THE TOPOGRAPHER

AND

GENEALOGIST.

THE ANCIENT EARLDOMS OF ENGLAND.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

By long sustained reputation, and by the suffrages of a continued series of deeply indebted authors and compilers, during a period of nearly two centuries, the Baronage of Sir William Dugdale is the admitted authority upon all matters relating to the genealogical history of the Peers of England. Nor is the reputation of that great work undeserved: for its Author delivered fairly and judiciously, from the evidence before him, all the information he possessed respecting the *magnates et proceres* of his native country. His statements were deduced, as his title-page declares, "from publick records, antient historians, and other *authorities*." He neither indulged in theories, in order to display his own penetration or ingenuity; nor admitted legendary fictions and cunningly devised fables to flatter either the fond fancies of old families or the unwarranted assumptions of new. In this respect he not only earned a confidence which was not due to his now almost forgotten predecessors;[a] but he set an

[a] The following works are here alluded to:

Baronagium Genealogicum. By Sir William Segar, Garter King of Arms. This was not printed, but remains in MS. in the College of Arms. Sir William Betham, Ulster, has an early if not an original copy. It is said by Moule (Bibliotheca Heraldica, p. 54) that Edmondson (by which we must understand Sir Joseph Ayloffe, the patron and prompter of Edmondson,) derived his Baronagium from this source.

The Catalogue of Honor. By Thomas Milles. 1610, folio.

A Catalogue and Succession of the Kings, Princes, Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, and Viscounts, of this Realme of England. By Raphe Brooke esquire, York Herauld. 1619, folio. 2d edition, 1622.—Brooke had previously published about 1599 "A Discoverie of certaine Errours," in Camden's Britannia, "very prejudiciall to the Discentes and Successions of the aunciente Nobilitie of this Realme;"

example which some of his successors have not had the courage to pursue. The Baronage is then a good and sound authority, so far as it goes: except—and the exceptions are necessarily many—where, from inaccurate or conflicting testimony, or from some of the many causes of misapprehension ever incident to such inquiries, the Author has fallen into errors. Those errors, as well as his deficiencies, it has been the business of subsequent authors, in particular instances, to correct,[b] where their more minute inquiries, or the development of fresh sources of information, may have placed additional facts within their knowledge; but it is not a little remarkable that no one has since attempted either to form a work which should supersede that of Dugdale,[c] or so far to "bend the bow of Ulysses," as to reproduce "The Baronage of England," in an amended and continued form.

The gigantic vastness of such an undertaking, ever increasing with each successive generation, and with the perpetual introduction of "new blood" and new races into the roll of Peers, may well account for this deficiency. It were indeed a work worthy of all patronage and encouragement; but it is a task rather for a company of authors than any single hand.

In forming the plan on which such a work should be conducted, it will be wise to consider what materials may be rejected as unnecessary and superfluous, as well as those which are of essential importance. The first object of attention in each case should be the nature, origin, and descent of the dignity itself. This is the stem which is to be clothed with the branches

and Augustine Vincent, Rouge croix, published in 1622, "A Discoverie of Errours" in Brooke's Catalogue.

"The Union of Honour, containing the Armes, Matches, and Issues of the Kings, Dukes, Marquesses and Earles of England, from the Conquest until the present yeare 1640. By James Yorke, Black-Smith." 1640, folio.

[b] In 1739 was published, anonymously, a pamphlet entitled, "Three Letters, containing remarks on some of the numberless errours and defects in Dugdale's Baronage." 8vo.

In the "Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica," have been recently printed, in vols. I. and II. Sir William Dugdale's own corrections, from his copy in the Bodleian Library; and in vols. IV—VIII. the collections of Francis Townsend, esq. Windsor herald, for the same purpose, from his MSS. in the College of Arms.

[c] The works of subsequent authors have been *parts* only of Dugdale's design. Collins was a very industrious compiler, but he confined his labours to existing families. Edmundson's Baronagium is a series of tabular pedigrees. The work of Mr. Banks is a Dormant and Extinct Baronage (3 vols. 4to, 1807-9, and a supplemental volume, entitled, "Stemmata Anglicana," 1825.)

and foliage of the family which has flourished upon it. The next consideration is the personal history of the Peers; in which there is much danger of being led astray into so extended a view of the events in which they bore part, as belongs more properly to the scope of biography if not of general history. A biographical history of a family, illustrated by documents, forms a work of high interest; but such a scheme of compilation could not be followed with uniformity and success throughout a general peerage. The third essential point is the strictly genealogical part, consisting in the deduction from authentic sources of the marriages and issue of the Peers; involving, in course, the duration and fortunes of the cadets and junior branches. A fourth desideratum, which has hitherto been little regarded, is to collect an account of whatever personal memorials may still be in existence. It will be interesting to inquire whether the architectural works of an illustrious man still exist. Whether his monument remains; his portrait; or his seal; whether any of his letters are preserved; or even his signature; or where there are known to be any of his charters, his household books, or other important records. If any of these have been published, of course it will be desirable to state that circumstance.[d]

To introduce, however, the substance or the particulars of such records into the body of a Peerage can only tend to confusion; and perhaps it is in this respect that the narrative of Dugdale is most liable to objection. The publication of the calendar of Inquisitions post Mortem,[e] and other public records, since his time, as well as our numerous body of topographical histories, has rendered his *territorial* information as comparatively scanty as it is undeniably obtrusive and perplexing. If given, it should be in a subordinate place. This may appear a

[d] The two magnificent fasciculi of "Histories of British Families," by Henry Drummond, esq. of Albury, of which some further notice is taken in a subsequent page, may appear at a first view to offer a promise of filling up the outline sketched out in the text. Their illustrative engravings are indeed admirable; but, if the work proceeds, much greater labour should be expended on its compilation; and dates, instead of being systematically neglected, should be sought with the diligence of a fisher for pearls. If Mr. Drummond's pedigrees are compared with those of Mr. Baker's Northamptonshire or Mr. Hodgson's Northumberland, our meaning will be seen.

[e] In treating of the subject under discussion, this Calendar cannot be mentioned without remarking that, whilst it gives a list of the lands, it omits those parts of the records most valuable to the genealogist, the names and ages of the heirs.

point of technical detail; but it will be allowed that, in matters of this kind, a perspicuous arrangement and an unbroken uniformity of plan is a very important quality.

As a specimen, on a limited scale, of such a Peerage as our modern resources ought to enable us to produce, it is proposed to compile, for the present work, the early history and genealogy of some of the English Earldoms.

The dignity of Earl is the oldest of our titles of peerage, and was in fact for some ages the only one; for the Barons had not then obtained the title of Lord. The King was surrounded with his Earls, and all other laymen of rank were Knights.[f] When Parliaments were held, some of the latter were summoned as the greater Barons; others were elected from the counties as the representatives of the lesser Barons; but all were content with the simple title which belonged to the honourable estate of knighthood.

Long before the range of our Parliamentary history, Earls appear as officers of the highest importance. It is asserted by some old writers that "the title and dignity of *Comes*, Earl, was introduced into England by the Normans at the Conquest;"[g] but this is contradicted not only by Domesday Book, but by earlier records.[h]

It is argued in the Third Peerage Report, that at the compilation of Domesday Book the dignity of Earl was not "territorial," because the Earls mentioned in that record are designated by their Christian names only, without the addition of any local title.[i] But if these Earls, the Saxons as well as their Norman-

[f] The Barons and Vavasours were the superior classes of feudal tenants of land, but it no where appears that they bore any personal titles.

[g] Quoted in Nicolas's Synopsis of the Peerage, p. lxxii. So Heylin—"the title of Earl has been *as antient* in this kingdom as the line of Normandy." (Help to English History.)

[h] See the witnesses to some of the Saxon charters; as one of Athelstan 929 (Kemble, ii. 162) + Osferth comes cum ducibus et ceteris optimatibus, Ælfwaldo, &c. (sixteen others.) But *dux* is the more customary title in the genuine charters.

[i] "The title of Earl was unquestionably a name of dignity, both before and after the Norman conquest, designating persons of high rank and power..... No person mentioned in Domesday as holding of the King, and to whom the title of Comes is given in that collection *(sic)*, is there styled Comes of any county or place in England.... On the contrary, it appears from Domesday, that those who had the title of Comes in Normandy, or in any foreign country, are generally, though not always, in that record styled by their Norman or foreign titles; whilst those

successors, were local functionaries, which is admitted,[k] it follows that their jurisdictions were limited to certain districts. We thus have both Earls and Earldoms. If, further, the office and dignity was hereditary, nothing more appears to be wanting to complete its character. It is, moreover, beyond dispute that, besides their official income (which was the third penny of the revenues of the county,) these Earls were further endowed with broad lands, hereditary with their Earldoms. How, then, is the dignity of the Domesday Earls apparently less "territorial" than that of the Comtes of France? It is evident that the only deficiency is the local designation—what we now term "a title." But to attach any importance to this deficiency is, at once, to place the shadow in the room of the substance; and to view (which is often erroneously done) an ancient institution through the medium of modern notions. A mere title, with a certain rank and privileges, now constitutes an Earldom. The nominal title is now its vital principle, and as it were a large part of its substance. But at the time of Domesday the dignity was in most respects more real even without a title: it not only enjoyed the privileges of rank, as now; but it was official, and endowed with official revenues; and certainly territorial, inasmuch as it was accompanied by large estates, which were the necessary source of the support of its possessor in his station and supremacy. The dignity

who were Earls under the Saxon government, are generally styled by their Christian names only, though in one instance, the Countess Godiva is mentioned as having been the wife of *Leofric Earl of Mercia*. This seems to import that at the time of the compilation of Domesday, the idea of a territorial dignity, corresponding with the territorial dignity of Comes or Count in France, was not prevalent in England." Third Report, pp. 94, 95.—But even here the Reporter was wrong: in Warwickshire (f. 240 b.) we read *Godeva uxor Leurici comitis*, but not *comitis Merciæ*.

[k] "The Saxon Earls are generally supposed to have had official dignities, giving them certain duties, powers, and privileges in certain districts. In the early part of the reign of the Conqueror it is probable that such persons as had the title of Earl under the Saxon government and submitted to William, were allowed to retain that dignity as they retained his favour, which however was of no long duration. The Earls Edwin and Morcar were the principal, if not the only persons, answering this description, unless Earl Waltheof also fell within it. After the death of Edwin, and the imprisonment of Morcar, no person seems to have succeeded them as Earls of their respective districts, which seem to have been Mercia, and Northumberland, the latter comprising Yorkshire, as part of the country north of the Humber." Ibid. p. 142.

was besides hereditary, and more largely so than now, for it descended (under certain limitations of the feudal law and the prerogative of the sovereign) to heirs general as well as heirs male. Above all, it was a distinction confined to a very few, to so few indeed, that a single name was sufficient to designate its possessor; and there was as much meaning in the two words "Earl Hugh," as if the Domesday scribes had written The Right Honourable Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester.[1]

It is indeed unreasonable to expect that, at a time when even Surnames were only partially adopted, any material importance should have been attached to that further stage of distinction, an honorary Title. We know from many instances, that large landed proprietors changed their names with their residences; at one great manor they were designated by its local appellation, and so again at another. We find precisely the same practice in the case of Earls. As Dugdale himself has remarked,

"Of those Earls which were before the Norman Conquest, and for some time after, it is observable, That they were not Titular, but Officiary, that is to say, in the nature of Vice-Roys or Lieutenants to the King in their respective Counties; their chief residence being, for the more part, in the Principal Town of the Shire; whereupon they had, vulgarly, their Denomination from thence. Likewise that, though the antient Earls of Sussex had their seat in Arundel Castle, and for that reason were commonly called Earls of Arundel, there is nothing more certain than that they were Earls of that County; as Ferrers was of Derbyshire, though sometimes called Earl of Tutbury, in regard that Tutbury Castle (in Staffordshire) was his chief seat. And Gilbert Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, though sometimes called Earl of Striguil, by reason that he had his chief residence at Striguil Castle, near Chepstow in Monmouthshire." (Preface to Baronage.)

After Earls had ceased to be generally known by their baptismal names, there were two or three families in which they continued to use their surnames, instead of any local title. One instance, that of Ferrers, has been mentioned in the passage of

[1] It may be remarked that even now the like practice prevails among the Princes of the Blood Royal, who, though they have titles of Peerage, continue to sign only their Christian names.

Dugdale, just quoted. Another was that of Warren, which name was continued through two houses, both the first, which sprung form William de Warren, the son-in-law of the Conqueror; and the second, which descended from the marriage of Hameline, base brother of King Henry II. with the heiress of the former. And yet the fact, that the first William de Warren was created "Earl of Surrey" by the Conqueror, rests on the substantial authority of one of his own charters.[i] A third example is that of Marshal Earl of Pembroke, a name not only designative of the office held by the Earl, but also borne by all the members of his family, which had no other. This circumstance is remarkably exemplified in the style of "Comes Mareschal junior," by which William Marshal occurs among the twenty-five magnates appointed to enforce the observance of Magna Charta. It is evident there were not two persons holding the *office* of Earl-Marshal at the time; nor even two invested with what we now call the *peerage*, or dignity of Earl; but there was a peer generally known by the *name* of Earl Marshal; and there was his son and heir-apparent known by the same name with the necessary distinction of his being the younger.

These few observations on the dignity of an Earl are purposely confined within a brief compass; for a more extended disquisition, if interwoven with theories or conjectures, might be less satisfactory on a subject admitted by the best authors to be beset with difficulties.[k] Other facts, however, would doubtless be developed should the undertaking here commenced be proceeded with; and we shall rest on the most solid and secure basis, if we accept only contemporary and historical evidence, influenced as

[i] Qui me Comitem Surregiæ fecit. Third Peerage Report, p. 94.

