

ART. XXXIII.—*The Barony of Gilsland and its Owners to the end of the Sixteenth Century.* By R. S. FERGUSON, M.A., LL.M., F.S.A.

Read at Naworth Castle, August 27th, 1879.

MISLED by the monks of St. Mary's of York, and by the pseudo-charter of Wetheral, our local historians have persisted in saying that William the Conqueror appointed Ranulph de Meschines Earl of Carleolium, Carliol, or Carlisle,* and they follow up this grave error by the equally grave one of deducing the titles of all the baronial estates in Cumberland, including that of Gilsland, from Ranulph de Meschines, whereas it is true only of two of them—Burgh and Lyddale.

I need not, I hope, remind this Society that William the Conqueror and his “scums of Bretons” and “his rags of France,” had never any footing in this district, and that it was the Red King, who drove out Dolphin, “who had previously governed the country,”† and that the Red King established the present boundaries between England and Scotland. William Rufus retained the district in his own hands, but Henry I. granted it as the Earldom of Carleolium to Ranulph de Meschines.‡

Ranulph or Randle de Meschines, de Micenis, or de Mesch was not one of those whose family came over with the Conqueror: § nor was “de Meschines” the name of either

* They also persist in calling him Earl of *Cumberland*, a name which does not appear in any record until the Pipe Rolls of 23 Henry II. There is this excuse, that the “*Testa de Nevil*,” written in time of King John, calls him “*Quondam dominus Cumbriae*.”

† The Saxon Chronicle, A.D. 1092. Readers must not forget that the district—the Earldom of Carleolium—included a large portion of what is now Westmorland, i.e., the Barony of Appleby.

‡ Pipe Rolls Cumberland and Westmorland, published by Soc. Ant., New, p. xvi., *et seq.* Hodgson Hinde, Early History of Cumberland, Archaeological Journal, Vol. 16, p. 217.

§ *Ibid.*—Also, Planche's Companions of the Conqueror, Vol. II., p. 146. Liber Vitæ Ecclesiae Dunelmensis, Surtees Society, Vol. 13, p. 78. Gilsland, Part I. p., 23, by the late G. G. Mounsey. Proceedings Archaeological Institute, Lincoln Volume, p. 257.

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his family, his estate, or his place of origin : his real name was "de Brichsard" otherwise "de Briquessart," and he was, or his father, also a Ranulph de Brichsart, Viscount or Sheriff of the Bressin in Normandy, and one or the other of them is stated to have rendered important services to Henry I. during a rebellion in that country. A former Viscount of the same Christian name, and probably of the same family, is mentioned by William of Poitiers, as amongst the Norman Nobles who conspired against the Conqueror on his accession to the Duchy—a fact which probably accounts for the absence of this name from any list of the Conqueror's companions*.

The Ranulph with whom we have to deal appears to have been styled Ranulph *le Meschyn*, or *the cadet*, or the Junior, that being the meaning of the term "Meschyn."† In his grant to the monks of Wetheral he is correctly denominated *Ranulf Meschyn*, which was Latinised into Ranulphus Meschinus, and retranslated into Ranulph de Meschines, the name we best know him by. His mother was Maud, sister of Hugh d' Avranches, surnamed Lopus, Earl of Chester, and he married Lucia, daughter of Yvo Tailboise‡ and widow of Roger de Romara.

Whatever was Ranulph's claim on Henry I. he found his reward in the earldom of Carleolium. This earldom was, (I am inclined, though with diffidence, to fancy) a great§ palatine jurisdiction, like the earldoms of Chester, Durham, Kent, and Shropshire :

* Pipe Rolls, Cumberland, p. xvii.

† Gilsland, by G. G. Mounsey, Part I., p. 23. Robert Brus is called *Meschin* in the royal grant to the Abbey of Melrose.

‡ The idea that this Lucia was wife of Yvo Talboise is exploded : she was his daughter, but he married a Lucy or Lucia, who was a connection and heiress of Torold, an Englishman, and first recorded Lord of Spalding, in Lincolnshire. She is erroneously stated to be heiress of the Earls of Mercia. Yvo Tailboise was an Angevin.—Pipe Rolls, Cumberland and Westmorland, p. xvi., *et seq.* Planche's Companions of the Conqueror, Vol. II., p. 145. Duchetiana, pp. 136, 137. Descent of the Earldom of Lincoln, by John Gough Nichols: Archæological Journal, Lincoln Vol., p. 254, *et seq.*

§ Stubbs' Constitutional History, Vol. I., p. 271.

" Earldoms in which the earls were endowed with the superiority of whole counties, so that all the landowners held feudally of them: in which they received the whole profits of the courts and exercised all the *jura regalia*, or royal rights, nominated the sheriffs, held their own councils, and acted as independent princes except in the owing of homage and fealty to the king."*

These earldoms were also part of the national defence, keeping the borders and coasts exposed to attack. Ranulph de Meschines portioned off the Border territory of his earldom into three baronies, Gilsland and Lyddale to guard the passes from Scotland by land, and Burgh to guard the approaches by sea; reserving to himself the districts less liable to irruption, thus, on a smaller scale, imitating the policy of the Crown in defending the kingdom by these great palatine jurisdictions. The barony of Gilsland he gave to his younger brother, William de Meschines, Lyddale to Turgis Brundis, a Fleming, and Burgh to Robert de Trivers, to whom he also gave the custody of the Forest of Cumberland.†

Ranulph did not long hold his newly created dignity, for when Richard, Earl of Chester, with numerous other youthful Norman nobles perished with Henry's only son in the "White Ship," Ranulph succeeded to the earldom of Chester, and thereupon he surrendered the great fief of Carleolium to the king.

To this day the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle enjoy the possessions in the valley of the Eden, which Ranulph le Meschyn gave to the monks of Wetheral, and his name survived for long in *Rondalle-sete-hall*, which is mentioned in the poem called the "Anturs of Arthur," whose scene is laid in Inglewood Forest.

" Princes pruddust in palle
 Gay Gay-nour and alle
 They went to Rondalle-sete-Halle."

* Stubbs' Constitutional History, Vol. I, p. 271.

† Testa de Nevil. Pipe Rolls, Cumberland, Ixi.

Rondalle-sete-Halle appears, on ancient maps,* to have been upon the Roman station at Plumpton in the vale of Petteril. It would appear from this, and from his grants to the monks of Wetheral, that Ranulph, from the stronghold of Carlisle, made some lodgements up the river valleys—the higher country, perhaps, remaining in possession of those who held under, and maintained their allegiance, to the older rulers of the land, or to nobody at all.

No new Earl of Carlisle or Carleolium was appointed in the room of Ranulph le Meschyn, and so no county palatinate of Carleolium with its own barons and courts has come down to us. The earldom of Carleolium was split into two, one portion—the Barony of Appleby—went towards making the county of Westmorland, that which remained constituted the county of Carleol,† which included the baronies of Gilsland, Burgh, and Lyddale. Henry I. subfeoffed the remaining portion of the county of Carleol into five new baronies—Copeland, or Allerdale above Derwent, Allerdale below Derwent, Wigton, Graystock, and Levington, reserving to the Crown the Forest of Inglewood‡ and the City of Carlisle.

Our enquiries to-day will be limited to the barony of Gilsland, with some incidental references however to Burgh and Graystock.

William de Meschines, brother of Ranulph, to whom he owed both his barony and the greater part of his name, found Gilsland no bed of roses: he “was not able,” says Camden, “to get it out of the hands of the Scots: for Gill, son of Bueth, held the greater part of it by force of arms.” William de Meschines, thus finding that he was the proprietor of the lion’s hide, while still on the lion’s

* Gilsland, Mounsey, Part I., p. 23. Blomes’ Map of Cumberland, 1672. Speed’s Map, 1610, and others.

† Pipe Rolls, 31, H. I., 1130. It was not called Cumberland until 23, Henry II., 1177.

‡ I doubt if the Forest had the name of Inglewood so early as this: rather of Carleol—then of Cumberland—next of Inglewood.

back

back, sought and received from Henry I., a compensation in the grant of the barony of Copeland,* and Gill, or Gilbert, son of Buet, continued to enjoy Gilsland until his death. The charter of Henry II., to which I shall presently refer, proves this: it grants "*totam terram quam Gilbertus filius Boet tenuit die quo fuit vivus et mortuus, de quocumque illam tenuisset.*"†

During the reign of Stephen the district now known as Cumberland was in the hands of the Scots. When Henry II. recovered it, he granted the barony of Gilsland to Hubert de Vallibus. And here, before I proceed to define the limits of the barony or to speak of Hubert de Vallibus and his long line of descendants, it would seem fitting to devote a minute or two to the Celtic owners of this great fief, which still records in its name of Gilsland, or Gill's land, the name of him whom the Norman dispossessed; and in Bewcastle, or Bueth's castle, still survives the name of Bueth, or Buet, one of the race, but whether the father of Gille, or some descendant of later date, it is impossible to say—more probably the latter, for the inaccessible district of Bewcastle was never part of the barony held by De Vallibus or his descendants. Mr. Mounsey, who had access to the transcripts of the Chartulary of Lanercost in the Dean and Chapter Library at Carlisle, states‡ that Gilles had a son called Wescop, who granted Denton to Beuth-barn, the son of Bueth, and from Robert, son of Bueth-barn, the Dentons of Denton and of Warnell are said to be descended; and I have a pedigree, compiled by the Rev. C. J. Denton, late of Askham, York, the evidences for which I hope some day critically to examine.

But whatever we think of the pedigree by which the Dentons claim to be descended from Robert, son of Bueth-barn, the vitality of the blood of Hubert de Vallibus is

* Pipe Rolls for Cumberland, lix.

† The grant is printed in Nicolson & Burn, Vol. II., p. 487.

‡ Gilsland, p. 34.

undoubted.

undoubted. From the time of the grant to Hubert de Vallibus

"The Barony of Gilsland descended from ancestor to heir, in an unbroken series, through the successive noble families of De Vallibus, Multon, Dacre, and Howard, down to its present possessor, the Earl of Carlisle. Never sold, never alienated, it has witnessed many strange vicissitudes in the fortunes of its lords, and is connected historically, as well as traditionally, with some of our most interesting national events."*

And here would seem the place to define, with more precision than has yet been done, the Barony of Gilsland.

THE BARONY OF GILSLAND.

