

COLLECTIONS

FOR A

HISTORY

OF

STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

1912.

“And in this undertaking, the Reader may see what Furniture (though little dierst) our Publick Records will afford for History: and how plentifully our own may be supplied and improved, if pains were taken therein: for what is hitherto made publick, hath been collected, chiefly out of old Annals, and they filled with few things but such as were very obvious, nay the Annalists themselves (for the most part residing in Monasteries) too oftend byass'd with Interest, and Affection, of Times and Persons: But on the contrary, in our publick Records lye matter of Fact, in full Truth, and therewith the Chronological part, carried on, even to days of the Month. So that an industrious Searcher may thence collect considerable matter for new History, rectifie many mistakes in our old and in both gratifie the world with unshadowed verity.”—(ASHMOLE'S *History of the Garter.*)

LONDON:

HARRISON AND SONS, ST. MARTIN'S LANE,

Printers in Ordinary to His Majesty.

1912.

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

1912.

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RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

- I.—That the Society be called the “WILLIAM SALT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.”
- II.—The leading object of the Society shall be the editing and printing of original documents relating to the County of Stafford, to which, however, may be added papers selected by an Editorial Committee, illustrative of the same, or coming under any of the eight following heads:—
- (a) Abstracts of the Monastic Chartularies, and of Ancient Family Deeds, with the names of witnesses and fac-similes of seals; Genealogies of Nobility and Gentry (accompanied by proofs), Heraldic Visitations, and other papers touching the general history and descent of properties and families.
 - (b) Printing and editing of the Public Records relating to the County, including the Exchequer of Pipe Rolls, the Assize Rolls, Fine Rolls, Inquisitions, Perambulations of Forests, Subsidy Rolls, and Assessments, &c., &c.
 - (c) History of Parishes and of Manors, and of Manorial Customs and Tenures, illustrated by Copies of or reference to, original grants.
 - (d) Church Notes hitherto unpublished, such as Ecclesiastical Surveys, Extracts from Episcopal and Parish Registers, Copies of Epitaphs, and Description of Monuments and Ecclesiastical Buildings, Abstracts or Copies of Wills, &c.
 - (e) Notices of British and Roman Remains, and Roads and Buildings, and the Antiquities generally of the District.
 - (f) Autograph Letters and other Documents relating to the Civil War.
 - (g) Notices of distinguished Worthies, Broadsides, Election Squibs, &c.
 - (h) Correspondence, in which enquiries may be made and answered, on any of the above subjects, and miscellaneous information, including corrections of errors.
- III.—The general affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council of ten, of whom five shall be trustees of the William Salt Library, and nominated by them, from time to time, and five shall be elected at an Annual Meeting of the Subscribers. The Council shall be empowered to delegate, if they see fit, the selection of the papers to be printed to an Editorial Committee. Of the Council, three shall be a quorum, and in case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- IV.—The Officers of the Society shall be a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Auditor, to be appointed by the Council. These Offices shall be honorary, but the Council shall have power to appoint an Assistant Secretary to be paid at the discretion of the Council, as the nature of his duties may warrant.
- V.—The Subscription shall be One Guinea annually, to be paid in advance upon the first of January in each year, and such annual payment shall entitle each Subscriber to the volume issued for the year of such subscription. Any Subscriber shall be permitted to withdraw from the Society by giving notice of his intention three months before the termination of any year of Subscription.

N.B.—To save trouble, it is recommended that the Members of the Society pay their subscriptions to the Society's bankers by revocable order upon their own bankers, a printed form for which may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Corrected to 1st March, 1912.

The year in which Members joined the Society is prefixed. Where marked thus * the year is that in which the predecessors in title of the present Member joined.

- 1910 ADAM, W. A., 29, Paget Road, Wolverhampton.
 1912 ADAMS, GEO. N., Summerfield, Wolverhampton.
 1905 ADAM, PERCY W. L., Moreton House, Wolstanton.
 1910 ALCOCK, D. S. KING, Portland House, Burslem.
 1879 AMPHLETT, JOHN, Clent, Stourbridge.
 1910 ANGLESEY, THE RT. HON. the Marquess of, Beaudesert, Staffs.
 1899 ANSON, Captain The Hon. G. A., Stafford.
 1909 ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON, SOCIETY OF, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.
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 1910 ATTWOOD, T. A. C., Sion Hill House, Kidderminster.
- 1898 BAGOT, The Rt. Hon. Lord, Blithfield, Rugby.
 1879 BAGOT, Lt.-Col. JOSEPHINE, M.P., Terens Hall, Milnthorpe, Westmorland.
 1902 BAMFORD, S. B., Hawthonden Manor, Uttoxeter.
 1912 BARNES, Rev. THOS., Hildesstone Vicarage, Stone.
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 1911 BECK, F. T., Wulfrum Chambers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.
 1890 BEECH, ROWLAND J., The Shaw, Glendale, co. Stafford.
 1901 BERESFORD, The Rev. E. A., Hoby Rectory, Leicestershire.
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 1879* BRIDGEMAN, The Rev. ERNEST R. O., Blynhill Rectory, Shifnal.
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- 1908 SCIENCE AND ART LIBRARY, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington (G. H. PALMER, Librarian).

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- 1902 WEDGWOOD, JOSIAH C., M.P., Moddershall Oaks, Stone, Staffs.
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- 1881 WEST BROMWICH FREE LIBRARY (G. O. HODGES, Librarian), West Bromwich.
- 1911 WESTWOOD, A., Harbourne Manor House, Harbourne.
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- 1879 WHITEHOUSE, BENJAMIN, Turl's Hill, Sedgley, near Dudley.
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- 1903 WILSON, Rev. R. A., Witley Rectory, Worcester.
- 1911 WISCONSIN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (*per Messrs. G. E. Steckert and Co., 2, Star Yard, Carey Street, Chancery Lane, W.C.*)
- 1882 WOLSELEY, Sir CHARLES MICHAEL, Bart., Wolseley Park, Rugeley.
- 1881 WOLVERHAMPTON FREE LIBRARY (JOHN ELLIOT, Librarian), Wolverhampton.
- 1906 WOOD JOHN B., Henley Hall, Ludlow.
- 1908 WOOD, J. M., Longland, Holkham, Norfolk.

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London, S.W.

1870* WROTTESLEY. The Hon. Mrs. GEORGE, 75, Cadogan Gardens, London.
S.W. (Hon. Life Member).

1901 WROTTESLEY, Rev. F. J., Denstone Vicarage, Uttoxeter.

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Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 21ST, 1911.

THE 3rd Annual Meeting of the members of the William Salt Archaeological Society was held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on Saturday. The Earl of Dartmouth (Lord Lieutenant of the County) presided, and there were also present the Earl of Lichfield, Lord Ratherton, C.M.G., Captain the Hon. G. A. Anson, Sir Reginald Hardy, Mr. J. C. Wedgwood, M.P. (Hon. Sec.), the Revs. E. R. O. Bridgeman, B.D., G. T. Royds, R.D., W. Beresford, R.D., S. W. Hutchinson, F. I. Parker, L. Lambert, and F. A. Homer; Colonel F. D. Mott, Drs. Fausset, A. Rowley Moody, and F. Shufflebotham, Messrs. W. S. Brough, J. E. Mitchell, W. Wells Bladen, W. N. Lander, S. A. H. Burne, A. Huntbach, H. E. Moody, P. W. L. Adams, A. Scrivener, W. R. Holland, J. T. Homer, W. F. Carter, and J. W. Bradley (Assistant Secretary). Those who sent apologies for absence included Lord Bagot.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report of the Assistant Secretary (Mr. J. W. Bradley) was as follows:—

The number of members at the end of 1909 was 156. A considerable addition of new members in 1910 brought up the total to 183, of whom 180 were annual subscribers—one taking two copies of the Transactions. The present list of old members is 179, two of whom are life members. The changes since last year are as under:—Mr. R. J. Salt takes the place of Mrs. Edward Salt. Loss, by death, 3; withdrawal, 1; gain, by new members, 7; these including the Wisconsin State Library, Burton Library, Dudley Library, and North Staffordshire Field Club. Mr. Watney purchased back volumes to the value of £9 6s. 8d., and the Wisconsin Library to the value of £7 9s. 4d. Since the balance sheet was drafted the list of arrears has been reduced by £6 and the above £7 9s. 4d. paid into the bank.

Mr. J. C. WEDGWOOD explained that the balance sheet had not yet been audited. It showed an adverse balance of £26 7s. 4d.

REPORT OF THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

The report of the Editorial Committee on the work done during the past year, which was submitted by the Honorary Secretary, was as follows:—

The volume for 1911 was issued to subscribers in July, was confined to records previous to 1327, and contained the *Liberate Rolls of Henry III.*, the *Final Concords of Edward I. and II.*, the *Inquisitions Post Mortem, Ad quod damnum, &c., E. of Henry III., Edward I. and II.*, the *Testa de Nevil*, and further instalments of the *Staffordshire Cartulary*, besides the usual reviews. Of these the first three consisted in printing records that had already been transcribed for the late Mr. Salt. The Hon. Secretary received valuable help in the *Testa de Nevil* from Mr. Horace Round, and in the *Cartulary* from Mr. Swynnerton. The volume for 1912 is already in hand, 200 pages of *Star Chamber Proceedings* being already printed. The Committee propose to complete the volume with a short monograph by Mr. Swynnerton on the *Early Swynnertons*; with annotated lists of the *Sheriffs, Escheators and Justices of the Peace*, and with reviews of all the 34 volumes of *Lists and Indexes*, published by the Public Record Office. This last work being intended to show what material is still available for transcription or calendaring by the Society at the Public Record Office, as well as to give students an idea of the opportunities provided by these lists for original research. The volumes have been kindly presented to the Society by Sir Henry Maxwell Lyte, the deputy-keeper, and will in due course find a place in the library. The Committee believe that it will be best in future to confine each volume to particular periods, dealing alternately with the period before and after 1500. References to an index which covers five centuries of time are inconvenient and tiresome; the index itself becomes unduly long and complicated.

Mr. Wilson's work on the *Bishops' Registers* had been interfered with by his change of parish, but something of it will, they hope, be ready for presentation in the 1913 volume. Mr. Landor's work has also been postponed, partly because it is not ready and partly because it will require more space than we have available this year. The Committee have carefully considered the work on *Armorial*s, which Mr. Grundy Newman has been doing, and of which he has kindly supplied the Committee with samples. While noting the great value of this work

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CORRIGENDA.

- p. 274.—The two first sheriffs there given are probably incorrect. Eyton in his *Staffordshire Domesday* produces evidence to show that Thurkil of Warwick (p. 28) was sheriff in 1067-8, and that one Nicholas was sheriff in 1086 and 1100 (p. 55). This Nicholas may have been either Nicholas de Stafford (*Staff. Colls.*, V, i, p. 9) or Nicholas de Beauchamp (*ibid.*, p. 10).

STAR CHAMBER PROCEEDINGS.

HENRY VIII AND EDWARD VI.

Continued from Vol. X, i, New Series, and Vol. 1910.

Staffordshire
Sample County Studies

STAR CHAMBER PROCEEDINGS.

Continued from Vol. X, i, New Series, and Vol. 1910.

INHABITANTS OF WALSALL *v.* BEAMONT.¹

Bundle 28, No. 109.

This is the replication of Roger Dyngley and Thomas Rice, as well in their names as in the name of all the inhabitants of the town of Walsale, to the bill of answer of John Beamont, esquire.

