

REPRODUCED FROM SPEED'S MAP OF NEWCASTLE OF 1610.

(The block kindly lent by the Editor of the Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.)

IX.—THE SIX NEWCASTLE CHARES DESTROYED BY THE FIRE OF 1854.

By F. W. DENDY, a Member of the Council.

[Read on the 29th April, 1896.]

PRIOR to the occurrence of the great fire of 1854, twenty chares or lanes led up from the Quayside of Newcastle to Butcher bank, Dog bank, and Pandon, between the Sandhill and Sandgate.

As Mr. Boyle has pointed out,¹ and as may be clearly seen by referring to any of the old maps of the town, from Speed's map of 1610 (see reproduction of this opposite, plate XXIX.), to that of Oliver in 1831^{1a}, the westernmost chares, lying within the original boundary of the town of Newcastle, between the Sandhill and Broad chare, differ in arrangement from the easternmost chares, lying within the ancient hamlet of Pandon, between Broad chare and Sandgate.

The old Newcastle chares are straight or nearly straight, parallel or nearly parallel with each other, and of an approximately regular width. They were probably built under a stronger system of local government than then existed in Pandon, and they appear to have been formed before Pandon was added to Newcastle in 1299.

They resemble closely the rows leading to the Quay at Great Yarmouth, which were built at an equally early date. The Yarmouth rows are still more straight and regular than the Newcastle Quayside chares. The photographs of Yarmouth rows, which I produce, show the resemblance of which I speak.

The fire of 1854 is not ancient history. Many of those who are now present saw its flames and heard the explosion which hurled the burning matter over the river from the Gateshead side, and so set on fire the houses standing on Newcastle quay. Full accounts of the occurrence have been published, and one, and, perhaps the best of such accounts, is contained in the *Newcastle Monthly Chronicle* for December, 1888.²

¹ *Vestiges of Old Newcastle and Gateshead*, p. 181.

^{1a} The reproduction on p. 243 is from Wood's plan of 1827.

² *Newcastle Monthly Chronicle* for 1888, p. 549. See also *An Account of the Great Fire and Explosion*, etc., with a plan of that part of the town destroyed,

Among the minor effects of the force of the explosion, was the bending of the bar which fastened the door at the entrance to the great hall of the castle. This shortened the reach of the bar so that it could not be fixed into the original socket. It was found easier to drive in another temporary staple than to unbend the bar. That temporary staple and the bent bar are still in use, and bear witness that even the strongest building in the town felt the violence of the shock.

The fire made its way from the Quayside through four of the chares as far as the Butcher bank. A large block of closely built warehouses and buildings lying between Butcher bank on the north, the Quayside on the south, Dark chare on the west, and Plummer chare on the east, was burnt to the ground, and several houses on the Quayside to the eastward of Plummer chare were also destroyed.

The corporation of Newcastle took advantage of the opportunity which was then offered for making new streets and improvements on that part of the area cleared by the fire, which lay between the two chares above-mentioned. An act authorising them to do this and to purchase the property required for the purpose was passed in 1855.³ Three new streets, now known as Lombard street, Queen street, and King street, were laid out by Mr. John Dobson, the architect for the corporation, and in June, 1856, the sites adjoining those streets were advertized to be offered by auction; and handsome new stone buildings, principally used as offices, have since been erected on the sites.

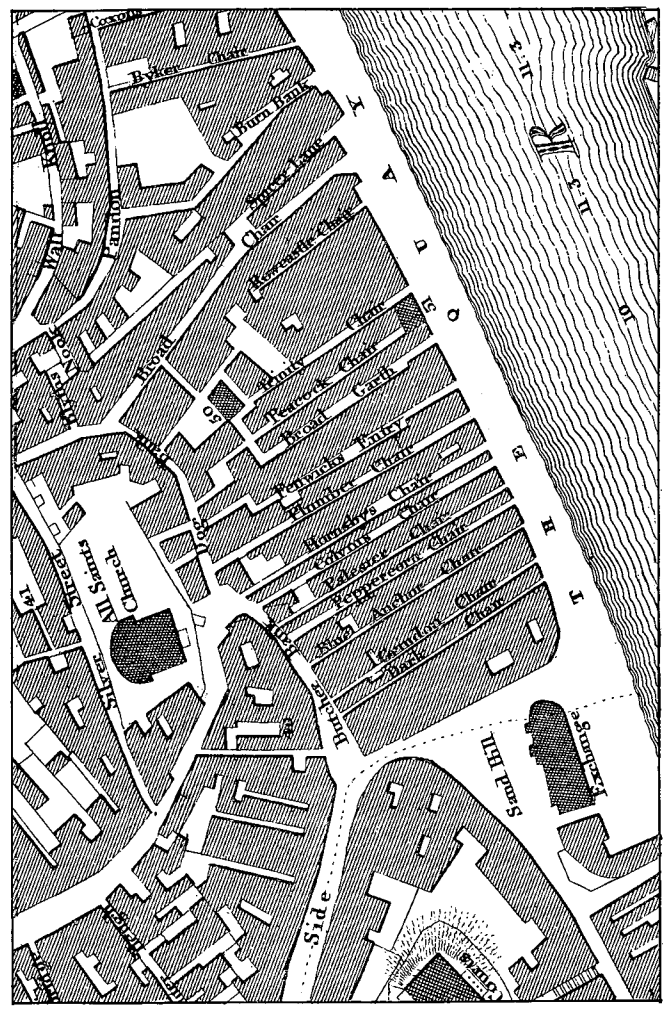
The making of these new streets, effaced from the map of Newcastle six chares, lying between Dark chare and Plummer chare, namely Grindon chare, Blue Anchor chare, Peppercorn chare, Pallister's chare, Colvin's chare, and Hornsby's chare.