The Charter of Henry II.† granted to Hubert de Vallibus "*totam terram quam Gilbertus filius Boet tenuit*," that is, all Gill's land, or all Gilsland. The charter, also included by way of addition, (*de incremento*) Corby and Catterlen; the last, a manor near Penrith, which was, down to the middle of the seventeenth century, a possession of a branch of the family of De Vaux.‡ All these, Hubert De Vallibus was to hold to him and his heirs for ever, *per servicium duorum militum*, a technical expression implying that Hubert de Vallibus was to render to the king the military service due for two knight's fees, that is, for each fee the service of a knight or fully armed horseman for forty days in the year.§ The boundaries of the district included in the grant are given with great pretence of accuracy in the county histories,||

* Gilsland, p. 35.

† Printed in Hutchinson's Cumberland, Vol. I., p. 47. Nicholson & Burn, Vol. II., p. 487.

‡ Nicolson & Burn, ii., p. 394. Lyson's Cumberland, pp. xcl., 412.

§ Stubbs' Constitutional History, i., p. 264. Digby's Historical Law of Real Property, pp. 30, 34, 51. The minimum of land constituting a Knight's fee seems to have been early fixed at the area which was worth twenty pounds annual value.

|| Hutchinson, Vol. I., p. 45. Nicolson & Burn, Vol. II., p. 479. The Barony was surveyed in the years 1828-9-30, and I am indebted to J. G. Mounsey, Esq. for the loan of a large map made at that time, from which I have got much information. The boundaries of the Barony were ridden in 1840. I am indebted to Messrs. Carrick & Lee for the loan of a most valuable and minute

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but you will the easier comprehend a rougher outline with names that may be found on the modern maps.

Starting at the point where the Northsceugh beck runs into the Eden near Holmwrangle, the boundary runs up that beck, and over King Harry to the Croglin water, which it ascends to its head. There it turns due north, and runs to the boundary line separating Cumberland from Northumberland, which it joins at a point known as "Tom Smith's Stone." From "Tom Smith's Stone" to the head of the river Irthing, the eastern boundary of the Barony is coincident with that of the county, running across the fells, at one place defined by the watershed, at another by some mountain stream, until, by the Poltross beck, it joins the Irthing near Gilsland railway station, and thence ascends that river to its source.

From Irthing Head, the boundary line of the Barony runs in a south-westerly direction, close under Bewcastle church, down the Kirkbeck into the White Line, and down the White Line into the Black Line, and down the Black Line to a point nearly opposite the Shank Castle. Here it turns more to the south, runs through the parishes of Kirklington and Scaleby*, and by the Bishop's Dyke† to

record of the riding, prepared by the late Mr. Carrick, and drawn, I am told, by Mr. Porteous of Kirkhouse and Woodside. From it I find that the boundaries of the barony given by Hutchinson, and by Nicolson & Burn, have been taken from a Book or Terrier preserved among the muniments of the Earl of Carlisle, entitled "The fielde book yt expresses all the Map Book for Gilsland Taken in 1603." It has at foot a "memorand That this Book was shewed unto William Hayward at the tyme of his examination before me being the xvij day of June An. Dom, 1629 Fr. Denham." See the Household Books of Lord William Howard, Surtees Society, Vol. 69, p. 113.

The "fielde book" of 1603 includes manors not included in 1840, as, for example, part of Kirklington, Walton, &c. At present I have hardly the information to explain, but suspect that in 1603 Lord William Howard may have claimed more than he could prove his title to.

* No portion of the parishes, or of the manors, of Kirklington or Scaleby are now claimed as part of the Barony of Gilsland,—nor is the manor of Walton. I fancy that in 1603 these were disputed points. In 1840, the Earl of Carlisle did not even claim them.—See note immediately above.

† Also called the Baron's Dyke—is a division between the manors of Crosby and Irthington, (*i.e.*, between the baronies of Linstock and Gilsland). The lords of Gilsland have advanced claims to the manor of Crosby, and the dyke may be the result of some compromise.

the

the Irthing, where it falls into Eden, and up Eden to Holmwrangle.

Within the boundaries I have endeavoured to describe, the king gave Hubert de Vallibus the valuable franchises of "thol," or the right to levy duty on imposts: of "theam," or the right to compel a person in whose lands stolen or lost property was found to vouch to warranty, that is, to name the person from whom he received it: of "soc," the right of holding a court: of "sac," the right of jurisdiction in matters of dispute: of "infanegenetheof," the right of jurisdiction over a thief caught within these boundaries*. But the king's bounty did not stop here: Hubert de Vallibus was to hold his possessions *quietis ab omni neutegeldo*, free of the Noutgeld, or Cornage Rent, or Crown Rent, which was in Cumberland called "Noutgeld," from being paid originally in cattle, and figures in the Pipe Rolls for the County as "Geldum animalium."† An entry in the Pipe Rolls for 2 Henry II. proves that Hubert de Vallibus was thus relieved from the annual payment of £18 13s. 3d., no trifling sum in the year 1156.

The date of the charter which gave Gilsland to Hubert de Vallibus must have been about 1156. It could not have been earlier, as the county was up to then in the hands of the Scots. It is dated at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and witnessed by the Archbishop of York, the bishops of Lincoln and Durham, the Earl of Norfolk, and many others, all Normans by their names.‡

* See, *Quid sit Soche, et Sache, et Tol, et Theam, et Infangenthef*. Printed in Stubbs' Select Charters, p. 78. Digby's History of the Law of Real Property, p. 20, n.

† Mr. Hodgson Hinde has knocked on the head the idea, adopted by Littleton, that "Cornage" had to do with blowing a horn. Pipe Rolls for Cumberland, xxvii. Professor Stubbs' Select Charters, p. 538, gives *Cornuare*, to blow a horn.

‡ R. Archiepiscopo Eborum, R. episcopo Lincolniae, H. Dunelmensi episcopo, H. Comite Norfolciæ, Comite Alberico, Comite Galfrido, Richardo de Lucy, Manass' Biset dapifero, H. de Essex constabulano, Hugone de Morvil, Roberto de Dustanvill, Willielmo filio Johannis, Simone filio Petri, Nigello de Broch', Willielmo Malet, Rogero filio Ricardi, Roberto de Stutevill, Turg' de Russedal, apud Novum Castrum super Tinam.

THE FIRST HOUSE.—DE VALLIBUS, OR DE VAUX.

Hubert de Vallibus, the *præpositus*, the root of the genealogical tree with whose branches I am about to deal, was a Norman.

The name “De Vaux” is a territorial one derived from the family possessions in Normandy, the “Terra de Vallibus,” which the family held up to the reign of our King John.*

“Maistre Wace,” in the “*Roman de Rou*,” makes no mention of any member of this family as having accompanied the Conqueror to England, but more than one member found their way across the channel in the next few years.

A pedigree among the Dodsworth MSS.† gives Hubert, Ranulph, and Robert as three brothers of the name of De Vallibus, but says nothing about their father’s name. It is, however, certain that in 1086 a Robert de Vallibus held Pentney, in Norfolk, under Roger le Bigod,‡ and there founded a Priory of Black Canons, and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalene. His son Robert de Vallibus made a grant to the Priory of Castleacre in Norfolk, of a mill and meadows in Pentney. In that grant he mentions his brothers Robert Pinguis, Gilbert, and Hubert. Thus we have

Robert de Vallibus of Pentney 1086.				
1	2	1	3	4
Robert.	Robert Pinguis.	Gilbert.		Hubert.

Again, in the great Roll of the Pipe, 31 Henry I., Robert de Vallibus is recorded in Norfolk as rendering £4 6s. 8d., that he may have the land of Hocton of the inheritance of his wife, whilst in the same Roll, under the heading “Chaerliolum” by which Cumberland was then desig-

* Rotuli Normaniae 4th of John.

† MS., Dods., 45, fo. 28. *Ibid* III., fo. 7, printed in Duchetiana, p. 257.

‡ Domesday Book, Blomfield’s Norfolk. Banks’ Extinct Baronage, Vol. I., p. 190. Mounsey’s Gilsland, p. 31. For Vauxs in general, see Wotton’s Baronage, Vol. I., p. 76.

nated, the name does not occur. It may be concluded, therefore, that Robert, the eldest son, and his posterity continued to hold the original family estate in Norfolk,* and that Hubert, the youngest, was the valiant soldier who probably followed the fortunes of the young prince Henry in his long struggle with Stephen; and who, after his accession to the throne, accompanied him in his operations against the unruly chieftans whose castles he had to destroy, and eventually, on the final cession of Cumberland by the Scots, received his reward in a grant of Gilsland.†

Of Hubert de Vailibus, the first baron of Gilsland, we know but little beyond what I have already told. He was probably far advanced in years when he received the barony in 1156, or thereabouts. From the charter of Lanercost Priory we find that his wife's name was Græcia, or Grace, and from the Pipe Rolls it would appear that he died in 1164, leaving two sons, or possibly three, Robert, Ranulph, and Roland.‡ Roland's existence may be doubtful, but that of Ranulph is abundantly proved by the entries in the Pipe Rolls for 6 Richard I.§

Robert de Vallibus, the second baron, fills a large space both in history and legend. He was the founder, in the year 1169, (not 1116, as stated on a tablet in the church,) of the Priory of Lanercost,|| and a most liberal benefactor to

* See Mr. Mounsey's Gilsland, p. 31.

† Our county historians make out that Ranulph de Meschines gave several members of the family of De Vallibus estates in Cumberland. Hubert de Vallibus established various branches of his family in Cumberland, at Catterlen for instance, but the other story is absurd. See Hodgson Hinde, Early History of Cumberland. Archaeological Journal, Vol. 16, p. 217. Introduction to Pipe Rolls for Cumberland, Westmorland, &c. Ferguson's Lanercost, Transactions of this Society, Vol. I., p. 97.

‡ Pedigrees printed in Duchetiana, p. 257.

§ An Inquisition in the Chartulary of Lanercost, Pt. xiii., No. 10. Transactions Royal Society of Literature, Vol. VIII., show Roland de Vallibus to be brother of Robert de Vallibus, the 4th Baron, not Robert the 2nd. This is corroborated by a Charter *Ibid.*, Pt. IV., No. 6.

|| The tablet bears the following inscription:—"Robertus de Vallibus filius Huberti Dns de Gilsland fundator Priorati de Lanercost Ao dñi 1116 Ædargan uxor ejus sine prole.

Reverendus G. Story hujus Ec.

Pastor Grato animo hunc lapidem posuit 1761."