The said bill of answer is a matter of untruth, etc. And their bill [1498] of complaint is true, etc. Thomas Morys and John Cradeley named in the bill of complaint made a sault upon Thomas Rice, for which riot they were taken and put in the King's prison to remain till it were known whether the said Thomas Rice, of the said stroke, should die or live. The said John Beamont "araised" the King's liege people to break the said prison and fetch out the said malefactors by force. The said Roger Dyngley, as King's officer and mayor of Walsale, send two credible persons to the said John Beamont, to the town of Widdesbury, advising him, in eschewing of great inconveniences, as he would answer to the King's grace at his peril, to cause all such persons as by his means there were riotously assembled, to keep the peace. The said John Beamont answered that if the mayor would deliver the said malefactors out of prison he would be contented therewith and meddle no further in the matter, and if the mayor would not be agreeable thereto, he would them out of prison by force, against the wills of the mayor and inhabitants of the town of *Walsale*. So he in said riotous manner continued until William Harpour and William Wylkes,² the justices of the peace, commanded him in the King's name to the contrary. Without that the said bill of complaint is insufficient, etc., or feigned of malice, etc., and that the said John Cradeley servant to

¹ This suit really belongs to Henry VII., see Vol. X, i, N.S., pp. 80-2.

² Wm. Harper and Wm. Wilkes were both Justices of the Peace for Staffs from about 1480 to about 1505.

John Beamont was wrongfully imprisoned or that the said John Beamont ever saw any evil disposition of the said mayor and inhabitants of the said town of Walsale, "wherethrough" he had cause to depart out of the said town to take his place at Weddesbury as in his answer is surmised. Therefore your plaintiffs beseech that they have a reasonable bond upon John Beamont, that from henceforth he and all his be of good aberyng against the King's tenants and inhabitants of Walsale.

WHYTNEY *v.* DALE.

Bundle 25, No. 302.

To the King our Sovereign Lord.

[1509] Your orator John Whytney, of Swythumley, co. Stafford, in August last, in the first year of your noble reign, was at *Maxfelde* co. Chester (Macclesfield) about the conveying of a soldier or able person to serve your majesty in your wars in Scotland according to his bounden duty, and in coming from the house of Hugh Andrewe, and riding on a gelding towards his mansion house at Swythumley, having no weapon, Robert Dale, Raynold Taxter, John Watson, Hugh Bothe, Roger Watson, Robert Horderne, Robert Close and other riotous persons in warlike manner assaulted your orator, being an impotent man of the age of 60 years, and wounded and miltreated him during which time Ralph Holynshedde, Thomas Browne and William Button, neighbours of your orator, came to the said riotous persons and would have hindered their purpose. And the said riotous persons being then in a great fury assaulted the said Holyngshed, Browne and Button, and had not rescue come, they had been slain. The said riotous persons so behave with threatening words towards your orator that he, his servants and family stand in great jeopardy of their lives, and the said persons are so maintained within the county of Chester by their friends that your orator can have no remedy against them in the same county. Therefore please your majesty to grant several writs of *subpena* to be directed to the said Robert Dale, etc., commanding them to appear to answer to the premises.

The answer of Robert Dale.

The said bill of complaint is uncertain, etc. As to any riot etc., he is not guilty. The plaintiff and his son John Wytney long before August, bare malice towards this defendant, and John Wytney the son, with Humphrey Rausbecke assaulted him, also Hugh Witne, son of the plaintiff, with others, by the procurement of the plaintiff lay in wait to

slay this defendant. And whereas this defendant in the August mentioned, on a market day at Maxfelde came to the said market to do his necessary affairs, not knowing the plaintiff to be in the town, and after his business was finished came alone into the house of Hugh A. dros, being a common victualling house, the said plaintiff struck his horse to the intent to have trodden the said defendant under his foot, and drew out his woodknife and dagger, and would have slain this defendant if he had not defended himself, and if divers persons by chance at the market that day had not rescued him. If the plaintiff had any hurt it was upon his own assault, which is the assault mentioned in the said bill of complaint. [*Traverses the rest of the bill.*]

LITTLETON v. STANLEY.

Bundle 27, No. 164.

*Writ of *dedimus potestatem* to Robert Brudenell, one of the justices for pleas assigned to be held before the King, and William Grevill, one of the Justices of the Bench, to examine witnesses in the matter between Edward Lyttelton and John Stanley, and others, dated at Westminster, 12 July, 2 Henry VIII.*

The certificate of Robert Brudenell, one of the King's Justices, made to the Council of the King in his Star Chamber, by virtue of the King's writ directed to him.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

Your orator Edward Lyttilton. One Richard Littleton his father has an assize of rent against John Stanley of co. Stafford, esquire; which Richard required the sheriff of the said county to take a view of the land where the rent is, commanding your orator to go with the sheriff and his officers, whereupon the sheriff appointed Thomas Palmer his bailiff to request divers of the jury to make the view, whereupon Sir Lewes Bagott, knight, Richard Lane, esquire, Thomas Kynnersley, Walter Leveson, Richard Underhill, Robert Kynnersley, Robert Gelye, Thomas Roill, Roger Penson, John Nykkyn and Thomas Kent who were impanelled in the said assize, met your bailiff and orator at Lichfield, to view the said land. The said John Stanley being at Lichfield asked one of the jury whither he was going, and he said to take the view of the lordship of *Clyfton Camyyle* where the rent in demand was going out. And the said John Stanley commanded him and the other jurors to come upon his land in pain of their life, whereupon they durst go no

¹ John Stanley, lord of Pipe and Clifton Camville, b. 1481, d. 1514, leaving two daughters and co-heiresses.

WOOD *v.* CLAYTON.

Bundle 31, No. 68.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

[1535] Your subject Anthony Wood was seized of one mease and one garden in *Newcastle under Lyne*, co. Stafford, by inheritance. So it is that Robert Cleyton of Cleyton Gryffyn in the said county, yeoman, Rendall Harrison of Newcastle, sadler, John Burton of the same, tailor, by the procurement of John Richardson of the same, mercer, 21st October, in this 27th year of your reign, with force and arms, with other riotous persons assembled at Newcastle, and entered the said mease and garden and assaulted Rendall Poynton, tenant at will of your subject, and expelled him from his tenure thereof, and your subject from his freehold of the same, and broke the walls and buildings of the said mease, and took away the doors and windows of the same, since which the said mease is so dismembered that your subject nor no one else can occupy the same. In consideration whereof please your highness to grant your writ of *subpoena* to be directed to the said Robert Cleyton, Rendall Harrison, etc., commanding them to appear before you to answer to the premises.

[*Endorsed.*] On the octaves of Hillary.

The answer of Robert Cleyton

The said bill of complaint is uncertain, etc., as to any riot, etc., he is not guilty. Further, Edward Woode was lawfully seized of the said mease and garden, and for a certain sum paid to him by Thomas Cleyton, father of Robert Cleyton, sold the same, amongst other lands, to the said Thomas Cleyton and his heirs for ever. Thereupon the said Edward Woode, by his deed dated 3rd July, 25 Henry VIII., enfeoffed the said Thomas Cleyton, and by the same warranted the said lands, etc., to the same Thomas, by reason whereof the said Thomas was thereof seized by the space of two years and so being seized, the said Edward Woode died (*i.e.*, 1535), and after that Thomas Cleyton died seized of the premises, after whose death they descended to the said Robert Cleyton as son and heir of the said Thomas Cleyton. The said Robert in peaceable manner entered into the said mease etc., and yet is thereof seized. Wherefore the said Robert asks judgment if that he the said Anthony against the said deed of the said Edward Woode his ancestor, whose heir the said Anthony is, shall be received to claim or demand anything in the premises. Without that that the said Robert Cleyton is guilty of any riot etc., or that the plaintiff was at any time lawfully seized of the said mease etc.

WOODE *v.* CLEYTUN, ETC.

Bundle 22, No. 165 (and Bundle 2, No. 52, Ed. VI.).

To the King our sovereign Lord.

Your subject Antony Woode, brother and heir of Edward Woode¹ [1535
of Keele, co. Stafford. Whereas Robert Woode, father of the said
or 36] Antony and Edward was seised of a house and 2 crofts called the Park,
in Keele, in tail male of the gift of John Woode and Elena his wife,
father and mother of Robert, after the custom of the manor of Keele,
after whose death the premises descended to your beseecher, brother
and heir male of the body of Robert lawfully begotten [*sic*] who was
seised of the same for one half year. So it is, Thomas Cleyton, Thomas
Peke, Robert Cleyton, John Burtern, Stephen Cleyton and William
Hales with others with force and arms, 9th June, this present month,
entered the said messuage and expelled your beseecher and carried
away divers goods of your beseecher as "a coffer, a jack, a salatt, a
borde and a coverde," to the value of 10 marks. Please your highness
to grant your writ of *subpoena* to the said persons, commanding them to
appear before you to answer to the premises.

[*Endorsed.*] On the octaves of St. Michael, before the King and
his Council.

Bundle 18, No. 210

*The answer of Robert Cleyton to the bill of complaint of Anthony
Woode.*

The said bill of complaint is uncertain, etc. The matter therein is
determinable in the court of the lord of the Manor of Keele. As to
any riot, etc., he is not guilty. The said Robert Woode was seised in
the said messuage etc., in the manor of Keele, and 5 Henry VII.
surrendered into the hands of the lord of that manor the said messuage
etc., to the use of Robert Woode and Alice his wife for their life, the
remainder after their decease to the heirs of Robert. After the death
of the said Robert the said Alice was seised, and so seised died, after
whose death the said messuage etc., descended to Edward Woode, as
son and heir of Robert, who took the same by copy of court roll
according to the custom of the said manor. The said Edward, so being
seised, for a sum of money paid to him by Thomas Cleyton, father of
the defendant, sold to the said Thomas, and his heirs for ever, the said
messuage with all goods, chattels, household stuff within the same, and
divers other messuages and lands in Keele. And the said Thomas

¹ Died 1535, see previous page.

took the profits thereof by the space of one year and a half. And because Sir Henry Delves, knight, holding the said manor of Kele in farm of the lord of St. John of Jerusalem in England, bore evil will to the said Thomas because he complained to the Lord Chancellor against him, the said Sir Henry Delves would not admit him tenant to the premises, except he were so commanded by the lord of St. John. Afterwards the said Edward Woode died, and the said Thomas Clayton likewise, after whose death the said Robert Cleyton as his son and heir entered into the said message. [*Traverses the rest of the bill.*]

The answer of Thomas Peke to the bill of complaint of Anthony Woode.

The said bill is uncertain, etc. As to any riot, etc., he is not guilty. The rest of the matter specified therein is determinable by order of the common law, whereunto he prays to be remitted.

Bundle 18, No. 122.

The replication of Anthony Woode to the answer of Robert Cleyton.

His bill of complaint is certain, etc. And the defendant is guilty of the said riot alleged therein. [*Traverses the rest of the answer.*]

WOLRYCHE *v.* ROBYNSON.

Bundle 31, No. 85.

