

could be used in the same sense in Northumberland. This View tells us that the outermost of the three wards of Wark Castle served for a *barmkein* (*ante* p. 30) and recommended that *barmkins* for the 'savegarde' of cattle should be erected round every tower (*ante* p. 36). In the same way Sir Robert Bowes in 1550 was of the opinion that a strong tower with stables beneath and lodgings above should be built at Mindrum, and 'in circuite about it a large barmekyn or fortylage for savegarde of cattle' (*ante* p. 51). It seems impossible to explain satisfactorily the origin of the word.

## (F.)

Note, p. 33.—BASTLE.

Till the end of the 13th century, according to Viollet-le-Duc, *Dictionnaire de l'Architecture Française* II. p. 166, the word *bastide* was principally used to designate a temporary work for the protection of an encampment; after that period *bastide* or *bastille* came to mean a detached work of defence forming part of a general scheme of fortification, and by extension an isolated house built beyond the walls of a town. The several *bastilles* of Paris were originally independent towers in front of the walls, of these that of St. Antoine became celebrated as the Bastille *par excellence*. The older form of the word was applied to country-houses in the south of France, e.g. *London Gaz.* No. 6073/2 in 1721 'The *Bastides* and Farm-Houses in that Neighbourhood'.—Murray's *New English Dictionary*.

In England the word seems to have been first employed in the beginning of the 15th century. e.g. 'Square bastiles and bulwarkes to make'.—Lydgate (1430) *Bochas*. II. xvii. Among the 'Townes Brent by my lorde of Glocester in Scotland' in 20 Ed. IV. we meet with the entries 'Mordington & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Browmhyll & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Dunslawe & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Mikel Swinton & the Bastell won', and 'Litell Swinton & the Bastell won', while 'my lorde of Northomberlande' descending on Yetholm, won the Bastiles of Primside and Longhouses.—*MS.* at Alnwick Castle. The *Statistical Account of Scotland* mentions Kello-bastel in Edrom parish, Foulden-bastel, etc. In Northumberland the very interesting ruin at Hebburn in Chillingham Park is, as has been said, still called the 'bastle'. Even a building of the size of Bellister is called a 'bastell-house' in the View of 1541. The great tower at Burrowden in Coquetdale was termed a 'bassel-house' by old people who remembered it (*ex inform.* D. D. Dixon), and the same appellation was given to the *Old Walls* at Newton Underwood, near Mitford, in Hodgson's time (*Northd.* II. ii. p. 72).

## (G.)

Note, p. 54.—ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 23 ELIZ. CAP. IV.

In consequence, probably, of the arrest of Morton, and the ascendancy of Lennox and Arran in the affairs of Scotland, the English lords framed in the beginning of 1581, 'An Acte for fortifeng of the Borders towardes Scotland.

This they sent down to the Commons, who, however, instead of amending, ignored it altogether, and returned an entirely new project of their own to the Upper House. In spite of the officially recorded resentment of the Lords at this treatment of their Bill, they ultimately passed that of the Commons, in a somewhat altered form, on the 15th of March.—Ridpath's *Border History* 1810, p. 657; *Parl. Hist.* p. 235; D'Ewe's *Journal*, p. 305, 273.

This Statute, 23 Eliz. cap. iv., enacted that the Queen should appoint, under the Great Seal, Commissioners to inquire in the Border counties what 'Tenancies and Houses of Habitation were decayed, and not occupied by Men able to serve as Horsemen or Footmen, according to the ancient Duty of those Tenancies, and to examine the probable Causes of those Ruins, and of all the Wants and evil Furnitures of the said Horsemen and Footmen, and to give Order for the Reformation thereof with all Speed, for the Defence of the Frontiers toward Scotland.'—*Statutes at Large*, Vol. II., p. 615. But perhaps the most important clause it contained was that which revived 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary, cap. 1, a measure the legal duration of which had been limited to a period of ten years by the Parliament which had met at Westminster on 21st October, 1555, and promulgated it in the following terms:—

An Acte for the Reedyfyng of Castelles and Fortes, and for thenclosing of Growndes from the Borders towardes and against Scotlande.

For the better habytacion restoryng and reedyfyng of the Castelles Fortresses and Fortelletes Villages and Houses that bee decayed withyn the Counties of Northumberlande Cumberlande Westmerlande and the Bishoprike of Durham, And for the better manuryng and employeng the Groundes withyn the same, and for the more encrease of Tillage: Bee it enacted by the Kyng and Quenes Ma<sup>ties</sup> the Lordes Spirituall and Temporall and the Commons in this presente Parliament assembled and by the auctoritee of the same, That from and after the first daye of December nexte ensuyng, Commission under the greate Seale of Englande shalbee directed from tyme to tyme as nede shall requyre, to such persons as shalbee therunto named and appoynted by the King and Quenes Ma<sup>ties</sup> and Theires and Successoures of the Quene, by theyr Bill or Billes signed w<sup>th</sup> theyr Signe Manuell to bee directed to the Chauncellor of Englande for the time beyng, w<sup>ch</sup> Commissiones shalbee according to the manner fourme tenour and effecte hereafter ensuyng: Philip and Mary &c. Knowe ye that Wee have assigned you or any number of you, being syxe at the least, of whom A. B. and C. shall bee three . . . . to be our Commissioners to surveye our Counties of Northumberlande, Cumberlande, Westmerlande, and the Bishoprick of Durham . . . . and by suche waies and meanes as you best can, tenquire what and howe many Castles Fortresses and Fortelettes Villagies Houses and Habitacions have bene decayed within the same, and by whom and by what Occasions, and howe many of them are meete to bee reedified; And also howe many Castles Fortresses and Fortelettes Villages Houses and Habitacions were meete to bee made of newe within the said Counties and Bishoprike, and

