

THE BARHAMS OF SHOESMITHS IN WADHURST.

BY R. G. FITZGERALD-UNIACKE, B.A., F.R.S.A.

MR. MARK ANTONY LOWER, the Sussex historian—to whom this Society was indebted, in its early days, for so many interesting articles on the iron-works and antiquities of his native county—refers to the origin of the Wadhurst Barhams in the following passage:—¹

John Barham of Butts, in Wadhurst, second son of a younger son of Henry Barham, Esq., lord of Barham, &c., Co., Kent, a descendant (according to the Kentish historian and genealogist, Philipot) from Robert de Berham, son of Richard Fitz-Urse,² and brother of the murderer of Thomas à Becket, was the founder of several branches of the Barhams inhabiting the mansions of Great Butts and Shoesmiths, the former of which has disappeared and been replaced by a miserable little house. His descendant, John Barham, resided there till about 1713. . . . John Barham, grandson of the above named John Barham of Great Butts,³ erected or rebuilt, about 1630, the beautifully-situated and spacious mansion of Shoesmiths, and worked Bartley Mill and Brookland Forges. . . . His grandson was high-sheriff of the county 14 William III.

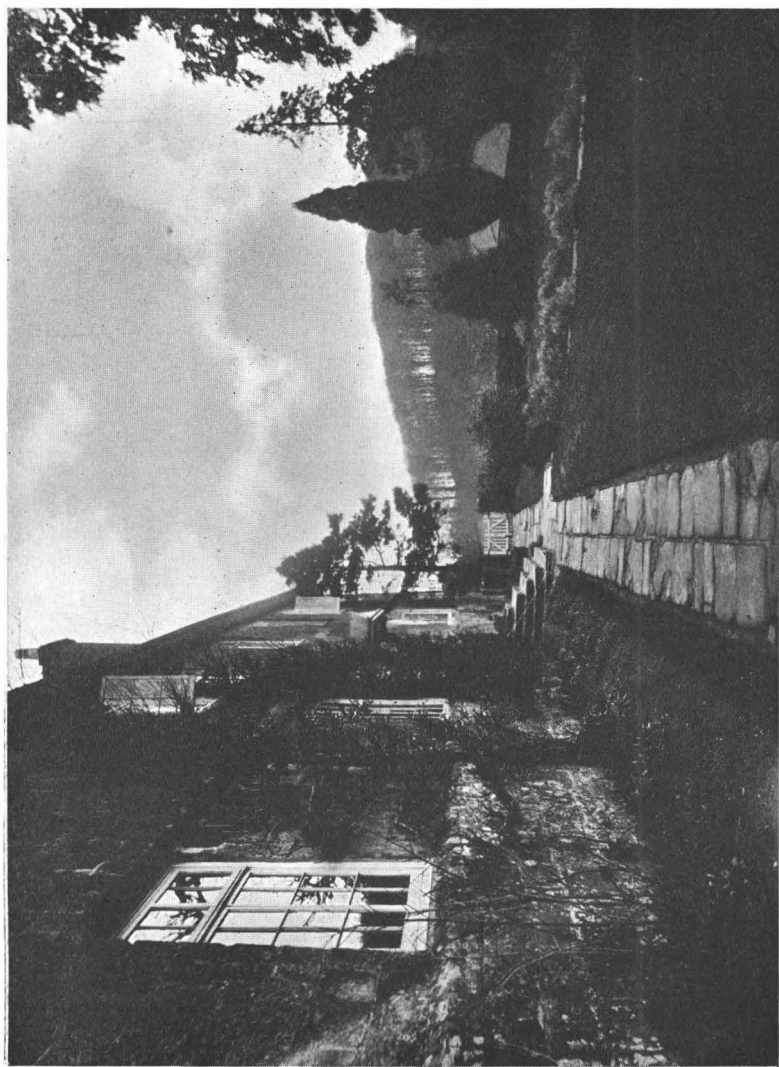
In Philipot's pedigree of the Barhams of Teston (which was evidently the source of the information "obligingly communicated by William Courthope, Esq., *Rouge Croix*," to Mr. Lower), John Berham, the second son of Henry Berham, "*Dominus de Berham Teston et Sissinghurst*," by Elizabeth Colepeper of Oxenhoath, is set down as the founder of those branches of the family which settled at Wadhurst, Maidstone and Boughton Monchelsey.⁴ It seems quite clear, however, from the Court Rolls and Rental of Bivelham Manor and other

¹ *S.A.C.*, Vol. II. (1849), p. 218.

² I have searched in vain for any contemporary evidence of this Fitz Urse tradition, which appears to have originated in a typically Elizabethan flourish, by Robert Glover, *Somerset Herald*, at the head of the pedigree of John Berham of Berham, recorded at the *Visitation of Kent* in 1574.

³ The John Barham who built Shoesmiths (will proved 1640) was the *great-grandson* of the first John Berham of Buttes (will proved 1555).

⁴ *Philipot MSS.*, Heralds' College; Kent, XXVI., f. 38.



"SHOESMITHS," SOUTH FRONT.

Photo. by H. King, Tunbridge Wells.

contemporary records, that the grandfather of Nicholas Barham of Maidstone (the famous Queen's Serjeant of Elizabeth's reign) was not John Berham, the second son of Henry of Sissinghurst (as stated by Philipot), but Nicholas Berham, senior, of Brownes in Wadhurst, whose younger son, John Berham "*Iron-maker*," purchased the estate of Woodlande and Buttes, *circa* 1533, and was the undoubted ancestor of the Barhams of Buttes and of Shoesmiths.

But although the old herald-historian has obviously gone very far astray, in his hap-hazard affiliation of the Wadhurst Barhams to the parent stock at Teston, it does not necessarily follow that he had no foundation for his evident belief that they were a cadet branch of that ancient Kentish family. In other words, Philipot may have been quite correct in deriving the Barhams of Wadhurst and Maidstone from a younger son of the Teston house, though he was certainly mistaken in selecting a son of Henry Berham and Elizabeth Colepeper as their progenitor.

In support of this derivation, I would point out that Barham Court in Teston is within three miles of Maidstone, and the parish of Lamberhurst (in which the celebrated iron-works, owned by the Barhams of Buttes, were situated) is only nine miles from Sissinghurst, and about twelve from Teston. Also, while fully aware of the many and flagrant delinquencies of "*Pedigree-makers*" in general,⁵ and of the Jacobean heralds in particular, I think we should bear in mind that Philipot was an experienced and painstaking genealogist,⁶ and had devoted much time and trouble to the collection of materials from original sources for the compilation of his *magnum opus*, the *VILLARE CANTIANUM*;⁷ so that it is improbable that he would have drawn up a pedigree, showing the connection between the Barhams of Wadhurst and Teston, unless he had *some* authority for so doing.

⁵ See the trenchant article on this subject, by the late Professor Freeman, in the *Contemporary Review*, June, 1877.

⁶ For proof of this, see his *MS. Collections* at the Heralds' College and British Museum.

⁷ Published by his son, Thomas Philipot, in 1659, under his own name.

Moreover, Robert Barham of Boughton Monchelsea, who recorded his Arms and signed his Pedigree in 1619, was a grandson of John Berham of Buttes, the "Iron-maker." And John Barham of Shoesmiths, a great-grandson of the same John Berham, was living at the time of the Visitation of Sussex in 1633, and was possessed of a very considerable estate;⁸ while his near kinsmen, Nicholas Barham of Buttes, and David Barham of Snape, were also large landowners in that neighbourhood. It is therefore quite conceivable that Philipot (who acted as marshal and deputy to William Camden, *Clarencieux*, for the Visitation of Kent in 1619, and in a similar capacity for the Visitation of Sussex in 1633) may have been personally acquainted with members of the Barham family then living, and may consequently have had access to deeds or writings in their possession, which have since been destroyed, or which have passed with the title-deeds of their estates into other hands.

Before dealing with my main subject, I propose to submit a brief account of the Senior line of the Kentish Barhams, from Warine de Berham, living in 1203, to Thomas Barham of Teston, who died without male issue in 1617. This will not only serve to illustrate my argument, but may perhaps induce some fellow-antiquary, with more local knowledge than I possess, to take up and carry on the work of investigation.

WARINE DE BERHAM.

The first of the name, of whom we have any contemporary record, was Warine de Berham, who occurs in a Recognizance of Great Assize, dated 15th June, 1203⁹ — "*Inter Warinum de Berham, petentem, et Robertum de Hamme, tenentem. De lx. acris terre, cum pertinentiis, in Hammes.*"¹⁰ The same Warine held lands in Berham,

⁸ This John Barham refused a knighthood in 1625, but omitted to enter his pedigree in 1633. His grandson of the same name recorded his descent at the 1662 Visitation.

⁹ *Pedes Finium*, 5 John. See *Arch. Cantiana*, IV., p. 276.

¹⁰ Hamme, now called Ham, is about three miles from Sandwich and seven from Barham.

near Canterbury, by Knight service, as one of the military tenants of the Archbishop, in 1210.¹¹

In the Chapter Library at Canterbury is the original charter, by which

Gileb[ertu]s filius Warini de Berham

granted to the Prior and Convent of Christchurch, Canterbury, a rent-charge upon a portion of his lands at Berham, "for the lights and other uses of the Altar of the Blessed Mary in the nave of that Church." The charter is not dated. Among the witnesses are:—Thomas de Ocholte, Ralph de Berham, and Robert de Hamme.

This Gilbert, the son of Warine de Berham, appears to have married Lucy, daughter of Thomas de Ocholte (or Acolt), by whom he had three sons—Henry, Warine and Gilbert de Berham. The latter had a son, Richard, living in 1255.¹²

An interesting entry on the Patent Roll for the 28th year of Henry III. (dated 26th November, 1243) records a "Pardon to Gilbert de Bereham for the death of Richard de Tapinton, whom he killed by misadventure with a lance, in jousting; on condition that he make his peace with the relatives, and stand his trial if anyone will proceed against him. Mandate to the Sheriff of Kent to permit him to remain in his bailiwick, and to restore to him any goods which he may have taken."¹³

If only the Rev. R. H. Barham (better known to fame as *Thomas Ingoldsby*) had chanced to light upon this authentic reference to the "Tapinton Tournament," he would certainly have added another tale of "Mirth and Marvels" to his inimitable collection. How he would have revelled in the description of the Joust; and what pictures we might have had of the subsequent scene with the bereaved Lady of Tapinton, and of the Sheriff carting away the family "four-poster" and other household treasures from Barham Court!

¹¹ *Liber Rubeus*, II., p. 470. "Milites tenentes de Arch. Cant.; Warinus de Bereham, dimidium feodum in Bereham."

¹² *Feet of Fines*, Kent, 39 Henry III. (No. 740).

¹³ *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, Henry III.

Gilbert de Berham and Lucy his wife were parties to several fines of lands, in Barham and the neighbourhood, between 1246 and 1249; he died before 24th July, 1255, on which date Lucy, his widow, was the wife of Henry de Burne.¹⁴

HENRY DE BERHAM, "son of Gilbert," paid the Aid assessed upon his lands at Barham (*i.e.*, "half a Knight's fee, held of the Archbishop of Canterbury") at the knighting of Prince Edward in 1254;¹⁵ he was implicated in Simon de Montfort's rebellion in 1264, and died before 1276. A "Richard de Berham" (who was probably his nephew of that name) was also an adherent of the Earl of Leicester.¹⁶

HENRY DE BERHAM, "the heir of Henry," was a minor in 1276, in the custody of William de Apelton; he was admitted to his father's lands 1st July, 1279, when he did homage and fealty to Archbishop Peckham, at Cranbrook.¹⁷

HENRY DE BERHAM, presumably son of the above, was summoned as "*homo ad arma*" to attend the Great Council at Westminster, 30th May, 1324. He was commissioned by the Prior of Christchurch, in 1339, to seize "*wayfs estrais chateux des felons et threzor trovez,*" belonging to the Chapter; and the Christchurch Registers record his appointment as "*Custos,*" *i.e.* Churchwarden, of the Church of Cranebroke, in 1349. In the library of the Society of Antiquaries there is a sixteenth century copy of the assessments, in the County of Kent, of the Aid for knighting the Black Prince in 1346; the entry relating to Barham is as follows: "*Barrham Court—De henrico de Berham, pro dimidio feodo quod henricus de Berham tenuit in Berham de Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi.*" The Henry de Berham, "who held of the Archbishop," was Henry the son of Gilbert, who paid the former Aid in 1254 (see also *Lansdown MSS.*, 276, f. 90).

¹⁴ *Feet of Fines*, Kent, 39 Henry III.

¹⁵ *Arch. Cantiana*, XII., p. 203.

¹⁶ Roberts, *Cal. Gen.*, I., p. 246.

¹⁷ *Register of John Peckham*, III., p. 997.

In 1352 Henry de Berham purchased from Queen Phillippa the custody of the lands of William de Lonsford, in Sussex, with the wardship and marriage of his son and heir, for which he paid a fine of £100.¹⁸

Henry de Berham had a son, Richard, and two daughters, of whom Elizabeth was married to "William Bowes, chivaler" (see *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 10 Henry IV.), and Catharine to John Dryland, of Feversham.

RICHARD THE SHERIFF.

