

Staffordshire Record Society

(68)

COLLECTIONS

FOR A

HISTORY

OF

STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William St. Archaeological Society.

VOLUME IX.

1888.

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Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

GENERAL MEETING, 16TH OCTOBER, 1888.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Subscribers was held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 16th October, 1888, The Right Hon. Lord Wrottesley in the Chair. There were also present: The Hon. William Littleton, Major-General the Hon. G. Wrottesley, the Rev. F. P. Parker, Mr. Francis Whitgreave, Mr. J. Nayler, Mr. W. Brough, Mr. J. Brindley, Mr. J. Tildesley, Mr. J. Fowler Carter, Mr. E. Holden, Mr. W. Jackson, Mr. T. de Mazzinghi, Mr. William Morgan and others.

The following Report of the Editorial Committee was read to the Meeting by the Honorary Secretary:—

The Editorial Committee submit to the Council and Subscribers a Report of their proceedings during the past year:—

The Eighth Volume of Staffordshire Collections was issued to the subscribers in June of this year, the printing of Vol. IX. is nearly completed, and this volume should be ready for issue before the close of the present year or early in 1889. Its contents consist of Extracts from the Plea Rolls of the reign of Edward II., and the Fine Rolls for the same period, which have been taken from the Public Records by the Honorary Secretary. These will form Part I. of the Volume, Part II. will consist of an account of the Barons of Dudley which has been written for the Society by Mr. H. S. Grazebrook.

With a view of completing the abstracts of the chartularies of those religious houses which held land within the county, it was considered advisable by the Committee to obtain if possible the loan of the Lilleshull Chartulary for a short period, and with this object the President wrote to the Duke of Sutherland in August last proposing that the chartulary which is now at Trentham should be lodged for a limited

period at the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House, or at the British Museum. The Duke, however, whilst willing that gentlemen deputed by this Society should have access to his ancient documents at Trentham, objects to the removal of any of them from their present custody. It will not be possible therefore to make a complete abstract of the contents of this chartulary for the Society, as such a work would entail daily visits to Trentham for three or four weeks: but it is proposed to extract from it all the information available respecting Muckleston and other Staffordshire manors which were held by the monks of Lilleshull, and at the same time to take advantage of the kind permission of the Duke to examine the ancient deeds at Trentham which relate to the Trentham Priory and his other Staffordshire estates. This work will be undertaken shortly by the Honorary Secretary with the assistance of the Rev. F. Parker, the Rector of Colton.

During the past year nine subscribers have died, twelve have withdrawn, and seven new subscribers have joined the Society: the net loss in the number of annual subscribers will be therefore ten.

The accounts for the past year were laid before the Meeting, by which it appeared that the deficit of £70 1s. 1d. had been reduced to one of £26 8s. 1d., although it had not been found possible to reduce the size of Vol. VIII. below 350 pages; and it was shown that by the proposed reduction to 300 pages the deficit would be entirely removed in future years if the number of subscribers was not further reduced.

A proposal was laid before the Meeting, originating with Mr. W. Phillimore, the Editor of the Index Library, to print an index of the wills and marriage licences at Lichfield, in co-operation with the Archæological Societies of Derbyshire and Shropshire, and it was shown, that by a subscription of about £26 yearly for each Society a full index of the wills and marriage licences at Lichfield for the Sixteenth, Seventeenth, and Eighteenth Centuries might be printed for the use of the subscribers within a very few years. After some discussion, a resolution was passed to devote £26 annually for this object for the next two years.

Mr. William Morgan having consented to act as Honorary Auditor in the place of Captain Congreve who had resigned, it was resolved unanimously that he should be appointed to the vacant post.

Oxfordshire County Studies

Oxford Salt Archaeological Society.

BALANCE SHEET OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR BETWEEN
SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1887, AND SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1888.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Dr.	£ s. d.
Arrears on Vols. I., II., and III., as per account to September 15th, 1885 ..	19 19 0		Balance from last year's accounts ..	70 1 1
Still unpaid ..	19 19 0		November 9th, 1887. Honorarium to Mr. Mazzinghi for 1887 ..	15 0 0
Vol. II., one extra copy sold (Rev. Parker)		1 1 0	February 16th, 1888. Paid to Dr. George Reid for two years' subscriptions paid in advance ..	2 2 0
Vol. IV. Arrears as per last account ..	3 3 0		February 23, 1888. Paid to Mr. Mazzinghi, for stationery and petty expenses ..	4 2 0
Still unpaid (3) ..	3 3 0		May 21st, 1888. Paid to Messrs. Harrison and Sons, for the printing of Vol. VIII. ..	145 8 0
Vol. V. Arrears as per last account ..	3 3 0		May 24th, 1888. Paid to Mr. G. Sutton, for Index, Vol. VIII. ..	5 0 0
Still unpaid (2) ..	2 2 0			
		1 1 0		
Vol. VI. Arrears as per last account ..	3 3 0			
Still unpaid (1) ..	1 1 0			
		2 2 0		
One extra copy sold (Lord Burton) ..		1 1 0		
Vol. VII. Arrears as per last account ..	9 9 0			
Still unpaid (3) ..	3 3 0			
		6 6 0		
One extra copy sold (Lord Burton) ..		1 1 0		
Vol. VIII. 201 Subscribers as per list ..	211 1 0			
Less unpaid (7) £7 7 0	8 8 0			
Compounded (1) (Royds) 1 1 0				
		202 13 0		
Balance, deficit Vols. I. to VIII. inclusive		26 8 1		
		202 13 0		
Total	£241 13 1		Total	£241 13 1

Audited and found correct,

WILLM. MORGAN, Auditor, pro tem.,
28.9.88.

(Signed)

GEORGE WROTTESELEY, MAJOR-GENERAL, Hon. Secretary,
15.9.88.

COMPARISON WITH BANK BOOK.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions to Vol. IX. before September 15th, 1887 (7)	7	7	0
" " " between September 15th, 1887, and September 15th, 1888 (148)	155	8	0
Unexplained payment, credited Foley (12.3.87, to be credited to Vol. IX.	1	1	0
Subscriptions to Vol. X. before September 15th, 1888 (11)	11	11	0
Unexplained payments, credited Rev. F. Parker (29.1.88) 16s., (3.9.88) 15s.	1	11	0
Carriage (Swynnerton) with subscriptions.	0	1	3
		Total	176 19 3
Less loss as above	26	8	1
Balance as per Bank Book	150	11	2

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PART II.

1. An account of the **Barons of Dudley**, by *Henry Sydney Grazebrook, Esq.*

Staffordshire
Sample County Studies

EXTRACTS FROM THE PLEA ROLLS OF THE
REIGN OF EDWARD II.

A.D. 1307 TO A.D. 1327.

Continued from Vol. VII. of the Collections for Staffordshire.

DE BANCO ROLL HILL, 1 E. II.

PLEAS AT WESTMINSTER BEFORE RALPH DE HENGHAM AND HIS ASSOCIATE JUSTICES DE BANCO OF HILLARY TERM, IN THE FIRST YEAR OF KING EDWARD, SON OF KING EDWARD.¹

Staff. Richard de Admundeston Chaplain, appeared against William son of Roger de Bromleye-Bagot, in a plea that he should be present in Court to warrant to him a messuage and twenty acres of land in Bromleye-Bagot, which Agnes, formerly wife of Robert de Rydeware claimed against him. William did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take land belonging to him to the value of the tenements claimed, into the King's hand, and to summon him for the Octaves of Trinity. *m.* 46.

Staff. The same Richard appeared against the same William in a plea that he should be present to warrant to him ten acres in Bromleye-Bagot, which Agnes, etc. (as before), the same process as in last suit. *m.* 46.

Staff. Geoffrey de Brok of Denston, and Hillaria his wife, sued Robert de Bradeheved for a third of three messuages, a carucate, and a virgate of land in Bradeheved and Kyngesleye, as the dower of Hillaria. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hand, and to summon him for three weeks from Easter. *m.* 91.

Staff. John son of William de Benteleye appeared against Richard Osbern, of Esnyngton, in a plea that he should give up to him three deeds which he unjustly detained. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the Octaves of St. John the Baptist. His sureties, Thomas de Stretton of Esnyngton, and William Phelip of the same, are *in misericordia*. *m.* 105.

Salop. John son of Hugh de Weston, Robert de Hampton, John de St. George, and Ralph de Hampton, the executors of the will of Hugh de Weston under Brewode, sued the Abbot of Bilewas for a debt of £16. The Abbot did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the Quindene of Trinity. *m.* 116.

Linc. The suit between Wymarca formerly wife of John de Rodemare, plaintiff, and William Tuchet, whom Isabella formerly wife of Roger de Morteyn had called to warranty, and who warranted to him in a plea of dower, is respited till a month from Easter, through defect of a jury, unless William Howard first (came into those parts). *m.* 125.

Staff. Alice formerly wife of Adam de Otherton sued Robert le Champain for a third of twelve acres of land in Otherton, and she sued William Gauley for a third of a messuage and twelve acres of land and an acre of meadow in the same vill, and she sued Robert de Elmedon for a third of four acres of land, and she sued Adam de Lynhull for a third of three acres, and many other lesser tenants for a third of their respective holdings in the same vill, as her dower. None of the tenants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hand, and to summon them for five weeks from Easter.

N.B.—Some of the tenants called to warranty John son of Adam de Otherton, who is to be summoned for the same date. *m.* 159.

¹ The reign of Edward II. commenced on the 8th July, 1307. The first law term of his reign would therefore be that of Michaelmas, 1 E. II., but no proceedings in Banco of that term are extant. The reader must bear in mind that the terms of each regnal year in this reign run in the following order, according to their dates, viz.: Michaelmas, Hillary, Easter, and Trinity—*i.e.*, Hillary term, 1 E. II., succeeds Michaelmas term, 1 E. II., and so on for the other terms.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to produce Robert de Chetewynde to complete the fine levied in the Court of the King's father, between Philip de Chetewynde and Isabella his wife, complainants, and the said Robert, deforciant of the manor of Mutton, and of twelve messuages, a carucate, and five and a half virgates of land in Rewel (Rule) and Rugges, as agreed between them, and the said Isabella and Robert appeared, but the said Philip did not come because he had died, and the said Robert stated he was prepared to complete the fine according to the tenor of the note between the said Philip and Isabella and the said Robert in the time of the King's father, and the tenor was as follows:—*Here follows the fine by which the tenements in question together with the manors of Ingestre and Gratwich were settled upon Philip and Isabella for their joint lives, and after their death to remain Philip son of Philip and his issue by his wife Alice, and if he should die s.p. to remain to the right heirs of the said Philip de Chetewynde.* m. 157, dorso.

Staff. Avice formerly wife of Richard le Wryghte of Hondesacre sued Richard son of Richard le Wryghte of Hondesacre, for a third of a messuage and ten acres of land and three acres of meadow in Hondesacre as her dower. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hand, and to summon him for three weeks from Easter. m. 116, dorso.

Staff. John de Chetewynde sued Robert de Staundon for causing waste and destruction in the houses, woods, and gardens, which he held in custody of the inheritance of the said John, in Weston. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the Quindene of Trinity. m. 92, dorso.

Staff. John de Somerville, who had been called to warranty by Roger de Somerville, and who warranted to him, appeared against Richard de Puteo (de Puis), in a plea that he should warrant to him three acres of land in Stockton, near Sutham, in co. Warwick, which William son of William de Thomenhorn claimed as his right, and Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he held nothing within his bailiwick, and it was testified he held lands and tenements at Rugelegh. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to re-summon him for the Quindene of Trinity. m. 91, dorso.

