

A HISTORY OF WARTON PARISH

A black and white photograph of a church with a tall spire, surrounded by trees and a large mountain in the background. The church is a light-colored building with a prominent central spire and two smaller spires on either side. It is partially obscured by dark, silhouetted trees in the foreground. In the background, a large, rugged mountain rises against a light sky. The overall scene is a landscape view of the church and its surroundings.

John Lucas

Carnforth • Silverdale • Priest Hutton

Yealand Conyers • Borwick • Yealand Redmayne

John Lucas's 'History of Warton' gives a vivid, first-hand account of life and death, work and play in a North Lancashire parish three hundred years ago.

CARNFORTH: "The Houses in this Town (two or three excepted) are covered with straw Thatch".

WEDDINGS: "The School Boys make fast the Church Doors and demand a Piece of Money of the Bridegroom and if he refuses they presently seize one of the Bride's shoes, which I have seen done."

FOOTBALL: "The Parties engage each other at Foot Ball with their utmost Strength and Courage and the Parents of the Boys and chief Inhabitants come together to see the Diversion".

HARVEST: "When Harvest is over the old People after Supper smook their Pipes, and with great Pleasure and Delight behold the younger spending the Evening in Singing, Dancing etc."

FUNERALS: "Afterwards there is distributed to everyone a Penny Wheaten loaf, and a large Shive of Cheese and also a drink of Ale . . . of late Years, some have omitted the Cheese."

A History of Warton Parish

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(Continued from Vol. I)

1871-1881

The editor of the *Warton Parish* and
the *Warton Parish*

This edition published by the *Warton Parish*



A History of Warton Parish

(Compiled 1710–1740)

John Lucas

First edited 1931 by J. Rawlinson Ford
and J. A. Fuller-Maitland.

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Acknowledgements and Foreword



I have had a lot of help producing this version of John Lucas's History.

My first debt is to the author who spent 33 years of his life compiling this book. More of him in the introduction which follows!

I'm also obliged to the two people who published the first printed edition of this work back in 1931: Messrs J A Fuller-Maitland and J Rawlinson Ford. Until they came along 'The History of Warton' had been read by only a handful of people since it was put together two centuries earlier. Although I have made some changes, this version is not greatly altered from theirs. I have introduced chapter headings to help readers navigate the text; I have also added a number of footnotes while retaining some of theirs, I have also reinstated some short sections which they left out.

The first editors did so much work on the original book that I feel it's worth saying a little more about them.

*

John Alexander Fuller-Maitland lived two or three miles from Warton at Borwick Hall – a wonderful building which he restored. He had been the music critic of *The Guardian* and *The Times* and was the author of numerous books on classical musicians including Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms. Although credited as co-editor in the front of the 1931 edition of *Lucas*, I am sorry to say that I still don't know what role he played in the editing or publication of the work. He may have funded the project. He certainly seems to have had some proprietorial interest in the two, hand-written volumes of *Lucas's History* now lodged at the Lancashire Record office in Preston. His co-editor Rawlinson Ford has glued a hand-written note in the front of Volume 1 stipulating that they have been donated to the County on the strict condition that Mr Fuller-Maitland must be permitted to remove them at any time.

We know much more about Rawlinson Ford's connection with *Lucas's* book. He was a retired Leeds solicitor whose family had owned Yealand Manor since 1791. We know he was an energetic local historian because his hand-written notes on a range of issues are still to be found in the archive of the Mourholme Society, the local history group serving the Warton parish. The modern footnotes in the 1931 edition all bear his initials.

It was John Rawlinson Ford who rediscovered the book. After Lucas's death, the handwritten manuscript had been used by the Rev William Hutton when he compiled his 'Beetham Repository' in 1770. Dr RT Whitaker also referred to the work in his 'History of Richmondshire', published in 1817. But Lucas's work then disappeared for more than a century. It wasn't until Rawlinson Ford lamented its loss in print that it emerged from the private library of a Mr Darcy Bruce Wilson of Seacroft Hall, near Leeds. When he gave the go-ahead to publish the book, it was Rawlinson Ford who rolled up his sleeves and carried out the edit.