The old title deeds of the houses formerly situated in those chares passed from their various owners to the corporation, and from the corporation to Mr. Ralph Walters. The history of his purchase of the sites is fully narrated in the memoir of his life contained in Mr.

published by Lambert, Newcastle, 1854; and *A Record of the Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead* by J. R. (James Rewcastle), published by George Routledge & Co., 1855.

³ The Newcastle-upon-Tyne Improvement Act, 1855, (18 & 19 Vic. cap. XCIX).

Welford's *Men of Mark*.⁴ By the kindness of Mr. Thomas George Gibson, his successor in title, I have been permitted to inspect the early deeds which Mr. Walters thus acquired.



They throw considerable light on the varying nomenclature of the chares, and add a little to our knowledge of the connections and belongings of some of the Newcastle merchants who held property there in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

⁴ Vol. iii. p. 563.

All the historians of Newcastle who have described its chares mention that their names have varied from time to time. It is stated that the names by which some of them were known were derived from the persons who lived in them, but it was more generally some person who lived or had lived at the Quayside entrance to the chare whose name was bestowed upon it.

Bourne⁵ and Brand⁶ mention the names of several chares which they have been unable to identify on account of this varying nomenclature. Two or three of these are now identified by the names given to them in the title deeds of properties abutting on them. The lists of names given to the chares in Bourne's map⁷ and Brand's history served to fix the nomenclature which then existed, and it did not vary after their time.

Of late years a list of more ancient names of some of the chares has been discovered in Gray's manuscript additions to the copy of his *Chorographia* belonging to Lord Northbourne, and these more ancient names also correspond with names given in the deeds.

I have therefore thought it worth while to make a comparative list of the names in Brand's history, Bourne's map, Gray's manuscript, and the deeds I have inspected, and I have comprised in that list the westernmost chare, called Dark chare, which was not obliterated after the fire, but still exists in its original position. The list is given on the opposite page.

Russell's chare and Roskel chare are mentioned in a record of 20th January, 1336, set out in Mr. Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*.⁸ Grindon chare may have been so named after Thomas Grindon, who was bailiff of Newcastle from 1388 to 1396. It is mentioned by that name in 1394.⁹ Walter Grendon was prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in 1404.¹⁰ There is a tradition that the knights of that order had a chapel in Grindon chare,¹¹ and an illustration of the building which is supposed to have been the

⁵ Bourne's *History of Newcastle*, p. 133.

⁶ Brand's *History of Newcastle*, i. p. 22.

⁷ Bourne's map dated 1736 was simply copied from Corbridge's map dated 1723.

⁸ Vol. i. pp. 95 and 96.

⁹ Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, i. 217.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 238.

¹¹ Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, ii. 198.

LIST OF CHARES.

| Brand's History, 1789. | Bourne's Map, 1736. | Gray's Manuscript, <i>circa</i> 1649. | Mr. Gibson's Title Deeds. |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. The Dark chare ... | The Dark chare | Not mentioned ... | Bottle chare. Dark chare. |
| 2. Grinding chare ... | Granden chare ... | Grunden chaire... | Russell's chare. ¹² Grunden chare. Grunden chare. |
| 3. Blew Anchor chare | Blew Anker chare ¹³ | Not mentioned ... | Rode's chare. ¹⁴ Robinson's chare. Harrison's chare. Blue Anchor chare. |
| 4. Peppercorn chare | Peppercorn chare | Collman chaire... | Norham chare. ¹⁵ Norran's lane. Coalman's chare. Coalman chare. Coleman Pepper chare. Pepper lane. Pepper Colman chare. |
| 5. Palester's chare ... | Palester chare ... | Hayward's chaire | Peppercorn chare. Howarth's chare. Hawarth's chare. Hayworth's chare. ¹⁶ Black Boy chare. Errington chare. |
| 6. Colwin's chare ... | Colvin's chare ... | Shipman chaire | Pallister's chare. ¹⁷ Shipman's chare. Elmer's chare, with many slight variations. ¹⁸ Crome's chare. Armorer's chare. ¹⁹ Colvin's chare. |
| 7. Hornsby's chare, <i>alias</i> Maryon House lane. | Hornby chare ... | Hornby chaire ... | Hornsby's chare. |

¹² Cf. Brand's unidentified Roskel's chare, *temp.* Edward III.

¹³ The 'anker' was a measure for liquids. 'Monday, arrived at Leith the 'True Briton' of Folkstone, from Ostend, with about 200 ankers of brandy and gin.'—The *Newcastle Chronicle* for 20th December, 1783. There is a Blue Anchor Inn on the south bank of the Thames below Gravesend.

¹⁴ Cf. Brand's unidentified Gor chayr, *alias* Rod's chayr, A.D. 1432.

¹⁵ Cf. Bourne's unidentified Norham chare.

¹⁶ Cf. Brand's unidentified Heworth's chare, *temp.* Richard III.

¹⁷ Michael Pallister lived in this chare in 1694.

