

ART. XI.—*Salkeld Regis, Scotby and Sowerby.* By  
T. H. B. GRAHAM, M.A.

*Communicated at Carlisle, September 13th, 1921.*

IT is surmised that the six scattered manors, Carlatton, Langwathby, Penrith, Salkeld Regis, Scotby and Sowerby, all assarts of the forest, were held *in capite* by Ranulf Meschin until 1122, when he surrendered to Henry I. the seigniorship of the land of Carlisle. The manors thus became royal demesne and continued such ever after. They were pertinents of Carlisle Castle (*Cal. Doc. Scot.*, ii., p. 36). In 1242, they were moulded into a group and granted, for political reasons, to Alexander II. of Scotland and his heirs. The grantee was an ordinary tenant *in capite*, holding by homage, fealty and the annual rent of a sor goshawk; so, when he and his successor on the throne died, the premises escheated to the king of England, until seisin, or feudal possession, was delivered to the grantee's heir. During a short interval after Alexander II.'s death, the sheriff accounted to Henry III. for the profits of each several manor comprised in the group (*Cal. Doc. Scot.*, i., p. 333) and, during a longer interval after Alexander III.'s death, the sheriff made a similar return to Edward I. (*Hist. Doc. Scot.*, edit. Stevenson, i., pp. 2 *et seqq.*).

Henry III. expressly excepted advowsons from the original conveyance, but afterwards granted them to Alexander III. The advowsons of Carlatton and Sowerby passed by the grant. The church of Penrith was given by Henry I. to the bishop of Carlisle at the foundation of the see (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 3 Henry III., p. 405 and *Cal. Pat. Rolls* of the same year, p. 210). The church of Salkeld Regis had already been given by Henry III. in 1236-7, to

bishop Walter Malclerk and the priory of Carlisle. The early records are silent concerning a church at Langwathby or Scotby.

In 1290, the group was in the king's hand and he delivered it to Anthony Bek, bishop of Durham, until the latter had recouped himself some money paid out of pocket (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 18 Edward I., p. 386). That transaction was at an end in 1293, when John de Bailliol, king of Scotland, received seisin of the manors of Sowerby and Penrith and the hamlets of Langwathby, Salkeld, Carlatton and Scotby, appendant thereto (Rymer, *Foedera*, i., p. 792). In the following year, John de Bailliol assigned the whole group and its advowsons to Anthony, bishop of Durham, for life (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 22, Edward I., p. 102). The general history of the group is outlined in the account given of Carlatton (these *Transactions*, N.S. XX., p. 19) and it remains to notice some details respecting the three particular manors which are the subject of this paper.

#### SALKELD REGIS.

Ranulf Meschin, by charter, to which his wife Lucia was witness, gave to the Abbey of St. Mary, York, two parts of the tithe arising from "my demesne of Salchild" (Prescott, *Wetherhal*, p. 13). Waldeve, son of Gospatric, granted tithe of Salkeld demesne to the same abbey (Dugdale, *Mon.*, iii., p. 550). The said Waldeve, styled "brother of Dolfin," attested the inquisition concerning land of the see of Glasgow made in 1120-1 by David I. when earl of Cumbria (*Eccles. Doc.*, edit. Haddan and Stubbs, vol. ii., p. 17). It is inferred that Waldeve was Ranulf Meschin's feoffee of Salkeld, and became, at Ranulf's departure, tenant-in-chief of the manor. He therefore confirmed to the abbey Ranulf's gift of tithe. Wetheral Priory, a cell of the said abbey, enjoyed those two parts of the tithe, while the rector for the time being of Salkeld had the other part.

The *culturæ* of the demesne land in the vill or territory of "Salkeld Regis," 147 acres, from which the tithe was derived, are specified by name (*Wetherhal*, p. 373). The manor and its appurtenant advowson belonged to the crown.

The pipe roll of 1187 records that the sheriff owed two shillings for four acres of wheat at "Salkeld," demesne of the king.

Salkeld Regis must be distinguished from Old Salkeld, let to farm from 1164 until 1185, in conjunction with Upperby (*Pipe Rolls*). Even at that period, Old Salkeld was traditionally the earlier inhabited site. It is alleged that there are still traces of an earthwork at the spot.

