

## SIR ROGER MYNOURS OF DUFFIELD.

By H. C. B. MYNORS.

THE effigy of Sir Roger Mynours (Meynours) in the church of Duffield has been well described in this *Journal* by the Rev. Henry Lawrance and Mr. T. E. Routh<sup>1</sup>: but they relied on J. C. Cox for their account of the man himself, and thereby dated the effigy some thirty years too early. Roger Mynours was born not later than 1478,<sup>2</sup> the eldest son of Richard Mynours of Treago, co. Hereford, who was an usher of the King's chamber in 1484,<sup>3</sup> sheriff of co. Hereford 1500-01,<sup>4</sup> and died in March, 1528.<sup>2</sup> The date of Roger's earliest connection with Derbyshire is not known, but it may have begun with his marriage not later than November 29th, 1501 (not in 1507) to Alice, widow of Nicholas Knyveton of Myrcaston<sup>5</sup> who had died May 14th, 1500.<sup>6</sup> She was a daughter of Sir William Myll of Harescombe, co. Glos.<sup>7</sup>

Roger Mynours was present at the funeral of Henry VII in May, 1509, as a gentleman usher, and at the coronation of Henry VIII as serjeant of the cellar, which latter office he held until after 1520.<sup>8</sup> He was sheriff of co's. Notts. and Derby in 1513-14,<sup>4</sup> and Henry VIII granted him the manor of Wyndleyhill in Duffield and the lease of the manor of Wirksworth. He was knighted at Windsor on June 20th, 1527,<sup>9</sup> and is recorded as a knight of the shire for co. Derby in 1529,<sup>8</sup> as well as on numerous commissions of the peace, etc.

On his father's death, Sir Roger succeeded to his lands in co. Hereford, but in his will dated December 16th, 1534,<sup>10</sup> he left his mortuary "to the parsons of Duffield church where my most abode is." He also left £10 to be "bestowed upon a tomb for myself and my wife". He died at the end of 1536 (not shortly after 1514 and in his father's lifetime) leaving no issue, and was succeeded by his second brother, Thomas. Alice survived her husband and died January 19th, 1539,<sup>11</sup>

leaving instructions that her body was to be buried "in the parish church of St. Alkmond in Duffield as near the place where my said late husband lies as conveniently may be."<sup>12</sup> The woman's effigy now at Duffield is hers, not that of a fictitious first wife: and the monument may be dated to about 1540 and not to some date shortly before 1507. The arms on the monument are those of Sir Roger himself,<sup>13</sup> which are an elaboration of the arms of Mynours of co. Hereford, and those of Myll of co. Glos. The crest is correctly described as a hand holding a bear's paw (not a lion's gamb), probably for "main-ours".

## NOTES.

- <sup>1</sup> *D.A.J.*, n.s. II (1926-27) "Derbyshire Military Effigies", p. 50.
- <sup>2</sup> Inq.p.m. Richard Mynours (C 142/80/166, E150/428/2) dated 14 Oct. 1528, when Roger was "of the age of 50 years and above".
- <sup>3</sup> Patent Rolls 2 Ric. III.
- <sup>4</sup> P.R.O. Lists and Indexes, IX.
- <sup>5</sup> Patent Rolls 17 Hen. VII.
- <sup>6</sup> Inq.p.m. Nicholas Knyveton (C Series II vol. 15, 54 bis.)
- <sup>7</sup> Brit. Mus. MS Harl. 6726 f. 129, and fragments of stained glass in the church of St. Weonards, co. Hereford, to which Sir Roger and his wife gave a window.
- <sup>8</sup> Letters and Papers of Henry VIII (Record Office publications) .
- <sup>9</sup> Brit. Mus. MS Cotton Claudius C111 f. 102v.
- <sup>10</sup> P.C.C. 5 Dyngeley, proved 9 May, 1537.
- <sup>11</sup> Inq.p.m. Dame Alice Mynours (C142/64/156, E150/751/2).
- <sup>12</sup> Will P.C.C. F19 Crumwell; dated 6 Mar., 1538, proved 26 Feb., 1539.
- <sup>13</sup> Visitation of Wales 1530 by William Fellow.