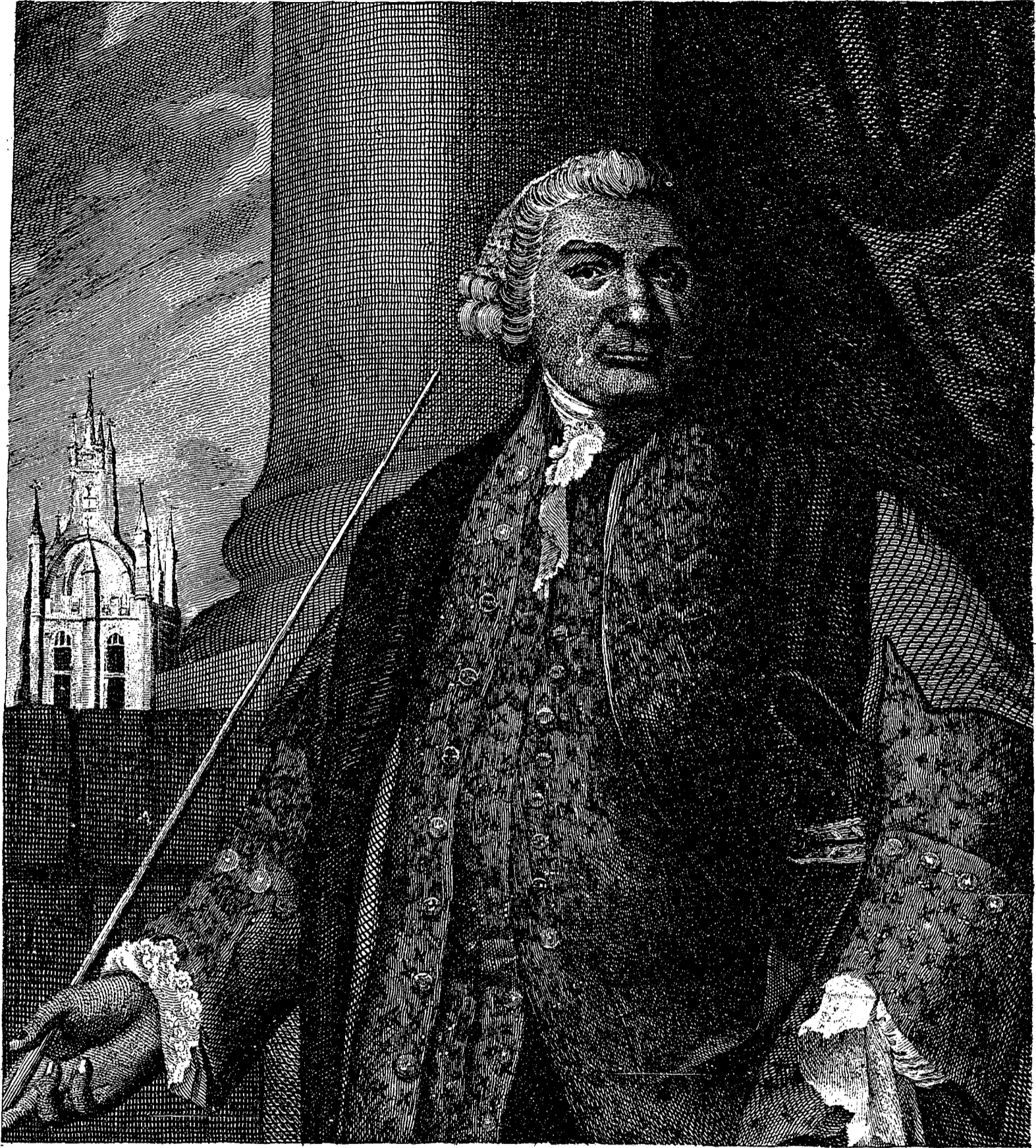


MEMOIRS
OF THE PUBLIC LIFE OF
Sir Walter Blackett, Bart.
OF
WALLINGTON:
&c. &c.



MDCCCXIX.



Sir Walter Blackett Bart.

MEMOIRS
OF
THE PUBLIC LIFE
OF
Sir Walter Blackett,
OF WALLINGTON,
Baronet :

WITH A
PEDIGREE OF THE CALVERLEYS,
OF
CALVERLEY, IN YORKSHIRE,
AND
THE BLACKETTS,
OF
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
AND
Northumberland.

BY JOHN STRAKER.

Newcastle :
PRINTED BY S. HODGSON, UNION-STREET.

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MDCCCXIX.

PREFACE.

IN conformity with custom, the Reader may be led to expect some apology for the appearance of the present publication, the Author, however, trusts that little apology will be requisite on introducing the life of so distinguished a character as Sir Walter Blackett.

However imperfect this outline may be found, the Author hopes, the Reader will, at least, consider that an attempt has been made to do justice to the memory of this great man. He is, at the same time, desirous of having it understood, that he disclaims all view of

emolument, the materials having been collected for his own private amusement and the employment of leisure hours.

To transmit to posterity the characters of men, who have been in any way serviceable to mankind, is not only discharging a debt of gratitude, but paying a tribute that is justly due to their memory.

As Sir Walter was not a native of Newcastle, the early traits of his noble mind can scarcely be particularised; it will doubtless be sufficiently satisfactory to the reader to know, that the acts of charity and humanity performed here were nothing more than a continuance of those practised by him at home; indeed the bright example, shewn him by his revered parents, could not fail to create in his mind, when young, an ardent zeal for those laudable actions which he afterwards so unboundedly practised.

With these observations on the subject of the following pages, the Author concludes, but not without

recommending those amiable qualities that adorned
the character of Sir Walter Blackett through life to
the practice of posterity.

J. S.

Paradise Row, June 18, 1819.

MEMOIRS
OF
THE PUBLIC LIFE
OF
SIR WALTER BLACKETT,
OF
WALLINGTON, BARONET.

SIR WALTER BLACKETT, Bart. was born on the 29th. of December, 1708, and was the son and heir of Sir Walter Calverley, of Calverley and Esholt, in Yorkshire, Bart. On the 29th. of August, 1729, he married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir William Blackett, Bart. of Newcastle upon Tyne, son of the second baronet of that name, and who was high sheriff of Northumberland, in 1689; by this alliance he acquired the estate of Wallington,* the lordship of

* *Wallington*, was one of the manors of the barony of Bolbeck, and was held by John Grey, commonly called John de Wallington, (20th. Edward II. and 39th. Edward III.) also by Robert de

Hexham,* and also the possession of the princely mansion, in Newcastle upon Tyne, occupied by his

Wallington, whose only daughter and heiress, Johanna, married William le Strother, on whose death it came, with its dependencies, to Sir John de Fenwick, of Fenwick Tower, who married Mary, his youngest daughter and co-heiress, in the reign of Henry IV. From this time it continued in regular succession in this family till about 1708, when Sir John Fenwick sold this and other lordships to the second Sir William Blackett, Bart. of Newcastle upon Tyne. Sir Walter was very partial to this estate, and made great improvements about it. Wallis says, "Wallington bears testimony of the felicity and smiles of the poor, employed in planting the hills, &c. and making roads;" Sir Walter, having thus given employment to a great number of families, who would otherwise have been almost starved. The mansion, at Wallington, was for the most part supplied with stone from a quarry, at Cambo; it is a free-stone, of a fine grit, and of a bright whitish-brown colour, with splendid particles of talc; it was accounted excellent for chimney pieces, columns, and other ornamental works.

There is a full length portrait of Sir Walter Blackett, in the mansion, and also a portrait of his daughter, Elizabeth.

In a poem lately printed by John Adamson, Esq. entitled *Cheviot*, supposed to be written by one of the family of Wharton, of Wooperton, near Wooler, the old English hospitality of Wallington, is thus described :

Fair Wallington has been decreed by fate,
To be the cap'tal of a large estate ;
The wine of Wallington old songster's praise,
The Phoenix from her ashes Blacketts raise.—*Page 14.*

* In the regality and manor of Hexham, which includes the



The Mansion of the late Sir Walter Blackett Bart.

late father-in-law; an engraving of which accompanies this work, and as it is memorable on many occasions, we shall here insert a short account of it.

This noble mansion, which stands on the west side of Pilgrim-street, is enclosed with a wall and stately gateway.* The centre of the building is said to have been built out of the ruins of the Grey Friars,† by

whole parish, there are many who hold their estates by copy of court roll, called copy-holders; as often as these are transcribed by mortgage or sale, the seller, in whose possession they are, delivers them to the lord of the manor, or his steward, by kissing a white rod; after that, the bailiff re-delivers them to the buyer, or mortgagee, by the same ceremony, paying a small acknowledgment to the lord, now T. R. Beaumont, Esq.; but Tarbery quarries and wood were independent in 1755.—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

* This grand and noble mansion was long concealed from the view of the passenger, by a very large wooden gate; but the present proprietor has substituted an ornamental iron one, which exposes the beauties of this agreeable place; a fine avenue, shaded with trees, leads direct to the house, and on each side of the grass plot is a curved coach way. The whole has a very beautiful appearance.

† The site of the house of the Grey Friars must have been some where in the garden belonging to Sir Walter Blackett, most probably in that part of it which lies opposite to Fickett Tower.—*Brand, vol. i. page 332*. Bourne, from the authority of the Milbank MS. says, it stood near Pilgrim-street Gate, and that there was a little lane between it and the walls. The burial ground of the monastery was immediately opposite to Fickett Tower, as appears by an ancient writing.

Robert Anderson, who had purchased the old house and grounds of Lady Gaveere, whose property it had become shortly after the suppression. While it was the property of Mr. Anderson, it became so great a receptacle of Scots and others, not free burgesses of the town, persons, who, during the odium that prevailed at that time against foreigners, were not accounted the most respectable neighbours, that he thought proper to pull it down, in order to dislodge them; and having purchased the garden also, filled up the dean, or hollow, that intersected it, cleared it of all the rubbish, &c. and converted it into a very pleasant field. The two wings were added to the building by the second Sir William Blackett, Bart. of Newcastle.

All the historians of Newcastle agree in calling this a *princely house*, and very stately and magnificent, being supposed, says Bourne, “the most so of any house in the whole kingdom, within a walled town!” “It is surrounded,” he adds, “with a vast quantity of ground: that part of it, which faces the street, is thrown into walks and grass plots, beautified with images, and beset with trees, which afford a very pleasing shade: the other part of the ground, on the west side of it, is all a garden, exceedingly neat and curious, adorned with many and the most beautiful statues, and several other curiosities.”

Grey, in his survey of the town (in 1649), speaking of this house, says, “it is not more remarkable or memorable upon any account than for having been the lodgings of King Charles I. while he was prisoner at this town.” During his stay here, he attempted his escape by the passage of Lort Burn, which ran past the back part of the garden, and got down as far as a grate in the middle of the Side, before he was apprehended; a ship was said to have been in readiness to transport his Majesty beyond sea; he was in disguise when he was taken, and William Murray, of his bed-chamber, is said to have projected the plot. Before this occurred there was great indulgence allowed his Majesty and his train, their bounds extending to the Shield Field, without the walls, where they amused themselves with playing at *goff*, a game which his Majesty was very partial to; this circumstance, however, put a stop to this indulgence, and he was constantly guarded, and scarcely admitted out of the house. “A room in this house very lately,” says Brand, “retained the name of the king’s bed chamber; in this stood a bed* of a very antique fashion, said to be the

* This bed was preserved for some time, until an incurious domestic removed and sold it as lumber, whilst the present proprietor, who is passionately fond of the antique, was abroad on his travels; every exertion has been used to recover this ancient and stately bed, but without effect. Mr. Anderson has discovered several

very identical one, upon which, in all probability, the unfortunate monarch passed many a restless night.”

In 1783, Sir Thomas Blckett, Bart. sold this house, with the extensive gardens, &c. around it, for £10,000. to Mr. George Anderson, an opulent architect of this town; and it is now the property of his son, Major Anderson, who has divided it into three commodious houses, and given it the name of Anderson's-place. We shall merely mention, that it has been pointed out to the Corporation of this town, as an eligible mansion for their chief magistrate.

In conformity with the will of Sir William Blckett, and by a private act,* passed in the 7th. of George II., Sir Walter took and used the surname and arms of Blckett only. In the same year, he petitioned the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle upon Tyne, to be admitted to the freedom of that town, which was readily granted, and on the 13th. of October, in that year, he was admitted accordingly; soon after which he was elected an alderman of that corporation. In 1732, he served the office of high sheriff for the county

coins in the grounds adjoining the house, which, from their date, were probably left by the soldiers who guarded the unfortunate Charles.—*History of Northumberland.*

* This was entitled “an act to enable Walter Calverley, Esq. and his heirs male to take and use the surname and arms of Blckett only.”

of Northumberland, and in May, 1734, he was returned, with Nicholas Fenwick, Esq., one of the representatives for the town of Newcastle upon Tyne. This election lasted eight days, and ended on the 9th. of May, 1734. The candidates were all aldermen of the town, and the poll stood as follows:—

Walter Blackett, Esq. . . .	1,354 votes.
Nicholas Fenwick, Esq. . . .	1,083 do.
William Carr, Esq.	716 do.

In 1735,* he served the office of mayor of Newcastle, as also again, in the years 1748, 1756,† 1764, and 1771‡; the duties of which important office he

* *July 7.*—This year the lady of Walter Blackett, Esq. was delivered of a daughter. She died, May 23d, 1752.

Newcastle Courant.

† *April 29.*—This year Captain Smith marched out of this town with 109 miners, to join the royal regiment of artillery, at Woolwich, 16 of whom were sent in by Sir Walter Blackett, from his lead mines, who gave to each of them £2. 2s. This was a noble instance of true British spirit.

‡ *August 30.*—This year, Sir Walter, as chief magistrate, presented his Royal Highness William Duke of Cumberland with the personal freedom of the town, in a gold box; on this occasion the cannons of the castle saluted him, and after the ceremony was over, his Highness, (accompanied by the Duke of Northumberland, Earl Percy, Lord Algernon Percy, Sir Edward and Sir John Hussey Delaval, Baronets,) partook of a most sumptuous entertainment, provided for them at the Mansion House.—*Newcastle Courant.*

fulfilled in a manner highly honourable to himself, and creditable to the respectable body, which, as chief magistrate, he represented.

In 1736, Sir Walter was at the expense of erecting a handsome edifice,* on the south side of the church of St. Nicholas', in Newcastle, the under part of which was to be the vestry, and the upper apartments to contain the original library, together with a large and valuable collection of books, bequeathed to this church library, for *the free use of the inhabitants of Newcastle upon Tyne*, by the learned and Reverend Dr. Thomlinson, rector of Whickham. As this library has caused considerable interest in the minds of some highly respectable individuals, we shall trespass on the good nature of the reader with the following short account of it:—

In the reign of Henry VIII. when religious controversy occupied the attention of almost all Europe, the Reformation was gaining ground considerably in England, and though nothing of a public nature was attempted till 1529, when the Commons passed several

* On the front of the building is the following inscription:—

This Library was built by
WALTER BLACKETT, Esq.
for the Books of the Rev.
Dr. Robert Thomlinson
and other Benefactors, 1736.



bills for repressing the usurpations of the clergy, several books were brought from the continent and translated into English, amongst which were the bible and testament, both, undertaken by the celebrated *Tindale*, and in which he introduced many valuable notes. They were printed in 1526; and though many attempts were made to suppress and destroy them, they escaped the vigilance and fury of their pursuers.

