

ART. XV.—*The Family of Barwis*. Compiled, mainly from notes by the late J. F. C. and W. H. BASHFORTH, by ALEC MACDONALD.

INTRODUCTION.

DURING the years 1912 to 1916, the public and family records were searched and a mass of notes compiled for a history of the Westmorland and Cumberland family of Barwis, by a descendant, J. F. C. Bashforth. On his death in action in France, his notes were edited and transcribed into a MS. volume by his brother, the Rev. W. H. Bashforth, who however died before he could reduce the large mass of material to publishable form. The notes of Mr. J. F. C. Bashforth were bequeathed to his sister, and those of the Rev. W. H. Bashforth to her sons. It is by their permission, through the kind agency of their cousins, the Misses Booker, of Langrigg Hall, that these notes, and also some family memoranda by an earlier generation, have been laid at the disposal of a representative of another branch, who welcomes the opportunity to compile from them a brief account of this ancient and once famous family.

Mr. Bashforth seems to have been a careful researcher, and his notes carry confidence, but unfortunately he seldom added the detailed references that would enable his tracks to be easily retraced. Living, as I do, at a long distance from northern records, and with limited time at my disposal, I have not attempted to verify the information, and must be content to offer it for what it is worth, which, in the apparent absence of any other detailed account of the family, is, I think, considerable.

The history of the Barwis family divides itself naturally into three periods. The first extends from the beginning of the 13th century to the beginning of the 15th, when the family seat was at Barwise Hall, near Appleby, in Westmorland. With the second, which covers approximately the 16th and 17th centuries, the name disappears from Westmorland, and a Cumberland branch dating from about the middle of the first period comes into prominence at Ilekirke Grange, near Westward. The third covers the 18th and 19th centuries, when the family seat was at Langrigg Hall, Bromfield, near Aspatria. With the sale of Langrigg Hall in 1876, the family became extinct as landed gentry in Cumberland, but it is satisfactory to be able to record that the Hall is still the home of descendants of the family; the Misses Booker, who are its tenants, are nieces of the last Barwis to own it, and it was there that the notes were compiled upon which this paper is based.

The chief interest of the family consists in its persistence through the ages in the same rank, that of unennobled country gentry. In the 16th and 17th centuries some of its members rose to national importance, but for the rest it has remained of merely local and county importance without ever attaining to more than moderate possessions and honours.

The coat of arms recorded by Burke for Barwis of Langrigg Hall is *Argent, a chevron between three bears' heads couped sable, muzzled or*; crest: *a bear muzzled*; motto: 'Bear and Forbear.*' The earliest extant appearance of it, so far as I am aware, is on the brass of "Great Richard" (see p. 119) in Westward Church, where however the tinctures are not indicated and crest and motto are wanting. The coat over the door of Langrigg Hall has been painted over and the tinctures obliterated, and the

* For Barwis of Ilekirke, Burke gives the same arms with the crest: "A hand issuing in bend, cutting an ostrich feather with a scimitar in saltire." He also gives: "Barwis: *Argent, a bend azure cottised gules*," which I have not otherwise found.

bears' heads (in relief) are displayed 'erased' instead of 'couped.' The Bashforth MS. speaks of a stone measuring 44 by 20 inches, "carved with work probably of the 15th century," discovered at Hutton John. The carving consists of a shield bearing: Quarterly, *A fess between three cushions charged with a fleur de lys; A chevron between three bears' heads muzzled.* This quartering, the MS. continues, is shown on "an old drawing of arms of Hudleston of Hutton John next after Hutton, and blazoned: *Sa. a chevron between three bears' heads unmuzzled or—'unmuzzled' probably a slip for 'muzzled'.*" But there seems to be no record of any marriage between Barwis and Hutton.

Enquiry at the Heralds' College has elicited the answer that no grant of arms to Barwis exists, and the suggestion that some members of the family may have assumed arms based on the coat of Berwick—*Argent, three bears' heads erased sable, muzzled gules*—differenced by the chevron, coupling the bears' heads and muzzling them *or* instead of *gules*.

The earliest form in which the name appears in records is *Berewyse*, and among its many variations before it was standardised as Barwis or Barwise are: Berewyz, Berewys, Berewes, Berwis, Berwys, Berewise, Berwyse, Berewyse, Barowes, Barres, Barwys, Barwes, Barwess, Barvis, Barrowse. In view of some of these spellings, it is worth noting that as lately as the last century, even when it was spelled Barwis or Barwise, the name was pronounced "Barrus" by at least some of its holders.

Bashforth suggests a derivation either from the Saxon *Beornwig* or the French *Barvais*, both of which, he says, mean "war bear." Baring Gould (*Family Names and their Story*, 1910) derives it from the French town of Barvaix. The use of the prefix 'de,' which is usual up to the end of the 14th century, suggests a Norman rather than a Saxon origin.



BARWISE HALL.

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Historical Monuments in Westmorland
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of H.M. Stationery Office.*

Facing p. 109.

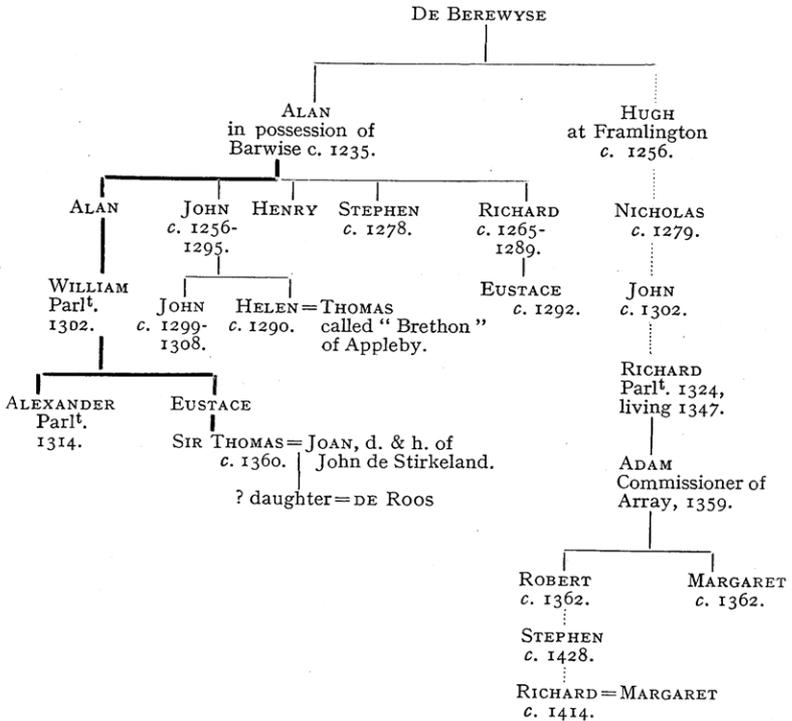
I. BARWIS OF BARWISE HALL, WESTMORLAND.
(See Table I).

