

XXI.—THE HOSPITAL OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,  
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.<sup>1</sup>

BY W. H. KNOWLES, F.R.I.B.A.

[Read on the 26th November, 1890.]

THE accounts of our local historians regarding the foundation of this ancient house are confused and contradictory. It is, I think, clear that we owe its institution to Aselack, who recites, in the Charter of foundation, his benefactions in the following terms:—

‘I, Aselack of Killinghowe, have founded the hospital of St. Mary the Virgin with a chapel, on my land in Newcastle upon Tyne, and there I have placed two friars regulars and one chaplain to serve God and the poor, and I myself have granted it to God and the blessed Mary, and to the bretheren of the same hospital there serving God, to shelter the poor, and needy priests and pilgrims on their way, for the salvation of the soul of my father, of my mother, and all my kindred, and for the salvation of the souls of all the benefactors of the hospital.’<sup>2</sup>

Bishop Pudsey granted and confirmed to the brethren of the hospital of Newcastle all the lands and tenures which had been reasonably given to them, or which in future with the pleasure of God they might be able to acquire.<sup>3</sup> Henry II., also, in a charter executed at Durham, which is evidently contemporary with that of the bishop, grants and confirms to God and to the church of St. Mary, and to the hospital of Newcastle, and to the brethren there serving God, lands and tenures in the same terms as those of the bishop’s charter.<sup>4</sup>

During the reign of Henry II. the hospital was appropriated in

<sup>1</sup> See also *Arch. Ael.* vii, p. 203.

<sup>2</sup> Bourne’s *History of Newcastle*, p. 30.

<sup>3</sup> Brand, vol. 1, p. 68.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

some unrecorded way to the nunnery of St. Bartholomew, and the king grants a later charter to the nuns, in which he confirms to them 'all the gifts which had reasonably been made to them : namely, the church of St. Bartholomew and the hospital of St. Mary.'

In the year 1290 'the bretheren of this hospital, in their petition to the king in parliament, setting forth, that the new town-wall of Newcastle had been built through the middle of their court-yard, leaving the greater part of their edifices on the outside thereof, obtained a patent for making a postern gate of communication to this house.'<sup>5</sup>

Various other royal charters of confirmation are recorded by Brand, as are also many benefactions of land and other properties, conditionally that the fraternity should pray for the souls of the donors and for those of their ancestors, and, in addition, in 1257, in the case of Julian, daughter of Agnes Blanch, that she should be supplied with a lodging whenever she visited Newcastle.<sup>6</sup>

It appears, also, 'that Geoffrey, son of Gerald of Whickham, and grandfather of Robert of Whickham, had given to this hospital, in pure and perpetual alms, a pound of pepper and a pound of cinnamon, payable out of his land at Whickham, on St. Cuthbert's day, in September, in every year ; and that the above Robert confirmed this donation, and charged it upon a capital message in that village for ever.'

'King Edward the Third, for the relief of St. Mary's Hospital, the possessions of which had been destroyed by various inroads of the Scots, granted a licence, dated at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, August 2d, 1334, to the fraternity of that house, to acquire lands, tenements, and rents to the yearly value of an hundred shillings, notwithstanding the statute of mortmain.'<sup>7</sup>

A bequest of two fothers of lead, to the reparation of this hospital, occurs in the will of Roger Thornton, dated A.D. 1429, one of Newcastle's greatest benefactors, and of whom Leland in his *Itinerary*<sup>8</sup> speaks as 'the great riche Marchante of *Newcastelle* in *Eduarde* the 4. Dayes, . . . . . *This Roger Thornton* was the richest Marchaunt that ever was dwelling in *Newcastelle*.'

About the end of the 14th century the possessions of the hospital

<sup>5</sup> Brand, p. 71.   <sup>6</sup> Bourne, p. 31.   <sup>7</sup> Brand, vol. 1, p. 72.   <sup>8</sup> Vol. 5, p. 144.

were large, and were dispersed over the counties of Northumberland and Durham.<sup>9</sup>

In 1535 the revenues were valued at £26 13s. 4d.

In 1599 the mastership of the Hospital and Grammar School seem to have been combined, and the school, previously conducted in a building at the north-east corner of St. Nicholas's churchyard, continued at the West Spittle.

On May 27th, 1611, the original charter, grants, and letters patent concerning the foundation, having been lost, the Hospital was founded anew by charter of James I., and decreed to consist of a master, who should, at least, be a Master of Arts, and of six unmarried poor old men.

The patronage seems to have been a disputed point. The bishop of Durham had elected the prior on various occasions, for, 'upon the death of William de Burnham, which happened August 9th, 1412,

<sup>9</sup> An inventory made A.D. 1444, although appearing in both Bourne and Brand will bear repetition here :—

Three *Chalices* gilded with Gold, one *intire Vestment* of Bloody Velvet, woven about with *Golden Fringe*, with one *Cap*, one *Casule*, three *Albs*, for the Principal *Festivals*.

Also one *Cap* of Cloth of Gold of red Colour, wrought with Golden Images, with one *Casule*, three *Albs*.

*Item*, One *Cap*, of a Black Colour, woven with *Dragons* and *Birds* in Gold.

*Item*, One *Single Vestment* wrought in with *Peacocks*, with a *Corporal* belonging to the same.

