

## CHAPTER II

### THE EARLIER PESHALE FAMILY

As stated in Chapter I, Robert de Corbeil, son of Guilbert de Corbeil, was granted the Lordship of Peshale by Robert de Stafford, his Overlord, shortly after the Conquest. The following is recorded as being a transcript of the deed granting Peshale to Robert: 'Omnib: p'sentib. & futur. Salut. —Sciatis me Rob'tum de Stadforde dedisse & hac Carta mea p'senti confirmasse Rob'to Filo Gilb'ti de Corbeil & Isabelle ux. me & haeredib: suis totam istam terram meam & Maneri de Peshale, etc. tenend. de me p. feod. I Mil. dat 6 Cal Jan. A° Incarn. 1068. Testib. W. de Eaton. R. de Weston, etc.'<sup>1</sup> Robert de Stafford, whose Norman name was Robert de Teoni, was a cousin of William, and one of his most powerful followers, and, as is shown by the Domesday Book, held eighty or more Lordships and Manors in Staffordshire.

The name 'Pers hale' is inscribed on the Battle Abbey Roll, which is said to be the muster roll of the Norman knights who came over with William the Conqueror in

<sup>1</sup> From the Peshall MS. History, which refers to Charters of the Basset family of Drayton:—

'To all present and in the future, my salutations. Know that I Robert de Stafford have given, and confirm by this my present Charter to Robert, son of Guilbert de Corbeil and Isabella his wife, to him and his heirs all this my land and the Manor of Peshale, to be held from me for the service of a Knight's fee. Dated December 28th, A.D. 1068. Witnessed by W. de Eaton, R. de Weston, etc.'

1066 ; but apart from the fact that the first Lord of Peshale was then known as Robert de Corbeil, the name was evidently interpolated later, perhaps as late as the fourteenth century when the name was beginning to be spelt with an 'r,' thus—Pershall, Persall, etc. The name occurs in both the Holinshed and Duchesne Rolls, however, which are the two generally acknowledged copies, the former from Holinshed's *Chronicle* dated 1577, and the latter dated a few years after.<sup>1</sup>

Robert de Corbeil, as the son of a younger branch, dropped his original surname in accordance with the custom of the time, and assumed the name of his Manor, calling himself Robert de Peshale. As explained above, he was related to William the Conqueror, and no doubt occupied a high position in the retinue of Robert de Stafford. He married an English wife of Royal descent, one Ormonda, daughter and heiress of Osbert de Stafford,<sup>2</sup> second son of Liulph of Lumley Castle, Durham, a nobleman of the time of Edward the Confessor. The mother of Osbert de Stafford, and grandmother of Ormonda, was Aldgyth, a daughter of Alfred, Earl of Northumberland, the son of the great Uted. This Uted, son of Waldese, Earl of Northumberland, a descendant of the earlier Anglo-Saxon Kings, was the Earl of Northumberland in the time of King Ethelred, and, as a reward for his victories over the Scotch in Northumberland and Durham, received from King Ethelred the honour of his youngest daughter Elfgyve or Aelfgifu in marriage.<sup>3</sup> Elfgyve is generally considered to be a child of Ethelred's first marriage with Elgiva, a daughter of Thorold, an English Earl, and not of his second marriage with Emma, daughter of Richard, Duke of Normandy.

<sup>1</sup> Duchess of Cleveland's *Battle Abbey Roll*, vol. ii. p. 387.

