

THE HEIRS-GENERAL TO RADCLYFFE OF DERWENTWATER,
AND THE HEIRS-MALE TO DACRE OF GREYSTOCK.¹

THE Radclyffes, occupying in many of their branches an eminent position in the history of their country, have been unfortunate in their chroniclers as in their fate. Their origin, their consanguinity, and their priority of representation, are alike obscure and disputed. Even in those lines which produced the most brilliant results this remark holds good. Opposed to the various houses which doubled the engrailed bend, the line of Radclyffe of that ilk, and the houses of Sussex,² Farnesdon, and Wymersley, who were successively in remainder to it, all bore the beautiful bearing of the single bend; yet the exact positions of these allied families is by no means exemplified to demonstration. Fortunately, our northern counties are only interested to any great extent in the Wymersley family; but it is a host in itself, widely scattered in long-continued and separate descents, all much overshadowed by the glory of one of its members, the ennobled House of Dilston. In the possession of the Isle of Derwentwater, and the eventual male representation of the spouse of Derwentwater's heiress, vested in the Dilston baronets and earls, we lose sight of the circumstance that the heirship-general was running in a very different channel. It was running in individuals who were racked with long and unhappy dissensions, which ended in the double misfortune of their losing most of the Radclyffe lands as heirs-general, the Dacre lands as heirs-male.

We say the heirship-general of the heiress of Derwentwater's husband, for that of the Wymersley house in general continued in an elder stream.

¹ This article is chiefly grounded upon papers in Greenwich Hospital, copies of which were made at the expence of John Fenwick, Esq., F.S.A., who gives the Society the advantage of his zeal for the elucidation of North Country history.

² The standard of Ratcliffe, Lord Fitzwater in 1513, was composed of "a babyon, with a hatte upon hys hed, and a bull's hed sabull rassed, the hornes sylver, wyth a crown and a cheyn at hyt, about hys nek sylver, and a elbow gard and the sonne, gold." Near the elbow guard (which in 1475 is called a *garbralle*) is written the motto—"Jerrey."

Thomas Radclyffe of Wymersley,³ in whom that house separated from the chiefs at Radclyffe Tower, was father of Sir Richard Radclyffe of Wymersley and Clitheroe, Sir Nicholas who married Elizabeth de Derwentwater, and Sir Ralph. Sir Richard⁴ was summoned to parliament in 1405, was at Agincourt in 1415, and died in 1433-4. His eldest son Sir Thomas, by marriage with his relation Catherine, the half sister to Bishop Booth of Durham, had a son Richard, who continued the line at Wymersley, and Henry,⁵ who settled at Tunstall, near Stranton, by marriage with a coheirress of the Fulthorpes. Of his branch a full pedigree will be found in Surtees's *Durham*, vol. iii. The members of it who were settled at Ugthorpe, in Yorkshire, fell into great decay. In 1809 the representative was William Radclyffe, a cottager, of the age of 70, at Stillington, in Yorkshire. "This poor man (says Radclyffe the herald) has been so improvident as to spend the wreck of the trifling inheritance which his ancestors for some generations past appeared to have preserved with much difficulty, having often been mortgaged. He now exists on the precarious bounty of his friends, and is, I believe, little above a common labourer." A younger line, settled at Coxwold as gentry, shared no better fate. Joseph Radclyffe of Coxwold, born in 1726, married the heiress of James Clayton of Nottingham. "Having some little fortune of his own, which was improved by that of his wife, he soon after his marriage kept a house in Grosvenor Square, with a coach and four, and kept it up as the means lasted. His widow, a clever sensible woman, kept a ready-made shoe shop, in about 1795, in Oxford Street, and is now (1810) in Edinburgh, on the bounty, I believe, of some old female acquaintance." At that time there were numerous descendants of both lines derived from Ugthorpe.

But to return to SIR NICHOLAS RADCLYFFE, the younger son of Thomas of Wymersley. He was so fortunate as to secure the hand of the heiress of the isle about 1417, and with the son and heir of the marriage, SIR THOMAS RADCLYFFE, who lived upon the isle, and married the aunt of Queen Katherine Parr, we find the extraordinary disinherison of the right heir to which we have already alluded.

We must premise that (besides eleven⁶ daughters) he had six sons:—

³ ARMS.—"Thomas Radclyffe de Wymersley, 2 filius, bears [Argent], a bend engrailed Sable, with a libard's heade in the dexter point."—*Pedigree at Greenwich Hospital*.

⁴ ARMS.—"Sir Rychard Ratecliff of Wymbrey." Argent, a bend engrailed Sable, in the sinister chief point an escallop Sable [Gules, according to Whitaker] for difference. *Harl. MSS.*, 4632, f. 117.

⁵ ARMS.—Argent, a bend engrailed Sable, in the dexter point a mullet.

⁶ Visit. Northumb.

1. John, his heir; 2. Sir Richard, the favourite of Richard III.; 3. Sir Edward, who married the heiress of Cartington, Lady of Cartington, Dilston,⁷ and Whittonstall, co. Northd., and of Hawthorne, co. Durham; 4. Nicholas of Keswick, gent.; 5, 6. Christopher, a priest, and Rowland, religious. In 1480 he suffered a recovery of his manor of Castle-rigg, Keswicke [alias Derwentwater], Naddell, Burnes, Smaythwayte, Legbarthwait, and Furnesett, to his third son Edward, who immediately entailed them, by conveying them back to his father and Sir Richard, the second son, for their lives; remainder to the heirs male of the bodies of—1, Sir Richard; 2, Sir Edward; 3, Nicholas; 4, Christopher; and 5, Rowland,⁸ successively. Thus the heir is entirely omitted, but it appears by a deed of 1530 that, on this recovery, Richard and Edward were *sworn* that John, the heir, should enjoy the manor of Derwentwater *for life*, if he overlived his father and his brother Richard. This event took place, for Sir Richard Radclyffe, K.G., came to an untimely death under the banners of his namesake, at Bosworth Field, in 1485.⁹ He was, in fact, one of those triumvirs, “The Cat, the Rat, and Lovell the Dog,” who “ruled all England under the Hog.” A man he was that was “short and rude in speech, and as far from pity as from all fear of God.” He had resided at Sadbury, near Richmond, in consequence of his marriage with Widow Boynton of that place, a daughter of Lord Scrope of Bolton, and he left a son Richard to become first of entail.

Old Sir Thomas survived his knightly son for ten years, dying in 1495, a month after the younger Richard had, by act of Parliament, obtained the restoration of his interest in the Derwentwater estates, and the reversal of his father's attainder. The disinherited son, JOHN RADCLYFFE, immediately entered. He “had nothing by descent, but only had occupation by sufferance of Richard [dead] and Edward, his brothers, in respect of their oath.” He died after 1509, leaving, by Anne, fifth daughter and coheir of Henry Fenwick of Fenwick, Esq., two children, Sir JOHN RADCLYFFE, his heir, and Anne Radclyffe, who, in the Greenwich papers relative to this complex business, is said to have married — Rowell, identified by Mr. Surtees with her cousin, John

⁷ ARMS.—“Radclyffe of Relyston.” Argent, a bend engrailed Sable, in the dexter point an escallop for difference. In Visit. Northumb. the difference is a quartrefoil Or, in the crest as well as the arms.—*Hart. MSS.*, 4632, f. 117.

