

## CHAPTER VIII

### SIR JOHN PERSHALL, BART., AND HIS DESCENDANTS

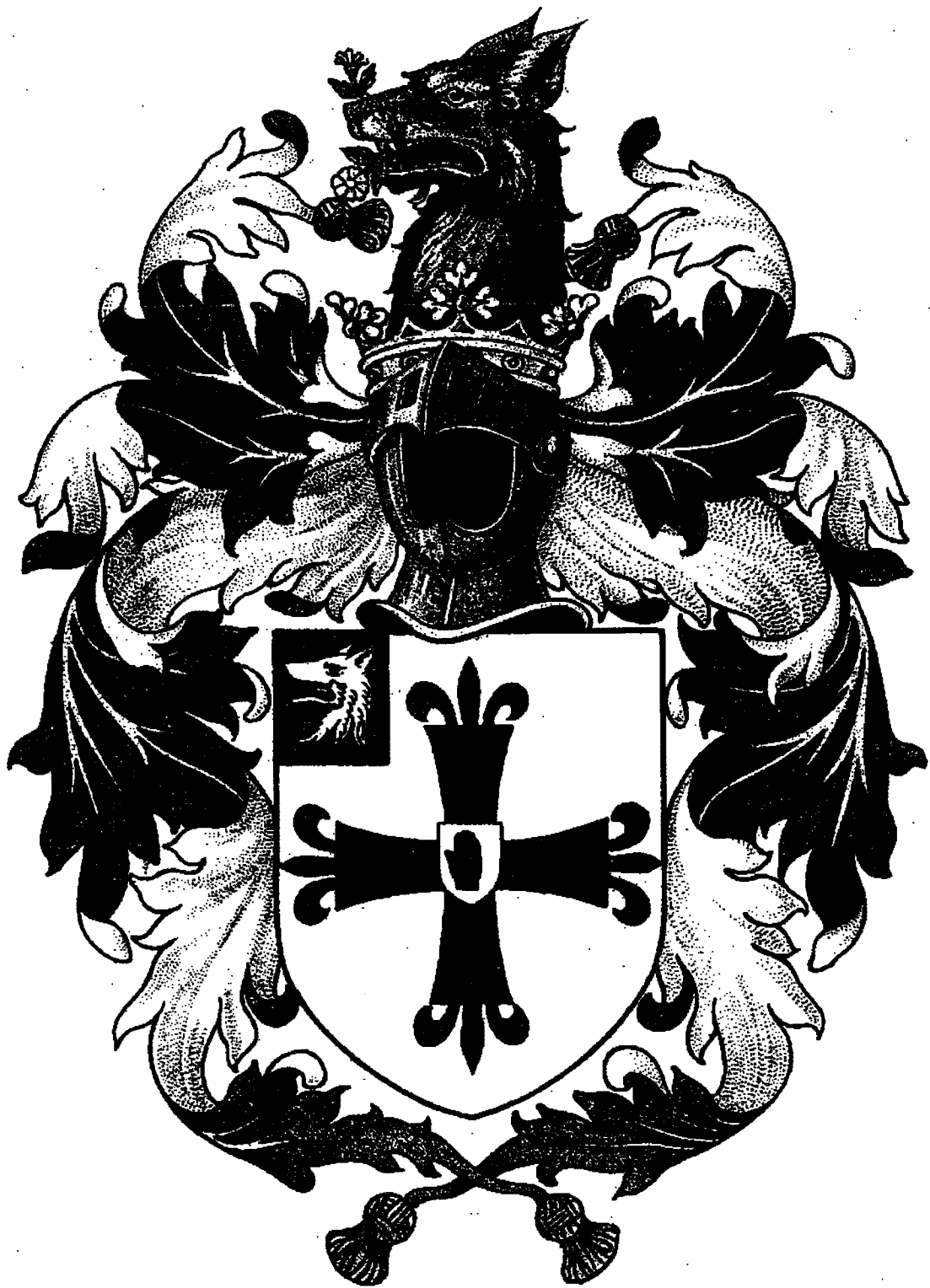
SIR JOHN PERSHALL was born at Horsley Hall, Feb. 22nd, 1562, and succeeded to the estates on Nov. 28th, 1608, at the death of his father Thomas Peshall. He married about 1590, Anne, daughter of Ralph Sheldon of Beoly in Worcester, by whom he had five sons and four daughters, all born at Horsley Hall.

The christenings of these are given in the Eccleshall Parish Church Register as follows: April 19th, 1596, Thomas Pershall; August 14th, 1597, Jane Pershall; Sept. 10th, 1598, Margreate Pershall; Oct. 20th, 1601, William, son of John Pearshall of Horsleye, gent.; Aug. 15th, 1603, Edmund, son of John Pershall of E.; Aug. 5th, 1606, John, son of John Pershall, of the Hale of Horselye, gent.; Sept. 15th, 1607, Phillip(a) daughter of John Peshall, of the Hall of Horsley; Aug. 15th, 1609, Fraunc(es), daughter of John Pershall of the Hall of Horseley. The birth of the fifth son Robert Pershall in 1608 is not recorded in the Register. The above-mentioned 'Edmund Pershall' died in the year of his birth and was buried Oct. 21st 1603. The register records on June 9th, 1599, the marriage of 'Francis Sheale, Mr. Thomas Pershall, his man of the Hall of Horselye, yeoman and Anne Swynton of E. gentlewoman.'

