



FACING P. 193.

ART. XI.—*Robert Kitchin, Mayor of Bristol; a native of Kendal.* By H. S. COWPER, F.S.A.

Read at Kendal, April 25th, 1928.

WHILE wandering round the Bristol Churches in October 1927, I found myself reading the following inscription, on a mural monument* fixed to the wall in St. Stephen's Church.

DECEASED THE 5TH OF SEPTEMBER AN^O D^ONI 1594.

ROBERT KITCHIN ALDERMAN & HIS WIEF
 LIETH NEERE THIS PLACE CLOSED IN EARTH & CLAY
 THEIR CHARITIES ALIKE IN DEATH AND LIFE
 WHO TO THE POORE GAVE ALL THEIR GOODES AWAY
 LEAVING IN TRUST SUCH MEN TO ACT THE SAME
 AS MIGHT WITH TRUTH PERFORM^M THEIR GOOD ENTENT
 SO THAT THE POORE IN DEED AND EKE IN NAME
 TO LASTING AGES IN THIS CITIE MEANT
 AND OTHER PLACES OF THIS KINGDOM FAIRE
 AS KENDALL TOWNE & STRICKLANDFIELD BOTH HAVE
 WITH BATHE THE NATIVE PLACE OF HER FIRST AYRE
 THE BOVNTIE OF THEIR GUYFTES THEY TO THEM GAVE.

Over this inscription are the figures of the Alderman and his first wife kneeling at a desk. Three sons are shown on the Alderman's side (the reader's left) and three daughters on the wife's side. The arms of Kitchen are over the Alderman, the arms of Sacheville (see *infra*) over the lady. In the centre is a monogram, which will be

* The Monument is a gilded stone slab set in a frame; and at first sight has the appearance of a brass. It appears to be impossible to get a copy of it by the rubbing process.

mentioned later, as it also occurs on Kitchen's fine portrait.*

I at once surmised that Robert Kitchen was a native of Kendal, a surmise which the pedigree I have managed to compile shews to be correct. He was at Bristol a merchant of note, and by his will a benefactor of Bristol, Kendal and Bath, but it is somewhat strange that the only allusion to himself and his bequest, that I have been able to find in local literature, is in the *Boke of Record of Kirkbie Kendall*, where the distribution of his money is briefly alluded to.†

Owing to this lack of local evidence, it is very doubtful if I should have ever identified him, if I had not had the help of Mr. C. R. Hudleston of Little Mead, Chapel Lane, Bristol, who searched Bristol literature, and indeed supplied me with a large proportion of the information incorporated here. The chief authorities for the pedigree are however his own will, a genealogical notice of his family in "A Chronicle of the Ancient and noble family of de Havilland," a member of which family his daughter married, and the Lancashire Herald Visitations.

Robert Kitchen was the eldest son of Richard Kitchen of Kendal, who was the second son of William of Hatfield, Herts. William married a *Preston* family heiress, whom I have not identified, and Richard a Marian Lake, an uncommon name in Westmorland and North Lancashire, but there is one occurrence of it in Dugdale's Visitation.‡

The progenitor William, although of Hatfield, may have been of Westmorland stock, but I have no evidence. Nor have I any further evidences of Richard and his wife, so we will go straight to Robert, who was destined to leave his name at Bristol.

* A description in *Transactions*, Bristol and Gloucestershire Arch. Soc., xxvii, pp. 108-9, by I. M. Roper, no illustration.

† P. 219 and 251. In the first, name wrongly given as Kitchener; see, however, Appendix for notes from Jones' History of Burneside.

‡ In Pedigree of Mercer, Alice wife of David Lake of Wartery.

There is a good deal to say about Robert, and though this information is already in print, it is reasonable to recapitulate here seeing he was Kendal born. There is, however, no information available as to how and when he settled at Bristol, but he was sheriff in 1572 and mayor in 1588. He is described as a "merchant of great wealth and unbounded liberality, and one of the most munificent benefactors of a city distinguished for the philanthropy and public spirit of its merchant princes." His house was in Small Street, and here he entertained the Earls of Leicester and Warwick at Easter, 1587.*

Interesting and amusing details of this entertainment exist. The two nights' entertainment cost more than £100. After the departure (of the two noblemen) . . . six horseloads of sugar, marmalade, figs and raisins followed them to Bath, as a further compliment, but failed to make Lord Leicester happy. His lordship's sleeping accommodation in the sister city seems to have presented a sorry contrast to the luxurious provision made in Bristol, and as an effectual remedy . . . he coolly asked Alderman Kitchin, who had accompanied the presents, for a gift of the bed in which he had reposed. The Civic Audit Book shows that the obsequious Corporation more than responded to this request, apparently allowing Mr. Kitchin to provide the bedding.

