

as shewn in the drawings, had been removed; the corbels had been suffered to remain; and thus the aspect of the building is rendered more enigmatical than ever. I may add that, since the reading of my notes on Chibburn, I have had the pleasure of perusing the paper written by Mr. Woodman on the same building, and that the evidence brought forward by him confirms my affirmation that the dwelling-house was erected after the dissolution. The date of the grant of the manor to Sir John Widrington, 1553, and the period of the masonry precisely agree; a coincidence which points in a very indicative manner to Sir John as the builder of the dwelling house in question.—F.R.W.”]

NORTH TYNDALE AND THE BORDERS IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY.—*Dr. Charlton* read the following paper:—

Sir Robert Bowes, in his report upon the state of the Borders in 1550, tells us that “the countrey of North Tynedaill, which is more plenished with wild and misdemeaned people, may make of men upon horsbak and upon foote about six hundred. They stand most by fower surnames, whereof the Charletons be the chiefe. And in all services or charge impressed uppon that countrey the Charltons, and such as be under their rule, be rated for the one half of that countrey, the Robsons for a quarter, and the Dodds and Mylbornes for another quarter. Of every surname there be certayne families or graves (graynes) of which there be certeyne hedesmen that leadeth and answereth all for the rest.”

We learn from documents printed by the Surtees Society that these famous thieves of Tyndale and Redesdale often fell under ecclesiastical censure. The “*Monitio contra famosos latrones de Tyndale*” gives a fearful account of the disorder that prevailed in these vallies, and the Book of the Sanctuary of Durham shews that in 1518 Alexander Charleton, of Shotlyngton Hall, had slain one Alexander Elliott (“Illot”), at Espleywood, by striking him in the left side with a dagger. The Elliotts were of Scottish surname, and perhaps the homicide resulted from a national quarrel. The Elliotts are recorded in a Cotton MS. as being at feud with the Fenwykes of Northumberland, as were the Armstrongs of Liddesdale with the Robsons of North Tyne; and Sir Thos. Musgrave reports that they are “grown soe to seeke blood, that they will make a quarrel for the dethe of there grandfather, and then wyll kyll anie of the name.” We learn from the same report the very route taken by the Scottish invaders, Elliotts and Armstrongs, &c., when they rode a foray into England. “When Liddisdail people make any invacions to the Fenwickes they goe without Bewcastell 10 or 12 miles, and goe by the Perl-fell withoute the Horse Head, near Keldar, and soe along above Cheapchase. When they goe to the Water of Tyne, they goe by Kyrsoppe head, and without the Gell Crage, and by Tarnbek and Bugells Gar, and soe along by the Spye Crage and the Lamepert, and come that way.”

In the early part of the sixteenth century, Sir Ralph Fenwyke of Wallington was keeper of Tyndale, and he was sheriff of Northumberland in 1515, when Edward Charlton of Hesleyside became bond in

407. for Peter Lambert of Fourstanes, as appears from a document in the possession of John Fenwick, Esq., a worthy representative of his great and ancient family.

During the reign of Henry VIII. there was almost constant war upon the Borders, even when the monarchs of England and Scotland were at seeming peace with one another. It was a war of reprisals, of constant inroads from one side or the other, and was conducted in the most merciless fashion. In 1523, a tremendous raid was made into Scotland from all parts of the marches, at the suggestion of the English king. The Earl of Northumberland, writing to the King, promises "to lett slippe secretlie them of Tindaill and Riddisdail for th'annoyance of Scotlande—God sende them all goode spede!"¹⁰

On the 3rd of October, 1523, Surrey writes from Newcastle to Wolsey—"I have also knowledge by men of the contre, but not as yett by the captaynes, that Sir Rauf Fenwyke on hys quarter, and Sir William Heron on hys quarter, have made two very good roodes, and have gotten muche insight gear, catall, horse, and prisoners, and here returned withoute los." And King James V. of Scotland, writing to Henry VIII., complains, that "the greatest of all attemptes that was done againste our legys (lieges) during the hele warr has been committed upon our middle marchies be certaine zoure legys, of the surnames of Doddis, Charltonis, and Mylbornis, under the care of Schir Rauf Fenwik, who, on the 6th day of this instant monthe, has cummin within the groundes of Tevydaill, reft and spoilzid sundrie gudis, murdyrit five men, and utheris left in perill of deid."—(4 State Papers, 666.)

On this occasion Sir Ralph Fenwick led a willing army against the hereditary foe; but, as has happened to other great leaders, his then supporters were soon after arrayed against him. Not ten months after this great and most successful inroad, he was once more in Tyndale on another errand, seeking to apprehend one William Ridley, an outlaw, and probably a fugitive from the South Tyne.¹¹ He had with him on this occasion a force of 80 horsemen, and appears to have taken up his quarters in the tower of Tarssett Hall. His presence there does not seem to have been agreeable to the Tindale men, who energetically espoused the cause of Ridley. "William Charlton of Bellingham having 200 of the seyde inhabitants of Tyndaill reiteigned, bound, and bodilye sworne upon a booke to him alwaies to take hys parte, hering of the sayd Sir Rauff being ther, assembled parte of them diligenteley and freshley set upon the said Sir Rauff, and not onely put him from hys purpose of attackinge the sayd Ridley, but alsoe chased the sayd Sir Rauff out of Tyndaill, to his great reproache." It is probable that on this occasion Tarssett Hall Tower was burnt by the Tindaill men under William Charleton of Bellingham, for Sir Robert Bowes, in his survey of 1542, mentions "this towre as having beene bruntte by the Tyndaills some sixtene yeares and more since thenne at a time when Sir Rauff Fenwyke lay there with a certeyne garrison." The insult offered

¹⁰ Sir Ralph Fenwick led the men of Tyndale, and Sir William Heron the men of Redesdale, on this foray into Teviotdale.

