

## VI.—NOTICES OF THE THREE MIDDLETONS.

By J. C. HODGSON, M.A., F.S.A., a vice-president.

[Read on the 22nd February, 1911.]

As the three Middletons have been so frequently mentioned in the foregoing paper, it seems desirable to supplement what has been already said with some notices of the devolution of these manors, and to put on record some documents recently discovered.

The three Middletons granted to earl Gospatric by king Stephen, about the year 1135, are represented by three townships<sup>1</sup> in the parish of Ilderton, now known as South Middleton, comprising 1610 acres, North Middleton, comprising 2082 acres, and Middleton-hall, comprising 1101 acres.<sup>2</sup>

Besides Liulf, son of Uctred, and his descendants of the family of Ilderton, whose history has been set out, there were, in 1226, other sub-feudatories, whose names have been preserved, together with the amount they ought to have paid to the sheriff for tallage:—Thomas de Middelton owed one mark; John de alia Middelton owed 40s. for the same; John de Rodune, two marks; Henry de Rodune, five marks; Simon the mercer and John son of Herbert (who held of the heirship of Constantine de Middelton), two marks.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In 1725 South Middleton was computed to comprise 16 ancient farms, North Middleton 16 ancient farms, and Middleton-hall 10 ancient farms. Caldgate-mill, now included in the township of North Middleton, was reckoned as 1½ farms. Ilderton church books. Cf. *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Newc.*, 2 ser. x, 170.

<sup>2</sup> According to the census returns of 1901, South Middleton contained 11 inhabited houses and a population of 52; North Middleton had 24 inhabited houses and a population of 94, and Middleton-hall had 11 inhabited houses and a population of 44.

<sup>3</sup> *Pipe Roll*, 11 Henry III, rot. 5, dorso. Cf. new *Hist. of Northumberland*, VII, 51, 52.

Since the text was made ready for the press, Sir Arthur Middleton has sent

Some ten years later, a return was made that Patrick, earl of Dunbar, held, as tenant in chief, Suth Middiltun, Middest Middiltun, North Middiltun and Rodum; or, according to another account, Middelton cum Rodum membro suo, Middiltun Thomae, Middelton Nicholai.<sup>4</sup>

The names of the sub-feudatories in the three villis are set out in the Subsidy Roll of 1296, together with the amounts at which they were severally tallaged.

## NORTH MIDILTUN IN THE WARD OF GLENDAL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296.

|  | £                 | s. | d. |             | s. | d. |
|--|-------------------|----|----|-------------|----|----|
| Summa bonorum Domini Johannis Midiltun | 5                 | 6  | 4  | unde regi   | 9  | 8  |
| „ Roberti molendinarii ...             | 1                 | 6  | 10 | „           | 2  | 5½ |
| „ Johannis Maryor' ...                 | 0                 | 17 | 3  | „           | 1  | 7  |
| „ Hugonis Tynet ...                    | 5                 | 8  | 2  | „           | 9  | 10 |
| „ Johannis molendinarii ...            | 1                 | 1  | 11 | „           | 2  | 0  |
| „ Margaretæ de Mideltun ...            | 39                | 18 | 6  | „           | 72 | 7  |
| Summa hujus villæ, £53 19s. 0d.        | Unde domino regi, |    |    | £4 18s. 1d. |    |    |

for the writer's inspection his analyses of the entries, relating to his family, appearing on the Pipe Rolls. Without anticipating the results of Sir Arthur's exhaustive study, the following deductions may be made from the notices.

Lands in Middle Middleton (now known as North Middleton) were held by Thomas de Middleton from 1223 to 1236; by Thomas de Middleton and John 'of the same' in 1241; by (a second) Thomas de Middleton from 1250 to 1257; and perhaps by John de Middleton in 1261.

Lands in South Middleton were held by John 'of the other Middleton' in 1223, 1224, 1225 and 1227; by John de Suth-mideltun in 1230, 1231, 1233 and 1234; by Nicholas de Suth-middleton in 1241, 1247, 1250, 1252 and 1257.