*Item*, Another *Single Vestment* for the Priest, only of White, border'd about with *Roses*, and with a *Corporal* belonging to it.

*Item*, another *Single Vestment* for the *Presbyter* of a Bloody Colour, with a *Corporal* belonging to the same.

*Item*, another *Vestment* for the *Presbyter* of Cloth of Gold.

*Item*, another *Vestment* of Cloth of Gold interwoven with *Leopards* and *Birds*.

*Item*, One *Hood* or *Cap*, one *Casule*, one *Alb*, with a *Stole*.

*Item*, One *Single Vestment*, for one *Priest* in the hands of *John Fitzberry*, the present Master.

*Item*, One *Single Vestment* for the Priest of *St. Nicholas*.

*Item*, One *Hood*.

*Item*, A Cover of Bloody Velvet for a *Sepulchre*.

*Item*, Two *Casules*, the middle Part of the *Casule* of white Colour.

Also one *Hood* of a red Colour for an Ornament to the *Altar* of *St. Nicholas*.

Also Two *Linen Cloaths* of a red Colour for the Side Ornament of the *Altar*.

Also One *Frontale* of *Sathan* of a Bloody Colour, woven with golden Images for the *Altar*.

*Item*, One *Quadragesimal Vale* of Linen Cloth of white Colour, with a red Cross below in the same.

*Item*, One *Table* set apart as an Ornament for the *Linen* of the *Altar*.

*Item*, One *Table* gilded, with the Image of the blessed *Virgin Mary*.

*Item*, Two *Tables* with the *Pax*, one of them gilded and beset with precious stones, &c.—Bourne, pp. 32, 33.

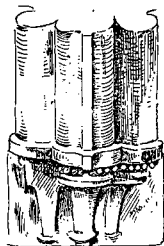
# Hospital of S. Mary the Virgin Newcastle upon Tyne.



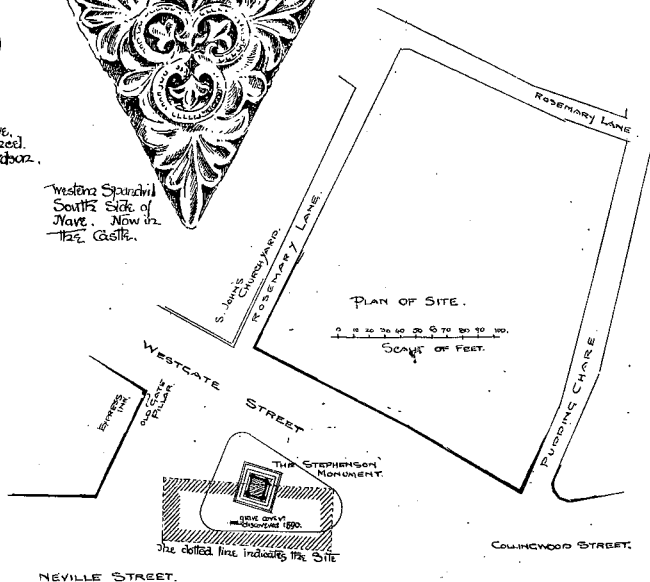
Springer from west ditch of Nave, or the South Side of Chancel, from a sketch by G. Richardson.



Western Spandrel South Side of Nave. Now in the Gable.

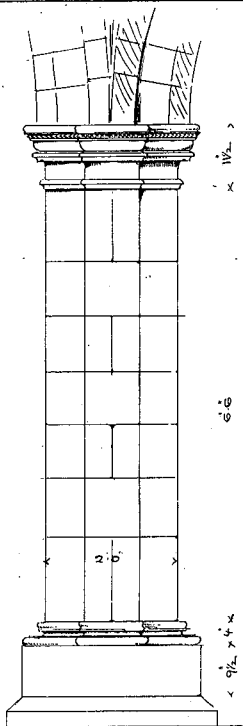


Bracket South Wall from a sketch by John Stovey.



W. H. Knowles Nov 1890.

WOOD MONUMENT HALL.  
SITE OF WESTMOONLAND HOUSE.



One of five piers row in the garden of the late John Dobson, New Bridge Street.



William Karlell, and Robert Lekynfeld, the then only surviving regular bretheren of this hospital, transferred their right to elect a new master, to Thomas Langley, then bishop of Durham.'

But on Nov. 29th, 1528, Roland Swinburne, A.M., was inducted to the mastership of this hospital, to which he had been presented by Edward Swinburn, mayor, and the commonality of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, the true patrons thereof.<sup>10</sup>

This contested question was settled January 26th, 1532, when, on an exemplification of a record of common pleas, it was adjudged to pertain to the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and not to the king.

Whatever may have been its original constitution, the fraternity is frequently in the reign of Edward the third, styled 'The Prior and bretheren,' and bishop Langley, in a citation (1416), 'the keeper or master, the canons, bretheren and sisters, presbyters and ministers of this house, and other persons dwelling in the said hospital.'

The great frequency of town's meetings within the hospital is very peculiar. It is, for instance, recorded that 'a full guild of the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne was held at the hospital of St. Mary, in Westgate, on the Friday before Valentine day, 1343, when several articles were sealed under the common seal of the Corporation of that place, and afterwards received the royal confirmation,' and the election of mayor and officers of the town took place in the hospital from a very early period till within living memory.

