

RIBBLESDALE.

PERCY FEE.

PARISH OF LONG PRESTON.*



HIS parish stretches along the course of the Ribble immediately to the north of the parish of Gisburne, and south from that of Giggleswick about six miles; and consists of the following townships:—Preston, Hellifield, Wigglesworth, Arneforth, Newton,† Swindon (qu ?), and West Halton.

It is thus surveyed in Domesday, under

TERRA ROGERI PICTAVIENSIS.†

¶ In Prestune tñ Vlf . III . car̄ ad gtd̄ . 7 I . eccliam.

.III.c' .I.c' .I.c' 7 dim. dim. c' .I.c'
Stainforde . Wiclesforde . Helgefelt . Neuhuse . Padehale.

.II.c' .I.c' 7 d VI . bou II. bō.
Ghiseburne . Hortone . Cheuebroc . Croches . ad gtd̄.

Of these Stainford is now in the parish of Giggleswick; and the lands of Roger de Poitou in Gisburne, Newsome, Painley, Horton, and Crook (together with Pathorne and Elwenthorpe, which occur below) are to be added to the survey of those places under Gisburne; unless by Horton is to be understood West Halton. The name of Chevebroc has nothing resembling it but Kelbrook, in the parish of Thornton. Again—

[* It contains, according to the Ordnance Survey, 13,557 acres, and comprises the townships of Long Preston, Hellifield, Wigglesworth, and West Halton. In 1871 the parish had a population of 1,246 persons, living in 291 houses. The township of Long Preston contains 3,577 a. 3 r. 22 p. Inclosure Acts were passed 21st George III. (West Halton) and 39th George III.]

[† Little Newton is a small hamlet in the township of Hellifield.]

[‡ Land of Roger of Poitou.—Manor.—In Prestune (Preston) Ulf had three carucates to be taxed, and one church. In Stainforde (Stainforth) three carucates. In Wiclesforde (Wigglesworth) one carucate. In Helgefelt (Hellifield) one carucate and a half. In Neuhuse (Newsome) half a carucate. In Padehale (Painley) one carucate. In Ghiseburne (Gisborn) two carucates. In Hortone (Horton) one carucate and a half. In Cheuebroc (Kelbrook) six oxgangs. In Croches (Crooks) two oxgangs to be taxed.]

̄ In Rodemare . ̄ Carle . ̄ . car̄ ad gr̄d̄ . Winchelesuurde^{x bō.}
 .II . c' 7 diim.
 Helgeflet.*

Part of Wigglesworth, therefore, was within the manor of Preston, and the remainder in that of Rathmell. All these lands, however, were soon after alienated by Roger of Poitou, and became part of the second Percy fee.

The manor of Preston anciently belonged to the Amundevilles,† probably the first grantees under Roger of Poitou. Of these I meet in succession with Walter, Elias, and Nigel; Nigel gave it to Richard [de Clare], Earl of Gloucester and Hereford [Hertford]; Richard next gave it to Ric. de Bruis, son of Isabel, his sister. After his decease, Robert de Bruis, his elder brother, entered, and gave it to William, another brother, who was disseised by Gilbert, Earl of Gloucester. Afterwards, however, Gilbert, who appears to have doubted his own right, made a composition with William for 200*l.* and held the manor.‡ It was afterwards reunited to the Percy fee; but when, or upon what terms, I have never been able to discover.§

The church of Preston, from the residence of whose incumbent the place derived its name, evidently existed in the Saxon times. [It is mentioned in Domesday.]

In the reign of Stephen the advowson belonged to Walter de Amundeville, to whom it might probably have been granted by Roger of Poitou before his alienation of the fee. By Amundeville it was bestowed|| upon the church and canons of Embsay, and confirmed to them, with the consent of Richard, the clerk of Preston, by Henry Murdac, Archbishop of York.¶ In consequence of this grant, the canons of Embsay and Bolton, whatever share of the profits they might reserve, appear to have presented a rector** until 15 kal. Mart. in the year 1303, when Archbishop Corbridge decreed that this church should be served by a fit vicar and his ministers, presentable by the prior and convent of Bolton; which vicar should

[* Manor.—In Rodemare (Rathmell) Carle had two carucates to be taxed. In Winchelesuurde (Wigglesworth) ten oxgangs. In Helgifet (Hellifield) two carucates and a half.]

[† Hugh, son of Hugh de Newton, confirmed to the abbey of Sallay two oxgangs of land, with tofts and crofts in this place, which Hugh, his father, and Margery, his mother, gave. Helias de Amundeville gave two oxgangs of land here, with pasture for three hundred sheep by the great hundred, throughout the common of the whole village, and confirmed to the monks of Fountains all that they held of his fee in this territory, according to the exchange which these monks made with those of Salley for these lands.—Burt. "Mon." p. 191.]

‡ MSS. J. C. Brooke, Arm. in Off. Arm.

[§ PRESTON.—In eadem villa sunt sex car. terræ; quarum ecclesia dotata est de I car.; et III car. terræ et XI bov. tenentur tam de Ricardo Brus quam de hæredibus de Percy; et iidem hæredes de rege; et quinque bov. terræ tenentur de abbate de Sallay; et idem abbas de Ricardo de Brus, et Ricardus de hæredibus de Percy, et iidem hæredes de rege; et redd. ad finem prædictum III*l.*—Kirkby's "Inquest," A.D. 1284.

PRESTON.—In Preston sunt VI car. quarum Franciscus (?), Perfect de Preston, et Alicia uxor ejus tenent I car. tam in dominico quam in servitio, de Percy. Item, persona dictæ ecclesiæ de Preston tenet I car. unde ecclesia dotata est. Item, Elias de Gloc (Gloucester) tenet IIII bov. de Ricardo de Brus et Ricardus de Percy. Item, Ricardus de Brus tenet III bov. tam in dominico quam in servitio de quibus abbas de Salley tenet II bov., abbas de Fontibus tenet III bov., et persona ecclesiæ ejusdem villæ tenet I bov., in puram elemosinam et abbas de Fontibus tenet easdem (bov.) de abbate de Salley, et abbas de Salley de Ricardo de Brus et Ricardus de Percy. Summa VI car.—"Knights' Fees," 31st Edward 1.

