

## A ROLL OF ARMS OF THE REPPS FAMILY

By THE REV. C. L. S. LINNELL, M.A., F.S.A.

RECENTLY there came into my possession an interesting Roll of Arms of the Repps family which belonged to the late Sir Alfred Jodrell of Bayfield Hall who died in 1929. The Roll having come into the possession of the Jodrell family on the marriage of Richard Paul Jodrell with Vertue Hase of Salle, the heiress of the Salle estate which her father Edward Hase acquired *jure uxoris* on his marriage with Vertue Repps in 1751.<sup>1</sup> Edward Hase built the existing Salle Park House c. 1760. His elder brother John Hase assumed the name of Lombe and became a baronet in 1783, the Patent for the baronetcy, granted by King George III on 20th December 1783, providing a Special Remainder to the heirs male of Sir John Lombe's niece Vertue Jodrell. Thus Richard Paul Jodrell's eldest son, Richard Paul born 1781, became the second baronet on the death of Sir John Lombe in 1817.

The Patent for the baronetcy, which became extinct on the death of Sir Alfred Jodrell, 4th and last baronet, the Roll of Arms and a continuation of the Repps and Jodrell pedigree made by Richard Paul Jodrell, all came into my possession at one and the same time through the kindness of the present owner of Bayfield, Mr. R. Combe. All three documents have been placed in the Norwich Public Library through the Norfolk Record Society.

The Roll, on which all the shields are beautifully tinctured, is contained on three parchment sheets, each 2 ft. 8 in., 2 ft. 5 in. and 2 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 3 in., the first sheet having the title:

Hoc stemma familiae de Repps de Westwalton in com.Norffolciae, tam ex evidentiis quam ex diversis libris et recordis, penes nos in officio Armoris remanentibus quanta fieri potest diligentia et veritate elaboratum est. Quod nos Reges Armorum nostra subscriptione testamur. Primo die Decembris Ano. 1599.

The last sheet being signed at the foot by William Dethick, Garter, William Camden, Clarendieux, and William Segar, Norroy.

The pedigree given in the Roll has already been printed in *Norfolk Archaeology. The Visitation of Norfolk in the Year 1563*, Vol. I, 1878, pp. 193-199, but the Roll itself gives a number of additional notes, the position of which are indicated by the capital letters on the illustrations herewith and are as follows:

- A. Inquisitio capta &c. per sacramentum duodecim legal. qui dicunt qd. Laurentius de Repps tenuit die quo obiit Maner de Edythop, Northrepps, et Deepham in Com.Norff. Et qd. Sibilla uxor Roberti de Repps, et Elizabeth uxor Johis de Welbye sunt eius fils. et. hered. propinquiores.
- B. Johis filius Robti. de Repps, concressit Beatrice filie. meae in Maritagiu. cum Nicholao filio Johannis Atlound et heredibus eorum, terras in Southrepps, et iacent de foro de Thorpe; usq. Northrepps &c. hiis testibus Jo. de Reyner, Laurentio de Repps, Rico filio Bartholmei de Repps, Johe. fratre eius, Rado. de Repps, et aliis.