In the year 1844, the only remaining portions of this hospital, then used as a grammar school, were swept away. We can only, there-

<sup>10</sup> The following entries are from the Corporation Accounts, as printed in M. A. Richardson's *Imprints and Reprints*, vol. iii., Historical, pp. 29, 30, October, 1593:—

Paide for gease to the Spittle on Micklemas Monedaie last, att the lection, gevinge att dynner, 36s. 8d.

Paide for peres to Mr. Majore and his bretheren att the lection, 10s.

Paide for carbes and rushes which strawde the chapelle, 2s.

Paide for wine spent by Mr. Roger Rawe, maiore, and the auditors, one Micklemas Moundaie mornynge, 12s.

Paide for aile to the West Spittle when Mr. Maior and other officers tooke their othes, 16d.

Paide for a glass for Mr. Maior to drinke in, 4d.

Paid for 2 band ropes, one to the common bell, and a nother to the 8 a'clocke bell, 3s. 4d. a piece,—6s. 8d.

P. 37, October, 1594:—Paide to Thomas Dalton, for two table napkins which was loste in the West Spittle at dynner, at 2s. 8d.

P. 41, October, 1595:—Paide for gease for the West Spittle one Micklemas Mundaie laste, and for other cheare provided by George Baker, 40s.

fore, recall the extent and appearance of the building by reference to plans, engravings, drawings, and the structural fragments preserved in our Castle and elsewhere.

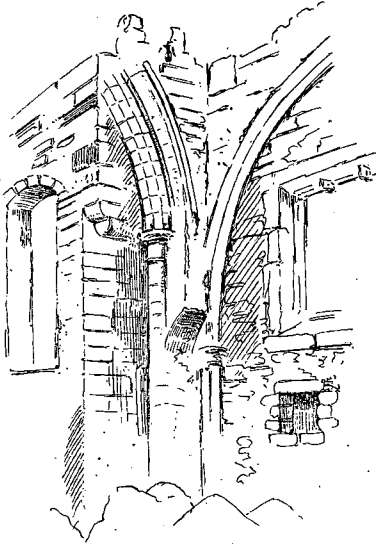
The various plans of Corbridge, Hutton, Beilby, etc., show at the West Spittle the position of the chapel (fortunately also indicated on the Ordnance map of 1862, and shown to occupy the site of the present Stephenson's monument), together with domestic buildings to the south, parallel with and at right angles to the nave, and coinciding with the west front.

In Brand's engraving, which is dated 1787, we have a view of the south side, showing the nave arcade, three bays of which are built up, and having three light square-headed Elizabethan windows, whilst the fourth or west bay is hidden by a projecting porch of two storeys. Corbels to support the timbers of the aisle roofs are indicated, and on the left a range of domestic buildings is shown, occupying the position of the west side of a quadrangle, the east side of which is enclosed by a high wall, joining the chapel in a line with the east wall of the nave. Above the wall appears the parapet of the chancel.

In the etching of T. M. Richardson, sen., we have a view of some picturesque houses abutting on Westgate Street, including the pillar of the entrance gate, which is still standing, at the corner of the building known as the 'Express Inn.' Between the pillars a view of the north side of the third and fourth bays of the nave is obtained, the latter bay having a small porch in front.

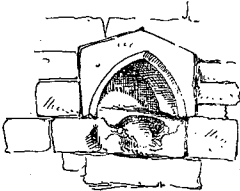
In the lithograph, after a drawing by John Storey made in 1844, we have the best indication of the appearance of the chapel. The view is from the S.E. and shows an aisleless chancel with an exceedingly beautiful five-light window with flowing tracery. This window is in the east gable, which is of low pitch, with flanking buttresses having double offsets. On the south side of the chancel are two Decorated windows, filled with wooden sashes. Between them is a group of openings enclosed by the drip course of a gabled roof belonging to a building which previously stood at right angles. The parapet comprises a moulded coping with chamfered oversailing course below. Of the nave, the same features are to be seen as in Brand, with the addition of a short buttress on the east side of the east wall to withstand the thrust of the south nave arcade after the removal of the previous chancel.

Hospital of  
S. Mary the  
Virgin  
Newcastle-upon-  
Tyne.

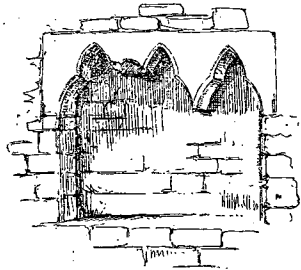


Rough Sketches by C.B.  
Richardson made 1843-4  
[during the demolition]  
drawn in fac-simile  
by W.H. Knowles

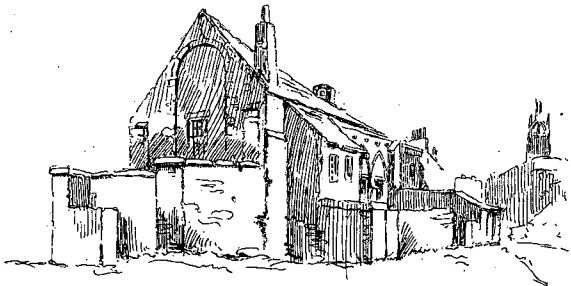
South Side of Chancel Arch.



