

## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

### RICHARD DE PESHALL

#### Tenth in Ancestry

*Section 1, Sir Richard de Peshall—Section 2, Ancestry of Joan Chetwynd—Section 3, Adam de Peshall—Section 4, Roger de Peshall—Section 5, Sir Hamo de Peshall—Section 6, John de Peshall.*

#### SECTION 1.

\*10. SIR RICHARD DE PESHALL, son of Adam de Peshale, Chapter 17, Section 1, married Joan de Chetwynd, daughter and heir of Reginald de Chetwynd of Co. Salop, Chapter 18, Section 2. Children:—

1. \*9. THOMAS DE PESHALL, Chapter 19, Section 1.
2. Humphrey de Peshall, Chapter 19, Section 3.
3. Nicholas de Peshall, Chapter 19, Section 4.
4. Adam de Peshall. Gaol Delivery made at the Castle of Shrewsbury before Robert de Charlton and John Hulle, Justices assigned, &c. on the Wednesday after the Feast of St. James, 19 Richard II. 1396 Salop. Nicholas de Peshale, the Rector of Eggemondon, and Robert de Peshale, of Knyghton who had been indicted before Thomas Newport, and his fellow Justices of the Peace, for aiding and abetting the escape from the King's Prison in the Castle of Shrewsbury, of Thomas Peshale, knight, Adam Peshale, the son of Richard Peshale, Chivaler, Nicholas, son of the same Richard Peshale, and Richard the servant of Thomas Peshale, chivaler, on the Sunday after the Feast of Corpus Christi, 17 R. II., and which indictment had been returned before the Justices together with the outlawry promulgated against the said Thomas Peshale, Adam, Nicholas, and Richard, the servant of Thomas, surrendered, and stated they were not guilty and appealed to a jury which acquitted them. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 30.]

A fine was suffered by John de Chetewynde, chivaler, of the manors of Weston near Assheleve and Chetewynde, by virtue of which a settlement was made upon his granddaughter Joan and her husband Richard, son of Adam de Peshall. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 11, page 187.]

Sir Richard de Peshall was sheriff 1374 to 1376; a knight in 1376.

Keepers and Justices of the Peace; Richard de Peshale (knight of Horsley and of Chetwynd Justice d.c. 1387). [*Ibid.* vol. 1912, page 312.]

We have now reached the year 1348, or nearly the middle of the reign of Edward III. of England, and so far Richard de Peshall has apparently had no special connection with greater English politics. He seems, however, to have been involved in the dispute concerning the ownership of the manor of Shenston, as witness the following from the Pleas of Assize at Stafford, 20 Edward III. 1347. An assize if John son of Robert de Gresteek, William le Howestere of Lychfield, Richard son of Adam de Peshale, and John Dalowe had unjustly

disseised Agens, daughter of William, son of William le Howesten of Lychfield of a messuage, 60 acres of land, 12 acres of meadow, and 12 acres of pasture, in Shenston. John, son of Robert appeared and one Richard Fox answered for the others as their bailiff and stated that they held nothing in the tenement and had done the plaintiff no injury. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 12, page 1, pages 53-55.]

These were times when there was much local warfare among the nobility of the border counties and in this Richard Peshall early took part. There were the usual ugly entries made by the ins against the outs. If perchance one in self-defence killed his adversary; if that adversary happened to be of the party then in control of the county court there would be a criminal charge preferred and the biased statement spread upon the records. Hence we can well appreciate the record that at Stafford Gaol Delivery, Thursday after the Feast of Annunciation, 21 Edw. III., Richard son of Adam de Peshale who had been indicted before Simon de Ruggeluge the coroner for feloniously killing Thomas son of Adam de Halghton of Suggenhule, Taillor, at Eccleshal in 17 Edward III. was acquitted. Then for eleven years the records are silent. It was a time of foreign wars, and there is every probability that Richard was absent in the King's service. We first hear of him again in 1359, when soldierlike he and his friends engaged without license in the pleasures of a hunt in the Forest of Botecourt, for which they were of course punished by being made responsible for damages. The Plea Rolls disclose [*Ibid.*, vol. 16, page 8]:

De Banco Hilary 32 Edward III. Staff. 1359. John Botecourt sued Richard de Peshale and Adam his brother, Philip de Chetewyne the parson of the Church of Mere, Thomas Huget of Aston, John de Elaston, of Aston for forcibly entering his free warren at Mere and cutting down trees to the value of 100s. The charge continues, that they probably encamped for several days and made a fire of the dead timber, chasing and taking from this free warren hares and rabbits, partridges and pheasants of warren ("phasianis de warrena"). Sir John Botecourt sent his armed retainers down to drive out these trespassers with the result that the hunting party worsted the men of Botecourt, hence the charge is further amplified that they are to pay damages, &c., for beating, wounding, and ill-treating his servants so that he lost their services for a length of time. None of the defendants appeared and the Sheriff was ordered to destrain the said Richard who had found bail and to arrest the others, and to produce them at three weeks from Easter. [*Ibid.* vol. 12, page 157.]

The reign of Edward III. cannot be dismissed without a reference to the great number of crimes of violence which the Plea Rolls and similar records of the time mention. So frequent were they that a petition was made to his successor in 1379 by the people of Staffordshire and other counties that men from Cheshire were continually coming by day and night in great numbers to make war, and riding through the county, robbing, burning, and ravishing and suddenly beating and maiming divers men of the county, returning to the county of Chester without being arrested, so suddenly did they come and go, to the great mischief and annoyance of Staffordshire and the other counties. And because Cheshire was a palatine county and there was no forfeiture for such crimes done outside their county they did not fear to commit any misdeed, so that many men dared not

dwelt in their houses. In spite of complaints to Parliament these grievances had not been remedied, and the men of the said counties petitioned that these criminals should be restrained. The king promised in answer to remedy this state of affairs. [Victoria History of Co. of Stafford, by Wm. Page, London 1908; John of Gaunt, page 218, and Hist. of Tutbury, page 77.]

There is another petition in the same Parliament from the men of Staffordshire, as well as Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, and Salop bearing equal testimony to the inefficiency of the law. Therein it is stated that Welshmen who had purchased lands in those counties came often with their kindred and friends in bands of from one to three hundred or more, armed and in warlike manner, to kill, rob, and ransom, and take beasts, goods, and chattels, and convey them away to Wales, where the sheriffs and other officers of the king dare not exercise jurisdiction; thus the said counties have been wasted, and in a short time would be utterly ruined. They therefore prayed that henceforth no Welshmen of pure blood except those in the retinue of the king or his nobles, should purchase any lands in the said counties under pain of forfeiture. Their petition did not mend matters, for shortly afterwards the same incursions are complained of. We must not, however, lead ourselves to believe that all the turbulence, or nearly all of it, was caused by the predatory Welshmen. For on the contrary the great knights of Staffordshire had their retinues of soldiers with which they were constantly at warfare with each other. The most trivial differences between the owners of neighboring manors resulted in blood-shed and frequently in death. Then here as everywhere else where the Anglo-Saxon dwell politics raged unremittingly and of course there were two parties, the ins and the outs.

One of the grave evils at this period was that justices of assize acted in their own counties, and being friends or often relations of the local magnates, allowed them to set the law at defiance with impunity. This was to have been corrected by statute in 1384, but it was many years before justice was dispensed without regard to the political affiliations of the parties litigant. For as a fact, the ins being clothed with the authority of his majesty's court, not only used its machinery against their enemies, but they spread upon the record the most scandalous charges, not only to defame their enemies, but to excuse their own unwarrantable use of the King's machinery for maintaining peace. [Victoria History of County of Stafford, by William Page, Stubbs Const. Hist. ii, page 640.]

During this generation the most historical of all the instances of civil warfare centered around Adam de Peshall, 3rd., brother of Sir Richard Peshall, and Sir Hugh Wrottesley, who were brothers-in-law and very powerful politicians, immensely wealthy and having large bands of trained soldiers at their command. Sir Richard sided with his brother Adam, 3rd., and really to get the story of the life of Sir Richard one must read the wonderful account of the civil warfare in Staffordshire growing out of the quarrel between Adam de Peshale and Sir Hugh Wrottesley. There are, of course, some instances where Sir Richard appears to have been the leader, as witness the hunting and poaching escapade in the warren of John Bottecourt at Mere above referred to.

In 1361 he was made a defendant at the suit of his half-sister Joan de Eyton in relation to the Manor of Cresswell. De Banco Easter 34 Edward III. 1361

Staff. John de Legh and Joan his wife sued Richard de Peshale for a toft in Offeleye as the right and inheritance of Joan in which Richard had no entry except by Adam de Peshal to whom Henry de Cresswal the father of Joan and whose heir she is had demised it for a term now expired. Richard pleaded that he did not hold the toft nor had held it on the date of the writ and appealed to a jury. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 9.]

It appears that about this time he was knighted, as the next year he is called a knight on the record of the Church of Chetwynd, where it appears that 1362, William Elys or Elkynne, priest, was instituted to the church of Chetwynd vacant the Monday after St. Edmund at the presentation of Sir Richard de Peshale, knight, mandate of obedience. This priest resigned in 1365, when on April 25, Reginald de Caynton priest was instituted at the church of Chetwynd, vacant the Friday before Palm Sunday by the resignation of William Elkyne at the presentation of Sir Richard de Peshale, mandate of obedience. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 10, part 2, page 196. *Ibid.* vol. 10, part 2, n.s. page 197.]

Adam de Peshall, Junior, father of Sir Richard, had been unjustly killed Jan. 8, 1346. His enemies had used a writ of arrest, under a charge of felony, as a cloak for their killing of Adam de Peshale, and of course they had to be consistent, so they claimed that he had been outlawed which would vest the property in the hands of the King. As a fact, Adam had never been tried and convicted. It was a trumped up charge made by his enemies who were in power in Staffordshire and Shropshire. They however succeeded in their purpose as they killed Adam de Peshale and had possession of his property. All this left to his widow and heirs years of litigation to recover his property out of the King's hands.

Pleas of Assize at Lychfield, Easter 38 Edward III. 1365. Staff. An assize if Adam de Peshal the father of Richard de Peshale chivaler was seized as of fee of the Manor of Humeleye (Himley) when he died and if Richard was his nearest kin and which manor Richard de Duddeleye and Isabella his wife now hold. The parties appeared in person and Richard de Duddeleye and Isabella called to warranty John son of John de Sutton, knight and Richard de Pershal admitted the validity of the warranty "concedit quod vocare predictum stet." Richard de Duddeleye and Isabella were therefore to produce the said John son of John on the Monday after the Feast of Purification with the assistance of the court. A postscript states that on that day John son of John essoyned himself and a day was given to the parties on the Wednesday in Easter on which John son of John appeared by attorney and prayed that Richard de Duddeleye and Isabella should show why he should warrant the manor to them and Richard and Isabella stated that the said John de Sutton knight had granted the manor by his deed to one Nicholas Tobyne, the parson of the church of Kyngeswynford, with a clause of warranty and Nicholas had enfeofed the said Isabella and John de Sutton knight formerly her husband, the said John, son of John, then warranted the manor to her as heir of blood of the said John, but as holding nothing by hereditary descent in fee simple from the said John. The Assize was afterwards adjourned till the return of the justices. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 46.]

Sir Richard de Peshall appears to have been quite a producer of wool and had large flocks of sheep. This brought him into trade with the resulting consequence



that the Plea Rolls, De Banco, Trinity, 45 Edward III. (1372) Staff. disclose: Richard de Peshale, chivaler was summoned at the suit of John de Marketon chaplain for a debt of 8 marks 10s. 4d. the price of 117 sheep which the said Richard had bought of him at Eccleshale in 39 Edward III. Richard denied the debt and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Quindene of St. Michael. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 88.]

The same year the title to the Manor of Himley was again brought to question.

De Banco Easter 45 Edward III. 1372 Staff. William de Kynardsleye sued Richard de Colelough for the manor of Hanleye. Richard called to warranty Richard de Peshale, chivaler, who was to be summoned in Cos. Salop and Stafford to appear on the Quindene of St. Michael. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 87.]

Richard Colelough seems to have had trouble to get Richard de Peshall to defend the warranty as the Plea Rolls say that: De Banco Hilary 46 Edward III. 1373 Staff. Richard de Colelough sued Richard de Peshale chivaler in a plea that he should warrant to him the manor of Hanle (Hanley) which William de Kynardsley claimed against him. Richard de Peshale did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to take lands belonging to him, of the value of the manor claimed, into the King's hands and to summon him for the Quindene of Holy Trinity. A postscript says that on that day the sheriff returned he had handed the writ to William de Chetwynd knight, the bailiff of the Bishops behest, who had done nothing in the matter. The sheriff was thereupon ordered by writ of non omittus to take land of Richard de Peshale into the King's hand (as before) and to summon him for the morrow of St. Martin. The case was adjourned to 3 weeks from Easter 47 Edward III. at which time the sheriff made no return of the writ and a new writ was issued. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, pages 91 and 99.]

It may be advisable to add something on the method to enforce the appearance of a defendant in court. In real actions this process was very simple, as on a defendant not appearing to his summons, the tenement in dispute was taken into the King's hands, the Sheriff answering for the issues. If the defendant did not appear to the second summons, and the summons was formally proved by the Sheriff, the land was adjudged to the plaintiff by default, and the defendant had then to replevy his land if he intended to contest the action. [Staff. Hist. Col.]

The process in personal actions was more complicated; for in these cases there was no corporal tenement which could be taken into the King's hands; and the process was by attachment, as it was called. The action was first commenced by summons as in real actions; the plaintiff then offered himself in court the first, second, third and fourth day; if the defendant did not appear on the fourth day, he was attached by pledges. The entry on the Roll is: "A. optulit se quarto die versus B. de placito, etc., et B. not venit, et summonitus (testatus fuit). Judicium: Attachietur quod sit, &c." If he did not appear upon the first attachment, and the plaintiff offered himself again as before, he was attached by better pledges.

The litigation concerning the manor of Himley kept coming up all the time.

Pleas Rolls, 1375 Staff. William de Kynardesleye sued Richard de Peeshale, Chivaler, who had been called to warranty by Richard de Colclogh, for the manor of Hanleye, which John de Kynardesleye, clerk, his kinsman, and whose heir he was, had given to Nicholas de Kynardesle and to the heirs of his body, and which

should descend to him, as heir of John, the said Nicholas having died s.p. and he gave this pedigree. John de Kynardesleye, clerk, ob. s.p.—Sibil, sister and heir—John—William, the plaintiff. Richard de Peshale appeared by John de Whet-hale his attorney, and defended the action, and stated that the said John de Kynardesleye, clerk, had granted the manor by his deed to the said Nicholas, under the name of Nicholas de Kynardeseye the son of William de Kynardeseye his nephew (nepotis sui, and to his heirs whose status, the said Richard Colclough now held) and he produced the deed which was dated at Lychefeld on the Monday the Feast of St. Andrew, 6 Edward III. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 111.]

William denied the deed produced was the act of the said John, his kinsman, and appealed to a jury, and to witnesses named in it, who were Richard de Venables, Jordan de Lavendene, William le Knfsmyth, Nicholas de Bagenold, and Ralph le Burguion. The Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon a jury and the said witnesses for the morrow of St. Martin, and the deed was to remain in the custody of William de Sandford, the King's clerk. A postscript shows that the Sheriff had made no return to the writ up to Trinity term, 51 E. III. The plea of Richard was to the effect that Nicholas had held the fee simple of the tene-ments, and therefore had power of alienation.

The inquest on the death of Sir Robert Corbet, January 9, 1376, disclosed that among other manors he held the manor of Moreton Corebet of Richard de Peshal as lord of Chetwynd by Knight's service and was worth 10 pounds per annum, but the entail was not stated. [Eyton's Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. 10, page 190.]

These were the days of imprisonment for debt and the creditor did not hesitate to invoke the penalty in order to secure the payment of the obligation. To this Sir Richard de Peshall was no exception as the Plea Rolls disclose that De Banco 50 Edward III. Salop 1377, the Sheriff had been ordered to arrest John Tromwyn, son of Humfrey Tromwyn and keep him in safe custody in the King's prison until he had paid to Richard de Peshale knight, a sum of 40 pounds which he had acknowledged to owe to him on the Thursday before the Feast of St. Michael, 48 Edward III., before Richard de Pontesbury and John Giffney the bailiff of the vill of Salop and William de Weston Clerk deputed to receive acknowledgements of debts and which should have been paid on the Easter day following and a writ of scire facias had been issued returnable at this term and Richard now appeared and the Sheriff returned that the said John held no goods or chattels within the bailiwick and it was testified that he held goods and chattels within the Co. of Hereford from which £40 could be raised. A writ was therefore sent to the Sheriff of Herefordshire according to Statute returnable to the Octaves of St. Michael. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 129.]

This year the Plea Rolls have something more to disclose in the endless litigation concerning the manor of Hinley. De Banco 50 Edward 1377 Stafford. In the suit between William de Kynardesle, plaintiff, and Richard de Peshale, Chivaler, who had been called to warranty by Richard de Colclough in a plea of land, the Sheriff returned that Richard de Venables, Jordon de Lavendene and the other witnesses of the deed produced by Richard were all dead, and the suit

was adjourned to the Morrow of St. Martin. m. 222 dorso. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 134.]

It was during this generation that our branch of the family began to hold lands in the County of Chester, which association with this county continued from generation to generation until after our ancestor came to America. This property came through Joan Chetwynd the wife of Sir Richard de Peshall. The Plea Rolls at the Court held on the Tuesday after St. Barnabas, 6 R. II. (1383) disclose: Cestria. Richard de Pesale, chivaler, and Joan his wife, sued Nicholas de Tittlegh for two parts of the manor of Tittlegh, and they sued Richard de Clayford and Margery his wife for a third of the same manor, which Philip Burnel had given to Thomas de Tittlegh and Joan his wife and to the heirs of their bodies in the reign of Edward I. and which should descend to them, and they gave this descent Thomas de Tillagh temp. E. 1.—Elena—Reginald—Joan—Richard de Peshall, and the defendants asked for a view and the suit was adjourned to the next court. m. 17 d. [*Ibid.*, vol. 16, page 24.]

The litigation was renewed the next year. At the Court held on the Tuesday after St. Luke, 7 Richard II. 1384 Cestria. Richard de Pesale and Joan sued Nicholas de Tittlegh and Richard de Clayford and Margery his wife for the manor of Tittlegh and repeated their plea as above. Nicholas de Tittlegh appeared in person and denied that Philip Burnel had granted the manor as stated by the plaintiff and appealed on this issue to a jury. Richard and Margery stated that one Thomas de Tittlegh was lately seised of the manor, and had taken the said Margery to wife and they had issue one Joan, and Thomas had died, and Joan had married one John de Mokleston, and they had endowed her out of the manor, and Thomas and Joan had both died, and that the reversion of the dower belonged to Nicholas de Tittlegh, the brother and heir of Thomas, without whom they could not answer to the writ, and she asked for the aid of the Court to enforce the attendance of the said Nicholas. A day was given to the parties at the next Court. [Chester Plea Roll No. 87.]

In those days family disputes were serious affairs, resulting in bloodshed, and frequently in the death of one or both of the parties to the quarrel. It appears that Roger Colmon and Lawrence Forster of Fradley had married Elizabeth and Isabella, the daughters and co-heirs of Sir Simon de Handesacre of Handesacre. Roger and Lawrence had quarrelled over the inheritance of the sisters and Lawrence had killed his brother-in-law, Roger. Both sisters were dead in 22 Richard II. and Lawrence on obtaining his pardon returned to Handesacre where he assumed the position of sole lord of Handsacre; but having quarrelled in the following year with his neighbor Sir Robert Mauveisin respecting the mill on the Trent, was killed by the latter, and the mill burned down, in 1 Henry IV. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 169; vol. 14, pages 138-143; Shaws Hist. of Staffordshire, vol. 1, page 179.]

The historian was not aware that Lawrence Forster was Lord of Handesacre, or he would have perceived that his death at the hands of Sir Robert Mauveisin was the origin of the romantic story quoted by him, and which is prevalent in the district to the present day of the last Lord of Handesacre having been killed by Sir Robert Mauveisin of Rideware, and the subsequent marriage of a son and

daughter of the same houses. Sir Simon de Handsacre, the last of the male line of Handsacres, was dead in 48 E. III., more than twenty-five years before the date of these transactions.

It was to be expected that Elizabeth Colman would try to obtain redress by process of law, not only against her sister and brother-in-law, but against all who aided or abetted them, so we are not surprised to find a further postscript which states that on that day Isabella, the wife of Lawrence, Richard de Peshale, Adam de Peshale, Henry de Cresewale, Matilda Paterner, William Forster, Hugh Harpour, Humfrey de Peshale, and John de Peshale appeared on their bail, and Elizabeth being solemnly called up to the fourth day did not appear to prosecute her appeal against them. She was therefore to be arrested and her sureties were in misericordia, and the said Isabella, Richard, Adam, Henry, Matilda, William, Hugh, and Humfrey and John were quit of her appeal, but had to answer to the suit of the King, and they pleaded not guilty, and appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Quindene of St. Hillary, and Hamon de Peshale, chivaler, John Grendon, John de Hulton and William Pursell, became bail to produce them at that date.

Note.—The clerk had made the mistake of including John de Peshall, brother of Richard and Adam, which he corrected in the subsequent entries by giving the name of the real culprit, John de Whethales. Throughout the whole record he persistently miscalls the other brother Hamo as Humfrey.

Afterwards on the Quindene of Easter, Richard de Peshale, Adam de Peshale, Thomas Hunderder, John de Whetales, Edmund, Hugh Harpour, and Humfrey de Peshale, surrendered on their bail, and as it appeared to the court that Elizabeth had prosecuted her appeal in co. Stafford, when her writ appealed them of felonies in cos. Warwick and Salop her appeal was not sufficient at law, and it was dismissed as against them.

And afterwards the process was continued against the said Isabella, Henry Cressewale, Matilda and William Forster at Hillary term 15 R. II., when it was moved by writ of nisi prius to be heard at Stafford before John Huls on the Monday after the Feast of St. Peter in Cathedra when a jury found that they were not guilty. Another postscript states that at Michaelmas term 22 R. II., Laurence produced the King's letters patent pardoning him for the said death. Staff. The same Elizabeth appealed the said Laurence, William Byker, John de Birchover, Richard de Bromley, Thomas Birchover, Thomas Hundurder, John de Whethales, and Edmund Herdewyk, for the death of her husband Roger, and they did not appear, and the Sheriff returned they could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put them into exigend, and if they did not appear to outlaw them and if they appeared to produce them coram Rege on the Morrow of the Ascension. Afterwards on the 25 November of the present term John de Whethales surrendered himself at the Marshalsea, and was admitted to bail; Thomas Newport, Thomas Hord, William Burton, and Thomas Forton becoming sureties for him.

Sir Richard de Peshall was an active partisan of his brother, Sir Adam de Peshall 3rd., in the latter's fights with Sir Hugh Wrottesley, and as the latter owned the county courts he took every occasion to invoke its machinery to overcome his enemies. The raids these men made upon each other would make most interesting reading could we get at a true and complete story thereof. Unfor-

tunately the Plea Rolls only tell the misdeeds of the outs, which at this time means the Peshall brothers, and their followers. Michaelmas 9 Rich. II. Staff. The Plea Rolls. Coram Rege.

Isabella, the wife of Laurence Forster of Frodeley, Richard de Peshale, chivaler, Adam de Peshale, chivaler, Henry Cresewale, Matilda Pantener of Honnesacre, William Forster of Frodeley, Hugh Harper of Alcestre, and Humfrey de Peshale, were attached at the suit of Elizabeth formerly wife of Roger Colman, together with the said Laurence, William Byker, John de Birchover, Richard de Bromley of Wetton, Thomas Birchover of Hunsterton, Thomas Hunderder of Albryghton, John de Whethales of Albryghton, and Edmund Herdewyk for the death of her husband Roger. Elizabeth appeared in person and stated that the said Roger was in the peace of the King, &c., at Hunnesacre (Handsacre) in co. Stafford, on the Sunday before the Purification, 8 Richard II., about the first hour, in the chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, near the manor house of Hunnesacre, when the said Laurence, William Byker, John de Birchover, Richard de Bromley, and Thomas Birchover feloniously assaulted him, and the said Laurence whom she appealed as principal, struck Roger with his sword in the middle of the back, causing a mortal wound of which he died, and William Byker struck him with his sword on the face, penetrating to the brain, and John Birchover struck him with a haselard on the right side and Richard de Bromley struck him with a sword in the belly, and Thomas Birchover struck him on the back of the head, and all which were mortal wounds of which he would have died, if he had not been killed by the said Laurence. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 25.]

And she stated that Richard de Peshale on the Wednesday after the Purification had knowingly received the said Laurence and William, John, Richard, and Thomas, at Chetewynde in co. Salop, and Adam de Peshale had knowingly received them at Idesale in co. Salop, and the said Humfrey had received them at Albryghton after the felony, and Thomas Hundurder, and John de Whethales had likewise received them at Albryghton and Edmund had knowingly received them after the felony at Molynton in co. Warwick, and Hugh Harper had received them in the same way at Alcestre in co. Warwick, at various times after the felony. And she stated that the said Isabella, Henry Cresewale, Matilda Pantener and William Forster, with the others named, for a quarter of a year preceding the felony had falsely and maliciously conspired and imagined the death of the said Roger at Frodeley in co. Stafford, and had counselled and abetted the others in the felony and were present when it was perpetrated.

And the said Isabella, Richard de Peshale, Adam de Peshale, Henry Cresewale, Matilda, William Forster, Hugh, and Humfrey, appeared in person, and denied the felony and Matilda pleaded her coverture and stated she should have been described as wife of Nicholas Aston of Honnesacre, and Adam, Humfrey, Edmund and Hugh pleaded that Elizabeth prosecuted her appeal in co. Stafford, when her appeal specified that they had knowingly received the defendants in the cos. Warwick, and Salop, and finally they all pleaded not guilty, and appealed to a jury: but as the case against them could not be proceeded with until the principals had been outlawed or convicted, they were admitted to bail until the following Quindene of St. Hillary. A postscript states that on that day the appeal

was adjourned to the Morrow of the Ascension, on which day Elizabeth appeared, and the said Isabella, the wife of Laurence Forster, Richard de Peshale, Adam, Henry, Matilda, William Forster, Hugh Harper, Humfrey and John de Whethales appeared in person and Elizabeth then made her appeal against John de Whethales as in the form above stated, and John pleaded he was not guilty and put himself on a jury. And the Sheriff returned that the said Laurence, William Byker, John de Birchover, Richard de Bromley and Thomas Birchover had been exacted at five County Courts and had not appeared, and had been outlawed in the presence of the coroners—Roger de Pychefore and Ralph de Houton, and the Sheriff was therefore ordered to summon a jury for the Octaves of St. Michael.

The records would lead one to believe that Sir Richard was a money-lender or banker as: De Banco Michaelmas 9 Richard II. 1386 Staff. we have another suit for the collection of a loan of money. The Sheriff had been ordered to arrest John son of John de Draycot and to keep him in safe custody until he had satisfied Richard de Peshale chevaler of a debt of 80 pounds and 40d. for damages for the unjust detention of the money, and which he had been convicted at Assizes held at Stafford the third week of Lent. The Sheriff returned he could not be found. He was therefore ordered to put him into exigend and if he did not appear to outlaw him and if he appeared to arrest and produce him on the Quindene of Easter. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 194.]

The next year Sir Richard de Peshall died, circa 1387.

De Banco Easter 13 Richard II. 1390 Staff. Richard de Moreton sued Joan formerly wife of Richard de Peshale knight and William Fitz John, chaplain, the executors of the will of Richard de Peshale that they together with Nicholas de Peshale, parson of the church of Eggemondon, their co-executor, should render to him £106 13s. 4d. which they unjustly detain. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to distrain Joan who had found security and to arrest the said William and to produce them at the Quindene of Holy Trinity. The same day was given to Nicholas who had appeared in person. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 21.]

De Banco 14 Richard II. 1391 Staff. William appeared in person and stated that he had taken no part in the administration of the goods of the said Richard de Peshale and the other executors pleaded that they had fully administered the goods and chattels of the said Richard de Peshale before the writ had been issued in the suit. Richard de Moreton denied this and stated that the said Magister Nicholas (here the word magister means a learned theologian) and Joan at the date of the writ which was 14 November, 13 Richard II., held divers goods and chattels of Richard de Peshale sufficient to satisfy the debt viz., at Horseley and Hopton in co. Stafford and at Chetwynd and Beaudesport in co. Salop and he appealed on this issue to a jury which was to be summoned for the Quindene of Holy Trinity. The widow, Joan de Peshall, was a very keen business woman, looking out for every business advantage that came from the large landed and other possessions with which she was endowed, not the least of which would be the right to control the marriage of her widowed daughter-in-law, the relict of her late son, Humfrey de Peshall. Here she ran against a man willing to take great chances for the purpose of personal gain who abducted the lady. [*Ibid.* vol. 15.]

In 1390 a special commission of Oyer and terminer was issued to Robert Charlton, John Hill, Hugh Cheyne, kt. and William Huyseford, kt. on the complaint of Joan late wife of Richard de Peshal knt., that John Ipstone, John Cockeyne, Philip de Okora and Thomas Beck, knights, John Barcum, John de Weston, William his son and five others named, with a great multitude of armed men had broken into her close at Chetwynd, co. Salop, and had scaled with ladders the walls of her manor house, carried away goods to the value of £100 and abducted her daughter-in-law, Matilda, late wife of Humfrey de Peshal, who was in her custody, and had assaulted her servants and had carried away one of them named Alice Costeyne. This is one of the many abductions of heiresses and well-endowed widows which are features of Mediaeval life. The £100 worth of goods taken would be simply the paraphernalia of the widow, and Alice Costeyne was without doubt the lady's maid. Many of these abductions were carried out with the consent of the widow, the object being to save the jointure if she married without the consent of her superior lord. [Staff Hist. Col., vol. 7, n.s., page 47.]

The reader interested in such abductions will find fuller details of this adventure in the next chapter under the heading of Humphrey de Peshall, Chapter 19, Section 3.

Joan de Chetwynd, as we have already stated, brought her husband the right of presentation to Chetwynd Church. After his death his widow had this right. The records of the church disclose that Reginald de Caynton, priest, the Rector of Chetwynd Church, being dead—William de Rodenhurst, priest, was instituted at the presentation of Johanne Lady of Chetwynd. On May 27, 1391, this Rector exchanged preferments with William Schevyndon, late Rector of Donyton. John Sheynton, as he is afterwards called, exchanges on Sept. 19, 1393, with William Cowper, priest, late Rector of Moxley, who is presented to Chetwynd by Johanna, Relict of Richard Pesshale, knight. On August 3, 1401, Cowper exchanged preferments with Richard Walleford, late Vicar of the Prebendal Church of Eccleshall. This Rector was identified with Sir Richard Gardeyn, Rector of Chetwynd, who has a license of non-residence on Feb. 1, 1403. Walleford died in 1404. On August 20, Sir William Fitz John, Chaplain, was presented by Robert Heywode, entitled Domicellus. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 7, n.s. page 47.]

De Banco Easter 15 Richard II. Salop. Thomas Harecourt chivaler, Philip de Lee, Clericus, and William de Lee sued Joan formerly wife of Richard de Peshale knight in a plea that she should acquit them of the service which Richard earl of Arundel exacted from them for the freehold they held of the earl of Pyche-ford. Joan did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce her on the Quindene of Holy Trinity. [*Ibid.*, vol. 15, pages 49 and 54.]

There seemed to be no end to the litigation concerning Hinley. De Banco Michaelmas 16 Richard II. Staff. Joan formerly wife of Richard Peshale chivaler sued John Colclough of the vill of New Castle-under-Lyme for a third of 6 messuages, one hundred acres of land, 40 acres of pasture, and 100s. rent in Hanley which she claimed as dower. John did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hands and to summon him for the Quindene of St. Hilary. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 55.]

John appeared by his attorney, William Colclough, and denied the summons and offered to wage his law. He was therefore ordered to appear in person with his compurgators for Quindene of Holy Trinity.

Joan was a much married woman, hence the continued litigation concerning Hinley discloses that:—De Banco 22 Richard II. 1399 Staff. William Lippe and Joan his wife in their own persons sued John Colclough of Newcastle-under-Lyme for a third of 6 messuages, 100 acres of land, 40 acres of wood, and 100s. in rent in Hanley which they claimed as the dower of Joan of the dotation (i.e. endowment) of Richard Peshale chivaler, her former husband. The defendants did not appear. The sheriff was ordered to take the dower claimed into the King's hands and to summon him for the Quindene of St. Martin, and later we find. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 90.]

When Joan Chetwynd again appeared in court she had married another husband, as witness:—De Banco 4 Henry IV. 1403 Staff. Joan Haywode and her husband Robert Haywode sued John Stanlee chivaler and John of the Wolde, chaplain, in a plea of dower of the said John for tenements in Stafford which formerly belonged to Richard de Peshale knight her former husband. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 109.]

## SECTION 2.

The following chart gives the pedigree of Joan Chetwynd:—

\*1. Dominus Adam de Chetwynd, d'n's de Chetwynd in co. Salop.

*2. Johannes de Chetwynd,= miles, de Chetwynd, 37 et 40 Henry 3.		D'n's Will. de Chetwynd, a. 54 Henry 3.		Adam de Chetwynd, rector eccl' de Austrey in co. War.	
Adam de Chetwynd,= de Cubbleston, miles, temp. H. 3		Eva, filia Rog. de Albo Monas- terio, re- lictæ temp. H. 3.		*3. John de Chet= wynd d'n's de Chetwynd miles, 9 E. L.	
Cecilia Alicia Agnes		2. Will de Chetwynd, 4 E. 2.		1. John de Chetwynd, 14 E. 1.	
		*4. Reginaldus= de Chetwynd, d'n's de Chet- wynd		Hawisia vel Avisia	
				Philippus de Chetwynd, de Ingestre, fil. 1, ob. 34 E. 1. =Isabella, filia Ric'i de Pulesden nupta 22 E. 1 et ob. 23 E. 3.	
				Radulphus Robertus Joh. Chetwynd, Rector Capelle de Ingestre	

Ric., fil. Adam de Peshall, mil=  
d'n's de Chetwynd jure uxoris.

\*5. Johanna, filia et haeres.  
The numbers refer to the division of the text which follows.

The Ancestry of JOAN DE CHETWYND. Turolde de Verley held Chetwynd at Domesday. Before the Conquest it had been held by the Countess Godiva. Ten of Turolde's 13 manors were afterwards held under the Fitz Alans, by the family of Chetwynd, who took their name from this, their chief manor. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1914, page 81-83.]

Thus we see another link in the chain of associations between the Fitz Alans and the Peshales. Marriage, as we have said, is largely a matter of environment



and association, hence it was perfectly natural that sooner or later a Chetwynd, feudal tenant of Fitz Alan, should marry a Peshale. The remarkable part is that this old Northumbrian association with its consequent intermarriages lasted for centuries.

\*1. ADAM DE CHETWYND, who occurs in 1180, is the first of the name we find mentioned. In 1255, Chetwynd was held by service of providing three men-at-arms at John Fitz Alan's Castle at White-minster, (Oswestry). The Chetwynds were a numerous and wealthy family, holding large estates in Staffordshire and Shropshire. The John de Chetwynd 3rd. of the Subsidy Roll was a man of considerable importance. In 1314, he was included in a military summons against the Scots; in 1322, his arms appear on the Roll of the Battle of Boroughbridge; in 1324, he was summoned to the Great Council at Westminster, and in the two following years he occurs as a Commissioner of Array in Cheshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire. In 1326, the Bishop gave license of non-residence to Reginald de Chetwynd, Rector of Chetwynd, that he might be in personal attendance on Sir John de Chetwynd, whom we find two months later at Clun, with Edmund, Earl of Arundel. We have seen that Sir John, the uncle of Sir Richard, attested deeds for this Sir Edmund Arundel. In fact every thing points most strongly to more than one marriage between the Peshalls and the Fitz Alans. The continued association for so many generations could not be explained upon any other hypothesis. Sir John de Chetwynd lived till after 1331, but his son Reginald died some time before, leaving an only daughter, Joan, who took the great property of the Chetwynds to her husband, Sir Richard de Peshale.

The Manor of Chetwynd became the caput of what was ordinarily known as the Fee of Chetwynd, a term which included ten out of the thirteen Domesday Manors of Turolde. The said ten Manors were all held under Fitz Alan by the family of Chetwynd, but in some of them the Chetwynds had their undertenants or Feoffees. It is uncertain at what period this augmentation of Fitz Alan's Barony took place. It was later than the compilation of 1165, known as the Liber Niger; for no Feoffee in that Record can be identified with the Lord of Chetwynd, whose military service to Fitz Alan was the service of two knights' fees. The Lord of Chetwynd, at the time of the Liber Niger was a Tenant in capite, whose return is not preserved. His fealty and service was probably bestowed on the second William Fitz Alan by Henry II. or Richard I.

Adam de Chetwynd, the first Lord of Chetwynd, occurs on the Forest-Roll of 1180 as compounding for a pourpresture by payment of 3s. In June 1200 he occurs as Visor in a case of Essoign, a business always at that time entrusted to knights. At the County Assizes of October 1203, Adam de Chetwynd essoigned his attendance at the common summons, his Essoignor being Nicholas Crasset.

\*2. JOHN DE CHETWYND, son of Adam, succeeded his father before 1210. We have had a hint to that effect, but at the same time it is certain that he attested Charters as early as 1202-3, and so in his father's lifetime. At all events he appears among the Knights of Shropshire at the Assizes of November 1221, but his only concern was as a Juror in causes of Grand Assizes. At the Assizes of 1226, one William fitz Robert sued John de Chetwynd for disseizing him of a free tenement in Chetwynd, viz., half a virgate which Adam de Chetwynd, father

of John, had given to Robert fitz Wonram, father of the Plaintiff, to hold in fee and inheritance at a rent of 26d. per annum. John de Chetwynd allowed his Father's Charter, but showed, that the plaintiff's father had been a Villain and had been redeemed from Serfdom by Adam de Chetwynd, but that the Plaintiff had been born before such redemption. On this the Plaintiff withdrew his suit, but being poor was excused amercement, and was presented with 3 merks by John de Chetwynd, who further allowed him complete manumission (*ibit quocunque voluerit*) and acquitted him of all serfdom (*servitude*). Of course the Plaintiff lost the land. The Feodaries of 1240, agree in representing John de Chetewind as holding Chetewind and its appurtenances, for two knights' fees in the Barony of Fitz Alan. In 1250, John de Chetewinde was amerced 5 merks by Geoffrey de Langley for venison-trespass, but the King excused him by special writ. A Patent of August 22, 1251, exempts John de Chetewind from liability to serve on Assizes, Juries, &c. A charter dated at Windsor on Nov. 3, 1252, gives John de Chetwynd Free Warren on his lands in Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire. Chetwynd, Weston, and Howle are the estates particularized. Another Patent of 1253 includes him among those whose estates were entitled to protection and immunity so long as the owners should be serving the King in Gascony.

The Bradford Hundred-Roll of 1255 says as follows:—The Manor of Chetewynde is of the Barony of Sir John fitz Alan of Whitemister (Oswestry). And it is 9 geldable hides, and one whole knight's fee. And it pays 3s. per annum for motfee and 3s. for stretward, and makes due suit to County and Hundred. And John de Chetewinde holds the said Manor in capite of the said John fitz Alan. And the said John de Chetewinde shall provide three mountores at his own cost at Whiteminster. The different estimates which we are constantly meeting with of the military service due on a particular tenure are perhaps to be reconciled when John de Chetwynd is said to hold under Fitz Alan by service of one knight, it is *forinsec* service that is alluded to, that is foreign military service, the exact service he as a knight had rendered in 1253 when he accompanied Fitz Alan to Gascony. When again his service is described as two knights' fees he is assessable in that proportion to the scutages and aids charged on his Suzerain. Lastly the service of 3 Mountores, equivalent to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  fees, was a different thing, not necessarily bearing any proportion to the other kinds of liability. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1914, page 88.]

\*3. JOHN DE CHETWYND, 3rd., was presented by the Bradford Jurors at the Assizes of October 1292, as claiming rights of Free-Warren in Chetwynd. An Inquest, taken in 1293, states that a quarter of a fee in Baxterley was held of Richard de Harcourt, deceased, by the heir of John de Chetwind, a proof that John de Chetwynd, 3rd. had not long been in possession. Again, an Inquest of the year 1300, already quoted, names John de Chetwynd as then Mesne-Lord of Evelith. On June 30, 1314, John de Chetwinde was included in a military summons against the Scots. In the Nomina Villarum of March 1316, he is returned as Lord of Chetewind. On June 27, 1318, Sir John de Chetewynde, Knight, presented Reginald de Chetwynde, an Acolyte, to Chetwynde Church. On July 17, 1318, John de Chetwind obtained the King's Charter empowering him to

hold a weekly Market, on Tuesdays, at Chetwind, and a yearly Fair on the vigil, day and morrow of All Saints (Oct. 31, Nov. 1, & 2.) The Arms of Sir John Chedewynt appear on the Roll of the Battle of Boroughbridge (March 1322). They were Azure, a Chevron between three Mullets or. He was on the Rebel side. Nevertheless he attests a Deed at Shrewsbury on April 25th following and he was summoned to attend a general Council to be holden at Westminster on May 30, 1324. In that and the two following years several writs were addressed to him as a Commissioner of Array in Cheshire, Shropshire, and Staffordshire. On January 3, 1326, the Bishop of Lichfield gives license of non-residence till August 1, to Reginald de Chetwynd, Rector of Chetwynd, that he might be in personal attendance on Sir John de Chetwynd. On March 1, 1326, Sir John de Chetwynd was at Clun in company with his Suzerain, Edmund Earl of Arundel. This affords evidence of the closest sort of association between the Fitz Alans, the Peshalls, and the Chetwynds. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1914, page 88-89.]

John de Chetwynd 3rd. was living in 1351, but his eldest son,

\*4. REGINALD, was deceased seven years previously. The said Reginald left an only daughter,

\*5. JOAN. This Lady took the great inheritance of the Chetwynds to her husband Richard, son of Adam de Peshale. The Lady Joan must have lived to a great age and after Sir Richard Peshale's death, in 1387, she was married so many times that even the clerk of records became confused.

She was married to John Bate and Sir John de Gresley before 1397, as witness the following from the Plea Rolls. Coram Rege 20 Richard II. Derbyshire. It had been presented before the custodians of the King's peace, that Adam Pesale, the son of Joan, the wife of John de Grisele, (Gresley) knight, Nicholas Pesale, the son of the same Joan and John Bate, of Horseley, in co. Stafford, had been indicted for breaking into the house of the said John de Gresley, knight, at Draklowe, and for feloniously taking goods and chattels of the said John, viz., in money, £200, and silver vessels to the value of £200 on the Monday in Easter week, 18 Richard II. and that Nicholas atte Stretchende, the prior of St. Thomas, and Thomas Swyneshed, a fellow monk of the said prior had aided and abetted them in the felony, and the King for certain causes had commanded the said indictment to be heard in this Court. And Nicholas atte Stretchende and the said Thomas surrendered at this term. [*Ibid.* vol. 16, page 31.]

And because the said Adam and Nicholas Pesale and John who had been indicted as principals had been outlawed, the said Nicholas atte Stretchende and Thomas were put on their trial and pleaded not guilty and appealed to a jury, and the Sheriff was ordered to summon a jury for the Octaves of St. Martin, and the said Nicholas and Thomas were released on bail. A postscript shows that the suit was transferred by writ of nisi prius to be heard at Cronsale in co. Stafford before Hugh Huls the Justice with whom was associated Robert Mauvesyne, chivaler, when a jury returned that the defendants were not guilty. m. 17, Rex. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 31.]

The records disclose also the following other marriages of Joan Chetwynd:—  
1. Sir Richard de Peshall. 2. To William Lippe in 1399. 3. To Robert de Heywode in 1404. 4. To Robert Tiptoft in 1409-10, making together with her mar-

riage to John Bate and Sir John de Gresley, six marriages, which would seem likely to be the record for marital ventures by any lady. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 15, pages 90 and 109; vol. 1914, page 89.]

### SECTION 3.

SIR ADAM DE PESHALL, Kt. son of Adam de Peshall 2nd., Chapter 17, Section 1, died 1419. He married: (1st) 1362, Elizabeth daughter and coheir of Sir John de Weston, Kt. and relict of Sir John de Whyston, Kt. She died 1366. (Second) 1367-8, Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of Sir Philip ap Rees, Kt. and relict of Sir Henry Mortimer, Kt. of Chelmarsh. She died 1384. (Third) 1388, Joyce, daughter and eventually coheir of Sir John de Bottetort, and relict of Sir Baldwyn Freville, Kt. She died August 12, 1420. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1912, page 312.] Children of the first marriage:—

1. Agnes Peshale, died in infancy.

Children of the second marriage:—

2. Robert de Peshale, who died very young.

Children of the third marriage:—

3. Joan Peshale, daughter and coheir. Married Sir William de Birmingham, Kt., succeeded to Birmingham estate as heir male, under settlement dated 1323, on death of his cousin John de Birmingham, d. 24 April 1426.
4. Margaret Peshall, daughter and coheir, died August 5, 1420; married Sir Richard de Mytton, Kt., died 10 Nov. 1418.

The following chart will show the line of descent from Adam de Peshale:—

Elizabeth, dau. & coh. of Sir John de Weston, kt. and rel. of Sir John de Whyston, kt. m. circ. 1362, d. circ. 1366. s. p. (1st wife of Sir Adam de Peshale)	Elizabeth, dau. & coh. of Sir Philip ap Rees, kt., and rel. of Sir Henry Mortimer, kt. of Chelmarsh, m. 1367-68., d. circ. 1384. s. p. sup. (2nd wife)	Sir Adam de Peshale, kt. of Weston-under-Lizard, knight 1379, Sheriff of Salop 1398, Sheriff of Staffs. 1418, d. 28 Oct. 1419. Son of Adam de Peshale of Horseley.	Joyce, dau. and eventually coh. of Sir John de Bottetort, Kt., of Weoley, and rel. of Sir Baldwyn Freville, kt., m. 1388, d. 12 Aug. 1420. (3rd wife)
Agnes, died in infancy	Children, names not known, died in infancy.		
Sir William de Birmingham, kt. succeeded to Birmingham estates as heir male under settlement dated 1323 on death of his cousin Sir John de Birmingham. d. 24 April 1426.	Joan, dau. & coh. of Sir Adam de Peshale, m. ante Nov. 1411, at 28 in Dec. 1419, rel. 1427, living 1433 (inherited manor of Tomenhorne and lands at Rugeley and Hondesacre, etc.)	Margaret, dau. & coh. of Sir Adam de Peshale, m. ante Easter 1406, at 26 in Dec. 1419, d. 5 Aug. 1420 (inherited manors of Weston, Blymhill, Newton, and Bobbington, etc.)	Sir Richard de Mytton, kt., of Shrewsbury, d. vi. pa. 10 Nov. 1418.
Sir William de Birmingham, kt. at 19 in 1426, living 1458, d. 28 March 1478.	Isabel, dau. & heir of William Hilton.	Sir John de Birmingham, kt. living 1460.	Thomas de Birmingham, Esquire of the Body to King Henry VI., living 1458.
William Mytton, Esq. b. 28. Dec. 1415, lord of Weston, etc. Sheriff of Staff. 1443, 1458 and 1463. M.P. for Staffordshire 1446-7, liv. 1489.	Margaret, dau. of Thomas Corbet, Esq. of Legh, co. Salop.		

Sir Adam de Peshale was knight of the shire for the county of Salop in 47 Ed. III. in the parliament summoned to meet at Westminster 21 November, 1373; he was member for the county of Stafford in 51 Ed. III. (1377), and in 4 Richard II. (1380), 5 Richard II. (1381-2) and 6 Richard II. (1382-3). In 7 Ric. II. (1383-4) he was in Normandy with William Wyndesore, Captain of the Castle and town of Cherbourg, and had letters of protection for a year dated 15 February, 1384. He was again member for the county of Salop in 17 Ric. II. (1393-4), 3 Hen. IV. (1401-2) and 13 Hen. IV. (1411-12). He is mentioned in the Plea Rolls of the last mentioned year, and served the office of Sheriff of Shropshire in 6 Hen. V. (1418). In the following year (1419) his long and active life was brought to a close. All of which discloses that contrary to the usual thought upon the subject Sir Adam was more closely related to Shropshire than to Staffordshire. He was a devout churchman and had his own chapel in his home, so that in the list of the Licenses for Oratories, cloisters, confessors, indulgences and other graces, Oct. 1372, appears one to Adam de Peshale for his oratory at Peshale for 2 years. [*Ibid.* vol. 2, n.s., page 92; vol. 8, n.s., page 62.]

Elizabeth de Weston first married Sir John de Whyston, and second Sir Adam de Peshale, by both of whom she had issue. The Manor of Weston was certainly divided into five equal parts, so that the natural inference is that there were five such sisters and co-heirs. The manor of Weston was held of the Earls of Arundel so that this marks another generation of continued association between the Peshalls and the Arundels. Three of these five parts of Weston were respectively held by Elizabeth de Whyston, or de Peshale, Isolda le Champion, and William son of William and Helen de Trumwyn. Another fifth part was known as Margery fflowlehurst's part. Sir Adam also seems to have kept the custody and guardianship of his stepson, Nicholas Weston, as is shown by the following extract from the Plea Rolls. [*Ibid.* vol. 1, page 334.]

De Banco Michaelmas 43 Edward III. Staff. The abbott of Burton on Trent sued Edward Giffard of Chylyngton and Adam de Peshale in a plea that whereas the custody of the land and heir of Nicholas, son of John de Whitson, knight, (militis) belonged to him in as much as the said Nicholas held his land of the Abbot by Military service. The said Edward and Adam had forcibly ejected him from the said custody, the heir being under age. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 77.]

The defendants did not appear and the sheriff had been commanded to distrain and produce them at this date, viz., the Octaves of St. Michael, and he to publicly proclaim in three full county courts that the said Edward and Adam should appear at the above date to answer the Abbott in a plea of custody. And the Sheriff now returned certain sums into court as proceeds of distraints against the said Edward and Adam and he stated that he had publicly summoned them in three full county courts as above. It was therefore considered that the abbott should recover use of the custody of the land and heir and the sheriff was ordered to make inquisition upon oath of a jury into the damage sustained by the Abbott by his ejection from the said custody and to return it at the Octaves of St. Hilary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 77.]

Nicholas de Whitson died 35 Ed. III. (1362) during the period of the great pestilence and Adam de Peshall continued in possession of the manor of Weston-

under-Lizard after the death of his wife, which of course brought him into conflict with the widow of his step-son, the heir to the reversion, as after his death his widow sued Adam for waste. De Banco Hilary 36 Edward III. 1363 Staff. Margaret formerly wife of Nicholas, son of John de Wheston sued Adam de Pesal and Elizabeth his wife for cutting down trees at Weston-under-Lizeyard (Lizard) and moving and carrying away her grass to the value of £20. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. [*Ibid.* vol. 2, page 56; vol. 13, page 20.]

Adam de Peshall, 3rd., held on to the property of his step-son as the Plea Rolls disclose: De Banco Easter 44 Edward III. Staff. In a suit of the Abbott of Burton versus Edward Giffard of Chylynton and Adam de Peshale for the custody of the land and heir of Nicholas, son of John de Whitson, knight, and in which a verdict had been given in favor of the Abbott, the sheriff had been ordered, &c. The sheriff returned an inquisition which stated that the manor of Whitson was worth as follows, viz., the demised lands of the manor £4 13s. 4d. annually beyond reprises and there was a water mill which was worth 26s. 8d. and three vivares worth 6s. 8d. and the rents of the assize of the manor was worth 30s. total value £7 16s. 8d. and the jury stated the said Nicholas died on the Monday after the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist 39 Edward III. and they assess the damages of the Abbott at 40s. and the value of the manor from the time of the death of said Nicholas they assessed at £35 15s. 10d. A postscript says that the King afterwards sent a close writ to send the case to be heard Coram Rege on the Quindene of St. Martin. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 13, page 79.]

Edward or Edmund Giffard had married the sister of Sir John de Wheston and therefore after the death of Nicholas de Whyston, she was the heir of both father and son. [*Ibid.* vol. 2, n.s. page 57.]

Elizabeth de Weston, the first wife of Sir Adam de Peshall died about 1367, a date which is fixed by the law suits brought by her heirs against Sir Adam. Thus the Plea Rolls, De Banco, Michaelmas 40 Edward III. (1367) Staff. disclose: Margaret formerly the wife of Matthew de Fouleshurst recovered a toft, 200 acres of land and 6 acres of meadow in Weston near Blumenhulle which she claimed against Adam de Peshale. The Deforciant making default. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 58.]

The same Plea Rolls show that Elizabeth de Weston was party to a suit brought by Sir Hugh Wrottesley against Sir Adam de Peshale and his wife. De Banco Michaelmas, 40 Edward III. 1367 Stafford. In the suit of Hugh de Wrottesleye, chivaler, against Adam de Peshale and Elizabeth his wife, the sheriff returned the defendant held nothing within his bailiwick by which they could be attached and it was testified in court that they held sufficient (quod satis habant). He was therefore ordered as before to distrain and produce him on the Quindene of Easter. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 127.]

It was two years after this when Sir Adam de Peshall, 3rd. married his second wife Elizabeth ap Rees, daughter and coheir of Sir Philip ap Rees, who was then deceased, and widow of Sir Henry Mortimer of Chelmarsh, co. Salop, knight. The record discloses that there had been bad blood between Adam de Peshall and Sir Hugh before they became brothers-in-law.

It seems to have been the aim of Adam de Peshall to reunite the divided parts of Weston into one, and the pertinacity with which he pursued his purpose was crowned with complete success. While engaged in acquiring the inheritance of his first wife, Sir Adam de Peshall was no less active in securing that of his living wife Elizabeth ap. Rys. This lady was the daughter and coheiress, with her sister Mabel wife of Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, of Sir Philip ap. Rys, Lord of Shifnal in the county of Salop and Talgarth Englees in the county of Brecknock. She had been previously married to Sir Henry Mortimer of Chelmarsh, co. Salop, knight, by whom she had two sons, who both predeceased her without leaving issue, namely, William, an imbecile, who died Dec. 7, 1391, and Hugh de Mortimer, who was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury, July 21, 1403. [*Ibid.* vol. 1, pages 350-352.]

The successive managers of the estate of William Mortimer of Chelmarsh, son of Henry, were appointed by the Crown. They were Adam Peshal, nominated 1372; Hugh de Mortimer, nominated 1384, who was probably the second son of Sir Hugh who died in 1372, and a third Hugh de Mortimer nominated in 1386-7, who was the brother of William, and became the heir both of William and Hugh the previous guardian. [*Ibid.* vol. 3, page 47.]

The daughters and coheirs of Sir Philip ap Rees, knight, who died 4 August, 1369, were Elizabeth aged 30 and more on the 9 Sept. 1369, and then the wife or widow of Sir Henry Mortimer of Chelmarsh co. Salop, and Mabel, then aged 28 and more, the wife of Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, K.G., by whom she had a son then born. Mabel Wrottesley survived her father only 40 days, and her child died 3 weeks after her. In one inquisition dated 9 Sept., Elizabeth is called the wife of Henry Mortimer, in another dated 14 Sept. she is called his widow. Joan, the widow of Sir Philip ap Rees, died in August of the following year, by which time her only surviving daughter and heir, Elizabeth, had married Adam de Peshale. Elizabeth inherited the manor of Ideshale (Shifnal) which had been settled on her father and mother and the heirs of their bodies; the manor of Talgarth Englees in the Marches of Wales descended to the two coheirs subject to their mother's dower. Elizabeth had issue born alive by Adam de Peshale, but such issue died, and there is no descendant living from either of these coheirs. The date of the Peshale marriage was between 22 Oct. and 10 Nov. 1369. [Inq. 43 Ed. III. Pt. No. 4; Inq. 44 Ed. III. No. 3; Orig. Roll 43 Ed. III. m. 11; & Inq. 43 Edw. III. part 1, No. 4 & Orig. Roll 43 Ed. III., m. 11.]

Almost immediately a dispute arose between the sons-in-law of Sir Philip ap Rees with respect to the partition of his lands. In these turbulent days they seem to have found it easier to decide their controversies by hard blows than by the gentler but more tedious process of the law; and though each party appealed to the crown, it is evident from the complaints which they laid before the king and his council that they had already taken the law into their own hands; nor were there many perhaps who were better able to fight their own battles in these warlike times than these two stout Staffordshire knights. Sir Hugh de Wrottesley was an able soldier who had served with honor in the king's wars in France and Spain, and was in such high esteem with King Edward III. that he had made him one of the original Knights of the Garter. Sir Adam was also a man of valor and

activity, who held a no less prominent position in his own county. [Shropshire, its Early History & Antiquities, by John Corbet Anderson, London 1845, p. 80.]

Adam de Peshall had fine parks stocked with deer and all sorts of game of which he was very proud, and which he guarded very jealously. As a result he was constantly having trouble with poachers. The Plea Rolls give an instance of this. De Banco, Easter, 47 Edward III. 1374 Salop. Adam de Peshal sued William son of William Russell for forcibly entering his free warren at Ideshall and taking hares, rabbits, pheasants, and partridges. William did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Quindene of Holy Trinity. Ideshall was one of the many land holdings of Sir Adam de Peshall, 3rd. It was located in Shropshire. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 100.]

Originally Idsall and Shiffnal represented two districts; lying respectively west and east of the stream which divides the town. The place is thus noticed in Domesday:—Rotbert, son of Tethald, holds of Earl Roger Iteshale. Earl Morcar held it. From the survey of Sussex, he appears to have been by far the greatest feoffee in Roger de Montgomery's earldom of Arundel and Chichester; and, although his shrievalty is nowhere noticed in Domesday, doubtless it was in relation to his great southern fief, rather than to any connection with Shropshire, that Robert Fitz-Tetbald acquired his title of Vicecomes. He was a tenant to the Earl of Arundel. We have already pointed out the close relationship between our ancestors and the House of Arundel. And here we find Adam de Peshall 3rd, holding part of the lands which originally belonged to this great family. It would seem that there must have been more than one intermarriage between the Arundels and the Peshalls as well as between the Pantulfs and the Arundels. Moreover this makes six successive generations of our ancestors all showing close relationship between the Pantulfs, Fitz Alans and Arundels. It appears, however, that Adam de Peshall, 3rd., only had Idesall by the courtesy of England as heir of his wife, who had, as we have seen, previously been the wife of Hugh Mortimer by whom she had a son Hugh Mortimer, who survived his mother but predeceased her second husband, Sir Adam de Peshale. Thus this manor, subject to Sir Adam's life estate, escheated to the crown in consequence of Philip ap Rys having been an illegitimate person and his descendants thus became extinct. King Henry IV. thereupon sold the reversion of the manor of Ideshale to Thomas Neville, Lord Turnwall as appears by the following grant of the reversion [Pat. 7 Henry IV (1406) pars 1, m. 2]: Rex viti &c. Sciatis quid cum ut accepimus Phis ap Rys chivaler bastardus fuisset seisisus in dñico suo ut de feodo de manis de Ydeshale cum aptins. in coms. Salop quid de not tenetur in capite qui quidem Pñis tenuit exitus Elizabeths post cujus mortem pdca Elizabeths idem manium intravit et cepit in maritum Henrici Morttymmer chivaler et habuerunt exitem Hugone Morttymmer chivaler: . . . Henricus obiit post cujus mortem Adam de Peeshale chivaler pdcam Elizabeth duxit in uxorem et tuerunt exitum qui obiit et eadem Elizabeth obiit et Adam tenet manerum pdcam p legem Angland: et pdcis Hugo obiit sine herede de se p. quod dcm. manerium ad nos ptinct tanqua exacta nra quod maniu valet p. anns. C. marcas. Nos. de grā nrā et p. ccccc marcis concedimus Thome Newyll dno de Fournyvall reversonem manij etc. (date 10th Feb.) (Translation: King, &c. Know all men by these



presents that Philip ap Rys, chivaler, bastard, had been seized in his own . . . so that concerning the feudal law about the manor of Ydeshall with its appurtenances, in co. Salop, that it was not held in capite, this the same Philip held during his life with Elizabeth; after his death this same Elizabeth carried the same manor in marriage to Henry Mortimer chivaler; and they held it for the life of Hugh Mortimer chivaler: which same Henry died: after his death, Adam de Peeshale chivaler led this same Elizabeth in marriage and held (the manor) till his death: and this Elizabeth and Adam held this aforesaid manor through the grace of England, and the aforesaid Hugh died without heirs to his body, through which the aforesaid manor . . . which manor was worth 100 marks per annum. We by our grace and for 500 marks give to Thomas Nevall Lord of Fournyvall the reversion of the manor, &c. (date 10th February.) [Shropshire, its Early History & Antiquities, by John Corbet Anderson, pages 80-81, London 1845. Ao. 1406. The above copy was so abbreviated that it was impossible to make an accurate translation thereof.]

It also appears that prior to this in 1352 Sir Philip ap Rees exchanged the manors of Brenlees and Langoyt and the lordship of Cantreselly and also certain lands (including the park) within the manor of Talgarth with William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, and Elizabeth his wife (the Badlesmere coheiress) for the manor of Ideshale except the advowson and one acre of land; and, as the Talgarth lands and the manor of Ideshale were both held of the king in capite, the necessary licenses of alienation were obtained by virtue of which the manor of Ideshale was directed to be limited in settlement following the lines of the Talgarth settlement of 1312, and a power of re-entry was reserved to the Earl of Northampton in the event of any of the remaindermen under that settlement recovering against him the lands taken by him in exchange, all of which is very illuminating as both Siward and Waltheof II. his son were Earls of Northampton. [Duchy of Lancaster Deeds, LS. 171, L. 1618-21; Duchy of Lancaster Royal Charters Nos. 314-15.]

Adam de Peshall, 3rd, and Sir Hugh Wrottesley did not linger long to parley concerning the distribution of their father-in-law's estate. Being men of action they almost immediately began to war upon each other. Sir Hugh was at this time in high favor with the king so he controlled the local judiciary; as a result the plea rolls contain quite a full account of the reprehensible acts of Adam, and there is a lack of details concerning the acts of Hugh, although he was at least an equal offender. Hence the Plea Rolls relate.—

De Banco Easter 48 Edward III. Hereford. Hugo de Whortesleye, chivaler, sued Adam de Peeshal, Philip Vaghan, Matthew ap Richard, Nicholas Fitz John, John Smeyth, John Croyer, Philip Brown, Adam Knotte, for forcibly breaking into his close at Talgarth Engleys in the Marches of Wales and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10. None of the defendants appeared and the sheriff returned that they held nothing, &c. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce them on the morrow of St. John the Baptist. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 106.]

Some of the acts of Sir Hugh were such palpable violations of the law that even Adam de Peshall, 3rd., could get a day in court. So the Plea Rolls disclose: De Banco, Michaelmas 48 Edward III. Staff. Adam de Peshale against William

Adames of Stretton for breaking vi et armis into his close at Whiston and cutting down his trees and breaking down and consuming his growing corn and grass with his cattle. William did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce him on the Octaves of St. Hilary. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 116.]

The inquest on the death of Sir Robert Corbet, January 9, 1376, disclosed that among many other manors he held Hawne of Adam de Peshale as lord of Idesall, the same having been settled on this Robert Corbet and Elizabeth his wife for the longest of their lives with remainder to Fulk their son, and his heirs male with remainder to Roger, Fulk's brother and his heirs male with remainder to the right heirs of Sir Robert. [Eyton's Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. 10, page 190.]

Adam de Peshall, 3rd, like his brother Sir Richard, appears to have been a money lender and consequently he had at times to invoke the aid of the court to collect bad debts. De Banco Trinity 51 Edward III. Staff. Adam de Pesale sued Margaret formerly wife of Edward Gifford of Chelynton and John de Tuttebury the executors of the will of Edmund Gifford of Chelynton for a debt of 100 marks. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to attach them for the Quindene of St. Michael. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 142.]

Adam de Peshall, 3rd, and Sir Hugh Wrottesley had been induced by friends to make a deed of settlement some years before this concerning the division of the lands of their father-in-law. Sir Hugh had been placed in possession of all that was to come to him, but he pretended that there was yet a deed to be executed by Adam de Peshall and his wife, so Sir Hugh brought suit for specific performance. The record of this appears on the Plea Rolls.

De Banco Easter 49 Edward III. Staff. Hugh de Wrottesley, chivaler, sued Adam de Peshal and Elizabeth his wife in a plea that they should carry out a covenant between them respecting lands and tenements in Talgarth Engleys in the Marches of Wales and two parts of the demesne and manor of Talgarth Engleys. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff returned that they had not been distrained by their chattels to the value of 40d. Their sureties were therefore in misericordia and the sheriff was ordered to distrain again, and produce them on the Quindene of Holy Trinity. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 123.]

The suit was continued from time to time and there are several entries relating to the same, of which the following are fair samples. De Banco Trinity 50 Edward III. 1377 Staffordshire. In the suit of Hugh de Wrottesley, Chivaler, versus Adam de Peshale and Elizabeth his wife; the defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned a sum of 3s. 4d. as issues of a distress levied on their goods and chattels. The sheriff was therefore ordered to distrain again, and to summon them for the Quindene of St. Michael. m. 276. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 135.]

De Banco Easter 51 Edward III. 1378 Staffordshire. Hugh de Wrottesley, Chivaler, sued Adam de Peshale and Elizabeth, his wife, in a plea that they should carry out a covenant made between them, &c., (as before). The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff returned 40d. as issue of a distraint, &c. He was therefore ordered to distrain again and produce them on the Octaves of Holy Trinity. A postscript states that on that day the Sheriff made no return, and he was ordered to distrain and produce them on the Octaves of St. Michael. m. 212. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, p. 140.]

Sir Adam de Peshall was knighted on the occasion of the coronation of King Richard II. in 1377, which he is known to have attended.

In the first year of King Richard II. (1378) Sir Adam de Peshale preferred a petition to the king and his council, in which he complains that, as he was returning home to his own country, after attending the king's coronation, Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, designing his death, had placed a company of armed men in ambush on the king's highway, between London and his own country, and brought them to a place called Foxhunte Ledegate, in the county of Worcester, for the purpose of killing him and his men, as is known to the whole country; he had also so threatened with assault and battery, from day to day, the said Adam and his retinue, and likewise his tenants the merchants of Shuffenhale (Shiffnal), which is a market town, that they dared not come to the fair to buy and sell. Moreover he took from a certain William Barker, the said Adam's tenant, 24 cows and brought them to Wrottesley, on the king's highway, and kept them until he had received a fine of 24 shillings, to the great loss and annoyance of the said Adam and his tenants. Further the said Hugh had brought in his retinue from the counties of Chester and Lancaster men who were outlaws and malefactors; for all of which the said Adam prays for a remedy for himself and his tenants. There had been a change in kings of England. Richard II. had succeeded to the throne and Sir Hugh was no longer a court favorite, so he had recourse to open physical force, whereas the change in the dynasty had brought Sir Adam into a position where the court was friendly to him. So we find them changing places in that Sir Adam becomes the petitioner to the Crown, while Sir Hugh falls back upon a recital of the acts of Sir Adam when Sir Hugh had the ear of royalty; hence as a consequence of this complaint Sir Hugh de Wrottesley is summoned to appear before the king and his council on the morrow of St. Martin in the same year under penalty of a fine of £300. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 148.]

