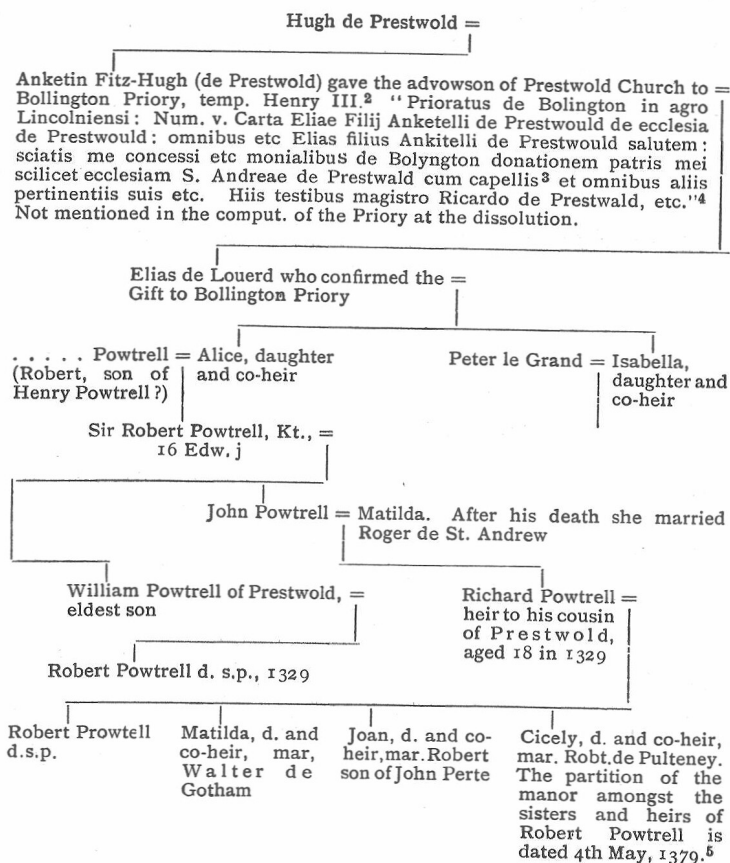


Some Account of the Family of Powtrell of West Hallam.

By REV. HENRY LAWRENCE, M.A.

THE family of Powtrell, which recorded its pedigree at all the Visitations of Derbyshire from 1569 to 1663, held the manor of West Hallam for about two centuries. But though their appearance amongst the principal families of the county only dates from their acquisition of West Hallam in 1467, they could boast a long and honourable connection with the neighbouring counties of Nottingham and Leicester. The printed pedigrees¹ of the family carry back the ancestry of the Powtrells at anyrate to the twelfth century, when the family was settled at Thrumpton, a property they continued to hold to the middle of the sixteenth. There was also a family of the same name at Prestwold, in Leicestershire, which I have little doubt was a branch of the Thrumpton stock, though I have been unable to prove the exact connection. It will perhaps be better to give what information is available with regard to the Leicestershire branch before dealing with what I cannot but regard as the parent stock.

¹ Thoroton's *Hist. of Notts*: *Reliquary*, xxiv., 157.



As regards this gift to Bollington Priory, Nichols (III., 353) quotes from a supposed charter of William the Conqueror which states that alii quoque homines Hugonis Comitis Cestrie dederunt decimas suas ecclesie in Nichol-escira et Robtus Pultrel in Leyrecestrecira" (*Dugd. Mon.*, II, 966: *Odor Vit.*, 602). He quotes also

² *Genealogist* IX, 12 (Pedigree from the Plea Rolls.)

³ The Chapelries of Prestwold were Cotes, Howton and Burton.

⁴ *Dugdale Mon. Angl.*, VI, 952.

⁵ *Close Rolls*, Rich. ij.

a charter from the Dodsworth MSS. (xxx., 81, B.) in which Robert Powtrel, apparently the son of Henry and Huldeberte, conveys to the priory of Bollington, on the occasion of his entering the house, the church of Howton "pro anima Henrici Putrel et pro anima Huldeberte uxoris eius: Hec carta facta est quando predictus Robertus Putrel in fraternitatem susceptus est."

The Prior of Bollington is stated to have held in Prestwold tithe of two sheaves the gift of Robert Powtrel of Cotes and of Elias de Prestwold.⁶

1271, Feb. 17. Notice to the sheriffs of the several counties that the King is sending JOHN POWTRELL to assess americiaments of those persons in the counties of York, Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, Warwick, Leicester and Northampton who are at the mercy of the King. (*Pat. Roll*, 55 Hen. III.).

1281. RICHARD POWTERELL acknowledges that he owes 25 marks to William Hamlyn: in default to be levied on his lands in Leicestershire. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. I.).

1308. Inq. p.m. of JOHN POWTRELL.

1308. May 24. Order to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to deliver to WILLIAM POWTRELL of Waterfall seisin of a moiety of a mill in Waterfall which Robert son of Benedict Boterdon, who was hanged for felony, held of him. (*Close Rolls*, 1 Edw. II)

1314. WILLIAM POWTRELL of Prestwold conveys 1 ac. of land at Redeweeye, Co. Stafford. (Fine of 8 Edw. II: *Cat. of Anc. Deeds*, VI, 5302).

1316. WILLIAM POWTRELL conveys 1 ac. of land in Waterfall. (*Cat. of Anc. Deeds*, VI., 5481).

1327, May 3. JOHN POWTRELL acknowledges that he owes William de Mekesborough 70^s.

1329, Apr. 15. ROBERT POUTRELL of Prestwold Inq. p.m. Leicester, Sat. Eve. of Palm Sund., 3 Edw. III.