¹¹ William Ridley was concerned in the murder of Nicholas Featherstonhaugh.

to the King's majesty, in the person of Sir Ralph Fenwick, was speedily avenged by Thomas Lord Dacre, who seized the person of William Charleton, and also took, at the Bridal of Colwell, Roger Charlton his brother, and Thomas Charlton of the Careteth, "by whom all the inhabitants were governed, led, and ready at their commaundment." He describes these three as pledge-breakers and receivers of the stolen goods procured by the other marauders, and advises that they shall be forthwith judged and executed. Immediately after the seizure of these three "hedesmen," Lord Dacre commanded the inhabitants of Tyndale to meet him the next Sunday in Bellingham Church. The Robsons, however, one of the surnames, held out and would not give pledges, whereupon Lord Dacre sent out a party that night and seized four of that surname, and among these Robert Robson, the fourth hedesman, whom he at once, and for the terrifying of the others, *justified*, or executed, on the spot.

In April, 1524, the arm of the church was had recourse to, to arrest the disorders of Tyndale; for Cardinal Wolsey then caused an interdict to be laid on all the churches of Tyndale, though Redesdale, as being then tolerably quiet, was exempt from censure. On the Scottish side the Archbishop of Glasgow published at the same time an interdict and excommunication against the outlaws of Liddesdale, couched in the strongest possible language. This document may be read at full length in 4 State Papers, 417. But the Borderers seemed to have revered neither church nor King, for Willm. Frankelyn, writing to Wolsey in 1524, tells the Cardinal—"After the receipts of your Graces sayd letter we caused all the chyrcches of Tindaill to be interdicted, which the theves there temerariouly disobeyed, and caused a Scots frere (friar), the sayd interdiction notwithstanding, to mynistrer them theyre communion of his facion; and one Ector Charlton, one of their capeteynes, re-saved the parsonnes dewties and served them all of wyne." The tradition of the country tells us that this was Hector Charlton of the Boure, on Chirdon Burn, the ancestor of the late Charlton of Reeds-mouth. By the expression, served them all of wyne, is probably meant that he provided wine for mass, as communion under both kinds would then be unknown. Proclamation was made at Bellingham and elsewhere against giving food to the outlaws, and for "keying of there wyffes and servantes from markets;" and most of the outlaws seemed disposed to come to terms, stating that if their own lives and those of their pledges given into the hands of the sheriffs were respected and made safe, they would then submit to the King. "Thys aunser dyd all the theves of Tindaill give except Gerard Charlton, and one Ector Charlton, two great capeteynes amongst them, which Ector sayd that he was servaunte to the Lord Dacres, and that he never wolde submyte himselfe to the tyme he shold se the sayd Lord Dacre."

The severity of Lord Dacre's rule in North Tyndale in 1524 raised against him a host of enemies. Amongst these no doubt were the "surnames" which had suffered so severely from his energy in Tyndale; and when he was tried at Westminster Hall, in 1536, his patronage of Hector Charlton of the Boure was brought in accusation against him.

A copy of the articles of accusation is still extant in the possession of Sir John Swinburne, of Capheaton, and has been printed by Hodgson, Pt. 3, Vol. I.—“*Art. XIV.* Item, in proof of favour borne by the said Lord Dacre to theves consorting there in their misdemeanour, two thieves were taken in Gilsland, beside Lanercost, with the ‘maynore’ of certain cattle by them feloniously stolen and delivered to the order of the said Lord Dacre, which at the request of Hector Charleton, one of the greatest thieves in those parts, familiarly and daily conversant with the said Lord Dacre, the said thieves were by the said Lord Dacre delivered to the said Charleton to be ordered at his pleasure, which Hector Charleton did ransom the said thieves, and suffered them to go at large for twenty nobles of money, which thieves and their friends have delivered and paid the same sum to the said Charleton with goods stolen from the King’s true subjects.”

Lord Dacre, in his answer to this accusation, replies, that the two men after being long in prison were found not guilty, and that thereupon he delivered them to William Charlton and Hector Charleton, “and whett thae dyd with them the sayd lorde knowithe not.” The date of these articles of accusation is not accurately known; probably they were drawn up shortly before Lord Dacre’s trial, in 1536. We are not able to fix the exact date of another exploit of the Tyndale men, referred to in the XVIth article of accusation, whereby it seems that one Cokes Charleton had been taken and confined in Lord Dacre’s castle of Morpeth, but was rescued by a party of the Tyndale men, no doubt of his own “grayne,” who “brak the castell of Morpeth on the nyghte and the prisone wher the sayd theff with two fellons were, and took hym out.”