His answer is, that Sir Adam de Peshale had not kept his agreement to levy a fine in his favor concerning the manor of Talgarth, notwithstanding that he had pledged himself to do so before Sir Ralph Ferers, Sir Philip de Catesby, Sir Nicholas de Stafford, Sir Thomas Harecourt and others, by which neglect the said Sir Hugh had been put to great cost and injury, because the said manor is held of the King in capite, and he had purchased the King's license for a great sum of money. Since which time, in consequence of the enmity between the said Adam and himself, the said Adam's men had beat the men and servants of the said Hugh, on the day of St. Thomas, last past, at the fair at Albryghton, and then sent off immediately to the said Adam at Idesale (Shiffnal), complaining of the men of the said Hugh whom they had beaten. Whereupon Haminet, the brother of the said Adam, armed and arrayed for war, and others of his household and tenants, to the number of sixty armed men, went to Albryghton and pursued the said Hugh's men, whom they had thus beaten, out of the county of Stafford, beating, wounding, assaulting, and ill-treating them so that they were in fear of their lives, and all the while hooting at them and crying out, Kill the Wrottesley robbers, and swearing that they wished the said Hugh had been there that they might have killed him,—to the alarm of the whole country and in breach of the King's peace, as well as to the great hurt and annoyance of the said Hugh. And,

nevertheless, the said Adam and his brothers, Haminet and Sir Richard, went to the King's Court and laid a complaint against the said Hugh, to his slander and prejudice, and took out writs of attachment of his body without cause. Since which time on another occasion, Sir Richard, Adam, Haminet, and others, assembled 300 armed men, and at another time a still greater number, in the manner of war, so that the said Hugh did not dare to remain at his hostel or go out of his house without a great retinue, because of their malice. On another occasion Thomas Gech, brother-in-law of the said Adam, ordered William Dogyngton to go with him against the said Hugh, and because he would not do this, the sons of the said Richard went to the house of the said William and shamefully ill-treated him and his daughter, against the peace of the Crown and dignity of our Lord the King, and in despite, it is submitted, of the said Hugh.

The immediate result of these proceedings does not appear; but this record indicates the high standing of each of the contenders and shows that each was able to defy all the powers provided for the Peaceful settlement of disputes and, as a fact, they were able to maintain for several years a condition of private warfare. It is to be noted that Sir Hugh said nothing about Roger de Peshall, the brother of Sir Adam, having been killed by Sir Hugh's friends in their private warfare.

Later the contending parties seem to have so far settled their differences that each of them peaceably enjoyed a portion of the lands of Sir Philip ap Rys. Sir Adam de Peshale had the manor of Shiffnal, and Sir Hugh de Wrottesley had Talgarth for his share, which they retained, by the courtesy of England, for the term of their own lives. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 148 and Wm. Salt. Soc. vol. 1, page 352-354.]

The question concerning the succession to the inheritance of Weston was constantly being aired in the courts so that we find the following on the Plea Rolls. De Banco Michaelmas 3 Richard II. 1380 Staffordshire. A jury of 24 had been summoned to make recognition if John son of Edmund Giffard of Chylyngton had unjustly disseized Adam de Peshale, chivaler, of a freehold in Wheston; the said John having complained that the Jurors of an assize of novel disseizen taken at Stafford had delivered a false verdict, and John now appeared by his custos and Adam did not appear. He was therefore summoned for the morrow of St. Martins. The Sheriff to return the names of the first jury at the same date. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 155.]

John Giffard was the son of Edmund Giffard of Chillington by Agnes, the sister of Sir John de Whyston, and therefore after the death of Nicholas de Whyston without issue, and of his mother Agnes, he became heir to both father and son. [*Ibid.* vol. 2, n.s. page 51.]

There seems to have been a dispute concerning the right to appoint a priest to the church at Blumenhall as the plea rolls, De Banco Michaelmas 3 Richard II. 1380 Staffordshire, say that Humfrey de Swynnerton sued William Trussell of Cublesdon, chivaler, and Adam de Peshale, chivaler, for the next presentation to the church of Blumenhull and they did not appear and had been distrained. It was therefore considered that Humfrey should recover the presentation against them, and a writ of non abstanta was issued to the Bishop. And Humfrey stated

that the tempus semestre had not yet elapsed and prayed damages at half a year's value of the church and as the value was not known the sheriff was ordered to make enquiry upon the oath of a jury as to the value of the church, and to return the inquisition into court on the Octaves of St. Hilary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 154.]

The old question concerning the right to the possession of the manor of Weston-under-Lizard kept coming before the courts in some phase or other in a series of lawsuits. It appears that Adam de Peshall, 3rd, had by his first wife Elizabeth de Weston, a daughter Agnes, who died in infancy. The question was, did Elizabeth die first, or did she survive Agnes her child. The jury had found that Agnes had survived Elizabeth. As a result there was an attempt to reopen the controversy; hence we find from the Plea Rolls. De Banco 3 Richard II. 1380 Staffordshire. In the appeal of John, son of Edmund Giffard, against Adam de Peshale, chivaler, respecting land in Whiston, the parties appeared, and the proceedings of the first assize having been read, John, son of Edmund, stated that the jury had sworn falsely, when they said that Agnes had survived Elizabeth, because Elizabeth had survived Agnes, and they swore falsely when they said that the said Adam was seised of the tenements by virtue of the demise which was named in the proceedings until he had been disseised by him, and they had also sworn falsely when they taxed his damages, because the said Adam had sustained no damage beyond 13s. 4d., and this he was ready to prove by a jury of twenty-four. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 157.]

Adam stated that the first jury had sworn truly, and appealed likewise to a jury of twenty-four, which was to be summoned for the Quindene of St. Hillary, as well as the jury of the first assize; and the Sheriff stated that he had not been able to discover the names of the first jury, and as it was testified that the names had been written on a Schedule (cedula), and this was also proved by an endorsement on the original writ, the Sheriff was fined 13s. 4d. and was ordered to produce them at the same term, viz., Geoffrey de Congreve, Roger de Pycheford, James de Morton, Ralph de Hampton, John Cook, of Bromley, Ralph le Parkere, William le Parkere, John del Bolde, Thomas de Walton, Roger de Fulford, Richard Faukenere, of Aguylet (Aqualate), and William atte Rook. A post-script shows the suit was adjourned to three weeks from Easter through defect of appearance of the two juries. m. 473, dorso. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 157.]

As to the church at Blumenhall, the Bishop was not disposed to yield to Humfrey de Swinnerton's claim, hence the latter appealed to the court to compel obedience. The Plea Rolls tell the story as follows:—De Banco Hilary 3 Richard II. 1380 Staffordshire. Humfrey de Swinnerton sued Robert the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield in a plea that whereas he had recovered the presentation to the church of Blymhull in a suit against William Trussel of Cublesdon, chivaler, and Adam de Peshale, chivaler, by the default of the defendants and the usual writ of non obstante had been sent to the Bishop, the said Bishop had refused to admit Walter Daliley clerk of the said Humfrey to the contempt of the King's mandate and the great damage of the said Humfrey. The Bishop did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to attach him for the Quindene of Easter. [*Ibid.* vol. 13, page 160.]

The church at Weston was part of the estate of the manor, hence we find: Lichfield Episcopal Register 1381, July 13, at Heywode, that Roger de Aston priest was instituted to the church at Weston vacant by the resignation of ds. John de Cokeslowe at the presentation of Sir Adam Peshale, knt., obedience mandate. [*Ibid.* vol. 10, part 2, n.s. page 150.]

By inquisition taken at Weston, on the Tuesday next before the feast of All Saints, 7 Richard II. (Oct. 29, 1383), it was found that it would not be to the King's hurt, or to that of any one else, if he should concede to Adam de Peshale a view of frankpledge, with all the rights thereto belonging, in his towns of Weston-under-Loseyerd, Blemhull, and Breynton, in the county of Stafford, to him and his heirs forever, and this view of frankpledge would be of the annual value of two shillings.

Practically this was to give him the same authority as is exercised by a modern justice of the peace in holding to bail to keep the peace. Frankpledge is a pledge or surety for the good behavior of a freeman. The locality was divided into decennaries, so that the members of ten households were made responsible for one another, and as nearly as possible to make it so all the members of a decennary were relatives. If therefore one of them committed an offense the other nine had to make reparation. The person having the view of the frankpledge would of course be entitled to collect fees, but this was a small part of the gain as compared with the ability to shield the justices' personal followers in the local civil warfare for which Staffordshire and Shropshire are so famous.

By deed dated at Weston next after the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 10 Richard II. (June 27, 1386), Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, constituted John de Weston his attorney to deliver to Sir Roger de Aston, parson of the church of Weston under Loseyort, and William ffarnecote seisin of the whole manor of Weston, with all other appurtenances which he had acquired there and elsewhere in the county of Stafford, according to the form and effect of a charter which he had made to the said Roger and William. In the year 1397 Sir Adam de Peshale acquired another, namely Trymwyn's share (or the greater part of it) of the de Weston estates; so that he now practically held four-fifths of the manor of Weston, and probably a like proportion of de Weston's share of Blymhill; and in the following year (21 Ric. II.) he was certified to hold one knight's fee in Weston under Loseyard and Newton, under Richard, Earl of Arundel.

It is difficult to account satisfactorily for the continued interest which Sir Fulke de Pembruge retained in the manor of Weston after the death of his wife, Margaret Trussell, but from the inquisition taken after the death of the second Sir Adam de Peshale, it appears that Sir Fulke de Pembruge had acquired to himself and his heirs the fee simple of this fifth part of the manor. The whole history, however, of these five parts and their final transmission to the Peshales and the Mittons is full of difficulties. Sir Adam had attained a great age, but this did not deter him from securing possession of Weston. By deed dated at Weston-under-Luseyerd on the Thursday after Easter 3 Ric. II. (30 March, 1380), John fitz Edmond Giffard of Chillington, having arrived at full age, grants a lease to Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, of a piece of land in Weston-under-Luseyerd, called Marleighy Field, to have and to hold to the said Adam, his heirs and assigns, for

a term of 100 years, the reserved rent being the annual payment of 2s. 2d. On the same day, by a deed of indenture dated at the same place, and made between Sir Adam de Peshale, knight and Elizabeth his wife of the one part and John fitz Esmond Giffard de Chillington of the other part, the said Adam and Elizabeth granted to the said John Giffard all their lands, rents, tenements, and services, with the appurtenances, in Stretton-juxta-Horsebrook, to have and to hold to the said John, his heirs, and assigns, in exchange for the site of the manor of Weston-under-Luysyord, with the gardens adjacent to it, the two parts of the park of the same manor, into five parts divided, which Sir John de Whyston lately purchased, the fifth part of the meadow of the same manor, and all the lands and tenements which William Broun and John del Stanes held in the same manor on the day of making these indentures, and for a certain toft in the said manor which Hugh le Carter lately held. [Harl. MSS. 5. page 816. Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 2, New Series, page 60.]

The Plea Rolls give an interesting inside view of the means employed by the Giffards to secure the possession of the manor of Weston and to deprive Adam de Peshall, 3rd., of his vast rentals. Of course the plan failed. It appeared that before the tenant would enter into the lease he was guaranteed that he would have peaceable possession. The record tells the rest of the story quite succinctly as follows:—

De Banco 10 Richard II. 1387 Salop. Walter Pryde, clerk, sued William de Wyke, for a debt of £20, and stated that the said William on the Friday after the Feast of St. Hilary, the Bishop, 49 E. III. at Shiffenhale, had given him a bond for £40, which was to be repaid at the following Feast of Michaelmas, and he produced the bond in court. William pleaded that he should not be bound by the bond, because the said Walter or his assigns should hold all the lands and tenements within the manor of Whiston, which Walter held by a demise of Adam de Peshale, viz., the manor of Whiston for a term of fourteen years according to a deed made by the said Adam to Walter, and by which if the said Walter or his assigns should be removed or impeded within the first four years of the term of fourteen years so they could not have the profits; and the said Adam should cause him to be restored in possession within a year, or compensated, or if the said William and one William Barkare, within a year of the said removal should pay or cause to be paid, to Walter £40; or if the said Walter or his assigns should be removed or impeded within ten years of the said term, &c. (here follows further conditions of the same nature), then the said bond should be annulled, and he stated that as all the conditions of the Indenture had been carried out, the said Walter could not maintain an action for debt against him. Walter stated that he had a right of action, because within the first two years after the said demise to him, viz., at the feast of St. Michael, 1 Ric. II., he had been removed and expelled from all the lands and tenements named in the deed by one John Giffard, son and heir of Edmund Giffard; and the said Adam had not caused him to be restored to the possession of them within a year after his removal with the profits for the meantime. William de Wyke replied that Walter was removed from his farm of the manor by fraud, and by collusion between him and the said John Giffard, and with the assent of the said Walter, which he was prepared to prove.

Walter said that John Giffard had removed him by his own act, and there was no fraud or collusion between them. Both parties appealed to a jury, which was to be summoned for the Quindene of Holy Trinity. m. 119. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 13, page 203.]

Elizabeth ap Rys, Sir Adam de Peshale's second wife, died before 1388, as Elizabeth de Peshale's previous death is mentioned in the Inquisition taken on the death of William Mortimer, her first husband's son and heir, in 1391, but the exact date of her death is uncertain. It seems probable however that she died about the year 1384, when Adam de Peshale ceased to have the management of the Chelmarsh estates, which had belonged to her first husband, Sir Henry de Mortimer, and had been taken into the King's hands on account of the imbecility of his son William le Mortimer, and the custody of which had been granted by the King to Adam de Peshale in 1372. It appears from the Inquisition taken on the death of Sir Adam de Peshale that there was issue born of his marriage with this his second wife, but that such issue did not survive. Hugh Mortimer, Elizabeth's son by her first marriage, was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury on 21 July, 1403, and left no issue, his first cousin once removed, John Cressy, being his next heir. How his interest in the lands at Weston under the limitations of the deed of 1377 became vested in the descendants of Adam de Peshale does not appear, but the latter probably bought up his step-son's interest. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 2, n.s. page 66-67.]

In 11 Richard II. a marriage had been arranged between Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, and Joice the daughter and coheir of Sir John de Bottetort, knight of Weoley, relict of Sir Baldwyn Frevill; and an indenture was then made between Sir John de Clynton, knight, Lord of Maxtoke, and Sir Ralph de Bracebrugge, knight, of the one part, and Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, of the other part, whereby it is agreed that the said Sir Adam will marry the Lady Joice, late wife of Sir Baldwyn Frevill, knight, and that within a month after their espousals the said Sir Adam will enfeof certain persons in a hundred marks of land, that is to say, in all his lands and tenements, rents, and services, which he has in the towns of Weston, Blumenhull, Meiston, and Newton, in the county of Stafford. [*Ibid.* vol. 1, page 355-356, Wm. Salt. Soc.]

It appears that Joice had been an orphan and that she had not settled with her guardian, so we find Adam de Peshall, 3rd., together with his wife going actively after the moneys still due his wife from her guardian. The Plea Rolls state that (De Banco Easter 12 Richard II. 1389 Staffordshire) Adam de Peshale and Joice his wife appeared by John Whettales their attorney against Henry Caytewayte in a plea that the said Henry should render a reasonable account for the time he was receiver of the money of the said Joyce. The defendant did not appear and the sheriff returned that he held nothing, &c. He was therefore ordered to arrest and produce him in the Quindene of Holy Trinity. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 15.]

The marriage portion of Joyce included her dower in lands of her former husband in Pynley to which the reversion was to Baldwin Frevill, who objected to the way that Adam and his wife managed the property, so he brought suit as follows: De Banco Hilary 18 Richard II. 1395 Warwick. Baldwin Freyville



sued Adam de Peshale, chivaler, and Joyce his wife for waste and destruction in the lands, houses, woods, and gardens in Pynley which William Boule, clerk, and Henry Calerrayton, clerk, had demised to them for the life of Joyce with reversion to the said Bladewyne and his heirs. The defendants did not appear. The sheriff was ordered to distrain and produce them on the Quindene of Easter. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 66.]

A record of the Plea Rolls gives another incident in the warfare in which Adam de Peshall, 3rd., was engaged in maintaining himself against his enemies. Coram Rege Michaelmas 21 Richard II. 1398 Warwick. The juries of divers hundreds had presented that Adam de Peshale, chivaler, William Baron of Stychehale, and others had broken into the Close of John Brandeley at Coventry, and had cut down and taken his trees to the value of £20, and had so intimidated the servants of the said John by their threats, that they were afraid of leaving the manor of the said John at Chortley. And that the said Adam and Roger Aston the parson of the church of Weston under Lezeord, Robert Page of Whitley and Robert the servant of Adam on the Vigil of St. Peter ad Vincula 20 Ric. II., had taken six oxen from Robert Lyrpole and detained them until the said Robert had paid them 100s. for their release, and they had taken 13 oxen of the said Robert which were worth 17 marks. [*Ibid.* vol. 16, page 33.]

Joan de Eyton upon the death of her husband, Sir Richard de Peshall, appears to have married an enemy of her late husband. As a result she was very shortly a widow for the second time. The Plea Rolls give only the essential facts.

Coram Rege. Michaelmas 4 Henry IV. 1403 Warwick. Joan, formerly wife of William Slepe, appealed in person, William Burmyngheam, John Solyhull, Adam de Peshale, chivaler, Nicholas Waterfall, John Barbour of Buryngheam, John Ferroure of Burmyngheam, and John del Chamber Williams, servaunt, Burmyngheam, for the death of her husband and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the Octaves of St. Hillary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 39-39.]

When it was impossible to get at the individual, there was always the opportunity to destroy his property. Adam de Peshall, 3rd., suffered destruction the same way as he had visited it on his enemies. De Banco Michaelmas 7 Henry IV. 1406 Staffordshire. Adam de Peshale, chivaler, sued Thomas Batte, smyth for breaking into his close and houses at Weston under Lesereyden and cutting down and carrying away his trees to the value of 100s. Thomas did not appear. The sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce him for the Octaves of St. Hillary. [*Ibid.* vol. 16, page 149.]

On the Thursday next, before the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 7 Henry IV. (Feb. 1, 1406), by deed dated at Weston, Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, gives (in trust) to Roger de Aston, parson of the church of Weston, William Lee and Thomas de Walton, his manor of Weston under Luzehord, and the advowson of the church of the same manor, with all its appurtenances, except those lands and tenements with the appurtenances which he held in that vill, for the term of his life, of Sir Fulke de Pembruge, knight. In that year it was stated by inquisition that his wife Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir Philip ap Rys, was dead, and that Sir Adam de Peshale, late her husband, held the manor of Shiffnal by the courtesy of England. [*Ibid.* Wm. Salt. Soc., vol. 1, page 355.]

At a month from Easter 22 Ric. II. (1399) a fine was levied and afterwards recorded on the Octaves of Holy Trinity, between Adam de Peshale, knight, complainant, and Thomas de Thomenhorn and Alice his wife, deforciants, of the manors of Tomenhorn and Ruggeley, eight messuages, one toft, one carucate, and 30 acres of land, 120 acres of meadow, — of pasture, 10 acres of wood, one wear, the bailiwick of Puysbaillie in Cannok, and 13s. 4d. of rent — Wyginton, Tymore, and Whytyngton. Thomas and Alice acknowledged the said — wear and bailiwick to be the right of the said Adam, of which the said Adam held the said manors, six messuages, the toft, three acres of meadow, — of the gift of Thomas and Alice. And for this Adam granted to Thomas and Alice the said manors, tenements, wear and bailiwick, to be held by them and their issue at the rent of a rose yearly at the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist; and Adam further granted that a messuage which John Edson and Agnes his wife held for life, and a messuage which Adam Littell and Alice his wife held for life, on the day on which this agreement was made, should after their decease remain to the said Thomas and Alice and their issue; and failing such issue the manors, tenements, wear, and bailiwick were to revert to Adam de Peshale and his heirs for ever. This reversion seems to have taken effect, for we find the manor of Thomenhorn and lands in Rugeley, Wigginton and Whytyngton afterwards in the possession of Sir Adam's descendants, and in 7 Hen. IV. (1405-6) Adam de Peshale, chivaler, sued John, parson of Elleford, for breaking into his park at Tonhorne and cutting down and carrying away his trees to the value of 100s. John did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce him on the Octaves of St. Hilary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 2, page 90-91.]

22 Richard II. 1399. Thomas de Thomenhorn and Alice his wife conveyed by fine the reversion of the manors of Tomenhorn and Ruggeley after their death together with the bailiwick of Pugsbaillie in Cannok to Sir Adam de Peshale. [*Ibid.* vol. 10, part 1, n.s. page 217.]

Always and all times it was during this period of time that the inhabitants of Staffordshire were at war with each other. No doubt the most of Sir Adam de Peshall's troubles were caused by Sir Hugh Wrottesly, hence we find Sir Adam complaining against the acts and depredations of the Wrottesly adherents. De Banco Michaelmas 9 Henry IV. 1408 Staffordshire. Adam de Peshale, chivaler, sued John Duffield, chaplain, William Mercer, chaplain, John Woderove, William Walker, William Salter, John Perton, William Alger, Robert Bocher, for entering his free warren at Weston without permission and taking his goods and chattels to the value of 100s. and likewise hares, rabbits and pheasants. None of the defendants appeared and the sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce them at the Quindene of St. Hilary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 63.]

In these days the king was constantly in need of money, the public records disclose that the Bishops of Hereford and Lichfield, with Thos. Earl of Arundel, and Adam de Peshale, raised forced loans for the King in Staffordshire, Salop, and Hereford, June 14th, 1410. The quick change in the political situation brought about the usual charge of misappropriation of the public funds and therefore we find, Hugh Hulse, Roger Horton, John Knyghtley, Wm. Walsale, and Wm. Egerton enquire into the falsification of the King's money in Stafford-

shire, August 20th, 1411. Another quick change brought a new set of tax collectors and in January, 1411, Sir Thos. Gresley, Nic. Rugeley of Caredon, Thos. Giffard, and Edmund Lowe prepare the Staffordshire Subsidy Roll for the Subsidy voted in the last Parliament. [*Ibid.* vol. 1910, page 311.]

\*\*\* By his marriage with Joyce de Bottetort Sir Adam de Peshale acquired the manor of Babyngton in the county of Stafford, which long remained in the possession of his descendants. Sir Adam de Peshale also acquired through this marriage one third part of the castle and manor of Weoley and other manors, the reversion of which they sold for 1000 marks. [*Ibid.* vol. 2, page 91 and vol. 11, page 227.]

On November 28, 13 Hen. IV. 1411, Sir Hugh de Burnell, Knight, Lord of Holgate and of Beoley, and Robert Bykedon deliver up to Roger Aston, parson of the church of Weston, William Pertone, parson of the church of Blymenhull, and William Lashefer, parson of the church of Hardeburgh, their manor of Bobyngton, in the county of Stafford; and on Monday next after the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 3 Hen. V. (Aug. 17, 1415), the said trustees concede the same to Sir Adam de Peshale, knight, and Joice his wife, the daughter of Sir John de Bottetort, knight, late Lord of Weoley, to hold for the term of their lives, and after their decease to Richard, son of Reginald de Mutton, of Salop, and Margaret his wife, the daughter of the said Adam and Joice, and to the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to William de Burmingham and Joan his wife, the other daughter of the aforesaid Adam and Joice, and the heirs of their bodies, with remainder to the right heirs of the said Adam de Peshale. [*Staff. Hist. Col.* vol. 2, n.s.]

It would be interesting to know why the widow of William Broughton engaged in warfare against Adam de Peshall, 3rd. De Banco 13 Henry IV. 1412 Salop. Adam de Peshale, chivaler, sued Sibil formerly wife of William Broughton for breaking into his house at Shoffenale (Shifnal) and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £20. Sibil did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce her. [*Ibid.* vol. 16, page 80.]

One of the saddest facts to be recorded in connection with the history of the Peshall family is that their old charters and records are no longer in the possession of the family or known to be where they can be examined. Therefore the following records from the Plea Rolls have more than usual interest. De Banco Michaelmas 1 Henry V. 1413 Staff. Adam de Peshale, knight, William Lasshever, clerk, and William de Perton, clerk sued John Jones of Bromwyche, chaplain, and Margery late wife of Richard Murywider of Wiltleston in a plea that they should give up to them a Pyx containing deeds and monuments which they unjustly detained. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to produce them for the morrow of Purification. It certainly would be a great privilege to be able to see the deeds and monuments contained in this strongbox. [*Ibid.* vol. 16, page 47.]

The Great Wickliffe, the greatest of all who preached religious freedom in England, prior to the Reformation, had come and gone, but he had left a strong impression on his age, an impression which remained until the Reformation. During his lifetime he had a great retinue of poor preachers who went from village

to village carrying with them copies of an English translation of the scriptures. They held meetings for religious instruction and matters seemed tending to an open rupture with the Catholic clergy. After Wickliffe's death these traveling preachers continued their work, but with their leader gone they no longer exerted any political influence, so they were charged with being Lollards, a semi-secret, semi-monastic society which on the continent of Europe had aroused the special enmity of the church. As a result all the powers of church and state were directed to the extermination of these pestiferous preachers and mischief-makers who destroyed the peace of the community by making the common people dissatisfied with their burdens of state and religion. In Staffordshire by 1414 we find that ecclesiastical matters are concerned chiefly with the decay of the Monasteries and the efforts of the King to put them into better state, partly as a counterblast to the progress of Lollardism. In January, 1414, orders for the Lollards to be imprisoned are sent to twenty-two counties, which included Shropshire, but not Staffordshire. We find John Talbot, Adam Peshale, Thos. Young and Wm. Lee on the Committee appointed for the repression of the new doctrine in Salop; Thos. Gresley on that for Derby; Humph. Stafford the elder on that for Somerset and Dorset; and Thos. Harecourt for Oxon and Berks. Later, in December, Rob. Hierne of Gnosalle, a Lollard, is pardoned, the only Staffordshire man whose name occurs. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1912, page 471.]

The Plea Rolls furnish further evidence that Adam Peshall 3rd. was a money lender when they disclose: De Banco Hilary 3 Henry V. 1416 Salop. Joan late wife of Richard Vernon, knight, of Horlaston in co. Stafford was sued by Adam Peshale, knight, for a debt of 50 marks for which he had been bound, dated Shuffenale (Shefnal) on the Sunday before Michaelmas 13 Henry IV. Joan appeared by attorney and denied that the bond produced was her act and appealed to a jury. After many adjournments through defects of Juries, the cause was moved by writ of nisi prius to be heard in the county and a jury at Shrewsbury in 5 Henry V. found that the bond was the act of Joan and assessed the damages of Adam at 100s. Adam was therefore to recover his debt and the said damages and Joan was to be arrested for denying her bond. This judgement was set aside and the suit reopened by the King's bench after the death of Adam de Peshall, 3rd. When a most remarkable new judgement was entered in favor of the above Joan. The record of the rehearing will appear in its proper place in the sequence of events. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, page 55.]

Sir Adam de Peshale, according to the genealogy of his line, died in the year 1419, October 28. There was however a fine levied on the morrow of All Saints Day, 2 November, 7 Henry V. 1419, before Richard Norton, Robert Hull, John Cokayne, William Lodyngton and John Preston, Justices, whereby Adam Peshale and Joyce his wife convey Joan widow of William Blanchard, Knt., John Braaz, Walter Kebbyl and John Galetton, clerk, the third part of the manor and advowson of the Castle of Weolly and the manor of Northfield, the manor of Bewdesley and Haybern and the view of frank pledge of Aston County, Warwick, and the Manor of New Handsworth and Clent County, Stafford, which Hugh Burnell Knt. Lord of Holigate and Weoley holds for life. [The Lyttleton Charters, London, 1893, page 74.] The Inquisition on his estate was held at

Penkridge, on Dec. 20, 1419. It states that he held no lands or tenements of the King, in capite, either in demesne or service, in the county of Stafford, on the day of his death. But he held, conjointly with his wife Joice, who is yet surviving, the manor of Bobyngton, with its appurtenances in the aforesaid county, for term of life, the reversion of which belonged to Richard, son of Reginald Mutton, of Salop, and Margaret his wife, the daughter of the said Adam and Joice, and to the heirs of their bodies. It was held of Humphrey, son and heir of Edmund, late Earl of Stafford, by Knight's service, and is of the annual value of £10. The said Adam also held on the day of his death, for term of life, twenty acres of land and four acres of meadow, with the appurtenances, in Weston and Blumenhull, and a fifth part of the manor of Weston under Luseyord, with the appurtenances, and of the advowson of the church of the same manor, and a fifth part of the advowson of the church of Blumenhull by the demission of Sir Fulke de Pembruge, knight, which same Fulke de Pembruge, by a certain fine levied in the King's Court at Westminster, on the fifteenth day from the day of the Holy Trinity, 4 Henry IV. (June 25, 1403), and afterwards recorded there in the Octave of St. Michael, 5 Henry IV. October 7, 1404, acknowledged the same premises to be the right of William Mosse, parson of the church of Langporde, and conceded, for himself and his heirs, that the aforesaid tenements and fifth part of the manor with the appurtenances, and the fifth part of the advowson of the said churches which the aforesaid Adam held for term of life of the inheritance of the said Fulke, in the said villis, on the day on which the concord in the said fine was made and which after the death of the said Adam, should revert to the said Fulke and his heirs, should wholly remain after the death of the said Adam, to the aforesaid William, to Robert Say, parson of the church of Eton Hastyng, and Walter Swan, parson of the church of Ayleston, and the heirs of the same William. The aforesaid Robert afterwards died, and the aforesaid William Mosse and Walter Swan levied another fine in the King's Court, at Westminster, on the morrow of the Ascension, in the 5th year of Henry V. (May 20, 1417), recorded in the Octave of St. Michael, 7 Hen. V. (Oct. 7, 1419), by which they recognized the aforesaid tenements, fifth part of the manor with the appurtenances, and fifth part of the aforesaid advowsons to be the right of Richard Brond, and conceded for themselves and for the heirs of William, that the aforesaid tenements, &c., which Adam held for term of life, of the inheritance of the said William Mosse on the day in which the concord in the said fine was made, and which after the decease of the same Adam should revert to the said William, Walter, and the heirs of William, should wholly remain, after the death of the said Adam, to the said Richard, John Bentley, clerk, John Aston, clerk, William Galley, chaplain, and William Fitzherberde and the heirs of the same Richard. And so the reversion of the same tenements, fifth part, &c., after the death of the aforesaid Adam, belong to the said Richard, John Bentley, &c. Six acres of land and two acres of meadow, with the appurtenances in Blumenhull, parcel of the said twenty acres of land and four acres of meadow, and the fifth part of the advowson of the church of Blumenhull, are held of the aforesaid heir of the late Earl of Stafford, by Knight's service, and are of the annual value of three shillings and fourpence. And fourteen acres of land and two acres of meadow, with the appurtenances in

Weston, the remainder of the said twenty acres of land and four acres of meadow, and the fifth part of the aforesaid manor and advowson of the church of the same manor are held of Sir John Arundel, knight, Lord of Arundel, by Knight's service, and are of the annual value of forty-three shillings and fourpence. The said Adam held no other lands or tenements of the said King; or of anyone else in the aforesaid county, on the day of his death. The aforesaid Adam died on the Thursday next before the feast of the Apostles Simon and Jude last past (Oct. 26, 1419); and Joan, wife of Sir William Birmyngnam, knight, and Margaret, who had been the wife of Sir Richard Mutton, knight, are his daughters and heirs. Joan is 28 years of age and more, and Margaret 26 years and more. The Plea Rolls however disclose: De Banco, Trinity, 8 Hen. V. Staff. Joyce late wife of Adam Peshale, knight, sued John Sheltdon of Rowley armiger for a debt of 20 marks. John did not appear. Joice the widow of Adam de Peshale, died in the following year, namely, on the Monday next before the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aug. 12, 1420. [Staff. Hist. Col., Wm. Salt. Soc., vol. 1, page 356-359 and vol. 17, page 74.]

The Inquisition upon her estate was taken at Stafford of Sept. 6, 1420, and gives the same account of the manor of Bobyngton as that given in the former inquisition. She held no other lands or tenements in the county of Stafford on the day of her death. Her daughter Margaret Stafford and her husband Sir Richard Mutton had both predeceased her, leaving issue a son William, to whom the reversion belonged. The said William was eight years of age and more at the date of the inquisition. The heirs of Joyce were Elizabeth, wife of Thomas de Ferrers, Esq., Margaret, wife of Hugh Willoughby, and Robert, son of Joice, late wife of Sir Roger Aston, knight, the daughters and coheirs of her son Baldwin Frevill; of whom the said Elizabeth was 26 years of age and more, Margaret 20 years and Robert 6.

Joan, the elder daughter of Sir Adam de Peshale, had the manor of Thomenhorn with lands in Rugeley, Hondesacre, &c. Her husband, Sir William, died on 24 April 4 Henry VI. (1426), and in the following year we find her suing for dower out of the manor of Birmingham. It was their son and heir William, about 19 years of age at the time of his father's death, who by deed dated on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Thomas the Martyr, 36 Hen. VI. 1 Jan. 1458, as Sir William Birmingham, knight, son and heir of the Lady Joan de Birmingham, appointed his brother Thomas Birmingham his attorney to enter, retake, recover, and hold all those lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services, with the appurtenances, which were of the property and inheritance of the said Joan within the manors of Thomenhorn, Rugeley and Hondesacre in the county of Stafford, and which formerly belonged to Adam de Peshale. But the manor of Weston, with lands at Weston, Blymhill, etc., and the manors of Newton and Bobyngton, passed to William Mytton the other coheir; and the manor of Thomenhorn, with lands in Rugeley, etc., also shortly afterwards came to the Myttons, probably by purchase from the Birminghames.

The last direct representative in the male line of Joan was that Edward Birmingham who was born about 12 Henry VII. 1496-7, and whose inheritance was wrested from him by John Dudley, Earl of Warwick and Duke of North-

umberland, in the time of King Henry VIII. [Staff. Hist. Col. Vol. 2, n.s. page 105.]

In Dugdale's Visitation of Staffordshire, preserved in the College of Arms, are some notes upon the monuments in Weston Church, taken on September 22, 1633. Among these he mentions an alabaster gravestone in the chancel on which is the portraiture of a woman with this inscription, "His jacet jocosa . . . domina de Weston . . . cujus anime propitiatur Deus." Translation:—Here lies Jocosa . . . the Lady of Weston, may God be good to her soul. Also an alabaster tomb on the south side of the chancel, with the portraiture of a man in armor, on his surcoat the arms of Peshale, the crest upon his helme, lying under his head, being a Bull's head with roundles on it, and this epitaph.—"His jacet Adam Peshale miles dus de Weston." (Here lies Adam Pessale, soldier, Lord of Weston.)

The Plea Rolls give the following account of the final disposition of the suit against Joan Vernon, although Sir Adam de Peshale and Joan his wife were both of them dead and buried. Coram Rege Easter 9 Henry V. 1422 Salop. A writ of error was issued directing the record and process of a suit between Adam Peshall, knight, and Joan, late wife of Richard Vernon, knight, of Harlaston, co. Stafford, together with the records of a waiviaria promulgated against the said Joan on the same occasion, to be returned into the King's Court, dated 28th May, 9 Henry V.

The record states that at Hillary term, in Banco of 3 Henry V., Joan, late wife of Richard Vernon, of Harlaston, was sued by Adam Peshale, knight, for a debt of 50 marks, for which she had given her bond, dated from Shuffenhale, on the Sunday before the Feast of St. Gregory, 5 H. V., when a jury at Salop gave a verdict in favor of Adam, and assessed his damages at 100s.; and the Sheriff was ordered to arrest the said Joan. At the following term the Sheriff returned that Joan could not be found, and he was ordered to put her into exigend, and if she did not appear she was to be waiviata, and now, on the 5th June of this term, Joan appeared coram Rege by her attorney according to Statute, because she was languida, and pleaded that there was an error in the process by which she had been waived, and prayed that the said Adam might be summoned to show cause, etc., and the suit was adjourned to the Quindene of St. Michael. A postscript states that on that day Joan appeared by her attorney and the Sheriff returned that Adam Peshale was dead. He was therefore ordered to summon Thomas Walton, Humfrey Barnwyle, and Roger Weston, the executors of Adam, for the Octaves of St. Martin, on which day the executors did not appear, and the case was adjourned to the Octaves of St. Hillary.

A further postscript states that on that date the summons to the executors having been proved, the attorney of Joan pleaded that there was an error in the promulgation of the waivaria because in the process she had been described as Joan, late wife of Richard Vernon, knight, of Harlaston, in co. Stafford, and in the enrolment of the writs of exigend she had been described under the name of Joan, late wife of Richard Vernon, knight. And there was a further error, because in the record and process of waiviary there was no mention of the Judge or jury before whom Joan had been convicted, so that the enrolment was insufficient in law, and there was a further error, because there was no mention of the county in which she had been waiviarta. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 39.]

The Court admitted the errors, and ordered the waiviary to be annulled; and as regarded the debt, the attorney of Joan stated the executors could not maintain any action against her, because Adam Peshale, when he was alive, by a deed which he produced in Court, and which was dated from Westminster, 13th January, 6 Henry V., had acknowledged he had received on that date from the said Joan and from Richard Vernon, knight, the said sum of 50 marks under the name of £33 6s. 8d.; and he prayed for a writ to summon the executors of Adam to acknowledge or deny this deed, and a day was given to the parties at a month from Easter, the executors to be summoned in the interim. On that day the executors made no appearance, and the suit was dismissed. De Banco Easter 3 Henry VI. 1425 Salop. Richard Archer sued Humfrey Barnavyle, parson of the church of Euville in co. Stafford and Roger Aston, parson of the church of Weston and Lusyerd, executors of the will of Adam Persale, knight, for a debt of 40 pounds. The defendants did not appear. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, page 106.]

In detailing the events that are recorded in the Plea Rolls concerning Sir Adam de Peshall, 3rd., we have only briefly touched upon the feud between Sir Adam de Peshall, 3rd. and Sir Hugh Wrottesley deeming it more understandable should this interesting chapter of family history be made the subject of a separate statement. They had married sisters, the daughters of Philip ap Rees, and at first they were very good friends, only to become the most bitter of enemies. Having the means and the will to do ill deeds against each other they involved a section of Staffordshire in the most bitter partizan warfare. Sir Adam and his brothers, through their relationship with the Arundel family and their affiliation with the house of Lancaster, matched Sir Hugh in every particular. It was indeed a battle between giants, in which the Peshalls in every way outpointed their adversary except that he was the special favorite of the King.

The feud is among the most famous of the many Staffordshire inter-family quarrels, and Staffordshire is well known for the feuds that for several centuries kept the whole county in a state of civil warfare. A few facts relating to this quarrel may therefore prove of interest. The greatest difficulty to be guarded against in reading of these family quarrels is that the historians are bitter partizans. The longer the time that has elapsed the more prejudiced the writers become. It is a pity that these matters cannot be written about with the utmost candor and fairness. Both Sir Hugh and Sir Adam were big men in every sense of the term, fully representative of the best manhood of their time. It would seem therefore that nothing more would be required than a recital of the facts leaving the reader to form his own conclusion. The Wrottesleys had their history published many years ago, and the reader can readily get access thereto. We shall therefore content ourselves with a few extracts to which we shall add a few additional facts which may have been overlooked, and possibly we may restate other facts which seem important for one to have before them in forming a judgment as to the merits of the controversy between these great, big, strong men. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1911, page 455.]

We have pointed out that in the civil strife in Staffordshire the two great divisions were the ins and the outs. The ins controlled the courts and filled its records with every possible defamation of the character of their opponents,



thinking thereby no doubt to justify the use of the machinery provided as the means of keeping peace, to break the peace by proceeding in armed force against their enemies the outs. In the whole list of the leaders in Staffordshire on either side there was none more expert at the use of the law's machinery in this way than Sir Hugh Wrottesley and when even this failed he had the King's pardon ready to secure his dismissal from criminal liability. For example, in the Plea Rolls of Edward III. it appears that Sir Hugh de Wrottesley's pardon of February, 1355 is given, but an entry of 2nd May, 1354, shows us John de Sywnnerton of Hilton, the escheator, here described as King's yeoman, receiving a grant of the bailiwick of Teddesley Hay and Huntingdon, and the heritage of the nephews of Wm. de Pilatenhall which had all been in Wrottesley's custody till his disgrace. This, which is not mentioned in General Wrottesley's account of the family, would give some more ground for the subsequent feud between Sir Hugh and Sir John Swynnerton. Which also indicates what was well known at the time, that Sir Hugh Wrottesley used his political power to overcome his enemies. And it is a notorious fact that he had quite a few. His was the method of the assassin hired by the courtier of the period. The public records of Staffordshire disclose that in his private feuds he caused the death of four of his neighbors, and how many he injured will never be known. Always and under every circumstance he was able to produce the King's pardon which he frequently obtained in advance of the committing of the injury. That he did not kill Sir Adam de Peshall was not for want of desire to do so but because at last he had found an antagonist stronger physically and mentally than himself. Sir Hugh has nothing to brag about, he was not willing to meet his antagonist openly until after the death of King Edward III, when the accession of Richard II. had deprived him of all other means of ridding himself of his enemy except by force.

The question will naturally occur as to why these brothers-in-law should have been such deadly enemies. The cause of the hostility between Sir Hugh Wrottesley and Sir Adam de Peshall will be found in the heavy load of debt carried by the former. It must have been a great trial to Sir Adam's wife to have her sister's estate liable to be swept away to meet the demands of the money lenders. Sir Hugh was a spendthrift, a court favorite living far beyond his means, and spending his money on the fair ladies of the court and elsewhere; he was notoriously a gallant and a knight of the garter at a time when evil to him who evil thinks had a real meaning. He was nevertheless no mere lady's man; he was a good soldier whose sword was ever ready to be unsheathed for his Sovereign.

On Sir Hugh's departure to join the King in Flanders in 1338, he had borrowed a very large sum of money under a Statute Merchant at Shrewsbury, which was to be repaid at Michaelmas 1342, for at the Michaelmas sittings in Banco of that year, a writ of scire facias was issued to levy the debt on Sir Hugh's property. It will give the reader an idea of the heavy indebtedness of Sir Hugh at this date, when it is stated that this sum represented six times the annual value of Wrottesley, but notwithstanding this, we find the whole debt to have been liquidated very shortly after the return of Sir Hugh to England at the end of 1343. The deeds at Wrottesley show that on the 5th October 1342, John, the son of Walter Geoffrey, of Salop (a rich burgess of Salop, who had advanced the money), had

mortgaged all the lands and tenements in Boterdon, Grendon, and Waterfall, which he held by feoffment of Sir Hugh Wrottesley to Adam de Peshale, for a sum of eighty marks, and Adam, on the 12 January, 1344, conveyed to Sir Hugh all the lands and tenements in Boturdon, Grendon and Waterfall, which he held by feoffment of John, son of Walter Geffrey, of Salop, and on the same day Sir Hugh gave a power of attorney to Richard de Wollemere to take possession of them. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 6, part 2, page 104-105.]

The manor of Wrottesley at this date was in the hands of Sir John de Hampton, held as security for another advance of money, and other lands belonging to Sir Hugh were in the possession of John de Sutton, the Baron of Dudley; but in October, 1344, the latter released to Sir Hugh, by deed, all the lands and tenements which he held by grant of Sir Hugh in Tetenhale and Bysschebury (Bushbury), and as Hugh, about the same date, re-obtained possession of Wrottesley, all these debts had been repaid before the end of October 1344, and there seems no doubt that Sir Hugh had redeemed his bond and his lands by money which he obtained through the ransom of his French prisoners.

All of which shows quite clearly that at first Sir Adam helped Sir Hugh financially, even going so far as to become surety for him. Had it stopped here, they would probably have been lifelong friends.

At Easter Term of 1345, Sir Hugh appears as plaintiff in three suits in Banco, but the only one of any interest is a suit by which he attempted to recover possession of two of his female tenants, who had gone away in a secret manner and without Wrottesley's permission. These were Agnes, daughter of William in le Stones, and Joan, her sister. The defendants did not appear, and the sheriff was ordered to attach them for a day in Michaelmas term. This suit remains on the files of the Court for the following three years, the sheriff at every adjournment returning that the defendants could not be found and held no goods or chattels within his Bailiwick by which they could be attached; but testimony was at length given on behalf of Sir Hugh, at Michaelmas term 22 Edward III. that they held sufficient property for the purpose. The sheriff was therefore ordered again to distrain and produce them on the Quindene of St. Hilary. One of the sisters had married a freeman and had taken refuge within a chartered town, where Sir Hugh could not arrest them, except under process of law. Hence the real object of the suit would be to recover the fine due to the lord on the marriage of a female tenant. The suit does not occur again, and it was probably terminated by the outbreak of the Great Pestilence of 1349, which shows that Sir Hugh, although gallant and prodigal so far as concerned the ladies at the King's court, was exacting as to the small sums due from those who had to pay him a fine in order that they might marry.

On the Monday after the close of Easter, 40 Edward III., 1366, by an indented deed made between Sir Hugh and John de Tittley, chaplain, all the lands, tenements, rents, &c., which he held in Boturdon, Waterfall, and Grendon were settled on Sir Hugh for his life with remainder to John, son of Cecilia de Pynington, for his life, with remainder to the heirs male of the body of Sir Hugh, and failing such, to the heirs male of the body of John, son of Cecilia, and other remainders over. This deed for additional security was enrolled in Banco at Easter

term of this year. At the same sittings of the Court Sir Hugh levied a fine respecting the manor of Wrottesley and the Patshull Mill, by which they were settled on him, and his wife Mabel, and their male issue and failing such, on John, son of Cecily de Pynyngton, and his male issue, and with remainders over as in the last deed. There is no clue to the identity of John, son of Cecily de Pynyngton, but it is suspected that he was an illegitimate son of Sir Hugh, as stated by his historian, which gives an interesting glance at the responsibilities which consumed the wealth of the courtier of this period.

The English levies joined the Prince in Aquitaine during the autumn of 1366. The army crossed the Pyrenees in the middle of the winter, and on the 3 April, 1367, was fought the battle of Najara, which re-established Don Pedro on the throne. The English troops were detained in Spain for many months after this date, owing to the inability of Don Pedro to find the requisite money for their pay and dismissal, and there is no sign of the presence of Sir Hugh in England before the Friday in Easter week 1368, when he granted a lease of the Wightwick mill to John le Fleming, one of the principal tenants of the King's manor of Tettenhall. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 6, part 2, pages 141-142.]

Sir Philip ap Rees, the father-in-law of Sir Hugh, died in the following year (1369), and this event made a considerable addition to Sir Hugh's resources, for he obtained by it a third part of the valuable manor of Talgarth in Wales, and of any other possessions of Sir Philip which had not been settled on the wife of the latter for her life. The Inquisition on the death of Philip, which was taken at Hereford on the 9 Sept. 43 Edward III. (1369), states that he held at the date of his death the manor of Talgarth Engleys, of the King in capite, that he had died on the previous 4 August, and that his heirs were his daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Sir Henry de Mortimer, and Mabel, wife of Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, and that Hugh and Mabel had a son thirteen weeks old. Another Inquisition taken at Shifnal, co. Salop, stated that he held the manor at Ideshale jointly with Joan his wife, who survived him, and makes the same statement respecting his heirs, with the addition that Elizabeth was thirty years of age and Mabel twenty-four. The Wrottesley family historian says:

On the partition of the manor of Talgarth by the King's escheator between Sir Hugh and Sir Adam de Peshale, each of them had been compelled to pay or give security for half a knight's fee as the relief due to the Crown, and Sir Hugh may well have felt aggrieved that he should have been compelled to pay half the relief and yet should get only one-third of the manor for his life, but the relief had become due on the death of Sir Philip ap Rees, and though it was an apparent hardship, legally Sir Hugh had no cause of complaint. Within ten months of this date both Mabel and her child were dead, for on the 9 November the King issued the following writ to the Escheator, co. Hereford, Whereas Philip ap Rees deceased held the vill of Talgarth in capite by Knights service, and Elizabeth, wife of Adam Peshale, one of the daughters of Philip, is his sole heir, and is of full age, and Hugh de Wrottesley, knight, had married Mabel the other daughter of Philip, and Mabel was now deceased, but had survived her father, and Hugh had had a child by Mabel, who was now dead. We have accepted the homage and fealty of the said Hugh for his purparty of the vill and demesne, by reason of

the offspring procreated between him and the said Mabel, to be held by him according to the law of England, and also the fealty of the said Adam for the purparty of Elizabeth, his wife. The Escheator was therefore to make a partition of the vill and demesne of Talgarth Engles between the said Hugh de Wrottesleye, Kt., and the said Adam Peshale. Here was another cause of enmity between Sir Adam and Sir Hugh, as by the death of Mabel ap Rees the wife of the latter, and of his child, Sir Hugh's estate in his father-in-law's lands was curtailed to that of a life estate and the wife of Sir Adam became, as heir of her sister, entitled to the reversion. [Staff. Hist. Col., vol. 6, part 2, pages 141-142, and vol. 2, n.s., pages 83-84.]

Joan, the widow of Sir Philip ap Rees, died on the following 22 August 1370, and thus of the seven persons named in the above writs and Inquisitions, five had died between August 1369 and August 1370. The third great pestilence of this era broke out in July 1369, and lasted for several months. Both daughters having had issue by their husbands born alive, therefore, although in both cases the issue died young, Adam de Peshale and Sir Hugh de Wrottesley were each entitled to a life interest, by the courtesy of England, in his wife's estate. On the death of Joan ap Rees, Elizabeth succeeded to the manor of Ideshale and the lands at Talgarth settled upon Sir Philip and Joan jointly, as the sole then surviving heir of both father and mother, and she also became entitled to the one-third share of Talgarth which her mother had held in dower; for the right by courtesy never attached upon a remainder or reversion expectant on an estate of freehold: for this right to arise it was necessary that there should be an estate in possession, if not an actual entry by the husband, during his wife's life; and, as we find that dower was actually assigned to Joan ap Rees out of this manor, and that Mabel Wrottesley died before her mother, it was impossible for Sir Hugh to get seisin either in fact or in law during her life of any part of the share held in dower. However it would seem that he put in a claim to a part of this share of Talgarth as well as to the lands there which had been held by Sir Philip and Joan jointly, for he opposed the livery thereof to the Peshales out of the hands of the King, who had taken possession as chief Lord.

Shortly after the death of Mabel ap Rees, Sir Hugh had married for a third time. His choice on this occasion was Isabella, the daughter of Sir John Arderne of Aldford, co. Chester.

When Sir Hugh had no opportunity for fighting in the King's army he found a congenial field for his energies in contests with his neighbors and relations. He had already received pardons under the Great Seal for his complicity in the deaths of four of his neighbors, and at the present date he was engaged in the violent feud with his near neighbor and relative, Sir Adam de Peshall.

On the 18 October, 1370, by the interposition of friends of both parties, an accord was made by which Sir Hugh was to permit Sir Adam de Peshall and Elizabeth, his wife, to have livery from the King's hands of the third part of the demesne and manor of Talgarth Engleys which Joan, late wife of Sir Philip ap Rees, had held in dower, and which was of the inheritance of the said Elizabeth, together with some other lands and tenements specified, and when this had been effected, Sir Adam and Elizabeth were to levy a Fine by which Sir Hugh should

acquire, by license of the King, the said third part for his life, together with the other third part which Sir Adam and Elizabeth had held during the lifetime of Joan, to be held also for his life, and for which he was to pay Sir Adam and Elizabeth £40 annually. As Sir Hugh already held one third of the manor, the effect of this agreement would be to hand over to him the whole of Talgarth Engleys, subject to annual payment to Sir Adam and Elizabeth of £40. Both parties took a solemn oath before witnesses that they would faithfully carry out their pledges. The half of the Indenture formerly at Wrottesley, in place of bearing the seal of Sir Adam de Peshall according to the purport of the last clause of the deed, has the seal of Thomas Gech, the brother-in-law of Sir Adam, attached to it. It would not, therefore, in the absence of witnesses, say the Wrottesley historians, have bound Sir Adam at all, for the latter could have pleaded in a court of law that it was not his act and deed. But there were witnesses and therefore the objection is not only trifling, but intended to insinuate an intention to cheat, whereas the whole course of the controversy indicates an intention on the part of Sir Hugh to get what did not lawfully belong to him. Moreover there is not a word on the records to prove that Sir Hugh ever paid the annual rent of 40 £. The compromise was all to Sir Hugh's advantage. There can be no inference of personal gain to Sir Adam, as he could not possibly inherit any part of his sister-in-law's property, and he never recovered any rent for his own share of this property. He had a just cause against Sir Hugh which he would have much rather settled by force and arms. It was only Sir Hugh's position as a royal favorite that forced the compromise.

Sir Hugh, however, on the completion of this covenant, seems to have taken possession of the whole manor, for in a deed formerly at Wrottesley he styles himself dominus de Talgarth, and granted a lease of the manorial mill, and in the same high-handed manner he ignored the payment of the rent due to Sir Adam and his wife. So that as a fact and in law the agreement was carried into effect and the subsequent acts of Sir Hugh were only in the nature of getting even. The Welsh portion of Talgarth, including the towns of Langorse and Bronlys, formed a separate manor, which was held under the De Bohuns, Earls of Hereford. This had been settled on Philip ap Rees and Joan, his wife, and their issue, and having passed into the hands of Sir Adam and Elizabeth, formed a convenient base of operations for inroads upon the possessions of Sir Hugh at Talgarth Englys.

Accordingly at Easter term, 48 Edward III. 1374, we find the latter suing in Banco, Sir Adam de Peshall and six others, mostly Welshmen, for breaking vi et armis into his close at Talgarth Engleys, and taking his goods and chattels to the value of £10, which discloses the method to which Sir Adam had to resort to collect his rent. There must have been a fight upon every rent day. None of the defendants appeared and the sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce them at the following Trinity term. Sir Hugh must likewise have laid an information against the Peshalls in the Court of King's Bench, for an entry on the Coram Rege Roll of the same date, viz., Easter, 48 Edward III., states that the sheriff had been ordered to summon for that date Sir Adam de Peshale, John le Parker of Talgarth, Richard de Peshale, Kt., Richard Mutton, John Qualmpoole, and

fourteen others named, for divers trespasses, extortions, and oppressions for which they had been indicted. None of the defendants appeared, and the sheriff had made no return to the writ. He was therefore ordered to distrain and produce them on the following term. The process was continued up to Hillary term, 49 Edward III., when Adam was fined ten marks, Richard de Peshall, his brother and our ancestor, 40s., and the others smaller sums.

Apparently after this inroad upon him Sir Hugh considered it advisable to multiply law suits against Sir Adam de Peshall by asking him to carry out the agreement of 1370, which we have just seen that Sir Hugh considered as fully executed as he had all he could get and styled himself as lord of this manor. At the Easter sittings of the Court of Common Pleas, 48 Edward III. (1374), he sued Sir Adam de Peshall and Elizabeth his wife, to carry out the covenant made between them and himself respecting land in Talgarth Engleys, and two parts of the same manor, according to the form of certain Indentures made between them. The defendants did not appear, and the sheriff was ordered to summon them for the following term. The process was continued till Easter term, 49 Edward III., when the sheriff returned that the defendants had been distrained up to 40d. The defendants, however, made no appearance in Court, and he was ordered to distrain again and produce them at the following Michaelmas term. Before the last date the King had died, and as this event annulled all the writs, Sir Hugh was forced to begin his suit *de novo*. By the change in the kingly office Sir Hugh was no longer a court favorite who could employ the law courts to carry out his plans, lawful and unlawful.

It will be seen from the above narrative that seven years had elapsed since the agreement had been made, and it was not until four years had passed that Sir Hugh had commenced an action in Banco for specific performance of it, and that in fact it had long since been carried out to the satisfaction of Sir Hugh who was enjoying the property and the title. During the last three years Adam had successfully evaded service to the writ, and Sir Hugh after having been put to considerable expense in law costs had now to begin his suit again. It is not surprising therefore to find him taking the law into his own hands, for at last the man of many murders was without the support of the county courts or the protection of the king.

In the first year of Richard II. Sir Adam de Peshall petitioned the King and Council, that having been up in London for the Coronation of the King, on repairing home to his own country, Monsieur Hugh de Wrottesley, designing his death, had made various ambushes of men armed and harnessed on the high roads between London and the country, and he had himself laid in wait with many armed men at a place called Foxhunte Ledegate, in the county of Worcester, with a view of killing and murdering the said Adam and his people, as was well known throughout all the country, and he had afterwards so threatened him and his servants and tradespeople of the town of Shuffenhale (Shifnal), that his servants and tradespeople did not dare to attend the market or fair for the purpose of their business, and he had taken from one William Barker, one of his tenants, twenty-four oxen on the high road at Wrottesley, and kept them until he had made a fine of 24s. for their release, and the said Sir Hugh had formed a

retinue of outlaws and malefactors from the counties of Chester and Lancaster, in consequence of which things the said Adam prayed a remedy for himself and his tenants.

The petition is endorsed Let a writ be issued under the Great Seal commanding Monsieur Hugh de Wrotesley to appear before the Council on the morrow of St. Martin next ensuing under a penalty of £300, to answer to his bill. After which follows a copy of the writ to Sir Hugh in Latin, which is dated 30 Oct., 1 Ric. II.

The King, although only ten years of age, had been crowned at Westminster on the 16 July, and Parliament met on the following 13 October. All petitions addressed in this way to the King and Council were laid before Parliament, and the above writ of the 30 October is endorsed "*Istud breve retornatum fuit in Parliamentum die Jovis in Crastino Sancti Martini et idem Hugo ibidem compertus eodem die Jovis.*"

There are two answers of Sir Hugh to the complaint. In the first of them, which is addressed to the King of Castile and Leon, the Duke of Lancaster, and other lords of Parliament, he merely says that as Adam de Peshale had laid his petition before Parliament, he prayed that the said Adam might sustain his bill, or if he would not do so, that they would give judgement upon it as reason demands.

This was evidently no answer to Sir Adam's petition, and the tone of it justifies the suspicion that Sir Hugh trusted to the ascendancy of the old Court party in his favor. If this was the case he must soon have been disabused, for the new Parliament evinced an unaccustomed spirit of independence, impeached the late King's mistress, Alice Perers, and excluded all the King's uncles from the administration. It also presented a petition requesting the King to check the prevailing custom of the Barons, as well as men of inferior rank, of forming illegal confederacies and supporting one another in violations of the law.

Sir Hugh had therefore to frame another answer. His counter petition to the Council, like Sir Adam's, is in French, and is addressed, *A tres sage et noble conseil notre seigneur le Roi*. In this he falls back upon the old deed and consequently his answer states that an accord had formerly been made between Adam de Peshale and him respecting the manor of Talgarth, by which the said Adam and Elizabeth, his wife, ought long ago to have levied a Fine, and this the said Adam had sworn to perform in the presence of Sir Ralph Ferrers, Sir Peter de Caverswalle, Sir Nicholas de Stafford, Sir Thomas de Harcourt, and others, and this oath he had violated, as well as his deed under his seal, and by this violation the said Hugh had been put to great expense and loss, as the manor being held of the King in capite, he had been forced to obtain the King's license, for which he had paid a large sum; which answer discloses that there were many witnesses to the deed and that Sir Hugh had obtained a good and sufficient title to the property, which also accounts for the fact that both parties had treated the old deed as merely indicating the compromise of the parties, and that the title had been obtained from the King, who alone could confirm it; and, the answer continued, since that time, by reason of the enmity between them, the men of the said Adam had beaten his men and tenants at the Fair of Albrighton on the last

day of St. Thomas, 21 December. Notwithstanding which, they had sent to the said Adam at Ideshale complaining of the men of Sir Hugh, whom they had beaten, in consequence of which Hamenet, the brother of Adam, armed and arrayed as for war, with others of his household and tenants to the number of sixty, arrayed and armed, went to Albrighton and drove the men of Sir Hugh out of the county of Salop as far as Wrottesley, in the county of Stafford, and had beaten, maimed, and ill-treated them so badly that they were in fear of their lives, and they had plundered them, shouting out "*Tuez les larons de Wrottesleye,*" and calling out and praying to God, that the said Hugh had been with them, so that they might have killed him, to the dread of the whole county, and against the King's peace. And besides this, the said Adam, Hamenet, and Sir Richard, his brothers, had laid a slanderous complaint against him in the King's Court, and sued out writs to attach his person without any reason, since which time the said Sir Richard, Adam, and Hamenet, and others of his affinity, had assembled together 300 men arrayed in manner of war, so that he neither dared to remain at home or to go out of his house without a great company by reason of their malice; and Thomas Gech, the brother-in-law of Adam, had sent word to one William de Godyngton to go with him against the said Hugh, and because he had refused to do so, the sons of Sir Richard had gone to the house of William for the purpose of killing him, and out of spite had taken his daughter and "*la raviserent felonusement,*" against the King's peace and dignity, and in order to spite the said Hugh as before stated.

The ultimate result of these proceedings is not shown as both parties were good fighters who fought it out as in the manner of men of war, and for many years the Counties of Stafford and Salop were stirred up by this feud. For the details of this strife one must go to Stafford and listen to the folk stories told by the descendants of the men of old, who fought for their rights. Here many a good tale is still told of the fights between these old warriors and their companies of soldiers.

#### SECTION 4.

ROGER DE PESHALL, son of Adam de Peshall, 2nd., chapter 17, section 1, married Jane, heiress of Knightley. Children:—

1. Joan, lady of Knightley, only daughter and heir, who married William Lee.
2. Isabella, d.s.p.
3. Jocisa, d.s.p.

[Notes and Queries, of Shropshire, 3rd series, vol. 6, pages 204-205.]

Roger de Peshall member of Parliament from New Castle in 1348, together with Robert Ku. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 10, page 273.]

De Banco 15 Richard II. Staffordshire. Ralph de Knyghteleye sued Roger de Peshale, of Knyghteleye, for a debt of £40, and he stated that the said Roger at Gnousall, in 14 Richard II. had bound himself by a bond in writing to pay him £40 at the following Michaelmas, and he produced the bond in Court. Roger prayed that the endorsement on the bond should be read. This endorsement having been read Roger stated that he and the said Joan his wife had been always



prepared to levy the fine in question, at the cost of Ralph, and Ralph could not therefore maintain his action against them. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 47.]

And Ralph stated that on the Monday after the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord in 14 Richard II., he had come to Knyghteleye in co. Stafford, and had notified Roger that he wished to sue out a writ of covenant, returnable in Banco on the following Quindene of Easter, and that the said Roger and Joan should come to London in the suite of the said Ralph, and at the proper charges of the said Ralph, according to the status of the said Roger and Joan, and likewise for their stay in London and return for the purpose of levying the fine at the following Easter term, and that Roger had absolutely refused to do so. Roger replied that Ralph did not allege that there was any writ of covenant pending before the Justices in Banco.

Roger took an active part in the warfare in Shropshire and Staffordshire, specially in the feud between his brother Sir Adam and Sir Hugh Wrottesley, as is disclosed in the following entry on the Plea Rolls. De Banco 17 Richard II. Staffordshire. Roger de Peshale and Adam his brother, Thomas Bailliesson of Knyghteleye, Thomas Rydere, William Onne, taillour, Hugh Turnour of Knyghteleye, William Rydere, the brother of Thomas Rydere, John Shoughlache, taillour, John Tommesson, laborer, Adam Webbe of Gnoweshale, and John Shelle, were attached at the suit of Edward Botyler, chivaler, for taking his goods and chattels from Gnoweshale vi et armis in 15 Ric. II., viz., hay and grass to the value of £10, and for beating, wounding and ill-treating his servants, viz., Thomas Bragge, Stephen Sygamour, William Cartere, William Olton, John Freneshemon, John Stacy, Thomas Fleechere, Margaret Elot, and Alice Deykyn, so that he lost their services for a year, and for which he claimed £20 damages. The defendants appeared by attorney, and denied the injury and trespass, and appealed to a jury which was to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Michael. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, page 63.]

Roger de Peshall was killed in the warfare between Sir Adam de Peshall, 3rd., and Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, an account of which war will be found in this chapter under the heading Section 3, devoted to the story of Adam de Peshall 3rd. The death of their brother and the pardon of his murderer must have made the Peshalls very bitter. One can well understand that no amount of peace talk by mutual friends would ever make of them anything but bitter enemies. The Plea Rolls disclose that in 1354, John Bougy is pardoned by the king for helping Thos. de Crowebarwe to kill Roger de Peshale of Stafford; in 1356, Rob. le Roo of Fulford is pardoned for helping at the same killing; both pardons at the request of Ralph, Earl of Stafford, on account of their good service in the wars. [*Ibid.* vol. 1911, page 455.]

Roger de Peshall was lord of Patteshull. Rev. Stebbins Shaw in his History of Staffordshire, says: Patteshull a small village, is situate about two miles from the last parish, at the southwest extremity of the county, adjoining Shropshire, in the same hundred as Seifdon, and deanry of Lapley and Treyfull. This was one of those manors given by the Conqueror to Robert de Stafford. Roger Boyvill, parson of Luttedford, in the 19th of Ed. II. obtained the king's license to grant Patteshull to the prior of Kenelworth and the convent, which was accord-

ingly done, who, being so possessed of it, in the 6 Ed. III. granted it to Sir William Shareshull and Dionisia his wife, and to the heirs of the body of the said Sir William, reserving £40 per annum rent, which rent, in the 4th of Edward III. was reduced to 10 marks, and after, in the 12th Edward III. to 1d. rent, the said Sir William having given them lands in Whitmarsh, in the county of Warwick, instead thereof. [History of Staffordshire, by Rev. Stebbins Shaw, vol. 2, London 1798.]

Sir William de Shareshull was at age the 43d of Edw. III. as appears by his confirmation of the grant and settlement which his grandfather made to Dionisia, who had been the wife of Sir Hugh de Cokesey, and to him the said William Shareshull and Catharine his wife, of this manor, and he was a knight in the 11th Ric. II. and in the 13th Ric. II. he made a feofment of his manors of Patteshull, Shareshull, Sardon, Roulesham, and Derneford, and of all other his lands, &c. in the counties of Stafford, Salop, and Oxford, or elsewhere in England, to the use and behoofe of Ric. de Fauley and Thomas Bromshulses, chaplain, on condition that they should levy a fine of the said manors on this side of the feast of St. Michael next, to the use of the said Sir William Shareshull and Margaret his wife, and to the heirs of his body; and, for want of such issue, after the decease of the said William and Margaret, to Richard, the son of Thomas de Harecourt, and Margaret, the daughter of John de Lutteley, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten; and, for want of such issue, to the right heirs of William Shareshull for ever; according to which there was a fine passed betwixt the said William and Margaret, querent', and Richard Fauley, deforciant, of the manors of Patteshull, Shareshull, Magna Sardon, Parva Sardon, and two parts of the manors of Coven and Brinsford, in co. Stafford, Roulesham, and Derneford, in co. Oxon, and Bolinghale, in co. Salop, to the said William and Margaret, and to the heirs of the body of William; and, for want of such issue, to Richard de Harecourt, and Margaret his wife, and the heirs of their bodies; and for want of such issue, to the right heirs of the said William de Shareshull for ever. This Sir William Shareshull was high-sheriff for this county 1 Hen. IV. and died either that or the next year, without any issue; whereupon his lands descended to the issue of his sister, whose name was Elizabeth, as appears by the copy of a record taken out of the Exchequer, where the descent is thus shortly set forth. [Hist. of Staff. by Stebbins Shaw, vol. 2, London 1798.]

