

CHAPTER IX.

THE LEICESTERSHIRE BEAUMONTS - THE STOUGHTON GRANGE FAMILY.

"Let's meet, and either do, or die".

THE ISLAND PRINCESS

Beaumont and Fletcher. II. 2.

Stoughton Grange is four miles from Leicester. It is a fine mansion situated in extensive park-like grounds of about five hundred acres, with a noble avenue of trees half a mile long leading to the church. The estate in all being about seven thousand two hundred acres.

In the tenth century it was held by Earl Ralph and was then worth £8 per annum. At the Conquest William gave it to Hugo de Grantemaisnel; at the Domesday Survey its value had increased to £9. In the twelfth century Robert de Bellomonte, third Earl of Leicester (see p. 31) married the heiress to the estate. This in common with all his other property was confiscated at the barons rising in 1173, when the Lordship seems to have been granted by the King to the Abbey of Leicester and it does not appear to have been reconveyed to him at the time of his pardon in 1177. Possibly he did not claim it as it was held by the abbey in which he was so deeply interested. In 1552 it was granted by Edward VI to Sir Thomas Farnham, whose heiress - Katherine - married Sir Thomas Beaumont, thus the estate reverted after three hundred and eighty years to its former owners and it continued in the family until the death of Sir George Beaumont in 1737 (see p. 187), when it passed to his three sisters and nephew, a sister of the latter became the eventual heiress and she married into the Keck family; this family held it until 1913, when it was sold by Mrs. Powys Keck to Captain Faber, M.P., (for £250,000) who re-sold it to the Manchester Co-operative Society.

GENEALOGICAL CHART.

Nicholas Beaumont of Cole Orton.

Sir Fran- Tho-
Henry cis mas

Sir Hen- ry Kt.	Farn- ham	Tho- mas	Eliza- beth	Fran- ces	Anne	Elea- nor	Isa- bel	Jane	Mary
		d.s.p.				d.s.p.			

Sir Thomas 1st Baronet	Henry d.s.p.	William d.s.p.	Farn- ham d.s.p.	Anne d.s.p.	Eliza- beth	Frances	another daughter
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Sir Henry 2nd Baronet	Tho- mas	William founder of the Dunmow family, his grandson inherited the Cole Orton estates	Nich- olas	Fran- cis	Henri- etta	Jane	Mary	Margaret
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Thomas	son	son	son	Elizabeth	Annabella
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Thomas	son	son	son	daughter
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Sir Tho- mas 3rd Baronet d.s.p.	George 4th Bart.(1) d.s.p.	Hen- ry d.s.p.	Hen- ry d.s.p.	Basil d.s.p.	Lew- is 5th Bart. d.s.p.	Wil- liam Vil- liers d.s.p.	Wil- liam d.s.p.	John d.s.p.	Chas. d.s.p.
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James d.s.p.	Eliza- beth	Anne	Diana	Henri- etta	Kather- ine	Ara- bella	Christina
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- (1) Inherited the Cole Orton estates, on his death it passed to his brother Lewis and the Stoughton Grange to his three surviving sisters.

His will was proved by his son Farnham and Richard Coxall, 19th April 1615. He left £10 to the poor colliers of Bedworth, £500 each to his daughters Ellen and Mary, £100 per annum to his son Francis, £40 per annum to his brother Huntingdon.

The third son of Nicholas Beaumont of Cole Orton was Sir Thomas (see p. 130). His father granted him the Bedworth estate in Co. Warwick; he also owned the manor of Thurnby, Co. Leicester.

SIR THOMAS BEAUMONT, Knight was born circ. 1555, died 27th November, 1614 and buried in Stoughton Church. He held lands in Devon and Somerset. Hist. Call. Staf. 1920. He was a Teller of the Exchequer in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; M.P. for Co. Leicester 1603; knighted at Belvoir Castle by James I, 23rd April 1603. He married c 1588 Katherine daughter of Sir Thomas Farnham of Stoughton Grange, being sole heiress, she inherited the manor on her father's death. She died on Ascension Day 10th May, 1621 and was buried with her husband. Issue:

