

ART. VII.—*Lowther of Marske (Cleveland) and Holker.*
By the Rev C. M. LOWTHER BOUCH.

THIS branch of the Lowther family was the oldest in point of separation from the main stock to achieve a Baronetcy, though the honour was not given until two hundred years after the birth of the founder of the branch. The family fortune, as was also the case with the Swillington line, was made by the founder as a merchant,—this time in London. But the social standing which achieved the baronetcy, the first holder of which was only 22 years of age at its creation, was probably due to his marriage to the heiress of Holker, which took place a few days after the title was conferred. This is the only branch of the Lowther family which acquired its position, not so much by the energies and abilities of its members in trade or industry, as by good fortune in matrimony. It must be admitted, however, that as much energy and ability may be required in the successful suitor of an heiress as in the successful merchant.

This is perhaps the least known of the major branches of the family. Its history did not lead to the peerage as in the main stem and in the Swillington line; nor to the great wealth of the Whitehaven branch; nor did it give birth to the colourful personalities that give interest to the Maulds Meaburn family, but it has its own interest.

There is the Anthony Lowther and Margaret Penn who figure in Pepys' diary and Margaret, of course, is the sister of the founder of Pennsylvania. Then there is the lady, who is said to have lived to the great age of 106, or thereabouts. Again there is the great lawsuit about

the Preston lands caused by the will of one who, though a Roman Catholic priest, gave up his orders to marry and carry on the name and title, but, failing in this ambition, died in a religious house. Lastly, there is the will of the last Baronet leaving all his property away from his own kith and kin.

I. ROBERT LOWTHER—the founder of the family of Lowther of Marske and later of Holker, was the seventh son of Sir Christopher Lowther of Lowther and Eleanor, daughter of William Musgrave of Hayton. He was baptized at Lowther 12 Oct. 1595. He was a merchant in London and is described in the parish registers as Alderman and draper. His children were all baptized at St. Margaret, Lothbury, so, presumably, he resided and carried on business in that parish.

He was, like the rest of his family, in trouble with the Parliamentary authorities during the civil war.

The following entries are from the records of the Committee for the Advance of Money.

“ 9 Jan. 1646.

Robert Lowther, merchant, Lothbury.

Assessed at £600.

4 Feb. 1646.

Order that as he lent £275 on the propositions, his assessment be discharged, and he left to his voluntary contributions.

27 Nov. 1646.

It appearing that £100 which Lowther pretended to have lent in Oct., 1642 was also in the name of Ant. Bedingfield, which name he crossed out, pretending it was a mistake—order that the order of 4 Feb. be vacated and that Lowther pay $\frac{1}{2}$ of his assessment, and be heard as to the remainder.

Nov. 1646 ?

Note that on 4 Feb. 1645 Lowther was very discontent about his assessment, and said in a passion that the city was abused and cozened, and some of the Commissioners had £60 a week and named Lord Howard of Esrick as well known in Yorkshire, and not having above £1,200 a year.

17 Dec. 1646.

The Earl of Warwick to report to the House of Lords Lowther's abusive words concerning this Committee in general, and Lord Howard in particular.

10 Feb. 1647.

His business before this Committee discharged and his receipt for £100 remaining with the Committee to be delivered up to him.* "

He is mentioned in two of Lady Anne Clifford's letters. She refers to him as her cousin (no nearer relationship is known than his great-grandmother being Dorothy Clifford), "and hopes that he will represent her in her manorial courts. She owes him some money, which she begs Mr. Marsh to pay him." She adds a postscript, however, as "She has just heard he will wait for his money until May, for this delay she is very grateful." This was on 28 Feb. 1649. On 25 Dec. 1649, the money, £150, is still unpaid, and she mentions "She has had a talk with Sir John Lowther, his nephew, about it and that she has agreed to pay that presently, together with three pounds interest."†

In September in the same year, Sir John Lowther of Lowther records the purchase of the estate of Marske in Cleveland, Yorkshire:

"My Uncle Robert et ieo purchased Maske in trust for our children which cost intyrelly 13000 and I to have ye ellection for 500 to have ye whole and if disliked to accept of 6500 as ye moitie cost God grant it paid being a deepe ingagement ye tyme considered." } 6500

Presumably, at some later date, Robert Lowther purchased this half share of the estate from his nephew. He does not appear ever to have lived there, but in London and at Walthamstow.

On 6 Oct. 1650, his purchase of Ouborough manor, part of the estates of Sir Henry and Thos. Bedingfield, is recorded by the Committee for Compounding.‡ And on

* *Calendar of Committee for Advance of Money*, pp. 668-9.

