

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

WILLIAM DE PESHALE

Fifteenth in Ancestry

Section 1, William de Peshale—Section 2, Ancestry of Ellen Broughton and — Pantulf—Section 3, Robert de Peshale de Swinnerton—Section 4, John de Peshale—Section 5, Ralph de Peschale.

SECTION 1.

*15. WILLIAM DE PESHALE, son of John de Lumley de Peshale, Chapter 12, Section 1, married Ellen Broughton, Chapter 13, Section 2. His second wife was the daughter of William Pantulf, Baron of Wem, Chap. 11, Sec. 3, Div. 7 and Chapter 13, Section 2. The Pantulfs were descendants of the brother of Ligulph who married Ealdgyth, the daughter of Ealdred, Earl of Northumberland. Children:—

1. *14. WALTER DE PESHALE, Chapter 14, Section 1.
2. Stephen de Peshale, Chapter 14, Section 3.

In the old Anglo Saxon Chronicles we read concerning the Conqueror: Truly there was much trouble in these times, and very great distress; he caused castles to be built, and oppressed the poor. The king also was of great sternness, and he took from his subjects many marks of gold, and many hundred pounds of silver, and this either with or without right, and with little need. He was given to avarice and greedily loved gain. He made large forests for the deer and enacted laws therewith, so that whoever killed a hart or a hind should be blinded. As he forbade killing the deer, so also the boars; and he loved the tall stags as if he were their father. He also appointed concerning the hares, that they should go free. The rich complained and the poor murmured, but he was so sturdy that he recked naught of them; they must will all that the king willed, if they would live, or would keep their lands, or would hold their possessions, or would be maintained in their rights. [Readings in English History, by Edward P. Cheyney.]

William and his successors as Kings of England seized vast tracts of land in central England, much of it cultivated farms, which they changed into great forests, game preserves for the purpose of affording the Normans the amusement and excitement of the chase. There were great forests in the border counties, but the king and his company wanted to enjoy this sport without having to travel any great distance from the larger cities of the kingdom. Way out on the Welsh border were yet to be found the primeval forests of Britain, and to these the king and his company would go at long intervals when they wanted the real pleasures of the hunt, and hence were willing to make the long journey. This forest included a large part of Staffordshire, which later came to be known as the fighting-forest county of England. When we speak of the King's forest, we are not however to be understood as designating a dense growth of trees or merely a tract of wood-

land, but a district subject to forest laws and preserved primarily for the chasing of deer, wild boars, and other animals that were hunted. The king appointed keepers to look after his forest domain and they were given the most drastic authority in the administration of which they were notoriously severe, in fact they were tyrannical and unjust. They even prevented the natives from enjoying their rights of common therein and levied unjust fines; for example the right to take the underbrush, or to gather the dead and fallen limbs of the trees for fuel for domestic purposes, which was deemed a highly valuable privilege, and even as to this the Forest Ranger was unjust and exacting in his regulations. In fact he looked upon all who came into the forest as trespassers who disturbed the king's animals of the chase.

The principal trees of the forest seem to have been oak, birch and hornbeam, while on the upland were pine and fir, with almost everywhere in the woods a dense undergrowth of shrubs which formed a shelter for the wild animals and birds with which the forest abounded. Then there were large stretches of meadow and open moor making the very best grazing and open feeding ground imaginable. The wild animals being practically unmolested thrived greatly, so that deer, wolves, wild boar, and wild cattle found in the forest had to be kept down by hunting. In fact at times they would be driven into enclosed fields to be slaughtered. There were also enormous quantities of foxes, hares and rabbits, as well as swans, partridges, and wood-cocks. For the benefit of the deer the forest warden planted many acres with the sweet chestnut. Great droves of red deer wandered through the forest waste and grazed tamely upon not only the open land but upon the cultivated lands of the adjoining manors. The wild cattle of Britain were almost as tame as the farmer's oxen, while the wild cat and the wolf alone were free to hunt these wild animals and also preyed on mankind. The barons of the adjoining county were not interested so much in the chase as in the great pasture lands given over to wild animals which could be better and more profitably employed to graze the cattle of their own herds. Then there was the cruel enforcement of these strange forest laws against those who had been accustomed to hunt where they pleased, and who had heretofore enjoyed at least the privilege of keeping the wild animals from destroying or consuming their farm crops. The laws aroused so much resentment that the mysterious death of King William Rufus in the forest was looked upon as an act of divine vengeance. As a fact there never was a time when it was safe to either travel or tarry in the great forest of Staffordshire. This lawlessness was largely the work of the keepers as well as being accentuated by the law breakers for thereby the emoluments of the keepers were largely increased. The great Earls of Chester, who exercised in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries in Cheshire and in North Staffordshire the powers and privileges of kings, when the King's business called them to London paid a fixed sum to the head ranger of Cannock Chase for conducting them through the mazes of the forest and defending them from robbers. And this continued to as late as 1764, when there were still highwaymen in Cannock Chase. [The Story of Staffordshire, by Mark Hughes, B.A., page 325-327.]

The woods of Staffordshire and Shropshire contained game greater than any of the wild animals reserved for the royal chase. The Welsh man, usually in

small bands, bravely found his way through the almost impenetrable forest and across the open moorland, mostly at night. Secreting himself in the underbrush, he was able to spy upon the unsuspecting inhabitants of the manor, so that at the right moment he would pounce upon the place, killing all who resisted, then gathering great quantities of booty, he would be off and away before a concerted defense or counter attack could be made against him. The barons therefore, as a matter of defense, urged each other to fence in adjacent parts of the Forest Reserve and graze their cattle thereon, as the constant patrolling of the land thereby occasioned would be the very best protection against these Indian-like attacks of the Cymri. But the king and his forest ranger were inexorable, the domain allotted to the wild animals must not be trespassed upon. It was of course unlawful to use this forest land for any purpose without the permission of the king, and the king thought more of his own pleasure than the safety of his people living along the Welsh border.

During the reign of King Stephen the lords of the adjacent manors in Staffordshire began to fence in large tracts for the purpose of grazing domestic cattle. It is even possible that some of these grazing privileges were obtained by the tacit consent of the king, who being an usurper, tried in every way to buy the allegiance of the nobility. As a result his reign is looked upon as a period of unlicensed feudalism, for the barons no sooner obtained a footing in the forest lands than they enforced against their tenants as drastic regulations as those against which they had so strenuously objected. With the death of Stephen, and the accession of King Henry II., all this changed, and the laws and regulations swung back to the old forest laws and to the king's forester in charge. King Henry II. made himself unpopular with the barons when he ordered that the royal domain granted by King Stephen, and all special privileges allowed by him, should be restored to the crown. The king's activity in carrying out his reforms caused him to exercise a close superintendence upon his officers, and between 1155 and 1157 he was in Staffordshire three times, but these measures, among others which are said to be the glory of Henry's reign, found no favor with the barons who saw their own influence limited by them, nor did they like it that the great grazing ground upon which they had pastured vast herds of their domestic cattle should be taken away from them. In 1173 they formed a far-reaching conspiracy against the king, finding in the discontent of the king's sons a sufficient pretext. The revolt though unsuccessful was renewed the next year. But Henry had the support of the church, the towns, the mass of the people, and the new official class, and by August the rebellion was over, and the castles of the rebels were surrendered one by one and with little resistance. In 1175 Henry was again in Staffordshire and when at Litchfield on his way to Nottingham, pleas were held there by William Fitz Ralph, Bertram de Vernon, and William Bassett in *Cura Regis*. It seems that the nobles had again taken to enclosing the king's forest and it was several years before the trespassers were evicted and suitably punished by fine. But no sooner was the king gone away than the neighboring barons began again to fence in the pasture fields of the king's forest domains. Consequently the king was compelled to send in his officers to dispossess those who had encroached upon these pastures. We find in 1176, among King Henry's Forest

amercements in Staffordshire, one of two merks inflicted on Geoffred de 'Codewalton' and William de Peshale, vassals of Yvo Pantulf in Cotwalton. [The Victoria History of the County of Stafford, by William Page, London, 1908. Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1, page 229.]

Codwalton was one of the Staffordshire fiefs of Pantulf, Baron of Wem, and is situated in the Parish of Stone. The records also disclose that at this time William de Peshale was a tenant of Ivo de Pantulf; and as we know they were cousins, and owing to their frequent interchange of signatures as witnesses to charters, there must have been some intermarriage as well. Ligulph, the grandfather of Ormunda, it will be recalled had a brother William who was the ancestor of the Pantulfs. From the record of the amercement it appears that at this time William de Peshale was a trespasser upon a considerable part of the king's forest, as is indicated by the unusually high amount of the fine inflicted. William de Peshale evidently did not pay his fine nor did Geoffrey de Codewalton, as a subsequent entry on the Pleas Rolls discloses that they were *De Misericordi Regis de Foresta*. *Williemus Peshale et Gaufridus de Codewalton, homines Yvonis Pantolf de pro coden in thro in et detention*. Translation: William Peshale and Geoffrey de Codewalton, tenants of Ivo Pantulf, concerning the law, they refusing to pay (the fine) and being detained. Unfortunately the records do not disclose what finally happened to William de Peshale for this trespass upon the king's forest. It is most likely that they were pardoned. According to Rev. John Peshale, as stated in his private note book, William de Peshale also occurs along with his kinsman Ralph Bigod or Bagot as witnesses to a deed of gift concerning Bungay manor temp. 1156. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1, page 80. In the notes of Rev. John Peshale to his Pedigree citing Dugdale Mon. VI. 345 Id. Dodsworth et Bib. Hatton & Rob. Escalt, sub. H. 2, in Staff. in Tun.]

It will be recalled that Isabella Lupus, who married Gilbert de Corbeil, was the daughter of Richard de Goz de Avranches, and his wife Emma, half-sister of William the Conqueror; that their name de Goz was also written Bigod; that Richard and his brother Robert Bigod were of the conspirators who brought about the banishment and impoverishment of our ancestor Werlac, Count of Corbeil, grandfather of Gilbert de Corbeil. The marriage of Gilbert de Corbeil and Isabella Lupus seems to have largely healed the enmity between the Corbeil and Bigod families. At least we find the de Peshales and the Bigods in this generation recognizing the family relationship by their joinder in witnessing this charter concerning Bungay Manor. Roger Bigod had been greatly enriched by William the Conqueror in the distribution of the English lands. The happenings which had resulted in the death of Waltheof II., had also brought about the outlawry of the earls of Norfolk and Hereford, and placed their estates and offices at the king's disposal. Portions of their estates in East Anglia went to enrich Roger Bigod, who died in 1107, and was succeeded by his younger son, Hugh, who was created earl of the East-Angles by King Stephen in 1140. This Hugh proved to be a representative successor of his father's worst characteristics; he was a mischief-maker, a tale bearer and conspirator. Upon the accession of King Henry II. his grant from King Stephen was of course annulled and in 1157, Hugh Bigod, the veteran intriguer, placed his castles of Bungay, Walton and

Framlingham in the King's hand. Bigod had been created Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk by Stephen; the pillage and plundering which followed in the footsteps of his rebel armies impressed the natives with fear and trembling. Mothers hushed the cries of their infants with his name; and the headless horseman of the night was for many centuries the roving spirit of this *vir magnificus* of Ralph de Coggeshall. [Freeman's *Norman Conquest*, vol. 4, page 401. The *Counties of England* by P. H. Ditchfield, vol. 2, page 120.]

Hugh Bigod gave his support to Henry, son of Henry II., in his rebellion against his father. When the king was absent in France, his justiciar, Richard de Lucy, hurried on the completion of Oxford Castle, which was commenced in 1164. He had scarcely time to throw a garrison of soldiers into it when the earl of Leicester landed with his Flemings at Crewell, and laid siege to Walton Castle. The attack having failed, Leicester proceeded with his forces to Haughley, and, with the help of Bigod, attacked the castle. It was the deed of the grant of part of this Bungay manor, which was granted for religious purposes, which was witnessed by Ralph, brother of Hugh Bigod, and their cousin William de Peshale. The Bigods have no very enviable place in English history. The closing years of the long reign of King Henry III. were harassed by the struggles between the King and the barons, at whose head was the renowned Simon de Montfort, which culminated in 1265, in the summoning of the first Parliament to which burgesses from the towns were admitted to take their places along with the knights of the shires. In the troubles of the time Norfolk bore its part. Roger Bigod is found among the disaffected barons, and his reply to the king's threat to send reapers to reap his fields is well known: "And I will send you back the heads of your reapers." [Counties of England by P. H. Ditchfield, vol. 1, page 92.]

A deed, quoted by Erdeswick, shows Ivo Pantulf granting to Adam de Audley and his heirs that land in Baggenhall, which was of the Grantor's tenure, to have and to hold of the Grantor and his heirs in fee and inheritance. Witnesses: Alexander Panton (the Grantor's brother), William de Peshale, Roger fitz Liulph, Sar de Chella, and the Grantor's whole court. The deed then proceeds to save the right of Peter Fitz Siward and adds further witnesses, viz., Hugh de Clevenhall, and Matthew and Alan de Bagenhall. There is subsequent evidence of the Grantee in the above deed, here called Adam, son of Lydulphus de Audleigh, passing half of the Manor of Magnall to Adam de Stanley. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1, page 236. Harwood's *Erdeswick*, page 14.]

Going back to the grandparentage of all the parties of this deed we recall that William Pantulf, Ligulph and Siward Digera were brothers. Adam de Audley, Roger fitz Ligulph, and William de Peshale were descended respectively the first two from Adam and the latter from Osbert, the sons of Ligulph. Ivo Pantulf and Alexander his brother were descended from William Pantulf, and Bagnall, or at least half thereof, was one of the estates bestowed by King Henry I. in augmentation of the Staffordshire Fief of William Pantulf, of Wem; while Peter Fitz Siward and his Son Sar de Chelle (Siward de Chelle) were descended from Siward.

While neither William de Peshale, nor his descendants for many generations, parted with their holdings in the manor of Peshale, nevertheless they were for the next five generations tenants of their cousins the Pantulfs, Barons of Wemme,

or tenants of the Arundels, and resided in Shropshire. There is every reason to believe that there had been an intermarriage between them. It is more than probable that William de Peshale had married a daughter of the second William Pantulf, and had obtained his holdings in the barony of Wemme in this way.

It is certain that our ancestors resided in Shropshire for the most of their time during these five succeeding generations. Unfortunately the records in Shropshire have not been so fully published as those in Staffordshire, so that we can only get a glimpse as to what occurred there in our family history. But that glimpse will be found to be very interesting, as it will disclose that our branch of the de Peshale family continued by happy marriages to be closely related in each generation to the very best and noblest families in all England. The genealogists have always assumed quite truthfully that de Peshale was primarily a Staffordshire family, hence they have overlooked the very interesting generations that lived in Shropshire. The reader must however not get into his mind that this meant any great removal, as the family never resided outside of a territory comprehended in a circle of twenty-five miles radius, of which the manor of Peshale is the center.

The removal of this branch of the family from Staffordshire to Shropshire, for the barons of Wemme were more largely possessed of lands in the latter than in the former county, has led some investigators to assume that there was a break in the generations of the family of Peshale, which lapse they tried to supply by making the line come through a John Swinnerton, a descendant of Robert de Peshale de Swinnerton, brother of William. There was no reason why this change of locality should have been overlooked as all the genealogists stated correctly the line of Stephen, brother of Walter, and son of William, but they not only overlooked his brother Walter, but the important and controlling fact that Stephen was also located in Shropshire, as will appear more fully in the next chapter.

William de Peshale was, as we have seen, tenant of the Barons of Wemme, he having most probably married a daughter of the second William de Pantulf. It is unfortunate that we do not know definitely the lands held by William de Peshale. All that the records disclose to our present knowledge is that he was as some think probable a military tenant of the Baron of Wemme. Probably this is too broad a statement, as it was peculiar to the Baron of Wem if possible not to enfeoff any of his tenants by knights service, so that they held of him by quit rents. This was a far-sighted act on his part. As they were Northumbrians they had no particular love for the Norman feudal system, and by requiring only a money rental they secured tenants among those who, holding lands elsewhere by the burdens of military service, were glad to buy lands subject only to the payment in money on a perpetual ground rent. It may be as the annotator of the *Liber Niger Saccarii* thinks, that William de Peshale resided at Cotwalton, for he was identified with a man from this place at the time he was amerced for trespassing in King Henry's forests. Cotwalton is in the parish of Stone, but the records would seem to most clearly assert that Godfrey was of Cotwalton and that William de Peshale was of some other place and so well known as to need no further identification. This would more clearly conform to the facts relating to the subsequent generations of his line, as they resided in Shropshire and not in Staffordshire. But in view of

the tenure by which Pantulf leased his lands it would be difficult to learn exactly where William de Peshale resided in Shropshire. It certainly was not far from the Parish of Edgmond. A word more as to the peculiar tenure under the Barons of Wem. They had no doubt learned at the beginning of their tenure under the Conqueror what the kings of England were soon to learn, that forced service in war rarely produced good soldiers, while the money obtained from the quit rental of the lands would pay the wages of volunteers which gave the Barons, and later the kings of England, the pick of the fighting men in any community. In fact it was as early as 1159 when Henry II of England introduced the famous scutage, or the acceptance of a money composition in lieu of the military service due for rental by those who held their lands directly of the crown, and which system of compounding almost immediately was applied to those who in turn held lands by military service under the king's tenants.

SECTION 2.

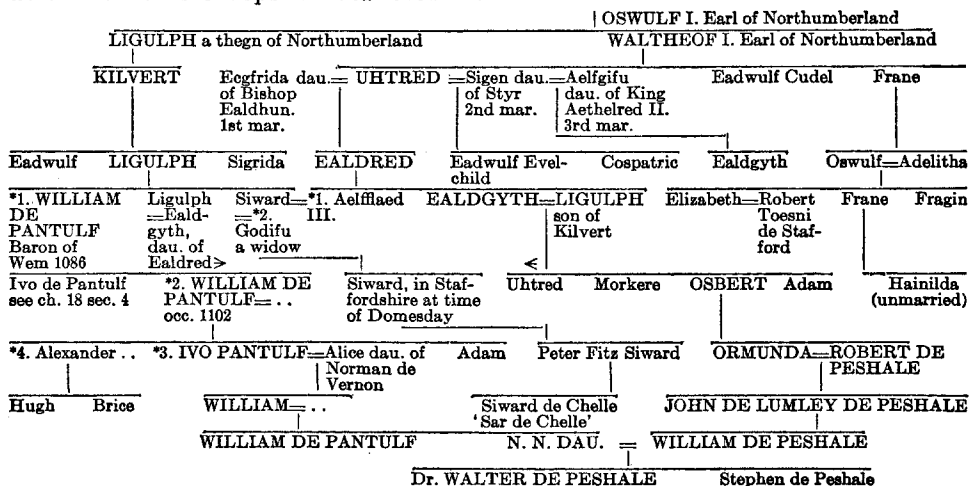
The Ancestry of ELLEN BROUGHTON. In the Rev. John Peshall's genealogy it appears that William de Peshale married Ellen the daughter and heir of Broughton of Stafford, which is a very interesting statement, as Roger de Napton, who married Juliana de Charnes, and thereby became the ancestor of the Staffordshire family of Broughton, did not flourish until 1275, (3 Edward I) and the most careful search has not disclosed any family of Broughton in Staffordshire prior to that date. Walter Chetwynd in his history of Pirehill Hundred says: Broughton, anciently written Borgheston and Burghton, was 20 Conqueror, certified half a carucate of land, which at that time lay waste, which discloses that as late as 1086 there was no tenant at Broughton, and it was not until 1176 (22 Henry II.), that Richard Peche, the Bishop, gave it in fee to Ralph Peche, his kinsman, who passed away the inheritance of Broughton to Reginald, the son of William de Charnes, the aforesaid bishop confirming the same to him and his heirs, they paying 2 shillings yearly for all services. [Historical Collections of Staffordshire, vol. 1914, page 29-32.]

