

XI.

NOTICES OF THE FAMILY OF COBHAM
OF STERBOROUGH CASTLE, LINGFIELD,
SURREY.

BY JOHN WICKHAM FLOWER.

HOWEVER humiliating such a confession may be, it must be acknowledged that in former times the county of Surrey has produced but few men who have been distinguished in arts, in arms, or in letters. Various causes might be assigned for this dearth of great names. Until the resources of the soil were developed and improved by a better system of husbandry, it was, for the most part, barren and unproductive as compared with many other districts, and thus it offered but few inducements for the residence of wealthy and powerful families. The number of monasteries and religious houses in the county was remarkably small, and it has never possessed either a cathedral city, or any considerable college. As regards military affairs, the opportunities and inducements for warlike training and exercise have, amongst us, usually been wanting; for with societies, as with nations and individuals, it is ever found that the occasion generates, or at least calls into exercise, those qualities which the occasion requires. Thus, a Douglas or a Scott on one side the border, never wanted a Percy to match him on the other; in the marches of Wales, the Glendower was checked by a Mortimer; while in Ireland, the vigilance and courage of

the Lords of the Pale were kept in constant exercise by the hostility of the native or mere Irish. But on the chalk downs, and in the pastoral valleys of Surrey, this stimulus was for the most part wanting; and if its inhabitants were thus exempt from the trials to which they would have been exposed in a less quiet neighbourhood, they also wanted that discipline and skill which the presence of warlike neighbours is pretty sure to engender.

But not only must it be confessed that the county has not produced many illustrious men, but it must be owned also, that the few whom it has produced, have, for the most part, "died and gone without their fame." It would seem as if our local historians had considered the soil too barren to be worth much culture, and that thus they have passed by in silence the history of many who are justly entitled to a place, not only in the annals of the county, but in those of the empire. It is of one of these neglected families that I have now to speak; of those who were born and bred in the little village of Lingfield, of which, and of the neighbouring castle of Sterborough, they were the lords, and within the walls of whose parish church they were in succession entombed.

The parent stem from which the possessors of Sterborough sprang, was the family of the same name long settled at Cobham, and at Cowling Castle, in Kent. A full account of this family would be found extremely valuable, not only for genealogical and topographical purposes, but also in an historical point of view. There exist abundant materials for such a memoir, and it seems much to be desired that some one competent to the task would collect, and reduce them into order. During that most eventful and interesting epoch of our history, which comprises the reigns of Edward III., Richard II., and the fourth, fifth,

and sixth Henries, various members of this wide-spreading family were employed in the most important diplomatic services, and were engaged in almost all the great battles of those troubled times. Closely connected with the Court, and usually on terms of intimate friendship with the reigning Sovereign and his family, they formed alliances with the most powerful families in the land; and eventually, by the marriage of the heiress of Cobham of Cowling with Sir John Oldcastle, the pedigree of the elder branch became stained with the blood of one of the first victims of that fierce persecution which was instituted against the Lollards by Archbishop Arundell.

The Sterborough branch contributed in no small measure to swell the renown of the race from which it sprang. It flourished indeed in its pride and power but for four generations, yet it was remarkable, not alone for the value and extent of its possessions, or for the noble, and even royal alliances which it formed, but for having produced soldiers and statesmen second to none, in one of the brightest periods of English history. Long as our language may endure, will men speak with pride of those who were foremost at Crecy and Poitiers; and they will ponder also on the marvellous history of that proud princess, the wife of the Lord Protector, whom all her husband's power and influence could not shield from the vengeance of his uncle, and who was thus compelled, bareheaded and barefooted, with a lighted taper in her hand, and a white sheet around her, to do penance as a sorceress in the lanes and market-places of London.

The account of this family, as printed by Dugdale (*Baronage*, ii. 65), is, in many respects, careless and inaccurate, principally, it would seem, from want of atten-

tion while passing through the press. He has thus contradicted himself, and confused persons of the same name, more than once; and, as usual, his loose statements have been adopted by subsequent compilers.

To attempt a complete recension of Dugdale's article would indeed be a useful task for many purposes; but it is one which, on the present occasion, I am not called upon, and do not propose, to undertake. Some corrections of his mis-statements, so far as regards the Surrey line, will, however, be found appended to the pedigree which is subjoined.

The common ancestor of the Kentish and Surrey branches of the family was John de Cobham, a Justice itinerant in the reign of Henry III., who died in or about the 36th year of that king, having purchased the manors of Cowling and Westchalke, in the county of Kent. He is said, and in all probability with reason (though I find no direct evidence of record or charter in support of the assertion), to have been married twice; first to Joan, daughter of William or Warrine Fitz-Benedict; secondly to Joan, daughter of Hugh de Nevill. He left certainly five sons surviving him: (1) John de Cobham the younger, his heir, ancestor of the Cobhams of Cobham and Cowling, and of Beluncle, county Kent, and Pipardsclive, county Wilts; (2) Henry de Cobham of Roundal, or Randalls, and Hever in Hoo, county Kent, whose posterity long continued settled there; (3) Sir Reginald, of whom presently; (4) James; (5) William. Of these, John and Henry seem to have sprung from a first marriage; the remaining three from the second. James and William appear to have left no issue male. Of Sir Reginald, the eldest son of the assumed second marriage, we know little more than that prior to the 13th Edward I., he had married Joan,

daughter and heir (or co-heir) of William de Evere, probably the same person, who, by the name of William de Heure, had a grant of freewarren in the 9th of Edward I. (Rot. Chart. ej. an. num. 87), in Chidingstan, and Heure (Hever), in Kent, and in all his demesnes in Lingefeld, county Surrey; which last-mentioned lands would seem to have descended through his daughter to the Cobham family. He was succeeded by his son and heir, Reginald, the first Lord Cobham of Sterborough, born about 1295, as appears from an inquisition taken on the death of his uncle William (whose heir he was), in the 14th of Edward II., when he was twenty-five years old and upwards.¹ This nobleman may justly be regarded as the founder of the Surrey branch of the family, as well as the most illustrious member of the illustrious stock from which it was an offshoot. He not only greatly increased its possessions, but raised its renown to the highest pitch, having made himself eminent amongst the many eminent men of Edward the Third's reign. The account of his employments and exploits will be found at large in Dugdale's "Baronage," and it seems needless, therefore, for our present purpose, to do more than notice those which appear the most interesting. In the second year of Edward III., he was sent on an embassy into Brabant, and in the following year (1329) he was in the train of the king on his expedition to France, and was present at Amiens, when Edward did homage to the king of France for the duchy of Aquitaine and the earldoms of Poitou and Montreuil. In the 14th of Edward III., on account of his great wisdom and fidelity, he was sent on a special embassy to the Pope. In the following year he obtained a charter to embattle or castellate his manor-houses of Orkesden in Kent, and of

¹ Esch. 24 Edw. II. n. 17.

Prinkham in Surrey; which last was thenceforward known as Streburch or Stereburch, afterwards corrupted into Starborough Castle. In the 17th of Edward III., he was again sent to Rome as one of the ambassadors to treat before Pope Clement VI. with Philip de Valois, king of France, concerning the truce. To narrate the battles and sieges at which he was present, would be to recount almost every one of those famous combats which occurred in France and Flanders during the first thirty-five years of Edward the Third's reign, and the memory of which is preserved in Froissart's pages. He was at the battles of Cogant and Vironfosse, at the siege of Tournay, and in the expedition into Brittany. In these wars he had for his companions, the King himself, Henry, Duke of Lancaster, the Black Prince, Sir Walter Manny, Sir John Chandos, and the other barons and knights of this time, who, by their successes against far superior forces, carried the renown of Englishmen to a height before unknown. The Lord Cobham seems ever to have borne himself as one worthy of such comrades. He was one of the principal leaders at the battle of Crecy, and it was to his care, and to that of Sir John Chandos and the Earl of Warwick, that the King committed the Black Prince, who was then to make his first essay in arms.

Froissart's narrative of this transaction has been too often quoted to warrant its repetition here; but it is so characteristic of the men and of the times, as to be worth the while of any reader unacquainted with it, to turn to the passage (vol. ii. p. 167).

At the battle of Poitiers, the Lord Cobham marched in the van as Marshal of the Black Prince's army, and he had the good fortune to save the king of France from the hands of his actual captors, who were quarrelling

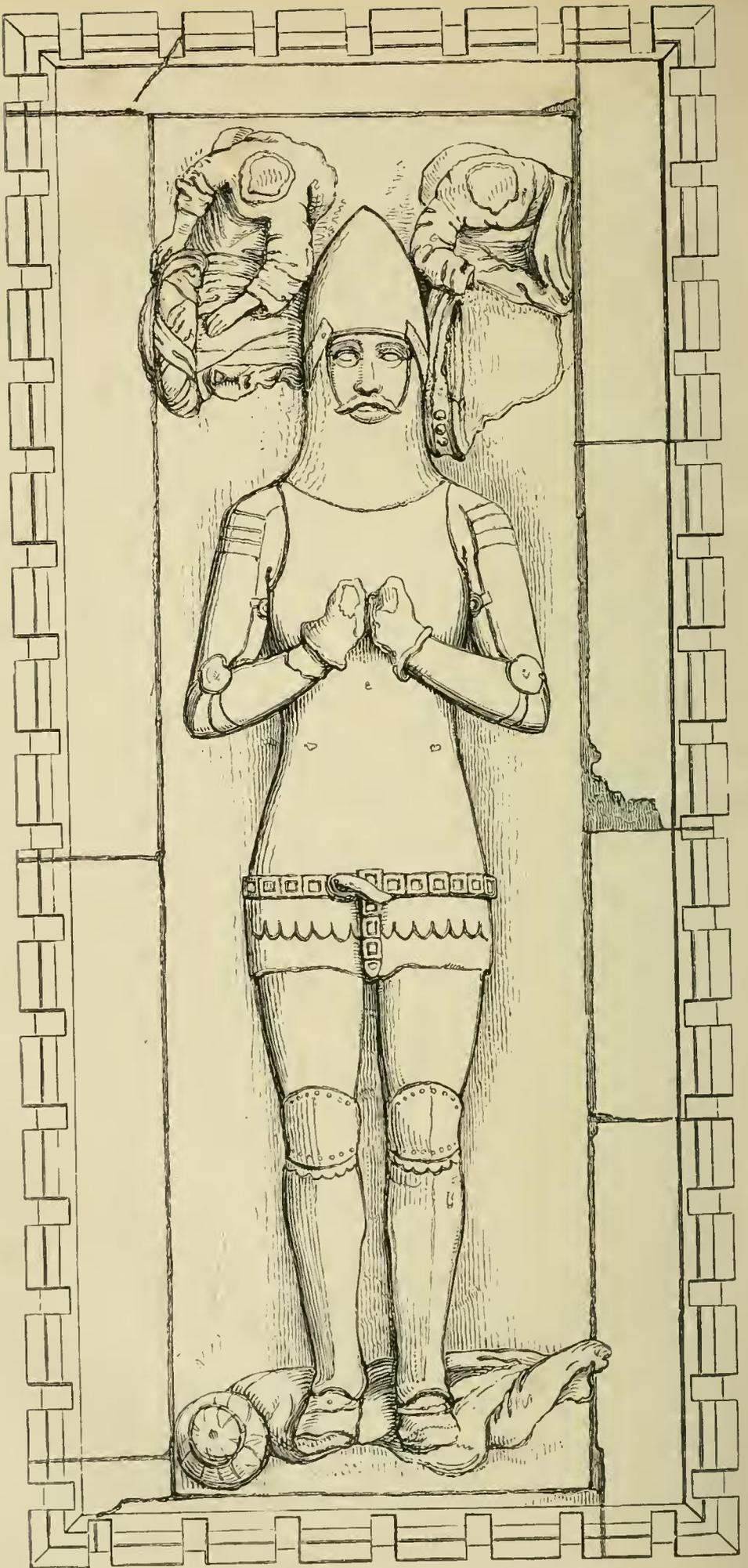
which should have him, and in the strife were like to have slain him. Having received him from these knights, he conducted him with great respect and courtesy to the Prince.

It was not to be expected that one who had so long, and so well, served such a king as Edward III., and that in most important transactions, both military and civil, should be left unrewarded or unhonoured. We find the records of numerous grants and gifts made to him at various periods. Thus, amongst many other benefactions, in the 13th of Edward III., when he was made a Knight Banneret, he had assigned to him for the better support of that dignity, the mill under the Castle at Oxford, and the meadow there, called the King's Mede. In the 18th of Edward III. he was made admiral of the king's fleet, from the mouth of the Thames westwards, which grant was renewed four years later. In the 21st of Edward III. he had a grant of an annuity of £500 for life, the better to support his degree and dignity of Banneret. From the 16th to the 35th of Edward III., he was summoned to Parliament by writ, and in 1352, upon the death of Sir Thomas Wale, he was elected a Knight of the Garter (being the fourth knight in order of election), and filled the ninth stall on the Prince's side, where his plate still remains. At his death he was possessed of the manors of Oaksted or Oxted, and Prinkham or Sterborough in Lingfield; of Langley Burrell and Lye, in Wilts; of Northey in Sussex; and of West Cleve, East Cleve, Bordefielde, Horton, Orkesden, Eynesford, Fancourt, Chidingstone, Holtesbury, Brokeland, and Halstede, in Kent. It is reasonable to believe that he would acquire great wealth from the ransom of some of the numerous lords and knights who were taken prisoners at the battles of Crecy and Poitiers, and from

the spoils of those who were slain. Thus it appears from the Patent Rolls, that in the 33rd of Edward III., the king gave him a bond for 6,000 old florins *de scuto*, part of the ransom for the Count de Longueville, one of the king's prisoners belonging to him; and Froissart relates that at Poitiers, he made the Count de Dampmartin prisoner. We learn from the same source, that the Lord Cobham was appointed, with Sir Richard Stafford, to take an account of those who fell at Crecy on the French side; that they were accompanied by three heralds, appointed to discover the names and rank of the slain by their armorial bearings, and two priests to take down the names; and that they found there, eighty standards, and the bodies of eleven princes, twelve hundred knights, and three thousand men-at-arms.

Lord Cobham was not destined to meet his death in battle. In the autumn of 1361, he died of what was called the second pestilence, which proved fatal to so many eminent persons, and in particular to his old companions in arms, Henry, Duke of Lancaster (the father-in-law of John of Gaunt), and William Fitz Waryn, to several of the bishops, and many of the clergy and gentry.

Strange as it may appear, neither the chronicles of his own time, nor the topographers of later times, afford any information as to the burial-place of one who played so important a part in the wars and diplomacy of his country. A Knight of the Garter, when that honour was the token of services in the field; an ambassador to various foreign states; a Lord Admiral; a principal leader in two of the most famous battles in which Englishmen were ever engaged; the companion and friend of the noblest of his contemporaries—we might have expected that some intimation would have been given of



EFFIGY OF REGINALD, FIRST LORD COBHAM OF STERBOROUGH.

N. Chancel aisle, Lingfield Church.

the place in which his remains were entombed. No allusion, however, to the subject is to be found in Aubrey's "History of Surrey," or in that of Manning and Bray, or in later histories, although these writers profess to describe the church of Lingfield, and notice the tomb under which the knight is interred, which they describe as a marble altar-tomb with the effigy of a knight in armour. It was from a casual allusion in his son's will, that I first learned the place of this lord's burial. Reginald, the second Lord Cobham, in giving directions for his own burial, desired that it should be in the parish church of Lingfield, and he designates the exact spot, as was frequently done in wills of the period. It was to be "*de rere le teste mon tres honorable sieur et pier,*"—behind the head of his very honourable lord and father. On visiting the church, it will be seen that the son's tomb is now placed parallel with that of the father, rather than behind it; but it has evidently been removed from its original position. The tomb, of which engravings are here given, is evidently that of the first Lord Cobham. Not only is it the only one in the church of an older date than that of the son, and therefore the only one that answers to the description given in his will, but it will be found, on examination, that the left leg of the effigy was originally encircled with the Garter, in a kind of porcelain or enamel, some portion of which still remains; thus evidently indicating the first Lord Cobham, who was the only one of this family thus distinguished. The crest upon the helmet on which the knight's head reposes, viz. a Moor's or Turk's head, clothed with a turban (the same figure being also repeated at the feet of the effigy), corresponds with the plate on this knight's stall in St. George's Chapel, and also with the crest upon the fine altar-tomb

in the chancel, which is undoubtedly that of this nobleman's grandson. Not improbably, this crest was adopted to commemorate some adventure in which this lord's ancestor, Henry de Cobham, was engaged, when he accompanied Richard I. to the Holy Land. It is referred to as "a Soldan" in Joan Lady Cobham's will, given in the Appendix.

The tomb, as usual, has been much mutilated. The effigy of the knight is represented with the face uncovered, and a conical helmet upon the head, with a camail of chain mail attached to it, and falling below the chin. This camail originally was wrought in blue and silver enamel. The body is covered with a cyclas, or short surcoat, which has once been richly gilt, and was emblazoned with the arms of Cobham upon the breast. This is confined by a girdle composed of small square plaques filled in with blue enamel, and much resembling in its character that on the effigy of the Black Prince at Canterbury. The plate armour consists of jointed *greaves* and *brassarts*, and *vambraces*, with small auxiliary plates to protect the elbow and knee joints. The knees are protected by *genouillières*, and the legs are covered with short buskins, ending just above the prick spurs, which are fastened with straps and buckles. Three or twelve escutcheons upon the tomb, of which, however, only six are now visible, and the armorial bearings upon these are almost effaced. It appears, however, from a MS. and drawing made by Vincent, and preserved in the College of Arms, that eight out of these twelve shields were in his time emblazoned as follows :

1. Gules, on a chevron or, 3 estoiles sable.—*Cobham of Sterborough.*
2. Gules a chevron between 6 cross crossletts in chief, and 4 in base argent.—*Berkeley.*
3. *Cobham*, impaling or a chevron gules.—*Stafford.*

4. Paly nebulee of 6, or and gules, in a bordure ermine.—*Valenges*.
5. Argent a fess between 4 gemelles gules.—*Badlesmere*.
6. Gules 3 water budgets argent.—*Roos*.
7. Argent a cross flory or, in the first canton, a martlet or.—*Pavely*.
8. Azure, 3 Roses or.—*Cosynton*.

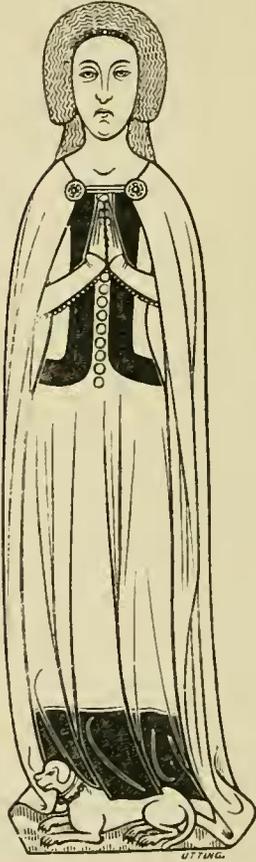
The tomb having been much injured, faint traces only are seen of the first three coats, and also of another shield which is not figured in the drawing preserved at the College of Arms ; viz. *Cobham* impaling *Berkeley*.

This latter shield commemorates the first lord's marriage with Joan, daughter of Thomas Lord Berkeley (third of that name). Dugdale (quoting a careless statement of Robert Glover's) makes her a daughter of *Maurice* de Berkeley ; and both Sir William Segar and Vincent, in their MS. Baronages, preserved in the College of Arms, adopt this error. In his article on the Berkeley family, however, Dugdalé states her to have been daughter of Thomas ; and this is clearly so, for her will (set out in the Appendix) states distinctly that her husband purchased the manor of Langley Burrell, Wilts, of John de la Mare, in her honoured father's presence ; and she goes on to direct that a chapel shall be endowed by her son, with the advowson of that church, for the health of the souls of the said Sir John de la Mare, and of Thomas Lord Berkeley : while it further appears from Smyth's "Lives of the Berkeleys," that this manor, with the advowson, was purchased by Thomas Lord Berkeley in the same year in which his daughter was married (17th Edward III.), and was given to her as a marriage portion.