† Williamson, *Lady Anne Clifford* (1922), pp. 211, 214.

‡ *Calendar of the Committee for Compounding, &c.*, 2624.

31 Oct. 1651 the same Committee's records include a memorandum about a loan of £169. 13s. 4d. he had lent his brother Gerard Lowther of Ingleton to pay his fine, for which purpose, having obtained judgment, he asks leave to extend the estate.*

He was buried in the chancel of St. Margaret's, Lothbury on 9 Jan. 1654/5.

He married, firstly, Margaret, daughter of Thomas Cutler of Stainburgh, Yorks. and Ellen, his wife, daughter of Roger Rayney of Smethly, Yorks.†

And secondly, by licence of 28 Jan. 1632/3, Elizabeth, daughter of William Holcroft of Morden, Wilts., deceased, with consent of her mother, Dorothe Holcroft of Malmesbury.‡ She was married, secondly, at St. Helen's Bishopsgate on 30 March, 1656, as Elizabeth Lowther of Ilford, Essex, widow, to Dr. Daniel Whistler, a celebrated physician of the period. He died in 1684. An account of his life is in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Pepys knew her son Anthony Lowther and his wife and records on 10 May, 1668, how he took "Mrs. Lowther and old Mrs. Whistler, her mother in law, by water to 'Chelsy' and "set down the old woman at home at Durham Yard."

By his second wife, he had issue.

1. ROBERT, baptized at St. Margaret's, Lothbury, as were all his brothers and sisters, on 23 Jan. 1638/9, and buried there two days later.
2. ANTHONY (see below II).
3. ROBERT, baptized 15 Jan. 1644/5 and buried 2 March, 1645/6.
4. JOHN, born 16 March, 1646/7. The place of his baptism has not been found. He matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford on 21 May, 1664.§ He is

* *Ibid.*, 1552.

† Visitation of Yorks. (1612), Glover, 511.

‡ Faculty Office of Archbishop of Canterbury. According to Collins' Peerage, v, 702, he married a third wife, Mary widow of Morgan Davies.

§ Foster, *Alumni*.

stated to have been a merchant at Danzig, and a commissioner of the Revenue in Ireland. His children were baptized at Marske, so he presumably lived there. He was buried in Bath Abbey on 14 July, 1697.

He married at Marske on 2 April, 1677, Mary, sister of John, 1st Viscount Lonsdale and widow of George Preston of Holker. This George was the elder brother of the Thomas Preston, whose daughter and heiress brought the Holker estates to the elder branch of this Lowther family. She was buried in Westminster Abbey on 23 Oct. 1724.

By her, he had issue:

- (1) Anthony, who was, according to Collins, either a Brigadier-General or Major-General of Marines. He died 15 Jan.* and was buried in Westminster Abbey on 22 Jan. 1745/6.
 - (2) John, baptized 8 June, 1683.
 - (3) Robert, baptized 23 July, 1684.
 - (1) Katherine, baptized 25 March, 1680.
 - (2) Jane, baptized 15 Oct., 1681.
 - (3) Mary, married Mr. Pearce of Arundel St., London, a gentleman of the Law.†
5. RICHARD, baptized 20 Dec. 1649. Pepys in his diary refers on 24 May, 1667 to Mr. Lowther's two brothers. One of these would be John; who the other was is uncertain. He may have been this Richard. There was one of this name buried, as from Mrs. Bloxham's in Angell Alley, Grays Inn Lane, in St. Andrew's Holborn on 13 Jan. 1674/5.
 6. WILLIAM, buried 6 Sept. 1652.
 7. HENRY, baptized 20 Dec. 1653, of whom nothing is known, but note Pepys' reference above.
 1. DOROTHY, her baptismal record has not been found,

* Musgrave's Obituary, iv, 97 (Harl. Soc. xlvi).

† Sir William Lowther.

but she was born before the Visitation of London in 1633/4.

She married, firstly, by licence of 31 Aug. 1650, Jeffery Northleigh of London, merchant, aged 32. She is described as Dorothy Lowther about 17, daughter of Robert Lowther of same, merchant.* Jeffery Northleigh is described as "Cousin Northleigh," by Sir John Lowther in a letter to Joseph Williamson, later Secretary of State to Charles II, dated 24 May, 1656 and printed in the *Calendar of State Papers (Domestic)*. There are several references to him, and letters by him, in these volumes, which may be brought together in a later article. In the Visitation of London in 1664, in Collins' *Peerage*,† she is named as the wife of Sir George Willoughby of London and Bishopstone, Wiltshire; this was presumably a second marriage.