RICHARD DE BERHAM, "son of Henry," appears to have succeeded his father in 1365.¹⁹ He resided at Sissinghurst, near Cranbrook, (according to Philipot), and married Constance, daughter of . . . Gibun, of that place. He was in the Commission of the Peace, 1381; a Commissioner of "*oyer and terminer*," in 1383; and Commissioner of Array, "in view of imminent invasion by the French," in 1385. He was Sheriff of Kent 14 Richard II. (1390-1), and kept his shrievalty at Berham Court, in Teston.²⁰ He served as Commissioner of Array in 1403, 1405 and 1407; and his name occurs in a Fine of the Manors of Sherlonde and Thramhatche, co. Kent, in Hilary Term, 1409-10. From an entry in the "*Comptus*" of William Notbeme, Sheriff of Kent, we learn that "Richard Berham held lands and rents in that county worth £40 per ann. beyond reprises." (*Lay Subsidy*, 28 April, 13 Henry IV., 1412.) The last reference we have to this gallant veteran is in 6 Henry V., when "Richard Berham" was again appointed "Commissioner of Array for the defence of the realm, while the King is in foreign parts for the recovery of the inheritance and rights of the Crown." Dated at Westminster, 28th April, 1418.

It was during the lifetime of Richard the Sheriff that the old territorial designation "de Berham" gave place

¹⁸ Nicholls, *Coll. Top. et Gen.*, IV., p. 154.

¹⁹ *Dover Plea Rolls*. See Streatfield's annotated copy of Hasted's *Kent*, at the British Museum (Vol. III., p. 755).

²⁰ Hasted's *Kent*, II., p. 290.

to the more modern surname of Berham, or Barham, without the prefix. In the various Commissions, above mentioned, the name is written indifferently, "de Berham," "de Bereham," or "Berham." After the reign of Henry VIII., it is usually written "Barham."

In Courthope's pedigree,²¹ Richard the Sheriff is stated to have had a son and heir, JOHN BARHAM, who, by "Constance da: of lord Courcy," had a son and heir, "Nicholas Barham of Barham Court in Teston," who was the father of "Henry Barham, lord of Barham Teston and Sissinghurst," who married "Elizabeth, dau. of . . . Colepeper of Oxenhoath in Peckham, Knt.,²² Aunt to Q. Catherine Howard."

Philipot's pedigree omits Nicholas, and makes "Johēs Berham," son of Richard the Sheriff, the father of "Henricus Berham, Dñs de Berham Teston et Sissinghurst." In the *Villare Cantianum*, however, he informs us that "in the fourth year of Henry the fourth, at the marriage of Blanch that Monarchs Daughter, there is a recital of Nicholas Berham, who contributed a supply for his lands at Terstan."

Now the Princess Blanche was married to Lewis, Duke of Bavaria, in 1402; and it is scarcely credible that the Nicholas Berham, who paid the Aid on that occasion, could have been the father of Henry Berham, who married Elizabeth Colepeper nearly seventy years later! If, however, we assume that the two generations following Richard the Sheriff have been transposed, the apparently insuperable difficulty as to dates would disappear. I think, therefore, that Nicholas (who paid the Aid in 1402, on lands at Teston, which had presumably been settled upon him by his father) was the *son* of Richard the Sheriff and *father* of John Berham. It should also be noted that a "John Bereham" is mentioned in a Commission, dated 1st May, 1434, directed to the

²¹ *Courthope MSS.*, Stem. Misc., II., f. 294.

²² Richard Colepeper, the father of Elizabeth Berham, was not a knight but an esquire ("Armiger"). See his Inq. P.M., 19th January, 1484. He was lord of the manors of Oxenhoath, Sevelynghon, Brampton, Pekham, Snodbeme, Stanstede, Badlesmere, Mascall and other lands. (See also *S.A.C.*, Vol. XLVIII., p. 80.)

Archbishop of Canterbury and other county magnates, who were to take the oath of "certain knights, esquires and men of influence and substance" (*ceteros regni potentes et valentes*), that they would not "wetyngly receyve, cherishe, hold in household ne maynteyne, Pilours, Robours, Oppressours of the people, Mansleers, Felons, Outlawes, Ravyschers of women ayenst the lawe. . . . or eny other open mysdoers" (Patent Roll, 12 Henry VI., No. 437, *dorso*). His name occurs next to that of "John Bettenham" (? of Bettenham, in Cranbrook). It may perchance have been this John Berham, whose arms—*Gold, three bears sable*—were carved in stone upon the west face of the tower of Cranbrook Church, together with those of Bettenham and Wilsford, surmounted by a shield bearing the arms of Archbishop Chichele, impaled with those of the See of Canterbury.²³ Henry Chichele was Archbishop from 1414 to 1443, which enables us to fix the approximate date at which the tower was built, or repaired.

Sissinghurst manor-house, near Cranbrook, the ancient seat of the Berhams, was demolished by Sir John Baker, the Attorney General, when he "raised that Magnificent Pile within the Park, which now charmes with so much Delight the eyes of the Spectators."²⁴ I am informed that the brick towers of the main entrance, which are still standing, were built of materials taken from the original Barham mansion. There is a fine engraving of Sissinghurst Castle in Hasted's *Kent*.

HENRY BERHAM, the son (or grandson) of John Berham of Sissinghurst, and great-grandson of Richard the Sheriff, is styled by Philipot "*Dominus de Berham Teston et Sissinghurst*." He married (probably about 1470) Elizabeth, eldest daughter and eventual co-heir (on the death of her only brother Thomas in 1492) of Richard Colepeper, of Oxenhoath, co. Kent, Esquire. Her half-sister, Joyce Colepeper, was the wife of Lord Edmund Howard, and mother of the beautiful, but ill-fated, Lady Katherine Howard, fifth Queen of Henry

²³ *Arch. Cantiana*, XXII., p. 231.

²⁴ Philipot's *Villare Cantianum*, p. 98.

VIII. Henry Berham was living in 1492, Elizabeth his wife being then aged 42.²⁵ The names of "Henry Bereham" and "John Beram" occur in a list of "*The Gentils of Kent*," compiled in the reign of Henry VII.

Henry and Elizabeth Berham had issue:—

- (1) Thomas, son and heir.
- (2) John, who, according to Philipot, was ancestor of the Barhams of Wadhurst, Maidstone and Boughton Monchelsea.

THOMAS BERHAM, their eldest son, resided at Berham Court in Teston, Sissinghurst having been sold to Thomas Baker of Cranbrook (grandfather of Sir John Baker, the Attorney General) at the latter end of Henry VII.'s reign.²⁶ He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Aucher of Otterden (who died 23rd April, 1503), by whom he had two sons and one daughter:—

- (1) James, his heir.
- (2) John, who, according to Philipot, was ancestor of the Barhams of Barham, near Canterbury.
- (1) Catherine, married first to William Sidney, and secondly to . . . Bercroft.

The younger son, John, is said by Philipot to have married "Eliz: filia G. Oxenbridge militis," by whom he had a son, "Barthol: Barham de Barham," whose grandson, Thomas, "*vendidit manerium de Barham*." It should, however, be noted that Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge, was the wife (and died the widow) of Sir Robert Tyrwhit, of Layton Bromswold. In Courthope's pedigree this John Berham is said to have married "Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Oxenbridge, Knt."²⁷

Also, as Bartholomew Berham was of full age in 1517, I do not see how his father could possibly have been son of Thomas Berham of Teston (whose mother, Elizabeth Colepeper, was born in 1450); while the John Berham,

²⁵ *Inquisitions*, Henry VII.; Exchr., Series II., No. 461 (*Thomas Culpeper*).

²⁶ Hasted's *Kent*, III., p. 48.

²⁷ *Courthope MSS.*; *Stemm. Misc.*, II., f. 295.

who married Elizabeth Oxenbridge, is far more likely to have been the *brother* than the *grandson* of Henry Berham, assuming that Philipot is correct in making him a cadet of the Teston line.

JAMES BARHAM,²⁸ of Barham Court in Teston, the eldest son of Thomas and Elizabeth, married (before 1540) Mary, second daughter of Sir Goddard Oxenbridge of Brede, by Anna his second wife, who was daughter of Sir Thomas Fynes of Claverham, co. Sussex, second son of Richard, Lord Dacre of the South.²⁹ Dame Anna Oxenbridge had been previously married to John Pelham, Esq. (the eldest son of Thomas, third son and eventual heir of Sir John Pelham of Laughton), who died without issue in his father's lifetime. She had the Manor of Bivelham as her dower, as appears by entries on the Court Roll of that Manor.

James Barham, of Teston, and Thomas, his eldest son, were feoffees of a Tripartite Deed of Settlement, executed by Nicholas Barham of Maidstone, the Queen's Serjeant, 8th July, 1576;³⁰ and the same Thomas was one of his executors in 1577. The Queen's Serjeant was son and heir of Richard Berham, of Brownes in Wadhurst, and grandson of Nicholas Berham, senior, of the same place; his connection with the Teston Barhams has not yet been ascertained, but the above appointments would seem to indicate that the relationship was mutually recognised, and that he regarded the Squire of Teston as head of the family.

James and Mary Barham had issue:—

- (1) Thomas, his heir.
- (2) James, baptized at Teston, 24th August, 1551; to whom his brother Thomas left an annuity of £30, charged upon lands at Yalding, in 1617. "James Barham, Gent.," was buried at Yalding, 13th August, 1630.

²⁸ Incorrectly named "Thomas" in Philipot's pedigree.

²⁹ *S.A.C.*, Vol. VIII., p. 231.

³⁰ *Inquisitions*, Jas. I.; Chancery, Series II.; taken at East Greenwich, 11th October, 1609. (*Nicholas Barham.*)

(3) Henry, to whom the same Thomas Barham left an annuity of £20. He brought an action against Sir Oliver Boteler, in 1618, claiming a life interest in lands called "*the Outlands*," in Yalding and Brenchley, under a lease granted by "Henry Nevill, late Lord Aburgaveney," in 1565, "in regard of divers yeares faythfull service donne vnto the sayd Lord by James Barham father of yo^r Supplyant."

(1) Mary, married at Teston, 15th January, 157 $\frac{7}{8}$, to John Heron, of Teston, Gent.

(2) Martha, the wife of William Holland, "Mr. of Artes and person of Echingham," co. Sussex; his will, dated 2nd January, 160 $\frac{8}{9}$, was proved (P.C.C.) the 10th of May following.

(3) Elizabeth, living unmarried in 1574, when she is mentioned in the will of her uncle, Sir Robert Oxenbridge, as "Elizabeth Barham, my sister's Daughter."

James Barham died intestate, adm^{on} of his estate being granted (P.C.C.) to Thomas Barham, his son, 11th September, 1585; he was buried at Teston, 21st August, 1584.

THOMAS BARHAM, of Barham Court, in Teston, his eldest son and heir, was baptized at Teston, 10th January, 154 $\frac{1}{2}$; he married (Settlement dated 13th January, 157 $\frac{9}{10}$) Anne, daughter of Sir Nicholas Heron, of Agecome House, in Croydon, co. Surrey, by whom (who was buried at Teston, 3rd November, 1580) he had an only surviving daughter and heir, Anne Barham, baptized at Teston, 26th February, 157 $\frac{8}{9}$, who was married to Sir Oliver Boteler, son and heir of John Boteler, of Sharnbrooke, co. Bedford, and succeeded to the property at her father's death; she was buried at Teston, 19th December, 1639, her will being proved (P.C.C.) 5th February following.

From an *Inq.*, *p.m.*, taken at Maidstone 17th July, 1617, it appears that "Thomas Barham, Armiger, died at London, 21st February, 161 $\frac{6}{7}$, possessed of a considerable estate, the greater part of which was held of Sir

Henry Baker of Sissinghurst, as of his Manors of Teston, West Barming and Yalding; also 150 acres of woodland at Ditton, held of the royal manor of Boxley. His will, undated, was proved (P.C.C.) 6th March, 161 $\frac{6}{7}$, by Sir Oliver Boteler and Dame Anne, his wife, as executors. The fact that no nephews are mentioned in his will, and that no lands (but only small annuities) are left to his two younger brothers, seems to indicate that neither James nor Henry Barham had any male issue then living; otherwise Thomas Barham would scarcely have left the whole of his landed property to his daughter, and so "made this seat, which had been so many centuries of years in the Tenure of this Family, alter its Proprietary, and become the Patrimony of another Name."³¹

THE BARHAMS OF WADHURST.

Having thus briefly sketched the descent of the Senior line of the Kentish Barhams, during a period of four hundred years, we now turn to that branch of the family which for many generations occupied a leading position, as Iron-masters and landed proprietors, on the north-eastern border of Sussex.

Mr. William Courthope, *Somerset Herald*, mentions some ancient charters in the possession of his kinsman, Mr. George Campion Courthope, of Whiligh, from which it appears that "John Berham of Wadhurst made a feoffment of lands, called '*Le Denne*,' before 3 Henry VI. (1424), to John Shotinghurst, of Wadhurst, who enfeoffed others the same year."³² As, however, we have no means of connecting this John Berham, either with his traditional ancestors at Sissinghurst, or with his probable descendants at Wadhurst, we must be content to take as the earliest authentic progenitor of this branch of the family a certain "Thomas Bereham," whose name stands at the head of the Barham pedigree recently recorded at the Heralds' College.

³¹ Philipot's *Villare Cantianum*, p. 336.

³² *Courthope MSS.*; *Stemm. Misc.*, II., f. 296.