On December 28th, 1201, Master Revel de Vernolio (*Verneuil*) had the king's letters patent, directed to the archdeacon of Carlisle, concerning the church of Salkeld in the king's gift (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 3 John, p. 4).

The king wrote on March 6th, 1204-5, to the bishop of Carlisle, "We have conferred upon Master Matthew, *jesicus noster*, the church of Salkeld, vacant and in our gift. We present him to you and desire that you admit and institute him to the said church, which belonged to Thomas de Argentoillo (*Argenteuil*) clerk" (*ibid.*, 6 John, p. 51); and on January 2nd, 1205-6, he directed that dues lately rendered to Thomas de Argentoillo, clerk of the King of France, "to whom we gave the church of Salkeld," should in future be paid to Master Matthew, *medicus noster* (*ibid.*, 7 John, p. 57). The *Testa de Nevill* refers to the church of Salkeld, "which Master Matthew, *medicus*, holds of King John's gift."

In 1208, Robert, son of Simon de Salkeld, paid 100 shillings, in order that his son might be quit of a fawn, which he took in the forest (*Pipe Roll*).

Lewelin had letters of presentation to the church of Salkeld in the king's gift, directed to the bishop of

Carlisle on February 13th, 1208-9 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 10 John, p. 89).

But, on September 20th, 1214, the king wrote to the bishop of Winchester (*sic.*) "Will you let Thomas de Argentoillo, clerk to the king of France, have the church of Salkeld, so far as it pertains to us, without delay, and whoever possesses it?" (*ibid.*, 16 John, p. 122).

Henry III. directed, in January 1226-7, that his men of Salkeld should have timber from Inglewood, as in King John's time (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 10 Henry III., p. 95). Among serjeanties arrented during Henry III.'s reign was that of Thomas le Venor and Alice, his wife, at Salkeld. Thomas held the land by service of purchasing munition (*warnestura*) for the king in Yorkshire, but he had alienated to Nicholas, son of Robert, part of the land, namely, 4 acres, worth two shillings a year. So he paid a fine of half a mark *per annum*, in order that Nicholas should be answerable to Thomas for one-third of the value of his tenement and that Thomas should be answerable for the residue of the fine, be quit of the service of the serjeanty, and do service of one-twentieth part of a knight's fee (*Victoria Hist. Cumb.*, i., p. 424). A later memorandum states that the serjeanty of "Thomas Venator" had been changed to military service, namely one-twentieth of a knight's fee (*ibid.*).

Henry III., by charter dated 1236-7, gave to the church of Blessed Mary and to Walter, bishop of Carlisle, the advowson of the church of Salkeld, in perpetual alms (*Placita de quo waranto*, p. 116). It was ordered, in 1238, that Martin de Sancta Cruce (*St. Croix*) presently referred to, should have six oaks from the king's forest of Carlisle, *ad se hospitandum apud Salkeld* (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 22 Henry III., p. 40). In 1242, the king of Scotland became tenant-in-chief of the manor. Commissioners were appointed in 1274, to enquire whether Alexander III.'s men of Salkeld were entitled to common pasture in

Plumpton Park, enclosed in Henry III.'s reign, and housebote and heybote in Inglewood forest (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 2 Edward I., p. 69).

At the *Valor* of Pope Nicholas, 1291, the taxation of *spiritualia* was made by Richard de Wytebi, archdeacon of Carlisle, and a marginal note describes the church of Salkeld as appropriated to his archdeaconry (p. 320). It would seem, therefore, that the Priory of Carlisle had surrendered its joint interest in the premises to the bishop, and the latter had made an appropriation of the whole to the archdeaconry.

In November, 1292, the king sought to recover the advowson of Salkeld (wrongly described in the pleadings as "Parva Salkeld"), and the bishop and Master Richard de Wytebi, archdeacon, were made defendants. Counsel for the crown stated that Henry, *proavus* of Edward I., was seised of the advowson as of fee, and presented Roger, his clerk, who was instituted. The defendants produced the king's charter of 1236-7, and the archdeacon pleaded that he was *persona impersonata* by collation of the bishop. Counsel for the crown then alleged that Henry III., had, since the date of the charter, presented his clerk, Martin de Sancta Cruce, but the jury found for the defendants (*Placita de quo waranto*, p. 116).