Lands in North Middleton, now called Middleton-hall, were held by Constantine 'of the third Middleton' (elsewhere called Constantine de Middleton) in 1223, 1224, 1225; by Simon the mercer of North-mideltun and John, son of Herbert, as of the heirship of Constantine, in 1227, 1230, 1231, 1233 and 1234; by Roger de Middleton in 1235 and 1236; by John, son of Roger de North-mideltun, in 1248; and by John de North-mideltun in 1250, 1252, 1257 and 1261. Cf. Pipe Rolls, Rev. John Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part III, vol. iii, pp. 134, 137, 140, 148, 159, 162, 166, 168, 171, 177, 180, 197, 214, 220, 225, 242, 258, 284.

<sup>4</sup> *Testa de Nevill*, as set out in new *Hist. of Northumberland*, v, 11, 55n.

| MIDIL EST MIDILTON IN THE WARD OF COKEDAL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296. |                      |     |    |    |   |                   |      |      |
|---|----------------------|-----|----|----|---|-------------------|------|------|
|   |                      | £   | s. | d. |   | s.                | d.   |      |
| Summa bonorum   | Willelmi Hog         | ... | 1  | 19 | 0 | unde regi         | 3    | 6½   |
| "   | Hiltred molendinarii | ... | 1  | 8  | 4 | "                 | 2    | 7    |
| "   | Rogeri le Fouer      | ... | 0  | 12 | 0 | "                 | 1    | 1    |
| "   | Thomae Dunyng'       | ... | 1  | 15 | 6 | "                 | 3    | 2¼   |
| "   | Johannis Fadir       | ... | 1  | 13 | 2 | "                 | 3    | 0½   |
| "   | Arnaldi              | ... | 2  | 6  | 6 | "                 | 4    | 2¾   |
| "   | Alani Homyl          | ... | 0  | 13 | 4 | "                 | 1    | 2½   |
| "   | Reginaldi bercatoris | ... | 1  | 11 | 0 | "                 | 2    | 9¾   |
| Summa hujus villae,   | £11 18s. 10d.        |     |    |    |   | Unde domino regi, | 21s. | 8½d. |

| SUTH MIDDILTON IN THE WARD OF COKEDAL SUBSIDY ROLL, 1296. |                       |     |    |    |    |                   |      |      |
|---|-----------------------|-----|----|----|----|-------------------|------|------|
|   |                       | £   | s. | d. |    | s.                | d.   |      |
| Summa bonorum   | Willelmi Hoghird      | ... | 0  | 13 | 11 | unde regi         | 1    | 3¼   |
| "   | Thomae de Yerdhill    | ... | 0  | 11 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 0    |
| "   | Willelmi del Hill     | ... | 2  | 4  | 6  | "                 | 4    | 0½   |
| "   | Roberti Chamberlayne  | ... | 0  | 13 | 10 | "                 | 1    | 3    |
| "   | Thomae filii Aldr'    | ... | 0  | 11 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 0    |
| "   | Alani Percivaus       | ... | 0  | 18 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 7¾   |
| "   | Johannis Boller       | ... | 0  | 11 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 0    |
| "   | Johannis filii Aldred | ... | 2  | 2  | 4  | "                 | 3    | 10¼  |
| "   | Adaë filii Aldred     | ... | 1  | 18 | 0  | "                 | 3    | 5½   |
| "   | Willelmi de Yesington | ... | 1  | 13 | 0  | "                 | 3    | 0    |
| "   | Alani Caumberlayne    | ... | 0  | 11 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 0    |
| "   | Thomae filii Eustacii | ... | 0  | 11 | 0  | "                 | 1    | 0    |
| Summa hujus villae,                                       | £12 18s. 7d.          |     |    |    |    | Unde domino regi, | 23s. | 7½d. |

The Tres Middiltona are mentioned in the list of manors, etc., of which Patric iv, earl of Dunbar, was seised at his death, 10th October, 1308; the said Middletons and Roddam rendering yearly (at the feast of St. Cuthbert) the farm of St. Cuthbert, viz., 30s.<sup>5</sup> The information afforded by the subsidy roll of 1336 is scanty.

## SUBSIDY ROLL, 1336.

## MIDDILTON IN THE WARD OF COCDALE.

Robertus Aldric, 2s. Willelmus bercar., 1s. 4d. Stephanus de Middilton, 1s. Willelmus Virly, 9d. Summa, 5s. 1d.

## MIDDILTON IN THE WARD OF GLENDALE.

Rogerus Aldrit, 10s.