To the King our most dread sovereign Lord

[1535] Your subject William Wolryche, gentleman, an infant of the age of 9 years, and son and heir apparent of John Wolryche of Dumaston, co. Salop, gentleman, deceased. Whereas the said John Wolryche in his lifetime was seised of 2 messuages, 40 acres of land, etc., in *Boche Chatwall*, co. Stafford, and had issue your said suppliant, and so died thereof seised, after whose decease the premises descended to your beseecher. Your said beseecher entered into the premises and was thereof seised according. So it is that your beseecher, being within age, Robert Robynson and Elizabeth his wife, Robert Meadcroft, William Halle, William Mors the elder, William Mors the younger, and others with force and arms, 19th July in the 27th year of your reign riotously entered into the said premises, and not only disseised your subject of the premises, but expelled Humfrey Goughe tenant and servant of your subject then dwelling upon the said premises, and expelled the wife and children and household stuff of the said Humfrey, and took and carried away eight loads of corn of the said Humfrey to the value of 5*l.* The

Hammond Gravenor, clerk, Hugh Dale, William Meredythe, and Richard Butterton, with other riotous persons, the 30th August, in the 31st year of your reign, having no manner of interest or title to the said manor, entered into two acres of arable land parcel of the said manor and there would have made a great affray upon your said subject, if they had not been hindered by John Boyer, and John Bromeley and others there present. In consideration whereof please your highness to grant your writs of *subpena* to be directed to the said Randolph, etc., commanding them to appear to answer to the premises.

[*Endorsed.*] On the octaves of St. Hillary, 31st [year].

BABYINGTON *v.* GEMME, ETC.¹

Bundle 32, No. 153.

To the King, our sovereign Lord.

Your orator William Babyington. Whereas William, late Abbot of [1539] the late monastery of Meryvall, c. Warwick, was seised of 6 acres of meadow in *Tymoner* (*Tynmore*), co. Stafford, in right of his said monastery, abutting upon Monk's meadow on one part, and on the other part upon Owfrege Holme, on the river Tame, and granted and to farm let to the said William Babyington and Mary his wife the same meadow amongst other lands, etc., by name of all those lands belonging to the said abbot in Tymoner and Elford for term of years, by force whereof the said William Babyington and Mary were thereof possessed until the Saturday after Low Sunday last, John Gemme of Whytington, co. Stafford, yeoman, John Huoys otherwise John Wharthaw of the same, husbandman, Thomas Tylman of the same, labourer, John Gemmens of Elford, co. Stafford, yeoman, Peter Fulceysse of the same, husbandman, riotously assembled at Tymoner and with force and arms entered the said meadow, the reversion of the fee simple of all which premises is in your highness by reason of the surrender of the said late monastery into your hands. In consideration whereof please your highness to grants writs of *subpena* against the said John Gemme, etc., commanding them to appear to answer to the premises, etc.

The replication of William Babyington.

The said bill of complaint is true, etc. Without that that Henry Geme, father of the said John Geme, was seised in a parcel of meadow

¹ See Vol. X, i, N.S., p. 120, 125, which fixes the date as 1539.

in Tymover, between the ground of the late abbot of Myryvall and the holme of the lord of the manor of Elfford, or that Henry Geme died seised of the same, or that after the death of Henry the said parcel descended to the said John, as son and heir of the said Henry, or that by force of such descent the said John had peaceable possession of the same, or that John Gemme demised the same to the said William Babyngton from year to year, yielding therefor a certain rent, or that the said William by force of such demise occupied the same by the space of 70 years, or paid any rent to the said John Geme, or that the said John at the feast of the Annunciation last, discharged the said William Babyngton of the occupation of the same, or that the said John sold the same to John Chaterton and his heirs, or that the said John Geme, the Sunday after Low Sunday last, with the said John Hewes and Thomas Tymman entered into the said parcel of meadow and delivered seisin of the same in the presence of William Babyngton and others, or that the same William was there at the desire of John Geme.

WRIGHT *v.* SKEVYNGTON.

Bundle 26, No. 133.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

[1539] Your orator Thomas Wright of Wychenor, co. Stafford. Whereas Sir John Skevyngton¹ knight, late Alderman of the city of London, deceased, was seised of the manor of *Fischerwyke*, co. Stafford, with certain messuages, etc., thereto belonging, and enfeoffed certain persons to have to his use to perform his last will which he made in the 10th year of your reign (1524/5), and by the same among other things willed that Dame Elizabeth his wife after his death should enjoy the said manor for term of her life. And, after the said Sir John Skevyngton died Dame Elizabeth so being seised, took to husband Sir John Dauncey knight, one of your grace's Council, after which marriage the said Sir John Dauncey and Elizabeth his wife by their deed dated 18th September in the 19th year of your reign, granted the said manor to your orator for as long as the manor should be in the hands of the said Sir John Dauncey in right of Elizabeth his wife, paying therefor yearly a certain rent. Of late, that is to say, 26th March in the 30th year of your reign, William Skevyngton of the said county,

¹ Sir John Skeffington, sheriff of London in 1521, bought Fisherwick, and died in 1525. William, his son and heir, was then under age (13 years old). (Shaw, *Staffs.*, I., 373.)

esquire, son and heir to the said Sir John Skeyvngton, by threatening, has compelled the tenants of the said manor to pay to him the rents due to your orator, and to compel your orator to forsake his interest of the same, pursues deliverance of their beasts and cattle when your orator distrains them for their rent, so that he has no profit of the premises, and with his servants resorts to the said manor so that if orator were to come there for his rent, he were like to be murdered. Wherefore please your grace to grant writs of *subpena* to be directed to the said William Skeyvngton and other riotous persons, to appear to answer to the premises.

The answer of William Skeyvngton.

The said bill is uncertain, etc. As to the surmised riot, etc., he is not guilty. If any such lease were made by Sir John Dauncey and Dame Elizabeth his wife of the premises to the plaintiff, it appears that it is but a lease at will of the lessors and not otherwise, by the plaintiff's own showing, after which supposed lease, the said Sir John Dancy and Dame Elizabeth his wife by due order of the spiritual law, and by their mutual assent were divorced, whereupon it was agreed that the said Elizabeth should have during her life all such lands as were Sir John Skeyvngton's, her late husband's, given to her by his last will, and that Sir John Dancy should have all her movable goods which she brought to him, which were worth 1,000 marks. So they parted and by force thereof the said Elizabeth ever since has taken the profits of all her own lands, and so being seised the said defendant by command of the said Elizabeth entered into the said lands and received the rents thereof. Without that that Sir John Dancy and Elizabeth his wife made any such lease of the premises, or that he ever threatened the tenants of the premises in manner as in the bill is surmised.

SAVAGE *v.* BIDULPH.¹

Bundle 29, No. 143.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

Your orator Lawrence Savage of the Wall Grange, co. Stafford, [1539] esquire, 27th January in the 29th year of your reign, at Mylstrete, Leek, co. Stafford, demised to Richard Bedulfe of Bedulfe² in the said

¹ See "Biddulph *v.* Savage," Vol. X, i, N.S., p. 152. Lawrence Savage had married Ellen, daughter and heiress of Wm. Egerton, of Wallgrange.

² Ric. Biddulph, married Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of John Salwey, of Stamford, co. Salop, see *ante* p. 44. He was b. 1492-3 (see p. 123 *ante*), and d. 1551.

county, esquire, a third part of a great pasture called *Horton Heye*, in *Horton Curte*, co. Stafford, for a term of 18 years, paying therefor yearly to the said Lawrence and his assigns £3, with a proviso that if the said Lawrence should within that time pay to the said Richard or his assigns £13 6s. 8d., giving warning to the said Richard by the space of one year before the same Richard should depart, that then he should depart without delay, by force whereof the said Richard occupied the premises for 5½ years. The said Lawrence, about 21st September, in the 31st year of your reign at Byddulfe, co. Stafford, by Elizabeth his wife, offered payment of the said £13 6s. 8d., and at divers other times and places the said Lawrence has tended payment, and given warning in form aforesaid, but the said money to take, or to depart, he (Biddulph) at all times refused and denies, and continues unlawfully the possession of the premises from that day to this. Though your orator, at the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross last past, took upon him peaceably to have reentered the premises according to the agreement aforesaid, that to suffer, the said Richard with Thomas Wulsnam, Thomas Assap and other misruled persons, here unlawfully assembled in riotous manner within the said ground with force and arms kept your subject from entering into the premises, and so they have kept and yet do keep it. And forasmuch as the said Richard is a man of great power in those parts, so that your orator is not able to indict him for his said forcible keeping of the premises. Wherefore please your highness to grant your writs of *subpena* to be directed to Richard Bedulfe, Thomas Wulsnam, and Thomas Assap, commanding them to appear to answer to the premises.

[*Endorsed.*] On the quindene of St. Michael.

TURNER v. BARNEFELD.

Bundle 30, No. 119.

To the King our most dread sovereign Lord.

[1540] Your orator Thomas Turnour of Chillington, co. Stafford, yeoman. Whereas Robert Barnefeld of Newport, co. Salop, tanner, and Ellen his wife, William Hyll of Hylton, co. Stafford, yeoman, William Barnefeld of Newport, tanner, and John Burton of the same, labourer, with other riotous persons, 21st May in the 32nd year of your reign, in riotous manner broke and entered the house of your orator called *Coley Hall* in *Wylbrighton*, co. Stafford (*sic!*), and assaulted Alice, the wife of your orator, please your highness to grant your writs of *subpena* to be

directed to the said riotous persons, commanding them to appear before you, etc.

[*Endorsed.*] On the quindene of Easter.

The answer of Robert Barnefeld, etc.

They are not guilty of the aforesaid riotous breaking of the said house, nor of the battery of the said Alice. If they had been guilty of the said surmised offences, yet the King, by authority of his parliament, has freely pardoned all his subjects of this realm, of all riots and riotous offences committed against his peace before 1st July in this 32nd year of his reign. Wherefore they pray to be dismissed out of this court with their reasonable costs by them sustained in this behalf.

The replication of Thomas Turnour.

The said riotous persons took out of the said house certain goods and household utensils, of the value of £20. Notwithstanding the King has pardoned the said riotous demeanour, yet the said wrongful entry, and assault upon his wife are not pardoned. And the said defendants do not deny the same in their answer.

WORLEY *v.* HARDING, ETC.

Bundle 34, No. 91.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

Your subject Mark Worley, bailiff of Lichfield, co. Stafford, 3rd [1540] April, in the 32nd year of your reign, being about to redress a misdemeanour committed by Thomas Lee to a victualler coming to Lichfield market, William Callaway of Lichfield in riotous manner, with Richard Hitton, capper, and other ill-disposed persons, with force and arms repaired to *Lichfield* townhall and called to the said bailiff to come forth if he dare. Further the said William Callaway and William Hardyng of Lichfield, 4th April in the said year, entered the house of Alice Turnour and assaulted your subject then being there, and intending to have murdered him they lay in wait for the said bailiff, and continued in this furious mind until the bailiffs of the said town repaired to the said place to see the peace kept. The night ensuing the said Callaway and Hardyng in riotous manner came to the house of the said bailiff and lay in wait to have slain him, and not regarding the punishment of the laws ordained for such evil doers, 24th April next repaired to Lichfield and there assembled with other riotous persons to the number of 100, and came to the house of your subject

The suit of the premises yet depending there, your defendant demands judgment against the said William and the said plaintiff, whether they shall now be received to set forth this suit to the defrauding of the King whom before they have entitled to the same. As to any goods taken before 14th March last, the said defendant, forasmuch as the King's Majesty's pardon by Act of Parliament granted in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year of his reign has pardoned the same, prays the advantage thereof, though he has sufficient matter to justify the taking of the same. As to the other pardon granted by his highness the said defendant says that he being called before the king for the selfsame goods, has there, in his Bench specially pleaded the same, which remains there undiscussed. If the said defendant is compelled to plead further in this court, he would then sustain double vexation for one cause.

Interrogatories to be administered to Sir George Griffith, knight.