Piscina



Sedilia



West End.





Mr. Rowell, of Blckett street, possesses a water-colour drawing of the interior, made by John Storey, during its demolition. This drawing confirms and adds to our information.

Among the rough pencil sketches in the Society's possession, by G. B. Richardson, John Storey, and Ewbank, a south-west view of the nave is given, showing a large built-up opening on the west gable and flat buttresses of early character.

A sketch of the south jamb of the chancel arch supplies evidence that the Decorated chancel shown in Storey's drawing supplanted an earlier and wider chancel, the south wall of the Decorated chancel with over-sailing courses, fitting the early English chancel arch of greater width, very awkwardly. A Decorated window in the chancel, and an Elizabethan one in the nave, are shown, together with an aumbry below the latter.

The fragment of the so-called 'bracket,' with three clustered shafts, by John Storey, and the drawing of a so-called 'springer from the next arch of nave on the south side of chancel,' by Richardson, are doubtless of the respond, being of the same period as the nave piers.

Sketches of the triple sedilia and of a piscina are among this miscellaneous collection of sketches.

Of the structural remains those of the stone octagonal shaft, with capital and base, including springing stones of arcade arches, which I have drawn to scale, are the most valuable. There are two of these now standing in the garden of the late John Dobson. They are of excellent character. The mouldings with nail-head ornament indicate the date of the work as about A.D. 1200.

Two triangular-shaped stones which filled the spandrils immediately above the piers at the springing of the arcade arches are now in the Castle. I give a drawing of one of them. It is of good floreated design enclosing a sunk trefoil, ornamented with the nail head.

Of sepulchral remains found on the site of St. Mary's, the Society now possesses one stone coffin, and six grave covers, inclusive of that recently discovered.

The coffin is in a single block of stone the sides of which taper. It is hollowed for the reception of the corpse, with a cavity at the

upper end for the head, and may date between the 12th and 15th centuries.<sup>11</sup>

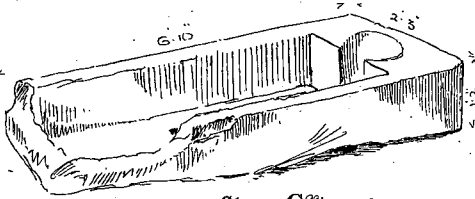
The decoration of the whole of the grave covers is merely by incised lines. I have given the dimensions on the drawings, and, taking the earliest examples first will briefly describe them.

No. I., late 12th century—in two pieces. The stem of the cross passes up the centre of the cover, springing from a trefoiled mound and terminating in a plain Latin cross enclosed in a circle. There is a sword on the sinister side, denoting a man, and a trade symbol, apparently a slaying or fleshing knife, on the dexter side.

No. II., late 13th century. This is only a fragment of a cover of a priest's grave. The symbols are the chalice, paten, and wafer. The two former are often met with, but the latter, in conjunction with them, is unusual.

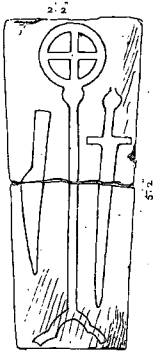
No. III., 14th century. This is the grave cover discovered in September of this year, and is far superior to any of the others. It was found lying face upwards, about three feet below the surface, at the point shown on the plan near Stephenson's monument, and consequently occupied a position within the walls of the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin. A skeleton was found immediately below the cover, indicating that the grave had never been disturbed. Portions of other skeletons were found in close proximity. Of the decoration, the mound of double steps is particularly good, and is very uncommon. The stem of the cross rises from it, and, like the arms, has floreated terminations. The arms also bifurcate and return in semicircles, finishing with a triplet of vine leaves beautifully composed. The emblem on the dexter side appears to resemble most a pastoral staff. There can be no doubt that in the position in which this grave cover was found it served the purpose of a grave stone for the second time. The face of the stone has been

<sup>11</sup> Mr. John Ventress, in a note to the Newcastle *Guardian*, May 15th, 1852, says, 'On Wednesday, whilst some workmen employed by the Whittle Dean Water Company were excavating in the Spital, on the site of Mary Magdalen's Hospital [Virgin Mary Hospital], they came to a stone coffin, about three feet from the surface, laid upon two stone sleepers about five inches square. \* \* \* In addition to human bones, a copper coin [Scotch Bodie] was found inside. \* \* \* A monumental slab was near it, which had probably been laid down in the pavement of the building [the fragment No. VI. on drawings]. The coffin is now deposited in the Antiquarian Museum at the Castle.'

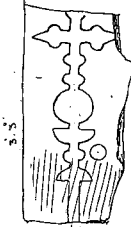


Stone Coffin. found 1852.

Note. The whole of these stones are now in the Castle.

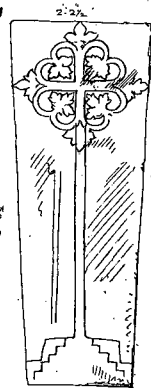


No I. late 12<sup>th</sup> century.

