

## Proceedings Prior to the Divorce of Godfrey Bradshawe and Margaret Howe—1554.

By CHARLES E. B. BOWLES.

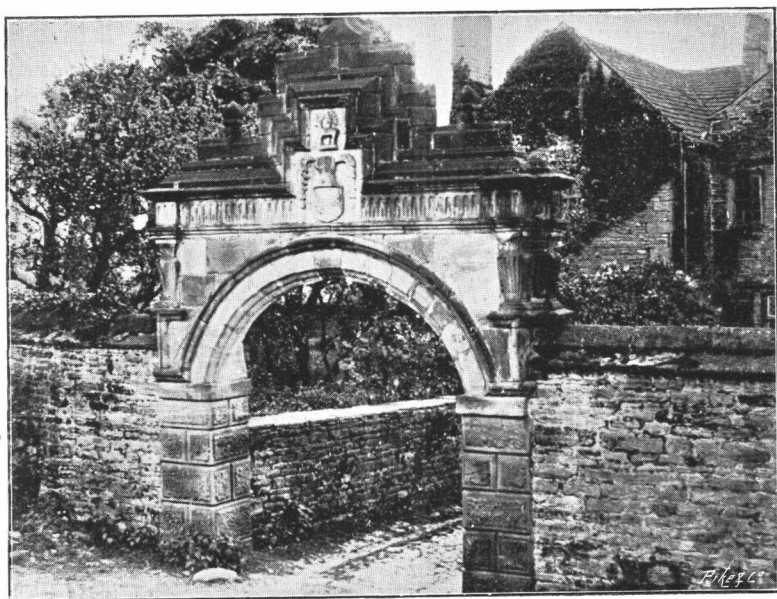
### I.

**T**HE following are exact copies, except in the spelling, of two original MSS. which were in my possession. Unfortunately they were in a library drawer—apart from the other Deeds—for the purposes of this article, and consequently perished in the fire which, on 19th Dec. last, destroyed nearly the whole contents of my house—The Leas, Wirksworth—otherwise the transcripts would have been revised and the old spelling more correctly rendered. Three other, like Deeds, shared the same misfortune. They certified as to the carrying out of these decisions—the delivery to Margaret Howe of her goods, even to the baby clothes, &c., provided by her parents, the payment of the money on “the high Altar” of the Church at Chapel-en-le-Frith and other like matters.

William Bradshawe of Marpul Co: Chester\* to pay £100 to Thos. Savage of Castleton at the feast of Mary the Virgin dated xx day of Jany 3 Edw: vj The Conditions of this Obligation is first That whereas Godfrey Bradshawe † son &

\* Was second son of Henry Bradshaw (see p. 42), by Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Eyre (second son of William Eyre, of North Lees, Co. Derby), married Margaret, daughter of Christopher Clayton, of Stryndes, Co. Chester, succeeded his nephew Richard in the Bradshaw Estates, 1543, and died about 1562.

† Born 29th September, 1531. Obtained his divorce, and eventually married Emma, daughter of Anthony Shallcross, of Shallcross, by whom he had Francis, who married Anne, daughter of Humphry Stafford (see vol. xxiii., p. 83).



BRADSHAW HALL, CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH.

heir apparent to above bounden William Bradshawe & Margaret Howe daughter to Roger Howe late of Ashop in the County of Derby yeoman in their infancy by the only means & procurement of their near friends are espoused & married either to other & whereas at theis present the before named Godfrey doth not lovingly entreat agree & acord with the said Margaret by means & occasion whereof controversy is like to ensue between the friends of both the said parties for avoidyng whereof the said William Bradshawe & Godfrey Bradshawe or either of them on their behalf do stand to obey perform fulfil and keep the awarding arbitrament Dome and Judgement of John Davenport of Chadkyrke in the County of Chester John Savage of Edale Ellys Staley of Castleton\* & George Bowden of the Chapel en le Frith in the said County of Derby gentleman Arbiters by the said parties indifferently elect & chosen to agree the said Godfrey and Margaret & to cause them to continue lovingly together as man & wife if they by their wise doing can bring it so to pass or otherwise to award arbitrer deme & judge as well what goods Chattels Household Stuff & sum or sums of money the said William Bradshawe his heirs executors or administrators shall restore deliver & pay or cause to be restored delivered & paid unto the above named Thomas Savage to the only use of the said Margaret her executors & assigns as also of & upon all, & all manner accounts querrels demands greffs & other matters had managed scered & dependyng between the sayd parties by reason of for & concerning the premisses, so that the sayd award arbitrement dome & judgement be by the arbyterers made yn writing sealed & delivered by either of the sayd parties on this side the last day of February next coming That then this present obligation to be voyd & of none effect or else to stand in his full strength & virtue

