



ART. II.—*The de Boyvils of Millum and Kirksanton.*  
By the REV. W. S. SYKES, M.A.

*Read at Carlisle, September 24th, 1940.*

THE early history of the families in South Cumberland is so very meagre that little attempt has been made to unravel it before c. 1125 when Godard de Boivil made grant of certain parishes to the Priory of St. Bees.

Mr. Farrer in Addendum to *Lancashire Pipe Rolls* has pointed out that the family of Ketel f. Eldred had lands in Copeland held under Kendal, and names Workington, Lamplugh, Hensingham, Kelton, Saltergh, Mulcaster, Whitbeck.

In these *Trans.* N.S. xxxvii, 72, Miss Fair describes Ketel f. Eldred as a person of outstanding position.

So at the crucial period for commencement of family histories we find only one family of outstanding position in a very wide district.

Then we must remember one of whom little is known save the names of his sons. There is no proof available at present that Ulf whose sons Ketel and Eward styled themselves de Copeland was in any way connected with Eldred and his son Ketel.

But it seems almost more than coincidence that Eldred and his son Ketel held lands in Hensingham, Kelton, Salter and Muncaster and that Ulf and his son Ketel and their descendants also held possession in the same four places.

Also that Ketel f. Ulf was both contemporary with and witness with and for Gospatric f. Orm f. Ketel.

In these *Trans.* N.S. xxxvii, 86, Miss Fair shows that the family of de Boisvil originated from Boisville one of the

fiefs of the Viscount le Bussins. She names two brothers but I think there were three.

Apparently they were gentlemen adventurers who came with the Meschin brothers about A.D. 1072 or a little later and became possessors of lands in Cumberland.

In many instances, compare Ivo de Tailbois, this came about through the marriage of a Norman adventurer with the daughter of a former English landowner.

Their marriages might not at first be with consent of the King or of such great landowner as he endowed with wide possessions. But the title to such lands as formed the dowry of their marriage was regularised at a later date. The usual form was "I give, grant and confirm."

Such a case is quoted in these *Trans.* xiv. William de Lancaster "*gives grants and confirms*" to Gospatric f. Orm estates which had belonged to his family for generations. So also Cecily Countess Albemarle "*gives and grants*" to Henry f. Arthur lands which had belonged to his ancestors for at least 80 years.

This procedure probably accounts for the statement that the Barony of Levington was *given* by Henry I to Richard de Boivil.

In these *Trans.* xi, Mr. T. H. B. Graham commences the history of the de Boivil of Levington from this gift by Henry I, but in the history of the family he shows that Adam de Boivil died in 1179.

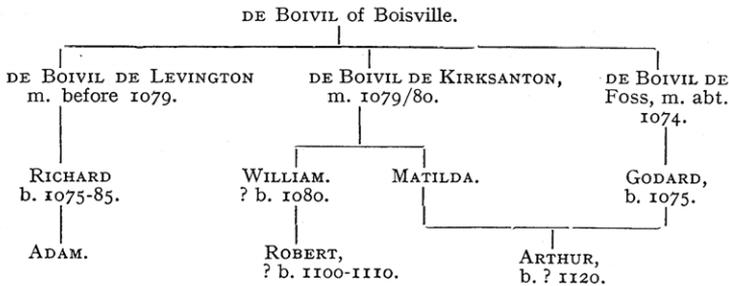
Adam's birth might therefore be c. 1100 or 1110. If so his father, Richard, to whom the grant was made, must have been born 20 or 30 years earlier—perhaps 1075-1085, and the marriage of the first de Boivil, 1074-84. . . .

In the southern part of the County. It is generally assumed that Godard de Boivil was with William Meschin in the Crusade of 1096. He must have been at least 16 or 20 years old. That is he was born 1075-1080. In his charter of Foss he speaks of his father as having been in possession of that estate with all rights and privileges.

The date of his father's marriage must have been c. 1074-79.

Robert de Boivil of Kirksanton was witness for Godard in 1135. He may have been born c. 1115, but for certain reasons I think c. 1100. Denton gives his father's name as William but wrongly as I think calls him Godard's brother. William must have been married c. 1099/1100 and if so his father must have married not later than 1080.

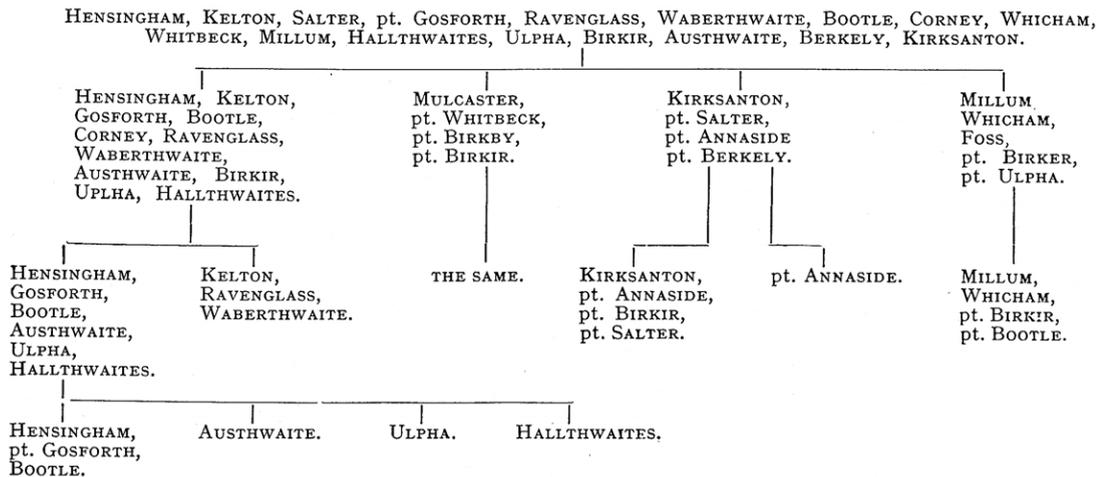
The foregoing may then be summed up in Pedigree form.