The first member of the family to appear in records is Alan de Berewyse, who was apparently settled by the 13th century at what is still called Barwise Hall. He appears as a witness to a charter (c. 1234-6) of John de Veteripont to the inhabitants of Kirkby Thore, giving them freedom from the demands of the Foresters, and also as one of the jurors at an inquest held concerning the waste committed on the lands of Veteripont by the Prior of Carlisle. In 1256 Alan de Berwys, by reason of his distance from the parish church and inundations during the winter season, was granted by the Bishop of Carlisle, under mandate from the Pope, licence to build a chapel on his own land; he was to endow it and might receive benefactions to that end from others, and the chaplain was to take an oath of obedience to the vicar of the mother church.

Barwise Hall is now a farmhouse lying in a secluded position and approached only by cart-tracks, a mile or two west of the village of Hoff, near Appleby. The present building can have had no connection with the Barwises, and it is remarkable that it should have preserved their name. Over the front door are the date 1579 and the arms and initials of Sir John Sudwick, by whom it was presumably built. Additions were made by Reginald Dobson, whose initials, with the dates 1676 and 1681 respectively, appear on the wing containing a fine staircase, and on a barn. Photographs and a ground plan are given in the Westmorland volume of the *Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments* (1936). A party from Langrigg Hall which made a pilgrimage to the place in 1862 speak of "ruins of chapel" but without specifying their nature. I visited it two years ago, and noticed some mounds in the field in front of the house, where excavation might perhaps be rewarded, and there is a lean-to roof of a

shed supported on seven round columns, with plain round capitals and square bases, which have a definitely ecclesiastical appearance; these are not noticed in the Royal Commission's Report.

TABLE I.—CONJECTURAL PEDIGREE OF DE BEREWYSE (BARWIS) OF BARWISE HALL, Co. WESTMORLAND, with a collateral line, by the late Rev. W. H. Bashforth.



There are five de Berewys of the next generation after Alan, whom the accompanying conjectural pedigree assumes to have been his sons. Presumably the eldest, Alan, inherited the estates. John and Henry appear as witnesses to a deed granting a message in Appleby from

Richard de Apelby to Robert de Veteripont. John was fined in 1256 for selling wine against assize (Pipe Rolls). In 1290 Pope Nicholas IV sent a commission and mandate to the Bishop of Carlisle to make enquiry and grant a dispensation to Thomas called "Brethon" of Appleby and Helen, daughter of John de Berewys, of his diocese who had intermarried in ignorance that there was some degree of kindred between them, and legitimising their issue. Stephen is mentioned in 1278 as "suspensus de terra sua." The name of Richard de Berwys occurs in a list of 1265 of men receiving simple protection till Whitsuntide; and in 1270 he secures exemption for life from being put on assizes, juries or recognitions, and from being made sheriff against his will.

A third generation includes three names. William de Berwys, whom, from his apparent importance, we may assume to have been a son of Alan II, represented the borough of Appleby in the Parliaments of 1302 and of 1305. John de Berewise, said to have been the son of John, granted lands in Askeby, near Barwise Hall, to William son of Simon de Brampton in 1299. "Eustachius fil. Ric. de Berewys" appears in a plea of Quo Warranto in 1292.

Of the fourth generation we know of Alexander de Berwys, who represented Appleby in the Parliament of 1314. He is said to have been the son of William, to whom in 1306 he acknowledges a debt of eighteen marcs to be levied, in default of payment, of his lands and chattels in the county of Westmorland. In 1312 Alexandre de Berewiz is named as the burgess of Appleby to whom the town is to be delivered by the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to be kept for the King if its due taxes remain unpaid for two years. And in 1328 he appears as plaintiff before a Commission of Oyer and Terminer at York, alleging that a number of defendants had cut the cables of his ship in the port of Scarborough, causing it to

go ashore and break up, and, having assaulted him and followed him to Driffield, had beaten and wounded him and carried away his goods.

A contemporary of his was John de Berwys, Barwyse or Barwise, presumably son of John of the previous generation. He appears in 1324 in a list of men at arms returned by the Sheriff of Westmorland as summoned to attend the Great Council at Westminster, and on juries in 1330 and 1336. In 1344 and again in 1350 an order was issued for the election of a coroner for the county of Westmorland in place of John de Berewys, who has no lands in the county to qualify him.

Eustace de Berewys, probably son of William, is mentioned as the father of Thomas de Berewyse who in 1343, being then come of age, had livery of the manor of Berewyse, and in the next year he is styled Sir Thomas de Berewyse. His father evidently died young, and he succeeded by the failure of the senior line, unless we suppose that he was the grandson of Alexander. In 1346 there was a quarrel which ended in bloodshed between the Bishop of Carlisle, as keeper of the Castle of Carlisle, and his garrison of the one part, and others of the city of the other part; the royal pardon issued to the Bishop includes a pardon also to "Thomas de Berewys chivaler" who was of the garrison. In 1360 Thomas was married to Johanna, daughter and heiress of John de Stirkeland. It seems that no male issue survived them. Nicolson and Burn say:

And this is the last of the name that hath occurred. How the estates came to the Rooses, whether by marriage or otherwise, we have not found. But in 12 Henry VII we find one Thomas Roos at Barwyse; who obtained a dispensation to marry Elizabeth Blenkinsop of Hellebeck, his cousin in the 4th degree. They had a son Thomas Roose of Barwise, Esq., who died in 35 Henry VIII. It is said that the last of this name forfeited the estate by stealing a silver chalice out of the church. Afterwards it came into the hands of Sir John Sudwick who sold the same to Sir John Boyer.

2. BARWIS OF ILEKIRK GRANGE.

(See Tables I and II).

During the greater part of the period covered by the Westmorland Barwises there are various traces of the family in Cumberland. Whether there was a landed branch descended from a certain Hugo de Berewyz, a contemporary and possibly a brother of the first Alan, who is found living at Framlington in 1256, or whether there were sporadic migrations of individuals from cadet branches of the Westmorland family, the Bashforth researches afford no means of telling. Generally speaking, so far as these notes show, from the time of Edward I to that of Henry VII there is one Barwis in Cumberland, and only one, in each generation. Though of course this does not prove a direct line from father to son, it has seemed most convenient so to show them in the accompanying conjectural pedigree (Table I).