So eager were all classes of men to peruse this invaluable treasure, and indeed religious works of all kinds, that the clergy, aided by the magistrates, were obliged to have bibles chained to the choirs, where the parishioners might come and read them; that this constituted the ancient* library of St. Nicholas', there is very little doubt, but when the books were removed

* The books of the old library are kept in a separate room, below that which contains Dr. Thomlinson's collection. We visited this room a short time since, and found a great many of the books lying on the floor without backs, with here and there a rusty chain linked to them; they are going fast to decay. It is but right to say, however, that the present librarian has reserved from this shocking state the very curious MS. copy of the bible, which appears to have belonged to the church of Hexham, and is supposed to be not less than 600 years old. It contains many beautiful illuminations; but some of the largest have been cut out. The note on the first leaf runs thus;—“*Librum hunc vetustum et sacris scripturis refertum, olim Sancti Andreae de Hexham, nactus sum ex dono Magistri Johannis Welde clerici, vicesimo die Augusti anno*

into separate apartments is not recorded. It is almost certain, however, that it was previous to 1598, for in the register of burials, belonging to that church, the following entry occurs, of which the annexed is a facsimile.

1597/
 Annarie 12
 m^r John Baptist Anson buried
 before 19, Ribway, done /

From this time until 1661 scarcely any mention of this library occurs. In that year, *John Cosins*, an enlightened alderman of Newcastle, bequeathed to it one hundred volumes, viz. sixty folios and forty quartos, which valuable collection induced the Common Council in 1677 to grant £3. per annum as a salary to a librarian.

In this state it remained till 1736, when Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. built the present handsome fabric for

Domini, 1666. Richardus Matthew apud South Sheeles, in com. Dunelm. oriundus, et in schola grammaticali Dunelm. per eruditos quosdam maxime honorandus educatus." On the first leaf also, in the hand writing of Dr. Ellison—"Ex dono Thomæ Matthews filii Ricardi Matthews."

the reception of the extensive and valuable library of the late Rev. Dr. Thomlinson; and, in order to make it more generally useful, settled the annual sum of £25. as a salary to a librarian.

In 1745, Dr. Thomlinson, by his will, dated the 18th. of November in that year, bequeathed above one thousand six hundred volumes previously deposited in the library by him, and also the residue and remainder of his books (except duplicates of English books), to be placed in this library, "FOR THE FREE USE OF THE INHABITANTS OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE," as agreed and subscribed by Sir Walter Blackett and himself, in the orders and statutes of the said library; and that a supply of the most useful works might be procured, he further bequeathed a *rent charge** of £5. annually, to be laid out in the purchase of books to be approved of by the librarian.

Dr. Thomlinson, in a codicil to his will dated the 20th. of November, 1745, appointed the Reverend Nathaniel Clayton, B. D. to the office of librarian. During the time that this worthy and reverend gentleman was the keeper of this library, it was a place of resort to the literary gentlemen of this town, there being frequently more than twelve in it at a time, each

* Dr. Thomlinson purchased this rent charge of Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. for this express purpose.

pursuing his favourite study,—an accommodation which the arrangement of the library is well calculated to promote. Mr. Clayton took great pains to render every thing agreeable to his visitors, and, that he might accommodate them with as many new books as his funds would obtain, he was particularly attentive to the disposing of the bequest to the utmost advantage. How long it remained in this flourishing state, or whether when a new librarian was appointed the visitors had not the same accommodations they had before met with, we know not; but certain it is, that after his death the library became neglected. Perhaps it may not be an unlikely conjecture, that, in consequence of the public forgetting to exercise their privilege, the librarian ceased to attend to his duty; the state it has been in since is, however, too well known to need any observations here.

It is in justice due to the memory of the late Mr. William Charnley, an eminent bookseller of this town, to mention, that through him, in 1788, considerable exertions were made to restore this invaluable collection to the use of the public, and to place it on a permanent and respectable footing. These exertions, though not crowned with that success which they merited, occasioned some spirited letters in the public newspapers, which have made an impression on the minds of several respectable literary gentlemen, who

only want an opportunity to testify their readiness to support any measure that is calculated to obtain so desirable an object.—It would be unpardonable to allow this opportunity to pass without informing the reader, that the Corporation have, in the handsomest manner, and with their accustomed liberality, offered to repair the whole of the books, so as to be in a state fit for perusal.

As it would be deviating from our subject to enter into a detail of the differences, which have so unhappily existed between the trustees and the public respecting this library, we shall conclude this brief and imperfect account with the words of a very worthy and Reverend Gentleman: “It has often occurred to me (said he), that the difference, which has so long existed between the public and the trustees, is nothing more than a misunderstanding, which has arisen from improper statements, and that nothing is wanted but a fair explanation between the parties;” that such an explanation may speedily take place is our most earnest wish.*

In 1739, when Newcastle was visited with a great scarcity of grain and a severe winter, the river being

* We have just been informed, that Thos. W. Beaumont, Esq. M. P. is about making arrangements with Mr. Vicar, for the re-opening of the library.

frozen over, and such a stop put to all navigation, that coals even in that town were excessively high, the keelmen and poor labourers were deprived of employment, and without the means of procuring food for their families; Sir Walter Blackett, with that humanity which ever marked his conduct through life, gave 200 guineas for their immediate relief. This donation, though liberal in the extreme for an individual, being inadequate to support so large a body for any length of time, Sir Walter therefore set on foot a subscription for their support, during the time they were without employment; by his personal exertions among the opulent in and near the the town, this subscription soon amounted to £1000. At the same time the poor of the parishes of Gateshead, Hartburn, and Hexham, felt equally the severity of the weather and scarcity of grain; Sir Walter, on being informed of this, immediately sent his agent with £50. to each of these parishes, to be distributed in bread, &c., by the respective churchwardens.

In 1741, Sir Walter was again returned with Nicholas Fenwick, Esq. to represent the town of Newcastle upon Tyne. This election, known by the name of the great contest, lasted six days, and ended May 19th of that year. There were four candidates, and all of them aldermen of Newcastle; the poll stood at the close as follows:—

Walter Blackett, Esq. . . .	1,453 votes.
Nicholas Fenwick, Esq. . . .	1,231 do.
Matthew Ridley, Esq. . . .	1,131 do.
William Carr, Esq.	683 do.

The two last petitioned, but no proof of bribery appearing, the former were declared duly elected. At this election, Sir Walter was at the height of his popularity; the majority of the freemen striving to excel each other in wreathing laurels to decorate his brow.—They styled him *the Patriot, the Opposer of the Court, and the Father of the Poor*; the latter was, indeed, an appellation he justly merited, for never, perhaps, did the poor of Newcastle and its neighbourhood receive more support or relief from any individual than from Sir Walter Blackett.

In the year 1747, 1754,* and 1768, he was respectively returned as one of the representatives for the town of Newcastle upon Tyne without opposition. On his father's death, which took place October 17th. 1749, he succeeded to the title of Baronet, as also to the estates of Calverley and Esholt; but having become attached to the town and the inhabitants of Newcastle, he soon after sold the former to Thomas

* October 4th. this year, the merchants of Newcastle presented Sir Walter with the freedom of their company.—*Newcastle Courant*.

Thornhill, of Fixby, Esq.; and in 1755 he sold Esholt to Robert Stansfield, Esq. of Bradford.

In January, 1751, the members of a respectable society* in Newcastle, resolved, on account of the death of some, and the advancing age of others, of their body, to discontinue their stated meetings; but previous to their doing so, to leave some permanent memorial of the society having existed, by the proposal of some project of public utility. On the day appointed for this benevolent purpose, *Mr. Richard Lambert*, an eminent surgeon, in Newcastle, then a young man, suggested the establishment of that highly beneficial institution, the *Infirmary*; it is scarcely requisite to inform the reader that it met with the unanimous concurrence of the meeting. The same week, a letter, signed K. B. appeared in the Newcastle papers, strongly recommending a subscription for effecting this desirable object; this soon attracted the notice of many distinguished characters,† among the earliest of whom

* Amongst the members of this society were, Mr. Joseph Airey, Mr. George Headlam, Mr. Ralph Headlam, and Mr. Richard Burdis; we mention these as being the earliest patrons and benefactors to the Infirmery.

† Amongst others were, the Earl of Northumberland, the Lord Bishop of Durham, Lord Ravensworth, George Bowes, Esq. Ralph Sowerby, Esq. mayor of Newcastle, Sir Thomas Clavering, Bart. Sir Henry Grey, Bart. and Matthew Ridley, Esq.

was Sir Walter, who, on the 9th. February in that year, (being the day the subscription was opened,) gave £200. towards the erecting of a suitable building, and also £50. to be continued annually for the support of the same. On the 22d. of the same month, a general meeting of the subscribers was held, when a Committee was chosen to solicit contributions, and to take every other step they might think proper to promote the charity. Sir Walter was a most active member of that committee, by whose exertions the subscriptions* were increased most wonderfully. At a second meeting, held March 21st., it was resolved to establish this charity immediately, and a house was accordingly taken in Gallowgate, without the walls of Newcastle, in which were provided 23 beds with all the other suitable offices.

On the 13th. April there was a general meeting held for the purpose of electing officers, when the efficient services of Sir Walter were acknowledged in the most handsome manner, and he was unanimously elected one of the presidents to the institution. Soon afterwards application was made to the Corporation† of

* In a few months the subscription-money, to be paid annually, amounted to about £1,200.

† There is an order of the Common Council at Newcastle, for a grant to be made under the common seal of that corporation, of a “part of the Forth Banks, bounding on a burn on or towards the

Newcastle, for a piece of ground, in the Forth Banks, to erect a suitable building on; and on the 5th. of September in the same year, the Right Rev. Dr. Joseph Butler, Lord Bishop of Durham, laid the foundation stone of the building, on which was fixed a plate of copper with the following inscription :—

“ The foundation of this Infirmary
was laid on the 5th. day of September,
in the 25th. year of the reign of
King George the Second,
1751,
By the Right Rev. JOSEPH,
LORD BISHOP OF DURHAM,
Grand Visitor.”

On the reverse,

“ The ground was given by the
Corporation of Newcastle.
RALPH SOWERBY, Esq. *Mayor*.
WILLIAM CLAYTON, Esq. *Sheriff*.”

west, the north boundary to be in a direct line from the gate, or road that leads to the Maiden's Walk, to the road that leads from the Forth to the Skinner Burn, the said line to terminate not less than thirty yards from the south-west corner of the Forth wall, bounding on the west by the road that leads from the Forth to the Skinner Burn, leaving the said road not less than 12 yards broad, bounded on the south, on a part of the said banks, 90 yards or thereabouts, distant from their north wall, under an annual rent of 2s. 6d.”—*Brand, vol. i. page 413.*

On the 8th. of October, 1752, the edifice* being completely fitted up, was opened for the reception of patients; it was computed to have cost upwards of £3,000. About November, 1759, Sir Walter gave another liberal donation of £1000. to this charity, and appropriated £10. per annum, part of the interest of that sum to a chaplain† to perform divine service and visit the sick in this house. At his death, he left a legacy of £100. also to this charity.‡

About the beginning of October, 1753, Sir Walter having informed the Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle, of the intentions of Thomas Davison,§ of Ferry

June 20th. 1751.—The Corporation of Newcastle subscribed £100. per annum to the Infirmary, at the same time they lessened the salary of the Town's Surgeon, from £80. to £40. per annum; this place is now altogether done away.

* In the governor's room there is a finely executed full length portrait of Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and is esteemed one of that great painter's most spirited productions; it was presented by Sir John Trevelyan, Bart. nephew and executor to Sir Walter. The portrait, that accompanies this volume, was engraved from the above, with the addition of St. Nicholas' steeple, &c.

† The chaplain's salary has since been augmented, the difference being paid from the funds of the institution.

‡ November 1st, 1764, Sir Walter rode the boundaries of the Corporation of Newcastle, and as they passed the Infirmary, he sent a present of 10 guineas to it.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

§ Thomas Davison, Esq. died March 6th. 1760.

Hill, Esq. and his two sisters,* of founding an hospital for maintaining six poor unmarried women, to be daughters or widows of free burgesses of Newcastle, the expense of which would be £1,200.; at the same time generously offered the like sum to maintain six poor unmarried men, decayed burgesses of that town. Upon this handsome offer the Corporation came to the resolution, of being at the charge of the building, and applying the interest of the above sums for the maintenance of twelve poor persons; and on the 29th. July, 1754, the foundation stone of this building was laid by Henry Eden, Esq. mayor, accompanied by several gentlemen. The following inscription is over the door of the apartments founded by Sir Walter Blackett.†

“ This Hospital
for six unmarried men,
to be poor and decayed burgesses,
built on the ground and at the common charge
of the Corporation of this town ;
was founded by SIR WALTER BLACKETT, Bart.
the munificent magistrate and representative,
in seven successive parliaments, of Newcastle upon Tyne,
A. D. 1754.”

* Miss Timothea Davison died June 4th, 1757, and was interred in the family burial place, in St. Nicholas' church, in Newcastle. The pall was supported by the six maiden ladies of the new hospital, at the foot of the Manor Chare.—*Newcastle Mag.*

† At the same time that the Corporation erected these apart-

On the 27th. January, 1757, Sir Walter being then mayor, called a meeting of the clergy and principal gentlemen in Newcastle, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of raising a voluntary subscription for the relief of the poor during a second season of scarcity both of grain and fuel, which had in a short time visited Newcastle. At this meeting, he again evinced his regard for the poor of that town, by opening the subscription with a donation of £100. which was followed by another of £200. by the Corporation; at the same meeting, it was unanimously resolved, that collections should be made from door to door, by a committee of twelve of the promoters of this charity. This was accordingly done, and with such success, that, on the 5th. of February, the collections made in the several parishes, were found to amount to upwards of £1000. which was immediately applied to the charitable purposes for which it had been procured; on the 10th. of the same month, the committee distributed rye bread, meal, and flour, at the several vestries in the town, to upwards of five thousand poor people, to each person a quart, and to those who had

ments, they also erected a new set of apartments for the hospital for matrons, for a governess and five sisters, widows of protestant clergymen, merchants, and freemen of Newcastle, endowed by the charity of Mrs. Anne Davison. The reason of the Corporation erecting a building for this charity was, their being appointed patrons to it by the only surviving trustee, *George Grey, Esq.*

families, a like quantity to every member of it. This was continued weekly for several months. The manner, in which this charity was conducted, reflected great credit on Sir Walter, both as chief magistrate and an individual, and gave infinite satisfaction to the charitable and humane. The collections were made in conjunction by persons of all persuasions; churchmen, dissenters, quakers, &c. all unanimously concurring to remove, as far as human efforts could, the public calamity.

