

CHAPTER V.

THE DEVONSHIRE FAMILY.

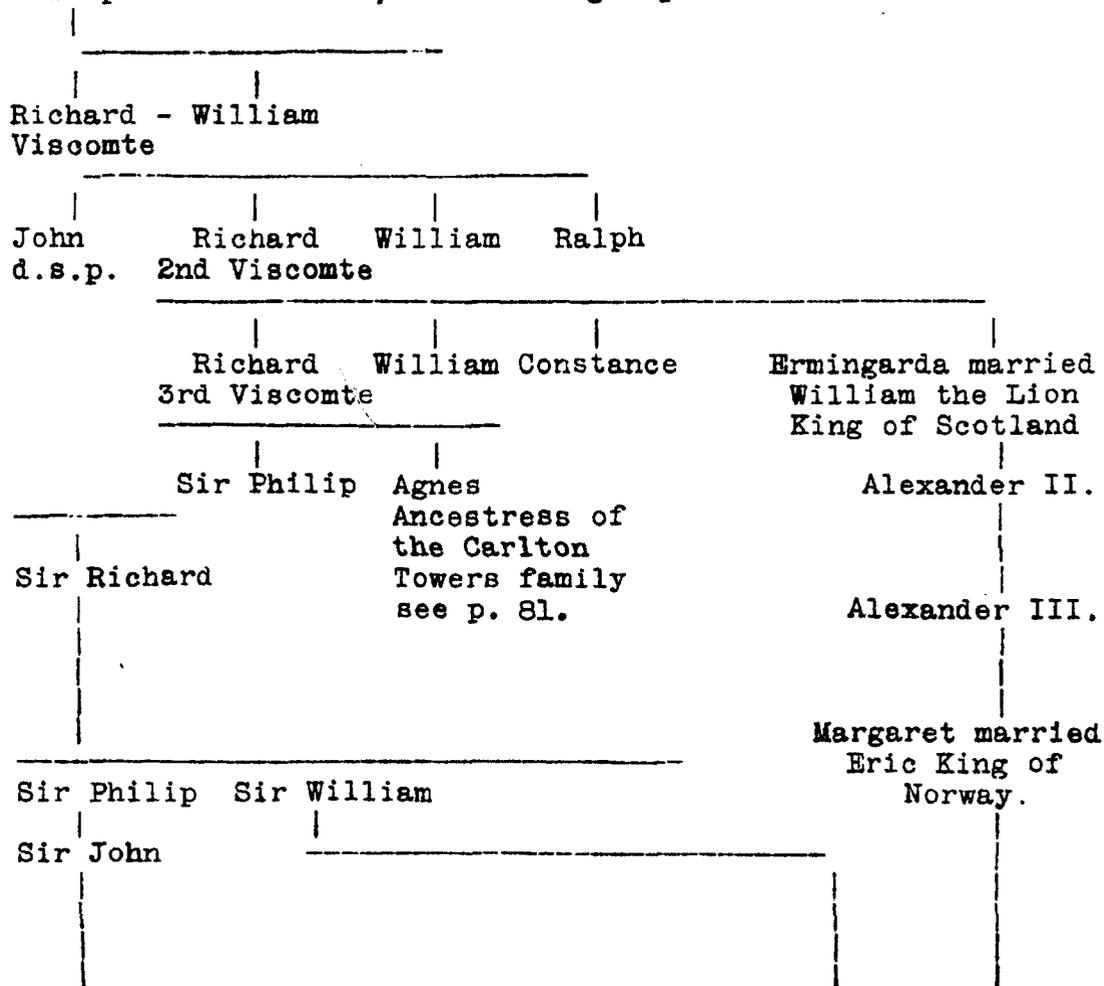
".....all your better deeds
Shall be in water writ, but this in marble."

Beaumont and Fletcher,
PHILASTER. v. 3.

Arms: Barry of Six Vaire and Gules, a lion rampant between
ten fleur de lys or, in chief a crescent for difference.

GENEALOGICAL CHART 1096-1613.

Philip de Bellomonte, Lord of Highampton.



Sir Rich- Wil- Lucia Alice Mar- Mat- Kate
John ard liam garet ilda

Sir Joane Elizabeth
Wil- d.s.p. d.s.p.
liam
d.s.p.

Margaret
The Maid of
Norway died
on the sea
when coming to
Scotland to
claim the Crown
September 1290,
aged 8 years.