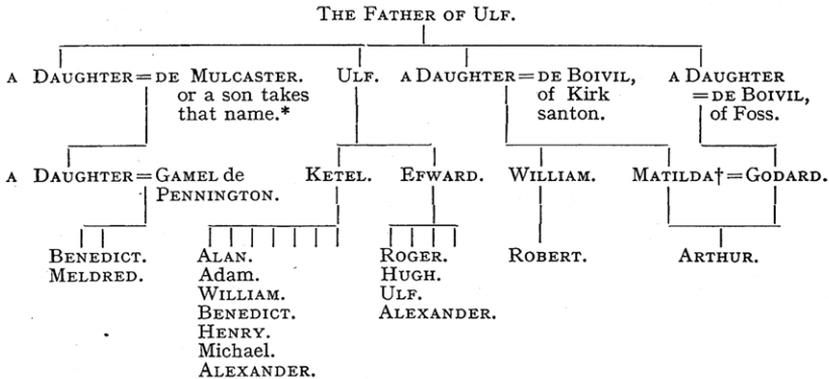
The ancestor of de Levington was therefore probably married c. 1074/9; of Foss about 1074; of Kirksanton about 1079; but even the youngest whichever he might be must have been born not later than 1059/60, before the Conquest of England; and each must have been in Cumberland before the Conquest by William Rufus and married and become landowner before the time of Henry I.

It is necessary to turn to another line of argument. It can be shown that Ketel f. Eldred had possessions in Hensingham, Kelton, Saltergh and Muncaster; and that descendants of Ketel f. Ulf held land in the same places. A similar connection can also be traced in other places between the lands held by the de Copeland family and those of de Boivil. They are so dove-tailed one with another that it seems impossible not to believe that the ownership is due to intermarriage of the families.

This perhaps might be put in a kind of Pedigree form.



Taking this descent of ownership of land with what has already been suggested and dates of marriages it seems permissible to make a further suggestion that the de Boyvils married daughters of the most prominent local families and that Ulf is the connecting link; it could not be before his date.



### DE BOYVIL OF MILLUM.

At a time when South Cumberland was undergoing very considerable changes and the ancient manor of Hougoun was in the process of disruption it does not seem unlikely that such a well-known knight as Godard de Boyvil, well proved and favoured by the Meschin brothers and closely allied to one of the most powerful of the pre-conquest families, should be selected as chief lord of the half of Hougoun which was being separated from the Lancashire influence formerly in the hands of Roger of Poictou and which was more and more being associated with Copeland.

The possession, however, of this conferred lordship over kindred of the ancient family of de Copeland must have

\* The connection of de Mulcaster may belong to an earlier generation but Denton puts forward a theory of close connection. He assigns it to the Hodelston family; it seems more probable that it was between Mulcaster and Boycil through de Copeland.

† Reasons for assigning this position to Matilda are given later.

complicated the title of ownership which was only to be regularised in succeeding generations, as indeed was Millum itself as part of Egremont for we read that Dame Cecily Countess of Albemarle states "I have given and granted to Henry f. Arthur as his right and heirship all the land and fee between Esk and Duddon." And that Arthur and Henry his son paid £100 to King Henry II as a post fine in recognition of the grant.

Similarly Austhwaite was so regularised as part of Millom by William f. Henry.

#### I. THE FATHER OF GODARD.

The only certainty about him is that he was in possession of the district—some 600 acres or more—of Foss, now part of the parish of Whitbeck. The parish as it now is contained the three distinct moieties (1) held by de Mulcaster, (2) Foss, (3) Annaside, which appears closely associated with Kirksanton.

There is no evidence to show whether the demesne land of the ancient caput of Hougun was also his possession, but it is quite probable.

Of his wife nothing is known but that he—a former gentleman adventurer—was in possession of lands held until the Conquest, by the most notable local family makes it seem certain that she was a de Copeland and of the same generation as Ulf.

The marriage must have taken place about 1074 as Godard was old enough, 16 at least, 20 more likely, to accompany William Meschin to the Crusade of 1096.

That this progenitor of the Millum family was also called Godard there is no evidence. The title Dapifer was added to Godard's name from his office at Egremont not to distinguish him personally. Whether Godard was the only child is not known. Denton says that William the first-named of Kirksanton was a younger brother of Godard but there are reasons for believing that this is incorrect. There is also a shadowy suggestion of a daughter.

The first le Fleming of Rottington from whom Benedict c. 1247 was a descendant held what appears to have been a marriage portion within the district of Foss. His wife may have been a sister of Godard or belong to an earlier generation.

## 2. GODARD DE BOYVIL.

Born c. 1075. At an early date associated with William Meschyn under whom he is supposed to have been present in the Crusade of 1096. Later with Ranulf for whose Wetheral Charters 2, 3, 4 he was a witness. After William Meschin had received the Barony of Copeland and made Egremont his Caput Godard appears as chief of the staff of military service. Of the date when he received the Honour of Millum there seems no certainty, but it must have been quite early in the xiith century. At the foundation of St. Bees he gave the parishes and Tithes of Whicham and Bootle. And in 1135 to Furness Abbey he gave one of the farms in Foss, still called Monk Foss and also a farm called Bordley in Craven. Godard died c. 1138 and it is supposed that he was killed in battle. Farrer, p. 274 states that David, "King of Scots invaded the north of England in 1136 . . . and two years later . . . his army led by Prince William f. Duncan on 10th June, 1138 defeated the English army at Clitheroe."

## MATILDA, WIFE OF GODARD.

Her son Arthur calls Robert of Kirksanton "filius avunculi" that is "son of my mother's brother." Denton names him William, but thought he was Godard's brother. I am told that either would be correct—and there is a similar description where Ranulf f. William Meschin speaks of Fulk as his avunculus where it seems more probable that he was Cecily's brother on a visit after the death of William Meschin. In any case it seems more likely that Matilda was sister of William de Boyvil of Kirksanton and that she received as a marriage portion

certain land in Annaside which she when her husband was killed devoted to St. Bees for the repose of his soul. The gift was confirmed by Adam f. Suan who appears to have had the wardship of Arthur during his minority and it was ratified also by Wm. f. Duncan as lord of Egremont and by David, King of Scots as sovereign lord.

