

CHAPTER III.

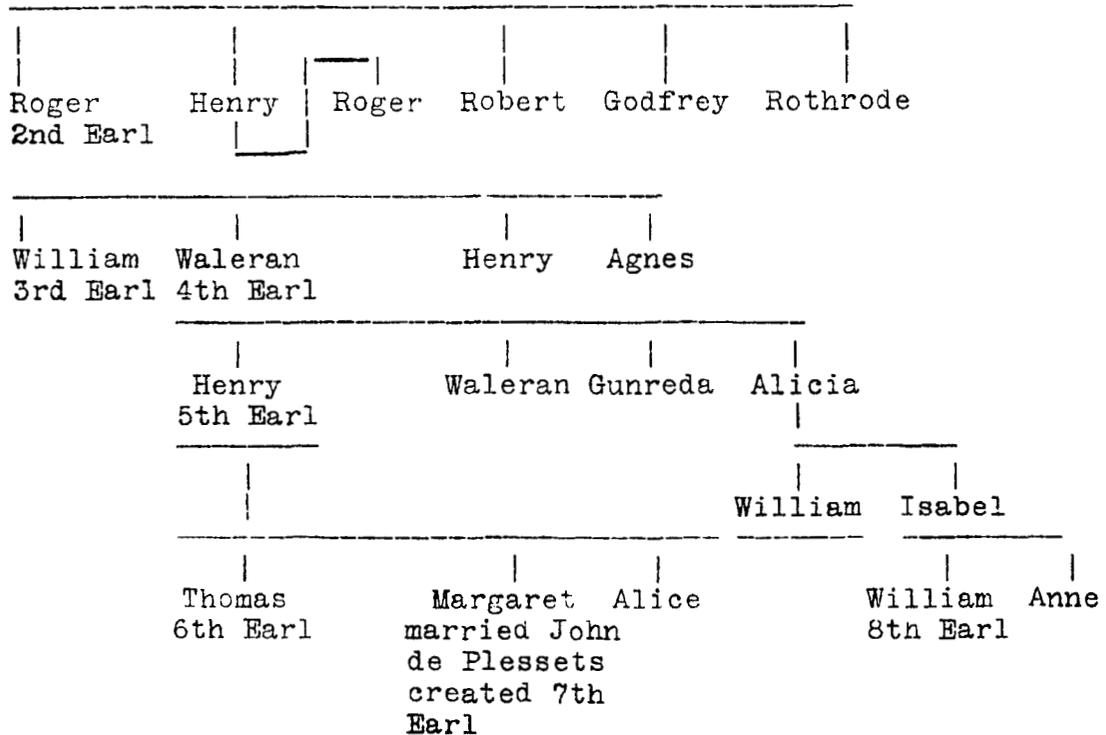
THE NORMAN FAMILY - THE EARLS OF WARWICK.

"Great things through greatest hazards are achieved
and then they shine.....

Beaumont and Fletcher.
THE LOYAL SUBJECT, III. 2. ARCHAS.

GENEALOGICAL CHART.

Henry de
Newburg
1st Earl
of Warwick



The Newburg arms were "Checky Or and Azure, and a Chevron Ermine."

HENRY DE NEWBURG, so called from the castle of Newburg near Looviers, in Normandy where he was born, was the second son of Roger de Bellomonte, - see p. 7. He died 20th June 1123 and was buried in the Abbey at Preaux.

His name is included in the roll of the knights who came over with the Conqueror, but he does not appear to have been present at the Battle of Hastings. He spent the greater part of his life in Normandy, his name is not found in the Domesday Book. He took a leading part in reconciling the Conqueror with his eldest son Robert in 1081 and he stood high in the Conqueror's favour. He was the companion and friend of Henry the youngest son of William I, and when in 1100 a division took place amongst the barons who had gathered together to choose a successor to William II, it was mainly owing to his advice that Henry was selected and when in the following year, most of the barons were openly or secretly disloyal and favoured the attempt of Duke Robert to gain the Crown, he and his brother were amongst the few that remained faithful to the King.

