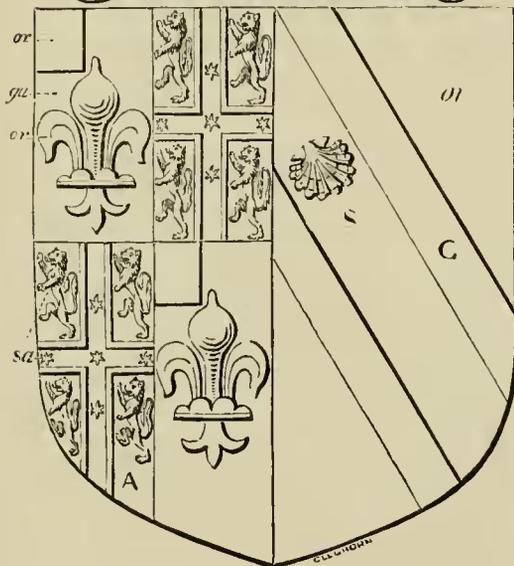
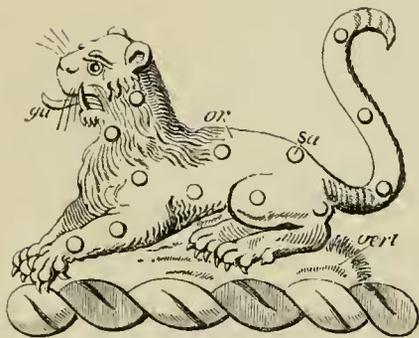


IX.

NOTICES RELATING TO MRS. SUSAN BARKER
(AFTERWARDS DAME SUSAN BILLINGSLEY),
DONOR TO THE HOSPITAL OF THE HOLY
TRINITY, IN CROYDON; AND HER TWO
HUSBANDS, EDWARD BARKER AND SIR
HENRY BILLINGSLEY.

BY THOMAS WILLIAM KING, F.S.A., YORK HERALD.

SIR HENRY BILLINGSLEY, Knight, was Lord Mayor of London in 1596, and was son of Roger Billingsley, of Canterbury. He was Customer to the Queen for strangers; and married, according to his funeral certificate in the Heralds College, first, to Elizabeth, daughter and one of the heirs of Henry Boorne of Yorkshire, Esquire, by whom he had issue. He married, secondly, Bridget, daughter and coheir of Sir Christopher Draper, of London, by whom he had no issue. His third wife was Catherine, daughter of Sir John Killigrew, Knight, by whom he had issue, and widow of Robert Trapps, of London, Gentleman; she died 4th May, 1598, at her house in Fenchurch Street, and was buried in the chancel of the parish church of St. Catherine Coleman. Her funeral certificate is recorded in the Heralds College. Sir Henry Billingsley married, fourthly, Elizabeth, daughter of Monslow, and widow of Rowland Martin; and, fifthly, Susan, daughter of Richard Tracy, of Stanway, in the county



SIR HENRY BILLINGSLEY

of Gloucester, Esquire, widow of Edward Barker, Registrar for Causes Ecclesiastical, by whom he had no issue. Sir Henry Billingsley died 22nd November, 1606, at his house in London, and was buried at St. Catherine Coleman aforesaid, on the 18th December following. His son, Sir Henry Billingsley, of Sison, in the county of Gloucester, Knight (by Elizabeth Boorne), was chief mourner. Pedigrees of Billingsley were entered at the visitations of London in 1568, Shropshire in 1623, and London in 1624. The arms of Billingsley, at the visitation of London, A.D. 1568, were argent within a cross voided between four lions rampant, five estoiles sable; and at the visitation of Salop, A.D. 1623, quarterly 1 and 4 gules a fleur-de-lis and canton or, 2 and 3 the above-mentioned coat.

The following is a copy of the funeral certificate of Dame Susan Billingsley:—

“The Right Worshipful Dame Susan Billingsley, daughter of Richard Tracy, of Stanway, in Gloucestershire, Esquire, departed this mortall life at London, upon Thursday, the 25th of April, 1633, and was interred with escocheons in St. Gregory’s Church, near Paules, where she had in her lifetime erected a monument for Edward Barker, Esquire, her first husband. She married two husbands, y^e first was Edward Barker aforesaid, and her second was Sir Henry Billingsley, sometime Lord Mayor of London. She had not any yssue by either of them. This lady made Mr. Thomas Billingsley, 3rd son of the said Sir Henry, her sole executor. This certificate was taken by us, Thomas Preston Portcullis and George Owen Rougecroix, to be recorded in the College of Armes, and the truth hereof is testified by y^e subscription of Henry Billingsley.”

