

## Charles Balguy, M.D. (1708-1767.)

BY S. O. ADDY, M.A.



THE object of the following pages is to relate a few facts, all too brief as they are, respecting the life of a man of letters and a physician of eminence whose name has been almost forgotten. Though his later years were spent, and the work of his life was done, in another county, he was the son of a Derbyshire country gentleman, whose family had long been settled in the Peak. Two centuries ago, and later, the Balguys were possessed of large estates in Derbyshire. For several generations they seem to have been engaged in the profession and practice of law, and in adding one estate to another.\* Thomas Balguy was Recorder of Stamford, and member of Parliament for that city from 1597 to 1600. His son John Balguy, who in 1634 is described as "cousin" to William Earl of Exeter,† occupied his father's place as Recorder. From the Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire branch of the family was descended Thomas Balguy, elected Master of the Sheffield Grammar School in 1662. John Balguy was Recorder of Derby and a Judge on the Welsh circuit. Nicholas Balguy, of Magdalen College, Oxford, was Master of the Temple.

\* See *Yorkshire Diaries* (Surtees Society), and the *Register of Admissions at Gray's Inn*, now in course of publication in the *Collectanea Genealogica*. At the present day, in Derbyshire, when a question hard to be answered is proposed, the reply often is, "That beats Balguy." Mr. Benjamin Bagshawe, in an excellent paper in *The Reliquary*, relates how, upon the death of a member of this family, a large box was found in his room so tightly packed with guineas, placed edgeways, that they could not be got out.

† *Calendar of State Papers* (Domestic), 1634.

Charles Balguy, the subject of this article, was born in 1708. He was the younger of the two sons of Henry Balguy, Esq., of Derwent Hall, and Elizabeth, his wife, the daughter of Thomas Eyre, Esq., of Newbold, near Chesterfield. His elder brother Henry, who lived at Alfreton, seems to have inherited the family estates, and from him is descended the present head of the family, John Balguy, Esq., of Waltham House, Chelmsford, the Police Magistrate for Woolwich and Greenwich. There were five daughters—Ann, Dorothy, Mary, Catherine, and Elizabeth. I have not ascertained what became of the three elder girls, but on the 30th January, 1732-3, Catherine\* was married at Hathersage to Joseph Greaves, of Moscar House, in that parish, gentleman. Elizabeth married John Littlewood, of Bamford,† gentleman, and it will be seen hereafter that she became possessed of half the property of her brother Charles.

We may assume that Charles Balguy was born at Derwent Hall, for in the record of his matriculation at Cambridge he is described as the son of Henry Balguy, of Derwent. Over the principal doorway of the fine old hall in Derwent Dale, built or purchased by the Balguys in 1672, and now the country residence of His Grace the Duke of Norfolk, are carved the arms of Balguy. This house was, in fact, the principal‡ seat of the family before they

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\* She was buried at Hathersage, 29th November, 1768. I have a few of her books inscribed in her own beautiful handwriting "Kitty Greaves's Book, 1733," &c. Some of them are copies of *The Spectator*. Another is *The British Magazine* for 1760, containing Smollett's *Lancelot Greaves*, first published in that form. Her daughter, Elizabeth, was married at Dronfield, 1st May, 1775, to John Oldall, or Odell, of Cold Aston, gentleman, my great grandfather. Joseph Greaves made his will, 31st December, 1783, appointing John Oldall sole executor. It was proved by him at Lichfield, 29th April, 1784.

† 1764. Draft indenture between John Littlewood, of Bamforth, in the parish of Hathersage, gent., and Elizabeth his wife, of the one part, and Robert Newton, of Norton, co. Derby, Esq., of the other part. Conveyance of property at Hathersage for £600.—"Local Notes and Queries" of *The Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*.

‡ They had other residences and estates in the Peak. Amongst these may be mentioned Aston Hall, in Hope Parish, Hope Hall, Rowlee, and The Hagg. Aston Hall is now a farm house, and Rowlee is the residence of Mr. Charles Greaves. Hope Hall, immediately opposite the north side of the "restored" church, is now the village inn. It is an interesting building, and has some quaint old rooms and oil paintings, let into the panels, which once belonged to the Balguys, and were doubtless put there when the house was built. One of the paintings represents Danae in the shower of gold.

finally left the Peak district, after some centuries of residence there. The exterior of the house itself remains nearly as it was when first built. The gardens seem to have been little altered, the old trees are there, and the quaint and narrow bridge spans the Derwent. The Duke has added many rooms to the house, and he has filled it with specimens, more or less genuine, of old oak furniture. He has clothed its inner walls with oaken panels and carved work which once adorned picturesque mansions of the Elizabethan or Jacobean period.\* But we cannot make antiquity, and this miscellaneous collection of curious furniture, however rare and valuable some of the articles may be, forms no part of the history of Derwent Hall.