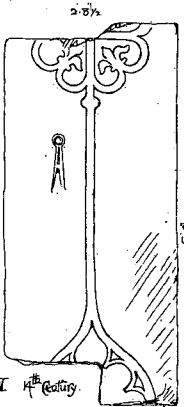


No II. late 13<sup>th</sup> century.

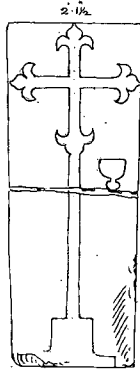
Note. No III is the Cover found Sept. 1890.



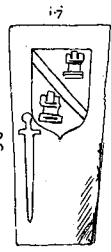
No III. 14<sup>th</sup> century.



No IV. 14<sup>th</sup> century.



No V. circa 1400.



[found 1852]

No VI. 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Hospital of S Mary the Virgin.  
Newcastle-upon-Tyne  
Sepulchral Remains.

W. H. Knowles. Nov. 1890.

J. Akerman. Photo lith. London.



roughly tooled over, especially on the part occupied by the symbol, plainly with the object of obliterating it. The attempt to do this had been abandoned before it was perfectly accomplished. The stone is in fact a palimpsest.<sup>11</sup>

No. IV., 14th century. Imperfect, rectangular in shape, but possessing a particularly fine base. The shaft springs from a beautiful ogee arch enclosing a cinque-foiled space. The arms bifurcate, and have *fleur de lis* terminations. The lines throughout are pure and good. The scissors on the dexter side intimate that the deceased was a female.

No. V.—*Circa* 1400. In two fragments. Stepped mound, and shaft (with chalice on sinister side) supporting cross patonce. It is probably the grave cover of a priest.

No. VI.—After 1400. Without cross, having at the top a shield of late Perpendicular character, with bend between two castles with triple turrets. A sword on the dexter side. The deceased was a male.

Although few in number these covers show a pleasing variety in design.

Neither in the illustrations nor in the stone fragments remaining do we see work of the period of the foundation of this hospital. It may be that the chancel superseded by the Decorated one belonged to that date.

The chapel as we find it depicted in drawings and engravings, and illustrated by existing remains, was of two dates, a nave built about 1200, and a chancel (narrower than its predecessor) built about 1340. The chancel possessed a beautiful five-light east window, set in a low gable, with flanking buttress. In the south wall were two windows, and in the north wall three, all having flat arches of characteristic Newcastle form. There was a parapet at the eaves, and the indication of a vestry or other building on the south side. In the interior, triple sedilia of earlier date existed on the south side. The position of the early piscina cannot be ascertained. The nave had north and south aisles and was four bays in length. The arcade was carried by octagonal shafts, with moulded capitals and bases, and with square

<sup>11</sup> The Society's thanks are due to Messrs. Tyrie & Graham, the contractors, who readily consented to present it to the Society, notwithstanding the opinion of one of their workmen who considered whilst the stone was *in situ*, "that it was a thunorin' big styen 'at wad myek twa gran' steps, if he'd oney had a darrick to get it oot!"

chamfered plinths. The arches were of two chamfered orders with richly carved spandrils, as previously mentioned. The arch of the east bay sprang from a respond of three clustered shafts, with moulded capitals under octagonal abaci. The chancel arch was of the same period, and was of three chamfered orders with hood moulding. There was no clerestory, the roof of the nave being continued in an unbroken pitch over the aisles. The west end (see Richardson's small drawing) had flat buttresses at both angles. The large built-up opening does not supply details for comment.

The above descriptions are sufficient to indicate the loss we have sustained in the removal of this particularly good example of medieval work. It possessed details unequalled by any of our old Newcastle churches, which are unusually destitute of fine design and detail.

#### A P P E N D I X .

The Rev. Anchor Thompson, the master of the Hospital, has supplied the copies of the documents in his possession from which the following have been printed. Mr. C. J. Bates has collated them with the originals.

I.—H. Dei gratia Dunelmensis episcopus. Omnibus hominibus totius episcopatus sui clericis et laicis . Francis et Anglis salutem. Sciatis nos concessisse et presenti carta confirmasse . fratribus de Hospitali de Novo castello . omnes terras et tenuras que eis rationabiliter date sint . vel quas in futuro deo iuvante poterunt adipisci. Quare volumus et precipimus quod predicti fratres de prescripto hospitali habeant et teneant omnes terras suas et tenuras . et elemosinas . pacifice . quiete et . integre cum omnibus libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus et quietantiis suis . sicut carte sue quas inde habent testantur. Testibus Willelmo Archidiacono . Simone camerario . Magistro Ricardo de Coldingham . Magistro Willelmo Blesen. Willelmo filio Archiepiscopi . Willelmo de Houed. Ricardo capellano de Novo castello . Magistro Waltero capellano Episcopi . Magistro Hamone . Willelmo elemosinario . et aliis pluribus.

II.—Sciatis omnes presentes et futuri quod ego Adam de Neusum concessi et presenti carta mea confirmavi deo et beate Marie et fratribus hospitalis sancte Marie de Novo Castro in Westgate totam terram quam ipsi tenent in villa de Neusum cum omnibus pertinenciis suis in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam. Et sciendum quod ego remisi eis et quietum clamavi redditum tredecim denariorum quos ipsi solebant reddere mihi annuatim pro firma predictae terre pro salute anime mee et uxoris mee Eve et antecessorum et heredum meorum. Hiis testibus Waltero Grafard . Ricardo de Hereford Willelmo de Stikelawe. Johanne Maudut . Rogero de Haliwell . Simone de Waltedden . Petro Scotto et multis aliis.