Prestwold manor (extent given) whereof a moiety held of the King by reason of a forfeiture of Henry de Beaumont by service of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a knight's fee. The other half of Thomas Hotoft by knight's service, which parts are held in common (pro indiviso).

Burton. A messuage, not built, held of Reginald le Bergez by knight's service.

⁶ Burton's *Leicestershire*, 211; see also Ass. Arch. Soc. Rep. and Pap., xxxv.

Wymondswold a capital messuage, land and rent, held of Will^m Bygge of Stansford by service of $\frac{1}{10}$ knight's fee of wh. service the Said Rob^t and his ancestors the ancestors of the said Will^m were seized time out of mind.

Richard son of John Powtrell kinsman of Robert aged 18 next heir.

1335. RICHARD POWTRELL sued the Prior of Bolyngton for the advowson of Prestwold Church. (Pleas de Banco, Trin. T.; 9 Edw. III., 223).

1343, Feb. 26. Inq. p.m. of JOHN POWTRELL of Cotes.

1344, June 13. Writ regarding JOHN POWTRELL's fee in Cotes-Powtrell and Howton.

1348. RICHARD POWTRELL with the abbot of Gerunden paid 40^s for one knight's fee at Wysall (son of John and Matilda).

1350. JOHN POWTRELL at the time of his death held land in Prestwold by service of half a knight's fee of Alice the relict of Henry Beaumont. (Nichol's *Leicester*, vol. III.).

1352. JOHN POWTRELL held land in Cotes-Poutrell and Howton of Ralph Burrell of Drayton.

1357. ROBERT POWTRELL held land at Prestwold of the Honour of Leicester.

1367. RICHARD POWTRELL appointed one of the Commissioners to inquire into certain trespasses in the Forest of Knaresborough. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. III.).

1373, Jul. 8. RICHARD POWTRELL witness to a charter of William Chaworth. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. III.).

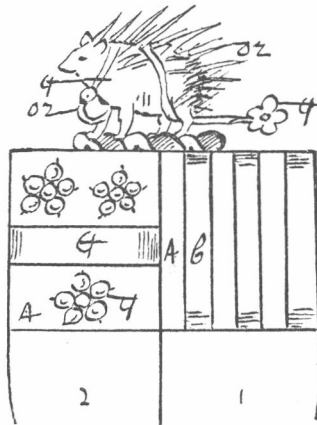
Burton states that in the windows of Prestwold church (east window of the chancel and south window of the nave) were the arms of Powtrell *or on a bend azure three fleur-de-lys argent*.⁷ It will be noticed that these arms are entirely different from those used by the West Hallam family and it might be urged from this fact that the families were distinct in their origin. I think that a more probable explanation may be found in the suggestion that Sir Robert Powtrell adopted the arms of his mother, the heiress of Prestwold. Be that as it may,

⁷ "Sire Rob^t Poutrel de or a une bende de asur e iij flurs de argent" (*Parliamentary Roll. Geneal*, XII, 134). Nichols notices the same arms at Wysall. In the Brit. Mus. collection is the seal of Sir Robert Poutrel of Prestwold, temp. Edw. I., with the same arms,

the separation of the two branches took place at so early a date that the use of two different coats is no matter for surprise.

It does not seem that the family of Powtrell was widespread or that the surname was at all common. In fact it appears to be almost entirely confined to a small area in the south of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire and the north of Leicestershire. Outside these limits with one or two isolated instances mentioned elsewhere, I have only met with a single occurrence of the name: Robert Puterell merchant of Winchester is twice mentioned in the reign of Henry III. in matters connected with the wool-trade.⁸

Two different pedigrees of the earlier generations of Powtrell of Thrumpton are given by Thoroton⁹ and the *Reliquary*¹⁰ and though neither of them is quite satisfactory it will perhaps be well to print a skeleton pedigree from those sources in order to explain the connection between the various members of the family referred to in the notes which follow.