Another mistake as to this lord's marriage occurs in Sir William Segar's pedigree. He states, that Lord Cobham married a first wife, Elizabeth, daughter to Hugh, second Earl of Stafford, and widow of Sir John Ferrers of Chartley. But this Hugh certainly was not

born until 1344, and Lord Cobham was undoubtedly married before 1348 (as his eldest son was born in that year) to Joan Berkeley, who survived him. Mr. Beltz, in his History of the Order of the Garter, has fallen into much the same error; he makes Elizabeth Stafford the *second* wife of this lord. These mistakes have obviously arisen from confounding Reginald the son, who probably *did* marry the daughter of an Earl of Stafford, with Reginald the father; and this error again may probably be traced to the circumstance that at one time (as already noticed) the arms of Cobham impaling those of Stafford were depicted on the father's tomb. This proceeding, as in similar instances, could hardly fail to produce much confusion. Probably when Lingfield College was founded, and the church was rebuilt, by the first lord's grandson, about the year 1431, this tomb was restored, and was then adorned with the arms of those families which were the most recent alliances, and the old ones were necessarily omitted. In no other way can we account for the circumstance, that while the arms of Cobham of Cobham, of Neville, and of de Hever, this nobleman's immediate ancestors, are wanting, those of Stafford (his son's wife) and de Roos (his grand-daughter's husband) are preserved, together with those of Badlesmere, Cosyngton, Valenges, and Paveley, with whom we have no reason to believe that he was in any way allied.

By his wife, Joan Berkeley, this lord left one son, Reginald, then aged thirteen years, and also a daughter, Joan, married to Lord Henry de Grey, from whom the noble family of Grey of Codnor is descended. One of the daughters of this marriage (Joan) is named as a legatee in Lady Cobham's will, but neither she nor her mother is named in any of the pedigrees preserved in the College of Arms.



BRASS, LINGFIELD CHURCH.

Probably Isabella Cobham, of Gatwick.)

It is certain that this nobleman left a will, since that of his widow contains frequent allusions to its provisions. A very diligent search has not, however, enabled me to discover any traces of it, further than that it was proved at the Bishop of Winchester's palace, Southwark, on 7th of October, 1361, by the executors, Amand Fythlyng, and a certain "I," possibly Joan his widow.²

JOAN, WIFE OF REGINALD, FIRST LORD COBHAM
OF STERBOROUGH.

As already noticed, the first Lord Cobham intermarried with Joan, daughter of Thomas, Lord Berkeley (third of that name), and sister of Maurice (fourth of the name). In Smyth's "Lives of the Berkeleys," it is said that her marriage portion was £2,000 in money, and also the manor of Langley Burrell, Wilts; but in her will she states that her *husband* purchased this manor, and also the manor of Lye, of John de la Mare, in her father's presence. Possibly both accounts may be reconciled by assuming that her husband made the purchase, and her father supplied the funds.

This lady survived her husband eight years, having died 2nd October, 1369. A brass effigy is still preserved on the north aisle of Lingfield Church, of which the annexed engraving is given in the able work on monumental brasses compiled by Mr. Haines, who suggests that it was probably intended to mark the burial-place of this Lady Cobham. There are, however, many, and strong objections to this hypothesis. The brass in question is of a very inferior design and coarse workmanship, and is altogether such a one as would hardly

² Registr. Edyndon.

be placed over the remains of a lady of great wealth and position, and so nobly allied; especially as the tombs of this family were, as Mr. Haines justly observes, remarkable for the beauty and elaborate workmanship of their brass effigies. Besides, as will be seen, she gave such careful and precise directions for her burial in St. Mary Overy's churchyard, and accompanied them with such liberal benefactions to those who should assist at her obsequies, that it is hardly possible that her wishes in this respect should have been disregarded. It seems far more reasonable to believe that the brass figured by Mr. Haines was placed over the grave of Isabella, the wife of Reginald Cobham, of Gatwick. The inscription is torn away, but it appears, from some ancient notes in the College of Arms, which have been preserved and arranged by the care of Robert Laurie, Esq., *Clarencieux*, that there was formerly an inscription remaining on *some* tombstone in the church (and this is now the only one that seems to have lost its inscription), as follows:—

“ Hic jacet Isabella Cobham
Uxor Reginaldi Cobham de Gatewyck
quæ obiit 2^o die Aprilis Anno Domini 1460.”

The first Lady Cobham's will is dated August 13, 1369, and is preserved in the register of Archbishop Wittlesey. A short and imperfect notice of it is to be found in the Harleian MSS., which Sir Harris Nicolas has copied in the “*Testamenta Vetusta* ;” and this again has been adopted by several of our county historians. The will is one of the most elaborate documents of the kind (of the same early date) extant. It contains many interesting and minute particulars, as well in relation to the lady's own family, as to the manners and customs of the period, and her possessions in plate, books, and furniture. These have been left unnoticed



Orate pro aīa Katherine Stoket.

1.500 T.

BRASS, LINGFIELD CHURCH

Katherine Stoket.

in the published abstracts, and I have therefore thought it best to subjoin a complete transcript with a translation.

Amongst other things, she directed her body to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary *Overy*, spelt in the will, "*Overthere*," before the door, over which the blessed Virgin sitteth on high. She was to be interred under a plain marble stone, with a cross of metal, and around it these words in French :—

" Vous qui par ici passietz,
Pur l'alme Johane de Cobham prietz."

She directs that *before everything else*, 7,000 masses shall be celebrated for her soul immediately after her death, and that they shall on no account be delayed or deferred ; and that there should be paid for them £29. 3s. 4d. Amongst many articles of plate, and jewels, and books, and garments, bequeathed to various friends and relations, she mentions a horn made of a griffin's hoof, with a silver gilt cover. She gives legacies to the priests, and to the sisters ministering in St. Thomas's Hospital, also to the sick persons lying there, and to the prisoners lying in chains and fetters near St. George's, Southwark. It will be seen that amongst other objects of her bounty, she distinguishes Katherine Stoket, one of her damsels or ladies in waiting, and together with various corsets, and gowns and hoods, she bequeathed to her twenty marks for her advancement,—"*pro promotione suá.*" It would seem, however, that notwithstanding the possession of these garments and the twenty marks, Katherine never did come to her promotion. On the chancel floor of Lingfield church may yet be seen the effigy of a woman, with hands meekly clasped upon her breast, and an inscription beseeching the prayers of the faithful for the soul's repose of her who lies below.

The family of Stokett, of which Katherine doubtless was a member, was at this date settled at Oxted, in which parish there is yet a manor known by their name. Oxted being part of the possessions of the Cobhams, and immediately adjoining to Sterborough, its inhabitants could hardly fail to be on friendly terms with the lords of the neighbouring castle. Thus we find that in 1345, Roger at Stokett, son and heir of John (and very probably brother of Katherine), was in ward to the lord of the manor of Oxted; and in the bailiff's accounts, ten pence per week for thirty weeks is charged for his commons on going to school, seven weeks being deducted when he was at Sterborough (probably for his holidays), and in addition, the sum of eleven pence is charged for cloth for one pair of hose, a penny for sewing, and ten pence for two pairs of shoes.³

Allusion is made in this Lady Cobham's will to a transaction of which I have found no other instance. Amongst Robert Glover's notices of the family of Cobham of Cobham, to which reference is made in the notes to the pedigree subjoined, is preserved a document of which the following is a translation:—

“Memorandum, that John de la Mare, Knight, sold the manor of Langley Burrell, Wilts, to Lord Reginald Cobham, the father of Lord Reginald de Cobham who now is, on condition that the said Reginald should endow two chantries, in which prayers should daily be offered for the souls of the said John de la Mare and his ancestors, which chantries by the will of the said Lord Reginald, the son of the said Lord Reginald, were established in the collegiate church of Cobham, &c.”

In the same collection is also preserved a deed, by which, in the fifth year of Richard II. (1382), Ralph de Cobham, of the county of Devon, gave to Sir John de Cobham, lord of Cobham, to Reginald de Cobham, parson

³ Manning and Bray, Hist. of Surrey, ii. 389.

of Northfleet, and to Ralph de Cobham of Chafford, the manor of Sharnden, and the marsh of Elmele, as security that Reginald de Cobham, Lord of Sterborough, or his heirs, should appropriate to the College of Cobham a church of the full value of forty marks, &c. It seems probable that this appropriation was intended as a provision for the masses to be celebrated for the soul of Sir John and his ancestors, in compliance with the stipulation made when he sold Langley Burrell.

It will be seen, on reference to Lady Cobham's will, that she also mentions this purchase and the condition annexed to it, as described in the memorandum above referred to. It would appear that the engagement had not been fulfilled in her husband's lifetime, and she conscientiously directs, that if her son should appropriate the church of Langley Burrell for the maintenance of two priests to celebrate the masses in question for the souls of Sir John de la Mare, and those of her own husband and father, her executors should enfeoff her son and his heirs in her water-mill at Edun Bridge, and her house in Southwark, so that he might bear the burthen, and in time to come might answer on this account for her deceased lord, and for her soul, before the Supreme Judge.

For some reason or other, it would seem that the church of Langley Burrell never was appropriated for the pious uses thus designated, and it was probably considered equally efficacious, and much more convenient, that the chapels in question should be endowed in the college or chantry at Cobham, which had been founded in 1361, by John Lord Cobham of Kent; and this endowment was doubtless considered sufficient to satisfy the condition contained in Lady Cobham's will; inasmuch as the water-mill in Edenbridge, and the house in

Southwark, certainly passed to her son. The latter was the hostel or town house of the family. It was known as Cobham's Inn, and formed part of the possessions with which Reginald, the grandson of this Lady Cobham, long afterwards endowed his own college of Lingfield.

From another document preserved by Glover, we learn that all the masses for Lady Cobham were not celebrated until more than twelve years after her death; for, in the fourth year of Richard II., Richard Maubanke, one of her executors, appointed John de Cobham, Lord of Cobham, his attorney, to pay to the prioress of Higham in Kent, £20, which the said Lord Cobham had formerly received from Amand Fythlyng, Canon of St. Paul's, London (another of the executors), that the said prioress, together with the convent of Higham, should pray for the souls of the said Dame Joan, and of Sir Reginald de Cobham her husband, and of all Christians.

REGINALD, SECOND LORD COBHAM OF
STERBOROUGH.

THIS nobleman, the only son of the first Lord, was born in 1348, and was thus only thirteen years of age when his father died. At the date of his mother's will, eight years later, he had already been engaged in the wars of that troubled time, for she mentions certain silver dishes and salt-cellars which she had delivered to him when he went into Gascony. In 44th and 46th Edward III. he was summoned to parliament. In 48th Edward III. he was one of those noble persons who were chosen to treat of peace with the king of France, and he was in the French wars in the first year of Richard II., and also in the third year of Henry IV.

It is stated in Dugdale's "Baronage," that he was twice married, his first wife being Elizabeth, the widow of Fulk le Strange, and afterwards of Sir John Ferrers, of Chartley. From the *Inquisitiones post mortem*, it appears that this lady died 49th Edward III. (1374), and that she held for her life the manor of Wrokwardyn, Salop, with remainder to the heirs of John le Strange, of Blakemere; also that she held for her life the manor of Broughton, Wilts, and (conjointly with John de Ferrers, her late husband) the manors of Teynton and Bicknore, Gloucestershire; and that Robert de Ferrers was the son and heir of the said Elizabeth and John. It is also stated that she was the daughter of Hugh, earl of Stafford. No mention of her is to be found in this earl's will, although he does mention by name several of his sons and daughters; but the statement derives some confirmation from the circumstance of the Stafford arms having been depicted on the first Lord Cobham's tomb.

In the inquisition, this lady is stated to have been the wife of "*Reginald Cobham, Chivaler*," and it seems not very improbable (in the absence of any other evidence) that she may have been the wife of one of the other knights of the same name, of whom there were several living at this date.

After his first wife's decease (if indeed he were twice married), Lord Cobham, about the year 1380, married Eleanor, the daughter of John Maltravers (who died in the lifetime of his father, John, Lord Maltravers), and co-heiress, with her two sisters, of her brother Henry Maltravers. This lady was the widow of Sir John Fitz-Alan, marshal of England, who was shipwrecked and drowned in the Irish Channel, while in command of a force of two hundred men-at-arms, and four hun-

dred archers, which the king had despatched to the aid of the duke of Brittany, in December, 1379. He was the son of Richard, fifth earl of Arundell (by his second countess, Eleanor, daughter of Henry Plantagenet, earl of Lancaster), and was thus brother of the archbishop, and of Richard, the sixth earl, who was beheaded, by order of Richard II., in September, 1397. Like the archbishop and some others of his family, Sir John Fitz-Alan assumed his father's and brother's title of honour for his own surname. By his will (in which he styles himself Sir John Arundell), dated in November, 1379, he directed that he should be buried in the Priory of Lewes, in the great church there, under an arch near the funeral chapel; he mentions his wife, Eleanor, and appointed Sir Robert Rouse and —— Maltravers executors. He left several children by Eleanor Maltravers, and amongst them, John, who eventually became ninth earl of Arundell, and a Knight of the Garter; Margaret, who married William, Lord de Roos, of Hamlake, K.G.; and William, who died in 1400. Agnes, the widow of William, died in the following year; and by her will,⁴ dated September 6th, 1401, she gave to the priory church of St. Andrew, Rochester, in which she desired to be buried, under the tomb where the images of her husband and herself are depicted, "one thorn of the crown of Jesus, wherewith he was crowned at the time of his passion;" to her lady mother, a gold brooch, enamelled with red and black colours, with a balass ruby in the middle; to her sister Roos, a "*speculum*," round and gilt, having the representation of the Trinity on the one side, and of the Blessed Virgin on the other; to her sister, Margaret Cobham, "*duas uncias de perlis*

⁴ Reg. Arundell, 183 a.

communis ponderacionis" (two ounces of pearls of the common weight); to her brother, Richard Arundell, "*unum halle de haras*" [the (hangings for) a hall of arras]; to the countess of Hereford, "*unum sperver squar linen embroidé cum auro*" (embroidered bed furniture).

There appears to have been some relationship between Lord Cobham and Sir John Fitz-Alan's widow, the nature of which has not hitherto been very accurately defined. In a MS. pedigree of the family, preserved in the Bodleian Library, and which purports to have been compiled by Sir William Dugdale and Sir Richard St. George, it is stated that Eleanor's paternal grandmother (Ela or Eva) was the daughter of Maurice Lord Berkeley.⁵ No mention, however, is made of this lady in the account of the Berkeley family contained in Dugdale's "Baronage," nor in Smyth's "Lives of the Berkeleys," nor in Fosbroke's "History of Gloucestershire." These authorities concur in representing Joan as the only daughter of Thomas, and that all the daughters of the *fourth* Maurice died unmarried; and that the *third* Maurice had but one daughter, Isabel, the wife of Robert Lord Clifford. In one of the MS. pedigrees of the Cobham family, preserved in the Harleian Collection, and which purports to have been compiled by Mr. Heneage, Keeper of the Records in the Tower, Joan, the wife of the first Lord Cobham, and Ela or Eva, the wife of the second lord, are bracketed together, apparently as if nearly related; and it is also mentioned, that the second lord was divorced from his wife on account of their being related in the *third* degree of consanguinity, that they procured a dispensation to contract a fresh marriage, and that several of their children were

⁵ Vincent (cited by Mr. Greenfield, Topographer and Genealogist, ii. 312) makes the same statement.

born before, and several after, such second marriage. The fact of this relationship throws some light upon the marriage of John Baron Maltravers, about which but little is known, and tends to strengthen the statement, that his first wife was daughter of Maurice Lord Berkeley. And assuming Maurice, the third of that name, to be meant, she would then be sister of the second Lord Cobham's maternal grandfather; and her own grand-daughter, Eleanor Maltravers, and her brother's grandson, would be second cousins, and related in the third degree of the Canon Law.

The proceedings relative to this dispensation, which are fully recorded in Archbishop Courtney's register (folio 58 et seqq.), afford an interesting illustration of the perils which beset the path of those who braved the anger of the Church by marrying within the degrees forbidden by the canon law; they also throw some light upon the methods by which those vast funds were provided, which were required for the erection of our cathedrals and other public edifices.

The process, which was long, and doubtless proportionably expensive, commenced by a humble petition from the husband and wife to the Pope (Urban VI.), setting forth that, notwithstanding they were aware that they were related to each other in the third degree of consanguinity, they had, nevertheless, publicly contracted a marriage *per verba de præsenti*, no banns having been published, in the face of the Church, and that they were unable to continue in such a matrimony unless the Pope's apostolical dispensation were obtained. Upon this petition, the Pope issued his bull (dated at Naples, the 14th kalends of May, in the seventh year of his elevation), in which, after setting out the petition, he empowers the archbishop, if he should think proper,

and provided also that the petitioner and his wife should remain separate as long as he should see fit, to grant them a dispensation to contract a fresh marriage, and to legitimate their issue, as well begotten as to be begotten. He directed, however, that whichever of them should survive the other should remain for ever after unmarried. Upon this, the archbishop issued a commission addressed to the bishop of Rochester, and dated Sept. 9th, 1384, setting forth the bull, and reciting that he himself being much occupied with his metropolitan visitation, and other urgent business, was unable personally to attend to the affair; and he therefore empowers the bishop to execute all the functions committed to him by the Pope's bull, and to grant to Lord and Lady Cobham the required dispensation, if they should consent to live apart from each other for one whole month. On 11th November following, the bishop made his return to this commission, certifying that he had examined the parties and also their witnesses, and had received their confessions, and had thereupon granted them full absolution, and also the apostolical dispensation to contract a fresh marriage, and to render their issue legitimate.

It might be supposed that the cousins were now out of their troubles; but the Church had not yet done with them. On 6th January (1384-5), the archbishop issued a fresh commission to the bishop of Rochester for the infliction upon the guilty pair of the following acts of penance, viz. :—That as long as either of them should live, they should provide a secular priest to celebrate for them in the cathedral church of Canterbury, at some altar to be appointed by the Prior of that church; also, inasmuch as they had remained in their unlawful marriage for the space of four years without a dispensation,

they were, for the space of four whole years, to abstain from eating meat, and from drinking wine on every Wednesday (*singulis quartis feriis*), and at each of the six fasts they were to refrain from eating of that kind of fish which was the best, and the most agreeable to them. Further, for the same period of four years, they were enjoined to feed daily four poor persons, waiting upon them in person, publiely, a little before dinner-time, in the great hall, if they should be at home ; but if not, then they were to be served by the most honourable person at that time in the house, and each pauper was to have one loaf, with one dish or ration of flesh or fish according to the season, and the half of a flagon of ale ; and in addition, they were to be clothed at the expense of the penitents once in every year with tunics and hoods of russet. They were further required to expend, for the reparation of the walls of the city of Canterbury, two hundred marks, to be paid to the prior or sub-prior of the church there, or to William Topelyve, at the next feast of the Annunciation, and one hundred marks for the building of Rochester bridge, to be paid to the prior of the church there, or to the same William Topelyve ; and they were to produce the acquittances for these various sums to the bishop. The bishop made his return to this commission, dated March 1st, certifying that these sums had been duly paid, and the acquittances duly produced to him ; and on 3rd December following, the archbishop issued his monition to Lord Cobham and his wife, enjoining them to the due performance of what remained unperformed of their penance, on pain of excommunication : and thus, it is to be presumed, this tedious process was at last closed.

It appears from Archbishop Arundel's register, that on 7th August, 1402, one Clement Eccleston was

collated to St. Mary's chauntry, in the parish church of Croydon, to which he had been presented on the resignation of John Park, by William Draper, vicar (the rector being absent), Thomas de Bergh, William Oliver, John Fraunceys, Walter at Grene, John Scarlet, John Rychard, John Spycer, John Staunton, William Hammon, Richard Rook, and Richard Wake, parishioners of the said church, in whom the patronage of the chauntry had been vested by the founder's appointment; and it is stated that the chauntry had been then lately founded by the noble Sir Reginald Cobham, lord of Steresburgh. In Manning and Bray's History of Surrey, it is said that the incumbent was to pray for the souls of Reginald Lord Cobham and *Joan* his wife, and their children, and all Christian souls. Steinman, in his History of Croydon, says, of Thomas Lord Berkley also. This, however, does not appear from the archbishop's register, nor is any authority quoted in support of the statement. It appears from the minister's and bailiff's accounts in the Augmentation Office, that this chauntry was endowed with lands in and near the town of Croydon, which were valued, at the suppression of colleges and chapels (3rd Edward VI.), at £16. 1s. 2d. per annum. It does not appear that those estates ever formed part of the founder's patrimony, nor does it seem that he had any connection whatever with the town of Croydon. We know, however, from other sources, that the beautiful parish church in which this chauntry was founded was just at this time in course of erection, having been commenced by Archbishop Courtney, and continued by his successors, Arundell and Chicheley. It seems not improbable, therefore, that out of regard to Archbishop Arundell (his wife's brother-in-law), or at his instigation, Lord Cobham may have

founded this chauntry in the church of which the archbishop was the patron, and which immediately adjoined his palace; or it may be, that he was induced to endow it, by way of further expiation of his offence in marrying his second cousin without the papal dispensation.