[k] "Although the third Report of the Lords' Committees on the Peerage contains a very extensive inquiry on the subject of Earldoms, and, indeed, though all the research and learning which it was possible to bring to this subject have been there employed, no satisfactory conclusion can be formed. .... In the following pages it was sometimes found a most difficult task to decide to whom the title of Earl should properly be attributed. ....The difficulty, if not the impossibility, of arriving at any conclusion that can be relied on, is the Editor's apology for not enlarging on this head." Introduction to Sir Harris Nicolas's Synopsis of the Peerage, p. lxxiv. where will be found an abstract of the observations on Earldoms contained in the "Treatise on Dignities" by Mr. Cruise.

little as possible by the legal opinions, or even the judicial decisions, of subsequent ages.[1]

A world of learning on the subject, of which latter writers have but little availed themselves, is contained in one of the works of the great Selden, named "Titles of Honor."

[1] A perusal of the volume entitled "Dignities, Feudal and Parliamentary, and the Constitutional Legislature of the United Kingdom," &c. &c. by Sir William Betham, Ulster King of Arms, 8vo. 1830, will be found to impart an historical view of the subject, free from the mists of successive legal interpreters. His eighth chapter is an abstract of the Third General Report of the Lords' Committees, whose labours (principally the work of the late Lord Redesdale) are thus characterised at p. 3: "The laborious and voluminous Reports of the Lords' Committees contain a great mass of information, but it may be said to be of materials only, mixed up indeed with reflections and arguments, but in such a form, that minds endowed with vigorous and strong powers of arrangement, alone are able to digest them, after repeated readings and the most painful investigation."

Lord Redesdale's lucubrations are still more severely censured in another recent work:

"The Report itself is an ill-written, rambling, and, in the present [the Earldom of Arundel] as well as other instances, a prejudiced performance. It is filled with conclusions the most startling, and assertions the most contradictory: it teems with conjectures and surmises of the most confident and commodious description; but it contains also much valuable information, and abounds with such evidences of deep research as have secured for it no trifling degree of authority among writers even of a superior class. Hence it becomes the more necessary to notice its misstatements, and expose the ignorance, either real or affected, which it too frequently betrays." History and Antiquities of Arundel, by the Rev. M. A. Tierney, F.S.A. 8vo. 1834, p. 112, and see in pp. 113, 127, some "out of numberless similar instances of Lord Redesdale's habitual incorrectness." Again, p. 115, "If a document or historian contradict his peculiar theory, the opposing evidence is instantly rejected as of no authority: if, on the other hand, the same document or the same historian appear to coincide with his views, the favourable sentence is forthwith produced as a testimony from which there is no appeal. Even the silence of the record or the writer is deemed a sufficient ground for a conclusion; and the mere absence of a negative upon his assumptions is converted into a positive attestation in their favour," &c. &c.

THE EARLDOM OF LINCOLN.

The dignity of Earl within the shire of Lincoln first appears in the reign of Stephen. According to all accounts hitherto accepted, the Norman chieftain upon whom it was then conferred, derived some hereditary claims to it from Anglo-Saxon ancestors, and even by descent from the Saxon Earls of Mercia. But, as this statement rests only upon the assertions of monkish genealogists, a most blundering race, and indeed in great measure, if not entirely, upon the chronicle and charters of Croyland abbey, one of the most voluminous series of monastic fabrications,[m] we can only give partial credit to its representations, so far as we find them supported by sounder authorities.

Camden[n] says, "Comites suos Lincolniensis hic ager jactat, post (1) Eggam qui anno 716 floruit et (2) Morcarum Saxones, Gulielmum de Romara Normannum e Lucia Morcari sorore et Rogero Fitz-Gerold Romari natum," &c.

Of (1) Egga nothing more can be said but that his name occurs among the witnesses of the fictitious charter, purporting to be that of the foundation of Croyland abbey by King Ethelbald, in the year 716.[o]

(2) Earl Morcar is a person of more certain historical existence. He was the son of Algar Earl of Mercia, or Leicester; his brother Edwin is said to have succeeded to the same dignity, whilst Morcar himself was Earl of Northumberland; and their sister Edgiva, or Algytha, was the Queen of the unfortunate Harold.

The monkish chroniclers have further stated that there was another sister[p] named Lucy, who is made by them the mother of William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln, and of the second Ra-

[m] As if to confirm, on their own report, the fictitious character of their charters, which is so plain from internal evidence, the monks have confessed that, in the fire which destroyed the monastery in 1091, "omnia monimenta nostra nimio ignis calore concreta sunt et penitus concremata." Ingulphus.

[n] Britannia. Dugdale also admits Egga into his Baronage, vol. i. p. 6.

[o] The name has been printed Eggo by Mr. Kemble, Chartæ Anglo-Saxon. 8vo. 1839, i. 79.

[p] — relictis tribus liberis, duobus filiis, scilicet Edwino et Morkario, postea comitibus, et *unica filia, quæ nunc superest, Comitissa Lucia.*" Historia Ingulphi.

nulph Earl of Chester. Of her more presently. But first of her assumed grandmother the Countess Godeva.

The Countess Godeva, or Godgifa,[q] whose name is still popular in Warwickshire as the gracious authoress of the liberties of Coventry, and who was undeniably a great benefactress to the church of that city, was the wife of Earl Leofric, the father of Earl Algar. Leofric died in 1057, and Godeva probably survived. Either to that cause, or to her having great power over her property even during her husband's life, we may ascribe the frequent mention of her name. She joined with her husband in the foundation of the monastery of Stow, near Lincoln.[r]

It was stated by the monks of Croyland, that the Countess Godiva was the sister of Turold sheriff of Lincolnshire.

Turold himself was divided by them into two persons, the first of whom they placed no less than three centuries and a half before the real one! asserting that the manor of Bukenhale had been given to them by Turold the Sheriff before 806;[s] whilst

[q] Sir Henry Ellis, Domesday Indexes, vol. i. p. 426, has applied to the Countess Godeva a passage in the survey of Staffordshire, where it is said of half a hide at Madeley, "Hanc tenuit Godiva *etiam post adventum Regis W.* in Angliam, sed recedere non potuit cum terra." (Lib. Domesday, i. p. 249, col. 2.) But the identity of this Godiva with the Countess is not clear.

[r] See in the Monasticon Angl. i. 262, the Saxon charter of foundation between "Wlwig biscope and Leofric eorl and Godgife thres eorles wife:" also a Latin charter of the Countess Godiva alone, addressed to Pope Victor, who reigned 1055—1057.

[s] See the pretended charters of King Kenulf and Witlaf, in Ingulphus, ann. 806 et 833; Mon. Angl. i. 166; History of Croyland, 1783, Appx. p. 7; and Kemble's Cartæ Anglo-Saxon. 1839, i. 236, 305.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

It is proposed to point out at the foot of the page the errors into which Dugdale and other authors of repute have fallen: in order to guard future writers against them, without unnecessarily incumbering or confusing the text. With regard to the errors or incoherencies of manuscript authorities, they will be noticed, if requisite, in the preceding notes.

Another Sister of the Saxon Earls.] It may be remarked that in the reign of Ric. II. the Prior of Coventry alleged that the Earls of Chester were descended from the Earls of Mercia through Ermenilda, who also was asserted to have been the sister of Leofric, and the mother of Hugh (Lupus) the first Norman Earl of Chester. Plac. Hill. 14 Ric. II. in Mon. Angl. i. 305. This, however, was not credited by Sir Peter Leycester, nor by Dugdale.—The Ardens have claimed descent from Leverunis, still another sister; see the notice of Mr. Drummond's British Families, hereafter.

the second Turold "of Bukenhale" (which manor his ancestor had so long before parted with!) they stated to have given them the manor of Spalding in 1051.[t] This last property was the subject of great disputes between the abbey and their Norman lord Ivo Taillebois; and as their pretended charter of "Thoraldus de Bukenhale" was unquestionably a forgery, so it is not uncharitable to suppose that their claims were imperfectly founded. That Turold was really sheriff, and that he gave the manor of Bukenhale to Croyland abbey, rests on the authority of Domesday Book,[u] and it is all we know with certainty about him. But the frequent repetitions of his name in the charters of the priory of Spalding,[v] in enumeration of former lords of the place, shows that he was regarded as its Saxon lord; and the fact that the name of Earl Algar occurs in Domesday Book in the same position,[x] may be thought some corroboration of the assertion that the Countess Godeva, Earl Algar's mother, was the sister of Turold.

[t] "Totum manerium suum de Spaldyng." Hist. Ingulphi, anno 1051; also the pretended charter in Hist. of Croyland, Appx. p. 29; and Mon. Angl. i. 306; commencing, "Ego Thoroldus de Bukenhale coram nobilissimo domino meo Leofrico comite Leycestriæ, et nobilissima comitissa sua *Godiva sorore mea*," &c. assuming to convey "in villa de Spaldinge totum manerium meum situm juxta parochialem ecclesiam ejusdem villæ." By a comparison of the Domesday survey of St. Guthlac's land in Spalding with that of Ivo Taillgebosc, it will be seen that the former was small in comparison to the latter.

[u] Hanc terram dedit Turoldus vicecomes Sancto Gutlaco pro anima sua.

[v] Ivo Taleboys gave in 1085 the church of Spalding to the church of St. Nicholas of Anjou, for the souls of King William, Queen Matilda, himself, his wife Lucy, and the ancestors of Torald, which were those of his wife. Mon. Angl. i. 307. In another charter of Spalding, Hugh Earl of Chester enumerates "antecessores mei, scilt. Torald vicecomes et Lucia comitissa, et Ranulphus comes avus meus, et pater meus." Cole's Collections, MS. Addit. 5844, p. 432.

[x] In Spallinge habebat Algar comes in car., &c. fol. 351 b.

Errors, &c.

Family of Thorold.] The mention of Thorold de Bukenhale under Spalding in Gibson's Camden (edit. 17 , ii.), gave occasion for this pretty little piece of genealogical flattery inserted by way of parenthesis—"(from whom descended a numerous family that is and ever was an honour, ornament, and benefactors to this country,)" alluding, of course, to the Thorolds, of Marston, in Lincolnshire, Baronets; and, in chorus, there is a page and a half about Thorold of Bukenhale at the head of the pedigree of Thorold, in Wotton's Baronetage, 1741, vol. ii. together with this note, at p. 339, "I take it that Thorold, who was Abbot of Peterborough, and Bishop of Beauvais in France, was of this family." This idea is the prototype of that entertained by a gentleman named Lawrence, who reckoned all the bishops and abbots named Lawrence among his ancestry. That Thorold also was a name not uncommon, may be judged from Sir H. Ellis's Domesday Indexes.

Lucy, the daughter of Earl Algar, was married to Ivo de Taillebois, according to the Croyland chronicles, before the year 1071;[y] the only issue of which marriage is said to have been a daughter, "nobly espoused." Yet after the death of Ivo in 1114, forty-three years after, she is made to marry again,[z] and have issue William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln; and still again to marry thirdly, Ranulph Earl of Chester, and have issue two sons and two daughters. It is evident that this account of a single Lucy, the wife both of Ivo Tailleboys and of Ranulph Earl of Chester, must be incorrect; and it has been suggested[a] that there were two heiresses, the mother and the daughter, which will account for the "only daughter, nobly espoused," who has been already mentioned, but of whom the Croyland monk could tell nothing further.[b]

Ivo Taillebois accompanied the Conqueror to England from the province of Anjou:[c] and was rewarded with extensive lands in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, lying particularly in the district of Holland.[d] After the death of Brand abbat of Peterborough in 1071, he was called upon to protect his Norman successor, named Thorold, from the attack of Herward, a Saxon, the

[y] Ingulphus.

[z] Genealogia Fundatoris Coventren. Abbat. ad calc. Florentii Wigorn. Extract in Mon. Angl. i. 304.

[a] For the first time in the History of Lacock Abbey, 8vo. 1835, p. 71.

[b] The writer referred to is Peter de Blois, who continued the History of Croyland which goes by the name of Ingulphus. His notice of the marriage is accompanied by the mis-statement that Lucy was much honoured by William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln, the "*elder brother* of her husband,"—who was in fact her son, and not Earl until some five-and-twenty years after.

[c] Ingulphus calls him "Yvo Comes," and "Comite Andegavensi Yvone Talhois:" so also the Annales de Peterborough, Mon. Angl. i. 306: but there is no ground for supposing him a member of the sovereign house of the Comtes of Anjou. It is possible that the Croyland historians gave him the title of *Comes* partly because they regarded his assumed wife Lucy as *Comitissa*. They state him to have been a candidate for the Earldom of Northampton and Huntingdon, on the death of Earl Waltheof in 1075.

[d] "Huic autem Yvoni Tailboys post necem predictorum duorum fratrum et comitum Edwini et Morkarii, Luciam sororem eorum, cum omnibus terris et tenementis ad eosdem pertinentibus, inclytus rex Willielmus dederat in uxorem: quæ quia in Hoylandia potissimè jacebant," &c. (Hist. Ingulphi.) In a subsequent passage the marriage of Yvo to Lucy is fixed to 1073, and the dismissal of the Croyland monks from the cell of Spalding to 1074.

Errors, &c.

Earl of Anjou.] In Nicolson's Westmorland, p. 30, the first Baron of Kendal is confidently called "Ivo de Talebois, brother to Fulk earl of Anjou."

nephew of abbat Brand, who, hoping to perpetuate the Saxon ecclesiastical dynasty, attacked that city, and put the new abbat to flight: but, in the battle which ensued, Ivo was himself taken prisoner, and had to purchase his freedom with a large sum of money.[e]

In 1074 he gave the church of Spalding to the abbey of St. Nicholas at Angers, dismissing from the place the Croyland monks who occupied the cell there;[f] and in the next year he promoted the deposition of Ulfketyl abbat of Croyland, who was banished to the monastery of Glastonbury, in consequence of having fostered the popular excitement at the miracles said to take place at the tomb of Earl Waltheof.[g]

In the year 1085, in the presence of the King, the Bishops of Lincoln and Durham, and others, at Gloucester, he concluded another covenant with Natalis abbat of Angers, respecting the church, &c. of Spalding.[h]

On the accession of Rufus, in 1087, he is stated to have been so much in the favour of the new King,[i] that he was encouraged to make fresh invasions upon the rights of Croyland abbey; but only two years after he joined the rebellion raised in favour of the

[e] The achievements of Herward form the subject of a romantic chronicle, De Gestis Herwardi Saxonis, which, together with the Vita et Passio Waldevi Comitis, have been published in the Chroniques Anglo-Normandes, edited by M. Francisque Michel, Rouen, 8vo. 1836.