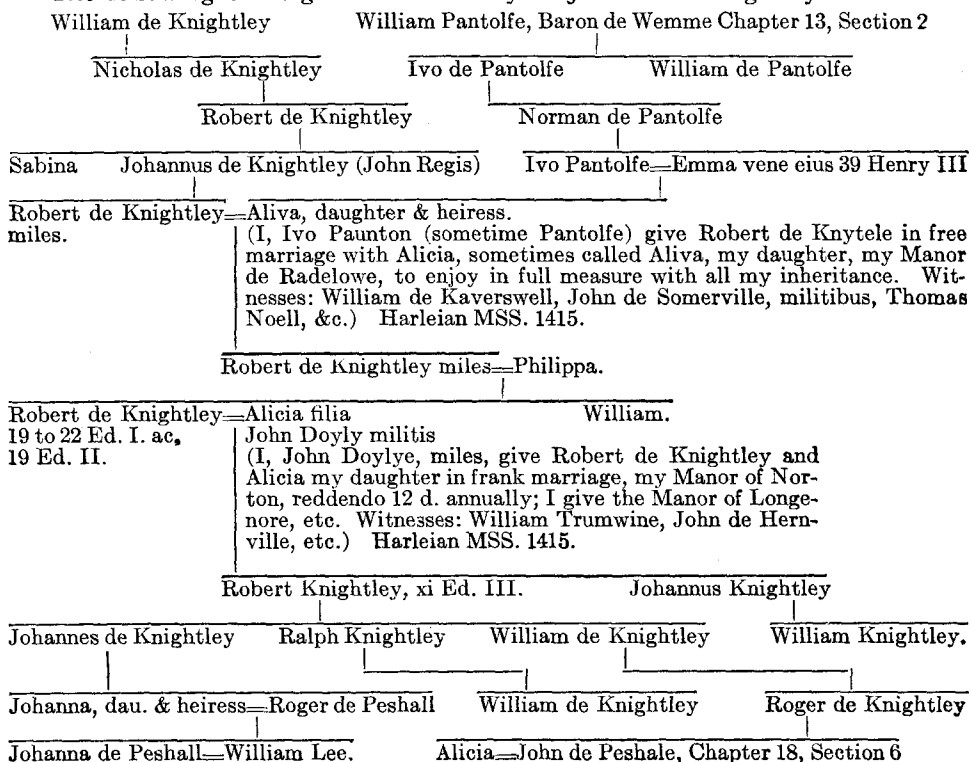
Will. Shareshull		
Will. Shareshull		
Will. Shareshull, ob. s.p.	Elizabeth, for. et haer.	John de Knightley.
Roger Peshall, d'nus de Knightley, 12 Ric. II.	Johanna, Margaretta	Cath. ux. Rog. Willely, 2 Hen. IV. 7 Hen. IV.
Joan ux. Will. Lee 2 H. IV. rel. 9 H. VI	Isab, infra aetat 2 Hen. IV	Jocisa infra aetat 2 Hen. IV

(See also chapter 13, section 5.)

This estate thus coming to the heirs of Elizabeth, this manor of Pattleshull fell to the share of Joan, the wife of William Lee, who was the daughter and heir of Joan her mother, the wife of Roger Peshall, and she the daughter and heir of

John de Knightley, as the descent will show; which Joan surviving her said husband William Lee, and having no issue of her body, this manor, together with Bolinghale, with all lands to them belonging, were granted by certain feoffees to Joan, late wife of William Lee, of Knightley, and to Richard Webb, vicar of Albrighton, and their heirs; upon which, the said Richard Webb, the same year, settled reversion of the site of the manor of Pattleshull, which Richard Peshall held for life, and all his lands in Pattshull, Burnhull, Snoddon, Oldington, Nore, Medoley, Mulehouse, in com. Stafford, and the manor of Bolinghale, in com. Salop, upon the said Joan Lee for life, and after her decease to Thomas Astley, esq. and the heirs of his body. This Joan or Johanna Lee demised her lands at Knightley to Richard de Peshall son of Humphrey, and also her coat of arms, as we shall presently see. The Knyghtleys of Knyghtley became extinct in this male line in 1393. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1910, page 312.]

The following chart gives the ancestry of Joanne de Knightley:



It will be noticed that in the time of Edward I. a male line of Pantolf became extinct and that the descent was continued by the marriage of Robert de Knightley with Aliva or Alice, the daughter and heiress of this Pantolf. The reader will recall that the first Pantolf was brother of Ligulph the grandfather of Ormunda, the wife of Robert de Peshale, the first of the name; and that Pantulf and Ligulf were descendants of the kings of Bernicia and Northumberland. This marriage therefore marks another link in the chain of relationship which bound the people of Stone Priory to the old English ancestry that began with Kings of Bernicia.

## SECTION 5.

Sir Hamo or Hammond or HAMINET DE PESHALL, son of Adam 2nd., Chapter 17, Section 1, married 1st Alice daughter and heir of Sir Robert de Harley, Kt., of Harley and Willey and his wife Johanna Corbet. Child:—

## 1. Elizabeth de Peshall.

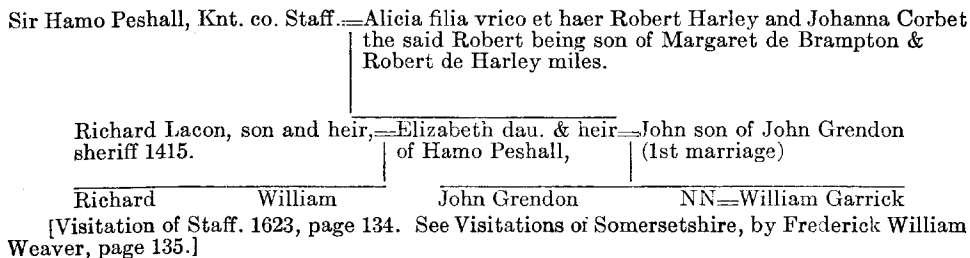
Sir Hamo de Peshall was brother to Sir Adam de Peshall and took an active part in the warfare between Sir Hugh Wrottesley and Sir Adam [see the answer of Sir Hugh to Sir Adam's petition to Parliament cited in this chapter in section 3, which tells the story of Sir Adam de Peshall].

De Banco Hilary 11 Richard II. 1388 Salop. Hamo de Peshall chivaler in his own person sued Richard Rugge of Great Wenlock for waste and destruction in the lands, woods and gardens in Great Wenlock which Hamon had demised to him for a term of years which were of the inheritance of the said Hamon. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 5, page 5.]

De Banco Easter 19 Richard II. 1397 Staff. Hamo de Peshall, chivaler, sued William Gryffyn and Richard Gryffyn for cutting down trees and underwood in Colton to the value of 10 pounds. The defendants did not appear and the sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce them for Quindene of Holy Trinity. [*Ibid.*]

De Banco Michaelmas 17 Richard II. 1394 London. John Cary of Co. Dorset, chivaler, Hamolin Peshale of —, chivaler, Elizabeth formerly wife of Fulke Corbet, ex. of the will of Fulk Corbet, chivaler, were outlawed in the city of London, not having appeared when exacted at 5 courts of Hastings for debts owing to Richard Northbury. [*Ibid.* vol. 15, page 58.]

The following pedigree shows the descent from Sir Hamo Peshall:



Hence the family of Lacon of Willey have the Peshall arms in their Escutcheon [Harl. Mss., page 302]. Likewise the three coats of arms under and to the left of the circular compartment in Kinlet Church are those of Pershal, Harley and Corbet to denote the manner in which the quarterings of Brampton came through the successive marriages of Margaret de Brampton and Joanna de Corbet to the Harleys and the marriage of their daughter and granddaughter, respectively; Alisia De Harley to Sir Hamo de Peshale, and the marriage of the daughter of Alicia and Hamo de Peshale to Sir Richard Lacon, Knt. [Shropshire Parish Records, Kinlet, page 176.]

Willey is a delightfully situated parish, four miles east from Much Wenlock and six miles northwest from Bridgenorth. It is in the franchise and rural-deanery of Wenlock, archdeaconry of Ludlow, and diocese of Hereford. Its

area is 1,397 acres. The population in 1810 was 163; in 1831, 159; in 1851, 144; and in 1911, 154. [Shropshire Parish Register Society, vol. 16, part 4, 1914.]

The Saxon name was Willey or Willeg, the meaning being "the willow lea," from the Anglo-Saxon welig or Wilig, a willow, and leah, ley, a pasture. In Domesday Book it is termed Wilit, which Mr. Eyton thinks was probably some scribe's inaccuracy. At the Domesday Survey it was held of Earl Roger de Montgomery by Turold de Verley, a Norman or an Angevin, who held thirteen manors in Shropshire under the Norman Earl. These were Longford, Chetwynd, Pilsen, Sambrook, Howle, Lawley, Bearstone, Little Drayton, Moreton Corbet, Preston Brockhurst, Willey, Pitchford, and Wigwig.

The following is the Domesday account of Willey:—In Elnoelstrui Hundred. The same Turold holds Wilit, and Hunnit (holds) of him. He himself held it (in Saxon times) and was free. There  $\frac{1}{2}$  hide pays geld. There is land (enough) for 2 ploughs. They are there, with 2 vileins and 2 bordars. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Hunnit, the Saxon undertenant under Turold, was the owner before the Conquest, and was permitted to retain Willey under a Norman lord. He was brother of Uluiet; and these brothers jointly held Moreton Corbet, Preston Brockhurst, and Lawley, as undertenants to the same Turold de Verley. Turold had a son Robert, who succeeded him. In the reign of Richard I. Willey had become absorbed into the Liberty of Wenlock. In the 13th century it was held of the fee of Chetwynd,—a term which included ten out of the thirteen Domesday manors of Turold,—and by the family of Chetwynd under Fitz Alan, to whom the seignury had passed.

In the twelfth century a family, who took their name from the place, held Willey by favor of the chief lord of the fee. About 1120 Hugo de Welileid and one Turold occur as witnesses to a Wenlock Charter. In 1180 Warner de Williley was lord of Willey; he was deputy-sheriff of Shropshire in 1199, but was dead in 1231; his wife Petronilla, daughter and heiress of Robert Fitz-Odo of Kenley, was living in 1240. Nicholas, son and heir of Warner, was a knight in 1231, but was deceased in 1255; he married Burga, daughter of Ralph de Pitchford, who survived him. They had a son Andrew de Williley, a knight, who was slain at the battle of Evesham in 1265. Sir Andrew had an only daughter and heiress, Burga de Williley. Burga was twice married, first to Philip de Stapleton, who died without issue in 1283, and secondly to Sir Richard de Harley of Harley, knight. By this marriage the manors of Willey and Kenley came to the Harleys. Burga de Harley was living in 1331. [Shropshire Register Society, vol. 16, part 4, page iii-iv, 1914.]

Sir Richard de Harley was sheriff of Shropshire in 1300, M.P. for the county in 1305-6, had a grant of free warren in 1301, and died in 1320. His eldest son Sir Robert Harley, knight, married in 1296 Margaret, daughter and coheir of Sir Brian de Brampton, lord of Brampton. Kinlet, &c. They had two sons. The elder son, Sir Robert de Harley, became lord of Harley and Willey; in 1364, he levied a fine of these manors in order to entail them; he died in 1375, having married Joan, daughter of Sir Robert Corbet of Moreton, knight, by whom he had an only daughter and heiress, Alice de Harley, who succeeded to Willey, and

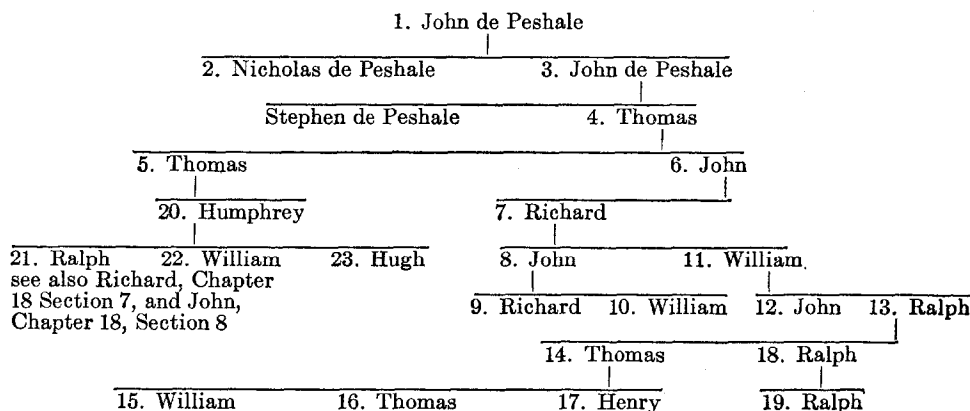
married Sir Hammond de Peshall, knt. The younger son, Sir Bryan de Harley, succeeded to the Brampton Bryan estate, and was ancestor of the Earls of Oxford.

Sir Hammond Peshall and Alice had issue an only daughter and heiress Elizabeth, who was married first to Sir Richard Laken, knight (living tempt. Henry V. & VI.) and secondly to Henry Grendon (who died in 1445-6). By her first marriage Willey passed into the Laken (or Lacon) family. The Lakens were seated at Lacon near Wem from a very early period. The senior branch ended with Ellen, the only child of John Laken; she married Robert Hussey, and had an only daughter Margaret, who married Ralph Banaster, and carried the Lacon estate into the Banaster family. Sir Richard Lacon of Willey jure uxoris was grandson of Alan Laken, younger brother of the aforesaid John, and he served the office of Sheriff in 1415. The Willey estate continued in his descendants for six generations, and each successive owner served the office of sheriff of Shropshire,—William in 1452; Sir Richard in 1477, 1487, and 1498; Sir Thomas in 1510, 1515, and 1533; Richard in 1540; Rowland in 1571, and Sir Francis in 1612. This shows the high position the Lakens (or Lacons) held in the county. At the Inquisition taken after the death of Rowland Lacon, esqr. in 1610, it was found that he died seised of the manor of Willey, the advowson of Willey, ten messuages, four cottages, 200 acres of land, 200 acres of wood, &c. in Willey. His son Sir Francis Lacon married Jane, daughter of Anthony Browne, Viscount Montacute; and his granddaughter Anne Lacon married 18 Feb. 1540, Sir William Childe, knt. whose descendants now represent the Lacons; and she carried the Lacon estates (except Willey, which had long before been sold) to the Childe family. [Shropshire Register Society, vol. 16, part 4, page iii-iv, 1914.]

#### SECTION 6.

JOHN DE PESHALE, son of Adam de Peshale, Chapter 17, Section 1.

The following chart gives the pedigree of the descendants of:



The numbers refer to the divisions of the text which follows:

1. JOHN DE PESHALE married Anne daughter of Roger de Wooten. Children:—

1. Nicholas de Peshale. See Division 2.
2. John de Peshale. See Division 3.
3. Anne de Peshale married John Griffin. An interesting item of family history is found in the ancestry of Shakespeare in the Griffin family.

Royal Commission addressed to Roger Hillary, Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Stafford, and John de Okore, reciting that whereas John son of Adam de Peshale has shown to the King that the Abbot and Convent of Cumbermere, lately granted and sold to the same Adam and John all the fruits and profits belonging to the Church of Sondon, which they possess for their own use (the tithes of sheaves and hay belonging to the Vicar of the church aforesaid always excepted); to have and receive to the said Adam and John and their assigns, from the year of Our Lord 1342, until the end of thirty years then next following fully to be completed, which said fruits and profits, among other lands and tenements that belonged to the same Adam, were for certain causes seized into the King's hands, and reserved for the King's Chamber; whereupon the said John has petitioned the King that he would be pleased to order the said fruits and profits to be delivered to him, as would be consonant with right, to be had and received, until the full completion of the aforesaid term, in the form aforesaid. The King desiring that justice should be done to the said John, wishes to be fully certified whether or not the Abbot and Convent did so grant the fruits and profits to the same Adam and John, and whether or not Adam and John did afterwards release or quitclaim the said fruits and profits to the same Abbot and Convent, or did make thereof any other estate to them, or to any other person, and whether or not the same fruits and profits had been taken into the King's hands. The King has thereupon assigned the aforesaid Roger, Simon, and John to inquire by a Staffordshire jury, etc.—Westminster, 6 July, 22 Edward III. 1348. Thomas Nowel (sworn) mainperned by Richard Snel and Thomas Togod. Thomas de Dotton (sworn) mainperned by Adam de Bigge and William de Bigge. John de Houton (sworn) mainperned by John de Heth and Richard Brom. Thomas le Venables (sworn) mainperned by Robert Aleyn and Roger de Wotton. Richard de Smalrys (sworn) mainperned by William Agney and Ralph Ody. Thomas de Greneweeye (sworn) mainperned by Richard le Brown and William Corbet. William Sterre (sworn) mainperned by William de Mornay and Steynal Ridel. William Jurdan (sworn) mainperned by Peter de Shene and William Gilbert. Robert Wolrych (sworn) mainperned by William le Baxter and John atte Gappe. John de Styvynton (sworn) mainperned by Roger Morel and John Judrel. Roger le Bret (sworn) mainperned by John, William, and Hugh atte Wode. Richard de Lee (sworn) mainperned by William Cade and Richard Spade. John Unet (sworn) mainperned by Richard Papejay and William Dun. Adam Wolrych (sworn) mainperned by John Mille and Richard Gille. Richard Grom (sworn) mainperned by Robert Bate and Richard Druet. John Molet (sworn) mainperned by William Banaster and Adam le Hyne. Henry atte Mulne (sworn) mainperned by William Lovot and Richard Lone. John Wyt (sworn) mainperned by Richard Scot and John Scot. John de Aston of Sondon (sworn) mainperned by Ralph Michel and John Michel. Robert Luttemay (sworn) mainperned by John Hemery and Richard Druet.

An Inquisition taken at Pencrych, before Roger Hillary and Simon de Ruggel-eye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, Justices assigned to take an Inquisition in the aforesaid county, by virtue of the King's commission to this Inquisition annexed, and directed to the same Roger and Simon, on Saturday the Eve of St. Laurence (9 Aug. 1348); by the oath of Thomas Nowel, Thomas de Dotton, John de Houton, Thomas de Venables, Richard de Smalrys, Thomas de Greneweys, William Sterre, William Jurdan, Robert Wolrych, John de Styvynton, Roger le Bret, and Adam Wolrych, who say upon their oath that the Abbot and Convent of Combermere lately granted and sold to Adam de Peshale, and John son of said Adam, etc., from the year 1342, unto the end of thirty years then next following fully to be completed, as in divers letters of the same Abbot and Convent appears. And Adam and John did not afterwards release and quitclaim the said fruits and profits to the same Abbot and Convent, and the fruits and profits were seized into the King's hands on account of the forfeitures of the aforesaid Adam and not for any other cause, and so they have remained in the King's hands until now. In witness, etc. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1913, page 123-125.]

The above record is of itself quite an accurate chart to the history of the Ranton branch of the Peshall family. It will be noticed that practically every one named in the panel of jurors is a resident of the locality of Ranton Church which was founded by the ancestor of the first named juror, Thomas Nowel. The marriage of John Peshale with the daughter of Roger Wooten and his own holdings at Onne, together with his son's marriage with the heiress of Knightley, made the son have a variety of appellations which on the face of things would seem to be incapable of reconciliation, but which become very plain when one has the above record as a guide in translating facts into the genealogical history of this branch of the family of Peshall. It will be helpful to the reader, in distinguishing them, if one will bear in mind that they are the Ranton branch as distinguished from the branch known as the Kinlet family of Peshall and the elder line which at this time came to be known as the Horsley family of Peshall.

\*2. NICHOLAS DE PESHALL, Clerk, son of John de Peshale, see Division No. 1. The fighting priest of Staffordshire. Armed only with the garb of his calling he was nevertheless the most valiant warrior and the sturdiest fighter in a county that was famous in all England for its fighting men of rank.

1384. Exchange between Master Nicholas de Peshale, rector of Keyngescleyre, Lincoln dic and dis. Richard Thornton rector of Egmundon. Letters of commission to the Bishop of London dated Heywood, February 5, 1383. John Bishop of Lincoln reports the institution of Nicholas to Egemundon at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Peter of Salop, dated nux sarin May 23, 1384. 11 day. June at Haywood John Cherin, proxy of Master Nicholas swore obedience. Mandate to the official of the archdeacon to induct. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 10, part 2, n.s. page 215.]

Nicholas de Peshale, late rector of Kings Lynn 1384. Rector at Edgmund—his successor was instituted 1425. The tombstone of Nicholas de Peshale, Rector from 1384 to 1425, serves as the sill of the west window. It reads:—Hic Jac Nic. Passale utriusq. Fur. Mag. Rector istius Eccil cuj die. [Shropshire Parish Records & Nev. Tien. Mon. No. 2129, in Harl. Mss. fol. 133, page 145.]



Edgmond Church is inseparably connected with the early history of the Peshall family and their relatives of every degree of relationship. In 1216 Henry III. assigned Edgmond to Henry de Audley wherewith to support him in the royal service. But before this there had gathered around this church a colony of Bernician-Normans who either were then cousins and brothers-in-law, or whose descendants intermarried so that this church became in time a veritable mother to our family. Hence the desire of Nicholas Peshall to be rector of this living. It was only a few generations before this time that the Pantulfs, the Audleys, the Gamels, the Griffins, the Siwards and the Peshales, all of them cousins to each other through a common ancestry in the Northumbrian kings and Earls, were located in the vicinity of this church. The Pantulfs, Audleys and Peshales having a common ancestor in Ligulph. At this time Stephen de Peshale was also associated with Edgmond and hence he was in Shropshire near to his brother Walter de Peshale (Eytons Shropshire London 1859) at the time when his son Robert conveyed part of the Manor of Peshale to John de Swinnerton, as we have already related.

De Banco Easter 17 Richard II. 1394. Nicholas Peshale, clerk, sued in person Hugh Turner of Knyghtley for cutting down his trees at Knyghtley to the value of 40s. Hugh did not appear. The sheriff returned he could not be found. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 61.]

Gaol Delivery made at the Castle of Shrewsbury before Robert de Charlton and John Hulle, Justices assigned, etc., on the Wednesday after the Feast of St. James. 19 Richard II. 1396. Salop. Nicholas de Peshale, the Rector of Eggemondon, and Robert de Peshale of Knyghton, who had been indicted before Thomas Neuport, and his Fellow Justices of the Peace, for aiding and abetting the escape from the King's Prison in the Castle of Shrewsbury of Thomas Peshale, knight, Adam Peshall, the son of Richard Peshale, chivaler, Nicholas, son of the same Richard Peshale, and Richard the servant of Thomas Peshale, chivaler, on the Sunday after the Feast of Corpus Christi, 17 Richard II., and which indictment had been returned before the Justices, together with the outlawry promulgated against the said Thomas Peshale, Adam, Nicholas, and Richard the servant of Thomas, surrendered and stated they were not guilty and appealed to a jury which acquitted them. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 30.]



Letters of attorney of Master Nicholas de Peshale, Rector of Egemondon Church, John le Bret, Rector of Aderley Church and Richard de Adelyne, Chaplain appointing Hugh Knottesford, Ralph Stoke and John Stoke, their attorneys, to deliver to Sir John Gryffyn, Knt., and Anne his wife, seisin of the Manors of Bertherton and Greysty in Shanyngton, Saltheryssethe in Wylaston and in Wyterston and one "wychehous" in Marlbury Street beyond the bridge with all appurtenances, to the said John and Anne and their lawful issue. Given at Bertherton, Thurs-

day next after Pentecost, 1 Henry IV. 1399. [Ref. Campbell Charters at British Museum, XXVIII. 10.]

The deed made in pursuance of this Letter of Attorney reads as follows:— Know all men by these presents that we, the Reverend Doctors, Nicholas de Peshale, Rector of the Church of Egmondon, John Le Bret, Rector of the Church of Adderley, and Richard de Adkyns, the hooded monk, the representatives of the Bishop and the actual administrators of the estate, being in actual possession of the dyke or pond, being severally free (to do this); and Hugh Knottesford, Radulphus Stoke and John Stoke, to whom we have turned it over, and, according to law, having transferred our fealty, to diminish the debt owing unto the said John Griffin, knight, and Anne his wife, we release him from his vassalage to that place excepting that which we cannot release, and we also give him complete any increase wherever it may be found in the manors of Rertherton and Greysty in Shanynton, Saltherysseche, in Wylaston and in Wyterston and one Wychehoms in Wicumalbo and every part thereof found within these boundaries. They to have and to hold all this as before stated unto the said John Griffin and Anne his wife without vassalage, excepting that which we cannot release, and we further extend our covenant to them to Batow and we each of us, as aforesaid, attorned this which either of us have been accustomed to hold for a long time in our own right. The increase we restore separately with its augmentations which we formerly held under certain charters, which we still hold. Given at Rertherton, the last day of June after the feast of Pentecost, the first year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth. (1399.)

A photo of this deed appears on the opposite plate. The reader will kindly notice that there were originally six seals affixed to this charter. Three of them have become detached. Of the three that remain, the one to the left is that of Nicholas de Peshale. The seal of Nicholas de Peshale affixed to this instrument is much older than those of Swinnerton to which Erdeswicke had access, and shows that the Peshales used the Wolf's head of Lupus long before this time.

Nicholas de Peshale, parson of the Church of Eggmondon, co-executor of Sir Richard de Peshale together with Joan relict of said Richard and William Fitz John, Chaplain. 13 Richard II. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 21.]

De Banco Easter 8 Henry IV. 1407 Staffordshire. Nicholas de Pesale, clerk, sued Richard Onne for breaking into his close at Little Onne and taking 200 rabbits worth 5 marks and taking fish from his several fisheries worth 40s. Richard did not appear. The sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce him for the octaves of St. Michael. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 16, page 64.]

De Banco. 9 Henry V. 1410 Staffordshire. Nicholas Prersall, clerk, sued John Hampton, of Storeton, armiger, and Margaret his wife for a debt of 100s. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to attach them for the above date. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, page 78.]

For some reason or other Nicholas Peshall, the rector of Edgmond, had incurred the enmity of Roger Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, and so Roger in March 1411-12, brought an armed force of forty men to Edgmond Rectory, and drove away all his sheep and oxen, and stripped his house of all his goods and chattels and silver cups and ornaments, and carried them off. [Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, vol. 7, Third series, page 390-392.]





The disturbances in Staffordshire at this time were bordering upon civil warfare between the armed forces of the leading families. So the King appointed a commission to go down into this county and if possible restore order, but even their efforts failed as is shown by the following petition made by Nicholas de Peshale to the Court of Chancery asking its interference for his protection particularly against one Roger Corbet and also John Well Esquires.

A tres reverent pier en dieu Levesque de Wyncestre Chauncellor Dengleterre: Supplie humblement . . . de Peshale votre dignite que come ia tarde vous gracios Seigneur de votre grace especiale graintastes votre Commission direct as certains personnes en la dite Commission nomez (names indecipherable) de Salop Esquier a respondre devant vous en la chancellerie si bien a votre Seigneur le Roi pour lez grandes contempt violence et disobeissance faitz al brief votre Seigneur le Roi quele fuist (words indecipherable) pour lez certains trespases et extorcons faitz a mesme le . . . Ayant consideracion tres gracios Seigneur que lez commissioners ne vaillant laborer salonc le temps de dite commission (words indecipherable) et il est sans pooire quil navait biens pour luy mesmes susteigner per la cause suisdite et nyent countrestant le dit Roger voet remuer en lez parties de Gale puis (words indecipherable) votre dit suppliant est sanz (word omitted) recouvrere sil ne avait votre tres gracios aide et socour en ceste partie. Supplie vous please de considerer comment le dit Roger est (word indecipherable) susteigner (words indecipherable) faitz pour lez continuer per vous John Web squier et mesme

le John Web avait manassez diverses fortz de veigner ovesque force et armes al meson de votre dit suppliant pour luy tuer et sur ceo torcousement de luy prest et amesna sez berbitz et autres de sez biens as damages de (indcipherable) et luy manasse de iour enautre de vie et de membre issuit que le dit suppliant ne oyse approcher sez propres mesons pour doubie de sa vie et issuit il est tout surement destruyt pour toutz iours sil neyt votre tres gracios aide et socour come definiz est duvant Que please a votre tres gracios Seigneur de graunter brief direct al vycont de Salop pour faire proclamacion en diverses lieuz en le countee suisdit que lez ditz Roger et John compareront en leur propres personnes devant vous en la chancellerie suisdite a certain iour sur peyne de rent gils payeront forfaire (indcipherable) votre Seigneur le Roi pour respondre a mesme votre Seigneur le Roi de lez causes suisdite et de trover suffisant seurtee de la peas a dit suppliant et adonques de ordeigner due remede a mesme votre dit suppliant de lez horribles extorcons et trespases suisdite salonc votre tres sage et souveraigne discrecion par dieu et en oeuve de charitee.

#### Translation

To the very reverend father in God, the bishop of Winchester, Chancellor of England: Nicholas de Peshale humbly petitions your worship that as but lately you, gracious lord, of your particular grace granted your commission directed to those certain persons in the said Commission named Roger Corbet Esq. and John Welle of Salop Esquier to report before you in the chancery, as if to your lord the King, on account of the great contempt, violence, and disobedience done the writ of your lord, the King, which was (issued) because of those certain trespases and extorcons done against the said Nicholas, that you have in consideration, most gracious lord, that the commissioners were not able to work after the time of said commission (words indecipherable) and he is without power so that he has not goods to sustain himself for the reason aforesaid and notwithstanding the said Roger desires to remove into the districts of Wales whereupon (words indecipherable) your said petitioner is without (hope) to recover if he have not your most gracious aide and succour in this case. He petitions that it may please you to consider how the said Roger is (bound) to sustain (words indecipherable) done by them to continue through you John Welle Esquire. And the same

John Welle had menaced on diverse occasions to come with force and armes to the house of your said petitioner in order to kill him and thereupon extortionately took from him and led away (carried off) his sheep and other of his goods to the damage of (indcipherable) and menaced him from day to day of his life and body in such manner that the said suppliant dared not approach his own home for doubt and fear of his life and consequently he is all certainly ruined for ever if he have not your very gracious aide and succour as is stated above. May it be pleasing to your most gracious lordship to grant a writ direct to the sheriff of Salop to make proclamation in various places in the county aforesaid that the said Roger and John shall appear in their own persons before you in the chancery aforesaid on a certain day, upon penalty of fine that they shall pay forfeit to your lord the King, to report to your said lord the King concerning the suits aforesaid and to find sufficient surety of the peace toward said petitioner and thereupon set aside due remedy to your said petitioner himself for the horrible extorcons and trespases abovesaid, according to your most wise and sovereign discretion, through God and as a work of charity.

The king, the celebrated and lovable Prince Hal of Shakespeare, was desirous of placating the belligerent followers of York and above all he was anxious to bring abiding peace to all parts of England, particularly to the fighting county of Staffordshire. After the other means had failed he determined to go in person to the Counties bordering on Wales. Hence we find that King Henry V. was at Shrewsbury in person in the summer of 1414, with his new Chief Justice, Sir W. Haukeford. In the month of April he was at Leicester, and from there he proceeded to Lichfield, where he remained for over two months, during which time he was initiated into the judicial system of the country, and heard every kind of plaint brought into his Court. For example, 1 Henry V. Second inquisition—by William Poyner and his fellows, jurors of the Hundred of Bradford, present that Roger Corbet, of Moreton, co. Salop, yeoman, together with other evildoers unknown and disturbers of the Lord the King's peace armed and arrayed in warlike manner to the number of forty men, on Thursday next before the feast of St. Gregory the pope in the 13th year of the reign of King Henry IV., with force.

and arms, viz., swords, staves &c. entered the house of Master Nicholas Peeshale, parson of the church of Eggesmondon, at Eggesmondon, and took and carried away the goods and chattels of the said Master, viz., linnen and woollen clothes, brass, wooden and lead vessels, cups "de mazer" bound with silver and gilt "coupes" of silver and gilt, and other household utensils to the value of ten marks there found, and took and abducted six oxen of the worth of six marks, and 200 sheep of the worth of 10 li. of the goods and chattels of the aforesaid Master there found, against the peace of the said late King. They also make a presentment against Roger Corbet, of the vill of Shrewsbury, esquire, Nicholas Peeshale, of Webenbury, co. Chester, esquire, son of Thomas Peeshale, chivaler, and Richard, son of Thomas Leche servant of the said Roger, yeoman. [Shropshire Archaeological and Nat. History Society, vol. 7, 3rd series, page 390-392.]

8 Henry V. 1420. Thomas Newport of Eveall granted the fifth part of the Manor of Weston and the fifth part of the Advowson of the Church of Weston to Master Nicholas Peshale, clerk, William Walford, parson of Wythynton and Roger Lenote, parson of Boulemes, Richard Brond being one of the witnesses. This was for the purpose of ultimately vesting this part in Sir Adam de Peshale. The family of Peshale was connected with Edgmond for several centuries. The Pantulfs, Barons of Wemme, were interested in Edgmond and as the mother of Nicholas de Peshale was a Knightley-Pantulf, we thereby have another reason for the continued association with Edgmond of Nicholas as the priest. The Audleys were also interested in Edgmond. The first Audley was a son of Ligulph, the grandfather of Ormunda, who married Rogert de Peshale, the first of the name. The records of Edgmond disclose that this was part of the immense landed estate of the Audleys. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 2, n.s. page 95.]

The Chancel-Windows of Edgmond Church were formerly adorned with the following armorial insignia.—In the North Windows were the Coats of Mortimer, Earl of March, and of Warren, Earl of Surrey. In the South Windows were the Coats of Verdon (or, fretty gules), and of Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel (Gu. a Lion rampant, or), which recalls the continued association through many centuries of the Arundels and Peshales. An association which made the history of the senior line of our family parallel that of the House of Lancaster. The descendants of John de Peshale were intense supporters of the House of Arundel and hence they were associated with the senior, or Horsley, line of Peshale in all the quarrels and wars incident on war of the Roses.

Returning to the story of Edgmond and the early incumbents of this church,—Geoffrey Griffin, Clerk, is said to have been Rector of Edgmond. He died in 1253, leaving 20 merks for subsidy of the Holy Land, and appointing the Abbot of Haughmond and the Priors of Trentham and Wombridge his Executors. Geoffrey Griffin did not hold the Rectory of Edgmond till his death. The Griffins were part of the old Northumbrian colony. Gamel Fitz Griffin of 1129-30 was grandson of Gamel Bearn who was brother to Orm who married Aethelthryth the daughter of Earl Ealdred of Northumberland, and who was thus brother-in-law to Earl Siward and Ligulph. For the same reason a Patent of the King, May 29, 1266, presents—Robert de Knithton to the Church of Eggesmondon. About 1300 Richard de Peshale married Margery de Knighton and



EDMOND CHURCH.





through this marriage the manor of Knighton came into the hands of Kinlet branch of the Peshales where it remained for over two centuries. [Eyton's Shropshire, London 1589. Patrons, The Abbot, and Convent of Shrewsbury.]

John de Bouland was appointed by a Patent of February 3, 1376; but the Patent was cancelled on May 25 following. On November 16, 1378, Richard de Preston exchanges this Rectory for the preferment of John Knode, late Vicar of Ercall. Knode again, in 1379, exchanges with William de Shrewsbury, Archdeacon of Salop. Sir Richard Elmeban exchanges this Rectory, on February 5, 1384, for the preferment of Master Nicholas de Peshale, late Rector of Kyngeslyne. Peshale has the Bishop's License to hear confessions, dated March 2, 1402. He resigned this Rectory in September 1425.

De Banco 6 Henry VI. 1428. Staffordshire. William Verney, parson of the church of Chirche Eyton and Thomas Peshale executors of the will of Nicholas Peshale, sued Roger Lynney of Newport in Co. Salop, gentlemen, to render a reasonable account for the time he was the receiver of the moneys of the said Nicholas. Roger did not appear. De Banco Hillary. 14 Henry VI. 1436. Staffordshire. Thomas Peshale the executor of the will of Nicholas Peshale sued in person Roger lyney of Newport in Co. Salop, gentleman, for a debt of 10 marks. Roger did not appear. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, page 121. Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 3, n.s. page 131.]

Augustus J. Hall in his Shropshire, published 1898, pages 256-257, says:—

At Edgmond, the Edmendune of Domesday. The church (of S. Peter) has a fine XII. c. Norman font, good fragments of armorial stained glass. On the poor remains of the village green is the Old Lamb Inn, close to which is a square stone-walled pinfold, and, in a neighboring stile, a bar with semicircular holes in it is the ast remnant of the village stocks. Dear to the inhabitants is the custom of ringing the dead home—chiming all the bells instead of one only, while the funeral is on its way to the church. Not till the procession nears the churchyard gate are the bells stopped (dropped) and either a minute-bell is tolled, or there is complete silence while the service goes on. The natives of Edgmond and the neighboring Tibberton were ever rivals. Edgmond children shouted after people from outlying townships who came to be married at the parish church—

Tibberton tawnies, Cherrington chats,  
Edgmond men and Adeney cats.

But the swarthy Tibberton folk would retort—

Tibberton tawnies, Cherrington chats,  
Edgmond bulldogs, and Adeney cats.  
Edgmond bulldogs made up in a pen  
Darna come out for Tibberton men.

An Edgmond jingle runs—

It rains, it hails, it batters, it blows,  
The Tibberton girls are washing their clothes.

It takes two blows to make a battle, is a local proverb; and the riddle, Under the water, and over the water, and never touches the water, is applied to a woman crossing the bridge with a pitcher of water on her head.

At Newport and Edgmond, as well as at Shrewsbury, the pancake bell is rung on Shrove Tuesday, being really the ancient call for shrift before the great fast, but now supposed to be only a warning to prepare butter for the pancakes. [Shropshire by Augustus J. Hall, London 1898, page 256-257. Eyton's Shropshire, London 1859.]

\*3. JOHN DE PESHALE of Onne, Wooten and Knightley, son of John de Peshale, see No. 1. Married Alicia de Knightley, who was the daughter of Roger de Knightley, who was the son of William de Knightley, the third son of Robert de Knightley XI. Edward III. He was descended from Knightley and Pantulf as appears by the pedigree set out more fully under Roger de Peshale who married Joanne Knightley, (Chapter 18, Section 4). [Staff Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 105.] Children:—

1. Stephen Peshall. Harl. Mss. Add. Mss. 1431 fol. 14b in the British Museum gives the following concerning Sir Stephen Persall. He married Margaret daughter of Sir Henry Deene. Children:—

1. N. N. A son who died without heirs.

2. Henry Persall married Katherine daughter of William Enfield. Children:—

1. Isabella Persall married Richard Vane.

2. Katherine Persall married Thomas Eckington.

2. Thomas Peshall, see Division 4.

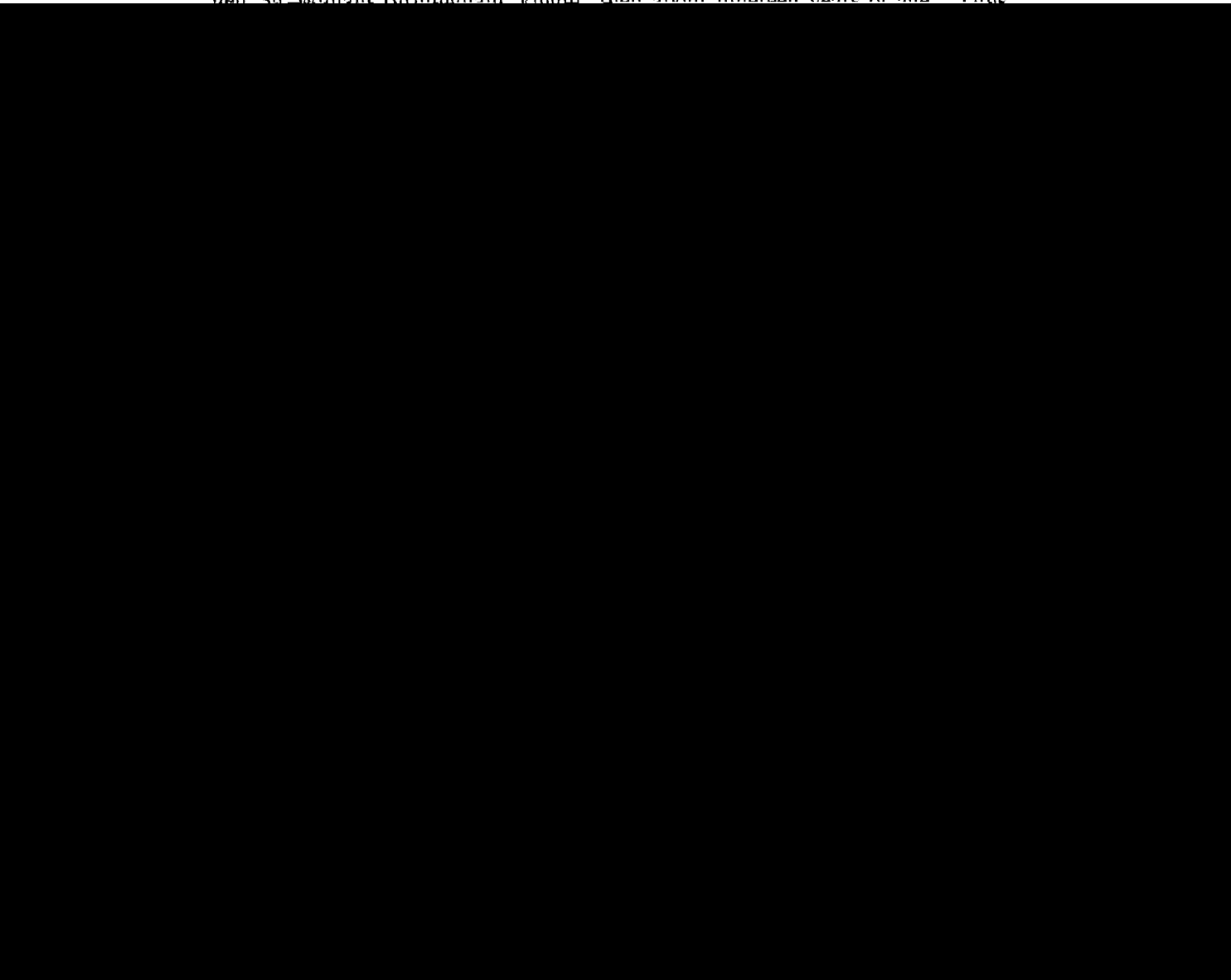
As this is a living male line it will be interesting to again note that the Pantulfs are descended from William Pantulf, Baron of Wemme, the brother of Ligulph, the grandfather of Ormunda, who married Robert de Peshale, the first of the name, and thereby this branch of the family has two lines of ancestry reaching to the Braetwalda's, who from Bernicia-Northumberland ruled all England.

De Banco Michaelmas 4 Henry IV. 1403, Staffordshire. John Arderne, chivaler, John Aston of Longedon, Thomas Wisse, Robert de Redewan and 2 others sued Richard Dalons, Geoffrey Sorrey, John Pesal of Wooton and others for taking their cattle, viz., 12 oxen and 6 cows from Eccleshal vi et armis to the value of 10 pounds. The defendants did not appear. The sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce them for the Octaves of St. Hillary. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 15, page 105.]

The Inquisition, Post Mortem, at Staffordshire, 6 September 8 Henry V. (1421) before Will. Lee of Knyghtley, escheator, by Rob. de Suynerton, Richard Nowell of Hulcote, William Wolrych, John Warde, William Halfhyde, John Peshale, Thomas Wodewale, Richard Wateresson, Robert Byrd, John Chambre, John de Reggeley and Thomas Gervays; who say that Thomas Harecourt, chiv., held Elnhale of the Bishop; worth 11 pounds 6s. 8d.; that he died 6 July last and that Robert Harcourt is his son and heir aged 10 years and more. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 1914, N.S. page 197-198.]

Coram Rege Michaelmas 5 Henry VI. 1427, Staffordshire. A jury had been summoned to return a verdict whether William Bermyngham of Coventry, knight, Thomas Austyn of Bermyngham, yoman, John Blakeman of Weston and Leoyard, yoman and William Driver of Bermyngham, hostler, were guilty of divers felonies and trespasses of which they had been indicted. Defendants ad-

mitted to bail on the sureties of Thomas Erdyngton of Erdyngton, co. Warwick, gentleman, John Warveley of Warveley, co. Stafford, gentleman, John Peshale of On, co. Stafford, gentleman, and Ralph Frebody of Bobyngton, co. Stafford, gentleman, and Thomas Austyn. John and William Driver now appeared and William Birmyngham being solemnly called did not appear. The latter to be outlawed apd. exigend, if he did not appear. Coram Rege. Michaelmas 11 Henry VI. 1433, Staffordshire. The sheriff was ordered to arrest John Peshale of On, gentleman, and produce him at this term to answer to the King for his fine for not producing in court William Bermyngham of Coventry, knight, to answer for divers felonies of which he had been indicted, and for which John was his bail. John did not appear. These two records serve to recall an interesting item of collateral family history. Joan, the elder daughter of Adam de Peshale, 3rd., the uncle of John de Peshale of Onne, had married Sir William Birmingham, knight. He had died on 24 April, 4 Henry VI. 1426, and was succeeded by their son and heir Sir William Birmingham, knight, then about nineteen years of age. Thus



account for the time he was the receiver of the moneys of the said Nicholas. Roger did not appear. De Banco Hillary 9 Henry VI. 1431, Staffordshire. Thomas Peshale of Little Onne, gentleman, was attached at the suit of Roger Aston, knight, for breaking into his close at Wolaston on the Monday after Michaelmas, 4 Henry VI. and cutting down and carrying away 100 hazel trees (comlus), 100 alders, 100 willows and 30 cartloads of underwood to the value of 40 pounds and for which he claimed 100s. damages. Thomas appeared in person and denied the trespass and appealed to a jury. De Banco 20 Henry VI. 1442, Staffordshire. William Armeston (who sued for the King) sued Thomas Peshale, of Onne, gentelman, and ———, formerly wife of George Doryngton, executrix of the will of George Doryngton, for a debt of £12 owing to the King. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce them on the Quindene of Easter day. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 17, 121 and 131 and N.S. vol. 3, page 161.]

\*5. THOMAS PESHALE, son of Thomas de Peshale, see Division No. 4, married Isabella Brereton. Children:—

1. Humphrey Peshall, see Division No. 21.
2. Brereton Peshall.
3. Mary Peshall, married Sir G. Blount of Kinlet, Militis.
4. Jane Peshall, married William Chetwind of Salop.
5. Margaret Peshall, married Ralph Basset of Blore Pipe.

[Note Book of Rev. Sir John Peshall and Harl. Mss. 1570 fol. 176.]

De Banco Trinity 20 Henry VI. 1442, Staffordshire. Thomas Peshale and Isabella, his wife, sued John Aghton, of Amberton, plasterer, for taking by force goods and chattels belonging to the said Isabella at Coton. John did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to arrest and produce him on the Quindene of Easter day. [Staff. Hist. Col. N.S. vol. 3, page 161.]

Thomas Peshale and Isabella his wife sued William Bradshawe, of Milwiche, gentelman, and John Fernehalgh, of Milwiche, husbondman, for breaking into the close of Isabella at Coton and taking 2 cows and 6 oxen worth 5 marks. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff was ordered to distrain William who found sureties and to arrest the said John and produce them at a month from Easter. According to the note book of Rev. John Peshall she was daughter of Randle Brererton of Malpas for whom Omerod in his History of Cheshire (vol. 3 page 88) gives the following ancestry.

Ralph de Brerton, witness to a charter by Gilbert Venables, temp. Will. 2, or Hen. 1.

Ralph de Brerton, witness to  
the grant of Martan about 1176.

William de Brerton with whom the Brereton  
pedigree commences.

William de Brerton. = . .

(Sir) Ralph de Brerton, (knt.) = . .

Margery, daughter of Sir William de Brerton, (lord) of Brerton, kt. living temp.  
Randle de Thornton. | Johan. and Hen. 3.

^

v

Sir Ralph de Brerton, (lord) of Brerton, kt. said in some pedigrees to marry Ada, . . . daughter of David earl of Huntingdon, relict of Henry Hastings, (and living 1275.)

Sir William de Brerton, (lord) of Brerton, ward of sir R. . . , daughter of Richard de de Sandbach, (temp. Hen. 3.)

Sir William de Brerton, (lord) of Brerton, = Rose, daughter of Ralph de Vernon (of kt. (1301,) 1321, (and 15 Edw. 3.)

William de Brerton, (living 15 Edw. 3.) = Margery, daughter of Richard de Bosley. died in his father's life-time.

Ellen, daughter of Philip, and = Sir William de Brerton, (lord) = Margaret, daughter of sister and finally heiress of of Brerton, kt. heir to his grand- (Henry) Done of Utkinton, David de Egerton, (lord) of father, (had a grant of free war- widow of John de Davenport Egerton, (and joint baron of ren, and market, &c. 42 (of Henbury, living 5 Malpas.) Edw. 3.) Hen. 5.)

<p>Elen, daughter of sir William Masey of Tatton, kt. remarried to sir Gilbert de Halsall, kt. Inq. p. m. 23 Hen. 6.</p>	<p>Sir William de Brerton, (lord) of Brerton, (born at Egerton in the Feast of S. Valentine, 23 Edw. 3, and baptized at Malpas, a knight in 1385,) obiit per Inq. 4 Hen. 6.</p>	<p>Anyll, daughter of Hugh Venables, (baron of Kinder-ton,) marr. at Audley, 1386.</p>	<p>2. Randle de Brerton, esq. ancestor of Brerton of Malpas.</p>	<p>= Alice, daughter and heiress of William de Ipstones.</p>	<p>Elizabeth, wife of William de Cholmondeley, who died before 49 Edw. 3. . . , wife of . . . de Spurstow, (lord) of Spurstow.</p>
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Thomas de Brereton, rector of Brereton, 1433, (heir of his mother, æt. 34, 23 Hen. 6.)

Sir Randle Brereton of Malpas Hall Ipstones and Shocklach.

Randle Brereton = Emma Carrington daughter of John Carrington

Isabelle Brereton = Thomas Peshall of Ranton.

\*6. JOHN PERSAL of Aldewyck, son of Thomas Peshale, see Division No. 4; married ———. Children:—

1. Richard Persall, see Division No. 7.
2. Christian Persall.
3. William Persall of Breadstreet, London, married Margaret. Child:—
  1. Christian Persall.

The will of William Persall, dated the 16th February 1549-50 of All Saints, in Breadstreet London citizen and spurrier (that is maker of spurs). He makes his wife Margaret Persall executor of all his goods moveable and immoveable to see his debts paid, he wishes her to see that his son Christian Persall is kept at scole for one year at her coste and charge. He bequeathes to his brother Christian P'sall his best doublett of velvett. He gives his syster money and her chamber so longe as she will tary there for her owne selfe to lye in it; and to her daughter Annie money or else the value of it in household stuff. Also unto my foreman my showe Rydyngge sadel unto Walter Childeshouse my buckskyn doublett unto my cozyn Hawkyns my woodlugf (wood tanks) and my skeyne (skinning knife) unto Richard Wyther, my lythe wosbonor (his special recipe for making soft leather) unto William Phellippes my Sprine Skynnes (skin patterns for making his moulds) that I have in my house unto William Morer my dager with the dogyn hafte unto James my tapster my doublett of saxony satten unto my

chamberlyn and my hosteler ——— a pece in money or money worth 20. This to be done and my debts all payd I wyll that Margett my wyfe shall have all the rest of the goods at her wyll and pleasure. He makes overseer of the will William Phellippes, Citizen and Salter. Probate to Margarete Persall. P. C. C. Somerset House, London. [London Inquisitions, Post Mortem, William Persall witness in re Edmund Love, 1549; also in case of Robert Nichol. Brewer 1548.]

The Register of all Hallow, Breadstreet, London discloses the following:—Buried February 24, 1549, William Persall the Goodman of ye George. November 17, 1549, married Thomas Cranmagger and Ann Felsees, servant to Mr. P'Sall William Persall was mine host of the George tavern, a very well known public house of those days. William of Breadstreet, London was a Publican as well as a citizen and spurrier. Ye Groege Inn is no longer there. The Bull is the only public house now existing. Milton was born in the latter place.

8 Henry VIII. December 11th. 1517. In the case of Martyn Andern vs. Edward Willoughby, John Persall of Aldrveych, aged 50 years appears as a witness. [Staff. Hist. Coll. N.S. Vol. 10, part 2, page 99 and 150.]

\*7. RICHARD PERSALL, called the elder, son of John Persall, see Division No. 6. He was of the armed retinue of John Pershall of Horsley, circa 1539, Married ———. Children:—

1. John Persall, see Division No. 8.
2. William Persall, see Division No. II.
3. Thomas Persall died unmarried.
4. Ralph Persall died unmarried.

In the muster Roll of 1539 the name of Richard Persall appears as living at Horsley. [Staff. Hist. Coll. N.S. Vol. 5, page 310.]

It will pay the reader to turn to Chapter 24, section 1, and read the interesting story of the combat in which this Richard Persall took part along with the clan of Horsley. This incident marks another of the many occasions when the Horsley and Ranton branches of our family were jointly associated in some enterprise in connection with the war of the Roses. Richard Persall was at this time part of the household of John Pershall of Horsley. The families were not only at this time in the closest association, but this continued for several generations subsequent to this occasion.

In the testimony taken in the Court of Star Chamber it appears that Ralph Persall testified that his father, John Persall, together himself, the deponent, Richard Persall the elder and Francis Wodwall having swords and daggers as they use to go with, came to Eccleshall to a game kept there. That Ralph spied Richard Alkyn having his hand on his dagger and speaking unfitting words to this deponent's father. Whereupon Ralph came to the said Alkyn and took him by the sleeve and pulled him back. Richard Persall the elder testified that when he saw Alkyn had his hand on his dagger, Stanley one of the supporters of Harcourt, drew forth his sword whereupon Richard the elder drew forth his sword to defend himself and the said John Persall. He also said that John Persall along with him-

self, and Richard Persall son of John, and Thomas Persall who was the son of said Richard, were indicted for this so called assault.

\*8. JOHN PERSALL of Handsworth, son of Richard Persall, see Division No. 7, married ———. Children:—

1. Thomas Persall.
2. Richard Persall. See Division No. 9.
3. William Persall. See Division No. 10.
4. Margery Persall.
5. Joan Persall.
6. Clara Persall.
7. Maud Persall. Married ———, had two children.

The will of John Persall of Hannesworth, dated November 4, 1545: to be buried there, where my wife lieth; to Thomas my son, money; to Richard my son, money; to Margery my daughter, money; to Jone my daughter; to Clara my daughter, money; to my daughter Mawde's 2 children, money; residue to son Thomas and daughter Margery, whom I appoint sole executors. Overseers of will: Sir Henry Blakemore, priest, John Blakham and Richard my son. Witnesses: Henry Blakemeyre, John Blakham, Henry Oxbarne and Roger Smythe. No date of probate stated. Inventory of goods dated November 16, 1545. Appraisers, John Blackham, John More and Henry Osborne. Proved by both executors. [Lichfield Probate Registry.]

The muster Roll of 1539 for Staffordshire names John Persall, bows, arrows and Jack.

Handsworth was an extensive and pleasant village situated in the southeast extremity of Staffordshire about two miles northwest from Birmingham.

\*9. RICHARD PEARSALL of Trentham, son of John Persall, see Division No. 8, married Eleanor ———. He was in the employ of Master Thomas Lyttleton. [Trentham Parish Register: Richard Pearshall, buried May 24, 1597.] Children:—

1. John Pearsall.
2. Margaret Pearsall.

The will of Richard Pearsall of the parish of Trentham, co. Stafford, dated April 22, 1597; to be buried in the parish church of Trentham; half my goods to my wife and the other half to my two children equally and I constitute my said wife executor (no names given). Overseers, John Bradwall and Rychard Marten my neighbors. Witnesses: Richard Marten and Thomas Bradwall. Debts owing from Mr. Colclough, John Colclough, Edward Reve, John Pyken, John Barker, Thomas Barnes, George Harryson, Wyllm Barker, George Harryson, Roger Rushton, Mr. Wyllm Collyer, George Goodwen, the elder, John Lees, Robert Greves, John Adshed, Rondle Moddershall, Rauffe Newton, Roger Kellsall, Peter Baylye, Godman Meeke, Godman Unwynor's wife, Mr. Pott, Wyllm Whytehurst, Rychard Ameson, Edward Kyng, Thomas Lowe, John Coupe, ——— Chapman, Wm. Swetnam, Robert Hawkyngs, Rauffe Ryston and Mr. Kynnersley. Inventory dated May 26, 39 Elizabeth. Appraisers John Bradwall, Roger Townsend, Thomas Wood and Thomas Bradwall. Proved June 17, 1597, by Eleanor his relict the executrix named in the will, an allowance for the

tuition of John and Margaret Pearsall, two of the deceased's children; granted to her during their minority. [Hist. of Staff. by Rev. Stebbins Shaw, vol. 2, page 107. Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 10, part 1, page 84-88. Lichfield. Act Book 9, folio 189.]

It is interesting to note that the records say that this Richard Pearsall was in the employ of Master Thomas Lyttleton which brought him into personal contact with others of the branch of the Ranton family living at Hawn also Hales Owen. This makes it quite evident that he was among those in the family who from association with Edmond Perseall were induced to change the spelling of the family name to Pearsall. Thereby changing the spelling but not the sound of the name which the family of Ranton and the family at Horsley had used since the Battle of Bosworth Field. It is a rather strange coincidence that the spelling Pearsall for their surname, with one exception, is peculiar so far as the Ranton family is concerned, to those who reside, or whose ancestors resided, on or near the road that runs from Kidderminster through Hales Owen to Birmingham. Which road in old days ran through Salop, Worcester and Stafford in making this short distance.

\*10. WILLIAM PERSALL (Wyllyā Pērsā) of Crome Dabytote, son of John Persall, see Division No. 8, married Margery ——. Children:—

1. Richard Persall, married — —.
2. John Persall,
3. Eleanor Persall,
4. Melissa Persall.

The will of Wyllyā Pēsā, dated July 15, 1576; proved at Worcester October 5, 1576; I Wyllyā Pesa (Willaim Persall) of Combe Dabytote,; to be buried there; to Rycharde pesa my sone; to Jhon pesa my sone; to Elnor Pesa my darthur; to Mylsa pesa my dorthur. Residue to Margery my wife sole executrix. Witnesses: Sir Richarde Spnall, Edmund Masune, Rycharde Shrawley.

\*11. WILLIAM PERSALL of Handsworth son of Richard Persall, see Division No. 7, married Margery ——. Children:—

1. Richard Persall. Letters of Administration were granted on his estate in 1569 at Litchfield.
2. John Persall, see Division No. 12.
3. Ralph Persall, see Division No. 13.

The muster roll of 1539 for Staffordshire names William Persall as living in Handsworth.

Litchfield, February 7, 1570-1. The will of William Persall of the parish of Handsworth, proved by Margery his relict. The original document is missing and was not registered, i.e. transcribed into a register.

\*12. JOHN PERSALL of Lillishall son of William Persall, see Division No. 11, married Margery ——. Children:—

1. Geoffrey Pearsall of Lilleshull, co. Salop, married June 21, 1590, Alice Bromwall. [Trentham Parish Register.]

The will of Geoffrey Pearsall, of Lilleshull, co. Salop, is recorded at Lichfield, and abstracts as follows: dated November 2, 1613. To be buried in the parish church there; to William Wright otherwise Souton and Joan his wife



money and to their two children money. Residue to Alice Pearsall my wife who with my kinswoman and niece Elizabeth Jackson are appointed executrices. A memorandum in a different handwriting gives November 2, 1616, as the date of execution. Witnesses: John Ankers, Thomas Newall, Thomas Pyott, and Reece Williams. No probate date stated on the will. Inventory made by William Brodhurst, Richard Cartwright, Thomas Pyott and Thomas Newall. Proved November 8, 1617 by Alice Pearsall, relict and Elizabeth Jackson niece of the deceased. [Lichfield. Act Book 12.]

2. N. N., a daughter, married ——— Jackson. Child: Elizabeth Jackson.

3. Eleanor Pearshall, married January 31, 1597, William Stonier. [Trentham Parish Register.]

Lichfield. March 17, 1595-6. Administration of the goods &c. of John Pearsall of Lilishull, deceased, granted to Margerie his relict. Inventory exhibited May 23, 1596, but the value of the goods is not stated. (In this case the entry in the Act Book is the only record extant.) [Lichfield. Act Book 9.]

\*13. RALPH PEARSALL of Chilverscotton, son of William Persall; see Division No. 11. Married Agnes ———. Children:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, see Division No. 14.

2. Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 18.

Lichfield, November 11, 1590. Administration of the goods &c. of Ralph Pearsall of Chilverscotton granted to Agnes Persall, relict of deceased. Inventory of goods, appraised by Peter Temple, George Holbach, Henry Bighton, and Thomas Fawknor. [Lichfield. Act Book 8. Lichfield. Act Book 6. Worcester Registers Office, page 220.]

\*14. THOMAS PERSALL of All Church, son of Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 13, married ———. Children:—

1. William Persall, see Division No. 15.

2. Thomas Persall, see Division No. 16.

3. Henry Pearsall, see Division No. 17.

Bond, dated 14 James I. (1616-7). Administration of the goods &c. of Thomas Persall of Allchurch granted to William Bersall of the same, husbandman. Bond of William Persall of Allchurch and Ralph Persall of the same, dated 14 James I. (1606-7).

A letter with these papers says:—Good Mr. Warmestrye: The bearer hereof William Persall (being of greater age than discretion) cometh to take lettres of the goods of his father Thomas Pershall late of Allchurch deceased. I am content if you so like and if there be no caveat entered to the contrairie to yeld the admystration unto him the sayd William so that Ralph Persall a neere kyneman unto him and who intendeth to be as a father to all the children of the defunct will enter into bonde with this berer 'de fideliter administrando, &c.' Yours assuredlie, F. A. [Heraldry of Worcestershire, vol. 2, p. 438. Vis. of Salop, No. 1241. Harl. Mss. Leicest. Ant. of Cheshire, per Rev. John Peshall.]

\*15. WILLIAM PEARSALL, of Sutton Coldfield, co. Warwick, son of Thomas Pearsall, see Division No. 14, married Alice ———. Children:—

1. William Pearsall.

2. Thomas Pearsall, of Sutton, Coldfield, co. Warwick, married Joan ———.

Children:—

1. Joan Pearsall, married Thomas Miles. Child:—Anne Miles.
2. Phebe Pearsall, married ——— Est.
3. Ann Pearsall, married Adrian Cockersall. Children:—\*1. Ann Cockersall.  
\*2. Thomas Cockersall. \*3. Mary Cockersall.

Lichfield. February 4, 1692-3. Jone Pearsal, of Sutton Coldfield, co. Warwick, widow; to my son-in-law Thomas miles, money; to my daughter Joan Miles money; to my granddaughter Anne Miles money to my daughter Phoebe Est money; to my son-in-law Adrian Cockersall and to my daughter Ann Cockersall, a bed with all things belonging to it standing in their best chamber near the fire; to my three grandchildren Anne Cockersall, Thomas Cockersall and Mary Cockersall, money. The said Thomas Miles sole executor. Witnesses: William Saunders, William Taylor and Jane Pooll. Proved November 10, 1693, by the said Thomas Miles. Inventory taken August 25, 1693 by Thomas Honyboone and Samuell Rogerson.

3. Dorothe Pearsall.

The will of William Persall of Sutton, Coldfield, co. Warwick; dated April 24, 1630 abstracts as follows: No place or burial named; to my son William Peresall one standinge bedstead and other furniture and working tools in the shop belonging to his trade; to my son Thomas Peresall, certain furniture and similar tools; to my daughter Dorothe Pearsall, certain furniture and effects. Residue to Alice Peresall my wife, sole executrix. Signed Wm. Peresall. Witnesses: Thomas Hadleyend and John Nutt. Proved 9 or 10 June 1631. Inventory taken by Thomas Taylor, gent. and Christopher Vesey, yeoman.

\*16. THOMAS PERSALL of Yardley, son of Thomas Persall, see Division No. 14, married Alice ———. Children:—

1. Ralph Persall,
2. Margaret Persall.

The will of Thomas Pearsall is among the records of Worcester, 1632, No. 193. An abstract thereof reads:—May 30, 1632. Thomas Persall of Yardeley, co. Worcester, bequeathes to Ralphe Persall my son £5 at age of 21 and my books and certain furniture; to Margaret Pearsall my daughter £5 at age of 20 or at marriage. Residue to Alice Persall my wife, sole executrix. Proved June 13, 1632, by Alice Persall. Witnesses:—James Archer, clerk, Edward Welles and Alice Riley.

\*17. HENRY PEARSALL of Edgbaston son of Thomas Pearsall, see Division No. 14. He is called cousin in the will of Ralph Pearsall of Hopwood.

\*18. RALPH PEARSALL son of Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 13. He is named as bondsman in the estate of his brother Thomas Pearsall of Allchurch in 1606. Married ———. Children:—

1. Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 19.
2. Thomas Pearsall, see Division No. 20.

\*19. RALPH PEARSALL of Hopwood and Alchurch, co. Worcester, son of Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 18, married Margaret ———. Children:—

1. William Pearsall, died in 1684, unmarried.

An abstract of his will reads as follows:—Dated November 5, 1683. I William Pearsall of Hopwood Yeild, Alverchurch, Worcestershire, being weak in body &c. . . . My body to the earth to be buried at the discretion of my executors. To my brother Richard Pearsall, 20s. To my kinswoman Mary Hitchcocke, 5s. To my cousin John Pearsall, 12d. The rest of my goods unto my kinsman Henry Smith. of Hopwood Yeild whom I make executor. Dated November 1683; probated August 27, 1684. Witnesses: William Harison, John Hodges, John Ashford, Edward Rowlinson; Thomas Hooman, scribe. Probate 27 August 1684. Inventory of goods of William Pearsall of the Parish of King's Norton, Worcester, bachelor taken the 26 August 1684; William Harison, Richard Osborne, Tho. Hooman, prizers. [From original in Worcester Registers' Office. From original in Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Somerset House, London.]

2. John Pearsall, called cousin to William, son of his Uncle Thomas.
3. Ralph Pearsall.
4. Richard Pearsall.
5. Margaret Pearsall.

Ralph Piersall of Alvechurch in Worcestershire made composition at the time of the coronation of King Charles I. of 1630-32; and also at the visitation of 1634. [Heraldry of Worcestershire vol. 2, pg. 438, & original records of the Record Office, London.]