Lord Cobham died in 1403, a few days only before the battle of Shrewsbury, and was buried, pursuant to the directions contained in his will, in the parish church of Lingfield. His tomb still remains there, inlaid with an effigy in brass, of which an accurate representation is here given.

This effigy gives an excellent and instructive representation of the armour in use at this period, showing how much more elaborate and elegant it had become in the forty years which had elapsed since his father's death. He is represented in plate armour, with a pointed skull-cap, and a hood of chain mail to protect the neck, and a skirt of mail also. The epitaph, in Leonine hexameters, differs so much from the style of those in use on such occasions, that, though it has already appeared in print, I may be pardoned for reproducing it here. That part of the brass which bore the words given in brackets has long been broken away and lost; but, from an ancient manuscript copy in the College of Arms, I have been able to supply them:—

“De Steresburgh dominus de Cobham Sr Reginaldus
 · Hic jacet. Hic validus miles fuit ut leopardus.
 [Sagax consiliis, satis audax omnibus horis,]
 In cunctis terris famam predavit honoris.
 Dapsilis in mensis, formosus, morigerosus,
 Largus in expensis, imperterritus, generosus.
 Et quando placuit Messie quod moreretur,
 Expirans obiit. In cœlis glorificetur.
 Mille quadringeno trino . . Julii (quoque trino)
 Migravit cœlo—sit sibi vera quies;
 Amen. Paternoster.”



BRASS, LINGFIELD CHURCH.

Reginald, second Lord Cobham of Sterborough.

Rendered into English, this epitaph informs us that he was brave as a leopard, wary in council, yet bold enough when occasion required; that he carried away renown from all lands, was sumptuous in his house-keeping, handsome, affable, munificent, undaunted, and generous; and that when it pleased the Messiah that he should die, he breathed his last.

The description here given bears a close resemblance to the well-known passage in the prologue to the "Canterbury Tales," in which Chaucer gives the character of his knight. As he and Lord Cobham were contemporaries, and were both in attendance upon Edward III. and his queen, it seems not impossible that the poet may have intended thus gracefully to commemorate a friend and companion.

The second baron greatly increased the family possessions, probably by both his marriages; but whether these fortunate alliances were due to the courage, or to the beauty, or to the other virtues described in such glowing terms on his tomb, the chronicles of the period do not state. It appears from the inquisition taken after his death, that besides the estates which descended to him from his father, he was possessed of no less than forty other manors and estates in various counties, including one third part of the manors of Buckland, West Becheworth, Wauton, and Colle, in Surrey; of which last he was seized in right of his widow, they being her dower of her first marriage.

His will, which is in French, and of which a transcript from Archbishop Arundell's register at Lambeth, with a translation, are now subjoined, affords an interesting example of the wills of the period. It will be seen that while he gives nearly £400 to be laid out in various masses and prayers for the dead, only two

hundred marks (£133. 6s. 8d.) are given for his daughter's marriage portion, in case she should be disposed to take a husband. A sum of £100 was to be laid out in masses for the soul of Queen Philippa, whom he describes as his *commère* (gossip). In what manner the tie of so called "spiritual affinity," which this word indicates, was induced between him and the queen, I have not been able to ascertain; as the queen was married about twenty-five years before he was born, it is not probable that he was godfather to one of the numerous children of King Edward III., and that he thus became entitled to call the queen "commère."

It will be seen that this lord, following his mother's example, gave special directions in his will that the masses which were to be celebrated for him should be completed as soon as possible after his decease—" *en si brief temps com' ils pourraient etre faicts;*" and that the price to be paid for them is also exactly specified, being somewhat less than that mentioned by his mother. Lady Cobham's will is the earliest in which I have found any such direction. Before her time, it seems to have been usual to give a considerable sum, sometimes the whole of the testator's estate, to be laid out in this manner, leaving the particular mode of expending it to the executors' discretion. This method was doubtless found to be liable to abuse. From the neglect or dishonesty of executors, it frequently happened that the masses were not purchased at all; and when this did not happen, the bequest was often a subject of strife between the various religious orders, who, as we learn from Chaucer and from Piers Plowman's Crede, were at all times extremely jealous of each other, and were constantly engaged in intrigues to procure these legacies, and in disputes concerning them, when obtained. In

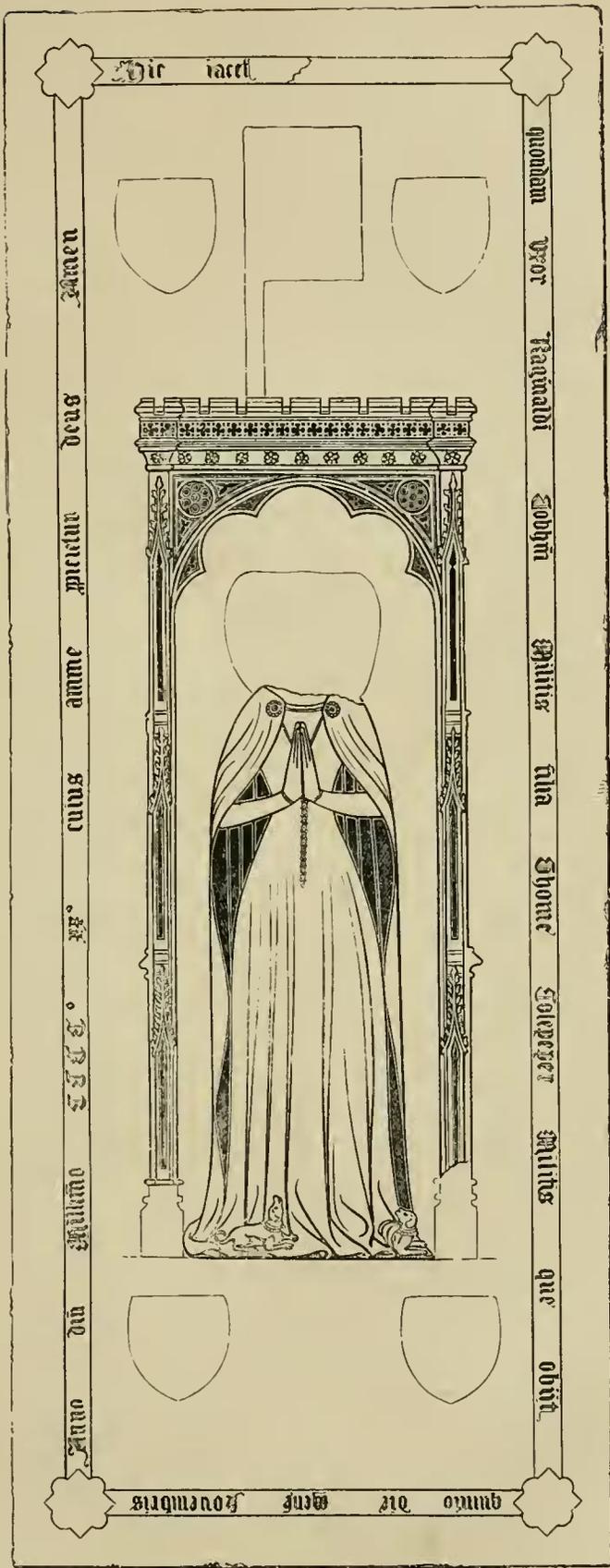
wills of later date it is not at all unusual to meet with similar provisions; and occasionally we find that testators also went on to direct what particular kind of mass should be sung. Thus John de Cobham, of Hever, directed that ten thousand masses, and twenty trentalls of St. Gregory, should be celebrated for his soul; while Cardinal Beaufort (an abstract of whose will is printed in Nicolas' "Testamenta Vetusta," and may be referred to by the curious on such subjects), in giving instructions to his executors, directed that 3,000 of the 10,000 masses to be said for him, should be of *requiem*; 3,000 of *the Holy Spirit*; 3,000 of *rorate cœli desuper*; and 1,000 of *the Trinity*.

The Lady Margaret mentioned in Lord Cobham's will seems to have been minded to take a husband in her father's lifetime, although within three months of his decease. It appears from the register of William of Wickham (in whose diocese of Winchester the castle is situate), that a special licence was granted by that bishop, on 17th of April, 1403, for the solemnization in the castle chapel of this lady's marriage with Reginald Courtays, of Wraggeby, in Lincolnshire. It also appears from the same register, that eleven years previously, viz. on 9th of April, 1394, the same bishop granted a similar licence for the marriage of this nobleman's step-daughter (being the daughter of Eleanor, widow of Sir John Fitz-Alan), with the Lord de Roos. This lady, in most, if not all of the pedigrees, is wrongly represented as the daughter of Lord Cobham himself. She is described in the licence as "*Margareta filia Elienoræ uxoris Domini Reginaldi de Cobham*;" whereas her half-sister is designated as "*Margareta filia Domini Reginaldi de Cobham*." And further, in his will dated in 1400, his own daughter is alluded to as being then unmarried, as well as in the

He was twice married; first, to Eleanor, the daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, whose effigy in brass (of which an engraving faces this page) is yet preserved in Lingfield Church, although in imperfect condition. This lady died in 1422, and he then intermarried with Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Lord Bardolf, and widow of Sir William Clifford, Knight. This second marriage must have occurred in, or shortly before 1427, since in the minutes of the proceedings of the Privy Council for that year, we find that it was agreed by the lords of the council, that a warrant should be issued to the Treasurer of the Exchequer, concerning the payment to Reginald de Cobham, Knight, of Sterborough, who had married Anna, late the wife of William Clifford, Knight, deceased, executrix of the said William, and who had accounted in the King's Exchequer, for the office of captain and constable of Fronsak in Aquitaine, for the time in which the said William held the said office, and after his decease, for the time of the said Anna, of the sum of £1,422. 10s. 10*d.*, as appeared by a certain petition filed in the office of the privy seal.

The only public service in which it would seem that Sir Reginald Cobham was engaged, was the taking charge of the Duke of Orleans, afterwards Louis XII., who was taken prisoner at Azincour, and was only released after an imprisonment of more than twenty years, and on payment of an enormous ransom.

The mode in which this prince should be disposed of, was one of the numerous subjects upon which Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, the Lord Protector during Henry the Sixth's minority, disputed with his uncle, Henry Beaufort, the Cardinal bishop of Winchester. The Lord Protector wished to detain the duke in Eng-



BRASS, LINGFIELD CHURCH.

Eleanor Colepeper, first wife of Sir Reginald Cobham.

land, alleging that the late king had expressed his desire that he should never be restored to liberty. The cardinal, however, doubtless for some good reasons of his own, desired to release him; and it was one of the articles of impeachment, which Hall says were exhibited to the king, in the 20th year of his reign, by the duke against the cardinal, that—

“The deliverance of the said duke of Orleansce is utterly appointed by the mediation, counsayll, and steryng of the said cardinall, and the archbishoppe of York, and for that purpose divers persons been come from your adversaries into this your realme, and the said duke brought also into this your city of London; whereas my Lord, your father (whom God assoile) peising so greatly the inconvenience and harme that might fall only by his deliverance, concluded, ordained, and determined in his last will utterly in his wisdom, his conquest in his reaulme of France.”

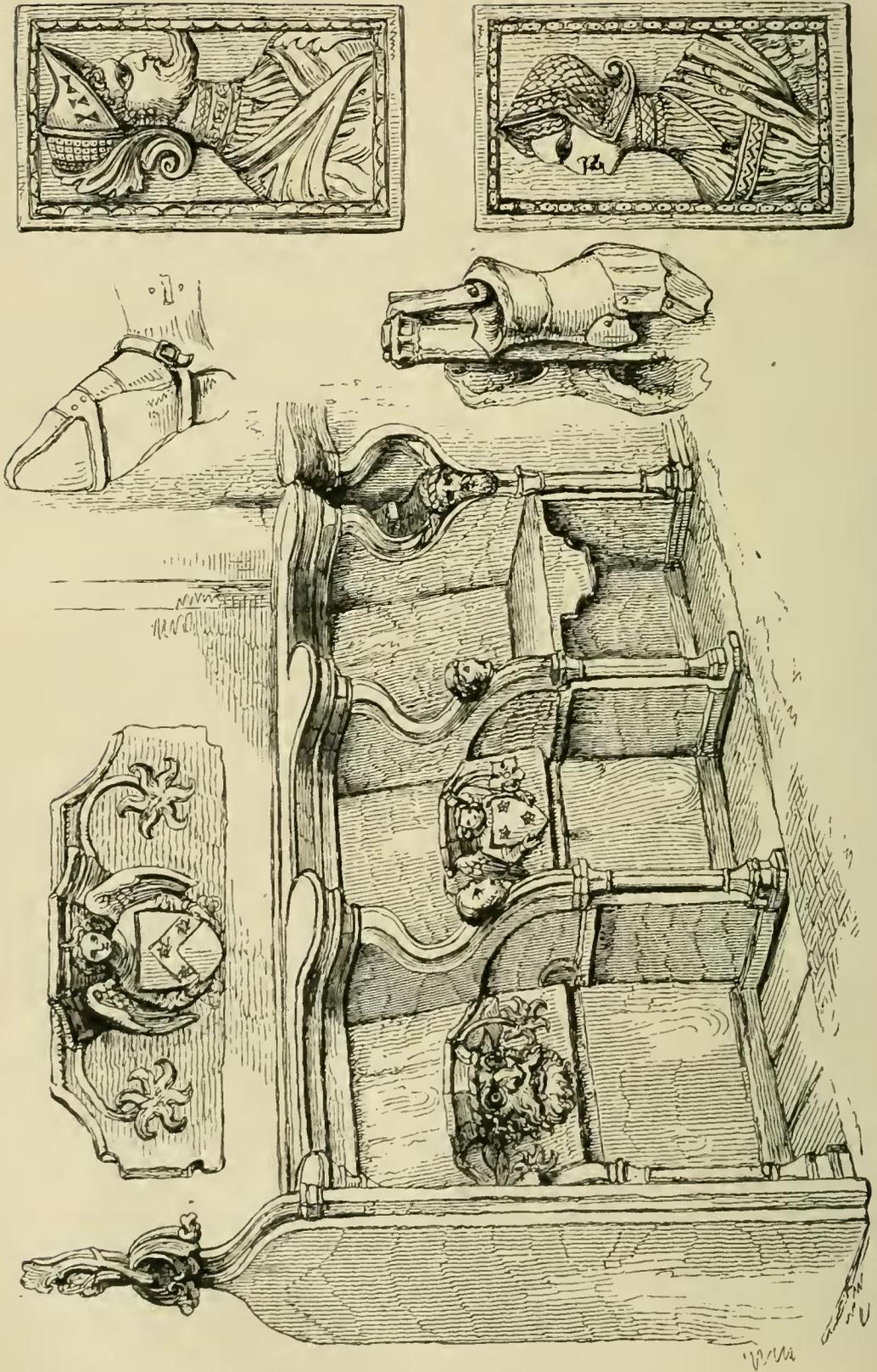
The duke was entrusted to the care of several keepers in succession; and eventually, in order probably to guard against any attempts on the part of the cardinal to get possession of him, the Lord Protector seems to have placed him in the charge of Sir Reginald Cobham (to whose daughter he had been married some years previously), and on whose fidelity he might reasonably rely.

In 1436, we find from Rymer's *Fœdera*, that a petition was presented to the king and the Privy Council by “*Reginald Cobham, Chevalier*,” setting forth that the king, by his letters patent, had committed the Duke of Orleans to the safe custody of the petitioner, as from May 12th then last; and that he was to be allowed for the time that the said duke should be in his custody the same payments daily that the Earl of Suffolk had been accustomed to receive on the same account, but that up to that time he had received nothing whatever. The petition goes on to pray the king, by the advice of his council, to consider the great charges and expenses that

the petitioner had incurred, and to grant him letters under the privy seal, directed to the Treasurer of England, to pay him what was due. On this petition, an order was made by the council on 19th November, 15th Henry VI., that what the petitioner desired should be done, the Duke of Gloucester, the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of Norwich, and other lords being present; but not the cardinal.

It appears also, from a minute of the council, dated 24th October 1437, that it was ordered that there should be made a letter to Reginald Cobham, to bring the Duke of Orleans to London, "so that he might be with the king at Shene on Monday next, to confer with him of certain matters of the pees, that the chancellor in France might take payment in France for the *soulde* of certain archers and men at arms." From the tenor of this minute, it would seem that at this time, the duke was in the custody of Sir Reginald Cobham, and as he appears to have had no other residence, the duke was probably an inhabitant of Sterborough Castle.

There is preserved in the British Museum, a MS. volume of poems composed by the duke while in captivity. It is adorned with a beautiful and curious illumination, representing the Tower of London with the Traitors' Gate, and Old London Bridge with its chapel and houses in the distance. This, probably, is the most ancient view of these buildings extant. The duke is first seen sitting at a window, then meeting and embracing a knight at one of the gates, and lastly galloping away on horseback, as if rejoicing in his new-found liberty. The illuminations throughout the volume are adorned with the badge of the portcullis, and are probably of Henry the Seventh's time. The poems are



FROM THE CHANCEL OF LINGFIELD CHURCH.

Stallwork on S. side; and a Misericord from N. side (enlarged scale). Details (soleret and gauntlets from Tomb of Sir Reginald and Lady Cobham. Busts from panelling, N. side of Chancel.

chiefly love sonnets and ballads addressed to some real or imaginary mistress ; but there are also several passages in which the writer bitterly laments his captivity, and expresses a passionate desire once more to revisit his "Belle France." Of these, the following may serve as an example :—

" Je dois être un saison
 Enlargy pour purchasser
 La prix aussi ma mension
 Si je peux suerté trouver,
 Pour aller et retourner
 Il faut qu'en hâte la querir
 Si je veuille brief achever
 En bon termes ma matière
 Or gentil duc Bourgignon,
 A le coup veuillez m'aider
 Come mon intencion
 Est de vous servir et amer,
 Tant que vyf pourra durer
 En vous et France entière
 Or m'ayderey a finer
 En bons termes ma matière."

In 1431, Sir Reginald Cobham, conjointly with his second wife, founded the college of Lingfield adjoining the church, for a provost or master, six chaplains, and certain clerks of the Carthusian order, and the church was thereupon constituted a collegiate church. He endowed it with lands in this neighbourhood and elsewhere, which at the Reformation were valued at £75 per annum. Amongst these estates was included an inn, called "The Green Dragon," in Southwark, probably the same as is alluded to in the will of Joan Cobham, as her inn or hostel.

It would seem that when the college was founded, the parish church was almost or entirely rebuilt, and stalls were placed in the chancel for the provost and

chaplains. These are still remaining, and are embellished with the armorial bearings of Cobham and Bardolf.

This Reginald died in the year 1446, in the same year in which, as it is believed, his son-in-law, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, was murdered, at Bury St. Edmunds, by the procurement of the queen, the Earl of Suffolk, and Cardinal Beaufort.

By his will, dated 12th August, 1446, he directed his body to be buried in the collegiate church of Lingfield, before the high altar, appointing that a tomb of alabaster should be placed there for his monument; also that £40 should be allowed for his funeral expenses, and for his Trental and alms to poor people at those solemnities. To Anne, his most dear wife, he thereby disposed of all his household goods within his castle at Sterborough at the time of his decease, appointing that during her life she should have the use of all the furniture of his chapel in that castle, and after her death to remain to the master of the collegiate church of St. Peter, at Lingfield, then newly by him founded, and to the priests therein and their successors for ever; and he also gave £80 to buy books and vestments for the college, and appointed his son, Sir Thomas Cobham, Knight, one of his executors.