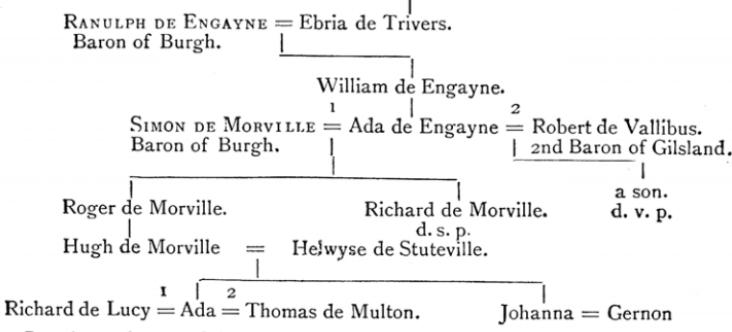
Mr. Story's gratitude clearly exceeds his historical knowledge, or probably hi

it, as the Chartulary proves : so was Ada, his wife, who had great wealth of her own. She* was grand-daughter and heiress of Ranulph de Engayne, who was by marriage with Ebria de Trivers, lord of the great barony of Burgh. For her first husband Ada de Engayne married Simon de Morville, by whom she had two sons, Roger and Richard. Simon de Morville had livery of the lands of Ranulph de Engayne in the 4th Henry II. (1158), and died in the 13th of that king (1165). The foundation charter of Lanercost shows that his widow was remarried to Robert de Vallibus in 1169, when the Priory was founded. By her second marriage she had no issue that survived their father ; indeed, she was probably far advanced in years at the time of her marriage with Robert de Vallibus, for her great-granddaughters were married women in 1205, as appears by the Pipe Rolls for that year.

A well-known legend, told in our county histories, but traceable only to the Denton MSS., asserts that Robert de Vallibus founded the Priory in expiation for the murder of

skill in reading old manuscripts. I have elsewhere (*Transactions of this Society*, Vol. I., pp. 98, 134,) gone into the question and hazarded a conjecture as to where Mr. Story got this date from. But I do wish the authorities would correct the date on the tablet ; until that is done, people will trust to the lying marble, and believe the date it gives and swallow all the absurd consequences it imparts into local history.

* ROBERT DE TRIVERS Baron of Burgh.



See also a charter of Ada de Engayne to the Priory of Lanercost Pt. II. No. 11. and Pipe Rolls, Introduction. p. lxi.

Gilles

Gilles Bueth on the occasion of a tryst at Castlesteads. Camden remarks that no trace of this story can be found in the foundation charter of Lanercost. Hodgson Hinde says, "there seems no foundation for the story."* A close examination† of it shows so many contradictions that we cannot do wrong in disbelieving it, and I hope it will be eliminated from future county histories, together with William the Conqueror, on whose alleged doings in Cumberland it indeed hangs.

Let us turn to the Pipe Rolls, and to the metrical chronicle of Jordon Fantosme for a little undoubted truth about Robert de Vallibus. In the 15 Henry II. (1169), Robert de Vallibus paid two marks for two knight's fees towards the Aid for marrying the king's daughter. In the 18th of the same king, he paid 40s. for scutage, because he neither went to Ireland nor sent soldiers nor money. In the 21st he succeeded Robert de Carlisle, son of Troite, as Sheriff of Cumberland, and retained the office for ten years, until the 31st Henry II., *i.e.*, from 1175 to 1185. His first year of office was an unfortunate one:

"*Roþ de Vaus n̄ reddidit Comþ hoc anno de firma Comitatus u[er]e debitis Reȝ in hoc Comitatu neq[ue] uenit ut redderet. Nec Adam fil[ius] Truite de anno p[re]terito quia inde nich[il] recepat illo anno pp[er] guerram vt dicit.*"

Adam Fitz Troite, or Fitz Truite, had been deputy sheriff for his father, Robert de Carleol, son of Truite, or Troite. The war, which prevented the sheriffs (past and present) from collecting the revenues of the king, was that which Henry II. sustained against his eldest son, and against William the Lion, King of Scotland, in 1173 and 1174. Robert de Vallibus was in command of the City and Castle of Carlisle, and the determined front he exhibited, impervious alike to threats or bribes, checked the progress of the

* Pipe Rolls for Cumberland, p. ix.

† See Lanercost, Transactions of this Society, Vol. I. p. 97, where I have weighed the evidence for and against the story.

King

King of Scotland. Bullying and bribery were alike tried on De Vaus, and alike failed. Would he surrender the Castle of Carlisle, he should have more gold than ever his father Hubert de Vallibus had heaped together; would he not surrender it, then he should loose his life and cause the death of his children and friends.

The parley between De Vaus and the Scottish leaders, Roger de Moubray and Adam de Post, is most picturesquely described by Jordan Fantosme. It is too long for quotation, but it would make a fine subject for a picture.

Vunt à Robert de Vaus là où il iert en estant; *
 Un hauberc ot vestu, à un kernel puiant,
 E teneit en sa mein un espée trenchant
 Od trenchant alemele, bel l'alon maniant;
 * * “Amis, qu' alez querant?”
 * * * *
 “Sire Robert de Vaus, pruz estes e sené;
 Messagier sui le rei, il est mun avué;
 * * * *
 Rendez-lui le chasteil e tut le fermeté
 E il tant vus dura del argent muneé
 Unkes Hubert de Vaus tant n'en out asemble
 * * * *
 Si vus cest ne graantez * *
 Jà li reis d' Engleterre ne vus aura mestier
 Ne tut l'or de sun regne k'il péust esemblir
 Qu'il ne vus face detraire e à male mort jugier.”

* They go to Robert de Vaus where he was:
 He was dressed in a breast plate, leaning on a battlement,
 And held in his hand a keen sword
 With a sharp edge, he handled it gently;
 * * “Friend, what do you want?”
 “Sir Robert de Vaus, you are valiant and wise
 I am the king's messenger, he is my protector :
 * * * *
 Surrender him the castle and all the fortress
 And he will give you so much coined money
 Never Hubert de Vaus had so much collected.
 * * * *
 If you do not consent *
 The king of England will be of no avail to you.
 Nor all the gold of his kingdom which he could collect
 To prevent you from being quartered and adjudged to a bad death.”

Quant

Quant ço oïd dan Robert, si fud de grant mesure:
 “ N'avum suin de tencier ne de manace cure.
 Nus eimes ci dedenz bone gent asséure :
 Fel seit ki se rendra tant cum viande li dure !
 Dites-mei, message, ke Deus vus duinst honur !
 Alez au rei d'Escoce, ki est vostre seignur ;
 Dites ke jo li mand ne li toil nul honur
 Ne fieus ne heritez, ne ne friai à nul jor ;
 Mes voist au rei Henry, si face sa clamur
 Que jo tieng de Carduil le chastel e la tur
 Par force contre lui cume vers guerreir.”

After a little further parley, the Scots sheered off. Carlisle, under De Vaux, was too hard a nut for them to crack, and they were content to bravely capture Appleby, where an old grey-headed Englishman, Gospatric, the son of Horm, was constable, and where there was no garrison.

The Pipe Rolls do not bear out the statement that Robert de Vallibus came into Cumberland with Ranulph de Glanville, as one of the justices itinerant. In 1178, he was associated with William Basset and Michael Belet to take New Pleas and Covenants. His accounts as Sheriff show strong traces of the mischief done by the Scottish army. In his first year he collected nothing, and had nothing to pay to the king. For the next two or three years his accounts are much in arrear. In 1178 he spends £46 6s. 4d. in repair of the king's castles, probably Carlisle and Penrith, and he and Adam Fitz Troite are allowed £126 5s. 7d. on account of the destruction of land by the

When lord Robert heard this, he was very calm :
 “ We do not care about quarrels or threats.
 We've are here within good steady people :
 May he be disgraced who will surrender himself as long as victuals last
 Tell me, messenger, may God give you honour !
 Go to the king of Scotland, who is your lord ;
 Say that I inform him I take from him no estate
 Nor fees nor inheritance, nor will I ever do so ;
 But let him go to King Henry, let him make his complaint
 That I hold the castle and tower of Carlisle
 By force against him as a true warrior.”

Jordon Fantosme 1374-1426.—Surtees Society Publications,
 Vol. XI., p. 62. *et seq.*

war,

war,—a very large sum at that time. In 1180, he does his duty as Sheriff by a deputy, Roger de Leg'er*.

Towards the close of his life the services of Robert de Vallibus seem to have been forgotten, and we find him subjected to several heavy fines; 100 marks in the 31st Henry II. for various disseisins, for conniving at the escape of prisoners, and for sustaining the currency of the old coinage after prohibition. These offences were probably the cause of his loosing his office, which he did in that year, 1185. He disregarded the fine for some years, and it was not until the 4th of Richard I., six years after the fine was inflicted, that he paid 10 marks on account; in the following year he paid 72^s/8 on further account, and in the next year, the 6th of Richard I. (1195), he died, whereon his brother, Ranulph de Vaux, was made to pay the 100 marks in full, and also fifty more for having seisin of his brother's lands.

Ranulph de Vaux was probably well stricken in years when he came into the Barony. He makes no figure except by the scutages levied by Richard Cœur de Lion and his minister. In the 1st of John (1199), he appears in the Pipe Rolls:

“Ranū de Vallid; redd̄ Comp̄ de xl. s de ȝcio Scut̄ R Rič. In th̄ro libauit. Et Quiet̄ est.”

In the same year is recorded the new monarch's exorbitant scutage of two marks for each knight's fee:—“De pimo Scut̄ p̄ pimā Coronationē Reȝ Johis,” and the entry proves that Ranulph de Vaux, third Baron of Gilsland, was dead, having enjoyed that dignity for less than four years. “Ranulf̄ de Vallib; debet iiii m̄ de Scut̄ ij Mit. Sj. H. Cant̄ Archieps q̄ h̄ custodiā ȝtre 7 h̄edis illi⁹ q̄tet̄ est p̄ b̄r R.”

“H. Cant̄ Archieps” was the celebrated Hubert Walter, who had been chief Justiciar of England during part of

* Roger de Legrecestria. See Pipe Rolls, and ante p. 307.

the reign of Richard I.: had resigned that office, but became Chancellor on the accession of John, which he did much to support.