Early in the reign of Edward I we have Magister Nicholas de Berewyz as defendant to a plea brought by Robert de Mulcaster, 1279. Towards the end of it (1302) there is John de Berwys, one of the King's Foresters and one of a body of jurors which met in Cumberland and found that the King had power to enclose land if he wished.

Richard de Berwyse, or Barwise, is one of the men at arms returned by the Sheriff of Cumberland as summoned to attend the Great Council at Westminster in 1324, where, presumably he met his cousin John from Barwise Hall (see p. 112) and in 1347 he is named, with five others, as men whom the Sheriff is ordered to direct to attend the collection of the levy of wool apportioned in Cumberland on pain of imprisonment in the Tower of London.

Adam de Berwys was a Commissioner of Array for the county and in 1359 was ordered to array men to keep guard and arrest thieves. He is also named as executor of the will of Henry de Asbrigg, proved in 1362, by which

Robert, son of Adam Berwys, is a beneficiary to the extent of one marc, and Margaret, daughter of the same, to the extent of a cow and a calf. In 1368 he is pardoned, after a fine of half a marc, for trespass against the King (Edward III) in acquiring in fee from John, son of Henry de Roghton, a plot of waste called "Fornestagh Henyng" held in chief.

Stephen de Berys appears from an *Inquisitio Post Mortem* of Matilda, wife of Henry de Percy, 1399, to have held part of the manor of Papcastle, and in 1428 he served on an inquisition concerned with a dispute about land belonging to Edenhall.

In 1414, at Leicester, Richard Berwyse of Erswyke and Margaret, his wife, were enfeoffed of a toft and four bovates of land in Barnsley-in-the-Moor by one Robert Stodowe of Polelynton. There are no Barwises in the list of Cumberland gentry in 1435 given in Fuller's *Worthies*. In the last year of Henry V (1422) Richard Berwyse witnessed the will of Roger Whelpdale, Bishop of Carlisle. It can hardly be the same Richard Berwys who is referred to as a tenant who had lately died in the *Inquisitio Post Mortem* of 1485 on Humphrey Dacre, Lord de Dacre and Gillesland and as "one Richard a Barowe deceased" who had lately held the office of one of the Foresters of the Nether Ward in the Forest of Inglewoode, when Walter Story was appointed to replace him in 1486.

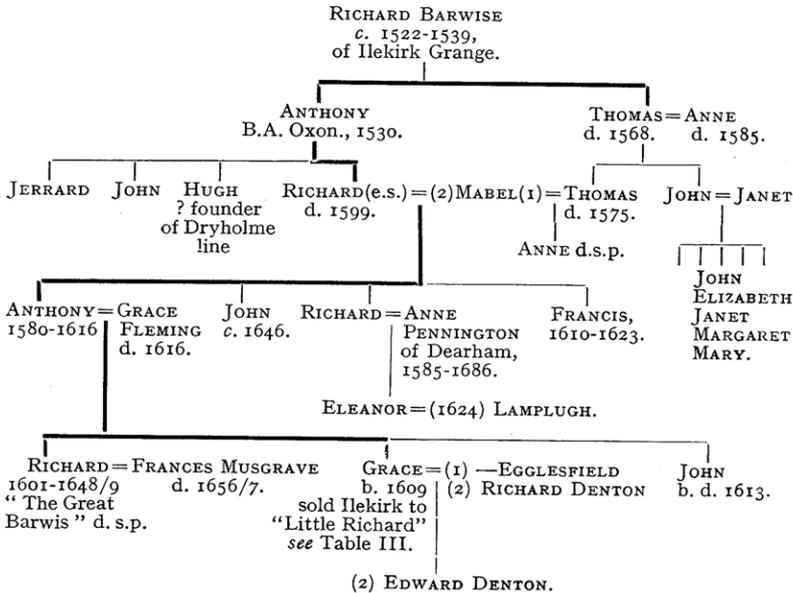
Anthony Barwis is recorded as a Commissioner for Westward in 1512, and in 1518 there is a pardon for William Robinson for killing Anthony Barowe of Carlisle, yeoman, in self defence.

With the reign of Henry VIII we come to sufficient records to enable a pedigree to be constructed with some degree of accuracy and completeness, at least so far as concerns the main line which we find settled at Ile Kirk Grange in the parish of Westward (Table II).

Ile Kirk is a corruption of Hildkirk, a form often found.

The name would seem to mean "Hilda's Church" and the site was originally a hermitage attached to the abbey of Holm Cultram, to which it was granted in the reign of King John, and is said to have been the habitation of one Roger the Hermit.

TABLE II.—PEDIGREE OF BARWIS OF ILEKIRK GRANGE,
Co. CUMBERLAND.
(Based on the Bashforth notes).



A Richard Barwys, or Barwise, is mentioned in various connections during the first half of the 16th century; he was one of the Commissioners of the Peace for Cumberland and sat on the Grand Jury at the trial for high treason of Lord Dacre in 1534. In the next year we find him as Seneschal of Holm Cultram Abbey, which three years later was surrendered to the Crown. It would appear that Ilekirk Grange passed to him, either by gift or by purchase

on the dissolution of the Abbey. In 1544 Henry VIII by Letters Patent granted to Thomas Dalston, Esquire, all the lands, etc. whatsoever in Hildekirke, to wit the messuages and tenements in the several tenures of Richard Barwise and others, and all that park called Hildkirk Park, late belonging to the monastery of Holm. And in the following year he granted a license to Dalston to convey the capital messuage of Hildekirk Grange, with four messuages and tenements in the tenure of John Barwys, gentleman, John Plumber and Richard Milner to Anthony Barwys, gentleman, for the fine of 43s. 6d. paid into the exchequer.

Anthony, presumably the eldest son of Richard, supplicated for the degree of B.A. at Oxford in 1530. For some years before he became the owner of Ilekirk he had been prominent in the county. He was feodary of crown lands in 1538 and held several other public offices. In 1570 he was one of the Sixteen Men of Holm Cultram.* In a writ of the following year, to which he is a witness, he is described as "armiger." Besides Ilekirk, he held lands at Westward, "where is now the fittest place for deer and the best growth for wood, called Tongthwaite," and another piece called Langmire; he also owned two tenements in Wigton and certain lands in Alterside, and he bought land at Bothel from Sir Henry Culwen.

