

ART. III.—*Grinsdale*. By T. H. B. GRAHAM, M.A.,
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Read at Kendal, April 22nd, 1931.

THIS was a mesne manor, situate within the barony of Burgh-by-Sands, and held of the same by the family of de Grinsdale, which derived its name from the place. John Denton has given a short account of its occupants (*Accompt*, pp. 59 and 80). His information, however, consists only of lists of names, so it is desirable to test it by reference to existing records.

When local history commences, a moiety of the manor of Grinsdale had already become vested in the de Newtons of West Newton, Cumberland.

THE DE NEWTON MOIETY.

As regards the de Newtons, Ketil de Newton* had a son Richard, whose wife's name was Gunilda. Richard was a benefactor of Holm Cultram Abbey, towards the close of the twelfth century (*H.C.*, † p. 68).

In 1180-90, *dominus* Richard de Newton gave a mediety of the advowson of the "church of St. Kentigern at Grinsdale" to Lanercost Priory, in the presence of Thomas de Thorp, "Official" of Carlisle (*Prescott, Wetherhal*, pp. 92 and 168, citing *Register of Lanercost MS.*, v, 4). Hugh de Morvill, lord paramount of the barony of Burgh (d. 1202-3) confirmed that gift (*Wetherhal*, pp. 188 and 303, citing *Reg. Lanercost MS.*, ii, 17).

It is significant that the other mediety of the same advowson was given to Lanercost Priory by Robert de

* See accompanying Table of names.

† *The Register of Holm Cultram*, by Grainger and Collingwood, edit. 1929.

Sor, who was evidently husband of Gunilda's sister (*Vict. Hist. Cumb.*, ii, 153).

Richard de Newton was juror at an inquisition held in Hilary Term of 2 John, 1201 (*Curia Regis Roll*, edition 1922, vol. i, p. 387). That is the true date of the record (see *Trans.*, N.S. xxviii, p. 417).

By foot of fine, made after Michaelmas in 2 John, 1201, between William de Redeclive (Rockcliff) petitioner, and Richard de Newton, tenant, concerning a moiety of all the land of Grensdale and of the land of Grolin (? Little Croglin) of which a chirograph was made, between the said Richard de Newton and Roger, brother of the said William, whose heir he was (*sic.*) William, on receipt of 10 marks of silver, quitclaimed to Richard and his heirs all right and claim to the premises and surrendered the chirograph in court (*F.F. Cumb.*, case 35, file i, no. 4).

Richard de Newton, described as tenant, was in possession of the premises, and the chirograph may have related to a mortgage of the same.

The above facts support John Denton's statement that Richard de Newton acquired his title to a moiety of the manor by marriage with a daughter and co-heiress of Asketil de Grinsdale, sometime lord of the whole manor, and that the other daughter and co-heiress of Asketil was wife of a certain de Sor (*Accompt*, p. 80).

The next lord of the de Newton moiety of Grinsdale was "Adam son of Richard de Newton" (H.C., p. 69). He witnessed a Wetheral deed in 1236-47 (*Wetherhal*, p. 168) and several charters of William de Sor relating to Grinsdale (*Wetherhal*, p. 168, citing *Reg. Lanercost MS.*, v, 9-15). He made a quitclaim *circ.* 1250 (*Wetherhal*, p. 167).

Prescott alleges (*Wetherhal*, p. 168) that "Adam son of Richard" died in 1267, but the record, which he cites* relates to the manor of Newton Regny (see *Trans.*, N.S. xxvii, p. 14). He was probably succeeded at Grinsdale

* *Excerpta de Rotulis Finium*, edit. Roberts, vol. ii, p. 462.

by "Richard son of Adam de Newton" (*Accompt*, p. 59) party to an agreement with Holm Cultram, dated December 21, 1262 (H.C., p. 70).

When Thomas de Multon, *primus*,* died in 1270-1, his share of the barony of Burgh comprised Grinsdale, held as to one moiety by Thomas de Newton, for suit of court, and as to the other moiety by William de Sor, for suit of court (*Cal. inq. p.m.*, 55 Hen. III, p. 246).