⁸ Christopher and Rowland, being under vows of celibacy, occur no more in the story.

⁹ ARMS.—Argent, a bend engrailed Sable: on a bordure Gules 11 escallops of the first.—*Glover's Ordinary*. *Whitaker's Whalley*.

Radclyffe,¹⁰ a younger son of Sir Edward Radclyffe, the second in entail. Her issue was "John Rowell, alias Radclif," according to the papers.

Although the occupation by the eldest line was confined to John the elder, Sir John the younger entered, on his father's death, without violent interruption, if any, and not only held it to his death, but also presumed to devise the estate. His second will was made "at the Ile of Darwenwater, the first day of Februarii, in the yere of God a thousand fyve hundreth twentye and nyne [thirty] yeres, and in the xxj. yere of the reigne of our soveraign Lord King Henry the Eight." The date is important, as it has been stated that he died on 2 Feb., 1527, on the authority of the brass plate to his memory in Crossthwaite church, as copied by Nicholson and Burn. He wishes to be buried there. He appears to have viewed the house of Dacre with profound affection. "My Lord Dacre" is to have "my baye hobye." "My Ladye Dacre two copes of my best howndes." "To Sir Christofer Dacre, knight,¹¹ a gosse hawk." Such servants as will continue with his wife are to do so; those who depart are to have their full wages. "To John Radcliffe, my kynnesman, the moore and gratter graye horse." Mass is to be yearly said, and daily is a priest to sing for the testator and his wife before our Lady of Pity, in the church of Crossethwaite, the provision for the purpose being temporary until lands are given for the finding of a priest, "in the said chapell of our said Ladye," for ever. "John Radcliffe, my kynnesman, to be in the service of my Lord Dacre, and to be ordonned, and holye rewyled by my said Lord, which John Radcliffe is my sister sonne, called Anne Radcliffe, which I ordeigne to be myne heire, and to have my holle landes after the death of Alice my wife, according to my will thereof, mad at London," 22 Nov., 19 Hen. VIII. On the day of his burial, "pennye dole" shall be "dalte to poore folkes," for the health of his soul. Every priest that shall come to his burial shall have 8*d.* a peece and their dinners. Twelve poore folks shall have each a black gowne and 4*d.*, who shall bear torches at the burial. The residue of his goods goes to his wife, the sole executrix, and "I make supervisor of this my last will, my Lord Dacre and of Graystock, and doe put in his gouverance and revlle my said wiffe, with my foresaid nephnewe John Radcliffe, beseching his Lordshipp to be good lord unto them."

The knight died next day, and his lady, ALICE RADCLYFFE, who was

¹⁰ But the papers are silent, and this John Radclyffe, the cousin, is said in Visit. Northumb. to have died s. p.

¹¹ Uncle to my Lord. He lived at Croglin.

a daughter of Sir Edmond Sutton, alias Dudley of Dudley, was soon in antagonism with her husband's relatives. He had three cousins, Richard, the son of the Bosworth knight, first in tail; Sir Cuthbert of Dilston, son of Sir Edward, second; and James, the son of Nicholas Radclyffe of Keswick, the third. Richard, having no issue,¹² had attorned to Cuthbert, who entered upon Derwentwater on John's death, by virtue of the entail, but the widow carried the day. She kept him out for the term of her life, by agreement with him and Richard, and survived her spouse for 24 years. She died in 1554, and was interred in the proud cathedral of Salisbury.

Nor was the testamentary heir, JOHN ROWELL, alias RADCLYFFE, of Derwentwater, Esq., less attentive to his interests. On Cuthbert's entry, he also entered. It is not very clear whether he wholly relied upon the will, for it is said that he kept possession of a great part of the estates, claiming as *heir of his mother*. He was not unsuccessful. In 1531 or 1532 Richard Radclyffe of Derwentwater, the first in tail, had released all his estate, by fine and recovery, to Cuthbert, with whom, consequently, as immediate heir in entail, had John to deal. Their disputes ended by an arbitrament of May, 1540, by which some part was awarded to John, and other part to Cuthbert.

So matters stood for the remaining five years of Sir Cuthbert's life. He died in 1545, leaving Sir George Radclyffe, his heir, and two younger sons, and we shall finish the tangled history of his portion before proceeding with the elder line. Sir George's first acts were to sell and convey parts of the estate without fine. The purchaser died seized, and his heir alienated by fine, all in Sir George's lifetime; and it afterwards became a question whether this was good against the heir of Sir George, he being only tenant in tail. In 1552 or 3 he proceeded, more legitimately, to levy a fine of his part of the estates to himself, and the heirs-male of his body. But this movement put the heir of Nicholas (originally the third in entail) on the alert, although there was little chance of his receiving any further benefit from the estates than the pleasure of making them unmarketable, or of extortion from the possessors. James Radclyffe, the son of Nicholas, accordingly entered within five years of the fine, the time prescribed for the preservation of rights. Probably his object was gained. Probably he did extract money from the knight of Dilston, for afterwards we find him releasing his claim. Provoking, however, as it may seem, the enemy was scotched,

¹² So say the papers, but possibly the word should be qualified with "inheritable under the entail." The Visitation of Northumberland gives him three daughters and co-heirs, but does not mention their names.

not killed. James died, and he left a son Gawen, who had a son Francis. Gawen threw his fangs into the peace of Sir George with his own claims, and re-entered. The result does not appear, but the questions were these. "1. What Gawen gaineth by his entry, for the heirs of Sir Richard is dead, and the heirs of Edward is Sir George and his heirs. 2. Whether Edward and his heirs are inheritable by the grant of Edward [meaning the original entail]; for he seemeth to be both donor and donee in remainder, but, for the title of remainder, it did not fall to Edward, for the issue of Richard was not extinguished unto long time after the death of Edward. 3. Whether the remainder to Edward's issue be void or no. 4. What passeth by the release of James son of Nicholas. 5. Whether the fine by Sir George and the release of James doth debar Gawen, son and heir male of James, who hath now entered."

In 1577 Sir George, by fine and recovery, assured all his lands to Francis his son in tail, with remainders over; and it was doubted whether this fine and recovery prejudiced Sir Francis' right to the lands formerly sold without fine.

Dilston, meanwhile, had descended in much smoother waters. Joane Cartington, widow (formerly Claxton), Lady of Dilston, Hawthorne, &c., in her own right, by will made between 1521 and 1535, charged Dilston with portions of 100*l.*, on the marriage of Jane, her grandson's (Sir Cuthbert Radclyffe) eldest daughter; 60*l.* on that of Elizabeth his second (wherefore less?); and 100*l.* to Dorothy his third, and devised it to Sir Cuthbert in tail male. In 1535 he settled it on himself and wife for life, remainder to his heirs. Sir George, in 1576, settled it on the marriage of Sir Francis, his son, with Isabella Grey of Chillingham. In this settlement, after the settlor and the young couple, come Sir George's brother Anthony of Cartington, and his son Cuthbert of Blanchland¹³; and then, strange to say, (but Gawen's conduct must be taken into consideration) the next remainder is to the distant collateral relative Thomas Earl of Sussex, in tail male, remainder over. It is clear that the House of Dilston was assiduous in keeping up a connection with the titled one of Sussex, and there is much to convince us that, on the extinction of the male blood of the peers, notwithstanding the senior members of the Wymersley house, the first Earl of Derwentwater affected to be next heir male and chief of the Radclyffes.