Charles Balguy was educated at the Chesterfield Grammar School, under the Rev. William Burrow, M.A. For many years the masters of this school were men of the first literary eminence, and the school maintained a high reputation during the latter half of the seventeenth, and nearly the whole of the eighteenth century. A writer in 1762 says that "the school is reckoned the most considerable of any in the north of England, and sends great numbers of men to the universities, particularly to Cambridge." Amongst others who were educated under the care of Mr. Burrow were Ellis Farnsworth, the translator of Machiavel; Halifax, Bishop of Gloucester; Dr. John Jebb, an eminent physician of the last century; and Erasmus Darwin, M.D., grandfather of the author of "The Origin of Species." Dr. Samuel Pegge,† the antiquary, and Secker, Archbishop of Canterbury, were also educated at this school.‡

Leaving the Chesterfield Grammar School at the age of eighteen,

\* Some of the finest of the oak wainscot was removed from Norton House, Derbyshire, pulled down by Mr. Charles Cammell in 1877.

† He was about three years older than Dr. Balguy, having been born at Chesterfield, 5th November, 1704. Admitted pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, 30th May, 1722. He was sworn fellow of St. John's, 21st March, 1726, O. S., Balguy being at that time an undergraduate at the same College. Pegge's father was a lead merchant in Chesterfield, and Mayor of that town. His mother was Gertrude, daughter of Francis Stephenson, of Unston, near Dronfield.

‡ See Hall's *History of Chesterfield* (ed. 1839), p. 191, *et seq.*

Charles Balguy was admitted pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, on the 5th July, 1725. His tutor was Mr. B. Edmundson. He did not proceed in arts, but took the degree of Bachelor of Medicine in 1731.

In 1734 he contributed to the *Transactions of the Royal Society* an account of "the dead bodies of a man and woman preserved 49 years in the Moors of Derbyshire." He is then described as of Peterborough, and I presume that he was then practising physic in that city. The account he gives is so curious that I venture to give it at length, quoting, however, the abridgement of the *Philosophical Transactions*.\*

"These two persons were lost in a great snow on the moors, in the parish of Hope, near the Woodlands, in Derbyshire, January 14th, 1674, and not being found till the 3rd of May following, the snow lasting probably the greater part of that time, they then smelt so strong that the Coroner ordered them to be buried on the spot. They lay in the peat moors 28 years 9 months before they were looked at again, when some countrymen, having observed the extraordinary quality of this soil in preserving dead bodies from corrupting, were curious enough to open the ground to see if these persons had been so preserved, and they found them in no way altered, the colour of their skin being fair and natural, their flesh soft as that of persons newly dead. They were afterwards exposed for a sight 20 years, though they were much changed in that time by being so often uncovered, and in 1716 their condition was as follows, viz:—The man perfect, his beard strong, and about a quarter of an inch long, the hair of his head short, his skin hard and of a tanned leather colour, pretty much the same as the liquor and earth they lay in. The woman by some rude people had been taken out of the ground, to which one may well impute her greater decay; one leg was off, the flesh decayed, the bone sound; on her face the upper lip and tip of her nose decayed, but no where else. Her hair was long and springy, like that of a living person. They were afterwards buried in Hope Church,

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\* *Philosophical Transactions*, No. 434, p. 413.



where viewing them some time after it was found they were entirely consumed.\* They had lain about a yard deep in the soil or moist moss, but without any water in the place. When their stockings were drawn off, the man's legs, which had never been uncovered before, were quite fair; the flesh, when pressed with the finger, pitted a little, and the joints played freely and without the least stiffness; the other parts were much decayed. What was left of their clothes (for people had cut away the greater part as a curiosity) was firm and good. The woman had on a piece of new serge, which seemed never the worse."

He contributed to the "Medical Essays" in 1736.† Dr. Pegge says that he married at Peterborough. As Pegge was an accurate genealogist, and must have been well acquainted with Balguy both at school and college, I cannot think that he was mistaken. Yet there is no mention of wife or children in his will or on his monument. Nor have I succeeded in finding any clue to his marriage in the parish registers of Peterborough. He seems to have been on terms of intimate friendship with the Misses Eleanor and Sarah Hake, a name well known in Peterborough a century ago. To the former he left half his property, and it seems probable that he was related to these ladies by marriage.

