

## CUCKFIELD FAMILIES: THE WARDENS.

BY THE REV. CANON J. H. COOPER, VICAR OF CUCKFIELD.

THAT the Wardens were in the front rank of Sussex families is evident from the fact that their earliest representative at Cuckfield refused to compound for knighthood in 1629, "though fitt and able."<sup>1</sup> They are supposed to have resided in West Sussex, but I have been unable to find any records of their having lived there. The first JOHN WARDEN, "of Findon," acquired Butler's Green,<sup>2</sup> in Cuckfield, soon after 1600, and took a prominent part in parish affairs.<sup>3</sup> He was churchwarden four times between 1622 and 1629, and is described as "yeoman" and afterwards as "gent." He died in 1649 and was buried at Cuckfield.<sup>4</sup> His will, dated May 17th, 1649,<sup>5</sup> gives to his son John,<sup>6</sup> "dwelling in the parish of Cuckfield, twelve pence if it be demanded," the same to his son Walter [of Burpham], and to his "daughter Jane, dwelling in Chichester," and to his nieces, Marie Agush, and Marie Kempshall twelve pence each; to his "wife Jane and her heirs the lands lying in Boldnie called by the name of Westland woods," and "all the Parsonage tythes of Cuckfield not before given to my son John; all the rest of my goods, within doors and without, to my dearly beloved wife Jane, whom I make my whole and

<sup>1</sup> S.A.C., Vol. XVI., p. 49.

<sup>2</sup> Probably from Boteler. Among the "Ancient Deeds" of the Record Office, I. c., 1375, is the "Demise by Rich. Tanner, of Lyndefeld, to Millicent, relict of Thos. Boteler, sen., of Cokefeld, of lands in the parishes of Cokefeld, Lyndefeld, Wyvelsfeld, &c., Feb. 1, Richard III., 1483." Henricus le Boteller was M.P. for Horsham during the reign of Richard II.

<sup>3</sup> The earliest appearance of his name in the register is 1613, "buried an Infant the sonne of John Warden of Butler's Green."

<sup>4</sup> "1649. May 24. John Warden buried." Cuckfield Register.

<sup>5</sup> P.C.C., Grey, f. 12. I am indebted to Mr. Garraway Rice for this abstract; also Chichester Register, XXI., f. 358.

<sup>6</sup> The dates of his children's baptisms are: 1614, Marie; 1618, John; 1621, Walter; 1623, Jane. Cuckf. Reg.

sole executrix." Signed, John Warden, sen., in the presence of William Francklin the elder, clarke, William Francklin the younger. Proved Jan. 28th, 165<sub>9</sub>, by Jane Warden, relict. She died in 1653. Her will,<sup>7</sup> dated April 1st, 1653, describes her as of Cuckfield, and widow of John Warden, sen. She leaves half of the £200 due to her from the executors of Mrs. Mary Porter, late of Ringmer, to her eldest son, John Michell; to her son, John Warden, the long table and sideboards of the house where she now dwells; to Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Hardham, and to Anne and Mary Kempshall, two of her granddaughters, 20/- apiece; to Mary Agate, one of her grandchildren, £100, "which my son John oweth me," she to be sole executrix. Abraham Pelham, of Cuckfield, and Alexander Bridger, of Lindfield, overseers; John and William Courthopp, witnesses. Proved April 18th, 1654, John Luxford, curator, assigned to Mary Agate, otherwise Gates.

At the Inq. p.m. of John Michell, yeoman, who died 28th December, 1615, the jury said, "That Jane Warden, now wife of John Warden, and late wife of the said John Michell, and Ann Michell, her daughter, and James Michell, his son, are still living at Est Grinstead, 1622." 20 James I., Inq., Ser. II., Vol. 394, No. 35.

JOHN WARDEN the second, born at Butler's Green in 1618, married Susan Pickham in 1640.<sup>8</sup> She had no children, and died in 1650. He very soon married again and had eight children by his second wife, Anne—John, born February, 1653;<sup>9</sup> Anne, b. 1656, died 1660; Mary, b. 1659; Walter, b. 1661; Susanna, b. 1654 (married, 1684, Robert Chatfield); Sarah, b. 1669, died 1684; Thomas, b. 1671<sup>10</sup> (married Prudence Sergison); Jane, b. 1674. He died in 1677,<sup>11</sup> and left a lengthy will<sup>12</sup>

<sup>7</sup> P.C.C., Alchin, f. 403.

<sup>8</sup> "1640. July 1. John Warden, jun., of Cuckfield, yeoman, & Susan Pickham, of same, widow. Surety John Warden, senior, yeoman—Twineham." *Lewes Marriage Licenses*. "1650. Nov. 5. Susan wife of John Warden buried." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>9</sup> It is worthy of note that the Register records the *baptisms* of these children.

<sup>10</sup> "1671. Aug. Thomas, son of John and Ann Warden, was here baptised."