<sup>5</sup> Cf. new *Hist. of Northumberland*, vii, 77n.

The earl of Dunbar having renounced his allegiance, his possessions were forfeited to the king, who, on the 19th February, 1335, conferred the manors so forfeited upon Henry Percy.<sup>6</sup>

The story of Gilbert de Middleton's rebellion has been told elsewhere.<sup>7</sup> His brother William de Middleton, who with him was taken prisoner on the surrender of Mitford castle in 1321, was thown into prison at Newcastle, but subsequently released on bail.<sup>8</sup> His manor of Middlemast Middleton in Cokedale, to which he had succeeded on the death of his kinswoman, Idonia de Middleton, was in the hands of the king's escheator in 1344,<sup>9</sup> and, on the 20th of April in that year, was granted to Thomas de Grey.<sup>10</sup>

After this time, but before the beginning of the sixteenth century, North Middleton became known as Middleton-hall; Middle, or Middlemost Middleton taking the name of North Middleton.

At the great muster taken by Sir Robert Ellerker on Coldmartin moor on the 17th April, 1538 nineteen men attended from South Middleton, of whom eight were passed as able and fully furnished with horse and weapons.

SOWTH MYDDILTON MUSTER ROLL, 1538.<sup>11</sup>

Edward Homyll, Thomas Homyll, John Hudson, Herry Hall, Alexander Tuggall, Robert Hudson, Herry Bowden, Richard Hudson, Nycoll Gybson, John Gray, Wylm Cramer, Thomas Huntrod, Edward Cramer (Belonging to Chellingham), Richard Blythe, John Hudson, John Dawson, Rolland Reyfflee, John Reyfflee, Robert Torner. Abull men with hors and harness viij.

<sup>6</sup> Cf. new *Hist. of Northumberland*, vii, 85, 86.

<sup>7</sup> Cf. Bates, *Hist. of Northumberland*, 157-159.

<sup>8</sup> New *Hist. of Northumberland*, viii, 88.

<sup>9</sup> Originalia, 18 Edw. III, rot. 4. Rev. John Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part III, vol. ii, 317.

<sup>10</sup> *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1343-1345, p. 252.

<sup>11</sup> *Arch. Ael.*, 1 ser. iv, 193.

And in the Order of the Watches in the Middle Marches made by the deputy warden in October, 1552, the passages from Elderton to South Myddleton were to be watched with six men, nightly; the passages from South Myddleton to North Myddleton with two men; and the passages from North Myddleton to Calgate with two men. The setters and searchers of the South and North Middleton watch were Edward Humb[1]e and the bayliff of Myddleton, and the overseers of the watch, Thomas Elderton and Jasper Meelle.<sup>12</sup>

In 1568 the Middletons were in the possession of Sir Thomas Grey of Chillingham.<sup>13</sup>

At a muster of freeholders and tenants of the east marches taken by Mr. John Selby on the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th March, 1579/80, no cause was shown why only five of Sir Thomas Grey's eleven tenants at North Middleton were horsed. Of the fourteen tenants of the village of South Middleton, likewise belonging to Sir Thomas, eight were horsed, the others alleging that their horses had been stolen by Liddesdale raiders and by English rebels.<sup>14</sup>

At a muster taken on Abberwick moor on the 24th November, 1595, eight men from North Middleton<sup>15</sup> attended and ten of Mr. Ralph Grey's tenants from South Middleton,<sup>16</sup> of whom Thomas Hudson rode on a bay trotting mare of 15 hands, Edward

<sup>12</sup> Nicolson, *Border Laws*, 184, 185.

<sup>13</sup> *Liber Feodarii*, 10 Eliz. Rev. John Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part III, vol. iii, p. lxiii.

<sup>14</sup> *Cal. Border Papers*, I, 15.

<sup>15</sup> The vill whence these tenants came is probably represented by the shepherd's cottage at Old Middleton (sometimes Middleton Old-town), near which are evidences of extensive buildings. It is said that the present hamlet of North Middleton has an existence of about a hundred years only.

<sup>16</sup> The hamlet of South Middleton now comprises a well situated but neglected looking farm house and about ten cottages.

