1826-1827; Randal Henry Feildon, May, 1827; Henry Walter M'Grath, May 1st, 1832, resigned 1837; Robert Hornby, M.A., Nov. 1st, 1837-1852; John Brooks, Jan. 6th, 1853; died in Nov. 1856; James Clegg Kershaw, M.A. (present Vicar), Feb. 10th, 1857.

The Church of Walton-in-le-Dale, dedicated to St. Leonard, stands picturesquely upon the crest of a knoll rising between the Ribble and Darwen near their confluence. Its name of "*Low Church*" is derived from the Saxon word *Llaw* applied to an isolated eminence. The only portions of the ancient fabric that remain are the tower and the chancel. The Church, I have mentioned already, was re-edified early in the 16th century. The nave was taken down and rebuilt in 1798, and a gallery placed in the interior. The present deep transepts were added in 1816. A later general restoration of the edifice took place in 1856, when the nave was re-pewed at a cost of £650; and in 1864 the chancel was re-roofed, furnished with a new floor, and fitted with the present handsome stalls, at a cost of £450, defrayed by the joint owners of the chancel, Sir Henry de Hoghton, Bart., and Ralph Assheton, Esq. A new organ was placed in the west gallery in 1874, costing £400. The external aspect of the church is plain; the modern nave and transepts are destitute of architectural beauty. The tower is strong, low, buttressed, and embattled; and is of three storeys; on its west front, above the arched doorway, is a large window of perpendicular tracery. The belfry windows are of three lights. In 1761 the old peel of four bells was removed, and the peal of six bells now in use was hung. The chancel has an east window of three lights, with perpendicular tracery; and side windows of three lights with trefoil heads; on the south side of the chancel a narrow pointed doorway has been walled up. The interior is galleried on three sides; and the internal measurements are :— nave 55ft. by 41ft.; transepts 80ft. across by 32ft. wide; chancel 29ft. by 18ft. On the south side of the chancel are the arms of Hoghton, and several monumental tablets to members of that family; on the north side are the arms of Assheton of Cuerdale. The old font is a circular one with gothic ornamentation. The church contains 930 sittings, of which 230 are free. A large grave-yard surrounds the church

and extends on the south slope of the hill. Among the oldest grave-slabs I noted stones with these initials, names, and dates :—"H I 1628"; "W H 1653"; "James Waring 1668"; "Thos. Shorrocks 1706"; "Wm. Coupe 1712, Thos. Coupe."

ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, BAMBER BRIDGE.—On the southern edge of this township, beyond the village of Bamber Bridge, a church was erected in 1837, and dedicated to St. Saviour. The church is a plain building externally of Romanesque style, with spire at the west end. It contains 650 sittings, 350 being free seats. The living was returned at £185 per annum in 1867, but has since been augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to £300. Rev. W. Wignall was first incumbent, 1837-1868. Rev. J. Taylor is present vicar. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, HIGHER WALTON.—In the village of Moon's Mill, Higher Walton, a new church was built in 1861-4, consecrated July 7th, 1864. Mr. E. G. Paley was the architect. It is a neat edifice of 13th century gothic, with nave, chancel, north transept, and tower with spire, 116 feet high. The window heads are of elegant geometric tracery. The cost of the body of the church was £4000, obtained by voluntary contributions, including a grant of £200 from the Church Building Society. Mr. Miles Rodgett gave the site, and the firm of Rodgett Bros. gave £1000 to the building fund. The spire, which cost £650, was added in 1871; and an organ, costing £400, was placed in the church in 1874. Sittings 604, of which 300 are free. Rev. W. B. Shepherd, M.A., is vicar. The patronage is vested in the Bishop and the Vicar of Blackburn alternately. The value of the benefice is £300 per annum.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF STE. MARIE, BROWNEGE.—The members of the Church of Rome have always been numerous in Walton-in-le-Dale. In 1690, Mr. Kennet, a priest, was reported to be living at Walton. In 1714 a statement by the wardens of Walton Church reports the existence in the chapelry of "four or five conventicles of Papists;" these, doubtless, were private houses in which the proscribed Roman Catholics held frequent meetings for worship. But there was then one regular mission, founded by the Benedictines, at Little Mosney, of which Fr. Placid Nelson was incumbent, who died at Walton; and was succeeded, in 1724, by Fr. William Champney. He also died at this mission; and his successor, in 1740, was Fr. Bernard Bradshaw. After him, in 1743, was Fr. Thomas Simpson, who also served the chapel at Cuerden Green, built about 1746; he too died at this mission. Fr. Oswald Eaves became incumbent at Little Mosney and Cuerden in 1764. In 1780, Fr. Eaves bought land at Brownege on which he erected a chapel and house, and transferred thither the mission from Little Mosney. The first chapel at Brownege was opened Dec. 23rd, 1780. The year in which Brownege Chapel was opened, a return of Roman Catholics in Walton chapelry was made to the Government by the parish authorities, the record of which is in the Register of Walton Church :—"1780. This year an account was taken of the number of Papists throughout the kingdom in obedience to his Majesty's commands, &c. There were in Walton and Cuerdale, in 1780, 178 Popish families—875 individuals." Fr. Oswald Eaves died at Brownege, Oct. 15th, 1793, and was buried at Preston. In the records of the mission is the obituary :—"1793. Octobris 15. R.D. Oswaldus Eaves Missionarius apud Hanbridge et Brownege per annos ferme 30 subitanei tandem mortuus est natus 54. L.S. Preston." Fr. John Atkinson was priest from 1793 until his death in 1822. He reported a congregation of 1500 persons at Brownege in 1819. Subsequent incumbents are :—Fr. Anselm Brewer, 1822-1846; Fr. Anselm Glassbrook, 1846-7;

Fr. Thomas Anselm Walker, 1847-1877. In 1827, a new church was built at Brown-edge; the old chapel was then demolished, and a presbytery built on its site. A school, built by Fr. Walker, was converted into a convent in 1861, when a new school, which cost £1000, was opened. A handsome gothic tower and spire were erected at the south end of the church in 1867-8; and opened, with a fine peal of six bells, in February, 1868; the height of the tower and spire is 130ft. The interior of the church is chastely decorated; and the windows are all memorial ones of stained glass. The plan of the church consists of nave, side-aisles, and chancel. It will accommodate about 800 persons. There is a good organ.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHAPEL, WALTON.—This chapel, which stands by the highway near Walton village, was built in 1857. It is a plain structure, used also for school purposes, and is intended to be replaced by a larger chapel. A cemetery for the mission was consecrated in August, 1862.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL, WALTON VILLAGE.—Towards the close of the 17th century, a Presbyterian-Nonconformist preaching-place existed in Walton, at which Mr. John Parr, an ejected minister, preached alternately with Preston. Mr. John Turner became minister in 1714, after the death of Mr. Parr. The Walton congregation of Presbyterians, on a return in 1715, numbered 286 persons, of whom 20 were electors for the county, and 22 electors of the borough of Preston. There was also a small meeting of Anabaptists in Walton in 1714. Sir Henry Hoghton erected a new Presbyterian Meeting-house here in 1719; and in Nov. of that year conveyed to Thomas Whalley and others in trust "8 falls of land and a building lately erected, for a pepper-corn rent." Rev. John Pilkington succeeded Mr. Turner as minister in 1716; and £4 was allowed yearly towards his stipend out of a general fund of the Presbyterian association in England. Mr. Pilkington, who was also private chaplain to the Hoghtons, continued minister at Preston and Walton until 1760. A return of Dissenting Chapels in 1772 gives Walton Chapel as then Congregationalist; and notes:—"Walton and Preston are the same congregation, meeting alternately at these two places, under the care of the same minister; at present (1772) vacant." The society soon after became Unitarian in its professed tenets. About seventy years ago, the congregation, being small, merged in the Preston society, when the chapel at Walton was altered into cottages, the rents of which, with land attached, form part of the endowment of the Unitarian chapel, Preston. The Walton chapel, as converted into dwellings, yet exists; it stands in the rear of the main street of Walton village, on the west, and is a long narrow structure, with small mullion windows in two storeys. The burial-ground, once surrounding the chapel, is obliterated.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL, BAMBER BRIDGE.—In 1763, a small society of Methodists existed in Walton, and in 1764, the place of meeting was Cockshott House, the residence of Mr. Wm. Livesey, who was class-leader. On April 17th, 1784, John Wesley, passing through Lancashire, visited a sick lady in Walton, Mrs. Nuttall, one of the first of his adherents here. About the same date, the "Old Hall" at Little Walton (Bamber Bridge), was used as the place of worship of the Methodists of Walton, among whom Mr. Walmsley of Cooper-hill, steward to the Hoghtons, was class-leader. Wesley again tarried a day at Walton in April, 1790, when on his last journey in this part of England. The Wesleyan Chapel at Bamber Bridge was built in 1821; it is a small brick building, having about 130 sittings. For the society the corner-stone of a new Chapel was laid on March 31st, 1877. The building will be in the early English style, built of brick with stone dressings. Cost £2000; sittings 400.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, HIGHER WALTON.—Premises at Moon's Mill in Higher Walton were adapted and opened for a Methodist preaching-room in 1813. There had been a Sunday School at the Mill about nine years previously. The society has continued to exist; and in 1869-70 a new chapel was built on the bank of the Darwen at Higher Walton, which cost £800. It is a neat building of brick, of simple gothic design; and has a school-room on the basement; sittings 200.

WESLEYAN SCHOOL CHAPEL, WALTON VILLAGE.—The Wesleyans of Preston had conducted service in Walton village before they were able to obtain a building or a site for a permanent chapel. In 1867, Mr. Gudgeon of Preston sold six cottages in the village to the Wesleyans, and three of these were converted into a school-chapel, which was opened in March, 1868. Cost about £800; sittings 220.

WALTON CHARITY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE.—In 1718, Mr. Hull, then curate of Walton Chapelry, reported to Bishop Gastrell: "The school here, which is free only to the Inhabitants of the Town, was built by Inhabitants upon ground given by Sir Richd. Houghton, anno 1672 (the children being taught in the chapel before). Given to the Master by Peter Burscough, anno 1624, £100; out of the interest of which was raised £30 more during the vacancy of the School in the time of the Rebellion. By Mr. Andrew Dandy, citizen of London, £100; by Thomas Hesketh of Walton £20; by Mr. Crook of Abram the 10th part of his estate in Alston and Whittingham leased for £11 10s. per annum. No governors being appointed by the Benefactors (except the heirs of Mr. Crook for what was given by him), the inhabitants have named six trustees, but they keep the right of nominating the Master." In 1825, the securities of these gifts were in the hands of the schoolmaster, excepting the writings relating to Dandy's £100, held by Mr. John Clayton, a trustee. A sum of money was at the same date in the hands of Sir Henry Hoghton, being about £181 10s., for which he paid as interest at 5% to the master £14 1s. 6d. yearly. The master had £2 per annum also out of the Crook trust. The premises consisted of a good dwelling-house, with a school-room and garden, occupied rent-free by the master. The school is situate in School-lane near Bamber Bridge. In 1866, the school was controlled by five trustees, and taught by a mistress, and had 93 children in attendance, all of whom paid a small school-fee.

WALTON NATIONAL SCHOOLS.—These schools, which stand near the church at the west end of the churchyard, were built in 1835, and cost £1000; the subscription was aided by the National Society. The school-buildings have since been enlarged.

WALTON CHARITIES.

PETER BURSCOUGH'S CHARITY.—Peter Burscough, of Walton-in-le-Dale, yeoman, by his Will, dated 1624, gave £10 per annum, to be distributed to the poor of the township on Good Friday yearly. In 1718 the trustees of this charity were, Sir Henry Hoghton, Bart., Edward Winckley, gent., James Woodcock, and Thomas Winckley.