2. MARY, married, licence dated 16 Feb. 1660/1, John Morrice,‡ son of Sir William Morrice, Bt., a Turkey merchant.§
3. MARGARET, baptized 17 Jan. 1639/40, buried 6 Feb. 1645/6.
4. MARGARET, baptized 20 Oct. 1648. She married, licence dated 6 April, 1668, John Holmes of St. Martin's in the Fields.||

She had the honour of counting Pepys as one of her admirers. He met her first at Lady Penn's on 12 April, 1666, when he described her as "a pretty lady of her acquaintance, one Mrs. Lowder." A year later, he saw her in the park with her sister in law, Mrs. Anthony Lowther (Peg. Pen), and remarked that they were "both patched and very

* Faculty Office of Archbishop of Canterbury.

† Brydges ed. v. 702.

‡ Faculty Office Marriage Licences.

§ Collins' *Peerage*.

|| Licence of Vicar General of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

fine.”* A few weeks later he again described her as the “pretty Mrs. Lowther.”† Perhaps it was his high ideas of her good looks that caused him to write so disparagingly of her husband on 8 April, 1668. “Mrs. Turner did tell me of young Captain Holmes’ marrying of Pegg Lowther last Saturday by stealth which I was sorry for, he being an idle rascal and proud and worth little, I doubt. She a mighty pretty and well disposed lady and good fortune. Her mother and friends take on mightily” In fact, the “idle rascal” subsequently became Admiral Sir John Holmes.‡

5. wife of Mr. Tite of London merchant. (Collins loc. cit.).
6. HANNAH—unfortunately, the record of her baptism, has not been found. She was for a number of years lady in waiting to Queen Mary and Queen Anne and lived in Scotland Yard, London.† Horace Walpole, in one of his letters, comments on the remarkable fact that she was left a legacy of £1,700 a year by Sir William Lowther of Holker, who died in 1756 aged 29, and that, as she was then over 100, she could only enjoy it for a year at the most. In fact she lived less than that time, dying on 18 Jan. 1757 at the very great age of 106, according to Sir William Lowther, of 103 according to Collins (loc. cit.), but as stated above, her baptismal entry, has not been found. She was buried in the Rutland Chapel in St. George’s Chapel, Windsor, where there is a monument to her memory.* On account of the war it is covered up, so the inscription cannot be given.

* See below.

† 28 May, 1667.

‡ See Life in *Dictionary of National Biography*.

§ Sir William Lowther.

|| Lord Ullswater, *A Speaker’s Commentaries* (I, 303), gives an account of her.

7. ELINOR, baptized 3 July, 1651; probably she is the Helen buried in the chancel 27 Dec., 1654.

II. ANTHONY, eldest surviving son of Robert Lowther and his second wife Elizabeth, was baptized at St. Margaret Lothbury on 15 May, 1641. He was one of the first Fellows of the Royal Society, being elected 22 Apr. 1663 when he was only 22, which suggests that he was a man of parts: He was expelled 25 Oct. 1682*

The death of John Lowther in 1667 made a vacancy in the Parliamentary representation of Appleby. This was a seat in which Lady Anne Clifford took a great deal of interest. She wanted the vacancy for one of her own grandchildren to the disappointment of Sir Joseph Williamson, who tried to get the Lowthers to help him, but Sir John wrote that "as his kinsman Anthony Lowther wished to succeed his late son, he had already applied on his behalf to Lady Anne, and she had consented to support him, if none of her own grandchildren would come forward."† Eventually, her grandson, the Hon. Thomas Tufton was chosen. On his retirement in 1678, Anthony Lowther was elected in his place; the date of the election was 25 Feb. 1678/9. This Parliament was dissolved 12 July, 1679. On 15 Sep. 1679, he was again returned to Parliament but did not sit in the next House.‡

He is the Anthony Lowther, whose name occurs so often in Pepys' Diary. This is chiefly because the diarist was intimate, though it can hardly be said friendly, with the family of his wife Margaret Penn.§ She was a daughter of Admiral Sir William Penn and Margaret his wife, daughter of John Jasper, of Rotterdam, and a sister of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania.|| Sir William

* Bull. of the Inst. Hist. Res. XV, 88.

† *Lady Anne Clifford*, 292, 297-9.

‡ Official Return of M.P.s.

