

## II.—A PEDIGREE OF WIDDRINGTON OF CHEESEBURN GRANGE.

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### INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

Although an admirable pedigree of the family of Widdrington of Widdrington castle is given in the Rev. John Hodgson's *History of Northumberland*, in which work, as well as in the new *History of Northumberland*, pedigrees of several cadet lines may be found, no readily accessible pedigree\* is forthcoming of the family of Widdrington of Cheeseburn grange, whose most illustrious son was Sir Thomas Widdrington of Gray's Inn, Speaker of the House of Commons in the time of the Commonwealth.

Biographies of Sir Thomas Widdrington may be found in Mr. Richard Welford's *Men of Mark*, the *Dictionary of National Biography*, etc., etc.; and the Free School at Stamfordham, which he endowed, still exists as a memorial of his benevolence.

The Widdringtons of Cheeseburn grange, like other Northumbrian and Scottish families during the Civil Wars, divided themselves between the opposing camps, and whilst Sir Thomas was high in the counsels of the Commonwealth, his next brother, Sir Henry Widdrington, was as ardent on the king's side, and was obliged in 1646 to compound for his estate as a delinquent. This division of opinion made no breach in brotherly relations, and Sir Thomas, having out-lived his only son, after settling

\* There is a very good pedigree in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, 4th series, vol. III. p. 158, communicated by Major Skeet, with which the present pedigree is in substantial agreement.

large estates on his four surviving daughters, gave his paternal inheritance at Cheeseburn grange to Sir Henry, from whom it has descended, without any alienation, to his descendant and representative, Mr. Edward Riddell-Blount, now of Cheeseburn grange.

The writer desires to express his obligation and thanks to Mr. Riddell-Blount for giving him the fullest and unrestricted access to his muniments.

## EVIDENCES.

15 Sept., 1663. Will of (Sir) Thomas Widdrington of Cheeseburn grange. 'Mindful of my mortality and desirous to set my house in order before my death.' 'To be buried without the least of funerals pomp by the discretion of my executor, and if my departure out of this world be in or near London, then my mind is that my body be interred in the church of St. Gyles-in-the-Fields, as near the bodies of my late dear wife and of my dear daughter Dorothy, as conveniently may be.' 'It having pleased God, the all wise and merciful Lord God, to take to his mercy my only and dear son Thomas, he being then near the age of 20 years.' . . . Confirms settlement made after son's death, dated — July, 1663, of the manors and estates of Hambleton, Yorks., etc., etc., upon daughters, etc.; remainder to my second brother, Henry Widdrington, etc. Confirms certain provision for the maintenance of a schoolmaster at Stamfordham 'where I was borne.'

My two younger daughters, Mary and Ursula, not yet married: I give the custody and tuition of the said Mary to my Lord Fairfax and to my daughter Frances, wife of Sir John Ledgard of Ganton, and the custody, etc., of my daughter Ursula to my brother Ralph Widdrington, doctor in divinity, and my daughter Katherine, wife of Robert Shafto, esq. To my said four daughters, Frances, Katherine, Mary and Ursula, the rings, plate, etc., of my late dear wife, their good and religious mother. To my cousin, Francis Philipson of Elvett, 5*l*. To my uncles, Mr. Henry Fairfax of Oglethorpe, and Charles Fairfax of 'Menston,' esq., each a gold ring. To my late servant and kinsman, Thomas Swinburn, 5*l*. Executors, my four daughters, Frances, Katherine, Mary, and Ursula. Supervisors, my Lord Fairfax, my sons-in-law Sir John Ledgard of Ganton, bart., and Robert Shafto of Whitworth, my brother-in-law Henry Arthington, and my brother Doctor Widdrington. My cousin John Rushworth of Lincoln's Inn, my brother Nicholas Widdrington, and my servants Robert Alder and Robert Ayscough, to assist my daughters. To my brother, Ralph Widdrington, 10*l*. per annum out of the tithes of Chester-le-Street. To my nephew, William Widdrington, son of my brother Henry, 10*l*. To my

grandchild, Dorothy Ledgard, 200*l.* To my friends, John Archer, serjeant-at-law, and William Ellis, esq., Reader of Gray's Inn, each a ring. To my school-fellow, Walter Strickland of Flamborough, esq., a ring.

