

## THE MONUMENTS AT THORNTON, BUCKS.

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(This paper first appeared in the Transactions of the Cambridge University Association of Brass Collectors. It has since been a good deal amplified for the RECORDS OF BUCKS.)

THE parish church at Thornton, in North Buckinghamshire, is situated in the private grounds of the Manor House known as Thornton Hall.

The present mansion, a very large building, covering a good deal of ground, and erected in a sort of Modern Gothic style, was built about the middle of this century, and surrounded and encased the old mansion, which was, I believe, of early date and built round a small quadrangle; this was, at the alteration, roofed in so as to make a hall or large room. But I have had no opportunity of seeing over the house, and having the old part pointed out; and unless the Archæological Society make a record of what took place, the existence of anything really old is likely to be lost sight of.

The property, which now belongs to the Cavendishes, has changed hands rather frequently, often by a fate which has caused it to become the dowry of heiresses.

About 1264 the property belonged to the Chastillon family, who, about 1395, sold it to the Bartons, who founded a chantry here, and were buried in the church. This family dying out, the property was conveyed by deed, in 1464, to Robert Ingleton, or Ingylton, who is commemorated by the fine brass still remaining. It ultimately passed, by the marriage of Jane, sole daughter and heir of Robert Ingleton, a descendant of the first Robert, to Humphrey Tyrrell, Esq., of Wokington in Essex, a reputed descendant in the sixteenth generation of Sir Walter Tyrrell, who shot William Rufus in the New Forest. The eventual heiress of the Tyrrells, Hester Maria, married, on the 16th Oct., 1755, the

Rev. William Cotton, LL.D., of Crakemarsh Hall, Co. Stafford, who left an only daughter, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Sheppard, Esq., of Littlecote, who left a son, the late Sir Thomas Cotton Sheppard, Bart., whose niece and heir married a Cavendish.

The church itself has undergone many alterations, but when these took place I have been unable to ascertain. It consists now of a nave, aisles, and tower at the W. end, under which is the entrance to the building itself. Formerly there existed also a chancel, with, I believe, a N. chapel, and some beautiful sedilia, which I have been told are to be found, upon careful search, in a grotto, or fernery, in the grounds. In the belfry hang three old bells, one being of the date 1343.

The church was restored in 1850, when the N. aisle, demolished in 1620, was rebuilt; but, unfortunately, the chancel was not replaced, though the arch that separated it from the nave remains unimpaired.

I have myself made rubbings of the existing brasses; but the accounts of the *lost* monuments and brasses will be found in Brown Willis's History of the Deanery of Buckingham.

When Brown Willis wrote there was a recumbent effigy in stone of an ecclesiastic, supposed to be John de Chastillon, a younger son of the patron, and rector here from 1347-1377, which had formerly rested at the W. end of the S. aisle, but had been removed to the chancel. This monument, which he says was of freestone, exists no longer, and so I am led to suppose that it was not thought worth preserving when the chancel was demolished, and might possibly still be found among the relics of the sedilia in the garden. Brown Willis also says there was "in the uppermost window of the S. aisle, another effigy of a priest seemingly," which he supposed to represent Elias de Tingewick, rector here from 1315 to 1347, and who gave the bell mentioned above, but, sad to relate, this also has disappeared. He then goes on to describe "a most elegant monument," in an arch between the chancel and the nave, to the memory of John Barton, Jun., and Isabel his wife, who built the chapel where were the effigies, "but no inscription, date, or arms upon it."

These effigies, which are now separated and lie on

each side of the W. entrance under the tower, are in alabaster at full length : the male figure in armour, his head resting on a helmet and wreath, and at his feet a dog ; the female figure's head rests on a pillow, and on her right side is a male child.

Lipscomb mentions these effigies and the Tyrrell and Ingelton brasses, but gives one the impression that his information was second-hand, as it is very incorrect. He describes the effigies of the Bartons as "in brass" and "kneeling at desks"; he also gives an inscription in brass, but there is certainly no such inscription now, nor was there in Willis's time.