Thomas de Newton was a commissioner of the peace in 1287 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, p. 265) is styled "knight" *circ.* 1290 (H.C., p. 23) and was a juror in November, 1292 (*Placita de quo waranto*, p. 118).

Then, lapse of time suggests that there was, at this point, an *interim* occupant of the de Newton moiety, who is not referred to in the records.

In 1358, the de Newton moiety of Grinsdale lately belonging to *Thomas de Newton*, had "for certain reasons" been taken into the king's hand. Two-thirds thereof were committed to Thomas, son of the said Thomas, to hold as long as the premises should remain in the king's hand; and one-third thereof was similarly committed to Euphemia, widow of Thomas the father (*Cal. Fine Rolls*, p. 73); and in 1362 there was commitment during pleasure to Thomas, son of Thomas de Newton, of the custody of the one-third previously committed to Euphemia (*Cal. Fine Rolls*, p. 220).

On October 20, 1362, there was an order to remove the king's hand from the de Newton moiety, because it had been found by inquisition that Thomas de Newton, the father, at his death, held the premises of Ranulf de Dacre and Margaret his wife,† as of the barony of Burgh, for homage, cornage 9s., and suit of court every three weeks; that Thomas, the son, entered after his father's death;

* See pedigree of de Multon, *Trans.* n.s. xxviii, p. 158.

† Ranulf de Dacre died in 1339, and Margaret de Dacre had lately died in 1361, see pedigree of de Multon cited above.

and that Euphemia, since deceased, held one-third thereof in dower (*Cal. Close Rolls*, p. 361).

THE DE SOR MOIETY.

It has been shown that this moiety of Grinsdale remained intact in 1270-1. Nothing more is heard of William de Sor after that date. His place is taken by Robert de Grinsdale, "who purchased land at Grinsdale and Parton." The latter was not as John Denton alleges (*Accompt*, p. 80), brother of Asketil, but may have been great nephew of the same individual. It is obvious that he, or his successor, acquired the de Sor moiety, and that it was enjoyed by his lineal descendants. It may be noted, by the way, that the same Robert de Grinsdale also acquired, in Henry III's reign, from Robert Mulcaster, Parton, of which manor John de Parton had then lately been mesne lord (*Accompt*, p. 73).

The three following records do not relate to Grinsdale but to other family property at Carlisle, and are here quoted, because they throw much light on the pedigree.

It was ascertained, in 1333, that a house and 24 acres in the suburb of Carlisle, held of the king *in capite*, had been granted to Alan de Grinsdale and Margery his wife jointly, with remainder to the heirs of their two bodies, and remainder to Alan's right heirs. Alan and Margery entered without licence, but that trespass was subsequently pardoned, on payment of a fine. Alan predeceased Margery, who married a second husband (*Cal. inq.*, *p.m.*, 7 Ed. III, p. 388).

At another inquisition held on April 5, 1344, it was found that Margery died on April 26, 1343, seised of the house in the suburb, and Thomas de Grinsdale, son of Alan and Margery, was the next heir and of full age (*Cal. inq.*, *p.m.*, 19 Ed. III, p. 395). And a third inquisition, held in November, 1349, showed that Henry de Grinsdale died on October 20, 1349, seised of the house in

the suburb, and his sister Mariota, wife of William de Arthuret, was the next heir (*Cal. inq. p.m.*, 23 Edward III, p. 287).

The above-cited public records, which relate to settled property, lead one to infer that the de Sor moiety of Grinsdale (being unsettled property) devolved upon the following persons in succession:—

1. Gilbert de Grinsdale, who witnessed a deed, *circ.* 1280 (H.C., p. 14) and granted land in *via Francorum*, Carlisle, by charter dated 1287 (*Wetherhal*, p. 181, citing *Reg. Lanercost MS.*, x, 19).

