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ALNWICK CASTLE.

A SERIES OF

PICTURESQUE VIEWS OF

SCOTTS

OF

Noblemen and Gentlemen

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.



VOL. II.

1880

LONDON:

WILLIAM MACKENZIE, 69, LUDGATE HILL,  
EDINBURGH AND DUBLIN.

A SERIES OF

PICTURESQUE VIEWS OF

SEATS

OF

THE NOBLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

WITH DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL LETTERPRESS.

EDITED BY

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AUTHOR OF A "HISTORY OF BRITISH BIRDS," DEDICATED BY PERMISSION TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

VOL. II.

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# THE COUNTY SEATS.

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## ALNWICK CASTLE,

ALNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND.—DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

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HERE was, as is supposed, a Roman fortress, for, writes Grose, "when a part of the castle keep was taken down, under the present walls were discovered the foundations of other buildings, which lay in a different direction from the present, and some of the stones appeared to have Roman mouldings. The fretwork round the arch leading to the inner court is evidently of Saxon architecture, and yet this was probably not the ancient entrance, for, under the Flag Tower, before that part was taken down and rebuilt, was the appearance of a gateway that had been walled up, directly fronting the present outward gateway into the town."

Later on it belonged to

WILLIAM TYSON, a Saxon baron slain at the battle of Hastings, whereupon his daughter and her lands were both bestowed by William the Conqueror upon

IVO DE VESCY, one of his companions in arms. The last of his race,

WILLIAM DE VESCY, left it by will to

ANTHONY BEC, Bishop of Durham, in trust for his son, then a minor, but after seven years, namely, in the year 1310, the bishop sold it to

HENRY, LORD PERCY, predecessor of the present family.

This grand baronial castle was besieged in 1093 by Malcolm the Third, King of Scotland, but he being unexpectedly attacked by Robert de Moubray, a potent Norman baron, his army was totally defeated, Canmore himself being killed in the battle. In memorial of this event a cross was erected on the spot where he fell, which, after having fallen into decay, was restored in the year 1774 by the then Duchess of Northumberland, Her Grace being herself descended from Malcolm through his daughter Maude, Queen of Henry the First of England.

## ALNWICK CASTLE.

In 1174 it was again laid siege to by William the Third of Scotland, who was taken prisoner; which is also commemorated by a monument.

In the lapse of ages afterwards the wear and tear of time worked their natural ravages on this ancient pile, which had stood so long the "battle and the breeze," when, on the death of

JOCELINE PERCY, eleventh EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND, his heiress,

LADY ELIZABETH PERCY, became in her own right Baroness Percy, and, by her second (or third?) marriage, to Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset, had an only surviving child and heiress,

LADY ELIZABETH SEYMOUR, who wedded, in 1740,

SIR HUGH SMITHSON, BART., ancestor of the Dukes of Northumberland.

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The family of Smithson is stated to derive from John Smithson, living in 1446; that of Percy descended from William de Percy, one of the Norman companions of the Conqueror in 1066.





BEAUDESERT.

# BEAUDESERT,

NEAR LONGDON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY.

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BEAUDESERT in former times belonged to the Bishops of Lichfield, but was granted by King Edward the Sixth to Sir William Paget, Knight, ancestor, in the female line, of the present family. Quaint old Fuller gives the following account of him:—"William Paget, Knight, was born in the city (London,) of honest parents, who gave him pious and learned education, whereby he was enabled to work out his own advancement. Privy Counsellor to four successive princes, which, though of different persuasions, agreed all in this—to make much of an able and trusty Minister of State. 1. King Henry VIII. made him his secretary, and employed him ambassador to Charles the Emperor and Francis King of France. 2. King Edward VI. made him chancellor of the duchy, comptroller of his household, and created him Baron of Beaudesert. 3. Queen Mary made him keeper of her Privy Seal. 4. Queen Elizabeth dispensed with his attendance at court in favour of his great age, and highly respected him. Indeed, Duke Dudley in the days of King Edward ignominiously took from him the garter of the order, quarrelling that by his extraction he was not qualified for the same. But if all be true which is reported of this Duke's parentage, he of all men was most unfit to be active in such an employment. But no wonder if his pride snatched a garter from a subject, when ambition endeavoured to deprive two princes of a crown. This was restored unto him by Queen Mary, and that with ceremony and all solemn accents of honour, as to a person 'who by his prudence had merited much of the nation.' He died very old Anno 1569; and his corps (as I remember) are buried in Lichfield, and not in the vault under the church of Drayton, in Middlesex, where the rest of the family, I cannot say *lye* (as whose coffins are erected) but are very completely reposed in a peculiar posture which I meet not with elsewhere."

The mansion is finely placed on the side of an eminence, well sheltered by rising grounds, and environed by woods and timber.

It is of brick and stone, with two projecting wings.

It was erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but has since then had many alterations and additions.

Within the house is a noble gallery ninety-seven feet in length, by seventeen in width.

The dining-room is large, with a vaulted ceiling, and otherwise richly ornamented. The drawing-room is fifty-two feet long, by twenty-seven wide.

The library contains a valuable collection of books, and some manuscripts, and among the latter a curious Register of Burton Abbey.

The park abounds with deer, and the walks and pleasure-grounds on all sides of the house are considered to fully justify the title of Beaudesert.

Dr. Plot, the historian of Staffordshire, gives an account of some repeating echoes which are to be heard here, and says, "they are as good, or perhaps better than any in Oxfordshire; there being one at Beaudesert, in a little park about the middle of the path that leads from the *pale* to the *house*, that from a treble object answers distinctly three times."

On the top of the hill behind the house there are traces of a large encampment, called Castle Hill. "It is elevated so high above all the country near, that it commands the horizon almost all round, whence, it is said, may be seen the nine several counties of Stafford, Derby, Leicester, Warwick, Worcester, Salop, Chester, Montgomery, and Kent." This last-named, however, I conceive there must be some mistake about.

Cannock Chase, or Cannock Forest, is on the border of the estate, and here is found the cannel coal of which Dr. Plot writes:—"The cannel coale is the hardest, and of so close a texture that it will take a passable polish, as may be seen in the choir of the Cathedral Church of Lichfield, which in great part is paved lozeng, black and white (as other churches with marble) with cannel coale for the black, and alabaster for the white, both plentifully found in this country; which, when kept clean, so well represent black and white marble, that to an incurious heedless eye they seem to be the same. It turns like ivory into many pretty knacks, such as ink-boxes, candlesticks, etc. They cut it also into salts, standishes, and carve coats of arms in it; witness that of the Right Hon. William Lord Paget in the gallery of his stately seat at Beaudesert. This coal is dug in the park adjoining, also belonging to his lordship, about twenty, thirty, or sometimes forty fathoms deep, lying between other beds of a softer kind, and is the best in Staffordshire, or anywhere else that we know of, except that in Lancashire, which (they say) has no grain, and therefore no cleaving, as this will doe, upon which account esteemed somewhat better for making such utensils as were mentioned above; and yet this at Beaudesert will work so very well that the King's Majestie's head is said to have been cut in it by a carver at Lichfield, resembling him well." The name of cannel coal is considered to be equivalent to candle coal, from the light flame which it emits; but I cannot help thinking that it comes of the same origin as the word Cannock, the place where it is found, unless indeed on the other hand, being of very ancient extraction, it may have given the name to the locality, abbreviated from candle-coke into can-coke, and so Cannock.

The family of Paget, which descended from William Paget, one of the Sergeants at Mace of the City of London, but is now extinct in the male line, is derived paternally from the Right Reverend Lewis Bayley, Bishop of Bangor, tutor to King Charles the First, and Chaplain to his brother Henry Prince of Wales, son of King James the First.



BELVOIR CASTLE.

# BELVOIR CASTLE,

LEICESTERSHIRE, NEAR GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.—DUKE OF RUTLAND.

---

ROBERT DE TODENI, Standard-bearer to the Conqueror, was the original grantee of Belvoir, and erected a Norman fortress on the site of the present castle. His successors assumed the name of

ALBINI, and from them the place passed by descent to the family of LORD ROS, of Hamlake, whose eventual heiress, ELEANOR DE ROS, conveyed it by marriage to SIR ROBERT MANNERS, M.P., ancestor of the Earls and Dukes of Rutland and of Lord de Ros.

I cannot do better than transcribe the following account of the princely mansion of Belvoir:—

“It would be long to tell the various mutations that Belvoir Castle underwent before the erection of the present stately edifice. In the feudal times, in the Wars of the Roses, and in the troubled times of Charles I., it was frequently garrisoned; its commanding military position naturally rendering it a station of great importance. At the commencement of the present century, successive attempts at modernizing had nearly reduced the style and character of the castle to that of an ordinary hall. When the present noble Duke came to his majority one of his first objects was the rebuilding the castle of his ancestors, or rather, restoring it to its appropriate character. At an outlay of £200,000 this great work had nearly been completed in 1816, when, on the 26th. of October in that year, a fire broke out, which reduced the magnificent structure to a blackened ruin. Portions, however, of the castle escaped the devouring element, as the south-west and the south-east fronts, and the beautiful chapel. At the time of this conflagration the castle contained collections of works of art and *vertù* that could scarcely be surpassed by any private mansion in Europe. Many valuable pictures by the old masters were consumed, and much of the costly furniture destroyed.

To this brief sketch of the castle it is right to add some description of its accessories. At a short distance are the faint traces of the ruins of the Benedictine Priory of Belvoir, founded *temp.* Gi. Conquestoris. Below the castle rock begin romantic walks, leading through groves and thickets to the delightful pleasure-grounds. These grounds with all their appropriate adjuncts of statue, grotto, fountain, and bower, may be said to have been the creation of the late Duchess, to whose fine and exquisite taste they appear to be consecrated. A pillar, standing on her favourite

spot, bears a touching poetic tribute to her loveliness and worth. A gentle ascent from this charming *pleasaunce* leads to the family mausoleum, in which her earthly remains repose.

Mention ought to be made of the imposing effect which the castle has when viewed from any portion of the adjoining domain. In this it greatly surpasses Windsor. The rich masses of wood that flank it, its more numerous towers, and its more commanding site, combine indeed to give it a proud pre-eminence over all other English castles.

Belvoir Castle forms the subject of a remarkable Pindaric ode of great length, first printed in 1690, and reprinted in Nichols' 'Leicestershire.' It also forms the theme of a Latin poem of great merit, entitled 'Arx Belvoirina,' in a collection of the poems of Louth school by the Rev. Andrew Burnaby. The poet Crabbe, who held the neighbouring living of Muston, has also celebrated the castle and its inmates in his nervous strains."

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The family of the Duke of Rutland derives from Sir Robert de Manners, Knight, ancestor of Sir Robert de Manners, Knight, living in the reign of Edward the Second.



HATFIELD HOUSE.

# HATFIELD HOUSE,

HATFIELD, HERTFORDSHIRE.—MARQUIS OF SALISBURY.

---

IN consequence of Hatfield having been from time to time intimately connected with the lives of those who have occupied the most distinguished positions in the annals of our country, it has become of unusual interest. I cannot, however, do more than briefly allude to some of its more prominent historical associations.

Hatfield is a place of great antiquity, at one time forming part of the revenue of the Saxon kings. It remained in their possession until the time of

EDGAR, by whom it was bestowed upon the monks of Ely. They held the estate till the year 1109, when Henry the First converted the monastery of Ely into a bishopric. Hatfield then became the residence of the prelates of that see, and was hence distinguished by the title of Bishop's Hatfield.

During the reign of Henry the Seventh the house was rebuilt by Morton, Bishop of Ely, but shortly afterwards was exchanged by Bishop Godrick with Henry the Eighth.

It continued the property of the crown till the fourth year of James the First, when it was exchanged for the palace of Theobalds with

SIR ROBERT CECIL, whose successors have continued to hold it up to the present time.

EDWARD VI. made Hatfield his residence during his father's reign, and from it he was conducted to the throne.

ELIZABETH also kept her state here for the last few months of Edward's reign, and again under the guardianship of Sir Thomas Pope, during the four years preceding her accession to the throne, and at the death of her sister she was proclaimed queen before the gates of Hatfield.

Elizabeth's court here appears to have been attended with magnificent displays, one of which is thus described by a contemporary writer:—"In Shrovetide 1556 Sir Thomas Pope made the Ladie Elizabeth all at his own costes a great and rich maskinge in the great halle at Hatfelde: when the pageants were marvelously furnished. There were there twelve minstrels antickly disguised; with forty-six or more gentlemen and ladies, many of them knights or nobles and ladies of honour, aparelled in crimsin satten embrothered uppon with wrethes of golde, and garnished with bordures of hanging perle. And the devise of a castell of clothe of gold, sett with pomegranates about the battlements, with shields of knights hanging therefrom,



and six knights in rich harneis turneyed. At night, the cuppboard in the halle was of twelve stages, mainlie furnished with garnish of gold and silver vessels and a banket of seventie dishes, and after a voidde of spices and suttleties with thirty spyse plates, all at the chardgis of Sir Thomas Pope; at the next day the play of 'Holophornes;' but the Queen Mary percase misliked these folleries, as by her letters to Sir Thomas Pope hit did appear, and so their disguinge was ceased."

The house as it now stands, or nearly so, was built by Sir Robert Cecil in the year 1611; he did not, however, long survive the completion of this work, for he died the next year, worn out with business and anxiety.

The following account of the mansion is given by Clutterbuck in his "History and Antiquities of the County of Hertford:"—"This house, which is a fine specimen of the domestic architecture of the period in which it was erected, is situated in a park of considerable extent, watered by the River Lea, and sheltered on the north by stately avenues of elms and oaks of venerable growth. The building is constructed of brick and stone, in the shape of an oblong, surmounted by a lofty clock, with wings projecting from the south front, flanked at their corners with square towers. Along the whole length of the front runs a Doric collonade supporting a gallery, divided into two equal parts by a frontispiece of three stories, in the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders. In the third story of this frontispiece is a stone shield, on which are sculptured the arms of Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, with their quarterings, encircled by a garter, and supported by two lions, underneath which is the family motto, 'Sero sed Serio,' and above, in the open balustrade which runs along the top of the front, under the crest and coronet, is the date 1611.

The interior of the mansion is laid out in a style of magnificence corresponding with its exterior. On the right of the principal entrance there is a spacious and lofty hall, furnished on its eastern side with a minstrels' gallery, enriched with carved pilasters and panels, and set with figures of beasts and grotesque ornaments characteristic of the fashion of the times in which it was erected."

Hatfield House continues to sustain its reputation for being honoured with the presence of royalty, inasmuch as Queen Victoria was a visitor here in 1846, and in 1867 the Queen of Holland became the guest of the Marquis of Salisbury.

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The family of Cecil derives from Richard Cyssel, an officer in attendance at the court of Henry the Eighth.



HAMPTON COURT.

# HAMPTON COURT,

NEAR LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.—ARKWRIGHT.

