

SOME PARTICULARS OF ALDERMAN PHILIP MALPAS
AND ALDERMAN SIR THOMAS COOKE, K.B.

ANCESTORS OF SIR FRANCIS BACON (LORD BACON) AND
ROBERT CECIL (FIRST EARL OF SALISBURY).

BY B. BROGDEN ORRIDGE, ESQ. F.G.S.,

Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London.

[Read at an Evening Meeting of the Society, 20th April, 1868.]

THE archives of the little town of Stratford-on-Avon have been closely scrutinized with the view of eliciting any circumstance that is linked with the name, or has a bearing on the family connections, of Shakespeare. But it is doubtful whether the records of the Corporation of London have ever been examined with the same energetic interest in reference to either of Shakespeare's great contemporaries, the illustrious author of *Inductive Science*, or his cousin, the renowned statesman, Robert Cecil.

The name of Bacon is one of great antiquity in the city of London, and frequently occurs in many of the most ancient of the records belonging to the Corporation. Among others, in 1284, we find that Nicholas Bacon, painter, acknowledged that he was bound to Hugh Motun, City Chamberlain, in the sum of twenty shillings for ciniple, vermilion, canvas, varnish, and verdigris;* and in 1347 Richard Bacon served as one of the Common Council for Bridge Ward. I have also found among them the election of William Bacon as Alderman of Coleman Street Ward in 1479,† and of James Bacon (the brother of the Lord Keeper) on the 22nd April, 9th Elizabeth, when the inhabitants of Aldersgate Ward, having (in the place of Lionel Duckett) nominated James Bacon, fishmonger,‡ William Dane, ironmonger,

* Mr. Riley, in *Memorials of London and London Life*, remarks that there is probably no earlier passage in existence having reference to varnish painting on canvas.

† Corporation Records, Journal 8, fol. 232 b.

‡ Alderman Bacon was sheriff in 1568. His third wife was a daughter of Humphrey Packington, and widow of Alderman Jackman, Sheriff 1564.

Francis Barnham,* draper, and Thomas Keighley, leatherseller, "the said James Bacon was elected and duly sworn in for the execution of his said office."

Mr. Foss remarks of Sir Nicholas Bacon, the Lord Keeper, that "he could claim respectable, but by no means opulent, parentage."

"There can be little doubt that the two judges, John and Thomas Bacon, noticed under the reigns of Edward II. and III. came from the same stock.†"

My principal desire, however, is to invite the attention of the reader to some particulars relating to the two eminent citizens and aldermen of London who were the progenitors not only of Francis Bacon and of Robert Cecil, but also of many other distinguished persons.

Philip Malpas and Thomas Cooke lived in times of great political strife, and it would seem entertained widely different political opinions: both witnessed the commencement of the fatal contentions between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, and one certainly lived through the severest part of the national commotion, but both were made the victims of gross wrong and oppression.

PHILIP MALPAS, draper, was Sheriff of London in 1439-40, and represented the City in the Parliament of 1441. A search made by me in the civic archives has disclosed some curious facts relative to his election as an alderman. On the 26th February, 1448 (26th Henry VI.), the commonalty of the Ward of Lime Street presented four persons to the Court of Aldermen, viz.: Philip Malpas, Thomas Beaumont, William Dere, and Christopher Warter, for one of them, according to the custom of the time, to be chosen alderman of that ward; but the nomination was rejected, because the Court of Aldermen affirmed that they were all unfit for the office!‡ It may be inferred from this

* A marginal note to the Preface of the third edition of Stowe speaks of the Barnhams as father and son. Francis Barnham was therefore grandfather of Lady Bacon.

† *Lives of the Judges*, vol. v. p. 447.

‡ Corporation Records, Journal 4, fol. 208b.

decision that the majority of the Court of Aldermen were, even at that early period, opposed to the Lancastrian interests, and desired to exclude Malpas from their body. If it were so, their opposition to him was for the time rendered nugatory by the personal intervention of the King; for on the 1st of April following, it is recorded, that, "on contemplation of divers Royal Letters upon the fitness and special recommendation of the person of the said Philip Malpas to the Mayor and Aldermen directed, the same Philip Malpas was elected by them as Alderman of the said ward, and sworn, as is meet,"* &c.; but the following salvo is added to the entry, viz.: "So that this admission of the aforesaid alderman be in no wise held as an example to expel the Mayor and Aldermen for the time being in future from the liberty to elect any Alderman whomsoever," &c.

I find also the following curious fact noted in the Corporation Records:—"At a Common Council, held the 26th June, 1450, a petition was presented from the commonalty that Philip Malpas should be exonerated from his office of alderman, and the request of the petitioners was conceded to them."† The solution of this riddle may be found in the fact of the rising of the Commons of Kent under Jack Cade, his approach to London, and the absence of Henry VI. at Kenilworth. Of course the Court of Common Council had no right to dismiss an alderman; and the expulsion of Malpas was one of those violent party assumptions that always attend civil war. It is in connection with this outbreak that we meet with the name of Thomas Cooke, draper, *as the London agent of Cade*.

It may be assumed that Cooke had previously attained a position of some influence and note in the City, and carried on the business of a draper; for he was one of the four wardens of the Drapers' Company in 1439, when they obtained a Charter of Incorporation from Henry VI., and a Grant of Arms from Garter King of Arms.

In Dr. Hook's *Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*,‡ Cade is described as an unknown Irishman, who, in order to give a

* Corporation Records, Journal 4, fol. 213 b.

† Journal, v. fol. 38 b.