Johannes Darcy was lord of the manor of Preston 9th Edward II.—"Nomina Villarum.]"

|| "Mon. Ang." vol. ii. p. 104.

[¶ He was archbishop from 7th December, 1147, to 14th October, 1153.]

** See the Catalogue of Incumbents, p. 145.

receive tithe of wool, lamb, foals, calves, and of the profits of all lands enclosed and not tilled—mortuaries, oblations, and all things belonging to the altarage, together with the great and small tithes of Arnford. That the vicar should likewise enjoy the rectory-house, &c., and nine acres of glebe; bearing all ordinary burdens. Of extra burdens, rebuilding the chancel and repairing vestments, renewing church ornaments, books, &c., the convent to bear two-thirds, the vicar one-third.*

The year following, during the vacancy of the see, another ordination was made



by the dean and chapter, and confirmed by Archbishop Greenfield in 1307,† [in the vicarage of Robert de Spaldington] saving that he advanced the taxation from eighteen to twenty marks. But this ordination having been soon after superseded by Archbishop Melton [in 1322], it will be unnecessary to recite the many trifling particulars of which it consists.

In the third place, therefore, this prelate decreed that the vicar shall receive as under the first ordination, reserving tithe-wool to the canons of Bolton, but expressly granting to the vicar the tithe-hay of the whole parish, except that of six oxgangs of glebe land in the hands of the said religious, and excepting the tithe of Rayner de Knoll of Helghfeld, which they shall also receive. Burdens ordinary and extraordinary to be borne as under the first endowment.‡

* Reg. Corbridge.

† Reg. Greenfield.

‡ Reg. Melton.

This was too liberal an appointment to satisfy the monks, who, in the year 1455 procured from Archbishop Booth a fourth (which is the present) ordination, reserving the whole tithe-hay out of the vicar's portion, together with a yearly pension of 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be paid by the vicar to the religious.

The prior and canons of Bolton continued of course to present to the church of Long Preston from the endowment of the vicarage to the dissolution of their house, when the rectory and advowson of the village were granted by Henry VIII. to Christ Church, in Oxford.

RECTORES DE LONG PRESTON.

Temp. Inst.	Rectores.	Patroni.
15 kal. Jun. 1234.	D's <i>Peter de Hendon</i> [? <i>Hedon</i>], Cl. Rector.	Prior et Conv. de <i>Bolton</i> .
*1286.	<i>Willielmus</i> , Cleric. de <i>Preston</i> .	

VICARII DE LONG PRESTON.

Temp. Inst.	Vicarii Eccl.	Patroni.	Vacat.
4 kal. Jan. 1307.	D's <i>Rob. de Spaldington</i> , Pr.	Prior et Conv. de <i>Bolton</i> .	per mort.
12 kal. Oct. 1307.			
Kal. Oct. 1322.	D's <i>Hugo de Bradeford</i> , Pr.	Iidem.	per mort.
14 Dec. 1369.	D's <i>Rob. Lacere</i> , Pr. D's <i>Ric. de Manneby</i> .	Iidem.	per resig.
Ult. Jul. 1437.	D's <i>Ric. Mone</i> , vel <i>Moyne</i> , Cap.	Iidem.	per mort.
Ult. Jan. 1454.	Fr. <i>Tho. Sallay</i> , Can. Mon. de <i>Bolton</i> .	Iidem.	per mort.
5 Aug. 1456.	Fr. <i>Nic. Kay</i> , Can. Mon. de <i>Bolton</i> .	Iidem.	per mort.
28 Ma. 1474.	Fr. <i>X'p' Wood</i> , Can. ib'm.	Iidem.	per resig.
3 Oct. 1483.	Fr. <i>X'p' Lofthous</i> , Can. ib'm.	Iidem.	per mort.
4 Sept. 1495.	Fr. <i>Rob. York</i> , Can. ib'm.	Iidem.	per mort.
19 Dec. 1519.	D's <i>Tho. York</i> , Can. ib'm.	Iidem.	per mort.
3 Dec. 1521.	Fr. <i>Tho. Bolton</i> , Can. Mon. de <i>Bolton</i> .	Iidem.	per mort.
10 Sept. 1531.	D's <i>Tho. Preston</i> , Can. ib'm. D's <i>Ric. Walker</i> .	Iidem.	per mort.
Jan. 1587.	<i>Leonard Hutton</i> , Cl. A.M.	Dec. et Cap. Eccl. <i>X'p' Oxon</i> .	
19 Dec. 1588.	<i>Galfr. Wibergh</i> , Cl.	Assign. p'd' Dec. et Cap.	per mort.
4 Mart. 1618.	<i>Tho. Dugard</i> , Cl.	Dec. et Cap. p'dict.	per mort.
27 Mar. 1636.	<i>Hen. Ogle</i> , Cl. A.M.	Iidem.	
27 May, 1636.	<i>Chr. Birkhed</i> , ob. 1643. <i>Tho. Windle</i> , ob. 1676.	Iidem.	per mort.
2 Aug. 1677.	<i>Cha. Washburn</i> , ob. 1703.	Iidem.	per mort.
19 Nov. 1703.	<i>John Sparke</i> , † ob. 1703.		per mort.
2 Feb. 1730.	<i>Jeremiah Harrison</i> , A.M., † ob. 1763.	Iidem.	per mort.
28 Nov. 1763.	<i>Guy Fairfax</i> , A.M. §	Iidem.	per resig.
20 Apr. 1776.	<i>Philip Lawrence</i> , ob. 1789.		
19 Oct. 1789.	<i>Edward Prescott</i> , A.M. <i>Henry Kempson</i> .		per mort.
29 Jan. 1858.	<i>John Edmund Coulson</i> .		

In this church was a chantry dedicated to our Lady and St. Anne, founded by Richard Hammerton, Knight, according to the return of chantries made by Archbishop Holgate, and

* Townley MSS.

† He performed the whole duty *memoriter*, except the lessons, some time after he was blind.