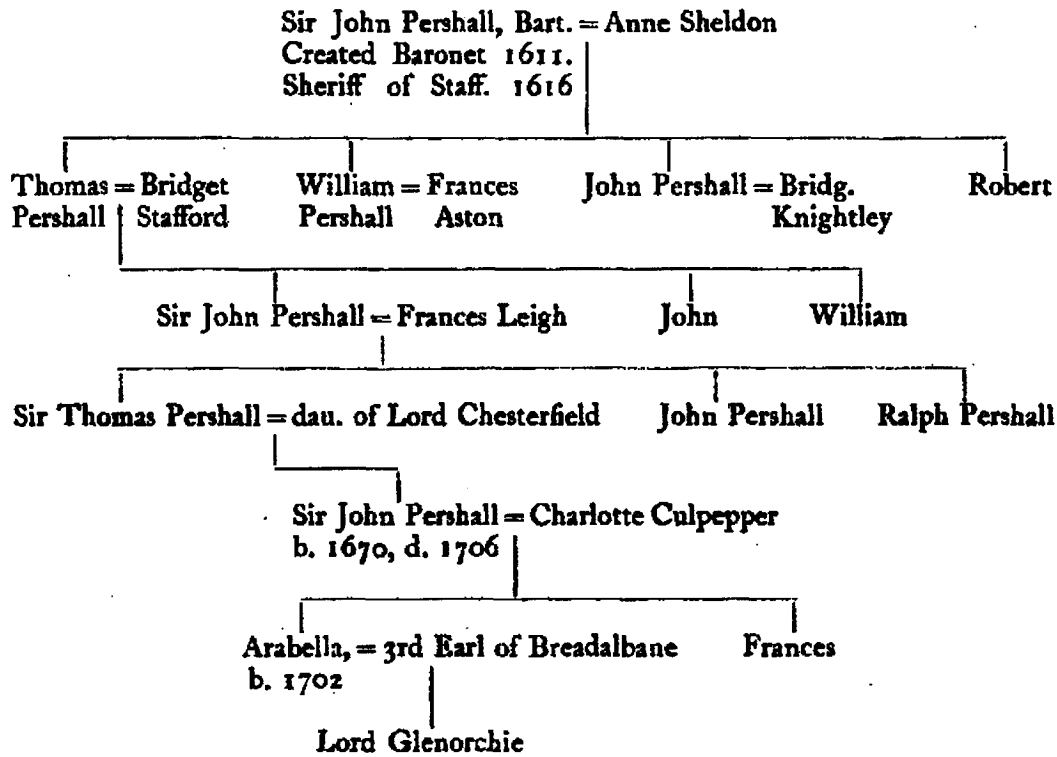
In 1611, the reigning King, James I., instituted the order of Baronet, and Sir John was one of the first on whom the honour was conferred, he being given the order on Nov.



**ARMS AND CREST OF SIR JOHN PERSHALL, BART.**



SIR JOHN PERSHALL, BART., AND HIS DESCENDANTS



25th, 1611. When first instituted, all Baronets were styled 'of Ulster' or 'of Nova Scotia,' Sir John being a 'Baronet of Ulster.' As such he was entitled to carry on his shield the 'Red Hand of Ulster' in the form of a small inescutcheon—Arg., a sinister hand, coupé at the wrist and appaumée, gu.—and to surmount his crest on a coronet. His arms and crest therefore took the form given at the head of this chapter, which is copied from a manuscript in the Salt Library.<sup>1</sup>

The records of the Staffordshire visitations of St. George in 1614 give the arms of Pershall of Horseley as follows: Arms, Quarterly of Six. (1) Pershall, (2) Cresswell (should be Careswell), (3) Chetwynd, (4) Malpas, (5) Delves, (6) Rolleston.

Sir John's eldest son, Thomas, died before him, in 1640, but left an heir to the estates, John, to whom reference is made later. His second son, Sir William Pershall, married Frances, daughter of Walter Aston of Liscal, Staff., and settled at Canwell. He was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1622 and knighted in 1627, his name being recorded as William Peshall. He had two sons and four daughters. His eldest son, William, was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1654 as William Pershall, eldest son of Sir William Pershall of Canwell, but nothing further is known of him. Of the second, John, nothing is known, except that he joined his father and brother when they took up arms in 1646 with other Roman Catholic landowners on behalf of the King. One of his daughters, Margaret, was the second wife of Richard Hereford of Sufton. In 1653, we find that Sir William went abroad, as is shown by a Warrant of the Council of State<sup>2</sup> dated April 14th, 1653, for a pass for 'Sir William Persall and three servants to foreign parts.' In Sept. 1660 we find that 'Sir William Persall dis-

<sup>1</sup> *Staffordshire Arms*, W. Salt, vol. ii.

<sup>2</sup> Warrants of Council of State (C.O.S.) *Generals of Fleet*, etc. (Ref. I, 41, 85).

covered and assisted to arrest Thomas Scott, a traitor, in Brussels.<sup>1</sup>

Sir John Pershall's third son John married Bridget, the daughter of Robert Knightley. Amongst the State Records preserved at the Record Office is the following :—

' 1638 June 19. Petition of John Persall, son of Sir John Persall, to the King. Petitioner about 15 years since married the daughter of Robert Knightley, who in that space has not, until within three years last past, given unto her £10 towards her maintenance in apparel, since which time he has given unto her £24 per annum, a means very insufficient in discharging her very diet. For which cause petitioner is enforced to supply that particular out of his own means, being but £50 per annum, an amount also very insufficient, as also to defray charges of nurses, maintenance of children and service wages, which charge for surmounting petitioner's present estate, the said Robert suffers, having before and since petitioner's marriage boasted that he would give £3,000 with his daughter, so that petitioner might have estated upon £300 per annum, which petitioner's father cannot do, but offers in present and reversion £200 per annum. Further, this unnatural conduct of petitioner's father-in-law towards his daughter has drawn on her such inconveniences that without speedy relief her life cannot avoid imminent danger. Prays reference to the Council to order this difference.'

Of the fourth and last son, Robert, or of the eight daughters, nothing is known.

Sir John Pershall, the father of the above, was appointed Sheriff for Staffordshire in 1615 and 1616. In the year 1626, he was absent some time from his country seat, and omitted to attend the church at Eccleshall. He was reported at headquarters and was summoned, and in July, 1626, we find him making the following petition :—

<sup>1</sup> *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, Charles I.*

'To the King's most Excellent Matie

The humble petition of Sr. John Peshall Barronett.