In 1528, William Charlton of Shotlyngton and Archibald Dodd, with two Scotsmen—Harry Noble and Roger Armstrong—rode a foray into the Bishoprick of Durham. The two Englishmen were here acting in union with their hereditary foe, and the inroad upon the county of Durham can only be characterized as a thorough act of treachery. It confirms the saying of a writer of the day, that these Border thieves would be Englishmen when they will and Scotsmen when it suited them best. In all probability Noble and Armstrong were “broken men,” outlawed from Liddesdale for acts of violence, who had taken refuge among their foes. The party, nine in all, entered the county of Durham, on Monday, January 21, 1528, and advancing to the neighbourhood of Wolsingham, seized the parson of Muggleswick and bore him off a prisoner. On their return they broke into three houses at Penhamside or Penwoodside, and robbed and spoiled the “gear” therein. The country rose in pursuit. Edward Horsley, the bailiff of Hexham, led the fray. “The water of Tyne was that night one great flode, so that the sayd theves couth not passe the same at no fordes, but were driven, of necessitie to a brygge within a lordship of myne called Adon Brygge; which by my commaundment was barred, chayned, and lokked faste, so that the sayd theves couth not passe with there horses over the same, but were constrained to leave their horses behynde them and flee away a foote. And upon the same a servaunte of myne called Thomas Errington, ruler of my

tenantes in those quarters, persewed after theyme with a sleuthe hounde, to the which pursuitt of theyme, after the scribe in aid, came to theyme one William Charlton with dyverse other inhabitants of Tyndaill to helpe to put down those rebellious persons, which forwardness in oppressing mallifactors hath not been sene aforetyme in Tyndaill men." (Northd. to Wolsey, 1528.) William Charlton of Shotlyngton, or Shitlington Hall, was slain in the pursuit by Thomas Errington. James or Harrye Noble shared the same fate; and Roger Armstrong and Archie Dodd were taken and executed. William Charlton's body was hung in chains at Hexham, James Noble's on Haydon Bridge, and the others were treated in the same way at Newcastle and Alnwick. The other five outlaws escaped. The old hall at Shitlington was standing till within the last few years. Six "Tyndaile theiffis" were hanged at Alnwick in April of this year. The severity of this chastisement seems to have produced tranquillity on the Borders for some years. In 1535, the Earl of Northumberland met the "hedesmen" of the surnames of Tyndaill at Hexham and took bonds for their good behaviour, and that of their retainers. These bonds are still extant. In 1536, however, the restless spirit of the Borderers was again inciting to acts of violence. Sir William Eure writes to the Cardinal, on 26 July of that year, from Hexham—"The rebelles of Tyndale nake some "besyness" in Tyndale wher ther dwellings was, and in noe place els they melle or dois hurt; ther abydings is in a place called Lushburn Howles (Lewisburn), a marvellous strong grounde of woodes and waters. They begyn to be weary of ther troubles, and make offers, ther lyves safed, to submytt them to the Kyng's pleasur. I thynk yf Sir Rauffe Fenwyke, havynge the Kyng's garryson in conducte at hys owne appointment, had done hys dewtye, the said rebelles at thys tyme had maid large proffers of submission." Sir William Eure was probably no friend to Lord Dacre, for along with this letter he sends the testimony of Edward Charleton of Tyndale, which goes to prove that Dacre was wont to give private warning to the Bells to shift for themselves whenever he made an inroad on the Tyndale outlaws. This was just before Lord Dacre's trial; and after the trial it would seem from a letter of Norfolk to Cromwell that he had sounded Lord Dacre about his again taking charge of Tyndale, but it was so much against Dacre's mind that, as Norfolk says, "he had rather lose one fynger of every hande then to medle therwith."

We now come to the matter of the murder of Roger Fenwick, keeper of Tyndale, or, as heis else where called, one of the bailiffs of Tyndale. It is difficult to arrive at the truth regarding this case; but in a letter dated 7 April, Newcastle, 1537, John of Charleton, Rynny Charlton, and John Dodde, are named as the murderers of Roger a Fenwick, late keeper of Tyndaill, "and are recepted, ayded, and assisted now within the realmes of Scotland, but most of all by the Abbat of Jedworth." The Abbot of Jedworth, according to the Iter of Warke, held in 1279 extensive possessions in North Tynedale, and especially at Ealingham, one of the possessions of the Charltons. Edward and Cuthbert de Charlton seem also to have been mixed up in this transaction, and above all, John