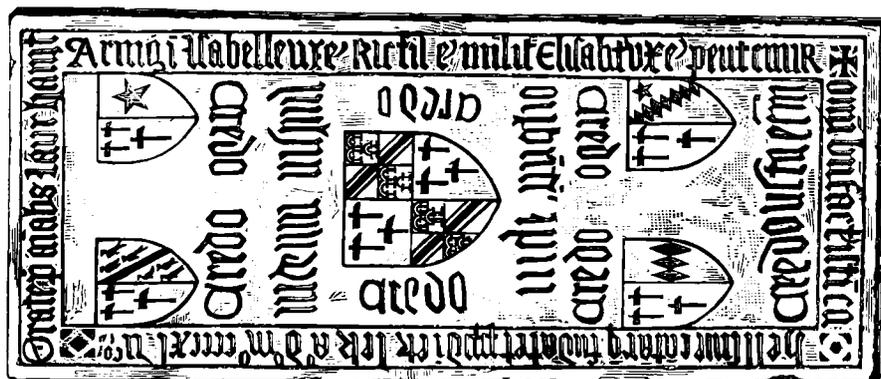
‡ He was also Vicar of Catterick.

§ He was afterwards Rector of Wigan [which he held in trust for one of the Bridgman family; after resigning it he returned to his rectory at Newton Kyme: he died in that church instantly after having given out the day of the month in the Morning Service].

valued at 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum. This was the south choir of the church, still the property of the family; and beneath the founder's arch, between that chapel and the chancel, is a tomb with the following inscription:—

Orate pro animabus Laurentii Hamerton, arm. et Isabellae uxoris ejus, Ricardi filii ejus militis, Elizabethae uxoris ejus. Parentum, Liberorum, et omnium Benefactorum istius Capellae sive Cantariae, quae fundata erat A.D. MCCCCXXII.

[Besides the inscription round the border of the slab, as above described, the word **Credo** occurs six times, and at the bottom **Credo vita emi**; there are also, as are shown in the engraving, four words, which I am quite unable to decipher.]



On this tomb are five shields: the first Hammerton impaling Tempest; second, Hammerton impaling Assheton; third, Hammerton impaled with Knolle and Arches borne quarterly; fourth, Hammerton impaling Plumpton; fifth, Hammerton impaling Radcliffe of Longfeld.*

[The following table shows the matches indicated by the shields. The coat ascribed to Plumpton should have *five* fusils, but I think is intended for the coat of that family, and the slab was probably erected by Sir Stephen Hammerton.

Adam de Hamerton	=	Katherine, dau. and co-heiress of Elias de Knoll.
		Arg. a bend coticed sa. quartering gu. 3 arches or.
Richard de Hamerton	=	Eliz., dau. and heiress of William de Radcliffe.
		Arg. a bend engrailed sa. in chief a mullet.
Laurence Hamerton	=	Isabella, dau. of Sir John Tempest, of Bracewell.
vix. 19 Hen. VI.		Arg. a bend betw. six martlets sa.
Sir Richard Hamerton	=	Eliz., dau. of Sir John Assheton.
ob. 1480.		Arg. a mullet sa.
Sir Stephen Hamerton	=	Isabel, dau. of Sir William Plumpton.
ob. 16 Hen. VIII.		Az. 5 fusils in fess or, each charged with an escallop gu.]

* The heralds have very improperly given this coat with the difference of an escallop, which distinguished the Wimmersley branch. But on the stone it is most evidently a mullet, which was the difference always given by the Radcliffs of Longfield and Todmorden.

The following curious charter, however, will prove, either that there is some mistake in the date of this foundation, or, which is not improbable, that there was a stipendiary chaplain here, employed by the family before a chantry was regularly endowed :—

“Omnibus, &c., Henricus comes Northumbriæ, sal'.—Sciatis nos dedisse, concessisse, &c. Ricardo Hammerton militi quendam domum nostram in Preston vulgo nuncupatam Saynt Michael Chapel, sub hac conditione, quod Capellanus qui nunc est, et qui in ecc. par. de Preston p'cietur pro a'i'a Laurentii Hammerton arm. patris p'dicti Ric. et heredum suorum cotidie teneatur (ad) unam orationem qualibet missa sua pro bono statu nostri et Alianore consortis n're quamdiu vixerimus, et heredum nostrorum comitum Northumbrie dum vixerint, &c.—Dat. 8 Jun. 10 Hen. VI. [1431–2].—Test. Ric. Maunby, vic. de Preston in Craven.—Ri. Tempest, Ri. Puddesay, Mil.”*

In fact, it was not before the 8th of Edward IV. [1468–9] that Richard Hammerton regularly endowed the chapel of our Lady and St. Anne in this church. I have never been able to meet with the deed of endowment, and can only give Dodsworth's abridged translation of it, † which recites, “that the incumbent should pray for the soul of the founder, help to perform divine service in the choir in time of necessity, teach a grammar and song-school to the children of the parish, make a special obit yearly for the soul of the founder, distribute at the same time six shillings to the poor in bread, and make a sermon, by himself or his deputy, once a year !” How characteristic is this last circumstance of the times ! In a superstitious age, preaching is nearly superseded by the perpetual recital of forms : in enthusiastic periods, the case is exactly reversed ; under a temperate and rational establishment of religion, like that of the Church of England, each occupies its proper place without encroaching on the other.

I suspect the old chapel of St. Michael to have stood near the entrance of the church-yard, where a floor of painted tiles is met with in digging graves.

The present church contains not a vestige of the original structure, excepting, perhaps, at the east end of the middle aisle. The rest was probably rebuilt about the time when Hammerton's chantry was erected.

Within the steeple, and at a considerable distance above the ground, is a strong vaulted chamber, about six feet by four, to which it is difficult to assign any use, unless it were intended to preserve the plate and vestments of the church from thieves or fire.

[The church is Late Decorated, and consists of nave without clerestory, and aisles with four bays. The chancel, with south chapel, north chapel, and vestry, was rebuilt in 1868 by Messrs. Healey, architects, of Bradford. There is a south porch. The tower is said to be solid, with exception of the staircase, as high as the bell-chamber, with a strong chamber about 8 feet from the ground, and 6 feet by 4 feet, entered by a door from the winding stair on the south side. The roofs are ceiled, and the timbers concealed : a large gallery disfigures the north side of the nave. At the time the chancel was rebuilt, the foundations of a semi-circular apse—doubtless a portion of the original church—were discovered within the walls, and several remains of sepulchral slabs, one of which had previously been used as the sill of a three-light window, and then built into a buttress. The gallery was erected in 1805, faculty granted 6th July. There are three bells, inscribed :—1. “LESTER AND PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1760, E DONO I. KNOWLES IN 1630, RECAST 1760 ;” 2. “LESTER AND PACK OF

* Townley MSS.