Staff. John Bagot and Lucy his wife give a mark for license of concord with John de Montjoye respecting tenements in Bromley. m. 59, dorso.¹

Staff. Geoffrey de Bagenhold (Bagenall) sued Nicholas de Bagenhold for a messuage and thirty acres of land, six acres of meadow, and ten acres of wood, in Longedon, near Trentham. Nicholas did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon him, and returned that there were no sureties for the prosecution of the suit, and Adam Coyne and John de Cotes of the said county now appeared as sureties, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon the defendant for the Octaves of Trinity. m. 42, dorso.

Staff. Adam de Stanneye sued Walter de Strangeford for causing waste and destruction in the lands, houses, etc., in Rodbaston (Rodbaston) which the said Adam had demised to him for his life. Walter did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon him for the Quindene of Trinity.² m. 35, dorso.

Staff. William Inge sued Robert de Fileby for a debt of £16, arrears of an

¹ By this fine the manor of Bromley-Bagot was settled on John Bagot and Lucy and their issue, and if John should die without issue by Lucy the said manor to remain to the right heirs of John Bagot.

² Adam de Stanneye had married Elizabeth the widow of Richard de Loges, and held part of Rodbaston in her right. See the presentment made against him in 34 E. I., for taking her by force. Vol. VII., p. 162.

annual rent of 40s. owing to him. And the Sheriff returned that Robert was dead, and it was testified that he was alive, and held lands within his bailiwick; he was therefore ordered to summon him for the Quindene of Easter. *m. 22, dorso.*

BANCO ROLL. TRINITY, 1 E. II.

Staff.—*Warw.* John de Somerville, whom Roger de Somerville had elsewhere called to warranty, and who had warranted to him, appeared against Richard de Puiz (Puteo) in a plea that he should be present in Court to warrant to him three acres of land in Stocton near Sutham, in county Warwick, which William son of William de Thomenhorn claimed as his right. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to produce him at the Quindene of Hillary, on which day the Sheriff returned he held nothing within his bailiwick, and it was shown that he held sufficient at Rugelegh in co. Stafford. The Sheriff of Staffordshire was therefore ordered to produce him on the morrow of St. Martin. *m. 85.*

Staff. Wladusa (Gladys) formerly wife of William de la Pole sued Thomas de Kenelworth and Avice his wife for a messuage and eleven and a half acres of land in Great Garton, which she claimed as her right of the gift of Emma de Bromfeld, who had enfeoffed her of them, and in which the said Thomas and Alice had no entry except by a demise made by the said William formerly her husband, and to which she could not object during his lifetime. Thomas and Avice defended their right and stated that Emma had always been in seisin of the tenements, and had died seised of them. Wladusa appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for the morrow of St. Martin. *m. 112.*

Staff. Reginald son of Reginald de Charnes withdrew his writ *de proovo* against Roger de Burghton and Juliana his wife respecting tenements in Burghton near Charnes. *m. 114.*

Staff. Isabella formerly wife of Philip de Chetwynde sued Philip son of Philip de Mutton for a third of a messuage and ten acres of land in Ingestre, and she sued Robert de Chetwynde for a third of a messuage and a virgate and five acres of land, and an acre of meadow in Ingestre, and Roger de Pynwelesdon for a third of a rent of 40s. in Breidon, and John son of John de Bromschulf for a third of thirty-six acres of land in Grotewyk (Grattien) as her dower.

Robert and Roger called to warranty Philip son and heir of Philip de Chetwynde, who was under age, and whose person and land are in the custody of his mother Isabella, by reason of the soccage tenure of his lands in county Kent, and they produced the deeds of the said Philip with a clause of warranty. The *custos* is therefore to be summoned for the Quindene of Michaelmas, and to produce the heir to warranty at the same date, the summons to be made in co. Kent, and the said John called to warranty the same Philip.

Staff. Isabella formerly wife of Philip de Chetwynde sued Philip son of Philip de Mutton for a third of a messuage and ten acres of land in Ingestre, and she sued Robert de Chetwynde, etc. (the claim is the same as in the last suit). And the said Robert stated he held only for his life by a demise of Philip de Chetwynde, and called to warranty Philip son of Philip de Chetwynde, who is under age, and whose person and part of whose land is in the custody of Isabella formerly wife of Philip de Chetwynde, and another part of whose land is in the custody of Ralph de Grendon, and another part in the custody of Edmund Baron of Stafford, and another part in the custody of Peter de Gavaston, another part in the custody of the King, and another part in the custody of John de l'Isle (de Insula), and another part in the custody of Phivian (*sic*) de Staundon, and he produced the deed of the said Philip with a clause of warranty, and the said Roger

the free alms of the church, but were a lay fee belonging to them. The suit was adjourned to a month from Michaelmas. *m.* 219, *dorso*.

Staff. John de Hastang sued Richard de Cavereswell for a debt of £100, and produced the bond of the said Richard dated from Alveton on the feast of St. Lawrence, 6 E. II. Richard pleaded that at the date of the deed he was under age, and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned at the Quindene of Trinity. *m.* 170, *dorso*.

Staff. The same John sued Robert le Mareschal for a debt of £100. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the same date. *m.* 170, *dorso*.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to distrain Richard son of Henry (*sic* Hervey) de Stretton and produce him in Court to complete the chirograph of a fine levied at York *temp.* E. I. between Walter de Langeton, the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and the said Richard, respecting a messuage one hundred acres of land, fifteen acres of meadow, sixty acres of pasture, and a rent of £10 1s. in Stretton, as agreed between them; and Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he held nothing within his bailiwick by which he could be attached, and it was testified that he held sufficient for the purpose. The Sheriff was therefore ordered as before, and to produce him at the Quindene of Trinity. *m.* 132, *dorso*.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to produce at three weeks from Easter William de Mere and the rest of the jury which had been summoned between William son of William de Wrottesle, plaintiff, and Roger de Levinton, tenant of the manor of Lovynon (Loynton), and he had returned certain sums, the issues of the land of the said jury without warrant. The Sheriff, Roger de Tromwyne, is therefore in *misericordia*.¹ *m.* 85, *dorso*.

Staff. The Sheriff was ordered to produce Henry de Bereford and Alianora his wife to acknowledge what right they claimed in the third part of the third part of the manor of Asshele (Ashley) which Thomas son of John de Eyton had conceded by fine to Thomas de Beysyn. Henry and Alianora did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them at the Quindene of St. Michael. *m.* 42, *dorso*.

BANCO ROLL. TRINITY, 10 E. II.

Staff. Richard le Neveu gives half a mark for license of concord with Geoffrey son of Hugh de Aston and Margery his wife respecting tenements in Hopton.² *m.* 6.

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to produce Margery formerly wife of John Smalrys to acknowledge what right she claimed in the third part of six messuages, three carucates of land, twenty acres of meadow, ten acres of pasture, and 16*d.* of rent in Smalrys and Sondon which Richard son of John de Smalrys had conceded to Roger Trumwyne and Joan his wife by a fine levied between them; and she did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he had attached her by Adam Wolrich and Robert Wolrich. They are therefore *in*

¹ The suit had been adjourned at the commencement of the term to the Quindene of Michaelmas through defect of a jury, and the Sheriff had been ordered to distrain the jury by their lands and chattels, and he now returned some of the issues into Court, and in doing so was guilty apparently of some informality, perhaps because he should not have made the return before the Quindene of Michaelmas. At Michaelmas Term, 11 E. II., the suit was again adjourned through defect of a jury to the Hillary Term following.

² By this fine Geoffrey and Margery acknowledged a messuage, fourteen acres of land, and half an acre of meadow to be the right of Richard, for which Richard gave them 10 marks. (*Pedes Finium, Staff.*)

misericordiâ, and he was ordered to distrain and produce her at the Octaves of Michaelmas. *m.* 104.

Staff. John de Wymundham of London, by John Parles his attorney, sued William de Walton for a messuage and twenty-two and a half acres of land in Fulfen near Lychefeld, as his right, etc. William did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he had summoned him by a *precipe* to the Bailiffs of the Bishop of Chester who had done nothing. The Sheriff was therefore commanded by writ of "*non omittat propter libertatem*" to summon him for the Quindene of St. Martin. *m.* 268, *dorso*.

Staff. Henry de Lekebourne sued John de Somery, Hugh de Audele, Peter de Lymesey, Geoffrey de Wolsele, Robert de Warewyk, and Giles de Audele, the executors of the will of Nicholas de Audele for a debt of £30. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the morrow of St. Martin. *m.* 262, *dorso*.

Staff. Hugh, Prior of Great Malverne, sued Richard son of William de la Lee of Berleston, and Alina his wife for the manor of Foleford (Fulford), as the right of his church, and in which the said Richard and Alina had no entry except by a demand made to Robert de Berleston, Clerk, by his predecessor Walter, *temp.* King John, without the assent of the Chapter.

Richard and Alina appeared and defended their right, and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for the morrow of All Souls. A postscript states that the jury at that term found a verdict in favor of the Prior, who is to recover seisin. *m.* 192, *dorso*.

BANCO ROLL. MICHAELMAS, 11 E. II.

Staff. Richard Wyth of Asshmerelok gives half a mark for license of concord with Robert Coyntre of Lychefeld and Edith his wife respecting tenements in Longdon.¹ *m.* 1.

Staff. Mary de Brynton not prosecuting her writ against Magister Philip Torvile, she and her sureties, viz. Richard de Lychefeld and William le Tailour of Bloumhill are *in misericordiâ*. *m.* 3.

Staff. Richard de Bourton and Agnes his wife not prosecuting their suit against John de Bromleye and Joan formerly wife of Robert de Bromleye, for thirty acres of land, two of meadow, six of wood, and two parts of a messuage in Gravenhunger, they and their sureties, viz. Richard de Hopton and John de Wovere are *in misericordiâ*. *m.* 16.

Staff. Robert de Dudynton and Agnes his wife give 20s. for license of concord with Robert son of John de Sugenhull respecting half the manor of Dudynton (Derrington) near Stafford.² *m.* 64.

Staff. Alice formerly wife of Thomas de Abyndon and Roger de Wyndesore, executors of the will of Thomas de Abyndon, sued Robert de Stepelton to render to them and to Richard de Anesty their co-executor, £55 10s. which he unjustly detained. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Quindene of Hillary. *m.* 67.

Staff. John de Cave of Northburgh sued John de Perton for the wardship of Robert son and heir of Robert de Esyngton, which belonged to him, inasmuch as the said Robert held his lands of him by knight's service. John de Perton did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Quindene of Hillary. *m.* 111.

¹ By this fine Robert and Edith acknowledged ten acres of land in Longdon to be the right of Richard, for which Richard gave them 100s.

² By this fine half the manor of Dudynton (Derrington) was settled on Robert and Agnes for their lives, with remainder to William le Botiller and Philippa his wife and their issue, and in default of such issue to the right heirs of Robert. (*Pedes Finium, Staff.*)

Church of Tilston, for a sum of 40 marks ; and he did not appear, and the Sheriff had been ordered to attach Walter the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfeld, in order that he might produce the said Richard in Court, and he did not appear. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to distrain the Bishop to produce in Court the said Richard his Clerk. *m. 44, dorso.*

BANCO ROLL. EASTER, 12 E. II.

