

Some Account of Gray's Chorographia, with Additions, extracted from the Author's own interleaved Copy. By the Rev. JOHN HODGSON, Secretary.

AT the fourth Monthly Meeting of the Society, after some conversation respecting a scarce and curious tract, entitled "Chorographia, or a Survey of Newcastle upon Tyne, &c.", the members present suggested to the Council the propriety of re-printing it; and on the ninth of June, 1813, a meeting of the Council resolved, "that Gray's Chorographia be printed in small folio, and that a wood-cut of the Castle, of Newcastle upon Tyne, should be engraved and inserted in the title-page of that, and every other work, the Society may publish."

On the tenth of October following, the Council ordered "that the 166 copies of the Chorographia, printed by the Society, be disposed of in the following manner:—One to Cuthbert Ellison, Esq.; one to the Corporation of Newcastle; one to each of the Societies of Antiquaries at London, Edinburgh, and Perth; one to the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle upon Tyne; that one hundred be reserved for the first one hundred ordinary members of the Society, and the remaining sixty be reserved for sale."

Mr. Brand, in his preface to his history of Newcastle upon Tyne, says: "The oldest printed account of that place is a small book in quarto, consisting of thirty-four pages, and intitled 'Chorographia, or a Survey of Newcastle upon Tyne, &c.: Newcastle, printed by S. B. 1649. S. P. D. dilectis burgensibus et probis Homīnibus Novi Castri super Tyman W. G.'

"The last letters stand for the initials of William Gray, of whom I have not been able to recover any particulars.—The Greys of Back-

worth, in Northumberland, are said to be of the same family. This work, an imperfect outline, but which is extremely scarce, was reprinted in the Harleian Miscellanies, vol. iii. in 1745, with some additional remarks."

The copy, from which the Society's reprint was made, was obligingly furnished by Cuthbert Ellison, of Hebburn-hall, Esquire, M. P. for Newcastle upon Tyne. It contains copious interleaved additions, in the author's own hand-writing; but these have unfortunately been much mutilated by the margin of the work being cut uniformly with several other tracts, with which it is bound. The blank page preceding the preface, is inscribed,

Wm Gray

which is unquestionably an autograph of the author. The text, in many parts, has been corrected; the stile much improved; and in the preface, at the conclusion of the sentence which begins "I find," is the following addition:—"Therefor I thought good that the ancient monum.ts in the ch * * * and this commonwealth, w.ch these late warrs have *destroyed*, may continue after our times, to posterity, to write this second edition, nā posteriores cogitationes * * * *." Here the expression, "this common-wealth," fixes the period of the additions between 1649, the date of the printed copy of this work, and 1660, the year of the restoration. Some of the copies have London in the imprint, but on a careful examination, it will be found, that in every other letter, they exactly correspond with the impressions bearing Newcastle in the title page.

The additions chiefly relate to the various charters and privileges granted to Newcastle, or to events connected with the several departments of the history of that town, which are both more fully and more authentically recorded in the works of Bourne and Brand. All the curious matter, however, not contained in these authors, has been

carefully copied and given in the following additions. Where the reading of the mutilated parts could, with any tolerable certainty, be ascertained, it is printed in italics: the doubtful passages are marked by asterisks. The pages refer to the Society's reprint.

P. 3, l. 31.—In ye. west parts, to this day, ye. wall is almost entire, and the foundations of ye. wall to be seen in all parts.

P. 5, l. 5.—This Wall-Knowle, or Wallnole, was a part of ye. Roman wall, after a Priory, known aftertimes by *the name* of St. Michael upon ye. Wallnole, an ancient *fabrick*.

P. 7, l. 24.—* * ey * the east to the * * ord deane * * Eurs Burn.

This town is sufficiently provided for all things *that* belongeth ye. life of man, both by sea and land, and the elements of fire and water; the latter out of an aqueduct into the town by pipes, which serves all quarters and streits of town abundantly. Every streit hath his cistern or pant. The conduits are * d by pipes of lead, wch. descends from a spring, called Conduit-head, not farr without the walls. Every streit of the town is well paved, and kept in repaire at the charg of town, as any town in E * * in natura brevium.