[f] Ingulphus. According to the Annales de Peterborough (Mon. Angl. i. 306), Thorold the Sheriff founded the priory of Spalding for six monks from Croyland, in 1052; in 1059, Ulfketyl, abbat of Croyland, assisted by Earl Algor, increased their maintenance, giving them his timber chapel of the same town (*ligneam capellam suam ejusdem villæ*).

[g] Hist. Ingulphi.

[h] See in the Monasticon Angl. i. 307, a "vetus apographum" detailing the particulars. It states that Ivo bestowed the church of Spalding, &c. "pro Willielmi regis ac Matildæ reginæ uxoris suæ animabus, necnon pro sui ipsius, et conjugis suæ Luciæ, *et antecessorum Toraldi, scilicet uxoris ejus*, requie." This implies an important circumstance with regard to the representation of Turold: but another copy of the same entry, extracted from the cartulary of Angers in the "Histoire de la Maison de Sablé," gives this reading, "necnon pro sui ipsius, et conjugis suæ Luciæ, et antecessorum suorum, Toraldi scilicet, uxorisque ejus....., requie." This somewhat alters the sense.—Also in col. 2, line 3, it reads, "cui ecclesiæ Espalingue Abbas et monachi decimas, quas Toraldus suique homines dederunt beato Nicholao, concesserunt." From this it would seem that, before the foundation of the priory of Spalding, the tithes had been given to the abbey of Angers by Turold, who may himself have come from Anjou.

[i] "Familiaritate novi Regis confisus." Ibid.

Conqueror's eldest son, Robert, and was in consequence banished from the realm.[k] When Duke Robert had finally succumbed to the arms of his brother King Henry I. Ivo Taillebois, having again made his peace in England, is said to have returned with great rejoicings to his wife, the lady Lucy, who kept her court at Spalding;[l] where, according to the same authority, he died of paralysis in 1114, and was buried in the priory church.[m]

But that date seems to be contradicted by a charter of the same priory, in which Roger de Romara appears as lord of Spalding before the death of Rufus in 1100.[n]

Disengaging ourselves from the "crafty imaginations" of the monastic genealogists, we will now proceed to inquire who Lucy wife of Ivo Taillebois, the ancestress of the Earls of Lincoln, may actually have been. Her grandson Ranulph Earl of Chester claimed and obtained from Henry Duke of Normandy, in 1152, the inheritance of two "uncles of his mother," namely Robert Malet and Alan de Lincoln.[o] In that case, each of these persons must have been the brother either of Ivo Taillebois or of Lucy.

We will first speak of Alan de Lincoln. He was doubtless a kinsman of Alured de Lincoln, who held an extensive fief in the shire of Lincoln at the Domesday survey, and who is possibly the same person designated under the city of Lincoln as *Aluredus nepos Turoldi*. Whether this refers to Turold the Sheriff, it may be difficult to decide; but the name of Turold itself is not Anglo-Saxon, and the sheriff may have been a Norman, or rather an Angevin, employed by the Confessor.[p] Alan de Lincoln, (per-

[k] "Et adhuc exul ab Anglia in Andegavia demoratur." This is the concluding line of the History attributed to Ingulphus.

[l] "Prædictus Yvo ad suam uxorem Dominam Luciam apud Spalding curiam suam tenentem cum multa extollentia est reversus." Petri Blesensis ad Historiam Ingulphi Continuatio.

[m] Ibid.

[n] "Will'us rex Anglorum R. ep'o et Rogero fil' Geraldi," etc. Spalding Cart. MS. Addl. 5844, p. 220.

Charter of Henry Duke of Normandy and Comte of Anjou, dated at Devizes in 1152, granting to Ranulf Earl of Chester "totum honorem de Eia, sicut *Robertus Malet avunculus matris sue* melius et plenius unquam tenuit. Et feodum *Alani de Lincolia* ei dedi qui fuit *avunculus matris sue*, et feodum Ernisii de Burum sicut hereditatem." On the side of Earl Ranulph were witnesses William Earl of Lincoln and others. (Orig. Charter in the Cottonian collection.)

[p] In the same city of Lincoln Domesday mentions a Turald de Greteville.

haps the brother of Alured,[q]) may have been the son of Hesilia Crespin (to be mentioned presently,) the mother of Robert Malet, by a second husband.

Robert Malet, the other "uncle" of the Countess Lucy, was the son of William Malet, who was killed at the siege of York in 1069 by the hands of the Danes, who had taken him prisoner.[r] His mother was Hesilia Crispin, the sister of Emma Crispin, whose descendants of the name of Condic, or Cundet, inherited various estates in Lincolnshire.[s]

Lucy, the wife of Ivo Taillebois, was thus the sister of Robert Malet;[t] and, unless Ivo had another wife,[u] she was also the mother of Beatrix,[x] wife of Ribald brother to Alan Earl of Richmond, the Domesday lord of Middleham, co. York,[y] whose

[q] There was a baronial line bearing the surname of Lincoln for some generations: see Dugdale's Baron. i. 412.

[r] Simeon of Durham.

[s] See the Rot. Magn. Scacc. 31 Hen. I. p. 111, and Dugdale's Baronage, i. 39, where the affinity of the Earl of Chester and this family, as both being of the lineage of Crispin, is recognised in a charter of King Stephen.

[t] A strong confirmation of the consanguinity of Lucy to the house of Malet is the circumstance that the manor of Aulkborough, co. Lincoln, belonging to Ivo Taillebois at the Domesday survey, had previously belonged to William Malet; and the severance of it from the barony of the son can only be explained by a gift in frank-marriage by the father in his lifetime.

[u] In a monastic "Stemma Ivonis de Toyleboyse" ("Ex Registro S. Mar. Ebor." New Monast. iii. 553,) he is stated to have had issue Elfhred, the father of Ketel, the father of Gilbert, the father of the first William of Lancaster, who married Gundreda Countess of Warwick; and so proceeding with the pedigree of Lancaster, Barons of Kendal. So also in Dugdale's Baronage, i. 421. Upon the names of Elfhred and Ketel, it has been observed (by Dr. Whitaker, in Hist. of Richmondshire, vol. ii. p. 230), that they are remarkable instances, if true, of the adoption of Saxon names into a Norman family. Ketellus filius Elredi was the donor of various property to the abbey of St. Mary at York; but contemporary proof of the descent of that party from Ivo Taillebois is deficient.

[x] Beatrix is mentioned in her husband's charter to St. Mary's Abbey, York, Mon. Angl. i. 394.

[y] By the style of "Ribaud frater Alani comitis," he gave the church of Optone to the priory of Spalding, "pro anima Will'i regis, et Alani comitis, *et Ivonis*," this, continues the same document, was fifteen years before he gave the manor with his daughter to Gilbert. Cartul. Spalding, f. 414 a.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

William Malet.] Burton, in a pedigree of the Saxon Earls of Leicester, makes the wife of Earl Algar a "*Sister* of William Mallett." Description of Leicestershire, fol. 1622, p. 168, followed in the pedigrees in Nichols's Leicestershire, i. 18, and Ormerod's Cheshire, i. 47.

son Ralph, and grandson Ribald, both took the surname of Taillebois.[z] Ivo made a large benefaction to the abbey of St. Mary, at York, during the time of its first abbat, Stephen, 1088-1112, for the soul's health of himself and his wife Lucy, she being witness thereto, together with *Ribald his son-in-law*, Ralph Taillebois, and others.[a]

Lucy Countess of Chester. We now proceed to trace the history of this heiress, respecting many circumstances of whose life there is no uncertainty. Concluding Ivo Taillebois to have been her father, she was first married to Roger de Romara (who will be further noticed presently); and secondly, to Ranulph de Briquesard, surnamed le Meschin (or the younger,) Vicomte du Bessin, who in the year 1120 succeeded to the Earldom of Chester. Before that period he appears to have been regarded, in right of his marriage, as Earl of the county of Lincoln, for in a catalogue of tenants of lands in that county, made during the lifetime of his predecessor in the Earldom of Chester, the words "Comes Linc." are twice placed over the name of Ranulfus Mischinus.[b] He died in 1129, and was buried at Chester. The Countess Lucy was thereupon admitted to the inheritance of her father's lands in Lincolnshire, for which she paid a fine of 268*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* into the Exchequer, purchasing at the same time, by the payment of 500 marks of silver, exemption from being again given away by the Crown in marriage within the next five years. She further rendered account of 45 marks to be paid for the conclusion of this covenant, and given to whom the King willed; and of which 20 marks had been already paid to the Queen. And she owed 100 marks for the privilege of administering justice in her court among her vassals.[c] Her son Earl Ranulph (who must have been then of age) accounts in the same roll as a debtor to the Crown in 500 marks of silver

[z] See pedigrees of the descendants of Ribald, in Gale's Honor of Richmond, p. 234, and in Whitaker's Richmondshire, at vol. i. p. 330.

[a] New Monasticon, vol. iii. p. 553. The paragraph which is there appended from a book of fees in the Exchequer, relates to Ivo de Taillebois, who lived in the reign of John, and had from that monarch in marriage Elizabeth, daughter of William Bardolph, and the heiress of the barony of Hepball in Northumberland. (See the Testa de Nevill in Hodgson's Northumberland, part iii. vol. i. pp. 228, 235, 242.)

[b] MS. Cotton. Claud. C. v. ff. 8, 9, printed in the additamenta to Hearne's Liber Niger.

[c] Magnus Rotulus Scaccarii, 31 Hen. I. 8vo. 1833, p. 110.

for the agreement which the King made between him and his mother respecting her dower.[z] She confirmed in her second widowhood the manor of Spalding to the monks of that place,[a] where either she, or her mother, or perhaps both, were buried.[b]

Her children were, by Roger de Romara, William Earl of Lincoln; and by Ranulph Earl of Chester, two sons and two daughters, viz. Ranulph de Gernons, Earl of Chester; William, said to have been Earl of Cambridge; Alice, the wife of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, ancestor of the Clares, Earls of Gloucester and Hertford; and Agnes, the wife of Robert de Grandmesnil.

JOINT TENANCY OF THE EARLDOM.

From the several facts in the descent of the Earldom stated hereafter, it appears that King Stephen, after the death of the Countess Lucia, granted investiture of the dignity to her two sons by her several husbands, as co-parceners. Though no actual record of this event is preserved, still William of Malmesbury seems to allude to it, when he says that the King had added to the honours of both brothers.[c] Subsequently, Earl Ranulph procured his share of the Earldom to be transferred to Gilbert de Gant, his prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, whom he at the same time compelled to marry his neice, and that personage and William de Romara bore contemporaneously from that date the title of Earl of Lincoln.

THE FAMILY OF ROMARA.

Roumare, the place from which the name of this family was derived, is a vill not far distant from Rouen, and gives name to the forest of Roumare.

I. GEROLD, the father of Ralph, the founder of the abbey of Bocherville, and ancestor of the Tancarvilles, Chamberlains of Normandy, is supposed[d] to have been also the father of Girold Dapifer, and of Edward afterwards of Salisbury in England, and Sheriff of Wiltshire.

[z] Ibid. [a] Mon. Angl. i. 308.

[b] Mon. Angl. i. 504.

[c] See the passage quoted hereafter, p. 21.

[d] Ralph names Gerold as his father in the Bocherville foundation charter. "Radulphus frater Geroudi" is a witness to a charter of Geroudus to the Abbey of St. Amand in Rouen. Pommeraye's Hist. of that Abbey, fol. 1662, and the History of Lacock Abbey, 8vo. 1835, p. 68. Further corroborative proofs will be found in the introductory Observations on the Rolls of the Norman Exchequer, by Thomas Stapleton, Esq. F.S.A., vol. ii. (now in the press.)

II. Gerold, Dapifer to William Duke of Normandy,[e] afterwards the Conqueror of England. About the year 1065 Duke William, by the counsel of Roger de Montgomery, committed the frontier fortress of Neufmarché-en-lions to Hugh de Grandmesnil and to Gerold the Seneschal, giving to the former one moiety, and subjecting the fief of Gerold in the Roumois to service at Neufmarché as the condition of his tenure of the other moiety.

Wives.] 1. Albereda. 2. Emicia.[f]

Children.] 1. Robert Fitz-Gerold. He consented, as "son and heir," to his father's gift of the church of Roumare to the nuns of St. Amand at Rouen.[g] He accompanied the Conqueror to England, and his name occurs in Domesday Book as a tenant in chief in the counties of Hants, Berks, Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset, by the name of Robertus filius Giroldi. In Hampshire his name immediately follows that of his uncle Edward of Salisbury, and in Dorsetshire immediately precedes it. He gave to the abbey of Bec the manor of Povington in the Isle of Purbeck, which at the Domesday survey he held in demesne, and which remained a cell of that abbey until the suppression of alien priories. He was one of the witnesses of the Conqueror's charter to the church of Durham, dated at London in 1082.[h]

2. Roger Fitz-Gerold, who continued the line.

III. Roger Fitz-Gerold,[i] the first husband of Lucy, daughter of Ivo Taillebois, and father of William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln, but whose name has not occurred except in that character.

[e] William Duke of the Normans commanded a covenant between Hugh de Pavilly and the canons of Bocherville to be ratified "coram Geraldo dapifero meo;" and it is accordingly witnessed by him and by Robert his son.

Dugdale, in his Baronage, vol. i. p. 411, has given an account of the family of Fitz-Gerold, the successors, as he says, of Robert Fitz-Gerold: but the descent is not made out; though there seems some apparent connection with the Tankervilles, in the circumstance that Warine Fitz-Gerold was *Chamberlain* and Treasurer to King Henry II.

[f] These names occur in two several charters of Gerold, conveying the church of Roumare to the Abbey of St. Amand (see references in note [g], p. 17). The obit of Albereda was on xii kl. Junii.

[g] Ibid.