Sir Alice
Richard

Sir John

Sir Stephen Thomas Maud
William

Sir Isabel Thomas
Thomas

William Thomas Jane

Richard Sir William Philip Joan Thomas Hugh John Alicia
d.s.p. d.s.p. d.s.p. d.s.p. d.s.p. d.s.p.

his wife had
an illegitimate
son John, who
took the family
name see p. 67.

John Margaret
d.s.p.

John

Henry William Philip Johanne

Humphrey William Elizabeth Philippa

Henry John William Thomas Elizabeth
d.s.p. d.s.p. d.s.p.? d.s.p.

the estates then passed to the
Cole Orton family, see p. 135.

Amongst the estates granted by the Conqueror to Robert de Bellomonte, first Norman Earl of Leicester, was that of Aiscirewell, now known as Shirwell in the parish of Yolston, Devon, the Domesday book shows that the estate was at that date in his possession. At his death it possibly passed to his youngest son Hugh. The descendants flourished in the county up to the days of Henry VII, when Hugh son of Sir Thomas, died without male issue. The estates were then divided (see p. 67). During this period the family enriched itself by marrying wealthy heiresses. In the days of Henry II, some of these estates belonged to Thomas de Bellomonte, Lord of Shirwell and Yolston, he owned also other demesnes at Cockington and Ashford, Devon. He had at least one son John. About this time a John held the manor of Beamonds, West Bergholt, Essex, a John also accompanied S. Louis of France on the Crusade to the Holy Land in 1249. This John had a son Philip. At a somewhat earlier period than this a Philip was Lord of Highampton.

PHILIP DE BELLOMONTE, Lord of Highampton Devon, held a large share of the various estates in the county, he had issue two sons:

I. Richard, heir.

II. William.

RICHARD, first Vicomte de Beaumont and Lord of Montrevaut (William de Jumièges - GESTA, p. 308). In a fourteenth century MS. formerly preserved in the Cathedral Library at Bayeux, but which was destroyed at the Revolution in 1791, there is a list of Knights who accompanied Robert, Duke of Normandy to the first Crusade in 1096-1100. Amongst the names we find that of Sire Richard de Bellomonte (DU MOULIN SEIGNEURS DE NORMANDIE, and J.C. Dansey, Crusades p. IV.), fortunately a sixteenth century copy escaped destruction and is still preserved in the Library.

The Crusades made a strong appeal to the old Norse spirit of wandering and adventure so strongly embedded in the various generations of the family, at least eleven members went to the seven expeditions which were undertaken during the succeeding two hundred years. Their pilgrimages to the Holy Land and their love of adventure had made them familiar with the difficulties before them, but they flinched not, and as they buckled on their armour and kissed the Crucifix and took up the sacred badge, they pledged their never dying honour

"To chase these pagans, in those holy fields
 Over whose acres walk'd those blessed feet
 Which fourteen hundred years ago were nail'd
 For our advantage on the bitter cross."

Shakespeare, Henry IV. pt. I, Act. I. Sc. I.

As we trace their fortunes and note their heroic ardour on those Syrian fields, we cannot but admire their devotedness to the cause they held so dear. It was however all in vain, for the first expedition which ended with the capture of Jerusalem was practically the only successful one. Geoffrey of Clairvaux consoles us with the thought that "though it did not at all relieve the Holy Land, it could not be called unfortunate, as it served to people heaven with martyrs. The Church on high therefore attained a joy proportioned to the number of those who by their death rendered up their souls to Christ" (Mabillon, I. 73, LIFE OF ST. BERNARD, also D. John's life of S. Bernard).

Richard was probably created a Vicomte at the time that he married Constance the natural daughter of Henry I by Elizabeth daughter of Robert de Bellomonte (see p. 19). The King gave her the Manor of South Tawton, Devon as a dowry, she received the income of the same up to 1157, she also had a few government grants in the reign of her nephew Henry II. They had issue four sons:

I. John, d.s.p.

II. Richard, heir.

III. William, married a daughter of Roland, Lord Rieux of Bretagne.

IV. Ralph, Bishop of Anjou 1179. A Ralph witnessed a grant made by Berenger de Cessi to Cavleacre Priory, about this time.

RICHARD SECOND VICOMTE DE BEAUMONT. At Ilsington, seven miles from Newton Abbot, some of the bench ends in the Church were carved with the arms of the second Viscount and at Wolborough in the second window from the west end of the north aisle of the Church they were quartered with those of the Courtenay family. (C. Worthy - Devon parishes II. 10.) He had issue two sons and two daughters.