My purchase of Whitechester, my lands at Costley and Cowpen, and my messuages in the city of York, to be sold. My lands in Cheeseburn grange, Nesbitt and Ouston to my two younger daughters, Mary and Ursula, for three years. To my grandchildren, John and Thomas Ledgard, and Mark Shafto, all my books and MSS., except such books on divinity and history as my daughters shall select. To the poor householders of the city of York, 10*l.* To the poor householders of Berwick-on-Tweed, 10*l.* To the poor people of the parish of Stamfordham, where I was born, 10*l.* To the poor of the parish of Heddon-on-the-Wall, 5*l.* To my brother, Henry, 10*l.*, and a debt of 100*l.* due by him to me for stock of mine when he first farmed Nesbett. To my brother, Nicholas, 10*l.* To the children of my brother Rowland, deceased, 10*l.* apiece. To my sister, Pepper, 10*l.* To my nephew, Anthony Dodsworth, the only child of my sister Eleanor, deceased, 10*l.* To my two brothers-in-law, Cuthbert Pepper, esq., and Mr. Anthony Dodsworth, 5*l.* apiece. To my niece, Margaret Pepper, 10*l.* To Lady Fairfax of Ashton, a gold ring. To my sisters-in-law, Lady Selby, Lady Craven, Mrs. Arthington of Arthington, Mrs. Hutton of Popleton, and Mrs. Ursula Fairfax, each a gold ring.

13 Sept., 1664. Will of Sir Henry Widdrington of Cheeseburn grange, knight. 'If my departure out of this world be in, or near, Northumberland, then my mind is that my body be interred in the church of Stannerton, where my dear wife is interred.' Recites settlements made by late brother, Sir Thomas Widdrington, knight, serjeant-at-law, of Cheeseburn grange, dated respectively the 10th and 11th July, 1663. My eldest son, William Widdrington. To my second sonne, John Widdrington, now, or lately, in the East Indies, 400*l.* To my son, Ralph Widdrington, 100*l.*, together with my lease of the message or grange called Catchburne, held of the earl of Carlisle. To my son, Edward Widdrington, 400*l.*, when 22 years of age. To my son, Thomas Widdrington, 400*l.*, when 22 years of age. To my son, Robert Widdrington, 400*l.*, when 22 years of age. To my son, Lewis Widdrington, 400*l.*, when 22 years of age. To my son, Patricius Widdrington, 400*l.*, when 22 years of age. To my daughter, Mary Delaval, now wife of William Delaval, of Dissington, gent., 100*l.* To my daughter, Margaret Whitehead, wife of Nicholas Whitehead, gent., 100*l.* To my son, William Widdrington, my lease of the summering ground in the parish of Symondburn, held of the earl of Northumberland. Executor, my son, William Widdrington. Supervisors, my brother Ralph Widdrington, John Rushworth, esq., my cosen, William Swinburn, gent., and Edward Collingwood, gent.

20 July, 1674. Edward Widdrington of Blackheddon, esq. Whereas I am possessed by lease from the earl of Northumberland of 2 pts. in 3 ps. to be divided of certaine lands in the high lands in Tindall called Woofe Keilder

Stoupe, White Kielder, Keilder Hay and other names for 21 years yet in being. I give the same to my dear wife, Elianer Widdrington; also 400*l.* now in the hands of my brother, Wm. Widdrington, esq. Whereas my brother Ralph Widdrington is now possessed of a 3d. part of the aforesaid lease, he to hold it dureing the whole terme yet to come. My loveing friend, Allen Swinburn, esq., executor in trust for my wife. My will is that 20*l.* be given to the poore of the parishes of Stannerton, Hugh, Bitchfield, and Owston, and 30*l.* to the poore at the discrecion of my executor. Proved at York.