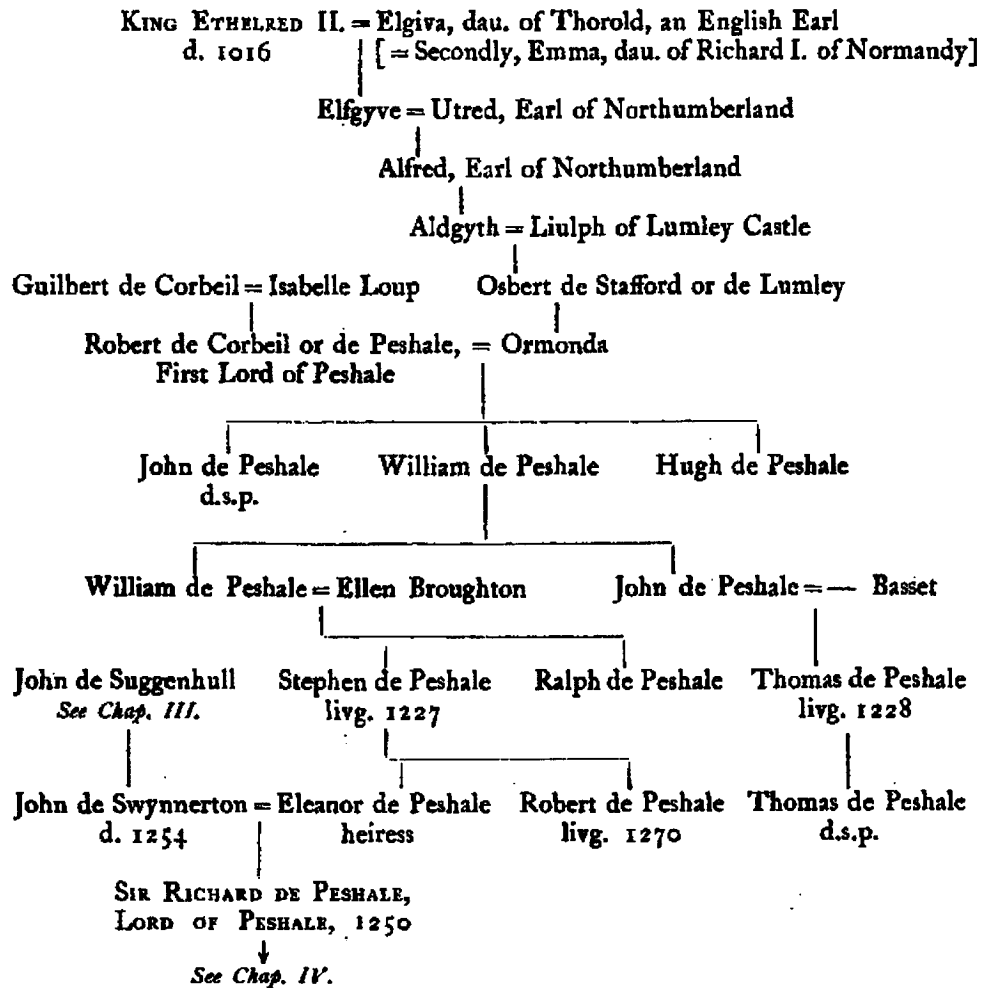
<sup>2</sup> See Collins' *Peerage of England*, 4th ed. vol. iv. p. 116.

<sup>3</sup> Ramsay *Foundations of England*, vol. i. p. 376.

See also Betham's *Genealogical Tables*. Table 673 for descent of Ormonda, wife of Robert de Peshale.

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The marriage of Robert de Peshale with Ormonda is recorded in an old Lumley Manuscript which gives the pedigree of the Lumley family up to this time. This pedigree, as shown by the accompanying copy, also confirms the birth of the eldest son, John de Peshale.

This same manuscript contains also the following copy of what appears to be an original deed of Robert, the first Lord of Peshale. This reads as follows :—

‘Robertus de Pesale dedit Johanni filio et haeredi suo totam terram illam de Lumley, quam habuit in Maritagio cum Ormonda filia Osberti de Lumleya matra eiusdem Johannis, sicut ius haereditarium suum. Testibus, Willmo de Lumleya, Matheo de Lumleya, Roberto de Clifford, etc.’<sup>1</sup>

Robert de Peshale, by his wife Ormonda, had three sons,—John, William, and Hugh. John died without issue, but Hugh was the progenitor of a family which spread itself over Shropshire for several generations.

William, the second son, had issue William and John. The former occurs as witness to a deed concerning Bungay Manor in 1156. He married one Ellen Broughton, and had three sons, Stephen, Ralph, and Richard. Stephen, who occurs as surety in an Assize in 1227, was father of Robert and Eleanor, to whom reference is made later. Ralph appears as ‘Ralph de Peschale’ in the Patent Roll of 14 Henry III., in the list of Staffordshire Tenants who set out from Portsmouth in April 1230 with the large army assembled by Henry III. for the invasion of France. William’s other son, John, married a Basset, and had a son, Thomas, father of another Thomas, the latter is mentioned several times in the Plea Rolls, etc. of that time.<sup>2</sup> Thus in

<sup>1</sup> ‘Robert de Peshale gave to John his son and heir all that land of Lumley which he had received through his marriage with Ormonda, daughter of Osbert de Lumley, the mother of this same John, and also the hereditary rights. Witnessed by William de Lumley, Mathew de Lumley, Robert de Clifford, etc.’

<sup>2</sup> *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, vol. vi. pt. i. *et alii*.

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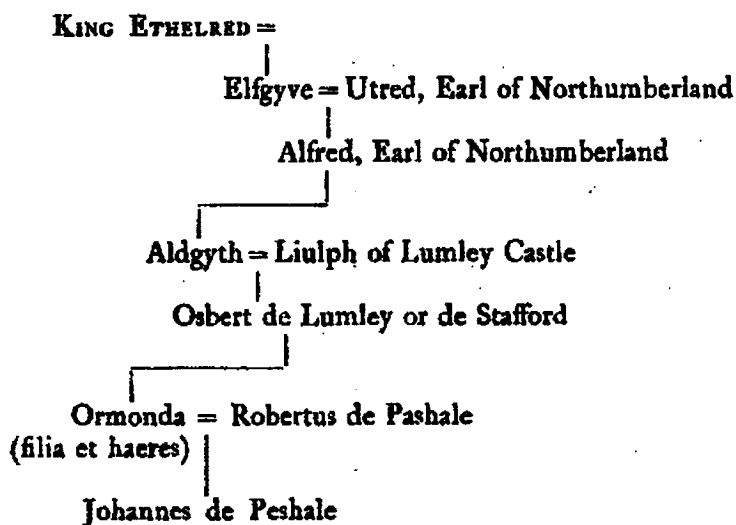
## PEDIGREE SHOWING THE PARENTAGE OF ORMONDA WIFE OF ROBERT DE PESHALE, FIRST LORD OF PESHALE