<sup>11</sup> "1677. M<sup>r</sup> John Warden was buried Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>12</sup> Lewes Registry, A. 54.

dated October, 1675, by which he gave to his eldest daughter, Anne, £300; to Susan, Mary, Sarah and Jane and his son Thomas, each £200; to his eldest son, John, who had just come of age, the Manor of Haywards with Trobwicke,<sup>13</sup> little Haywards containing 24 acres, Gnosser, and all that portion of land called the east portion in Cuckfield; to his wife, Anne, "all that messuage and tenement wherein I now dwell, with parcell of land containing 40 acres, lying on the north side of the highway leading from Haywards hought [*sic*] to Cuckfield town" for her life, also "my silver tankard and best bed, &c., with linen sufficient for one chamber." As on November 10th, 1662, he had mortgaged to John Burt and Lyonel Gatford, the executors of Nicholas Hardham, of Cuckfield, yeoman,<sup>14</sup> the capital messuage, lands, &c., called Great Haward, containing 80 acres in his own occupation, and as £100 remains unpaid, he gives to his loving friends, Thomas Beard, of Hurstpierpoint, Esq., Timothy Burrell, of Cuckfield, Esq., Elyott More, of Wivelsfield, gent.,<sup>15</sup> Thomas Woodyer, of Wivelsfield, gent.,<sup>16</sup> and Thomas Trindell, of Cuckfield, yeoman, "the capital messuage called great Hayward, the tithes of corne and graine thereout arising, all that land and wood ground called the South copice, containing 8 acres, the Chandler's field, 8 acres, the woodland called the Rushey grene, or Reading copice, 14 acres, the field called the Hyde, 4 acres, and the field called Malthay, 10 acres, the tithes of corne, &c., in the parish of Cuckfield, lately in the occupation of Abraham Holland in trust, to pay out of the profits the money due unto the

<sup>13</sup> These manors were connected together from the earliest times, although the Manor of Trubwick was subordinate to the Manor of Plumpton Boscage. John de Hayworth was the owner in Edward III., Will. Covert in 1485, Robert and Nicholas Hardham in the next century. The first Court of John Warden was in 1662. In 1576 the Barony of Lewes laid claim to the waste called Hayward's Heath, the Homage present that they have not known any claim to it but the lords of Trubwick (information kindly given by Col. Attree). These two manors are in the possession of Capt. Sergison, and his steward, F. Fearon, Esq., holds courts at intervals; he has the Court Rolls from 1809.

<sup>14</sup> Married Elizabeth Burt, of Warnham, Nov., 1642. The manors of Heyworth and Trubwick were owned by Nicholas Hardham, 1638. Burrell's MS.

<sup>15</sup> Son of Thomas More, of More House, by Margaret, heir of Thomas Elyott, of Reigate. *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXV., p. 53.

<sup>16</sup> Of Franklyne or Franklande. *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXV., p. 28.

mortgage;" then after the mortgage is satisfied to sell the messuage, &c., to pay the legacies to his children, and the interest of the money received for the sale to his wife, for the maintenance and education of his children, placing out his younger sons, Walter and Thomas, "as apprentices to convenient trades." £3 to the poor of Cuckfield, and £1 to each of the Trustees for a ring. His son, John Warden, sole executor. *Ral. Burrell*<sup>17</sup> and *Walter Burt*, witnesses.

JOHN WARDEN, the third, born 1653, married, in 1678, *Mary*, daughter of *George Milles*, of *Rusper*.<sup>18</sup> She had three children who died young, and died herself in 1691.<sup>19</sup> He re-married in 1694 *Hopestill*, widow of *Francis Pellatt*,<sup>20</sup> of *Bury*, and daughter of *Thomas Brett*, of *Horsham*, and had by her two daughters and three sons, two of whom died in infancy. On their monument at *Cuckfield* is the inscription:—

Here lyeth the body of *Thomas Warden*, son of *John Warden* and *Hopestill*, his wife, who was born July, 1695, and was buried 28th of August following. Here lieth the body of *Matthew Warden*, who died Jan., 1697, in the 2nd year of his age.<sup>21</sup>

Although he did not accept any parochial office, excepting that of surveyor in 1701-9, *John's* signature appears in the *Parish Book* as a regular attendant at the *Vestry* meetings in 1697 and the following years. He died in 1730, and his widow in 1749 at the age of 92.<sup>22</sup>

The third and only surviving son, *FRANCIS WARDEN*,<sup>23</sup> succeeded to *Butler's Green*. He never married, and as the last of the *Wardens* left the house and estate to

<sup>17</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLIII., p. 19.

<sup>18</sup> "1678. Nov. 7. *John Warden* and *Mary Mills* married." *Rusper Reg.*

<sup>19</sup> 1680, Oct., *John*; 1682, Dec., *Mary*; 1686, May, "George, of *John* and *Mary Warden*" were baptised. "1691. June. *Mrs. Mary Warden*, the wife of *M<sup>r</sup> John Warden* of this parish, gent." was buried. *Cuckf. Reg.*

<sup>20</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXXIX., p. 80.

<sup>21</sup> "1696. Oct. *Matthew* son of *M<sup>r</sup> John Warden* of *Butler's Green*, and *M<sup>rs</sup> Hopestill*, his wife bapt. and born Oct. 2." "1697. Buried *Matthew* the son of *M<sup>r</sup> John Warden*, attorney." *Cuckf. Reg.*

<sup>22</sup> "1730. May. *M<sup>r</sup> John Warden* of *Butler's Green* buried." *Cuckf. Reg.* The inscription on their monument on the south wall of the nave of *Cuckfield Church* is given in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXV., p. 82.