III.—Omnibus sancte matris ecclesie filiis · tam futuris quam presentibus · Gerardus procurator hospitalis dei et sancte marie virginis de Novo Castello apud Westgate et · fratres eiusdem loci salutem. Sciatis nos dedisse et concessisse · et hac carta nostra confirmasse · Udardo filio Ricardi de pylegrimestrete et heredibus eius illam terram quam Johannes pelliparius dedit predicto hospitali et fratribus eiusdem domus in puram et perpetuam elemosinam · habendam et tenendam de prenominato hospitali et nobis ille et heredes eius Reddendo annuatim prenominato hospitali v<sup>q</sup> sol · scilicet ij sol · et dimidium ad pascha · et ij sol et dimid. ad festum sancti Michaelis sicut pro hoc tenemento dedit nobis predictus Udardus In Gersuma ij taleta. Hiis Testibus Hugone clerico · Roberto Brieni · Petro Brieni · Nichol. Scot. Daniele · Malgero clerico · Willelmo filio Rogeri · Hugone Haconis · Reginaldo filio leswyni · Simone filio uchtredi · Elia filio thoraldi · Guntero · et Multis Aliis.

IV.—Sciunt omnes filii sancte matris ecclesie tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Gerardus procurator hospitalis dei et sancte marie virginis de novo castello et fratres eiusdem loci dimissimus et concessimus perpetue Roberto cappellano de Bingefeldthune et cui assignare voluerit: duas acras terre et toftum quas Godefridus dominus de Bingefeld dedit deo et predicto hospitali sancte marie in liberam et puram et perpetuam elemosinam pro anima sua · et pro animabus predecessorum suorum · habendas et tenendas de nobis adeo libere et quiete sicut predictus godefridus liberius et quietius dedit eas deo et predicto hospitali · Reddendo annuatim præfato hospitali · xii d. videlicet ad pentecosten, vi d. et ad festum sancti Martini vi d. Hiis testibus Radulfo cappellano · Toma cappellano de hospitali · Jurdano cappellano sancti iohannis · Hugone clerico · Johanne de Vilers · Malgero clerico · Johanne filio eius · Daniele · Ricardo de arderne · Willelmo fratre eius et multis aliis.

V.—Omnibus hoc scriptum visuris vel auditoris Robertus filius Galfridi de quicham salutem in domino · Sciatis quod cum Willelmus filius Gerardi de quicham avus meus dedisset et concessisset pro salute anime sue et antecessorum et successorum suorum · deo et magistro et fratribus Hospitalis beate marie del Westgat in Novo Castro super Tynam unam libram piperis et unam libram cynimi in puram et perpetuam elemosinam percipiendas singulis annis in festo sancti Cuthberti in Septembr. de omnibus terris suis in quicham · Ego Robertus dictas concessionem et donationem ratas habens et gratas eas inperpetuum pro me et heredibus meis predictis magistro et fratribus inperpetuum confirmo per presentes · quare volo et concedo quod magister et fratres et eorum successores predicti hospitalis habeant et percipiant predictas duas libras piperis et cynimi de me et heredibus meis in capitali mesuagio meo in quicham in festo sancti Cuthberti prædicto. inperpetuum · In cuius rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui · Hiis testibus domino Johanne Marmeduck · Willelmo de ffarneakres · Alexandro de Trifford · Gilberto Gategang et Johanne fratre eius · Johanne de Birteley · Johanne de Kyblesworth · Thoma de Yel'ton Willelmo de Redhow · Gilberto filio eius et multis aliis.



VI.—Ricardus dei gra. Dunelm. Epus. omnibus ad quos presentes litere pervenerint salutem in domino. Noveritis nos inspexisse cartam bone memorie domini H. dudum Dunelm. Episcopi predecessoris nostri in hec verba H. dei gratia &c &c &c. Nos igitur concessionem et confirmationem predictas ratas habentes eas auctoritate pontificali ex certa scientia confirmamus. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus est appensum. Dat. apud Gatesheved octavo die mensis Januarii Anno domini millesimo Trescentesimo Tricesimo Quinto Et consecrationis nostre secundo. [8-Jan., 1336.]

VII.—Universis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Johanna que fuit uxor Nicholai de Ellirker de Novo Castro super Tynam salutem in domino sempiternam. Noveritis me in mea viduitate et legitima potestate remississe resignasse relaxasse et omnino imperpetuum quietumclamasse magistro et fratribus hospitalis beate marie virginis de predicta villa Novi Castri in le Westgate totum ius et clamium quod unquam habui vel habeo seu ego aut heredes mei imposterum quoquo modo habere poterimus in omnibus terris et tenementis cum pertinenciis quæ me contingebant nomine dotis post mortem predicti Nicholai nuper viri mei in predicta villa Novi Castri et que iidem magister et fratres habuerunt ex dono et concessione eiusdem Nicholai infra villam Novi Castri predictam. Ita videlicet quod nec ego Johanna nec aliquis nomine meo in predictis terris et tenementis cum pertinenciis seu redditibus aliquid iuris vel clamii occasione predicta versus predictos magistrum et fratres aut eorum successores decetero exigere seu venditare poterò quocunque iure vel titulo in futurum sed ab omni iure et exactione amodo sim exclusa imperpetuum. In cuius rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus Ricardo de Galoway tunc maiore dicte ville Novi Castri Willelmo de Acton Johanne Wodeman Thoma ffemyng Roberto de Penreth ballivis eiusdem ville. Dat. apud villam Novi Castri predictam die Jovis proxima ante festum sancti Petri in Cathedra Anno domini millesimo Tricentesimo quatragesimo tercio. [19 Feb., 1344.]