Will of Ralph Pearsall. Appears in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Somerset House, London. Dated June 4, 1651, probated January 14, 1651-2. In the Name of God Amen,—the fourth day of June in the yeare of Oure Lord God 1651, I Ralph Pearsall of Hopwood, being sicke in body but in perfect memory doe make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament. First. I doe give and bequeath my soule to Almighty God who gave it to me and to Jesus Christ my only Saviour and Redeemer & by whom I have all my sinns freely forgiven and I made the childe of God: Item. I doe give to my wife one joyned bedd and all that dothe belong to it whereon wee doe used to lye. I doe give unto my sonne John twelve pence. I doe give unto my sonne Ralph twelve pence. I doe give unto my sonne Richard twelve pence; Item I doe give unto every poore householder in the towne & parish of Alverchurch six pence; Item I doe give unto Robert Partridge . . . I doe give unto my cozen Henry Pearsall of Edgebaston twenty shillings; Item. I doe give unto the poore Widdowes of Dudley tenn shillings. (Neither signed nor therefore witnessed.) [Visitation of Leicestershire, 1619.]

The fourteenth day of January in the yeare of Our Lord God according to the English Stile One thousand sixe hundred and fifty one a commission issued forth by William Pearsall the natural and lawful sonne of Ralph Pearsall, late of Hopwood in the County of Worcester, deceased, having goodes &c. To administer the goodes, chattells, & debts of the said deceased according to the tenor and effect of the said Will of the said deceased for that therein he named not any Executor. He the said William being first by Vertue of a Commission legally sworn well & truly to administer the same Margaret the Relict of the said deceased having individually renounced as by Act of Court may appeare.

On the Octaves of St. Michael 15 James I., Between Thomas Lane and Anne his wife complainants, and Ralph Pearsall and Margaret his wife deforciantes of a messuage, a garden and orchards, 10 acres of land, 20 acres of pasture and common of pasture for all cattle in Pury Bane. [Staff. Hist. Coll. Vol. 6, page 35.]

In the Record office at London among the Chancery proceedings classified as Charles I, 1625-1649 in Bundle 33, No. 20 is the case of Ralph Pearsall of Alchurch, County Worcester, Yeoman Vs William Combe of Old Stratford, County Warwick, Esq. The original complaint is addressed to The commissioners for the custody of the Great Seal of England, which indicates that at this date the forces of Cromwell had become supreme in England. The complainant in fixing his dates of occurrences incident to the controversy is however careful to speak of his Majesty the King that now is, which also tells us that the fateful day of January 30, 1649, when Charles I was beheaded, had not yet arrived and that technically he still ruled the British Empire. William Combe was evidently a supporter of the Commonwealth, hence he seized upon this opportunity to bring suit against Ralph Pearsall for rents payable by him that had been collected and confiscated by the king's military forces, as the property of William Combe.

The pleadings which are dated June 24, 1648, disclose that William Combe on March 20, 1632, made a lease to John Higby of the Parish of Alchurch to hold for the term of twelve years a certain pasture in Alchurch in the county of Worcester that had been in the tenure of the widow Redding. The rent to be paid at the house of William Combe called New House in Alchurch. John Higby died in 1641 and his widow entered into the said leasehold as his executor, after which she married William Knight who thereby became possessed of the said leasehold. A short time after he also died and the widow again had the possession when she married Martin Fford who in the same manner became possessed of the said leasehold for the balance of the term amounting to three years. Martin Fford assigned the balance of the said term to Ralph Pearsall who entered into the same in 1641. He thereupon paid rent to either the said William Combe or his Bailif and manager Francis Birch up to the end of this term. At which time there was a new lease made by the said Francis Birch as Bailif for William Combe, the term being for one year to commence March 25, 1644, and so on for year to year as long as the said William Combe and Ralph Pearsall should both live. This arrangement had continued over three years at the time suit for the unpaid rents was commenced by Combe in the courts of Common Law and this Equity proceeding was to prevent the prosecution of these suits in the Common Pleas to the manifest injury of Robert Pearsall, who was without adequate means of defence, owing to the peculiar dealings between the parties growing out of the unsettled condition of the country by reason of the Civil War between the King and Parliament.

Ralph Pearsall also claimed that he had paid moneys to William Hallington, late the Rector of Alchurch, and to Mrs. Margaret Skinner which sums Combe had agreed to repay. William, being a non-conformist, naturally objected to paying for the support of the Parish and he failed to remember that he had ever authorized the payment of these sums of money. These were not only troublesome times but the locality of a church, while a hotbed of dissenters, was most of

the time in the possession of the King's military forces. The Bailiffs and Farmers of the rents were therefore careful not to give written receipts for moneys received as these papers, in the possession of either side, would form entirely too convenient a rule for mulcting them out of large sums of money. Without this evidence in the hands of the tax collectors they shielded themselves under the plea that the troublesome times had prevented them from collecting anything at all. Hence they were careful also to see that there were no witnesses to the payments which they bullied out of the tenants. The farmers kept considerable of the rents, taking advantage of the times and of the sums they received, by failing to make the usual distinctions in the moneys paid to their principal by which he could determine the amounts paid by each tenant.

William Combe in his reply admits this but insists that as he did not get the money the tenant must pay him the full rent although the tenant may have paid it either to his bailiff or farmer. William Combe also said that he personally did not receive but eleven pounds, of which four pounds was paid on March 20, 1644, at the hands of Thomas Crane and William Smith and seven pounds that was paid to him personally on March 5, 1648, and which sums were not for any particular year of the term. He also says that he does not remember about authorizing the payment of taxes to both the King's and the Parliament's collectors, which is a quite natural lapse of memory in view of the present attempt to make Ralph Pearsall pay all the shortages of every kind in the receipts of the said William Combe from the rents due from this property. He also says that he cannot say, because he does not know certainly, that the complainant is in arrears to him because Francis Birch and the farmers all did sometimes bring him large sums of money from his tenants without giving note how much they had received from any person or tenant, but he will ask Francis Birch how much Ralph Pearsall paid on account of his rent. And he adds that having made this inquiry Francis Birch says that Ralph Pearsall had paid six pounds and no more and this was paid in the year 1644, which sum William Birch is now willing to remember as having been received, but was not acquainted that it came from Ralph Pearsall. He denied that James Ell, another of his employees, had ever received any money from Ralph Pearsall on account of this rent and adds the following reason why the said James Ell could not have done so. Neither doth he remember if the said James Ell could do so for that from the beginning of any of these troubles sometimes neither the said James Ell nor any other of the defendants servants did and durst (as William Combe remembereth) go above one time to Alchurch, being the town wherein the said pasture grounds are, to receive any rents, and that was in the year 1644 or near thereabouts. Neither durst the tenants, as they often sent him word, to come over (to Warwick) to pay the rent in regard the King's Garrison at Worcester. The commander whereof did send for William Combes tenants to come thither demanding the rents to be paid to him and forbidding all of them to pay it to the said William Combe, threatening to plunder them if they did pay their landlord William Combe. That as a consequence he did not see Ralph Pearsall from our Lady day in 1642 till about Christmas 1646, but once and that was in Warwick in 1644, and no rent was paid at that time to him. The Solicitor for Ralph Pearsall

was Richard Graves Esq. and that for William Combe was Edward Peck, Esq.

\*20. THOMAS PERSALL, son of Ralph Pearsall, see Division No. 18, resided at Aston justa Birmingham and Erdington in the same locality. Married ———. Children:—

1. William Persall, baptised November 22, 1615.
2. Alice Persall, baptised January 23, 1618.
3. Humphrey Persale, baptised November 24, 1622.
4. Thomas Persall, baptised February 11, 1626.
5. Elizabeth Persall, baptised February 11, 1626.

(All the above from the church records of Aston justa Birmingham.)

6. Ellen Persall. (She must have been older as she was possessed of independent estate. Buried, Ellen Persall of Erdington, January 29, 1630, says the record of the Parish church of Aston justa Birmingham. This would indicate a former marriage by her father.)

Ellen Persall, died unmarried. Lichfield, March 18, 1630-1. Administration of the goods of Ellen Persall, late of the parish of Aston next Birmingham, granted to Thomas Persall, her father, of Erdington. Inventory of the goods of Ellen Pearsall late of Erdington, praysed March 16, 1630-1, by Humfrey Holden and Ambrose Holden.

\*21. HUMPHREY PESHALL of Knightley, Co. Staff., son of Thomas Persall, see Division No. 5. Married 1, Anne Swinnerton daughter of Humphrey Swinnerton Lord of Swinnerton and Hilton, County Stafford. See Chapter 23, Section 21. Married 2, Margaret Harcourt. See Chapter 24, Section 2. See also Early Chancery Proceedings, Bundle 18, No. 9, Humphrey Swynarton and Annie his wife, one of the heirs of Thomas Swynarton, versus John Stanley, Esquier. Subject, Evidences of inheritance (unspecified) 26. (sic.) Hen. VI. Indorsed 28. Hen. VI., A.D. 1450.

Children of the first marriage:—

1. Richard Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7.
2. Ralph Persall. See Division No. 22.
3. John Persall, Chapter 18, Section 8.
4. William Persall. See Division No. 23.

Child of the second marriage:—

5. Hugh Persall. See Division No. 23.

In the suit of John Delves, armiger, against Robert Massey, this John Delves stated that since the process had begun one Humphrey Pershall, armiger, had married Anne the sister of Elena (Helen) the wife of said John. Plea Rolls Staff. de Banco Mich. 3 Ed. IV. mem 126 S N S (The Delves Family Genealogy of Cheshire) Helen, or Elena, the wife of John Delves after his death married Humphrey Pershall of Horsley; see Chapter 23, Section 1.

Another authority gives a fuller account which reads as follows:—In 3 Edw. IV., in a suit John Delves vs. Robert Massey, it states since process began Humphrey Peshale, armiger, had been appointed Sheriff of co. Stafford and had married Anne, sister of Elena the wife of the said John and asks for transfer of the case to a Coroner's Jury. [Staff. Hist. Coll. Vol. 4, N.S. page 129.]

Humphrey de Peshale was Sheriff of Staffordshire 4 Ed. IV., 1463. He succeeded John Harcourt, Esq., of Ronton and Ellenhall. [Hist. of Staff. by Rev. Stebbins Shaw, vol. 1, page xxxv.]

1527. To the King our sovereign Lord. Complaineth John Harecourt, esquire, that whereas Humphrey Persale, of Knyghtley, co. Stafford, esquire, and Hugh Persale, of the same town, gent., and one Michell Selman of Moreton, servant unto the said Humphrey, caused Thomas Jackson and John Osberne, of Moreton, with other riotous persons to ley awaitt uppon the said John Harecourt and his servants to bete, murder and slee them. By force of which the same Thomas and John, with others to the number of twenty, 17th February, 18 Hen. VIII., came to the parish of Gnosale, co. Staff., with weapons of war, to one Richard Berell, servant of John Harecourt, he being at his plough, and stroke him downe to the grownde, by force of which the said Richard had taken owt of his hedde seventeen bones. [Staff. Hist. Coll. vol. 1910, page 16.]

The Harcourts of Patshull and Griosale, co. Stafford, are descended from Sir Richard De Harcourt. Born 1328. Died 1349-50. He was aged 21 and more in 1349, and had already fought at Crecy and Calais. He went in the retinue of Maurice de Berkeley, and fought at Crecy amongst the knights with the King. By a final concord of 1350 we find that he and his wife were both dead, and that they had left two daughters, Katherine and Elizabeth. Katherine, too, must have died, and Elizabeth, under the guardianship of her grandfather or uncle, Sir William de Shareshull, C.J., was married in 1364 to Sir Thomas Astley of Nelston, Leices (died 1399-1400), 2nd son of Thomas, Lord Astley. The Black Death of 1349-50 seems to have killed the Harcourts. Sir Richard's wife is called Jane, daughter of Sir William de Shareshull, the chief justice. Sir William had a son by a prior marriage; two generations of Sir William succeeded him at Patshull; and how Jane became in her issue, heiress to Patshull in 1439 I do not understand. There were some complications, as Sir Richard's brother Sir Thomas was his heir. The Harcourts of Grusale were strong supporters of the House of York. The Harcourts of Ranton on the contrary, through marriage with Lancaster maidens, had become trusted warriors in the army of the Red Rose of Lancaster. [Hist. Coll. Staff., N.S. vol. 1914, page 203.]

The Rev. John Peshall in his notes gives the following:—Roger de Willoughby and John de Harcourt, Lords of Pleshy in Derbyshire, 10 Edward II., who held also one carucot of land in the sok of Mannsfield and ye advowson of ye church of Peyrsal of which with ye manor of Pleshy there was a recovery suffered 9 Henry VII. by Humphrey Peshall and Margaret his wife who called to warranty W. Astley, esquire, whose ancestor married the heiress of Harcourt, Mich. 9 Henry VII. [Rob. 335. Id Thoretons Hist. Nott. Fuller in Leic. Temp. H. 6. Vis. Leisc. No. 1167 & 1180, Mss. in Bie. Harle. per Rev. John Peshall.]

This transfer of title to certain lands and hereditaments was a part of the final settlement of the long continued quarrel between the Harcourt and Astley heirs. There also being two sets of Harcourt heirs, as is intimated in the above reference to Sir Richard Harcourt. The Reverend Stebbins Shaw, in his History of Staffordshire, in speaking of Patshull, gives the following lucid explanation which will enable the reader to comprehend the points of the controversy if he will bear

constantly in mind that there were two sets of Harcourt claimants, so that the matter stood as follows: (1) Harcourt vs. Astley, (2) Harcourt vs. Astley, (3) Harcourt vs. Harcourt.

Sir Richard Harecourt, the son and heyre of William Harcourt, of Bosworth, having married Joan, the sister of sir William Shareshull, see chap. 18, sec. 4, had issue only two daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth, upon which two daughters was settled, by fine, in the 24th Edw. III. between Radulphus de Ferrers and Joan his wife, the relict of William Harecourt, quaer. and sir William Shareshull, defendant, the manor of Ellnall (near Stafford), for the lives of the said Ralph and Joan, and, after their decease, to the said Catherine and Elizabeth, and their heyres, which Catherine, dyed unmarried; but Elizabeth became afterwards the wife of sir Thomas de Astley, which sir Thomas and Elizabeth claimed the manor of Nailston, and thirty-four messuages, one mill, and three yard lands and a halfe, which Henry de Hastings gave to William, the son of Richard de Harecourt, in frank marriage with Illeria his sister; and, after the deaths of the said William and Illeria, and of Richard their son and heir, and of John his son and heyre, and of William his son and heyre, and of Richard his son and heyre, ought to descend to the said Elizabeth, daughter of the said Richard, which the said Thomas and Elizabeth had accordingly, and not only this, but all the estate of the Harecourts, which was not settled upon the heyres males; but, notwithstanding the former settlement made of the manor of Ellnall, in this county, sir Thomas Harecourt brother of said Richard claimed it; but, at last, an agreement was made 1 Ric. II. that sir Thomas Harecourt should hold it during life, provided he did nothing to prejudice the title of sir Thomas Astley and Eleanor his wife, for the performance of which he bound himselfe in a bond of 200 pounds; but, in the 1st Hen. V. sir Thomas Astley dyed, leaving Thomas his son and heyre; and in the 5th Hen. V. sir Thomas Harecourt dyed, leaving issue sir Thomas Harecourt, and Richard Harecourt, of Sardon Parva, betwixt which sir Thomas Harecourt and Thomas Astley the suits began againe about that estate, but sir Thomas Harecourt dying the 8th Hen. V. it was settled that sir Robert Harecourt should enjoy the said manor, but should pay to Thomas Astley, esq. 200 marks, to the said Robert, and the heyres males of his body, paying a rose for all services to the said Thomas Astley, and his heyres; and, for want of such issue, to Richard his brother, and to the heyres males of his body; and, for want of such issue, then to John his brother, and to the heyres males of his body; and, for want of such issue, to William his brother, and to the heyres males of his body; and, for want of such issue, to Richard Harecourt, of Little Saredon, uncle of the said Robert, and to the heyres males of his body; and, for want of such issue, to the said Thomas Astley, and his heyres for ever.

The issue that sir Thomas Astley had by Elizabeth, the daughter and heyre of sir Richard Harecourt, was Thomas Astley, esq., his son and heyre, John Astley, William, Richard, and Henry, and a daughter, whose name was Joan, the wife of Appleby. A brother of this Appleby, named Edmund Appelby, had married Joan de Peshale, daughter of Humphrey de Peshale, of Growshale. [See Chap. 19, Sec. 3.]



Which sir Thomas Astley dyed, as I have before observed, the 1st Hen. V. to whom succeeded Thomas, his son and heyre, who came to enjoy this manor of Patteshall, by the grant of Joan, late wife of William Lee; though I conceive he was the only heyre remaining of sir William Shareshull. This Thomas married Joan, the daughter of sir Thomas Griesley of Colton, and dyed betwixt the 16th and 17th of Hen. VI.; for, 16 Hen. VI. the said Joan Astley granted to Thomas Astley the manor of Byngley, in com. York, and all her lands in Sheynton and Shepey, in com. Leic. and Warw. for the life of the said Joan, paying 20l. per annum to her for her life, at London, at Midsomer and St. Mic. tide, 1440. In the 16 Hen. VI. I find she was a widdow, as appears by her acquittance given to sir William Montfort, knt. sheriffe of Warwick and Leicester shires, for 20l. being part of payment of 40l. annuity, granted to her for her life by king Henry VI. to whom she was nurse.

This Humphrey Peshall lived to an old age, in fact so long did he live that he was contemporary with both Humphrey and his son John Peshall of the Horsley or main stem of the family tree. And by a curious turn of events he married in one case the sister of the wife of the elder and an aunt of the wife of the younger. This made the Horsley and Ranton branches of the family very nearly related although there had been no intermarriage such as sometimes happens in families who are distantly of the same stock. These intermarriages with the same female lines, made the families appear to be of the same stock, and this confused the early investigators who at once ascribed this and the preceding generations of the Ranton family of Peshall to the Horsley branch, and thereby blotted out all reference to the preceding Ranton ancestry with which the learned investigators were no doubt unacquainted, or in some instances where they knew of these early generations they ascribed this early Ranton ancestry to the Kinlet branch of the Peshall family.

The Horsley and Ranton branches of our family were strong supporters of the House of Lancaster, while the Kinlet branch of the family supported the house of York with equal fervor. After the Battle of Bosworth Field the feeling between the supporters of the white and those of the red rose was very bitter, specially as between the several branches of our family and consequently the Lancaster-Peshall families, which means of course the Horsley and Ranton, changed their spelling of the family name to Persall, whereas the other side, represented by the Kinlet folks, continued to call themselves Peshall. The writer has before him as he is writing this statement, the will of the widow of Hugh Peshall of Kinlet, made in 1519, who was the last of the name in that line, and she distinctly calls herself Peshall so we see how bitter the feeling had grown, inter-family, in the controversy between the followers of the white and those of the red rose.

It is easy to speak of the way they pronounced this new spelling for it would have been useless to change the spelling so as to indicate a difference of family among those having a common ancestry had they not also changed the sound of the family name. Hence they began at this time to so call themselves that the sound was the equivalent of Peer-saal. The Horsley folks, however, continued to use the H, the silent letter in which the cockney Englishman has always had

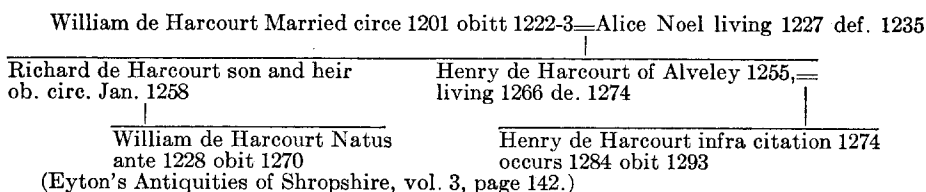
so much pride. Whereas the Ranton folks would not consent to any but the most obvious change, hence they dropped this silent h and they became known as Persall. It was really forced upon them to make so radical a change as from their nearness to Kinlet they were constantly being confused with that family, and irrespective of their feelings of antagonism to the Yorkists, they were bound sooner or later to do something which would distinguish them from the Kinlet family of Peshall with whom they had not been on intimate terms for many generations.

\*22. RALPH PERSALL, son of Humphrey Persall, see Division No. 20.

1533. Ralph Persall was curate of Ronton, a church in New Castle D. formerly approp. to Ronton Priory. Reported C. 1538, then the Priory stood charged to find a curate to serve the chapel here and to pay him a salary of 40s. p.a. and to find him meat, drink and a chamber in the Priory. Ralph Persall paid a tax of 5s. and 4d. here as curate in 1533. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 9, part 1, pages 56, 79, 82, 84, and 92.]

Ronton is in the parish of Seighford along with Ellenhall, both of the Bridg-fords, Doddington, Stallbrooke, Coton, Doxey, Aston and Seighford; Ronton and Ellenhall came to Noel, who came into England along with the Conqueror, at the time of his marriage with Celestria de Limesi, daughter of Bishop Robert de Limesi. Their son, Robert Noel, founded the Priory of Ronton and in the time of King Henry I. possessed Ronton and other lands which came to Thomas, his son and heir, which Thomas was sheriff of Staffordshire the last three years of Henry II. and the first year of Richard I. He left two daughters, of whom Alice, the oldest, married Sir William de Harcourt, Knight. This presentation to the Church was part of the Harcourt inheritance at this period of time, hence the reason why Ralph Persall was curate thereof.

Walter Chetwine, History of Pirehill Hundred, vol. 1914, page 83. Eyton in his Antiquities of Shropshire, vol. 4, page 142, gives the following pedigree which shows this marriage with Noel.



\*23. WILLIAM PERSALL, son of Humphrey Persall. See Division No. 20.

Married ———. Children:—

1. William Persall of Rounton, County Stafford, Married Jane Hugford of Dickelston, County Gloucester, daughter of John Hugford and his wife Elizabeth Ffetiplace. Children:—
  1. James Persall, married a daughter of Morley de Sussex. Child:—
    1. Johes de Persall de Naples, Italy.
  2. John Persall.
  3. Robert Persall, married Dorothy Brereton, daughter of Ed. Brereton of Bursham in County Denbigh.

4. Humphrey Persall, married Letitia Harcourt daughter and heir of Sir Robert Harcourt. (The Register of Wirigton, County Bucks says—Humphredus P sell de Warigton matrimonius ano 1605.)
  5. Edmund Persall.
  6. Charles Persall.
  7. Francisca Persall.
  8. Anna Persall.
  2. Richard Persall whose son Henry Persall merchant of London married ———. Children:—
    1. Margaret Persal, married at All Hollows, Bread-Street, London, James Angel. Child:— 1. Anne Angel.
    2. William Persall is named as Broad weaver living in County Gloucester in men and arms for Gloucester 1608 as viewed by Rt. Hon. Lord Berkeley in the month of August 1608.
    3. Charles Pershall—Doncaster Act Books—On the 11th day of December 1605 Administration of all and singular the goods and credits of Charles Pershall, Knight, late of Sheffield Lodge in the Diocese of York was granted to William Pershall the brother of the said deceased he having first sworn duly to administer. An Inventory was exhibited and a bond entered.
- [Vide Note Book of Rev. Sir John Peshall. Visitations of Buckinghamshire 1566. Harl. Mss. 1570 in British Museum. Visitations of Gloucestershire 1623 and The District Probate Registry at York.]

\*24. HUGH PERSALL of Knightley Gent., son of Humphrey Persall, see Division No. 20, named 1527 along with his father as having assaulted John Harcourt.

According to the Note Book of Rev. John Peshall he had a son I. Humphrey who settled in Derbyshire and became the ancestor of the Peachells, Passels, Purshals, etc., in those parts. As to this we have no information as our searches did not follow this line into Derbyshire. There appears to have been a Hugh Peachell who later lived in the West Indies. Being of a taciturn frame of mind he was uncommunicative and seems to have attracted the tongue of scandal. His story is told in the following extract from English Notes & Queries, I.S. vol. 3, page 407.—

Hugh Peachell—Sir John Marsham. Can any of your correspondents give me information respecting one Hugh Peachell, of whom I find the following curious notice in a bundle of MSS. in the State Paper Office, marked 'America and West Indies, No. 481 A.' St. Michaels Towne in ye Barbados, Sept. 30 (1670). Jo. Nerrington, Address Mr. James Drawater. Merch 6 at Mr. Jo. Lindapp's at ye Bunch of Grapes in Shipyard by Temple Lane. All ye news I can write from here is yt one Hugh Peachell, who hath been in this Island allmost twenty years and lived with many persons of good esteem, and was last with Coll. Barwick. It was observed that he gained mych moneys, yet none thrived lesse than hee; and falling sicke about 3 weeks since, was much troubled in his conscience, but would not utter himself to any but a minister; who being sent for He did acknowledge himself ye person yt cut off ye head of King Charles, for wch he had 100 lbs and with much seeming penitence and receiving such comforts as the Devine, one

parson Leshely, an emminent man here, could afford him, he dyed in a quarter of an hour afterwards. This you may report for truth, although you should not have it from any other hand. He had 100 lbs for ye doing of itt. There is one Wm. Hervit condemned for ye same, I think now in Newgate; he will be glad you acquaint him of this if he have it not allready. [The records of the Virginia Company, May 22, 1622, disclose that Capt. Thomas Barwick was proposed and admitted to be a free brother of the Company.]

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION A.

SIR RICHARD PERSALL, son of Sir Humphrey Persall, Chapter 18, Section 6, No. 21. The following chart will show the pedigree of the descendants of Sir Richard Persall, so far as the same was disclosed by our notes.

##### 1. Richard Persall.

Richard, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division B	Robert, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division K	Henry, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division H.	John
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1. SIR RICHARD PESHALL, knight, resided at Swinnerton, Staffordshire; married a daughter of Humphrey Wolrich and his wife Joyce Peshall, daughter of Hugh Peshall of Knightley. [Visitation of Shropshire 1623, Harl. MSS. No. 29.] Children:—

1. Richard Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division B.
2. JOHN PESHALL, son of Richard Peshall, married Ann daughter of Randle Breston of Malpas and his wife Eleanor Dutton, daughter of Piers Dutton. She was relict of John Harcourt of Ranton, Staffordshire. [Visitation of Cheshire 1580, Harl. Mss. fol. 44.] Child: —
3. Margaret Persall, married — Brereton of Haughton, Cheshire. [Vide Note Book of Rev. John Peshall.]
4. William Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division D.
5. Henry Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division G.
6. John Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division J.

The Muster Roll of 1539 for Staffordshire names this Richard Persall as living at Swinnerton. [Staff. Hist. Coll. Vol. 5, page 272.]

This marriage into the Kinlet branch of the family resulted in Sir Richard using the form of Peshall for his surname but the influences of his relatives in the Ronton branch were too strong to be resisted and therefore the members of this particular branch soon reverted to the Ranton spelling of Persall.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION B.

RICHARD PERSALL of Ronton, Cuddleston Hundred, Staffordshire, married — — —. Child:—

1. Richard Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division C.

The Muster Roll of 1539 mentions this Richard Persall as living at Ranton. [Hist. Coll. Staff. Vol. 5, page 272.]

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION C.

2. SIR RICHARD PESHALL of Ronton, Staffordshire, son of Richard Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division B. Children:—

1. Richard Persall. Married ———. Children:—  
Among those who disclaimed at the visitation of Staffordshire in 1663-4 appears the name of Richard Persall living in Cuddleston Hundred. [Staff. Hist. Coll. Vol. 5, N.S. page 321.]
2. Elizabeth Pershall, married Johanne Sherrard de Tonge in Cornfest, Leicester, aged 67. Children:—\*1. Ciciley Sherrard; \*2. Mary Sherrard; \*3. Elizabeth Sherrard; \*4. Joane Sherrard; \*5. Edward Sherrard de London, Wine cooper; \*6. Thomas Sherrard de London; \*7 Georgies aet. 36, 1619; \*8. Johannis Sherrard, son and heir, aet. 42 in 1619.  
[Visitations County Leicester, 1619, Harl. Mss. page 88.]
3. Ellen Persall, married Jo. Jobson of Minkinch in West Donyland, County Essex. Children:—\*1. Persall Jobson; \*2. N. N. daughter who married Clement Medley of Whitners County Warwick. [Visitations of Essex, 1558, Harl. Mss. page 65.]

## SECTION 7, DIVISION D.

SIR WILLIAM PERSHALL, Knight, son of Richard Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division A. Married Mary Thombley daughter of Richard of High Holborn and his wife Mary Brooksby of Shoby, County Lincoln [Lincolnshire Pedigrees, Harl. Mss. page 959.] Child:—

1. Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division E.

## SECTION 7, DIVISION E.

RICHARD PEARSALL, son of William Pershall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division D, resided Upper Toynton, County Lincoln. Married ———. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, who is named in his brother's will.
2. Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division F.

Lincoln Consistory Court Administration granted in Estate of Richard Pearsall, Gent., Deceased 1632, and recorded in Book I, page 128.

The Will of Richard Seaton of Hagworthingham, County Lincoln, which appears among the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and is recorded in Soane fol 42, is dated August 15, 1619, and was probated May 17, 1620, provides that the testator is to be buried in the Parish of Aswardbye and after providing for a bequest to the Church inter alia names his cousin Richard Pearsall.

## SECTION 7, DIVISION F.

RICHARD PEARSALL of Upper Toynton, County Lincoln, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division E. Married Bridget ———. Child:—

1. Margaret Pearsall married John Curtys. Children:—\*1. Richard Curtys; \*2. John Curtys; \*3. Elizabeth Curtys; \*4. Francis Curtys; \*5. Bridget Curtys; \*6. Cassandra Curtys; \*7 Mary Curtys.

The will of Richard Pearsall appears among the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and is recorded in Brent 303. The will is dated October 13, 1652 and probated August 4, 1652. He names his grandchildren Richard Curtys, John Curtys, Elizabeth Curtys, Francis Curtys, Bridget Curtys, Cassandry Curtys and Mary C. Curtys children of his son-in-law John Curtys and his

daughter Margaret Pearsall wife of said John Curtys. He leaves bequests to his wife Bridget Pearsall and her daughters Mary, Ann and Bridget. He names his brother John Pearsall and his friend Roger Furnolls. He makes bequest for the poor of Toynton. The witnesses are Thomas Jacks, Edward Jennings and Jo. Corkson. Probate was to his son-in-law John Curtys.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION G.

HENRY PERSALL son of Richard Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division A, resided in Brockley Parish, County Lincoln. He was a merchant of London. Married ———. Children:—

1. Isabella Persall. The Parish Register of Brockley Com Lincoln discloses that 1542-3 15 die mensis January Isabell Pysell filia Henrici Pysell baptismus Sub ae predicto.
2. Ralph Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division H.
3. Thomas Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division I.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION H.

RALPH PEARSALL, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division G, resided at upper Toynton County Lincoln. Married Jane Kirkman, sister of Leonard Kirkman and Elizabeth and Cecilia Kirkman. Children:—

1. William Pearsall.
2. Charles Pearsall.
3. Anne Pearsall.
4. Rose Pearsall. She is named in the will of her uncle Leonard Kirkman, dated August 1, 1604, of Easter Keale in the County of Lincoln, leaving to her a yearly annuity which he charges upon his lands. The will was probated at Lincoln October 10, 1604.

The will of Ralph Pearsall, dated 1st May, 1567. In the name of God Amen. The fyrst day of Maye in the yere of our Lord God a thousand fyve hundred threscore and seaven I Raffe Pearsall of Upper Toynton next Spyllesbie in the Countie of Lincoln gentleman Considering the uncertaintye of mane's tyme in this transitory worlde and the certaintie of deathe which bycause of nature towards me draweth next and alsoe considering that God of his mercy and goodness hathe not onlye indued me withe lands tenements goods & cattalls of my parte undeserved, but alsoe hathe sente me wyfe and children beinge younge and tender of age whose good educacon and lyvinge nature byndethe me to provide for, have therefore thought good to declare and make this my last will and testament in maner and forme followinge—

fyrst I bequeathe my soule &c. my bodie to be buried in the Church of Easter Keale in the Co. of Lincoln to which I bequeathe twentie shillings to repaire the pavinge of the Church—Thirty shillings alsoe for repairst to the Church of Upper Toynton. To everyone of my godchildren two shillings—Fyve shillings each to the poore of Upper and Nether Toynton—To the twoe daughters of my brother-in-lawe Leonard Kirkman eyther of them fowre ewe shepp. To my systers-in-lawe Elizabeth Kirkman and Cecill Kirkman six ewe shepp.

To my sonne William Pearsall all my lands &c purchased of Richard GoodKnapp in the parish of Croft, Co. Lincoln. To my sonne Charles Pearsall my younger sonne all my customary lands in the occupacon of Sir Geoffry Banks, Clarke—He, the testator, provides for his two daughters Anne Pearsall and Rose Pearsall when 21 or on marriage—and names "eyther of the sons of Henry Pearsall now lyving I geve to William my sonne one cheyne of gold"—The silver plate to be equallie divided among the children. "I geve to my very good ladye and Mystres my Ladye Talboyes now "wyfe of Sir Peter Coxon, Knight two of my best geldings." He appoints his welbeloved nephew Thomas Pearsall, Esquier executor with his wife Jane Pearsall & guardian with her for the children—In a memorandum or codecil he bequeaths "the sume of syxepounds in money to Harry Persall" & a year's wages to all his servants. Probate—20 Oct. 1567 to Jane relic. & Thomas Pearsall, Esquire.

The Lady Talboys above referred to was Elizabeth Blount the daughter of Sir John Blount and his wife Catharine Peshall. Before her marriage to Sir George Talboys of Kyme, County Lincoln, she had been the mother of a son by King Henry VIII., named Henry Fitzroy, who when about fifteen years old died by poison at St. James Palace, Westminster.

Raffe Pearsall—Jane Kirkman—brother, Leonard Kirkman  
| sisters,—Elizabeth and Cecill Kirkman.

William Charles Anne Rose  
See Bundle 16 No. 23 Pearsall v Kirkman I sent you 1. Oct. 1920.

Abstract. Public Record Office. Chancery Proceedings. Queen Elizabeth, 1558-1603. Bundle 16, No. 23. Pearsall v Kirkman. To the Rt. Hon. Sir

Thomas Bromley, Knight, Lord Chancellor of England. In most humblewise complayning sheweth unto yr. goode Lordshipp yr. daylie orator Thomas Pearshall Esquire. That whereas one Raffe Pearshall sometime of Irnham in the Countie of Lincoln, gentleman, deceased, beinge in his life tyme possessed of certain landes in the Mannor "Crofte" in the said countie & of goodes &c. to the value of one thousand poundes—Left the said landes & property to his twoe sonnes William & Charles Pearshall. Yr. said orator paid Raffe's wife Jane the funeral expenses & lent other monies which have not been paid by Raffe's heirs. Leonard Kirkman is the trustee appointed by Raffe.

This suit in equity was brought after the death of Jane Pearsall, and Leonard Kirkman denied that he had ever meddled with the property of Ralph Pearsall in any manner whatsoever and therefore he was not liable to an action by the complainant. He said that not only had Jane the widow taken over all the property of her deceased husband but that after her death her sons had taken whatever was left of their father's estate.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION I.

THOMAS PEARSALL, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division G.

Married ———. Child:—

1. Thomas Pearsall. He is named as his well-beloved nephew by his Uncle Ralph in his will, which see. Also read the abstract of the Chancery proceedings against the heirs of his uncle, Ralph Pearsall.  
Lincoln Consistory Court:—Administration granted on estate of Thomas Pearsall Gent, Deceased of Upper Toynton in 1605 and recorded in Book I. page 76.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION J.

JOHN PERSALL, son of Richard Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division A.

Married ———. Child:—

1. Alice Persall, married Nicholas Booth of Goxhill, son and heir of Henry Booth of Goxhill and his wife Mary Hopkinson. Aged sixteen and more 24th October 31 Hen. VIII. 1539. Children:—\*1. George Booth married Elizabeth Booth November 4, 1517. He was buried at Goxhill December 30, 1630. \*2. Cuthbert Booth; \*3. Roger Booth; \*4. Bartholomew Booth, married at St. Peters at Arches Lincoln, May 14, 1599, Alice Edwards of Spalding. \*5. William Booth; \*6. Mary Booth, married John Butler May 14, 1584.
2. Robert Parsall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division K.

#### SECTION 7, DIVISION K.

ROBERT PARSALL, son of John Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division J.

Resided in Bedfordshire; married ———. Children:—

1. Jane Parsell, married Richard Humphrie of Barton, County Leicester. Children:—\*1. William Humphrie, married Jane daughter of Thomas Linnie, County Kent; \*2. John Humphrie, married the daughter of Rous of

- County Worcester; \*3. Elenor Humphrie, married Thomas Babbington of Temple Rotherby, County Leicester. [Visitation of Leicester 1619, page 62.]
2. Thomas Persal, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division L.

## SECTION 7, DIVISION L.

THOMAS PERSAL son of Robert Persal, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division K.  
Married ———. Children:—

1. Frances Persall, baptised at Milwich, July 22, 1574.
2. Thomas Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division M.
3. William Persall, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division N.

## SECTION 7, DIVISION M.

THOMAS PERSAL, son of Thomas Persal, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division L.  
Married Isabella, who as his widow was buried at Millwich, December 26, 1632.  
He was Church warden at Millwich, January 6, 1606. He died in 1627. No children. His will appears in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Somerset House, London. Reference book "Skeynner"—1627, folio 46. Thomas Parcall.

In the Name of God, Amen. Ye fourth daie of October And in the second yeare of ye Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles &c. Anno dñi one thousand sixe hundred & twentie sixe—I Thomas Parcall of Garsall of the p'ish of Milwick in the Countie of Stafford, yeoman—&c my bodie to be buried in the Chauncell of Milwick—Item, I give and bequeath to my Cozen Anthony Parcall all my lands which I purchased of John Orchard deceased, & John Allen late of Garsall for any during his naturall life, ye wch lands are comonly called and knowne by ye names of Castlefields and Castle Crofte, Scituare and lying in Garsall and Milwich aforesaid, and after the decease of the said Anthony I give and bequeath to John Parcall sonne of the said Anthony all the said lands to him and his heirs for ever. Item, I give and bequeath to ye said Anthony Parcall the reversion and remainder of a lease of Meg meadow. Item, I give and bequeath to Joyce Last £10.—£9.10.0 whereof is in the hands of John Hurdman. Item, I give to Isabell Piddings 20s. Item, I give and bequeath to Editha Shaw my best brass pott, my best voyder, my best bason, & five pounds of lawfull English money. I give to Thomas Baxter my godson £10. Item, I give to Thomas Parcall £20. to William Parcall £20. to Anthony Willmot 10s. to Jane Hitchcock 6s. 8d. to Catherine Astburie 8s. to Jane Dove 5s. To Elizabeth Bassit 6s. 8d. To Widowe Breedihurst 6s. 8d. all which legacies my mind and will is shalle paid within the space of two yeares next after my decease. I give toward the repaying of the Chauncell floore of Milwich £2. to bee disposed of by James Shaw, Vicar there. Item, I give to Dorothe Smith my god daughter one Towell and one Tablecloth. Item, I give to Elizabeth Hurlebutt my second brasse pott. to Thomas Rushton my third brasse pott and one chafing dish. Item, I give to James Shaw, Richard Hurlebutt and Thomas Rushton £25 to the use and behoofe of Margery ye wife of Richard Last. Item, I give to the

said Margery my bed that I ly upon with all that p'taines unto it. One Coverlett and one little brasse pott. Item all the rest of my goods moveable and immoveable of what kind so ever I give and bequeath to the said James Shaw Richard Hurlebutt and Thomas Rushton whom I do constitute and make joynt executors of this my last will and Testament—In witness whereof I the Testator have putt my hand and seale ye daie and yeare first above written. Sealed and delivered in the presence of John Hurdman, William Carington, Richard Massey and Frances Massey. October the 4th, 1626. Debts owing to mee Thomas Parcall of Milwich: Richard Hurlebutt £15. Ja: Shaw £10. Thos. Ruston £3.10s.0d., Jo: Hurdman £9.10s.0d. Rich: Phillips de Eaton £5. Geo. Willett £5., Robert Allin £4., William Hill £4. Geo.: Wright and Jo: Collier £2., X'pher Wright £1., William Norwell. £2., Wm Spooner 2s. 4d., Robt. Phillips de Eaton 4s., Geo: Wright, 5s., Hen: Smith £1. Ja: Phillips £2., Rich: Massey £3., Robt. Phillips £1., Tho: Tayler £3. Rich: Flint £3., Wm Milnes £1.10s.0d., Edward Phillips £1., Wm Walter, 3s.5d. Joh: Hill £1.16s.4d., Foxe de Eanswall £2., Sam: Wiggin £1., Jo: Hall of Ernfeild £1., Geo: Betson £2., Robt. Lase de Sighford £1., Anthony Phillips als. Coleclough £8., Rich: Watwood de Amerton £4., Wm Cooke £6., Francis Baxter £3., Geo: Smith de Stow, £3., Widow Cooke £8., Geo: Grime £1., Tho: Cliffe de frodeswall £2., Jo: Cliffe £5., Mr. Adderley late of Blackehall £14., Fran: Phillips de Teane £3., Rich: Cartlich £1.12s.0d., Wm. Alt. £1.10s.0d., Mr. Wm Aston £1., Geo: Harris de Droynton £2., Anne Saunder £6. Suma £155.—Geo.: Willett for ye rent of Guler meadow 25s. Rich: Allin de Salt 4s. Mr. Mat. Erdiswicke £1.—Confessed and acknowledged by the said Thomas Parcall in the presence of John Hurdman, William Carington & Richard Massey—Thomas Parcall his marke:

## SECTION 7, DIVISION N.

7. WILLIAM PARSELL, son of Thomas Persal, Chapter 18, Section 7, Division L.

William Parsell appointed Guardian of children of Roger Marsh, decd., February 7, 1602-3, by the Merchant Taylors Company. [Miscellaneous Genealogic & Heraldica, vol. 5, page 277.]

Marriage licenses granted by the Bishop of London. November 10, 1618, Walter Rolton, gentleman, now of St. Botolph, Algate, son of Walter Rolte, esq. of Clifton, Beds. who consents and Francis Dixey of same, spinster 19,



daughter of Sir Willston Dixsey of Bosworth, co. Leicester, kt., who consents, attested by William Parsell of St. Botolphs aforesd. merchant taylor, brother-in-law to sd. Walter Rolten the younger at Stepney. [Harl. Soc., vol. 26, page 66.]

## SECTION 8.

## HALES OWEN, WILLSBRIDGE, ENGLAND, PEARSALLS.

1. JOHN PERSALL of Hales Owen, co. Salop, son of Humphrey Peshall of Knightley, Chapter 18, Section 6, Division 20, married Margery Harcourt. She was daughter of Thomas Harcourt of Ranton, see Chapter 24, Section 2. Her brother John Harcourt of Ranton married Jane Brerton daughter of Sir Randle Brereton of Malpas. Children:—

1. Humphrey Persall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division A.
2. Thomas Persall, buried December 5, 1588, at Hales Owen; married Elizabeth — who was buried August 10, 1588. Child:—
  1. Margery Persall, buried April 3, 1580; married William Meanly at Halesowen Parish Church, November 9, 1572.
  2. James Persall.

Abstract. Public Record Office. Chancery Proceedings. Queen Elizabeth, 1558-1603. Bundle 8, No. 3. Persall v. Persall. To the Rt. Hon. Sir Christopher Hatton, Knight, Lord Chancellor of England. Date, 11th. Febr. 1592. Humbly complayning sheweth unto your good Lordshipp your dayly Orator James Persall that whereas as well one Thomas Persall yr. orator's father as yr. poore orator himself have by the space of many yeares now laste past inhabited & dwelled in a new messuage or tenement in Hallen in the Co. of Salop, he yr. said orator having . . . . tyle therein & where also yr. said orator was possessed of dyvers goods, chattles, utensils & household stufte in the said messuage remaining to the value of twenty pounds, &c. Johanne Persall & William Roe keep the goodes & will "not part"—John Persall brother of Johanne left her by his will proved 22 Jan. 1587 nearly all his belongings & appointed her sole executrix—hence this trouble. (William Roe means her husband, this being the technical way of naming an unknown party to a suit either in law or equity.)

Thomas Pearsall was one of the witnesses to the will of William Grove of Hales Owen dated May 8, 1566, proven August 6, 1566. [The Grove Family of Halesowen Genealogy.]

3. Henry Persall, Chapter 18, Section 10.
4. Elizabeth Persall, married Roger Symons. Children:—\*1. John Symons; \*2. Elizabeth Symons, described in her uncle Humfrey's will as my s'vant kynswoman, and others.

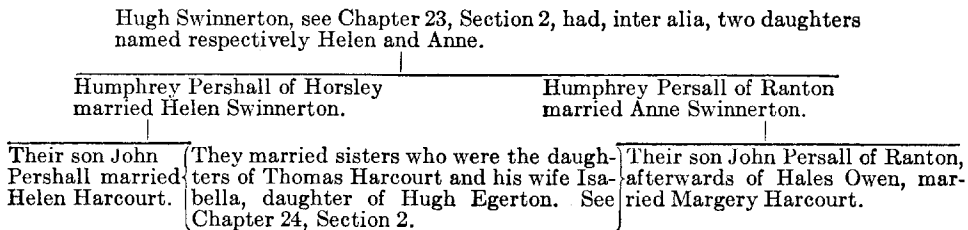
Among the wills and administrations at Worcester Probate Registry, in Register VIII, page 123, appears the will of John Persall (P'sall) of Halesowen, which abstracts as follows. He desired to be buried at Hales Owen. He names his sons Henry, Thomas and Humfrey, daughter Elizabeth, son-in-law Roger Sym-

ons; Godson John Symons, Godson Lawrence Pearsall, granddaughter Eleanor P'sall and Margery Ball; his wife Margery. Will dated May 14, 1545; probated July 14, 1545. His wife and son Humfrey to be executors. Witnesses: Sir John Hunbache, Richard Atkys and John Darby.

Letters of Administration were granted upon the estate of his wife and recorded at Worcester in Registry Book V, page 267, and noted as follows:— May 2, 1549. Administration of the goods &c. of Margerye Persall of Hales Owen, intestate, widow, granted to Humfrey Persall her son.

The Muster Roll of 1539 for Staffordshire shows this John Persal as then living in the section of Shenston and Chesterfield which also discloses that he did not come to Hales Owen until after his sons had bought land there. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 4, page 228.]

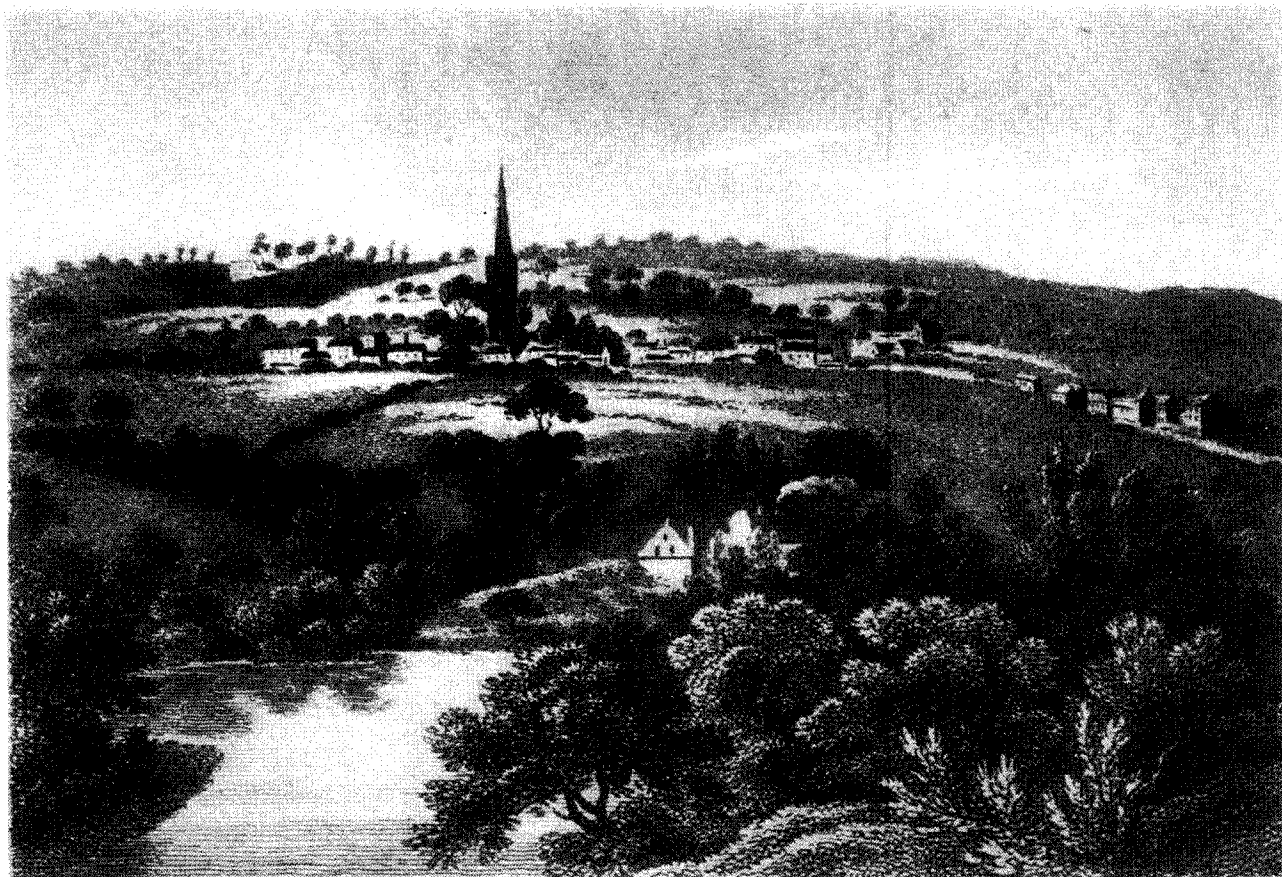
The family relationships, for there were more than one such family relation, between the branches of our family at Ranton and that at Horsley, at this time, were very peculiar and later proved very baffling to the genealogists who attempted to chart the ancestry of each of these branches. This will appear quite plainly by an examination of the following chart:—



As a consequence, if the John Pershall of Horsley and the John Persall of Hales Owen considered their relationship from the standpoint of their Pershall ancestry then they were distant cousins. But if they considered their relationship from the standpoint of their Swinnerton ancestry then they were first cousins. Whereas if they considered their relationship from the standpoint of their wives then they were brothers-in-law. It was very easy after a century had passed to so confuse these Humphreys and Johns as to come to the conclusion that they were respectively the same individuals. This is the reason why the Hales Owen branch of the family have had so much difficulty in trying to state their ancestry and to connect it to the main stem of the Pershall family. The direct result of these marriages was to make the Ranton and Horsley families very intimate, and to make them call each other cousins as well as to have the closest business dealings with each other. This intimacy, as we shall presently see, had an important bearing upon the later history of both these branches of our family.

One of the results of the dissolution of the religious land holdings in the time of Henry VIII. and the transfer of their land holdings to private ownership was that many of these new owners speculated in these newly acquired lands by plotting them into lesser holdings which came within the means and capacity to own and farm by well-to-do yeoman. There were therefore many who took advantage of the land sales or lettings, for the lands were sold on perpetual ground rent and





HALES OWEN SHROPSHIRE

consequently there was at this time quite a shifting of their home locality by many of the oldest and longest-seated families in England. Among the rest who at this time acquired lands in this way was John Persall of Ranton who bought a lease at Hales Owen, and thereby became the genealogist of the Hales Owen branch and of the Kidderminster branches of our family.

Hales Owen is an insulated district belonging to the hundred of Brinsty in Shropshire, but circumscribed by Worcestershire and Staffordshire. [Description of the County of Salop, 1813, by Rev. M. Nightingale, page 326.]

In Domesday Book A.D. 1086, Hales Owen is named as having a church and two priests.

Note:—This is a living line and will therefore spread out, of the brothers and sisters as we proceed.  
so we shall follow the line of seniority by birth, disposing

### SECTION 8, DIVISION A.

HUMPHREY PERSALL, of Hales, otherwise Hawne, son of John Persall of Hales Owen, Chapter 18, Section 8, was buried November 29, 1580; married Joise Atkys, daughter of Richard Atkys who was baptised March 2, 1588-9; buried February 7, 1590 in Hales Owen. Children:—

1. Lawrence Persall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division B.
2. John Persall, died 1587-88; buried January 10, 1587-8 at Hales Owen.

The will of John Persall, dated November 11, 1583; proved January 22, 1587-8 at Worcester. John Persall of Hawne to be buried in the churchyard at Hales Owen; to my sister Joan Persall my messuage called Pyninges Yard in Hawne and also 3 acres of land in Hawne which late I had by gift and assignment of Humffrey psall (Persall) my father lately to me made dated 6 December 11 Eliz. for certain years yet enduring, and also other lands had of my father deceased by deed dated 16 Nov. 22 Eliz. and other lands held of the manor of Wolverhampton; Ellenor Hodgett my sister; Alice Hurrot (of Hurcot) (Harcourt), my sister; Elizabeth Mylward my sister; mother Joice Persall; William Meaneley my god son and son of William Meaneley at age of 21; my goddaughter the daughter of John Collins, of Hasbury; my brother Lawrence Persall; my sister Jane Persell, sole executrix; my uncle William Atkis and William Mylward to be overseers. Witnesses: William Atkis and Richard Alchurche. [Shropshire Notes & Queries, vol. 4, page 28.]

3. William Persal, married ———. Children:—
  1. William Persall, married Elizabeth ———, November 30, 1675. Elizabeth wife of William Persall buried December 8, 1676. William Percehall buried. Children:—
    1. William Persall, baptized January 24, 1629, buried March 31, 1654.
    2. John Persall, baptized September 23, 1632, married Anne ———. "Anne ye wife of John Pearsall," buried August 9, 1684. Child:—
      1. John Pearsall of Rovington, co. Warwick, was buried May 8, 1752; married February 9, 1695, Mary Aylesbury of the Parish of Hatten. John Pearsall and Mary his wife baptized October 8, 1698. "ye wife of John Pearsall buried October 5, 1728." Children:—

1. Joyce Pearsall, bapt. January 24, 1696.
2. N. N. bapt. January 2, 1700.
3. Richard Pearsall, bapt. February 1, 1702; buried January 8, 1732. Chapter 18, Section 12.
4. Ralph Pearsall, bapt. February 26, 1707.
5. Joseph Pearsall, bapt. January 26, buried February 3, 1709.
6. Mary Pearsall, his twin, bapt. January 26; buried February 3, 1709.
7. David Pearsall, bapt. March 19, 1711.
2. William Pearsall, married January 24, 1694, Ann Cotherill at St. Helens Church. [Rovington, Co. Warwick, Records.]
3. Mary Persall baptised January 6, 1641.
2. Lawrence Persall. The Note Book of Rev. Sir John Peshall says:— he was born August 19, baptised September 1, 1563 at Hallen and married Joan daughter of R. Broughton of Staffordshire, who dying September 23, 1632, had issue by her, John Persall, born April 3, baptised 17, 1591, who married Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Williams of Cornden, Gloucestershire. Which John dying of consumption August 21, 1645, S.P. the Hallen Estate passed at the will of John deceased to his cousin John Persall of Hales Owen. Lawrence Persall had received part of the Blount & Tuckey leasehold from his aunt Joane Persall, wife of William Sheldon.
3. Humphrey Persall, died 1626. Married Ellen ——. Later investigators have found that Humphrey Persall dealt with the Witley Estate, the Tuckey & Blount Lease in 1616. [The Herald and Genealogist, vol. 7, page 271.]  
Lichfield. July 4, 1626. Administration of the goods of Humfrey Pearsole of the Parish of Swinford, granted to Ellen Pearsole his relict. Goods prized by John Trymmyns and Richard Baker, June 28, 1626. Children:—  
  1. John Pearsall of Chaddesley Corbet who married at St. Marys Church, Kidderminster, May 6 or 16, 1657 Mary Sytch of Cheddesley Corbet. Children:—? [Records of Havington Hall-Cheddesley Corbet, Worcestershire, September 7, 1791, John, son of John and Sarah Persel of Havington, baptised, born August 26. Gossip Edw. Rowe and Mary Foxall. November 13, 1791, baptised Hannah Persall daughter of John and Sarah Persel of Havington Hall, born November 10. Gossip George Hadley and Mary Maidew—Catholic Record Society, vol. 10, page 380.]
  2. Mary Pearsall, married at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster March 19, 1654, 5 Nycholas Bate. They were both of Bromsgrove.
  3. Ann Pearsall, married at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster, November 12, 1656, William Penn of Cheddesley Corbet; she was recorded as of Belbroughton. Child:—William Penn of Harborough in the County of Worcester who in January, 1725, was one of the parties to the Indenture of lease and release between Thomas Pearsall the Elder and

Anne his wife, and others; recited in Chapter 18, Section 8, Division F. About a century and a half later some of his descendants in the persons of Henry and Nicholas Penn came to Kidderminster where they in 1758 subscribed to the Charity School on High Street which commenced that year, and where they were active in both the old and new meeting Houses of dissenters. [History of the New Meeting House Kidderminster, page 224.]

4. Eleanor Persall, married November 15, 1567, William Hodgetts in Hales Owen Parish Church. Children:—William Hodgetts and Anne Hodgetts.
5. Elizabeth Persall, married 1581, Thomas Mylward. Child:—Joane Mylward.
6. Joane Persall, married November 18, 1590, William Sheldon, eldest brother of Ann Sheldon, wife of Sir John Peshall, Bt.

It will be noticed that by her brother John's will she received part of the Tuckey & Blount Leasehold. This according to the note book of the Rev. John Peshall she passed by gift, devise or sale to her nephew Lawrence Persall, son of her brother William. Our transcript of the Hales Owen Register says that her husband's name was William Feldon. There was a Feldon family in this Parish and in 1532 it is recorded in Lyttleton, Nash II, app XXvII, that William Feldon alias Carpenter gives up all claim to land on which Oldbury Chapel is built. It may have been this fact which caused the Clerk of the Parish to confuse the name of the husband of Elizabeth Pearsall. Robert Pearsall says that: With respect to the query re Joan Persall & William Sheldon married 18 Nov. 1590, to me it is quite clear. I have seen it in the Register at Halesowen Ch: it is written like this "Sheldon" there is the long S & the long h not double f feldon as published, besides there is no name of Feldon that I have ever heard of.

7. Alice Persall, married January 25, 1577-8 in Hales Owen Parish Church, Thomas Hurcott (Harcourt).

The will of Humphrey Persall appears among the records at Worcester and abstracts as follows:— 16 November, 1580. Humphrey Persall of Halen, otherwise Hawne. To John Persall my son cattle and land; to William Persall my son money and cattle; William Hodget my daughter Eleanor's son; An Hodget my god-daughter; my daughter Elizabeth Pearsall; my daughter Joane Pearsall; to my wife Joies the use and occupation of certain lands; to Lawrence Persall lands formerly of the grant and demise of Thomas Blunt and George Tuckey, squires. Proved 19 December 1590.

In 1539 the King granted the manor of Hales Owen to Sir John Dudley who assigned it to his wife Joan.

1547. Hales Owen manor leased by Sir John Dudley to G. Tuckeye.

1555. Sir Robert Dudley partly by inheritance and partly by purchase succeeds to the manor which he sells to Blunt and Tuckey who sell it to John Littleton for a ground rent issuing out of this property for a thousand years. May 1, 1558, Humphrey Peyrssel obtained from Blunt and Tuckey, a freehold in part of these lands subject to the ground lease made by them to John Littleton as aforesaid. [Herald. & Gen. vol. 7, page 271; The Bibliography & Chronology of Halesowen by Henry Ling Roth.]

The reign of Henry VIII. was marked among other things by the extension of enclosures for sheep-farming. For every one was now convinced that the foot of the sheep would turn sand into gold; and so not only the lords of the manors and their farmers, but also the free tenants and it would appear the copyholders, if they had land enough, were all equally anxious to make as much as possible out of their estates by rooting up tillage and taking to grazing, regarding, as the malcontents said, their own singular lucre and profit more than the common weal of the realm. This movement was greatly accelerated by Henry VIII. when in 1536 he suppressed the Monasteries and regranted their estates to the new class of owners drawn from the merchants and others who had become rich in trade. For they, wishing either to live like lords or to keep root in their newly acquired manors, were greedier for lucre than the monks, and less hampered in the pursuit of it by any sentimental feeling towards their tenants. As a fact these merchants had begun to buy up farms even before the dissolution of the monasteries. There were also landlords who seeing this tendency of the times took advantage of it to increase their landed holdings for the purpose of speculation. Among the latter class were the Littletons, Dudleys and others who became large holders of farm lands near Hawn. The conservative element in these communities looked upon this revolution in land holdings with many anticipations of the evils that were to result to the realm by thus uprooting the very foundations of its strength and solidity as a nation. It was hard for them to appreciate that any one could look upon land as a commodity to be dealt with for the profit to be gained and not merely as a source of sustenance. A view which has since become so universal that we can hardly appreciate the storm of anger that greeted its first introduction. [Social England by Traill and Mann, Vol. III, page 152]. There were also many yeomen who had accumulated considerable wealth and who were financially capable of owning large estates. Among the rest was Humphrey Pearsall who took advantage of this period of land sales to acquire a large part of the lands of the impropriated estate of the monastery at Hawn als Hales Owen.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION B.

LAWRENCE PEARSALL of Luden and Halen, otherwise Hawne, in Hales Owen, co. Salop, son of Humphrey Persall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division A, married Margaret Norrice, sister of Thomas Norrice of Peshock, or Rushock, co. Wigorne. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, bapt. 18 August, 1575. Chapter 18, Section 8, Division C.
2. Alice Pearsall, bapt. June 29, 1583; unmarried January 24, 1619. Her signature appears on a deed of that date, fflowlke Borne to John Pearsall freehold in Hawn and Hasburn witnessed by Thomas Haden the elder, Thomas Haden the younger, Humphri Pearsall, Richard Mucklowe, Richard Lowbridge, Thomas Haywood, Alice Pearsall, and Ann Pearsall.
3. Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division U.
4. Elizabeth Pearsall, married Richard Mucklowe.
5. A daughter who married Thomas Haden.

It will be noticed that Lawrence, born Persall, now calls himself Pearsall. Edmond Pearsall, merchant and Grocer of London, began to visit Hales Owen in



connection with the buying of Wool and hides as early as 1552. The Hales Owen Parish Church records disclose that the new way of spelling the family name was used as early as 1569, and that all of Lawrence Pearsall's children were baptised as Pearsall. The reader must keep in mind that Edmond Pearsall was second cousin to Lawrence Pearsall.

A long will, on paper torn and imperfect, appears among the records of Worcester, dated May 11, 1615, proved June 6, 1615. It is the will of Lawrence Pearsall, of Halen, otherwise Hawne in the Parish of Hales Owen in the county of Shropshire. He names his daughter Alice; her uncle Thomas Norrice of Peshock, co. Worcester and Thomas Hadon of Rowley, co. Stafford are mentioned; testators, son Humphrey Pearsall and a daughter not named but described as the now wife of Rychard Mycklowe; John Pearsall the eldest son; Humphrey Pearsall the youngest son; son-in-law Thomas Hadon; Margaret Pearsall, daughter of John Pearsall, Ann Pearsall, daughter of Lawrence Pearsall of Hales my kinswoman; Ann Pearsall the widow of Humphrey Pearsall, deceased; to the poor in Hales Owen, Hawne and Hasburie; residue to eldest son John sole executor. Thomas Norrice and Thomas Hadon, overseers.

Lawrence Pearsall dealt with the Witley Estate in 1580, that is the lease of Tuckey and Blount. It was obtained in 4 Ana 6 Philip and Mary (A.D. 1557-8) for one thousand years. The part coming to the Pearsalls was called the Merce Field. The original Leasehold was divided into six parts. [Herald and Genealogist, Vol. 7, page 271.]

James I. 1603-1625. Chancery Proceedings. Abstract. Bundle 8, No. 41. Peresall v Jones. Dated 9th Nov. 1607. To the Rt. Hon. the Lord Ellesmere, Lord Chancellor of England. In most humblewise and otherwise unto your honor your Orator Lawrence Pershall of Halesowen Co. Salop, yoeman—Whereas one William Jones of Halesowen justly indebted to one Humphrey Littleton, gent. in the sume of XVII lb. & to one William Lea, gent. in the sume of XV lb., VIIIs & Thomas Russell of Halesowen is surety. Yr. orator paid the debts out of pity to save them from prison & on condition that certain arrable land should be given him.—This promise was not kept hence the suit.

Note.—In the document the name more than once is engrossed *Pershall*. that is "PESHALL" but to begin with it is "PERSHALL" as above, altho indexed

"PERESALL," thereby disclosing that Laurence had not yet fully adopted the new spelling of Pearsall and was inclined to follow the Horsley folks instead of their brother Edmund of London.

James I. 1603-1625. Chancery Proceedings. Abstract. Bundle 4. No. 41. Pearsall v Marsh. Dated 27 Nov. 1612. To the Rt. Hon. the Lord Ellesmere, Lord Chancellor of England. Yr. orator Lawrence Pearsall of the Parish of Halesowen Co. Salopp, complayneth whereas one Richard Hammett late of Dudley, Co. Wigorn, now deceased, about the XXII yeare of our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth did borrow of one John Marshe of Sedgely Co. Staffd also deceased upon some bargain or agreement between them the sume of XX lb. & in consideration of the said sume he Richard Hammett by some deed in writing under his hand & seale, bearing date about the same tyme did agree & covenant with the said John Marshe to pay the sume of £3. 10s. 0d per annum He the complaynent entered into a bond with Richard Hammett to John Marshe in the sume of £40. William Marshe son of John Marshe & Cateryn Jukes

widow & late wyfe of John Marshe & mother of the said William get possession of the documents which should be cancelled the sume borrowed having been payd.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION C.

JOHN PEARSALL of Hawne, son of Lawrence Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division B, was bapt. August 18, 1575; married Elizabeth Lowbridge, daughter of Richard Lowbridge. Children:—

1. Lawrence Pearsall, bapt. Oct. 31, 1618, died young.
2. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division D; born January 7, baptized January 21, 1620, died June 12, 1661.
3. Lawrence Pearsall, born February 10, baptised February 22, 1621, of Norton and Rowley Staffordshire. Married January 2, 1641-2, May Fowler, daughter of R. Fowler of Harnage, Salop. Died June 12, 1661. Children:—
  1. John Pearsall, born October 20, baptised November 1, 1642.
  2. Henry Pearsall, born June 11, baptised June 27, 1644, died before 1645.
  3. Mary Pearsall, born October 1, baptised October 17, 1645, married H. Skipwith.
  4. Elizabeth Pearsall, buried November 16, 1647.
  5. Jane Pearsall, born December 9, baptised December 28, 1647. Married J. Chetwood.
  6. Sarah Pearsall, baptised September 24, 1648.
4. Margaret Pearsall, married Richard Westwood. He was a grandson of Hugh Westwood who resided in St. Kenelin in 1500. Children:—\*1. John Westwood. He was vicar of Hales Owen in 1662. \*2. William Westwood; \*3. Elizabeth Westwood; \*4. Humphrey Westwood; \*5. Johanna Westwood; \*6. Thomas Westwood.
5. Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division J. [The Bibliography & Chronology of Halesowen, by Henry Ling Roth.]