I. Richard, heir.

II. William, Bishop of Angers.

III. Constance, married c. 1162, Roger, Baron de Toeni of Flamsted, Herts, a descendant of Roger de Toeni, who was standard bearer at the Battle of Hastings; her father gave her, as a wedding dowry, the Manor of South Tawton, Devon. (Trans. Devon Soc. XXXIV. 590). This Manor passed in after years to Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick who died in 1315, he was descended on his mother's side from Henry de Newburg see p. 46; (Holinshed p. 463, Sir John Maclean, TRIGG MINOR).

IV. Ermingarda, married Friday 5th September 1186 to William the Lyon, King of Scotland, a cousin of King Henry II. The wedding took place at the Royal Palace of Woodstock, the festivities were kept up with the utmost magnificence for four successive days (Davenport's OXFORDSHIRE ANNALS, p. 9). The King being present and paying the costs. Ermingarda thus became the ancestress of two Scottish Kings and her great grand-daughter was Queen of Norway. The Scottish line became extinct in the person of Margaret the Maid of Norway, whose untimely death at the early age of eight years in September 1290, was the occasion of so many calamities to that kingdom, this took place when she was on the journey to Scotland in order to claim the Crown.

RICHARD DE BEAUMONT, third Vicomte, born at Yolston, died before 1249. Issue one son and one daughter:

I. Philip.

II. Agnes. There is a difficulty here, Philip inherited some if not all the estates, but not the title. He was however later created a baron. Some writers do not mention him at all, in like manner others omit any reference to Agnes. A possible explanation is that Philip was illegitimate and that Agnes inherited the title, or was raised to the dignity (see p. 81).

SIR PHILIP BEAUMONT, Lord of Highampton, had issue:

I. Richard.

SIR RICHARD BEAUMONT held the manors of Lokeshore and Chilton (? Cheldon) Somerset; a Richard held the manor of Witestan in 1285, see p. 14. Sir Richard had issue:

I. Philip, heir.

II. William of Sabrecot (? Sandecote, Dorset). A William gave c. 1240 lands and buildings in Balvine Strete, Bristol for the support of a Chaplain, to celebrate mass in the chapel of the Blessed Mary, hard by the Church of S. Nicholas, Bristol for the sake of his soul and those of all his relatives

(Bristol Arch. Soc. Liv.). He probably accompanied S. Louis of France to the sixth Crusade in 1249, a Henry de Beaumont also took part in it (Dansey ENGLISH CRUSADES). William married Margaret and had issue,

(1) Richard, died 1294. He bought the manor of Rockbeare Baldwyn, Devon, he inherited the family estates from his cousin Joane, daughter of Sir John (see p. 62). A Richard witnessed a deed of a gift of land made by Oliver de Dynham to the burgesses of Harton c. 1290, (Trans. Devon Soc. XXXIV. 426). He had a son John (see p. 62).

(2) Alice, married William Carye of Castle Cary, Devon. He died 1302/3. She held the manor of Paveston, Devon and had issue a son Richard (Dugdale's PEERAGE OF SCOTLAND, I. 566).

SIR PHILIP BEAUMONT died c. 1272 (?) He held the manor of Little Ernscomb in 1243; he witnessed in 1233 a grant made by Richard Streche of Wasford, to the Prior and Monks of S. Mary Magdalene, Barnstable. He married Ermengarda daughter and heiress of Sir John Punchardon, issue a son, John.

SIR JOHN BEAUMONT of Yolston, died 1330, M.P. for Devon 1326 (Trans. Devon Soc. XLIV. 380). He held lands at Shirwell, which previously belonged to Hugh de Courteney. His wife Lady Alice was owed by John de Chudleigh £300, this he failed to pay at Easter 1338, she therefore obtained a sheriff's order of imprisonment against him (CLOSE ROLLS, 1337, p. 268).

He married Alice Scudamore and had issue:

I. John, heir.

II. Richard. The town records of Abbeville probably refer to this individual where they state that "The Black Prince being hard pressed by the French at the Battle of Crecy and being surrounded and thrown to the ground, would infallibly have fallen into the power of the enemy but for Richard de Beaumont, who carried the great banner of Wales which he threw over the Prince and having placed his feet on it, with his sword in both hands, he repelled the assailants, the Earl of Arundel came up at this critical moment at the head of the second division and forced the French to retire" (Histoire des Majeurs d'Abbeville p. 328, also Histoire d'Abbeville p. 440. F.C. Louandre).