THOMAS CROOK'S CHARITIES.—Thomas Crook of Abram, gent., by his Will, dated July 9th, 1688, bequeathed lands called Shaw's in Alston and Whittingham, to be disposed of as follows:—(1) To Caleb Crook and Richard Crook in trust for the poor of the Parish of St. Olave's, Jury, London, to be distributed by the Aldermen, Common Council, and overseers for the time being, on Easter Eve, 40s.; (2) to the preaching Protestant Minister of Hindley Chapel on Easter Eve, 20s.; (3) to the Poor of Abram, Par. Wigan, to be distributed at the discretion of the Trustees and Overseers of the Poor, on Easter Eve, 20s.; (4) to the Poor of Mawdesley, upon every

Shrove Tuesday, 40s.; (5) to the Schoolmaster of Little School in Mawdesley, if he be a Protestant, on Shrove Tuesday, 40s.; (6) to the Poor of Preston, on Shrove Tuesday, £4; (7) to the Protestant minister of Low Church in Walton, on May 1st, 40s.; (8) to the Poor of Walton-in-le-Dale, on Shrove Tuesday, 40s.; (9) to the Schoolmaster of Walton-in-le-Dale, if he be a Protestant, on May 1st, 40s.; (10) to the Schoolmaster of Low Church in Hindley, if he be a Protestant, on May 1st, 40s.; (11) to the Preaching Protestant Minister of West Houghton, on May 1st, 20s.

GRADELL'S CHARITY.—William Gradell, in 1735, devised to trustees an estate of 24 acres of land, called the Shutling Fields in Walton, the rents of which were to be distributed to poor inhabitants of Walton-in-le-Dale and Brindle. The estate was some years ago sold, when the sum received was invested in the public funds, and produces £78 per annum, the moiety of which goes to the Poor of Walton.

THE MOCK CORPORATION OF WALTON.—About the year 1701, a party of neighbouring gentry formed themselves into an association by which the title of "The Mayor and Corporation of the ancient Borough of Walton" was assumed. This mimic Body-Corporate continued to exist in more or less organised form until about the year 1796. The original object of the founders was, it may be supposed, to indulge in a practical satire upon the Corporation of Preston, by a paraded travestie of civic dignities and procedures; and the Whigs being then the ascendant party in Preston, the first members of the Mock Corporation of Walton were chiefly High Church Tories and Jacobites. The Corporation consisted of a select body of so-called "freemen," from whom the Mayor and other officers were chosen annually. The chief officers were the Mayor, Recorder, Town Clerk, two Bailiffs, Deputy-Mayor, and Chaplain; and the minor officers, which included some ludicrous designations, were "town sergeant," "champion," "poet laureate," "sword-bearer," "mace-bearer," "physician," "jester," "house-groper," "custard-eater," and "slut-kisser." The meetings of the Corporation were held in a large room of the "Unicorn Inn" in Walton village. In 1739, the "Regalia" consisted of "two staves cover'd with silver hoops; one other staf cover'd full half way; one hunting staf with a silver head; one sward of state; one mace; two bailiffs' wands; two halberds." Four staves, three of them surrounded with silver bands, each band bearing the names of the Mayor and officers for a year; one staff with a silver cap; and two black wands capped with silver, are all that remain of the "Regalia;"—these are now in possession of R. Towneley Parker, Esq., of Cuerden Hall. A manuscript Book of Records, commencing in 1705 and ending in 1796, is now in custody of Sir Charles de Hoghton, lord of Walton Manor. William Farington, Esq., of Shaw Hall, was first Mayor, in 1701. The inscribed names upon the silver bands and in the Book of Records include representatives of numerous eminent county families.

CHAPTER XX.—THE TOWNSHIPS OF WILPSHIRE-CUM-DINKLEY.

Situation—Nomenclature—Acreage—Population—Ancient Proprietors—De Wylpsbire family—Talbots and Warrens as lords—Dinkley Hall—Morley family of Braddyll and Dinkley—Minor freeholders—Craven of Craven Fold, Dinkley—Dewhurst of Dewhurst, &c.—Feilden of Pythorne—Kenyon of Dinkley—Lonsdale of Dinkley—Talbot of Carr in Wilpshire.

WILPSHIRE-CUM-DINKLEY anciently were named together as forming one township; but are now reckoned separate townships. Dinkley occupies the lower portion of the valley-slope to the bank of the Ribble west of Billington; and Wilpshire the higher southward portion, terminating on Wilpshire Moor, at 770ft. above the sea-level. The primitive nomenclature of these tracts was *Wylipscyre* and *Dynkedeleghe*. Wilpshire contains 940 statute acres of land; and Dinkley 500 acres. The population, being solely agricultural, is small and stationary. It has varied as follows since 1801:—Wilpshire—1801, 275; 1811, 291; 1821, 287; 1831, 337; 1841, 281; 1851, 237; 1861, 228; 1871, 230. Dinkley:—1801, 197; 1811, 250; 1821, 238; 1831, 223; 1841, 183; 1851, 151; 1861, 120; 1871, 119. Dinkley and part of Wilpshire are in the chapelry of Langho. There is no place of worship or school in either township.

The lands of Wilpshire-cum-Dinkley in early times embraced several freeholds, held by a family named De Wylpshire; and by De Hackings of Billington; Braddylls of Braddyll; and by branches of the Morleys and the Talbots. The Cunliffes and Boltons also held lands in Wilpshire in the 13th century. Of the De Wilpshire family occur, Richard de Wilpshire, living about A.D. 1200; and Henry de Wilpshire, whose son, Adam de Wilpshire, died before 1291, leaving a widow Margery. Adam de Wilpshire, son of Henry, gave to the monks of Stanlaw half an acre and a fall of land in the vill of Wilpshire, beginning at the Waynegate between his higher and lower crofts, thence to the Horeston, thence between the donor's lands and those of Henry de Bolton, unto the ditch of Adam son of Robert son of Swayn. His relict, Margery de Wilpshire, quit-claimed to the Abbey this land in 20 Edw. I. (1291-2).

The lords of Salesbury, de Clyderhou, Talbots, and Warrens in succession (it has before been observed), were chief landlords in Dinkley; and the Talbots are also found exercising manorial rights in Wilpshire, where they had lands. In 1432, Isabella widow of John Talbot was found holding 4 messuages, 100 acres of land, and 20 of meadow with appurtenances in Wilpshire and Dynkelay. When the estates, which had passed to the Lord de Tabley, were sold to Mr. Ward in 1866, the Dinkley Hall estate included nearly 370 acres, and the Wilpshire estate 265 acres.

Dinkley Hall, formerly the residence of several members of the Talbots and Warrens, is an old partly timber-framed house standing in a secluded nook on the steep bank of the Ribble. (The engraving annexed shows the south aspect of the hall.) The building consists of a main block and a west wing at right angles. The doorways and windows are square-headed. In the interior, the large open fire-places have been walled up.

Next to the Talbots, the family of Morley, whose descent is subjoined, were of old the most important proprietors in Dinkley. Their local seat was at Braddyll Hall, on the Billington side of the rivulet which separates Dinkley from Billington.

MORLEY OF DINKLEY AND BRADDYLL.

The Morley family, long seated in Dinkley, was a branch of Morleys of Wennington, in this county, whose ancient seat was at Great Mearley, whence they derived their surname of De Merlay, varied into Morley. William de Merelay occurs, holding lands in Dinkley, in 1340, and Richard de Merlay, about 1330, married Margaret de Wennington, heiress of Wennington, and so obtained that estate. Richard de Merlay had sons, John, his heir; and Simon de Merlay, who, with Ellen his wife, occurs in 1369, and held five messuages, a mill, and 29 acres of land in Dynkelay and Kenyon. John de Merlay, of Great Merelay and Wennington, by his wife, Ann Booth (of Barton), had a son William de Merlay, living *temp.* Henry V. The latter married Anne, daughter of Henry Radcliffe of Ordsall, Esq., and had a son John de Merlay, who died about 1492. By his wife (Jane Riddlesden) he had sons, Robert, Thomas, and Giles.

Robert Morley, son of John, in the 20th Edward IV., granted to Richard Sherburne and others certain lands held by knight service in Merlay Magna, Merlay Parva, and "Dinkley in Billington." He died Aug. 28th, 1498, and in the 15th Henry VII., the Duchy Escheator found him to have held Wennington and Hornby manors, with other estates. His wife was Margaret Neville, by whom he had sons, John; Thomas,



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who died without issue; Gyles; a daughter, Margaret, married Henry Sale of Redford.

John Morley, heir of Robert, was aged 32 years at the date of his father's death. He died before 18th Henry VII. (1502-3), seized of Wennington and Great Merley Manors, and other lands, and having no issue, his sister, Margaret Sale, became his heir. This heiress also died childless in 24th Henry VII. (1508), when her uncle, Thomas Morley, son of John, had the family estates.

Thomas Morley, Esq., also died without issue, Dec. 20th, 1508, and was found on the escheat (24th Henry VII.), to have held, besides the Manors of Wennington and Great Meyreley, lands, &c., in Dynkley and Cliderowe. John Morley, son of Giles Morley, brother of Thomas, was his kinsman and heir, then aged 21 years.

John Morley, Esq., married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Southworth of Samlesbury, Knt., and was father of Francis Morley, Esq., from whom the chief descent of Morleys of Wennington is deduced.

Robert Morley, of Dinkley, who appears early in the reign of Henry VIII., was a cadet of this family whose paternity is not evident. He held, besides the Dinkley Hall estate, the Braddyll estate in Billington. He married Isabel (Elizabeth) daughter of Richard Parker, gent. He died about 1512, and at the *Inq. post mort.*, taken March 31st, 4th Henry VIII., it was found that Robert Morley had died seized of the so-called manor of Bradhill in Billington, with three messuages, 200 acres of land, 16 acres of meadow, 20 acres of pasture, and 12 acres of woodland in Billington, Kenyon, and Dynkley. Charles Morley, his son and heir, was aged 13 years. The escheat cites Robert Morley's Will and a deed of settlement, dated Dec. 19th, 1510. Robert Morley of Bradhill, gent., had theretofore enfeoffed Richard Baturesby, John Cauncefeld, Charles Baturesby, and George Baturesby to recover against him before the King's Justices of Assize at Lancaster, at the sessions holden there next after the Feast of St. Bartholomew the apostle, in the 1st Henry VIII., all his messuages, lands and tenements, &c., which he had the day of the said record in Byllington, Kenyon, and Dynkley; the intent of the said Recovery being that the recoverers of the premises should fulfil the last Will of the said Robert Morley as to the disposition of the same; and first, testator wills that the said recoverers so seized should make at his reasonable request to certeyn feoffees to be nominated by Sir Richard Shirburne, Knt., a sufficient estate in the law of the manor of Bradhill, and of tenements in Dynkley and Billington then in the holding of John Dugdale, with a parcel of land lying in Billington in a close called Larkehill; the said feoffees to stand enfeoffed in parcel of the manor of Bradhill, of the yearly value of 26s. 8d., to the

use of Ellyn, daughter of Richard Shirburne, for her life. Also the said feoffees were to suffer testator to take yearly to his use all issues, rents, &c., of the residue of the said manor of Bradhill and tenements in Dinkley and Billington for his life; and at his decease feoffees to stand seized of the same residue and tenements to the use of the said Ellyn for her life; after her death to the use of Charles Morley, the testator's son, his heirs male, &c.; remainder to son Ambrose Morley, and his heirs male; remainder to son Utrede Morley and his heirs male; remainder to son Roger Morley and his heirs male; remainder to the right heirs of the said Charles Morley for ever. Testator, Robert Morley, to take to his use for life messuages and lands in Kenyon of the yearly value of 46s. 8d., and a parcel of land in Billington, in the holding of William Talbot, to the value of 6s. 8d., of which other certain feoffees stood seized to the use of his wife Elizabeth in name of her jointure for life. Signed Dec. 19th, 2nd Henry VIII.

The above evidence proves that Robert Morley had four sons, Charles, Ambrose, Uctred, and Roger. Charles, the heir in 1512, died probably without issue, as did his next brother, Ambrose; for in 1523 Uctred Morley, the third son, is found in possession.

Through this Uctred Morley, of Braddyll, the descent continues. In the Subsidy of 1523, Hughtride Morley paid the tax on his lands in Billington. Uctred Morley died Dec. 24th, 20th Henry VIII. (1528), seized of messuages and lands in Billington, Dinkley and Kenyon. Robert Morley was his son and heir, aged 16 years. Uctred Morley, gent., probably a younger son of the above Uctred, married, in 1547, Jenet, second daughter of John Braddyll, Esq.

