

DERBYSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
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Mackworth: its Castle and its Owners.

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THE name "Mackworth" signifies the estate or manor of "Macca;" probably one of the leaders of the ancient Norsemen.—(*Favell Edmunds.*) At the time of the Norman survey one "Colle" appears to have held this manor, with Kniveton and Allestree, under Gozelin, at a rental of 10s. 8d., and Gozelin held it under Earl Siward, who, if not the owner, held it under Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. Whether the descendants of Colle or Gozelin were identical with the family which afterwards were known as "de Mackworth," there is nothing unfortunately to show, but it is not improbable, for the rank of the Mackworths in after times appears to have corresponded with that of the sub-tenants of Domesday, the Mackworths holding their lands under the chief lord of the fee, whose residence was at Markeaton.

Henry de Mackworth occurs in the Pipe Rolls of 1254, and Edith, daughter of Emma de Mackworth, in the same records in 1272. In 1391 William de Mackworth was appointed rector of

Kirk Langley close by. The authentic pedigree of the Mackworths commences with two brothers, John and Thomas. John was Prebendary of Empingham and Dean of Lincoln in 1422. In an inquest of Knights' Fees, taken in 1432, he is described as of Nassington Dean, and possessed of an income of 5 marks from property in Derby. In the Harl. MS. 1104, Brit. Mus. (according to the *Builder* of April 21, 1888), it is stated that in the 31st of Hen. VI. the celebrated Barnard's Inn, Holborn, was a messuage belonging to Dr. John Mackworth, Dean of Lincoln, and at that time in the holding of one Lyonel Bernard, from whom (on its conversion into an Inn of Chancery) it has since retained the name of "Barnard's Inn." Dean Mackworth died in the year 1451, devising his town house at Holborn to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln. His executors, whereof Thomas Atkins, citizen, was one, completed the conveyance. In an Inquisition at the Guildhall, before John Norman (Lord Mayor 1453-4) the King's Escheator, a jury agreed that "It was not hurtful for the king to licence Thomas Atkins, one of the executors of John Mackworth, Dean of Lincoln, to give one messuage in Holborn called MACKWORTH'S INN, but then commonly called by the name of Barnard's Inn, to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, to find one sufficient chaplain to celebrate divine service in the chapel of St. George in the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, where the body of the said John is buried."

The arms of the Mackworth family, granted in 1404, are still the arms of Barnard's Inn. These arms are a compound of the arms of Touchet and Audeley, formed by placing Audeley's fretty on Touchet's chevron, and varying the field from that of Touchet by giving "party per pale sable and ermine," instead of the simple field of ermine of the Touchets. The original grant runs as follows: "To all to whom the present writing may come, John Touchet, Lord of Audley, saluting. Know ye, that we, on account of our consideration for our very dear and beloved John Mackworth, and Thomas Mackworth his brother, born of good and brave people, and for the good service which their ancestors have done, and because we wish to honour them and

advance their condition, do hereby give them part of our arms of Audeley and Touchet, to have and bear with certain differences, viz. : an escutcheon painted sable and ermine indented per pale ; thereon a chevron gules fretty, or—of the arms of Audeley, and a crest, viz., a wing plumed, sable and ermine. To have and bear the said arms with such differences as may seem good to them. The said arms to be borne by them and their heirs without let or hindrance from our heirs whomsoever they may be for ever. In testimony of which we have hereunto affixed our seal. Given in our mansion of Markeaton, this first day of August, 1404.”

The Baronetages have asserted that one of the Mackworths was an esquire attendant on James Lord Audeley in the celebrated battle of Poitiers, a statement not supported by any authority, indeed the connection of the Mackworths does not appear to have been with that lord, but with the family of Touchet, which by intermarriage with the heir general of the Lord Audeley, afterwards acquired that title.

There is another interesting document of John Touchet Lord Audeley, conveying some property in Mackworth to this same John Mackworth, the priest-prebendary of Empingham :—

“To all by whom these letters shall be seen or heard, John Touchet Lord Audeley saluting. Know ye that we have constituted and empowered our beloved Richard Touchet and Edward de la Park to deliver seizin to our very dear and beloved John Mackworth, clerk, of a tenement which we have given to the said John Mackworth, which said tenement is a parcel of THE MOORHALL in Mackworth, and which tenement William Touchet formerly held, according to the effect and purport of our charter indented, by which we have given to the aforesaid John the aforementioned tenement.

