

ACCOUNT OF THE CORNAGE OF THE COUNTY OF NORTH-
 UMBERLAND, RENDERED AT THE EXCHEQUER, IN THE 49TH YEAR
 OF HENRY III., BY ROBERT DE LISLE, SHERIFF.

THE following account is derived from the Red Book of the Exchequer, in which it immediately follows the account of the Castle-ward rents payable to the Castle of Newcastle, communicated on a previous occasion to this Society. Bourne has assumed that Cornage, as well as Castle-ward, was a "rent or revenue arising to this Castle," and has printed an imperfect statement of the Cornage of those Baronies of Northumberland which also paid Castle-ward to Newcastle. Of these, however, the number was only 11, whereas all the Baronies of Northumberland, 23 in number, as well as 9 other estates, held by a different tenure (Dren-gage), were charged with Cornage.

Cornage was also paid in the counties of Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham, as well as in Northumberland. In the two first it was designated *Geldum animalium*, Neat-geld, or Nout-geld; in the third, on one occasion, *Cornagium animalium*.¹

This seems to imply either that the Cornage in those counties was a rent for the depasturing of cattle, or was paid in cattle. In Northumberland the term *Cornagium* is used alone, and may either mean simply a Crown-rent (*Coronagium*), or a rent payable in *horned* cattle (*Cornuagium*).

The popular notion of the tenure involving the winding of a horn in case of invasion, although repeated by Judge Littleton, is too ridiculous to be entertained. In Cumberland the Cornage tenants were bound to attend the King in his expeditions into Scotland, in the van in going, and in the rear in returning.² In Northumberland (except the Drengs mentioned above), they held by Knight-service, and were subject to all the imposts incident to that tenure, as well as to the payment of Cornage. It was possibly on this account that the Cornage of Northumberland was so much smaller in amount than that of Cumberland or even of Westmorland; or it may have been (assuming the payment to have been originally made in cattle), that a commutation was effected in Northumberland at an earlier period, when the relative value

¹ Pipe Rolls, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham.

² Testa de Nevil.

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of specie was higher. The Cornage of the several counties, as appears from the Pipe Rolls, was at an early period as follows:

Cumberland.....	31st of Henry I.....	£85	8	8
Westmorland....	23rd of Henry II.....	55	19	3
Durham.....	31st of Henry II.....	110	5	5
Northumberland..	10th of Henry II.....	20	0	0

Until the above year (10th of Henry II.) no payment of Cornage is recorded in the accounts of the Sheriffs of Northumberland. A payment is then made for three years together, and this system of accounting triennially is continued till the 4th of John, after which the payments are made annually.

In the 10th of Henry II. an allowance is made to the Sheriff of 8*l.*, being at the rate of 4 marks per annum, in respect of the Cornage of the Liberty of Tyndale, "the land of William the brother of the King of Scotland," which had not been received. This allowance was subsequently reduced to 2½ marks, and was discontinued altogether from the 19th of Henry II. (in which the King of Scotland aided the young King Henry in his rebellion against his father) to the 10th of Richard I. From this date the allowance of 2½ marks is resumed. In the 4th or 5th of John, the Prior of Tynemouth was relieved from the payment of Cornage in respect of all his lands in Northumberland, amounting to 24*s.* The amount which appears in the Pipe Rolls as actually paid by the Sheriff under the head of Cornage in the 49th of Henry III. is 17*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, and not 18*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*, as it is returned in the document in the Red Book. The former sum represents the old rent of 20*l.*, less the deductions of 2½ marks, the Cornage of Tyndale, and 1*l.* 4*s.* remitted to the Prior of Tynemouth. A larger sum, therefore, appears to have been received by the Sheriff than he was bound to pay over to the Exchequer; nor were the receipts of the Sheriff uniform, though the payments to the crown were so, as we find that the 18*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* returned by Robert de Lisle was more by 1*s.* 10*d.* than the receipts of his predecessors.

In like manner, the sums charged by the tenants in capite against their mesne tenants were larger than their own payments in respect of Cornage. Thus we find the Cornage of the Barony of Appleby, in Westmorland, was 41*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, whilst the mesne tenants paid 52*s.* 1*s.* 6*d.*³ In the same way the Prior of Tynemouth paid 1*l.* 4*s.*, and received from his tenants 2*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*⁴ In both these instances the lord of the fee was

³ Nicholson and Burn's Westmorland.

⁴ Tynemouth Cartulary, in Brand's Newcastle.

ultimately relieved from the impost altogether, but no remission was made to the sub-tenants.

Besides the Baronies and Drengage tenements, there were several estates in Northumberland held by Serjeanty, but none of these appear in the Sheriff's return as liable to Cornage, if we except the Barony of Beanley (*Baronia Comitum Patricii*), which, although entitled a Barony, was held by Grand Serjeanty.

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In the Book called "The Red Book of the Exchequer" (remaining in the custody of the Queen's Remembrancer of the Court of Exchequer, at Westminster), at folio 195*b*, there is found amongst other matters as follows: that is to say.

Comptus de Cornagiis Northumbriæ redditus ad Scaccariam anno Regis Henrici xlix^o. per Robertum de Insula Vicomitum.

De Baronia de Vescy	lxs.
De Baronia de Werck'	xxvss.
De Baronia de Musco Campo	xxviii. viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia Comitum Patricii	xxs. xd.
De Baronia de Mitforde	xxxis. iiiii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Bothale	viii <i>s</i> . viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Morpath'	xxvs. vi <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Walton'	xs.
De Baronia de Bayllo'	xxvs.
De Baronia de Bolebek'	xxxii <i>s</i> .
De Baronia Dumfraunvill'	xxis. viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Heron	vs. xd.
De Baronia de Boliun	viii <i>s</i> . viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Diveliston'	xiiii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Laval	iii <i>s</i> . iii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Surtays	xiiii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Gaugy	vii <i>s</i> . viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Bradeforde	xiiii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia de Tindale	viii <i>s</i> . ix <i>d</i> .
De Baronia Johannis Vicomitum quam Ed- mundus filius Regis Henrici tenet	viii <i>s</i> . viii <i>d</i> .
De Baronia Radulphi filii Rogeri	iii <i>s</i> . vi <i>d</i> .

De Terra de Wytinham et Willielmi de Esselinton'	iiii <i>s.</i>
De Johanne de Esselinton	xiiii <i>d.</i>
De Caluley	ii <i>s.</i> iii <i>d.</i>
De Baronia de Heppehale	ix <i>s.</i>
De Hawilton'	ii <i>s.</i> iii <i>d.</i>
De Terra Thomæ filii Liulphi.....	iii <i>s.</i> iii <i>d.</i>
De Trockelawe.....	xiiii <i>d.</i>
De Bedenhal.....	xiiii <i>d.</i>
De Mollifen'	xiiii <i>d.</i>
De Chyvinton' (Baronia).....	xiiii <i>d.</i>
De Ryhille	xiiii <i>d.</i>

Summa xviii*l.* iii*s.* vi*d.* videlicet xxii*d.* plus quam alii solebant respondere preter priorem de Tine-mue et terras Regis Scotiæ.

(Office Copy.)