At this time the price of wheat was 24s. per bushel, rye 16s., oats 8s., and barley 12s. The following extract of a letter, written to a person in Newcastle, by a Carlisle miller, shews his opinion of the cause of the scarcity which was at that time prevalent:—"I verily believe (says he) the present high price of grain is owing more to alarm, than any real scarcity of grain in the country, and until this false notion can be removed, I fear the prices will daily advance, as prejudice is a sort of second nature, which only can be overcome by time and experience. I would readily quit what I have (which is not a very small stock), at a fair price, and would recommend my brethren to do the same, as I have little doubt but that in a month or two they will find themselves greatly deceived in their present notions, if no illicit methods are practised to take it out of the nation."

In 1759, Sir Walter gave £380. towards augment-

ing the living* of Hexham; and from the following statement, extracted from the Newcastle Magazine, he appears to have been a very great friend to the church, having, in the course of eleven years, laid the foundation for the augmentation of 17 small livings, being about a fifth of the whole livings in the county, and nearly one-half of those which come under the name of small livings.

Donations by Sir Walter Blackett.		Sums received in consequence.	Clear amount after augmentation.	
1764	Whitley, (<i>a</i>)	£.500	£.100	£.1400
1765	{ Hexham,	300	100	{ 400
	{ Ninebanks,			{ 600
1766	{ Birtley,	200	400	{ 1000
	{ Widdrington,			{ 600
1767	{ Allendale,	260	140	{ 400
	{ Brinkburn,			{ 600
1768	{ Rock,	200	600	{ 1000
	{ Rennington,			{ 400
1769	{ Bingfield,	200	400	{ 1000
	{ Lucker,			{ 400
1770	{ Fallstone,	200	200	{ 400
	{ Bywell St. Andrew,			{ 400
1771	Alwenton,	100	100	400
1772	Branxton,	100	300	800
1773	Wittonstall,	100	100	600
1774	Belford,	100	100	600
<i>(a)</i> Hexhamshire.		£2,260	£2,540	£10,600

* The patronage tythes and great part of the possessions of the

Hexham also participated in Sir Walter's bounties, and, perhaps, had a greater claim upon his generosity than any other place, for it was well known that the profits, arising from the mines in that neighbourhood, formed a considerable part of his income. The lead mines at Allenheads alone were said to have cleared him £5000. a year, besides which, there were mines at Coalcleugh, Weardale, Darwent, Alston Moor, and many other places. Hutchinson says, "there is a mill at Acton, near Blanchland, for smelting the lead, and where in vast heaps of ore, the wealth of the late Sir Walter Blackett was displayed; the road from thence to Prudhoe was harrowed up by lead carriages, and in innumerable places the name of *Blackett* struck our eye, on the lead which lay on the road."*

While Sir Walter resided at Hexham, he built a market place, with piazzas, for the use of that town, and covered it with blue slate; it measures 25 yards

once famous cathedral of Hexham were purchased of Sir John Fenwick, as was also Fenwick Tower, by Sir William Blackett, Bart. the purchaser of Wallington; they were all sold to him about the same time. Sir John was greatly beloved in Hexham; for when he was taken prisoner in that town, the townsmen assembled and armed themselves, determined to rescue him, and would have easily effected their purpose, but he declined their assistance, and having spoken to them in person to that effect, they immediately dispersed without committing any outrages.

* Hutchinson's Northumberland, vol. i. page 120.

in length. On the south side is the butter and poultry market; and the back part is divided into stalls for the use of the butchers. He also inclosed a large field in front of the Abbey, and made a handsome gravel walk round it; at the higher part of it, he planted small clumps of trees. This field he laid open to the inhabitants as a place of recreation; it commands a most beautiful prospect of the vale of Tyne, and continues to be the promenade for the beauty and fashion of Hexham.

On the 21st. September, 1759,* Sir Walter lost his amiable consort, whose death was most severely felt by the necessitous and poor of her own sex, for she was almost unceasingly engaged in relieving the distresses of those around her, whilst her servants and others were actively employed in seeking real and deserving objects for her charity; while she was revered by these, she was not less esteemed and beloved by all of every degree and station who had the happiness of her acquaintance; for her friendship was sincere, steady, and inviolable, as her charity was constant, extensive, and bountiful; she was exemplary throughout her whole conduct, which was ever adorned with true

* Amongst the donations to the Marine Society, since the 15th. March last, we observe that Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. has given £50. being his second subscription.

Newcastle Courant, April, 1759.

piety and virtue, equally distinguished by a zealous observance of all religious duties, as by her unblemished life and purity of manners. In domestic life she was held forth as a pattern to others. Her remains were deposited* in the family vault in St. Nicholas's church, in a manner becoming the rank of so elevated a character: the pall being supported by

{ The Earl of Northumberland,
 { Lord Ravensworth.
 { Sir John Swinburne,
 { Sir Henry Grey.
 { Sir Matthew White,
 { George Bowes, Esq.
 { George Delaval, Esq.
 { William Fenwick, Esq.
 { William Carr, Esq. Etal,
 { Lancelot Algood, Esq.

The following verses on the death of this revered lady are extracted from the Newcastle Magazine for November, 1759.

Expanded Heaven receiv'd the fleeting shade,
 When Nature's tribute gentle BLACKETT paid;
 Angelic tribes, to waft her passage, shone,
 Pleas'd to accept a spirit like their own.

* 1759, Sept. 27, buried Lady Elizabeth Blackett, wife of Sir Walter Blackett, Bart.—*St. Nicholas's Register*.

Oh! say detraction, steadfast virtue's foe,
 Cou'dst thou one error in her conduct shew :
 Did she not live the friend of human kind,
 Did not distress her constant succour find :
 Was she not here in each sublimer sense
 The faithful agent of Omnipotence :
 Had she a wish, in nature to exist,
 But for her power, the wretched to assist :
 Was she not constant at religion's shrine,
 With Christian fervour, and with soul benign ?
 Life's transient span to life's true end she spent,
 Was all we lov'd, and all that we lament.

In 1774, Sir Walter stood another and severe contest, and was the seventh time returned one of the representatives for the town of Newcastle upon Tyne. This contest* lasted eight days, and ended October 19th. when

Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. polled	. 1,432
Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart.	. 1,411
The Hon. Constantine John Phipps,	795
Thomas Delaval, Esq.	677

Although Sir Walter was successful at this election, he was far from being so popular as he was at the preceding contest, having unfortunately engaged in the

* 600 burgesses were said to have taken up their freedom on this occasion, and yet a smaller number by 229 voted than at the great contest in 1741.

violent party question relative to the Town Moor, which about this time agitated every breast, and destroyed the peace of many families. Sir Walter having unfortunately espoused the unpopular side of the question, caused his interest at this election to be neglected, and his princely benefactions to the town to be forgotten. This unfortunate business is said to have given him much uneasiness, and to have shortened his days. The ungrateful treatment he met with at the Forth House, from the very children he had been the means of educating, and whose parents he had relieved from distress, hunger, and poverty, preyed much upon his mind. It appears, however, that the poor of Newcastle, notwithstanding this, were not forgotten in his latest hours, of which his will bears ample testimony.*

As an orator, Sir Walter made no figure in the House, yet he had considerable influence as a member of that illustrious body, being truly independent. In canvassing at elections, he was acknowledged by all, who knew him, to stand unrivalled; his open countenance and courtly deportment, his affability of manners, and, what with many is the greatest consideration, his strict integrity in keeping his electioneering promises,—this powerful combination of circumstances,

* See list of legacies.

as was observed by Captain Phipps at the last election, set all competition with Sir Walter for the representation of Newcastle at defiance.*

During the reign of George II., when the political principles of men were strictly scrutinized, and when whatever seemed in the least to deviate from the interests and welfare of the House of Hanover was branded with Toryism and disaffection, Sir Walter zealously supported the counter party in opposition to the minister; but the death of that prince, and the accession of his grandson, George III. (who had received the principles of his education from Lord Bute, and along with these, impressions very different from those of his royal grandfather,) caused a mighty change in the political system of Great Britain. Be that as it may, from that period Sir Walter changed sides, and ever after remained a strenuous supporter of the court party.†

The following anecdote is a most striking proof of

* In canvassing, Sir Walter was generally attended by about five hundred gentlemen, tradesmen, and others, some of whom had weight with almost every freeman.

† Sir Walter's changing his side of the House displeased several of the freemen of Newcastle; for in a poll book belonging to a burgess, who took great interest in the public concerns at that time, we find the following note:—"Sir Walter is now no longer the opposer, but the favourite, of the court; he attends the levee, is noticed by the king, and bowed to by the minister."

his desire to perform his acts of charity privately. On the morning of Sunday, the 17th. of November, 1771, the inhabitants of Newcastle were alarmed with the most dreadful inundation that ever befel that part of the country, (the water in the Tyne rising six feet higher than a remarkable fresh in 1763,) occasioned by an incessant fall of heavy rains in the west.* The dawn of day discovered a scene of horror and devastation never to be forgotten; the lower apartments on the Quay, Close, and Sandhill, were totally under water; but what completed the public calamity, was the fall of the *Bridge over Tyne*, which had stood the brunt of time for upwards of five hundred years. This was the day appointed for preaching the annual sermon for the benefit of the Infirmary, at All Saints; on this occasion, however, very few attended, most

* Some grounds belonging to Sir Walter Blackett suffered greatly. The vast deluge that took place at Hexham was almost beyond expression, and though it did very little damage to the town, yet the low fields and haughs near it, belonging to the inhabitants, suffered very severely; most of them were gardens and pleasure grounds, and were left one continued plain of sand and wreck. Besides part of the land adjoining the river being swept away, a great quantity of corn and hay-stacks were destroyed, as also much land which was sown with hard corn. One farmer had nine stacks taken out of his yard; and five others came down the river, and landed within ten yards of the stack-yard in which his own had been.—*Garret's Account of the Floods.*

of the parishioners being employed in rescuing from the ravages of the flood the property of themselves and neighbours. Sir Walter, as usual, attended on this occasion, and when the collectors came round, Sir Walter, to the astonishment of every one present, let them pass unnoticed; but when the service was concluded, and the congregation had retired, he went to the vestry, and finding the sum collected only a few shillings, enquired the usual sum collected on such occasions, and being informed, to the surprise and admiration of every one present, made up the deficiency.

Sir Walter built a vicarage house at Chollerton, a pleasant little village on the eastern banks of North Tyne, distant about five miles and a quarter from Hexham; this in a late History of Northumberland is falsely ascribed to the late incumbent the Rev. Mr. Stoddart. Rothley Castle was also erected by Sir Walter, as an ornament to his estate; it is seated on a high and rugged crag, about twelve miles northwest of Morpeth, and about a mile north of the village of Rothbury; and from its commanding situation, has a fine effect when viewed from a distance. Hutchinson allows this, though he ridicules the taste it displays in the following terms: "We had a view of Rothley Castle at the distance of some miles; the situation appeared rugged and uncommon. On the

side which then presented itself, we could observe distinctly no more than the square tower and part of its flankings, placed on a considerable eminence, of a rocky and barren aspect. By not taking the proper road, we were led almost round this edifice, which we viewed with no small degree of impatience. When we came to look upon the northern front, our curiosity was somewhat slackened, but, nevertheless, we passed down the road about half a mile, and having climbed the fence, ascended the steep to the building. The fatigue was but ill recompensed, for we found this object of our anxious curiosity, no other than an ornamental structure, composed of a square tower, flanked with a curvated wall, embattled, and pierced with loopholes, and each wing terminated with a bastion: the situation romantic, on the brink of a broken precipice. The sides of this hill, to the west and south, present a shaken and tremendous rocky steep, rent into vast impending columns and massive tables; the stones of enormous bulk, in many places hang on each other in such loose positions, as if ready to fall into the vale; forming caverns and recesses, and rude heaps of rocks of a most wild and grotesque appearance. To decorate (I presume) this noble scene, the awkward images of a goat and a staring stag, delight the passing children.—On resorting to my book of notes, I find they carry the countenance of peevishness, but as

they are just, I will transcribe them. The southern front opens on a small plain, naturally of a circular form, scattered over with huge heads of griffins, broken cornices, and ensigns of Calverley (the lamb and flag of Grace) sculptured on white free-stone; in the midst of which stand two preposterous effigies, representative of no known dress, personage, or people. And to give the coup de grace to this composition, enormous ribs, jaw-bones, and members of a whale, are fastened to the walls for decorations. We entered the tower, in which, by way of tables, are three large rude unhewed stones, one in the centre, and one in each recess at the sides, benched with similar stones: pretty enough for the reception of Thomas of Hick-a-thrift or Jack the Giant-killer."

The entrance into this tower is from the east; on the west side is a flight of stairs leading to the top, from whence there is an extensive view of the surrounding country. Eastward you overlook the rich vale which extends towards the sea, and which forms the distant horizon; to the southward you have a prospect of Cambo and the hills beyond Wallington. The western view is more confined, but wholly cultivated, and the north frowns in rocks, mountains, and barren heath.

The Park comprizes a large tract of ground. It is bounded by a strong stone wall, one mile in length.

The late Sir W. C. Blackett kept it well stocked with deer, Scotch cattle, and sheep, for his own use. It has been disparked, enclosed, and improved by Sir John Trevelyan, the present owner.

At the foot of the hill on which the castle stands, near the north-west corner of the park, are two fine sheets of water, communicating with each other, called Rothley Ponds. Formerly they were tastefully ornamented by a shrubbery, which was disposed round the margin of the water. A boat and fishing tackling were formerly kept here, and a tent was pitched in summer near the lakes, where visitants were plentifully regaled by the late generous proprietor, who frequently amused himself at this place.

A short distance from this place stands Longwitton Hall, long the property of the Swinburnes, and was sold by the late William Swinburne, Esq. to the late Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. who left it to his nephew Sir John Trevelyan, Bart. It stands on an elevated situation, but sheltered by a well-grown plantation. It commands a view of the woody banks of the Hart, with a glimpse of the vicarage and church of Hartburn, about two miles to the south, and a wide range of country as far as the southern banks of the Tyne. The house is ancient, except a small wing, added by the last Mr. Swinburne.

In September, 1776, it was reported in the news-

papers, that Sir Walter would be shortly created an English Peer, with several others; it was the general opinion at that time that it would have been the case, but his death, which took place in London, on the 14th February, 1777, put a stop to his being any further exalted in this world. His name is, however, immortal in the annals of charity and humanity, and if we might presume to judge of his reward from his good works, we should say, he now enjoys honour that will never fade, and that death opened to him a glorious immortality.

The title became extinct, and his estates, &c. devolved for the most part on his relations.

