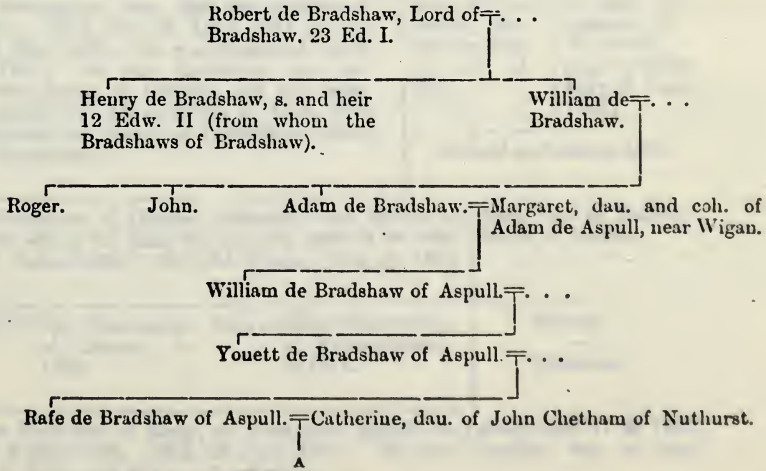
URMSTON OF WESTLEIGH, AND BRADSHAW OF PENNINGTON, CO. LANCASTER.

I am much interested in these two families, referred to by W.H.B.B. in his interesting notes on the Mascy and Lathom pedigrees, and am desirous of ascertaining several points in connection with their origin and descent.

There can, I think, be no doubt but that the Urmstons of Westleigh were a branch of the Urmstons of Urmston, and I should be glad to be able to connect the two. The founder of the Westleigh line was clearly the Richard de Urmston who married Sigreda or Silherhilda, and in her right became possessed of the manor of Westleigh. He was living at Westleigh before 1292, but was dead in 1316, when Sigreda, "in the days of her pure widowhood," granted to Richard, her son, and his heirs for ever, her manor of Westleigh and the advowson of the Church of Westleigh. This son Richard, the husband of Alice de Lathom, I had supposed to be the eldest son. His descendants continued to hold the manor of Westleigh until the seventeenth century. John de Urmston who was Rector of Leigh 1318-26, and Geoffrey de Urmston, living in 1324, who married Margery, daughter of Robert de Hyndley, and had grants of land in Winstanley, were possibly other sons of Richard and Sigreda. Geoffrey de Urmston might also be identical with Galfrid de Urmston "of Urmston in the Hundred of Salford," who paid a lay subsidy in 1332.

The origin of the Bradshaws of Pynynston (or Pennington) has long perplexed me. They were lords of that manor down to the commencement of the eighteenth century. A pedigree in the Piccope MSS. (Chetham Coll.) derives them from a second son of Bradshaw of Bradshaw, thus :—



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A

Henry Bradshaw. = Janet, dau. of John Risley of Risley.

Henry Bradshaw. = Elizabeth, dau. of Wm. Gerard of Ince.

William Bradshaw of Aspull, gent. = Margery, dau. of Hugh Hindley of Hindley.
[His will pr. at Chester 1558.]

James Bradshaw of Aspull, had land in Wigan and the lease of Pennington. = Elizabeth, dau. and heir of John Hassocke of Wigan.

Oliver Bradshaw, "of whom came Thomas B. of St. John de Luce in Spayne."

Rafe Bradshaw "was disinherited and the land estated to his son." = Anne, dau. of Rafe Orrel of Turton.

Cecily. = Miles Gerard.

Ellen. = Peter Marsh.

(1) Dau. of Wm. Downham, Bishop of Chester. = Roger Bradshaw of Aspull and Penniston. Will dat. 7 June 1625, pr. at Chester 1625 [bur. at Leigh 18 June 1625]. = (2) Elizabeth, coh. to Roger Hindley of Aspull, d. s.p. = (3) Ellen, dau. of John Owen of Manchester, by the dau. of Langley of Prestwich, survived her husband.

Rafe of London, and others.

William Bradshaw, also disinherited. = Dau. of Brown of Brownsopp, [? Elizabeth, wife of William Bradshaw of Aspull, bur. at Wigan 1 June 1614].