Humbly sheweth

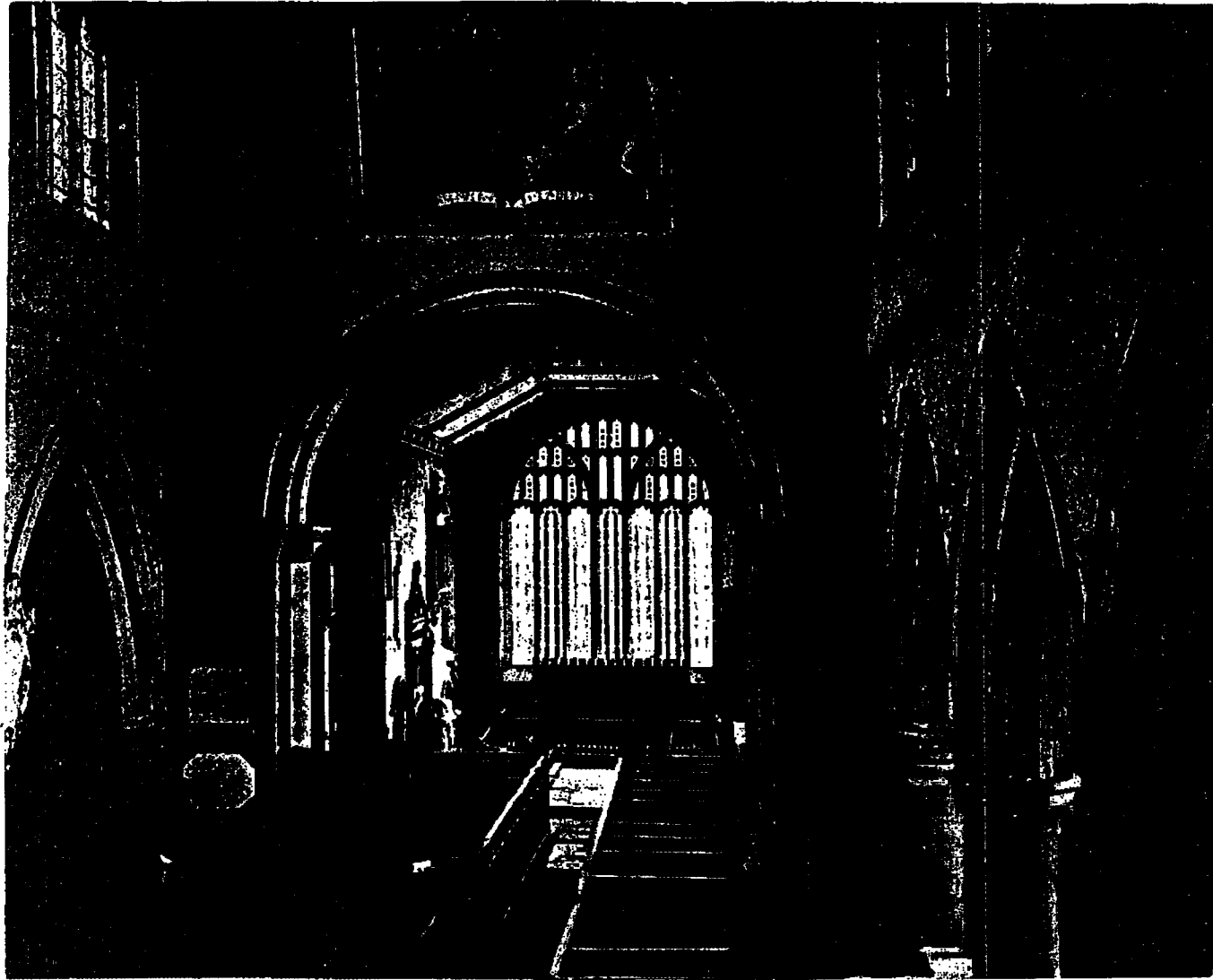
That yor. Mate petitioner att the last assizes in the county of Staff. was indicted of Receisancie, howe forasmuch as yor. petitioner was at the Church wthin the tyme of Offence supposed in the said Indictment, and was ever all his lifetyme and now is a person that duly goeth to church and is every waye Conforme to yor. Mate lawes in that behalfe established, as may appeare by the Certificate and affidavit heereunto annexed; and forasmuch alsoe as the said proceedings were unduly had against him by some who p'ferr their owne ende therein rather than yor Mate service. And forasmuche alsoe as yor petitioner is now heere nere London in a Course of phisick for reparacon of his health and cannot possibly attend the Assizes nowe at hand to make his cleere defence there, And otherwise Conviction will ensue to his great dishonor and prejudice.

Humbly prayeth yor Matie out of yor wonted princely sence of such abuses to yor obedient subjects to give direction unto ye Justices of that Circuit that the same Indictment may be discharged and no further pceedings had thereon. And yor. petitioner will pray, etc.'<sup>1</sup>

The certificate referred to is the following:—

'William Iremonger gent. maketh oath that Sr. John Peshall Barronett (whoe as he hard was indited att the last Assizes held for the Countye of Stafford for nott goinge to Church) did usually goe to the Church before the framinge

<sup>1</sup> *State Papers, Domestic*, Charles I., vol. xxxi. No. 68.



CHANCEL OF ECCLESHALL CHURCH BEFORE THE RESTORATION OF 1867



## SIR JOHN PERSHALL

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of the said Inditment and there hath hard divine service. And further that he hath hard and verily beleeveth that the said S' John was att his pishe Church att Eccleshall within the time of absence in the said Inditement supposed.

Jur. xiiij<sup>o</sup> Julie 1626

Ro: Richs.'

A further certificate transcribed in *Domestic State Papers*, vol. xxv. 1626 (Charles I.), reads as follows: 'Certificate of Francis Rowley, Vicar of Eccleshall for 17 years, that Sir John Peshall, indicted for not going to Church, had come to church for the time aforesaid as an obedient subject ought to.'

An interesting transcript from an old MS. in the Huntebach collection<sup>1</sup> at the Salt Library gives the 'Insignia Johan Peshall of Horseley in Hundert Pirehill, qui creatus erat Baronettus, Nov. 25th, 1611.' A coloured reproduction of the Peshall arms and crest is given, together with the following transcript from the MS., which was evidently much worn or mutilated: 'Firmly adhering to the late King Charles in his greatest distresses, was... A lamentable thing it is to see an ancient family so rent to pieces and the last to be so wronged without desert... hereby disabled to maintaine the hospitality and reputation of his ancestors. That families have their times and perish is we know most certaine, yet wretched and vile are they by whom such disastrous accidents are wrought.'