“We therefore confirm and establish all the aforesaid to Richard and Edward, or one of them, to act in our name touching the livery of the same.

“In testimony whereof we have affixed our seal. Given this

16th day of February, in the year of the reign of our very noble Lord King Henry IV. after the conquest the seventh." (1406.)

Thomas Mackworth, younger brother of the aforesaid John, was the ancestor of the subsequent generations. He was of Mackworth, and was living in 1433. By his marriage with Alice, daughter of John de Basinges and sister and heiress of Sir John de Basinges, he acquired the estates of Empingham, &c. She survived her husband, and was reported to be sixty years old in the year 1446. In 1432 Thomas Mackworth held the manor of Ashe in the Fee of Tutbury, for three parts of a knight's Fee, and 40 shill. soc. in Mackworth.

This Thomas was succeeded by his son Henry, of Mackworth and Empingham, who in 1432 held with John Francis, of Sandiacre, gent., the seventh of a knight's Fee in Stanton-by-Dale. He also possessed a rental of £4 6s. 8d. in Bradeston, Sandiacre, and Risley, besides a rental of 20s. in Spondon.

This Henry left issue John, Thomas, Richard, and Walter.

John, the eldest of these, of Mackworth and Empingham, by his wife Beatrix, left issue (inter alia) :—

George M., of Mackworth, who married Ann, daughter of Geoffry Sherrard, of Stapleford, whose marriage settlement is dated 1489. He was living in 1535, and was buried at Empingham.

Their son, Francis Mackworth, of Mackworth, married Elene, sister and coheir of John Hercy, of Grove, Notts., who was buried also at Empingham in 1557. Francis made his will on the 16th of September the same year, and died on the 25th of September, 1558. They left issue :—

George Mackworth, of Mackworth and Empingham. Born 1541. Living 1580. By his first wife Grace Rokeby (daughter of Ralph Rokeby, serjeant-at-law), who died 1569, he left :—

Sir Thomas Mackworth, of Normanton,* in Co. Rutland, created Bart. 4th June, 1619, who in 1595 married Elizabeth,

* Blore (History of Rutland) makes Sir Thomas the son of his father's second wife.

daughter of Henry Hall, of Gretford, her mother's sole heiress. She was buried 20th September, 1620. The said Sir Thomas was interred 22nd March, 1625-6.

Sir Thomas left issue (inter alia), Sir Henry Mackworth, of Normanton, baptized at Gretford 22nd October, 1598, died 24th August, 1640, buried at Empingham. He married Mary, daughter of Robert Hopton, of Witham, County Somerset. Buried 11th February, 1692-3, "Plusquam nonagesima." This lady afterwards became the wife of Sir Thomas Hartopp, Knight, of Normanton (husband of Mary, 7th May, 1649). He was of Burton St. Lazarus, Leicester, and left issue by another wife.

By Sir Henry Mackworth, her first husband, she had issue :—

Sir Thomas Mackworth, of Normanton, Bart., eldest son and heir ; buried at Empingham 1st December, 1694.

This gentleman sold his ancestral estate at Mackworth, with the Castle &c., to Sir John Curzon in 1655.

The last of the Baronets of this ancient line was Sir Henry Mackworth, who died about the year 1803, in the Charter House, London, upon the Poor Knight's Charity, when the title became extinct.

For the following notices of the Curzon Estates in Mackworth and Markeaton, we are obliged to the courtesy of the Right Honourable Lord Scarsdale, who has generously permitted the writer of this article to make the necessary abstracts from his documents for this work.

Some portion of the Curzon Estate, comprising 64 acres of land &c., in Mackworth and Markeaton, belonged to Michael and Jone Baggaley, by whom it was sold or alienated to John Agard, in the year 1599.

On 1st March, 1627, certain premises at Markeaton were leased for 21 years to George Sitwell, of Renishaw, Gentleman, and Robert Walker, of Markeaton, Gentleman, by William Frances, of Derby, and Margery his wife, and John Agard, of Derby, skinner, at the yearly payment of £5, payable to the said William Frances. This property is defined as " All those three cottages in Markeaton, sometime in the tenure and occupation of Richard Scopstake,

Edward Smalley, and Robert Mitchell, and now in the occupation of Edward Wylcockson, Hugh Wright, and Mitchell Ladior."