He was also a party to a curious legal transaction whereby the manor of Stamborn, half the manor of Dearham and a third of the manor of Bothel, held by a certain Thomas Barwise and Mabel his wife, were to be transferred to Richard Barwise on the death of Thomas, and Richard was to marry the widow. Richard was Anthony's heir, and no doubt his eldest son, and Thomas was probably Anthony's nephew; Thomas had no male heir, and this seems to have been an ingenious scheme to

* A kind of local parliament which existed at least from the 16th century and was dissolved in 1884, elected by the tenants in the manor court. See these *Transactions*, n.s. ii.

keep Mabel's inheritance in the family. Their only child was a daughter, Anne, who died in infancy, and before her death, says the I.P.M., Anthony was seized of her inheritance, of Brigham Manor and lands at Dundraw, Waverton, Oughterside and Sephil, for the use of Mabel and his heirs.

Richard makes various minor appearances, for instance as a juror at the Carlisle Assizes in 1584, and as Steward of Wigton in 1592. In this latter year, according to an I.P.M., he granted a charter to trustees for his wife Mabel and his son Anthony (then twelve years of age) and Anthony's heirs male, and in default to John and Hugh, his brothers, and their heirs male, in respect of lands at Dearham, Blencogo and Hildekirk. In 1599, the year of his death, he granted a charter to trustees for Grace, wife of Anthony, said to be living at Cockermouth, in respect of other property. The list of his property at his death shows him to have been an extensive landowner; he had estates at Thornethwaite, Blencogo, Dearham, Bothel, Hildekirk, Ireby, Brathemyre, Portinscales, Hameshils Sethmurthen, Cockermouth, Keswick, Graysoyne, Broughton Magna and Parva, Whinfell, Ecclesfeld, Stockdaile, Blindbothel, Snothwaite and Carlisle. His widow married as her third husband Edward Courtney.

The Ile Kirk line was carried on by Richard's son. Anthony, born in 1580. At the age of nineteen he married Grace Fleming. The Westward Registers record their deaths within a few days of one another on July 5 and 25 respectively, 1616. His lands were entailed on his son Richard and his heirs male, failing him then to Anthony's brothers and their heirs in succession.

This son, Richard, great-great-grandson of the first Richard Barwise of Ile Kirk, born in 1601, therefore inherited at the age of fifteen. This is the man known as "the Great Barwis," or "Great Richard." He married Frances, daughter of Sir Edward Musgrave of Hayton

Castle, Aspatria. Various stories are told reflecting on the girth and strength which gave him his nicknames. In the centre of the courtyard at Ile Kirk there is still preserved the huge boulder which no ordinary man could lift but which Great Richard could throw the length of the courtyard. He is said also to have played bowls with the large round stone headings of his courtyard gate—convincing evidence of which is the existence to this day of the stones. Better attested is the tale that he walked across the bridge over the Eden at Carlisle with his wife seated on the palm of his hand and elevated over the parapet; a painting of him holding his wife in this position was exhibited by the owner, Mr. F. L. B. Dykes, of Dovenby Hall, at the Archaeological Meeting in Carlisle in 1861. Yet another picturesque tale recalls how he dealt with two highwaymen in an inn who had insulted him—flinging them both to the floor and imprisoning them together by twisting the poker round their necks.

Such stories, however absurd, are not told of nonentities. Richard Barwis was M.P. for Carlisle from 1627 to his death, and was Sheriff of Cumberland in 1635. He was the first Mayor of Carlisle to be elected under the new Charter of Charles I of 1627. He held office for two years in succession and again in 1648. The State Papers contain numerous references to him in connection with his services to the Parliamentary party during the Civil War, and he received the thanks of the Commons in 1645 for his help in providing for the Scottish army on its march from Carlisle to Yorkshire. During his mayoralty of 1648 Carlisle was surprised by the Royalists and he was taken prisoner, and it took a strong protest from the Committee of both Houses to secure his release on the grounds that, being on civil employment, as Parliament's Commissioner with the Scottish forces, and not under arms, he could not be held as a prisoner of war.

He died without issue in February, 1648/9, and his wife



“GREAT RICHARD” BARWISE
of Ilekirk (1601—1648)

from a painting by an unknown hand, reproduced by kind permission of
Col. H. Ballantyne Dykes.

Photo. J. Robson, Broughton-in-Furness.

Facing p. 118.

some eight years later. In the west wall of the rebuilt church of St. Hilda at Westward are memorial brasses to both of them, set in stone frames which are clearly the end portions of a tomb.*

The inscription on the brass to "Great Richard" is as follows:

A Memorative Epitaph for the excellently accomplisht
Gentleman Richard Barwise late of Ilekirke
Esqr. He dyed the 13th of Febr. 1648 in the 47th
yeare of his age.

Belowe good Barwise Clos'd in bodye lyes,
Whose saintly soule, Ioyes crown'd above ye skies
Cyties wise Guide, Countries cheife ornament
In Grace, and Natur's gifts, most eminent
Grave, prudent, pious, stor'd with vertues best
Exchanginge life for Death by Death lives blest
Of whome tis sayd none here lived more approved
None dyed more mist, none mist was more beloved
Whose vertuous wife in sable thoughts doth mourne
Her turtles loss, till layd neere to his urne.
Oh pittye great soe choyse a couple should
Without Grand issue be reduced to mould,
Nor can they well while here they leave a name
Shall them survive till they revive againe

Death is swollowed up in victory

Vivit post Funera virtus

Beneath are the arms of Barwis impaling Musgrave (*Or, six annulets gules, three two, one*) flanked by recumbent figures titled "Truth" and "Fame" and bearing scrolls on which are inscribed:

Try'd honor'd loved thus from this world he's gone
Where he left scarce so iust wise good a one.

The stone frames bears the initials "R.B. F.B." and a date which seems to be 1699. The other brass records a charitable bequest of his "vertuous wife":

* I am indebted to the Rev. C. H. Tandy-Lett, Vicar of Westward, for calling my attention to this point, and also for kind assistance when I visited his church. He mentioned an old story that the village children had been accustomed to use the tomb as a desk when doing their lessons in the old church. The brasses are illustrated from rubbings in these *Transactions*, o.s. xiii, pt. 1, facing p. 150.