The evidences upon which this pedigree is founded were submitted to Mr. H. Farnham Burke, F.S.A. (then *Somerset Herald*, now *Norroy King of Arms*), who personally verified the descent, and re-drafted the pedigree in the form in which it was finally entered in the books of the College.³³ A certified copy of this pedigree forms the basis of the more detailed account contained in the following pages.

THOMAS BEREHAM

and Isabella his wife were admitted, at a Court of the Manor of Bivelham, 10th January, 19 Henry VI. (1449), "to all the lands held of the lord (*i.e.*, Sir John Pelham of Laughton) by Richard atte Melle and Isabella his wife, in the parish of WADHURST, in the *wiste* of Cumden and in Edwardes *wiste*, and did Fealty for the same—Fine XX^s."³⁴

The original Court Rolls of this manor are among the large and valuable collection of historical and family MSS. presented to the British Museum about 25 years ago by the late Earl of Chichester. These Rolls extend from the latter end of the fourteenth to the middle of the seventeenth century (*Additional Charters*, 31,080—31,161), and though there are, unfortunately, several breaks in the continuity of the series, they have proved invaluable in the compilation of this account of the Wadhurst Barhams, from their first appearance as tenants of the manor in 1440, down to the admission of William and David Barham of Snape to their father's lands in 1644.

The death of Richard atte Melle was reported on the 16th October, 1441; and, at the same Court, John Busse and "Thomas Berham" were eliges for the office of *Receptor*, to which the former was appointed. On the 5th October, 1446, Thomas Bereham and Isabella, his wife, surrendered a house and all their lands in Cumden *wiste*, with other lands called Snorehellys, Edwardesfeld,

³³ *Norfolk*, XXVI., 58-62. Entered 14th March, 1910.

³⁴ *Pelham MSS.*; Add. Ch., 31,116. "*Wista*"=a measure of land, half a hide in extent.

Middilcroft and Marlings, formerly belonging to Richard atte Melle, to the use of John Busse and his heirs, who was admitted to same. At the following Court, Thomas Bereham, with William atte Chambre and John Busse, surrendered lands called Aylotteland and Edwardysfeld, which were then granted to John Busse and his heirs; and, on the 22nd September, 1447, Thomas Bereham, John Busse and William atte Chamber were admitted by the Seneschal, Thomas Hoo, Esquire, to lands called Brokes, in Wadhurst.

At the Courts held 18th October, 1447, 13th April, 1448, and 19th October, 1448, Thomas Bereham was fined for default of suit. I cannot find any later reference to him, nor any report of his death, which was presumably recorded on one of the missing Rolls.

RICHARD BERHAM,

the son of Thomas and Isabella, is first mentioned at a Court held 20th February, 145 $\frac{2}{3}$, when John Bakere and Juliana, his wife, surrendered 40 acres of land in Cumden *wiste*, formerly belonging to William Cumden, "to the use of Richard Berham and Anne, his wife, and the heirs of Richard," who were admitted to same.³⁵ "Richard Berham" was present at a Court held 20th June, 1453; and "Richard Bereham" was absent on the 9th December, 1453, making "*Essoin*" for non-attendance. In the following year he was appointed *Prepositus*, or Reeve of the manor. His *Compotus*, or Statement of Account, for the twelve months ending at Michaelmas, 34 Henry VI., is among the Pelham MSS.³⁶

The lord of the Manor of Bivelham, at this date, and of many another Sussex manor and lordship, was Sir John Pelham, of Laughton, Chamberlain to Queen Katherine. The original will of Sir John Pelham, the younger, dated at Laughton, 2nd January, 10 Edward VI. (147 $\frac{1}{2}$), is at the British Museum;³⁷ also an earlier

³⁵ Add. Ch., 31,126.

³⁶ Add. Ch., 31,193.

³⁷ *Pelham MSS.*; Add. Ch., 30,433.

will, dated 20th May, 1458. Impressions of the fine armorial seal, described in Collins' *Peerage* (Vol. VIII., p. 110), are affixed to both wills. There are no witnesses to the earlier will, but the later one is attested as follows:—"Henrõ Berham, Johẽ Berham, Johẽ Hampton, Ricõ Selewyn, Johẽ Westburn,³⁸ & aliis."

If it were possible to identify with certainty the Henry and John Berham, who were present at the sealing of this important document, the perplexing problem of the relationship existing between the various branches of the family, at this period, would probably be much nearer solution. My own theory (which I submit with considerable diffidence) is that the first witness may be identified with Henry Berham, of Sissinghurst, the husband of Elizabeth Colepeper; and that the second witness was his kinsman, "John Berham, Arm^r," whose name heads the pedigree of "*Berham of Berham*" in the 1574 Visitation.³⁹ Or perhaps the latter may have been that John Berham, the son of Richard of Wadhurst, who was admitted by John Westburn, the Seneschal, to lands in the Pelham manor of Bivelham, in 1480.

The name of "John Berham, Armiger," occurs in two other Pelham charters, dated 8th October, 1491, and 10th December, 1499, respectively, as one of the feoffees of William Pelham, the second son and eventual heir of the above Sir John Pelham, of Laughton.⁴⁰ The will of "William Pelham, Esquyre," dated 12th February, 150 $\frac{3}{4}$, and proved 11th March following, is among the Pelham MSS. It contains the following reference to Bivelham manor:—

Item. I will and vpon Godds behalf require my said feffees immediately aft^r my disses do make vnto my Nevev John Pelham sonne and heir nowe apparente of my said brother Thomas, and to such a gentilwoman as the same John shall marye, soe as the same John be maried be the advise of my said brodr^r his fadr^r, An estate of

³⁸ John Westburn was Seneschal of Bivelham Manor.

³⁹ The Arms assigned to *Berham of Berham*, at this Visitation, are differenced with a crescent, which usually denotes descent from a *second* son. (H. 2, Kent; f. 59.)

⁴⁰ Add. Ch., 30,444 and 30,446.

the Mano^{rs} of Burgherssh and *Bevilhame* . . . to the same John and to his Wyf such as god shall appoint hym to marye.

This John Pelham, the nephew, married Ann, daughter of Sir Thomas Fynes of Claverham, but died without issue before 1516; his widow became the second wife of Sir Godard Oxenbridge of Brede, and their daughter, Mary Oxenbridge, was married to James Barham of Teston, as already stated.

Returning to the Bivelham Court Rolls, we find numerous references to Richard Berham. On several occasions between 1453 and 1470 his name occurs among the "*Essoins*," *i.e.*, those tenants who sent excuses for non-appearance at the Manorial Court; when absent, he was usually represented by John Busse, his father-in-law. On the 11th December, 1461, William Bartlot, Thomas Norman and Richard Berham did fealty for lands called Mauncers and Brookes, in Wadhurst. At a Court held 18th September, 1464, "Richard Berham and Anne his wife surrendered a house with the appurtenances, late William Comden's situate in the *wiste* of Comden, into the lord's hands, who, by his Seneschal, John Westburn, granted the same to the said Richard and Anne, to hold to them their heirs and assigns."⁴¹

At a Court held 9th May, 1472, it was reported "that John Busse *had closed his last day*, who held certain lands called Snorehyll" (which had been surrendered to his use by Thomas Berham in 1446); also, "that Anne, the wife of Richard Berham, and daughter of the said John, was his next heir and of full age."⁴² At the following Court, "Joan, who was the wife of John Busse," surrendered other lands in Comden *wiste*, called Redyng (with the woodland adjacent), Smythfeld and Lytil Comden, to the use of Richard Berham and Anne his wife and their heirs.

Richard Berham died before 27th January, 147⁹/₈, his death being reported at a Court held 17th May following.

⁴¹ Add. Ch., 31,134.

⁴² Add. Ch., 31,138.

By Anne, his wife, who survived him, and had a life-interest in certain lands, he had issue two sons:—

(1) Nicholas, of Wadhurst; of whom presently.

(2) John, of Bivelham, who succeeded to the above-mentioned copyhold lands, which devolved upon *the youngest son*, by custom of the manor.

At a Court held 17th May, 1480, "John Westburn, the Seneschal, reported that on the previous 27th of January John Berham, son and heir of Richard Berham deceased, came to him at Battle (*apud Bellum*) and surrendered into the lord's hand the reversion of a house and 60 acres of land called Upper Comden, except a field called Waters comden, to which he was entitled on the death of his mother Anne. Whereupon the lord, by his Seneschal, granted the said house and lands to the same John, and to Agnes his wife, the daughter of Thomas Broun, and their heirs."⁴³

BARHAMS OF SNAPE.

This John Barham was the ancestor of an influential branch of the family, who had their chief residence at "Bivelham, *als* Snape," in Wadhurst, which was probably the ancient Court Lodge of the manor. An entry on the Court Roll, dated 28th April, 1579, records the admission of "John Berham, son and heir of William Berham," to the lands of Upper and Nether Combden and Newland Wood, containing in all 150 acres, "to which the said William had been admitted on the 20th of June 1522."⁴⁴

These lands of Upper Combden had been confirmed to John Berham, son of Richard and Anne, in 1480, and they formed part of the Snape estate, of which David Barham died seised in 1644. This David was the youngest son of John Barham of Bivelham, by Mary, his wife, daughter of the first George Courthope of Whiligh; he was a minor, aged 16, in 1597, under the guardianship of his maternal uncle, William Courthope, of Buckling Hill in Wadhurst, gent. (will dated 18th

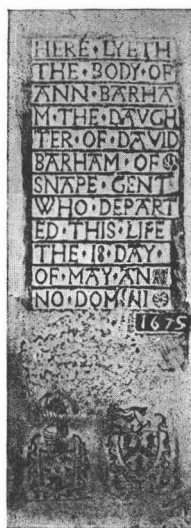
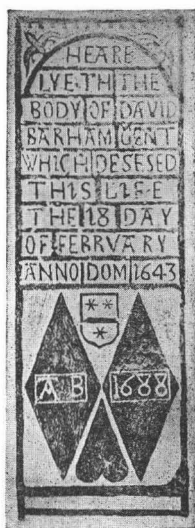
⁴³ Add. Ch., 31,140.

⁴⁴ Add. Ch., 31,156 (*Dorso*).

May, 1625), as we learn from an entry on the Court Roll of Mayfield Manor.

David Barham built the older portion of the present house at Snape, in 1617. He married at Frant, 30th December, 1622, Helen, daughter of William Fowle, of Lightlands in Frant, Esquire, by whom he had, with other issue, a son David, baptized at Wadhurst, 3rd June, 1629, who was presented as heir to his father's copyhold lands at a Court of Bivelham Manor, 26th April, 1644, his eldest brother, William (who succeeded, by custom of the manor, to the freehold lands of Maplesden, in Wadhurst, and Mapesden, in Ticehurst) being appointed guardian during his minority.

David Barham, the elder, was Churchwarden of Wadhurst in 1621. He died 18th February, 1643-4, as



we learn from his curious iron tomb-slab in the South Aisle of Wadhurst Church (*see illustration*). The armorial bearings, beneath the inscription, are those of his mother's family, the Courthopes of Whiligh—*Silver a fesse azure between three stars sable*—while the initials

and date, in the two lozenge-shaped compartments, refer to his daughter-in-law, "Anne, wife of M^r David Barham," who was buried 15th January, 1688-9.

The other memorial slab, to "Ann Barham, the daughter of David Barham of Snape, gent.," is noteworthy for having, in addition to her paternal coat of arms, a second shield (presumably that of her mother's father), bearing *a cheveron between three (?) eagles' heads erased*, which may perhaps suggest a clue to her mother's parentage.

This Ann Barham was baptized at Wadhurst, 10th August, 1655, and was buried there 21st May, 1675; the entry of her burial is as follows: "Ann daughter of M^r David and Ann Barham of Snape (virgo imatura)."

David Barham, the younger, surrendered his lands of "Bivelham *als* Snape" to his first cousin, William Barham, of Scrag Oak, in Wadhurst, gent., 27th October, 1680, who, by his will, dated 20th November, 1697, settled the same lands upon his "Godson and kinsman William Barham, first sonne of the said Thomas Barham . . . sonne of my kinsman David Barham, late of Snape aforesayd deceased." This William Barham, junior, was baptized at Wadhurst 14th May, 1691, and, being a minor at his godfather's death, was not admitted to his inheritance until 1712. At a Court held 12th June, 1721, he surrendered Snape, and other lands, to his kinsman John Dunmoll, and died without issue in June, 1764. Mr. Henry Barham, of Stonegate in Ticehurst, third son of the late Nicholas Barham, of Whitegates in Wadhurst, is a direct descendant of Thomas Barham, of Wadhurst, a younger brother of the last mentioned William Barham of Snape.

Moreover, it was written in the Book of Destiny that the pleasant woods and vales of Snape should not pass for ever into the hands of strangers. For, within six years of the above surrender, there was born one Thomas Barham of Mountfield (seventh in descent from William of Stalerege, a younger brother of the "Iron-maker"), and his great-grandson, Sir George Barham of Snape, returning in 1885, bought back the ancient home of his

race; so that a Barham is once again "lord of that goodly heritage."

THE RECALL.

I am the land of their fathers,
In me the virtue stays;
I will bring back my children
After certain days.

Under their feet in the grasses
My clinging magic runs.
They shall return as strangers,
They shall remain as sons.

—Rudyard Kipling.

