



THE VALE ROYAL OF ENGLAND.

This County Palatine of Chester, which in our common speech is called Chester shire, and by corruption, more short, Cheshire, lyeth on the North West corner of the Countrey, which was sometime under the Government of the Kings of Marcia : Whose people were called by the Romans Devani, that is, bordering on the River Dee. The proportion thereof is almost three-cornered, or rather like to the Wing of an Eagle, being stretched forth at length. The longest length thereof, is from the Wood-Head in the East, where the River of Mersey (Mersey) springeth, unto the furthest part of Werall (Wrrall) in the West, (where the said River falleth into the Sea) which I find to be about 44 miles, following the course of the River.

By Natural Scituation, it lyeth low, nevertheless very pleasant, and abounding in plenteousness of all things needful and necessary for man's use ; insomuch that it merited and had the Name of The Vale-Royal of England : Which Name, Edward I. gave unto the Abbey of Vale Royal, which he founded upon the River of Weaver

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(Weaver) in the midst of the same Shire. The ayr is very wholesome, insomuch that the people of the countrey are seldom infected with Diseases or Sicknesse, neither do they use the help of the Physicians, nothing so much, as in other countries : For when any of them are sick, they make him a posset, and tye a kerchieff on his head ; and if that will not amend him then God be merciful to him ! The people there live till they be very old ; some are Grandfathers, their Fathers yet living ; and some are Grandfathers before they be married.

The county, albeit in most places plat and even, yet hath certain Hills of Name, as Frodsham and Peckforton Hills, Congleton Edge, &c. It aboundeth also in Pasture, Meadow, and Wood-land, and Waters in great store, of which more hereafter.

The Heaths or Mosses are common, out of which they dig turves in Summer, every man as shall serve his turn, to burn all the year. Moreover, in these Mosses are Fir-

trees found under the ground (a thing marvellous,) iit some places Six foot deep, or more ; which trees are of a marvellous length, and straight, having branches, and roots at the end, like as they had been blown down with Weather ; and yet no man can tell that ever any such trees did grow there, nor yet how they should come thither. Some hold opinion that they have lain there ever since Noah's Flood.

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The Pasture Ground is reserved, especially, for their Kine, from whose milk they make great store both of Butter and Cheese : In praise whereof, I need not to say much, it being well known that no Countrey in the Eealm may compare therewith, nor yet beyond the Seas; no, not even Holland. Their Oxen are very large, and big of bone, with fair and long horns ; so that a man shall find divers, whose horns at the tops are more than three foot asunder, one from another. Of Sheep, Horses, &c, they keep but so many as to serve their turn : There is also great plenty of Hares and Foxes, in hunting whereof, the Gentlemen do pass much of their time, especially in Winter. Wild Fowl aboundeth there in such store, as in no other Countrey have I seen the like ; namely Wild Geese and Wild Ducks ; of which a man shall see sometimes flying, near 200 in one flock.

The Soyl of the Countrey is, in most places, Clay, with here and there veins of Sand : Likewise Rocks and Quarries of Stone. And to make an end, I must not forget the chiefest thing of all, and that is, the Salt-wells, or Brine-pits, out of the which they make yearly a great quantity of fine white Salt ; a singular commodity, no doubt, wherein this Shire excelleth all other Countries at home, as well as beyond the Seas ; one being at Nantwich, another at Northwich, and two at Mddle-ivich ; of the which Towns, more hereafter.

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The people of the Countrey are of nature very gentle and courteous, ready to help and further one another : In Religion very zealous, howbeit somewhat addicted to Superstition : Otherwise, they are of the stomach, stout, bold, and hardy ; withal impatient of wrong, and ready to resist the Emery or Stranger that shall invade their Countrey : So have they been always true, faithful and obedient to their Superiors ; insomuch that it cannot be said that they have at any time stirred one spark of Rebellion, either against the King's Majesty, or against their own peculiar Lord or Governour. Likewise be the women very friendly and loving, in all kind of Houswifery expert, fruitful in bearing of Children, after they be married, and sometimes before. To conclude : — Touching their Housekeeping, it is bountiful as any

Shire in the Realm; and I know divers men, which are but Farmers, that may compare therein with a Lord or Baron in some countreys beyond the Seas.

HERE FOLLOWETH THE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION.

A Description of the City and County Palatine of Chester; Compiled by Mr. Webb, M.A., and sometimes (1615) Under-Sheriff to Sir Richard Lee,* of Lee and Darnhall, in Cheshire.

The County Palatine of Chester is one of those Shires once inhabited by the people called Cornavii. —albeit the

* Kuyghted at Whitehall. Jan. 10th, 1010.

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Name was antiently, by the Saxons, called Cestrescyre, vulgarly Cheshire. It is bounded on the North, partly, with a Creek, shooting in between Lancashire, and Wrrall Hundred, a part of Cheshire; which Creek is called Mersey; and partly with the River of that name; and upon the East is bounded by a River, whose name I find to be Erioin (Irwell) Brook; the same bounds then declining to the South-East, between this and Staffordshire, till it comes to the South, on which side lie a part of Shropshire, and of Flintshire; from which, turning South-West, lies a piece of Derbyshire, parted from this by the River of Dee; and directly West is bounded again by Flintshire, and by the Sea itself.

The whole Shire is divided into Hundreds, of the which there are seven, viz: Broxton, Narmptwich, Northwich, Maxfield (Macclesfield,) Bucklow, Eddisbury, and Wrrall. I place the Hundred of Broxton to be first, because it borders upon the City of Chester; To which I hasten with all speed I can, which as it is the chief place, head, ornament, beauty, and dignity of the whole County Palatine is fit to have preeminence in our Description.

Broxton Hundred, lying in a wedge-like form is in length about 20 miles, and in its greatest breadth 8 or 9 miles. At one end thereof is Coughall, an antient De-mean of the Massies of Puddington, in Wrrall Hun-

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..lied, and now Sir William Massie's, and scituate upon a lliiver or Brook, which, dividing these Hundreds, falleth into Mersey: upon which Brook, from Coughall towards Chester, lies the Lop of Werwin, as also Picton, the Lands of John Hurlstone, Esq.-* next cometh Mbston,\

with the Township of Upton also ; to which adjoineeth,
upon the Confines of the Liberties of the City of Chester,
a sweet and pleasant demean, called the Baits, but more
vulgarly the Bache, which was once the Seat of the
Chauntrells. And thus am I quickly arrived at the City
of Chester itself.

A DESCRIPTION OF CHESTER, THE NAMES AND FOUNDATION THEREOF.

Although for my part, I see not any but very weak
grounds for their conjectures, who would bring our City
of Chester's foundation from beyond all possibility of
Records ; yet I will not prejudicate any in their surmizes,

* His descendant ; J. H. Leche, Esq. of Carden, is the pre-
sent owner.

f This manor now belongs to W Massey, Esq. whose father
purchased it in 1/90 from the representatives of H. Bennett, Esq.

% This estate has lately passed into the hands of H. Hill, Esq.

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nor defraud them of the praises that any shall think good
to bestow upon those who have laboured in Collections of
that kind : and so, as follows : —

The first Name, that I find this City is supposed to
have born, was Neomagus ; and this they derive from
Magus, the son of Samoths, the son of Japhet, which
Magus was the first planter of Inhabitants in this Isle-
after Noah's Flood, and first builded a City even in this
place, or neer unto it, as it is supposed. This conjecture
I find observed out of the learned Knight, Sir Thomas
Elliott, who saith directly, in the First Vol. of his
" Chronicles," that Neomagus stood where Chester now
standeth.

Ranulphus, a Monk of Chester, hath another founda-
tion (in a rude fashion) from a Gyant, forsooth, called
Leon Gaure, the vanquisher of the Picts ; and saith that
afterward Leir, King of Brittain, brought the City to a
more pleasant fashion of building, and then named it
Quer Leir.* Touching which foundation, I do by so-
much less, give approbation, by how much he thinks
that opinion of Mr. Camden most probable, drawn from
the antient Brittain Language, of whom it hath been
called Caerlegion, Caerleon-vaur, &c. ; Which names
are derived from that Legion of the Romans, called Vi-
cessima Victrix, first placed here in the second Consul-

* or Gaure Leon.

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ship of Galba. Thus by whom or howsoever the same City had her first Foundation, it is manifest enough, that it is exceedingly antient ; and even the doubtful ness thereof makes it of undoubted antiquity.

The names thereof, indeed, have been variable, and diverse ; but I hold most authentical that, which the Saxons took from Castra, which in Latin signifieth Castles or Camps ; from which many other cities and towns also derive a part of their name. But this our City, being the first City, made famous by that renowned Legion aforementioned, was more properly or especially called Cester, or Chester, being indeed an abbreviation of Lecjestreria, the City of the Legion.

The scituation of the City is so commendable, as to make Lucian, a Monk, that lived neer the time of the Normans' Conquest, to write thus : " Chester is built as a city, the sight whereof inviteth and allureth the eye ; and was, in times past, a place of receipt to the Legions, and served sufficiently to keep the keys, as I may say, of Ireland, for the Romans to preserve the limits of their Empire. "

We find that the same City hath had many variable changes, sometimes in flourishing, and other whiles in depressed condition ; the truth whereof will be manifested in the history of its Walls. These aforesaid Walls were first built by Marius, King of Brittain, who reigned

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about A. D. 73. But Edelfieda, that Noble Mercian Lady, about the year 908, greatly repaired and enlarged this City, making the Walls thereof anew, and compassing in the Castle, which before that time stood without the Walls : All which that religious Monk, Henry Bradshav, thus expresseth :

" King Marius, a Brittain, raining in prosperity
 " In the West part of this noble Region,
 " Amplified and walled strongly Chester City,
 " And mightily fortified the said foundation. —***
 " The Year of Our Lord, Nine hundred and eight,
 " This Edelfieda, Dut chess, with mickle royalty
 " Reedified Chester, and fortified it full right ;
 " Also, she enlarged this old City
 " With new mighty Walls strong all about ;
 " Almost by proportion double in quantity,
 " To the further building brought without doubt,
 " She compassed in Castle — enemy to hold out,
 " Within the said Walls, to defend the Town
 " Against Dane and Welshmen, to drive them all
 down. "

To this, let me now add, from the Doomesday Book of

William the Conquerour, that "The Earles of the Norman's Line fortified the City both with Walls and Castle." And afterwards, when the King himself, in person, came thither, " for the re-edification of the Wall and the

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Bridge," an edict was issued, " That out of every Hide in the County, one man should come ; and look, whose man came not, his Lord and Master was fined 40s., to the King, and the Earl."

In Hollinshead's Chronicle, it is recorded, that " the Irishmen did make their appearances, and did homage unto King Arthur at Caerlegion, now called Chester ;" about which time, saith Fox, this City was a place of great account ; and both Grammar and Philosophic, with the Tongues, were there taught.

What we find in Mr. Harding's old Chronicle, is not to be omitted, concerning a Parliament, with Coronation of some kings, which set forth the dignity of this place ; the which take in his own words :

" In the same year 603* of Christ's Incarnation
 "The Brittaines all did set their Parliament
 "At Caerleon, by good information,
 " Caerlegion Chester hight, as some men meant
 " That Westchester is come of intent,

"Where they did chuse Cadwan to be their King

" To defend them from the foes warring.

And afterwards, there is likewise mentioned the crowning,

A. D. 626, of the famous Cadwal, (son of the said King

Cadwan,) at this city, who reigned over the Brittaines 61

*Or, which is more likely, A. D 613., Cadwan having reigned 13 years.

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years after the death of Cadwan. And this Chronicle saith also, that King Ethelwulf was crowned at Westchester, in the year 839, in most royal manner, and reigned 19 years.

In Polychronicon, as well as in almost all the Writers concerning the Dignity of Chester, the memory of King Edgar's pompous show he made at Chester, in the 12th year of his Reign,* is specially recorded, when, coming thither after his Conquest of North Wales, caused his Barge to be rowed by eight Kings upon the River Dee,

himself sitting at the helm

Geraldus Cambrensis writeth, that Chester, about the time of the Conquest, was esteemed a place of great strength and refuge; insomuch as, Harold the King, having received many wounds, and lost his left eye by stroke of an arrow, in the Battail with William the Conquerour, he fled from the field, and went to Chester, where some say he lived many years, after an holy life, as an Anchorite in the Cel of St. James, neer to St. John's Church, and there ended his dayes: And Polychronicon adds thereto, that when the death of King Harold was known to Edwin and Mercarius, -f- Earls of

+ A. D. 9/1. Ralph Higden adds, that Edgar was thus rowed by his subordinate princes, in proof of their fealty, from his palace on the Dee to St. John's Church.

| Otherwise Mrcar, who with Edwin, were brothers of Queeu Agatha, (or Algetha.)

Mercia and Northumberland, they took Agatha, Harold's, wife, and sent her to Chester for her greater safety and security; yet this History be indeed doubted by some other writers.