### 3. ARTHUR DE BOYVIL.

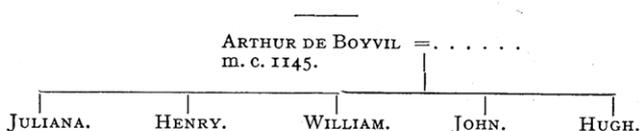
Born apparently about 1120 as he seems to have been a minor at his father's death in 1138 and a ward of Adam f. Suan.

His marriage may have taken place about 1145. It was at the time of the Crusade and Robert the son of his mother's brother appears to have taken his place as leader of the Millum forces called for service from the lordship. To supply funds Robert leased the manor of Kirksanton to Furness Abbey and Arthur ratified it. *Furness Coucher*, ii, 513, 514.

In c. 1160 Benedict and Meldred de Pennington of Mulcaster gave Skeldhow near Eskmeals to Russyn Abbey and Arthur confirmed the charter. Other witnesses include Edward and Ketel the sons of Ulf.

*St. Bees*, No. 382. Arthur is witness for William, Earl of Albemarle, but there is no clue to the date except it must be before 1179.

#### PEDIGREE.



#### *Juliana.*

She is only mentioned in her son's charter, *Furness Coucher*, ii, 547, the land is close to Dunning Well on the border—an ill defined one—between Millum demesne lands and those of Hallthwaites. The land position suggests that it may have been a marriage portion and

that the owner was of Hallthwaites. If so Juliana must have been wife of William f. Ketel. Hugh as named in the charter would be a younger brother of Juliana, but in several Furness Charters of the date an error is made between the names Hugh and Henry.

*Henry* who succeeded his father, *vid. infra*.

*William* f. Arthur.

Both the brother and the son of Henry were styled "de Millum." William the brother was married and had a son Henry who married his cousin Gunilda, daughter of Henry. William the son may have been married but had no issue. It seems impossible to decide which was the husband of Avice, daughter of Richard v. Roger of Woodplumpton and Lytham. *Vid. Farrer, Lancs. Pipe Rolls*. There is also a difficulty in two other references.

*St. Bees*, 288, c. 1202. For Richard f. John de Ponsonby, William de Millum is witness.

*Ibid.*, page 441*n*. William de Millum was the admitting lord of the manor of Hiton in Bootle.

In the latter it is possible that William son of Henry might have the manor of Hiton as personal property; but in both it seems more likely that his uncle is indicated. There is, however, no doubt that the following is by William the brother of Henry, these *Trans.*, xiv, 391. William de Millum gives to Annabel, daughter of Thomas f. Gospatric land in Ursicar which Henry *his brother* had held of the Lady Alice de Rumeli.

One of the witnesses was Roger Gernet and if William f. Arthur was the husband of Avicia, daughter of Richard f. Roger it would be quite natural that his brother-in-law should be his first witness; but there seems no reason why Roger Gernet should be witness for William the son of Henry.

The date must be after 1219.

*John* f. Arthur a witness. *Furness Coucher*, ii, 554.

*Hugh* f. Arthur. Hugh de Rouceley, *vid. Miss Fair*, these *Trans.* n.s. xxxvii, 87.

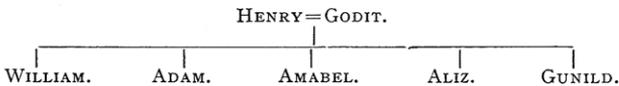
## 4. HENRY, SON OF ARTHUR.

Born, perhaps c. 1145 and married c. 1165-70. His wife's name was Godit, *vid. Holm Cultram*, No. 83.

Soon after 1179 "Cecily, Countess Albemarle as admitting lord of the Barony of Egremont gives and grants to Henry f. Arthur the land between Esk and Duddon," and Pipe Rolls show that the fine was paid, 1183-4-5-8, *vid. Jackson Papers*, Vol. ii, 54. The date of Henry's succession may be 1185; c. 1182 Robert de Boivil confirms his father's grant in Kirksanton, witness Henry f. Arthur; *Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 523. Henry confirms the gift of Godard to Furness Abbey; *Cockersand*, s.d. 1184-90. Henry witnesses a gift by Alan f. Ketel; *Furness Coucher*, ii, 528, Sir John Fleming of Beckermet refers to a marriage portion of his wife Amabel, lands belonging to Henry f. Arthur but not so named; *Ibid.*, ii, 554, c. 1200 Henry gives a marriage portion with his daughter Aliz; *Holm Cultram*, No. 83. No date, Henry gives a marriage portion with his daughter Gunilda; these *Trans.* ii, 329, c. 1199-1200. Rd. de Luci pays fine to the King, Henry f. Arthur one of the sureties. First Charter of Egremont, Henry f. Arthur a witness c. 1202. He is also witness for Alan de Pennington; for Annabel, daughter of Wm. Bricwald; for Philip Norreis whose wife Querield was another daughter of Wm. Bricwald; *St. Bees*, 372, 373. c. 1210 Witness with William his son for Richard de Luci; *Furness Coucher*, 569-71. Henry f. Arthur and Henry de Millum (his son-in-law) witnesses for Alice de Rumeli, c. 1214-15.