From that period, the archdeacon of Carlisle for the time being was rector of Salkeld. A list of archdeacons is furnished in these *Transactions*, N.S. xi., p. 93).

Pardon was granted, on October 4th, 1306, to John de Castre, for the death of John de Salkeld, but the latter is perhaps identical with John of Old Salkeld (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 34 Edward I., p. 469).

A stone effigy, representing Thomas de Caldbeck, archdeacon of Carlisle, vested for mass, reposes in the church, but does not occupy its original position (see illustration, these *Transactions*, O.S. xv., p. 453). He was collated archdeacon on June 27th, 1318. William de

Kendal was rector in February, 1323 (*Halton Reg.*, ii., p. 225). He was cited in 1337, to show cause why he held both the living and the archdeaconry without dispensation (Nicolson and Burn, ii., p. 307).

Master William de Routhbury, archdeacon of Carlisle, by will proved May 18th, 1364, desired burial in the churchyard of Salkeld, and gave legacies for repair of the chancel (*Test. Karl.*, edit. Ferguson, p. 74).

The church, dedicated to St. Cuthbert, is an ancient edifice, but it is generally believed that the massive pele tower, attached to it, was not built until after the period covered by this paper.

#### SCOTBY.

The manor is separated from Wetheral by the rivulet known as "Scotby beck," or "Pow Maughan beck." The statement that Uchtred,\* son of Liulf, gave the mill of Scotby to the abbey of St. Mary, York (Dugdale, *Mon.*, iii., p. 550) is incredible, because Scotby mill was ever afterward parcel of the royal desmesne. There is reason to suppose that Uchtred was Ranulf Meschin's feoffee of Scotby, and that his gift to the abbey was merely a sum of money, payable out of the rent of the mill. David, king of Scotland, reigned over Cumberland from 1136 until his death, at Carlisle, in 1153, and by charter, witnessed at that city, granted to St. Mary of Wetheral and the monks of that place "one mark of silver *per annum* out of the rent of my mill of Scotby" and tithe of the vill of Scotby, as given to them *ab antiquo* (Dugdale, *Mon.*, iii., p. 584). The charter seems to confirm to the local cell of the abbey gifts previously made by Uchtred and another benefactor unnamed, probably Ranulf Meschin. Athelwold, or Adelulf, first bishop of Carlisle, 1133—56, confirmed to the abbey of St. Mary, York, and to its use all the tithes of Scotby (*Wetherhal*, p. 45). At pleas of the forest in 1168,

\* His father was murdered about 1080 (Roger de Hoveden, Rolls edition, i., p. 134).

half a mark was rendered for "Scottebi Regis," and the vill paid tallage in 1187 (*Pipe Rolls*).

Towards the close of the century (1181—91) the prior of Carlisle, in consideration of half a mark of silver *per annum*, relinquished to the abbey of St. Mary, York, and to its monks of Wetheral any claim he might have to tithe of the field of Scotby (*Wetherhal*, p. 69). That was probably his roving claim to tithe of all assarts made within the king's forest. The men of Scotby paid "tallage of the king's demesne" in 1195, and, in 1201, they were required to render to King John a new rent in addition to the "ancient farm" (*Pipe Rolls*). In 1203, the vill of "Schortebi" owed a mark for an offence of *vert*; and in 1212, 30s. for the price of 15 beasts (*ibid.*).

The king's men of "Shoteby" were allowed in 1236 such reasonable estovers of husbot and heybot in Inglewood forest as they had been accustomed to take (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 20 Henry III., p. 292). After that, Alexander II. became tenant-in-chief of the manor. In 1286—7, the farm of its mill and brewery produced £6 15s. 4d. (*Hist. Doc. Scot.*, edit. Stevenson, i., p. 27). In 1293, it is described as a "hamlet" appendant to the capital manors of Sowerby and Penrith (Rymer, *Foedera*, i., p. 792).

Scotby formed part of Wetheral parish until 1855, when it was made a separate ecclesiastical district.