20 March, 1687/8. Will of Ralph Widdrington of Christ College, Cambridge, and Lady Margaret reader of divinity in the university. My library to be sold by my executors, and the price thereof added to my ready money to be laid out in the purchase of an inheritance or rent charge: such inheritance or rent charge to be held for their respective lives by my nephews, Ralph Widdrington of Cheeseburn grange, esq., son of my brother, Sir Henry Widdrington, deceased; Henry Widdrington of Hertford, esq., and his son, Henry Widdrington; and after their deaths to the Master, Fellows, and Scholars of Christ Church. To my niece, Ursula, countess of Plymouth, only surviving daughter of my brother, Sir Thomas Widdrington, 200*l.* To Mr. Thomas Linford, rector of St. Edmond's in Gracious (*sic*) street, my scarlet gown, robes and hood, and Stephen's Greek Testament. My copyhold house at Fordham to my nephew, Henry Widdrington, and then to the Master and Fellow of Christ College. To my sizar, Thomas Randall, 5*l.* To my nephew, Patricious Widdrington, my better chariot. To my nephew, Christopher Pepper, my pocket watch with a silver case. To my niece Mary Widdrington of Hertford, my Dutch cabinet, my pewter, brass, etc., at Fordham. To my nephews, Ralph and Henry Widdrington, my pictures in my chambers in the college, etc., they executors.

24 July, 1688. Will of Ralph Widdrington of Cheeseburn grange, esq. Recites settlement, dated 12 Sept. 4 James II, made between himself and John Widdrington, his eldest son and heir apparent since deceased, etc. To Margaret Widdrington, 'my now wife,' certain rooms, etc., at Cheeseburn grange for her life, my lesser silver tankard, six silver spoons, six silver forks, two silver porringers and two silver salts, 4 pillowbeers, 4 table cloaths, 4 side board cloaths, 4 doz. napkins, and a horse with grazing and hay for same. To Martha Widdrington, widow of my brother Robert, 10*l.* per annum. To my brother, Lewis Widdrington, 20*l.* per annum. To my nephew, Henry Widdrington, son and heir of my said brother, Robert, 250*l.* in satisfaction of the like sum left him by his late father and deposited in my hands for his use. To the bayliffs of the Free school of Morpeth, 5*l.* per annum out of Nesbitt. 'I give and devise to tenn preests each of them 20s.' Residue to William Widdrington, my son and heir apparent. He executor.

## A PEDIGREE OF WIDDRINGTON OF CHEESEBURN GRANGE.

BASED ON MR. EDWARD RIDDELL-BLOUNT'S MUNIMENTS, WITH ADDITIONS.

Lewis Widdrington of Cheeseburn Grange; 10th September, 1630, administration of = Catherine, daughter (and co-heir) his personal estate committed to Thomas Swinburne of Elvet and Thomas Widdrington of Gray's Inn (i) of William Lawson of Little Usworth (f).

Sir Thomas Widdrington, knight, of Cheeseburn Grange, born in the parish of Stamfordham (a); = Frances, daughter of Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax of Cameron; died 4th May, 1649, aged 36; buried in the chancel of St. Giles in the Fields (m).  
 educated at Christ's College, Camb.; B.A., 1621; admitted to Gray's Inn, 14th February, 1618/9; knighted 1st April, 1639; serjeant at law, 1648; recorder of Berwick and of York; successively M.P. for Berwick, York, Northumberland, York, Berwick; Speaker of the House of Commons, 1656-1658; founder of Stamfordham school in 1663; died 13th May, 1664; buried in the chancel of St. Giles in the Fields; will dated 1st September, 1663; proved at York, 1st July, 1664 (e).

Thomas Widdrington, son and heir, baptised at St. Martin's, Coney Street, York, 19th June, 1640; entered at Gray's Inn (in infancy), 16th March, 1640/1; died unmarried; administration of his personal estate granted to his father, 20th September, 1661.

