

NOTES ON TWO MONUMENTAL BRASSES IN THE  
CHURCH OF SAINT ANDREW-UNDER-SHAFT,  
LEADENHALL STREET.

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RATION OF LONDON.

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NICHOLAS LEVESON.

The family of Leveson settled at Stafford in the thirteenth century, and we find Richard Leveson possessing an estate at Willenhall in the year 1298.\* William Leveson succeeded to this property in 1377, and it subsequently passed to Roger † who held it in 1397. From him it descended to Richard Leveson, esq. who married the heiress of Prestwood and Wolverhampton Underhill, and had three sons, John, who died without issue, Nicholas, the subject of this inquiry, and James. ‡

James Leveson became a Merchant of the Staple at Wolverhampton and Lilleshall. By his first wife he had a daughter, Mary, who became his heir and married Sir George Curzon of Croxhall; from this union descended the Duke of Dorset and the Earl of Thanet. By a second wife he had issue two daughters: Elizabeth, married to Sir Walter Aston, and Joyce, to Sir John Giffard, knt., of Chillington.

John possessed the manor of Norton, Staffordshire; he sold it, and it was subsequently purchased in 1552 by his kinsman John Leveson, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of ——— Fowke of Brewood, and their son sold it to Roger Fowke of the same place.

In the church of St. Mary, Wolverhampton, there is a monument erected to the memory of John Leveson, who died in 1575. The figure is in armour. In the chancel is a statue of brass placed there in honour of Admiral Richard Leveson, who served under Sir Francis Drake at the destruction of the Spanish Armada in 1588. In the same parish one Clement Lusun founded a hospital in 1394. Several members of the

\* Inquisit. post Mortem, vol. ii. p. 361.

† Vol. iii. p. 111.

‡ Erdeswicke's Staffordshire, p. 26.

family had the honour of serving their sovereign in the office of High Sheriff of the county: Sir Richard Leveson in 1556, John Leveson 1560-1, Thomas Leveson 1590-1, and Sir Edward in 1598.

Nicholas, the subject of this notice, came to London in early life to seek his fortune. He was bound apprentice to one William Browne,\* a member of the Mercers' Company, to which guild he was afterwards admitted by servitude. From his connection with this body it is probable that he traded abroad, for he became a merchant of the staple at Calais, and through his possessions a wealthy citizen. He married Dionysia Bodley, daughter of Thomas and Joan Bodley of Black Notley, Essex; her mother married a second time Thomas Bradbury, who became Lord Mayor of London in 1509.† The estates of Black Notley came to Dionysia on the death of her brother James. The issue of her marriage with Nicholas Leveson were eight sons and ten daughters, many of whom died young.

Their town residence was situate in Lime Street in the parish of St. Andrew Undershaft, then a fashionable part of the city. The mansion was, according to the description in Mr. Leveson's will, large, and had a garden attached. Their principal country house was situated at Horne Place,‡ Halling, in Kent. They also possessed property in Middlesex, Essex, Kent, and Trentham Hall,§ Staffordshire, &c. He was chosen Sheriff of London on the 2nd September, 1534.¶ His three sons¶ Thomas, Nicholas, and William, became members of the Mercers' Company by patrimony. His son John married the daughter and heir of ———— Baron, but died without issue, and before his father. His daughter Dorothy married William Streete; Elizabeth, Sir William Hewet, knt.;\*\* and Mary, Edmund Calthorpe, esq. He

\* Records of the Mercers' Company.

† He was chosen Sheriff in 1498, Alderman of Aldersgate Ward 13 Dec. 1502, and Lord Mayor on 13 Oct. 1509. He died during his mayoralty.

‡ Horne Place, the ancient residence of Sir William Horn, Lord Mayor of London in 1447, who was knighted for his bravery on the field by Edward IV. his name being then *Littlesbury*; but, from his proficiency as a performer on the horn, the King called him Horn.