1. Did Elizabeth Yorke, late of Alder, co. Staff., widow, 2nd August, 36 Henry VIII., feloniously drown herself?
2. Did all the goods, etc., of the said Elizabeth of right belong to the distribution of the said Nicholas as chief almoner of the King, by virtue of his letters patent to the same Nicholas, 11th November in the 31st year of his reign?
3. What goods, etc., was the said Elizabeth of and worth, the day of her death, how much ready money, or, etc., had she and what were they worth?
4. Where were the said goods conveyed, by what persons, and for what intent?
5. How much of the said goods came to the hands of the said Sir George, and what was their value?
6. Did the said Sir George at any time command his chaplain or any other to repair to William Ottye to require him to move his master that the said Sir George might have the said goods and chattels of the said Elizabeth after such rate as they were appraised to?
7. Did the said Sir George at any time agree to pay to the said almoner or his assigns any money for the said offenses (offices)?
8. By what persons and for what intent did the said Sir William make request to the said William as is aforesaid?
9. For what intent did Sir George come to the said Bishop at his house called "Wurcestre Howse," adjoining the Savoy, and give him hearty thanks?

SNEYDE *v.* BRATT.

Bundle 3, No. 35.

To the King our sovereign Lord.

[1549] Your subject Sir William Sneyde of Bradwall, co. Staff., knight, is seised of and in the manor of Kele, co. Staff., and the tenants dwelling within the said lordship have time out of mind to the contrary held their lands of the lords of the manor by copy of court roll, which manor is a "frauncles hall" having many privileges by prescription and by grant of the King, as "*retorna brevium, weiff, streiss, ward, mariage, releif and eschete.*" Amongst other things the custom of the said manor is always that when any of the lords of the manor have received the King's letters, or otherwise been commanded to serve with their tenants and servants upon your grace or your progenitors in their weighty affairs and wars, within this realm and without, that then the tenants of the said manor, at the command of the lord, should attend upon his person, or otherwise serve underneath him the King, where they should be thereunto appointed, which always was, by a long continuance, practised in the time of the lords of St John of Jerusalem in England when they were lords of the said manor, and also in the time of other lords before them; until now of late, about 2 months past, your orator receiving letters from the Earl of Warwick to prepare himself with his tenants and servants ready furnished for the wars, to attend upon his lordship against the King's rebels at Norwich, which according to his bounden duty he endeavoured to do, came to Edward Bratt in the said county, gentleman, tenant to your orator and holding certain houses and a great quantity of land within the said manor, after the custom of the manor, and to John Smyth, Richard Browne, John Cowdale, and John Belson, dwelling within the said lordship, knowing them to be meet persons to serve your grace, commanding them to prepare themselves to go with your said subject to attend upon the Earl Warwick, which to do they by the counsel of the said Edward Bratt plainly refused, and riotously assembled together to resist your subject, to the evil example of all the inhabitants in the said lordship and other lordships adjoining, if condign punishment be not speedily had. Also the said Edward Bratt for his refusal and abettment has justly by the laws of this realm forfeited to your subject all his lands in the said manor held by copy, as is aforesaid. Wherefore it may please your highness to grant your

¹ John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, defeated Ket's rising in Norfolk in 1549.

VII, XXIV, XXX. *Chancery Proceedings* (Series II),
Vol. I, 1558-79; Vol. II, 1579-1621; Vol. III, 1621-1660.
H.M. Stationery Office, 1896, 1908, 1909.

These lists of Chancery Proceedings are all entered in the form:—

Bundle No.	Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Place or Subject.	County.
248, 47	Rugeley, Thos.	Warner, Isabel, widow.	Hawksyard, Armitage, Handsacre.	Stafford.

But, whereas the two later volumes run to some 360 pages and have about 35 suits to the page, the first volume is in small type and has 460 pages with 50 suits to the page. Of the 46,000 suits listed in these 100 years, some 1,000 will relate to Staffordshire. It is hardly possible to transcribe them in full within any reasonable time. As, however, there are no indexes to these lists, and the whole three volumes must at present be searched through page by page for any particular surname, it is proposed to print in one of our future volumes each Staffordshire entry in the summarized form given above and to have them indexed. It is hoped that it may be possible to transcribe in full the early Chancery Proceedings prior to 1558, and indeed this has already been begun in our Vol. VII, N.S.

VIII. *Index to list of Ministers' Accounts*, No. 5.
H.M. Stationery Office, 1897.

This volume is merely an Index to the places for which accounts were rendered, as shown in the list in Vol. V. The references are to the Bundles, and it is of some use to the parish historian.

IX. *List of Sheriffs to 1832*. *H.M. Stationery Office*, 1898.

This volume has long been out of print, a fact which alone testifies to its value for research. Lists of Sheriffs appear in various county histories. They are often vague, marked in

regnal years, and generally incorrect. Here alone we get the official list with exact date of appointment wherever discoverable, though even this is now capable of enlargement.

The list has been compiled mainly from two sources: (1) the accounts rendered by the Sheriffs on the Pipe Rolls; (2) the records of their actual appointments on the Patent or Fine Rolls or sometimes on the Memoranda Rolls of the Exchequer. The accounts run generally from Michaelmas to Michaelmas, but the Sheriff is often accounting for a period before his actual appointment.

The Sheriffs were generally appointed by the Crown on the advice of the permanent Council, the exceptions being: (1) during the rule of Simon de Montfort, when the County Court submitted names to the Council of Barons; (2) during part of the reign of Edward I., when sheriffs were nominated like Knights of the Shire, and elected, and finally appointed by the Lord Treasurer; (3) in 1338-40; and (4) in 1643-53, when the appointments were made by Ordinance of Parliament.

The term was definitely limited to one year in 1368, and in 1377 reappointment within three years was prohibited. Before the reign of Henry VIII. the present method of "pricking" among three names had come into use, and it may perhaps be assumed that when chance became the arbiter of the appointment, the appointment itself was no longer one of much financial value.

It is important, more especially as the list is out of print and incomplete, that the Staffordshire Sheriffs should be set out in full in our *Transactions* for reference and for indexing. This has therefore been done elsewhere in the present volume. One would like to transcribe also the lists of Sheriffs of Lichfield here given, from 1556 onwards, but that would take undue space and the names seem unimportant.

X. *List of Proceedings respecting Charitable Uses.*

H.M. Stationery Office, 1899.

This is a list, arranged under counties, of the proceedings taken before the Commissioners for Charitable Uses, appointed under Statutes of 1597 and 1601. These Commissioners were to enquire into any abuses of charities, and their decrees might be reviewed in the Chancery Court on any exception being

taken. In such cases evidence and proceedings were enrolled at great length, but these proceedings contain the Inquisitions and decrees of the Commissioners only.

The Staffordshire decrees extend from 1601 to 1732 and cover Charities, Schools, Bridges and Paving, Curates, Highways and Marshhouses. We give below the Inquests and decrees respecting the schools at Newcastle in 1^o Geo. II. as a sample. Other school endowments are dealt with at Burton, Abbots Bromley, Stafford, Cannock, Rolleston, Brewood, Kinver, Maer, Madeley, Audley, Rugeley, Leigh, Bradley, Lichfield, Walsall, Bucknall and Church Eaton, and it might be worth the modern ratepayers' while to look them up. There are bridges too at Yoxall, West Bromwich and Uttoxeter, which should be maintained out of trust funds and settled lands.

Charity Inquisitions, Bundle 55, No. 15.

Writ.

George, by the grace of God of Great Britain, etc., King, etc. To the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, Henry Raines, esquire, chancellor of the diocese, Sir Walter Wagstaffe Bagot, Sir Joan Astely, etc. Know ye, etc.

And we also command our sheriff of co. Stafford that at such times, days and places which you shall appoint to him he shall cause to come before you such and as many honest men of co. Stafford by whom the truth of the matter may best be known to inquire of the premises upon their oaths, as you shall require. Willing also and charging all and singular our Justices of peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, etc., to whom in this case it may be appertaining to be aiding to you our said Commissioners in the due execution of this our commission, as they tender our pleasure will answer the contrary at their utmost perils. In witness whereof We have caused these our letters to be sealed with our great seal. Witness ourself at Westminster, 11 February, in the 13th year of our reign. [1727.]

AN INQUISITION taken at Wolseley Bridge, co. Stafford, 12th October, 1 George II. 1727, before Ralph Sneyd, esquire, Richard Ryder, gentleman, John Taylor, Michael Ward, William Jervis and Thomas Olliver, clerks, by virtue of a commission under the Great Seal of Great Britain bearing date 11 February last, directed to them, for due execution of a statute made in the high court of Parliament 27 October, 43 Elizabeth, entitled an Act to redress the misemployment of lands, goods, etc., heretofore given to charitable uses, by the oaths of John Bourne, William Holland, John Jackson, Cornelius Reading,

1558; a map of Tutbury Castle; and undated, but more recent surveys of the New Park, in Hambury, of Sherholt Park, in Barton, and of Castlehay Park, in Tutbury, should all add to our knowledge of Ncedwood. Here, too, we find our solitary survey of Newcastle, p. 92.

Among the *Miscellanea*, transcripts of evidences of title, or of pleadings, we have first of all the transcript of the foundation charter of Tutbury Church, dating from William II.

There are also transcripts of deeds or pleadings relating to Tutbury *c.* 1320, to Draycot-in-the-clay, *c.* 1400, and to the descent of the Manor of Yoxall in 1411 (*Rex v. Matilda*, late wife of Sir John Lovell). While from the time of the Stuarts we have Orders concerning the Minstrel's Court at Tutbury, pp. 131-2.

XV. *List and Index of Ancient Correspondence.*

H.M. Stationery Office, 1902.

This list also opens up a mine of information for the local historian. It records chiefly letters which have been kept on the files of the Chancery or in miscellaneous bundles; and they are mainly autograph letters written by members of the Royal Family, Bishops, Sheriffs and Barons during the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The first 260 folio pages consist of a list of letters stating from and to whom written. The dates are not given, but as far as possible they have been collected under reigns, and the writer or recipient of the letter is generally sufficiently well known for approximate dates to be determined by the student. The last 150 pages consist of an invaluable index of writers and recipients which greatly facilitates research.

Among the letter writers we find Staffords, Bassets, Bagots, Audleys, Verdons; the bailiffs of Newcastle and Stafford, the Bishops, Treasurers, and Deans of Lichfield, the Priors of Monasteries. It would take too long to extract a complete list even of writers only that come from Staffordshire, but we give some samples and leave it to the Society to decide whether those of the thirteenth century, at any rate, should not be printed in full in our Transactions and a complete list be printed of the remainder collected from this volume. It is curious that

so many of these letters should have had to wait till 1902 for their discovery, and the exact historian of any period will have to go through them with the greatest care before committing himself to some old established views. The following are samples:—

Ancient Correspondence, Vol. 6, No. 15.

Transcript.

HENRY DE ALDITHELEG' TO RALF DE NEVILLE,¹ DEAN OF LICHFIELD.