Dorothy, died ..... 1649, aged 12; buried at St. Giles in the Fields.  
 Frances, baptised at St. Martin's, Coney Street, York, 15th August, 1637; married Sir John Legard of Ganton, bart. ↓  
 Catherine, married Sir Robert Shafto, knight, recorder of Newcastle; marriage licence, 16th July, 1661, she being about 20 years of age (g); articles before marriage, 10th July, 1661 (i); married at St. Pancras, 18th July, 1661.  
 Mary, baptised at St. Martin's, Coney Street, York, 28th January, 1644/5; married Sir Robert Markham of Sedgebrook, bart.; marriage licence, 24th September, 1664. ↓  
 Ursula, married at Kensington, 9th April, 1668, Thomas, earl of Plymouth (g). ↓

Sir Henry Widdrington, knt., of Black Heddon, proprietor of Bolton and of Broome-park; to whom his brother gave Cheeseburn Grange; compounded as a delinquent, 3rd January, 1646; buried in the chancel of Stamfordham, 5th December, 1665 (b); will dated 13th September, 1664; proved at Durham, 1668 (d).

Mary, dau. of John Swinburne of Black Heddon, and granddaughter of Thomas Swinburne of Capheaton.

Rowland Widdrington of Farrington Without, London, third son; entered his pedigree at St. George's Visitation of London, in 1634 (f), and had allowed to him, *quarterly, argent and gules a bend sable thereon a mullet for difference.*

Ralph Widdrington, D.D., fellow of Christ's College, Camb.; born in the parish of Stamfordham (a); admitted to Gray's Inn, 16th March, 1640/1; will dated 20th March, 1687/8; proved 1689 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.  
 Nicholas Widdrington, apprenticed 24th August, 1633, to John Cock of Newcastle, boothman; admitted free of Merchants' Company, 25th November, 1641; named in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a).

Catherine, wife of Cuthbert Pepper (a) of Farnton in Silksworth [buried at Wearmouth, 22nd February, 1663/4]. ↓  
 Eleanor, wife of Anthony Dodsworth (a) of Stranton; married there, 6th December, 1637.  
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\*Henry Widdrington, described in settlement of 10th July, 1663, as son of Rowland, who was brother of Sir Thomas Widdrington (a) of Hertford, 1687 (a).

Thomas Widdrington, described in settlement of 10th July, 1663, as second son of Rowland Widdrington (a).

Henry Widdrington, residing at Hertford with his father, 20th March, 1687/8 (a); living 25th August, 1705.

William Widdrington of Cheeseburn Grange and of Black Heddon; admitted to Gray's Inn, 18th [July], 1651; party to deed, 7th December, 1666 (a); died *s.p.m.*; buried at Stamfordham, 7th January, 1680/1 (b); will dated 29th May, 1676.

Barbara, daughter of Sir Ralph Jenison of Elswick; bond of marriage, 1663 (i); by articles before marriage, 15 Chas. II., Black Heddon was secured to her as her dower (a); executrix of her husband's will; living 12th January, 1692/3, in the parish of St. James', London.

John Widdrington, called second son in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a); in East Indies at date of his father's will (a); administration of personal estate, 5th January, 1674/5 (e).

Thomas, baptised 23rd January, 1665/6 (b); buried 28th February, 1665/6 (b).

Ralph, baptised 15th February, 1669/70 (b); buried 22nd June, 1670 (b).

Henry, baptised 15th August, 1671 (b); buried 14th September, 1672 (b).

Mary, daughter and co-heir, baptised 23rd December, 1664 (b); named in her father's will.

Barbara, baptised 11th February, 1667/8 (b); buried in Stamfordham chancel, 14th February, 1667/8 (b).

Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir, baptised 13th January, 1668/9 (b); named in her father's will; married Richard Darby of Gray's Inn; marriage licence, 22nd September, 1691 (g).

Jane, daughter and co-heir, named in her father's will.

Catherine, daughter and co-heir, named in her father's will; married Sir Thomas Aston, bart.; marriage licence, 22nd October, 1703 (g).

Barbara, baptised 8th August, 1672 (b); buried 2nd February, 1672/3 (b).

Ralph Widdrington, named in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a); was residing at Black Heddon in 1676; succeeded to Cheeseburn Grange on the death of his brother William; party to his son William's marriage settlement (a); he married, first, Elizabeth ..... who, dying at Black Heddon, was buried, 3rd February, 1666/7 (b); and secondly, Margaret ..... who was named in his will [and was buried 7th March, 1701/2 (b)]; will dated 24th July, 1688 (a); alive 2nd August, 1704 (a); dead before 25th April, 1708 (a).