The will of John Pearsall, dated March 6, 1644-5 and proved May 10, 1645 at Worcester. John Pearsall the elder, of Hawne in Hales Owen, co. Shropshire names wife Elizabeth, dwelling house at Hawne; grandchildren William and Elizabeth the children of my daughter Margaret Westwood, money at age of 21, and every other of the children of my said daughter, viz. John, Humphrey, Joan, and Thomas, money at age of 21; Richard Westwood, my son-in-law, father of the said children; son Lawrence Pearsall; John Pearsall, son of the said Lawrence; Amye Bridgewater my kinswoman; Humfrey Pearsall my son; residue to son John Pearsall, sole executor. Overseers:—Thomas Haden the elder and Richard Lowbridge.

In his Note Book the Rev. Sir John Peshall says:—That John Pearsall by his deed gives to his son John all that estate situate and lying in the Parish of Hales Owen by the name of Upper Halne being the tenements and messuages lately in the possession of his cousin John Persall of Halne deceased. (See Chapter 18, Section 8, Division A.) To his second son, Lawrence, he gives that estate lying in the Parish of Rowley coming by and being part of the dowery of his beloved Wife Mary, in default of issue to John eldest son of said Lawrence, in default of





Designed by W. J. Taylor. From a drawing by W. J. Taylor.

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STROGANOV

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his issue to his second son Henry. His third son Humphrey had received lands and tenements in Cratley V. P.

The Rev. Sir John Peshall says that the conveyance from John Persall Junior to the latter's cousin John Pearsall who married Elizabeth Lowbridge was by devise. Which accounts for the paper not being found among the other muniments of title to this property. The deed of confirmation to John Pearsall, Junior, reads as follows:—

27 April 1625. The Superintendent Corator Baron Thomas Little Knt. & Bart. of his Manor of Halesowen held a Court the twenty seventh day of April in the first year of the reign of Our Lord Charles, by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, king defender of the Faith &c.—First. In the presence of Henry Dugard under Superintendent Curator of the Manor aforesaid and Richard Darby Bailiff in charge of the Manor and Richard White, William Hadley, John Lowe and Humphrey Foreste servator in charge curator & others . . . of the manor aforesaid. To this Curator came Nicholas Paston personally & surrendered & returned into the hands of the Lord all others the use of the parcells of land called the Hillockey Leasowes and the parcell of land being part of the same adjacent & by Hillockey Meadow situate being & lying within the hamlet of Hallen otherwise Hawne within the parish of Halesowen before said & within the manor aforesaid in the co. of Salop between the land measure Being of the late Thomas Littleton Knt. & Baronet land lying by Hallen otherwise Hawne aforesaid near by the Crane bridge and riverlet, the silent water or marsh of the Stour, and all part & parcell thereof & singular every part To the behoof & use of John Pearsall junior his heirs & assigns every one of them concerning the manor aforesaid which said part,

the beforesaid Henry Dugard subleased, sold, conceded surrendered these hereditaments & tenements before said, sent on in part to the same John Pearsall, Junior, his heirs & assigns every one of them . . . concerning the manor before said. . . . And give without deduction 50 pounds to his under heirs & dismiss all under tenants, & faithfully respectively surrender at last to the Curator Baron of the Manor of Halesowen before said.—Court held the 18th day of May, in the year above written, in the presence of the Superintendent & bailiff beforesaid & George Howe, Nicholas Curtler and Richard Underhill servator curator of the manor beforesaid came Jocosia Paston widow of the before said Nicholas Paston personally in the presence of the Superintending Bailiff & servator aforesaid. . . . (Robert Pearsall says one's knowledge of latin failes with all the abbreviations, but it appears that Nicholas Paston had died since the previous meeting on the 25th April & the widow attended to confirm her late husband's transaction in the matter.) Seal of Edward Littleton Lord head Superintendent Curator aforesaid the day & year above written.—Halesowen copy hold surrender to John Pearsall, Junioris. Endorsed.—On the back is:—No. 20. A. E. 27 April 1st Charles, Hillivoe Sesson 1625.

The Littleton family had long been connected with Hales Owen. In 1481 Sir Thomas Lyttleton bequeathed to the Priory at Hales Owen a book be laid and bounded with an iron in some convenient part within the said church at his cost so that all priests and others may see and read it when it pleaseth them.

Within the Church the Bibles' chained a relic of the past  
But emblem of our liberty the chains are now unclaspt.

Later a Thomas Littleton was Vicar of Hales Owen. [Shropshire Notes & Queries, vol. 1 & 2, page 185.]

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION D.

JOHN PEARSALL of Hawne, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division C, was born January 7, 1620; died March 1, 1670.

He married first, September 10, 1644, Helen daughter of George Bathurst of Hawthrop, Northon, who died the next year. The following chart will show the ancestry of Helena Bathurst, and although there were no children by this marriage the chart is nevertheless important as showing the peculiar parallelism which for so many generations marked the relationship of the Horsley and this branch of the Ranton branches of the Peshale family. It will be noticed that Edmond Pearsall, Citizen and Grocer of London, was not only the father of Edmond Peshall, but was uncle of his wife, also uncle of the wife of John Pearsall.

John Pearsall, married second, August 17, 1646, Mary the fourth and youngest daughter of Richard Dolman of Clent, Staffordshire, by Anne daughter and coheir of W. and Jennet Philips, of Picton, Wales, son of J. Dolman de Eod, and Elizabeth daughter of William Gostwick, of Willington, Bedfordshire. The chart reads:—

## LAWRENCE BATHURST

Time of Henry VI—(1422-deposed 1461)—Seated at Cranbrook, Co. Kent—within a few miles of the ancient castle of Bathurst, situated in Bathurst wood in Battle Co. Sussex, was lost to his family in the Wars of the Roses, leaving 3 sons:—

Edward= . . .	. . . =Robert of Horsemonden= . . .	John of Staplehurst
	dau. of Williams Saunders, Esquire	
Launcelot Bathurst, Alderman of the City of London, who in the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth was possessor of the Manor of Franks. Horton Kirby, Dartford Co. Kent.	Judith dau of Bernard Randolph of London—She married secondly Sir Edward Kynaston of Alroyd, Co. Salop, Knt.	

Randolph Bathurst= . . .	George Bathurst=	Elizabeth	Maria only dau.=	Edmund
	Ture ux of Howthorp Co. Northampton	da. & coheir of Edw. Villiers Esq. of Howthorp Co. Northampton	of Alderman Bathurst of London	Peshall of Bromley & London.
	They had 13 sons & 4 daughters of whom the eldest,			
	Helena Bathurst was the first wife of	John Pearsall of Hawn Co Salop		

Sir Thomas Bathurst	=Maria dau. of Sir-Maynard whose will was proved 8 May 1689	Mary Bathurst	=Edmund Peshall	Robert	Thomas	Mary
			←			

Francis, elder son. Lancelot, younger son, to whom his Mother bequeathed her necklace of pearls "to be kept in the family" her diamond ring, watch, & the picture of her husband Sir Thomas Bathurst set in gold. One silver tankard, one silver plate, one silver poringer & spoon. All the books in the closet, which I call my closet in the Mansion House called "Franks"—one suite of my best Damask Table linnen & one suite of the finest diaper Table linnen that was the linnen of my Mother Dame Mary Maynard; my cabinet & all monies contained therein at my decease—

The sons all fought in the Civil Wars and six of them lost their lives in the service of Charles 1st. The youngest son Sir Benjamin Bathurst Knt. was elected in the reign of Charles II governor of the Royal African Company & in the years 1688-9 governor of the East India Company. From him descends the present Earl Bathurst—see Burke's Peerage and Baronetage (1857)—

Note.—The foregoing was given me some years ago by my cousin Mrs. Philippa Swinnerton Hughes.—Robert Pearsall, March 15, 1921, Teddington, Middlesex, England.

## Children:—

1. Mary Pearsall, born May 11, 1648; bapt. at Hales Owen, April 10, 1654; married William Holmer, co. Worcester, gentleman. Robert Lucas Pearsall, in 1836, copied the following verses which were cut in the glass of a window at Hawne, Hales Owen:—

Mary:—3 Brilliants fair Serena graced  
 Whence none unwounded flies  
 One from her snowy finger blazed  
 Two sparkled from her eyes.  
  
 The first which shone with fainter rays  
 Could here her name impart  
 The others drew her beauteous face  
 More strongly on my heart.



MANOR-HOUSE-HAWNE.



SKETCHED 1750.

Engraved by Robert Pearson, 1918.



2. John Pearsall, born October 3, 1649; died at Oxford, August 30, 1667, unmarried.
3. Ralph Pearsall, born June 10, 1650; died July 7, 1650.
4. Thomas Pearsall, born June 15, 1652; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division E.
5. Elizabeth Pearsall, born April 5, 1654; died May 15, 1689; married John Sanders of Tadebigg, Worcestershire.
6. Sarah Pearsall, born February 10, 1656; bapt. March 16, 1656; married William Robinson at Hales, January 16, 1679-80. Child:—Robert Robinson. [Burke's Landed Gentry of Great Britain, 4th Edition, 1869.]
7. Lydia Pearsall, born July 17, 1659; bapt. August 6, 1659 (Hales Owen Parish Records); buried at Hales Owen November 11, 1725; married 1st Robert Bloomer of Coleman Hill; married 2nd, Robert Dudley of Cradley, co. Worcester, as his second wife. He was buried at Hales Owen, November 9, 1726. [Staff. Hist. Col. vol. 10, part 1, page 12.]

16 February 1670-1. Abstract of the will of John Pearsall of Hawn in the parish of Hales Owen, co. Salop; to be buried there; names daughters Elizabeth and Sarah and youngest daughter Lydiah, money at the age of 21. For the purpose I demise lands called Gorsty hyll; bought of Henry Cookes, in Rowley Regis, co. Staff. lands in Hales Owen and in Hawn and lands in Whytley Fields. If my only son Thomas Pearsall shall pay the said legacies to my daughters then he shall possess the said lands. John Dolman, Lawrence Pearsall, Henry Haden, Humphrey Pearsall and Richard Pryn are named as trustees.

I do assign the remainder of the lease for 1000 years of my lands called Merce Fields being divided into 6 parts as appears by lease taken of Tuckey & Blunt, 4 & 6 Philip & Mary (A.D. 1557 & 1558) to my son Thomas Pearsall; my wife Mary to hold her jointure out of part of it; to my son-in-law William Holmer, money. Residue to wife Mary sole executrix. My brother Humfrey Pearsall & others to be overseers. Proved May 15, 1671, by Mary Pearsall the relict and executrix named.

Some of the records state that the marriage of John Pearsall and Mary Dolman took place August 17, 1646. This is an evident error, as her father, Thomas Dolman, died in 1646, and his widow followed him the same year, having been buried at Trysull, September 22, 1646. Her will is dated September 19, 1646, and she names her daughter Mary Dolman as executrix, who proved the will as Mary Dolman. Her brother Steven Dolman made his will September 21, 1646, and was buried the same month at Trysull. He made his sister Mary Dolman sole executrix and she proved the will in the name of Mary Dolman.

All that is definitely known is that the marriage took place sometime before October 16, 1647, at which time the following post marital settlement was made for Mary Pearsall, née Dolman.

This Indenture made the Sixteenth day of October in the three and twentieth yeare of the raigne of Our Sovereign Lord Charles by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France & Ireland Kinge, defender of the faith &c., Anno dm. 1647. Between John Pearsall of Hawen alias Hallen in the Parish of Halesowen and Countie of Salop, yeoman on the one part And Thomas Doleman of Treesle in the Countie of Stafford, Gent. & Thomas Hadon the younger of Hadon Hill in the Parish of Rowley Regis & Countie of Stafford, yeoman, on the other part, Wittneseth that the said John Pearsall for and in

consideration of a Mariage heretofore had and Solemnized betwixt him the said John Pearsall & Mary now his wife, one of the sisters of the said Thomas Dolman & for the better Livelyhood & maintence of her the said Mary in case she shall happen to survive her said husband and also in consideration of the sume of foure hundred poundes received by the said John Pearsall or else secured to be payed to him with her the said Mary as a Mariage portion, & other good causes & considerations him the said John Pearsall thereunto moveinge hath graunted, enfeoffed and confirmed And doth by these

presents graunt, enfeoffe and confirme unto the said Thomas Doleman & Thomas Haden & their heires All that Closse or Meddowe commonly called or knowne by the name of Goodyeares Meadowe lyinge and beinge in Hawne alias Follen aforesaid in the said parish of Hales-oven & countie of Salop. With the appurtenances And also all that other Closse or pasture thereunto adjoininge lyinge and beinge in Hawne alias Follen aforesaid at the Bridge there, betwixt the . . . . . or River there, commonly called the Stower, the said Closse called Goodyeares Meadowe, a lane leadinge from Hawne alias Follen aforesaid to the old Forge, on or neare on all (hole in deed) hereof with the appurtenances All which said Wood, Closes were purchased by John Pearsall deceased Father of the said John Pearsall partie to these presents of Edward Grove (of Hasbury) (hole in deed) in the Countie of Stafford, gent. & Thomas Grove his grandchilde and descended to the said John Pearsall partie to these presents as sonne and heire to the said John (Pearsall) (hole in deed) deceased Together with the reversion & reversions, Remainder & Remainders thereof And all the estate, right, tytle, interest, clayme & demande whatsoever of him the said John (Pearsall) (hole in deed) and to the same TO HAVE AND TO HOULD the said two Closes & all & singular other the premises hereby graunted, enfeoffed or confirmed, or ment, mentioned or intended to be graunted, enfeoffed or confirmed with the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Dolman & Thomas Haden and their heirs for ever To and for the uses and behoofes herein hereafter mentioned That is to say to and for the use and behoofe of him the said John Pearsall and his Assignes for and duringe the Terme of his natural Life without impeachment of any manner of waste And after his decease Then to the use and behoofe of the said Mary Pearsall and her assignes for and duringe the term of her natural life as the residue of her joynture & in full satisfaction of her dower out of the landes of the said John Pearsall her husband And after her decease then to the use & behoofe of the heires of the body of the said John Pearsall on the body of the said Mary his wife begotten & to be begotten And for default of such issue to the use & behoofe of the right heires of the said John Pearsall for ever To be houlden of the Cheefe Lord or Lords of the Fee or Fees thereof by the rent & services therefore formerly due and of right accustomed And the said John Pearsall doth graunt for him & his heires That they the said two Closes & all other the premises hereby graunted enfeoffed or confirmed or ment or mentioned to be graunted, enfeoffed or confirmed with th' appurtenances unto the said Thomas Dolman and Thomas Haden and their heires for ever to & for the uses & behoofes aforesaid against him the said John Pearsall & his heires shall & will warrant & for ever defend by these presents And the said John Pearsall for himself his heirs executors and admts. and every of them doth covenant, demise & graunte to and with the said Thomas Doleman and Thomas Haydon their heires Executors & admts. and every of them by these presents in manner followinge that is to say That he the said John Pearsall At the tyme of the sealinge & delivery of these presents standeth & is, and untill the tyme of the first execution of the State of and in the said two Closes and all other the premises hereby graunted, enfeoffed or confirmed or ment or mentioned soe to be unto them the said Thomas Dolman & Thomas Haden & their heires to the several & respective uses and behoofes herein formerly mentioned, lyMITTED or declared accordinge to the tenor true intent & meaneinge of these presents Shall and will stand and be lawfully, rightfully and sole seized of & in all the said Two Closes and premisses with their and every of their appurtenances of a good sure lawfull absolute and indefeasible estate in Fee without any manner of condition mortgage, Lymittacon or other condition or other contingencyt Whatsoever to alter change or determyne the same And also that he the said John Pearsall at the Tyme of the insealinge and delivery of these presents & untill the time of the execution of the State aforesaid of and in the said two Closes and premisses with the appurtenances accordinge to the tenor & true meaneinge of these presents shall and will have full power & lawfull authority in his owne right to graunte, convey, enfeoffe & assure the said Two Closes & premisses with the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Dolman and Thomas Haden & their heires in manner and forme aforesaid to the uses & behoofes aforesaid And also that he the said John Pearsall and his heires shall and will at any tyme hereafter duringe the terme of Seaven yeares next ensuinge the date hereof at and upon the reasonable request, costs and charges in the law of the said Thomas Dolman & Thomas Haden or either of them Make do and suffer or cause to be made done or suffered All and every further & other lawfull & reasonable Act

& Acts, thinge & thinges, devide & devide, assurances & conveyances whatsoever for touchine or concerninge the further other or better assurance suretie, suremaking or conveyinge the said two Closes and premisses with the appurtenances to them the said Thomas Dolman and Thomas Haden and their heires to & for the several & respective uses aforesaid Bee it by Fine, Feoffment or Recovery with Voucher or Vouchers, Deed or Deeds, inroled or not inroled, release or confirmation With Warranty or without Warranty at the election & pleasure of the said Thomas Dolman, Thomas Haden & their heires and by all and every the wayes and meanes aforesaid or by any other reasonable way or means whatsoever as by the said Thomas Dolman and Thomas Haden or either of them, their or either of their heires or any of them or any of their counsel learned in the Lawe, shalle reasonably devised, advised or require Soe we the said John Pearsall or other the persons before mentioned to make further assurance nor any of them be thereby bound to warrant the premisses or any part thereof Further or otherwise than is in these presents formerly contayned nor be thereby bound to travell above the space of Twentie myles from the places of his, her or their dwellinge house or place of abidinge at the tyme of such request for doinge thereof. All which deedes Fines Feoffments Recoverys & other assurances aforesaid shall be & entre & shall be by these presents, deemed, taken adjudged & contayned to be & entre to and for the several & respective uses & behoofes in these presents formerly mentioned respectively, & to or for none other use intent or purpose whatsoever IN WITNES whereof the parties first above named to these presents Indentures interchangeably their hands & seales have put the day and Yeare first above written. Signed. Thomas Dolman; Thomas Haden. (From the original deed in possession of Mr. W. P. Gibbons of Ruiton House, near Dudley, Worcestershire and The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton.)

Sealed delivered and these words "As the residue of her joynture and full satisfaction of her dower out of the lands of John Pearsall her husband" in the eighteenth lyne "or any of their Counsell learned in the lawe" in the fortyeth lyne "in these presents" in the flower & fortyth lyne were severally interlined before the sealinge and delivery of these presents, in the presence of William Pynson, Michael Fusow, Edward Paston, Thomas Haden.

(Of these witnesses Edward Paston was vicar of Hales Owen from 1653-60, being then ejected by the Westminster Assembly.)

Memorand That the day and yeare first within written full and quiet possession & seizin of the Lands and tenemts within graunted or feoffed, was given & delivered by the within named John Pearsall in his owne proper person to hands of the within named Thomas Dolman & Thomas Haden feoffed within mentioned to & for the several uses & behoofes within appressed accordinge to the true intent & meaneinge of the deed within written IN THE PRESENCE OF Edward Paston, Thomas Haden, William Pynson.

On the back is the following:—No. 26. A. E. for Mrs. Pearsall in Settlement on Ma: his wife. 2 Closes near ye Stour. 16 October 1647.—Freehold. (Copied by Robert Pearsall, Teddington, Middlesex, England, from original in possession of W. P. Gibbons, Esq., The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton, & Ruiton House, near Dudley, Worcestershire.)

Abstract of Deed. A. D. 1648. May 4. Henry Cookes to John Pearsall, Goestye Hill leasowes & Goestye Hill Crofte. Right of way through a coppice or wood belonging to Henry Cookes.

Names in Deed, John Pearsall, Ralphe Hall, Elizabeth Mansell, Henry Cookes, & Hester his wife, Mary Grove widowe & Thomas Grove her son, Elizabeth Mansell by the name of Elizabeth White. Witnessed by Thomas Haden, the elder; Walter Dolman, Thomas Haden, the younger, Edward Judd, Jo: Tyrer, Robert Wittegham.

Abstract of Deed. A. D. 1652. January 15. A release from Walter Dolman to John Tomkis & Thomas Haden of the trust & commission of Guardians. Names in deed:—John Tomkis, Thomas Haden, Thomas Dolman, gent., the father of Walter, Anne Dolman widdowe, decd., Mary Dolman, her daughter (now wife of John Pershall, gent.) Signed:—Walter Dolman. Witnessed by Isaac Tomkis.

Abstract of Deed. A. D. 1661. October 23. Between Henry Haden & John Pearsall of Hawne. Surrender of one half an acre of Land called Pillucks meadowe in exchange for one half an acre called Neweffield. Signed by Henry Haden. Witnessed by Elizabeth Parkes, Edward

Paston and Henry Grove. Mentions Gesellmore & Corne or Crawne School Land, Mearesfields.

The Nun-cupative will of John Stanley of Rowley, Staffordshire, who died in the year 1656 which appears in the records of the P. C. C. of Wooten, names Humphrey Hadden, testator's two brothers Humphrey and Meredith Stanley, and Humphrey Stanley's two children. Also John Pearsall's son Thomas and his daughter Marie. John Dalter's daughter Elizabeth. Kinswoman Jane Jones, Thomas Hewes, John Evans and Lewis Owen are named as residuary legatees. Witnesses Humphrey Hadden and Anne Hill. Sworn to March 12, 1657-8 and administration granted to residuary legatees March 18, 1657-8.

There was a question as to the rent to be paid to the Littletons and this resulted in a suit in Equity during which certain interrogatories were taken in behalf of John Pearsall and others. The following abstract will give a clear account of the subject of the controversy, and a considerable amount of family history.

Chancery Depositions, Charles I., 1623-1649, Bundle 50, No. 13. John Pearsall, Nicholas Paston, Richard Reed, Thomas Haddon, Philip Boddily, Henry Roe, Thomas Hadley, Philip Dixon and John Baker Complainants against Sir Thomas Littleton Knt and Baronet and Richard Darby, defendants. Interrogatories filed February 13, 1648, to be administered to witnesses to be produced on behalf of Plaintiffs. The depositions were taken at Hales Owen, County Salop, January 14, 1649, before Thomas Dudley and William Powson, Gents, by virtue of a commission issued by the Honorable Court of Chancery to them and Robert Willmott and Edward Pershouse Gents.

William Maneely als Manley of Ouldburg County of Salop, Yeoman, aged four score years or thereabouts testified that Sir John Littleton, great grandfather of the defendant, Sir Thomas, was impropriated of the said rectory and after him Gilbert Littleton Esq, grandfather of the said Sir Thomas. And after him John Littleton Esq, father of said Sir Thomas, and after his decease Mrs. Myrival Littleton his wife, and after her Sir Thomas Littleton the defendant was impropriated of the said rectory successively. That about seventy years since he lived for the space of ten years with Joyce Pearsall deceased, grandmother of this deponent and mother to Lawrence Pearsall in the first interrogatory mentioned. He heard his grandmother direct her servants to gather from the inhabitants of Hawn or neighbors thereabouts their several parts that they were to pay yearly towards the said twelve pence annual rental. From which testimony we get the following pedigree:—

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Humphrey Pearsall=Joyce
      |
      +-----a daughter=Maneely
      |
  Lawrence Pearsall
      |
  John Pearsall      William Maneely the
                     witness
  
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John Pearsall one of the complainants, who contended that the tithes or rents were to be paid in money—12 pence per annum—to be received by the impropriators in lieu of other rent in kind issuing out of said Hayland.

Richard Westwood of Harley Wigorne, in the County of Windsor, Yeoman, aged fifty years or thereabouts testified that William Westwood deceased, father of the deponent, at the time of his death, which was about six years since, left in his house three books to which the complainant Thomas Pudsey and William Louson subscribed their names to wit:—one little book beginning thus—The duties belonging to William Hadley for tithe hay. One other book entitled on the second page beginning there—Journine (the day of) John Baptist Ao 13 th gvt Romsley peddit scrine. (A place where writings are preserved.) And one other book beginning—Rents payable at our Lady and Michaelmas in equal portions by the inhabitants of Hales Owen. The said books did belong to Mrs. Merriall Littleton, deceased, and defendant Sir Thomas Littleton or one of them. William Westwood was bailiff and rent gatherer to the said Merriall Littleton deceased and afterwards to Sir Thomas Littleton the defendant, and that Richard Westwood as servant to his father by his appointment did sometimes collect or gather said part of the rent due to the said Merriall and the said Sir Thomas Littleton.

Elizabeth Pearsall of Kidderminster, in the County of Worcester, late wife of John Pearsall late of Hallen als Hawn in the Parish of Halesowen, county of Salop, Yeoman, deceased, aged three score and five years or thereabouts sworn and examined saith as followeth:—To the first interrogatory she said she doth and did know all the

parties in the interrogatories named and did know Lawrence Pearsall in this inter named about fifty years since, and John Pearsall in this inter mentioned her late husband by the space of thirty-three years or thereabouts, and ever after till the time of their several decease. To the second inter the deponent saith that the defendant Sir Thomas Littleton now and before him Mrs. Mirryall Littleton his mother deceased, was owner of the Rectory or parsonage impropriate of Hales Owen in the inter mentioned.

To the third inter this deponent saith that she this deponent hath often heard John Pearsall, her late husband, deceased, say that twelve pence a year was to be paid to the parson or impropriator of Hales Owen Parish for all the tithe hay arising or growing within the Township of Hallen als Hawn and that he so paid for the same, and that she hath heard him tell the complainant John Pearsall, her son, that he must pay twelve pence for tithe hay and no more or to that effect. And further saith that she hath also heard her said husband say that the other inhabitants or land owners of Hawn should or ought to pay to him part of the said twelve pence or to that effect. And saith that she did dwell at Hallen als Hawn with her husband by the space of thirty-three years or thereabouts, and during all the time she never knew of any tithe hay either cast out or paid by any one of the inhabitants or land owners within the said Township of Hallen als Hawn, nor that the impropriators of Hales Owen Parish or any of them, their farmers, bailiffs or servants, had or demanded tithe hay in kind for any land within the said township. And saith she verily believes that there was no more paid but twelve pence a year for the tithe hay of the said township during the space of three and thirty years last past and that the sum of twelve pence and no more was yearly paid and received.

Thomas Heyward of the Parish of Rowley, in the County of Stafford, husbandman, aged eighty years or thereabouts saith that he dwelt with said Lawrence Pearsall at Hawn about three score years, and afterwards with John Pearsall, his son, deceased forty five years or thereabouts, and during all that time deponent never saw that any tithe hay in kind was ever paid or demanded for any land lying in the township of Hallen als Hawn.

Edward Hibb of Warley Wigorne in the County of Wigorne, Yeoman, aged four score years or thereabouts saith that the Rectory or Parsonage of Hallen has been for the last three score years impropriate and beginning with Gilbert Littleton, deceased, grandfather of the defendant Sir Thomas Littleton. That Mrs. Merriall Littleton the mother of Sir Thomas held it as guardian of her said son when he was a minor. That the tithe money was gathered by Captain Allen and others by his appointment, acting under authority from the committee of the County of Salop as requested by the defendant Sir Thomas Littleton. That deponent was bailiff for the collection of this rent which John Pearsall up to the time of his decease, which was about four or five years since, did each year pay unto deponent as bailiff or servant of the impropriator, specially the defendant Sir Thomas Littleton, the yearly rent in money at the feast of St. Michael in lieu or satisfaction of all tithe hay yearly arising, growing or renewing within the township of Hallen als Hawn, within the Parish of Hales Owen, and that John Pearsall paid the same in behalf of himself and all the rest of the inhabitants and occupiers of land within the said township, and that deponent did accept the same either at his own hands or at the hands of William Westwood deceased, another bailiff of the defendant, Sir Thomas Littleton, or his mother and guardian Mrs. Merriall Littleton deceased. He further saith that he hath seen an ancient roll of the tithe or rent of the said impropriation dated 1582, and another dated three years after wherein was made mention of the sums of money to be paid each year in lieu and satisfaction of the rent in kind and that the said rent had been paid by one Humphrey Pearsall, father, as deponent taketh it, of Lawrence Pearsall, for and in lieu of the tithe hay of the said Township of Hallen, both of which rent rolls belonged to the predecessors of the defendant Sir Thomas Littleton impropriator of the said rectory. Deponent was receiver of the rents paid to Sir Thomas Littleton for the space of twenty-five years, ended about four or five years since, for the receiving of the rents and tithes arising and growing out of the said rectory and many other places, and that before this time and sometime afterward William Westwood, deceased, was also bailiff and servant to said Mrs. Merriall Littleton and also of said Sir Thomas Littleton and that the said William Westwood sometimes gathered the moneys for rent due and paid the same over to this deponent.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION E.

THOMAS PEARSALL of Hawne, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division D, was born June 15, 1652; died March 20, 1714; buried at Halne March 22, 1714; married August 16, 1676, at Hales Owen, Elizabeth Grove, daughter and heir of John Grove of Hasberry in Hales, and his wife Mary Prince. His wife Elizabeth remarried Eldward Cartwright of Womburne, Staffordshire; according to the note book of Rev. John Peshall, the inscription on the tombstone in Womburne Church Yard being "Depositum Eliz. nuper Edward Cartwright, hujus Par. (viduae T. Peshall, de Halne Salop bar'ti)" etc. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, born January 24, 1684; bapt. July 15, 1688; died July 28, 1688.
2. Thomas Pearsall, born June 9, 1694; bapt. June 27, 1694; Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. F.
3. Anne Pearsall, died July 6, 1770, aged 70 years. [Note Book of Phillippa Swinnerton Hughes, née Pearsall.]

Abstract of Deed.—This Indenture made the . . . . .  
Betweene Thomas Pearsall of Hawne & William Grove of  
Hasbury. Surrender of Coppihold land in Whytley field  
to Thomas Pearsall by William Grove in exchange for  
½ an acre in Huntingtree field. Signed William Grove.

12 November 1683. Names in deed:—Thomas Pearsall,  
William Grove, John Boddeley. The Deed signed in the  
presence of John Hall, Lenard Hanbury, Thomas Harri-  
son. (From original in possession of W. P. Gibbons, Esq.,  
The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton.)

The Will of William Groves of Hales Owen dated January 18, 1691, and probated May 25, 1692, devises lands located between the lands of Nicholas Paston of Hawn and Thomas Pearsall of same. Thomas Pearsall and Mary Pearsall were appointed appraisers of the estate May 20, 1692. The same lands were devised by Elizabeth Grove widow of William Grove, October 18, 1695—will probated October 12, 1696. Thomas Pearsall and Nicholas Paston were appointed Overseers of the will of Daniel Grove dated October &, 1696, and probated September 4, 1697. Elizabeth the wife of Thomas Pearsall was witness to the same will and Thomas Pearsall was an appraiser of the estate March 12, 1697. [Grove Family of Hales Owen Genealogy.]

## SECTION 8, DIVISION F.

THOMAS PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division E, was born June 9, 1694; bapt. June 27, 1694; died September 14, and buried September 17, 1759. [The Gentleman's Magazine, page 442, and the London Magazine, page 508, give the date of his death as September 21, 1759.] Married April 14, 1714, Ann Sanders, daughter and coheir of Samuel Sanders, Esq., of the Maleux in Ombersley Parish, Worcestershire, and his wife Elizabeth Higgins, who was the daughter of Mary Edgerton and her husband J. Higgins of Hasbury. Children:—

1. Elizabeth Pearsall, born January 30, 1715; baptized February 16, 1715, at Halesowen; died unmarried at Hales Owen, September 5, 1774; will dated August 13, 1774; probated November 8, 1774.

Robert Lucas Pearsall in 1836 copied the following verses which were cut on the glass of a window at the Hawn, Hales Owen, to Elizabeth Pearsall.

Written with Miss Pearsall's diamond ring in the year 1736

Charming Miss Pearsall  
 What cruel destiny on beauty waites  
 When on one fate depends so many fates  
 Obliged by honour to relieve but one  
 Unhappy man by thousands we're undone  
 Envy if thy searching eye  
 Through this window chanced to spy  
 To thy sorrow thou shalt find  
 All thats friendly generous kind.

The will of Elizabeth Pearsall, dated August 13, 1774, probated November 8, 1774 at P.C.C.London. The Codicil is dated September 2, 1774 & the will was proved November 8, 1774. The Gentleman's Magazine of 1774 says:—12 Sept. at Highfield, in Halesowen, Salop, Mrs. Peshall, only daughter of the late Sir Thomas Peshall, Bart. of the Hawn, and sister to Sir John Peshall, Bart. of Oxford. (On the monument in the church at Hales Owen it is engraved Eliz. Sept. 5th 1774, as the day of her death.) The Annual Register, page 196, and the London Magazine, page 458, give the date of her death as September 11, 1774. She leaves the residue of her property to found a girls' school at Hales Owen and goes into detail—for instance, the girls are to have blue gowns, round caps, blue knotts, vandyke handkerchiefs, blue stockings and a coloured apron for their usual dress. The money it was found she could not legally leave for this charity as it was within the Statute of Mortmain. (See Abstract of the Title to land and premises in the parish of Hales Owen in the county of Salop.)

2. Thomas Pearsall, born July 5, 1716; baptized July 19, 1716; died unmarried at Dudley, Worcestershire, January 6, 1759.
3. John Pearsall, born January 27, 1718; baptized 19 February, 1718; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division G.
4. Sanders Pearsall, born March 25, 1720; died without issue September 10, 1754, at St. Johns, at Antigue in the West Indies where he is buried.
5. Samuel Pearsall, born October 18, 1726; died without issue at St. Johns at Antigue in the West Indies, where he is buried. The following is copied from The Principal Registry, London, January 1754.—Samuel Pearsall, On the twenty sixth day Administration of the goods, chattels and credits of Samuel Pearsall, late of the Island of Antigua, Batchelor deceased was granted to the Rev. John Pearsall, Clerk, the natural and lawful brother of the said deceased, being first sworn duly to administer. Thomas Pearsall the natural and lawful Father of the said deceased first renouncing.

The will of Thomas Pearsall was dated February 9, 1759; probated October 30, 1759. Trustees: Henry Hollier the younger of Hagley, co. Worcester and Francis Holyoake of Wolverhampton, co. Stafford. He mentions his wife Ann whom he makes his executrix, daughter of Samuel Sanders of Ombersley, his son John, his daughter Elizabeth, his grandsons Thomas and John and the latter's wife Mary; he names also Thomas and Henry Haden, Henry Hawkesford, Widow Green and Widow Sitch. Witnesses: Benj. Lea, William Millward, both of

Hales Owen, and William Barnsley. The will was proved by Ann Pearsall, widow at London.

The following are copied from the abstract of the title of Sir John Peshall to land and premises in the parish of Hales Owen in the county of Salop a reed to be sold to Mr. Atwood. From original deeds in possession of W. P. Gibbons, Esq. The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton. April 26, 1723. Samuel Sanders of the Mayeux in the Parish of Ombersley in the County of Worcester, Esq. by his Will of the date After devising Estates in manner the in mentioned He gave and devised unto Elizabeth his wife for the Term of her natl. life All that his messuage or Tenement Outhouses Pasture Ground Lands and Premises lying and being in the Parish of Hales Owen in the county of Salop then in the possession of Daniel Harris or his undertenant or undertenants And also all that his Messuage or Tenement, three Water corn mills and all and singular the Houses, Edifices and Buildings, Orchards, Lands, Tenements, Leasowes, Meadows, Pastures, Feedings, Pools, Damms, Stanks, and Appurtenances thereunto belonging lying in the Parish of Halesowen, formerly of the Lands of one George Lower and then in the possession of one Thomas Woodus or his undertenant or undertenants. And after the Decease of his sd. wife Eliz: he gave the same Premises with the Appurts. unto his Daughter Ann Pearsall and to her heirs and assigns for ever—She paying within one year next after the decease of the said Elizabeth his wife unto his daur. Eliz. Sparry, Forty Pounds. Published in presence of 3 witnesses. Note in margin of original deed: The small lots purchased by Mr. Attwood are included in these Premises, but cannot be specifically ascertained being included in the lands appurtenant to the Messes. Mills &c.

13th & 14th March 1742. By Indres of Lease and Release the Release being of 5 parts and made between Thomas Pearsall the Elder of Hallen als Hawn in the Parish of Halesowen in the County of Salop, Gent. and Ann his wife (one of the daurs. coheirs and devisees of Samuel Sanders late of Ombersley in the county of Worcester Esq. deceased) of the 1st. Part—Thomas Pearsall the younger Eldest son and heir of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder by the said Ann of the Second Part Elizabeth Pearsall, John Pearsall, Sanders Pearsall and Samuel Pearsall younger sons and daur. of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife of the 3rd Part The Rev. Jonathan Carpenter of Sheldon in the county of Warwick, Clerk, William Shenston of the said Parish of Halesowen in the county of Salop, Gent. of the 4th Part. Abraham Crane of the Borough of Halesowen in the county of Salop, Linen Draper and John Lacey of Bromsgrove in the county of Worcester, Clothier of the 5th Pt.

Reciting that by Indentr. of Lease and Release bearing date respectively the eighteenth and nineteenth days of January 1725 the release being Quadruplc. and made betw. the said Thomas Pearsall ye Elder and Ann his wife of the 1st. Part, John Sparry of Hagley in the county of Worcester, Gent. and William Penn of Harborough in the co. of Worcester, Gent. of the 2nd. Part. John Dovey of Clement's Inn in the co. of Middlesex, Gent. of the 3rd. Part the said Jno. Pearsall, Sanders Pearsall and Eliz. Pearsall of the 4th Part.

The said Thos. Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife Did grant, bargn. sell rele. and confirm unto the said Sparry and Penn and their heirs the heres and premes. so given by the sd. Saml. Sanders to the sd. Ann Pearsall by the before Abstracted Will To Hold to the sd. Sparry & Penn to the uses, intents and purposes there mented. subject to a power therein contained for the sd. Thomas Pearsall and Ann his Wife during their joint Lives by their Deed or Deeds in writing to be by them duly executed in the Presence of two or more credible witnesses to revoke and make void the same Indre. and to alter or change all or any of the Estes. or uses ther'n expressed. And also reciting that by certain other Indres. of Lease and Release bearing date respectively the 20th & 21st days of October 1726, being Quadrupartite and made betw. ye sd. Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife of the 1st. Part. Thomas Pearsall the Younger, John Pearsall, Sanders Pearsall and Elizabeth Pearsall of the 2nd. Part. ye sd. Jno. Sparry and William Penn of the 3rd Part and the sd. John Dovey of the 4th Part.

Reciting ye sd last above mentioned Indre. of the 19th of January 1725 and that by virtue of the Power of revocation therein contained and of all other Powers &c. in them vested they did by the Indenture now in recital revoke &c. all the uses &c. mentioned and declared in the said therein recited Indenture and did thereby grant, bargain, sell, release and confirm unto ye sd John Sparry

and William Penn and their heirs the same premises To the uses therein mentioned Subject to the like Power of revocation as is reserved to them by the sd. Indenture of the 19th day of January 1725.

It is by the now abstracted Indenture Witnessed yt ye sd. Thomas Pearsall and Ann his Wife by virtue of all powers &c. did revoke and make void the several uses &c. contained in sd. last r cited Indenture. And it is further Witnessed that by virtue of all powers &c. They ye sd Thomas Pearsall the Elder & Ann his wife Did by the now abstracted Indenture grant bargain sell release and confirm unto sd. Carpenter and Shenston and their Heirs (Inter alia). The aforesaid premises to Hold to sd. Carpenter and Shenstone and their heirs To the uses therein mentioned With a like Power of revocation as is reserved in the said several Indentures recited in the now abstracted Indenture as aforesaid. Executed in the presence of 3 witnesses.

25th & 26th March 1745. By Indenture of Lease and Release the release of 5 parts made betw. Thomas Pearsall the Elder of Hallen als Hawn in the Par. of Halesowen in the county of Salop Gent. and Ann his wife (one of the daughters coheirs and devisees of Samuel Sanders late of the Par. of Ombersley in the county of Worcester esq. deceased) of the first Part Thomas Pearsall the younger (eldest son and heir of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder by the said Ann) of the second part, Elizabeth Pearsall, John Pearsall, Sanders Pearsall and Samuel Pearsall younger sons and daughter of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife of the 3rd Part the reverend Jonathan Carpenter of Sheldon in the county of Warwick Clerk, William Shenston of the sd. Par. of Halesowen in the county of Salop, Gent. of the 4th Part and Abraham Crane and Clement Acton Gent. of the 5th Part.

Reciting ye several above mentioned Indentures They ye sd Thomas Pearsall and Ann his wife did as well by virtue and in pursuance of ye Power to them reserved in and by the last Proviso And of all and every ye Powers &c. to them reserved revoke and make void all and every the uses &c. in sd. last Indenture of release declared limited and expressed of and concerning the same premises and d'd thereby likewise grant, bargain, sell, alien, release and confirm unto sd. Carpenter and Shenstone and their heirs (int. alia.)

The aforesaid Premises To Hold to the sd. Carpenter and Shenstone and their heirs. To the uses therein mentioned. With a like power of revocation as is reserved by sd. last abstracted Deed. Executed in the presence of 3 witnesses.

7th & 8th September 1749. By Indres. of Lease and release the release of 5 parts made betw. Thomas Pearsall the Elder of Hallen alias Hawn in the Par. of Halesowen in the county of Salop Gent. and Ann his wife (one of the Daus. coheirs and Devisees of Samuel Sanders late of the Par. of Ombersley in the county of Worcester, Esq.) of the 1st. Part. Thomas Pearsall the younger (eldest son and heir of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder by the said Ann) of the second Part, Elizabeth Pearsall, (daur. of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder by Ann his wife) of the 3rd Part the rev. Jos. Dixon and William Shenston of the 4th Part and Jos. Green and Thomas Jackson of the 5th Part.

Reciting the several above mentioned Indres. They ye sd. Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife did as well by virtue of and in Pursuance of sd. last abstracted Power to them reserved by sd last Proviso and of all and any other Powers &c. whatsoever to them reserved revoke and make void all and every ye uses Trusts &c. in sd last in part abstracted Indre. declared &c. of and concerning ye same & by this present Indre. did grant, bargain, sell, alien, release and confirm unto ye sd. Dixon and Shenston and their heirs (inter alia).

The sd. Premises To Hold to sd. Dixon and Shenston and their Heirs To the uses therein mentioned. With a power for the sd. Thomas Pearsall and Ann his wife at any time or times during their joint lives by any writing or writings to be by them sealed &c. in the presence of 2 or more credible witnesses to revoke and make void all and every ye uses &c. contained in the now abstracted Indre. concerning same premises or any part thereof and by the same or any other writing or writings to be by them sealed and attested as aforesaid any new or other uses &c. to declare agree upon limit or appoint and with and under the like Power &c. Executed by sd. Pearsall ye Elder and Wife &c. in the Presence of 3 Witnesses and duly attested.

8th & 9th February 1759. By Indres. of Lease & Release ye Release betw. Thomas Pearsall the Elder of Halesowen alias Hawn in the Parish of Halesowen in the county of Salop. Gent. and Ann his wife one of the daughters coheirs and Devises of Samuel Sanders late of the Parish of Ombersley in the county of Worcester, Esq., decd., of the 1st. Part. Thomas Pearsall the younger, Eldest son of the Rev. Jno. Pearsall of Guildford in the county of Surry, Clerk and Grandson of the said Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife of the 2nd. Part and Elizabeth Pearsall (daughter of the said Thomas Pearsall and Ann his wife) of the 3rd Part. John Haden and Benjamin Lea of the 4th Part and Henry Hollier of Halesley in the co. of Worcester, Gent. and Francis Holyoake of Wolverhampton in the county of Stafford Gent. of the 5th Part.

Reciting the several before mentioned Indres. They the said T. Pearsall ye Elder and Ann his wife Did as well by virtue and in Pursuance of the Power to them reserved in the last abstracted Indre. and of all and every other Power & Powers, Authority and Authorities whatever to them reserved or in any wise belonging revoke and make void all and every ye uses Trusts and Esties. in sd. last abstracted Indre. declared & of & concerning same Premises or any Part or Parts thereof & by the the same Indre. They ye sd. T. Pearsall ye Elder and Ann his wife Did grant, bargain, sell, alien, release and confirm unto said Haden and Lea and their heirs (inter alia). The same Premises with the Appurtenances. To hold unto sd. Haden and Lea and their heirs. To the use of the sd. Thomas Pearsall the Elder and Ann his wife for their joint lives (sans waste). . . . . Remr. To the use of ye survivor of them for life in case he or she should so long continue sole and unmarried. . . . . Remr. To the use of sd. Hollier and Holyoake their executors &c. for the term of 200 years upon ye Trusts therein mentioned. Remr. To the use of sd. Thomas Pearsall the younger and assigns for ever. And ye Trusts of sd Term of 200 years so limited in use to the sd. Hollier and Holyoake and the survivor his executors, and adm'ors., should out of the rents and profits of the same premises or by Mortgage or sale of any part thereof or by any other ways and means raise and pay to the said Elizabeth Pearsall the sum of £700 & indemnify themselves against all costs &c. attending ye Execution of the sd. Trusts and after the sd. Portion should be raised or paid or if the sd Elizabeth should die before ye same became payable the sd. Term

or so much thereof as should remain unsold or undisposed of for the Purpose aforesaid should attend the Revn. &c. Inheritie. of ye same Premises. With a like Power of revocation and appointment of new uses as in contained in sd. last abstracted Indre. Executed by sd. Pearsall the Elder and wife, Lea and Holyoake and attested by 2 witnesses.

N.B. Thomas Pearsall, and Ann his wife, died without revoking the uses of sd. last abstracted Indre. whereby ye Premises became vested in Thomas their Grandson in fee (subject to sd. Term of 200 years & ye Trusts thereof) who is since dead, leaving the present Sir John Peshall, Bart. his next brother and heir at law him surviving.

August 13, 1774. The sd. Elizabeth Pearsall by her Will of this date after giving certain pecuniary Legacies to the several Persons therein named did nominate and appoint her Cousin Mary Sparry of Halesley and Mary Bloomer of Coleman-Hill, Executrix's of her sd. Will and gave all the rest and residue of her Estate and Effects. In Trust for erecting, supporting, maintaining and establishing a Charity School within the town of Halesowen for the Purposes and under the Regulations thereafter declared. September 8, 1774. The sd. Elizabeth Pearsall died, the sd Mary Bloomer proved. Mary Sparry renounced. February 11, 1775. The said Bequest being within the Statute of Mortmain. The said Mary Bloomer by deed Poll under her hand and seal of this date. Reciting the above abstracted Indres. of Lease and Release or Settlement of the 8th & 9th February 1759. The deaths of the sd. Thomas Pearsall the Elder & Ann his wife without revoking or altering the uses &c. in the sd. Settlement And that upon the death of the Survivor ye sd Term of 200 years commenced and the sd. Elizabeth became entitled to the said £700. Also Reciting the death of the sd. Elizabeth without having received sd sum of £700 & her will above abstracted And that the sd. Elizabeth Bloomer being satisfied that the sd. Bequest respecting the founding such Charity School was within some of the Statutes of Mortmain in particular the Stat. of 9th of George 2nd And that the sd. Sir John Peshall, Bart. (now decd) was entitled as only brother and next of kin of the sd. Elizabeth to her residuary Estate whereof the sd. £700 and for other considerations therein mentioned directed and appointed the said Trustees of the sd. 200 years Term their executors &c. to stand possessed thereof. In Trust to raise the said £700 and pay the same to the sd. Sir J. Peshall his executors &c.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION G.

SIR JOHN PEARSALL, PERSALL, PESHALL, of Hawne, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division F, was born January 27, 1718; bapt. February 19, 1717-8; died November 12, 1778 at St. Giles, Oxford; married July 12, 1753, Mary daughter and coheir of James Allen, vicar of Thaxted, co. Essex and his wife Frances Freeman. The Marriage Register says that:—Rev. John Persall of the Parish of St. Pancras, in the County of Middlesex, bachelor, and Mary Allen of the Parish of St. Andrew, Holton, London, spinster, were married by license in this (St. Pauls) Cathedral the twelfth day of June, 1753, by me Ben Mence Senr. Cardinal. She died in 1795. Children:—

1. Thomas Peshall, born August 31, 1757; baptised September 24, 1757; died January 25, 1764; buried in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Guildford, Surrey. On a brass plate in a small black marble toward the east end of the Church: [Russells History of Guildford, page 62.]

Sacred to the memory of Thomas, eldest son of  
John Persall, Clerk of this town and Mary his  
wife; who died 26 Jan, 1764, aged 7 years.  
Do reader, shed one kind, one tender tear,  
For every charm of youth lies buried here.  
A child of beauteous form, of manly sense,  
Of temper sweet, and perfect innocence.  
A Genius, born in learning to excell,

And all his pleasure was in doing well.  
 For such a child what Parent will not grieve?  
 For such a child what joy must Heav'n receive?  
 To show that heav'nly souls this Earth deride,  
 He liv'd to raise our wonder—then he dy'd.

Also Anna-Maria 2nd. Daughter of the above: who died  
 August 3, 1765, aged 9 months.  
 Her life was short, tho' longer is her rest,  
 God takes them soonest, whom he loveth best.

This was the original inscription, but Mr. Persall having afterwards assumed the name of Peshall and the title of Baronet he had the inscription altered and it now stands "eldest son of John Peshall, clerk and Bt." The church is a very plain classic building of the early part of the eighteenth century (about 1720). The tablet is not now to be found therein. This discloses the steps whereby the Reverend John Peshall had retraced the steps of his ancestors until he had assumed the original spelling Peshall. [History of Surrey, by Manning & Bray, vol. 1, page 53.]

2. John Peshall, born December 27, 1758; baptised February 21, 1759; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division H.
3. Sparry Peshall, born January 10, 1760; baptised February 6, 1760; died December 24, 1803; married January 13, 1780, Anna Maria, daughter of Thomas Homer of Ettinghall and Summerhill in Kings Winford, County Stafford, and his wife Patience Keeling, daughter of Richard Keeling. She was born July 10, 1754; died July 2, 1801. His will is dated November 25, 1803; proved by his brother the Rev. Samuel Peshall December 29, 1803. He mentions Elizabeth Homer niece of his late wife; Mrs. Patience Mee, wife's sister, brother Sir John Peshall, Bart., nephews Charles and Thomas Peshall, his dear sister, wife of Dr. Harwood, his brother the Rev. Samuel Peshall, residuary legatee and sole executor of will.

The Rev. Fredk. A. Homer says in a lawsuit, Homer vs. Freeman, 1812-23, there is a note that Sparry Peshall executed a will which would not pass real estate (only two witnesses, there should have been three) therefore Homer's grandfather was heir at law of Mrs. Sparry Peshall. (Mrs. Patience Mee was the wife of Lord Dudley's Steward Richard Mee. She died Apr. 22, 1805.)

4. Samuel Peshall, born August 28, 1761; baptised September 22, 1761; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division I.
5. Elizabeth Maria Peshall, born July 26, 1763; baptised August 24, 1763; died in 1836; married July 19, 1798, at St. Botolphs, Cambridge, Sir Buswick Harwood, knt., M.D. Fellow of the Royal Society of Anthropologists, Professor of Anatomy, and Downing Professor of Medicine, in the University of Cambridge. In the parish church of Cambridge where she was buried is a monument with the following inscription:—Sacred to the memory of Dame Elizabeth Maria Harewood only daughter of the late Rev. Sir John Peshall, Bart. of Hales Owen, Salop and the City of Oxford. Relict of Sir Buswick Harewood, Kt. MD. F.R.S. & S.A. Professor of



Anatomy & Downing Professor of Medicine in the University of Cambridge. She departed this life on the 10th of June, 1836, in the 73rd year of her age.

Obituary—November 10th, 1814. At Cambridge, Sir Buswick Harwood, Knt. M.D. the second son of — Harwood of Newmarket. Buswick Harwood was put apprentice to an apothecary; but after a few years, disagreeing with his master, he left him, went to London, passed an examination as a surgeon and got an appointment in the East Indies, where he met his brother; and some Nabob having been wounded in the eye, Mr. Buswick Harwood was consulted and rendered the Nabob an essential service, for which he received a very considerable sum. A very bloody battle was fought in India, the consequence of which was, that Mr. Harwood had an opportunity of exercising his chirurgical and medical talents, which he did with great credit to himself; but the great fatigue he underwent very much impaired his health, and he left India and returned to England; and admitted himself of Christ's College, Cambridge. [Gentlemen's Magazine, vol. 84, part II, page 605.]

In 1783 he was elected F.R.S., and in 1785 took the degree of Bachelor of Physic. He quitted Christ's College and removed to Emanuel, where he had some good apartments and a garden and enjoyed the friendships and company of the respectable Master of the Society, the late Rev. Dr. Farmer. In 1785, on the death of Charles Collington, M.D. the Professor of Anatomy, Mr. Harwood was chosen his successor; and in 1790 completed his medical degrees by that of Doctor. In 1800 he was appointed the Professor of Domestic Medicine in the newly established foundation of Downing College. In July, 1798, he was married in St. Botolph's Church, Cambridge, to Miss Peshall, only daughter of the late Rev. Sir John Peshall, Bt. of Oxford. In June 1806 Dr. Buswick Harwood had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him. He was Vice-Master of Downing College, where he died. (Nov. 10, 1814.) There was no issue of this marriage.

6. Anna Maria Peshall, born November 22, 1764; baptised February 26, 1765; died August 3, 1765.

Catalogue of Oxford Graduates, Pemb.—John Pearsall, B.A. November 7, 1739; M.A. July 27, 1745.

The Rev. John Pearsall witness to the marriage July 3, 1754, of Charles Mandell of the Parish of St. Martins in the Fields, Middlesex, bachelor, and Elizabeth Allen of Parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, London, in same county by license. [Harl. Mss., page 187.]

The Rev. John Peshall, having acquired increased wealth and the rank which in England follows from the possession of large landed estates, he reverted to the style of his early ancestors in the manner of spelling his surname and henceforth he and his children and their descendants were distinguished from the rest of their family by being known as Peshall.

The will of Rev. John Peshall appears among the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Somerset House, London. An abstract reads as follows:—The last will and testament of Rev. Sir John Peshall of the city of Oxford, but

sometime of Hawne, in the county of Salop, Clerk and Baronet. He gives his advowson of Morton-Bagot and Owlborough in the Diocese of Worcester and counties of Worcester and Warwick to his youngest son Samuel Peshall with remainder to his brother John, my eldest son, in default of right heirs in said Samuel. To son Sparry, freehold lands at Ombersley, co. Worcester in the holding of Mary Barnesley, widow, parcel of the Maieux otherwise the Mayhouse farm, subject to annuities paid to testator's cousins Elizabeth and Hannah Edwards in respect of the conveyance of the said Maieux estate made by them to me and my son Sparry. All his freehold land in counties Salop and Stafford he divides to Archibald Crawford, John Sparry and Thomas Brettel in trust for five hundred years for the benefit of his wife Mary, to maintain and educate his son Samuel at the University, and for his son Samuel and daughter Elizabeth Maria and the heirs of her body in case of her marriage. He also makes demise of lands, particularly his house in Oxford and stables and buildings in Guildford in the county of Surrey to his eldest son John. The above named trustees were also appointed executors. Will dated July 26, 1774; proved November 25, 1778.

The following is the continuation of the abstract of the title of Sir John Peshall to land at Hales Owen. (Copied from original deeds in possession of W. P. Gibbons, Esq., The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton.)

7th & 8th November 1788. Indres. of Lease and Release made betw. the sd. Sir J. Peshall and Dame Rebecca Hyde his wife (Sir John Peshall, the son of Sir John Peshall and Mary Allen, who married Rebecca Hyde Hall), of one part, and Jas. Rust of the town of Huntingdon in the county of Huntingdon, Esqr. of the other Part.—

The sd. Sir John Peshall in consideration of the sum of £1600 to him paid by the sd. James Rust Did grant, bargain, sell, alien, release and confirm unto the sd. James Rust his heirs and assigns (int. alia). The aforesaid Premises To hold unto and to the use of the sd. James Rust his heirs and assigns for ever Subject to the Proviso after mentioned. In which sd. Indenture the sd. Sir Jno. Peshall covenanted for himself his heirs, executors and Administrators and the sd. Rebecca Hyde his wife w<sup>od</sup>. as of Trinity Term then last the then present Michaelmas Term or some other subsequent Term acknowledge and levy three or more Fines Sur Conuzance de droit comocce &c. unto Geo. Rowley of Staple Inn, Gent. and his heirs (inter alia) All the sd. Premises which Fines when levied and all other Fines thentofore levied of the sd. Premises either alone or together with other Lands or Heres. was as for and concerning the sd. Premises thereby declared to be and ensure to the use of the sd. James Rust his heirs and assigns for ever. Subject nevertheless to a Proviso or Condition therein contained for reconveying the sd. Premises by the sd. James Rust, his heirs or assigns unto the sd. Sir Jno. Peshall his heirs or assigns or as he or they should direct or appoint on Payment by the sd. Sir Jno. Peshall, his heirs, executors, Administrators or Assigns unto the sd. James Rust his Executors, Administrators or Assigns of the sd. sum of £1600 with lawful Int. for the same on the days or times and in manner therein mentioned. Proviso for Abatement of Int. to £4; 10 if the same should be paid at the times and in manner therein mentioned. Executed by the sd. Sir J. Peshall, Dame Rebecca P. duly attested and Rect. for conson. Mo. endorsed.

Michaelmas Term. 29th George III. Extract of Fine between George Rowley, Gent. and Sir John Peshall, Bart. and Rebecca Hyde his wife. Deforciantes of 4 Messuages 2 Water Corn Mills, 4 Gardens, 4 Orchards, 100 acres of Land, 150 acres of Meadow, 150 acres of Pasture, 20 Acres of Wood & Common of Pasture for all manner of Cattle with the appts. in the Par. of Hales-owen, Salop.

July 24, 1789. Indenture of Further Charge between the said Sir John Peshall of the one Part and the sd. James Rust of the other Part. After Reciting the sd. last above in part abstracted Indentures of Lease and Release and that a Fine had been duly levied of such part of the sd. Premises as lay in the county of Salop. It was Witnessed that sd. Sir John Pearsall in consideration of £1600 so due from the sd. Sir John Peshall to the said

James Rust upon the sd. last above in part abstracted Indenture of Lease and Release And also in Consideration of the further sum of £1200 to the sd. Sir John Peshall paid by the sd. James Rust, He the sd. Sir John Pearsall Did subject charge and make liable (inter alia) All the sd. Premises comprised in the sd. last above abstracted Indentures of Lease and Release to and with the payment as well of the said sum of £1600 thereof advanced him as of the sd sum of £1200 then advanced with lawful Interest for the same respectively unto the sd. James Rust his Executors, Administrators or Assigns. In which sd. Indenture is contained a covenant from sd. Sir John Peshall his heirs, Executors and Administrators that sd. Premises or any part thereof should not be redeemed or redeemable until Payment of the 2 several sums of £1200 and £1600 and the Interest thereof respectively unto the sd. James Rust, heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns. Proviso for the Abatement of Interest to £4; 10: on Payment on every the 24 January and 24 July or within 2 months after each of such days. Executed by the sd. James Rust and Sir Jno Peshall and duly attested.

August 3, 1789. Indenture of Further Charge Between the said Sir John Peshall of the one part and the sd. James Rust of the other part. After Reciting the above abstracted Indentures of Attgo. and Further Charge, and as therein recited. It is Witnessed that in consideration of the sd. 2 several sums of £1600 and £1200 so due to the said James Rust as aforesaid and for the better securing thereof And also in Consideration of the further sum of £200 making together £3000 paid to the said Sir John Peshall by the said James Rust. He the said Sir John Peshall did subject charge and make liable (inter alia) The sd. Premises comprised in the sd. Indentures of Lease and Release of the 7th & 8th days of November 1788 with the Payment as well of the said sum of £200 then lent and advanced as also of the sd. two several sums of £1600 and £1200 to said James Rust and that sd. Premises or any Part thereof should not be redeemed or redeemable until payment by the sd. Sir John Peshall his heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, as well of the sd. sum of £200 then advanced and the Interest thereof as also of the sd. several sums of £1600 and £1200 and the interest to grow for the same respectively. Proviso for reducing the Interest to £4; 10 pr. ct. per Ann. on Payment by the sd. Sir John Peshall, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, by equal half yearly payments on the days therein specified or within 2 months next after each of such days. Executed by the sd. Sir John Peshall duly attested and Rect. for Consideration No endorsed.

December 11, 1789. By an Award of this date under the hands and Seals of Francis Holyoake, Wilson Aylesbury, Robert and William Bedford, esqrs. (Arbitrators nominated and appointed in and by certain Articles of Agreement bearing date the 24 March 1789) touching the Matters in . . . Difference between the said Sir John Pearsall the son, George Rowley of Staple Inn in the County of Middlesex, Gent. (the Personal representative

of John Dovey decd.) Dame Mary Peshall wo. and relict of the said Sir John Peshall, Bart. decd., Elizabeth Maria Peshall, spinster, Sparry Peshall, and the Rev. Samuel Peshall, Clerk, the younger children of the sd. Sir John Peshall decd by the sd. Dame Mary his wife, and Thomas Brettel the surviving Executor and Devisee in Trust named in the last Will and Testament of the sd. Sir John Peshall, decd. After taking Notice of divers Matter and Things therein specified—The sd. Arbi-

trators Did (amongst other things) award that the sd. Francis Holyoake the surviving Trustee of sd. 200 years Term (created by the above in part a) extracted Indentures of the 7th & 8th of February 1759, should from and after the Payment of the sum of £19: 12: 0½ by the sd. Sir John Peshall to the sd. Thomas Brettell as to the Heires and Premises comprised in sd. Term stand and be deemed to be a Trustee for the sd. Sir John Peshall the son his Heires, and Assigns for all his residue of sd. Term.

We can never repay the debt we owe to Rev. John Peshall for rescuing from oblivion the priceless records relating to the early history of our family. A man of great learning and of recognized standing in England, he readily gained access to the private chartularies of families whose records would have been sealed against the ordinary inquirer. In 1771 he published in Kimber & Johnson's work, *The Baronetage of England*, an exhaustive genealogy of the Peshall family, particularly relating to that branch which for many years was seated at Horsley in Staffordshire, England. It is now almost one hundred and fifty years since this pedigree became open to public knowledge and to critical examination. During all this period it has attracted more than ordinary attention, so that it has been subjected to criticism, examination and correction by the most eminent historians and genealogists in all England. Unfortunately, the Rev. John Peshall did not publish the proofs for the statements, for had he done so, then there would have been modification rather than correction or criticism. Fortunately, there came to the hands of the writer a transcript of the original memoranda book of the Rev. John Peshall in which he had most carefully noted not only the proof for every statement made in the genealogy published by Kimber & Johnson, but a wealth of other references concerning the general family history.

This private note book was filled with references which threw light upon the history and generations of every branch of the family before his time. In several instances he records the substance of private deeds and charters that he had personally examined and which at this day could not be located, but which we were enabled to confirm by subsequent records based upon these very charters and deeds to which he refers so fully and at large. In view of the criticism to which his published pedigrees of the Peshall family have been subjected it is only fair to him to say that he did not possess any thing like the wealth of data which the writer is enabled to present at this time. It is two centuries since he first started on the search for records concerning the ancestry of the Peshale-Pearsall family and obviously his time of living and his great personal standing gave him opportunities such as come to but few of those who would clear up the ancestral history of their family. This private memoranda also proved of the highest value in determining the relationship of the many records which go to make up this present pedigree. Profiting by his experience, the writer has carefully noted and set forth in full every authority upon which depends any statement or deduction made herein. That in some instances we arrived at different results from him is not to be considered as taking away in any manner the credit due Rev. John Peshall, but merely to indicate that the contributions made during all these years have thrown such new light upon our family history as to imperatively require some certain and particular change from his published pedigree. Drummond in his introduction to Part III of his work on the *Noble British Families*,

London, 1846, gives what should be the correct value to be placed upon criticism of published pedigrees where that criticism has resulted in making manifest changes in the original chart. He says:—Dugdale, Camden, Mackenzie, Nisbet, Douglas, Collins and many others were learned men who communicated the best information which they possessed and if men of inferior learning have since been able to correct mistakes into which the former have fallen in consequence of other sources of knowledge being opened, which they did not possess or had not time to examine, it is weak to reject what the former have asserted without giving the proofs. They were at least more likely to be well informed than we are for they lived nearer the times when the recorded transactions occurred.

It may be well at this time to also point out that in addition to the records of the visitations as recorded in the Harleian Manuscripts the genealogy of the family of Pearsall-Peshall has been most exhaustively examined by Erdeswicke, who did this work circa 1535-1600, by the Rev. John Peshall who worked circa 1740, by Robert Lucas Pearsall who had his pedigree passed upon by the College of Heraldry in the early part of the nineteenth century, and by the present undertaking which comes in the early days of the twentieth century. That each of these efforts resulted in criticism of the preceding pedigrees can in no way reflect upon the excellent results that have been obtained by each of these genealogists, as without this series of almost continued efforts, for a period of over three centuries, along a common line of investigation it would not have been possible to have made the present remarkably complete genealogical-historical statement of our family.

The Rev. John Peshall was a scholar of more than ordinary attainments. To him was assigned the duty of writing and publishing the History of Oxford University from its foundation to the death of William the Conqueror. While writing this history he was a resident of the university. His work proving entirely satisfactory, he was encouraged to continue the same and in 1773 he published a supplement containing the history of the university down to the demise of Queen Elizabeth. He also edited and made many additions to the Manuscript History of The Antient and Present State of the City of Oxford—the materials for which had been chiefly collected by A. á Wood (1632-1695). This was published after its revision by the Rev. Sir John Peshall in 1773 in a quarto edition and a new edition is now about to be or was recently issued by the Oxford Historical Society.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION H.

SIR JOHN PESHALL, son of Sir John Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division G, was born December 27, 1758; bapt. February 21, 1759; died at Chelsea Hospital, November 21, 1820; married Rebecca Hyde Hall, eldest daughter of Cossley Hall, Esq. of Albemarle St., London and of Hyde Hall, Florence Hall and Trelawney, Jamaica, West Indies, by Whitehorne-Lade Robinson, daughter of George Robinson, Esq. She died May 25, 1842. Children:—

1. Sir Charles John Peshall, Bt., born November 12, 1781, married May 1, 1808, Letitia, eldest daughter of Richard Martin, Esq., M.P. for co. Gal-

way, Ireland at Clairville the seat of the lady's father. She died in Dublin April 23, 1857. Sir Charles was Captain in the 88th Foot. Child:—

1. Sir Charles Peshall, born May 25, 1809; married July 16, 1835, Elizabeth, daughter of Burke Esq. of Dublin, Ireland. She was born June 16, 1815. On emigrating to America (U.S.A.) he dropped the title. He was killed at Ford Donaldson during the Civil War in U. S. A. and is buried in the National Cemetery, Washington, D. C., U. S. A. Children:—

1. Samuel Peshall, born October 23, 1836; died February 10, 1862, S. P.
2. Charles Peshall, married Margaret, daughter of — Baird of the Southern States of U. S. A.
3. Richard Peshall, died S. P.; killed in the Indian Wars.
4. Elizabeth Peshall.
5. Letitia Peshall.
6. Mary Peshall.
7. Catherine Peshall.
8. Emily Peshall.

Philip Hall and Sir John Peshall were not only related by marriage, but they were close personal friends. When Philip Hall died in 1801 it appeared from his will, made in Sussex, that he had devised his Belthus Estate to Sir John Peshall. [The Families of Lennard and Bennett Genealogy, page 567.]