Dilec' et spoli amico Dño. R. de Neuill Decan' Licheff Henr' de Alditheleg salutem et dilectionem sinceram cum salute. Benignitate vram de q' ad plenū confido p' tot' attentius et deuote suplicando q'tinus p' amore et seruicio meo siml' cum auxilio et cōsilio Dñi H. de Burg' Justic' Angl' inducatis Dñm Justic' Hibernie faciendā m' saisina de t'ra mea de Dalebuin In Hyberñ (*to give me seisin of my land of Dalebuin in Ireland*) q'm bone memorie J. quondā Rex Angl' p' discessū (*flight*) Dñi Hug' de Lascy de Hybernia² m' concessit. Et si forte contig'it qd uos cū ipso nō loq'mini si placet faciatis me h're m'as Dñi Reg' ad ipm de ead' saisina m' faciendā. Et sciatis q' d' p' ad eam apud Notingeham accessissem n' opteret me p'p' caus' fortuitas In marchia frequē' em'gentes ad q'dā parlem'tum ēe h' die m'is p'x p' fest' t're Trinit'. Tm in si placet faciatis vt uob' In ppetuū e' dato deuotius enijiat. Vañt.

Ancient Correspondence. Vol. 19. No. 151.

BAILIFFS OF NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME TO [EDWARD I.] 8 EDW. I.

[Translation.]

To the most excellent prince the lord Edward by the grace of God King of England illustrious Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine the bailiffs of the Lord Edmund his brother of Newcastle under Lyme greeting. We have received your mandate in these words. Edward by the grace of God etc. to the bailiffs of Edmund his brother of Newcastle under Lyme greeting. Whereas of late in our parliament at Westminster it was provided and proclaimed by us and our council that the prelates, earls, barons and others of our realm who claim to have divers liberties by charters of our predecessors Kings of England (for the examining and adjudging whereof we had appointed a day in the same parliament), should so use those liberties that nothing should accrue to them by usurpation or occupation nor should they occupy anything to our detriment. We command you as we have

¹ Ralf was Dean of Lichfield 11 Apr., 1214, to 28 Oct., 1222.

² Hugh de Lascy, with whom Henry de Audley's elder brother Adam had been serving, fled in July, 1210. It is therefore probable that Adam was then dead and had been succeeded by Henry. A court was held at Northampton, not Nottingham, at Christmas, 1218.

ON THE PRONUNCIATION OF THE NAME.

The Domesday spelling "SULVERTON" (perhaps meant for Sulnerton), (so spelt by the Norman scribe and equivalent to "Suverton" or "Sunerton"), is evidence that the name was not always pronounced "Swynnerton."

A similar form of the name appears in 7 John, 1206, where "Robert de Swinnerton" in his suit *versus* Stephen de Hulton is, in one return, described as "Robert de SOULVERTON" (? Soulerton).

In a plea of Hen. III. (1264) before the King, John, lord of Swynnerton, is described as "John, Lord of SONNERTON."

In a deed which I possess in original, *temp.* Edw. II., Roger de Swynnerton of Swynnerton calls himself "Roger de SWONNERTON," and the same spelling appears in certain pleas of 14 Edw. II., 1320, where one of the defendants is "John, son of John de SWONNERTON."

At Hilton, co. Stafford, for centuries in the possession of the Swynnertons, there is a deed of 46 Edw. III., 1372, with a seal on which the inscription is "S. Margarec de SONNERTONE."

The local pronunciation of the name was, and still is (unless the schoolmaster has altered it) SONNERTON, or SINNERTON.

An excellent example of this redundant consonant is seen in a deed of the Trentham Cartulary, in the name *Saville*, where one of the witnesses is William, son of Thomas SWAVILE, Mayor of Newcastle. Dated 1318. The forms SINVERTON and SWINFERTON are further examples of the taste of the day for superfluous consonants.

It would appear then that in "Swynnerton" the "w" was not always pronounced, but that it was mute, as in "answer," "morwening," "sword," "medwo," etc., and if so, as I believe, then the true pronunciation of the name must be "Sonnerton" or "Sinnerton."

POSTSCRIPT.

In Vol. XII, 245, *Staff. Coll.*, the proof is given that the Standons came from St. Donan in Brittany. This discovery provides quite a fresh clue, and opens up a new field of enquiry.

[Emphasis is added by another fact, namely, that, as Mr. Round has pointed out, Enisan is a Breton name, and that Enisan de Walton, like Brien de Standon and Aelen de Swynnerton, must have been also of Breton descent.

Also in a Chell deed, published in *Staff. Coll.* last year (1971), Robert, lord of Swynnerton and of Great Chell, appears as ROBERTUS DE SYNVERTONA. Date c. 1230. (*Add. Ch.* 53,590.2.M.)

NOTE.—In *Staff. Coll.*, I, 149, the name “Robert fitz Aelen” as taken from the *Liber Nige* (1166) is given as *Robertus filius Aelem*, and from the *Liber Rubeus* as *Robertus filius Aleur*. There is an error in both instances, and it is probably that of the scribes who copied out the original returns. Not *Robertus filius Aelem* and not *Robertus filius Aleur* is the true reading, but *Robertus filius Aeleni*. (Genitive case.)

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

THE
STAFFORDSHIRE SHERIFFS (1086-1912),
ESCHEATORS (1247-1619),
AND
KEEPERS OR JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
(1263-1702).

BY THE HON. SECRETARY.

SHERIFFS OF STAFFORDSHIRE,

1086-1912.

THE sheriff or shire-reeve (*Vice-Comes* or viscount) represented the King in the county. He collected the crown rents and accounted for them; collected the fines of litigants, or the amercements of offenders, which had been imposed by the Royal Justices; executed the King's writs; seized escheated estates, and gave seisin to the heirs when of age; sat as judge in the county and hundred courts, and generally acted as the King's agent.

In some cases there was a tendency for the shrievalty to become hereditary in one family, and we can see signs of this in the Staffordshire list. Probably the strong hand of Henry I. or Henry II. stopped the gradual development of a new hereditary title of viscount parallel in all ways with that of the count or earl. When real hereditary viscounts began in 1440 it was perhaps as a definite assertion on the part of the crown that the county sheriff was an officer of his appointment appointed during pleasure.

The great age of the sheriffs ceased when Edward I. came to the throne. Till then they ruled the county, thereafter they administered it according to order. At one time, for a short period, local feeling, and no doubt resentment at firm directions from Westminster, so far forced the King's hand that the sheriffs became elective, and the county in full court assembled obtained the right to elect (1300-1315). One gathers, however, that the royal officers made things somewhat difficult for the elected sheriff, and that the statutory right to elect became a dead letter even before it was enacted away.

Thereafter the sheriffs were mainly drawn from the local gentry, many, however, being self-made men of originally small rank. During the fourteenth century the sheriff was still a power

in the county, less so in Staffordshire possibly than elsewhere owing to the dominance of the Earls of Derby and Stafford. If they had lost part of their administrative power to the escheators, and even more of their judicial power to the Justices of Gaol Delivery and Justices of the Peace, their position as recipient of the King's writ in every case, and their consequent power as nominator of the salaried knight member of Parliament, preserved their importance.

Till it was forbidden by law in 1372 they had a habit of nominating themselves to Parliament, chiefly, I fancy, to secure the 4s. a day. Even when this was stopped it was the friend of the sheriff who secured that acclamation by "the whole county" which effected the election to Parliament. When towards the end of the fourteenth century there arose keen competition to represent the county at Westminster, there was a certain secrecy about the receipt of the writ and date of acclamation that would have been the delight of a modern party organiser.

Then, too, even in Lancastrian times, it was the sheriff who raised the *posse comitatus* and repressed disorder. Whether his responsibility for the safe custody of prisoners was regarded by him as an honour or a burden may be doubtful, but it enters very largely into the business records of the mediæval sheriff. Gradually, however, the position of the sheriff sank. The rise of the Justices of the Peace, and of Quarter Sessions, did away imperceptibly but surely with both the administrative and judicial powers of the sheriff, and by the time that the House of York had thoroughly centralised the government, the position of sheriff had ceased to be one of power and had become one of pure honorary and honourable distinction.

When one finds that the sheriff is always appointed at the same time of year, always serves his whole year, is not changed even at a revolutionary victory or defeat; then one may be quite sure that his personality did not much matter to the conduct of affairs. One can observe that the kaleidoscopic transformations of the Wars of the Roses caused only two irregularities in the list of sheriffs: one in 1471, when a new sheriff was appointed on Edward IV.'s restoration, and one in 1485, when the accession of Henry VII. put one of the all-powerful Stanley clan in something more than nominal control of Staffordshire.

SHERIFFS OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

Except where otherwise stated the information in this list is derived from the *List of Sheriffs*, No. IX of the *List and Indexes*, published by the Deputy Keeper. The information about the personages given in parentheses has been collected by the writer.

<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Sheriffs.</i>
Oct. 1086 ...	Robert de Stadford (Baron of Stafford, <i>d.</i> 1088).
In or before 1094, in 101 and before 1123 }	Nicholas de Stafford ¹ (2nd Baron, <i>d.</i> 1133-8, <i>S.C.</i> , I, 16 ; V. i, 9).
Mich. 1123-28	Robert de Stanley ² (<i>S.C.</i> , I, 4).
Mich. 1128-31	Miles of Gloucester (Earl of Hereford, <i>d.</i> 1143, <i>D.N.B.</i>).
Oct. 1132-3 ...	Nicholas de Stafford ¹ (<i>S.C.</i> , II, 208).
	? ? ?
Before 1154 ...	? Maurice de Tiretei. ¹
Mich. 1154 ...	Robert de Stafford (3rd Baron, <i>d.</i> ? 1189).
Mich. 1160 ³ ...	Alexander de Claverley, ¹ clerk (Dean of Bridgnorth, <i>S.C.</i> , II, 19).
? Oct., Feb. 1166 ...	Stephen de ? Beauchamp ¹ (lord of Chartley, <i>d.</i> 1184), <i>S.C.</i> , I, 44.
Easter, 1166 ³ ...	Henry de Stretton (lord of Stretton, 1166).
Mich. 1184 ...	Thomas (fitz) Robert fitz Noel (Justiciar, lord of Ronton).
Mich. 1189 ...	Thomas de Cresswell (of Cresswell, a vassal of Pantulf of Werr).
Easter, 1190 ...	Hugh Bardulf (Justiciar, <i>d.</i> 1207, <i>D.N.B.</i>).
Mich. 1190— Easter, 1194 }	Hugh de Nunant, bishop of Coventry (<i>D.N.B.</i>).

Subsheriffs.

Mich. 1190	Robert fitz Waleran.
Mich. 1191	Robert de Nunant (the bishop's brother).
Mich. 1192	Richard Mareschal (a Staffordshire knight in 1104).

Sheriff.

Easter, 1194— Mids. 1198 }	Hugh de Chaucumb (of Chalcomb or Saucomb, Northants., Justiciar, <i>D.N.B.</i>).
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*Subsheriff*⁴

Mich. 1195— Mids. 1198 }	Thomas de Erdinton.
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¹ Not given in the printed list.

² Wrongly called "Thomas" in the printed list.

³ Date wrongly given in the printed list.

⁴ The printed list gives Geoffrey fitz Piers as one of Chaucumb's subsheriffs. As though the Viceroy of England could have been a subsheriff !

<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Escheators.</i>
1529-30 ...	Philip Draycote (of Paynsley, afterwards knight).
1530-1 ...	John Wolsley, arm.
28 Nov. 1531-2 ...	William Chetwyne, arm. (of Ingestre, <i>d.</i> 1546).
1532-3-4 ...	Walter Wrottesley, arm. (of Wrottesley).
22 Feb. 1534 ...	Richard Harcourt, arm. (of Church Eaton).
No. 1534-5 ...	? ? ?
1535-6 ...	Thomas Skrynsher, arm. (of Norbury).
1536-7 ...	James Thyrkell, arm. (of Smalwood).
1537-8 ...	Thomas Gifford, arm. (eld. son of Sir John).
1538-9 ...	Richard Bedyll, arm. (of Biddulph).
1539-40 ...	John Wolsley, arm.
1540-1 ...	? ? ?
1541-2 ...	Humphrey Mynor, arm.
1542-3 ...	Samson Erdisweke, arm. (of Sandon).
1543-4 ...	Humphrey Welles, arm. (of Hoarcross).
1544-8 ...	

