

BLENCOW HALL.

ART. VI.—*Some Manorial Halls in the Barony of Greystoke.*

By M. WAISTELL TAYLOR, M.D., F.S.A.

Read July 5th, 1889.

I.—BLENCOW HALL.

THIS is a picturesque and interesting specimen of the successive changes and development in domestic architectural planning which have occurred in the North of England, and it is one of the numerous manor-houses, which were holden of the great Barony of Greystoke. It is pleasantly situated on a gentle slope in the valley of the Petteril, about a mile from Greystoke Castle, and not far from the village of Great Blencow. In the 16th of Ed. III., William de Graystock succeeded as Baron of Graystock and lord of Morpeth; he was a man of renown and a builder; he built Morpeth Castle, and it was during his lifetime, about ten years after his succession that the expansion of Graystock Castle was commenced; for he obtained the king's licence to castellate his manor-house at Graystock. William de Graystock served with the Black Prince in invasions into France, and one of his followers was Adam de Blencowe. Adam must have greatly distinguished himself on some occasion, probably at the battle of Poictiers, for in honor of his prowess, the lord of Graystock granted to Adam and his heirs by warrant, his own arms with a counter change of tincture, viz, a shield sable with a bend barred argent and azure, with three chaplets of roses gules.*

The Notes appended to the text, have been added to this paper by the kindness of the Rev. Thomas Lees, M.A., F.S.A., Wreay, Carlisle.

* This grant of Arms was made A.D. 1356. Nine years before this (xxi. ED. III. 1347), King Edward the III. had granted to Adam de Blencowe the "Clausia de Calnethwayt and Braythwaythowes" in the Royal Forest of Inglewood; and two years afterwards in 1358, makes him another grant of all the lands in Greystoke, Blencowe and Newbigging, which had belonged to John Riddall. The estate at Great Blencowe was sold in 1802, to William Troutbeck Esq., (Lyson's Cumberland, p. 90), THOMAS LEES.

It cannot be maintained that this place was the site of the homestead of Adam de Blencowe,* for there is nothing remaining here that can take us back to the middle of the 14th century; it is probable that the ivy-clad tower on the N. side was erected by one of the Blencowes after the middle of the 15th century. The generations of the Blencowes enjoyed honourable consideration and made distinguished alliances with the gentry of the county, and they have handed down their descent in the male line, I believe, to the present time, and the family had residence here until the close of the 18th century. In 1802 Mr. Henry Prescot Blencowe sold the property to the Duke of Norfolk, and it is now included in the Greystoke domain.

During the Civil War the place was battered with cannon by a detachment of the parliamentary army, and a raised platform is pointed out in an adjoining field from which the guns were levelled.†

The S. tower is roofless, and presents a shell of bare walls, the N. tower is partly ruinous, but the lower portion has been re-roofed, and is utilised as a stable and hayloft. The central portion is quite habitable, and is occupied as the residence for the farm.

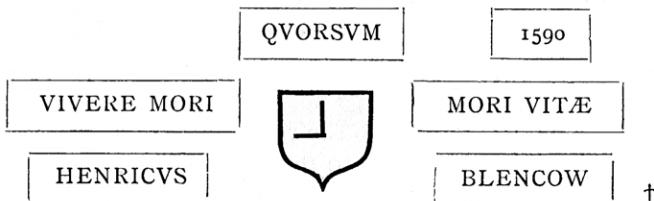
The entrance to the premises is through a quadrangular courtyard on the W. side, about 70 ft. square, and our attention is at once attracted to the carvings over the door in the centre of the main block. It is a Tudor-headed doorway, with beaded and hollow moulding; surmounting the lintel there is an oblong slab, inclosed within a boldly

* Burn conjectures that the first seat was at Great Blencow on the other side of the river, where he mentions the ruins of an old tower as existing in his day. *Burn and Nicolson*, vol. ii. p. 375.

† General Lambert in command of the Parliamentary forces took Penrith on 15th June 1648, and made it his head quarters for a month. Detachments of his army took Greystoke, Rose, and Scaleby Castles; Denton, in his MS. History of Cumberland, says that Greystoke and Rose Castles were burnt by Major Cholmley in 1648. Probably the Major commanded this detachment of Lambert's army. As Blencowe Hall lay in the direct way from Greystoke to Rose it seems most likely that it was battered on this occasion. THOMAS LEES.

projecting

projecting label, terminating in round ornamental caps. In the centre of the stone there is a shield with a canton in the 1st quarter, without any other charge, and in raised Roman capitals, in three lines, the inscription :—*



Superimposed, there is another smaller square tablet, also within a hood-moulding, which contains the initials **B** and **B** and three shields, set one and two.

The shield in the upper compartment is blank or has been defaced; below, the dexter shield bears Crackenthorp (chevron between 3 mullets, 2 and 1); ‡ the sinister shield is charged with a fret of 8 pieces and a chief.

The general plan and construction of the central building accords with the style prevalent at the date 1590 given on the tablet, presenting the usual Elizabethan characteristics. It is a long single tenement of two stories, the rooms having windows on both sides: these are divided by chamfered mullions into two, three, or four lights; and have hoods with a hollow splay beneath, with terminations in balls carved with crosses, or with spiral and circular lines, and some with the initials of the builder, H. B.

The principal doorway in the middle of the building

* Anthony Blencowe married Winifred daughter of Thomas Dudley; and thus the Blencowes were related to Lord Guildford Dudley, the husband of the unfortunate Lady Jane Grey. On the night before her execution Lady Jane wrote an exhortation at the end of a New Testament which she sent to her sister Lady Catharine Grey, in which are these words "Live still to die, that you by death may purchase eternal life." May not this inscription be an echo of this? Mr. W. Jackson pointed out this coincidence to me. THOMAS LEES.

† On this inscription, see these Transactions, vol. i, p. 335, vol. vi, p. 289.

‡ Richard Blencow married Eleanor Crackenthorp. Temp. Hen. vii. Possibly this man might have been the builder of the pele: the style and details accord with this epoch.—M.W.T.