Robert Morley, heir of Uctred, held the estate some 60 years. In 1538, Robert Morley held freely "certain lands called Braddill" for which he paid 11s. 7d. chief rent to Whalley Abbey. He had also, as tenant-at-will, seven acres in Billington, "late Walbanck's land," paying 15s. yearly. He married, first, Isabel, daughter of Thomas Grimshaw of Clayton (she died in 1548, and was buried at Whalley, July 9th); and, secondly, Isabel, widow of Robert Shuttleworth of Hacking, gent., and daughter of John Hoghton, of Pendleton, gent. He had sons, Nicholas, who died in October, 1572; Henry, who succeeded him, and John; who died in 1594. In the 11th Eliz. (1568), Robert Morley and Isabel his wife, claiming by deed of feoffment as a jointure, sought to recover from Charles Shottilworth and others four closes of land about the house called Hacking Hall, in Billington. A year after another suit was entered between Robert Morley and Isabel, "late wife of Robert Shuttleworth," and Charles Shuttleworth, claiming by descent, as to the title to the same closes. In 1570, "Robert Morley

cum Uxor" was assessed for lands in Billington to a subsidy. In 1582, Thomas Holcroft, Esq., claimed against Robert Morley the "lands called Walbanck in Braddill Fields." Robert Morley, gent., gave 20s. to the Stock of Blackburn Grammar School, of which he was a Governor, before his decease, aged about 74, in 1592. He was buried at Whalley Church, Aug. 29th, 1592.

Henry Morley, of Braddyll, gent., succeeding Robert, occurs as defendant in suits with Thomas Holcroft, in 1597-8. Henry Morley died June 10th, 1st James I. (1603); his Will is dated 31st May of that year, but the Escheator's inquisition was not taken until the 19th James I. (1621), when it was proved that Henry Morley had died seized of one Messuage called Bradhill or Bradhull, with 30 acres of land, 15 acres of meadow, 60 acres of pasture, four acres of woodland, and 60 acres of moor, moss, and turbarry in Billington, held of Thomas Walmesley, Esq., as of Billington manor in socage, by the rent of 11s. yearly; also of one messuage, 20 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, 2 acres of woodland, and 40 acres of moor, moss, and turbarry in Dinckley, held of the King as of the manor of Clitheroe in socage. Jane Morley, widow of Henry, was living in Billington in 1622; and Margaret, wife of Anthony Blewet, Henry Morley's daughter and sole heir, was then aged 48 years.

Anthonie Blewet, gent., husband of Margaret heiress of the last male member of the Morleys of Braddyll and Dinkley, was taxed for lands in Billington to the subsidy in 1611. He had issue, by Henry Morley's daughter, his wife, a son and heir Morley Blewett. Anthony Blewett, gent., then of Somerby, Co. Leicester, and Margaret, his wife, were parties to a deed in 1622.

CRAVEN OF CRAVEN FOLD, DINKLEY.

Richard Craven and Michael Craven occur as tenants of Whalley Abbey in Billington in 1538. William Craven of Billington occurs in 1563.

Richard Craven, of Dinkley, is named in the Will of John Braddyll, Esq., dated 1578:—"Forasmuch as I have made a lease to my servant Richard Craven of one tenement in Dinkley, now in (his) occupation, yielding the yearly rent of 24s. 5d., my will is that the said Richard shall not only not pay any rente to my heires so longe as he shall live, but that the same lease shall remain to his executors, paying therefore thereafter yearlie the said rent to my heires. And if the said Richard live longer than the years expressed in the said lease, then I will that he shall have the said messuages, &c., wholly during his life without paying any rent." John Braddyll also gave to his "servant Richard Craven" a legacy of £20 for his good service.

Richard Craven of Dinkley, yeoman (son, or grandson, of the above Richard), paid the Subsidy tax in 1610. He married Anne, second daughter of Edward Walmesley of Banister Hall, gent., and had, with other issue, a son Thomas. The deeds of the freehold of this family include several executed in the time of this Richard Craven, and to which he was a party. By deed dated 1617, Anthony Blewett, of

Harlaxton, gent., and Morley Blewett his son and heir, for £100, bargain, sell, &c., to Richard Craven, of Dinkley, yeoman, the messuage and tenement in the Moregate in Dinkley then in possession of Jane Morley, widow of Henry Morley, gent., and of one John Sailbury, yeoman; also a close of land called the Townefield adjoining the said messuage on the north side, and a little parcel of the lane called Dinkley Loyne. By deed in latin, dated also in 1617, Morley Blewett, of Harlaxton, gent. (son and heir of Anthony and Margaret his wife), quitclaims to Richard Craven his right in the same tenement. An indenture dated July 31st, 1619, between John Braddyll of Portfield, Esq., and Richard Craven of Dinkley, yeoman, witnesses that John Braddyll, in consideration of £460 paid by Richard Craven to him and to his father John Braddyll, Esq., deceased, conveys to Richard Craven a messuage and tenement of 20 acres in Dinkley, in the tenure of the said Richard Craven. In another deed of release by John Braddyll, dated 1622, this estate is described as one messuage, two barns, one garden, two orchards, 8 acres of land, 5 of meadow, 5 of pasture, 6 of woodland, 8 of turbarry, and common of pasture, in Dinkley. Richard Craven of Dinkley, yeoman, by deed of enfeoffment dated Feb. 2nd, 1654-5, conveys in trust to John Barlow of Dutton, Richard Marsden, son and heir apparent of John Marsden of the Pail near Lagram, yeoman, Thomas Hindle of Rishton, and Richard Craven younger son of John Craven of Elkar in Billington, clothiers, his messuage, lands, &c., in Dinkley, to hold to uses mentioned in a pair of indentures dated Jan. 31st, 1654. (Signed) RICHARD CRAVEN. Witnesses: Wm. Woodd, Robt. Chew, Wm. Holker, Robert Craven, Thomas Sudell. Richard Craven died soon after his execution of this deed of trust.

Thomas Craven of Dinkley, yeoman, paid the Subsidy tax in 1663, and was living in 1689. He had a son Richard; and daughters, Jane, wife of John Clarke of Whalley; Ann, wife of John Dobson of Whalley; and Dorothy, wife of George Almond of Dinkley.

Richard Craven of Dinkley, yeoman, son of Thomas, by Elizabeth his wife had a son Thomas. Richard Craven died about 1717; his Will is dated Aug. 30th, 1717; wife Elizabeth sole executrix. His son—

Thomas Craven of Craven Fold, Dinkley, rebuilt the house there in 1727, which bears a stone with the initials "T C" and date "1727." He had a son Thomas.

Thomas Craven of Craven Fold, born about 1740, married in Nov., 1768, Betty Leeming of Billington, and had issue, sons, Thomas; James, born in 1771; John, Ralph, Peter, Giles, and Paul; and a daughter Margaret. Thomas Craven, eldest son of Thomas, died unmarried, in 1832, and was buried at Stonyhurst.

James Craven, second son of Thomas, and heir to his brother Thomas who died in 1832, died at Craven Fold, Oct. 1st, 1841, aged about 70 years. He married Mary Walkden, who died aged 65, March 8th, 1840, and had issue, sons, James, born Oct. 10th, 1805; Thomas, died, aged 24, Oct. 12th, 1830; and Peter, born in 1807, died in 1810; and a daughter, Mary, died, aged 19, in 1824.

James Craven, of Craven Fold, son of James, married Agnes Partington, and died, aged 68, Dec. 20th, 1873. He had sons, Thomas Craven (now of Blackburn and Dinkley, married Catherine Parker, and has issue, James, Thomas, and Richard, Elizabeth, and Grace); Richard Craven (of Blackburn, married Sarah Jane Scowcroft, and has issue, James, William, Richard, and three daughters); James Craven; Mary, Elizabeth, and Margaret.

DEWHURST OF DEWHURST IN WILPSHIRE, &c.

William Dewhurst and Oliver Dewhurst, both of Wilpshire, paid the Subsidy levy in 1523.

John Dewhurst of Dewhurst in Wilpshire (named in the Visitation of 1613), by a daughter of Isherwood of Shorrock-hey in Pleasington, had a son William.

William Dewhurst of Dewhurst occurs in 1568, and was assessed for lands in Wilpshire to a subsidy in 1570. He died about 1592, having given 20s. to Blackburn Grammar School. By Elizabeth his wife, daughter of — Aspinall of Standen, he had a son John.

John Dewhurst, of Dewhurst, gent., a juror in 1597, a recorded freeholder in 1600, was taxed on his lands in Wilpshire to a subsidy in 1610. A plaint in the Palatine Chancery Court, in 1609, by Gyles Whalley of Broadhead in Mellor, yeoman, sets forth that John Dewhurst the elder, of Mickle-hey, being seised in his demesne as of freehold, and during the term of his life and the lives of John and William, his sons, of parcels of land in Mickle-hey in Rishton by lease made unto John Dewhurst by Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, gent., the said John Dewhurst, for the sum of £30 paid to him by Edward Whalley, brother of suppliant, of Stoppen-hey in Lipshire (Wilpshire), conveyed, in 4th James I. (1606), the said closes of land to Edward Whalley for 12 years. John Dewhurst married Grace, daughter and heir of Henry Boyes of Boyes House (she died in 1619, and was buried at Ribchester), and had issue, sons, William, born in 1587; and John; and daughters, Ellen, wife of Richard Banester of Craven; Mary wife of George Southworth of Highfield, Esq.; and Ann. His son—

William Dewhurst, lived at Boyes House, Ribchester (his mother's estate), but had lands in Wilpshire. He married Hellen, third daughter of Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury, Esq., and had sons, John, born in 1610, died in July, 1622; Anthony, died in Jan. 1621-2; William, eventual heir; and George; and daughters, Rosamond, and Grace. William Dewhurst, gent., died at Ribchester, July 12th, 1622, seized (by the escheat taken July 28th, 1625) of two messuages called Dewhurst and 60 acres of land in Wilpshire; one messuage called The Ashes, and 30 acres of land in Wilpshire; these tenements held of Sir John Talbot, Knt., as of his manor of Salesbury, in socage, by 4s. rent, worth 40s.; of other lands in Wilpshire; of Boyes House in Ribchester, with lands, &c. William Dewhurst, son and heir, was then aged 6 years and 5 days.

From William Dewhurst, the son, descended the Dewhursts of Ribchester, of whom were, William Dewhurst, born in 1644, died Jan. 24th, 1696; and later, Henry Dewhurst, whose Will is dated Nov. 16th, 1762; James Dewhurst, of Ribchester in 1764; John Dewhurst, who by his Will, dated June 13th, 1771, gave an endowment for a free school in Ribchester; and Edward Dewhurst of Ribchester, yeoman, who married, in Aug. 1765, Jane Wood of Blackburn.

Descended also from the above stock of Dewhursts of Wilpshire was Roger Dewhurst, born at Dewhurst House, Wilpshire, about 1720, lived in Billington, and died, in 1820, aged nearly 100 years. By Martha his wife he had sons, Henry, John, William, Thomas, and Edmund; and daughters, Jennet, and Mary. The youngest son, Edmund Dewhurst of Temple End, Pleasington (born in 1770, died July 3rd, 1857), married, in 1800, Betty, daughter of William Kilshaw of Garstang, and had sons, William; Thomas; Robert; and Kilshaw Dewhurst, born in 1811, of Pleasington in 1877; and a daughter Elizabeth.

A branch of this family was seated at Micklehey in Rishton. John Dewhurst of Micklehey, son of John of Dewhurst, had sons, John; James, born in 1617; and several daughters. John Dewhurst of Micklehey died in March, 1653-4. Another John Dewhurst of Micklehey died in Nov., 1676. Thomas Dewhurst of Micklehey occurs in 1629. He had a son Thomas, born in 1622, and other issue.

FEILDEN OF PYTHORNE IN WILPSHIRE.

Francis Feilden of Pythorne, a younger son of Randal Feilden of Great Harwood, lived temp. Elizabeth. Henry Feilden of Wilpshire paid the subsidy tax in 1570. Another Henry Feilden of Pythorne was a governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628. Oliver Feilden and Jane his wife both died in 1592. Another Oliver Feilden, "de Pythorne," was buried Feb. 8th, 1611. His son, Oliver Feilden of the Pythorne, had sons John, born in 1605, and Robert, born in 1613. The latter occurs as Robert Feilden of Pythorne, who had a son Oliver born in 1652. Oliver Feilden died in 1709. A later Oliver Feilden of Wilpshire, yeoman, married, in 1697, Elizabeth Feilden of Rishton. Robert Feilden of Wilpshire, yeoman, died in Oct. 1766.

George Feilden of Pythorne, who had a son Roger, born in Nov. 1591, and daughters Margaret and Isabel, died in 1618. His widow died in 1620. His son, Roger Feilden of Pythorne, died Feb. 5th, 1652. He had a son George, bapt. June 21st, 1644. A George Feilden of Wilpshire, yeoman, died in July, 1721.