Sir Francis, besides ignoring the paternal alienations, endeavoured to set aside the arrangement with John Rowell, alias Radclyffe, to whom

¹³ From Anthony's son by his second wife descended the Radclyffes of Brierley, Thrybergh, and Darley Hall, co. York, a spendthrift and loyal line, from which proceeded William Radclyffe, Esq., Rouge Croix.

we now return. Some of the latter history of Dilston will be found under the memoirs of Sir Edward Radclyffe and of Francis first Earl of Derwentwater, elsewhere in this work.

JOHN ROWELL, als. RADCLYFFE, of Derwentwater, Esq., levied a fine of his part when Sir George levied one of his, in 1552 or 3, and entailed the same. By Catherine, daughter of . . . Grimstone, he had an only daughter and heir, DOROTHY RADCLYFFE, who married FRANCIS DACRE, Esq., a gentleman who was, or thought he was, pressed by poverty, as we shall presently see. He and his wife aliened all their part of the Derwentwater estates by fine and recovery in the lifetime of Sir George, and Sir Francis questioned whether he was bound by such acts; with what result is not shown.

We now turn to the history of this Francis Dacre.

WILLIAM third LORD DACRE of Gillesland, Greystock, or the North, the supervisor of Sir John Radclyffe's will of 1530, died in 1563, leaving four sons—Thomas, Leonard, Edward, and the above Francis.

THOMAS, the eldest son, fourth LORD DACRE of Gillesland, died in 1566, leaving issue—George, Anne countess of Philip Howard Earl of Arundel, Mary, lady of Thomas Lord Howard of Walden, who died childless, and Elizabeth, "Bessie with the braid apron," the lady of the celebrated Lord William Howard, "Bauld Willie." GEORGE, the son, became fifth LORD DACRE of Gillesland,¹⁴ but died a minor in 1569, his brains being "bruised out of his head" by the fall of a vaunting horse of wood, upon which he meant to have vaunted.¹⁵ Upon this, his barony and estates (with the exception of some "ancient Dacre lands") fell into coheirship among his sisters as heirs general. The "ancient Dacre lands" and the heirship-male of the whole house, went to their uncles in succession.

LEONARD DACRE, the eldest, was not content with these. He also blamed the Howards for his nephew's death, stomached the turn of things highly, and laid claim not only to the estates,¹⁶ but also to the title. The same circumstances had occurred in his family at an earlier

¹⁴ 1566? Leonard Bates of Welbury, Yorks., to Cecill. Held the manor of Welbury from the late William Lord Dacre, on condition of marrying Margery, widow of James Kyrton, and bringing up his son, an infant, which he had done, but was now troubled by Bennett Chomelly for the possession thereof. Prays for undisturbed possession during the minority of George Lord Dacre.—*Cal. State Papers.*

¹⁵ Stow.

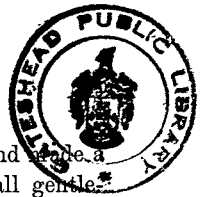
¹⁶ The matter had probably been agitated in the young lord's lifetime. "1566. Oct. 14. Declaration of the opinions and resolutions of Sir William Cordall, M.R., and others, to the Duke of Norfolk, committee of the body of George now Lord Dacre of Gillesland, touching the supposed deed of entail made by William late Lord Dacre."—*Cal. State Papers.*

period. Thomas Dacre, an eldest son, had died in the 15th century, leaving a daughter, the heiress-general, and two brothers, who took Gillesland, &c., by virtue of a fine. The husband of the lady, Sir Richard Fiennes (*a quo* the Lords Dacre of the South), and Ralph, the elder brother, were alike summoned to the parliament of 1459. Ralph died attainted in 1461.¹⁷ Then Humphrey, his brother, claimed the original barony against Fiennes. Edward IV. confirmed it in the latter, but summoned Dacre as a Baron in 1482, with place next below Fiennes. Hence arose the Lords Dacre of the North. Whether Leonard merely wished a collateral barony like that of Ralph, or an exclusive possession of the dignity, does not appear; probably the latter, as he claimed the estates also.

In 1566, he had been termed by his correspondent, the Queen of Scots, "Dacres with the croked bake," and Baker says "though he were crookt backt, he behaved himself valiantly." In the year of his nephew's death, the Rising of the North took place. He professed to serve the Queen, and was even thanked for his service against the rebels. But he used the troubles of the times for his personal advantage. He held secret communication with the rebel lords, yet disappointed their hopes. He seized upon the castles of Greystock and Naworth as his own inheritance, and made the people believe that the Queen's troops wanted to take his land from him. He gathered together the "rank-riders of the borders," and those who were most devoted to the "name of great reputation in that tract—the name of the *Dacres*." He was called Lord Dacres, alleged that he had tendered his livery in the court, and that it had been accepted, and ignored his brother's grants beyond his life, as beyond his powers. Lord Scrope was baffled. He had orders to apprehend him, but "by the force of this country he is not to be touched.—I may levy a good number, yet very few will be found to execute their force against a *Dacre*." When he invited Dacre to meet him to confer at Carlisle, Dacre pleaded the sores of his leg, the extremity of a journey to Brougham, and an "outrageous agieue" caused thereby; and, in fine, invited his lordship to a friendly dinner with him at Naworth. Next Dacre feared the Scots, and would defend himself. At last he fired beacons. Then came a proclamation against him. His disloyalty was no longer in doubt. And as Lord Hunsdon was riding to join Scrope, Dacre's footmen "gave the proudest charge upon his

¹⁷ He seems to have acquired the old Dacre manors of Irthington, Dacre, Kirk-Oswald, &c., which on his attainder were bestowed on Lord Dacre of the South, whose descendant, Thomas Dacre, forfeited them for murder in 1541. Kirk-Oswald was purchased by Lord William Howard, who took some of its ornaments to Naworth.

AND THE HEIRS-MALE TO DACRE OF GREYSTOCK.



shot that ever he saw." Hunsdon turned with his cavalry and made a deadly slaughter. Dacre fled from his horsemen, "like a tall gentleman," and rested not until he reached Liddesdale. "I took then (says Lord Hunsdon) his guyydown, with the Redd Bull which is the Lord Daker's badge, which I trust the law of arms will allow me to bear—and if it will please her Majesty to bestow Leonard Daker's land upon me in Yorkshire, which was the Strangwyshys,¹⁸ I shall be better able to serve her." Lord Hunsdon caused possession of "Naworthe, Rockelaye, and other places of the said Leonard Dacres, to be taken for the Queen's Majesty, and so delivered them to my Lord Scroope; and hath delivered the possession of Kirkeoswalde and Graiestocke to the Duke's Grace's officer's hands, in the same state as they were, before Leonard Dacres took them."