John Barton died in 1433, Isabel, his wife, in 1457, having been married, a second time, to Sir Robert Shoteshbrook. The effigies were doubtless placed in their original position at the death of John Barton, and were removed to the tower when the chapel in which they lay was demolished.

Besides these stone effigies, there were in Brown Willis's time two raised tombs and several slabs, containing brasses.

The slabs have all disappeared, but I will give his account of them.

I. "One with the effigies of a man and woman in brass, underneath this inscription :—

*Hic jacet Will Clodd, Agneta uxor ejus, et Dominus  
Willhelmus, filius eorum, qui quidem Willhelmus pater  
Willhelmi, obiit decimo Die mensis Aprilis A.D. 1474.  
Quorum Animabus propicietur Deus Amen.*

II. "On another, the effigies of a man and woman in brass, at their feet this inscription :—

*Hic jacet Georgius Ingelton, Dominus de Chornton, et  
Domina Isabella, Uxor ejus, qui quidem Georgius obiit  
26 Die Januarii, A.D. 1400.*

III. "On another, whereon were the effigies of a man and woman in brass, and this inscription :—

*Hic jacet Agnes, Uxor Johannis Keynes, armigeri, filia  
Caroli Ingilton, que obiit 18 Die Augusti 1481, cujus  
anime ppicietur Deus.*

On two plates of brass these arms, viz., in one shield, Ingleton and Dymock; on another, Reynes, viz., "checky, or and gu., a canton ermine."

IV. "On another old gravestone was this, on a brass plate:—

*Hic jacet Milo Ingilton generosus, qui obiit Decimo Die  
Mensis Augusti, 1480."*

If these were correctly copied, it would lead me to suppose that George Ingleton, commemorated by No. II., was the father of Robert Ingilton, and that he and not Robert first possessed the manor. Carolus Ingilton and Milo Ingilton I take to have been sons of Robert Ingilton. The word "generosus" in No. IV. would probably be applied to a son whose father or elder brother, "armiger," was still living.

After the descriptions of the "gravestones" which I have given above, Willis goes on to describe the altar tombs, on one of which lay the brass which appears as an illustration to this paper. He begins with Jane Tyrrell and takes Robert Ingilton last; but I prefer to take the latter first, on account of his relationship to the former.

He says, "in the area of the chancel stands a very handsome altar tomb of stone, the top of grey marble and inlaid with brass"; he then describes the canopy as "several arches," and then the figures and arms, but on the latter point he is very much at sea.

It is, perhaps, needless for me to say much about either the figures or the canopy, besides mentioning that this is one of two quadruple canopies in existence on a brass, the other being at Wyvenhoe, Essex. In the four compartments appear the words:—

*Hic            mey            Lady            Helpe.*

The man's armour is a complete suit of plate, and his effigy is superior in artistic merit to those of his wives; these are indeed very stiff, and their resemblance to each other is great, but on minute inspection it is evident that they are not all engraved from the same design.

It is worth noticing that as in the third wife, so in her daughters, the brass plate has not been cut away

between the arms and bodies. The shields of arms are as follows:—

I. Over the male effigy.

4terly 1 and 4. Arg. a chev. between 3 tuns sa., from the bunghole of each a flame issuing ppr., on the chev. a mullet for difference. *Ingilton*.

2. Arg. a lion (?) rampant——.

3. Arg. 3 griffins' heads erased and 3 crosses crosslet fitchée, az. (?). *This I take to be an early form of Ingilton.*

II. Over the first wife:—

4terly 1 and 4. Sa. 2 lions passant arg. crowned or. *Dymoke.*

2 and 3. Arg. a sword in pale point downwards sa. hilted gu. *Dymoke (Champion of England).*

III. Over the second wife:—

Erm. on a chev. gu. 3 leopards' heads jessant de lys or. *Cantilope.*

IV. Mr. Scott Gatty, York Herald, informs me that “Gu. a lion rampant betw. *five* crescents argent,” are the arms of Lester, and suggests that this may be the same coat, only with *six* crescents; but I am inclined to think that in this coat the tinctures are the reverse of Lester's, as there appear to be traces of white metal on the field of the shield, the lion may possibly be gules.

