ART. XV.—*Six Extinct Cumberland Castles.* By T. H. B. GRAHAM.

Communicated at Appleby, September 10th, 1908.

IT seems incredible that so substantial a thing as a castle can disappear and "leave not a wrack behind," but antiquaries do not need to be reminded that such an event is possible. The map of North Cumberland is thickly dotted with place-names to which the adjunct "castle" is prefixed or suffixed. There was a period when the principal dwelling-house of many a petty border manor consisted in whole or in part of a pele tower, which served as a retreat for the lord and his tenants when hard pressed by a marauding band, or a place of refuge for non-combatants when the able-bodied men of the district were forced to take the field for mutual defence against the enemy.

These pele towers were sometimes dignified with the name of "castle," and their sites still retain the appellation. In later times the manors frequently became vested in non-resident owners; the superior lords erected more commodious mansions like that at Naworth, and so the rude pele towers became unnecessary either as places of residence or effective points of defence. A few, it may be, were occupied for a time by the bailiff or other official of the manor, or were adapted for use as farm houses. The rest were allowed to fall into decay. In some cases a few fragments only of masonry survive; in others, the place-name alone attests their former existence. It is concerning some of these little noticed relics of antiquity that I propose to offer a few remarks.

CASTLE HEWIN.

John Leland, or Leyland, who was appointed in 1533

"King's antiquary" by Henry VIII., and was directed to search for English antiquities, makes the following observation in the course of his tour through Cumberland :—

In the forest of Ynglewood, a vi myles fro' Cairluel, appere ruines of a castel cawled Castel Luen.*

Now there was once in Inglewood Forest a great sheet of water called "Tarn Wadling," which covered a hundred acres of land, and contained some of the finest carp in the kingdom. One mile northward of the tarn, which has since been drained and converted into pasture, stood the castle to which Leland refers.

Cumbrians will recollect the old ballad which begins :—

Kinge Arthur lives in merry Carleile,
And seemely is to see,
And there he hath wth him Queen Genev^r^,
Y^t^ bride so bright of blee.

It refers several times to "Tearne Wadling," and to a bold baron, who is pictured as living there—perhaps in this very castle. The original manuscript is so mutilated that the sense is destroyed, but the ballad, says Bishop Percy, may have suggested to Chaucer the subject of his "Wife of Bath's Tale" (Percy's *Reliques*, vol. iii., preface to *The Marriage of Sir Gawaine*, and appendix).†

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* Leland's *Itinerary*, ed. by Hearne, 3rd edition, vol. 7, part i., p. 60, from the original in the Bodleian Library.

† See also Madden's edition of *The Romance of Sir Gawayne* (Bannatyne Club), which gives the name :—"In Iggilwode (Inglewood) Foreste at the Tarn-Wathelayne." The name therefore is not connected with "Watling (street)," and can hardly mean anything except Wath-Elayne, the ford of (St.) Helen, a name often connected in Cymric districts with ancient roads; and here the Roman road is not far distant. The owner of the castle, in one version of the story, was named Tarquin, which elsewhere is a late variant of Thorfinn. Within a mile east-north-east of the tarn is the famous Viking tumulus. Ewain was the Cymric King of Cumbria, Eugenius or Owain, *floruit* 926-934, who became, in later tradition, a giant (see *ante*, p. 33). It is possible that the "Arthurian" episode is—like some others concerning Gawain—a Viking Age tradition, distorted into mythology. The name Tarn-Wath-elayne contains two Norse words, *tjörn* and *vad*, and being, as far as we know, part of the original story, seems to fix its date for the period when King Ewain must have been contending with the invading Norse. This makes the site one of great importance in the history of literature as giving a clue to one thread in the "Arthurian" tangle.—ED.