## CHILDREN OF HENRY DE BOYVIL AND GODIT.

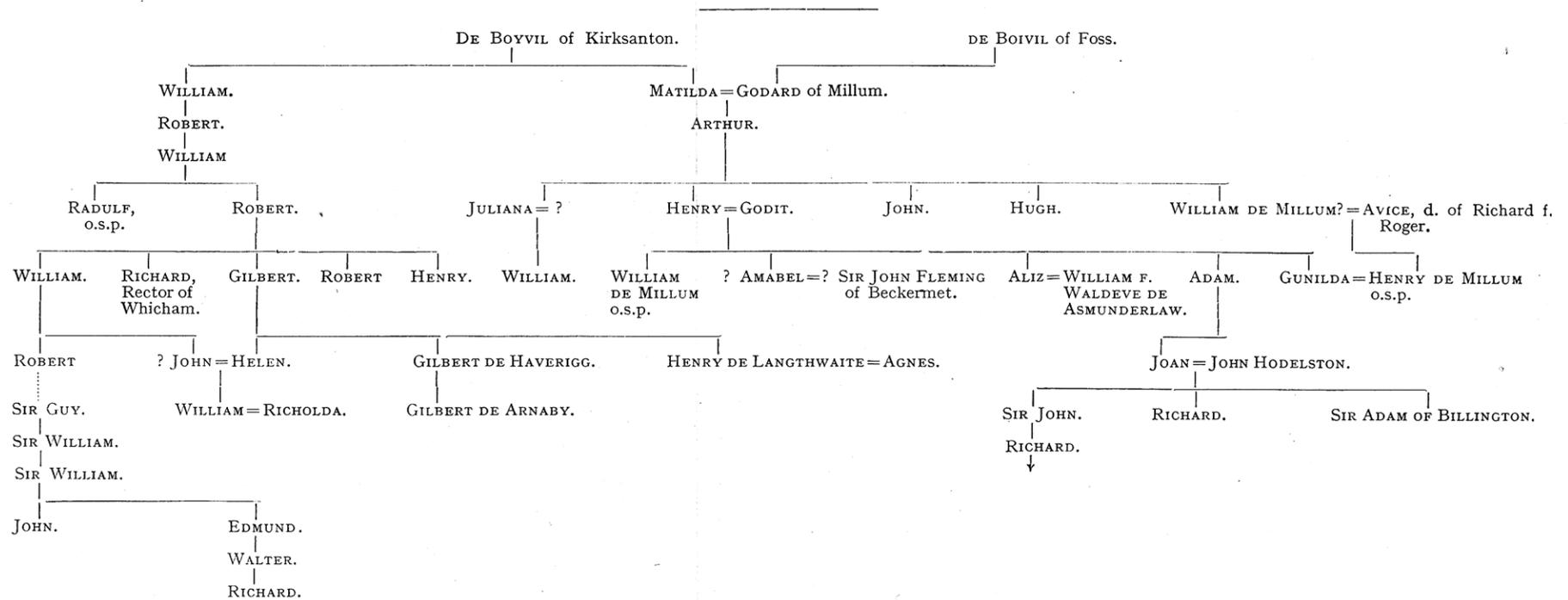
There is no clue to the order.



WILLIAM, *vid. infra*.

ADAM, *vid. infra*.

DE BOYVIL OF MILLUM AND KIRKSANTON.



To face p. 24.

*Amabel.* *vid. Furness Coucher*, p. 528, 533.

It is not stated that Amabel was a daughter of Henry but she belongs to that generation and she and Aliz had as marriage portions land near Kirksanton. That which Aliz had was land in Kirksanton specially obtained from William de Kirksanton and that which Amabel received was in the vill of Millom and it is now called Poo House.

*Aliz.* *Ibid.*, 554. Henry f. Arthur gave to William f. Waldeve or William de Asmunderlaw part of the Crofts of Kirksanton and six acres of land adjoining the Poo House land owned as marriage portion by Sir John Fleming of Beckermet. He also gave a small field close to the Holy Well of Millom called Fons Sanctae Trinitatis. William f. Waldeve and Aliz had two sons William and Henry. The marriage of Aliz was c. 1200 or a little earlier.

*Gunilda.* Married Henry the son of William de Millum, younger brother of Henry. *Holm Cultram*, No. 83. Henry gave with his daughter Gunilda as a marriage portion certain land in Lekeley and Shielings in Crookley beck with certain pasture rights in the Forest of Millum.

There are two references to Henry although they may be only doubtful.

*St. Bees, Illus. Doc.*, xvi, for Anselm de Furness, witness Henry f. William.

*Ibid.*, xv, for Alice de Rumeli, witness Henry de Millum.

But another is certain, *Furness Coucher*, ii, 569. For Alice de Rumeli date 1214-15. Witness Henry f. Arthur and Henry de Millum.

It seems certain that Henry f. William died soon afterwards, perhaps killed in battle, and his widow Gunhilda dedicated her marriage portion to the Nunnery of Seaton in Bootle, under Holm Cultram. *Holm Cultram*, No. 85.

##### 5. WILLIAM F. HENRY.

It has been assumed that he married Avicia, daughter of Richard f. Roger of Wood Plumpton; and also that he was the admitting lord to one of the farms in Hiton in

1202. But he seems not to have been styled William de Millum until after his father's death, whereas his uncle the younger brother of Henry f. Arthur and his son Henry are so called; perhaps the elder William had some official capacity in the castle and lordship.

There is no proof available as to the identity of the husband of Avicia, daughter of Richard f. Roger; but William f. Henry had no issue and it seems more than doubtful that he was married.

William f. Henry succeeded his father c. 1215 and died before 1229. The following are references:—

*St. Bees*, 30. For Richard de Luci, witness Henry f. Arthur and Wm. his son.

*Ibid.*, 471. For William f. Hugh . . . Henry f. Arthur and Wm. his son.

*St. Bees Illus. Doc.*, xxii. William f. Henry confirms Austhwaite to Benedict f. Ketel.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, 544. William f. Henry de Millum to Michael f. William de Furness.

*Ibid.*, ii, 752, 753, 706. William de Millum a witness. No date.

*Patent Rolls*, 1224. William de Millum a justiciar at Lancaster.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, 531, No. 27. William son of Hugh (for error, *vid.* No. 29, 40, 42) gives to Furness the advowson of Millum.

*Ibid.*, ii, 532. William f. Hugh (error for\*Henry, *vid. supra*) gives to Furness Abbey with his body extra land near the salt works in Kirksanton. This land was personal property which his father had purchased from William of Kirksanton.

#### 6. ADAM F. HENRY.

Adam may have been the youngest of Henry's children for his marriage does not seem to have taken place till long after those of his sisters. It is possible, however, that Joan his heiress was not the only child.

The first mention of Adam is as co-witness with William his brother in a deed by Robt. f. Dolfin to Richard f. Alan f. Ketel *Anc. Doc.*, no date (ref. supplied by Miss Fair).

*Furness Coucher*, ii, 532 suggested date 1230, probably earlier. Adam de Millum inspected the deeds of his brother William, lord of Millum.