<sup>23</sup> "Francis the son of *John Warden* gentleman & *Hopestill* his wife born Aug. 15 baptised Aug. 21."

Warden Sergison, his uncle Thomas Warden's great grandson, the son of Francis Jefferson and Anne Sergison. "He was steward to most of the gentry of the Lewes Rape, and an intimate friend of Sir William Burrell,"<sup>24</sup> to whom he is said to have given much valuable information. He died in 1785.<sup>25</sup> His will was drawn up in 1784,<sup>26</sup> and says: "In the early part of my life I received many favours and improvements in my profession of the law from my friend William Shirley, Esq.,<sup>27</sup> barrister, he residing at Otehall, in Wivelsfield, and being the lord of the manor of Otehall. On his quitting and going over to Boston, in New England, and being appointed governor there, he sold the said manor, capital mansion house and estate unto me and my heirs, now in the tenure of the Countess Dowager of Huntingdon<sup>28</sup> and John Brazier. I bequeath it to Thomas Shirley, governor of the Leeward Islands, the only son of William Shirley. And as I have a great regard for my friend, Thomas Lord Pelham,<sup>29</sup> I bequeath to his eldest son all my lands in Ardingly which I purchased of Walter Lucas, as it is intermixt with Lord Pelham's farm called Naldrett,<sup>30</sup> and also the lands, &c., at Storrington which I purchased of James Ellis, now in the occupation of Edward Gott and William Baker. And whereas Lord Pelham and his son owe me £1,500, I bequeath to them £300 of it and £200 to my clerk, John

<sup>24</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. II., p. 109.

<sup>25</sup> "1785. Jan. 6. Francis Warden Esq<sup>r</sup> of Butler's Green buried in his 85<sup>th</sup> year."

<sup>26</sup> *P.C.C.*, Ducarel, f. 106.

<sup>27</sup> William Shirley's father came into Otehall by his marriage with Elizabeth, the only daughter of John Godman. He died in 1778 and was buried in the King's Chapel, Boston. His son, Thomas, was created a Baronet in 1786, married Anna Maria, daughter of Thomas Western, Esq., of Rivenhall, Essex, and died at Bath, 1800, leaving a son, Sir William Warden Shirley, who died unmarried—the last of our Sussex Shirleys. *S.A.C.*, Vol. XIX., p. 66.

<sup>28</sup> Selina, widow of Theophilus, 9th Earl of Huntingdon, and daughter of Washington, 2nd Earl Ferrers, founder of "Lady Huntingdon's Connexion."

<sup>29</sup> Thomas Pelham, of Stanmer, on whom the Barony devolved on the death of the Duke of Newcastle, was created Earl of Chichester in 1801. His son, born 1756, was M.P. for Sussex and Home Secretary. He was great-grandfather of the present peer.

<sup>30</sup> "Naldretts," now on the Borde Hill estate, has been restored by Stephenson R. Clarke, Esq., with care and taste. From the Visitation of Sussex in 1570 it appears that there was a family of this name at "Cokefeld" from at any rate Edward II.'s time; it died out through the heiress marrying a John Attwood in Henry VI.'s reign.

Hall.<sup>31</sup> To George Stamper, Lieut. in the Sussex Militia, being great-grandson of Mrs. Ann Newington, my mother's niece, I bequeath my farms in Bury and West Burton in the occupation of Clement Upperton, and in Bignor in the occupation of George Chitty, also my meadows at Sutton, called Sutton meas, in the occupation of Mr. John Hampton. Stamper to pay £10 to his aunt, Hopestill Wheeler, late Roberts. To my relative and late clerk, Jas. Waller, my shop, &c., in Cuckfield town.<sup>32</sup> To William Board, of Lindfield, Esq.,<sup>33</sup> Walter Bachelor, of Lindfield, gent., John Ingram, of Chailey, gent.,<sup>34</sup> and William Clutton, of Cuckfield,<sup>35</sup> my manor called Hayward's Heath, Trubwick's and Marshall's,<sup>35</sup> together with my capital mansion called Butler's Green, and all my estates in Sussex, Surrey and Bucks, in trust for the use of my godson, Warden Jefferson, now Warden Sergison, and his heirs. All furniture to be sold except plate and books. I desire to be buried in my own seat in the chancel with as much decency and frugality as may be, and that a monument to my memory be placed near the pulpit of about £200, with such inscription as the Vicar of Cuckfield<sup>37</sup> shall think proper. To him I give £20. To

<sup>31</sup> "1791. April. Buried John Hall, late servant and clerk to Francis Warden, Esq." "1801. Mary, widow of J. Hall, attorney." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>32</sup> Mr. Waller did not long survive his master. "1785. Sep. 23. James Waller, attorney at law, buried." His son succeeded him; there are entries of the births of the nine children of Samuel and Louisa Waller, attorney, between 1788 and 1810.

<sup>33</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLI., p. 215; Vol. XLII., p. 244.

<sup>34</sup> Son of the Rev. James Ingram, Curate of Cuckfield, Vicar of Seddlescombe.

<sup>35</sup> *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLIII., p. 27.

