

NOTE AS TO THE HENRY LORD HERBERT NAMED IN THE WILL OF THE PRINCESS KATHERINE, COUNTESS OF DEVON, OF WHICH A COPY WAS GIVEN, p. 53.

The "Henry, Lord Herberd," mentioned in the Princess Katherine's Will, p. 56, as having been the husband of her deceased daughter Margaret, was, in all probability, Henry, eldest son of Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester, by his first wife Elizabeth, daughter and heir of William Herbert, Earl of Huntingdon, and Baron Herbert, of Herbert; which barony was created by writ in 1461. The Earl, her husband, was twice married after her decease. In 1526 he died, and was succeeded by his son Henry, who, consequently, was Earl of Worcester at the date of the Princess's will. Still it was as Henry, Lord Herbert, that he would have been the husband of Margaret, and best known to the Princess. No mention, however, of his marriage with Margaret Courtenay has been found elsewhere; but, if, as should seem to have been the fact, the union were of short duration and issueless, that is not extraordinary. It is evident a marriage between her and some Henry, Lord Herbert, had taken place; and no other person of that name and dignity, who was her contemporary, has been discovered. Henry, the eldest son of the above-mentioned Earl of Worcester, was Lord Herbert as heir of his mother, or he may have been designated by the second title of his father, which was also Lord Herbert, but of Chepstow, in like manner as was his own son in his lifetime a few years later, viz., in 1542. (See Test. Vetusta, pp. 708-9.) Holinshed, indeed (p. 879), mentions "the Lord Herbert, son to the Earl of Worcester," among those who attended the Duke of Suffolk into France in 15th Henry VIII.; but as this does not appear to be the language of a contemporary writer, it is not alone conclusive that he was called Lord Herbert while his father was living. He died in 1549, and is stated by Sandford to have been about 53 years of age. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Anthony Browne, and had issue by her. When that marriage took place, has not been ascertained, but the eldest son is said to have been 22 years old at his father's death; so that he was born about 1527. Margaret Courtenay was living and unmarried in 1509 (see Test. Vetusta, p. 495) and, indeed, according to Cleaveland, (p. 247), in the 3rd Henry VIII., when she is said to have been above 13 years old, and her mother intended to purvey for her a convenient marriage. A letter from the Privy Council to Wolsey in 1520 (Nicolas' Proceedings of the Privy Council, vol. vii., p. 339), mentions "the Lady Margaret wif to the Lord Herbert" (no doubt this very Margaret), and also the Countess of Worcester, among the ladies at the court of the Princess Mary, then an infant, at Richmond. Now, between 1520 and 1527, there was ample time for Margaret to have died, and her husband to have married again, and have had a son by his second wife. Until the discovery of the Princess Katherine's Will, the fact of Margaret having been married had been overlooked; and she is commonly stated to have died young, having been choked by a fishbone; and "Chokebone aisle" in Colyton Church, Devon, where she is said to have been buried, and her monument is supposed to remain, is alleged to have acquired its name from the cause of her death.

W. S. W.