Sir John died Jan. 13th, 1646, and was buried in the chancel, Eccleshall Church. His will is still preserved at Somerset House, and reads as follows:—

[*Extracted*

<sup>1</sup> *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, John Huntebach, vol. i. Salt; Coll. MS.

## THE PARSHALL FAMILY

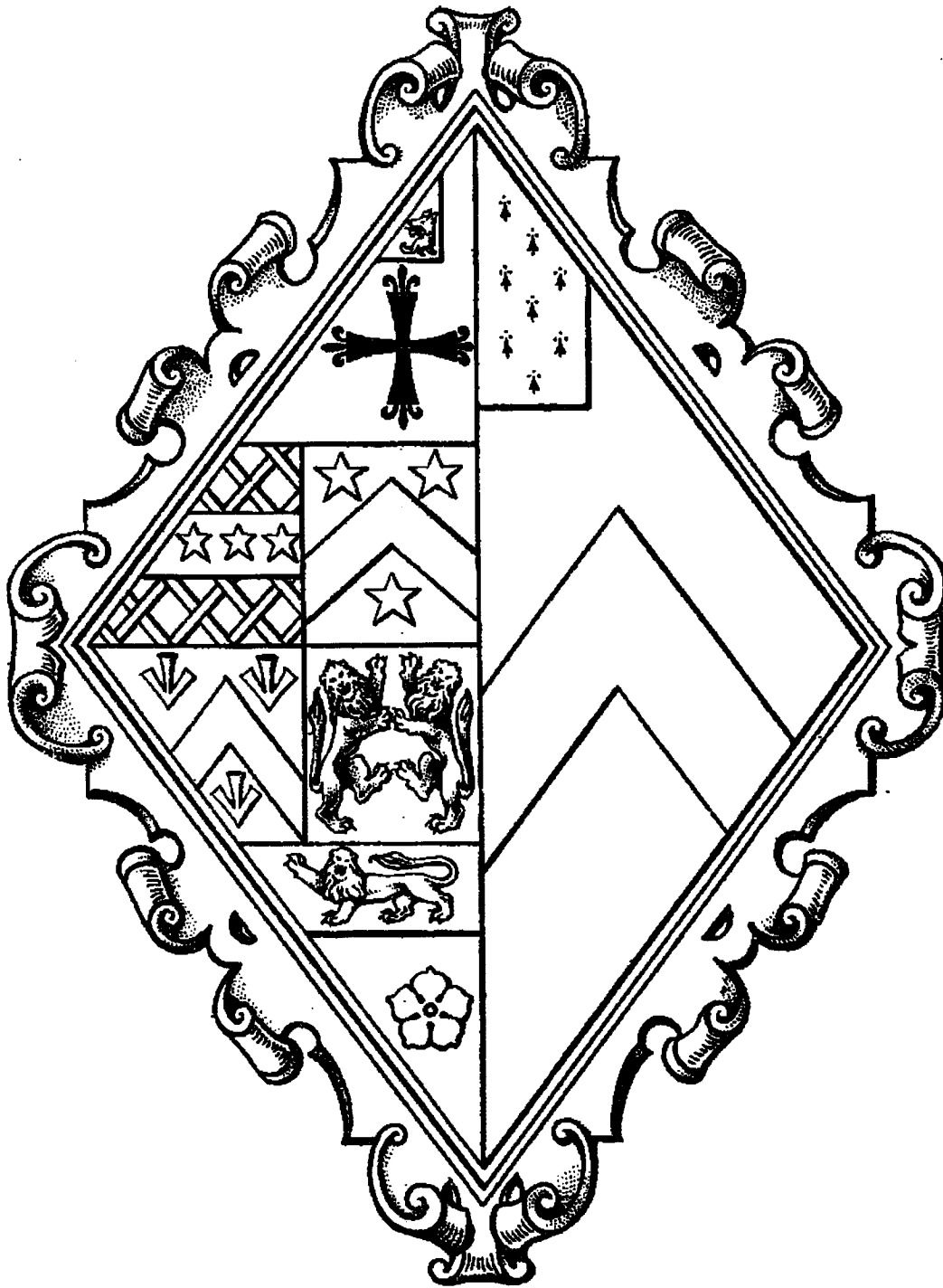
*Extracted from the Principal Registry of the Probate Divorce  
and Admiralty Division of the High Court of Justice.*

*In the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.*

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I, SIR JOHN PESHALL of Sugnall in the countie of Stafford Baronett beinge in good health of bodie and of perfect memorie (thankes be given to God) therefore consideringe the vncertaintie of this mortall life and that it is a certain & positive lawe that everie man must die I leave therefore this present sixteenth daie of Aprill in the seaventeenth yeare of the raigne of our soveraigne Lord King Charles of England Scotland France and Ireland Defender of the Faith &c And in the yeare of our Lord God One thousand six hundred fortie and one made and ordained this my last will and testament in manner and forme followeing givinge to Allmightie God all possible thankes that hee hath spared mee soe long and given mee soe large a time of repentance and soe greate a space of time to settle and dispose of my worldlie estate that I maie with more quietnes of minde prepare my selfe for that life which is to come I doe therefore first of all commend my soule to the handes of Allmightie God from whome I received the same and my bodie to the earth to be buried without anie greate solempnitie in the Chancell of the Parishe Church of Eccleshall in the said countie of Stafford as neere to the bodie of Thomas Peshall Esquier my deceased father as maie bee And concerninge the disposition of my lands hereafter menconed I doe give and devise to my noble friend and kinsman Sir Thomas Holt of Ashton in the Countie of Warwicke Knight and Baronet to my verie loveinge kinseman William Sheldon of Bewly in the countie of Worcester Esquier nephew to Dame Anne Peshall my deerelie beloved wife and Thomas Ashton of the Inner Temple London Esquier All my messuages landes tenements and hereditaments whatsoever with their and everie of their apourtennces