Caxton in his Chronicle of the Rai gn of Henry I., relateth that Henry the IV., Emperour of Almaine, married Maud, the King's Daughter of England; and that after a wilful exile, He and his Wfe both died, and were buried at Chester: while Gerald in his Itinerario Wallace, saith, that having prisoned his carnal Father, and his spiritual Father, the Pope, with his Cardinals, he afterwards was reconciled, and wilfully exiled, leaving Maud his Wfe, and lived a Hermit's life at Chester ten years; and that afterwards at his death he confessed himself to be that same Henry, the Fourth Emperour of Almaine; which Fame ran abroad, filling not only Chester, but the Countries also beyond the Seas.

Many the like Notes to these do offer themselves, but these I will refer to be spoken of in their proper places, where opportunity may offer. And now I will describe the City itself, as it is at this day in our view:

The City of Chester is inclosed with a fair stone wall, high and strong built, with fair Battlements on all the four sides, and with the four Gates, opening to the four Wnds; besides some posterns, and many seemly Towers in and upon the said Walls. The four Gates are, the

[?w EASTGATE, CHESTER, Takrn, down i/v] 706.

East-gate, the North-gate, the Water-gate, and the Bridge-gate. Without the first two of these Gates, the City extendeth herself in her Suburbs, with very fine Streets, and the same adorned with goodly Buildings, both of Gentlemen's Houses, and fair Inns for entertainment of all resorts. And the Bridge-gate opening, on the South, into an antient part of the City, beyond the water, over the Bridge—a part which some suppose was once the City itself, now called Hand-bridge. And the Water-gate only leading forth to the side of the River Dee; which River, even there, falls into the mouth of the Sea, having first as it were turned itself aside, to leave a fine spacious piece of ground of great pleasure and delight, called the Rood-Eye, a very delightfull Meadow used for a cow pasture in the summer, and all the year for a wholesome and pleasant walk by the side of the Dee; and for Recreations of Shooting, Bowling, and such other Exercises, as are performed at certain times by men; and by running Horses, in presence and view of the Maior of the City, and his Brethren, with such other Lords, Knights, Ladies and Gentlemen, as please at those times to accompany them for that view.

That which we may call the chiefest passage into that City, is the East-gate,* a goodly great Gate, of an

*This Gate, which is believed to have supplanted the original Roman archway during the reign of Edward III., was taken down

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antient fair building, with a Tower upon it, containing many fair rooms within it: At which, we begin the circuit of the Wall, which from that Gate, Northward, extendeth to a Tower* upon the angle of the said Wall. The North-gate † is of a remarkable strong fair building, and used for the Prison of the City, in the charge and keeping of the Sheriffs successively from year to year, which Prison hath always one sufficient well-reputed Gaoler, to take charge of all such prisoners as shall be thither brought. From the North-gate, still Westward, the Wall extendeth to another Tower; and from thence to the turning of the Wall, Southwards, where standeth another fine Turret, called

in 1767, when portions of the old Roman structure, consisting of two double circular arches, together with some rude remants of sculpture were there discovered. The present Gate was erected in 1768, at the sole charge of Richard, first Marquis of Westminster.

*The Phoenix, or as it was sometime called, Newton Tower; from the roof of which, in 1645, just 30 years after the writing of this History, that truly unfortunate Monarch, Charles the First, was a sad spectator of the defeat of his forces on Rowton Heath.

†The structure here spoken of was removed in 1808, and the prisoners removed to a new Gaol, erected near the Water-gate. Upon its site, the present Gate was erected, by the aforesaid Marquis of Westminster.

J The Goblin's Tower, now known as Pemberton's Parlour, partially taken down in 1702.

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the New Tower, * and was pitcht within the channel of Dee Water, where was at one time the Key, whereunto Vessels of great burdens as well of merchandise as others, came close up.

From the New Tower, the Wall goeth South to the Water-gate j-j- which Gate is less than any of the other three, serving only for the passage to the Roodeye, formerly mentioned; and still South reacheth the Wall in a straight line, before it hath gotten beyond the Castle, and then turns itself towards the East.

From that turning, is the Bridge-gate, J scituate at the North End of a very fine and strong stone bridge. This Bridge-gate being a fair strong building of itself, hath of late been more beautified by a seemly Waterwork of Stone, built steeplewise, by the ingenious industry and charge of a late worthy member of the City, John Tyrer, Gent., and hath served ever since to great use, for the conveying of the River water from the cestern in

* Now styled the Water Tower, an ancient maritime fortress, built in 1322, and still existing in much of its former glory; it has been lately converted into the Museum of the Mechanics' Institution, and become a place of great resort to strangers.

f The Gate here mentioned, which was a narrow, inconvenient structure, gave way in 1788-9, to the present handsome archway, the murengers of the city providing the funds for its erection.

J Taken down in 1781, and the present Gateway substituted the following year, at the City's cost.

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the top of that work, to the Citizens' houses, in almost all parts of the City, in pipes of lead and wood, to their no small contentment and commodity,

The Wall there continueth along the River side Eastward to another remainder of a Turret, and then turneth itself Northward; and certain paces from thence, is a Postern, of old called Woolfield-gate,* but of latter times named Newgate, which in A. D. 1600, was augmented and adorned with a fair building; and from this gate, our Wall, having another Turret now unto it, called Wall Tower, -\ stretcheth still along, till it meeteth with the East-gate, at which it began.

This Wall is so fairly built, with Battlements on the outward part, and with a footpace, or floor, a yard or more

under the Notch of the Battlement, that with the help of some stairs, you may go round about the Walls, being a very delectable Walk, feeding the eye, on the one side, with the sweet Gardens, and fine Buildings of the City; and on the other side, with a Prospect of many miles into the County of Chester, into Wales, and into the Sea. § And this Wall, although it serveth not so much

• In some records, called also Pepper-gate, with which name several traditions are associated.

f Now almost obliterated.

§ The rapacity of modern adventurers hath now almost banished the sea from the neighbourhood of the old City.

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in these dayes, for defence and safety, against the Invasions of Enemies, and dangers of Siege, as in antient times it did; yet have the Citizens here, by continual care, and no small charge, maintained the same in sound and good Reparations for the ornament, credit, and estimation of the City.*

Upon the South-side of the City, neer unto the said water of Dee, and upon a high rock, is mounted a strong and stately Castle, round in form; the Base Court likewise enclosed with a circular wall, which to this day, retaineth one testimony of the Romans' magnificence, having therein a fair and antient square Tower, which, by the testimony of all the writers I have hitherto met withall, beareth the name of Julius Cesar's Tower; + besides which there is a goodly Hall, where the Court of Common Pleas, and also the Sheriffs of the County's Court, with other businesses for the County of Chester are constantly kept and holden, and is a place, for that purpose, of such state and comeliness, as is hardly

• The value of this pious precaution was well developed, a few years afterwards, in the long and arduous Siege endured by the Citizens on behalf of their King, in 1545-6.

f Still perfect; the lower portion is now occupied as a Magazine, The upper chamber has a vaulted and groined stone roof, and was at one time a Chapel, as appears by the Tax Book of Henry VIII.

X Usually styled Hugh Lupus's Hall. Taken down in 1790, together with the Exchequer Court (where the Earls held their

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equalled by any Shire Hall, in any of the Shires in England. And next to the said Hall is another convenient Hall, where is holden the Princes Highness' most honorable Court of Exchequer. Within the precincts of the

Castle, is also the King's Prison for the County, with a deep Draw-well of water, in the midst of the Court ; besides much of the antient Building, for want of use, fallen to ruine and decay. And I find that the Castle, with the precincts thereof, were reserved out of the Charter of King Henry VII., by the which the City was made a County of itself; and accordingly, hath ever since been used for the King's Majesties' service of the County of Chester, and esteemed a part thereof, and not of the County of the City. And now to step from thence into the City itself.

The Streets, for the most part, are very fair and beautiful, and the buildings on either side of seemly proportion ; and for a singular property or praise to this City, (whereof I know not the like of any other,) though there be towards the street fair rooms, for shops and dwelling houses, yet the principal dwelling houses and shops are mounted a story higher, and before the Doors a continued Kowe on either side the street, for people to pass to and fro all along the said houses, out of all annoyance of

Parliaments) to make room for the present magnificent County Hall, Gaol, and Barracks.

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REFERENCES TO THE PLAN OF CHESTER

DURING THE SIEGE.

1. Pemberton's Parlour.
27. The Justing Croft.
2. Abbey Gate,
28. Kal eyard Gate.
3. Bars Gate.
29. Mbr gan's Mbunt.

4. Bridge Gate.

30. Mount leading to Stone

5. Bridge Street.

Bridge.

6. Bridget's Church.

31. St. Mary's Church.

7. Cathedral.

32. St. Michael's Church.

8. Castle.

33. St. Martin's Church.

9. Cow Lane.

34. Northgate.

10. Cow Lane Turnpike.

35. Newgate.

11. Eastgate.

36. New Tower.

12. Eastgate Street.

37. Northgate Street.

13. Foregate Street.

38. St. Clave's Church.

14. Flankers on the River.

39. Out works on Little Rood-
15. Flankers at Flookersbrook
eye.
16. Flankers at Upper North-
40. Phoenix Tower.
gate Street.
41. Phoenix Mount.
17. Flankers at Stone Bridge.
42. Eed's Mount.
18. Upper Northgate Street.
43. St. Peter's Church.
19. „ „ Turnpike.
44. Raised Platform on Walls.
20. Upper Abbey Gate.
45. Sadler's Tower.
21. Gunmount.
46. Trinity Church.
22. Horn Lane.
47. Dr. Walleys Mount.
23. Horn Lane Mount.
48. Water Tower.

24. „ Fl anker .

49. Wät er gat e.

25. St . John' s Chur ch.

50. Wät er gat e St reet .

26. „ Chur ch Yar d

o. The Wäl l s.

Bat t ery.

REFERENCES TO THE PLAN OF CHESTER

DURI NG THE SI EGE.

1. Pembert on' s Parl our .

27. The Just ing Croft .

2. Abbey Gat e,

28. Kal eyard Gat e.

3. Bar s Gat e.

29. Mbr gan' s Mbunt .

4. Bri dge Gat e.

30. Mbunt l eadi ng t o St one

5. Bri dge St reet .

Bri dge.

6. Bri dget ' s Chur ch.

31. St . Mary' s Chur ch.

7. Cathedral .
32. St . Michael ' s Church .
8. Castle .
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9. Cow Lane .
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eye.
16. Flankers at Upper North-
40. Phoenix Tower .
gate Street .

- 41. Phoenix Mount .
- 17. Flankers at Stone Bridge.
- 42. Reed's Mount .
- 18. Upper Northgate Street .
- 43. St . Peter' s Church.
- 19. „ „ Turnpike.
- 44. Raised Pl at form on Walls .
- 20. Upper Abbey Gate.
- 45. Sadler' s Tower .
- 21. Gunmount .
- 46- Trinity Church.
- 22. Horn Lane.
- 47. Dr. Walle y' s Mount .
- 23. Horn Lane Mount .
- 48. Water Tower .
- 24. „ Flanker .
- 49. Watergate.
- 25. St . John' s Church.
- 50. Watergate Street .
- 26. „ Church Yard
- o. The Walls .

Battery.

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Rain, or other foul weather ; with stairs fairly built, to step down out of those Rows into the open streets ; and the said Rows built over the head, with such of the chambers and rooms, for the most part, as are the best rooms in every of these said houses.

The City is also adorned with many fine and decent Churches ; there being within the Walls eight Parishes, and Parish Churches : St. Oswald's (ox Werburg,) St. Peter's, Trinity, St. Martin's, St. Marie's, St. Clave's, St. Michael's, and St. Bridget's ; and in the Suburbs without the Walls St. John the Baptist, and Little St. John's. All which Churches, as they are of a very antient, so are they of a very comely building, and are so well maintained, that they are so many beautiful ornaments to the City. But here I thus pass by them, and come again to describe the principal streets by name.

The East-gate Street is the fair street, where the City opens itself to your eye, as soon as you enter within the East-gate, and reacheth in a straight line, beautified with Rows, and very fine buildings on both sides, to the High Crosse* at St. Peter's Church.

The North-gate Street beginneth near the upper end of East-gate Street, turning where the Milke market is kept Northward ; which after it hath led you to the Common

* Levelled and defaced by the fanatic zeal of the Parliament-arians, on their obtaining possession of the City in 1546.

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Hall of Pleas, it then spaciously opens itself to a goodly Corn market place, scituate before the fair Gates of the antient and famous Abbey, and now used for the Palace of the Lord Bishop, and fine dwellings of the reverend Dean and Prebend of that Foundation ; from thence narrows itself to the North-gate, on the one side, with fair houses, and on the other with the wall * of the Abbey.

The Bridge-gate Street begins at the Bridge-gate, and ascendeth leisurely from South to North, even up to the High Crosse aforementioned, being in the upper end thereof, for the beauty and scituation, a special part of the comely splendour of the City, and boasteth itself with the shew of four or five of the Churches, Cross-conduit, and greatest Traded Shops, very seemly to all beholders.

The Water-gate Street beginneth at the "Water-gate,

and so in the like straight line, well furnished with buildings, both antient and new, up to the said High Crosse.