The house which he occupied at Peterborough is that which "had in its front in plaster two boars' heads‡ with a bend or dagger in them, which dagger was found in the Isle of Ely, and lent to Dr. Stukely, who promised to return it, but gave it to the Duke of Montague." He was Secretary to the Peterborough Literary Society,§ and a member of the parent Spalding Society.

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\* See more on this subject in Cox's *Churches of Derbyshire*, vol. II., p. 266, *et seq.*, also p. 237.

† Allibone's *Dictionary of Authors*.

‡ His family crest was a bear passant, proper, collared and chained, *or*.

§ The founder of the Peterborough Society was Dr. Timothy Neve. Writing from that city in 1741, Dr. Neve says:—"Since I came to settle in this place I have instituted a society of gentlemen, most of University education, who meet every Wednesday evening, whereof the Dean is president, and myself secretary. We are near twenty regular members, and about a hundred honorary . . . . We have a pretty large collection of curiosities, natural and artificial, such as shells, minerals, petrifications, prints, medals, etc., etc., which now and then amuse us a little, and give us the appearance of meeting to do something else than smoke a pipe or drink a bottle."—Nichol's *Literary Anecdotes*, vol. VI.

The latter numbered amongst its members Pope, Gay, the two Wesleys, and Sir Isaac Newton, and its transactions show that it did better and more lasting work than the giving of popular lectures. It was, in fact, a learned society.\*

In 1741, when he was 33 years old, he published a translation of *The Decameron*. The volume is a closely and well printed octavo of 591 pages. Its title page is The | Decameron, | or | Ten Days Entertainment | of | Boccace | Translated from the Italian | London : | Printed for R. Dodsley at Tully's Head in Pall Mall | MDCCXLI.

It is dedicated "to Backe Thornhill, Esq.,"† and was published anonymously. In his preface, speaking of *The Decameron*, the translator says—"This hath been reprinted an infinite number of times, and translated into diverse languages. Two translations there are in French that have come to my knowledge, and the same number in our own language, if they may be stiled so, for such liberties are taken everywhere in altering everything according to the people's own taste and fancy, that a great part of both bears very little resemblance to the original." The translations to which he probably refers are that of William Paynter, who, in 1570, published a translation of sixty of Boccaccio's novels under the title of *The Palace of Pleasure*, and Jaggard's folio of 1625. Of the former of these it is well known that Shakespeare made great use.

We have it on the authority of Burton, the author of *The Anatomy of Melancholy*, that in his day the novels of Boccaccio were commonly related at English firesides. We may well imagine that in the hill country of Derbyshire, where news was scarce and travellers were few, old stories and traditions would be often repeated. Such a man as Charles Balguy, with his love of

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\* See Nichol's *Literary Anecdotes*, VI., pp. 4, 74, 122, and *History of the Spalding Society* (Nichol's), 1784.

† Bache Thornhill, of Stanton. He married (1) Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas Coke, of Melbourne, knight of the shire, and Vice-Chamberlain to George I., and (2) in 1742, Margaret, dau. of Anthony Eyre, of Rampton and Grove, co. Notts. She was descended from the Eyres of Newbold, co. Derby. It will have been noticed that Charles Balguy's mother was a Miss Eyre of Newbold.

books and his fondness for natural science, must have heard and remembered many of these. Though his life was mostly spent in the flat fens of Northamptonshire he could not forget the loveliness of the Derbyshire valleys, and the poetry which lingered there.\*

In his boyhood members of his family had espoused the cause of James Stuart, the Pretender.† Had he lived in our time, he might have forsaken the older scholarship and written a good novel or two. As it was, he practised physic, and contented himself with translating the "Decameron." In 1741 the modern novel had hardly been "invented." Richardson, himself a Derbyshire man, had only published the first part of his "Pamela" in 1740, at the very time when Balguy was engaged in turning the most famous collection of novels in the world into English prose. Fielding had published nothing but pamphlets and essays. Smollett was a surgeon's mate on board a ship of the line, and did not publish his first novel till 1748, nor his translation of Don Quixote till 1755. The modern novel was really begun by Addison's "Roger de Coverley," and besides that there was nothing to read in 1741 but old volumes of romances, printed in folio, and often inexpressibly dull and tedious.

My own copy of Balguy's translation was described by Mr.

\* The making of ballads, and sometimes of lampoons, could not have been uncommon in the Peak district. In 1742 a reference was held before Joseph Hall, of Bamford, touching "the making, singing, and publishing a song." An action for libel had been brought in the Exchequer.—"Local Notes and Queries" of *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent*.

