

SHERATON.

SCRUFUTON is first mentioned in the time of Cutheard, Bishop of Chester-le-Street (900-915). "In those days Ealfred son of Britulfinc, flying from the pirates, came from beyond the hills on the west, praying the compassion of S. Cuthbert and Bp. Gutheard, that they would lend¹ some lands to him. Gutheard lent him these vills:—Esington, Sileton, Thorep, Horeden, Yoden, 'Two Ceattous, South Yoden, Holom, Hoton, Tumlinton, Billingham with its appurtenances, Scrufuton²; reserving full service."³ "Mas omnes villas præstitit episcopus Elfrido ut sibi et congregationi fidelis esset et de his plenum servitium redderet."⁴ In the same episcopate Sheraton would hardly escape the usurpation and grievous tributes of the pagan Scula, who ruled from Yodene (Eden) to Billingham.

Sheraton was afterwards held in moieties by the tenure of drengage, the servility of which is admirably brought out by Mr. Hinde in Part I. of Hodgson's Northumberland. In Boldon Book we find that "John holds a moiety of Shuruton for 3 marks, and is quit of the works and services which used to be done for the moiety of that drengage, for Crauerok, which he quit claimed." Thus the services on half his estate were so heavy as to require the sacrifice of the other half—a vill—as the purchase of enfranchisement. This was a strange state of affairs, and the charter terminating it will be an interesting addition to Mr. Greenwell's edition of the Boldon Buke.

H. dī grā Dunelm̄ ep̄c. om̄ib; hōib; totj⁹ ep̄atus sui Francis
 ~t Angl̄: salt. Sciatis nos concessisse. ~t p̄senti carta confirmasse
 Joñi filio Wiffi de Scuruetōñ. medietatē uille de Scuruetōñ. q̄m
 pater suus ~t antecessores sui de nob̄ ~t antecessorib; n̄ris in

¹ The verb is *præsto*.

² 1 Leland. Coll. ex incerto auctore de Lindisfarne, ii., 373.

³ Lib. Rub. Dunelm.

⁴ Hist. Sci. Cuthberti.

drengagio tenuerūt. tenendā ej̄ t̄ heredib; suis de nob̄ t̄ successorib; in libam firmā reddendo iñ singlis annis ad q̄tuor t̄minos in epātu constitutos. tres marcas p̄ omī seruitio. excepto qđ ad cōmune auxiliū cū uenit. dabit ad plus unā marcā. Hanc aū libtatē p̄noāto Johi dedim⁹ t̄ cōcessim⁹ p̄ uilla de Craucruc. q̄m patri suo Wiffo dedim⁹ qui illā de nob̄ in drengagio tenuit. t̄ p̄mod̄ p̄notat⁹ Johs nob̄ eam p̄ bacm reddidit. t̄ nob̄ t̄ successorib; n̄ris de se t̄ heredib; suis q̄etam clamauit. Qr̄a uolum⁹ t̄ p̄cipim⁹ qđ sup̄dict⁹ Johs memoratā t̄ram iure heditario possideat t̄ teneat ut dc̄m ē cū om̄ib; ad eam p̄tinentib; in bosco t̄ plano in t̄ris cultis ñ cultis. in p̄tis t̄ pascuis. i aquis stagnis. t̄ molendinis. i uiis t̄ semitis. t̄ in om̄ib; aliis libtatib; libe. q̄ete. t̄ honorifice p̄ p̄dc̄m seruitiū. solutam t̄ q̄etam ab om̄ib; aliis seruitiis t̄ consuetudinib;. Testib; Gilleb̄ Hausard. Gaufr̄ de Torp. Philipp̄ filio Hamois Gilleb̄ canario. t̄ Gilleb̄ filio ej⁹ Walfo de Musters. Gilleb̄ de Hewurth. Wiffo de Was-sintoñ. Rič de Parca t̄ Gaufr̄ filio ej⁹. Rič de Punt Chardun t̄ Walfo filio ej⁹. Walfo de Brafartoñ t̄ Johē filio ej⁹ t̄ m̄tis aliis.

This half of Sheraton descended to the Askes, and was always held by the three marks (40s.). The other half continued in drengage. "Thomas holds the other moiety of Shuruton, and renders 30s. for cornage, and half a cow for metride, and half a castle-man, and 4 scat-chalders of malt, and as many of meal, and as many of oats. And every plough of his villains ploughs and harrows two acres, and each of them makes three precatations in autumn with one man, and *he* carts half a tun of wine and a mill stone to Durham. The dreng feeds a dog and a horse, as much as belongs to a moiety of the drengage, and attends in the great chase with one greyhound, and two ropes and a half, and two men, and follows the pleas, and goes on messages."

This drengage moiety descended to Lord Nevil, who, at Hatfield's Survey, held it; but some of the services were then covered by a drengage rent and other payments. Aske held the other moiety by foreign service and the 40s.; and the *whole* vill was then said to cart the wine and millstone.

The rest of the history of Sheraton may be found in the pages of Surtees, but he strangely confounds the Askes' with the drengage moiety, and must be read with caution.