scituate lieinge and being in the countie of Salop excepting all my lands tenements and hereditaments in Chazardine and Galston in the said countie of Salop whereof or wherein I doe stand seized of anie estate of inheritance in fee simple To have and to hould the said messuages lands tenements and hereditaments with all and everie their appurtennces whatsoever except before excepted to the said Sir Thomas Holt William Sheldon and Thomas Ashton there heires and assignes for ever to the vses intents and purposes hereafter menconed that is to say To the vse and behoofe of John Peshall my third sonne for and dureinge the term of his naturall life And after his decease then to the vse and behoofe of John Peshall my grand childe sonne and heire to Thomas Peshall Esquier deceased mine eldest sonne after the time hee shall accomplishe the full age of twentie and one yeares and not before and of the heire males of his bodie lawfullie begotten And for default of such issue then to the vse and behoofe of Sir William Peshall Knight my second sonne and of the heire males of his bodie lawfullie begotten and for default of such issue Then to the vse and behoofe of John Peshall my third sonne and of the heire males of his bodie lawfully begotten And for want of such issue Then to the vse and behoofe of Roberte Peshall my fourth sonne and of the heire males of his bodie lawfully begotten And for default of such issue then to the vse of mee the said Sir John Peshall and my heires for ever Item I doe give and devise to the said Sir Thomas Holt William Sheldon and Thomas Ashton their heires and assignes for ever All my mannors messuages landes tenementes and hereditaments whatsoever with their and everie of their appurtennces scituate lieinge and beinge in the countie Palatine of Chester whereof I am seised of anie estate of inheritance in fee simple and are not mentioned to bee intayled in or by the indenture of marriage of the said Thomas Peshall deceased my eldest sonne To the intent and purpose that they the said Sir Thomas Holt William Sheldon and Thomas Ashton and the survivor of them shall

and will out of the rents issues and profitts thereof yearelie paie allowe or cause to bee paid the yearelie rents or sumes of fortie poundes of lawfull money of England Att the feast of the Annunciacion of our Ladie Saint Marie the Virgin and of Saint Michael the Archangell which shall first happen next after my decease to the said Roberte Peshall my fourth sonne for and duringe the terme of his natural life And after his decease to the vse and behoofe of the said John Peshall my grand child after such time as he shall accomplishe the full age of twentie and one yeares and not before and of the heire males of his bodie lawfullie begotten And for default of such issue to the vse and behoofe of the said Sir William Peshall Knight and his heires for ever Item I doe giue & bequeath and devise to Sir William Peshall Knt all my messuages lands tenements & hereditamts whatsoever with their and everie of their appurtennces scituate lieinge and beinge in Butterton Grinne Grindon and Little Birchford or in anie of them within the Countie of Stafford to the said Sir William Peshall Knight and to the heires males of his body lawfullie begotten and for default of such issue then to the right heires of mee the said Sir John Peshall for ever Item I give and bequeath to the said Sir William Peshall Knight all my new hangings wich I latelie bought for the hanginge of the Gallery at Sugnall which is over the kitchin Item I devise to my deerelie beloved wife all my coppiehold land for and dureing the terme of her naturall life the remainder to the said John Peshall my grand child and his heires for ever Item I doe give devise and bequeath vnto the daughters of Thomas Peshall my eldest sonne deceased the sume of two thousand pound of lawfull money of England for their portion to bee equallie devided amongst them out of my lands conteyned in a deed made att the marriage of the said Thomas Peshall my eldest sonne deceased accordinge to the limitacon and power reserved and given mee by the said Indenture Prouided allwaies and itt is the true intent and meaninge of mee the said Sir John Peshall in and by this



‘A TABLET HANGING OVER YE VESTRY DOOR.’  
 ECCLESHALL PARISH CHURCH.

‘In Memory of ye virtuous, religious & charitable  
 Bridget Peshall relict of Thomas Peshall, Esq. &  
 dau. of Sir William Stafford of Bletherwick, in  
 Co. Northampton, Mother to this present  
 Sir John Peshall, Bart. of Horsley in Co. Stafford.  
 She died 1 Aug. 1679. aged 79.’

my last will and testament That if the said John Peshall my grand child shall or doe att anie time or times hereafter indeavour attempt or goe aboute to impeach overthrowe destroy or make voide anie lease or leases demise or demises heretofore made to any tennt or tennantes of any messuages lands or tenements conteyned or expressed in the said indentures of marriage of the said Thomas Peshall my eldest sonne deceased and which was or were heretofore made by Thomas Peshall my late father deceased or by mee the said Sir John Peshall or not suffer anie such to whome I have made and devise quietlie to enioye the same That then the said John Peshall my grandchild shall not have taken receive or make anie manner of profitt benefitt gaine or advantage by this my last will and testament or by anie guift devise or bequeath therein expressed or mentioned but shalbee whollie excluded and barred thereof for ever And that then for soe much as is by this my last will and testament menconed limitted or intended for or to the benefitt vse or behoofe of the said John Peshall my grand child I doe give devise and bequeath to the said Sir William Peshall my second son and to his heires for ever concerninge all the rest of my goodes and chattells leases for yeares and lives whatsoever and not given devised or disposed of by this my last will and testament nor assigned over nor given or granted by mee by anie acte or deed in my lifetime I doe give and devise to the said Sir Thomas Holt William Sheldon and Thomas Aston Item I doe make ordaine constitute and appointe the said Sir Thomas Holt William Sheldon and Thomas Aston my true & lawfull EXECUTORS of this my last will and testament And for their paines to bee taken therein I doe give to everie of them the summe of tenn poundes of currant English money for the further testimonie of my love and affection towards them And I doe make and appointe the right honourable my truelie much honoured freind Walter Lord Aston Overseer of this my last will and testament IN WITTNES whereof and that this is my last will and testament I have subscribed

my name vnto and on the side of each leafe it conteininge but two leafes and have putt my seale vpon the file of this my last will and testament the daie and yeare first above written — JOHN PESHALL — Signed sealed and published in the sight and presence of these persons whose names are subscribed — CHARLES PESHALL THOMAS SADLEIR — The marke of RICHARD TURNER.

Proved 17th February 1646

Fos. 22 OB.

HEB.

22-Fines.