'Stemmata de Lumley' 1578

From "Collectanea Genealogica ex Cartis Antiques"

Collected by R. Holme. Harleian MSS. No. 1985

(At British Museum)



1222, 'Robert de Sugenhulle (Sugnall) and Petronilla, his wife, put in their place Thomas de Peshale, in a plea against Roger de Bidun,' and in 1228, 'the Bishop of Coventry, by his attorney, sued Thomas de Peshale for six acres of land in Peshale, as the right of his Church of Eccleshall.' This Thomas joined Simon de Montfort in his rebellion against the King, and the Close Roll of 50 Henry III. (1265) states that 'the Sheriff of Staffordshire is commanded to admit to the King's peace the following who had submitted through the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, to whom the King had given power to receive the submissions of the rebels who had adhered to Simon de Montfort, viz., Thomas de Peshale, Robert de Sugenhull, Richard de Stafford, etc.'

In 1269, 'Philip Marmyun, by his attorney, appeared against Thomas de Pesale and others, for entering his manor of Northbury and committing damage, etc.,' and in 1280, 'Thomas de Peshale sued William de Sogenhulle and Dorea his wife for £100 owing to him,' and one, Adam de Peshall, is mentioned as a surety. In 1284, 'Nicholas of Madele appeared against Thomas son of Thomas de Pessale in a plea of maheem and breach of the peace.' Finally, in a suit in 1293, it is stated that this 'Thomas de Pessale' was dead. This Thomas must have been the Thomas son of Thomas de Peshale, of whom Robert, son of Stephen de Peshale, purchased land in Peshale, as shown by a deed (page 60).

The above-mentioned Eleanor, daughter of Stephen de Peshale and sister of Robert, married John de Swynnerton. Robert must have died without issue, as Eleanor is referred to as the heiress of Stephen de Peshale, and her husband, John de Swynnerton, became Lord of Peshale in her right. By her he had four sons, Richard, Stephen, Robert and John. Richard came into the estate of Peshale, and assumed the name of Richard de Peshale, and thus founded the later family of Peshale, Pershall and Parshall, while Stephen was

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the ancestor of the later lords of Swynnerton, as related in the next chapter.

Other references to early members of the Peshale family are contained in the three following extracts from the 'Feet of Fines' of the reign of Edward I. :—

### *Feet of Fines, Case 209, File 7, No. 53.*

Final Concord made at Westminster in the octaves of St. John the Baptist, 9 Edward I., before the King's Justices, between Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by William de Middelton, his attorney, and Thomas, son of Walter de Peshale, deforceant, of a messuage and a carucate of land in Golden, whereby Thomas acknowledges the same to be the right of the said Bishop and for the said acknowledgment, fine, etc., the same Bishop grants the said premises to Thomas and his issue, doing service therefor, and should Thomas die without issue the same to revert to the Bishop.  
—*Stafford. Abstract.*

### *Feet of Fines, Case 209, File 7, No. 58.*

Final Concord made in the King's Court at Salop on the morrow of the Purification of the Virgin, 10 Edward I., before Thomas Welond, John de Lovetot, Roger de Leycestre and William de Buritton, the King's Justices, Between Roger de Napton, plaintiff, and William, son of Nicholas de Pesale and Doreya his wife, defendents, of a 4th part of a carucate of land, with appurtenances, in Pesale, whereof a plea of warranty of the charter was summoned between them in that court, that is, William and Doreya acknowledge the same to be the right of said Roger, he having the same by their gift, to him and his heirs for ever, rendering therefor yearly 2s. 0½d. yearly at the four terms, and they warrant him against all men. For which fine, warranty, etc., Roger gives William and Doreya a sparrowhawk.—*Stafford. Abstract.*

*Feet of Fines, Case 209, File 8, No. 26.*

Final Concord made at Guildhall, London, Easter in three weeks, 18 Edward I., before John de Metyngham, Robert de Hertford, Elias de Bekyngham, William de Giselham and Master Robert de Thorp, the King's Justices, Between Roger de Burton, plaintiff, and William de Peshale and Doreya his wife, defendants, of 57 acres of land and 8½ acres of meadow in Peshale, whereof plea of warranty of the charter was summoned between them, that is to say, William and Doreya acknowledge the same to be the right of said Roger, he having the same of their gift and they remit and quitclaim the same to him and his heirs for ever. For which acknowledgment, quitclaim, fine, etc., Roger gives William and Dorreya a sparrowhawk.—*Stafford. Abstract.*





SWYNNERTON CHURCH