NICHOLAS BERHAM,

the elder son of Richard and Anne, and grandson of Thomas Bereham, was feoffee of lands in Wadhurst called Stumblett, East Bynne, Mottesfield, Takkscroft and Ramgates, by charter from Richard Goding and others, dated 1st September, 7 Henry VII. (1491). William Berham was witness to this deed.⁴⁵ A Fine levied in Easter Term, 1493, between Thomas May, William Patynden, Nicholas Berham and Thomas Baker, *querents*, and Richard Goding and Margaret his wife, *deforcians*, concerning 64 acres of land and four acres of woodland, in Wadhurst, evidently has to do with the above feoffment.

In Easter Term, 1492, Nicholas Berham and Thomas Baker, of Fayercrouch (in Wadhurst), were parties to another Fine of lands, in the adjacent parish of Lamberhurst; and, in Easter Term, 1494, Thomas May, Nicholas Berham and Thomas Baker, occur as *querents* in a Fine concerning land at Ealding (*i.e.*, Yalding, two miles south of Teston) in Kent. The association of the names of May, Berham and Baker, in the above Fines, may be only a coincidence, but it should certainly be noted, in view of the traditional connection between the Barhams of Wadhurst and the Senior line at Sissinghurst and Teston.

Hasted informs us that the family of Baker were settled at Cranbrook "so early as the reign of K.

⁴⁵ *Courthope MSS.* The original charter is at Whiligh.

Edward III." and they also held lands in the neighbourhood of Wadhurst. Thomas Baker "of Cranebroke" (who bought Sissinghurst from the Barhams), in his will dated 3rd February, 149 $\frac{3}{4}$, proved (P.C.C.) 4th March, 149 $\frac{7}{8}$, bequeathed land and houses "in Burwessch" to his grandson Thomas Baker, and left money for lights and repairs to the Churches of Burwash, Echyngham, Bexhill and Saleherst.

Nicholas Berham was Churchwarden of Wadhurst during the incumbency of "S^r John Broun, preest, vicar of the seid Chirch," as appears by a Chancery suit (undated), a copy of which is in the possession of the present Vicar, to whom I am indebted for much interesting information contained in the Wadhurst registers and other parochial records. "John Browne, chaplain," was collated to Wadhurst 24th January, 146 $\frac{3}{4}$, and died before 16th November, 1487.⁴⁶

In the course of my genealogical researches I have had occasion to visit a large number of Sussex parishes, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my grateful appreciation of the courtesy and hospitality I have invariably met with on these expeditions. Where all have been so ready to help it may seem invidious to mention individuals, but I feel that my thanks are especially due to the Dean of Battle, the Vicars of Wadhurst and Westfield, Mr. Raper (of Battle), Mr. W. E. Nicholson (of Lewes), and the officials at the District Probate Office and Diocesan Registry in that town, for their kindly and invaluable co-operation.

At a Court of the Manor of Mayfield, 28th November, 1499, William Kingewood, Nicholas Berham and 10 other jurors, were appointed to hold an Inquisition, on behalf of the Lord of that Manor, concerning the payments due for *pannage*, i.e., the right of pasturing swine in the lord's woods.⁴⁷

⁴⁶ *S.A.C.*, Vol. XXVI., p. 93.

⁴⁷ *Court Rolls*, Sussex; Portfolio 206, No. 33 (P.R.O.).

In a very ancient MS. book, entitled "*Rentall de Beddellaria de Maghfelde*,"⁴⁸ there are several references to Nicholas Berham and the lands he held of this manor. Some of these lands were inherited by his youngest son, William Berham of Stalerege, in accordance with his will, of which Thomas Baker was feoffee. This will is not registered, either at Lewes or Somerset House, though it is mentioned on the Court Roll of the manor.

Nicholas Berham had issue three sons:—

(1) Richard, of Brownes in Wadhurst. From an entry in the Mayfield Rental we learn that "a house at Wadhurst, wherein Richard Berham some time dwelt, with 30 acres of freehold land called Brownes, formerly held by Nicholas Berham senior, and lately by Nicholas Berham the son of Richard," was, at the date of this entry (*i.e.*, circa 1550), in the possession of John Berham, "*Iern man*." This John Berham was of Woodlande and Buttes, in Wadhurst; he was Richard's younger brother, and uncle to Nicholas, the Queen's Serjeant, from whom he purchased this property in 1548. Richard Berham married Alice, daughter of . . . Cradock, of Sussex, by whom he had an only son,

NICHOLAS BARHAM, of Chillington Manor in Maidstone; admitted of Gray's Inn 1540, called to the Bar 1542, Serjeant-at-law 1567, and Queen's Serjeant 1573; he was Recorder of Maidstone in 1562, and M.P. for that town in 1563. He married Mary, daughter of John Holte, of Cheshire, by whom (who died 1st August, 1597) he had an only son, Arthur Barham of Maidstone, who married (Settlement dated 24th April, 1574) Jane, daughter and co-heir of Richard Chamber, of Charing, co. Kent; and a daughter Margaret, married (by licence dated 31st August, 1564) to Peter Nott, of Gray's Inn, gent. Nicholas Barham, died 25th July, 1577, of gaol fever, with which he had been infected at the "Black Assize," held at Oxford on the 4th of that month. His

⁴⁸ The *Rental* is now in the custody of Messrs. Stone & Simpson, of Tunbridge Wells, solicitors to the Marquess Camden, by whose kind permission I was enabled to make extracts from this interesting MS., and other manorial records.

will, a most interesting one, was signed the day before his death, and proved (P.C.C.) 29th November following by Mary Barham, his widow, and Thomas Barham, of Barham Court in Teston, his executors. From inquisitions taken at Deptford, Maidstone and East Greenwich it appears that he left a very considerable estate; for, in addition to Chillington Manor—"his principall messuage in Maidston"—he had another property there called Digons, with lands called *Lez Quarries* and Springfield Grove; he also owned the Manor of Hall Place in Barming, Leigh Park in Boxley, Copt Hall and other lands in Cobham, and sundry houses and lands in Charing, Egerton, Luddesdowne and Nutsted. He recorded his pedigree, and entered his Arms and Crest, at the Visitation of Kent in 1574.

(2) John, of Woodlande and Buttes; of whom presently.

(3) William, of Stalerege, in Wadhurst. He was feoffee of Brookland, with John Berham (his elder brother) and Thomas Luck, 10th February, 152 $\frac{6}{11}$, which lands he released to his said brother, the "Iron maker," by deed dated 31st July, 1528.⁴⁹ At a Court of Mayfield Manor, 9th August, 1546, it was reported that Thomas Baker, feoffee of the will of Nicholas Barham, had surrendered on the 1st December, 1545, certain lands in the Virgates of Wyke and Stalerege, in Wadhurst, "to William Barham, John Bromley and John Dorant, who were admitted to hold same *for the use of the said William* and his heirs." These lands are mentioned in the Mayfield Rental, as being then in the possession of William Berham, junior, his son and heir. At the Hundred Court, 30th September, 1546, William Barham was fined for non-attendance; and on the 2nd March, 154 $\frac{6}{7}$, Nicholas Barham (afterwards Queen's Serjeant) surrendered lands called Barnefield and Barnehaw, in the Virgate of Stalerege, to William and John Barham, to the use of the said William and his heirs. William Barham died shortly after this transaction, his death being reported at a Court of the Manor, 20th February,

⁴⁹ Title deeds of the Shoesmiths' estate (P.R.O.).

1547, when William Barham, "as eldest son and next heir of the said William," was admitted to his father's lands.

From this William of Stalerege descend several branches of the Sussex Barhams, of which the most important are the Barhams of Westfield, who for five successive generations have occupied the old manor-farm of DOLEHAM, in that parish, and the Barhams of Mountfield and Battle, now represented by Sir George Barham, of Snape. On some future occasion I hope to submit a more detailed description of these two branches, together with some account of the Manor of Doleham and its former owners. Meanwhile, the following brief outline of the descent will be sufficient to indicate the relationship existing between the Barhams of Westfield and those of Battle, and their connection with the parent stock at Wadhurst:—

William Barham, of Spenyes, in Wadhurst, the eldest son of William of Stalerege, succeeded his father in 1548, as above stated; from the Mayfield Rental we learn that the lands he held of that Manor included Barnefield, Mayston Dodds, Mercroft, Little Dodds, a messuage and garden in the ward of Stalerege, Bernerede and Broderede, with Upper and Nether Spenyes. Some of these lands remained in the possession of his descendants until the end of the seventeenth century. In his will, dated 10th September, 1589, and proved (*Deanery of South Malling*) on the 16th of the following month, he is styled "William Barham the elder, of Wadhurst in the countie of Sussex yeoman." By Agnes (otherwise called Anne) his wife, sister of William Lorkyn, of Pembury, co. Kent, he had with other issue a son,

William Barham, of Skynes in Ticehurst, to which lands he was admitted at a Court of the Manor of Robertsbridge, 17th November, 1603. He was "Headborough" of Hoathley in 1612, and was buried at Wadhurst, 1st June, 1614, his nuncupative will being proved at Lewes on the 8th of same month. He married Barbara Gouldsmith (sister of Anthony Gouldsmith, of Framfield, a wealthy ironmaster), by whom, who

married secondly, 21st July, 1618, John Waker (? Walker), of Heathfield, yeoman, he had seven sons and two daughters.

Robert Barham, of Hawkhurst, co. Kent, his sixth son, was a minor at his father's death. He married at Hawkhurst, 11th July, 1639, Anne, younger daughter of Edward Gibbon of that parish, clothier, by whom (who died 26th April, 1678) he had five sons and three daughters; he was buried at Hawkhurst, 25th May, 1683, admōn. granted to Robert, his eldest surviving son, 19th June following.

Francis Barham, of Echingham, co. Sussex, his youngest son, was born at Hawkhurst, 5th August, 1656, and baptized there 26th of same month. He married, first, at Dallington, 29th September, 1677, Martha, daughter of Thomas Russell, of Echingham, by whom (who was baptized 20th July, 1656, and buried there 7th December, 1699) he had issue:—

(1) Francis, baptized at Echingham, 5th June, 1681; died an infant.

(2) Francis, of Whatlington; born 1686; died S.P., in September, 1733.

(3) William of Salehurst and Westfield; whose line we follow.

(4) Arthur of Salehurst and Mountfield, of whom presently.

(5) John, of Whatlington, born 1697; married at Salehurst, 29th April, 1731, Mary Hollands, who was buried at Whatlington, 12th April, 1764; he was buried there 17th November, 1755.

(1) Anne, eldest daughter; baptized at Echingham, 28th November, 1680; buried there 26th June, 1692.

Francis Barham married secondly, at Echingham, 26th November, 1700, Sarah Austen, by whom he had further issue. He was buried there 1st April, 1733; admōn. granted to William his son, on the 6th of same month.

William Barham, of Salehurst, afterwards of Doleham, in Westfield; third son of Francis and Martha; baptized at Echingham 23rd August, 1690; married at Dallington

11th November, 1720, Mary, widow of James Stace, of Salehurst, by whom he had an only son named William. He was Churchwarden of Westfield in 1744, and was buried there 10th December, 1751, as "William Barham Sen^r." His wife died the previous year, and was buried there 5th August, 1750, as "Mary, wife of William Barham Sen^r."

William Barham, of Doleham, their only son, was baptized at Salehurst, 21st October, 1721. He married, first, at Westfield, 17th January, 1748, Sarah, daughter of Robert Thomas of that parish; she was baptized 26th November, 1729, and buried there 27th October, 1750, ten days after the baptism of her daughter, Mary Barham. He married, secondly, at St. Mary Westout, Lewes, 20th Jan^y., 1759, Jane Benner, by whom (who was buried at Westfield 26th December, 1800) he had three sons and two daughters. He was Churchwarden in 1761; and voted at the Election in 1774, in respect of freehold land at Westfield. He was buried there 28th November, 1796.

Arthur Barham, of Doleham, his second son, was baptized at Westfield 22nd December, 1754; he was Churchwarden in 1792, and voted at the Election in 1820. He married (before 1782) Mary Russell, of Warbleton, by whom he had five sons—(1) Samuel, of Fairlight; (2) Henry, of Winchelsea; (3) Tilden, of Seddlescombe; (4) Edmund, of Doleham; (5) Lewis, of Little Tildens, in Headcorn—and a daughter, Ann, married at Westfield, 23rd November, 1804, to John Walker, of Hawkhurst. Mary Barham was buried 30th December, 1793, admon. granted to Arthur Barham, her husband, 25th February, 1800. He was buried at Westfield 29th August, 1831; his will, dated 15th of same month, was proved at Lewes 9th May, 1832.

Samuel Barham, of Headcorn and Fairlight, his eldest son, was baptized at Westfield 18th September, 1782; he married at Headcorn 31st October, 1805, Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Greenhill, of that parish, by whom (who was baptized at Headcorn 23rd February, 1781, and buried at Fairlight 12th March,

1850) he had three sons and three daughters; from whom descend the Barhams of Sidecup, co. Kent, and of Hitchin, co. Hertford. Mr. Samuel Barham died at Fairlight 12th August, 1879, aged 97, and was buried there. His third son, the late Mr. Tilden Barham of Hitchin, took a keen interest in the past history of his Sussex forbears. On his death, in 1902, he left his grandson, Mr. C. Loftus Barham, to carry on the good work, to whom, and to his kinsman Mr. Robert Barham of Sidecup, I am indebted for much valuable assistance in tracing the descent of the Doleham branch of the family.