Leonard Dacre crossed the sea.¹⁹ He stood in King Philip's pension list as next in rank and remuneration (100 florins a month) to the Earl of Westmoreland and the Countess of Northumberland (200 florins each): and when in 1573 he died, the usual quarterings of the Dacres were carved upon his tomb in St. Nicholas', Brussels, with the empty style of Baron Dacre, of Gilsland, Brough, Barton, &c.²⁰

EDWARD DACRE,²¹ the next brother, shared his fate, and died in 21 Eliz. (1578-9.)²²

FRANCIS DACRE, the youngest, was now the male heir of his once powerful race. He had been much connected with his brethren in their acts,²³ but when his brother Edward made entry to the houses, he gave notice thereof to the Sheriff of Cumberland, and as soon as he perceived active treason in Leonard, he left him and offered his service to Scrope. Scrope certified this, and Francis escaped the fate of a rebel. His expectations were more moderate, probably his courage less daring, than

¹⁸ 1558. Pleadings in a suit of intrusion, *versus* Wm. Lord Dacre and Leonard Dacre in the manors of Ekington, West Harilsey, Assulby, Upsall, Whawton, and Heyton, claimed by James Strangways.—*Cal. State Papers*. See *Ord's Cleveland*, p. 447.

¹⁹ His brother-in-law, Mr. Culpepper, fell under Archbishop Parker's notice as absenting himself from the communion, and was therefore cited to appear before him. The Archbishop expressly tells Cecil that he has married the sister of Leonard Dacre, no doubt a sufficient reason for strictness.

²⁰ Sharp's Rebellion. See *State Papers* for 1575, vol. cv., No. 10, and cvi., No. 69. Memorial touching the grant of lands belonging to Lord Dacre, and the agreement between him, Lord Norreis, and Leonard Dacre. The Earl of Leicester's suit for confirmation of the leases taken under such agreement.

²¹ See Sharp's Memorials of the Rebellion, 161. 1563. Particulars of Edward Dacre's leases of the parsonages of Plumpton, Bolton, and Langothbye, and of the rectories of Kyrkeland and Camberton.—*Cal. State Papers*.

²² Nic. and Burn, ii., 351.

²³ See Sharp, 161.

those of his brothers. But he, too, called himself Lord Dacre, and as to the estates, he was perhaps more really troublesome to the heiresses than his bolder relatives.

All the Dacres followed the medieval faith. Philip Lord Arundel, Lord William Howard's brother, who had married the elder coheirress of Dacre, declared himself of the Romish communion, attempted to go to the continent, and was intercepted and thrown into the Tower. Lord William, who had formerly offered to accompany him, was also sent to that fortress. The Crown held a long and deadly grasp on the large estates of the coheirresses, taking advantage of doubts and disputes, and raising them when none existed. The following is Lord William's own account of the affair:—

“Leonard and Edward Dacre, uncles to the Ladies Ann and Elizabeth, were attainted of treason by Parliament, by which means so much of William Lord Dacre's inheritance (their grandfather's) as was entailed to the heirs-male, did escheat to the Crown, and to distinguish what escheated by the said attainitures, and what of right descended to the heirs-general, was the principal reason that moved the Lord Treasurer to urge (15 Eliz., in which year the late Duke of Norfolk died) Mr. Lawrence Banistre [the Duke of Norfolk's law-agent, who had been put to torture to make discoveries against him], to whom only the title and state of the said Lord Dacre's inheritance in the behalf of the heirs-general was then known. And he, then remaining close prisoner in the Tower, by the commandment of the Lord Burgeley, then Lord Treasurer, writ a treatise declaring plainly the whole title of those possessions, wherein appeared both his honesty in dealing and his sufficiency in learning. At that time Anne, now Countess of Arundel, and the now Lady Elizabeth Howard, the sisters and coheirs of George, late Lord Dacre, were wards to the Queen; and after they did accomplish age, sued livery for the land, which they quietly enjoyed²⁴ until 27 Eliz. (1584-5), at which time the said Leonard and Edward were both dead, and Mr. Francis Dacre, their younger brother, as heir-male, by colour of his father's supposed entail, entered upon the lands, claiming them for his own. The Earl of Arundel and the Lord William Howard, husbands of the said coheirs, defended their right, and kept possession of the lands and houses. About Easter after, by the permission of Almighty God, the said Earl of Arundell and his brother the Lord William Howard, were committed close prisoners to the Tower of London,

²⁴ From their father's death, in 1565, to 1572, the income had been received by Thomas Duke of Norfolk, as guardian. From that time to 1585, it had been received for the co-heiresses.

and their lands then in controversie, by the earnest suit of Mr. Francis Dacre, sequestered from them.”²⁵

The right to the inheritance was tried the same year. On March 6, Mr. Edward Hansley (rector of Greystock, who had been presented by the Crown in right of the wardship of George, the last Lord Dacre) died. A caveat was entered by Francis Dacre, then of Croglin; another by the Earl and Countess of Arundel,²⁶ who granted the advowson to Wm. Cantrell, Esq., and a commission of Jus Patronatus was issued. “Mr. Francis Dacre, not omitting his advantage of time, prosecuted his cause with great violence when both his adversaries were close prisoners, in danger of their lives, and in so deep disgrace of the time, as scarce any friend or servant durst adventure to shew themselves in their cause; nay, the counsellors at law refused to plead their title when they had been formerly retained. Friends were made, and letters were written in favour of Mr. Francis Dacre, jurors chosen of his near kindred and professed friends. Sed magna est veritas, for even that trial passed for the coheirs.”²⁷ The jurors gave their verdict on Aug. 16, finding that the parsonage was appendant to the manor of Greystock, that two persons pretended title to present to it, viz., the Earl of Arundel and his wife and Mr. Francis Dacre, and that the former had granted an advowson of the parsonage to William Cantrell, under hand and seal. Seven of the jurors answered:—“That, whereas Mr. Francis Dacre made his title to the patronage . . . by an entail supposed to be made by his father William late Lord Dacre, which entail was impugned for divers imperfections therein alleged by the counsel learned of William Cantrell; yet we, by reason of other matter of record given us in evidence, not entering into the consideration of the validity or invalidity of the same entail, do find that William Cantrell hath right to present to the church of Graystock for this time, as by grant thereof made from the Earl of Arundel and Lady Anne the Countess his wife.” The other five answered more generally:—“That according to such evidence as we have had, we find the right of the patronage of Graystock in William Cantrell, as in the right and by the grant of Philip Earl of Arundel and Lady Anne his wife.” So all twelve agreed in the main for the title of William Cantrell, and Mr. Hugh Thornly, his presentee, had the living in opposition to Mr. Henry Evans, the nominee of Mr. Francis Dacre. Nine years after, however, Mr. Thornly was again instituted

²⁵ Howard Memorials.

²⁶ There had been a partition of the estates between the heiresses.