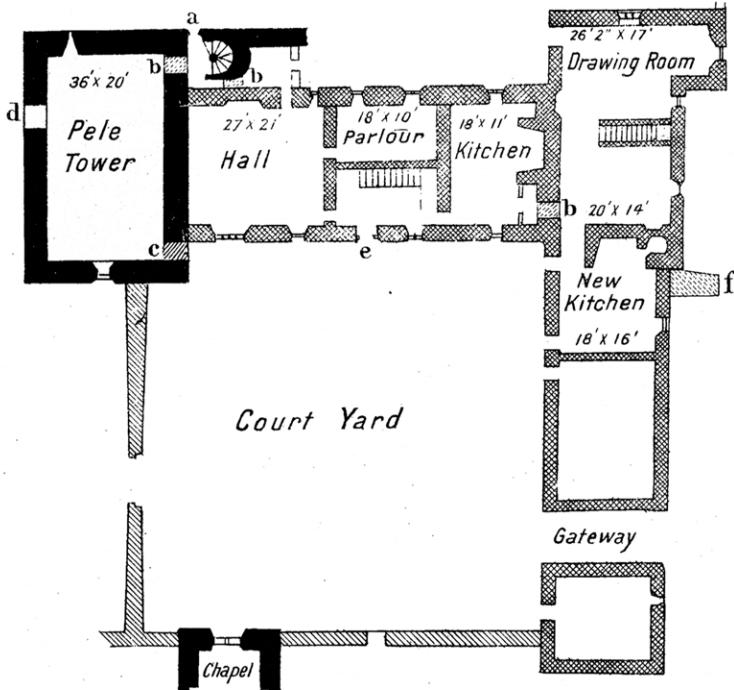
gives

gives entry to a passage or vestibule; to the left of which is the common hall or dining place, 27 ft. by 21 ft., at this period an apartment of greatly reduced dimensions, and no longer holding the place of importance in the establishment which it did in the previous century. At one end of the hall is the usual little parlour, 18 ft. by 10 ft., with two mullioned windows to the E. front. In the vestibule there is a straight flight of steps to the first floor, which contains bedrooms only. To the right of the passage is the original kitchen pertaining to the dwelling in this stage of its occupation. It is small, 18 ft. by 11 ft., exclusive of a large recess; the fireplace opening consists of an elliptic arch of 9 ft. 9 in. span. This central block bears evidence of having all been built at one time, and of having been set up against the side of the N. tower. This tower has a projection from the face of the block of 7 ft. into the courtyard, and of 10 ft. 9 in. on the E. front. The central portion of the edifice has 62 feet of frontage, and forms connection with two towers in the form of the letter H. These two towers are, roughly speaking, of about equal dimensions, and both externally present a similar plan and elevation, so that, viewed superficially, or from a distance, the visitor might easily imagine that both were contemporaneous. However, when I point out to you the differences in detail, I have confidence that you will agree with me in my interpretation of the history of Blencow Hall. Let us take first the N. tower. This is oblong and rectangular in plan; its dimensions on the N. side are 44 ft. and on the W. 32 ft., but the E. face has been prolonged by a projecting turret about ten feet square, so as to have presented originally an L shaped plan. To the re-entering side of this turret the front wall of the Elizabethan addition has been affixed. Within the turret is a corkscrew stair entered by a narrow doorway on the E. front, by which access is obtained to the floors of the building. In the main tower there is a basement, two stories, and a battlemented

- a. Original Entrance.
- b. Doors blocked.
- c. Tudor doorway.
- d. Modern opening.
- e. Entrance to central block.
- f. Buttress.



10 20 30 40 50 60 70



GROUND FLOOR PLAN.

BLENCOV HALL

battlemented roof. The basement contains one single chamber, 36 ft. by 20 ft.; it had no stone vaulting, but was joisted in timber. On the first floor there is a room of equal dimensions, entered by an elliptic doorway from a landing on the spiral stair; this represents the solar of the old keep. This is now covered over with a pent-house roof, and is used as a hay-loft. The tower above this is a ruin, the roof and floorings are gone. The newel stair still gives access to the battlements. It may be seen that the second story has contained two rooms, each with a Tudor fireplace in the N. wall; the dividing partitions must have been of wood, as there is no transverse wall of division in the tower. The covering has probably been a slightly inclined roof of overlapping flags, allowing of a walk within the parapet all round. The merlons and embrasures are coped with a splay and round. The parapet is very slightly projected from a plain cornice tabling, and at the angles there are gutter-spouts or gargoyles. There are several little square window-slits remaining in this tower, but the larger openings are mullioned, with square labels over them, with ball terminations, some carved with the initials H. B., probably Elizabethan insertions. The masonry is in substantial rubble in well-laid regular courses, and the walls are $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, without plinth or set-off.

Here, therefore, we have a tower constructed evidently for defence, on the model of the ordinary square keep or border pele, with an attached turret on the L shaped plan, which became common in the 15th and 16th centuries. It is true that there is an absence here of the vaulted substructure, but in some of the later pele towers the vaulting in stone of the basement came to be omitted, as we have seen at Clifton tower, and at Hutton Hall, Penrith. It may be asserted that this keep stood alone as the home-stead of the Blencowes for a period of 100 years before Henry Blencowe made his enlargements in Elizabeth's reign.

We

We proceed now to the inspection of the S. tower, which is attached to the opposite end of the central building. This erection lies in the same plane, occupying pretty nearly a corresponding superficies, follows the same projections, presents a similar elevation, with adjunctive details of battlemented parapet and string-course, identical with the N. tower. But we need not proceed far in the inspection, before we can perceive that it is but a superficial copy of the old keep, made at a much later date, when all thought of defensive requirements in a structure had been abandoned. The mason work is not so substantially laid, it is more shallow, the walls are only $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, the windows on the ground floor are large mullioned openings, and affording easy access from the outside. It is cut up into a variety of rooms very much as a modern house. The ground floor is divided into two unequal compartments, by double partition walls, inclosing a scale stair of twelve steps, 2 ft. 8 in. wide, leading to the upper floor. The larger apartment has been the drawing-room of the renovated mansion, and measures, inclusive of the projecting bay, 29 ft. by 17 ft.; it is well lighted by a 5 ft. mullioned window to the E. and by two other lights to the S.; there is a Tudor fireplace with an oblique triangular recess sunk in the lintel stone; a square doorway with a plain chamfer gives an entrance from the garden front. The smaller apartment is 20 ft. by 14 ft., and it communicates directly with the range of buildings forming the wing in the courtyard. In the interior the common rubble of the walls has been covered with cement. Above, there have been two floors, with private apartments having fireplaces and square windows, some with mullions and handsome hood mouldings coved in cavetto with carved terminations of the same description as prevail throughout the rest of the edifice. This tower is now a roofless shell, with a great rent in its E. wall.

My

My belief is that the addition of this tower was an after-thought in the renovation of Blencow Hall, effected by Henry Blencowe, in 1590. He first finished the oblong main block attached to the old pele, which formed a compact substantial dwelling house complete in itself, with hall, kitchen, and necessary apartments. But Henry Blencowe was a man of importance in the county, he had married Grace, sister of Sir Richard Sandford, of Howgill Castle, in Westmorland. He improved in position during the time of James I., from whom he received the honour of knighthood, and he was twice High Sheriff of Cumberland. It is possible, therefore, that some years later Blencowe conceived the idea of further extensions for domestic accommodation, and in carrying out the plan he seems to have been governed by the desire of producing symmetry in the elevation, which in the Jacobean period had come to be considered as essential in architectural design. Hence in projecting a wing from the opposite side of the central block, with its advanced style of internal planning and capacity, he imitated the external features of the old pele tower, so that the two towers might be symmetrical and balance each other.*

The range of buildings attached to this tower, forming the S. enclosure of the courtyard, was constructed at the same time. On the ground floor was the new kitchen, 18 ft. by 16 ft., with large fireplace and oven under a built-

* Dr. Taylor's conjecture as regards the erection of the present Hall is confirmed by the following statement made by Edmund Sandford in his MS. "Cursory Relation of the Antiquities and Familyes of Cumberland, writ about the year 1675."