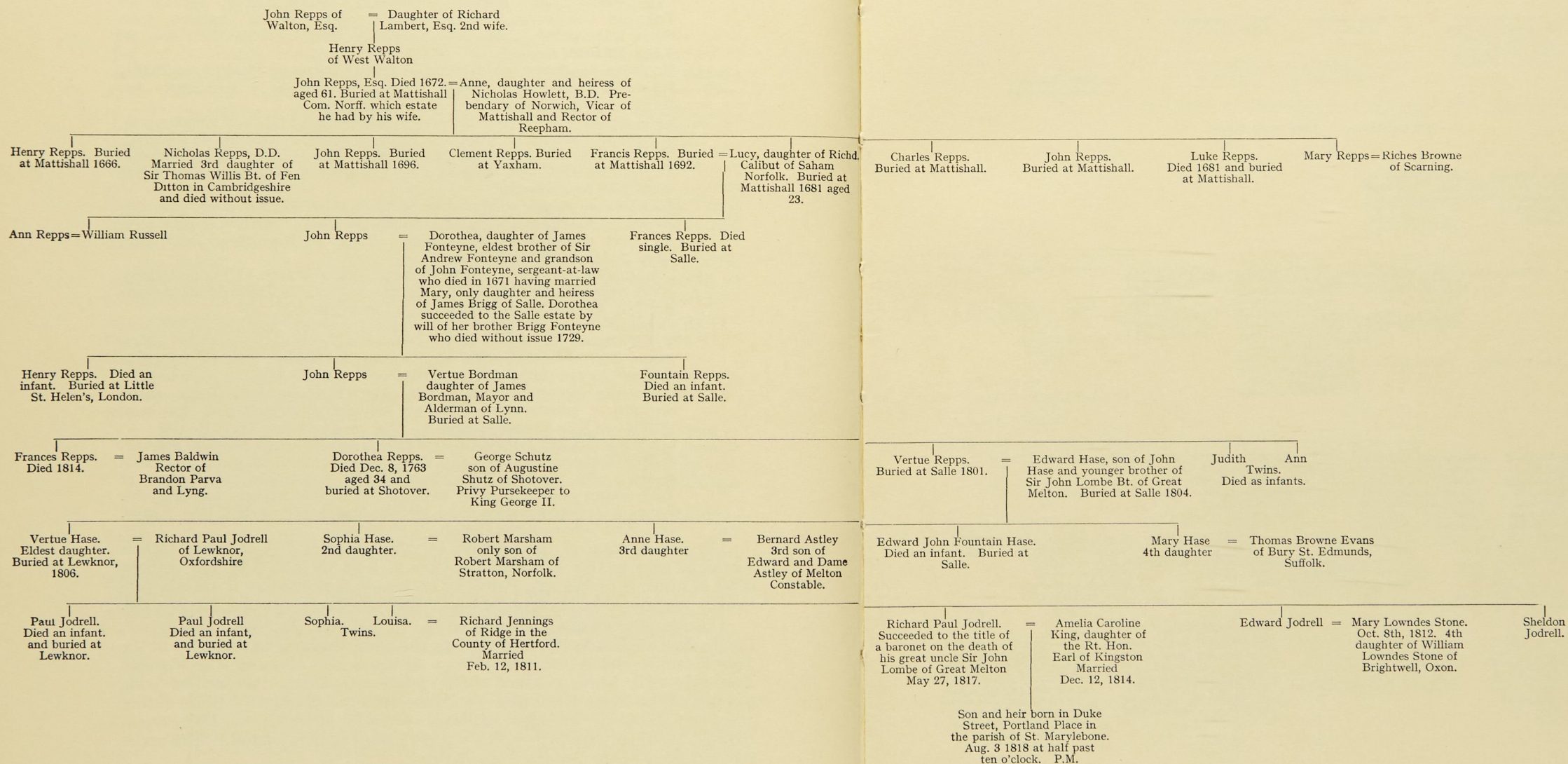
- C. Sciant nos Johem de Warrenia Com Surr. Confirm. Roberto de Repps vauetto uxo. pro.homag. et servitio unam placeam iusti adiacent messuagio suo in villa sua de Southrepps ad messuag. suam enlarg. tenendis heredibus suis redi. annuatim i capellam. nos. vobis et heredibus suis in festo Nativat.Johis Baptist. hiis testib. Willm.Paynell, Michael de Poyninge Constantino de mortuo mari milit. Rico de Thyrston, Johe Pyke, Rico de Repps, Mmo. de Lound &c. Dat.Apud Thetford Ano. 20 Regis Edwardi secundi.
- D. Robertus de Cameton miles et Ed. Moore, Ricus de Holdych et Relax. Rico filio Dni.Robti de Repps milit unam placeam in Southrepps &c. Dat. ibm.Ano.31.Regis Edw.3.
- E. Finis servat Ano.6.Edw.3. Inter Rob de Repps, et Sibillam uxorem eius, et Laurent. fil. eorund. Robti. et Sibille quaerens. et Willmu. de Felmingham pro sore, et Laurend. et pro. eorund. Willm. Custod. ipsius Laurent. et Johis de Hakeford deforciant de manerio de Helmgton sum ptnet term. hill. Ano. surprad.
- F. Johannes de Repps de Buxton, congressi. Johi.de Colby militi cum aliis custod. et maritag. Thome. fili. Thome de Repps fratris mei cum serv. &c. Test. constant. de mortuo mari, Robto de Erpingham milit. Dat. apud Buxston. 30.Edw. 3ti.
- G. Confirmatio facta Johi. Fastolf Armiger diversis terris in Thorpmarkett, et qd. habuimus ex dono Henrici filij et heredis Johis Repps de Southrepps &c. Dat. 9. Henrici quinti test. Rico Lound, et alijs.
- H. Henricus Repps, filius et heres Johis Repps de Southrepps, Rico at Yates, Robto Southfield et Rico Redsham civibus Norvici &c. totum meum Jus in terris reddit, et q. quondam fuerunt Rici de Repps in Southrepps, et villis adiacent ubicunq. infra Soken de Gyvingham ubicunque spectant &c. et q. mihi post Decessum Johis Repps patris mei filij et heredis dicti Rici, iure hereditario defenderunt. hiis test. Willmo et Rico Lound et alijs &c. Dat. Anno Primo Regis Hen. 5.
- I. Confirmacio facta Henrico Repps juniore nup. de Heveningham generos. et Elizabethhe uxor eius in alijs de terris in Southrepps. q. primus habui ex dono pdti. Henrici. Johis Heveningham. Armig.Rici Colville,Arm. et Johis Repps generos. habend. et tenend. et Remanent. vert. heredib. Johs. Repps nup. defunct. quod uxor Henrici Repps Ari. predicti Hen. Repps. Dat. Ano. quinto Regis Hen. 8.