VIII.—Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Gilbertus Paulmer dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi magistro et fratribus hospitalis beate marie virginis del Westgate de Novo Castro super Tynam unum mesuagium et decem acras terre cum pertinenciis in villa et territoria de Newebiggynge super moram que habui ex dono et concessione Ricardi Paulmer avunculi mei habendas et tenendas predictis magistro et fratribus et eorum successoribus libere quiete integre bene et in pace imperpetuum. Et ego Gilbertus et Heredes mei predictum mesuagium et decem acras terre predictas cum omnibus suis pertinenciis predicto magistro fratribus et eorum successoribus contra omnes gentes Warantizabimus et defendemus imperpetuum. In cuius rei testimonium presenti carte mee sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus Roberto de Raymes tunc viceomite Northumbrie Roberto de ffenwyk Johanne de Deveiesdon Johanne de Whitchestre Ricardo Scot Gilberto Scot et aliis Dat. apud Newbyggynge super moram die Sabbati proxima post festum sancti Valentini Anno regni Regis Edwardi tercii a conquestu vicesimo secundo et Anno Domini millesimo c<sup>o</sup>c<sup>o</sup> xl<sup>o</sup> vij<sup>o</sup>. [16 Feb., 1348.]

Anno 41 E.3: pars 2, m 11.

IX.—Rex omnibus ad quos etc salutem. Sciatis quod cum nuper concesserimus et licenciam dederimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis fuit Johanni filio et heredi Alani Pulhore de Novo Castro super Tynam quod ipse centum solidat. redditus cum pertin. exeuntes de tribus mesuagiis que fuerunt eiusdem Alani in dicta villa Novi Castri que tenentur de nobis in burgagium per servicium sex denariorum per annum pro omni servicio sicut per inquisitionem inde factam et in Cancellaria nostra retornata est compertum cui quidem Alano prius licenciam dedimus easdem centum solidat. redditus dandi et assignandi cuidam capellano divina pro animabus ipsius Alani et aliorum in dicta licencia contentorum et omnium fidelium defunctorum in ecclesia omnium Sanctorum dicte ville Novi Castri singulis diebus celebraturo ad prosecutionem predicti Johannis nobis suggerentis dictum Alanum patrem suum dum vixit licenciam nostram predictam complere non potuisse dare posset et assignare cuidam capellano divina pro anima ipsius Johannis et aliis animabus predictis singulis diebus celebraturo imperpetuum prout in diversis literis nostris patentibus inde confectis plenius continetur ac iam ex parte Willelmi de Norton magistri hospitalis beate Marie in le Westgate in dicta villa de Novo Castro et fratrum eiusdem hospitalis nobis sit supplicatum ut cum predictus Johannes virtute licencie nostre predictae sibi inde facte dictas centum solidat. redditus predictis magistro et fratribus ad inveniendum unum capellanum divina in ecclesia dicti hospitalis pro animabus predictis celebraturum dedisset et assignasset et idem Magister pretextu donacionis et assignacionis predictarum de dictis centum solidatis redditus diu seisitus fuisset quousque dicta mesuagia ita debilia pro defectu tenencium devenerunt quod redditus predictus de eisdem levare non potuit per quod predictus Johannes videns debilitatem dictorum mesuagiorum nolensque cantariam predictam si aliquo modo manuteneri posset deficere per cartam suam loco predictar. centum solid. redditus dedit et assignavit prefatis magistro et fratribus dicta tria mesuagia per ipsos reparanda et manutenenda pro sustentatione cantarie supradicte in forma predicta. Sicque predicti magister et fratres eadem tria mesuagia cum pertin. hactenus tenuerunt et teneant in presenti licencia nostra super hoc non optenta velimus transgressum et forisfacturam si que fuerint in premissis graciose perdonare. Nos ad premissa considerationem habentes ac volentes proinde et pro decem libris quas predictus magister nobis solvet eisdem magistro et fratribus gratiam facere specialem perdonavimus omnes transgressus et forisfacturam predictas et quicquid ad nos pertinet in hac parte volentes et concedentes pro nobis et heredibus nostris predictis magistro et fratribus quod ipsi predicta tria mesuagia cum pertinenciis in recompensationem dictarum centum solidatarum redditus annuarii habeant et teneant sibi et successoribus suis ad inveniendum capellanum predictum divina pro animabus predictis in ecclesia hospitalis predicti celebraturum sicut predictum est. Sine occasione vel impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum Justiciariorum Escaetorum Vicecomitum aut aliorum Ballivorum seu Ministrorum nostrorum quorumcumque imperpetuum. Statuto de terris. et tenementis ad manum mortuam

non ponendis edito non obstante · Salvis nobis et heredibus nostris et aliis capitalibus dominis feodi illius serviciis inde debitis et consuetis In cuius etc. Teste R apud Westmonasterium quarto die Novembris. [4 Nov., 1367.]