§ See Hasted's "Kent," 1797, vol. iii. p. 383.

¶ Corporation Records.

¶ His son William was admitted into the Mercers' Company by patrimony 1583; Thomas, the son of William, in 1614; James, his younger brother, in 1633. Record of Mercers' Company.

\*\* Sir William Hewet, knt. clothworker, Master of the Company 1543-4, elected Alderman of the ward of Vintry 16th Sept. 1550. He was committed to



BRASS OF NYCOLAS LEVESON, IN THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW-UNDER-SHAFT,  
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died on the 20th August 1539, and was buried according to the directions contained in his will made the 7th day of November, 1536, viz.: "In the tomb made before the upper pillar of the north side of the church between the high altar and the altar of the north aisle."

By this instrument, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 13 October 1539, he bequeaths to the high altar of St. Andrew's for tithes forgotten vj s. viij d. To the brotherhood of our Lady and St. Anne, within the church of St. Andrew, vj s. viij d. He leaves for his funeral expenses 100*l.* "or more as shall be thought convenient by the discrecion of myn executors;" to his wife Denys her full parte and porcion to her belonging by the lawe and custome of the citie of London of all my said goods, catalles, and debts, and the thirde parte of the same he leaves equally to his children living and unmarried at the time of his decease; to his wife for a remembrance to pray for his soul "a hundred pounds sterling;" to his brother James Leveson 100*l.* and a ring of gold; in remembrance to his sister the wife of the said James "a lyke ring of gold of the value of xls." To the making and repairing the highways of the City of London he leaves 100 marks. For exhibitions at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge the sum of twenty pounds respectively. To the parish church of Halling to pray for his soul xls. To the parish church of "Cokston" to buy any ornament needed by the church xls. and to the parson Sir John Buttill a black gown, and in money xx s.; to Sir Thomas Snyder vicar of Halling, ten shillings; to his wife Denys two standing potts and six bowls with covers of parcel gilt "and six bowls with a cover cleane gilt which ware sometyme her mother's;" to his daughter Gresell a gilt cup of the price of vj l. xiiij s. iiij d. with his arms to be "sett upon the same cup for a token of remembrance, and the same cup to be bought by his executors." To his daughter Jane Davenell he also

Newgate for refusing to take the office, but subsequently accepted it. He was chosen Sheriff in 1552, translated to the ward of Candlewick in July 1555, elected Lord Mayor 29th Sept. 1559, and then honoured by knighthood. He was a wealthy and prosperous merchant, and dwelt on the east side of old London Bridge. See "Chronicles of Old London Bridge," by Rich. Thompson, 1827, pp. 303-4, with the interesting story of the saving of Anne, only daughter of Sir William Hewet, who fell into the river and was rescued by his apprentice, Edward Osborn, afterwards Alderman for Baynard's Castle Ward 1573, Sheriff 1575, removed to Candlewick Ward, July 10, 1576, Lord Mayor 1583-4, knighted and Member of Parliament for the City of London in 1586; ancestor of the Duke of Leeds in a direct line.

bequeaths a like silver cup. He next proceeds to the disposal of his lands and tenements, leaving to his son John Leveson the property in Stafford, inherited from his father Richard, possessions in the parishes of Eastham and Westham in Essex, also in Middlesex, Huntingdon, and Hartford, "and one parcell lying in the pishe of Chetehm (Chatham) in the countie of Kent," all to be held in trust by his executors until coming of age of his son John.

To his wife the dwelling house and garden in Lime Street, in the parish of St. Andrew Undershaft, his property in Halling, Coxton, Byrling, Snodland, Luddesdonne, Gillingham, in the countie of Kent, and Westthorok, Essex, for her use until such time as his sons Thomas \* and Nicholas arrive at full age; then, each to receive a moiety of the said possessions for their own benefit and that of their heirs lawfully begotten; in default of issue, the daughters Grysell, Johane, Alice, Mary, and Denys to receive the same, their heirs and assigns for ever. The will then concludes with a provision that at the decease of his wife Denys the house in Lime Street should descend to their son John Leveson.