I. Henry, heir.

II. Farnham, born 1584 died 1647. A Farnham was christened at S. James Clerkenwell 18th October 1585. There was in the old church of S. Botolph, Aldersgate Street, E.C. a monument to his memory. He was a merchant and lived in London. In 1865, Henry Moses of Reading had in his possession a portrait of Farnham. It was three quarters life size, with long flowing hair, small moustache, short and rather pointed beard, a large turn-down white collar. A cloak trimmed brown fur, turn back white cuffs, and a string of pearls hanging down in front. Dated "Ao 1647 aet. 63". Arms: quarterly one and four Azure, semée de lys, a lion rampant Or. and two and three, quarterly Or and Azure, in the first and second on crescent countercharged, on an escocheon of pretence azure, a chevron ermine between three arrows of feathered gules, barbed argent, on a chief of the last three blackbirds proper, beaked and legged of the third, on a canton Or a fleur de lys gules. The second and third quarterings are the arms of the Farnhams (Genealogist II. 216, 1865). (The author has made several attempts to find this picture, if anyone can trace it, he would be glad of information of the same.) Farnham married Lucy Dawes, of Dawson and Wavren, Co. Leicester and had issue a daughter:

1a. Frances, who married Sir Francis Wingfield Bodenham of Ryhall, Co. Rutland, he was born in 1615 They had issue a son:

1b. Beaumont Bodenham.

2b. William (Sloane MS.)

III. Thomas d.s.p. matriculated at Wadham College, Oxford, 23rd April, 1613, (Gardiner, Register of Wadham. He was a

student of the Inner Temple 1615, and married Judith daughter of Thomas Plumbe of Potters Marston, Co. Leicester.

IV. Elizabeth, born 1576, died 1651; she married Sir John Ashburnham of Ashburnham, Sussex, he died 20th June 1620 aet. 29, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. They had issue two sons and four daughters. She married secondly the 24th December, 1626, at S. Giles in the Fields, Sir Thomas Richardson, of Haddingham, Norfolk, Knight, he was Speaker of the House of Commons, and Chief Justice of the Common Pleas 1631/35. He died 27th November, 1641. On the 28th February 1628, she was created by Charles I, Baroness Cramond of Scotland, this was the first time a Baroness had been created, the title became extinct on the death of William Lord Richardson, Baron Cramond, who died without issue 28th July 1735. She died in Covent Garden in 1651 and was buried 3rd April in S. Andrew's, Holborn. A monument was erected to her memory and that of Sir John Ashburnham, at Ashburnham; the inscription tells us "that she was eminent for her good temper and prudence"; it is as follows:-

"Here lies in the vault underneath John Ashburnham Esq. sonn to the unfortunate person fifth John Ashburnham whose good nature and frank disposition towards his friends in being deeply engaged for them necessitated him to sell this place (in his family long before the Conquest) and all the estate he had elsewhere, not leaving to his wife and six children the least subsistence, which is not inserted to the least disadvantage of his memory (God forbid it should be understood to be a charge of disrespect upon him) but to give God the praise, who soe suddenly provided for his wife and children, as that within less than two years after the death of the said 5th John, there was not any of them but was in condition rather to be helpful to others than to want support themselves. May God be pleased to add this blessing to His posterity that they may never be unmindful of the great things He hath done for them. The wife of the said Sr John Ashburnham was daughter to Sr Thomas Beaumont of Stoughton in the county of Leicester shee was very eminent for her good temper and prudence. She dyed in the seventy-fifth year of her age and both the said Sr John and his wife lye buryed in the Church of S. Andrew in Holeburne, London."

In the fly leaf of the oldest register in the church at Ashburnham is the following entry:-

"A true copy of the memorable deed of charity of Dame Elizabeth Richardson, Baroness of Cramond, wherein she hath given foure pounds per an. for 15 years to be payd quarterly to five poor people of the Parish of Ashburnham.

I Dame Elizabeth Richardson, widow, Baroness of Cramond, who was formerly wife to Sr John Ashburnham, Knight, deceased do give this writing unto the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish of Ashburnham in the County of Sussex. I did live formerly in my youth at Ashburnham where I had many children borne and I doe still bear a loue unto that place. Now it is welknowne that the manor of Ashburnham did continue a long time belonging to the name of Ashburnham, and howsoever in my husband's time it was cast for a time upon strangers yet by God His Mercie and gracious Providence it is now brought backe again in my life into the hands and possession of mine owne son John Ashburnham Esq. which I pray God to continue with His blessing unto him and to his good pleasure (here follow certain bequests)

Given under my hand on S. Andrew's Day in the year of our Lord 1649."