In St. Gregory’s Church (by St. Paul’s) was the monument to the memory of Edward Barker, Esquire, Principal Registrar in Causes Ecclesiastical to the Queen’s Majesty, on which was a Latin inscription. He died 26th May, 1602; a copy of the inscription is given in Stow, ed. 1720, book iii. 228.

In the church of St. Catherine Coleman was the

monument of Sir Henry Billingsley, Knight, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London, who died 22nd November, 1606; and also of Elizabeth, his first wife, who died 29th July, 1577. He was then one of the Queen's Majesty's Customers in the port of London.—*Vide* Stow, ed. 1720, book ii. 79.

Mr. Barker made his will on Whit-Sunday, 23rd May, 1602, in which he describes himself “Edward Barker, of London, Esquire.” He directs his funeral to be performed without pomp, and a monument to be placed to his memory. He directs his wife, “Susan Tracye, *alias* Barker,” to bestow £100 upon Susan Tracy at her marriage, “if her father deal kindlie with me.” He ordains for executors “my loving brothers, Rowland Smarte, Esquire, and Nathaniel Tracye, Gentleman.” Mentions a bond payable by Sir Thomas Lucy and “my brother Paul Tracy.” Gives the reversion of the lease of the subsidy and aulnage of salable clothes and office of aulnage, after his wife's decease, to his nephew Edward Barker, on condition that, within two years after he becomes possessed of it, he shall pay to the Masters and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge, £50; and shall give security to deliver at the Hospital of the Holy Trinity, in Croydon, for twenty years, “one sorting cloth of Gloucester sheere,” making about the price of five or six pounds, for clothing for the poor, at the discretion of the warden. He gives legacies to, and otherwise mentions, amongst other persons, “my brother Thomas Barker, and his children, except his son Edward;” cousins Ed. Lucy and Richard Varney, nephew James Barker, cousin Brooke, cousin Henry Barker, Esquire, sister Price, and Mrs. Penelope Parrett, daughter of the Countess of Northumberland. The executors proved the will on 22nd June following.

The will of Sir Henry Billingsley is dated 6th August, 1606. He gives to his wife Susan Billingsley all his plate, and desires that she should have the use of his house in the parish of St. Catherine Coleman, by Aldgate, in London; after which he devises the same to his son Sir Henry Billingsley, Knight. He mentions several of his children and other relations; amongst whom, his brother-in-law Mr. Nathaniel Tracy, and Susan Tracy, his wife's niece. Proved 30th December following.

Dame Susan Billingsley, his widow, made her will 21st February, 1631. She describes herself of the parish of St. Catherine Coleman, and desires to be buried in the parish church of St. Gregory, near St. Paul's, "where there is a tomb made for Mr. Barker and me, my first love and my most kind husband;" and to be buried in the night, as her friend the Lady Garrett was. She gives legacies to Lady Lettice, Countess Dowager of Leicester, Lady Ann Delawarr; her nephews and nieces, Paul Tracy, Esquire, Alexander Tracy, Mrs. Alice Tracy, and Mrs. Susan Tracy; and to Timothy Throckmorton, son of her nephew Michael Throckmorton, deceased. She gives her cousin James Barker her gilt salt, "which hath his uncle Barker's arms and mine engraven thereon." She also names her cousin Mrs. Elizabeth Lucy, daughter of Sir Edmund Lucy, Knight; as also some of her husband's children and relations. She gives a silver cup to New College, Oxford, "for Mr. Baker's sake, who was a fellow of that college;" and gives legacies to Samuel, Richard, Sarah, Susan, Ann, Judith, Catherine, and Hester, the eight children of her nephew Thomas, son of her brother Samuel. She appoints her son-in-law Thomas Billingsley sole executor, who proved the will 26th April, 1633.

This lady, Dame Susan Billingsley, wife successively of Edward Barker and Sir Henry Billingsley, was one of the daughters of Richard Tracy, of Stanway, by Barbara, daughter of Sir Thomas Lucy, of Charlecote, and sister of Sir Paul Tracy, of Stanway, who was created a baronet 29th March, 1611, and of Samuel Tracy, of Clifford Priory, in the county of Gloucester, whom she mentions in her will. She was grand-daughter of William Tracy, of Toddington, in the county of Gloucester, LL.D., by Margaret, daughter of Thomas Throckmorton, Sub-Treasurer of England, temp. Henry VI., of which mention has already been made in the pedigree which I communicated to my friend Mr. Flower.