‡ Vol. v. p. 162.

political significance to the insurrection, assumed to be Sir John Mortimer, brother to the Earl of March.* His bearing, it is said, was princely, and to a commanding figure he added "a pregnant wit." He had served in the French wars, and was well qualified to act the part of a demagogue. The main object of the insurrection (Dr. Hook says) was not a change of dynasty, but to effect such a change of ministry as would place the court under the control of the Yorkists.† "Jack Cade encamped on Blackheath, between Eltham and Greenwich, on the 1st of June, 1450. Here, while he maintained his people by pillaging the country, he opened a communication with the City, styling himself the Captain of the Commons. All business was transacted in an orderly manner. Passports were duly signed, and Thomas Cooke, of London, draper, was constituted the captain's agent. He was required to tax the foreigners—the Genoese, Venetian, and Florentine merchants. They were to be duly convened, and were required to supply 'us, the Captain,' with 12 harnesses of the best fashion, 24 brigandines, 12 battle-axes, 12 glades, 6 horses, with saddle and bridle completely harnessed, and a thousand marks in ready money. That the demand was met is inferred by Stowe from the fact that when the rebels entered the city no foreigner was molested." The documentary proofs of these facts are to be found in Holinshed's Chronicles.‡

We are told by the chronicler that Cade and his followers were admitted into the City with the concurrence of the Court of Common Council, who were too much divided to withstand him. According to Fabyan—"Vpon the seconde day of the sayd moneth,§ the mayer called a comon counsayll at y^e Guyldhall, for to puruey y^e withstandynge of thyse rebellys, and other

* The name of Cade was common in the subsidies of Mayfield, Sussex, near Lord Dacre's residence, from the 13th to the 16th century.

† *Hook's Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury*, pp. 163—165. The learned Dean of Chichester, however, was not aware of the attempt to exclude from the office of Alderman a man who, as Member for London, had probably in the House of Commons adhered to the King's interests, or of other significant facts that look as if a mere change of ministry was not alone intended.

‡ Vol. iii pp. 220, 221.

§ July 1450.

matyers, in which assemble were dyuers opynyons, so that some thought good that the sayd rebellys should be receyued into y^e cytie, & some otherwyse; amonge y^e which, Robert Horne, stokfysshmonger, than beyng an aldermā, spake sore agayne theym that wold haue hym entre. For the whiche sayinges, the comons were so amouyd agayne hym, that they ceasyd nat tyll they hadde hym cōmytted to warde.”*

We have seen that Malpas was expelled from the Court of Aldermen by the Common Council on the 26th June. We are told by Fabyan that Alderman Horne was committed by another court on the 2nd of July, and we find these two eminent members of the Lancastrian party were selected by Cade for attack on the second day after his entrance into the city. That he or his followers committed several murderous acts, and made free with the property of the citizens, cannot be doubted.†

Fabyan's account is, that he “went into the house of Philip Malpas, draper and alderman, and robbed and spoiled his house, and took thence a great substance; but he was forewarned, and thereby conveyed much of his money and plate, or else he had been undone. At which spoylyng were present many poore” “redy to do harme.”

Whether Malpas owed this friendly warning to Thomas Cooke does not appear, but one thing is certain, that very shortly afterwards the daughter of Malpas is known to have been the wife of Cooke, and that her son, who was named after her father, Philip, was born in 1454, the year after Cooke's shrievalty.

The next trace we have of Alderman Malpas is in the year 1461, when, notwithstanding that the battle fought at St. Alban's left the Lancastrian party victorious, the young Duke of York, being favourably received by the Londoners, assumed the regal authority as Edward IV. During this state of insecurity (according to Fabyan, p. 638) “dyuerse cytezyns auoydyd the cytie and lande, among the whiche Phylp Malpas, whiche, as before is

* *Chronicle*, p. 623.

† Whether Cade was unable to control his followers, or unable to control himself, may be doubtful. It seems clear that his friends in the Corporation were soon opposed to him.

shewyd," "was robbery of Jacke Cade, whiche Malpas and others was mette vpon the see with a Frensheman namyd Columpne, and of hym taken prysoner, and after payed iiij thousand marke for his ransom." The important researches of Mr. W. Durrant Cooper, F.S.A. clearly exhibit the fact that the insurgent body of which Cade was the leader partook very much of the character of a duly authorised army. The musters were levied by the constables in many of the hundreds, and the insurgents included a great number of the gentry and yeomen of Kent, Sussex, and Surrey; the Abbot of Battle, the Prior of Lewes, and a few other ecclesiastics. Mr. Cooper points out that the House of Commons (in 1439) had previously called the attention of the Government to the murders, rapes, robberies, and burnings that were causing discontent among the people in certain districts.

The fact of the house of Philip Malpas being ransacked by Cade seems unquestionable; and indeed from a record preserved in the Treasury of the Exchequer Mr. Cooper proves that Malpas actually obtained again *by purchase* from the Treasury some of the goods seized in his house by Cade.

The evidence adduced by Mr. Cooper clearly demonstrates the inaccuracy of Holinshed. It is not true that the men deserted their leaders as soon as shown their pardon. On the morning after the indecisive engagement on London Bridge (6th July) negotiations were opened with Cade in the church of St. Margaret Southwark* for "a charter of pardon from the King *for them all*;" Cade as a preliminary insisting on and obtaining the acceptance by the Chancellor and Bishop Waynfleet of the Bill of Petitions which had been refused by the Privy Council. In his own pardon, which is dated the same day (Monday) as the negotiations, Cade is designated John Mortimer. Mr. Cooper remarks: "If Cade had been the low-born person he has been represented, no act of attainder would have been of any operation against his lands and tenements, nor would it have been of importance to declare his blood corrupt."

It is abundantly clear that when "Thomas Cook of London,

* For a detailed account of these negotiations see the *Chronicles of William of Wyrcester*, p. 76 *et seq.*

draper," was appointed the London agent of John Cade and his associates * he really assumed a most difficult and important task, which could hardly have been offered to any man unless he had great influence, ability, and judgment.

We may infer, from the date of his will and the time when probate was granted, that Malpas died either the latter end of April or the beginning of May 1469.