Heron, son of John Heron of Chipchase. The accusation against John Heron seems to have rested on the testimony of a single individual, Gerrard or Jerrye Charlton of the Hawe-hill, otherwise called Jerrye Topping, who was subsequently taken by Sir Raynold Carnaby, and thrown into Warkworth Castle. He seems to have given private information against John Heron to Norfolk, and the latter made ready to ride upon Tyndale if the King of Scots would do the same upon Liddesdale. Also that "he would do hys best to put order for Tyndale with usyng all the policies I can t' apprehende Edwarde and Cuthberte of Charleton and John Heron's sonne, which John I require your good lordshippe may be secretly conveyed hither, and so delyvered to th' officers of my house to be by them conveyed to me to Newcastle, to be ordered according to justice. I wolde he sholde be here the 20th daie of Sept. and conveyed with a hode on hys hedde, and so secretly kept by the waye that no man sholde knowe him unto hys delyverance; which wold be also in the nyght, bycause I have many pledges of Tyndale and Ryddesdale here. For and it were knowen he were here, I shold neyther take hys sonne nor others that I would have. And if it be not knowen in the flete whither he should goo, but conveyed in the nyght, the better." John Heron hereupon fled into Scotland, and was present at the meeting between Lord Wharton and Lord Maxwell at the Baittinge Buske on the 6th of Nov. 1538, when Wharton being apprised of his presence, laid an ambush to take him prisoner, but was dissuaded from his purpose by Lord Maxwell, who feared that such an act would be an occasion of strife. After all, John Heron was probably guiltless of the blood of Roger Fenwick. The matter engaged the attention of the Privy Council long after this date. In 1542 the Council reports that the accusation against John Heron rests on one only person, Jerrye Charlton, who is known to be a thief and a common malefactor, and whose father had been punished by the Carnabys for his offences. "We consider with it the malice that is betwene the same Carnabys and John Heron, with the favour that is between the Carnabys and Wharton, and that it may be that Charlton being brother to one of your rebels and outlaws for the death of Roger Fenwick, knowing this displeasure to be between the Carnabys, Wharton, and John Heron, hath throwen out this bone as it were to please the Warden, and thereby at length to labour the restitution of his brother the outlawe." (5 State Papers, 202.)

Sir Raynold Carnaby, who is here mentioned, was the second son of William Carnaby, Esq., of Halton, and married to Dorothy, sister of Sir John Forster, warden of the Middle Marches. He appears, with Widdrington, to have been appointed deputy keeper of Tynedale, but neither appointment seems to have been much to the satisfaction of the Earl of Norfolk. Writing, in 1537, to Cromwell, he says of his two deputy keepers—"All the contres under my commission be as well ordred as I would wish, save only Tyndale and Ryddesdale, wich be under the governaunce of Wedrington and Carnaby, and they so far oute of frame that perforce I must ride to those parttes. Wedrington wolde fayne doe well, but surely it is not in hym. Carnaby is soe fered of his person that he dothe nothing but kepe the house. Men doe moche

doubte of hys hardiness, having yet showed no parte of manhode sithe his first coming thither. I wold they were bothe in Paradise." (5 State Papers, 104.)

Carnaby had it seems taken pledge of the Tyndale men, and had forwarded these pledges to York to exchange them for others previously there. Tunstall says—"Here lyeth for Tyndall at thas tyme two of the moste actyve men of all Tynedale; one ys called John Robson of the False-stayn, who promised my Lord of Northfolke, as I understand, that he wolde doe much against the rebelles, th'odir ys Gibbe of Charleton, who maid lyke promyse as I hear say. But nowe, when tyme is to do it, they lye here as plegges [pledges] sent hyther by Sir Raynold Carnaby's letters to change and lowse th'oder for a seson, as hath been alwaie accustomed. I found a faute with the bringer of them, servaunte to Maister Carnaby, that his maister sent these two who of all other had been most mete to have bene at home to resiste the cummynge in of the rebelles, who answered me that yf those, and other mo of the hedes of them, were oute of the country yt sholde be better rewlyed; by which aunser yt semyd to me that hys maister trusted not these men." (Tunstall to Cromwell, 5 State Papers, 122.) Carnaby promised to do his best against the outlaws of Tyndale after the full of the moon, when it was thought they would be busy, and we presume it was in executing this promise that he was surprised and captured by the Tyndale men. We have no details of when or where he was taken; but Eure, writing in July, 1538, to King Henry VIII., speaks of the "wilful attemptate of the inhabitants of Tyndale, and the takyn of ther keper, Sir Raynold Carnaby." The whole letter is devoted to this important matter, no doubt a most serious offence in the eyes of the King. "We have travailed, (says Eure,) by all our dexterities with the Tindales, for the delyveraunce of the sayd Sir Raynold and others taken with hym. Albeit they, wanting grace and obstenatly persisting in the mayntenaunce of their evill dedes, have resolutely aunswered that they will not departe with the sayd Sir Raynold nor any of the other taken at that tyme for any persuasins or fere of danger that may followe. And unless they all have ther pardones, as welle theye that slewe Roger Fenwicke as those that attempted to take Sir Raynold Carnabye, they wyll in no wyse restore the sayd Sir Raynold nor any taken in hys companye, and that they wyll not tryste nor meate with any man in Northumberland to that they see William Carnaby and Lewis Ogle. Over this, one Jerard Charlton, called Topping, presumptuously sayd that he had given oon aunswer at Harbittell which he thought might serve us, and it should serve us, which aunswer was as is above declared." Eure further declares that he and his friends have used every means to obtain the release of Sir Raynold Carnaby, both by the offer of large sums of money to his keepers and to others who might influence the parties detaining him. Sir R. Carnaby, however, does not seem to have been long a prisoner; for soon after we learn that his deliverance was effected, and that he had the satisfaction of capturing, and conveying to Warkworth, Jerard Charleton, who had given to Eure the insolent answer above recorded. Nearly about the same time, however, about thirty of his retainers were