The following is a list of the legacies he left, extracted from his will :

LEGACIES.			£.	s.
Walter Trevelyan, Esq.	.	.	40,000	0
John Erasmus Blackett,	.	.	200	0
— Blackett, Midford,	.	.	200	0
Christopher Fawcett, Recorder,	.	.	100	0
H. Richmond's two Sons,	.	.	200	0
John Bell, Agent,	.	.	100	0
— Peartt, his Clerk,	.	.	100	0
Thomas Derham,	.	.	40	0
Mr. Collingwood,	}	each a Ring,	10	10
Sir William Carr,				
Mr. Strickland,				
The Infirmary, Newcastle,	.	.	100	0
The Lunatic Hospital, ditto,	.	.	100	0

	£.	s.
The Poor of Newcastle,	200	0
The Poor of Calverley, Yorkshire,	100	0
The Poor of Hexham,	100	0
The Poor of Hartburn,	100	0
The Poor of Kirkwhelpington,	30	0
The Poor of Kirkharle,	20	0
The same to the Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle that was given at the death of his uncle Sir Wm. Blackett.		
William Laidler, Park Keeper,	10	0
Thomas Duffield, Gardener,	10	0
William Boulton, Planter,	10	0
John Potts, Baker and Brewer,	10	0
Philip Medcalf, Game Keeper,	10	0
— Dixon, Under Butler,	10	0
Every Servant, wearing his livery } and hired by the year, } one year's wages.		
And every Woman Servant, who } has no annuity, } the same.		
Persons, that may have a reasonable expectation from him in shares of proportions at the Ex- ecutor's discretion, the claims to be made within 12 months after his decease, }	500	0
Mr. Thomas Blackett,	100	0
Robert and Dixon, £100. each, and recommended them to Mr. Trevelyan, }	200	0
Martin Mordue,	100	0
The Funeral not to exceed	500	0
The Vicar of Calverley, on the occasion,	20	0
The Clerk of ditto, ditto,	5	5
The Monument not to exceed	200	0
And only the following inscription: "Near this		

place, lyeth the body of Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. son of Sir William Calverley, Bart." with the time of his decease and age.

ANNUITIES.		£.	s.
Mrs. Mary, Mrs. Dorothy, and Mrs. Isabella } Roberts, of Hexham,		63	0
Mrs. Lambert, Widow, Newcastle, . . .		21	0
Mr. William Watson, ditto, . . .		21	0
Mrs. Esther Carr, Morpeth, . . .		10	0
Mrs. Jane Clark, ditto, . . .		10	0
Edward Evans, his Butler, . . .		25	0
Eleanor Hills, . . .		3	0
Mrs. Puncheon, Widow, . . .		5	5
Widow of Robert Bell, late of Broomhaugh, .		2	2
Elizabeth Peart, Widow, . . .		8	0
Elizabeth Hudson, Rothbury, . . .		6	0
Mrs. Harrison, Widow, . . .		5	0
Mrs. Liddle, of Wallington, . . .		6	0
Mr. Bradford, of York, . . .		12	12
Mrs. Dorothy Watson, . . .		4	4
Edmund Gauze, an old Gardener, . . .		5	5
William Rowe, Cooper, Newcastle, . . .		6	0
Isabella and Ann Hepple, his House-maids, .		12	0
Eliza and Grace Dalston, . . .		20	0
Ann Brown, his Maid, . . .		30	0
The two Miss Dalston's, each 3l. 10s. .		63	0

The remains of Sir Walter were interred in Calverley church, agreeable to his request, and on the south side of the choir, is a handsome monument with the following inscription :—

Near this place
 lies the body of
SIR WALTER BLACKETT,
 of Wallington, in the county of
 Northumberland, Bart.
 Son of **SR. WALTER CALVERLEY, Bart.**
 who died, February 14, 1777,
 aged 69 years.

It would be a difficult task to enumerate the many acts* of charity practised by Sir Walter, or to give the reader an adequate idea of the readiness, with which he embraced every opportunity to forward any undertaking that seemed likely to improve or benefit the town; suffice it to say, that every principle that renders a great man agreeable, or a magistrate an ornament to society, was practised by Sir Walter Blackett.

Seldom have so many amiable and valuable qualities met together in one person; seldom have virtues and accomplishments been so happily united.

There was a singular dignity in Sir Walter's person; he was tall, well proportioned, and of a carriage erect and stately; his features were regular, manly, and

* Sir Walter distributed annually to some hundreds of poor persons, recommended by the churchwardens of the different parishes, from 8lb. to 10lb. of beef, a sixpenny loaf, and sixpence in money; this was given away on the 29th December, in each year, being the birth day of the worthy baronet.

expressive ; his complexion florid ; and over his countenance was diffused an air of benignity, though accompanied with that presence, which, whilst it inspired esteem, commanded reverence and respect.

If we consider him in private life, we shall find none more worthy of our love ; if in public, none that could more justly claim our regard and esteem.

His tenderness to those in distress, in whatever shape it appeared to him, was beyond example, and necessarily attached to him more by affection, than by any other bond of authority, interest or fear, every feeling heart capable of gratitude, and alive to the impressions of goodness.



PEDIGREE
OF THE
FAMILY OF CALVERLEY,
OF
CALVERLEY AND ESHOLT.

CALVERLEY,* says Whitaker (in his Loidis and Elmet), seems to have been denominated, at the first colonization of this country by the Saxons, either from *Calfere*, the proper name of its first proprietor, or by the elision of a consonant, very common in local names, before the first letter of the last syllable *l*, from *Calfherd*, which afterwards itself became a

* The parish consists of the townships of Calverley, Bolton, Farnley, Idle, and Pudsey.

family name in Calvert, the field of *Calpherds*. Perhaps the former is the more probable conjecture of the two.

The first mesne lord of Calverley and Pudsey, after this time, was ALPHONSUS GOSPATRICII, (son of Gospatric). If this be correct, he was evidently the first grantee from Lacy; and married ——, daughter of Sir John Lorty, Knight, by whom he had three daughters and coheiresses, Albayne, Charingthay, and Larderina; the latter of whom married one John, who, from his country, was named Scoticus, or Scot, for he came out of Scotland with Maude, the Empress, as steward of her household. The issue of this marriage was

JOHN, sometimes named SCOT, and sometimes DE CALVERLEY, who, by one of those stupid anachronisms so common in our early pedigrees, is said to have been seized in his mother's right of these manors in 1136, or 1st. Stephen; that is, before his father came into England. This John* married ——, daughter of Sir John Luttrell, of Hooten Pannel, Knight, by whom he had five sons: viz. Walter, John, William, Robert, and Christopher.

* A deed from this John de Calverley to Walter, his son, and Joan, his wife, before dates were inserted, was, in 1712, in the possession of Sir Walter Calverley, who was created knight by Charles II.

WALTER married Joan, daughter of John de Swillington; and had issue* Roger, Henry, Bernard, and Mary (married to Geoffrey† de Arthington), besides his son and heir,

WILLIAM DE CALVERLEY, who married Mabel, daughter of Nicholas de Stapleton, Knight;‡ and is memorable for having given (by the name of Scot) the church of Calverley to St. Marie's chapel in the cathedral of York, which was founded by Archbishop Roger, circa 1217.§ He had issue two daughters, Mary and Ann, besides his son and heir,

WALTER CALVERLEY, who married —, daughter

* There appears, in the attestation of an original charter, one Alexander de Kaverleia, about this time. Walter was living, as appears, 22d. Hen. II. or in 1176.

† Geoffrey de Arthington, was the son of Peter of Arthington, and grandson of Cyrill, lord of Arthington; this family, founded a *chuniac* nunnery, the seal of which had a picture of the Virgin Mary, with this inscription; SIGILUM SCE MARIE DE ARTHINGTONA. The Arthingtons, in the twelfth century, were a devout and munificent family, and gave great benefactions to Kirkstall Abbey.

‡ Sir Nicholas de Stapleton, Knight, lord of Carlton, married Lady Diana, daughter and heiress of Peter Bruce, 5th Baron of Skelton Castle, in Cleveland, in whose right he was lord of Carlton; he had issue Sir Miles, Gilbert, and the above Mabel; he was a descendant of Heryon, lord of Stapleton upon Teys, and of Sir John Stapleton, Knight, lord of Stapleton, comptroller of the household to King Stephen.

§ See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. iii. p. 137.

of John de Normanville, Knight, and appears to have been alive 1st. Edward I. 1273. He had issue,

WILLIAM CALVERLEY (living 19th. Edward II. 1325), who married ——, daughter of John de Goldsborough, of Goldsborough, Knight, by whom he had two daughters; ——, married to Gilbert de Slingsby, and Eleanor, married to John de Leventhorp; besides his son and heir,

SIR JOHN DE CALVERLEY,* who married Joanna, daughter of Sir Simon Ward, of Guisley,† Knight,

* The Abbot and Convent of Kirkstall granted to John de Calverley and his tenants, and also to the Rector of Calverley, for the sum of 2s. annually, common of pasture for their cattle, (goats only excepted, which seem to have been prescribed for their mischievous propensities in devouring young wood,) in that common pasture of Bramley, which lies to the west of the village between the rivulet called Baggelaybeck, which is the boundary of Calverley and Bramley, and the new ditch towards Bramley, one extremity of which abuts upon the extremity of the meadow, called Hibrodeinge, and the other on the essart called Nicholrode. Yet, so that if the cattle of the said John, or his tenants, or of the Rector of Calverley, for want of enclosures, trespass upon the essarts or closes of the Abbot and Convent, they shall not be impounded but turned out without injury, excepting in corn fields or meadows, where compensation for the trespass shall be amicably made. Dated at Kirkstall, in the feast of the annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, A. D. MCCCXI.—*Stephens' Monast. vol. iii. app. 252, &c.*

† The manor of Guisley appears to have been the possession of the *Wards*, from the earliest periods to which surnames ascend; the last of the name in the direct line was Sir Christopher Ward, who

by whom he had issue John, of whom hereafter ; Walter ; Elizabeth,* married to Thomas Paytefin, of

died Dec. 30, 13th Henry VIII. seized of the manors of Guisley, Gavendale, Newby, Heskeholt (Esholt), East Keswick, Driglington, Adwalton, Usbourn, Magna, and Green-Hammerton, leaving one daughter, (Joan, wife of Sir Edward Musgrave, of Musgrave and Hartcla Castle, county of Westmoreland,) and three granddaughters. After the partition, which took place in the estates of Sir Christopher Ward, the manor of Guisley appears to have been sold.—*Loidis & Elmet*, p. 211.

* The following is an extract from the curious will of this Elizabeth, (of such particulars as relate to Calverley and Esholt) dated in vigilia Sci. Bartholomei, A. D. MCCCXL.

In primis do & lego animam meam Deo & beate Marie & omnibus sanctis ejus, & corpus meum sepeliendum in Abbathia de Eschewolde. Item do & lego melius animal meum Ecclesie de Calverley nomine mortuarii. Item do & lego iv. libras cere ardend. circa corpus meum. Item do & lego Priorisse de Eschewolde totum bladum meum de Burlay & de Stade. Item do & lego meliorem ollam meam emptam apud Calverlay, predicte Priorisse. Item do & lego Dno. Ade Capellano de Calverlay cuilibet eorum lx solidos. Item tribus capellanis celebrantibus per unum annum apud Calverlay, cuilibet eorum lx solidos. Et volo quod Dominus de capello prædicto habeat totum residuum bonorum meorum. Hujus autem testamenti executores meos ordino, facio, & constituo Walterum de Heukesworth seniore, Johannem de Calverlay, & Dnum. Adam de Beucliff, capellanum.

The reason of this partiality for Calverley and Esholt was, that the testatrix was daughter of John de Calverley, and sister of Isabel de Calverley, Prioress of Esholt. The stoop (no doubt of silver) had probably been purchased at some sale of the family furniture.

Loidis & Elmet, p. 200.

Hedingley, Esq. ;* Isabel, prioress of Esholt ; and Eleanor, married to Michael de Rawden. John, the eldest son, was beheaded for committing crimes too dismal for this paper.† In consequence of his death, the estates of the family devolved on his brother,

* Thomas Paytefin was a descendant of Walter Paytefin or Patefen, lord of Hedingley, who came into England with William the Conqueror, and married Lettice, daughter of Hugh Morker, who, by the title of Lord Normanton, Clayton, and Carleton, near Newark, gave him half of the town of Normanton with his said daughter, in frank marriage ; that is, to her, and her husband, and the heirs of her body, without any homage or service to the donor. The above Thomas Paytefin was a man of great possessions ; his wife surviving him, he left them to her and her brother, John de Calverley, and she and her brother gave all, or most of them, to the Abbey of Kirkstall, which was built upon his ground. The original deed (with many other valuable ones), was, in 1745, in the possession of Sir Walter Calverley, Bart. viz. :—

“ Sciant presentes & futuri quod ego, Johēs de Calverley, dedi,
 “ concessi, et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi religiosis viris,
 “ Abbati & Conventui beate Marie de Kyrkestall, et eorum suc-
 “ cessoribus manerium meum de Hedingley cum omnibus partin-
 “ culis suis : hijs testibus Dom. Symone Ward, Adam de Swilling-
 “ ton, Willemo de Beston, Rogero de Ledes, militibus, Lawrentio
 “ de Arthington, Thoma de Montealto, Robert de Burghley, Tho.
 “ de Menton, Tho. le Wage de Ledes, Mich. de Rawden, Johē de
 “ Carlton, Thoma de Alerton, et alijs. Dat. apud Hedingley die
 “ proxima post festam Sci. Ambrosij Epi. anno Dni. millesimo
 “ tricentessimo vicesimo quarto, et anno regni Regis Edwardi,
 “ filii Regis Edwardi, septimo decimo.”—*Ducatus Leodiensis.*

† See Loidis & Elmet, p. 216.

WALTER CALVERLEY (living 50th. Edw. III. 1376*), who married Margery, daughter of John de Dineley,† of Downham, Esq. and had issue,

1st. WILLIAM, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John de Thornhill,‡ by whom he had no children.

* About this time occurs Sir Hugh Calverley, who was joined in commission in the high office of Admiral of England, with Sir Thomas Percy, of the ancient and honourable house of Percy, of Northumberland. Soon after their appointment, being on a cruize together, they took a French man-of-war, and seven merchants' ships, richly laden. In 1379, they were ordered out on an expedition to France, but a violent storm coming on, the fleet was dispersed, and suffered great loss. Sir Hugh had a very narrow escape from being drowned, only himself and seven men being saved of his whole ship's company; Sir Thomas having ridden out the storm, was soon attacked by a large Spanish ship, which, under all his disadvantages, he at length boarded and took.

Sir Thomas and Sir Hugh were governors of Brest.

Wallis's North. vol. ii, p. 365.

† John de Dyneley, of Downham, Esq. to whom Henry, Duke of Lancaster, gave the manor of Downham, married 1st, Margaret, daughter of Henry de Downham, Clerk; 2dly, Isabella, daughter of ———. He died Tuesday next before the feast of St. Croix, anno 41 Edw. III. He was a descendant of the ancient family of the Dyneleys, of Dineley, in the parish of Whalley.