¹⁸ Christopher Elmer, merchant adventurer, died in 1605.

¹⁹ This name is not derived (as suggested by Mr. Boyle, *Vestiges*, 174) from the Company of Armorers, but from Francis Armorer, who lived and owned property at the quay end of the chare at the beginning of the eighteenth century.

chapel is given by Mr. Welford at page 362 of the first volume of his history. It was built of stone, with buttresses on the outside, and had a crypt, which was afterwards used as a cellar.²⁰ The records collected by Mr. Welford also mention Heworth chare in 1484,²¹ Hornsby's chare in 1622,²² and Shipman's chare in 1590.²³

The chares contained well-built houses, which had been originally occupied by merchants and tradesmen, but most of the houses not actually fronting the Quayside or the Butcher bank had, towards the close of the last century, been abandoned to less reputable occupiers, who loved darkness rather than light.

Brand, in a letter to Beilby, dated 8th August, 1788, humorously commiserates him for having had to visit 'those dark and suspicious lanes' to verify the names which Brand had given to them in his history. Brand mentions that he had intended to visit them himself very early in the morning that he was in Newcastle, and adds, 'when, if I had been seen either going in or coming out of one of them my character would have been irretrievably gone.'²⁴

Mackenzie, in the inflated diction of the time, writes in 1827 that 'Plumber Chare was noted a few years ago as the receptacle of Cyprian nymphs,' but adds, that the character of the chares had been much altered for the better at the time he wrote, most of the dwelling houses having been converted into granaries, warehouses, maltings, breweries, etc.²⁵

These alterations increased in the same direction, and at the time of the destruction of the chares the buildings in all of them, except Grindon chare, were used for the most part as warehouses.

Grindon chare was somewhat wider than the others. It still contained, in 1854, besides shops and dwelling houses, three inns, the Dun Cow, occupied by Mr. William Teasdale, which had formerly been known as the King's Head tavern, the Golden Anchor, occupied by Mr. William Batey, and the Blue Bell, which was burnt down in the month previous to the great fire.

²⁰ Mackenzie, i. 152.

²¹ Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, i. 386.

²² *Ibid.* iii. 247.

²³ *Ibid.* iii. 60.

²⁴ Newcastle Typographical Tract, *Letters of the Rev. John Brand, A.M., to Mr. Ralph Beilby*, vol. v. pp. 25-27.

²⁵ Mackenzie, i. 164.



THE QUAYSIDE, NEWCASTLE, BEFORE THE FIRE OF 1854. LOOKING WESTWARD.



In Pallister's chare there was an inn called the Prussian arms, and another inn known as the Earl Grey (if the two were not different names for the same house). On the Quayside, between Peppercorn chare and Blue Anchor chare, was a celebrated inn called the Grey Horse, occupied at the time of the fire by Mrs. Pearson. There is a beautiful sketch of this inn in Dibdin's *Northern Tour*.²⁶ It was owned successively by Charles Atkinson,²⁷ George Adams, and James Harding, by whose representatives it was sold to Mr. Ralph Walters. On the Quayside also, between Hornsby's chare and Plummer chare, was another inn which had formerly been known as the Black Bull, and was then known as The Rising Sun. It was occupied at the time of the fire by Mrs. Swallow, and then belonged to the representatives of Addison Langhorne Potter, deceased. Two inns in Butcher bank, namely, the Angel and the Meter's Arms, were also pulled down. The Quay front, from the Sandhill eastwards, as it was before the fire, is very well shown in Richardson's views of old Newcastle (Garland's re-issue).

The easternmost buildings on the Quayside which the fire destroyed were three low gable-fronted houses, the easternmost of which was the Low Crane inn, occupied by Mr. R. T. Allan, the next was a butcher's shop, occupied by Mr. P. Wheatley, and the next was the shop of Mr. John S. Cail, instrument maker. These three houses, and the rest of the destroyed Quay front as far westward as the Grey Horse inn, are well shown in an interesting early photograph which has been lent to me by Mr. C. J. Spence. The photograph must have been taken almost immediately before the occurrence of the fire, for the names of the then occupiers may be seen over their shop fronts. Of this photograph the annexed colotype (plate XXX.) is a reproduction.

Three of the sketches of Newcastle by G. B. Richardson, in the possession of this society, illustrate the subject of my paper. One of them shows Grindon chare as it was in 1848, and the two others are sketches of the head of Plummer chare and of the head of Dark chare respectively. They are both taken from Butcher bank, and are dated in 1843.

²⁶ Vol. i. p. 354.

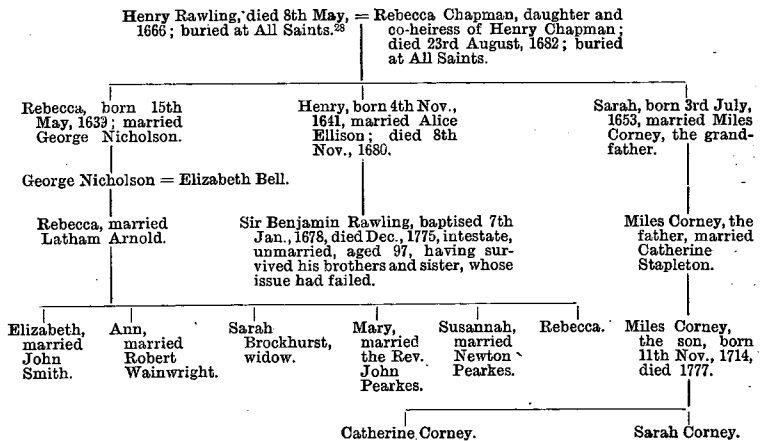
²⁷ Welford's *Men of Mark*, i. 131. Charles Atkinson was sheriff of Newcastle in 1765-6. Mayor in 1775-6, and 1783-4.