A well-known, present-day local historian, Dr Andrew White, has been kind enough to show me three hand-written workbooks in Rawlinson Ford's clear, neat script. These represent the pre-print edit of the 1931 abridgement. So it seems likely that it was Rawlinson Ford who combed through Lucas's over-stuffed work, removing the least relevant digressions. His workbooks are now in the Mourholme archive. Rawlinson Ford also made some inquiries into Lucas's family background and through contacts in local history societies in Leeds, gathered details of his burial and monument at St John's Church in that city. Sadly, I have been unable to find the gravestone commemorating John Lucas and his family which once lay just outside the south door of the church.

I am grateful to Dr Jonathan Oates, author and Borough Archivist for the London Borough of Ealing, who has edited Lucas's other surviving work, the 'The Memoranda Book of John Lucas', a collection of observations and jottings about daily life in Leeds between the years 1712 and 1750. While editing the Memoranda Dr Oates researched the Warton family background of John Lucas and discovered a good deal about his life and work in Leeds. Much of this information I reproduce – with thanks – in the introduction to this book.

My thanks also to the staff at the Lancashire Record Office in Preston and at the West Yorkshire Archives in Leeds for their help. Libraries meant so much to John Lucas that it seems particularly apt that librarians and archivists should continue to play such an important part in preserving and explaining his work.

The Mourholme History Society, of which I am a member, has been supportive, particularly its Chairman, Simon Williams, who proof-read my Introduction.

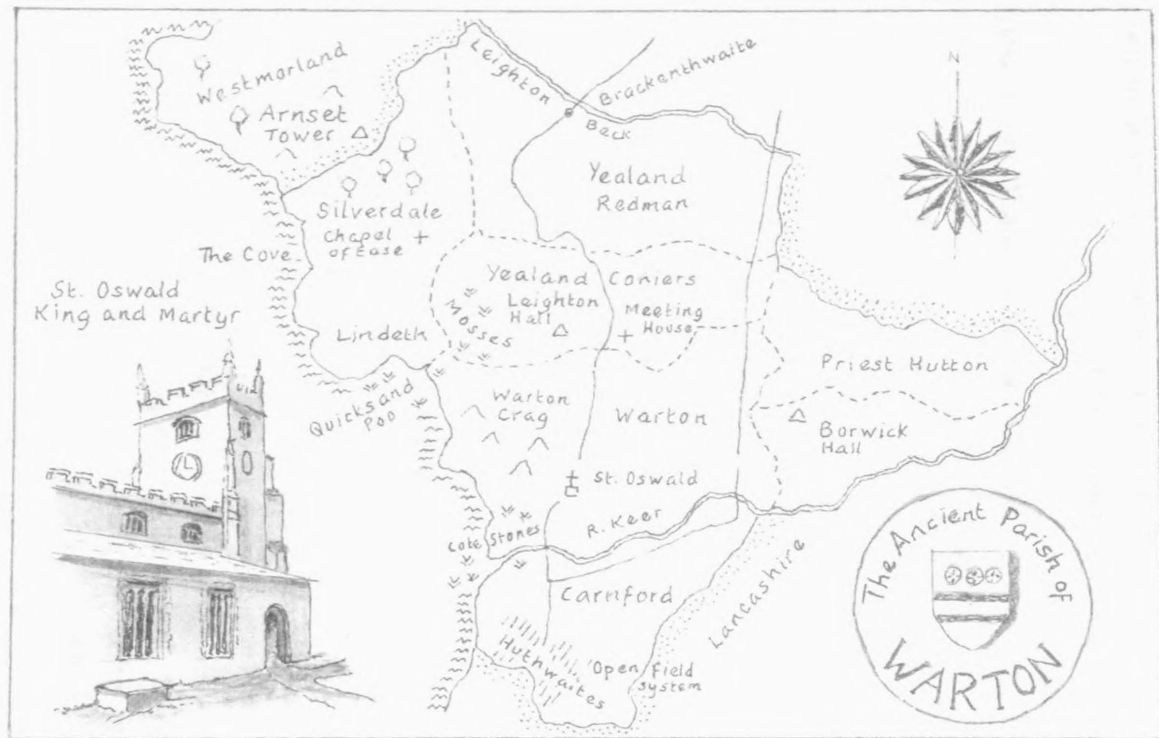
Daphne Lester has provided illustrations of great charm and accuracy while the book's cover was designed and illustrated by my older daughter, Ellie Denwood.