<sup>36</sup> From the Rolls of the Manor of Marshalls it appears that in 1662, when they commence, Henry Ward was the lord, in 1665 John Ward and in 1669 Ellen Ward; in 1690 Henry Plummer, arm., guardian of James Plummer, his only son. The stewards of this period are John Pickering, John Raynes and Robert Norden. In this manor were included Maltmans (formerly Parsons'), a close called Mittens, a parcel of land called Polestub, a slaughter-house, garden, &c., called Taynter's Croft—these names still remain—also the mansion house known now as Marshalls, a good specimen of the seventeenth century building. The manor and house belong to Capt. Sergison. (From information kindly given by the present steward, F. Fearon, Esq.)

<sup>37</sup> The Vicar was Charles Ashburnham, youngest son of Sir Charles Ashburnham, of Broomham, and brother of Sir William, Bishop of Chichester. He was also Rector of Cowfold and Canon of the Cathedral. The inscription the Vicar thought "proper" runs—

"In all thy virtues may the world agree,  
Thy failings buried in the grave and me."

The last word implies that the Vicar had given him some advice and help in overcoming the "failings." *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXV.

Francis Shirley Western, in recompense of china-ware and goods that might have been broken at Preston, part of the effects of his grandfather, Thomas Western, dec., and are now in my house at Brighthelmstone. The residue to the trustees for Warden Jefferson, now Sergison, my godson." Witnesses, Allen Chatfield and Henry Dungate.<sup>38</sup> Proved Feb., 1785.

Francis Warden's heir, "WARDEN JEFFERSON, now Sergison," was the son of Francis Jefferson and Ann, daughter of Michael Warden,<sup>39</sup> who took the name of Sergison on his brother Thomas' death in 1766. The Jeffersons took the name of Sergison in 1784, the year before Francis Warden made his will. Young Warden was born at York in 1765, and matriculated at Christ Church 1783.<sup>40</sup> He was High Sheriff of Sussex in 1786,<sup>41</sup> and "Lieut.-Col. of H.M.'s Royal Regiment of Horse Guards Blue." He died at Northampton July 11th, 1811, at the early age of 46, and was buried in Cuckfield Church July 16th, at half-past ten in the evening. At the auction at Cuckfield Place after his death, August 26th, the sale of live stock, husbandry and farming implements produced £1,058 and the wine £723.<sup>42</sup> He contested Sussex in 1807, but was beaten by C. W. Wyndham and J. Fuller. He petitioned, but without success.

THOMAS, youngest son of the second John Warden, married Prudence, only daughter of Michael Sergison, the elder brother of Charles Sergison, and had by her five sons and five daughters. To their first-born they gave the name of Sergison, perhaps by her uncle's wish, thinking that the child would succeed, but he died when

<sup>38</sup> "Henry Dungate, yeoman, buried 1801, aged 82." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>39</sup> "Francis Jefferson of the parish of All Saints in the city of York, Esq., & Ann Warden of this parish were married in this church by license 20 April 1762 by me Joseph Newcom, curate, in the presence of Michael Warden & Ann Warden." The bride was 23 and the bridegroom 26. There is a small picture of him at Cuckfield Park in the uniform of the 4th Dragoons.

<sup>40</sup> "Warden Jefferson son of Francis Jefferson of York city, arm., aged 18." *Alumni Oxon.*

<sup>41</sup> P.R.O., Index, No. 9.

<sup>42</sup> Bates' MS. Diary.



only seven years old;<sup>43</sup> three girls also died young. The father died in 1718 and the mother in 1729,<sup>44</sup> and Charles made their second son THOMAS his heir. At his death in 1732 an Act of Parliament<sup>45</sup> was passed "to enable Thomas Warden, Esq<sup>r</sup>, and the heirs of his body, and the several other persons therein named" [John and Michael Warden, Anne Langford, Thomas Ingram, Jane and Prudence Warden, and Elinor Brunskill] "to take and use the name of Sergison." It received the Royal Assent on 17th May, 1733. He was of the Middle Temple, contested Lewes, against the Pelhams, without success in 1734, but was elected in 1747—1765.<sup>46</sup> He married Mary Pitt, of St. Mary-le-bone, and had three daughters, but no son. The eldest daughter, Sarah, married Charles Langford and died in 1758, leaving no child. Prudence died unmarried in 1752, and Mary,<sup>47</sup> the youngest, married John Thomlinson<sup>48</sup> ("merchant of London" and M.P. for Steyning in 1761) and died in 1762 without children.

In April, 1728, on Thomas Warden's marriage, Charles Sergison, his mother's uncle, settled on him lands and houses in Shipley, bought from Philip Caryl,<sup>49</sup> and also in Horsham, Nuthurst and Rusper, but in 1750 he obtained an Act<sup>50</sup> to sell part of this settled estate and "to lay out the money arising thereby in the purchase of lands to be settled in lieu thereof," the reason given

<sup>43</sup> "1698. Dec. 2. Sergison the son of Thomas & Prudence Warden born Nov. 9, bapt." "1705. Aug. 17. Sergison Warden buried." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>44</sup> "1718. Oct. M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Warden buried." "1729. Dec. M<sup>rs</sup> Prudence Warden, widow of the late M<sup>r</sup> Thos. Warden." Cuckf. Reg. The inscription on their monument is given from the Burrell MS. in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXV., p. 82.