in what places the same were most meete to be scytuate; and what partes of the said Counties and Bishoprike bee most apte for to bee enclosed and converted to tyllage or other necessarye manurance meete and convenient for those Countries and the People of the same; and also to enquire what persons bee Owners Lordes Proprietaries Fermors and Possessors of the same or clayme any Interest in the same, and what estate or estates tearmes of interestes they or any of them have of and in the same: And thereupon to take such Order for the reedifieng of such the Castles Fortresses and Fortelettes Villages Houses and Habitacions heretofore decayed, and for the newe erectyng and makyng of others and the scytuacions of the same, and for thenclosyng and converting to tyllage or other necessarye manurance suche partes and porcions of the saide Counties and Bishopricke as to you or syxe of you, whereof A, B, and C shalbee three . . . . shalbee thought most meete and convenyent: Provided Alwayes, That by Colour or Vertue of this Commission you doo not reedifie newe make or inclose or cause to be reedified newe made and enclosed as abovesaid in any place or places in any of the said Counties or Bishopricke being in distance and lyeng above twentye Miles from the knowne partes of the borders of Scotlande &c.—*Statutes of the Realm* IV. part 1, p. 266.

Further powers were conferred on the Commissioners for levying taxes and impressing workmen, cattle, and materials if the fortification of the Borders should require it.

Little seems to have been done to carry out this Act, on its revival in March, 1581, till 11th August, 1583, when the Council wrote from the Court at Oatlands to the Commissioners on the Borders to the effect that 'Her Majesty having sent you her commission to inquire of the decays of the castles, fortresses, &c., upon the Borders, according to the Statute made 2 and 3 Phil. and Mary, revived in the last session—wishes that before any reparations are made, you should send a certificate of your surveys, and receive directions for your further proceeding. You are first to survey and inquire by jury of the ruin and decays of the old castles in cos. Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the Bishopric of Durham, where you, the Lord Bishop, especially, if cause require, shall give out a commission, under the seal of your county palatine, to the commissioners mentioned in Her Majesty's commission, agreeable with the latter. You shall be informed how and by whom they have been decayed, and how many of them are necessary for defence of the Borders, and estimate the charges, and certify by whom they are borne.'—*Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, Addenda* 1580-1625, p. 92.

At that time 'the distribucion of the Comissioners for the Execution of the comission for the Borders' appears to have been:—

'S<sup>r</sup> Johne Forster, S<sup>r</sup> Fra: Russell, S<sup>r</sup> Henry Wytherington, S<sup>r</sup> John Selbye, De La Vall, Robert Bowes, Raphe Rokesbye, Henry Cheeke, W. Bowes, D. Laver, W. Reade, D. Gibson, Mar: Birket, Christofer Waidaforth.—*Esté Marches*. E. of Cumberlande, S<sup>r</sup> Johne Forster, S<sup>r</sup> Fra: Russell, S<sup>r</sup> Henry Wythering-

ton, De La Vall, Robert Bowes, Raphe Rokebye, Henrie Cheeke, W. Bowes, Christofer Waidafworth, Martin Byrket, Walter Reade.—*Midle Marches.*

E. of Cumberlande, L. Scroope, S<sup>r</sup> Fra: Russell, S<sup>r</sup> He: Wythrington, S<sup>r</sup> Johne Selbye, De La Vall, Robert Bowes, H. Cheeke, Marten Byrcket, W. Reade, W. Bowes, Raphe Rokebye.—*West Marches.*

S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Graie, S<sup>r</sup> Cuthberte Collingwood, S<sup>r</sup> Symon Musgrave, Johnē Davison.—*To suplie the Nombres of the Comissioners in renewinge of the Comission.*—*Dom. State Pap. Eliz. Addenda*, vol. xxviii. 25, iii.

The instructions of the Council to the Commissioners on the Borders were probably taken north by Elizabeth's secretary, Sir Francis Walsingham, who was then starting on an embassy to the court of James VI. On Aug. 12, 1583, the day after these instructions were issued, Sir Valentine Browne, who as Treasurer of Berwick had made himself well acquainted with Border matters, wrote to Walsingham from 'Hoggesden':—

'I wish your journey prosperous, and so write that you may understand the matters, and make a better report upon your return. Therefore,—not dealing with the behaviour of the people who will resort to you after you have passed the Tyne, or before, nor their long speeches, tending to the praise of themselves and their great services to the realm, I mean of those parts on this side Scotland, —I crave, for the good of Her Majesty and our country, that in your passage or returning, you will visit Newcastle and Her Majesty's house there, with the river and the fort standing upon the mouth of the haven, which was called Tynemouth Abbey, and so along the sea coast; where, besides the castles of Alnwick and Warkworth, belonging to the Earl of Northumberland, and other houses of gentlemen kept in good repair, you will see the great and ruinous castles of Dunstanborough and Bamborough, with the towns adjoining, that were of great receipts for Her Majesty's forces in my time, but now laid waste for sheep and husbandry, and the people clean driven away that should have been succours to such as might have been placed there. I do not mention the towns and villages by the west from the sea, likewise laid waste for profit of cattle, where the armies have had victuals and lodging, but which is now as dear there as any from foreign parts.

'These parts are little out of your highway to Berwick, where of courtesy they will show themselves to the uttermost, and in better order than, when time may be required, they be able, and yet the consideration of the place itself, and that which shall be in the best part brought to you, must induce you to a good understanding thereof.