† See some letters written in 1717 by Philippa Balguy, fourth daughter of Henry Balguy, Esq., of Hope Hall, to a young Mr. Heaton, in Sheffield, who supplied her with news about politics and the movements of the Pretender. She writes to him of the birth of a Royal Prince as "the birth of a Royal whelp." In one of her letters she says, "You had better by half send me a lover, or put me in a way to get one, for they are very scarce in the Peak." (*Reliquary* xxii. 44). Heaton seems to have admired her eldest sister, Frances, whom she describes to him as "killing Mistriss Fanny," "resplendent Mistriss Fanny," etc. Frances did not marry him, but the Rev. W. Lucy, D.D., Rector of Hampton Lucy. The Heatons seem to have lived near the Charity School, Sheffield, for on the 2nd Feb., 1726, Thomas Heaton, ironmonger, leased to John Balguy, then of Sheffield, clerk, part of his garden near the Charity School to build a house upon.—L. N. & Q. of *Sheffield Independent* (15th March, 1877).

Quaritch, of whom I bought it, as being bound in "bright old calf." The stories themselves are bright as Italian skies. If the novels of Boccaccio and the tales of Chaucer give true pictures of the times, life must have been a joke in the fourteenth century. Chaucer's heart was light enough, but Boccaccio's was lighter. Chaucer put his stories into the mouths of pilgrims journeying to Canterbury; Boccaccio's Florentine young men and women coolly go a pic-nic into the country to avoid the awful Black Death, they dance and sing, and during their sojourn there relate stories which have moved the laughter of the world for centuries. We are reminded of another and older Italian writing to his Lesbia—

"Vivamus mea Lesbia atque amemus,  
Rumoresque senum severiorum  
Omnes unius aestimemus assis."

But we are concerned here with one of the worthies of Derbyshire, and not with the history of romance. It was Charles Balguy's task to present those old stories in a fair English dress, and he accomplished that task well.\* His English is always pure, and some parts of his prose translation read like poems. His metrical versions have no great merit. They are merely such as a scholarly writer would make in an age when everybody imitated Pope. His prose has the true Addisonian ring, and the archaisms which have been altered in subsequent editions have no uncouthness to the literary eye.† Whether Balguy had ever lived in Italy I know not, but he had certainly a scholarly acquaintance

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\* It need hardly be said here that many of the stories are licentious, but not more so than those of Chaucer, who, as is well known, borrowed from Boccaccio. Yet it appears to me that they always render vice ridiculous, and never attractive.

† In a modern, undated edition of "The Decameron" (Chatto & Windus) with Stothard's plates, and an introduction by Thomas Wright, M.A., the well known antiquarian writer, no mention is made of the edition of 1741, though it is re-printed, word for word, from that translation, with modernized spelling and some unnecessary alterations. Two novels are, however, given partly in French and Italian, which, for obvious reasons, Balguy thought it proper to omit. Several other editions have been printed, either without acknowledgment, or with a bare reference to the edition of 1741.

with Italian literature, and when we take into account his attainments in medicine, and his knowledge of the Latin language, in which he wrote a scientific treatise, there seems no reason to doubt the judgment written on his monument—that he was “a man of various and great learning.”

In 1750 he was made Doctor of Medicine at Cambridge.

In 1758 he wrote *Epistola de Morbo Miliari*. It was published in London, but I have in vain endeavoured to procure a copy. I gather, however, from its title, that it is a short Latin treatise on some form of pulmonary disease.

In his will he mentions an estate which he had bought at Colne, near St. Ives, in Huntingdonshire.

For some of the facts contained in this article I have to thank Professor Mayor, of Cambridge; Messrs. Green and Mellor, solicitors, of St. Ives; and Messrs. Percival and Son, solicitors, of Peterborough. But especially I must acknowledge my indebtedness to the Rev. W. D. Sweeting, Vicar of Maxey, and late Head Master of the Peterborough Grammar School, for the researches kindly made in that city. My thanks are also due to William H. Weldon, Esq., Windsor Herald.

I subjoin as appendices the will of Dr. Balguy and his epitaph, some pedigrees from the College of Arms, abstracts of Court Rolls, and a very interesting communication from the Rev. W. D. Sweeting.