The injunctions contained in this will as to the tomb were religiously followed by his widow and son. In the chancel of the church may yet be seen the lofty and well-proportioned tomb of alabaster, of which engravings are here given, and upon it are laid full-length effigies of the knight and his second wife. The first wife, as already stated, rests in a much more humble grave.

It may be noticed as another proof, how little pains have been taken hitherto to compile our county his-



EFFIGIES OF SIR REGINALD COBHAM AND ANNE (BARDOLF), his second Wife,

Founders of Lingfield College.

tories, that although a very slight investigation of the subject might have satisfied the writers as to the history of the persons here entombed, yet neither in Manning and Bray's History of Surrey, nor in Brayley and Britton's, is any information given with regard to them. All that is said amounts to this—that upon this tomb are to be seen the whole-length figures of a knight and his lady in white marble; conveying to the reader just as much information as is given in exhibition catalogues, "Portrait of a gentleman, or of a lady, whole length."

This knight's effigy is in a perfect suit of plate armour, except the head and face and hands, which are left uncovered, the head being laid upon a helmet surmounted by the crest, the turbaned Soldan's head. This armour, when compared with that of his father and grandfather, affords a good illustration of the changes which had taken place in the course of eighty years. It is very much more ponderous and elaborate than theirs, although, probably, not more serviceable than the armour of him who led the van at Crécy and Poitiers. The *genouillères*, or knee-plates, are massive, with a broad flat plate, of an ivy leaf, or heart-shaped pattern, lapping over the knee joint; a smaller plate of the same pattern is also seen on the elbow joint. The stomach is protected by five of the broad plates or bars which were called *taces*, opening with hinges on the right side, and fastening with a strap and buckle on the left. The *tuelles*, or coverings for the thighs, are very large, nearly of a heptagon figure, about eight inches by seven, and are fastened by straps and buckles to the *taces*. The feet are encased in *sollerets*, and the gauntlets are hung at the girdle.

The shields of arms emblazoned upon his tomb are as follows: viz. *Cobham*.—*Bardolf*, *Azure*, three cinque

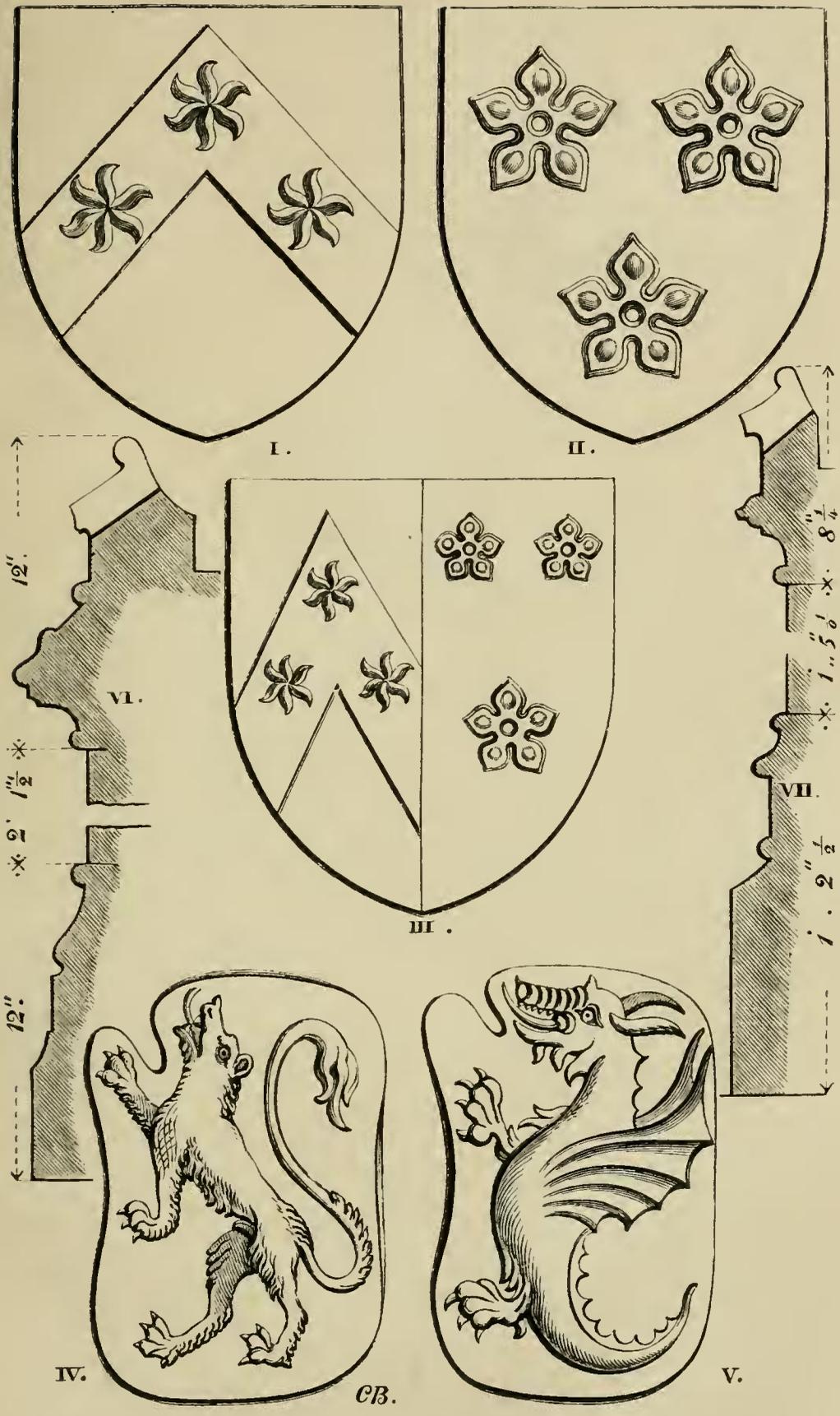
foils *or*; *Cobham* impaling *Bardolf*; *Az.* a winged dragon, argent; *Gules*, a lion rampant, *argent*. The lady's head is enveloped in a widow's wimple, or hood, plaited at the edges, and folded below the chin, and descending to the breast, and is laid upon a pillow, *semée* with cinque foils *or*, and supported by two angels with golden wings and hair. The knight is represented without beard or moustachios of any kind; unlike his grandfather, who has a small moustachio, but no beard. He has a ring of a different pattern on each finger, except the little finger of the left hand.

The inscription has long since been lost; but, fortunately, I have been able to supply it from the manuscript note in the Heralds' College, before alluded to. It was as follows:

“Orate pro animabus Reginaldi Cobham militis, et Annæ, consortis sue, fundatorum hujus Collegii.”

His wife, who survived him, is thus clearly designated as one of the founders of the college, and this is confirmed by an entry in the Patent Rolls of 24th, 25th, 26th of Henry VI., relating to an endowment (which must have been made immediately after her husband's death), and from which it appears, that she, with others, gave to the warden and chaplains of the college of St. Peter, in Lingfield, the manors of Hexted and Bylyshersh, with other lands in Lingfield.

According to Sir Wm. Segar's “MS. Baronage,” it would seem, that this knight left six children by his first marriage; viz.: Elizabeth, the wife of Lord Strange of Knocking; Margaret, the wife of Reginald Courtays; Reginald; Eleanor, the wife of Humphrey Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester; Ann, a nun at Barking, and Sir Thomas Cobham, Knight. Vincent, in his “MS.



DETAILS FROM TOMB OF SIR REGINALD AND LADY COBHAM.

- I Cobham. II. Bardolf. III. Cobham and Bardolf. IV. Quære. V. Quære.
 VI. Profile of Mouldings.
 VII. Profile of Mouldings, from Tomb of Reginald, 1st Lord Cobham.

Baronage," also gives the same account, except that he makes Margaret the wife of Reginald *Courtney*. So far as the daughter Margaret is concerned, however, these accounts are incorrect; for, as we have already seen, the wife of Reginald Courtays was this knight's sister, and not his daughter.

THE SECOND SIR REGINALD COBHAM, KNIGHT,
OF STERBOROUGH.

THIS Reginald Cobham, the eldest son of Sir Reginald, by his marriage with Eleanor, daughter of Sir Thomas Colepeper, died in his father's lifetime. It appears that he was knighted in the fourth year of Henry VI., and the occasion on which this ceremony took place was a singular one. The Duke of Gloucester and his uncle, the Cardinal Beaufort, had long been engaged in that fierce strife which, having lasted more than twenty years, ended only with the duke's life, and which not only wrought such vast mischief to the realm, but contributed to the downfall of the house of Lancaster. At this time they had agreed to refer all their disputes to arbitration, and thus a short and insincere reconciliation was effected. They shook hands in the presence of the king and of the parliament, on Whitsunday, at Leicester, the king being then five years of age. Upon this event great rejoicings ensued, the king himself was knighted by the Duke of Bedford, many promotions were made in the peerage, and several gentlemen were knighted, and, amongst others, this Reginald, and also Sir John Chideoke, probably his wife's brother. According to Sir William Segar's account, he married Thomasine, the daughter of Sir Ralph Chideoke, Knight, and left one daughter, Mar-

garet, who married Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, and died without leaving issue, having had one child, a daughter, Margaret, who died in infancy. I have been unable to discover where this knight was buried, or whether he left any will.

SIR THOMAS COBHAM OF STERBOROUGH, KNIGHT.

UPON the death of his father, in 1446, his second son, Sir Thomas Cobham, succeeded to the family estates, or at least to that portion of them which was situate in this county. It does not appear that he took any active part in the public affairs of his time. From the connections and traditional politics of his family, he was doubtless attached to the house of Lancaster, and thus would not find much favour in Edward IV.'s reign; while the untimely fate of his wife's first husband would probably deter him from taking part in the plots which were then so rife. He married Anna, the widow of Aubrey de Vere, who, with his father John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, was beheaded in the first year of Edward IV., and with him was buried in the church of the Augustine Friars, London. This lady was the daughter of Humphry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, and her brother, Sir Henry Stafford, Knight, was the second husband of Margaret, Countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII. In this way the Cobhams again became connected with the house of Lancaster. Sir Thomas Cobham died between April and July, 1471, leaving his wife and a daughter Anne, and also a bastard son, Reginald Cobham (whom in his will he describes as a nephew of Gervase Clifton), surviving him. It appears from his own will, as well as from

that of his widow, that he was buried in the church of Lingfield; but no traces either of his tomb, or of hers, are now to be discovered.

Dame Anne Cobham, his widow, died in April, 1472, and by her will, dated on the 12th day of that month, desired that she should be buried in the college (collegiate church) of Lingfield, "where the body of my dear heart and late husband lyeth." She also mentions her brother, John Stafford, K.G., Earl of Wiltshire, her sisters, Katherine Stafford, wife of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, and Joane, the wife of William Lord Beaumont.

ANNA, WIFE OF SIR EDWARD BOROUGH, OF GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE, AND HER DESCENDANTS.

UPON the death of Sir Thomas Cobham, the Cobhams of Sterborough in the male line became extinct, having remained in the county for four generations, comprising a period of about one hundred and fifty eventful years. Anne Cobham, only daughter of Sir Thomas, was betrothed, while yet a child, to the son and heir of the Lord Mountjoy, who died before the marriage was completed. Sir Thomas Borough, of Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire (descended from Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent), obtained her wardship from Edward IV., and thereupon married her to his eldest son, afterwards Sir Edward Borough. Of this marriage there was issue a son, Thomas, who was summoned to parliament 21st Henry VIII., and by his wife (Anne, the daughter of Sir William Tirwhit, of Kettleby, Lincolnshire), he left issue Thomas, his son and heir, who had issue a son, Henry. From him the estate seems to have

passed, in some way, to William Lord Borough, who, in the 15th of Queen Elizabeth, was summoned to parliament. By Catherine, his wife (a daughter of Edward, Earl of Lincoln), he had issue two sons, viz. Sir John Borough, Knight, who died in his father's lifetime, and Thomas, who succeeded him in the 31st year of Queen Elizabeth. Sir Thomas was appointed ambassador in Scotland, with a view to counteract the intrigues in which the Spanish government was then engaged with King James. He was afterwards made Governor of the Brill, one of the cautionary towns delivered to Queen Elizabeth by the Dutch; and, in the fortieth year of Queen Elizabeth, was appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland, in which post he died soon afterwards. He left issue a son, Robert, who died under age, and three daughters, Frances, Ann, and Elizabeth, who thus became his co-heiresses. Elizabeth married George, a younger son of William Lord Cobham, and thus reunited the Sterborough branch to the parent stem of Cobham and Cowling. These three ladies sold Sterborough Castle, and what was left in Surrey of the family estates, to Sir Thomas Richardson, chief justice of the Queen's Bench, the same whom Archbishop Laud took so severely to task before the Lords of the Council for presuming to charge the grand jury against parish wakes. Thus both the name and family of Cobham became extinct in Surrey, and their possessions, once so extensive in this and the adjoining county, passed into the hands of strangers.

ELEANOR COBHAM, WIFE OF HUMPHREY
PLANTAGENET, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER.

It remains only to trace, as far as our scanty materials permit, the eventful life of this lady, the daughter of the third Reginald, the founder of Lingfield College, and great grand-daughter of the first lord, founder of Sterborough Castle.

The first occasion on which her name appears in history is on the occasion of her marriage with Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. The duke had been married, in 1424, to Jaqueline of Hainault, while her husband was yet living. Their various adventures after this ill-fated union constitute one of the most striking chapters in what has been called the romance of history, only equalled in interest by the strange history and tragical fate of the second wife. The duke's first marriage was dissolved by the pope's bull, and very shortly afterwards, viz. in 1428, he married Eleanor Cobham. Holinshed says, that he had tenderly loved her as his paramour before their marriage, but no other chronicler appears to have suggested this slander, and there seems no reason to believe it. It is far more probable that this statement is no more than one of the slanders to which Cardinal Beaufort and his faction might be expected to resort. Those who could murder the husband, were not very likely to spare the reputation of the wife.

The fortunes of the family might be supposed to have now reached the zenith. One of their house had thus become a queen in all but the name; the wife of the most powerful prince in England, and, indeed, in Europe, the Lord Protector of the realm, and as he was wont to style

himself in his charters, the son, the uncle, and brother of kings; renowned alike for his warlike achievements and for his great ability, and the idol of the common people, by whom his memory was long cherished. But, in those times, the steps of a throne were often but a slippery resting-place, and so it chanced with Eleanor Cobham; for nothing could avail to save her from the relentless hate of her husband's uncle and rival, the Cardinal Beaufort.

For some years, while the duke maintained his ground at court, his wife appears to have been regarded with all the respect due to her rank and position. The following entries of presents of gold and jewels received from, or given to her, are preserved in the minutes of the proceedings of the Privy Council for the year 1437:—

“Item, delivered to send that same day to my lady of Glouc. a nouche, made in the manner of a man, garnized with a fayre gret balass, v gret perles, j gret diamand, pointed with thre hangers, garnized with rubies and pearl, bought of Remonde, goldesmyth, for the sum of xl *li.*” On the same day there was delivered by the king's commandment to send to Quene Joane, for her yeres gift, “a tabulett of gold, garnized with iv balasses, viii perles, and in the middes a gret saphire entaille weying vi unc. j. q^art^l n. di the which tabulett sometime was geve the kynge by my lady of Gloucestere.” It also appears from the same record, that she was summoned with other peeresses and peers to attend the funeral of Joan, the widow of Henry IV., which took place this year at Canterbury.

But these happy days, if happy days they were, were not destined to be of long duration. During the whole of the young king's minority the Lord Protector had been engaged in an incessant strife with his uncle, the Cardinal

Beaufort. These disputes and divisions which not only prepared the way for the overthrow of the house of Lancaster, and contributed to the loss of those provinces of France which had been won at such cost by Edward III. and Henry IV. and V., eventually involved Eleanor Cobham in ruin. While the king was yet young, the Duke of Gloucester, supported as he was by the common people by whom he was much beloved, seems to have held his own against the cardinal. But, as time wore on, the young king seems to have fallen more and more under the influence of his father's uncle, who knew but too well how to avail himself of his weakness and superstition.

In the nineteenth year of Henry VI. (1441), about thirteen years after her marriage, it appears that Eleanor Cobham was accused and convicted of certain crimes and misdemeanours. Hall's account of this extraordinary transaction is as follows:—

“ For first this yere, Dame Elyanour Cobham, wife of the said duke, was accused of treason, for that she, by sorcery and enchantment entended to destroy the kyng, to thentent to aduance and to promote her husbände to the crowne: upon thys she was examined iu St. Stephen's Chappel before the Bissshop of Canterbury; and there by examinacion convict and judged to do open penance, in iij open places, within the city of London, and after that adjudged to perpetuall prisone in the Isle of Man, under the keyng of Sir Jhon Stanley, Knyght. At the same season wer arrested, as ayders and counsailers to the sayde duchesse, Thomas Southwel, preiste and chanon of St. Stephen's, in Westmynster, Jhon Hum, preist, Roger Bolyngbroke, a conyng nycromancier, and Margerie Jourdayne, surnamed the witche of Eye, to whose charge it was laied y^t thei, at the request of the duchesse, had devised an image of waxe, representing the kyng, which by their sorcery, a litle and litle consumed, entendyng therby in conclusion to waist, and destroy the kynges person, and so to bryng hym to death; for the which treison they wer adjudged to dye, and so Margery Jordayne was brent in Smithfelde, and Roger Bolyngbroke was drawn and quartered at Tiborne, takyng upon his death, that there was neuer no such thing by

them ymaged; Jhon Hum had his pardon, and Southwel died in the toure before execution."

Hollinshed's account is somewhat different. He says :—

"This woman, in the 19th year of the said Henry VI., upon the taking of Henry Bollingbrook for practising necromancies, thereby to consume the king, fled in the night to Westminster for sanctuarie, which caused her to be suspected of treason. Whereupon Bullingbrook confessing that he wrought the same at the procurement of the said Ellinor, desirous to know to what estate she would come unto, the same Ellinor did often times for the same appear before the bishop, and in the end was convicted. After which, in the 20th of Henry VI., she did grevous penance therefore, and so escaped with her life."

Thus far the chroniclers, who, however, can only be regarded as embodying the popular belief of the time so far as relates to the nature of the offence with which the duchess was charged. I have searched Archbishop Chicheley's register, and the entries in the books of the corporation of London preserved at the Guildhall, and the parliament rolls of the time, as well as the minutes of the Privy Council, and can find no record of the process instituted against the duchess, nor any allusion to it; possibly, those who were actors in it were not anxious that any such memorial should remain. The only authentic document that I have been able to discover at all relating to this trial is preserved in Rymer's *Fœdera*. This is a writ of safe-conduct, or rather of indemnity, granted by the king to the archbishop. It is dated 9th August, 1441, and sets forth, that the archbishop had proceeded to institute an inquiry in the college of St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster, on the 25th day of July then last, concerning certain crimes, defaults, and causes (*criminibus, defectibus, et causis*), wherein Alianor, Duchess of Gloucester, stood detected, and that he had ordained that she, together with

certain persons, in due form of law sworn to keep her in custody, should remain in the castle of Ledes. The writ proceeds to enjoin that no one should interfere with the jurisdiction of the archbishop, nor molest the said Alianor during the said proceeding, nor arrest nor attach her goods, but that she and the persons aforesaid along with her should be removed to Ledes Castle, and remain there until October 21st then next, when she was to be brought again before the Archbishop at St. Stephen's, without any let or hindrance in going, staying, or returning.

The document next in order appears to throw more light upon the matter, or at least upon the motives and conduct of some of those who were engaged in it. On the last day of October, in the same year, a warrant was issued to the treasurer and chamberlains of the Exchequer for the payment of various debts due by the king; and amongst other payments, they were directed to distribute the sum of £20 amongst the doctors, notaries, and clerks who had been lately engaged about the superstitious sect of necromancers, enchanterers, and witches (*nigromanticorum, incantantium, et sortilegorum*) for the purpose of putting an end to the said arts.