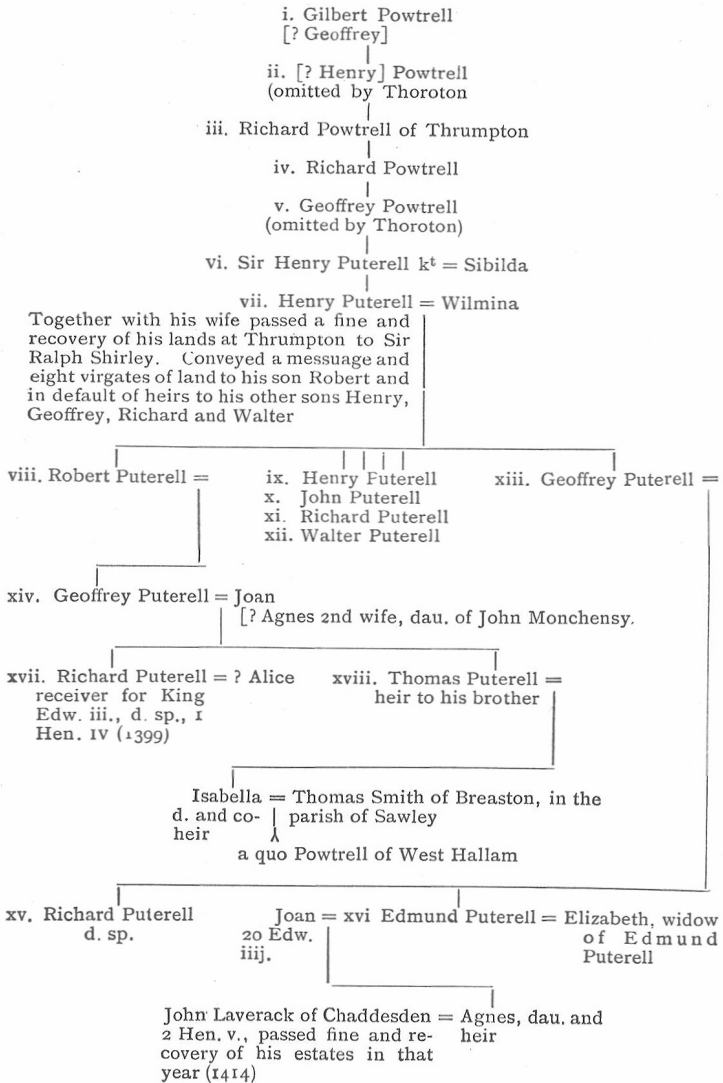


POWTRELL ARMS.

⁸ *Pat. Rolls.* 1271.

⁹ *Hist. of Notts.*

¹⁰ *Reliq.* xxiv., 157.



- 1190 (*circa*). GEOFFREY PUTREL appears as witness to a conveyance of land by Peter de Sandiacre, at Sandiacre. (*Derb. Charters*, 2090).
1200. The name of Henry PUTREL occurs amongst a merciaments by Hugh Bard and Roger Arundel. (*Pipe Rolls*, 2 John).
1201. HENRY PUTREL occurs in the list of contributors to the arrears of the second scutage of king Richard. (*Pipe Rolls*, 2 John).
1210. Reginald Bennett and RICHARD PUTREL released claim to the advowson of the Chapel of Thrumpton to Ralph Prior of Norton. (*Fine* 12 John).
1237. RICHARD PITEREL held one fee in Thrumodeston. He granted to God and St. Peter of Thurgaton $\frac{1}{2}$ carucate of land of his demesne. (*Testa de Nevile*).
1237. RICHARD PUTREL answers for one knight's fee in the collection for the marriage of Isabella, sister of Henry III. to Frederick II., the Emperor. (*Testa de Nevile*).
1243. RICHARD POUTRELL held one knight's fee in Thurmeston of Alice, Countess of Eu, Lady of the Manor of Tickhill. (*Testa de Nevile*.)
1260. HENRY PUTREL owes £6 of the debt of Benedict Pink, a Jew. (*Pipe Rolls*, 44 Hen. III.).
1260. SIR HENRY PUTERELL grants three virgates of land to Henry his son to acquit him of "Judaism" (usury). (45 Hen. III.).
- 1265, Feb. 19. Pardon, at the instance of Roger St. John, granted to John Puterel, of the King's Suit for the death of Stephen de Jorz and of any consequent outlawry. (*Pat. Rolls*, 49 Hen. III.).
1283. Amongst the new oblations occurs the name of HENRY PUTREL. (*Pipe Rolls*, 48 Hen III.).
1293. HENRY PUTERELL acknowledges that he owes 20^m to the king in default to be levied on his lands in Nottingham, His sons Henry and John appear as sureties. (*Close Rolls*. (Edw. I.).
- 1296-7, Jan. 4. Order to cause a Viewer to be elected for the work of the King's Castle at Nottingham in place of JOHN POWTRELL, deceased. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. I.).
1298. HENRY PUTEREL de Nottingham 20^m for the Jews House. (*Pipe Rolls*, 27 Edw. I.).
- 1300 (*circa*). HENRY and GEOFFREY POWTRELL are concerned in the conveyance of four parcels of land (1 virgate, 1 virgate,

- 1 yard and 2 oxgangs) in Howes, Co. Leicester.
- 1322, Oct. 18. ROBERT POUTERELL appears as witness to a deed respecting the transfer of land at Stanton-by-Dale. (*Jeayes Verb. Charters*, 2207).
- 1326, Oct. 26. Roger de Crophull acknowledges debt to GEOFFREY POWTRELL. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. II.).
- 1330, Sep. 18. GEOFFREY POWTRELL of Thurmeston one of the mainpernors of John de Lek parson of Humberston. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. III.).
1338. ROBERT PUTERELL makes settlement on Geoffrey his son and Joan his son's wife. (12 Edw. III.).
- 1352, May 25. EDMUND PUTEREL acknowledges a debt of £6 to Richard Ravensell, clerk. (*Close Rolls*, Edw. III.).
1364. John de Munchensy settles property on GEOFFREY PUTERELL and Agnes his wife., (38 Edw. III.).
1371. RICHARD POUTRELL sues Nicholas de Crophyll, kt. for land in Thurmeston which Henry Poutrell and Willelma his wife had given to Robert Poutrell and the heirs of his body. (*Plea Rolls*, 45 Edw. III.).
1377. THOMAS POWTRELL occurs amongst those who are commissioned to raise men at arms for the defence of the realm. (1 Rich. II.).

Isabel the sole heir of the Powtrells married Thomas Smith of Breaston in the parish of Sawley: the son of this marriage, a second Thomas Smith, assumed the name and arms of Powtrell and was living 3 Edward IV. His wife's name was Maud and she is described as the widow of Gervase Clifton.