KENYON OF DINKLEY AND PARK HEAD.

This family, perhaps an offshoot of the ancient one of Kenyon of Kenyon, Co. Lanc., acquired importance in the seventeenth century. Robert Kenyon, by Margaret Berry, his second wife, had a son Roger, seated at Dinkley.

Roger Kenyon, of Dinkley, married Anne, daughter of one of the Heywoods of Heywood, and had a son and heir, Roger.

Roger Kenyon, gent., son of Roger, resided on an estate at Park-head, near Whalley. He married Jane, daughter of Richard Assheton of Chadderton, Esq., and had issue, sons, Roger, born June 16th, 1627; Edward, afterwards Revd. Edward Kenyon, B.D., rector of Prestwich from 1659 till his death in 1668; and daughters, Anne, wife of John Crombocke, of Wiswall; Dorothy (who married, first, Major-General Charles Worsley, the celebrated Cromwellian general, who died June 12th, 1656; and secondly, Mr. Waldiffe Layo, of Manchester); Jane (married, first, John Stonehewer, gent., of Barley-ford, Co. Chester, and secondly, Richard Haworth, Esq., of Manchester, barrister-at-law and Bencher of Gray's Inn); and Alice. Roger Kenyon died Aug. 14th, 1636, aged 52. His epitaph is in Whalley Church. The escheat, taken at Bolton, Jan. 12th, 12th Charles I. (1636-7), shows that he had died seized of two messuages, two gardens, &c., 44 acres of land, in Whalley; of right of pasture upon Harwood Moor; of one messuage and 24 acres of land in Dinkley; of two messuages, two gardens, and 6 acres of land in Billington; and of one barn and 10 acres of land in Old Accrington. Roger Kenyon was his son and heir, aged 9 years. He was—

Roger Kenyon, gent., of Park Head, who married, in 1657, Alice, daughter and heir of George Rigby of Peel, gent.; and had issue, sons, Roger, born in 1659; George; and Thomas; and a daughter Beatrice. He resided, after his marriage, at Peel Hall, in Little Hulton, the inheritance of his wife. Roger Kenyon, Esq., was M.P. for Clitheroe from 1690 to 1695. He died June 16th, 1698, aged 71 years. His eldest son, named in 1689 as "Mr. Roger Kenyon, junr., of Peele," had a daughter Alice, bapt. Feb. 24th, 1689-90; he died before his father.

George Kenyon, Roger's second son, succeeded to the estates. He was M.P. for Wigan from 1710 to 1714.

Thomas Kenyon, younger son of Roger, married, in 1668, Catherine, daughter and heir of Luke Lloyd of Bryn, Co. Flint, and died in 1731. His son, Lloyd Kenyon, Esq., was father of Lloyd Kenyon, born in 1732, who was successively Attorney

General, Master of the Rolls, and Lord Chief Justice of England; created Baron Kenyon in 1788, from whom descends the present Baron Kenyon.

LONSDALE OF DINKLEY.

Hugh Lonsdale, of Billington and Dinkley, by Mary his wife (she died in April, 1678) had a son Hugh.

Hugh Lonsdale of Dinkley married, April 28th, 1681, Susan Smalley, and had sons, Robert, born May 8th, 1686; and John, born and died in 1698; and daughters, Ann, born in 1682, died in 1708; Mary, born in 1688, married, in 1717, Nicholas Wigan; Elizabeth, born in 1691; and Alice, born in 1694. Hugh Lonsdale, yeoman, died Feb. 25th, 1708. His son—

Robert Lonsdale of Dinkley, yeoman, married, at Walton Church, April 7th, 1713, Ann Radcliffe, and had sons, Hugh, born Aug. 29th, 1717, died Feb. 21st, 1749-50; and George; and daughters, Mary, born in 1714; Ann, born in 1727; Jane; and Susan, born Aug. 16th, 1735, married, Feb. 13th, 1763, Thomas Haworth of Revidge Fold, yeoman (see ante, Haworth of Blackburn, p. 396). Robert Lonsdale died, aged 63, Jan. 24th, 1750.

George Lonsdale, surviving son of Robert, born March 29th, 1726, named "of Dinkley" in 1774, was progenitor of Dewhurst Lonsdale, of Dinkley in 1823; whose son, William Lonsdale of Dinkley, was father of Thomas; William; and George Dewhurst Lonsdale, who, in 1873, held a freehold farm of 31½ acres in Dinkley.

TALBOT OF CARR IN WILPSHIRE.

This branch of Talbot of Salisbury is traced back to Stephen Talbot of Carr, whose son and heir, George Talbot of Carr, was living A.D. 1500. His son—

Nicholas Talbot of Carr, gent., married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Lawrence Shuttleworth of Gawthorpe, Esq., by whom he had no recorded issue; and secondly, Anne, first daughter and one heir of Evan Browne of Ribbleton, gent. (she survived him and married, secondly, Richard Sherburne of Bayley, Esq.) By her Nicholas Talbot had a son George; and daughters, Margaret, wife of Robert Aspden; and Bridget. Nicholas Talbot was taxed to a Subsidy for lands in Wilpshire in 1523. He died April 28th, 1547; and the escheat, dated 1st Edw. VI., returns that he died seized of two messuages, 40 acres of land, 16 of meadow, and 18 of woodland in Wilpshire and Salesbury; 20 acres of land and 2s. rent in Penhulton; and 9 acres of land in Billington. George Talbot, son and heir, was aged 5 years and 11 months.

George Talbot of Carr, gent., married June 27, 1569, Ann, daughter of Roger Nowell of Mearley, gent., and had sons, Nicholas, died in April 1571; a second Nicholas, died in 1595; and John; and daughters, Bridgett, bapt. Nov. 2nd, 1575; Mary, bapt. March 19th, 1577; Dorothy, bapt. Aug. 1st, 1579, married Ralph Rishton of Ponthalgh, and Frances, born June, 1580. In 1551, Robt. Aspden and Margaret his wife, daughter of Nicholas Talbot, deceased, and Bridget Talbot, disputed with Richard Sherburne and Anne his wife (widow and executrix of Nicholas Talbot) and John Singleton and George Talbot, also executors, title to goods and chattels of deceased; and depositions were taken as to the custom of the county in the distribution of a father's effects among his children, not being his heirs, and notwithstanding the father's Will. In 1570, George Talbot, gent., paid a Subsidy tax for his lands in Wilpshire. He gave, in 1593, 40s. to Blackburn Grammar School, 20s. for Carre and 20s. for Wytton. He was a burgess of Preston at the Guild of 1622; and died aged 88 (being born in 1541) in 1629. His son—

John Talbot of Carr, gent., married Dorothy, daughter of Edward Braddyll of

Portfield, Esq., and had sons, Edward ; Thomas, and John. He was a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1628.

Edward Talbot of Carr married Mabel, daughter of Lawrence Carleton, and had sons, George ; and John (named as John Talbot of Wilpshire, who had sons, Richard, born in 1666 ; John, born in 1668 ; Thomas ; Joseph and Benjamin, twins, born in 1677 ; &c).

George Talbot of Carr, eldest son of Edward, died about 1708. The Will of "George Talbot of Carr, gent.," is dated Dec. 18th, 1708 ; and names his wife Anne as sole executrix ; a son George ; and daughters, Katherine, married — Eden, and having issue Robert and Mary ; and Mary, married — Osbaldeston, and having issue James, Mary, Dorothy, Margery, and Anne ; testator's nephews, John and Thomas Talbot, are mentioned. A curious circumstance about this Will is that it was accompanied by depositions that it had been torn by testator's daughter, Catherine Eden.

The old Messuage of this branch of the Talbots called Carr is situate in a wooded hollow on the northern declivity of Wilpshire Moor. The house, rebuilt probably in the 17th century, consists of a central block fronting the west, with projecting gabled wings. The freehold now belongs to Henry Petre, Esq.

CHAPTER XXI.—THE TOWNSHIP OF WITTON.

Topography—Acreage—Population—Ancient Landowners—De Chaderton—Radcliff—Ireland—Astley—Standish—Feilden of Witton Park—Witton Old Hall, and Witton House—Greenfield Family—Holden of Coohill—Church of St. Mark—School—Church, Griffin—Methodist Chapels—Schools.

WITTON Township adjoins that of Blackburn on the west, and occupies the north and south slopes of Billinge Hill, which rises 807 feet above the sea-level. The Darwen river is the boundary on the south. More than half the land of Witton was enclosed, about 80 years ago, as a Park to Witton House, the seat of the Feildens. The lower part on the south side, between the Darwen and Blakewater rivers, has recently become a populous suburb of Blackburn, and has been embraced in the Parliamentary and Municipal Borough. The area of Witton is 650 statute acres. The population, since the invasion of the cotton manufacture, has much increased. In 1801 it was 461 persons; 1811, 819; 1821, 1067; 1831, 1047; 1841, 1073; 1851, 1367; 1861, 3293; 1871, 3803. Witton Stocks was the situation of the old public town stocks, which were standing not many years ago.

ANCIENT PROPRIETORS.—DESCENT OF THE MANOR.

The earliest landlords in Witton who occur are the De Chadertons. In 1311 (De Lascy Inquisition) it is returned that Richard, son of Geoffrey de Chaderton held one carucate of land in Witton by the service of the eighth part of a knight's fee and 2s. yearly to the chief lord. Later, the Radcliffes of Chaderton by marriage inherited this estate. By deed dated at Witton, June 5th, 9th Edw. III (1336) Adam son of William de Radclif gave to John son of Adam de Ireland "all the lands he had in the vill of Witton near Blackburn." The same Adam de Radcliffe, by deed dated June 5th, 19 Edw. III. (1346), granted lands in Witton to John de Toppcliff, Vicar of Whalley, and to John de Gristwaith, Vicar of Blackburn. The tenement John de Ireland held in Witton of the gift of Adam de Radclif is described, in 1349, as consisting of "one messuage, 70 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 of woodland, and 30 of moor and pasture." This freehold descended,

at a later period, to the Astley family, of Stakes, in Livesey, who were, in the 16th and 17th centuries, the chief resident proprietors in Witton, and some of whom dwelt at Witton Old Hall. (See note, p. 577.) The Radcliffes retained the manorial rights, which passed by the marriage of Margery, daughter and a co-heir of Richard Radcliff of Chaderton, with Ralph Standish, Esq. (who died in 1468), to the De Standishes. Alexander Standish, son and heir of Ralph, at his death in 1507 was found seized of the Manors of Witton and Chaderton, as his mother had been until her death some seven years before. Ralph Standish, Esq., dying about 1539, held these lordships, and his son and heir Alexander succeeded to them, and died in 1546.¹ Edward Standish, Esq., who died about 1610, was then seized of Standish Manor, and of the Manor of Witton, with appurtenances, and of one messuage, 15 acres of land, 4 of meadow, 20 of pasture, and 80 of rushland and moss in Witton. He had conveyed his estates in trust to the use of Alexander, his son and heir, and of his son's wife Elizabeth. Alexander's son, Ralph Standish, is named in 1617 as lord of Witton. He died in 1655. He and his son Edward were Royalists in the Civil War, and the estates were sequestrated in 1652, but were recovered at the Restoration. But another Ralph Standish, Esq., having, in 1715, joined in the Jacobite Rebellion, his estates were escheated and were sold by the Crown. It may have been then that the estate of Standishes in Witton passed to new owners; but I am unable to give positive evidence on this point.

FEILDEN OF GREAT HARWOOD, BLACKBURN, AND WITTON
PARK.

Henry Ffelden, of Blackburn Parish, in 1514 was a trustee of estate given by the Earl of Derby for a Chantry in Blackburn Church. Robert ffelden of Great Harwood was an executor of the Will of Sir Robt. Hesketh, Knt., in 1539. Randal Felden of Great Harwood was buried Nov. 18th, 1564.

Randal Felden occurs *temp.* Elizabeth. In 1564 Randulph Felden late servant of Sir Thos. Talbot, and claiming as lessee under him, was defendant in a suit as to the right to tenure of a tenement parcel of the Glebe Lands of Blackburn Rectory. He was a first Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1567. Randal Felden had sons, Henry; and Francis (of Pythorne in Wilpshire); and he died in 1594. Henry Felden, perhaps brother of Randal, died in March, 1599.