<sup>45</sup> 6 George II., cap. 18. The Bill was brought into the Upper House by Lord Abergavenny 19th March, 1732. In the Commons it was in the charge of Henry Ingram, of Hills, M.P. for Horsham.

<sup>46</sup> He presented fine Communion Plate to St. Michael's, Lewes. The Flagon and two Chalice are inscribed, "The gift of Tho<sup>s</sup> Sergison one of the representatives in Parliament for the Borough of Lewes 1753."

<sup>47</sup> Authoress of the verses in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XIV., p. 266, in which "sister Prue" appears as the housekeeper, and Sarah as the sister "fond of Town, & park & play."

<sup>48</sup> "1762. Nov. M<sup>rs</sup> Mary wife of John Thomlinson Esq. & youngest daughter of Thomas Sergison Esq." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>49</sup> Son of Philip Caryl (and nephew of Lord Caryl) of Goringlee, died at Dunkirk in 1735. He sold these lands in 1707.

<sup>50</sup> 23 George II.



being that the lands were at a distance from the mansion house called Cuckfield Place, and from "the bulk of the estate comprised in the settlement." The lands were by this Act vested in Anthony Nott,<sup>51</sup> of St. Clement Danes, and William Smith, of Lincoln's Inn, to apply the money arising from the sale to the purchase of the Manor of Slaugham, the advowson and other lands whereof Thomas Sergison is to be seized, they to be of equal value to the settled estates. Among the Newcastle papers in the British Museum is preserved a letter from Mr. Sergison to the Duke of Newcastle, and also the Duke's reply:—<sup>52</sup>

My Lord—I beg leave to inform your Grace that about a month since I was to wait upon M<sup>r</sup> Brown of Steyning and falling into discourse who were to be their candidates at the next election he told me that M<sup>r</sup> Honeywood would certainly be one, but knew not who would be the other. I then proposed my son M<sup>r</sup> Thomlinson who seems to be approved of, and the affair will be brought to a conclusion unless your Grace disapproves of it: the which I beg to know as soon as possible directed to me at Cuckfield by E Grinstead bag.

Most obed<sup>t</sup>

Cuckfield 25 Aug. 1760.

Thos. Sergison.

Dear Sir—I am very glad to hear that your son M<sup>r</sup> Thomlinson intends to offer himself as a candidate for Steyning the next election, and that he has good hopes of success. His near relation to you, his own merit, and his being son of a very considerable honest man, and a very good friend of mine engage all my good wishes for him, and I shall be happy to have it in my power to be of service to him and M<sup>r</sup> Honeywood.<sup>53</sup> I shall send to our friend Jack Butler<sup>54</sup> to desire him to acquaint all my friends at Steyning with my wishes.

I am, &c.,

Thos. Sergison, Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Holles Newcastle.

Mr. Sergison died in December, 1766, in his 66th year.<sup>55</sup> His will, made 31st October in that year, directs that his body should be "buried in the Church of

<sup>51</sup> Thomas Warden's son-in-law.

<sup>52</sup> Add. MSS., 32,910, ff. 288, 291.

<sup>53</sup> The Returns of M.P.'s show that "Fraser Honeywood Esq. of Hampstead, and John Thomlinson the younger of London, merchant," were elected for Steyning, March, 1761, to the first Parliament of George III. In February, 1767, "Sir John Filmer *vice* John Thomlinson Esq. deceased."

<sup>54</sup> Mr. John Butler, M.P. for Sussex.

<sup>55</sup> "1766. Dec. 22. Thomas Sergison Esq<sup>r</sup> buried." P.C.C., Legard, f. 26.

Cuckfield in a private manner near to my honoured great uncle, Charles Sergison, and my late dear wife and child." He leaves "the undivided fourth part of the Manor of Cuckfield, purchased by my said uncle of Samuel Thornton, Esq., subsequent to the settlement made by my uncle upon my marriage with Mary my late wife,<sup>56</sup> to my brother-in-law, Anthony Nott, of Little Horsted,<sup>57</sup> and my son-in-law and nephew, Charles Langford, in trust for my brother, Michael Warden. The models of ships and all the books of my uncle, and also his naval collection of papers, and all the family pictures that shall be in my mansion house, called Cuckfield Place (except the picture of my uncle in the parlour, which I give to my sister Prudence) shall be deemed heirlooms. I remit to Mr. James Norden, my steward, all the sums of money paid for him. All my messuages, lands, &c., purchased by me in Cuckfield and lying near the town of Lewes, &c., to Anthony Nott and Charles Langford in trust to sell for the best price that can be gotten, the money to be placed out in public funds and the interest to go to Anne Langford and Prudence Nott. To Charles Langford £2,000, and my niece, Jane Nott, £1,500; Mr. John Corker £100; to the poor of Cuckfield not receiving alms, £100; to my sister, Prudence, the embroidered bed in the best bed-chamber; to Charles Langford my best gold-headed cane; to Jane Nott the furniture in my house at Cheam, in Surrey, and the portrait of me<sup>58</sup> and silver canisters. The clock standing in the building called the clock house, &c.,<sup>59</sup> to such person as shall be entitled to possession under the aforesaid settlement; the jewels, plate and deer in the park to my Trustees." Proved 2nd January, 1767.