## A

### WILL OF DR. BALGUY.

“I Charles Balguy of the City of Peterborough Doctor of Physick make this my last Will and Testament as follows First I remit to M<sup>rs</sup> Eleanor Hake and M<sup>rs</sup> Sarah Hake all sums of money advanced by me for their use amounting to four hundred and sixty pounds for which I have M<sup>rs</sup> Eleanor Hake’s note dated Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1766 which I hereby cancel or declare of no form or

effect I also give and devise unto M<sup>rs</sup> Eleanor Hake and her heirs for ever All my Copyhold Estate lands and tenements at Colne in the County of Huntingdon purchased of Robert Pigott Esq<sup>re</sup> and of William and Edward Burton to a certain part of which she has already an equitable right And to my sister M<sup>rs</sup> Elizabeth Littlewood Wife of M<sup>r</sup>. John Littlewood and to her heirs for ever I give and devise all my Copyhold Estates in Peterborough aforesaid consisting of an House in tenure of M<sup>r</sup>. Thomas Bowker and a piece of Ground called the Holt in my own occupation Lastly all my ready money securitys for money books furniture and all my personal Estate whatsoever I give equally between the said Eleanor Hake and Elizabeth Littlewood whom I appoint Joint Executrixes of this my last Will and Testament In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the sixteenth day of February in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven.

“ Ch: Balguy (L.S)

“ Signed sealed published and declared by the aforesaid Charles Balguy as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who in his presence and at his request have set our hands as witnesses hereto Ashby Dean Eli Miller Tho. Bowker.”

“ On the 13th June 1767 the Ex'ors in the within written Will named were then at the Petition of Smith their Proctor sworn faithfully to perform the same according to law and so forth before me

Geo. Jefferys, Sur.”

He died a few days after signing his will. He was buried in the chancel of St. John Baptist's Church, Peterborough. On one of the chancel piers is a marble tablet, with this inscription :

*Near* this Place  
lie interr'd the Remains  
of CHARLES BALGUY M.D.  
a Man of strict Integrity,  
various and great learning,  
and of distinguished eminence  
in his Profession. Which  
He exercised, thro a Course  
of many Years in this City.  
He died March y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>. 1767  
Aged 59 Years.

Underneath are sculptured his armorial bearings, viz., *or*, three lozenges, *azure*, two and one, surmounted by the crest a bear passant, proper, collared and chained, *or*.

## B.

**Balgay.**

From "Vincent's Derby."

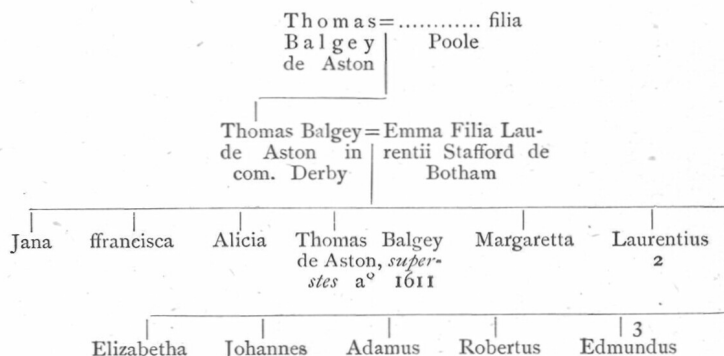
Page 1 is headed, "The gentlemen of name and arms in the countie of Darbie, Anno dni. 1569 11<sup>o</sup> Elizabeth."

The shield of "Balgey of Aston" is left blank on this page.

Page 27—"Georgius Eyre dux. fil. Tho. Balgey de Aston in com. Derby." = From the Ped. of Eyre of Padley.

Λ

Page 184.  
A shield left blank.



C. 34 ("Visitation of Derbyshire," 1662) fo. 59<sup>b</sup>.

\*Emma dau<sup>r</sup> of Lawrence = ..... Balgay  
Stafford of Bothams Hall of Aston  
in the parish of Glossop  
co. Derby

\* A brother of hers died about 1610.



C.

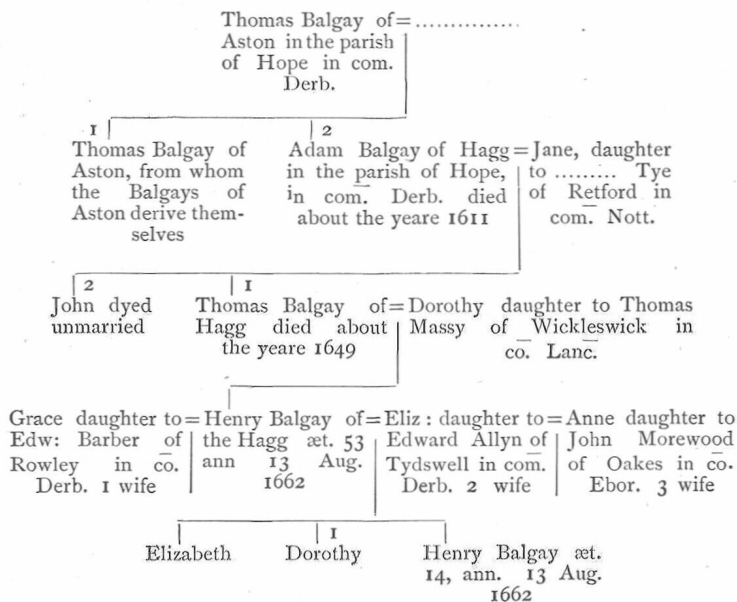
Balgay of Hagg.