§ Generally the normal spelling with two n's is used, except where the authority quoted only uses one.

|| Biography in *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

was the Commissioner of the Admiralty and Pepys' Official head. The two men got on very badly together and, after a time, Pepys settled down to a what has been called "steady and incandescent dislike of Penn and his ways." This explains why some of his references to Margaret Lowther and her husband are far from complimentary.

But, first of all, was he married before? Pepys heard a piece of parish scandal from a Mrs. Hollworthy, which he records on 1 April, 1667, "and now they do say that Mr. Lowther was married once before, some such thing there hath been, whatever the bottom of it is." In fact, there is evidence of such a marriage from the registers of St. Giles in the Fields of 1 April, 1656: "Purpose of marriage published between Anthony Lowther, Esqre. and Mrs. Bridget Fleetwood." Certificate of publication issued 2 Feb. 1656/7. The prospective bridegroom would be under 15, which makes it difficult to believe it took place, and in the licence for his marriage with Margaret Penn, he is described as bachelor. The most probable explanation is that there was some attempt at marriage on his part and even, perhaps, a ceremony, which was later found to be illegal on the grounds of his being so much under age and his parents consent not given.

Whatever the truth of this story may be, there is no doubt that he was married, by licence of 12 Feb. 1667, as Anthony Lowther of Marske, co. York, bachelor, 24 to Margaret Pen, spinster, 15. The marriage took place at Clapham, Surrey on 15 Feb. 1666/7.

Pepys mentions Margaret Penn for the first time on 28 July, 1661, when he records that after church Sir William Penn "went away and my wife after him to see his daughter, that is lately come out of Ireland. I staid at home at my book; she came back again and tells me

* London Marriage Licences. The monument to her memory says she died in 1719, aged 73, which does not agree with this age.

that whereas I expected she should have been a great beauty, she is a very plain girl." They must have been engaged before 11 Jan. 1665/66, as on that date Pepys had dinner at the Penns, and notes among the company "his (Sir W. Penn's) son-in-law Lowder, servant to Mrs. Margaret Pen." On 4 Jan. in the next year, it is the Penns, who dine with him and Mr. Lowther is a guest. After describing the evening Pepys notes, "and do observe Mr. Lowther to be a pretty gentleman and, I think, too good for Peg." A few days later, 13 Jan. "up and to church, where young Lowther come to church with Sir W. Pen and his lady and daughter, and my wife tells me that either they are married or the match is quite perfected, which I am apt to believe, because all the peoples' eyes in the church were much fixed upon them."

He hears of the wedding on the same evening "home and to dinner, where I hear Pegg Pen is married this day privately; no friends, but two or three relations on his side and hers. Borrowed many things of my kitchin for dressing their dinner." . . . Later he meets Mrs. Turner "She did give me account of this wedding to-day, its being private being imputed to its being just before Lent, so in vain to make new clothes till Easter, that they might see the fashions as they are like to be this summer; which is reason good enough. Mrs. Turner tells me she hears (Sir W. Pen) gives £4,500 or £4,000 with her."

There are many more allusions to the pair in the diary, but this last extract must suffice. It is dated 1 May, 1667 and describes various coaches he saw in the Park, and goes on "But that which I did see, and wonder at with reason, was to find Peg Pen in a new coach, with only her husband's pretty sister with her, both patched and very fine, and in much the finest coach in the Park, and I think that ever I did see one or other, for neatness and richness in gold and everything that is noble. My Lady Castle-mayne, the King, my Lord St. Albans, nor Mr. Jermyn,

have so neat a coach, that ever I saw. And, Lord! to have them have this, and nothing else that is correspondent, is to me one of the most ridiculous sights that ever I did see, though her present dress was well enough; but to live in the condition they do at home, and be abroad in this coach, astonishes me."

They seem to have lived at Marske from about 1670, as most of their children were baptized there. The parish church, St. Germain's, possesses two patens presented in 1709 by Margaret Lowther, widow of Anthony Lowther of Marske, M.P. for Appleby, with her arms, Lowther impaling Penn, argent, on a fess, sable three plates.* But they, and some of their children, who died young, are buried at Walthamstow, Essex. He died 27 Jan. 1692, she on 5 Dec., 1719. There is a monument to their memory in Walthamstow parish church.†

By her, he had issue:

1. WILLIAM, died aged 6 months and buried at Walthamstow.‡
2. ROBERT. Matriculated at The Queen's College, Oxford, 29 April, 1689, aged 16. Student of the Middle Temple, 1690, § died of the small pox, 1693, buried at Walthamstow, in his 22nd year.||
3. WILLIAM. (See below III).
4. ANTHONY, died aged one year and eight months and buried at Walthamstow.
5. JOHN, of whom the following account is given in a letter dated 17 Feb. 1768 from Sir William Lowther of Swillington to the Revnd. Henry Lowther of Aikton:

"Mrs. Lowther, the Lady you enquire after, was the Daur. of Sir Jef. Jefferies Kt., Alderman of

* Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, xxviii, 61.

