

Of course, you will understand that I merely suggest this as an outline of what *might* be the course pursued : but I was pleasingly surprised to find, from a paper read last week by him at Workington, before the Literary and Scientific Societies of West Cumberland, that our valued member Mr. Jackson, had come independently to precisely the same conclusion as myself in regard to that portion of the journey which relates to the Eden valley and Lorton.

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ART. IV.—*Notes on the Heraldic Visitations of Cumberland and Westmoreland.* By RICHARD S. FERGUSON, M.A. and LL.M.

*Read at Penrith, June 10th, 1874.*

IN a former paper\* on the Heraldry of Cumberland and Westmoreland, I mentioned two heraldic visitations of Cumberland, viz., that by St. George, in 1615, and that by Dugdale, which appears to have extended over 1664, 1665, and 1666 ; and I noted two instances, namely, the funeral of Sir Patricius Curwen, and the defacement of the coat of arms over the door at Blencowe Hall, in which Dugdale seems to have exercised the powers of his office with much severity. Since the reading of that paper, I have discovered an interesting relic of, and some curious facts relating to, Dugdale's Visitation.

The first, the relic, is a pedigree on vellum, in the possession of Mr. Stanley, of Ponsonby Hall. This pedigree is headed “Genealogia præclaræ et antiquæ familiæ de Stanley,” and commences with William de Stanleigh, lord of Stanleigh, in Staffordshire, about the time of Edward II : from him, the pedigrees of the Stanleys of Cheshire, of the Stanleys of Cumberland, and of the Stanleys of Lee in Sussex, are brought down in parallel columns to 1592,

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\* Printed in the Society's Transactions, Vol. 1, p. 300.

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their arms, and those of the families with which they married being most beautifully painted in brilliant colours. The arms carried by the three branches afford a beautiful and simple example of heraldic differencing. The elder branch, that of Cheshire, now extinct, except in the Earl of Derby, bears the arms of office, taken by William de Stanleigh, as chief forester of Wyrall Forest, namely, argent, on a bend of azure three stag's heads caboshed, or. The second branch, that of Cumberland, cotises his bend with green, while the youngest branch, that of Sussex, does the same in red. At the foot of the original pedigree, the armorial achievements of the representatives of these three branches in 1592, are drawn in the same beautiful manner as the other coats of arms, and then comes the signature "Edward Knight Norroy Roy D' Armes." Edward Knight, Norroy King of Arms, seems to have made a Visitation in the north about 1592, and his notes were, tempore Charles II., in the possession of his grandson, Mr. Knight, sergeant-chirurgeon to the King, who dwelt in Durham Yard, at the high of the Royal Exchange, where our great local dryadust, Thomas Machel, consulted them.

From 1592, the pedigree has been continued in an equally beautiful manner, but giving the Cumberland branch alone, down to 1665, when it is signed by Dugdale, thus;—"Entred in the Vis'n of Cumb'd at Egremont, 3 Aprilis, A<sup>o</sup>., 1665, by me, William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms." Few families can have so magnificent a document to shew as this, the work of, and certified by Knight and by Dugdale, and the coats painted most probably by their pursuivants-at-arms. I have to thank Mr. Stanley for his kindness in affording me the opportunity of examining it.

From the 6th volume of Machel's collections in the Dean and Chapter Library, Carlisle, I have culled a few particulars as to Dugdale's proceedings in Cumberland and Westmorland. He appears to have travelled to the chief places in the two counties, and to have there certified  
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the pedigrees of such as would attend his summonses. But in Dugdale's day, the power of the heralds was on the wane, and at the Carlisle and Appleby assizes of 1666, a large number of the country gentlemen were disclaimed because they would not pay the fee of 27s., which was Dugdale's due for entering their arms.

The Cumberland list of persons disclaimed includes some of the best names in the county, and is as follows:—

*The Names of Persons disclaimed in Cumberland, at the Assizes at Carlisle, 29th Aug., 1666.*

*In* IN ALLERDALE WARD.

<i>Eggoement,</i>	- - - - -	John Punsonby.
<i>Gosforth,</i>	- - - - -	Robert Copley.
<i>Caldbeck,</i>	- - - - -	Robert Vaux.
<i>Irton,</i>	- - - - -	John Irton.
<i>Crostanonby,</i>	- - - - -	Henry Eglesfield.
<i>Langrigg,</i>	- - - - -	Rob't Brisco.
<i>Whitecham,</i>	- - - - -	Will Latus.
<i>Whitbeck,</i>	- - - - -	Lawr Parke.
<i>St. Bees,</i>	- - - - -	Thos. Wybergh.

*At* IN LEATH WARD.

<i>Kirkoswald,</i>	- - - - -	Thomas Routledge.
<i>Penrith,</i>	- - - - -	Thomas Langhorn.
<i>Petterell Crooke,</i>	{ - - - - -	Will Skelton. John Skelton.