His wife Denys or Dionysia survived him for some years, and continued to take great interest in the poor of the parish of St. Andrew. In the account of the sale of the church vestments and furniture in the reign of King Edward VI. she is mentioned as a purchaser:

Item, solde to Mysteris Leveson two aluter frutes of Dornyke, and res. (received) therefore . . . . .	v s. viiij d.
Item, solde to the saide Mysteris Leveson an aluter clothe frunte of white Brydges satten, and res. therefore . . . . .	ix s.
Item, solde to the foresaid Mysteris Leveson a suder to bere the crysmatory, and res. therefore . . . . .	ij s. viij d.
Item, solde to the saide Mysteris Leveson a clothe to hang at the high aluter, and res. therefore . . . . .	vj s. viij d.
Item, solde to the saide Mysteris Leveson one other clothe for the same purpose, and res. therefore . . . . .	vj s. viij d.
Item, solde to the forsaide Mysteris Leveson ij ffrutes of Dornix, and res. therefore . . . . .	v s. viij d.

She was possessed of the manor of Black Notley and of 10 messuages,† 400 acres of arable land, 100 acres of meadow, and 500 acres of pasture land, 200 acres of wood, and a rental of 10*l.* in the parish;

\* From whom has descended the present Duke of Sutherland.

† Morant's History of Essex, vol. ii. p. 124.

also White Notley and other messuages comprising large possessions in land: Great and Little Leighs, Fayested, holden from the Queen; also the manor of Pleshil, parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, in free socage, value 140*l.* per annum. Thomas her second son became her heir, and died possessed of this manor 21 April, 1576. She died the 2nd December, 1560, and in accordance with her will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 20th of the same month, was buried in the church of St. Andrew Undershaft, in the middle aisle, and at the end of the pew which she had been accustomed to use. She directed that her body should not be "seared," "but inclosed after a convenient manner within a coffin of boordes," and that she should be borne to the church by four of her tenants. The funeral is thus graphically described in Machyn's Diary, page 245:

The ix day of Desember was bered in Sant Andrews Undershaft Mistores Lusun, wedow, the wyff of Master Lusun, merser and stapoler, and late Shreyff of London, with a lx men in blake gownes, and her plase and the chyrche hangyd with blake and armes, and a xxiiij clarkes syngyng; and she gayff xl gownes to men and women of brodcloth, and every woman had new raylles, and ther was a sermon and a iiij dosen of skochyons of armes, and after a gret dole, and after a grett dener.

Sir William Hewitt, knight, Edward Leveson, and John Southcote,\* were the executors to her will, which bears date 1 August, 1560. It is of great length and contains some curious particulars. Her executors were, within two days after her burial, to invite all the parishioners of St. Andrew Undershaft to the dwelling-house in Lime Street, and

\* The eldest son of William, a younger son of Nicholas Southcote of Chudleigh, Devonshire. He was born in the year 1511, and, being designed for the Bar, was sent to the Middle Temple, of which Society he rose to be Reader in 1556, and was again complimented with the same duty in 1559, on the occasion of his being called upon to take the degree of the coif, which he assumed on April 19 in that year. Previously to this, however, he is mentioned in Plowden as under-sheriff, and one of the judges in the Sheriffs' Court in London in 1553, and his arguments, after he became serjeant, are reported both by that author and Dyer. On the resignation of William Rastall, Southcote was nominated to fill his place as a judge of the Queen's Bench on Feb. 10, 1563. He performed his judicial duties with high reputation for the space of twenty-one years, when he retired, and his place was supplied by Baron Clench on May 29, 1584. Within a year afterwards, on 18 April, 1585, he died, at the age of seventy-four, and was buried under a stately monument in the parish church of Witham in Essex, in which county he had purchased the manors of Bacrus or Abbots and Petworths. See Foss's "Judges of England," vol. v. p. 541.