"Paid to Mr. Blande for a feather bed with a cannayne £4. To two labourers for fetching it to Mr. Kitchin's

* The authorities used are I. M. Roper, cited above. Pryce's Bristol (1861) p. 259. Mauchee's Bristol Charities, p. 34. Wadley The Great Orphan Book and Book of Wills, ed. by T. P. Wadley, Bristol and Glos. Arch. Soc. J. Latimer, Sixteenth Century Bristol, 1908. Rev. A. B. Beavan, Bristol Lists. Bristol, Past and Present. *Transactions*, Bristol and Glos. Archaeological Soc., vol. 15, and the Great Orphan Book at the Council House, for the will itself. Barrett, Hist. of Bristol. All these have been searched by Mr. C. R. Hudleston, and I have used his extracts. A chronicle of the ancient and noble family of de Havilland, originally of Haveland, 1865, I myself consulted.

house 4s., which bedding with the appurtenances was sent to Bath to my Lord of Leicester to lye in."*

From time to time Kitchin shewed his great interest in Bristol by charitable gifts, and he was twice married, firstly to Joan the sole daughter and heir of John Sacheville, gentleman, and secondly to a lady whose surname I have no record of and who survived him.†

Three months before he died Robert Kitchen executed a will, a copy of which is preserved in the Great Orphan Book at the Council House, and also published apparently in full in the de Havilland Chronicle. I give a summary of the provisions of this will here.‡

19 June, 1594. Robert Kechen, merchant and one of the aldermen of the city of Bristoll "my body to be buried in the parishe church of Sainte Stephen's in Bristoll as neere the place where Johane my first wyfe was buried as conveniently it may be."

Unto Robert Havilland s. of Mattheve of the citie of Bristol merchant my three tenements and a gardene in Hallyes Lane for ever, on condition he pays to the procktors and churchwardens of St. Stephens and their successors at Easter for ever an annuity of 6s. 8d. towards the maintenance of the church. If the said R.H. decease without issue said premises to William 2nd son of said Matthew and his lawful heirs on afores^d conditions, and in defaulte of such issue, the said premises to John son of Matthew H. and his lawful issue, and in defaulte of such issue to righte heirs of s^d Robert Ketchin for ever upon same conditions.

* Latimer, *Sixteenth Century Bristol*, 1908, p. 53. A year earlier Kitchen's house was used for the reception of the Earl of Pembroke, Lord Lieutenant of Bristol and Somerset.

† According to the Editor or Compiler of the Havilland Chronicle he left one son who died without issue. This appears incorrect (see Pedigree). Nothing seems recorded of the fate of the other two sons and two daughters shewn on the monument.

‡ Both the above sources have been consulted: the copy at Bristol by Mr. C. R. Hudleston who supplied me with an extract. Abstract also in F. A. Crisp's *Somerset Wills*, p. 68. The will was proved 10 Jan., 1594-5.

To John Barker Matthewe Havilland John Rowborrow and Abell Kytchin their heirs and assigns for ever, "the capitall messuage or Mansion Howse wherein I now dwell satuat in Small streete" in the p^{sh} of Sainte Warborough (Warburgh) and all premises and appurtenances.

"Of Speciall truste and to this onlie use intent and purpose" that the sayed J.B. M.H. J.R. and A.K. shall at any time most meete sell the said premises for the best price they may have and they or the survivors or heirs of the survivors, after such sale shall dispose imploie and convert the money to the best benefit reliefe and sustentacion of the poor people in such places and in such manner and forme as to the said J.B. M.H. J.R. and A.K. or their survivors shall seem most meete and expedient.

(Follows a clause providing for the perpetual continuance of the devise). "My wille and meaning, nevertheless, ys that my wife Justyne shall have and injoye the said Capitall house—during her natural life."

To William Havilland son of Matthew 100 marks and one of my best silver bowles double gilt and residue of terme of yeares unexpired in rectory of Clifton, co. Glos. after decease of my wife.

To John Havilland son of M. H. a similar bequest and certain landed property after decease of wife Justyne. To Robert Havilland a similar bowle, 40^l and my goulde ring wherein my armes are graven.