(The following are taken from *Escheators' Enrolled Accounts, L. T. R.*,
130 (P.R.O.).)

5 Dec. 1548 ...	John Otteley, arm. (of Pichford, co. Salop).
12 Nov. 1549 ...	Richard Bedyll, arm. (of Biddulph).
11 Nov. 1550 ...	Brian Fowler, arm. (of St. Thomas?).
" 1551 ...	Humphrey Welles, arm. (of Hoarcross).
20 Nov. 1552 ...	John Otteley, arm.
28 Nov. 1553 ...	William Greseley, arm.
	? ? ? (2 years).
13 Nov. 1556 ...	Humphrey Welles, arm.
" 1557 ...	? ? ? (2 years).
8 Feb. 1559 ...	Humphrey Swynerton, arm.
28 Feb. 1560 ...	Edward James, arm. (Steward of the Manor of Himley).
15 Dec. 1563 ...	Ralph Okar, arm. (of Okeover, Sheriff 1564-5).
11 July, 1569 ...	Matthew Mooreton, arm. (of Engleton).
26 May, 1571 ...	Francis Mountford, arm. (of Walsall foreign).
16 May, 1573 ...	Christofer Heveningham, arm.
1 Ap. 1579 ...	William Unwyn, arm. (of Chatterley).
1 Mar. 1580 ...	Thomas Moreton, arm. (of Moreton).
23 Jan. 1585 ...	Godfrey Fulljambe, arm. (of Croxden).
24 Jan. 1586 ...	William Ragrley, arm. (? Rugeley).
20 Jan. 1587 ...	Edward Barber, arm. (of Flashbrook).
1588-92 ...	? ? ? (4 years).
7 Mar. 1592 ...	Edward Shadwell, arm.
8 Feb. 1593 ...	William Horwood, arm.

<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Escheators.</i>
8 Feb. 1594	... John Fooke, arm.
" 1595	... James Scrinshawe, arm. (of Norbury).
" 1596	... John Chadwicke, arm.
31 Jan. 1597	... William Greene, gent.
6 Feb. 1598	... John Mytton, arm. (of Weston-under-Lizard).
12 Dec. 1598	... William Skevington, arm.
Feb. 1600	... Thomas Ruddiard, arm. (of Rudyard).
" 1601	... John Walkeringe, arm.
" 1602	... Edward Baresford, arm.
31 Jan. 1603	... Edward James, arm.
13 Feb. 1604	... John Wegewood, arm. (of Harracles).
30 Dec. 1604	... John Persehouse, arm. (of Sedgley).
27 Jan. 1606	... Thomas Congreave, arm. (of Stretton).
28 Nov. 1606	... Richard Barbour, arm.
11 Nov. 1607	... Thomas Allablaster, arm. (of Longdon).
13 Feb. 1609	... Thomas Hatley, arm.
22 Mar. 1610	... Richard Auderley, arm. (of Coton).
8 Mar. 1611	... ? ? ? (1 year).
8 Dec. 1612	... Thomas Allott, arm.
10 Dec. 1613	... George Allicocke, arm.
" 1614	... ? ? ? (1 year).
27 Nov. 1615	... George Beardmore, arm.
25 Nov. 1616	... John Smyth, arm. (sometime Mayor of Newcastle).
28 Nov. 1618	... William Barnesby, arm. (of Trisull).
30 Nov. 1619	... John Kenrick, arm.

(No more to be found.)

KEEPERS AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR
STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE duty of conservation of the peace lay primarily with the holders of certain offices, within the sphere of their office. The justices of the king's bench, for instance, were *conservatores* or keepers of the peace within the whole kingdom; the sheriff and coroner within their county; the head boroughs in their townships. The keepers of the peace, however, with whom we are concerned are not those who held *virtute officii*, but those specially appointed. In 1242 six *servientes* are to be provided by the bishop to guard the king's peace in the county of Stafford, and they receive *1d.* a day as pay.¹ These were mere policemen and it was not till after the Parliament of Oxford in 1258 that leading men in the counties are to be found as keepers. These are called *custos* not *conservator*, and their duty was rather to look after the sheriff in the interest of the barons' party than to act as keeper of the peace. They supervised and perhaps supplanted the authority of the king's servant, the sheriff. Probably they were elected by the freeholders, at least nominally. On a change of sheriff it is these keepers that "deliver" the county to the new sheriff.

By a writ enrolled on the Patent Rolls, custodians of the Peace were appointed in each county on July 20th, 1263, "to cause swift justice to be done . . . the king commands all lieges to assist the keeper . . . he shall take to himself the keepers who were sheriffs before." This looks as though the specially appointed *custodes pacis* could only date from July, 1263, but Ralph Basset of Drayton is spoken of as *custos* in 1262-3, and on August 10th, 1263, it is Roger de Somery, lord of Dudley, who, as *custos*, delivers the counties of Staffordshire, Salop, and the Marches to the new sheriff Hamo L'Estrange.² In all earlier appointments of sheriffs it had been the previous sheriff who was directed to "deliver." In November, 1263, Hamo L'Estrange

¹ Close Rolls.² Patent Rolls.

himself is spoken of as *custos*, probably in right of his position as sheriff. Sometime after the Battle of Lewes, Ralph Basset of Drayton was made keeper of the peace for the counties, for on March 7th, 1265, it is he who delivers them to the new sheriff, Robert de Grendon.

After the fall of Simon de Montfort nothing more is heard of keepers of the peace till Edward I. was firmly on the throne. Then by the statute of 1277 *conservatores pacis* were to be chosen by the whole county, under the king's writ directed to the sheriff: but there is no trace in Staffordshire of this having been acted on. Among the Patent Rolls one finds, indeed, May 27th, 1280, a commission to Roger de Sprengheoes to enquire touching vagabonds in counties Staffordshire and Salop, but the peace and vagabonds were not so nearly associated then as they came to be later.

We find, too, a *custos* in the appointment, not election, of Bogo (Bevis) de Knovil, constable of Carnarvon, to the custody of the peace, especially during the absence of the king from the realm, in Staffordshire, Salop, Hereford, and Worcestershire, July 30th, 1297,¹ but this can hardly have been the elected *conservator* contemplated in the statute of 1277.

More, indeed a whole series of *custodes pacis*, commence with the accession of Edward II. But again they are not at first *conservatores* and are apparently appointed throughout the reign, not elected.

To be *custodes pacis*, during the king's absence beyond the seas :—

24 Dec. 1307² ... William de Stafford (Knight, of Sandon).
William Trumwyn (Knight, of Cannock).
The sheriff (Roger Trumwyn, Knight, of Sandon).

To be *conservatores pacis*, during pleasure :—

17 Mar. 1308² ... the same as before—Stafford, Trumwyn, and the sheriff.
1 Ap. 1310¹... ... the same as before, but the sheriff was then either Hugh de Audley the elder, or Hugh de Croft.
13 Ap. 1314² ... William de Stafford.
William Trumwyn.
5 June, 1314² ... the same and William de Mere (Knight, of Maer).

¹ Close Rolls.

² Patent Rolls.

- Godfrey de Foljambe, jun. h.
 Nicholas de Beek (Knight, of Hopton and Tean, *d.* 1369). a, b, c, d, e, f, g.
 Hugh de Wrottesleye (Knight, of Wrottesley, *d.* 1381). b.
 John de Perton (Knight, of Perton, *d.* 1388-9). b.
 James de Pye (Knight). f.
 John de Swynnerton of Hilton (*d.* 1379). d, e, f, g, h.
 John de Middelton. g, h.
 John de Draycote (Knight, of Draycote).¹ h, k.
 John de Darlston (Knight, of Darlston, *d. c.* 1382). k, l, m.
 Roger de Aston (Knight, of Heywood, *d.* 1361). a.
 John de Delves (of Apedale, etc.). c.
 Robert de Shareshul. b.
 William Banastre of Hadenhale. c.
 John de la Lee. d, e, f.
 Thomas Gegge of Neuport.
 John de Allerwas. g.
 John de la Pole (of Hartington). b, k, l, m.
 Simon de Litchfeld. h, k, l, m.
 Adomar de Litchfeld. m.

(ROYAL JUSTICES.)

- Richard de Somerford (*d.* 1361). a.
 John de Brumpton. b.
 John Moubray. g, h.
 William de Wakebrigge. g.
 William Tauk. h, k.
 Walter Perlee. k, l.
 David Hammere. l, m.
 Roger de Kirke-ton. m.

RICHARD II. (1377-99).

a=2 July, 1377	f=28 May, 1386	l=23 Feb. 1392
b=26 May, 1380	g=15 Aug. 1386	m=18 June, 1394
c=20 Aug. 1380	h=15 July, 1389	n=12 Nov. 1397
d=8 Mar. 1382	i=28 June, 1390	
e=21 Dec. 1382	k=6 Dec. 1391	

- John (of Gaunt), Duke of Lancaster. b, c, e, 24 Dec. 1390, k, l, m, n.
 Henry, Duke of Hereford (afterwards Henry IV). n.
 John de Beaufort, Marquis of Dorset. n.
 Hugh, Earl of Stafford (*d.* 1386). a, b, c, d, e, f, g.

¹ He was married to Joan, daughter of Sir John Stafford of Bramshall.

- Edmund, Earl of Stafford (*d.* 1403). n.
 Thomas Despencer, Earl of Gloucester. n.
 Nicholas de Audley (Baron Audley 1386, *d.* 1391). f, g.
 Ralph Basset of Drayton (*d.* 1390). a, b, c, d, e, f, g.
 Richard de Stafford (Baron of Pipe and Clifton, Knight, *d.* 1380). a, b.
 Richard de Duddeley. b, c.
 Nicholas de Stafford (Knight, of Throwley, *j.u.*, *d.* 1394). a, b, c, d, e, f, g,
 h, i, k, l.
 Ralph de Ferrers (Knight). a.
 Robert de Ferrers (Knight, Lord F. of Chartley, *b.* 1361, *d.* 1411). d.
 Humphrey de Stafford (Knight, of Bramshall and Amblecot). e.
 John de Verlon (Knight, of Darlaston, *d.* 1382-3). a, d, e.
 Walter le Biome (Knight, of Barton Blount,¹ co. Derby, slain 1403). b, c, e, f, g.
 Thomas Neupert. b, c, e, f, g, i, l, m.
 John Basset, of Chetele (Knight, *d.* 1410-1). d, e.
 Richard de Peeshale (Knight, of Horsley, and of Chetwynd *j.u.*, *d. c.* 1387).
 d, e.
 Adam de Peeshale (Knight, of Weston-under-Lizeard, *d.* 1419). d, e.
 Thomas de Aston (Knight, of Heywood, *d. c.* 1412). d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m.
 Thomas de Stafford (Knight, of Sheyle, co. Leic., *d.* 1394-1400). d, e.
 William Sharesull (Knight, of Patshan, *d.* 1400). m, n.
 Robert Fraunceys (Knight, of Foremark, co. Derby, *d.* 1417-20). n.
 Simon de Lichefeld. b, c, d, e, f, g.
 Aylmer (Taverner) de Lichefeld. a, b, c, d, e, f, g.
 John de Knyghtleye the elder, *vice* A. de Lichefeld, 25 May, 1378. b, c, e.
 John, son of Robert de Knyghtleye. b, c, e.
 John de Knyghtleye of Wirgle. f, g.
 William de Haloghton (of Haughton, *d.* 1382). d, e.
 John de Hinkle (of Stoke by Stone). d, e.
 Robert de Knyghtleye. d, e.
 Richard Hampton. e.
 Robert Burgiloun. f, g, h, i, k, l, m.
 John Knyghtleye the younger. g, h, i, k, m, n.
 William Chetwynd (Knight, of Ingestre, *d.* 1395). h, i, k, l.
 John Delves (*d.* 1393-4). k, l.
 Nicholas Bradshawe (J.P. Northants also). n.