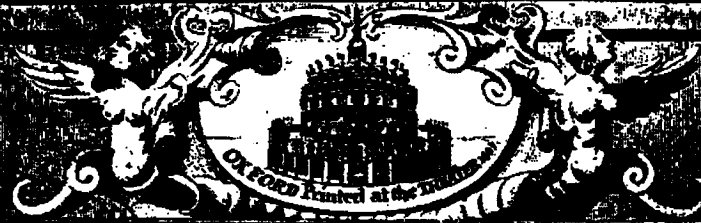
Sir John's wife, Anne, had died before him on March 30th, 1613, and was also buried at Eccleshall.

Sir John's eldest son, Thomas, who had died in 1640, had married Bridget, daughter of Sir William Stafford of Blatherwick, Northampton, and left four daughters, and a son and heir, John.

In Eccleshall Church there existed at one time a tablet to the memory of Bridget Peshall, wife of Thomas Peshall. This had on it the arms of this lady in lozenge form as illustrated above, with the Peshall quarterly of six on one side and her own family arms on the other. There still exists in the Chancel a large Prayer Book, printed in the reign of James II., which has the following inscription on the title page: 'Gift of Bridget and Anne Pershall, 1686.' These two are Bridget, the wife of Sir Thomas Pershall, and their daughter, Anne. Also, included in a 'Catalogue of Benefactors to this Church,' hung up in the Vestry, is the following: 'Sir John Pershall of Horseley, Bart. being thereunto moved by Thomas Pershall, Esq., his father before his death, gave by deed pasturage for 16 cows for 16 poor householders of the Township of Eccleshall, yearly for ever.'

Their son, John, born Sept. 30th, 1628, succeeded to the

THE BOOK OF COMMON  
PRAYER, AND Administration of the  
Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies  
of the Church of England with the Psalter or Psalms of  
DAVID.



Printed and Sold by James Gower, Oxford. In the City of London, at the Sign of the Sun in St. Dunstons Church Lane.

*The Gift of Bridget & Ann Pershall*

1686

PRAYER BOOK PRESENTED TO ECCLESHALL CHURCH  
BY BRIDGET & ANN PERSHALL. 1686



estates of his grandfather in 1646, and was knighted. He married Frances, daughter of Col. Thomas Leigh, of Adlington, Chester, Sheriff of Cheshire in the time of Charles I., and had three sons and four daughters. The Eccleshall Parish Register records the burial on March 13th, 1662, of 'Robert Wilcoke, saruant to Sir John Peareshall.'

In 1650 a warrant was issued to commit Sir John Pershall, Bart., as prisoner to the Tower for holding correspondence with enemies of the Commonwealth, and the following entries occur in the *Calendar of State (Domestic) Papers* for the same year: 'Proceedings of the Council of State, May 13th, 1650. To write Col. Sanders to cause Sir John Pershall to be kept in safe custody until further order.

'May 14. To write Col. Sanders to send up Sir Robert Sherley, Bart., Sir John Pershall, Bart., and Mr. Offley, Sheriff of Staffs. in safe custody to answer what is objected against them on behalf of the Commonwealth.

'May 27. Warrant to be issued to commit Sir Robert Sherley, Bart., Sir John Pershall, Bart. and John Offley, High Sheriff of the County of Stafford, prisoners to the Tower for holding correspondence with the enemies of this Commonwealth.

'May 31. Lady Pershall and Mrs. Offley to have a maid each allowed to continue with them in the Tower.

'May 31. Eleven horses which belonged to Mr. Offley, the High Sheriff, Sir Robert Sherley and Sir John Pershall to be committed to Mr. Serjeant, who is to have them appraised and then put in Hyde Park to graze until something shall be determined concerning the delinquency of the owners.'

On June 3rd, a Warrant was issued from the Council of State to the Lieutenant of the Tower, to bring Sir Robert Sherley, Bart., Sir John Pershall, Bart., and Mr. Offley before the Council on Tuesday, June 4th; and on June 15th, Sir Robert Sherley, Sir John Pershall, and Mr. Offley were remanded to the Tower, but were to be allowed the liberty

of the Tower until further order. A warrant was issued on June 23rd 'to write the sequestrators of Staffordshire to forbear cutting down timber in Sir John Pershall's woods,' and on Sept. 19th it was ordered that Sir John Pershall was to have the liberty of the Tower. Finally, we find among the List of Recognizances to the Council of State one dated Oct. 2nd, 1650, showing that Sir John had regained his liberty, which reads as follows: 'Sir John Pershall, Bart. Sum £2,000, No. of Sureties 2, Sum each £1,000, Condition, Appearance when required and good behaviour.'

In 1679, according to Chetwynd, Sir John was in possession of Horsely, and built a stone mansion at Suggenhall. Again in Erdeswick's writings, dated 1696, it is stated that 'Sir John Pershall has now an estate here (Sugnall) of at least £1500 per annum and his son is married to the Lord Chesterfield's daughter.' This was his eldest son, Thomas.

The following extract from the *London Gazette*, No. 3352, Dec. 23 to Dec. 27, 1679, transcribed in Dr. Burney's MSS. at the Salt Library, shows that the family occupied an important position in the County of Stafford at this time:—

'An humble address of the Town & Liberties of Eccleshall in the County of Stafford, signed by the Bishop of Litchfield and Coventry (who resides there) and by Sir Thomas Pershall and Sir Brian Broughton, Bart., and all the rest of the gentlemen and sufficient Freeholders and Householders in the neighbourhood, was presented to his Majesty by John Pershall, Esq., introduced by the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Albemarle.'