Hutchinson (*History of Cumberland*, i., 492), writing in 1794, gives the following account of the castle :—

On the crown of a lofty eminence towards the north-east of the lake, and adjoining Aketgate, are the remains of a very strong building, which has consisted of several apartments, strengthened with outworks, and long extended trenches. The dimensions of the building are 233 feet by 147, besides a smaller one at one corner 49 feet square. The foundations still appear faced with large stones of ashlar work, in some places eight feet in thickness. At what time this fortress was erected, or to whom it belonged, we find few traces in ancient authors. It is called by the neighbouring inhabitants "Castle Hewin," and the neighbouring tenants pay to the lord of the manor a yearly rent which is called "Castle Hewin rent." Tradition reports it to have been one of the strongholds of King Ewaine. The outward fence, which is of stone, appears to have been circular, and from thence a ditch and breastwork run down the skirt of the hill for several hundred yards.

Between Upper Nunclose and the village of Aiketgate runs a green lane, said to have once formed part of the high road, probably a packhorse road, to Carlisle. The old wayfarers, instead of avoiding hills as we do, deliberately scaled them, because there they could find firmer footing for their horses and could keep a better lookout ahead than they could amongst the swamp and scrub which incumbered the plain. This green lane is known as "Castle Hewin Lonning," and at its highest point there are two fields on the eastern side which still bear the name of "Castle Hewin." Even without that clue there would be no difficulty in identifying the lofty eminence described by Hutchinson, for it stands six hundred and forty-three feet above the sea level.

But of Castle Hewin to-day not one stone remains upon another. Its site has been ploughed and reploughed until all traces of trench and stonework have disappeared. But when the crop is removed a depression in the surface of the ground near the summit is distinctly visible, and out of it leads a shallow "slack" or hollow which, to use Hutchinson's phrase, runs down the skirt of the hill

towards the road. This therefore appears to have been the site of Castle Hewin. A native of Aiketgate tells me that he has always been familiar with the name of Castle Hewin, but he has never heard any of the old people tell of any remains of a building being found at the spot. It is interesting to note that at a distance of two and a half miles south, as the crow flies, there is a locality, close to Baronwood, called "Ewen Close," which may once upon a time have had some connection with the castle in question.

Liddel Castle.

The local antiquary can not boast that he knows Cumberland until he has visited "Liddel Mote" or "Liddel Strength," hidden away in a now obscure nook of the barony of Liddel. I am not going to give a description of its magnificent earthworks, for that has already been done by Chancellor Ferguson (these *Transactions*, o.s., ix., p. 406). He considered it a "mote," and following the late G. T. Clark supposed it to have been the work of some Saxon thane whom the Normans found in possession when they conquered Cumberland, and that it served as the stronghold of a Fleming with the outlandish name of Turgis Brundis,* who subsequently obtained a grant of the adjacent moorland.

A plan and section of Liddel Mote, prepared at the expense of the Society of Antiquaries, will be found on plate 23 of Roy's *Military Antiquities*, and it has been reproduced in these *Transactions*, o.s., ix.† The plan shows at the north-eastern corner of the inner ward of the earthwork foundations of a quadrilateral building, of which there are still traces. Those I should take to be

* Turgis may be Thorgils or Thorgest, a Norse name. Brundis, Brundy, or Brinsdas is probably a corrupted Norse byname (perhaps *bryn-sída*, like *Járn-sída*, Ironside).—Ed.

† Roy called it Roman; so also Dr. Barnes in these *Transactions*, N.S., viii., p. 245. It is, however, neither Roman nor a true mote-hill. In literature it has an interest akin to that of Castle Hewin, as the supposed *caer* of Gwenddoleu, the opponent of Rhydderch about A.D. 573, and this story also is connected through Merlin with the Arthurian cycle (see Dr. Barnes' article above quoted). We have no evidence that this castle is earlier than the twelfth century—Ed.

remains of the mediæval structure known as Liddel Castle were it not that a different opinion on the subject has been expressed, as I shall presently mention. On two occasions at least the castle figures in the annals of border warfare. In the year 1174 William the Lion, King of Scotland, advanced with a large army and laid siege to Carlisle, which was successfully held for the English king, Henry II., by Robert de Vaux, so the Scots employed their spare time in laying waste the surrounding country with the ruthless barbarity characteristic of the period. Among the strongholds captured on the occasion was Liddel Castle, which belonged, as the historian Benedict of Peterborough states, to Nicholas de Stutevill (Redpath's *Border History*, p. 96). Again in 1346 (temp. Edward III.) David Bruce, on his march to Durham, previous to the battle of Nevill's Cross, took Liddel Castle (Redpath, p. 336). The Scots besieged it for three days, and carried it by assault on the fourth, "slaying the more part of all those which they found within the house." Sir Walter Selby, the "captain," was taken alive, but the Scottish king ordered his head to be struck off immediately without allowing him time to make his confession, though he asked for it (Holinshed's *Chronicles*, v., 382, 383). Stow adds (*Chronicle*, p. 243) that the two sons of Sir Walter Selby were first strangled in their father's presence.