#### SOWERBY.

The place seems to derive its more distinctive epithet "Castle Sowerby" from the former existence there of an ancient earthwork (Hutchinson, i., p. 520). One naturally expects to find traces of Anglian *tuns* in Inglewood forest. Henry II.'s pipe rolls refer, on several occasions, to *Castellum de Sourebi*. But the Final Concord, made in 1237, between Henry III. and the king of Scotland, expressly provided that the land to be assigned to the latter should not include any vill containing a castle (Rymer, *Foedera*, i., p. 233), so there was not then any place of

strength at Sowerby. Again, the perambulation of Inglewood forest, made in the summer of 1300, traces its boundary *per magnum iter de Sourbye usque Stanewath subter castellarium de Sourbye* (Nicolson and Burn, ii., p. 523). There the epithet is certainly a traditional name applied to the site of a reputed castle.

The church and Castlehow (the supposed earthwork) occupy the verge of the modern parish. Around them grew the ring of assarts, wrung from the forest, which marked the limit for the time being of Sowerby. According to the *Chronicon Cumbriae*, Ranulf Meschin gave Sowerby, Carlatton and Upperby to Ranulf de Vallibus (brother of Hubert, lord of Gilsland) and, on his departure from Cumberland about 1122, stipulated that all his own feoffees should become tenants *in capite* (Wilson, *St. Bees*, p. 492). The following references to the place occur in the pipe rolls:—

Account is rendered, in 1185, of the issue of Sowerby, after oath made before the justice; and, at the pleas of the forest in 1186, Robert de Vallibus owes rent of Castle Sowerby (*Castellum de Sourebi*) for ten years past.

Some 64 years had elapsed since Ranulf Meschin's departure from Cumberland. Robert de Vallibus was son and heir of Hubert, lord of Gilsland, and therefore nephew of Ranulf de Vallibus, feoffee of Sowerby. But it is hard to believe that Hubert, alleged contemporary of Ranulf Meschin, can be the same person as Hubert, contemporary of Henry II. Robert had been sheriff during a great part of the past ten years, and was probably entitled to Sowerby by right of inheritance.

In 1191, William of Church Sowerby (*Karkeserebi*) was amerced half a mark; and the men of William, clerk of Church Sowerby (*Kyrkesaurebi*) owed three shillings.

In 1195, three shillings were due for the assart of the church of Castle Sowerby (*Castellum de Sourebi*); and Odierna de Sowerby owed half a mark because she with-

drew herself. The value of the manor had increased in 1200, because Geoffrey fitz Peter had placed some stock there. The said Geoffrey, earl of Essex, was one of King John's barons and died in 1213 (Matthew Paris, *Hist. Anglorum*, Rolls edition, ii., p.144).

In 1202, William the parson and the vill of Church Sowerby (*Kirke Soresbi*) owed a mark for a quittance, and Waldeve de Sowerby 20s. for the same. In 1210, Sowerby was in farm; and the vill paid 100s. in 1213 for the scutage of Ireland. Alan de Caldbeck and his companions owed 20 marks, in the same year, for leave to assart the wood of "Sourebilith";\* and the vill paid tallage in 1214.

On January 28th, 1213-14, William, rector of the church of Sowerby, had resigned, and Lodovic de Rockingham, clerk, had letters of presentation to the church of the king's gift (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 15 John, p. 109); and on January 15th, 1214-15, the king granted to Robert de Ros the manors of Sowerby, Carlatton and Upperby, until he should have recovered his land in Normandy (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 16 John, p. 128). The *Testa de Nevill* states that the vill of Sowerby, an escheat of the crown, was held of King John by dominus Robert de Ros; and the church was held of the same king's gift by Lodovic, the clerk. The sheriff was commanded, in 1218, to give Robert de Ros full seisin of the said three manors, and not to molest Robert and his men (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 2 Henry III., p. 366).