*St. Bees*, No. 57. Adam f. Henry de Millum gave to St. Bees a salt works in Duddon Sands (near Lady Hall) with peat rights on Arnaby Moss, no date, but c. 1225-30.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 527. Adam de Millum the son of Henry gives a croft and toft in Bootle.

*Ibid.*, ii, p. 533., No. 30. William f. William de Asmunderlaw gives land in Kirksanton which had been his mother's marriage portion. No. 31. Henry de Asmunderlaw confirmed it. No. 32. Adam de Millum confirms these charters. Suggested date is far too late, 1260, because Adam de Millum was succeeded by his son-in-law before 1234.

1229. *Patent Rolls*. At Carlisle John de Morthing arraigns against Adam de Millum and Richard de Morthing in a case of *novel disseisin*—a tenement in Whytebeck.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 555, No. 57. Dec. 23, 1230, Adam de Millum releases all rights in the advowson of Millum Church, dated at Millum.

There is no clue to the date of Adam's death but in *Charter Rolls*, 1234, a grant of a weekly market at *his* manor of Millom and a yearly fair at the feast of Holy Trinity is granted to John de Hodelston.

#### 7. THE LADY JOAN, DAUGHTER OF ADAM.

She appears to have been married c. 1230-32 as her eldest son John was in Ward after his father's death and therefore a minor. Her husband John de Hodelston received grant of market and fair in *his* manor of Millum in 1234. He was evidently very seldom at Millum for there is no local deed, out of 20 or 30, in which his name appears. The only charters of his are:

*Holm Cultram*, 86. John de Hudelston with consent of Joanna his wife confirms the gift of Lekeley.

*St. Bees*, 367. John de Hodelston and Joanna his wife grant to St. Mary's, York, the place called Greesholme. Done at York, 1251/2, but there is an earlier reference.

*Ibid.*, 267, c. 1242, in which John de Hodelston frequently hindered entry to 110 acres of land in Bootle, a pasturage belonging to St. Bees as under St. Mary's, York.

*Ibid.*, 367 (*vid. supra*) is dated in the context Conversion of St. Paul, 1251, which the editor says is 24 January, 1252.

Dodsworth. Joan, widow of John de Hodelston makes certain provision for her eldest son John. One witness is Ralph de Bethum who (these *Trans.* n.s. xxvi, 303) died c. 1252. The death of John (I) is therefore fixed by these two.

These *Trans.* n.s. xxxvii, 85. Joan . . . a grant to her son Richard.

*Holm Cultram*, 88 a, 2. Joan daughter of Adam for the soul of her husband.

Dodsworth. John, Prior of Conishead, agreement with the Lady Joanna daughter of Adam de Millum, widow.

*Curia Regis*. Pleas against Robert de Latham and Joanna that John son of John de Hodelston was the ward of Wm. de Bamford.

These *Trans.* n.s. vii, 225. 1255. Thomas f. Lambert de Multon versus Robert de Lathom and Joanna his wife.

John (II) de Hodelston does not seem to have taken up the duties of his lordship until 1270. The first dated charter in *Furness Coucher*, i, p. 267, 1273.

#### DE KIRKSANTON.

1. The earliest de Boyvil of Kirksanton is unknown by name. He must have been married c. 1078 and his children, William, so named by Denton, and Matilda,

born c. 1080-1090. Arthur f. Godard names his kinsman Robert as "son of my mother's brother"; father's brother would be equally correct, and Denton says it was so; but mother's brother appears to be the only solution to the fact that Matilda had personal right of gift--her charter is not extant but it was a personal gift, probably dower land--of one farm in Annaside. That other land in Annaside remained in possession of the owner of Kirksanton is shown by these *Trans.* N.S. vii, 222, No. 62, Guy de Boyvil and Wm. f. Abraham who was of Annaside. No. 59 refers to another farm, and of Matilda's share of Annaside her descendant the Lady Joan made her son the owner as a personal property and it continued in the personal ownership of his descendants until 1741.

## 2. WILLIAM.

*Denton*, edit. Ferguson, p. 12. The first de Boyvil gave to his second son William the manor of Kirksanton. There is no evidence that the de Boyvils of Foss ever owned Kirksanton which in *D.B.* is an entirely separate manor. This relationship would not permit of Matilda being sister of William, nor explain her ownership of Annaside. The first owner of Foss and the first owner of Kirksanton might be brothers and Godard therefore might marry his cousin Matilda.

Of William nothing further is known.

## 3. ROBERT OF KIRKSANTON.

With him begins the first recorded history. He is mentioned in 1135 as one of Godard's witnesses; with him are the two sons of Ulf. No relationship can be proved but it is probable. In 1138 Godard died or was killed in battle and Arthur being under age was a ward apparently of Adam f. Suan. It is probable therefore that Robert as senior connection of the de Boyvil family might be placed in some position of trust. This seems to be the explanation of the fact that in 1145 he was making preparation for the Crusade and to provide for his

personal needs he leased his estates to Furness Abbey. Arthur was then of age but perhaps his marriage was impending or had quite recently occurred. Robert was therefore taking his place as head of the contingent due from the lordship of Millum.

We know that Robert returned, for in 1157-8 he was witness for the Earl of Warren. Farrer, *Lancs. Deeds*. Robert's death was soon after that date.

#### 4. WILLIAM, c. 1160-70.

It is unfortunate that many grants given in *Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 514ff, are without witnesses' names so that it is difficult to assign dates to them. All are said to be by the same William c. 1175-94. Probably No. 5, 6 10 are by this William and may be dated 1160-70. No. 3 should certainly be after 1182 and perhaps also 4, 7, 8, 9 as they seem designed to give more detail and to prevent encroachment upon the pastures of the Haws by misunderstanding of the original grant.

In my article, these *Trans.* n.s. xxvi, 132, I was only in possession of local information as to the position of the Meles of Kirksanton. But a reference to the Tithe Map numbers has shown that the Meles surround the Lairiggs Farm, T.A. 524-525, which is on the site of the Grange, *Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 539. William de Boyvil granted to the monks the Meles, the Holm (still called Monks' Holm) and 10 acres near the Millum boundary—a special gift for the repose of the soul of his son Radulf—now the Farmery lands between Lacra and Lo'scales.