Staff. Alice formerly wife of Richard de Stretton sued Walter the Bishop of Coventry and Lychfeld for a third of a messuage and carucate of land, ten acres of meadow, ten acres of wood, and 15s. of rent in Stretton as her dower. The Bishop appeared by attorney and denied that Alice had any right to dower, her husband Richard not having been seised of the tenements when he married her, nor at any time afterwards ; and he appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for the Octaves of St. John the Baptist. *m. 25, dorso.*

Staff. Hugh Parson of the Church of Bisshebury, sued Simon de Dumbelton, Clerk, John de Weston, Geoffrey de Wasteneys of Tyxhale, Robert de Ovioteham, and John de Perton to render to him 6 marks which were in arrear of an annual rent of 8 marks, which they owed to him. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for a day in Trinity Term. *m. 160.*

Warw. William de Wrottesleye sued Ralph de Wytheleye for a messuage and forty acres of land, five acres of meadow, and 20s. of rent in Cokton as his right and inheritance. Ralph did not appear on the day given to him, but afterwards came into Court and called to warranty John de Wytheleye and Christina his wife. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to take the tenements into the King's hand, and to summon him for the Quindene of Michaelmas to hear judgment. *m. 17, dorso.*

Staff. William son of Hamon de Adbaston, sued Richard de Chipknol for two messuages and three nokes of land in Adbaston, which William son of Hugh son of Walter held of Hamon his father, whose heir he is, and which should fall to him as an escheat, the said William son of Hugh having abjured the realm for a felony.

Richard took exception to the writ, because at the date of it he did not hold the whole of the tenement, Walter Bishop of Coventry and Lichfeld, holding two and a half acres of it. William son of Hamon denied this and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for three weeks from Michaelmas. *m. 160, dorso.*

Staff. The suit of William son of William de Wrottesleye against Roger de Lemynton (*sic*) is respited till the Quindene of St. Michael through default of a jury, unless W. de Bereford should first come to Lychfeld on the Saturday next after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.¹ *m. 160, dorso.*

Staff. William de Sutton of Warrewyk and Margaret his wife sued Christina wife of Roger de Acovere for the manor of Acovere as the right of the said Margaret, and they sued the said Roger and Christina for the same. Christina did not appear and the Sheriff was ordered to take the manor into the King's hand, and to summon her for the Quindene of St. Michael. *m. 147, dorso.*

Staff. William de Sutton and Margaret his wife sued John de Wytheleye for a toft in Cocton as the right of Margaret, and John had made default, and the toft had been taken into the King's hand. William and Margaret now appeared and claimed it by the default of John, and John denied the

¹ This is the latest notice of the suit, which was either decided before W. de Bereford at Lichfield at the date named, viz., in September, 1320, or was stopped by the death of William de Wrottesley, which took place about the same period. (*See p. 78.*)

ASSIZES TAKEN AT TAMWORTH BEFORE THE SAME JUSTICES ON THE TUESDAY AFTER ST. MATTHEW, 14 E. II.

Staff. An assize, etc., if Vivian de Aston father of Adam was seised in his demesne as of fee of an acre of land and half an acre of meadow in Aston in the Hales when he died, and which Adam Knotte and Milisent his wife hold.

Adam and Milisent called to warranty William de Mere who is to be summoned to be at Stallord on the Wednesday after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula. *m.* 34.

Staff. An assize, etc., if Henry le Rowe of Blythebury, William son of Ralph de Newelond, Reginald de Wasteneys of Colton, Robert son of John FitzWalter, and Henry de Caldewalle had unjustly disseised Thomas le Rowe of Blythebury of an acre of land in Colton.

Reginald de Wasteneys answered for all the defendants as tenant, and stated nothing against the assize, and the jury found in favour of Thomas, and assessed his damages at 40*d.*

Staff. An assize, etc., if John le Yonge of Weford and Isabella his wife, and Felicia daughter of John had unjustly disseised Richard son of Richard le Wodeward of Weford of a messuage and an acre and a half of meadow in Weford.

Felicia answered as tenant and stated she entered by the said John and Isabella, and John stated he found his wife Isabella seised of the tenements when he married her; and Isabella stated she entered by Isabella the daughter of Hugh de Menyel (Meyhill) who was not named in the writ. The jury found in favour of Richard who is to recover seisin, and his damages were taxed at 40*d.* *m.* 34.

Staff. Thomas de Leghe, not prosecuting his suit against Richard son of Philip de Draycote of Leghe (Legh) and Henry son of John de Leghe respecting tenements in Overleghe, *s. misericordiu.* *m.* 34.

BANCO ROLL. MICHAELMAS, 14 E. II.

Staff. John de Somery sued Emma formerly wife of William Trunwyre for a debt of 10 marks. Emma did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce her at the Octaves of Hillary. *m.* 14.

Staff. Joan formerly wife of Philip de Draycote sued Richard de Draycote in a plea that he had caused waste and destruction in the lands, houses, woods, etc., in Draycote and Coneshale which the said Joan had demised to him for his life. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at the Quindene of Hillary. *m.* 69.

Staff. Roger de Bromleye and Alice his wife sued Juliana formerly wife of Reginald son of John de Charnes for thirty acres of land and three acres of meadow in Charnes, as the right of the said Alice. Juliana stated she held the tenements in dower of the inheritance of William son of Reginald de Charnes, and called him to warranty. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon him for the Quindene of Hillary, the summons to be made in co. Salop. *m.* 96.

Staff. Ralph son of Ralph de Bissebury sued Ralph de Coveene, John son of Ralph de Coveene, and Ralph son of Ralph de Coveene, for a debt of 13 marks. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the morrow of the Purification. *m.* 176.

Staff. Hugh de Bungeye, armurer, of London, sued Robert de Beck and Elizabeth his wife for a debt of 2*s.* 7*s.* 2*d.* The defendants did not appear,

W. de Herle and his fellow Justices in favour of Robert de Knyghteleye with 10 marks damages for the detention of the debt, and Robert obtained a writ of *elegit* against the goods and chattels of the defendant. *m.* 170.

Staff. William Valeys appeared against Robert de Naseby of Lycheffeld and Margaret his wife and Nicholas Dolfyn in a plea that by a conspiracy between them they had caused him to be indicted on a charge of robbery and taken as a prisoner to the gaol of Stafford, where he was detained until released by Ralph de Rolleston and John de Bromfield the King's Justices of each delivery. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the morrow of the Purification. *m.* 228.

Staff. Sarra formerly wife of John Basset of Maddeleye executrix of the will of John Basset sued Andrew de Bernhurst, Chaplain, and Henry son of Edwyne de Holynton, for a debt of 40s. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the Octaves of the Purification. *m.* 286.

Staff. Sibell formerly wife of Reginald de Morughale sued Roger son of Robert le Mareschal for a third of eight acres in Longedon and she sued William de Leycestre, Prebendary of Holoughton of the Church of St. Cedde of Lichefeld, for a third or three acres in the same vill, which she claimed as dower. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hand and to summon them for the morrow of the Purification. *m.* 327.

Staff. Agnes formerly wife of Miles son of Geoffrey del Hethe, by Hugh de Hughcesdon her attorney, sued Robert son of John de Hughcesdon, Chaplain, for thirteen acres of land and an acre of meadow in Hughcesdon (Hixon) as her right and inheritance, and in which the said Robert had no entry except by a demise which Miles her husband had made to John de Hughcesdon, and to which she could not object during the lifetime of Miles.

Robert son of John stated that Agnes had remitted all her claim to the tenements to him and his heirs by a deed which he produced. Agnes denied that the deed was her act and the Sheriff was ordered to summon the witnesses to it, viz. :—Henry le Whyte of Hughcesdon, Walter Clerk of the same, Richard le Wasteney and two others, for five weeks from Easter. *m.* 344.

Staff. Ralph de Grendon and Joan his wife, tenants of a messuage and a virgate and twenty-six acres of land, six acres of meadow and twenty acres of moor in Chesterfeld, were summoned to show cause why the tenements should not revert to Henry de Teddesleye of Chesterfeld according to the terms of a fine levied between the said Henry and Gilbert le Burce of Chesterfeld by which the said tenements should remain to Henry and his heirs after the death of Gilbert, it having been testified that Gilbert was dead. Ralph and Joan did not appear, and the summons being proved, the Sheriff was ordered to "*fiat inde executio.*" *m.* 350.

Staff. Robert de Bek sued Richard de Draycote in a plea that he should permit him to present a fit person to the Church of Chekkeleye which was vacant. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Octaves of Hillary. *m.* 380.

Staff. Robert de Bek sued Richard de Draycote for causing waste and destruction in the lands, houses, gardens, etc., which he held for the term of his life by the courtesy of England of the inheritance of Robert in Tene. Richard did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for a month from Easter. *m.* 380.

A deed enrolled of Walter de Beysyn by which he conceded to Robert de Staunton the custody of the lands of John son of Peter de Salso Marisco

(Saltmarsh) in Morton Folet and Chadesleye in co. Wygorn, together with the marriage of the said John and which were in the hands of Walter by reason of the minority of the said John, for which the said Robert is to acquit him for all liability to the heir for any waste and destruction by reason of his tenure of the said lands, and for which concession the said Robert had acknowledged in Court he owed to Walter the sum of £133 6s. 8d., to be paid by instalments at certain dates specified. *m. 1, of Protections, etc.*

Staff. Roger son of John de Pipe sued Nicholas Durdent of Fyssheryk and William his son, Roger and Nicholas brothers of William, John Durdent, William son of Richard de Sherle, and twenty others named, for beating, wounding, and illtreating him at Fyssheryk. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain those who had found security not to apprehend the others and produce them at five weeks from Easter. *m. 350, dorso.*

Staff. Ralph Basset of Drayton and Joan his wife sued the Prior of Kenilworth in a plea that he should carry out a covenant made between them respecting the manor of Pateshull. The Prior did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at three weeks from Easter. *m. 252, dorso.*

Staff. In the suit of William Griffin of Colton against Henry Coleman, and in which Henry had called to warranty Robert Griffin of Colton, Robert now appeared and warranted the tenements to Henry and stated that William Griffin the grandfather of William had demised them to Roger Bonel in fee and not for a term of years, and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for three weeks from Easter. *m. 236, dorso.*

Staff. Joan formerly wife of Nicholas de Audeley sued Peter Giffard and Ela his wife for ten marks of rent in Legh Underbrokhurst which she claimed to hold for her life by a demise which John de Kynardesleye had made to her and to Nicholas her husband, and heirs of Nicholas, and in which the said Ela had no entry except by the said Nicholas formerly husband of Joan who had demised it to her and James de Perers formerly husband of Ela, and to which she could not object during the lifetime of her husband.

Peter and Ela appeared by attorney and stated that John de Kynardesleye was never seised of the said rent, and that he could demise it to any one and appealed to a jury, which is to be summoned for the Quindene of Hillary.¹ *m. 228, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been ordered to summon a jury to make recognition if Swane de Snoxton on the 13th March, 13 E. II, had held *in feo* nine acres of land in Mefford (Meaford), and if William de Perey of Deuaston had given to Roger le Ferour of Mefford a messuage and eighteen acres of land in the same vill, with Agnes his daughter, and which William le Ferour claimed as his right and inheritance against Swane de Snoxton, William son of Robert de Stalington, and others, and the Sheriff had done nothing, returning the writ reached him too late. He was therefore ordered to summon a jury for the Quindene of Hillary. *m. 213, dorso.*

Staff. William de Hampton of Lichefeld not prosecuting his plea against John de la Lynde of Alreshawe for a messuage and a virgate of land in Alreshawe, the suit was dismissed. *m. 205, dorso.*

Staff. William Davy and Alice his wife, Walter de Ingebarewe and Margaret his wife, and Christiana atte Cross of Kingesbromlegh, sued Thomas

¹ Ela was formerly wife of Griffin de la Pole, Lord of Powis, who died in his minority, and she married shortly afterwards James de Perers. (*Inquis. p.m.* on Griffin de la Pole, 3 E. II.) She was probably a daughter of Nicholas de Aullew. See *Inquis. p.m.* on her death in 18 E. II. Sir Peter Giffard was her third husband.