Edmund Barham, the fourth son of Arthur and Mary, baptized at Westfield 22nd January, 1790, succeeded his father at Doleham; he married at Westfield 11th February, 1812, Philadelphia, daughter of Richard Stunt, of that parish, by whom he had, with other issue, a son William, baptized at Westfield 4th November, 1832, now living at Doleham.

Arthur Barham, of Salehurst and Mountfield, the fourth son of Francis and Martha Barham, of Echingham, was baptized there 26th March, 1693; he married at Echingham 4th April, 1722, Elizabeth Cruttenden, by whom (who was buried at Mountfield 21st August, 1765) he had issue: (1) Arthur, of Mountfield, baptized at Salehurst 23rd May, 1725, buried at Mountfield 27th September, 1754; (2) Thomas, of whom presently; (3) Francis, baptized at Salehurst 30th March, 1729, died young. Mr. Arthur Barham, senior, was buried at Mountfield 30th November, 1767. His second son,

Thomas Barham, of Mountfield and Battle, was baptized at Salehurst 12th February, 1729; he married at Mountfield 22nd January, 1748, Elizabeth Cutbart, of Battle, by whom (who was buried at Battle 2nd September, 1786) he had six sons and five daughters. He was buried at Battle 17th January, 1795.

Robert Barham, of Battle, his youngest son, was baptized at Mountfield 12th April, 1767, and married at Battle 28th May, 1787, Mary, daughter of Richard Mepham, of that parish, by whom (who died 4th July,

1842) he had five sons and four daughters. He died 29th April, 1842, aged 75, and was buried at Battle, where there is a tombstone to his memory. His youngest son,

Robert Barham, of the Strand, London, and of Camden Road, in the parish of St. Pancras, co. Middlesex, baptized at Battle 26th August, 1807; married at St. Edmund the King and Martyr's, Lombard Street, 22nd March, 1830, Altezeera Henrietta, daughter of George Davey, of Bletchley, co. Buckingham, and had, with other issue, a son,

Sir George Barham, of Snape, in Wadhurst; born 22nd November, 1836; he married at Spilsby, co. Lincoln, 22nd June, 1859, Margaret, daughter of Jarvis Rainey, by whom he had surviving issue:—(1) George Titus, of Sudbury Park, co. Middlesex; born 22nd March, 1860; married 29th April, 1897, Florence Elizabeth, daughter of William Peter Vosper, Esquire, of Merafield, Plympton, co. Devon. (5) Arthur Saxby, of Hole Park, Rolvenden, co. Kent; Lieutenant-Colonel 19th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, 1901-7; born 17th July, 1869; married 5th July, 1893, Annie Gertrude, daughter of Edward H. Edwards, Esquire, of Hampstead, and has issue. Lady Barham died 14th April, 1906.

Sir George Barham was knighted at Buckingham Palace, 5th July, 1904, and served the office of High Sheriff for the County of Middlesex in 1908-9; he was a Justice of the Peace for Middlesex and Sussex, and a member of the East Sussex County Council. It is with great regret that we have to record his death, on 16th November, 1913, at the very time that this proof was passing through the press.

We now return to JOHN BERHAM, "of Woodlande and Buttes in the parish of Woodherst wthin the Countie of Sussex, Iron maker" (as he is styled in his will), the second son of Nicholas Berham, of Wadhurst; born towards the close of the fifteenth century. He was one of the first and most successful of the Sussex Ironmasters, and the extensive works he founded near

Bayham Abbey, in Lamberhurst (afterwards known as Gloucester Furnace) are said to have been "the largest iron-manufactory in Sussex."⁵⁰ He also owned Brookland Forge, in Frant (which he purchased from Humphrey Lewknor, Esquire, by deed dated 10th February, 1529); with Barkley Mill and Verredge Forge, on the borders of Frant and Wadhurst. His assessment, in the Subsidy of 1543, indicates that he was by far the wealthiest inhabitant of Wadhurst at this period.

The Mayfield Rental contains a long list of Chief-rents, &c., payable by "John Berham, Iern man," as set forth "in the new book of Sir Edward North, lord of the Manor of Maughfeld."⁵¹ The schedule of his lands extends to $5\frac{1}{2}$ closely written pages, and includes, *inter alia*, "104 acres in the Virgate of Pell, called Woodland and Sowthland," together with 157 acres in the Virgate of Stedyngligh, and 6 acres in the Virgate of Wyke, "all which aforesaid lands John Waller Esquire formerly held." This entry evidently refers to the estate mentioned in John Berham's will as "Woodlande and Buttes, conteyning by estimacon xiiii. score (*i.e.*, 280) acres or thereabout, the whiche I late had and purchased of one William Waller of Gromebrege Esquier." John Waller died 5th March, 1517;⁵² he was the second son of Sir Richard Waller, of Speldhurst, and father of William Waller, of Groombridge, who died 18th January, 1555.

Another entry in the Rental records that "The same John [Berham] holds two pieces of land called Bengerede and Bengerede croft, adjacent to the king's way leading from Wadherst towards Suresbrege on the south, formerly held by the said Nicholas [Berham] Sen^r, and before by Richard [atte] Melle, and recently by the aforesaid Richard Berham." Turning to the Court Roll of the same manor, we find that these identical holdings, with Dedemanscroft and other lands in the

⁵⁰ *Ironworks of Co. Sussex*, by M. A. Lower, S.A.C., Vol. II., p. 212.

⁵¹ The Manor of Mayfield was granted to Sir Edward North, 5th January, 1545; he appears to have sold it to Sir John Gresham shortly afterwards. (*Burrell MSS.*, 5,682, f. 12.)

⁵² Hasted's *Kent*, I., 431.

Virgate of Stalerege, were surrendered by Nicholas Berham, Robert Wemborne, and Thomas Baker, of Wyke, on the 20th February, 1547 $\frac{7}{8}$, "to the use of John Barham Sen^r for life and after his decease to the use of John Barham, *son of the said John*, and his heirs." It is quite clear, therefore, that the first John Barham of Buttes had a son John, on whom he settled the reversion of certain lands, although no son of that name is mentioned in his will. Moreover, "Bengrede and Bengrede crofte," with other copyholds, were bequeathed by John Barham of Fayercrouch, in 1583, to Richard his fourth son.

John Berham, of Woodlande and Buttes, died before 19th June, 1555, on which date his will, dated 1st May, 1551, was proved (P.C.C.) by Nicholas Berham, his eldest son and executor. He left issue five sons and a daughter, Alice. Thomasyne, his wife, was living in 1551; he left her an annuity, charged upon his lands at Lamberhurst, and gave directions "that my said wief shal haue and enjoie during three yeres next after my decease, yf so long she be widowe and vnmariéd, her free inhabiting and being in one Chamber with a Chymbney in the Mansion house called Woodlande, and also the vse and occupying of the two buttries being at the stayers Leading to the saide Chamber, with franck egressse and regresse, also the pastorage and keping of two kyne and her Convenient firebote within the Landes called Woodlande." The sons were:—

(1) Nicholas, devisee of Woodlande and Buttes, and executor of his father's will in 1555. In the subsidy of 1571, he was assessed on lands of the annual value of £8, in "Cowslye," *i.e.*, Cousley Wood quarter, in which Buttes is situated; John Barham, his brother, who had inherited the ironworks at Frant and Wadhurst, being assessed at £14 in the same return. In a Chancery Suit of 1571 Nicholas and John Barham were defendants to a "*Bill of Complaint*," filed by Stephen Bromeley, grandson of John Bromeley, of Wadhurst, concerning certain Title Deeds, which, he alleged, "they do wrongfullie deteine and w^hhold." Their "*Answer*" is a brief and

absolute denial of the charge. Nicholas Barham died before 1599,⁵³ leaving issue two sons, John and Nicholas. The latter is mentioned in the will of his uncle, John Barham, of Fayercrouch (1583). The former married, before 1590, Agnes (or Annis), daughter of Gregory Markwicke, of Wadhurst (will dated 13th July, 1592), and had, with other issue, a son and heir, Nicholas Barham of Buttes, who married at St. Clement's, Hastings, 24th July, 1615, his cousin Mary, daughter of John Barham, of Bivelham, by Mary Courthope, and widow of John Holland, the younger, of Lamberhurst. Their only son, John Barham,⁵⁴ died in 1697, aged 80, leaving with other issue, a son and heir, also named John, who resided at Great Buttes until the year 1713, "about which time he is presumed to have sold what remained to him of his paternal inheritance; he afterwards lived in obscurity, and dying in June, 1732, aged 75, was interred at Wadhurst."⁵⁵

(2) John, of Fayercrouch, in Wadhurst; of whom presently.

(3) Thomas, of Boughton Monchelsea, co. Kent, to whom his father bequeathed "certeyn Landes and tenements lying in Pepynbery and Tunbridge, called Springells and Southlandes;" he was overseer of the will of his brother John Barham in 1583; and, as "Thomas Barham, the sonne of John Barham of Buttes," he was appointed executor by Nicholas Durrant, of Wadhurst, in 1591. He married (after 1562, and before 1572) Mildred, daughter of Thomas Franckelyn, of East Sutton, co. Kent, and sister to John Franckelyn, of Charte,⁵⁶ by whom he had issue three sons, Robert, Thomas and

⁵³ At a Court held 15th March, 1598, it was reported that "divers years had elapsed" since the death of Nicholas Barham. "John Barham de Buttes," presumably his son, is mentioned at the previous Court, 22nd January, 1598 (Manor of Mayfield-Aynscombe).

⁵⁴ In the *Hearth Tax* returns, 1665, "John Barham, Gent." (of Buttes), and "John Barham gent., Shoosmiths," were each assessed on 10 hearths; "Nicho. fflowle Esq." (of Riverhall) paid on 13, and "Sr Geo. Courthopp" (of Whiligh) on 14 hearths.

⁵⁵ *Courthope MSS.*, W.C. 26, f. 41.

⁵⁶ She had previously been married, as his second wife, to George Roberts, of Mootlands in Brenchley, gent. His will was proved (P.C.C.) 25th February, 1563.

Richard, and a daughter Mildred, married (by licence dated 13th January, 160₁^q) to Thomas Ayerste, of Maidstone, gent. His will, dated 28th August, 1595, was proved at Canterbury (A.C.) 26th September, 1595. His son and heir,

Robert Barham, of East Hall, in Boughton Monchelsea, Gent., Comptroller of the Pipe, recorded his pedigree (with the same Arms and Crest as in 1574) at the Visitation of Kent in 1619. He married, by licence dated 7th January, 159₅^q, Susanna, daughter of Thomas Sare, of Provender in Norton, Gent., by whom he had a large family. By fine, levied in Easter Term, 1610, "Robert Barham, Gent., and Susanna, his wife," purchased 300 acres of land in Gestling and Westfield, co. Sussex, from Sir Henry Browne and Elizabeth his wife; which estate he settled, in 1621, upon Robert Barham, his eldest son, on his marriage with Katherine, third daughter of Sir Edward Filmer, of East Sutton, co. Kent.

(4) Richard, of Lamberhurst Mill, and of Wateringbury, near Maidstone, Clothier. He married, *circa* 1582, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of John Bettes, of Wouldham, co. Kent, maltster,⁵⁷ and died in 1602. His will, dated 16th March, 160₂¹/₂, was proved at Rochester, 24th April following. His descendants were living at Wiskitts Farm, Lamberhurst, in 1715.

(5) Robert, of Lamberhurst, to whom his father left a moiety of "Wiskers" (? Wiskitts) and Lamberhurst Mill, which he subsequently conveyed to his brother Richard, by deed dated 9th March, 157₈^q; he is mentioned in the will of Magnus Fowle, of Mayfield, in 1595, but I can find no trace of his descendants.

JOHN BARHAM, of Fayercrouch, in Wadhurst, the second son of John, of Woodlande and Buttes, succeeded at his father's death to the iron mills and forges at Frant and Wadhurst. In the Subsidy for the first year of Elizabeth (155₈^q) he was assessed on lands of £15 per annum, and he was a "Cessor" for the Subsidy of 1571.

⁵⁷ *Chancery Proceedings*, Series II., B 259/50.

His name is entered under "Fayre Croche" in the Subsidy of 1576;⁵⁸ and George Courthope, of Whiligh, appoints as overseers of his will, dated 11th April, 1577, "John Barham th' elder of Fayrcrooche, and John Barham of Bivelham my sonne in lawe." In 1565 "John Barham, son of John Barham of Buttes," was juror on an *Inq. p.m.*, held at Lamberhurst, on Alexander Collen. From a list of owners of ironworks, in 1574, we learn that "John Barham had ij fordgs in Fraunt, in other men's hands;"⁵⁹ from which it would seem that he was not personally engaged in that lucrative industry at the date of this return.

He married (after 1541, and during his father's lifetime)⁶⁰ Alice, daughter of Richard Isted, of the Moate, in Mayfield, by Joane, his wife, who, in her will, dated 11th August, 1557, mentions "John Byrham my sonne in lawe," and "Alice Byrham my daughter," to whom she bequeaths 100 markes and a fourth part of "my chief lynen apparell."