‡ Sir John de Thornhill, of Thornhill, was a descendant of the family of that name and place, which has been distinguished almost above every other in the public concerns of the county of York, as well as by the spirit and genius of its principals in several of the later descents.

2d. SIR JOHN CALVERLEY (living 20th. Rich. II. 1397), who was slain, 3d. Henry IV. 1402, at Shrewsbury, fighting for the king. This opened a way to the succession for the third son,

WALTER CALVERLEY, *alias* SCOT, who married Joan, daughter of Sir John Bigod, of Settrington, Knight. The time of his death does not appear, but his widow was living 7th. Henry V.; he had issue, (besides a daughter, Joan, married to John Passelew,* living 20th. Richard II.)

WALTER CALVERLEY, *alias* SCOTT, living 7th. Hen. VI. 1429, who married† Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Markenfield,‡ Knight, and had a numerous

* This John Passelew had two oxgangs of land, in Leeds woodhouse. By certain ancient writings it appears that the *Passelews*, had resided in the parish of *Potter-Newton* for some considerable time. and that they were lords of Newton as well as Riddlesden, in the reign of Henry VI. long before which time a John Passelew occurs as witness to a deed, anno 1341.

A Thomas Passelew occurs in 1434, as Abbot of Fountain's Abbey, Ripon; he was the twenty-first that had been elected.

Farrer's Hist. Ripon.

† Marriage Covenants, 2d. Henry V.

‡ A Thomas Markenfield occurs in the 2d. and 3d. years of the reign of Philip and Mary, in letters patent, dated at Westminster, the 22d. June, granting, to the town and neighbourhood of Ripon, leave to erect a free grammar school in that town, and appointing him as one of the governors to the same.

issue: namely, Thomas and Robert, living 36th. Henry VI.; Isabel, married* to John Slengsby, of Scriven, Esq.; ———, married to Richard Kighley, Esq. of Newhall; Margaret, married (21st. Henry VI.) to Thomas Clapham,† of Beamsley, Esq.; Amice, married to Robert Baildon;‡ ———, married to William Scot,§ of Scot-hall, near Leeds; Anne,

* Marriage Covenants, dated 20th. Henry VI.

† This Thomas Clapham was a descendant of Adam of Clapham, and the second son of Thomas, *alias* Thomline Clapham, Esq. by Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Mr. W. Moore, of Otterburne, and Thomasina his wife, daughter and heiress of Peter Mauliverer, of Beamsley. This was a very ancient family, and appears to have been famed for producing great warriors; of whom John, the third son of the first mentioned Thomas, was father of David Clapham,— for an account of whose works, see A. Wood's *Athen. Oxon. vol. i, p. 64.* This John was general under the great Earl of Warwick, and cut off the heads of Jasper, Earl of Pembroke, and the Duke of Bedford, in the church porch, at Bunbury.

J. Clapham (of the same family) was a famous soldier in the wars between the houses of York and Lancaster (*Camb. Brit. N. E. p. 713,*); and Sir Sheffield Clapham, Knight, (major-general of the army sent by King James I. into Stodd,) was born in the parish of Leeds, where his father, Gresham Clapham, Esq. resided many years in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, living first at the Wither, and then at Cottingley,

‡ Marriage Covenants, 24th. Henry VI.

§ William Scot, of Scot-hall, was a descendant of the ancient family of that name, which had resided there for many ages.

married to Mr. John Wentworth,* of N. Elmsal; ———, married to Mr. Gilbert Topcliffe, of Topcliffe, near Morley, who, in all probability, was the father of Chief Justice Topcliffe; Elizabeth, a nun at Esholt, 1488; Beatrice, married† to Tristram Bolling, of Bolling, Esq.; and Alice, married to Gilbert Legh,‡ of Middleton, near Leeds; all besides his son and heir,

There appear to have been sons of the name of William for a considerable time successively. William Scot de Newton occurs, as witness to a deed before dates were inserted; we have not been able to find out whether this family had been connected with, or relations of, the Scots, *alias* Calverley.

* John Wentworth, of Elmsal, was the only son of John Wentworth, Esq. (by Joan, daughter of Richard Tyas, Esq.), and a descendant of the very ancient and honourable family of Wentworth or Wyntwood, which for 600 years hath borne the honour of knighthood, and was seated, 400 years before that, in the county of York, and from whom descended the Earl of Strafford. The ancient and chief seat of the principal branch of this noble family hath been, for many ages, at Wentworth-woodhouse, in the wapontake of Strafford, whence they spread into other parts, as Ganthorpe-hall, Potter-Newton, in the parish of Leeds, &c.

† Marriage Covenants, 24th. Henry VI.

‡ Gilbert Legh, Esq. was the son and heir of Gilbert Legh of Middleton, near Leeds, Esq. (living 8th. Henry IV.) by Isabella, daughter of William Skargill, Esq. (living 8th. Henry V.). He appears to have been seized of the lordship of Middleton, and of lands in Carlton, Lofthouse, Rothwell, Wakefield, Osset, Bradford,

WILLIAM CALVERLEY, *alias* SCOT (the last who retained the *alias*), who married* Agnes,† daughter of Sir John Tempest,‡ of Bracewell; and had issue, John, Richard, Robert, Thomas, all living, as appeared by the family evidences, A. D. 1488; Nicholas, vicar of Bateley, 1490; Margaret, who married Mr. Popeley; Joan, married to Christopher Lister,§ of Middop, (7th. Edward IV.); Anne, married to Thomas Ellis, of Kiddal, Esq.; Isabel, married to Mr. Mearing, of Wheldale; Eleanor, married to Mr. Leventhorpe, of Leventhorpe; and Alice, a nun at Esholt, contemporary with her aunt, 1488. Besides this

Allerton, near Bradford, Leeds, with a mill there, Buslingthorp, Winksley, Selby Cawan, and Burton, near Ferry Bridge. He was a descendant of Gilbert d'le Leghe, living 3d. Edward III.

* The Marriage Covenants of this William and Agnes Tempest bear date, January 7, 20th. Henry VI.; and his last will, April 11, 3d. Henry VII.

† She was a widow in 1489.

‡ Sir John Tempest was a descendant of the Tempests, of Bracewell, afterwards of Tong, and of Roger Tempest, lord of the manor of Bracewell, and founder of the Priory of Bolton, 1st. Henry I. Agnes was his third daughter by Alice, daughter of Richard Sherburne, Esq.

§ Christopher Lister, of Middop, Esq. (living 16th. Edward IV.) was the son of Laurence Lister (by —, daughter of Richard Banester, of Brokden), and a descendant of Lister, Lord Ribblesdale; he had issue, William, Thomas, and Nicholas; died S. P.

Sir Egerton Bridge's Peerage.

numerous issue of younger children he also left his son and heir,

SIR WILLIAM CALVERLEY, who married Alice, daughter of Sir John Saville,* of Thornhill, who was knighted by the Earl of Surrey, 21st. Henry VII.; and had issue, Sir Walter, William, Robert, Thomas (living 21st. Henry VIII. and 10th. Elizabeth); Agnes, married to John Vavasour,† Esq. of Weston; and ———, unmarried.

SIR WALTER CALVERLEY married first Isabel, daughter and heiress of John Drax, Esq., by whom he had issue, Sir William, of whom hereafter; Gilbert; Thomas; John; Alice, married to Robert Warcup, Esq. of Warcup, com. Westmoreland; Margery, married to Mr. Henry Radcliffe, of Lancaster; Ellen, married to Mr. Miles Hodson, of Newcastle upon Tyne; Isabel, married to Gilbert Leghe, Esq.; Anne; Jane; Margaret; Elizabeth; and Maude.

* Sir John Saville was a descendant of Sir John Savile, of Savile Hall, Knight, from whom sprung Savile, Earl of Mexborough. Every branch of the *Saviles* has, at different periods, and in different ways, produced men of genius.

† John Vavasour was living 21st. Henry VIII. A. D. 1505, he had no issue by the above Agnes, who was his second wife, and a widow, 2d. Henry VIII.; he married first Bridget, daughter of Sir Thomas Mauliverer, Knight, by whom he had Marmaduke, Thomas, Dorothy, and Elizabeth.

2d.* Anne†, daughter of John Vavasour, of Weston, Esq. his first cousin, S. P.

SIR WILLIAM CALVERLEY, his son and heir, married 1st. Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Middleton, of Stockeld, Knight, and had issue, William, by whom he was succeeded; Thomas,‡ who married Isabel, daughter of — Anderson, of Newcastle upon Tyne; William; John; Henry; Ralph; Michael; Margaret, married to Robert Beeston,§ of Beeston, near Leeds, Esq.; Isabel, married to Francis Paslew, Esq. of Riddlesden; Anne, married to Thomas Wentworth, of Elmsal, Esq.; Dorothy, married to Walter

* His first marriage took place 16th. Henry VII.; his second wife was living, 29th. Henry VIII. In the 27th. Henry VII. 1506, he paid 50s. relief for half a knight's fee in Calverley. He died A. D. 1538.

† Anne was the fourth daughter of John Vavasour, of Weston, and Newton, Esq. by Cicely, daughter of Sir John Norton, Knight; he was the second son of Sir John Vavasour, of Haselwood, unto whom his father gave lands in Cocksforde, and a descendant of Sir Mauger le Vavasour, Knight, living 7th. Edward II.

‡ This Thomas had issue, Sir John Calverley, from whom descended the family of Ayreholm, com. pal. Durham.

§ Robert Beeston, of Beeston, Esq. was the second son (of Ralph Beeston, Esq. by Margery, daughter of Sir Robert Nevile, of Liversedge,) and a descendant of the ancient family of Beeston, or Beiston, of Beeston, in the parish of Leeds. He was buried, 23d. April, 1566. This family gave certain lands to Kirkstall Abbey.

Furness, of Mirfield, gent.; Elizabeth, married to Mr. Hadley, of Stotfield; and Jane, married to Mr. Newton, of Kirkfenton.

Sir William married* 2dly. Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Sneyd, of Bradwell, in Staffordshire, Esq. by whom he had issue, Beatrice, married to Robert Hyde, Esq. of Norbury, in Cheshire; Jane, married to Mr. Auby; and Elizabeth, married to Mr. Hallie.

SIR WALTER CALVERLEY, son and heir of the above Sir William, married† Anne,‡ daughter of Sir Christopher Danby, of Farnley, and had issue, Christopher, Edmund (living in 1568), and Mary, married to John Coleby, of Nappay, in Wensleydale, Esq., besides his son and heir,

WILLIAM CALVERLEY, Esq.,§ who married Katherine, daughter and heiress of John Thorneholme, of

* The Marriage Covenants, with his first wife, bear date 18th. of Henry VIII. He was sheriff of Yorkshire, 3d. Edward VI. and was living in 1568.

† Marriage Covenants, 2d. Edward VI.

‡ She was the sixth daughter of Sir Christopher Danby, Knight, by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard, Lord Latimer; Sir Christopher had fourteen children by his wife: viz. six sons and eight daughters. He was high sheriff of Yorkshire, 37th. Henry VIII., a great benefactor to Leeds church, and a descendant of John of Danby, lord of Great and Little Danby or Danbie, and of lands in Thirsk, Hutton, and Scowston. He died A. D. 1571.

§ He was seized of the manors of Calverley, Pudsey, Burley in

Haysthorpe, Esq. and had issue,* Walter, William,† John, Thomas, Sheffield, and Ralph.

Wharfdale, and of lands in Bagley, Tarsley, Eccleshall and Eccleshall Park, Bolton in Bradfordale, and Seacroft. Under the influence of his wife, who was a zealous catholic, he suffered greatly in his estates on account of his recusancy.

* A Mr. Calverley occurs as a Recorder of Newcastle upon Tyne: he was buried in March, 1588, in St. Nicholas' church.

St. Nicholas' Register.

† In the church of Leeds there is a monument of white stone, adorned with three cherubs, to the memory of a *William Calverley*. It bears the following inscription: “*Here lyeth interred the body of WILLIAM CALVERLEY, of LEEDS, who was alderman and mayor of this burrough, in the year, 1693, who departed this life the 19th. day of March, Anno Dom. 1699, in the 57th. year of his age; and MARY, his daughter, who died 30th. August, 1700, in the 15th year of her age. Also MRS. ELIZABETH KITCHINGMAN, who died 7th. April, 1701, aged 79 years.*” The arms are *sable*, an inescutcheon betwixt an orbe of owls *argent*, impaled with *argent* a lion passant, *sable*, upon a chief of the second, three covered cups of the field.

This *William Calverley* gave one hundred and ten pounds, the interest to be yearly distributed by the mayor, vicar, and two *senior* aldermen, to the poor of Leeds.

In 1711, “a *Mrs. Mary Calverley* gave £10. to the charity school in Leeds;” she was, in all probability, the widow of the above *William*, though she is not mentioned as such.

From a list of the names of those, who served in the parliament begun at Westminster, April 25, 1660, called the Healing Parliament, as they were returned into the crown office, it appears, that *William Calverley* and Robert Ellison, Esquires, were elected for the town and county of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Brand, vol. ii. p. 210.

WALTER CALVERLEY, his unhappy son and heir, married Philippa, daughter of Sir John Brooke, son of George Brooke, Lord Cobham, and had issue, William and Walter (the subjects of a very tragical story*), and

HENRY,† who survived, and became heir to the estate. He married 1st. Elizabeth, daughter of John Moore, of Grantham, Esq. S. P. 2dly. Joice, daughter of Sir Walter Pye, Knight, attorney of the court of wards and liveries, and had issue, John, a barrister at law, of Gray's Inn; Henry, and Esther, who both died young; besides his son and heir,

SIR WALTER CALVERLEY, created Knight of the Royal Oak, by Charles II. for his father's loyalty and sufferings, and in part, perhaps, for his own. He married Frances, daughter and heiress of Henry Thompson, of Esholt,‡ Esq. (living 1712); by which means he became possessed of that beautiful estate, so

* See Whitaker's Loidis & Elmet, p. 219.

† This Henry died January 1, 1661, after having suffered severely for his loyalty, his composition with the sequestrators amounting to no less than £1455. to defray which he sold, in 1658, the estate of Seacroft for £1380. The actual value of this composition may be estimated from the price lately paid for the same estate, which exceeded £40,000. He was the last of the family, who for any considerable time inhabited the old Hall at Calverley.

‡ In the 1st. Edward VI. Esholt was in the hands of the crown, when it was granted to Henry Thompson, Gent. one of the King's

nearly connected with his family, while it retained its monastic character. He had issue, Walter, who succeeded him; Anne, married to Benjamin Wade,* of new Grange, near Leeds, Esq.; Bridget, married 1st. to Mr. John Ramsden, of Crowston, com. York, S. P.; 2dly. to William Nevil,† Esq. and died without issue by either.

WALTER CALVERLEY, of Calverley and Esholt, created a baronet, Dec. 11, 1711, married, January, 1706, Julia,‡ eldest daughter of Sir William Blackett, Bart.§ of Newcastle upon Tyne, and had issue,

gens-d'-armes, at Boulogne. It continued in this family somewhat more than a century.