Wyrleye. Robert did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for a day in Hillary Term. *m.* 65.

Staff. John son of Isolda Bagot and William le Broun of Mershton and Emma his wife sued Robert son of Richard de Pycheford of Ovyoteslay for a messuage and a carucate of land in Ovyoteslay, as the right of the said John and Emma, by writ of "*forma donacionis*." Robert prayed a view, and the suit was adjourned to three weeks from Easter. *m.* 98.

Staff. John de Birmyngeham, *Clericus*, sued William son of Reginald de Morghale for a messuage and twenty-four acres of land, two acres of meadow, and 5s. of rent in Elmhurst near Lichfield. William did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the tenements into the King's hand and to summon him by the Octaves of the Purification. *m.* 102.

Staff. William son of Robert de Weston sued Robert de Pixstoke for a messuage and half a virgate of land in Warton, and Robert had made default, and the tenements had been taken into the King's hand. He now appeared and denied the summons and offered to wage his law. He is therefore to come with his comparators at a month from Easter. *m.* 147.

Staff. Ralph Base of Drayton and Joan his wife sued the Prior of Kenilworth in a plea that he should carry out a covenant made between them respecting the manor of Patshall. The Prior did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for three weeks from Easter. *m.* 159, *dorso*.

Staff. William atte Nassehe and Robert Nicholes, homagers and tenants "*homines et tenentes*" of John de Perton in the manor of Tetenhale which is of the ancient demesne of the King, sued the said John in a plea that he exacted from them and from Thomas atte Nasche, John Alayn, Richard le Coupere and John Nicholes homagers and tenants of the said John in the same manor, other customs and services, than they or their ancestors, tenants in the manor, had been used to render in the times when the said manor was in the hands of the King's progenitors. John de Perton did not appear and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him at three weeks from Easter. A postscript states, that at Easter the Sheriff sent no return and he was ordered to produce John at the Octaves of Trinity, upon which the said William and Robert appeared in Court and complained that whereas they had delivered to the said John the King's writ "*de prohibitione*" to the effect that "*pendente placito*" he should not distrain his tenants, etc., he had distrained them as before, and detained in prison the said John Alayn, Richard le Coupere, John Nicholes, and Thomas atte Nasche so that they could not prosecute their suit against him, to the grave contempt of the King and damage of the said tenants. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon the said John de Perton to answer for his trespass and contempt at the above date and if the said tenants were detained in prison, to set them free without delay.¹ *m.* 170, *dorso*.

¹ Amongst the petitions to King and Council there is one *s.d.* from the tenants of Perton and Prescot, complaining of the exactions and extortions of their lord, John de Perton. It states that Perton was part of the ancient demesne of the Crown and had been given by King John to one Ralph de Perton: "*le roi John dona a un Rauf de Perton certains tenements en les dites villes de Perton et Triscote tenir auxi come ils tiendront du dit Roi John tantou ils furent en sa main.*" This petition, doubtless, dates from this period, but the petitioners were wrong in their history of the manor, for Ralph was son of John de Perton, who was Lord of Perton in 13 H. II., as appears from the Pipe Roll of that year, printed in Vol. I. of these "Collections." King John, however, exacted a fine from Ralph de Perton for a confirmation of the grant to his father John, and the tenants may have confounded this with the original grant.

Staff. Roger Corbet of Tasseleye sued Roger de Aston for thirty acres of pasture, and one hundred acres of wood in Kyngesbrounleye. The defendant did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to take the tenements into the King's hand and summon him for the morrow of St. Martin. *m. 69.*

Staff. John Banastre of Betherton and William de Kendale, the executors of Adam de Waletton, and Magister Adam de Waletton, the Parson of the Church of Mitton,¹ sued William de Waletton for a debt of £10. William did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Octaves of Michaelmas.

Staff. John son of Adam de Whethales sued William de Jonestone for ten acres of land in Ronton. William did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon him for three weeks from Michaelmas. *m. 196.*

Staff. Duffin de Somerville sued Walter de Monte Gomery, and Joan his wife, Nicholas Everard, Vincent de Greseleye and fifteen others for coming *vi et armis* to Alveras and forcibly removing cattle which he had lawfully impounded there, and for beating and illtreating his servants. None of the defendants appeared, and the Sheriff returned they could not be found. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them at three weeks from Michaelmas. *m. 196, verso.*

Staff. William Davy of Tuttebury, Clerk, gives a mark for license of concord with Robert de Meleborne and Alina his wife respecting the manor of Horecros.² *m. 189, dorso.*

Staff. Roger de Morteyn sued Micy formerly wife of John de Sumery and William de Burgo, the executors of the will of John de Sumery, for a debt of £200. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 181, dorso.*

Staff. Hugh le Despenser junior, sued Roger de Northburgh, Bishop of Lychfeld and Coventry, for a debt of 1620 marks. The Bishop did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Octaves of St. Michael. *m. 169, dorso.*

Staff. John son of Walter de Damastre sued Thomas de Hastang of Chebeseye, William de Hastang of Chebesey, Stephen de Felton, and two others for taking by force from Swynescou a horse, four mares, eight oxen, and two cows belonging to him of the value of £20. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned they held nothing by which they could be attached; he was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them at the Quindene of St. Martin. *m. 169, dorso.*

Staff. Thomas de Oyli and Margaret his wife give 40s. for license of concord with Humfrey Hastang respecting the Manor of Ronton.² *m. 160, dorso.*

Staff. Robert de Combrugge and Agnes his wife give a mark for license of concord with Robert Pegre of Roucestre respecting tenements in Combrugge.³ *m. 160, dorso.*

Staff. Geoffery son of Geoffery de Aston sued Roger son of Roger de Borghiton, co-executor of the will of Juliana formerly wife of Roger de Borghiton, for a debt of 10 marks. Roger did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Octaves of St. Martin. *m. 139, dorso.*

¹ There is no church at present at Mitton, but it must have been a much more important place in former days.

² Neither of these fines are at present in existence.

³ By this fine a messuage and a carucate of land in Combridge were settled on Robert and Agnes for their lives, with remainder to Richard son of Robert and Joan his wife and their issue, and failing such to the right heirs of Robert.

ASSIZE ROLL OF DIVERS COUNTIES.¹

PRESENTMENTS MADE AT TUTTEBURY IN CO. STAFFORD ON THE WEDNESDAY THE MORROW OF ST. NICHOLAS, 17 E. 11. (7th December, 1323), BEFORE JOHN DE STONORE AND HIS FELLOW JUSTICES.

Staff. The juries of divers Hundreds presented that Thomas de Pipe, Kt., and Philip de Lutteleye, lately principal Taxers and Collectors of the 10th and 6th in co. Stafford, under color of their office had taken a great sum of money from various villis, to their own use. They were summoned to appear before the Justices, and being questioned did not deny the fact, and prayed that they might be admitted to make a fine with the King for their transgression, and the said Thomas was fined £40, for which John de Aston, Roger de Somerford, Henry de Hywode, Adam Henri of Stretton, John de Ipstones and William de Wolsleye were his sureties. And the said Philip was fined 50 marks for which John de Ipstones, John de Benteleye, William de Perton, and Robert de Wyndoppe were his sureties. And at the same time Richard de Podemore and William de Thicknesse, Subtaxers of the 10th in the vill of Audeley, and all the other Subtaxers of the 10th and 6th in the county appeared and with one voice prayed that they might be admitted to make fine with the King for their transgression in levying the said taxation and the said Richard and William were fined 40s.

The other Subtaxers were fined as follows :—

Peter de Thicknesse and David de Thicknesse, Subtaxers of Palterdeleye, 13s. 4d.

William Cotyn and Richard de Stonylowe, Subtaxers of Maddeleye, 1 mark.

Robert de Buekenhale, Subtaxer of the vill of Onyleye, half a mark.

Alan Cocus and Henry Chadd, Subtaxers of the 10th in the vill of Keel, 10s.

Roger de Bradhode and John de Lyndon, Subtaxers in Mere and Aston, 20s.

Ralph Burgillion and Robert Bane, Subtaxers of Hnorton, 20s.

Geoffry Byron and Thomas de Overtin, Subtaxers of Beaulf, 2 marks.

Henry son of Simon and John de Sueda, Subtaxers of Norton, 20s.

Nicholas de Tunstal and Thomas de Tunstal, Subtaxers of Tunstal, 20s.

William de Stalynton and John de Jordan, Subtaxers of Stone, 1 mark.

William de Huggefurd and William Jordan, Subtaxers of Hildeston, 10s.

William del Halle and William de Chetelton, Subtaxers of Draycote, 20s.

Robert son of Walter and Henry de Caldwell, Subtaxers of Coton, marks.

Richard de Neuton and William Bagot, Subtaxers of Neuton and Blithefeld, 20s.

Richard de Smalrys and William Bolt, Subtaxers of Salt, 10s.

Simon Randolf, John le Mareschal, Robert le Rotour, Roger le Wride, William de Erlide, and Richard le Potter, Subtaxers of the vill of Stafford, £6.

Thomas Basset and William son of Cecil, Subtaxers of Pakinton, 13s. 4d.

Henry le Reve, Subtaxer of Herton and Thomenhorn, 5s.

John de Clodshale and John Gregori, Subtaxers of Horbourne and Smetthewick, 1 mark.

John de Beskelond and Adam son of John, Subtaxers of Ruggeleye, one mark, for which William Phelipp and William de Arderne were sureties.

William Richards and William Hawys, Subtaxers of Netherpenne, 10s.

¹ This Roll is marked No. 42 at the Record Office.

- Walter Welus and William le Reve, Subtaxers of Perton, 10s.
 William Gamel and William le Wright, Subtaxers of Okene, half a mark.
 Simon Ailewyn and Henry Benignen, Subtaxers of Wrotesleye, 1 mark,
 for which Roger Stevenes and Adam le Bonde were sureties.
 Richard de Becceburi and John atte Nore, Subtaxers of Pateshull, 1 mark.
 John Richars and William de Bradeleye, Subtaxers of Pendeford, 10s.
 Geoffrey Levesone and William le Newemon, Subtaxers of Wolverne-
 hampton, £6.
 Thomas Crey and Henry Godewyn, Subtaxers of Tetenhale, 2 marks.
 William de Cavereswall and John Adam, Subtaxers of Bylinton, 10s.
 William de Rule and Adam Faber, Subtaxers of Mutton, 10s.
 Robert del Mere and Thomas Parker, Subtaxers of Halghton, 1 mark.
 Robert de Lynhyll, William de Engelton, Walter del Park, and William
 de Longrugh, Subtaxers of Penkrych, 40s., for which Robert de
 Congreve, Robert de Elmedon, Richard Sket, and William Thorstan
 are sureties.
 William Witer and Robert de Elmedon, Subtaxers of Pylatenhale, 1 mark.
 William de Parys and Richard de Gauleye, Subtaxers of Otherton, half a
 mark.
 Roger de Wyvestone and William Bayn, Subtaxers of Covene, 10s.
 Adam de Bereford and William Maycok, Subtaxers of Alstonefeld, 2
 marks.
 Richard de Blacwode, Adam le Harpur, and Richard de Esyng, Subtaxers
 of Leek, 30s.
 John le Smyth and Adam Polesone, Subtaxers of Chetulton, 1 mark, for
 which Robert de Hemerusley (Hammersley) and William del Wode
 are sureties.
 William Elot and William son of William de Weston, Subtaxers of
 Kavereswall, 2 marks, for which Hugh de Peshale and Henry del
 Wall are sureties.
 Hugh de Peshale and Henry del Wall, Subtaxers of Dulverne, 2 marks,
 for which William Elot and William Wille are sureties.
 William Wodegryme and William Bagonald, Subtaxers of Grendon, 30s.
 Robert de Okeovere and Roger le Heyward, Subtaxers of Schene, 5s.
 Nicholas le Reve and Richard Wylmot, Subtaxers of Boterdon, 2 marks.
 Thomas Philip and John de Daleford, Subtaxers of Tene, 1 mark.
 Robert de Stepelton and Peter de Daddesley, Subtaxers of Leye, 1 mark.
 William Mauveysin and Hugh le Yunge, Subtaxers of Rideware
 Mauveysin, 8s.
 William atte Forde and Henry de Banecroft, Subtaxers of Rideware
 Hamstal, 10s.
 etc. etc. etc.