† Appendix.

‡ Owing to war conditions, it has not been possible to see the registers.

§ Foster *Alumni*.

|| Sir William Lowther.

London, a Turkey merct. and the widow of Mr. John Lowther, son of Anthony of Marsk and brother to Sir William. He was a Dantzik mercht., where he improved his Fortune considerably, which together with his wife's Fortune induced him early to leave off Business and retire to his Brother's house at Marsk; Sir William having married the Heiress of Holker and lived there, Mr. Lowther had 1 son and 1 Daur., the Dr. died a child, the son lived to be of age but died unmarried some few years before Mrs. Lowther's death, he built a good house at Upleatham near Marsk, and estate he purchased, which he left to his widow for her life and afterwards to his son, who dying without will, it fell to Sir William of Holker as Heir at Law, Sir William I think, but am not sure left it after Mrs. Lowther's death to one of the Cavendish's, who sold it to Sir Laur. Dundass, who had before bought Marsk of the Wilson's of Dallam Tower, to whom Sir William had left it. I never heard whether Mrs. Lowther made any will, or to whom her Personal estate went, but I should imagine some of her own Family."

Elsewhere Sir William gives the wife's name as Jane, and states that she died in 1767, aged 80.

She had issue:

- (1) John, baptized at Marske 16 April, 1719, admitted, a Fellow Commoner, to Jesus College, Cambridge on 18 April, 1740*; as stated above, he died unmarried.
 - (2) Margaret, baptized at Marske, 24 April, 1721, died young.
6. ANTHONY, baptized at Marske on 30 Nov., 1683; died aged 20, and buried at Walthamstow.
 1. MARGARET, baptized at St. Olave's, Hart St., London on 21 Feb. 1667/8.

* Venn.

Her birth and christening are recorded by Pepys. 9 Feb. "By the way, I must remember that Peg Pen was brought to bed yesterday of a girl."

21 Feb. "and here comes my wife, who hath been at Pegg Pen's christening, which, she says, hath made a flutter and noise; but was as mean as could be, but little company, just like all the rest that that family do" (that is the Pen family).

She married, by licence, 25 Sept., 1699 at St. Martin's in the Fields, Benjamin Poole, both of St. Andrew's, Holborn.

2. ELIZABETH, baptized at Marske on 31 July, 1670 and buried there 4 Aug. 1675.
3. ANNE CHARLOTTE, buried at Marske on 5 Nov. 1682.