The Fore-gate Street reacheth, from the East-gate, directly East, in a fair continued street, to another Gate of stone, called the Bars, -\ without which the liberties

• This wall has of late years been replaced by a row of houses and shops, the Abbey Gate and another, about 80 yards further Northward, alone remaining to denote its former position.

f Condemned as unsafe, and totally removed in 1/70. This Gate, with the outworks, became a prey to the Parliamentarians, in a night surprise, on the 19th September, 1645, and was so held until the City capitulated the following year.

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of the City disperse themselves into the several waves, that give passages into many countries.

The Street without North-gate, is likewise a fair street, giving passage Northward towards the Sea coast. Pepur (Pepper) Street goeth out of the Bridge street by the side of St. Michael's Church, and butteth on the Fishmonger's Lane, to Newgate; which sometime had a hollow grate, with a Bridge for horse and man; and it butteth upon Sowter's Load, and St. John's Street. And this Gate was, in times past, closed up, and shut, because a young man stole away a Maior of Chester's daughter, through the same Gate, as she was playing at Ball with other Maids, in the Summer time, in Pepur Street.*

St. Nicholas Street, an antient neighbour to the Seats of those Friars, black, white, and gray Nuns, is a seemly passage from the Water-gate Street to St. Martin's Church, and so on, by the Nunne's wall to the Castle Lane.

Fleshmonger's Lane (Newgate Street) meets with the East end of Pepur Street, and thence goeth straight up to the East-gate Street; and meet over against it, lyeth another Lane, called St. Werburg Lane, the passage out of the same street to the M nster.

Our antient surveyes describe two other Lanes on the same side of East-gate Street, towards the M nster, one

• With this legend originated the old Chester proverb "When the daughter is flown, shut the Pepurgate J"

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called Peen Lane, and the other Godst all's Lane; * hut the places where they were, are now the soyl of other tenements.

A little without the East-gate, on the South side, turneth down a fair street, called St. John's Street ; of the which I find, in an old written parchent book, called Sancta Prisca, being an Evidence belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Chester, there is mention made of a street called Iremonger Street, in these words : " Inter terram quae fuit A'doe % de Paris, et terram Hospitii Hospitalis Sancti Johannis," tyc. ; and that from that, at the corner of the Mansion-place of the Petty Canons (of St. John's) there is a Lane after the Wall o-f the Churchyard, named the Vicar's Lane, and it butteth upon Barker's and Love Lane ; and at the end of this street, there goeth a Way down to water of Dee, which way is called the Soivter's Load." By this we may see what alterations the times have made both in Streets and Lanes.

The Water-gate Street hath on the North-side, near unto St. Peter's Church, a Lane called Goslane ; and a little further West Gerrard's Lane (Crook Street;) and beneath, just at the end of Trinity Church, lyeth Trinity Lane. An old Lane, sometime called Berward's Street

* Said to have been the retreat of Henry Emperour of Almaine.
 \$ JEdes is possibly here intended.

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(Linen Hall Street), lyeth at the lower end of Parson's Lane, and out of it in antient time went a Lane to St. Chadd's Church, now ruined and gone, and thence to the Walls.

As you descend from the High Crosse down the Bridge Street, upon the West side lyes a Lane, antiently called Norman's Lane, and many yet call it Common Hall Lane, because it had a great Hall, where the Pleas of the City, and meetings of the Maior and his brethren were there holden. Over against St. Clave's, lyeth the Castle Lane, that goeth to St. Marie's Church. And lower down, also towards this Church, lyes another way, which antiently was the way to Shippegate,* which was then a fair Gate in the Wall, belonging to the Ferry, at which, before the building of the bridge over Dee, both horse and man had passage into the City.

Having thus gone through most of the Streets and Lanes, I suppose it will be objected, I should set down somewhat of the Churches, how antiently their foundations are, and how they have continued in these days.

It appeareth from our best Antiquary, Bradshaw, Monk of this City, that the Christian Faith and Baptisme came into Chester in King Lucius' time, a King

* Of Roman construction, standing originally 20 feet high. It was some years since removed from its ancient position, and is now the property of J. Finchett Maddock, Esq., late M.P. for Chester,

of the Brittaines, which is within lesse then 140 years of the sufferings of our Saviour Christ ; and that then a Church was here builded, and at that time entituled by the name of St. Peter and St. Paul. But then after, as appeareth in the same Authour, Elflæda, that noble Lady, wife to Ethelred, King of the Mercians, altered its name to Trinity and St. Osivald ; and that no losse should be to the memory of those Patrons, another Church was soon builded in the roiddest of the City, called by the same name of Peter and Paul, which now is called St. Peter's only.

A DISCOURSE OF THE FOUNDATION AND
ENDOWMENT OF THE ABBIE OF St.
WERBURG S IN CHESTER.

Touching the Original Foundation of a Monastery in this place, I do by circumstance conclude that Wil- pherus, King of the Mercians, who flourished about A. D. 660, perceiving his Daughter Werburge much disposed to a religious life, caused her to be veiled, and first built it for her, and such other pious Ladies, who resolved to dedicate their lives to the service of God therein ; for William of Malmsbury says " That she was buried at Chester, in the Monastery there." Neither doth the

Charter of King Edgar import less, then that the Abbey here was of great antiquity ; for it appears that he, for the health of his soul, as also for the souls of King Edmund his Father, King Athelstan his Uncle, and other his Ancestors, gave to the Ahbey of St. Werburg 17 houses scituate in the Town of Hodesnid (Hodnet), ' Ceosaulæ (Kelshall), Huntingdon, Huxton, Eston (As- ton), and Borne (Barnskaw), whose Charter bears date in the year 868. After which, viz. : in the time of Edward the Confessor, the famous Leofric, Earl of Mercia, not onely enricht it with the Graunt thereto of fair Possessions, but repaired the buildings thereof which inclined to decay.

How long it continued a Monastery of Nuns, I cannot say ; but do conclude that it was so till towards the Norman Conquest ; and then it seems that Canons Secular were placed in their stead, till that Hugh, Earl of Chester (who, being a near Kinsman to King William the First, and advanced to this Earldom about the fourth year of his Reign, when he grew in years, disposed himself to several works of Piety, as his munificence to the Monasteries of Bee, and St. Severus (both in Normandy) do well witness) began the Foundation of a new one for Monks of St. Benet's Order in this place, having pro- cured Anselm Abbot of Bee, to come over into this

Real m chiefly for the ordering of that great work ;

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whi ch being accordi ngly perform ed, one Richard, a Monk of Bee, and Chaplain to the said Ansel m was by him first instituted Abbot here. How large and plentiful an Endowment it had by the munificence of this Earl, and Ermentrude his Countess, I shall here briefly observe from his Original Charter, viz. : the Mannours of Ynes (Ince), Salthone (Saighton), Sutton, Chevel ey, Huntingdon, Bocthon (Boughton), WEVERSHAM Croxton, Trocford (Trafford), Clifton, Eston, Wsdleth (Willaston) Hodslei (Huxley), Weapre, and half of Rabbi (Raby), and the third parts of Weston, Solchale (Saughall), Stannic, Burwardeslie, and Soteivic (Shotwick) ; the half of Leche (Lache), and one Carucate of the Land in Pnlford. In the City of Chester, of his own Derresne, he gave thereunto all the street from the North-gate to the Church, and a Mill at the Bridge. In Anylesie likewise two Mannours ; one in Ros, and one in Wrrall, called Erberie (Ireby). In Lindsey, ten oxgangs, and Weston in Derbyshire ; the Church of Aston, and the Tithes of Elthon, Frodesham, WEVERSHAM Lech, Rocester, JIauridine (Hawarden), Coleshul, Bissopstred, Uppetune (Upton), Campden, Eastham and of his Mills in Deneford. And to this Charter was the said Ansel m (now Archbishop of Canterbury) a Wtnesse, together with Hervey (Bishop of Bangor) and divers eminent persons.

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William Malbanc (one of his Barons) gave the Lordship of Wtteby (Whitby), the third of Weprc, the Church and Tythes of Tatenhalle, a Salthouse in Wch (Nantwich), and two Oxgangs of Land. Likewise gave his other Barons portions of their estates, for the Endowment of the Monastery.

And lastly, the said Earl gave unto them the Toll and all the profits of the Fair at the Feast of St. Werburge, for three dayes, appointing that for all forfeitures in the Fair, Triall should be in the Court of St. Werburge, for the benefit of the Monks. To the honor of which Saint, he likewise granted, that whatsoever Thief or Malefactor came to the Solemyty, should not be attached, while he continued in the said Fair, except he committed any new offence there. Which special Priviledge, as in tract of time it drew an extraordinary confluence of loose people thither at that Season, so happened it to be of singular advantage to one of the succeeding Earles. For being at Rodelent (Rhuddlan) Castle in Wales, and there besieged by a power of the Welsh ; at such a time, he was relieved rather by their numbers than strength, under the conduct of Robert de Lacy, Constable of Ches-

ter, who with Pipers, and other sorts of Mnstrels, drew them forth, and marching towards the Castle, put the Welsh to such terrour, that they presently fled; in memory of which notable exploit, that famous meeting

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of such Mnstrels hath been July continued at every Mdsommer Fair.

But I return to Earl Hugh, the pious Founder of this great Monastery, whose affection thereto was such, and devotion so great towards his latter end, that three dayes before his death he caused himself to be shorn a Monk therein; and so departing the world 6th August, Anno, 1101, left issue Richard', who, succeeding him in the Earldom, not only confirmed his Father's Grant to this Abbey, but added amongst other gifts, certain lands without the North-gate, whereof he gave possession to the Monks; first, by an Ear of Wheat offered upon the Altar; and afterwards by a Knife; further adding the Tenth Salmon taken at the Bridge, with the place for a Mill below the bridge, and other matters; which Charter bears date at Gratram in the year 1119.

Earl Ranulph Meschines, when he translated the body of his Uncle, Earl Hugh, out of the Church Yard into the Chapter House, gave the Lordship of Upton, for the health of his own, and the said Earl's soul. Also gave succeeding Earls various Mannours and other properties; wherewith being so plentifully enricht, about the Reign of King Edward III., they rebuilt their Church, as the form of its Architecture plainly discovereth.

And thus in great glory, as the greatest ornament of that City, stood this opulent Monastery, till the 30th of

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King Henry VIII., his Reign, that all the great Houses went to wrack, and that by a public Instrument the then' Abbot, and his Convent surrendred it to the King; who> thereupon, of the six new Bishopricks then made, constituted one in this place; designing the buildings of the' Abbey for the Bishop's Palace, and the Conventual Church for his Cathedrall, wherein were instituted a Dean and secular Canons.*

The said St. Werburg, of whom this Mnster had the name, was a virgin and a great Princesse, daughter of Wulpherus, King of Mercia; and was so vertuously disposed, that she cared for no worldly honours, but gave herself to godly and holy contemplations, and had command in her lifetime over four Monasteries, namely Wedon, Trentham, Repton, and Harbury. In her tender age she was professed under Audria, -\ her aunt,

at Ely; she lived much at Weedon, deceased at Trentham in 708, and was first buried at Harbury; thence translated, after remaining there above 100 years, in 875, to Chester, for fear of the spoiles and outrages of the Danes, her Shrine being placed in the mother Church of St. Peter and Paul, now the Church of St. Werburg onely.

+ The deposed Abbot, Thomas Clarke, was appointed the first* Dean.

f Otherwise Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely.

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The whole body of the Minster, as now we find it, makes the form of a Crosse, the steeple being in the middle juncture, as likewise we see in the great Church of St. Paul's in London. In the furthest end of the same Eastward, it is enlarged into a fine square Chappell, called by the name Our Ladle's Chappell, adorned with a fair Window of very curious workmanship in glasse, being the story of the blessed Virgin her descent from the Loines of Jesse,* though now, through injury of Time and Weather, the same is much blemished. The Chappell itself long since converted into the Consistory Court of the Lord Bishop; which that it was so in the dayes of Queen Mary, the proof is yet in the memories of some, because in that place Doctor George Coates, then Bishop of Chester, gave sentence of condemnation against George Marsh, a blessed Martyr and Sufferer for Christ's truth, and burned to ashes -j- in Chester, A. D. 1555.

The Quire itself is most finely beautified, with a very deep and tuneable Organ; and on either side with very fine Seats or Stalls, for the Reverend Dean, Prebends, Queristers, and others, and adorned with fair and curious carved work, and of as excellent proportion as almost is possible to be made by the hands of workmen.

* An elegant stained window, erected in 1844, now occupies the place of the one here mentioned, of which all trace had long before disappeared.

f At a place called the Spilal, in Boughton.

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Many have been the Monuments of Burials within the said Quire, whereof time hath devoured the memory. There now only remains the Shrine of St. Werburg, the which now serves to be a supporter to a fair Pue for the Lord Bishop. Also one fair stone in the midst of the Church, where was buried one worthy Bishop of the same Diocesse, called Bishop Downham, and dated Dec. 3rd 1577. Near unto that lyes another Stone, being the

burial place of the Lord Bishop Lloyd, of late years. In the South He of the said Quire, in the wall thereof, divers antient burialls have their Tombs artificially made within the Wall, arched over in the same, but without inscriptions; and upon the other side of that He is a fair square Tomb of Alabaster without inscriptions also, but believed to be that Emperour's Tomb, Henry the Fourth, of whom we made mention before.