Maud the daughter of Sir John Stanhope, sister and heir of Ralph Lord Cromwell, married as a second husband Sir Thomas Nevile and as a third Sir Gervase Clifton.¹¹ If she married Thomas Powtrell he would be her fourth husband. It is probable that a mistake has arisen through the fact that Maud, widow of Gervase Clifton the elder co-heir of Lord Cromwell in the year 1467

¹¹ Her first husband was Robert Lord Willoughby D'Eresby by whom she was the mother of Joan, wife of Sir Richard Welles, Lord Welles, beheaded in 1469; the father of Robert Lord Willoughby and Welles who was beheaded in the same year.

conveyed the manor of West Hallam with the advowson of the church to Thomas Powtrell, Ralph Fitzherbert¹² and William Powtrell, the first and last apparently sons of Thomas Smith " etiam dictus Poutrell."¹³

By acquiring the manor of West Hallam the Powtrells took their place amongst the county families of Derbyshire, but this was by no means their first connection with the county. Mention has already been made of their interest in Stanton-by-Dale; another branch seems to have been settled in the neighbourhood of Ashbourne. At the end of the twelfth century ROGER PUTREL occurs as witness to a deed concerning a tenement at Atlow,¹⁴ whilst WILLIAM POWTRELL witnesses a deed regarding the transfer of a toft at Ashbourne towards the end of the reign of Henry III.¹⁵ Moreover, Thomas the father of the first Poutrell of West Hallam was of Breaston in the neighbouring parish of Sawley and held property there which long continued in the family. The names of Henry Poutrel and Lettice his daughter also occur in the Bakewell Easter Roll (1348). Amongst the benefactors to the poor of Duffield were Edward Porterell of Derby, 1667, and William Potterell of Okeham (1735).

At the time of the Domesday Survey West Hallam was part of the possessions of Ralph de Burun. At an early date it was in the hands of the Cromwells. Ralph Cromwell held one-eighth of a knight's fee in West Hallam of the Bishop of Lincoln in 1242. His descend-

¹² The names of Powtrell and Fitzherbert occur in conjunction thirty years later: Inq. p.m. of Thomas Kebell, 18 April, 17 Hen. VII. Sir John Babington, Kt., seized of the manor of Thrussington (co. Leicester) demised it to John Fitzherberd and Thomas Powtrell, gents.

¹³ There is mention of another member of the family, who may have been a brother of Thomas and William. 24 Sep., 1485. Grant to John Brampton the King's Servant of the Keeping of the lands in London and elsewhere in England of John Powtrell, Chaplain, during the idiocy of the said John, etc.

¹⁴ Jayes, *Derby Chart.*, 134.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 54.

ants were summoned to parliament as Lords Cromwell from 1308 to 1455, when on the death of Ralph Lord Cromwell, Treasurer of the Exchequer, Founder of the College at Tattershall and builder of Tattershall Castle, without issue, the manor passed through Maud his sister to her daughters as co-heirs of the last Lord Cromwell of that family. Jane the elder daughter married Sir Humphry Bouchier who was summoned as Lord Cromwell but was killed at the battle of Barnet, without issue. The three husbands of Maud the other co-heir have already been named and she it was who alienated West Hallam to Thomas Powtrell.¹⁶

I.—**THOMAS POWTRELL** who acquired West Hallam by purchase from the heirs of the last Lord Cromwell,¹⁷ presented to the living in 1483. His wife was Catherine, daughter of John Cotton of Ridware.¹⁸ He was buried at West Hallam, where there is a floor slab to his memory with the arms of Powtrell of West Hallam *argent a fess between three cinquefoils gules* impaling Cotton (*azure an eagle displayed argent*). His name occurs as the counsel for the claimants in a law-suit, Wynton and others *v.* Lowe,¹⁹ so that he evidently followed the profession of the law. His name heads the pedigrees in the Heralds' Visitations: "Tho: Powtrell of Westehallam in the Com. Derby (sonn of Powtrell de Thrompton in Co. Nott.)."²⁰

¹⁶ *Derby Fines*, 7 Edw. iv.

¹⁷ Fine Trin. and Mich. Term 7 Edw. IV. (1467) Maud wife of Gervase Clifton conveys West Hallam to Thomas Powtrell, Ralph Fitzherbert and William Powtrell.

¹⁸ She married secondly Thomas Molyneux of Naunton, Attorney General. Their son Sir Edward Molyneux (d. 6 Hen. VII.) was the father of Robert Molyneux who married Dorothy daughter of Sir Robert Powtrell.

¹⁹ *Journal*, III, 165.

²⁰ Vis., 1569. MS. in the possession of the Society.

Four children are named, two of either sex:—

- i. JOHN POWTRELL, his heir (II.).
- ii. ROBERT 2d. sonn died sauns issue.
- iii. ANNE mar. "Deger". Her husband is elsewhere stated to have been of the family of Disney of Norton Disney, co. Lincoln.²¹
- iv. BRIDGETT, mar. Richard Baker of Aldesworth, Notts. He was the son of John Baker of Aldesworth by the daughter of Hide of Coventry (Thoroton).

Hic jacet Thomas Powtrell armiger quondam dñs istius ville et patron' huius eccl'ie qui obiit xxiiii die Augusti A^s Dni M^occcc^o lxxxiiii Cuj' aie p' picietur Deus.—Amen.²²

The original manor house of the Powtrells was situated in what is now called Foxholes Plantation. The line of the mote may still be traced and the site was known as "the mot." A new residence and chapel was built in 1770 and pulled down 60 years later, when the stained glass was removed to the church. In the north window of the chancel are six shields some of which appear to be old. They show:—

- (1) Cotton of Ridware.
- (2) Powtrell impaling Cotton.
- (3) Strelley (*paly of six argent and azure*).
- (4) Powtrell impalling Strelley.
- (5) Powtrell quartering Strelley and impaling Bassett (*or three piles gules, a canton ermine*).
- (6) Newdigate (*gules three lions jamps erased or*).