P. 10, l. 11.—This Newgat, called so because K. John builded *that* Gate, as Newcastle is called from Wm. Conquerors * * who built this Castle. Their is an outward gate *on* the North, builded by Ed. 3, or successors, as appears by the armes, wch he atchieved in his conquests * * the many flower de lucies in the frontispiece of them; and the B. of Durhams arms and towns armes.

P. 11, l. 7.—The tower on ye. Bridg was builded by G. Bird, Mayor of this town, the Bird coots of armes was upon it.

P. 11, l. 20.—The words from “the Picts Wall” to “Pandon” are blotted out, and the following substituted—as appears by the rings *that* in many places are to be *seen* at this day.

P. 12, l. 20.—The Steple of St. Nicholas stands upon 4 columns or pillars of stone and masonnary work, which supports yt. magnificent and high architecture, the height of it from the crosse leads is 120 foot

and the basis whereon it stands to the cross leads, from which *to the* heightest pinnacle is 60 foot.

Ther is 13 pinnacles, 4 greatest in ye. 4 corners *of* the steeple, which supporteth 4 stone arches, whereon *is a* ston lanthorn, and 5 ston pinnacles, wherof one *in* the midst surmounteth all the rest, in the caput *is a* circular ston like a mistone, in midst is p * * or the largest fane of ye. 13.

Ther is a clock house, wherin the clock doth *speak* to all the town the time of day ; and nigh audibly *to* all the town, at 4. 9. and 12. it chims *for a* while. And a dial in the south side of steple, which *has* the motion of the moon in her sphere.

This steple being decayed and spoild * * * winds and weather in the pinnacles, was repaired in the year 1601. There was in the yeare 1650. 2 * * an impetuous tempest and west wind, which blow downe *some* of the pinnacles and fanes, repaired and restored to their former splendour, in 1651 following.

P. 13, l. 27.—He gave also to the church of Ryton £5. per annum.

P. 14, l. 33.—In Westgate-street, very probable it hath bene in former ages a house of the B. of Carlisle to live in.

Theise 4 churches have little maintenance belonging them except St. Nicholas the mother church of the town, *which has the* pette tythes; which may seeme a thing very strange: but *the reason* is conceived to be as in the university of Cambridge, *where* the fellows of severall Colledges do officiate in their *several* cures for the better exercise and practise of their *ministry*, haveing their chiefest maintenances from Colledges. So the *monks* of the severall cells of this town, (whilest those *monasteries* stood) did officiate in several parishes here *having* their principal maintenance from the monasteries which *were* dissolved by K. Hen. 8. their not any maintenance * * * unto them, which want is bountifully supplied at the charge of the town; no corporation in the north *doing* the like.

P. 15, l. 21.—There is a passage which is called the Roode way to St. Michael Priory of the Wallnole.

P. 15, l. 28.—This house dedicated to the Holy Trinity was a chantry but dissolved long before the dissolutions of the Abbys in *K. Hen.* 8. dayes, as appeareth by many records, given to the marinours of Newc. by Ed. 3. for setting out ships *against* the town of Dundee in Scotland, who burnt it *and* came home with rich bootys, or for some other service by sea performed agt. pirates who infested the seas.

This town had 70. ships. 30. great of theis times * * * lesser in Ed. 3. reign which was able to fight all Scotland by sea, as appeareth by a petition to the K. to inlarge * * r.

A mighty and sudden wind from of water in the night, bare down a peece of the T. wall near the Walknowl: 125 men and women were drowned in that storm. Hollinsid.