'West of Berwick, four miles, is Norham Castle, with a proper town, which was until lately in the Bishop of Durham's hands, and was kept by a captain and crew, with a good family of strength, and the town well peopled, and always able to serve the Queen and Warden with 40 good horsemen, and as many more, footmen; but all now left to husbandry of hinds, for the most part Scottish lowns. In like estate is Etal castle, with the manor and town, five miles

from Norham, both which were houses and towns well peopled, and able to receive the Lord Warden and 1,000 persons, but now not able to lodge and victual 200 men. As these are, so are many other towns and villages on the Borders, far out of your way, being all in the keeping of those countrymen that would have cried out of the decay of the Borders, if themselves had not had the government of the same, in which number, if the Governor of Berwick had not well weighed the sequel of the rule of those countrymen, Berwick itself might have been accounted. Nevertheless, those countrymen be both wise, able and stout men, so long as they be governed by others that are not allied to their affections.'—*Cal. of State Papers, Dom., Add. 1580-1825*, p. 92.

Whatever Walsingham may have seen or done, it was not till the autumn of the following year that the Commissioners on the Borders drew up a report. By that time Christopher Dacre, of Lanercost, had been added to their number, a man, it would appear, of considerable ability and great energy. On 8th Sept., 1584, Henry Lord Hunsdon and nine other Commissioners ('Jho. Selbye, Ro: de la Vale, Francis Russell, Thomas Gray, Ra: Gray, John Forster, Henry Woddrington, Chr. Dacre, William Reed') inform the Council from Alnwick:— 'According to Her Majesty's commission and your instructions, we have viewed the decayed castles, towers, and fortresses meet to be repaired, and such other new fortresses and enclosures as are meet to be newly made and enclosed in the county [of Northumberland and the] bishopric of Durham, within 20 miles of the borders of Scotland, for the better strength and fortifying of these East and Middle Marches, and with advice of skilful artificers, we have drawn up the book enclosed.'—*Ibid.* p. 127.\*

The book forwarded by the Commissioners is preserved at the Record Office (*St. Pap. Dom. Add. Eliz.* vol. xxviii. 95, iv.):—

'A certificate unto the right honorabill Lords of the Quene her majestyes most honorable counsell from the commissioners whose names are here unto subscribed, as well of all the decaied castles and fortresses by them thought mete to be repaired upon the east and middle marches of England foranempste Scotland, and of certaine newe fortresses there to be devised and maid for the better strengthe of the said borders, as also of suche landes and groundes as by them the sayd commissioners are thought fitt to be enclosed upon the sayd borders accordinge to her highnes commission and speciall direction from the sayd right honorable Lordes of her majestye said counsell to them directed as followethe

\* In the Calendar of State Papers this letter of the Commissioners, dated 8th Sept., is made to enclose not only their Certificate, but also four Abstracts of Presentments as to decays of forts, castles, tenements and forces. That for the East Marches is, however, dated 'Sept. 24. 26°. Eliz.'

First as towching the castles and fortresses decayed upon the said east and middle marches

Dunstonebourghe Castle belonginge to her majesty standinge upon the sea cooste aboute xvij myle southe and by east from Barwike and xvij myle from the border of Scotland decayed for want of repairinge by long contynuanee.

Dunstonbourghe Castell

This castle or fortresse we the said commissioners doe thinck not so needfull to be repaired nor so necessarye as other for defence of the country or annoance againstes the enemyes of the opposit border of Scotland because the same is so farr distant from the sayd border of Scotland and yet a howse of verve great force and strength if it be thought gude by her majesty for any other respect towching the sea coostes or otherwise to be repaired, the chardges of which reparacion as it hath bene before we esteeme to a thousande ponde, or if her majesty thinke good to make of the same a sufficient fortresse for receite of a guarrison of one hundreth horsemen or footmen and no more then we esteeme the chardges of the same to foure hundreth poundes.

1000<sup>li</sup> as it hathe bene before,  
or 400<sup>li</sup> for a guarrison of c. men.

Bambourghe Castell

Bambourghe Castle belonginge to her majesty standinge upon the same sea cooste about xij myle southe and by east from Barwike and xij myles from the nearest parte of the border of Scotland decayed for wante of repairinge by longe contynuanee as aforesayd.

This castle or fortresse we in oure opinyons doe thinck of in everye respect as to the castle of Dunstonebourghe we have before declared savinge that we esteeme the charges of the repairinge of the same as it hathe bene before to eight hundrethe poundes, or to foure hundreth poundes to make a sufficyent place of strengthe and receipt for a guarrison of one hundrethe horsemen or footmen if to her majesty it seeme so needfull and convenient.

800<sup>li</sup> as it hathe bene before,  
or 400<sup>li</sup> for a guarrison of c. men.

Shorswoode Towre

Shorswoode Towre belonginge to the decane and chapter of Duresme standinge neere Tweede about two myles west and by south from Barwick within a myle and a half of the border of Scotland decayed by warres and partlye by meanes as aforesayd but by whome to be repaired we cannot learne otherwise then either by her majesty in respect to have the use of the same in tymes of service, or by the Lords and owners.

This towne or fortresse we doe thincke a verye fitte and convenient place as well to defend the countrie as annoyne the enemye upon the opposite border if it were repaired the chardges of which reparacions we esteeme to two hundreth and fortye poundes.