Nothing is known of his personal life, but William had two sons, Radulf referred to in the charter as lately dead and Robert who succeeded him.

William also gave to Conishead land close to the sea in Haverigg called Ranlotsholm, now Ratholme.

#### 5. ROBERT II.

He married Margaret, daughter of Waltheof f. Edmund who had possessions in Clapham, Yorkshire. Margaret

received as marriage portion a farm in Neuby, worth 8/- per annum. Robert appears to have succeeded his father at Kirksanton c. 1170 and about that year must be his first charter by which he and his wife, also naming William their eldest son gave to Furness the dower land in Neuby. *Furness Coucher*, ii, 303. There are two later charters. *Ibid.*, ii, 520, No. 11, 12, in which No. 11 is witnessed by three of his sons, Richard, Gilbert and Robert and by the latter's brother-in-law, Philip Norreis and must be c. 1180. No. 12 has the same witnesses as No. 3 and may be a year or so later.

In No. 12 Robert calls himself the son of William and mentions his brother Radulf and it is witnessed by Robert de Boivil and Philip Norreis. The connection of three generations is therefore quite distinct. Robert must have died soon afterwards, because William was mesne lord before 1184. *Furness Coucher*, ii, 297. Margaret dau. of Waltheaf f. Edmund, widow, with consent of her children released to Furness the 8/- rent of Neuby. The suggested date is 1210-30. Probable date soon after 1182/4.

ROBERT (II) = MARGARET.

|          |          |          |         |        |
|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
|          |          |          |         |        |
| WILLIAM. | RICHARD. | GILBERT. | ROBERT. | HENRY. |

(a) *William*, the heir, *vid. infra*.

(b) *Richard* held one moiety of the Rectory of Whicham. There is no record of his appointment but he is so named in *St. Bees*, No. 81, 1184-9. In *St. Bees Illus. Doc.*, xxxiv, is his gift to Calder Abbey, witnessed by his brothers Wm. and Gilbert. He is witness, *St. Bees.*, 84, for Christine fil. Copsi and in *Ibid.*, 85, for Orm f. Roger f. Copsi. These may be c. 1185 and in *Ibid.*, No. 93, for Thomas, Prior of Conishead, c. 1199, and *Ibid.*, No. 437, for Ranulf de Rottington, date by inference 1210.

(c) *Gilbert*.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, 521, No. 12, c. 1180, witness for his father Robert. *Ibid.*, ii, 514, No. 3, c. 1182/3 for his

brother William and in *Ibid.* ii, 313, he joins with his brothers in the release of 8/- rent at Neubi.

*St. Bees*, 225. Witness for the Countess Cecily before 1187.

*Ibid.*, 440. Before 1184 made surety for 4/- out of the half mark due from Kirksanton to St. Mary's, York, an annuity to St. Bees.

*Furness Coucher*, ii, 89. Witness for Thomas f. Gospatric.

Gilbert gave to Cockersand three acres in Haverigg of which two acres were in the Wrangs.

Dodsworth. He is witness for a deed between William his brother and Henry f. Arthur by which the latter obtained two bovates of land in Kirksanton. Gilbert appears to have held two estates under his brother, Haverigg and the Langthwaites. He had two sons Henry of Langthwaite and Gilbert who later held Blaholm in Arnaby. For Gilbert f. Gilbert, *Furness Coucher*, ii, 534. He also had a daughter Helen who married her cousin John de Boivil.

(d) *Robert.*

This Robert married Matilda daughter of William f. Bricwauld of Kirby Ireleth. Another daughter married Philip le Norreis and the two brothers-in-law are witnesses of many deeds. Robert de Boivil for a time held land in Kirksanton under his brother as is shown by *St. Bees*, 440, but later, after the death of his father-in-law he went to live in Merton in Furness. He had two children, William whose name occurs in several charters and Margaret who married a de Bardsey, these *Trans.*, vi, 177.

He was witness for his father before 1182 and for his brother's release of the 8/- rent of Neubi. Also, *St. Bees*, No. 37, for Thomas f. Gospatric and for his brother William's confirmation of Kirksanton, *Furness Coucher*, ii, 515, No. 3. Later for nearly 20 deeds relating to lands in Furness, among which, *ibid.*, p. 778, c. 1205 the advowson of Urswick.

*Ibid.*, p. 571, c. 1209-10 for Alice de Rumeli and c. 1220 for lands in connection with Merton.

*Ibid.*, ii, p. 783, for Michael f. William f. Michael de Furness, witness Robert de Boivil and William his son. The date is 1227 and appears to be his last signature.

Matilda, wife of Robert makes one grant apparently during the lifetime of her husband, *ibid.*, ii, p. 749, "Matilda fil. William Brictwald for her soul and that of her husband Robert de Boivil."

(e) Henry the son of Robert and Margaret is mentioned in *Ibid.*, ii, 313.

#### 6. WILLIAM DE BOYVIL OF KIRKSANTON.

As son and heir of Robert and Margaret he is named in their charter releasing Neubi to Furness, *vid. Ibid.*, ii, p. 303.

*Ibid.*, ii, 514, No. 3. He confirms to Furness the grant in Kirksanton of the Meles. Suggested date, 1175-94, should be soon after his father's death; perhaps c. 1182-4. No. 4, 7, 8, 9 may belong to him for they give more details that the earlier grant by William's grandfather.

*Ibid.*, ii, 297. He witnesses his mother's release of the 8/- rent at Neuby; and joins with his brothers who are named, in full quitclaim, s.d. 1210-30, probably after 1182.

*St. Bees*, No. 27. After 1182, before 1184. Cecily Countess Albemarle gives four carucates in Kirksanton Haverigg and (Lang)thwaite to *St. Bees* with the service of William de Boivil.

*Ibid.*, No. 441. Clement, abbot of York (died 1184), releases for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mark annuity for the benefit of *St. Bees* the manor of William de Boyvil.

*Ibid.*, No. 440. William makes his brothers Gilbert and Robert and his nephew Henry responsible for fixed shares of this half mark.