An interesting return, made by the sheriff of Cumberland in 1212 (printed in the *Victoria History of Cumberland*, i., p. 421) shows that Nicholas de Stutevill held this land of King John as tenant in chief by rendering annually for cornage fifty-six shillings, and that Earl Ranulf of Chester, formerly lord of Cumberland, had given the aforesaid land to Turgis Brundas, predecessor of the said Nicholas de Stutevill, by the same service. And the return further shows that he, like other tenants by cornage, was under the obligation of serving at the king's precept in "the army of Scotland," going in the vanguard and returning in the rearguard.

The personality of Nicholas de Stutevill stands out prominently in the obscure annals of the barony of Liddel. From him the wild tract of Nichol Forest derives its name, and it was possibly he who first erected a stone tower at Liddel Moat. The *Pipe Rolls* of 1188 (34 Henry II.) describe him as Nicholas de Stutevill of Levinton (that is Kirklinton). His granddaughter Joan married Hugh Lord Wake and died in 1275 (4 Edward I.), seised of the barony of Liddel with the forest of Liddel (Dugdale, *Baronage*, i., 540). Joan's great granddaughter Margaret, described as "daughter of John and sister of Thomas Lord Wake" *(Ibid.*, ii., 93), married Edmund, Earl of Kent, and their son John, Earl of Kent, on coming of age in 1351, granted to King Edward III. and his heirs "the Castle and whole lordship of Liddel, as well within the precincts of England as Scotland" *(Ibid.*, ii., 94). Several years previous to this date the castle of Liddel had been destroyed by the Scottish army.

For a very long period the barony of Liddel remained in the hands of the Crown. It was very loosely governed, if indeed it was governed at all, for all its tenants to a man were avowed mosstroopers. But in 1603 James I., by letters patent, granted to George Clifford, Earl of Cumberland, the lands which had anciently been comprised in it, and which had meanwhile become parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, to hold of the King *in capite*, by the twentieth part of one knight's fee at a yearly rent of £100, and the same were sold by Francis, the succeeding Earl of Cumberland, to Sir Richard Graham, son of Fergus Graham of the Plump, and ancestor of the Grahams of Netherby.

The older writers evidently regard the castle as having stood within the earthen rampart of "Liddel Strength." Leland casually remarks:—"At Mote ledale was *a moted place* of a gentilman cawled Syr Water Seleby the which was kylled there and the place destroyed yn King Edward the thyrd, when the Scottes whent to Dyrham and theyr

PEDIGREE,

Compiled from Dugdale's *Baronage* (vol. i., 458 and 540; vol. ii., 92) showing the devolution of Liddel Castle.

NICHOLAS DE STUTEVILL the elder, living in 1205 (7 John) = GUNNORA, widow of Robert de Gant.

NICHOLAS DE STUTEVILL the younger, d. 1232 (17 Hen. III.) =

JOAN DE STUTEVILL, d. 1275 (4 Ed. I.), seised of the barony and forest of Liddel. = HUGH LORD WAKE, d. 1241 (26 Hen. III.).

BALDWIN LORD WAKE, d. 1281 (10 Ed. I.). = HAWYSE DE QUINCI, who survived him.

JOHN LORD WAKE, had livery of his father's land 1289 (18 Ed. I.), d. 1299 (28 Ed. I.). = JOAN, who survived him.

