SOME NOTICE OF THE DESCENT OF THE PRINCIPAL ESTATES IN THE PARISH OF KIRBY-WISKE, IN THE NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

It is trusted the notorious imperfections of Dr. Whitaker's Richmondshire will offer sufficient apology for printing the following details from the Abstracts of Title to the above property; as they may be of service to the next topographer and historian of the North Riding. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to observe that conveyancers seldom carry abstracts of title beyond sixty years back; unless, indeed, the *client* is *wealthy*. These, however, commence in the time of Charles II.; not many years subsequent to the abolition of *Inquisitiones post mortem*:—"of which undoubted flower of the Crown," [a] Charles the First agreed to divest himself only in the 16th year of his reign.

MANOR OF KIRBY-WISKE.

During the reign of Charles II. this lordship was possessed by the Wood family; a highly respectable old Yorkshire house, one branch of which is now seated at Hollin Hall in the West Riding. But by indenture of feoffment, dated 8th Sept. 1668, John Wood of Ripon, in Yorkshire, apothecary, granted, enfeoffed, and conveyed the manor, together with the advowson of the rectory and church of Kirby-Wiske, to Sir Hugh Smithson, of the city of London, Baronet, to hold to him, Sir Hugh, and his heirs and assigns for ever; and, on the 3rd Nov. 1668, George Wood, of London, gent. released to Sir Hugh all his right and claim in the estate.

In the Smithsons Kirby-Wiske thenceforth continued: and by indentures of lease and release of the 15th and 16th July 1740, being the settlement made anterior to the marriage between Lady Elizabeth Seymour, the only daughter of Algernon Percy, Earl of Hertford, son and heir apparent of Charles Seymour, Duke of Somerset, and Sir Hugh Smithson, descendant and heir at law of the purchaser, the manor of Kirby-Wiske,

[a] Blackstone, Book ii. p. 69.

together with many other estates, were conveyed to trustees (Henry Earl of Thomond and Francis Lord Brooke) to the use of Sir Hugh Smithson and his heirs till the solemnization of the intended marriage; afterwards to Sir Hugh for his natural life, and then to the said trustees to support the following contingent remainders; viz. for securing 1,400*l.* per annum to the Lady Elizabeth Seymour for life, should she survive Sir Hugh, in lieu of dower, &c.; and subject thereto, to the use of the first and every other son of Sir Hugh, begotten on the Lady Elizabeth, successively and in tail male; and, in default of such issue, to the use of Sir Hugh and his heirs and assigns for ever.

By articles made in 1764, previous to the marriage of Hugh Lord Warkworth, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, with Lady Anne Stuart, it was agreed that Kirby-Wiske, and many other estates, should be settled for raising annuities, &c. (*In* 1779, *by Act of Parliament, this marriage was dissolved)*; and by indenture dated 23 January 1765, Hugh Earl of Northumberland, father of the above Lord Warkworth, conveyed Kirby-Wiske to Jonathan Wharton, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. for the purpose of suffering a recovery of that and other estates, and in Hilary Term, 5 Geo. III. a fine was accordingly levied. The marriage settlement bears date March 1767.

After this nothing material happened in the descent of the property down to 1788; when, by indentures of lease and release dated 24th and 25th March 1788, Kirby-Wiske was conveyed by Hugh Duke of Northumberland to Richard Clarke, of Love-lane, Aldermanbury, banker, to such uses as Thomas Bradford, of Alverly Grange, near Doncaster, Esq. should by deed or deeds, &c. in his lifetime, or by his last will, appoint; and in default of such appointment, and in the meantime, till such appointment should be made, to the said Richard Clarke for and during the natural life of the said Thomas Bradford; in trust nevertheless for Bradford and his heirs: and within three days after, viz. by indenture of lease and release dated 28th and 29th March 1788, Bradford and Clarke disposed of Kirby-Wiske manor, with other tenements in the parish, to Metcalfe Graham Steele of Thirsk, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, gentleman.

This Mr. Metcalfe Graham Steele, who thereupon came to reside at the manor-house, called "Sion Hill," or "Kirby

Lodge," appears to have been continually mortgaging the property. It is unnecessary to wade through the multitude of mortgages on the title between 1788 and 1799, further than noticing that from these documents we find that Mr. Steele's wife was named Christiana.