Rebecca Souster at the printers Clays and Debi Letham at typesetters Ellipsis have both been extremely helpful.

Finally, as ever, I'm grateful to my wife, Judith – another

librarian! – who has patiently endured my preoccupation with eighteenth century Warton.

Andy Denwood, Yealand Conyers, 2017



Introduction



By 1700 the North Lancashire Parish of Warton had a population approaching 1,300 in a series of townships: Carnforth, Borwick, Priest Hutton, Silverdale and the Yealands.

Today Carnforth and Silverdale have their own parish churches. But back then Carnforth was a settlement of just 40 families, most living in houses with straw-thatched roofs. Silverdale was a remote peninsula surrounded by mosses. Yealand Conyers was “almost wholly inhabited by the people called Quakers”; Yealand Storrs was known for its “excellent Plumbs”; and Priest Hutton – next door to “the pretty village called Borwick” – still basked in the fame of local boy, Matthew Hutton, who had risen to become Archbishop of York under Queen Elizabeth 1.

These are some of the snippets and observations that spill out of schoolmaster John Lucas’s *History*. The life he records between 1710 and 1740 revolves around the central village of Warton with its Grammar School, Manor Court and – above all – its Parish Church of St Oswald’s.

Warton in the early eighteenth century would have been regarded as a remote part of England. This was a time before railways, before canals and even before reasonable roads. The Garstang to Hersonsyke Turnpike which eventually ran through Carnforth only started life in 1751, the year after John Lucas died. But there was a flow of traffic along Carnforth's North Road and Lucas scented change in the air: "Since my being a Youth," he recorded, "they have got an Ale House; and no Wonder since it lies on the High Post & Carrier Road between London & Glasgow".

The further reaches of the Parish were in turn quite remote from the centre of Warton. In 1687 the villagers of Silverdale complained that they lived in "a very obscure and remote place". They successfully petitioned to have a curate appointed to their local Chapel of Ease. "We are bound up by the Sea on one hand and by the Mosses on the other," they explained, "soe that at some times we cannot with conveniency travel to the Mother Church at Warton."¹

John Lucas was charting a world caught between the medieval and the modern. New industries like ship-building and iron founding were underway locally. But teams of oxen still ploughed Carnforth's feudal strip fields; young men still practised archery at the butts on Warton Crag and women delivered bundles of rushes to the church on St Oswald's Day "attended not only with Multitudes of People, but with Musick, Drums, Ringing of

Bells and all other demonstrations of joy.”

The bare details we know about John Lucas's life can be swiftly stated. Born at a house called Brig End, near Lower Keer Bridge, Carnforth on January 27th 1684, he was the son of a yeoman farmer and the oldest of nine children.

As a youngster he narrowly escaped drowning in the mill-dam near his house. He attended Archbishop Hutton's Grammar School in Warton. In his twenties he moved to Leeds where he became a schoolmaster, married Elizabeth, the daughter of a carpenter, and fathered seven children. He prospered modestly, became a churchwarden, bought some property, and acquired a vote in the Parliamentary elections.² He died on June 26th 1750 aged 66 and was buried in the churchyard of St John's Church, Leeds. His tombstone read: “A life of labour complete, he came here”.