By his will,† dated 26th April in that year, he describes himself as Philip Malpas, merchant, citizen, and draper of the city of London, &c. After the usual bequest of soul to Almighty God, the blessed Virgin, &c., he desires his body to be buried in the parish church of the Holy Apostle St. Andrew, upon Cornhill,‡ of which parish he describes himself a parishioner. To the high altar of the same church he leaves for offerings forgotten, &c. 20s.; and to the body of the same church for his burial there, &c. 10 marks. He also wills that a priest be provided to read and sing divine service daily in the said church for two years next ensuing after his decease, for his soul, the soul of Julian his late wife, and the souls of their fathers and mothers, and Philippa his daughter, late the wife of Sir Ralph Jocelyn, Knt., &c. He also bequeaths to each of the poor householders in the parish of St. Andrew 6s. 8d. to pray for his soul, and to the most needful poor people of the said parish, every week for five years next after his decease, 6d.; and every year for five years after his decease, he directs wood and coal to the value of 100s. to be purchased and distributed among the poor of the said parish; and to every poor householder of the said parish of St. Andrew, once every year for five years, 2s. to pray for his soul. To the Prioress of St. Helen's he bequeaths 20s.; and to "Dame Alice Woodhows," nun there, 20s., and also to every other nun professed in the same house 6s. 8d. to pray for his soul. To relieving the poor people in the Hospital of "Bedelem" without Bishopsgate he bequeaths 100s. &c.; also 5 marks for making a window of glass in the

* Edward Poynings, the uncle of the Countess of Northumberland, was Cade's carver and sewer.

† Prerog. Reg. 27 Godyn.

‡ Now known as St. Andrew Undershaft, Leadenhall Street.

church of the priory of St. Mary Spittal, "late brent;"* and 100s. to be bestowed in linen and woollen clothes for the poor people in the same spittal. To the repair of the highway without Bishopsgate 5 marks, and the highway without Aldgate 100s. To the poor people in the lazar houses of the "loke"† at Kingsland and St. Giles without London, to each house he bequeaths 40s.; and to the poor almspeople of his craft or fellowship of drapers, being in their almshouses, yearly, during five years next after his decease, 40s. To his brethren the Commonalty and Fellowship of the same craft he bequeaths "a standing cup coued of silv and gilt." To the reparation of Rochester Bridge 40s. And every year for five years, in bread to the poor prisoners in Newgate, Ludgate, the King's Bench, and Marshalsea, he bequeathed 25*l*. He also leaves yearly for five years 400 shirts and smocks, 40 pairs of sheets, and 150 gowns of frise to be distributed among the most needful poor people in and about the city of London. To the marriage of poor damsels in the city of London, of "good name and fame," 20 marks yearly for a term of five years, to be distributed as 40s. to each. He also bequeaths 20 marks yearly for five years to making of highways where most needed; and 6*s. 8*d.** each to 500 poor householders in London, to pray for his soul. He also desires that there be found of his goods a priest, "a good honest man, graduat in Scoles," to go about for a year to preach the Word of God devoutly to the people, exhorting them to pray for his soul, &c., and for his salary to have 20 marks, &c. He also bequeaths 20*s.* yearly to be prayed for at St. Mary Spittal, the three preaching days in Easter week, during twenty years next after his decease; and he further desires his soul to be prayed for every Sunday at Paul's Cross during a term of ten years. To Elizabeth his daughter, the wife of Sir Thomas Cooke, Knt., he bequeaths 500 marks of the 1000 marks, 100*l.*, and 30*l.*, of "ferme," which the said Sir Thomas was indebted to him, &c.; and to each of the four sons of said Sir Thomas and Elizabeth he bequeaths 100 marks more of the said amount owing him, each to have his part when he arrived at the age of 21 years, with provision for remainder in event of their respective de-

* Burnt.

† Lock.

cease. Then follows a very curious passage, which I give verbatim :—

“ Also where as it hath been demed and surmysed by the said sir Thomas Cooke heretofore þat I the said Philip Malpas was the cause of taryng and taking of the goodes of the said sir Thomas Cooke, which were takin in a Ship which I was in vppon the see, whan I last passed ouer the see, I the said Philip Malpas, for myn acquitall and discharge in that behalf, say and declare verely vpon my conscience þat I was never the cause of suche said taryng or taking of the said Ship and goodes of the said sir Thom^as Cooke therin, and that the same Ship with goodes was never so taried nor takyn in my cause or defeaute, as I woll answer vnto god.”

This no doubt refers to the matter mentioned by Fabyan, and quoted in p. 290, in which it appears Malpas was taken prisoner by a Frenchman named Columpne.

But, to proceed with the will, he bequeaths to “ Maister John Chambr,” clerk, 10*l.*; to “ Robert Chambr,” 20*l.*; and to Thomas Ram, whom he describes as his “ Suster’s doughter’s sonne,” he bequeaths 46*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; and to each of the three sisters of the said Thomas Ram on their marriage he leaves 60*l.* &c. To Robert Brykkesworth, his servant, 40*l.* and one of his best “ bourd ” clothes, one of his best towells, and 100 marks of the best debts that are owing to him. He also bequeaths to John Brandon his servant 20 marks; to John Cary, his servant, 10 marks; to “ Johanne ” his servant 40 marks; and to Elizabeth his other servant 20*l.*; and to each of the same, Johanne and Elizabeth, so much of his best “ siluⁿ wessell ” as will amount to 10*l.*; and to the same Johanne and Elizabeth, to be evenly divided between them, all his “ beddyng and Napery,” and other clothes of his household linen and woollen, &c. except such parcels thereof as his executors should like to divide between the said Robert Brikkesworth and Thomas Ram “ oute of ” his “ grete standard chiste, beyng in ” his “ grete chambr, and except ” his “ gowncs and the ffeadder bed of ” his “ bed in the said grete chambr, and the grete matras thereof with coulit celour testor and curteyns of the same bed, and the crosters hanging aboute

