

III.—THE BARONY AND CASTLE OF LANGLEY.

BY CADWALLADER J. BATES.—READ ON THE 31ST DAY OF MAY,
1883, AT LANGLEY CASTLE.

THE ancient Barony that had its capital seat at Langley consisted in the main of an irregular square, some thirteen thousand acres in extent, stretching from Allendale Common and the woods of Staward, right over the valley of South Tyne, to the Roman military road known in the middle ages as Carel Street, or Stanegate. The parish of Haltwhistle, which comes up to the river Allen and the Whitechapel burn, bounded this square on the west, while to the east a long strip, only a quarter of a mile in width, running between Newbrough and Elrington, (both of which belonged to the franchise of Tynedale, and were consequently till 1297, to all intents and purposes Scotland,) barely connected this principal portion of the Barony with its outlying manors of Fourstones and Warden—barely connected we may well say, for the English justices itinerant coming from Carlisle along Carel Street, left the Barony at Allerwash, and had necessarily to pass through a mile or so of Scottish territory before reaching Fourstones, where, on their definitely re-entering the jurisdiction of the Sheriff of Northumberland, it was customary for them to be met by representatives of various English franchises between Tweed and Tees. Two other manors, Blenkinsop and Fetherstone, were held in socage tenure of the Barony, each by the annual payment of half-a-mark. These formed an *enclave* to themselves, nine or ten miles west of Langley.

It is then especially necessary to distinguish the Barony of Langley, frequently called the Barony of Tindal, after the name of its first recorded possessor, from the great franchise of Tindale,¹ that cut it

¹ Unfortunately the confusion caused by similarity of names does not cease here. Notices respecting Langley Hall in Durham have been misapplied to this barony, and the Radcliffes actually stated to have obtained it by descent from its lord William de Tynedale (a member in reality of a different line in the manor of Alston, who married the heiress of Dilston.)

into two, almost three, parts, and, except on the confines of Cumberland, and near the junction of the Tynes, completely surrounded it.

The most natural way in which to account for the existence in the 12th and 13th centuries of these isolated patches of England, seems to be the supposition that when our Henry II. sought to obtain a lasting peace with Scotland in 1159, by granting the franchise of Tindale with *jura regalia* to William, brother of Malcolm IV., (and afterwards King of Scotland himself as William the Lion,) by way of compensation for having deprived him of the earldom of Northumberland; he carried the policy a little further, and excepted Langley and its fiefs from this grant, in order to make some amends to Adam, the son of Sweyn, who up to that time appears to have somehow held the entire franchise, since the great Pipe Roll of 1158 debits him with ten pounds as due from Tindale, precisely the same sum charged in the following year to the brother of the King of Scotland. Possibly Adam, the son of Sweyn, held the franchise only for his life or during the king's pleasure, and was therefore not loath to exchange it for the hereditary, though far smaller, barony.

Not however till 1165 do we find distinct mention of the barony of Langley, when Adam de Tindal paid a mark into the Exchequer for his one knight's fee there.¹ In 1172 he paid twenty shillings as his contribution to the scutage levied on those barons who had neither gone to Ireland in person, nor sent men nor money for the expedition² Henry II. undertook to that country as an excuse for keeping well out of the way till his absolution for the murder of Becket had arrived from Rome. The tallage accounts of 1187 place Adam de Tindale in the paragraph headed "de Drengis et theinis," and rate him at £8 7s. 8d. Of this he had then paid £4, 3s. 10d., but he still owed the other half in 1188; still owed it in 1190; and had only paid £2 3s. 4d. towards reducing it by 1191, the year in which he appears to have died, since his wife Helewisa de Tindala is then charged twenty marks for having the custody of his heir, and permission to marry whom she chose. At the same time, the Sheriff of Northumberland accounts for £7 18s. as the half year's rent of the barony left after the Bishop of Durham, as earl of the county, had taken possession of the growing corn and live stock.³

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 8.

² Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 21.

³ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 52.

Adam

Now, whatever may have been the origin of his barony, and whether or not we identify Adam de Tindal with Adam the son of Sweyn,¹ there is no denying that he was in his day a man of great wealth and influence. The princely character of his benefactions to religious houses makes this very evident. On the priory of Hexham he bestowed the entire manor of Warden with all its pertinencies, together with the church of Warden and its three chapels of Stonecroft, Haydon, and Langley, in free, pure, and perpetual alms: to Hexham he gave lands in the ville of Haydon, with stints on the common for 30 cattle and 100 ewes and lambs: to Hexham, the whole of Whitelaw, (which he states to have been purchased by him,) and with it the right of cutting building timber and fire-wood in all the manor of Fetherstone; a considerable estate at Byres on Hartleyburn; and the homage due to him from the lord of Thirwall.² The little nunnery of God, St. Mary, and St. Patrick at Lambley had to thank Adam de Tindal for mast for its swine and pasture for its cattle on both sides of the Tyne there, for the chapel and four acres at Sandiburn sele, and all the tithes and obventions of their fee, besides, as it would seem, a fifth of the ville of Wyden.

Two quaint charters of Adam de Tindal, containing grants of land to private persons, have been handed down to us. The one, preserved in the confirmation of it by his descendant Adam de Bolteby, is worth quoting in its entirety as a topographical curiosity. We will follow Hodgson's translation:—

“Adam de Tindal to all—know ye that I have given to Gilletel and Orm his son, and their heirs, to hold of me in exchange for his inheritance of Haydon all the land in wood and plain within Hesildene, as the boundary tends by which I perambulated it, namely, to the aspen tree (*ad tremblam*) and from the aspen tree as far as the oak upon the edge (*super horam*) of that dene, which is under the house of Eliz, and

¹ “Adam, son of Swein, son of Alric had a grant from Henry the First of Culgaith and several other places in Cumberland. He had a brother, Henry, lord of Edenhall and Longwathby.” *Denton MS.*, ii., 29, 34; *Burn's Cumberland*, 412, 423, 424. Quot. Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 16 n.