“there make to them a convenient dynner.” This is probably the banquet referred to by Machyn. To “poor scholars” in the University of Cambridge, where her sons received their education, she bequeathed  $vj^{\text{ij}}$   $xij^{\text{s}}$   $iiij^{\text{d}}$ , and a similar sum to the students at Oxford, both amounts to be distributed within a year after her decease, according to the discretion of her executors. To the reparation and amending of “the highe wayes at Islington and here aboute London” the sum of  $xx^{\text{li}}$ ; to the discharging of poore prysoners whiche shall then remaine in Newgate and in the two counters in London only for their fees  $vj^{\text{ij}}$   $xij^{\text{s}}$   $iiij^{\text{d}}$ ; to the poor people of St. Bartholomew’s Spittle a similar amount, to be paid over “to the Governors of the same house;” to the poor in the parishes of Halling and Coxton in Kent, twenty shillings for each parish; to certain “wyves dwellinge in Cokeston,” whose names are given, “each an ell of lynnen clothe price  $iiij^{\text{s}}$   $iiij^{\text{d}}$  the ell to make everie of them a kerchief;” next a provision that all her servants shall be retained in London for one month after her decease, at her cost and charge, or until they are enabled to provide for themselves; to her executors and their wives and numerous members of her own family she leaves a black gounne of cloth, the price of which to be “ $xvij^{\text{s}}$  the yearde or there about,” and to her household servants a similar gown but of  $ix^{\text{s}}$  price the yard; “and two cote clothes of the same clothe, the one to Thomas Shepparde and the other to John Alday,” and a small sum of money to pray for her soul; to John Fallowfelde her apprentice  $xx^{\text{li}}$  to be employed for his benefitt, and to her cousin Anne Butler the sum of  $x^{\text{li}}$  to be paid on her marriage day; to Thomas Hewet, clothworker, Edward Osburne, and Lewes the taylor dwelling within Aldersgate, “each a gowne clothe;” she bequeaths to “Dionys the girle of my kitchin  $x^{\text{ls}}$  to be paid to her the daye of her marriage yf she keepe herself honeste and true;” to a number “of lovinge frends hereafter written” she leaves a ring of gold to each, which are to be made “lyke flate hoopess,” and in each is to be engraved “See ye forget not me;” similar rings are left to all her sons and daughters; to her god-daughter Ann Hewet a legacy of “one hundred marks” on her marriage day; to one of her servants, Walter Dawnks,  $x^{\text{ls}}$  and a cloth cote with a release of “five pounds that he oweth me by byll.”

All her household stuff and brewing vessels at Halling in Kent, &c. with some exception, she leaves to Thomas Leveson her son; the

silver plate given her by her mother Dame Joan Bradbury is bequeathed to Alice Hewet, also a silver cup gilt, with "xiiij perles and wrought with flowers uppon hit, and my chaine of golde with wreathes." She leaves to her daughter Mary Calthorpp all the furniture in the "tower chamber" of the howse in Lime Street, with that of her own room in the same mansion, and to her son Thomas the hanging curtains, "seelinge and portalls" in the parlour and hall, also four tables, and the fittings of the "greate chamber where the chappell ys," and those "in the chamber called Mrs. Roper's Chamber." To the Company of Mercers is a bequest to give them a breakfast or other banquet, and to each of her executors for their trouble twenty pounds of "currante monney," followed by a warning to her children that should they attempt to break through the provisions of either their father's will or her own testament, the saide "same child so offending shall take no legacie, benefit, or proffit."