²⁷ Lord William Howard, in Howard Memorials.

on a presentation from the Queen, to prevent any hazard, by lapse or otherwise in the former title.²⁸

When the brothers were released (Arundel being fined 10,000*l.* by the Star Chamber), they presented a petition to Lord Burghley, claiming that the trials might proceed without delay. In the mean time the cause proceeded under different pleas, and on St. Peter's day, 28 Eliz. (30 June, 1586) the cause being debated at large, the Lord Chancellor, Judges, and Queen's learned Counsell, were fully satisfied and agreed for the title of the coheirs.²⁹

In 1588 the Earl was again arrested, and in 1589 condemned, and "Lord William again, upon a quarrel purposely picked unto him, was kept close prisoner, but *as soon as the office was found and returned*, he was presently set at liberty, so as thereby the whole world may easily guess the cause of his close imprisonment; thus was the Dacres' land gotten from them, and the Queen colorably possessed thereof."³⁰

Yet from this step Francis Dacre reaped no advantage. Driven to desperation, his Radclyffe lands all spent before Sir George's death in 1588, he determined in 1589 to quit England. But before he left England he wrote to the Queen, explaining his hard circumstances. Of his letter (dated at Crogling, 17 Sep.) he sent copies to several of his acquaintances. His forced departure is the first act wherein he might hazard her displeasure. He is free from all disloyalty, whatsoever hath been informed by his unfriends, whereof he has gained many by his father's possessions, especially such as have been brought up by his father from mean estate to be gentlemen, and now live in all wealth and pleasure upon the lands that were his ancestors'. Their untruths had taken effect with the council, whereby he has endured many and great distresses, but never with her Majesty till now, upon whom, under God, he has always trusted, and hopes still for performance of her promises. His love and obedience to her have driven him to hard shifts for maintenance, after all he had was spent, with the benevolence of his friends, and to suffer such open injuries at his adversaries' hands as the world may wonder that flesh and blood were able to suffer them. Still in hope, he had made his last and most hard shift in selling his house, at a great loss, to bring him up to the Queen; but in the mean time, within a week of his journey, her commissioners in the survey of the lands have not only dispossessed him by virtue of a letter from the Lord Treasurer by her command of all the tenements which were returned to him both of the Graystocks' lands, and also of the

²⁸ Nicholson and Burn, ii., 365.

²⁹ Howard Memorials.

³⁰ Lord William in Howard Memorials.

Dacres', which were purchased and out of the concealment, but also have earnestly demanded the rents again that he has received thereof, a hard case that Arundel's attainder should forfeit his lawful possession. He has no friends to further her Majesty's good meaning, but mighty adversaries near her. Many are the delays for answer of his last petition at Easter, wherein he said he could not endure without speedy relief. The rents of the Dacres' lands, which were the most part of his maintenance, are received to her use without consideration of his poor estate, and now his lawful possession of all the rest is taken from him by another's fault. The Lowthers³¹ and Carletons, which never deserved well,³² are like to receive of his ancestors' lands,³³ gone, not by his offence, and by his only life and his son's her majesty doth keep them. His heart cannot endure such evil men as they, maintainers of theft, of notoriously bad behaviour, who have concealed her majesty's title these 20 years, and would have done so for ever, if his adversaries' right had proved better than his. They made means for a composition with them to defraud her, which if he had done he would have made a better match for himself than he has done as the case standeth. And now they are so liberally dealt with. His title is clear to Strangwaies' lands, but considering the interest of my Lord Chamberlain and Sir Thomas Scisell's son in those lands with her, he must let them rest in their hands that have no right. All that were towards Arundel and Lord William do receive credit and commodity of those lands. All that were with him are displaced of their offices with most hard speeches. He has the last penny of maintenance that ever he can make. The debt he is in is great. He has no shift left whereby to live. To beg he is ashamed. To work he cannot. To want he will not. He must seek for maintenance where he may with credit gain it. He will employ that little that should have brought him to attend upon her majesty, to carry him elsewhere. He has taken his son, for he has left him nothing to tarry withal. His daughters he commits to God's provision. He ends with a prayer for toleration of so forced and unwilling a departure, and will daily pray for his queen's long reign.³⁴

Such were the contents of Dacre's letter. His intention seems to have been carried out, and it was probably at this time that he was attainted, as his name does not occur in the attainders of 1570. He was still in

³¹ After this letter, in 1597, Richard Lowther, Esq., of Lowther, had the grant of an avoidance of Greystock rectory.

³² Yet we shall find Francis in league with a Carleton in the next reign.

³³ The ancient entailed lands.

³⁴ Nicholson and Burn, ii., 353.

Scotland in July 1599, when he called himself Lord Dacre, and had sent for his son out of the Low Countries into Scotland, and 150*l.* to pay his debts withal. There can be no doubt, therefore, that his loyalty had at last given way to his necessities. "If he inherit no more land from his father, he will be a poor lord."³⁵

Meanwhile the Queen, whether under the mere cloak of Arundel's attainder, or on the new treason of Francis Dacre, kept a firm hold upon all the Dacre estates. In 1595 Lord William justified his conduct, and denied having made any application implying distrust in his title. It was in vain. After Arundel's death in the Tower, his widow had to join with Lord William to recover her own estates and her jointure, and they eventually were compelled to purchase their own lands in 1601 for 10,000*l.*, but in the names of Mr. Edward Carrill and others, "because they would not in any sort prejudice their own right." The grant was also confined to the adverse claims of Francis Dacre, "until and so long as there should be an heir male of the body of Francis Dacre, esquire, late attainted of treason, in full life."³⁶

Elizabeth died. Once more the harassed Dacre might look for relief. But the Howards, true to the new King's mother in her dark downward career, had strong claims upon him. The title to the peerage came under notice the first year of his reign, and the Attorney-General had instructions to draw up a grant of the baronies of Dacre of Gillesland and Greystock to the Countess of Arundel and her heirs, as coheir to her brother the last baron, with remainder to Lord William Howard and his heirs by her younger sister Elizabeth.³⁷ A shade continued upon the male heir of Dacre. His enemies the Cecils were still in power. In 1605, after the Gunpowder Plot was discovered, Sir Edward Coke's interrogatories for the examination of Guy Fawkes were indorsed with a query whether Edward Neville, titular Earl of Westmoreland, and the titular Lord Dacre were connected with the treason. Both gentlemen escaped taintless. The sequel of the history of Dacre appears in the following representations among the Radclyffe papers at Greenwich hospital.

³⁵ Sharp's Memorials, 223.

³⁶ Nic. and Burn, ii, 351.

³⁷ S. P. Cal. 1603, p. 61. This grant does not appear to have been completed. There has indeed been an idea that the abeyance of the barony of Greystock was terminated by the Crown in favour of the Arundel line; but as to that of Dacre, Lord William's great grandson, Charles Howard, was created Baron Dacre of Gillesland by patent, in 1661.

15^o Augusti. 1614.—A TRUE DECLARATION OF THE PASSAGES BETWEEN THE COUNTESS OF ARUNDELL AND THE LORD WILLIAM HOWARD ON THE ONE PARTIE, AND MR. FRANCIS DACRE ON THE OTHER SENSE. ANN. 1607.

About Michaelmas, 1607, Anno 5 Regis Jacobi, Mr. Francis Dacre sent for Mr. Daniell Pullen, and by him made a voluntarie offer to my Ladie of Arundell and my Lord to releasse to them his claime or title he pretended to suche lande as they then enjoyed; presuming of their kindness and best assistance in obtaining out of the crowne for him the ancient Dacre landes forfeited by his brother's and his attentures.