[h] Mon. Angl. i. 44.

[i] Orderious Vitalis calls him Roger son of Gerold, and Stephen de Blois, a chronicler of Croyland Abbey, describes him as "an illustrious youth Roger de Romaru, son of Gerold de Romara." In the charters of Spalding Abbey he is also named Roger Fitz-Gerald. (MS. Addit. 5844.)

Wife.] Lucy, afterwards Countess of Chester, whose history has been already given, in p. 16.

IV. WILLIAM DE ROMARA, EARL OF LINCOLN. This personage first appears during the rebellion in Normandy in the year 1118. As governor of Neufmarché, he was at first the sole upholder of the royal authority.[k] The rebellion was finally quelled by the King's victory at Brenmule, May 1, 1119. On the 29th Nov. in the same year, occurred the calamitous wreck of the White Ship, in which the King's son and heir, William Duke of Normandy, with Richard his natural brother and his sister Mary Countess of Perch, and many other persons of high rank, were lost on the voyage from Normandy to England. William de Rolmara was one of those who cautiously left the ship, before it sailed, "because they perceived it was filled with too great a multitude of wanton and arrogant youth."[l] Among those who were lost was Richard Earl of Chester; and thereupon that Earldom devolved on his cousin Ranulph de Briquesard, who had married Lucy, the mother of William de Romara. On obtaining investiture of the Earldom of Chester, Ranulph is said to have surrendered to the King some considerable part of the inheritance of his wife Lucy. This excited the indignation of her disinherited son, who demanded of the King the restoration of his mother's land, and also of another possession in England called Corfe;[m] but the King did not comply with his demand, answering him with reproaches. On this the youth, much enraged, passed over immediately into Normandy, and having reached his castle of Neufmarché, (wherein he had previously so successfully maintained the King's interests,) he there gathered around him those who were still inclined to favour the claims of William son of Duke Robert Curt-heuze, and most bitterly renewed the war upon the Normans. For two years he continued to feed his revenge with raids and firings, and the capture of prisoners; nor did he cease from his efforts, until the

[k] "Solus Guillelmus de Rolmara Novimercati municeps, et commanipulares ejus illis obstabant." Orderic. Vit.

[l] Ord. Vit.

[m] Corfe in Dorsetshire, which Robert Fitz-Girold held at the Domesday Survey, as ten carucates. This furnishes another corroboration to the descent of the Earl from Robert. The word is "Cormam" in the printed copies of Ordericus Vitalis; but it is "Corviam" in the original MS. preserved in the library of Alençon. (Communicated by Thomas Stapleton, esq. F. S. A.) The manor was that afterwards called Corfe Mullen; see Hutchins's Dorsetshire, iii. 38.

King had yielded to him competent satisfaction, and restored a great part of that which he had claimed.[n] Subsequently, after the death of William Comte of Flanders (son of Duke Robert) in 1128,[o] William de Roumare was the first among the Normans, his partisans, to be reconciled to the King, whose familiar guest and friend he became from that time; and who bestowed upon him a wife of generous birth, the daughter of Richard de Redvers.[n] His step-father, the Earl of Chester, died in 1129.

Upon the event of King Henry's decease, in 1135, William de Romara was dispatched with Hugh de Gornai and the other Lords Marchers of Normandy to defend the confines of the duchy; and, on his return to England in Advent 1139, he was appointed by King Stephen one of the Justiciars of Normandy.

"In the year from the Incarnation of our Lord 1141," writes the contemporary historian before quoted, "great disturbance arose in the kingdom of the English, and a sudden change ensued, to the detriment of many: for Ranulph Earl of Chester, and William de Romare his uterine brother, rebelled against King Stephen, and by stratagem seized upon the citadel which he had retained in his own hands at Lincoln, to protect the city. Craftily finding a time when the servants of the fortress were dispersed abroad, they sent before them their wives into the tower as though for the sake of pastime. And so, whilst the two Countesses continued their visit, playing and conversing with the wife of the Knight who was in charge, the Earl of Chester came unarmed, and without his coat of mail, as if to bring his wife away, followed by three knights, no one suspecting any harm. Thus having effected an entrance, they suddenly seized the crowbars and arms that lay near, and violently ejected the King's guards. Then William, and armed knights with him, arrived as had been before arranged. And so the two brothers subdued the castle, with the whole city, to themselves.

"Upon this, Alexander the Bishop and the citizens sent word of the occurrence to the King, who, on hearing the intelligence, was mightily enraged, and astonished that they who had been his greatest friends, to whom he had given an increase of honours and dignities, should commit so black a crime. Therefore after

[n] Ord. Vit.

[o] With this date well accords the circumstance that in 31 Hen. I. 1130-2, Geoffrey de Clinton, Sheriff of Warwickshire, in whose custody the lands of William de Romara had been during his rebellion, accounted for 7*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* of the *old* ferm only.

Christmas he collected an army, immediately marched to Lincoln, and by aid of the citizens surprised in the night, and made prisoners, about seventeen knights, who were lying in the city. The two Earls were, with their wives and intimate friends, within the citadel; and, being thus suddenly surrounded, were at first undetermined how to act. At length, Ranulph, the younger, and more active, and who was exceedingly bold, got out by night with a few attendants, and made his way to his own feudatories in the province of Chester. There he lost no time in assembling an army, which, with the aid of his father-in-law Robert Earl of Gloucester, he brought to Lincoln in time to relieve his besieged brother, and gave the King battle on Sexagesima Sunday, Feb. 2, 1141. In this conflict Stephen was defeated, and taken prisoner.

It had been only shortly before Christmas, according to one of the historians, that King Stephen had left the county of Lincoln in peace, after having increased the honours of the Earl of Chester and his brother.[p] The great feudatories were at this period more than a match for the Crown. The Earl of Chester successfully withstood a second siege of Lincoln by Stephen in 1144.[q] He continued to maintain the quarrel of the Empress and her son. In 1146 he surrendered to the King, and was imprisoned. Having escaped, in the following year he was himself unsuccessful in an assault on Lincoln.[r] In 1151 he was again imprisoned by Stephen; but after the grand pacification at Devizes in 1152, he was reinstated in the possession of Lincoln; for to this period may most probably be referred a remarkable charter of Stephen, whereby he bestowed on Ranulph Earl of Chester the castle and city of Lincoln, to enjoy until he should be restored to his land and castles in Normandy, giving him permission to fortify one of the towers of Lincoln castle, and to have the same in his custody, until he should deliver to him the castle of Tickhill; which being done, the King to have the castle and city of Lincoln again, except the Earl's own tower, which *his mother* had fortified, together with

[p] "Rex Stephanus ante Natale a Lindocolina provincia pacifice abscesserat, comitemque Cestrensem et ejus fratrem honoribus auxerat." This is the opening passage of the Chronicle of William of Malmesbury.

[q] Simeon Dunelm.

[r] R. Hoveden.

the office of constable of the castle, and of the whole county, which belonged to him of hereditary right.[r]

The Earl of Chester died Dec. 16, 1153. Notwithstanding that his name takes the prominent place in all the transactions relative to Lincoln castle, yet it is perfectly clear that his half-brother William de Romara enjoyed contemporaneously the dignity of Earl of Lincoln. At Devizes, in 1152, William Earl of Lincoln was the principal witness on the part of his brother to the charter which the latter received from Henry Duke of Normandy.[s]

There are also several charters of William de Romara, in which he used the style of Earl of Lincoln, and the ascertained dates of some of them prove his continued enjoyment of the title. These are, his foundation charter of Revesby Abbey, co. Lincoln, about the year 1143;[t] a charter to the cathedral church of Rouen, not earlier than 1148;[u] and a third to the abbey of St. Ouen in that city, which has the date of 1153.[x]

With the highly excited feelings of religious contrition, of which so many examples are found among the headstrong chieftains of that violent age, Earl William appears to have evinced many tokens of zealous devotion in his latter years.

Ordericus says of him, that "the said Knight was in his youth unsteady, and too much addicted to pleasure; but, being stricken from heaven with a very grievous sickness, and having conversed with Geoffrey the Archbishop (of Rouen, from 1111 to 1128), he vowed to God to amend his life. And then on retiring to Neufmarché, after his recovery, he placed seven monks in the church of St. Peter, instead of the four canons previously

[r] Dugdale's Baron. i. 39, from the original as seen by Glover at Pontefract castle.

[s] Already noticed in p. 15. Both these important charters of Stephen and Henry last noticed, may be regarded as parts of the great treaty for the pacification of the kingdom concluded at Devizes.

[t] His wife and son united with him in the foundation charter, under the style of "Willielmus de Romara, Comes de Lincolnia, et Willielmus filius ejus, et Hawdewisa Comitissa uxor ejus." The Annals of Peterborough say that Revesby abbey was founded in 1142, those of Lowth park 1143, and the MS. Cotton. Tiberius E. VIII. (belonging to Cleeve Abbey) the eighth year of King Stephen.

[u] This will be given hereafter.

[x] Remitting to the abbey of St. Ouen in that city the hawk which was yearly due to him, and the pint of wine ("dimidium sextarii"), and two loaves, which were due to him daily as often as he stayed in Rouen. Histoire de l'Abbaye de St. Ouen, par Pommeraye, p. 428.

serving, considerably enlarged their endowment, and rebuilt the church and monastic houses."

The event of his making a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. James in Galicia, is recorded by a deed of gift from his brother the Earl of Chester, in the date of which the year is no further specified than as being that "in which the same William returned from the journey of St. James the apostle."[y]

He was made a monk in his last illness;[z] and was buried in the abbey which he had founded at Revesby, where his tomb was placed before the high altar, and was thus inscribed:[a]

"Hic jacet in tumba Willielmus de Romare, Comes Lincolniæ, fundator istius monasterii sancti Laurencii de Rewisby."

The year of his death is not precisely known, but it was before 1168.[b] His obit was observed in the cathedral of Bayeux on the 5th of August, and its celebration was probably occasioned by his gift of the church of Ver, in his fief in the Bessin, of which the chapter of Bayeux had the patronage in after times.

The castle of Bolingbroke, in Lincolnshire, afterwards the birth-place of King Henry the Fourth, is by old tradition[c] ascribed to the erection of Earl William de Romara.

Wife.] His wife was Hawise daughter of Richard de Redvers, lord of Tiverton in Devon, and Christchurch in Hampshire, and sister to Baldwin first Earl of Devon. She was married, if we may believe Ordericus Vitalis,[d] upon the reconciliation of her husband with King Henry the First, about 1122.(C) She had in marriage the manor of Feltham in Middlesex, the church of which she, by the title of "Hawysia Comitissa de Ro-

[y] See this remarkable charter in Sir Peter Leycester's Antiquities of Cheshire, Prolegom.; and in Ormerod, i. 25.

[z] Monast. Angl. i. 305.

[a] Ibid. i. 532, from MS. Cotton. Tib. E. VIII. f. 206 a.

[b] In the Pipe Roll of that year, 14 Hen. II. his heir William de Romara rendered account of 39*l.* 10*s.* to the aid of Matilda, the King's daughter, for his knight's fees *sub* tit. Lincolniscira.

[c] See Leland, Camden, &c.

[d] Ordericus adds, "quæ filium ei speciosum nomine Guillelmum Hellam peperit." It has been suggested (Hist. of Lacock Abbey, &c. p. 73.) that the word "Heliam" was a mis-reading for "et filiam:" *sc.* Rohesiam. It is doubtful, however, whether Rohesia was a daughter of Earl William de Romara, which will be considered hereafter.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

Hawise.] 1. Ordericus Vitalis gave the Countess Hawise the name of *Matilda*. 2. Brooke, having confused the wives of the several generations of the pedigree, called her *daughter of the Earl of Albemarle*. 3. Dugdale continues the name of *Maude*.

mare," gave to the hospital of St. Giles's in the Fields.[e] She joined in the foundation of the abbey of Revesby, already noticed; she was the first witness to a charter of the Earl to the abbey of Newhouse, in Lincolnshire;[f] and also to the charter of Ranulph Earl of Chester to her husband before mentioned.

Children.] One son, and one daughter:

1. William *(below.)*

2. Rohais Countess of Lincoln, but whose parentage is doubtful; she will occur again, as the wife of Gilbert de Gant.

WILLIAM DE ROMARA. As heir apparent, he united with his father and mother in the foundation charter of Revesby already mentioned, and with his father in his charter to the conventual church of Newhouse. He died in the year 1151,[g] during the life-time of his father; and, as in that year the castle of Neufmarché was besieged and taken by the French King and his allies, it is not unlikely that he fell in its defence. He is said to have been buried at Revesby, where his tomb, to the north of his father's, had this inscription:

"Hic jacet in tumba Willielmus de Romare filius Willielmi Comitis Lincolniæ, qui ante patrem obiit sicut Deus voluit."[h]

Wife.] His wife was Agnes, fourth daughter of Stephen Earl

[e] Her brother Earl Baldwin de Redvers gave land at Feltham to the same foundation, and Pope Alexander confirmed the two gifts together in the following words: "ecclesiam de Feltham, et terram quam habent in eadem villa de donacione Comitis Baldewini de Redniero et Comitissæ Hawysiæ." (Parton's History of St. Giles's, p. 8, note.)

[f] This charter will be appended to the present article from the original now in the British Museum.

[g] Chronicon Rob. Montensis.