Frances Barwis gives to the poore for ever a parcell of ground lying in Wigton called Stanbank which is now let for XXXX^s in the yeare, whereof XX^s to be given yearly to the poore of Westward the XXI day of December and X^s more the XXV of March and X^s the same day to the poore of Wigton towne the same to be given at Newkirk

feoffees in trust

The heire of Ilekirk	} successively
The minister of Newkirk	
John Watson of Stonerose	} and their heires
Mungoe Dalton of Swinstey	

The first lease began vi^o Aug^{ti} 1657 P:M: Sculpfit

Bashforth records the following titles from the flyleaf and covers of the "Parish Book, Westward": (flyleaf) "The poor people's dole Book for Wigton Towne and the parish of Westward, March 25, 1728, Richard Wilson, Minister"; (back of cover) "The Book of Francis Barwise's Legacy of Stankbank to the poor of Westward and Wigton town"; (inside cover) "Trust out of Mr. Barwis's personal estate charged in the will of Mr. G. Grainger upon his freehold estate at Bromfield." The Vicar says that this book is now lost. According to the Rev. James Wilson it recorded "the various occasions when the interest of the legacy was distributed in the beneficiary parishes with the names of the recipients and the amount of the doles. The last entry in the book took place in 1821."*

Great Richard's heir was his sister, Grace, who also inherited a part of the manor of Bothel from her father. She married firstly a second son of the family of Egglefield, and, on his death without issue, secondly Richard Denton. Their son Edward sold the Bothel estate to the Salkelds of Threapland. Grace sold Ilekirk to her distant cousin, Richard Barwis, known in contradistinction to his predecessor there as "Little Richard."

"Little Richard" (see Table III) was the only son of

* "The Early Registers of the Parish of Westward," these *Transactions*, o.s. xiii.

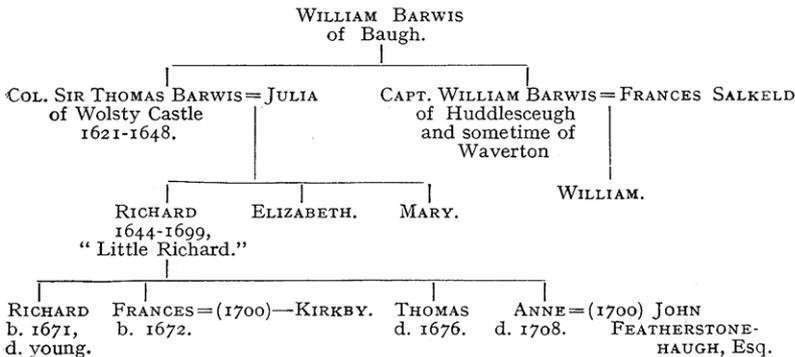
Col. Thomas Barwis of Wolsty Castle, to whom a plain memorial brass with the following inscription is set in the north wall of Wigton Church:

A memorative Epitaph for the worthy and loveing Colonel Thomas Barwise, who dyed the 15 day of Decemb^r: 1648: Aetatis suae 27.

Stay Passenger, for here bold Barwise lyes,
Whose saint'd spirit soares about the skyes,
Stout, wise, yet humble, fitted in each part
for more comand of comelie body, pious hart
Deare to his people country kindred deare
Deare to his knowne associates everie where
who liueing was lifes liuelie Portrature
and dying Colonell liues crowned sure.

TABLE III.—PEDIGREE OF "LITTLE RICHARD" BARWIS OF ILEKIRK.

(Based on the Bashforth notes).



He seems to have inherited Wolsty Castle from his aunt, or cousin, Anne Barwis, daughter of Thomas Barwis, sometime Mayor of Carlisle, and wife of William Chambers of Wolsty. He was a Parliamentarian and served on various committees during the Civil War. He was owed nearly £3,000 by the Parliament, which was ordered to be paid at the time of the Act for Abolishing Deans and Chapters in 1649, but he had already died. In the year

before his death he is referred to in the Calendar of Clarendon Papers (No. 2724) as "Sir Tho. Barwis," but there seems no corroboration of the title.

"Little Richard" had two sons but neither of them survived him. In 1700 his eldest daughter, Frances, married a Mr. Kirkby, and the younger, Anne, John Featherstonehaugh, Esq. With the death of Anne in 1708 Ile Kirk Grange passed from the Barwis family.

The change in the family's fortunes is well reflected in the following extract from a private Visitation of Cumberland of 1675:

Not farr of here yow have a large village called Langrigg and an ancient Hall House and squires formerly of the Osmotherleys some 200 *l. p. an.* And not farr of Mr. Barwis of Ile Kirk: was a fair estate, but trifled it away wold not thrive with him; and wear divers of them and he a burges for Carelile ag^t the King in p'lament: and so all the rest ith contry; and were a family of very good esteem; and now not one of name or fame of any of them, nor any man much remembers them or speaks a good word of them.