The testatrix then proceeds to the disposition of her property in lands and tenements: that situate at Stampfeeld (Stamford) Hill in the parish of Tottenham is ordered to be sold and the proceeds devoted to the carrying out of the provisions in her will. The property at West Court, Gillingham, Chatham, and "Horsenden in the countie of Kent," she leaves to her son William Leveson and his heirs; also the house in Lime Street, occupied by one Henry Edys, with all its appurtenances, provided that the said William suffer her daughter Mary Calthropp either to reside there if inclined, free of all rent or charge, or to receive such yearly revenue as the premises may produce for her life-time only. With kind consideration for Henry Edys she directs that "he shall not be put oute of y<sup>e</sup> saide tenemente under one yeres warninge." To her grandson Thomas Leveson she bequeaths household property at Limehouse in Middlesex, and concludes by leaving to her own son Thomas "all the cite of the late Chappell of Saint Lawrence in Hallinge in the countie of Kent," and a large quantity of other property in Halling and Snodland adjoining.

The brass, which represents Nicholas and Dionysia Leveson surrounded by a numerous family, was repaired in 1764. It is stated that there was a figure above symbolical of the Almighty. The shield on the left illustrates the arms of Leveson, viz. A canting coat—Gules, a fess nebulé argent between three leaves slipped or. It is quartered with those of Prestwood: Argent, a chevron gules between three cinquefoils vert. On the left of his wife are her family arms, viz.



those of Bodley: Argent, five martlets \* in saltire sable, on a chief azure three ducal crowns or.† Over the figures are both arms impaled.

### SIMON BURTON.

Simon Burton, Citizen and Waxchandler. He resided in Leadenhall Street, where he carried on his business. His melting houses were situated in Woolsack Alley, Houndsditch, and the inscription on his monument indicates the importance of the position which he enjoyed among his fellow-citizens. He was three times Master of the Company of Waxchandlers, served as member of the Court of Common Council for the Ward of Lime Street for the term of twenty-nine years, and was one of the Governors of St. Thomas's Hospital. In the earliest record of the Company which has been preserved, viz. A Book of Accounts extending from 1529 to 1601, he is first mentioned as paying quarterage in 1531, and was at this time evidently following his trade as waxchandler, for in the same record (to which access has been kindly granted by Mr. Gregory, clerk to the Company,) there appears the following entries in connection with two of his apprentices:

1531, 1533. Res. of Symon Burton for dressing of a torche with parchment . . . . .	xij d.
Res. of hym for amyttng of his prentis, Thomas Rokely . . . . .	ij s. vj d.
Res. of hym for amyttng of his prentis . . . . .	ij s. vj d.

Under date 1554, we read:

Mr. Kendall, Master; Mr. Foorde and Simon Burton, Wardens.

1558. Walter Meers, Master Symon Burton, and Harry Blower, Wardens.

And in 1564 there occurs the entry of another receipt from him of ij s. vj d. for binding an apprentice. The record from which these extracts are made is in a very dilapidated condition, but two entries are preserved which mention him as serving the office of Master of

\* Martlets in Heraldry should be represented without beaks or feet. In the illustration they are erroneously seen with both. They are, however, thus engraved on the original brass.

† The arms represented in the illustration are those used by Sir Thomas Bodley, Founder of the New Library, Oxford. Branches of the family of Bodley also bear Argent, five martlets, 2, 2, and 1, sable, a chief azure. Another, Gules five martlets argent, on a chief indented or three crowns azure. The arms of Underhill are, A chevron sable between three trefoils slipped vert, and do not appear on the brass.