Reginald had issue John de Charnes, who gave most of his lands here to Robert his younger son, who, having no issue male, gave it to Christian, his elder daughter, the wife of Robert de Lovington, his lands at Sutton, co. Stafford, and to Juliana the younger, who married Roger, the son of Herv. de Napton, all his lands here; which Roger and Juliana afterward obtained of Reginald de Charnes a release of all his right and title to the manor of Burthton, and by the death of Christian their sister, without issue, came also to the possession of the lands at Sutton. This Roger was descended from the Naptons at Napton, co. Warwick, who purchased certain lands there in the time of Edward I., which family is by several learned antiquaries conceived to be a younger branch of the Vernons Barons of Sibrock, in Cheshire, their arms having no other difference than that they have charged Vernons Fess with 3 Eschallops, which might probably be done in allusion to the stones of that form frequently found in the lordship of Napton, as the astroites (or star stones) plowed up in Shugborough fields, adjoining to Napton, are borne in the coat of armor of the ancient family of the Shugboroughs.

Roger de Napton, beforementioned, had his advancement from his uncle, Roger Molend. This Bishop was nephew to King Henry III. (Matt. Paris, 42 Henry III.), Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, who, by several grants, gave him large portions of land in Eccleshall, Peshall, and both the Suggenhulls, together with the manor of Toft, not far from Napton, which he bought 54 Henry III. of Sir William Bagot, of Hide (juxta Stafford), Knight, after which residing here, he assumed the name of Burghton, and purchased the manor of Cherleton and Swinshead, with divers lands in Peshall and Podmore, and died 6 Edward II. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1914, page 29-32.]

Although the Broughtons were tenants at Peshale, having purchased part of the Bishop of Chester's manor, held by Thomas Peshale, and therefore were near neighbors of the older Peshale family, nevertheless the deeds of Sir Robert Broughton as published do not contain a single Peshale witness except Thomas de Peshale, from whom he purchased Peshale, Stephen de Aspelyh, son of John Swinnerton, and Eleanor de Peshale, Will. de Chatailne, son-in-law of Thomas de Peshale, and Thomas de Swinnerton. It would seem quite clear that the Ellen Broughton referred to could not possibly be of the family of Broughton in Staffordshire which originated temp. Edward II. from Roger de Napton who married Juliana de Charnes. There would seem to be more than a possibility that the Rev. John Persall referred to the daughter of Ralph Peche who held Broughton temp. Henry II., who may have been seated here before he obtained the conveyance from his uncle, Bishop Peche, and there is more than a probability that this is true, as there appears to have also been an earlier family of Broughton in Staffordshire, as a Richard de Brocton witnessed a deed in 1166 of Rauldus de Dulverne (in the Stone Chartulary); which may refer to the family of Ralph Peche or it may refer to the family at Brocton, as it was later called. Broughton Hall is situated about one furlong northeast of the turnpike road at Longdon Green. [*Ibid.*, vol. 6, part 1, page 19. *Ibid.*, vol. 1, page 226.]

The following chart gives the pedigree of the members of the Ligulph family at this time in Shropshire-Staffordshire.



The numbers correspond to the numbers in the text which follows.

Ancestry of the daughter of William de Pantulf, Baron of Wem. It is quite evident that none of the sons of William de Peshale were born of his wife Ellen Broughton as no lands of the Broughtons of either family are subsequently found in the possession of the Peshales, whereas we shall find the sons of William de Peshale continuing to be closely associated with the Pantulfs in Shropshire. The Pantulfs are descended from William Pantulf, a brother of Ligulph, the grandfather of Ormunda who married Robert de Peshale. William and his wife were therefore cousins several degrees removed and of Northumbrian ancestry.

*1. WILLIAM PANTULF. Almington, called in Domesday 'Almentone,' was also held, in 1086, by William Pantulf, of Wem, under the Earl of Shrewsbury. It was with its appurtenances (all probably in Drayton-in-hales) a Manor of three hides, and it contained no less than 2,800 acres of wood. Almington, if we may judge from subsequent evidences, was a knight's fee, usually held by the Barons of Wem, in demesne. Consequently at the date of the Liber Niger, it would be vain to conjecture anything about the Tenancy under Ivo Pantulf. When, about that time, Ivo Pantulf, with the concurrence of Brice, his son, gave 'Bromhale' (Broom-hall) and 'Shipford' (now Shifford's Grange) to Combermere Abbey, there may be a doubt whether he was dismembering his Shropshire Manor of Tirley or his Staffordshire Manor of Almington. Both were probably in his demesne, and both were in that part of the Parish of Market Drayton which is now known as Drayton-in-Hales. The Feodaries of 1240-42 gave Radulfus Pincernator, alias Ralph de Botyler, as holding a knight's fee in Almon-ton, alias Alcminton, of the Barony of Wemme; but this again savours of the fee being held in demesne for Ralph le Botyler was already the husband of Matilda Pantulf, the heiress of the Barony of Wem. In the Nomina Villarum of 1316, William de Botiller, written as Lord of Alkinton. William le Botyler was the contemporary Baron of Wem, and clearly held Almington, in demesne.

Cresswell in Staffordshire. Cresswell stands in Domesday as a Manor of one hide, and in that group of Manors which were held by William Pantulf, of Wem, under the Earl of Shrewsbury. To Cresswell was attached a burgage (masura) in Stafford, but it was waste. Eighty years after Domesday, that is at the date of the Liber Niger, Cresswell was held under Ivo Pantulf, Baron of Wem, by Robert de Eyton. The same Robert de Eyton also held six Manors in Shropshire of the same Baron, viz., Eyton on the Wealdmoors, Bratton, Horton, Buttery, Half-Lawley, and Sutton. In 1240-2, William de Eyton, holding the same Shropshire estates under the Barony of Wem, by service of one knight's fee, held also Cressewelle, in Staffordshire, by service of a second knight's fee, under the same barony. But Cresswell had, ere this, been subinfeudated. Thomas de Cressewelle was William de Eyton's Tenant at Cresswell. The Feodary of 1284 shows the same ratio of tenure. Henry de Crestewell, it says, holds Crestewell of Peter de Eyton, for one fee, and Peter (holds) of Walter de Hopton, of the Barony of Wem. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1, page 226-229.]

The manor of Cresswell is a very important place in our family history. The above Peter de Eyton had a son John, who in turn had a son Peter, who was father to John de Eyton, the father of Joan de Eyton, who married our ancestor, Adam de Peshale, junior. She had been the wife of Henry de Cresswell, and there

were two minor children by the Cresswell marriage. Therefore upon his marriage Adam de Peshale assumed to manage his wife's property and to look after the Cresswell orphans. He therefore removed from his father's home in Shropshire and became a resident of Cresswell in Staffordshire, whereby our branch of the family first came to be actually residents of Staffordshire although we had always been possessed of a part of the manor of Peshale. This is very important as the Staffordshire historians do not seem to know that this branch of the Peshale family were not of Staffordshire until Adam married the Cresswell widow, hence there have been all sorts of guesses hazarded as to who in Staffordshire could possibly be the father of Adam, whereas he was a new comer and belonged to a Shropshire family, where his ancestors had always resided, beginning with his ancestor William de Peshale, who married the daughter of the Baron of Wem.

*2. WILLIAM PANTULF. Moddershall and Cotwalton. Modredeshale and its appurtenance, called Codewalle, stands in Domesday in the group of Manors held by William Pantulf (of Wem), under Roger, Earl of Shrewsbury. The whole estate was but half a hide, but in the days of King Edward it had been held by Godeva. (The Countess is intended.) Both these places were in the parish of Stone. There was another part of Cotwalton, called Cottewaldestune, in Domesday. It was one virgate, and it was waste. The King had it in hand by escheat of two Saxons. This estate was added soon after Domesday to the Fief of Pantulf. There is a further probability that William Pantulf's Staffordshire Fief was augmented by King Henry I. in reward of Pantulf's services in opposing Belesme in the rebellion of 1102. Again, the Parish of Stone was the site of one of these augmentations, if indeed Cublesdone thus fell to the Fief of Pantulf. [Historical Collections of Staffordshire, vol. 1, page 226-229.]

In the same ancient and widespread Parish of Stone, was the estate of Stallington. It was not distinctly marked in Domesday. It was probably at that date involved in the King's Manor of Fulford, also in Stone Parish. However, King Henry I. surely gave Stallington to William Pantulf, for in the reign of Stephen when Nicholas Malveisin, the tenant in fee, proposed to give Stallington to the Canons of Stone, he covenanted that the Canons should pay a quit-rent to the superior Lord. And this Lord was Ivo Pantulf, Baron of Wem. It is further clear that, soon afterwards, Ivo Pantulf lost or transferred this Seignury, over Stallington, to Stephen de Buthlers, Lord of the Honor of Montgomery. [Antiquities of Shropshire, vii. 388-389.] There is no evidence either before the date of the Liber Niger, or at any other period, that, Pantulf enfeoffed any tenant by knight's service in any of his estates in the Parish of Stone. His tenants held, like Nicholas Mauveysin, by quit-rents.

How or when Pantulf lost his Seignury over Moddershall and Cotwalton is not known. He probably retained it in 1166, for in 1176, among King Henry's Forest amercements in Staffordshire, there is one of the two merks inflicted on Geoffrey de Codewalton and William de Peshale, vassals of Yvo Pantulf.

Mr. Eyton (vol. 1, pp. 226-7) observes that Derrington (in Seighford) was a fief held by William Pantulf of Wem, under Earl Roger; the previous owner was Suain. Entered as one hide at the Survey, it had sufficient arable for 6 plough teams, with 2 acres of meadow, and was assessed at £1. On Robert de Belesme's

forfeiture it became part of Pantulf's barony, held now directly of the crown. In 1166, as Eyton shows, Ivo Pantulf's tenant here was the John Bagot who held Blymhill. In 1242 the male line of Bagot of Blymhill had ended in another John Bagot, whose heirs, according to one feodary, held 1 knight's fee in Dodington (the earlier spelling) of the Wemme barony—The Lady of Blymhill (i.e. the eldest daughter of John) with her coparceners. The scutage of 1245 gives $\frac{1}{2}$ mark for Dudington. Stanford's quest, a feodary of 1284, returns William de Ipstones holding Dodington of Walter de Hopton, of the Wem barony; William representing Sarah, one of the Blymhill coheiresses of 1240, who died 1259, while Walter de Hopton represented his wife, Matilda Pantulf, Baroness of Wem in her own right (and already widow of Ralph le Butiler, who died 1281, ancestor by her of the subsequent barons. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1914, page 87.]

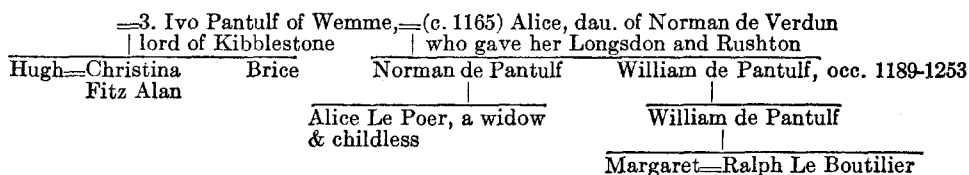
*3. IVO DE PANTULF, Baron of Wem, was seized of this Barony at the date (1166) of the Feodary known as the Liber Niger. If Pantulf made any return to the King's Writ, ordering the same, such Return is lost.

There is much uncertainty about the Domesday condition of the adjoining manor of Bagnall, as it is not named in Domesday. It was probably involved in Eneudin (now Endon, in the Parish of Leek). Endon at the date of Domesday was a waste Manor, containing one or two ploughlands. It was in the King's hands by escheat of Dunning, its former owner. Such estates were usually bestowed by the Crown on the Lords of adjacent Baronies. In this instance Bagnall, or at least half thereof, was one of the estates bestowed by King Henry I. in augmentation of the Staffordshire Fief of William Pantulf, of Wem. A deed, quoted by Erdeswick, shows Ivo Pantulf granting to Adam de Audley and his heirs that land in Baggenhall, which was of the Grantor's tenure, to have and to hold of the Grantor and his heirs in fee and inheritance. Witnesses (4) 'Alexander Pantune (the Grantor's brother), William Peshale' (elsewhere appearing as a Staffordshire vassal of Ivo Pantulf, A.D. 1176), 'Roger Fitz Liulf, Sar de Chella and the Grantor's whole Court (et tota curia mea). [Staffordshire Hist. Coll., vol. 1, page 229-230. Harwood's Erdeswicke, page 14.]

Ivo Pantulf's seignery over Bagnall, existent perhaps at the date of the Liber Niger, afterwards vanishes—a very common occurrence with estates thus acquired and thus bestowed on Feoffees of mark. Ivo Pantulf's second wife, Alice de Verdon, was a daughter of Norman de Verdon, and was mother of his two younger sons, William and Norman. Hence Norman Panton confirms to Ranulph de Tetesworth and his heirs the vill of Rudierd, the Grantee, to have all such liberties in the vill of Rudierd as had been given to him by Alicia de Verdon, the Grantor's mother, with consent of William Panton, the Grantor's brother. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1, page 229-230.]

(1224-7.) Grant by Nicholas de Verdun to Richard del Shawe, of 4 bovates in Longusdon, and two pieces of land called Lymmecroft and Almundescroft, with housebot and heybot and fyrbot sufficient for one hearth; rent 12d. yearly, and 6 mares in hand. Witnesses: William Panton, Henry de Audele, Ralph Forde, Hugh de Wirreu, Richard de Garsalo, Elias the clerk, then steward, Nicholas de Verdun, Randle de Longusdon, Philip de Ruston, Roger de Bydulphe, etc. [Stafford Cartulary 1200-1320, Staff. Hist. Coll., page 422. Sleight's Leek. p. 150.]

Nicholas de Verdun was lord of the Alton Barony 1211-1231. William Panton was Baron of Wemme 1224-1232-3. The order of the witnesses shows that it was the Baron William. Audley was sheriff of Staffordshire and Salop 1227-32, and if this deed had passed in those years the fact that he was sheriff would have been stated. Elias was steward no doubt of the Alton Barony.



Derrington, in Seighford, called in Domesday 'Dodintone,' was a Manor of one hide, held by William Pantulf of Wem, under Roger, Earl of Shrewsbury. On the fall of Robert de Belesme, Derrington became a member of Pantulf's Barony, and was held sine medio of the Crown. Who was Ivo Pantulf's tenant at Dorrington, at the time of the Liber Niger, must be matter of conjecture. Probably it was that John Bagot who contemporaneously held Blymhill of Ranulf de Belmeis,—who held of Robert de Stafford. At the time of the Feodaries of 1240-1242, the male line of Bagot, of Blymhill, had recently expired in the person of another John Bagot, who left several daughters and coheirs. As regards Derrington, one of the Feodaries says that the heirs of John Bagot hold one knight's fee in Dodington, of the Barony of Wem; another Feodary says that the Lady of Blumenhull (meaning John Bagot's eldest daughter), with her Coparceners, holds one fee in Dudington, of the Fees of Wemme. The Feodary of 1284 (Stanford's Quest) says that William de Ipstones holds Dodington, of Walter de Hopton, of the Barony of Wem; where it is necessary to explain that William de Ipstones represented one of the Blymhill Coheiresses of 1240, while Walter de Hopton represented his wife, Matilda Pantulf, Baroness of Wem in her own right, and already widow of Ralph de Boutilier, ancestor by her of the subsequent Barons.

An item of interesting information in this connection concerning the Pantulfs and the Fitz Alans, with whom the Peshales were so closely related: the Fitz Alan Fee of new feoffment stands in the Liber Niger as—'Iwo Pantoy, Dimidium Militem.' The full import of the entry is that the late William Fitz Alan had, between the years 1135 and 1160, enfeoffed Ivo Pantulf, Baron of Wem, in all such portions of the Staffordshire Manor of Sheriff Hales, as Rainald Bailgiore had held in demesne under the Earl of Shrewsbury at Domesday. This feoffment perforce excluded Burlington. Pantulf's Barony of Wem was by no means great, and there is no inconsistency in a Minor Baron accepting a feoffment in a Fief like Fitz Alan's. Probably too at the time of the feoffment an agreement was on foot whereby Hugh, the eldest son and expectant heir of Ivo Pantulf, was to marry Christiana, the infant daughter of the first William Fitz Alan. The marriage took place about ten years after Fitz Alan's death, and about six years before the death of Ivo Pantulf. King Henry II. assigned as a portion for the bride the Gloucester Manor of Badminton, part of Fitz Alan's inheritance as a coheir of Arnulf de Hesding. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1, page 221. Burke's Armory.]

About 1175-6 Ivo Pantulf died, having given to Haughmond Abbey, with consent of William fitz Alan (William fitz Alan II.), the land called Hyde, an appurtenance of (Sheriff) Hales. On William and Norman, two younger sons, Ivo Pantulf bestowed other parts of his Manor of Hales. Norman's portion appears to have been Cuttesdon, then a member of Hales. It was his daughter, Alice le Poer, who, being childless and a widow, eventually gave Cuttesdon to Lilleshall Abbey. But William Pantulf, having apparently, by gift of his father, the residuary Manor of Hales, became the progenitor of the line which was distinctly marked as of Hales and of Cublesdon. William's descendants seem to have held Hales sine medio of Fitz Alan, in other words the mesne tenure of Pantulf of Wem was effaced. The Pantulf line seems to have closed in Henry III. when Margaret, daughter of William, married Ralph Botiler of Oversley, co. Hereford, and became jure uxoris Baron of Wem.

SECTION 3.

ROBERT DE PESHALE DE SWINNERTON, married the daughter of Robert the armiger of Great Sugnall and Bishops Offley. This Robert de Peshale was the first to call himself de Swinnerton. He held Swinnerton from his father, while his wife, the daughter of Robert le Joceran, brought him Great Sugnall and Bishops Offley. Children:—

1. Robert de Swinnerton de Suggenhull.
2. John de Suggenhull de Swinnerton.
3. Roger de Swinnerton.
4. Margaret de Swinnerton, by marriage Fitz Payne.

The genealogy of these children of Robert de Swinnerton will be set out fully in Chapter 16, Section 2, when stating the ancestry of Alice Swinnerton, who married Adam de Peshale.

While the English gave their names to their places of abode, the Normans, following their own custom, took their names from their landed possessions. This was all very well when a man had only one such lordship, but multiplied possessions formed an evil so far as family names were concerned, as men were named sometimes after one estate, sometimes after another, and it was not until after the reign of Edward II., or early Edward III., that the caput of family gave the fixed name to the race. Meanwhile, however, the confusion among surnames is so great and so bewildering in those early times, that the better plan would be to translate the French "de" into its English equivalent, excepting in those cases where it marks the general patronymic, or generic name, of the family. Take, as an example, John de Swynnerton of Iswall, where "de Swynnerton" has become generic. In his quit-claim to Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, he appears as Johannes de Swynnerton de Iselwelle. Here, naturally, we should translate the second "de" but not the first—John de Swynnerton of Isewall. To all of which Robert de Peshale furnishes a shining example, as he held so many manors that thereby through the scribes has resulted a mixing up not only in his own designation, but in those of his children as well, as they seem to have indifferently been known as de Swinnerton and de Suggenhull, and possibly he and they may have been known as de Horsley as well; but of this we have no information. Fortu-

nately there were no others who accepted or adopted these designations of de Swinnerton and de Suggenhull, so that the genealogist may treat both Swinnerton and Sugnall as relating to the same family group.