* Benjamin Wade, Esq. of New Grange, was the son of Anthony Wade (mayor of Leeds, in 1676), by Mary, daughter and heiress of John Moore, Esq. of Greenhead, com. Leicestershire. Anthony Wade was nephew of Susan Wade, wife of Dr. Jennison, of Newcastle upon Tyne, and a descendant of the Wades of Coventry.

† William Nevil, of Holbeck, Esq. (high sheriff for the county of York in 1710,) was the son and heir of Gervase Nevil, of Beeston, sometime of Sheffield, and afterwards of Holbeck, com. York, by Dorothy, daughter of Francis Cavendish, of Deveridge, com. Derby, Esq. He was a descendant of the ancient and noble house of Northumberland; viz. from Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, anno 969.

‡ Julia died October 9, 1736.

§ It was probably not long after his marriage into this very wealthy family, that he built the present magnificent house at Esholt, where he died, October 17, 1749, and was buried with his

Walter, the subject of the preceding memoir, and Julia, married to Sir George Trevelyan, Bart.* (son of Sir John Trevelyan,† of Nettlecomb, near Taunton, Somersetshire, Bart.) He had issue, Sir John,

* Sir George died December 28, 1768.

† Sir John Trevelyan, Bart. was a descendant of Sir John Trevelian, Bart. who married, in 1591, Urith, 8th. daughter of Sir John Chichester, Knight, by Gertrude, daughter of Sir William Courtenay, of Powderham Castle, in Devonshire, Knight, ancestor to the Lord Viscount Courtenay.

Sir Egerton Brydges's Peerage, vol. viii, p. 179.

ancestors, at Calverley, the 22d. following. Over the door of that church is a large mural monument, erected to his memory (by his son, Sir Walter Blackett, Bart.), with the following inscription:—

To the memory
 Of SIR WALTER CALVERLEY, of Calverley, Bart.
 His mother, FRANCES, daughter and sole heiress
 Of Henry Thompson, of Esholt, Esq.
 His wife, JULIA, eldest daughter
 Of Sir William Blackett, of Newcastle upon Tyne, Bart.
 And of his two sisters ;
 ANN, married to Benjamin Wade, of New Grange, Esq.
 And BRIDGET, first married to John Ramsden, of Crowstone, Esq.
 And afterwards to William Nevil, of Holbeck, Esq.
 All of them persons of merit and character.
 SIR WALTER
 Was descended from an ancient and eminent family ;
 He made it the study of his life to reflect back upon his ancestors

of whom hereafter ; Julia, married, January, 1756, to
Sir William Yea, of Tyrland, Somersetshire, and had

The lustre which he received from them.

He possessed every qualification which distinguishes the great man,

He cultivated every virtue which adorns the good one.

Independent,

He regarded no interest, but the interest of his country ;

That interest he steadily asserted, with prudence, with dignity,
with spirit.

Preferring the tranquillity of retirement to the grandeur of a court,

He fixed his residence at Esholt ;

There, by a generous, affable hospitality,

He circulated his fortune through its proper channel,

Diffused cheerfulness among his friends and neighbours,

And quickened the industry of his tenants and dependents.

Fond of agriculture, and all the rural arts, he not only improved
and beautified his own estate,

But his admirable skill manifestly operated to the general emolu-
ment of his country.

Manufactures and manufacturers

Were the immediate objects of his attention and regard ;

He was an able and willing patron of the diligent poor,

These he daily relieved by that most beneficial charity, employ-
ment.

In the tender characters of the husband and the father he discovered

the purest conjugal love,

The truest paternal indulgence and care ;

As a wise and upright magistrate he commanded obedience to the
laws,

By his authority, by his example.

In his religion he was warm without enthusiasm, strict without
superstition.

issue, six sons; Susanna, married, February 3, 1764,
to John Hudson, of Bessingby, in Yorkshire, Esq.;
Charlotte, married, April, 1757, to Tobias Freer,

Thus, in the active discharge of his duty to God and to mankind,
Having reached, through temperance and exercise, the 80th. year
of his age,

Death, by an easie, gradual dissolution, opened to him a glorious
immortality,

The 17th. of October, 1749.

LADY CALVERLEY

Was endowed with that equal disposition of mind

Which always creates its own happiness,

With that open and flowing benevolence which always promotes
the happiness of others :

Her person was amiable and engaging, her manners soft and gentle,

Her behaviour delicate and graceful, her conversation lively
and instructing ;

Even her amusements distinguished her a woman of sense,

Having not only innocence but merit to recommend them ;

She fulfilled the endearing offices of the wife, the mother, and the
friend, with the most perfect constancy and affection ;

These virtues were crowned with a most sincere piety to her maker,

The great author and final rewarder of all goodness.

She died the 16th. of September, 1736, in the 51st. year of her age,

As universally lamented in her death as she had been admired
in her life.

To the memory of these excellent persons,

More especially of his honour'd Parents, *Sir Walter* and *Lady*
Calverley ;

Walter, their only son, now *Sir Walter Blackett*,

Hath erected this monument,

1752.

Esq.; Frances, married, January 14, 1761, to Capt. James Feild; and Walter, who married, January 13, 1772, ———, eldest daughter of the late James Thornton,* of Netherwitton,† Esq. a joint heiress, by which means he became possessed of that estate,—he served the office of high sheriff of Northumberland in 15th. Geo. III. or 1775.

* James Thornton, Esq. was a descendant of the ancient family of the Thorntons, and of Roger de Thornton, who was born at Witton Castle, by the river Pont, as attested by a celebrated antiquary (*Leland, vol. vi. p. 56*), and so truly memorable for his numerous and liberal benefactions to the town of Newcastle upon Tyne, being the most eminent patron on record, for a private man, of that corporation: to him they stand obliged for the town court, since re-built, and many other instances of public spirit and generosity. His estate, great for those times, being 800 marks per annum, was frugally and wisely managed to encourage public and private industry, and to felicitate society by acts of benevolence and charity. He died 3d. January, 1429, after building his castle or tower of Witton, and was interred in All Saints' church, near the altar, on the south side, opposite to the vestry; but as this was in the old church of All Hallows', or All Saints', it would now be difficult to point out the hallowed spot where the bones of this memorable character were deposited. As a memorial of his being interred there, the brass plate which was on his grave-stone is preserved, and is placed over the door of the grand entrance by the south.

† Netherwitton estate was the manor of this ancient family, almost from time immemorial. It is subject to the payment of £100. per annum to the free grammar school at Morpeth.

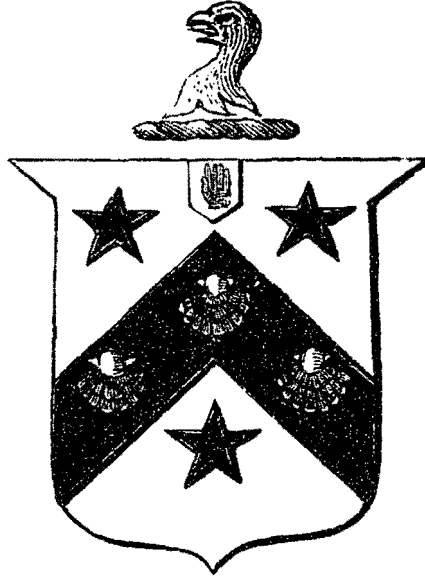
SIR JOHN TREVELYAN,* Bart. son and heir of Sir George, succeeded to his family possessions, Dec. 28, 1768, and married, April, 1757, Louisa Marianna,† daughter and co-heiress of Peter Symond, Esq. a very opulent merchant of Austin Fryers, London, with whom he got a fortune of £20,000.; by her he had issue four sons and one daughter; viz. John, by whom he was succeeded; Walter, who married Charlotte, third daughter of John Hudson, of Bessingby, in the county of York, Esq. and by whom he had several children; George (in holy orders), canon residentiary of the cathedral of Wells, &c. who married, February 4, 1795, Harriet, third daughter of Sir Richard Neave, Bart. of Dagnam Park, Essex, by whom he had several children; Willoughby, who died, unmarried, at Wallington, in 1784; and Louisa.

SIR JOHN, the eldest, married, August 16, 1791, Maria, third daughter of the late Sir Thomas Spencer

* Sir John was elected (March 14, 1777,) member of parliament for the town of Newcastle upon Tyne, vacant by the death of his uncle, Sir Walter Blackett, Bart. He was opposed by Andrew Robinson Bowes, Esq. who stood a contest with him for it. The poll was, for Sir John Trevelyan, 1163 votes; and for Andrew R. Bowes, Esq. 1068. At the election for members, in 1780, he was returned for the county of Somerset, which he represented till 1796.

† Louisa Marianna died February 20, 1771.

Wilson, of Charlton, in Kent, Bart. (sister to Margaret, wife of Lord Arden, and Jane, wife of the late Right Hon. Spencer Perceval,) by whom he has a large family. This ancient family takes its name from *Trevelyan*, or *Trevilian*, in the parish of St. Vehep, near Fowey, in Cornwall, of which, and other lordships in that county, they were anciently possessed, at or soon after the Conquest.



PEDIGREE
OF THE
FAMILY OF BLACKETT,
OF
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
AND
NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE first of this family, whom we find noticed in the History of Newcastle, is WILLIAM BLACKETT, an eminent merchant of that town, and who is said to have been a descendant of a family of that name in Leicestershire;* but more probably was of the ancient

* Sir John Blackett, Knight, of Castle Saltford, in the county of Oxford, had a daughter married to Walter de Rohon, from

family of Blackett (originally “de Black Heved” and “Black-hed”), of the counties of Durham and Northumberland, and who for nearly two centuries have resided at Wylam Hall, in the county of Northumberland.* He, having settled in Newcastle upon

whom the family of *Brudnell* sprung, in the reign of Edward I. or II. ; some time after which he resided at Knowlsly, in the county of Leicester. In the 4th. and 5th. of Henry IV. Johannes Blackett (a descendant of this Sir John), served the office of sheriff for the county of Leicester.

Sir John de Blackett occurs as representative in parliament, for Leicester, in the reign of Henry VI. There are great doubts, whether this family had any connection with the Blacketts of Northumberland and Newcastle upon Tyne ; an old manuscript, we met with, says (from we know not what authority), that a descendant of this family suffered greatly in the civil wars, that the estate in Leicestershire was confiscated, and that some time before 1640, a branch of the family settled in the county of Northumberland and at Newcastle upon Tyne.

* Edward Blackett purchased lands at *Hoppiland* and *Bunley Row*, in the county of Durham, 1619, (temp. James I.) which continued in the family until about the year 1768, when they were sold by the late John Blackett, Esq. of Wylam.

Wylam Hall was the seat of John Blackett, Esq. who served the office of high sheriff of Northumberland in 1692, and who, by will, dated 19th. September, 1707, gave £6. per annum, to be paid out of certain lands in West Denton, to the poor of the parish of Wylam, to be distributed by the minister and churchwardens, on All Saints’ day ; it was also the seat of his grandson, John Blackett, Esq. high sheriff of Northumberland in 1739, and is now the seat of Christopher Blackett, Esq. on whose estate is an extensive colliery.

Tyne,* and acquired the freedom of that town, by unceasing industry and the produce of his mines and collieries, gained a large fortune,† whilst the strictest probity and honour in his dealings, obtained him the

* A “William Blackett” occurs as churchwarden of the parish of Gateshead, in 1630; probably the ancestor of Sir William.

We have not been able to ascertain, whether the first or the second Sir William Blackett, purchased the *Kenton* estate; It was the seat of the latter for several years, and he had a way-leave, granted him (articles of agreement, dated 23d. September, 1689,) by the mayor and burgesses of Newcastle, “for carts and carriages
“leading manure and other necessaries, over the Town Moor, to
“his lands at *Kenton*, for ever, under the yearly rent of one pepper
“corn, and on condition that he kept the hedge between his said
“estate of *Kenton* and the Town Moor in good repair.”

† The following interesting anecdote has been communicated to us from a source, which induces us to have not the least doubt of its authenticity:—Sir William, soon after he commenced business, risked his little all, in a speculation in flax, and having freighted a large vessel with that article, received the unpleasant intelligence that the flax fleet had been dispersed in a storm, and most of the vessels either lost or afterwards captured by the enemy:—He took his accustomed walk next morning, ruminating on his supposed loss, and unconscious how far he was going, when on a sudden, he was aroused, by the noise of a ship in the river: he jumped upon an adjoining hedge, hailed the vessel, and found it to be his own, which had miraculously weathered the storm, and with difficulty had gained the port. He instantly returned, and hiring a horse, rode in a very short time to London, and hastening to the Exchange, found the merchants in great alarm about the loss of the flax fleet, and speaking of the consequent high price of flax. On

highest credit and confidence of his townsmen.—In the year 1660, he was appointed sheriff of Newcastle, and soon afterwards alderman of that corporation; was governor of the Hostmen's company in 1662 and 1663, and again in 1667 and 1668; mayor of Newcastle in 1666; and one of the representatives of that town in parliament from 1673 to 1680: *—Soon after he was returned to parliament, he received the honour of knighthood from King Charles II., and was, the same year, advanced to the dignity of baronet (letters patent, dated 12th. December, 1673). He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Michael Kirkley or

informing them that he dealt in that article, and had a large quantity to dispose of, speculators soon flocked around him, and he sold his whole cargo at a most extravagant price, and the produce of that adventure laid the foundation for one of the largest fortunes acquired in Newcastle. This quick decision, in disposing of his cargo, proved to be correct, as several other vessels afterwards got into port, and the markets in a few days fell to the old price. Sir William (as also his children) is said to have regarded, with a kind of veneration, the hedge, from whence he first perceived the vessel, and made it the extent of his future morning walks.—We are informed it is yet in existence.

* Brand supposes Sir William, to have been chosen in the room of Sir John Marley, who died in October, 1673. He (Sir William) occurs, 1674 and 1678, with Sir Francis Anderson, Knight, and is afterwards named as representative with Sir Ralph Carr, Knight.—*Vide Brand's Newcastle, vol. ii. page 211.*

Kirlair,* a respectable merchant in Newcastle; by whom he had issue several children, of whom three sons and three daughters survived him.† She departed this life, April 7th, 1674;‡ and he married, secondly, the widow of Captain John Rogers, of Newcastle, daughter of a Mr. Cock of that town, and a relative of Alderman Cock.§ Sir William died, May

* “MICHAEL KIRLAIR, MER. AD. 31ST. JULY, 1620,” occurs on a stone in St. Nicholas’ church, Newcastle:—He is said to have been the father of the first Lady Blackett.

† A stone, with the following inscription, occurs in St. Nicholas’ church:—“Here lieth the body of Sir William Blackett, Bart. alderman and sometime mayor of this town, and burgess in parliament for this corporation, and Dame Elizabeth his wife, by whom he had issue nine children, of which survived him three sons and three daughters, viz.: Edward, Michael, William, Elizabeth, Isabel, and Christian. She departed this life the 7th. of April, 1674, and he the 16th. of May, 1680. Michael, his son, sometime alderman, departed this life the 26th. of April, 1683, who had Elizabeth only. She departed this life the 12th. day of January, 1677.”