The heir of Gilsland, a minor, was another Robert de Vallibus, and I have no doubt his guardian, archbishop and chancellor, made what he could out of the broad lands of Gilsland. The archbishop was excused from scutage in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of John, and died in the following year (6 John 1205). In the 7th of John, Robert de Vallibus is assessed to scutage and excused, whether on account of his youth, or because the archbishop had left him nothing to pay with, does not appear. I suppose, however, he was now near of age, and he lost no time in getting into mischief: In the 12th of John (1211), he was fined his five best palfreys: “*ut Rex taceret de Vxore Henr pinel.*” But he was more heavily fined in that same year, “750 marks “*p h̄inda bñū R*” pro habenda benevolentia Regis.” It seems to have been rather hastily concluded that this was a fine inflicted upon young Robert de Vallibus for having taken part with the northern barons against the king. But this fine appears in the Pipe Rolls for the year 1211, and the northern barons did not rise until 1213. I fancy that it was a composition paid, or to be paid by young Robert de Vallibus, for permission to enjoy his own property, which King John would seize when Robert’s guardian, Archbishop Hubert Walter, went to his appointed place, which in the king’s rather coarsely worded opinion was not heaven. Robert de Vallibus failed to pay more than 400 marks, and in the next year a fine of 2,000 marks, including the arrears, was imposed upon him “for having the king’s grace and quittance from all debts which he owes to the king, as well as his debts due to the Jews and others.” As he did not pay, the Crown seized his estates and he was thrown into prison. During the year the estates produced £330, and he was then released, and his lands given in charge to his mother, Alicia, on finding security

security for the balance. In the 16th of John 1215, £666 13s. 4d. was still due, which was commuted on these terms: that he should find for the king's service, two knights and twenty servants well armed for one year, and one knight and twenty servants the year following (17th of John, 1216). Robert became Sheriff of Cumberland and Governor of Carlisle,* posts he held for but a short time, for ere the year was out he was dispossessed by the king, or ordered to be dispossessed, of his possessions not only in Cumberland, but in Norfolk, Suffolk, Somerset, and Dorset. They were given by the king to Robert de Vipount, or Veteripont.† I think it probable that this confiscation was never carried out, for the death of John, and the accession of his son, a lad of ten years, changed the whole face of affairs. At any rate, in the 6th of Henry III., Robert de Vallibus was in possession of Gilsland, and paid four‡ marks for scutage for his two knight's fees there. In that year also he took upon himself the Cross and went a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, having license to let his lands for three years. He was not long absent, for in the next year he appears as Governor of Caermidan and Cardigan.§ In the 18th of Henry III. he was Sheriff of Devon.¶ Apparently he died about this time, 1234. He bequeathed his body to be buried in the church of St. Mary Magdalen at Lanercost, where probably his uncle and father, and possibly his grandfather, all lay. The terms of the bequest, "Sciatis me concessisse Canonicis de Lanercost *ubicunque et quandocunque ex hac vitâ migraverim corpus meum,"¶*" have a melancholy ring,—the utterance of one who had been, and felt that he might yet be fortune's foot-ball.**

* Pat 17 John, m. 18, cited in Dugdale. † Clau. 17 John, m. 11, cited ut ante.
‡ Pat 6 H. III., p. I. m. 5., cited ut ante. Rot. Pip., 6 H. III., Cumb., cited ut ante.

§ Pat. 7, H. III., P. I., m. 3., cited ut ante. ¶ Pipe Rolls.

¶ Chartulary of Lanercost, Part II., 4.

** This baron gave Treverman, or Tryer-maine, to his brother Robert. The deed of gift is printed in the 3rd Vol. of these Transactions, n. p. 176.

Robert

Robert, crusader and 4th baron, left a son, Hubert, fifth baron, who is only remarkable or known for having issue one sole daughter and heiress, Maud, who married Thomas de Multon, and so carried the barony of Gilsland into that family. It would appear from a charter quoted by Dugdale, under the head of Multon, that Hubert's wife was also named Maud, that she had estates in Somerset and Devon, and that she afterwards married William Everard.

The members of the house of De Vallibus who ruled over Gilsland were among the greater Barons, and as such Robert de Vallibus, 4th baron, was summoned personally to parliament, "sigillatim per litteras nostras,"* in pursuance of the 14th clause of the Great Charter, Gilsland being a Barony by writ.

THE SECOND HOUSE.—THE DE MULTONS.

The patrimonial estate of the De Multons, from which the name was derived, was Multon, or Moulton, near Spalding, in Lincolnshire, and not very far from the monastery of Croyland, to which the priory at Spalding was a cell. Whether the De Multons were Englishmen or Normans does not appear certain. Doomsday Book throws no light on that point. They may have been retainers or connections of the Angevin Ivo Tailboise, Lord of Spalding, in right of his English wife Lucia,† or they may have stood in a similar relation to Torold, the first recorded lord of Spalding, from whom the lady derived her rights. The connection is suggestive, and probably accounts for the appearance of the De Multons in Cumberland. That the De Multons derived their name from an English estate is

* Index Summonitionum, Appendix to Report on the Dignity of a Peer. Stubbs' Select Charters, p. 299. Freeman's Growth of the English Constitution, p. 79.

† Pipe Rolls for Cumberland and Westmorland, p. xvi, *et seq.* Descent of the Earldom of Lincoln, by John Gough Nichols: Archaeological Journal, Lincoln Vol., p. 254, *et seq.* Also n. ante p. 447.

against their having been persons of importance on the Continent.

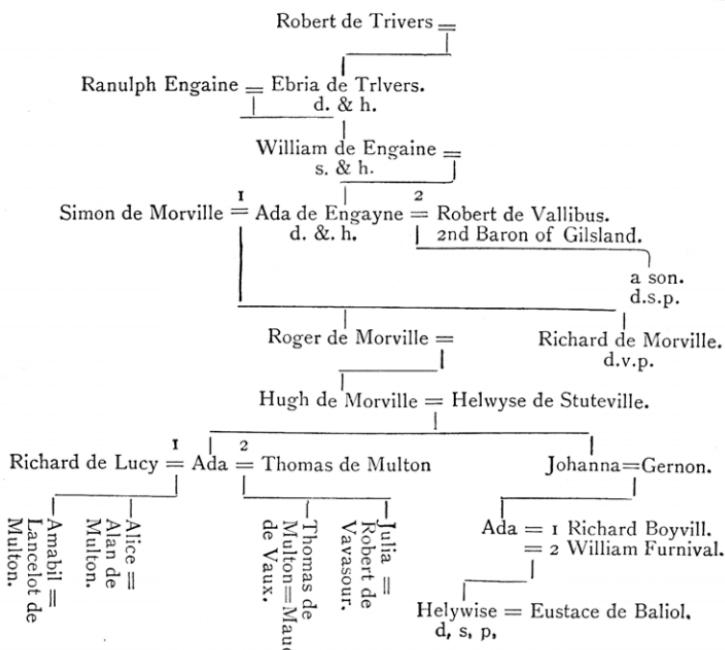
Dugdale has discovered a Thomas de Multon, who certainly had a father, for at that father's funeral in the chapter house at Spalding, (*tempore Henry I.*) he gave the church of Weston to the monks of Spalding. A Lancelot de Multon, doubtless son of Thomas, appears in the Pipe Rolls for Lincolnshire, 2 Henry II., as being amerced for 100 marks, and Thomas de Multon was sheriff of that county in the 9th and 10th of John. Upon the death of Richard de Lucy, Lord of Egremont, Thomas de Multon became guardian of his two daughters. The Testa de Nevill says:— “Thom’ de Muleton h̄t duas filias Riči de Lucy in custodia p dñm Regem J. Et maritavit illas duob; filiis suis.” For the custody of these ladies, Amabil and Alice de Lucy, Thomas de Multon had paid 1000 marks. From them and their husbands, Lambert and Alan de Multon, sprang the families of Multon of Egremont and Lucie of Cockermouth, whose fortunes we need not further pursue. But Thomas de Multon followed up this successful matrimonial *coup* by another: he himself married the ladies' mother, Ada, widow of Richard de Lucy, and one of the coheiresses of Hugh de Morville: thus he became forester of Cumberland, and seised of the moieties of the Barony of Burgh-on-Sands, of the manor of Kirkoswald, and of the advowsons of that church and of Aikton.* Thomas de Multon was a considerable benefactor to various local and other religious houses, but he was by no means loved by the monks of Croyland, for a monk, (it must have been a monk of Croyland) has written his epitaph, “That in his youth he was a stout Souldier, afterwards very wealthy, and learned in the Laws: but over much coveting to enlarge his Possessions, which lay con-

* The title to Burgh, like that of Gilsland, is derived from the grant of Meschines, who bestowed it on Robert de Trivers, who was also hereditary forester of Cumberland. The following pedigree will shew the devolution: —

tigous

tiguous to those of the monks of Croyland, he did them great wrong in many respects.”*

This Thomas de Multon, the real founder of the greatness of the line, died in 1240, leaving by his second wife, Ada, a son, Thomas, and a daughter, Julian, who married Robert le Vavasour. Thomas de Multon, the son, hereditary forester of Cumberland, and seised of his mother's possessions, was no unequal match for the heiress of Gilsland, Matilda or Maud de Vallibus. By marriage with her he became Thomas de Multon de Gilsland, and enjoyed the possessions of the De Vaux in Cumberland, York, Norfolk, Suffolk, Somerset, and Devon. Little is recorded of him, except that he was once or twice summoned on Border service against Scots or Welsh, and he died in 55



* Dugdale quoting M. Paris.

Henry III.

Henry III. (1271), leaving his widow surviving, and a son and heir, Thomas de Multon de Gilsland the 2nd. In the Chronicle of Lanercost, under the year 1285, is the following:—

“Eodem anno, die Animarum [Nov. 2] translatum fuit corpus domini Thomæ de Multona primi.”

I suppose his body was removed from some temporary resting-place to a final one. Thomas de Multon the second, by failure of the issue of Johanna, sister of Ada his grandmother, inherited the other moieties of Burgh Barony, Kirkoswald manor, and advowson, and Aikton advowson, and also of the whole of the manor of Aikton.* He died in the 21st of Edward I., 1293, according to the Escheats of that year, and his son, a third Thomas de Multon, aged twenty-six, succeeded, but died two years later, 23rd of Edward I., 1295, under which year the Chronicle of Lanercost says:—

“Eodem anno pridie idus Februarii [Feb. 12., 1295] obiit Thomas de Multona secundus, tunc dominus de Holbecke.”

This is a curious discrepancy, an error, I fancy, on part of the Chronicle, which may be accounted for thus:—probably the author of the Chronicle of Lanercost knew and cared little about the De Multons, for the author was, it would appear, a Friar Minor of Carlisle, and not a Canon of Lanercost.†

The De Multons did not, I fancy, reside much at Gilsland, but at one of their own family estates, Holbecke; for the Chronicle expressly calls the Thomas de Multon “the second” lord of Holbeche, and it immediately continues,

“Item die sancti Dunstani [May 19, 1295.] obiit piæ recordationis nobilissima matrona, domina Matildis de Multona, domina de Gilleslande, mater prædicti Thomæ”

* See pedigree ante n. p. 466.

† See Mr. Stevenson's preface to the Chronicle of Lanercost, published for the Maitland Club.