John Lucas achieved no fame in his lifetime and he has attracted only a little attention since his death. But he did produce something remarkable.

Every evening after work he would sit down at his home in Meadow Lane, Leeds to write the history of his native parish of Warton, 50 miles away. Over a period of 33 years he produced the original version of this book: ‘The History of the Parish of Warton in the County of Lancashire.’

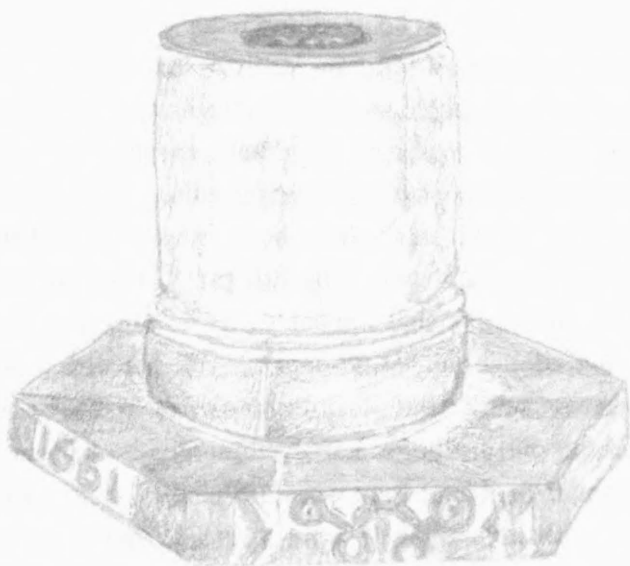
Very few parishes in England are lucky enough to have a history compiled in the first half of the eighteenth century.

The purpose of this introduction is to look more closely at John Lucas and his world; to see what we can learn about his methods and his motives for writing the book; to assess his qualities and limitations as a chronicler; but above all, to celebrate the glorious, vivid snapshots he gives us of life in the ancient Parish of Warton three centuries ago.

THE LUCAS FAMILY OF WARTON

John Lucas tells us his family had lived in the Warton area for at least 200 years before his own birth. No surviving parish documents confirm this claim but there is no doubt that the Lucas family were well-established. Records show that a Richard Lucas was baptised at St Oswald's in January 1571.³ John Lucas was the Parish Constable in 1659.⁴ And in the author's own lifetime a James Lucas owned the flour mill at Millhead and Robert Lucas was a Master at Warton's Grammar school.

John's father, Richard Lucas, was a well-to-do farmer. As well as Brig End, he owned Hagg House which still stands on Shore Lane. Richard had been baptised at St Oswald's church in Warton on September 25th 1659. He



The font at St Oswald's

married Jane Bateman from Thornton in the West Riding of Yorkshire. John, the first of their nine children, was baptised at St Oswald's on February 17th 1684.⁵

No-one would have described the family as rich. But neither were they poor. They belonged to what was then called "the middling sort": the kind of people who owned a small amount of land or had valuable tenancies and were qualified to sit on the juries of the Manor Court.

Richard Lucas was a go-ahead farmer. He was one of

the first to swap his medieval strips of land with others on Carnforth's common fields, known as the Huthwaites. This consolidation of plots probably made his farm more efficient. Despite such changes, most farming continued to be organised on medieval lines with the Manor Court overseeing the smooth running of agriculture in the parish.

Well-organised it might have been, but the lack of high quality plough-land made life difficult. "There are some fields in this Parish that appear to be nothing else but a gathering of Pebbles," Lucas observed. The fields were such heavy work that it often took six oxen hitched together to pull a plough. Large submerged boulders were a particular problem: they were dealt with either by digging a bigger hole to bury them – a process that threatened to crush unwary farmers – or by blasting them apart with explosives. Gunpowder was employed with surprising frequency and it's interesting to reflect that the carved oak spice cupboards that survive in many older houses in the Parish might have been used to keep the farmers' powder dry, as well as storing precious stocks of salt and cinnamon.