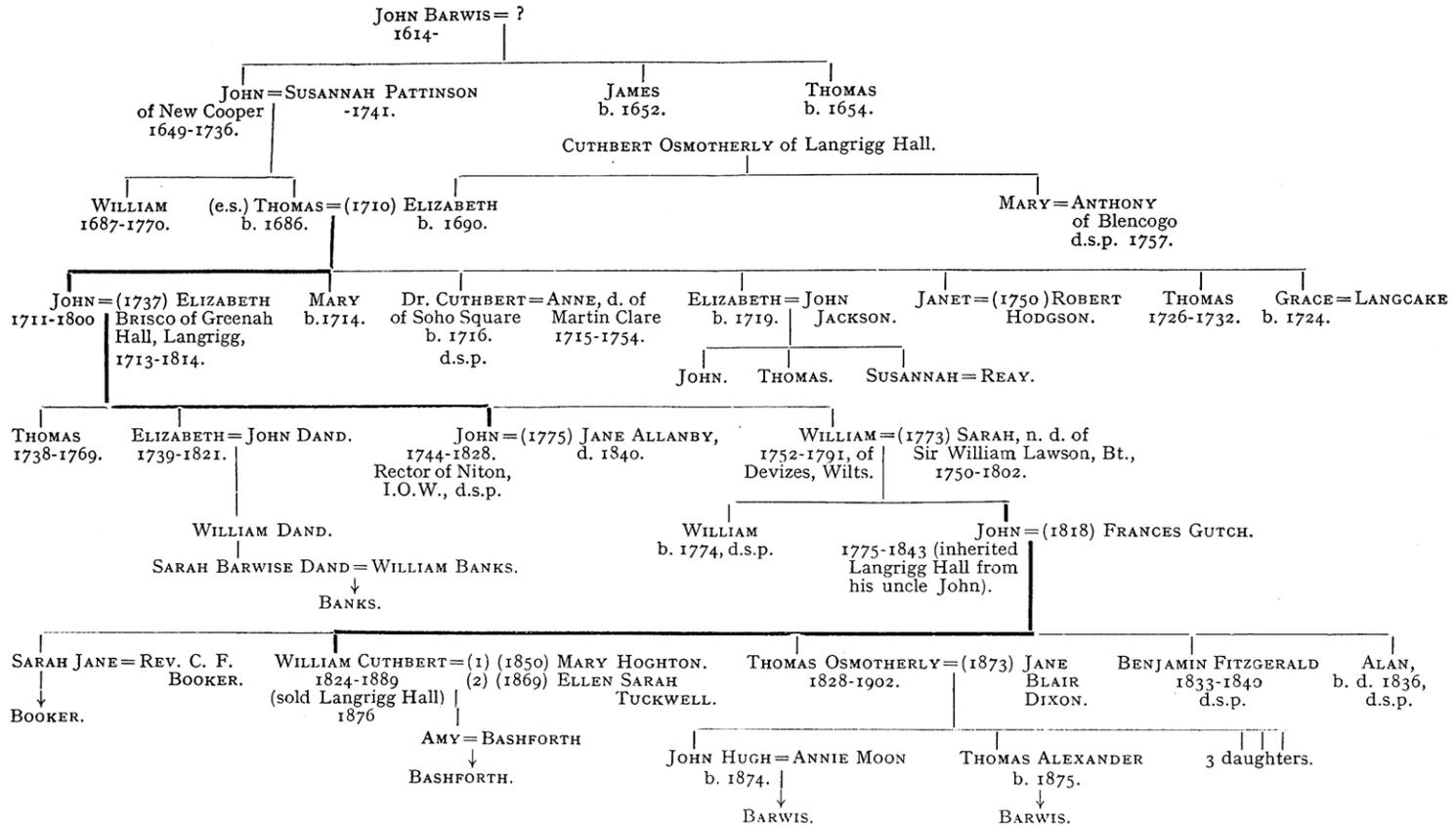
Ile Kirk Grange, now generally called Ile Kirk Hall, still stands, down in a hollow at the end of a lane about a mile from Westward off the road towards Ireby. At the back of the picturesque old house runs the Thornthwaite Beck, a tributary stream of the Waver, and before it is a grassed courtyard surrounded by stone walls and flanked by two vast dove-cotes; it is now an unpretentious farmhouse.

3. BARWIS OF LANGRIGG HALL.

(See Table IV).

Besides the main Barwis line at Ile Kirk Grange there were, during the 16th and 17th centuries, branches of the family spread over the whole of the low-lying country round Wigton and Aspatria, so that, in Bashforth's words "there is scarcely a seat in the district which has not been occupied at one time or another by a Barwis." The Bashforth MS. contains innumerable isolated notes upon

TABLE IV.—PEDIGREE OF BARWIS OF LANGRIGG HALL, Co. CUMBERLAND.
(Based on the Bashforth notes).



Facing p. 123.

various bearers of the name during this period at Waverton, Baugh, Langrigg, Bromfield and other places, but not sufficient evidence of identity to establish a pedigree for more than a generation or two, or to show what relationship they bore to the line which alone survived with any degree of prominence into the 18th century.

This line we cannot with any certainty trace back beyond a certain John Barwis, born in 1649, who owned estates at Dryholme and New Cooper, both of which seem to have been already long in the possession of Barwises. Towards the end of his life John Barwis sold Dryholme for £895 to Thomas Barns, who married a Frances Barwis. The passing of Dryholme from the male line is thus lamented in a verse preserved by family tradition:

Dryholme John was much to blame
To let th' estate go out of the name,
For full three hundred years complete
Dryholme had been a Barwise seat.

The house at Dryholme was rebuilt in 1760. There is still preserved at Langrigg Hall an oak chest decorated with Carolean ornament and bearing the initials and date "J 1682 B".

It is probable that John Barwis's reason for selling was to provide funds to assist his son in a marriage which, though in other respects desirable, was financially a poor one.

The history of the Osmotherlys of Langrigg Hall is dealt with in these *Transactions*, N.S. xvi. For the present purpose it is enough to state that the family had been settled there since the 13th century and could trace an unbroken pedigree in the male line from about 1500. Built into the exterior wall of the kitchen at the Hall is a stone, which came from a demolished dove-cote, carved with " ^O C: M 1705 "—that is, Cuthbert Osmotherly and his wife Mary Salkeld of Bothel. The only son of the

marriage, Salkeld Osmotherly, became vicar of Kirkby Fleetham, Yorkshire, and died without issue. The two daughters each married a Barwis. The younger, Mary, married an Anthony Barwis of Blencogo and died without issue, and the elder, Elizabeth, married Thomas, the son of "Dryholme John."

Cuthbert Osmotherly had become involved in financial difficulties, from which Thomas relieved him in 1735 by purchasing Langrigg Hall and allowing him to live on there until his death ten years later. Thomas Barwis was Foreman of the Sixteen Men of Holme Cultram 1727-30 and again in 1748. He seems never to have lived at Langrigg, and is still styled "of New Cooper" in his will. With his son John, who settled there, he rebuilt the Hall about 1750. It needed, he said, "three bags; a bag of nails, a bag of gold and a bag of patience." The result was rewarding, for his descendants continued to own and live in it for four generations, and the fine old mansion still stands in its picturesque park, and still contains portraits and relics of the family.

Thomas Barwis, his eldest son, seems to have inherited some of the athletic prowess of his ancestor of Ile Kirk. He was a notable wrestler and jumper, and an exponent of 18th century Cumberland football. Hutchinson (p. 522-3) quotes a dialect verse which he says "refers to a curious game of football played by the boys of Bromfield School* on Shrove Tuesday after barring the master out."

At Scales, great Tom Barwise gat the ba' in his hand,
 And t'wives aw ran out, and shouted and bann'd:
 Tom Cowan then pulch'd, and flung him 'mang t'whins,
 And he bleddered 'Od-white te' ton's broken my shins.

He was accidentally shot at the age of 31 while on a visit to his aunt, Grace Langcake. His younger brother, John, inherited Langrigg Hall on the death of his mother at the age of 101 in 1814. He is recorded to have been baptised

* This School had been founded in 1612 by Richard Osmotherly.



Photo. Wilkinson, Wigton.

LANGRIGG HALL.
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Facing p. 124.



JOHN BARWIS OF LANGRIGG HALL
(1775—1843). From a miniature.