She had issue by her second husband, a daughter Mary, who was buried in S. Botolph's 25th November, 1615.

V. Frances, married Sir Wolstan Dixie of Market Bosworth, Co. Leicester, Baronet, he married firstly, Barbara, widow of Sir John (? Richard) Harpur Knight, and daughter and heiress of Sir Henry Beaumont of Grace Dieu (see p. 163).

VI. Anne, married, Sir John Dillon of Farthinghoe, Northants.

VII. Eleanor, died unmarried.

VIII. Isabel, married, Hugh Snawswell of Belton, Co. Leicester, he died 1661, issue one son, Thomas, alive in 1652.

IX. Jane, married, William son of Sir Thomas Temple of London, merchant.

X. Mary, born 1594, married, 2nd January, 1616/17 at S. Anne's and S. Agnes' Church, Aldersgate Street, E.C.2. Richard (? William) Paramoure of Loseby, Leicester and London.

In Stoughton Church, there is a black marble tablet, mounted on white marble, with kneeling figures of Sir Thomas and his wife and ten children, the incised lines being ornamented in gold, the inscription reads:-

"Neere to this place lyeth interred ye body of Sir
Thomas Beaumont, of Stawton in the Co. of
Leces. Knyght who dyed 27 of Novemb 1614,
Dame Katherine, his wife, daughter and heire of
Thomas Farnham of Stawton, aforesaid, Esqr (she
dyed the 10 of May 1621) leaving issue 3 sones and

7 daughters, viz. Sr Henry Beaumont sonne
and heire married Elizabeth daughter of Sr William
Turpyn of Knaptoft: Farnham Beaumont, second
sonne. Thomas Beaumont third sonne. Elizabeth
wife to Sr John Ashburnham, afterw. wife to Sr Thomas
Richardson, Lord Cheife Justice of ye Kings
Bench. Francis wife to Sir Wolston Dixie, Anne
Wife to John Dillon, Hellen lived unmarried, Isabell
Wife to Hugh Snazell; Jane wife to William
Temple, Mary wife to Richard Paramoure.
This monument was erected at the care and cost
of the Lady Elizabeth Richardson, Baronis Cramond
There eldest daughter Ano 1631."

In Cole Orton Church there was a handsome monument to
their memories; they were shewn in the attitude of prayer.
A memorial tablet was also placed in the nave of S. Botolph's
Church, Aldersgate Street, E.C., to the memory of Lady Katherine,
but like that of her son's (Farnham) it was destroyed in the
great fire of 1666. The inscription read:

"In memory of
The religious and virtuous Lady Katherine Beaumont,
late widow of Sir Thomas Beaumont of Stoughton
In the county of Leicester, Knight.
Daughter and sole heiress of Thomas Farnham
of Stoughton aforesaid; Esq.
who deceased on Ascension day 1621
leaving issue, then alive as above written
Three sonnes and seven daughters.
This tablet was set up out of love and
pure affection of Elizabeth, Lady Ashburnham, widow
her eldest daughter, anno 1622.
And Mary one of the daughters
of the aforesaid Lady Ashburnham
was likewise buried in this Church November 25, 1615."
(?1619)

SIR HENRY BEAUMONT, Knight, born 1584, died April 1646,
buried in Stoughton Church. There is a beautiful
altar tomb to his memory in the south aisle of the Church at
Cole Orton. He was admitted to the Inner Temple 1603. He
owned the entire parish. He endured the fate that most of
the loyal friends of Charles I had to submit to, in compounding
for his estate under the Commonwealth.

He married Elizabeth daughter of Sir William Turpin of
Knaptoft, Co. Leicester, Knight; on a slab in the aisle of
Stoughton Church there was the following inscription:

"Elizabeth, wife of Sir Henry Beaumont died 164-?"