Per ipsum Regem et consilium.

Annexed is the following letter :—

M<sup>r</sup> Stockdale M<sup>r</sup> Robson p . . . . . [Torn.] . . . . .  
 I see 3 rolles concerning . . . . .  
 Hospital of St Marye in Newcastle, amongst which I thought this the most materiall for that busines y<sup>w</sup> may peruse it and see the purporte and meaning theirow whether it be for your purpose or noe The paynes he tooke was quicke and ready at hand upon xij d. for his paymt. and ij s. vi d. for his paines in copping of this for y<sup>w</sup> to peruse you may have them all yf y<sup>w</sup> will yf y<sup>w</sup> thinke this to be to any purpose for the coppie onely, but yf it seem to do yo<sup>w</sup> any gode and to have approbacon upon record yt will cost xx s. to have the m<sup>r</sup> of the office his hand to the same This is alle for this tyme wishing you a happey journey and a safe returne.

Your faithfull and loving freind

BRYAN SHARPE

Tower this ii day of Aug<sup>t</sup> 1623

The Hospital copy of the above document, which is in the Record Office, Patent Roll of 41 Ed. III. part 2, m. 11., was therefore made in the reign of James I.

X.—A Grant from Robert de Mordon Master . . . . . and his 'confratres' to John de Beverlaye of land in Newcastle 'in vico omnium sanctorum' for a yearly rent of 4<sup>s</sup> . . . . . uni parti huius scripti indentati . . . . . sigill. com. dci hosp. apposimus . . . . . testibus Johē del Chambre tunc maiore ville N.C. . . . . and others. Dated Newcastle, 10 Feb. 1371.

[Damaged.]

XI.—Grant fr. 'William de Burnham prior ac magr h. BMV in Le Westgate in v. N.C. et eiusdem loci Confratres'

'Johi Whyte Draper et burgensi' of 'mesuagium nrm cum tribus schoppis in fronte eiusdem mesuagii iacens ante magnam portam castrī in dcta v. N.C.'  
 at a rent of 37<sup>s</sup> argenti

T. Roberto de Chirden tunc maiore d. v. N.C., Roberto Gabifore tunc vic.

Dat apud d. v. N.C. in domo nra capitulari in festo purificationis B.M.V. A.D. 1401

XII.—Grant from John Colman to Richd. de Dalton of 'Duo tenementa insimul iacentia in villa N.C. s. T. in vico vocato Alhalowgate ex parte boreali ecclie omnium scorum ex parte orientali cimiterii ejusdem ecclie per suas antiquas metas et bundas quorum unum est columbare et tenetur de Westspittel pro quatuor solidis de feod' firma' et aliud tentum nunc est vastatum et tenet de dicto Westspittel pro duodecim denariis. . . . . In cui<sup>s</sup> rei testimon' huic presenti

carte mee sigillum meum apposui et sigillum officii maioratus d. v. N.C. presentibus apponi procuravi. T. Robertó de Hibern tunc maiore Willelmo de Midelton tunc vicecomite d. v. N.C.' A.D. 1415.

XIII.—Grant from Robertus Davell Master (no brethren) to Thomas Heppell of a tenement in Denton Chare :—‘Habendum et tenendum, . . . . de capitalibus dominis feodi illius pro servitia inde debita et de iure consueta in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim mihi praefato et successoribus meis novem solidos legalis monete anglie. . . . In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti scripto meo sigillum meum apposui. Dat. 1<sup>o</sup> Jan. anno regni regis Henrici octavi vicesimo quinto.’ A.D. 1534.

## XXII.—MEMORIAL BRASS IN CONISCLIFFE CHURCH.

THIS brass, omitted from Mr. Waller's list<sup>1</sup> as its exact whereabouts could not be made out, was for many years in bishop-Cosin's library at Durham. How it got there is not known. Three or four years ago it was taken thence by the Rev. J. T. Fowler, with the consent of the trustees, back to Coniscliffe church, where it was fastened down, in Mr. Fowler's presence, in its proper matrix, as was evident from the exact fit of margin and pin-holes. The following is the reading of it :—

Drate p̄ aīa Willm̄ Berwys quondm̄ haliui de Concliff  
q̄ obijt decimo die Novēbr̄ A° dñi M° lxxix° tra dñicalis . h.

A brass in Brancepeth church was in the same way removed from its matrix many years ago, and was by accident fortunately discovered by a collector who was searching for objects of antiquarian interest amongst the old shops in Wardour street. He at once bought and replaced his find in the church, where it now is; and long may it remain! It is the second brass described under Brancepeth, in Mr. Waller's 'Some Memorial Brasses in the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.'<sup>2</sup>

So again a shield of great interest was found a few years ago in Durham by Mr. Fowler, and restored to its matrix in a stone at Staindrop church.

<sup>1</sup> See pages 76-82.

<sup>2</sup> Page 83.