By deed dated 3rd February, 1653, Sir John Curzon, Knight and Bart., purchased 215 acres of land in Markeaton and Mackworth, with houses and tenements appertaining thereto, from Henry Frances, Gentleman, and Mary his wife.

On the 5th of December, 1653, Sir John Curzon, of Kedleston, Bart., for the sum of £1,000, purchased from Henry Frances, the estate in Mackworth, called Bower Ground, lying in the Townfields in the liberties of Markeaton and Mackworth, and four-fifths of a messuage called "The Crosse House," which said house is in the possession of John Baynbridge, and is near adjoining Markeaton Mylne, and four-sixths of three cottages in Markeaton, now in the occupation of Edward Wilkinson, John Machin, and Thomas Gilman; all of which heretofore was the inheritance of Thomas Agard, deceased, late brother to him the said Henry Frances.

From the preceding it would appear that John Agard, of Markeaton (living 1599), left two grandchildren, Thomas Agard, skinner, of Derby, and a daughter the wife of Henry Frances, who, on the death of his wife's brother Thomas, came into possession of the Agard Estates, and who shortly afterwards disposed of them to the Curzons.

The principal and most interesting of the Mackworth documents however, is the deed of conveyance of the CASTLE and MANOR of MACKWORTH,* from Sir Thomas Mackworth Bart., to Sir John Curzon, Bart., of which the following is an abstract:

"By Indenture tripartite, dated 16th June, 1655, Sir Thomas Hartopp of Barton Lazar, in County Leicester, and Dame Mary his wife, Sir Thomas Mackworth of Normanton, in County Rutland, Bart., son and heir apparent of the said Lady Mary, John Knight of London, Gentleman, and Richard Corney of the same, Gentleman, of the first part:

* Among the Curzon Documents is a receipt dated 11th February, 1653, from Sir Thomas Mackworth to Sir John Curzon, for the sum of £1,300, purchase money for the manor of Mackworth and lands there.—Signed in the presence of John Bernard, Francis Crane, Francis Curzon, Joseph Taylor. By Thomas Mackworth.

Sir John Curzon of Kedleston, Bart., and John Curzon of the Inner Temple, Esq., son and heir apparent of the said Sir John of the second part: and

Francis Curzon, second son of the said Sir John Curzon, Bart., of the third part, Witnesseth, That the said Sir Thomas Hartopp and Dame Mary his wife, Sir Thomas Mackworth, John Knight, and Richard Corney, for the sum of £1,300 to him the said Thomas Mackworth, in hand paid by the said Sir John Curzon, before the ensembling and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge, and in consideration of the sum of 10s. paid to the said Sir Thomas Hartopp and Dame Mary by the said Sir John Curzon, and in consideration of 5s. paid by the said Sir John to John Knight and Richard Corney—Have granted enfeoffed, &c., sold, confirmed unto the said Sir John Curzon ALL THAT CASTLE MANOR or MANORS of MACKWORTH or Markeaton in the said County of Derby, commonly called or known by the name of MACKWORTH CASTLE, And also all those two several messuages or farm houses now in the tenure of John Turner with all closes and lands therewith used. Also all that messuage or farm house in Mackworth now in the occupation of Jane Draper widow and all lands used therewith. Also all that cottage in the occupation of John Shepherd with all annexed lands. Also all that cottage or tenement in the occupation of Robert Hoden with all lands appertaining. Also all that cottage in the occupation of Wagstaff, widow, and Philip Bennett, with lands used therewith. Also all that cottage in the occupation of Peters with the lands appertaining.

To have and to hold the said Castle &c. to the use &c. of the said Sir John Curzon. And the said Thomas Mackworth grants, confirms, and warrants to the said Sir John full and undisturbed possession to himself and his heirs for ever.

THO. HARTOPP.	THOMAS MACKWORTH.	R. CORNEY.
MARY HARTOPP.	JO. KNIGHT.	JOHN CURZON.
		HENREY CURZON.