† Dodsworth's MSS.

On a pew on the north side of the choir are engraven in old English characters—

Solium Henrici Pudsey et Margerie uxoris eius [now lost].

These were the Pudseys of Arnforth. [Probably Henry Pudsey and Margaret his wife, daughter of Sir Roger Tempest, of Broughton.]

The population of the parish of Long Preston, according to the late returns, was—

Township of Long Preston,	573	[In 1871.	622 persons, living in 160 houses.
Wigglesworth,	371	”	272 ” ” 58 ”
Hellifield,	237	”	226 ” ” 48 ”
Halton West,	180	”	126 ” ” 25 ”
	<u>1361</u>		<u>1246</u> <u>291</u>

In the reign of Edward IV., Long Preston was the residence of the Lamberts, afterwards of Skipton, and lastly of Calton. The following award relates to a homicide committed on one of the family during their residence at this place :—

“Betwene John Lambert of Preston in Craven, William, Thomas,* Richard, John, and Christopher Lambert his children and other kinsmen, on th' one p't, and Thomas Knoll, Henry, Richard, Stephen, and Thomas Knolle del Floder, on th' other p't, for the dethe and appel of Henrie Lambert late passed to God ; for which the p'ties stand bounde to ye awarde of Wylliam Blackburne, Chanon of Bolton. Awarded and ordeyned yt Tho. Knoll, Henry, Richard, Stephen, and Thomas, cum to ye p'ish church of Preston, and ther in tyme of s'vice kneeling on ther knees loose gerded, ask God forgevenes of ye dethe of Henrie Lambert, and ask forgevenes of his fader John Lambert, and pay XL m'ks to ye behofe of Jo. Lambert and his children unto Ric. Pilkinton, Esq. on the awter of St. Nicholas in the p'ish church of Skypton. Dat. XIII Feb. XIV Ed. IV.” †

[There is an hospital at Long Preston, which was founded by James Knowles in 1613 for ten poor persons, men or women. It is situated a short distance south of the village, by the side of the Marsden, Gisburn, and Long Preston turnpike-road, and consists of ten cottages, and a chapel for daily morning prayer, which were erected in 1617.

Very little is known of the founder, but his will is dated 17th March, 1613, and in it he is described as of Wandon's Green, in the parish of Fulham, in the county of Middlesex, Gentleman. He appoints six persons, including the vicar *ex officio*, to act as trustees, and obtained from King James I. for them and their successors a charter of incorporation, dated 6th April, 1616.

The endowment is from land worth, in 1876, about 200*l. per annum.*]

What remains of the history of this parish will nearly be comprised in the account of one ancient family formerly possessed of large estates in this country, who, after a great political shock, have had the good fortune to save from the general wreck the manor of Hellifield, which their descendant still enjoys.

𐌆 In Helgeflet 𐌆 Carl . 11 . ca^h 7 dim.—Domesday, in Terrâ Rogeri Pictaviensis.

Hellifield, ‡ anciently Helgefelt, or the Field of Helgh, its first Saxon possessor, was

[* This Thomas Lambert was ancestor of General Lambert. The Lamberts sold all their property in Long Preston to Anthony Lister, of Westby, in 1541.]

† MSS. J. C. Brooke, Arm. in Off. Arm.

[‡ The canons of Bolton had the mill of this town, with the tithe of corn.—Burt. “Mon.” 117. The township of Hellifield contains 3,400 a. 3 r. 34 p.]

held by its mesne lords of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and by them of the Percies, as chief lords of the fee.*

The first of these mesne lords hitherto known were the family De Knoll; but the following charter, which may be referred to one of the first years in the reign of Stephen, brings to light an earlier race unknown before.

“Ego Vei de Homas dedi, &c. Savellino filio Bernulph parentibus meis (that is, my relations) II car. terræ in villa de Helefeld—His test. Reginaldo de Fleming, senescallo de Scepton (the first and true orthography of Skipton), D'no Gamellino de Hestevic (Austwick), D'no Meldric de Giclisvic, D'no Helia de Scepton, D'no Petro de Marton, D'no Hertil de Malum.”†

After this transaction the next which occurs, but at a considerable distance of time, will account for the manner in which the Knolls became possessed of Hellifield: “For Isabel, daughter of Richard de Helghefeld and widow of Robert de Stainton, gave to Elias de Knoll, for his homage and service, and for sixty marks, all the lands which she held as of inheritance in demesne in Helghefeld, whereof thirteen bovates were in demesne, and four bovates in service, as sixteen bovates make two carucates.”‡ These are probably the lands granted above. The consideration, which seldom appears upon the face of ancient charters, is a curious circumstance.

As the paternal estate has long been forfeited and lost, it will be most proper to give a short connected account of the family in the place of their present residence.

Hamerton appears to be the town of Amer, which is the same word with Almer, or Aylmer, a well-known Saxon appellative. The first of the name which occurs is Richard de Hamerton, in 1170, 26 Henry II. § The next is Stephen, who paid a composition of 8s. for scutage in 1210. || The next is Orme de Hamerton, a benefactor to Edisford Hospital, near Clitheroe. To this Orme succeeded John, his son, of whom nothing more is known; and he by Richard, who, as appears by Kirkby's “Inquisition,” 13 Edward I., ¶ held one carucate of land in Hamerton and Riston** of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln.

He was succeeded by Stephen, his son, who was living 9 Edward II., and had a son John, deceased some time before 33 Edward III., leaving Adam, who, marrying, as above, Katharine, daughter of Elias de Knolle, brought into the family the manors of Wigglesworth, Knolsmere, and Hellifield Peele.

* In the 9th Edward II. it appears, from Kirkby's “Inquisition,” that Sir John de Harcourt and the prior of St. John of Jerusalem were joint lords of this manor.

[HELEFEUD CUM NEUTON.—In eisdem villis sunt IIII^{or} car. terræ quæ tenentur de rege et quælibet car. redd. per ann. ad finem prædictum III^d. ob. q. ; unde summa est xv^d.—Kirkby's “Inquest,” A.D. 1284.