There have been several very excellent genealogies compiled of the Swinnertons, to all of which we are greatly indebted for the complete genealogy of Robert and his descendants. The Swinnertons came from the Peshales as stated above, because Robert de Peshale, who later called himself de Swinnerton, acquired Swinnerton through his mother, the heir of Fitz Alan, and because both the families bear the same arms. It is curious though how many writers assume the reverse, namely, that the Peshales came from the Swinnertons. For example, Erdeswick says: Pershall, the seat and estate of a family of gentlemen of that name, who are thought originally to be descended from the Swinnertons, because they bear their arms. Sir Richard Pershall had lately his seat here. In his family it continued through divers descents, till issue male failing in Sir Hugh Pershall, his daughter and heir Catherine, marrying Sir John Blount, carried it into his family, and Sir George Blount their heir inherited it, but left it to his wife's son, Richard Lacon, son of Richard Lacon her former husband, in whose posterity it is or lately was. [Erdeswick's Survey of Shropshire, page 87.]

As already stated the Swynnertons and the Peshales bear the same arms, with the exception that the Peshales later displayed on the shield the canton which commemorates the marriage of Robert de Corbeil with Isabella Lupus, the sister of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester. Examination of the old seals of the Peshales in the British Museum discloses that the Peshales did not in every generation bear this canton upon their arms, but that it was a matter of personal preference in each generation, and that it was not until the fourteenth century that the Peshale arms finally and uniformly came to bear this distinguishing characteristic.

Robert de Swynnerton is a witness to a deed of Hervey Bagot or Bigod which is placed by Mr. Eyton between 1185 and 1190. It will also be recalled that William de Peshale, brother of Robert de Swynnerton, together with Rauff Bigod, witnessed a deed concerning Bungay Manor and that the Bigods were the same family as the father of Isabella Lupus, who married Gilbert de Corbeil. There is every reason to believe that Robert de Swinnerton accompanied Richard I. in 1192 in his Crusade to Cyprus and Palestine. The Lincolnshire Hundred Roll of 3 Edward I. (1274-5) states that the Hospitallers of Maltby held half a knight's fee in Rauceby by the gift of Robert de Swynnerton 100 years before. The statement, however, need not be understood literally. It speaks in round numbers, and the hundred years are a rough calculation. It may, and it probably does, refer to the time of Richard's Crusade. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 2, page 261. Rev. Charles Swynnerton's book, vol. 3, n. s., page 114.]

Herveius Bagod etc. Alexandro de Stanton duas bovatas terrae in Acle quas Rogerus le Norreis tenet reddendo ad natale domini xii. sagittas barbatas salvo forniseo servitio, et quatuor acras terrae arabilis quas Thoraldus tenet et unam acram prati, adquietando elemosinam quam debeo pro animabus antecessorum meorum et successorum meorum et pro salute mea domo Hospitali Jerusalem scilicet 12d in die Epiphani. Testibus Willelmo Bagot de Hida, Herveio fratre ejus, Eudone de Mere, Roberto de Swinertona, Roberto de Copenhale decano, Roberto filio ejus, Roberto de Dulverne, Osberto de Fotesbroc, Hugone de Fotesbroc, Ricardo filio Hervcii, Thoma de Checkele, Gilberto de . . . Herveio fratre domini, G. de Leia, Hugone Bagod.
(translation) 'I Herveius Bagod etc. (have deeded) to

Alexander de Stanton two bovates of land in Acle which Roger le Norreir holds by paying a rent, reserved to be paid at the birthday of our overlord, of 12 arrows for use behind fortifications in foreign service, and four acres of arable land which Thoraldus holds and one acre of meadowland which ought to pay for the spirits of my ancestors and my posterity and for healing me in the home of the Knights Hospitallers of Jerusalem, to wit 12d in the day Epiphany. Witnesses: William Bagot of Hida, Hervey his brother, Eudo de Mere, Robert de Swinnerton, Robert de Copenhale the dean, Robert his brother, Robert Dulverne, Osbert de Fotesbroc, Hugh de Fotesbroc, (Flashbrook) Richard son of Hervey, Thomas de Checkley, Gilbert de . . . Hervey brother of the overlord, G. de Leia, and Hugh Bagod. (Staff. Hist. Col.)

In this Crusade Robert was accompanied by his kinsman Hervey Bagod, as is shown by the deed already referred to of which the above is a copy. The Bagots were cousins of Isabella Lupus, who married Gilbert de Corbeil.

To a stranger it would appear as though this deed was signed by those survivors of the Crusade who had lived in Staffordshire. In no other way could the variety of names be explained. It will be noticed that Robert de Swinnerton was not only a signer but his signature appears so far up the list as to denote the family relationship which we know existed between him and the Grantor. By the time that the Peshales and Bagots had gone and returned from the crusade, all the old bitterness growing out of the banishment of Werlac Count of Corbeil must have been forgotten in the new comradeship of the crusade, and in the close relationship of the intermarriage of the two families through Gilbert de Corbeil and his wife Isabella Lupus, daughter of Richard de Goz (Bigod).

Two out of every three of those who engaged in that crusade are estimated to have died of dysentery at Acre. Robert and Nicholas de Stafford, from whatever cause, both perished there or elsewhere. The survivors were nursed back to health by the Knight Hospitallers who acted as an Army Medical Department. They were repaid by grants of land, some of these grants being really sales effected by sick knights to raise the necessary funds for the journey home. There can be little doubt that the grant of the half knight's fee at Rauceby to the Knight-Hospitallers was one such sale effected by Robert de Swynnerton when stricken with disease or wounds, or when pressed for money, at Acre or Ascalon. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 3, pages 16-21.]

Robert de Swynnerton made a gift to Stone Priory, as we find that before the year 1198 his son Robert de Swynnerton confirmed his father's grant of the Church of Swynnerton to the Monks of Stone. [*Ibid.*, vol. 2, page 261.]

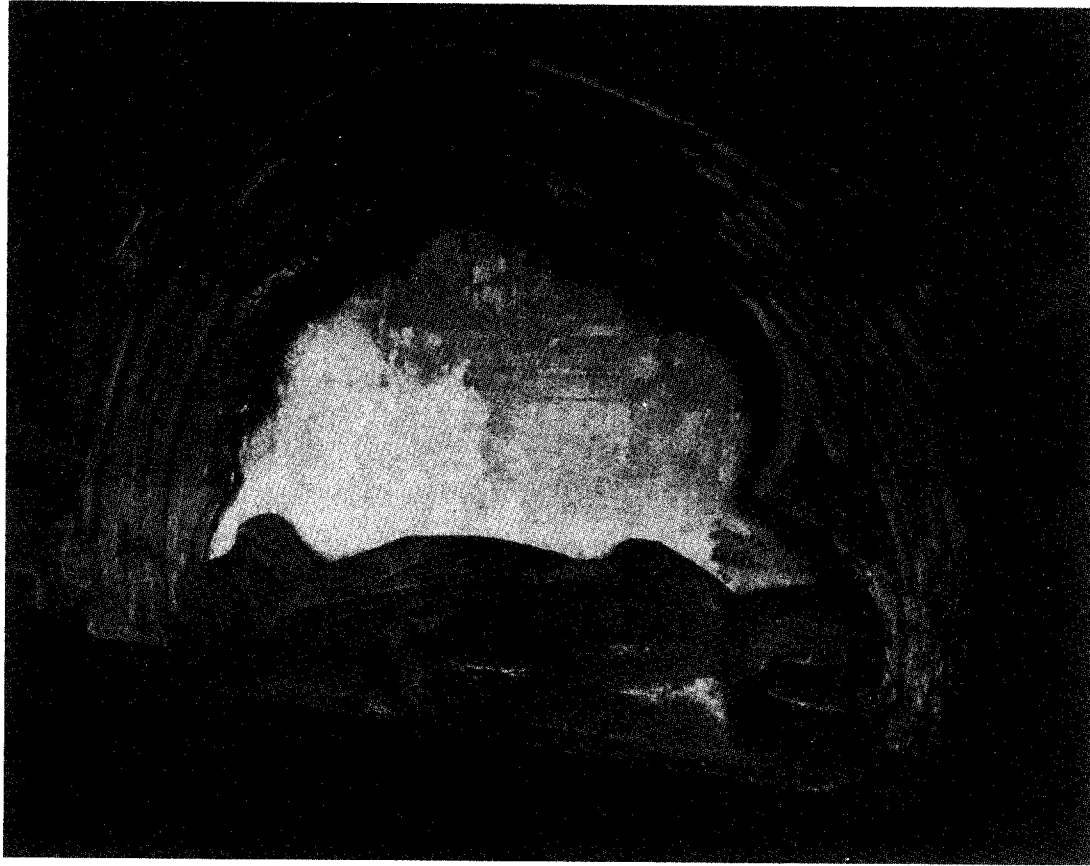
Robert de Swynnerton's overlord, Robert de Stafford, then a young man, accompanied by his younger brother Nicholas, joined that Crusade, and where the overlord went many of his knights would follow. That many of them did follow is proved thus:—The amount of scutage of Wales remitted to Robert de Stafford by the King for taking the Cross was the exact amount sanctioned for a Baron and nine of his vassal knights. Of these nine, Robert de Swynnerton was one. He was young and doubtless aglow with the prevailing enthusiasm; he was drawn by the ties of kindred, and impelled by the obligations of feudalism, and he represented one of the most considerable knightly families in Staffordshire. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 3, new series, pages 16-21.]

The Rolls are not without other indications that Robert de Swynnerton was absent from England at this period. The deed of Hervey Bagod confirms this, as allowing for two Bagot crusaders, then the family names on this deed make exactly nine knights. Robert de Swynnerton died soon after his return from the Crusade, which accounts for the fact that his sons all seem to have come into the possession of property at about the same time. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 3, new series.]

The Norman-French motto, AVAUNTUREZ ET MARCHEZ AVAUNT, was said in a tradition preserved by the Swinnertons of Butterton to have been conferred on an ancestor for valour in engaging and overcoming in single combat

a Saracen champion in the Holy Wars. Tradition is not of the nature of judicial evidence; but every tradition contains a germ of truth, and its testimony becomes important when, as in this case, it is supplemented by evidence of a more direct character. In the church at Swinnerton is an effigy traditionally known as the old Crusader. It lies in the chancel of the church. This effigy is a recumbent figure of a cross-legged knight. Carved as it is, in some local free-stone, it has unfortunately suffered from the wear and tear of time. It lies close to the floor in a niche on the south side of the chancel, the position (as generally understood) of the tomb of a founder. But it is curious that one of the sedilia, of which there remain only two, appears to have been encroached upon to make room for it, suggesting the bare possibility of its having been moved from some other part of the church, especially as the canopy over it is of a decidedly later date. The sculptured figure measures 6 feet 2 inches from head to foot; it lies partly on one side, and it is clothed in complete mail. The head rests on a plain square cushion. Round the head may be traced the usual slight fillet-like rim or projection, indicating possibly some fashion of skull-cap of velvety work beneath, just as within memory the wild warriors of our Indian North-West Frontier wore a similar cap beneath their linked mail. The features, greatly worn, were exposed. The right hand is in the act of drawing or restoring the heavy cross-hilted sword which hangs by two straps secured to a broad leathern belt. The left hand grasps the scabbard. The legs are crossed at the knee, and the feet rest on a dog or on a lion couchant. On the heels were plain prick-spurs. Above and below the knee may be traced a band indicating apparently the use of a leathern kneecap. On the left arm hangs an early Norman convex shield, which is 34 inches in length, 19 inches broad at the top and 16 inches broad in the middle. The original model must have been even longer, probably the full yard, as it narrows rapidly from the center down, and like the figure looks much worn, the point especially. The evidence of the shield, its dimensions and its form, led the late Mr. Planché, Somerset Herald, to attribute the work to the first half of the twelfth century (1125). The bands above and below the knee suggest a date considerably later, though it has yet to be proved that (leathern) kneecaps were never worn before the middle of the thirteenth century. There is no inscription on the tomb, which itself is an argument of greater antiquity, and the surface of the shield is quite plain. In all respects it bears a very close resemblance to the effigy of Maurice Berkeley de Gaunt in the Mayor's chapel at Bristol, who was buried there in 1230, excepting that the latter figure does not carry a shield. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 3, new series.]

This church was probably refounded by John de Parva Sugnall, grandson of Robert de Swinnerton of whom the Rev. Charles Swynnerton says: He was almost certainly a second founder of the church, which, originally Norman throughout, must have been rebuilt by him in the Early English style of Gothic architecture, which characterizes the middle of that century, and which the fabric displays to the present day. At the time of rebuilding by John de Parva Sugnall he no doubt took pains to see that the tomb of his distinguished grandfather was suitably constructed and placed, as well as marked. This would account for the mixture of periods in the dress of the knight. The tomb marks the present rest-



EFFIGY OF ROBERT DE PESHALE DE SWINNERTON

ing place of the earliest lord of Swynnerton, and not only so, but the resting place of the very knight whose image reposed above, for beneath it there is a grave or burial chamber carefully built with ashlar work, which, on being opened by some accident during the restoration of the church in 1856, was found to contain the body lying exactly, and close under, the stone figure, and corresponding with it in length—6 feet 2 inches. Portions of his arms were found within, what appeared to have been a lance-head, and other fragments of iron, but greatly consumed by rust. The corpse had been wrapt in lead a quarter of an inch thick, made to fit close to the form, but it was burst open, as is usually found to be the case with leaden coffins. There appeared to have been a coffin of wood outside the lead, but it was reduced to a soft kind of powder. The skeleton was very perfect. All the teeth were sound and firmly fixed in the jaws, excepting two in the front which were missing. The bones were still clothed with flesh as in life, or rather with the semblance thereof, but it fell to dust soon after exposure to the air. The beard was in perfect preservation and of a reddish brown. The rector, the Rev. W. Taylor, who gives this account, inspected the tomb in company with Mr. Thomas Fitzherbert, the lord of the manor, almost immediately after it had been broken open. The masonry was at once restored, and the dead left once more to rest in peace. But the accident which disturbed him was scarcely one to be regretted, since it revealed to us a vision of a mediaeval knight as he really was. He rises before us lofty in stature, ruddy in complexion, with auburn locks, and in the vigor of life. Two of his front teeth have been driven in by a lance-thrust. His weapons of war lie by his side, and, if he was a companion of Coeur-de-Lion, we are at liberty to imagine the resolution with which he may have used them, whether at storming of Buffa-vento or on the walls of long-beleaguered Acre. [Historical Collections of Staffordshire, vol. 3, new series.]

At the time of the general survey Frane and Fragin, sons of Oswulf fil Frane held Sugghenhull of the Bishop, it being then accounted a manor. It was anciently divided into Great and Little Sugghenhull. About the time of King John, Sir Robert de Sugghenhull, knight, held Great Sugghenhull; he married Petronilla de Derlaveston, and died without issue. 1 Edward III. his heirs then held Sugghenhull by the service of half a knight's fee. It then came not long after to the Peshales, by the marriage of Alice, daughter of John de Swinnerton, to Adam de Peshale, in whose family it hath ever since continued. [Staffordshire Historical Collections.]

In a foot-note to Walter Chetwynd's History of Pirehill Hundred it is stated that this manor was written Scotchelle in the Survey and it was reckoned at two plough lands of arable. Three villeins, one serf, and 6 brodars had 3 teams, there were 3 acres of meadow, and the yearly value was now, as formerly, 10s. This is a very interesting statement as the clerk thereby records that this was the home of a Scot, as the Northumbrians were at that time called in Staffordshire, and this exactly accords with the facts, as the brothers Frans and Fragin were not only Northumbrians, but they were descended from Waltheof I., Earl of Northumberland.

Frane was the Bishop's tenant also in Somerford—he had filled an hereditary Forest office as part of his service; and (c. 1120-26) (v. Charter, vol. 111, p. 179)

had left a daughter, Hainilda, unmarried, and now of advanced age, Richard de Somerford, a Norman, was made mesne tenant to perform the services, and succeed to that manor. Bishop Roger de Clinton confirmed this in 1129-48. But Bishop Richard Peche ignored the previous grant and confirmation. In 1166, Robert Joceran held Great Sugnall and Bishop's Offley as one-half knight's fee, under the Bishop. It was the daughter and heir of this Robert whom Robert de Swynnerton married. The *Testa de Nevill* (c. 1242) gives Robert de Sugnall as having one-half fee here; and the second return of that feudatory (c. 1243) states it was held by his heir. This Robert de Sugnall was the third Robert de Swynnerton, his heir being the fourth Robert Swynnerton, who died in 1246, having held Great Sugnall three years.

Swynnerton as has already been stated is a place name, not an original family name, likewise Sugnall or Suggenhall. It was only a few generations until the family dropped the name Sugnal and the present day descendants of Robert de Swynnerton on the male line are Swinnertons only. At the Domesday Survey the manor of Swynnerton was called Sulverton. The Rev. James B. Johnson, M.A., in his book, *The Place Names of England and Wales*, says that at 1186 the place was called Sulvertone, in 1205 Silvertone, 1206 Soulverton, 1298 Swinnerton, 1300 Swinaferton and Swynnefarton, and 1500 Swynearton, which must not be taken as indicating that the family of Robert de Swynnerton exhibited equal vagaries in spelling their adopted family name, but merely that the scribes as usual had no uniform way of spelling the name.

Dr. Johnston suggests that the change of name records the tenancy of some previous owner who occupied the manor prior to the present family of Swinnerton, and he suggests that this prior family was probably Swinfen or Swineford. It is quite clear nevertheless that the Alen ancestors of the mother of Robert de Swynnerton caused this change of the original Silvertone to Swynnerton. There were two families of Alans in Staffordshire at this time. J. Pym Yeatman says: The distinction between the two Alans is that one of them, as Mr. Forrester has very correctly pointed out—though his warning has been disregarded—was, in all probability, the steward of the Archbishop of Dol, whilst the other Senescal is designated as Alan fitz-Flaald, Senescallus of Morioeum, the ancient Mons Relaxus, the modern Morlaix, which Ordericus informs us was inherited by Alan fil Flaald from William Peveril. Probably the Peverils only held it in trust for the son of Nesta. [*Feudal History of Derbyshire*, by J. Pym Yeatman, sec. 7.]

It is a curious fact that we have to resort to Shakespeare to learn the true history of the Fitzalans. Those writers who, following Eyton, pay proper respect to Shakespeare's authority, will be pleased to learn that an investigation into the history of the Monmouth family shows that they were closely connected with the de Hattons of Warwickshire, the ancient Lords of the Shakesperes, and his family were also allied to the Griffins, not merely through his grandmother, who was one of them, but centuries before her marriage. General Wrottesley's *Staffordshire Collections* show that some of the Shakesperes were tenants of the Griffins of that county as early as the reign of Edward I. and II., and how much earlier who can tell. As has been said the Griffins were part of the Northumbrian colony in Staffordshire, Gamel Fitz-Griffin being a son of a daughter of

Gamel who was of the same family and cousin to Orme le Gulden. The Fitz-Alans of Silvertone according to Burke's General Armory, bore for arms:—ar. Three boars' heads, crest armed, or Three boars' heads compea crest langnea gu on each two bars of the first, which would account for the easy transition from Silvertone to Swynnerton particularly as the place was located upon the River Sow. [Feudal History of Derbyshire, by J. Pym Yeatman, sec. 7.]

Burke's General Armory does not give arms as belonging to a family of Suggenhall or Sugnal, it having, as has been stated, long since ceased to be used by the descendants of Robert de Swynnerton as their family name. The Rev. Dr. Charles Swynnerton, who has given much study to the family history, to which he brought to bear his great learning, his keenly alert mind, and his spirit of eminent fairness which is so essential to good genealogical work, says: The Domesday spelling Sulverton (perhaps meant for Sulnerton), (so spelt by the Norman scribe and equivalent to Suverton or Sunerton), is evidence that the name was not always pronounced Swynnerton. [Staff. Hist. Coll. vol. 1912.]