Hudson on a dun sanded trotting gelding of 14 hands, and Robert Hudson on a white trotting gelding.<sup>17</sup>

In 1663 'the two Middletons' belonged to lord Grey of Wark.<sup>18</sup> At the present time, more than five hundred and fifty years after the property was granted to his ancestor, the townships of North and South Middleton belong to the earl of Tankerville.<sup>18a</sup>

## MIDDLETON-HALL.

The origin of the Rotherfords of Middleton-hall, though probably Scottish, has not been ascertained. Shortly before the 26th March, 1404, Robert de Rotherford took to wife Joan, daughter of Sir Henry de Heton of Chillingham, and one of the three sisters and coheirs of William de Heton,<sup>19</sup> of whose birth and baptism at Chillingham on the 1st August, 1389, an account has been given in an earlier communication of the writer's.<sup>20</sup> Through her, either directly or indirectly, Middleton-hall was acquired by the Rotherfords, and by them enjoyed for nearly two hundred years.

A contingent of eleven men—only four of whom were passed as 'abull as hors and harnes'—were present at the muster taken on Coldmartin moor by Sir Robert Ellerker on the 17th April, 1538.

<sup>17</sup> *Cal. Border Papers*, II, 75.

<sup>18</sup> Book of Rates, 1663. Rev. John Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part III, vol. i, 265.

<sup>18a</sup> There is one small freehold in North Middleton belonging to Mr. W. Taylor. It probably represents the tenement which in 1335 belonged to the master and brethren of Bolton hospital (*cf. new Hist of Northumberland*, VII, 211) and it may be that for which Adam Atchison voted at the election of knights of the shire in 1748.

<sup>19</sup> *New Hist. of Northumberland*, IX, 114, 116. <sup>20</sup> *Arch. Ael.*, 2 ser. XXII, 118.

MYDDILTON-HALL MUSTER ROLL, 1538.<sup>21</sup>

Mongoo Clerk, Robert Rotherford, John Rotherford, Antony Rotherford, Gylbert Eyrdsen, Nycoll Eyrdsen, Thomas Patesson, Thomas Demstare, Rauff Wylson, Richard Skewyer, Wylm Boldon.

In the great survey of the castles, towers, etc., on the borders, made by Bowes and Ellerker in 1541, it is stated that :—

The townshippe of Mydleton Hall conteyneth iiij husband lands plenyshed and hath in yt two stone houses or bastells, the one of th'inheritaunce of Robt Rotherforthe and th'other of John Rotherforth.<sup>22</sup>

Robert and John Rotherford, who were first cousins, must have died soon afterwards, and violent dissension occurred between their respective sons. The dispute was referred to Thomas, earl of Northumberland, as Lord Warden of the East and Middle Marches, who at Alnwick on the 10th December, 1557, made his award :—

Alnwick the xth of Decembre A° 1557. In the mater in contraversie betwixt Thomas Rotherforde, off Mydleton-hall in Northumberland, gentleman, on th'one partye, and Henrie Rotherford, sonne to John Rotherford, late off Mydleton-hall, afforesaid, deceased, on th'other partie, for and concernings the rightfull possession, tytle and interest off inherytaunce of, and in, all and singular suche landes and tenementes in Mydleton-haull, afforesaid, as late were in th'occupation of the said John Rotherford, deceased, at the tyme of his deathe; upon the hearinge off that mater affore the most honorable Thomas, earle off Northumbrland, Lord Warden of th'est and mydle merches foranempst Skotlande, yt did by substancyall bothe writings and proves off witnesses, manifestlie appere, the said landes in traverse, to belonge unto the said Thomas Rotherford as his lawfull inherytaunce, and that the said John Rotherford had no interest nor tytle in, or to, the same but for tearme off his onelie life of the gift and graunt of the said Thomas Rotherforde, so as the saide Henry Rotherforde, after the deathe of his said father, coulede in no wise have or pretend anie laughfull claime, or tytle, to the said landes in traverse, or anie part theroff. Nevertheles, at the medyacyon off the said Lord Warden, and his brother Sir Henrie Percie, knight, the said Thomas Rotherford ys contented, and did condissend, and agree, that the said Henrie Rotherforde,

<sup>21</sup> *Arch. Ael.*, 1 ser. iv, 193.