MICHAEL WARDEN<sup>60</sup> was 56 when he succeeded his brother and not in good health, to judge from his

<sup>56</sup> "Mrs. Mary Sergison buried April 5, 1750." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>57</sup> Married Prudence Warden, the testator's youngest sister.

<sup>58</sup> There is a portrait of him in the dining room at Cuckfield Park. On the walking stick is the election cry—"Liberty, equality and no excise."

<sup>59</sup> Engraved in S.A.C., Vol. XXV.

<sup>60</sup> "1710. June 26. Michael ye son of Thos. and Prudence Warden baptised."

account of himself in the following letter to the Duke of Newcastle, dated January 31st, 1767:—<sup>61</sup>

My Lord Duke,—I have the honour of your Grace's commands and shall be ready to give a proof of my gratitude for past favors in giving my attendance and interest with your grace's friends. But at present I am greatly distressed to hear the small pox is broken out at the White Hart in Lewes, and am sorry to inform your grace of my indisposition since my brother's death, and tho' thank God I am growing better<sup>62</sup> it will be dangerous to undertake a journey at this season, as I shall send my son-in-law M<sup>r</sup> Jefferson and my neighbours to testify my and their approbation of your grace's nomination of Lord George Lennox<sup>63</sup> to succeed our late worthy deceased member.

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> servant,

Mich. Sergison.

He died in 1784,<sup>64</sup> leaving a will dated October, 1782, which left everything to his only surviving child Ann, wife of Francis Jefferson. He took the name of Sergison at his brother's death, and from him the present owner of Cuckfield and Slaugham is descended. It is necessary, in order to complete the history of the Wardens, to supply some notices of the other children of Thomas and Prudence, viz., John, Anne, Mary and Prudence.

JOHN's monument at Cuckfield states that "he was bred up in the service of His Majesty's Navy, and intermarried with Anne widow of John Madgwick."<sup>65</sup> Her tombstone (now lost) adds that "she was the daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Ives of Westup," and died February, 1781, aged 81 years. They had

<sup>61</sup> British Museum, Add. MSS., 32,779, f. 417.

<sup>62</sup> His irreverent niece, in her poetical account of a picnic at Slaugham, "that ancient seat in ruins venerably great," sings—

"But uncle Mich, though very sober,  
Had got a pot of rare October." *S.A.C.*, Vol. XIV., p. 267.

<sup>63</sup> Lord G. H. Lennox, of West Stoke, elected February, 1767, *vice* John Butler, of Warminghurst, deceased, of whose sudden death and appearance after death a remarkable story is told in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XIV., p. 13.

<sup>64</sup> "1771. April. Sarah Sergison wife of Michael Sergison Esq<sup>r</sup>." "1784. July 28. Michael Sergison Esq<sup>r</sup> of Cuckfield Place, buried." *Cuckf. Reg.* "Proved 16 Aug. 1784 by the oath of Ann Sergison, formerly Jefferson." *P.C.C.*, Rockingham, 472.

<sup>65</sup> "1702 May 15. Baptised John the son of Thom. and Prudence Warden born May y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>." "1766. Oct. 29. John Warden Esq<sup>r</sup> buried." *Cuckf. Reg.* "1725. Feb. 17. M<sup>r</sup> John Madgwick and M<sup>rs</sup> Ann Ives." "1734. Ap. 16. John Warden and M<sup>rs</sup> Ann Magick of Cowfold." *Chailey Reg.* *Burrell MS.*, 5,698.

but one child, Thomas Sergison, who died in 1739,<sup>66</sup> when four years old. John's will,<sup>67</sup> proved by Michael Warden, the executor, December, 1766, directs that he should be buried near his "departed child Thomas Sergison Warden in a private but decent manner," and that a stone monument should be made in memory of "me and my child." He confirms his marriage settlement, whereby his wife Ann is secured a settled annuity of £50 out of a messuage in Leadenhall Street. [The King's Arms.] He leaves to his brother Michael "such of my plate as is engraven with my own arms and those of my wife; my household goods, &c., to my wife, except two pictures for Mr. John Ingram of Chailey, all my books after my wife's decease to my nephew, Charles Langford of Cuckfield, and all the pictures of the Warden family to my brother Michael." Witnesses, J. A. Waller, Henry Dungate.

ANNE, the eldest child, born 1696,<sup>68</sup> married Francis Langford, of The Hooke, Chailey, and had two sons who died young.

MARY, the second sister, born January, 1699, married, in 1722, the curate of Cuckfield, James Ingram.<sup>69</sup> She left three sons who died unmarried, dying herself at the birth of the youngest.<sup>70</sup> Her monument at Cuckfield has this inscription:—

Near this place lieth Mary wife of James Ingram Cl. A. M. (some time of this Parish and afterwards Rector of Sedlescomb) who was

<sup>66</sup> "1739. June. Thomas Sergison Warden, gent., buried."

<sup>67</sup> P.C.C., Tyndall, f. 474.

<sup>68</sup> "1696. March 3. Baptised Ann daughter of M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Warden and Prudence his wife, born also March 3." Cuckf. Reg. Francis Langford, son of Francis, baptised at Chailey, November, 1697.