Most parishioners worked the land and very few would have earned much money. Even so, as Lucas observed with evident pride, a beggar in Carnforth was as rare as "a horse in the Streets of Venice".⁶

EDUCATION

As a future historian, John Lucas was blessed with several strokes of luck : he was a boy, and therefore more likely to be educated; the village of Warton possessed a Grammar School; and he had a family who could afford to let him attend.

The Grammar School was up The Wiend, the steep road leading on to the Crag along the side of the building now called 'The George Washington' pub. Lucas describes climbing broken steps to approach the school door. Over the lintel was a date-stone and inscription celebrating its founder:

"In the Year of Our Lord 1594 To God and Good learning. Matthew Hutton Bishop of Durham."

This benefactor was the Matthew Hutton from nearby Priest Hutton who had risen to become the Bishop of Durham, and then Archbishop of York. His endowment provided a salary for the village schoolmaster.

Today, part of the old school building is a micro brewery. In the early eighteenth century it was floored in oak planking. One end was open to the rafters, the other was two-storied and quite cosy. It was "neatly plaistered" and had a Chimney. Crucially for Lucas, the school also housed a "Library furnished with a good Set of Classick Authors". This would have been John Lucas's first experience of a library. As he read more and learned Latin, his tastes and accomplishments would have lifted him from

his farming background, enabling him to rub shoulders with teachers, clergymen and members of the gentry.

He doesn't give us much detail of his schooling. In fact, throughout the book, he rarely refers directly to his own experiences. But occasional references give a flavour of his childhood. Each day, he recalls, all the schoolboys would bring their packed lunches "and at noon (either in the School, or in some Scar on the Crag in summer . . .) cheerfully feed thereon".

He tells us a good deal about school customs and traditions. After Christmas each year two school Captains were chosen who would then select teams for the annual football match. There were no playing fields so it's likely that the game would have ranged up and down Main Street watched by an enthusiastic crowd of parents and villagers. The victors were given "favours" to wear in their hats, and both teams would retire to separate ale-houses after the contest to celebrate or lick their wounds. There were cock-fights on Shrove Tuesday and by custom when village couples were wed, the schoolboys locked the church gates, only allowing the bride and groom to pass on payment of a small toll. If they refused to stump up, said Lucas, the boys would "seize one of the bride's shoes, which I have seen done." Barring the church gates against newly-weds in this way continued into modern times.

WORKING LIFE

Lucas left Warton in his early twenties for the bustling and rapidly developing metropolis of Leeds. He didn't go to university, nor does he mention any plans or hopes to do so. Attending the Grammar School was one thing; further education would have been a much costlier commitment for Lucas and his family. His first teaching post was at Bridge End school in Leeds. Later he was promoted and went to teach at the St John's charity school in the town. In 1720 he was earning £7 10s a quarter.⁷ Grammar school teachers earned more but were expected to have a university degree. The charity schools where Lucas taught provided education to the children of the poor at little or no cost to their parents. Girls had sewing and knitting classes while boys studied writing and accounts. Both sexes read Psalms and the Bible. For Lucas the working day would run from 7am to 5pm in the summer, 8am to 4pm in the winter.⁸

POLITICS AND RELIGION

In an early passage in the history Lucas gives a detailed description of St Oswald's church in Warton. He explains how it was built of local stone, and how, when the exterior was replastered with "good Lime and very small

blue Pebbles . . . which are fetch'd from the Sea Shore", it glowed white, and could be seen from many miles distance.

It really is difficult to overstate the importance of the Church in the life of the local community. Many people attended more than one service every Sunday. The vicar was a respected figure who dispensed charity and spiritual guidance to villagers, and St Oswald's itself was the social hub: a place to meet, to be seen and to exchange news and gossip.

But the Church as an institution had been at the epicentre of controversies that had wrought havoc in English society over the previous hundred years.