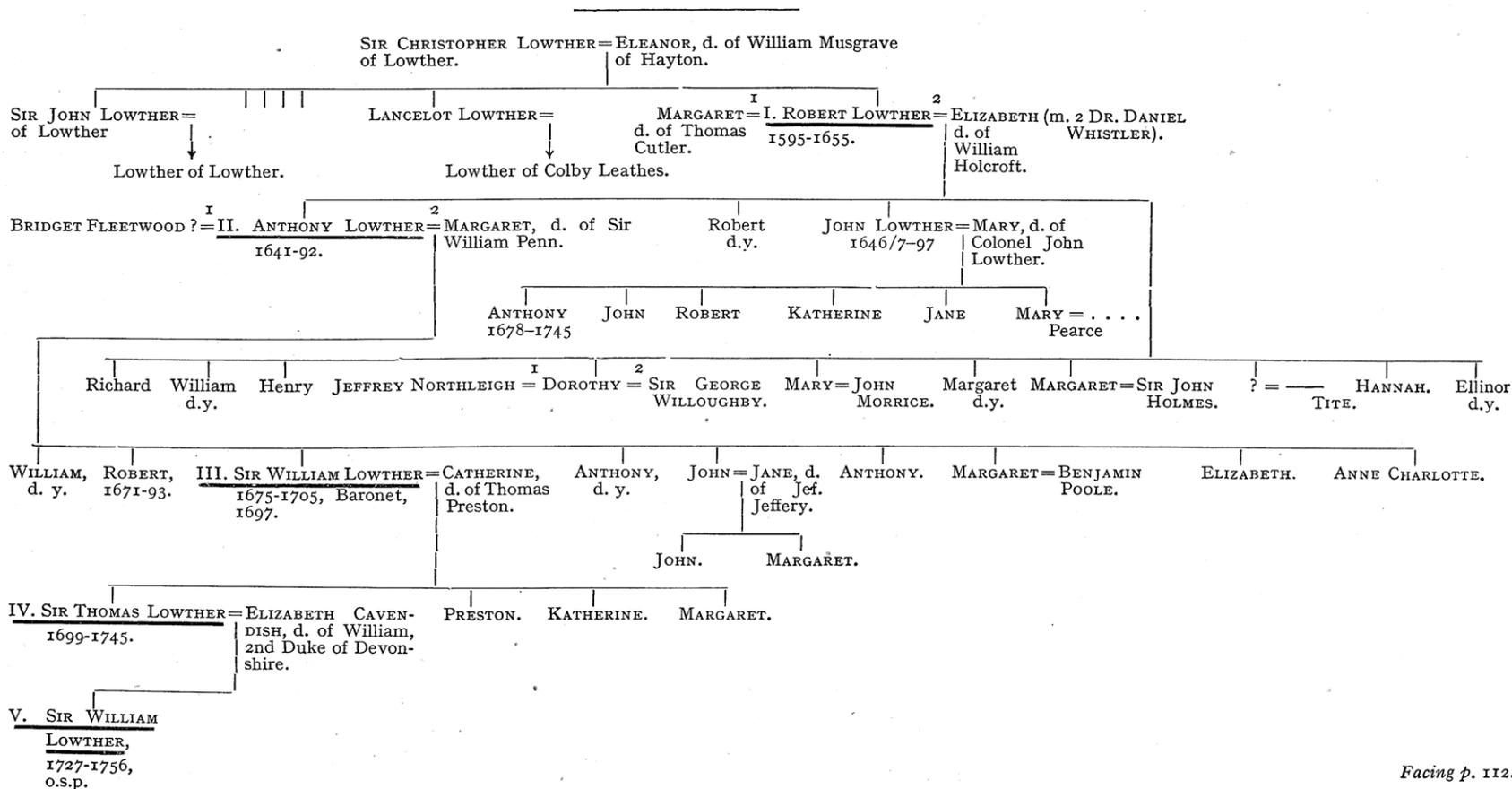
III. WILLIAM eldest surviving son of Anthony Lowther and Margaret, his wife, was baptized at Marske on 6 Jan. 1675. He was created a Baronet on 15 July, 1697. He was returned as member of Parliament for Lancaster on 27 July, 1702, and sat until his death. He was one of the few Lowthers who married a wealthy heiress. This was Catherine, daughter of Thomas Preston of Holker in Cartmel, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Sir Roger Bradshaw of Haigh, Lancashire, Baronet. This Thomas Preston was a younger brother of George Preston, who had married Mary, sister of John, 1st Viscount Lonsdale, as there was no son to this marriage, the estates descended to the younger brother.* The engagement was rather a long one. On 6 March, 1696, Peter Shakerley wrote to Roger Kenyon of Manchester "Cosin Preston and her daughter are gone down into the country. Mr. Lowther, I am told, is the person to have her."† The marriage took place on 24 June, 1697 at Cartmel Priory Church.

As there was, subsequently, great litigation before the Lowthers established their claim to some of the Preston

* Nicolson and Burn, I, 212.

† Historical MSS. Commission, Kenyon, 416.

ABBREVIATED PEDIGREE OF LOWTHER OF MARSK AND HOLKER.



estates, it will be necessary in order to make it clear what happened, to go into the history of this family at some length.

Sir Thomas Preston of Preston Patrick, an ancient Westmorland family, had two sons. The elder John succeeded to the family estates, and added to them by obtaining from the Crown a grant of the manor of Furness, which included the site of Furness Abbey. The younger son founded a branch of the family, which was settled at Holker in Cartmel.

The descendants of the elder son remained at Preston Patrick and became Baronets. The elder son of the first possessor of the title died without male issue and was followed by his brother, Thomas Preston, who was a Roman Catholic priest. On succeeding to the title, however, he renounced his orders and married. Again, there was no male issue, so on the death of his wife Mary, daughter of Carill, Viscount Molineux, in 1673, he, having settled his Westmorland estates on his daughters, repented of his renunciation of his orders and retired beyond the seas, where he probably joined some religious order. At the same time, he conveyed the estates, comprised in the manor of Furness to the Society of Jesus.*

Thereupon Thomas Preston of Holker, descendant of the younger brother of the first grantee of the manor, claimed this estate. The result of a long lawsuit, begun in the year, 1674,† was that it was declared to be forfeited to the Crown. But Charles II as some returns to the men whose proceedings had brought this desirable end about granted him a lease of the land for seven years. In 1689, William and Mary extended the period to twenty-one years, and in 1695 again extended it for a further term of fifteen years, to commence in 1711.