Owing doubtless to the pious zeal of these doctors, notaries, and clerks, ample evidence was produced to convict the poor witch Margery. Stow's account of her is as follows:—

“There was taken also Margery Gurdemayne, a witch of Eye, beside Westminster, whose sorceries and witchcraft the said Eleanor had long time used, and by her medicines and drinks enforced the duke of Gloucester to love her, and afterward to wed her; wherefore, and for cause of relapse, the same witch was brent in Smithfield on the 27th day of October.”

To have put the Duchess of Gloucester (then the lady

of highest rank in the kingdom, and wife of the heir apparent to the throne) to death on such a wretched pretence as this, would have been too strong a measure even for the malignity of the cardinal. Indeed, we have no reason to believe that the archbishop, and the bishops to whom the trial or examination of the duchess and her confederates (if she had any) was entrusted, were disposed, even if they had the power, to inflict any very severe punishment. All that they seem to have done in the matter was, to enjoin her to the performance of certain acts of penance, which, if imposed upon any one of a lower station, would not perhaps have been looked upon as very degrading. Shakespeare, indeed, when with his iron grasp he seized upon this strange story, and made it the ground-work of one of his plays, has, with the licence assumed by poets, not only introduced the queen (Margaret of Anjou) upon the scene, although she did not arrive in England until three years later, but, in order to heighten the effect of the picture, he has exaggerated the disgrace inflicted upon the duchess, by representing her as walking through the streets barefoot, with papers pinned upon her back, and clothed in a white sheet. The indignity, great as it was, was probably not quite so great as this. In Stow's account of the transaction, no mention is made of the white sheet, of the bare feet, or the papers.

After giving an account of the apparatus with which Bullingbrook wrought his incantations, and the masses which the canon of St. Stephen's celebrated in order to forward the impious work, and which he says were performed in the lodge of "Harnesey Parke" (probably Hornsey), near London, he adds:—

"Shortly after, a commission was directed to the earls of Huntingdon,

Suffolk, Stafford, and Northumberland, the treasurer, Sir Ralph Cromwell, Sir John Cornwall, Lord Fanhope, Sir Walter Hungerforde, and to certain Judges of both benches, to enquire of all manner of treasons, sorceries, and other things that might be hurtful to the King's person. Before whom the said Roger and Thomas Southwell, as principals, and Dame Elianor, as accessory, were indicted of treason at the Guildhall of London."

The result of this indictment is not stated, and it therefore seems reasonable to conclude that the accused were acquitted of treason.

The chronicler proceeds:—

"The 21st October, in the chapel aforesaid, before the Bishop of London, Robert Gliberte of Lincolne, William Alnewicke of Norwich, and Thomas Brown, the said Alianor appeared; and Adam Molins, clerk of the King's counselle, read certain articles objected against her of sorcery and negromancy, whereof some she denyed, and some she granted. The three-and-twentieth day of October Dame Alianor appeared again, and witnesses were brought forward and examined, and she was convicted of the said articles; then was it asked if she would say anything against the witnesses, and she answered, 'Nay,' but submitted herself. The 27th day of October she abjured the articles, and was adjourned to appear again on the 9th of November. The 9th of November Dame Alianor appeared again before the archbyschopp and others in the said chapel, and received her penance, which she performed. On Monday, 13th November, she came from Westminster by water, and landed at the Temple Bridge, from whence, with a taper of wax, of two pound, in her hand, she went through Fleet Street, hoodless, save a kercheffe, to Paul's, where she offered her taper at the high altar. On the Wednesday next, she landed at the Swan in Thames Street, and went through Bridge Street, Gracechurch Street, strait to Leadenhall, and so to Christ Church, by Aldgate. On the Friday she landed at Queen Hive, and so went through Cheap to St. Michael's, Cornhill, at which time the Maior, Sheriffs, and Crafts of London received her and accompanied her."

It does not appear that the duke made any great effort, either to avert or to resent this outrage. Time was, when he would have involved two powerful nations in war, that so he might retain another man's wife; but now he seems to have been so far changed, that he could

not strike a blow to save his own. Hall says: "The Duke of Gloucester toke all these things patiently, and saied little:" and Shakespeare, who followed closely upon the popular belief, represents the duchess as entreating her husband to rescue her from this outrage, and warning him, that if he submitted to it, his own turn would soon follow.

" And York, and impious Beaufort, that false priest,
Have all limed bushes to betray thy wings ;
And fly thou how thou canst, they'll tangle thee."

To this passionate entreaty, the duke is made meekly to reply :

" Wouldst have me rescue thee from this reproach ?
Why, yet thy scandal were not wiped away,
But I in danger for the breach of law.
Thy greatest help is quiet, gentle Nell :
I pray thee sort thy art to patience ;
These ten days' wonder will be quickly worn."⁵

It is commonly supposed that the duchess, immediately after her penance, was consigned to perpetual imprisonment in the Isle of Man, an opinion probably derived from Shakespeare's play. The events of real life do not, however, follow upon each other with that startling rapidity which it suits the purpose of poets and romancers to attribute to them. It is certain that she was not sent to the Isle of Man until a considerable time after her penance, and very probably not till after her husband's death. This is evident from Letters Patent, dated October 26th, 1443 (being nearly a year and a half from the date of the duchess's first imprisonment), by which the constable of the castle of Chester is commanded to bring the duchess, who was then detained in his custody, to the castle of Kenilworth, and

⁵ Shakespeare, 2nd Part King Henry VI. act ii. scene iv.

to deliver her into the custody of the keeper of that castle or his deputy, and for that purpose, he is to furnish himself both with men and horses, and carriages, and with provisions; and that he might be able more safely and securely to conduct the said Ellinor to the said castle, the king took the said Ellinor and also the constable, and all his goods, into his special care and protection. Eventually, the duchess was certainly removed to the Isle of Man, where she remained, as Hall says, under the care of Sir John Stanley. Shakespeare says, under that of Sir Thomas, but he had died in 1432.

Her husband died so suddenly, that he had no time to "choose executors, and talk of wills," and accordingly we find, from a document printed in the "Fœdera," that upon his death, the king procured from the archbishop the administration of his estate, alleging that he had died intestate. As neither he, nor the duchess had been convicted of treason, or any other crime amounting to felony, she would be entitled to a large share of his fortune; nevertheless it seems that it was all confiscated, and that she had during her imprisonment but 100 marks yearly allowed for her maintenance, although some other payments are recorded as having been made for her use. The islanders have a tradition that she was very restless, and impatient of her captivity, and made many fruitless efforts to escape. The place of her imprisonment is still pointed out in a crypt under the chancel of the cathedral of St. Germanus in Peel Castle, which was long afterwards used as a place of confinement for excommunicate persons, although the duchess, having duly performed her penance, could scarcely be considered as excommunicate. Here she remained until death released her in the year 1454.

She was buried in the dungeon in which she had lived; but no sumptuous tomb or sculptured brass marks the last resting-place of one so nobly descended and allied. It was long, and perhaps still is believed, that her ghost was accustomed to ascend the stone staircase leading to the walls, and to descend when the cathedral clock was striking midnight.

In the entire absence of all authentic records of this memorable process, and amidst the conflicting accounts given by the old chroniclers, it is difficult to say how far, if at all, the duchess may have merited the censures of the Church; but it seems certain that the offence of which she was accused could not have merited the cruel punishment inflicted. Rapin (without quoting any authority) says that she *confessed* that she had applied to a witch for a philtre, to fix the love of her husband; and Stow says that the witch had furnished her with drinks and medicines, and thus she had enforced the duke to love her, and *afterwards* to wed her. Considering that this amounted neither to treason, nor to witchcraft, and that the wedding in question had taken place thirteen years previously, and that the duke (the only person aggrieved) did not complain, the offence could hardly justify the punishment. Hollinshed's statement, that Bolingbrook confessed that he wrought his necromancies by the duchess's desire, desiring to know to what estate she would come, is inconsistent, since it clearly was not necessary, by the laws of witchcraft, to consume the king in order to tell the duchess's fortune. It is also at variance with Hall's statement, that he denied, even when at the scaffold, that he had any such design. It is difficult to believe that a lady of the rank and position of the duchess should have had any faith in the vulgar superstition of

the little waxen image; although, like many other ladies in a much later and more civilized period, she may have, perhaps, consulted a cunning man in order to know "to what estate she should come."

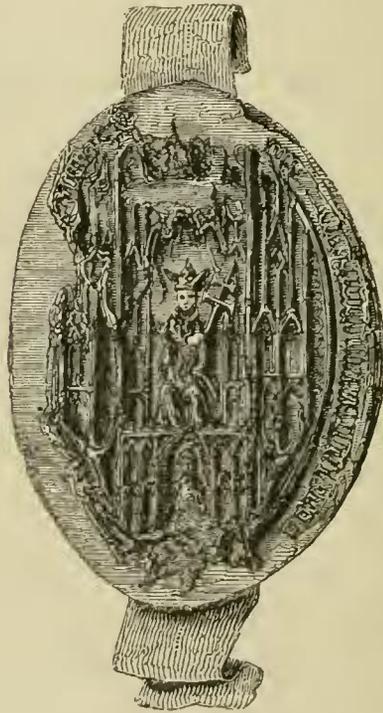
It appears by a comparison of dates that this accusation was made against the duchess almost immediately after the duke had exhibited his impeachment against the cardinal, in which he laid to his charge many treasons and misdemeanors. It seems, therefore, most probable that the cardinal and the duke's other enemies, either finding that his wife was in their way, or determined by her means to humble and degrade him in revenge for the impeachment, hit upon this expedient, which, from the well-known weakness and superstition of the king, was not very difficult of execution; and that thus the ruin of the wife, as well as the murder of the husband, may justly be attributed to "Beaufort, that false priest." Such at least was the belief of the time, and in proportion to the love and admiration which the common people felt for the "good Duke Humphrey" was the hatred and execration which they lavished upon the cardinal, whom they believed to be his murderer. This opinion easily led to a belief (which certainly the chroniclers of the time have favoured) that the cardinal on his death-bed was filled with horror and remorse at the remembrance of the long catalogue of crimes of which he had been guilty; and thus it has happened, that when a novelist or poet would describe, or a painter represent, the death-bed of a hopeless and impenitent man, they have often introduced that of Henry Beaufort. Shakespeare avails himself of this tradition, when he makes the king say to the dying cardinal:—

"Lord Cardinal, if thou think'st on heaven's bliss,
Hold up thy hand, make signal of thy hope.—
He dies, and makes no sign. O God, forgive him !

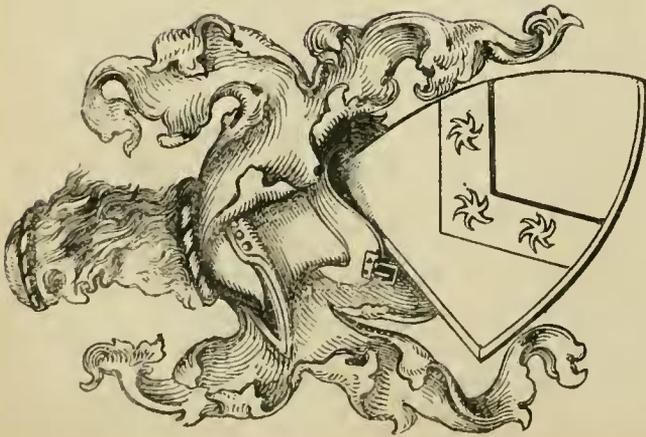
It is not likely that these mysteries will ever be cleared up; and we may therefore be content to follow the king's injunction to the Earl of Warwick, as they left the cardinal's bedside:—

“Forbear to judge, for we are sinners all,—
Close up his eyes, and draw the curtain close,
And let us all to meditation.”⁶

⁶ Shakespeare, 2nd Part Henry VI. act iii. scene iii.



THE SEAL OF LINGFIELD COLLEGE.



Pedigree of Cobham of Sterborough, co. Surrey.

Serlo de Cobbeham.

Henry de Cobham, of Cobham, = N. N.
 com. Kent, living
 10 John, 1208, in which year
 he had a charter of confirmation
 of lands in Cobham (1).

Maria [de = Reginald, 3rd s. (10),
 Valoynes] (12). Justice itin. and Sheriff
 of Kent sub. Hen. 3,
 ob. Dec. 14, 1258, 42
 Henry 3 (11).

[Joan, d. of
 Warrine or William
 Fitzbenedict, 1st
 wife.] (6)

= John de Cobham, s. and h. (2), Sheriff =
 of Kent 25 Hen. 3, Just. Com. Banc.
 &c., purchased Cowling (3) and West
 Chalke (4), com. Kent, ob. circ.
 36 Hen. 3 (5).

[Joan, d. of Hugh
 de Neville, 2nd wife] (7)
 [widow of John de
 la Lynd, of Bolbroke,
 com. Suff.] (8).

William, also a = [Hawisia ?]
 Just. itin. under
 Hen. 3, dead
 1265-6,
 2nd son (9).

Johanna [ux. Rogeri]
 de Hegham.

John de Cobham, Junior,
 of Cowling, s. and h.,
 ancestor of the Cobhams of
 Cowling, Rundale,
 Beluncle, and Chafford.

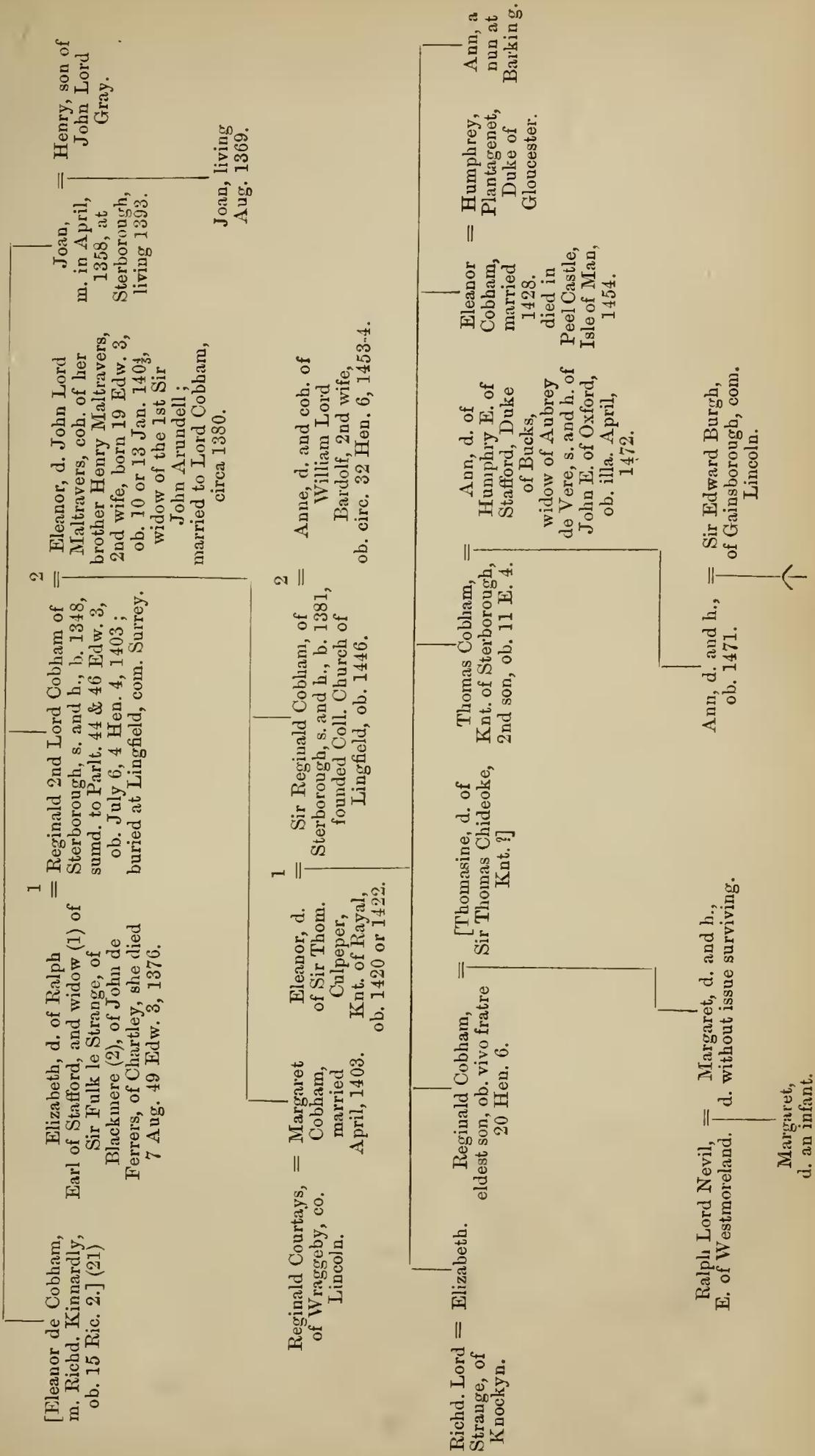
[Reginald (another)
 ob. s. p.] (14)

William de Cobham (14),
 ob. 14 Edw. 2.

Sir Reginald de Cobham, = Joan, d. and heir (al. coh.)
 eldest son of the 2nd marriage, of William de Evere (15).
 of Orkesden and Eynsford (13).

James, of Burdfield,
 54 Hen. 3 (14).

sum. to Parl. 25 Feb., 16 Edw. 3,
1342; had licence to crenellate
Sterborough Castle 15 Edw. 3;
ob. 5 Oct. 35 Edw. 3, 1361 (16).



APPENDIX No. I.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE WILL OF JOAN, LADY COBHAM.

Copia Testamenti Dominæ Johannæ de Cobham.

IN NOMINE DOMINI AMEN, xiii die mensis Augusti anno Domini millesimo ccc^{mo} lxi^o, et anno regni Regis Eduardi tertii post conquestum quadragesimo tertio, Ego Johanna de Cobham et de Stereburgh, sana, compos mentis, et bonæ memoriæ, in hunc modum testamentum meum ordino et condo.

Imprimis commendo Deo et beatæ Mariæ et omnibus Sanctis animam meam, et corpus meum ad sepeliendum in cimiterio Sanctæ Mariæ Overthere in Southwerke, videlicet, ante hostium Ecclesiæ conventualis ubi imago de beatâ Virgine sedet in sublimi dicti hostii; et ordino et volo quod ponetur super corpus meum una lapis marmorea plana, et quod sculpantur una crux de metallo in medio lapidis, et in circuitu lapidis ista verba in Gallico,

“Vo^s q’ p’ici passietz
P’ l’alme Johane de Cobham prietz.”

Hæc est voluntas mea ultima si apud Southwarke deberem claudere diem meum extremum. *Item* volo et firmiter ordino ante omnia alia quod statim post mortem meam faciant celebrare septem millia missas pro animâ meâ, et quod non tardantur nec differantur nullo modo, et volo quod dictæ missæ celebrentur per canonicos de Tunbrugge et de Tanrugge, et quatuor ordines religiosos apud London, videlicet, Prædicatores, Minores, Augustinenses, et Carmelitas, et haberent pro eorum labore viginti novem libras tres solidos et quatuor denarios.

Item lego distribuendas in die sepulturæ meæ inter pauperes decem marcas.

Item lego pro expensis diversis faciendis pro sepulturâ meâ, una cum panno nigro pro liberatione ministrorum, et duodecim pauperum portantium xii torticios cum cerâ, et in aliis necessariis, et in die octavo, quadraginta marcas.

Item lego ad fabricam ecclesiæ conventualis Sanctæ Mariæ de Southwerke viginti libras sterlingorum.

Item lego priori qui pro tempore fuerit xl s.

Item lego unicuique canonico existenti in ordine sacerdotali xx s. et unicuique canonico non sacerdoti x s.

Item lego clerico conventuali ejusdem domus vi^s et viii^d.

Item lego pulsatoribus campanas in berfreto ejusdem ecclesiæ tres solidos et quatuor denarios.

Item lego summo altari dicti prioratus duos pelves argenteos de melioribus, cum armis domini in centro.

Item lego ad fabricam ecclesiæ parochialis Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalænæ juxta ecclesiam conventualem prædictam centum solidos.

Item lego capellano parochiali qui pro tempore fuerit xx s.

Item unicuique capellano celebranti in ecclesiâ memoratâ illo tempore sex solidos et octo denarios et majori clerico ejusdem ecclesiæ vi^s et viii^d et subclerico iii^s et iv^d.