The Body of the Church, toward the West end, is a very spacious and stately Edifice, distinguished into a broad middle He, and two lesser lies on either side; the Pillars of the He recording the memory of a famous Abbot of that Abby, Simon Ripley, who died about 1492. a great Benefactor of that House, and a bountiful Repairer of that Church, as by the letters of his name on those Pillars is yet manifest.

At the upper end of the Body of the M nster, is the entrance into the place now used, and so named, by the

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name of the Chapter House, and specially serves for the meetings and businesses of the Dean and Chapter. And this piece of building, of all others, sheweth the most venerable face of antiquity, both for the most antient fashion of vaulting over head, and of open walls with partitions within side. It is most certain, it is as old a fashion for building with stone, as I think can be showed in any place that hath stood in its own native form without alteration or reparation. It is supposed, and indeed most likely, that many of those famous and renowned Earles of Chester have been buried in this place, though there appear no proof thereof by Monuments: onely there are some Gravestones in the floor thereof, and one of them of a very antient manner of making, with an Inscription about the border of it, defaced.

On the same side of the Church likewise, are several Entrances into the Cloysters, that lead into the several parts of the Abbey, now disparted to several uses and employments; such as, a Pallace for the Lord Bishop, another for the Deane; and in like manner for all the Prebends, Canons, the Free School, the servants of the House, and other uses.

The South end of the M nster hath been either the Fabric itself, or else the place of the Church, first dedicated to the memory of the Apostles Peter and Paul; and

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afterwards altered to the blessed Trinity and St. Oswald, King and Martyr; and after that again, to St. Oswald

and St. Werburg; and after all that, the rest of the Mⁿster joined to the North end of that, this Church still retaining her dedication to St. Oswald, from the which, the whole Parish had its name. But the Abbot and the Convent, wishing to retain their whole Mⁿster to themselves, afterward erected for the Parishioners a fair Chappell at the South West end of the Mⁿster, intituled St. Nicholas Chappell; whereunto the said Parishioners repaired, as their Parish Church; which so continued unto the time, that the Parishioners, with the Maior of the City, obtained again for their Service the Church of St. Oswald's, compounding with Simon Ripley, Abbot of Chester, about the year 1488, as by an Instrument yet remaining upon record, doth appear.

The Chappell of St. Nicholas then serving to little use, the Citizens purchased it to themselves, and dividing the same by a floor in the middle thereof, the lower Room was appointed for the stowage of Wool and other commodities, to be vented and sold at allowable times. And the upper room for a stately Senate house,* for the Assemblies, Elections, Courts of Maior, and Aldermen, the Pentice Court, and others, as the Law appoints.

* Now converted into a Theatre, to the great honor and credit of the City.

i J

The Church of St. Marie's, usually called super montem standeth upon the brow of a bank that riseth not far from the Bridge-gate. It carryeth the same shew of Antiquity with the rest of the Churches, being in all likelihood erected in that place for special use of the Earles, when they held their residence in the Castle. Upon the South side of the Chancel standeth a fair Chappell,* reported to be there erected by the ancestors of a great and worshipful race of the Troutbeckes, of great reputation in this County of Chester, and of whose lands many of the gentlemen of the Shire have now no small portion; in which Chappell the bodies of some of them and by all likelihood the Founders of the Chappell, lye in a fair vault in the middest thereof; and others of that progenie in other parts of the Church.

Almost in the middle of the Water-gate Street, on its North side, standeth the Church dedicated to the blessed Trinity, which both for the high Spire steeple, -J- and for the workmanship, seemeth to be of little less antiquity than the others.

The Church of St. John's, without the Walls of the City, an author affirms to have been founded in A. D. 689, in these plain words:

- The Roof of this Chapel fell in in] 1660, and the present South aisle was erected on its site in 1690.

f This steeple has been for many years without a spire.

*:;

" The Year of Grace six hundred fourscore nine
 " As saith my author, a Brittain, Geraldus,
 " King Ethelred minding most the blisse of heaven,
 " Edified a Colledge Church notable and famous
 " In the suburbs of Chester pleasant and beautiful,
 " In the honor of God and the Baptist St. John
 " With the help of Bishop Wilfrice and good
 exhortation."
 I will not suppress that which they further write of this
 foundation, which being either true, or a thing supposed,
 shall, for me, speak of itself.

" King Ethelred minding to build a Church was told,
 That where he should see a White Hinde, there he
 should build a Church; which Hinde he saw in the place
 where St. John's Church now standeth; and in remem-
 brance whereof, his Picture was placed in the Wall of
 the said Church, which yet standeth on the side of the
 Steeple towards the West, having a White Hinde in his
 hand."

It remaineth that we speak somewhat of the River
 Dee, to which water no man can now express how much
 this antient City hath been beholden. Even there, where
 the Sea hath determined that Creek, which shoots in
 between Flintshire, and the West part of W~~e~~all Hun-
 dred, was founded this beautiful City, and made the
 Receptacle of merchandize from all Kingdoms and Na-
 tions, who traded into the Brittain, or Irish Ocean.

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The mouth or opening of this River into the Sea lies
 very bleak upon the North Eastern and West~~e~~rn winds,
 and the ground or bottom of the Creek is altogether of
 a loose, light, skittering Sand, which upon any powerful
 drift of Wind or Wat~~e~~r, will give place like drifts of
 Snow. And these mighty heaps of sand, having been
 brought by fierce and strong winds up into the narrow-
 nesse of the Creek, the Haven, which in time past
 received Ships of great burthen up to the City skirts,
 scarce now hath sea room for small Barques, which onely
 at higher waters do bring in their unladings of Great
 Vessels from the Keyes which can receive them 9 or 10
 miles off. And hence it is, that even within this few
 years there hath been such losses and gainings between
 the shores of Cheshire and Flintshire as will scarcely
 be believed of such as do not behold that with their eyes.
 Proceeding now with the rest of Broxton Hundred,
 which we made but an entrance into, we will take occa-
 sion to leave Handbridge, that antient part of the City,
 lying close to the Bridge, and take view of that part of
 the Hundred, which lyes on that side of the said River
 of Bee, and between it and Flintshire. The first is the

Lordship of Lache, in times past partly the lands of the Earles of Oxenford ; and the chief house * in the Town-

* Lache Hall, garrisoned for the Parliament, during the Siege of Chester, by Sir William Brereton.

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ship is now the holding of George Manly, Gent., and no small portion was the Lands that belonged to the Nunnery of St. Mary in Chester, and now belonging to the Breretons of Handford. More than a mile Eastward standeth Eccleston Church, by the Town so called, whereof the chief Lordship is the lands of the Venables, Baron of Kinderton, while down lower towards the South, lyes Dodleston, a goodly Lordship of the Earle of Bridgewater, and the Church there is the burying place of that most wise and worthy Lord Ellesmere, Viscount Brackley, Lord Chancellor of England, whose body, by his own appointment, his course being finished, was brought down to rest in the Church of Dodleston. This said Lordship adjoineth to Kinton, and next to that lyes Burton.

Turning now to the South East, you come to Pulford, a great Lordship * of the Warburtons of Arley, standing upon the Eiver Alen, which coming from the midst of Cheshire leads you on full East unto Poulton, sometimes the antient seat of the Manleys, now belonging to the house of Eaton, at Eaton boat, \ the Mansion of the worthy family of the Grosvenors ; the heir of which house, Sir Richard Grosvenor, Knight and Baronet,

* Belongs now to the noble House of Westminster, f Eaton Hall, now a princely edifice, erected in 1807, by the Father of the present Marquis of Westminster.

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enjoys the Seat, and shewes his own worthiness, better than I were able, if I would attempt, to do it.

Returning then to Chester, our way is to pass over the Bridge, and along the Wall Eastward, to Fore-gate Street; which being done, you presently go to Spittle Boughton,* so called of an antient Hospital there situated. Neer unto which lyes Boughton itself, by the River of Dee, where is now that fair new Waterwork, even now in finishing, to bring the Water of a fine spring neer it, unto the midst of the City, to a Cestern, situated by the High Cross, at St. Peter's Church, a thing pleasant and commodious. By the River side, a mile further Southward, lies Huntington Lordship ; from whence we soon come to Churchen Heath, where stands a Chapel belonging to the Parish of St. Werburg of Chester, and next to it lies a rich demeane, and a fair antient

Timber mansion house -j- of the great family of the Calvelies, which house had, in times past, one addition of honour, when the owner thereof Sir Hugh Calvely was Captain of Calleys% (Calais) and married the late Queen

"Here was, until the present century, the common place of Execution, where also George Marsh suffered martyrdom for his Religion, in 1554.

f Lea Hall, now a farm house. The Calvely family, extinct in the male line, is now represented in the female line, by Viscount Combermere, of Combermere Abbey.

J Under Edward III., in 1374. His marriage with Queen Margaret is, doubtless, a myth.

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of Aragon, and another of the late presence of our gracious Sovereign King James, Anno 1G 17, who came thither from Chester, and advanced there the said Sir George Calvely to the degree of Knighthood.

Beneath this demean we must step over a stone bridge to Aldford,* and on past an antient inheritance of the Flittons of Gawsorth, to Churton, where is scituate two gentlemen's habitations of the Barnstons and the L'ostocks; and so leaving Aldersey on our left hand, a place that gave beginning to Gentlemen of that name there, some famous Citizens of London, and Aldermen of Chester, and whose posterity do there still flourish.

We come now to Farndon, where is a fair new Church, + with the town itself reaching down to an exceeding fair stone bridge, built, no doubt, together with that old substantial Castle in the Holt, the bridge being the onely partition between the two Towns.

Pursuing the course of our River, northward of the town of Barton upon the Hill, we come still Easterly to Crewe,\ and Carden^ whereof both have given names

* Since 1729, Aldford has belonged, by purchase, to the Grosvenor family.

f This Church was garrisoned during the Civil War, and was burnt at the siege of Holt Castle in 1645.

\ Now the seat of Roger Harry Barnston, Esq., a descendant of the Barnstons of Churton.

§ J. Hurlston Leche, Esq., the present proprietor derives in.

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to gentlemen's families, the latter being now the mansion

of John Leche, Gentleman, a man of good descent ; and extended: to Calcot (Caldecote) a fine seat ; near which is also another antient seat, once of the Yerdleys, but since purchased by Lady Cholmley.

Next we come unto Tilston, which standeth by a fair demean, heretofore the inheritance of the Massies, of Grafton,* but lately purchased and new builded by Sir Peter Warburton, one of his Majestie's Justices of Common Pleas, who left his onely daughter and heir, the now Lady Grosvenor, who by her former husband was Lady Stanley of Alderley.

Upon our left hand, lyeth adjoining Horton, antiently a seat of the Golborns ; and Overton, another Lordship : and passing thence by the Hamlet of Chorleton, we come presently to the two Lordships of Shochach ; one is called Church Shochach, having a little Church in it, but as for the Castle of which Mr. Camden saith hath been here, I can say but little. The goodly seat here, of late years the Mansion of Sir Randle Brereton, is now brought unto the possession of a most worthy Knight, Sir Richard

the female line from William de Carden, with whom the original name became extinct.

* Grafton has passed, by descent, to the present Lord Stanley, of Alderley.

Of this Castle no remains exist, beyond the moat which surrounded it.

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antient seat of the Griffins, of long continuance, received* into the bosom thereof one stout Water that they call Betley water. Let us step a little Easterly towards the head of this water, and take view of Wybunbury, a Church town, and a Parish Church * to a great precinct, and on every side so garnished and adorned with the seats of Baronets, Knights and Gentlemen, as is scarce to be found the like in any country Parish ; the Vicarage is in the gift of the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry.

Near unto the same Church is scituate a fine Lordship and Town, with a decayed house and demean of Sir Thomas Smith, called the Hough ; and next adjoining unto it, the Lee, being an antient seat of Knights and Esquires of that name, and now Sir Richard Lee, a Knight of worthy account, to whom I stand particularly bounden.

But let us look a little more to the West, where stands the lordship of Blakenfall (Blakenhall); and next to that Hunsterton, -\ both the lands of Sir Thomas Delves, and so come to Bartomley, \ a Parish and a Church; in which Township we see an antient handsome house and

* We are indebted to John Twemlow, Esq., of Hatherton, for the accompanying engraving of Wybunbury Old Church, taken down in 1790.

f This and the three previously named lordships now belong to the Broughton family.

% During the Civil War, Barthomley Church was attacked by

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demean, the lands of the Lawtons of Lawton; and from a lake hereabout runneth Wolvern brook, by Weston, a lordship with an antient seat and demean, belonging to Sir Thomas Delves, of Doddington, running along by Basford, a slightly habitation,* sometime the lands of the Bromees, but now of Sir Robert Cholmondleigh; and so crossing the Lee brook again, we may first take notice of Shavington, an antient seat of the Woodnoths, the present owner thereof, John Woodnoth, Esq., -j~ a great antiquary, and learned in the laws; and on the other hand Ro, and belongs, with War-
button, Great Budworth, SfC, to Row and E. E. Warburton, Esq.

f Now possessed by James H. Smith Barry, Esq., who resides at Mai bun/ Hall.