² See “Black Book of Hexham.” These ecclesiastical divisions were by no means conterminous with the civil. The chapelry of Stonecroft was in the franchise of Tynedale, and the chapelry of Haydon included the Scottish district of Elrington. The curious fact of homage being due to him from Thirwall also proves that the influence of Adam de Tindal had not been confined to Langley barony. His bestowing these extraneous rights on Hexham may have been a politic way of withdrawing to his own sphere. The little Norman chapel of Haydon is nearly, if not quite, as old as the time of this grant.

along the way that goes to the shielings of Uctred the priest, between the wood and the ploughed land to the slough meadow (*ad p'tu' Sclogh*), near the Quikencrum. And thence by the cleugh to the Mannuggaburne as the syket has stretched across the way which goes from Hayden to Whateley, and so under Blakalaw by the letch to the bound of Liprigs, and then as the syket runs between Chesterwada and Liperig, then to the oak that stands at the head of the letch, and so by the clough as far as to the Mannuggaburne only. And as the Mannuggaburne falls into the Tyne, and by the Tyne as far as the boundaries of Thorgraveston"¹

By the second charter, Adam de Tindal conveyed to Alan de Cornwaleys and his heirs two oxgangs of land at Greenwhams, and in addition certain shielings belonging to the peasants of Langley. He himself had with Ralph his feast-bearer (*dapifer*) marked out the boundary, which is simply given as "from where the burn falls into Hebranscloe to the holding of Gilli * * *"—I apprehend we may read Gillithel, the subject of the former charter. Among other provisions Adam de Cornwaleys, if he kept swine, was to give one each year to his lord for the privilege of feeding them in the woods: while he was not to be called on to appear in the court of the barony unless he had business of his own to transact there. But much the most interesting part of this deed is the list of the witnesses to it, which serves singularly to revivify the household that this twelfth-century baron kept at Langley. There is his wife, Helewis de Tindal; there are various tenants and neighbours; his chaplain Ralph, his chamberlain Adam, his butlers Ralph and Ivo, Ivo's brother Alan, his baker (*pistor*) Walter, and the innkeeper (*caupo*) William. From the avocation of this last, a family seems to have taken its name and transmitted it to Caupon's Cleugh, one of the most picturesque denes in the Barony, north of the Tyne.²

The arms of Adam de Tindal—a fesse between wheatsheaves—are impressed on the seal attached to an award he made with reference to a "calumpnia" at "Brenkepath" that belonged to the priory of Lanercost.³ Usually the shield of the Tindals is blazoned "argent, a

¹ Dodsworth MSS., XXXII., 86, Bodleian Lib., quot. Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 383. The "Mannuggaburne" is probably the stream now called the Honey-crookburn, a trace of its earlier appellation being preserved in the "Minnowbridge" under which it flows just before joining the Tyne.

² Dodsworth MSS., Vol. XXXIII., fol. 74., quot. Hodgs. Northd., II., iii., 366.

³ See Raine's Priory of Hexham (Surtees' Society, 46), Vol. II. The sheaves seem there mistaken for chess rooks.

fesse gules between three garbs sable, banded or," with a plume of five ostrich feathers set in a ducal coronet as the crest. These five feathers—the barony of Langley comprised five manors, Langley, Fourstones, Warden, Blenkinsop, and Fetherstone—have reference, we doubt not, to the Tindals being over-lords of Fetherstone; and, though it is a far-fetched conjecture to hazard, the wheatsheaves—nearly all early coats were *armes parlantes*—may point to their having originally sprung from Whitwham, Whitfield, or Whitwes. In pristine heraldry, again, we constantly come across instances of vassals bearing the arms of their chiefs with certain differences. The three Tindal wheatsheaves were adopted by the Blenkinsops, but placed on a field gules, within a bordure engrailed or.¹ In the church of Haltwhistle there is a fourteenth-century tombstone with this Blenkinsop shield and a sword to the right of a floriated cross, and to the left of it a pilgrim's staff and scrip charged with a single wheatsheaf as a badge. In more modern times the Blenkinsops brought their arms into even closer resemblance with the Tindal coat. Once more, it was not uncommon to assume the bearings of an heiress, slightly altered, instead of quartering them as came afterwards in vogue; and the Boltbys, who succeeded the Tindals, by marriage, at Langley, adopted their silver shield, charging it with three wheatsheaves or, on a fesse sable; this we can see at the present day on the tomb of a mailed warrior in the north transept of Hexham Cathedral. The knight represented is, it is imagined, Adam de Boltby who died in the last years of the 13th century. Then, too, vestiges of ancient blazons are not unfrequently found in the signs of country inns; one of the oldest inns in Haydon Bridge, is still known as the "Wheatsheaf."²

To return to matters at Langley after the death of Adam de Tindal in 1191—his son of the same name was charged, for the succession to his property, £100 in 1195, and in the same year £12 4s. 4d. was levied on the barony as half-a-year's rent, and went to pay the ransom of Richard Cœur de Lion.³ Then in 1199 came the scutage for the first coronation of King John, the commencement of a series growing ever more frequent and oppressive. In 1202, Adam de Tindal appears to

¹ Surtees' Society, Publ., XLI., Tonge's Visitation.

² The "Black Bull" of the Radcliffes, and the "Anchor" of Greenwich Hospital, were similarly honoured in this village.

³ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 54, 55.

have been unable to pay ten marks out of the thirty he was called on to contribute, and to have been compelled to get a certain John of Norwich to stand surety for this sum, and other thirty marks that were due from him for holding in peace certain lands that had belonged to Uctred the son of Leuonod.¹ In 1206, he is debited half-a-mark for having it entered on the Great Roll that Elias of "Brienton" released, quitclaimed, and by his charter confirmed to him a carucate of land in "Wardone," in satisfaction and exchange for two carucates in Alweras, which Elias claimed against him, and this in consideration of paying thirty marks sterling.² In 1208, he has to pay ten more marks for having possession of the wood of Langley, called "Winteleia," by which no doubt Whinnetly is meant.³

But, before this, troubles and complications had arisen, the precise nature of which it is difficult to understand. The widowed Helewise de Tindal had been forced by ecclesiastical censure to marry Robert, the son of Adam de "Cardoill," who seems to have been her steward, and to pay in addition a fine of twenty marks. In 1205, her son paid twenty marks for leave to plea with this Robert, who in his turn paid forty for having Helewise his wife, and his land in Tindal, together with the cattle that had been removed from it.⁴ A good palfrey is to be given by Adam de Tindal in 1211, for permission to compromise a plea; but in 1219 he pays five marks to be allowed to proceed against Robert de "Carleol" for many debts.