Continuing the Abstract of Title to Lands of Halesowen:—Copied from original in possession of W. P. Gibbons, Esq., The Foxhills, Wombourne, Wolverhampton. January 18, 1790. Indenture of this date between Sir John Peshall Bart. (eldest son and heir at law and devisee named in the last Will and Testament of the Rev. Sir John Peshall late of the City of Oxford and afterwards of Hawn in the county of Salop, Clerk and Bart. decd.) Rebecca Hyde (the wife of the sd. Sir John Peshall Party thereto) Sparry Peshall of Kingswinford in the county of Stafford Gentleman, the Reverend Samuel Peshall of Chiswick in the county of Middlesex, Clerk and Elizabeth Maria Peshall of the city of Oxford Spt. (which sd. Sparry Peshall, Samuel Peshall, and Elizabeth Maria Peshall are the 3 younger children and also Devises named in the sd. Will of the sd. Sir John Peshall, Clerk & Bart. decd.) of the one part and John Thomlinson of Staple Inn, London, Gent. of the other Part. Reciting the will of the sd. Sir John Peshall, Clerk & Bart. decd. bearing date July 6th, 1774. And Reciting that one Fine Sur Conuizance de droit comeceo &c. was intended to be levied by the sd. Sir John Peshall party to the now abstracted Indenture and Rebecca Hyde his wife, Sparry Peshall, Samuel Peshall and Elizabeth Maria Peshall to sd. John Thomlinson and his heirs as of Michaelmas Term then last past or of Hilary Term then next or of some other subsequent Term of and concerning Such of the Premises as were in the county of Salop by the description of 2 Messuages, 10 Cottis, 4 Barns, 4 Stables, 10 Gardens, 4 Orchards, 10 Acres of Land, 100 Acres of Meadow, 100 Acres of Pasture, 100 Acres of Wood, 10 Acres of Land covered with water and Common of Pasture for all manner of Cattle with the appurtenances in Hallen, otherwise Hawn and in Hasbury Hunnington, Romsley and Halesowen in the Par. of Halesowen. And as to such of the sd. Heres. and Premises as were situated in the county of Stafford, &c.

It is Witnessed and thereby agreed and declared that the sd. Fine as aforesaid or in any other manner to be acknowledged and levied and also all and every other fine and fines, conveyances and assurances in the Law whatsoever heretofore had, made, done acknowledged, levied, suffered, and executed and thereafter to be had made done acknowledged levied suffered and executed of and concerning the same Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Heres. therein before mentioned wither alone or together with any other Tenements or Heres. by and between the sd. Parties thereto or by or between any of them and any other person or persons or whereunto they or any of them were or was or thereafter could, should or might be Party or Parties, Privy or Privies should be Venure and should

be adjudged, construed, deemed, and taken to be Venure and was and were thereby declared to be Venure as for and concerning the sd. Messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Heres. with the appurtenances in the 1st. Place for corroborating and confirming a Term of 500 years so limited in use to Archibald Crawford, John Sparry, and the sd. Thomas Brettell their Executors and Administrators and by the Will of the sd. Sir John Peshall decd. upon the Trusts thereby declared thereof and subject thereto and to the Trusts thereof. To the Use of the sd. Sir John Peshall ety. thereto and John Thomlinson their heirs and assigns for ever but as to the estate and Interest of the sd. John Thomlinson and his heirs of and in the Premises. In Trust for the sd. Sir John Peshall his heirs and assigns for ever. Executed by the sd. Sir John Peshall and Rebecca Hyde his wife, Samuel Peshall, Sparry Peshall, Elizabeth Maria Peshall and John Thomlinson.

Hilary Term 32d. George III. Indenture of Fine between sd. John Thomlinson, Gent. Plf. and Sir John Peshall, Bart. and Rebecca Hyde his wife, Sparry Peshall, Gent. Samuel Peshall, Clerk, and Elizabeth Maria Peshall, Spr. Defts. of 2 Messuages, 10 Cottis, 4 Barns, 4 Stables, 10 Gardens, 4 Orchards, 100 Acres of Land, 100 Acres of Meadow, 100 Acres of Pasture, 10 Acres of Wood, 10 Acres of Land covered with water and Common of Pasture for all manner of Cattle with the Appurtenances in Hallen otherwise Hawn and Hasbury, Hunnington, Romsley, and Halesowen, in the county of Salop, and of other Heres. and Premises in the county of Stafford.

10th & 11th December 1790. Indenture of Lease and Release. 3 partite between the sd. James Rust of the 1st. Part and sd. Sir John Peshall of the 2nd Part and Thomas Leversage Fowler of Shrewsbury in the county of Salop, Esq. of the 3rd Part.

Reciting the above abstracted Indentures of Lease and Release of the 7th & 8th November 1788, the further Charge of the 24 July 1789 and the further Charge of 3rd August 1789 And also Reciting that sd. sum of £3000 was not paid to the said James Rust but all Interest had been paid and said James Rust had called in the same and said Sir John Peshall had applied to said Thomas Leversage Fowler to advance him the same on having such security for Repayment thereof as therein after mentioned. It is Witnessed that in Consideration of £3000 to sd. James Rust (at the request and by the Direction of sd. Sir John Peshall) paid by sd. T. Leversage and of 10s. to sd. Sir John Peshall paid by sd. T. L. Fowler. The sd. James Rust (at the Request and by the Direction and Appointment of sd. Sir John Peshall) Did bargain, sell,

alien, and release and the sd. Sir John Peshall did grant, bargain, sell, alien, release, and confirm unto the sd. T. L. Fowler his hrs. and assns. (inter alia). The aforesaid Premises. To Hold unto and to the use of the sd. T. Leversage Fowler his Heires and Assigns. Subject to a Proviso for reconveying sd. Premises unto sd. Sir John Peshall his heirs and assigns or as he or they should appoint on payment by him the sd. Sir John Peshall his heirs, executors, administrators or assigns unto sd. T. Leversage Fowler his executors, administrators or assigns of £3000 with lawful Int. on the 11th of June then next. Proviso to abate Interest on regular Payment. Executed by James Rust and Sir John Peshall.

September 29, 1793. Indenture of 3 parts of this date made Between Francis Holyoake of Tettenhall in the county of Stafford Esq. (who survived Henry Hollier thereafter named) of the 1st. Part. Sir John Peshall of Rook Cliff in the county of Hants, Baronet (eldest son and heir at law of the said Sir John Peshall, clerk and

Bart., decd. and also the eldest brother and heir at law of Thomas Pearsall, decd. who was the eldest son of Sir John Peshall, Clerk and Bart. decd. and grandson of Thomas Pearsall late of Hallen alias Hawen aforesaid in the county of Salop Gent. decd) of the 2nd. part and Sparry Peshall of Kingswindford in the county of Stafford Gent. of the 3rd. part. After Reciting as therein is recited. The said Francis Holyoake for the Considerations therein mentioned and by the Direction nomination and appointment of the sd. Sir J. Peshall (Party thereto) Did assign transfer and set over to the sd. Sparry Peshall All the Heres and Premises comprised in ye sd. Indenture of Lease and Release of ye 8th and 9th days of February 1759 and so comprized in the said Term of 200 years as aforesaid. To Hold unto ye sd Sparry Peshall his executors &c. from thenceforth for the residue, of ye sd. Term of 200 years In Trust for the sd. Sir John Peshall (Party thereto) his heirs and assigns to be assigned as he or they should direct or appoint.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION I.

SAMUEL PESHALL, Rector of Oldberrow-cum-Morton-Bagot, Co. Warwick, son of Sir John Peshall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division G, was born August 28, 1761; died August 4, 1835; married May 3, 1784 at Chiswick, Charlotte, daughter of Archibald Crawford, D.D. of Chiswick, Middlesex. She was born 1760 and died 1835. Children:—

1. Samuel D'Oyley Peshall, Rector of Oldberrow-cum-Morton Bagot, was born June 19, 1792; died January 3, 1859; married July 20, 1841, Elizabeth daughter of Col. W. James, I.C.S., who was born May 18, 1817; died October 14, 1879. Child:—

1. Samuel Peshall, Rector of Old Berrow, Morton-Bagot and Spennall all in Warwickshire; Lord of the Manor of Morton-Bagot, was born April 5, 1849; married April 29, 1880, Constance daughter of John Eyre, Esq., of Eyre Court Castle, co. Galway, Ireland, and his wife Ellena, daughter of O'Moore of Shannon Grove, co. Galway, descended from the O'Moores, the Irish Kings. She was born March 24, 1854. Children:—

1. Charles John Eyre Peshall, Chaplain in the Royal Navy, was born November 13, 1881. July 24, 1918, he received the Distinguished Service Order. "Chaplain Rev. C. J. E. Peshall, B.A.R.N. (Vindictive) showed great physical strength and did almost superhuman work in carrying wounded from the mole over the brows into the Vindictive."

The great war showed the world that the great human tradition of heroism has been carried on day by day almost without public comment. Among the rest no exploit was more daring than when Captain K.F.B. Carpenter, commanding H.M.S. Vindictive, planned and executed the raid on the Zeebrugge Mole with the purpose of bottling up the German U-boats there, and destroying the submarine base. His fleet consisted of his ship accompanied by the Intrepid, Iphigenia, Thetis, Daffodil and a mosquito fleet of destroyers, motor launches and patrol boats. He reached the mole in the dead of night, April 22-23, 1918. Under the nightmare daylight of battle fires he grappled to the mole. The Thetis, the Intrepid and the Iphigenia were blown up and sunk by their commanders to block the mouth of the canal. Our interest at this time is more particularly with the for-

tunes of the Vindictive. She was brought up against the heavily fortified mole at the entrance to the harbor where a hand to hand engagement ensued as the men debarked. In this force was Rev. Charles John Eyre Peshall, Chaplain R.N. His duty was that of a non-combatant, but the blood of his ancestors in his veins ran true blue, and he assumed the highly hazardous occupation of carrying the wounded aboard the ship. In performing this service he was himself severely wounded and he was fortunate enough to be carried aboard his vessel. The duty of closing the harbor being satisfactorily performed, the English forces withdrew, carrying with them all but twelve of their dead and wounded. The wounded were carried to England, where they were carefully nursed and attended to as heroes deserve. Such men as engaged in this venture are the priceless heritage of their country.

The rest of the story relating to the Rev. Charles John Eyre Peshall can be better told by the following extracts from two well known London papers.

The Times, Wednesday, May 1, 1918. The Royal visitors went through 10 or 11 wards, seeing nearly all the heroes of the fight and talking with many of them. In one of the corridors they met the Chaplain, the Rev. C.J.E.Peshall, who went to Zeebrugge as a volunteer in the Vindictive. He was one of the first men to land on the Mole. He helped to carry many of the wounded back to the ship, and he was among the last to leave the Mole. The King spent some time in conversation with the Chaplain.

The Morning Post, Wednesday, May 1, 1918. Zeebrugge Survivors Visited by The King & Queen. In one of the corridors the visitors encountered the Rev. C.J.E.Peshall, a Naval Chaplain, who modestly minimized his association with the operation, remarking that he was not a fighting man. The King however had heard that the Padre had borne a most splendid part. He actually landed on the Mole at Zeebrugge, rendered splendid service to the wounded, comforted the dying and he was among the last to go on board when the retirement was ordered.

The Catalogue of Oxford Graduates, Pemb.—Samuel D'Oyley Peshall, B.A. June 9, 1813. M.A. November 23, 1815.

2. Samuel Frederick Peshall, Lieut. at the front in the war with Germany, was born November 17, 1882; has been wounded.
3. Constance Elizabeth Leila Peshall, born May 8, 1886.
2. Sparry Peshall, died without issue.
3. Charles Comerford Peshall, died without issue.
4. Edward Peshall, died without issue.
5. Maria Peshall, died without issue.
6. Caroline Peshall, married C. Steele, Esq., died without issue.

The Catalogue of Oxford Graduates, Pemb.—Samuel Peshall, B.A., February 20, 1785. M.A. June 6, 1787.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION J.

HUMPHREY PEARSALL of Hawne and Rowley Regis, Cavalier at siege of Dudley Castle, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division C, was born April 3, 1625; bapt. September 11, 1625; buried March 1, 1692; married Jane — circa 1644. [Register of the Church at Rowley Regis.] Children:—

1. John Pearsall, bapt. February 13, 1646; buried March 9, 1699, Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. K.
2. Joseph Pearsall, bapt. May 10, 1651.
3. Lawrence Pearsall, bapt. February 1653.
4. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. November 28, 1654; buried July 4, 1681.
5. Mary Pearsall, born July 31, 1658; Christ. August 22, 1658.
6. Jane Pearsall, born October 3, 1660; Christ. October 9, 1660.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION K.

JOHN PEARSALL of Rowley Regis, son of Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division J, was bapt. February 13, 1646; buried March 9, 1699-1700; married June 24, 1670, Ann Burman at Stratford-on-Avon. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, bapt. April, 1683; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division L.
2. Joseph Pearsall, bapt. April 12, 1685; buried May 2, 1685.
3. Mary Pearsall, bapt. April 4, 1686.
4. Joseph Pearsall, bapt. November 25, 1688; married March 6, 1708, Sarah, only daughter of William Hawkes. He joined the Quakers. Children:—
  1. Thomas Pearsall, bapt. December 30, 1709.
  2. William Pearsall, bapt. September 2, 1711.

An effect of the war of the commonwealth was the strength of Nonconformity in the county of Worcester. After the war Quakers abounded. Quite a number, including the great George Fox himself, were from time to time imprisoned in Worcester gaol. County magistrates were always alleging they had discovered plots usually said to be the work of Catholics. There was a good deal of insecurity for landowners. The war had left a number of idle persons, disbanded soldiers, and the like, who were always ready to join in any movement from which it was possible for them to derive pleasure and profit. The Lord Lieutenant, Lord Windsor, believed that force was the only remedy, and whenever there was the smallest pretence, employed the militia to help in preserving order. As a consequence life was far from pleasant in Worcestershire, and there was a breaking up of the religious ties which had held the people to the old church and new religious sects began to thrive. We can therefore well appreciate that the daughters of the quiet yet strong and forcible characters to be found in the Friends Meeting would attract men of such high breeding as the sons of John Pearsall. [Counties of England, by P. H. Ditchfield, vol. 1, page 256.]

## CHAPTER 18, SECTION 8, DIVISION L.

JOHN PESHALL of Oldland Manor House, Bitton, previously of Rowley Regis and Bristol, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division K, was bapt. April 1, 1683; died July 15, 1762; married 7 month 9th, 1714, Elizabeth



Farnell, daughter of William Farnell and Mary Broom his wife of Bristol. They were married by Friends' ceremony. Children:—

1. Mary Pearsall, died 1796, unmarried. She built the Lower House at Willsbridge, which she devised to her nephew. She had the reputation of being a most learned and erudite woman. Robert Pearsall of Teddington, Middlesea possesses her Bible, with her name in gold stamped on cover and date 1736. Her will is dated December 7, 1791. She devises to Elizabeth, wife of her nephew Richard Pearsall, to her cousin Mary Stafford, widow, to her cousin Mary wife of Robert Simpson of Bristol, her silver plate to be divided between Thomas Pearsall, Henry Pearsall, Richard Pearsall, George Pearsall, Edward Pearsall and Samuel Pearsall, her nephews. She appoints Archibald Drummond of Rudgeway, co. Gloucester, M.D. her executor. By a codicil dated May 1, 1796 Dr. Drummond was removed.
2. John Pearsall, bapt. June 24, 1716; died April 27, 1777; Chapt. 18, Sec. 8, Div. M. John Pearsall joined the Friends Meeting.

Copy of the certificate of John Pearsall and Elizabeth Farnell, their marriage, the Certificate itself being stamped with a 5/ stamp: Whereas it doth apper by ye memorials of ye mens meeting of ye People call'd Quakers in the City of Bristol: that John Pearsall of this City Iron-monger, & Elizabeth Farnell daughter of William Farnell of this City, Sope maker, did on ye 18th day of ye 4th mo. 1714 signifie their intentions of marriage and whereas such their intentions were on the 15th day of the 5th mo. following published in the publick meeting house of sd. People in the presence of many persons there congregated, now for as much as there appears no just occasion wherefore a marriage between ye sd John and Elizabeth should not be consummated, we therefore whose names are hereunto subscribed are witnesses that on the day of the date hereof the said John taking the said Elizabeth by ye hand did declare that he did take ye said Elizabeth Farnell to be his wife and ye sd. Elizabeth whilst holding ye sd. John by ye hand did Declare yt. she did take ye said John Pearsall to be her husband and that farther the said John and Elizabeth wilst holding each other by ye hand did mutually promise each to other to live together husband and wife in Love and faithfullness according to God's Holy ordinance untill by Death they shall be seperated (or words to that effect) and that farther the said John Pearsall and Elizabeth his now wife as a farther Testimony of such their taking each other and of such their promise each to other have hereunto subscribed their names this 9th day of the 7th mo. Anno 1714. John Pearsall, Elizabeth Pearsall. Witnesses: John Pope, Tho. Simmons, Charles Harford, Geor. Bridges, William Middle, Peter Smythies, Samuel Rutty, Abraham Lloyd, John Scaudrett, Mary Lloyd, Mary Beck, Martha Reeve, Rachel Lloyd, Mary Scandrett, Mary Smith, Martha Scaudrett, Anne Evans, Mary Farnell, Jr., Saray Gregory, William Farnell, William Farnell, Junr., Mary Farnell, James Brown, Martha Scaudrett.

The Quaker Registers at Bristol disclose the following relative to the Pearsall family settled at Willsbridge:—John Pearsall and Elizabeth Farnell were married at the Meetinghouse of that Society in Bristol on the 9th day of the 7th month, 1714. On referring to the Minutes of the meeting for Discipline mention

is made of his Mother Ann but none of her husband, which in all probability would have been the case had he been living at that time. And John, son of John and Elizabeth Pearsall, was born 24th day of 6th month, 1716.

The following is an abstract of the will of John Pearsall, dated February 21, 1756: Be it remembered that I John Pearsall of the City of Bristol, &c. Mentions his daughter Mary Pearsall to whom he leaves The Horse & Jockey and lands thereto belonging for life, purchased of Sir George Cobb, then to his granddaughter Martha Pearsall for life and then to his grandson John and his heirs for ever. He also gives to his daughter Mary  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres purchased of John Smith at Willsbridge, also 8 acres purchased of Peter Brooks in the parish of Bitton, also 4 acres purchased of Robert Bryan at Bitton for life and then to his grandson John Pearsall. He stipulates that his daughter Mary must plant trees every year during her life of Oak, Ash and Elm, to be ten or twelve feet high at time of planting. After her decease his granddaughter Martha to plant yearly 15 of such trees and he recommends his grandson to do the same "for timber and firewood which I am satisfied will greatly improve and enhance the value of the said lands." I give to my brother Joseph Pearsall an annuity for life; also all my wearing apparell as well woollen as linnen. I give to my servant Elizabeth Codd money and all my other servants who shall be in my service at my decease. I give and bequeath to my son John Pearsall one full moiety or half share of the whole of the remainder of my Freehold and Leasehold properties, Stock in trade, Implyments, Utensils, Horses, Cattle, Beasts, Carts, Carriages, moneys, debts, Household goods, Household Stuff, Plate, Linnen, &c. for ever, subject to the payment of the Moiety to my daughter Mary for life, eventually my grandson John Pearsall to have all for ever. Witnesses. Tho. Evans, Margaret Evans, Jno. Grigg. July 15, 1762, proved at Bristol before the Rev. John Camplin, Clerk, M.A. Surrogate &c. by the affirmations of John Pearsall and Mary Pearsall, joint executors &c. to whom &c. Mr. Samuel Rogers is named as one of the overseers.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION M.

JOHN PEARSALL, Esq., of Willsbridge, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division L, was bapt. June 24, 1716; died April 27, 1777; buried at Redcliff Pit. He married Philippa Still, daughter of John Still, Esq., of the Bury, co. Gloucester, Lord of the Manor Doynton in the same county. She was born April 3, 1725; bapt. at Doynton May 2, 1725. Children:—

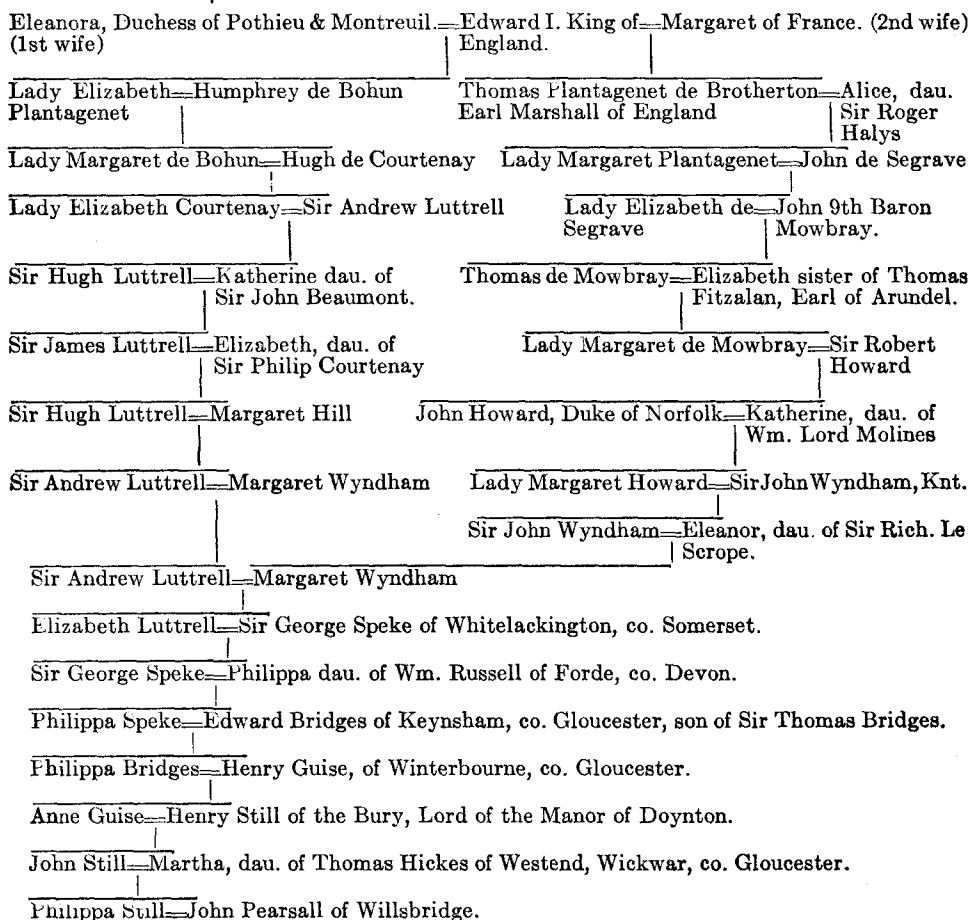
1. John Pearsall, born October 12, 1753; died January 16, 1778, unmarried.
2. William Pearsall, born April 15, 1756; died January 23, 1774, unmarried.
3. Thomas Pearsall, born October 26, 1758; Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. N.
4. Robert Pearsall, born January 31, 1761; died November 2, 1777, unmarried.
5. Henry Pearsall, born March 14, 1762; Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. O.
6. Richard Pearsall, born April 14, 1764; Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. S.
7. George Pearsall, born December 7, 1765; died unmarried in London, date unknown.
8. Edward Pearsall, born August 31, 1767; disappeared while walking from London to York.

9. Samuel Pearsall, of Mayhill, co. Gloucester, born August 6, 1769; buried at Bitton, January 25, 1800; married Sarah, daughter of Creswicke, Clerk of Bitton, co. Gloucester. She was buried at Bitton, September 20, 1803. They had several children, all of whom died as infants. His will was dated November 19, 1799.

10. Martha Pearsall, born October 25, 1751; died January 13, 1775, unmarried.

Philippa Pearsall's will dated February 28, 1792, was probated July 8, 1800. She leaves her real and freehold estates, messuages, lands, tenements and hereditaments whatsoever lying and being at Willsbridge or elsewhere in the Parish of Bitton to her three sons Thomas, Henry, and Richard, in trust, to be sold and the proceeds after the payment of her funeral expenses and her just debts to be divided equally among her six sons share and share alike. She mentions Judith Pearsall wife of her son Thomas and her two sisters, Sylvestra Cottle and Elizabeth Still. Her will was proved in London July 8, 1800, by her three sons, Thomas Pearsall, Henry Pearsall and Richard Pearsall.

Ancestry of Philippa Still showing her descent from Edward I. from his two queens, as entered at the Heralds College in 1836:



## SECTION 8, DIVISION N.

THOMAS PEARSALL of Willsbridge, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division M, was born at Willsbridge, October 26, 1758; died March 19, 1825, at Bath and was buried at Bitton. He married 1st. February 28, 1783, Judith Still his first cousin, only daughter and heir of Henry Still, Esq., of the Bury, and of Doynton, co. Gloucester, and Mary, daughter of John Gale of Appleshaw, co. Hants. Judith was bapt. at North Wraxall, March 3, 1762; died at Willsbridge and buried at Bitton, August 2, 1810. He married 2nd. Thomasine, daughter of Thomas Maundrell, Esq. of Blacklands, near Calne, co. Wilts. He had no children by his second wife. Children of first wife:—

1. John Pearsall, born March 7, 1784; bapt. at Bitton April 19, 1797, aged 13 years; died at Cheltenham, co. Gloucester, November 20, 1863; buried at Bitton, Nov. 26, 1863. He married Frances daughter of Richard Highatt, Esq. of Jamaica. Richard Highatt was a wealthy planter, but was ruined by the freeing of the slaves who squatted on his land and he failed to get compensation from the British Government through some error or neglect on his part. No issue from this marriage.
2. Still Pearsall, born August 26, 1785; died August 10, 1808, unmarried.
3. Thomas Pearsall, born February 14, 1787; died June 21, 1818; unmarried.
4. Henry Pearsall, born August 14, 1789; died 1796; buried at Bitton April 23, 1797.
5. Robert Pearsall, born January 12, 1791; died March 3, 1868, at Upper Terrace, Torquay, Devonshire, March 3, 1868. Robert Pearsall of Teddington, Middlesex, says he was one of the first Surgeon-dentists and made a fortune in Cheltenham, co. Gloucester. He unfortunately invested in a Welch copper mine company and lost it all. He never married. He was a botanical expert and a walk with him in the country was a treat, as he knew the names of, to me, the most shabby looking weeds, explaining their properties and medicinal value. He was buried in the Torquay Cemetery.
6. William Pearsall, born May 1, 1792; died young.
7. Martha Pearsall, born October 6, 1794; died May 12, 1860; married William Heather of Arundel House, near Cheltenham. No children.
8. Mary Pearsall, born July 13, 1796; died 1805.
9. Elizabeth Pearsall, born April 7, 1798; bapt. May 17, 1798; died May 2, 1817, unmarried.
10. Philippa Pearsall, born September 1799; bapt. at Bitton November 18, 1799; died January 1811; buried at Bitton, February 6, 1812.
11. Richard Pearsall, born September 1801; bapt. at Bitton, November 22, 1801; died January 8, 1821; buried at Bitton January 15, 1821. He was a painter in oils and won a prize at Bristol for his picture of the River Avon.
12. Henry William Pearsall, born April 5, 1804; died May 3, 1861, unmarried. Resided at Alfred Place, Bedford Square, London and buried at Highgate Cemetery. He was a student of the Royal Academy, to which he was admitted 1831, and where he studied for several years. He became an artist of some repute, specially in oil portraits and beautiful water colors. His

pictures were much sought after. Robert Pearsall says, "I always think he was my inspiration."

Thomas Pearsall of Willsbridge, iron manufacturer, followed the same business as his ancestors at Hawne. He was an inventor and greatly improved the methods employed in making iron castings—especially in making columns. It was he who invented the first iron hurdles and my father was present, says Robert Pearsall, when as a boy his uncle Thomas called on Lord Holland, at Holland House, Kensington, to show him his proposal to get rid of the wooden hurdles which were unsightly, according to his lordship, and spoilt the view from the house to the main road. The idea was at once adopted and now here in England they are in use everywhere. It was, however, in 1811, that he applied for and obtained Royal Letters Patent, that is "especial licence, full power, sole privilege and authority for the term of years (7 renewable) to make use, exercise, and vend Ironwork for buildings within England, Wales and the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed." He was before his time, but his ideas were right. Americans have described this as the most impudent patent ever applied for and granted in England. What a fortune it would represent at the present day. Then his iron roof for Plymouth Theatre was adopted as being a safeguard in case of fire. On the contrary the theatre was soon after burnt down and instead of saving the walls, which would have been the case with a wooden roof, the roof came down and demolished the building. He sold Willsbridge to his brother Richard's widow and The Bury to one Aylmer.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION O.

HENRY PEARSALL of Willsbridge and Southwark, London, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division M. was born March 14, 1762; died November 27, 1830; married May 12, 1793, Mary Wintle, daughter of Thomas Wintle and his wife Sarah Goodchild. On his marriage he was read out of the Society of Friends and became a member of the Church of England. She died January 5, 1842, and was buried with her husband at St. Alphage Church, Greenwich. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division P.
2. Henry Robert Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division Q.
3. William Pearsall, born circa 1802-3; died an infant.
4. Mary Pearsall, born February 12, 1797; bapt. at St. Saviours, Southwark, London, March 1797; died 1865, unmarried.
5. Sarah Pearsall, born December 31, 1798; bapt. at St. Saviours, Southwark, London, January 1799; died 1872, unmarried.
6. Ann Pearsall, born April 28, 1804; married December 20, 1828, at St. Alphage, Greenwich, Charles Wooderson of Norwood Surrey. She died 1854 at Norwood. Child:—Bessie Wooderson, who died aged 7 years. No other children.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION P.

JOHN PEARSALL, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division O, was born January 6, 1795; died 1840 in Tasmania, Australia. He married

November 1824, Mary Holmes. They emigrated to Australia in 1835. She died at Eaglehawk, 1875. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, born March 17, 1826; King Street, Cheapside, London; died October 11, 1852, in Tasmania, Aust.; married ———. No children.
2. Mary Pearsall, born June 24, 1830; died November 24, 1852; married March 4, 1852, Edward Mathews of Chipping Norton, England. Child:— Boy who only lived a month. Later her husband left Australia for England.
- Z3. Thomas Pearsall, born May 30, 1834, in Kent Road, England; died August 20, 1900. (See this Division.)
4. Robert Pearsall, born September 3, 1835, on the barque John, on the voyage to Tasmania; died August 20, 1912; married at Eaglehawk, April 17, 1869, Sarah Caroline Luck, who was born March 5, 1845, at Dulwich, Surrey, Eng. He was one of the founders of St. Peters Church at Eaglehawk, Bendigo, Victoria, Australia. Children:—
  1. Harry Thomas Pearsall, born at December 10, 1870; died July 20, 1910.
  2. Caroline Mary Pearsall, born April 3, 1873; married September 30, 1907, George Dolman, of Whipstick, near Bendigo; resided at Kangaroo Flat, near Bendigo. Children:—\*1. Jean Pearsall Dolman, born August 20, 1910; died February 17, 1911. \*2. Robert Lucas Dolman, born August 22, 1911. \*3. Jack Preston Dolman, born December 21, 1912; died February 10, 1915. \*4. Elsie May Dolman, born January 6, 1915.
  3. Eva May Pearsall, born May 15, 1875.
  4. Elsie Maude Pearsall, born September 17, 1880.

John Pearsall and his wife, two sons and a daughter, the oldest son, John, being left behind in England, arrived at Tasmania, from England, about 1840. John Pearsall died in Tasmania. The widow married again in Tasmania to William Lear. After a few years all of the family came over to Melbourne to live. There were no children by this second marriage. Mary Holmes was born at Chappel House, Chipping Norton. Her father Mr. Holmes was the first stage-coach proprietor.

\*Z. THOMAS PEARSALL, born May 30, 1834, Kent Road, Southwark, London, England; died August 20, 1900, at Bendigo, Australia; married November 11, 1853, at the Independent Church, Melbourne, Aust., Matilda Woods. She was born April 13, 1839, at Hunter River, Sydney, Australia, daughter of Sgt. Major Woods of Yorkshire, England, who bought himself out of the army and married Ann Hinton Hill who lived at Landhord, Dillon Station, Tasmania, and who was born at Bombay, India, and came to Australia with Lady Ashburner who was touring Australia. Matilda Pearsall died at Sydney, New South Wales, March 7, 1918. Children:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, born January 15, 1855; resided at Albury, New South Wales, Australia; married 1st. Mary Stevenson; married 2nd. Gussie Selbs. He married 3rd. Adeline Trenchard. Children of 1st. marriage:—
  1. Percival Thomas Pearsall, married ———. 5 children. Served in 13th Battery, 5th B, 2nd Div. A.F.A. Returned to Australia gassed.
  2. William Charles Hutton Pearsall, married ———. 2 children: .

3. Isabella Matilda Florence Pearsall, married ——— Lucas; 1 child.  
Children of 2nd. marriage:—
4. Herbert Edward Pearsall, married ——— ———. No family.
5. Ada Henrietta Pearsall, unmarried.
6. Arthur Henry Pearsall, unmarried.  
Children of 3rd. marriage:—
7. Gordon Trenchard Pearsall, unmarried.
8. Douglas Lear Pearsall, unmarried.
2. Mary Pearsall, born November 15, 1856; married Samuel William Beall.  
No children.
3. Robert Pearsall, born June 17, 1860; married Louisa Walters, August 4, 1879, at Bendigo, Australia. She was born May 20, 1863, at Chiltern, Victoria, Australia. Children:—
  1. William Joseph Pearsall, born December 22, 1880, at Echuca, Victoria, Australia; married at Melbourne, Aust., January 26, 1900, Mary E. Sweeting who was born February 8, 1881, at Melbourne, Victoria, Aust. Children:—
    1. William Robert Charles Pearsall, born October 7, 1902, at North Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
    2. Beryl Theresa Pearsall, born May 9, 1905, at Johannesburg, Transvaal, South Africa.
    3. Elsie May Pearsall, born January 11, 1908, at Ascot Vale, Victoria, Aust.
    4. Louisa Josephine Pearsall, born February 11, 1911, at San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.; died July 1, 1914, at San Francisco, Calif.
    5. Norman Edward Pearsall, born September 25, 1914 at San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.
  2. Robert Arthur Pearsall, born September 3, 1882, at Albury, N.S.W., Aust.; married at Johannesburg, South Africa, 1910, Lillian Williams, who was born at Johannesburg, South Africa.
  3. Norman Audrey Pearsall, born August 29, 1884, at Albury, N.S.W., Australia; unmarried.
  4. Matilda Pearsall, born October 21, 1862; married John Roberts. Child:—Percival J. Roberts, served in army in France, in 8th Reinforcements, 21st. A.F.A. He was wounded in action.
  5. John Henry Pearsall, born February 24, 1864; died December 4, 1910; buried at Bendigo; married Beatrice Button. 2 children.
  6. Charlotte Ann Pearsall, born April 11, 1866; married Frederick Bunton. Child:—Norman Cyril Bunton, served in the War with France in N.C.O. 56th Battery, 14th Brigade. Returned to Australia, wounded.
  7. William Holmes Pearsall, born March 22, 1870; married Mary Gardiner. No children.
  8. Alice Maud Pearsall, born March 18, 1874; married Gideon Bunton, brother of Fred Bunton. No children.
  9. Samuel William Pearsall, born September 22, 1877; married Zoe Abner Blackler. 3 children.

10. Francis George Lear Pearsall, born October 30, 1880; married Nancie Hallett who died March 4, 1914. He then married her sister, Nellie Hallett. He served in the War with France in B Company, 3rd Battalion, A.S.F.

Only a few weeks before her death Mrs. Matilda Pearsall wrote as follows:— When I was a child of 7 years I remember Melbourne when it was all Bush and Wattledaub Houses surrounded with Blacks, they used to chop wood for my mother for a basin of soup. After a few years they got very cunning. They wanted Black money meaning coppers and after that they wanted "sic a pen", meaning sixpence in silver. I lived in Big Bourke Street, Melbourne when I was a child on my people's own property which went up in value and was sold by my late step-brother. I remember the people going to the diggings in Bendigo on bullocks waggons and after many years I went to the diggings to live with my late husband and family of three children. I had the pleasure of seeing the great explorers Burke and Wills leaving Bendigo, Victoria to explore other parts of Australia. My second son Robert was a baby at that time.

I remember a dreadful day called Black Thursday which was caused by the Bush fires, the people thought it was the last day and they went to the creek and knelt and prayed and read their Bibles. The Bushrangers were very bad at that time. They tied men to trees and robbed them of their gold and stuck up the gold escort and shot the police. I saw the first shipload of German immigrants that arrived in Melbourne, half of them were musicians. I remember Bateman Hill, the first powder magazine was there guarded by soldiers. The Fortieth Regiment came to Melbourne when I was a girl of 14 years. I had the pleasure before leaving Melbourne for Sydney, New South Wales of seeing the American Fleet leave Port Melbourne. I do not think I will have the pleasure of seeing many more sights. I will be 80 years old on the 13th of April next. I have not a grey hair in my head and still have my memory.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION Q.

HENRY ROBERT PEARSALL of Islington and Norwood, Surrey, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division O, was born March 25, 1801; bapt. at St. Saviours, Southward; died June 20, 1881. He married at All Saints, Norwood, June 5, 1847, Hannah, daughter of Thomas Pascall and his wife Mary Chalkley of Norwood, co. Surrey. She was born July 17, 1822; bapt. at Croyton, August 30, 1822; died January 6, 1908. Children:—

The Arms of Pascall of Hampshire England are Ar. a cross flory sa. betw. two eagles displ. & as many dolphins az. Crest. on a mount a holy-lamb ppr. the flag sa. Pascall or Paschall (of Much-Badowe & Springfield Co. Essex) granted 1558. Ar. on a cross sa. a paschal lamb couchant of the first, glory or. banner gn. in the first & fourth quarter, a bird volant of the second, armed

of the fourth; in the second & third quarters a lion passant guard. sa. armed or. (From Burkes' Armories.) The inquirer will notice that in each case the black cross is the main feature of the Arms—hinting at a connection which the Rev. John Peshall asserts was the fact in his Kimber & Johnson.

1. Henry Still Pearsall, of Islington, London, born January 7, 1849; bapt. at St. Giles, Camberwell, February 6, 1849; married 1st, September 17, 1878, Eliza, second daughter of William Clements of London. He married 2nd, February 20, 1884, Katherine, elder daughter of James Hawkins of Canonbury, London. Children of 1st. marriage:—
  1. Florence Lillie Pearsall, born November 13, 1879.



2. Dora Winifred Pearsall, born March 22, 1882; married Walter Merritt, younger son of Edmund Merritt of Blackheath, co. Kent, June 25, 1908. Children:—2 sons and a daughter.  
Children of 2nd. marriage:—
3. Aubrey Hamilton Pearsall, born November 26, 1884; unmarried.
4. Robert Henry Pearsall, born October 25, 1885; married October 19, 1912, Sarah, second daughter of John Fergusson of Kippersch Cardross, North Briton. Child:—
  1. Barbara Pearsall, born August 14, 1923.
5. Hugh Swinnerton Pearsall, born May 27, 1888; married ——— Smalldon, daughter of Henry Smalldon and his wife Edith Dowell, of co. Devon. Children:—
  1. John Stanhope Pearsall, born March 29, 1916.
  2. Basil Still Pearsall, born December 2, 1918.
2. Robert Pearsall, born March 3, 1852; bapt. at St. Giles; Chapter 18, Section 8, Div. R.
3. Frank Pearsall, born March 8, 1854; bapt. at St. Marys, Islington, London; died May 18, 1906, at Chiswick, Middlesex. He married 1st, December 12, 1876, at St. Saviour's Church, Aberdeen Park, London, Mary Ann, daughter of John Dillon. She died September 13, 1889. He married 2nd, January 18, 1890, Kathleen Florence Josephine, daughter of William I. Dethier. She was born October 31, 1871; died June 29, 1908. Children of 1st. marriage:—
  - 5 children who died as babies and
  1. Margaret Rose Pearsall, born August 27, 1877; married Edmund Maude. 3 children.
  2. Mary Amelia Pearsall, born November 4, 1878; married William Dethier.
  3. Madeline Blanche Pearsall, born November 6, 1883; married August 8, 1908, W. H. Perkins. 2 children.
  4. Ethel Gertrude Pearsall, born May 9, 1885; married Norman Dethier. Children of 2nd. marriage:—
    5. Florence Ivy Pearsall, born October 25, 1891; died.
    6. Kathleen Pansy Pearsall, born February 4, 1894.
    7. Frank Leslie Tudor Pearsall, born August 25, 1895; served in the War with Germany and was wounded.
    8. Primrose Belle Pearsall, born April 19, 1898.
    9. William Roberts Pearsall, born January 21, 1900; buried November 24, 1900.
    10. Cecil Evelyn Pearsall, born September 1, 1903.
4. Herbert Pearsall, born October 26, 1859; bapt. at St. Marys, Islington, London; unmarried. He is devoted to music and has been organist of Holy Trinity, Cloudeley Square, Islington, for over thirty years and now lives at Knockholt in Kent, where he voluntarily takes the service in the church close by.

Robert Pearsall writes: My father, Henry Robert Pearsall, was born March 25, 1801, at St. Margaret's Hill, Borough-High-Street, Southwark. He was educated at Mr. Wilson's School, Streatham Common, and brought up as a solicitor. This

profession was not to his taste and meeting in 1830 with an American from New York with whom he became very friendly he decided to assist him in a business he had just started in Queen's Street Cheapside in the fur trade. Mr. Curtis Miranda Lampson was his name and he remained with him for over forty years. During this period the business became one of the largest, if not the largest in the city of London. In 1868 the first electric cable was laid due to a great extent to the persistence and energy of Mr. Lampson who was Chairman of the Cable Company. He was offered a baronetcy by Queen Victoria which however he refused at first to accept, he being in views a staunch republican, but at last by persuasion of his wife, backed by my father, who was a thorough Tory he consented to take it, but he never used the title in his business. Sir Curtis was a great expert in judging the furs or skins, as they were called, and spent most of his time sorting and arranging and pricing them according to their value and my father managed and conducted the whole of the financial part of the business which included the firm's establishment at New York. My father retired in 1870 and died 20 June 1881.

In 1867 Mr. George Peabody was living at Queen Street, just before he returned to the States and I saw him on several occasions. He finding I was interested in illuminations, gave me permission to see his library which he was having catalogued by a Mr. Crouch for presentation to Philadelphia, and I think I may say I was the first researcher among that splendid collection of books occupying several rooms at 68 Queen's Street, Cheapside, London. Mr. Peabody was a great friend of Sir Curtis Lampson and always stayed with him when in town.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION R.

ROBERT PEARSALL of Teddington, Middlesex, England, son of Henry Robert Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division Q, was born March 3, 1852 at Oregon Terrace, Peckham Rye, co. Surrey. He married April 2, 1878, Libbie Florence Dezille, daughter of Charles Antoine Ferdinand Dezille of Calais, France. She was born June 19, 1859; died January 1, 1899. Children:—

1. Estelle Maud Pearsall, born August 30, 1879; died at Bristol, July 31, 1916, unmarried.
2. Robert Humphrey Pearsall, born February 9, 1881; married June 1, 1910, Lilly Beatrice, only child of Captain George Donald Donald. Children:—
  1. Donald Humphrey Pearsall, born March 10, 1911 at Twickenham.
3. Gerald Clifford Swinnerton Pearsall, born April 21, 1882; unmarried.

Robert Pearsall says:—I was educated at the Islington Proprietary School, Dr. Jackson the Head Master, afterwards Bishop of London. I was there six years and then articled to Sir Arthur Blomfield, Archt. (son of the Bishop of London). After examination I was admitted student of the Royal Academy, 17 July, 1871, and worked under several masters, among them, in the Life School, Charles Landseer, brother of Sir Edwin Landseer, the famous animal painter. I started in practise on my own account in 1873 and in 1879 I was appointed Architect in the Fire Brigade Office, Metropolitan Board of Works and when the London County Council succeeded the M.B.W. I was made Architect to the Brigade. After 23 years service, I was pensioned on the 28 March 1902. I have since con-

tinued to work privately at my profession and have done a good deal until the War came and then everything was closed down.

In 1872, I joined the Artists V. Corps and served three years in C. Company. In 1877, April 28th, I was gazetted lieutenant in the 7th Surrey Rifle V. Corps. Altogether I served five years but I saw no fighting.

In 1873, I made working drawings for Col. Mann (an American) of his Boudoir Sleeping Cars (Wagon lits) which he had lithographed and published in Paris. The first car made was used to bring the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh from St. Petersburg to Flushing after their marriage. I had to design the carriages, 3 different kinds, from the roughest pen and ink sketches, and therefore had to get particulars by measuring and plotting the construction from existing railway carriages, no easy matter for me an architect and not an engineer.

Robert Pearsall is entirely too matter-of-fact in his statement concerning himself. He is a life-member of the British Museum, an honor conferred because of his distinguished ability as an artist and architect. For years he has been a member of the London Committee on Archaeology and for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments, officially known as The Committee for the Survey of the Memorials of Greater London. In connection with this work he has held a leading part.

He is a designer of recognized ability; among other things he made the plates for the Peshall-Pearsall coats-of-arms which appear in this family history. He is a genealogist of not only untiring zeal but remarkable accuracy. No sham or pretense of ancestry escapes his careful scrutiny. So well established and so high is his reputation in this line of work, that private family records and chartularies are freely and willingly placed at his inspection, for a pedigree which bears his approval passes current, not only generally, but among the most learned and exacting researchers in all England.

He is a man of influence in England. At a time when all genealogical work was prohibited the government censor at his request permitted our correspondence to continue so that this present family history might be completed. He is also a scholar of unusual attainments. During the course of our researches, he was able to prove to the authorities of the British Museum, with the concurrence of its own scholars, that in more than one instance even their great special experts had failed to comprehend the exact meaning of old medieval Latin-French documents.

He is a lovable and companionable man. The writer can bear testimony that the correspondence with him has been a delight. It seems strange to have a feeling of deep affection for an individual whom one has never seen or spoken to, yet such is the case in the present instance, and it will be with exceeding regret to the writer that the last letter to him shall have been written. In order that there might be some semblance of personal acquaintance he kindly sent the writer his photograph and so that his American cousins may know him, the picture is reproduced herewith.

In conclusion, the writer has been called upon in the course of the preparation of this family history on several occasions to acknowledge the help of those who, having successfully worked in the field of their special branch of the family, yet gave up their own gleanings in order that the general work might be made a

complete whole. While the same duty of acknowledgement now devolves upon the writer with respect to Robert Pearsall, to whom special credit is due for the contributions that he made to sections eight to twelve of chapter eighteen, which relate more particularly to his branch of the family, as well as for his great assistance in the field work which brought so many priceless records from the public offices to the end that they might appear in this family history, nevertheless, there is an inadequacy of words at the writer's command to fully express the obligation that the family owes to him for the perfection of the English section of the book. He was kind enough to say that what the writer had accomplished was colossal and beyond anything he had ever seen in this line of work; nevertheless, it is due to Robert Pearsall to say that his contributions to this general history comprehended among others a number of exceedingly important special records, mostly obtained from private collections of deeds, and without which the pedigree of the family could not have been made a complete inter-related whole.

Then again his own line was an important link in the chain, and his researches in this particular, from their accuracy, completeness and fullness of detail, command the admiration of all who are seekers after genealogical truth, and workers in the art of determining the inheritance of ancestral character, and finally one cannot help admire his unbounded enthusiasm. In a letter received just as the manuscript of the book was being closed he said that he was sending a lot of new matter although he supposed it was too late for the book and added that he so longed to see, read and enjoy it. Incidentally he spoke of his summer trip to visit all the places in Staffordshire that the writer had written to him about, and then the writer felt called upon to say, what a glorious trip that will be. It is to be hoped that every member of the family who can afford it will, like Robert Pearsall, travel back along the footsteps of our ancestors in England.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION S.

RICHARD PEARSALL of Willsbridge, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division M, was born April 14, 1764; died December 1813; buried in the churchyard of St. Peters, Bristol. He married, at St. Michaels Church, Bristol, March 1791, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Lucas, Esq., of Hanbury, co. Worcester, and of the Back Hall, Bristol. She was born April 25, 1753; bapt. at St. Peters, Bristol, April 25, 1754; died at Willsbridge, 1836; buried at St. Peters Church, Bristol, June 14, 1836. Children:—

1. Robert Lucas Pearsall, born March 14, 1795; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division T.
2. Richard Still Pearsall, born August 1796; bapt. at St. Andrew's, Clifton, March 10, 1797; died an infant.

Richard Pearsall lived on Clifton Hill, Clifton, Bristol, from 1794 to 1804, where his two sons were born. The last four years of his life he lived at 6 Somerset Street, Kingsdown Bristol, where he died. He was Major Commandant of the West Gloucester Yeomanry Cavalry. Robert Pearsall says:—Richard Pearsall having also served in the Enniskellen Dragoons, he was Major Commandant of the West Somersetshire Yeomanry Cavalry in 1803 and was at the taking of the

French long boats, at Fishguard in Wales, sent by Napoleon to invade England. The only soldiers present were the yeomanry, but the enemy were scared by the Welsh women in large numbers on the cliffs, having the appearance to them of English infantry in their tall black hats, and red coats, looking at a distance, like the tall shakoes then worn by the regiments of the line, with the red coats. This up to the present time, is the last attempted invasion of England and I think some credit is due to my great-uncle for the failure of the attack.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION T.

ROBERT LUCAS DE PEARSALL, Esq., of Willsbridge, and of the Castle of Wartensee, St. Gale, Switzerland, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division S, was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, March 14, 1795; baptised at St. Andrew's, Clifton, March 10, 1797; died at Wartensee Castle, Switzerland, August 5, 1856; buried in the chapel of the Castle of Wartensee, August 12, 1856. He married August 23, 1817, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, London, Marie Henriette Elizabeth Hobday, daughter of William Armfield Hobday, Esq., and his wife Elizabeth Dorothy Ivory of co. Worcester. She was born November 23, 1820; died August 12, 1856. Children:—

1. John Still Pearsall, born September 17, 1818, at Willsbridge; died an infant; buried September 8, 1802.
2. Robert Lucas de Pearsall, born October 3, 1820; bapt. October 27, 1820 at Oldland Chapel, Bitton.
3. Elizabeth Still Pearsall, born March 8, 1821, at Willsbridge; died February 6, 1912 at Stanhope Lodge, Cowes, Isle of Wight. She married at the British Consulate in Paris, January 15, 1838, Charles Wyndham Stanhope, 7th Earl of Harrington, eldest son of the Hon. Fitzroy Henry Beauchamp Stanhope. Children:—\*1. Charles Augustus Stanhope, 8th Earl of Harrington, married Eva Carrington, sister of the Marquis of Lincolnshire. No family. \*2. Dudley Stanhope, 9th Earl of Harrington, born 1859. \*3. Fitzroy Stanhope. \*4. Edwin Stanhope. \*5. Wyndham Stanhope. \*6. Caroline Margaret Stanhope. \*7. Philippa Leicester Stanhope. \*8. Frances Stanhope. \*9. Harriet Stanhope.
4. Philippa Swinnerton Pearsall, born at Willsbridge, February 6, 1824; bapt. March 18, 1824 at Oldland Chapel; died February 7, 1917; married September 17, 1857, at the Bavarian Chapel, St. James, Westminster, and the same day at St. James Church, Westminster, John Hughes, Esq., Barrister-at-law of the Inner Temple, son (by Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Davies Esq., of Trefyman, co. Denbigh) of William Hughes of Gwerclas and Kymmer in Edeirnion, co. Merioneth, Lords of Kymmer and Barons of Edeirnion, descended from the last reigning prince of Powis. He died July 4, 1883. No children.

Robert Pearsall writes: She was a clever genealogist and my dear friend and instructor, and also an expert heraldic artist and painter. The private records of Philippa Swinnerton Pearsall Hughes show that in passing upon newly discovered records concerning the Pearsall family, she availed herself

of the services of Joseph Morris of St. John's Hill, Shrewsbury, England, one of the most noted genealogists of his day.

April 19, 1816. Admitted to Lincoln's Inn. Robert Lucas Pearsall, Esq. (aged 21) only son of Richard Pearsall, city of Bristol, Esq., decd. Robert Lucas Pearsall Barrister at Law of the Oxford Circuit. [Herald and Genealogist, vol. 6, page 680.]

The will of Robert Lucas Pearsall dated October 18, 1855, proved at St. Gale, Switzerland, and at Canterbury, England, August 19, 1856.

Robert Lucas de Pearsall, born at Clifton, March 14, 1795, of an old family originally of Halesowen, Worcestershire. He was privately educated for the bar and was called in 1821, going to the western circuit for four years. At the age of thirteen he wrote a cantata, "Saul and the Witch of Endor," which was privately printed. In 1825, being abroad for the benefit of his health, he settled at Mainz and studied music under Josef Panny, remaining there until 1829, when he returned for a year to England, staying at his property, Willsbridge in Gloucestershire. At the expiration of that time he removed once more to Germany, where he lived at Carlsruhe for a time, diligently composing. There he wrote a little ballet opera which was never performed; some choruses from it were published by Weekes & Co. His op. 1, *Miserere mei, Domine*, was published by Schott of Mainz about 1830; the fact that it is a 'canon perpetuus a 3 vocibus in hypodiatesaron et hypodiapason' shows that even in these early days the ingenuities of the older music had a special attraction for him. The compositions between this and an overture to *Macbeth*, with the witches' chorus, the parts of which appeared as op. 25 in 1839, do not seem to have been published (with the exception of op. 7 a *Graduale* a 5, 1835 and op. 8 an *Ave verum* a 4, 1835), and the system of numbering his compositions seems to have been given up after this. He moved from place to place on the continent, studying successively at Munich with Caspar Ett, and at Vienna. In 1836, while on a visit to England, he made a more intimate acquaintance with the music of the English madrigalian school, mainly through the agency of the Bristol Madrigal Society. To this style he henceforth was chiefly attached for the remainder of his life, although he wrote several settings of psalms, (68th, 77th and 57th), a *Requiem mass*, a *Pange lingua* for three female voices (published 1857); the office of *Tenebrae* (in the library of the *Gesellschaft für Musikforschung*, Berlin), two settings of *Salve Regina*, and other compositions for the Roman Catholic church, which he joined at the end of his life. He also took a deep interest in Anglican Church music, and wrote a number of works for its service. In 1837 he sold his property in England, and in 1842 bought the castle of Wartensee on the Lake of Constance. Here he appended the 'de' to his name. [Grove's Dictionary of Music & Musicians, vol. 3.]

His published part-songs and madrigals number about sixty, and include a remarkable number of works which will remain as long as unaccompanied singing is practised. He understood the madrigal form thoroughly, but did not confine himself to the strict rules practised in the Elizabethan period; his works are no mere curiosities of a bastard archaeology, but living creations of art, full of fire, nobility of thought, high imagination, and splendid vocal sonority. Such things

# THE HARDY NORSEMAN'S HOUSE OF YORE.

A NORSE NATIONAL SONG.

SET IN FOUR PARTS TO ENGLISH WORDS

BY  
R. L. DE PEARSALL, Esq.,

(Of Willisbridge.)

London: NOVELLO, EWER AND CO., 1, Berners Street (W.), and 25, Fenchurch (E.C.).

*Resoluto.*

PIANO.

THEBLS.

ALTO.

TENOR (Srs. lower).

BASS.

The har - dy Norseman's house, of yore, Was on the foam - ing wave! And

there he ga - ther'd bright re - nown, The bra - vest of the brave!

there he ga - ther'd bright re - nown, The bra - vest of the brave!

there he ga - ther'd bright re - nown, The bra - vest of the brave!

there he ga - ther'd bright re - nown, The bra - vest of the brave!

NOTE.—This melody was given to me by the late Joseph Fanny, of Vienna, who heard it at a family festival, in the interior of Norway, and noted it on the spot. It was there described to him as a very ancient popular song, resembling to the tunes of the Runesongs of Ben Kings, and as being always sung with the greatest enthusiasm. The words for want of better, are my own, founded on a rough guess at what the original Norse might mean; for, being able to make out but a word or two here and there, I could not pretend to translate it.—R. L. P.





as Great God of Love, Lay a Garland, and Light of my Soul, are real masterpieces in a form that has seldom been successfully employed in modern times; his part-songs, The Hardy Norseman, and O who will o'er the downs so free, are known and delighted in by every choral society in the country; and the noble choral ballad Sir Patrick Spens, in ten parts, is a triumphantly successful adaptation of the part-song form to the requirements of a narrative in which eager intensity and hurry have to be depicted. He edited a 6-part Magnificat by Lasso about 1833, and was part-editor of the old hymn-book of St. Gall, published in 1863.

The Willsbridge genealogy of Pearsall may be found in the Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland by Sir Bernard Burke, and also in "Wells Cathedral, its monumental inscriptions and heraldry." It is an important link in the chain of proof establishing the genealogy of this branch of the family, that Robert Lucas de Pearsall not only entered in the College of Heraldry the complete pedigree of his ancestry, but that the same was carefully examined, passed upon and approved by the sovereign order of St. John of Jerusalem, to which he was admitted July 22, 1837.

#### SECTION 8, DIVISION U.

**HUMPHREY PEARSALL** of Hawne and Whitley Barne, son of Lawrence Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division B, bapt. March 19, 1580-1; married Joan Whiller. Children:—

1. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. March 10, 1616; married Thomas Carpenter of Stoke Pryor. Children:—\*1. John Carpenter, \*2. Joyce Carpenter, and \*3. Elizabeth Carpenter. [Herald and Genealogist, vol. 7, page 271.]
2. Katherine Pearsall, bapt. December 13, 1618; married George Gobsall. Child:—\*1. George Gobsall.
3. John Pearsall, bapt. January 20, 1620; Chap. 18, Sec. 8, Div. V.
4. Bridgett Pearsall, bapt. February 16, 1622-3, died an infant.
5. Joyce Pearsall, bapt. February 13, 1624.
6. Bridgett Pearsall, bapt. February 13, 1624.

Will of Humfrey Pearsall as it appears in the Probate Court at Worcester. The 7 day of May 1644. In the Name of God Amen I Humfrey Pearsall of Halesowen in the County of Salop Sicke in body but of perfect memory thanks be given too God dost make this my last Will & Testament in manner and foarme as foaloth: That is toe say First I give and bequeath my soule in toe the hands of God my maker & Redeemer & my body toe be buried in the Church or Churchyard of Halesowen: Item I give and bequeath tooe my daughter Kathrin foure score pounds of good and lawfull money of England to be paid her by my Executor out of my Land & goodes as fooll with within tooe yeares after my desease: Item I give and bequeath toe my dautter Joays likewise foure score pound-s of good & lawfull money of Eangland toe bee paid her by my Executor out of my lande & goodes within six yeares after my desease: And further my mind and will is that the tenn poundes a yeare given them by thire Granfather Whillir shall bee part of the aforesayd foure score poundes a piece: Item I give grant & bequene toe my Wife Joane Pearsall all that Cloas or Inke wich I lattley purchased of Hendry Rooe and alsoe woan oather furlonge wich I lattley purchased of John Joanes with thaire & ethier of their apirtinances toe have & to hould the aforesayd lands with thaire apirtinances toe Joane my Wife and toe her heires & assines for ever. And further my true intent and Will is that if my son John Pearsall shall paye toe his Moather my intended executor the som of Twenty and five poundes of good and lawfull Eanglish money within twoe yeares after my desease according too my first gift & likewise twenty & five poundes moare

according to my seacond gift within six yeares after my desease that then my Will is that this my aforesayd gift of land shall be voayd and of non efecte:—Item—I give & bequene toe Joane my wife all my goodes and catteles and chattelles and alloather my goodes moveable & immoveable whatsoever toe pay my tooe Dauters Kathryn & Joayse thire leageasay according toe my former gift. heerein expressed my funirall likeweyes discharged & my body brought toe the yearth: Item I make & ordayne Joane my Wife my full and whoale executor toe see this my last Will and Testament performed as my trust is shее will: Item—I make John Pearsall the elder and Thomas Haden the elder my Overseers toe see this my last Will and Testament performed. Humfry Pearsall. Thire beinge Witnesses John Pearsall, Thomas Haden, Tho: Haden. Proved at Worcester on the 8th day of May 1645.

Her will appears in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 40 Bowyer, 1651. Joane Pearsall of Witley Barne in the parish of Halesowen and in the county of Salop widdow, names daughter Joyse Pearsall all that my parcel of arrable land which lyeth in a Field called Hymitting tree which my late husband and I purchased lately of one John Joanes, unto her and her heires forever; my daughter Elizabeth Carpenter, my daughter Catharine Gobsall, my grandchild Joyce Pearsall my Bible book; my grandchild George C. Gobsall; my son John Pearsall; my daughter Joyce Pearsall my full and whole executor; my cousin Richard Whiller and son-in-law Thomas Carpenter to be overseers of this my last will. Proved at London 9th February, 1651.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION V.

JOHN PEARSALL of Whitley Barne, son of Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division U, was bapt. January 20, 1620; buried July 15, 1659; married Joan ——. Children:—

1. Joyse Pearsall, married Thomas Pennell.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, married Zachariah Birch.
3. Joane Pearsall, unmarried.
4. John Pearsall of Rowley Regis, bapt. December 26, 1616; Chapter 18, Section 8, Division W.

The Herald and Genealogist by John G. Nicholas, vol. 7, page 271, says:— John Pearsall of Whitley Barn, Yeoman. His will is dated 1659; in it he mentions his cousin John Pearsall of Hawne, his wife Joan, his brother-in-law Thomas Carpenter, his son John and his three daughters Joan, Joice and Elizabeth.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION W.

JOHN PEARSALL of Rowley Regis and de Whitley, son of John Pearsall of Whitley Barn, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division V, was bapt. December 25, 1616 at Hales Owen Church; buried 1671; married March 29, 1657-8, Elizabeth Philips of Tetenhall. He married 2nd, Joice ——. Children of 1st marriage:—

1. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division X.
2. Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division Z.
3. William Pearsall, married June 15, 1685, Rebecca Hadley. Child:—
  1. Sarah Pearsall, bapt. February 4, 1687.

Child of 2nd marriage:—

4. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. October 23, and buried July 15, 1659.  
[Hales Owen Parish Records.]

## SECTION 8, DIVISION X.

JOHN PEARSALL de Whitley and de Hawbury, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division W, was buried May 17, 1713; married 1st, Hannah —; married 2nd, October 9, 1693, Elizabeth Mason. Children of 1st marriage:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, bapt. February 1, 1678-9.
2. William Pearsall, bapt. September 13, 1682, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division Y.
3. Joseph Pearsall, bapt. June 10, 1687.

Child of 2nd marriage:—

4. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. August 27, 1710.

John Pearsall was Church Warden of Hales Owen, 1693.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION Y.

WILLIAM PEARSALL, of Cradley, son of John Pearsall de Whitley, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division X, was bapt. September 13, 1682; married Elizabeth ——. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised May 30, 1709.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. July 7, 1716.

## SECTION 8, DIVISION Z.

HUMPHREY PEARSALL of Rowley Regis, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division W, was buried February 21, 1710-11; married Margery ——. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, bapt. October 31, 1675; buried May 17, 1713; married March 6, 1708, Hannah Woodhouse. Child:—
  1. Elizabeth Pearsall, born August 27, 1710.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. May 21, 1678.
3. Jane Pearsall, buried November 28, 1680.
4. Lawrence Pearsall, bapt. May 4, 1684.
5. Joseph Pearsall, baptized June 10, 1687; married Sarah ——. Children:—
  1. William Pearsall, born September 2, 1711.
  2. Thomas Pearsall, born December 30, 1709.
6. Benjamin Pearsall, born January 5, 1689; married Judith ——. Children:—
  1. William Pearsall, born October 3, 1709.
  2. Sarah Pearsall, born September 13, 1712.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION A.

HENRY PERSALL of parish of Hales Owen, co. Salop, son of John Persall,<sup>1</sup> Chapter 18, Section 8, was buried September 18, 1577; married Dorotie ———, who was buried July 28, 1598 at Hales Owen. Children:—

1. Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division B.
2. Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 10, Division A.
3. Lawrence Pearsall, bapt. December 20, 1559; Chap. 18, Sec. 11, Division A.

The will of Henry Persall, dated September 17, 1577; proved October 1, 1577 at Worcester;—to be buried at Hales Owen; to Humphrey Peirsall my eldest son; to Richard Peirsall my second son; to Lawrence Peirsall my youngest son, money at age of 21. Residue to Dorothy my wife, sole executrix. Debts owing from Lawrence Peirsall and from John Darbie.

The will of his wife dated July 26, 1598, proved at Worcester October 27, 1598; Dorotie Peresall of the parish of Hales Owen, co. Salop, widow, to my son Humfrey; to the three children of my son Richard Peresall; to the two children of my son Lawrence Peresall; my son Humfraie executor; witnesses Lawrence Persall of Hawne, Richard Harrys, Agnes Peresall.

The new way of writing the family name did not come into vogue until after 1552 when Edmond Pearsall, merchant of the staple and grocer of London, introduced the Pearsall form as the right way to indicate their surname among those members of the family with whom he had business dealings, and with whom he was accustomed to visit in connection with his long stay in the counties of England. Hence we find that the children of Henry are baptised as Pearsall.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION B.

HUMPHREY PEARSALL of Hales Owen, co. Salop, son of Henry Persall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division A, married 1st, Margaret Smythe, June 2,

1578 at Hales Owen Parish Church. He married 2nd, November 17, 1592, Anne More. Children of 1st marriage:—

1. Margaret Pearsall, bapt. November 11, 1578; buried January 5, 1578-9 at Hales Owen, co. Salop.
2. John Pearsall, bapt. November 21, 1579 at Hales Owen; Chap. 18, Sec. 9, Div. C.
3. Bridget Pearsall, bapt. April 19, 1582 at Hales Owen; married Henry Read, February 7, 1624-5. No record of children.
4. Joyce Pearsall, bapt. March 2, 1588-9; married Shorte Ireland.
5. William Pearsall, bapt. January 22, 1591-2 at Hales Owen.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION C.

JOHN PEARSALL of Kidderminster, county Worcester, son of Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division B, was bapt. November 21, 1579 at Hales Owen, co. Salop, and buried January 10, 1664; married Alice ——. She was buried November 25, 1652. Children:—

1. Nicholas Pearsall, bapt. February 28, 1605-6; Chapter 18, Section 9, Div. D.
2. John Pearsall, bapt. February 18, 1607-8, buried March 5, 1608.
3. Anne Pearsall, baptized July 12, 1610; married — Spencer. Child:—  
1. Edmund Spencer.
4. Lawrence Pearsall, bapt. October 31, 1618; predeceased his father.
5. Bridget Pearsall, bapt. December 13, 1609; buried November 26, 1615.