III. William.

IV. Lucia.

V. Alice. About 1310 an Alice Beaumont gave lands at Tryen (? Trewen), Cornwall to Michael and Matilda Belet. Was this Matilda the sister of Alice? (see below). An Alice Beaumont married John de Dagworth of Dagworth, Suffolk, before 1340.

VI. Margaret, married Thomas Keynes of Dowlish, Somerset 1353, and had issue a son John (Collinson's SOMERSET).

VII. Matilda.

VIII. Kate.

SJR JOHN BEAUMONT. A John Beaumont had at this time to provide sixty archers to be at Portsmouth within three weeks of August 28th, 1346; this was at the time of the French Wars, two days after the Battle of Crecy. (Hist. Coll. Staff XVIII. 58-72). They were delayed in sailing by a storm. He married Alice Issue:

I. William, d.s.p.

II. Joane, married Sir James Chudleigh; she died without issue leaving her property to her second cousin Richard son of William of Sabrecot, (see p. 61). (Devon, notes and queries v. 3).

III. Elizabeth, d.s.p.

SIR JOHN BEAUMONT, son of Richard (see p. 61), died on Monday on the feast of S. Gregory the Pope (12th March) 1379/80. He bought the Manor of Parkham, Devon and had estates in Cornwall. He was Knight of the Shire 1376-80. (Trans. Devon Soc. XLV. 263). He married first daughter of Key, and secondly Joane Crawthorne grand-daughter and heiress of Sir Robert Stockey M.P. 1318, of Crawthorne and Cranstone, (ibid XLV. 262). She married afterwards Sir William Esturnay. Sir John had issue:-

I. William, heir.

II. Stephen, married Alice Sevington, of Kent, issue.

(1) A son Thomas, who had issue a son

1a. William. He married Jane daughter Courtenay, issue

1b. Thomas.

2b. Jane, who married William Prowse (see p. 40).

Thomas had issue William.

By his second wife Joane Sir John had issue, a son and three daughters.

III. Thomas presented Thomas Henderson S.T.P. to the living of S. Mabyn 13th April, 1415. A Thomas Beaumont married Johanna relict of Thomas Courtenay, she died 26th December, 1421. At the Battle of Agincourt 1415, a Thomas served under Sir Richard Hastings.

IV. Maud or Matilda married 16th October, 1417 Sir Hugh Courtenay of Haccombe. Knight bannerette (Trans. Devon Soc. XLV. 266). She died 3rd July, 1467 and was buried in the Lady Chapel of S. Nicholas Priory; this building was destroyed in 1538 at the time of the Reformation. In making an excavation for a cellar on the site of this chapel 8th June, 1842, a lead coffin was discovered containing human bones, perhaps the remains of Maud. Her will is recorded in George Oliver's MONASTICON DIOCESIS EXONIENSIS, p. 124.

V. Catherine (? Jane). She probably married Sir John Lutterell of Dunster Castle, Somerset, he was a Privy Councillor and died 1427/8. She died 1431. The Lutterells still live at this castle and own the estate.

VI. Elizabeth probably married Richard, Lord Hungerford and had issue, a daughter Margaret.

SIR WILLIAM BEAUMONT, of Highampton, born 1366/7, died 1408. He was sheriff of the county in 1399 and held lands at Ashwater, Devon and Aylescot, Warwick, and the castle and borough of Barnstable. His P.M. Inquisition shows that he was very wealthy (No. 67. 1422). A Sir William Beaumont accompanied Sir Henry Beaumont to the wars in Flanders, 1383 and was at the Siege of Ypres. He married Isabel, sister and heiress of Sir John Wylmington of Umberleigh. She inherited estates in Gloucestershire, Dorsetshire and manors in Wiltshire and Berkshire. (Trans. Devon Soc. LV. 245). In 1413 she held the manor of Ablington and in 1422 she sued Sir William Patton for the manors of Lanteges, Trevyllias and Favyton. She died 22nd April 1424. The P.M. Inquisition also bespeaks her wealth (No. 28. 1423. Trans. Devon Soc. LV. 245). Issue:

I. Thomas, heir.

II. Isabel died unmarried 1424. She inherited the Frampton Cotterell estate and Ablington Manor from her mother. At her death her estates passed to her brother.