²¹ Another MS. describes him as Sir Degory Helys. The Disney alliance is possible from the fact that John Disney, son of John Disney who was killed at Towton, married Margaret daughter of Thomas Nevill of Rolleston, co. Notts. On the other hand, Thoroton quotes the following inscription from Hawton which seems conclusive: "Of your Charity pray for the Soules of Degory Adys Knight of the Sepulchre and Marchant of the Stapull of Calys and Dame Ann his wife, daughter of Thomas Powtrell, Esq." Degory d. 27 Feb., 1521.

²² "Bassano Church Notes," quoted Cox *Derby. Churches*.

Thomas Powtrel's wife survived him and his son was evidently a minor at the time of his father's death as appears from two entries in the Rolls of Henry VII., *May* 9, 1492 Philip Leach of Chatsworth to render £40 to Katherine Powtrel late wife of Thomas Powtrel, and John Cotton, brother-in-law of Thomas. *Jun.* 6, 1492. Commission on the death of Thomas Powtrel, to enquire what lands he held in Derby and Notts., their value, who is his heir, and to take the same into the king's lands.

II.—**JOHN POWTRELL** of West Hallam. His wife was Margaret, daughter and co-heir of John Strelley eldest son of Sir Robert Strelley of Strelley, by Sanchia daughter of Sir Richard Willoughby.²³ His share of his father-in-law's estate included property at Chilwell, Trowell, Attenborough, Bramcote, Cossall and Colston-Bassett.²⁴ He was the father of a numerous family:—

- i. THOMAS POWTRELL, his heir (III.).
- ii. NICHOLAS POWTRELL, Serjeant-at-Law, and afterwards Justice of Common Pleas, M.P. for Notts. 1546 and 1555. He married Anne daughter of Sir Walter Rodney, sister to his brother's wife. His name is of frequent occurrence in the transactions of the time, as for instance as assignee of the next presentation to the church of Heanor c. 1547, and the pension roll of Dale Abbey.²⁵
- iii. WILLIAM POWTRELL, vicar of West Hallam, presented by his father in 1538.

²³ Of the other coheiresses Isabel married (1) Clement Lowe, (2) Paynell; Elizabeth married William Ascough; Anne married (1) Richard Stanhope, (2) Sir John Markham: by whom she was the mother of Thomas Markham. To him Nicholas Powtrel, having quarrelled with his nephew, left his estate at Egmanon.

²⁴ *Journal*, xiv., 92.

²⁵ Cox *Derby Churches*, iv., 234; *Journal*, xviii., 22. He also appears as witness to a charter at Chesterfield, 4 Jan., 10 Eliz. (*Feudal Hist. of Derby*, ii., 120). He seems to have lived at Egmanon, co. Notts., and died s. p.

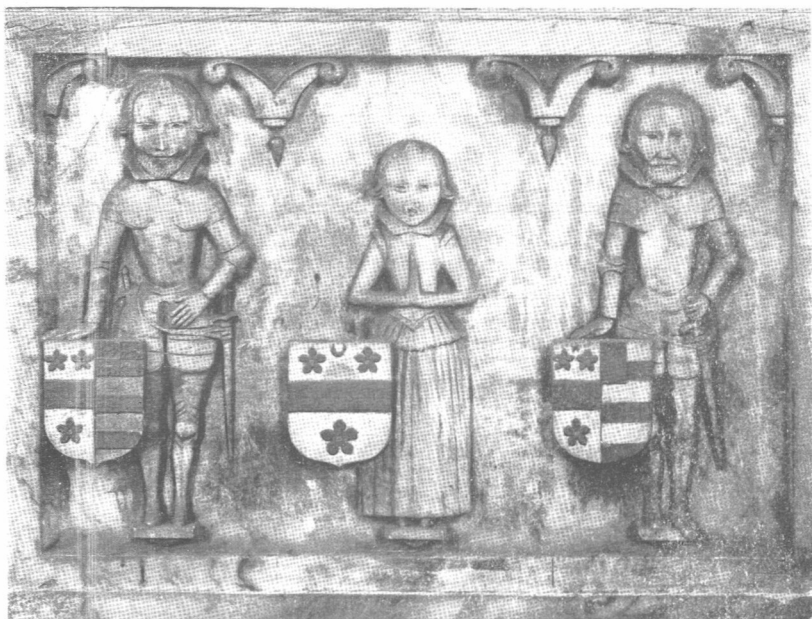


PLATE I.—CHILDREN OF WALTER POWTRELL.
From his tomb at West Hallam.

- iv. SANCHIA married Nicholas Clarkson of Kirton, Notts. Their son John Clarkson married a daughter of Sir George Rodney.
- v. MARY married Richard or Robert Stringer, son of John Stringer of Eaton, Notts.
- vi. BRIDGET married George Browne the Queen's Attorney in Lancashire.
- vii. MARGARET, a nun in the Abbey of Grace Dieu, co. Leicester.
- viii. DOROTHY married George Pilkington of Stanton, the eldest son of Edmund Pilkington of Stanton, by Catherine sister of William Bassett of Blore. She died without issue and her husband re-married Mary, daughter of Richard Gibson of the County of Kent, who was in the service of King Henry VIII., and by her was the father of Edward Pilkington of Stanton.²⁶
- ix. HELEN died in infancy.

John Powtrell's will is dated 30 Nov. 1541, and he died 7 Nov., 1543. His Inq. p.m. was taken at Derby, 28 Oct., 1544.²⁷

III.—**THOMAS POWTRELL** the eldest son, who succeeded his father at West Hallam in 1543 was born in 1517. He took a prominent part in public life and was chosen Knight of the Shire for Derbyshire in 1553. He was one of the commissioners for religious pensions in Derbyshire in 1548.²⁸ and is mentioned as having acted as arbitrator in a dispute between Sir Henry Sacherevell

²⁶ *Vis. of Leicester*, p. 78; *Journal*, xxxv., 87.