A similar form of the name, he says, appears in 7 John, 1206, where Robert de Swinnerton in his suit versus Stephen de Hulton is, in one return, described as Robert de Soulverton (Soulnerton). Thus we see that this eminent English genealogist is in harmony with the axiom that in genealogy the phonetic value of a family name is to be preferred to the orthography.

In a plea of Henry III. (1264) before the King, John, lord of Swynnerton, is described as John, lord of Sonnerton. In a deed, temp. Edward II., Roger de Swynnerton of Swynnerton calls himself Roger de Swonnerton, and the same spelling appears in certain pleas of 14 Edward II., 1320, where one of the defendants is John, son of John de Swonnerton. At Hilton, Co. Stafford, for centuries in the possession of the Swynnertons, there is a deed of 46 Edward III., 1372, with a seal on which the inscription is S. Margarete de Sonnertone.

The local pronunciation of the name was, and still is (unless the schoolmaster has altered it) Sonnerton or Sinnerton. An excellent example of this redundant consonant is seen in a deed of the Trentham Cartulary, in the name Saville, where one of the witnesses is William, son of Thomas Swavile, Mayor of Newcastle. Dated 1318. The forms Sinverton and Swinferton are further examples of the taste of the day for superfluous consonants. It would appear that in Swynnerton the w was not always pronounced, but that it was a mute, as in answer, morwening, sword, medwo, etc. and the true pronunciation of the family name is Sonnerton or Sinnerton. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1912, page 269.]

The Ancestry of the wife of Robert de Swynnerton de Suggenhull.

The Pipe Roll of 1166 says that Bishops Offley and Great Sugnal were held by Robert Joceran. This is all the knowledge we have concerning him. The descriptive word Joceran is the middle English word Jasserant or the old French Jaseran, meaning a man who wears a coat of mail as armor. It is described as splint armor, where the splints were fastened together with links of steel as in Moslem armor. *A Jaserant of double mail he wore*, (Sautbery, Joan of Arc, vii). It would therefore most likely be applied to one who had been on a crusade. The term carried with it the thought of landed possessions as an armiger, and

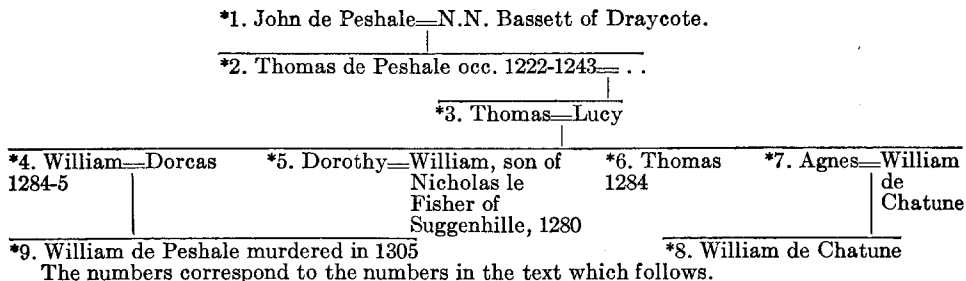
possibly as one who had the right to armorial bearings although not a knight, hence his holdings in Sugghenhull and Bishops Offley. He appears to have had only one heir, to wit, his daughter who married Robert de Peshale de Swinnerton.

The several historians of the family have said that the extensive tenure in different counties of the Swynnertons under the Barons of Stafford, and their frequent occurrence as witnesses of their deeds, would seem to point to some relationship between the families. The wife of Robert de Stafford was Elizabeth, daughter of Oswulf, who was the son of Frane, the son of Waltheof I., Earl of Northumberland, and consequently she was of the royal line of Bernicia, which made her cousin to the other Northumbrians in Staffordshire, particularly to most of the tenants of her husband. Her brothers Frane and Fragin, however, owned Sugghenhull and it was Robert Joceran, the descendant of Fragin, whose daughter married Robert de Swinnerton. Frane was a hereditary warden of the King's forest and he left an only child, a daughter Hainilda who was unmarried, and who in 1120 was of very advanced age. There was a controversy as to the succession of the property which Bishop Peche settled by granting the whole to this Robert the descendant of Fragin. Hence by marriage Robert de Swynnerton was a cousin to Robert de Stafford.

Robert de Sugghenhull de Swinnerton and his wife, daughter of the lord of Sugghenhull, are the beginning of the family of Swinnerton, and with them starts the history of a Staffordshire family which attained a position of considerable importance during the reigns of the first three Edwards, owing to the extent of its possessions and the personal qualities of some of its members. Two, if not three, of the family bore as Bannerets the insignia the cross flory, displayed in the Scotch and French wars of the fourteenth century, and one of these attained Baronial rank, having been summoned by writ to the House of Peers, by King Edward III., though his descendants were never afterwards summoned. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 7, part 2, page 1.]

SECTION 4.

The following chart will show the descent from John de Pershale.



*1. JOHN DE PESHALE married a daughter of Bassett of Draycote,
Child:—

1. Thomas de Peshale.

It appears that when the line of this John de Peshale became extinct, William le Fisher and Dorothy de Peshale his wife conveyed away all of their share of the Bishop's manor of Peshale.

The Reverend John Peshale identified Thomas as a son of John de Peshale, who married a Bassett of Draycote, for which information he no doubt had access to the Bassett manuscripts. He also identifies John as brother to William de Peshale. There is no doubt that Osbert, brother of Ormunda de Lumley, was witness to a charter of the Bassetts of Draycote. All of which marks a close family relationship between the Bassetts and the Peshale family, and confirms the Rev. John Peshall's statement. It must also not be overlooked that the oldest Peshale charter appears in the chartulary of the Bassetts of Draycote.

The primary source of genealogical information is of course the descent or ownership of property in England from generation to generation, subsequent to the Domesday Survey. It follows that the searchers must look to the records of this early time among which is the Pipe Rolls. The great feature of the Staffordshire Pipe Rolls is the Record of the Placita of Alan de Nevill, who had visited Staffordshire in the Autumn of 1166. The whole of the amercements were for transgressions of the forest laws, or trespass on the king's forests. According to routine, the vill or manor or estate, implicated in each offence, is first set down, and then the Lord of the Fee is hinted or indicated by his Christian, or by his full name. [Historical Collections of Staffordshire, vol. 1, page 51.]

This Placita-Roll, then, is an invaluable element of County history. Its evidence, combining places with persons, is, in kind and to the extent of its scope more complete than that of the Liber Niger. Detailed and minute criticism of such a Record would involve research and space unmeet for the present occasion. Upon this roll it appears Bishop Hilya's manor of Peshale was held by Fitz Geoffrey. It will be recalled that the Manor of Peshale was originally divided into two parts, one having the Staffords for overlords, while the other was held under the Bishop of Chester. We have already stated that John de Lumley de Peshale acquired the tenancy of the Bishops manor which he conferred upon his son John. This is confirmed by the records. Thus we see by the records just cited that the Bishops manor at first was held by the son of Geoffrey.

The church at Lichfield also subsequently obtained grants for other lands at Peshale, which altogether made Peshale a very much divided manor, which statement is confirmed by the Catalogue of the Monuments and manuscript books pertaining to the deans and chapter of Lichfield—in the Magnum Registrum album at Lichfield which F 253 discloses Charter for Episcopal Rights (Bishop Roger de Meyland) in lands at Pershall. Episcopal Rights (Bishop Roger de Meyland) in a messuage at Pershull. F. 179. Fine of 6 acres of land at Peshall.

The Bishop of Chester seems to have had some difficulty in securing a permanent tenant for his part of the Manor of Peshale, there having been at least two occupants prior to John de Peshale as is shown by Walter Chetwynd in his history of Pirehill Hundred, who says: In the time of King Henry II. Richard Peche, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, granted ye town of Peshall to Thomas Fitz Nicholas, to be held of him by the 8th part of a knight's fee. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 6, part 2, pages 148-151.]

He appears also to have later conveyed the manor of Peshale to Elias le Savage who had a brother Robert. Both brothers attest a Ridware deed of Richard Peche. The Bishop held office from 1162-82. [*Ibid.*, vol. 1914, page 143.]

Referring to the deed from Bishop Richard Peche to William de Riduvare. The Bishop of Chester had a small estate of 816 acres in one of the Riduwares afterwards known as Pipe Riduvare. William de Riduvare held the adjoining manor of Hampstal, Riduvare, where he was the tenant of Robert de Stafford. Excepting the ecclesiastics and the last two witnesses, who belonged to the Bishop's household, all the witnesses of this deed occurred in the Liber Niger, A. D. 1166, as military tenants of the Bishop. Robert fitz Galfrid, or Robert le Savage, was the Bishop's tenant at Hints, Elias his brother was tenant at Peshale near Eccleshall; Galfred Peche at Little Pipe, Robert de Oudesom at Handsacre and Robert de Thomeuru at Pipe Richman and Tauburn. [*Ibid.*, vol. 3, part 1, page 186.]

From all of which it clearly appears that there was no permanent tenant of the Bishop until John de Peshale obtained the same for his son John, all of the changes noticed having taken place during the same generation, and this John de Peshale was succeeded by his son Thomas de Peshale.

*2. THOMAS DE PESHALE. Child: Thomas de Peshale.

January 14, 1222, Plea Roll. Robert de Sugenhulle and Petronilla his wife put in their place Thomas de Peshale in a plea against Roger de Bidum. [Staffordshire Hist. Col., vol. 4, part 2, page 18.]

20 October 1228 Staffordshire. The Bishop of Coventry, by his attorney, sued Thomas de Peshale for six acres of land in Peshale, and Robert de Johaneston (Johnson) for ten acres of land in the same vill, as the right of his church. And Thomas and Robert prayed for a view. A day is given to them at three weeks from St. Hilary; a view to be made in the interim. [*Ibid.*, vol. 4, part 1, page 75, and vol. 3, part 1, page 77.]

In the Testa de Nevill—1243—it appears as follows: Barony of the Bishop of Chester. Richard de Harecut, half fee, in Helinhall (Ellenhall); Robert de Suggenhull, half fee, in Suggenhull (Sugnal); Simon de Cherleton with his parceners, half fee in Cherleton; Robert de Folkebroc, quarter fee in Flocebroc (Flashbrook); Thomas de Peshall, one-eighth fee in Peshall; John de Chaurnes, quarter fee there (i.e. in Charnes); Bishop of Chester, quarter fee in Offileg Ciprian (Bishops Offley); Robert de Slindon, one-eighth fee, in Waleton; Hugh de Dorkesby, one-fifth fee, there (i.e. in Doxey); Milisant de Stafford, one-third fee, in Chaeledon; Robert de Badenhall, one-tenth fee in Badenhall; Robert de Haleton, quarter fee in Tunstall; John de Suggenhull, one-eighth fee in Suggenhull; Geoffrey le Sauvage with parceners, one fee in Pakinton, Chibritton, Hintes; Robert de la Wall, one-eighth fee there (i.e. at Wall); Richard de Pipe, quarter fee in Pipe; Robert Silveyne, one fee in Haseloure, Statfold; Richard de Draycot, half fee, in Hondesacr; John de Thamenhorn (Tamhorn) half a fee there. By which it appears that Geoffrey le Sauvage had parted with his interest in the Bishops Manor of Peshale, and then held of the Bishop of Pakinton. [*Ibid.*, vol. 1911, page 396.]

Thomas de Peshale in 1265 was pardoned for having sided with Simon de Montfort, which discloses that this branch of the family sided with the Barons, while our line, i.e. that of William de Peshale, sided with the King.

*2 Thomas de Peshale had a son *3 Thomas de Peshale. Historical Collection of Heralds Visitation of Staffordshire MSS. in Bib. Harl. and Fragments of Heraldry and Pedigrees of Staffordshire appears: *Sevant p'sentes & futuri ego Thomas de Peshale fil Thomas de Peshale dedi Philippo Noel pro homagio & servito suo pratum &c.* and Thomas senior is witness to a confirmation of a charter of Robert de Valoriis de donacione autescensionum & sepulturis militum, in Dugdale. (Translation: To all to whom these presents will come. I, Thomas de Peshale, son of Thomas de Peshale, give to Philip Noel in return for his homage, service and rent in money &c.)

*3. THOMAS DE PESHALE, married Lucy ——. Children:—

1. William de Peshale who married Dorcas, who had a son William, who was murdered 1305.
2. Dorothy de Peshale, who married William le Fisher.
3. Thomas de Peshale, who died unmarried and without issue 1284.
4. Agnes de Peshale, who married William de Chatclune.

This Thomas de Peshale sold land to Robert, son of Stephen de Peshale, who as we shall presently see sold this and his inheritance to John de Swinnerton of Little Sugnall and Dorslow. Thomas de Peshale also sold land to Roger de Broughton.

Omnibus &c. Will. Bagot miles, dom. de la Hide, Sal. Nov. univ' vestra quod cum venerabil pater Dnus R. de Mewland, Cov. et Lich., EP' manerium de Toftes, quod habuit ex dono meo, Rogero de Broton, nepoli suo, et de me et haered' meis sibi et haered' suis immediate tenend' dedisset et dictus Rog de Broton, Thome de Peshall de Peshall de dicto man', cum pertin' suis de me et haered' meis ipsi Tho' et haered' suis in cap' tenend' feoffasset &c., quare volo et p'hered' meis concedo dicto Rogero et haered' suis dictum maner' in foed' haered' teneant in p'tuum. Test' Nich. Priore de St. Thom, Dño Willō de Caverswall, Rado de Burg, Robto de Pipe, Ao. 1275 (a faire seal, 2 chevrons). [Staff. Hist. Col.]

(Translation: To all &c. William Bagot, a soldier, Lord de la Hide, greetings. Know all ye that when the venerable father, Lord R. de Mewland, of Coventry and Lichfield, had given the Bishops Manor of Tofts which he had through my gift, to Roger de Borton his nephew, to be held without mediation from me and my heirs by him and his heirs, and the Roger de Borton had let to Thomas de Peshall the said manor with his pertinents from me and my heirs as a fief to Thomas himself and his heirs to be held in capite &c. Wherefore I will and I concede through my heirs that the heirs may hold the said manor in fee from the said Roger and his heirs forever. Witnesses: Nicholas the Prior of St. Thomas, Lord William de Caverswall, Radulph de Burg, Robert de Pipe, in the year 1275.)

At the beginning of Edward I. Thomas the son of Thomas de Peshall died without issue. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1914, page 43.]

Sciant p. et f. quod Ego Johēs de Charnes dedi, &c., pro me et haered' meis, in p'tuum Rogero de Burghon et Juliana uxorisuae, quatuor virgatas terrae cum quodam bruleto in Burghon—Tenend, &c., Rogero et Juliana, et haeredibus de dicta Juliana p'creatis, libere, &c.—Reddendo annuatim mihi, et haerid' meis, duodecim solidos argenti et duos denarios ad duos anni terminos. Hiis test' Galfrido de Bromlegh, Thō de Peshall, Stephano de Aspelegh, Thō de Wylington, Willo de chatculne. Ibid, vol. 1914, page 32.]

(Translation: Be it known to those present and to come that I, John de Charnes, have deeded, &c. for me and my heirs forever, to Roger de Burghon and Juliana his wife, four virgates of land with a certain small wood in Burghon. To be held, &c. by Roger and Juliana and their heirs from the body of the said Juliana in freedom &c. For the payment annually to me and my heirs of twelve solidos of silver and two pence, at the end of two years. Witnesses: Galdrid de Bromlegh, Thomas de Peshall, Stephan de Aspelegh, Thomas de Wylington, William de Chatculne.)

*4. WILLIAM DE PESHALE married Dorcas. Child:—

1. William de Peshale, murdered in 1305.

The Feudatory on 1284-5 discloses that William de Peshale held the one-eighth fee in Peshale of the Barony of the Bishop of Chester. William de Peshale and Dorcas his wife (held Ecclescate) gave by deed, without date, to Adam de Whetales, qu cir. 1285, totam terram et pratum in villa de Peshale (i. e. all his

land and estate in the ville of Peshale) which he held of Lucy who had been the wife of Thomas de Peshale for the term of her life except 9 acres of land, which the said Adam released to the said William and Dorcas to hold to him and his heirs and assigns forever, with all the liberties and easements belonging to the said lands and fields at a rent of one penny payable at Christmas for all suit and service. [Historical Collections of Staffordshire, vol. 1911, page 396.]

Roger Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield has a license of concord with William de Peshale and Dorothy his wife in a plea of warranty of charter. Banco Roll Michaelmas 11-12 Edward I. (1283-4). [*Ibid.*, vol. 1911, page 401.]

*5. DOROTHY DE PESHALL married William son of Nicholas le Fisher de Sugghenhill who also called himself de Peshale after his marriage.

One Simon Fitz-Alwin, who was amerced 2 marks for a novel disseisin in 33 Henry II. (1186), was doubtless at Swynnerton. Simon de Aspley had a son Nicholas, nicknamed the Fisher, who had been enfeoffed in part of the Sugghenhill lands. His son William married Dorea, daughter and heir of Thomas de Peshall, so that he is sometimes known as William de Sugghenhill, and sometimes as William de Peshall—another example of the confusion in personal names prevailing at the period. [Staff. Hist. Coll., vol. 3, n. s. pages 81-82.]

Banco Roll 32 Edward I. (1304). Juliana formerly wife of William son of Nicholas of Parva Sogghenhill sued John de Sogghenhill for an illegal distress. The case was adjourned to the octaves of Trinity and afterwards to the morrow of all Souls.