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THE descent of this ancient place is as follows:—

The first structure was erected in the reign of Henry the Fourth, (by whom the first stone is recorded to have been laid,) by

SIR ROWLAND LENTHALL, Master of the Wardrobe to His Majesty, and who married Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of Richard Fitz-Alan, K.G., Earl of Arundel, Warren, and Surrey, and the house is said to have been furnished with spoils from the field of Agincourt. Upon his death the estate devolved on females, his cousins, and after being sold to

LORD BURFORD, (CORNEWALL,) it afterwards became, by purchase, the property of SIR HUMPHREY CONINGSBY, Knight, one of the Justices of the Court of King's Bench in the reign of Henry the Eighth. He left by his wife Cicely, daughter and co-heiress of John Salwey, Esq., of Stanford, in Worcestershire, a son and heir,

HUMPHREY CONINGSBY, Esq., who had issue by his wife Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Inglefield, Knight, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, two sons and three daughters, of whom the surviving son and heir,

SIR THOMAS CONINGSBY, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth in 1591. He died May 30th., 1625, having married Philippa, daughter of Sir William Fitzwilliam, of Milton, in Northamptonshire, Lord Deputy of Ireland, and had ten children, of whom the youngest son,

FITZWILLIAM CONINGSBY, became next of Hampton Court, and was Sheriff of the County in 1627. He married Cicely, daughter of Henry Nevile, seventh Lord Abergavenny, and by her was father of

HUMPHREY CONINGSBY, who married Lettice, eldest daughter of Arthur Loftus, Esq., of Rathfarnham, in Ireland, and had an only son,

THOMAS CONINGSBY, Esq., who was an active participator in the revolution which brought in William the Third, and at the Battle of the Boyne was so close to the king that he staunched a wound on his shoulder grazed by a bullet. The handkerchief he used is still preserved with great care in the library. In consideration of his eminent services His Majesty constituted him and Henry, Lord Sydney, Lords Justices of Ireland, and in the year 1693 created him

LORD CONINGSBY of Clanbrassil, in the county of Armagh, and he was sworn a Member of the Privy Council in England. On the accession of George the First he was raised to the Peerage of England as a Baron of Great Britain, by the title of

Lord Coningsby of Coningsby, Lincolnshire, June 8th., 1716, with limitation to his daughter Margaret, a singular limitation, as he had a son by a former wife. He was also appointed Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire. He married first Barbara, daughter of Ferdinando Gorges, of Eye, in the same county, by whom he had

THOMAS CONINGSBY, Esq., who, by his wife, daughter of John Carr, Esq., of the county of Northumberland, was father of

RICHARD CONINGSBY, second Lord Coningsby of Clanbrassil, who dying without male issue on the 18th. December, 1729, the title became extinct. He had by his second wife, Frances, daughter of Richard Jones, Earl of Ranelagh, a son,

RICHARD CONINGSBY, who died young, and two daughters,

LADY MARGARET CONINGSBY,

LADY FRANCES CONINGSBY.

Of whom the elder was created in 1716

VISCOUNTESS CONINGSBY of Hampton Court, and succeeding her father in 1729, became

COUNTESS OF CONINGSBY, and married, in 1730, Sir Michael Newton, K.B., son of Sir John Newton, Baronet, of Barrs Court, in Gloucestershire, but died in 1761 without issue. The younger daughter,

LADY FRANCES CONINGSBY, married Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, K.B., son of John Hanbury, Esq., of Pontypool, by whom she left two daughters, co-heiresses,

FRANCES,

CHARLOTTE.

The younger,

CHARLOTTE HANBURY WILLIAMS, married William Anne Holles Capel, Earl of Essex, who inherited the estate from his grandmother, and sold it in the year 1817 to

RICHARD ARKWRIGHT, Esq.

The present magnificent seat, built near the site of one of the most celebrated old mansions in the kingdom, stands in an extensive park and grounds adorned with stately timber, and with beautiful views in every direction, the two rivers, Lugg and Arrow, meandering through the estate, till they meet together near the house.

The principal front, (on the east side of which is the chapel,) of most imposing appearance, is towards the north. In the centre is a massive square tower. Over the entrance is a panel, sculptured with the arms and supporters of the Coningsbys, which are also painted on some old glass, with the dates 1613 and 1614.

Within the house in many of the apartments are a number of fine paintings, and also much of the ancient furniture still preserved.

---

The family of Arkwright derives from Richard Arkwright, born at Preston, in Lancashire, in 1732, the celebrated inventor of improvements in the machinery used in the cotton manufacture, for which he received the deserved honour of knighthood as Sir Richard Arkwright.



MULGRAVE CASTLE.

# MULGRAVE CASTLE,

NEAR WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.—MARQUIS OF NORMANBY.

---

THE situation of Mulgrave Castle is extremely fine, commanding a magnificent view of the German Ocean, on which one looks through precipitous banks in the grounds, as if on a picture set in a frame.

In the times of old it was a fortress of a Saxon Duke, by name WADA, whom tradition has handed down as a giant.

In subsequent Norman times the castle and barony were granted to NIGEL FOSSARD, from whose family it was next conveyed by the marriage of the heiress with

SIR ROBERT DE TURNHAM, in the reign of Richard the Lion-hearted. He dying without a male heir, his daughter,

ISABELLA DE TURNHAM, having become, by the death of her father, a ward of the crown, was given in marriage by King John to

PETER DE MALO LACU, otherwise called Peter de Mauley, a native of Poictou, and esquire to the king, who had engaged him to assassinate Prince Arthur, to clear the way for his own accession to the throne.

To this Peter, succeeded, according to Camden, seven others of the same Christian name in succession, until the reign of Henry the Fifth, when the estates were conveyed by an heiress into the family of

BIGOD, and next, by another, into that of

RADCLIFFE.

Subsequently, namely, about the year 1625, the property went into the hands of EDMUND, LORD SHEFFIELD OF BUTTERWICK, Lord President of the North, who, in the reign of Elizabeth, had greatly distinguished himself by many gallant actions, and more particularly in assisting towards the defeat of the Spanish Armada. He was created by King Charles

EARL OF MULGRAVE, but the family became extinct in 1735. The title was, however, again revived in the person of

CONSTANTINE PHIPPS, whose grandmother on the mother's side, Catherine, Dowager Countess of Anglesey, had re-married, secondly, John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham, and by his bequest had succeeded to the Mulgrave and other estates. The son of the above,

CONSTANTINE JOHN PHIPPS, the second Lord, distinguished himself as an arctic voyager, by reaching to a far higher latitude than any of his predecessors.

Jet is found in the neighbouring cliffs between Mulgrave and Whitby, of which Solinus quaintly says, "In Britain there is a great store of gagates, or jet, a very fine stone. If you ask the colour, it is black and shining; if the quality, it is exceeding light; if the nature, it burns in water, and is quenched with oil; if the virtue, it has an attractive power when heated with rubbing."

---

The family of Lord Normanby derives from Sir William Phipps, who received the honour of knighthood from King James the Second. He was a distinguished mathematician, and the inventor of the diving bell, by means of which he was successful in recovering an immense treasure from the wreck of a Spanish galleon. He was afterwards appointed Governor of Massachusetts.



WOBURN ABBEY.



# WOBURN ABBEY,

NEAR WOBURN, BEDFORDSHIRE.—DUKE OF BEDFORD.

---

HERE was in early times a monastery of the Cistercian order, founded in the year 1146 by

HUGH DE BOLEDAC, a powerful baron, incited to the work, it is recorded, by the Abbot of Fountain's Abbey, Yorkshire.

These Abbey lands were given by King Edward the Sixth, after the dissolution of the monasteries, to

JOHN, LORD RUSSELL, soon afterwards created Earl of Bedford, in whose family they have remained ever since.

The building, as may be supposed, has been variously altered from time to time. The present mansion was built by the fourth duke.

The principal front is of the Ionic order of Grecian architecture, and was the work of the fifth duke.

The Venetian Drawing-room has a fine series of twenty-four views of Venice, by Canaletti, from which it derives its name.

In the hall is a mosaic pavement removed from Rome.

There is a sculpture gallery one hundred and thirty-eight feet long by twenty-four feet wide, with a flat dome over its centre supported by eight marble columns, containing a fine collection of antique marbles, among which is the famous Lante Vase of Parian marble, six feet three inches wide, and six feet high, inclusive of the pediment on which it stands, with two magnificent handles, and beautifully sculptured. It was found in the ruins of Hadrian's villa at Tivoli, of which no doubt it formed a conspicuous ornament. Also a fine cast of the Apollo Belvidere, a statue of Psyche, by Westmacott, and sculptures of Bacchus, a bust of Fox, etc., etc.

The state bedchamber is most magnificently furnished.

The picture-gallery has a number of fine portraits of the Russell family, and among the best are those of William Earl of Bedford, the Countess of Somerset, and Lady Catharine Brooke.

Woburn Abbey was visited by Queen Elizabeth in the year 1572, and by King Charles the First in 1645.

Within the last few years upwards of three hundred model cottages have been built on the estate, for the tenantry, by the Duke of Bedford.

The park is extensive and well timbered, and is surrounded by a wall eight feet high.

---

The family of Russell is of French origin, deriving originally, as is stated, from the Du Rozells of Normandy, and in later times from John Russell, Constable of Corfe Castle in 1221.



RABY CASTLE.

# RABY CASTLE,

NEAR STAINDROP, DURHAM.—DUKE OF CLEVELAND.

---

THIS splendid edifice has in part continued from Anglo-Saxon times, but it was principally erected in the year 1379, by

JOHN DE NEVILLE, with whose potent descendants it continued, until, in an unfortunate moment,

CHARLES NEVILLE, sixth and last Earl of Westmoreland, (of that family,) engaged in a conspiracy against Queen Elizabeth. It failed altogether, her good fortune standing her in good stead, as it did on so many other occasions, and he escaped only with his life, and fled to the Netherlands, where he died an exile in the year 1584. His immense estates were declared forfeited, and in the reign of James the First the castle and demesne of Raby were purchased by

SIR HENRY VANE, Knight, whose grandson,

SIR CHRISTOPHER VANE, was created Baron Barnard, of Barnard Castle, in the county of Durham. His descendant,

HENRY, LORD BARNARD, was raised to the higher title of Viscount Barnard and Earl of Darlington, by King George the Third, April 3rd., 1754; and again his grandson,

WILLIAM HENRY, the third Lord, was elevated in the year 1833 to the Dukedom of Cleveland.

The park and pleasure-grounds of this splendid place are such as might be expected, woods, hills, and valleys giving an endless succession of beautiful views.

The Castle itself stands on about two acres of ground, and at irregular distances are two towers, respectively designated the Clifford Tower and the Bulwer Tower.

The hall is of noble proportions, and the roof is arched, and supported on six columns, which diverge and spread over the ceiling.

Above the hall is a large and grand room, ninety feet in length by thirty-four wide, in which the baronial feasts were used formerly to be held, and where no fewer than seven hundred knights who held of the Nevilles are recorded to have been entertained on one occasion.

Leland considered Raby as the "largest castle of logginges in all the north country."

The late Countess of Darlington made a curious collection of objects of natural

history in a museum at Raby Castle; a happy taste, suitable to a period of peace and tranquillity; how great an advance on the troublous times of the Nevilles.

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The family of the Duke of Cleveland is stated to be derived from a Welsh ancestor, Howell ap Vane, who lived long before the Conquest, and more immediately from Sir Henry Vane, knighted for his valiant deeds at the battle of Poitiers, 19th. September, 1356.



HARLAXTON MANOR.

# HARLAXTON MANOR,

NEAR GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.—GREGORY.

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HARLAXTON was once upon a time a hunting seat of John of Gaunt, "time-honoured Lancaster," and as it is not far from Melton Mowbray, the head quarters of the chase, the coincidence is remarkable enough, though it is scarcely to be supposed that the pursuit has been kept up continually in the district ever since.

The old Manor House was taken down not many years ago, and the present splendid mansion erected in its stead.

There was a bequest left to the parish by Cadwallader Gwynne, Esq., the interest of which is paid yearly to the poor.

The late American ambassador to England, Mr. Everett, wrote of his own country, "We have everything great in America. We have great rivers, great mountains, great forests, and great lakes; but we have no olden buildings, no castles or houses of an ancient aristocracy, and no monasteries. To see these we must visit the land of our fathers." "There is something," says Sir Bernard Burke, "equally just and beautiful in this affectionate tribute to the old country, and the more so kind and ennobling a feeling spreads amongst the Americans, the better it will be for themselves. Abstractedly there is no great value in uninhabitable ruins, and no doubt a mere utilitarian would look upon the finest Gothic cathedral as a mere stone receptacle for bones and dust, which would be more profitably employed in manuring our fields; but somehow there is a feeling, in all save the obtusest of us, that will be heard in spite of utilitarianism, and we shall invariably find that whatever tends to connect us in idea with the past or future, tends also—and in a greater degree than anything else save revealed religion—to make us conscious that we belong not wholly to the earth or to the present, but are portions of immortality. He who narrows his thoughts and wishes to the time being, may certainly reap some practical advantage from this limited application of his faculties, but it will be at the expense of higher and better feelings."

"An interest of a very peculiar kind attaches to the castles, mansions, and baronial halls of England, of which every class, in its own degree and after its own fashion, is alike sensible. With the uneducated, as a mass, this generally appears linked with the supernatural, or with deeds of violence and bloodshed; the man of imagination has the same feeling, but under a higher and more fanciful aspect. 'To distract the mind, says Dr. Johnson, 'from all local emotion would be impossible if it were endeavoured, and would be foolish if it were possible. Whatever withdraws

us from the power of our senses; whatever makes the past, the distant, or the future predominant over the present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far from me and my friends be such frigid philosophy as may conduct us, indifferent and unmoved, over any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bravery, or virtue. That man is little to be envied whose patriotism would not gain force upon the plain of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona.’”

“To the modern mansions belong attractions of an equal amount, but of a different nature. The most republican disposition has a natural, and, we may therefore infer, a praiseworthy curiosity to become acquainted with the site of great actions, and the habits of illustrious characters. This kind of interest cannot fail to hang around most of our country halls and mansions. Those who possess them are men placed in a position commanding either a general or a local reputation; not infrequently combining both. It is wonderful to see what a strong hold these seats of the great and wealthy have upon the minds and affections of all who dwell in the same county. No doubt those in humble situations do not always view with complacency the better fortunes of others; but with this for the most part mingles a vague feeling that the honour of their country is involved in the great men and noble seats that adorn it, and that that honour is in some manner their own. To all this must be added the beauty of the landscapes in which our halls and mansions are placed, a beauty of a kind that may be considered peculiar to England, where nature has been cultivated, not superseded, while in other countries the scenery is altogether wild or altogether artificial. Those who are insensible to such considerations may perhaps find their imaginations more pleasantly stirred by the pictures, busts, relics, and curiosities that almost ever abound in the seats of our territorial proprietors.”

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The family of Gregory derives from

JOHN LONGDEN, Esq., whose son,

JOHN LONGDEN, Esq., was father of

JOHN LONGDEN, Esq., who took the name of SHERWIN in 1818, and again in 1860 the additional one of

GREGORY, on succeeding to the Harlaxton estate at the death of George Gregory, Esq.





ARDTULLY.

# ARDTULLY,

NEAR KENMARE, KERRY.—ORPEN, (KNIGHT.)

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THOUGH scarce a vestige of the castle, on the site of which the present residence at Ardtully has been built, now remains, the ancient title might still continue to attach to it, as in the similar case of Castle Howard, already mentioned in the present work, where the name alone remains as a record of the past, without a single trace of the original building, and the same in several other like instances, but the present member of the family, into whose possession it has come, has discontinued it on raising the new edifice.

There are, however, as presently stated, a few mouldering relics of the former towers of Ardtully still in being, which may serve to summon up before the mind's eye the wild times so long passed away, when it stood firm as a fastness among the mountains; and again those long intervening years, when, before the utter ruin that followed, the words of the poet might still have been applicable to them:—

“The roofless cot, decayed and rent,  
Will scarce delay the passer-by;  
The tower by war or tempest bent,  
While yet may frown the battlement,  
Demands and daunts the stranger's eye:  
Each ivied arch and pillar lone  
Pleads haughtily for glories gone.”