In the same way the Subtaxers of every vill in the county were fined, their names filling up both sides of the membrane. They all found sureties, but as for the most part they were sureties for one another, I have not thought it necessary to give the names of the latter.

Richard de Ovyeteshaye, the Clerk of Thomas de Pipe and Philip de Lytteleye (Lutley), the principal Taxers and Collectors, being summoned could not deny he had been badly conducted in his office (*male se gerebat in officio suo*) and was fined 20 marks.

And as regarded the principal Taxers and Collectors of the 20th, 18th, and 16th lately granted to the King, the juries presented that they misconducted themselves by taking a great sum of money by extortion from the various vills so that the vills might be spared in the taxation, and not be taxed according to the true value of their chattels. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon all the principal Taxers to be at Tuttebury on the Monday before the Feast of St. Lucy the Virgin, on which day the Sheriff returned that William

Staff. John de Swynneton gives 10s. for a writ of trespass. Dated from Tuttebury 8th January.

Staff. William de la Lowe made fine with the King for 5 marks for a pardon for acquiring in fee certain tenements in Whityngton, Kynfar, and Dunneslegh which were held *in capite*, and for entering into them without the King's license. Dated from the Tower of London 28th October.

The King accepts the fealty of John de Sutton son of Richard son of Elias de Sutton for all the lands, etc., which the said Richard his father held *in capite* when he died. Dated from Westminster 11th February.

The King commits to John de Myners the custody of the King's castle of Buraland and of his Forest of Dene. Dated from Westminster 16th February.

FINE ROLL. 19 E. II.

Staff. The Abbot of Pollesworth gives half a mark for a writ of "*ad terminum.*"

The King commits to William de Ercalowe the counties of Salop and Stafford and the King's castles of Salop and Stafford (*sic*). Mandate to Henry de Bisshebury to have the counties over to him with all rolls, writs, etc., touching the same and to deliver the castles with all their equipment (*armaturis*), victuals, and other things existing within them, and which are in his custody according to his indenture. Dated from Suthelmham 13th January.

Staff. The Abbot of Roucestre in Deuvedale made fine with the King for 20s. for license to remove the Chapel of Haliwelle and the chauntry in the same chapel to the Abbey Church and for demising at farm the lands which the said Abbot holds for the sustenance of the said chauntry. Dated from St. Edmund 27th December.

Staff. John son of William de Cumpston made fine with the King for 10s. for license to enfeof Roger son of Nicholas de Trecoke of certain tenements in Cumpston which are held of the King *in capite*, as of the manor of Tettenhale. Dated from Tameworth 13th March.

Isolda formerly wife of Hugh de Audele, senior, made fine with the King of £10 for a trespass which she and Walter Baloun formerly her husband had made, by acquiring for her life from Edmund de Mortimer the manor of Arle in co. Stafford, which is held of the King *in capite*, and for entering into it without the King's license. Dated from Kenilworth 12th April.

FINE ROLL. 20 E. II.

The King commits to Roger de Swynnerton the custody of all the manors, lands, and tenements formerly belonging to Hugh le Despencer lately Earl of Wynton, in cos. Stafford and Chester, and which are in the King's hand by reason of the forfeiture of the said Earl, answering for the issues to the Exchequer. Dated from Kenilworth 20th December.¹

¹ At this date the King was not a free agent, being in the custody of the Earl of Lancaster at Kenilworth; his latest writ is dated Kenilworth 13th January.

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Staffordshire County Studies

THE
BARONS OF DUDLEY,

By H. SYDNEY GRAZEBROOK.

THE BARONS OF DUDLEY.

DUDLEY CASTLE, the ancient feudal fortress from which the Barons of Dudley derived their title, "stands mounted" (says Erdeswick, the old historian of Staffordshire) "loftily on a very high mountain, and hath a large prospect into Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire, and a great part of Wales; and is itself in Staffordshire, over all of which it looketh. It is a goodly built house of an ancient building, and large, with great trenches about it, hewn out of a hard rock, and a fair chief tower within it on the south side." "The Castle," he continues, "stands within the manor of Sedgley, on the very confines of Staffordshire, and so near Worcestershire that the town of Dudley (whereof the Castle is called, standing within a stone's cast of the Castle) is in Worcestershire."

When one gazes from this "fair chief tower" upon the surrounding country, one can easily conceive how imposing an appearance it must have presented in days of yore, when most of the adjacent hills and dales were clad with forest trees; and even now-a-days, when the character of the scenery has entirely changed, and the huge volumes of smoke engendered by the numerous fires of the "black country" obscure this "large prospect," the view from the ruined keep of the Castle on a clear day is one perhaps unparalleled in this country. Columns of fire and smoke, collieries, iron furnaces, railways, canals, towns, villages, churches, mansions, and parks extend, says a local topographer, as far as the eye can reach, and form such a scene of mining, manufacturing, and commercial activity as can only be found in Great Britain. The old historian's "very high mountain," however, is but a steep lime-stone hill, presenting many interesting features to the geologist,

and pierced through by the far-famed caverns. In it will be found embedded innumerable fossils, chiefly crustacea, among which stands conspicuous that interesting extinct animal known in the neighbourhood as the Dudley locust.

"I shall leave it," says Habington, the Worcestershire Antiquary, speaking of this Castle:—

"I shall leave it to some other to show howe great Dodo, that famous Saxon raised here above nyne hundred yeares agoe thys stronge fortification, and nowe Fitz Asculphi, in the Conqueror's rayne, possessed the same; and after the Someries whose armes heere and elsewheare publishe theyre large revenues, and theyre Barony, enoblished with the most honourable Order of the Garter, theyre singular eminency; then howe Sir Richard Sutton marrying with theyre coheyre, leaffe it to his posterity, from whom the nowe Lord Dudley inheriteth it."

The task here sketched out I propose to attempt in the following pages; but I dare not venture beyond the Conquest, and must therefore ignore "great Dodo," whom (though he is referred to in connection with Dudley by Camden¹ and others) I regard as a mythical personage of whose existence there appears to be no satisfactory evidence.

The Barony of Dudley has been successively held by the families of Fitz Ansculph, Somery, Sutton, Ward, and Lea. The last Baron by writ was Ferdinando Dudley Lea, of Halesowen Grange, Worcestershire, who was summoned to Parliament in 1740 as "Baron Dudley of Dudley Castle." He died unmarried in 1757, when the title fell into abeyance among his five sisters and coheirs, in which state it still continues.

Mr. Lea enjoyed the title only. The Castle and the old Dudley lands passed to the male heir of the Ward family, whose descendants have been ennobled under the titles of Viscounts, and more recently Earls of Dudley.

It is remarkable that although the above named families have been genealogically dealt with by several county historians, and by numerous genealogists and Peerage writers from Glover and Dugdale to Banks and Burke, scarcely two of these accounts agree.

The oldest pedigree I have seen, in which the descent of the dignity, and the ancestry of the several families who have held it,

¹ Camden ("Britannia") asserts that one Doddo or Dodo, a Mercian Duke erected a Castle at Dudley about the year 700, and Shaw ("Staffordshire," Vol. II., 138) says the place "*certainly* takes its name from Dud, or Dudo, or Dodo, the famous Saxon general." Two Mercian Dukes, brothers, by name Oddo and Doddo, are said to have founded the Abbey of Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire.

he himself had similar letters to last till Christmas, dated from York, 20th July, John de Sutton being again in his retinue. From this date he was in constant military employment, and a few months before his death, upon the execution at Pontefract of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, he was employed with Ralph Basset of Drayton, by special precept of the King, to seize the Castle of K. Milworth. John de Somery was summoned to Parliament from the 1st to the 15th E. II.; he died *s.p.* 29th December, 1321, leaving a widow Lucy and two sisters his coheirs.

John de Somery was a gallant warrior, and served his King and country with zealous fidelity, but he appears to have had an evil reputation in his own country if we are to believe a complaint made against him to the King by William de Bereford and others in 4 E. II. 1310-11. It was alleged that "he had taken upon him so great authority in Staffordshire that no man could have law or reason by means thereof, and that he domineered there more than a king; as also that it was no abiding for any man in those parts except he well bribed the said John de Somery for protection, or yielded him much assistance towards the building of his castle,¹ and that the said John did use to beset men's houses in that county for to murder them, as also extorted large sums of money from them."² The King appointed William de Trussell and Alan la Zouche to inquire into the truth of these allegations, but unfortunately the result of their inquiries is not on record.

The writ of "diem clausit extremum" on the death of John de Somery for his Staffordshire lands is dated at Leigh, 24th August, 16 E. II., 1322, and one inquest was made at Stafford on 6th December, 16 E. II., 1322, and another at Wolverhampton on Sunday next after the feast of (illegible), 16 E. II. The jury found that his two sisters, Margaret the wife of John de Sutton, then aged 32, and Joan widow of John de Botetort, aged 30, were his next heirs.³ Margaret the elder sister, as was then the custom, took the castle of Dudley, the "caput Baronie," and was ancestress of the Suttons, subsequent Barons of Dudley. The

¹ The castle of Dudley was unfinished at the death of Roger de Somery, John's grandfather, in 1 E. I., 1273; indeed the inquisition states it as being then only "newly commenced," although the King's licence had been obtained nine years previously, viz., in 1264. Nothing is said as to its state in the inq. of 19 E. I., but it seems that in 1210 it was still in an unfinished state. Probably however John de Somery merely enlarged it by additions to the works commenced by his grandfather.

² Dugdale, "Warwickshire," *sub Billesley*, edition of 1765, p. 501.

³ Esch. 16 E. II., No. 72.

following extract from the Close Roll of 16 E. II., shows how the several estates were disposed of between the two coheirs, and the dower assigned out of them to the widow Lucy.

M. 20.

Mandate to Master John Walewyn, Escheator beyond the Trent, stating that out of the lands and tenements which belonged to John de Somery, deceased, who held of the King *in capite* on the day of his death, and which at his death were taken into the King's hands, and with the assent of John de Sutton and Margaret his wife (the eldest sister of the said John de Somery), and Joan who was the wife of John Botetourt (another of the sisters and heirs of the said John de Somery), the King has assigned to Lucy, who was the wife of the said John de Somery, the undermentioned lands and tenements, viz.: The manor of Newport Paynel in Bucks, which is valued at £56 18s. 4d. per annum. The manor of Bradefield in Berkshire, valued at £40 10s. 10d. per annum. The manor of Soleham in the said county, valued at £4 9s. 6d. per annum. Lands in Bastenden in the same county, valued at £6 10s. 0d. The manor of Old Swyneford in Worcestershire, valued at £9 10s. 8d. per annum. Certain lands and tenements in Rouley-Somery in co. Stafford, valued at 75s. 6d. per annum. Certain lands and tenements in Prestwode in the forest of Kynefare, in the said county, valued at 31s. 6d. per annum. To hold to her, the said Lucy, in dower according to the law and custom of the Realm. Dated at York, 22nd November (1322).