In the assessment for the aid raised by Henry III. for the marriage of his sister Isabella to the Emperor Frederic II., in June, 1235, the barony of Langley is returned as held by Nicholas de Bolteby and Walter de Tunstal by one knight's service of the old feoffment. Of Walter de Tunstal nothing further seems known. Nicholas de Bolteby, lord of Boltby, or more properly speaking of the manor of Ravensthorp, near Thirsk, had married Philippa, daughter of the younger Adam de Tindal, and eventually succeeded to the whole barony of Langley. He appears to have been at considerable trouble to form a park there. On 16th October, 1270, he received from Henry III. a grant of free warren on both his Northumberland and Yorkshire estates; from

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 81.

² Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 399.

³ Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 386.

⁴ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., iii., 88, 92, 94.

Alexander of Whitwes and Annabella his wife he acquired a piece of ground they had inherited at Whitwes in the ville of Langley; while Utréd and Margaret of Portihate, and Thomas and Hawys of the Lees; joined others in making over to him the rest of Leeslowe, between the "Intake and Hareyehd," for the express purpose of increasing and augmenting the park of Langley.¹

² Dying before 1273, Nicholas de Bolteby was succeeded by his son Adam. In those strangely fascinating records of the assizes held by the Scotch justices for the franchise of Tindale in 1279—records that throw for that year so strong and clear a light over our old Border history—we have Adam de Boltby appointing either William of Thorneton or Thomas the son of Galfrid his attorney, for the purpose of obtaining an order to have certain fugitive bondsmen delivered up to him.

Adam de Boltby had two daughters, coheiresses; on Isabella, the elder, he settled twenty marks a year in 1279, on her marrying Thomas son of Alan de Multon (of Moulton, near Spalding), who had assumed his mother's maiden-name of Lucy, and in 1280 gave them the whole manor of Langley, with all its pertinencies, to be held for an annual acknowledgment in the shape of a pair of gilt spurs. His younger daughter Eva married Alan de Walkingham (of Walkingham in the liberty of Knaresborough).³ This Alan was a justice itinerant in 1280,⁴ and was dead in 1284, when an *inquisitio post mortem* was taken, from which we learn that Alan de Walkingham and Eva his wife held, from the king *in capite*, lands in Allerwash by gift and concession of Adam de Boltby, father of the said Eva; and that Adam, son of the said Alan, was adjudged his nearest heir.

On the death of Adam de Boltby, his Yorkshire property appears to have fallen to the share of the Walkinghams,⁵ his Northumberland to the Lucies. Isabella de Lucy was dead before 1294, and on the

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 366.

² In 1272, a dispute that had arisen between Nicholas de Bolteby and his neighbour William de Swinburne respecting the boundary between Langley and Staward, was, at the instance of the kings of England and Scotland, to be referred to a joint commission. Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., 20.

³ Surtees' Society, Publ., XLIX., p. 434 n.

⁴ Foss' Judges, III., p. 169.

⁵ Jane de Walkyngham left a legacy to the friar-preachers, and Carmelites in her manor of Ravensthorp, in 1346, see "Yorks. Arch. and Topogr. Journal," VI., p. 408.

death of her husband, in 1305, their son, Sir Thomas de Lucy, then twenty-four years of age, succeeded to Langley, but he only lived to enjoy it for three years. The inquest after his death, held 20th March, 1309, *apud Pontem de Heyden*, is the first notice of the existence of Haydon Bridge. The next heir, his brother Anthony de Lucy, figures more as a baron of parliament, and lord of Egremont and Cocker-mouth in Cumberland, than in connection with Langley: but in 1324, he procured a charter for a market and fair at Haydon Bridge, the market to be on Thursdays, the fair to commence on the vigil of the feast of St. Mary Magdalen, 21st July, and to last till the day after it. He was also granted the right of free warren in the Barony,¹ which had been allowed to lapse by his father Sir Thomas, in 1294, and this renewal was followed by the gift from Nicholas, son of Andrew de "Wytwesse," of all the lands he had or might have in Langley or Haydon, for the purpose, no doubt, of enlarging Nicholas de Boltby's park. On the death of Anthony de Lucy, in 1343, his widow Elizabeth, had an assignation of dower in Langley and Lipwood.

Their son and heir, Sir Thomas de Lucy, third of that name, was one of the most valiant knights in an age when chivalry was at its zenith. Already, in 1339, he had so distinguished himself in the field, that Edward III. assigned him 40 sacks of wool for his better support in Flanders. It was this Sir Thomas who so greatly contributed to relieve the forlorn English garrison of Loughmaban, in Dumfriesshire, in 1343, and four years later sailed with King Edward on the glorious expedition, which, originally undertaken for merely raising the siege of Aguillon, led up to the signal victory of Cressy.²

Immediately after Cressy, Sir Thomas was despatched with four other knights to negotiate a truce with Scotland, but by the time he reached the North, there was no more talking of peace, and he took a principal command at the battle of Neville's Cross. The Scotch army, so overwhelmed there, must have advanced along the beaten war-path (so to speak) that led from Liddell and Lanercost past Langley, and we still have a petition of Sir Thomas de Lucy complaining of the devastation it had committed on his property. To prevent a repetition of such ravages, Langley Castle was, in all probability, begun about 1350, with

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., ii., 395.

² Dugdale's Baronage (1675), Tome I., p. 565.



funds drawn from the spoils of France, and augmented by a compensation for losses sustained during the Scotch invasion. Up to the time of this Sir Thomas, it is always "the *manor* of Langley" that is mentioned, but in the inquisition held after his death, in 1365, it is both "the *castle* and manor of Langley."¹

