

ART. X.—*Heraldry at Holker Hall*. Recorded with notes by R. S. BOUMPHREY, M.A.

Read at Kendal, April 27th, 1974.

ALTHOUGH the heraldry at Holker Hall is on a very small scale compared with that at many other houses of similar size, it has been recorded because it illustrates the descent of the manor from the Prestons to the Lowthers of Marske, and from them to the Cavendish family; and also because it supplements the Cavendish heraldry in Barrow Town Hall, described in CW2 lxxiii 161-169.

I. STAINED GLASS WINDOW ON MAIN STAIRCASE (left to right).

1. Chequy Or and Azure a fess Gules a mullet and a crescent for difference (Clifford).
2. Sable three bucks' heads cabossed Argent (Cavendish); impaling, Gules on a bend between six cross crosslets Argent an escutcheon Or charged with a demi lion rampant pierced through the mouth by an arrow within a double tressure flory counterflory of the first (Howard).
3. Sable three bucks' heads cabossed Argent (Cavendish).
4. Or six annulets, three, two, and one, Sable, with the Badge of Ulster (Lowther, of Marske).

(The window also contains the monograms of William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, and the Cavendish crest, A serpent nowed Proper, charged with the Cavendish motto, Cavendo tutus).

II. STONE PANEL IN PORCH.

5. Quarterly, 1 & 4, Three bucks' heads cabossed; 2 & 3, A chevron Gules between three cross crosslets. Impaling, A chevron between three mascles Sable.

EXTERIOR.

III. STONE PANEL ABOVE MAIN ENTRANCE.

6. *Arms.* Cavendish (see 3), within a garter of the Order of the Garter. *Supporters.* Two bucks each wreathed round the neck with a chaplet of roses.

IV. STONE PANEL TO LEFT OF MAIN ENTRANCE (left to right).

7. [Argent] two bars [Gules] on a canton of the last a mullet [Or], a crescent for difference (Preston, of Holker).
8. Lowther (see 4).
9. Cavendish (see 3).
10. Cavendish, impaling Howard (see 2).

Notes.

(The numbers refer to those of the shields above.)

¹ The Barony of Clifford, created by writ 1628, came into the Cavendish family by the marriage, 1748, of William, Marquess of Hartington, later 4th Duke of Devonshire (1720-64), to Charlotte Elizabeth, Baroness Clifford (1731-54), dau. and heir of Richard Boyle, 4th Earl of Cork and 3rd Earl of Burlington, and Baron Clifford (1694-1753), great-grandson of Richard, 2nd Earl of Cork and 1st Earl of Burlington (1612-68), by Elizabeth, *de jure* Baroness Clifford (1613-91), dau. and heir of Henry Clifford, 5th Earl of Cumberland (1592-1643), who was effectively created Baron Clifford by writ, 1628. The barony fell into abeyance on the death unmarried, 1858, of William Spencer, 6th Duke of Devonshire.

² William, 7th Duke of Devonshire (1808-91), married 1829 Lady Blanche Georgiana Howard (died 1840), 4th daughter of George, 6th Earl of Carlisle.

⁴ The Cavendish family acquired Holker by devise from Sir William Lowther, 3rd and last Bart., of Marske, Yorkshire (died s.p. 1756), to his cousins, Lord George Augustus Cavendish (died unmarried 1794) and Lord Frederick Cavendish (died 1803).

⁵ I was informed at Holker that this impaled shield, which survived the fire of 1871, has not been identified. The tinctures are either very faint or non-existent, but Quarters 1 & 4 of the dexter coat appear to be Cavendish. On this assumption, Quarters 2 & 3 seem to represent Smith, Thomas Cavendish, of Cavendish Overhall (died 1523), having married (1) Alice (died 1515), daughter and coheir of John Smith, of Podbrook Hall, Suffolk; Burke's *General Armory* giving for Smith, of Suffolk — Argent a chevron between three cross crosslets Gules. The sinister coat is given by Papworth in the *Ordinary of British Armorials* for Parker, but I have not traced a Cavendish-Parker marriage.

⁷ The Preston family, of Preston Patrick, acquired an estate at Holker after the suppression of the priory at Cartmel, 1536. On the death of Thomas Preston, 1697, Holker passed with his daughter and heir, Catherine, to her husband, Sir William Lowther, 1st Bart., of Marske (died 1705). The mullet usually appears in the Preston arms as a cinquefoil.