M. 16.

Mandate to Peter Corbet, Warden of the forest of Kynefare, or his deputy, stating that on 22nd November last past the King, *inter alia*, assigned to Lucy widow of John de Somery certain lands and tenements in Prestwode in the forest of Kynefare, to hold in dower, and in the bailiwick of the Hays of Ashwode in the said forest be appurtenant to the said lands and tenements of Prestwode, then the said bailiwick is also to be assigned to her. Dated at Stowe Park, 20th January (1323).

Mandate to Master John Walewyn, Escheator beyond the Trent, to cause Lucy widow of John de Somery to have the advowson of the Churches of Clent and Rouley, co. Stafford, valued at fifty marks, to hold in dower according to the custom of the Realm. Dated at Cowick, 15th January (1323).

M. 13.

Mandate to John Walewyn, Escheator beyond the Trent, stating that the King has assigned (with the assent of Joan who was the wife of Thomas Botetourt, the second sister and one of the heirs of John de Somery, deceased) to John de Sutton and Margaret his wife (eldest of the sisters and heirs of the said John de Somery) the undermentioned knights' fees, viz.:—

One knight's fee in Evernefeld, co. Stafford, which William de Birmingham holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

The moiety of one knight's fee in Morf in the same county, which the same William holds, and which is valued at 20s. per annum.

One knight's fee and a half in Overpenne, Rushale, and Bisshebury in the said county, which the same William holds, and which is valued at 60s. per annum.

The moiety of one knight's fee in Little Barre in the same county, which the said William holds, and which is valued at 20s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Pyrye in the same county, which the same William holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

The moiety of one knight's fee in Amelecote in the same county, which the said William holds, and which is valued at 20s. per annum.

The third part of one knight's fee in Wovere in the same county, which William de Wovere holds, and which is valued at 13s. 4d. per annum.

One knight's fee in Tresel, in the said county, which the heirs of Robert Walraund hold, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

The moiety of one knight's fee in Seysedon, in the same county, which Thomas de Braclere holds, and which is valued at 20s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Netherpenne, in the same county, which Robert Buffri holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Esyngton, in the same county, which Robert de Esyngton holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Humdeve, in the same county, which William de Bereford holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Great Barre in the same county, which Hugh de Plecy holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

One knight's fee in Petyngham, in the same county, which Ralph Basset holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

The fourth part of one knight's fee in Lutceley, in the same county, which Edmund de Hageley holds, and which is valued at 10s. per annum.

Two knights' fees in Overeton and Womburn, in the same county, which Thomas de Overeton holds, and which are valued at £4 per annum.

One knight's fee in Birmyngham, in the county of Warwick, which William de Birmyngham holds, together with the marriage of the heir of the said William, when it shall happen, which is valued at 40s.

One knight's fee in Kyngeston, in the county of Oxford, which the same William holds, and which is valued at 40s. per annum.

To have in purparty of the same Margaret of the fees aforesaid, according to the law and custom of the Realm.

The King has also assigned, with the assent of the aforesaid Joan, to the aforesaid John and Margaret, out of the knights' fees which Lucy (who was the wife of the aforesaid John de Somery) holds in dower of the inheritance aforesaid, and which after the death of the aforesaid Lucy ought to revert to the aforesaid Margaret and Joan, the undermentioned fees. [Here certain fees are set out as above in the counties of Surrey and Berks.]

The Escheator is therefore commanded to give seisin of the said fees to the said John and Margaret, and which were taken into the King's hands on account of the death of John de Somery, the brother of the said Margaret and Joan. Dated at Aberford, 20th February (1323).

Mandate to the same Escheator that, out of the advowsons of churches which belonged to the said John de Somery on his death, and which on that

SUTTON ALIAS DUDLEY.

“In the time of Queen Elizabeth” (says Dugdale¹), “when Ambrose Dudley Earl of Warwick, and Robert, his brother, Earl of Leicester (sons to John Dudley, sometime Viscount L’Isle, Earl of Warwick, and lastly, Duke of Northumberland), powerful men in their day, did notish, the most learned and expertest genealogists of that age spared not their endeavours to magnify this family whence those great men did, by a younger son, derive their descent. Some deducing it from Sutton of Sutton in Holderness² (not far from Kingston-upon-Hull in Yorkshire); some from the Suttons of Sutton Madoc³ in Shropshire; but others from Sutton of Sutton upon Trent, near Newark in com. Notts, whence the Suttons of Aram, near at hand, are descended. Of which opinion was the right learned and judicious Robert Glover, then Somerset Herald, and Henry Ferrers, of Baddesley Clinton, in com. War., Esquire (a person likewise much versed in these studies); all of them giving probable reasons for those their various conjectures.

“But that these Suttons of Dudley did spring from Hugh de Sutton, who married Elizabeth the daughter and heir to William Patric, lord of the moiety of the Barony of Malpas, in com. Cestr., most of them do agree; and that the same Hugh had issue Richard, who took to wife Isabel the sole daughter and heir of Rotheric the son of Gryffin, and he Sir John Sutton Knight, who by his deed bearing date in 16 E. II. (1322–3), and sealed with a cross fleuré upon his shield, calls himself Dominus de Stokelache et de Malo Passu, and married Margaret, one of the sisters and coheirs to John de Somerie, Baron of Dudley.

“Among these different opinions, therefore, to put it out of doubt, I shall here exhibit an extract from an original deed,⁵ bearing date at Dudley on Monday preceding the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, in 12 E. III. (March, 1338): ‘Sciant presentes et futuri quod Ego Johannes, filius Johannis de Sutton super Trent, Dominus de Dudleye, dedi, concessi, et hâc presenti cartâ meâ,

¹ “Baronage,” Vol. I., p. 214.

² “Sampson Erdeswick, Esq.”

³ “Will. Harvey and Robert Cooke, Clarencienlx Kings of Armes.”

⁴ “Ex. Coll. R. Gl[over], S[omerset].”

⁵ “Autogr. in Bibl. Cotton.”

confirmavi Will. filio Petri, Constabulario castrî mei de Dudley, pro bono servicio suo, unam placeam, longitudine sexdecem pedes, et in latitudine tantum, ad superædificandum; et jacet inter shopam Thomæ Astlyn, et crucem villæ prædictæ, ex utrâque parte, etc. Hiis Testibus: Fratre Thomâ de Londoniis (qui hanc ærosit) priore de Dudley, Ricardo Frebody, Will. Fisher, etc.'

"Which deed is sealed with his seal of arms, viz., two lions passant, the bearing that coat in honour of his mother the coheir of Somery.

Now Knygale is quite correct in deducing these Suttons from those of Sutton upon Trent, but he is wrong in giving one *Hugh* de Sutton as their ancestor. It was *Richard* de Sutton (son of *Robert*) who married *Isabella* (not *Elizabeth*) daughter and heiress of *William Patrick*, and *Roderic* son of *Griffin* was the second husband of *Beatrice* (*née Malpas*) the mother of the said *Isabella*.

In this, however, he simply follows *Glover*, whose collections he indeed cites as his authority. With reference to what he says respecting the disputed origin of this family, it is well to quote what *Erdeswick* writes on that subject: "It is well known," he says (edition 1844, p. 33 *et seq.*), "that Sir *John Sutton* who married *Somery's* daughter and heir was the son of Sir *Richard Sutton* Knight, and *Isabel* his wife, daughter and sole heir of *William Patrick* and *Beatrice* his wife, and one of the two daughters and heirs of *David*, the bastard son of Sir *William Malpas*, Knight, Baron of *Malpas*. . . . Which *David* intruded himself into the lands and Barony of *Malpas*, and left the same to his two daughters, whereby a moiety of the same came to the possession of Sir *Richard Sutton*.

"Sir *Richard Sutton* was the son of one *Hugh Sutton*, but from whom, or of what house, the said *Hugh Sutton* should descend, or what arms he should bear, hath been a great question amongst the antiquaries and heralds of this age.

"*Alleyne Sutton*,¹ *Harvy*, *Clarencieux*, and, after them, *Cooke*, *Clarencieux* (a follower of *Leicester*), would first have him to be descended from *Sutton of Sutton* in *Cheshire* (being near unto *Macclesfield*), and, after from one *Saherus de Sutton*, a great and ancient family in *Holderness* in *Yorkshire*.²

¹ Of *Over Haddon*, co. *Derby*, claiming descent from the *Suttons of Sutton*, co. *Chester*. He is referred to in some lines prefixed to *Boswell's* "Works of Armorie," published in 1572. *Conf.* "The Herald and Genealogist," Vol. II., pp 92, 189.

² See a pedigree in *Harl. MS.* 1555 (printed in *Harl. Soc.*, Vol. IV—p 186) which is

Isabella had been previously married to Philip Burnel,¹ but by him had no issue. On the death of her mother Beatrice (then the widow of Roderic) in 1290, she was found by inquisition to be her next heir, and then aged thirty. (Esch. 18 E. I., No. 6.)

Richard² and Isabella were the parents of John de Sutton the husband of Margaret de Somery, heiress of Dudley.

In 1 E. II., 1307, Sir Richard Sutton was permitted to settle the manor and advowson of Worksop, held of the King *in capite*, upon his son John de Sutton and Margaret de Somery, wife of the said John, it appearing that there would remain to him the manor of Aston le Wans, worth about £20 yearly, and other lands of sufficient value and extent to guarantee his ability to render, when required, the feudal service due to the Crown.³

From 10 to 13 E. II. John de Sutton was constantly engaged in the Scotch wars. In 12 E. II., 1318, we find him in the retinue of his brother-in-law John de Somery, and in the same year he was one of those to whom the King's writ was addressed to call out all men between the ages of twenty and sixty against the Scots, who had invaded Yorkshire.

In 13 E. II., 1319, he is again found in the retinue of John de Somery; and in the same royal year (as "John son and heir of Richard de Sutton") he enfeoffed for life John de Somery, "Seigneur de Duddeleigh," with all his lands in Cheshire, but so that the provisions of an indenture for laying a fine between them should not be disturbed.⁵ In 17 E. II., 1323-4, John son of Richard de Sutton, lord of Malpas and Shocklach, grants certain lands to David de Egerton. This deed, which is dated at Malpas the 17th of Edward son of King Edward, is sealed with his arms, a cross patonce or flory.⁶

¹ Ormerod cites from Harl. MS. 1965 a charter of 9 E. I., 1281, whereby Philip Burnel and Isabel his wife, the daughter and heiress of William Patrik, quitclaim the manors of Salghton, etc., to the Abbot of St. Werburgh; and another of the same date whereby Roderic son of Griffin and Beatrice his wife confirm this and other grants of Philip and Isabel.

² Richard de Sutton is said by Baker ("Hist. North.," Vol. I., p. 470) to have had a second wife Margaret, who occurs 1 E. II., 1307-8, and he himself was living at the same date.

³ Baker's "Northamptonshire," Vol. I., p. 469; and Inq. ad. quod dam. 1 E. II., No. 112.

⁴ See the paper on "Military Services performed by Staffordshire Tenants," by Gen. Hon. G. Wrottesley, in "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VIII., to which, I need scarcely say, I am largely indebted.

⁵ Cheshire Plea Rolls, cited in Hilsby's "Ormerod."