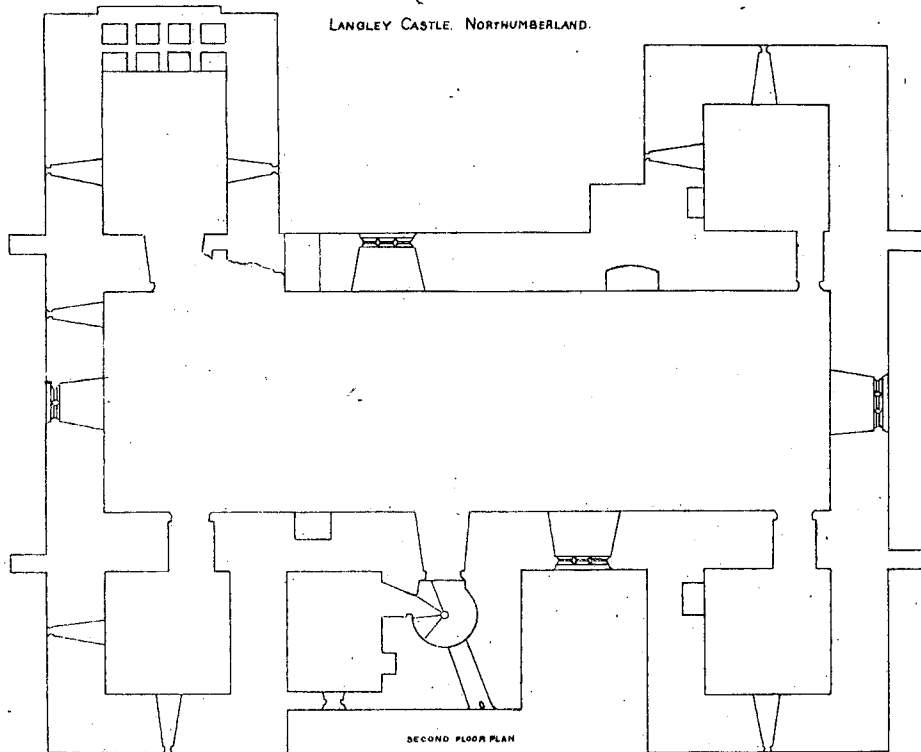
The site chosen for this castle, probably that of the older residence of the Tindals, lay some 300 feet above the Tyne, and afforded its towers a commanding view of the high ranges north of the river from St. Oswald's to the Walton Crags; while close at hand, in the same direction, the ground fell steeply away to the little burn from Deanraw, and the low fertile ridge—the "Lang-lea"—beyond this lent some shelter from the northern blasts. A larger burn came down on the east, and as a mill stood a little below where these streams met, they would, when dammed back, form a sort of moat.

Foundations, in the modern sense, were dispensed with; great boulders were laid down, and the walls, averaging six feet in thickness, built on top of them. The walls were lined on both sides with admirable ashlar work—the stones for which must have been brought from a distance—the intervening rubble consisting of rough roundish stones picked off the land. The entire space, occupied by the central hall, measuring 82 feet × 25 feet² inside; the four corner towers with rooms about 14 feet square; and the entrance-tower built on to the south-east one, and containing the narrow-newel stair and smaller vaulted rooms, was a parallelogram of 96 feet × 84 feet. The sole entrance was provided with a small portcullis that could be drawn up by means of a rope coming down through the mouth of a man's head

¹ The license to crenellate the dependent castle of Bleunkinsop is dated 1339. "In the year 1341 or 2 (Cal. Rot. Pat. 15., Edward III.) Robert de Manners obtained leave to castellate his house at Etal, but the fabric now in ruins seems to be of a later date. It appears, in fact, to be scarcely older than the reign of Henry VI., and it might in after times have easily been converted into an excellent mansion-house for its owner, had time and circumstances combined to protect it from desertion and consequent dilapidation. I know of only one other fabric in Northumberland of the same period, Langley Castle, in Tynedale; a much more extensive and splendid edifice, however, and less in decay, but most miserably forsaken from perhaps an earlier period. The castle of Etal is of square form, enclosing a plot of ground of about a quarter of an acre. * * * * The keep * * * * seems to have consisted of four stories of apartments. The ground room had had a groined roof, but the ribs and masonry have fallen. The three upper stories, once accessible by a spiral staircase of stone in the body of the wall, measure about 30 feet by 17, and have been well-lighted by windows, which, by their transom or horizontal mullion, betray the date." Raine, North Durham, p. 207., n.

² The interior of the remaining tower of Bothal Castle (built circ. 1343) is 25 feet × 19½ feet; that of Belsay (circ. 1371) 51½ feet × 47½ feet.

LANGLEY CASTLE. NORTHUMBERLAND.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE OF FEET



carved in the stone vault; but some change in the original plan was probably made after the commencement of the building, for the bottom steps of the stair project most awkwardly in front of the door leading to the ground floor, and a fine archway—the very thing for giving independent access to it—was left between the entrance and the adjoining tower, as a nondescript porch for guards or strangers.¹

An elaborately carved arch and doorway, their shafts ornamented with floriated capitals, led from the stair to what, on the first floor, was probably the great hall. This arch is a skilful piece of workmanship, deserving careful examination, since it is double-centred to fit in with the curve of the newel. A break-neck stair came up into the hall from the room at the bottom of the north-east tower, possibly the cellar; and as the rising ground to the south of the castle rendered it inadvisable to have a large window on the first floor at that end of the building a blank space was left, suitable enough for a dais, with two square lights high up on either side of it. But as the partitions (if there were any) were entirely of wood, and (unlike the floors, the beam-holes of which are many of them in a perfect state,) have left no traces in the ashlar, it is impossible to arrive at even plausible conjectures respecting the internal arrangements. To judge from its small windows and two round-arched openings in its walls, up to which goods could readily be hoisted by small external cranes, the second floor was in part used for a granary or storehouse: but then again, it had fireplaces in its tower rooms. The third floor, possessing fine large windows, was, you would think, that tenanted by the lord and his family. The upper room of the south-east tower, which at its east end has a little traceried window of two lights—the only one in the towers—may, in spite of its fireplace, have been the chapel. The south-west tower was devoted to sanitary arrangements, and the extent and completeness of these—the arcades rivalling similar ones at the chateau of Marcoussis (Seine et Oise²)—prove that the castle was

¹ There is a view of Langley from the east and a ground plan given in Parker's *Domestic Architecture in England*, Vol. II., p. 332. He describes it as "a very fine example of a tower-built house of the latter half of the fourteenth century," but the letterpress is not in all respects accurate.

² "En Angleterre, au château de Langley (Northumberland), il existe un bâtiment à quatre étages destiné aux latrines, lesquelles sont établies d'une manière tout à fait monumentale. On en voyait de fort belles et grandes au château de Marcoussis, à peu près pareilles à celles de Langley."—Viollet-le-Duc, *Dictionnaire Raisoné*, VI., pp. 166-168.

largely tenanted. A pair of buttresses flanked the north and south walls, where the main hall joined the towers, and terminated in bartizans with plain uncorbelled battlements. Turrets with newel-stairs rose at the inside corners of the four towers.¹

The abundant mason-marks preserved on the ashlar tend to show that the building of each story went on contemporaneously, and that one or two workmen who were present when the foundation was laid, survived to see the edifice completed; while the tracery of the pointed windows, (of which Langley possesses a profusion rare in domestic architecture,) advancing story on story from pure decorated through traces of flamboyancy to forecasts of perpendicular, is a happy illustration of the continuity that runs through architectural as well as general history, a continuity apt to be lost sight of in the sharply dissevered epochs of class-books.

