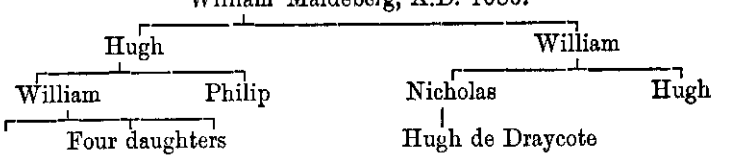
CHARTER OF WILLIAM MALBANC.[1]

Willelmus Malbanc omnibus suis militibus et suis hominibus et omnibus suis ministris salutem. Sciatis me donasse 7 concessisse Huvieto septem panes palm̃o adquietatione totius thelonei intus et deforis excepto stalagio et theloneo salis 7 de theloneo salis iiii quadrigatas quietas in freudo (*sic*) et hereditate illi et suis heredibus libere et quiete et quando ibit cum merce (*sic*) suâ foris vel mittet mercem (sic) per suos homines et velit portare unam sumam salis vel dimidiam habeat illam quietam sine theloneo. Teste Philippo Malbanc et Nicolao filio Willelmi et Henrico de Cruha 7 Hugone filio Willelmi et Rodberto de Praheriis et Rodberto capellano et Nicolao capellano et Willelmo diacono et Willelmo Spulle 7 Rogero de Rap̃ et Edwardo 7 plures alii qui hoc audierunt et Willelmo capellano.

In this deed William Malbanc grants to Huviet seven loaves of bread of the best quality,[2] to be quit of all toll, both within and without (the liberty), excepting stallage,[3] and the toll of salt, and of the toll of salt, four cartloads free, to be held in fee and inheritance, and whenever he goes with his merchandize abroad, or sends his merchandize by his men, and wishes to carry a load of salt, or half a load, he can do so without toll.

The grantor, William Malbanc, was the Baron of Wich Malbank (now Nantwich) in Chesbire, and one of the principal feudatories of the Earls Palatine of Cheshire. He was the son of Hugh Malbanc, the founder of the Abbey of Combermere, and grandson of William Maldeberg, the Domesday tenant of the Barony. The Pipe Rolls shew he was dead in 22 Hen. II. His heirs were four daughters, amongst whom his large possessions were divided. An account of the Barony will be found in *Ormerod's Cheshire*, vol. 3, p. 27. The witnesses to the deed are first, Philip Malbanc, the grantor's brother; secondly, Nicholas, son of William, whom I take to be the ancestor of the Draycots, a knightly family of some importance in Staffordshire. By a deed of somewhat later date William Malbanc confirmed to Hugh, son of Nicholas de Draycote, the grant of the manors of Draycote, Cunsall, Newton, and Leye in Staffordshire. Both this witness and Hugh, son of William, were probably members of the grantor's family, and the pedigree seems to be as follows:—



GEORGE WROTTESLEY.

[1] The original is in the possession of Edward Walthall Delves Walthall, Esq., of Wistaton Hall, Cheshire.

[2] See Ducange for the meaning of Palmarius, we have still the same word in use in the vernacular expression—"to carry off the palm."

[3] Stallagium is the fee for a stall in a market.

Charter of William Malbank.