SIR THOMAS BEAUMONT, of Yolston, Giddesham, Lancarpe, (? Lancras, Devon) and Elworthy, Somerset, born at Yate, Gloucestershire 21st September, 1401, and died on Tuesday next after S. Martin the Bishop (17th November), 1450. He held lands at Barnstaple. He had also a house in London, for at Christmas, 1449 he paid Thomas Pomeroy, the prior of the monastery of the Holy Trinity forty shillings arrears of Quit rent for a tenement and garden in the parish of S. George, Eastcheap and S. Andrews Hubbard. By order of Privy Council 14th February 1436 he had to grant a loan of £40 towards the equipment of the army about to be sent to France. He married before 1428 first, Philippa daughter of Sir John Dynham, (Trans. Devon Soc. XXXIV. 723, and L. 435) and secondly Alice, daughter of Hugh Stewkeley of Aston, and had issue:

I. Richard, died before his father, leaving no issue.

II. William, heir.

III. Philip of Shirwell, and Gittisham heir to his brother William, born 1432, died 12th June 1473. He held estates in Devon, Dorset, Somerset and Gloucestershire which he bequeathed to his half brother, Thomas. By his will dated 1st January 1472/3, he appointed "That a marbell stone should be layde on his body, with his arms graven on it and his portraiture in copper, with an inscription on it of two verses nearly indetical with those on the Lincoln brass." Thomas Beaumont his half brother and heir, by his will dated 13th November 1487, and proved at Lambeth 1st December 1489, repeated this injunction, but no brass exists at the present day. He was a M.P. 1467 and sheriff of the county in 1469 (Trans. Devon Soc. L. 445). Skottowe, in his short history of Parliament, gives an instance of the bribery of a member at this time, which evidently refers to Philip Nicholas Statham of Morley, Co. Derby, in his will dated 15th July 1472 records "I received ten shillings of....Bemont, a worshipful Squier of the West Country by the hands of Page in the last parleament. I did nothing there....and if I did, it is against my conscience for so Moche, as I was one of the Parleament, and should be indifferent in every matter of the Parleament. I will that he have it again." He married Blanche daughter of William Bouchier, Lord Fitzwarren, after the death of her husband she married Bartholomew St. Leger.

IV. Joane, married Sir John Basset of Umberleigh and Heanton, issue:

(1) John, heir to his uncle Hugh. He was present at the Field of Cloth of Gold in 1520 a Vice-Admiral of the Fleet, and deputy Governor of Calais. He married Honor Grenville. After his death she married Sir Arthur Plantagenet, K.G., a

natural son of Edward IV by Elizabeth Lucie.

V. Thomas, the eldest son by the second wife, d.s.p. 18th February 1487/8, leaving his estates to his brother Hugh. His will was proved 1st December 1489. Thomas and John Beaumont gave a stained glass window to Atherington Church near Barnstaple in 1480. Some of the glass is still in the window. He married Maþy, daughter of _____ and had issue:

(1) John, died before his father. His will was as follows:-

"In Dei nomine, Amen. The XIII day of Novembyr in the yere of our Lord MCCCCLXXXVII. I Thomas Beaumont esquiere in my goode stedefast and perfete mynd make my testament in this maner. Fyrst, I bequeath my soule to Allmighty God and to our blessed Lady Seint Mary and to all the blessed company of Hevyn and my body to be buried in the Chapell of our Lady of Pilton in the North Wall. Also I bequeath to John my sonne all the rents of the Manor of Luscot Comyng above the rents to the Lord of the said manor. Also the rent of the ii Weris called Shadylllyshoke Were and Crowere with the Borowys that I have of the Graunt of Thomas Graynefeld esquiere and of the said John Dye during the terms that I have in the said manor and Werys. That then I will that the said rents remayne to myn executours for the payment of my detts. Also that I will that my (deceased) brother Philip Beaumont have a marbill stone leyd upon hys grave with these verses graved in the same.

"TESTIS TU CHRISTE QUOD NON JACET HIC LAPIS ISTE
CORPUS UT ORNETUR SED UT SPIRITUS MEMORETUR."

"Thou art a witness O Christe that this stone is not an adornment for his body, but a memorial for his soul."