From a document dated 4 July, 1655, it seems that Francis Curzon, the second son of Sir John, claimed the castle and manor of Mackworth, and 260 acres of land lying in Mackworth

and other places, as "his own right and inheritance," as against his elder brother John Curzon, and from a postscript it appears that on the 12 August following the said Francis Curzon had full seizin of the said castle, &c., delivered to him by John Ferrars, high sheriff, placing him in undisputed possession. At that time one George Humston seems to have been tenant of the castle.

It is not now known with certainty when or by what means the castle was demolished. All that now remains is a portion of the grand gateway erected a little before the year 1500 (Plate I.).* From a plan and drawing of it in the possession of Lord Scarsdale, it has evidently remained exactly in its present condition for the last hundred years.

"According to the tradition of the village the castle was demolished in the civil wars, and some high ground in the neighbourhood still bears the name of 'Cannon Hills,' from the tale that the ordnance was there planted by the destroyers."†

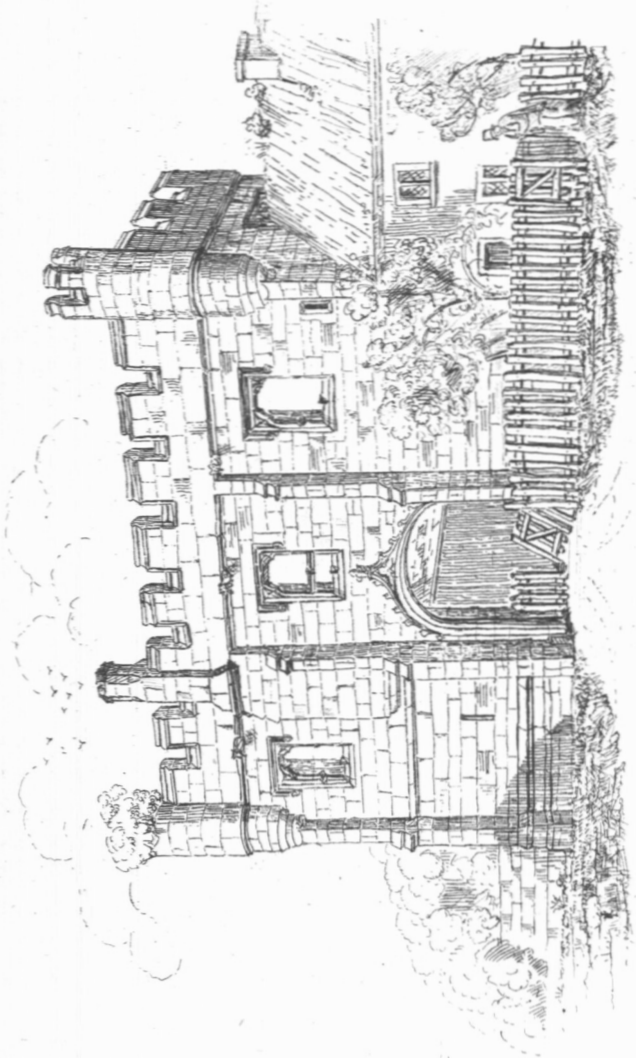
In the field adjoining the west side of the gateway, are two large contiguous quadrangular plots, clearly indicating two court yards, once surrounded by the castle buildings. Fragments of rubble may be discerned in the ridges of the outer boundaries.

It does not seem possible to gather any satisfactory account of the destruction of the building. The Curzons purchased it in 1655, when the damage would be accomplished, if it fell, as seems likely, in the Parliamentary struggles. Had Mackworth Castle been a place suitable for the reception of the Queen of Scots, Sir Ralph Sadler would not have overlooked it when *en route* with his charge for Tutbury. He writes to the Lord Treasurer, Feb. 5th, 1584:—

"Now as toching the Q. majesties mislyking that I lodgid this Q. in Derby towne coming hitherwarde, I assure her majestie and your Lordship that it was full sore against my will if it might have been holpen. . . . And as for any gent. house that way or *any other* in dyvers miles, there was none but Mr. Knyveton's house of Mercaston, a small house for such a purpose and very little meanes in that village."

* For the excellent etching of the Gateway on this plate, the Society is indebted to Mr. F. J. Robinson.

† *Beauties of England and Wales*, iii. 410.



Gateway Mackworth Castle.

F. J. ROBINSON, DEL.