His will dated July 12, 1664, proved January 28, 1664-5 by Nicholas Pearsall, son of deceased, at Worcester abstracts as follows:—John Pearsall the elder of Kidderminster, co. Worcester, gent., "being aged"; to Nicholas Pearsall my sonne and onelie child, land in Kidderminster and the same land after the death of the said Nicholas to Henrie Pearsall my grandchild, son of my aforesaid son Nicholas for the term of his life and after the death of the said Henry the same lands to go to Nicholas the son of the said Henry Pearsall and to the lawful heirs of the said Nicholas forever; to my son Nicholas Pearsall a house in Worcester Street, Kidderminster which I bought of Edward Foxall, for life and then to the said Henry Pearsall my grandchild with remainder, as before; to my kinsman John Brown the son of Edward Browne and Alyce his wife; to my sister Shorte Ireland money; residue to my son and only child Nicholas sole executor, he to maintain Nicholas and Hannah the children of my grandchild Henry Pearsall and of Dorothy his first wife until the age of 15; my kinsman Lawrence Pearsall of Kidderminster, gent. and Edmund Spenser and Henry Pearsall my grandchildren my overseers; witnesses:—Nicholas Hemming and Edward Chinari.

John Pearsall was Church Warden 1618 in Hales Owen, co. Salop.

Note.—It will save needless multiplicity of citation if all the baptismal and other vital entries in the remainder of this section are understood as referring to Kidderminster Church Records.

The Kidderminster Pearsalls became largely interested in the development of the carpet industry. In the eighteenth century some Flemish and French weavers settled at Wilton and Axminster and began weaving carpets which still bear the name of these communities. At this time another Flemish emigration came to Kidderminster. This emigration was promoted by Nicholas Pearsall and the

first loom was erected by him in 1735 in his house on Blackwell Street, Kidderminster, for weaving Brussels carpet, the trade name of which became Kidderminster. Gradually the older employments were deserted and the weavers turned their entire attention to the new industry which rapidly expanded, although restricted to the produce of the hand looms. [Mates Kidderminster, page 26.]

The Common Seal of the ancient Borough of Kidderminster in the County of Worcester, first incorporated by his late Ma'tie King Charles the first of blessed memory, by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of England bearing date 4 Aug. in the 12 year of his Reign, and thereby made a Free Borough and Body Corporate and Politique by the name of Bayliff and Burgesses of the Borough of Kederminster in perpetual succession, with power to purchase lands to plead and be impleaded, to have a com'on seal alterable at pleasure, to have a Bailiff and twelve Capital Burgesses, which Capital Burgesses shall be of the Com'on Council and Assistants to the Bailiff; To make Laws for the good Government of the said Borough and to make assessments for repairing Bridges, Streets, &c; constituting John Freestone the first Bailiff, and John Radford, Richard Potter, William Best, John Persall, Elias Artch, William Yates, Robert Green, John Doolittle, Simon Potter, William Siver, Simon Doolittle, and William Browne, the first Capital Burgesses; The Bailiff to be chosen annually one of the said Capital Burgesses the Munday after Michaelmas; To have a High Steward, Sir Raphe Clare of Cawdwell being constituted the first High Steward; To have an able Lawyer for their Under Steward, John Wyld, Esq., being constituted the first Under Steward, with power to the Bailiff and Chief Burgesses to chose five and twenty assistants and so many constables as they were wont to have; To have a Grammar School which shall be called the Free Grammar Schole of King Charles in Kidderminster with a head master and under master; The Governors whereof to be the Ordinary of the Diocese of Worcester for the time being, and the Bailiff and Chief Burgesses aforesaid, which Governors shall be a Body Corporate and have a com'on seal and power to purchase lands for the maintenance of the said Schole, to chose a master and under master, to plead and be impleaded, to make statutes and ordinances for the good Government of the said Schole; That the Bailiff and former Bailiff and Under Steward shall be Justices of the Peace within the said Borough and liberties; Granting and confirming to the said Bailiff and Burgesses all lands, tenements, Fairs, Markets, &c., anciently belonging to them. [Visitation of Worcester, 1682-3. Page 113.]

The name Kidderminster even to this day represents a certain style of weave and quality of production in carpets. As a consequence the individuals are spoken of on the records first, as yeomen, when they were producers of the wool they spun into yarn, and later as weavers, when they were engaged in the manufacture of the finished product. Their standing in the social fabric of England was unique and there was some difficulty in properly designating their rank and standing. The student knows that primarily the rank of an individual in England, at and before this time, was dependent upon the tenure by which he held lands, and that outside of this it was a question of income, perhaps of pursuit; many younger sons of county families have entered into business; as such they became bur-

gesses, citizens—perhaps Lord Mayors. But the gentility is rubbed off in the 'prentice. He would in time, if industrious, become a freeman; such in some guilds are called yeomen. Here is the word, and we find the gradation marked thus: Knight, squire, yeoman, knave. Neither squire nor yeoman can be traced under the feudal system; both terms arose from its decay; the latter is unknown in Anglo-Saxon. It may be assumed that the modern squire represents the extinct Barons by tenure, now known as Lords of a Manor. The term "lord" equates "baron," and the existence of a manorial court is a genuine survival of a feudalism. The modern yeoman equally represents the ancient "man-at-arms," who held land under knight, baron, or earl by military service; now subsidized into the peaceful cultivator of the soil. Some one writes of a country gentleman as a "sufficient yeoman," i.e., a substantial landowner, as in the old rhyme:— [Shropshire Notes & Queries, vol. 7, page 7.]

A knight of Cales [i.e., Cadiz],  
A squire of Wales,  
A laird of the north countrie;  
A yeoman of Kent  
With his yearly rent,  
Will beat them out all three, three, three!

Now, the author of the "English Commonwealth," writing about 1586, calls the yeoman a freeman born, who may dispend of his own free land in yearly revenue to the sum of 40 shillings sterling, so as the value of money fluctuated that a knight might have left a younger son an annuity of 40 shillings sterling with a full conviction that he was provided for, at which time a man could live comfortably on a "silver" penny per diem, twenty such make a pound, Scots.

A yeoman was not known before 1350, and in 1413 a Norfolk manorial landowner, finding his over-lord changed from Earl to prior, made the following declaration: "Here I become yeoman from this time forth and truth shall you bear, and never arm against you in land or peace nor of war, for lands and tenements which I claim to hold of you by knight's service; so help me God and holy Doom." This declarant came of knightly family in the same holding for 500 years, and one of that race became a baron by patent (Irish) which lasted for one life only. This one places the yeoman on the highest level yet known; so if one were really a husbandman, i.e. one working his own land for his own support, he might be classed as yeoman without loss of social position, and the same would apply to a manufacturer of recognized superiority.

History shows that as time rolled around it was not long before the wealth of the land came into the hands of these manufacturers. Then the king began recruiting from these wealthy businessmen to the ranks of the nobility, until today there are but few families in England of high rank but whose title and wealth resulted from successful trading.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION D.

NICHOLAS PEARSALL, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division C, was baptised February 28, 1605-6; buried March 5, 1676; married December 29, 1623, Alice Dawkes; she was buried March 8, 1664. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised November 5, 1624. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division E.
  2. Henry Pearsall, baptised October 15, 1626; Chapter 18, Section 9, Division G.
  3. Alice Pearsall, baptised September 14, 1628; buried May 3, 1637.
  4. Humphrey Pearsall, baptised March 20, 1630-1; buried November 29, 1647.
  5. Margaret Pearsall, baptised June 3, 1633; buried November 27, 1651.
  6. Ann Pearsall, baptised November 26, 1635; buried June 3, 1637.
  7. Nicholas Pearsall, baptised July 1, 1638; buried January 15, 1641.
  8. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptised December 27, 1640; buried December 26, 1641.
- He was the High Bailiff of Kidderminster in 1654, and among his duties was that of tying the marriage knot.

The reigns of Elizabeth and James witnessed an important change that had come over the country. After the accession of Henry VII. and the grant of the Warwick lands, Worcestershire had gradually become a grazing county, and what with her own wool and the wool that came from Wales, a very considerable trade had grown up in the manufacture of cloth. Clothing became not merely a very profitable trade, but the one great trade of the district. Elizabeth incorporated the Worcester clothiers. For some years the leading Worcester citizens were clothiers; so were most of the old Worcester city families whose names are preserved. From the middle of the reign of Elizabeth to the outbreak of the Civil Wars the clothiers were the ruling body in the city, and had a very considerable hold on the county. The change was important. The landed gentry mostly sided with the Court, the clothiers with the Parliament. It is a popular mistake to think that Worcestershire as a whole was strongly on the side of the King. It was possibly so in the country districts, but not in the towns. Here a strong religious feeling had been stirred up against the gentry and clergy, but the religious wave had not reached the country. There was also a local cause. The forest of Fechenham and the chase of Malvern had recently been enclosed, Charles having sold his forestal rights to raise money. The residents in and near the forests had acquired land by enclosure. This was opposed by popular opinion. If the Parliament triumphed, enclosures might be thrown open; they certainly would not be if the king had his own. So in self-interest there was considerable Royalist support. [The Counties of England, by P. H. Ditchfield, vol. 1, page 254-255.]

The members of the Kidderminster branch of our family were manufacturers and not military tenants of the county lands, hence we find them largely allied with the side of Parliament.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION E.

JOHN PEARSALL, son of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Part 1, Division D, bapt. November 5, 1624; buried June 21, 1703; married July 24, 1650 Rebecca Bellarmy. She was buried December 13, 1673. He married second, Persilla ——. Children of first marriage:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised April 18, 1652. Chapter 18, Section 9, Div. F.
2. N. N. —, born May 18, 1654. Buried May 20, 1654.

3. Humphrey Pearsall, died unmarried. His will dated September 17, 1684; and proved November 17, 1684 at Worcester abstracts as follows: Humphrey Pearsall of Kidderminster; to my father John Pearsall; to Henry Riden, son of Hannah Riden; to John son of John Brown, my kinsman, money; Henry Pearsall mentioned. Residue to John Pearsall my brother, he to be executor; my uncle Henry Pearsall and my kinsman John Brown to be overseers; to Hester wife of John Turner, money. Witnesses: John Pearsall the elder, Nicholas Pearsall and Thomas Best.
4. N. N. a daughter born and died September 26, 1657.
5. Nicholas Pearsall, baptised March 20, 1658; married Sarah ——. Child.
  1. Hannah Pearsall, baptised June 31, 1680.
6. Rebecca Pearsall, baptised June 30, 1661.
7. Samuel Pearsall, buried March 22, 1727; married Elizabeth who survived him and was buried April 17, 1728. Children:—
  1. Samuel Pearsall, baptized February 8, 1686; buried February 19, 1686.
  2. Elizabeth Pearsall, buried April 19, 1688.
8. Thomas Pearsall, born and buried April 12, 1664.
9. Thomas Pearsall, baptised April 19, 1668; married Anna ——. Children:—
  1. Alice Pearsall, baptized January 23, 1688.
  2. Benjamin Pearsall, baptized May 18, 1691.
10. Francis Pearsall, baptised April 9, 1672. See Z this Division.  
Child of second marriage:—
11. Persilla Pearsall, baptized July 28, 1674.
- \*Z. FRANCIS PEARSALL, baptised April 9, 1672, son of John Pearsall; married ——. Children:—
  1. Joell Pearsall, married Amy ——. Children:—
    1. Samuel Pearsall, baptised October 3, 1701; married Mary ——. She died February 14, 1764.
    2. Henry Pearsall, married April 15, 1735, Joan Wilson. Children:—
      1. David Pearsall, married June 23, 1753, Joan Fraunton.
      2. Susannah Pearsall, baptised March 5, 1736.
      3. Mary Pearsall, married April 15, 1735, Thomas Walklead.
  2. John Pearsall, buried March 19, 1786; married Elizabeth ——. Child:—
    1. David Pearsall, baptised June 18, 1703; died February 19, 1765; married May 15, 1724, Elizabeth Davis. Children:—
      1. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptised March 19, 1724.
      2. John Pearsall, baptised February 18, 1727; married April 6, 1751, Mary Betts. Child:—
        1. Henry Pearsall, buried January 25, 1758.
      3. Sarah Pearsall, baptised January 29, 1730; buried July 31, 1756.
      4. Mary Pearsall, baptised November 18, 1733; buried October 21, 1734.
      5. Mary Pearsall, baptised October 24, 1735.
      6. William Pearsall, baptised May 24, 1741.
    2. Mary Pearsall, married November 19, 1741, William Lynes.
    3. Elizabeth Pearsall, married December 23, 1743, Thomas Parker.



3. Thomas Pearsall, married Elizabeth. Child:—
  1. Mary Pearsall, baptized December 22, 1704.
4. Hannah Pearsall, married November 12, 1702, Edward Longmore.
5. Henry Pearsall, married March 9, 1706, Elizabeth Hill. He died November 21, 1709.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION F.

JOHN PEARSALL, baptised April 18, 1652, buried January 5, 1705, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division E; married January 13, 1674, Rebecca Read; she was buried August 21, 1728. Children:—

1. Nicholas Pearsall, buried March 5, 1676.
2. Sarah Pearsall, baptised June 30, 1680; buried March 3, 1682.
3. Humphrey Pearsall, baptised February 13, 1683.
4. Samuel Pearsall, baptised May 29, 1687; buried December 13, 1690.
5. Benjamin Pearsall; baptised November 21, 1693; buried November 2, 1696.
6. Sarah Pearsall, buried October 21, 1695.
7. Rebecca Pearsall, buried February 12, 1696.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION G.

HENRY PEARSALL of Kidderminster, born 1625, son of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division D, was baptized October 15, 1626; buried October 14, 1718; married first Dorothy —; second Sarah Brynley, daughter of Thomas Brynley of Woolverhampton. She was buried May 12, 1673. Children of first marriage:—

1. Hannah Pearsall, baptized November 18, 1649.
2. Nicholas Pearsall, baptized February 26, 1651; Chapter 18, Section 9, Division H.

The Hales Owen record reads: March 1653-54. I published an intention of marriage between Henry Pearsall of this Parish, 28, Clothier, the one partie and Sarah Brynley the daughter of Thomas Brynley of Wolverhampton of the other part. They were married March 28, 1654 and pronounced husband and wife by Mr. Lawrence Pearsall, Justice of the Peace.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION H.

NICHOLAS PEARSALL of Kidderminster, died May 28, 1727, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division G. Married Anne —. Children:—

1. Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division J.
2. Henry Pearsall, baptised July 1, 1682. Chapter 18, Sec. 9, Div. L.
3. Richard Pearsall, buried October 1, 1682.
4. Thomas Pearsall, married December 2, 1703, Elizabeth Hill. Children:—
  1. William Pearsall, married the sister of Peyton Silk. The will of William Pearsall dated April 13, 1744, appears among the records of the Prerogative Court of Chancery, Somerset House, London, wherein he gives his entire estate to his brother in law, Peyton Silk, of the Parish of St. Leonards, Shoreditch, Middlesex, London, in which parish decedent also resided and he made his said brother-in-law executor of his will. The

witnesses were Monring T. Reynolds, Notary Public, and John Vincent. The will was probated August 17, 1745. John Silk father of the said Peyton was one of the trustees of the Edward Butler Charity Fund, April 25, 1733 to 1743, when he resigned. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 266.]

2. Mary Pearsall, baptized December 22, 1704; buried February 13, 1720.
3. Richard Pearsall, buried February 5, 1719.

Thomas Pearsall was a trustee of the Edward Butler Charity from September 22, 1724 to 1726, which fixes the time of his death. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 266.]

5. Hannah Pearsall, married December 13, 1715, Thomas Houseman.
6. Dorothy Pearsall, baptised July 25, 1685; buried June 7, 1689.
7. Mary Pearsall, baptised May 14, 1687; married September 22, 1714, Arthur Rendley of Bewdley, by banns. Children:—\*1. Sarah Rendley. \*2. Mary Rendley, who are named in the will of Nicholas Pearsall, Chap. 18, Sect. 9, Div. K.
8. Phebe Pearsall, baptized February 2, 1689, married March 29, 1719, Joseph Williams. His diary has been published by the S.P.C.K.
9. William Pearsall, married October 26, 1711, Elizabeth Crump. She survived her husband and died April 17, 1728. Children:—
  1. William Pearsall, who married December 26, 1750, Mary Wallis. He died March 29, 1757; she died April 26, 1752. Child:—
    1. William Pearsall, buried August 7, 1759.
  2. Dorothy Pearsall, married November 21, 1732, Henry Crane. Children:—\*1. Sergeant Crane. \*2. John Crane. Among the funds of Kidderminster Meeting House is the Jane Mathers and Sargeant Crane Charity. In the original book of the Trustees there is the following statement on the first page:—An account of moneys left by Jane Mathers who was a servant to ye Revd Mr. Richard Sergeant, to be given to ye poor belonging to the Meeting House. It was but fifty pounds and for some reason was kept till it came into bro Cranes hands and mine in ye year 1731. This was Henry crane who purchased with the funds five acres of land in Leswell in 1748, 1752 and 1754, and in 1772 vested the same in trustees to collect the rents and distribute the same among honest, industrious poor and necessitous persons, inhabitants of the Borough or Parish of Kidderminster as the trustees may think proper and worthy persons, special regard being made to poor old maidens and widows of Protestant dissenters. In 1787 Sergeant Crane left in his will one hundred pounds upon the same trust as the Jane Mather fund for Charity. [History of the New Meeting House Kidderminster, page 267.] Henry Crane was one of the trustees of the Edward Butler Charity Fund, May 28, 1725, as was his son John Crane in 1747. [*Ibid.* page 266.]
10. Richard Pearsall, born August 29, 1695. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division I. Nicholas Pearsall Senior, one of the trustees of the Joseph Reed Charity Fund February 3, 1734 to 1737. [History of New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 257.]

Nicholas Pearsall was a trustee of the Edward Butler Charity 1718-1727. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 266.]

### SECTION 9, DIVISION I.

RICHARD PEARSALL, son of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Part 1, Division H, was born at Kidderminster August 29, 1695 [August 26, 1698]; died at Taunton November 10, 1762; resided at Kidderminster, co. Worcester, and Taunton, co. Somerset. He married a daughter of Rev. Samuel Philip.

In the floor of the Chancel of the Parish Church, St Marys, of Kidderminster is the town's oldest relic which is the monumental brass of Sir John Philip in the armour of the period and wearing his S. S. collar. It is a fine specimen of Flemish work and seems to prove his attachment to the Lancastrian Kings Henry IV and V (1399-1422). The S. S. collar was distributed by Henry Lancaster of Hereford to his followers and supporters at Dover when exiled by Richard II. It is a contraction of the French-Souveigne *sese de moi*—Remember me—and was used as a watchword for reassembling on the return of the banished Duke. [Mates Kidderminster, page 10.] He was the ancestor of the Philip family of Kidderminster of which the Rev. Samuel Philip was part. Children of Richard Pearsall and his wife:—

1. Esther Pearsall, married Daniel Jolliffe.
2. Anne Pearsall, married Joseph Allen.
3. N. N. married Arthur Radnall; children:—\*1. Sarah Radnall. \*2. Mary Radnall. (See Will of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division K.)

Richard Pearsall died intestate and letters were granted on his estate in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Somerset House, London. Administrations, 1763. Richard Pearsall. On the seventh day Administration of all and singular the Goods, Chattels, and Credits of Richard Pearsall late of the Parish of Taunton St. Mary Magdalen in the County of Somerset a Widower, deceased was granted to Esther Tolliffe (wife of Daniel Tolliffe) and Anna Allen (wife of Joseph Allen) the natural and lawfull Daughters they having been first Sworn by Commission duly to Administer—June Dec. 1763.

The Reverend Richard Pearsall was educated at Tewkesbury Academy with Joseph Butler and Lecker under Samuel Jones. Reverend Richard Pearsall was successively minister at Bromyard 1721-31, Warminster 1731-47 and Taunton 1747. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 29.] He was an Independent, then Presbyterian and reverted to Independent. The Rev. F. A. Homer says he was Unitarian. [Dictionary of Nat. Bio.]

In the Somerset & Dorset Notes & Queries the following appears: In 1753 Mr. Benjamin Whitehead, one of the seceders from Old Meeting, licensed his house for worship, and meetings for prayer and the reading of a sermon were regularly held there on Sunday evenings. In 1756 a small place of worship was built on the south side of Long Street (in Dorset, England). On June 2, 1757 a church was formed and on October 6, 1757 Rev. Daniel Varder was ordained minister, the following ministers taking part.—Rev. James Rooker of Bredport, Rev. Jonathan Wheeler of Axminster, Rev. Risdon Daracott, Rev. Richard Pearsall of Taunton, Rev. Wm. Gardiner of Wilton.

The writer has in his possession the following original letter written by Rev. Richard Pearsall: Taunton, June

2d, 1762. Rev. & Dear Sir: You may well think it more than time that you heard from me; Especially as you may Expect yt the MS. has reach'd my hand. I am now to tell you yt it has. I am much obliged to you for Employing so much time & so many tho'ts upon it. Your Corrections stand & I have tho't of your Queries. But I suppose it will lie Dormient in my Study till I sleep the sleep of Death & none that will take possession of my papers will concern themselves about them. However they have answered an End they were in the Composition a pleasing Amusement to my mind. But I know of no one that will usher them into the World, since my worthy predecessor waves the office; for I know but few that I should so soon put them into their hands, as into

yours. The will of God discovers itself by Circumstances of one kind and another.

It is and has been for a fortnight a very sickly Season here. People are attack'd with the same symptoms as in London; Some are forc'd to keep their beds a day or two; others keep up and walk about, with a cough or hoarseness. The last week I had it; and tho' not so bad as many, tho't myself so feeble with it Saturday and . . . day morning, that had I been able to get a Supper, I would not have attempted to go into the Pulpit; but God (as often heretofore) was better than my fears. I am now better; but of the Order of feeble ones. But when was I otherwise? Don't you wonder at my Tabernacle's still standing? I am a wonder to myself continually, as I am every day experimentally acquit esth. my infirmities and decays. My Soul is Aspiring after the Triumphant, Perfect state within the Vell; but Ah how feeble are my strongest breathings! I am endeavoring to keep Heaven in my eye but how little of the beauty of the New Jerusalem do my Purblind eyes distinguish? Strange that my affections should be so Captivated by those objects of Business which my Judgment can't but Despise. That a heart like mine should be drag'd to contemplaon upon it's glorious Home, upon the Inheritance extensive and undefeild settled by the Promise of the new covenant! that hath a thousand times been beat out of the world by it's disappointment and sometimes attracted towards glory, by the pleasing views of a glorious immortality; and what I am ready to call the first fruits of the celestial harvest. The Lord increase my faith and help me to live upon the brink of eternity and so in the suburbs of the Jerusalem which is above. I should be daily viewing the person of Imanuel and the Sweet Majesty which is to be seen in his countenance, the God shining through the MAN which attempter'd caies, exhibitions of glory proportioned to the strengthened eye of the glorified soul; which the Characters of Friend Brother or Bridegroom in the golden capitals in all his countenance, while every eye sparkles that beholds him and every heart alternately bowes and embraces, loves most ardently and rests in his love. O for more knowledge of Heaven that arises from intimate feelings and experience!

On Monday morning died that aged, venerable woman Mrs. Babson, at whose house I remember you were, when

in this town. A most honorable woman in her day! She answer'd very much to the character given of Demetrius in the 3d Epistle of John, as she had a good report of all men and of the truth itself. I am to preach her funeral sermon tomorrow from words which she had laid up in her mind for many years, to this Purpose—As for me, I shall behold thy face in righteousness; I shall be Satisfied with thy likeness. A subject which resembles the bottomless ocean! give as much line as you will, still more is called for; and after all O Profunditas!

Lately Mr. Fawcett writes me that the H. Sheriffe of Shropshire, Squire Powis, being a Pious Gent (converted some little time agoe by Mr. Hill the eldest son of Sir Rowland Hill, Bart.) was desirous of having a good sermon preach'd before the judges this last Assizes and therefore sent for Mr. Talbot from Warwickshire, this bro't a great multitude together, since their Methodist-Sheriffe had sent for a Methodist-Parson. Many observacons were made according to People's dispositions. Some said he preach'd Blasphemy; the more Moderate said he had brought in the whole set of Methodist-doctrines. But Mr. Orton said his Deacons were to hear him and said he preach'd a very serious, profitable discourse, avoiding all extremes; Judge Wilmot spoke of it with approbation and it is going to be Printed. There is an Academy set up at Abergavenny in Monmouth which I hope will as a Pure and Medicinal fountain send forth streams which shall heal dry and marshy ground and make glad the City of our God. There are two young men thence settled at Hereford and Bromyard. The latter place was where I was first settled and was resident 10 years and a quarter. Matters were low then and a good deal lower since; so that I tho't they were at their last Gasps; but now the Lord seems to own the young man; People come to hear and their numbers are remarkably increased. This affects me the more, not only as I had a regard for the place, but as I always saw such an unconquerable prejudice in the tempers of the people against Dissenters. But what art thou O great Mountain before our Zerubbabel! thou shalt become a plain! &c. I beg my Respectful complements to Mrs. Reader; that the best of Blessings may rest upon you both in a large measure is the sincere prayer of, Dear Sir, Your much obliged friend & servant, R. Pearsall.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION J.

NICHOLAS PEARSALL, buried June 2, 1775, son of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division H; married November 4, 1718, Hannah Reed. She died June 20, 1766. Children:—

1. Anne Pearsall, baptized January 27, 1721; married September 9, 1768, Joseph Austin. Child:—\*1. Anne Austin or Aston who married William Stocknall. See will of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division K. Joseph Austin was the treasurer of the High Street Charity School in Kidderminster from December 1769 to November 1785. [History of the Kidderminster New Meeting House, page 224.]
2. Nicholas Pearsall, buried September 20, 1721.
3. Nicholas Pearsall, baptized May 23, 1727, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division K.
4. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptized June 16, 1730, buried July 1, 1735. She was also baptized at the New Meeting House June 15, 1730.
5. Mary Pearsall, baptized at the New Meeting House January 21, 1734-5; the records of St. Mary's Church notice this baptism by entering a minute thereof as having been done by a dissenter January 31, 1734-5.

December 27, 1732, Nicholas Pearsall, Stuff weaver, appointed one of the trustees of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster. And on February 23, 1770, both Nicholas Pearsall senior and junior were appointed trustees of the New Meeting House.

Nicholas Pearsall, Junior, one of the trustees of the Rev. Joseph Reeds Charity fund from November 4, 1726 to 1775.

Mr. Nicholas Pearsall, senior, was treasurer of the High Street Charity School in Kidderminster 1758-1759. The school commenced at Michaelmas 1758, which marks Nicholas Pearsall as among the first who occupied this place. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, pages 198-257 and 224.]

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION K.

NICHOLAS PEARSALL, son of Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division J, was born 1727; bapt. June 30, 1727, at St. Marys Church, Kidderminster. He died July 2, 1798, aged 71 years. He married Ann Fincher, daughter of Philip Fincher, Gent., who was buried in Himbleton Church, Worcestershire, where there is a monument to him which reads:—

In memory of Philip Fincher, Gent., the last Branch in the male line of a very reputable family at Shell, in this neighborhood, who lived on their estate more than two hundred years. He died 11th of Dec., 1755, in his 73rd year, and left three daughters, Margaret, Mary and Ann, who erected this monument out of respect of a very affectionate and pious Father.

Mrs. Pearsall was the last survivor of the family of Fincher of Shell. She brought her husband the Manor of Shell and other lands in the Parish of Hanbury, lands in Worcester and lands in Kidderminster. She died May 5, 1806, aged 82 years. No children.

Nicholas Pearsall, Junior, one of the trustees of the Edward Butler Charity Fund March 31, 1760-1798. He was also treasurer of the High Street Charity School in November 1768. [History of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, page 266 and 224.]

The will of Nicholas Pearsall, dated June 24, 1797 and Probated October 20, 1798 abstracts as follows:

This is the last Will & Testament of me Nicholas Pearsall of Kidderminster in the County of Worcester of the Manor of Shelve, otherwise: Shesve, otherwise Shell in the County of Worcester—Also Freehold messuages, Cottages, lands &c in Shelve aforesaid & Parish of Himbleton & Hanbury in said County & all that my messuage or dwelling house in the Lowe Gate Street in the City of Worcester, also lands at Phepston in the Parish of Himbleton. I give & devise to my three friends, Thomas Read of Kidderminster, Woolstapler, John Read of the Valley in Bromsgrove, Coalmaster & Samuel Read the eldest son of the said Thomas Read in trust to sell all my Manor & Freeholds—Mentions Will of Margaret Ssenclide decd. the late sister of his wife Ann—£400 to be by them applied one third to the Pearsall Educational Foundation & two thirds in support of the New Meeting House, Kidderminster & pay sums of money following:—that is to say to Mr. Philip Bradford of Droitwich £50—to Mr. John Bradford, Apothecary, son of the late Mr. John Bradford of Warwick £50—to Thomas Bradford & Sarah the wife of Wm. Carpenter two of the children of the late John Bradford ten pounds each—to Mary the wife of George Carpenter & Hannah the wife of Joseph Carpenter £100 each—to Lant Carpenter one of the sons of Mr. George Carpenter £200 & in the next place the balance to be divided among the following persons:—viz. To John Carpenter, the Rev. Benjamin Carpenter, Joseph Carpenter, Thomas Carpenter, Wm. Carpenter, Elizabeth Carpenter, & George Carpenter (the children of the late Philip Carpenter of the Woodrow, deceased) To John

Bradford, Philip Bradford, & William Bradford (3 of the children of the before named John Bradford deceased) To the said Thomas Read, the said John Read, Ann Read & Mary Read (children of Mr. John of Kidderminster deceased) equally share & share alike. All books to Lant Carpenter—Wife to have all family plate & silver which she brought with her at the time of our marriage—Legacies to my cousin Mrs. Esther Tollife wife of Daniel Tollife £200—to my cousin Mr. Joseph Allen of Taunton Dean £200—also to Sarah & Mary Radnall (2 daughters of my late cousin Mr. Arthur Radnall) Messrs. Joseph & Zackariah Bunnell—John Cox the husband of my late cousin Lydia Cox.—Mary, Esther & Rebecca Read 3 of the daughters of my late cousin Mr. Samuel Read—Anna the wife of Wm. Stocknall the daughter of my late cousin Mrs. Anna Aston. My servant Mary Gladhill £20 & my good friend Dr. James Johnston £50 & Hannah his wife £50. Mr. Pochin Lister £30 & if he dies to his wife.—of Kidderminster. Lane Carpenter £400 & £200 if he becomes a preacher to the protestant dissenters of this Realm. Then follows lengthy instructions & rules with respect to the Meeting House & Schools, Church St. Kidderminster. In Witness whereof I the said Nicholas Pearsall the Testator have to this my last Will and Testament contained in 13 sheets of paper subscribed & set my hand & seal this twenty fourth day of June in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety seven. Nichos. Pearsall. Witnesses—John Hill, Frans. Best, Daniel Wagstaff. Proved by Thomas, John, & Samuel Read, 20. Oct. 1798.

George Carpenter, named in the above will of Nicholas Pearsall, was a carpet manufacturer in Kidderminster, who left his son Lant when he was about five years of age in the charge of Nicholas Pearsall who raised him almost like his own child. He was also the guardian of Lant's mother.

James Johnstone, M.D., was a practising physician in Kidderminster. He was a large subscriber to the New Meeting House in Kidderminster. He published a number of medical dissertations and was the first to generate hydrochloric acid gas as a means of destroying contagion, by pouring sulphuric acid over common salt.

Kidderminster, the home of Nicholas Pearsall, was for over six centuries a community of weavers and the employing weaver, like Nicholas Pearsall, was an important factor in the prosperity of the place. In early days they wove cloth, caps, woollens, bombazines, and tapestries for hangings. Baxter, the great dissenting divine, as late as 1650, said that his people in Kidderminster were not rich but there were very few beggars, because their trade of weaving would find work for them all. Just before the beginning of the eighteenth century the weaving of the carpet known as "Kidderminster" was introduced. This is what is called Ingrain in America, because it has a worsted warp with a woollen weft and the pattern is made by the combination of the colors of each. Hence it exhibits the pattern, in opposite colors, on both sides of the carpet and is therefore reversible. In 1735, Nicholas Pearsall brought over a Flemish weaver together with a loom for weaving Brussels carpet. This he set up in Holland Court, part of his home, located between Blackwell and Church Streets in Kidderminster and the making of Brussels carpet soon became established as the leading industry of the place. After a short time the old weavings were abandoned and the weavers gave their entire attention to the new industry which rapidly expanded, although during the lifetime of Nicholas Pearsall it was restricted to the product of handlooms. Four years before his death, in 1798, he endeavored to set up power looms to make Brussels carpet but owing to the opposition of the weavers this was frustrated and it was not until 1860 that power looms came into general use.

Nicholas Pearsall, in his last will, specifically bequeathed to his executors, whom he also appointed trustees, after the death of his wife, £300 to be wholly raised from his personal estate and to be vested in seven respectable persons, by them to be chosen out of the congregation of Protestant Dissenters who should attend Divine Service at the New Meeting House, upon trust, viz.: the interest of two-thirds of the stock is appropriated to the purposes of the New Meeting, one sixth to the Charity Schools and one-sixth to the support of the Sunday School. He also made large provision for the support of the Pearsall Grammar School.

Nicholas Pearsall established a Sunday School upon his estate in Kidderminster about the same time Robert Raikes began one at Gloucester without knowing that the idea had occurred to anyone else. He was also the chief cause in establishing the Sunday School in connection with the New Meeting many years before there was such an institution in the whole surrounding district. It is to the latter school that he referred in his will.

For some time previous to his death Nicholas Pearsall was retarded in his sphere of usefulness by the gradual loss of both sight and hearing which threatened to become total. In the midst of this affliction he discovered not merely patience and resignation but cheerfulness and thankfulness. After his death, on Friday, July 6, 1798, his remains were deposited, agreeably to his own desire, in the School yard of the institution he had founded. The attendance of spectators was numerous being drawn together by the novelty of the circumstance as well as by respect for the deceased. Famous as the town had become for nonconformity it was the first instance there of a funeral service being performed by a Nonconformist minister. The Rev. William Severn delivered the oration at the grave and on the Lord's Day following preached a sermon in commemoration of the deceased. The oration is still extant and as it is an unusual incident in family history it is repeated at this place so that it may be open to more general study. The Rev. William Severn on this occasion spoke as follows:—

Men, brethren and Fathers, though the being of a God and most of the truths of Natural and Revealed Religion have been called into question there is one truth which will remain indisputable, that one day or other we must all die. Death, that bold intruder, makes no distinction but proceeds with determined step to knock at the door of the sumptuous palace as well as of the sordid cottage. The mighty leveller, with unerring aim, directs the blow which reduces the savage and the sage to the same humiliating situations. Standing as we do on the brink of an open grave we should show ourselves dead to sober thought and moral feeling did we not lay our minds open to those instructive lessons which are thence announced with an oracular voice.

The appendages of mortality, the shroud, the coffin and the grave, have in them a silent but powerful influence which comes home to our business and bosoms and outvies poetical description and rhetorical declamation. The event of death is solemn and interesting whatever view we may take of it and whatever may be the age, condition or character of those by whom it is contemplated. Death may be considered as a departure from the present state, as the door to a new state of existence, and as the period of our moral probation. Death breaks all those associations by which we are attached to surrounding objects, and which habit incites us to estimate at more than their intrinsic worth. We exchange the social circle and the charities of father, sister, mother for the dreary region where we must say to corruption thou art my father and to the worm thou art my mother and my sister. We must abandon our lucrative schemes and our pleasurable pursuits and go where there is no work, nor device nor knowledge.

But the event of death is heightened in interest to us when we view it as the gate to a new stage of existence. Man though he die shall live again. There shall be a resurrection both of the just and of the unjust. To this, indeed, the index of nature points and to this the pole star of Divine Revelation infallibly directs the poring eye. But how shall he live? With whom shall he live? With all the information we have received we are much at a loss to answer these enquiries with precision. It doth not yet appear what we shall be. All that we know is that we shall be new inexpressible somethings. But the mode of our existence; the nature of our perceptions and sensations; how far similar to those we have at present and in what respects totally different; the nature of the connection we shall have with Beings of other Orders and with those of our own order and species, and the medium by which we shall communicate with them, are subjects concerning which we see as through a glass darkly.

But of all other views of death it most concerns us to contemplate it as the period of our moral probation. All the circumstances of our present condition, both pleasurable and painful, both those we call prosperous and those we deem adverse, are arranged by the wisdom and

benevolence of our Creator to give us an opportunity for the formation and display of character. What we make ourselves in the present state we shall be found to be in the next, and must take the inevitable consequences. He that is unjust will be unjust still, and he that is filthy will be filthy still, and he that is righteous will be righteous still, and he that is holy will be holy still.

On the character that we possess at death will the color of our eternal fate depend. The felicity of the future state can belong only to those who have the qualities of genuine piety and virtue; to those who have lived soberly, righteously and godly in the present evil world. Not even to these, only in connection with that grace which reigneth through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Be not deceived,—no speculative opinions, no ceremonial rites performed by ourselves, or by others for our benefit, no regrets on a death-bed, no feeble purpose of amendment, produced by terror, will avail to screen you from misery or secure you felicity.

We have committed our venerable friend to the earth with a cheerful hope that according to the constitution of the Gospel, his dispositions and conduct were those which entitle him to a part in the resurrection of the just. Hoping through the Divine mercy to be sharers in his joy we leave him to the guardianship of Jesus his Savior, and of God his Heavenly Father and wise and gracious Creator. We take a long view and connect this assembly and the passing scenes with the time when the Archangels trumpet shall sound, whose accents shall reverberate from sepulchre to sepulchre, when the small and the great shall stand before God, and they who have done good shall go into life everlasting. Sleeping in Jesus, though in a spot of earth deemed by superstitious minds unhallowed, we doubt not his dust will be found when required by his Creator in order to be reanimated.

Retire from this funeral ceremony and let the man live in your memories who was the enemy of no man, who was the relation and friend of some of you, who was the acquaintance, the neighbor, the fellow worshipper of more of you, who was a sincere well-wisher to the best and eternal interests of you all. Retire and meditate on the nearness and certainty of your own deaths. Let the aged lay to heart that which according to the course of nature must shortly be their destiny. Let the young and healthy remember that their bones are not iron nor their sinews brass, and even with respect to them it may be said to every one, there is but a step between thee and death. Let us seek with diligence to obtain, to retain and augment that holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. Thus shall we die in peace and finally awake to righteousness and eternal life. Depart—and may God grant we may all find that it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men and the living should lay it to heart.

To return to the story of Nicholas Pearsall it is interesting to note that a present day historian of Kidderminster has said [History of the New Meeting House Kidderminster by E. D. Priestley Evans, 1900, page 34], that to Nicho-

las Pearsall, more than to any one other man, the New Meeting in Kidderminster with its Sunday School, Day School and the old Pearsall Grammar School, owes its existence. The mill-wheels of the commercial, social and religious life of Kidderminster have been turned in part by a stream of noble influence which finds its source, its spring, in the pious life of Nicholas Pearsall, and like the dying minstrel of whom tradition relates that when his fingers fell from his harp the strings went on themselves giving forth sweet sounds and finished the glorious tune he had commenced. So it may be said of Nicholas Pearsall—he likewise started a great and glorious melody upon the harp of the life of Kidderminster, and when his fingers fell from the strings the harp went on playing of itself, and goes on playing still, and will continue so in all probability until it is worn out and there will be no longer need of a town of the name of Kidderminster. That Nicholas Pearsall deserved the magnificent eulogy this oration gives him, indicates at once how far he was above the usual run of mankind. As a fact his life was largely taken up with good works that really did much to improve the mental, moral and religious condition of those to whom his efforts were directed. In the history of humanitarian work this result is so unusual that perhaps no greater praise could be given him than to say that he thoroughly understood the needs of those whom he desired to help, and intruded on their lives only to the extent of helping them along the pathways they desired to travel.

Kidderminster was one of the great centers in the textile industries of England. It later became the largest producer of carpets, so much so that the name of the town has become the recognized trade name of a well known weave of carpet which is designated as Kidderminster. The advent of this industry brought about the acquisition of wealth by its inhabitants independent of the system of feudal tenure of land. The new aristocracy early developed independence in religious thought and practice, hence Kidderminster became a center of recognized Protestant religious views. The Presbyterian church was in flourishing condition at an early date in this community. We have now however come to a later time, when there came about a sentiment that the reformed religion needed another change, to take it further from the views advanced by the Catholic Church. The historian of Kidderminster says:—From the relish which many had contracted for a strain of preaching so very different from that of their former ministers, under whom the church had flourished for almost a century, it was much feared that a division would be unavoidable upon the choice of a minister, though much pains were taken to prevent it after the death in 1742 of the Pastor of the Non-Conformist Meeting in Kidderminster.

So long as the dissatisfied brethren entertained any hope of a ministry under which they might all unite and be edified, they continued to fill up their places in public and joined in their religious exercises on their evenings of prayer. But when a variety of circumstances caused these hopes to vanish, and the greater number confiding in their strength began to carry things with a high hand and to pay little regard to the comfort and edification of their conscientious brethren, a very large and respectable minority availed themselves of that noble principle of Protestant Dissenters of choosing for themselves a pastor who in their judgment was likely to be most useful in promoting the great ends of religion among them.



In this movement Nicholas Pearsall was the leading layman. An effort was made to obtain the joint use of the old Meeting House, but this failing it was resolved to erect a commodious place of worship. The subscription list was opened on December 26th, 1781, and at this time Nicholas Pearsall donated the larger part of the plot of ground upon which the Meeting House was subsequently erected.

On January 16, 1782, the entire membership of the new society, including Nicholas Pearsall, joined in a letter calling the Rev. Samuel Fawcett to be their minister. This communication was entrusted to a committee, of which Nicholas Pearsall was the chairman, to deliver the same personally to the minister named. The result of the Committee's efforts in this behalf are clearly set out in the following letter to Nicholas Pearsall: Beaminster, Feb. 16, 1782, To Mr. Nicholas Pearsall, Kidderminster, Dear sir, Your very obliging favour of the 9th I received and it affords us much satisfaction to hear that a kind Providence conducted you and your fellow travelers safe to Kidderminster on Friday evening. A visit from three such friends, tho so short, gave great pleasure which would have been considerably increased could we have furnished you all with beds.

The hint suggested to you by our worthy friend Mr. Crane greatly surprised me, as I am persuaded there is not the least foundation for it, at least I am sure that such an idea never entered my mind. Indeed, had you expressed yourself with much less earnestness on the subject than you did the very circumstance of your undertaking so long a journey, at such a season of the year, would itself have been a sufficient demonstration of the strength and sincerity of your attachment. However, I feel my obligations greatly increased by these renewed declarations of it and I am fully persuaded did Providence fix my residence at Kidderminster a considerable addition to my happiness would come from the piety and friendship of Mr. Pearsall.

You intimated in your letter that our interview had excited some hopes in your own breast and these hopes you had communicated to others. I did indeed say at parting that my inclinations were strong towards you and that nothing but necessity should prevent my compliance with your request. These I acknowledge were my real sentiments, and very happy should I have been had I found my difficulties diminish, but I am sorry that since you left us they have greatly increased. (Then follows a recital of family difficulties which prevent his acceptance.) In his public statement Mr. Fawcett said that it was with the most painful reluctance he informed the congregation of the new meeting that having, with as much impartiality as possible, weighed the arguments on both sides and earnestly implored the Divine direction he finds himself obliged to return an answer in the negative.

It looked at this time as if the new meeting was doomed to failure, but Nicholas Pearsall and his associates were not to be deterred from what they conceived to be the right thing by any mere want of conjunction of favorable conditions, so the new society began its career in a vacant warehouse on the banks of the canal and without any regular minister. It was in following October before they were able to meet in their own building and it was the end of July, 1794, ere they had secured the Rev. Robert Gentleman to be their regular minister.

The best part of the experience that at this time came to Nicholas Pearsall and his associates in the New Meeting was that they were able to record that after all, they had great reason to look back with pleasure and thankfulness on all the way in which God had led them, and especially on the good temper and moderation with which this separation had been conducted. Thanks be to God no private friendships have been broken, no bitterness or animosities remain between the two societies. The principal members of each unite together in their friendly meetings and carry on their charitable designs with the same harmony as before the separation took place. The dissenting ministers are on the most friendly terms with each other; both the places are well filled on the Lord's day afternoon and evening. The dissenting interest seems considerably increased in the town and great numbers of children and apprentices are constantly catechised, belonging to both societies, besides the children of many who are only occasional hearers. At present there seems no contention but to provoke one another to love and good works and we earnestly pray that this temper may continue among us and our posterity and be improved to the latest generation, and that both Christian Societies may flourish and be happy till they are again joined together in the general assembly of the church of the first born in Heaven.

There were two features that seem to have emanated from Nicholas Pearsall: namely, that an annual charity sermon should be preached and that to this end a notice of the same be advertised in the Worcester journal so that a large collection be obtained for the benefit of the poor of the community and the support of the Day school. And secondly, that a committee be annually appointed to consult with the minister as to the ways they may be useful to him and to the best interests of the Christian society to which they belong.

As has already been stated the land for the New Meeting House was in large part donated by Nicholas Pearsall. The deed of settlement was drawn up and signed the sixth day of August, 1784. The first half of it gives an account of the conveying of a certain piece of land by Nicholas Pearsall to the congregation and of the purchase of a plot of garden ground, which belonged to the High House, bought of William Wheeler of Winterfold, Chaddesley Corbet, for the congregation, for a sum subscribed by the first trustees. The two plots of land are described as being the land under the Meeting House and Vestry, the passage on the North side the court or yard, and the void ground adjoining and belonging to the said meeting house; also plot of ground at the eastward end, which premises at the eastward end are forty feet broad, having the garden ground of the said William Wheeler belonging to the High House, and other ground belonging to the Black Star Inn there on the south side thereof and land of Lord Foley; on the other side thereof certain other ground belonging to Miss Wallis at the eastward end thereof and the garden belonging to the Presbyterian ministers house there, and the buildings and entry of Nicholas Pearsall, belonging to his said house in Church Street at the other end thereof together with the free use of the entryway or passage leading to the said Meeting House and premises.

The deed provides that the said Meeting House and building shall from time to time, and at all times for ever thereafter, be used and continued as a Meeting House or place for the public exercise of religious worship by his Majesties Pro-

testant subjects, dissenting from the Church of England, and commonly called Presbyterians. But subject to the rules, regulations and conditions herein contained, or which shall or may be hereafter made, in pursuance of the powers hereinafter given for the purpose.

The deed also provided that in case it shall at any time hereafter happen that by the laws or statutes of this realm the Protestant dissenters shall be prohibited from using a liberty of conscience in their exercise of religious worship, then the trustees then in office shall stand seized of the said Meeting House and premises upon trust for such persons and estate and for such uses and intents and limitations as the said trustees or a majority of them, by proper deed or writing shall direct and appoint.

It will be noticed that the donor, having quite recent experiences in mind, had provided for the possible contingency of a return to the old restrictive laws against non-established religious worship in England. The deed with the same thought in view did not provide a limitation to any doctrinal creed then in existence, and it sets out a way for the making of new rules and regulations for the government of the society.

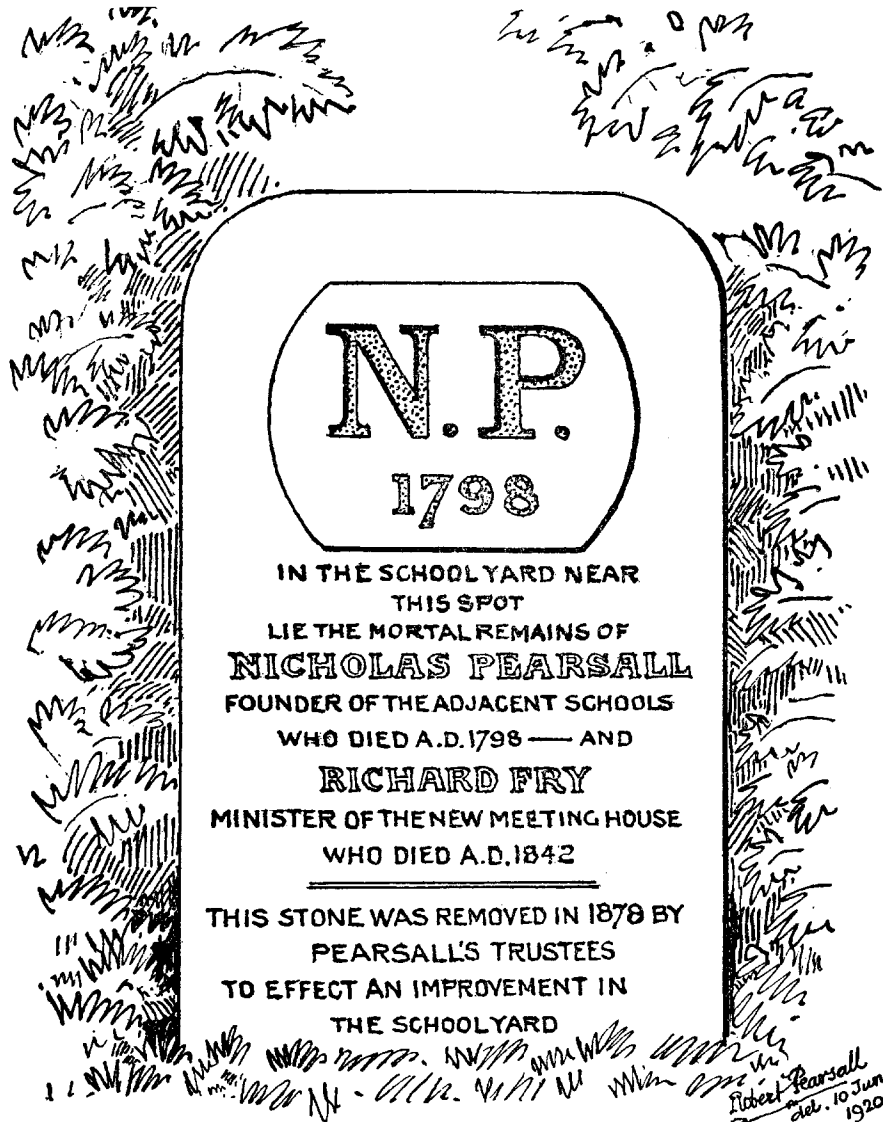
The first trustees, who were appointed August 6, 1784, were:—

Nicholas Pearsall, Gentleman.	Joseph Broom, Carpet Manufacturer.
Sergeant Crane, Gentleman.	Nathaniel Nichols, Maltster.
William Hornblower, Mercer.	John Richardson, Linen Draper.
Nicholas Penn, Gentleman.	Joseph Pidduck, Miller.
John Jefferys, Miller.	Edward Penn, Weaver.
Abraham Wilkinson, M.D.	Benjamin Grove, Butcher.
Joseph Hancox, Gentleman.	Richard Burford, Weaver.
Daniel Edge, Gentleman.	William Roberts, Weaver.
Francis Edge, Joiner.	John Read, Coal Master.
Edward Griffiths, Grocer.	Daniel Best, Miller.
Richard Watson, Gentleman.	William Penn, Weaver.

Nicholas Pearsall was the treasurer from the beginning of the society to the day of his death. He was also Warden from 1785-1787.

The parsonage building, consisting of two tenements, is vested in trustees. This originally belonged to the old Meeting. It was acquired as the result of the bequest of Mr. Edward Butler who in his will, dated 1711, bequeathed a sum of money to the Rev. J. Spilsbury and Chewning Blackmore; which sum he afterwards directed by a supplementary paper or codicil in his own handwriting should be applied to the building of a parsonage for the Dissenting Minister of Kidderminster. When the separation took place the place of worship was held in possession of the old society, while the Parsonage was acquired by the New Meeting Society. Among the names of those who from time to time acted as trustees appears Henry Pearsall, Tammy Weaver, who was among the first who occupied this position (he was appointed December 27, 1720); Nicholas Pearsall, Stuff maker, appointed December 27, 1732; Nicholas Pearsall and Nicholas Pearsall Jr., Weaver, appointed June 23, 1770; and Nicholas Pearsall appointed November 12, 1789.

In making some changes to the building the grave of Nicholas Pearsall in the chapel yard was covered over, so the trustees erected a stone in front of the chapel on the right hand corner which reads:—



*This tombstone is 5' 6" high, 3' 4½" wide, & 4½" thick — It stands against the railings of the Schoolyard, on the right hand side of the approach to the Meeting House, among trees — in Church Street, Kidderminster.*

Before the New Meeting was organized the nonconformists of Kidderminster held their services so as not to clash with the hours appointed for the ser-

vices at the Parish Church, but after the New Meeting began to hold services then all of three churches held their services at the same hours. The conduct of the services by the dissenters was at first free. That is to say it was left entirely in the hands of the ministers. Liturgies were at times used by the ministers but not by the Congregation generally. It was not until 1870 that this church used a congregational liturgy. The congregation sat while singing and stood during the prayer. The old square pew compelled about half of the congregation to have their backs to the minister when seated and they maintained the same position when standing. Even after the pews were changed many of the congregation continued to turn their backs to the minister during the time they stood for prayer. In their singing the congregation used Doddridge's hymn book, a well known collection then in general use by the dissenting churches.

The Church book shows that the Chapel or Meeting House was completed by October 18, 1782, when it was formally opened. It took less than a year to build and was originally of the old square barn shape and appearance. The pews were chiefly square and high and the pulpit was of that old pattern known as the three-decker. The top deck was used by the preacher; the middle one was for the clerk who gave out the hymns and psalms; the bottom one was reserved for the communion service or for public meetings. In the Chapel there is a marble tablet upon which is carved the following inscription:—

To the memory  
of  
NICHOLAS PEARSALL.  
Founder  
of the adjacent schools.  
He died July 2nd, 1798,  
Aged 71.

Rest thou son of Peace! whose kind and soft controul  
To gentlest temper charmed the yielding soul:  
Long shall thy placid influence live, imprest  
By fond remembrance on the mournful breast;  
And each tumultuous feeling quit the frame  
And each rude passion sleep at Pearsall's name.

Ann, relict of the above Nicholas Pearsall, and the last  
survivor of the family of Fincher of Shell in this coun-  
ty, died May 5th, 1806. Aged 82 years.

We have already referred to the Sunday School as having had its inception in a prior Sunday School which Nicholas Pearsall had conducted in his own home. This proved to be a training school for the teachers, which made the school in connection with the new church a success from the start. Nicholas Pearsall did not however discontinue the school at his home, but extended its scope so as to really become a week-day school. A difficulty presented itself in this connection which shows how hard it was for a boy to get an education in those days. The boys who attended the Sunday School worked in the factories and in the coal pits and were accustomed to begin their daily labor at five o'clock in the morning and to continue it till late in the evening, but this did not deter Nicholas Pearsall or the boys. At four o'clock they awoke him or their teacher, both in winter and

summer, and in the summer under a mulberry tree and in winter in a summer house they received an hour's instruction in writing, reading and arithmetic as well as in other branches of useful Knowledge. It has been noted by the local historians that all of these boys who came to manhood were useful members of society, while quite a number became leaders in the business and civic life of Kidderminster.

When the Sunday school was open in connection with the New Meeting it was made to comprehend both boys and girls. The records disclose that it opened with nearly two hundred scholars. In the school in his home Nicholas Pearsall paid those who acted as teachers but when the school came under the Church it introduced the plan of volunteer teachers which has since become the general custom of Sunday schools everywhere with but few exceptions. It is interesting to notice that the sexes were in separate classes and that the scholars were graded according to age and study. The School was handicapped by the lack of general education in the community, so the teaching of the rudiments relating to the three Rs was made the prominent feature of the plan of study. The text books were Watts first and second catechisms, and Rev. Job Orton's catechism. The local historian says that the above interesting record gives us a clear account of the connection of Nicholas Pearsall with the founding of this Sunday school. We have a lucid view of the conditions of teaching in those days, and we see how at the very beginning that noble tradition was established which has been handed down from that time to this, and which is still full of life and vigor, the desire for improving and improvement, intellectually, morally and spiritually. May this tradition ever be the guide of all who are or will be connected with the New Meeting, specially with its Sunday School.

The interest of Nicholas Pearsall in education of the youth of Kidderminster began as early as 1758, at which time he was the active spirit which brought about the consolidation of several small funds which had been devised for the education of the poor children of this community. It was at this time agreed by the trustees of these funds, and several others who subscribed thereto, that a school should be open to be called the High Street Charity School; it was also agreed that the school should consist of sixty children; thirty of whom were to be taught by a master to read, write and cast accounts, to be admitted to his school about six or seven years of age. And thirty children to be taught by a mistress to read, and the girls to sew and knit, to be admitted about four years of age. The school was to be open each day during four hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon. The master was also to pray and sing with the scholars, both morning and afternoon, and teach them the catechism. The first treasurer was Nicholas Pearsall Senr. father of Nicholas Pearsall, and among the subscribers to the support of the school was John Pearsall and Nicholas Pearsall Jr. This fund was not adequate to the needs of the community, neither did it meet the wants of those who were compelled to work, so Nicholas Pearsall opened the School in his home to which we have already referred. When the New Meeting was established, Nicholas Pearsall immediately arranged for a school which at first was called the New Meeting Charity School, but later named the Day School. Nicholas Pearsall furnished the building for this school, but it appears that it was supported by a

division of the old charity funds and that there was also a division of the scholars attending the old school at the time of the split. Nicholas Pearsall's name appears among the subscribers and he made provision for the same in his will. The records of the church show that a large sum was raised each year by a special day being set aside for a sermon and collection. Nicholas Pearsall was treasurer of this school from November, 1786 to November, 1795.

On June 24, 1790, a provident society was started in connection with the New Meeting. The preamble to their rules recites that as members of a religious society they were convinced that they ought to exercise towards their fellow members, not only that benevolence which they claim as men, not merely that brotherly love to which they are entitled as Christians, but that peculiar kindness also which the members of a religious society may justly expect from each other. Persuaded therefore that both human and divine principles call upon the members of the same religious society to assist one another in their temporal as well as eternal welfare, and following herein the respectable example of the Quakers and some other societies, they formed themselves into a society to be called the Kidderminster New Meeting Provident Society, for the purpose of providing a permanent support for those members who shall need it in illness or old age. Nicholas Pearsall was among the subscribers to this fund and acted as president and treasurer from 1790 to 1798.

In 1795 Nicholas Pearsall founded the Pearsall grammar school and trust. The school was opened on October 5, 1795, with the Rev. William Blake as master. In the deed of endowment Nicholas Pearsall declares that being desirous of promoting the welfare of his fellow creatures, and persuaded that their welfare both in this world and another depended, under Almighty God, on their being taught to practise virtue and abstain from vice, he had resolved to establish a school to teach youth this important truth in the first place, and in the second place so much of the arts and sciences as might enable them to fill up with advantage their respective stations in life. And judging that there were a sufficient number of schools to instruct the children of the lower class of people gratis in everything necessary for persons in their station, and as the children of the higher rank of tradesmen were generally educated in boarding schools, that therefore a course of instruction for the children of the inferior tradesmen seemed most desirable. In order therefore to assist in the education of this most useful class of people he established a school at Kidderminster for the instruction of boys of that description.

Nicholas Pearsall made other conveyances to this school during his lifetime and made large bequest to the same in his will. This became the advanced school for the education of the boys of Kidderminster, and continued as such until 1875 when it was found that the work of this school was so fully covered by the general schools that the trustees thought it best to close the Pearsall school. The income of the fund was thereupon devoted to the creation of exhibitions of learning or scholarships, that were called Mr. Pearsall's Exhibitions, to be freely competed for at the public elementary schools and to be tenable for periods not exceeding three years, at some efficiently conducted school or institution providing a higher education. This scheme was approved of by the Board of Charity Commissioners

and sealed by them March 16, 1877. The school was closed May twelfth of the same year. For some reason or other the list of exhibitors under this plan closes with the year 1898. Let us hope that nothing has gone amiss with this fund.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION L.

HENRY PEARSALL, baptised July 1, 1682, son of Nicholas Pearsall. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division H. Married March 20, 1706, Hannah Hill. Henry Pearsall died October 23, 1726. Hannah Pearsall died March 15, 1745. Children:—

1. Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division M.
2. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Division O.
3. Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Division P.

December 27, 1720, Henry Pearsall, tannery weaver, appointed one of the trustees of the New Meeting House in Kidderminster.

Henry Pearsall one of the trustees of the Joseph Reed Charity Fund at Kidderminster from February 4, 1716, to 1726.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION M.

HENRY PEARSALL, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Division L. Married Hannah —, October 31, 1725; Hannah, wife of Henry Pearsall, buried at Kidderminster; February 16, 1757, Henry Pearsall buried at the same place. Children:—

1. William Pearsall, buried June 1, 1726.
2. William Pearsall, baptised May 23, 1727, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division N.
3. Susanna Pearsall, buried March 17, 1733.

Henry Pearsall one of the trustees of the New Meeting House from December 6, 1726 to 1757.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION N.

WILLIAM PEARSALL, baptised May 23, 1727, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division M. He was buried August 28, 1775; married Hester Spencer, twin daughter of John Spencer and his wife Mary Hunter. This Mary Hunter after the death of her first husband, the said John Spencer, married — Read, by whom she had a daughter Elizabeth who married Benjamin Mander, whose daughter, Rebecca Mander, married James Pearsall, one of the children of William Pearsall and Hester Spencer. She was buried January 25, 1783. Children:—

1. John Spencer Pearsall, baptized November 15, 1754. Married — —. Children:—
  1. Thomas Pearsall, who married Sussanna. She died November 8, 1805. Children:—
    1. Elizabeth Pearsall, born July 5, 1801; baptised August 24.
    2. Mary Pearsall, baptized August 12, 1804; died November 8, 1805.
    3. Mary Pearsall, born June 28, 1805; died April 16, 1819, aged sixteen years.



2. Samuel Pearsall, who married Theophina. She died May 23, 1819, aged 38 years. Children:—
  1. Samuel Pearsall, baptized March 31, 1804.
  2. Thomas Pearsall, born January 3, 1806; baptized February 19, 1806.
  3. Sarah Pearsall born November 11, 1809; baptized December 25, 1809.
  4. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptized January 12, 1812.
  5. James Pearsall, born February 14, 1812, buried April 16, 1816.
2. Mary Pearsall, baptized January 26, 1757.
3. William Pearsall, baptised July 18, 1760; buried November 30, 1762.
4. Benjamin Pearsall, baptised October 27, 1761; married Sarah, who died January 29, 1813, aged 43 years; married second, Elizabeth Tunstall on September 19, 1814. Children of the first marriage:—
  1. Mary Pearsall, baptized April 9, 1798.
  2. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptized September 4, 1799.
  3. Benjamin Pearsall, born May 25, 1806; baptized August 5, 1806.
  4. Sarah Pearsall, born September 23, 1808, baptized May 6, 1809.
  5. Thomas Pearsall, baptized at the New Meeting House, Kidderminster, September 4, 1812; died February 13, 1813.Children of the second marriage:—
  6. William Pearsall, baptized March 18, 1815.
  7. Marie Pearsall, baptized January 22, 1819; died September 19, 1819.
  8. John Pearsall, baptized July 28, 1820; died March 6, 1823.
  9. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptized June 12, 1822.
5. Hannah Pearsall, baptized November 16, 1763; married July 14, 1783, Edward Butler.
6. William Pearsall, baptised August 9, 1765. He settled in Birmingham where he was the first of the name of Pearsall to appear in the City Directory, where his name occurs from 1797 to 1839 as following the occupation of a shoemaker and living on Church Street. He married and had a child:—
  1. William Pearsall, who appears in the Birmingham Directory from 1829 to 1858 as following the occupation of a Pearl Button maker and residing on Hill Street in Birmingham. He married and had children:—
    1. Benjamin Pearsall, who appears in the Birmingham directory for the years 1837-1858 as an Organist, Musician and Boot-maker.
    2. James Pearsall, who appears in the Birmingham directory for the years 1839-1858 where he is named as following the occupation of a Jappanner.
2. Nicholas Pearsall, born circa 1794 at Kidderminster; died at Birmingham, England. He resided at Birmingham, England, and married — Anson. Child:—
  1. John Pearsall, born circa 1819, at Birmingham, England; died at New Haven, Connecticut, U. S. A. He resided at New Haven, Connecticut; married 1844, Amelia Bodin who was born in Birmingham, England; died there. Children:—
    1. Richard Pearsall, born at Birmingham, England.
    2. Henry Pearsall, born at Birmingham, England.

3. George Pearsall, born at Birmingham, England; married 1887, Violetta Maud Hobson, who was born at Wallingford, Connecticut. They resided in Connecticut. Child:—
  1. May Pearsall, born February 26, 1888, at New Haven, Conn.; resided at Stratford, Conn.
7. Samuel Pearsall, buried March 21, 1766.
8. James Pearsall, married 1802, Rebecca Mander, above mentioned. James Pearsall was a merchant in the City of London. He is mentioned in The Ingoldsby Legends in the poem called "My Letters" as follows:—

Four begging letters with petitions  
 One from my sister Jane to pray  
 I'll execute a few commissions  
 In Bond Street when I go that way  
 And buy at Pearsall's in the City  
 Twelve skeins of silk for netting purses  
 Color no matter so its pretty  
 Two hundred pens—two hundred curses.

Children of James Pearsall and his wife Rebecca Mander:—

1. John Spencer Pearsall, who became a dissenting divine; many years Congregational Minister at the Chapel in Eccleston Square, Pamlico, London. A very well known preacher. He married Mary Devenish. Children:—
    1. Howard Devenish Pearsall, married Ellen Beatrice Mander. Children:—
      1. Ralph Howard Pearsall; resides at Avon Cottage, The Crescent, Solihull, England; married May 1, 1911, Sheila Cooper Rogers. Children:—
        1. John Kenyon Pearsall, born December 3, 1914.
        2. Richard Devendish Pearsall, born January 15, 1921.
      2. Ellen Rebecca Pearsall, married Chambers —; no issue.
      3. Henry Pearsall, died young.
      4. Spencer Pearsall, died young.
    2. Rebecca Pearsall, married Holscroft. There were eight other children of James and Rebecca Pearsall.
- All of the Children of William and Hester Pearsall were baptised by Rev. B. Fawcett, a dissenting minister.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION O.

- JOHN PEARSALL, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division M, married first Mary —. He married second, September 16, 1765, Ann Radford, widow. Children:—
1. Thomas Pearsall, baptised January 27, 1731-2, by a dissenter. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division Q.
  2. Joseph Pearsall, baptised August 27, 1733, buried November 3, 1733.
  3. Mary Pearsall, baptised December 27, 1734; married July 4, 1766, Samuel Evans.

4. John Pearsall, baptised January 18, 1736-7.
  5. Rebecca Pearsall, baptised September 14, 1738-9.
  6. Elizabeth Pearsall, buried May 20, 1737.
  7. William Pearsall, buried March 3, 1743.
  8. Phebe Pearsall, buried April 21, 1746.
  9. Hannah Pearsall, baptised January 31, 1752; married May 14, 1774, William Lench.
  10. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptised December 26, 1753.
  11. Sarah Pearsall, baptised October 10, 1753, died November 29, 1827, aged 70 years.
  12. Rebekah Pearsall, baptised September 14, 1738-9.
- John Pearsall was one of the trustees of the New Meeting House in Kidderminster from April 15, 1737, to 1786. [Hist. New Meeting House, page 257.]