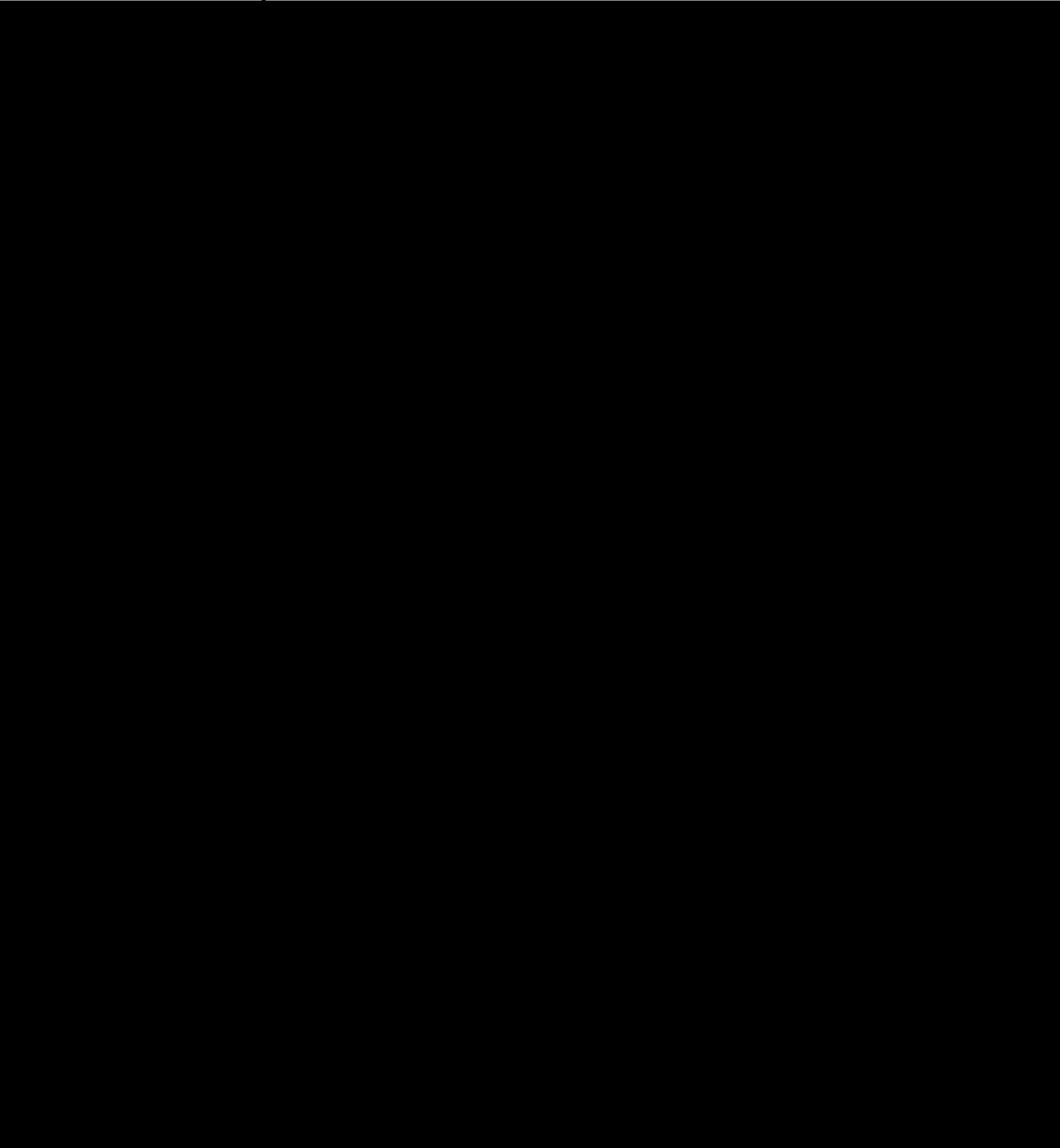
Inasmuch as this William de Sugghenhill was alias le Fisher perhaps the following quotation may throw some light on his ancestry and serve to remove him from the Sugghenhill family. A record of about 1200 says that Alexander de Haneburgo (read Novo Burgo) holds in Serjeantry one Mill, worth 2 merks (per annum), and one bovat of land, worth 2s. and a pound of cumin (the rents thereof), in Novo Burgo. The same Alexander holds in Shrewsbury 6s. 10d. of assized rents, and other rents consisting of a pair of spurs, value 2d., and four horseshoes. Again, a Record of June 1211 says that Alexander de Novo Burgo ought of his service to keep the King's Vivary of Novus Burgus, and (in another place) that Alexander Fisher involved in his service, viz. that he must keep the King's Vivary at Novus Burgus as aforesaid. Alexander le Peschur, whom we have seen to have been living in 1228, was probably the person in question. Of course, when Newport and its Vivary passed to the Audleys, this Serjeantry ceased; but Alexander's descendants continued to hold their property in Newport and Shrewsbury by some other tenure. [Eyton's Shropshire, London, 1859, pages 136-138.]

Salop, February 3, 1283. William son of Nicholas de Peshale and Doroye his wife, held one-quarter part of a carucate in Pesal with improvement. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1911, page 38.]

Banco Roll Michaelmas 10 & 11 Edward I. 1283. Roger de Napton appeared against William son of Nicholas de Peshale and Doroye his wife in a plea that they should warrant to him the fourth of a carucate of land in Peshall which he claimed to hold of them and for which he had their deed. The case was adjourned to Hilary term. [*Ibid.*, vol. 6, part 1, page 125.]

Westminster, 8 July, 1289. Roger de Burghon complainant and William son of Nicholas de Sugghenhill and Dorcas his wife deforciant of 4 acres of land, 8

acres of moor, 2 parts of a messuage in Peshal; also one-third of said messuage which Lucy formerly wife of Thomas de Peshale held in dower, and which after the decease of said Lucy ought to revert to deforciant. [*Ibid.*, vol. 1911, pages



Coram Rege Hillary 12 Edward I. Apud Lincoln Staff. Nicholas Dean of Madele appeared against Thomas son of Thomas de Pessale in a plea of manheim and breach of the peace. Thomas did not appear and the sheriff is ordered to dis-train and to produce him at three weeks from Easter. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 6, part 1, page 132.]

About the reign of Henry III, the custom arose of writing down records of the proceedings of the Courts, and these Court Rolls are the chief sources of information about the lives of Staffordshire people in the Middle Ages. [The Story of Staffordshire, by Mark Hughes, B.A., page 89.]

*7. AGNES DE PESHALE, married William Chatculne. Child:—

1. William de Chatculne. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1914, page 43.]

Banco Roll Michaelmas 3 Edward II. (1310) Staffordshire. Reginald, son of Reginald de Charnes sued Roger de Burghton, Juliana his wife for four mes-suages, a caricate of land and twenty acres of wood in Burghton near Charnes of which Reginald, son of William Charnes, his great grandfather, whose heir he is was seized in demesne &c. in the reign of King Henry, the King's grandfather and from Reginald the right descended to John as his son and heir and from John to Reginald as son and heir and from Reginald to the plaintiff as son and heir. Roger and Juliana produced a deed by which the said John de Charnes the grandfather of Reginald had granted the tenements to them to be held by them and other heirs of Juliana. Reginald denied that the deed was the act of his grandfather. John appealed to a jury. The Sheriff was thereupon ordered to summon a jury and the witnesses to the deed at three weeks from Easter, the witnesses being Geoffrey de Bromley, Thomas de Peshale, Stephen de Apsley, Thomas de Whitindon, William de Chatcutne (brother-in-law to Thomas), Robert de Peshale, and Robert de Janeston (Johnston) (witness to deed of Robert de Peshale to John de Swinnerton). [*Ibid.*, vol. 9, part 1, page 20.]

*8. WILLIAM DE CHATCULNE.

Sciant quod Ego Robertus de Bromley dedi Reginaldo, dom de Charnes unam placeam vasti mei in Bromley. Hiss Test., Rogero de Brorton, Willo de Chatculne, Tho fratro ejus, Rob., fil Gervasi de Standon. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1914, page 28.]

(Translation: Be it known that I, Robert de Bromley have deeded to Reginald Lord of Charnes my one vacant place in Bromley. These testify: Roger de Brorton, William de Chatculne, Thomas his brother, Robert son of Gervase de Standon.)

Sciant quod ego Joh, dom de Chaunes, dedi, &c. pro me he her' meis, Johanni filio meo, pro hom' et serv' suo, et pro 40s argenti, novem acras terre in Chaunes. H. T. Rōbto de Bromle, Rog de Burhuston, Willo de Chatculn, Rōbto Gerveyse, et Jōhe le heyr de Poddemore, Tho de Wytindon, Tho de Daverslow (Dorslow) Wm. fil. suo, Tho de Croxton et aliis. [Staffordshire Historical Collections, vol. 1914, page 28.]

(Translation: Be it known that I, John Lord of Chaunes, have deeded &c. for myself and my heirs to John my son in return for his homage and service and for 40s. of silver, nine acres of land in Chaunes. Witnesses: Robert de Bromley, Roger de Burhuston, William de Chatculne, Robert Gerveyse, and John the heir of Podemore, Thomas de Wytindon, Thomas de Dorslow, William his son, Thomas de Croxton, and others.)

*9. WILLIAM DE PESHALE, unmarried.

John Schayl of Pessale, taken and detained in Stafford gaol for the death of William de Pessale (Peshale), put himself on the country, and Robert de Pype and the other jurors say that on the Thursday before the Feast of St. Katherine, 30 Edward I., a dispute arose in the vill of Ecclesale on the high road, between John Schayl and William de Pessale, and the said William drew his knife and assaulted the said John meaning to kill him, and John perceiving this ran away as far as the house of Ralph de Berithone, and William followed him with his knife drawn, and John fled through the house into a curtilage and as far as a high hedge of thorns, and tried to get over the hedge in order to escape; and he

could not climb over the hedge owing to its height, and fell to the ground, and William pursued him ferociously with his knife drawn, and struck the said John through the middle of the arm with it; and the said John was on his knees shouting and supplicating for peace, and William de Peshale, said he should have no peace and he would kill him; and John then attempted a second time to climb over the hedge, and William again attempted to strike him with his knife; and John perceiving he could escape in no other way, then struck William on the head with an axe, so that he died, and they say positively that John killed him in self defence, and not feloniously or with malice aforethought. He is therefore remitted to gaol to await the king's pardon. John Shayl is imprisoned 1305 for the death of William de Peshale. [Staff. Hist. Col.]

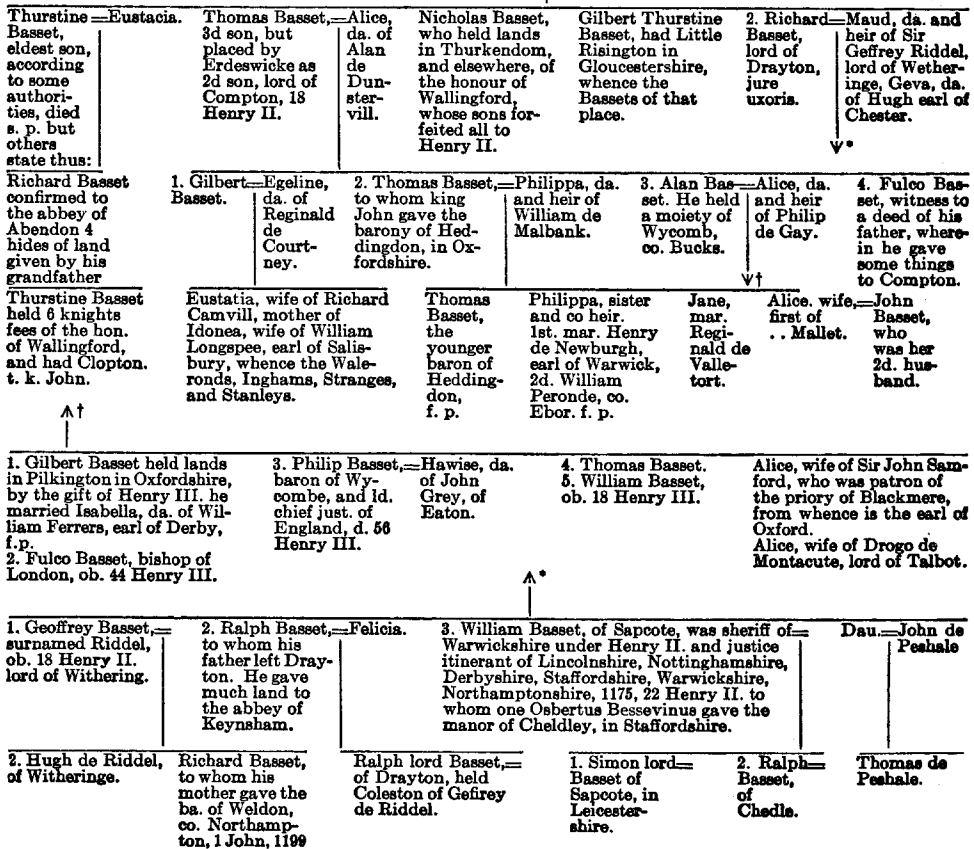
Gaol Delivery. 34 Edward I. 1306. Liberty of Lichfield. John Skiel indicted for the death of William, son of William de Peshale produced King's letters of pardon dated 24 December, 33 Edward I. [*Ibid.*]

Ancestry of — Basset, wife of John Peshale.

PEDIGREE OF BASSET.

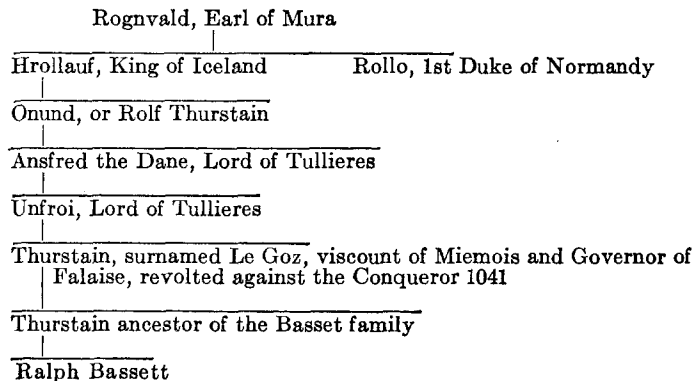
Thurstine, the Norman, who held 5 hides of land in Drayton, co. Stafford, 1086, 20 William the Conqueror.—

Ralph Basset, of Colston and Drayton, chief justice of—A. his wife, both living 1120, 20 Henry I.
England temp. Henry I. buried at Abindon.



The Bassets of Weledon came to an end in 1408, those of Drayton in 1390, those of Sapecot in 1378, and it was doubtless these changes that led Robert Attorton, Prior of Canwell, to get a Royal confirmation of his charters. This confirmation, dated January 21st, 1411, includes Geva Ridel's foundation charter of Canwell Priory, passed before 1147, to which the following are given as witnesses: William, abbot of Radmore, Richard, abbot of Leicester, Osbert, the chaplain, Ails, the priest of Draiton, Thomas de Ses, William de Ses, Walter de Cuili, Adam de Tamworth, Rannulf de Bret, Ivo de Gorges, Robert Bagot, Richard Basset, Maud de Stafford. We have already noticed this charter in the preceding chapter when speaking of John de Lumley de Peshale, father of this John de Peshale and his brothers of this generation. It includes also a writing of Ralph Basset of Drayton, son of Ralf Basset of Sapecot, Sir Robert de Gren-done, Sir William de Lymare, Walter de Bereford, Augustine de Wissawe, and Henry his son, Henry de Lilleburne, Richard de Thikebron, Nicholas de Wissawe. Another writing of Ralph, son of Ralph, son of Ralph Basset, Lord of Drayton Basset, confirming the others, dated May 7th, 1352, and witnessed by Baldwin de Fryvill, John de Clynton, John de Freeford, Fulk de Birmyncham, knights, John atte Lee, John le Arch, Hugh de Aston, John de Lile. And yet another writing of the same Ralph, the last lord Basset of Drayton, dated January 6th, 1389, one of the witnesses to which is John Comberford. Another ancient charter inspected and confirmed, dated July 22nd, 1234, at Sutton, in Kent, has Gilbert Basset and John fitz-Philip, the forester of Kinver among its witnesses. [Staffordshire Historical Collection, vol. 1910, page 312.]

At the time of the Conqueror's Survey, Thurstan or Thurstine, as he is more commonly written, a Norman, held five hides of land in Draiton, in Com. Stafford. Which Thurstine, it is said, came into England with the Conqueror; and was the paternal ancestor of the several families of the name of Basset in this kingdom. This Thurstine was of the same family as Thurstan de Goz, the grandfather of Isabella Lupus, who married Gilbert de Corbeil, and hence descended from Hrollauf, chapter 9, section 3, the brother of Rollo through Rolf Thurstan who accompanied Rollo when he came to Normandy. The following chart will show this line of descent: [Dormant Baronetages of England, by J. C. Banks, London, 1817, vol. 1.]



Of Ralph Basset, son of this Thurstine, it is said by Ordericus Vitalis, that King Henry I., at the very beginning of his reign, *De ignobili stirpe illustravit ac de pulvere (ut ita dicem) extulit; dataque multiplici facultate consules et illustres oppidanos exaltavit.* Translation: From the very lowest born, he raised him to heights of prosperity, as has been said, he raised him even from the dust, and gave him rank with the illustrious and the great landowners. Which discloses that Ordericus was mistaken as to Ralph Basset being of ignoble birth unless he refers to the thrall mother of his ancestor Hrollauf, brother of Rollo. That the father of Ralph Basset may have been very poor would not be doubted by any one who knew of the consequences which followed banishment of his nobility by William, Duke of Normandy. Ralph Basset was a cousin of Isabella Lupus, the wife of Gilbert de Corbeil, which accounts for the intimacy between the two families, and which brought about the association by which John de Peshale came to know and to marry a granddaughter of Ralph Bassett. [Dormant Baronetages of England, by J. C. Banks, London, 1817, vol. 1, pages 230-233.]

Ralph Bassett was a man of renown in English history. He had the high office of chief justice of England under Henry I. with a power so great that he sat in what court he pleased, and wherever else he thought fit, for the administration of justice. And to his wisdom, it is asserted, we owe the first design and institution of the law of frank pledge, besides other excellent laws. From this it seems evident, that he shared largely in his sovereign's favor, and that he had great abilities; which, with so wise a prince, were the likeliest means to procure it. He first instituted the form of the high court of parliament; for before his time only certain of the nobility and prelates of the realm were called to consult about the most important affairs of the state. He caused the commons also to be assembled, by knights and burgesses of their own appointment, and made the court to consist of three parts; the nobility, the clergy, and the common people, representing the whole body of the realm; and appointed them to sit in several chambers: the king, the bishops and lords of the realm in one chamber, and the commons in another, to confer together by themselves. The first council of this sort was held at Salisbury on the 19th day of April, in the 16th year of his reign. And this Henry is recorded to have been the first king who made a speech in parliament. [Dormant Baronetages of England, by J. C. Banks, London, 1817, vol. 1, pages 230-233.]

This Ralph had issue divers sons, of which the eldest, Thurstine, succeeded him in Colston. Thomas the second son, was ancestor of the Heddington line; from whom, by Alan, a younger son, sprang that of Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire. Richard the third son (by Dugdale made the first, and by other authorities, the second son) was founder of the branch of Weldon. Nicholas, the fourth son, was overthrown fighting with King Stephen against Maud the Empress; and his son forfeited all their estate to King Henry II. And Gilbert, the youngest son, having Little Riffington, in Gloucestershire, by gift of his father, was ancestor to the Bassets, sometime seated there. Richard Basset, third son of Ralph, the chief justice (by Dugdale made the first; who, if he had been, would most probably have succeeded his father in Colton) had also that great office of justice of England. He married Maud, daughter and heir of Geoffrey Ridell,

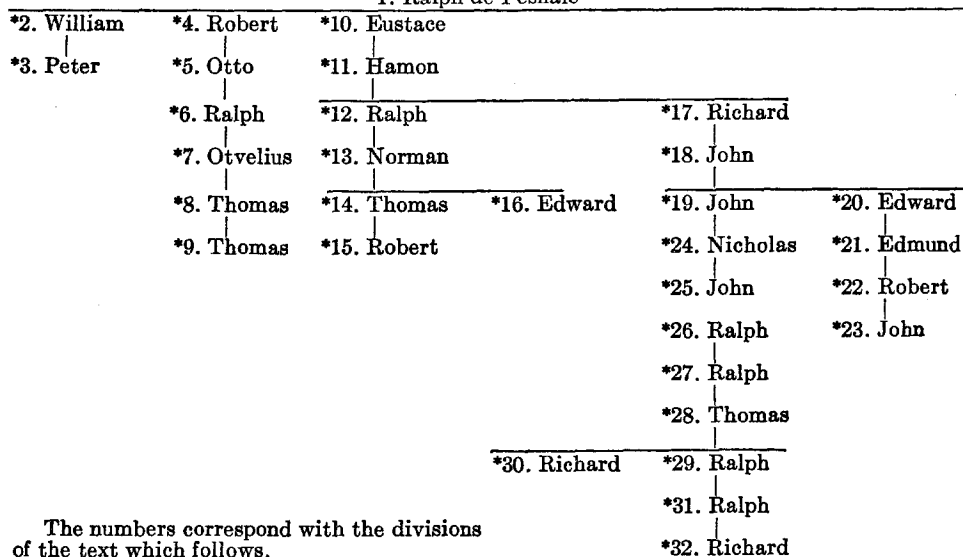
lord of Withering, by Geva his wife, daughter of Hugh Lupus, earl of Chester, but by some called daughter and heir of Robert Bussy, lord of Weldon, and by her was father of Geoffrey, who was surnamed Ridel, after his mother; of Ralph, to whom he gave Drayton; and of William who obtained Sapcote. [Dormant Baronetages of England, by J. C. Banks, London, 1817, vol. 1, pages 230-233.]