<sup>69</sup> "1722. March 26. James Ingram and Mary Warden." Cuckf. Reg.

<sup>70</sup> "1726. May. M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Ingram wife of M<sup>r</sup> James Ingram Cler. buried." The godparents of Thomas were William, Lord Abergavenny, Thomas Warden and Mrs. Miller; those of Arthur, Arthur Lord Irwin, Richard Payne (M.P. for Lewes, 1705) and Mrs. Warden; those of Charles, Charles Sergison, Dr. Lyddell (of Ardingly) and the Dowager Lady Irwin. Henry Ingram, of Temple Newsam, Yorks, born 1616, was created Lord Ingram, Viscount Irvine, in the Peerage of Scotland. The third Viscount married Isabel, daughter and heiress of John Machell, of Hills Place and M.P. for Horsham 1681-98. Thomas was sent to London at 17 to Mr. Nott's office in Boswell Court, thence to the Middle Temple. After he was called to the bar he went to live at East Grinstead, but died of consumption in lodgings at Kensington.

2<sup>nd</sup> daughter of Thomas Warden and Prudence his wife the niece to Charles Sergison of Cuckfield Place Esq<sup>r</sup>. She departed this life April 20<sup>th</sup> 1726 aged 26 years. Also Thomas Ingram their eldest son who died June 25 1751 aged 28. Also in memory of Arthur Ingram their 2<sup>nd</sup> son who died Dec. 15 1748 aged 22 years and was buried in the Temple Church in London. Also here lieth Charles Ingram their youngest son who died May 1727 aged 11 months. John and James Ingram sons of the above named James Ingram by his second wife caused this monument to be erected.

This James Ingram was the fifth son of John Ingram and Elizabeth Pigeon and was born at Chipstead, of which his father was rector in 1692. He took his degree from Jesus College, Cambridge, and was ordained priest March, 1716, by Jonathan Trelawney, Bishop of Winchester; appointed master of the Cuckfield Grammar School March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1718;<sup>71</sup> and shortly after curate of Cuckfield to Daniel Walter, and chaplain to Richard Viscount Irwin.<sup>72</sup> He was vicar of Oving in 1725, and rector of Seddlescombe and Westfield in 1746. His second wife was Ann Heasman,<sup>73</sup> of Cuckfield; they had three sons—John, born 1734, married Elizabeth Willard, of Ovingdean, and died at Chailey 1803 s.p.; James, born 1735, married in 1774 Elizabeth d. and h. of William Ridge, of Rottingdean, she died 1849, aged 101, and left no children. Mr. Ingram died at Seddlescombe September, 1757, aged 64. His widow survived him 29 years and was buried by his side in 1786. The Ingram coat of arms is Erm. on a fesse, *gu.*, three escallops, *or.*<sup>74</sup>

PRUDENCE, the youngest of Thomas Warden's daughters, born 1713,<sup>75</sup> married 1735 Anthony Nott, of Little Horsted and St. Clement's Danes, to whom the manor and advowson of Horsted had been sold by Charles Beard, of Rottingdean. He presented to the Rectory in 1741,

<sup>71</sup> His sermon preached at Bolney on the death of Queen Anne while still a deacon is extant. *S.A.C.*, Vol. XVIII., p. 153.

<sup>72</sup> Son of Isabel Machell. Mr. Ingram was afterwards chaplain to the three brothers who succeeded to the Viscounty.

<sup>73</sup> "1733. The Rev. James Ingram, & M<sup>rs</sup> Ann Heasman both of Cuckfield married April 5<sup>th</sup>." Chailey Register. See *S.A.C.*, Vol. XVIII., p. 160. Bernard Heasman was churchwarden of Cuckfield 1721-3.

<sup>74</sup> Many of the above particulars have been kindly contributed by Miss Florence Ingram, who possesses a series of interesting letters and diaries of Mr. James Ingram.

<sup>75</sup> "1713. Prudence daughter of Thomas & Prudence Warden baptised Aug. 16." Cuckf. Reg.

and in 1784 he gave the living to Antony Nott, LL.B. The following inscription is on a brass plate in the chancel—accurately copied from the original stone, which is preserved in the belfry:

In memory of Antony Nott Esq. Patron of the Rectory, and Lord of the manor, who died in the faith of Christ June MDCXCXI in his LXXXVI<sup>th</sup> year. He married April xiii. MDCXXXV Prudence Warden great niece of Chas. Sergison Esq<sup>r</sup> of Cuckfield Place for whom a monument is erected in that church. She died Nov. MDCLXXXVI in her LXXIV<sup>th</sup> year, and is here interred.

Of CHARLES SERGISON much that is interesting is related in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXV., p. 62, and a pedigree of his family, to which I would refer the readers of this paper, is given. He was born in 1654, and from the references in his will to his relatives in Stainmore Dale, Westmoreland, it is probable that his family belonged to that county. He obtained a clerkship in one of the dockyards at the age of 17 and rose to be a "Commissioner of the Navy." When but 22 he married, at St. Olave's, Hart Street (the parish church of the "Navy Office" in Crutched Friars), Anne Crawley,<sup>76</sup> daughter of one of his fellow clerks. He must have acquired considerable property, as in 1691, when only 37, he bought from Lady Anne Morton, of Slaugham, her share in the Manor of Cuckfield (the Stanley moiety, *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLII., p. 52) and came to reside there. He was elected M.P. for Shoreham in 1698 and again in 1700. He remained at his office in the Admiralty until he reached the limit age of 65, when he resigned, or, perhaps, was asked to resign, after nearly 50 years' service.<sup>77</sup> He died in 1732 and was buried at Cuckfield on December 5th.