"A little above Grastock Castle sixteen miles south of Carlisle and first you have thereupon Blencow; an ancient Sq. family; and one knight of late, Sir Henry Blencow, grandfather of the now Sqr. Blencow made it a very fair house of two towers, and married Grace Sandford, sister of the first Sir Rich. Sandford, of Howgill in Westmorland; and a younger branch of the Sandfords of Askam Tower nye hand; and Crister Blencow married Mary Robinson of Rooby Hall, Yorkshire, and the now Squire Blencow, married Anne Layton; eldest daughter to Sq. William Layton of Dalemain: 300 p. an. THOMAS LEES.

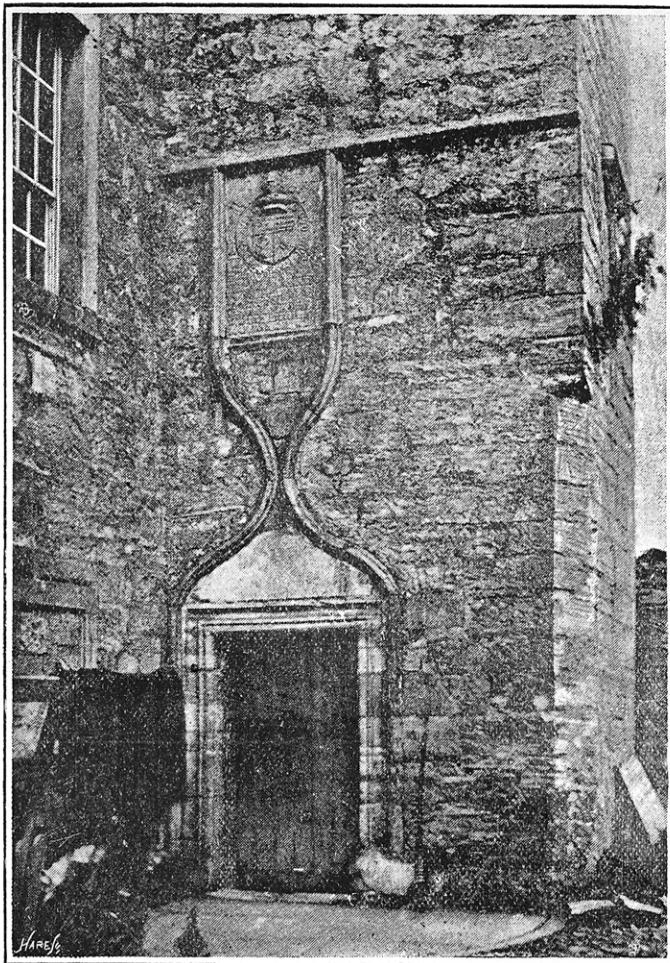
up low segmental arch, with wide, open chimney, and adjoining were the usual store rooms and offices, and above were the servants dormitories. This wing is pierced with a wide semicircular archway through which is the road to the extensive outside farm offices; the mullioned and labelled windows are in due proportion and harmony with the style prevailing throughout the entire structure. The remains of a small chapel still exists, situated on the W. side of the courtyard, a portion of the E. window has been preserved in the gable end facing the quadrangle; it consists of an acutely pointed arch, recessed with round and hollow mouldings, divided by a chamfered shaft into two pointed lights, without cusps or tracery.

II.—JOHNBY HALL.

Johnby Hall is a small dependent manor of the Barony of Greystock, and stands on the verge of the eastern boundary wall of Greystock Park. At the very beginning of the present century Charles the 11th, Duke of Norfolk, added 1,000 acres to the old park of Greystoke Castle by throwing into it large pastures from the Johnby and Green-thwaite estates, which he had recently purchased, so as to form a vast inclosure of about 6,000 acres, surrounded by a wall 9 ft. high.

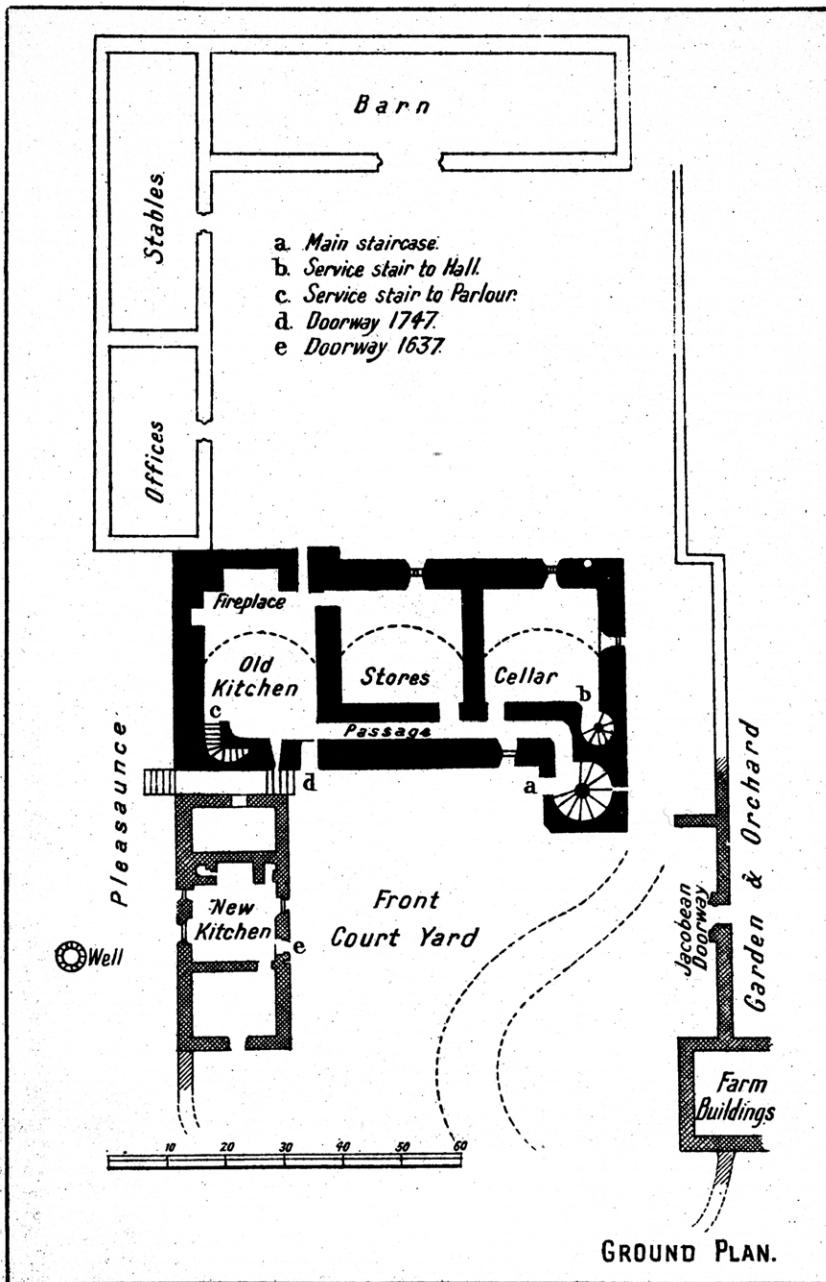
Within a short distance is the hamlet of Johnby, in which still exist some remains of ancient yeomen homesteads. A remnant of the forest and mosslands constituting part of the forest of Englewood, which comprehended the rough wild country to the north, is found close by in the moor and scrub of Johnby Wythes, the famous fox-cover. The old pronunciation of the place name, *Two-anby*, is preserved in the vernacular of the district.