His frequent presence at Court may be inferred from his having witnessed a confirmation of a charter to the Abbey of S. Sauveur, 1080, also a grant made in the same year by the King, Queen Matilda and their sons to S. Florent at Saumur. In 1088 he witnessed another in favour of S. Andrew's Church, Rochester, made by William Rufus, and the next year a grant by the King of the customs and tolls to S. Peter's, Bath, and in the same year a confirmation of a grant made by William the Second and the Count of Warenne to Lewes Priory, and also one by Roger Earl of Shrewsbury to S. Peter's of Cluny, and another in 1091 made by the King to S. Mary's, Bec. He also signed the Charter of Liberties, which Henry I granted on his coronation, together with the King's letter recalling Archbishop Anselm.

He had many honours conferred upon him, in 1068 he was made Constable of Warwick Castle and shortly afterwards King William gave it to him together with the borough and manor. The Castle was enlarged and strengthened during the long succession of powerful lords, and it eventually became one of the most renowned of English fortresses and it remains even to-day the glory of the midland shires. The Bear and Ragged Staff was the badge of Guy the great opponent of the Danes, and Henry on his elevation to the Earldom in 1076 by William I, assumed it, and it has ever since been used by successive Earls. Odericus tells us that "he earned this honour by his valour and loyalty" and Wace speaks of him as "a brave man".

He was made a Councillor by the King in 1079 and a Baron of the Exchequer in Normandy 12th April 1080 (WARWICK CASTLE AND ITS EARLS, by the Countess of Warwick, I).

We are told that "he won all hearts by his charm of mind and person and of having greatly distinguished himself in the tournaments given at the time of the coronation of Queen Matilda at Westminster by the hands of Eldred Archbishop of York, Whitsunday 11th May, 1069" (from Coronet to Crown p. 212. S.H. Benton).

His benefactions were numerous. He founded the Priory of the Holy Sepulchre for the Austinian Canons at Warwick. It was rebuilt in the sixteenth century. In 1925 it was removed stone by stone and sent to America where it was re-erected (D. Chron. 26 September 1925.) He also rebuilt and endowed the Church of S. Mary's, Warwick, making it a collegiate foundation by incorporating with it All Saints Church which was within the precincts of Warwick Castle (BERKS. AND BUCKS. ARCH. JOUR. XIX. 92, October, 1913). In 1080 he gave the tithes of Sturminster, Dorset, Hill Morton, Norton, Great Harborough and the Manor of Warmington in Warwickshire to the Abbey of Preaux of which he was patron, the Abbey having been founded by his grandfather. He also confirmed to the Abbey the Manor of Arlescote, and founded the Priory of Warmington.

In 1099 he fought against the Welsh and built a castle at Abertawy, near Swansea, which was unsuccessfully attacked by the Welsh in 1113; he also captured the Gower peninsula in the south of Glamorganshire. He built other castles at Penrhys, Llandhidian and Swansea in 1120, together with others at Oystermouth and Aberllychor, the only remains of the latter are a mound and a keep. A moated mound at Swansea, which was removed in 1804 was probably thrown up at this period.

He surrounded his seat at Wedgnock, Co. Warwick, with a park, following the example of the King at Woodstock. These were the first lands to be emparked in England (Dugdale's ANT. WARW. I. 379).

Odericus tells us that "He was less prominent and less ambitious than his brother, but he was held in high repute for he was prudent, active, upright, and law-abiding, of pleasant disposition and holy life."

He married before 1100, Margaret daughter of Geoffrey Count of Perche, (Jumiere 333. ORD. VIT. III. 459) she was a benefactress to the Knights Templar, giving them the manor of Llanmadoc, Glamorgan. To the Canons of Kenilworth, she gave the lordship of Salford, Co. Warwick. Odericus says

"she was distinguished for her piety and excellence and beauty."
They had issue five sons.