They had issue:

I. Thomas, heir.

II. William, died 1610 in infancy.

III. Henry, born 1612, died May 11th, 1673. He became a Jesuit priest, in 1630 when entering the Society he took the name of Harcourt. In 1649 he was living in Lancashire, in 1655 in Hampshire and in 1672 in Suffolk, where he died. He was the author of "England's old religion faithfully gathered out of the Church of England as it is written by the Venerable Bede almost a thousand years ago; i.e. in the year after the passion of our Saviour" by H.B. Antwerp 1650. Another edition was published in 1658.

IV. Farnham.

V. Anne, died unmarried 1653.

VI. Elizabeth, born 1613, married Zouch Percival of London.

VII. Frances, born 1615, married 27th April 1635 at S. Bride's, London, James Sinclair of Sinclair Holmes, born 1603, ninth Major in the army and Commander of the Castle of Wardoe Huys, North Cape, Norway which he held for the King of Denmark.

VIII. Another daughter who married - Meeze, and thus became the ancestress of Commander Meeze (see p.184).

SIR THOMAS BEAUMONT, Baronet, born 1608 died 11th August, 1676. A slab in Stoughton Church recorded, but is now lost, "Hic jacet D'N'S. Thomas Beaumont, Baronettus, Pater Familiae, Dec. Aug. 11, Anno Domini 1676". A Knight of the Shire for the county of Leicester 1654; M.P. for Leicestershire 1654/9. He fought on the Parliamentary side, and was a member of the Committee of the "New Model" 15th February 1644/5. Created a baronet by Oliver Cromwell 5th March 1657/8; this honour was disallowed at the Restoration but it was subsequently confirmed by Charles II 21st February, 1660/1.

He married firstly Elizabeth daughter and co-heir of Sir Nicholas Trott of Quickswood, Herts, Knight, and secondly by licence, 17th April, 1666, at Evington Church, Co. Leicester, Jane, relict of Hugh Watts, of Newark, and daughter of Sir Thomas Burton of Stockerston, Co. Leicester, she was buried with her first husband in S. Mary's Leicester 4th October 1670. Issue by the first wife three sons and three daughters, and by the second, two sons and one daughter.

I. Henry, heir.

II. Thomas, born 1639, died of smallpox at Dunmow 15th January 1710. A memorial stone in the chancel floor there records:

"Here lieth the body of Thomas Beaumont
Vicar of ye parish
second son of Sr Thomas Beaumont
of Stouton Grange,
in the county of Leicester, Bart
He married Susanna, daughter of William Oldys,
Dr of Divinity
Vicar of Alderburgh
in the county of Oxon
By whom he had 4 sons and 2 daughters
He dyed January 15th 1710, aged 71."

Admitted as founders kin to Winchester College and a Fellow in 1655/60, and matriculated at New College, Oxon, 1657. B.A. 1660, M.A. 1664, incorporated at Cambridge 1669. Vicar of Sawbridgeworth 1673, of Great Dunmow 1678, Rector of Thorley, Herts 1690, Prebendary of Hoxton 1680, Canon of S. Paul's 1681. He married Susannah, daughter of the Reverend William Oldys, D.D., and had issue:

(1) Thomas, of S. Andrew's Parish, Holborn, born 1674. Matriculated at New College, Oxon, 1693; B.A. 1697; M.A. 1701. Fellow of Winchester College 1693/1710. Vicar of Easter-Alta, Essex, 1702/23. He had four sons and two daughters.

(2) Son.

(3) Son.

(4) Son, Henry William baptised Dunmow at Dunmow 5th November 1678.

(5) Elizabeth, married William Hayley, M.D.

(6) Annabella born March 1683 and baptised the 23rd of that month at Great Dunmow died March 1776 at Upminster. She married Francis Prior of London, gentleman, and had issue a daughter Susannah who married Samuel Hopkins of London, gentleman.

III. William, of Great Dunmow and Hackney (see p. 197).

IV. Nicholas.

V. Francis.

VI. Henrietta.

VII. Jane.

VIII. Mary.

IX. Margaret, died 1785, married John Kendal of Kempston, Beds., and had issue three daughters.

SIR HENRY BEAUMONT, 2nd Baronet, born 1637, baptised 12th April 1638 died 27th January 1688/9 at Stoughton and buried there. A slab on the church floor recited: "Here lies the body of Sir Henry Beaumont Bart who departed this life 27th January 1688/9 in the 51st year of his age."