⁶ A cut of this seal is given in Hilsby's "Ormerod," Vol. II., p. 684. It is circumscribed "Sigill. Johannis de Suttone." A similar seal of the same arms is

heiress, to Humble Ward, the only son of William Ward, a wealthy goldsmith in London, jeweller to the late Queen."¹

The "fair inheritance" to which Dugdale refers, appears to have been heavily "dipped" when he succeeded; and at least as early as 1593 the estates were in the hands of receivers under a commission of sequestration. In 14 James I., 1616, certain depositions were taken at Walsall on 12th September in an Exchequer suit *Cornwallis v. Thomas Wilmer*, as to the manors and lands of Dudley, Netherton, Rowley, Harborne, Smethwick, etc., to ascertain (*inter alia*) what amount of rent had been received by Thomas Wilmer (the husband of my lord's half sister Anne) since the 35th Elizabeth by virtue of a commission of sequestration, and whether there had been any agreement between the said Thomas Wilmer and Samuel Wilmer his brother, or either of them, and Edward Lord Dudley concerning the said order of sequestration.

Robert Stanford of Birmingham, gent., aged 50 or thereabouts, deposes that he holds by assignment from Richard Hamnet, deceased, and others, part of the park called the "Conygree Park" of Dudley for lives yet in being, and doth pay Mr. Thomas "Willmore" £17 rent for the same. Also holds the "tyme worke" in the Castle hill and Conygree on lease for three lives from the now Lord Dudley, at the yearly rent of "twoe shillings," and paid a fine of £200 for the said lease.

Symon Ryder of West Bromwich, yeoman, aged 58 or thereabouts, deposes that he witnessed a lease made between Lord Dudley on the one part, and Robert Dudley, gent., George Guest, and John Bagley on the other part. By the said lease Lord Dudley demised to the said Robert Dudley, George Guest, and John Bagley the "Oulde Park and the COUNIGREE" for twenty-one years in consideration of the sum of £100 yearly.

Edward Baker, of Harborne, yeoman, deposes (*inter alia*) that the said Samuel Wilmer hath not received any rent for one and a half years, but that one William Bradley, servant to the defendant, hath received the said rents.

William Bradley, of Dudley, yeoman, aged 35 or thereabouts, corroborates the previous witness, deposing that Samuel Wilmer had not received the rents of the lands in sequestration for "over a year," but that they had been paid to this deponent.

¹ "Baronage," Vol. II., p. 217.

² Robert Dudley was one of the natural sons of Edward Lord Dudley, and George Guest was the husband of Alice, one of his natural daughters.

Richard Foley¹, of Dudley, yeoman, "aged thirte six yeares or thereabouts," deposes as to the value of the Dudley lands.

Samuel Wilmer of Boothorpe, co. Leicester, gent. (brother of Thomas Wilmer, Esquire, the defendant), aged 56 or thereabouts, knows the manor of Dudley, the borough of Dudley, the late priory of Dudley, the new and old parks of Dudley, the Coneygree of Dudley, etc., and deposes that he and his bailiffs have for many years past received the sum of £70 yearly rent for the manor of Dudley, the borough and the new park, and there are also some small chief rents. For many years also he and his bailiffs have received the rents of the Priory grounds, and for divers years have received from Sir William Leighton, Knt., £80 a year for the Conygree; and he receives the said rent under a commission of sequestration directed to this defendant, and dated at Westminster 18th June, 35 Elizabeth, 1593. The rents of Yardley, co. Worcester, are received under a similar commission directed to one Sampson Erdeswicke and others. Knows the manor or farm of Netherton, of which Yoake Park is parcel and the same hath long before the sequestration been in lease for lives, and is yet in lease.

Reference is also made to a "cote kyne wth in the chase of Pensnet whereunto one Adlenbrooke was farmer," and it is mentioned that the defendant Thomas Wilmer had purchased of the Lord Dudley the manors of Hampton, Badbrooke, and Grove in the county of Warwick.

Edward Lord Dudley was by no means an estimable character. On 12th October, 1592, accompanied by upwards of 100 persons, all armed, he made a raid in the night time upon the domains of Prestwood and Ashwood, which had been sold by his father to the Lyttelton family, under the pretence that the estate had been improperly alienated, and drove away from the enclosed grounds of Prestwood "fourteen kyne, one bull, and eight fat oxen," and took them to Dudley Castle, where he kept them by force within the walls. For this and other offences Gilbert Lyttelton exhibited a bill² in the court of the Star Chamber against him, in which he is charged with being a most unscrupulous man; that, among other things, he got the subsidy money into his hands, counterfeited the

¹ This was the founder of the noble family of Foley. He was the son of Richard Foley, a nailer, at Dudley, where he was baptized 28th March, 1580. He died at Stourbridge, co. Worcester, 16th July, 1657, aged 77.

² A copy of this Bill will be found in Nash's "Worcestershire," Mr. Noake's "Worcestershire Relics" (from the original MS. at Hagley), and Harwood's "Erdeswick," ed. 1844, p. 374.

names of some of the Justices on the commission, and without their knowledge returned the bonds taken to the Exchequer; that he suffered his father's old servant Thomas Homes to die in Worcester Gaol for his lordship's debts, and that "he left that virtuous lady his wife in London without provision of sustenance, and took to his home a lewd and infamous woman, a base collier's daughter."

I do not here propose to enter into further details of his misdemeanours, but the curious reader will find much concerning his acts and deeds among the State Papers of the period. His "concubine" was Elizabeth Tomlinson, the daughter of one William Tomlinson of Dudley, and by her he was the father of the famous Dud Dudley, and of three other sons and seven daughters, of whom an account will be given hereafter. I need only here mention that "M^{rs} Elizabeth Tumlinsone," the mother of these children, was buried at St. Edmund's, Dudley, on the 4th of July, 1629.

In 1639, having been invited with other Peers to join the King in his expedition to the north against the Scotch Covenanters, he writes on 28th February to Windibank, acknowledging the receipt of his Majesty's letter, and desires his correspondent to represent to the King that he "would attend his most royal person at the time and place assigned," and "though I have passed over" (he adds) "my estate to Mr. Warde, who married my grandchild, for the payment of debts, and their present maintenance, yet if I can either horse or foot it, I will attend, though unable to serve his Majesty according to my desires, and in such sort as is required."

Mr. Twamley notes that in 1626 Lord Dudley's neglected wife was obliged to sell her jewels, and he cites an entry of 25th May, 1626, in the Pell records, of a payment of £500 to Theodosia lady Dudley, in part payment of £1,700 "due unto her for a rich diamond sold and delivered for his Majesty's use."

In February, 1638-9, as appears from a letter addressed by Lord Arundel of Wardour to Secretary Windibank, Lady Dudley was "living about the Court," and my Lord Arundel owed her (he states) £3,000. In October, 1648, she was residing in London with her grand-daughter Anne Countess of Lauderdale, wife of the celebrated John Earl (afterwards Duke) of Lauderdale, who was then suffering imprisonment in the Tower for his loyalty. There is a petition dated 9th October, 1648, addressed to the Upper House by Lady

¹ State Papers, domestic, Charles I., ccccxiii, 108.

Lauderdale and "Lady Theodocia Dudley," praying that certain goods seized for the delinquency of Lord Lauderdale might not be removed from their house in London until petitioners have been heard with respect to their right in the same. Their Lordships made the necessary order; but a few days later the same ladies complain that one Richard Cole refused to see or give obedience to the order.¹

Edward Lord Dudley and the Lady Theodosia had the following issue:—

1. Ferdinando (no doubt so named after his father's first cousin Ferdinando Earl of Derby), of whom next.
- i. Mary, born 2nd October, 1586, married to Alexander 6th Lord Home, afterwards created Earl of Home, by whom she was mother of James 2nd Earl of Home, who died *s.p.*, and of two daughters co-heirs to their brother, viz., Margaret wife of James Earl of Moray, and Anne wife of John Duke of Lauderdale.
- ii. Anne, married in 1615 to John Minhardt, Comte de Schomberg, and died in December of the same year in childbed of the famous General Frederic Armand, Duke of Schomberg, K.G.²
- iii. Margaret, born, it is stated, in 1597, married to Sir Miles Hobart, K.B. (so created at the coronation of King Charles I.), son of Sir Thomas Hobart, and grandson of Miles Hobart of Plumstead, who was elder brother of Sir Henry Hobart, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. Sir Miles acted a conspicuous part in preventing the dissolution of the third Parliament of Charles I., until the House had passed the resolution, or "protestation," of the 2nd of March, 1628-9. He was living in 1644, when he was one of the Parliamentary captains in the rout by Prince Rupert before Newark.³ He had issue by Margaret a son James, and appears to have been dead in 1646.⁴

¹ House of Lords MSS. Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. VII., pp. 55-6.

² Agnew's "Foreign Protestant Refugees," Index Volume, p. 132.

³ See an article, "Sir Miles Hobart identified," in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for April, 1849, p. 372.

⁴ In 1669 depositions were taken at Dudley, and also at Ipswich, under a commission from the Court of Exchequer, in the suit of Samuel Whyle *v.* Le Grosse. The suit had reference to certain lands in Norfolk and Suffolk settled by Sir Miles upon Margaret his wife, "daughter of Edward Lord Dudley," for her jointure; and

Lord Dudley, and a daughter Mary, married in 1746 to the Rev. Richard Chambers, M.A., Rector of Naunton Beauchamp, co. Worcester, and Cradley, co. Hereford, by whom she was mother of Richard Chambers of Whitbourne Court (which estate his father purchased), High Sheriff of Herefordshire in 1793. William Smith died 19th May, 1784, aged 71, and Anne his wife on 29th April, 1762,¹ and were buried in the Dudley vault in Halesowen Church. They had issue:—

1. Harry Grey Smith who died unmarried, and was buried in Halesowen Church, 21st March, 1760.
2. Ferdinando Smith, successor to his brother; of whom next.
 - i. Frances Smith, married in 1784, to her cousin Walter Woodcock, junior, and died, *s.p.*, in 1821.
 - ii. Anne Smith, married in March, 1766, to Edward Baker, Esq., of Hill Court Grafton Flyford, co. Worcester.

Ferdinando Smith of Halesowen Grange succeeded to the estates of his uncle, Lord Dudley, on the death of his elder brother. He married at Halesowen, 27th December, 1774, Elizabeth daughter of Humphrey Lyttelton,² of Halesowen, and of Naunton Court, co. Worcester, and died 16th January, 1794, having had issue by the said Elizabeth who survived him and died 17th February, 1801:—

1. Ferdinando, of whom next.
2. William Smith, born 24th Jun., and baptised at Halesowen, 27th August, 1785, Captain 11th Dragoon. He was present at the battle of Waterloo, and died, unmarried, of the jungle fever in India, 4th May, 1824.
3. Henry Lyttelton Smith, baptised at Halesowen, 11th April, 1787, a Lieutenant in the Army, died unmarried in Ceylon. His commission as Ensign was purchased 27th January, 1803, and his Lieutenantancy 4th December, 1804.

¹ I copy the following announcement of her death from the "Gentleman's Magazine" for 1762: "April 29th. The Rt. Hon. Anne Smith, Baroness Dudley, wife of William Smith of Ridgacre, Shropshire, Esq." She assumed the title on the death of her brother, of course without any just right, as the abeyance had not been terminated in her favour by the Crown, and is inserted in some contemporary Peerages as "Baroness Dudley." In one of the editions of Collins's Peerage, her son Ferdinando, also figures as Lord Dudley in succession to his mother.