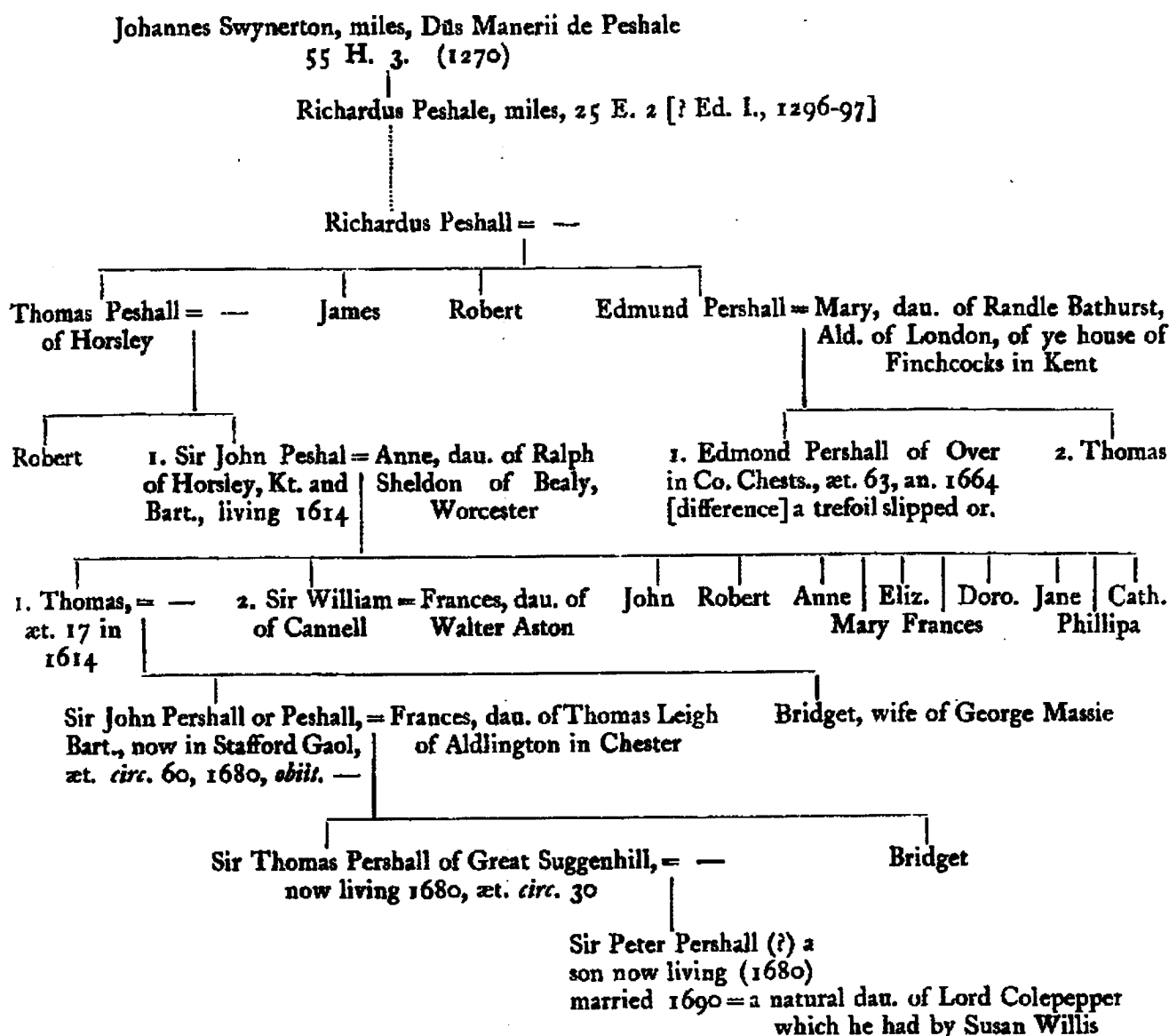
This Sir Thomas Pershall, was Thomas, the eldest son of Sir John, and the John Pershall who presented the address will have been his second son, whose baptism is recorded in the Eccleshall Parish Register as follows: 'John, s. of Sir John Peshall, Bart., bap. at Horsely Hall, July 18th, 1649.' The Eccleshall Parish Register records his burial in 1706,

# SIR JOHN PERSHALL

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PEDIGREE OF THE PESHALL FAMILY FROM  
MSS. 'STAFFORDSHIRE PEDIGREES,' 1664-1700, IN HARLEIAN COLLECTION

[Harleian Society's Publications 'Staff. Pedigrees,' 1669-1700, p. 186]



and further the birth in 1691 of Thomas, son of John Pershall of Sugnall. Sir John had a third son, Ralph, married to one Mary Poole.

The Hall at Horsely was burnt down in the time of Sir John; and, writing of Suggenhall, Walter Chetwynd in 1679, says, 'Suggenhall passed to the Peshalls in the time of Edward III. Thomas Peshall left it to John Pershall, who was made a Baronet and built a stone mansion, residence in 1679 of Thomas Peshall, son and heir of Sir John Peshall, Bart.<sup>1</sup> In 1686, Robert Plot writes in his *Staffordshire* (Chap. IX. p. 358): 'The seats of the right worshipful Sir Walter Wrottesley, at Wrottesley and Purton, of Sir John Pershall of Great Sugnall, Baronet, and divers others, doe all likewise show a great deal of present or past magnificence.' The accompanying map on page iii, dated 1682, shows the manor house of the Pershalls at Great Sugnall, and gives the Pershall Arms. The village of Pershall, spelt Persall, is indicated, but no manor house is shown there. A manor house is shown at Blorepipe, with no indication of its owner, and another at Knightley. A manor house at Horsely is given as being in the possession of the Giffard family, and that at Knighton in the possession of the Justice family. In 1696, Erdeswick refers to 'Sugnall, the chief seat of Sir Thomas Pershall, *alias* Peshall, Bart.'

Sir John died at Sugnall in 1701, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas. The latter was knighted, and is recorded in contemporary manuscripts as Sir Thomas Pershall, J.P. He married a Miss Medcalf, daughter of Lord Chesterfield, by whom he had a daughter, Anne, and a son, John, who died before him in 1706, leaving two daughters. This John was married in 1690 at the age of 21 to Charlotte, a daughter

<sup>1</sup> Sugnall; Domesday, Sotehelle; 12th century, Sogenhull, frequently; 13th century, Sugginille, Sugginhull, Sogenhull, Suggenhale. The Danish scribe has blundered. Sucga was an Anglo-Saxon p.n. (sometimes written Suga), and I read this as Sucga's Hill. The A.S. form would be Sugcanhyll, which accounts for the existing 'n.' Sucga means a bird. [From *Notes on Staffordshire Place Names*, by W. H. Duigan, 1902.]

of Lord Culpepper<sup>1</sup> at St. Edmund the King, London, and was M.P. for Newcastle-under-Lyne, 1701-02. In the marriage record he is given as John Peshall, but elsewhere is recorded as John Pershall, J.P.