HEGHFELD, OTTERBURNE, HAHMLITH, ET MALGHAM.—Willelmus Malleverer tenet in capite de domini dicti castri (de Skipton) XIII car. et faciunt feod. quarum dominus Johannes Beke tenet de ipso III car. in Heghefeld, dominus Henricus de Kighley tenet de ipso in Otterburne III car. dominus Henricus de Hertlington tenet de eodem III car. in Hahmlith: Prior de Boulton tenet de eodem I car. in Malgham, Willelmus de Haukeswik tenet de eodem II car. Abbas de Fontibus tenet de eodem in eadem I car. Summa I feod.—“Knights' Fees,” 31st Edw. I.

In 9th Edward II. the lords of the manor of Helghefeld were “Magister de Hospitali, Robertus de Wylghby et Johannes de Harrecourt.—“Nomina Villarum.”]

† Townley MSS.

‡ Ex charta pen. Jac. Hamerton, Arm.

§ He paid a fine of half a mark.—Pipe Rolls *eo anno*.

|| *Ibid.*

¶ Dodsworth's MSS.

** Qu.—Where is Riston?

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The issue of this marriage was Richard, who, by a match equally fortunate, with Elizabeth daughter and heiress of William de Radcliffe by Ellen his wife, niece and heiress of Henry de Langfield, had the manor of Langfield, in the parish of Halifax, and a third part of the manors of Rishworth, Bottomley, Barkisand, and Scalmonden.*

Laurence Hamerton, the issue of this marriage, in the 19th of Henry VI. [1440-41] obtained a licence to fortify (*turrellare*) and embattle his manor of Hellifield.† He married Isabel, daughter of Sir John Tempest of Bracewell, by whom he had issue Sir Richard, his heir; and besides other children mentioned in the following pedigree, two daughters, Alice and Elizabeth, the former of whom married Richard Sherburne, of Stonyhurst; and the latter John Woodrove, of Wolley. The first is interred in the church of Mitton, and was once commemorated by an inscription, of which a fragment only was given in the "History of Whalley," as it was all which I could then retrieve.

**Orate pro anima Ric. de Sherburne et pro anima Alicie Hamerton uxoris sue.
A.D. MCCCXXI. Obiit prefatus Ric. et erat hic intumulatus in die Ascensionis
D'ni nostri Jesu Christi. Cujus a'ie p'pitietur Deus. Amen.**

Laurence Hamerton having indisputably built Hellifield Peel, I am inclined to believe that the chantry of St. Laurence mentioned below was at this place rather than either Wigglesworth or Hamerton, at the latter of which houses the domestic chapel had another dedication.

"Eleonora relicta W. Plumpton, fil. & her. D'ni W. Plumpton, voluntariè recognovit in capella S'c'i Laurentii infra precinctum manerii honorifici viri D'ni Ric. Hamerton, quod nunquam remisit juncturam suam vel dotem D'no W^o Plumpton, 1^{mo} Oct. 1461."‡

In the time of Dugdale and Dodsworth,§ the figure of Elizabeth, with that of her husband, and the arms of each "remained most lively represented" in the east window of Wolley Church, with this inscription:—

**Orate pro anima Johannis Woodrove de Molvelay, arm. quondam Receptor' D'ni Regis Edwardi III.
Dominiorum suorum de Wakefeld, Conisburghe, et Hattefeld. Cujus a'ie p'pitietur Deus.
Orate pro a'ia Elizabethæ uxoris suæ quondam filix Laurentii Hamerton de Wigglesworth in Craven,
armigeri. Cujus anime p'pitietur Deus.**

Sir Richard Hamerton married Elizabeth, relict of Sir Ralph Harrington, Knight, and daughter of Sir John Assheton, of Assheton, co. Lancaster, and had issue,

Sir Stephen Hamerton, who married Isabel, daughter of Sir William Plumpton, of Plumpton, Knight, and was made a knight banneret, in Scotland, by Richard Duke of Gloucester, 20 Edward IV. [1480-81]. He died 16 Henry VII. [1500-1], John, his son, being then found his heir. ||

* Dodsworth's MSS. are very erroneously entitled. From a reference to these, I had reason to expect a complete rental of the estates of the attainted Sir Stephen Hamerton, but found only a meagre catalogue of quit-rents in these last townships, altogether unconnected with the present subject.

† Chart. pen. Jac. Hamerton, Arm.

‡ Dodsworth, vol. 83, fol. 79.

§ Dodsworth's MSS. and Dugdale's "Arm. Insig. co. Ebor." in Coll. Arm.

|| Esch. co. Ebor. 16 Henry VII.

The arms of this Sir Stephen, impaling Plumpton, were remaining in the windows of Plumpton Chapel at the time of St. George's visitation of the county of York.*

John Hamerton, Esq., married Elizabeth † daughter of Sir Geoffrey Middleton, of Middleton, co. Westmoreland; by whom he had issue Stephen his heir, and Richard, from whom descend the present family of Hellifield Peel. Upon the marriage of his son Stephen, 21 Henry VII. [1496-7], he enfeoffed John Bigod, Esq., and others, in the manor of Langfield, and certain lands in Preston and Calton, to the said Stephen and Elizabeth his wife, and dying September 20, 6 Henry VIII. [1514], by inquisition taken at Ilkley 14th April following, he was found to have been seised in demesne, as of fee, in the manors of Hamerton, Knolsmere, Wigglesworth, Hellifield, and Langfield, and of the third part of Rishworth, &c., besides lands in Slaidburn, Newton, Settle, Pheser, Calton, and Coniston Cold. ‡

The jurors also say, that the manors of Hamerton and Knolsmere are holden of the king, as of the Duchy of Lancaster, by fealty and service, at the court of Bowland. The manor of Wigglesworth, and the manor of Hellifield, of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem.

I have recited this inquisition, in order to show the extent of that forfeiture which followed in the next generation.