The offer, as it proceeded voluntarie from him, soe at that time it came to them unexpected: yet the demand soe verie reasonable, as they had noe reason to refuse the same.

Upon returne of some messages betweene them, upon noe other conditions but onely a note in paper under their handes promising to doe their best indeavours on his behalfe by thereselves and friendes for those ancient Dacre landes, he released to them all his title of all such landes as they possessed in the county of Cumberland, Westmerland, Northumberland, Yorke, the cittie of Yorke, Saloppe, and Bishopperick of Durham, with a covenant to make further assurance upon demaund during five yeares, be it by fine, feoffment, recoverie, &c., as by the said releasse dated 10^o October, the yeare abovesaid, under his hand and seale and enrouled appeareth. At which time he also levied a fine of all but the landes³⁸ in the Bishoppericke of Durham, which was after³⁹ to be executed at Durham (for the Bishopp's speciall allowance was to be had) and soe could not then be performed at London.

Having thus farre proceeded (noe waie distrusting his further performance) they did their best indeavours to get him those ancient landes; brought him to the then Lord Privie Sealle and Lord Chamberlaine, who promised him their best helpe therein; preferred his suit, and drave it soe farre as they could, but in trueth the laite Lord Treasurer Salisburie, hating Mr. Dacre mortallie, chieflie it is thought for some courses he ran with the lait Earle of Essex, in the lait Queene's tyme, while he lived in Scotland, would by noe meanes suffer the suite to take success, but with all violence crossed the same. Faylling herin, my Lady of Arundell and my Lord tooke the next best for him, procured for himself, his wife, and sonne, an annuite of 350^l.³⁹ per annum, and the annuite of 250^l.⁴⁰ per annum, formerlie given to his daughters by the late Queene, alsoe confirmed to them. To this, voluntarie of thereselves, they did contribute unto him 3 or 400^l. in money, and have yearely since given him 100^l. out off free bountie, being not hereunto tyed, but onley during pleasure. At that tyme also, at his request,

³⁸ Brereton manor, Nesham manor, and the manors of High and Low Coniscliff.

³⁹ 1608-9. Feb. 12. Grant to Francis, son of the late Lord Dacre, a pension of 200^l. per annum, with 100^l. per annum to Alice his wife, and 50^l. to Randal his son.—*Cal. State Papers.*

⁴⁰ 1607. Aug. 15. Warrant to pay to Elizabeth, Frances, and Ann Dacres, daughters of Francis Dacres, their pensions of 50^l. per annum each.—*Cal. State Papers.*

they procured him a protection from aresting in soe ample maner as Mr. Sergeant Hutton, his owne counsaill, directed the same; and, after, my Lord himself, by such means as he procured, renewed the same protection for him after the former was expired.⁴¹ He also sent to him and offered him Croglin, which he scornfullie refused, albeit he hath sence lett the same at an under value for 40*l.* per annum, reserving the wood and timber, and the house did formerlie content him, as alsoe, before him, his father's uncle, Sir Christopher Dacre. Likewise after he had bought Kirckoswold Castle, to save it from devastating,⁴² he was willing to have bestowed that uppon him, which he refused, alledging that he had resolved never to come into Cumberland, except he might obtaine the ancient landes and dignities of Lord Dacres, which answare he also returned him when my Lord offered him his part of Corkby, for which he paied to Mr. Henrie Blenkinsoppe almost 800*l.*, and for his interest in Kirckoswold he hath bin offered above 500*l.* My Lord alsoe gave him, besides his annuitie, 100*l.* in Michaellmas tearme, 1612, being then in distresse as he seemed; before which time he had caused him to be often moved to levie a fine according to his covenant of the Bishopprick landes. Sometimes he desired to deferr it untill he came into the countrie; att another time he tould my Lord his sonne Anderton diswaded him from it, which seemed strange to my Lord, because Mr. Anderton had bin formerlie with him and tould him he was determined to levie the fine. But when my Lord sent his servant to him at summer assizes gone a yeare directly to have him to acknowledge the same at the said assizes, according to his covenant, he did then flattly refuse to performe it; saying, he had vowed never to doe it, unlesse my Lord would undertake to procure his annuitie to be confirmed uppon his sonne after his death. Wheruppon my Lord resolved that he would never give him 6*l.* to doe that which he had bound himself unto by his hand and sealle. Uppon this occasion he forbare his benevolence of 50*l.* per annum; but it must not be omitted that, the last tearme, Mr. Anderton tould my Lord, he had a letter from Mr. Francis Dacre acknowledging under his hand that he had promissed my Lord to levie the fine of the Bishopprick landes. My Lord, uppon hearing some injurious reportes that have bene given abroad, delivered in effect what I have here related, but concluded word for word himself as followeth:—

Charitie and conscience bindes all men, especieallie such as are, or should be, lanternes to give light to others, to walke in a right path, to forbear to censure in anie controversie betweane partie and partie, till the accused be heard in his owne defence. I tax none because I know none in particuler, but in generall I am charged, and in generall I have

⁴¹ In 1608 he received protection for a year.—*Privy Seal Records*, per Sharp.

⁴² 1610. June 28. Grant to Sir. Wm. Anstruther of all the materials of the decayed castle of Kirk Oswald, co. Cumb., also lease of the land on which the castle stands, the gardens, &c. Nov. 16. Lease to Owen Shepherd and John Dudley, at the suit of Sir Wm. Anstruther, of the decayed castle of Kirk Oswald, the previous grant of it to Anstruther being called in question, because he is an alien and no denizen.—*Cal. State Papers*.

I presume that Lord William purchased Kirk Oswald for Anstruther's term, for he only speaks of his *interest* in it.

declared the trueth of my proceedings. Yf I weare disposed nowe to change my habit, and become from an accused an accuser, I could touch Mr. Francis Dacre with a strange plott and course intended by him against me, the last tearme at London, if God the just judge and author of all justice had not mightilie protected my just cause, contrarie to the expectation of my adversaries. I conclude in silence and charitie. Man determineth, and God disposeth.

CONCERNINGE THE PROCEEDINGE BETWEENE THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE LORD WILLIAM HOWARD AND MR. FRANCIS DACRE. AN. DOM. 1614.

1. That Mr. Francis Dacre did release to my Lady of Arundell and Lord William, &c., himselfe denieth not; whether offred by him or sought for by them is nowe the only question. He barely denieth that he sent Pullein to them, and bindeth the same with a deepe protestacion; the affirmative wilbe mainteined by some yett living to whom Pullein complained whiles he was in management of those affaires, that he was much wearie and tired with Mr. Dacres importunitie and continuall sending for him to speake with him and imploye him therin. And note that Mr. Dacres in the next article followinge acknowledgeth that his wants and dispaire to prevaile in his suites forced him to release to the said Lady of Arundell, &c., but doth not charge them for seeking the same of him.

2. Mr. Dacre had taken, and by the king's expresse commandment had delivred upp the possession of Kirkoswald Castle before the Lady of Arundell or Lord William did ever dreame thereof. No man will imagine while Mr. Dacre stood in opposition with them that eyther of them would be so simple as to give him any furtherance in his suites, wherby he might be enabled to sue or trouble them; yet that the Lord Wm. should after confesse to him that they weare the meanes to dispossesse him of Kirkoswald, as it most sencelesse that they could doe it, so is it most false and untrue that evere the Lord William did so confesse unto him.