So long as Matilda de Multon lived she was “domina de Gilsland,” very much so. The “Index Summonitionum,” in the Report on the Dignity of a Peer, gives “Matill’ de Multon d’n’s de Gilsland” as summoned in the 19th of Edward I., 1291 to Parliament. From the Chartulary of Lanercost it appears that she was “domina de Gilsland” up to her death, and granted charters as such without either her son’s, or grandson’s concurrence, though her husband always joined with her during her life.* She attended the assizes at Penrith, after her husband’s death, and the record styles her “D’na de Gilsland et manerio de Cumquinton infra Baroniam illam.”† A Friar minor at Carlisle would probably know and hear a great deal about the “Lady of Gilsland,” but very little about the lords of Holbeache in Lincolnshire, and might easily omit to record one of them. As the “translation” of the first Thomas de Multon is mentioned in the Chronicle of Lanercost, he was probably buried there, and probably died in the north. But I have no doubt that the second and third Thomas de Multon preferred Holbeache, where they were lords, to Gilsland, where they were not, and that they died and were buried there.‡ Neither of them ever held office or post in the north, or were ever summoned to Parliament. They were in all probability little known in the north, and hence the chronicler’s error.

Another Thomas de Multon succeeded the Thomas who died in 1295, and also succeeded his great-grandmother, the Lady of Gilsland, in that year. His mother’s name seems to have been Isabel. This Thomas de Multon de Gilsland was several times in the wars with Scotland, and was summoned to Parliament as Thomas de Multon de Gilsland, thus keeping up the position of the lords of Gils-

* See many instances in the Chartulary.

† I. Hutchinson’s Cumberland, p. 50, n., from the Gilpin edition of Denton.

‡ A record by Lord William Howard states that three Dacres were buried at Holbeache. Mr. Ornsby shows this to be an error. It probably arose from three De Multons being buried there. See Lord William Howard’s Household Books, Surtees Society, Vol. 68, pp. 514, 515.

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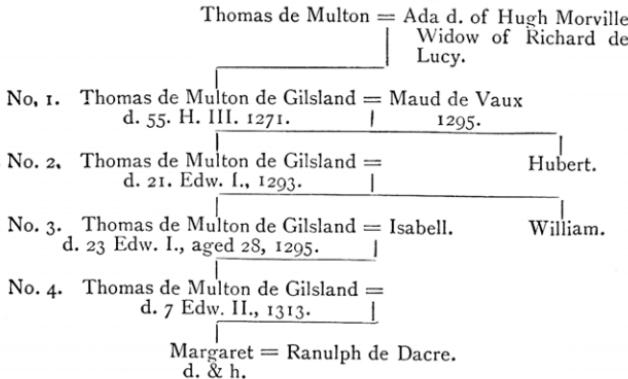
land among the greater barons of the realm, and of the Barony as a Barony by writ. He died in 1313, as we learn from the Chronicle of Lanercost:—

“Eodem anno dominus Thomas de Multuna, dominus Gilleslandiæ, sexto kalendas Decembris obiit, unicam filiam heredem, nomine Margaretam, post se reliquit, quam Robertus de Clifford, filius Roberti de eadem, septimo suæ ætatis anno, apud Hoffe, ipso lecto decubante, despensavit. Et vivente dicto Roberto, Ranulphus de Daker, filius domini Willelmi de Daker, eundem Margaretam nupsit, quia jus habuit ad illam propter pactionem factam ante priores nuptias, inter Thomam de Multuna, patrem dictæ Margaretæ, et Willelmum de Daker.”*

THE THIRD HOUSE.—THE DACRES.

A fanciful superstition, begot of no historical record, assigns the origin of the Dacres to some mythical warrior, who distinguished himself at the siege of Acre. Unfortunately for this absurd story, the first of the family that appears at all is William De Dacre, and not D'Acre, or Dacre. He took his name from his residence or estate at

* I add a pedigree showing the four barons of Gilsland of the house of De Multon. But the first was merely Baron *jure uxoris*, and the second and third only in the sense of being in succession heirs expectant to Maud de Vaux.



The first of these De Multons, in 32 H. III., obtained a royal charter for a weekly market at Brampton on Tuesdays, and two fairs every year, one at Pentecost, and the other on the Assumption of Virgin Mary.

Dacre,

Dacre, or Dacor, in this county, a place whose name appears in history so early as 925, A.D.* As Dacre is a mesne manor of the Barony of Greystoke, it is probable that William De Dacre was a retainer of the Baron of Greystoke. I shall give you Mr. Ornsby's abstract of Dugdale's account of the first three members of the family: —†

"1. William de Dacre, co. Cumberland, was Sheriff of Cumberland, 20 Hen. III.; Sheriff of Yorkshire, 32 Hen. III. and Governor of Carlisle by patent 52 Hen. III., in which year he died.

"2. Ranulph, son and heir, succeeded his father as Sheriff of Cumberland and Governor of Carlisle. He died 14 Edw. I. By his wife Joane, daughter of Lady Alice de Lucy, he had a son and heir."

"3. William, who was 20 years of age in 14 Edw. I. In 1 Edw. II. he had a license to castellate his house at Dunwallought,‡ co. Cumb. He was summoned to Parliament from 28 Edw. I., until 12 Edw. II., inclusive.§ He married Joane, heir of Benedict Gernet, in whose right he became possessed of Halton, Fishwicke, and Eccleton co. Lanc. She survived her husband. By her he had a son and heir."

"4. Ranulph, Sheriff of Cumb. 4 Edw. III."

This Ranulph was the daring and lucky wooer who carried off the heiress of Gilsland, Margaret de Multon. This lady's hand, and her possessions, had been the subject of much marriage brokerage. Her husband's father and her own father had entered into some agreement that

* A treaty of peace was concluded at Dacor, or Dacre, in that year: see William of Malmesbury. Bede mentions a monastery at Dacor.

† Lord William Howard's Household Books, Surtees Society, Vol. 69, p. 515. I would warn my readers against an apocryphal genealogy of the Dacres, which is said to have been in the window at Kirkoswald Castle, and is reproduced in the county histories: also, in "Memorials of the Howard Family," by the late H. Howard, Esq.

‡ Dunwallought Castle is marked on the Ordnance Map in the parish of Cumrew, but is known to the natives as "Mrs. Gill's High Barn." There are to be seen the outlines of an extensive quadrangle, but no masonry remains. There is a marshy place near, which was once probably a pool. But there is no evidence to show that these are the remains of Dunwallought Castle. Mr. James Raine, in a manuscript note, conjectures that, for *Dunwallought*, *Dunmallet* should be read. Confer i. Hutchinson's Cumberland, p. 182. Whelans's Cumberland, p. 672.

§ This is an error on the part of Dugdale. No such writs exist. See the Index Summonionum in Appendix to the "Report on the Dignity of a Peer of the Realm." Also Coll. Top. et Gen. Part. 19., p. 316.

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their children should marry at a date when the proposed bride must have been a mere child, for she was only thirteen when her father died, in 1313 (7 Edward II). Prior to his death, however, a much more brilliant marriage was arranged for her. She was betrothed to Robert de Clifford, a bridegroom of the advanced age of seven years, second son of Robert de Clifford, that "potent man" who had inherited the great estates of the Vipounts in Westmorland, and who fell at Bannockburn, leaving his heir under age. The estates of the Cliffords, and the heiress of Gilsland, who would be reckoned as part of the estates, were committed by the king, Edward II., to the guardianship of Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick. But the heiress, in 1317 (11 Edward II.), when she was seventeen, asserted her own right to a say in the matter, and eloped by night from Warwick Castle with Ranulph de Dacre. Ranulph got into a scrape for this exploit, and Lord William Howard records it thus:—

"Pat. 28 Oct A^o 11 Ed. III. Ranulph de Dacre pardoned for stealing awai in the nighte out of the King's custody from his Castell of Warwick of Margaret, daughter and heir of Thomas of Molton of Gilsland, whoe helde of ye Kinge *in capite*, and was within age, whearof the sayd Ranulphe standeth indighted *in Curia Regis*."^{*}

The date given by Lord William—11 Edward III.—is a mistake, for 11 Edward II.[†] I do hope the stealing was mutual, and that Ranulph did not *steal awai* the young lady *solely* "quia jus habuit ad illam," as the Chronicle says.

Ranulph de Dacre served in various important offices: he was Sheriff of Cumberland in 4 Edward III., and also Governor of Carlisle. He was summoned to Parliament from 12 Edward II., to 12 Edward III.,[‡] as Ranulph de Dacre only, not de Dacre de Gilsland, though he probably would

* Lord William Howard's Household Books, Surtees Society, Vol. 68., p. 392.

[†] Pat. 11 Edward II., p. I. n.20.

[‡] Index Summonitionum: Report on Dignity of a Peer..

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not have been summoned at all had not his wife been the lady of Gilsland. He was a man of much importance in Border affairs, serving in various expeditions into Scotland, and being also one of the Conservators appointed for keeping the truces agreed upon between the two kingdoms. As Constable of Carlisle and Sheriff of Cumberland, he showed hospitality to Baliol, the fugitive king of Scotland, in 1332. The Scots in 1333 paid him out for this by ravaging Gilsland, wherein Lord Archibald Douglas, with 3000 men, spread desolation for thirty miles, meeting with no opposition. Retaliation was shortly taken by Lord Lucy on the Douglasses, Sir William of Lochmaben being captured and committed to Dacre's custody in Carlisle.* It is significant that in 1336 Dacre took precautions against another such devastation, by obtaining a licence to crenellate his house at Naworth. In 1337, Ranulph de Dacre had a grant of the castle of Eustace de Maxwell, in Galloway. He proceeded to raid there, and laid waste the lands, but had to retire before a Scottish host, who again had to retire before reinforcements from Carlisle. In the constant raids that took place in this year, the Scots burnt Rose,†—Bishop Kirkby being specially obnoxious to them. But in the same year Kirkby and Dacre called out the “posse comitatus” of Cumberland and Westmorland, and with it raised the siege of Edinburgh Castle, wherein the Scots had blockaded the English forces.‡

Ranulph Dacre died in the 13th of Edward III. (1340), leaving a widow and four sons, of whom the eldest, William, succeeded, being of the age of twenty years. He too served in various commissions about Scottish affairs, and was summoned to Parliament from the 24th to the 34th of Edward III. as William de Dacre.§ He died, *sine prole*,

* Ridpath's History of the Borders, pp. 209, 210. This work should be consulted for a view of affairs on the Borders and Dacre's connection therewith.

† Bishop Kirkby's License to crenellate Rose is dated one year later, i.e., the year the Scots destroyed it. Chronicle of Lanercost, edited for the Maitland Club, p. 292.

‡ *Ibid.* p. 293.

§ Index Summonionum: Report on the Dignity of a Peer.