240<sup>li</sup>

Norham Castell

Norham Castle belonginge to the bishoppe of Duresme standinge upon the same river of Tweed about two myles west and by south from Shorswoode aforesaid and hard adjoininge to the border of Scotland decayed by want of reparacion of long contynuaunce but whether to be repaired by her majestye or the said bishoppe of Duresme we cannot certainly understand because it seemeth to be a matter in question and therefore doe referre the same to youre honorabill consideracions.

This castle or fortresse we doe thincke to be one of the most fit places to be repaired for the causes and consideracions aforesaid the charges of which reparacion with the five decayed turrettes upon the wall of the utter ward as the same hath bene before we esteeme to a thousand two hundreth pounde and without the same five turrettes, which we thinck not gretly needfull to eight hundreth pound which we referre to her majesty and your honorabill considerations.

1200<sup>li</sup> with the five turrettes,  
or 800<sup>li</sup> without the turrettes.

Heton Castell.

Heton Castle belonginge to Sir Thomas Gray standinge about a myle from the said water of Tweed and the border of Scotland and about two myles west and by south of Norham, decayed by warrs and by means aforesaid, but by whome to be repaired we cannot learne, otherwise then either by her majesty in respect to have the use of the same in service or by the lord and owner of the same.

This castle or fortresse we doe thinck a verye fit and convenient place to defend the countrie and annoyne the enemye as aforesaid if it were repaired the charges of which reparacion we esteeme as it hath bene before to fyve hundreth thre score pound or to thre hundreth pounde to make it sufficient for a guarrison of l. horsemen.

560<sup>li</sup> as it was before,  
or 300<sup>li</sup> for l. horsmen.

Cornell Towre.

Cornell Towre belonginge to Thomas Swynney gentleman, standing nere to Tweed upon the border of Scotland about a myle west and by south of Heton aforesaid decayed by warres of late tyme, by whom to be repared we cannot learne otherwise then as aforesaid.

This towre or fortresse we also do thinck a verye fit and convenient place for the consideracions as aforesaid if it were repared the charges of which reparacions as before it hath bene we esteeme to a hundreth pound.

100<sup>li</sup>

Warke Castell

Warke Castle belonging to Sir Thomas Gray standinge upon the said river of Tweede about a myle west and by northe from Cornell aforesaid hard adjoininge to the border of Scotland, decayed by want of reparacion of a longe contynuance but by whome to be repared we referre to youre honorabill consideracions because it seemeth by good testimony that her majestie and her noble progenitors have used to repaire the same.

This castle or fortresse we doe thincke to be one of the cheife and principall places to defende the country and annoye the enemye if it were repared, the chardge of which reparacions we esteeme as it hath bene before to eight hundreth pounce, but we thinck that foure hundreth pound wold there repaire a sufficient rowme for a guarrison of a hundreth horsmen to defend the countrie and annoye the enemye as aforesaid, which we referre to youre honorabill consideracions.

800<sup>li</sup> as it was before,  
or 400<sup>li</sup> for a c. horsmen.

Howtell Towre.

Howtell Towre belonginge to John Burrell gentleman standinge about two myle southe and by east from the castle of Warke within thre myle of the border of Scotland decayed by warres as we are crediblye enformed but by whome to be repaired otherwise then as before in the like case is declared, we knowe not.

This towre or fortresse beyng a verye small thinge we thinck a verye convenient place for such a number as the same will serve to defende the countrie and annoye the enemye if it were repaired the chardges of which reparacion we esteeme to fiftye pounce.

50<sup>li</sup>

## Lancton Towre.

Lancton Towre belonginge to John Collingwoode gentleman standinge aboute a myle southe and by east frome the said towre of Howetell within foure myles of the border of Scotlande decaied partlye by warres and by want of reparacion of a longe contynuanace but by whome to be repaired otherwise then is to the last before declared we knowe not.

This towre or fortresse we thincke also verye fitt and convenient for the consideracons aforesaid if it were repaired, the charges of which reparacion we esteeme to a hundreth pound.

100<sup>li</sup>

## Etell Castell.

Etell Castle belonginge to her majesty standinge about thre myles east and by southe frome the sayd towre of Lancton within sixe myles of the border of Scotland decaied for want of reparacion by longe contynuanace.

This castle or fortresse we thincke to be one of the chiefe places and at least chardges to be repaired the chardges of whiche reparacyon we esteeme to two hundreth pounde.

200<sup>li</sup>

## Foord Castell.

Foord Castle belonginge to William Carr esquier standinge about a myle southe and by east of the sayd castle of Etell decaied by want of reparacion of a longe contynuanace and by whome to be repaired we knowe not otherwise then in other lyke cases is before declared.

This castle or fortresse we thincke also verye fitt for the consideracions aforesayd yf it were repaired, the charge of which reparacions we esteeme to three hundreth pounde.

300<sup>li</sup>

## Wooler Towre

Wooler Towre belonginge to Sir Thomas Graye standinge upon the verye plenished ringe of the border about thre myle south south west frome the said castle of Foord, decaied either by warres or for want of reparacions by longe contynuanace and by whome to be repaired otherwise then in lyke cases is before declared we knowe not.

This towre or fortresse we thincke also to be a verye fit and convenient place for the consideracions aforesayd for a small number if it were repaired, the chardges of whiche reparacion we esteeme to thre score pounde.

60<sup>li</sup>

## Bewicke Towre.

Bewyke towre belonginge to her majestye standinge about thre myles east and by southe of the sayd towre of Wooler within seven myle of the border of Scotland decaied by meanes as last aforesayd.