Amongst those who held property in Peppercorn chare in the last century was Sir Benjamin Rawling, a grandson of Henry Rawling, merchant adventurer, alderman, and (in 1646-7) mayor of Newcastle.

There is a note in Brand, i. 309 n. as follows :—

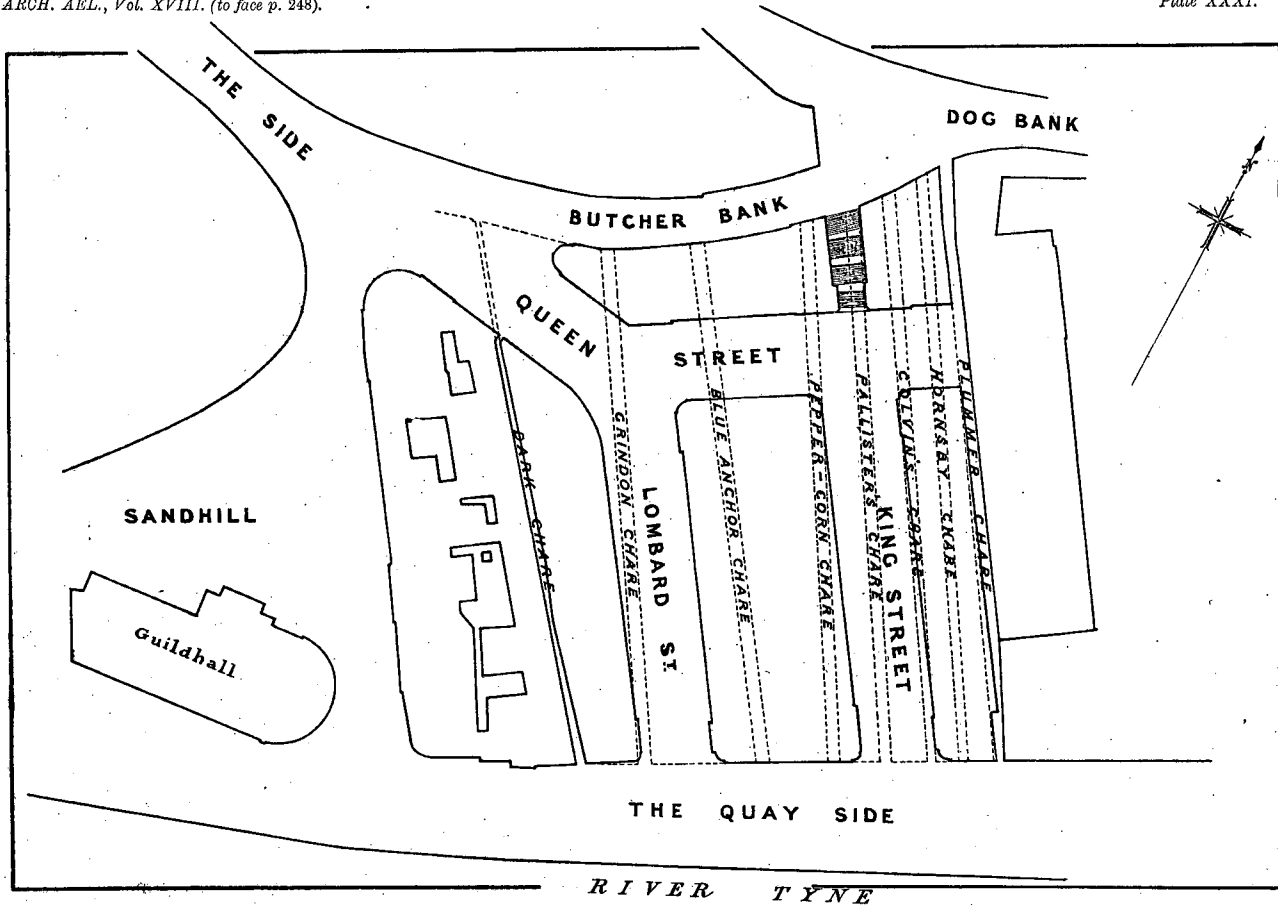
Sir Benjamin Rawling, Knt. (who had been knighted when he served the office of Sheriff of the City of London) dying intestate, at Putteridge in Hertfordshire, in December, 1775, aged 97, his considerable real estate devolved to Mr. Miles Corney, bookseller, at Penrith in Cumberland; and his personal effects, amounting it is said, to upwards of £120,000, to Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison of West Gate, in Newcastle, the only surviving sister of Dr. Ellison. Mrs. Ellison died unmarried, February 12th, 1776, having, with great propriety, left equally among her nephews and nieces the great fortune which had devolved to her as related above.