33 Edward III., and was succeeded by his brother Ranulph, who was in holy orders and rector of Prestecotes. Ranulph's mother, the lady of Gilsland, Margaret de Multon, died in 35 Edward III., and Ranulph inherited her possessions. He was summoned to Parliament* from 36 to 47 Edward III., and was in various commissions for Scottish affairs. He died in 49 Edward III, 1376, and was succeeded by his brother Hugh, of the age of forty years. Hugh served in the wars in France and Flanders, and in various Border commissions. He was summoned to Parliament from 50 Edward III., up to 7 Richard II., in which year he died, leaving by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Lord Maxwell of Scotland, a son and heir William, then twenty-six years old, who also married a Scottish lady, Joan, daughter of James Earl Douglas. He appears to have served when young under the King of Scotland. He died 22 Richard II., but his summonses to Parliament, which commenced 7 Richard II., ran regularly on to 5 Henry IV., inclusive, which may be partly accounted for by his son and heir Thomas being but twelve years old when his father died.†

This Thomas served at sea, and also on various Scottish commissions and expeditions. He was appointed chief Forester of Inglewood. He was summoned to Parliament 14 Edward IV., as "Thomas de Dacre de Gilsland," and was so described in all subsequent writs up to his death in 36 Henry VI. By his wife, Phillipa, daughter of Ralph Nevill, Earl of Westmorland, he left a large family, whereof his eldest son, Thomas, had pre-deceased him, leaving by his wife, daughter and heir of Richard Bowes,‡ an only daughter named Joan, who was married to Sir Richard Fenys, Knight. Joan was thus heir-general to Thomas de Dacre, her grandfather, while

* Index Summonionum : Report on the Dignity of a Peer.

† Index Summonionum : Report on the Dignity of a Peer.

‡ There is a little doubt as to the name, Bowes or Bowett, Richard or William.
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her uncle Ranulph, second son of the said Thomas, was his heir-male. This brought about a very remarkable severance between the honours and the estates enjoyed by Thomas de Dacre, the grandfather. Ranulph de Dacre got the bulk of the estates, viz., the Castle of Naworth, the manors of Irthington, Dacre, Kirkoswald, Farlam, Blackenwayt, Laysington, Brampton, Burgh-upon-the-Sands, Aikton, Rocliffe, Glasenby, Blackhall, and Castle-Carrock in county Cumberland, and the manors of Barton and Hoffe (half only) in Westmorland, and the manors of Halton, Fishwick, Eccleston, and Over Kellet in Lancashire. Joane and her husband, Sir Richard Fenys, or Fiennes, got the old Multon property of Holbeache in Lincolnshire, and she was held to be heiress to the Dignity of Lord Dacre. The "Report on the Dignity of a Peer" says:—

"In the Thirty Seventh of Henry the Sixth, the King by Letters Patents reciting the death of Thomas Dacre late Lord Dacre, and one of the Barons of the Kingdom, who inherited that Dignity to him and his Heirs, and that Joan the wife of Sir Richard Fenys was his Heir, being the daughter of Thomas his eldest son, accepted, declared, and reputed Sir Richard Fenys, Lord Dacre, and one of the Barons of the Kingdom, to hold and enjoy all the Pre-eminence to that Degree belonging, in all proper Places and Times."

It has been a moot point whether the right of Peerage, descended to a female, gave right to her husband or not. The above Letters Patent evade the question, for they amount to a grant to Sir Richard Fenys of the Dignity for life.

A writ of summons to Parliament was, in the 38th of Henry VI., sent to Sir Richard Fenys, as "Ricō Fenys dño de Dacre Militi," and in the same year Ranulph Dacre received one addressed to "Ranulpho Dacre de Gilleslond chivaler." The dignity to which the Letters Patent of 36 Henry VI. declared Joan Lady Fenys entitled, is still enjoyed by her heirs, under the title of Lord Dacre of the South,

South, and they have been allowed precedence in Parliament, as from Edward II., the date when the first Dacre (Ranulph who married Margaret de Multon) received his writ of summons.

Ranulph de Dacre, uncle to the Lady Joan, profited little by his writ of summons, as "Dacre de Gillsland." It was a writ of favour for his services to the house of Lancaster, which was further rewarded by a grant of £40 per annum out of the revenues of the manor of Plumpton. But Ranulph got knocked on the head at Towtonfield, and met with but mean burial at Saxton churchyard. He was attainted in the 1st of Edward IV. by Act of Parliament, which included his brother Humphrey. All his possessions were forfeited to the Crown, and great part of them were granted to the Lady Joan. Humphrey, the attainted brother, soon managed to reconcile himself to the new Government, and was admitted to the grace and favour of King Edward IV., at his palace of Westminster, in the second year of his reign. Two years later he escorted the king's sister, when she went to the Continent to marry the Duke of Flanders. In 9 Edward IV., he was made chief Forester of Inglewood.

Humphrey de Dacre by no means acquiesced in the family estates and honours going to the family of Fienes: he appealed to the king, Edward IV., who in the 13th of his reign, issued his award, to abide by which each party had become bound under a penalty of 10,000 marks. This award is set forth in Coll. Top. et Gen., Part 19, p. 320, and I cite the account therefrom. It is dated at Westminster, 8 April, 13 Edward IV.:

"It begins by stating that divers variances, claims, demands, and debates had arisen between the parties 'of and upon and for all castles, lordships, manors, lands, tenements and advowsons, that sometime were the said Thomas Dacre, late Lord Dacre and Philippe his wife or either of them' &c., that having 'herde the titles, evidences, and interest for both parties of the premises, and for more riper declaration of the same, the title of both parties of the premises,

Our

Our judges hath shewed and declared before Us, and the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Our Court of Parliam^t, we will, and by these presents awardeth upon the premises, that the said Richard Fenys Knight, in right of the said Johane his wife, and the heires of her bodie lawfullie begotten, be repute had, named and called the Lord Dacre, and that the said Richard Fenys, and the heire of the said Johane begotten, keepe have and use the same seat and place in everie of Our Parliam^{ts} as the said Thomas Dacre Knight lat Lord Dacre, had used and kept.' It then proceeds to award the manors of Holbeck, co. Linc. and Fishwick and Eccleston co. Lanc. to the said Joan and the heirs of the body of her grandfather Thomas Lord Dacre, with remainder to his right heirs, and having thus provided for the heir general, goes on to the case of the heir male and awards 'that the said Humphrey Dacre, Knight, and the heirs male of the body of the said Thomas late Lord Dacre comyng, bee reputed, had, named, and called the Lord Dacre of Gillesland, & he and the heirs male of the said Thomas late Lord Dacre, to have, use and keepe the place in Our Parliam^{ts} next adjoyning beneath the said place that the said Richard Fenys Knt Lord Dacre now hath and occupieth' &c., then follows the allotment of lands to the heir male, viz. The manors of Irthington, Burgh up the Sands, Lasingby, Dacre, Barton, the advowson of the Priory of Lanercost 'with all other lands and tene-^{mt}s, and advowsons in the shires of Westmorland and Cumberland, the which were the said Thomas Dacre, late Lord Dacre' with remainder to the right heirs of the body of said Thomas, remainder to his right heirs; to these is also* annexed the manors of Halton co. Lanc."

An Act of Parliament in the same year as the award reversed the attainer under which Humphrey lay. The legal effect of this award has been much discussed. The writer in Coll. Top. et Gen., who signs, C. G. Y. (Sir Charles George Young, Garter), says:—

"From this period, therefore, I conceive this Lord Humphrey Dacre is to be accounted Baron Dacre of Gilsland, holding that dignity only to himself and the *heirs male* of the body of his father, and not as a *Barony by writ*."

But the Report on the Dignity of a Peer observes of this award that it could only determine rights between the parties to that award and

See Appendix B.

* Could

"Could not affect the rights of other Peers of the realm, nor could an Instrument under the Privy Seal and Sign Manual operate, unless it could be considered as a Warrant for a Patent under the Great Seal, or for the Writ of Summons subsequently issued to Humphrey Dacre."

No Parliament was held until 22 Edward IV., and to that Lord Humphrey Dacre was summoned as "Dacre of Gilsland," and he and his descendants enjoyed the dignity of "Lord Dacres of the North."

In 2 Richard III., Humphrey Dacre became Lord Warden of the Marches, the first of his family to hold that famous office,* which has become almost identified with the lords of Gilsland. He died in 1 Henry VII., leaving a numerous family by his wife, Mabel Parr, daughter of Sir Thomas Parr and great-aunt to Queen Katherine. He and his wife lie buried under a fine tomb adjoining the north side of the choir at Lanercost, on which their names and arms are carved in relief.

To Humphrey succeeded his son and heir, Thomas Dacre, probably the best known of the race. He, like his ancestor, Ranulph de Dacre, stole away his wife in the night. In this case the lady was Elizabeth de Graystoke, ultimately the heiress of the entire baronies of Graystoke and Fitzwilliam, of a moiety of the baronies of Bulbeck and Wemme, a fourth part of that of Montfichet, and a third of a moiety of that of Morley or Morpeth, and also of the manor of Hinderskelfe.† The lady was at Brougham Castle, in care of the Cliffords, when Thomas Dacre stole her away by night. No doubt she was destined for one of that family, and a second time did a Dacre disappoint a Clifford of a well "tochered" bride. And it is not too much to say that the midnight flittings of Margaret de Multon and Elizabeth de Graystoke, two girls in their teens, have largely coloured the political complexion of this county:

* Earlier Dacres had been in the Warden Commissions, but no one had, I think, been Lord Warden.

† Now Castle Howard, co. York.

nay

nay have almost affected the fortunes of this kingdom. Her husband received livery of her possessions in the 22 Henry VII.

Thomas Dacre served at the siege of Norham Castle with Lord Surrey. Under that nobleman he commanded the reserve at Flodden Field, and greatly contributed to the victory. He was made a Knight of the Garter, and was Lord Warden of the Marches from the 1 Henry VIII., until his death in the 17 Henry VIII. In that office he acted with considerable vigour. Dugdale says that in 1522 he made

“Inroads into that realm and burnt down divers villages; but at length, through the intercession of Queen Margaret, he was the person who had that conference with the Duke of Albany, which produced a truce.”

In the following year he accompanied Lord Surrey in the invasion of Scotland, and took Fernhurst Castle. In 1525, the year of his death, he devised the following “jornay” :

“That the whole garrison with the inhabitants of the country, were to meet at Howtell Swyre upon Mondaye, at iiiij of the clock, aft’ nons the xxix of Junij, and the said company by the suffrance of God to ride into Scotland, and to cast downe the towr of Kelso Abbaye, and to burne the Towne; the towr of Sm’lawes, the town of Ormyston; and the Mossehouse.”*

Well may the Scots have learnt to dread the wild slogan of the race—“A Daker, a Daker, a read bull, a read bull.”