Sir Stephen Hamerton married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Ralph Bigod of Settington, co. Ebor., Knight. In the 17th Henry VIII. [1525-6], not being then knighted, I find him in the train of Henry Earl of Cumberland at his creation. But he forsook his patron in the hour of trial; for, in the great northern insurrection, A.D. 1537, this unfortunate man joined the insurgents, and, after having availed himself of the king's pardon, revolted a second time with Lord Darcy, Sir Francis Bigod, his brother-in-law, &c.; after which, having been taken prisoner, he was conveyed to London, and shortly after attainted and executed.§

He left an only son Henry, who married Joan, daughter of Christopher Stapleton, of Wighill, and is said by Dodsworth to have been "interred in M. (qu. Monasterio, or Minster), de Ebor. die quo pater ejus decapitatus est." It is not improbable that he died of a broken heart, in consequence of the ruin of his family.

Hellifield, however, was preserved by a settlement for the life of the widow of John Hamerton, who was mother of Sir Stephen.

But the reversion of Hellifield Peel remained in the Crown till 37 Henry VIII. [1545-6],|| when it was granted by that king, under the name of the manor of Hellifield, with its appurtenances, part of the possessions of Stephen Hamerton, Knight, attainted of high treason, to George Browne and his heirs, to be held of the king *in capite*, for the consideration of 296*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* Browne was then an inhabitant of Calais, and is said to have married Alice, widow of John Hamerton, Esq. But he did not hold it long, for in 7 Edward VI. [1553]¶¶

* Vis. Ric. St. George Norroy, c. 13, MSS. Coll. Arm.

† By a recital of the king's grant of the manor of Hellifield to George Browne, Esq., it appears that this lady married Edward Stanley, Esq., to her second husband. Qu. Who was this Edward?

‡ Ex chartis penès J. Hamerton, Arm.

§ Baker's "Chronicle," p. 304.

|| Pat. 9, 37 Hen. VIII.

¶ Pat. 12, 7 Ed. VI.

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J. B. Ryland del.

W.D. Fisher del.

Hollyfield
T.F.
© Peol

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he obtained a licence to alienate the manor of Hellifield to Sir Arthur Darcy, Knight, the grantee of Sallay Abbey, and already possessed of great estates in Craven. Once more, in the 2nd and 3rd of Philip and Mary [1555-6],* Darcy had a licence to alienate to John Redman, Esq., father of Francis, who had married Margaret, daughter and co-heir of Henry son of the attainted Sir Stephen, and by fine, levied at Westminster 3rd Elizabeth [1560-1],† the said John and Francis and Margaret wife of Francis, passed this manor to John Hamerton, Esq., son of Richard, younger brother of Sir Stephen.

These were the steps by which it returned to the family again.

I have thought proper to throw these anecdotes together into a connected narrative, as they could not well be detailed in a mere genealogical table; and nothing needs to be added to this account with respect to Hellifield, but that the peel‡ or castlet itself, built undoubtedly in consequence of the licence granted 19 Henry VI. [1440-1], still remains—a square, compact building, very strong, but of too narrow dimensions to accommodate the family in the splendid style in which they then lived, and therefore intended rather as a place of retreat in cases of sudden alarm. Wigglesworth was, I think, the general residence of the Hamertons from their marriage with the heiress of Knoll to the attainder of Sir Stephen. In the house, which has been modernised by the present owner, are two portraits on board, one of John Talbot of Bashal, æt. 46, anno 1604, accompanied by a boy; and another of Ursula Hamerton his wife, æt. 40, together with a daughter, æt. 9, of the same date. He is represented as a large, stern, bluff-looking man; but I have heard a very good judge of painting and physiognomy observe that the boy has the features of an idiot.

The lady does not seem to have been likely, from the expression of her countenance, to redeem the Talbots from that failure of intellect to which they are reported to have been subject every second generation.§ These portraits are authenticated by the arms of their respective houses, and, though very indifferently painted, cannot but afford some pleasure to an antiquary, as the only existing remains of that ancient family.

Hellifield Peel stands upon a flat, and was once probably surrounded by a moat, as our ancestors seldom thought proper to trust to the protection of walls alone, when they had not the advantage of elevation.

WIGGLESWORTH. ¶

Worth, the Saxon *þræ*, and German *ort*, which enters into the composition of so many local names in England, signifies a mansion or dwelling-place; ¶ and Wichil, or Wigil, was undoubtedly the name of its first possessor in the general distribution of property after the Saxon Conquest.

* Pat. 5, 53 Ph. et Mar.

† Dodsworth's MSS.

‡ Pela—Castellum, Arx.—Du Cange. *Castra Pela et fortalicia*.—Rymer, "Fœdera," vol. iv. p. 486. In *Pelo de Horton latuit*.—Trokelow, "Ann. Edw. II."

[§ See foot-note, p. 32.]

[¶ Including the hamlet of Longill. Contains 4,288a. 1r. op. The canons of Bolton had the title of corn here.—Burt. "Mon." 120.]

¶ Dugdale's "Warwickshire," first ed. p. 150.

It is curious to observe that the names of three towns in Craven are formed from dialectical variations of this single word—a circumstance which proves it to have been extremely common; for Giggleswic is the village of Giggie, and G is universally convertible by W, as it is sometimes by K; thus Kighley is Kihel-ley, the field of Kihel—evidently a slight alteration of the same word.

At the time of Domesday, one carucate of this township belonged to the manor of Preston, and ten oxgangs to Rathmel.

From the general confirmation of the possessions of Fountains Abbey* by Richard I., Wigglesworth appears even then to have belonged to that house, and it is described by Burton,† upon the authority of the “Coucher Book” of Fountains, to have been given by William, son of Godfrey de Neversheim—possibly a grantee under Roger of Poitou.

Under the monks of Fountains it was next held by the ancient family De Arches, who seem occasionally to have called themselves De Wigglesworth; for an Adam and John de Wigglesworth occur as lords of this village in the record styled “Nomina Villarum,” temp. Edward II. This conjecture is strengthened in that the present family of the name of Wigglesworth bear the same arms with the De Arches—viz., three Saxon arches or porticos.

In the reign of Edward II., Beatrix de Arches, heiress of this family, conveyed the manor of Wigglesworth, by marriage, to Reginald de Knol, lord of Hellifield. Reginald had a son Elias, whose daughter Catherine married, as we have already seen, Adam de Hamerton, and transferred this manor to the latter family, who made it their principal residence, and had a park about it.‡ With the Hamertons it rested till the attainder of Sir Stephen, when it became vested, along with his other possessions, in the Crown.