[h] Mon. Angl. i. 532.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

Agnes.] Respecting this lady the errors are manifold: 1. Brooke called her *Maud, daughter of Baldwin Rivers*, which he made up by three processes, first taking the name of Maud Rivers from Ordericus Vitalis (see p. 23); secondly, exchanging the situations of the alliances of the father and son, because he found the Countess of Lincoln's name was Hawise; and thirdly, altering the name of the lady's father from Richard to Baldwin,—altogether a more flagrant instance of confusion than any which the arrogant "Master Yorke" ever proved against other genealogists. His predecessor Milles had been correct, as Brooke himself shows in his first page of "Errors published in P[illegible]," charging him thus, *more suo*: "Heere the father is made to marrie his sons wife, and the sonne his owne mother," whereas, in fact, Milles had escaped the erroneous name of Maud altogether, calling the Countess

of Albemarle,[i] who is said to have been remarried to Peter de Brus.[k]

Children.] Two sons,[l]

1. William (*below*).
2. Robert.[m]

WILLIAM DE ROMARA, THE THIRD.[n] This person was probably left an infant at his father's death in 1151. He was educated in the court of Henry the Second.[o] In 1172 he gave a confirmation charter to the abbey of Revesby, styling himself "nepos Willielmi Comitis et hæres ejus;"[p] he joined with his grandfather in two charters to the abbey of Spalding, in one of which he is also styled heir, and he used the like designation in a confirmation charter of his own.[q] A monastic genealogist[r] asserts that he obtained from King Henry the Second all the lands of his "uncle," meaning his grandfather; and it is clear he had very large estates, for at the Taxation in 1168 he made return of fifty-seven knights' fees situate in Lindesey and in Wiltshire.[s]

[i] That she was a daughter of the Earl of Albemarle is testified by the Chron. Rob. Montensis, and the Register of Fountains Abbey, Mon. Angl. i. 797. That her name was Agnes, by the Hist. de Melsa, cap. 11. which states, "carucatam in Erges inter North Dalton et Wartre, ubi grangiam *Blanchmarl*, Latinè Albamarla, confirmavit Will'mus de Rowmar, comes Lincoln, et Agnes de Albemarlia uxor ejus." With the obvious addition of the words "comes Lincoln," this statement was doubtless derived from an authentic source.

[k] Register of Fountains. Dugdale's misappropriation of this marriage in his pedigree of Bruce is mentioned below: but it appears that there was a Peter de Bruis living at the time at Bruis, now Brix—the cradle of the royal house of Scotland, near Valognes. (See the Hist. of Lacock Abbey, p. 76.)

[l] Chron. Rob. Montensis.

[m] The name of Robert is derived from the cartulary of the priory of Exeter. "Carta Will. de Rumare de Clive: test. Roberto fratre meo." Collectanea Top. et Geneal. i. 186.

[n] So called in a pleading, temp. John; see the Placitorum Abbreviatio, p. 75.

[o] "Domini mei qui me nutrivit." Foundation charter of Cleeve Abbey.

[p] Mon. Angl. i. 824.

[q] MS. Addit. 5844, pp. 148, 421, 423.

[r] Mon. Angl. i. 305.

[s] Liber Niger Scacc. 8vo. 1771, p. 263.

Avice, which may be regarded as a name interchangable with Huwise. 2. Dugdale got rid of the greater part of these errors by again transposing the matches; but unfortunately the Christian names of the ladies accompanied them, and he has consequently *Hawise* in this place. 3. Dugdale, in his account of the family of Bruce (Baronage, i. 449), calls her "Agnes, widow of William de Romara, *Earl of Lincoln*," and remarries her to Peter de Brus, who died in 1211, sixty years after her first husband.

In Normandy, in 1172, his return of service comprised that of fourteen knights in the Roumois, to be performed at Neufmarché; but, if the Duke were to send him elsewhere, then he was to go with three or four knights only.[t]

He seems never to have obtained investiture of the Earldom of Lincoln: but to a charter of John Earl of Mortain to the metropolitan church of Rouen his attestation appears among the Earls, as "Earl William de Roumara," and before that of Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, Earl of Essex.[u] This shews that his hereditary *rank*, at least, was partially acknowledged; and in the several inquisitions respecting the lands of his fief in Lincolnshire during the reign of John the title of Earl is likewise given him.

In 1191, during the absence of King Richard from England, William de Romare appears as the intimate and sworn friend[v] of Earl John, afterwards King. The abbat of Croyland was a brother of William de Longchamp the Bishop of Ely and Lord Chancellor, whom King Richard, on leaving England for the crusade, had left Justice of the Kingdom. As John Earl of Mortain headed a party opposed to the Chancellor, so William de Romare took the same occasion to prosecute an old dispute which had subsisted between the abbey of Croyland and Spalding priory (of which latter he was the hereditary founder), relative to their rights of property in Croyland marsh. The monastic historian gives a graphic description of the scene which ensued at the trial in London on Ascension day 1192, when Earl John, and his courtiers, as well as William de Romare, were present. The latter asserted that the Abbey of Croyland was in his fee; although, says the monk, "it was founded and made a royal abbey before any of his race was known."[x] Earl John denied the authority of a charter of his brother King Richard; because he declared that the abbat had procured it from his brother the Chancellor, through private favour; but when John had heard

[t] See Mr. Stapleton's Second Introduction to the Great Rolls of Normandy.

[u] "Comiti Johanni valde familiaris et jam juratus." Hist. Croyl. Contin.

[x] "Iste et W. cum aliquando super hoc a Comite J. deprecaretur, respondisse fertur, Domine dilecte Will. centum librarum in justitiam facerem et pro amore tuo." The construction is obscure; but the meaning seems to be that Earl John was ready to expend 100*l.* in litigation from regard to his friend William.

read another charter of his father King Henry, then, says the chronicler, he was abashed.

In the year 1197-8 William de Romara was with the King in Normandy.[y] Some years earlier he founded the Abbey of Cleeve, in Somersetshire.[z]

William de Romare, the third, was deceased 10 Ric. I. 1198, in the month of October of which year Feltham, co. Midd. *de feudo Will'i de Romara*, (before mentioned as the dowry of his grandmother the Countess Hawise,) was an escheat in the lands of the King, valued at 12*l.* without the stock, and then in the custody of (Robert) de Turnham.[a] He was buried in the church of Revesby on the south side of his grandfather's tomb, with this inscription:

"Hic jacet in tumba Willielmus de Romare, filius Luciæ Comitissæ Lincolniæ,[b] fundator monasterii beatæ Mariæ de Clyve."[c]

Wives.] 1. Alicia.[d]

2. Philippa,[e] daughter of John Comte d'Alençon, by Beatrix daughter of Elias d'Anjou Comte de Maine, and Philippa de Perche; which latter Philippa was a daughter of Rotrou first Comte de Perche, and his first wife Matilda, natural daughter

[y] Dugdale, from Pipe Roll 9 Ric. I.

[z] There are (in the Monasticon) two foundation charters of Cleeve granted by William de Romara; to the first of which Reinald Bishop of Bath is a witness, who died before the end of 1191; and the latter is addressed to King Richard, whose accession was in 1189. In the Annals of Waverley it is recorded, under the year 1188, that Walerau Abbat of Cleeve then resigned his abbacy, and Alan of Bordesley succeeded him; if Cleeve in Somersetshire is meant, its foundation must have been prior to that year: Hugh, the Abbat of Revesby, to whom the formation of it was intrusted, held that dignity in 1172, as appears by a charter of that date in the Monasticon.

[a] Rotuli Cur. Regis. 8vo. 1835, i. 214.

[b] These four words must have been interpolated, either by the writer in his manuscript, or by the monks, through ignorance, on the stone.

[c] Mon. Angl. i. 532.

[d] Her name occurs only in a confirmation charter of her husband to Spalding priory, in the cartulary formerly belonging to Beaupré Bell, esq. f. 331 a; transcribed in Cole's collections, vol. xlii. (MS. Add. Brit. Mus. 5844), p. 377.

[e] Philippa occurs in charter to Spalding, ibid. f. 136, p. 148; also in the foundation charter of Cleeve, Mon. Angl.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

His death.] Brooke places it "in Anno 1175." Catalogue, p. 128.

Philippa.] In the Monasticon, vol. i. p. 531, she is stated to have been one of the daughters of Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent.

of Henry I. King of England. Having had no issue by William de Romara, she was married secondly to William Malet of Graville in Normandy, who died not many years after, and was buried in the church of St. Honorine, leaving issue Robert Malet, who eventually inherited through his mother a share of the inheritance of the Comtes of Alencon. In Aug. 1214, retaining the name of her first marriage, Philippa de Romara, daughter of John Comte of Alencon, gave to the religious of Graville the chapel of the Blessed Mary de la Salle in the parish of St. Croix de Montaigu, in the diocese of Coutances, which she had founded.[f] Philippa married thirdly, in or before 1215, William des Préaux,[g] who died in 1223, leaving a widow named Maria.

f "Henricus Constantiensis Antistes ann. 1214 confirmavit donationem præfatæ Heroinæ Philippæ de Romara." Neustria Pia, p. 864, where for "Henricus," read *Hugo;* but the same passage has led to a much more extraordinary error in the Gallia Christiana, vol. xi. p. 878, the euphuistic epithet *Heroina* being there converted into a Christian name for the Countess of Alençon her mother!

g Writ dat. 26 Oct. 1215, to the Sheriff of Lincolnshire, to give William des Preaux full seisin of the manor of Coleby, *quod est de feodo uxoris sue.* In Normandy he held the vill *of Ver, ex parte uxoris sue de dotalitio.* Further particulars of this personage will be found in Mr. Stapleton's second Observations on the Rolls of the Norman Exchequer.

This article will be continued until the merging of the Earldom of Lincoln in the Royal house of Lancaster. The Editor cannot place the present portion before the public without acknowledging his obligations to Thomas Stapleton, Esq. F.S.A. for the most valuable of its materials.

SEAL OF ISABELLA WALERAND.



The seal, from an impression of which the annexed engraving has been executed, was found at Ewshot in the parish of Crondall, in the county of Hants, in the course of the last

DESCENT OF THE EARLDOM OF LINCOLN.

(Continued from p. 28.)

ROHEIS COUNTESS OF LINCOLN, AND HER HUSBAND GILBERT DE GANT, EARL OF LINCOLN.

We have seen that the Earldom of Lincoln was for a time divided, and held by coheirs.

It has been shown that one share in the dignity was enjoyed by William de Romara, who lived, and retained the title of Earl of Lincoln, until 1153 or later.[a]

It has also been intimated,[b] that another portion was transferred to Gilbert de Gant, in marriage with the "niece" of the Earl of Chester, who was supposed to have divested himself of his own claim to the inheritance in her favour.

It will now be proposed for consideration, whether that lady, who became "the Countess Roheis," had not in reality in her own person a claim of inheritance to the title,—in short, that there were three coheirs instead of two.

To suppose, as has hitherto been done, that the "niece" of the Earl of Chester, who became the wife of Gilbert de Gant, was a daughter of his half-brother William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln, is highly improbable. It was an opinion adopted without the fact of the partition of the Earldom being apprehended: and under the impression that Roheis conveyed the Earldom as from Earl William. But the fact of his having a son and heir apparent at the time, and more particularly his own retention of the title for many years after, render this supposition untenable.

It is again much more improbable that Earl Ranulph should

[a] See p. 22, antea. [b] Page 17.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

Daughter of William de Romara, Earl of Lincoln.] Dugdale styles her "daughter and heir." Baronage, vol. i. p. 400.

have anxiously sought an opportunity to divest himself of his own share in the dignity in favour of any "niece," however beloved, than that he should have exercised the ordinary duty, or prerogative, of providing a suitable match for a lady, whose own rights of inheritance rendered her a person whose proper alliance was a matter of high consideration.

The question, therefore, which we have now to investigate is, What was the actual parentage of the Countess Roheis?

We will revert, for this purpose, to the first Countess Lucy, the wife of Ivo Taillebois, from whom the dignity is supposed to have been originally derived.

We have before concluded that that Lucy was the mother of the second Lucy, the wife of 1. Roger de Romara, and 2. Ranulph Earl of Chester. It has also been stated[c] that she appears to have been the mother of Beatrix, wife of Ribald of Middleham. And we have now to add that she had probably a third daughter, Matilda, wife of Hugh fitz Ranulph, brother to Ranulph Earl of Chester above mentioned.

Ranulph, *vicomte* of the Bessin in Normandy, had three sons, who were parties to a convention[d] respecting tenure and homage, drawn up in the time of Robert Courte-heuze, between their father and Odo Bishop of Bayeux, who died at Palermo in 1097. These three brothers were, Ranulph, who became Earl of Chester; William; and Hugh. The two former are found several times under the names of *Rannulfus Mischinus* and *Willelmus Mischinus* in the list of the Tenants of lands in Lincolnshire,[e] which dates between 1106 and 1120. In 31 Hen. I. 1131, William, son of Ranulph the *Vicomte*, was an accountant at the Treasury, and Hugh, son of Ranulph, had remittance of the Danegeld due from his land in Lincolnshire.[f] In the same document it is stated that *Hugo filius Randulfi* held seven carucates, two bovates and a half, in the wapentake of Candleshoe.[g] Now, we find that Hugh, then described as "brother of Ranulph Earl of Chester," and Matilda his wife, daughter of the Countess Lucy, gave to the priory of Spalding two parts of the tithes of

[c] See page 15.

[d] Printed in Stapleton's Observations on the Rolls of the Norman Exchequer, vol. ii. p. ccxliv.

[e] Appended to Hearne's Liber Niger.

[f] Rot. Pip.

[g] "Hugo filius Randulfi 7 C. et 2 B et dimid." (f. 10.) Again in Calswat Wap'. "Hugo filius Randulfi 7 C. et 2 B." (fo. 11.) List of Linc. Tenants.

their manor of Candlesby; and this gift they made to Nigel the prior in the chamber of the said manor, Matilda kissing her lord for the gift.[h] If, therefore, Matilda was daughter[i] of the Countess Lucy, her offspring, if any, might have a joint claim to the Earldom of Lincoln. But we have no present proof that this marriage was fruitful.

How was it with Beatrix, the wife of Ribald of Middleham? Ribald gave to the priory of Spalding the church of Upton, co. Lincoln: and this was done, continues the same record, fifteen years before he gave the manor with his daughter to Gilbert. Ribald, then, had a daughter. Was that daughter the Countess Roheis? and was that daughter's husband "Gilbert" Gilbert de Gant? This seems not improbable, and it only renders it necessary to understand the word "*neptis*" of the chronicler John of Hexham, as having been applied to a relation one step more distant than a "niece" of the Earl of Chester. The daughter of Beatrix was niece to his mother the Countess Lucy.