He is witness for two charters, *Ibid.*, 28 and 225, by the Countess Cecily; and 1180-87, *Furness Coucher*, ii, p. 782, for William f. Michael Fleming de Furness. In *St. Bees*

*Illus. Doc.*, xxxiv, with his brother Gilbert for another brother Richard the Rector of Whicham and *St. Bees*, No. 64, 165, circa ? 1200 for Robert the Prior.

*Ibid.*, 29, 31. 1200—for Richard de Luci.

These *Trans.*, N.S. vii, 219, No. 9. Date 1202/3. Thurston de Bosco and William de Boivil half a carucate in Kirksanton.

Second Charter of Egremont. William de Boivil and Robert his son.

*St. Bees*, 385-6. Wm. de Boivil releases a life interest in lands in Salter, date c. 1200-1210. The editor doubts whether this is William de Boyvil of Kirksanton, but two witnesses lived within  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of Kirksanton and four others within 10 miles. *Ibid.*, 471, for William f. Hugh land in Kelton, witness William de Boivil and Robert his son.

*Furness Coucher*, 597. Dec. 1209. Alice de Rumeli and her steward Wm. de Boyvil.

*St. Bees*, 437. Dated 1210 for Ranulf de Rottington. Witnesses, William de Boyvil and Richard de Boyvil.

It is not known whom William de Boyvil of Kirksanton married. One son Robert is known certainly and it is conjectured that John de Boivil was a younger son.

For Robert, *vid. infra*.

*John de Boivil*. He is always so called and there is no clue to his parentage; but he belongs to the same generation as Robert and he married Helen the daughter of Gilbert brother of William. Apparently he lived in or near Haverigg but he had rents and lands in Langthwaite (Kirksanton) and Stockbrigholme in Foss; and also in Hiton, Bootle, Bolton, Gosforth and Egremont, also perhaps in Whitbeck. These *Trans.* N.S. vii, 224, No. 86. He occupies a prominent position in all the history of the district and was witness for over 20 local charters. He died before 1251 for in that year his widow Elen quit-claimed for an annuity his lands to Michael the Cleric of Corney.

Dodsworth. Ellen the daughter of Gilbert de Boivil gave to William her son a bovate of land in Langthwaite. Witness Sir Ralph de Beethum who died in 1252. This William seems referred to in a 1256 Westmorland Assize Roll. William de Kirksanton fell from a boat and was drowned whilst setting his net at Watinwath.

Some of the references.

These *Trans.*, xiv, 391. William de Millum brother of Henry to Amabel daughter of Thos. f. Gospatric. Witness John de Boyvil, the date is probably c. 1225.

*St. Bees*, 342. Date c. 1227 for Thomas de Newton, land in Stainburn.

*Ibid.*, 263. c. 1230-40 for Gunild, widow of Wm. f. Roger of Seton, Bootle.

*Ibid.*, 280n. Dated 1236 for Alexander de Morthing of Whitbeck.

*Ibid.*, No. 310. Before 1243 for Adam de Neuton, land in Gosforth.

*Ibid.*, 171. Dated 1248 for Robert de Lamplugh.

John de Boivil died 1250-51, *vid.* these *Trans.*, n.s. vii, 224, No. 86.

*St. Bees Illus. Doc.*, xii. A reference to land in Gosforth, formerly held by John de Boivil.

#### 7. ROBERT, SON OF WILLIAM DE BOIVIL.

He is only mentioned twice in local charters.

(a) The second charter of Egremont for Richard de Luci. Witnesses include William de Boivil and Robert his son.

(b) *St. Bees*, 471. William f. Hugh, land in Kelton, among other witnesses Henry f. Arthur and Wm. his son Wm. de Boivil and Robt. his son.

From c. 1210 the name of William de Boyvil of Kirksanton ceases to be recorded and his death may have been soon after that date. The next in possession is Sir Guy but between them is a gap of nearly 25 years. The only reasonable argument is that Robert succeeded his father, but that his usual residence was elsewhere.

One reference supplied by Miss Fair seems suggestive.

*Curia Roll.* 1212. Robert de Boivil and Sibilla his wife versus Juliana de Ireby, land in Thwaites, Cumberland. With this compare, these *Trans.* n.s., vii, 220, F.F. 26, date 1211/12, Juliana, widow of Adam de Ireby was at the same time in controversy with the owners of Thursby. The F.F. is an agreement with William de Thorsby on a question of land in Eistaplith and Blencarn.

These do not prove a connecting link but only a suggestion that Denton may be right. He says that Sir Guy was the link. It seems possible that Robert f. William was the actual link and that Sir Guy was his son.

#### 8. SIR GUY DE BOYVIL.

With him commences the remarkable succession of names which seems to make it certain that the families of Kirksanton and of Thursby are identical.

Sir Guy of Kirksanton, c. 1230-56. Guy de Boivil of Thursby, 1234-51.

Sir William of Kirksanton, 1276-88. Sir William the Elder of Thursby, 1270-92.

Sir William the younger, 1293-1305.

John de Boyvil of Kirksanton, d. 1319. John de Boyvil of Thursby, d. 1319.

Edmund his bro. his heir.

Edmund his brother his heir.

It is unfortunate that what may have been the first act of Sir Guy at Kirksanton is without witnesses or date—perhaps on his accession to the estate. *Furness Coucher*, ii, 549. Guydo de Boivil quitclaims Roger f. Walthef of Kirksanton from his serfdom.

Other references are given irrespective of place of abode.

These *Trans.*, n.s. vii, 222, F.F. 49. 1234. John de Ireby . . . Guy de Boivil, land in Waverton.

*Ibid.* n.s. vii, 222, F.F. 62. 1241. Guy de Boyvil . . . William f. (H)Abraham, Swinside. The editor suggests Swinside in Hall Thwaites, but Swinside in Whitbeck is probable. The Kirksanton owners had no right in Hall Thwaites, but they had in Annaside and (H)Abraham lived there.

Sir Guy was witness for Grecia de Gosford, *St. Bees*, 314,

and for Agnes, widow of Henry de Boivil, *Ibid.*, 439. In 1247, *Ibid.*, 420, Witness for Benedict de Rottington and, *Ibid.*, 281, for Sir John de Langley and John de Boivil.