‡ 1674, April 10, buried Lady Elizabeth, wife of Sir William Blackett, Bart. and alderman.—*St. Nicholas’ Register.*

§ Sir William had no issue by his second wife. Alderman Ralph Cock, was an eminent merchant in Newcastle, where he acquired a large fortune; his residence was in one of the narrow lanes on the Quayside, since called (after him) “Cock’s Chare;” he left four daughters, viz.: Dorothy, wife of Mark Milbank; Jane, wife of William Carr; Ann, wife of Thomas Davison; and Barbara, wife of Henry Marley, all eminent merchants in

16th, 1680, and was buried* in St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle.† He is said to have been possessed of excellent talents for business, and unwearied in their application, though engaged in a great variety and extent of affairs; and being successful without pride, and rich without ostentation, he lived generally esteemed, and died universally lamented. His issue were,

1. William Blackett, who died young, and was buried in Saint Nicholas' church, Newcastle, 9th August, 1654.

2. Isabella Blackett, who was married to Shern Bridges, Esq. of Ember Court, in the county of Surrey.

3. Edward Blackett, eldest surviving son, and second baronet, of whom hereafter.

Newcastle. Alderman Cock used to call his daughters his "four canny hinnies;" and "as rich as Cock's canny hinnies," was a proverbial saying at that time.

* "1680, May 20th, Sir William Blackett, Bart. was buried according to the act,"—*i. e.* in woollen cloth.—*St. Nicholas' Reg.*

† By his will, he gave a rent charge of £2. to the poor of the parish of St. Andrew's, as also the like sum to each of the other three parishes in Newcastle. The following appears on an escutcheon, in St. Andrew's church:—

"Sir William Blackett, Baronet, alderman, and sometimes maior. Also a burgess of this town. Dep—ted this life, the 16th day of May, 1680. By his last will, did bequeath to the poor of the parish of Saint Andrew's, forty shillings yearly for ever."

4. Christian Blackett, who married Robert Midford, Esq. of Sighill, in the county of Northumberland, and had issue, three sons, who all died unmarried, and a daughter married to the Rev. — Laidman, of Whalton.

5. Michael Blackett, second surviving son, succeeded his father in business, and was appointed sheriff of Newcastle, in 1676, and afterwards alderman of that town. He married Dorothy, daughter of Alderman Barnes;* by whom he had issue one daughter, Elizabeth Blackett, who died young, 12th. January, 1677, and was buried in St. Nicholas' church. The said Michael, died April 26th, 1683, and was also buried in that church. His wife survived him, and married (secondly) Sir Richard Brown, Bart. and (thirdly) the Rev. Dr. John Moore, Bishop of Ely.

6. John Blackett, who died young, and was buried in St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle, 4th. May, 1654.

7. William Blackett, third surviving son, and also a merchant in Newcastle, of whom hereafter.

8. Christopher Blackett, who died young, and was buried in St. Nicholas' church, 8th. July, 1678. And

9. Elizabeth Blackett, who married Timothy Davison, Esq. of Beamish, in the county of Durham.

* Barnes was of a strict presbyterian family of that name, in Newcastle.

SIR EDWARD BLACKETT succeeded his father as second baronet; was sheriff of Northumberland, 33d. Charles II., representative in parliament for the borough of Ripon, in Yorkshire, and afterwards (10th. William III.) the same for the county of Northumberland.—“ He was thrice married; first, to Mary, only child of Thomas Norton, of Langthorne, in the county of York, Esq.; she had issue only one child, named William, who died in his infancy; she not long surviving.” He married (secondly) Mary, daughter of Sir John York, of Richmond, Knight, and had issue by her, six sons and six daughters. On her death, he married (thirdly) Diana, Lady Delaval, relict of Sir Ralph Delaval, of Seaton Delaval, Bart. daughter to George Booth, Lord Delamere, and sister to Henry, first Earl of Warrington. She died without issue, October 7th, 1713, and Sir Edward, April 22d, 1718, aged 69 years, and was buried with several of his family in the chapel, north of the choir door, of Ripon church, in the county of York.* His issue, by his second wife, were,

* In this chapel, is a beautiful monument, erected to the memory of Sir Edward Blackett; being a full length representation of himself, with a lady on each side, in mournful attitudes, said to represent his first and second wives, Mary, daughter of Thomas Norton, Esq., and Mary, daughter of Sir John Yorke, of Richmond. A

1. William Blckett, who married Diana, only daughter of Sir Ralph Delaval, of Seaton Delaval, Baronet, (by Diana, daughter of George, Lord Delamere, who afterwards became the wife of Sir Edward Blckett, Baronet); she died, January 10th, 1710, leaving issue an only daughter, also named Diana, who was twice married; first, to Henry Mainwaring, of Over Peover and Baddely, in Cheshire, Esq., brother of Sir Thomas Mainwaring, Baronet, and had issue an only son, named Henry Mainwaring (the 27th. male heir of that family), who, on the death

long inscription is attached, but as it is only a repetition of several parts of the above pedigree, we forbear giving it here.

The Blcketts, at this time, possessed Newby estate, in the county of York, now the magnificent seat of the Right Hon. Lord Grantham. The mansion house is situate about four miles south-east from Ripon, and three miles nearly west from Boroughbridge. It was rebuilt about the year 1705, by the first Sir Edward Blckett, at the expense of £32,000. The situation being chosen and the structure designed by Sir Christopher Wren. This estate was sold by the Blcketts to Richard Weddell, Esq. and on the death of his son (William Weddell, Esq.), in 1792, devolved, with his other estates, to the Right Hon. Thomas Weddell Robinson, Lord Grantham.—*Vide Farrer's Hist. of Ripon, p. 239, &c. and the Beauties of England, vol. xvi. p. 711, &c.*

Sir Tancred Robinson, brother of the first Lord Grantham, married Mary, only daughter and heiress of William Norton, Esq. by whom he had issue. Sir Tancred was lord mayor of York, in 1718, and afterwards rear admiral of the blue. He died in 1754.

of his uncle, succeeded to his title and estates, but dying unmarried, April 6th, 1797, the title became extinct. The said Diana, married, secondly, the Reverend Thomas Whittenhall, rector of Walthamstow, in the county of Essex, and had issue an only son, Thomas Whittenhall, who, in 1797, assumed the name and arms of Mainwaring, in compliance with the will of Sir Henry Mainwaring, and was created a baronet, May 12th, 1804: He married Catherine, youngest daughter of William Watkiss, of Namptwich, Esquire, by whom he had issue, Henry Mainwaring (the present baronet), and four other children. The said William Blackett died, during the life time of his father, February 23d, 1713.*

2. EDWARD BLACKETT, eldest surviving son and third baronet, succeeded to the Blackett estate,† and married —, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Jekyll, D. D. niece to Sir Joseph Jekyll, Knight, master of the rolls, and relict of Nicholas Roberts, Esq. of London, by whom he had no issue. Sir Edward died at Hexham, March 1st, 1756, aged 73 years. This

* Vide monumental inscription in Ripon church.

† An act of parliament was passed A. D. 1725, “for vesting part of the estate of Sir Edward Blackett, Bart. in trustees, to be sold, to raise £8,000. charged thereon, by his late brother’s marriage settlement.”

lady died,* on the 29th. day of November, in the same year, at the great age of 82 years.

3. John Blackett, Esq. of Newbass Hall, who married Patience, daughter of Henry Wise, Esq. of Brompton Park, in the county of Middlesex, had issue five sons, viz.: 1. Edward Blackett, who succeeded his uncle in his title and estate, of whom hereafter. 2. William Blackett. 3. Henry Blackett, M. A. rector of Boldon, in the county of Durham, who died, December 3d, 1808, aged 83 years. 4. John Erasmus Blackett, Esq. sheriff, alderman, and mayor of Newcastle, who died, June 11, 1814, aged 86 years.† And 5. Matthew Blackett, Esq. The

* “*Nov. 29, 1756.*—Died, at Hexham, in the 82d. year of her age, the worthy relict of the late Sir Edward Blackett, Bart. During a residence of near 40 years, she was a great ornament and benefactress to that town and neighbourhood. Whilst her regular and constant acts of devotion set a fine example of true piety to all around her, a chearful hospitality enlivened her house; which yet was managed with such prudent economy, as enabled her to extend her charities to the poor with a liberal hand. Happy herself in making others so, it was ever her pleasure to relieve the distressed: And as her life was a most valuable blessing to society, her memory must still be dear to the good and benevolent.”

Newcastle Magazine, 613, 1756.

† John Erasmus Blackett, Esq. was sheriff of Newcastle in 1756, and mayor of that town in 1765, 1772, 1780, and 1790. He married, March 31st, 1761, Sarah, daughter and coheirress of Robert Roddam, Esq. of Hethpool, in the county of Northumberland, by

said John Blackett died, 27th. April, 1750, and his wife, January 16th, 1788, at Ripon, in her 93d. year.*

whom he had issue two daughters, viz. : Patience Blackett, who married (June 16th, 1791,) Cuthbert Collingwood, Esq. afterwards Lord Collingwood, and had issue two daughters; Sarah Collingwood, born May 28th, 1792, and Mary Patience Collingwood, born August 16th, 1793 :—and 2d. Patty Blackett, who married (August 22d, 1782,) Benjamin Stead, Esq. of Ryal, in the county of Northumberland. Mrs. Blackett, died July 14th, 1775, and was buried in St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle, where a neat monumental tablet has been placed over the vestry door to her memory, bearing the following inscription :—

Sacred to the memory of
SARAH BLACKETT,
who departed this life, July 14th, 1775,
aged 35.

This monument is erected in testimony
of the tender remembrance
of an affectionate husband,
whose grief for the loss of an amiable wife
can only find comfort
in full assurance
of that promised reward
which virtue inherits
in the regions of immortality.

John Erasmus Blackett, died at his house, in Charlotte-square, Newcastle, June 11th, 1814, and was also buried in St. Nicholas' church.

* A plain monument is erected, in the chapel of Ripon church,

4. Thomas Blackett, who died young.
5. Christopher Blackett, who died young.
6. Henry Blackett, who married Mrs. Saville, of London, and left issue, a son and a daughter.
7. Elizabeth Blackett, who married John Wise, of Ripon, Esq. She died, 22d. May, 1711.*
8. Henrietta Maria Blackett, who married Major Saville.
9. Alathea Blackett, who married Walgrave Tancred, Esq. sixth son of Sir William Tancred, Bart. of Boroughbridge, in the county of York; but died without issue.
10. Isabella Blackett, married to William Norton, of Langthorne, Esq.

to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Blackett. It bears the following inscription:—

Beneath lye the remains of
JOHN BLACKETT, Esq.
 Son of Sr. Ed. Blackett, Bar.
 who died the 27th. April, 1750,
 aged 65.

And likewise of **PATIENCE**, his wife, who
 died 16th. January, 1788, aged 92.

Honours and riches pass away as we drop
 into the grave.

Faith and good works accompany us to Heaven.

* Vide inscription on the monument of the first Sir Edward Blackett, Bart. in Ripon church.

11. Anne Blackett, married to ——— Ridsdale, Esq.* And

12. Christiana Blackett, married to ——— Curtis, Esq.

SIR EDWARD BLACKETT,† fourth baronet, and eldest son of John Blackett, succeeded to the title on the death of his uncle, in 1756: was appointed high sheriff of the county of Northumberland, in 1757,‡ and representative of that county in parliament from 1768 to 1774. He married, September 1751, Ann, daughter and sole heiress of Oley Douglas, of West Matfen, in the county of Northumberland, Esq.§ by whom he had issue five children, viz. :—

* There is a beautiful mural monument of black and white marble, erected to two brothers of this family, viz.: Edward Ridsdale and Christopher Ridsdale, Esquires, in Ripon church.

† In 1759, Sir Edward was appointed colonel of the Northumberland militia. His brother held a captain's commission in the same regiment.

‡ During the scarcity of provisions in this year, Sir Edward ordered a fat cow to be killed, and eight bolls of rye to be baked, and distributed among the poor neighbouring families about Matfen, viz. : to each person, a loaf of bread and a piece of meat.

Newcastle Courant, March 5, 1757.

In 1759, Sir Edward gave £100. towards the augmentation of the living of Hexham.

§ By this marriage, the Blackett family became possessed of the manors of *Halton, Whittington*, and *Aydon Castle*, and certain lands in *Halton, Halton Shcels, Whittington, Aydon Castle, Carre-houses*,

1. Edward Blackett, Esq. who was born September 22d, 1752, and died, unmarried, June 26th, 1796, in the 44th. year of his age.

2. John Blackett, who died young.

3. WILLIAM BLACKETT, eldest surviving son, who succeeded to the title and estate of his father, in 1804, having married, August 6th, 1801, the eldest daughter of Benjamin Keene, Esq. of Westoe Lodge, in Cambridgeshire, by whom he had issue, four sons* and two daughters. Sir William was sheriff of Northumberland, in 1807, and died at Westoe Lodge, in the county of Cambridge, October 27th, 1816.

4. Ann Blackett, who married, November 15th, 1785, Major Scott, of Ripon, and had issue. And

Clarewood, East Matfen, and West Matfen, all in the county of Northumberland. The previous possessions of the Blacketts, consisted of the manor of Horneby, in the county of York; the manor of Sockburne, in the county of Durham; the manors and lordships of Willimoteswick, Chesterwood, Ridley and Ridley Hall, Thorngraston, Henshaw, Huntlands, Kingswood, and Melkeridge, in the county of Northumberland, and of certain lands in the said manors; and in Dinsdale, Bishopton, the Forest of Lowes, Fallow-field, Woodhall, Wintaton, &c. &c. The whole worth in 1759, upwards of £5,000. per annum. Vide act of Parliament, passed A. D. 1759, "for carrying into execution the articles made on the marriage of Sir Edward Blackett, Bart. with Dame Ann, his wife, &c."

* William Douglas Blackett, the eldest son, born October, 1802, died March, 1805.

5. Mary Blackett, who died young, December 17th, 1763.

Sir Edward Blackett died at his seat at Thorpe Lee, in the county of Surry, February 3d, 1804, aged 85 years.* His lady died at the same place in December, 1805, aged 88 years.

We now return to WILLIAM BLACKETT,† third

* In the chapel, in Ripon church, is a beautiful marble monument, executed by Bacon, and bearing the following inscription :

Sacred to the memory
of SIR EDWARD BLACKETT, Bart. &c. &c. &c.
of Matfen, in Northumberland,
who departed this life the 3d. of Feb. 1804, Ætatis 85,
after a long and painful illness,
which he bore with exemplary patience
and christian resignation.

If human worth is to be estimated
by the love, esteem, and respect, acquired
in the circle of society in which it moved,
no one could possess it in a higher degree
than he did, whose remains are deposited here below.

His nearest relations,
truly sensible of the irreparable loss they had sustained,
caused this monument to be erected,
as a tribute
of conjugal, filial, and paternal affection.