3. Mr. Dacre in the 3 article would have the 2 precedent admitted to be true (which maye not be, seing they are both most false), and then appelleth to the indifferent judg whether his release was voluntary or driven unto it by extreame want. The other side is not to examine what particuler or inward motives moved Mr. Dacre to release, but to mainteine the first assertion, that when he did release he voluntarilie offred them, and they sought not him, and till he produce better prooffe, or, at least, some probable circumstances to make good his former bare protestacion, it shalbe cast to the indifferent judg to whom he appealleth, as now it standeth to decide and determine.

4. For a note under their hands lett the same be viewed, and their accusations therin duely examined, whearin it shall apeare that they have beene very precise in observing to him, till he brake promise and covenant to them contrarie to his hand and seale. Whear in his answer to this pointe, he chargeth them that they promised him to gett him a graunt of the ancient Dacre lands formerly given him by the Kinge, and

by their procurement recalled, lett him looke on his noate and produce the same to open viewe; and if any such thinge be in the same, all other parts of his declaration (as he calleth it) shalbe acknowledged to be true, yf otherwise, lett him with shame confesse his error and his immoderate passion be pleaded for his excuse. For any others his suittes they performed justly for him so farre as their power extended accordinge to their promise, but the exceeding hatred of the late Treasurer Salysbury conceived against him crossed all mocions of his preferment, the cause therof by most liklyhood best knowen to Mr. Dacre him selfe.

5. For the money bestowed upon him, the certeine somme can not without great labour and search of sundrie books be of the suddeine exactly collected. When it cometh to a strickt reckoninge Mr. Dacre will not prove the best auditor.

6. Mr. Dacre's sundrie requests and propositions to them must not stand and be accounted for promises made by them, all that ever they promised he hath under their hands, which was not absolute, but restrained to do their best indeavour by their friendes, which they performed really and so farre as their power extended, and the contrarie he shall never prove; all others promises they absolutely disclaime. For renewinge his pencion to his sonne by the Commissiouners for the office of the Lord Treasurer, lett him call him selfe to remembrance yf when he first moved my Lord William therein, he did not dissuade him from it as a tyme then unseasonable, and that after he went to the Lord Woton who (as he saied) did encourage him in the procedinges, yett being one of the Commissiouners did refuse to shewe him selfe therin on his behalfe. The petition being preferred, the then Lord Privie Seale and Lord Chamberlane used him with the best respect of all the companye, (as Mr. Dacre him selfe did presentlie after acknowledge) butt his suite being out of their commission to graunt was referred to his Majestie, whean Mr. Dacre leaft it and persecuted it no further, being at that time in dispaire to prevaile. The Lord Wm. no waye then undertaking the businesse for him, for yf he would have ben advised by him he should not at that tyme have preferred his suite, in which, as in many others, the Lord Wm. is most wrongfully burdened and charged. *Oportet mendacem esse memorem.* Mr. Dacre first forgeteth his covenant under his hand and seale to make further assurance, and next remembreth not his letter dated at Cochein, 17 Decembris, 1610, which was before the death of Treasurer Salisbury, written evey worrde with his owne hande to the Lord Wm. Howard, in which verbatim as followeth:—"I have, according to the aggreement, made release of what was in your Lordship's possessions, which I presume have been sufficient. But your Lordship requestinge an other fine for lands in Bishopprike, I suppose some defect in the former, these are therfore to resolve your Lordshipp that yf any other fyne for these lands be necessarie, I ame and will be ready to acknowledge the same in this countrie, when your Lordshipp wil call it upon me." Howe he after performed this can be best testified by Mr. Lancellott Skellton⁴³

⁴³ 1608? Ill conduct of Lord William Howard in encouraging recusants in the North. Skelton of Wetherall, a dependant of his, took the sacrament at Easter, but

and Wm. Bowman, the one his ancient frend, the other his ould servant, in whose presence he flatly refused to levie the said fine, affirming he had vowed the contrarie, unlesse the Lord William would assure his sonne 100%. per annum during his life, or els procure his pencion from his Majestie, to be assured upon his sonne. By this it is evident that his vowe is against his covenant under his hand and seale, and contradictorie to his voluntarie offer, under his owne hand writtinge. Howe small credit is to be given to any part of his declaracion (as he tearmeth it), or to the deepe protestacion he takes in answere to the first article, and howe weake a pillar his sonne hath to relie upon after his death, which he pretendeth to be a cheefe motive of his declaracion, I leave to the judgement of the world, and the censure of any indifferent and understandinge person.

7. Lett Mr. Anderton and his wiffe writte what they please, it shalbe affirmed by their better that the Countess of Arundell and Lord William weare meanes to renewe his daughter pencions, and yf Mr. Anderton will affirme under his hand yf he did not in Trinitie tearme, 1614, tell the Lord Wm. Howard that he had a letter under Mr. Dacre hand, that he promised to the Lord William to levie a fine of the Bishoppricke lands, then shall it be plainly proved to the shame of them both. Till Mr. Anderton's hand be shewed, it will not be beleved that he will denye so manifest a truthe, but it is rather conceived that Mr. Dacre maketh bold in this degree to wronge his sonne in lawe for his owne advantage, which is not the fyrst tyme he hath used him so (yf reporte be true). Howsoever maters stand betwene Mr. Dacre and his sonne in lawe, it is most evident by his letter, under his owne hand, 1610, above mentioned and ready to be shewed as occasion shalbe offered, he did then absolutely promise that which nowe he peremptorie denieth.

8. Kirkoswald Castle, Corkeby, and Crogling, weare all more freeilie and kindlie, not skornefully, offred to Mr. Dacre then he deserved, to no bad end, thoughte proudly and unadvisedly refused, and ungratefully interpreted and rejected by him, howsoever for one of them his refusall now cloaked with a shewe of scrupule of conscience.

9. Lett Mr. Dacre surmise what best pleaseth his owne fancie; whatsoever the Court of Wardes determineth in the minoritie of the Wardes, doth no waie binde them after livery sued; as things never before heard of nor materiall to the matter nowe in hande, they maie for this tyme passe in silence. But Mr. Dacre might observe that my Lord Montague, being his brother in lawe,⁴⁴ and a principall mainteiner of him in his suittes, could not be accepted of for an indifferent mediator in this businesse, much lesse my Lord Lumley who was then the onely man that the Earle of Arundell did account his principall adversarie, and the procurer of the displeasure his grandfather Henry [Fitz-Alan], then Earle

spat it out. Lord William's servant erected a lord of misrule at Christmas last, who disturbed the congregation at Hampton, Westmoreland. By his influence at Court he overrules the course of law in the North, and is aiming at the sheriffwick of Westmoreland, that he may have a sheriff of his own faction.—*Cal. State Papers.*

⁴⁴ Anthony Brown, Lord Montague, married one of Dacre's sisters for his second wife.

of Arundell,⁴⁵ had towards him, by which he gaineth to himselfe the most parte of the said Earle's possessions, which discontentment betwene the said Philip Earle of Arundell and Lord Lumley, did continewe in extreame bitter tearmes till after the tyme mentioned and supposed in Mr. Dacre's declaracion, at which tyme the Lord William was newly come from Cambridg, and not 16 yeares of age. For further answeare to this article observe Mr. Dacre owne confession in the next 10 article, which I doute not will satisfye any indifferent reader, viz:—

10. That howe soever in his letter to them he demaundes their consideracions uppon the former surmises, yett when they denied his demaund, and weare contented to bestowe 100*l.* per annum on him, of their countie, at their will and pleasure, he did willingly accept thereof, &c.