The will of John Barham (in which he is styled "of the Towne of Wadherst, yeoman"), dated 4th April, 1583, was proved (P.C.C.) 7th August following, by Nicholas Barham, his eldest son. He bequeaths "to Alice my wiewe ffowrescore poundes of lawfull monney of England, to be paide to her within one yeare after my deathe in the Churche Porche of Wadherst;" also "all my householde stuffe . . . and the Leasse of my howse wherein I nowe dwell, and the Landes thereto belonginge."

John and Alice Barham had issue:—

(1) Nicholas, baptized at Frant, 21st September, 1559; to whom his father bequeathed "All my message called Brownes, wth all the Landes aswell free as Copyhoulde to the same belonginge . . . and all other my Landes whatsoever whiche weare heretofore purchased of Nicholas Barham Seriante at Lawe deceased." This was the house "wherein Richard Berham sometime dwelt,"

⁵⁸ *Lay Subsidies*, Sussex, 190/298.

⁵⁹ *S.A.C.*, Vol. III., p. 241.

⁶⁰ John Barham mentions in his will (1583) a deed by which "my father assured unto Alice my Wyfe a certen yerely rente of Tenne poundes."

afterwards held by "Nicholas Berham, son of the said Richard," and surrendered by the latter to John Berham, "*Iern man*," before the compilation of the Mayfield Rental. Nicholas Barham married a daughter of the first George Courthope, of Whiligh, by whom he had an only daughter, Anne, who was married, first, to Henry Haslyn, of Meopham Court, co. Kent;⁶¹ and, secondly, to Capt. Francis Courthope, of Wombell Hall, in Northfleet. He was buried at Wadhurst, 13th February, 164 $\frac{4}{5}$, as "Mr. Nicholas Barrham of Lampkin Corner;" in his will, dated 15th March, 164 $\frac{3}{4}$, and proved (P.C.C.) 2nd May, 1645, he mentions, among numerous other relatives, "my two Cozens, Stephen and John Barham, sonnes of my nephue John Barham, late of Shoesmythes deceased."

(2) John, of Maidstone, of whom presently.

(3) Thomas, of Maidstone, and afterwards of London; to whom his father left £200 at 24, and "all my Landes and Tenements in Maidstone . . . ltelie purchased of my brother Richard Barham of Maidstone."⁶² In his will, dated 9th October, 1603, and proved (P.C.C.) 26th of same month (in which he styles himself "Citizen and tallowe chandler of London") he mentions his sons, Thomas and Josias, and his daughter, Marie, all of whom were baptized at All Saints, Maidstone. Also his brother, "Arthur Bareham Gent.," and his brother William. Josias Barham, his younger son, baptized at Maidstone 24th March, 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ $\frac{2}{8}$ $\frac{2}{8}$, settled at Dallington, in Sussex, where he married, 28th October, 1623, Martha, daughter and co-heir of John Avery, of that parish, and had issue.

(4) Richard, to whom his father left £300, with the reversion of "a messuage called Seddens, and certen parcell of copyhoulde Lande" (specified), at his mother's death or re-marriage. I think that he may almost certainly be identified with a certain Richard Barham who married at Waldron, 14th October, 1594,

⁶¹ His will was proved (P.C.C.) 14th January, 162 $\frac{3}{8}$, by Anne Haslen, his widow.

⁶² Richard Barham, fourth son of John of Woodlande, was of Wateringbury, near Maidstone.

Bennet (or Benedicta), sixth daughter and co-heir of Thomas Taylor, of Lindfield, co. Sussex,⁶³ and settled there. His descendants resided at Beadles Hill, in Lindfield, for several generations. Bennet and Richard Barham lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding, the former being buried at Lindfield 3rd June, 1649, and the latter 26th February, 165 $\frac{3}{4}$. His will, dated 28th June, 1650, was proved (P.C.C.) 10th February, 165 $\frac{3}{4}$, in which he styles himself "Richard Barham Senior of Linfeild co. Sussex yeoman;" he mentions his sons, Richard and John Barham; his daughters, Elizabeth and Ann Barham, and Mary Tompkin; and certain lands "which I sometime purchased of one Lettice Taylor, sister to my late wife deceased . . . scituate in Linfeild And now in my tenure and occupation." His younger son,

John Barham, of Lindfield, Gent., married at St. Michael's, Lewes (banns published 7th June, 1656), Anne, daughter of John Attree, of Newick, yeoman (by Judith his wife, daughter of Anthony Ollive, of Laughton),⁶⁴ and was buried at Lindfield, 20th November, 1699. Their grandson, Nathaniel Barham, inherited landed property at Lindfield, East Hothly, Broadwater and Mayfield, and died in 1792.

(5) William, of Isfield and East Hothly; his father left him £300, and lands called Buckhurst, in Wadhurst, after his mother's death. These lands he appears to have sold to Thomas Edwardes, of Wadhurst, Gent., in 1610, Anne, his wife, being party to the Fine. He was appointed "*Sessor*" for the Hundred of Loxfield-Dorset in 1620, and for Isfield in the Subsidies of 1626 and 1628. In 1642 he contributed to the "Irish Benevolence," being then resident in East Hothly. His will, dated 1st August, 1641, was proved at Lewes, 3rd May, 1643, by Nicholas, his eldest son, to whom he left "all my lands and tenements in Easttholy." To Arthur, his

⁶³ *Inq. p.m.*, taken at East Grinstead, 26th November, 1590.

⁶⁴ Information supplied by Col. F. W. T. Attree, F.S.A., whose extracts from Parish Registers, and other notes on the Sussex Barhams, have assisted me very materially in the compilation of this article.

fifth son (who was baptized at Buxted, 22nd November, 1618), he bequeathed "all my lands in Fletching, Commonly called Fitridge," at 24.

In the *Annals of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate*, by Rev. J. E. Cox, D.D., there is a most interesting account of this Arthur Barham, from which I take the following extracts:—

He was first designed for the Law, but upon his father's death he sold his law books and went to Cambridge, where he studied divinity with great diligence and delight. When he left the University he was first chosen lecturer of St. Olave's, Southwark, from whence he removed to St. Helens (in 1647), to which he was presented by Sir John Langham. . . . There he continued, preaching with great success, until his ejection in 1662. He then removed with his family to Hackney, where he continued until the Five Mile Act passed, when he left his family and retired into Sussex. Upon the indulgence in 1672, he took out a licence and preached in his own house. . . . For the last two years of his life he lived with his son-in-law, Mr. John Clark, a bookseller in the City. . . . He was a sincere, godly, humble man, of a mild and peaceable disposition, and was generally beloved by those who knew him.

Admōn. of the goods of "Nicholas Barrham, late of Easthoathly, deceased," was granted at Lewes, 25th May, 1681, "to Arthur Barham his brother, of Hackney co. Surrey, Clerk." The Rev. Arthur Barham died 6th March, 169 $\frac{1}{2}$, and was buried at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, "in the South Ile, over against the pullpitt."

(6) Arthur, to whom his father left £240, with certain "Customary Lands" in Wadhurst. By Fine, levied in 1604, Arthur Barham and Mary, his wife, sold a house, and about 100 acres of land, in Wadhurst, to Thomas Porter, Gent. He married Mary, daughter of John Wenham, of More Hall in Ninfield, gent., who "sold Morehayle and lived after at Battle."⁶⁵ A Fine, levied in Trinity Term, 1620, between Sir George Farewell and George Farewell, esquire, his son and heir, *querents*, and John Wenham, gent., and Mary his wife, with Arthur Barham and Mary his wife, *deforciant*s, concerning the Manor of Morehall, with lands in Ninfield and three other parishes, evidently refers to this transaction. In

⁶⁵ Berry's *County Genealogies*, Sussex, p. 257. John Wenham's son-in-law was Arthur, not Matthew, Barham.

his will, dated 5th April, 1624, and proved (P.C.C.) 29th April, 1626, he writes himself "John Wenham of Battell co. Sussex, gentleman," and mentions "my daughter Marie, the wief of Arthur Barham."

(1) Dorothy, the eldest daughter of John and Alice Barham, was left £100 in her father's will (1583), "to be paid vnto her in the Churche Porche of Wadhurste," at 21 or day of marriage.

(2) Alice, to whom her father bequeathed a similar portion, was married at Marden, co. Kent, 18th April, 1585, to Edward Maplesden, of Cheveney, in Marden, Gent., who died in 1638. Their second son, George Maplesden, of the Middle Temple, married (Settlement dated 10th October, 1626) Mary, only daughter of Thomas Barham, of Maidstone, Gent., second son of Thomas Barham, of Boughton Monchelsey.

(3) Johane, who was left a similar bequest, "to be paid at the same place in like sorte."

JOHN BARHAM, of Maidstone, second son of John of Fayercrouch and Alice Isted; to whom his father bequeathed £30, "to make vpp the hundred poundes whiche I promysed him," together with "All my Landes in Frante, and certeyne of my free and copyehoulde Landes in Wadhurst called Myllands Holmehedges and Barkley Mill, with the Toolles and ymplementes vnto Brokeland forge belonginge, How be itt myne executor shall have my fforge called Veredge forge . . . and all my Landes called Veredge, excepte so muche thereof as lyeth vnder water in Barklye Millponde, for ffyve yeares next ensuinge my deceasse."

John Barham married, before 1584, Elizabeth, daughter of David Willard,⁶⁶ by whom he had issue an only son, John (of whom presently), and three daughters:—

(1) Alice, baptized at Maidstone, 9th July, 1584, as "Alice, daughter of Mr. John Barham;" she was living

⁶⁶ David Willard was appointed overseer of the will of John Berham of Woodlande, in 1551; and the "Southfrithe Yron workes" were leased to "David Willard of Hadlow, yeoman," by Alexander Colepeper, of Goudhurst, in 1561. "David Willard, gent., and Elizabeth his wife," were *deforciants* to a fine of Byrchenden Manor, in Wythyam, in 1582.

at Sellenge, near Hythe, in 1609; and was married at Saltwood, by licence, dated 11th July, 1609, to John Goldfinch, of Sellenge, co. Kent.

(2) Elizabeth, baptized 3rd Oct., 1585; mentioned in her father's will.

(3) Margaret, baptised 1st April, 1590; living at Sellenge in 1613, when she was married by licence, dated 13th August, to Reginald Keale, of Smeeth, yeoman. Smeeth is the adjoining parish to Sellenge.

John, of Maidstone, died before 11th February, 159 $\frac{1}{2}$ (when his will was proved), and Elizabeth Barham, his widow (*née* Willard) was married secondly, before 1601, to "Henry Hart, of Sellenge, co. Kent, Gent.," whom she survived. The will of Henry Hart, in which he makes provision for Elizabeth, his wife, was proved at Canterbury, 28th September, 1625, by William, his son. This is evidently the William Hart who is mentioned as "brother in law" (*i.e.*, stepbrother), in the will of John Barham, of Shoesmiths, in 1639. Adm \ddot{o} n. of the goods of "Elizabeth Hart, *als* Barham, late of Smeeth co. Kent, widow, deceased," was granted (P.C.C.) "to John Barham her son," 17th October, 1633. The marriage of Henry Hart, "Lord of the Manor of Greyn Court," to "Elizabeth da: of David Willard," was recorded by William Hart, of Sellenge, Gent., their grandson, at the Visitation of Kent in 1663.

In his will, dated 20th September, 1589, and proved (P.C.C.) 11th February, 159 $\frac{1}{2}$, by Edmond Williard, his brother-in-law and executor, John Barham mentions Elizabeth, his wife, and bequeaths £100 "to either of my two Daughters Alice and Elizabeth," at 21 or day of marriage. These portions were to be increased to £200 each, "yf my said Landes happen to fall and come to my saide two brothers, Nicholas and Thomas Barham," *i.e.*, by the death without surviving issue of John Barham, his son and heir, to whom he left all his houses, lands and woods, "whatsoever and wheresoever wthin the Counties of Kente and Sussex." His youngest daughter,

Margaret, was not born when he made his will,⁶⁷ but he bequeathed £100 "to the Childe w^h my wif nowe goeth w^hall, yf yt be a woman Childe." Among other bequests, "the poore people of Maidstone" were to have 40s., the poor of Tonbridge 20s., and of Wadhurst 20s. To Edmond Willard, as executor, he left "the residue of all my goodes and Cattalls whatsoever, stocke of Iron, Coale, sowes, and all other my goodes . . . to see this my will proved, my Debts and legacies paide, and to employ the ov^rplus towards the Advancement in Livinge and honest godly and vertuous bringinge vpp of my children." He appoints as overseers, "my brother Thomas Barham,⁶⁸ and my two brothers in Lawe John Willard and Abraham Willard." He also mentions "my two messuges in the Towne of Maydstone, in one of which I nowe dwell."

JOHN BARHAM, of Shoesmiths, in Wadhurst, Gent., the only son of John, of Maidstone, and Elizabeth Willard, was born in 1587, being 10 years old in 1597, as we know from the Court Book of the Manor of Mayfield-Aynscombe.⁶⁹ I am informed that there is no entry of his baptism at All Saints, Maidstone, where his three sisters were christened. Perhaps he was baptized at Wadhurst.⁷⁰

At a Court of the above manor, held at Mayfield 14th December, 40 Elizabeth (1597):—

It was reported that John Barham, who held certain lands called Barkley⁷¹ containing ten acres, and other Customary lands, bequeathed the same to John Barham his son, and appointed one Edmond Willard, uncle of the said John Barham the son who was then and still is under age, viz. now of the age of ten years, to have the custody of the said John and of the aforesaid lands until he came of age, . . . who was accordingly admitted to same.