(ROYAL JUSTICES.)

- Roger de Kirketon (Justice of Oyer in Yorks). a.
 David Hanmere (Justice of the King's Bench). a, b, c, d, e.
 John de la Pole (of Hartington, Justice of N. Wales). a.
 Robert Tresilian¹ (Chief Justice of the King's Bench and knighted 1381,
 hanged by the Lord's Appellant, 1388). b, c.
 Robert Bealknap¹ (Chief Justice of the Common Bench 1374, knighted 1385,
 banished in 1388, *d.* 1400). e, g.

¹ See *D.N.B.*

Robert Cherlton (Chief Justice of the Common Bench). g, h, i, k, l, m.
 John Hill (Justice of the King's Bench). h, i, k, l, m, n.
 Hugh Huls (Justice of the King's Bench). n.
 William Frodesham (Chamberlain of Carnarvon). n.

HENRY IV. AND HENRY V. (1399-1423).

a=28 Nov. 1399	e=12 June, 1412	i=4 Dec. 1417
b=16 May, 1401	f=21 Mar. 1413	k=8 July, 1420
c=6 Feb. 1406	g=16 Nov. 1413	l=12 Feb. 1422
d=20 Feb. 1407	h=6 July, 1415	

Richard, Earl of Warwick. g, h.
 Edmund, Earl of Stafford (slain at Shrewsbury, 1403). a, b.
 Thomas Nevyll of Halomshire (Lord of Alton, Treasurer of England). c, d.
 John Talbot of Halomshire (Lord of Alton). e, f, g, h.
 John Touchet (Lord Audley). c, d.
 Hugh Burnel (Lord Burnel). g, h, c, d, e, f, g, h.
 Hugh Stafford (Knight, of co. Essex, brother of Edmund). d, e, f, g, h.
 John Bagot (Knight, of Blithfield, *d.* 1437). e, i, k, l.
 Thomas Aston (Knight, of Heywood). a, b.
 Robert Fraunceys (Knight, of Foremarl, co. Derby). a, b, c, d, i.
 Richard Vernon¹ (Knight, of Harlston, etc., and Speaker). i, k.
 Nicholas Montgomery the younger (Knight, of Marston, co. Derby). k, l.
 Robert Bapthorpe, chiv. (Controller of the Household). l.
 Thomas Griseley, chiv. (of Drakelow). l.
 Roger Flore, Chief Steward of the Duchy of Staffs. i, k, l.
 Robert Mauveysyn (of Mauveysyn Ridwale). i.
 William Walshale (of Rushall, *d.* 1415-6). e, f.
 John Blount (K.G. 1413).¹ e, f.
 Thomas Harcourt (Knight, of Ellenhall and Stanton Harcourt, *d.* 1420).
 g, h.
 John Delves. g, h, k.
 Richard Lone (of Bentley). g, h, i, k, l.
 Hugh Erdeswick (of Sandon). h, k, l.
 William del Lee. h.
 William Lee of Podmore. i.
 William Lee of Aston. i.
 Nicholas Bradshawe. a, b, c, d.
 John Knyghtle (*d.* 1416-7). a, b, c, d, e, f, g.
 Richard Knyghtle (of Fawsley). l.
 John Whethales. a, b, c, d.
 William Slepe. a.
 Thomas Greneway (of Greenway Bank, Tunstall). e, f.
 John Preston. i.

¹ See *D.N.B.*

(ROYAL JUSTICES.)

- John Hill (Justice of the King's Bench and of the Common Bench).
a, b, c.
Hugh Holes or Huls (Justice of the King's Bench). a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h.
Roger Leche. c, e, f, g, h.
Roger Horton (Justice of the King's Bench). d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l.
Thomas Heuster. d, e, f, g, i, k, l.
William Babbington¹ (Chief Justice of the Common Bench 1423, and Chief
Baron of the Exchequer 1419, *d.* 1455). k.
John Jurnak Justice in Hereford, Oxon, Salop and Worcester). l.

HENRY VI. (1423-60).

a=7 July, 1423	g=20 Nov. 1441	n=22 Ap. 1454
b=20 July, 1424	h=12 Nov. 1442	o=16 July, 1454
c=24 Mar. 1430	i=6 Dec. 1446	p=22 Jan. 1456
d=22 May, 1430	k=1 July, 1449	q=9 May, 1456
e=.....1432	l=20 Nov. 1453	r=24 Feb. 1459
f=21 Feb. 1439	m=14 Dec. 1453	s=18 Mar. 1460

- Richard, Duke of York. c, g, q, r.
Richard (Nevil), Earl of Warwick.¹ n, o, p, q, r.
Richard (Beauchamp), Earl of Warwick. c, d, e, f.
William (de la Pole), Earl of Suffolk, Chief Steward of the Duchy. f, k.
Humphrey, Earl of Stafford.¹ c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
John (Talbot), Earl of Shrewsbury. a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, r, s.
William, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. k.
R., Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
William Lovell, chiv. (7th Lord Lovell, *d.* 1454).
James Audley, chiv. (Lord Audley, slain, 1459). a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l,
m, n, o, p, q, r.
John Sutton of Duddeley, chiv.¹ (Lord Dudley). d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o,
p, q, r, s.
Edmund Ferrers, chiv. (Lord Ferrers of Chartley, *d.* 1435). c, d, e.
William Ferrers, chiv. (Lord Ferrers of Chartley, *d.* 1449-50). g, h, i, k,
l (*sic*).
Humphrey Stafford, chiv., son and heir of Humphrey, Duke of Bucking-
ham. q.
Nicholas Montgomery, chiv., the younger. a, b.
John Bagot, chiv. (*d.* 1437). a, b, c, d, e.
Richard Vernon, chiv.¹ (of Harlston and Haddon, *d.* 1451). c, d.
William Vernon, chiv. (of the same). s.
Roger de Aston, chiv. (of Heywood, *d.* 1467). c, d, e, f, g, h, i.
Sampson Meverell, chiv. (of Throwley, *d.* 1459-69). k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r.

¹ See *D.N.B.*

- John Tyrell, chiv., Chief Steward of the Duchy in Staffs. (Treasurer of the Household). c, d, e.
 Roger Flore, Chief Steward of the Duchy in Staffs. a, b.
 Hugh Erdeswick (of Sandon). a.
 Richard Lone (of Bentley). a, b, c, d, e.
 William Lee (of Aston). a, b, c, d, e, f, g.
 Richard Knyghtle. a, b.
 John Harpur (of Rushall). c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 John Hampton (of Stourton, *d.* 1472). f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 Thomas Arbiter (of Longdon). f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 Robert Waitereve (of Burton by Stafford, Teller of the Exchequer). f, g, h, i, k, l.
 William Comberford (of Comberford). h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 Thomas Wolseley (of Wolseley). m, n, o, p, q.
 Roger Draycot (of Kewesley). m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 Thomas Everdon. p, q.

(ROYAL JUSTICES.)

- John Martyn (Justice of the Common Bench). a.
 John Juyn (Chief Justice of the Bench and Chief Baron). a.
 John Hals (Justice of the Common and of the King's Bench). b, c, d.
 Thomas Rolf (a Justice also in co. Essex). b, c, d, e.
 William Westbury (Justice of the King's Bench). e, f, g, h.
 John Hody¹ (Chief Justice of the King's Bench and knighted, 1440, *d.* 1441). f.
 William Goderede (Justice). g.
 William Yelverton¹ (Justice of the King's Bench 1413, knighted, 1461, *d.* ?1472). h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q.
 Richard Byngam (Justice of the King's Bench). i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s.
 Richard Choke¹ (King's Serjeant-at-Law, 1453, Justice of Common Pleas, 1461, knighted, 1464, *d.* 1483). r, s.

EDWARD IV., EDWARD V., RICHARD III. (1460-85).

a=8 July, 1461	h=29 Mar. 1469	p=23 Feb. 1478
b=11 Dec. 1463	i=4 Dec. 1470	q=11 Nov. 1480
c=12 Feb. 1464	k=8 July, 1471	r=26 June, 1483
d=15 July, 1464	l=2 July, 1472	s=30 July, 1483
e=3 June, 1465	m=4 Ap. 1473.	t=5 Dec. 1483
f=18 Feb. 1467	n=12 Feb. 1474	u=18 Feb. 1484
g=16 Nov. 1468	o=10 Nov. 1475	w=13 Mar. 1485

- J. Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, w.
 George, Duke of Clarence.¹ g, h, i, k, l, m, n, o.

¹ See *D.N.B.*

1702.

- Thomas (Thynne), Viscount Weymouth (of Longleat, *d.* 1714).
 Clotworthy (Skeffington), Viscount Mazarine (of Fisherwick, *d.* 1714).
 William, Bishop of Worcester.
 John, Bishop of Lichfield.
 William, Lord Pagett, *Custos Rotulorum*.
 Edward, Lord Dudley and Ward.
 John Gray, Esq.
 Henry Pagett, Esq. (M.P., heir of Wm., Lord Pagett).
 William Ward, Esq. (heir of Edward Lord Ward).
 Sir Thomas Pershall (of Horseley, *d.* 1712).
 Sir Charles Holt (of Aston Manor).
 Sir John Loveson Gore (of Trentham, M.P.).
 Sir Walter Bagot (*d.* 1704).
 Sir Edward Littleton (of Pillaton, *d.* 1709).
 Sir Charles Wolseley (of Wolseley, *d.* 1714).
 Sir Thomas Lawley.
 Sir William Bowyer (of Knyppersley, *d.* 1702).
 Sir Walter Wrottesley (of Wrottesley, *d.* 1712).
 Sir Brian Broughton (of Broughton).
 Sir Michael Biddolph (of Elmhurst, M.P., *d.* 1718).
 Sir John Chetwode (of Oakley, *cr.* Bart. 1700, *d.* 1733) baronets.
 Sir Edward Hungerford, K.B.
 Sir Simon Degg.
 Sir Henry Gough.
 Sir Charles Skrimshire (of Norbur, *d.* 1709).
 Sir John Turton (of Alrewas, a Baron of the Exchequer, *d.* 1704),
 knights.
 Edward Birch, Serjeant-at-law.
 Joseph Girdler, Serjeant-at-law (M.P., Tamworth).
 Edward Littleton.
 Thomas Broughton.
 Jervais Peirpoint.
 Rowland Okeover (of Okeover, succd. 1692, *d.* 1730).
 George Rodney Bridges.
 Thomas Lane (of Bentley).
 Robert Leveson (of Wolverhampton).
 Rowland Cotton (of Crakemarsh, M.P.).
 Humphrey Wirley.
 Mathew Floyer (of Hintes).
 Henry Vernon the elder.
 Michael Noble (of Chorley, *b.* 1650, *d.* 1708).
 William Parker (of Parkhall, ? *d.* 1701).
 Ralph Snead (of Keele, *d.* 1703).
 John Chetwind (of Rudge and Ingestre, M.P., *d.* 1702).
 Philip Foley.