the same chambr, with the Standard bed and Standard chest for the said Chambr þat nowe ther stonde, willing alle the same stuf shall remayne and belef to the said place;" the said Johanne to have first choice of such goods. To Thomas Michell his child he bequeaths 10 marks, to be delivered to him when of the age of 21 years, &c. To "Thomas Alyn⁹" his cook 10 marks, and "alle the Vessell and necessities longing to" his "Kytchyn of peautre and bras, Iren, treen, and stonen remeveable." Of his gownes furred and lined he desires John Brikkesworth to have two-thirds, and the remaining third part to be sold, and the money received for same to be expended for the good of his soul. To "Kaŷyn" the daughter of William Denton, to her marriage, he bequeaths 5 marks; and to John "ffoster" and Johanne his wife, to either of them, "a cup of siluer coued," &c.; and to "maister thomas Eboralle"* he bequeaths 10*l.* and "a cup coued of silu and gilt, and a potell potte of siluer." To John Lucy, haberdasher, dwelling in "Powles Chirchawe," he bequeaths 5*l.*; to Thomas Marsburgh, bowyer, 20*s.*; John Bird, chaundler, 20*s.*; and Thomas, servant with "maister Adam," 6*s.* 8*d.* He further desires that . . . Compton, of "Brkynsfeld," a poor blind man, have 10*s.* yearly for life. To Sir Ralph Jocelyn, knt. he bequeaths 100 marks; and to Thomas Fermory, 20*l.* The residue of all his goods, debts, &c. after all his debts paid and his will fulfilled, to be disposed in deeds of alms and charity for his soul, &c.; and he makes and ordains Sir Ralph Jocelyn and Thomas Fermory his executors.

To James Smith, fishmonger, and Johanne his wife, the sister of the before-mentioned Thomas Ram, he bequeaths and grants an annual rent of 40*s.* for term of their lives, out of a shop situate in Bridge Street, in the parish of St. Magnus, &c. To Sir Thomas Cooke and Elizabeth his wife he bequeaths all his great place in which he was then dwelling, &c., situate in Cornhill and Lime Street, in the parish of St. Andrew Cornhill, &c., &c. He also bequeaths to the said Thomas and Elizabeth all his lands and

* Thomas Eboralle was a priest, being mentioned as such in early part of the will.

tenements in the parish of St. Andrew, Eastcheap ; his shop in Bridge Street, in the parish of St. Magnus ; and all his lands and tenements, &c. in the parishes of St. Olave and St. Mary Magdalen, in Southwark ; to have and to hold to them, and the heirs of their bodies, &c. ; provided always, that in case the heir of John Tychborne will buy and have those lands and tenements in Southwark, &c., and that he will pay for the same, &c. 100*l.*, then the said heir of John Tychborne, on payment of said 100*l.*, to have again the same lands, &c. To John " Foster " and Johanne his wife (the daughter of Sir Thomas and Elizabeth Cooke) he bequeaths all that his tenement called the " Cok," lying in and on the north side of Cornhill, in the parish of St. Peter, and in ward of Lime Street, with remainder in default of heirs, &c. He also wills that the said Sir Ralph Jocelyn, knt., have and hold for his life the manor of " Chaldewell," in the county of Essex, &c., and after the decease of Sir Ralph the said manor to remain to Sir Thomas and Elizabeth Cooke for term of their lives, and after their decease to remain to Philip their son and his heirs, &c., with provisions for remainder in default of heirs, &c. He also bequeaths to Sir Thomas and Elizabeth Cooke, for term of their lives respectively, his place called " belle hous," and the place called " Appultons," " Porters' ffee," and " Boyeles," in the county of Essex, with all his meadows, &c. at Stratford Langthorn, which he had before assigned and delivered to the said Sir Thomas Cooke, the same to remain after the decease of said Sir Thomas Cooke and Elizabeth his wife unto Thomas, William, and John their sons, each taking his third part, &c., &c.

This will was proved at Lambeth, the 8th day of May, 1469.

Returning to THOMAS COOKE, it appears that in 1453 (five years after Malpas became alderman, and three years after Jack Cade's rebellion), he was elected as Sheriff ; three years later he was chosen as Alderman of the Ward of Vintry, and in the year 1462-3 he filled the office of Lord Mayor. At the time of the coronation of Elizabeth, Queen of Edward IV., in May 1465, Cooke was created a Knight of the Order of the Bath, and the same honour was also conferred upon the then Lord Mayor, Ralph

Jocelyn (brother-in-law to Cooke and ancestor of the Earl of Roden), and some others. Sir Thomas Cooke was evidently a man of considerable wealth, and in high favour at court. In 1467 he began to build a mansion called Gidea Hall, near Romford in Essex, and obtained a licence for fortifying and embattling it; but on account of his subsequent misfortunes he completed only the front, the remainder being built by one of his descendants.*

The tyranny exercised by Edward IV. against those persons whose riches held out a temptation to visit them with the suspicion of a connection with the House of Lancaster is the subject of severe reprehension by the old historians, and Sir Thomas Cooke was a notable victim.

In 1467 he was impeached of high treason, at the instance of one Hawkins, who, having some years previously requested a loan of him of one thousand marks, upon good security, Sir Thomas answered that he would first know for whom it was and for what intent; when, understanding it was for the use of Queen Margaret (wife of Henry VI.), he told Hawkins that he had no goods that he could convert into money without too much loss, and refused to lend even a hundred pounds; but at the request of the Lady Margaret, sister to the King, he was admitted to bail; no sooner, however, had that royal lady left England, to be married to Charles Duke of Burgundy, than Cooke was again arrested, and sent to the Tower, his effects seized by Lord Rivers, the Queen's father, then Treasurer of England, and his wife committed to the custody of the then Mayor. Sir Thomas was shortly after tried at Guildhall and acquitted. But on his acquittal he was sent to the Bread Street Compter, and from thence to the King's Bench, and was there kept until he paid £8,000 to the King and £800 to the Queen.

His wife, on regaining possession of his house after acquittal, "found it in very evil plight, for the servants of Lord Rivers and of Sir John Fagge (then Under Treasurer), had made havoc of what they listed. Also at Gidea Hall, Essex, they had destroyed the deer in his park, his conies and fish, and spared not

* Lysons's *Environs*, vol. iv. p. 186.

brass, pewter, bedding, nor all they could carry away; for which never a penny was gotten back in recompense.”*

It appears also that Lord Rivers and his wife the Duchess of Bedford obtained the dismissal of Chief Justice Markham from his office, for having determined that Cooke was not guilty of treason.