<sup>76</sup> "Charles Sargison of All Hallows, Barking, gent. bachelor about 22 & Anne Crawley of St Olave, Hart St about 19 her father's consent alleged by George Sargison of All Hallows, Barking, citizen & Merchant Tayler, at St Olave's 13 May 1676." *London Marriage Licenses*.

<sup>77</sup> In Dr. Horneck's *History of the Old and New Testaments* is an engraving by Van Hoven, "contributed for the encouragement of this work" by Madam Ann, wife of Charles Sergison, of Cuckfield Place, Clerk of the Acts of His Maj<sup>ties</sup> Royal Navy, 1712, with the arms of Crawley—3 storks, crest, a stork holding fleur de lys. *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXVI., p. 273. In the list of subscribers to Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, 1714, he is put down as "Charles Sargison Esq. Commissioner of the Navy." It is evident that he was a person of great importance, from an entry in N. Luttrell's Diary, v. 175, under the year 1702, May 21, "'Tis said Sir George Rooke, Sir David Mitchell, Col. Churchill & Chas. Sergison are to manage the affairs of the Admiralty under the prince of Denmark."

His will,<sup>78</sup> made April, 1732, directs "my body to be decently interred in my burying place in the Chauncell of the Parish Church; as for my funeral I appoint £300 to be laid out therein and no more. I appoint £200 more to be layd out in such a monument<sup>79</sup> for me as my executors shall think fit to be set up on the north side of the chauncell within 12 months after my decease. To the sisters of my late wife Elizabeth and Margaret Crawley £100, to her niece Ann late wife of Sprigg Manisty Esq<sup>r</sup> deceased £500, to her nephew John Manisty £100 and Charles (my godson) £200: to my [great] nephew John Warden son of my niece Prudence deceased, a message in Leaden Hall, commonly known by the sign of the King's Arms. To my niece Ann widow of Francis Langford deceased, and daughter of my niece Prudence Warden, all my copyholds in Chailey which I hold of the Manor of Warmingors and £3000 to be laid out in land: to Thomas and Arthur Ingram sons of my late niece Mary Ingram deceased £4000 to be equally divided on their coming of age—the interest to be spent on their maintenance and education: to the children of Prudence Warden—Michael £5000, Jane £4000, Prudence Nott £1000: to the children of my niece Ann Barland deceased £1000, to my niece Mary Page near Darlington £500: to the children of my late nephew Thomas Brunskill of Stainmore Dale<sup>80</sup> in Westmoreland £500: to my grand niece Eleanor

<sup>78</sup> P.C.C., Bedford, f. 296.

<sup>79</sup> 1734. June 9th. Stapley's Diary, preserved at Hickstead Place, says: "There was held a vestrie meeting at Cuckfield Church by Mr Sergison concerning the setting up a monument in the chancell on the north wall—The Vicar [Daniel Walter] opposing him. But the vestrie gave itt that itt should be erected & sett up." See S.A.C., Vol. XXIII., p. 68. The Faculty states that it was applied for by Thomas Sergison, and the application was supported by "Francis Warden, gent., Thomas Ives, Richard Burt, John Kelsey, & Thomas Sergison, several of the Impropriators of the parish church, & by the churchwardens James Burt & John Kelsey, & upwards of fourscore of the principal parishioners." The Vicar did "some time litigate and contend with Thomas Sergison," but the Faculty was granted on the condition that the monument be raised so much above the ground that Archdeacon Henshaw's monument should not be hidden. For the inscription see S.A.C., Vol. XXV.

<sup>80</sup> "Ellinor Brunskill of Stainmore Dale widow deceased sister of the said Charles Sergison." 6 Geo. II., cap. 18. "George Sargison, of Allhallows, London, by his Will, dated 1678, leaves his lands in the parish of Brough under Stainmore to his daughter Ann Hagarstal, and lands in the parish of Kirby Stevens to Bousfield. In the presence of Chas. Sergison." P.C.C., King, f. 37.



Maugham £200: to Jonathan Edwards of Stainmore Dale £200: to Samuel Percival my clerk £1000, and his wife £700: to Mr. Thos Stephens, scrivener £300: to the poor of St. Olave Hart St. and Cuckfield, each £100: to the ministers of St. Olave and Cuckfield £10 each for mourning: to Christ's Hospital £100." Thos. Warden to be executor—he is "to build one new capital messuage on the same ground as the old one now standeth at Cuckfield, of 5 or 6 rooms on a floor, the kitchen and all offices to be below, and 1 or 2 rooms to be applied to the accommodation of my Models and Books which shall be handsomely placed therein."

This paper is greatly indebted to the kindness of Capt. Sergison, of Cuckfield Park, who supplied much of the information it contains, and also to the researches of W. C. Renshaw, Esq., K.C.

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