Ardtully, the country seat of Sir Richard John Theodore Orpen, is beautifully situated at the confluence of the rivers Roughty and Obeg, in the valley of Glenarough, about five miles east of the town of Kenmare, in the county of Kerry. It is built on the site of an ancient castle, belonging to the family of Mc Finnin Mc Cartie, who forfeited in the rebellion of 1641. He would appear from his name and character to have been the prototype of the modern Fenians, so that one might have supposed that they are nothing new after all, and that thus history repeats itself: it is, however, stated that the word means “the Son of Florence,” but I fancy I have somewhere seen the other derivation, and can only say to my readers, “*utrum horum mavis accipe.*” There had been previously, on the same spot, an abbey called “*Monasteri ni Oriel,*” of which mention is made in “*Archdall's Monasticon.*” It has been suggested that the abbey may have been founded by some monks from Oriel in

Ulster, the people of which were, as mentioned in the "Annals of Innisfallen," called in Irish *Oirgialla Olltach*. Ardtully is called Ardentully in "Pacata Hibernia."

The waters of the rivers Roughty and Obeg being there contracted between rocks on either side, the flood rises to a great height; from whence, it is said, is derived the name Ardtully, in Irish *Arduilè*, that is "High flood." The monastery has entirely disappeared, but some carved stones of the castle remain. It seems to have been a place of considerable strength.

The Orpen family settled in Kerry in the time of the second Charles, having lost their property in England in consequence of their adherence to that monarch's father, King Charles the First.

The Orpens claim descent, through Sir John Open, from Monsieur Erpen de Seulli or Saulier, who came to England with the Conqueror. They also claim to be of the same family as that of Sir Thomas Erpingham, of Erpingham, or Orpingham, in the county of Norfolk, the hero of Agincourt. The family subsequently resided at a place called the "White House," about a mile from the town of Kenmare, built in a strong position on the river of that name. This house, now in ruins, is celebrated for the siege, which Mr. Richard Orpen of that day and the Protestants of his neighbourhood, sustained against the troops of James the Second, as mentioned in the last volume of Lord Macaulay's "History of England."

A branch of the above named Orpen family settled at Ardtully about one hundred and fifty years since, from whose descendants it passed into the hands of

SIR RICHARD JOHN THEODORE ORPEN, who built the house represented by the plate, on the site of the old mansion where previously had stood Ardtully Castle.

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The family of Orpen is connected with that of the editor of the present work, by the marriage of his father, the late Rear Admiral Henry Gage Morris, R.N., of York, and afterwards of Beverley, with Miss Rebecca Newenham Millerd Orpen, daughter of the Rev. Francis Orpen, B.A., vicar of Kilgarvan and rector of Dungourney, in the county of Cork.



ELVASTON CASTLE.

# ELVASTON CASTLE,

NEAR DERBY, DERBYSHIRE.—EARL OF HARRINGTON.

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THOUGH there does not appear to have ever been a castle on the site of the residence at present under our notice, nor any feature of the building that can lay claim to such a title, yet it has been well observed that as in England every man's house is said to be his castle, so that world-wide saying gave an undoubted right to the Earl of Harrington, who built this so-called castle, to give it that designation if it pleased him to do so.

The estate of Elvaston is situated about five miles from the town of Derby.

It was first settled by Sir John Stanhope, father to the Earl of Chesterfield, on the eldest son of his second marriage.

In the year 1643 the old hall was held by his widow, when Sir John Gell, the Parliamentarian, with his forces besieged and plundered it. He further proceeded to the church and destroyed a tomb, on the effigy of which Lady Stanhope had expended £600., and then wantonly rooted up her ladyship's flower-garden. Strange to say, his next step was to marry the lady herself, for the express purpose, as is stated, of "destroying the glory of her husband and his house." Probably no more effectual mode of doing so could have been resorted to than a union with one who presented so great a contrast to the gallant and loyal spirit of her departed husband.

In the year 1817 important alterations were made in the castle. The Gothic hall that forms the entrance was begun, and it is furnished with a series of valuable specimens of ancient armour.

There are several very fine apartments, among which may be mentioned a dining-room, drawing-room, and library. Gilding has been extensively brought into requisition, even the statuary being ornamented with it.

"With the exception of the wondrous gardens at Alton Towers, those at Elvaston stand unrivalled. The Allanton process of transplanting full-grown trees has been very successfully practised, under the direction of Mr. Barrow, the head gardener. Every beautiful tree for miles round has been brought to Elvaston, with as much ease as Birnam Wood came to Dunsinane, and the result is such an *arboretum* as no other nobleman's seat can shew. Gilded statuary, interspersed among these, has the rich effect which green and gold always produce. Water, too, has been made by machinery a great auxiliary to the beauty of the scene. Beautiful, however, as Elvaston gardens confessedly are, they were, during the late Earl's time, entirely shut up from the public. Even his lordship's own tenantry could not gain admittance.

The present more liberal-minded Earl has shewn a better feeling, and so great has been the desire of the public to avail themselves of the new privilege, that it was suggested that some security against the great influx of people was absolutely necessary. Special days have therefore been fixed upon, and a small sum charged for admittance, which is generously devoted to the county charities. The sums realized have been considerable; and it is not unusual on these public days to see several thousands enjoying the beauties of this enchanting scene. The river Derwent bounds the domain on the north. The adjoining church, covered with ivy, and containing several fine monuments, is well worth a visit. A few years ago it was hung with those rustic funeral garlands of which Derbyshire has retained the last trace."

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The family of Lord Harrington derives from Sir Richard Stanhope, living in the reign of Henry the Third.



MILTON ABBEY.

# MILTON ABBEY,

NEAR BLANDFORD, DORSETSHIRE.—HAMBRO, (BARON.)

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“Non cuivis adire” so sweet a spot as that in which Milton Abbey is situated, standing as it does in a sequestered valley, or rather where three valleys meet, on a gracefully undulated lawn, surrounded by hills on every side, themselves adorned with woods to their top.

Milton, or Middleton, of which the former name is a contraction, lies in the very centre of the county of Dorset; the middle town of the shire.

According to the Domesday Book the manor of Middleton belonged, at the time of the Conquest, to an abbey thus designated, which had been founded by the Saxon King Athelstane.

The Conqueror seized all church lands held in frank almoigne, and then granted them by knights' service in chief, so as thus to insure the submission and fealty of his vassals.

In the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the monasteries were dissolved, Milton Abbas, as the demesne was then called, in common with many other abbey lands in the county, as for instance Cerne Abbas—a contraction, I should suppose, of the word Abbacy—was granted to

JOHN TREGONWELL, Esq., in consideration of the sum of £1,000, and the relinquishment of a pension of £40 a year, to be held in chief by knight's service, as the tenth part of a knight's fee. To him succeeded his son

— TREGONWELL, who compounded for his estate by a fine of £3,735, deserting the Parliament, and residing in the king's quarters.

The last of the family,

JOHN TREGONWELL, Esq., left a daughter, an heiress,

MARY TREGONWELL, who married first

FRANCIS LUTTRELL, Esq., and secondly, after his decease,

SIR JACOB BANCKS, a native of Sweden, who dying in 1724 left it to his son,

JACOB BANCKS, Esq., at whose death, in 1737, without a will, the possession of the property was contested by several parties, the principal of whom was Mr. Tregonwell, who claimed as heir to Mr. Bancks on his mother's side, and Mr. Strachan, who claimed in like manner on the father's side. The affair was ultimately compromised, and the estate remained in the possession of

— STRACHAN, Esq., who sold it in the year 1752 to

JOSEPH DAMER, Esq., created Baron Milton and Earl of Dorchester in the year



1792. He had been successively Member of Parliament in 1741 for Weymouth and Melcombe Regis; in 1747 for Bramber; in 1754 for Dorchester. He was afterwards made a Privy Councillor, and was raised by King George the Third to the Peerage of England, by the style and title of Baron Milton, of Milton Abbey, in the county of Dorset. He built the present mansion about the year 1771, and laid out the grounds with great taste. The park wall extends five miles in length, and the drives through the plantations extend more than ten miles. His descendant,

LORD PORTARLINGTON, again alienated the property by sale to

BARON HAMBRO, a Danish nobleman.

The Abbot's Hall is the only part of the old monastery that remains, and is in its original state, being fifty-three feet six inches long, and twenty-six feet six inches wide. The roof is of Irish oak, finely wrought; a stone pilaster supports it, and bears the date of 1498, the time no doubt of its erection. On a bordering of stone work that runs across the wall are the arms of several ancient families on stone shields. At the lower end of the hall is a carved wooden screen, and near the upper end an oriel nineteen feet four inches long, and fourteen feet eight inches broad.

The drawing-room contains some fine paintings.

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The family of Baron Hambro is, as above stated, of Danish origin.



COBHAM HALL.

# COBHAM HALL,

NEAR GRAVESEND, KENT.—EARL OF DARNLEY.

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COBHAM, a very pleasant spot in Kent, gave its name to the head of a family which possessed it in the reign of King John, namely,

HENRY DE COBHAM, to whom it was assigned by William Quatre-Mere, a Norman soldier, in the first year of the above-named monarch's reign.

His line ended in the person of

JOHN, third LORD COBHAM, a gallant warrior in the reign of King Edward the First, who also earned more peaceful distinction by founding Cobham College. He died in 1367. His daughter,

JOAN COBHAM, married Sir John de la Pole, and their daughter,

JOAN DE LA POLE, endowed with the great inheritance of her grandfather, was married no less than five times, namely, in succession to

SIR ROBERT HERMANDEALE,

SIR REGINALD BRAYBROOKE,

SIR NICHOLAS HAWBECK,

SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE,

SIR JOHN HARPENDEN.

By the four first she had children, all of whom however died young, excepting only the youngest by Sir Reginald Braybrooke, namely,

JOAN BRAYBROOKE, who became the heiress, and married

SIR THOMAS BROOKE, of Brooke, in the county of Somerset, a knight of good landed estate. Of their fourteen children, ten sons and four daughters, the eldest son,

JOHN (BROOKE) LORD COBHAM, a distinguished soldier under Edward the Fourth, was great grandfather of

WILLIAM (BROOKE) LORD COBHAM, K.G., Warden of the Cinque Ports, Ambassador to the Low Countries, Lord Chamberlain, and Governor of Dover Castle; who entertained Queen Elizabeth in one of her well-known "progresses" through Kent. He died in 1596, having left money for the building and endowment of a new College on the site of the one founded by his ancestor in the year 1362. His eldest son,

HENRY (BROOKE) LORD COBHAM, succeeded his father as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, but having joined with his brother George Brooke in the alleged treason of Sir Walter Raleigh, was condemned with the former to death. His brother, however, alone was executed, he having escaped by an ignominious confession, which, though it saved his own inglorious life, was the ruin of Raleigh. The only excuse that can be

made for him is that he was a person of weak and almost imbecile mind—a mere tool in the hands of more wily conspirators. Upon his attainder, his possessions were granted to the crown by Act of Parliament, and James the First gave the estate of Cobham Hall to

LUDOVICK STUART, DUKE OF LENNOX, who, though he was thrice married, left no children, and was succeeded by his brother,

ESME STUART, LORD AUBIGNY, who had married Catherine, daughter and heiress of Gervas, Lord Clifton, and died within a year after succeeding to the estate, leaving a son,

JAMES, DUKE OF LENNOX AND RICHMOND, K.G., who died in France when only ten years old, when his titles and estates devolved on his cousin-german,

CHARLES STUART, EARL OF LICHFIELD, K.G., Ambassador to the Court of Denmark, who died there in 1672. His sister and heiress was

LADY KATHERINE STUART, who afterwards became Baroness Clifton, in right of her grandfather. She was married twice, first to Lord Henry O'Brien, of the princely House of Thomond, and secondly to Sir Joseph Williamson, one of the principal Secretaries of State. The latter purchased the Manor of Cobham of the Duke of Lennox and Richmond. He died in 1701, and left two thirds of his estates to his widow. At her death, 1702, she left Cobham to her daughter, Catherine O'Brien, Lady Cornbury, for life, with remainder to her son, Edward Hyde. Lady Cornbury died 1706. The estates passed to

EDWARD LORD CORNBURY, only son of Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, by the daughter of Lord Henry O'Brien, named above, and at his demise in 1713, passed to his sister,

LADY THEODOSIA HYDE, who in the same year wedded

JOHN BLYGH, Esq., M.P., afterwards created Earl of Darnley. The remaining third of the estate, after prolonged lawsuits, which in the end were compromised, became vested in the Blygh family.

The park and grounds of Cobham are extensive and well wooded, and several huge and ancient oaks and chesnuts are conspicuous for their size and girth, one of the latter especially, known by the name of the "four sisters," measures more than thirty feet in circumference, and has been described and figured in Mr. Strutt's work. One avenue leading from the village consists of a quadruple row of lofty lime trees, and is a fine example of the old-fashioned plan.

The mansion itself is described as a splendid specimen of the Tudor style of architecture. The last Duke of Richmond and Lennox added a centre to the ancient building.

The then Lord Cobham restored and enlarged Cobham Hall. He entertained Queen Elizabeth there in 1559, the year after he succeeded his father.

The fourth Lord Darnley also spared neither expense nor time in restoring and improving the whole place.

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The family of Lord Darnley descends from William Blygh, of Plymouth, living about the year 1600.



STOURTON.

# STOURTON,

NEAR KNARESBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.—LORD STOURTON.

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STOURTON is situated in the parish of Allerton Mauleverer, between four and five miles to the east of Knaresborough, in the West Riding of the county of York.

Together with the hamlets of Claretton and Hopperton, the parish consists of about two thousand three hundred acres of land, mostly the property of Lord Stourton, the Lord of the Manor.

The park itself consists of about five hundred acres. It is described by Bigland, in his "Beauties of England and Wales," as "charmingly picturesque, presenting a great variety of hills, dales, and groves, delightfully interspersed, and a beautiful lake contributes to ornament the scenery. On a lofty eminence, finely shaded with trees, is an octagonal tower, consisting of two rooms, the first thirty-six feet by twenty, the second twenty feet by fifteen. The entrance is by a double flight of steps, both of which, as well as the terrace round the building, are secured by iron palisades. From this commanding situation are seen to the greatest advantage the variegated landscapes of the park, together with extensive views of the surrounding country."

The house is a handsome stone building, in the Modern Tudor style of architecture. In ancient times the estate belonged to the family of

MAULEVERER. It next came into that of

LORD GALWAY, by whom it was sold to

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF YORK, who again sold it in the year 1789 to

COLONEL THORNTON, who gave the house the name of Thornville Royal. It was finally sold in the year 1805, namely, the mansion, park, and estate, for the sum of £163,800, to

LORD STOURTON.

Here was formerly a Benedictine Priory, founded by one Richard Mauleverer in the reign of Henry the Second. It was bestowed at the dissolution of the monasteries on King's College, Cambridge.

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The family of Lord Stourton arose from the town of Stourton, in Wiltshire, and flourished in that county before the Conquest, for it appears that one of those who most resolutely opposed the French invaders was

BOTOLPH STOURTON, who broke down the sea-wall of the Severn, and disputed every

inch of ground, compelling the Duke to grant him his own terms, having entered Glastonbury when William made his appearance in the west.

From this gallant Briton descended

SIR RALPH DE STOURTON, father of

WILLIAM DE STOURTON, whose son,

JOHN DE STOURTON, was succeeded by his son,

WILLIAM DE STOURTON, whose son,

SIR JOHN STOURTON, was a distinguished soldier and statesman in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, by whom he was raised to the peerage, May 26th., 1448, as

BARON STOURTON, of Stourton, in the county of Wilts., ancestor of the family before us.



MELBURY HOUSE.



# MELBURY HOUSE,

NEAR DORCHESTER, DORSETSHIRE.—EARL OF ILCHESTER.

THIS ancient seat was originally the possession of the family of SAMPFORD, who were Lords of the Manor. It afterwards belonged to the house of MALTRAVERS, then to that of STAFFORD, and next to the family of STRANGWAYS, from whom it passed by marriage to that of FOX (NOW FOX-STRANGWAYS.)

Here was in the olden time an ancient pile, and it is recorded by Leland that Sir Giles Strangways “avaunced the inner part of the house with a lofty and fresche tower.” For this work he is stated to have brought three thousand loads of stone from the Hampden quarry, nine miles distant.