In the next place, Henry VIII., a. r. 36 [1544–5], granted the site of the manor of Wigglesworth, with the demesnes, park and mill, to Sir Thomas Holcroft, of Holcroft, co. Lanc., Knight, to be holden of him *in capite*, by knight's service; and at the same time the remainder of the same manor was demised for a term to the same Sir Thomas Holcroft, under the yearly rent of 21*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.*§

In the 36th year of the same reign Holcroft obtained a licence to alienate the site of the manor of Wigglesworth, and the park, &c., late belonging to Sir Richard Hamerton, attainted, to Sir Richard Sherburne, of Stonyhurst, co. Lancaster.||

And on November 17, 1557, the same Sir Richard Sherburne bought the fee-simple of the residue of the manor, which Sir Thomas Holcroft had holden under a lease from the Crown, for 28 years' purchase (a very high price at that time), amounting to 207*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*

The following report, now extant among the Harleian MSS.,¶ relates to this transaction :—

* “Mon. Ang.” vol. i. p. 758.

† “Mon. Ebor.” p. 208.

‡ The fact is certain, but I have never met with the *Licentia Imparcandi*.

§ Pat. 5, a. 31 Hen. VIII.

|| Pat. 2, a. 36 Hen. VIII.

¶ No. 607, p. 276.

“ That the premises are no part of ye auntyent demaynes of the Crowne, the duchee of Lancaster, or St. John’s.
 “ Item, It is far from any the King or Queene’s Majesty’s castells or houses reserved for their usual access.
 “ Item, What numbre of acres, or of what kynde the premises are, the recorde makyth no mencion.
 “ Item, What woodes or mynes belongeth to the premysses I knowe not, and therefore not to be remembred.
 “ Item, The seide manor was longe sithence dismembred fro’ the scyte of the manor aforesaid; the demaynes, the parke, and a mill ther,* were sold to Sir Tho. Holcroft, and his heires, in XXXVI yere of ye late kyng Henry VIII. and the residue of the seid manyr was letten to ye seid Sir Tho. payinge such rent as is before———

“ Ex’d per ANT. RONE, Aud’r.

“ Conditions.

“ The purchaser to be bound for the woods.

“ The lead, bells, and advowsons, to be excepted.

(Signed,)

“ W. PETRE, E. WALDGRAVE,
 “ JOHN BAKERS.”

In the Sherburne family† it remained till after the marriage of Mary, daughter and heiress of Sir Nicholas Sherburne, with Thomas Duke of Norfolk; which parties conjointly sold the manor of Wigglesworth to Sir John Statham, of the county of Derby, Knight, who sold it again to John Harding of the Inner Temple, Esq., of whom, in the year 1726, it was purchased by Thomas Weddell, of Erswick, Esq., whose descendant, Lord Grantham, is the present proprietor.‡

ARNFORD.§

This village was among the earliest possessions, and the first alienations, of the family De Arches, in Craven. It was granted out by Peter de Arches in an instrument, the antiquity of which has, I think, no rival in the Craven charters. I should refer it to the latter end of the reign of Henry I.

“ Sciant, &c., quod ego Petrus de Arches d. & c. Huctredo filio Ketel de Hartlintuna & heredibus Arnefurtham. Concessi etiam omnes apenticias ejusdem ville quas habuit Hugo, in eadem libertate qua et Petrus eas tenuit. Hujus rei testes sunt, Radulphus Decanus, Radulphus Capellanus Radulphi, & Gregorius, qui cartam istam fecit, & Henr. de Buckeduna, & Paganus de Ketelwellia, & Horn. de Littunia, & Ulphus fr. suus, & Swanus Præpositus de Ketell’ia, & Harnold suus frater, & Randolph, Berner & Ric. filii Decani, et Hornold fil. Amfrid, & Fulcher.”||

It was afterwards parcelled out by the Hartlingtons to divers grantees. By many successive donations, the particulars of which may be learned from Dr. Burton, this village became, in a great measure, the property of the monks of Fountains. But Alan de Arnford left an oxgang here to purchase a place of sepulture (as the monks’ burial fees were then in land) for himself and family at Sallay.

This appears to have given rise¶ to the following composition, dated 1225 :—

[* The mill was worked with water from Wigglesworth Tarn. It is in ruins, and said to have been a soke mill.]

[† Thoresby, in his “Diary,” 18th Sept. 1694, mentions: “Left the Settle Road, and rode by Cowbridge to Wigglesworth Hall, Mr. Sherborne’s seat, where saw the finest barn possibly in England, measured by our servant twenty-two yards wide and forty-six long, of stone, &c.”—Vol. i. 265. This barn is still in good repair, and in use; it is situated about two hundred yards from the Hall, and is the property of the Countess Cowper.]

‡ Long before this work was undertaken, or thought of, I once met with the bailiffs account of the demesne of Wigglesworth, for the year 1587. I have no longer an opportunity of consulting it, and can only say, that it contained many curious facts as to the state of husbandry, the rate of wages, and the prices of corn and cattle. Much wheat and barley were grown—and the whole was in the occupation of the owner, Sir Richard Sherburne.

[§ Arnford or Arnforth is a hamlet in the township of Hellifield.]

|| “Coucher Book” of Fountains. The attestations to this curious charter nearly prove it to have been executed at Kettlewell. See Kettlewell.