The inscription below the effigies is as follows, and, written in the form of a Latin hexameter, it consists of three lines:—

Armiger Ecce pius Jacet hic tellure Robt' ⁊ Ingylton. Domin'  
de Chorneton jur' patron'.  
In quíntodecimo. moriens Octobr' ab orbe ⁊ Ad celos transit  
Mil C quat' her. A2. simul addit  
Sit sibi ppicia Celi Regina-Maria ⁊ Salvet eum ppr. Matris  
amore Deus. —

There was formerly also a border inscription, some of which was lost in Brown Willis's time, but of which there are now no remains. He says that, when whole, it was as follows:—

Hic jacet Robertus Ingilton, Armiger, quondam Dominus de Thornton, ac ejusdem Ecclesiae patronus, qui quondam erat juris peritus, et totius virtutis amicus, hic etiam tres requiescunt Uxorēs, Margareta, Clemens, et Esabella, et obiit Robertus isto r̄b°. Die mensis Octobris A.D. millimo cccclxxii, quorum animabus ppicietur Deus. Amen.

The slab originally rested on a magnificent altar-tomb, which has been demolished. Brown Willis describes it at great length, and there appear to have been sixteen shields of arms round it, supported by children with names above them, evidently indicating the connections by marriage of the Ingeltons. Besides the Ingelton arms, and those of Robert's three wives, there appear to have been the arms of the following families:—Billing, Lovet, Dymock, Brocas, Fitzwilliam?, Fitzellis, and Reynes. Also these three shields, which I cannot make out.—Quarterly. 1, a cross gu. 2, a bend . . 3, as 2. 4, . . . a chief indented . . . , over it the words "Anne Lovet." Also . . . 3 lions passant . . . , over all a bend gu. Over it the words "Kateryn Billing."

The slab itself now lies at the east end of the nave, in the part used as a chancel, and within the altar rails; it is on the south side of the altar.

I have not been able to find out much about the Ingleton family; but the following notes will help to explain some of the arms that Willis says were round the tomb:—

John, son and heir of Roger Lovet, of Liscomb, Co. Bucks, who presented to Soulbury in 1435, married Margaret de Ingleton; John presented to Soulbury in 1461.

John Cheyne of Drayton Beauchamp, Co. Bucks, Sheriff of Bucks and Beds, married Margaret, dau. of Robert Ingleton, of Thornton, Co. Bucks, Esq.; he died in 1535.

Thos. Billing, of Astwell, Co. Northants, who died 1508, is said to have married Margaret, dau. of Bernard Brocas of Beaurepaire, Co. Hants, Esq. He left four daughters, co-heiresses, of which the eldest, Joan, married Thos. Lovett, Esq., of Liscomb, and Sibella, the second, married . . . . Ingleton, of Thornton. (*Baker's Northamptonshire.*)

John Reynes, of Cifton Reynes, Esq., mar. . . . ., dau. of Charles Ingelton.

Robert Ingleton, commemorated by the brass, is said by Lipscomb to have been Chancellor of the Exchequer, but I have not been able to verify the statement, though certainly the brass says he was "juris peritus." Probably his eldest surviving son was the George Ingleton who died in 1494, and who married Sybell, daughter and heir of Robert Fitzellis, of Waterperry and Wormenhall, Co. Oxon, Esq. This, the Rev. Thos. Williams informs me, is proved by the inquisition post mortem of Robert Fitzellis, in 1470. Robert Ingleton, father of Jane, who married Humphrey Tyrrell, was, I suppose, son of George and Sybell; he died in 1503. Of the connection with the Dymocks, I can find nothing.

Lipscomb says that a William Ingleton was presented to Thornton living by Robert Ingleton, in 1463.