This towre or fortresse we thincke also verye fit and convenient for the consideracions aforesaid to be repaired with an augmentation of a stone wall or barmekin of thirtye yarde square, and also stablinge for fiftye horse, the chardges of which reparacyons we esteeme to twentye pound and the said augmentation to two hundreth pounde.

20<sup>li</sup> as it was before,

and 200<sup>li</sup> for ane augmentation.

## Lowyke Towre.

Lowyke Towre belonginge to Sir Cuthbert Collingwoode, Sir John Selbye, Thomas Swynborne and Cuthbert Collingwoode standinge about sixe myles southe frome Barwicke, within sixe mile of the border of Scotland by what meanes decaied or by whome to be repaired we knowe not otherwise then in lyke cases is before declared.

This towre or fortresse lyenge somthing more inward in the cuntrye we thinck fit for sundrye consideraciones to be repaired as well as those upon the ring of the border, the charges of which reparacion we esteeme to fiftye pounde.

50<sup>li</sup>

## Harbottle Castell.

Harbottle Castle belonginge to her majestye standinge about eight myle south southwest from the towre of Woller aforesaid and within vj myles of Scotlande, decaied for want of reparacions by longe contynnauce.

This castle or fortresse we thincke to be one of the most fit for the consideracions aforesaid and for rewling the brockill and disobedient subjectes there to be fullye repaired the charges of which reparacion we esteeme to two hundreth fortye pound.

240<sup>li</sup>

**Neue fortresses to be devised upon the east and middle marches.**

As towchinge the makinge of neue fortresses for the better strength of the said borders accordinge tooure said commission and direction. We inoure opinyons doe thinck that for so moch as her majestye hath not any castle or fortresse of her owne betwene the river of Tweede and her majestys said castle of Harbottle which is about xx<sup>ti</sup> myles, neither betwene the said castle of Harbottle and the west borders which is about xx<sup>ti</sup> myles (but not so needfull) endlonge all

the plenished ringe of the east and middle marches, and her majestye therby when need of service dothe happen, enforced to use the howses and places belonginge to her subjectes, beyng for the most part of very small rowmes and receites, and her majestyes said subjectes theire famelies and gudes beyng by that meanes many times so pestered as is to theire great trouble and hinderance. It were therfore a thinge as we thinck very convenient if it might so please her majestye, *that thre newe towres and fortifications were maid by her majestie betwene the said river of Tweed and her majestyes said castle of Harbottle*, endlonge the plenished ringe of the border, and *another betwene the said castle of Harbottle and the west border in most convenient places, everye tour and fortification to serve for a guarrison of C horsemen* when need of service shall so require, and in tymes of no service to be kept at such small and convenient charges as shall seeme best to her majestye and youre honorabill wisdomes, which newe towres and fortifications shall not onely in tyme of warre be a great helpe for defence of the whole countrey about, and annoyance to the enemye, but shall also in the peace tyme be a great fear and terrore for the malefactoures inhabitinge on both sides of the borders to committe any spoiles or disorder, *the charges of everye which newe towre and fortification as we thinck may be done with fyve hundrethe pound apeece sufficient* for that purpose.

Towchinge enclosures upon the east and middle marches.

And lastlye as towchinge oure opinyons what landes or groundes within the countye of Northumberland and byshoprike of Duresme is most fit to be enclosed within xx<sup>ti</sup> myles of the border of Scotland for the best defence of the east and middle marches, we verely doe thinck that if there were first such a hoodge\* and mane ditche set with quickset maid frome the water of Tweed thorough the east and middle marches unto the west borders, as Mr Dacre one of us the said comissioners hath nowe devised and begunne upon the said west borders whiche dike or defence with a nightly watch or serch betwene every towne and towne upon the same, the said Mr Dacre upon this vewghe nowe taken of the said east and middle marches by good and sufficient reasons hath perswaded us may well be done at the small and easye charges of the said two wardenryes, like as the charges of the said dike or newe defence upon the said west borders is borne by the whole wardenrye there, as by a plat and certaine articles nowe drawne and

\* hoodge (? huge, cf. next page l. 10) and mane (main).

showne unto us by the said Mr Dacre more at large may appeare. And besides the same stronge enclosure and defence so to be maid endlong and thorough the said east and middle marches, the inhabitantes within the same yearly porcion after porcion at their convenient leisure, and as their powers may serve to enclose their townes and feildes and also the waist groundes and commons lyenge betwixt their feildes, everye close or enclosure to conteine xx<sup>ti</sup> or xxx<sup>ti</sup> acres and not above, savinge and exceptinge all suche great hodge waistes and commons as cannot conveniently be enclosed, and which were not of any profite or comoditye to be enclosed, and savinge to every lord and tenant their lawfull profittes and rightes with condicion that if any tenant who hath no interest but at will shall happen within a certaine tyme to be expelled by the lord then the lord or the newe tenant to recompence him that shalbe so displaced for the costes and charges that he hathe sustained by the said enclosing, at the sight and judgement of the said commissioners the same stronge enclosure and defence which is mente to goe endlonge and thorough the sayd borders with also the other lesser enclosurs within the same and the townes also beyng closed about as by this device is intended wold be in tyme so great a defence and safete to the said borders and to all her highnes subjectes within the same as might be to their great common wealthes and quiet and they by that meanes the better able to doe her majestye service and to defende the said borderes which we refer to youre honorabill consideracion.

H. HUNSDON	RA: GRAY
JHO. SELBYE	JOHN FORSTER
RO: DE LA VALE	HENRY WODDRINGTON
FRAUNCIS RUSSELL	CHR. DACRE
THOMAS GRAY	WILLIAM REED.