1702.

Thomas Foley the younger (M.P.).
 John Lawton.
 Walter Moseley.
 Philip Pargiter (of Mauveysin Ridware).
 Philip Hollins (of Mosseley, *d.* 1724, aged 80).
 John Dickins (of Leaton-in-Bobington).
 George Vernon.
 Francis Eld (of Seighford).
 John Pershall.
 Thomas Whitby (of Great Heywood).
 Henry Every.
 Ducy Morston (of Engleton, *cr.* Lord Ducie, 1720).
 Richard Dyott (of Lichfield, M.P.).
 George Parker.
 Isaac Hawkins (of Burton-on-Trent, barrister).
 William Cotton (of Cakemarsh).
 William Walmisley (M.P., Lichfield).
 James Wood (of Uttoxeter).
 John Newton (of King's Bromley).
 Edward Baggett (heir to his father, M.P., *sucd.* 1704, *d.* 1712).
 James Rudyard.
 Henry Vernon the younger.
 Peter Persehouse (of Gynshall-in-Seegley).¹
 Richard Pyott (of Streethay).
 John Hoo (of Bradley, Serjeant-at-law, *d.* 1726) Esquires.

¹ He was Serjeant-at-Arms to the House of Lords.

REVIEWS.

BY THE HON. SECRETARY.

Calendar of the Inquisitions Post Mortem. Vols. V, VI, VII,
1307-1335.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1908, 9, 10.

The county historian is bound to regret that these calendars omit altogether the details of the manors and the names of the jurors. This last is a matter of great importance during the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I., when the assigning of dates to charters and deeds depends so largely on the witnesses and on a knowledge of the period when each witness was in active public life.

However, we have printed in full the parts of these inquisitions which refer to tenants of Staffordshire lands, and need not therefore consider each of these volumes in great detail.

The admirable indexes, in which are embodied a vast amount of valuable identification work on the part of the compilers, are especially useful in this series on account of the index of subjects. Here we find collected the old English words used; from which a long glossary might be compiled. It will be remembered that in the old theyn-lands in north Staffordshire, Audley, Tunstall, etc., two ancient customary payments survived in 1307, and were still to be found in the seventeenth century. This was the triennial payment of *kilgh* or *stuth*. We may note the existence of some payment called *kilgh*, *kylgh*, *kelf*, *kilw*, *kyltol*, during those years at Tenenham (Co. Mon.), Ewyas Lacy (Co. Hereford), Wemme (Co. Salop), at Tylney, and at Haverfordwest; while *stoth*, or *stuth*, is paid at Thorney (Co. Notts.), at Bolingbroke (Co. Linc.), and at Denstone, Stramshall, Fenton, Biddulph, and Bucknall in Co. Stafford. It may be observed that all these places where *kilw* or *stoth* was paid in Staffordshire, were described in Domesday Book under the head *Terræ Tainorum Regis*—theyn-lands. *Stoth* or *stot* is easily confounded with Scot, "c" and "t" being undistinguishable in old writing; but the letters are distinct in the seventeenth century and then the word is unmistakably *stoth*. *Churchscot* and *sheriffscot* must be distinct; and possibly *sheriffstooth*, which we find in the form *shirrevysthuth* in counties Leicester, Lincoln, Yorks and Bedford is from yet another root. *Kilgh* is Welsh. It is a payment for the support of the household of the lord equivalent to the *firma unius noctis*.

The same subject index gives a list of strange Christian names, and one is pleased to find a solitary George existing in Co. Wexford six hundred years ago. It is satisfactory to discover that the name can claim an Irish as well as a German origin. But Femmota and Hugelina, Biblia and Roberga might be resented now by young ladies and would authorize a grudge against eccentric godparents. Mazelina sounds like an early advertisement, but she was an heiress from the East Riding.

The services, too, by which lands were held make strange reading when collected in the index, and would have complicated the coronation ceremony. Alice de Vere held an Essex manor by the service of guarding the Queen's chamber at the coronation; Guy de Beauchamp placed a cloth on the King's table on Christmas day; Reginald de Grey held Hemingford, and in return found a spindle and thread for sewing the King's pavilion; while Henry de Clare rendered two capons whenever the King crossed his doorstep. Others paid their quitrents in truck, rendering white spurs or gilt spurs; red, sparrow, mewed or sur-hawks; garlands of roses or clove gillie flowers; a silver needle, a cap of peacock's feathers, gloves, white, or grey, or buckskin. Even a root of ginger or four horse shoes served, though the modern man might have some difficulty in cooking the "maupigernoun" in Westminster Abbey, or handling in to the Exchequer 20 pies of fresh herrings, or 200 pearman pears and two quires of wine. William Russell of Bradwell Wood had to conduct the King from Blythford to Wrineford when there was war in Wales, but we protest that the service of the Lord of Broseley was not "sitting down at the first dish" at the Prior of Wenlock's table, but carving it, *scindendi* not *sedendi*.

Of all these inquisitions it is the proofs of age that afford both the genealogist and the student of human nature most satisfaction. The various reasons given by the witnesses for remembering that Ralph or John was born 21 years ago provide a very realistic mine of information for the social historian, and as the ages of witnesses as well as of the principal character are given, we obtain a regular series of somewhat dubious birth certificates with each inquisition. How accurate these entered ages were I cannot say; were there really, for instance, three John Bassets, one of Co. Rutland, *b.* 1285; one of Co. Sussex, *b.* 1282; and one of Co. Wils. *b.* 1272, whose wife Alice died in 1310, or were they all one and all doubtful about their age when they had passed 50 years?

The Bassets are almost too ubiquitous—Robert in Co. Dorset was aged 50 in 1318; Thomas of Netherhaddon in Co. Derby, *d.* 1329, leaving a son and heir, John, aged 5; while as for Ralphs, we have Ralph Basset of Drayton, lord of Nether Melcombe, Dorset, of Colston Basset and Wyverton, Notts; Ralph Basset of Sapcot, lord of a dozen manors in Warwick, Leicester and Lincoln, and of Cheadle in Co. Staffs, 1314-6; and also Ralph Basset of Welledon, lord of Blatherwick, Woodford and Rishton in Northants, of Holewell and Kettleby in Leicester, and of Madeley Alfac in Staffs. This last succeeded his father Richard after 1314, and came of age in 1321, when we learn that he was born at Huntingfield

in Suffolk, his mother being Joan, daughter of Sir Roger de Huntingfield; and William le Keu knew it because he "went to Norwich to seek a doctor for the said Ralph's mother, and they came to Huntingfield on the day of his birth." From the Grey inquisitions we learn that John and Ralph were sons of Lord Ralph Basset of Drayton in 1312, that in the same year Heoise, the mother of the same lord, was married to Thomas de Barkely, and that she died in 1327.

Elsewhere we find Sir John Giffard, aged 50 in 1317, giving evidence in Co. Devon; Roger de Bromley, lord of Rowton, Salop, dying in 1318, and leaving William his son and heir, aged 26; John de Arderne, aged 50, had dined at Blakenwick 21 years before 1318; while of Nicholas de Beek, aged 50 in 1333, we learn that in 1312 he was of the household of Sir Louis of France and was sent into England to make provision against the coming of the said Sir Louis to Westminster at the time of the birth of King Edward III.

Fulk de Penebrug, lord of Tonge, died in 1326, leaving a widow, Maud, and a son, Fulk, aged 15; and Hugh de Meynil died in 1333, leaving as his son and heir Hugh, aged 31, another heir who afterwards became a great Staffordshire landowner. We may add to the Audley pedigree that the proof of age of Jas., Lord Audley of Heley, makes his birth take place at Knesale, Co. Notts, on Monday next after Circumcision last, *i.e.*, 2nd December, 1313, and Sir James de Audeleve his kinsman, John de Crumbewell and Agnes de Mosers lifted him from the sacred font.

A new castle is discovered for Staffordshire in the inquisition on John le Strange of Cheswardine in 1330. John de Leybourn, son of Lucy sister of the said John, aged 30, inherits lands from John, but he does not get Cheswardine and its "ruined castle," which reverts to Mayo, son of Fulk l'Estrange. It is also unknown to the reviewer in what manner a James de Stafford came to have an interest in Aston Manor by Birmingham, in which he enfeofs a tenant in about the year 1282.

We would urge in conclusion that the references in the index be made in future to the page and not to the number of the inquisition. This latter practice leads to much unnecessary waste of time.

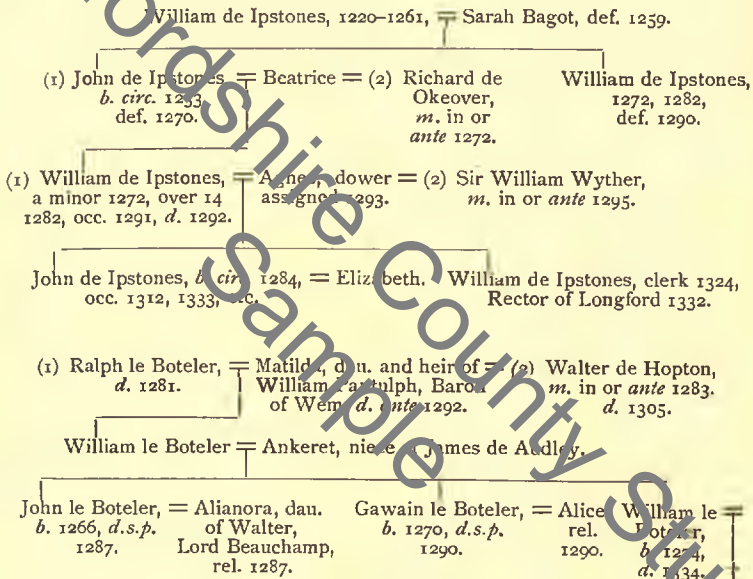
*Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Hen. VIII,
Vol. XXI, Part i and ii, 1546.*

H.M. Stationery Office, 1908.

When the Earl of Surrey, in command of the English Army in France, writes to ask Paget to get the King, as head of the Church, to allow him some relaxation of the Lenten fasts, and when we see Paget consulting the King and sending back the gracious permission without a smile, it gives one some idea of the nightmare that the last few years of Henry's life must have been for England. Henry burnt and beheaded both sides with great

which the guardianship in chivalry would continue). It is very difficult to believe that it can have been the same William de Ipstones who in July, 1272, before Edward I. came to the throne, was a party to a fine on buying up the claim of Beatrice de Okeover to dower out of lands in Derrington (Vol. IV, p. 254), and therefore was presumably then of full age.

Our suggestion is that William de Ipstones and Sarah Bagot, or more probably their eldest son John, made over the Derrington part of the Bagot inheritance to William, a younger son of William and Sarah and younger brother of John, and on this hypothesis all difficulties seem to us to be removed. The position is rather a complicated one, but perhaps it will be made clearer by the following pedigrees:—



This last (Boteler) pedigree is taken substantially from Eyton's Shropshire, IX, 169-176. It is perhaps worth noting that in the Ipstones pedigree the name William seems to have recurred in every generation, either as the head of the family or as a younger son.

11, STONE BUILDINGS,
 LINCOLN'S INN,
 16th December, 1911.

Yours truly,
 C. G. O. BRIDGEMAN.

Staffordshire County Studies
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Sample

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