- JOHN, the younger Lord Wake, survived his father, but died an infant.
- THOMAS, Lord Wake, d. without issue 1349 (23 Ed. III.), seised of the castle and manor of Liddel. = BLANCHE, dau. of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, survived him.
- MARGARET, sister and heir. of Thomas Lord Wake, had livery of the land shortly after his death 1349 (23 Ed. III.). = EDMUND, 1st Earl of Kent, beheaded 1329 (4 Ed. III.).
  - EDMUND, 2nd Earl of Kent, d. an infant 1332 (6 Ed. III.).
  - JOHN, 3rd Earl of Kent, had livery of the land in 1351 (25 Ed. III.), and granted the castle and lordship of Liddel to the King. [Ex mag. regist. in offic. Ducat. Lanc. and it. Cumb.]
  - MARGARET.
  - JOAN, mar. thirdly the Black Prince.

King was taken." And Camden writes (*Britannia*, ed. Gibson, p. 834) :—" *Where Lid joynes the Esk* stood Liddel, a castle (as I have been told) and a Barony."

The site, says Lysons, acquired afterwards the name of " The Moat," and was occupied by a mansion which in 1630 was the residence of Sir John Scot, and in 1657 was a seat of the Grahams. A tower which formed part of *the old mansion* remained within the memory of man. Where this Sir John Scot lived I cannot ascertain. The Grahams were in occupation of the whole neighbourhood for generations before the grant of the manors to Sir Richard. Chancellor Ferguson considered them to have been aboriginal inhabitants of Cumberland, but many of them came in with some tide of Scottish invasion about the year 1516 (these *Transactions*, N.S., viii., p. 67).

Fergus Graham's house is described in 1583 as standing where the Esk joins the Liddel at the "Mote Skore" (*Ibid.*, p. 62), but in the introduction to Nicolson and Burn's *History* there is mention in 1602 of William Grame, the goodman of the Moate, and Arthur Grame of Moate p. cxii.), and in 1607 of the same two and also of Richard Graham of *Moathead*, from which I gather that there were then, as now, inhabitated sites known as High and Low Moat respectively.

It therefore remains to be proved that the Grahams, or someone else, erected a modern mansion within the precincts of the earthwork, and that the foundations there visible are other than those of the old castle of Liddel.

Stonehaugh Castle.

Within a bend of the river Liddel, on the confines of Nichol Forest, is a spot called " Stonehaugh Crook," the *ultima Thule* of the district in which our Society takes an interest. Here stand the remains of a massively constructed pele, formerly the stronghold of the border clan of Forster. The surrounding land remains in the posses-

sion of Mr. Forster of Stonegarthside, a member of the same old Cumberland family.

The plan of the pele was a simple rectangular oblong. The eastern and southern walls, which are 4½ feet thick, and contain many stones of great size, remain standing to the height of 12 feet, and measure on the inner side 30¾ feet and 15 feet respectively. The centre of each wall is pierced near the ground by a loophole, measuring 16 inches square within, but tapering to a mere slit on the outside face. The foundations of the northern and western walls are distinctly visible.

The ruin cannot be seen from a distance, because it is masked by a modern lean-to shed erected against its eastern wall. Its isolated position on the very border line must have exposed it to constant attack, unless its occupants were very discreet in deciding to which kingdom they owned allegiance for the time being.

Stonegarthside Hall, a mile and a half distant from Stonehaugh Castle, is a curious old building, which was at one period the residence of the Fosters. "The Trough" in Stapleton also belonged to them, and Hutchinson mentions a tombstone dated 1598 to Robert Forrester of Stonegarthside in the chancel of Stapleton Parish Church (vol. ii., 561).

Shank Castle.

The manor of Solport forms part of Stapleton parish, and its demesne lands, lying low down on the north bank of the river Line, were formerly known as "The Shank." Hence the somewhat grotesque name of the castle which is built upon them, and which at one time must have formed the manorial residence. It is a well preserved pele tower, measuring 50 feet by 25 feet, and its external walls are fully five feet in thickness. The ground floor is utilised by the tenant of the adjoining farmhouse as outbuildings, while the first floor serves as a hayloft.

The manor seems to have been originally parcel of the barony of Levington, and belonged subsequently to the

family of Tilliol, who held it (according to John Denton's account, p. 155) of the barony of Liddel. It passed in succession to the Colvills and Musgraves, and Sir Edward Musgrave sold it to Lord Preston, and thus it has come to form part of the Netherby estate. Lysons, quoting Thomas Denton (p. 159), says:—"Sir William Hutton built a *neat house* here for his own habitation when steward to George, Earl of Cumberland, in the reign of James I., and he dwelt at Shank to subdue the mosstroopers."