The City Records show that, on the 21st November, 1468, Sir Thomas Cooke was discharged from the office of alderman, on the King's mandate, and that he was reinstated in October of the following year.

On the temporary restoration of Henry VI., in a Parliament which met on the 26th of November, 1470, and of which he appears to have been a member, Cooke “put in a byll into the comon house, to be restoryd of the lord Ryuers, and other occacioners of his trouble,” lands to the sum of 22,000 marks, of “whiche he had good comfort to haue ben allowyd of king Henry if he had prosperyd.”† “And the rather” (adds the chronicler) “for y^t he was of the cōmon house, and therwith a man of great boldnesse of speke and well spoken, and syngulerly wytted and well reasoned.”‡ As King Henry's restored rule was but of short duration, it is clear this appeal met with no success.

In the beginning of the following year, 1471, “the mayer” (Sir John Stockton) “ferynge the retourne of kynge Edward, fayn hym syke, and so kept his house a great season, all which tyme sir Thomas Cooke, whiche thenne was admytted to his former rome, was sette in his place, and allowyed for his deputie, whiche tourned after to his great trouble and sorowe.”§ Edward *did* return and resumed possession of the throne in the month of April, and

* There is a feminine ring about this passage that makes one fancy the language that of Lady Cooke herself.

† Fabyan's *Chronicle*, p. 660.

‡ This testimony is remarkable. Of one of Sir Thomas Cooke's descendants (Lord Bacon) we have the evidence of Ben Jonson to the same effect. Of another (the present Marquis of Salisbury) we have evidence of a writer in *The Times* of a like character within two or three days of this paper being read to the Society.

§ Fabyan's *Chronicle* p. 660.

Sir Thomas Cooke, attempting flight by leaving this country for France, was taken by a ship of Flanders, and his son and heir with him, and so set there in prison many days, and lastly was delivered up to King Edward. It is also said that the goods of Sir Thomas Cooke were again seized, and his wife put forth, and commanded to be kept at the mayor's.* How long this state of things lasted, and what events happened to Cooke subsequently, I have not been able to trace; but it is clear from the amount of property he died possessed of, that, though he may have been heavily fined, he was not reduced to poverty. When upon the death of Edward IV. Richard Duke of Gloucester made known his ambitious designs upon the throne, we are told that the Duke of Buckingham was sent into the city to deliver an oration to the assembled citizens in their Guildhall, in order to incite them to favour Richard's projects. In this speech Buckingham dwelt on topics which he knew would come home to the feelings of those whom he was addressing, and amongst other subjects he spoke with much force of the injuries which Sir Thomas Cooke had sustained at the hands of the late King. The following extract from the account handed to us of the duke's speech on this subject may not be deemed uninteresting: "What Cooke," he exclaims, "your owne worshipful neighbour, alderman, and maior of this noble citie! who is of you so either negligent that he knoweth not, or so forgetful that he remembreth not, or so hard-hearted that he pittietieth not that worshipful man's losse? What speake we of losse? His vtter spoile and vnderdeserued destruction, *onelic for that it hapned those to fauour him whome the prince fauoured not.*† We need not (I suppose) to rehearse of these anie mo by name,

* Fabyan's *Chronicle*, p. 662.

† Does this point to any special friendship with the Earl of Warwick (the king-maker)? A modern writer expresses his surprise at the influence the earl exercised in the City. May not this have been through Sir Thomas Cooke? Had Warwick anything to do with Cooke's negotiations with Jack Cade? We know that when Warwick quarrelled with Edward IV. and brought back Henry VI. Cooke was made acting Lord Mayor. It is probable that if the Corporation decide upon a careful scrutiny of the City archives many interesting facts relative to the History of England during the Wars of the Roses will be brought to light.

sith there be (I doubt not) manie heere present, that either in themselves or in their nigh friends haue knowne as well their goods as their persons greatlie indangered either by feigned quarels or small matters aggreeued with heinous names. And also there was no crime so great of which there could lack a pretext. For sith the king, preuenting the time of his inheritance, attained the crown by battell, it sufficed in a rich man for a pretext of treason to haue beene of kinred, or aliance, neer familiaritie, or legier acquaintance with any of those who were at anie time the king's enimies, which was at one time or other more than halfe the reime. Thus were neither your goods in suretie, and yet they brought your bodies in ieopardie.”*

Sir Thomas Cooke died in 1478. By his testament and last will† dated the 15th April, 1478, after the preliminary bequest of soul to God, &c. &c., he desires his body “to be buried wⁱⁿ the Church of the ffireres Augustynes, sett wⁱⁿ Bradstrete Warde of london, on the south side bitwene the two pillers in the thirde vpmost Arche of stone exopposite the grave and monument of William Edward Aldreman, late mayre and grocer of london;” and for his tomb to be made of stone he bequeaths 20 marks. He also desires 16 poor men to attend his burial with 12 torches and 4 great tapers of wax, but without “any manner of curious hers or Candlesticks,” and each of the said poor men to have 20*d.* and a “gown clothe of blake frise or lynnyng;” he also instructs his executors to desire and pray the mayor and aldermen to be at his burial and month's mind, and describes himself as a parishioner of the parish of St. Peter le Poer, to the altar of which parish church he bequeaths 13*s.* 4*d.* for duties forgotten, &c., and to the repair of the body of same church 10*s.* To each of the four orders of Friars in London, viz., Augustines, Minors, and the Black and White Friars, to say “Placebo and Dirige” within the church of the Augustin Friars on day of his burial, to each order 20*s.* To the Friars of Chelmsford, Maldon, and every order of Friars of Colchester, 20*s.* to each order to sing “Placebo and Dirige by note” the day of his burial and month's mind, and

* Holinshed's *Chronicle*, vol. iii. p. 391.