I. Roger, heir to the Warwick estates.

II. Henry. He seems to have inherited the Dorset and Devon estates, according to the inscription in Berkley Church, Somerset, which reads:-

Arms "Newborough"

Sacred to the memory of the family of the Newboroughs
Descended from Roger de Bellomont, Lord of Pontaudomer
in Normandy

and Adelina his wife, daughter by
Walleran, Earl of Mellent in France
Cousin and Counsellor to William the Conqueror with
whom he came into England

which Roger had two sons
Robert the Elder was Earl of Mellent and Leicester, and
married Elizabeth daughter to Hugh the Great, son to
Henry the First
of France. The second son was Henry de Novo Burgo
so called from a castle in Normandy where he was born,
who was
made Earl of Warwick by the Conqueror, and that Earldom
continued in his posterity thro' several noble and royal
branches till
it was extinct by the death of Ambrose Dudley, son to
the Duke of Northumberland in 1589.

Henry de Novoburgo, second son to the said Henry Earl of
Warwick settled in Dorset, where Roger his son founded the
Abby of Byndon in 1172. From him in lineal descent
came John Newburgh of Lulworth Castle in Dorset who
married Alice
daughter of William Carwent of Fayroke, and widow of
John Westburie of Berkley and was possessed of this
manor in 1459.

Several of the family represented the County of Dorset
in Parliament

In the reign of Henry VIII, Christian daughter and
heiress to Sr Roger Newburg of Lulworth a lineal
descendant to the aforesaid John, carried off a great
estate to the Lord Marney whose daughter and co-heiress
married Thomas Howard, second son to the Duke of Norfolk,
who was created Viscount Byndon

Thomas Newborough cousin to Sr. Roger and heir male to
this family, was the first who settled at Berkeley and

was buried in this Church in 1513. From him in a direct line descended Roger Newborough the last of this name, who was buried here in 1680, whose eldest daughter and coheirress Anne married John Prowse of Compton Bishop, Esqr. She died in 1740 and is buried in that church

In honour to this family now extinct this inscription was placed here by Abigail, widow of John Prowse son and heir to the above named John Prowse and Ann Newborough in the year 1751 when this Church was rebuilt.

(See p. 62.) (J.J. Howard, MISCELLANEA, GENEALOGICA ET HERALDICA.) He married Matilda daughter of and had issue one Roger or Robert (perhaps both) who founded Bindon Abbey for the Cistercians in 1172. This was valued at the Reformation at £147 per annum and granted by Henry VIII to Sir Thomas Poynings (Hutchen's Dorset. I. 129).

III. Robert de Newburg, heir to the Norman estates. In 1118 he joined in the rebellion against Henry I in the endeavour to restore William son of Duke Robert to the Dukedom of Normandy. The King burnt his castle at Newburg, in September of that year but in course of time he was restored to the royal favour. He enjoyed the confidence of Henry II, who conferred on him the office of Chief Justiciar of Normandy. He was a benefactor to the Abbeys of Bec and Preaux. In July 1159 he took the Cowl in the Abbey of Bec, he died there the following 30th August, and was buried in the Chapter House. (Notes and Queries 12. S. XII. 43. Robert De Torigny p. 203. Chronicles IV. 203. 206). He was an eloquent man, but slow in action and more successful with his tongue than with his sword. Odericus says that "He was better fitted for the post of Justiciar than soldiering being more ready with his speech than with his lance." He probably went to the Second Crusade with his brother Rotrode (Dansey). He married Isabella daughter of Paganellus, Earl of.....and had issue a son, Robert.

IV. Geoffrey.

V. Rotrode, a priest in holy orders, consecrated Bishop of Evreux, 1139, and Archbishop of Rouen c. 1165; he died 27th November 1183.

ROGER DE NEWBURG, second Earl of Warwick and Lord of, Gower, born c. 1102, died 12th June 1153. He is generally considered to have been a devout and pious man; a chronicler of the period "Gesta Regis Stephani" speaks of him as a "man of gentle disposition". The borough of Warwick remembers him as the founder of the Hospital of S. Michael for lepers which he endowed with the tithes of Wedgnock, and

other property; he also endowed the House of the Templars beyond the bridge. In the reign of Stephen he founded a priory dedicated to S. Kenned at Llangennilth, Co. Glamorgan and he attached it as a cell to the Abbey of S. Taurinus at Evreux in Normandy. Henry VI granted this property in 1441 to All Souls College, Oxford (Thomas Turner, NOTITIA MONASTICA) He also founded the Collegiate Church of Our Lady at Warwick; he gave to the Abbey at Neath, lands and fishing rights in Gowerland and he made grants to other religious houses, details of which will be found in Dugdale's BARONAGE, I. 69; he was the patron of the Abbey of Preaux.