He seems to refer to the castle, but I cannot help thinking that it must be of older origin than he here alleges. Hutchinson (vol. ii., p. 559) dismisses it with the remark that it is so decayed as not to be worth a particular description; but that is not the fact.

Dunwalloght Castle.

Chancellor Ferguson (*Archæologia*, liii., 485) has remarked that even a Cumberland man may be excused if he does not know off-hand where to look for Dunwalloght Castle; and well he may, for no one can say with certainty where it stood. Dugdale (*Baronage*, vol. ii., 22) records that William Dacre in the first year of Edward II. (1307) procured licence to make a castle of his house at Dunwalloght in Cumberland on the marches of Scotland, and Nicolson and Burn (ii., p. 511) fix the site at Cumrew, where about a quarter of a mile south-east of the church there were, in 1777, the ruins of a large castle or building situate on rising ground very near the bottom of the fell, and where there were also two little manors, Brackenthwaite and Newbiggin, which belonged to the Dacres until the heirs of the Earl of Sussex sold them to Sir Christopher Musgrave, Bart., and he to the Earl of Carlisle. It must be explained that Thomas Lennard, thirteenth Lord Dacre "of the South," was created Earl of Sussex by Charles II., but he died without issue, and the title became extinct.

Hutchinson (i., p. 182), in describing Cumrew, says :—

To the south-east of the church in the enclosed lands near the fell lie the ruins of a large edifice, situate on rising ground, but so confused and destroyed as not to show its original form.

And he adds in a note :—

The moat and rampart are very distinct and also the entrance on the west, but as the place has a great descent on all sides it does not appear that any water could be brought to it, the ground being also very dry and sandy.

Whellan (p. 672) treats the whole story as a myth, and says :—

Two small hillocks were removed in 1832, when one of them was found to have been composed entirely of small stones gathered from the land and the other of rubbish, but in neither was there any foundations of buildings.

There are many such heaps of stones in the locality, and he appears to have made a mistake in regard to the true site.

The reputed castle is marked on the six-inch scale ordnance map, and lies upon the western side of a hollow or glen on the escarpment of Cumrew Fell. The name is of Celtic origin, and there are two neighbouring heights which bear Celtic names—viz., the summit of Cumrew Fell which dominates it and is called "Cardunneth," and an adjacent mountain top which is named "Tarmonath," so Dunwalloght may possibly have been the ancient name of that portion of the fell on which the castle was built.

The site itself has been left unploughed, so that the remains, consisting of grassy banks from one to two feet high and with a uniform breadth of three feet, are clearly visible. These banks are not exactly parallel, but that may be partly due to the scattering of the débris which they cover. To the westward is a quadrangle, measuring 35 feet by 65 feet, and having at its eastern side a gateway, 13 feet broad, communicating with a still larger

quadrangle, measuring 54 feet by 80 feet. Thirty feet beyond its eastern boundary a flat terrace has been cut in the side of the hill.