The motto under the arms, “ *Nous travaillerons dans esperance.* ”

† In 1703, Sir William built a chapel, at Allen-heads, for the convenience of the miners, and appointed *Mr. Burnard*, a Cumber-

surviving son of the first Sir William Blackett, who, tracing the steps of his worthy sire, was elected alderman of Newcastle; mayor, 1683 and 1698; governor of the hostmen's company, 1684, 1691, and 1692; and one of the representatives of that town in parliament, from 1685 to his decease in 1705.* He was advanced to the dignity of baronet, January 23d,

land clergyman, who, on being silenced for nonconformity at the Restoration, had retired to a small farm near that place, besides £30. per annum which Sir William allowed him; he had a further salary of half a day's wages of the workmen, every month. The year following, being encouraged by their liberal master, the stewards and workmen, belonging to the lead mines at Caldecleugh, built a chapel there, at the head of West Allen Water. Sir William, at the same time, built a house at Allen-heads, close adjoining to that chapel, for a minister, who resides and reads prayers there every morning at six o'clock, before they begin work. He also gave £10. per annum to a schoolmaster, for teaching the miners' children to read and write.—*Wallis.*

* In the parliament, which met at Westminster, May 19th, 1685, (1st. James II.) Nathaniel Johnson and William Blackett, Knight, were the representatives for Newcastle.

In the convention parliament, which met January 22d, 1688, Ralph Carr, Knight, and William Blackett, Knight and Baronet, were representatives for that town.

In the parliaments, held 7th. and 10th. of King William, William Blackett, Knight and Baronet, and William Carr, Esq. were returned. And in that, which met October 25th, 1705, the first parliament of Great Britain, constituted by the Union, William Blackett, Knight and Baronet, and William Carr, Esq. were

1684; and filled the office of high sheriff of Northumberland, in 1689 (1st. William and Mary), having previously purchased the Wallington estate, of the unfortunate Sir John Fenwick, Baronet.* Sir William married Julia, only daughter of Sir Christopher Conyers, Baronet,† and had issue, two sons and eight

returned:—The former dying December 29th, 1705, was succeeded by Sir Henry Lyddell, Baronet.

Vide Brand, vol. ii. pages 211 and 212.

* This is said to have been a very cheap purchase; Sir John Fenwick, as also his lady, retained very considerable annuities out of the estate, which the attainder and execution of the former, in 1696, and the death of the latter, in the prime of life, in 1708, soon annulled. Their family all died young. Jane, the eldest child, was buried in a vault, in St. Nicholas' church, Newcastle. There is a beautiful marble monument (composed of two pilasters, a circular pediment, &c. &c. adorned with cherubim, armorial bearings, a bust, urns, &c. &c. the whole enclosed within rich iron pallisadoes,) in York Cathedral, erected by Lady Fenwick, to the memory of her deceased husband and family. The evidence against Sir John was very defective, as was fully acknowledged by parliament in a future declaratory act, that Fenwick's case should not be considered a precedent.

† Sir Christopher, eldest son and heir of Sir John Conyers, married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of William Langhorne, of London, Esq. sister to Sir William Langhorne, of Charlton, in Kent, Baronet, and had issue. She died in childbed, April 27th, 1664; and Sir Christopher, married, secondly, Julia, daughter of Richard, Viscount Lumley, relict of — Germaine, Esq. by whom he had one daughter, who married Sir William Blackett, as above mentioned.

daughters; and after a well spent life, he died, December 29th, 1705,* equally regretted and respected as his father.† His lady surviving him, married, secondly, Sir William Thompson, Knight, recorder of London, and baron of the exchequer. The issue of Sir William were,

* In 1705, December 29th, buried Sir William Blackett, Bart. of St. Andrew's parish.—*St. Nicholas' Registers.*

† The estimation in which the Blacketts, were at this time held, and the success with which their undertakings were crowned, was such, as to become almost proverbial. The advice that a kind master gave to his favourite apprentice, and the utmost wish that a father could have for his darling son, was, that he would be through life, a—William Blackett.

Sir William was equally as charitable as his father, but our limits will not allow us to notice the whole of the sums which he gave or bequeathed to various charities; the following, however, as it notices a princely bequest by him to his indigent fellow townsmen, we copy from an escutcheon, in St. Andrew's church. “ Sir William Blackett, Bart. alderman, twice mayor, and also burgess, “ for this town, departed this life, the 2d. of December, 1705 :— “ He, in his life-time, gave an out-rent of thirteen shillings and “ fourpence to this church of St. Andrew's, and also a close, of “ three pounds a year, and by his last will, gave one thousand “ pounds to purchase an estate, for the use of this parish, for ever.” —This sum has never yet been vested according to the intentions of the worthy donor, and we are informed, the present annual produce of the money is only £20.!!! The profits of the said land (when purchased) was to have been equally divided as follows, viz. : one-third for apprenticing poor children, one-third for poor householders, and one-third for teaching 30 poor boys.

I. WILLIAM BLACKETT,* who succeeded his father as second baronet, and being appointed alderman of Newcastle, was mayor of that town in 1718,—governor of the hostmen's company from 1725 to 1728,—and one of the representatives in parliament for the town of Newcastle, from 1710 to his death in 1728.† He married the Honourable Lady Barbara.

* He repaired the altar of the church, at Hexham. The whole of it was repaired in 1725, by a brief, towards which £1,040. was collected.—*Wallis*.

In 1719, he cloathed all the boys of St. Andrew's charity school, of which his father was the founder.

† In 1710, there was a contested election for Newcastle, which lasted two days, and ended November 2d, 1710. There were three candidates:—Sir William Blackett, had 1,177 votes; William Wrightson, Esq. had 886; and William Carr, Esq. the unsuccessful candidate, 609.

In the next parliament, summoned for November 12th, 1713, the same gentlemen were returned without opposition.

In 1715, the first parliament of George I. there was a severe contest:—Sir William Blackett polled 639; Mr. Wrightson, 550; and James Clavering, Esq. the unsuccessful candidate, 263. The latter petitioned parliament on this occasion.

In 1722, Sir William Blackett, Bart., William Wrightson, Esq., and William, son of Joseph Carr, Esq. stood for burgesses for parliament:—Mr. Carr polled 1,234; Sir William Blackett, 1,158; and Mr. Wrightson, 831.

In 1727, there was another severe contest; the poll ended Sept. 8th, 1727, when Sir William Blackett had 1,202 votes; Nicholas Fenwick, Esq. 1,189; and William Carr, Esq. 620. Mr. Carr

Villiers,* daughter of William, Earl of Jersey, by whom he had no issue, and dying September 25th, 1728, the baronetcy granted his father became extinct.† His conduct, during the rebellion, having been considered very doubtful, when he was proposed to serve the office of mayor, of Newcastle, in 1717, he was rejected by the loyal inhabitants of that town, and was elected the year following, only on his producing two letters from the Secretaries of State, testifying that he was well affected to government. *Rae* says, that “about the latter end of September, 1715, warrants were issued from the Secretaries of State, for apprehending the Earl of Derwent Water, the Lord Widdrington, the Lord Dunbar, Sir Marmaduke Constable, *papists*, SIR WILLIAM BLACKETT, *member of parliament for Newcastle upon Tyne*, Thomas Forster, jun. of Elherston, knight of the shire for

petitioned parliament against the return of the sitting members, in 1727, but nothing was done therein, till after Sir William's death, when he was heard; and having disqualified above 600 of Sir William's votes for bribery, he was voted duly elected.

Vide Brand, vol. ii. pages 212 and 213.

* At this marriage, the great bell of St. Mary's church, in Hexham, commonly called the *Fray Bell*, weighing 70 hundred weight, was broken; it was heard at an astonishing distance.

† Lady Barbara, surviving him, married, secondly, March 13th, 1729, the Honourable Bussey Mansel.

Northumberland, and several other conspirators in the north; the Lord Dunbar and Sir Marmaduke Constable were accordingly secured; but the rest, to prevent this fate, assembled in arms, at Green Rig, in Northumberland, on the 6th of October, and commenced a rebellion there, which was carried on in concert with the Earl of Mar.”

This, however, as far as relates to Sir William, cannot be correct, from the letters produced by him in 1713.

Patten, in his History of the Rebellion, speaking of Sir William, says, “if all that was said of this gentleman’s conduct was true, they were not in the wrong to have some dependence upon his assistance; but whether or not he was actually engaged, remains a secret; for he managed so well as to keep out of the way.—His interest is indeed very considerable in the town of Newcastle, being one of their representatives in parliament, and he has in his service a great many colliers and keelmen, who, in flat boats called keels, convey the coals from the collieries to the ships. He has likewise several lead mines on that side of the country, which employ a great many hands. Whether his interest was so strong among the people as to bring them to take arms, by his order, against their sovereign, I will not say, or whether they received any orders of that kind from

him; but this we had a certain account of, viz.: that these men were ordered to provide themselves with arms, and to be ready to go with one, who is a kind of steward or governor over them, wherever he should direct; but whether this was to be for the service of the government, or for the service of the Pretender, is not certainly known."

By his will, dated August 14th, 1728,* he devised his fourth part of the manor of Winlton, in the county of Durham,† upon trust, by sale or mortgage,

* The following occurs on an escutcheon, in St. Andrew's church, Newcastle: "Sir Wm. Blackett, Bart. by will, dated August 14th, 1728, directed that the thirty charity boys, belonging to the school instituted by his late father, Sir William Blackett, Bart. should for ever hereafter be yearly cloathed in the same manner as they had been cloathed, since his father's death."— There was also an escutcheon of Sir William's, in St. Nicholas' church, with a supporter to the arms of his wife, Lady Barbara.

† The Winlton estate was one of the early purchases of the first Sir William Blackett. His issue enjoyed this estate in common, until the year 1773, when an act of parliament was passed "for making a partition and division of the same, between Sir Edward Blackett, Baronet, and Sir Walter Blackett, Baronet, pursuant to an agreement made between them." They, at that time, held divers messuages, &c. &c. in severalty, and also divers other messuages and lands in common, as also one undivided moiety of the manor or lordship of Winlton, and of the collieries and coal mines, fisheries and royalties, &c. &c. to the said moiety of the said manor or lordship belonging.

to raise money to pay his debts, legacies, and funeral expenses, and upon further trust, to pay to his wife, Lady Barbara Blackett, several annual or yearly sums therein mentioned; and all the residue and remainder of his estate, he gave in trust for the following uses: (that is to say,) if his said wife, Lady Barbara, should happen to prove with child at the time of his death, then to the use of such child, for the term of its natural life, with certain remainders over to the issue of such child. And for default of such issue, then to the use of his, the said testator's, daughter, Elizabeth Ord, alias Blackett, daughter of Elizabeth Ord, late of West Ord, in the county of Durham, deceased, for her life, provided she should, within twelve months after his decease, intermarry with his, the said testator's, nephew, Walter Calverley, son of Sir Walter Calverley, Baronet; and after the solemnization of such marriage, to the use of his said daughter and the said Walter Calverley, during their joint lives, and the life of the longer liver of them, with certain remainders to their issue, upon express condition that the said Walter, and his issue male, should, at all times thereafter, take and use the name of Blackett only:—And failing such issue, Sir William intailed the said estate to the male issue of his sisters, Elizabeth, Frances, Diana, and Ann, they taking and using the name of Blackett as aforesaid.

2. Christopher Blackett, second son, died in infancy.

3. Julia Blackett, who married, January 7th, 1706, Sir Walter Calverley, Baronet, and had issue, one son, Walter Calverley, the subject of the preceding memoir, and one daughter, Julia Calverley, who married Sir George Trevelyan, Baronet, of Nettlecomb, near Taunton, in Somersetshire.*

4. Elizabeth Blackett, who married William Marshall, Esq. eldest son of Sir John Marshall, Knight, and had issue two daughters; Ann Marshall, who married Peter Stanley, of Little Pacton, in the county of Huntingdon, Esq. but died without issue; and Lucy Marshall, who married Nicholas Wescomb, of Cheverell's Green, in the county of Hertford, Esq., and who also died without issue.

5. Isabella Blackett, third daughter, died young.

6. Frances Blackett, fourth daughter, who married, February 8th, 1728-9, the Hon. Robert Bruce, eldest surviving son of Charles Lord Bruce, third Earl of Aylesbury, but died without issue.

7 Isabella Blackett, who married, September 15th, 1743, the Right Hon. David Earl of Buchan, but died without issue, on the 14th. May, 1763, and was buried at Hampstead, on the 21st. May following.

* See Pedigree of Calverley.

8. Mary Blackett, the sixth daughter, died young.
9. Diana Blackett, seventh daughter, married Sir William Wentworth,* of Bretton Hall, in the county of York, Baronet, and had issue, five sons and three daughters; of whom Sir Thomas Wentworth, his only surviving son, succeeded to his title (as fifth baronet) and estates, and served the office of high sheriff of Yorkshire, in the year 1765:—He, on the decease of Sir Walter Blackett, in 1777, succeeded to the entailed estates of the Blackett family, and according to the provisions of his uncle's will, assumed the name of Blackett; and died without issue, at

* The Wentworths were of a very ancient family of that name, resident at Wentworth Wood House, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Sir Thomas, the first baronet, was so created, September 27th, 1664, in reward for his services to King Charles I. in the civil wars:—He married Grace, daughter and heiress of Francis Popeley, Esq.—but dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother, Sir Matthew Wentworth, who was thrice married; first, to Judith, daughter of Cotton Horn, Esq. who died without issue; secondly, to Judith, daughter of — Rhodes, Esq. by whom he had issue, one son, his successor; and thirdly, to Anne, daughter of William Osbaldeston, Esq. who died without issue. Sir Matthew Wentworth, his only son and third baronet, married Elizabeth, daughter of William Osbaldeston, Esq. (sister to her father's third wife), and had issue three sons: 1. Matthew, who died young; 2. Sir William, his successor, who married Diana Blackett as before mentioned; and 3. Thomas, who was a Brigadier-General in his Majesty's army, but died without issue.

Bretton Park, July 9th, 1792. The entail ceasing with him, there being no male issue from any of the other branches of Sir William's family, he bequeathed his ample possessions* to Diana, wife of Thomas Richard Beaumont, Esq.;—to Mrs. Lee, and Mrs. Stackpole, and to William Bosville, Esq., only son of Godfrey Bosville, Esq., by a daughter of Sir William Wentworth, Baronet.

10. Anne Blackett, eighth daughter, was twice married, first, to John Trenchard, Esq., and secondly, to — Gordon, Esq. of Abbots Leigh, in the county of Somerset, but died without issue, in April, 1783.

* Mrs. Beaumont succeeded to the estate of Bretton Park, in Yorkshire, and to the manor of Hexham, in Northumberland, with all the lead mines in that neighbourhood, and the principal part of Sir Thomas's personal effects. Mr. Bosville had the Gunnerton, Ryal, and Welton estates, in Northumberland, which on his death, became the property of Thomas Wentworth Beaumont, Esq. the present member of parliament for that county.