He matriculated at S. John's College, Oxon, 5th April, 1655; M.P. for Leicestershire 1679-87. He was an active loyalist and was compelled to compound for his estates.

He married 12th April, 1662, at S. Andrew's Holborn, Elizabeth daughter of George (John ?) Farmer, of Holbeach, Co. Lincoln, a Prothonotary of the Common Pleas; she died 30th September 1727 aet. 80. A tablet in Stoughton Church recorded "Here lies the body of Dame Elizabeth Beaumont widow of Sir Henry Beaumont of Stoughton Grange, baronet and daughter of George Farmer Esq. who departed this life the 30th day of September, Anno Dom. 1727, in the 80th year of her age. They had in all fourteen sons and seven daughters, six of the sons dieing in infancy."

I. Thomas, heir third baronet.

II. George, fourth baronet, heir to his brother Thomas (see p. 187); also heir of the Cole Orton estates (see p. 139).

III. Henry died 1655. There was a tablet in the Stoughton church with the following inscription "Hic Jacet Henricus filius natu tertius Henrici et Elizabethae Beaumont de Staughton infans a parentibus immaturi correptus, Anno Dom, 1665 Maie 28". Translation: "Here lies Henry the 3rd son by birth of Henry and Elizabeth Beaumont of Stoughton, a prematurely born child, A.D. 1665, May 28."

IV. Henry, died 1669. Another memorial recorded "Hic jacet Henricus Beaumont infans natus et immature correptus 1669". "Here lies Henry Beaumont a prematurely born child 1669."

V. Basil, born 1669. He was drowned on the Goodwin Sands when in command of H.M.S. Mary in the great storm which "o'er Britannia passed" (Addison. The Campaign I. 71) at the time

that the Eddystone lighthouse was swept away on the 26th/27th November, 1705, when thirteen of H.M. ships were wrecked and one thousand five hundred officers and men lost (John Campbell, LIVES OF ADMIRALS, III. 345); eight hundred houses were blown down in London and London Bridge was submerged together with a large portion of Bristol.

He joined the Navy at the age of thirteen and served under his relative Admiral George, Lord Dartmouth.

Whilst a lad on board the "Phoenix" he served temporarily as Lieutenant, he did not receive any additional pay for this, so he petitioned the King through Pepys, the Diarist for it. His letter was as follows: "Basill Beaumont, a voluntier on board ye Phoenix, who acted as Lieutent after the death of Capt. Nodder, but has received noe pay being opposed therein by the Captaine wherein he prays his Maj: reliefe.

To the Kings most excellent Majtie &c."

This letter is amongst the Pepys collection at the Bodleian and it is endorsed "Letters and other papers

relating to ye
Past current affaires of my office
put up at my quitting the same

8
February 168 -
9

and
in particular relating to the Lord Dartmouth's
conduct
with the fleet under his command 1688".

He was a Lieutenant on board H.M.S. Portsmouth 28th October 1688, took part in the naval engagement off Barfleure 21st April, 1689; Captain H.M.S. Rupert. This ship was lost in a storm off Plymouth Sound 25th December 1689, he was then appointed to H.M.S. Dreadnought. Commander H.M.S. Canterbury 1694, afterwards saw service in the Mediterranean, and appointed to H.M.S. "Montague" in 1696. Commodore of the Fleet May 1696, when he attained Flag Rank at the age of thirty, only seventeen years after entering the Service. Rear Admiral 1st March 1702/3. He blockaded Dunkirk and rendered signal service against the French Navy during the reigns of William III and Queen Anne.

His portrait by Dahl, presented by George IV hangs in the Painted Hall, Greenwich. On the north wall of the north aisle of Stoughton Church a marble memorial records:

"This monument
 is erected to ye memory of Admiral
 Basil Beaumont who was lost in the
 great storm and to ye inexpressible grief of his relations
 to whom he gave the highest proofs
 of friendship. He was a public loss and
 universally lamented; never was found in
 any one person, more virtues and perfections
 than he was blessed with. He was the
 5th son of Sir Henry Beaumont, bart,
 born in ye year 1669, lost November 27, 1703.
 This monument was put up by his sister
 Anne Beaumont 1738."