To Lucas and his contemporaries the horror and schism of the Civil War was no distant memory – they were as close as the second world war is to us. And the Jacobite rebellions – which aimed to restore the Stuarts to the English throne – were the stuff of current affairs.

Within the parish there were sharp religious divisions. The owners of Leighton Hall were Catholic. This had put them firmly on the side of Charles I and against the Parliamentarians in the English Civil War. Many of the tenants and Yeomen farmers – particularly in Yealand – were Quakers and at odds politically with their landlord. But Lucas and the majority of locals were loyal followers of the Church of England, headed by the Monarch.

He tells a story illustrating the religious confusion which embroiled many. In 1714 Warton acquired an erudite and well-qualified new vicar. Dr William Aylmer was a medical doctor as well as a Doctor of Divinity. But while studying at Oxford University he had been “seduced by some Popish emissaries” and was persuaded to become a Professor at the Catholic seminary of Douai. According to Lucas, once in France, Aylmer had experienced a change of heart, and wanted to return to the Church of England. But before he could do so, he was obliged by the authorities to make a humiliating public recantation. In front of the Bishop of Oxford, and the Mayor and Aldermen of that City, he announced: “I . . . most heartily, seriously and sincerely condemn, reject, renounce and abjure all and singular Heresies, Errors, and superstitious Doctrines and Practices peculiar to the Roman Church”.

Aylmer spent the rest of his life ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of his parishioners in Warton. It is difficult to believe that the relatively remote and obscure parish church of St Oswald’s would have acquired such a sophisticated clergyman had he not blotted his copybook quite so badly so early in his career.

Lucas himself seems to have been a High Church Tory.

In his book of Memoranda compiled in Leeds he describes Oliver Cromwell as a usurper. And he says the execution of the King had been an “execrable and ever to be detested murder on the person of his sacred

Majesty King Charles the First . . . by the hands of cruel, bloodthirsty and unreasonable men”.

The historian Jonathan Oates points out that as a licensed schoolmaster in Leeds, Lucas would have been required by law to follow the Anglican faith. But he also tended quite naturally towards traditional and broadly conservative views.

His History shows his anger, for example, at the historical theft of church silver from St Oswalds during the Reformation. But he betrayed no Catholic sympathies let alone support for the return of the deposed members of the Stuart dynasty. In 1712 he declared his enthusiastic backing for Queen Anne: “Let her years be many and her days prosperous”, he wrote in his Memoranda.

After the reign of Queen Anne, he supported King George the first and the second, placing him squarely in the conservative mainstream. He was seriously out of step with the Catholic gentry of North West England – including the owners of Leighton Hall who had supported James Stuart, in the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715. But this was more of a problem for them than it was for him. The Jacobites’ defeat at the Battle of Preston in that year saw the owner of Leighton Hall arrested and gaoled. Lucas by this time had moved to Leeds where the ruling business elite was much more comfortable with the Hanoverian monarchy.

WHY HE WROTE THE HISTORY

In 1710 when John Lucas first sat down to write about Warton, the study of local history was not yet a popular pastime. A small but growing number of folk had begun to observe and record the life and history of their communities. The Rev White Kennett, vicar of Ambrosden in Oxfordshire, had become one of England's earliest parish historians in 1695.⁹ And Richard Gough wrote a history of Myddle, in Shropshire, in 1700.

It seems very likely that Lucas's decision to start writing about Warton was influenced by his friendship with another historian: Ralph Thoresby, a Leeds gentleman who possessed an impressive library and who had begun to research a history of his town. The two men clearly got on well and often went on long walks together, allowing time to discuss their shared passion for history. Thoresby's diaries record some of these excursions, including an outing to Kirkstall Abbey in search of medieval tiles to add to his extensive collection of coins and curios.¹⁰

Lucas penned a lengthy and extravagant dedication to Thoresby at the start of his book, thanking him enthusiastically for his friendship and – significantly – for giving him the run of his library.

