WOLFART VAN BORSSELE, EARL OF BUCHAN.

By G. W. Watson.

As this personage has been wholly omitted in the account of the Earls of Buchan by G. E. C. (*Complete Peerage*, vol. ii, p. 55), a few details concerning him may be not uninteresting. He was the eldest son of Henry van Borssele,[1] Heer van der Veere in Zealand, Count of Grandpré in Champagne, Knight of the Golden Fleece, by his second wife Jane, dau. of Oliver van Halewyn, Heer van Lacken and Hemserode.[2] He *m.* firstly, Mary,[3] dau. of James I, King of Scotland. It was doubtless on account of this alliance that he was created Earl of Buchan.[4] By the Scottish princess, who *d.* 20 March 1465, he had two sons Charles and John,[5] who both *d.* young. He *m.* secondly, by contract dated 17 June 1468,[6] Charlotte de Bourbon, dau. of Louis I, Count of Montpensier, of Clermont and of Sancerre, Dauphin of Auvergne, by his second wife Gabrielle, dau. of Bertrand VI, Seigneur de la Tour, Count of Auvergne and Boulogne.[7] He succ. his father as Heer van der Veere, Vlissingen, West-Kapelle and Domburg, and Count of Grandpré, 17 Feb. 1474.[8] He was appointed Governor of Holland, Zealand and Friesland in 1477, in succession to, and on the recommendation of,[9] his brother-in-law, Louis de Bruges, Seigneur de la Gruthuse, Earl of Winchester in England. This office he held till 1480, when he was compelled to resign on account of his favouring the faction of the Hoecks.[5] He was created a Knight of the Golden Fleece at the Chapter held at Bruges, 1-2 May, 1478.[10] In 1487 he sold to Louis de Joyeuse, Seigneur de Botheon in Forez, the *Comté* of Grandpré, which his father had purchased from Quentin le Bouteiller.[11] From 1464 to his death he had been in receipt of a pension of 2,000 *livres* from the King of France, and in an account rendered in 1464 by Matthew

[1] Pedigrees of the whole family of Borssele will be found in *Nieuwe Cronyk van Zeeland*, by Smallegange, Middelburg, 1696, pp. 387-401, and in *Nederlandsch Geslacht-Stam-en Wapen-Boek*, by Abraham Ferwerda, Amsteldam, 1785. They are deduced from a (no doubt wholly apocryphal) Count Lippold, living in the eighth century. A small portion of the pedigree is in Anselme, tom. vii, pp. 104-106. The *Biographisch Woordenboek der Nederlanden*, by A. J. van der Aa, Haarlem, 1855, vol. ii, pp. 943-967, gives elaborate notices of the principal members of this family. See also *Redevoering over 't geslacht van Borssele, met aanteekeningen*, by J. G. Te Water, Middelburg, 1755.

[2] The wife of Oliver van Halewyn was, according to a MS. of d'Hozier, Margaret, dau. of Colard, Seigneur de la Clyte, de Reneghem and de Praines. Anselme (tom. iii, p. 919, and vii, p. 104) is not very clear on this point.

[3] She is called in an old pedigree (*Coll. Top. et Gen.*, vol. i, p. 309), "Ellen, Countess of Camsere," but by Anderson, *Royal Gen.* (more correctly), "Mary, wife of the Marquis of Campvere."

[4] He perhaps visited Scotland in 1449 in the train of Mary of Gueldres.

[5] J. B. Maurice, *Chevaliers de la Toison d'Or*, La Haye, 1667, pp. 47, 90, 123.

[6] Ste. Marthe, *Maison de France*, tom. ii, p. 89.

[7] Anselme, tom. i, p. 314, iv, p. 529.

[8] So Smallegange, Ferwerda, and Van der Aa. Maurice, who is copied by Anselme, gives 1470 (1470/1), probably an error. The date in his epitaph at ter Veere is said to be 15 March 1474.

[9] *Chronike van Vlaenderen*, Brugge, 1727, tom. ii, p. 525-6.

[10] Reiffenberg, *Hist. de l'Ordre de la Toison d'Or*, Bruxelles, 1830.

[11] *L'Art de verifier les Dates*, 1784, tom. ii, p. 638.

Beauvarlet, receiver-general of finances, he is styled Marshal of France, and Chamberlain to the King: but is never afterwards so described.[12] He died at Ghent 29 Apr. 1487, and was buried, with both his wives, in the choir of the church of Sandenburg at ter Veere in Zealand, with the following epitaphs[13]:—

Hier ligt edele ende mogende Heere, Heere Wolfart van Borsele, Grave van Grootvelt, Bouchane, Heere van ter Vere, Vlissinge, Brauwershaven, Aggerwest-capelle ende Domburg, Ruddere van der Ordene van den Gulden-Vliese, Admirael en Kamerling ons geduchten Heeren's Hertogen van Bourgoguien, en synen Stadt-houder van Hollant, Zeelant en Vrieslant; die starf te Gend in't jaer 1487, den 29 April.

En d'edele ende mogende Vrouw, me-Vrouw Marie van Schotland, dochter van Jacop, Koning van Schotland, Gravinne van Bouchane; d'eerste Geselnede van myn-Heere Wolfart van Borsele, Ruddere van der Ordene van den Gulden-Vliese, Grave van Bouchane; die starf in't jaer 1465, den 20 Maerte.

Voorts edele ende mogende Vrouw, Vrouw Charlotte van Bourbon, dochter van Philips, Grave van Clermont, broeder van den Hertog van Bourbon, tweede Huysvrouwe van myn-Heere Wolfart van Borsele, Ruddere van der Ordene van den Gulden-Vliese, Grave van Bouchane, Grandpre, Heere van ter Vere; die starf in't jaer 1478, den 14 Maerte.

By his second wife, who *d.* 14 March 1478, he had one son Louis, who died young, and four daughters[5]:—

(1) Anne, eldest dau. and principal heiress, Vrouw van der Veere.[14] She *m.* firstly, in 1481, Philip of Burgundy, Heer van Beveren in Flanders, Knight of the Golden Fleece (only son of Antony, "le grand bastard" of Burgundy), who *d.* at Bruges, 4 July 1498. She *m.* secondly, abt. 1500, Lodewijk van Montfoort, "a nobleman without means," who *d.* 10 Nov. 1505. She *d.* 8 Dec. 1518.

(2) Margaret, Vrouw van Cloetingen and Riederkerk.[14] She *m.* in 1492, as his first wife, Walrave van Brederode II, Heer van Brederode, Vianen and ter Ameyde, who *d.* in 1531. She *d.* at Brussels in 1507.[15]

(3) Mary, *m.* in 1489, Martin, Free Baron of Polheim, Knight of the Golden Fleece, who *d.* in 1498.[16]

(4) Jane, *m.* Wolfgang IV, Free Baron of Polheim auf Partz, and *d.* in 1509. He, who was a Knight of the Golden Fleece, and third cousin of Martin mentioned above, was *b.* in 1458 and *d.* 11 Nov. 1512.[16]