²⁷ In the Inq. p.m. of Margaret the wife of Richard Alley, 13 Mar., 2 Hen. VII. the name of John Powtrell occurs amongst other citizens of London. He was probably not John P. of W. Hallam, but more likely a cousin. His father had two brothers Ralph and William, one of whom may have sought his fortune in London.

²⁸ *Journal*, xxviii., 18.

and George Zouch of Codnor.²⁹ 36 Hen. VIII. he received a grant of "Stanley Grange with its appurtenances and diverse messuages, lands, tenements, tithes and other hereditaments in Dale, Stanley and Spondon, held of the king in capite by the service of one twentieth of a knight's fee."³⁰ He was twice married: first to Dorothy daughter and co-heir³¹ of William Bassett of Muskham, brother of Sir Richard Bassett of Fledborough. By her he was the father of:—

- i. FRANCES married John Dethick, son of John Dethick of Breadsall, by Lucy daughter of Sir Nicholas Barrington.
- ii. JOAN died in infancy.³²

He married for his second wife Elizabeth daughter of Sir Walter Rodney of Stoke Rodney in the county of Somerset and by her was the father of:—

- i. WALTER POWTRELL his heir (IV.).
- ii. GERVASE POWTRELL, died in infancy.
- iii. MARY baptized at West Hallam 1545, married as third wife Charles Bolle only son of Richard Bolle of Haugh, co. Lincoln. Sir John Bolle the eminent commander was his son by his second wife. By Mary Powtrell he had an only daughter Elizabeth, married at Louth, 16 April, 1596. Thomas Gilbey of Stainton-in-the-hole; buried at Louth 10 March, 1632-3. Charles Bolle died 3 Feb., 1590-1.³³

Thomas Powtrell's will was dated 1557 and his Inq. p.m. 9 Sep., 1558.

There is in West Hallam church a slab with the matrices of a brass inscription and three figures, a man in civilian

²⁹ *Journal*, xxxviii., 187. See *Jeayes Derb. Chart.*, 1749-51 for notice of his having acted in a similar capacity at Newton Grange in 1545.

³⁰ *Journal*, xxvii., 121.

³¹ Catherine the other coheir married Guy Fairfax.

³² A son John, died in infancy, is named in some pedigrees, but to which wife he belonged is uncertain. His name may be a mistake for Joan.

³³ *Lincolnshire Ped.*, Harl. Soc.

costume with a wife on either side. This was probably the memorial of Thomas Powtrel and his wives Dorothy Bassett and Elizabeth Rodney; above were three shields which possibly bore:—

- (1) Powtrel quartering Strelley.
- (2) Powtrel impaling Bassett.
- (3) Powtrel impaling Rodney.

IV.—**WALTER POWTREL** of West Hallam was baptized at Kirk Hallam in 1545 and named after his grandfather Sir Walter Rodney. He entered his pedigree at the Visitation of Derbyshire in 1569 and died 16 Sep., 1598. He lies buried under a sumptuous monument in the chancel of West Hallam church. On the table rest the effigies of himself and his wife. At the sides are the figures of his children with a coat of arms for each; Powtrel impaling Manners, Powtrel differenced by a mullet and Powtrel differenced by a crescent and impaling Stanford for his sons; Powtrel, Powtrel, Peckham impaling Powtrel and Powtrel for his four daughters. At his head are the arms of himself and his wife Powtrel quartering Strelley and Shirley quartering Waldshef, Milo the constable, Braose, Bassett, Brailsford, Twyford, Staunton and Ecclesall; at his feet Powtrel quartering Strelley and impaling Shirley.

His wife was Cassandra, daughter of Francis Shirley of Staunton-Harold, co. Leicester, who bore him seven children. Her father was sheriff of the counties of Warwick and Leicester, and her mother was Dorothy, daughter of Sir John Gifford of Chillington. In *Stemmata Shirleiana*, 12, is a copy of a letter from Cassandra Powtrel to her nephew George Shirley concerning certain lands at W. Hallam. Her other nephew Ralph Shirley was buried at W. Hallam 19 Dec., 1623.

- i. THOMAS POWTREL eldest son (V.).
- ii. JOHN POWTREL baptized at West Hallam 30 Jul.,

- 1580, died in infancy. On his father's tomb he is represented in a girlish dress with high waist and long skirt.
- iii. JOHN POWTRELL succeeded his brother (VI.).
 - iv. ELEANOR baptized at Kirk Hallam 21 Jan., 1572. She and her sister Dorothy were fined £20 10s. as recusants 24 Jan., 7 James I.³⁴
 - v. FRANCES.
 - vi. DOROTHY baptized 13 Oct., 1574. She married George Peckham of Stanley Grange, who entered his pedigree at the Visitation of 1611.
 - vii. JANE baptized 4 Nov., 1576.

Walter Powtrell's name occurs in the Elizabethan Muster Roll as being responsible for one lance.³⁵ 26 Mar., 1589, he and his mother were called upon to contribute £25 to the Royal Aid: 15 Aug., 1597, he was assessed at the same amount³⁶ and the the same year his name occurs amongst those who claimed exemption.³⁷ Before his death he began to experience something of the persecution to which his house was soon to feel the full vigour, on account of its adherence to the old form of worship. Amongst the "Catholicks in Englande" in 1574 appears the name of Mr. Powtrell of W. Hallam.³⁸ In 1595 we learn that "at Mr. Powdrell's house called West Halam, iiij miles beyond Darbey lieth one Richard Shovell an old priest and saithe masse their constantly."³⁹ These entries are but the mutterings of the coming storm.