But if the banner of the Dacres with its silver scallops on martial red was a terror to the Scots at home, Sir Thomas took stern care that the Scots should have little chance of making reprisals in England. He built Askerton Castle, as his initials show, to guard against inroads from Liddesdale by Bewcastle and the Maiden Way. He built

* Quoted in Hodgson’s History of Northumberland, Part II., Vol. II., p. 475, from Lord Dacre’s Ledger Book for 1523, preserved in Miss Currier’s Library, at Eshton Hall, Craven. Lord William Howard’s Household Books, Surtees Society, Vol. 68, Mr. Ornsby’s preface, p. xxx.

Drumburgh

Drumburgh Castle out of materials from the Roman Wall to stop invasions across the Solway, and his arms with the Garter are still over the door of the farm house into which the castle has been converted. He built the outworks to Naworth Castle, as his arms, and his initials, and those of his wife prove: much of the upper part of the castle is due to him. Probably during these alterations he dwelt at Kirkoswald Castle.*

Lord Thomas Dacre died 24th October, 17 Henry VIII., (1525) his wife having died 13 August, 8 Henry VIII.† They are buried at Lanercost, under a finely carved tomb on the south side of the choir. His portrait and that of his wife, kneeling with mantles, and their arms were in stained glass in the chapel at Naworth before the fire in 1844.

His eldest son succeeded as William, Lord Dacre of Gillesland and Greystoke, having livery of his lands in the year of his father's death. He succeeded his father as Lord Warden, and is admitted to have been rough upon the Scots, for, being indicted for treason at Westminster, he was acquitted by his peers, as Dugdale says—

“ By reason that the Witnesses were Scotchmen of mean condition, who were thought to be suborned, and to speak maliciously against him, in regard of his severity towards them as Warden of the Marches.”

He stood aloof from Aske's rebellion. He was Governor of Carlisle in the reigns of Edward VI., Elizabeth, and Mary, though not continuously. It is probably his wife

* See Lyson's Cumberland, p. 127 n., But Kirkoswald, I fancy, belonged to the Dacres of the South.

† Anno Domini mdxvi, xiii die mensis Augusti, obiit domina Elizabetha Dacre, quondam filia Roberti Graystok militis, primogeniti domini Randulphi baronis de Graystoke et Wemme.

Anno Domini mdxxv, xxiv die mensis Octobris, obiit piae memoriae dominus Thomas Dacre, quondam dominus de Dacre, Graystok, et Gillesland, miles nobilissimi ordinis Garterii, ac guardianus generalis marchiarum versus Scotiam. Ex Martyrologio Novi Monasterii; an extract printed in Pub. Surtees Society, vol. 66, App. II., p. 304, from Dugdale.

who

who is commemorated on the silver-gilt bell in possession of the Corporation of Carlisle.

THE. SWEFTES. HORSE. THES. BEL. TO. TAK.
FOR. MI. LADE. DAKER. SAKE.

She was Elizabeth, fifth daughter of George, Earl of Shrewsbury.

Lord William died at Kirkoswald 12 November, 1563, and was buried in Carlisle Cathedral 14 December following, his sons Thomas, Leonard, and Francis attending as mourners.* He left two other sons, George and Edward and five daughters.

A curious question arose during Lord William's life, between him and Lord Morley, as to their precedence in Parliament. The Lords decided in favour of Lord Morley. The particulars will be found in the "Report of the Dignity of a Peer," Vol. II., p. 215.

Of Lord William's successor, Sir Charles Young gives the following account:—

"Thomas Lord Dacre of Gillesland, eldest son of William, succeeded his father, and married to his first wife Elizabeth daughter of Ralph Nevill Earl of Westmorland; she died without issue, and he married secondly to Elizabeth Leyborne (daughter of Sir James Leyborne of Cunswick). He died at Kirkoswald on Monday 1 July 1566, and was buried in the cathedral of Carlisle 25th of the same month, the Bishop performing the service, and Lord Scroope following the body as chief mourner.† The infant son and heir also attended, and when the ceremony of the offering was about to commence, the record says "Portcullis pursevant sett the young Lorde down w^{ch} was under the age of five yeres, and caused him to stand by the said Busshoppe on his right hand, and the said Portcullis on the said Lord's right hand, and when the coat of arms was offered to the Bishop he gave the same to the yonge Lord Dacre's, and he gave the same to Portcullis, whoo laid it on a table by, appointed for the purpose." Lord Thomas left "issue a son named George not five years old, and three daughters, Ann, Elizabeth, and Mary, the eldest of whom, Ann, was of the age twelve years two months and three days, when her father

* Funerals of Nobility in Coll. Arm. Cited in Coll. Top. et Gen. Pt. xix. p. 323.

† Funerals of Nobility in Coll. Arm. Cited ut ante.

died. The widow married Thomas Duke of Norfolk to whom she was third wife, and died without issue by him in 10 Eliz.*

The infant heir survived his mother but a year, being killed by a fall from a wooden horse,† and thus his three sisters became his co-heirs, who all being minors, the Duke, their father-in-law, obtained a grant of their wardships and marriage, and disposed of them to his three sons: Ann marrying the Earl of Arundel; Mary, Thomas Lord Howard of Walden; and Elizabeth, Lord William Howard, the Duke's third son.

A great controversy arose about the dignities and possessions of the young lad so unfortunately killed, and the controversy divided into two separate questions—that of the dignities, and that of the possessions.

Leonard Dacre, the heir male, and uncle of the three coheiresses (who were the heirs general), immediately on the death of the young Lord Dacre assumed the title of Lord Dacre of Gillesland and Greystoke. This assumption the Duke of Norfolk resisted. He, as Earl Marshal of England, was the judge who should have decided the matter, but being interested as guardian, a Commission was appointed to decide in his place. The arguments and proceedings are given by Sir Charles Young in Coll. Top. et Gen.‡ and the Commission decided that the dignities did not go to the heir male but to the heirs general. Thus the barony of Dacre of Gilsland, or of the North, fell into abeyance between the three co-heirs, and has ever since remained in abeyance, for the dignity of Baron Dacre of Gilsland, now held by the Earl of Carlisle is a new creation by patent, in the year 1660, with precedence from that date.

* Coll. Top. et Gen., Part XIX., p. 323.

† "Anno domini m'dlix xvii die Maii, obiit Georgius Dacre, dominus de Gillesland et Graystok, puer magnæ spei et optimæ indolis, ex casu equi lignei saltatorii: repentine corruit Thetfordiae in com Norf. infra ætatem, tum existente in custodia Thomæ ducis Norfolciæ. *Ex Martyrologio Nori Monasterii*, Dugdale's *Monastica*, Vol. V., p. 400. *Chartulary of Newminster*, Surtees Society, Vol. 66 Pt. II., p. 304. See Vol. 68., p. viii.

‡ Pt. XIX. p. 322 *et seq.*

The

The award of King Edward IV. was not produced before the Commission, and Sir Charles Young thinks this was the fault of Leonard Dacre's solicitors. Sir Charles writes "The decision was wrong." I cannot agree with him. He relies on the award, but that award could only affect the parties to it: not being under the Great Seal it could not act as a patent for creating a dignity. But Sir Charles, believing the decision wrong, writes:—

"At present the error is not very material, because time has removed all possible competitors; but the immediate consequences proved fatal to one of the parties and fruitless to the other. Leonard was driven into rebellion, exile,* and a premature death; and the ladies, except the nominal honours, gained nothing that either of them could enjoy, for the honour being indivisible fell into abeyance amongst them and their issue, and remains so to this hour."

Into the much more important and much more protracted controversy, as to the possessions of the little Lord Dacre, it is not my intention to enter. That has been done most ably and most clearly by our distinguished member, the Rev. G. Ornsby, F.S.A., in his preface to his valuable edition of Lord William Howard's Household Books. Three of the Dacre uncles in succession tried to wrest the estates from the ladies. "Leonard Dacre," says Camden, "stomached it much that so goodly an inheritance descended by law to his nieces," and when Leonard found the law would not help him, he tried what rebellion would do; he embarked in the Northern Rebellion of 1569. "*Maluit bello cum principe,*" says Camden, "*quam judicio cum neptibus de hæreditatibus conflictari.*" He seized Naworth and fortified it, but was defeated by Lord Hunsden

* "Epitaph of Leonard Dacre in the church of St Nicholas at Bruxelles:—"Hic sepultus est illustrissimus Baro D. Leonardus de Dacre, amplissimæ Baronum Angliæ familiæ oriens, Baro de Dacre, Gylsland, Brough, Barton, Hendershelle, Graustock, Morpet, et de Wemme: qui hæresiorum contagionem diutius non ferens, et iniquâ morte ab ipsâ Elizabethâ R. oppressus, primo in Scotiam, postea in Belgium secedere est coactus. Tandem 12 Aug. anno salutis 1575 hic, calida febre absumptus, mortem obiit gloriosam, veræ potius nobilitatis existimans hic gloriose et in fide Catholica mori, quam in suâ Angliâ scismate nefando vivere. Ora pro eo."

The Arms quarterly:—Dacre, Multon, Barton, Graystock, Merlay, Grimthorpe, (or new Greystock) and Wemme. Given by Mr. Ornsby in 'Household Books of Lord William Howard,' Surtees Society, Vol. 68, p. 395.

at the Gelt Bridge. Leonard took refuge in Flanders, and died there an exile in 1573, as did his next brother Edward. The third brother Francis preferred the law: the litigation was long, and the Queen, advised by the astute Gerard Lowther, set up a third claim. But Francis was beat at last, and released his claims to the surviving coheiresses; he himself became a pensioner, and Randal, his only son, was brought from London for burial at Greystoke at the expense of Thomas, Earl of Arundel.* His daughters died without issue, poor pensioners on the Crown.

Though the coheiress ultimately succeeded it must not be supposed they came off with flying colours. Gerard Lowther pressed the Queen's claims against them with severity and harshness, and the Queen did not hesitate to commit both Lord Arundel and Lord William Howard to the Tower—in the end “they were forced to buy their owne, and redeem their possessions as mere strangers at a very high rate,” about £10,000 a-piece.