taken by the Armstrongs at the Busy Gap, on the Roman Wall, and were carried off into Liddesdale. With a view to put down these disorders, Eure, Widdrington, Sir Cuthbert Radcliffe, and Robert Collingwood drew up most stringent rules for the suppression of the ill doings in Tyndale. These articles are printed at full length in 5 State Papers, 133, and recommend that all the inhabitants of Tyndale shall be removed to the inner parts of the realm, except those who took part in the murder of Roger Fenwick or the seizure of Sir Raynold Carnaby, and that all who remain in Tyndale after a certain date from the issuing of this order shall be deemed rebels and outlaws to the King. Inroads were to be simultaneously then made by the wardens of the different marches upon the rebels, and no person was to relieve them or sell them anything in the market towns. Strong garrisons were to be left in various places in Tyndale, as in Chipchase, Swinburne, Gunnerton, Simonburn, and Haughton.

In 1542 William Charlton of Hesleyside is reported by Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Ellerker as possessing the only tower in the country of Tyndale.¹² The limits of Tyndale did not therefore come below the Nook on the south side, and the confluence of the Reed and North Tyne on the north side of the latter river. William Charlton was in 1552 appointed a commissioner for the enclosure of the Middle Marches, and in 1554 he executed the deed of agreement with William Charlton of Lee-hall, of which we are enabled to produce both copies this evening to the Society. We do not know in what degree of relationship William Charlton of the Lee-hall stood to Charlton of Hesleyside, but in all probability they were cousins, and were in dispute, not only about the boundaries between the Lee-hall property and that of Hesleyside, but also about the manor and house of Hesleyside itself. This dispute was settled by arbitration on the 27th of February, 1553, the arbitrators being George Fenwick of Harbottle and Brinkburn, a commissioner for the enclosure of the Middle Marches in 1552; John Shaftoe of Bayngton; John Hall of Otterburn, another of the commissioners in 1552, keeper of Redesdale in 1 Eliz., having fifty light horsemen of his name, and named in 1586 as one who could give information about the Borders; Thomas Featherstonhaugh, a gentleman of the Middle Marches in 1550; Percival Shaftoe of Ingoe; and Thomas Hall of Munkridge. Their award, setting out boundaries which still exist, is now exhibited, and is as follows:—

Thys indentur mayd at the Leehall within Tyndall, the xxvii. day of the monethe of February, and in the viith year and reyaghn of our Soverayn Lord Edward the Syxt, by the Grac of God Kyng of England, Franc, and Ierland, defendor of the faith, and in earthe of the churche of England and alsoo of Ierland the supreme head immediatly under God, Betwixt Wyll'm Charlton of Hesleysyd, within the liberties of Tyndall, gent., of the on party, and Wyll'm Charlton of the Leehall within the said liberties, gent., upon the other party, Witnessz that wher thear was a travers sewt and controversye betwixt the parties aforesayd for and concernynge the howsse and manor of Hesleysyd, the howse of the Leehall, with all the purtenances to then belongingy or in any maner of wyse apparutenyng, eyther party beyng bownd unto other by

¹² The Tower of Hesleyside, which stood at the west end of the present mansion, was pulled down at the end of the last century, during the minority of the late owner of Hesleyside. It closely resembled the towers at Cockle Park and Halton.