Though the historians of that age do not mention any other children of Hugh Lupus except Richard his son, most certain it is, he had a daughter, Geva, with whom he gave, in frankmarriage to Geoffrey Ridel, the manor of Drayton, in co. Staff. It is related of Richard the second son of Ralph Basset, that abounding in wealth, he built a strong castle upon his inheritance in Normandy. It was the daughter of this Richard Basset who married John de Peshale, as is shown by the several deeds witnessed by the de Peshale-Basset witnesses.

SECTION 5.

The following chart will disclose some of the descendants of

*1. Ralph de Peshale



The numbers correspond with the divisions of the text which follows.

*1. RALPH DE PESHALE, son of John de Lumley de Peshale, Chapter 12, Section 1. Married ——. Children:—

1. William de Peshale, married Alice de Bendenges.
2. Eustace de Peshale.
3. Robert de Peshale.

Pipe Roll 6 Henry II—1159-1160. Ranuelph Purcell released 6s. 69d. he was one of Robert de Stafford's knights. [Staff. Hist. Coll., Vol. 1, pages 29-30.]

Note:—The pedigree of this line must necessarily be quite fragmentary. The descendants of Ralph early removed from Staffordshire and Shropshire and, as it was foreign to the scope of the present genealogy, the immense task was not undertaken of making a complete pedigree of the line of Ralph. Our note books however

were found to contain some very interesting items concerning him and his descendants of which items the following are here presented with the hope that some member of his family will find the time and inclination to gather up and present the missing links.

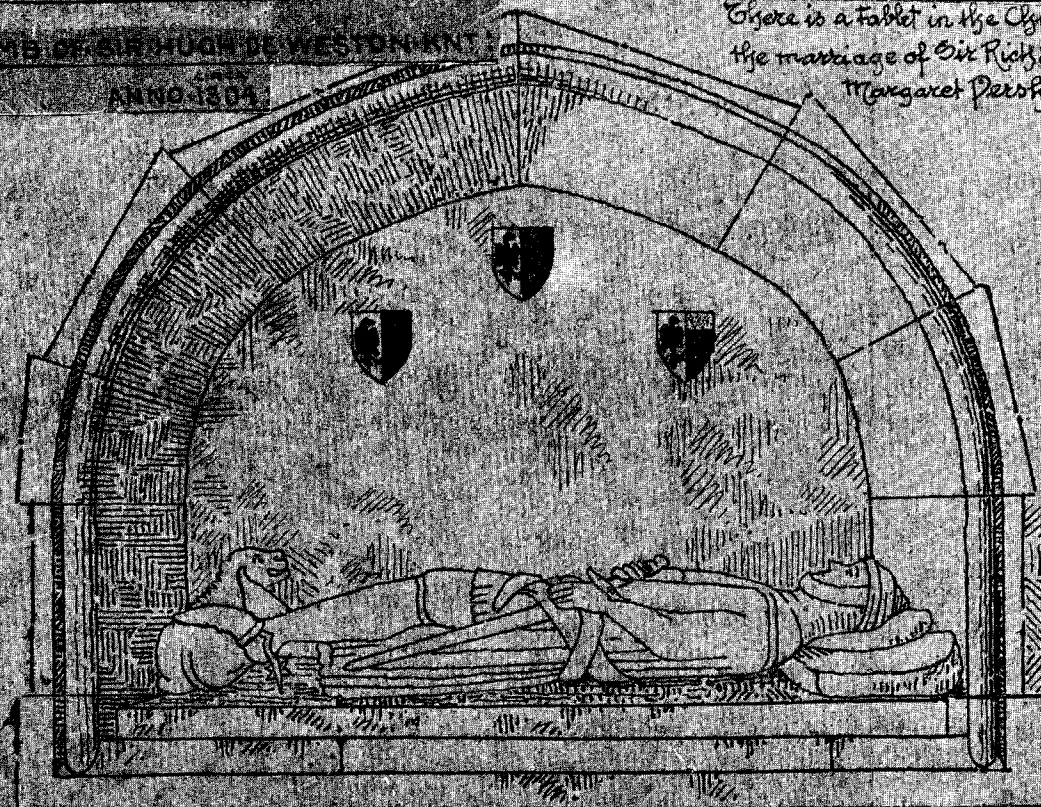
Pipe Roll 7 Henry II. 1160-61. Ralph Purcell—1 mark debit to Robert de Stafford and excused 5 years later, holds 2-3 f. m. (fornesecco service) in the

PARISH CHURCH OF WESTON-UNDER-LIZARD: SALOP:

TOMB OF SIR HUGH DE WESTON KNT

ANNO 1304

There is a tablet in the Church recording
the marriage of Sir Richard Mutton &
Margaret Perokall.



Barony. Stafford rendered no service beyond the sea hence he was annexed in a scutage on the sixty fees which constituted his barony. [Staff. Hist. Coll., vol. 1, page 34.]

Raduefus Purcell, tenent duas parte, 1 militas. 1166. [Staff. Hist. Coll., vol. 1, page 149.]

Radulfus Purcell. 2-3 f. m. This fee is Shareshull. It appears in the Liber Niger Seacara, temp. Henry II. [Staff. Hist. Coll., vol. 1, page 181.]

*2. WILLIAM DE PESHLE, married Alice de Bendenges. Child:—

1. Peter de Weston.

Roll No. 11. Placita Capta apud Westmonasterium, a die paschae in xv deis, anno Regis Henrici quinto (25 April 1221). Oxon. Robert Purcel appeared on the fourth day against Peter de Weston, son and heir of *3 William fits Ralph, in a plea that he should adhere to a fine levied before the Justices at Westminster in the reign of King Richard, between (1) Ralph Purcel, father of the said Robert complainant, and William fitz Ralph, father of the said Peter, tenant of two virgates of land in Scaldewell; and Peter did not appear, the sheriff returned him as not living in co. Oxon, and therefore he is to be attached in co. Northampton to appear at five weeks after Michaelmas; and let it be known that Alice de Bendenges, the widow of the said William fitz Ralph, appeared and claimed the said land as dower, against Eustace Purcel, brother of the said Robert; and Eustace came and called to warranty the said Robert Purcel; and as one suit depends on the other, a day is given to all the parties at the term above named. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 3, part 1, page 15.]

*3. PETER DE WESTON was a crusader and his tomb is the one in the Parish Church of Weston-under-Lizard about which there is so much uncertainty, but which the coats-of-arms clearly indicate as the son of a Peshale.

Henry William Pearsall, as the plate shows, attributed the tomb to Sir Hugh Weston, which is impossible as a Peshall except by the lapse of several intervening generations of ancestry.

The following is abstracted from the correspondence of Robert Pearsall in 1906 with G. W. Colville then Rector of Weston, Shifnal:

I am much obliged to you for letting me keep the sketch of the wooden figure. I am much interested in the subject of your letter. Have you any idea what authority your cousin had in 1839 for ascribing this tomb to Sir Richard de Mitton? We have 2 of these recumbent figures in oak and they are supposed to be Sir Hamo de Weston, circa 1188 and Sir Hugh de Weston circa 1304. Their legs being crossed lead one to suppose they were Crusaders and the Crusades lasted from the end of the 11th to the last half of the 13th century. These figures are now on the south and north of the sanctuary. Above them on either side are mural tablets. The highest on the north side is to the memory of Elizabeth sister of Thomas de Weston, Esq. who married Adam de Peshal Esq. and died about 1366. The highest on south side commemorates Margaret daughter of the above who married Richard, son of Sir Reginald Multon; died about 1439. These monuments, as well as others, the inscriptions of which form a sort of pedigree of the inheritors of Weston, were probably erected by Dame Elizabeth Wilbraham, who owned Weston and built the present church in 1701. It was restored in 1876. The effigy in question is on the south side of the sanctuary and represents Sir Hugh de Weston, married — Audithley (Audley) of Newport in Shropshire as his first wife and Sara daughter of Richard de Stretton as his 2nd. wife. He died c. 1304. The effigy on the north side is said to represent Sir Hamo de Weston who died 1188, but there is no record of his marriage.

It is respectfully suggested that the arms disclose that there had been marriages between Weston and Audeley, Weston and Wemme, Weston and Eyton, and Weston and Peshale, the latter clearly being the special arms of the recumbent figure, which confirms the belief that this is the tomb of Peter de Weston.

- *4. ROBERT PESHALE. The Teste de Neville temp. Henry III. states that Robert Purcell held a knight's fee in Shareshull of the Barony of Stafford and Kirbys Inerst. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1, page 181, and vol. 7, part 2, page 181.]
- *5. OTTO PURCEL. He was the father of:

1. Ralph Purcel.

The feodary of the following year stated that Oto Purcell held a knight's fee in the same place of Nicholas Baron of Stafford.

There has been some question as to the date of the feudatories known as the Teste de Neville. The modern opinion is that they were compiled in the late autumn of 1243. King Henry III. sailed for France on May 15, 1242. Matthew Paris says that about Michaelmas the King of England caused a scutage to be extorted throughout England—illegally according to Stubbs—and, from the Patent Rolls, it would seem to have been levied on the church fees only. Among the Gloucester lists is one headed Aid of the Prelates granted to the King against his crossing into Gascony in the 26th year (1242) dealing with church fees only. The King landed back from France, at the urgent request of his subjects, on September 25, 1243, with his debts to be paid. It is probable that the scutage ordered by the King and part paid in 1242 might then be regularly levied on all fees, and that then the sheriffs supplied these lists. The scutage was at the rate of three marks or £2 per fee. The autumn of 1243 stands therefore as the most likely date for both these lists. This is entirely confirmed by Red Book of the Exchequer, where we learn that the Scutage of Gascony was confirmed in the autumn of 1243 and special writs issued to the sheriffs for returns. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 1911, page 380.]

- *6. RALPH DE PESHALE and his wife are buried in the church at Shareshull.

He was a knight in the Crusades.

Shareshull, Staffordshire. In the church are two figures finely executed in alabaster, with colors and gilt borders, of a man and woman; the man in armour, with a chain pendant from the neck having at the end the cross of Malta, the woman in a rich and elegant attire, her head not reclined on a cushion, as in the other, but purposely designed thus by the sculptor, being engaged in the crusades, or some distant and long service, he meant to express her uneasiness thereat and her restless life. It is a divine command,—Let no man put asunder those whom God hath joined. This is good in life, but not obligatory after death. In short, these two figures, after being conjoined as one stone for perhaps 300 or 400 years, were obliged to be sawed asunder and separated, he lying in the recess of a north window and she in one of the south, opposite. [Extracts from Gentlemen's Magazine, 1786, pt. 1, page 408-409. Rev. John Peshall's Pedigree.]

The bells of the church are very old and are supposed to be a gift by Ralph de Peshale. The inscriptions on the bells are:

Treble: Cantate Domino Canticum novum.

Tenor: Gloria et honor fit semper Deo in excelsis.

Translation: Treble: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Tenor: Glory and honor be through all time to God on High.

Ralph de Peshale is mentioned as bestowing part of his lands in Reding in Whesterfelt, Chesterfield in Staffordshire to religious purposes 'et dono Ranulph Peshale terramque vocatur Redyngi 3 rodas in Whesterfelt.' [Rev. John Peshall's Pedigree.]

- *7. OTVELIUS PESHALE was high sheriff of Oxford first half of the year 1317, 11 Edward II. [List compiled by John M. Davenport.]
- *8. THOMAS DE PESHALE. On 10th November, 6 Edward III. (1333), Thomas son of Otwell Purcell, Lord of Shareshull, conveyed to Sir John de Swynnerton, knight, the manor of Shareshull, with all rents, services, villains, &c. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 3, part 1, page 15 & vol. 7, part 2, page 94.]
- *9. THOMAS PURCELL and Joan his wife, Lord of Shareshull, 13 Edward III. (1340) exchanged with Sir William Shareshull their holdings in the manor of Shareshull for lands of the latter in Great Tyrre in co. Oxon. [History of Staff. by Rev. Stebbins Shaw, vol. 2, page 281.]
- *10. EUSTACE PESHALE (see notice of him in Division 2 as son of Ralph). Child:—
 - 1. Hamon (see No. 11).
- *11. HAMON PESHALE was of Bucks and Bedfordshire. Children [Note Book of Rev. Sir John Peshall]:—
 - 1. Richard (see No. 17).
 - 2. Ralph (see No. 12).
 - 3. N. N. a son who remarried in Bedford, as witness these following charters:—

EUSTACE, PERSELL: of Co. BEDFORD. 25. HEN. VI. (1447.) (ADD. CH. 38490. BRIT. MUS.) Know by these presents & future that we William Parker, chaplain William Busby, Eustace Persell, & Richard Sutton alias Webbe, in the parish of Northyenell in Co. Bedford, concede, submit, surrender & this our present Charter indented confirms to Everille relict late wife of Thomas Milward of Yerewell in the before said parish of Northyenell the entire house with hedges, dykes, & ditches & whatsoever part or parcell belongs to the house with all pertinances, without separation, entire forming & carrying out with no undue relaxing. Sir William Sherleton & Sir John Newman, chaplains permitting. The before said Richard Sutton alias Webbe thence makes his gift the first day of the month of November, the year of the reign of King Henry the six after the lament in England twenty-five, &c. &c. &c. These testify:—Thomas Herteshorn, William Fulloflove, Robert Saltwell, Thomas Twugewyn, John Page & others.

RICHARD, PERCILL: OF POTTON. CO. BEDFORD 17. ELIZ. (1575.) (ADD. CH. 38498. BRIT. MUS.) For All wherever faithful men to whom this present written indenture may come I William Fletcher alias Cooke de Northiell in the county of Bedford yeoman. At all events make known lasting changes in citing William for divers good considerations me unto intend moving, cause, devise surrender & settle by my Charter indented confirming to Peter Maise de Potton in the said county of Bedford, yeoman, Richard Percill of the same village & county, yeoman & John Charles Smyth—all that messuage or tenement to you around & singular without prejudice situate & being in Over Caldecott below the beginning of Northiell before said, now covered lately in tenure & occupation by William Flint Bell continuously as his own. Moreover all & singular houses, buildings, shelters, ground held continue, fields, pastures, water mills with bush & underwood extending complete, emoluments & advantages whatever with all & singular his part with the messuage or if held elsewhere only part or if proved, or with the same has use occupation either garnish along with William Flint or his assigns that part or parcel or member of the before said messuage or if holding Vernon Reidcome & reversions the before said messuage without holding & returning the premisses selling & holding the before said messuage or if holding more over returning all & singular the before said premises with parts perfect to Peter Maise, Richard Percill & John Charles Smith their heirs & assigns in perpetuity for service & use my before said Wm. Fletcher alias Cooke to the end of my natural life. And after my death to the before said William then to adopt & use whenever Thomas Fletcher alias Cooke my son before said William also his heirs and assigns seeks capital to produce from that place by service thence first owing & by oath accustomed. And I in truth the before said William Fletcher alias Cooke & heirs my before said messuage or if held moreover all & singular premisses before said then really & truly to Peter Maise, Richard Percill, & John Charles Smith their heirs & assigns For service & use to hold over against me & my heirs warranty & in perpetuity defending & by settlement I say of this thing. In Testimony of one part this Charter my indenture with the before said Co. Enfeoff—In this matter I the before said William my seal have affixed—Again I truly part with in this matter the before said Co-enfeoff his seal follows. Given the twentieth day of September in the year of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of England, France & Ireland Queen, defender of the faith &c seventeen. Signed by Peter Mayes only—his seal is a plain cross, made with a double slotted screw head—the 2nd seal has gone the 3rd seal has been impressed with a key.

*12. RALPH PESENHale, son of Hamo Peshale. See Division 11. Child:—

1. Norman Pesenhale.

In the British Museum is a charter of confirmation of a grant by Radulphus de Peshale to John son of Richard de Rengrey of London of the manor and church of Stanbridge in Essex in the hundred of Rochford, for homage and service rendered. The seal is 3 piles barwise, on reddish wax, in the margin the name of Radulphus de Peshale and the cross flory of the Peshales and the lion rampant of the earls of Northumberland and Bernicia. The charter is written in the cursive hand in vogue about 1150. It is not, of course, dated, but is a twelfth century document on vellum. The translation is as follows, as made by Mr. Robert Pearsall of Teddington, Middlesex, England:—

Know by these presents and in the future that I, Radulphus de Peshale give, concede and by these presents my charter confirm to John son of Richard Rengrey of London, for homage and service to him the whole Manor known as mine in the Parish of Stanbridge in the county of Essex and hundred of Rochford at the same time with the advowson of the church of God of the Manor and with all others belonging to him known and not known entire without others retaining, having and holding to the said John and his heirs &c. &c. [Harl. Mss. 54. G 25.] These testify: Stephen de Segrave, sometime Justice of England, William son of Richard Thomas de Plumbergh, Sordane Lebrim, John de Appelton, Gilone de Calewedon, Roger le Duc, Henry de Coram (Henry the Judge), Richard son of Walter, Mickem de St. Helena, William Herlicim, Radulphus Aswye, William Ioymer, Stephen Grasso, John de St. Dunstan, Walter Buksel, William Clico, Henry Clerico and others. Stephen de Segrave was Sheriff of Essex Anno 1221-23, Chief Justice of England 1230; and he died 1241. This fixes the date of the deed as being sometime between 1231 and 1241. It will be noticed that Ralph spelled his name Peshale. It is therefore easy to understand that when, in conformity to the rules of spelling in Essex where the middle English prevailed, his descendants had only to drop the h and change the final e to l to reach Pascall, the name by which some of his descendants are now known. He carried his cross flory in the shape of an X so that a branch of his descendants call themselves Pexall.

The record of the fine by which this conveyance was accomplished abstracts as follows:—Easter—John son of Richard Ranger of London Plaintiff and Ralph de Pesehale impediēt; Manor of Little Stanbridge with appurtenances. Plea of warranty of Charter, Impediēt acknowledged the right of plaintiff to the whole of said manor with the advowson of the church in demesne and rents in services of freeman and villainage, in wardship, reliefs, homages and in all other things appertaining to the said manor to hold of impediēt by the yearly rent of one pair of gilt spurs or 12 d at Easter plaintiff to render the service to the chief lord of the fee for half a knights fee. Impediēt granted that if plaintiff's heir shall be within age after his death Ralph and his heirs shall not be able to claim anything in wardship or marriage. The consideration was one sore sparrowhawk. Temp. 20 Henry III 1234-5. [Book of Feet of Fines for Essex by R. E. G. Kirk, page 113.]

*13. NORMAN DE PESHale: Married. Children:—

1. Thomas de Pesehale.

2. Edward Pesehale.



SEAL OF RALPH DE PESHALE
[SOMEWHAT ENLARGED]



SIGILLVM:RADVLPHVS:DE:

PESCHALE

CART. HARL: 54. G. 25:

BRITISH MUSEUM:

UNDATED CHARTER: 13th CENT.

Stephen de Segrave, Chief Justiciar of England signs
this Charter, he occupied ^{that} position from 1230 until his
death A.D. 1241.

Hist. Nat. Bio.