<sup>22</sup> Bates, 'Border Holds' (*Arch. Ael.*, 2 ser. xiv), 34.

for and in consyderacion, and upone condycion, of his trewe hart and goodwill to be borne and contynewed towards the said Thomas Rotherforde and his eyres, and that he shuld frome tyme to tyme serve, as ys accustomed, in fraie and followinge, when he shalbe by them called upon in the service of the Kinge and Quenes majestyes, hir highnes' eyris and successors, shall have; of the gift of the said Thomas Rotherforde, twentye shillinges land, lyeinge in Mydleton-hall afforesaid, duringe the life off him the said Henrie Rotherforde, and therwithe the bastell-hous, and byer affore the dore theroff, that his said layte father had; and upon the said condycion provable brokinge, the said estate of the said Henrie Rotherforde, in the premises, clearelie to cease and to be voide. The said xxs. land to be set forthe, by the said Thomas Rotherforde, at the feast off the Purifycacion off our Ladye next to come after the dayte heroff. In wytnes wherof, as well the said Lord Warden, as the said Sir Henrie Percie, have herunto subscriybed ther names and set to there sealles the daie and yere abovesaid. Signed, NORTHUMBERLAND. HENRY PERCY. THOMAS ROTHERFORD.<sup>23</sup>

Thomas Rotherford, in whose favour the Lord Warden gave his decision, did not live long afterwards, and, on his death, another and more bitter dispute arose between his son Roger (whose legitimacy was successfully impugned before the Council of the North) and Thomas's brother John.

1567, June 20. Suit heard before the Council of the North.

In the matter between John Rotherfurth of Middleton-hall, informer, and:—

Richard Rotherfurth, William Rotherfurth, George Rotherfurth, Roger Rotherfurth, John Ersden, Nicholas Rotherfurth, Thomas Squier, Richard Foster and Henry Rotherfurth of Middleton-hall, defendants:—

For the right to the manor of Middleton-hall, and for entering to the same in most riotous manner, being weaponed with unlawful weapons, and also for the hurting of one gelding of the said informer, which manor the plaintiff claims to be seised of, in fee, as brother and heir of Thomas Rotherfurth, deceased.

Forasmuch as upon examination, before the Vice-president and Council, it appeared that the said Thomas Rotherfurth, brother to the informer, was lawfully seised of the manor and died *s. p.*; after whose death the premises descended to the informer, as brother and next heir, as by the deposition of witnesses, sworn and examined before commissioners, did appear, and further it did appear, by the depositions, that the defendants with force and arms, in most riotous manner did assemble themselves together at Middleton-hall,

<sup>23</sup> Greenwich Hospital Deeds, communicated by Mr. H. H. E. Craster.



being weaponed with lance, staves, spears and bow, with swords and daggers, and that they, so assembled there, the said William Rotherfurth, Roger Rotherfurth, Richard Rotherfurth and George Rurtherforth, after the rest of the defendants were departed, did make an assault upon, and affray upon the informer and Agnes his wife, and that one of them did then shoot an arrow through the informer's sleeve, and that the gelding of the informer was sore hurt by the defendants, by means of which hurt the plaintiff hath sustained damage to the sum of 53s. 4*d.*; and the defendants showed no sufficient title to the estate, saving that Roger Rotherfurth alleged, that Thomas Rotherfurth being seised of the premises did marry Margaret Selby, and had issue by her George Rotherfurth, and the said defendant, and that after the said Thomas's death the premises descended to the said George, as son and heir, which George died *s. p.*; after whose death the premises came to the said Roger as brother and next heir, which matter alleged did appear to this Court to be insufficient to avoid the informer's title to the premises, for that it appeared, by the depositions of the said informer, that Thomas Rotherfurth did first marry one Jennet Bydnall, and that, afterwards, in her lifetime, and without divorce, he did also marry the said Margaret Selby, and by her, in the lifetime of the said Jennet Bydnall, had issue the said George and the said defendant, so that they are both bastards and cannot inherit the said lands. Therefore it is ordered, by the Vice-president and Council, that the informer shall have and enjoy the premises without disturbance, or interruption, of the defendants, or of any other persons, and that the defendants shall pay to the informer 53s. 4*d.* for his damages, and also 20s. for his costs and charges; and also they shall pay 30*l.* to Anthony Thorold, esq., the Queen's attorney in the North Parts, for a fine.<sup>24</sup>

As might have been foreseen, the consequence of these feuds and law suits was the impoverishment of the family and consequently the sale of Middleton-hall and other property at Hartley, Newton-by-the-Sea, and Bamburgh.