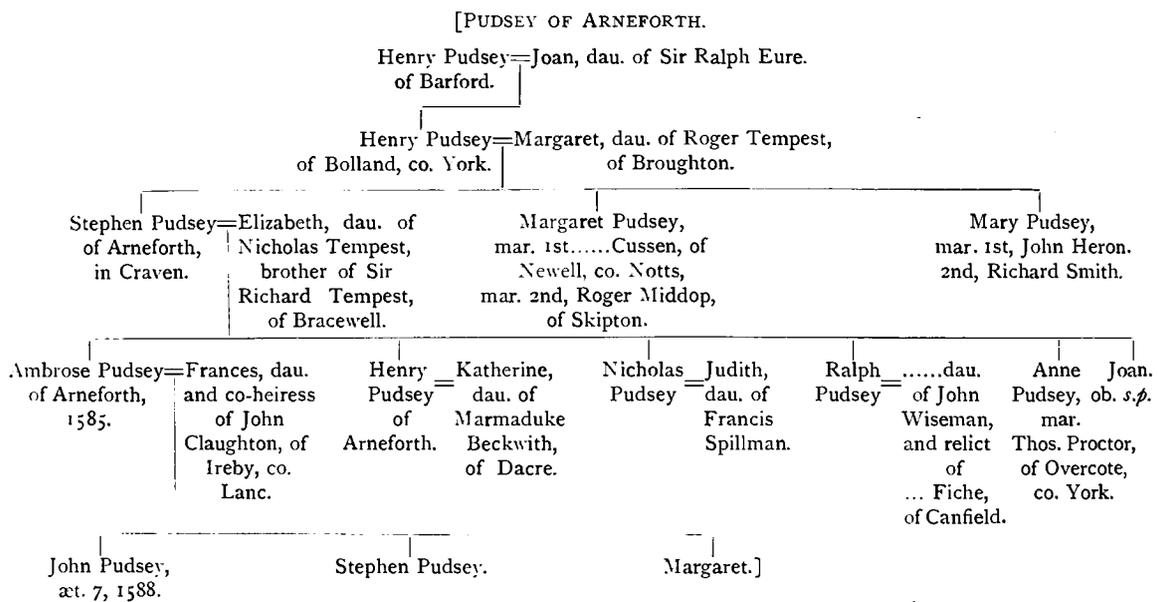
¶ *Ibid.*

"Super contentione orta de vicinitate laicorum scilicet quod domus de Sallay concessit domui de Fortibus ut habeant conversos suos habitantes ad locum suum de Arnforth in Craven. Simul concessit domus de Fontibus domui de Sallay ut habeant conversos suos ad locum suum de Littuna, salva sibi communi in petrina si qua inventa feurit ad domos suas cooperiendas. Test Rad'o Abb. de Kirkstall, Rad. Mag'ro Conversorum de Fontibus, Hug. Mag'ro Conversor. de Sallay."*

From the "Coucher Book" of Fountains it appears that in Arneford eighteen carucates made a knight's fee.

In the 6th of Henry VIII., Marmaduke (Huby) Abbot of Fountains demised to Henry Pudsey, Gent., the manor and house of Arnforth for a term of fifteen years, at the rent of 8*l.*† By one of this family it must have been purchased of the Greshams after the Dissolution, as it was their property and residence in the reign of Elizabeth.‡ It is now, by purchase, the property of Lord Grantham.

[At this place was seated a branch of the Pudseys of Bolton-by-Bolland.]



HALTON. §

This village gave name to a very ancient family, who bore, arg. two bars az., the last heiress of whom, 3 Richard III. [1485], added it to the great estate of the Talbots of Bashall.

* "Coucher Book" of Fountains.

† MSS. J. C. Brooks, in Off. Arm.

‡ This does not appear to be correct, for in 1613 Jane Crowther, by will dated in that year, gave to trustees the rent of 8*l.* annually, issuing from the manor or grange of Arnforth, purchased by her of John Pudsey, to be used in the endowment of a school to teach the poorest people of Halifax to read and learn their catechism.]

[§ Alia de Romilæ gave to the canons of Bolton an annuity of eight shillings out of land here, held by Haldred son of Cliburne; and they also had other lands here and tithes of corn of the township.—Burt. "Mon." 117.]

[Halton Auld Hall is now a farmhouse, and Halton Place is the seat of Thomas Edward Yorke, Esq. In the park is a circular barrow.]

[HALTON.—In eadem villa sunt VI. car. terræ tenentur de rege et castro predicto (Skipton) et quælibet car. redd. per ann. ad finem prædictum III d. ob. q.; unde summa est XXII d. ob.—Kirkby's "Inquest," A.D. 1284.]

WEST HALGHTON.—In West Halghton sunt III car. quas dominus Ranulphus de Nevill tenet de Percy, et Percy de rege in capite summa III car.—"Knights' Fees," 31 Edward I.

Hugo de Halton was lord of the manor of Halton, 9th Edward II.—"Nomina Villarum."

West Halton contains 2,289 a. 3 r. 24 p.]

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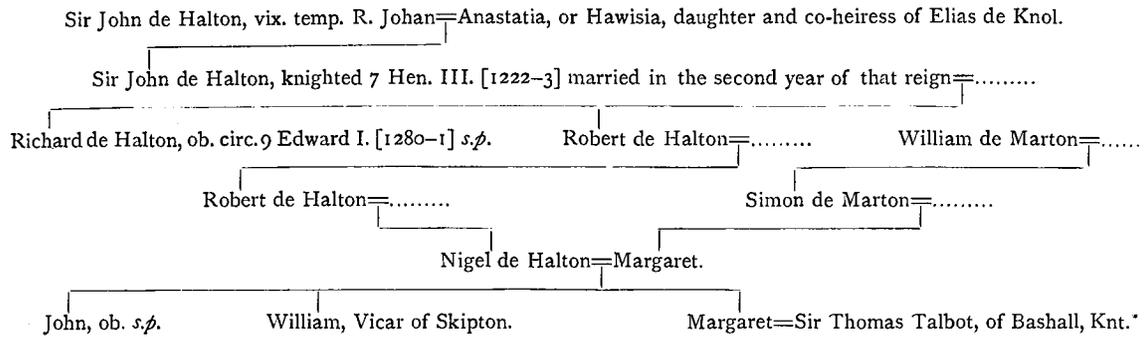
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This is very differently represented by Dodsworth, who says that Nigel de Halton and Margaret his wife had a daughter and heiress Isabella, married to Allan Catteral, of Little Mitton; the issue of which marriage was Isabella, who married Talbot. But, as Alan Catteral left male issue, I think the former statement much the more probable of the two.

Halton remained in the Talbot family † till their extinction, about the year 1660. It is now, by purchase, the property of Thomas Yorke, Esq., who has greatly enhanced the value of the estate by judicious improvements.

* Townley MSS. Anthony Talbot, of West Halton, leaves his body to be interred in the church of Long Preston, 21 May, 1548.—Reg. Abp. Holgate. Thomas Talbot, of West Halton, leaves his body to be interred at Long Preston, "where father and mother lie." Feb. 16, 1562.—Reg. Abp. Young.

† Edward Talbot de Bashal ten. man. de Halton, Swindene, et Pathorne, de co. Northumb. per serv. mil. 16 Henry VIII.