Henry Felden, son of Randal, born in 1548, married at Great Harwood Chapel, May 1st, 1577, Alice Hyndle, and had sons, Henry,

¹ In Feb., 1571-2, Edward Standish, Esq., had an order from the Duchy Court of Lancaster to expel Ellen Abbot out of a messuage and 30 acres of land in Wytton, pursuant to a decree of the Court. (See post, under Holden of Coohill.)

born in 1578; Randal, bapt. Sept. 24, 1582, legatee under the Will of Wm. Farington, Esq., in 1609; and he died in 1610. His second son, Randal Feilden, married, in 1621, Isabel Shorrocks, and by her (who died in Aug. 1632) had sons, Henry, bapt. Jan. 14, 1632-4; and John.

Henry Feilden, son of Henry, had, with other issue a son, Henry.

Henry Feilden, of Great Harwood and Blackburn, had issue, sons, Randal, bapt. Aug. 20th, 1645; Henry, born in 1649; and Richard Feilden, elected a Fellow of Brazenose College, Oxford, Nov. 3rd, 1676, and died, unmarried, in 1703. Henry Feilden of Blackburn was buried Jan. 4th, 1669-70.

Randal Feilden, of Blackburn, yeoman, married, Oct. 17th, 1669, Ellen Pollard, and had issue by her sons, Henry, bapt. Feb. 14th, 1670-1 (died young); and John, born in 1674, died in 1706. A second wife, Isabel, died in 1690; and Randal Feilden married again in Feb. 1690-1, Mary Bolton, by whom he had sons, Henry, bapt. June 18th, 1693; Joseph, bapt. Nov. 13th, 1694; James, bapt. Jan. 12th, 1696, and died in April, 1714; and Robert, bapt. June 12th, 1701; and a daughter Anne, wife of Jonathan Patten, gent., of Manchester. Mr. Randal Feilden of Blackburn was buried Dec. 20th, 1721.

Robert Feilden, youngest son of Randal, married, first, Sept. 20th, 1720, Elizabeth Haworth; secondly, Miss Lees of Manchester; and, thirdly, March 4th, 1735, Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. G. Wall, by whom he had a son, Henry Feilden, whose son, by Mary his wife, was Robert Feilden, Esq., of Didsbury. He married Anne, eldest daughter of Sir J. P. Mosley, Bart., and his son was the Rev. Robert Mosley Feilden, rector of Bebington, Co. Chester.

Henry Feilden of Blackburn, gent., eldest son of Randal, married, June 22nd, 1721, Miss Elizabeth Sudell (she died in March, 1738-9), and had sons, Randal, bapt. June 8th, 1725, died young; John Feilden (of Blackburn, gent.), bapt. Jan. 28th, 1726-7, married Miss Starkie, and died in April, 1771, without issue; Robert, born in 1734, died in 1735; Joseph, bapt. April 21st, 1736; and Henry, bapt. Aug. 11th, 1738; and daughters, Anne, born in 1722, married Mr. Craven of Melling; Mary, died an infant, in 1723; Catherine, born in 1730, married Mr. Whalley, of Orrell; and a second Mary, born in 1732. In 1721, by purchase from Lord Falconberg, for £8650, Henry Feilden, jointly with Mr. Wm. Sudell and Mr. Wm. Baldwin, acquired the moiety of Blackburn Manor. He built the house in Church Street, Blackburn, opposite the Church gates, which has on its front the initials "H F E" (Henry and Elizabeth Feilden), and the date "1728." He died, aged 49, in 1742; and "Henry Feilden, of Blackburn, gentleman, removed from Bath," was buried in Blackburn Church, April 15th in that year.

Henry Feilden, "of Blackburn, chapman," younger son of Henry, was buried at Blackburn Church, June 13th, 1769.

Joseph Feilden of Blackburn, "chapman" and gent., fourth son of Henry and heir to his brother John in 1771, married, Sept. 28th, 1762, Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Mr. Wm. Leyland of Blackburn, and had sons, Joseph, died an infant in 1763; Henry, bapt. Feb. 21st, 1765; William Leyland, died in 1768; John, bapt. Aug. 25th, 1769; William, bapt. April 3rd, 1772 (the first baronet, of Feniscowles, see ante, pp. 621-2); and Randal, died young in Feb. 1780; and a daughter Cicely, bapt. May 20th, 1766, married Richard Willis, Esq., of Halsnead, and had issue nine sons and six daughters; she died April 11th, 1822. Joseph Feilden, Esq., died at Blackburn, aged 57, Dec. 24th, 1792, and was buried Jan. 3rd, 1793. His widow, Mrs. Margaret Feilden, died, aged 80, Sept. 27th, 1826.

Henry Feilden, Esq., of Blackburn and Witton House, married Fanny, daughter of Wm. Hill, Esq., of Blythe Hall. (She died Jan. 8th, 1833.) Issue, sons, Joseph, born Feb. 28th, 1792; William, born in 1794, died in London; Henry, born in 1798, died in 1801; Randal Henry, born in 1802 (Rev. R. H. Feilden, Rector of Astley, Co. Wilts.); and John Feilden, Esq., of London, born in 1804, died Nov. 22nd, 1865; daughters, Margaret, wife of Lt.-Col. Poole; and Cecilia, wife of Dr. Edward Cardwell (see Cardwell family, p. 391, ante). Henry Feilden, Esq., built Witton House in 1800. He died, aged 51, Dec. 27th, 1815.

Joseph Feilden, Esq., son of Henry, married, in June, 1817, Frances Mary, daughter of Rev. Streynsham Master, Rector of Croston; and had sons, Henry Master, born in 1818; Randle Joseph, born in 1824; William Leyland, born Aug. 23rd, 1825 (Rev. W. L. Feilden, Vicar of Knowsley); John Robert, born in 1827 (Rev. J. R. Feilden); Oswald Barton, born in 1832; Gilbert Streynsham, born in 1837; and Albert Augustus, died young in 1852; daughters, Frances Mary; Cecilia, wife of Rev. R. A. Rawstone; Margaret Priscilla, wife of Rev. G. R. Feilden; Emily Augusta, wife of Ralph Assheton, Esq., M.P., of Downham Hall; Louisa Willis, wife of Col. Feilden of Bebington (she died in 1868); and Charlotte-Emma Willoughby, wife of Rev. Richard Assheton, rector of Bolton. Joseph Feilden, Esq., was High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1818, and M.P. for Blackburn from 1865 to March, 1869.¹ He died, aged 78, Aug. 29th, 1870, and was buried in the new family mortuary chapel at Witton Church. His widow is yet living.

Henry Master Feilden, Esq., married, first, June 27th, 1843, Caroline, daughter of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., and by her (she died

¹ It has before been stated that the Feildens were long time lessees of the Rectorial estate in Blackburn; and in 1853, Messrs. Joseph and John Feilden surrendered 467 acres of the Glebe to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, retaining the residue of the estate on the payment of £20,000.

May 6th, 1862) had issue a son, Randal Mosley, died young in 1856; and daughters, Frances Sophia; Caroline Letitia (died young); and Cicely Ann. Mr. Feilden married, secondly, Aug. 1st, 1864, Miss Hannah Fox, and had issue a daughter, born in 1869. Henry Master Feilden, Esq., was M.P. for Blackburn from March, 1869, until his death, Sept. 5th, 1875. In default of male issue, the estates passed to his brother,

Randle Joseph Feilden, Colonel of the 60th Rifles. Colonel Feilden married, March 21st, 1861, Jane Campbell, eldest daughter of James Hosier, Esq., of Mauldslee Castle, Lanarkshire, and has issue.

The Old Hall of Witton stood on a bank near the Blakewater, at the south-east corner of the present park. Witton House, the mansion of the Feildens, built in 1800, is situated more to the west, on a knoll in the midst of the Park. It is a spacious structure of modern style, with a classic porch.

GREENFIELD OF WISWELL, WITTON, PRESTON, &c.

The Greenfields were originally of Whalley and Wiswell, and were tenants under Whalley Monastery. In 1538, James Grenefeld was found holding in Whalley manor a messuage and lands, paying yearly 13s. 4d. "George Grenefeld, clerke," of this family, at the dissolution of the Abbey held "a parcel of ground called the Leasingsteads without gate to the water."

Gilbert Greenfield, of Whalley, had sons (Thomas); John, died in 1579; a second John, born in 1581, died in 1587; Christopher, bapt. July 23rd, 1582; William, bapt. Oct. 24th, 1583; George, born in 1584; and a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1590.

Thomas Greenfield of Wiswall, gent., is named as a juror in 1612. He or a son was Thomas Greenfield of Witton, gent., elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School, Jan. 8th, 1647-8. He died before 1650, when his relict, "Widow Greenfield," occurs as a tenant of Blackburn Wapentake in Witton. His son—

Thomas Greenfield of Witton, gent., married Lettice, fourth daughter of John Braddyll of Portfield, Esq., and had sons, Thomas, and Christopher; and a daughter Lettice, buried at Blackburn, Feb. 12th, 1651.

Thomas Greenfield of Witton, gent., eldest son of Thomas, was elected a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1680; his name occurs frequently on the records of the School between 1688 and 1712. He is also named as "of Preston." He was buried at Blackburn, March 27th, 1716. He married, at Manchester Collegiate Church, Oct. 24th, 1674, Martha Johnson of Manchester. His daughter, Martha, married, Dec. 10th, 1706, Rev. John Holme, Vicar of Blackburn, and died in 1757. I have not noted any other issue of Thomas Greenfield. His brother was—

Christopher Greenfield of Preston, attorney-at-law, afterwards Sir Christopher Greenfield, M.P. for Preston 1690-95. He died in 1706; and his Will is dated in that year. He married Sarah, daughter of Dr. Bushell, Vicar of Preston (she was living in 1712), and had issue, sons, John (of whom below); William, Christopher, and Thomas; and daughters, Mary, and Isabella.

John Greenfield "of Preston, gent., in 1714," was "of the Abbey Court, Chester," in 1745, and died in 1758. He married, Dec. 16th, 1714, Abigail, daughter of Isaac Swift, Esq., of the Abbey Court, Chester, by whom he had a daughter Elizabeth, bapt. Sept. 1st, 1717, who died before her father. His Widow, Mrs. Abigail Greenfield, died in 1761; and her Will was proved Oct. 9th in that year.

HOLDEN OF COOHILL, WITTON, AND BASTWELL, BLACKBURN:

James Holdyn was assessed for his lands in Witton to a subsidy in 1523. George Houlden, and the wife of Thomas Houlden, for lands in Witton paid the Subsidy in 1570. In 12th Eliz. (1569), Ellen Holden, claiming as lessee of Edward Standish who was seized in fee, and also claiming her jointure, was against Evan Holden and Thomas Holden, claiming also as lessees, and Edward Standish, as in fee, in a suit as to divers lands in Whitton; defendants alleging forfeiture of title by Ellen Holden having a child born in adultery by John Abbotte.

Thomas Holden of Witton, gent., a juror in 1578, died in 1591. Escheat taken at Wigan, Aug. 17th, 36 Eliz., proves that Thomas Holden, late of Witton, died on April 9th, 1591, seized of Coohyll in Witton, held of Edward Standish, Esq., in free socage, being two messuages, two gardens, 10 acres of land, 10 of meadow, 10 of pasture and 1 of woodland; also of Bastwell in Blackburn, held of Margery, widow of Robt. Barton, Esq., in free socage, one messuage, garden, orchard, 20 acres of land, 10 of meadow, and 10 of pasture; also of one messuage, 20 acres of land, 10 of meadow, and 10 of pasture in Livesey, held of Richard Livesey, gent., in free socage. Thomas Holden, son and heir, was aged 12 years, 11 months, 10 days.

Thomas Holden, of Witton, gent., taxed to a Subsidy in 1610, was buried at Blackburn, Feb. 15th, 1616-17. Inq. post mort. taken April 8th, 15th James I., returns that he had held lands in Witton, of Ralph Standish, Esq.; in Blackburn, of Thomas Barton, Esq.; in Greene-Tockholes, of James Livesey, gent.; and 2½ acres in Livesey held of the King, by knight service. Frances Holden, his widow, was then living at Blackburn (she died in Dec., 1633). Thomas Holden, son and heir, was then aged 9 years.