The



p. 80.

JOHNBY HALL.



JOHNBY HALL.

The environs of the hall embrace an extensive cluster of 17th century erections indicative of the agricultural weal and activity of the period; great barns, byres, stabling and out-buildings, with mullioned and labelled windows, and inclosures of high "massy walls and brave stone dykes" for gardens and orchard.

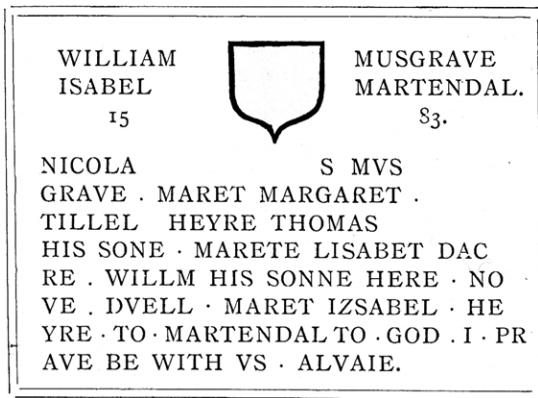
Within an inner courtyard stands the dwelling house. The original hall consists of a rectangular oblong block, substantially, but plainly built of freestone rubble in regular courses, with dressed stones at the coins and openings: it is in three stories, with a hipped roof, without a parapet. Jutting out at the S.E. corner of the main building, with a projection of $10\frac{1}{2}$ ft., there is a small rectangular tower $12\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in width, which presents at the re-entering angle the main entrance to the house. This gives to the plan the L shaped formation, which was adopted very frequently in the period which succeeded the pele tower epoch, and which was perpetuated for a long time in country mansions, especially in Scotland.

Our attention is at once attracted by the carved panel and inscription over the entrance. The treatment of the doorway is unique in detail. The opening is square-headed, shewing a renaissance character, the lintel and jambs having a bold roll on the angle, and surrounded by a bead and hollow moulding. Besides which there is a bold ornamental moulding carried alongside the jambs over the head of the doorway, forming an ogee arch, inclosing a blank tympanum, with the curve produced upwards in the contrary direction to join the horizontal string course on the wall of the tower. Within the space thus included there is a stone panel, on which are carved the coat of arms and an inscription. In this carving there is a remarkable anomaly in the disposition of the ornaments placed over the shield. The helmet stands direct without bars and a little open, denoting a knight's degree, furnished with mantling and tassels, but without wreath

wreath or crest, and below the head-piece clasping the collar are two gauntlets grasping an annulet, a very unusual place to find the crest of the Musgraves. On the shield there are:—1st 6 annulets, 3, 2, and 1, charged with a martlet, (for *Musgrave*), 2d barry of six, a bend sinister, (for *Martindale*), 3d lion rampant, (for *Tilliol*), 4th 3 swords in triangle with the points outwards, (for (*Stapleton*)). The shield is surrounded with a roundel, with the motto in raised Roman letters:—

“ O GOD GIVE ME VISDOM TO KNOVE THE,”

and in a line below, the date 1584. Below there is carved the following inscription in eight lines:—



It was quite the mode at this period for the founder to insert such a tablet over the entrance to his building setting forth his coat of arms and some quaint record of its erection. We have had opportunities of viewing many examples of such carved panels over doorways of about the same date, for instances, those set up by Vaux at Catterlen, 1577, by Sandford at Askham, 1574, by Crackenthorpe at Newbiggin, 1533, by Cliburn at Cliburn 1567, and Blencow at Blencow, 1590.

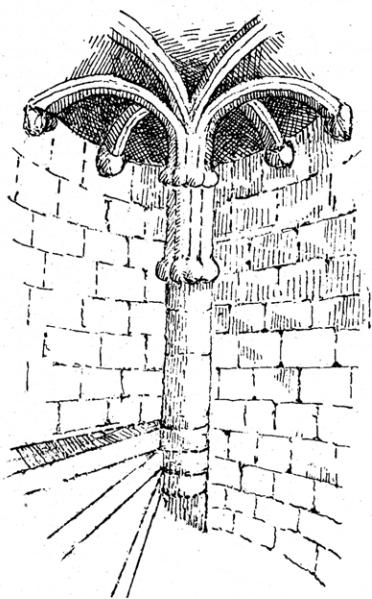
The

The whole length of the ground floor is vaulted in three divisions, each forming a chamber traversing the breadth of the building ; each compartment is arched over with the identical semicircular tunnel-vault which had for centuries been employed in the basement chambers of castle-keeps and peles. The walls have a thickness of 4 ft. In the compartment to the W., which is the largest, in consequence of the inclusion of the passage, there is a fine chimney-recess surmounted with a segmental arch of 10 ft. 6 in. span, with a bold bead on the arris. This was undoubtedly the old kitchen ; its measurements are 24 ft. by 20 ft. At one angle there is a narrow newel-stair leading to the lord's parlour on the first floor, and opposite there is a passage running the length of the building in front to the main staircase of the hall. There is communication also with the two other cellars which, no doubt served as buttery and storehouse. All the window lights on the basement are small rectangular openings, these being one to the front, three to the back of the house, and two in the gable, all very small, with the object of security. All the internal doorways are square-headed, and have a bold half-round moulding on the edge. The present external entrance to the kitchen-cellars is an insertion and has incised on its lintel, 1747, the date probably at which all the vertical windows in the front of the house were substituted for the early mullioned windows, of which examples are seen in other parts of the building. The windows in the turret are original, one of two lights with a single mullion, lighting the staircase high in the wall, and another in a small apartment in the top story, a fine window of three lights, with moulded mullions and transoms ; both have dripstones moulded in cavetto, with short returns terminating in caps. There is a good three-light window of a similar description in the gable lighting the E. end of the hall. At the back of the house there are remaining two single mullioned and labelled windows, and a number of very small square openings.