Gilbert de Gant was the representative of a family which flourished for some generations in the possession of large territories in Lincolnshire. His grandfather of the same name had come into England with the Conqueror, being a nephew of Matilda, the consort of the Norman Duke, and son of Baldwin Earl of Flanders. The father of the second Gilbert was named Walter, and his mother was Matilda, daughter of Stephen Earl of Britanny. It appears unnecessary, in tracing the descent of the Earldom of Lincoln, to enter further into the genealogy of the family of Gant, as that dignity never became hereditary with them, but was occupied for two short intervals only by members

[h] "Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod Hugo frater Rannulfi comitis Cestrie et Matild' uxor ejus, fil' filie Lucie comitisse, concesserunt Deo et S'cte Marie atque Sc'o Nicholao Spald. duas partes decime sue Calnosbeie de omni dominico suo quod ad idem manerium pertinet, et hoc donum fecerunt Nigello priori in thalamo ejusdem manerii. Et ipsa Matilda osculata fuit predictum d'n'm Hugonem ibidem pro dono quod ipsi fecerunt pro animabus suis et antecessorum suorum. Hiis testibus, &c. Et postea venit D'n's Hugo in capitulo Spald. et hoc idem donum concessit monachis ibidem servientibus, et detulit textum super altare B'e Marie pro confirmatione donationis elemosine sue. Hiis testibus, &c." (Spalding cartulary, f. 416, a. b.)

[i] There is this obscurity, that Cole's transcript (from which it is taken, MS. Addit. 5844, f. 451.) has the words "fil' Filie," as above printed. The first "fil'" is probably superfluous; but it is to be regretted that we cannot ascertain this without access to the original cartulary.

of this house, whose history properly belongs to the pages of the Baronage. We will therefore proceed with Earl Gilbert's personal career.

Gilbert Earl of Lincoln was born, baptised, and educated at Bridlington in Yorkshire; these particulars he has recorded of himself in a remarkable charter,[k] by which he bound himself to the church of St. Mary of Bridlington, that, wherever he died, his body should there receive sepulture; engaging, moreover, to become a monk of that house, should God ever move him to assume the habit of religion.

The next event in his life of which we are informed, is his falling, together with King Stephen, into the hands of the Earl of Chester, at the battle of Lincoln in 1142; whereupon the Earl compelled this wealthy bachelor to take in marriage the hand of his "niece,"[l] the before-named Roheis.

Six years after, the abbey of Rufford, co. Notts. is said to have been founded;[m] and in the foundation charter thereof he styles himself Earl of Lincoln.[n]

About the same period he removed the Cistercian monks of Byham, in Lincolnshire, to Vaudey in the same county.[o]

[k] Gilbertus comes Lincolniæ omnibus Ecclesiæ filiis salutem. Notum sit vobis quod ego pro redemptione peccatorum meorum et pro peculiari dilectione quam semper habui erga ecclesiam S. Mariæ Bredlintoniæ, mancipari me ipsum eidem Ecclesiæ, eo videlicet ratione ut ubicunque vivendi finem fecero, in monasterio Bredlintonensi locum sepulturæ accipiam. Et si aliquando Deus cor meum tetigerit, et opportunitatem dederit, ut relicta seculari vanitate, in paupertate Deo servire decernam, in prædicto monasterio habitum religionis accipiam, et in illorum consortio vitæ meæ spacia compleam inter quos ab annis infantiæ coalueram: Conveniens quippe mihi visum est, ut ubi in hunc mundum ingressus sum de ventre matris meæ, ibi de hoc mundo egrediar in matrem omnium, et per eorum exemplum atque doctrinam Christo merear in bonis operibus conformis fieri, per quorum ministerium Christum baptismate indui. Quapropter noverit quisquis qui hæc audierit, quia mihi propriè officiosus aut injuriosus erit, quisquis eidem Ecclesiæ utilis aut noxius fuerit. Hiis testibus, Gaufrido fratre meo, Waltero decano. &c. Mon. Angl. ii. 165, ex cartul. de Bridlington.

[l] Gilebertum de Gant tunc adolescentulum captum cum rege compulit idem Comes ducere neptem suam uxorem. Simeon. Dunelm. per Joh. Hagusteld. continuatio.

[m] Annals of Chester quoted in Monas. Angl. i. 848. The Chronicle of Louth Park says two years earlier, 1146.

[n] Mon. Angl. i. 848.

[o] "Gilbertus de Gant, comes Lincoln, ad postulationem Eugenii episcopi Romani [1145—1153] et Bernardi abbatis Clarevallensis, concessit abbati de Biham et fratribus suis situm loci vocati *Vallis dei*, ut illuc dictus abbas de Biham abbatiam suam transferret a loco in quo incommode habitabant ibi locati per

With the exception of his benefactions to the monasteries of Pontefract, Byham or Vaudey, Sempringham, Bardney,[h] and Kirkstead, nothing further is recorded of him, until his death in the year 1156.[i]

Issue.] The only issue of Earl Gilbert and the Countess Roheis was a daughter, Alice, married to Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Huntingdon and Northampton.

The *Seal* of Gilbert Earl of Lincoln is engraved hereafter, p. 317. The following of his *Charters* are extant:—

1. Founding Rufford Abbey. Among the witnesses is Geoffrey de Gaunt. Mon. Angl. i. 848.

2. To Pontefract Priory: of the ferry at South Ferriby, with 3½ bovates of land, in recompence of the damage sustained by the friars in his war with Henry de Lascy. Witnessed by Geffrey de Gant, Baldwin de Gant, &c. Ibid. p. 656.

3, 4. To Bridlington Priory. The former witnessed by his brother Robert. Ibid. ii. 162.

5. Also to Bridlington. Ibid.p . 165. (This has been quoted at length in a note, in the preceding page.)

6. To Kirkstead Priory. Confirming Scampton. See the cartulary, MS. Cotton. Vesp. E. XVIII. fol. 179.

7. To Herbert, son of Adelard; printed hereafter, p. 317.

The Countess Roheis took for her second husband a person styled ROBERTUS DAPIFER or the Steward.[k] Several monastic

comitem Albamerle." MS. Lansd. 207 E. (Gervase Hollis's Collections, vol. v.) p. 526.

[h] Ibid. i. 656, 831; ii. 791, 849.

[i] Sigebert. Gemlan. MS. in bibl. Dewes, 1736, as cited by Dugdale, Bar. i. 400.

[k] This marriage is noticed by the monastic genealogist of Vaudey abbey, who thus states it, but transposing at the same time the position of the Countess Roheis with her daughter the Countess Alice: "Alicia de Gaunt, filia Gilberti de Gaunt, fuit nupta Symoni de sancto Licio comiti Northamptoniæ, de qua Alicia venit Roesia comitissa, *nupta cuidam comiti; post decessum cujus comitis nupta fuit Roberto dapifero.* De quo Roberto et Roesia veniebat Roesia de Bulington nupta Simoni de Kyma," &c. &c. Monast. Angl. i. 834.

Errors of Dugdale and the Genealogists.

Issue.] Dugdale (Baron. i. 400.) says "two daughters, Alice and Gonnora," misreading the monastic genealogy in the Monasticon, ii. 850, where it will be found that Gonnora was the daughter of Alice.

Steward to William de Percy.] Dugdale (Baron. i. 620) says, "Robert Dapifer, i. e. Steward (to Gilb. de Gant, Earl of Lincoln);" an assertion evidently conjectural; suggested by Philip de Kyme (mentioned overleaf) being in that office.

charters concur to afford proof of the identity of this person. He was steward to William de Percy, and his father had held the same office before him. By the designation "Robertus Dapifer Willielmi de Percy," the father gave to the abbey of Sallay in Yorkshire two bovates in Ilkley, which in the "fourth charter" of William de Percy (who was the founder of this house) are specified as the gift Roberti filii Fulgonis; and to the latter charter are witnesses "Roberto dapifero filio Roberti dapiferi, G. cancellario filio Fulconis."[l]

But the same family took a more conspicuous part in the foundation of another Yorkshire monastery, the priory of Nun Appleton near York. This house was founded by Adheliz de Saint Quintin and Robert her son and heir, for the health of the soul of Robert fitz Fulke, &c. Gillebert fitz Fulke (probably the *cancellarius* above) was a witness.[m] This was confirmed by Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury 1162—1170. Robert son of Robert son of Fulke gave a confirmation charter, from which it appears that Adeliz de St. Quintin was his mother: William, another son, and Agnes her daughter, were among the witnesses. The second Robert, therefore, the son of the foundress of Nun-Appleton, was the second husband of the Countess Roheis. Further, in conjunction with "the Countess Roeisia his wife," he gave to the same priory the church of North Elkinton, co. Lincoln, and ten acres of land in the same vill; and, moreover, devised at his death two bovates of land, which William de Kyme, his son-in-law, afterwards exchanged for thirty acres at the same place.[n] The wife of William de Kyme was named Margaret,[o] and she appears to have had a sister, Roesia, who was the wife of Simon de Kyme. These were "the heirs of Fulke, the seneschal," mentioned in the Testa de Nevill.[p] Margaret will have died without issue; for on the 19th May 1220, Roesia, widow of Simon de Kyme, gave to the King a

[l] Mon. Angl. i. 844.

[m] Ibid. p. 907.

[n] "Eskintone," as printed in Dugdale, Mon. Angl. i. 909, but in error for Elkintone. In the preceding passage it is "Northalkintone." These particulars are contained in a confirmation charter of King John, Cart. 6 Joh. n. 53.

[o] Ibid.

[p] "Idem Alanus (de Perci) tenuit viij carucatas terre in Elkington, et unam carucatam in Caltorp et Nortrihing', et illas dedit Faconi senescallo per servicium unius militis; et *heredes Falconis* illas tenent." Testa de Nevill, p. 339.

palfrey for summoning William de Kyme before the justices at Westminster, to render to her a knight's fee in Elkington and Calthorpe, which she claimed to be her right and inheritance.[q] Her husband had died that year. She also enjoyed the land at Appleton;[r] and that at Ilkley;[r] and she confirmed to the monks of Sallay the two bovates at the latter place already mentioned.[s] We find also a Philip de Kyme, who was *Dapifer* to Earl Gilbert de Gant.[t] The family afterwards flourished for some generations as Barons, and was succeeded by that of Umfraville, Earl of Angus in Scotland, who, marrying the heiress, and residing at Kyme, were sometimes called Earls of Kyme.[u]

Two *Seals* of the Countess Roheis are appended to her charters printed hereafter, pp. 318, 319.

ALICE, HEIRESS OF THE EARLDOM OF LINCOLN, WIFE OF SIMON EARL OF NORTHAMPTON.

Alice carried the inheritance of her father Earl Gilbert in marriage to Simon de St. Liz, Earl of Northampton and Huntingdon.[x]

Of this Earl Simon, the third of his name, very little is known. He succeeded to the Earldom of Northampton on the death of his father in 1153; but the Earldom of Huntingdon, which his father had also enjoyed, was given by the new King, Henry the Second, to Malcolm King of the Scots, who, as representative of another line of descent from Maud the daughter of the Saxon Earl Waltheof, was considered to have equal or superior claims to that Earldom. To Malcolm succeeded in 1165 his brother William, also King of the Scots; but he, siding with King Henry *junior* and others in rebellion to Henry the Second, was, about the year 1174, divested of the Earldom of Huntingdon, which was then restored to the race of St. Liz. Earl Simon retained it from that time to his death,[y] which happened in 1184,[z] when he died without surviving issue, and was buried at the priory of

[q] Rot. Fin. 4 Hen. III. vol. i. p. 47.

[r] Rot. Fin. Joh. p. 255.

[s] Mon. Angl. i. 844.

[t] Carta Philippi de Kyme, in Mon. Angl. i. 850.

[u] Dugdale, Baronage, i. 508.

[x] Aliciam quam duxit Simon de Sancto Lizio comes Norhamtoniæ, cum hereditate. Stemma fundatoris de Bardeney, Mon. Angl. ii. 850.

[y] R. Hoveden, 355 a; and Croniques Anglo-Normandes, 1836, ii. 130.

[z] Ypod. Neustriæ in ann. 1185.

St. Andrew at Northampton.[q] He was the last Earl of his race.

How long his wife Alice continued in possession of her father's Lincolnshire honour does not immediately appear. She and her husband, Earl Simon, each granted to the monastery of Kirkstead confirmation charters of the land at Scampton, before mentioned.[r] She died without issue, and was buried at the monastery of her own family, at Bridlington.[s]

Issue.] Gonnora, who died unmarried.[t]

Her *Seal*, resembling that of her mother the Countess Roheis, engraved in p. 319, had its field covered with chevronels, and this inscription: + SIGILLVM ALICIE COMITISSE FILIE COMITIS GILEBERTI.

The honour of Gant reverted to Robert, brother to Earl Gilbert; and he died in 1192, receiving burial in the abbey of Vaudey, co. Lincoln.[u] Robert de Gant,[x] left issue two sons, Gilbert (afterwards the usurping Earl of Lincoln), and Stephen.

THE EARLDOM VACANT, AND AT FARM.

King Richard the First, early in his reign, sold (or let to farm) the custody of the castle of Lincoln, and the revenues of the county, to Gerard de Camville;[y] who accounted for them from the second year of that reign, 1190-1, to the sixth, 1195.[x] This

[q] Leland's Itin. i. 8.

[r] Kirkstead Cartulary, MS. Cotton. Vespas. E. XVIII. f. 180. The charters were both given in one day, having the same witnesses, Walter abbat of Bardney, Godfrey prior, Walter chaplain, and Philip dapifer. The original of the Countess's charter was seen by the compiler of the MS. Cotton. Julius C. VII. who (at f. 184 b.) gives an English abstract, and a tricking of the Seal above described.

[s] Discensus de Gant, in Mon. Angl. i. 833.

[t] Stemma fundatoris de Bardeney, Mon. Angl. ii. 850.

[u] Mon. Angl. i. 834.