Thomas Holden of Witton was buried Nov. 29th, 1623. Another Thomas Holden, of Witton, a juror in 1637, and a freeholder in 1650, had issue. Coohill tenement is now embraced in the pale of Witton Park, on the east side of the park.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH.—The church of Witton, dedicated to St. Mark, stands on the hill-side just outside the eastern wall of Witton Park. It was erected at a cost of £700; including a gift of £200 and the site by Joseph Feilden, Esq., who laid the corner-stone, Oct. 6th, 1836. The church was consecrated June 10th, 1837. The church is in the Norman style; and consists of nave, octagonal tower and spire at the east end, west porch, and a handsome mortuary chapel of the Feildens, added in 1870, forming a south transept. An organ was placed in the church in 1850. The church contains 560 sittings; 300 are free seats. Value of the living £300. The Vicar of Blackburn is patron. Rev. G. H. Ashe, B.A., has been Vicar since 1839.

SCHOOL-CHURCH, GRIFFIN.—On the Griffin estate the late Thomas Dugdale, Esq., built in 1870 a large school, which is also used for worship on the Sunday. Sittings 594. A new church is projected (1877).

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—A chapel for the Wesleyans, which is also used for a Sunday School, was built in Witton in 1867. It is a plain oblong structure of brick and stone. Cost £1200; sittings 372. A site for a larger chapel is secured, and a fund is being raised for its erection.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A small brick building, used also for the Sunday School; built in 1869; cost £1000; sittings 258.

DAY SCHOOLS.—The following Schools were under Government inspection in 1876:—St. Mark's National, average attendance 77 children; Griffin School, average attendance 284 children.

CHAPTER XXII.—THE TOWNSHIP OF YATE-CUM-PICKUP-BANK.

Situation and description—Acreage and Population—Copyhold tenure of lands—Private Burial Grounds—Holden Family of Pickup-Bank and of Yate-Bank—Yates Family, of Yate-Bank, Bank Fold, Windy Bank, Woodhead, and Pickup-Bank—Independent Chapel—Church School.

YATE-BANK and PICKUP-BANK are spurs of a mountain tract on the south-eastern border of Blackburn Parish. These lofty "Banks" formed the western limit of the ancient Forest of Rossendale, and were thus accounted as extra-parochial. The township is now dealt with parochially as portion of the Parish of Blackburn. The inhabitants have always made Blackburn Church their parish church; and in 1650 the ecclesiastical surveyors reported: "Yatebank and Piccopbank, part of the Forest of Rossendall, but parcell of the rectorye of Blackburne, their tythes worth £5 per ann." Yate-bank and Pickup-bank were comprised in the chapelry of Over Darwen. The lands of the township descend very steeply to the Hoddlesden Brook. Their watershed is utilized for the water-supply of Blackburn. The area is 1360 statute acres. Population:—1801, 1045; 1811, 1230; 1821, 1359; 1831, 1209; 1841, 1068; 1851, 1208; 1861, 1111; 1871, 766.

The land in this township is held in copyhold of the Honor of Clitheroe; and among the chief early copyholders were the families of Yates, who had separate tenements at Bank Fold, Windy Bank, and Woodhead in Yate-bank; and the Holdens, whose estate was at Eccles Fold in Pickup-bank; and who held a tenement in Yate-bank; also, there are glebe-lands belonging to the Church of St. James, Over Darwen, at Bank Fold, in Yate-bank; and belonging to St. John's Church, Blackburn, at Becket Fold. Lang House estate, in Yate-bank, was purchased in 1744 by the trustees of the Poor Stock of Blackburn. At Quaker Fold, Pickup-bank, is a small private burial-ground, enclosed by a wall, containing some forty graves and several inscribed gravestones of a family of Yates, &c.; and there is another such enclosure at Red Earth, which formerly belonged to a family of Scholes, some of whom were buried in the grave-plot.

HOLDEN OF PICKUP-BANK.

George Holden, first of Pickup-Bank, was a younger son of Ralph Holden of Holden Hall, gent. On the wall of the old house of the Holdens at Pickup-Bank are inscribed with the date "1602" the initials "G H" (George Holden). He had sons, Robert; George; and Thomas; and daughters, Alice, wife of Lawrence Haworth of Th'urcroft, gent.; and Elizabeth, who died unmarried in Oct., 1624. George Holden, the father, was living in 1626, when his son—

"George Holden of Pickup Bank, junior," died, in May, 1626. He had been made a Governor of Blackburn Grammar School in 1625. His wife had died in June, 1619. In his Will, dated May 30th, 1626, testator names sons, Robert (a minor); George; and Thomas; daughter Anne (born in 1604); brothers, Thomas and Robert Holden, who are made executors; and his kinsman Andrew Holden of Todd Hall, to be supervisor.

"Thomas Holden of Pickup Bank, son of George," had a son, William, bapt. Jan. 21st, 1626-7.

Robert Holden of Piccop Bank, Greave of Rossendale in 1591, was Robert, son of the first-named George Holden. "Ellen Holden of Pickup Bank, widow," relict, I think, of this Robert, in her Will, dated May 19th, 1637, names her five sons, James (who had sons, George, and Thomas); Thomas (who had George, and Ellen); Robert; John; and William.

James Holden of Pickup Bank (eldest son of Robert and Ellen above), served as Greave of Rossendale in 1644. He had sons, George; Thomas, born in 1634; Robert, born in 1637; and John, died in 1656. James Holden of Pickup Bank died in Oct., 1689.

George Holden of Pickup Bank, yeoman, eldest son of James, married, Aug. 6th, 1655, Agnes, daughter of Edward Pilling of Pickup Bank (she died in Feb. 1678-9), and had a son, James Holden, bapt. Sept. 21st, 1657; and daughters, Anne, born and died in 1656; and a second Anne, born in 1668.

Thomas Holden of Pickup Bank (second son of James above), died in 1673, and had sons, James, died in 1662; Jeremiah, born in 1662; and a second James, born in 1665.

Robert Holden, youngest son of James, had issue, sons, James, born in 1663; William, born in 1665; Andrew, born in 1667; and Thomas; and daughters, Margaret, born in 1656; and Ellen, born in 1659.

Of the younger sons of Ellen Holden, widow, who died in 1637, were, John Holden of Pickup Bank, who died in 1673, and his wife Margery in 1670; and William Holden of Pickup Bank, who had a son Andrew, born in 1654; a daughter Ellen, died in 1663; and died in 1675.

A later Robert Holden of Pickup Bank had sons, Miles, died in 1685; and Robert, born in 1695.

HOLDEN OF YATE BANK.

William Holden of Yate Bank was buried March 30th, 1685. Thomas Holden of Yate Bank, yeoman, died in 1691. His Will is dated Feb. 20th, 1691; and names his sons, William, John, Thomas, and James; and a daughter Margaret. Robert Holden of Yate Bank died in September, 1710. John Holden of Yate Bank, had a son Thomas, born in 1701, and other issue. John Holden of Yate Bank, yeoman, died in his 96th year, in 1796. William Holden, living recently, had a small estate in Yate Bank, left to him by his great-uncle John Holden, who died in 1796.

YATES OF YATE BANK, &c.

The surname of Yates (anciently Yate), which in modern times has been borne by numerous families (some of considerable standing) in Lancashire and elsewhere, is derived from the hamlet of Yate Bank, and it may be assumed that all the families of Yates descend from one which held an estate in Yate Bank in the 16th century. In the 17th century, the Yateses in Yate Bank and places adjacent already formed so many households, that it is difficult to distinguish persons so as to make out a genealogy of any one among the various contemporary families. In Yate Bank were families of Yates of Banks or Bank Fold, of Windy Bank, and of Woodhead. Elsewhere occur, Yates of Pickup Bank; of Waterside, Hoddlesden; of Eccleshill; of Upper Darwen; of Lower Darwen; of Duckworth Hall, Oswaldtwistle; of Belthorn; of Livesey; of Blackburn; and of Stanley House, Mellor. Below are named members in successive generations of the stock of Yateses which remained seated at Yate Bank or at Bank Fold in Yate Bank.

John Yate, of the Forest of Rossendale, yeoman, dead before 1588, was father of William Yate, of Yate Bank, yeoman (named in a deed dated 1588). William Yate died in 1617. George Yate, of Yate Bank, yeoman, gave by Will, before 1590, 6s. 8d. to Blackburn Grammar School. Robert Yate married, in 1602, Ellen Halliwell. Richard Yate had a son Robert, born in 1611. Thomas Yate married, in 1617, Isabel Yate; and a Thomas Yate of Yate Bank died in 1623.

William Yate of Yate Bank, "son of Robert," married, in 1617, Elizabeth Fish, and had sons, John, born in 1625; and Robert, born in 1627; and a daughter Ann, born in 1622. William Yate died in 1634.

James Yate of Yate Bank died in 1641. Another James Yate of Yate Bank had sons, William, born in 1640; James; and Henry. John Yate married, in 1623, Mary Harwood, and had sons, James, born in 1630; Robert, born in 1631; and John, born in 1637. Richard Yates of Yate Bank had a son William, born in 1638.

Robert Yates of Yate Bank, "son of William," born in 1600, married, Dec. 9th, 1624, Ann Yates of Jackson-house, and had sons, James, born in 1625; William, born in 1627; a second William, born in 1630; Henry, born in 1632; Robert, born in 1634, died in 1637; twin sons, born in 1637; and daughters, Alice, Isabel, and Elizabeth.

William Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, died in May, 1677. By Jenet his wife he had a son Robert, bapt. Sept. 19th, 1651; and other issue. Henry Yates of Yate Bank (son of Robert) had sons, Robert, born in 1663; James; and Thomas. John Yates of Yate bank had sons, John, born in 1662; Robert; and James. William Yates of Yate Bank had a son Henry, born in 1676. William Yates of Yate Bank died in May, 1685. Ellen, wife of William Yates of Yate Bank, died in July, 1687. Robert Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, had a son Henry, born in 1688, with other issue.

George Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, had a son William, born in 1671. A later George Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, had a son George, bapt. March 26th, 1700, and died in Dec., 1722. His wife Mary died in 1709. Thomas Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, died in May, 1706.

William Yates of Yate Bank, yeoman, had sons, William, who died in 1689; and Lawrence; and a daughter Jane, born in 1699. Ann, wife of William Yates, yeoman, died in Oct. 1699. Probably the same William Yates, yeoman, of Yate Bank, married, in 1702, Deborah Duckworth of Musbury, and had a son, Robert, born July 5th, 1703. "William Yates of Banks, yeoman," died in July, 1739.

Rev. Robert Yates of Banks, Nonconformist minister at "Yates' Chapel," Over

Darwen (see ante, p. 522), son of William, married, Dec. 30th, 1731, Ellen Smith of Yate Bank. "Robert Yates of Banks, minister," was buried Jan. 11th, 1648-9.

Lawrence Yates of Banks, yeoman, eldest son of William Yates, by Ann his wife (who died in Aug. 1740), had sons, Robert, born in 1727; William; and John. He died in Oct. 1763.

Robert Yates, yeoman, of Bank Fold, Yate Bank, son of Lawrence, by his wife Elizabeth (Betty), had issue, sons, William, bapt. March 19th, 1760, buried May 29th, 1763; and Robert, bapt. April 6th, 1769, buried, July 27th, 1772; and daughters, Catherine, bapt. Oct. 13th, 1756, died young; and Nancy, bapt. Nov. 30th, 1764. The father, Robert Yates, rebuilt the homestead at Bank Fold, and an inscription upon a stone over the stable-door bears the names "Robert and Elizabeth Yates," and the date "1765." "Betty, wife of Robert Yates," died aged 51 years, and was buried June 28th, 1785, Robert Yates died aged 66, and was buried April 29th, 1793.

Robert Yates seems to have had no surviving son. His daughter Nancy became eventual heir to the freehold. She married Robert Smalley of Hey Fold, yeoman, and died, aged 87, in Feb., 1852; and the estate at Bank Fold is now held by the representatives of her daughters, Betty Smalley, wife of Wm. Entwistle; and Kitty, wife of John Pickup of March House (see ante, pp. 508 and 510).

YATES OF WINDY BANK IN YATE BANK.

George Yate de Windie Banke married, in 1617, Jenet Waddington, and had sons, Henry, born in 1622; a son who died in June, 1623; John, born in 1624; and James, born in 1626. George Yates de Windie Banke was buried Aug. 17th, 1656. A later George Yates of Windy Bank was living in 1674. He had a son William.

William Yates, yeoman, of Windy Bank, married, April 28th, 1703, Mary Heape, and had a son George, bapt. Nov. 27th, 1709; a daughter Alice, born in 1705; &c. William Yates renewed the farm-house at Windy Bank, as attested by a stone in the front wall with the initials "W Y M" (William and Mary Yates) and the date "1718."