NEERE TO HIS PLACE LYETH BVRIED THE BODY  
 OF SIMON BURTON, CITIZEN AND WAXCHÄDLER  
 OF LONDON, A GOOD BENIFACTOR TO Y POORE  
 OF THIS PARISHE; WHO WAS 3 Tymes MASTER OF  
 HIS COMPANY; AND ONE OF THE GOVERNORS  
 OF S<sup>t</sup> THOMAS HOSPITALL. AND OF THE COMON  
 COVNSSELL OF THIS WARD XXIX YERES, HE HAD  
 2 WYVES, ELIZABETH AND ANN, AND HAD ISSVE  
 BY ELIZABETH, I SONN AND III DAUGHTERS; HE  
 DECEASED Y 23 OF MAY 1593. BEING OF Y AGE  
 OF 85 YERES. IN WHOSE REMEBRANCE HIS LOVEING  
 DAUGHTER ALYCE COLDOCK ERECTED HIS MONVMENT

BRASS OF SIMON BURTON IN THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW-UNDER-SHAFT,  
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the Company, viz. 1572: "Simon Burton, Master; John Cressey and Jeram Burton, Wardens." Also 1585: "Symon Burton, Master; Richard Sharpe and James Skelton, Wardens."

At the sale of the vestments, &c. for the reparation of the church, 6 Edw. VI. he appears as a purchaser:

Item, solde to Symonde Burton the olde wax iiij<sup>xx</sup> xij<sup>ij</sup> at v d. li.  
and res. therefore . . . . . xxxviij s. iiij d.

He had two wives, Elizabeth and Ann, both of whom are represented in the brass, as are also his children, viz. one son and three daughters by his wife Elizabeth; two daughters alone survived him. He died the 23rd May, 1593, at the good old age of 85 years, and was buried in the church of St. Andrew Undershaft. His will, dated the 17 May in the same year, was proved in the following March by Francis Caldocke, executor, and contains some curious particulars. After the usual formula and provision for his lawful debts, he directs that all his goods, chattels, plate, money, and household stuff should be divided into two equal parts, one to be given to his daughters, Alice, wife of Francis Caldocke, citizen and stationer, and Dennis Thompson, widow, in equal shares; the other part he reserves for various bequests. To a preacher for a sermon at his burial, ten shillings; to twelve poor men to attend his corpse, a like number of black gowns; to the Company of Waxchandlers, forty shillings; to both the Livery and Yeomanry of the Company of Tallowchandlers, ten shillings each; to the poor in St. Thomas's Hospital, three pounds; "to the poore children harbored in Christes Hospital in London, fowertye shillings;" to his brother, Jerom Burton, a goblet of silver parcel guilte to match one he had previously given him, and to the said Jerom all the melting houses and tenements in Woolsack Alley, Houndsditch, held from the Company of Cutlers; to the poor of St. Andrew's Eastcheap, St. Andrew Undershaft, and St. Leonard's Shoreditch, he leaves various sums; to Joane Ponsenbye, daughter of Alice Caldocke, six pounds and his "hoop-ring of gold;" to Mr. Johnson,\* Parson of St. Andrew Undershaft, ten

\* John Johnson matriculated as a pensioner of Queen's College, Cambridge 2 May, 1544, obtained his degree of B.A. 1552-3, elected Fellow of Jesus College 1554, became Master of Arts 1556, and Bachelor of Divinity 1562. His name appears among the subscribers against the new statutes of the University May 1575. He vacated his fellowship in 1586, was collated to the rectory of St. Andrew Undershaft 8 Sept. 1565, and was there buried 13 March, 1596-7.—Cooper's *Athenæ Cantabrigienses*, vol. ii. p. 241.

shillings ; to his daughter Dennis the lease of the house in which she lived, and the residue of this portion of his property to his cousin Simon Waterson, out of which the said Simon is to bestow on the poor of St. Katharine Cree Church and St. Katharine Coleman the sum of twenty shillings each for the space of five years. His property at Haggerston, viz. three acres and a half, he bequeathed to the Governors of the Royal Hospitals for the support of St. Thomas's Hospital, after certain deductions as bequests to the poor parishioners before mentioned. To his sole executor and son-in-law, Francis Caldock, he leaves ten pounds for his trouble, and concludes by appointing Simon Waterson and one Thomas Newman, scrivener, overseers to the said will

The illustrations to this paper have been kindly presented to the Society by Mr. Charles Golding.

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