Christopher Dacre (who seems to have been the leading spirit of the Commission, and with Delaval and one of the Grays to have formed the quorum of three instituted by the Act of 1555) thought it best to himself forward the plan of his proposed dyke and the explanation of it to Walsingham direct. This he did in a letter dated Newcastle, Sept. 11 (1584)\*:—

‘Chris. Dacre to Sec. Walsingham. In execution of Her Majesty’s commission and the Council’s direction, con-

\* Mrs. Green, the editor of the *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, Addenda* 1580-1625, has erroneously placed this letter with the accompanying plan, explanation, etc., under the year 1580, pp. 17, 18; in spite of the most clear internal evidence that they belong to 1584.

cerning the decayed fortresses &c. upon the Borders, I repaired to Morpeth, to meet the Lord Warden of the Middle Marches, and the other Commissioners on 28 July last; but as we could not then doing anything, I returned. I repaired again to Alnwick, 14 Aug., and thence to Berwick, and have continued thereabouts ever since, with assistance of the other Commissioners, in furtherance of the said commission, as by our certificate will appear. I have drawn a plan with articles, which though not cunningly done, may further the better understanding of our certificate of things necessary to be done, if it be Her Majesty's pleasure to proceed.

P.S.—I must commend the great trouble and diligence of Mr. Delaval and Mr. Gray, my two fellows of the quorum. Having now made certificate touching the East and Middle Marches, we of the quorum shall travel upon the West Borders. In the rating and estimate of decays, some things are set down of very small value, but great care was had not to draw any more charge than needful; yet with what is set down, I dare adventure every decay may be repaired.'—*Cal. of State Pap. Dom. Add.* 1580-1625, p. 17.

This letter was accompanied by Christopher Dacre's 'Plan of all forts and castles upon the Borders, from Tynedale, Redesdale, and the Cheviots to Berwick and Dunstanborough, with notes of the distances to Scotland, the state of the country, waste lands, etc.' (*State Pap. Dom. Add. Eliz.* vol. XXVII, 44, I) here reproduced from the original; as also by his explanation of it (*Ibid.* XXVII. 44 II):—

'For the better understandinge of the plat or carte which is herewithe sent, the articles here followinge will declare.

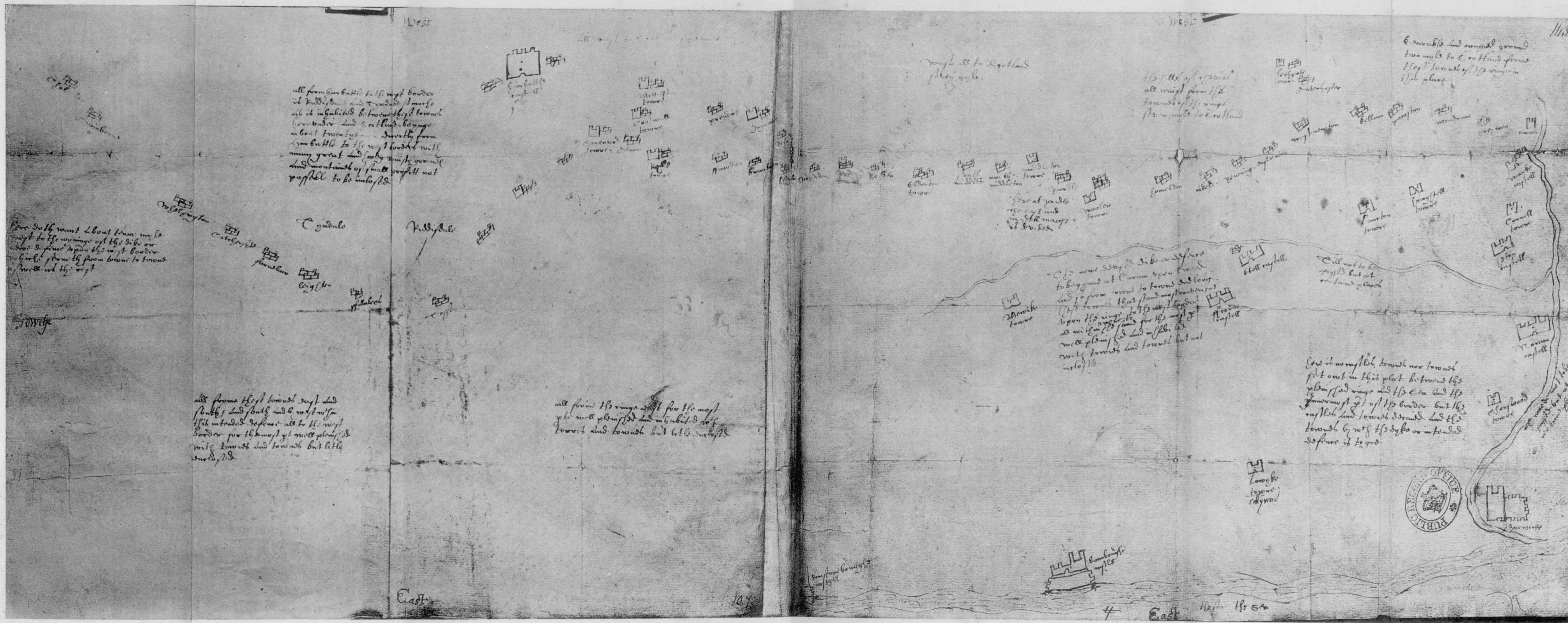
1. First by the said plat all the castles and fortresses decayed which are thought mete to be repaired shall, there in the same plat plainely appeare howe and in what place they be scited and howe farr distant they be from the border of Scotland the said plat with the booke of certificat considered.
2. Secondly within what compasse the new devised fortresses upon the east and middle marches arre thought good to be planted howe farre from the said border of Scotland and howe nere and necessarye for defence of the plenished ground of England.
3. Thirdly by what townes and places the new devised dike or defence is to goe, which is to passe thorough the said east and middle marches endlong the plenished ringe of the

borders levinge out certaine places which cannot conveniently be brought within the same, to the joyninge of the dike or defence that is alrede devyсед and begunne to passe thorough the west borders, and what is intended to be contained within the same dyke or defence, and what to be left out of the same.