Item ordino quod duodecim pauperes xii torticios in die sepulturæ portantes sint vestiti cum tunicis et capuciis de panno nigro, et statim post celebrationem missæ sex tortitii liberentur summo altari capellæ de beatâ Virgine.

Item volo quod alii sex liberentur summo altari Mariæ Magdalænæ pro levatione sacramenti.

Item volo et firmiter ordino quod omnibus his peractis solvantur debita reverendi domini mei illis omnibus qui bene et de jure potuerint probare, vel per certas literas obligatorias, vel per alia scripta, vel vera munimenta, et similiter debita mea si quæ sint, quod absit. Et similiter fiat satisfactio plena de omnibus transgressionibus dicti domini mei cum omni celeritate et diligentia.

Item lego ecclesiæ de Lyngefeld unum frontorium de armis Berkele et Cobham stantibus in albo et purpure. *Item* unam casulam et unum album (*sic*) de armis Berkele et Cobham de velveto. *Item* unum dalmaticum et unum tuniculum viride de secta casulæ, irradiatum cum filo aureo.

Item unam capam viridem pro Rectore chori.

Item eidem unum corporale broudaturum in unâ parte Annuntiatione beate Mariæ, et in aliâ parte Nativitate Christi cum imagine beate Mariæ jacentis in puerperio.

Item lego Reginaldo filio meo unum annulum cum uno deamande et unum firmale de auro cum uno rubie.

Item unum par de avez de auro, viz. sexaginta avcez.

Item volo quod liberentur omnia vestimenta, libri, et duo calices et omnia alia existentia in custodiâ meâ quæ dominus meus mihi tradidit ad terminum vitæ meæ, et post mortem meam tradentur dicto Reginaldo; exceptis vestimentis meis superius legatis ecclesiæ parochiali de Lyngefeld.

Item volo quod liberentur dicto Reginaldo post mortem meam omnia subscripta, et per dominum meum sibi in testamento suo data et legata viz.

Unum lectum viride, broudaturum cum uno Soudano et armis domini, cum uno quilt, et unâ selura integra, et iii cortinas et iii tapetas de secta cadem, et unum coopertorium pro lecto de croupgrys.

Item duo sargia rubea cum tribus cortinis de rubeo, brouduratis cum henma domini.

Item dedi perantea dicto Reginaldo unum dorsorium magnum pro aulâ de Stereburgh, cum novem regibus stantibus, de curialitate meâ propriâ.

Item feci liberare dicto Reginaldo omnia arma et armatura existencia in garderobâ domini mei apud Stereburgh quæ dictus Reginaldus de me acceptavit, et ille omnia prædicta arma unâ cum magno dosso prædicto deputavit Lokward ad custodiendum, et ab illo tempore usque in presentem diem dictus Lokward custodiam et clavem garderobæ habuit.

Item liberavi dicto Reginaldo unum ciphum argenteum quem dominus sibi legavit.

Item volo quod executores mei reddant et liberent dicto Reginaldo unum alium ciphum argenteum cum cooperculo.

Item similiter duodecim discos argenteos, et duodecim salsaria argentea quæ Dominus sibi legavit. De quibus dictus Reginaldus recepit de me sex discos et quatuor salsaria argentea quando ibat apud Gasconiam.

Item volo quod dictus Reginaldus habeat tres discos argenteos de melioribus de meis, in recompensatione duorum chargeriorum per dominum sibi legatorum.

Item volo quod liberentur dicto Reginaldo per executores meos duo pelves argenteæ cum armis Domini, et duo lavatores argentei de melioribus.

Item lego eidem Reginaldo omnia vasa mea ærea ad coquinam et pistrinam pertinentia, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis, et etiam lego eidem omnia vasa lignea pertinentia ad utrumque officium.

Item lego eidem Reginaldo centum libratas in catallis, et in stauro animalium, et in bladis, et si contingat, quod absit, quod præfatus Reginaldus moriatur ante me, et ego etiam superstes, tunc volo quod omnia bona et catalla superius per me legata eidem ut predictum est, ad me et ad executores meos revertantur et remaneant sine contentione aliquâ, et tunc volo et concedo quod ego et executores mei de illis bonis per me legatis et similiter de omnibus illis bonis per dominum meum sibi legatis et contentis libere possumus et poterimus disponere et ordinare sicut mihi et executoribus meis melius pro animabus nostris expedire videbimur.

Item lego Domino Henrico de Grey unum ciphum argenteum cum armis de Cobham et de Berkele in centro, cum cooperculo.

Item lego Dominæ Johannæ de Grey uxori suæ unum magnum librum curiose illuminatum et operatum, cum Mortumalo et Geuenyles in principio libri, cum Salutatione beatæ Virginis.

Item eidem unum librum vocatum Manuel Peche.

Item eidem duo lynthiamina de panno de Reyms cum decem telis.

Item eidem unam bonam et meliorem cofram meam quam Laurentius de Mountz mihi dedit.

Item lego eidem Johannæ filiæ meæ unum annulum cum uno rubeo, et xvii dyamandes fixas in circuitu annuli.

Item eidem unum tabernaculum parvum de puro auro cum imagine de beatâ Mariâ Virgine interius, cum duobus parvis Angelis a dextris ejusdem et sinistris.

Item eidem unum firmale planum de auro cum uno pare de aveez viz. quinquaginta de auro et quinquaginta aveez de geet.

Item lego Johannæ filiæ Domini Henrici de Grey unam cuppam argenteam planam, factam ad modum calicis cum cooperulo, et si prædicta Johanna moriatur ante matrem suam tunc volo quod retradatur Dominæ Johannæ de Grey matri suæ.

Item lego eidem Johannæ filiæ Henrici prædicti unum agnum Dei cum crucifixo amalato in una parte, cum sancta Mariâ et sancto Johanne stantibus, et in alterâ parte unum agnellum Dei stantem in uno circulo et cum unâ catenâ argenteâ.

Item volo et firmiter ordino in casu quod bona mea in fine vitæ meæ non sufficiant pro solutione debitorum reverendi domini mei, vel debitorum meorum, tunc volo quod executores mei unanimi consensu vendant molendinum meum aquaticum in ponte Edulun quod perquisivi de hæredibus de Shardenne sicut plenarius patent et demonstrant per cartas illorum *Item* similiter volo quod hospitium meum in Southwarke juxta London vendatur et de pecuniâ pro eisdem receptâ fiant solutiones et restitutiones debitorum domini mei et pro debitis meis similiter ut supra dictum est. *Item* volo quod duo capellani sint conducti ad celebrandum in ecclesiâ parochiali de Langleborel pro animabus domini Johannis de la Mare militis, [qui] quondam ibidem dominus erat, domini Reginaldi de Cobham, domini Thomæ de Berkle, et pro animabus benefactorum meorum, et si contingat quod Reginaldus filius meus, vel alii hæredes mei, voluerit vel voluerint appropriare et firmiter confirmare dictam ecclesiam ad inveniendum duos capellanos in perpetuum celebraturos sicut conditio et intentiones predicti Domini Johannis fuerunt ordinati quum ipse vendidit domino meo maneria sua de Langele et Lye in presentîâ reverendi Domini patris mei de Berkele, tunc volo his peractis fideliter, et sine fraude completis, quod [si] prædictus Reginaldus filius meus vel alii heredum meorum prædicta onera subire et plenarie supportare voluerit vel voluerint, quod ex tunc executores mei faciant feoffare dictum Reginaldum, vel veros et legitimos heredes meos qui pro tempore erunt in predictum molendinum meum aquaticum in ponte Edulun, et in hospitium meum in Southwerk cum omnibus juribus et pertinentiis sine ullâ retentione in perpetuum possidendum. Ita tamen quod ipse Reginaldus supportabit, vel alii heredes mei supportabunt onera

predicta etc., sicut ipse vel ipsi alii heredes qui pro tempore fuerit vel fuerint respondeat vel respondeant pro domino meo patre eorum, et pro animâ meâ coram Summo Iudice. Et si noluerit vel noluerint onera predicta implere et consummare, tunc volo et firmiter ordino quod executores mei faciant sicut supra ordinatum est, et hæc est firma et ultima voluntas mea.

Item lego Domino Johanni de Cobham unum osculatorium argenteum et deauratum, cum uno crucifixo, cum sanctâ Mariâ in dextrâ parte, et Sancto Johanno in sinistrâ parte stantibus.

Item lego eidem unum ciphum deauratum cum cooperculo ejusdem sectæ, et sub pede ejusdem ciphi tres leones stantes, et portantes predictum ciphum.

Item lego eidem Domino unum librum dictum Apocalyps, et in principio libri stat imago Sancti Pauli.

Item lego Dominæ Aleyzæ moniali de Berkyngg unum annulum cum unâ saphirâ de antiquo opere et xx solidos sterlingorum.

Item lego Domino Amando de Fythlyng unam tabulam eburneam cum salutatione Beatæ Mariæ, et Trinitate, et Passione, cum aliis historiis ibidem.

Item lego eidem xx libras sterlingorum.

Item lego Roberto Belknappe unum cornu de ungue unius griffonis cum cooperculo argenteo deaurato, et in cooperculo arma Domini de Cobham et Domini de Berkele, et dictum cornu est cum circulo argenteo et habet duos pedes argenti deauratos.

Item lego eidem xx libras sterlingorum.

Item lego Rogero Dalynregge xx libras sterlingorum.

Item lego Ricardo Mabanke unum largum ciphum argenteum cum duabus imaginibus adinvicem osculantibus in centro, et in circulo folia et glandes, et eidem similiter xx libras sterlingorum.

Item lego Johanni de Cobham de Deverchirche centum s. sterlingorum.

Item lego Margaretæ Mabanke in casu quod trahat moram mecum usque ad finem vitæ meæ, tunc volo quod habeat x marcas et si non sit mecum circa finem meum tunc non habebit nisi xl solidos tantum, et volo quod illa principalis domicella mea quæ pro illo tempore fuerit habeat x marcas.

Item lego Johanni Mabank filio Ricardi Mabanke xl solidos, et quatuor filiis ejusdem Ricardi, cuilibet eorum xx solidos.

Item lego illæ domicellæ quæ erit socia principalis domicellæ meæ x marc.

Item lego Katrine Stoket pro promotione suâ xx marcas et in casu quod fuerit per me promotâ, tunc volo quod habeat in fine vitæ meæ x marcas.

Item lego eidem meliorem corsettam meam cum meliore tunicâ et cum meliori caputio furrurato.

Item lego duabus domicellis principalibus meis et Katerine Stoket vel

illi quæ pro tempore illo fuerit principalis cameraria tres mantellos meliores et furruratos.

Item volo quod omnia alia mantella mea et omnes alii panni mei usuales cum caputiis et furruris sint divisi et dati inter servos meos qui sunt vel fuerunt mecum.

Item lego duabus domicellis meis et Katerine Stoket, vel illis domisellis et camerariæ quæ pro illo tempore fuerint, unam cofram cum apparatu omni pertinente ad caput meum die et nocte.

Item lego lotrici meæ quæ illo tempore fuerit xiiij solidos iv denarios.

Item lego Elianoræ Stoket si tunc fuerit mecum xl solidos.

Item lego Johannæ filiæ Thomæ Chamberleyn si fuerit mecum in fine meo xl solidos. *Item* lego Domino Willelmo de Wrotham Capellano meo si moram fecerit mecum usque in finem meum x marcas, et [sin autem ?] habebit nisi xl solidos. *Item* illis capellanis qui mecum erunt illo tempore si sint unus vel duo unicuique illorum v marcas.

Item lego pincenario meo qui pro tempore fuerit lx s. *Item* lego magistro coquo meo qui pro tempore fuerit lx solidos. *Item* lego clerico hospitii mei, camerario meo, et clerico capellæ meæ, qui pro tempore fuerint unicuique illorum xl solidos. *Item* pagetto panetriæ xx solidos. *Item* lego servienti in coquinâ qui pro tempore fuerit xx solidos, et pagetto x solidos. *Item* lego janitori qui pro tempore xx solidos. *Item* lego cuilibet sacerdoti celebranti in spitlâ Sancti Thomæ vi solidos et viij denarios. *Item* cuilibet sorori ibidem iij solidos iv denarios. *Item* distribuendum inter infirmos ibidem jacentes sex solidos et viij denarios. *Item* lego prisonis jacentibus in vinculis, et carceratis juxta Sanctum Georgium sex solidos et octo denarios. *Item* lego cuilibet sacerdoti celebranti in collegio Domini de Cobham vi solidos viij denarios. *Item* majoribus clericis ibidem unicuique illorum duo solidos. *Item* unicuique choristarum ibidem xij denarios. *Item* lego pro ornamentis chori de Lyngefeld per visum rectoris qui pro tempore fuerit x marcas. *Item* lego Laurentio Warde xxvi solidos viij denarios. *Item* lego Katrinæ quæ fuit uxor Cadentis de Layton unum librum ad cujus principium est imago de sancto Johanne Baptista et aliæ imagines depictæ, cum matutinis de Beatâ Mariâ. Et si contingat quod Reginaldus filius meus et heres impediât, vel per suos impedire faciat quod executores mei sint impediti in aliquo modo (quod absit) quod non possint implere et confirmare ultimam voluntatem meam in isto testamento expresse contentam nolo nullo modo, et dictos executores meos hortor et moneo quod dictus Reginaldus nihil habeat de omnibus bonis sibi legatis in predicto testamento sed quod illa bona distribuantur et ordinentur pro salute animæ Domini mei et benefactorum meorum. *Item* lego Thomæ Fythling e solidos.

INVENTARIUM VASORUM diversorum argenti remanentium in custodiâ dominæ, ultra legata superius in testamento meo (? suo) die confectionis testamenti prædicti.

Imprimis xiii disci argentei cum v salsaribus ponderati cum pondere aurifabri : xij lib. x sol. *Item* xii disci argentei quos domina emit de executoribus Simonis Archiepiscopi, ponderati cum pondere aurifabri quindecim libras. *Item* xij salsaria argentea empta de executoribus ejusdem ponderata cum pondere aurifabri : iij lib. xv sol. *Item* duæ pelves argentei ponderatæ per pondus aurifabri cxv sol. cum pondere prædicto. *Item* duo aquatica cum fistulis ponderata : per pondus aurifabri iv lib. *Item* duo aquatica cum vasibus ponderata iv lib. v sol. *Item* quatuor ollæ argenteæ ponderatæ per pondus aurifabri : xij lib. xij sol. *Item* una olla argentea et deaurata ponderata per prædictum pondus : lxx sol. vi den. *Item* ii ciphi argentei cum cooperculis de armis domini amalatis ponderati per pondus prædictum : lx sol.

Item i ciphus cum nodo frettato ponderatus per pondus prædictum : xxx sol. *Item* duo ciphi ad modum calicis cum cooperculo ponderati per pondus prædictum : iv lib. *Item* xij pecii plani ponderati : cvij sol. *Item* ii salsaria pro sale ponderata iij lib. v sol. *Item* xxiv cochlearia argentea pondere : xxxvij sol. *Item* ij disci argentei pro speciebus ponderati : l. sol. *Item* i ciphus de berillo non appreciato (*sic*).

Summa predictorum vasorum ponderatorum cum ponderibus aurifabri^{xx} iij iij lib. xvij sol. vi den.

INVENTARIUM bonorum meorum pro parte quæ sunt in possessione meâ isto tempore et dato istius testamenti, videlicet in maneriis meis que dimittuntur certis firmariis ut plenius continetur in indenturis inter illos et me confectis qui respondebunt executoribus meis in fine vitæ meæ.

Imprimis Radulphus atte Hulle, Johannes Othere, et illorum manucaptores reddent et solutionem facient pro manerio meo de Stereburgh sicut tenentur ex eorum conventionem etc, hoc est, ad terminum vitæ meæ lii lib. xiv sol. sterlingorum.

Item Ricardus Aleyn et ejus manucaptores respondebunt executoribus meis pro manerio sibi dimisso ad tempus vitæ suæ pro Oksted quatuor viginti et septendecim libræ, xv sol. et iv d.

Item Johannes Robyn et ejus manucaptores respondebunt et solutionem facient executoribus meis pro manerio meo de Northe ; dimisso sibi etc. cxij lib. xiv sol. x den.

Item William Brounyng et ejus manucaptores respondebunt et solutionem facient pro manerio meo de Chydyngstone sibi dimisso, etc., lxi lib. et xvi sol.

Mem^m. quod œconomia manerii mei de Orkesden in Kant est in manu

meâ, et nulli dimissa ad firmam, Ideo non possum certificari de valore illius nec de summâ nisi per ordinem compoti de anno in annum, etc.

Summa maneriorum predictorum cccxxvi lib. et ii den. extra provenientius et exitibus de manerio de Orkesden quia non dimittitur ad firmam.

Item hic sunt scriptæ et computatæ firmæ meæ de marescis meis in Kant viz. de Aubynesmershe in Elmele de ejusdem firmario Will^o Symme et de ejus manucaptoribus xxvi lib. xiiij sol. iv den. *Item* pro maresco meo vocato Lytelovene viz. de Johanne Aleyn firmario meo ibidem per annum cvi sol. viij den.

Item pro Mullefletes mouth per Robertum Bonhomme reddet per annum versus (?) xvi sol.

Item pro Shardesmersh Simon atte Boure et frater ejus respondent per annum pro eadem xiiij lib. vi sol. viij den. *Item* pro Woldhammersh xxxiiij sol. et iv den. per manus prioris Roffensis firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Neweheth iij marc iij sol. iv den. per manus Johannis Warde firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Shelve xxiv marc vi sol. ob. q. per manus Henrici atte Watre firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Aldyngton xi marcas per manus John Moonk. *Item* pro Westwell iv marcas per manus Ricardi Bethynden firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Newegare c sol. per manus Avicie Chaumberleyn quondam uxoris Chaumberleyn de Milton firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Denhull iv marcas per manus Domini Thomæ de Graunson firmarii ibidem. *Item* pro Stonrokke lxiiij sol. iv den. per annum. *Item* pro Dagmanshope x sol. per annum. Summa firmarum de comitatu Kantia pro marescis predictis et terris dimissis ad firmam cx marcas xx den. ob. q.

Hujus autem testamenti mei superius scripti et plenarius contenti ordino et constituo executores meos dilectos meos in Christo Dominum Amandum de Fithlyng, Robertum Belknappe, Rogerum Dalenregge, et Ricardum Mabanke, dando eis plenam potestatem et auctoritatem ad ministrandum et ordinandum omnia bona mea contenta in testamento meo, habendo ratum et gratum et confirmatum quodcunque ipsi fecerint in premissis ad laudem Dei, et suæ sanctissimæ matris Mariæ.

Probatum apud Otteford 3^o Idus Maii 1370.

[From Lambeth Registers, Wittlesey, fo. 114.]

No. II.

TRANSLATION.

IN the name of the Lord Amen. On the 13th day of the month of August in the year of our Lord 1369, and in the 43rd year of King Edward the Third, I Joan de Cobham and de Stereburgh, being of good

health, sound mind, and of good memory, make and ordain my testament as follows :—

In the first place I commend my soul to God, and to the blessed Mary, and to all Saints, and my body to be buried in the churchyard of St. Mary Overthere in Southwark, (to wit) before the door of the Conventual Church where the image of the Blessed Virgin sitteth on high over the said door. And I will and direct that a plain marble stone shall be placed over my body, and that a metal cross shall be sculptured upon the middle of the said stone, and round about it these words in French :—

“Vous qui par ici passietz,
Pur l’alme Johane de Cobham prietz.”

This is my last will if I shall happen to die in Southwark. Also I will and direct that before everything else, immediately after my decease, there shall be celebrated seven thousand masses for my soul, and that these be on no account delayed or deferred, and I desire that the said masses shall be celebrated by the Canons of Tunbridge and Tandridge, and the four religious orders in London, viz. the Preachers, the Minors, the Augustines, and the Carmelites, and that they shall have for their pains £29. 3s. 4d.