This Thomas Preston died in 1696. His daughter and heiress married Sir William Lowther in 1697. He died in

* Nicolson and Burn, I, 241.

† The description of the legal proceedings is taken from West's *Antiquities of Furness* (774), 139-141.

1705, so the legal proceedings to be next described really belong to the account of the next generation, but it seems easier to describe them here, especially as they occurred during the minority of the heir. Because Sir Thomas Lowther, son and heir of Sir William, was only six years of age at his father's death. Fortunately for him his guardian Elizabeth Preston, his grandmother, was, as West has stated, "a lady of great spirit and indefatigable industry." For in 1710, a certain Richard Woolaston, who either did not know, or pretended he did not know, of the grant of 1695, which extended the Preston lease for fifteen years from 1711, obtained from Queen Anne a lease of the manor of Furness, and thereupon brought ejectment orders against the tenants. This obliged Elizabeth Preston to exhibit a bill in the Exchequer against Woolaston to avoid the lease that had been granted. An expensive law suit followed, which was decided in favour of Thomas Lowther, and this decision was confirmed on appeal in the House of Lords. Elizabeth Preston followed this up by petitioning the Crown on 16 Feb. 1714/5 for a renewal for a period of thirty-one years, claiming that "the estates ought to have descended to her husband, but the entail was cut off for his adherence to the Protestant Religion and it was forfeited to the Crown by being given to superstitious uses."* Queen Anne died before the lease, which was approved by the Lords of the Treasury, could be given. But George I, by letters patent of 15 June, 1717, granted it, as desired, to Elizabeth Preston, in trust for Sir Thomas Lowther, Bart.

To return to the main story, Sir William Lowther died at the age of 32, and was buried on 21 April, 1705 at Cartmel.

His wife had predeceased him, having died on 12 March, 1700/1. She was buried on 15 March at Cartmel, where there is a monumental inscription to her.†

* *Calendar of Treasury Papers*, (1714-19), p. 81.

† See Appendix.

By her, he had issue:

- I. THOMAS. (See below IV).
2. PRESTON, baptized 12 March, 1701 at Cartmel, died, unmarried, at Danzig.
1. KATHERINE, baptized 2 June, 1698 at Cartmel, died at Windsor in 1764, buried at Walthamstow.
2. MARGARET, baptized 14 March, 1700 at Cartmel, died at Holker, and buried there 10 Oct., 1751.

IV. THOMAS, eldest son of Sir William Lowther and Katherine, his wife, was baptized on 20 April, 1699 at Cartmel and succeeded his father, as 2nd Baronet.

He was elected member of Parliament for Lancaster on 26 Nov. 1722. He was re-elected on 22 Aug. 1727, 4 May, 1734, and 11 May, 1741, and continued to sit until his death.

In his *Annals of Cartmel* Stockdale notes "Sir Thomas Lowther was a sportsman and fond of horse racing. The place where the horses breathed and practised was on the piece of ground above the gardener's house and below the public road leading to Howbarrow." (p. 404).

Some interesting letters of his giving directions to his agent at Holker about seeing for the provision of guides for people, including Sir James Lowther and Lady Betty, Sir Thomas' wife, over Morecambe Bay sands have been printed.*

Archbishop Herrings' Visitation of his diocese in 1743 contains a return for Marske in which it is stated "we have a school to which Sir Thomas Lowther gives annually six pounds a year for educating twelve poor children."†

He died at Bath 23 March, 1745, and was buried at Cartmel.

He married in July, 1723 the Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, 3rd daughter of William, 2nd Duke of Devonshire. G.E.C.'s Baronetage states: "His widow, who was a lunatic, died 7 Nov., and was buried 14 Nov., 1747 at Chelsea."

* These *Trans.*, o.s. vii, 5, 10, 12. † Y.A.S. Record Series, XXII, 191.

By her, he had issue:

William. (See below V).

V. WILLIAM, the only child of Sir Thomas Lowther and Elizabeth, his wife, was born in 1727. The place of his baptism has not been found. He was admitted to Clare College, Cambridge as a nobleman on 2 July, 1745.* He was member of Parliament for Cumberland, and was first elected on 6 Feb. 1755, in the place of Sir James Lowther of Whitehaven, and sat until his death.