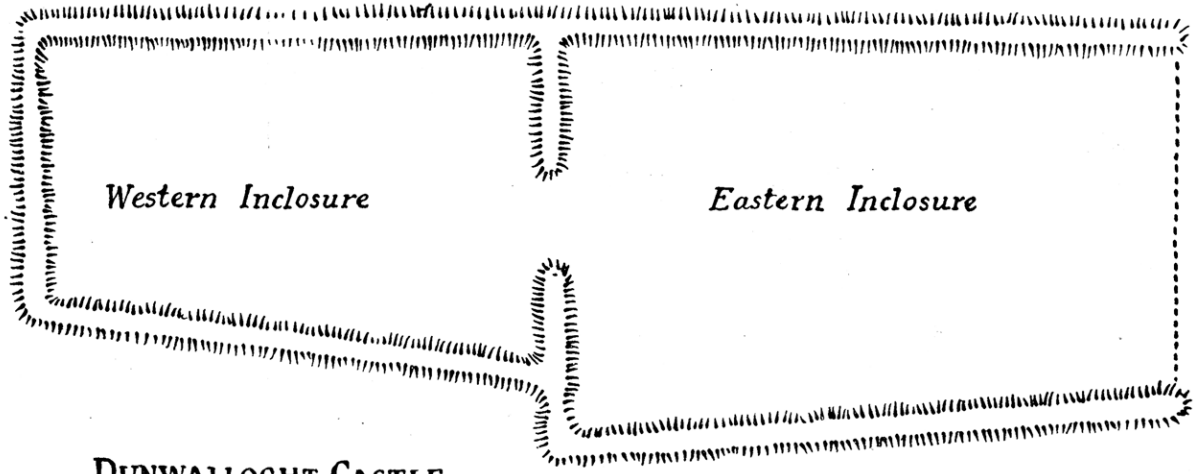
The remains do not present the confused appearance of which Hutchinson speaks, for all the loose stones have been carefully removed, and some of them are no doubt contained in the walls of a modern barn which stands close by, and serves to indicate the site. There are two circular foundations on the south side of the larger quadrangle and a similar one just inside its eastern boundary, but these I take to be nothing more than old stack bottoms. Hutchinson's objection that water could not be brought to it is unwarranted, and I have no doubt that before the surrounding land was drained and cultivated water could have been obtained by sinking a well. I can find no trace of the "moat" mentioned by Hutchinson.

Haresceugh Castle.

Ada de Engayne, who lived in the reign of Henry II., was seised in her own right of the lordship of Kirkoswald, and granted Haresceugh, one of its component manors, to the priory of Lanercost, which had then recently been founded in 1169. She married Simon de Morvill, and their son, Hugh de Morvill, afterwards confirmed the gift. Ada de Engayne's second husband was Robert de Vaux, founder of the priory. The land belonging to the prior and canons of Lanercost at "Hareskeayke" in the 28th year of Henry VIII. consisted of four tenements of the total annual value of £3 (*A Short Account of Lanercost*, by Ferguson, p. 54).

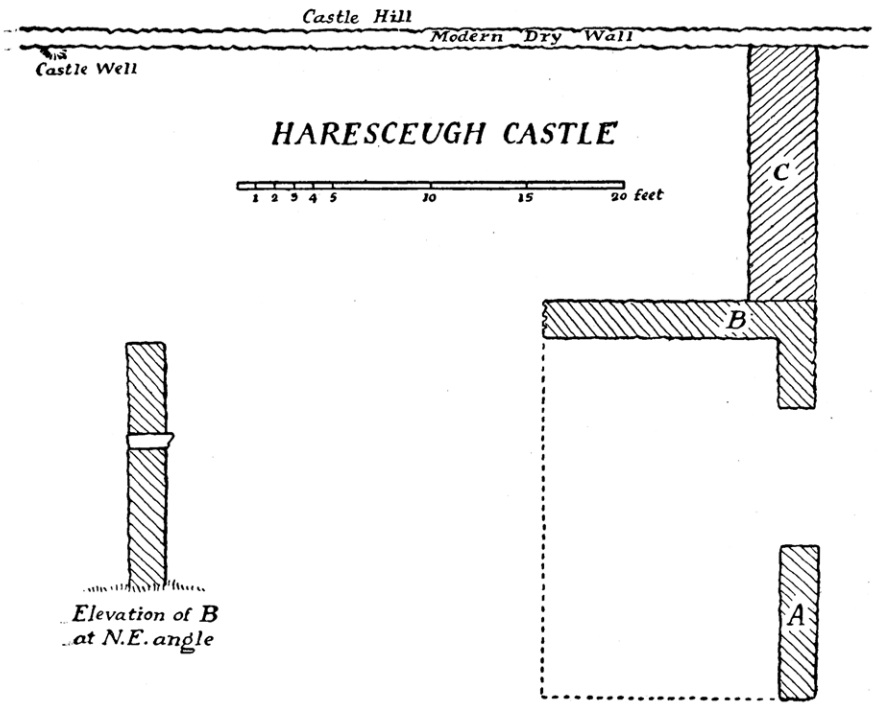
Haresceugh (locally pronounced Hareskewf) means "hare-wood," for the termination *sceugh*, according to Nicolson and Burn (ii., 202), always implies wooded ground on a hillside. Northsceugh near King Harry is pronounced Nosker, and Middlesceugh, in Inglewood Forest, Middleskiff.