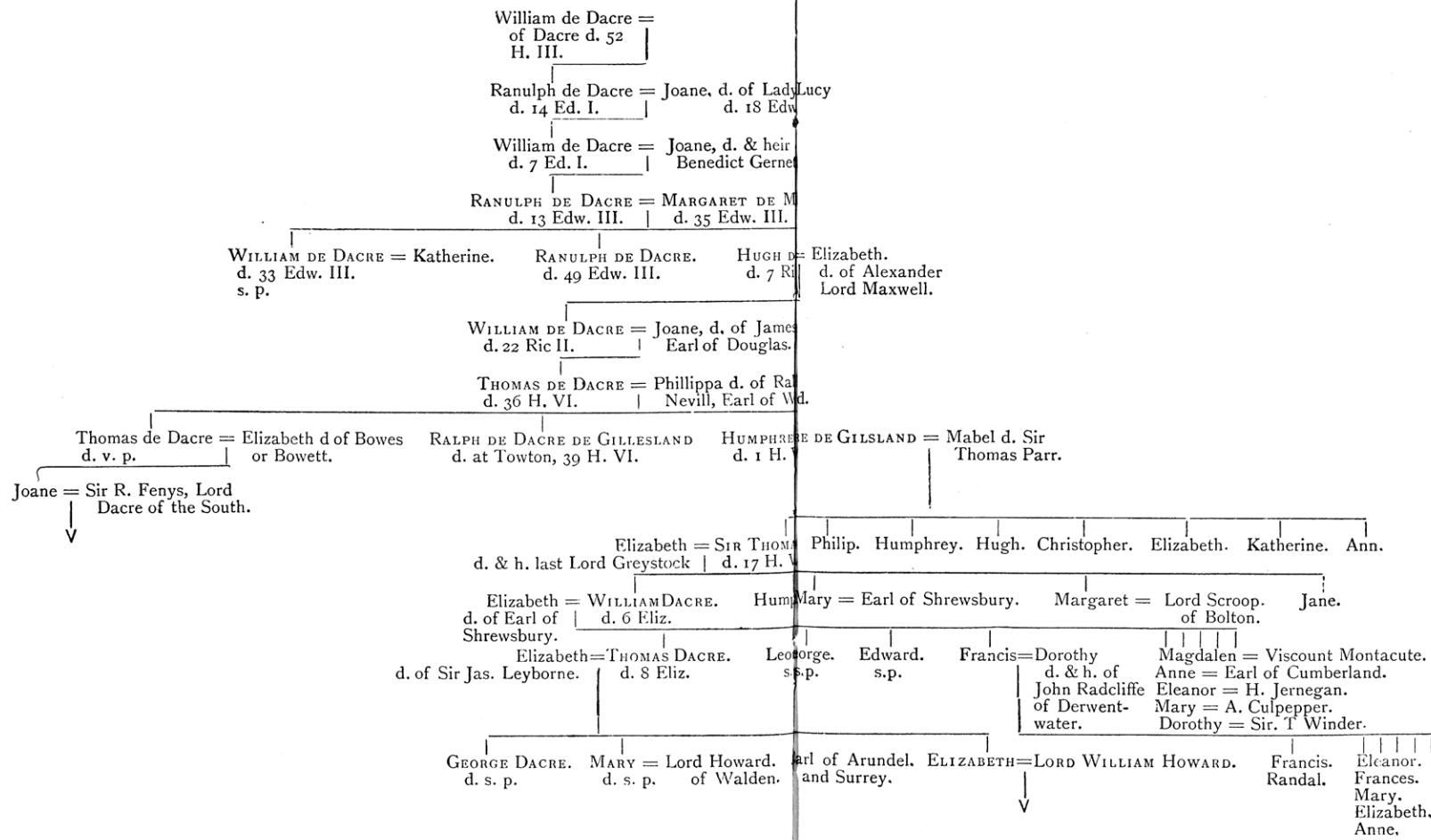
Of Lord William Howard I have nothing to tell you. Mr. Ornsby has superseded all previous accounts. He has carried out the ungrateful task of throwing the light of historical evidence upon the wild and picturesque legends anent Belted Will Howard, which are so familiar to most of us, and from which I, for one, part with pain. And yet Mr. Ornsby makes the character of the man stand out to us, when stript of its legendary aspects, greater, grander, deeper and more loveable than one had ever imagined. To this Society Lord William Howard must be peculiarly interesting. The friend of Camden and of Cotton, Sir William Howard was one of the original members of that great Society of Antiquaries of London, whose President but last year sought and won for his bride, in a Howard of Greystoke, a descendant of one of the three Dacre co-heiresses, whose lineage I have feebly attempted to trace.

* Greystoke Register, 1634. Buried Randall Dacre, Esqre., sonne and heire of Francis Dacre, Esqre., deceased, being the last heire male of that lyne, wh. sd. Randall dyed at London, and brought downe at the charge of the Right Honble. Thomas, Earl of Arundell and Surreye, Earl Marshall of England.

APPENDIX A.

APPX A.

I subjoin rough pedigree to explain the previous paper.



APPENDIX B.

DACRE OF THE NORTH.

* But about this time, there hapning a great dispute, betwixt Sr *Richard Fenys*, knt. declared Ld. *Dacre*, in right of *Joane* his wife cosyn and heire to *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre*, and this *Humphrey* of upon and for all castles, lordships, manours, lands, tenements and advowsons, that sometime were the sayd *Thomas* Ld. *Dacre* and *Phillippe* his wite, or either of them: for the appearing whereof the sayd parties were bound to each other in the sum of ten thousand marks, to abide the award and arbitrement of King *Edward* the fourth: that king therefore having taken upon him the chardge thereof, & heard the evidence and interest of both parties, did, by his award bearing date at his palace at Westmr. under his privie seale, the eighth day of Aprill in the xiiiij yeare of his reigne, determine and ad-judged, that the sayd Sr. *Richard Fenys*, knt. in right of *Joane* his wife, and the heires of her body lawfully begotten, should be reputed, had named, and called the Ld. *Dacre*, and have place and seat in every of his parliamts, as the sayd *Thomas* Ld. *Dacre* had used and kept: and that the heires of the body of the said *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre* begotten, should have and hold to them, & to the heires of their bodies begotten, the manour of *HOLBECHE*, in the County of Linc with the appurtenances, and all other lands and tenements that were the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre's* or the sayd *Humphreyes* in the same shire, or any to his use or to the use of the sayd *Humphrey*: as also the manours of *EGLESTON* & *FISHWYKE*. wh. their appurtenances in the county of Lanc. with all other lands and tenements that were the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre's* or any other person to his use in the sayd shire, except the manour of *HALTON* in the same county; all wch. (except before excepted) to be made sure of to the heires of the body of the said *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre* lawfully begotten, as should be devised by the Council of the sayd Sr. *Richard Fenys* kt. and *Jane* his wife by Act of Parliamt. and otherwise, at the costs of the sayd Sir *Richard* and *Joane*: the remaynder to the right heires of the sayd *Thomas*.

And further awarded, that the sayd Sr. *Humphrey Dacre*, kt. and the heires of the body of the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre* should be reputed, had, named, and called the Ld. *Dacre* of *GILLESLAND*; and that he the sayd Sr. *Humphrey*, and the heires male of the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre* should have use and keepe his and their place in parliaments, next beneath the place that the sayd Sr. *Richard Fenys* kt. Ld. *Dacre*, then had and occupied, and the heires of the said *Jane* his wife on her body begotten should have and occupy. Moreover, that the heires male of the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre*, should have to them and to their heires males of their bodies begotten, the manours of *IRTHINGTON*, *BURGU-upon-the-Sands*, *LASINGBY*, *DACRE*, and *BURTON*, wth the advowson of the priorie of *LANERCOST*, wth all other lands, tenements, and advowsons in the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland, the wch. were the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre's* and that the same manours, lands, and tenements, should be made as sure to the

* Ex vetusto exemplari inter collectanea *W. le Neve*, Eq., Aur., nuper *Clarendon Regis Armorum* (in Officio Armorum) p. 114. Cited in additions to *Dugdale*.—Coll: Top: et Gen: Vol. 2., p. 1.

sayd

sayd heires male of the body of the sayd *Thomas* as could be advised by the council of the sayd Sr. *Humphrey* at the cost of the sayd Sr. *Humphrey*: the remaynder to the right heires of the body of the sayd *Thomas* late Ld. *Dacre*. Likewise that the sayd Sr. *Humphrey* should have to him and to his heires male of his body lawfully begotten the mannour of HALTON, wth. the appurtenances in the county of Lancaster: it to be made as sure as should be advised by the councill of the sayd Sr. *Humphrey* and at his costs.

APPENDIX C.

ON THE CAPUT BARONIÆ.

It is a usually received story that the "Caput Baronæ" of Gilsland, or capital mansion of the Barony was at Castlesteads and that the lords thereof pulled it down as a "thing of rude edification," and of the ruins thereof built Naworth. Others connect Castlesteads with the story of the murder of Gilles Bueth at a tryst held there, and say that in consequence the site was abandoned, and sewn with salt. There is no evidence whatever for the existence of any Castle or Tower at Castlesteads beyond the old ruins of a Roman Camp. Nor is there any trace of Park or Chase such as a Norman noble was wont to surround his dwelling with.

That Irthington was the Caput Baronæ, is known from the Chronicle of Lanercost, which mentions a Court Baron being held there in 1280. It stands contiguous to the Park of Brampton, within 200 yards of it, south of which Park was the Chace of Brigwoode, 200 acres in extent (about the same size as Naworth Park). The boundaries of both the Park of Brampton and the Chace of Brigwoode are given in old maps in possession of the Earl of Carlisle (see MacLauchlins Memoir of a Survey of the Roman Wall, p. 67).

The name "Irthington" proves that the Norman was not the first to settle there. It is the "ton" or the homestead of the English tribe of the Irthingas,† who gave their name, no doubt to the river as well as to their homestead. The history is written on the site: we still have the mound on which the English owners erected, as was their custom, a house of wood. By the side of this mound the Norman afterwards built his castle, whose foundations the late Mr. Bell of the Nook traced: a plan of them is given in MacLauchlin's Memoir, p. 65, Fig. 2, p. 69.

As to when the Castle of Irthington was destroyed we have no

* From the name Irthington, Kemble (The Saxons in England, Vol. I., p. 468, edition of 1876) infers the existence of a "mark" at that place belonging to the Irthingas.

evidence:

evidence: it would, like Irthington Church, be built of Roman mason-work. As I can find no Roman masonwork, or next to none, at Naworth, I do not think that Irthington was pulled down to provide the materials for Naworth.

It is important to bear in mind the fact that the Barons of Gilsland of the lines of De Vaux and Multon never dwelt at Naworth. It did not exist as a residence in their days. Though the Vaux seem to have dearly loved the north, the Multons preferred Holbeache as a residence, and even the Dacres, who created Naworth, seemed to have resided at Kirkoswald.