2. Alan de Grinsdale, who, in company with his brother (?) Robert, represented the City of Carlisle in Parliament, 1304-5 (*see* list of burgesses, *Vict. Hist. Cumb.*, vol. ii, 325). He was knight of the shire for Cumberland in 1312. He and Robert gave titles to clerks at an ordination in 1317 (*Halton Reg.*, edit. Thompson, ii, 134-5) and in 1328 the same Alan and Robert were again burgesses for Carlisle.

3. Thomas, who died without issue.

4. Henry, who died without issue.

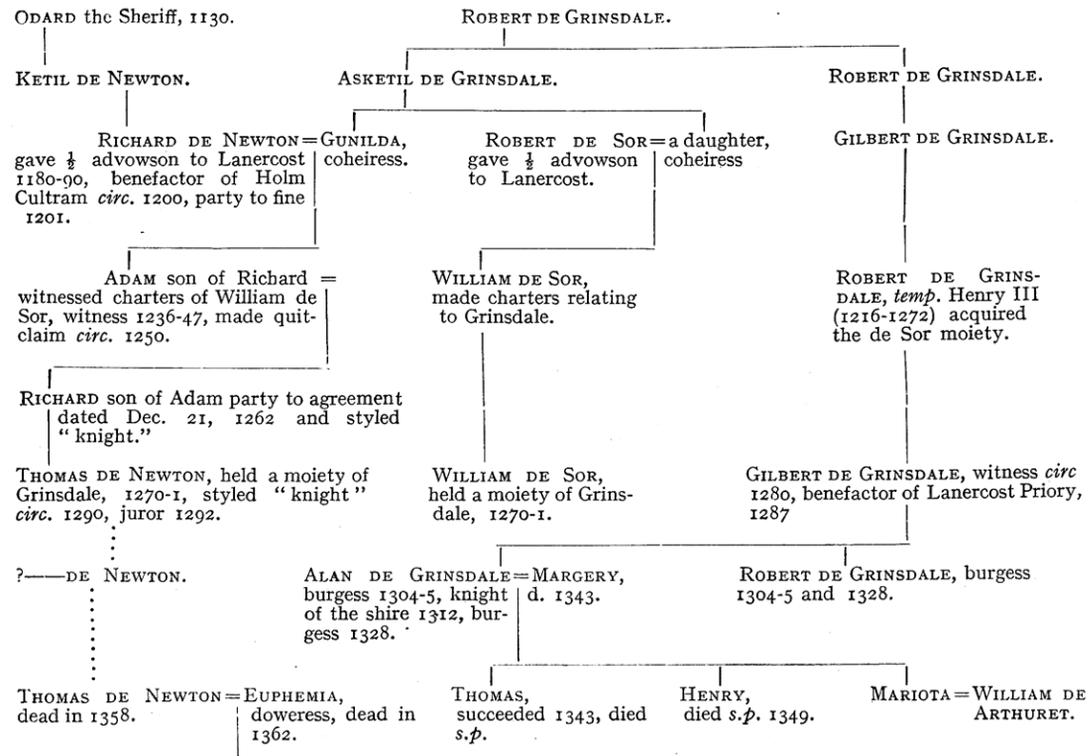
5. Mariota, wife of William de Arthuret.

THE CHURCH.

The above-cited allusion, in 1180-90, to the parish church and its patron saint, Kentigern, is interesting. Nicolson and Burn suppose that the church was appropriated to Lanercost Priory, and that it was served by the monks themselves, because there was no endowment, or provision for a vicar, and the registers of the diocese contain no record of any presentation to the benefice.

Americ, archdeacon of Carlisle *circ.* 1200, granted to Lanercost Priory a general licence to appropriate its churches, on the death or resignation of the incumbents in possession, provided that the monks undertook to discharge all diocesan obligations (*Vict. Hist. Cumb.*, ii, 153).

TABLE.



The Taxation of Pope Nicholas, 1291-2, values the church of "Grumsdel" in the rural deanery of Carlisle, at £3. 4s. (edit. Record Commission, p. 319).

In 1302, taxation was remitted in the case of "Grimsdel," on account of devastation committed by the Scots (*Halton Reg.*, i, 196) and again in 1319, because there was not sufficient for the service of a chaplain (*ibid.*, ii, 184).