It was again directed, in February, 1224-5, that Robert should have seisin of the same, according to the tenor of King John's letters patent (*ibid.*, 9 Henry III., p. 15). He died in 1226-7, and was succeeded by his son, Robert de Ros (*Wetherhal*, p. 100). Robert was allowed, in 1227, to take such aid of the men of Sowerby and Carlatton as the king took of his own demesne (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 11 Henry III., p. 197) and, in 1232, to retain the purpresture, which

---

\* cf. Ainstapillith.

he had made in the forest at Sowerby (*ibid.*, 16 Henry III., p. 24).

On February 17th, 1236-7, the king presented John le Franceys (*Francigen'*) to the church of "Castelsourebi" (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 21 Henry III., p. 175); and, on September 28th following, informed the bishop that he had given the next presentation to Robert de Ros, and desired him to admit Robert's presentee; William de Nottingham, for that turn (*ibid.*, p. 197). In consequence of arrangements with the king of Scotland, Robert de Ros was required, in October, 1237, to surrender Sowerby, Carlatton and Upperby, held *in baillio regis* (*ibid.*, p. 199); but was allowed to retain the crops which he had sown (*ibid.*, 22 Henry III., p. 226).

The *rogus* in Sowerby excepted from the conveyance of 1242 to the king of Scotland was perhaps a charcoal factory or a lime-kiln (*Cal. Charter Rolls*, 26 Henry III., p. 268).

In 1257, Alexander III. had given Sowerby to his consort, Margaret the king's daughter, for her *camera*, to hold at his will, and the gift was ratified (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 41 Henry III., p. 548). Gilbert de Halteclo held some land at Sowerby, in 1260, as undertenant of the queen of Scotland (*Cal. inq. p. m.*, 45 Henry III., p. 140). The king of England, in 1263, gave Margaret the wood of Sowerby, quit of regard, and liberty to take estover therein without livery and view of the foresters; provided she kept it in her own hands and did not waste, sell or destroy it (*ibid.*, 47 Henry III., p. 252).

Master Richard de Wytton was parson of Sowerby in November, 1288 (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 17 Edward I., p. 29). At Carlisle assizes, 1292, it was recorded that the manor had by the death of Alexander III. escheated to Edward I., and the church, a pertinent of that manor and worth 100 marks *per annum*, was in the king's gift. Master Richard

de Wytton still held it by gift of the late king of Scotland (*Hist. Doc. Scot.*, edit. Stevenson, i., p. 359).

On April 20th, 1294, Master Richard de Wytton, lately rector, had accepted the living of Hawick, in the diocese of Glasgow, and John de Balliol, king of Scotland, by letters patent of that date addressed to the bishop of Carlisle, presented Master William de Londors, clerk, to the church of Sowerby thus vacant, and desired that he might be instituted rector (*Halton Register*, i., p. 8); and, on June 14th following, Anthony, bishop of Durham, having acquired the advowson by gift of John de Balliol, presented Dominus John de Langton, chancellor of England, to the living described as vacant (*ibid.*, p. 14). Neither of those presentees appears to have been inducted.

On November 20th, 1295, custody of sequestration made in the church of Sowerby was given to Dominus Henry de Rye, sub-deacon, presented by Anthony, bishop of Durham, "true patron." The bishop of Carlisle directed that Henry should be inducted by proxy, and appointed Simon de Gopeshull, clerk, to act as the presentee's proctor and obtain corporal possession of the church (*ibid.*, p. 56).

Geoffrey, son of Geoffrey de Sebergham, was an under-tenant, at Sowerby, of the bishop of Durham in 1297 (*Cal. inq. p. m.*, 26 Edward I., p. 341).

On August 27th, 1300, the bishop of Durham presented Dominus Henry de Rither, sub-deacon. The bishop of Carlisle promised that, if the presentee obtained from the apostolic see dispensation in regard to plurality of benefices and was fit to receive canonical institution after Martinmas, 1301, he would institute him rector, and gave him leave of absence for three years (*Halton Register*, i., p. 129).