P. 16, l. 8.—THE CHAIRES TOWARD THE KEY.

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| 1 Grundon chaire. | 9 Trinity chaire, Errington |
| 2 Collman chaire. | chaire. |
| 3 Hayward's chaire. | 10 Broad chaire. |
| 4 Shipman chaire. | 11 Spicer's lane. |
| 5 Hornby chaire. | 12 Burne bank. |
| 6 Plumber chair, alias Beverley | 13 Bikers chaire. |
| chaire. | 12 Ratten row. |
| 7 Blinde chaire. | 13 Gouday raw. |
| 8 Broad garth. | |

P. 16, l. 8.—There is an *ancient* place and house called the Dukes place; the house of the *Earls of Northumberland*.

Streits in Pandon, Cow gate, You gate, * * * Blith-nook, Broad chaire, Biker chaire, Way to B * * , Spicer lane, Fish market.

P. 16, l. 16.—"House" is blotted out and "court" added.

P. 16, l. 20.—*This* magnificent and stately building was founded in the *time* of the Heptarchy. Since the conquest the work was done *at* the cost and charges of several K.s and divers persons spirituall and temporal. Many K.s of England lodged in it, and *endowed* it with.

many revēnews. One of the chambers was *called* K. Hen. chamber, where the K. lay.

This Princely house after the dissolution of Monastorys was made a magazin for the north; since the union *of* the two kingdoms, begged of a Scot who made sale *of* the lead timber and stones of house and church, so that this stately fabrick is almost wasted and *only* a receptikle to birds of the prey.

It is most remarkable, that the lead sold was to be conveyed into a transmarine country, was buried in profundo *in* a wooden coffin, which hath been the end of many sacrilegious purloined goods, transported by sea.

P. 16, l. 22.—For “houses” read “clergy.”

P. 16, l. 26.—Before the market for fish in Sandhill was erected.

P. 18, l. 24.—*The* prior of Tinemouth contended with the T. for the preveledg of Key * * *but* was foiled in suit, which made the prior to make the Haven called Prior haven.

The L. Prior of Tinmouth *contended* with the *Town* for the benefit of the D. and Chapt. * * * benefit of * * * for their *lands* adjoining upon the River. B. of * * * contested with for the like * * upon River Tyne, all go * * soil as *Records* doth report.

P. 19, l. 6.—* * Holsworth ye. vicar son of Newcastle gave 15 to the poor of three parishes, 5. to St. John, the parish where he was born, to St. Nicholas 5*£* where he was baptized, and 5*£* to Allhallows where he was educated.

Mrs. Frank a widdow of this towne gave 200*£* to the * * to bestow yearly gowns upon the poor *of* the towne at Christmas.

Dorothy Dane wid. gave a house in the Side to *the* Towne. Mr Andrew Alsworth Physician in the Town gave xxs yearly to the 4 churches in Newc. and 20s to * * * church which is 5*£* in all ever yearly. The sentence from “some think” to “land” is cancelled.

P. 19, l. 12.—Here is a market *for* cattle 4 times *in the* yeare.

P. 19, l. 15.—There is two long *chares* along the *high* parte of the

*towne walles called the higher and lower Frier Chaires, which appertained to religious houses. And many * * ground and houses within the walls of Newc. * * ging to these chares in that part of the town in St. Bartholomews, a nunnery * * of a garden of which was found of late a passage under ground; going into the friorag next adjoyneing, ad pur gandas renes. It is in medio fratrum, in the midst of friorys.*

There is a place called white crosse, which in times of procession was a marke to know the borders of the town from the Frierys in that part.

P. 21, l. 8.—Above the gate into this court is a clockhouse, which speaks to us the houres of the day, chims at 5 and 11 of the clock.

P. 22, l. 19.—"An appendix to the castle" is cancelled.

P. 22, l. 22.—After castle read in the head of the Side.

P. 23, l. 6.—For "ten" read "12."

P. 23, l. 10.—There is such a concourse of people out of the *country* in the streits every Saturday to sell all sorts of corne and flesh, buy all sorts of provision for house and family; receive money of maisters of cole for cole-work, that every Saterdays Market is like a fair, for all sorts of wares provisions and manufactours.