This

This building is interesting in so far that it presents an example of late domestic work, of the date of which we are assured, exhibiting a transition character ; in the main the place retains many of the features of the pele tower type, and shews the persistence of the desire for strength and security even at this date. This is evinced in the vaulted substructure with its small narrow openings, in the great main apartment on the first floor, and the small winding stair leading to it at one angle from the basement. The entrance stair however, is not now as formerly dark narrow and steep, compressed in the thickness of the wall, but is tolerably wide easy and well lighted, accommodated in a separate tower. This example shews us the slowness and the difficulty there is at all times in shaking off the influence of old usages and style in domestic architecture, and the persistence in perpetuating old types and features, even during the ascendancy of new inspirations.

The main doorway in the turret leads into a small entrance lobby, from which there is at right angles, a passage continued along the front of the basement, giving access to the three vaulted chambers. The wide well-staircase leads to the hall and ascends no higher, and it presents a peculiar feature. The stone steps unite to form a newel, and the central column is continued above the upper step of the landing, and is branched out into eight moulded arched ribs, which form the groining to a roof-vault above. At their impost with the pillar and at their terminations these ribs are corbelled out into caps and balls, so as to express a degree of gracefulness in the treatment. This feature of the radiating out of the newel into arched ribs for vaulting occurs not unfrequently in the North, as at Cockermouth Castle for example, and in some of the Northumbrian castles, as in Belsay, Warkworth, and Edlingham. From the landing on the stair one enters the principal apartment or the hall, which exclusive of its recesses, measures 36 ft. by 30 ft. The great chimney fire-place



*Head of Newelstair
Torkby Hall.*

place is projected into the room from the centre of the S. front, but its span is now concealed by being built up; on each side of it a vertical window has replaced the old openings; the original mullioned windows on the N. side and E. gable still remain. At the N.E. angle of the apartment, opposite to the main entrance, there is a small wheel-staircase, included in the wall, giving access to the upper story. At this end of the hall there are two stone segmental arches resting on buttresses and on a central pier thrown across the breadth of the room, leaving a lighted corridor or recess behind them. This is the part of the hall known as the "*Screens*," and was doubtless used as a service-room or pantry. A little back-stair in the wheel-form communicates with the cellar and kitchen, by which the dishes and drinkables were brought up and passed by a hatch to the guests seated in the hall.

At the N.W. corner there is another corkscrew stair leading to sleeping rooms on the second story, and at this point there is a passage through to the usual parlour or withdrawing room of the Tudor period. The floor of the hall is paved with squared flagstones set diagonally, and the flat ceiling is supported by three oak moulded beams resting on stone corbels.

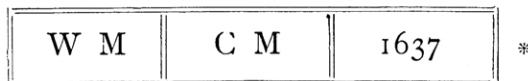
The withdrawing room, which adjoins the hall on the same level, presents now nothing peculiar.

The floors on the upper story are laid with oaken boarding, and the space is divided into bedchambers by partitions, but they present nothing worthy of notice.

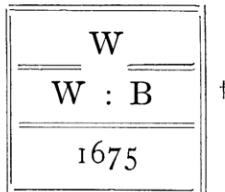
Now this central block seems to have served the requirements of the family for a period of over forty years, when it was probably found that the accommodation on the basement was insufficient and inconvenient for the requirements of kitchen and offices. Hence we find that one of the last of the Musgraves who resided here set to work to build a low, two-storied wing, as an extension, at the W. side of the courtyard.

This

This range of buildings presents the horizontal, labelled, and bevelled mullioned windows of the period. The basement now partly used as kennels and boiling-house contained the new kitchen. It has a doorway with the obtusely angled recess in the lintel of the Jacobean date, with a moulded square frame over it, of which the panel is gone. The access to the first floor which contains three small rooms, lighted back and front with mullioned windows, is by an outside stair, and over the entrance there is, within a corbelled label, in raised letters :—



On one of the outbuildings there is a tablet, with letters in relief :—



And over the old garden door in graven letters :—



The arrangements at Johnby Hall exhibit exclusively the style and feeling predominant in the new houses of the northern country gentry during the middle third of Eliza-

* William Musgrave married Catherine Sherburne, daughter of Sir Nicholas Sherburne.—Whelan's *Cumberland*, p. 207.

† William Williams, Steward of Greystoke, married Barbary Halton of Green-thwaite, June 6th, 1666.

‡ These I think are the initials of Dorothy Halton (widow of Miles Halton of Green-thwaite), who died at Johnby Hall in 1719, and her granddaughter Dorothy Williams, who in 1696 married Edward Hasell. THOMAS LEES.

beth's

beth's reign. It was about this time that the new fashion of house-building crept up to the north. In this part of the country there had been for a long period a great gap in the way of house-building ; comparatively little had been done for a hundred years to supersede the dark, stinted domestic inconveniences of mediæval structures. In the southern counties under the early Tudor kings, a great impetus had been given towards the erection of mansions and residences in the palatial style, exhibiting the prevailing Italian influences. The domestic peace enjoyed by the country, the enlargement of agriculture, the flourishing state of the trade in wool, and above all the effect of the Reformation in secularizing Church lands enriched the new nobility and gentry who had sprung up, and supplied funds for the great development of domestic architecture. But the old squirearchy of the Lancastrian north continued to suffer too direly from the exhaustion caused by the contentions of the Roses, and the subsequent strifes of border warfare, to be rich enough, even if they had the desire, to substitute for their moated fortalice or grimy pele, a new order of things.

When the impetus of the new style did approach Cumberland and Westmorland in the early period of Elizabeth, a great building epoch was developed, which continued throughout the greater part of her reign, not only as applied to castles and manor-houses, but to the residences of "statesmen" and farmers, and to the habitations of the commonalty both in country and in towns.

As has been observed in the pursuit of the work of this Society, in almost every pele tower, the lord had been engaged about this period in making extensions and ameliorating the condition of his place to the altered requirements of the times. In this immediate neighbourhood Vaux was busy at Catterlen, Hudlestone at Hutton John, Blencow at Blencow, Mawson at Tymparon, and others built new houses on fresh lines, and amongst these was Musgrave of Hayton, who reared his mansion at Johnby.