The causes and consideracons howe this newe devised dike or defence may be a great strength and defence to the border, howe the same may be brought to passe, and for what causes there be certaine townes to be lefte without the same.

1. First it is to consider that both in the time of peace and warre all the hurt and annoyance that doth come to the trewe subjectes by the malefactors and disordered people upon the borders, is onely by meanes of open waies and skoupe that the said malefactors have without stoppe, cause of abode or any forewarnynge, wherby the power of the trewe subjectes might be in a redines to resist them, which in every respect by this newe device and defence which is to pass frome towne to towne thorough all the marches endlong the plenished ringe with a nightly watch and serch frome towne to towne upon the same may be sewerly provided for and sufficiently prevented.
2. Secondly, to declare howe the same device or defence shall easely be brought to passe without any great charg. It is to consider that in the best tyme of peace and a great deale more in tyme of warre the hurt and damag that the said trewe subjectes doe sustaine in some one yeare and the charges that they in the furdest partes ar at by comminge to daies of marches which ariseth upon attemptates done upon the borders, and by cominge downe to defend the said borders for want of other strengthes and defences, dothe surmount the whole charges that wold make and fynishe the same device or defence and therefore good reason for the inhabitantes of the whole wardenrye and cheify the nerest to the dainger the depest to be charged with the whole charges of makinge and mainteininge of the same, lyke all the whole charges of the like device or defence which is nowe taken in hand and begunnc upon the said west borders by all the inhabitantes of the wholc wardenrye there is done. And for the nightly watch or serch which is a thinge most needfull to be had and kept betwixt towne and towne in every place upon the same defence, the same to be either at the

three men in a watch for every myle sufficient.



all from her butte to the west border  
 is hillside and to vnder it more  
 all it inhabited by towne the west  
 her under and to rolland beinge  
 about twentye. Directly from  
 her butte to the west border will  
 myn great and such much ground  
 and mountaine of small profit not  
 possible to be inhabited

There doth want about three miles  
 to the wynnage of the dyke or  
 what depend upon the west border  
 to be built from the town to towne  
 and the west

all from the west border west and  
 south and south and west of  
 the intended dyke all to the west  
 border for the most part well planned  
 with towers and towne but little  
 inhabited

all from the range west for the most  
 part well planned and inhabited  
 tower and towne but little inhabited