15 Eliz. 9 July [1573]. Indenture between Sir John Forster, knight, Lord Warden of the Middle Marches foranest Scotland (1); and Agnes Rotherforde, late wife of John Rotherforde, deceased, and Vincent Rotherforde, son and heir of the said John Rotherforde (2); the said Agnes and Vincent sell to Forster the manor of Mydleton-hall and all those their lands, tenements, etc., to the said manor belonging, which are situate in the towns and fields of Mydleton-hall, Newtowne by the Sea, Hartlea, and Bambrough, which sometime was the inheritance of Thomas Rotherforde, deceased, uncle to the said Vincent.

<sup>24</sup> Ford Castle MSS., commmunicated by Mr. H. H. E. Craster.

The said Agnes and Vincent covenant that the said premises are of the clear yearly value of 14*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*<sup>25</sup>

This agreement was perfected by a fine made in Michaelmas term, 16 Elizabeth, between Sir John Forster, knight, Lord Warden of the Marches, *plaintiff*, and Vincent Rotherforth, gent., *deforceant*, of the manor of Middleton-hall, 20 messuages, 20 tofts, 20 gardens, and land, wood, and heath in Middleton-hall, Hartley, Newton juxta Mare, and Bamburgh.

When Sir John Forster acquired Middleton-hall there were six tenants, only two of whom were fully furnished when they attended the muster taken by Mr. John Selby in March, 1580;<sup>26</sup> at Lord Hunsdon's muster 3rd September, 1584, there attended four foot-men, but only two horsemen.<sup>27</sup> The non-efficiency of the tenants may perhaps be accounted for by the raids of Scottish thieves, who visited Middleton-hall no less than four times in the years 1588 and 1589.<sup>28</sup> On the other hand, in the 'Roll of Wrongs' presented by Sir Robert Ker in 1596, it was alleged that Dandy Dagleish of Lempetlaw had been slain by Albany Rotherford and others in Middleton-hall.<sup>29</sup> The accusation was met by Sir Robert Carey, who admitted that Dandy was slain sixteen years before, but asserted that he was not slain by Albany and Henry Rotherford.<sup>30</sup> In the following year Henry Rotherford of Middleton-hall filed a bill against the lairds of Wauchope (Vaughopp), who had lifted 5 oxen, 6 kine, a mare and insight gear of the total value of £27.<sup>31</sup>

On the 10th August, 1578, Sir John Forster conveyed his property—including Middleton-hall—to trustees to uses declared and died in 1602. On the 8th September, 1620, his grandson

<sup>25</sup> Greenwich Hospital Deeds, communicated by Mr. H. H. E. Craster.

<sup>26</sup> *Cal. Border Papers*, i, 15.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, 153.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 349, 358, 359, 365.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 182.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.*, 198.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, 346.

and heir, Sir Claudius Forster, bart.,<sup>32</sup> conveyed Middleton-hall to Sir Arthur Grey of Spindleston (died *circa* 1636); who either bought up some parcels which had remained with the Rotherford family or fortified his title by taking feoffments from John Rotherford and Andrew Rotherford. Isabel Grey, daughter and sole heir of Sir Arthur, became wife of Sir William Fenwick of Meldon, and by him had three daughters, one of whom, Catherine, married first Sir Henry Lawson, of Brough, and secondly Francis Radcliffe, who in 1663 was rated for Middleton-hall at £100 per annum. He was subsequently created earl of Derwentwater. Through this marriage the property was inherited by James, the third earl of Derwentwater, and, on his attainder and execution in 1716, coming into the hands of the Crown, it was granted with the other Derwentwater estates, to Greenwich hospital. From the Greenwich hospital commissioners, Middleton-hall was purchased early in the nineteenth century by Mr. George Hughes, a lieutenant-colonel in the Royal Cheviot Legion, whose ancestors had farmed the property for, it is said, a couple of hundred years: the estate now belongs to his kinsman and representative, Mr. George Pringle Hughes.<sup>33</sup>

<sup>32</sup> Greenwich Hospital Deeds, communicated by Mr. H. H. E. Craster.

<sup>33</sup> There is an interesting description of Middleton-hall, and of some of the fine trees growing there, in the *Hist. of the Berwick. Nat. Club*, x, 279-283.