He built the castle at Wareham, Dorset, the last traces of which were pulled down about 1910 in order to erect a private house on the site.

He visited the Holy Land several times and took part in the Second Crusade, and he apparently joined the expedition under Conrad de Hohenstaufen when Lisbon was wrested from the Moors.

He was one of the witnesses of the charters of liberties granted by King Stephen in London and Oxford respectively. When the King broke his pledges and misgoverned the country he joined the party of the Empress Maud, he was present at the siege of Winchester in 1141 and was taken prisoner at the Battle of Lincoln, he gained his liberty by being exchanged for the Earl of Gloucester who took the part of the King. The Countess Gunreda turned Stephen's soldiers out of the castle and handed it over to Henry II (WARWICK CASTLE, by the Countess, I. 61).

He married Gunreda, daughter of William, Earl of Warenne and Surrey and Isabel de Bellomonte see p. 18. (J.H. Ramsay, Foundations of England II. 449, Guillaume De Jumiege p. 307). She married secondly William Fitz Radulph, and died c. 1167. Roger had issue:

- I. William, heir.
- II. Waleran, heir to his elder brother.
- III. Henry. A Henry was Dean of Salisbury in 1205.
- IV. Agnes. She married Geoffrey de Clinton, Chamberlain to the King and son of Geoffrey, the founder of Kenilworth Castle and Priory.

WILLIAM DE NEWBURG, third Earl of Warwick, Lord of Gower, born before 1140. He joined in the Crusades and died in the Holy Land, 15th November 1184. He, like

his sires, was a great benefactor to religious houses. He founded at Warwick the hospital of S. John and S. Thomas, he also built a new church for the Templars and granted them the manor of Sherborne and other lands in the county of Warwick. He gave the monks of Combe a hide of land in Bilney, in confirmation of a grant made by Thurbert de Bilney, and he ratified to the Priory of Kenilworth the Churches of Loxley, Kenilworth and Brailes.

He was patron of the Abbeys of Whitby and Preaux and honorary brother of Pipewell Abbey.

In 1173 he took the part of the King, when the royal princes rebelled against their father. He lived in regal splendour at his castle in Warwick and was Lord of one hundred and two Knights Fees (LIBER NIGER SCACCARII, T. Hearne, 1774). A copy of his will is found in J.E. Doyle's official BARONAGE, III. 572.

He married firstly Margaret daughter of Sir John D'Eivile and secondly Maud, daughter and co-heiress of William, Lord Percy; he had no children and was succeeded in the earldom by his brother Waleran.

WALERAN DE NEWBURG, fourth Earl of Warwick, Lord of Gower, born 1153, died 12th December 1204. After his brother's death an impostor arose, claiming to be the deceased Earl, he gave Waleran a great deal of trouble in maintaining his claim (Dugdale's BARONAGE, I. 71). He does not appear to have been a great soldier, for he paid scrutage money - £51. 3s. 4d. - to escape military service in Wales (HIST. WARWICK CASTLE, by the Countess, I. 611). His position in the Court is attested by his bearing at the Coronation of King John, 27th May 1199, the right hand Sword of State.

He liberally supported the hospital of S. Michael, Warwick and gave to the nuns of Pinley land at Claverdon, and land at Brailes to the nuns at Wroxall.

He married, before 1190, Margaret daughter of Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and had issue by her two sons and one daughter. His second wife was Maud daughter of John de Harcourt; his third wife was Alicia daughter of John de Harcourt of Stanton Harcourt, Oxon, and widow of John de Limesi and by her he had two sons and two daughters.