Also I bequeath ten marks to be distributed to the poor on the day of my burial. Also I bequeath forty marks for the various expenses of my sepulture, and for black cloth for the livery of the attendants and of twelve poor men carrying twelve wax torches and for other expenses and for the octave. Also I bequeath £20 sterling to the fabric of the Conventual Church of St. Mary of Southwark. Also I bequeath 40s. to the Prior for the time being. Also I give to each Canon in priest’s orders 20s. and to each Canon not in priest’s orders 10s. Also I bequeath to the chapter clerk of the same house 6s. 8d. Also I bequeath 3s. 4d. to the bellringers in the belfry of the same church. Also I bequeath to the high altar of the same church two of my best silver basins with my lord’s arms in the centre. Also I bequeath 100s. to the fabric of the parish Church of St. Mary Magdelene near the said Conventual Church. Also I bequeath 20s. to the Chaplain for the time being of the parish. Also to each Chaplain officiating in the church at that time 6s. 8d. and to the principal clerk of the same church 6s. 8d. Also to the sub-clerk 3s. 4d. Also I direct that twelve poor men carrying twelve torches on the day of my burial shall be clothed in cloaks and hoods of black cloth, and immediately after the celebration of the mass six of the torches shall be offered at the high altar in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, and I direct that the other six shall be offered at the altar of Mary Magdalene for the elevation of the host. Also I will and strictly direct that all these things being performed the debts of my honoured lord be paid

to all those persons who can well and rightfully prove them either by bonds or other writing or true documents, and likewise my own debts if there should be any (which God forbid) and in like manner that full satisfaction be made for all trespasses of my said lord with the utmost quickness and diligence. Also I bequeath to the Church of Lingfield one frontour with the arms of Cobham and Berkley embroidered in white and purple, and also one chasuble, one alb of velvet with the arms of Berkeley and Cobham. Also one dalmatic and one green tunicle of the same set as the chasuble, worked with gold thread. Also one green cope for the master of the choir. Also to the same person a corporal embroidered on one side with the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and on the other with the Nativity of Christ with the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary lying in child-bed. Also I bequeath to Reginald my son a ring with one diamond and one buckle of gold with one ruby. Also one pair of beads of gold (to wit) sixty beads. Also I desire that all the vestments and the books and the two cups and all other things now in my keeping which my lord gave to me for the term of my life, and after my death to the said Reginald my son shall be delivered to him, except my vestments before given to the parish church of Lingfield. Also I desire that there shall be delivered to the said Reginald after my death all those things after mentioned which were given and bequeathed to him by my lord in his will, that is to say; One green bed embroidered with a Soldan,* with the arms of my lord, with one quilt and one entire seeler, and three curtains and four carpets of the same silk, and one coverlid for the same bed of badger's fur. Also two red serges with three red curtains embroidered with the helmet and crest of my lord. Also I have already given to the said Reginald, of my own good will, one great dorsor with the nine kings standing therein for the hall at Stereburgh.

Also I have given up to the said Reginald all the arms and equipments in my lord's wardrobe at Stereburgh which the said Reginald accepted from me, and he delivered all the said arms with the great dorsor before mentioned to Lokward to take care of, and from that time to the present the said Lokward has had the custody thereof, and the key of the said wardrobe. Also I have delivered to the said Reginald one silver cup which my lord bequeathed to him. Also I desire that my executors should deliver to the said Reginald one other silver cup with a cover, also twelve silver dishes and twelve silver salt-cellars which my lord bequeathed to him, and of which the said Reginald received from me six dishes and four salt-cellars when he went into Gascony. Also I desire that the said Reginald should have three of the best silver dishes of

* The Cobham crest.

my own, in recompense for the two chargers bequeathed to him by my lord. Also I desire that there should be delivered to the said Reginald by my executors two silver basins with the arms of my lord, and two of my best silver washing-basins. Also I bequeath to the said Reginald all my brass vessels for the kitchen and bakery with all their appurtenances and I also bequeath to the same all my wooden vessels belonging to either of those offices. Also I bequeath to the said Reginald one hundred pounds' worth in chattels, and in stock of beasts, and in corn; and if it should chance, which God forbid, that the said Reginald should die before me, and I should be the survivor, then I direct that all my goods and chattels above bequeathed to him as aforesaid shall revert to and remain with me and my executors without any dispute, and in that case I will and grant that I and my executors may freely dispose of the goods so by me bequeathed, and likewise of all other goods by my lord bequeathed to him, as to me and my executors shall seem best for the health of our souls.

Also I bequeath to Sir Henry de Grey one silver cup with a cover with the arms of Berkeley and Cobham in the centre. Also I bequeath to the Lady Joan de Grey his wife one large book curiously illuminated and wrought with *mortumalo* (?) and *gevenyles* (?) in the beginning of the said book, and the Salutation of the Blessed Virgin. Also to the same, a book called "*Manuel Peché*." Also to the same two sheets of cloth of Rennes of ten breadths. Also to the same, my best coffer which Laurence de Mountz gave to me. Also I bequeath to the said Joan my daughter one ring with a ruby and seventeen diamonds set round the ring. Also to the same one little shrine of pure gold with the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary inside and two little angels on her right and on her left. Also to the same one plain buckle of gold with one pair of beads, viz. fifty beads of gold, and fifty of jet. Also I bequeath to Joan daughter of Sir Henry de Grey one plain silver cup made after the fashion of a chalice with a cover, and if the said Joan shall die before her mother then I wish it should be given to the Lady Joan de Grey her mother. Also I bequeath to the said Joan the daughter of the said Henry one *Agnus Dei* with an enamelled crucifix with St. Mary and St. John standing on one side, and on the other a little *Agnus Dei* standing in a circle and with a silver chain. Also I will and direct, in case my goods at the time of my decease shall not suffice for the payment of the debts of my honoured lord, or of my own debts, then that my executors, by their common consent, shall sell my water-mill in Edenbridge, which I purchased of the heirs of one Shardenne, as more fully appears from their charters; also in like manner I direct, that my inn in Southwark near London be sold, and from the money received for the same payment be made of the debts of my lord, and of my own debts as before

mentioned. Also I direct that two chaplains shall be retained to celebrate [masses] in the parish church of Langley Borel for the souls of Sir John de la Mare, Knight, formerly lord of that place, of Sir Reginald de Cobham, of Sir Thomas de Berkley, and for the souls of my benefactors. And if it should happen that my son Reginald, or my other heirs should be minded to appropriate and confirm the same Church to provide for ever two chaplains to celebrate [masses] according to the condition and intentions of the said Sir John when he sold to my lord his manors of Langley and Lye, in the presence of my honoured father de Berkley, then I direct, these things being perfected and faithfully completed, that if the said Reginald my son or my other heirs should be minded to submit to, and fully to support the burdens before mentioned, that then my executors shall enfeoff the said Reginald or my true and lawful heirs for the time being in my aforesaid water-mill in Edenbridge, and my hostel in Southwark with all their rights and appurtenances, without any reserve, to be held by him or them for ever thereafter. But so that the said Reginald or my other heirs shall bear all the aforesaid burthens, &c., as he, or my heirs for the time being, shall answer for my lord their father, and for my soul before the Supreme Judge ; and if he or they shall refuse to fulfil and complete all the burdens before mentioned, then, I will and direct that my executors do as is before appointed, and this is my positive and last will. Also I bequeath to the Lord Cobham one *pax* silver-gilt with a crucifix, with St. Mary standing on the right, and St. John on the left. Also I bequeath to the same one gilt cup with a cover to match and under the foot of the said cup three lions standing and bearing the said cup. Also I bequeath to the same lord a book called Apocalypse, and in the beginning of the said book stands the image of St. Paul. Also I give to the Lady Alice a nun of Barking a ring with a sapphire of antique work and 20s. sterling. Also I bequeath to Sir Amand de Fithlyngg an ivory tablet with the Salutation of the Blessed Mary, the Trinity, and the Passion with other histories. Also I give to the same 20 pounds sterling. Also I bequeath to Robert Belknappe a horn made from a griffin's hoof with a silver-gilt cover, and on the cover the arms of the Lord Cobham and the Lord Berkley, and the said horn has a silver rim and has two silver-gilt feet. Also I bequeath to the same 20 pounds sterling. Also I bequeath to Roger Dalynngregge £20 sterling. Also I bequeath to Richard Mabank one large silver cup with two images embracing each other in the centre, surrounded with leaves and acorns, and to the same likewise £20 sterling. Also I bequeath to Margaret Mabank in case she shall remain with me until my death ten marks, and in case she shall not be with me at my death then she shall have but 40s. And I will that she who shall be my principal chamber-woman at that time shall have ten

marks. Also I bequeath to John son of Richard Mabank 40s. and to the four sons of the said Richard, to each of them 20s. Also I bequeath to that damsel who shall be the companion of my principal damsel ten marks. Also I bequeath to Katherine Stoket for her advancement 20 marks, and in case she shall be advanced by me then that she shall have 10 marks at my death. Also I bequeath to her my best corset with my best gown and my best furred hood. Also I bequeath to my two principal damsels and to Katherine Stoket or to her who shall for the time being be my principal chamber-woman my three best furred mantles. Also I desire that all my other mantles and all my other ordinary clothes with my hoods and furs be divided amongst my servants who are or shall be with me. Also I bequeath to my two damsels, and to Katherine Stoket, or to those persons who at the time of my death shall be my damsels and chamber-woman, a coffer with all the attire for my head by day or at night (?). Also I bequeath to my laundress at that time 13s. 4*d.* Also to Eleanor Stoket if she shall then be with me 20s. Also I bequeath to Joan daughter of Thomas Chamberleyn if she shall be with me at my death 40s. Also I bequeath to my chaplain Sir William de Wrotham if he shall remain with me to my end, 10 marks, but otherwise he shall have but 40s. Also I bequeath to the chaplains who shall be with me at that time, whether one or two, to each of them 5 marks. Also I bequeath to my then butler 60s. Also I bequeath to my then master cook 60s. Also to the clerk of my household, my chamberlain, and to the then clerk of my chapel, to each of them 40s. Also to the pantry page 20s. Also I bequeath to the servant in my kitchen for the time being 20s. and to the page 10s. Also to the porter for the time being 20s. Also I bequeath to every priest celebrating in St. Thomas's Hospital 6s. 8*d.* also to every sister there 3s. 4*d.*; also to be distributed amongst the sick men lying there 6s. 8*d.* Also I bequeath to the prisoners lying in bonds, and imprisoned near St. George's 6s. 8*d.* Also I bequeath to each priest officiating in the College of the Lord Cobham 6s. 8*d.*; also to the principal clerks there 2s. apiece and to each chorister there 12 pence. Also I bequeath for the ornaments of the choir of Lingfield at the discretion of the rector for the time being 10 marks. Also I bequeath to Laurence Warde 26s. 8*d.* Also I bequeath to Katherine who was the wife of Cadens de Layton a book, at the beginning of which is the image of St. John Baptist with other figures depicted, and the Matins of the Blessed Mary. And if it should happen that Reginald my son and heir should hinder, or cause to be hindered by his agents, my executors from fulfilling my will, which God forbid, then I desire that on no account, and I so exhort and admonish my executors, the said Reginald shall have any part of the goods bequeathed to him by my said will, but that all such

goods shall be disposed of for the health of the soul of my lord and my benefactors. Also I bequeath to Thomas Fythlyngg 100*s*.

AN INVENTORY of divers silver vessels remaining in the custody of my lady beyond the articles before bequeathed in her will on the day of its making :—In the first place, thirteen silver dishes with five salt-cellars weighed by goldsmith's weights £13. 12*s*. Also twelve silver dishes which my lady bought from the executors of my lord Simon the Archbishop weighed by goldsmith's weights £15. Also twelve silver salt-cellars bought of the same executors weighed by goldsmith's weights £3. 15*s*. Also two silver basins weighed by goldsmith's weights 115*s*. Also two ewers with spouts weighed by goldsmith's weights £4 and two ewers with vessels weighed, £4. 5*s*. Also four silver pots weighed by goldsmith's weights £12. 12*s*. Also one silver-gilt pot weighed by the aforesaid weights 70*s*. 6*d*. Also two silver cups with covers enamelled with my lord's arms weighed by the said weight 60*s*. Also one cup with a knop of fretwork weighed by the said weight 30*s*. Also two cups in the fashion of a chalice with a cover weighing £4. Also thirteen pieces plain weighed 107*s*. Also two salt-cellars for salt weighed £3. 5*s*. Also twenty-four silver spoons weighing 38*s*. Also two silver dishes for spices weighing 50*s*. Also one cup of beryll not appraised. Amount of the aforesaid vessels weighed by goldsmith's weight £83. 17*s*. 6*d*.

INVENTORY of such part of my goods as are in my own possession at the date of this my will, namely in my manors which are demised to certain farmers as is more fully set forth in the indentures made between them and me and who shall answer to my executors on my decease :—In the first place, Ralph atte Hulle, John Othere and their bondsmen shall render and make payment for my manor of Stereburgh as they are bound by their agreement, that is, for the term of my life £52. 14*s*. Also Richard Alleyn and his bondsmen shall be answerable to my executors for my manor demised to him for the term of my life, for Oksted £97. 15*s*. 4*d*. Also John Robyn and his bondsmen shall be answerable and make payment to my executors for my manor of Northeye demised to him £113. 14*s*. 10*d*. Also William Brounyng and his bondsmen shall be answerable and make payment for my manor of Chydyngstone demised to him £61. 16*s*.

Memorandum that the management of my manor of Orkesden in Kent is in my own hands and not let to any one to farm, therefore I cannot speak of its value except by way of reckoning from year to year.

Total of the manors aforesaid in permanent rents :—£326. 0*s*. 2*d*. except the rents of the manor of Orkesden not being let to farm.

Also hereunder are written and computed the farms of my marshes in Kent viz. from Aubynes-mersh in Elmle of William Symme tenant of the same and his bondsmen £26. 13*s*. 4*d*. Also of my marsh called

Lytelovenes viz. of John Aleyn my tenant there yearly 106s. 8*d.* Also for Mullefleetsmouth by Robert Bonhomme yearly rent viz. 16s. Also for Shardesmarsh Simon atte Boure and his brother shall be answerable yearly for the same £13. 6s. 8*d.* Also for Woldham Marsh 33s. 4*d.* by the hands of the Prior of Rochester tenant there. Also for New Heath 3 marks 3s. 4*d.* by the hands of John Warde tenant there. Also for Shelve 24 marks 6s. 8*d.* by the hands of Henry atte Watre tenant there. Also for Aldyngton 11 marks by the hands of John Moonk. Also for Westwell 4 marks by the hands of Richard Bethynden tenant there. Also for Newegare 100s. by the hands of Alice de Chamberleyn formerly wife of Chamberleyn of Milton tenant there. Also for Denhull 4 marks by the hands of Sir Thomas de Graunson tenant there. Also for Stonrokke 63s. 4*d.* per annum. Also for Dagmanshope 10s. per annum. Total of the farms in the county of Kent for the marshes aforesaid and the lands let to farm 110 marks 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ *d.*

I make and constitute my well-beloved in Christ Amand de Fithlyng, Robert Belknappe, Roger Dalenregge, and Richard Mabanke executors of this my will above written, giving to them full power and authority to administer and manage all my goods contained in my testament, ratifying and confirming whatsoever they shall do in the premises to the praise of God, and of his most holy mother Mary.

Proved at Otford May 13, 1370.

No. III.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE WILL OF REGINALD, SECOND LORD COBHAM.

Testamentum Domini Reginaldi de Cobham.

EN le nom de Dieux, et en nom de le Seynte Trinité, le Piere Fitz et Seynt Esprit, et en le nom de gloriose Virgine Marie Mere de Dieux, et de toutz Seyntz Jeo Raynald de Cobbeham S^r de Stresburgh, en saunté de corps et en seyne memorie le viii jour de Septembre l'an mil cccc devise mon testament en le forme q'ensuet. *En primis* jeo devise ma alme au Dieux qui moi fist et forma, et al gloriose Virgine Marie sa mere, et à toutz seyntz, et mon corps d'estre ensevelé en la parochial esglise de Lyngefeld de rere le teste mon treshonorable Seigneur et pier. *Item* jeo devise al cathedrale esglise de Caunterbirs xls. *Item* al cathedrale esglise de Roucestre xls. *Item* al cathedrale esglise de Cicestre xls. *Item* al cathedrale esglise de Wyncestre xls. *Item* al cathedrale esglise de Salesbire xls. *Item* al cathedrale esglise de Loundres xls. *Item* jeo

devise à les gardeynes de les biens de la esglise parochiale de Lyngefeld en maintenaunce et sustenaunce de la dit esglise xls. et mon meliour vestiment et mon meliour chalis. *Item* jeo devyse c li. queux jeo voile qu'il (*sic*) soiont employés en messes et divines servicez et en aultres almoynes par vewe de mes executours pour la alme de ma treshonorable dame Phillipe jady Reyne d'Angleterre ma commere.

Item jeo devyse l li. lesqueux jeo voile qu'ils soiont employés en messes et divines servicez et autres almoynes pour les almes Sr Armand Fitzlyng et Sr Thomas Fitzlyng son frere.

Item jeo devise c. marc. affere pour les despensez le jour que je serai enterré et le jour de mon anniversarie. *Item* jeo devyse xxx li. pour x^m messez à chaunter pour mon alme maintenaunte après mon décès en si brief temps comme ils pourroient estre faitz.

Item jeo devyse c li. pour divine services et aultres almoynes affere pur ma alme par la bone ordinaunce de mes executours.

Item jeo devyse cc marc. pour employer entour la mariage Margarete ma file si ele soit taillé pour aver baron.

Item jeo devyse xl li. pour departier entre mes servaunts pour leur reward a chescun selon ceo qu'ils ont desservi.

Et comment jeo ay doné a Sr Thomas Yokeflet Clerk Thomas Blast et Sr John Yngham Clerk les manoirs de Kyngeswalden et Northye ma volonté est que mes dicts feffes aaround tous les dicts manoirs ove tous les profitz dil jour de mon moriant tanque ils auront payés mes dectez et accompli ceste testament apres quel jeo voile que les dicts feffes fasount solonc ceo que jeo ordeinerai en temps avener.

Et voillez savoir que moi le dit Raynold Thomas Yokeflet Clerk Thomas Blast et John Yngham avoms graunté à Nicolas Leby Boteler pour le leal et greable service q'il moi ad fait en temps passé et ferra en temps avener un annuel rente de xls. à prendre de dit manoir de Northie susdite a terme de sa vie com piert par un fait a lui ent fait.

Et en mesme le maner si avoms graunte a Simond Radeboune pour son greable service q'il moi ad fait et ferra en tems a venger un annuel rente de xls. issant dil manoir de Kingswalden pour terme de sa vie com piert par un fet a lui ent fait.

Item jeo devise à chescun de mes executours q'emprenount l'administracion de mon testement xx li.

Item jeo devise et ordeigne mez executours pur accomplier cest testament et pour paiier mes dettez solonc ceoque mes biens suffiseront mon tres reverent et treshonorable pier en Dieux et Sr Mons^r Thomas par le grace de Dieux Erchévesque de Canterbirs primat de tout Engleterre mon tres ame cosyu John Sr de Cobbeham, John Wodecok, Mercer de London, Frère John Lynne, Mestre de Divinité, Thomas Yokeflet Clerk,

Thomas Blast, et William Furby a queux plese par Dieux et en amer de charité q'ils eynt facent accompliment.

Proved July 13, 1403, in the Palace of Canterbury. [*From Lambeth Regg. ; Arundell, 1, 203 b.*]

No. IV.

TRANSLATION.