In 1796, Metcalfe Graham Steele, then residing at Sion Hill, purchased another small estate in the parish, belonging to Colonel Teesdale: and this farm has since passed with the manor. The Teesdales had owned it for some time; and Christopher Teesdale the elder, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, merchant, by his will dated 20th March 1720, devised that property, described as "all those messuages, lands, and tenements, in Kirby-Wiske, in the possession of Richard Vicars," to Mary his wife for life, and after her decease to his eldest son Christopher Teesdale, his heirs and assigns for ever. Mary Teesdale, the widow, made her will 22 February 1732, leaving all the interest she might possess in the property to the said Christopher Teesdale her son.

This Christopher Teesdale, for some time of Houghton le Spring, in Durham, Esq. married a lady named Anne; and made his will at Chichester, in Sussex, 2nd June 1770, devising the said property to Christopher Teesdale his son; but charging it at the same time with 1,000*l.* to his son Ralph Teesdale, should he be then living; and if deceased, the same sum to go to his (Ralph's) children:—the testator further charged the property with a legacy of 200*l.* to his daughter Mary, wife of William Cockell, Esq. M.D. and 500*l.* to his grand-daughter Sarah Teesdale, the daughter of his late son William.

This the third Christopher Teesdale, being of College Street, Westminster, Esq. together with his wife Elizabeth, by indentures of lease and release, dated 19th and 20th February 1796, sold the farm, as already mentioned, to Metcalfe Graham Steele, of Sion Hill, gent. The conveyance is ostensibly, however, to Warcop Consett, Esq. of Brawith, in Yorkshire; he having advanced the money to Steele to complete the purchase. This Teesdale property, though only covering 124 acres of the parish, from the erections upon it, and other advantages, was of infinitely greater value than the manor itself. In 1668 the latter only sold for 700*l.*; and though, in 1788, 3,000*l.* was advanced in mortgage,

upon security of it and some few other tenements in the parish, the Teesdales' farm brought 7,000*l.* in 1796.

But Mr. Steele did not long remain here: for on 17th May 1799, he entered into an agreement with Edward D'Oyly, of Adwick le Street, in the county of York, Esq. for the sale to him of the manor of Kirby-Wiske, mansion of Sion Hill, and tenements in Brackenburgh and elsewhere in the parish, for the sum of 11,500*l.*; and by indentures of lease and release, the latter of six parts (so numerous were Steele's mortgagees) bearing date 20th and 21st February 1801, the lordship of Kirby-Wiske, with all the rights, royalties, franchises, &c. the capital messuage or dwelling-house, with the gardens, plantations, &c. called "Sion Hill," and the estate in Brackenburgh, &c. were absolutely conveyed to the said Edward D'Oyly, his heirs and assigns, for ever; who mortgaged the property in the same month and year to Warcop Consett, Esq. of Brawith, William Batchelor Bayley, Esq. of Northallerton, M.D. and others, bankers at Northallerton, to the amount of 2,000*l.* Doctor Bayley was father of Mr. D'Oyly's subsequent son-in-law.

This Edward D'Oyly, Esq. who was a member of the family of D'Oyly of Shottisham, in Norfolk, thereupon came to reside at Sion Hill, and, at much expense, rebuilt many parts of the old mansion. He added new wings to it, and otherwise improved and beautified the whole estate, expending, as he did, an incalculable amount of money upon it before his decease. He was a Justice of the Peace for the North Riding of Yorkshire, and was looked upon as a great benefactor to his neighbourhood; he ~~not only~~ afforded constant employment to labourers, ~~but built the stone bridge over the river Swale at Skipton entirely at his own expense~~; and resided at Sion Hill in great hospitality for a long time; but died at Fontainebleau in France, in his fifty-third year, 30th Sept. 1823. His wife was Hannah, daughter of Richard Marston, of Willenhall, in Staffordshire, by Barbara his wife, daughter of Thomas Kirkby, of Doveridge, in Derbyshire, Esq. by Mary his wife, daughter of Thomas Kynnersley, Esq. of Loxley Park, in Staffordshire; closely allied to the Sneyds, Adams', Hyetts, Windsors, Lowthers, &c. and which Hannah was paternally grand-daughter of Thomas Marston, of Willenhall and Dublin, by Hannah his wife, daughter, and at

last heiress of Daniel Molyneux of Dublin. By this lady Mr. D'Oyly had thirteen children; but only three sons and as many daughters survived him. They were,