I. Henry, heir.

II. Waleran, of Greetham, Co. Rutland, d.s.p. before 1263.

III. Gunreda; she and her cousin Mabel became nuns at the Abbey of Pinley, the abbess received two silver marks yearly

for their pains.

IV. Son.

V. Son.

VI. Alicia; died before 1263. She married William de Mauduit, Baron Hanslope, Chamberlain to the King. He died 1237 (?) She had as a wedding dowry the Manor of Walton Mauduit, Co. Warwick and had issue:

(1) William, married Alice, daughter of Gilbert de Segrave, he died without issue, (see p.46.)

(2) Isabel, married William de Beauchamp, Baron Emley (see p.46.)

(3) Anne, married Richard Neville, son and heir of Richard, Earl of Salisbury.

HENRY DE NEWBURG, fifth Earl of Warwick, Baron Hokenorton and Hedenton, died 10th October 1229. He was only twelve years old at the death of his father so he was committed to the care of Thomas Basset of Headington, Oxon. When he grew up he adhered to King John's side and commanded the Royal Army, notwithstanding that the King had during his minority seized his estates at Gower in South Wales and given them to William de Braose. This led to constant disputes between succeeding Earls and the Braose family (WARWICK CASTLE, by the Countess, I. 62). He fought for Henry III at the sieges of Montsorel and Biham and at the storming of Lincoln; in 1213 he paid two hundred and four marks eight shillings scrutage towards the cost of the war in Wales, and the following year contributed forty two marks to that in Poictou.

He was patron of Osney Abbey, Bicester Priory, Oxford, and Missenden Abbey, Bucks.

He married first Margaret daughter and co-heiress of Henry D'Oili, Baron Hokenorton and Lord of the Manor of Lidney; the latter was a great-nephew of Robert D'Oili the builder of Oxford Castle. Henry married a second time Philippa, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Basset, Lord Hedenton. She married secondly Richard Siward, but divorced him in 1242. She granted the rent of lands at Studley, Co. Warwick to the Priory at Bicester in order that a lamp might be kept constantly burning in the church before the altar of S. John the Baptist, for the health of her soul and all her ancestors' souls and her children's. She was buried in the Priory, which had been founded by her father. Henry had issue one son and two daughters:

- I. Thomas, heir.
- II. Margaret, heiress to her brother (see p. 46).
- III. Alice, married Hugo de Bastenbregge, Lord of Montfort.

THOMAS DE NEWBURG, sixth Earl of Warwick Baron Hokenorton and Hedenton, born 1208 d.s.p. 26th June 1242, buried in the transept of S. Mary's, Warwick. A memorial was placed in the Church, but when Thomas de Beauchamp rebuilt it in the days of Edward III, this one, in common with those to the memories of the previous Earls, was destroyed. Although he had attained his majority at the death of his father, he did not get full possession of the earldom until four years later, when he was girt with the Sword of Knighthood; this took place at Gloucester where the King was spending Whitsuntide.

He inherited his uncle's (Henry D'Oili) Oxfordshire estate and owned the Manor of Bewdley, Co. Worcester and rendered service for it, of a fully equipped archer for twenty days, as often as there was war against the Welsh. In 1241 he paid one hundred and eighty marks scrutage in order that he might be excused attendance on the King in the expedition to Gascony, this was in excess of the sum due from him, the following year he paid a further one hundred and twenty marks (Dugdale's BARONAGE I. 72; HIST. WAR. CASTLE, by the Countess, I. 64).

At the coronation of Eleanor of Provence, the Queen Consort of Henry III on the 26th June 1236, he bore the third Sword of State, claiming that it was his hereditary right to do so (WARWICK CASTLE, by the Countess).

He bequeathed money in his will for the restoration of the Collegiate Church of Our Lady in Warwick; he left no issue the title therefore lapsed and his estates passed to his sister Margaret; the title was afterwards revived in favour of her husband.