The

The William Musgrave who built this house was the grandson of Nicolas, the third son of the famous Thomas de Musgrave, of Harcla Castle, who fell on the scaffold, 1464, and whose tomb is in Kirkby Stephen Church. It was by the marriage of this Thomas with Johanna, one of the two daughters and co-heirs of Sir William Stapleton, of Edenhall, that the manor of Edenhall was transferred to the Musgraves, and by reason of which alliance you find the 4th quarter of the shield charged with the arms of Stapleton. The second and third sons of Thomas de Musgrave married two sisters, co-heirs of the name of Colville, but who were nevertheless the direct representatives in the female line of the once great family of Tilliol. With Margaret, the younger sister, came to Nicolas Musgrave her moiety of the Tilliol lands, embracing the heritages of Scaleby, of Hayton near Aspatria, and Johnby. Nicolas Musgrave dying in the year 1500, was succeeded by his son Thomas, who married Elizabeth,* a daughter of the Lord Dacre of Gilsland, and their son William succeeded in 1532. This William Musgrave of Hayton and Johnby, married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Martindale, the last of the name as lord of Newton in Allerdale, whereby other ancient lands in the west of Cumberland devolved to the family. William, with whom we are concerned as the builder of this house, died in the year 1597. Subsequently the small demesne and manor of Johnby was apportioned to one of the younger sons of the Musgraves of Hayton, whose heir, female, married Mr. Wyville of the county of York. Johnby was afterwards sold by one of the Wyvilles to Mr. William Williams, who came from the county Glamorgan, and settled at Greystoke; he died in 1679, and lies interred in Greystoke Church.† The family

* In the pedigree of Laton, Tilliol and Musgrave, owners of Hetton, given at p. 215, of vol. i., of Surtee's History of Durham, this Elizabeth is stated to be "base daur. of Lord Dacre, sister to Thomas Dacre of Lanercost." She would also be sister to John Dacre the last Provost of Greystoke and first of the new line of Rectors. THOMAS LEES.

† See monumental tablet in Greystoke Church.

of Mr. Williams consisted of three daughters, the eldest of whom, Dorothy, married Sir Edward Hasell of Dalemain and for her portion had Johnby Hall and the neighbouring manor of Thwaite Hall.* The property seems to have continued in the Hasell family for a century until it was sold, in 1783, to Charles, 10th Duke of Norfolk, who then held the Greystoke estates.

You will notice that it is fairly set forth on the tablet over the doorway that Nicolas Musgrave married Margaret Tilliol. The Tilliols or Tilliols were a very ancient family, and distinguished in the early history of the county. Their great ancestor, "Richard the Rider," whose name was Tilliol, having received the lordship of Carlisle from Henry I. settled himself at *Richardby* or Rickerby, and had granted to him most of the lands now occupied by the suburbs of the city, Harraby, Etterby, Botchardby, &c. By royal grants and profitable marriages the possessions of the family became augmented in successive generations, including Scaleby, Threapland, Blennerhasset, and many other manors. So much importance had the family attained in the county that, after Edward I. consummated his wise and fruitful scheme of a regular summons of the lesser baronage, as representatives of counties to a great council of the realm at Westminster, we find the first on the list, as the two knights of the shire, in the twenty-ninth year of his reign, the names of John de Wiggeton and Robert de Tilliol. In almost every successive parliament which was called, up to the ninth of Henry V., a period of a hundred years, are to be found the names of Robert, Peter, Richard,

* Thwaite Hall, another old manor house held under the barony of Greystoke, is situated about four miles to the N.W. of this place, in the township of Hutton Roof. The modern renovation of the place, as the residence to a large farm, has destroyed its character as a 16th century building, which it presented formerly. There are still remaining some low horizontal windows with chamfered mullions, and in what was the old hall or dining-place, a fine old chimney-piece, bevelled on the edge, stretching across at one end of it. Sandford in his MS. says:—“This place was anciently called *Hutton Ralf*, a younger branch of *Hutton John*.” From the Huttons it passed by marriage to the Dalstons, who sold the estate about the year 1680 to Mr. Williams of Johnby.

and

and Geoffrey de Tilliol constantly recurring. By the marriage of one of these Tilliols, Piers, in the time of Henry VI. with the heiress of a Mulcastre of Hayton, the possessions near Aspatria were acquired. Some years after this the family of the Tilliols ended in two daughters, which caused a division of the inheritance; one of them married a Colville, which family also, in the second generation, ended again in two daughters, co-heirs, causing a further division of the Tilliol lands. Margaret Colville, with whom went the heritages of Hayton and Johnby, married Nicolas Musgrave, the cadet of Edenhall, to whom we have referred, and whose name appears over the doorway. The grandson William, who erected the tablet, had good reason to advertise his grand-mother as bearing the name of Tilliol, she being really a Colville, seeing that the Colvilles had been enjoined to assume the patronymic of Tilliol in order to maintain their title against claims set up by a collateral male heir. When or how the demesne of Johnby first became vested in the Tilliols I cannot tell, or who the original holder was I fail to discover, any further than in the 30th of Edward I. one Robert de Joneby appears as one of the representatives of the shire in parliament. But it may be that the Robert de Tilliol, who had been chosen by the gentry and freeholders as their representative in 1301, might have been the same individual who was returned as member the following year, as Robert de Joneby, using the title of his estate instead of his surname of Tilliol.

III.—GREENTHWAITE HALL.

THIS perfect little example of its period is situated about a mile from Greystoke Castle on the edge of the park on its S. side, and the great wall built by the Duke of Norfolk skirts its enclosures. This place was the seat of the ancient

ancient family* of Halton. There was a Halton of Greenthwaite Hall and Manor in the time of Richard II., but I cannot ascertain that any remains exist in the vicinity to indicate the site of their early dwelling place: certainly nothing of an early structure can be found incorporated in the building under view. This little mansion was the last work of the Haltons, about 1650. The original home of the Haltons was in Tynedale, in Northumberland, and the consequence of the family in Cumberland may probably be traced to the famous John, Bishop of Carlisle, in the time of Edward I., who had a long and distinguished episcopal reign, from 1293 to 1324, besides being a busy man in political and secular concerns.

The Haltons continued their residence and interest in Greenthwaite until after their migration into Derbyshire, which occurred in 1678, but finally the Greenthwaite lands were sold to the Duke of Norfolk in 1785, and a considerable area was absorbed into Greystock Park. The cause of the removal of the family came about in this way. Immanuel Halton, in whose time the present hall was built, was born at Greenthwaite, and was educated at the Grammar School of Blencow, and was afterwards a student in Gray's Inn, whence he was called by the then Duke of Norfolk to his service as steward. Halton seems to have been transferred to the charge over the Duke's Derbyshire estate of Winfield. This Winfield property only came to the Howard family in 1616, by the marriage of Lord Arundel with one of the co-heirs of the 7th Earl of Shrewsbury. Finally, Immanuel Halton in 1678 purchased from the Duke of Norfolk the famous old manor house of Winfield, and the Duke's share of the Winfield property.