⁶⁷ She was baptized at Maidstone, 1st April, 1590. Information supplied by Mr. Percy Wilkinson, of Maidstone, to whom I am indebted for numerous extracts from the *All Saints* Registers.

⁶⁸ Thomas Barham, of Maidstone and London, third son of John of Fayercrouch.

⁶⁹ Now in the custody of Messrs. Stone & Simpson, Tunbridge Wells.

⁷⁰ The earliest Parish Register now at Wadhurst commences 25th March, 1604.

⁷¹ Barkley Mill was purchased from Robert Lewknor, in 1536, by John Berham of Woodlande; and was bequeathed by John of Fayercrouch, in 1583, to his second son, the John Barham (of Maidstone) here mentioned.



“SHOESMITHS,” IN 1785.

From a Water-colour Drawing by S. H. Grimm in the Burrell Collection.

Photo. by A. P. Monger, Chancery Lane.

His father's will provided that he should remain under his uncle's guardianship until he was 24; and, from the Title Deeds of the Shoemiths estate,⁷² it appears that he purchased this property in 1611, which was the year in which he attained his majority. An abstract of the Conveyance recites that "William Fowle of Lightlands in Frant Gentlⁿ by one deed dated 20th Dec. 9th Jas. I. (1611), in consideration of £1000. paid him by John Barham of Wadhurst, Gent., conveys All that Messuage called Shoemiths *als* old Shoemiths, with two Barns one Stable two Watermills and severall parcellls of Land Meadow pasture Wood and Land covered with water . . . containing by Estimation one hundred and forty acres, to the use of the said John Barham and his heires."

This estate had formerly belonged to Thomas Whitfield (third son of Robert Whitfield, of Wadhurst, by Agnes his wife, daughter of John Giles, of Biddenden, co. Kent), on whose death in 1553 it fell to the share of Susan Whitfield, his eldest daughter and co-heir, who was married to John Clarke in 1563. John Clarke and Susan his wife conveyed Shoemiths to Reginald Knight, by deed dated 10th July, 1571; from whom it passed to Nicholas Fowle, of Mayfield, in the following year. This Nicholas was afterwards of Riverhall, in Wadhurst. He married Elinor Isted, and was the father of William Fowle, of Lightlands, and brother-in-law to John Barham, of Fayercrouch; his will, dated 24th October, 1599, was proved (P.C.C.) 8th November, 1600, in which he mentions "my capitall messuage wherein I nowe dwell called Ryverhall."⁷³

John Barham married, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, 16th May, 1610, his cousin Elizabeth, daughter of John Dunmoll, of Wadhurst, Gent.,⁷⁴ by Dorothy his wife,

⁷² Abstracts of the original deeds are contained in *Exchequer Bills and Answers*, Geo. I., Sussex, No. 106.

⁷³ There is an interesting description of this picturesque old mansion in the *Courthope MSS.*, at the Heralds' College. It was built by Nicholas Fowle in 1591, and contains some very fine oak panelling.

⁷⁴ He mentions his son-in-law, John Barham, and his brother-in-law, William Fowle, in his will, dated 18th January, 162 $\frac{1}{2}$ (P.C.C., 4 *Hele*).

one of the daughters of Nicholas Fowle of Riverhall, and had the following children:—

(1) Stephen, who was aged 25 in 1640;⁷⁵ to whom his father left “my message and all my lands and tenements in Maidstone,” with the underwoods then growing on his woodgrounds at Verredge. In his will, dated 25th October, 1699 (registered D. of S.M.), he mentions his three sons, Stephen, John and Nicholas, and his two daughters, Elizabeth and Ann Barham; and appoints as overseers “my Brother William Barham gent., and my Cosen John Barham of Shoosmiths gent.” He was buried at Wadhurst, 18th February, 167 $\frac{2}{3}$, as “Mr. Stephen Barham;” and Frances Barham, his widow, was buried there 29th September, 1675. Their youngest son,

Nicholas Barham, was baptized at Wadhurst, 2nd November, 1651, and married at Dallington, 18th December, 1677, Mary Brightridge, of Warbleton, by whom he had, with other issue, a son,

Nicholas Barham, of Speldhurst, co. Kent, to whom admōn. was granted (P.C.C.) of the estate of John Barham of Shoosmiths, his father’s first cousin, 9th December, 1727.

(2) John, of Shoosmiths; of whom presently.

(3) Thomas, baptized at Wadhurst, 7th April, 1622, as “sonne of John Barham de Shoosmithes;” died an infant.

(4) William, baptized 19th September, 1624; died an infant.

(5) Nicholas, baptized 4th February, 162 $\frac{6}{7}$; to whom his father bequeathed £400 at 21. In his will, dated 3rd February, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$, proved (P.C.C.) 16th of same month, he is described as “of Savio^{rs} Southwarke in Surrey;” he mentions his sister, Dorothy Hart, and her husband, his sister [in law] Elizabeth Barham, and his

⁷⁵ *Inq. p.m.*, 16 Chas. I.; John Barham of Shoosmiths (*Court of Wards and Liveries*, 223/164).

sister, Elizabeth More and her husband. He appoints his brother, William Barham, executor.

(6) William, baptized 24th November, 1629; to whom his father left £400 at 21. In his will, dated 10th October, 1700, proved at Lewes 16th April, 1702, he is styled "of Riverhall;" he was buried at Wadhurst, 30th January, 170 $\frac{1}{2}$, as "Mr. William Barham of Shoemsmiths."

(7) Thomas, baptized 7th May, 1637; died an infant.

(1) Dorothy, eldest daughter, baptized at Wadhurst 16th February, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$, as "daughter of John Barham;" married, before 1639, to David Hart, of Wartling, gent., son and heir of Thomas Hart of the same place. "Mrs. Dorothy Hart, wife of David Hart, gent.," was buried at Wartling 13th December, 1655; and "Mr. David Hart," 20th December, 1678.

(2) Elizabeth, baptized at Wadhurst 23rd April, 1620, as "daughter of John Barham de Fayercrooche;" to whom her father left £400, at 21 or day of marriage; she was married to . . . More, and was living in 1652.

The name of John Barham occurs in the report of the Commissioners for *Knighthood Compositions*, dated 29th June, 7 Charles I. (1631), as one of those "which have not agreed to paie their fines for their not attending at his Majesty's Coronacon."⁷⁶ Among the gentry of Sussex, who also declined the honour of knighthood on this occasion, were Nicholas Maunser, of Hightown, in Wadhurst (second cousin to John Barham, of Shoemsmiths), and George Courthope, of Whiligh (first cousin to David Barham, of Snape).⁷⁷ "Coronation Honours" seem to have been regarded, at this period, as a means of extorting payments from the proposed recipients, either by fees or fines, rather than as a mark of royal favour or social distinction. (There is a most interesting article on this subject by the late Sir Henry Ellis, in *S.A.C.*, Vol. XVI., p. 45.)

John Barham was buried at Wadhurst, 13th February, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$. His will, dated 23rd March, 163 $\frac{8}{9}$, was proved

⁷⁶ *Exchequer, Special Commissions*, No. 5,678 (P.R.O.).

⁷⁷ *Book of Compositions*, No. 223, f. 164 (P.R.O.).

(P.C.C.) 5th March, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{9}{10}$, by John Barham, his second son and executor. Having settled his landed property at Wadhurst and Maidstone upon his two elder sons, he left £400 to each of his younger sons, desiring "that they be bound out to honest and able Masters to learne some such good trades as my Overseers shall think fitt."

An Inquisition taken at Lewes, 25th July, 16 Charles I. (1640), records that "John Barham gent., . . . died at Wadhurst on the thirteenth day of February now last past, and that Stephen Barham is his eldest son and next heir . . . and was at the time of his father's death of the age of 25 years and more." The Inquisition contains a long and detailed description of his freehold and copyhold property at Wadhurst, Frant and Maidstone; of which "Shoesmithes *als* ould Shoesmithes, two water-mills, Great Baredge, and '*le milpond*,' were held of John Baker Esquire, as of his Manor of Mayfield, by fealty, in free and common soccage," as were certain other houses and lands, including "12 acres adjacent to Barkley," in Wadhurst; Brookelands, Verredge Iron-mill, Verredge Downe and Sewerbridge Wood,⁷⁸ in Frant, were held of Edward Honeywood and Thomas Baker, as of their Manor of Frant; and a messuage and tenement called "*le Sydermill*," with a garden and orchard in Maidstone, were held of Elizabeth, Countess of Winchelsea, as of her Manor of Maidstone.

Elizabeth, the wife of the above John Barham, was buried at Wadhurst, 1st June, 1638.

JOHN BARHAM, of Shoesmiths, gent., the second son of John Barham and Elizabeth Dunmoll, was baptized at Wadhurst, 24th August, 1617; he succeeded to the Shoesmiths estate, and to "all my messuages tenements lands mills Ironworkes woodgrounds and hereditaments whatsoever . . . in the parishes of Wadhurst and Frant aforesaid, and elsewhere in the said County of Sussex," in accordance with his father's will.

⁷⁸ Sewersbridge Wood was purchased by John Barham "*of Faircrouch*," from Richard Ellis of Frant; *Release* dated 1st October, 1619 (Title Deeds, Shoesmiths estate).

He married at Frant, 8th June, 1639, his cousin Elizabeth, younger daughter of Nicholas Barham, of Buttes (by Mary his wife, daughter of John Barham, of Bivelham), by whom (who survived him and married, secondly, at Frant, 20th January, 165 $\frac{2}{3}$, Gregory Dyne, of Wadhurst, gent.) he had issue:—

(1) John, baptized at Wadhurst 7th May, 1641; died an infant.

(2) John, of Shoemiths; of whom presently.

(1) Mary, baptized 17th June, 1645; buried 6th September, 1647.

(2) Elizabeth, born after her father's death; baptized 3rd April, 1649, as "Elizabeth *posthume* of Mr. John Barham of Shosmith." She was married at Westham, near Pevensey, 2nd August, 1666, to her cousin, Nicholas Fowle, of Riverhall.

John Barham was buried in the Chancel of Wadhurst Church, 7th December, 1648, beneath an iron armorial slab of very elaborate workmanship, an engraving of which was published in Mr. Lower's article on the *Ironworks of the County of Sussex*.⁷⁹ The arms are the same as those recorded by Nicholas Barham, of Maidstone, Queen's Serjeant, in 1574; and by Robert Barham, of Boughton Monchelsey, in 1619.⁸⁰ The inscription is as follows:—

HEER · LYETH · THE
 BODYE · OF · IOHN
 BARHAM · OF · SH-
 OOSMITHES · GE-
 NT · WHO · DIED
 THE · FIFT · DAY · OF
 DECEMBAR · 1648

⁷⁹ *S.A.C.*, Vol. II., p. 200.

⁸⁰ *ARMS*—Silver, three bears sable, muzzled gules; on a fesse gules a fleur de lys between two martlets gold. *CREST*—A stork among bulrushes. These Armorial Bearings were recently certified by Mr. H. Farnham Burke, *Somerset Herald*, as of right belonging to George Titus Barham, of Sudbury Park, Middlesex, Esquire, by virtue of his descent from William Barham of Stalerege, *temp.* Henry VIII.

His nuncupative will, made 4th December, 1648, was proved (P.C.C.) and admōn. granted to Elizabeth Barham, his widow, on the 7th of same month. The following is an abstract:—

Memorandum that John Barham of Shosmythes in the parish of Wadhurst in the County of Sussex gent. being Sicke on his death bedd . . . the 4th December 1648. He willed and declared that Elizabeth his wife should have and hold all his Lands and tenements vntill his sonne should attaine to his full age of 21 yeares . . . when she should have onely the third part thereof dureing her life for her dower. To his brothers Nicholas and William Barham, £20. apeece, together with £400. apeece which was given vnto them by their ffathers will. To his brother Stephen Barham, £20. To his two Sisters, £20 apeece after his Sonn should attaine 21 yeares. To every of his Servants, 20s apeece. And to goodwife Sharpe, who tended him in his sicknes, 10s. His wife to see to the bringing up of his brother William.

In the presence of William Barham, William Kinge, John Sands, and Constance Sharpe.

JOHN BARHAM, of Shoesmiths, Esquire, the only surviving son and heir of the above John Barham, was born in 1642 or 1643, as he is said to have been "about the age of 51 yeares before that he marryed," *i.e.*, in 1695;⁸¹ and, in the inscription on his monument in Wadhurst Church, he is stated to have been "in the 82nd year of his Age" when he died, on the 10th of March, 172 $\frac{3}{4}$. I could not find any entry of his baptism at Wadhurst, but the omission may probably be attributed to the very careless manner in which the Register was kept during the Civil War, the entries from April, 1641, to October, 1644, being most irregular, and the writing quite illiterate.

John Barham married at Wadhurst, 14th February, 169 $\frac{4}{5}$, Lucy, daughter of John Chauntler, of Laughton, Gent., by Elizabeth, his wife, younger daughter of Arthur Button, of Baldees in Wadhurst. John Chauntler was her third husband, her first being Gabriel Egles, of Ticehurst, by whom she had a son, Gabriel Egles, of Copwood in Uckfield, Gent., who married Mary, daughter of William

⁸¹ *Exchequer Depositions*, 13 Geo. I. Evidence of "Ann the wife of John Barham, now of Wadhurst, and late of Great Butts, Gentleman."