Brother Matthew Kitchen 10^l. Sister Agnes annuity of 53s. 4d. Robert Kitchen of London merchant, son of brother Richard 100^l. Brother Thomas Kitchen 40s. Nephew Thomas son of brother Matthew 30^l. Neice Agnes dau. of brother Matthew Kitchen 20^l. Neice Elizabeth ffrynde wief to John ffrend 20^l. Neice Margaret dau. of brother Matthew Kitchen 40^l. Neice Elizabeth dau. of brother John Kitchen 30^l. Jane

Kitchen neice, the other dau. of the said brother John Kitchen 30*l* and " my will is that my said neice to whom I have given any legacy by this my will shall not marry without the advise and consent of my executors or of some of them."

To my neice Marian Nottingham wife of John Nottingham of Bristol 20*l* and to Robert son of John Nottingham 20*l* and to William their younger son 10*l*.

To the said Abell Kitchen my Basin and Ewere of silver and to Hierome Ham Towne clarke of Bristol 10*l*.*

" The rest of my goodes chattells and debtes to me owing whatsoever and all my leases and tearmes for yeres undevised, my debtes legaceys and funerall chardges being payed and discharged I give and bequeath to my sayd executors to be disposed converted and ymployed to the best benefitt and reliefe of the poore people within Bristoll and the Towne of Kendall in the Countie of Westmorland and to other good and Charitable uses in such order manner and forme as to my saied executors or the survivors or survivor of them or the moste parte of them shall seem most meete and convenient and I request and apppoint my good friends Mr. William Hicks and Mr. John Barnes Aldermen to be my Overseers of this my last will and Testament unto whome I give each of them fower yardes of blacke clothe to make them gownes to weare at my funerall desiring them to do what in them lyeth to see this my last will

* It is a very curious thing that in neither of the transcripts I have access to, is this Abell defined as " my son." Yet by the writers quoted above he is called the only son (presumably the only surviving son), and it will be seen he followed exactly in the footsteps of Robert. Neither have I definite information whether he was the child of Robert's first or second wife. Also his marriage is not clear, as two names are given (see pedigree). He is said to have held the manors of Wickwar and Bury Doynton in Gloucester of the King.

and Testament performed in every poynte according to my trewe and playne meaninge.

Robert Kitchin.

Now I gather from this will, that testator's personal estate was to be realized and the proceeds held for the poor of Bristol and Kendal, and also his mansion house, subject to the life tenancy of his wife; what this estate amounted to, is not clear, but although there are or were considerable mementoes of him as a benefactor at Bristol, the only allusions among *published* Kendal documents seem to be those in the *Boke of Record of Kirkbie Kendall*, already alluded to.

In this paragraph titled

A GODLY AND CHARITABLE GIFT

we learn that 120*£*, paid at different times by the executors of Mr. Robert Kitchener (*sic*) "a parishioner here born and late citizen and merchant of Bristol," should be "lent letten out and delivered unto four poor and needful persons inhabitants of the said borough and incorporation of Kirkbie Kendall tradesmen to have use and enjoy and occupy the same . . . according to the rate of five pounds apiece for every twenty pounds of the said six score pounds (120*£*) for the term, time and space of six yeares and so on from six years to six yeares gratis continually for ever,"* etc, which means that *£*120 were to be paid by the executors every six years, and each year *£*20 was to be distributed to four poor persons at rate of *£*5 each.

As far as Bristol goes, from Mauchee's "Report of the Charity Commissioners on Bristol Charities 1831," it would seem that part of the estate was laid out by the executors for the poor kindred of Kitchen and his wife Joan, "that is to say a Kitchen or a Satthfield (Sacheville) as should from time to time dwell within the said city." In 1738 it was found that 10*s.* was paid annually for a sermon to be preached at Kendal. In 1598 his executors

* *Boke of Record*, ed. by R. S. Ferguson (1892), p. 219.

devoted part of his estate to the erection of a covered market, apparently a butchers' market, and in 1600 helped towards enlarging the conduit on the Quay. His portrait hangs in the Council House and amongst the Civic Plate are pieces presented by him. These were a silver Salver and Ewer which were stolen during the Bristol riots, but afterwards recovered.* The sum of £400 was devoted to assisting young men in commencing business.

Visible mementoes to him also existed (or exist) in the city of Bristol. On a beam over the entrance to the new market in Broad Street there was at one time this inscription with the Kitchin Arms in the centre.