Also I bequeath for new bellis to be bought to the Church of Heanton Punchardon XL. LI of lawfull money of England. Also I woll and charge my feoffees and executours to pay or do to be payd, all the detts by me my fader Sir Thomas Beaumont Knyght, William Beaumont and Philipp Beaumont esquires my brothers to every person after consciens deu if any asker will swere it upon a boke. And also all such as I have hurt in lesing of ther goods and catall or other wyse. I will that they be pleased and rewarded after consciens if any thereof complayne to myn executours and feoffees if they will swere as is rehersed as they will answer before God. And I will and charge my feoffees and executours as they will answeare that there be a well disposed priest ordeigned to sing immediately

after my decease, in the Chapell of Pylton afore rehersed at the aulter of our Lady anon after hys masse fynished by the space of III yere to pay to hym by the yere for hys salary VIII marks and for the full contentacion and satisfacion of all the premissis I woll and charge my said feoffees as above rehersed that ther be C.LI. leviyd yerely of the manors of Frampton Cotell (Gloucestershire) and Wother as be specifoed and named in the indenture made betwene my said feoffees more playnly apperith. Also I will that the ii chales (chalices) after my deceese be delyverd to the chauntry of Heavnton aforesaid for ever, and also I bequaith and will my processionall booke with the rede streyte stoell be belonging to my chapell of S. Thomas in Heavnton and that all the stuffe, that is in my new chappell there be abyding in the same. Also I will that all such Fencebill Harnes for Mannis body that is myn be delievred to my brother Hugh Beaumont after my deceese. Also I will that my servant Henry Bremelcombe be content and payed yerely during his life of his Fee VII marke graunted to hym from my lordshipp of Hunshaw (near Torrington), according to his writing thereof as myn heyres and feoffees woll as is above rehersed answeere And all the residew of all my goods I will that myn executours dispose them for my soule and they think best for the welth thereof and for the performyng and fulfillyng of all the premisses I constitute make and ordeigne Mathye my wyfe, Thomas Graynefeld and John Yeo myn executours and Richard Chichestyr my supervisor, and I will that every of my executours and supervisor aforesaid have for his labour IIII marks of lawfull money. Also I will that the Priest of Mary Magdalene be content of XX s. yerely of my manor of Hakyngton the masse to be kept afore Seint Saluyling in the castell chapell of Barnestabill. Also I will that I have XXIIII poore men goyng before me with gownys of clene blacke with Kernecombe and his gown to be lynid anon to the foote, also I will that my said feoffees make estate to my wyfe for terme of hyr lyfe of the manor of Womblegh and Hukington as for hyr joyntour."

Proved at Lambeth 1 December 1489 by Mathy, the relict and executrix of the testator, power being reserved to the other executors.

A Thomas Beaumont was fellow of Merton 1484.

VI. Hugh, born c. 1457, died 25th March 1507, heir to his brother Philip. He sold Ablington Manor to Richard of Durham in 1501 and the Frampton Cotterell estate to Henry VII, 1505. He held lands at Shirwell and Lokkyshore in 1499 which he rented to Richard Chichester for ten shillings per annum.

He also let thirty-four acres of land at Bremerigge worth ten shillings per annum, at a rental of one pound of wax. (Calendar of Inquisitions. H VII Vol. 2). He probably married firstly Elizabeth..... who had a French book bequeathed to her by Sir John Dynham in 1496/7, entitled "The Passion of our Lord". (TRANS. DEVON. SOC. L. 485.) He afterwards married c. 1504 Thomassine, daughter and heiress of Oliver Wise of Ford House and Wombwell Court, Devon. Issue:

(1) Margaret, or Maud, married Sir John Chichester of Rawleigh, Devon; she married secondly John Powlet (?).

VII. John, died 1513. Clerk in Holy Orders, S.T.B., admitted Prior of Pilton, Barnstable 18th October, 1502.

VIII. Alicia, married Nicholas Cornu.

WILLIAM BEAUMONT of Highampton, Bradley, Somerset, Pilleigh, Cornwall, Willet, and Plush, Dorset, born 1427, died 5th December 1454. He married Joan daughter of Sir William Courtenay of Powderham, and had no issue. He left his estates to his brother Philip. For the last two years of his life, he separated from his wife and he never saw her again, as he lived in London and she continued to reside in Devon. During this period she gave birth to a son, who was named John, Sir Henry de Bodrigan being the reputed father (Sir John Maclean, TRIGG MINOR, I. 552). After her husband's death Joan married Sir Henry and claimed her first husband's estates on behalf of her son John. Philip however succeeded in retaining them, getting letters patent confirming his brother's will, in which he bequeathed them to him. On the death of Philip his brother Hugh succeeded to the estates, and on Hugh's death, his daughter Lady Margaret Chichester claimed them. Lady Joane Basset, sister of Hugh, also put in a claim. John the reputed bastard opposed these claims and the House of Lords refused to entirely disinherit a man born in wedlock, so it divided the estate, John receiving the Gittisham property, Joane the Honiton, and Margaret the Yolston, Shirwell and some others.