Bakewell,

13 Aug.

This cote and crest is respited for prooffe till Michaellmass Terme next.

No prooffe made.



(Signed) HENRY BALGAY.

The above is taken from the original "Visitation of Derbyshire," A.D. 1662, fo. 81.

William H. Weldon,

Windsor Herald, May, 1881.

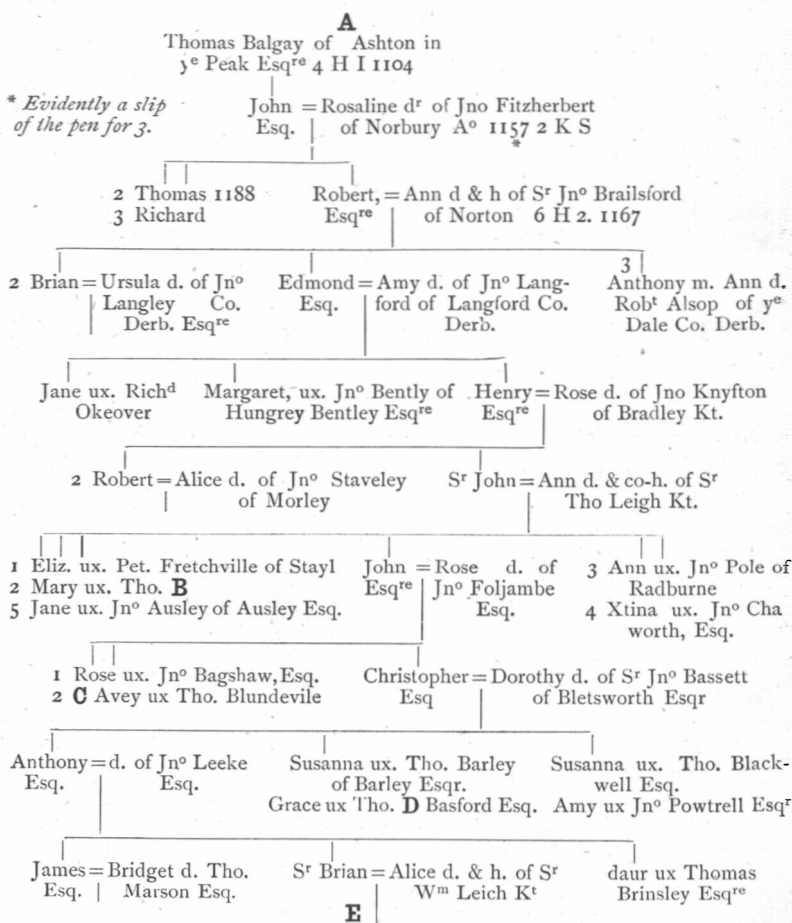
## D.

## Balgay.

[1.

The following is taken from "Pegge's Collections," Vol. VI. :—

The Genealogie of y<sup>e</sup> Surname of Balgay sometimes written Balguay, anciently Lords of y<sup>e</sup> manor of Baguley Co. Cestr. brought down to y<sup>e</sup> Person of Henry Balgay of Hagg Co. Derb. Gent. faithfully Collected & Copied from an old Pedigree & other authentic Proofs by Jn<sup>o</sup> Taylor at the Lute in Fleet street.





## E.

**Balgay.**

[2.

The following is taken from "Pegge's Collections," Vol. VI. :—

The foregoing Pedigree is of no great authority as to y<sup>e</sup> upper part of it, for y<sup>t</sup> *Taylor* was only an Herald Painter.

It appears to me from an inspection of *Sr Peter Leycester* p. 217 that they took Baguley and Balguy for y<sup>e</sup> same Name, but q. as also whether there be any Proof y<sup>t</sup> Balguy was ever Lord of Baguley Co. Cestr.

In consequence of this Error, for such I suspect it to be, they gave to Balguy the Arms of Baguley for see *Leycester* p. 216. No Arms in my Book, f. 13, b. So there f. 4 Balguy of Aston is an *usurper*.