*The derivation of the place name Greenthwaite is simply from *Greena A.S.* green; we have the old pronunciation of the word retained in the neighbouring pasture farm of Greena Crag. Thwaite (N. *thveitr*) denotes a piece of ground stubbed free from roots of trees, and separated. The suffix Thwaite is common in Cumberland and Westmorland, and is very frequent in Greystoke parish, and adjoining parts, as in Thackthwaite, Brackenthwaite, Southwaite, Smathwaite, Micklithwaite, Calthwaite, &c.

Immanuel

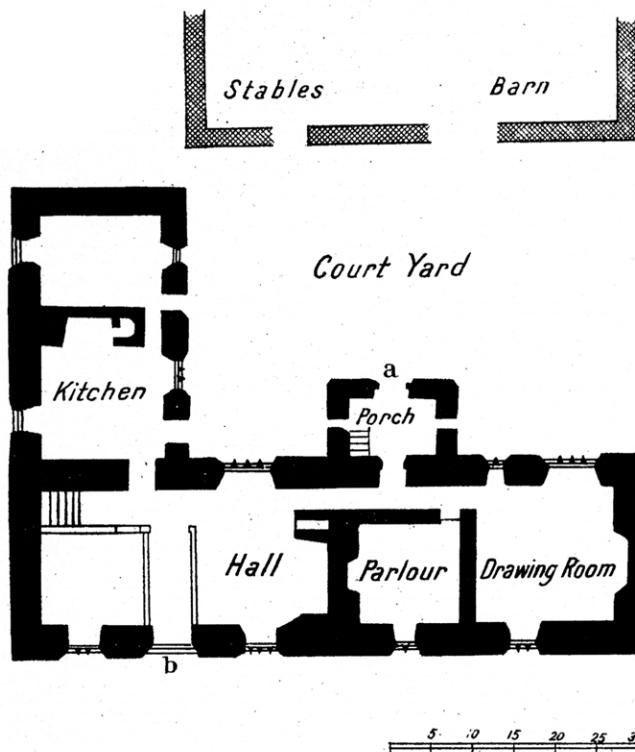
Immanuel Halton died at Winfield in 1699 ; it is said that "the last years of his life were spent in the studies of music and mathematics, in which noble sciences he attained great perfection."* In the meantime the family still retained possession of Greenthwaite[†] Hall until the representative descendant, Wingfield Halton, Esq., of Winfield Manor, in 1785, sold to the Duke of Norfolk the old ancestral Cumberland home.

We have presented to us here an edifice which has been erected all at one time, in which the lines follow an original design, and which, at the present time, is really very much the same as when it was first built. It is on the L shaped plan. An oblong block of two stories presents a frontage to the S. of 82 ft., with a small wing attached to the W. side, which with a range of farm buildings to the N., inclose three sides of a quadrangular courtyard. Within this court is the main entrance through a porch which has been projected 9 ft. from the main wall, at about the centre of the building, and carried up rather higher than the building itself. The plan and elevation present a design and features which prevailed long anterior to the date of 1650, which is given on various parts of the edifice. In fact, the whole structure exhibits a thorough Elizabethan feeling, and some of the details are well worth examination, particularly the carved stone horizontal panels over the windows, which may be regarded as a survival of a favourite form of Tudor ornamentation into the late Jacobean period. The principal windows are low, wide, horizontal openings, under a dripstone, divided by one, two, or three chamfered mullions. Above the line of the windows both of the ground and first floor,

* Some of his mathematical treatises are printed in the Appendix of Foster's Mathematical Miscellanies, and an "Account of the Eclipse of the Sun observed at Winfield," in Phil. Trans. for 1676. In the parish church of Winfield there are some monuments to the Halton family. Immanuel Halton, who died in 1699, married Mary daughter of Mr. John Newton of Oakethorpe; Immanuel Halton Esq. 1784 : Miles Halton M.A. 1792.—Lyson's Derbyshire, p. 292.

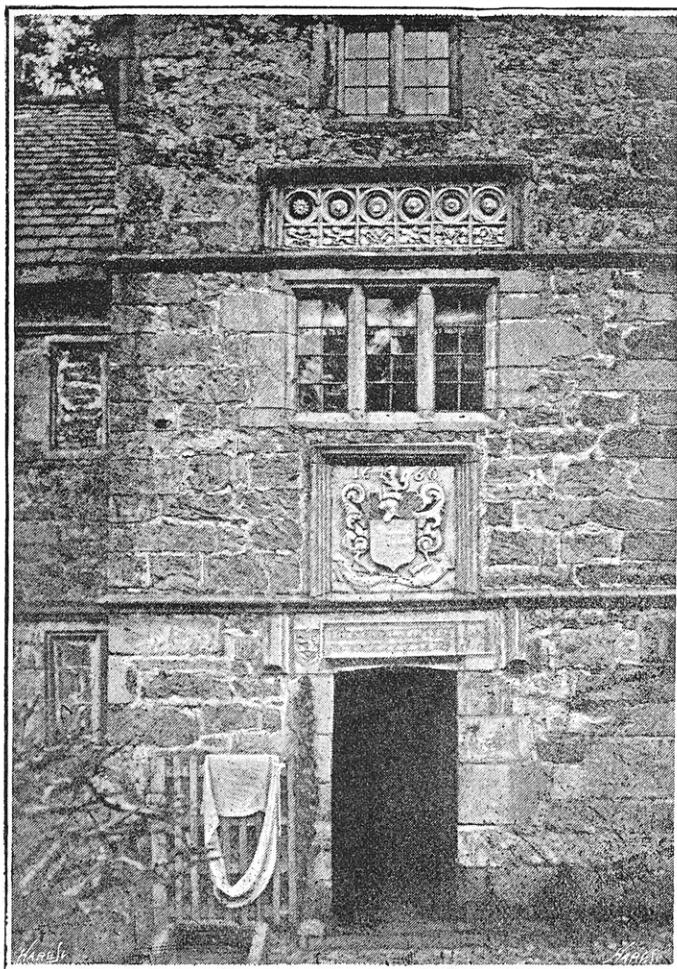
[†]there

- a. *Doorway Coat of Arms.*
b. *Window converted into door.*



GROUND PLAN.

GREENTHWAITE HALL
Greystoke.



p. 93.

GREENTHWAITE HALL.

there is projected along the face of the building a horizontal string course, boldly rounded on the upper surface and coved beneath. Over the large window in the porch tower, and over two of the principal windows on the ground floor, above the lines of the string course there is extended a square frame or hood moulding so as to inclose a long horizontal panel containing ornamental carvings. The patterns wrought on these slabs are all different. One has the design so well known in Elizabethan wood-work, the alternating circle and lozenge, connected by a short, straight band. In the panel over the window in the tower the space is divided into two stages of six square compartments. In the upper line these are pierced into circles, with bosses in the centre, variously treated, and below the square spaces are filled in with a variety of foliage. All this embellishment shews a laudable pride in the builder, Miles, the predecessor of Immanuel Halton, in the consummation of his edifice, neither did he neglect to follow the prevailing custom of the age of setting up, over the entrance, his coat of arms and a sententious legend. The main doorway has bevelled jambs, and bears a heavy square-headed lintel stone recessed to the breadth of the chamfer, on which appears, in raised Roman capitals, the following sentence :—



	PERIGRINOS HIC NOS	H
	REPVTAMVS . 1650	M D

*

"Here (on earth) we reckon ourselves pilgrims."