Wyllm Bradsha

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\* His daughter Margaret had married the above Richard Bradshawe, nephew to William. [See note on previous page.]

## II.

To all evie (and every) Christian men to whom this present writing afterwards indentyd shall come to be seen or read we John Davenport of Chadkyrke in the County of Chester gent. John Savage of Edale George Bowden Ellys Stalye of Castleton in the County of Derby gent send greeting in our Lord God everlasting for as much as before this time Godfrey Bradshawes dett is depending between Thomas Savage of the Spytell in the County of Derby gent on the one parte William Bradshawe of Marple in the County of Chester gent on the other part of for & concerning the undoing & moyding (voyding) of a marriage had and made between Godfrey Bradshawe son & heir apparent to the said William, & one Margaret Howe cousin to the said Thomas Savage at the time of which marriage the said Godfrey & Margaret were both within the age of consent & yet cannot agree for the ending whereof, & to the mene that a fynal peace unity & concord shalbe had between the sayd parties, the sayd parties & either of them have agreed & bonded themselves to stand to & abide the arbyter's award ordinance & Judgement of us the said John Davenport John Savage George Bowden Ellys Stalye & for the accomplishing & fulfilling thereof have bonded themselves other to other in the sum of c li (£100) as by their obligacons bearing date the xx daie of January in the 3<sup>rd</sup> yeare of the reigne of our sovereign lord Kyng Edward the sixth more plainly appeareth. Know you that the said John John Savage George & Ellys have made decreed & decided this prest award & Judgement in manner & form following— First we award ordain & dome that the said Thos: & William Bradshawe shall before the feast of S<sup>t</sup> George next ensuing the date hereof at theyre equal cost sue or cause to be sued such a Divorce between the said Godfrey & Margaret that they may marry another if the laws of this realm will suffer. Also we award ordain & judge that the said William Bradshawe or his heirs before the feast of Philip & James next ensuing the date hereof shall pay or cause to be payed to the said Thomas or his lawful attorney in the porch of the chapel aforesaid between viij of

the Clock before noon and iv of the clock at afternoon of the same day the sum of vj £ 13 sh & 4 pence, & in the feast of Philip & James the next following in the same Church & within the same hour £vj 13 sh & 4 pence, in the feast of Philip & James which shalbe in the yere of our Lord God MDLiiij 1554 xiiij £ vj sh: in the same Church between the hours of eight before noon & iiij afternoon as is above said to the use & behoof of the said Margaret & in the name of a full recompense & agreement of all such goods & chattels as the said William hath had & enjoyed of the said Margaret or her friends to her use & behoof also in full recompense & discharge of all such things as she can or may claim either of Lands or goods by reason of the same marriage Provided always that if it fortune the said Margaret to be married to any other man after the said Godfrey be married and before the feasts before lymited then wee award ordeyne & judge that the said William for the Presents of the said marriage shall pay the said £13.6 sh: & 4 pence decreed to be paid in the feast of Philip & James which shalbe in the yere of our Lord MDLiiij in the Church Porch in the fest of Philip & James between the hours before limited Provided that if the Divorce cannot come to effect according to this our award then will this our award be voyd and of no effect anything therein conveyed to the contrary notwithstanding. In witness whereof to other part of this our award we have set our seals hereon the last day of June in the fourth year of the reign of Edward the sixth by the grace of God &c