George Yates of Windy bank, yeoman, son of William, married, Feb. 19th, 1739, Alice Eccles of Pickup Bank, and had sons, William, born in 1743; and George, bapt. Nov. 5th, 1756. George Yates, the father, died in March, 1772. Alice Yates of Windy Bank, widow, was buried April 21st, 1775.

William Yates of Windy bank, son of George, married Feb. 5th, 1767, Betty Pickup (she died in 1777), and had sons, John, born in 1770, died in 1777; and William, bapt., Aug. 26th, 1772. "William Yates, the elder, of Windy bank," died, aged 68, May 3rd, 1811. His son—

William Yates of Windy Bank, married Elizabeth Bury, and had sons, George; and William (now living). He died about 1820. His son, George Yates, sold the farm at Windy Bank to Blackburn Waterworks Company some thirty years ago.

YATES OF WOODHEAD (HODDLESDEN).

William Yate of Hoddlesden occurs in 1523. James Yate was Greave of Rossendale Forest in 1608. Robert Yate of Woodhead married, in 1629, Ann Holden, and had a son Thomas, born in 1637, &c. William Yate of Woodhead, by his wife (who died in 1658) had a son Henry, born in 1656, died in 1660. Robert Yate of Woodhead, Greave of Rossendale in 1677, was living in 1688. His descendant—

John Yate, of Woodhead, Greave of Rossendale in 1745, by Ann his wife, had sons, John, bapt. Feb. 15th, 1732; and William Yates of Woodhead, who had a son William born in 1769; the latter was father of John Yates of Woodhead, who had

sons, John Yates, of Parrick, and Oliver (Mr. Oliver Yates of Woodhead, where he has built a villa on the freehold, on the site of the old messuage).

John Yates of Woodhead, yeoman, son of John, died, aged 77, about 1810, by his first wife, a daughter of — Marsden of Okenhurst in Lower Darwen, he had sons, John Yates, of Belthorn; George; Hugh; and Henry. By his second wife, Ann Hayhurst of Blackburn, he had issue, Timothy, Phoebe, and Ann.

John Yates of Belthorn, eldest son of John, had a son, John Yates of Bank Fold, Yate Bank.

Henry Yates, of Lower Fold, Woodhead, younger son of John, married Nancy West (who died, aged 90, in 1858), and had sons, Henry; Christopher, and William, died young; George, and James; and daughters, Ann, and Mary. The father, Henry Yates, died, aged 68, about 1843.

Henry Yates of Woodhead, son of Henry, born Aug. 2nd, 1790, was living, aged 84, in 1876. He had a son Henry, and other sons and daughters.

YATES OF PICKUP BANK.

John Yates of Piccop Banke had a son James, born in 1672. George Yates of Piccop Bank, by Ann, his wife (she died in 1688), had issue. Thomas Yates of Pickup Bank had a son Henry, born in 1697. Robert Yates of Pickup Bank, by his first wife Elizabeth (buried March 27th, 1702) had a son Lawrence. He married, secondly, in Dec., 1704, Sarah Morres of Eccleshill.

Lawrence Yates of Pickup Bank, yeoman, son of Robert, married, Nov. 1st, 1719, Ann, daughter of Christopher Hargreaves of Heap Clough, and had sons, Robert; Christopher; William, died in 1732; and John, died in 1740. Lawrence Yates was buried Oct. 8th, 1763. His younger son, Christopher Yates of Pickup Bank, married, in 1745, Esther Foole of Over Darwen.

Robert Yate, son of Lawrence, by Agnes his wife, who died, aged 46, in 1768, had sons, Robert; William; and other issue.

Robert Yate of Pickup Bank, by Mary his wife, had sons, Robert, born in 1772; Lawrence, born in 1775; and William, born in 1776.

“William Yates of Pickup Bank, son of Robert, had a son James, born in 1790, died in 1792.”

INDEPENDENT CHAPEL, PICKUP BANK.—A structure built in 1836 for use as a Sunday School, was adapted as a chapel in 1860, for a congregation of Independents. It contains 300 sittings. Rev. J. Clyde has been the minister since 1866.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL, SHORROCK FOLD.—This school was originally built in 1790, but was rebuilt in 1832, and has recently been renovated. It is used for a Sunday School under St. James's Church, Over Darwen.

APPENDIX.

I.—SEPULCHRAL SLAB OF ROMANO-BRITISH SCULPTURE
DISCOVERED NEAR RIBCHESTER IN 1876.

A description of this relic of the Roman occupation at Ribchester was communicated last year by the author of the present work to the Society of Antiquaries, and to the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, and was printed in the Proceedings of both societies; of which the following is the substance. An engraving of the slab is inserted at page 19.

The discovery of a monumental sculpture of Romano-British workmanship near Ribchester adds a fresh item to the record of remains of the Roman colony disinterred at this important station in the course of centuries. The slab was taken out of the bed of the Ribble by Mr. P. Wearden, who has a farm on the south bank, on Saturday afternoon, April 8th, 1876. The tapered upper end of the stone had been noticed beneath the surface of the water, embedded in earth, some 10 or 12 feet from the river's edge. The spot of the discovery is on the Clayton side of the Ribble, nearly opposite Ribchester, but a few hundred yards higher up the stream. There the river makes a sharp curve against a high bank of boulder-clay on the Blackburn side of the valley, and the force of the current in time of flood has caused continual falls of the bank, the last of which happened a few days before the slab was seen, by which a mass of the bank about four yards wide was submerged. The slab was got out of the river-bed with some difficulty, and brought upon the bank, when its sculptured surface was revealed. Two days after, on April 10th, I visited the place and made notes of the relic prior to its removal; and subsequently I had an engraving made of it from excellent photographs taken for me by Mr. John Geddes. The subject of the sculpture, as will be seen from the wood-cut, is a Roman horseman plunging his spear into the body of a fallen enemy. Its purpose was that of a sepulchral monument to some officer of the Roman garrison at Ribchester. The dimensions of the slab are 5 feet in height, and 2 feet 6 inches in width. The material is a fine sandstone, such as is got from the Longridge quarries. The upper end of the slab is gable-shaped, with a battered finial ornament. The sculpture is enclosed within a

panel, pointed at the head, the projected border of the panel being about 3 in. wide, excepting at the base, which is deeper. The outer edges of the slab are roughly cut and uneven, and the bottom corners are broken away. The ground of the sculpture is pitted all over with punch marks. The design of the sculpture is vigorous, but the execution betokens indifferent art in the sculptor. The figures are out of proportion—the body of the horse is too short, and the head of the horseman too large for his body; the prostrate foeman is a puny creature. The hind legs of the horse are stiff and stumpy; the tail is a very poor ill-set appendage; the left fore-leg is straight, the right well lifted. The head of the steed is erect, held in by a thick bridle; the mouth part open, the teeth set; nostril, eye, and ear well defined; mane strong and flowing backward. The head-gear, tasseled trappings crossing the neck and hind-quarters, and large square saddle-cloth on the flank, are distinctly cut. The rider is erectly seated on his horse; the leg bent back, and foot, unstrapped, pointed downwards. The warrior's head is bold and large; the eye full; nose prominent, but now battered; jaw massive; ear clearly cut; hair thick, and set in ridgy curls. The figure is bare-headed. His dress consists of a short, close-fitting tunic; and a mantle, meant probably to represent the Roman military cloak or *paludamentum*, fastened over the breast with a large circular brooch (*fibula*), which has an inner circular indentation. The cloak is pushed back to leave free the extended arms; the left bearing an oval shield; the right uplifted and grasping a spear which the soldier has buried in the heart of the vanquished adversary. Besides the spear the horseman is armed with a long dagger, fixed in its sheath on his right side, attached to his girdle. Dagger and sheath together measure 14 inches; the blade about 9 inches; the hilt of the dagger has a flat, semi-circular knob. The remaining figure is that of the impaled enemy, recumbent in the lower right-hand corner of the panel. His only visible armour is an irregular oval shield, with a ridged centre. There is no inscription upon the slab, but it may be supposed that it rested when *in situ* upon an inscribed base-stone, which has not been recovered. Mr. C. Roach Smith attributes the sculpture to the Third Century. Camden mentions a somewhat similar sculptured slab dug out at Ribchester before his visit nearly three centuries ago, which bore an inscription.

II.—CONVEYANCE OF THE RECTORY OF BLACKBURN IN 1547.

Of this transaction (see page 273) I have the following further items communicated by Rev. Canon Raines, F.S.A.:—"On the 12th June, 1547 (1st Edw. VI.), Edward Duke of Somerset, uncle and counsailer to ye said King Governour of His Person and the Lord Protector of his

Realm and Dominions, Sir Wm. Pawlet, K.G., &c., in fulfilment of the Will of Henry VIII., who enjoined that all Grants, Exchanges, Sales, &c., made or covenanted to be made but not completed by him, should be perfected by his Executors and Counsellors during the minority of his Highness' son,—the said Lord Protector, &c., in fulfilment of an exchange of Manors and Lands entered into by the late King and Thomas A'b'p of Canterbury but left uncompleted, conveyed to the A'b'p and his successors *inter alia* the Parsonage of Blackburn, with all its rights and appurtenances to the late Monastery or Abbey of Whalley belonging and late parcel of the possessions thereof, and all Messuages, Houses, Chapels, Lands, Glebes, Tithes, Oblations, and all other jurisdictions, liberties, privileges, &c., and the reversion," &c.—In 1616 the Rectory consisted of the moiety of the Lordship of Blackburn, Glebe Lands, Tithes, Oblations, &c. The Glebe was of three sorts, demesne Lands, Messuages and Lands let to Tenants for years, and Commons. The demesne lands contained 161 acres, the Messuages (being 64, besides cottages), with the lands in Blackburn, being 292a. 2r. 20p.; 10s. per annum was payable out of lands called Berdsworth; in Samlesbury, lands, 2a. 1r. 0p.; in Cuerdale, 6a. and houses; in Little Harwood, houses; in Law (Walton), houses. There seem to have been compositions for Tithe of Hay in several parts of the Parish."—*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xi, pp. 206-220.

III.—CHURCH EFFECTS IN BLACKBURN IN 1553.

I am indebted to Mr. J. E. Bailey, F.S.A., for the appended transcript of an inventory of vestments, and other effects in Blackburn Church, made in 1553, *temp.* Ranulf Lynney, Vicar (see page 286).

This indenture made the xvth day of October, in the yere of the reigne of Edward the Sext by the grace of God King of England, france, and Ireland, defender of the feythe and on Earthe of the Churche of England and also of Ireland sup'me heade, betwixe Sr Thomas Holt Knyght Raffe Assheton Esquier & Jhon Bradill gentlemā three of the comyssyon's upon the behalf of o'r souraigne Lord the King upon the on p'tie and Ranulphe Lynney Veker off blagburne Jhon Issherwod & Giles bolton churche wardens of the same, thomas dale curate of Samesburye Gilbart Sharpuls & Willm. Warde churche wardens of the same, Richard Wodd curate of Harewodd James dobson and Jhon M'rcer churchwardens of the same upon the other p'tie, Witnesseth that wheare the said Sir Thomas holt Raffe Assheton and Jhon bradill have delivered at the tyme of the sealinge and delyvry of thes presents to the said Ranulphe Lynney Jhon Issherwod & giles bolton, on chales iiij vestments one coope three auterclothes two corporas fyve for whiche thei aw xxvjli xijs. jd., to thomas france, thomas Winkeley & Edmund Leman on chalis on vestment on coope fower bells on of them being broken, to thomas Dale, Gilbart Sharpuls & Willm Ward two little bells on chalis p'cell gyld on vestment on albe & on amyse & other things belonging to a p'est to celebrate in wt. two old towels, to Ric Wodd, James Dobson & John M'rcer three bells in the stepull on vestment wt the apprt'n'nces thereto

app'tening belonging to the said churches and chapels savelly to be kept to the use of o'r sovraigne Lord the King, And the s'd Ranulphe, Jhon, giles, thomas, thomas, [Edmund], thomas, gilbert, Willm, Richard, James and Jhon for them and their execut,rs do coven't and graunt by thes pr'sents to & wt the said Sr thomas Raffe & Jhon that the said chalices bells & other anoranments affore rehersed shall not att any tyme hereafter be alienated imbesilled or otherwise put away from o'r said sovraigne lord the King but shalbe awnswaraball & forthcōyng to the use of his highnes at suche tyme and tymes as his ma'tie or his honerabull counsell shall demaund the same In witness wheareof the pties above named to thes presents interchaungeably have sette ther seales and putte ther handes the day & yere above wryten

p me Ranulphū Lynney vicariū

p me Thomā Ffrenche capelanū

p me Rich Wod caplū

p me Thomā Dale caplū

IV.—HAWORTH FAMILY OF BLACKBURN.