The following pedigree from the abstract of title of Sir Benjamin Rawling's Peppercorn chare property shows his connection with the Ellisons and the persons who became the heirs to his real estate :—



The co-heirs were therefore Sir Benjamin Rawling's first cousins twice removed, namely, (1) Elizabeth Smith, (2) Ann Wainwright, (3) Sarah Brockhurst, (4) Mary Pearkes, (5) Susannah Pearkes, (6)

²⁸ Henry Rawling had thirteen children by his wife, Rebecca Chapman. His monument in All Saints' church (badly copied in Sopwith's *All Saints' Church*) reads :—' Henry Rawlin, merchant-adventurer, alderman, and sometime maior of this town, who married Rebecka, one of the daughters and co-heiress, of Henry Chapman, alderman, by whom he had issue thirteen children. He departed this life the 8th of May, 1666. Henry, his eldest son, who left issue by Alice, daughter of Robert Ellison, six sons and one daughter. He departed the 8th of November, 1680. She departed this life ye 23rd of August, 1682.'



PLAN SHOWING NEW STREETS ON SITE OF DESTROYED CHARES, QUAYSIDE, NEWCASTLE.



Rebecca Arnold, and his first cousin once removed, namely, (7) Miles Corney, the son. The six first-named persons and the daughters of Miles Corney (the son) joined in the conveyance of the late knight's real estates as his co-heirs at law and received the purchase money.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison,²⁹ who took the personalty as Sir Benjamin Rawling's next of kin, was his first cousin, and therefore was of nearer relationship than the above-mentioned beneficiaries, but this relationship being on the mother's side did not avail for the realty, which passed preferably to his heirs on the father's side, although they were more remote relations. The real estate was offered by auction on the 24th January, 1777, and according to the particulars of sale it consisted of:—(1) 548 acres of land in the parish of Mitford, offered at the upset price of £12,000; (2) glebe lands and tithes at Mitford, upset price, £8,000; (3) a farm consisting of 46 acres of land at Jarrow called Jarrow wood (probably purchased by the Ellisons), upset price, £1,800; (4) houses on the Quayside between Peppercorn chare on the west and Pallister's chare on the east, upset price, £800, realised price, £830.

The following extracts show a connection between the Cromes of Newcastle (who gave their name for a time to what was finally known as Colvin's chare) with the Herons of Chipchase. These, as well as subsequent extracts, I have simply given *seriatim*, with footnotes containing a few references to other books in which particulars may be found about the persons named in the extracts:—

14th August, 1668.—Thomas Crome³⁰ of Newcastle, merchant, by his will gave unto his wife, Elizabeth Crome, his messuage on the Quayside, Newcastle, between Shipman's chare on the west and Hornsby's chare on the east, and gave to his son, Richard Crome, his messuage on the east side of Haworth *alias* Errington's chare.

3rd January, 1671.—Richard Crome son and heir of Thomas Crome by his will gave the said messuage to his mother Elizabeth Crome.

²⁹ Mrs. Elizabeth Ellison was not the sister of Dr. Ellison, vicar of Newcastle, as stated by Brand, but his daughter and a sister of Nathaniel Ellison, M.A., who died 27th February, 1775. She was baptised 25th July, 1693, and died unmarried 12th February, 1776. See the Ellison pedigree in Hodgson, pt. 2. vol. iii. p. 347, and Surtees *Durham*, ii. p. 79.

³⁰ *Newcastle Merchant Adventurers*, vol. i. 135 (Surt. Soc. publications). For the position which the Cromes occupied in the coal trade see Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, vol. iii. p. 242, etc.

5th March, 1687.—Elizabeth Crome by her will gave her messuages on the Quayside to Timothy Robson, esq., merchant and alderman,³¹ Humphrey Pybus, merchant,³² and Matthew White, merchant,³³ all of Newcastle in trust for dame Elizabeth Heron, the wife of sir Cuthbert Heron, bart.,³⁴ reserving a life interest in one messuage to testatrix's sister, Faith Frotheringham.

18th October, 1694.—Dame Elizabeth Heron of Newcastle, widow of Sir Cuthbert Heron, late of Chipchase, bart., deceased conveyed her messuages to Matthew White, George Errington,³⁵ of Newcastle, esq., and Reynold Hall, baker and brewer, to the uses of a fine. In this deed a house in Errington chare is mentioned as being in the possession of Michael Pallister.

6th August, 1695.—Dame Elizabeth Heron by will proved at Durham, 27th November, 1697, gave her messuage on the key, Newcastle, to her mother, Faith Frotheringham, and all her other messuages to her son Cuthbert Heron and his heirs, and in default of heirs to the right heirs of her deceased aunt, Elizabeth Crome, and appointed her mother, Faith Frotheringham, and her said son executors.

13th April, 1699.—Faith Frotheringham by her will gave unto her grandchild, Cuthbert Heron, all her estate, and appointed her friends Matthew White and Mark Browell³⁶ executors. Proved at Durham, 8th July, 1703.

2nd and 3rd August, 1703.—Cuthbert Heron, late of Newcastle, but then of the parish of Chester in the county of Durham, gentleman, conveyed the property to Ralph Sanderson of the Middle Temple and Thomas Hindmarsh of Newcastle, gentleman, to the uses of a fine.

20th and 21st October, 1715.—By marriage settlement between Cuthbert Heron, then of Offerton in the county of Durham, son of

³¹ Brand, i, 299, ii, 495, 497-501. *Merchant Adventurers*, i, 188, 288, 240.