VI. Lewis, fifth Baronet, heir to his brother George (see
 p. 139).

VII. William. A slate slab in the north aisle of Stoughton
 Church records "Hic jacet Gulielmus Beaumont immaturus. Ob.
 die Maie 14, 1675."

VIII. William Villiers, died of fever in the West Indies when
 serving as lieutenant under Commodore Meeze, 17th July, 1672.

IX. John, died in infancy; another slab records "Hic jacet
 Johannes Beaumont immaturus. Ob. Feb. 18, 1683."

X. Charles, born 1683/4. Lost by the blowing up of
 H.M.S. Carlisle in the Downs 19th September, 1700. Not one
 of the ship's company was saved and it is not known how the
 accident happened.

XI. James, born 1685/6 died unmarried 4th January, 1722.
 Matriculated at New College, Oxon 1701; LL.B. 1708; Fellow
 of Winchester 1701/12. A large stone slab was put down to
 his memory in the north cloister of New College, near to one
 to the memory of Henry Fowler and to one to John Thickness
 and almost beneath one on the wall to John Cowderoy but it no
 longer exists. It stated that he was the eldest son and
 that he was twenty five years old, but these are evidently
 errors. It read:

H.S.E.
 JACOBUS BEAUMONT, L.L.B.
 HUIUS COLLEGII SOCIUS
 FILIUS NATER MAXIMUS
 HENRICI BEAUMONT BARONETTI
 DE STANTON
 IN COMITATU LEICESTRENSI:
 OBIIT QUARTO DIE JANUARIII

(AETATIS SUAE XXV
 ANNO (
 (DOMINI MDCCXXII. (1)

with his coat of arms beneath, viz., AZ. semée of fleurs de lys OR, a Lion rampant of the second. Crest: a lion passant, OR. Translated it reads:

"This is sacred to
 James Beaumont, L.L.B.,
 Fellow of this College,
 eldest son of
 Henry Beaumont, baronet
 of Stoughton
 in the County of Leicester.
 He died the 4th day of January,
 in the 25th year of his age.
 A.D. 1722."

XII. Elizabeth, born 1671, died 5th February 1726/7.

XIII. Anne, died 29th September 1753. In the Church at Stoughton is the following inscription

"Here
 lieth interred the body of
 Anne Beaumont, second daughter of
 Sir Henry Beaumont, bart,
 by Dame Elizabeth his
 wife. She departed this life
 the 29th day of September
 MDCCLIII".

XIV. Diana, died 4th November 1694. The inscription to her memory reads: "Hic jacet Diana Beaumont Tertia filia Henrici Beaumont equitis et Baronetti, et Elizabethae Uxoris. Quae obiit quarto die Novembri, MDCXCIV." Translation: "Here lies Diana Beaumont 3rd daughter of Henry Beaumont,

(1) HISTORY COLLEGES OF OXFORD, A. Wood, edited by John Gutch, (1786).

Knight and Baronet and Elizabeth his wife. The which died 4th day of November 1694."

XV. Henrietta, died 10th March, 1724/5, married John Styleman; she had no issue.

XVI. Katherine, died 1st April, 1726, married William Busby of Loughborough, he died 23rd March, 1726/7, aet. 46. Issue:

(1) Katherine, born 1707, died 10th May, 1725. A memorial in Stoughton church records: "Here lieth interred the body of Katherine Busby daughter of William Busby Esquire by Katherine his wife, daughter of Sir Henry Beaumont bart. by Dame Elizabeth his wife. She departed this life May 10 A.D. 1725 in the 18th year of her age."

(2) William, born 1707 died 2nd June 1742, inherited the Stoughton Grange estates, see p. 187.

(3) Anne, died at Stoughton Grange 17th February 1765, married 1739 Anthony Keck of Lincoln's Inn, Senior Serjeant-at-Law, he died 30th April, 1786. She inherited the estate and the family held it until 1913 when it was sold, see p. 174.