[x] On the death of Robert de Gant, Robert son of Robert Fitzharding succeeded to the lands which he held *per legem Angliæ* of the inheritance of his first wife. (Rot. Pip. 3 and 4 Ric. I. Linc. and Ebor.) Dugdale has not noticed the marriage of Robert de Gant. The name of one of his wives was Gundreda. (Mon. Angl. i. 832.)

[y] "Gerardus de Camvilla, vir dives et nobilis, a rege Castelli Lincolniæ custodiam emerat cum adjacentis provinciæ præsulatu." Chron. Joh. Bromton, Decem Script. fol. 1652, col. 1223.

[x] Pipe Rolls of those years, as quoted by Dugdale, Baron. i. 627.

Errors, &c.

Death of Robert de Gant.] Dugdale (Baron. i. 401) has placed it "in 1162, 9 Hen. II." although he had just before stated him as living in 3 Ric. I. This arose from heedlessly following the monkish genealogy in Mon. Angl. i. 834.

Baron took a decided part with John Earl of Morton, in his struggle with the Chancellor, William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, during the absence of King Richard; and the Chancellor in consequence laid siege to the castle of Lincoln, but it was relieved by the arrival of John.[a] The Chancellor, however, succeeded in ousting Gerard not only from the constableship of Lincoln castle, and the sheriffalty of the county, but of his own lands also:[b] so that he was constrained to give 2000 marks, to repossess his own estate, and obtain the King's favour.[c] But on the accession of John he was restored to the sheriffalty,[d] which he continued to hold until the seventh year of that reign. The form of what seems to have been a renewal of his commission, dated on the 28th April 1205, is as follows:

"Rex Waltero Mauclerc, &c. Scias quod commisimus Girardo de Camville Comitatum Lincolniæ, ad respondendum inde ad voluntatem nostram. Et ideo tibi precipimus quod Comitatum illud ei dimittas quia ipse nobis convencionavit quod ipse sufficienter distringet debitores nostros de Balliva illa qui debita nobis debent ex tempore tuo. Teste me ipso apud Turrim London. xxviij die Apr. Sub eadem forma scribitur Simoni de Driby."[e]

He was still living in 10 Joh. (1208-9), when he was one of the Justices Itinerant in Lincolnshire:[f] but he was dead in the last year of that reign (1216), when his widow Nicholaa (who was a daughter and coheir of Richard de Hay,) defended the castle of Lincoln for a time against the Earls who headed the King's party.

GILBERT DE GANT II. EARL OF LINCOLN.

This Gilbert, who by the monks of Vaudey is distinguished as Gilbert the Good,[g] lived as a Baron only for the greater part of his career. In 1197-8 he was still under age, and in ward to William de Stuteville.[h] In 1211 he answered for sixty-eight knight's fees, and a third and fifth part, upon levying the scutage of Scotland.[i] In 1216 he joined the party of the Barons and

[a] Bromton, *ibi supra.*
[b] R. Hoveden, p. 459.
[c] Rot. Pip. 6 Ric. I. Linc.
[d] Rot. Pip. 1 Joh. Linc.
[e] Rot. Claus. 6 Joh. m. 1.
[f] Dugdale, Baron. i. 627, "Ex ipso autogr. penes Tho. Comitem Elginiæ."
[g] Mon. Angl. i. 834.
[h] Rot. Pip. 9 Ric. I. Ebor.
[i] Rot. Pip. 13 Joh. Linc.

the French aspirant to the throne, and received, as the price of his adherence, the sword of the Earldom of Lincoln :—

" Veniente ibidem (Londonias) ad Lodovicum Gileberto de Gant, COMITATUS LINCOLNIÆ ipsum gladio donavit." [d]

To this dignity he of course pretended some claim as heir to the preceding Earl of his own name : but, inasmuch as his uncle had derived his claim to the dignity by marriage, we can only regard the second Gilbert as an usurper, appointed by an insufficient authority; with the brief duration of which his own elevation terminated.

He was immediately directed to oppose the sallies made by the garrisons of the royal castles of Nottingham and Newark, which had fired all the principal houses belonging to the Barons in their vicinity, and taken their lands into possession. [e] Assisted by Robert de Roppelle, he took the city of Lincoln, and placed the whole of that province, except the castle, *sub annuo censu.* Then, invading Holland, they ravaged it, and made it tributary to them. [f] Before, however, the new Earl could reduce the castle of Lincoln, he was alarmed, and fled, at the approach of King John. On the final retreat of the King, Earl Gilbert renewed the siege, but with no better success. At length, on Whit Monday (May 15, 1217) William Mareschal, the cus-

[d] Matt. Paris. *The sword of the county* or Earldom is not a mere figurative expression; but an actual investiture with a sword was the mode by which a new Earl received seisin of his dignity. The Sword of the Earldom of Chester is still in existence, preserved in the British Museum, and is inscribed " HVGO COMES CESTRIÆ."

It is engraved in Lysons's Cheshire, p. 462, and in an old folio plate belonging to Dr. Gower's Collections for Cheshire. See a note on this subject in Ormerod's Cheshire, vol. i. p. xxvii.

[e] The lands of Gilbert de Gant himself were seized by the King, and committed to Gerard de Rodes, on the 24 Feb. 1216 : Mandatum est vicecomitibus Ebor', Linc', Cantebr', Essex', et Norf', quod habere faciant Gerardo de Rodes terram quæ fuit Gileberti de Gant, quam dominus Rex ei concessit quamdiu ei placuerit. T. apud Linc. xxiiij Feb. By another writ, dated at Colchester on the 18th March, the same Sheriffs were directed to deliver to Gerard de Rodes all the chattels found on the land of Gilbert de Gant. (Rot. Claus. 17 John, m. 8 and 6.) On the 28th May 1217, the Regent gave all the lands of William de Munbray and Gilbert de Gant to his son William Mareschall junior (Rot. Claus. 1 Hen. III. m. 17); but on the 8th of the following month all the lands of Gilbert de Gant in the counties of Nottingham, York, Lincoln, Cambridge, Northampton, Essex, and Norfolk, were again accorded to Gerard de Rodes, in confirmation of the grant of King John (Ibid. m. 16.), which was enforced by another mandate to the Sheriffs of Lincoln, York, and Northampton, on the 13th Aug. (Ibid. m. 11.)

[f] Matthew Paris.

tos of the realm for the infant King Henry, assembled the royal forces at Newark, and four days after the decisive battle was fought at Lincoln, in which the French were defeated, and Earl Gilbert de Gant was taken prisoner, having never obtained possession of the castle appurtenant to his dignity, which had remained in the hands of his cousin and rival the Earl of Chester. He survived to the year 1241.

RANULPH EARL OF CHESTER AND LINCOLN.

This potent Earl, who had the unusual fortune to enjoy his dignity for more than half a century, was the third Earl of Chester of his name; and was for some time, in right of his marriage, Duke of Britanny. He was the son and heir of Hugh II. surnamed Cyvelioc, Earl of Chester, by Bertreia, daughter of Simon Earl of Montfort and Evreux; and is distinguished in history by the surname of Blundeville, or more properly Blandeville, given him from his birth at *Album Monasterium*, or Blandville, in Powis, now called Oswestry. The main narrative of his life[g] would in a Peerage come properly under the title of those Earls of whose succession he was one; but it may be appropriate to mention here such of his acts as belong to the castle and city of Lincoln.

In the last year of King John he supported the royal party against the insurgent Barons. Together with the Earls of Albemarle and Warwick, he had besieged for seven weeks the castle of Mount Sorell in Leicestershire, when, having been driven off by the Barons, he marched first to Nottingham, and then to Lincoln, where the castle remained in the charge of Nicholaa, widow of the late sheriff, Gerard de Camville. It was valiantly defended by this lady for some time, but at length taken by the Royalists, who plundered the city, and inflicted upon the minster the indignity of converting it into a stable for horses and cattle.[h]

[g] For this the reader may at present be referred to Ormerod's Cheshire, i. 33, where Sir Peter Leycester's very ample collections, with additions, will be found.

[h] "Tres vero Comites, scilicet Cestriæ, Albemariæ, et Warwyk, obsederunt interim Montem Sorellum per vij. ebdomadas, et supervenientibus Baronibus secesserunt usque Notynghamiam, ubi congregato exercitu porrexerunt in Lincolniam, junctique Regalibus qui ibidem aderant castrum fortiter machinis ligneis oppugnaverunt: Quod cum domina Nicholaa quondam uxor domini Gerardi Canevile cum suis validissimè defendisset, in fine tamen prævaluerunt Regales, et optenta victoria quosdam ex

After this, the castle was unsuccessfully assaulted by Earl Gilbert de Gant, as related in the preceding pages, and it remained in the possession of the Earl of Chester.

In the following year the latter took a chief part in the transactions which established the young King Henry on the throne, and sent Prince Louis back to France. The King's forces were assembled at Newark on Whit Monday, and Earl Ranulph assumed the chief command of the army. He led it on to Lincoln, where Louis and the confederate Barons had arrived four days before him. The Comte of Perche, the General of the French, is said to have observed, on seeing the Earl of Chester, "Have we stayed here all this while for the coming of such a dwarf?" To which Earl Ranulph replied, "I vow to God and our Lady, whose church this is, that before tomorrow evening I will seem to thee to be stronger, and greater, and taller than that steeple." Thus parting, he betook himself to the castle.

On the next morning the Comte of Perche, armed on all parts except his head, having entered the cathedral, and left Louis there, challenged our Earl forth to battle; who, immediately answering to the summons, caused the castle gate to be opened, and made so fierce a sally with his army, that the Barons were defeated, the Comte of Perche slain, and Louis, captured in the church, was immediately taken to the high altar, and forced to swear on the gospels and holy relics there deposited, that he renounced his claim to the crown of England, and would forthwith depart the realm. Which being done, Earl Ranulph sent for young Henry, who also had been placed under the protection of the church, whilst the battle was being fought by his seniors, and lay concealed in a cow-shed belonging to Bardney abbey. Setting him upon the altar, the Earl of Chester gave him seisin of the kingdom as his inheritance, by a white wand in place of a sceptre, doing his homage to him, as did the other peers then present.[a]

Earl Ranulph's hereditary claim to the Earldom of Lincoln

Baronibus qui ibidem aderant gladio peremerunt, et quosdam abduxerunt captivos, civitatem ipsam spoliantes et cives ipsius n captivitatem redigentes. Vulgus eciam ignobile et filii Belial de matrice ecclesia fecerunt stabulum, introducentes equos et pecudes, et non verentes, set deturpentes præsepe Domini sui." Chron. Hen. de Knyghton.

[a] This narrative is from the Chronicle of Walter de Wittlesey, as quoted by Dugdale, Baron. i. 42.

was, on this important change in affairs, immediately admitted; for, by writ dated at Lincoln on the 23rd of May, the Sheriff was commanded "quod habere facias dilecto et fideli nostro Ranulpho comiti Cestriæ TERTIUM DENARIUM DE COMITATU LINCOLNIÆ, qui eum contingit jure hæreditario ex parte Ranulphi comitis patris sui." [g]

On the 6th of the following month he obtained a grant of all the lands of the King's enemies within his fee in the county of Lincoln. [h]

He remained Earl of Lincoln for fourteen or fifteen years; but shortly before his death, which occurred at Wallingford Oct. 28, 1232, he transferred his interest in this dignity to his sister Hawise de Quency, by the following remarkable charter, the original of which is still extant in the British Museum. [i]

"Ranulphꝰ Comes Cestr̃ ⁊ Lincolñ Omnibus p̃sentibus ⁊ futuris presentem cartam inspecturis vł audituris salt in dño. Ad universitatis vr̃e noticiam volo ꝑvenire me dedisse concessisse et hac p̃senti carta mea confirmasse dñe Hawise de Quencỳ sorori mee km̃e Comitatū Lincolñ scił qantū ad me ꝑtinuit ut inde Comitissa existat. Habend ⁊ tenend de dño meo Rege Angł ⁊

[g] Rot. Claus. 1 Hen. III. m. 17. The word "patris" occurs in the record; but his father's name was Hugh. It was probably his grandfather Ranulph (before noticed in p. 21.) that was referred to.—A further injunction to the like effect was directed to the same officer, from Worcester, on the 15th March following: "Rex Vicecomiti Linc' salutem. Precipimus tibi quod habere facias dilecto et fideli nostro Ranulpho comiti Cestriæ et Lincolniæ tercium denarium de denariis qui pervenient de placitis Comitatus Lincolniæ *percipiendum nomine Comitis Lincolniæ* donec inquisierimus quantum predecessores sui Comites quondam Lincolniæ inde percipere consueverunt nomine Comitis Lincolniæ." And another letter the same day, as follows: "Rex vicecomiti Linc' salutem. Precipimus tibi quod recipias clericum illum quem dilectus et fidelis noster RANULPHUS COMES CESTRIÆ ET LINCOLNIÆ ad te miserit per literas suas, ad eundum tecum per comitatum Lincolniæ, et ad recipiendum tercium denarium de placitis comitatus ejusdem, *nomine Comitis Lincolniæ*, ad opus ipsius Comitis, sicut eidem illum tercium denarium concessimus." Ibid. 2 Hen. III. m. 9.

[h] "Mandatum est Vicecomiti Linc. quod plenam seisinam habere faciat R. Comiti Cestrensi de omnibus terris inimicorum domini Regis quæ sunt de feodo suo in ballia sua, quas dominus Rex ei concessit *quandiu ei placuerit*. Teste Comite [Penbroc'] apud Rading, v. die Junii." (Rot. Claus. 1 Hen. III. m. 14.) The words "quandiu ei placuerit," were afterwards erased.