He married Ella, daughter of William Longespie, first Earl of Salisbury, natural son to Henry II by Rosamond Clifford. Ella helped good works in many ways, amongst her benefactions are found grants to the monks at Reading, the Canons of Osney, Oxford, S. Sepulchre's, Warwick, the grey friars in London, and the Nuns of Godstow, Oxford, where her grandmother Rosamund was buried. In 1295 she gave land to the University of Oxford, from which a certain amount of the income was to be paid to the fellows of Merton College, that they might perform masses for her soul (A. Wood, III. 4, and E.F. Percival, FOUNDATION STATUTES, MERTON). Her coat of

arms is still emblazoned in Merton Dining Hall. Her commemoration was duly observed in the college up to 1559 (COLL. HIST.). In 1293 she caused a common chest to be made and put therein one hundred and twenty marks, out of which such as were poor scholars, attached to the University, might upon security being given, borrow for the supply of their needs. In consideration whereof, the University agreed to celebrate certain solemn masses every year in S. Mary's Church. (Libri Cancellarii et Procuratorum, I. 64). The proctors being responsible for the due celebration of the masses (Chronicles Great Britain, Rous Rolls) borrowers were bound to repeat the Paternoster thrice in honour of the Trinity and the Ave Maria five times in honour of the Virgin (Mallet Hist. Univ. I. 322). The chest was known as "the Warwick Chest" and was in use up to the days of Edward V (Dugdale's BARONAGE, I. 72). She bequeathed to the poor of the borough of Warwick "The comin ground that unto thys daye is callyd the cleypittis".... "She was special goode ladye to the hospital of Seynt Nichells of Warwick, among orde gevyng hem fredame these courtis to holde after the forme of the comun law" (ROUS ROLLS). She died at Headington, Oxford "beloved by all for her wide charity and her many virtues" on the 6th February 1299/1300, and was buried before the High Altar in Osney Abbey at the head of the tomb of Henry D'Oili, a marble tomb with a memorial brass, shewing her dressed as a Vowess, was erected to her memory (HEARNE I. 47). Leland, in his ITINERARY written in 1542 (II. 19) says "Ela Countes of Warwick, a woman of very great riches and nobilite lyith buried at the hedde of the tumber of Henry Oille, undre a very fair flat marble, in the habite of a woues (vowess) graven yn a coper plate. She gave many rich jewelles to Oseney and sum landes to Royle (Rewley) Abbey by Oseney also riche giftes to Thabbay of Reading." In 1705 Hearne the antiquarian found a portion of the foundation stone among the ruins of Rewley commemorating Ella's connection with the Abbey, this he purchased and gave to the University, it is still preserved in the Ashmolean Museum. The lettering is as follows:-

*	:	Ela	:	Longesp:
		Comit:		Warew:
		Hnc	:	Capellam:
		Fecit:	C.J	: Pmiv : sit:
		XPC	:	In: Gla: Am:

* Written in full it would read

"ELA LONGESPIE COMITISSA WAREWICI HANC CAPELLAM FECIT
CUJUS PRAEMIUM SIT CHRISTUS IN GLORIA, AMEN." (MARMORA
OXONIENSIA, p. xx.)

Ella Longespie Countess of Warwick built this Chapel. May Christ in His glory be her reward, Amen.

Hearne says in regard to it "ELA SAXUM QUOD IN HORTIS COENOBII DE LOCO REGALI VULGO REWLEY PROPE OXONIUM ANNO 1705 ERUTUM, REDEMIT ET ACADEMIAE DONAVIT. CL. HEARNE QUI ID IN HUNC MODUM INTERPRETATUR."

This may be translated as follows "Hearne bought Ella's stone and gave it to the University in 1705, which he found in the gardens of the Monastery in the Royal place usually known as Rewley, near Oxford."

Her heart was buried at Rewley Abbey, Dr. W. Stukeley in his Itinnarium curiosum, (I. 43) says that in 1724 he saw a memorial stone in a wall amongst the ruins which read "Elea De Warwik Comitissae Viscera Sunt Hic." When pulling down a cottage near Osney Mill at the end of the last century the stone was rediscovered and placed in the Cathedral. It has evidently been broken since Stukeley's days as it now reads "De Warwik.....isse Viscera Sunt Hic" (Douce S. 847. p. 43).