It was well that the Lucies raised a pile, that as the fourteenth-century castle of Northumberland, filling the gap between Haughton and Warkworth, should be a monument to them for distant ages; since four years after the death of Sir Thomas in 1365, their name became extinct: Anthony, son of Sir Thomas, having died in 1368, Anthony's infant daughter, Joan, in 1369. Langley passed to Sir Thomas's only daughter, Maud then wife of Gilbert de Umfreville, earl of Angus. Gilbert dying in 1381 without surviving issue, left his widow his own barony of Prudhoe. The richest heiress of the north, Maud, soon after married Henry Percy, first Earl of Northumberland; their marriage articles providing that in case she died without leaving issue, both the honour of Cockermouth, in which Langley was now included, and the barony of Prudhoe were to be Earl Henry's for his life and then to descend to Henry Percy, his son by a former marriage, and his heirs male for ever, on condition of their quartering the three pikes or *lucies* of LUCY with the arms of PERCY—an arrangement just neither as regards Langley nor Prudhoe, since the Meltons of Holderness, descendants of Maud's aunt,² Joan de Lucy, had good right to the

¹ The castle that most resembles Langley, though of rather an earlier date, with circular corner-towers, is that of Nunney Delamare, 3 miles from Frome. Its central block measures only 61½ feet × 25 feet inside. For description, etc., see an interesting paper by Mr. Eman. Green, in *Somerset. Archæol. Proceedings*, 1876, p. 71.

² Through the Meltons, Lord Petre—the present representative of the Derwentwaters—is co-heir of the barony of Lucy.—*Nicol's Historic Peerage*, edited by Courthope, p. 303.

former, and Sir Robert de Umfreville must have been far from satisfied at seeing the old inheritance of his race left calmly away by his brother's widow to strangers in blood.

This compact, far from benefitting, may be regarded as having ruined its framers. Maud died in 1398,¹ and the earl and his son Henry, (immortalised by Shakespeare as Hotspur,) were so dazzled by her splendid legacy, that they began plotting against king and country, in hopes of partitioning England and recreating for themselves a kingdom of Northumberland. The gallant Hotspur fell at Shrewsbury in 1403; the earl, his father, was required to give up his castles to the king, and orders were sent to "Odard de Redlee,"² Constable of Langley, to surrender it to John de Mitford. Before this could take place, however, the earl requited the pardon he had received from Henry IV. by joining in Archbishop Scrope's rebellion, and the king, we are told, "tooke into his possession the towne of Berwicke, the castels of Alnewike, and Warkworth, and all other fortresses apperteyning to the Erle." Berwick³ and Warkworth both surrendered in terror at the first few discharges of the royal cannon, to the roar of which their garrisons were unaccustomed: the fall of Alnwick is ascribed to the cowardice of its governor, Sir Hênry Percy of Athol. Langley is not alluded to: but if it was reduced to its present roofless, floorless plight by fire, and the red testimony of its walls goes far to back the tradition still alive to that effect, it is hard to believe that fire—in a border stronghold where watch and ward were kept day and night, and where water was plentiful on all sides—it is hard to believe that fire to have been the result of pure accident: and assuming that Langley was actually burnt by some hostile force, is there anything unreasonable in attributing its destruction to Henry IV., (not necessarily to the main body of his army,) as he advanced into Northumberland in 1405? A signal example of the fate the earl's other castles might expect would prove very efficacious in damping—as damped it was—the courage of their garrisons; and Prudhoe may have been spared as being the ancestral home of the

¹ Shakespeare—chronology no more fetters dramatists than does grammar emperors—brings her up again at Warkworth in 1405, as the Lady Northumberland of his *Henry IV.*

² See Hodgson Hinde's *General History of Northumberland*, p. 315.

³ John de Blenkinsop was among the principal rebels executed at Berwick: he had possibly fled thither from his vassal tower on the Tippalt.—Giffard's *Chron.*, vij. yere of Hen. IV.

loyal Sir Robert de Umfreville, on whom the king bestowed both it and—such is the irony of fate—Maud de Lucy's barony of Langley for his life.

The reversion of Langley after the death of Sir Robert was granted in 1414 to John, Duke of Bedford; but Henry V., soon after his accession, magnanimously restoring Henry Percy, son of Hotspur, to the earldom of Northumberland, gradually¹ recovered for him his grandfather's possessions, Langley among the rest, satisfying the duke with a money compensation. This second Earl of Northumberland, faithful to the Lancastrian cause, was slain in the battle of St. Alban's in 1455, and in the inventory of estates taken after his death, although all his other *castles*—Alnwick, Warkworth, Prudhoe—are duly specified, Langley appears only as "a *barony* and *manor*."

The next earl, true, like his father, to the Red Rose, fell at Towton in 1461, and Langley with the other possessions of the house of Percy was bestowed by Edward IV. on John Neville, Lord Montagu, whom he created Earl of Northumberland. Neville, however, had to give everything back to Henry Percy, the fourth earl, in 1469, and content himself with the barren marquisate of Montacute, "a pie's nest," as he called it, "to maintain his estate with."

On 26th April, 1514, we find Henry VIII. granting during pleasure a fee farm of the barony of "Boltby, alias Langle," of the annual value of £5, to "Sir Edward Radcliffe, knight of the body, and Ralph Fenwick, squire of the body, serving on the Middle Marches towards Scotland"—a curious document, perhaps the last mention of the name of Boltby, the first of that of Radcliffe, in connection with Langley. As to its history during the whole period it was in the hands of the Percies (1383-1571) the information we are vouchsafed is signally bald: the only exception being the two quaint letters of Henry, the sixth earl, addressed to Henry VIII. and Cardinal Wolsey, written "at my pore caben of Alnewike," the 28th day of January, 1528. These describe how William a Charleton, otherwise called William a Shotlington, the head rebel of all the outlaws, made a raid into "the byshopric of

¹ Langley occurs in a list of Northumbrian castles of circ. 1416 as owned by the Earl of Northumberland, while in the same list others are entered as being still in the hands of the Duke of Bedford. This is, however, no evidence of its being then intact, as other castles, e.g. Mitford (Hodgson's Northumberland, II., ii., 62) in the list are known to have been mere ruins.