On November 26th, 1303, the said Simon de Gopeshull, having been outlawed for non-appearance before the justices of the bench, in a plea by Henry, parson of

“Castel Sourby,” that he should render account for the period during which he was Henry’s bailiff there, was pardoned (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 32 Edward I., p. 203). Adam de Crokedayk held 50 acres at “Castle Sowerby” in 1304, as the bishop of Durham’s under-tenant (*Cal. inq. p. m.*, 33 Edward I., p. 212). Edward I. deprived John de Balliol and his assignee, Anthony, bishop of Durham, of all interest in the manor and advowson of Sowerby (*Rot. Parl.*, i., p. 206), and, out of devotion to the glorious name of Mary: and to the relics of Blessed Thomas, Martyr, and other saints in the church of St. Mary, Carlisle: and in order to relieve the loss which the prior and convent of Carlisle had sustained by invasion of the Scots, issued letters patent on April 4th, 1307, granting to them the advowson of the church of Sowerby, so that when it fell vacant, they might appropriate the same to their own use for ever (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 35 Edward I., p. 516). On April 23rd following, the bishop ordained that, upon the death of the then rector, Henry de Rither, the Prior and Convent should be at liberty to present a suitable canon of their house, as vicar, such vicar to reside at Sowerby and serve the church by a secular priest (*Halton Register*, i., p. 277). Henry de Rither died in the summer of 1309, and, on July 16th, Anthony, bishop of Durham, then Patriarch of Jerusalem, still claiming to be patron, presented Dominus John de Jargoho, chaplain, as rector (*ibid.*, p. 324). He was not instituted, for, on August 3rd, 1309, the bishop of Carlisle, with the king’s approval and in accordance with what he had already ordained, granted the church of Sowerby, vacant by the death of Henry de Rither, unto and to the use of the Prior and Convent, and instituted that body as rector (*ibid.*, p. 323). Dominus Alan de Frisington, canon, presented by the Prior and Convent, “true patron,” was instituted on September 7th, as first vicar of Sowerby (*ibid.*, p. 325).

The above account is interesting as showing the exact process by which appropriation of a benefice was effected.

On March 3rd, 1311—12, Brother Alan de Frisington had resigned and Brother John de Schilton was instituted vicar (*ibid.*, ii., p. 73).

Robert de Barton, king's clerk, bailiff of Sowerby, was ordered, in 1312, to audit accounts of the reeve of the manor, from the time when it had been in the hands of Piers de Gaveston, earl of Cornwall (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 5 Edward II., p. 416).

The king's mill was swept away by a great flood in 1314 (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 7 Edward II., p. 56).

John de Carlisle resigned the living in 1334, and Canon Richard de Wilford was instituted as vicar (Nicholson and Burn). He died in 1338, and Canon Patrick Culwen was instituted in his place. Upon the latter's death in 1360, Canon John de Penrith became vicar (*ibid.*).

Nicholas de Motherby, of Sowerby, by will proved October 4th, 1362, desired to be buried in the "church of St. Kentigern of Sowerby," and bequeathed to the high altar for tithes forgotten one stott (bullock); to the light of Blessed Mary, in the same church, one ox; to the vaulted chapel (*ad le vaute*) of Blessed Mary and to the service (*operi*) of the Holy Cross in the same church pecuniary legacies (*Test. Karl.*, p. 70).

In 1363, the king gave to his tenants of Sowerby, "ancient demesne of the crown," such common of pasture for all animals, in Inglewood forest for ever, as the prior of Carlisle and William English (Lengleys) had there (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 37 Edward III., p. 414). But, in 1375, Sowerby had been committed to the keeping of Thomas, bishop of Carlisle. Tenants of purprestures, formerly arrented before the steward of the manor, were depasturing the waste and grazing land against the will of the keeper and contrary to custom; felling the woods and claiming housebote and haybote therein as pertinents of

their purprestures; and taking the same by view of a forester wrongfully elected by themselves and another appointed by the king's ministers.

The foresters claimed as their "fee" all bark of trees felled or blown down. The tenants refused to elect the reeve, usually elected by them to collect the king's farm of the manor, unless the keeper paid him a yearly fee of two marks; and claimed all trees blown down by the wind. The king directed that an enquiry should be made concerning the customs of the manor (*ibid.*, 49 Edward III., p. 150).

Thomas Denton's *MS.*, written in 1688 and since lost, furnished the instructive information that Castle Sowerby was formerly parcel of the parish of St. Mary, Carlisle (Lysons, *Cumberland*, p. 155).