The continuation of the pedigree by Richard Paul Jodrell, and which is contained on a further parchment sheet 2 ft. 8 in. by 2 ft. 3 in. but without coats of arms, is as follows. It will be noticed that it overlaps in certain particulars the printed pedigree of the Repps family before mentioned, pp. 197-199.

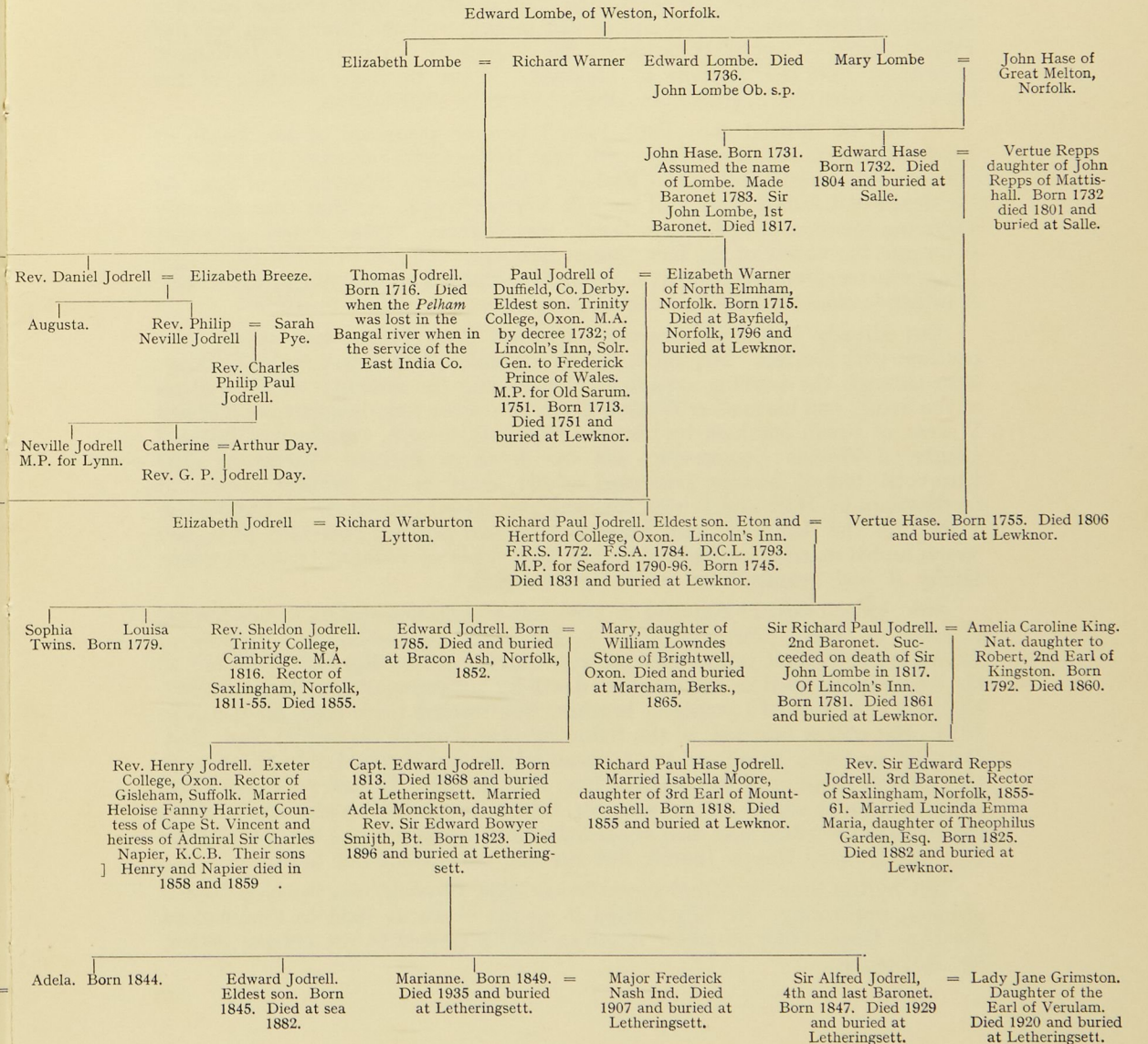
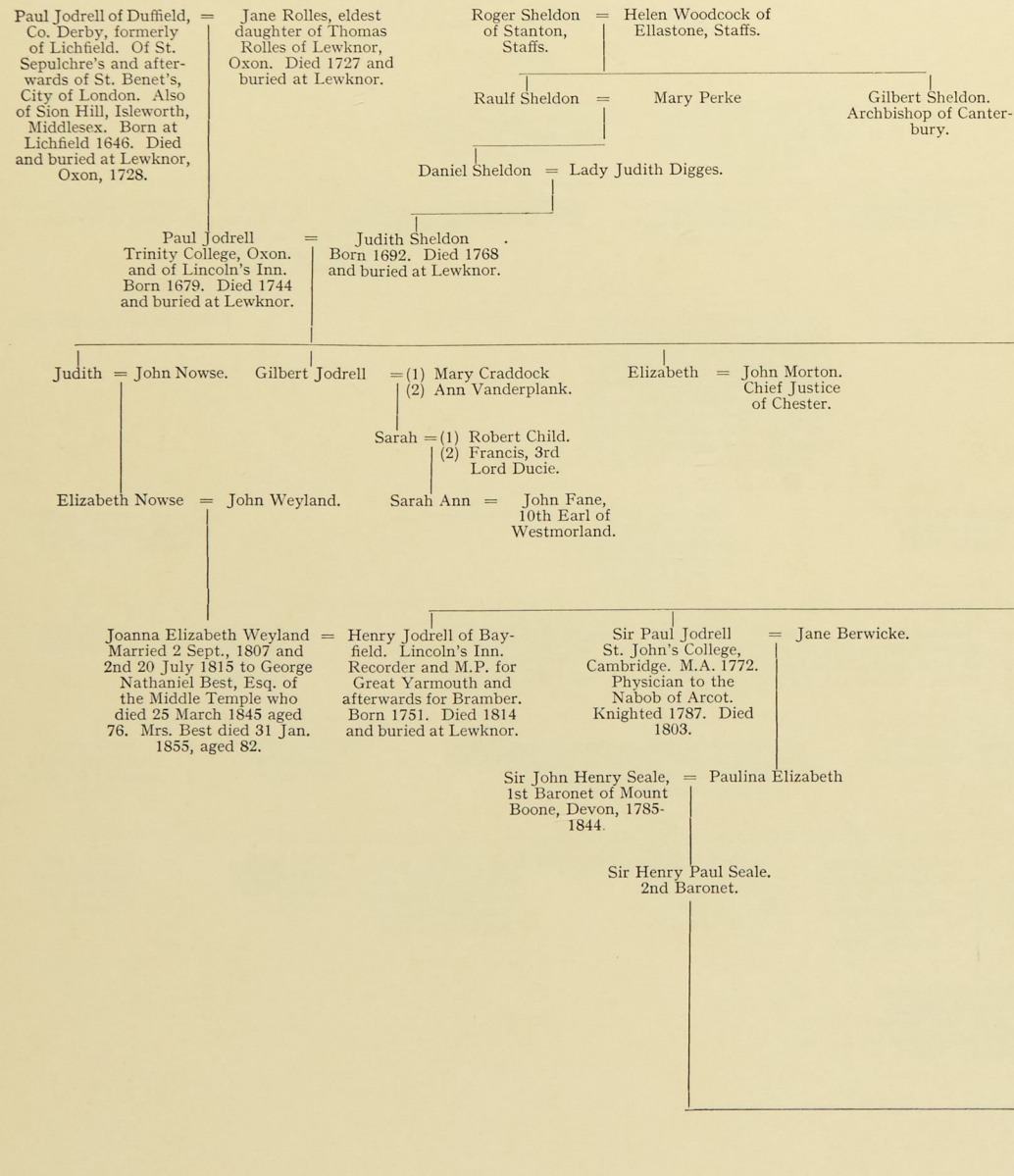
The compiler of this continuation of the pedigree, Richard Paul Jodrell, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A. (1745-1831), was the most distinguished member of the Jodrell family and is the subject of a notice in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. He was a member of the Johnsonian circle—the last surviving member of the Essex Head Club—a classical scholar of repute and the author of several pieces for the stage, the most successful of which was *The Persian Heroine*, based on Heroditus, which was performed at Drury Lane in 1819 under the patronage of the Persian Ambassador.