obligacion in the somme of *cclii.* as by the same dothe mor planlye appear, for to abyd the ordre, award, arbitrement, and end of Georg Fenyk of Brenkburn, gent., John Shafto of Bavyngton, esquier, John Hall of Otterborn, the yonger, gent., Thomas Fetherstonhaughe of Haydenbrig, gent., Percivell Shafto of Innghe, gent., and Thomas Hall of the Munkkarage, gent., arbiters, indifferently elected and chosen as well by the on party as the other, who hath ordred, judged, demyd, and awarded that Wyll'm Charlton of the Leehall shall have and enjoye to hyme, hys ares, excecutors, and assyghnees, for ever mor, without any encombrawnc, chaleng, trowble, vexacyon, or perturbacyon of the sayd Wyll'm Charlton of Heslesyd, his ares, or assyghners, or of any in hys name or his ares name, all the plac and manor of the Leehall, with all maner of growndes erable and unerable, medos, woodes, pastures, comunes, hedgys, dyches, with all other easmentes, comodites, and purtenanays beyng lyeing and conteynnyng within the limites and bowndes folowyng, that ys to say, bowndyng and begynnyng at a gray stone in a clowghe syd under a plac called the Crowkhyll, and so forth north-est unto the dyche of the Rydynghyll clos, and so up northe as the dyche therof is casten, and then turnyng at a gray ston lying in the Rydynghyll clos dyche, and so forth streght north west unto the end of Tawnton hyl dyche, and then northe unto the end of the sayd dyche, and from the dyche northward streght ower unto the ryver of North Tyne, the sayd W'm Charlton of the Leehall, hys ares and assyghners doyng therfor all maner of dewties and services unto the cheff lord dew and accustomed. And further, that the sayd W'm. of the Leehall shall give and grant unto the sayd W'm Charlton of Heslesyd, and his ares, all his ryght, title, clame, and chaleng of the howse and manor of Heslesyd and of all the inheritanc that is or hath been therto belongyng. And also all his tenant ryght as well of the Kyng's landes of the Lemallyng, that is to say, of the Crowkhyll, the Anthonhyll, the Hyghe clos, the Bridgford, as of other, with all other that he hath or had ever any interest, title, clame, or chaleng unto withoute any trowble, chaleng, vexacyon, or perturbacyon therof, to be had or mayd in any wyse (except befor excepted) from the sayd Wm. Charlton of the Leehall, his ares and assyghnz, unto the sayd Wyllm. Charlton of Heslesyd, his ares and assighnez, for evermor. And that the sayd W'm Charlton of the Leehall shall delyver unto the sayd W'm Charlton of Heslesyd all maner of writings, evydenc, and prescripcions that he hath belongyng or appertenyng unto the inheritanc of Heslesyd, or of any land or tenement, part or parcell therof, immediatly at the sealyng of this presentes befor and in the presenc of the sayd arbiteres, and for tru performanc of the same to be truly observed and kepted in every article and behalf as is befor mencyoned, eyther parti to other enterchangeably hath sette their sealles with the sealles of the sayd arbiters the day and year abovesayd. Witness, Hob Hall of the Raylees, Percivell Clennell, Clemet Hall of the Ralees, Heue Charlton of the Hallhyll, John Wylkyson of Hetheryngton, Rawff Charlton of the Leehall, Oswyn Charlton of Elyngham, John Charlton of the Blaklow, Edde Mylborne of the Dunsted, Anthon Mylborne of Roses bowr, Xpe Charlton of Newton.¹³

[Four seals broken away.]

[*In dorso.*] Also we awarde that Wyll'm Charlton of the Leehawll shall have fre passag at all tymes wyth all hys cattles somer and wynter to pastur upon the Kynges grownd, such lyk as other the Kynges tenants doth ther, and also fre lycenc to passe and repasse throwghe the Kynges grownd for gettyng off his eldyng, and this to belong to the Leehall. Also we awarde that Wyll'm Charlton off Hesleysyd shall lett unto Wyll'm Charlton of the Leehall halffe the Leykhyll . . . his farme payeng doyng hys dewtie with firmers by yer v s.—WILLM CHARLTON, of Hesilsidd. GEORG FENWICK. JOHN SCHAFTOW. JOHN HALL. P'CVYVELL SHAFTOO. JOHN HALL. [*sic* in both parts.]

By the privilege of passing through the King's ground, the Lee-hall property became extended in a narrow slip up to Kingswood, and so con-

¹³ In 1568 the heirs of Gabriel Hall had lands in four places in Redesdale. Randal Hall had land at Raylees.—Edward Charlton of the Have-hill, a headsman of Tindale, gave bonds to Sir John Forster at Chipchase in 1559. (Sadler's State Papers.)—John Wylkinson of Hetherington was bailiff of Tindale in 1559.—John Charlton of the Blakelaw was a headsman and bond-giver in 1559.

tinues to this day. William Charlton of Lec-hall died in 1561, and we produce the probate of his will, running as follows:—

Jn'us. In the name of God, Amen, the yeaere of our Lord God (1561) I Wyll'm Charlton of the Leehall, holl in mynde and memorye and seyke in my body. Fyrst I bequithe my sawll to Almyghtye God, my only maker and redeamer, my bodye to be buried in the churche of Saynet Cuthbert in Bellin'ham, with my mortuarie dew and accustomed to be paid. Item, I geve to Dorathye my wyf the halff of the myln and maynes dependynge or belongynge to the Leehall, wth meadowes, mures, and pastors or any other things belonginge to the foresayd Leehall, and my sonne Wyll'm to content hym with the other half. I make my wyff and Wyll'm my sonne of this my last wyll and testament my full executores. Also I wyll that my mayster George Heron and John Hibson, with my brother Nicholas Crawhall, vicar of Hawttwysle, to be supervisors, and if they refusse ytt then I wyll that Usswen Charlton, and Wyll'm Charlton of Bellingham, and John Robson. Lyonell Mylborne to take in hand & to se that my wyff and my sonne take no wronge, to meet to maynteyn them in ther right as far as they may. Wrytten the last day of Aprill by theis wytnesses & recordes—Usswen Charlton, John Robson, Lyonell Mylborne, Christofoer Boerne, Sande Elliott, Chuthbert Elliott, Leonard Stauper, with other mo, and Wyll'm Holde, some to John Holde, and Wyll'm Bell, curat of Bellingham. [Memorandum of probate at Corbridge by the said executors, before Wm. Garnett, Commissary in Northumberland of James [Pilkington] Bishop of Durham, 17 June, 1561. *Seal*, pointed oval, the royal arms crowned. STA CLESIASTICAS.]