The present house, which is one hundred feet square, stands upon a gentle eminence, and occupies three sides of a quadrangle, respectively fronting east, north, and south. Of these, that which fronts the east is the principal, and each is adorned with pilasters of the Corinthian order. The path leading to the entrance is conducted over a stone bridge of ten arches, that spans a fine sheet of water on the north side of the mansion.

There are many valuable portraits at Melbury, and also various ancient relics, among them being a letter written by Oliver Cromwell, which runs as follows:—

“For ye h<sup>ble</sup> Coll.  
Edmund Whalley  
at his quarters  
haste these.

“Sir,

I desire you to be with all my troopes, and Collonel Hines his troopes alsoe at Wilton at a Rendevous by break of day tomorrow morning, for we heare the enemy has a designe upon our quarters tomorrow morning.

“Sr. I am  
Yr Cozen and Servant

OLIVER CROMWELL.

“Sarum, Wednesday  
night at 12 o'clock.”

The scenery around is thus described by Hutchins:—"The ground," he says, "around the mansion is diversified by nature in beautiful irregularity of hill and dale, of verdant pastures and venerable woods. Various trees, of great size and beauty, present themselves in every point of view. The oak and the elm distinguish themselves above the rest; of the former there is one whose circumference exceeds thirty-two feet. At a pleasing distance from the south front the canal extends itself into the shape and size of a majestic river, whose opposite bank is clothed with a numerous assemblage of lofty forest trees. These cover the base of a hill, whose summit rises over their tops, and extends in a delightful terrace to the east and west. Hence the eye traverses an immeasurable tract of country. On the east the bold prominence of Bub Down presents the first object, and at the distance of almost thirty miles in the same line, the entrenchments of Humbledon Hill and the town of Shaftesbury are distinctly seen. Proceeding northwards, Bradley Knoll, Alfred's Tower, Wells Cathedral, the Mendip range of hills, the wonderful chasm at Cheddar Cliffs, and other remarkable objects rise to view. On the north-west are the Quantock Hills; and to the west the eye catches the appearance of a forest, stretching to an immeasurable distance, whose utmost boundaries reach the clouds."

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The family of Lord Ilchester descends from Sir Stephen Fox, a gallant and loyal cavalier living in the reign of King Charles the Second.



TAYMOUTH CASTLE.

# TAYMOUTH CASTLE,

NEAR ABERFELDY, PERTHSHIRE.—EARL OF BREADALBANE.

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THIS magnificent seat may well carry us back in thought to the feudal times, and even in them it would have been conspicuous for size, grandeur, and beauty.

The estate is no less than about a hundred miles long, and the castle is situated moreover in one of the most delightful valleys for which the Highlands of Scotland are so deservedly famous.

So regal a residence deserves a royal description, and the following lines by Queen Victoria are from Her Majesty's "Leaves from the Journal of Our Life in the Highlands:"—

"The drive was quite beautiful all the way to Taymouth. The two highest hills of the range on each side are (to the right, as you go on after leaving Dunkeld) Craig-y-Barns and (to the left, immediately above Dunkeld) Craigoinean. The Tay winds along beautifully, and the hills are richly wooded.

"Taymouth lies in a valley surrounded by very high, wooded hills; it is most beautiful. The house is a kind of castle, built of granite. The *coup d' œil* was indescribable. There were a number of Lord Breadalbane's Highlanders, all in the Campbell tartan, drawn up in front of the house, with Lord Breadalbane himself in a Highland dress at their head, a few of Sir Neil Menzies' men (in the Menzies red and white tartan,) a number of pipers playing, and a company of the 92nd Highlanders, also in kilts. The firing of the guns, the cheering of the great crowd, the picturesqueness of the dresses, the beauty of the surrounding country, with its rich back-ground of wooded hills, altogether formed one of the finest scenes imaginable. It seemed as if a great chieftain in olden feudal times was receiving his sovereign. It was princely and romantic. Lord and Lady Breadalbane took us up stairs, the hall and stairs being lined with Highlanders.

"The Gothic staircase is of stone and very fine; the whole of the house is newly and exquisitely furnished. The drawing-room, especially, is splendid. Thence you go into a passage and a library, which adjoins our private apartments.

"The dining-room is a fine room in Gothic style, and has never been dined in till this day. Our apartments also are inhabited for the first time."

The deer park is very extensive, and is adorned with abundance of stately timber: there is an avenue of lime trees nearly a mile long.

Here was formerly an ancient castle, called Ballock, but only some remains of it

are now extant. It was erected by Colin, sixth Laird of Glenurchy, who died there in the month of April, 1583.

The modern mansion was begun about the beginning of the present century. It stands upon the southern bank of the Tay, in a semicircular lawn about a mile below the termination of the lake, embosomed by woods that well-nigh seem interminable. It consists of a large quadrangle, with a circular tower at each corner, a lofty lantern tower in the centre, and an eastern wing one hundred and eight feet long, in which are comprised the offices. An arched cloister goes round the exterior on three sides, the tracery of which is exceedingly light and beautiful.

The principal rooms are the baron's hall, containing a large collection of books, the dining-room, the drawing-room, and the Chinese room. The grand staircase, in the florid Gothic style of architecture, rises to the full height of the central tower, being lighted above by long pointed windows, while galleries open below to the apartments in the higher storeys.

There are in the castle many valuable pictures by some of the great masters,—Titian, Annibale Carracci, Tintoretto, Castiglione, Teniers, Vandyke, Rembrandt, Leonardo dá Vinci, Salvator Rosa, etc.

It has been well written, by one who viewed this splendid place under the right aspect, "Nothing can exceed the beauty and grandeur of the scenery of this princely domain. Wood and water, mountain, meadow, objects animate and inanimate, in endless variety, are here so blended, and on such a scale, that when viewed from certain positions, and in certain states of the atmosphere, they give you an impression as if you had been transported to a region of enchantment. But to speak becomingly, there is here the workmanship of far more than enchanter's ken, or enchanter's might:—

"Surrounded by His power we stand;  
On every side we feel His hand.  
Oh! skill for human reach too high,—  
Too dazzling bright for mortal eye!"

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The family of the Earl of Breadalbane derives from Gillespick Campbell, living in the tenth century.



CHOLMONDELEY CASTLE.

# CHOLMONDELEY CASTLE,

NEAR MALPAS, CHESHIRE.—MARQUIS OF CHOLMONDELEY.

CHOLMONDELEY CASTLE is situated about four miles from Malpas, and about eight from Nantwich, in the county of Chester.

Here was an ancient hall, which in its turn was succeeded by another then modern one, built in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Upon a carved beam were engraved the initials of Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, Knight, and Mary his wife.—S. H. C. M. C.

During the civil wars Cholmondeley House was used as a garrison, first by the Cavaliers, and then by the Roundheads. In the first instance the Parliamentarians attacked it, killed fifty of the Royalists, and carried off six hundred horses. On the 24th. of the same month the cavalry poured out of Cholmondeley and plundered Nantwich without mercy. In November the tide of war again turned, and the Cromwellians came into possession, but only to be summarily ejected by the king's troops, who, however, were again dislodged by the others, June 30th., 1644.

The facts are thus related by Burghall in his diary:—

“Sunday. They marched towards Cholmondeley House with three or four pieces of ordnance, and four cases of drakes, when two Nantwich companies, volunteers, guarding the great piece of ordnance, met them; and before break of day they planted all their great pieces within pistol-shot of the house, and about three or four in the morning, after they had summoned them, they played upon it, and shot through it many times; and they in the house shot lustily at them with their muskets. The besiegers, playing still on them with their ordnance and small shot, beat them at last out of the house into their works, where they continued their valour to the utmost, themselves being few, killing four or five more of them, and Major Pinkney, a brave commander; but being too weak to hold out any longer, about one in the afternoon they called for quarter, which was allowed; and Mr. R. Horton, captain of the horse, let down the drawbridge,”—it was moated round—“and opened the gates, when the Earl of Denbigh, Colonel Booth, and the rest entered, and took the captain and all the rest prisoners—about thirty-six—with their arms and provisions.”

A domestic chapel in Cholmondeley Castle has stood for more than five hundred and fifty years, the date of its erection being attested by the original grant.

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The family of Lord Cholmondeley derives from

HUGH, BARON OF MALPAS, in Cheshire, whose son,

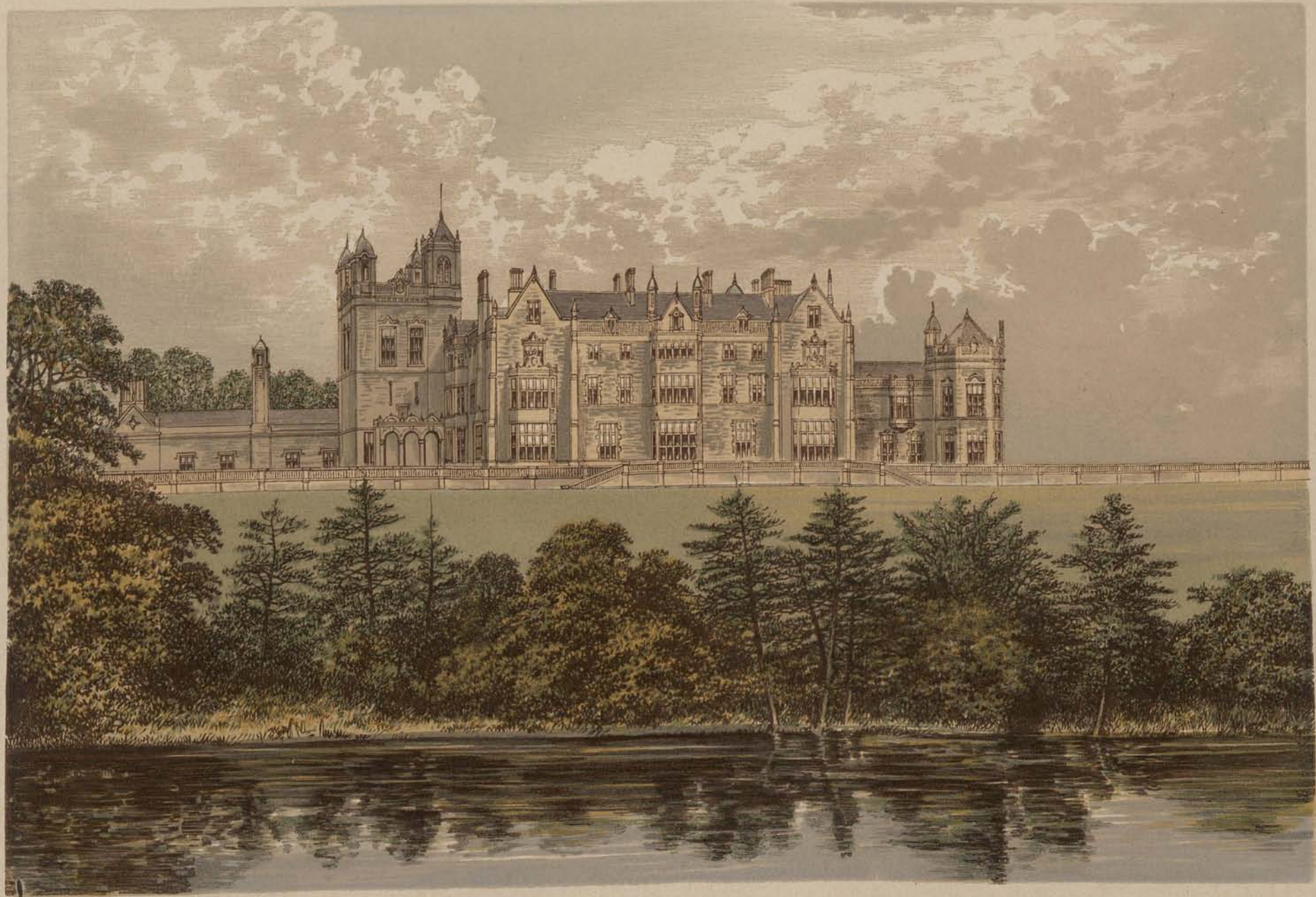
ROBERT, left a daughter and heiress,

LETTICE, who married Richard le Belward, and their son (or grandson) was

WILLIAM LE BELWARD, whose second son,

ROBERT LE BELWARD, having had the lordship of Cholmondeley bestowed on him by his father, fixed his residence there, and assumed his surname therefrom.





WORSLEY HALL.

# WORSLEY HALL,

NEAR MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.—EARL OF ELLESMERE.

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ONE of the Crusaders, one of the earliest of them, by name

ELIAS, or ELISEUS, the founder of the family of Worsley, is recorded to have held the manor of Workeslegh, or Workedlegh, so early as the time of the Conquest.

In Hopkinson's "Pedigrees of Yorkshire" we read of him, that "This Elias was seized of the manor of Workesley, now Worsley, about the Norman Conquest, A.D. 1066. He was of such strength and valour that he was reputed a giant, and in old scripts is often called Elias Gigas. He fought many duells, combats, etc. for the love of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and obtained many victories." He is stated to have met his death at Rhodes.

Worsley Hall, the present house, is a stately mansion built of brick, and stands on high ground which not only overlooks the extensive park attached to it, but commands a view of no fewer than seven counties.

It was built by Francis, Duke of Bridgewater, about the middle of the last century.

The old hall, with its pointed gables, seated on the site of the gardens belonging to the modern house, is described as "remarkable as the depository of a series of spirited grotesque and allegorical heads, with an intermixture of ornamental devices engraved in oaken panels, and brought within the present century from one of the state rooms of Hulme Hall, Manchester, one of the manorial mansions of the family of Prestwich. Many of the sculptured heads represent the domestic buffoons of the sixteenth century; others are suggested by religious mysteries. The costumes appear mostly of the fashion of the reigns of Henry the Seventh and Henry the Eighth."

Sir Walter Scott expressed the highest admiration in inspecting drawings of these heads by Captain Jones.

The Roman antiquities discovered in recent times at Castlefield are preserved at Worsley Hall.

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The family of the Earl of Ellesmere deduces its descent, in the male line, through the family of the Duke of Sutherland, from

SIR ALLAN GOWER, Lord of Stittenham, in Yorkshire, High Sheriff of the County at the time of the Conquest, (or, by others, from William Fitz Guyer, of Stittenham, living in 1167.)

In the female line it derives from

ALEXANDER, eleventh Earl of Sutherland, whose descendant,

WILLIAM, seventeenth earl, had an only daughter,

ELIZABETH, married to George Granville, Marquis of Stafford, and their son was

GEORGE GRANVILLE, second Duke of Sutherland.



SWITHLAND HALL.

# SWITHLAND HALL,

NEAR MOUNTSORRELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.—EARL OF LANESBOROUGH.

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SWITHLAND HALL is situated in a lordship of that name, containing about one thousand and eighty acres of land.

It is situate two miles from Mountsorrell, five from Loughborough, and seven from Leicester, south of Woodhouse.

In the time of King Henry the Third this manor was the inheritance of SIR WILLIAM DE WALLIES, with whose posterity it continued until the reign of Richard the Second, when it passed by marriage to

SIR JOHN DE WALCOTE, Knight. It subsequently became the property of SIR JOHN DANVERS, whose daughter wedded the

HONOURABLE AUGUSTUS RICHARD BUTLER, second son of the Earl of Lanesborough, who thereupon, as below referred to, assumed the name of DANVERS.