After the death of her husband, she married Sir Philip Basset of Wycombe, Bucks, son of the chief justice of England (Nichols Laycock Abbey p. 161.) He died 6th February 1297. Her seal is illustrated in "Laycock Abbey" p. 162.

MMARGARET DE NEWBURG, born c. 1215, died 1253 (1263?) sister and heiress of Thomas the sixth Earl. She married first John Mareschall, Earl of Pembroke and secondly John de Plessetis, the latter was a great favourite with Henry III and in 1247, he created him the seventh Earl of Warwick and subsequently Count of Warwick; he died 20th February 1263. There was no issue by either of these marriages and at Margaret's death the estates passed to her cousin William de Mauduit.

WILLIAM DE MAUDUIT; son of Alicia and grandson of the fourth Earl; married Alice daughter of Gilbert de Segrave. He died without issue 8th January 1267, the estates then passed to his sister Isabel.

He adhered to Henry III in the wars with the barons and he was surprised in his castle at Warwick by John Giffard, the governor of Kenilworth Castle. The walls of the Castle were destroyed and the Countess taken prisoner to Kenilworth, and only released on payment of a ransom of nineteen hundred marks.

ISABEL DE MAUDUIT is supposed to have been buried at the Nunnery of Cokehill, where there was an inscription to her memory. She married William de Beauchamp, Baron Elmley, he

died c. 1269. She had issue a son, William, who was created eighth Earl of Warwick. The title and estates remained in the Beauchamp family for seven generations and then passed by marriage to Richard Neville, who was created Earl of Warwick. He is better known as "the King maker". He was slain at the Battle of Barnet 14th April 1471 fighting on behalf of Henry VI. The line finally died out in 1589, on the death of Ambrose Dudley, Duke of Northumberland.

Leland the sixteenth century writer says in his ITINERARY "There was three of the Bellemontes, Erles of Warwicke in order, The thirde lakking issue male had a daughter. This daughter was married onto a nobleman caulled...and he had by her a daughter the which married onto the Lorde Bechamp's sunne and heyre of Helmeley Castel by the Roote of Bredon Hille in Wicestershire and thus was the Bellemontes and the Bechamps kindred joined. The meanes that Bechamp cam to the Praeferments of the heire of Bellemontes was this. The olde Lorde Bechampe of Helmsley sent 3 or 4 of his sonnes to the Batel of Evvesham to helpe King Henerye the 3rd. and Prince Edwarde agains Simon Monteforte and the Barons and the brethren with their band did a greate feate in vanquishing the hoste of Monteforte. Where upon the eldest had Bellemontes heire and the residew where highly praeferred. The Bechamps afterwards kepte the name of the Erle of Warwik to King Edward the 4th tyme."

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There were Beaumonts in the county of Warwick in the fourteenth century for we find records of Walter Beaumont, who had a son Thomas c. 1325, the latter had a son John, who had a son Richard, who had a son William c. 1430, who had a son Edward of Tresingham c. 1495.

The famous late thirteenth century cope in the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, known as the Syon Cope bears amongst others the arms of Thomas de Newburg. It presents in embroidery, the crucifixion, the archangel Michael transfixing the dragon, the death, burial and the coronation of the Holy Mother, our Lord in glory and the Apostles and Angels.

It derives its name from the Convent of Syon at Isleworth, which was founded in 1414 by Henry V for the Bridgettine Nuns, into whose hands it came probably soon after its foundation. When the nuns were driven from England in the days of Queen Elizabeth, they carried the cope with them in their wanderings through Flanders, France and Portugal to Lisbon, and they brought it with them when they returned to England in 1830, after passing through the hands of the

sixteenth Earl of Shrewsbury, and Doctor Rock, it was acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum at the cost of £110, from the Right Reverend Richard Brown, in 1864 (CAT. VICT. AND ALBERT MUSEUM, Kensington). The Newburg arms are the sixth from the left hand top corner, they are also twice shewn on the rounded border.