Ralfe of London, and others.

Henry Bradshaw of Manchester. = Eliza, dau. of Wm. Wynkland of Lusston, co. Hereford, and left issue.

Richard Bradshaw of Chester, merchant, Sheriff 1639, of Pennington, Esq., had the mansion of Pennington. Will dat. 28 April 1681 [pr. at Chester 2 Nov. 1685. He was buried at Leigh 24 Aug. 1685]. He mar. Katherine, dau. and coh. of John Fitton of Chester, and left issue. His line failed with his grandson in 1703, with whose daughter the manor of Pennington passed from the Bradshaws.

John Bradshaw of Farnworth, also disinherited by will of 1625. = Dorothy, dau. of John Devenport of Woodford, [mar. at Prestbury 6 Sept. 1625].

Edward and others, 1639.

Edward Bradshaw of Chester, Alderman and Mercer of Chester, on whom the land was estated, aged 34 in 1638. Sheriff of Chester 1636. Will dat. 3 Sept. 1670, pr. 1670. = Mary, dau. of Matthew Stone of London.

Elizabeth. = Geo. Manwaring of Chester, in 1672.

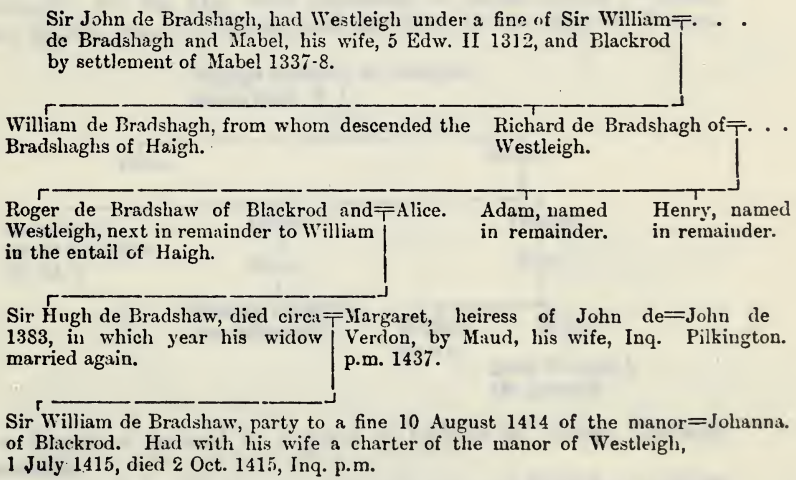
Mary. = Roger Manwaring of Kermoncham, in 1672.

Edward. — Catherine.

Sir James Bradshaw of Risby, co. York [and Aspull, co. Lanc.], aged 17 in 1664. Exor. to father's will. [Kn. 28 June 1673. He mar. Dorothy, dau. of John Ellerker of Risby, and left two daughters.]

In the foregoing pedigree there is no place for Richard de Bradshaw, the husband of Cecilia Lathom, whose existence as lord of the manor is nevertheless well attested by local documents. He paid lay subsidies between 1292—1342, and witnessed to a deed as late as 1353. There must thus have been two distinct families of Bradshaw who held the manor of Pennington, the Aspull Bradshaws apparently not being connected with it until the time of Elizabeth. How and when the manor passed from one to the other is not known.

The suggestion of W. H. B. B. that Richard de Bradshaw was connected with the Westleigh line is highly probable, and had previously occurred to me, Westleigh and Pennington being adjoining townships. But I have never been able to confirm this. In Townley's *Abstracts of Lancashire Inquisitions* (Chetham Soc. Vol.) the Westleigh Bradshaws are shewn to be a branch of the Bradshaws of Haigh, thus :—



Richard de Bradshaw of Pennington—if the son of a Roger de Bradshaw—could not have been identical with Richard de Bradshagh of Westleigh, though obviously the two were contemporary. The difference between the foregoing and the usually received pedigrees of the Bradshaghs of Haigh, will be at once apparent. There can be no doubt but that our knowledge of the earlier generations of all the Bradshaw families is in a very confused state, and that much requires to be done before they are placed upon satisfactory record.

W. D. Pink.