AYLESTONE

THE DESCENT OF THE MANOR
Erratum and Addendum

BY G. KEITH THOMSON, M.A., M.Litt.

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SINCE the publication of the descent of the manor of Aylestone in the *Transactions* of our Society (Vol XVII, pt. 2, 1932-3), I have, through the kindness of Mr. Eric St. John Brooks, of Amersham Common, been informed of an error in the Aylestone pedigree, printed on page 213, which necessarily involves corrections also being made on pages 209 and 218. To begin with the latter page, Alice, the wife of Fulk III, married Richard (not Ralph) de Nowers.

Mr. St. John Brooks has written for the Bedfordshire Historical Record Society an account of the Nowers of Wymington (Vol. XIV, 1931), in which is printed a Nowers pedigree, and his researches into this famous Bedfordshire family make it quite clear that there was no Ralph de Nowers at the time of Alice's marriage into the family. Her husband, Richard, was also lord of Churchill, co. Oxon.

Mr. St. John Brooks' account also supplies us with three further husbands for the much-married Alice de Montfort, while the Aylestone paper proves that Alice's first (known) husband was Fulk de Pembrugge (Fulk III), of Aylestone, a husband not shown in the Nowers pedigree.

Alice, on the death of Richard de Nowers, her second husband, married Sir Thomas de Langley, keeper of Wychwood Forest, co. Oxon; then Sir Thomas Giffard of Twyford, co. Bucks; and, for her fifth husband, William de Thymelby, co. Lincs.

It is interesting to note how these husbands of Alice have come to light through the publications of societies similar to ours. The late Dr. F. N. Macnamara, in the *Berks., Bucks., & Oxon. Archaeological Journal* (Vol. V, 1899), gives us Alice's husbands: (1) Sir Thomas de Langley, (2) Sir John Giffard. Then Mr. St. John Brooks, in 1931 (as stated above), gives Richard de

Nowers as a prior husband to Sir Thos. de Langley, and adds William de Thymelby. Then, in 1933, my paper on Aylestone gives Fulk de Pembrugge as a husband before her marriage into the Nowers family. One wonders if further research will add to the list of Alice's husbands, as it is known that she outlived her fifth husband, being one of his executors in 1385. One also wonders if Alice, on the death of each successive husband, claimed to recover her dower, as she did from Robert de Pembrugge, brother and successor of Fulk III, (de banco roll 344, see page 218 of Aylestone account). Mr. St. John Brooks finds that, on the death of Richard de Nowers, Alice and her third husband, Sir Thomas de Langley, remitted and quitclaimed Alice's dower in the manor of Churchill in exchange for £10 a year (Feet of Fines, Oxon., 28 Edw. III); also, that she had dower in the manor of Tansor from her fourth husband, while, as late as 1388-9 she received £6 for the manor of Helydene, Northants, also held in dower from her fourth husband, Sir John Giffard. I am further indebted to the paper on the Nowers of Wymington for verification that Alice was a de Montfort, and, almost certainly, an illegitimate daughter of Peter de Montfort, as Mr. Farnham states in his manuscript notes on Aylestone.

In the church of Shipton-under-Wychwood, the parish church of Langley, is an armorial window in which there are three blazoned shields. These show the arms of Sir Thomas de Langley, third husband of Alice, with the arms of his two wives. The shield of his second wife, *Bendy of ten or and azure,* shows the known arms of Montfort. Possibly further research into the de Montforts of Beaudesert, co. Warw., would finally decide who Alice's father really was. If her father was Peter de Montfort of Beaudesert, then she was illegitimate, as Peter died in 1369, leaving no legitimate issue, but several illegitimate children.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Mr. Percy Davenport, of Stanmore, for verifying at the Record Office the Leicestershire entries in de banco rolls 344 & 349, of which abstracts are given on page 218 of my paper. Here again Ralph de Nowers should read *Richard* de Nowers in both abstracts.