IN CUMBERLAND WARD.

<i>Sebarham,</i>	- - - - -	Rich'd Baxter.
<i>Weddeshall Parish,</i>	- - - - -	George Skelton.
<i>Dalston Parish,</i>	{ - - - - -	Mr. Laverick. ,, Browne.

*At* IN ESKDALE WARD.

<i>Park Broome</i>	- - - - -	Robert Nicholson.
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## IN YE CITY, CARLILE.

William Christian.

John Aglionby.

George Denton.

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The Westmoreland list is much larger, and contains a larger proportion of obscure names than that of the sister county, it is as follows:—

*An Account<sup>t</sup> of Mr. Dugdale's Visitation of Westmoreland of such as were disclaimed at Appleby, same Assize, 1666.*

*East*} Wards.  
*West*} Wards.

?! Robert Barton of ———

Thom Birbeck, of Coatflat, and T.B. of Orton.

?! Christopher Crackenthorpe, of Little Strickland.

Christopher Dobson, of Brampton.

Will Dobson, of Kirkby Stephan. (qy. Thore)

John Routledge, of Mewlands.

?! Tho's Sandford, of Askham.

Christopher Teasdale, of Brampton and Thornthwait.

Robert Teasdale, of Kirkbythore.

James Webster, of Thrymby.

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*Kendal* } Wards.  
*Lonsdale* } Wards.

?! Leonard Airuy, of Kentmere.

John Archer, of Oxholme.

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William Birket, of Troutbeck.

Roger Bradley, } of Underbarrow and Bradleyfield.  
Randall Bateman,

Roger Bateman, of Old Hutton and Holmscales.

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Oliver Crosfield, of Holme.

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Christopher Dawson, of Langdale.

George

George Foxcroft, *of Holmehaw and Gt. Laprickside.*

Gerrand Fetherstone,  
and  
William Garnett, } *of Crosthwaite and Lyth.*

?! Christopher Gilpin, *of Kentmere.*

Robert Heblethwaite, *of Killington.*

George Lamphick, *of Holmehaw and Gt. Foxcroft End.*

?! George Labourn, *of Skelsmere.*

Miles Man, *of Kirkby Loansdall.*

?! Nathaniel Nicholson, *of Kentmere.*

George Overend, *of Kirkby.*

William Southerthywate, *of Langdale.*

Francis Thornburrai, *of Whitwell.*

Allome Willson, *of Handholme.*

N.B. 'Tis very strange he should disclaim some of those which I have marked (thus ?!) with notes of interrogation and admiration, for they are of the ancient gentrye of the north, but the rest were such as never did or can pretend to it. The reason and suppose of disclaiming them was their non-appearance to pay him their fees."

Machel is very hard upon Dugdale, and divides the faults in Dugdale's visitations into,—1. Locall, 2. Personall, 3. Armoriall, and 4. Nominall; and writes of him, " He has entered some for several generations squires, who were never gentlemen, and entered others gentlemen only who were most ancient squires, as the Machels of Crackenthorpe. He has also disclaimed several ancient families, and allowed of some upstarts entering their pedigrees amongst the gentry, whereas they had no arms."

In addition to thus degrading the Machels from the rank

rank of squires, Dugdale had inflicted on them “Spretæque injuria formæ”; he had misdrawn the greyhounds displayed in their arms: hinc illæ lacrymæ! no wonder Machel, the compiler and antiquarian, was wroth.

In Machel's days, the records of heraldic visitations appear to have been the private property of the heralds, and to have been to be consulted in the hands of their descendants, or at the shops of heraldic painters. Thus, Knight's visitation was found by Machel in the possession of the herald's grandson, Dr. Knight; at the house of Mrs. Smith, a widow, near St. Dunstan's church, Fleet Street, he found a very good visitation of Cumberland, “by whom taken I know not.” He guesses the date of it as 1638, but the extracts he makes from it, prove that it was a copy of St. George's visitation of 1615.

He also discovered in the possession of Mr. Fawcett, of Sowerby, an old book containing a visitation of Cumberland and Westmoreland in 1580. This he has copied; it gives no pedigrees, but tricks 58 coats of arms. This visitation delights Machel much: from it he gathers, “it appears that the time of this book being made the ancient family of the Machels of Crackenthorpe, were in chief repute: next to Lord Wharton, the Musgraves and Lowthers, which are knightly families.”