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The family of Lord Lanesborough derives from

JOHN BUTLER, of Waresley, in Huntingdonshire, whose descendant,

SIR STEPHEN BUTLER, settled in Ireland in the reign of King James the First. He died in 1639, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

JAMES BUTLER, Esq., of Belturbet, whose brother,

STEPHEN BUTLER, Esq., M.P. for Belturbet, married Anne, daughter of the first Lord Santry, and was followed by his eldest son,

FRANCIS BUTLER, Esq., M.P. for Belturbet, whose eldest son,

THEOPHILUS BUTLER, Esq., created Baron of Newtown-Butler, was succeeded by his brother,

BRINSLEY BUTLER, second Baron, Gentleman-usher of the Black Rod, and Colonel of the Battle-axe Guard in Ireland, who represented the county of Cavan in Parliament, and was made Viscount Lanesborough on the 12th. of August, 1728. He had twenty-three children, five only of whom survived infancy, and his eldest son,

HUMPHREY BUTLER, second Viscount Lanesborough, was raised to the earldom in 1756, and his son,

BRINSLEY BUTLER, second Earl of Lanesborough, had with other issue,

AUGUSTUS RICHARD BUTLER, the second son, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Danvers, Bart., when he assumed the additional name and arms of Danvers, and his eldest son,

GEORGE JOHN DANVERS BUTLER-DANVERS, became of Swithland Hall.



CLIFTON HALL.

# CLIFTON HALL,

NEAR NOTTINGHAM.—CLIFTON, BARONET.

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CLIFTON HALL stands on a rocky eminence by the side of the "Silver Trent," which gently meanders beneath, and the grounds are adorned with extensive plantations.

The road to the house from Nottingham is through an avenue of fine trees a mile in length.

Here, according to tradition, the "Clifton Beauty" was hurled down the precipice by her lover, into the river below; and such a legend has, as might readily be supposed, since made the spot attractive to those who have been disposed to go there on a similar errand; I do not mean for the tragical issue.

The present mansion was more than twelve years in re-building.

There is a charming terrace in the gardens, commanding some most delightful views of home scenery.

The cliff on which the house stands is of alabaster, curiously inlaid in many places with a beautiful spar, which glitters brightly in the sunshine, in contrast to the dark marl with which it is commingled.

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The name of this ancient family is derived from Cliffe-ton, or Clifton, a small hamlet on a cliff or eminence about two miles from the town of Nottingham, which in the reign of Edward the First was the property of

JOHN DE SOLENI, and was purchased from him by

SIR GERVASE DE CLIFTON, Knight, Sheriff of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire in 1279 and the six following years. In 1286 he was appointed High Sheriff of Yorkshire, which post he also filled for six years. His descendant was

SIR JOHN CLIFTON, M.P. for Nottingham in 1403, who married Catherine, daughter of Sir John de Cressy, of Hodsack, and sister and co-heiress of Sir Hugh de Cressy, and was slain at the battle of Shrewsbury, fighting for the king. His lineal successor,



ROBERT CLIFTON, a gentleman of martial character, who lived in no fewer than four reigns, those namely of Henry the Eighth, Edward the Sixth, Mary, and Elizabeth, was great-grandfather of

GERVASE CLIFTON, Esq., created a Baronet May 22nd., 1611, ancestor, through

SIR GERVASE CLIFTON,

SIR WILLIAM CLIFTON,

SIR GERVASE CLIFTON,

SIR ROBERT CLIFTON,

SIR GERVASE CLIFTON,

SIR ROBERT CLIFTON,

SIR JUCKES GRANVILLE JUCKES-CLIFTON, of

SIR ROBERT JUCKES CLIFTON, who succeeded as ninth Baronet in 1852.



STOWE PARK.



# STOWE PARK,

NEAR BUCKINGHAM.—DUKE AND MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS.

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STOWE, in local language, means, it is said, an eminence or rising ground, and hence to this place its name.

The house, which was originally designed, it is stated, by Lord Camelford and Lord Cobham, is in the Grecian style of architecture, with a centre of four hundred and fifty-four feet, which, with the two wings, makes the whole front nine hundred and sixteen feet in length, including the chapel.

Within the mansion, the oval saloon is sixty feet long by forty-three wide and fifty-six high; the hall dining-room fifty feet by thirty-two feet; the gallery seventy feet by twenty-five; and the state bedchamber fifty feet by thirty-five.

A stately avenue of two miles long leads from the town of Buckingham, about two miles distant, to the park, at the entrance of which is a Corinthian arch sixty feet high.

Within the grounds the principal objects of note are, a cedar tree twenty-two feet in girth; a column erected in honour of Captain Grenville, who fell in a sea-fight against the French, under Lord Anson, in 1747; a monument to Captain Cook; the Temple of ancient virtue, containing many statues; the Queen's Temple, in honour of Queen Charlotte, 1789; the Palladian Bridge; the Temple of Friendship, erected by Lord Cobham to receive the busts of his political friends; the Gothic Temple; the Bourbon Tower, surrounded by trees planted by Louis the Eighteenth; a column one hundred and fifteen feet high, surmounted by a statue of Lord Cobham; the Temple of Concord and Victory, built by Lord Cobham *in memoriam* of the Seven Years' War, and in front of it are some oak trees planted by Queen Victoria on occasion of her visit to Stowe in 1845, and two cedars by Prince Albert. "There is a charming flower-garden, thickly surrounded by high trees, firs, cedars, evergreens, and flowering shrubs."

Stowe was formerly an abbey, and on the dissolution of the monasteries was granted by King Henry the Eighth to

ROBERT KING, the first Bishop of Oxford, who had been Abbot of Osney, and to his successors in the see.

It was afterwards surrendered by the then Bishop to the crown, and was granted in the year 1500 to

THOMAS COMPTON and another, by whom it was immediately conveyed to JOHN TEMPLE, Esq., whose son,

SIR THOMAS TEMPLE, was created a Baronet in 1612. His descendant,

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, was highly distinguished in the wars under the Duke of Marlborough in the reign of William the Third, and on the accession to the throne of King George the First, was made Baron Cobham, of Cobham, in the county of Kent, and further advanced in the year 1718 by the title of Viscount Cobham.

On his death the title of Baronet went to a younger branch of the family. His second sister, Mrs. Grenville, became Viscountess Cobham, and was soon afterwards made Countess Temple.

Her eldest son,

RICHARD, EARL TEMPLE, died without issue, and was succeeded by his nephew,

GEORGE GRENVILLE, who was created Marquis of Buckingham. In 1799 the then possessor of the title,

RICHARD GRENVILLE NUGENT CHANDOS TEMPLE, was made Earl Temple of Stowe, and in 1822 Duke of Buckingham and Chandos.

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The ducal family of Buckingham, now represented by Richard Plantagenet Campbell Temple Nugent Brydges Chandos Grenville, the present Duke, derives from a family of the last-mentioned surname living at Wootton-under-Barnwood, in the county of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, and more immediately from Richard Grenville, Esq., who succeeded to the estates in 1618. He was followed in succession by

RICHARD GRENVILLE, ESQ.

RICHARD GRENVILLE, ESQ.

RICHARD GRENVILLE, first EARL TEMPLE, K.G., P.C., etc.

GEORGE GRENVILLE, second EARL TEMPLE, created in 1784 MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM.

RICHARD GRENVILLE, second MARQUIS OF BUCKINGHAM, further raised in the peerage as MARQUIS OF CHANDOS and DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS, father of the above-mentioned second Duke.



COMBERMERE ABBEY.

# COMBERMERE ABBEY,

NEAR WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE.—VISCOUNT COMBERMERE.

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HERE was originally, as is conveyed by the name, an Abbey of Benedictine Monks, founded by one Hugh de Malbank in the year 1133.

When the dissolution of the monasteries took place, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, that monarch bestowed the lands on George Cotton, who derived his family name from Cotton, or Coton, in the county of Salop, where they had been settled before the Norman Conquest, or from a village of that name in Cheshire. He was Esquire of the Body to His Majesty, Privy Councillor and Vice Chamberlain to Prince Edward. Thereupon the family quitted their residence in Shropshire for that which has since been their head-quarters in the county of Cheshire.

The mansion stands on the bank of a lake or mere, from which it derives its name, and occupies the site of the old monastery, of which some remains are still in existence.

The library has been adapted from the refectory, which in its original state was sixty feet long and twenty-eight feet high. The ancient oak roof is still preserved, and is richly ornamented with the carvings which were customary at that day. Upon the walls are the quarterings of the Cotton family from the time of King John, as also those of Salusbury, of Llewenny, now represented by Lord Combermere.

In the library there is a collection of valuable paintings, and many portraits of the Cottons.

The house is situated in the midst of a fine park. The Duke of Wellington planted in it the "Wellington Oak" when on a visit to his old companion in arms, Lord Combermere.

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The family of Lord Combermere derives from Sir George Cotton, living in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, whose descendants were as follows:—

RICHARD COTTON, ESQ.

GEORGE COTTON, ESQ.

THOMAS COTTON, ESQ.

SIR ROBERT COTTON, BARONET.

SIR THOMAS COTTON, BARONET.

SIR ROBERT SALUSBURY COTTON, BARONET, M.P.

SIR LYNCH SALUSBURY COTTON, BARONET.

SIR ROBERT SALUSBURY COTTON, BARONET, M.P.

SIR STAPLETON COTTON, BARONET, G.C.B., G.C.H., G.T.S., K.S.F., K.S.I., who for his eminent military services in Spain and India was raised to the peerage as BARON, and afterwards VISCOUNT COMBERMERE.

SIR WELLINGTON HENRY STAPLETON COTTON, second LORD COMBERMERE.

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Of this family was also that most truly excellent man, the Rev. Richard Lynch Cotton, D.D., successively Fellow, Tutor, and Provost of Worcester College, Oxford, within whose "classic shades" the writer of these pages received his university education.





LEEDS CASTLE.

# LEEDS CASTLE,

NEAR MAIDSTONE, KENT.—WYKEHAM-MARTIN.

THIS remarkably fine seat is surrounded by a wide moat, containing nearly twelve acres of water, and the buildings themselves occupy about three acres more.

The original castle was built by

ROBERT DE CREVECŒUR, on whom it was bestowed by William Rufus. It was, however, ere long forfeited to the crown, and came into the possession of

WILLIAM DE LEYBORNE, by whom it was surrendered to the king, the donor making, as it should seem, a merit of necessity. It was next granted by the then king to

LORD BADLESMERE, who ungratefully joined the Earl of Lancaster in his attempt to put down the royal favourite, Piers Gaveston. As if this was not enough cause of offence, his wife, Lady Badlesmere, refused the demand of Queen Isabella for hospitality at the castle for one night, and some of the royal servants were killed in endeavouring to force an entrance. She came with a very large retinue, and it was feared with the intention of taking the castle. Edward in consequence besieged the castle, starved it out, hanged the castellan, and committed Lady Badlesmere and her family to the Tower. The next year Lord Badlesmere himself shared the fate of his subordinate, and was hanged at Blean, near Canterbury, his head being then struck off, and fixed upon Bargate in that city.

The damage which the castle had sustained during the siege was repaired by Walter de Wykeham.

In the reign of Henry the Fifth, the monarch imprisoned here his mother-in-law, Joan of Navarre, for her traitorous attempt against his life. On his death-bed he restored it, and the tone of the document proves the accusation to have been false.

Here, too, the Duchess of Gloucester was tried for witchcraft and sorcery.

At a later period the manor was granted by King Edward the Sixth to

SIR ANTHONY ST. LEGER, K.G., Lord Deputy of Ireland, and his son,

SIR WARHAM ST. LEGER, sold it to

SIR RICHARD SMYTH, who died there in the year 1628, and his daughters and coheireses alienated the castle to

SIR THOMAS COLEPEPER, of Hollingbourne, whose son,

CHENEY, sold it to his cousin,

SIR JOHN, afterwards first LORD COLEPEPER, whose only child,

THE HONOURABLE KATHERINE COLEPEPER, married  
 THOMAS, fifth LORD FAIRFAX, of Cameron, whose successor,  
 ROBERT, seventh LORD FAIRFAX, had the honour of entertaining George the Third  
 at Leeds Castle, and on his death in 1793, the property devolved, in default of  
 direct heirs, on his lordship's nephew,  
 THE REV. DENNY MARTIN, whose successor,  
 GENERAL PHILIP MARTIN, was followed in the possession of the estate by his  
 kinsman,

FIENNES WYKEHAM, ESQ., who assumed the additional surname of his predecessor,  
 and was father of the next owner,

CHARLES WYKEHAM-MARTIN, ESQ., who was succeeded by his son.

The oldest part of the castle, as it appears at present, is the cellars, erected  
 probably in the time of Henry the Third. One window in the kitchen is supposed to  
 be *temp.* Stephen. At one period there was a Norman entrance to them, formed by a  
 plain semicircular work of Caen stone, but which was covered up in 1822, when the  
 southernmost of the two great divisions of the castle was pulled down and rebuilt.  
 A drawbridge originally supplied the means of communication between the old castle  
 and this part of the building; but it was long ago replaced by timbers fixed and  
 floored, which, at the time of the alteration just mentioned, were in their turn taken  
 away, and a stone bridge of two arches substituted in their place. A great part of  
 the building dates unquestionably from the reign of Edward the First, others from  
 that of Edward the Third, and a very great portion was built by Sir H. Guildford in  
 the reign of Henry the Eighth.

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The family of Wykeham-Martin deduces from Richard Wykeham, Esq., of Swalcliffe,  
 living in the early part of the eighteenth century, (representative of the ancient  
 house of which was Sir Ralph Wykeham, in the time of King John, and William  
 of Wykeham, the founder of Winchester College and New College, Oxford,) father of

THE REV. ROBERT WYKEHAM, whose son,

FIENNES WYKEHAM, ESQ., assumed the additional surname of Martin in 1821.



GOPSAL HALL

# GOPSAL HALL,

NEAR TWYXCROSS, LEICESTERSHIRE.—LORD HOWE.

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THIS well-known and magnificent seat is acknowledged to be one of the chief ornaments of the county of Leicester, in which it is situated.

It is about three miles north-west of Market Bosworth, and stands in a park of nearly six hundred acres. It was originally built by Charles Jennens, Esq., in the year 1758, at a cost of £100,000 when completed.

“The south front has an extremely imposing aspect. Corinthian pillars support a frieze and balusters of very graceful design, while a receding pediment bears in relief a sculpture of a ship in a storm, with a haven in the foreground, and the appropriate inscription, *Fortiter occupa portum*. This beautiful addition to the architectural features of Gopsal was introduced to commemorate the naval victories of Lord Howe. The wings of this front form, respectively, the chapel and library.

The principal entrance is on the north.

The whole of the interior is a combination of elegance and comfort too seldom found in the mansions of the nobility.

The library contains a very fine collection of rare works. A fine stained glass window, the painting of which was executed by the late Baroness Howe, is a much-admired ornament of this splendid room.

The chapel may vie with any private chapel in England, either in chasteness of design or appropriateness of fitting. Every portion of the woodwork is of cedar of Lebanon, save the carved legs of the Communion Table, which are formed of the Boscobel oak. Vandyke's painting of the Crucifixion adorns the chapel, and the hall abounds in choice works of the old masters.”

It was here that Handel composed his “Messiah,” and it is stated to have been very much owing to the then proprietor of Gopsal that that noble composition was given to the world.

An intelligent tourist, T. R. Potter, Esq., gives the following account of this place:—“Every step you take at Gopsal shows that the arts have been not only fostered but cultivated here. Every walk in the neighbouring parishes, portions of this splendid domain, shows some church, bede-house, or school, erected and supported by the munificence of the Curzons, while the numerous tenantry and peasantry on the estates show, both by their appearance and their conduct, how much their welfare is the object of their landlord's solicitude.”

Mr. Jennens died in the year 1773, and devised the estate to the Honourable Penn Assheton Curzon, his grandnephew, who wedded Lady Sophia Charlotte Howe, who became at the decease of her father, Baroness Howe, and so brought that title into the family of Curzon.