IN the name of God, and in the name of the Holy Trinity Father Son and Holy Spirit, and in the name of the glorious Virgin Mary Mother of God, and of all Saints I Raynald de Cobbeham Lord of Streburgh, in health of body, and in sound memory the eighth day of September in the year 1400 make my testament in the manner following. In the first place I bequeath my soul to God who made and formed me, and to the glorious Virgin Mary his Mother, and to all Saints, and my body to be buried in the Parish Church of Lingfield behind the head of my very honourable lord and father ; and I bequeath to the Cathedral Church of Canterbury 40s. Also to the Cathedral Church of Rochester 40s. Also to the Cathedral Church of Chichester 40s. Also to the Cathedral Church of Winchester 40s. Also to the Cathedral Church of Salisbury 40s. Also to the Cathedral Church of London 40s. Also I bequeath to the Warden of the goods of the Parish Church of Lyngfeld, for the maintenance and support of the said Church 40s. and my best vestment and my best chalice. Also I bequeath one hundred pounds which I wish should be expended in masses and divine services and other alms by the direction of my executors for the soul of my very honourable Lady Philippa late Queen of England, my gossip. Also I bequeath fifty pounds which I desire should be expended in masses and divine services and other alms for the souls of Sir Armand Fitzlyng and Sir Thomas Fitzlyng his brother. Also I bequeath one hundred marks for the expenses on the day of my burial, and the day of my anniversary. Also I bequeath thirty pounds for ten thousand masses to be sung for my soul immediately after my death in as short a time as they can be accomplished. Also I bequeath one hundred pounds for divine services and other alms for my soul at the good discretion of my executors. Also I bequeath two hundred marks to be laid out about the marriage of Margaret my daughter if she shall be minded to take a husband. Also I bequeath forty pounds to be divided between my servants for their reward, to each according to his deserts. And whereas I have given to Sir Thomas Yokeflet Clerk, Thomas Blast, and

Sir John Yngham Clerk, the manors of King's Walden and Northye my will is that my said feoffees shall have the said manors with all the profits from the day of my death until they shall have paid my debts and fulfilled this will, after which I will that the said feoffees should do as I shall appoint in time to come. And know ye that I the said Raynald Thomas Yokeflet, Thomas Blast, and John Yngham, have granted to Nicolas Leby, butler, for the good and loyal service which he has done for me and will do in time to come, an annual rent of 40s. issuing out of the said manor of Northye for the term of his life as appears by a deed to him made thereof, and in the same manner we have also granted to Simon Radebone for his pleasing service which he has done for me and shall do for the time to come, an annual rent of 40s. issuing out of the said manor of King's Walden for the term of his life as appears by a deed to him made thereof. Also I bequeath to each of my executors who shall undertake the administration of my will £20. Also I constitute and ordain my executors to perform this will and to pay my debts as far as my goods shall suffice, my very reverend and very honourable father in God, Thomas, by the grace of God Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, my well-beloved cousin John Lord Cobham, John Wodecok Mercer of London, Brother John Lynne, Master of Divinity, Thomas Yokeflet Thomas Blast and William Furby. To whom may it please for God's sake, and in love of charity that they may accomplish it.

No. V.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE WILL OF ELEANOR ARUNDELL.

Testamentum Alianoræ Dominæ de Lychet.

EN nom de Pier, et de Fitz, et de Seint Esprit, Amen, Jeo Alianor Arondell en pur ma viduité, esteant en seyne memorie, le xxvi jour de Septembre lan de Roy Henry quart puis le conquete quincte A Lechet Mautravers face mon testament en maniere come ensuyt. En primez jeo devise malme a Dieu tout puissant mon createur, et a sa gloriouse mere Seint Mary, et toutz seintz, et mon corps destre ensevelé en le priorie de Lewys en le meme arche que mon tres honorable seigneur John Arundell git, qui Dieu assoile. *Item* jeo vuille que mes executours facent enchaunter mille messees pour malme en tout hast que poet estre après mon departier de ceste secle.

Item quiles facent chauntier cent marcat(?) trentalls de Seint Gregory. *Item* jeo devise un prestre a chauntier pur malme chescun jour pour un an de la salutacion de notre dame la jeo ou (*sic*) sera ensevelé a qui

jeo devise x marc. pour son salarie, et un vestement de drap dor vert et blank ou chesible et aube. Apres que l' an jeo vuille que les ditz chesible et prestre (auront à) (?) totz dys prier pur malme. *Item* jeo devise al Cathedrale esglise de notre dame al Salisbury un basyn et un ewer d'argent, a les armes mon seigneur Arondell, pour prier pur malme. *Item* jeo devise ae priorie de Lewys un ouche ouec un marc a prier pour moy. *Item* jeo devise al moignez de dit priorie xx. li. d'argent a prier pour malme. *Item* jeo devise a l'eglise de Wymborne un drap d'or bloy a prier pur malme. *Item* jeo devise al yle notre dame a Lechet, pour amendement de dit yle xl s.

Item jeo devise a ma dame de Herforde un tablett d'or ou ymagerie de Cokile. *Item* jeo devise a ma dame de Kent un anel d'or ou mon meliour saphire. *Item* jeo devise a ma file de Roos un coler d'or, ou un baleys en le Toret, ouecques ma benison.

Item jeo devise a ma file Johanna un paire des avez de quorrell ouec gaudez d'or ou un bon fermall.

Item jeo devise a mon fitz Richard Arondell un hanap ennorre et xx li. d'or et un lits noire de say ou les appurtenantz, et xii esquels ou deux chargeourez d'argent.

Item jeo devyse a mon fitz Reynald un hanap d'argent annorrez, ouesque un sorte de perles enfilez en mon noire forser.

Item jeo devise a ma file Margaret Curteys mon serklet quest en ma noire forser, paiant a Johan Quynton x li.

Item jeo devise a Johan Quynton un hanap d'argent ou un covercle, et x marc.

Item jeo devise a Edward Matrauers, une paire des avez de corall ouec gaudez d'or, et un fermall d'or, ou l. south d'argent.

Item jeo devise a Jonet Betyne un gonne de noire de Wrystede furre ou grys, ou cent south d'argent, et cel non pas le meliour.

Item jeo devise al William Warre un paire des avez ou gaudes ennorrez, ov un fermal ou l. south, et vn anell et un safire.

Item jeo devise a Agnes, ma damicelle, un gonne de noire enorré, et xxs. d'argent.

Item jeo devise a Elizabeth Arderne un gonne de Russett, et xls. d'argent, et un lit de wirstede noire en dimisele.

Item jeo devise a John Kent, xls.

Item jeo devise a William Arderne un pees d'argent, ou c s. d'argent.

Item jeo devise a Vyker de Mordone xxs.

Item jeo devise a William Dorvaunt Viker de Spertisbyri 40s. d'argent et un paire des avez.

Item jeo devise a Sr Henry, mon prest, un vestement de Rouge, ouesques le bloy orfreyes, et 40s. d'argent pour prier pur malme.

Item jeo devise a Thomas Arderne un couvrelit, un tester avec Roos (?)

ou canevas materas, un pair de lyntheux, et deux blankitt, et xls. d'argent et un gonne de skarlett furre ou gryns.

Item jeo devise a Robert Bottillere deux peeces d'argent et i. maser ov xls.

Item jeo devise a W^m Wittham un couvrelit, un tester, ou les appurtenantz, et xls.

Item jeo devise a W^m Kybbard un couvrelit, un tester, ou les appurtenantz, et ij marc.

Item je voile que mes garsons soient regardéz a chescun sicome ils ont desservi par avis de mes executours.

Item jeo vuille que mes executours vendant mon atyre mes perles ou roses et esteilez ov felet perles et deamauntz a performer mon testament s'ile bosoigne. *Item* jeo vuille que toutz mes vestements soient emploies ou plus grand mystier y soit pour prier pour malme par avys de mes executours.

Et residue de mes bienz nient devisez jeo voile q'ils soient donés et devisez par mes executours, la ou ils voient que sont meux affaire. Et auxi jeo pri mes executours que toutz mes servantz soient la ou le jeo morge entier tanque le jour de moys soit tenu par mes executours et en cas que mes executours pourront recouvrer les biens queux jeo doy aver de droit de mes deux Seigneurs qui Dieu assoille soient le moitie doné a mon fitz Richard pour acquiter part de ses dettez et l'autre part soient partiez par mes executours a mes autres servauntz solonc la vise de mes executours.

Item jeo voile que mon enterment soit tenuz solonc la vise de mes executours et nemy a grant costage sinon a pourez.

Item jeo face mes executours S^r William Dorraunt viker de Spettesbery et John Quynnton pur acompler mon testament.

Item jeo ordeigne et prie mon entier fitz Richard Arundell, et Mestre John Tytyllyng pur etre surueours et eydours que mon volunte soit pleinement acomple.

Proved January 16, 1404-5, at Maidstone.

[*From Lambeth Reg., Arundell, 221 b.*]

No. VI.

TRANSLATION.

IN the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen. I, Eleanor Arundell, in my pure widowhood, being of sound memory, this 26th day of September, in the fifth year of King Henry the Fourth since the conquest, at Lychet Maltravers, make my will in

manner following :—In the first place, I bequeath my soul to God Almighty, and to his glorious mother Mary, and to all Saints—and my body to be buried in the Priory of Lewes, in the chest in which lies my honourable lord John Arundell whom God assoile. Also I wish that my executors should cause one thousand masses to be sung for my soul with as much haste as possible after my departure from this world. Also that they cause to be sung, for one hundred marks (?), trentalls of Saint Gregory. Also I appoint a priest to sing (masses) of the Salutation of our Lady, for my soul, every day for one year, in the place where I shall be buried, to whom I bequeath ten marks for his salary, and a vestment of cloth of gold green and white, with a chasuble and alb. After the expiration of the year, I will that the said chasuble and priest (?) to pray for my soul. Also I bequeath to the Cathedral Church of our Lady at Salisbury, to pray for my soul, a basin and ewer of silver with the arms of my lord Arundell. Also I bequeath to the Priory of Lewys to pray for me, an ouche, and one mark. Also I bequeath to the monks of the same Priory, to pray for my soul, twenty pounds in silver. Also I bequeath to the Church of Wymborne to pray for my soul, a blue cloth of gold. Also I bequeath to our Lady's aisle at Lechet, for the repair of the same aisle 40s. Also I bequeath to my Lady of Hereford, a tablett of gold with imagery of *Cokile* (? Cameos of shell). Also I bequeath to my Lady of Kent a ring of gold with my best sapphire. Also I bequeath to my daughter de Roos, a collar of gold with a ruby in the *toret* (pendant ?) with my blessing. Also I bequeath to my daughter Joan, a pair of aves (a rosary) of coral with golden gaudes, with a good clasp. Also I bequeath to my son Richard Arundell a hanap gilt, and £20 in gold, and a bed of black say with the appurtenances, and twelve spoons, with two silver chargers. Also I bequeath to my son Raynald an hanap of silver gilt, with a suite of pearls threaded in my black forser. Also I bequeath to my daughter Margaret Curteys my circlet which is in my black forser, she paying to John Quynton £10. Also I bequeath to John Quynton a silver hanap, with a cover, and ten marcs. Also I bequeath to Edward Matravers, a pair of beads of coral with golden gaudes, and a golden clasp with five shillings of silver. Also I bequeath to Janet Beteyn a gown of black worsted, trimmed with fur, with one hundred shillings of silver, and that not the best one. Also I bequeath to William Warre a pair of beads, with gilt gaudes with a clasp, with fifty shillings, and a ring and a sapphire. Also I bequeath to my damsel Agnes, a gown of black worked with gold, and 20s. in silver. Also I bequeath to Elizabeth Arderne a gown of russett, and 40s. in silver, and a bed of black worsted, with a demi-selour (?). Also I bequeath to John Kent 40s. Also I bequeath to William Arderne a piece of silver, with 100s.

in silver. Also I bequeath to the Vicar of Mordon 20s. Also I bequeath to William Dorvaunt, Vicar of Spertisbury, 40s. in silver and a pair of beads. Also I bequeath to Sir Henry, my priest, a vestment of red with the blue orphreys, and 40s. in silver to pray for my soul. Also I bequeath to Thomas Arderne a coverlet, a tester with roses, with a canvas mattress, a pair of sheets and two blankets, and 40s. in silver, and a scarlet gown trimmed with badger's fur. Also I bequeath to Robert Botillere two pieces of silver, and one maser. Also I bequeath to William Wittham, a coverlet, a tester with the appurtenances, and 40s. Also I bequeath to William Kybbard a coverlet, a tester with the appurtenances and two marcs. Also I will that my boys (pages) should be rewarded, to each according as they have deserved at the discretion of my executors. Also I desire that if necessary for the purposes of my will my executors should sell my attire my pearls with roses (?) and stars, my fillet (seed ?) pearls and diamonds. Also I desire that all my vestments should be employed where most need shall be in prayers for my soul at the discretion of my executors. And I desire that the residue of my goods not bequeathed should be given and bestowed as they think proper, and best to be done. Also I pray my executors that all my servants shall be maintained by them in the place where I may die, until the day of the month (after my decease ?) and in case my executors shall be able to recover the goods which I ought to have of right from my two lords (whom may God assoile) one half should be given to my son Richard to pay part of his debts, and the other part should be divided by my executors between my servants at the discretion of my executors. Also I wish that my burial should be celebrated according to the discretion of my executors, and not at great cost save as to the poor (?). Also I appoint Sir William Dorvaunt Vicar of Spertisbury, and John Quynton, my executors to perform my will. Also I nominate and entreat my entire son Richard Arondell and Master John Tytyllyng, to be overseers and aiders, that my will should be fully performed.

No. VII.

NOTES TO THE PEDIGREE OF COBHAM OF STERBOROUGH.

(The following notes have been kindly furnished to me by Charles Spencer Perceval, Esq., LL.D., F.S.A., to whom I am also indebted for much other valuable assistance.)

The following, among other authorities, have been used in the compilation of this Pedigree, and are thus cited :—

Glover.—A collection of extracts, &c., from Charters at Cobham, made by Robert Glover, Somerset, in 1574, and printed from the original MS. in the Library of the College of Arms, in vol. vii. *Collectanea Topog. et Genealog.*, pp. 320—354. The numerals indicate the page referred to.

Thynne.—An account of the Cobhams, by Francis Boteville, *alias* Thynne, Lancaster Herald, made in 1586, which will be found printed in vol. iv. of Holinshed's *Chronicles*, p. 777, 1st ed. He seems (independently or not) to have drawn from the same sources as Glover.

Segar.—Pedigree by Sir William Segar, in a MS. *Baronage* compiled by him, and preserved in the Library of the College of Arms.

Dugdale.—The *Baronage*.

The names and statements in the Pedigree, which are included in brackets, are to be taken as supported at present by no better evidence than the bare assertion of one or more of the above authorities.

(1.) Henry, son of Serlo. See grant (*circa* 1200—1220) to him, printed 2 *Archæologia Cantiana*, 226.—“*Terra quæ fuit Serlonis de Cobbeham, in villâ de Cobham.*”—*Glover*, 320, from charter presently mentioned. For charter of confirmation, see *Rott. Chart.* p. 178 b.

(2.) By a charter *sans date* (*Glover*, 320), John, William, and Reginald, sons of Henry de Cobeham, partition his lands. John takes (*inter alia*) the capital messuage of Cobham and all Serlo de Cobham's land there; land and marshes called Rundale in Shorn; and lands and rents in Burdefeld. William is named next; therefore probably the second son (*Dugdale* makes him the third). He and Reginald take the residue of the lands (at Hoo, Grean, Clyve, Shorn, Strood, Rochester, and elsewhere in Kent).

(3.) Simon de Delham dat Johanni de Cobeham manerium de Coulynge, &c., pro summa quatuor centum marcarum præ manibus solutis.—*Glover*, 347.

(4.) "Hugo Nevill, fil. Hugonis, dat *terras* Johanni, filio Henr. de Cobham, s. d." (*Glover*, 344). And this grant included West Chalke; for on an Inquisition (*ad q. d.*), 20 Edw. II. num. 25, as to the right of Henry de Cobham to a weir or fishery (*gorges*) in the Thames the jurors find that one Hugh de Nevill, in the time of Henry, grandfather of our lord the King, had a fishery in a certain place called Weston Mersh, pertaining to his manor of Westchalke, where the said fishery in question is now situated: which Hugh sold the said manor, with the appurtenances, to John de Cobham, grandfather of the said Henry de Cobham. (The manor was then held of Hugh de Neville, by service of half a knight's fee.)—*Vide etiam*, Rot. Hund. i. 222 *b*, Shamele Hundred.

(5.) Ceased to exercise judicial functions in 35 Hen. III., and died soon after.—*Dugd.*; and see Foss. Lives of the Judges, *sub nomine*.

(6) (7.) Dugdale quotes Glover for both marriages. Thynne corroborates him. I find no record. There probably *were* two marriages.

(8.) Segar unsupported.

(9.) Third son (*Dugd.*); but see above (2): dead in 50 Hen. III. (*Glover*, 346). A charter (*sans date*, but witnessed by Stephen de Pencestre, two of which name lived *temp.* Hen. III. and Edw. I.) of Johanna de Hegham, daughter of William de Cobham, who, in her widowhood, grants to James, son of Sir John de Cobham, four marcs of rent, &c., descended to her on the death of her uncle Reginald, and Mary his wife, gives us the fact of this William de Cobham's marriage (*Glover*, 336). Another entry (p. 337) makes it probable that his wife was named Hawesia.—*See also Mus. Brit. Add. MSS.* 14,311, p. 24.

(10.) Second son (*Dugd.*), but see above (2).

(11.) 1 Excerpt. è Rott. Fin., p. 328.

(12.) William de Cobham, by deed *sans date*, gives to John, son of John de Cobham (*i. e.* John junior, of Cowling), his share of a messuage on the death of his brother Reginald, or of Maria, formerly wife of Reginald (*Glover*, 343). Segar calls her Maria de Valognes. See also (9).

(13.) This Sir Reginald is confounded by Dugdale, first with Roger de Cobbeham (of the Kentish branch), to whom, and not to Reginald, Edward I. (anno 32) granted freewarren in Pipardsclive, co. Wilts; and,

secondly, with his own son, Sir Reginald, K.G., whose exploits Dugdale recounts as those of Reginald, son of John, and of his wife Joan, daughter of Hugh de Nevill. But John de Cobham died in 1251 or 1252, as shown above, and Reginald, K.G., in 1361; therefore, another generation is clearly wanted. And see *post* (15).

(14.) *Thynne* gives James, William, and another Reginald, as brothers of Sir Reginald of Orkesden, and half-brothers of John of Cowling. As to the other Reginald, *quare*; but *Thynne*, in other respects, is borne out by *Glover*, 321, who notes a fine levied 54 Hen. III., where rents in Burdefeld and Shelve, pasture in Halesgroeste, in the hundred of Hoo, were settled by a John de Cobham to James de Cobham and his brother William, successively in tail; remainder to their brother Reginald. James and William appear to have died without issue, and the remainders to have successively taken effect; for in 14 Edw. II. a William de Cobham (*Esch.*, ej. an., n. 17) dies seised of manors of Shelve, Orkesdene, and Mondefeld (*quare* Burdefeld), which he held of Henry de Cobham, Knt. (that is, as I take it, of Henry of Cowlinge, son and heir of John), and leaving Reginald de Cobham his heir then 25 years old and upwards. Their relationship is not stated; but the dates well support the opinion that this was his nephew Sir Reginald, K.G., whom we find afterwards seised, *inter alia*, of Shelve and Bordefield, and also of Chidingstone, of which this William as above died seised.

(15.) Rot. Fin., 13 Edw. I., m. 6, "Et de gratiâ suâ speciali concessit (Rex) Reginaldo filio Johannis de Cobham, qui Johannam filiam et heredem Willelmi de Evere defuncti duxit in uxorem, quod," &c. (license to pay a debt of £50 due from W. de Evere by annual instalments of ten marks). This William is probably identical with William de Heure, who, 9 Edw. I. (Rott. Cart., *ej. an.*) had a grant of freewarren in Heure, Chidingstone, and Lingfield, of lands in all which places Reginald, K.G., was subsequently seised. Hever Castle is close to Chidingstone, and appears to be the place described as Heure and Evere; but if so, there remains to be solved this problem—how this William de Evere acquired that castle, which was built by Stephen de Pencestre (license to crenellate, 54 Hen. III., *Gentleman's Mag.*, 1856, p. 209), father or grandfather of the heiress who married Henry de Cobham, founder of the Kentish branch of Roundal. The lands in Chidingstone cannot have been those which, as above, William, uncle to Reginald, K.G., possessed. Note, that there were also lands in the Roundal family (but of the old Cobham inheritance) called Hever, in Hoo.

(16.) As to this Sir Reginald, see Dugdale, who, however, quoting Glover, is mistaken in calling his wife daughter of Maurice Berkeley. She was daughter of Thomas Lord Berkeley and sister of Maurice, as Dugdale himself (under Berkeley) has stated.

I give no authorities in support of the rest of the Pedigree, as the later steps are sufficiently clear. A few corrections are given in the body of Mr. Flower's paper.

The present Table may, I think, be relied upon as far as it goes. More than one female name has still to be inserted in its proper place.

C. S. P.