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Passing hence by Powsey Chappel, and Neivborough, the seat of George Holford, Esq., and so through a certain Park belonging also to Button, we come to Aston Grange, a Township of Sir Richard Brooke's, and so, by Weever side, to Aston, the seat of a worshipful race of Astons, the Heir now, Thomas Aston, Esq., * who hath to his said house, a fair Park, and a Chappel neer the house, of great use; and next adjoining to it is Sutton Lordship, and in it an antient Mannour house and demean of Mr. Warburton of Arley. And thus we go along the Weever side, till it brings us to a very stately stone Bridge, called Frodsham Bridge, built upon four fair arches, where we finish our view of Bucklow Hundred, and passe over this Bridge into

EDDISBURY HUNDRED.

Our view of this Hundred shall begin from Frodsham Bridge, whence we go to Frodsham Town, a fair continued street with handsome buildings, and at the West end of it a fair House or Castle, Frodsham Castle, a relying seat of pleasure to the honourable owner thereof, Sir Tho-

mas Savage. f The Church is fair and pleasantly scitu-

* Afterwards Sir Thomas Aston, created a Baronet by Charles I., in 1628, from whom the estate has descended to the present owner, Sir Arthur Ingram Aston, Bart., of Aston Hall.

f Frodsham passed from the Savages to the noble house of Ili-

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ated on the Hill over the Town ; and over them all, a high trowing Hill, with a Beacon upon it ; and between these and Merzey, a fair and fruitful Marsh of large extent, all belonging to Sir Thomas Savage, and next unto it another Lordship called Helsby, on the high road to Chester.

Let us here, if you please, take with us a sight of the Parish of Ince,* a goodly Lordship of the Cholmeys ; and of Thornton, another of Sir George Booth's, extending her limits to the Towns on this Side Hapsford, where Edward Greg, Gent., of the Exchequer Court at Chester, hath a fair seat ; and Dunham on the Hill, where Robert Whitby, Alderman of Chester, hath a pleasant house, seen far off. And unto this, adde that third of Elton, where hath been a long descent of the Frodshams.

But let us go on, and being come to the Beeston water, we see on our left Manley, where is an antient seat of the Birkenheads, now Adam Birkenhead, Esq. ; and of Little and Great Muldsworth, where is the goodly antient seat of Peelle, the habitation of the Hardwares,

vers, from them to the Earl of Barrymore, and is now vested in the Marquis of Cholmondely.

* Incc formerly belonged, as recited in a previous portion of this work, to the Abbot and Canons of St. Werburgh, but are now held by the trustees of the late E. Yates, Esq.

f King William III., on his passage into Ireland, was enter-

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but belonging to Sir Robert Chohnley ; and so we leave Ashton Township behind us ; and turning to look upon Bridge Trafford, in which a long continued race of that name have a seemly seat, the owner now Mr. Trafford,* we see Barrow, a Lordship and mansion of John Savage, Esq. Alderman and Magistrate of the City of Chester.

"We passe on to Kelshall, very high in the skirt of the Forest, a Lordship of Sir John Bone's, Kt. ; beneath which taking with us an antient house of the Trevices, called Horton, we come to the Town and Parish of Tarvin, in which, besides the fair Church and Vicaridge, we

see an antient ruined seat of the Bruines, of long continuance, but this house and demean is come to the heir of a late famous lawyer, William Brock, a younger house of the Brocks of Upton; and a little way from the Town, a large sweet Farm called Holmstreet. The Lordship of Tarvin belongs to Sir Thomas Savage.

Not half a mile distant we see Hockenhull, a comely house, giving name to gentlemen of long continuance, the now owner John Hockenhull, Esq.; on one side of which lyes Hockenhull Plot, on our great London roadway to

tained at Peek Hall, by Col. Roger Whitley, who was a zealous royalist, and had followed the fortunes of King Charles II., into «xile.

* Capt. Trafford was killed at the Battle of Naseby, and the estate shortly afterwards passed to the Barnsions of Churton.

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Chester. Our River leads us by another fair and fruitful demean and lordship, called Stapleford, for an antient continuance the seat of the Bruines, the owner now John Bruine, Esq.

And now we turn Eastward to Burton, wherein is a house belonging to John Werden, Gent.; next which lyes Duddon, where Mr. Done has a seat; and more towards the Forest a house called Pricehall; and a little further the Township of Clotton, and Idenshailv, the mansion of John Hurlstone, Esq., and neer unto it Howfield.

Towards the River side we come to Tiverton Lordship, where is a house and demean of the Brassies, which have been a great race of gentlemen. And so we cannot but stay to look up at the stately house and demean of Beeston, the name also of that famous and far seen Castle,* built there by the last Ranulph, Earl of Chester, mounted on the top of a steep Hill of stone, the chief tower whereof, in the summity of it, had a draw well of water of incredible depth. To the which place I wish all good, and to the name of Beeston, the demean being now in the pos-

* This ancient fortress, of the ruins of which we here present our readers with an illustration, was several times taken and retaken during the Civil War; on the conclusion of which it was dismantled by the Puritans, and has since sunk into the imposing ruin it now exhibits.

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session of an antient Knight, Sir Hugh Beeston, without issue male.

We come next to Spurstow, a fair house and demain of George Spurstow, Esq., one of an antient continued race; John Aldersey, Gent., termed also of Spurstow, hath a fine antient demean, the birthplace of that most worthy Aldersey, Alderman of London. Eastward lies Haughton, of the Haughtons, and another seat of the Buckleys; and on the West, Ridley, the possession of that honourable discent of the Egertons; and upon the North-west lies the Lordship of Peckforton, sometimes belonging to the great name of the Corbetts, but now to Sir Hugh Beeston.* And herein is a fine antient seat of the Calvellys.

Now we see the Mother Church of all these Townships, Bunbury, a fair Church, with, on the South side of the Chancel, Chappel and a burial place of the Egertons of Ridley. Not far from the Church, we see the ruines of the Colledge, founded there for six priests by that famous Hugh Calvelley. But now, farther East, is the Lordship of War die, where hath been a Seat and demean of the antient family of the Prestlands, -\ of long continuance, and the Heirs male now failed.

* On Peckforton Hill has lately been erected (1842-51) a magnificent Norman baronial Castle, of great beauty, now the residence of the worthy owner, John Tollemache, Esq., M.P., who is also the possessor of Beeston Castle, and other Cheshire manors.

f The Presl andu oSWallfordj Salop, are descendants of this family.

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Neer the West end of this is the Cleys, a fair house of the Davenports; and upon the North side stands the Township of Calvelley* whence that great name had first their denomination. The principal seat therein remains yet, and hath been long the habitation of one race of the Davenports, the owner thereof now Arthur Davenport, Esq.; and neer unto it another fair house of the Mainwarings. More Northward lies Wattenhall, with an antient seat of the Breretons of Wattenhall.

Hence, Westward, is Alpraham, where was antiently a Seat of the Pages, now wholly extinct. And here the lofty pile, the Hall of Tilstone Fearral, shews itself. Neer unto this, we see the mines of the House of Flaxyard, the antient seat of the Dones of Flaxyard, afterwards united by marriage with the Dones of Uthinton, neer hereunto, the owner now Sir John Done, Kt., who by his well pleasing service to His Majesty, who took His pleasure and repast in His Forest of Delamere, A.D. 1617, of which he was chief forester, ordered so wisely His Highnesse's sports, that He freely honored him with Knighthood, and graced his house of Uthinton with His royal presence.

But let us take with us the view of Tarporeley Church and Town, on the great Roadway to Chester, a Lordship

* At Calvelley, that celebrated warrior, Sir Hugh Calvelley, Governor of Calais in the reign of King Edward III., was born.

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, of the said Sir John Done ; from whence we go by Eaton and Rushton, to Barley, a fair seat and demean of the Startles, now Henry Starkey, Esq. ; near which is the great seat and house of another worthy race, called the Egertons of Oulton* whereof have succeeded for some descents Knights of note, and the owner now Sir Rowland Egerton, Bart. In the edge of the Forest lies the little Church and Town of Little Budworth, in which Parish is a Mere ; a Brook from which leads us to Darnall Grange, once a famous place, the residence of some of the Earls of Chester, of whom the seventh and last, John Scot, dyed there. It is now a fine seat, with a sweet house of brick lately erected, and now the possession of Henry Lee, Esq., heir to Sir Richard Lee, before-mentioned. Along the Park side of Darnall, lyes Swanlow, and therein many good Farms.

By the water of Weever, we soon come to that famous seat of the Stanleys of Weever, f now the mansion house of Thomas Stanley of Alderley, Esq. And so we come to Over Church, scituate half a mile from the Town itself, which, being the main possession of the Abbot and

* The Egertons of Oulton, ever held to be one of the first families in Cheshire, are now represented by Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, Bart , M.P., of Oulton.

f Early in the 17th century Weever became, by purchase, the property of the Wilbrahams of Delamere.

1 1:

Convent of Vale Boyall, obtained by their means to be made a Maior Town, which government they hold to this day. Neer unto which is a fine seat, called Knight's Grange, and not far from this, a very pleasant house of Thomas Mainwaring of Marton, Gent. A little further, we passe by Whitegate, and so come to that famous Vale Boyall.

Met hinks it probable that King Edward the First, who founded here the Abbey, to which place the Abbey of Darnhall was translated, gave this name to the goodly tract of grounds, betwixt the Forest and the River Weever, by his hunting, or other princely sports ; as, on the late occasion of our gracious Soveraign, his making the house here four days his Royal Court, while on his return out of Scotland, he solaced himself by his disports in the Forest, he confirmed it indeed to be a Royal Vale. This Vale Boyall was the seat of the Holcrofts for two discents, but of late is come by purchase to the Lady Mary Cholmley* a Lady of great possessions, and who for her

* Her son Thomas was the immediate ancestor of the Right Hon. Thomas Cholmondeley, the present noble owner of Vale Royal, who was raised to the peerage in 182), by the title of Baron Delamere. The original MSS., purporting to be the Prophecies of Robert Nixon, the Cheshire Prophet, are here deposited. Nixon is alleged to have been born at Bridge-end House, in the Parish of Over, in the reign of Edward IV., or James J.

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wisdom, virtue and great hospitality, deserveth worthy remembrance.

We see beyond this Sandy way, and Hartford, and so we look as far as this Hundred reacheth to Wunnington, where is a bridge over the Weaver; which going first by Wallerscote, an antient seat of the Littlers, it hastens to Weaversham, a pretty Church Town, with a Court and Prison, the Lordship now of Thomas Marbury, Esq.; in which I must not omit one antient seat of the Warburtons called Helperstone Grange. From hence Weaver shall part with us at Acton bridge; Westward of which is Acton Township, where is an antient seat of the Farrars, and so we take with us Crowton, where Sir Gilbert Ireland, Knight, hath a house and demean. Next lyes Kingsley Lordship, and therein an antient seat of the Rutters, of long continuance; and not far off, a fair brick house of the Gerards of Crownwood (Crewood).

Passing thence to Newton, and Alvanley, a pretty Township, we passe by Norley, and Cuddington, and fall into the spacious Forrest of Delamere itself; which Forrest maintaineth a convenient being and preservation for His Majesty's Deer, both Red and Fallow, whereof there is no small store. Upon the highest hill of all, and about the midst of the Forrest, is seen the very delicate house of the chief forester, called the Chamber in the Forrest.

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I might wade into a long discourse of those two Cities, Eadsbury and Finborow, which writers, antient and modern, do make report of; which I will leave untouched, because I suppose my long journey in this little Hundred hath well nigh tired my Reader already.

WERALL HUNDRED.

That this was in old time a Forrest, I think cannot be doubted; but when it was disafforested I will not contend, only that it is now one of the most fertile parts in the whole County. We will set in at the Stone Bridge, almost at Chester, and follow the water dividing this from Broxton

Hundred ; which will bring us, a little behind Upton, to Chorlton, and then to the Lea, a fair house and demean, for some discents of the Gaseours, Esqrs., of special note ; and next unto it lyes Backford Town and Church, and hard by it the Seat of our worthy Prothonotary Henry Birkenhead,* Esq. ; from whence, as we see on the West

* The Birkenheads of Backford became extinct in the male line in 1724, and are now represented by E. H. Gegg, Esq., who has been for some time engaged in rebuilding Backford Hall for his future residence. The manor of Chorlton, as well as Backford, arfe now the properly of Mr. Gegg.

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of us Capenhurst Lordship, belonging to the houses of Cholmley and Poole, * and in the same, a gentleran's Seat.

By our Brook lyes Crouyhton, -\ a member of the Lordship of John Hurlstone, Esq. ; and from thence we come to Stoke, a little Parish adjoining that fair demean and antient seat of the Bunbury' 1 s, called Stanney Hall, the worthy present owner Sir Henry Bunbury, Kt., J of special good estimation. We turn us now towards our journey more Westward, passing by Whitby, from whence it may seem the Whitby's of Chester derived their name.