“SHOESMITHS.”

S.E. CORNER OF HOUSE, AS IT NOW APPEARS.

Rideout, of Mayfield, and had a son, George Egles, who afterwards succeeded, under the will of Lucy Barham (his father's half-sister), to the Shoemiths property.

Dina Chauntler, John Barham's sister-in-law, was the wife of William Benge, of Faircrouch in Wadhurst, Gent., who re-built and extended the great Ironworks at Lamberhurst (formerly owned by the Barhams of Buttes), known in later times as Gloucester Furnace. The foundations of the furnace were still traceable when Mr. Lower wrote his article on the Sussex Ironworks, in 1849.

In Courthope's *History of Loxfield Half-Hundred*, compiled about the year 1840, there is the following interesting description of Shoemiths, and of the last John Barham who resided there:—⁸²

SHOESMITHS was formerly a mansion of considerable note, but has long since fallen into decay, and is now tenanted merely as a farmhouse; it is most beautifully situated on the slope of a small valley, thro' which runs a trifling stream, and the opposite side of the vale rising rapidly to a great height, presents a summit crowned with a grove of very fine Beech and Oak trees (called *the Toll*) forming the boundary to the left of the front view; the scenery around is of the most picturesque and romantic nature and equals, if not excels, any spot in the parish. The present edifice, which is built of the sandstone common to these parts, can scarcely be said to belong to any style of architecture, but is of a character exceedingly plain and simple; the depth of the main part of the building is very inconsiderable, but the front is of great length, having two rows of square headed windows but exhibiting no display of ornament, only a few remnants of gothic mouldings being visible round the entrance door; there is (or rather was in 1778) over the door the date 1630, with the initials I. E. B., thus giving us the date and name of the presumed builder,⁸³ and there is still an ornament on the apex of one of the gable ends, the letters of which ^{B.} I. L. indicate that it was either rebuilt or repaired ^{1695.}

by John Barham, grandson of the Builder and sometime Sheriff of the County.⁸⁴ The piers of the gateways are still remaining, through which the carriage road formerly passed to the grand entrance; the present private drive to Shoemiths was made by Mr. Egles (formerly it passed much nearer to Wadhurst), it is by a steep descent until you

⁸² *Courthope MSS.*, W.C., 26, f. 47.

⁸³ These initials stand for John and Elizabeth Barham (*née* Dunmoll). He is described as "*of Shoemiths*" in 1622, previous to which he was styled "*of Faircrouch*," or "*of Wadhurst*."

⁸⁴ The last John Barham of Shoemiths married Lucy Chauntler, in 1695.

reach the stream, over which is thrown a stone bridge which has the appearance of some antiquity; there is supposed to be a subterranean passage from the cellar to some distance south of the house, but it has never been exactly ascertained.

The interior exhibits rather more ornament than the outside; the ground floor consists only of two good rooms, from which we may conclude it formerly to have been of much larger dimensions;⁸⁵ that on the right hand side the entrance is handsomely pannelled from the floor to the ceiling with oak, which is in a good state of preservation; the kitchen, formerly the entrance hall, is a fine large room, but exhibiting nothing of interest, if we except the old-fashioned chimney of dimensions seldom to be met with at the present day; the principal staircase is still remaining, built of oak, with open twisted balusters. On the right hand upstairs is a large pannelled room, the compartments of which are covered with paintings, but in so decayed a state that the subjects are for the most part undistinguishable; that which occupied the space over the fireplace contained a painting of Cleopatra applying the Asp to her breast, which is still in good preservation and the colours brilliant, but it has been removed to another part of the house, the room being now applied to the purpose of a store room for apples, potatoes, &c. [*How are the mighty fallen!*] The outbuildings are chiefly modern, with nothing remarkable in them either for taste or beauty.

A finely executed watercolour drawing of the "South Front of Shoesmiths," painted by S. H. Grimm in 1785, is in the Burrell Collection at the British Museum. Also two views of "Faircrouch," by the same artist.⁸⁶

After the death of John Barham in 1724 a "*Bill of Complaint*" was filed, in the Court of Exchequer at Westminster, by Thomas Wykes (who had married Ann Fowle, of Riverhall, one of the daughters of John Barham's only sister Elizabeth), against George Egles, Nicholas Fowle, Nicholas Barham and other defendants.⁸⁷ The "*Answer*" of George Egles contains, *inter alia*, an Inventory of the Furniture and other effects at Shoesmiths, an Account of all monies due to John Barham at the time of his decease, and an "Abstract of the

⁸⁵ An Inventory, taken in 1724, mentions the following rooms:—"The Hall, the Great Parlour, the little Parlour, the Study, the Great Parlour Chamber, the Hall Chamber, the little Parlour Chamber, the little Chamber, the Nursery, the Play Closett, the Garrett over the Nursery, the Chamber over the Bakehouse, and the Banqueting House," &c., &c. There was also an extensive range of domestic offices and outbuildings.

⁸⁶ Add. MSS., 5,671, f. 20 and 21.

⁸⁷ *Exchequer, Bills and Answers*, Geo. I., Sussex, 106 and 128; and *Exchequer Depositions*, 13 Geo. I., No. 25.



“SHOESMITHS,” WADHURST.
THE ROOM WITH PAINTED PANELS.

Title and other Deeds relating to his Real Estate." I append a few extracts from the Inventory:—

"*Imprimis*—His wearing Apparell and money in his purse£10 . 0 . 0."

"*In the Hall*—Two Tables, Three Joyned Stools, One Settle, One Leaffe, fourteen Cane Chairs, One Horse for Cloaths, two and twenty pictures, two Cushions, two Andirons, One pair of Tongs and Bellows, Eleven fish nets, five peeces of Yarn for Coneys, two curtain rodde, One [fire] Back, One Book, and pair of Tables
£9 . 15 . 0."

(Rather a heterogeneous collection! The pictures were probably family portraits, which were usually hung in the hall. The valuation does not strike one as excessive!)

"*In the Great Parlour Chamber*—One Bed, Bolster, pillowes, Two Blanketts, Quilt and Hangings, six Chairs, One Easy Chair, One Table and Glass, One Hand Glass, Two Sconces, China and Delph in the Chimney and Mantle peece£51 . 13 . 0."

(This was evidently the room with painted panels, mentioned by Courthope. *See illustration.*)

"*In the Study*—A Parcell of Books, a Desk, One Cane, One Pistoll, One Chair, One Glass and other small things£3 . 10 . 0."

"*In the Play Closett*—One Babys Bed, One Cradle, three Chairs, One Basket, One Cage, pictures, and other Babys small things£3 . 3 . 0."

(A pathetic interest attaches to the above entry, in view of the untimely death of John Barham's only two children.)

"*In the Milk-house*—5 Leads, 2 Brass Kettles, 4 Milk Bowles, 2 Milk pales, 2 Milk scives, 9 Crocks, 1 handle Dish, and the Stallage.....£4 . 6 . 0."

"*In the Vault*—2 Barrells, 70 Dozen of Bottles, Two Stallages£8 . 1 . 0."

(This was in addition to the contents of the *Mild Beer Cellar* and the *Small Beer Cellar.*)

"*Silver Plate in the House*—Two Tankards, five Salvers, One Silver Bason, four Silver Candlesticks, Three Castors, Two Tea Canisters, Eight Silver Salts,

One Silver Skillet, Two Silver Porrengers, Two Silver Coffee Potts, One Silver Ladle, One Silver Mugg, One Tumbler, One Chaffing Dish, One Silver Tobacco Box, One pair of Snuffers and Stand—Two dozen and two large Silver Spoons, Twelve Tea Spoons, Six Silver Salt Spoons, One pair of Tea Tongs, One Tea Strainer, Three odd Silver Spoons, and Three Gold Rings

£109 . 17 . 9.”

(There were a few other articles, not included in the above valuation, *i.e.*, a silver Porringer, a small Silver Cup, some more Silver Spoons, and “Silver Toys.” It would be interesting to know what such a collection of antique Silver Plate would be worth at the present day?)

“*Ready money in the House*, at the time of the decease of the s^d John Barham£160 . 4 . 0.”

We now return to Courthope’s account of the Barhams of Shoesmiths:—⁸⁸

“John Barham, esq., when of age, succeeded to his father’s estates: this gentleman served the office of Sheriff for the County, 14th Will. III. (1701-2), and was possessed of divers considerable estates in this parish. . . . He married at Wadhurst, 14 Feb. 1694[-5], Lucy dañr. of John Chauntler, gent. by whom he had issue a son John,⁸⁹ who died an infant, and a dañr. Elizabeth⁹⁰ who died in a consumption 20 Sept. 1712 at the age of 16 years, when about to have been united to Sir Walter Parker of Ratton, Bart: not a month from the death of this, his only surviving child, viz^t on the 12th October following, he was induced by the extraordinary influence of his wife,⁹¹ aided perhaps by the grief into which he had been plunged, to execute deeds conveying to his said wife a power to dispose not only of all his real but likewise his personal estate, to the prejudice of his near relatives of the same name, and of his great-nephew and heir at law Nicholas Fowle of Riverhall. . . . George

⁸⁸ *Courthope MSS.*, W.C., 26, f. 49.

⁸⁹ Baptized at Wadhurst, 14th May, 1699; buried 26th August following.

⁹⁰ Baptized at Wadhurst, 6th March, 169 $\frac{2}{3}$; buried 24th September, 1712.

⁹¹ She is described as “a very subtle ill tempered woman,” and her husband is said to have been “much afraid of the said Lucy” (*Exchequer Depositions*).

Egles, esq. appears to have resided at Shoesmiths until his decease, which took place in Dec^r 1752, he is said to have squandered away his estate,⁹² and by his will dated 2 Sept. that year he left the residue of his personalty with all his real estate to Alexander Courthope of Horsemonden, esq. (and other trustees) for payment of his debts, &c., in pursuance of which trust this estate—which was then estimated at £7000, and to be worth more than £200 per ann.—was disposed of in the year 1753 to Charles Pratt, esq. who was appointed Attorney General in 1758, and by patent 17th July 1765 was created Baron Camden of Camden Place co. Kent.”

His descendant, the 4th Marquess Camden, is the present owner of Shoesmiths, which is the residence of Mr. William Hardman, who courteously gave permission for a series of photographs to be taken of this fine old house, some of which are reproduced in the present article.

The will of “John Barham of Shoesmithes in the parish of Wadhurst, gent.,” dated 6th October, 1697 (of which he appointed Lucy, his wife, sole executrix) was not proved until nearly four years after his decease, admōn. of his estate being granted (P.C.C.) 9th December, 1727, to Nicholas Barham (his first cousin once-removed), who was one of the legatees, Lucy Barham having died in her husband’s lifetime.⁹³ He bequeathed his personal estate, after payment of a few small legacies, and the whole of his real estate “in the severall parishes of Wadhurst and Fant and Tisehurst co. Sussex, and in Yalding co. Kent, unto my daughter Elizabeth Barham and the heirs of her body lawfully to be begotten, and for want of such issue unto my dear and Welbeloved Wife Lucy Barham.”

John Barham died 10th March, 172 $\frac{3}{4}$, and was buried on the 16th of that month. In the Chancel of Wadhurst Church there is a handsome marble monument to “John Barham late of Shoosmiths in this Parish Esq^r,” to Lucy,

⁹² Sir William Burrell states that “George Egles Sen^r spent great part of ye Estate, and his son George the Remainder” (Add. MSS., 5,682, f. 484).

⁹³ She was buried at Wadhurst, 2nd October, 1716.

his wife, and their two children—"Erected with the utmost Gratitude and respect to the Memories of the Deceased by George Egles of Shoosmiths Gent. Anno Dom̃. 1730." Lucy Barham, in her will dated 24th September, 1716, had left £300 for this purpose, and "£5. per annum for ever, to be laid out in keeping the same in good repair and the Inscriptions thereon Legible."

In accordance with her will, the greater part of her husband's property devolved, at his death, upon her nephew, George Egles, of Uckfield;⁹⁴ viz., Shoosmiths, Snape Wood, Brooklands, Wellwood and Newlands, Barkley Mill and Veredge, Lampkins Corner, Nobles Gate and Tookinghurst, with other farms and woodlands in Wadhurst and Frant, and the farm at Yalding, near Teston. John Egles, his half-brother, succeeded to Buckhurst Wood; with Faircrouch and other lands, mortgaged by William Bengé to John Barham in 1696, on which the latter had foreclosed.

The wooded heights which had echoed to the thunderous din of the hammer-mills, and the secluded valleys whose pent-up waters had reflected the glare of the Barham furnaces, when John of Woodlande was casting cannon for King Henry's ships of war; with many another fertile farm and pleasant homestead, acquired by the "Iron-maker's" descendants during five successive generations; every stick and stone of them had been signed away, at the bidding of a spiteful and domineering woman, who, we are informed,⁹⁵ "had such Advantage over her Husband that he would not deny what She desired, and did persuade the said John Barham to settle his Estate as she would have it."

And so it came to pass that when the last Barham of Shoosmiths was laid to rest with his forefathers, the sons of a stranger divided the spoil.

⁹⁴ George Egles was baptized at Wadhurst, 18th September, 1688, and buried there 16th December, 1752.

⁹⁵ *Exchequer Depositions*, 13 Geo. I., No. 25 (Mary Wykes, of Wadhurst).