

record of her death, but without success. The *Annual Register* and *Gentleman's Magazine* are silent; nor in the *Newcastle Chronicle* have I found this centenarian named. On the 21st of March, 1789, there is an obituary notice of Mrs. Ann Benn, wife of Mr. Lamplugh Benn, who had died lately, at Birkby, near Maryport in the 100th year of her age; but no mention occurs of Anne Brougham, stated in the Peerage to have died in the previous month, at the greater age of 106.

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### EARLY PRINTING IN NEWCASTLE.

BY JAMES CLEPHAN.

IN the sixth volume of the Society's Transactions (1865), there is a valuable contribution from the pen of the late Mr. Hodgson Hinde, "On Early Printing in Newcastle." A volume of the Calendar of State Papers (Domestic), published in 1873, now supplies materials for a supplementary leaf. It comprises six months of the year 1639; and we learn from its contents that the press ordered from London in April, when King Charles was in York, was set in motion at Newcastle in May. The Earl of Arundel and Surrey (Thomas Howard), Lord General of the Army in the North, wrote from York to Sir Francis Windebank, Secretary of State, on the 20th of April, giving him the King's instructions:—"His Majesty would have you, with all expedition, to send down a printer with a press, to set out His Majesty's daily commands for his court or army, and that to be done with more than ordinary diligence, the want being daily found so great. I conceive a waggon by land the surer way, to change horses as often as they will, by express warrant to take up teams daily." An indorsement by Secretary Windebank shows that he answered this letter on the 30th of the month.

There was no slackness or delay in the execution of the royal wish. The printer was in Newcastle with his press in less than three weeks from the date of the Lord General's communication. This fact appears by a letter from Edward Norgate to his cousin Robert Reade, nephew and secretary of Windebank. Garter King-at-Arms (Sir John Borough) was in attendance on the King. Norgate was with him, preparing official papers for print, "making patterns for two Scotch heralds' coats," and otherwise employing himself in the duties of his

office. He is repeatedly writing to Reade; and on the 16th of May he says to him:—"This book of orders" (probably the "Laws and Ordinances of Warre" referred to by Mr. Hinde) "was proclaimed this morning by our Clarencieux, in a miserable cold morning, with hail and snow." A week earlier (May 9), he had mentioned a proclamation to the Covenanters, "read on Sunday last (May 5), in the church here, in the presence of the Lord General, the Earls of Essex, Holland, and other lords and commanders." Of this proclamation, the Marquis of Hamilton, "now riding at anchor near Leith," had six copies; and "we have brought hither a printer, with all his trinkets, ready to make new, as occasion may require." This was written on the 9th; and on the 12th Norgate was again writing to Reade from Newcastle. "We have a printer here," says he; "and this day I made ready for the King's hand a proclamation for the importation of butter. It is now printing; so are four hundred of the former proclamation of pardon to the Scots."

No copy, printed in Newcastle, of the proclamation to the Scots, "read in the church here" (the church of St. Nicholas), nor of the more humble State Paper relating to butter, has come down to our own day; and the Calendar is silent, moreover, as to the employment of the royal press in the North of England elsewhere than in Newcastle.

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### THE ANGLO-SAXON MONUMENTAL STONE FOUND AT FALSTONE IN 1813.

THE epitaph upon this stone must have been somewhat hastily read subsequently; for on careful examination the syllables will be found to group themselves best as follows. And in this order they constitute a rhythmic or versified inscription of much native dignity and earnestness in the expression of dutiful affection. In it we perceive the richness, the wealth of expression, in the Northumbrian Saxon, which here preserves to us the noun *eomærth*, lamentation, from the adjective *eomer*, sad, woeful; and in the compound expression *æftereo-mæge*, after-abiding kinswoman.

The lines run thus in perfect alliteration—

eomærthe sætta  
æfter Hroetbærhte becn  
æftereo-mæge :—  
beodeth thære sawle.