Edward Widdrington, named in his father's will (a); query of Black Heddon, where he made his will, 20th July, 1674 (e); *s.p.*; buried at St. Paul's, Covent Garden, 22nd July, 1674.

Eleanor ..... party to deed 4th September, 1683 (a); named in her husband's will.

Thomas Widdrington, named in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a).

Robert Widdrington, named in settlement, 10th July, 1663; was residing at Cheeseburn Grange when he made his will, dated 7th March, 1676 (a).

Martha Nicholson, parish of St. Saviour's, Southwark; marriage licence, 12th December, 1668, he being 22 and she 25 years of age; named in her husband's will (a); died at Hawkwell; buried 1708 (b).

Lewis Widdrington, named in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a), and in the will of his brother Ralph (a); died at Cheeseburn Grange; buried 25th April, 1702 (b).

Patrick Widdrington, named in settlement, 10th July, 1663 (a), and in the will of his uncle Ralph; was living in London and party to deed, 25th January, 1715 (a).

Mary, married first, George Ramsay of Bewick, marriage settlement, 28th October, 1652, and secondly, William Delaval of Dissington (a).

Margaret, married Nicholas Whitehead (a) of Boulmer.

Henry Widdrington, named in his father's will (a), and in that of his uncle Ralph (a); [buried 4th June, 1700 (b)].

John Widdrington, son and heir, party to deed, 12th September, 16[... ] (a); died *s.p.* before 12th June, 1693 (a).

William Widdrington of Cheeseburn Grange, second but eldest surviving son; party to deeds, 25th April, 1707, and 1st May, 1708 (a).

Anne, daughter of Caryl, viscount Molyneux, articles before marriage, 14th June, 1693 (a); as a widow, party to deed, 25th January, 1715 (a); buried at St. Pancras (i).

Mary Anne, professed at the English convent at Bruges in 1687, and died there in 1745, aged 77 (h).

<p>Ralph Widdrington of Cheeseburn = Anne, daughter of Martin Woollascott (a) Grange, under age 25th January, 1715 (a); of full age, 1st September, 1718 (a); died 'respected by all ranks of people' (k); buried at Stamfordham, 21st December, 1752 (b); will dated 7th May, 1748 (a).</p>	<p>of Woolhampton; marriage settlement, 12th November, 1718 (a); named in her husband's will; was living a widow in parish of St. George's, Hanover Square, 1760; released her dower, 15th January, 1761 (a); died at Hammersmith, September, 1764 (l).</p>	<p>Mary, wife of Thomas Riddell of Swinburne castle, sister and co-heir; marriage licence, 5th June, 1726.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>	<p>Elizabeth, wife of George Sanderson of Temple Healey, sister and co-heir; marriage licence, 23rd October, 1725.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p>
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\* 1679, August 26th. Marriage licence, Henry Widdrington of the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, gent., widower, about 36, and Eleanor Prichard of All Hallows, Hertford, widow, about 30 (Harl. Soc. publ. No. 30, p. 4).

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| <p>(a) Mr. E. Riddell-Blount's Cheeseburn Grange muni-ments.</p> <p>(b) <i>Stamfordham Registers</i>.</p> <p>(d) <i>Durham Probate Registry</i>.</p> <p>(e) <i>York Probate Registry</i>.</p> <p>(f) <i>St. George's Visitation of London</i>, 1634 (Harl. Soc. publ. vol. xvii. p. 349).</p> <p>(g) <i>Chester, London Marriage Licences</i>.</p> | <p>(h) Records of the English convent at Bruges, &amp;c., cited by Major Skeet, <i>Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica</i>, 4th ser. vol. III. pp. 158-161.</p> <p>(i) Sir Cuthbert Sharp's Genealogical Collections.</p> <p>(k) <i>Newcastle Courant</i>, 30th December, 1752.</p> <p>(l) <i>Ibid.</i> 15th September, 1764.</p> <p>(m) <i>Cf. Stow, London</i>, vol. II. p. 79.</p> |
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