THIS BUILDING IS AT THE LATE ALDERMAN OF BRISTOL
CHARGE OF ROBERT FOR THE RELIEF OF
KYTCHIN, THE POOR.†

More curious still we read "outside the Exchange are four pillars of brass" (in the de Havilland Chronicle called bronze posts or tables) and on one is the following inscription:

THIS POST IS THE GIFT OF MASTER ROBERT KYTCHIN
MERCHANT SOMETIME MAIER AND ALDERMAN OF THIS
CITY WHO DEC 5 SEPTEMBER 1594.
COMMEMORAVERUNT INCOMMORABILIORA
PRÆTERMISERUNT COMMEMORABILIA
NEMO SIBI NASCITUR‡
HILAREM DATOREM DELIGIT DEUS§

and on the garter round the top of the Post

HIS EXECUTORS WERE FOWER OF HIS SERVANTS
JOHN BARKER MATHEW HAVILAND
ABELL KYTCHIN ALDERMAN OF THIS CITY
AND JOHN ROWBOROW SHERIFF 1630

* A rose water basin and ewer of silver gilt, hall marks 1595-6. *Transactions*, Bristol and Gloucester Arch. Soc. xv, 207.

† A Chronicle of the Ancient and Noble family of de Havilland. This beam seems to have been in place in 1861. In the Bristol Art Gallery there was the cast of another inscribed beam from his house in Small Street.

‡ Romans, xiv, 7.

§ Ep. St. Paul Corinthians, ix, 7.

Nearly all the information I have about the successors of Robert Kitchen I have embodied in the pedigree, and need not be repeated here. The first Abel Kitchen seems to have followed in his father's footsteps as Alderman, Sheriff and Mayor. In 1613 he presented, at Bristol, Queen Anne, wife of James I, with a richly embroidered purse of gold, and the same evening the Queen presented him with a fair ring of gold set with diamonds. This ring, with £60, he devised in his will dated 1639, making it apparently an heirloom. His son Abel the second was a barrister, and apparently the last male heir of the direct line.

Let us now turn to the other issue of William Kitchin of Hatfield. Besides Richard of Kendal, there were two other sons, John and Thomas. Of Thomas I know nothing, but John was the eldest son, and his family would have come first, if the Mayor of Bristol had not been the subject of this paper. This elder line is of some local interest. John settled in the north, and in 1543 he purchased for £798 8s. 6d. the site and demesne of Cockersand Abbey, which he had apparently farmed from 1539 under the crown.*

John Kitchin (described as of Pilling) married Jane Towneley;† and by her had a son Barnaby and a daughter Anne. Anne was dowered with the part of the estate containing Cockersand, and she married Robert Dalton of Bispham and so carried Cockersand to the Daltons.

Barnaby became rather a big man, for he married Anne, one of two daughters who became coheireses of Sir Richard Aughton of North Meols, on the death of her brother John without issue in 1550.

In right of his wife he thus became lord of one moiety

* The purchaser was apparently then of Hatfield. The grant included the site of the Abbey, Rycroft, Milnepasture, Moss-close, Beggars Close, Claymocre, the Grange in Pilling, and Cockshott in Ellel. Pat. Hen. VIII. pt. xii and xiii., Victoria County Hist., Lancashire, ii. 157, viii. 99, 102, 106.

† Dugdale's Visitation, Lancashire. Chetham Soc., lxxxviii.

of the manor of North Meols, which includes the present town of Southport. Even this moiety was a considerable estate, and Barnaby became a landowner, whose name frequently occurs. It would appear from a fine quoted by Mr. William Farrer that the pourparty of the Aughton inheritance which fell to Anne consisted of 3 manors and about 6220 acres of which, however, 3000 were heath, moor and marsh.* Anne died in 1572, thirty-one years before her husband. In 1574 at the Lancaster Levy he had to furnish: Almayne ryvettes j, Pyke j, Long bowe j, sheffe arrows j, steele cap j, calliver j, morriane j.

He died in 1603, like his wife at Meols Hall, so that the Kitchin moiety was in his possession for 53 years,† and at his Inquisition Post Mortem held at Preston Sept. 10, 1604, the Jury found that he was seised in right of his wife of a moiety of the manor of North Meols, a dove cote, a watermill, a windmill, 100 messuages, 40 cottages, 140 gardens, 1000 acres of land, 500 acres meadow, 1000 acres pasture, 1000 acres of turbary, 100 acres of wood, 1000 acres of land covered with water, etc.‡ at North Meols, Barton-by-Halsall, Thistleton, Formeby and Cornarowe. These estates were held of the King as of his Duchy of Lancaster by the 24th part of a Knight's fee.