Other references, *Ibid.*, 365, 303, 304.

*Pipe Rolls.* 1251. Wydo de Boyvil owes 40/- for assize.

*Holm Cultram.* 1251. Joan, widow of John de Hodelston. Sir Guy a witness.

*Pipe Roll.* 1254-5. Wydo de Boivil owes 10d. for one acre in Waverton.

*St. Bees,* 425. 1256 (dated). Guido de Boyvil witness for Benedict de Rottington.

*Ibid.*, 266. c. 1256. Wydo de Boivil witness for the Prior of St. Bees.

#### 9. SIR WILLIAM DE BOYVIL.

He does not appear to have been resident at Kirksanton as there are few local references; others are to a different neighbourhood.

1270. These *Trans.*, N.S. xxxi. Quoting Cal. Inq. P.M., Sir Wm. in possession of Thursby.

1272. *Ibid.* A juror Inq. P.M. on Helwyse de Levington.

1274. *Ibid.*, xii, 63. Escheator beyond Trent.

1275. *De Banco Rolls.* Sued by Sir John Hodelston for service of Kyrkesanton.

1275. These *Trans.*, N.S., xviii, 233. William son of Wydo de Boyvil to John f. John de Aykescouch (Askew), land in Kirksanton, the date quoted is Aug. 24, 3 Edward II, 1309. Probably should be 3 Edward I, 1274-5. Reasons for differing are the donor died 1291 (*vid. infra.*). Sir John Hodelston who is named died 1304-5, and two witnesses died before 1300. But all the persons named would agree with a date 3 Edward I.

1276. *Ibid.* N.S. vii, 228, F.F. 118. Wm. f. Guy de Boyvil and Robert de Susanemargh, land in Agnstaplith.

c. 1276. *St. Bees*, 443. Sir William witness for Agnes the daughter of Michael the cleric of Corney.

1277-8. These *Trans.*, N.S. vii, 228, F.F. 121. Robert, Prior of Carlisle and William de Boyvil, land in Blencarn.

1278-9. *Ibid*, F.F. 132. Joseph, Prior of St. John of Jerusalem and William f. Guy de Boivil, land in Breydestones.

1279-80. *Wetherall*, p. 155. John de Teribby and Sir Wm. de Boyvil.

1282. *Cal. Fine*. Order to commit to Wm. de Boyvil the Castle of Carlisle—Gilbert de Culwen to deliver it.

1285 . . . *Wetherall*, No. 78. Sir William a witness, *vid.* also III.

1288. Sir William de Boyvil and William, Prior of St. Bees, a lease of the whole manor of Kirksanton for 10 years.

1291. *Ibid.*, p. 156. Sir William, governor of Dumfries, but died soon afterwards; quoting *Cal. Doc. Scot.* 10. SIR WILLIAM F. SIR WILLIAM F. SIR GUY.

The note in *Wetheral*, p. 156, quoting *Cal. Doc. Scot.*, seems to indicate that there were two of the name of Sir William de Boyvil. The elder knight died 1291 and the younger knight, 1305. In these *Trans.* N.S., xxxi, Mr. T. H. B. Graham accepts this distinction. The note in *St. Bees*, No. 438, making John de Boyvil the son of the first Sir William is therefore a misunderstanding of the Inq. P.M.

Sir William the younger, knight.

1292. De quo warranto.

1298. Presented a Clerk to Thursby Church.

1299. Land in Blencarn.

1305. His death and Inq. P.M., 33 Edward I.

Joan his widow, *vid.* these *Trans.*, N.S., xx, 50, 51; N.S. xxxi, and N.S. vii, 238, F.F. 247, John f. John de Denton, kt. and Richard de Denton, kt., the manor of

Ainstapillith which Joan, widow of Wm. de Boyvil holds for life as dowry.

Sir William the younger is not mentioned in connection with Kirksanton.

II. JOHN, THE SON OF SIR WILLIAM DE BOIVIL.

1305. *Ibid.*, N.S. xxxi, quoting Inq. P.M. 33 Edward I. John de Boyvil was heir to his father's estates, 5 marks land-rents in Thursby, the manor of Ainstaple, and the Forestership of Allerdale. He was 22 years of age (i.e. born in 1283).

1312. *Ibid.* N.S., vii, 232, F.F. 185. John de Boyvil and Agnes his wife and Richard de Abyndon. Messuages and land in Thursby.

1316. *Ibid.* N.S., xxxi, 19. John de Boyvil presented a Rector to Thursby.

1319. *Ibid.* N.S. xxxi. Quoting Inq. P.M., 12 Edward II, No. 10, John de Boyvil was dead by Nov., 1319, he was seised of Thursby and manor of Ainstaple in the Forestership of Allerdale and in Blencarn.

1319. *St. Bees*, p. 436n. Quoting Inq. P.M., 13 Edward II, referring to John "it was reported that he held the manor of Kirksanton of the Abbey of St. Mary's, York." There was no capital messuage there because it had been burnt by the Scots.

Edmund his brother was his heir, aged 30 or more (i.e. born 1289 or before).

Agnes the widow of John, m. (2) Richard de Denton.

12. EDMUND THE SON OF SIR WILLIAM DE BOIVIL.

Born 1284-9. In 1319 succeeded his brother John in all the estates including Kirksanton.

In these *Trans.* N.S. xxxi, 12, Mr. Graham quotes,

"Edward II gave to Sir Richard de Denton all the land in Cumberland acquired by Andrew de Harcla, the rebel from Edmund Boyvil which had escheated by the rebellion of the latter . . . and all the land Agnes held in dower of the land of John de Boivil and

all the land held for life by Joan the widow of William de Boyvil."

The title of the manor of Kirksanton then passed from the de Boyvils who had held it from before 1100. There was little left of the old estate except the Title and the Manorial custom. The Abbey of Furness held the Grange of the Meles and the Saltworks, and St. Bees held most of the former demesne lands. Standing Stones was in the hands of the Askews. Haverigg and Langthwaite and Hesthorn Hall had passed by descent of members of the family of Robert and Margaret de Boyvil, and the church for long time only a chapel under Millom, had shared the fate of the Manor House.

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