## SECTION 9, DIVISION P.

THOMAS PEARSALL, died April 17, 1796, son of Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division L; married July 23, 1755, Sarah Wynde who died November 28, 1793. Children:—

1. James Pearsall, baptised July 30, 1756; married February 22, 1786, Ann Hayward. Child:—
  1. Mary Pearsall, baptised September 3, 1788; died September 29, 1800.
2. William Pearsall, married Sarah ——. Children:—
  1. Samuel Pearsall, baptised August 6, 1784; married August 4, 1805, Martha Meredith, who died July 26, 1811.
  2. Sarah Pearsall, baptised May 29, 1792.
3. Samuel Pearsall, married Sarah ——. Child:—
  1. William Pearsall, baptised May 4, 1786. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division T.
  2. Samuel Pearsall, born 1788. Chapter 18, Section 9, Division U.
4. Thomas Pearsall, married March 29, 1793, Lucy Mason. Child:—
  1. William Pearsall, baptised February 19, 1796. Married February 17, 1818, Elizabeth Martin. Children:—
    1. Harriet Pearsall, baptised May 22, 1819.
    2. Thomas Pearsall, baptised September 4, 1822.
    3. Samuel Pearsall, baptised April 24, 1826.
    4. Sarah Pearsall, baptised May 29, 1828.
  2. Thomas Pearsall, born November 17, 1800; baptised December 10, 1801.
  3. Harriet Pearsall, born July 15, 1802; baptised September 3, 1802.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION Q.

THOMAS PEARSALL, baptised January 27, 1731, by a dissenter; died April 11, 1810; son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division O. Married Esther —, who died September 8, 1805. Children:—

1. Oliver Pearsall, born circa 1760; Chapter 18, Section 9, Division R.
2. Thomas Pearsall, born 1762; died August 15, 1813; married March 27, 1792, Eleanor Potter. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised May 3, 1793.
2. Benjamin Pearsall, baptised July 11, 1794.
3. Thomas Pearsall, baptised February 17, 1797; died September 21, 1803.
4. Henry Pearsall, baptised May 3, 1799; buried August 16, 1799.
5. Ann Pearsall, baptised July 21, 1800.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION R.

OLIVER PEARSALL, born circa 1760; buried at Kidderminster January 5, 1823, aged 63 years; son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division Q. Married ———. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, born circa 1784, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division S.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, buried at Kidderminster July 22, 1785.
3. Sarah Pearsall, married Charles Head, September 19, 1814. Child:—  
  - \*1. Charles Head, baptised in the New Meeting House October 22, 1834.

Oliver Pearsall a native of Kidderminster, in Worcestershire, by trade a weaver, came to Manchester in June 1792, for the purpose of working in the manufactures there. Upon the 31st of December 1793, he became a member of the Reformation Society, by which means Thomas Dunn came to know him. In March following he left Manchester, and returned to Kidderminster. [In Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.]

On the 29th of June 1793, the wife of Dunn, accompanied by one Parker, who Pearsall has since learned was a constable, and Callaghan an Irishman, came to him at Kidderminster; Dunn's wife pretending it was necessary for him to give evidence at Manchester, on behalf of her husband, who she said was in the New Bailey Prison upon a false accusation, and would rather see him (Pearsall) than receive five hundred pounds, as his evidence would clear him. This Pearsall declared himself ready to comply with, and went with them to a public house, where he was told, he should have all his expences paid, and should return back on the Wednesday following. Previous to setting off, Pearsall wanted to go home to get some cloaths, which Parker refused, and then said, he had some tackling (meaning handcuffs) in his pocket, which he would put on him if he was saucy; Parker never shewed any warrant, and repeatedly refused to take Pearsall before a magistrate, though several times asked to do so. On his arrival at Manchester, he was carried before the Rev. John Griffith, who welcomed him to Manchester, and asked him if he did not belong to the Reformation Society, to which he answered in the affirmative. Mr. Justice Griffith then questioned him if he had not seen arms in Mr. Walker's house, and if he had not exercised men there, to both which he answered in the negative. He was then carried to the New Bailey Prison, where he was kept till the 5th of July, when he was committed, and remained there till the 9th of August.

While in this prison, Parker, Dunn, and Callaghan, had frequent interviews with him, the two latter instigating him to depose to having seen arms, and to having exercised men at Mr. Walker's. Callaghan in particular desired him to come forward in the cause, and confirm what Dunn had been putting to him, observing, if he did not, it would be the worse for him. The day after this, one of the deputy constables came to him, and asked him, whether he recollected

what Dunn had said the night before? Pearsall replied, he recollected what Dunn had said very well, but that it was impossible for him to recollect things which had never happened. The constable then said, that he had frequently seen the shining of firelocks in Mr. Walker's warehouse, as he returned home late in the evening; and further said, that a person was come from Yorkshire, and had sworn to the truth of what Dunn had said; that he was paid twelve guineas and had returned home with the money. Pearsall answered to this, "if he has sworn falsely, I cannot, for my soul is concerned."

In one of these conversations, Dunn said, Pearsall seemed uneasy at the interrogations; that they would leave him for the present, and begged him to consider of it. Pearsall said, he could not consider on a false subject, when Dunn replied, "we will drop the subject of exercising the men," and then began to talk about a letter from the Irish to the Scotch.

At other times, Callaghan and Dunn came to him, giving him the same advice; the former telling him, that if he did not confirm Dunn's testimony, Dunn was going to swear high treason against him, which Dunn confirmed.

He was also informed that if he would join Dunn, it would be as good as a pension to him as long as he lived. At this conduct Pearsall grew angry, and desired them to leave the room; on which they said, if he would not acknowledge these things, they wished he was at home again.

On Thursday the 4th of July, Callaghan and Dunn came to him again, and brought pipes and tobacco, and a quantity of liquor. He was desired to drink, and smoke freely, to keep up his spirits, which he refused. One of them informed him, that the Rev. Justice Griffith would come to the prison that night, and take his examination. Accordingly about seven o'clock the Rev. John Griffith came, with pen, ink, and paper. Mr. Griffith shook hands very familiarly with Dunn, clapped him on the back, and said he was an honest fellow. Mr. Griffith asked if their liquor was out, and seeing it was, he threw down a shilling, and ordered the turnkey to fetch some more, which was done; when it came the Rev. Mr. Griffith drank with them, and afterwards asked Pearsall, whether he recollected any thing relative to the questions Dunn had put to him; to which Pearsall said, that he could not, on which they all left the room.

On Friday evening the Rev. Mr. Justice Griffith, came again to the prison, and examined Pearsall as before, who answered that he knew nothing of the kind, the Justice then told him, that Dunn had sworn against him (Pearsall) for having damned the present King in his (Dunn's) house; and therefore, that his commitment should be made out immediately, which was done accordingly.

Before Pearsall was committed by Mr. Griffith, he had of the best to eat and drink, but afterwards he had only the jail allowance.

At the ensuing quarter sessions in July 1793, Pearsall gave notice of his intention to take his trial on the indictment found against him, on the charge of having damned the King. The same day was fixed for the trials of him and Booth. The expenses of the attorney and counsel were incurred, and every thing prepared for the trial, when the defendant was informed, that by a process called a *Certiorari*, this indictment was removed into the Court of King's-Bench, but he was given to understand that it was not intended to be proceeded on.

The defendant, Pearsall, was notwithstanding this, detained in prison until Friday the 9th of August, when Mr. Griffith wanted him to give bail for his appearance in the King's Bench. This being resisted by his solicitor as illegal, and an application being made by him to the clerk of the peace, for a copy of the magistrates' names attending the sessions, for the purpose of making an application to the court of King's Bench, to compel the magistrates to do their duty;—the Rev. John Griffith sent to let Pearsall know that he might be liberated without bail, upon his entering into a recognizance to appear to the indictment in the King's Bench. Pearsall entered into the recognizance, and was liberated. Pursuant to his recognizance, he appeared in the King's Bench, and pleaded not guilty. The issue was made up, but although two assizes have since elapsed, the prosecutors have not thought it expedient to try him upon this indictment.

At the assizes in August 1793, Pearsall went to Lancaster as a witness, to prove the attempts which had been made to suborn him to give false evidence against Mr. Walker. Dunn's evidence being still unsupported, and likely to be destroyed by this witness, the prosecution against Mr. Walker for high treason was dropped; and Pearsall was prevented from giving evidence, by being made a defendant in the indictment for a conspiracy. He was then bailed, and afterwards honourably acquitted.

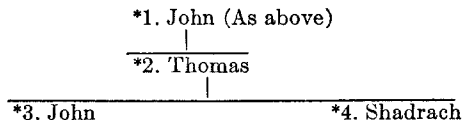
#### SECTION 9, DIVISION S.

JOHN PEARSALL, born circa 1784; resided at Kidderminster, England; son of Oliver Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division R. Married at St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster, May 29, 1809, Mary Edwards. Children:—

1. Ann Pearsall, born July 15, 1809; baptised August 4, 1809.
2. Mary Pearsall, baptised May 11, 1812.
3. William Pearsall, baptised January 6, 1813; buried March 8, 1814.
4. John Pearsall, baptised February 26, 1817.
5. Hannah Pearsall, baptised February 16, 1819.
6. John Pearsall, baptised March 26, 1819.
7. Thomas Pearsall, born May 1, 1822. See Subdivision 2.

John Pearsall was a large carpet manufacturer in Kidderminster, England. He made tapestries for the Episcopal church in Kidderminster to hang in the chancel.

The following chart will give the descendants of John Pearsall so far as they appear in this Division:



The numbers refer to the several parts of the text which follows.

- \*2. THOMAS PEARSALL, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division S, was born May 1, 1822; died March 1908; resided at Kidderminster, England; came to America in 1856; and resided at Boston, Massachusetts. He married 1st. in Kidderminster, England, June 13, 1842, Emma Leigh who was born June 18, 1824; died December 18, 1876. He married 2nd. ——. Children of 1st. marriage:—

1. Joseph Pearsall, born 1843; died 1847.
2. Mary Pearsall, born 1846; living; resided at Easton, Mass.; married — Munroe.
3. John Pearsall, born January 19, 1849; see Subdivision 3.
4. Emma Pearsall, born 1853; died September 3, 1878; unmarried.
5. Thomas Pearsall, born 1854; living; resided at Washington, D. C.
6. Shadrach Joseph Pearsall, born August 1858; died February 1896; see Subdivision 4.
7. Elizabeth Maria Pearsall, born 1860; died December 1883; unmarried.
8. Alice Esther Pearsall, born 1862; living; resided at Taunton, Mass.; married — Hussey.
9. Ellen Sophia Pearsall, born 1864; living; resided at Easton, Mass.; married — Keith.

The Land Records of Suffolk Co., Mass. disclose:—  
Deed Book 854, page 128, a deed dated February 8, 1865, wherein Nathaniel Mitchell of Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass. conveys to Thomas Pearsall of Boston, land in Back Bay on Lawrence Street, running from Berkley to Clarendon Street.

Deed Book 950, page 108, a deed wherein Moses M. Allen of Boston conveys to Thomas Pearsall, land in Back Bay on Appleton Street.

Deed Book 979, page 137, a deed dated October 9, 1869, wherein William Tindon of Boston, conveys to Emma Pearsall, wife of Thomas Pearsall of Boston, land in

Boston in Dartmouth Place.

Deed Book 1000, page 252, a deed dated May 6, 1870, wherein Thomas Pearsall of Boston, conveys to Uriah F. Mayo of Boston, land in Back Bay on Appleton Street.

Deed Book 1023, page 98, a deed dated David Washburn of Somerville, Mass., conveys to Thomas Pearsall of Boston, land in Boston on Warren Avenue, bounded by the Second Baptist Church.

Deed Book 2074, page 38, a deed dated July 21, 1892, wherein Hannah J. Curtis of Boston, Suffolk Co., Mass., conveys to Ella F. Pearsall, wife of Thomas Pearsall of Boston, Mass., land in Dorchester on Fuller Street.

- \*3. JOHN PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, Subdivision 2, was born January 19, 1849; living; resided at New York and Boston, U.S.A.; married February 1, 1870, Annie E. Jenkins who was born March 4, 1850; living. Children:—
1. Frank Leigh Pearsall, born October 30, 1872; died August 31, 1876.
  2. Harry Francis Pearsall, born September 1877; resided at Brookline, Massachusetts; married October 25, 1899, Ella Marie Hall who was born November 29, 1873. Child:—
    1. Gertrude Frances Pearsall, born January 14, 1910.
  3. Alice Bement Pearsall, born April 18, 1880; resided at Dorchester, Mass.; married — Wheaton. No children.
  4. Edith Leigh Pearsall, born December 23, 1886; resided at Dorchester, Mass.; married — Morse. No children.
- \*4. SHADRACK JOSEPH PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, see Subdivision 2, was born August 1858; died March 11, 1896; resided at Boston, Massachusetts, New York and also Baltimore, Maryland. He married February 4, 1880, Hattie Stiles who was born December 9, 1857; died June 15, 1902. Children:—
1. Grace Stiles Pearsall, born September 7, 1881; died November 7, 1904.
  2. Edith Leigh Pearsall, born 1883.
  3. Nannie Sykes Pearsall, born February 2, 1885; resided at Arlington, Maryland; married — Wilder.
  4. Hattie Alexander Pearsall, born March 1887; died June 1887.
  5. Nelson Joseph Pearsall, born November 13, 1894; resided in Baltimore, Maryland; married June 19, 1916, Catharine Mueller.

## SECTION 9, DIVISION T.

WILLIAM PEARSALL, baptised May 4, 1786, died January 18, 1803, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division P. Married — — Children:—

1. William Pearsall, born December 14, 1812; married July 3, 1836, Eliza Hutchinson, born July 10, 1815. Children:—
  1. Elizabeth Pearsall, born March 12, 1836.
  2. Mary Pearsall, born September 26, 1838.
  3. Thomas Pearsall, born April 3, 1841; see Z this Division.
  4. James Pearsall, born December 20, 1843.
  5. Emma Pearsall, born August 9, 1845.
  6. William Pearsall, born April 8, 1848.
  7. Louisa Pearsall, born December 24, 1850.
  8. John Pearsall, born April 16, 1852.
  9. Esther Pearsall, born July 12, 1854.
  10. Olive Pearsall, born March 17, 1857.

\*Z. THOMAS PEARSALL, born April 5, 1841; married at Christ Church, Warley, Brentwood, Essex, England, July 11, 1867, Elizabeth Susanna Potow. Children:—

1. Elizabeth Lina Pearsall, born March 9, 1868; married — Taylor.
2. Mildred Agatha Mary Pearsall, born January 31, 1870; resides Pacific Grove, California.
3. Thomas Percival Hutchinson Pearsall, born March 14, 1871; see a below in this Division.
4. Sidney James Pearsall, born February 26, 1873.
5. Frederick William Pearsall, born May 30, 1874.
6. Ethel Jane Pearsall, born June 23, 1876.
7. Evelyn Esther Pearsall, born September 11, 1877; married Armstrong.
8. Harry Jones Howard Pearsall, born August 12, 1879.
9. Cyril Charles George Pearsall, born February 4, 1881.
10. Gertrude Olive Margaret Pearsall, born October 26, 1887.
11. Ivy Winifred Helen Pearsall, born January 29, 1890.

Medals:—Thomas Pearsall S.C. Medal—meritorious service medal.

Thomas Percival Hutchinson Pearsall, S. C. Medal, N. W. Frontiers (3 Clasps) and European War Medal.

Sidney James Pearsall, S. C. Medal, N. W. Frontier (3 Clasps), European War—Victory Medal M.B.E.

Frederick William Pearsall, N. W. Frontier (3 Clasps).

Both Sidney James Pearsall and Thomas Percival Hutchinson Pearsall were mentioned in dispatches for services during the war with Germany.

\*a. Thomas Percival Hutchinson Pearsall, married June 21, 1898, Alice Jane Humber, born January 7, 1876. Children:—

1. Alice Eva Pearsall, born October 4, 1900.
2. Harry Percival John Pearsall, born November 1902.



3. Cyril Pearsall, died an infant.
4. Edna Kate Pearsall, born July 11, 1907.

Thomas Pearsall was Sergeant Major in the British Army and instructor to the Stafford Volunteer Companies. He joined the army in 1859 when he was but 18 years of age and was drafted into the 1st Bn Northampton (late 48th) regiment as a private to India the same year. He remained there until the summer of 1865 and shortly afterwards was promoted to the rank of Colour Sergeant. The year following he was appointed Sergeant instructor of Musketry to his regiment. This post he held from October 1868 to February 1872 being stationed at Malta. Three years later whilst in India, where his regiment remained six years, he was appointed to the responsible post of Sergeant Major to his Battalion in which capacity he earned the medal for long service and good conduct. On retiring for pension he was the recipient of an illuminated address signed by all the sergeants. He came to Stafford in 1886 having secured the appointment as instructor to certain companies in the North Staffordshire Regiment. In the discharge of the duties connected with this responsible position he exercised great tact and shrewdness, especially in dealing with recruits and earned the good will of all with whom he came in contact. In 1890 he was granted an annuity and reward for meritorious service in the army. He resigned the post of instructor to the Volunteers in February, 1899, on account of illness. At this time he was presented with a testimonial by the officers of the regiment who gave him a handsome gold watch, while the non-commissioned officers gave him a set of table silver. All his sons joined the army and one was killed during the first campaign, while serving with his father's old regiment. Two sons are now in India with the First Northampton Regiment, and the third is serving with the First North Staffordshire Regiment. Two of the sons, namely, Thomas Percival Hutchinson Pearsall, now Captain R.A.O.C., and Sidney James Pearsall, now Captain M.B.E., have attained Commissioned rank in the British Army.

#### SECTION 9, DIVISION U.

SAMUEL PEARSALL, born 1788, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division P. Resided in Birmingham; married ———. Children:—

1. William Pearsall, born November 12, 1813; died October 29, 1875; married Anna Baguley, born August 24, 1814; died April 10, 1891. Children:—
  1. Albert Pearsall, born January 7, 1849; married April 4, 1894; no children. They reside in Edgbaston near Birmingham.
  2. Anna Marie Pearsall, born May 3, 1851. Unmarried, resides in Edgbaston near Birmingham, England.
2. Thomas Pearsall, died circa 1860.
3. Maria Pearsall, died January 29, 1875, married James Darby. No children.

#### SECTION 10, DIVISION A.

RICHARD PEARSALL, resided at West Bromwich, son of Henry Persall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division A; married Margaret ———. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 10, Division B.

2. Richard Pearsall, buried in Church of Rowley Regis April 13, 1634. Married ———. Child:—

1. Humphrey Pearsall of Wolverhampton, County Stafford. Married ———. Child:—

1. Elizabeth Persall, married Richard Wightman of Coventry in County Warwick. Child:—\*1. William Wightman of Harnor in County Middlesex, Commissioner General of South Wales. [Middlesex Pedigrees Harl. Mss., Page 49.]

3. Nicholas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 10, Division C.

Henry Pearsall in his will dated September 17, 1577, speaks of his son Richard and from the context it is evident that he was a young single man. In the will of Dorothy, widow of Henry, dated July 26, 1598, she speaks of the three children of her son Richard, but does not name them.

Litchfield. February 21, 1598-9. Administration of the goods &c. of Richard Pereshall of West Bromwich granted to Margaret Pereshall his relict. Inventory made January 9, 41 Elizabeth (1598-9) by Thomas Meire, William Orme, John Delay and John Wyerdale.

#### SECTION 10, DIVISION B.

JOHN PEARSALL, resided in London, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 10, Division A. Married ———. Children:—

1. William Pearsall of Lymehouse, London; carpenter; married January 14, 1640, at St. Dunstons, Stephany, Mary Guy of Ratcliffe.

2. John Pearsall, of Ratcliffe, mariner; married at St. Dunstons, Stephany, Prudence Marryan, widow, January 10, 1642. Children:—

1. Richard Pearsall. See Z this Division.

2. Magdalen Parchal, married May 27, 1678, Charles Roofe at the Church of St. Mary le Bone, Middlesex.

3. Elizabeth Peirsall, of Up Church, Virgin, daughter of John Pearsall of same, had a Canterbury marriage license dated December 11, 1644, to marry Bartholomew Gilvit of Inwade.

4. Richard Pearsall, married Mary ———. Children:—

1. Richard Pearsall, married May 14, 1710, Sarah Roberts at the Church of St. Mary le Bone, Middlesex. Child:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, married ———. Child:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, an infant, buried July 20, 1746, in the new ground of St. James, Clerkenwell.

April 21, 1780, Thomas Pearsall, widower, married Ann Steward, Spinster, at Bury St. Edmund, St. James, Suffolk. They were both of this parish and the witnesses were Agatha Biddle and Ann Steward, also of the same parish. The license for the marriage issued from the Archdeanery April 20, 1780. [Harl. Mss., page 381.]

2. John Pearsall of Spitfield, weaver, married April 8, 1708, Jane Campbell at St. Dunstons, Stephany, London.

3. Elizabeth Pearsall. Marriage License was issued by the Faculty Office December 25, 1699, for her marriage to John Brooke.

## Z. Richard Pearsall married Elizabeth——.

The Will of Richard Pearsall appears among the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and reads as follows:—

Know all Men by these presents that I Richard Pearsall Waterman, of the Parish of St. Mary Somerset, London now belonging to the Shrewsbury have and by these presents do make and ordain and constitute Elizabeth Pearsall my loving wife my true and lawfull Attorney irrevocable for me and in my name and for my use to aske, demand, and receive of and from the Right Honble. the Treasurer or Paymaster of their Majestie's Navy and Commrs. for prize money & whom else it may concern, as well all such wages & pay, bounty money Prize money & all other sume & sumes of money whatsoever as now is and which hereafter shall or may bee due or payable unto me pursuant to their Majesties gracious Declaration of the 23d of May, 1689. And also all such expenses, salleries, smart money, and all other moneys & things whatsoever which now and at any time hereafter is & shall be due to me for my wages in the Shrewsbury service or otherwise in any of his Majtie's Ships, frigates or vessel, or any Merchant Ship or Ships &c Allso to demand, recover, & receive of all other person and persons whatsoever whom it doth or may concerne all and singular such other sume and sumes of money, goods, wards effects, wages, debts, dues, claimes, and demands whatsoever, which now and hereafter is or shall bee due and payable unto mee, either by bond, bill booke, accompt or otherwise howsoever and moreover in my name and for my proper use to let by Lease in writing or otherwise, all or any of my messuages, lands, or tenements to such person or persons & for such term of yeares, conditions & reservations as my said Attorney or her Councell shall think fit and convenient Giving and hereby granting unto my said Attorney my full and whole power in the premises and to recover and receive all and singular the sume and sumes of money, matters, and things aforesaid and upon non-payment thereof or any part thereof All

such person or persons whom it may concerne and where need shall require the Executors, Admt's to sue, arrest, attach, seize, imprison, prosecute & condemn and to compound agree & out of prisons to release and discharge And upon receipt of the said premises or any part thereof acquittances, releases or any other discharges for mee and in my name to substitute and at pleasure to revoke and generally to act and doe all other acts, matters and things wh'soever needfull and necessary to bee done in and touching the premises as fully and effectually as I ought or could doe if I were personally present Ratifying and allowing for firme and valid and irrevocable all and whatsoever my said Attorney shall lawfull doe or cause to be done in or touching the premises by virtue of these presents. And I the said Richard Pearsall considering the uncertainty of this transitory life doe make and declare the presents to containe my last Will and Testament (that is to say) All such wages, sume and sumes of money, lands, tenements, goods, chattels, and estate whatsoever wherewith at the time of my decease I shall be possessed or invested, or which shall then belong or of right appertain unto mee. I doe give, devise and bequeath unto Elizabeth Pearsall my dearly beloved wife, and I doe hereby nominate and appoint my said Wife my whole Executrix of this my last Will and doe revoke all former Wills and deeds of Gift by me at any time heretofore made, and do ordaine these presents to stand and be for and as my onely last Will and Testament—In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seale the eighteenth day of June Anno Dni. One thousand six hundred and ninety five. And in the seaventh year of the Raigne of Our Sovereigne Lord King William, etc. Richard Pearsall —. Signed, sealed, published and declared in the presence of:—Thom: Genings, Capt. John James. Probate to Elizabeth Pearsall, relict, 1696.

## SECTION 10, DIVISION C.

NICHOLAS PARCELL, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 10, Division A. Married Elizabeth ——. Children:—

1. Steven Parcell, baptised at St. Botolphs, Bishops Gate, London, December 16, 1621. Married —— ——. Child:—
  1. Elizabeth Pearsall, married December 15, 1657, John Boulton at St. Bennet and St. Peter, Pauls Wharf, London.
2. Nicholas Pearsall, married Mary ——.  
Administrations at Somerset House, London, in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Nicholas Pearsall, August 31, 1658, on the first day of this same month of August, Letters of Administration issued forth to Mary Pearsall the relict of Nicholas Pearsall, late of Giles, Cripplegate, London, deceased, to administer the goods, chattels, and debts of the said decedent. She being first sworn truly to administer.
3. John Pearsall, of Southwark, London, married June, 1641, Elizabeth Weale of Stephany, at St. Dunstons Church in Stephany.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION A.

LAWRENCE PEARSALL of Ludley and of Hawne, son of Henry Persall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division A, was bapt. December 20, 1559; buried September 13, 1632; married 1st. Elizabeth ——, who was buried August 10, 1588; married 2nd. Agnes Smythe, January 22, 1591. She was buried September 4, 1610. Children of 1st marriage:—

1. Elizabeth Pearsall, bapt. March 29, 1579.
2. Humfrey Pearsall, bapt. March 19, 1580; Chapter 18, Section 10, Division U. Children of 2nd marriage:—
3. Anne Pearsall, bapt. October 22, 1592; married October 29, 1620, Richard Darbie. She is named in will of Lawrence Pearsall (of Hawne).
4. Agnes Pearsall, buried between 18 and 28 April 1611.
5. Elizabeth Pearsall, married October 29, 1622, Thomas Witton at Stratford upon Avon. [Parish Register Society, vol. 13.]

## SECTION 11, DIVISION B.

HUMPHREY PEARSALL, of Kidderminster, baptised March 19, 1580, son of Lawrence Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division A. Married ———. The Parish records of Kidderminster note that July 11, 1664, Mistress Pearsall was buried at Kidderminster. The same records disclose that November 29 1647, Humphrey Pearsall died at Bridgenorth. Children:—

1. Lawrence Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division C.
2. Alyce Pearsall, married November 3, 1649, Edward Browne at Worcester.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION C.

LAWRENCE PEARSALL, of Kidderminster, buried March 6, 1670; son of Humphrey Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division B. Married first Mary ——— who was buried October 28, 1649. Married second, May 7, 1650, Joane Brinley. Children of first marriage:—

1. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division D.
2. Samuel Pearsall.
3. Sarah Pearsall, baptised September 24, 1648. Children of second marriage:—
4. Hannah Pearsall, baptised April 27, 1651.
5. Lawrence Pearsall, baptised January 2, 1652.
6. Mary Pearsall, born June 20, 1654; married April 14, 1684, William Brancell.
7. Elizabeth Pearsall, born March 18, 1655; died November 24, 1735.
8. Thomas Pearsall, born March 28, 1658.
9. Marie Pearsall, born March 4, 1659.
10. Benjamin Pearsall, born August 31, 1663.

Lawrence Pearsall was high bailiff of Kidderminster in 1652.

Chancery Bills and Answers. Mitford:—Sarah Pearsall, one of the daughters of Lawrence Pearsall, late of Kidderminster in co. Worcester, clothier, deceased. That whereas the said Lawrence Pearsall in his lifetime about March 1st, 23 Charles II. (1670) was seized of lands in Kidderminster of the yearly value of £40 and also of silver and other personal goods to the value of £600 and made his will and left oratrix 100 marks to be paid within 12 months after his decease or on his marriage and did appoint Joan Pearsall his wife his executrix. After the decease of said Lawrence the said Joan Pearsall and one Lawrence Pearsall, one of the sons of said Lawrence, possessed themselves of all the goods and chattels of said deceased and refused to pay the said £100.

Will of Lawrence Pearsall of Kidderminster, Worcestershire. Dated 1st March, 1670. Proved in London, 31. May, 1671. In the name of God, Amen. The first day of March in the three and twentieth yeare of the Raigne of Our Sovereigne Lord King Charles the Second of England, Scotland, France & Ireland, defender of the faith &c. Anno Domini 1670. I Laurance Pearsall of Kidderminster in the County of Worcester, Clothier, beinge weake in body yet of good Remembrance (blessed be God) Doe make & ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge:—And First I comitt and comend my soule into the hands of Almighty God my Creator hopinge in and through the meritts of Christ my Redeemer to inheritt Eternall life And my body to the earth from whence it came. To be interred at the discretion of my Executrix hereafter named And for my worldly estate I give and bequeath as followeth: First I give and bequeath to my Lovinge wife Joane Pearsall for and during her naturall life All that my Capitall Messuage or Tenement wherein I now dwell Together with the garden Backside and Stable thereto belonginge with their and every of their appurtenances And after her decease Then I give and devise the same unto Laurance Pearsall my sonne his heires and assignes for ever Paying to my daughter Elizabeth Pearsall the sume of fifty pounds within twelve months after the decease of my said wife. And paying also to my daughter Mary Pearsall the like sume of fifty pounds within twelve after the decease of my said wife And if my said sonne refuse to pay or neglect to pay the said sumes to either of my said daughters Then my will is And I doe hereby give to my said daughters Elizabeth and Mary the said house, garden, backside and Stable To have holde possess and enjoy the same till the said sumes with the lawfull Interest be fully discharged and paid Also I give and devise unto the said Joane my wife All that Messuage or Tenement in which Nathaniell Nicolls now liveth Together with the shopp and garden thereto adjoining during her naturall life And after her decease I give and devise the same to my sonne Thomas Pearsall and his heires for ever. Alsoe I give and bequeathe to my said wife All that Close and parcell of ground inclosed and adjoining unto the Backside of the Messuage or Tenement wherein I now dwell Together with the Barnes standing thereon which said close contains by estimacon Tenn Acres be the same more or lesse And now in the tenure and occupaon of Elias Arch his Assign or Assignes, duringe her naturall life And after her decease I give and bequeathe the said Close and Barnes to my sonne Laurance Pearsall and his heires for ever. Paying to my daughter Hannah Pearsall

the sume of ffourscore pounds within twelve months after the decease of my said wife—And if my said sonne Laurance refuse or neglect to pay the said ffourscore pounds as before appoynted Then my will is and I doe hereby give full power to my daughter Hannah to enter on the said Close and Barnes And the same to have holde, possess and enjoy till the said sume of ffourscore pounds with lawfull Interest be fully paide Also my will is that my sonne Laurance shall out of the said Close and Barnes pay to my sonne Benjamin Pearsall the sume of fifty poundes Alsoe my will is that my said sonne Laurance shall pay to my sonne Samuel Pearsall the like sume of fifty poundes out of the said Close and Barnes both which saide sumes my will is should be paid within twelve monthis after the decease of my said wife and if my saide sonne Laurance refuse or neglect to pay to either of my saide sonnes the saide fifty poundes apeece Then my will is And I doe give to my saide sonnes Benjamin and Samuel full power to enter on the said Close and Barnes and the same to have holde possesse and enjoy till the saide fifty poundes apeece with lawfull Interest be paide and fully discharged Alsoe my will is That if any of my saide children shall dye before the saide several legacies become due That the Legacie or Legacies shalbe equally divided betwene my sonne Benjamin, Samuel, Hannah, Elizabeth and Mary or the survivors unless any dying before it become due leaving issue behind them And in such case my will is that the saide Legacie be payable to the child or children of any of them deceased Alsoe I give to my son John Pearsall the sume of Tenn Shillings in full satisfaction of his child's part Alsoe I give to my daughter Sarah Pearsall the sume of one hundred marks to be paide within twelve monthes after my decease or the day of her marriage which shall first happen by my Executrix after named. All the rest of my goodes, cattles, chattles, my debts, legacies and funeral expences being paide I give and bequeath unto the saide Joane my wife whom I make sole Executrix of this my last will and Testament and I doe desire and appoint my Lovinge friends Richard Sarjeant of Hagley and William Mountford of Kidderminster to be Overseers of this my last will To see the same duly performed And I give them Tenn Shillings apeece And I doe hereby revoake all former wills by me made In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seale the daye and yeare first above written. Laurence Pearsall. Sealed, Signed, Published and Declared as the last Will and Testament of the within named Laurance Pearsall in the presence of John Evans, Phillip Griffin, Richard Serjeant.

As early as several generations preceding that of Lawrence Pearsall, Kidderminster, Worcester and Bromsgrove were old towns enjoying special privileges in the making of cloths under license from the Mercers Guild of London. This gave the clothiers of these communities a monopoly of manufacture, as the regulations of the Mercers company provided that a man had to pay as much as six pounds of the money of that time before he could be admitted to the guild, and even then he had to prove his descent from a guild member, after which he had to serve an apprenticeship of seven years. The number of apprentices was limited to two, from which restriction rich masters might free themselves by paying a fine beyond the means of their poorer brethren; hence it was natural that thereby the trade of clothier remained in the hands of only a few persons. Hence it was not possible for the journeyman to himself become an employing weaver unless he had large capital at his command. As a consequence there grew up a large trade in cloths that were made outside of the membership of the Mercers Guild. As early as 1495 the clothiers of Worcester, Evesham, Droitwich, Kidderminster and Bromsgrove presented a petition to Henry VII. stating that their working men were deserting these towns and beginning to make cloth in the villages. To this petition the king sternly answered that no one was to make cloth in Worcestershire outside of the said towns. This was a real hardship as the change from farming the land to using it for pasture for sheep, had necessarily thrown out

many who had the means to carry on other occupations and who did not like the work of tending to the flocks of sheep. Hence the old corporate towns began to decay and the villages like Birmingham, to confine the observation to the Kidderminster locality, began to forge ahead as a place where conditions were not under the control and restrictions of the Mercers Guild. The march of trade had set in so strongly for the free villages that it was necessary to do something to save the incorporated towns. Hence it was enacted by the statute of 12 Henry VII. which was dated as we see only three years after the above petition:—Whereas the fellowship of the Mercers and other merchants and adventurers dwelling and being free within the City of London, by confederacy among themselves, contrary to every Englishmen's liberty, to the liberty of the mart, and to law, reason, charity, right and conscience, had made an ordinance that none should sell without their consent, except he first compounded and made fine to them, which had increased from time to time by reason whereof the cities, towns and boroughs had fallen into great poverty—be it enacted that all should freely sell without any exaction for their liberty and freedom to buy and sell, etc. The Guilds were however still in existence and it was difficult to do business on a large scale except through the members of the Mercers Guild, but this law permitted the carrying on of the comparatively small operations of a clothier in some village. This gave the father of Lawrence Pearsall an opportunity to found a business which, continued by Lawrence Pearsall, became the largest establishment of the kind in Kidderminster. His will discloses that he was at the time of his death probably the richest man in the town. [Social England, by Traill and Mann, vol. 3, page 177.]

#### SECTION 11, DIVISION D.

JOHN PEARSALL, resided in Kidderminster, son of Lawrence Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division C. Married January 18, 1664, Penelope Mills, who was buried May 22, 1711. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised January 3, 1667. Chapter 18, Section 11, Division E.
2. Mary Pearsall, baptised May 20, 1671.
3. Francis Pearsall, baptised April 9, 1672; buried December 14, 1676.
4. Francis Pearsall, baptised October 8, 1682.
5. William Pearsall, baptised November 25, 1686; buried March 8, 1687.
6. Abigail Pearsall, baptised April 2, 1689.
7. Penelope Pearsall, buried November 16, 1678.
8. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptised July 20, 1681.

#### SECTION 11, DIVISION E.

JOHN PEARSALL, died May 14, 1712, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section II, Division D; married May 8, 1698, Mary Price. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised July 19, 1699; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division F.
2. Lawrence Pearsall, baptised November 24, 1700; buried March 28, 1707.
3. Francis Pearsall, baptised July 19, 1707; buried February 16, 1707.
4. Lawrence Pearsall, baptised May 13, 1709; buried July 12, 1710.
5. John Pearsall, buried November 12, 1714.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION F.

JOHN PEARSALL, baptised July 19, 1699, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division E. Married, at Mytton, June 25, 1719, Joyce Townsend, who died August 21, 1750. Children:—

1. Mary Pearsall, baptised November 6, 1720.
2. Hannah Pearsall, baptised October 5, 1722; buried October 23, 1722.
3. Hannah Pearsall, baptised September 17, 1725.
4. John Pearsall, baptised January 25, 1725; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division G.
5. William Pearsall, baptised January 26, 1728; buried January 26, 1728.
6. Penelope Pearsall, baptised November 24, 1738; married first October 26, 1772, Elijah Denmead, widower; she married second as a widow, October 17, 1778, William Millward, widower.
7. Francis Pearsall, buried June 8, 1734.
8. Thomas Pearsall, baptised December 31, 1735; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division H.
9. Lawrence Pearsall, baptised December 31, 1735; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division I.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION G.

JOHN PEARSALL, baptised January 25, 1728, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division F; married April 6, 1751, Mary Betts, who died May 11, 1765. Children:—

1. Hannah Pearsall, baptised January 31, 1752.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, baptised December 26, 1753; buried September 15, 1766.
3. Sarah Pearsall, baptised October 10, 1753.
4. Mary Pearsall, baptised August 26, 1757.
5. William Pearsall, baptised May 25, 1759.
6. John Pearsall, baptised May 1, 1761; married May 13, 1783, Elizabeth Southall. John Southall was one of the subscribers in 1781 to the fund to start the New Meeting House. Child:—
  1. John Pearsall, born 1784, married Elizabeth ——. Children:—
    1. Thomas Pearsall, born September 23, 1808, baptised October 16, 1808.
    2. Ann Pearsall, baptised December 26, 1810.
    3. John Pearsall, born same day as Queen Victoria, April, 1818; died November 29, 1891; married 1st. Grace Hershel. He married 2nd. Margaret Haslam who died 1864. He married 3rd. Mary Taylor. Child of 2nd. marriage:—
      1. Thomas Pearsall, born August 23, 1861; married November 3, 1894, Ella Ware daughter of David Ware and his wife Emma Teal of Philadelphia. She was born January 6, 1862. No children. They resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
  7. Francis Pearsall, baptised August 28, 1763; buried May 11, 1765.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION H.

THOMAS PEARSALL, baptised December 31, 1735; buried April 17, 1796, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division F; married first February

20, 1767, Mary Waring; married second, May 23, 1783, Esther Jevons. Children of the first marriage:—

1. John Pearsall, baptised July 29, 1768, buried August 20, 1768.
2. Ann Pearsall, buried November 21, 1773.
3. Benjamin Pearsall, buried July 11, 1771.
4. Benjamin Pearsall, baptised June 24, 1774; married Mary — who died February 8, 1798.
5. Sarah Pearsall, baptised May 14, 1779.
6. Mary Pearsall, buried March 2, 1780.  
Child of second marriage:—
7. William Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division J; baptised April 28, 1784.

#### SECTION 11, DIVISION I.

LAWRENCE PEARSALL, baptised December 31, 1735, son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division E. Married March 6, 1764, Mary Robinson. Children:—

1. John Pearsall, married Hannah, who was buried August 18, 1787. Child:—
  1. Hannah Pearsall, buried September 11, 1786.
2. Thomas Pearsall, married May 6, 1799, Elizabeth Jevons. Children:—
  1. Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division K.
  2. William Pearsall, married Lucy —. Child:—
    1. Lucy Pearsall, baptised November 7, 1824.

#### SECTION 11, DIVISION J.

WILLIAM PEARSALL, baptised April 28, 1784, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division H; married Eleanor —. Child:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, born July 16, 1811; baptised at Edgbaston Church, near Birmingham, England; died December 18, 1856; married December 26, 1834, Sarah Bird, born 1818; died October 30, 1849. Children:—
  1. Emily Pearsall, born November 30, 1839; died July 20, 1852.
  2. William Henry Pearsall, born August 19, 1840; died December 24, 1897; unmarried.
  3. Thomas John Pearsall, born September 25, 1845; died May 10, 1917; married December 31, 1865, Ellen Phelps, born July 9, 1843; died May 7, 1901. Child:—
    1. Charles William Pearsall, born September 18, 1869; married June 27, 1900, Sarah Jane Cooke, daughter of Joseph and Alice Cooke, born April 25, 1871. Child:—
      1. Edgar Charles Pearsall, born November 13, 1902.
  4. Arthur Pearsall, born May 30, 1849; died June 19, 1850.

#### SECTION 11, DIVISION K.

THOMAS PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division I, married at Kidderminster May 20, 1821, Ann Cartwright. Child:—

1. Daniel Pearsall, born August 4, 1822; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division L.



## SECTION 11, DIVISION L.

DANIEL PEARSALL, born August 4, 1822; died in England; buried in South Staffordshire, England. He married Sarah Hingley who was born in South Staffordshire, England, and who died July, 1880, at Brownsville, Pa., in the 64th year of her age. Children:—

1. Daniel H. Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division M.
2. Samuel H. Pearsall, born July 31, 1847; died March 6, 1903; Chapter 18, Section 11, Division N.
3. Edward Pearsall, unmarried.
4. Phebe Pearsall, married David Bank.
5. Thomas Pearsall.
6. Joseph Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division O.
7. June Pearsall, married William Fournier.

Two other children who died in infancy. (All the above were born in England.)  
[Cyclopaedia of Fayette Co. Penna. Biographies.]

## SECTION 11, DIVISION M.

DANIEL H. PEARSALL, son of Daniel Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division L, was born in South Staffordshire, England; came to America, 1859; resided at South Brownsville, Pennsylvania; married Matilda Leadbeeter of Sand Creek, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Children:—

1. Henrietta Pearsall.
2. Eva Pearsall.
3. Sarah Pearsall.
4. Sarah Pearsall.
5. Minnie Pearsall, married Leroy C. Waggoner.

The Land Records of Fayette Co., Pa. disclose:—  
Deed Book 176, page 510, a deed dated October 31, 1892; wherein Samuel H. Pearsall, and Martha his wife and Daniel H. Pearsall and Matilda his wife of Brownsville, Pa. convey to Henry A. Laughlin, of Pittsburgh, a coal lease.

Deed Book 314, page 491, a deed dated December 31, 1908, wherein Minnie Pearsall Waggoner, formerly Minnie

Pearsall, Leroy C. Waggoner her husband of Brownsville, Fayette Co., Pa., Matilda Pearsall and Daniel H. Pearsall her husband, of So. Brownsville, Pa. convey to James R. Herbertson of So. Brownsville, lots 53 and 54, Brownsville and Bridgeport Improvement Co. in Boro of Bridgeport, between Sheridan and Grant Avenues, same conveyed to M. and M. Pearsall by Daniel H. Pearsall, February 6, 1903.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION N.

SAMUEL H. PEARSALL, son of Daniel Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division L, was born July 31, 1847 in South Staffordshire, England; died March 6, 1903; married Martha Bakewell, daughter of John D. and Mary Bakewell. She is a native of England. They resided at Briarly Hill, England. Children:—

1. Thomas Walter Pearsall, born May 27, 1876; married September 16, 1903, Millie C. Poland, daughter of George Poland and his wife Margaret McSweyn of Hemlock, Michigan. She was born April 19, 1882. Children:—
  1. Harold Burton Pearsall, born June 11, 1904.
  2. John Bakewell Pearsall, born November 15, 1906.
2. Daniel Burton Pearsall, born December 1, 1879; resided at Aberdeen, Wash., U.S.A.; married March 6, 1909, Anna Landers, daughter of John L. Landers and his wife Mary Flannery. Children:—

1. Samuel Retseoff Pearsall, born April 9, 1911.
2. Daniel John Pearsall, born November 25, 1912.
3. Mary Daisy Pearsall, born October 1, 1881; resided at Pittsburgh, Pa.; married Eber J. Ellsworth. Child:—Lorraine Ellsworth.
4. Samuel Elgy Pearsall, born February 1884, resided at Brownsville, Pa.; married Nellie Dougherty.
5. Hazel Elizabeth Pearsall, born March 1887; died January 1916; buried at Brownsville, Pa.; married Kenneth Hengen.

The will of Samuel Hingley Pearsall of Bridgeport, Pa., aged 57 years, is among the records of Fayette Co., Pa., Will Book 13, page 65; and the Records of Allegheny County, Pa., Will Book 99, page 323. An abstract thereof reads as follows:—He to be buried by the Masonic Order; names Hazel Elizabeth and Daisy Pearsall, his daughters; wife Martha Pearsall; children not named; appoints John H. Bakewell, Martha Pearsall and Walter Pearsall executors. Will dated February 11, 1903; probated March 19, 1903.

Letters Testamentary were granted to Martha Pearsall, T. Walter Pearsall and John L. Bakewell, March 19, 1903; on estate of Samuel H. Pearsall; died Riverside, California, March 6, 1903; recorded in Fayette Co. Records, Book 3, page 281.

The Land Records of Fayette Co. Pa. disclose:—Deed Book 109, page 115, a deed dated October 19, 1891, wherein Martha Pearsall and Samuel her husband of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa. convey to Matthew Storey of Brownsville, land in the boro of Bridgeport, on Water Street, being same premises; Mary E. Cannon died lawfully seized of leaving 4 daughters, Mary C. wife of John R. Minchart, Ruth C. wife of James Miller, Emma E. wife of L. v. Collins, Pauline B. wife of Robert D. Mason, and 5 grandchildren, Mary E., Blanche K., Nelson D., William H., and Charles H. Cannon, children of James Cannon, decd. Interest of these minor children sold to said Martha Pearsall.

Deed Book 110, page 252, a deed dated February 27, 1892, wherein Samuel H. Pearsall and Martha his wife Phoebe Banks and David her husband of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa., Jane Furnier and Josiah her husband of Lucyville, Washington Co., and Daniel H. Pearsall and Matilda his wife of Bridgeport, Fayette Co., Pa. convey to Joseph Pearsall of Bridgeport, land in Bridgeport on Clover Street.

Deed Book 231, page 86, a deed dated April 30, 1894, wherein John L. Bakewell of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa. James Heberstone and Sarah his wife of Bridgeport, Fayette Co., Pa. Martha Pearsall, T. Walter Pearsall of Bridgeport and John L. Bakewell, executors of Samuel H. Pearsall, decd., and Martha Pearsall his widow, convey to Mac Kline, of Bridgeport, land in Brownsville and Bridgeport, in said county on Grand and Sheridan Avenues, conveyed to Samuel H. Pearsall, James P. Heberston, and John L. Bakewell by the Brownsville and Bridgeport Land & Improvement Co.

The Land Records of Washington Co., Pa. disclose:—

Deed Book 195, page 596, a deed dated July 29, 1895, wherein Samuel H. Pearsall and Martha his wife, J. D. Bakewell and Sarah his wife, Christopher Bakewell and Josephine his wife, Ashbel Smith and Sarah his wife, Thomas Hollowood and Pamela his wife, all of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa., and Daniel H. Pearsall and Matilda his wife and James I. Thornton of Bridgeport, Fayette Co., Pa. convey to T. M. Rogers, land in Bethlehem Township, Washington Co., on the national road.

Deed Book 229, page 109, a deed dated October 1, 1898, wherein Sarah A. Bakewell, widow, Elizabeth Bakewell, Martha Pearsall and Samuel H. her husband, all of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa. heirs-at-law of John D. Bakewell, decd., convey to John L. Bakewell, also one of the heirs of said John D. Bakewell, all their interest in certain lands of said John D. Bakewell.

Deed Book 233, page 364, a deed dated February 9, 1900, wherein Samuel H. Pearsall and Martha his wife of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Pa. convey to Elgy Chamberlain of Bridgeport, Fayette Co., Pa. land in West Brownsville, on the National Road, bounded by James L. Bowman.

Deed Book 187, page 206, a deed dated March 9, 1894, wherein John D. Bakewell and Sarah his wife, Christopher Bakewell and Josephine his wife, Thomas Hollowood and Pamela his wife, Ashbel P. Smith and Sarah his wife, Samuel H. Pearsall and Martha his wife of West Brownsville, Washington Co., Daniel H. Pearsall and Matilda his wife and James I. Thornton of Bridgeport, Fayette Co., convey to Charles W. Leonard of Bethlehem Township, Washington Co., Pa., land in East Bethlehem Township, on the National Road.

## SECTION 11, DIVISION O.

JOSEPH PEARSALL, son of Daniel Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 11, Division L, was born January 27, 1866; died November 18, 1911; resided at Bellaire, Ohio; married August 3, 1885, Catherine Pursglove from Ripley, Derbyshire, England, daughter of Samuel Pursglove and his wife Lydia Thornley. She was born February 24, 1868. Children:—

1. Harry Pursglove Pearsall, born December 29, 1886; resided at Bellaire, Ohio.

2. Florence Elizabeth Pearsall, born February 8, 1891; resided at Bellaire, Ohio; married October 30, 1910, John Harrison Brock. Children: — \*1. Kathryn Elizabeth Brock, born January 30, 1912. \*2. Rachel Marceline Brock, born November 8, 1915.
3. Lydia Thornley Pearsall, born February 24, 1893; resided at Bellaire, Ohio.
4. Mary Kathryn Pearsall, born September 3, 1900; resided at Bellaire, Ohio.
5. Daniel H. Pearsall, born March 23, 1905; resided at Bellaire, Ohio.

## SECTION 11, ADDENDA.

THOMAS PEARSALL, Son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 9, Division N, married in Birmingham, England on July 18, 1868, Sarah Hirst, who now resides at 219 Hurcott Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, England. Children: —

1. Benjamin Pearsall, born circa 1869.
2. Thomas Pearsall, born January 18, 1871 in Durham.
3. William Pearsall, born June 3, 1873, died November 13, 1873 in Kidderminster.
4. Sarah Ann Pearsall, born January 15, 1875 in Kidderminster.
5. William T. Pearsall, born November 1877 in Kidderminster, England; came to the United States in 1890, a mere boy. He married at Lowell, Massachusetts, U.S.A., November 28, 1900, Mary Falvey who was born May 7, 1881, at Lowell, Massachusetts. Children:—
  1. William Thomas Pearsall, born October 28, 1901.
  2. George Frederick Pearsall, born June 13, 1903.
  3. Ralph Edward Pearsall, born June 7, 1905.
  4. Francis Pearsall, born October 7, 1906.
  5. Ernest Philip Pearsall, born June 27, 1909.
  6. John Harkins Pearsall, born March 29, 1911.
  7. Anna Catherine Pearsall, born July 23, 1912.
  8. Mary Rose Pearsall, born April 4, 1915.
  9. Grace Elizabeth Pearsall, born January 18, 1917.
  10. Arthur Joseph Pearsall, born July 4, 1918.
  11. Paul Philip Pearsall, born June 10, 1920.
  12. Donald James Pearsall, born March 10, 1922.
6. Rose Pearsall, born February 15, 1880 in Kidderminster.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION A.

RICHARD PEARSALL, baptised at Rovington, County Warwick, February 1, 1702; buried at same place January 8, 1732; son of John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 8, Division A. Married ————. Child:—

1. Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division B.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION B.

RICHARD PEARSALL, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division A. Married ————. Children:—

1. Mark Pearsall, born circa 1757; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division C.
2. Luke Pearsall, born circa 1760; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division I.
3. Richard Pearsall, born circa 1765; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division P.
4. Timothy Pearsall, born circa 1768; buried April 14, 1782, at Rovington, County Warwick

## SECTION 12, DIVISION C.

MARK PEARSALL, born circa 1757, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division B. Married ————. Child:—

1. Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division D.

The Birmingham Directory discloses Mark Pearsall, Ironmonger, as residing in that city at 31 Church Street in 1803.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION D.

RICHARD PEARSALL, son of Mark Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division C. Married ———. Child:—

1. Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division E.

The Birmingham Directory discloses Richard Pearsall, Gun Furniture forger, as living in that city in 1803 on Stanforth Street.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION E.

THOMAS PEARSALL, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division D. Married ———. Children:—

1. Solomon Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division F.
2. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division H.
3. Ellen Pearsall, married.
4. Ann Pearsall, married.
5. Harriet Pearsall, married.
6. Hannah Pearsall, married.

The Birmingham Directory of 1823-1861, discloses that Thomas Pearsall, Gun Furniture maker, resided in that city on Whitall Street.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION F.

SOLOMON PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division E. Married ———. Children:—

1. Solomon Pearsall, born 1850; died 1897, aged 47 years; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division G.
2. George Pearsall, married Frances ———. Children, two daughters. They reside at Bearwood, Birmingham, England.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION G.

SOLOMON PEARSALL, son of Solomon Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division F. Married, in 1873, Mary Jane Anstey, who died in 1919, aged 70 years. Children:—

1. Albert Edward Pearsall, born October 15, 1873, at Birmingham, now residing on Oxhey Road, Bushey, Herts, England.
2. Launcelot George Pearsall, born 1884, in London; now residing on Mortimer Road, Willesden, N. W.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION H.

JOHN PEARSALL, son of Thomas Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division E. Married ———. Children:—

1. George Pearsall.
2. Another son.

The Birmingham Directory of 1855 discloses John Pearsall as living in that city on Moland Street, with a place of business as a Gun barrel finisher at Fisher Street in the same city, and as a blacksmith on Steel-House Lane in 1858.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION I.

LUKE PEARSALL, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division B. Resided in Derbyshire, England. Married ———. Children:—

1. George Pearsall, who was shot while on picket duty during the war between England and France.
2. Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J.
3. John Pearsall. He was in service in the same war. He was taken sick and died while in the service.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION J.

BENJAMIN PEARSALL, son of Luke Pearsall of Derbyshire, England, resided in Derbyshire, England and Southwell, and Barre, Ontario, Canada. He married 1st. Anna Beresford, a widow. He married 2nd. Elizabeth Cordan who died June 12, 1868. Children of 1st. marriage:—

1. Benjamin Pearsall, born 1815; died June 26, 1897; married in England. He had a son who remained there. Benjamin came to America living in several places in Canada and U. S.; dying at the home of his half-sister, June 26, 1897, aged 82 years.
2. Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division K.
3. John Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division L.  
Children of 2nd. marriage:—
4. George Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division M.
5. Luke Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division N.
6. Ann Pearsall, born in Nottingham, England, January 25, 1832; died May 18, 1913; resided at Oro, Simcoe Co., Ontario, Canada, Berea, Avon Lake and Lorain, Ohio. She married 1854, John Robinson who was born in England. Children:—\*1. Elizabeth Robinson, born 1856; married Austin Eugene Bullock. Child:—Florence Priscilla Bullock, born January 5, 1887; married George Frederick Johnson of Wallaceburg, Ontario. Child:—George Frederick Johnson. \*2. John Robinson, born 1857; died July 1, 1912; married Lilly Clark of Topeka, Kansas. Children:—1. Adelbert Robinson. 2. Ray Robinson. \*3. Lewis Henry Robinson, born March 25, 1859; died October 2, 1862. \*4. Albert Edward Robinson, born July 1, 1860; died January 23, 1895; married Evalyn May Smith. No children. \*5. Sylvester Robinson, born April 2, 1867; married Jennie Denniston. Children:—1. Uria Blanche Robinson, married Lorenzo Carter. Children:—1. Leah Carter. 2. Sylvester Carter. 2. Sara Mae Robinson, married Grover Karns. 3. Mary Helen Robinson. 4. John Eager Robinson. 5. Harlem Sylvester Robinson. \*6. Priscilla Ann Robinson, born February 19, 1864; died August 4, 1880. \*7. Lillian Melissa Robinson, born July 4, 1867; married 1884, Orlen Elkene Bullock. Children:—1. Lillian Irene Bullock, born November 1, 1890; married Carlos Nelson Faris. 2. Lloyd Robinson Bullock, born January 25, 1893; married Mona de Mary Loomis of Akron, Ohio. \*8. Innis Ulysses Robinson, born May 30, 1868; married Avis Clarissa Jameson who died January 30, 1917. Children:—1. Louis Jameson Robinson, died

- young. 2. Clyde Jameson Robinson, born Mary 19, 1897. \*9. Thomas Vinton Robinson, born May 9, 1875; died March 9, 1890.
7. Robert Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division O.
8. Mary Pearsall, resided at Nespra, Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada and Riga, Michigan. She married 1st. John Addison; married 2nd. Amos Cummings. Children of 1st. marriage:—\*1. Elizabeth Addison. \*2. John Addison, resided at Bannister, Michigan; married A. ——. Children:—1. Blanche Addison, 2. Kenneth Addison, 3. Dorothy Addison, 4. Raymond Addison. \*3. Jennie Addison, married James Kick. Child:—Albert Kick. Children of 2nd marriage:—\*4. William Cummings, resided in Clinton Co., Michigan. \*5. Reuben Cummings.
9. Martha Pearsall, Division A., was born December 6, 1839; resided at Nespra, Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada and Berea, Ohio; married 1st. March 10, 1857, James Brooks who died April 22, 1867. She married 2nd. December 25, 1877, William Wallhead who died June 12, 1895. They resided at Avon, Lorain County, Ohio. Children of 1st. marriage:—\*1. George Brooks, born March 30, 1858; died September 13, 1873. \*2. Mariette Brooks, born June 20, 1860; unmarried. \*3. Joseph Brooks, born March 12, 1862; married November 1888, Rose Pratt. Child:—Edith Rose Brooks, married June 6, 1912, Horace Seely. Children:—1. Harriet Seely, born October 18, 1914. 2. Marion Elizabeth Seely, born March 30, 1917. Children of 2nd. marriage:—\*4. William Arctos Wallhead, born December 25, 1878; married January 9, 1900, Lillian May Hubbard. Children:—1. William Arctos Wallhead, born January 13, 1911. 2. Frederick Wallhead, born July 17, 1916.
10. William Pearsall, born May 1841; died December 28, 1907; resided at Nespra, Senicoc County, Ontario, Canada and Roscommos, Michigan; married ——. Child:—  
1. William Henry Pearsall.

Benjamin Pearsall was in service in the English army seven years, then came home to find his father and mother both dead.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION K.

- SAMUEL PEARSALL, son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J., resided at Toronto, Canada; married Amelia Lewis. Children:—
1. Annie Pearsall, married Albert Lailey. Children:—Thomas Lailey, Henrietta Lailey and others.
2. George Pearsall, born 1855. See Z this division.
3. Elizabeth Pearsall, married Adam Beatty. Children:—\*1. Amelia Beatty, married Charles Edmonds. \*2. Louisa Beatty, married ——— Norris. \*3. Edith Beatty. \*4. Emma Beatty, married ——— Tripp of Nottingham, Ontario, Canada. \*5. Adam Beatty. \*6. Hillyard Beatty. \*7. Bird Beatty. \*8. Louisa Beatty.
4. Jane Pearsall, married ——— Martin. Child:—Jennie Martin, married ——— Russ.
5. Benjamin Pearsall.

6. John Pearsall.

\*Z. GEORGE PEARSALL, born 1855; married September 19, 1882 Sarah Jane Williamson, daughter of John Williamson and his wife Sarah Gray. She was born May 24, 1861. Children:—

1. Sarah Louisa Pearsall, born September 1, 1883; married September 8, 1908, Robert Truman. Children:—\*1. Robert Truman, born December 30, 1912. \*2. Russell Truman, born February 24, 1916.
2. Mary Ethel May Pearsall, born July 1, 1885; married March 18, 1913, John Ferris, son of James Ferris and his wife Phebe Murphy. He was born August 11, 1886. Child:—\*1. James Merwin Ferris, born September 26, 1915.
3. George Edward Lyman Pearsall, born September 10, 1889; married March 22, 1913, Minnie Shepherd, daughter of Herbert Shepherd and his wife Sarah Cunningham. Children:—
  1. Charles Frederick Pearsall, born August 9, 1914.
  2. George Herbert Lyman Pearsall, born June 1, 1915.
4. John Stuart Young Pearsall, born September 10, 1889.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION L.

JOHN PEARSALL, son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J, resided in Nespro Township, Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada; married 1848, Louisa Ball who was born 1832; died 1915. Children:—

1. George Pearsall, born October 18, 1855; living; resided at Greenville, Michigan, U.S.A.; married first ———. He married second, 1893, Rose Rudling who was born 1878. Children of second marriage:—
  1. Rose Louisa Pearsall, born 1896; resided at Greenville, Michigan.
  2. Merl May Pearsall, born 1899; resided at Greenville, Michigan.
2. Benjamin Pearsall.
3. Emma Pearsall, married Robert Crawford; resided at Oro Station, Ontario, Canada.
4. Alfred Pearsall, died 1896, aged 24 years; unmarried.

#### SECTION 12, DIVISION M.

GEORGE PEARSALL, son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J, was born 1829; died 1896; resided at Nespro, Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada; Roscommon, Michigan, and Berea, Ohio. He married 1850, in Canada, Martha Cummings who was born 1828 in New York state; died 1903 in Ohio. Children:—

1. Alice Pearsall, born 1851; died 1915; married Harvie Hamilton.
2. James Pearsall, born 1853; died 1902.
3. LaVince Pearsall, born 1855; married ——— Brown.
4. Amos Pearsall, born 1856; living; resided at Johannesburg, Michigan; married 1st. 1877, Martha Elliot who was born 1859; died 1881. He married 2nd. 1895, May Howe. Children of 1st marriage:—
  1. Bert Pearsall, born 1878; died 1906.

2. Floyd Pearsall, born 1881; resided at Jackson, Michigan.  
Children of 2nd. marriage:—
3. Amos Joseph Pearsall, born 1896.
4. Harry Ellis Pearsall, born 1901.
5. George Pearsall, born 1858; resided at Roscommon, Michigan.
6. Elizabeth Pearsall, born 1860; married 1st. Alvin Green; married 2nd. — Prince.
7. Martha Pearsall, born 1862; married James Sonner.
8. Emma Pearsall, born 1864; married Robert Bond.
9. Gertrude Pearsall, born 1866; died 1910; married Clark Chick of Clarkesfield, Ohio.
10. Lillie Pearsall, born 1868.
11. John Pearsall, born 1875; resided at Roscommon, Michigan.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION N.

LUKE PEARSALL, son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J, was born July 9, 1830 in England; came to America with his parents in 1834; died October 1906; resided at Barrie and Oro Township, Simcoe Co., Ontario, Canada. He married 1853, Rachel Ball. Children:—

Ontario, Canada. He married 1853, Rachel Ball. Children:—

1. Benjamin Pearsall, born June 30, 1854; died in infancy.
2. Elizabeth Pearsall, born November 15, 1856; living; married in Oro Township, June 1881, Henry Crawford. Children:—\*1. Arthur Henry Crawford, born July 16, 1882; married April 29, 1907, Mary Jackson. 2 children.  
\*2. Laura May Crawford, born January 9, 1885; married October 4, 1911, R. J. Cairns. \*3. Alfred Orten Crawford, born October 17, 1888; unmarried. \*4. Wyndham Luke Crawford, born March 21, 1893; married February 17, 1917, Katie Fraser; resided in Montreal, Canada. \*4. Rachel Greta Crawford, born June 2, 1896; unmarried. \*6. George Alvin Crawford, born October 17, 1900.
3. Samuel Pearsall, born February 22, 1858.
4. Henry Pearsall, born November 29, 1859.
5. Alfred James Pearsall, born July 4, 1863.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION O.

ROBERT PEARSALL, son of Benjamin Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division J, resided at Vesper, Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada; married Mrs. Sarah Walker. Children:—

1. Emma Pearsall, born 1863; married Charles Hill of Elyria, Ohio. Children:—\*1. Grace L. Hill, born January 22, 1890; married 1907, Fred Miller. Children:—1. Charles Edward Miller. 2. Alfred Lam Miller. 3. Alfred Anderson Miller. 4. Alvin Lewis Miller, born May 28, 1916. \*2. Lee A. Hill, born July 21, 1895. \*3. Alfred Anderson Hill, born June 27, 1898.
2. Sarah Pearsall, born 1865; married — Somerville.
3. Robert James Pearsall, born 1867; resided in Chicago, Illinois.
4. Andrew Pearsall.



## SECTION 12, DIVISION P.

**RICHARD PEARSALL**, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division B; married at Hodnet Parish, Shropshire, February 5, 1787, Mary Brees. Witnesses Sarah Furfur and Eleanor Brees. Child:—

1. Richard Pearsall, born 1788, died 1861; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division Q.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION Q.

**RICHARD PEARSALL**, son of Richard Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division P, was born 1788; died 1861; resided at Pope's Lane, Oldbury, Worcestershire, England; married Sarah Elizabeth Hadley who died 1855. Children:—

1. Richard Pearsall.
2. Isaac Pearsall.
3. David Pearsall.
4. Thomas Henry Pearsall, born 1820; died November 21, 1891; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division R.
5. George Pearsall.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION R.

**THOMAS HENRY PEARSALL**, son of Richard, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division Q, was born 1820; died November 21, 1891; resided at Oldbury, Worcestershire, England. He married Lucy Deely who was born 1817; died 1899. Children:—

1. David Pearsall, born 1841; resided at Saltly, Birmingham, England.
2. Isaac Pearsall, born 1843; resided at Jeanette, Pennsylvania, U. S. A.
3. Samuel Pearsall, born December 22, 1844; died August 6, 1908; resided at Jeanette, Pa., U. S. A.; married June 10, 1866, Elizabeth Wootton who was born March 26, 1846; living. Children:—
  1. Lucy Pearsall, married George Eckert.
  2. Louise Pearsall.
  3. Nellie Pearsall, married James Blaze.
  4. Elizabeth Pearsall, resided at Jeanette, Pa.; unmarried.
  5. Gertrude Pearsall, married J. H. Kelly.
  6. Madeline Pearsall, married M. J. Freshwater.
  7. Rudolph Pearsall.
  8. Theodore Pearsall.
  9. Jeannette Pearsall, married A. Homann.
4. Richard Pearsall, born 1847; died in infancy.
5. Harry T. Pearsall, born 1850; Chapter 18, Section 12, Division S.
6. George Pearsall, born 1852; died 1909.
7. Lucy Jane Pearsall, born 1854; resided at Birmingham, England.
8. William Pearsall, born 1856; resided at Birmingham, England.

## SECTION 12, DIVISION S.

**HARRY T. PEARSALL**, son of Thomas Henry Pearsall, Chapter 18, Section 12, Division R, was born 1850; resided at New Castle, Pennsylvania, U. S. A.;

married 1880, Catherine Roberts who was born at Oldbury, Worcestershire, England. Children:—

1. Fred Pearsall, born 1881; resided at New Castle, Pa.; married 1909, Etta Morgan. No children.
2. Harry Pearsall, born 1883; resided at Warren, Ohio; married 1911, Lillian Friday. Children:—
  1. Harry Pearsall, born June 5, 1912.
  2. Kenneth Pearsall, born January 14, 1914.
3. Louis A. Pearsall, born 1887; resided at New Castle, Pa.; married January, 1910, Mary Kolb. Child:—
  1. Otto H. Pearsall, born December 10, 1910.
4. Dora Pearsall, born 1890; resided at New Castle, Pa.; married 1913, Clarence Kimmell. No children.
5. Earl Pearsall, born 1892; resided at New Castle, Pa.
6. May Pearsall, born 1894; resided at New Castle, Pa.
7. Carl Pearsall, born 1896; resided at New Castle, Pa.
8. Isaac Pearsall, born 1899.
9. Glenn Pearsall, born 1903.