† Prerog. Reg. 36 Wattis.

three days next after the same, and also on the morning following, mass of Requiem by note. To the Grey Friars of Ailesbury 40s., on condition that they keep an obit yearly for 20 years in their church for his soul, the soul of John Maldy, William Thurston, and all christian souls; he also bequeaths 10*l.* for prayers to be said every Sunday at St. Paul's Cross in London, yearly for a space of six years; also 3*l.* for prayers to be said at St. Mary Spittal, the three preaching days in Easter week, for a term of 20 years next ensuing his decease; then follows a bequest of 6*s.* every month for a term of five years next after his decease, to be bestowed in bread among the poor prisoners of Newgate, Marshalsea, and King's Bench, to pray for his soul and the soul of Thomas Bassett, &c., and 5 marks to such person or persons as the Prioress and nuns of St. Helen's within Bishopsgate are indebted to, on condition that the said Prioress and convent on the day of his decease and month's mind, within their church sing "Placebo and Dirige," &c. for his soul, &c. To Sympkin Ludbroke of London, draper, he bequeaths 5 marks, and to his chaplain, Sir Robert 4 marks. He also bequeaths to William Taillour his servant 4 marks. To Robert Whittingham his servant 40*s.*, and to John Vale his servant 50*l.* of the best debts owing to him, &c. He also bequeaths to six poor men such as should be blind and lame and not dwelling in his "rent ϵ in the blak Ale," for a term of 90 years next ensuing after his decease, every Sunday 1*d.* each, and also that the said poor men and others after them in their stead, each of them to have "bi himsilf an hous bi the grounde nexte the strete of tho" his "rent ϵ and tenement ϵ sett in blak Ale a foresaide, in the pish of Alhallowes in the Walle in Bradstrete Warde of London a foresaide," to have and to hold the said six tenements during their lives without any rent or charge, and he further desires this bequest to take effect the Sunday eight weeks after his month's mind, &c., and he desires Thomas of Kente and Godfrey, late his servants, to have the preferment or choice of the said six houses, and to the said Thomas he bequeaths 20*s.* His manual book, and all his mass books, bibles, portuses, saulters, vestments, chalices, corporales, sepultures, altar cloths, and curtains he desires to remain in the custody of

Philip his son, to the intent that he deliver them to John or William his brothers, or either of them who shall happen to be a priest, without any delay the day next before he shall sing his first mass. After his burial and all his debts paid, he bequeaths the residue of all his goods, &c. &c. whatsoever, to be divided into three equal parts. The first part to Elizabeth his wife, the other part to Philip his son, and the third part to be equally divided between John and William his sons, when they arrive at the age of 24 years, &c. &c., with a provision for remainder in event of John and William being priests or dying without issue. To Thomas Rotherham, Lord Chancellor and Bishop of Lincoln, he bequeaths his best "standing Cupp cou^ded gilt;" and to William Edward, Alderman, to be one of his executors, 10 marks. He also bequeaths 10 marks each to John Vavasour of the Temple, gentleman, and John Hawe* of London, gentleman, and he makes and ordains his son Philip, William Edward, John Vavasour, John Hawe, and Humfrey Howarden his executors, the last mentioned also to have 10 marks; and for their overseer he appoints the said Lord Chancellor. He then directs his executors after his decease to grant to the Prior and convent of the Augustin Friars an annuity of 40s. yearly of the issues of the place in which he was then dwelling, and of all his other tenements in the parish of St. Peter le Poer, to have and to hold the same from the day of his decease for a term of 90 years; that the said prior and convent, &c. suffer his grave and tomb to be made within their said church, and so to remain for ever, the said prior and convent keeping and observing an obit for his soul, &c. &c. in their said church every year for 90 years. To Philip his son and his assigns for term of his life he bequeaths all that his "Chaumbr and Stuff of Chamberyng thereto bilongyng, which that nowe I occupie and lye ynne my silf, w^t my ij Studies and Countyng houses thereto annexed. Also ij other of my Chambres, whereof oon is w^t a Chapell next adioynyng to my saide Chapell,† on the same side stretching Este and Weste, and abuttith vpon the south toward the grete place late myn, and nowe bilongyng to Robert Hardyng, goldesmyth, in the pish" of St. Peter le Poer,

* (?) Sheriff of London, 16 Hen. VII. 1500. † (?) Chambres.

&c., with free access to and from the same. The residue of his said dwelling place from the day of his month's mind to remain to Elizabeth his wife for term of her life, with remainder after her decease to his son Philip, &c. To his wife Elizabeth he also bequeaths for term of her life his "grete place," with tenements and appurtenances, in the parish of St. Margaret Lothbury, and also his place called "grene gate,"* &c. in the parish of St. Andrew Cornhill, on the condition that the said Elizabeth, nor any one on her behalf, do not vex or annoy his executors, &c. with reference to the distribution of his property, and after her decease the same to remain to Philip his son, &c. &c. To Philip his son he leaves the brewhouse of the Swan, in the parish of St. Botolph without "Aldrichgate," and to the said Philip and his heirs, after the death of said Elizabeth, he bequeaths all his places and tenements, &c. in the parish of St. Andrew Cornhill and Lime Street, formerly belonging to Philip Malpas, and to the said Philip he also leaves his brewhouse called the Garland, &c. in the parish of St. Andrew Eastcheap, and also his place called the Wharf in the parish of St. Botolph Billingsgate, also his two shops in the parish of St. Magnus, and his tavern and brewhouse called the Bear and Dolphin in the parish of St. Olave and St. Mary Magdalen in Southwark, and also his lands, &c. in Whitechurch, in the county of Chester, and in the county of Surrey, with provision for remainder in event of failure of heirs to Philip, &c. To John Vale his servant he bequeaths an annual rent of 4*l.* for term of his life, to issue out of his places in the parish of St. Helen's and "St. Albourgh"† within Bishopsgate Ward, and further directs that all the said places and the residue of all his tenements called "blak Alee," to remain wholly to Philip his son during the end and term of an indenture made to him for certain years, &c. under the seal of the Prioress and convent of St. Helen's; then follows provision for remainder, and conditions respecting same if Philip die without heirs. He also bequeaths to John Forster and Johanne his wife (whom he describes as his daughter) all those his tenements which sometime belonged to John Maldy,

* Inherited from Philip Malpas.