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The family of Lord Howe derives in the male line from

GIRALINE DE CURZON, living about the time of the Conquest, who held the manor of Locking, in Berkshire, and that of Fishead, in the county of Oxford.



DUNROBIN, CASTLE.

# DUNROBIN CASTLE,

SUTHERLANDSHIRE.—DUKE OF SUTHERLAND.

THE following is the account of this castle of the “far north,” given by Sir Bernard Burke, in his “Visitation of Seats:”—

“Dunrobin Castle was first built by Robert, Earl of Sutherland, in the year 1275. It stands nearly in the middle of the parish of Golspie, upon the edge of a bank that rises considerably above the level of the sea. The building is of that old-fashioned style of Scotch architecture which defies classification, but which at the same time has a picturesque interest that does not always belong to more legitimate edifices. Narrow towers, tapering off like spires, and much lower than the building itself, flank either end, while the numerous windows look out quaintly from the dark and irregular mass.

The adjacent landscape is varied and hilly, with no want of timber; and the garden, which spreads itself out at the foot of the eminence on which the castle stands, harmonizes well with the character of the castle and its grounds, which have been vastly improved by the present noble proprietor.”

The tower or castle of Dunrobin, even still existing, was reputed to be the oldest manse in Scotland.

The present mansion was designed and commenced in the year 1845. The style is, in the main, that of the old English baronial castle.

The successive Earls of Sutherland have added to their possessions generation after generation, and they now comprise the whole of what is called the Red Country, and also the estate and parish of Assynt, which was forfeited to the crown by the attainder of the Earl of Seaforth, and was sold to William, eighteenth Earl of Sutherland. It is a wild district of mountain and moor. The whole consists of eight or nine hundred thousand acres, and a late duke made, at his own expense, about nine hundred miles of road through it, with bridges, etc., and all without a turnpike gate.

“Above the principal windows, the motto “*Sans Peur*” is carved in raised and fanciful characters, with date, initials, &c. The interior of the building, the lobby, and stairs are faced with Caen stone. The dining-room is forty by twenty-three feet. The drawing-room windows overlook the sea, and command an extensive view. The state rooms, or “Queen’s apartments,” as they are called, are richly furnished



and ornamented. Below is a terrace walk, a slope covered with noble trees, and parterres, winding walks, etc., the sea terminating the whole, and forming the most prominent, as it is the grandest, feature of the landscape.”

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The family of the Duke of Sutherland descends, as stated in a previous article, from Sir Allan Gower, Lord of Stittenham, in Yorkshire, or, as supposed by others, from William Fitz Guyer, of Stittenham, living in the year 1167.



DRAKELOWE HALL.

# DRAKELOWE HALL,

NEAR BURTON-ON-TRENT, DERBYSHIRE.—GRESLEY, BARONET.

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DERBYSHIRE has been styled by Kinder the "Amphitheatre of Renowned Persons," who further stated that "no countie in England had so many princelie habitations;" and it is no less distinguished for the numerous fine mansions it contains at the present day.

This was an ancient seat of the Gresleys, and is described in Domesday Book as belonging to Nigel de Stafford, an ancestor of the family, who held it by the service of rendering a bow with a string, a quiver of Tutesbit, a word the meaning of which appears to be now unknown, with twelve fleched arrows, and one unfeathered shaft.

Another record, of the date of 1200, describes the service to have been a bow, a quiver, and twelve arrows.

In the year 1330 Geoffrey de Gresley claimed the somewhat unsatisfactory right of having a gallows at Drakelowe, and also at Gresley.

The mansion stands on low ground, and hence, as is supposed, its name.

It is a large irregular pile.

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The family of Des Vœux, resident for some time at Drakelowe Hall, derives from

PRESIDENT DE BACQUENCOURT of the Parliament of Rouen, who had two sons, the second of whom,

ANTHONY VINCHON DE BACQUENCOURT, a man of great learning, left the Church of Rome for the Reformed Faith, and wrote against the Jansenists, as also on the subject of miracles, and translated and published a commentary on the book of Ecclesiastes; the last named work was considered of so much value that the University of Dublin conferred on him the degree of Honorary M.A. He took the surname of Des Vœux, and died in 1792, leaving, with a younger son and a daughter,

CHARLES DES VŒUX, Esq., of Indiville, in the Queen's County, Governor of Masulipatam, and second in the Council at Madras, who was created a Baronet the 1st. of September, 1787, and dying in 1814, was succeeded by his eldest son,

SIR CHARLES DES VŒUX, second Baronet, who married, first, Christiana, daughter of

Richard Hird, Esq., of Rawdon, Yorkshire, and, secondly, Lady Caroline Paulet, daughter of the Marquis of Winchester, by the former of whom he had

SIR HENRY WILLIAM DES VŒUX, third Baronet, Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, High Sheriff of Derbyshire in 1864, who married, the 16th. of July, 1839, Lady Sophia Gresley, widow of Sir Roger Gresley, Baronet, M.P., and daughter of George William Coventry, seventh Earl of Coventry, and so became resident at Drakelowe Hall.



PANSHANGER PARK.

# PANSHANGER PARK,

NEAR HERTFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.—EARL COWPER.

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PANSHANGER is situated in the county of Hertford, about three miles from the county town of the same name.

The earlier residence of the family of Lord Cowper was at a short distance from the present one, and was called Coln Green. It was erected by Lord Chancellor Cowper at the commencement of the previous century. It was, however, pulled down in the year 1801 by the then Earl Cowper, and the present mansion built in its place a short distance from the original site.

It is a handsome house in the Gothic style of architecture, and stands on the north-east bank of the River Mimeram, and in the midst of a spacious park.

The grounds are described as being laid out with much taste, and a magnificent oak has been described by various local historians and tourists, and, among others, by Arthur Young, in his "Survey of the County of Herts.," who says of it:—"On the grounds of Panshanger is a most superb oak, which measures upwards of seventeen feet in circumference at five feet from the ground. It was called the GREAT OAK in 1709. It is very healthy, yet grows in a gravel surface, apparently as sterile as any soil whatever, but it undoubtedly extends its top root into soil of a very different quality. It is one of the finest oaks which I have seen, though twelve feet to the first bough."

The Lord Chancellor Cowper mentioned above was the first English lawyer who refused to receive the large payments known as "New Year's Gifts," which until his time the barristers and other attendants of the court had been accustomed to consider their due.

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The family of Earl Cowper descends from  
JOHN COWPER, an Alderman of the City of London, and Sheriff of the City in 1551. He was father of

SIR WILLIAM COWPER, created a Baronet March 4th., 1642, who was followed by his grandson,

SIR WILLIAM COWPER, M.P. for Hertford, whose eldest son,

SIR WILLIAM COWPER, an eminent lawyer, was made Lord Keeper of the Great Seal

in 1705, and raised to the peerage the 9th. of November, 1706, as BARON COWPER of Wingham, in the county of Kent. He was followed successively by

WILLIAM COWPER, second Earl, in 1723.

GEORGE NASSAU COWPER, third Earl, in 1764.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS COWPER, fourth Earl, in 1789.

PETER LEOPOLD LOUIS FRANCIS NASSAU COWPER, fifth Earl, in 1799.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK COWPER, sixth Earl, in 1837.

FRANCIS THOMAS DE GREY COWPER, seventh Earl, in 1856.



AUDLEY END.



# AUDLEY END,

NEAR SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.—LORD BRAYBROOKE.

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THIS princely residence holds a distinguished place among the "County Seats" of England.

The old manor, which was vested in the crown, was bestowed by King Henry the Eighth on

SIR THOMAS AUDLEY, then Lord Chancellor of England, who was raised to the peerage in the year 1538 under the title of Baron Audley of Walden,—Walden Abbey having also been appropriated by the king at the dissolution of the monasteries, and bestowed on Sir Thomas together with the estate. His daughter and heiress,

MARGARET AUDLEY, married, first, Lord Henry Dudley, younger brother of the husband of Lady Jane Grey, and, secondly, having no children, she became the second of the three wives of Thomas Howard, fourth Duke of Norfolk.

Of the second marriage there were two sons,

1. THOMAS, the heir.

2. WILLIAM, ancestor of the Earls of Carlisle.

The eldest son,

THOMAS HOWARD, inherited from his mother the estate of Audley End, and was summoned to the House of Lords by Queen Elizabeth as Baron Howard of Walden. He was further elevated by King James on the 21st. of July, 1603, to the title of Earl of Suffolk, and was soon afterwards appointed Lord Chamberlain, and in performance of part of the routine of his office had to inspect the Houses of Parliament before the opening of the session, which he accordingly did in company with Lord Monteagle, to whom notice of the Gunpowder Plot had been given, and thus, on the 4th. of November, 1605, discovered the materials laid for the intended blowing-up of the assembled Lords and Commons. In the year 1618 he was appointed Lord High Treasurer of England, but being, as the father-in-law of the fallen courtier Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, obnoxious to Buckingham, the new favourite, he was deprived of his office, and committed, together with his countess, to the Tower. It was this nobleman who erected the magnificent palace of Audley End. He died in 1626, leaving a large family, of whom the eldest son,

THEOPHILUS HOWARD, succeeded to the title and estate, and had a son and successor,

JAMES HOWARD, the third Earl, who, about the year 1668, sold the park and mansion to King Charles the Second for £50,000, of which £20,000 was left unpaid at the

Revolution, and in the year 1701 the demesne was re-conveyed to the family of Howard, the fifth Earl of Suffolk, he on receiving it, relinquishing his claim upon the Crown for the balance of the debt. His descendant,

HENRY, tenth Earl of Suffolk, died without issue in 1733, when the Earldom devolved on his distant cousin,

HENRY BOWES HOWARD, fourth Earl of Buckingham.

The title to the estate of Audley End then became disputed, between the second Earl of Effingham, who claimed under a settlement made by the seventh Earl of Suffolk, and the heirs of the two daughters of the third Earl. The Courts of Law decided in favour of the latter, namely,

THE HONOURABLE ELIZABETH GRIFFIN, wife, first of HENRY NEVILLE (GREY,) Esq., who assumed the last surname, and secondly, of the EARL OF PORTSMOUTH, and her sister ANNE, who married WILLIAM WHITWELL, Esq. Of these two ladies, the former had no children, but the latter had a son, in whose favour the abeyance was terminated as

LORD HOWARD OF WALDEN. He had no children, and consequently, in consideration of his mother being sprung from the great house of Neville, he obtained for himself another barony, that of BRAYBROOKE, with a remainder to his relative Richard (Aldworth) Neville, son of Richard Aldworth, Esq., who was maternally descended from that family.

On the death of Lord Howard, in 1797, he was succeeded by the said RICHARD NEVILLE, as second Lord Braybrooke, who was followed by RICHARD NEVILLE, third Lord Braybrooke, father of RICHARD CORNWALLIS NEVILLE, fourth Lord, whose successor was CHARLES CORNWALLIS NEVILLE, fifth heir to the title.

The vast pile of Audley End is said to have cost no less than £190,000, a stupendous sum measured by the value of money in those days. It has received several subsequent alterations, but for the most part has been treated with good taste, and well preserved.

There are many valuable portraits in the house, and among them one of Lord Chamberlain Audley, by Holbein, and one of his daughter, the Duchess of Norfolk, by Lucas de Heere.

The family of Lord Braybrooke derives in the male line from Richard Aldworth, Esq., of Stanlake, living in the middle of the eighteenth century.



MOUNT EDGUMBE.

# MOUNT EDGCUMBE,

NEAR PLYMOUTH, (DEVONSHIRE,) CORNWALL.—LORD MOUNT EDGCUMBE.

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I KNOW no more lovely spot between Cornwall and the Grampians than that on which stands the noble seat which at present should be described, but in fact no description could do justice to its varied features, the scenes on every side and in every point of view being as rich and beautiful as it is possible to imagine.

Tradition states that the Duke of Medina Sidonia was so enchanted with the view of it from the sea, that never doubting of the triumphant success of the Invincible Armada, he at once determined that it should be his portion of the spoils expected from conquered England; but "the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong."

There are a number of very fine and large cork trees in the grounds near the sea, at least there were when I saw them many years ago.

This place was anciently called West Stonehouse, belonging to a family of the same name, and was conveyed by an heiress to

STEPHEN DURNFORD, Esq., and he dying without male issue, his daughter,

JANE DURNFORD, became the wife of Sir Piers Edgcumbe, K.B., a gentleman of a very ancient family in Devonshire, who derived their surname from a place of the same name in the county. He was direct ancestor of the present proprietor.

The Christian names of Piers and Richard seem to have alternated in this family for many generations, and on this "quaint old Fuller" remarks, and I have thought the same to myself in noticing the like habit or custom in the pedigrees of other families:—"The names of Pierce or Peter, and Richard, have been (saith my author) successively varied in this family for six or seven descents. Such chequering of Christian names serves heraulds instead of stairs, whereby they ascend with assurance into the pedigrees of gentlemen; and I could wish the like alternation of font-names fashionable in other families; for where the heirs of an house are of the same name for many generations together, it occasioneth much mistake, and the most cautious and conscientious heraulds are guilty of making incestuous matches, confounding the father for the son, and so reciprocally."

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This family descends from William de Eggecombe, living in the reign of Edward the Third, and who died in 1380. After him came

WILLIAM EDGCOMB.

PETER EDGECOMB.

SIR RICHARD EDGECOMB.

SIR PIERS EDGCUMBE, K.B.

SIR RICHARD EDGCUMBE, High Sheriff of Devonshire.

PETER EDGCUMBE, M.P. for the county of Cornwall in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

SIR RICHARD EDGCUMBE.

PIERS EDGCUMBE, ESQ.

SIR RICHARD EDGCUMBE.

RICHARD EDGCUMBE, ESQ., elevated to the Peerage in 1742 as BARON EDGCUMBE.

RICHARD EDGCUMBE, second Baron.

GEORGE EDGCUMBE, third Baron, created VISCOUNT MOUNT EDGCUMBE AND VALLETORT in 1781, and EARL OF MOUNT EDGCUMBE in 1789.

RICHARD MOUNT EDGCUMBE, second Earl.

ERNEST AUGUSTUS MOUNT EDGCUMBE, third Earl, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A., A.D.C. to the Queen, and Colonel of the Cornwall Militia.

WILLIAM HENRY MOUNT EDGCUMBE, fourth Earl, previously M.P. for Plymouth.



PENRHYN CASTLE.

# PENRHYN CASTLE,

NEAR BANGOR, CARNARVONSHIRE.—LORD PENRHYN.

RODERICK MOLWYNOG, Sovereign of North Wales in the eighth century, was the owner of Penrhyn Castle at the early date of 720.

It was razed to the ground by Meredydd ap Owen in the year 987, who invaded the country, and slew the then remaining monarch, Cadwallan ap Jevaf.

In the time of Llewellyn it was granted, with other estates, to

YARDDUR AP TRAHAIARN, from whom, by the law of Gavelkind, it descended to an heiress, who by her marriage conveyed it to the family of a descendant of Ednyfed Vychan.

GWILLYM AP GRYFFYDD possessed it in the reign of King Henry the Sixth, and was followed by his son,

WILLIAM VYCHAN AP GWILLYM, after whom came

SIR WILLIAM GRYFFYDD, in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. His grand-nephew, Piers Gryffydd, sailed in his own ship in April, 1588, and shared with Sir Francis Drake in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. He died without male issue, but a descendant of another branch of the same family, namely,

PIERS GRYFFYDD, sold the estate to his cousin,

THE RIGHT REV. DR. JOHN WILLIAMS, Lord Keeper, and Archbishop of York, who died in 1649, when this enormous property devolved to his nephew,

GRYFFYDD WILLIAMS, who in 1661 was created a Baronet, and became the father of nineteen children, of whom the eldest,

SIR ROBERT WILLIAMS, BARONET, was followed by his elder son,

SIR JOHN WILLIAMS, BARONET, who died in 1683, and was succeeded by his brother,

SIR GRYFFYDD WILLIAMS, at whose decease, also unmarried, his vast estates passed to his three sisters and co-heiresses, namely,

1. FRANCES WILLIAMS, who married Lord Edward Russell, son of the Duke of Bedford. She died without issue, and left her share of the property to her sisters.