Mrs. Powtrell survived her husband and the date of her death does not appear on her husband's tomb.

Here lieth the Bodies of Walter Powtrell Esq. Lord of this town and patrō of this church: and Cassandra his wife

³⁴ *Journal*, x., 59.

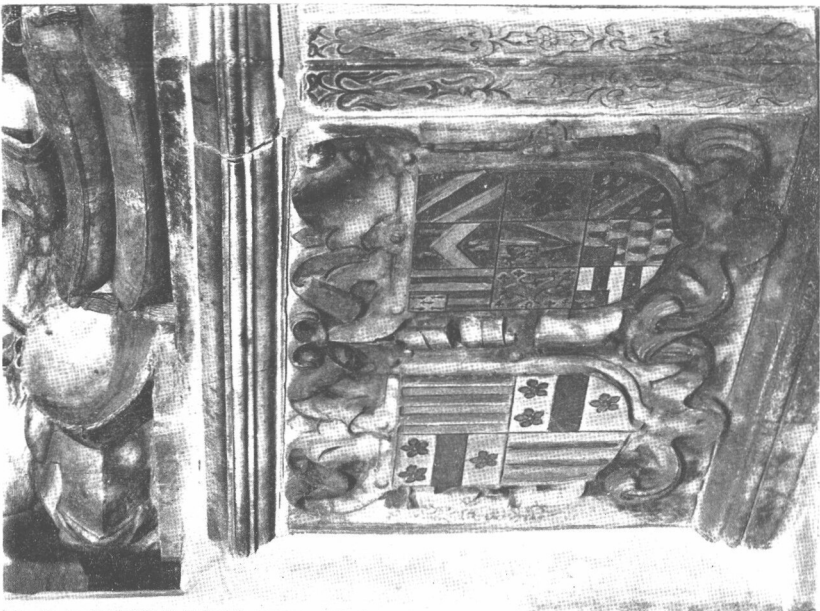
³⁵ *Ibid.*, xvii., 32.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, xxiii., 50.

³⁷ *Three Centuries of Derbyshire Annals*, II., 105.

³⁸ *State Pap. Dom. Eliz.*, 99, 55.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, 251, 14, 1595.



TO FACE PAGE 40.

daughter of Francis Shirley of Staunton in y^e Countie of Leicester, Esq., by whom he had issue 3 sonnes and 4 daughters: w^{ch} Walter died y^e 16 daie of Septemb^r An^o 1598.

As her sons were under age she succeeded to the control of the family estates. We find " M^{rs} Powtrell " ordered to contribute 30s. towards providing four horses for service in Ireland 26 Jan., 1599-1600. In 1610 she was fined £24 10s. as a recusant.⁴⁰

V.—**THOMAS POWTRELL** baptized 7 June., 1578, living 1608, when he joined with his brother in selling their estate at Thrumpton to Gervase Pigott. Fined 25s. as a recusant 16 May, 1601.⁴¹ He married Eleanor, second daughter of Sir Thomas Manners, the fourth son of Thomas, first Earl of Rutland, and Theodosia his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Newton. He died without issue, when his inheritance passed to his brother.

VI.—**JOHN POWTRELL** baptized 14 Feb., 1587. He appears to have resided at Chilwell in the parish of Attenborough, co. Notts., where he erected in 1610 the screen in the church upon which may be seen his arms and those of his wife, Mary, daughter of Edward Stanford (*argent*) *two bars (azure) on a Canton (of the first) a fess and in chief three lozenges (sable)*,⁴² and the initials I.P.

The devotion of the family to the cause of the unreformed religion is shown by a letter amongst the Coke Papers from Sir Francis Coke of Melbourne to his brother Sir John, 17 Nov., 1625 :—

A remembrance of such things as were observed in the houses of Romish Recusants and others suspected within the County of Derby at such times as the houses were searched by the Deputy Lieutenants of the said County for their arms and warlike weapons.

⁴⁰ *Three Cents. of Derby. Annals*, I., 278.

⁴¹ *Journal*, xvi., 153.

⁴² *Vis. of Leicester*.

At Stanley Grange a house standing alone in Appletree Hundred the doors were at the first shut against us but after a little while opened when we found only two women in the house, who gave us to understand that the Grange House belonged to one Mrs. Vause⁴³ as farmer thereof to Mrs. Powtrel of West Hallam dwelling within a quarter of a mile of the said Grange, both the one and the other being notorious recusants. Upon a searching of the said house we found so many rooms and Chambers as I have never seen in so small a content of ground and amongst other there was two Chapels, one opening into the other and in either of them a table set to the upper end for an altar and stools and Cushions as though they had lately been at Mass. Over the Altars there was crucifixes set and other pictures about it. There was beds and furniture for them in that little house to lodge 40 or 50 at the least.⁴⁴

In 1635 a Commission was issued to visit the seminary, which was then dispersed. The visitors were instructed "to seize upon all such books, papers and massing stuff as you shall find in the house of Mrs. Vaux called Stanley Grange and if you shall find any Jesuit or other suspected persons to apprehend him and them and cause them to be brought up hither to be examined by us as also such children as you shall find there."