This Roll was lent me 1759 by Mr. Henry Balguy who writes his Name Balgay. I take it to be Scotch, viz., the two last syllables of Strabolgie.

**A** Ashton y<sup>e</sup> same as Aston.

**B** q. the Name of Mary's Husband.

**C** Avey, f. Amy, for her Niece is so called.

**D** Basford, suppose should be Beresford, for y<sup>e</sup> Coat is Beresford's. Two sisters of the same name, Susanna, q.

**E** The Balguys of Derwent are a younger branch ; q. if any of the elder branch is now remaining.

**F** Hagg, q. where this is? 'tis different from Hagg in Staveley Par.

The line of Thomas of Aston is not carried on. I take it y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Pedigree in my Book f. 13, b is this line, thus :

(Here follows the Ped. from "Vincent's Derby," page 184. W. H. W., W. H.)

**Balguy.**

non probauit Arma.

John Balguy of London merchant = Joane dau. of John Lucas of . . . in Co. Essex. *Nuncupative Will made 9 March, 1603, then a widow of Stamford, proved 18 May, 1604; buried at St. George's, Stamford, 9 May, 1604.*

Daniell ob. s. ple, of London, = Margaret Elizabeth wife of Thomas Balguy of Stamford in Co. Linc. = Alice dau. of Fran. Harrington of overeer of his brother's will, . . . . . pro- John Mon- Recorder of that towne, chosen 29 Sep., 30 April, 1607, citizen and ved her husband's gen of John Mon- 1594; will dated 30 April, 1606, proved 5 Dec., 1607; M.P. for Stamford, 1597-1001. Buried at St. George's, Stamford, 1004, proved (in C. P. C.) 3 Jan., 1608-9.

Thomas 2 Some Frideswide Harrington John Balguy Recor- = Francis Sence 2 Elizabeth, Margaret, Anne, men-  
? Rector of Stoke Doyle, wife of Phill. Balguy, 3 der of Stamford now dau. of tioned in her  
Co. Northants, who Capper of son, bap. at living 1634 eldest Fran. Stamf. George's, father's will;  
died 16, and was there Wanstead in St. George's, somegent. Recorder Morice, Will pro- Stamf. George's, buried at St.  
buried, 17 May, 1653, Essexminster Stamford, 8 29 Aug., 1649, re- Clark of ved 22 19 Oct., George's,  
et. 57. = Mary . . . . . 24, and un- married 30 buried there May, 1603; 1000-1; born at the ordi- May, 1658 Stamf. Dec., 1607, bur- George's, 22  
A married 30 April, 1606, 3 Dec., 1607. Castle Bytham. Will nances; by John ed there 6 Jan., 1608-9.  
surviving 1653. proved 4 Nov., 1662 Stamf. George's, Sep., 1653.  
(in C. P. C.)

Alice 2 bap. Eliza- Theodosia 4 Frances Agnes 5 Susanna 6 bap. Mary, 7 dau., John Balguy, only s n, bap. at Anne, 8  
at St. Mar- beth 3 bap. at St. eldest dau. at St. George's, Stamford, 15 Aug., dau., bap.  
tin's, in George's, 28 Stamf., 23 April, 1632; admitted to freedom of St.  
Stamford about ii April, 1632; fford, 15 March, 1660-1; George's,  
Baron, Co. July, 1629, years buried her fa- 1636, buried entered at Gray's Inn; bound Stamford,  
North-ton 27 died before 16 old 1634 her's will, 4 there, May, to Mr. Wiuel, 10 April,  
April, 1626. Sep., 1657. Nov., 1662. 1640.

The above is from the Herald's *Visitation of Lincolnshire, 1634*; the portions printed in italics from the private collections of a brother Officer of Arms. Signed Jo. BALGUY.  
May, 1881. William H. Weldon, Windsor Herald.

## G.

## MANOR OF PETERBOROUGH.

1753, *Nov. 6th*.—Chas. Balguy, of Peterborough, Doctor of Physic, admitted on a surrender made to his use by George Kitchin to a part of a holt or ozier ground in Peterborough, divided by a ditch from the other part abutting on a close of Sarah and Eleanor Hake.

1756, *Nov. 16th*.—Chas. Balguy, Doctor of Physic, admitted on a surrender of Wm. Stacey to two Copyhold cottages within the said Manor, in a place called Priestgate Lane, next a messuage of Mrs. Hake West.

