

XXXIX.—*An Account of some Letters of Eshton Hall, Yorkshire, relating to the Nunnery of St. Bartholomew, in Newcastle upon Tyne, communicated by W. C. TREVELYAN, Esq., of Wallington, to JOHN ADAMSON, Esq., Secretary.*

Wallington, November 29, 1828.

MY DEAR SIR,

IN looking over a volume of Lord Dacre's Correspondence, from June 1st, 1523, to August 4th, 1524, which is preserved in the valuable library of Miss Curren, at Eshton Hall, in Yorkshire, I met with the originals of two Letters relating to the election of a Prioress in the Nunnery of St. Bartholomew's, Newcastle on Tyne, which are printed in Hearne's *Chronicle of Otterbourne and Whethamstede*, p. 576-580; and referred to in Brand's *History of Newcastle*, p. 228. They are No. 43 and 56 of the Correspondence. I found also copies of two Letters from Lord Dacre on the same subject, Nos. 42 and 53, of which I enclose you a transcript, thinking they may be interesting to the Members of the Antiquarian Society. I am not sure whether I am right in the name in the last line but five of No. 42.

In No. 261 of the same correspondence, a Letter from Lord Dacre to Cardinal Wolsey, dated from Morpeth, April 25, 1524, is the following passage concerning the currency of "crossed pence."

"Also please it your grace forasmuche as crossed pens has not bene occurant in the north pties this many yeres past and that now the most part of all the money that your grace has sent downe for the payment of the Kings garnisons is in pens, your grace must send downe certein comissions aswell into this shire of Northumbrland, with Cumbrland and Westmrland, as into the Beshopricks of Duresme, wherupon

proclamacions may be made that the Kings subiects may be compelled to take the same pens, and thos that doth refuse to take them to be punyshed accordingly," &c.

Was the Proclamation of 1525, regarding the silver money, mentioned by Ruding, vol. ii., 8vo. edit., p. 417, in consequence of this application?

W. C. TREVELYAN.

No. 42. Copie of a tre to thabbot of Fontans.

My Lord Abbot, in my best man^r I comend me to youe, and in the same wise thanke youe for all yo^r kindnes shewed to me and to yo^r furst filiall my lord Abbot of the monestarie of newmynstre, ascertayning youe that afre the deth of Dame John Baxter, late p^ores of the nunry of Sainct Bartilmew of Newcastell, yo^r said furst filiall rode thide^r and elect a new p^ores by the hole consent of all the convent of the house, called Dame Agnes Lawson, according as his p^odecessor Abbot Charlton did, like as apperith by the election of the same undre the convent seale of the said monestarye of newmynstre, notw^ostanding Doctor Clifton viccar generall to my Lord Cardinalls grace w^oin his dioc^o of Duresme has com to the said nunrye and disanollod all that yo^r said filiall has done, and discharged the said p^oresse elect saing, that the jurisdiction therof apptenith to my said Lord Cardinalls grace in the right of his bushoprick of Duresme, and neith^r to youe nor yo^r said filiall, and incontynent afre that the p^omisses com to my knowlege I maid laubor to git sight of som p^ocedents in the registre of Duresme touching the election of the said p^ores, wherupon I saw dyv^ose and many p^ocedents where the said p^ores has bene elect by the officers of the bushop of Duresme, emongest which I gat copies of two of the most principall which I send youe herin closed. to thintent that ye maye see the right that my said lords grace hath. My Lord yo^r Lordship knoweth that all that yo^r said filiall did was in yo^r right, wherfore I deasire and prey youe that ye wol plainly and at good lienth advertise me or yo^r said filiall what is yo^r pleas^r he shall do

in this matter, for as ye shall comānd hym so shall he do, and if ye think that it be yo^r right, good it is and also I geve youe my full counseill to stik at it, and if ye think that it woll goo against youe I prey youe eftsones that I maye be adv^tised what ye think that yo^r said filiall shall doo, for loth I were that he or his hous shuld be in combre, and furdernore I assure youe that ov^d and besides the copies which I send youe herin closed I have sene in dyvse placs of the said registre of Duresme where my Lord of Duresme p^rdicessors have confermed infermed and cassat elections of the said nunry of Sainct Bertilmewes provided the p^rores, and admyt resignacions at sevall tymes, and finally to thintent that the circumstaunce of all this matier may be manyfestly knowen (unto youe) I send youe at this tyme yo^r discrete monk Dane Edward Tirrey, who is wise and of substanciall conversacion, and has done mucche good here, Praing youe that ye wol favorably here hym, and dispatche hym to me againe, w^t yo^r full mynde in the p^rmisses, w^t all convenient celeritie, in the which doing ye shall do me singler pleaf^r, and Jhu p^rsve yo^r Lordship. At Morpeth the x daye of Julij anno xv^{to} Henrici octavi.

No. 53. Copie of a tre to maister Clifton.

Maister Clifton, in my best man^r I recomend me unto youe, and the same wise thank youe for the good mynde ye bere to me, wherof I am adv^tised by my singler good frend & fellow M^r. Magnus & specially for the good will ye bere unto elect priores of the nunry of this towne of Newcastle, I p^rceive well by the Regesters of the dioc of Duresme, the entreste that my Lords grace has the correction. Notw^tstandyng the cuntrye ellection which has bene used heretofore wherupon I have caused aswell thabbot of newmynstre to advertise thabbot of Fontains of the said entrest which my Lords grace has in the said election, and in semblable wise I have adv^tised the said abbot my self, and as yet we have no worde frome hym, wherfore seing the f^t (said) tyme is so short I se not but it is best that ye reasorte hiddre, and according to my said Lords grace jurisdiction use yo^r self in the said election, praing youe to be favorable unto the elect p^rores, for I trust verely that ye shall finde her most able to be hede of the house of any that is wⁱn it, and for yo^r costs

and chargies, which ye shall susteine herin I shall recompense youe, but for the costs and chargs whiche the pore house must bere, for the confirmation of the election, I se not but the said house shalbe enforced to make hard shift as ye shall further know. At yo^r com^yng and hartely fare ye well. At Newcastell the xxj daye of Julij A^o. xv^o. H. viij^{vi}.