John Powtrel died in 1624 (Lysons) and was the father of the following:—

- i. HENRY POWTRELL, his heir (VII.).
- ii. JOHN POWTRELL bap. at West Hallam 23 May, 1624. Married Mary, daughter of Sir Henry Hunloke and brother of Sir Henry Hunloke, first Baronet; d. s.p.
- iii. ROBERT POWTRELL of West Hallam appeared at the Visitation 1662; married Frances, daughter of ——— Brailesford. He died 1662, and was buried at West Hallam (M.I.). His widow died 1674 (M.I.).

⁴³ Youngest daughter of William, third Lord Vaux of Harrowden and Elizabeth daughter of John Beaumont of Grace Dieu, co. Leicester; her sister Elizabeth was a nun at Caen.

⁴⁴ *Coke papers*, W. D. Fane.

They were the father of two sons who succeeded their uncle in the representation of the family :—

(1) JOHN POWTRELL (VIII.).

(2) WILLIAM POWTRELL (IX.).

iv. DOROTHY married as first wife John Beaumont, second son of Francis Beaumont of Barrow, a Major in the Royal Army. She was the mother of two children John and Anne who died in infancy. Her husband who succeeded his father at Barrow married secondly Barbara, daughter of Edward Willoughby of Cossall, co. Notts.

VII.—**HENRY POWTRELL** ⁴⁵ baptized at West Hallam, 14 Sept., 1615. He was a minor in 1631 when the king, as his guardian presented to West Hallam. In 1638 the university of Cambridge presented owing to his being a Roman Catholic. He married Anne daughter of Sir Henry Hunloke ⁴⁶ (High Sheriff of Derbyshire 1624). She succeeded to the estates on the death of her husband without male issue and presented to West Hallam in 1668. She died in the following year and was buried in the church where there is a slab to her memory. Her husband had died in 1666 ⁴⁷ and the slabs in each case bear the arms of Powtrell impaling Hunloke.

There were seven daughters of the marriage all of whom died without issue :—

i. FRANCES.

ii. MARY.

iii. ANN.

⁴⁵ Amongst those who compounded for there estates as recusants in 1655 occur Henry Powtrell and Mary Powtrell widow per Clement Powtrell purchaser. 22 May, 1649, he is described as of Chilwell and his mother of Stanley Grange when he begs to compound for two-thirds of his estates (Com. for Compounding, III., 2058).

⁴⁶ His mother married as second wife Anthony Standford, second son of Edward Standford and brother of Henry Powtrell's mother.

⁴⁷ Administration granted in that year, *Journal* xxiv., 66. See also xxix, 68 for mention of a rent charge at Mapperley a mile and a half, north of W. Hallam, granted to Pembroke College, Oxford.

- vi. ANN, buried 7 Sep., 1637.
- v. ELIZABETH.
- vi. FRANCES, buried 9 Nov., 1661.
- vii. DOROTHY.

VIII.—**JOHN POWTRELL** aged five at the time of the Visitation of 1662. He died unmarried and lived little, if at all, at West Hallam, which was in possession of his aunt, after attaining his majority. In August, 1679 he obtained a licence to travel beyond the sea,⁴⁸ and was still absent from home during the troublous times of Busby's arrest and trial. West Hallam had often served as a hiding place for persecuted priests and both Father Campion and Father Parsons had found refuge there. In 1678 England was startled by the story of the Supposed Popish Conspiracy. Titus Oates, renegade, hypocrite and consummate scoundrel, fabricated, for his own ends, the details of a supposed plot to murder the king and establish Roman Catholicism in England. His imposture was discovered in the end and he paid the penalty for his crimes, but not before he had brought innocent men to the scaffold and irretrievable misery to many a loyal household. The pretended revelations of Oates produced a panic in the county and supposed accomplices were ruthlessly hunted out. George Busby, a Roman Priest was known to have resided at West Hallam for some years past and an order was immediately issued by the Privy Council for his arrest. He escaped, however, and it was not till 16 Mar., 1680-1 that George Gilbert of Locko, an active and fanatical Justice of the Peace, effected his arrest, finding him concealed between the ceiling and the tiles. The story of his arrest formed the subject of a broadsheet, which is reprinted in full in Foley's *History of the English Jesuits*. It will suffice here to give the heading :—

⁴⁸ Foley *Records of the English Jesuits*, v., 506.

GREAT NEWS FROM DERBYSHIRE!

Being a full and true relation of the discovery of above thirty priests living and residing in and about Hallam in the said County, together with an account of the taking of one Busby, a priest and two women, notorious Papists by Justice Gilbert, a worthy and active persecutor of Priests and Jesuits, and how they had continued to Charge Mr. Gilbert with felony, which by the confession of Dudley, one of their own party by the providence of God was fully detected and discovered. They were committed to the County gaol, where they now remain. Written in a letter from a worthy Divine of that County to a friend in London. From Hallam in Derbyshire Jun. 4., 1681.⁴⁹

Busby was tried at Derby before Baron Street, 25 July, 1681. A full account of the trial with the evidence adduced against him, is given in the series of State Trials, and has already been printed in the pages of the *Journal*.⁵⁰ After fourteen months' imprisonment he was exiled and died 25 July, 1695.

The story of the Powtrells is nearly told. John Powtrell died apparently abroad in 1683 and was succeeded by the last heir male of his race.

IX.—**WILLIAM POWTRELL** married Anne, widow of William Peble. He died without issue in 1687 and his widow three years later.

Upon the extinction of the family of Powtrell, West Hallam passed to the Hunlokes of Wingerworth, who possessed it till 1821 when it was purchased by Mr. Newdigate.

⁴⁹ Brit. Mus. Top. Derby Co. 1228m.

⁵⁰ xxx., 219. This article erroneously states that the Powtrells held West Hallam from the reign of Richard II.