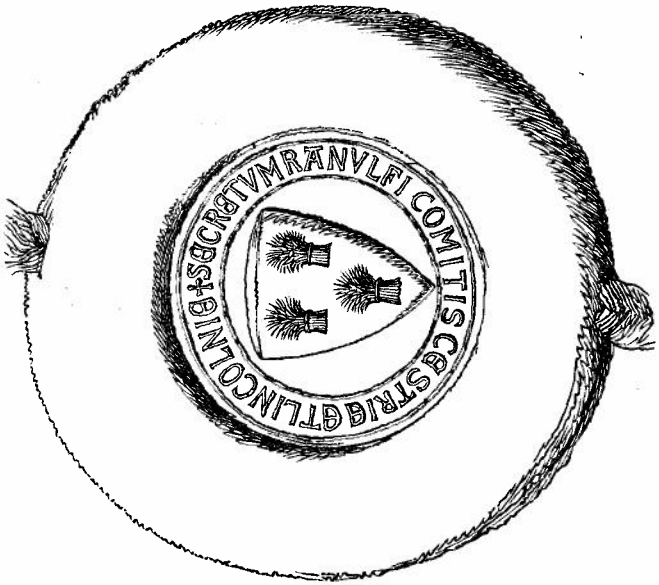
[i] Cart. Cotton. XXIV. 16. Sir P. Leycester says it is transcribed in one of the Coucher-books in the Duchy office, tom. 2. Honor sive soca de Bolingbroke, pag. 500, num. 11.

ħedibus suis eidem Hawiſ ⁊ ħedibus suis liḃe qⁱete plene pacifice ⁊ integre jure ħeditario cum oⁿ̃ibus ꝑtinenciis suis ⁊ cū oⁿ̃ibus liḃtatibus ad ꝑdictum comitatum ꝑtinentibus. Et ut ꝑsens sciptū ꝑpetuitatis robur optineat: illud sigilli mei apposicione roborare dignū duxi. Hiis Teſt. veñaḃlibus pr̃ibus. P. Winť ⁊ Aleẍ Coventr̃ ⁊ Lichff' Eꝑis. R. Maŕ Coⁿ̃ Penbr̃. W. de Ferr̃ Comite Derḃ. Steph̃ de Segrave Justic̃ Angł. Simone de Mōte forti. Wiłło de Ferr̃. Ph̃ de Albiniac̃. Henr̃ de Aldiṫ. Wiłło de Cantiluꝑ ⁊ aliis."—*Seal, on silk, of green wax, as engraved on the opposite page.*

An account of the various Seals of this Earl of Chester will be found in Ormerod's History of the County, vol. i. p. 41. The seal here engraved is the same which was copied from the same impression in Vincent's "Discovery of Errors," p. 317, where he says, it was cut "as neere as art can." Mr. Ormerod (p. 41) has given a fac-simile of that specimen of "art," not being aware of the existence of the original when his History was printed. An engraving in Nichols's Leicestershire, vol. i. pl. xii. is derived from the same source, through the medium of a tricking in MS. Cotton. Julius C. VII. fol. 179 b. where there is a transcript of this charter. It may be doubtful whether the housings of the horse are charged with garbs as represented in the latter place, and as now engraved; with the exception, however, of this point being doubtful, the engraving now placed before the reader has been made to represent the original, "as near as art can," in its present injured state.

Since the engraving was made, however, I have found that a more perfect impression of this Seal exists attached to the Harleian charter, 52 A. 16. from which I shall hope hereafter to derive a still more accurate delineation.

Other *Charters* in which this Earl styles himself Earl of Chester and Lincoln will be found—Two in Ormerod's Cheshire, vol. i. p. 36, and another at p. 40. In the Cartulary of Spalding priory (Cole's transcript,) MS. Addit. 5844, p. 148. In Nichols's Leicestershire, vol. i. Appendix, p. 39, a charter granting to Greenfleet nunnery, all the suits of his court of Graham (Grantham), the original of which is in the Harleian Collection, 52 A. 16.


SECRETVM RANVLFI COMITIS CESTRIE ET LINCOLNIE


SIGILLVM RANVLFI COMITIS CESTRIE ET LINCOLNIE

HAWISE DE QUENCY, COUNTESS OF LINCOLN.

This lady was the fourth daughter of Hugh (Cyvelioc) Earl of Chester, by Bertreia, daughter of Simon Earl of Montfort and Evreux. Her husband, Robert de Quency, was the eldest son and heir apparent of Saher de Quency, Earl of Winchester: who, on his son's marriage, endowed the bride with a hundred librates of land, situated at Buckby, co. Northampton, Grantesset (or Grantchester), co. Cambridge, Bradenham, co. Buckingham(?), and Hardwick, co. York, and moreover two knight's fees in Winterslow in Wiltshire.[a]

Of Robert de Quency, personally, nothing is known, except that he is said to have been in the Holy Land at his father's death,[b]—possibly he had gone on the Holy voyage, and had not been heard of again. His next brother, Roger, succeeded to the Earldom of Winchester; and he had a younger brother of his own name, of whom and his issue, an account will be found in Dugdale's Baronage.

The Countess Hawise de Quency, on the partition of the Earl of Chester's estates between his four sisters and coheirs, received for her share all his lands in the provinces of Lindsey and Holland, in the county of Lincoln, of which the castle and manor of Bolingbroke was the *caput honoris:*[c] for which she then paid fifty pounds, for her relief.[d] Immediately after her brother's death she transferred the dignity of Earl of Lincoln to her son-in-law, John de Lacy, Constable of Chester. This arrangement was ratified by a royal charter dated at Northampton on the 23d Nov. 1232,[e]—that is, within a month after the death of the Earl of Chester.

Issue.] Margaret, wife of John de Lacy, the next Earl of Lincoln.

[a] Coucher Book, Bolyngbroke, cap. 26. Dugdale (Baron. i. 687) has misprinted the first place "Ducebeie:" and in the abstract in MS. Cotton. Julius C. VII. fol. 179 b, printed in Nichols's Leicestershire, i. Appx. p. 40, it is altered to Buckenham.

[b] Dugdale, Baron. i. 687, quoting R. Brooke's Catalogue.

[c] Claus. 17 Hen. III. m. 17.

[d] Rot. Pip. 17 Hen. III. Linc.

[e] Pat. 17 Hen. III. m. 9, no. 25; quoted by Dugdale, Baron. i. 102.

APPENDIX OF ORIGINAL CHARTERS.

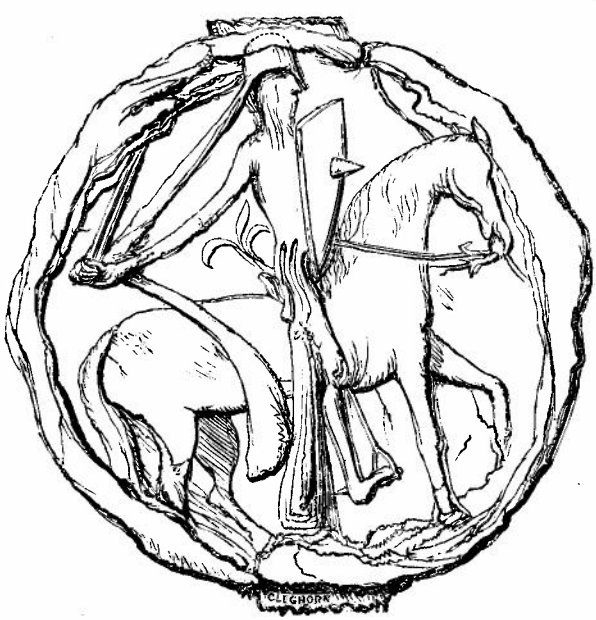
The following charters belong to the personages mentioned in the preceding pages. Some charters belonging to the house of Romara will be given in the next Part.

I. Charter of Gilbert (I.) Earl of Lincoln, granting to Herbert son of Adelard land at Fenton and Walcote as half a knight's fee.

Harl. Cart. 50 F. 31. Older mark, EE. no. 47°.

Gilt. Comes linc̃. Dapifero suo ⁊ om̃ib⁹ suis francis ⁊ Anglicis sal̃. Sciatis me dedisse ⁊ concessisse herberto fil̃ Adelard̃ p̱ servio suo ī feodo ⁊ h̃editate .xxix. bovatas terre in fentona. ⁊ totū meū dominiū ei⁹dem ville. scil̃ .viii. bovatas. Et p̃ter hec .xvi. bovatas terre in Walecota. Quare volo ⁊ firmil̃ ꝓcipio qd̃ herbert⁹ p̃dict⁹ has terras p̃dictas bñ ⁊ ī pace ⁊ lib̃e ⁊ q̱iete ⁊ honorifice teneat. ipse ⁊ h̃edes sui de me ⁊ de h̃edib⁹ meis cū om̃ib⁹ lib̃tatib⁹ ⁊ ꝯsuetudinib⁹ tenuris ℞is p̃dictis adjacentib⁹. p̱ serviciū dimidii militis. T'. Gaufr' de Gāt. Bald̃ de Gāt. Philipp̃ de Chima. Will̃o fil̃ Walt̃. Rad̃ de h̃eford. Pet⁹ de sr̃cebi. Walt̃o clerico. Joh̃e Cam̃. Hug̃ de Bart̃.

Seal of the Earl on horseback, the legend gone.



II. Charter of Roheis, wife of Gilbert Earl of Lincoln, confirming to the monks of Kirkstead the donation of Ralph son of Gilbert, of the land at Scampton which her lord had given her in dower. Addressed to Robert Bishop of Lincoln, 1147—1166. (This charter is entered in the Kirkstead cartulary, MS. Cotton. Vespas. E. xviii. fol. 180.)

Harl. Cart. 50 F. 32. An old indorse, VI'. Schamton.

Rob̄ di gr̃a Ep̄o Linc̄ 7 Capitlo sc̄e Marie Linc̄. 7 oīb; filiis 7 fidelibus sc̄e Ecclie. Roheis uxor Gilł Comitis Lincol': salt. Notū sit uob̄ me concessisse 7 confirmasse dō 7 monachis de Kirkesteda donationē q^{a}m Rad̄ fili^{o} Gilł fecit eis in elemosinā sicut Carta sua eis testatur de terra de Scamtuna: q^{a}m dedit m^{i} dn̄s meus in dotē. Illā p̄rā eis concedo 7 do cū oīb; suis adiacenciis in p^{a}tis 7 pascuis. in bosco 7 plano. in viis 7 semitis. in aq^{i}s 7 marisco. 7 molendino 7 in oīb; suis aliis p̄tinenciis: in elemosinā. Vnde p̄cor uos ōs ut eosdē monachos in hanc elemosinā manuteneatis ut 7 uos inde sitis participes: 7 glificet dn̄s 7 exaltetur Eccla. 7 sciatis qd̄ Rad̄ 7 Will cellararii dedunt m^{i} anulū aureū in testimoniū hui^{o} donatiōis q^{a}ndo eā eis confirmaui p̄ cartā istā 7 sigillū. Teste Gilł de Sempinghā 7 Ric̄ de Cantebrigia canonico. Skeithman. Rad̄ de Timb̄lund sacd̄. Rad̄ fit Gilł. 7 Rad̄ uillano fr̃e ei^{o}. Malg̃o de Hundemanbi. Hugone fit Ric̄ pincerna. 7 Daniele frost.



The seal remains, an oval, representing the Countess standing, with both hands extended, holding flowers; SIGILLVM ROHAIS VXORIS GILLEBERTI DE GANT.

In the Kirkstead Cartulary (above mentioned) is another charter of the Countess, made in the presence of the same Bishop, and commencing, "Rob. dei gr'a Linc. ep'o et universis eccl. filiis, Rohesia uxor Com' Gilb' Linc. salutem. Notum sit vobis me post obitum d'ni mei G. de Gant dedisse et concessisse Rad' fil' Gill' terram de Scamtun quam Comes G. dominus meus adhuc vivens ei pro servicio suo dederat."

III. Charter of Robert Dapifer and the Countess Roheis to Thomas son of Wigot of all his father's lands in Scampton. (This charter is *not* entered in the Kirkstead cartulary.)

Harl. Cart. 55 E. 13.

Roƀ dapifer 7 Roh̄ Comitissa Oñib3 hominib3 suis Frācis 7 Anglis tā futᵘis q̄ p̄sentib3 sal̄. Notū sit uoƀ nos 9cessisse 7 hac carta 9firmasse Thome filio Wigot de scātonia totā terrā patᶦs sui in scāt̄ liƀā 7 qᶦetā eoƀ servicio quo paᵽ suus p̄dictā ᵽrā tenuit. His testib3 ħgᵘe de tuit 7 ħr̄ de baha 7 petᵒ filio Roƀ 7 Joh̄e de edligt̄ 7 Roƀ filio philippi 7 Juone capellano 7 Walᵽo de baēburgia et daniele frost 7 ħr̄ de bardaneia 7 Warino de linc̄ 7 Roƀ de Rosel;

The seal remains, nearly perfect, an oval, the whole area chevronelly inscribed SIGILLUM ROHESIE COMITISSE LINCOLIE.



IV. Charter of Hawise de Quency, Countess of Lincoln, confirming to the nuns of Greenfleet, co. Lincoln, half an acre of land at Langton, given them by Warin son of Geoffrey.

Harl. Cart. 55 B. 8.

Oⁿibus Xp̃i fidelibus tam p̃sentib; q^m futuris Hawisia de Quency Comitissa linc̃ salt̃. Novitis me caritatis intuitu 9cessisse ⁊ hac p̃senti carta mea 9firmasse deo et eccl̃ie beate Marie de Grenefleđ ⁊ monialib; ibidem deo servientib; dimidiam acram r̃e in villa de langtoñ. illam scilicet q^am Warinus filius Galfriđ de eadē villa illis dedit. Jacentē in boriali p̃te crofti sui. Unde volo qđ ip̃e moniales ⁊ homo suus Gilb̃t le tanur ī illa manens liber sit ⁊ quietus ab oⁿi 9muni secta curie mee de Graham que ad me ul̃ ad heredes meos rac̃oe illius dimidie acre r̃e possit p̃tinere. Hiis testib; Will̃o de billesby. Thoⁿ de turrib;. Joh̃e de cocrintoñ. Rog̃ ⁊ Ricard̃ cl̃icis. Philippo de bob;. Hug̃ fil̃ seual. Thoⁿ de cocrintū. ⁊ multis aliis.

SIGILLVM HA[WISIE DE] QVINSI COMITISSE LINCOLNIE.

The circular engraving in the centre is slightly sunk, as if one seal were let into another. The mascles are the well-known bearing of Quency.