Then holding on our course, we go by Great Sutton, a goodly Lordship, and where hath been a famous Seat, called Sutton Court, the inheritance now of Sir Robert Cholmondley ; and upon our other hand, Pool, a fair antient Seat, with a Park, of which the long continued race of the Pools have borne that name, and it is very probable have been the ancestors of some very great families of that name in other Counties, the present owner there, John

* Capenhurst is now the property of the Rev. Richard Richardson, whose ancestor purchased it from the Clwmondleys in 1770.

f Crougton has been purchased this year (1852) from /. Hurlstone Leche, Esq., of Carden, by Robert Ashton, Esq., of Hyde.

\ His descendant, Sir E. Bunbury, Bart., is the present possessor of this estate.

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Pool e, Esq, * Neer unto which, we see also Stanlow, now a Farm of the said Mr. Pool's ; here was also a Monastery founded by the famous Lacy, Constable of Chester, about A. D. 1173; but from the unrulynesse of Merzey water, they misliked their seat there, and translated themselves to Wholly in Lancashire.

Next come we to Hooton f a goodly antient Mannour and fair Park, which ever since the reign of King Richard the Second, hath been the seat of the Stanleys of Hooton, gentlemen of great dignity and worth ; where have continued the same Stanleys in a direct succession, and was late possessed by Sir Rowland Stanley, Kt., who lived there to the age of well neer a hundred years, where his fourth generation, his Son's Son's Son was, at the time of his decease. Neer unto this lyes Eastham, the Parish Church and Lordship.

Next beyond it, we leave on our left hand Brimstaxje ; and so come to Poulton ; and the next to that is Bromborovyh, a pretty Town, with a Chappel ; and therein

* The Pool es afterwards removed into Sussex, and oecame extinct in the direct male line a few years since, by the death of the Rev. Sir Henry Poole. The manor now belongs to the Marquis of Westminster.

f The "goodly antient mannour of Hooton," which for five centuries had b^en uninterruptedly the scat and possession of the Stanley family, passed by purchase in 184' J, with Eastham to R. C. Nayhr, Esq.

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Daniel Bavand, Esq., liath a fair house and demeane ; next which lyes Nether and Over Bebbington ; the one, a Church Town, with a fine Church and Parsonage ; the other, where John M nshull, Esq., of M nshull, hath great store of fair possessions.

Upon our left, we leave Stourton Lordship, and so go by Prenton, where one race of the Hockenhulls have a fine house and demeane ; beyond which lyeth Landican Township, the lands of Sir Richard Wilbraham Bart., and from thence we go to Woodchurch, a Parish Church, with a neat Parsonage ; beneath which, looking towards Merzey, lyes a goodly Vale, in which we see Upton Lordship, wherein stands the house and demeane of the Boulds of Bonld, in Lancashire, now Peter Bould, Esq. ; and next unto this, Oxton. And then more neer to Merzey, is the Township of Tranmere ; and neer it, a fine seat of that worthy gentleman, John M nshull, Esq., of M nshull, called Derby House.

Thence on our left hand, we see Claughton, where Mr. Thomas Powell hath fair lands ; and then, leaving the Ferry leading over unto Liverpool, we step into Birhet Wood (Birkenhead),* where hath been a famous Priory,

* Birkenhead, in the days of old King, and for 15) years afterwards, merely a little hamlet, has now risen, as if by magic, to be the second town in the County, containing upwards of 20,000 inhabitants. William Jackson, Esq., M.P., is one of the principal land owners.

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but now a very goodly demean, and which lias come, by discent from the Worsleys, to a gentleman of much worth. Thomas Powell, Esq.,* the heir of that antient seat of Horsley, in the County of Flint.

Beyond which we have onely Poulton cum Seacombe, till we come to the North-western shore, where is scituate the Township of Kerby in Wallasey, where lye those fair Lands, which for the fitnessse for such a purpose, allure the gentlemen and others oft to appoint great Matches, and venture no small sums, in trying the Swiftnesse of their horses.

And so we come to Bidston, a goodly house, demean and park of the Earl of Derby, which for the pleasant scituation and the variety of noble delights appendant to it, his lordship seems much to affect the same, and enlargeth the convenience therein for his pleasure and abode many ways.

Following the circuit of the Shire, we come next to Great Meolse, which gives name and seat to an antient family of Meolse; whence we go by Mbretton, and Saughall Massie; and leaving Overchurch on our left hand, we passe by Newton and Greasby; where we hold on nearer the shore, and take with us West Kirby. Here, divided from the land, lyes that little barren Island,

* This gentleman was created a Bironet in 1629, but the title became extinct in the early part of the 18th century.

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called Hilbree, in which it is said there was sometime a Cell of Monks.

From whence, we come next to the Grange, which I would rather think to be the seat where those Monks eat their Beef and their Brews, and which is now possessed by William Egge, Esq.;* upon the East side of this lyes Frankly, and so we come to the Townships of Great and Little Caldey. Neer unto which lyes the Station or Landing place, called the Red Bank; and neer unto this lyes Irby, wherein the Balls have a good seat. And we come thence to Thurstaston, the antient seat of the Whitmores, of which race have been many Maiors of the City of Chester. On the East side lyes Barnston; and upon the shore side, we come next to Oldfield, where is the narrowest place of the Hundred.

Our next remove is to Heswall, a Town with a Parish Church and Parsonage, extending to Thornton Mayo, and Raby. But neer the sea side, we come to Gayton, the seat of that antient race of the G eggs of Gayton;

* The G eggs continued in possession until the death of WI-

William Gegg, Esq., in 1785 : shortly after which it was purchased by John Leigh, Esq., of Liverpool, whose son, John Shaw Leigh, Esq., is the present proprietor.

John B. Gegg, Esq., of Thurstaston, is the present Lord of Gayton, King William III., on his passage to Ireland, lodged at Gayton Hall, then the residence of William Gegg, Esq., who was thereupon honoured with Knighthood.

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and next lyes Leighton, wherein is a very antient house and demeane of the Whitmores, of a very great descent, and next neighbour is the well known Town and Parish Church of Great Neston, where our passengers into Ireland so often lye waiting the leisure of the winds ; and here is the station of the ships, called, the New Key, where they imbarke and disimbarke, on the back of this Neston. To the East lyes a Township, in a large Tract of heath and common, called Childer Thornton.

Keeping still our shore, we have Nesse, and next to that, more landwards, Willaston. And then we have Burton,* a pretty Town, and a landing place, called Burton Head; and next to this, we come to that lofty seat of Puddington, overlooking the sea, and the mouth of the Dee, wherein have continued the race of the Massles, derived, with many branches, from that Hamon Massey, one of the Earls' Barons, the owner now, Sir William Massey, Kt. A great spacious Common, vulgarly called Motherlesse Heath, lyes a great way further Eastward ; at one side whereof we see Ledsham; and so come to Shotwick, and neer unto it an antient house of the Hoclcenhitts ; and so we come to Shotwick Park, where yet remain the mines of a fair Castle, on the brink of the Dee, in the holding, under the King,

* In this Township, Dr. Wilson, Bhhop of Sodor and Man, in 1742, was born. Richard Congreve, Esq., is the present owner, his father having purchased the manor from the Massies in 1715-

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of Sir Richard Wbraham often before mentioned ; from whence we come to Great and Little Saughall Township ; and along by these lyes a place called antiently Kingswood. And next to this, lyes a goodly antient seat upon the browe of Dee Banks, called Blacon Hall, and Lordship,* the lands of Sir William Norris, K. C. B., whose chief residence is in Lancashire ; and then adjoineeth Crabhall, the demeane and most delicate fine house of William Gamvill, a prime Alderman of the City of Chester. Round about it we have nothing left, but on our right hand the two Mollingtons, a fair Lordship, whereof much of the lands have belonged to the Mordaunts, of Ocleigh in Bedfordshire, but now to several purchasers in those parts. And thus we arrive at the tip of the toe in our description,

being come home presently to our famous City again.

* The manorial right* of Blacon are enjoyed by Lord Crewe. Crabwall and Blacon Halls are now both occupied as farm houses.

THE EXVRLS OF CHESTER.

Many Authors have written of some noble persons, to whom they have given the Title of the Earls of Chester, before the coming of William the Norman, called the Conqueror ; but our late and more judicious writers give little credit to such reports. We therefore here fitly fall upon the rehearsal of those noble Earls of Chester, of whom no man need doubt either their persons or their successions, which began with the gift of William the Conqueror to his Sister's Son. This was Hugh, named Lupus, or as the Normans sound it, Loup ; whether so

called, because he bare the Wolf's head in his coat armour, or because his name was so, we cannot determine.

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The first Earl then, after the Conquest, was Hugh Lupus, Sister's Son, and so Nephew to King William the Conqueror. This young Nobleman came into England with his Uncle William, and was so high in grace and favour with the said Conqueror, that it pleased him to create this his kinsman, Earl Palatine of Chester ; and Sword bearer of England ; granting unto him and that Province, most ample privileges, even as large and great as could reasonably be required.

This Earl was of most excellent parts for Kule and Government, both in war and peace ; he erected many Barons, whom he placed in several parts of his jurisdiction, giving unto them great possessions, and special privileges ; which Barons were of near employment about him in matters of Councils, and attendance for all services.

This Hugh Lupus lived in great honour and renown all the days of William the Conquerour, his uncle, and of William Rufus, his second Son, and some years of Henry I., the third son; for he dyed not till the year 1102. He performed great services for the Conqueror all the time of his raign, being imployed both at home and abroad ; and in Rufus' time, he was sent to subdue Angelsea, and to suppress the high and haughty stomachs of the Welshmen, which he did with great valour. He altered part of the foundation of St. Werburg's Church

in Chester, about 1093, and turned the same into an Ab-

boy. He governed the Earldome of Chester 40 years, and dyed about Anno 1107, the 8th year of King Henry I., on the 27th July, the 9th year after the foundation of the Abbey of Chester.

The Second Earl was Richard, Son and Heir of the said Hugh, at his Father's death, an infant seven years of age, and married to Matilda, Daughter to Stephen, Earl of Blois, and Niece to King Henry I.; by reason whereof, the King took into his tuition and custody the young Earl; from whence, they say, this of a Custom grew to be a Law, that young heirs in their nonage, became pupils, or wards unto the King. The King sent him with his own children into Normandy, to be educated; but, growing towards man's estate, it fell out so, that King Henry having had successe in his Wars in France, came home to England to solace himself; and

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for the furtherance of his joy, sent into Normandy for his children William and Robert, and Mary their Sister, together with this noble young Earl Richard, and Matilda his Wife, and Ottewel his Brother, who with the Archdeacon of Hereford, and attendants, took ship at Harflew; where it pleased God, little heed being taken in the carriages of the Marriners and Saylor's, they fell into such disorder, that putting out to sea, they split the ship upon a rock, and so cast away all this princely company; not one of them escaping, excepting one butcher, that catching hold upon a broken mast, swam unto the land. Thus, Anno 1120, perished this hopeful young Earl Richard, and his Brother Ottewel, leaving his Brother Robert, made Abbot of Edmonbury, and so incapable of this princely Earldom; the same was therefore transferred to the sonne of Margaret his Aunt, the sister of William Lupus, having married John Bohune; and thus the Earldom fell to the Cousin German of this Richard, who also, in his very infancie, escaped a great perill; for, before going into Normandy, they led him a pilgrimage to Wnifred's Well in Wales, where he was beset by a rebellious rout of Welshmen-, but by a valiant rescue of William then Constable of Chester, he was recovered out of their holds, and brought back safe again to Chester, and lived Earl of Chester, from the 8th of Henry I., to A. D. 1120, about 14 years, and was in that year drowned, as aforesaid.

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The Third Earl was then Ranulph, some of John Bohune, a nobleman of Normandy, to whom the Conqueror had given the Town of Carlisle, and made him Earl of Cumberland. This Ranulph, surnamed Meschines, inclined rather to peace and civil government, than to warlike affairs, and great enterprises; and I read of few great occurrences within the time of his government, which also was not of any long continuance. He married Matilda, or Maud, daughter to Aubrey Vere, Earl of Oxford, and great Chamberlain of England, by whom he had issue Ranulph, surnamed Gernoyse (Gernons) from the place of his birth, who succeeded him in the Earldom. And for his second Wife, he married Lucia, sister to Edwin, Earl of March, and had by her William Earl of Lincoln, who dyed without issue. He began to govern A. D. 1120, continued Earl about 10 years, and dyed, A. D. 1130.