† St. Ethelburga.

&c. in the parish of St. Olave, against the Bridge House in Southwark, and after the decease of Elizabeth his wife all those his tenements, &c. in the parish of St. Swithin, in London, &c. To Philip his son, and his heirs, he leaves his manor of Gidea or Geddy Hall and Easthouse, &c. with all the ploughs, carts, &c.; and also all his mills, tenements, &c. in the parishes of Hornchurch and Romford, in Essex, also his manor called Bedford's, and his place called "Revles,"* and his place called "Tilehouse;" also his manor of Reden Court, and his places and tenements called "Actonys" and "frethes," &c. in the parish of Hornchurch; also his manor of "Haughannes," and his place called "Martynes," in the parishes and towns of "Chigwell, lambourn, hetunboise, Sapilforde Abbat, and a brigge," † in the county of Essex; with provision for remainder in default of issue of said Philip. He also bequeaths unto said Philip his manor called "Maudelen lawser" and his Limckyl'n, &c. at Stifford Bridge, in the county of Essex. To Aluere Cornebourgh ‡ he bequeaths his tenement called "Willotys" (in which Bernarde Tilemaker, is described as then dwelling) on condition that he pay his executors 5*l.*, and also discharge his heirs for ever of all quit-rents going out of his manor of Gidea Hall, or otherwise the said tenement to remain to Philip his son.

He also wills that his executors make or cause to be made to the vicar and wardens of the church of St. Nicholas of Witham, in the county of Essex, a lawful estate in fee for evermore of all those his tenements called "ffresles" in the parish of Witham, to yearly keep and hold an obit in said church for his soul, &c., and the souls of Thomas Bassett, John Debenham, John Maldy, and William Thurston, &c. &c. To Philip his son he also bequeaths his place called the Bell and the Angel, in Newland, in Witham, and also his places called Pages and the Mote, &c., in the parish and town of Witham, and also in the towns of "Revnale, Cressyng, ffalbo'n, and Brakstede," in the county of Essex, with remainder to William his son, if Philip die without issue; and if

* (?) Nerles.

† Heybridge.

‡ Avery Cornburgh, of Gooshays, in the parish of Romford, died 1486.

William die, then remainder to Thomas Downe (whom he describes as his nephew) and his heirs for evermore. To John his son and his heirs he bequeaths all that his great place called the Swan in Brentwood, in the county of Essex, and all other his tenements, lands, &c., in the town and parish of Brentwood. The said John to have, to him and his heirs, after decease of Elizabeth his wife, all that his manor of Belhouse, and his places called "Morells" and "Boyeles," and his lands called "Tyleherstes," &c., in the county of Essex; and also all his rent of assize and quit rent, called Porter's Fee, in the county of Essex, with provision for remainder in event of John dying without heirs. To William his son and his heirs, when he is of lawful age, he bequeaths all his places and tenements in the town of Colchester, in the county of Essex, and also his fishing wears within the Colne Water, between St. Osyth's and Colchester; also all that his beer-house between the "Forth" of Stratford Bow and Stratford Langthorn, in the parish of Witham, in the county of Essex; also all his messuages and tenements in the parish of Eastham. And to the said William and his heirs, after the decease of Elizabeth his wife, he bequeaths his place called "Appultones," &c. in the parish of Chigwell: also all his meadows, &c. in Stratford Langthorn, &c. which late belonged to Philip Malpas, &c. He also wills and ordains that all his feoffees enfeoffed to his use of his lands, &c., in the towns of "Erehith, lesnes, maigeston, Loose ferte, Boughton Monchesey, Redmersham, Bacchilde, Milatede," and in the hundred of Middleton, or in other places in the county of Kent, shall make estate thereof to such persons as his executors shall require, and that the said estates be sold, and the proceeds to be applied in payment of his debts, &c. &c.

This will was proved at Lambeth the 1st day of June, 1478.

Although it is not my intention in this paper to enter into the history of the several eminent men of the past and present day who derive their descent from Philip Malpas and Sir Thomas Cooke, still as the matter will, I have no doubt, be of considerable interest to genealogists, I have added hereto a pedigree of the Cooke family, in addition to the following abstract of the

will of Sir Anthony Cooke, the father of the Ladies Burghley, Bacon, and Russell.

Sir Anthony Cooke, great-grandson of Sir Thomas Cooke, as will be seen by the pedigree, died 11th June, and was buried 21st June, 1576, at Romford. By his last will and testament,* dated 22nd May, 1576, he describes himself as "Anthonye Cooke of Guydyhall in Haveringe," knight. He desires his body to be buried at Romford. To his son Richard, his "daughter Burleighe," his "daughter Bacon," his "daughter Russell," his "daughter Killegrewe," and his son William, he leaves to each a legacy of silver plate. He also bequeaths to his son Richard all his household stuff, &c. at Gidea Hall and Bedfords, &c. of his books he bequeaths two Latin books and one Greek book to each of his daughters, and the residue to his son Richard and Anthony his son. Also he bequeaths to Richard and William his sons jointly the lease for the term yet to come of his farm at Minster, in the Isle of Thanet, with all stock and cattle. To his son Richard he bequeaths 200*l.* and to his son William 500*l.* He appoints the Right Hon. Sir Nicholas Bacon, *knt.* Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, the Right Hon. the Lord Burghley, Lord Treasurer of England, and his two sons Richard and William Cooke, his executors; and to the Lords Bacon and Burghley he bequeaths 200*l.* each for their pains. All the residue of his goods he bequeaths to Richard Cooke his son.

Then follows his last will and testament of all his lands, &c.