Duresme" and was carrying off the poor parson of Muggleswick towards Scotland—an exploit that does not seem to have caused much sensation—when on their way, he and his band robbed and spoiled three poor men's houses, "wheruppon ther arose a screy to the which the contremen therabout arose, pursewed, and followed the said offenders." "The water of Tyne was that nyght one great flode, so that the said theves couth not passe the same at no fordes; but were dryven of necessite to a brygge within a lordship of myne, called Adom-brigge,¹ which by my comaundment was barred, chayned, and lokked faste, so that the said theves couth not passe with their horses over the same; but were constrained to leve their horses behynde theyme and to flee away a foote."

Then Thomas Errington, whom the earl styles constable of Langley (which, by a paraphrase, he explains to mean "ruler of my tenants in those quarters") "persewed after theyme with a slouth hounde * * * * * and finally the said William Charleton of Shotlyngton by Thomas Erryngton was slayne, and one Jamys Noble slayne to * * * * * and the body of Jamys Noble is hanged up at the said Adom Brigge within my lordship of Langley."

On 20th November, 1532, this earl leased to Reginald Carnaby, the demesnes, mill, and park of Langley; and on his death—29th June, 1537—Langley, with his other estates, was taken possession of in the king's name by the Court of Augmentations, in virtue of a previous Act of Parliament.

"At Langley," says the Survey made by Sir Robert Bowes and Sir Ralph Elleker in 1542, "standeth the walles of an olde castell of thinherytaunce of the king's ma^{tie}: as p'cell of the augmentat'ons of his grace's crowne, late of thinherytance of therle of Northumb'land. All the roofes and flores thereof be decayed, wasted and gone, and nothinge remaying but onely the walles, and yt standes in a very conveyent place for the defence of the Incourses of the Scottes of Lyddesdale & of the theves of Tyndale, Gyllesland, & Bowecastell when they ryde to steall or spoyle wthin the byshoprycke of Duresme." On the margin is written:—"Langley, an old castell defaced, in a very convenient place, the princes."¹

¹ Is this a mere slip for Haydon Bridge, or was the bridge once called Adam's Bridge, after its possible builder, Adam de Bolthby?

² Hodgson's Northumberland, III., ii., 217, n.

Writing on "the state of the Frontiers and Marches betwixt England and Scotland," at the request of the Marquis of Dorset, (then Warden General,) in 1550, Sir Robert Bowes recommends that in case the keeper of Tindale had not a castle of his own, a house of the King's should be put in order for him, "and if the King's ma^{ty}s Castle of Langley were reparaed It would well serve for that purpose."¹

The insecure state the country was then in is well attested by the watches appointed to be kept at the fords along the Tyne. Among those at which two watchmen were to be stationed, "upon payne for ev'ry defaulte to forfeite vj^s viij^d," the Survey of 1542 mentions "Morrallee forde, the howle forde, the leaso^r forde, and hadenbrygge forde." Ten years later, in October, Lord Wharton, Deputy General of all the Three Marches, issued a most elaborate "Order of the Watches:—The inhabitants of the Baronny of Langley, of the outside of the Water, to receive the Watch of the Newburgh Parish at Hawden-Clough, and to keep that to the King's-hill, their wynyng to Nicholas Rydley, with four men daily between the said Places; Setters and Searchers, Richard Carneby and Roger Stocoll. The Night-Watch, within the Baronny of Langley, to be watched of the outside of the Water of Tyne with the Inhabitants of the same." On the 11th January following Lord Wharton wrote from Alnwick to the Gentlemen Searchers that on "Sunday night the 15th of this Instant" they should make due search in their several circuits, and report to him how these watches were kept. At Langley, these gentlemen searchers were "for the Fords under Morelye, John Rydleye, and Thomas Maughen; for the Leys-Forde, Martin Turpen, Clément Maughen; for the Grene 'forde, Thomas Fetherstonhalss, and Robert Thompson; for Bonhaughe-ford, and two Fords under Wodhall, Robert Elrington, and Thomas Armstrong; for all Fords, Passages, and Places of Watch within the Baronny of Langley, Wardan, and Newburghe, Nycholas Erington, Mathew Turpen, Richard Carnebie, and Rowland Stokoo." "Nycholas Erington, Constable of Langle," was one of "the Commissioners for Enclosures upon the Middle Marches," whom Lord Wharton, writing "at the Castle of Alnwick, the last of January, 1552," charged to "take perfect view of all the Grounds Arable, Meadow, Pasture, and Commons, and all the same advisedly weighing and considering, to

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, III., ii., 226.

cause all such Portions thereof as be convenient for Tillage, Meadows, or Grassings to be enclosed with Ditches, five Quarters in Breadth, and six Quarters in Depth, and to be double set with Quickwood, and hedged above Three Quarters high.”¹

Meanwhile, in 1551, the crown had granted Langley, at the annual rent of £5 19s. 2d., to Thomas Percy, who, on the accession of Queen Mary, was restored to the Northumberland honours as seventh earl; but on his attainder, consequent on his joining the Nevilles in the great religious rising of 1569,² the barony again became vested in the crown.

In the Land Revenue Record office in London there is preserved a “coppie of a surveye of the Barony of Langley parcell of the landes and possessions of Thomas late Erle of Northumberland of high treason attainted, made and taken ther in the month of October, 1608, by Barth: Haggatt and George Warde, gent.” Among the “leasers,” John Carnabye, gent., is stated to hold there the demesnes and herbage of Langley park and a water corn-mill, by the lease granted to Reginald Carnaby, Esq., in 1532, for 99 years, to pay yearly for the Demesnes £3 6s. 8d., for the mill 40s., and for the herbage of the park 53s. 4d., or in all £8; but the commissioners report this to be then worth, at least, £50 more. Mr. John Carnaby had newly built one “balk-mill” for which there was never any rent paid to his majesty, and they deemed fit that Carnaby should pay 6s. 8d. annually for it. The old rent of the whole barony was £60 a year, the actual annual value of it in 1608, £261 4s. The fees and deductions out of the rents were:— “John West, gent., is baliffe there by patent *durante beneplacito*, for which he hath fee yearly the sum of £8: *idem* holdeth there the office of constable by patent granted to him *durante beneplacito*, for which he hath yearly fee £3 0s. 8d. Justinian Poucy (Percy?) is forester there by patent *durante beneplacito*, and hath fee yearly 46s. 8d. Sir John Fenwick is steward there and hath yearly fee for the same the sum of 10s.”