Collins' Peerage states he claimed the title of Lord Sands of the Vine.† This claim if it was made and no record of any such is to be found in the archives of the House of Lords, where a search has been made,‡ was apparently based upon the belief that William Lowther's ancestor Robert's 2nd wife, Elizabeth Halcroft's mother was a daughter of Thomas, Lord Sands of the Vine. But the name of this daughter is given as Margery, whereas, Elizabeth's mother was called Dorothy. Beyond this no record of the match occurs in any of the Sandes' pedigrees; nor do the dates of the family easily fit into the assertion. So unless further evidence is forthcoming it must be assumed that the claim, if indeed there was a claim, was based upon a mistake.

He inherited a large fortune under the will of his cousin, Sir James Lowther of Whitehaven, who died on 2 Jan. 1755, of a fever. He is said to have been worth above £20,000 a year. (Letters of Horace Walpole ed. Dover [1883], III, 185.

He died in the next year, 1756, on 3 Feb. and was buried at Cartmel Priory, where there is a monumental inscription to him. He was unmarried, and at his death his baronetcy became extinct. He left Marske to one of the Wilsons of Dallam Tower, and Holker to Lord George Cavendish.

* Venn.

† Collins' *Peerage*, V, 702.

‡ I am indebted to Mr. C. T. Clay, Librarian of the House for this search.

I have to thank the Earl of Lonsdale for leave to use material gathered from the Lowther muniments. When either Sir John or Sir William Lowther is given as an authority the reference is to notebooks kept by them and now among these muniments

APPENDIX.

(1) Monument in Walthamstow Parish Church.

Arms: or, Six annulets, three, two, and one, sable (Lowther), impaling argent, on a fess sable, three plates, in chief a lion passant, gules (Penn).

Anthony Lowther = Margaret Penn.

Near this place lyeth the body of Anthony Lowther of Maske in Clieveland in the County of York, Esq^r, descended from the antient family of the Lowthers of Lowther Hall in the County of Westmorland, Bart. He died 27 day of January, 1692 aged 52 years. He married Margaret daughter of Sir William Penn, knight by whom he had issue six sons and three daughters, vid^t, Margaret, William, Elizabeth, Robert, William, Anne Charlotte, Anthony, John and Anthony, of which the following five lye here buried. Margaret, married to Benjamin Poole Esq^r. William aged 6 months. Robert (a gent of great hopes and learning) died in the twenty-second year of his age, very much lamented. Anthony, aged one year and eight months, and Anthony aged twenty years. Here also lyes the body of Margaret, wife to the aforesaid Anthony Lowther Esq^r, who died the 5th day of Decemb^r, 1719, aged 73 years.

x	x
Anthony Lowther =	Margaret Penn
d. 27 Jan, 1692	d. 5 Dec., 1719,
aged 52.	aged 73.

x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Margaret	William	Elizabeth	Robert	William	Anne	Anthony John
=					Charlotte	
B. Poole						

Those marked x buried in St. Mary's.

Monuments in Cartmel Priory Church.

(2) A white marble bust, set in an oval grey marble frame, on the east wall of the south choir aisle. Height of bust, 1 foot 8 inches.

Here Lyeth Inter'd y^e Body of y^e Honrd Dame Katherine Lowther Consort of S^r William Lowther Bart^t: only Daughter and Heiress of Tho: Preston of Holker Esq^r: and Eliz: Daughter to S^r Rog^r Bradshaigh of Haigh K^t and Bart.

She was A Dutifull child, an Endearing Wife A Compassionate and carefull Mother, Charitable to y^e Poor, Hospitable to Strangers, Courteous to all, Sweet in her temper, sincere in her Conversation, Serious and Devout in y^e Profession and Practice of her Most Excellent Religion. She left two sons, Thomas and Preston: and two Daughters, Katherine and Margaret and departed this Life in ye 25th Year of her Age, y^e 12th March, 1700.

(3) A white marble bust on the east wall of the south choir aisle. Height, 1 foot, 6 inches.

Near this place lie the Remains of S^r William Lowther of Holker Bart^t., the last of his Family in the Male Line Who how Respectable so ever for the Antiquity of it, was more so for the Excellency of his Virtues, He departed this Life in the 29th year of his Age. To perpetuate His Memory And Deplore the Loss of His Distinguished Merit, this Monument is Erected.

Also near this Place lie, Sir Thomas Lowther
And M^{rs} Margaret Lowther
the Father and Aunt of Sir William.