* These are the initials and arms of Miles Halton and his wife Dorothy, daughter of — Wybergh of Clifton. Miles was born in 1599, was Sheriff of Cumberland, and died in 1652. A cross to his memory is placed in the middle of the S. aisle of the Parish Church. Dorothy seems to have been a strong-minded woman, and a quaint story has been handed down by popular tradition concerning her—how she enticed the red deer from Greystoke Park (then unen-

At

At one side there is a small shield with a lion rampant
H
 gardant, and on the other the initials M D, and the date, 1650.

Immediately above this, ten years later, there was set up another tablet bearing the full achievement, a shield, with the arms of Halton, party per pale, a lion rampant, and three bars between three mullets, two and one. The crest:—a demi-lion holding a spear, on a helmet with wreath, and mantlings. At the top of the tablet stands out the date 1660; the carving is well executed, and in good preservation, except the motto on the scroll, which has weathered off.

The mason work throughout is of very good character, being of the fine-grained Greystoke sandstone, in well-laid courses of rubble, with chiselled ashlar at the openings.

The interior of the porch forms the vestibule to the house; it is well lighted by a double mullioned window on a level with the first floor, and by a little square look-out on each side near the door. Originally, it contained the principal staircase of the mansion giving access to the upper floor; the stair is now gone, but the rising of a straight flight of steps may be noted on the right hand wall.

On the ground floor the main block contained the hall, a small parlour, and the withdrawing room. The dimen-

closed) on to her own land by scattering of green oats, and then shot them with a cross-bow for food for her domestics, who in consequence protested against being fed on what they called "black mutton" for more than four days in the week. The story goes on to say how she was summoned at the Assizes at Cockermouth, to answer for her poaching proclivities. When she entered the court the counsel for the prosecution, one of the well-known Fletcher family, exclaimed, "Here comes Madam Halton with her traps and her gins!" and she promptly replied, "There sits Counsellor Fletcher with his packs and his pins," alluding sarcastically to the commercial pursuits by which the Fletchers had risen to eminence. How the case ended is not related.

Miles and Dorothy Halton had a numerous offspring, five sons and five daughters. An interesting article on the family will be found in "The Reliquary, October, 1864," contributed by C. H. & Thompson Cooper, the Historians of Cambridge.—THOMAS LEES.

sions

sions of the hall in its original state were 29 ft. 9 in. by 18 ft. 6 in.; it was well lighted by three low mullioned windows to the S., and one with a 6 ft. 6 in. aperture towards the courtyard. The great width and depth of the chimney block in this room is remarkable; the great fireplace opening embraced by a segmental arch of 10 ft. 8 in. span, and the reception in the thickness of the wall of a great locker or cupboard. But modern innovations have entirely destroyed the proportions and attributes of the apartment, for the three-mullioned window on the S. front has been cut to afford an entrance door on that aspect, and the partitioned passage from it traverses the breadth of the hall.

Contiguous to the hall there is a little room, 13 ft. by 13 ft.—the lord's little parlour or private room, and beyond, at the E. end of the block, there is an apartment, 18 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., which is now used as a dairy. This was the withdrawing room of the old mansion: it is well lighted back and front by mullioned windows, and is furnished with a Tudor fireplace. The short wing on the W. aspect, which forms the limb of the L on the plan, is occupied by the kitchen and its appurtenances, from which there is a communication with the low end of the hall; at this point there is a corkscrew stair for service to the apartments on the next story. On the upper floor there is a long passage partitioned off on the N. side, giving access to the bedrooms, five in number, very much as in a modern house; over the wing there are dormitories for the domestics.

At the top of the porch tower there is an additional story containing a little square chamber, with a single mullioned light into the courtyard, in which may be noted a square ambry in the wall on the E. side. In the porch-tower houses of the time of Queen Elizabeth the room thus situated was usually dedicated to the use of a chapel; we have seen it at Hornby Hall and other places; there is nothing however here to indicate devotional purposes.

About

About this period, and indeed for a hundred years before, in this part of the country, in making a floor in the upper stories, instead of laying down naked boarding on the joists it was a very common practice to use laths, and to cover them with a layer of alabaster, or hall-plaster, as it is called in the north. You may see this application of plaster adopted in the flooring of the passages and rooms in the upper part of this house. The practice is a local one, and may have originated in the facility of procuring the material, as numerous deposits and pockets of native alabaster or gypsum occur in the Eden valley not very far off, where the mineral has been worked from distant times.

IV.—GREYSTOKE MID-FARM.

This is a quaint little mansion situated at Greystokehead on the road leading to Greenthwaite Hall. This residence seems in some way to have been connected with the Halton family, whether as a dower house or not I cannot tell; it is very characteristic of the period at which it was built, 1649, and is worthy of notice on account of the arms over the doorway. It consists of a long low single tenement of two floors, with a wing projected from the W. side giving the L plan. The entrance is on the N. side facing the road, at the re-entering angle from a little court formed by the wing, through a square-headed widely chamfered doorway. Over the door there is imposed a very ornate and well-carved heraldic tablet on a stone which is supported by two spirally fluted columns with Ionic volutes on the capitals, and carrying a classic cornice. The shield is surrounded with the full ornaments of mantling, wreath, esquire's helmet, and scroll, and bears on a bend three escallops with an annulet for difference, (*New Layton of Dalemain*), impaling a fesse between six cross crosslets fitchy

fitchy (*old Layton*). Crest :—A lion's head gorged with a collar, charged with three bezants. The scroll below the shield is so much weathered that the motto is effaced, but it has been given by Jefferson as : “*Tam pace quam bello.*”* On the upper part of the tablet is the date 1649.

The door enters directly into the old dining place or hall, originally 18 ft. by 16 ft. 8 in., but the space is now split by a partition. This constituted the living room of the residence, and it is noticeable chiefly as containing a large fireplace recess, with a little square-headed look-out in the ingle-nook, with an elliptic chimney arch of 9 ft. span with a bold round and hollow moulding. It is well lighted on both sides with low horizontal windows with moulded mullions, one being high in the wall. As usual, adjoining there is a parlour of very small dimensions; the wing would contain the kitchen, and the upper floor would be devoted to bedrooms. There are heavy moulded dripstones to all the windows. The place has been converted into two cottage houses.

* Jefferson's Leath Ward, p. 369.