³² *Merchant Adventurers*, i, 153, etc. For a copy of the inscription on the tombstone of Humphrey Pybus, discovered in St. Nicholas' church in 1876, see Welford's *Men of Mark*, iii, 148.

³³ Welford's *Men of Mark*, iii, 317. Brand, i, 112, etc.

³⁴ See the authorities treating of the Heron Pedigree collected in Marshall's *Genealogists' Guide*, 1893 ed., p. 315.

³⁵ This George Errington is of later date than the last George Errington mentioned in Tomlinson's *Devon Hall*, app. vi:

³⁶ Brand, i, 368 n., 378. Mark Browell's pedigree and diary are in Richard son's Reprints, 'Diary of Mark Browell, gent., for Anno Domini 1688.'

Sir Cuthbert Heron late of Chipchase in the county of Northumberland, bart., deceased, and of dame Elizabeth Heron deceased, widow of the said Sir Cuthbert Heron, which said Elizabeth was daughter of Faith Frotheringham, widow, deceased, who was the sister of Elizabeth Crome, widow, deceased, of the first part; Katherine Myddleton of Offerton aforesaid, spinster, one of the daughters of Richard Myddleton, late of Offerton aforesaid, esq., deceased, and of Katherine Myddleton of Offerton aforesaid, widow and relict of the said Richard Myddleton of the second part, and the said Katherine Myddleton, widow, and Francis Myddleton of Offerton, aforesaid, esq., of the third part, the said messuages were settled in special tail on the issue of Cuthbert Heron and Katherine Myddleton.

30th April and 1st May, 1745.—Conveyance from Thomas Heron, late of the city of Durham, esq., and then an ensign in General Handyside's Regiment of Foot, and Elizabeth Heron, then of Offerton, aforesaid, his sister, to Anthony Shepherd, subject to a term of 1,000 years for securing £350 and interest to Thomas Heron.

9th April, 1780.—Assignment of term of 1,000 years from Sir Thomas Heron Myddleton of Bowlby, in the county of York, bart., formerly Sir Thomas Heron to Thomas Allen.

The following extracts refer to Abraham Akenside and Aaron Akenside, the poet's uncles, Mark Akenside, the poet's father, and Dorothy, his sister, all Christian names which emphasize the influence of the remote past. The extracts also identify five generations of Dobsons to whom the Akenside's property in Butcher Bank, now known as Akenside hill, had formerly belonged.

9th December, 1749.—Abraham Akenside of Newcastle, butcher, by his will so dated, bequeathed to his nephew, William Akenside, all his wearing apparel as well linen as woollen, 'except my nightgown.' To his niece, Dorothy Akenside, daughter of his late brother, Mark Akenside³⁷ £20. To his brother, Aaron Akenside,³⁸ £20. He appointed Aaron Akenside his executor. The device on the seal attached to the original will is an eagle displayed.

The said Abraham Akenside by the same will devised to Abraham Wilkinson a messuage and shop in the Butcher bank. According to

³⁷ Welford's *Men of Mark*, i. 27.

³⁸ *Archæologia Aeliana*, xii. 269.

the title deeds, this messuage, which was bounded by Grindon chare on the west, was purchased by Abraham Akenside from John Dobson of Newcastle, merchant, eldest son of Thomas Dobson of Newcastle, feltmaker, and grandson of John Dobson, feltmaker, who was the grandson of George Dobson³⁹ of Newcastle, merchant, who made his will in 1668. Wilkinson sold it to William Burnup.

In 1804 it was owned by John Dunn, butcher. In 1831 it had passed to his sons, William Alder Dunn, the founder of the drapery firm in Market Street, and Nathaniel Dunn. It was sold to the corporation in 1855 by Lawson Dunn, roper. The woodcut of Akenside's house in Mr. Welford's *Men of Mark* does not represent the house mentioned in these deeds, but another house on the opposite side of the Butcher bank. There may well have been two shops occupied by the Akensides in the Butcher bank. That street was the headquarters of the trade from which it took its name. Whitehead's *Directory* for Newcastle, published in 1788, mentions no fewer than 29 butchers who then had shops there.

The following extracts relate to the Erringtons of West Denton, and carry their descent a little further down than does the pedigree contained in Mr. Tomlinson's book on Denton hall:—

31st August, 1663.—Deed, whereby Ann Babington of Newcastle, widow, in consideration of affection for her daughter, Margaret Errington, wife of Gilbert Errington⁴⁰ of West Denton, gentleman, granted her messuage in Hornsby's chare to Gilbert Errington and Edward Crow in fee, to the use of the said Ann Babington for life, with remainder to the use of Margaret Errington in tail.

22nd September, 1663.—The said Ann Babington by her will proved at Durham on the 5th February, 1664, devised the same property to her said daughter, Margaret Errington in fee, and bequeathed her household goods to her daughter, Jane Babington, and to her son, Edward Bulmer, 20s., and appointed Gilbert Errington sole executor. One of the witnesses was George Dobson.

20th March, 1664.—By deed witnessed by George Errington and Charles Errington, Edward Bulmer released his claim on the premises in favour of Gilbert Errington and Margaret his wife.

³⁹ *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 123, etc.

⁴⁰ Tomlinson's *Denton Hall*, appendix vi.

2nd May, 1686.—Francis Errington of Chancery lane in Middlesex, son and heir of Gilbert Errington and Margaret his wife, granted the said messuage to William Pritchard and Thomas Stringer to the use of Francis Errington and Elizabeth his wife, formerly Elizabeth Blackman of London, and their heirs in tail with remainder to Francis Errington in fee.