To his son William Cooke and his wife he bequeaths the manor of "Mawdlyn Laver," "Marskallesburie," "Haughhaims," and "Wythers," in the county of Essex, with such remainders as was covenanted between himself and Lady Grey upon the marriage of his said son William. To his daughter-in-law, the wife of his son Richard, he bequeaths for the term of her life the manor of Chadwell, &c. and the manor of Reden Court, in Havering, both in the county of Essex, in full recompense of all jointure and dower, &c. To his son Richard and his heirs male he bequeaths all the residue of his lands, with provision for remainder in default of heirs.

* Prerog. Reg. 10 Daughtry.

This will is signed "Anthoine Cooke, 9th June, 1576," from which I infer that it was not signed till some time after it had been drawn up. The witnesses to the signature being W. Burghley; Gabr. Goodman, Dean of Westminster; W. Cooke; George Harrison, notary; Richard Cooke's wife; Henry Killegrewe's wife; and John Escott.

To the will is appended a schedule of legacies, as follows: To Lady Oxford, 50*l.* To Lord Leicester, the choice of two stallions out of Havering Park. To *Robert Cecil*, 20*l.* To *Elizabeth Cecil*, 20*l.* To his daughter Killegrewe, 60*l.* To *Anthony Bacon*, 20*l.* To *Francis Bacon*, 20*l.* To Edward Hoby, 10*l.* To Thomas Posthumus Hoby, 10*l.* To Marie Cooke, three "Portigues." To Anne Cooke, three "Portigues."* To Anne Killegrewe five "Portigues." To his cousin Skinner 10*l.* and to his cousin Ogle 5*l.* To John Escott his servant, 3*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* To Edward Davie his servant, 3*l.* To Richard Howell his servant, 3*l.* To every of the three servingmen in his household at the time of his death, 40*s.* each. To every other "hinde," woman servant, and boy, being to the number of fifteen in his household at the time of his decease, 20*s.* each, &c.

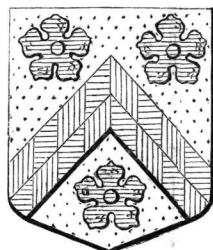
This will was proved at London, 5th March, 1576.

It will be seen that I have adopted throughout the spelling of the surname of Cooke as it occurs in the wills of Sir Thomas and his great-grandson Sir Anthony Cooke, although the name often appears as Coke in the various records and chronicles.

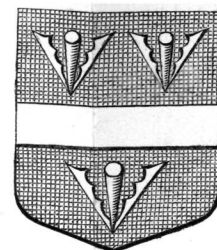
In concluding this paper, I have to express my thanks to E. J. Sage, Esq. for the kind loan of his MS. pedigree and notes of the Cooke family, and also to my friend Thomas Milbourn, Esq. for other information relating to the family.

* A gold coin of the value of 3*l.* 10*s.*

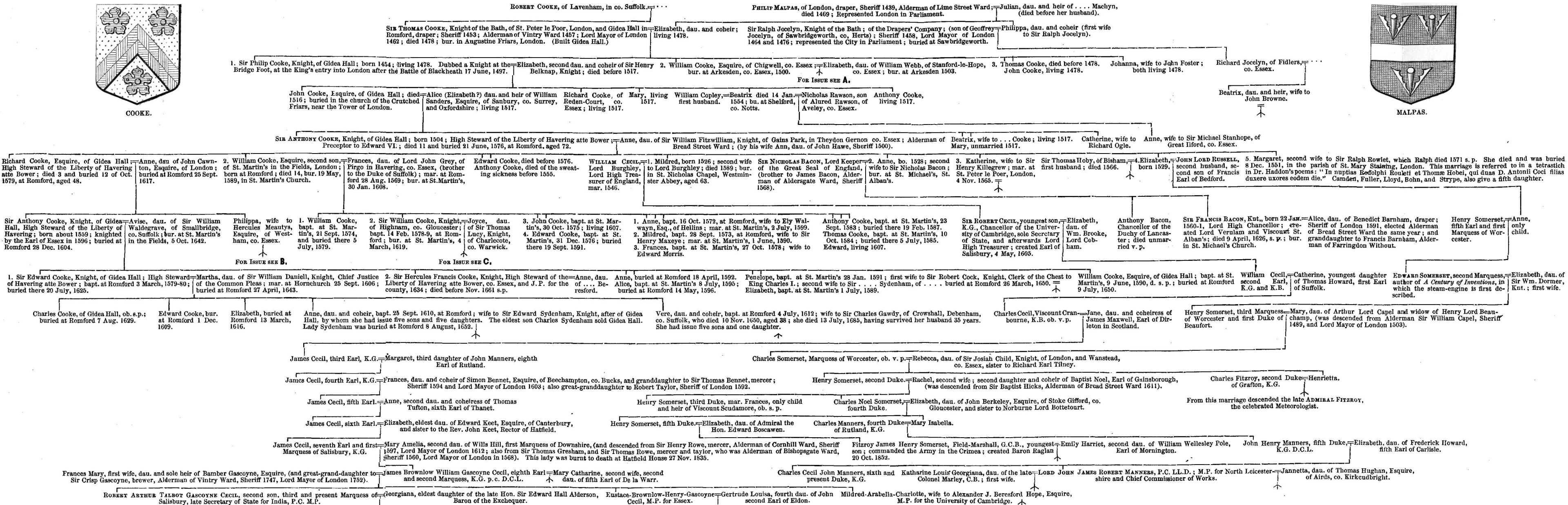
COOKE FAMILY, OF GIDEA HALL, ROMFORD, CO. ESSEX.



COOKE.



MALPAS.



COMPILED from the Genealogical Notes of E. J. SAGE, Esq. Harl. MSS. Brit. Mus. No. 1137, f. 23; No. 1432, f. 40 b; No. 1541, ff. 42 b-43; No. 1542, ff. 88-88 b; Clutterbuck's *History of Herts*, vol. i. p. 93; Burke's *Extinct and Dormant Peerages*; Parish Registers, Wills, &c.