We thus get four visitations of Cumberland and Westmoreland, viz.:—

1580	author unknown.
1592	by Knight.
1615	by St. George.
1664-6	by Dugdale.*

No earlier one could be found by Machel: and Dugdale's was the last. In 1678 Mr. Machel visited the House of Commons: at the door, he found the Heralds distributing the prints of a Bill they wished passed to arrest the decay into which the College of Arms was falling. This print,

\* The two counties are both included in Tonge's very scant visitation of the northern counties, in 1530.

endorsed by Machel, "it did not pass the House," is in his collections at Carlisle, and is as follows :—

For that the taking of Inquisitions Post Mortem is not now in use, and the registering of Certificates in the Office of Arms of the Deaths, Burials, Marriages, and Issue of the Nobility and Gentry is discontinued, which Certificates were of great use as to Challenges to Jurors and others for Consanguinity, and in cases of Descents of Titles of Honour and other Inheritances : the Descents and Alliances of the Nobility and Gentry being thereby preferred, and their Names, Titles, and Coat-Armour kept from Usurpation ; so as if the same be not revived, Posterity will want so great a benefit, the ancient laudable Order and Distinction of Degrees, Titles, and Persons be interrupted and perverted and Parity, together with many other inconveniences likely to ensue. For prevention whereof, and for serving the antient Honour and Esteem due to the Nobility and Gentry of this kingdom :

**Be it enacted**, that the Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, or some or one of them of the Nobility and Gentry within *London* and *Westminster*, and 40 miles thereof, shall within or before the last week of every second Term, after the decease of all and every such Nobility and Gentry, repair or send to the Herald's Office, and there upon oath made by them or some or one of them, or of some other credible person before the King's Herald and Pursuivants of Arms, or any two or more of them (whereof a King or Herald to be always one) deliver in Certificates under their hands and seals of the times and places of the Deceases and Burials of such Nobility and Gentry, with their Marriages and Issues, which shall be filed in the said Office, and there registered in books of Velom, together with the Coat Armour, of the Defunct depicted.

**That like Certificates** be made in Open Quarter Sessions, upon the decease of the rest of the Nobility and Gentry of *England* and *Wales*, and the town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, and sealed up under Seal of the Justices or any two of them and delivered to the Deputies of the Officers of Arms.

**That such Deputies** shall twice yearly (viz.) within the last week of *Michaelmas* and *Easter Terms*, deliver the Certificates into the Office of Arms, and the Officers of Arms shall there file and register the same as aforesaid.

**A Clause.**—That all Certificates which shall be first and next made in pursuance of the Act, shall have retrospect, and contain, if it may be, the Names, Burials, Marriages, and Issue of all such Parents, Ancestors, and other relations of the Defunct as have died within 40 years last past.

'That upon delivery of such Certificates, such Heirs, Executors, or Administrators, shall pay to the King's Herald and Pursuivants of Arms, or their Deputies respectively by whom the certificates shall be received, to the use of the said Kings and Officers of Arms the fees following.

For which fees Blanks are left for either House, to set down as they shall think fit.

**For default** of bringing in such Certificates within the times limited, to be lawful to the Officers of Arms at their Election, to sue every or any such Heir, Executor, or Administrator for such Fees, and where a Verdict shall pass for them, they shall receive double costs.

**The Heir** to be charged generally

**The Executor** or Administrator of the Goods of the Testator or Intestate. And if there be no such Goods, then the Costs of his own estate.

**A Proviso**—That no such Heir, Executor, or Administrator, being a Peer of the Realm, shall be sued otherwise than according to the usual course of proceeding against the Peers, nor shall be compelled, or put to bring in his Certificate upon

upon his Oath, but may from time to time deliver or send in the same, under his Hand and Seal upon his Honour only.

**Prohibited**—That if any of the said Titles or Degrees shall not die possessed of a Real or Personal Estate of 1000*l.* value, such Certificates to be Received, Filed, and Registered *Gratis*.

**A Penalty** of £20 upon the Officers of Arms and their Deputies for default of delivering in, Filing or Registering the Certificates in the Office of Arms according to the act.

**A Proviso** for excusing such of the country who by the Act are to deliver their certificates at the Sessions from doing it, these in case they shall do it at the Office of Arms, within the time limited for doing it at the Sessions.

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ART. V.—*Fragments at St. Bees.* By the REV. CANON KNOWLES, M.A., St Bees.

OUR readers will, I hope, forgive the many faults of my illustrations, which are made from pen and ink sketches, as some of our stones are inaccessible to the photographer, and others are beyond his art, (since their meaning is caught by no single effect of sunlight, but by patient study at different times of the day) while others either have been destroyed, since I sketched them years ago, or are again buried beneath the church by ignorant and unwatched workmen.

I preface my short account with our two effigies of knights (XXXI, XXXII). One, the earlier, bears the shield of an Ireby (?) and is, I think, evidently of the 13th century: the other dates late in the 14th: both are much mutilated, but are preserved from all but the weather, as they lie within railings, on the vault of the Spedding family.

The rest of the fragments range from the eighth century (probably) to the middle of the 14th.

ANTE-NORMAN.

I. The impost of a door of St. Begy's nunnery or chapel is in its shape (at least) Irish.

This venerable stone was built into the south aisle wall of the nave, 1150-1180, and was removed in 1868 to its present