## ROTHERFORD OF MIDDLETON-HALL.

ARMS: Quarterly 1 and 4, *Or, an inescutcheon gules, in chief three martlets of the second* (Rotherford);  
2 and 4, *a lion rampant argent* (? Heton) (b).

ROBERT DE ROTHERFORD, married before 26th March, 1404 (c). = Joan, daughter of Sir Henry de Heton, knight, and sister and coheir of William de Heton of Chillingham; proof of age, 8 Henry IV, no. 82; born at Chillingham, 1st August, 1389 (d), her godfather being Walter of Hepscoth, abbot of Alnwick (d); married secondly, before 11th November, 1424, Thomas Lilburn of West Lilburn (c).

Thomas Rotherford of Middleton-hall (b). = ..... daughter of ..... Badby of Glendale (b).

Thomas Rotherford (b) of Middleton-hall, son and heir. = ..... daughter of Thomas Haggerston of Lyham-hall (b).  
Henry Rotherford (b) [of Middleton-hall], second son (b). = ..... daughter of ..... Ilderton of Ilderton (b).  
Ralph Rotherford, third son, died without surviving issue (b).

John Rotherford, son and heir (b); in 1541 held one of the two stone bastle-houses in Middleton-hall (f), and died before 10th December, 1557, seised for the term of his life only of land in Middleton-hall (aa). = "Byll," daughter of Thomas Scott of Yardley (b) [Earle].  
Anthony Rotherford, second son, had issue two bastards (b).  
Nicholas Rotherford, died without issue (b).

Henry Rotherford of Middleton-hall, son and heir (b); 10th December, 1557, failed to establish his claim to lands of inheritance in Middleton-hall, but obtained a grant of certain land and the bastle-house of the grant of his kinsman Thomas Rotherford for his life only (aa); mentioned in the will of Thomas Ilderton, April, 1578.  
And perhaps other issue.

Robert Rotherford (b) of Middleton-hall, son and heir (b); was present at the muster on Coldmartin moor in 1538; held a bastle-house at Middleton in 1541 (f). = Constance, daughter of Bertram Bradford of Brunton (b).  
Lancelot Rotherford, second son (b); died without issue (b).

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|--|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Janet Beadnel, = Thomas Rotherford of Middleton-hall, son and heir in whose lifetime and without divorce her husband married Margaret Selby (aa).</p> | <p>Margaret, daughter of Gilbert Selby (b) of Cornhill-on-Tweed (b).</p> | <p>John Rotherford, second son (b), succeeded to Middleton-hall as brother and heir; was the informer in suit before the Council of the North, 20th June, 1567 (a); was dead before 9th July, 1573 (a).</p> | <p>= Agnes, daughter of William Reveley of Humbleton (b), living a widow and party to deed of 9th July, 1573 (a).</p> | <p>Roger Rotherford (b), third son (b).<br/>Elizabeth, wife of William Wall of Durham (b).<br/>Cicely, wife of Thomas Roddam of Lilburn (b).<br/>↓</p> |
|--|--|---|---|--|

George, leased his lands in Hartley, 18th October, 1563, to Christopher Mitford (c); died *s.p.* before 20th June, 1567 (a).  
 Roger, in 1567, claimed to be brother and heir.  
 And perhaps other issue.

Vincent Rotherford (b) of Middleton-hall, son and heir, a freeholder in Hartley in 1573 (c); by indenture dated 9th July, 1573, conveyed the manor of Middleton-hall and all his lands there and at Newton-by-the-Sea, Bamburgh, and at Hartley, to Sir John Forster, knight (a), who, in 1579, reconveyed the Hartley property (a) (c).  
 Thomas Rotherford (b).

(aa) Greenwich Hospital deeds.

(a) *Ford Castle MSS.*

(b) *Flower's Visitation*, 1563 and 1564. Harl. Soc. publ., no. xvi, 269.

(c) *New Hist. of Northumberland*, ix, 114, 116, 122, 123 n.

(d) *Arch. Ael.*, 2 ser., xxii, 118.

(e) Sir Robert Bowes' Survey, Rev. John Hodgson, *Northumberland*, part III, vol. II. p. 207.

(f) Bates, *Border Holds*, 34.