11. Mr. Thomas Addis, a surveior, then dwelling about Drewrie Lane, did the last yeare, and will still affirme and prove, that he was earnestly intreated and dealt with to interteine in his house and sojorne Mr. Francis Dacre, who was come to London, and went to stae ther, aboute to prosecute causes against the Lord William Howard, and to be a suttor to his Majestie against him, and howe far then he did imbarke himselfe with the Lord of Hunsdon, is best knowent to himselfe and not all together unknown to others. Neither will Mr. Dacres wippe this blemish awaie so easelie with an untrue surmise and sleight instance of a former assumption cast uppon him that then failed in prooffe, for seeing he will have the worlde knowe more than some weare willing to publishe; first omitting the practice that he, Mr. Tho. Salkeld, and others hadd platted by force to take the Lord William Howard in his bedd at Brampton, coming thether to keepe court, it maie be uppon due examination there is more knowen and more apparent prooffe therof from some of the actors themselves, imployed by Mr. Dacre him selfe, then is imagined. Secondly, Lancellott Carlton did practice with Mr. Dacre well affected freindes and followers, to shoote the Lord William with a pistolle, is plainly confessed by diverse, and openly acknowledg uppon oath of one the principall agents at the generall assisses at Carlile, 1612, before the Justices of Assisses and all the countie ther assembled. Thirdly and lastly, that Lancellot Carlton did after that practise againe against the Lord Wm. Howard, with some of Mr. Dacre's most neere and deere freindes, and Mr. Dacre him selfe was accounted therewith, thoughte perhaps with no ill intention at that tyme to the said Lord Wm. Howard. *Littera scripta manet.*

After Mr. Dacre had made his conclusion, affirming and denying all uppon his bare word and large protestation, without any other testimony or prooffe, being no good or authentik evidence in his owne cause, he addeth with an "Also," a 12 article, but not of the creede no more then the precedente, wherein he affirmeth all convenantes to be fully performed on his parte, referring himselfe to his release, which, for all the doubt he maketh, is ready to be shewed, and by the very vieve thereof

⁴⁵ Who had two daughters and coheirs, Joanna, the wife of John Lord Lumley, by whom she had no surviving issue, and Mary Duchess of Norfolk, Philip Lord Arundel's mother.

will appeare to be inrolled as hath been affirmed. And for a finall ende and full conclusion of all the controversie, setting aside any more replies, rejoinders, or other tedious and needlesse discourses in writtinge, the only upphott, yssue, and closse shalbe in the judgement of indifferent men of understanding and knowledge, upon full viewe and consideration of Mr. Dacre's said release, whether he hath performed all convenantes on his parte or no: yf he have, all that he hath said is true, and the other side hath done him most apparant and open wronge and injurie: yf he hath not, lett him ask God forgivenessse, and latt all others that have any thinge or nothings to do in these affaires, whether it concerne them or concerne them not, be sparring in their censures, and beeleve charitably till the trueth be tried, and ther appeare just cause to the contrarie.

There can be little doubt that we have here the composition of Lord William himself.

The close of the titular Lord Dacre's history does not appear, but he lingered out his existence until 8 Car. I., 1632-3. In 1634, the burial register of Graystock contains the entry of "RANDAL DACRE, Esquire, sonne and hyre to Francis Dacre, Esquire, deceased, being the youngest sonne of the late Lord William Dacre, deceased, being the last hyre male of that lyne; which said Randal dyed at London, and was brought downe at the charges of the right honourable Thomas Earle of Arundell and Surreye, and Earle Marshal of England." The rest of the family probably settled at Chester-le-Street. Dacre makes no mention of a wife, in his letter of 1589, to the Queen, but only of his son and daughters, and we may suppose that Dorothy Radclyffe, whose inheritance was dissipated before 1588, had ceased to sorrow. In 1609 the wife receiving a pension is called Alice. With respect to the daughters, Lord Wm. Howard says that a pension of 250*l.* was awarded them. 150*l.* of this is accounted for in the grant of 1607, which mentions Elizabeth, Frances, and Ann, each of whom received 50*l.* Mrs. Ander-ton would probably be a fourth daughter, and the fifth is found in Mary, who is said to have lived to a very great age, and to have died childless.⁴⁶ Frances accounts for the burial at Chester-le-Street, on 19 Feb., 1632-3, of "Mrs. Frances Dacres, *al. Frances L. Dacre.*"⁴⁷ Mary, before her good old age, had to pass through an adventure. She, "borne of noble blood and parentage," eloped in the night time, in 1635, from *her mother's* house in Chester, with Marmaduke Hedworth, and married him at Thornaby, in Cleveland. They soon separated, and Marmaduke, for profaning the ceremony of matrimony, he being under precontract

⁴⁶ Nic. and Burn, ii., 351.

⁴⁷ Surtees, ii., 146.

with Margaret Key, whom he had seduced, was fined 1,000 marks, had to make confession, was excommunicate, and imprisoned three years. And, (thoroughly unable to trace the heirship-general of her father, or of the Radclyffes of Derwentwater), with so grievous an insult to the fallen house of Dacre, we conclude this imperfect sketch of its last days.

W. HYLTON DYER LONGSTAFFE, F.S.A.

* * * It appears that two kinsmen of Francis Dacre, Richard and Humphrey, who had married the coheirresses of Martindale, were also attainted for joining Leonard Dacre, and that their estate at Grinsdale was granted to Whitmore, who conveyed to Dacre of Kirklington, who already possessed the rectory of Grinsdale.—*Nicholson and Burn*, ii., 227. The Dacres of Kirklington were formerly named Appleby, and are descended through an heiress from Sir Thomas "Bastard Dacre" of Lanercost, an illegitimate uncle of Leonard Dacre.—*Ibid.*, 501.

†† The dispute concerning the Strangways lands arose in a disposition of Sir James Strangways, the last male of his race, whose mother was a Dacre. See the circumstances in Hodgson, ii., 380.

* * * William Lord Dacre "growing discontented with himself for entangling his estate . . . grew distempered in his brain, and so till near the time of his death continued in a dull melancholy, I will not say frenzy. By the said intended entail he . . . sowed the seed of dissension betwixt his own children . . . Yea, he himself conceived so great dislike of his younger sons, Leonard, Edward, and Francis Dacre, who drew and persuaded him to that unfortunate course of entailing his land, as they coming unto him lying upon his death bed, and desiring his blessing, he, in the bitterness of heart and detestation of their former sinister practice, left among them, instead of a blessing, the curse that God gave Cain, which every one of them hath happened too truly to feel."—*Lord William Howard*, See Hodgson, ii., 380.