2. ANNE WILLIAMS, married to Thomas Warburton, Esq., of Winnington, in the county of Chester.

3. GWEN WILLIAMS, married Sir Walter Yonge, Baronet, of Escott, in Devonshire.

The sole daughter and heiress of Mr. and Mrs. Warburton,

MISS WARBURTON, married Lord Penrhyn, and his father, John Pennant, Esq., purchased the other moiety of the property, which went next to

GEORGE HAY DAWKINS, Esq., cousin of Lord Penrhyn, who assumed in consequence

the surname of Pennant. His daughter married the Hon. Colonel Edward Gordon Douglas, M.P., who also assumed the additional surname of Pennant. She had several children, and in favour of her family the title of Lord Penrhyn was revived in 1868.

The house is supposed to have been rebuilt by Gwilym ap Gryffydd in the reign of Henry the Sixth, long after its demolition by Meredydd ap Owen.

“The buildings enclose a large area or quadrangle, with gateway tower, a vast hall, saloon, and many very elegant apartments.

“The grounds are extensive and well wooded; they command many very fine views, receiving additional beauty from the river Ogwen, which here forms several cascades, seen through the vistas in the plantations from the front of the house.”

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The family of Lord Penrhyn descends from a common ancestor with that of the Earl of Morton, namely, Sir James de Douglas, of Loudon, living about the year 1300.





WYTHAM ABBEY.

# WYTHAM ABBEY,

NEAR OXFORD, OXFORDSHIRE.—EARL OF ABINGDON.

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WYTHAM, or Witham Abbey, for so the name is differently or indifferently spelt, is situated about three miles from the city of Oxford, on a rising ground above the bank of the river Isis.

Here was in ancient times a nunnery, removed from its previous settlement in the neighbouring town of Abingdon, where it had been first established, but, as may without difficulty be supposed, nothing but the name of the ancient pile remains.

The more modern edifice was built in the reign of King Henry the Seventh by Sir Richard Harcourt, who became possessed of the manor of Wytham in 1480.

It seems, however, from the present form of the windows that some alterations were made in the original structure during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, or that of King James the First.

“In early days the neighbourhood became celebrated as the site of the so-called *Berkshire Tragedy*, which was booked into a ballad still preserved in the Roxburgh Collection under the name of *Wittain Miller*. The case was one unfortunately of too common occurrence, and the song which records it, though enshrined with other valueless rarities, might have been left to its proper fate without much loss to any one.”

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The family of Lord Abingdon derives in the male line from Robert Bertie, Lord of Bersted, near Maidstone, in Kent, living in the fifteenth century, who is stated to have been descended from the Berties, Free Barons of Bertielaw, in Prussia.

In the female line his lordship deduces his descent from the family of Norreys (afterwards Norris,) of which

JOHN NORREYS, of Bray, was ancestor of

SIR WILLIAM NORRIS, of Yattenden, in the county of Berks, one of the Knights of the body to King Edward the Fourth.

To him succeeded successively, if so one may say,

SIR EDWARD NORRIS,

SIR HENRY NORRIS,

SIR HENRY NORRIS, summoned to Parliament as Baron Norris of Rycote.

FRANCIS NORRIS, second Baron, who married Lady Bridget de Vere, daughter of Edward, Earl of Oxford, and had an only daughter and heiress,

THE HONOURABLE ELIZABETH NORRIS, who married Edward Ray, Esq., Groom of the Bedchamber to King James the First, and was mother of an only daughter and heiress,

BRIDGET WRAY, who wedded the Honourable Edward Sackville, second son of Edward, fourth Earl of Dorset, and secondly, Montagu, Earl of Lindsey, (his second wife,) and by the latter had, with other issue,

THE HONOURABLE JAMES BERTIE, who was also summoned to Parliament as Baron Norreys of Rycote, in 1675, and further raised in the peerage as Earl of Abingdon, 30th. of November, 1682.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

MONTAGU BERTIE, second Earl of Abingdon, whose nephew,

WILLOUGHBY BERTIE, third Earl, was followed by his eldest surviving son,

WILLOUGHBY BERTIE, fourth Earl, and he by

MONTAGU BERTIE, D.C.L., High Steward of Abingdon, and Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, who was followed by

MONTAGU BERTIE, fifth Earl, one of the co-heirs to the Barony of WILLIAMS OF THAME.



EDEN HALL.

# EDEN HALL,

NEAR PENRITH, CUMBERLAND.—MUSGRAVE, BARONET.

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“THE martial and warlike family” of Musgrave, as it is styled by Camden, the author of the “Britannia,” was originally of Musgrave, in Westmoreland, but coming into possession of Eden Hall by the marriage of Thomas de Musgrave with Joan de Stapleton, this thereupon became their seat, and has so continued till the present day.

It is a lovely spot, situated in the forest of Inglewood, and was first granted to Henry Fitzweine, and afterwards belonged to one

ROBERT TURPE, whose grandson,

ROBERT TURPE, left two daughters his co-heiresses, one of whom,

JULIAN TURPE, wedded, A.D. 1327, WILLIAM STAPLETON, and their descendants held the property for four generations, when it was carried to the family of

MUSGRAVE, as above stated.

The house is a handsome building of stone, and among other ancient reliques which it contains, is the famous old glass cup called “The Luck of Eden Hall.” The sacred monogram I.H.S. shows it to have been hallowed in old times by Church use, but tradition records it to have been seized from a company of fairies who were sporting near a spring in the garden, and who, having vainly endeavoured to recover it, vanished into air singing,

“If that glass either break or fall,  
Farewell the luck of Eden Hall.”

It has not fallen or been broken yet, and is preserved with the greatest care, being only used on far-between occasions, when it is filled to the brim with wine of the rarest vintage, and whoever takes it into his hand is expected to drain it at a draught.

One of the ancestors of the present family,

SIR PHILIP MUSGRAVE, fought gallantly under the royal banner at Marston Moor, at Worcester, and in the Isle of Man, and after the Restoration had a warrant raising him to the peerage as Baron Musgrave of Hartley Castle, but the patent was never taken out. His grand-uncle, Thomas Musgrave, had a controversy with Lancelot Carleton, and the following indenture shows the ancient form and manner of proceeding to a trial of arms at single combat:—

“It is agreed between Thomas Musgrave and Lancelot Carleton, for the true trial of such controversies as are betwixt them, to have it openly tried by way of combat, before God and the face of the world, in Canonby Holme, before England and Scotland, upon Thursday in Easter week, being the 8th. day of April next ensuing, A.D. 1602, betwixt nine of the clock and one of the same day: to fight on foot; to be armed with jack and steel caps, plaite sleeves, plaite breeches, plaite socks, two swords, the blades to be one yard and half a quarter of length, two Scotch daggers or dirks at their girdles, and either of them to provide armour and weapons for themselves, according to this indenture. Two gentlemen to be appointed in the field to view both the parties, to see that they both be equal in arms and weapons, according to this indenture; and being so viewed, the gentlemen to ride to the rest of the company, and to leave them; but two boys, received by the gentlemen, to be under sixteen years of age, to hold their horses. In testimony of this our agreement, we have both set our hands to this indenture of intent: all matters shall be made so plain as there shall be no questions to stick upon that day; which indenture as a witness shall be delivered to two gentlemen; and for that it is convenient the world should be privy to every particular of the ground of the quarrel, we have agreed to set it down in this indenture betwixt us, that, knowing the quarrel, their eyes may be witness of the trial.

“The grounds of the quarrel:—

“1. Lancelot Carleton did charge Thomas Musgrave, before the Lords of Her Majesty’s Privy Council, that Lancelot Carleton was told by a gentleman, one of Her Majesty’s sworn servants, that Thomas Musgrave had offered to deliver Her Majesty’s Castle of Bewcastle to the King of Scots; and to which the same Lancelot Carleton had a letter under the gentleman’s own hand for his discharge.

“2. He charged him that, whereas Her Majesty doth yearly bestow a great fee upon him as Captain of Bewcastle, to aid and defend Her Majesty’s subjects, therein Thomas Musgrave hath neglected his duty, for that Her Majesty’s Castle of Bewcastle was, by him, made a den of thieves, and an harbour and receipt for murderers, felons, and all sorts of misdemeanours, etc.

“Thomas Musgrave doth deny all this charge, and saith, that he will prove that Lancelot Carleton doth falsely belie him, and will prove the same by way of combat, according to the indenture. Lancelot Carleton hath entertained the challenge, and, by God’s permission, will prove it true as before; and hath set his hand to the same.”

“THOMAS MUSGRAVE.

“LANCELOT CARLETON.”



LOWTHER CASTLE.





# LOWTHER CASTLE,

NEAR CLIFTON, WESTMORELAND.—EARL OF LONSDALE.

THE castle of Lowther, which gives its name to the family of Lowther, derives its own from the river Lowther, or Louder, by which it is watered.

Lowther Hall of the older date was pulled down in the year 1685, and rebuilt by John, first Viscount Lowther. It was burnt to the ground in 1720, that is to say, the two wings excepted.

It was built again in 1808, the necessary materials of stone and timber having been collected for the purpose previously by the first Earl Lowther.

The north front, which is surmounted by eight lofty turrets, is four hundred and twenty feet long. In the centre of it is a noble open porch large enough for the entrance of carriages.

The south front is two hundred and eighty feet long, the grand saloon being in the middle, and other magnificent apartments on either side of it. The view to the north embraces the Beacon Hill, near Penrith, Saddleback, which rises three thousand and forty-eight feet above the level of the sea, and the mountains of Scotland in the distance.

The great terrace is nearly a mile in length, and overlooks a portion of the park with its forest trees of large growth and scattered herds of antlered deer.

“In Henry the Second’s time the manor of Lowther would seem to have been divided into three parts, for in that reign Humphrey Machel gave a third part of the Church of Lowther to the priory of Carlisle. In 1278 one of these portions was divided between co-heiresses, married to Robert de Morville and Gilbert de Whiteby, while the other two pertained to the priory of Wotton and William de Strickland. In the year 1309 it was held of the Cliffords by the heir of John de Coupland, Henry de Haverington, Simon de Alve, and the priory of Wotton; and in 1314 the moiety of Simon de Alve was possessed by Hugh de Lowther. In 1421 Sir Robert de Lowther held the whole of this manor by the cornage of twenty shillings and fourpence.”

The following is the account of the impression the beauty of the place made upon Lord Macartney, who had seen more of the world than most people:—“I wandered in *Van-shoo-quen*, or the *Paradise of Ten Thousand Trees*, for several hours, and yet was never weary of wandering, for certainly so rich, so beautiful, so sublime a prospect my eyes had never beheld. But if any place can be said in any respect to have

similar features to the western part of Van-shoo-quen, which I have seen this day, it is at Lowther Hall, in Westmoreland, which, when I knew it many years ago, from the extent of prospect, the grand surrounding objects, the noble situation, the diversity of surface, and command of water, I thought might be rendered by a man of taste the finest scene in the British dominions."

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The family of Lord Lonsdale descends more immediately from Sir Richard Lowther, living in the reign of Elizabeth, but its more remote ancestry is lost in the mists of antiquity, its "local habitation" being unquestionably that above indicated.



UGBROOKE.

# UGBROOKE,

NEAR CHUDLEIGH, DEVONSHIRE.—LORD CLIFFORD.

THE name of this seat, Ugbrooke, or Wogbrooke, is derived from that of the river by which it stands, the word *wog* in the Saxon language meaning, according to Chapple, winding, crooked, or bending.

The house, which stands on the side of an eminence, is about one mile from Chudleigh, and being in the beautiful county of Devonshire, it may well be supposed that within the circumference of seven miles of the estate there is an almost endless succession of enchanting views.—

“Collected here,

As in one point, all Nature's charms appear;  
Hills strive with woods, with waters woods agree,  
Of Devon's charms the grand epitome.  
To those who judge by studied rules of art,  
And make the whole subservient to a part,  
Whose taste the neat parterre and formal line,  
Or studded clumps and circling path confine,  
Misshapen, rude, and rough, the draught may seem;  
The great sublime was never meant for them.  
O'er opening vales see hills on hills arise,  
New objects vary still, and still surprise.  
Through all those wilds our eyes unbounded roam  
O'er half the sphere, and still confess their home;  
For still no bounds their separate parts control,  
Rocks, hills, and plains form one united whole.  
See Haldown here his russet length extends,  
There Dart's high Torr in cloud-capp'd pomp ascends;  
Around the horizon, broken and uneven,  
Rocks frown o'er rocks, and prop the bending heaven.  
Scoop'd out by Nature's hand then back they slide  
In wild disorder, and the chain divide;  
With bulky pride then swelling out again,  
They crowd along, and break upon the plain.  
The lovely plain, in pleasing contrast, now  
More brightly smiles, and softens all below.  
Here the majestic King, with conscious pride,  
Pours from his urn the tributary tide;

Now, hid in shade, he works his silent flood  
 Thro' the dark mazes of the pendant wood;  
 Now murmurs on and bursting into day,  
 O'er chiding pebbles rolls himself away;  
 Then turns and winds his current back again,  
 As loth to leave the sweet alluring plain,  
 Till, sweeping through the fields with wider sway,  
 He rides along and rushes to the sea.  
 Here rich Pomona, too, with apples crown'd,  
 Scatters her fruits and sparkling nectar round.  
 See, cheerful industry walks o'er the plain,  
 With all the rural graces in her train;  
 On verdant slopes while Pan his flock surveys,  
 And golden Ceres all her stores displays."

Thus also the plain prose of the county historian Polwhele,—“The scenery of Ugbrook is very different from that of Mamhead and Powderham. The romantic wilderness of the former may be contrasted with the comparatively tame beauties of the latter. Ugbrook hath all within itself. Powderham and Mamhead, particularly the latter, derive half their charms from distant prospect. Here the woods sweep wildly round, pursuing the course of the valley. Here the park presents to us the finest features of extensive lawn, smooth and verdant, noble eminences, and magnificent masses of shadow. Here the gigantic oaks, and other forest trees, some throwing their extravagant arms across the stream, others wreathing high their old fantastic roots, and the various windings of the brook, at one time almost hid within its rugged banks, at another whitening as it struggles amidst fragments of rocks, at another gliding over its marble bed, are points which cannot but attract admiration.”

The entrance to the mansion is by a spacious hall, which opens into a dining-room thirty-six feet long by twenty-four, and on its walls are some valuable portraits by Sir Peter Lely, and a splendid painting by Titian. The library is also a room of large proportions, and is well filled with a valuable collection of ancient and modern books, and in the other rooms are a variety of articles of rarity and value.

Tradition states that this was a favourite retreat of the poet Dryden, and one of the pathways, still called Dryden's walk, commemorates the fact.

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Lord Clifford derives his descent from

RICHARD FITZ PONZ, living in the reign of Henry the Second, whose son,

WALTER FITZ PONZ, married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Ralph de Toden, with whom he acquired Clifford Castle, in Herefordshire, and hence assumed the name of Clifford.



CORSHAM COURT.

# CORSHAM COURT,

NEAR CORSHAM, WILTSHIRE.—LORD METHUEN.