(4) Elizabeth, born 1709 died 22nd April, 1726. An inscription in the church reads: "Here lies Elizabeth Busby daughter of Willm Busby Esq. by Katherine his wife who departed this life April 22nd Ano. Dom. 1726 in ye 17th year of her age."

XVII. Arabella, died 7th February, 1745, buried in the church. An inscription reads: "Here lieth interred the body of Arabella Beaumont sixth daughter of Sir Henry Beaumont, bart., by Dame Elizabeth his wife, she departed this life, the 7th of February MDCCLIV."

XVIII. Christina died 28th February 1745. Her memorial slab reads,

"Here
lieth interred the body of
Christina Beaumont
youngest daughter of
Sir Henry Beaumont bart.
by Dame Elizabeth his wife
she departed this life Feby. 28 MDCCXLV."

Near to the south door of Stoughton Church is the following inscription: "Here lieth the body of Anna Kirke daughter of Mr. John Cutler, who departed this life the 3rd August 1744, in the 85th year of her age, having lived

56 years in the Lady Beaumont's family, greatly esteemed."

SIR THOMAS BEAUMONT, 3rd Baronet, born 1663; Major in the Horse Guards under James II; Lieutenant-Colonel Dragoons, resigned on the outbreak of the revolution; raised at his own charge a troop and met William of Orange at Torbay 5th November, 1688. Standard bearer to William III at his coronation, Major General 1st troop of Guards, accompanied the King on his Irish Campaign, served with great valour and died there from fever, 9th (5th?) December 1690. He was buried at Stoughton; he left no issue and was succeeded by his brother George.

SIR GEORGE BEAUMONT, 4th Baronet born 1664, died of inflammation of the lungs, at Stoughton Grange 9th April, 1737, and buried there. He matriculated at New College, Oxon, 9th February, 1682/3, B.C.L. 1690, and on the 7th December 1714 the University gave him the honorary degree of D.C.L. He was one of the executors to Dr. Radcliffe, who was a great benefactor to the University, and on the west side of the High Street entrance of the Radcliffe Quad University College, Sir George's arms are cut on the stone wall. He was a fellow of Winchester from 1683 to 1701. In 1702 he was elected a member of Parliament for the borough of Leicester in Queen Anne's first Parliament and he held the position until his death. He was made Lord Privy Seal 1711; Lord High Admiral 9th April, 1714. He founded the Free Grammar School at Darton. On the death in 1702 of his father's third cousin - Thomas third and last Viscount Beaumont see p. 139 he inherited the Cole Orton estates. He died unmarried, these estates then passed to his brother Lewis, who became the fifth Baronet, see p. 139. He bequeathed Stoughton Grange to his three surviving sisters, - Anne, Arabella, Christina - and to his nephew William Busby, son of his sister Katherine, (see p. 186). The latter eventually became the sole heiress; the estate subsequently passed by her marriage to the Powys-Keck family (see p. 174).

Sir George was buried in the north aisle of Stoughton Church and a memorial there records "Here lie the remains of Sir George Beaumont Bart., who died April 9th 1737 aged 73. Here also was interred Sir Henry Beaumont, great grandfather to the above named Sir George, who died in April 1646 aged 62." Nichol's LEICESTER, II. pt. 2 p. 855). There is also a handsome marble tablet, surmounted with a pyramid on which are carved the Beaumont coat of arms and the motto "Erectus non elatus". The inscription reads:

"Sacred to the memory of
Sir George Beaumont, Bart.,
descended from an ancient and illustrious family,

The truest patriot and the best of friends,
 Ne'er wronged his Country for his private ends;
 But did with vigour always them oppose,
 Tho' ne'er so great, who were his Country's foes.
 Then mourn, ye Britons; your sad loss deplore:
 The just and generous Beaumont is no more!

: Could we but have such men in time to come,
 For Patriots, Britain might out rival Rome;
 For, Cato like, he lov'd his Country's cause,
 Defended all its liberties and laws,
 Then mourn, ye Britons; your sad loss deplore;
 The just and generous Beaumont is no more!

But it were endless his great worth to name,
 Since every tongue now lodly sounds his fame;
 Nor am I worthy to attempt his praise,
 His virtues will more lasting trophies raise,
 Then mourn, ye Britons, your sad loss deplore:
 The just and generous Beaumont is no more!"