~ Real size, 1 1/2" wide by 1 3/4" long ~

Brown red wax

- 3 piles barwise -

Charter of Norman de Pesehale, Peasenhall, co. Suffolk. Let it be noted, Know all sons of the Holy Church not only by these Presents but in the future that I Norman son of Rad. de Pesehale conceed and by this present Charter confirm the gift to the Church of St. Mary of Sibetune (Sidbury) and Monastery of the same place. Six acres which Rd. my father gave the same in the original cause of William Anuncta. So the Charter itself is the same renewed and acres and half the same which I have separately given in the beginning And extra which Ranulf de Glanvill gave the same originally of my lands in Pesehale. So the Charter is the same of Ranulf's testament. And in addition to which Rd. de Hereford and Avelina his wife and their heirs have given the same to the Monastery in the beginning in the same village of Pesehale, also Biocrost. This before said concession executed to the Monastery is always from the beginning free and open to all without service and from all fines or exactions. And in the above concession the same extra which hold in free tenancy of Hamone fil Leswin in Wrabenin that the same they have and they hold thus free so the Charter first by me made is renewed I conceed wherefore all licences extra deeds inactive I declare to the Monastery and at first mine in Pesehale and in Sibetuna perpetually, also fixed and firm and I have nominated thereto licenced and to act is of the land Aslac de Pesehale so I have cited him to act and carry out himself also I press him to stand firm. To accomplish therefore the concession to the Monastery I have given of my money 40 gold pieces to the Church. These Testify:—Robt. de Valem' a . . . meo Willo. de Falsham, Rad. de Hereford, Rodbt. Jurden, Hamone Cupanum, Oliver Maltbe, Rog. Gulafre, Thoma de Hemehale, Joh's son of Radulf de Pesehale, Gaufrid son of Jerold, Rodbt. son of Samari, Ric. Carle. [British Museum Charters & Rolls. Harl. 84. A. 10.]

Catalogue of Seals, British Museum: Normannus (fil Rad.) de Pesehale (of Peasenhall, co. Suffolk) 6297 (late 12th or early 13th century). Pale green covered with a dark brown varnish; edge chipped (Harl. Ch. 84. A. 10.) To the r. In armour: hauberk, surcoat, helmet with nasal, sword, convex shield, horse galloping. Sigillum Norman de . . . shalle. c.f. Norman de Peshale of Co. Suff. in the Rotuli de oblati temp. John., Ed. Hardy, p. 300, A.D. 1205.

It will be noticed that the scrivener calls the grantor de Pesehale whereas his seal names him as Peshall. It made considerable confusion when the family name and the locality name were so nearly alike. Robert Pearsall fixes the date of this charter as circa 1280, but it should probably be fixed at least thirty or more years earlier. Richard de Granville named as having made a grant which this charter confirms was Chief Justice during the reign of King Henry II and in 1181 published the earliest treatise on the laws of England, hence he came to be called the father of English jurisprudence. He founded 1171 at Butley near Oxford, Suffolk, a priory of Black Canons dedicated to the Virgin Mary. At Layston, east of Saxmundham in Surrey he also built and endowed an abbey of Premonstratensian Canons in 1182. It will be noticed that the deed speaks of Richard de Granville as having been tenant of the grantor, not of his ancestors.

Catalogue of Seals, British Museum.—Ralph de Peshale of co. Essex; 12.596 (13th century) light red imperfect, indistinct in places $1\frac{5}{16} \times 1\frac{3}{16}$ in. [Harl. Ch. 54. G. 25] Shield shaped; an early shield of arms; barry pily of six si. . . . dv

.....de: Peshale. (See plate next preceding this page.) Sibton Abbey was located in Peasehall, Surrey and this branch of the family was connected with it for many generations.

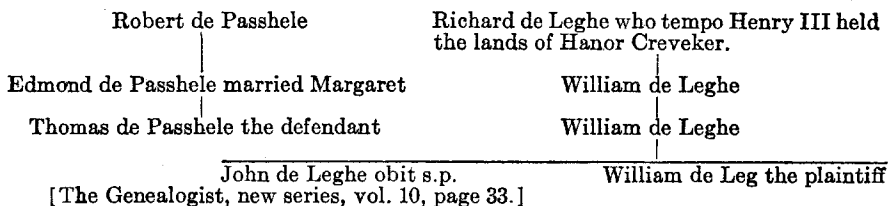
*14. THOMAS PESCHALE. Children:—

1. Edmund de Peschale.
2. Robert de Peschale.

Master Thomas Pessal mentioned 2 Edward I (1274) in connection with lands in suffolk. [Calendar of Inquisitions, vol. 2, page 10.]

*15. ROBERT DE PASSHELE. Those who remained in this part of England changed their sir name to Pisehale a compromise between their old and new place name, as is shown by the following chart [Harl. Ch. 83. F. 19]. Know by these presents and in the future that I Richard son of Reginald de Hevenisgetia with favor and . . . of my friend give and conceed by this present charter to St. Marie and the Monastery of Subetune—mentions Radulfi de Capuilla. Testators: Jacobo de Gisney, Robto. Ailwi, Eudone de Ville Witto and Robto. Gumbald, Robto. named de Pisehale, Giletro caps. Rog de Ludha and others.

De Banco, Trinity 48 Edward III (1375)—Sussex;—Thomas de Passhele was sued by William de leghe for an illegal distress. The pleadings give these pedigrees.



*16. EDWARD PESEHALE son of Norman Pesehale (see No. 13). Edward Pesehale and John his son held the manor of Oldbury in County Surrey of ye priory of Canterbury per servite 16 denari per ann and secta curia. John his son being of full age September 13, 1327. [Inquisitions post mortem No. 5193 in Harl. Mss., folio 117.]

John Pesehale was the father of Richard of Sussex of whom the following appears among the records of Bramber Rape for sussex A. D. 1332 June 20, Commissions of Oyer and terminer to Richard de Wyloughby and others on complaint of Richard de Pesehale that William de Wolde chaplain, Robert de Saxton, Richard de Richmond, John de Mowbray, John le French and others took away twenty horses, thirty mares, twenty four colts, sixty oxen, thirty cows, thirty steers, one hundred swine and two hundred sheep of his worth £ 500 at Knappe Beaubosson, Fyndon, Wassington, Bedyng, Bembre, Stenyng, West Grenstede and Waryngglide, County Essex. They also mowed his crops, carried away his goods and assaulted his servants. [County Records of Essex, by A. D. Weld Frend, 1896, page 419.]

These were all properties at one time belonging to Thomas Bruce. (See Chapter 17, Section 6.)

*17. RICHARD DE PEXALL, who is named as husband of Lucia. Child:—

1. John de Pexall.

The following appears among the Savage Charters in the Visitation of Cheshire 1580 (Harl. Mss., page 200): To all the faithful ten persons to whom these free presents will have come Welcome Greetings which we John de Stanley, steward of our Lord, the Kings household, Thomas Rempston, Roger Leech, controller of the Kings tithes, Thomas Chaworth, Humfrey de Stafford Junior, William Fulthorpe, William de Stanley, Robert de Chalons, Richard de Stanhope, Milites. John de Macclesfeld, cleric, Robert Lawrence, Robert de Toft, Roger de Bradshagh, Matthew de Mere, William de Harleston, Galfrids le Massy, Richard Fitton, Richard Coli, John Hope, Roger Paghen and Richard Wade, Armigers; on the sixteenth day of March in the seventh year of the kingdom of King Henry IV after the Anglo saxon conquest. In the Parish of St Olivia the Confessor, in London, we saw and were present in person when Margaret who was the wife of William Parr, Militis, out of her good and willing disposition and still further out of a worthy disturbance of her conscience and the wise counsel of the Curates and her confessor and especially out of pride, the same Margaret with the great unbroken oath of the State just then, at that time and in the same place declared in full in the presence of all the nobility; hear me: John de Stanley and these others who are Militis and who are Armiger I freed John Savage of the County of Chester from the use and profit of his own John Savage's, and of his wife Matilda, in order that he might declare to Matilda before the law two charters one of his own, John Savage's and the other of Matilda his wife, in order that they might be freed from their own rights, appurtenant to the Manor of Barrow with the belongings below the Lords house of the County of Chester. At the same time with the right of appointing the priest of the same manor which charters were most certainly prepared publicly and honorably in the presence and hearing of the esteemed and intelligent nobility for us at their command then in words which out of pride were both Latin and English, just then at that time and in the same place in the presence of the nobility (in the presence of other better ones.) Which two charters of sale as stated were to be committed as written copies in the presence of the esteemed and intelligent nobility out of pride at their command in these words. In order that they may know these presents about to be which I Robert de Swinnerton give and grant and by this my present charter I confirm to John Beck, rector of the Church of Checkleghe, and to John, the Priest, of the two parts of the Manor of Barrow in the County of Chester with the right of appointing the priest of the same manor

which Lady Matilda de Swinnerton holds as a grant, and further all lands and tenements which William Robins held to the end of his life in the same place. They to have and to hold in their name, two parts of the said manor with the said right of appointing the priest and with said reversion which you held to John and Johanna and their descendants and many others. These testified Peter de Caverswell, John de Drascot and RICHARD DE PEXALL, Militis, and many others.

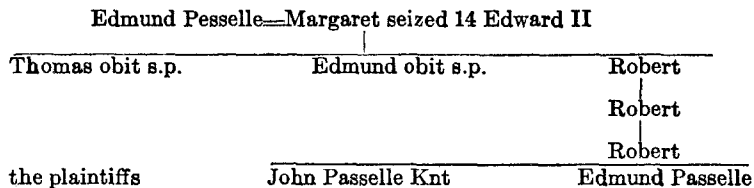
Given at the Swinnerton House on the day of the Month following after the festival of St Barnabas the Apostle in the thirty-eighth year of Edward III. And the said other charter of the said two charters, of course the indented charter, was freed by the said John Savage in the said manner and form from the previously said Margaret in these words. In order that they may know these presents are about to be which we John de Beck, rector of the Church of Checkley, and John Heicock, priest, we give and grant and this my (our) present indented charter we confirm to Robert de Swinnerton and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Nicholas Beck, militis. Two parts of the Manor of Barrow with the appurtenances in the County of Cheshire, with the right of appointing the priest of the same sold manor, with reversion of three parts of the same manor which Lady Matilda de Swinnerton held as a grant, and further all lands and fiefs which William Robins held to the end of his life in the same place. And which after the death of the said Matilda and William ought to return to us to the said Robert and Elizabeth his wife and the lawfully born descendants who remain among us after the death of the said Matilda and William. They to have and to hold the said parts of the said manor with the said right of appointing a priest with said reversion to Robert and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Nicholas Beck, militis, and their lawfully born descendants living among us in a good way with freedom and repose and in peace. We were present for her testimony of this action to relate this present indenting and sealing of the charters. These testify William Trussell, Thomas Dutton, militum, Hugo Venables de Kinderton, Nicholas de Manley, Thomas Greenway, Robert de Knightley, Adam Mycock, Thomas de Bradley and others. Given at Barrow on the Sunday after the festival of St Jacob the Apostle, in the thirtyeighth year of Edward III. We were present for her testimony of this action in view of the necessary seal. Given at London on the seventeenth day of March in the said seventh year of Henry IV.

*18. JOHN DE PEXALL. Child:—*1. Sir John Passelewe Knt., 23 Edw. I.

*19. JOHN PASSELEWE KNT. Children:—*1. Nicholas Passelewe. *2. John Passelewe. *3. Edmond Passelewe.

*20. EDWARD PASSELE, married Margaret. Children:—*1. Thomas Passele ob s p. *2. Edmund Passele ob s p. *3. Robert passele.

De Banco Kent Trinity II Henry VI;—John passale Knt and Edmund Passele Armiger sued John Osborne and others for lands in Idenne, Pleydenne and other places which were held in gavel kind and therefore partable to male heirs. The pleadings gave the following pedigree:—



*21. EDMUND PASSELLE of Bruckland, now Brookland, Kent, and at Theregat in Smethe 19 Edward II.

Calendar of Wills Court of Hustings, London. Edmund de Parsele Knt Monday next before the Feast of St Katherine, Virgin, November 25, to be buried in the new Chancel of the Church of Smethe, County Kent. All his tenements in London

near Oldfishstreet to be sold for the payment of debts and for pious uses, Johanna his wife appointed one of his executors. Dated Smethe, Thursday next after the Feast of St Peter ad vinculo August 1, 1361. [Calendar of Wills, by Sharpe, page 59.]

She is buried in Bradbarne Church in Kent. The inscription on the window is Johanne Pashlee fil John de Sole second wife of Edmund Pashley.

*22. ROBERT PASELEY married Philippa daughter and coheir of Sir Richard Serjeant of Carminowe and his wife Phillippa Fitz Alen daughter of Richard Earl of Arundel and his wife Isabella daughter of Sir Hugh Dispenser. Children:—

1. Ann Pashley married Edward Tyrrel of Downham, Essex. Their only daughter Phillippa was the wife of Thomas Cornwallis progenito of the earls.
2. John Pashley
3. Richard Pashley

*23. SIR JOHN PASHLEY married Elizabeth daughter of Sir Richard Wydeville. Child:—

1. Elizabeth Pashley who married Reginald Pympe. Their daughter and heiress Ann Pympe married Sir John Scott the ancestor of the Scotts of Scotts Hall, County Kent. [The House of Arundel by J. Pym Yeatman. See also Chapter 17, Section 6.]

Tempo Henry IV, John de Passeley sold the Manor of Theregate in Smethe, Essex, to Lord Cobham of Herborough [Harris History of Kent.]

*24. NICHOLAS PESHALE, 29 Edw. III, who married Joane Corbet, children:—

1. Richard who married Isabella daughter and heir of William Wariner, als Warner, of Willeye, now Willy in Salop. Child:—
1. Ralph Peshale married———. Child:—
1. Margaret de Peshale who married William son of Alan de Lacon, father of Richard Lacon of Willy, who married Elizabeth daughter and heir of Sir Hammon de Peshale; see Chapter 18, Section 5. Sir Richard Lacon Knt. sheriff of Salop, 1415, witnessed the Earl of Arundel's charter to Oswestry, 8 Henry IV.

2. John

*25. JOHN DE PESHALE, married. Child:—

1. Ralph Pexall

Note:—Generations 11, 17, 18, 19, 24 and 25 as above are from the notes of Rev. John Peshall citing Vis. Salop per W. Cambden No. 1396 in Harl. Mss. Vincents visit Salop et coll. Robert Glover Norroy 1584 in Harl. Mss.

No. 6 in Ashmol Oxon. Fulers Worthys in Salop and in gen. temp. H6. Camdens Brit. in Salop. See also Burkes Commoners Vol. 3 page 199.

*26. RALPH PEXALL married Child;—

1. (Ralph) Pexall

*27. (RALPH) PEXALL married Child;—

1. Thomas Pexall

*28. THOMAS PEXALL married Child;—

1. Ralph Pexall
2. Richard Pexall

Nichols, the celebrated historian of Leicestershire, says that the earliest notice he found of the name is in 1488 when the death of Master Thomas Pexsall, a

Fellow of King's Hall, Cambridge, releases a Fellow's room for the use of Lawrence Streone, one of the children of the king's chapel, who is greatly desirous to exercise his study and lernyng within the said Universities for the increase of vertue and cunnyng! In the register of Bishop William Smith, of Lincoln, we find Master Thomas Pexsall, A.M., holding the Northamptonshire living of Ufford, on June 19, 1508; and there is another Fellow of King's Hall, Cambridge, of the same name, at about this date.

*29. RALPH PEXSALL, married ——. Child:—

1. Ralph Pexsall. [History of the family of Brocas of Beaurepaire by Montague-Burrows, page 190.]

From 1502 to 1515 Archbishop Warham was Chancellor of England, and in the latter year was succeeded by Wolsey, who held it till 1529. George Warham was nephew of the first, Ralph Pexsall an old servant, in 1528, of the second. In 1522 we find Pexsall Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, and it is reasonable to suppose that he did not leap to that office all at once. The old servant had been there long before Wolsey came there—we can hardly doubt, in the time of Warham; for, as early as 1512, we not only have to account for his success in obtaining the Brocas marriage, for his son Ralph Pexsall, but for some very powerful interest which helped him over no ordinary difficulty, and we connect George Warham with the same interest, when he obtained the other Brocas heiress for his son George Warham, though it was applied first in the case of Pexsall. The difficulty to be surmounted was this. The Mastership of the Buckhounds, though it had been transmitted through females in early times, had been limited to male heirs by the Parliament of 27 Henry VI. Some one or other, by a mere stroke of the pen, now opened the office again to females, for Ralph Pexsall and George Warham inherit by right of their wives. There were plenty of people to object. Edward Brocas, the elder uncle of the co-heirs, went so far as to invoke the aid of the law in his own favour, as nearest male heir; but all objections are overruled. The king, though learning already to be the clever man of business he became, was too young to have had much to do with the matter. We rather look to Warham or Wolsey. The latter was already rising rapidly to power, and Warham's nephew was more or less directly concerned in the arrangement.

There is a suggestive endorsement upon the grant of the Brocas wardship to John Audeley in 1510, vis. George Warham, Brocas. It must have been by some clerk who knew, two years previous to the marriage, that Audeley had already disposed of his elder ward to Warham, clerk in the Court of Chancery. The good archbishop has never been cleared from a charge of a somewhat too great regard for the welfare of his relatives; nor can we altogether blame him if he was instrumental in arranging this profitable alliance. The affair, in short, might have turned out worse for the young co-heiress; but we may sum up the above proceedings with the remark that Pexsall and Warham were Government officials, who made use, after the custom of the times, of the sort of opportunity which was frequently occurring to enrich themselves by royal wardships.

It was not till 1522 that Pexsall is advanced, as a reward for official service, to the office of Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, with a salary of 20£ a year, which was eked out, however, by fees. Thus in 1525 Master Pexsall has a fee

of £13. 6s. 8d. for making out some patents of nobility, and he had a little previously picked up a corrody (or pension) in Thetford monastery. In 1528 he aspires to, but fails to obtain, the high office of Under Treasurer of England, just vacated by the death of Sir. William Compton, and invokes the help of Lord Sandys, Henry's Chamberlain. That nobleman presses it on Wolsey in an interesting letter, on the ground of Pexsall being an old servant of the cardinal, and excuses his importunity on the strength of the old saying, Where a man best loveth, there he dare be boldest. The footing of the great minister was not, however firm enough at this moment to allow him to lift his followers any higher. The next year he is disgraced. Previous to that disgrace Pexsall had been one of the nine hundred persons who attended the cardinal on his splendid embassy to France; for the quasi-king must have the king's officials in his train. It may be hoped that it was painful to the Clerk of the Crown to be officially present, as we find he was, when his old patron, now falling headlong from his dizzy height, appeared before the enraged and disappointed despot, with the surrender of the Great Seal. [Unless otherwise noted this and the all the following history of this family is from the publication called *The Family of Brocas of Beaurepaire* by Montague-Burrows 1886.]

*30. RICHARD PEXSALL; 1509-1533 Abbot of St. Marys Abbey, Leicester.

Indenture by which Richard Abbott of the monastery of St. Mary of the Meadows Leicester and the convent of the same hand over, grant and let to farm to Robert Astell of Haverburgh a toft in Haverburgh in a certain street called Lubnan Lane situate between the land of Robert Hasylyrigg, merchant on the east and the land of Richard Osborn on the west, and abutting on the land of Thomas Richardson on the south and on the King's highway on the north, for forty years from the Easter after date, at a yearly rent of 12d payable on the feast of the Annunciation. A yearly payment of 4d is also to be made to the Lord of Harborough and his heirs as chief rent. Dated at the monastery in the Chapter House 6 Henry VIII. septimo de mensis March, i.e. Wednesday, May 7, 1514-5. [Market Harborough Parish records by Stocks and Bragg page 207.]

Richard Pexsall was that Abbott of St. Marys Abbey, Leicester, to whom Woolsey came when he was deposed by Henry VIII. and to whom he said Father Abbott, I am come hither to lay my bones amongst you, and is received by that abbott into his arms with all sympathy and affection. Holding his office from 1509 to 1533, the abbot succumbed to royal pressure without much resistance, and resigned at the latter date upon a pension. He had been no heedless observer of Henry's temper! it is quite possible that the broken heart of Woolsey may have made a last effort to retain its powers till the roof of one could be reached whom in happier times the dying man had called a friend and client. The circumstances of the case rather argue for the idea of an old friendship. The fallen and harassed favorite was not the safest person in the world for an abbot of that date to receive with every outward mark of affectionate respect.