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THIS was anciently a royal mansion, and used to be a portion of the dowry of the Queens of England. As such it was at one time possessed by Henrietta Maria, the Queen of Charles the First. The name was sometimes written as it is still pronounced—Cosham, and as such it is thus described by Leland in his "Itinerary:"—

"Cosham is a good uplandish town, where the ruins of an old manor-place, and thereby a park, went to be dower to the Queens of England. Mr. Baynton, in Queen Anne's days, pulled down, by license, a piece of this house, somewhat to help his buildings at Bromham. Old Mr. Bonhomme told me that Cosham appertained to the Earldom of Cornwall, and that Cosham was a mansion-place belonging to it, where they sometimes lay. All the men of this townlet were bond; so that upon a time one of the Earls of Cornwall hearing them secretly lament their fate, manumitted them for money, and gave them the lordship of Cosham in copyhold, to pay a chief rent."

The house was originally built by

JOHN THORP, Esq., in the year 1582, and was next the property of the family of HUNGERFORD, from whom it passed to that of METHUEN.

There is here an extremely valuable collection of paintings, some of them considered the *chef-d'œuvres* of their respective masters; among others Rubens, Titian, Guido, Correggio, Paul Veronese, Michael Angelo, etc., etc.

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The family of Methuen is of foreign extraction, and is stated to have derived from a German of distinction who had accompanied Queen Margaret from Hungary about the year 1070, and on whom Malcolm Canmore, King of Scotland, bestowed the Barony of Methven in Perthshire.

JOHN METHVEN was Secretary of State in Scotland in the year 1440.

JOHN METHVEN, of Bishop Cannings, in Wiltshire, in the reigns of King William the Third and Queen Anne, Chancellor of Ireland and Ambassador to Portugal, was father of

## CORSHAM COURT.

SIR PAUL METHUEN, K.B., a minister of these sovereigns, one of the Secretaries of State, Ambassador to Madrid, and Comptroller of the Household. His cousin, PAUL METHUEN, Esq., M.P. for Warwick, was followed by PAUL COBB METHUEN, Esq., M.P. for Great Bedwin, whose son, PAUL METHUEN, Esq., M.P. for Wiltshire in several Parliaments, was raised to the Peerage in 1838 as Baron Methuen of Corsham, and had several children, of whom the eldest surviving son was

FREDERICK HENRY PAUL METHUEN, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Wiltshire Militia, who succeeded as second Lord Methuen.





WIMPOLE HALL.

# WIMPOLE HALL,

NEAR ROYSTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—EARL OF HARDWICKE.

THIS has been described as the most splendid seat in the county of Cambridge.

It is a brick mansion of spacious extent, with two wide-spreading wings, the one on the eastern side being flanked by the outbuildings, and that on the west by a large greenhouse.

The entrance to the hall is by a double flight of steps, and the principal feature of the interior is a state drawing-room, obtained by throwing several rooms into one.

Like so many of the houses of the nobility and gentry of England, the present one contains a magnificent collection of paintings, many by the old and great masters.

There is also a very fine piece of mosaic in the dining-room, representing the temple of the Sybil, and so elaborately executed that at a little distance it could not be distinguished from a painting.

The library is also a room of large size, furnished with a valuable collection of books, and a series of portraits of the most celebrated authors.

There is a private chapel within the house, the walls of which are embellished with the figures of saints, etc.

Nature has not done much for Cambridgeshire in the way of scenery, but all that art can do to improve existing materials has been done, and fine timber and sheets of water make a pleasing landscape here as elsewhere.

There is an avenue, also, two miles and a half long, of majestic trees.

The village church is situated close to the east end of the house. It was rebuilt by Lord Chancellor Hardwicke, in the year 1742, and contains some fine painted windows.

In the Chicheley Chapel, or monument room, adjoining this, are several elegant monuments.

The family of Lord Hardwicke is derived from SIMON YORKE, of Dover, Merchant, who died in 1682. The descents since have been as follows:—His son,

PHILIP YORKE, a solicitor of respectability at Dover.

PHILIP YORKE, an eminent barrister, Solicitor-general in 1720, Attorney-general in 1724, Lord Chief Justice of England in 1733, and created BARON HARDWICKE of

Hardwicke, in the month of November of the same year. He was constituted Lord High Chancellor of England 1736, and further raised in the Peerage in 1754 to the Viscounty of ROYSTON and Earldom of HARDWICKE. After him came his son,

PHILIP YORKE, second EARL HARDWICKE, whose nephew,

PHILIP YORKE, K.G., D.C.L., F.R.S., and F.A.S., third Earl, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland from 1801 to 1806, was followed by his nephew,

CHARLES PHILIP YORKE, F.R.S., fourth Earl of Hardwicke.



CASSIOBURY PARK.

# CASSIOBURY PARK,

NEAR WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.—EARL OF ESSEX.

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OFFA, King of Mercia, was the first possessor of these lands of whom we read, and they were by him bestowed on the Abbey of St. Albans. On the demolition of the monasteries by King Henry the Eighth, that monarch granted the estate to

RICHARD MORRISON, Esq., who was one of his trusted agents. His grandson, in the reign of Charles the First,

— MORRISON, married Mary, second daughter of Lord Campden, and having no male heir, it became the property of their heiress,

ELIZABETH MORRISON, who married Arthur, Lord Capel, of Hadham, in the county of Hertford, ancestor of the Earls of Essex.

The family mansion of Cassiobury stands in an extensive and well-wooded park, through which the river Gade flows.

It has long been celebrated for its collection of paintings, both as portraits of illustrious characters, and also as exquisite works of art. In the former of these classes may be enumerated—Algernon, Earl of Northumberland; his daughter Elizabeth, wife and widow of the first Lord Capel; Lady Anne and Lord Percy, by Vandyke; the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, by Sir Peter Lely; Sir Charles Hanbury Williams; Charles I., by Vandyke; Charles II., by Sir Peter Lely; etc. Amongst the latter may be numbered a Virgin and Child, by Carlo Maratti; a Monk's Head, by Carlo Dolce; Two Small Views, by Canaletti; a Sea Piece, by Vander Velde; a Landscape, by Gainsborough; a Landscape, by Wouvermann; etc.

The state bedroom is also noticeable for the Gobelin Tapestry in it, representing a Village Feast, copied from a painting by Teniers.

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The Earls of Essex derive their descent from  
JOHN CAPEL, Esq., of Stoke Nayland, in Suffolk, father of  
SIR WILLIAM CAPEL, KNIGHT, Alderman of London, and Lord Mayor in 1503. The  
successive descents after him have been,  
SIR GILES CAPEL, next his brother,  
SIR EDWARD CAPEL, then his son,  
SIR HENRY CAPEL, his son,  
SIR ARTHUR CAPEL, followed by his grandson,

ARTHUR CAPEL, Esq., created Baron Capel of Hadham.

ARTHUR CAPEL, second Baron, created VISCOUNT MALDEN and EARL OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX in 1661.

ALGERNON CAPEL, second Earl.

WILLIAM CAPEL, third Earl.

WILLIAM ANNE CAPEL, fourth Earl.

GEORGE CAPEL, fifth Earl.

ARTHUR ALGERNON CAPEL, sixth Earl.



BADMINTON HOUSE

# BADMINTON HOUSE,

NEAR TETBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—DUKE OF BEAUFORT.

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THE first possessor of Badminton on record was one EDRICK, who held it in the reign of King Edward the Confessor. Next ERNULF DE ESDING owned it in the time of the Conqueror, and afterwards it was held for several centuries by the family of

BOTELER, until

NICHOLAS BOTELER, in the year 1608, sold the estate to

THE HONOURABLE SIR THOMAS SOMERSET, K.B., third son of Edward, fourth Earl of Worcester, who in the year 1626 was created Viscount Somerset of Cashel, in the county of Tipperary, in Ireland. He left an only daughter and heiress,

ELIZABETH SOMERSET, who dying unmarried, bequeathed the Castle to

HENRY, LORD HERBERT, afterwards created Duke of Beaufort.

The park is very extensive, being nearly ten miles in circumference.

The house within is splendidly decorated.

In the great dining-room is a large quantity of valuable carving in wood by Grinling Gibbons.

The picture gallery contains a fine series of family portraits. The most remarkable of the others is a satirical painting by Salvator Rosa, for which he was expelled from Rome. There also may be found the head of Guido, by himself; one of Cardinal Alberoni, by Trevisani; of Erasmus and Sir Thomas More, by Holbein; and of Cornelius Jansen, by himself. Also several excellent landscapes by Italian masters, The Holy Family, by Raphael, and other much-admired pictures by Guido and Carlo Dolce.

Badminton was visited in the year 1702 by Queen Anne and her Consort, Prince George of Denmark.

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The family of the Duke of Beaufort derives from Charles Somerset, an illegitimate son of Henry, Duke of Somerset, K.G., himself descended from an illegitimate son of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, son of King Edward the Fourth. He married Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of William Herbert, Earl of Huntingdon, Lord Herbert of Ragland, Chepstow, and Gower, and was summoned to Parliament as such in the first year of Henry the Eighth. He was created EARL OF WORCESTER for



the distinguished part he had in the taking of Tournay and Terouenne. He was father of

HENRY SOMERSET, second Earl, whose son,

WILLIAM SOMERSET, K.G., third Earl, was followed by his son,

EDWARD SOMERSET, fourth Earl, created VISCOUNT SOMERSET of Cashel, in the county of Tipperary. His eldest surviving son was

HENRY SOMERSET, fifth Earl, advanced to the dignity of the MARQUIS OF WORCESTER, November 2nd., 1642. His eldest son was

EDWARD SOMERSET, second Marquis. He published a work in which the power and application of the steam engine are distinctly described. His son,

HENRY SOMERSET, third Marquis, was created DUKE OF BEAUFORT, December 2nd., 1682. His grandson succeeded as

HENRY SOMERSET, second Duke, and he by his elder son,

HENRY SOMERSET, third Duke. He by his brother,

CHARLES NOEL SOMERSET, fourth Duke. He by

HENRY SOMERSET, fifth Duke, followed by

HENRY CHARLES SOMERSET, sixth Duke.

HENRY SOMERSET, K.G., seventh Duke.

CHARLES FITZROY SOMERSET, P.C., eighth Duke.



DANBURY PALACE.

# DANBURY PALACE,

NEAR MALDON, ESSEX.—BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.

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IF this ancient seat had from the first been a seat of the Bishop of Rochester, one could not wonder at the number of its numerous proprietors, inasmuch as it is but very seldom that in the course of ecclesiastical affairs, a bishop, though he may live to an old age, holds the see for a lengthened period, and we do not therefore think it strange to read, when there is a new bishop appointed to this or that diocese, that he is the eightieth or ninetieth who has held that post.

But in truth it is only very recently that this place has been the residence of the Bishops of Rochester. It has, however, even before it became such, changed hands a remarkable number of times, as will appear from the following brief history of its successive proprietors:—

In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was held by one

ARLING, a Saxon, and next, about the time of the compilation of "Domesday Book," namely, in the reign of William the Conqueror, it was the property of

GEFFERY DE MANDEVILLE. Soon afterwards the greater part of it came to the family of

DE SANTO CLARO, or ST. CLARE, and the estate is still called St. Clare's Manor. From them it passed successively to the families of

DE VERE, EARLS OF OXFORD.

DE GREY, of Wilton.

SIR GERARD BRAYBROOKE.

LORD DARCY, and then fell to the Crown.

It was next granted by King Edward the Sixth, to

WILLIAM PARR, Mayor of Nottingham, who alienated it to

SIR WALTER MILD MAY, KNIGHT, founder of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who died in 1559, and by whom the Mansion House of Danbury Palace was erected. After him,

SIR MATTHEW MILD MAY was succeeded by his second son,

HUMPHREY MILD MAY, High Sheriff of Essex, in the eleventh year of Charles the First's reign, and was followed by

JOHN MILD MAY, Esq., whose daughter,

MARY MILD MAY, married William Fytche, Esq., of Woodham Walter. It afterwards became the seat of

JOHN ROUND, Esq., M.P. for Maldon in 1845.

## DANBURY PALACE.

It appears also to have been formerly held by the family of RICH, and also by that of WESTON.

Finally, it was purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, with the proceeds of the sales of the Palaces of Bromley and Rochester, as a residence for the Bishops of Rochester.

It was anciently a Peculiar of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and subject to the special jurisdiction of the Dean of Bocking.

It stands on one of the highest eminences in the county, and is situated about six miles from Chelmsford, four from Maldon, and thirty-three from London.

# CLUMBER PARK,\*

NEAR OLLERTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

THIS princely seat of the Duke of Newcastle is one of the three "Dukeries." The others being, or rather having been, Welbeck Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Portland, and Worksop Manor, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, but the last named was purchased by the then Duke of Newcastle some years since, and the mansion pulled down. It was a noble mansion when last I saw it.

The principal rooms in this great house are the state dining-room, sixty feet long, thirty-four feet wide, and thirty feet high: it can accommodate one hundred and fifty guests at dinner, with room to spare. The entrance-hall is very lofty, and the roof supported by columns.

The library of books is stated to be a most valuable collection.

The park is about thirteen miles in circumference. Clumber is named in Domesday Book as having within it before the Conquest two manors of Roger de Buisli, Adewool and Ulchill. But to my view the great ornament of Clumber, as of every other country house where there is such, is the fine sheet of water in front of it, on which there is, at least there was when I visited it many years ago, a good-sized frigate, fitted up and rigged in the most perfect manner, not a rope or block wanting or out of place, the handiwork of some old sailor, who had left the perils of the sea to wield his crutch on land, and tell how battles had been fought and won.

The state drawing-room is forty-eight feet long by thirty-three feet wide.

The library is of similar dimensions, and last, but not least, so is the kitchen.

There is also a private chapel, four of the windows in which cost £800 each.

Here are, as may well be supposed, pictures and paintings "rich and rare." One room contains seven valued at £25,000.

Among these and others are, as to the old masters, works by Guido, Rubens, Michael Angelo, Correggio, Rembrandt, Salvator Rosa, Domenechino, Battisti Franco, Castiglione, Albert Durer, Vandyke, Teniers, Poussin, Vander-Meuden, Van Oorst, and Snyders.

As to the modern painters, Gainsborough and Sir Joshua Reynolds may be mentioned as having their niches.

\* See View on the Title-page.

Not more than a century ago, in fact within that time, this cultivated park and estate is described as having been "a black heath full of rabbits, having a narrow river running through it."

The Duke of Newcastle descends from John de Clinton, of Amington, in Warwickshire, living in the year 1300. He was summoned to Parliament as Baron Clinton of Maxtock, in the county of Warwick, in 1299, February 6th. The descents afterwards were as follows:—

SIR JOHN DE CLINTON, summoned to Parliament four times as a Baron in the reign of Edward the Third.

SIR JOHN CLINTON.

SIR JOHN CLINTON, shared in the triumphs of Edward the Third and the Black Prince, and was also summoned to Parliament.

WILLIAM CLINTON, fourth LORD CLINTON.

JOHN CLINTON, fifth Lord.

JOHN CLINTON, sixth Lord.

JOHN CLINTON, seventh Lord.

THOMAS CLINTON, eighth Lord.

EDWARD CLINTON, ninth Lord, created Earl of Lincoln in 1572.

HENRY CLINTON, K.B., second Earl of Lincoln.

THOMAS CLINTON, third Earl.

THEOPHILUS CLINTON, K.B., fourth Earl.

EDWARD CLINTON, fifth Earl, followed by his cousin,

SIR FRANCIS FIENNES CLINTON, sixth Earl.

HENRY CLINTON, K.G., seventh Earl.

GEORGE CLINTON, eighth Earl, followed by his brother,

HENRY CLINTON, K.G., ninth Earl, who inherited the Dukedom of Newcastle on the death of his Countess's uncle, Thomas Pelham Holles, who had been so created in 1756, with special remainder to him.

THOMAS CLINTON, third Duke of Newcastle, and tenth Earl of Lincoln.

HENRY PELHAM CLINTON, K.G., D.C.L., fourth Duke.

HENRY PELHAM CLINTON, K.G., fifth Duke.

HENRY PELHAM ALEXANDER CLINTON, sixth Duke.