1st. Capt. Thomas D'Oyly, of the Bengal Artillery, who wedded his cousin Charlotte, daughter and coheir of Henry Williams, Esq. of the East India Company's service, (and grand-daughter of Mrs. Stephen Williams, nurse to the Princess Amelia, and daughter of Sir Hadley D'Oyly, Bart.) They were the Captain and Mrs. D'Oyly who were murdered by the savages of Torres Straits in 1834, on their passage from Sydney to Calcutta. They left four sons, two of whom were officers in the East India Company's service, who, however, have no concern in Kirby-Wiske.

2nd. Robert D'Oyly, of Morton in the Marsh, Gloucestershire, solicitor, the eminent sportsman; whose likeness on horseback adorns a number of one of the Sporting Magazines. His first wife was Anne, sister of the Rev. Charles James, of Evenlode, in Worcestershire, by whom he has one son. His second wife was ..... daughter of ..... Ross.

3rd. John Francis D'Oyly, an Indigo Planter in the East Indies, who married Charlotte Anne Brownlow Page, daughter of an officer in the East India Company's service, and died leaving issue.

1st. Elizabeth Frances D'Oyly, wife of William Bayley, of Stockton, in Durham, solicitor; President, for some time, of the Mechanics' Institution in that town, and one of the Anti-Slavery delegates about 1839; second son of Doctor Bayley, of Northallerton, in Yorkshire. She died leaving issue.

2nd. Anna Maria Hannah D'Oyly, wife of Major George Twemlow, of the East India Company's service, nephew of Mr. Twemlow, of Arclyd, in Cheshire. They have several children.

3rd. Emma D'Oyly, wife of Major William Geddes, of the East India Company's service. They also have issue.

In 1820, however, Mr. D'Oyly had become desirous of disposing of the estate; and after some time a purchaser was found in a member of the Crompton family of Derby; and the present lord of Kirby-Wiske is Joshua Samuel Crompton, Esq. A.M., and a Justice of the Peace, M.P. also, for some time, for Ripon in Yorkshire; next brother of Mr. Stansfield-Crompton, of Esholt Hall; and he now resides (or did so a short time ago)

at Sion Hill. Sion Hill and Kirby-Wiske, when sold to Crompton, are believed to have brought about 18,000*l.*

MANOR OF BRACKENBURGH.

THIS lordship was possessed, in the reign of Charles II., by the Right Hon. Henry Ingram, Viscount Irwin in the kingdom of Scotland; and he passed it by bargain and sale enrolled, dated 1st May, 15th Car. II., in consideration of 4,600*l.* to Sir Hugh Smithson, then of Stanwick, Knt. and Bart.; and a corresponding fine was levied between the same parties, and a recovery suffered in Trinity term the same year, 1663. Thence it was subjected to all the instruments of the Smithsons and Percys which affected the manor of Kirby Wiske, down to the conveyance by Hugh Duke of Northumberland in 1788 to Clarke and Bradford. What was the subsequent fate of the whole of Brackenburgh does not appear: but it seems probable the estate was broken up and disposed off in small parcels: Calf Close, Stoney Pitts, Seven Acres, Nine Acres, Eight Acres, Little Warren's and Barn Paddock, in all about fifty acres, constituting part of Brackenburgh manor, were conveyed by Bradford and Clarke to one Robert Grey, yeoman, by indentures of lease and release dated 28th and 29th March 1788; who sold them to Metcalfe Graham Steele, gent. in the following April; and since then *these* have passed with the manor of Kirby-Wiske; first to Mr. D'Oyly, and afterwards (it is believed) to the Cromptons.

In later times . . . . Armitage, Esq. (an old name in Yorkshire,) had a pretty seat at Brackenburgh; but he left the district some years ago to reside in a more southern county.

W. D. B.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE PEDIGREE OF UFFORD.—THE BOWETS.

To the Editor of the Topographer.

SIR,—Allow me to trouble you with a remark or two upon the 7th volume of the Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica. My principal object is to suggest that in page 200, in the notice of the Uffords, Amey Ufford is said to marry Sir William *Bowet:* this name occurs several times, and I conceive should be *Bowes.* Dugdale says, that one daughter of *Edmund* Ufford married *Richard Bowes,* and another daugh-