Respecting George Haworth, of Blackburn in 1570 (see ante, p. 396), Canon Raines favours me with a note from his *Lancashire MSS.*:—

“11 April 12 Eliz. [1569].—B'p of Chester's Act Book.—Forasmuch as it apereth by Certificate from Sir John Hulton, Vicar of Blagburn that George Haworth usethe to repaire to hys p'ish churche att tyme of devine s'vice and to receive the hollie co'ion [communion] usuallie, It is order'd that he shall soe hereafter orderlie behave himself and that he shall not hereafter at any tyme mayntaine or relieve in anie maner or sort Mr. Edmund Haworth, clerke, but shall doe his beste endeavor to cause hym to be apprehended and brought before ye sayde Rt. Reverend Father imediatlie uppon his saide apprehencion.—LANC. MSS. vol xxii, p. 340.—This Rev. Edmund Haworth appears to have been a younger son of Robt. Haworth of Haworth near Rochdale, gent. He seems to have been a Roman Catholic Priest. I have his letters of Orders and several endorsements of his having attended Bishop's Visitations.”

V.—CLAYTON FAMILY OF CUNLIFFE.

Mr. Thomas Clayton (see page 562) was sometime minister of the Parochial Chapel of Didsbury, near Manchester, to which office he was elected by the parishioners in 1646. The Minutes of Manchester Presbyterian Classis record:—“April 14, 1647. Preparation unto ordination, according to Ordinance of Parliament, begun March 4, 1646: Mr. Thomas Clayton, aged about 28 years, Master of Arts of St. John's, brought certificate of his good conversation from Blackburn, where he was born; took the National Covenant before the Classis; desired and freely elected by the people of Didsbury, Co. Lancaster, was examined,” &c. He was ordained in Manchester. March 11, 1650, it is reported to the Classis that “Mr. Clayton, minister at Didsbury, did withdraw the Classis and departed out of the Classis without anie order from the Classis.” Mr. Clayton quitted Didsbury soon after. During his residence at Didsbury he had two children born:—“1650. April 9. Bapt. Mary, the daughter of Mr. Clayton, minister of Didsbury.” “1651. Buried a sonne of Thomas Clayton, minister.” (Booker's *Didsbury Chapel*, pp. 55-9, 73.)

VI.—CLAYTON AND DAVENPORT FAMILIES.

Respecting the marriage of Mr. John Clayton of Shorrock Green, Mellor (see page 592), Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., furnishes the following note :—“Mr. John Cleaton and Mrs. Margaret Davenport” were married at Stockport, October 22, 1672. There is a portrait of Mrs. Clayton still remaining at Bramhall Hall. She was the youngest daughter of Peter Davenport of Bramhall, Esq., by his wife Anne, daughter of Thomas Legh of Adlington, Co. Chester, Esq.

VII.—RICHARD AINSWORTH OF PLEASINGTON.

Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., notes, as to Richard, second son of Thomas Ainsworth, gent., of Pleasington Hall (see page 617), “that Richard Ainsworth matriculated at Oxford from Brasenose College, Dec. 9th, 1631, and is described as *fil. Tho. Ainsworth de Pleasington, gen., fil. et. 19.*”

VIII.—TENANTS OF BLACKBURN WAPENTAKE IN 1650.

Recently I copied at Towneley Hall, from one of the MSS. of Christopher Towneley headed “1650, Rentall of the Wapentage of Blackburnshire,” the names of tenants of this Court within the Parish of Blackburn, as under :—

[Blackburn] Sir Thos. Barton, Lo : of Blackburne 4s. Thurstan Maudsley, 5s. Thos. Dewhurst 20s. Nich. Haworth 1d. Richard Dickinson 4d. Thos Hilton 4d. James Cunliffe 3d. Wm. Marsden 3d. James Margerison 4d.
 [Ramsgreave] Roger Gillibourne 6d.
 [Over Darwen] Peeter Money in O. Darwine 4d.
 [Lower Darwen] Peeter [Haworth] in L. Darwyne 2d. Earcroft 6d.
 [Eccleshill] Grimshall Hall 6d. Mr. Grimshaw's tenants 1s.
 [Livesey] John Lindsay [Livesey] gent. 30s. Ewood 3d. Thos. Astley for Astley [Stakes] Hall 8d. James Whittall, gent., 1s.6d. ffeniscliffe, 8d.
 [Witton] James Astley 7d. Widow Greenfield 5s. 7d. Miles Marsden 3d. Thomas Holden 3d.
 [Great Harwood] Mr. Heskaith for Martholme 1s. 8d. Edward Cockshut 3d.
 [Little Harwood] John Clayton, gent., 1s. Wm. Worth 6d. Randle Rishton 6d. Leonard Paige 3d. Richard Boulton 4d. John Poole [Peele] 4d.
 [Mellor] Tennants of Mellor, 6d. James Whithalgh 6d. Thos. Haughton 6d. Henry Walmesley 6d.
 [Pleasington] John Aynsworth 1d. Wm. Heddocke 1d. Widow Marsden 6d. Shorrock-hey 1s. 3d.
 [Tockholes] Sir Alex. Radcliffe 2s. Ralph Walmesley 6d. Richd. Barker 6d. Tho. Crouchley 6d.
 [Sambesbury] Heirs of Mr. Southworth 10s. 8d.
 [Cuerdale] The Towne of Cuerdale 3s. Heirs of Ratcliffe Ashton 1s. 8d.
 [Osbaldeston] Mr. Osbaldeston 8s. 8d. Peter of Osbaldeston 1s. 6d. Peter of Oxendale 3d. John Ingham 8d.
 [Balderstone] Robert Smalley 6d. Robert Shaw 3d. Thos. Sallom 6d.
 [Clayton-in-le-Dale] Villa de Showley 1s. Villa de Clayton-le-Dale 10d.
 [Salesbury and Dinkley] Sir John Talbot 17s. 6d. Idem pro Dinkley Hall 10d.

TRADERS' PETITIONS TO PARLIAMENT IN 1731 AND 1756. 771

Rich. Parker 8d. Mr. Dewhurst 1s. 1d. Richard Craven 10d. Adam Boulton 4d. John Parker 6d.

[Billington] John Bradley [Braddyll], Esq. 3d. Wm. Gabbot 8d. Robt. Edleston 2d. Rich. Almond 3d.

[Walton-in-le-Dale] Sir Richd. Houghton 9s. Mr. Wm. Sharrocke 8d. Banester Hall 1s. 6d. Stonehouse 6d. James Garston 1s. Mr. Leigh 1s. Mr. Sergeant 1s. 2d. Ralph Sherley 1s. Bawden ten't. 3d. Wm. Jackson 1s. Roger Bruske 1s. Mr. Walton 1s. Knowles Ho : 1s. Poope and Pedlar 1s. Mr. Woodcocke 9d.

IX.—PETITIONS OF BLACKBURN TRADERS TO PARLIAMENT,
IN 1731 AND 1756.

The first Petition subjoined, addressed to the House of Commons in 1731 by Blackburn Traders, indicates the existence of some specialities of Blackburn textile wares at that date:—

10 March, 1731-2. A Petition of the Manufacturers of Silk, Mohair, and Yarn, the Twisters and Twiners of Mohair, Cotton, Thread, and Worsted, and of other the principal traders, within the Towne of Blackborne, in the County of Lancaster, whose names are thereunto subscribed, was presented to the House, and read, alleging that several clauses contained in the Bill, now depending in this House, for preserving and encouraging a new Invention in England by Sir Thomas Lombe, and granting him a farther term of years for the sole making and using his three Italian Engines, will, if the same be passed into a law, be very prejudicial to the Petitioners, and to the trade and interest of the said town; and therefore praying the House to take the premises into consideration, and that the Petitioners may be heard by themselves, or counsel, against the said Bill, and may have such proper relief as the nature of their case requires.

The next Petition, copied from an old broadside communicated by Lieut. Col. Fishwick, F.S.A., was presented to the House of Commons (as I learn from the *Journals* of the House) on the 17th January, 1756, in conjunction with a counter-petition of owners of the Ribble Fisheries:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled.—
The humble Petition of several of the principal Landowners, Merchants, Manufacturers, Tradesmen, and others, Inhabitants in and about the Town of Blackburn, in the County of Lancaster, Sheweth, That in the said Town of Blackburn and in all the Villages and Country lying between the said Town and Walton-in-le-Dale (which stands upon the Turnpike road leading to the said Town of Blackburn about Seven miles distant), is carried on a very great Manufacture of Cotton, coarse Linen Cloth and Checks, for the making whereof divers Materials purchased at London, Bristol, Liverpool, and other parts of this Kingdom are imported into the River Ribble, in the said County, which for a considerable space runs close along the side of the said Turnpike road, and the said Town of Blackburn being a populous, thriving Place great quantities of Grocery Goods are there vended, and much foreign Timber is frequently wanted there for building and other purposes.

That if the Navigation of the said River be preserved free and open to the utmost natural extent thereof, it will be of very great utility, not only to many of your Petitioners, but to the publick in general, as your Petitioners will thereby save at least four Miles of Land Carriage of their said Materials, and be enabled to manufacture their Goods cheaper and to vend them at lower prices, which will give them the preference at foreign Markets.

That the navigation of the said River up to Walton aforesaid hath been many years obstructed by fishing Stakes and Nets set across the same, which hath greatly discouraged all attempts to navigate the said River up to Walton aforesaid till very lately that diverse persons have been prosecuted for the setting such Stakes and Nets; which practice being absolutely prohibited (as your Petitioners are advised), by the Laws now in being, your Petitioners thereof most humbly hope that the said Navigation shall be preserved free and uninterrupted so that the Publick may not be deprived of the benefit thereof.

That it appearing by the votes of this Honourable House that a Petition hath been presented to your Honours praying leave to bring in a Bill for explaining and amending an Act of Parliament made in the First year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the First, entitled, An Act for the better Preventing fresh Fish taken by Foreigners being imported into this Kingdom, and for the preservation of the Fry of Fish, and for giving leave to import Lobsters and Turbets in Foreign Bottoms, and for the better preservation of Salmon within several Rivers in that part of the Kingdom called England. So far as relates to the fisheries in the said River Ribble, your Petitioners are apprehensive that the design of such Bill is to establish the said method of Setting Stakes and Nets across the said River, whereby the Navigation thereof will be greatly obstructed, and your Petitioners and others prevented from being so well supplied with diverse materials necessary for the carrying on their said Manufacture and other Merchandise as they might otherwise be to the great injury of many of your Petitioners and the Publick in general.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that they may be heard, by themselves or Counsel, against the said Bill or such part thereof as may affect your Petitioners, or have such relief therein as to this Honourable House shall seem meet.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

James Margerison	Henry Bramwell	Thos. Brewer, jun.
Peter Nevill	James Law	Willm. Ward
Law. Haydock	Richd. Jackson	John Ainsworth
Henry Robinson	Roger Noblet	Robert Holme
Radcliffe Edwards	Richard Partington	Robt. Law
Robert Mills	William Roberts	Edw. Ainsworth
James Lond	Thos. Ainsworth	John Cowband
William Bolton	Thos. Boocock	James Barlow
Willm. Boocock	Robert Livesey	Robert Preston
Peter Lowcock	Henry Heaton	Thos. Dearden
Jno. Hindle	Henry Sudell	Hen. Bentley
Thos. Haworth	Wm. Leyland	James Fish
Henry Aspden	Richd. Cardwell	Thos. Hindle
Joseph Browne	John Shepherd	John Nutter
John Lancaster	Thomas Livesey	William Cunliffe
John Vipont	Edmd. Haworth	John Yates
William Fish	Smalley & Com.	Amos Ogden
Jas. Grunall	Joseph Whalley	John Nevill
Ellis Greenwood	Robt. Ainsworth	John Margerison

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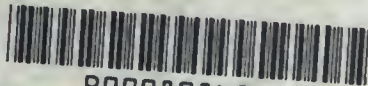
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