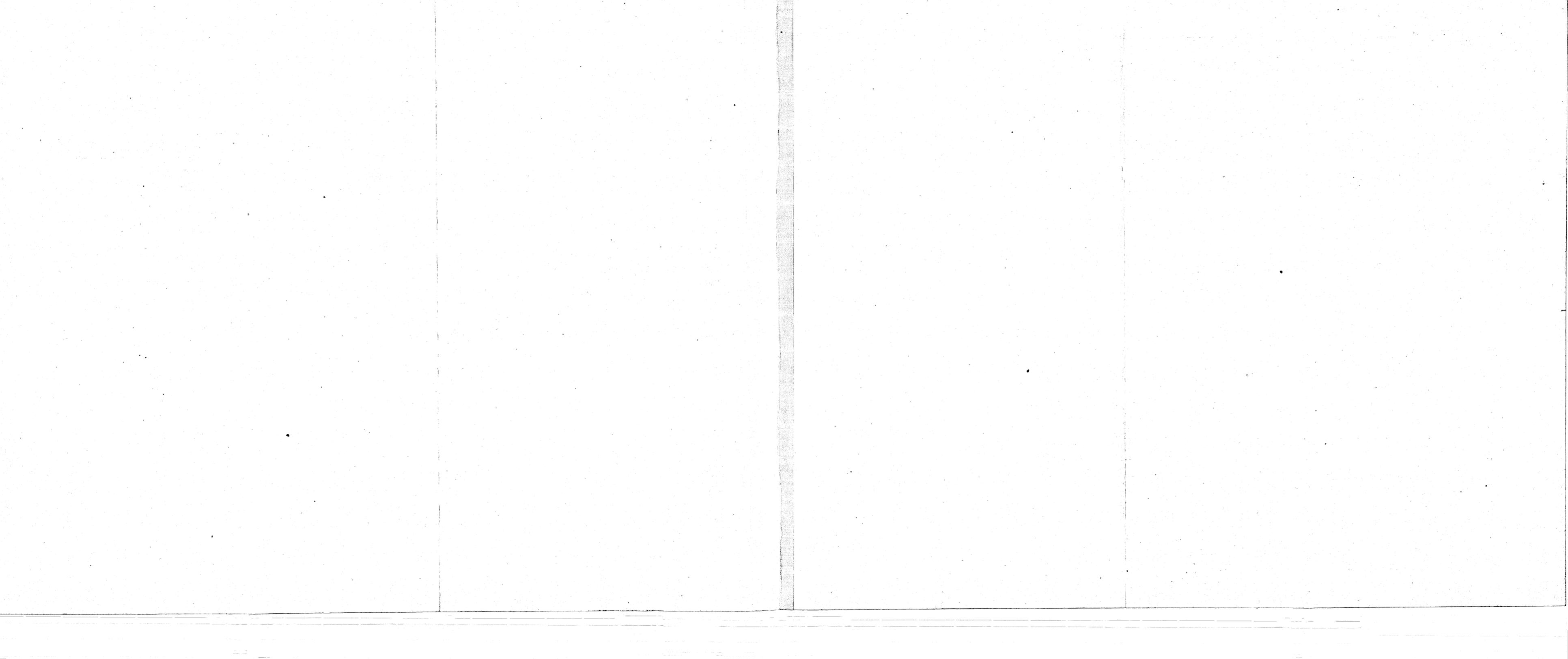
range all to Scotland  
 from north

the hills of the range  
 all west from the  
 towne of the range  
 from north to Scotland

the new dyke is to be set  
 to be good at Carrum upon road  
 and to goe toward towne and long  
 west to towne that stand in  
 upon the range to the west  
 all well planned for the most part  
 well planned and inhabited  
 west toward and toward but not  
 into the

It is no way to be toward nor toward  
 set out in this place between the  
 planned range and the sea and the  
 dyke is set of the border but the  
 dyke and toward toward and the  
 toward by way of the dyke or intended  
 to be good

the scorable and original ground  
 two miles to the west from  
 the towne of the range  
 the place



charge of the whole contry beyng so necessary a thinge for the benefit of the country or otherwise those townes within . . . myles next adjoining to discharge the same nightly watch or serch, and in consideracion of the same they to be eased and the whole country besides to beare the whole charges of makenge and manteinge the same defence, or otherwise all those that have at any tyme bene wont to be charged in any wardens tyme with nightly watchinge at any place or passages for preventinge of malefactors which notwithstanding the longe discontynuance of the same the wardens nowe or at any tyme may take uppe and direct againe, as they see cause and occasion to be indifferently assessed to beare the charge of the said watch or serch upon the said dike which is the onely device that is intended to manteine the serching watch betwene towne and towne upon the said dike or defence which is newe devised and begunne open the said west borders, and the same watch upon the said west border therbye intended to be brought to a great deal more east and lesse charges then had wont etc

3. Thirdly and lastly nowe to declare the gude causes whye there be some townes and places to be lefte out and not enclosed within this defence intended upon all the said marches beinge but of little account in respect of the greatest parte that is so to be inclosed, and by other meanes or some other device may be otherwise provided for as here followinge shall appeare, one cause is that by fetchinge in of the same fewe townes and places so to be left out wold be of farr greater charge then by other meanes they may be defended, another cause, because the nature of the groundes and places doth not so well serve to make it that way so defenceible as the way which is intended, another cause that the same device by reason of the great waste groundes and places and in some partes nere to the well disposed who had rather hinder then furdere the same, and therefore in those partes neither so gud and easy to be manteyned, nor yet so well to be watched to the ease contentment and safetie of such as shalbe to watch the same, as in the plenished groundes nere to the helpe and rescue of the true people, and lastly and chief of all that a gude parte of that which is to be so lefte out is inhabited by such as have alwayes bene as hurtfull to the trewe subjectes as the Scotishe borderers, and at no tyme any hurte done by the said Scottes but by some of their helpes and furdere

ance as hath alwaies bene reputed. And therefore and for all these gude consideracions befor alledged for so many of these small number of townes and places which for the better purpose are so to be without this defence and inclosure, it shalbe well that some convenient care be had to enclose their severall townes about every towne by itself with the lyke inclosure for their better defence, which may easelye be done for so many of them as have any desire to be so defended and to leve within the boundes of trewe subjectes.

## CHR. DACRE.

From this it appears that the great frontier works of the Romans were very nearly being unconsciously imitated in the reign of Elizabeth. The close of the History of the Border which practically opens with the construction of the Wall of Aulus Platorius Nepos might have found a fitting memorial in the Dyke of Christopher Dacre.

The Abstract of the Presentment of the decays of the East Marches (*St. P. Dom. Eliz. Add.*, vol. xxviii. 95, v.) made by an inquest there impanelled and sworn the 24th of September, 1584, mentions only these castles and towers,

- '*Woller.* One gentleman's house with a tower of defence there built, decayed by Sir Thos. Gray and his fermers.'
- '*Cadmertoune* [Coldmartin]. One tower of stone and lime of Roger Fowberry's of Fowberry gent. utterly decayed notwithstanding it hath land belonging to it able to keep 2 men and horse fit for service.'
- '*Cornehill.* One gentleman's mansion house, a tower decayed by Sir Thos. Gray of Chillingham Knt. 8 tenements unfurnished through their own default &c.'
- '*Norham.* 7 tenements decayed, 4 unfurnished with horse for service and the Castle of Norham decayed. The default of all in the owners and farmers thereof.'
- '*Gryndon.* One gentleman's house or tower unfurnished by Ric. Owrd of Heckeley.'
- '*Shoreswood.* One tower in the occupation of Mr. Selbye, decayed and a gentleman's house made void also by him.'
- '*Bambrough.* The Castle of Bamboroughe decayed by Sir John Forster and one gentleman's house and 6 ten<sup>ts</sup> decayed by him also and his farmers.'
- '*Heaton.* 13 tenements made unable by Sir Thos. Gray Knt. through exchange of the farmers' lands and overcharge of carriage and one castle and one gentleman's house decayed also by him.'

The similar Abstract for the Middle Marches contains no distinct notices of castles or towers.