21st April, 1720.—Francis Errington, the elder, of Monkhouse in the parish of Balmbrough in the county of Durham [Northumberland], and Elizabeth, his wife, and Francis Errington, their eldest son, granted the said messuage to Thomas Ilderton.

4th August, 1720.—Thomas Ilderton conveyed property in Hornsby's chare and Crome's chare to Francis Armorer (hoastman).

10th September, 1759.—Francis Armorer by his will proved at Durham, 15th October, 1759, devised to his daughter, Jane Selby, widow, his messuage in Crome's chare, otherwise Armorer's chare, and his messuage in Hornsby's chare.

The following extracts refer to the Bewickes of Close house, and are interesting as containing a reference to William Gray, the historian:—

1st September, 5 Charles I., 1629.—Indenture between Robert Bewick, esquire,⁴¹ then mayor of Newcastle, of the one part, and William Gray⁴² of Newcastle, merchant, and Thomas Bewick,⁴³ son of the said Robert Bewick, of the other part, witnesses that in pursuance of an award by arbitrators between the said Robert Bewick and John Mitford late of Newcastle, then deceased, touching the agreement made by the said Robert Bewick on a marriage between the said John Mitford and Jane, daughter of the said Robert Bewick, and for the advancement of Robert Mitford, son of the said John Mitford, and grandchild of the said Robert Bewick, the latter conveyed to William Gray and Thomas Bewick a tenement late in the occupation of the said John Mitford, and formerly of Cuthbert Bewick, merchant, deceased,⁴⁴ in the Sandhill, bounded by premises occupied by Alexander Davison, merchant,⁴⁵ westward, by premises of

⁴¹ Welford's *Men of Mark*, i. 279.

⁴² William Gray, the historian, was a nephew by marriage of Robert Bewick.

⁴³ Welford's *Men of Mark*, i. 279.

⁴⁴ *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 112.

⁴⁵ Welford's *Men of Mark*, ii. 21. *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 128, etc.

John Milbank,⁴⁶ merchant, eastward, the Sandhill southward, and premises of Robert Ledger,⁴⁷ draper, deceased, northward, and he also conveyed to them lofts and waste ground formerly in the possession of Cuthbert Bewick, and sometime belonging to John Barker,⁴⁸ merchant, in Ellinor chare, bounded by premises of Ann Nicholson, widow, on the north, premises of Robert Stott, merchant, on the south, premises of John Marshall, tailor, Thomas Rowell, mariner, and Robert Lawson,⁴⁹ boother, on the west, and the said chare on the east; to the use of the said Robert Mitford, in tail, with a proviso that if Robert Mitford died without issue, Robert Bewick should pay £300, as follows:—To Bartram Mitford of the said town, three score and fifteen pounds, to Jane Carnabie, wife of Raiph Carnabie of Halton, in Northumberland, esquire, sister of the said Bartram the like sum, and to the children of Cuthbert Bewick, one hundred and fifty pounds.

1674.—Release, by Thomas Bewick of Close-house, to the said Robert Mitford.

The following extracts refer to the Coulsons of Jesmond:—

12th March, 1610.—Indenture between John Coolson of Newcastle, barber chirurgian, and Francis Burrell⁵⁰ and Thomas Humfrey, whereby in consideration of the affection which John Coolson bore for his wife and fower sons, namely, Samuel, Francys, William,⁵¹ and Oswald, he granted to Burrell and Humfrey a messuage in the Keyside bounded by Rode's chare on the west and Coleman Pepper chare on the east (except a shop to the fore street, then used by the said John Coolson), a messuage in Coleman Pepper chare, *alias* Norham chare, a messuage in Rode's chare, and a messuage in Middle street, to the use of John Coolson and Margaret, his wife, for life, with re-

⁴⁶ Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, iii. 237, etc.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.* Robert Ledger was sheriff of Newcastle in 1622.

⁴⁸ Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, iii. 60, etc. John Barker was a son of alderman Robert Barker, who, dying in 1588, left property in Grindon chare and Shipman chare.

⁴⁹ *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 108 or 162.

⁵⁰ Brand, ii. 450, 451. *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 112, etc. Francis Burrell was sheriff of Newcastle, 1602-3; mayor, 1615-16. Welford's *Newcastle and Gateshead*, iii. 191, etc.

⁵¹ Hodgson's *Northumberland*, vol. iii. part 2, p. 131.

mainder to his sons for life, each son taking the first life interest in one of the said messuages, with remainder to him in tail, with remainder to his brothers successively in tail.

23rd September, 1661.—Indenture, whereby William Coulson and Jane, his wife, granted to Ralph Carr for a nominal consideration hereditaments on the Keyside bounded by Rhode's chare on the west, and a chare called Pepper Corn, *alias* Pepper Coleman chare, on the east.

24th September, 1661.—Indenture, whereby Francis Hall granted to William Coulson of Newcastle, grocer, and Jane, his wife, a messuage on the Quayside, bounded by Colman Pepper chare, *alias* Norram chare, on the east.

Memorandum of Livery of Seisin, endorsed on the above deed, and witnessed amongst others by Ellinor Coulson.