Barnaby married again, and his second wife was a widow, by birth a Barton, and she lived till 1618. Now as far as I know he was the last male heir of this branch. But he left three daughters, one by his first wife Anne Aughton, and two by Alice Barton. Alice the daughter of his first wife was, of course, heiress to the Aughton Meols moiety and carried it to the Hesketh family, by her marriage with Hugh Hesketh, a natural son of Sir Thomas Hesketh of Ruffords, from whom it has descended to the present family of Hesketh who are still

* Wm. Farrer, "History of North Meols," p. 34.

† *Ibid.*, pp. 39, 44.

‡ See Wm. Farrer, History of North Meols, p. 44.

lords of one moiety of the manor and patrons of the living; and are, of course, descended from Barnaby Kitchin.

The two daughters by the second marriage, married Lancashire men of position; Anne to Richard Ashton of Croston, and Elizabeth to Nathaniel Banaster of Altham, (which marriages appear in Dugdale's Visitation), and thus became the ancestresses of well-known Lancastrians. Here ends my present knowledge of the Lancashire and Bristol Kitchens. But my pedigree shews that Robert of Bristol had at least four brothers, three of whom had issue, and quite possibly record of them exists.

APPENDICES.

I.

ARMS OF KITCHEN.

With reference to the arms of Robert Kitchen as shewn on his monument and portrait at Bristol, Mr. Archibald G. B. Russell, Lancaster Herald, writes me as follows:

"Robert Kytchin of Bristol appears in the original visitation of co. Somerset of 1622 as the second son of Richard Kytchin of Kendal, and Marryan Slacke of the said county his wife. His wife's name is given as Joan Sackeville. The Armorial bearings assigned in the Visitation were granted by Sir Gilbert Dethick, (Garter), as follows: Argent on a fesse quarterly, gules and azure, between three buzzards proper three fleurs de lys or. Crest a sheaf of arrows, points downwards or, tipped gules bound together by two ribbons intertwined gules and azure." On the monument this coat is impaled with Three crossbows bent each loaded with a five headed bolt *Sacheville*.

Kitchen of Lancashire. Argent on a chevron quarterly gules and sable between three bustards gu. beaked and legged or, three bezants. Crest, a buck's head coupéd sable guttee d'or the neck pierced with an arrow.

Granted by Baker, Garter, between 1536 and 1550, and confirmed to John Kytchin Feb. 12, 1578. (Farrer).

These arms, slightly varied, were quartered by Hesketh (1613) and Banaster.

II.

THE KITCHEN PORTRAIT.

The portrait of Robert Kitchen in the Council House at Bristol is of much interest. It shews Kitchen turned half to the right.

He wears a black cap, white ruff, a red gown, brown waistcoat and dark-sleeves. Gloves in right hand, and left hand on a book. The coat of arms without impalement but with full mantling on his left, and underneath "Obiit Ann^o etatis suæ 63." Below this in a white oval, a monogram (not a merchant's mark), which I think is intended to contain all the letters of his christian name and surname.

The portrait represents a very dignified and handsome man. He wears the pointed beard and moustache of the period; and his beard is inclined to be sandy, and going grey.

At the opposite side, the spectator's left, is an added inscription "Robert Kychen some | tyme Mayor and Al | derman of this city of | Brystoll and a Munificent | benefactor to y^e poore | of this city & to other | places of the Kingdom."

The portrait is of considerable merit as a picture, and was probably done soon after his death from an existing portrait. He does not look 63. (See Plate).

III.

After I had read this paper, my attention was called by Miss Belle Prickett of Hincaster and Miss F. M. Wilson of Kentrigg, Kendal, to the fact that in Mr. T. Jones' "History of Burneside" (1912, Kendal) there is some account of Robert Kitchen. This little book was printed while I was living in Kent, and is not in my library; but Miss Prickett kindly lent me her copy, and I can summarise the information which is not contained in my paper.

It seems probable that Richard Kitchen was of Burneside, since the Satturey Lands were bought in 1630 and 1643 for £138, and a trust deed was made in 1630, apportioning £3 6s. 8d. to a lecturer or minister at Burneside, and the remainder to be divided among the poor householders in Strickland Ketel and Strickland Roger. On p. 27, Mr. Jones quotes an indenture of March 27, 1631, by which Kitchen's executors made over £1000, the proceeds of the sale of the house in Small Street, to the Corporation of Bristol, and gives in some detail how it was distributed in Bristol. But it is probable that the larger portion of the Kendal bequest was for the town of Kendal as indicated by the wording of the will; and by the quotation (already given) from the Boke of Record. See also Whellan's Cumberland and Westmorland, 1860, p. 872, where Robert and Rowland Kitchen's charities are recorded.