On the N. side of the altar is another fine brass, representing Jane, only daughter and heir of Robert Ingleton, who married Humphrey Tyrrell, Esq., of Wokenton, in the County of Essex. Her effigy, which measures two feet six and a half inches in length by about sixteen and a half inches at the widest part, is an admirable example of the costume of the middle of the sixteenth century, and is very similar indeed to that of Kath. Lytkott, 1554, at Swallowfield, Berks, engraved in Haines, p. 245. She wears likewise the "Paris head" with a depressed centre, her gown is opened half way down the front, the upper part being tied with bows; the collar appears to be of the same material as the dress; the sleeves are puffed and slashed at the shoulders, and, like those of civilians, depend in false sleeves, ornamented by a stripe wound round them; a clasped book, with the five wounds upon its cover, hangs almost at her feet, suspended by a cord probably from the waist. The whole design, except in the head-dress, which is somewhat simpler, is so like that of Kath. Lytkott as to suggest that it may have been the work of the same artist.

At her feet is the following inscription, which, to be properly understood, should be read after the border fillet:—

*Et Predicta Jana habuit erit' Georgiu Terrell filiu |  
sui apparunt' et predict' Georgius fuit bigint' et septem |  
annar natus die quo predict' Jana obiit.*

Above the effigy are these two shields :—

- I. On the dexter side, a lozenge.  
 4terly. 1 and 4. Arg. semée of crosses crosslet  
 fitchée az. a chev. Sa. betw. 3 griffins' heads  
 erased, of the 2nd.  
 2 and 3. Arg. a chev. betw. 3 crescents, sa.  
 flamant gu.

*Both coats for Ingleton.*

Beneath is this label :—

<p>Jane Daughter and        Eyer of Robert Ingleton.</p>
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- II. On the sinister side,  
 4terly. 1. Arg. 2 chevs. az. within a bordure engr.  
 gu. *Tyrrel.*  
 2. Arg. a cross betw. 4 escallops sa.  
*Coggeshall.*  
 3. Paly of 6 arg. & sa. *Swinford.*  
 4. Gu. on a chev. engr., arg., 3 dolphins,  
 hauriant. *Flambert.*

In the centre of the shield a crescent for difference ;  
 beneath it this label :—

<p>Humphrey Tyrrell        of Wokenton.</p>
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Below the effigy are these two shields :—

- I. On the dexter side, per pale, Tyrrell as above, and  
 Ingleton as above.

Beneath it this label :—

<p>Humphrey        Terrell</p>	<p>Jane        Ingleton.</p>
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II. On the sinister side, these arms quarterly, and beneath this label :—

George Terrell sone and  
Cyer of Humfrey & Jane.

There is also a border fillet with the following inscription :—

*Hic jacet Jana Engleton filia et sola heres Roberti | Engleton Armigeri defuncti. Una de Chornton ac Patronat' ejusdē ecclie quondam uxor Humfridi Tyrrell Armiger etiam defunct' ac nuper uxor Alexander' Seynct Johns' | Armigeri que Jana obiit vicesimo quarto die mensis Aprilis | Anno dñi Mlesimo Quingentesimo Quinquagesimo Septimo. Et predict' Jana fuit Quinquaginti' quq; Annos natus die obiit' sui Cujus anime propicietur deus.*

The tomb, which is likewise demolished, is not described by Brown Willis, from which I infer that it was plain.

In conclusion, having described the monuments at length, I should like to call attention to the heraldry on the brasses, which is curious and instructive. In the first place, the first coat, which has the tuns, bears a mullet, which points to there being other families probably then existing of the same name; in this shield what I take to be an early form of the shield borne by Jane, the great-granddaughter, is borne as a quartering, but I have not been able to find out any such shield as being known at the present time. Besides the introduction of the chevron into this coat on the lozenge of Jane, it is also remarkable that the tuns flamant become crescents flamant, and the crosses crosslet are increased in number, and the mark of cadency is dropped.

There still remain heraldic and genealogical mysteries about this family, and possibly the Inquisitions post mortem might throw some light on them. I shall be most obliged if any member of the Bucks Archæological Society can give me any information which may help to clear them up.