1767, *May 26th*.—Death of Doctor Balguy presented at a Court then held. Seized to himself and his heirs of a Customary Messuage, with the outbuilding in Priestgate Lane, which was formerly two Tenements, and lately rebuilt in one, and late the estate of Wm. Stacey; then in tenure of Tho. Bowker. And also of part of a willow holt, late the estate of George Kitchin. Mrs. Littlewood admitted.

1773, *Dec. 6th*.—At an Adjourned Court then held it is stated that John Littlewood and Elizabeth his wife, who was the sister of Charles Balguy, deceased, surrendered the piece of pasture or meadow, late called a holt or ozier ground, being then laid to a Close of Eleanor and Sarah Hake, Spinsters, to the use of the said Eleanor Hake, her heirs and assigns. Eleanor Hake admitted.

1774, *April 21st*.—It was presented that on 21st April, 1773, John Littlewood, of March, Isle of Ely, and County of Cambridge, Farmer, and Elizabeth his wife, sister of Chas. Balguy, surrendered the messuage in Priestgate Lane to the said Elizabeth Littlewood for her life. Remainder to the said John Littlewood for his life. Remainder to the use of George Littlewood, their eldest son, his heirs and assigns for ever, charged with the payment of £100 to

Chas. Littlewood, and Ann, wife of Anthony Worrall, son and daughter of the said John and Elizabeth Littlewood, within 12 months after the death of the said John and Elizabeth. The said John Littlewood admitted for his life. Memorandum in margin of Court Roll as to payment of the £100. From this Ann Worrall appears to have re-married one John Stringer.

1780, *Jan. 17th.*—Court held. Surrender of 21st of April, 1773 recited, and deaths of John Littlewood and Elizabeth his wife. Presented that George Littlewood was also dead without having been admitted, and that the said Charles Littlewood, then of March aforesaid, Farmer and Grazier, was the surviving son of the said John and Elizabeth Littlewood, and brother and heir at law of the said George Littlewood, to whom the said customary premises descended, and to which he was admitted.

1789, *April 22nd.*—Presentment of Surrender from Chas. Littlewood, late of March and then of Tyd St. Giles, in the said Isle and County, Grazier, of the said messuage, to the use of Jane Puckney, who was admitted.

## H.

On the floor at the E. end of the chancel at Stoke Doyle Church, co. Northants.

## P. M. S.

HIC IVXTA SITVS EST THOMAS BALGUY S. T. B.

RECTOR HVIVS ECCLÆ PER XX ANNOS

OBIT 16<sup>o</sup> MAIJ, ÆTATIS SVÆ 58. D<sup>NI</sup> 1653

Relicta posuit moestissima MARIA.

[The chancel was, by license of the Bishop of Peterborough, pulled down in 1722, and a new one built. The old monuments, inscriptions, etc., were to be preserved, and this seems to have been done, after taking copies, by leaving those that were in the floor in their places, and covering them with earth six or eight inches deep—burying them in fact. No other monument or

inscription is now to be seen to the Balguy family. but this notice is preserved amongst the copies made at the time when the church was pulled down.]

“On one of the Pillars on y<sup>e</sup> North side of y<sup>e</sup> said Chancel, hung a Wooden frame, abt 3 ft. long, and 19 Inches brood, in Memory of Frances Balguy daughter of Tho. Balguy, Rector, and of Mary his Wife, the daughter of Tho. Westfield late L<sup>d</sup> Bp of Bristoll. The s<sup>d</sup> Frances dyed 27 April, 1650. Scarce 6 months old. Under y<sup>e</sup> Inscription are y<sup>e</sup> Arms of Balguy and Westfield in a Lozenge, and y<sup>n</sup> some Verses, w<sup>ch</sup> I omitt, here supposing y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> frame will find a Place in y<sup>e</sup> New Church.”

The frame has *not* been preserved. The crescent for difference on the tomb of the Rector shows him to have been the second son. He was Rector from 1632 to 1653. The only entries I find in the register are the baptism of his children—

1646. 2 Ap. Mary.  
 1648. 2 June Edward.  
 1649. 14 Nov. Frances.  
 1651. 25 Ap. Adolphus.

And these two from the burials—

1650. 28 Ap. Frances Balguy the daughter of Thomas Balguy, Rector, and of Maria his wife was buried.  
 1653. May 16. Tho. Balguy Rector ecclesiae Diem obiit.  
 May 17. Tho. Balguy Rector ecclesiae sepultus.

[He made some alterations and improvements in the Rectory House; and a handsome bay window, embattled, has his initials and the date 1633 T. B.]\*

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\* *Ex inform.* Rev. W. D. Sweeting.