Shakespeare in his Famous History of King Henry VIII has so beautifully told the story of Wolsey's coming to St. Marys that it needs to be repeated at this place in the story of Richard Pexsall.

Kath. Didst thou not tell me, Griffith, as thou led'st me
That the great child of honor, Cardinal Wolsey,
Was dead?

Grif. Yes, madam; but I think your grace,
Out of the pain you suffer'd, gave no ear to 't.

Kath. Prithee, good Griffith, tell me how he died:
If well, he stepp'd before me, happily,
For my example.

Grif. Well, the voice goes, madam:
For after the stout Earl Northumberland
Arrested him at York, and brought him forward,
As a man sorely tainted, to his answer,
He fell sick suddenly, and grew so ill
He could not sit his mule.

Kath. Alas, poor man!

Grif. At last, with easy roads, he came to Leicester,
Lodged in the abbey; where the reverend abbot,
With all his convent, honorably received him;
To whom he gave these words, 'O father abbot'
An old man, broken with the storms of state,
Is come to lay his weary bones among ye;
Give him a little earth for charity!
So went to bed, where eagerly his sickness
Pursued him still; and three nights after this,
About the hour of eight, which he himself
Foretold should be his last, full of repentance,
Continual meditation, tears and sorrows,
He gave his honors to the world again,
His blessed part to heaven, and slept in peace.

*31. RALPH PEXSALL of Beaurepaire, Southampton, England. Master of the Kings buckhounds in right of his wife, Edith, second daughter and sole heiress of William Brocas Esq. Children:—

1. John Pexsall who died without issue.
2. Sir. Richard Pexsall.

Sir William Fitzwilliam Knt. Treasurer of the Kings household, Sir William Pawlett Knt. John Pawlett Esq. and heir apparent to the said William, Ralph Pexsall Esq. Christopher Moore, Alan Horde and Thomas Stoughton, gentleman and Henry, Marquis of Exeter and Gertrude his wife. Fine—the manors of Swalecliff and twelve messuages and two mills and etc. In Swalecliff, Ickenham, Hennyngdon, Woxbridge, Hersies, Coppydell and Pynchestre Ferme. Warranty against John Abbott of Westminster. Trinity anno 23 Henry VIII. [Calendar of Fines London and Middlesex by Hardy and Paige, page 37] Whoever else suffered by the fall of the minister, Ralph Pexsall, at any rate, if we may judge by the visit paid to Beaurepaire by Henry VIII. in 1531, was not one of them. In August of that year we find the following entry in the Privy Purse Expenses: Item: the v. daye; Paid to the keeper of Baroper Park in rewarde, viii Item; the vi daye; Paid to a servant of Pexall in rewarde at Baroper Park, This is the commonest form of the name of the place in the Tudor times, and later. The original form had come to be reckoned un-English, and we have it in numerous corrupt forms, such as Baraper, and Burroper. The wife of Ralph Pexsall

comes before us in the Princess Mary's Privy Purse Expenses in 1537: Item; to Maistres Pexsall servante, iii iiii Item; given to Ms. Pexsall servante bringing partridges to my Lady's Grace, Ralph Pexsall was appointed to a position in the office of the Treasurer of England. The decree of Henry VIII. levying a tax in support of his army, dated November 2, 1523, is signed Pexsall [Inner Temple records, vol. I, Page 457]. On October 4, 1529, acting for the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Treasurer, Pexsall issued an official notice declaring what ports were prohibited from exporting grain and victuals, and what were allowed to export tin and lead. The original has been preserved among the Brocas papers, and is valuable both as bearing the almost unique signature of the third Duke of Norfolk, and as showing which were the chief English ports of that day. The two lists of ports are almost identical; and as the places are so different from what would have been expected at the present day, the names may be worth quoting. They are these: London, Bristol, Bridgewater, Boston, Novum Castellum super Tyrnam, Kyngston super Hull, Leme Regis, Berwicke, Portesmouth, Southampton, Pole and Weymouth, Plymouth and Fowey, Exeter and Dartmouth, Quinque Portus.

One deed alone of Ralph survives, a lease of Peperharowe, which is noticeable for the careful reservation of all maner of principal and hed fysshe taken from the waters there; but, though the estates show so few marks of his hand, he repaid the honour of being toke to husband by the young Edith by adding to them in a substantial way. In 1532 he acquired a fine property in Middlesex, of which the manor of Swacliff, or Squakeley, was the chief and central portion. This manor, with lands in Uzbridge, Great and Little Hillesdan (Hillingdon) Hersies, Coppid Hall, Pynchester and Henham, all of which can still be identified, Pexsall obtained from Henry Bouchier, second and last Earl of Essex, whose daughter was his sole heir and to whose family it had come on the attainder of Sir. Richard Charlton in 1486. The manor house, superseded in 1688 by the present one, must have been a place of some pretensions, as Bernard Brocas gave up his ancestral place, Horton Hall, to make it the residence of his family. It was there that Sir. Pexsall Brocas was brought up; and the registers of the neighbouring church at Ickenham contain some information about that branch from 1574 to 1592. No Pexsalls are found on the register.

A monument was placed in Sherborne St. John church by Sir. Richard Pexsall to the memory of his father and mother. It is a sarcophagus, dividing the Brocas chapel from the church, on which lie the effigies of Ralph and Edith, life-size. He is in armour. The mutilated hands of both figures are raised in front, and each pair once carried a heart. Every resource of heraldry is lavished on this monument, combining the coats of Brocas with that of Pexsall, a cross engrailed flory sable between four Cornish choughs proper. The year of Ralph's death is not known, but his son acts independently as early as 1542.

*32. SIR RICHARD PEXSALL, son of Ralph Pexsall, married first Lady Elinor Paulet, daughter of the Marquis of Winchester. He married second Eleanor Cotgrave daughter of John Cotgrave of Stubbs County, Chester. Children of the first marriage:—

1. Anne Pexall, married Bernard Brocas:—Child, Pexall Brocas.

2. Margery Pexall.
3. Elinor Pexall married John Jobson.
4. Barbara Pexall.

The calendar of fines London and Middlesex by Hardy and Paige give the following: Richard Pexsall Esq. and Thomas Ledyerd for premises in Woxbridge, Hyllington and Cowley (page 67). Nicholas Burlacy, Stephen Morall and Richard Pexsall Knt. and Richard Nicholas, premises in Ickenham and Hyllington. Easter 4 Elizabeth (page 117). Thomas Fyld and Nicholas Burlacy and Sir. Richard Pexsall Knt. and John Reyner of Uxbridge premises in Hyllington and Uxbridge. Easter 4 Elizabeth (page 117). Nicholas Burlacy and John Hyle and Sir. Richard Pexsall Knt. and Richard Stamborough premises in Hyllington and Ickenham Trinity 4 Elizabeth (118). John Slighe and Edmund Armestronge and Sir. Richard Pexsall Knt. and Owen Dodde premises Woxbridge Easter 10 Elizabeth (149). Sir. Richard Bridges of West Shefford, Berks, Knight by his will dated July 24, 1558 and proven September 1, 1558 makes Sir. Richard Pecksall one of the supervisors of the estate. [Somerset wills fifth series page 53.] Dorset Manuscripts in the Bristol Museum in the collection of Egerton manuscripts speak of the rental of R. Pexsalls lands 1549. [Notes and Queries, vol. 5, page 65.]

Amongst the oldest estates brought by Mary de Roches to Sir. Bernard Brocas was a piece of land called Brocas-mede, in Oldstoke (or Stoke Charity). This had been leased in 1505 by William Brocas (3) to the Abbot and Convent of Hide for twentyone years. What had happened between this date and 1542 we know not, but Richard Waller conceived he had some claim on the land, which he proceeded to enforce by the most violent methods, destroying the hay and doing damage to the amount of 100£. Richard Pexsall sued him in the Court of King's Bench, and obtained nearly the whole of the damage. Waller obstinately persisted, but at the end of a year both parties submit to arbitration at the hands of Sir. William Paulet, Lord St. John (their common father-in-law) and Edward Griffin, probably a cousin of the Brocases. The award is unreservedly in Pexsall's favour. The Wallers did indeed obtain the land at last, but they had to pay for it. Nineteen years later Sir. Richard sells it for 100£. to William Waller, of the new generation.

It is in the first year of Mary's reign, and he is now a knight. Exercising what he believes to be his right in the Peperharowe estate, he ejects a tenant William Joure, son of Thomas Joure, holding at Will in copyhold. The man resists on the ground that, though a tenant at will, he is a tenant in fee. The new tenant put in by the landlord uses violence, and the other can obtain no redress. He seems to have been hardly treated, and brings an action against the knight, who, when summoned before the Court of Chancery, pleads illness. A writ of inquiry is then issued in the name of the Queen, in terra ecclesie, Ang. et Hib. supremum caput, to Sir. Oliver Wallop and William Wareham, to take the deposition of the sick man and report to the court. Of this affair we hear no more, but when we do hear once again of Peperharowe, in the reign of Elizabeth, it is, curiously enough, the scene of still more outrageous violence—this time, perhaps by way of retribution, exercised against the knight and his tenants. Amongst the Losely MSS. is

the following letter: To my lovinge coossen, Willyam More, Esquire, yeve this at Lowseley. Right worshipful coossen: I pray you think no unkyndnes in me that I had not seen yow yesterdaye according to ny provyso. I have at this present such hasty business that I could not convenyently come to yow at this tyme accordings to your last communyeation, as touching the vexinge and unquietinge of my poer tenants here by Bedon and his sonne (and) frends. Yow shall understande that they ceasse not to trouble them in such a wrongfull sort as the like about me hath not bene sene. For they violently entered into my manor, and there walketh with swords and bucklers, bragginge, and treatnynge both me and my tenaunts, and without any colour of right kepth casayn (seisen) of the landes belonginge to the parsonage, and taketh up the fences of the same, and hath mayntayned an action against my tenaunts above by a pretensal appeale which was never the late parson's consent. The like example I think was never heretofore seen. And yesterdaye the said Bedon and Vynes, and one Hall, mysused the bearer hereof, some of them calling hym vyllayn, some threatnynge hym, and the said Bedon hymself threatnynge hym that he would cause hym to wear fetters of iron, and putteth hym in such feare that he dare not abide uppon his (illegible) wherefore I beseche yow here the complaynt of this poore man, and for justice sake pytue this extreme handlyng, wherby yow shall cause them to pray for yow, and wee also to be at your comandment, as knowing our lorde, to whom I remember yow. And thus with my hartie comendations unto yow, and my coossen your bedfellow, I bid yow most hartely well to fare. From my house at Peperharowe this Tuesday morning the XII Maye, 1562. Your lovinge coossen, Richard Pexsall. [The Genealogist, N. S., vol. 19, page 215.]

Sir Richard Pexsall betrayed the true Henrician spirit when he exchanged Alton for Brandenstoke, a chaplain to the Brocas chantry at Clewer, and this although the last chaplain had been ejected at the Dissolution (claiming a pension of 4*L*.) and though the Act for the Suppression of Chantries had passed in 1545. He takes care, however, to nominate the private chaplain of the Bishop of Sarum, doubtless for a good reason: and his nominee was already Rector of Clewer. It was the last presentation recorded, or probably made. So merged the old into the new.

Sir Richard Pexall would seem to have been knighted in the last year of Edward VI., which shows that he must have stood well with Northumberlands faction, as we might expect from the position held by the Marquis of Winchester; and it is equally evident that he stood well with Queen Mary, since in her Letters Patent of May 23, 1545, granting his claim to the Mastership of the Royal Buckhounds and salary, she speaks of the good, true, and faithful service which her beloved serjeant (serviens) had before that time rendered her in many ways (multipliciter). We thus see that, as one of her Household, he had obtained her confidence, and no doubt signalized his loyalty at the critical moment of Wyatt's insurrection, which had then only been recently crushed. His ruling motive had evidently been all along loyalty to the Tudor House, that is to say the Lancaster side in the war of the Roses. He had been brought up in it from childhood. It was the policy of his father and of his wife's father. We may well suspect that his leanings were to the old faith, but that did not prevent him from serving the

office of Sheriff of Hampshire under Edward in 1551, and Elizabeth in 1566, as he did under Mary in 1558. Whether he had to punish Romanists under Protector Somerset, we know not; he certainly had to accept Mary's cruel policy, but, as we shall see, not altogether in her spirit. Like Winchester, Lord High Treasurer, to all three of these Sovereigns in turn, he was prepared to perform his duties with apparent indifference to the part he might be called upon to take.

The victim of Mary and her advisers, on July 19, 1558, was a gentleman of good means in the diocese of Winchester, who had shown his zeal in opposing a Papist, and was brought up before White, Bishop of Winchester. His answers to certain questions are given by Foxe, who proceeds thus, the spelling being modernised: He was condemned, and after brought to the place of martyrdom by the Sheriff, called Sir. Richard Pecksal; where he, standing at the stake, began to untie his points and to prepare himself. Then he gave his gown to the keeper, being belike his fee. His jerkin was laid on with gold lace, fair and brave, which he gave to Sir. Richard Pecksal, the High Sheriff. His cap of velvet he took off from his head and threw it away, saying, Ketch that ketch may! Then lifting his mind to the Lord, he made his prayers. That done, being now fastened to the stake, Dr. Seaton willed him to recant, and he should have his pardon; unto whom he said, Away Babylonian, away! Then when they saw he would not yield, they bade the tormentors set on fire; and yet he was nothing like covered with faggots. First, the fire took away a piece of his beard, whereat he nothing shrunk at all. Then it came on the other side and took his legs; and the nether stockings of his hose being leather made the fire to pierce the sharper, so that the intolerable heat thereof made him to cry, I recant! And suddenly therewith he thrust the fire from him; and having two or three of his friends by that wished his life, they stept to the fire, and holpe to take it from him also, who for their labour were sent to prison. The Sheriff also, of his own authority, took him from the stake and sent him to prison again; for which he was sent unto the Fleet and there lay a certain time. But before he was taken from the stake the said Seaton wrote articles to have him to subscribe unto them He subscribed to them on a man's back. That being done, he had his gown given to him again, and so was led to prison. Being in prison he recanted those words he had spoken, unto which he had subscribed; for he was grieved that ever he did subscribe unto them. Whereupon expressing his conscience, he was the same day seven-night after burnt indeed, where the vile tormentors did rather broil him than burn him. The Lord give his enemies repentance!

The entry in the Council Book of August 1, 1558, confirms Foxe's statement. The Queen thought it very strange that he (the Sheriff) had delayed the execution of the sentence against one Bembridge, condemned of heresy, because he had recanted, required him to execute it out of hand, and if he still continued in the Catholic faith, which he outwardly pretended, he was to suffer divines to have access to him, that he might die God's servant; and as soon as the Sheriff had burned him he was to come to the Council and answer for his presumption in delaying it so long. On this Burnet remarks: So that it now appeared that it was not so much the conversion of those they called heretics as their destruction that the Bishops desired. It was something to have braved the anger of the fanatical

Queen, and to have been rewarded for his merciful act by tasting the sweets of a Tudor prison.

Lady Elinor Pexsall died within a few weeks of this transaction (September 26, 1558).

Sir Pexall Brocas lived contemporary with Edmond Perseall merchant of the staple of London, and later called Citizen and Grocer of London, and his brothers Thomas Pershall of Horsley and Robert Peshall of Bloor Pipe, who were engaged in the plot to make King James of Scotland the successor of Queen Elizabeth on the throne of England upon the latter's death. It will consequently be interesting to know that Sir Pexsall Brocas was engaged in the same enterprise as it throws considerable light upon the part taken by our ancestor in this plot. As a result of his participation in this enterprise Pexall Brocas found himself within the grasp of a court of law. With regard to which, we find two counts, riot and forgery, both having occurred in the latter part of Queen Elizabeth's reign. As to the riots, we may make a fair guess that they were connected with Essex's rising in 1601, especially as Lord Sandys, Brocas' neighbour at The Vyne, was one of the leading supporters of the petulant earl. We know from Camden that Essex had a following of some '300 gentlemen of good quality,' and that with very few exceptions they all experienced the queen's clemency. 'Those that had the best purses were fined, but very few paid their fines.' This uprising although growing out of what was very much like a lovers quarrel was really a show of force by those who were conspiring to bring about the succession of James King of Scotland to the English throne upon the happening of the rapidly approaching death of the virgin Queen Elizabeth. It would be well if we could make as good a guess as to the forgery; but there is nothing in the numerous papers of the time which have been preserved in the Brocas chest to throw any light upon it. It is evident that whatever King James's officers might think of the offence, those of Elizabeth considered it a very serious matter. All we know about the charges is gathered from the pardon granted by James on January 18, 1603-4, and thus docketed: 'A Pardon granted to Sir Pexall Brocas, Knight, for all riots and unlawful assemblies before the 20th of March last past [i.e. four days before Queen Elizabeth's death], and of forging and publishing a forged deed of perjury before that day, and of all forfeitures growing due by the same, and of all suits depending in any Courts in his Majesty's name, or in the name of the late Queen, concerning the same. Subscribed by Sir John Crooke.' On April 27, 1604, there is a re-grant of the pardon.

It will be observed that the subject of this pardon was now a knight. He had been so for nearly a year. James I. was proclaimed on March 24, 1603; on May 7 he arrived in London; and on May 11, 'on the king's departure from the Charterhouse, where he was entertained by the Lord Thomas Howard, he made divers knights, one of whom was Sir Pexall Brockhurst of Hampshire.' No less than eighty knights were made on this one occasion—some three or four hundred altogether at this period. Such a lavish bestowal of dignities by the king on his accession has been strongly condemned, and with justice. Camden speaks of this especial batch as 'promiscuously created.' It would be interesting to know how many of these newly made noblemen had been pledged this reward for their part

in the movement that brought the King to the throne of England. If we remember the English prejudice against the Scotch, it can hardly appear unnatural that he should somewhat overstrain his prerogative, and surround himself with those who would be bound to his side by marks of royal favour and who had proven their loyalty to him at the time when it was very much undecided as to whether or not he was to be the king of England. The historians agree that Elizabeth would never have knighted Pexall Brocas. We may be equally sure that he lost no time in letting James understand that he was his devoted servant. In short he was, in his degree, one of the minor factors in the intrigues which were woven around the whole question of the succession to the Crown, held in hand by the consummate skill of Sir Robert Cecil, and just enough known to the worn-out mind of the great queen to justify her instinctive caution, and darken the melancholy ending of her brilliant reign. These reflections are amply justified by the prompt appearance of the two pardons. The riots had been a political offence which now told in favour of the rioter, and carried off the forgery. The punishment which had been impending was not held to interfere with the claim to knighthood. Some powerful friend had explained the whole affair, and these ample pardons set the new knight once more upon his legs.

We may here remark that Queen Elizabeth's visit to Beaurepaire in 1601 is by no means inconsistent with the view here taken of Pexall Brocas' position at her Court, or rather outside of her Court. Edward Savage was at that place, and he it was no doubt that received her in the old Brocas mansion. This visit was probably only a sort of call, and perhaps a meal, for it is not to be found in the chronicles of Elizabeth's Progresses, and is only discovered by an incidental entry in the Bramley Register, where the Bellringers receive payment for ringing the church bells on the occasion of the queen's visit to 'Burraper.' She was then on her way from The Vyne, where she had been magnificently entertained. Tradition reports a great expenditure on the occasion at the rival house, but, if so, it is most improbable that it could have added to the discreditable expenses of the rightful lord of Beaurepaire.

This line from Ralph de Peshale, son of John de Lumley de Peshale became progenitors of the Pascall families of Hampshire and Essex and of the Pecksall family, as their arms in Burke's General Armory would seem to indicate, and as Rev. John Persall pointed out in his Peshall pedigree.