JOHNSON, the reputed son of Sir Henry de Bodrigan - born between 1451 and 1453. He sided with the Yorkists and joined in the Lambert Simnel rebellion on 8th February 1487; a writ was issued for his arrest, but he escaped with his reputed father to the Continent; on 4th June 1487 they both came with a "grete navye" to Furness in Lancashire and landed a force of two thousand Flemish mercenaries. They marched to Stoke on Trent, where they were, on the 16th June, utterly defeated by the Royalist forces. The Earl of Lincoln, the commander of the rebels, fell in the battle and

John and his father had their estates confiscated on a bill of attainder passed 9th November, 1489 (Trans. Bristol Arch. Soc., X., 200). His manor of Tregony, Cornwall, was granted to Sir Richard Nanfan, who died without male issue, the estate then reverted to John's son Henry in 1506. He married Isabella, daughter of Thomas Calwodlegn. Issue:

I. Henry, heir.

II. William, married Jane Phillips (MS. Rawl, 1530, B. 287, 58b).

III. Philip died 1474.

IV. Johanna.

HENRY BEAUMONT of Gittisham, born c. 1480, died 16th March 1547/8, married Elizabeth daughter of Robert, Lord Stowell of Cothelstone, Somerset, he secondly married Joane and had no issue by her. A Joane Beaumont died 1577 aet. forty-eight. Issue by first wife:

I. Humfrey, heir.

II. William of Shute. He died in 1547 and married Thomasin daughter of John Tudboll of Lyme Regis and widow of John Stowbridge. A William was buried at Colyton, Devon 1st August 1547.

III. Elizabeth, married Thomas Coker of Mappowder, Dorset. Issue.

(1) Henry.

(2) Mary (MS. Rawl. 1530).

IV. Philippa, married Lewis Davils of Marland, Devon.

HUMFREY BEAUMONT, born 1504 died 12th August 1572, buried at Gittisham 14th August, (Register Gittisham) he held the manor of Elworthy, Somerset; married first Joan, daughter of the Honourable John West, brother of Lord de la Warre and had issue by her, four children; secondly married Jane, daughter of John Sydenham of Leigh, Somerset, in her will dated 4th December, 1593 and proved 30th August 1594, by her nephew John Hensleigh, she left ten shillings for her funeral sermon and various gifts of rings and money to her sisters and nephews; to her household servants twelve pence each and her god-children a like amount; six shillings and eight pence to the Church at Leigh, and land and ten shillings to the poor of Clare. The residue of her estate she bequeathed to her nephew John Hensleigh. Her mother on her death left her

forty shillings. Issue by his first wife:

I. Henry, heir.

II. John, d.s.p., 1587.

III. Elizabeth, alive in 1591, married Robert Muttlesbury of Musbury, (?) Devon.

IV. William. Presumably d.s.p.

V. Thomas, by second wife, d.s.p.

HENRY BEAUMONT of Combe House, Gittisham, born 1532, d.s.p. 1st April, 1591. He held lands in 1586 at S. Kirian, Exeter. By his will dated 26th February, 1588, he left most of his estates at Combe and manor and lands at Gittisham to Sir Thomas Beaumont of Cole Orton Leicestershire (see p. 135). The latter left them to his third son Henry who in 1615 sold them to Nicholas Putt whose posterity held them for two hundred years. The Gittisham estate went to Thomas son of George Beaumont of Godeby (see p. 70). Henry left twenty-nine acres of land to the poor of Honiton and land to the value of £20 per annum for the parish of Buckerel, and to the value of £5 per annum to the poor of Ottery S. Mary and £4 per annum to the poor of Gittisham. His widow gave lands worth £40 per annum to the poor of Ottery S. Mary, and to the value of £3 per annum to the poor of Honiton and £2 per annum to the poor of Sidbury, Devon.