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The Fourth Earl, Ranulph, son of the former Ranulph, was the great Commander in that War, wherein he with Robert Earl of Gloucester, did with noble prowess defend the cause of Matilda the Empress against King Stephen the Usurper, fighting with his army against the King at the Siege of Lincoln, A. D. 1146, when he gave the King, and the Earl of Flanders, and others, a notable overthrow, and brought the King a Prisoner, and the Castle of Lincoln, to the Empress. But after the King was delivered in exchange for Robert, Earl of Gloucester (taken by the King's party) this Earl Ranulph coming peaceably to the King, under pretence of a Parliament to be held at Northampton, was put in prison, and constrained to deliver up the Castle of Lincoln, and other strong holds, which he had kept for the use of the Emperesse, and Henry her son. And about this time the Welshmen, in his absence, made horrible destruction in

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the Earldom of Chester, yet at length were vanquished in a battel near Wch Malbanc (Nantwich). The Earl still defended the cause of the Emperesse and her son, resolving upon that purpose of his heart, never to serve other King than Duke Henry, saying often, "The Earl of Chester thinks scorn to serve the Earl of Blois," from which resolution he could never be moved. He married Alicia, daughter of Robert, Earl of Gloucester, by whom he had issue Hugh Kevelioc, that succeeded him, and Beatrix, married to Ralph, Baron of Malpas, and dyed, or according to Hollinshed, was, through Peverell, Earl of Nottingham, poisoned, in the 17th year of King Stephen,

A. D. 1152, when he had been Earl

years.

The Fifth Earl was Hugh, surnamed Bohun, son of the last named Ranulph. When Henry, the young Prince, took up arms against his Father, Henry II, and in Nor-

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mandy and Brittain, animated by the young Louis King of France, and William King of Scots, he allured unto him this Earl Hugh, and other English nobles, who were in the end overcome by King Henry, led captives into Normandy, and kept prisoners in Falois: but after a year's imprisonment, the Father and Son were reconciled, and the King of Scots and this Earl of Chester were put to their ransome, which the said Hugh paid, and got him home, A. D. 1174, being taught by his folly to be more wise afterwards, and lived peaceably the rest of his dayes. He married Beatrice, daughter of Richard Lancy, Chief Justice of England, and by her had one son Ranulph, and four daughters. He continued Earl until A. D. 1180, about 28 years, and then deceased, his burial place being the Town of Leek, in Staffordshire.

The Sixth Earl, and most famous of all before him

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was Ranulph the good, surnamed Blondevitte, or Album Monasterum of that place in Powis, where he was horn (which some say is Oswestry.) In his youth he waged many battles with Llewellyn Prince of Wales, against whose forces he once hazarded himself so venturously, that he was in danger, and glad to retire into the Castle of Ruthland (Ehuddhm), where Llewellyn heseiged him. Then it was that Roger Lacey, Constable of Chester, hearing of his perill, called his friends hastily together, and amongst them Ranulph Dutton, his son in law, a brave youthful gentleman; who gathered together a great company of Musicians and others in, and about Chester, and gave onset upon the Earl's enemies, raising the seige, and delivering the Earl out of that great distresse; the reward of which was, to have the command of such people and their profession; which right hath continued in the heirs of Dutton unto this day. When King Richard I.,

was warring in Asia against the Infidels, his Brother John was at home, seeking means to deprive his Brother Richard of his Crown and Kingdom; but this valiant Earl loyally withstood Earl John, and with others maintained war against him, winning from him the Castle of Nottingham and other strong holds. King Richard deceasing afterwards without issue, John became now the lawful Sovereign, and the Earl then, with magnanimous valour, took part with the King against his seditious subjects,

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and their ally, Louis the French King. And when the said King John departed this life, leaving his son Henry, a child ten years old, to be King; yet did not this noble Earl Ranulph shew less loyalty to his Sovereign; and being assisted by the brave Earl of Pembroke, and others, encountered the said Louis in the memorable Battle of Lincoln, where he slew and put to flight the French and English Rebels, and sent Louis packing out of this land. This worthy Earl, then created Earl of Lincoln, was down by his heroi call disposition to the "Wars in Egypt and Syria, against the Saracens and Infidels, which he also managed with the like successe; and after his many victories returned home to his Earldom of Chester; and when the affairs of war gave him leisure, he founded the Gray Friars in Coventry; the Abbey of Delacross near Leek, in Staffordshire; the Castle of Beeston, in Cheshire; and of Chartley, Staffordshire. He left no mean glory behind him in the excellent parts of wisdom that was in him, having compiled a Book of the Laws of the Realm with good judgement. He held five Earldoms together, viz. : Chester, Lincoln, Huntingdon, Brittain and Richmond; he was Earl of Chester about 51 years, and dyed without issue, in A. D. 1532, at Wallingford in Berkshire, but lyes buried in the Chapter House of Chester.

132

The Seventh Earl was John, (surnamed Scot, being a Scot born) who inherited in right of his Mother, eldest daughter of Earl Hugh. This said Earl John had a great revenue, the possession of his said Grandfather; and for a time did worthily maintain war against Llewellyn, the Prince of Wales; yet, at length grew into peace with him, which fell out his utter overthrow; for, having married Jane, Llewellyn's daughter, she instead of cherishing and comforting him, did devilishly plot his destruction, and by poyson brought his life to an end, at Darnhall from whence his body was brought to Chester, and interred in the Chapter House, by the grave of his Uncle Ranulph, leaving, after him, no issue to inherit. John Scot, the last of the Earls of Chester, governed, as Earl, about five years, and dyed at Darnhall, A. D. 1237. The

Earldom then reverted to the Crown.

L[ST OF HUGH LUPUS' BARONS.

1. Nigel, Baron of Halton.
2. Robert, Baron of Montalt.
3. William, Baron of Wclimbalanc (Nantwich).
4. Richard Vernon, Baron of Shipbrook.
5. Robert Fitzhugh, Baron of Malpas.
6. Hamon de Massey, Baron of Dunham Massey.
7. Gilbert Venables, Baron of Kinderton.
8. Nicholas, Baron of Stockport.

ROYAL EARLS OF CHESTER

1. King Henry III, on the decease of John Scot, without male issue, bestowed the Principedom of Wales, and Earldom of Chester, (in 1254), upon Prince Edward his Son, afterwards Edward I; after which it fell out that the King's Eldest Son was still created Earl of Chester,

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and Prince of Wales; the said King, to maintain still the honour of the County Palatine, continued their antient rights, and Palatine Jurisdictions and Privileges.

2. Prince Edward being afterwards King, his son Edward, (surnamed Carnarvon, from the place of his birth) was by his said Father created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, in 1303, and became afterwards King Edward II.

3. King Edward II., gave the Earldom of Chester to Edward of Windsor, his Son, then scarce 10 years old; whom he summoned unto the Parliament, in 1322, by the titles of Earl of Chester and of Flint.

4. King Edward III created his Son, Edward of Woodstock (called the Black Prince) Earl of Chester in 1333, which worthy Prince dyed during his Father's lifetime, leaving a Son.

5. Richard, born at Bordeaux, created by his Grand-

father Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, Nov. 20, 1376, he being then about 11 years old. On the said Richard becoming King, he also styled himself Prince of Chester, but this title did not long endure.

6. King Hennj IV., created his eldest Son, Henry of Monmouth, Earl of Chester, &c, Oct. 15th, 1399. King Henry V., left his Son, an Infant about half a year old, King, so that there was no creation to him of this Earldom In the 13th year of his Reign, he created

135

7. Edward, his Son Earl of Chester, on March 15th, 1452 ; which Prince, in the civil war between the houses of York and Lancaster, together with his Father, left their honours and lives to Edward IV., who obtained the victory.

8. King Edward IV., created Edward of Westminster, his Son, Earl of Chester, in 1471, who by the treacherous Usurpation of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was deprived of Crown, Realm Life and all.

9. The Usurper Richard being now King, he made his Son Edward Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester ; but by the revenging hand of God, Henry VII, by a happy War* brought a blessed Peace to this then miserable and distracted kingdom

10. He created Arthur his eldest Son, Earl of Chester, Nov. 30th, 1489.

11. This Prince deceasing in his Father's lifetime, King Henry's onely remaining Son, Henry, became Earl of Chester, Feb. 18th, 1502, and was afterwards King, by the name of King Henry VIII.

12. There was after this no special creation of Earl of Chester until His present Majesty {James 1st} in 1610, created Henry, his eldest Son, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, which most hopeful young Prince, upon the 9th of Nov. 1612, it pleased God to take to an immortal crown of glory in Heaven,

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13. The next in succession at his decease was that illustrious Charles, His Majestie's second Son, created, in 1612, Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester ; for whose health, happiness, and long continuance in the possession of all his just Titles and privileges, never had a people more cause to pray unto God than we have. [Our Author closes his list of the Royal Earls of Chester with Prince Charles, afterwards the unfortunate monarch King Charles I. In grateful remembrance however of the Royal favour

and patronage bestowed upon the present edition, the List has been continued down to our own time.]

14. Charles II, born May 29, 1630, though declared, was never actually created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester. He died Feb. 6th, 1685.
15. George II, born October 30, 1683, created Earl of Chester on his father's accession to the Throne in Sep. 1714, and died Oct. 25th, 1752.
16. Frederick Lewis, son of George II, born Jan. 20th, 1707, created Earl of Chester in December, 1728, and died, in the lifetime of his Father, on March 20th, 1751.
17. George III, Eldest Son of Prince Frederick and Grandson of George II, born May 24th, 1738, created Prince of Wales, and Earl of Chester, April 20th, 1751, and died Jan. 29, 1820.
18. George IV, Son of the last named, and Uncle of

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Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, born August 12th, 1762, and created Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, August 17, in the same year. He died June 26th, 1830.

19. Albert Edward, Eldest Son of Her present Majesty, born November 9th, 1841, and created Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, Earl of Chester, fyc., December 9th, 1851, whom may Almighty God long preserve to this Kingdom and Nation.

ⓂⓂ *T>A*v

LI ST OF THE MAI ORS OE CHESTER.

The first certainty of a Mai or's government in the City, by the name of Mai or, is the 25th Henry 3rd, A. D. 1242.

Anno. } Mai ors.

1242" }

to ^Sir Wãlter Lynuet.

1248>

1249 1

t o \ R i c h a r d C l a r k e .
1256 S

1259 The same.
1265 The same.
1268 "I

t o j - S i r J o h n A r u w a y .

1278 }

Anno

Mai obs.

1279

R a n d l e d e D a r e s b u r y

1280

The same.

1281

R o b e r t l e M e r c e r .

1282

The same.

1283

A l e x a n d e r H u r e l l .

1284

R o b e r t l e M e r c e r .

1285

The same.

1286

Robert de Tarvin.

SEAL OF THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CHESTER.

140

Ann

o. Maiors.

Anno. Maiors.

1287

1 The same.

William Doncaster

1288

succeeded him

1289

1290

1291

1292

Hugh de Meoles.
Robert de Tarvin.
Robert Mercer.
The same.

1318

1319

1320

William Doncaster.
William son of Peter

Brickhill.
John Brickhill.

1293
1294

1296
1297

1298

to

Hugh de Brickhill.
Robert Mercenai (or

Mercer)
Hugh de Brickhill.
The same.

[Alexander Hurrell.

1321
1322
1323
1324
1325
1326
1327

The same.
William Clark.
William Brickhill.
Richard Russell.
Richard le Bruin.
The same.
Richard Gerves.

1300

1328

The same.

1301

Hugh de Brickhill.

1329

William Brickhill.

1302

Alexander Hurell.

1330

The same.

1303

Hugh de Brickhill.

1331

Roger le Blond.

1304

The same.

1332

The same.

1305

Richard le Genour.

1333

Richard de Wheatley.

1306

to
1309

• Hugh de Brickhill.

1334

1335

Roger le Blond.
Hugh, son of John le

1310
1311
1312
1313

Benedi ct St ant on.
Hugh de Bri ckhi ll .
The same.
Benedi ct St ant on.

1336

1337 ,

t o
1339 !

Bl ond.
Soger l e Bl ond.

John Bl ond.

1314

John Bl ond.

1340

Roger de Ledsham

1315

The same.

1341

Ri char d Capenhur . st .

1316

Wll i am Doncast er .

1342

The same.

1317

John Blond, who dyi ng 11

1343

John Blond.

141

Anno. Mai or s.

1344 Ri char d Capen hur st .

1345 The same.

1346 Henry Terr and.

1347 John Bl ond.

1348 The same.

1349 Bur t r am Nor t her n. who

bei ng sl ai n by Ri ch-
ard Dat ton,
Ri char d Brui n suc-
ceeded.

1350 .

t o J John Bl ond.

1352 '

1353 Ri char d Le Brui n.

1355 .

t o > John Bl ond.

1S58 >

1359 .

t o [Al an de Wheat l ey.

1362 '

1363 Roger Ledsham

1364 The same.

1365 John Dal by.

1366 The. same.

1367 Ri char d Le Brui n.

1368 The same.

1369 ,

to f John Whitmore, Jun.

1372 '

1373 Alexander Belletier.

1374 Richard Bruin, Jun.

1375 Richard Dounfould.

Anno. Maiors.

1376 The same.

1377 Thomas Bradford.

1378 The same.

1379 John le Chamberlain.

1380 .

to [David de Ewowe.

1383 S

1384 John le Chamberlain.

1385 The same.

1386.

to [John Armerer.

1388 '

1389 Robert de Marshall.

1390 John Armerer.

1391 Gilbert Trussell.

1392 The same.

1393 John Armerer.

1394 The same.

1395

to (John Capenhurst.