Photo. Wilkinson, Wigton.

Facing p. 125.

in the family christening robe, which is still preserved, embroidered with the initials and date "E.L. 1624," thought to stand for Eleanor Barwis, the cousin of "Great Richard," who married a Lamplugh. Although he added the bow-windowed west wing, and bought Dovers Land and other local property, he did not live much at the Hall, for he was Rector of Niton, Isle of Wight. His wife, Jane Allenby, had the freehold of Allenby Cottage near the park gate. He was also the heir of his uncle, the Rev. Cuthbert Barwis, D.D., who, having taken a post at the private school of Martin Clare in Soho Square, married his employer's daughter and succeeded him in the school. There was a eulogy of him in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1828, when he died, without issue, in Wandsworth, at the age of 83. His wife was very nearly a centenarian, like his mother, when she died in 1840. By his will he left her the Hall, and the bulk of his money to his nephew John, the son of his third brother, William.

William had been left the estate of New Cooper by his father, but he lived at Devizes, where he was in practice as a doctor.* He married Sarah, natural daughter of Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Bart., of Brayton Hall. She, tradition says, was the only lady but one in Devizes who could write; as a proof of her industry in the practice of this art, many of her letters are still preserved at Langrigg Hall. He died in some financial embarrassment. His elder son had died young, and to the younger, John, he could leave nothing but the New Cooper property and some £1500 worth of debts. These John honourably discharged when he came into the money of his uncle, the Rector of Niton. He was educated at the Soho school, and went up to Queen's College Oxford, where he became Vinerian Scholar and a Fellow. In 1804 he was called to the bar (Middle Temple) and in the same year sold New

* See his obituary notice in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1791.

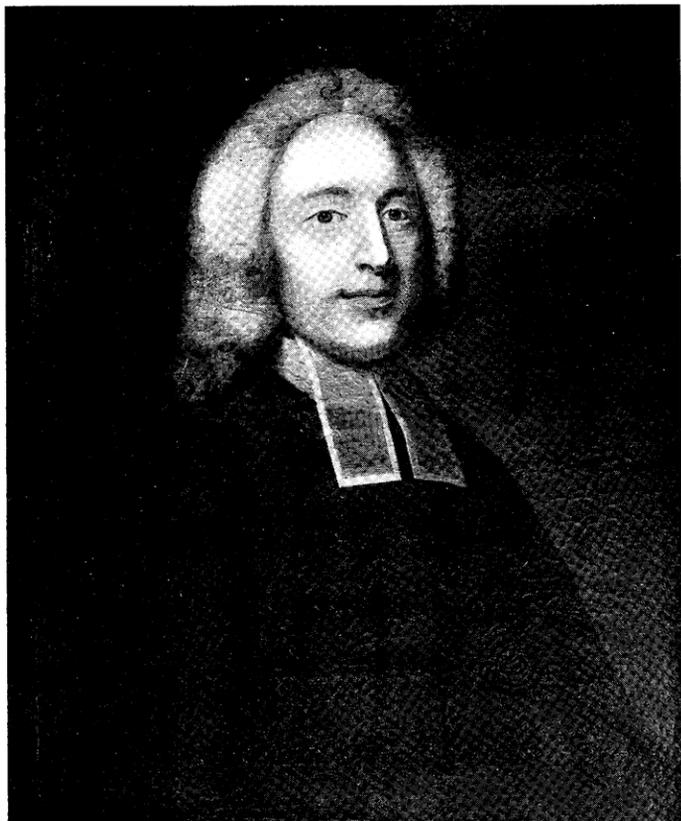
Cooper to a Mr. Younghusband rather than be any longer dependent on his uncle, who had paid for his education. In 1813 he was appointed by the 1st Marquis of Ormonde agent for his Irish estates at Kilkenny, and in 1815 he married Frances, daughter of the Rev. John Gutch, Registrar of Oxford University. Returning to England in 1835, he lived at Woodstock until, on the death of his uncle's widow, he inherited Langrigg Hall, where he spent the three remaining years of his life. He was an active magistrate and was energetic in quelling the riots at Wigton in 1842. He is buried, with his son Benjamin Fitzgerald Barwis, who died at the age of seven, at Paddington, where their memorial tablets are affixed to the exterior wall of the church. He is also commemorated, with other members of the family, in Bromfield Church.

His eldest surviving son, the Rev. William Cuthbert Barwis, sold Langrigg Hall in 1876. The latter's daughter, Amy, married William Bashforth, and it is to their sons that I owe the researches which have made this paper possible. The Misses Booker, who now hold a tenancy of Langrigg Hall, are the daughters of Sarah Jane Barwis, the eldest sister of the last Barwis to own it.

4. BARWIS OF PENRYN, CORNWALL.

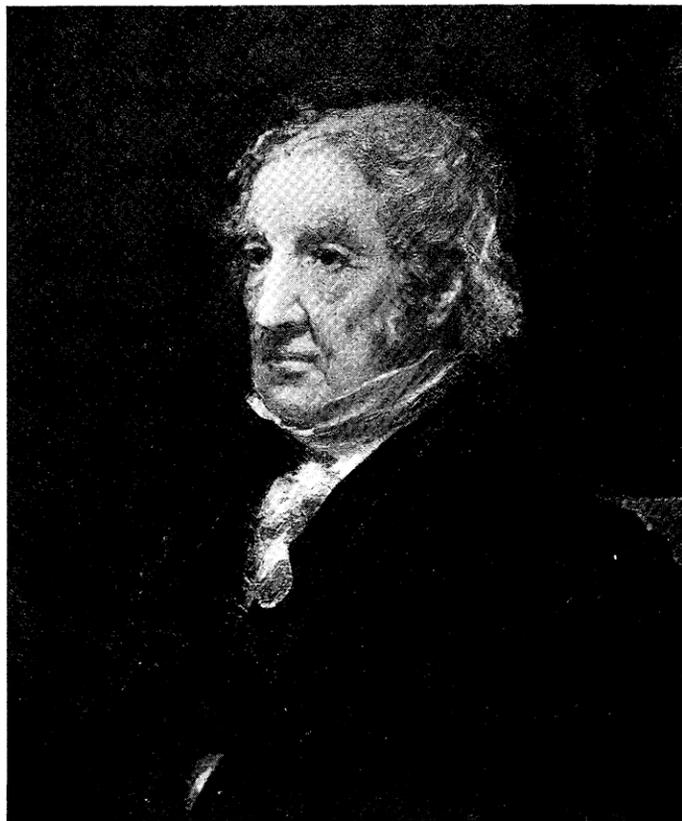
(See Table V).