² See an account of this branch of the Lyttelton family by the present writer, in "The Genealogist" iii., page 97, *et seq.*

- i. Elizabeth Smith, born in 1776, married in 1805, to Joseph Carruthers,¹ a Solicitor at Halesowen, and died 24th May, 1806, aged 30, having had issue an only child, Joseph Ferdinando Carruthers, who died in his infancy.
- ii. Anne Smith, died 8th March, 1791, aged 14.
- iii. Frances Maria Smith, born 15th May, 1778, died unmarried, and was buried at Halesowen, 30th March, 1849.
- iv. Amelia Smith, born 11th September, 1780, died unmarried, at Leamington, 8th March, 1872, aged 91, and was buried at Halesowen.
- v. Harriet Smith, born 15th November, 1781, died unmarried, 12th July, 1830.
- vi. Frances Caroline Smith, born 15th April, 1783, married 1st October, 1805, to Marcus John Annesley, Captain 44th Regiment, and afterwards of the 5th Dragoon Guards, nephew of Francis (Charles Earl of Annesley). He died 15th October, 1853, leaving issue.
- vii. Matilda Smith, born in 1784, died unmarried in December, 1858; and has two other daughters, Louisa and Selina, who died in their infancy, the former in 1788, and the latter in 1789.

Ferdinando Smith of Halesowen Grange, J.P., D.L., the eldest son, was born 26th March, 1779. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Worcester Militia, with which regiment he served in Ireland during the rebellion. He first married, in July, 1802, Eloisa, daughter and co-heir of Major-General St. George Knivston, H.E.I.C.S., but by her, who died at Bristol Hot Wells 14th September, 1805, had no issue. He married secondly, 5th October, 1830 Elizabeth fourth daughter of Michael Grazebrook, of Audnam, co Stafford, near Stourbridge. Colonel Smith died 28th July, 1841. His second wife, who was born 26th March, 1801, survived him, and died at Worcester, 23rd January, 1875, aged 74. Both were buried in Halesowen Church. They had issue (with two other sons, George Lea Smith and Henry Lea Smith, who died in their infancy) two sons, Ferdinando Dudley Lea Smith, born 15th June, 1834, and William Lea Smith, born 27th February, 1836, late Lieutenant 13th Regiment, who died unmarried, 5th February, 1880.

¹ Mr. Carruthers married secondly Jane daughter of John Crane of Halesowen, sister of Mary the wife of Ferdinando Woodcock (see *post*) and had issue a son, John Crane Carruthers.

given has been derived. Walter and Frances Woodcock had issue:—

1. Walter Woodcock, born 26th December, 1741, of Dove House Fields, and subsequently of Ridgacre in Halesowen parish, a magistrate for Shropshire, married (settlement dated 14th July, 1784) his cousin Frances daughter of William Smith, Esq., but had no issue by her. He died 20th February,¹ and was buried at Halesowen, 1st March, 1821, aged 80, and she was buried there, 12th February in the same year, aged 86. His will is dated 3rd February, 1821, and (with several codicils) was proved in the P.C.C. by the Rev. William Lea Briscoe, LL.D., one of the Executors, on 24th December, 1821.
2. Ferdinando Woodcock, born 16th June, 1743, of Quarry Hill, Halesowen, married Mary daughter of John Crane of Halesowen. He died, *s.p.*, 31st May, and was buried 5th June, 1813, aged 69. His wife survived him and died 10th February, 1826.
 - i. Frances Woodcock, born 25th July, 1745, eldest sister and co-heir of her brothers Walter and Ferdinando, married to Joseph Green of Springfield, Dudley, glassmaker. He was born 12th October, 1757, died, *s.p.*, 12th November, and was buried at Halesowen, 19th November, 1823, aged 66. She died 12th, and was buried at Halesowen, 20th July, 1814, aged 69.
 - ii. Catherine Woodcock, born 11th June, 1749; died unmarried.
 - iii. Mary Woodcock, born 29th August, 1751, married in 1783 to Benjamin Smart, and had issue.
 - iv. Anne Woodcock, born 21st November, 1753, married to William Wilmot, and had issue.
 - v. Elizabeth Woodcock, born 12th November, 1755, married 26th August, 1784, to John Green of Dixon's Green, Dudley, glassmaker, and had issue.
 - vi. Sarah Woodcock, born 30th May, 1763, married to the Rev. Thomas Hughes, M.A., and had issue.

¹ "February 20th (1821). At his residence at Ridgacre, near Halesowen, Walter Woodcock, Esq., one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of Salop." (Obituary of the "Gentleman's Magazine," March, 1821, p. 282.)

1. Daniel Sinclair Wilmot, of Bristol, accountant, born in August, 1801, and baptised at Temple Church, Bristol, 9th March, 1802; of whom next.
2. Anne Woodcock Wilmot, baptised at Temple Church, Bristol, 8th June, 1803, wife of James Rees, proprietor of the "Carnarvon Herald" newspaper.

Daniel Sinclair Wilmot, the only son, died on the 12th, and was buried 18th August, 1862, at Arno's Vale Cemetery, Bristol. His will is dated 26th July, 1862, and was proved at Bristol, 8th September following, by his son, W. B. Wilmot. He married at Bedminster, near Bristol, 17th February, 1825, Jane Matilda daughter of Benjamin Blandy of Bedminster, and by her, who died at Zanesville, Ohio, U.S.A., 25th April, 1875, had issue:—

1. Walter Benjamin Wilmot, of whom next.
2. George Lea Wilmot, born in June, and baptised 16th July, 1833, at Bedminster. He emigrated to Australia, where he married and has issue.
3. William Henry Wilmot, of Zanesville, Ohio, U.S.A., born 6th September, 1839.
 - i. Jane Sinclair Wilmot, born 24th December, 1828, and baptised at Bedminster, 31st January, 1829, also of Zanesville.
 - ii. Emma Woodcock Wilmot, born about May, 1837, of Zanesville aforesaid.

Walter Benjamin Wilmot, now living at Brixton, London, was born at Bedminster, 1st April, and baptised there 1st May, 1827. He married at Bedminster, 14th January, 1860, Elizabeth Eyre daughter of Frederick Mole of the Madras Civil Service, and by her, who was born at Salem, in the Presidency of Madras, on 2nd February, 1838, has had the following issue:—

1. Frederick Lea Wilmot, born at Bristol, 23rd April, 1861.
2. Jane Elizabeth Wilmot, born at Bristol, 24th May, 1862, and died 23rd September, 1868.
3. Frances Mary Wilmot, born at Bristol, 30th January, 1864.
4. Walter Woodcock Wilmot, born at Bristol, 10th November, 1865, and died unmarried, 20th September, 1883.
5. Caroline Dudley Wilmot, born at Brixton, 5th January, 1868.
6. Edward Dudley Lea Wilmot, born at Brixton, 15th February, 1869.

HUGHES FAMILY.

The Rev. Thomas Hughes, M.A., of Colwall Green in Herefordshire, husband of Sarah, the youngest co-heir of Woodcock, died before the year 1824. His widow died at Halesowen on 6th, and was buried there on 11th July, 1831. Administration of her effects was granted 20th November, 1860, to her daughter Jane. She had issue:—

1. Thomas Hughes, a solicitor at Abergavenny, co. Monmouth, married daughter of General McKenzie, but died *s.p.*, at Marston Moretaine Rectory, Beds., 22nd January, 1863, aged 68. He made a will shortly before his death whereby he left all he had to Mrs. Catherine Wilmot Whitehouse, and Sarah Fereday, Spinster, daughters of Mr. Joseph Fereday (who were then living together in Monmouthshire) and sisters of Mrs. Elizabeth Tylecote, wife of the Rev. Thomas Tylecote, B.D., at whose house he died.
 - i. Jane Hughes, living unmarried at Cradley, co. Worcester, in 1860, administratrix of her mother.
 - ii. Frances Hughes, married to James Tolley, of Dudley, tailor; died 7th February, 1851, aged 60, leaving issue by him (who was buried at Dudley, 3rd August, 1845), an only child, Elizabeth Tolley, wife of Henry Morgan of Dudley, painter, to whom (being then Mrs. Morgan) administration of her mother's effects was granted 4th August, 1858.

The humble position occupied by some of the descendants of Frances Woodcock has been more than once referred to in genealogical works; and more especially have the Halesowen butcher and the Cooper's Bank toll-gate keeper—who, as Mr. Long¹ puts it, was "taking toll at a turnpike almost under the very walls of those feudal towers that gave the name to the barony of which he was a co-heir,"—served to point a moral in Sir Bernard Burke's "Vicissitudes of Families."

I hope to deal with the junior branches of the house of Sutton *alias* Dudley in a future volume of these "Collections."

¹ "Royal Descents, a genealogical list of the several persons entitled to quarter the Arms of the Royal Houses of England, by C. E. Long," published 1845.

ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

- P. 24, line 3. Robert de Somery appears also to have had issue a son named Nicholas, for in 15 Ed. II., "Nicholas, son of Robert de Somery," was sued by John de Somery for coming by night, with five others, to his castle of Dudley and carrying away goods and chattels to the value of £200 and £1,000 in money (See "Staffordshire Collections," ix., pt. 1, p. 88).
- P. 28, line 19 from bottom. "*Serclare blada domini*" should be rendered "to weed the lord's corn." It is a corruption of *sarcularo*, for which see any Latin dictionary. *Sarculum* is a hoe, rake, or weeding hook.
- P. 42, line 4 from bottom, and p. 43, line 10, for "John Botetort" read "Thomas Botetort."
- P. 56, line 2. After "Sterb" read *Saeteman*.
- P. 57, line 26. For Thomas Colleshull read *John*.
- P. 75, line 7. "Peris" Dudley is styled "my brother Peter," in his brother Edmund's will dated on the day of his execution, viz., 18th August, 1510.
- P. 75, line 11 from bottom. This letter must have been written *circa* 1542, for in a volume of old MSS. belonging to Brooke Robinson, Esq., M.P., is a survey of the Manor of Sedgley, taken 13th April 33 H. VIII., 1542, before Walter Wrottesley and George Willoughby, Esquires, and Thomas Rosey, gent. And in another MS., in the same collection is a note, that at a Leet holden on 10th October, 34 H. VIII., 1542, for "John Viscount Lisle, Barron of Malpas, Lord Bassett and Tyasse, and Lady Jane his wife," the lord granted seizin of one croft of land to Thomas Rosey "by Walter Wrottesley and George Willoughby, Esquires, and Thomas Rosey (*sic*) gent., their *Survey*" and Edmund James their steward. Mr. Willoughby was probably George Willoughby, serjeant-at-law, who was possessed *temp.* Ed. VI., of an estate at Netherton (in Cropthorne), co. Worcester, and Little Comberton in the same county. The latter being conveyed to him by John Dudley when Viscount Lisle. He was also patron of the church of Comberton in 1550.
- P. 90, line 8 from bottom. Margaret Lady Powys appears to have had a second husband one Robert Sutton, for she is described in 17 H. VIII., 1525, as "Margaret Powes, late wife of Robert Sutton, Esq., and mother of the said Edward, *i.e.*, Edward Grey Lord Powys (Pat. Roll., 17 H. VIII., communicated by Morris C. Jones, Esq.).
- P. 97, line 7. Under 29th April, 1554, Machyn (Diary) writes "The same day was bered my lade Dudley, lat wyff of barne (baron) of Dudley, in Sant Margaret in Westmynster, with iij baners of cinges, and mony gowens, and hong with blake and armes, for my lade was outt (aunt) unto the duke of Suffoke-Dassett, the wylde was hedyd latr."

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