At the end of the survey come the Memoranda:—

“This Barronie of Langley came to the Crown by the attainder of Thomas earle of Northumberland.

¹ *Leges Marchiarum*, p. 327.

² John Carnaby of Langley was one of those indicted for conspiracy and rebellion at this time.—Hodgson Hinde's *General History of Northumberland*, p. 370.

“There is an auncient stone castle of an indifferent bignes, the outwalles stande firme and faste, but the coveringe, and the inward worke is utterly ruined and decayed, and soe hath been time out of mynde.

“The freeholders ther doe homage fealty with service and suite of court.

“The coppiholders claim to houlde their landes to them and their assignes accordinge to the custome of the honour of Cockermouth and soe do their coppies runne.

“And that their fines are certaine, viz., one yeare’s rent for the admittance of a tenant after the death of his ancestor, and two yeares’ rent upon every surrender.

“But we finde by their copies that their fines have been uncertainly payd, and that (by) the custome of Cockermouth by the credible reporte of my lord of Northumberland’s officers, their fines be clearly arbitrable at the will of the lorde.

“Item. Ther are divers other Tenants within the same who not having coppies claim their landes to them and their heirs by tenant-right. They pay their fines and rents as coppiholders doe unto the bailiff ther, but whether he accounteth for them or noe we knowe not.

“All the rentes, fines, amerciamentes, etc., are gathered and payed unto the Steward or the bailiff, which they knowe not whether (they) be accounted for or noe.

“There is a parcell of gronde called the parke and is parcell of the domaine landes, ther within Mr. John Carneby’s lease, but ther is no game in it, neither was it ever fenced or impalled within the memory of man, without trees or underwoods, save some lowe hasell bushes.

“The jurie present that ther are iii. burgys within the borough of Heydon-bridgge, which have, time out of mynde, bene belonginge to the maintenance of the bridge, to be bestowed at the discretion of xxiiii. of the most substantiall men of the Barony.

* * * * *

“Item. When ther is a constable ther and hath fee £8, and a bailiffe with fee £3 0s. 8d. per annum, one Mr. John West having both the same by patent, in regard the castle is wholly in decaye, and the warres, God be praised, at an end, wee thinke the constableness being viij ls. per annum, after the expiration or other determination of the patent in beinge, may cease and the fee saved as an unnecessarie office for the causes above-mentioned.

“J. BARTH. HAGGATT,

“Supervisor.”

The Carnaby lease, granted in 1532 for 99 years, would have run out in 1631, but in 1619 they parted with their interest in Langley to John Murray, first Earl of Annandale, who, most probably by royal favour, obtained the rest of the barony in 1625. Sir Edward Radcliffe of Dilston, purchased it in 1632, for what he states to have been “a

very considerable sum.”¹ His son, Sir Francis, was created, by James II., Baron Tindal, Viscount Langley, and Earl of Derwentwater. The entries relating to Langley in the Radcliffe account books are devoid of general interest: Humphrey Little and Robert Hudspeth held the castle and the lands to the west of it for £30 per annum in 1671.

Forfeited to the crown, like the rest of the Derwentwater property, after the ill-starred rising of 1715, Langley was eventually settled in 1749 on the Governors of Greenwich Hospital. Messrs. Bower and Claridge, reporting on the Greenwich Hospital estates in 1817, state:—“The Barony of Langley is of large extent, comprising several Townships or districts. The Commissioners and Governors of the Hospital are Lords, and hold a court-leet or court baron at Michelmas in every year, at which all the freeholders within the Barony are liable to attend to do suit and service. All the lands and tenements within the Barony are of tenure, and are not held by copy of court roll. There are not any fines, heriots, or other manorial profits arising to the Hospital in respect of the Manor. The amerciements for offences punishable in the court leet are accounted for to the Hospital, but are of trivial amount.” The last Court Leet of the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High-Admiral of the United Kingdom, who succeeded the Governors of Greenwich Hospital as Lords of the Barony, was held at Haydon Bridge, 12th October, 1867.²

John Grey, of Dilston, about the year 1835, soon after he was appointed to the control of the Hospital Estates, had the entrance tower of Langley Castle roofed and repaired for the woodman’s family to live in, and at the same time the plinth running round the building attended to, and all gaps in the outer walls carefully built up. It is a little strange that this praiseworthy endeavour to preserve the venerable structure is passed over unnoticed in his excellent Life. About the same time our great historian, Hodgson, taking his stand on Sewing-shields Crags, was filled with enthusiasm at the view of the old towers across the Tyne:—“Langley Castle, while I gaze on it, even at a great distance, seems to bid a stern defiance to the attacks of time, as if de-

¹ In 1664 Sir Edward Radcliffe purchased two farms at Grindon, on the north side of the Carle Street, and added them to his Barony of Langley.—Hodgson’s Northumberland. II., iii., 377.

² Historical Notes on Haydon Bridge, by Wm. Lee, p. 71.

terminated once again to resume its roof, and hang out over its battlements its blue flag and pillared canopy of morning smoke."¹ Recent changes have rendered it highly probable that this prophecy will before long be fulfilled. Thanks to its destruction by fire so soon after its erection, paradoxical though it may sound, the castle of Sir Thomas de Lucy retains in an almost, if not quite, unique manner, the essential outlines of a fortified English house in the great days of Cressy and Poitiers. Had it continued to be inhabited it would sure to have been subjected to all sorts of Perpendicular, Tudor, Elizabethan, Jacobean, Queen Anne, Georgian, and Strawberry-hill Gothic alterations and accretions, at the cost of architectural purity. The most that should now be attempted is to have it, as Sir Robert Bowes recommended in 1550, "reparaed."

¹ Hodgson's Northumberland, II., iii., p. 387.