The name of Barwis is now extremely rare outside Cumberland and Westmorland. It does not appear, for instance, in the current issue of the London Telephone Directory. For the sake of comparative completeness, therefore, I beg leave to add a few sentences about another branch of the family which migrated from Langrigg to Cornwall towards the end of the 18th century and, after flourishing there for about a hundred years, is now, I believe, extinct in the male line. It was, indeed, in investigating the history of this family (to which my maternal grandmother, Ellen Mary Barwis, belonged)



REV. CUTHBERT BARWIS, D.D.,
of Soho Square, London (1716—1782).
From the portrait by Francis Hayman.

Photos. Wilkinson, Wigton.



REV. JOHN BARWIS
(1744—1828), Rector of Niton, I.o.W.

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Facing p. 126.

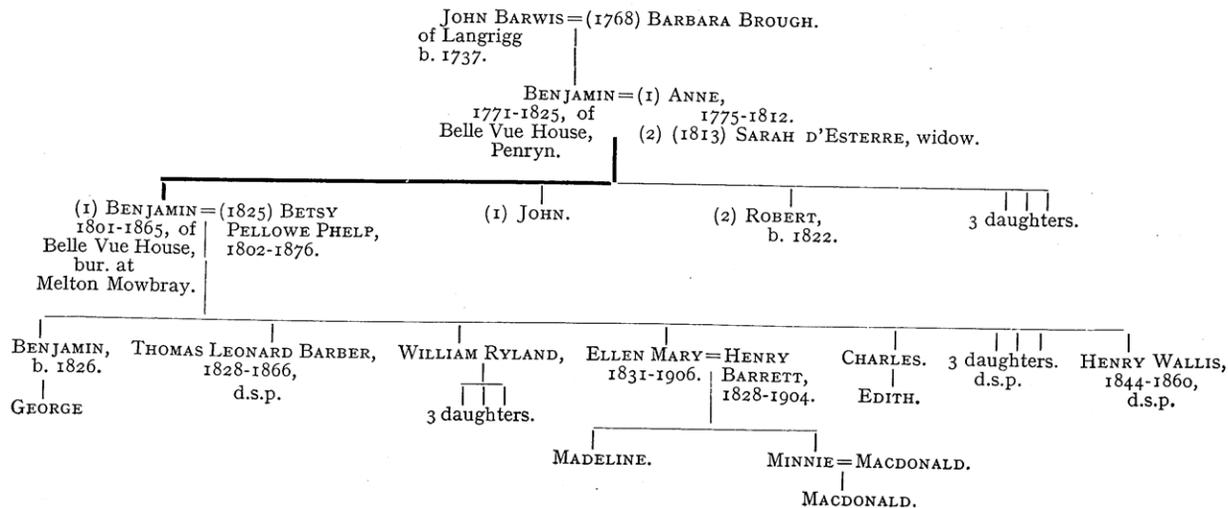
that my steps were led to Cumberland, where, to my disappointment, I failed to trace the connection to the main stock.

Family tradition records that Benjamin Barwis, an usher in a school in Cumberland, made a runaway match with the master's daughter, who was disowned by her parents. From their ages as given in the records of their burials,* it is clear that he was born in 1771 and she in 1775. It was probably a Gretna Green marriage. They came down to the west and lived first at Falmouth, where Benjamin obtained employment with the famous Quaker family of Fox. Fox suggested to him that there was an opening for a boys' school in the neighbourhood, and he proceeded to open one at Belle Vue House, Penryn. Here he lived and worked, and his son after him, until 1862, when it was sold. Probably the establishment of efficient public schools made it no longer so necessary. The house, like Barwise Hall and Ile Kirk Grange, has fallen on hard times and is now let as tenements. I add a shortened pedigree which shows those descendants whom I know of as bearing or having borne the name of Barwis. An attempt to trace the ancestry of the first Benjamin in the parish registers of Bromfield has succeeded only in taking him back one generation, which, though "of Langrigg," was certainly no close relative of the Langrigg Hall family, as Benjamin allowed his family to suppose when he was at a safe distance in Cornwall. How far back it would be necessary to go to find the connection which obviously exists,† it is impossible to say. I have collected upwards of forty Barwises from the Bromfield

* At St. Gluvias, Penryn. The tombstones have been broken up, but that of "Anne, lamented wife of Benjamin Barwis of Bellevue House, died 9 March, 1812, aged 39 years, Also of William Ryland and (?) Anne who died in their infancy" was to be seen about twenty years ago.

† A piece of evidence which is more convincing to me than I can expect most readers to find it, is the strong facial resemblance between the portrait of John Barwis of Langrigg Hall and several descendants of Benjamin Barwis whom I have seen.

TABLE V.—PEDIGREE OF BARWIS OF PENRYN, CO. CORNWALL.



and Westward registers, but it is impossible to construct even a conjectural pedigree out of them.

In bringing these incomplete notes to a conclusion, I wish to thank the owners for kindly permitting this use of the materials in their possession. I should like also to record my gratitude to the Misses Booker for their warm welcome to Langrigg Hall of a stranger with so distant a claim to kinship, for their kindness in permitting the reproduction of portraits in their possession and for their sympathetic interest. Should these lines meet the eye of any other bearer of the name of Barwis, or of any reader, who can throw further light upon the history of the family, I should be very grateful for the information.

POSTSCRIPT.

Since this Paper was set up in type I have been fortunate in securing, through the agency of Miss Booker and the generosity of Col. H. Ballantine Dykes, a photograph of the portrait of "the Great Barwis," formerly at Dovenby Hall, which is referred to on page 118. The source of my statement there that the portrait showed him holding his wife on his hand was based on a family memorandum, but is clearly a mistake, unless there was another portrait which has since disappeared. As the reproduction (facing page 118) shows, it is a head and shoulders portrait. There would seem to be little beyond tradition and the great girth of the figure to prove its identification. The inscription, "Rich^d Barwise | Ob^t 1648 | Lord of the Manors | of Ile Kirk & Dearham | his Sister & Heir | Marr^d Tho^s Lamplugh | of Ribton," dates only from the last century; moreover the sister who married a Lamplugh was, unless the Bashforths were wrong, not the heir of Richard, but a younger sister. Col. Dykes writes that the hair and beard are dark brown, and the coat black with white lace collar and white slashings. The portrait is very dark with age. There is no signature.