The boundary of the manor of Haresceugh is anciently



DUNWALLOGHT CASTLE

5 10 15 20 25 50 75 100 feet


Castle Hill
Modern Dry Wall
Castle Well
HARESCEUGH CASTLE
1 2 3 4 5 10 15 20 feet
C
B
A
Elevation of B
at N.E. angle

described as starting from the point, "sicut magna via venit de Apelbi usque ad Ravin," just where the great road from Appleby reaches Raven Beck (Nicolson and Burn, ii., 426). It is not very clear what was the route pursued by this so-called great road, but the bands of mounted raiders would naturally seek to strike it by following the lower slopes of the eastern fells, past the villages of Castle Carrock, Cumrew, Newbiggin, Croglin, and Renwick, and hence the apparent necessity for strongholds at those points.

The name of Castle Carrock suggests the former existence of such a stronghold there, but no remains of one have ever been discovered.* Dunwalloght Castle may have served as a refuge for the inhabitants of Cumrew and Newbiggin. Croglin, according to Hutchinson (vol. i., 204), had a similar place for resort in time of peril at Scarrowmanwick.† Haresceugh served as a place of retreat for the villagers of Renwick.

The history of Haresceugh is uneventful. After the dissolution of the monasteries, it was purchased by Henry Dacre of Lanercost, grandson of Thomas, the founder of that branch of the family. One of his descendants sold it to Dr. Peter Barwick, physician in ordinary to Charles II., and he in turn conveyed "the demesne and hall of Haresceugh" to the chapel of St. Paul at Witherslack, near Kendal, which had been erected or rebuilt by his brother, Dr. John Barwick, dean of St. Paul's (Whellan, p. 822).

The accompanying plan shows all that remains at the present day of Haresceugh Castle. *A* represents a detached block of masonry at the south-east corner, 8 feet high, 8 feet long, and 2 feet in thickness. Then at its

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* Unless the stockade of Hallsteads be so regarded. See these *Transactions*, N.S., viii., p. 249.

† I do not know whether Hutchinson refers to any existing building. There is an old farmhouse in the village of Scarrowmanwick (or "Scattermannick," as the inhabitants pronounce it), which was formerly the "Ship Inn."

north end comes an interval of 7 feet 1 inch, which was evidently the gateway. Then comes a second block of masonry marked *B*, also 2 feet in thickness, and forming the north-eastern angle of the same building. Its eastern face measures about 5 feet 9 inches. Its northern face is 14 feet in length, and is ornamented at the height of 7 feet 3 inches from the ground with a projecting string-course of flat slabs, 8 inches thick, which extends through the wall. The extreme height of block *B* at the angle is 12 feet 8 inches. Blocks *A* and *B* have together formed part of a quadrangular building. Northward again of block *B* runs the core of a massive wall, *C*, which has originally been 3 feet 7 inches in thickness. It is 13 feet long and from 3 to 4 feet high, and probably marks the full extension of the castle in that direction. The whole site is bounded on the north by a modern boundary wall separating it from a field which bears the name of the "Castle Hill," and at a point in its course, distant twelve yards westward of block *C*, was the "castle well."

The building is of very rude construction, and is formed of rough stones and large boulders. It owes its present existence to the excellent quality of the mortar employed in the work. The occupier of the farm on which it stands tells me that he remembers the "tower" *(A* and *B)* being much higher than it is at present. He has heard that the castle was pulled down some eighty or ninety years ago, and that the adjacent farm buildings were formed out of its material. He has seen foundations of buildings on the western side of the ruins, and also much lime in the ground on the eastern side, as though other buildings had formerly stood there. The site is grass grown, and excavation might reveal further details, but the ruin itself is in a "parlous state," and calls for careful preservation. There is a ridiculous tradition about an underground passage nearly five miles in length connecting it with Kirkoswald Castle, and about a "kail-pot full of guineas" buried in a cellar, which has not yet been unearthed!