Henry married in 1552 Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Roger (? Robert) Blewet of Holcombe, Devon and left no issue, he and his wife were buried in the south aisle of Gittisham Church. A white marble monument in the Church depicts him in armour, kneeling before an altar bearing a cushion and an open book, his wife is by his side with an infant in swaddling clothes in her arms. Their hands are upraised in prayer. The inscription is as follows

"Interred here, within this tomb, doth Henry Beaumont
rest
A man of just and upright life, with many graces blest,
Who learnd to know God's holy will; and wicked works
defyd
And as he learnd, so did he live; and as he livd he dyd.
What good he might, he gladly did, and never harmed any;
Courteous he was in all his life, and friendly unto many.
But most of all his liberal gifts, abounded to the poor;
A worthy practice of that Word, which he had learnd before.
Born of what honourable race, is needless, for this verse.

Since French and English Chronicles so oft his name re-
 hearse,
 Which antient blood within himself, by want of issue
 spent.
 The sinking line thereof he corkd by one of that descent.
 He lived thrice ten years and nine, with his most godly
 wife,
 Who yielded him his honour due, void of unkindly strife.
 And for true witness of her love, which never was defacd
 In duty, last this monument, she caused here to be placd."

Obit April 1, A.D. 1591.

His wife, died 4th March 1613/14 her will was dated 23rd December 1613 and proved 14th July 1614 by Thomas Warre, a cousin to whom she bequeathed a chain of gold, her nephews and nieces had legacies, including a nephew Thomas Beaumont and a cousin Glydd Beaumont. A nephew, William Dawes, endeavoured to get his aunt to pay his expenses at Oxford University, it is uncertain if she did so.

THOMAS BEAUMONT of Sussex (see. p. 124), eldest son of George of Godeby inherited the Gittisham estate. He was alive in 1620. He married first Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Glydd of Ewhurst, Sussex, and secondly in 1606 (?) Dorothy daughter of Nicholas (? Richard) Blewet of Broad Clist and grand-daughter of Sir George Blewet of Holcomb. She was buried at Gittisham 18th January 1611/12. (Miscellanea, Genealogica Et Heraldica). Issue:

- I. Glydd, heir.
- II. Thomas (?)
- III. Mary, married Ralphe Drage of Battle.
- IV. Ann, married John Yelding of Bellington.
- V. John, baptised at Gittisham 12th February, 1603.
- VI. Elizabeth, married Right Reverend Mathew Wren, Dean of Windsor and Bishop of Ely (see p. 229). She died 24th April 1667.
- VII. Henry (?) by second wife.
- VIII. Francis.
- IX. Thomas, baptised at Gittisham 5th April, 1609.
- X. Grace, baptised at Gittisham 19th June, 1597.

XI. Dorothy (?)

GLYDD, died 16th April 1633. Matriculated at All Souls College, Oxford, 1589, elected a Fellow of the College 1602. Preferred to the Rectory at Gittisham, 1610. He married first Jane, daughter of Edmund Greene of Exeter, gentleman. She was buried at Gittisham 14th May 1627, on the north wall of the chancel is a small classical monument to her memory which reads:

"Delectissime sorori suae epita

E.H. ?

Phium hoc am oris et ho

E.P. ?

Noris ergo."

(This epitaph of love and honour to his dearest sister)

(E.H. and E.P. ?)

"This urn holds sacred dust; each pious eye
Here drops a tear and weeps that she should die.
No one perfection of the female kind
But lies with her, within the tomb enshrind.
She wants no epitaph; I'th' hearts of men
Writ are her praises, tears are now the pen.
Only this proud stone needs would have it told
What precious dust it doth here under hold:
Hold it a while in place, till it shall be
Rais'd to a better life and glory see.

Here lieth the body of Jane, the wife
of Glid Beaumont rector of this
parish and daughter of Edmund Green
of Exon, Gent. who decd.

MAY, 14, MDCXXVII.

With arms 1. a lion rampant semé de lys or.
impaled: 2. Arg. a fess gules between 3 bulls'
heads coupé sab.

He married secondly 23rd August 1627, at S. Thomas's Church, Exeter, Dorothy relict of David Hore of Exeter. On the death of Glydd she married, 19th October, 1634 at Gittisham, John Jerman of Gittisham, gentleman. (Register Gittisham). Glydd had issue by his first wife:

I. Mary.

By the second wife:

II. Glydd.

III. Maria, baptised at Gittisham, 17th June, 1630.

GLYDD BEAUMONT, born 12th December 1628, baptised at Gittisham 18th December, 1628 ? died young. A Glydd Beaumont matriculated at Oxford in 1605.

In the early part of the thirteenth century, Henry III gave the manor of Aynkesdon, Devon to Mathew de Beaumont. We cannot however trace anything further respecting Mathew. In the fifteenth century the estate passed by marriage into the Pomeroy family.