1399 *

1400 John Bebbington.

1401 The same, who dying,
John Marshall succeeded.

1402 Roger Potter.

1403 Ralph Hatton.

1404 John Preston.

1405 ,

to i John Ewowe.
1403 S

1410 Roger Potter.

142

Anno. Maiores.

1411 John Walsh.

1412 »

John Witmore.

to
1414'

1415 John Walsh.

1416 William de Hawarden

1417 John Overton.

1418 William Hawarden.

1419 }

to [John Hope.

1421 >

1422 John Walsh.

1423 John Hatton.
1424

." to > John Hope.

1427 >

1428 John de Bradely.

1429 John Walsh.

1430 Robert Hope.

1431 Richard Masse.

1432 The same.

1433 Thomas Wotton.

1434 Adam Wotton.

1435 John Walsh.

1436 William Stamer.

1437 Richard Masse.

1438 Richard Weston.

1439 Nicholas Daniel.

1440 John Pilkinton.

1441 Hugh Maddock.

1442 John Flint.

Anno. Maiors.

1443 .
to J Nicholas Daniel.

1445 >

1446 Edward Skinner

1447 The same, who dying,
William Rogerson succeeded.

1448 William Rogerson.

1449 William Massy.

1450 William Whitmore.

1451 John Dutton.

1452 William Skinner.

1453 Nicholas Daniel.

1454 The same.

1455 Jenkin Cottingham

1456 The same.

1457 Nicholas Daniel.

1458 The same.

1459 John Southworth.

1460 The same.

1461 David Ferrer.

1462 Robert Brine.

1463 Robert Rogerson.

1464 Roger Ledsham

1465 Richard Rainford.

1466 William Lilly.

1467 John Southworth.

1468 John Dedwood.

1469 Thomas Kent.

1470 Thomas Cottingham

143

Anno

Maiores.

Anno

Maiores.

1471

Robert Rogerson.

1501

Ralph Davenport.

1472

John Spencer.

1502

Richard Wright.

1473

John Witmore.

1503

Richard Goodman.

1474

John Southworth.

1504

Thomas Smith.

1475

Hugh Massey.

1505

Thomas Thornton.

1476

John Southworth.

1506

Thomas Barrow.

1477

The same.

1507

Richard Wrrall.

1478

Robert Notterville.

1508

Ri char d Wi ght .

1479

W I I i am Sneyd.

1509

Thomas Hawar den.

1480

John Sout hwort h.

1510

W I I i am Roger son.

1481

Roger Hur l est on e.

1511

Thomas Smi t h.

1482

The same.

1512

Pi er ce Dut t on.

1483

John Dedvwood.

1513

Si r Pi er ce Dut t on.

1484

Si r John Savage.

1514

The same, deposed

1485

The same.

John Rathbone suc-

1486

Henry Port .

ceeded.

1487

Hugh Hurl est on.

1515

Si r Thomas Smi t h.

1488

Geor ge Bul kel y.

1516

W I I i am Sneyd.

1489

Ral ph Davenport .

1517

William Davison.

1490

John Barrow.

1518

Thomas Barrow.

1491

Randal Sparrow.

1519

John Rathboae.

1492

Roger Hurlston.

1520

Thomas Smith.

1493

Ralph Davenport.

1521

The same.

1494

George Bulkeley.

1522

W I I i am Davi son.

1495

Ri char d W r r a l L

1523

Davi d M d d l e t o n.

1496

Thomas Bar r ow.

1524

Röber t Göul bour n.

1497

Thomas Farr ar .

1525

Röber t Al der sey.

1498

Ri char d^Goodman.

1526

Röber t Bar r ow.

499

John Cl i f f e.

1527

Thomas Smi t h.

1500

Thomas Farrar.

1528

Hugh Aldersey.

144

Annc

Maiors.

Anno

Maiors.

1529

Henry Bradford.

1554

Foulkutton.

1530

Thomas Smith.

1555

John Smith.

1531

William Sneyd.

1556

John Webster.

1532

W I l i a m G o o d m a n .

1557

W I l i a m B i r d .

1533

H e n r y G e e .

1558

L a u r e n c e S m i t h .

1534

R a l p h R o g e r s o n .

1559

H e n r y H a r d w a r e .

1535

S i r T h o m a s S m i t h .

1560

W I l i a m A l d e r s e y .

1536

W I l i a m G o o d m a n .

1561

J o h n C o w p e r .

1537

F o u l k D u t t o n .

1562

Randl e Bamv i l e. ™

1538

Davi d M ddl et on.

1563

Si r Lawr ence Smi t h.

1539

Henr y Gee.

1564

Ri char d Pool .

1540

Lawr ence Smi t h.

1565

Thom as Gr een.

1541

Hngh Al der sey.

1566

Wl l i am Sneyd.

1542'

Wl l i am Beswi ck.

1567

Richard Dutton.

1543

William Sneyd.

1568

William Ball.

1544,

Robert Barton.

1569

Sir John Savage.

1545

William Holcroft.

1570

Sir Lawrence Smith.

1546

Hugh Aldersey, who

1571

John Hankey.

dying,

1572

Roger Lea.

John Smith succeeded.

1573

Richard Dutton.

1547

Ralph Goodman.

1574

Sir John Savage.

1548

Foulk Dutton.

1575

Henry Hardwarre.

1549

Thomas Aldersey.

1576

John Harvey.

1550

Edmund Gee, who

1577

Thomas Bellin.

dying,

1578

William Jewett .

William Goodman

1579

William Goodman,

succeeded.

who dying, g

1551

William Gaseour .

Hugh Rogerson suc-

1552

Thomas Smith.

ceeded ' .

1553

John Offley.

1580,

William Bird.

145

Anno

Mai or s.

Anno

Mai or s. f

1581

Ri char d Bavand.

1602

Hugh G aseour .

1582

W I I i am St i l es.

1603

John Al der sey.

1583

Rober t Br er ewood.

1604

Edwar d^Dut t on.

1584

Val ent i ne Brought on.

1605

John Li t t l er .

1585

Edmund Gamul L

1606

Philip Phillips.

1586

William Wall

1607

Sir John Savage.

1587

Robert Breewood.

1608

William Gamul L.

1588

Robert Brock, who

1609

William Leycester.

dyi ng,

1610

Thomas Harvey.

William Hamet suc-

1611

John Ratcliffe.

ceded.

1612

Robert Witley.

1589

William Cotgrave.

1613

William Aldersey, Jun.

1590

William Massy.

1614

William Aldersey, Sen

1591

Thomas Lineal.

1615

Thomas Throp.

1592

John Fittion.

1616

Edward Button.

1593

David Lloyd.

1617

Charles Fittion.

1594

Foulk Aldersey.

1618

Sir Randal Mainwar-

1595

William Aldersey.

ing.

1596

Thomas Smith.

1619

Hugh Williamson.

1597.

J Sir John Savage, ' who

1620

William Gamull.

dy ing,

1621

Robert Whitehead.

Thomas Fletcher suc-

1622

Sir Thomas Smith.

ceeded.

1623

John Breton.

1598

Richard Rathbone. ' j

1624

Peter Drinkwater.

1599

Henry Hardwar e.

1625

Sir Randal Mainwar -

1600

Robert Breewood,

ing.

who dying,

1626

Ni chol as I nce.

Ri char d Bavand suc-

1627

Ri char d Dut t on. (

- ; -

ceeded.

1628

John Rat cl i f f e.

1601

John Rat cl i f f e.

1629

Chr i st opher B l ease.

146

Anno

Mai or s.

Anno

Mai or s.

1630

Char l es. Wai l ey.

1643

Randle Holme.]

1631

William Allen, who

1644

Charles Valley.

flying,

1645

The same.

Thomas Bird suc-

1646

William Edwards.

ceeded.

1647

Robert Wight.

1632

William Spark.

1648

Richard Bradshaw.

1633

Randle Holme.

1649

William Crompton.

1634

Francis Gamul.

16. 50

Richard Leicester.

1635

Thomas Knowles.

1651

Owen Hughes, who

1636

William Edwards.

dyng,

1637

Thomas Throp.

John Johnson suc-

1638

Robert Sproston.

ceeded.

1639

Robert Harvey.

1652

William Bennett.

1640

Thomas Cooper.

1653

Edward Bradshaw.

1641

Thomas Cooper.

1654

Richard Bird.

1642

William Ince.

1655

William Wight.

SHERIFFS OF CHESHIRE.

Temp. Sheriffs of Cheshire.

Gilbert Pird.

Richard de Pierpont.

Lidulphus (dc Twentow).

Ri char d de Bur ham
Ri char d de Sonbach.
Ri char d de Wenbury (or Wybunbury).
Jordan de Peul esdon.
Hugh de Hat ton.
Pat rick de Hesel wal l .
Wl li am de Spur st ow.
Ri char d de Wl braham
Wl li am de Prae s.
Robert de Bressey.
Phi li p de Egert on.
Davi d de Egert on.
Wl li am de Mbbberl ey.
Ri char d Foul shur st .
John de Wenbury.
Adam de Parker .
Ri char d de Oul st on.
Si r James Audl ey.
Thomas Danyer s (Dai nel l).
Thomas l e Young.

30t h,

H I I .

35t h,

do.

John

do.

15t h,

H I I I .

23r d,

do.

52nd,

do.

56t h,

do.

4t h, :

E. I .

9t h,

do.

15t h,

do.

26t h,

do.

33r d,

do.

2nd,

E. II .

5t h,

do.

13t h,

do.

16 t h,

do.

1st , E. III .

10t h,

do.

19t h,

do.

22nd,

do.

24t h,

do.

33r d,

do.

Temp.

41st ,

? E. III .

44t h,

do.

i st , :

EL II .

8t h,

do.

9t h,

do.

11t h,

do.

12t h,

do.

17t h,

do.

i st , :

H I V.

3r d,

do.

10t h,

do.

3r d,

H V.

10t h,

do.

5t h,

H VI .

8t h,

do.

16t h,

do.

17t h,

do.

22nd

, do.

2nd,

E. I V.

10t h,

H. V I I .

21st ,

do.

16t h,

H. V I I I .

17t h,

do.

18t h,

do.

21st ,

do.

23r d,

do.

33r d ;

, do.

ist, :

Mary.

2nd,

do.

3rd,

do.

148

Sheriffs of Cheshire.

John Scolhall.

Sir Lawrence Dutton.

Hugh Venables (of Kinderton).

Thomas del Wood.

Hugh, Earl of Stafford.

Sir John Massey (of Tatton).

Sir Robert Grosvenor (of Hulme).

Sir Robert Leigh (t.f Adlington).

John Massey (of Puddington).

Henry de Raveuscroft.

Sir William Brereton, of Brereton.

Thos. (or John) Legh (of Booths).

Hugh Dutton (of Hatton).

Richard Warburton.

Sir Ranulph Breton.

John Troutbeck.

Sir Robert Booth (of Dunham Massy).

Sir Robert Booth (his son).

William Stanley (Sen., of Hooton).

John Warburton (of Arley).

Ralph Birkenhead (under-Sheriff).

Sir George Holford (of Holford).

Sir William Stanley (of Hooton).

William Venables (of Kinderton).

John Dore (of Utkinson).

Edward Fittion (of Gawsorth).

John Holford (of Holford).

Sir William Brereton (of Brereton).

Sir Peter Legh (of Lyme).

Sir Hugh Cholmeley (of Cholmeley).

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Temp. Sheriffs of Cheshire.

4th, Mary. Richard Wlbraham (of Woodhey). 1
 5th, do. Sir Thomas Venables (of Kinderton).
 6th, do. Sir Philip Egerton (of Egerton)-
 1st, Eliz. William Cholmley (of Cholmley).
 2nd, do. Sir John Savage (of Rock Savage).
 3rd, do. Sir Ralph Egerton (of Winehill).
 4th, do. Sir John Warburton (of Arley).
 5th, do. Richard Brooke (of Norton).
 6th, do. William Massey.
 7th, do. Sir John Savage (of Rock Savage).
 8th, do. Sir Hugh Cholmley (of Cholmley).
 9th, do. Lawrence Smith (of Haterton).
 10th, do. Ralph Done (of Flaxyards).
 11th, do. George Calvelley (of Lea).
 12th, do. Sir John Savage (of Rock Savage).
 13th, do. Sir William Booth (of Dunham Massey.)
 14th, do. Thomas Stanley (of Alderley).
 15th, do. Sir John Savage (of Rock Savage).
 16th, do. The same.
 17th, do. Henry Mainwaring (of Carineham).
 18th, do. Sir Rowland Stanley (of Hooton).
 19th, do. John Warren (of Poynton).
 20th, do. Thomas Brooke (of Norton).
 21st, do. Sir John Savage (of Rock Savage).
 22nd, do. Sir Ralph Egerton (of Winehill).
 23rd, do. Sir George Calvelley (of Lea).
 24th, do. Sir William Brereton (of Brereton).
 25th, do. Peter Warburton (of Arley).
 26th, do. William Liveridge (of Wheelock).
 27th, do. Thomas Wlbraham (of Woodhey).

Temp.

28t h

, El i z.

29t h

, do.

30t h

, do.

31st ,

do.

32nd, do.

33rd, do.

34t h

, do.

35t h, do.

3