11th July, 1678.—Indenture, whereby John Coulson of Jesmond, gentleman, and Elizabeth, his wife, Jane Coulson of Jesmond, widow, and John Watson⁵² of Newcastle, merchant, granted to John Bee,⁵³ of Newcastle, master and mariner, two messuages on the Quayside, bounded by Pepper Corn chare on the east and Robinson's chare on the west.

The following extracts refer to the Shaftos of Benwell, and are interesting as mentioning their ownership of 6 acres or 14 rigs of land on the Castle Leazes :—

9th November, 1669.—Indenture, whereby Robert Shafto⁵⁴ of Newcastle, merchant and alderman, conveyed to James Shafto of Newcastle, merchant, one of his sons, a messuage in the Quayside and a messuage in a certain street called the Upper Fryer's chare, in the parish of St. Andrew's, and another messuage without the walls and within the liberties near a certain gate called the Close gate, and all those lands and grounds without the walls and within the liberties in a certain place there called the Castle Leazes, containing, by estimation, six acres, and formerly the lands of Andrew Gofton.

25th May, 1672.—The said James Shafto therein described as a merchant adventurer, by his will, proved at Durham, the 31st May,

⁵² John Watson was sheriff of Newcastle, 1658-9.

⁵³ Brand, i. 372, etc.

⁵⁴ Surtees *Durham*, vol. iii. p. 296; pedigree of Shafto of Benwell. Brand, ii. 663, etc. *Merchant Adventurers*, i. 135, etc.

1672, gave to his brother, Bartram Shafto, his coffee house for life, and then to his brother, Mark,⁵⁵ in fee. He gave Sir John Swinburn's lease of the manor cole to his Antt (*sic*) Booth for life, and he charged his brother to get it renewed when Mr. Jennison and Mr. Dawson renewed their part and gave it in remainder to his brother, Mark. He gave his brother, Mark, the close at the Forth, called the Hospital close, and the glass houses without the Close gate and the house in High Fryer chare and fourteen rigs in the Castle Leazes, and other his rights therein to him and his heirs for ever. He gave his brother, Bartram, one-sixteenth part of Leven's colyery. He gave to Jane Mattfin, daughter of his sister, Ann Mattfin, £100, to Jane Rutter, £50, and to his sister, Mattfin, and his sister, Rutter, £50 apiece and other legacies. He appointed his brother, Mark, executor.

19th October, 1700.—Mark Shafto, late of Newcastle, esq., and then of the city of Durham, by his will gave to his niece, Jane Sanderson, wife of James Sanderson, clerk, all his right in his house in the Quayside and all arrears due to him out of the colyery at Benwell, being the annuity left him by his late father, Robert Shafto of Benwell, aforesaid, esq., deceased, to his niece, Jane Mattfin, £50, and to the poor of Benwell, forty shillings, and to the minister of the said place, ten shillings, to preach a funeral sermon the Sunday after his decease. He appointed Jane Sanderson executrix who proved the will at Durham, the 12th November, 1700.

The following short extracts are, perhaps, also worth noting :—

5th June, 1668.—John Lambton of Houghton-le-Spring, gentleman, and Phillis, his wife, late wife of George Gran, late of Newcastle, master mariner, conveyed to Christopher Bowman of Newcastle, shipwright, a messuage in Hornsby chare.

23rd July, 1762.—William Rutter⁵⁶ of Newcastle, gentleman, by his will gave his messuage in Pudding chare to trustees for his daughter, Jane Ogle, wife of Henry Ogle, for life, with remainder to her son, William Ogle. He gave to William Ogle of Cawsey park, esq., £100, to put him and his wife (my dear daughter) into mourning, and he desired to be buried in his own burial ground in St. Nicholas' church. Proved at Durham in April, 1764.

⁵⁵ Brand, ii. 210.

⁵⁶ Brand i. 298.

4th October, 1815.—Thomas James of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant, by his will so dated and proved at Durham bequeathed the residue of his estate, including a messuage in Blue Anchor chare, to his brother, William James, late of Deckham hall, in the county of Durham, merchant.

6th February, 1821.—The said William James died, leaving Thomas James, afterwards of Otterburn tower, esq., his eldest son and heir at law.

The William Gray mentioned in the following extracts, though living at the same time, was not the historian, as the father of the latter was Cuthbert Gray.

1st February, 1660.—George Gray, by will of this date, devised his messuage between Hornsby's chare and Elmer's chare to his son, William Gray,⁵⁷ in tail, with remainder to testator's son, George Gray, in tail.

13th March, 1667.—William Gray and his brother George Gray conveyed the messuage to Christopher Bowman.

Amongst other Novocastrians mentioned in the deeds are Joshua Douglass, town clerk of Newcastle, 1709-1742, Robert Sorsbie, mayor in 1731-2, son of Malin Sorsbie, D.D., rector of Ryton, 1679-1706, William Mather, builder, the famous millionaire,⁵⁸ Nathaniel Bayles, surgeon and sword-bearer,⁵⁹ William Scott, fitter, the father of Lord Eldon and Lord Stowell, Sir Thomas Burdon and John White the founder of the *Courant*.

⁵⁷ William Gray, the historian (whose father was Cuthbert Gray), lived until 1674, but, as mentioned by Mr. Welford, there were other William Grays in Newcastle at that time.

⁵⁸ Richardson's *Table Book*, iv. 319.

⁵⁹ Welford's *Men of Mark*, i. 210.