P. 23, l. 20.—"Three hundred" is altered to "400" and after ships is added "in the river at one time."

P. 23, l. 17.—K.'s lodgings and G. Selby's house in the oate-market.

P. 24, l. 8.—Near this Inn is a place of Sanctuary, as they had their refuge and their asylum.

P. 25, l. 22.—The Duke of Suffolk kept Court in Bennet Chessie Fryers in the beginning of Q. Elizabeth Reign, and had the command of the northern counties agt. Scots.

P. 28, l. 25.—Close gate ward.

P. 28, l. 12.—Gunner tower Newgate ward Andrew T. ward Pilgrim gat ward.

P. 28, l. 19.—Corner tower ward Sandgate ward.

P. 29, l. 12.—"Warwickshire" is changed into "Wirwick" and

"the Manor of Wivestowe or Westo and belonging to the Prior and convent of Durham, now Deane and Chapter" is added.

P. 30, l. 4.—It is not my intent philosophically to speake of the nature of coles, that they are of a sulphurious nature: *but* only as they lye underground and of the working them. Some coles are 10 fadomes under ground * * der 20. 30. 40. fadomes; in some grounds * 3. 4. collemines under a nother, but differ in thickness of coles, and goodness. Above thes mines of coles is firme stone, which supporteth the super * * * ive of the earth so that they may work safely *from* falles. They have many working underground, * * e a common hall, or place called ye. barrow way, * * boyes pages, called barrowmen * * usts the coals in corfs from the * * ers of colles, unto the pict's mouth; where they * * * up in pict's ropes upon a hooke by horses * * * *.

P. 30, l. 11.—"Five hundred" has a line drawn under it, "or a thousand" is cancelled, and "400 and above" is added in the margin.

P. 30, l. 15.—"One, of" is changed into "not."

P. 31, l. 30.—"Thirty thousand" is underlined, and "20,000" written in the margin.

P. 33, l. 29.—All these 4 Countys, viz. Westmerland, Cumberland, Northumberland and the County of Durham, is not able to serve this town with corne, not 3 months in the yeare, but is provided out of the south parts of England, out of *Scotland* and Dantisk, ye. comon mart town in the north Cl * * in great quantities yearely, and out of most parts of Germany in time of scarcity.

P. 35, l. 7.—The bishop of Durham had a house in Gatsid and his Parke. * * * * *

* called Bottle bank, the prior of Duresm his brother *had* his house most of the way against his brother. A * * of the Bo. went into Northumberland and brought a gentlewoman of that county; for committing of this rape the gent. of Northumb. gathered to geather a company, anno 7. Ed. 6. and environed the Bs. hous and the gent. being denyed by D. fired his house and church.

P. 35, l. 31.—Without Sandgate, is the Limekills, which serve the town with lime, and the Ballist hills for *drying* of cloths: their happened in the yeare 1632 a uproar of Apprentices called to this day Reslys rebellion, occasioned by building a new lime kill under the Ballist hills the common people of the town complained in guild of the nuisance and *begged to be* redressed. Next Shrovtide prenteses and men in *Sandgate* marshaled themselves in arms demolished the limekill and the house adjoining: but being resisted by the mayor their forces increased for 3 days.

Tum vero indomitas ardescit vulgus in iras.

—— Sævitique animis ignobile vulgus,

Jamque faces et saxa volant; furor arma ministrat.

Virg. *Æneid.* Lib. 1.

The multitude came into the town, and marched into the Sandhill in armes, commanded the Major and all the town * * till an Alderman upon a confront came out of the Town Court and incounters with the captaine of the rebells, hurt their captaine and his souldiers * * put to flight and dissipated.

* * * * * , many masters of families was questioned, fined, imprisoned, *and* undone by the misgovernmt. of our rulers.

Quiequid delirunt reges plectuntur Achivi.

P. 36, l. 6.—After “ships” read “for laying grindstones and colles.”

P. 38. l. 12.—Of old of Fenwicke.

P. 38, l. 18.—And Highill.

P. 39, l. 17.—Shaftoe, Ordes, Proctor, Bednel, Swinnon, Reed.