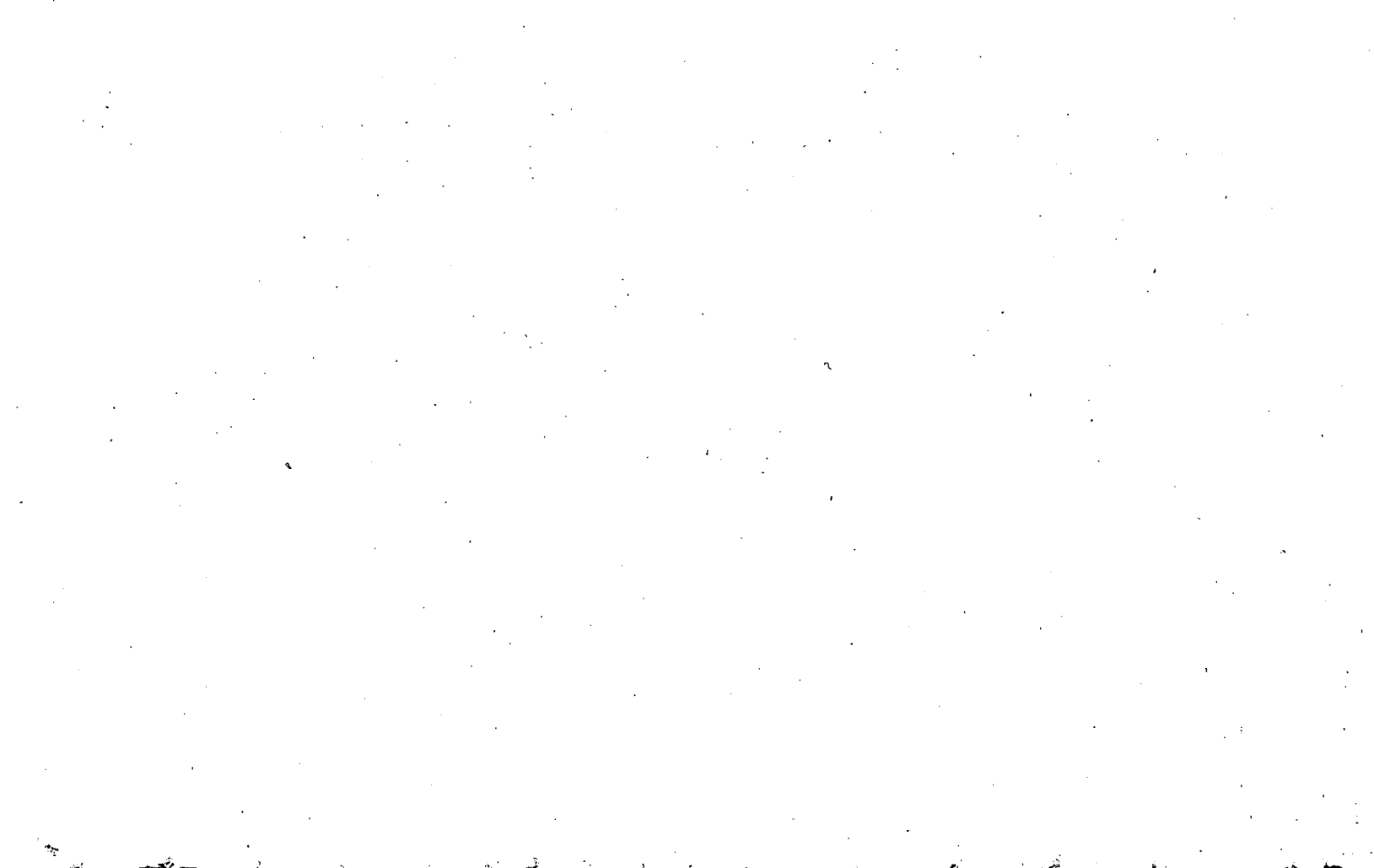


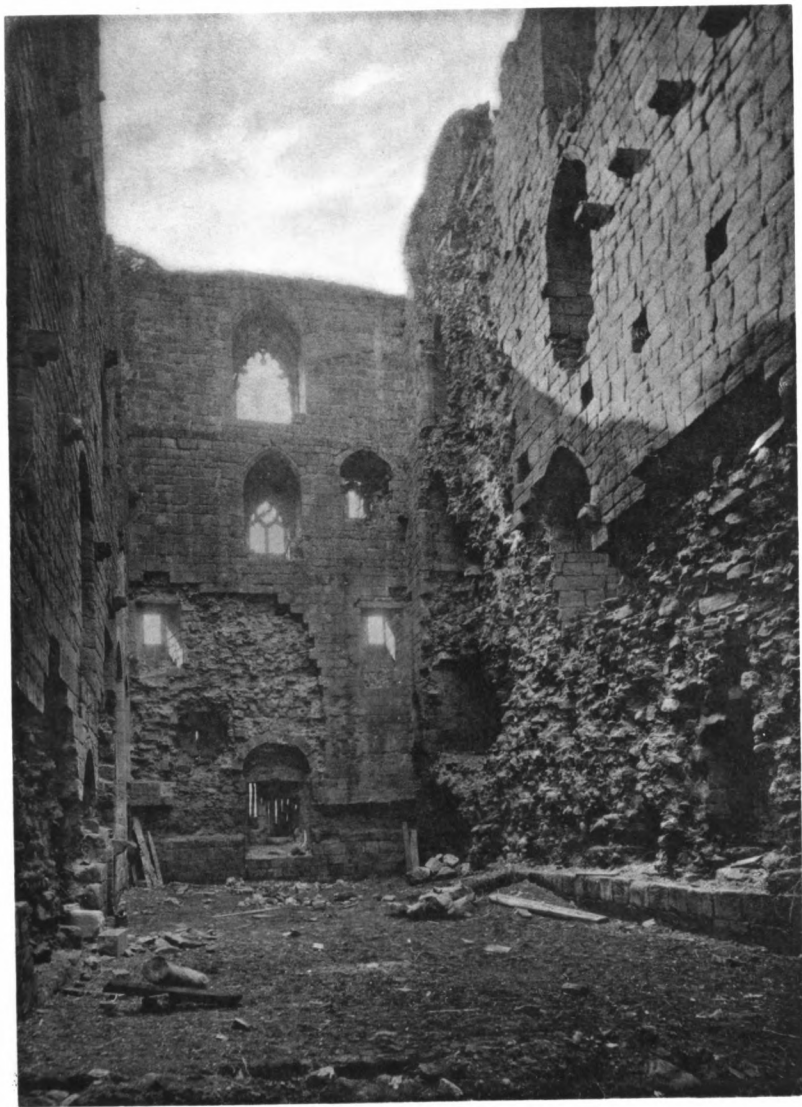
LANGLEY CASTLE FROM W.





LANGLEY CASTLE FROM S.W.





LANGLEY CASTLE — INTERIOR, S.END.





LANGLEY CASTLE — INTERIOR, N. END.