In 1556, Roger Heron, brother to George Heron of Chipchase, was taken prisoner by some of the Elliotts of Liddesdale, while riding towards his brother's house in the dusk of the evening.

In 1559, Sir John Forster received the office of keeper of Tyndale from Marnaduke Slingsby. The latter had appointed a day for the headsmen of Tyndale to appear at Hexham, and to give bonds for good conduct, but this summons was disregarded. Sir John Forster seems to have had more influence. "When I demandyd to have such delyvered in to my handes as were nomynate in the sedult, that you sent me in your last letter, of the which nombre I have received in the preson of Hexham, ix persons presoners. Ande Jarrye Charleton of the Hawe hill—he is delyvered home upon bande." (1 Sadler's State Papers, 613.) Sir John Forster summoned the "hedesmen" to meet him at Chipchase the next Sunday, and on that day the greater part, if not all, appeared, and gave bonds for keeping the peace, &c. We have fortunately, in Sadler's State Papers, a list of those summoned by Slingsby, and we may conclude that the same men, with others, obeyed Sir John Forster's summons to Chipchase. This list is curious, as it gives the names of many who appear in the documents before us. It is as follows:— "[Wm.] Charlton of Haselyside; Jasper Charlton of Hawsose, [Hawhope Hill]; John Charlton of Blacklawe, or his son; Edward Charlton of the Hall Hill; Hector Charlton of the Boure; William Charlton of Lee Hall; Edward Charlton of Lordner Burn [Lanner Burn]; Wylliam Charlton of Bellingham; . . . Charlton of Dunterley; Symont Robson of Langhaugh; Andrew Robson of the Bellynge; Hobb Robson of the Fawstone [Falstone]; John Mylborne of Roses Bowere; Edward Mylborne of Dunterde; Mychell Dodde of the Yerehaugh; . . . Doddehys sonne; Jamy Dodde of Roughsyde; . . . Hunter; . . . Hunter; Christofer Hogge; Willie Hogge; Mathew Nysson. [*Addressed*] To

my loving frendes John Wylkynson and Wyllie Ianson, balyves of Tyndall, giv theys and yourselfes that same daie."

On the same paper is a memorandum in the handwriting of Sir John Forster:—"That Jone Hall of Otterburn, Lancelot Tysley of Gosforth, William Charleton of the Leyehall, John Hall of Brayneshaugh, William Charleton of Bellingham, and Clement Hall of Burdechepes (Birdhope), is joyntelie and severally bounde to the right hon'ble th' Earle of Northumberland and Francis Slynsgsbye, keper of Tindall, in c. and xlⁱⁱ for the personal appearance of Jarret Charlton of the Howehill at Newcastle the xvth daye of Januery next comynge. The bonde is taken to the Quene's use. His appearance is in Robert Youngs house in the Newcastle." (p. 615.)

In spite of Sir John Forster's activity the Borders continued to be a scene of rapine and confusion. George Heron of Chipchase writes in this year to Sir John Forster:—"The Liddesdaille menne are disorderlie, and are aided by the meinne of Tyndail and Ryddesdail. Lyddesdail is myndit to mayk misorder and to do the evel that they can in these quarters. I knowe theye cannot doe it withoute the helpe of some, both off Tyndail and Ryddisdail, as they have had even now this last Fryday at night, when they dyd tak up Swethope. For one parte off them went away thorow Tendall with the prysoners, and another thorow Ryddesdail with the nowt. And theves off Tyndail, that wis goyng estellyng [a stealing] into Scotland, found the Scots with the nowt lying in the shells at Uttenshope, in Ryddesdail as fyers, and had gotten meate bothe for horse and man at som of Ryddisdail. And when the theves off Tyndail perceived the Scots were at rest, they stale the nowt from the Scotts, and in the morning when the Scotts mest the nowt, they dyd com into Reddisdayll again, to boro a dog to follo, and then theye got knowledge whyche of Tyndail had the nowt." (p. 627.)

Towards the end of the same yeare, we find that several of the Tyndale men were in the gaol at Hexham. How they escaped from thence the following letter shows.—"NICHOLAS ERYNGTON TO SIR JOHN FORSTER, Hexham, xviith daye of December, 1559. Plesyth yt youre master-shyppe to be advertysed that George Herone, of Chypchase, dyd sende Edward Charlton, Harrye Charleton of the Larnerburne, and one John Charlton of Thornybourne in Tyndall, the sayd George Herone sent theys said three prisoners unto Hexham, to the Queene's Majestie's gavel [gaol] there. This yt is chansyd that the xvth daye of this instaynt, the gaveler and all the reste of the presoners, be what meanes I canne not tell, nor no other that can be knowen of sertentye, but that the saide three Charltons and Thos. Mylborne (alias Thome Headman), with xi Scotts pledges, that was comandyt to ward for surety of John Eryntoun is goyn the said nyght, and all the dorrys left opyn, savyn the outer doore, which is the newe house doyr that Mr. Slynsgsbye buildit, whayr the gaveler laye nyghtlye for the safe guard of the sayd presoners, as I thoughte was most surest."