In the *State Papers (Domestic)*, for the reign of King William and Mary, is the following :—

‘Case of John Peshall, Esq., and Charlotte, his wife, one of the natural daughters of the Right Hon. Thomas, late Lord Culpeper.

‘The said Lord Culpeper being seized in fee of diverse manners and hereditaments within this kingdom of a very great value, did, upon the third and fourth of October 1688 buy, lease and release, settle all his real estate upon the Hon. Sir John Trevor and others, their heirs, to the safe uses and trusts therein contained ; and in particular by the said settlement did convey a Mannor of Thoresway in the County of Lincolne, and several other lands to William Potte and William Roberts, gentlemen, for the term of 200 years, in trust and to the intent by mortgage, sale, or otherwise, to raise the summe of £3000 to be paid to Charlotte, Mr. Peshall’s now wife at her age of 21 years, or day of marriage, which should first happen : and also that the payment of £120 per annum for her maintenance from the time of his death to the respective days aforesaid ; and by the said settlement conveys the inheritance of all the said land charged as aforesaid to his daughter Katherine, now the wife of the Lord Fairfax and her heirs for ever.

‘That some short time after he made his last will and testament, all writ with his own hand, and hath been since proved and affirmed in a Court of Delegates and by the same confirms the Trust in the said settlement in every particular relating to his daughter Charlotte : and as a further testimony

<sup>1</sup> This Thomas, Lord Culpepper, was Governor of the Colony of Virginia in 1679 and 1683, and acquired much land there, which in 1689 went to his daughter, Katherine, mentioned later in the petition of John Peshall (see *History of Virginia*, by Beverly, 1722, p. 76, and *British Empire in America*, vol. i. p. 393).

of his affection to her, devises £80 per annum to her, to be paid for 8 years out of a pension of £600 per annum granted to him for 21 years by the late King Charles the Second and makes his daughter Katherine, now the Lady Fairfax, his sole Executrix, as by the seal and in Jan. 1689 departed this life.

‘That after the death of the said Lord Culpeper, the Lady Fairfax entered into all the real estate and possessed herself of the personal estate and particularly of the £600 per annum, so charged with the respective payments and sums aforesaid: and she and the Lord Fairfax in her right have received the whole profits ever since, but paid no part of the said £3000, the £120 or £80 per annum, though the whole £600 hath been paid constantly and received by them.

‘That in May 1690, Mr. Peshall in consideration of the portion and provisions aforesaid and the affection he had for her, married the said Charlotte, and has had several children by her: and his father Sir Thomas Peshall being seized of very considerable estate would have settled the same upon Mr. Peshall, his wife and children, whenever her portion should have been paid, or secured and is still willing to do the same, but till then will neither settle his estate or give Mr. Peshall any settled maintenance to support him or his family.

‘That the Lord Fairfax, and his Lady, are accomptable for the profits of the land charged with the portion and payments aforesaid, and receives the said £600 per annum pension money in right of his wife, as executrix to her father.

‘That by their entry and receipt of the profits of the real and personal estate, they have made themselves trustees for Mr. Peshall and his wife and as such must account whenever the Lord Fairfax shall be obliged to waive his privilege.

‘That the grant for 21 years of the pension of £600 per annum expires within a year, and in case the said Lord Fairfax happen to dye, all the money received by him out

of that fund and due to Mr. Peshall will be lost, it being merely personal and not charged upon the land and that there is now due from the Lord Fairfax and his wife on the aforesaid accompts to Mr. Peshall above the sum of £5000.

‘Therefore it is hoped that he shall be ordered to waive his privilege.’

Sir Thomas Pershall died at Sugnal in 1712. His wife died at Great Sugnal and was buried Nov. 29th, 1705. On the death of Sir Thomas Pershall in 1712 the baronetcy became extinct.

Arabella and Frances, the two daughters of his son, John Peshall, shared the estates. Horsely and Pershall passed to Arabella, who married, in 1730, Lord Glenorchie, third Earl of Breadalbane. In *Fogs' Weekly Journal*, July 4th, 1730, the following appears: ‘Marriage: The Lord Glenochy, son and heir of the Right Hon. Earl of Breadalbane, to Miss Pershall, granddaughter to Sir Thomas Pershall of Stafford.’<sup>1</sup>

In vol. ii. of a *Complete Peerage of England*, edited by G. E. C., included in vol. iv., New Series, of the *Genealogist*, we find that ‘John (Campbell), Earl of Breadalbane, born 1695, was Minister to Copenhagen in 1720, became “Lord Glenorchy” in 1725, was Minister to St. Petersburg in 1731, and married (secondly) on Jan. 23, 1730, Arabella, third daughter and coheir of John Pershall, son and heir apparent of Sir Thomas Pershall, Bart., by Charlotte daughter of Thomas, Lord Colepepper. This Arabella died at Bath on Sept. 1st 1762 in her 60th year. Lord Glenorchy died on Jan. 26th 1782 in his 86th year at the Abbey of Holyroodhouse.’

Arabella’s son, Lord Glenorchy, sold Great Sugnal for £30,000 in 1770 with the co-operation of his father.

The burial of a Mrs. Anne Pershall of Sugnal, the wife of either John or Thomas Pershall of Sugnal, is recorded in the Eccleshall Parish Register for 1732.

<sup>1</sup> Burney’s MSS., *Staff Hist. Coll.*, Salt Library. Also Eccleshall Parish Register, 1730.

Shaw's *Staffordshire*, published in 1798, contains a map of the same date which gives the hamlet of 'Pershall,' the spelling being the same as now. Sugnall Hall is also shown, but it is uncertain as to whom it passed on the death of Lord Glenorchy in 1782. On page 84 of Shaw's *Staffordshire* is a transcript of a document dated 1715 which mentions a Mr. Robert Underhill of Pershall, so that it would appear that this was the correct spelling of the name and not Persall, as given in Plot's *Staffordshire*.