As a result of a visit to Lichfield in July 1798 he undertook some researches into his ancestry from which it appeared that the Jodrells of Lichfield were

THE PEDIGREE OF THE REPPS FAMILY



THE PEDIGREE OF THE JODRELL FAMILY



descended from the Jodrells of Yearsley in Cheshire who gave their name to a place which has recently become famous as Jodrell Bank.

An extract of this pedigree from Paul Jodrell of Duffield, Co. Derby and formerly of Lichfield, who received from the College of Arms in 1707 a Confirmation of Arms—Ermine, three round buckles the tongues downwards argent, in fesse point a trefoil slipped or; the crest o cock's head and neck coupéd, wings erected or collared jelloped gules, on a wreath sable issuant out of a chaplet of roses gules barbed and seeded proper; and the Motto *Non Sibi Sed Patriae Natus*—"anciently borne by the Jodrells of Yearsley, the Jodrells of Moorhouse and the Jodrells of Lichfield," down to the extinction of the baronetcy with the death of Sir Alfred Jodrell in 1929 follows.

It will be noticed that Paul Jodrell became possessed of the estate at Lewknor, Oxon., on his marriage with Jane Rolles and it remained the principal seat of the Jodrell family until Richard Paul Jodrell's inheritance of Salle on the death of Edward Hase and his wife Vertue Repps. At that time the only surviving member of the Repps family was Frances, Vertue Repps' youngest sister and the widow of the Rev. James Baldwin, rector of Brandon Parva and Lyng, who receives one of the Rev. James Woodforde's most telling pen portraits. A rather formidable lady "of a gloomy complexion—with a beard."<sup>2</sup>

But already before his marriage Richard Paul Jodrell had strong connections with Norfolk. His uncle, the Rev. Daniel Jodrell, was rector of Hingham through the sensible expedient of marrying the daughter of the patron of the living; and his mother Elizabeth was one of the four daughters of Richard Warner of North Elmham by his wife Elizabeth Lombe, daughter of Edward Lombe of Weston Longueville. On the death of Richard Warner in 1757 Elizabeth Jodrell became possessed of her share of the Warner estates at Saxlingham-by-Holt and it was she who purchased the estate at Bayfield in 1766 after the death of John Mitchell who had become possessed of it *jure uxoris* on his marriage with Mrs. Jermy, the widow of William Jermy to whose family it had belonged for several generations.<sup>3</sup>

Mrs. Jodrell died at Bayfield in 1796 and a vivid description of her funeral is given in Mary Hardy's Diary in Mr. Basil Cozens-Hardy's *History of Letheringsett*.<sup>4</sup> Great improvements were carried out to Bayfield Hall and to the estate in her lifetime and after her death by her youngest son Henry Jodrell, Richard Paul Jodrell's youngest brother, who resided there until his death in 1814. His widow married, in the following year, George Nathaniel Best, Esq. Both Mr. and Mrs. Best lived to an advanced age and Bayfield did not revert to the Jodrells again until the death of Mrs. Best in 1855. It then passed to Capt. Edward Jodrell whose second son, Sir Alfred, succeeded on the death of his elder brother Edward who died at sea only a few months before the death of the Rev. Sir Edward Repps Jodrell, 3rd baronet, who resided at Salle.

But by the time Sir Alfred succeeded in 1882, Bayfield was the only Jodrell property remaining. He bequeathed it on his death in 1929 to Commander the Hon. Roger Coke on whose death in 1960 it passed to the present owner, Mr. R. Combe.

<sup>1</sup>See W. L. E. Parsons, *Salle*, Jarrolds, Norwich, 1937, pp. 205-6.

<sup>2</sup>*Diary of a Country Parson*, Vol. I, p. 220. Entry for 12 Feb. 1778.

<sup>3</sup>*Norfolk Archaeology*, "Visitation of Norfolk," Vol. I, p. 108.

<sup>4</sup>B. Cozens-Hardy, *History of Letheringsett*, Jarrolds, Norwich, 1957, p. 96.