The gaoler of Hexham was perhaps a reclaimed outlaw himself, and the ties of flesh and blood proved too strong for him.

The calendars of State Papers of the early part of Elizabeth's reign,

do not give us much information regarding this portion of the Borders. In 1586, however, a long and grievous list of outrages committed by the Elliotts and others of Liddesdale was forwarded to London. These complaints chiefly refer to raids into Redesdale, and injury done to the property of those of the surnames of Hall and Read. John Hall of Otterburn and Edward Charlton of Hesel-side are named in this document among those who can give information "if they be sworne or strictly examined."

Ten or eleven years later North Tyndale was again a scene of bloodshed and ruthless rapine at the hands of the Laird of Buccleuch, Sir Walter Scott. Buccleugh, as he is generally termed, seems to have made repeated inroads into North Tyne, and to have directed his attacks chiefly against the surname of Charlton, partly on the score of ancient grievances existing between them, and partly in consequence of recent and ample reprisals made by them in Scotland. One great raid was made on the 17th of April, 1597, when he burnt ten houses in Tyndale, and took the lives of thirty-five persons. He had, however, frequently invaded Tyndale previous to this date, as appears by letters in the State Paper Office, of which unfortunately we have no copy, and know of them only by the short notice attached in the calendars now publishing. Two letters, however, are in print (Transactions of Border Club, pp. 14 and 16) which throw considerable light on these outrages. The first is from Sir John Carey, Marshall of Berwick-upon-Tweed to Lord Burghley and dated Berwick; June 13, 1595, wherein he says:—"I did synce by my letter of the 29 of Maye certifye your honor of Buckleughe, howe he came into the Myddle Marches to a place called Grenehugh (Greenhaugh), a wyddowes house in Tyndalle, where he sought for certen of the Charletons; and not fynding them he burned the house and all the corne in it and all that was therein, and so went hys way; he had in his company, as it is reported, very nere three hundred men, and within eight dayes afterward he came in agayne to a place called the Bowte hill, and killed foure of the Charletons, very able and sufficient men, and went his waye, threatning he would shortly have more of their lives."

In a second letter, dated Berwick, July 2, 1595, Carey refers again to this subject:—"In your honour's letter you write in a poscript that you would gladly understande the quarrell that Buccleughe had against the Charletons, and that Sesforde had against the Stories, which would be too long and tedious to sett downe at large: but for that your honnour requyres yt, I will as breifly as I can sett it downe. First the quarrell Bucclughe hath to the Charletons is said to be this: Your honnour knowes long synce you heard of a great rode that the Scottes, as Will Harkottes and his fellowes, made uppon Tyndale and Ridsdale, wherein they took up the whole country, and did very neare beggar them for ever. Bucclughe and the rest of the Scottes having made some brages and crackes, as the country durst scarce take any thing of their owne, but the Charletons being the sufficientest and ablest men uppon the Borders, did not only take their owne goodes agayne, but also so hartned and perswaded their neyghbors to take theirs, and not to be afraide, which hath ever synce stuck in Bucclughes sto-

mach, and this is the quarell for taking theire owne. Mary! he makes another quarell that long synce, in a warr tyme, the Tyndale men should goe into hys countrie, and there they tooke his grandfather and killed divers of his countrye, and that they tooke away hys grandfathers sworde, and would never lett him have yt synce: this, sayth he, is the quarell."

Our object in drawing up these notices has been to collect together from various sources the scattered incidents referred to in the State Papers and Border histories relative to the doings of the leading families in North Tyndale. That it was a wild and lawless district at the period referred to there can be no doubt, but how much of this was not to be ascribed to the position of the country, the border land of a hostile kingdom, where the inhabitants were in constant peril of their lives, and exposed to the loss of cattle and goods without any warning given. Much, too, of this lawless spirit was evoked by the Border wars of Henry the Eighth with Scotland, when the Tyndale and Redesdale men were constantly excited by the English crown to make inroads into Scotland, harrying and destroying all before them. We must not judge the wild Borderers by our standard of the present day: had we lived in those times, and had we heard that Tyndale and Redesdale were about to be "slipped" against the Scottish lands, we should very likely, with old Norfolk, have devoutly wished them a "God Spede."

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY.

4 April, 1860.

Matthew Wheatley, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Sir W. Calverley Trevelyan, Bart.* *Explanatio Notarum et Litterarum quæ frequentius in antiquis lapidibus, &c. Auctore Sertorio Ursato serenissimi Veneti senatûs equite: Parisiis, 1723.* — *From the Archæological Institute.* *The Archæological Journal, Nos. 63, 64, 1859.*

NEW MEMBER.—*Richard Lawrence Pemberton, Esq.,* Barnes, Sunderland.

ROMAN BRIDGE AT CILURNUM.—*Mr. Clayton* stated that *Mr. Coulson*, who formerly was usefully employed at Bremenium, was now excavating the approaches to the Roman bridge piers at Cilurnum, on the east side of the North Tyne. The works revealed a masonry larger than usual, and would settle the question of the exact direction of the bridge piers. [See under 4 July and 15 August, *post.*]