Since the Warton history was written while Lucas lived in Leeds, homesickness and nostalgia may have been a spur. His observations and descriptions must for the most

part have been written from memory, bolstered by occasional trips home and visits in Leeds from his brother, Richard, who ran a brewery in Derby.

It's possible that Lucas was unsettled by the growing pace of change in early eighteenth-century England and that he was anxious to record aspects of Warton life which he feared might disappear altogether: customs such as rushbearing and village football. He might have focussed on other pastimes because they would be unfamiliar and therefore intriguing to Ralph Thoresby and his circle of friends in Leeds: sea-fishing and the manufacture of salt for example.

Lucas himself gives only one brief explanation for the history. In the Preface, he writes: "One of the chief Motives to the doing of it was, that it might be an Incitive to Industry to my Children's Children . . . when they shall see that their Fore-Father did not spend his Time in Idleness; though they may perhaps judge it to have been spent in a Fruitless and trifling Amusement."

READING THE HISTORY

I suspect many readers will (like me!) struggle with some passages in this book. Even the first few sentences of Chapter 1 are challenging. Please persevere: it gets much better! Some people may be put off by the author's obses-

sion with naming the successive owners of various Manors and Baronies. Family pedigrees and dense lists of long-dead aristocrats are enlivened only by the inclusion of some names which – to the modern ear – have a comedic quality reminiscent of ‘Monty Python’: step forward medieval worthies Marmaduke de Thweng and Gilbert Fitz-Reinfride.

The editors of the 1931 edition, J Rawlinson Ford and JA Fuller-Maitland, performed sterling work weeding out some of the less compelling lists. I have cut out a lengthy roll-call of “Lancashire recusants” – the Catholics who refused to attend Church of England services in the County. I’ve resisted the temptation to be too brutal with remaining lists. First, because some record genuinely useful information, albeit in an arid form; and second, because they are so typical of an eighteenth century, antiquarian approach to history, that they can be appreciated as artefacts in their own right. In any case, my advice to readers who feel eye-lids drooping and interest flagging, is to turn the page without any sense of guilt: one of the joys of Lucas is that something new and intriguing lies just ahead.

Another potential source of irritation in the unedited original was the author’s habit of reaching for endless comparisons. The parallels he draws are inspired by the vast number of scholarly works he consulted in compiling

his book. His bibliography – which I have not reproduced – runs to 38 pages listing 2,086 separate titles. At times it feels as though intends to quote them all!

As an example, one passage in the unabridged book, noted that people in Yealand used limestone to make gateposts. This innocent observation prompted a series of reflections on the use of stone in a church in Ravenna, the building of the Old Wall at Heliopolis; ingenious masonry techniques at a “castle at Cuzco” in Peru, and in the construction of obelisks in Constantinople and Alexandria. Six pages later, having circled the globe, the exhausted reader is deposited back in Yealand, no noticeably better informed on the original subject. This section has been edited.

On the other hand, I have retained his observation that the breadth of St Oswald’s church in Warton is the same as “that of the worthily celebrated Temple at Jerusalem built by the wise King Solomon.”

I suspect that even Lucas’s close friends thought he went on a bit. His mentor, the historian Ralph Thoresby was shown an early draft of the book in January 1724.

“Concluded the reading of Mr Lucas’s manuscript,” wrote the dutiful Thoresby in his diary. “He has shown much reading, and his digressions, though long, are instructive.”¹¹

Others were more brutal. “His native good sense is

almost suffocated by pedantry; his local intelligence buried in quotation and circumlocution", wrote the historian RT Whitaker in 1817.¹²

More recently, former Lancaster museum curator Dr Andrew White chided Lucas for a tendency to believe anything he read in classical sources. "He exhibits at times an almost medieval contempt for observable fact, preferring to ignore the evidence of his own eyes in favour of literary derivations however contrived."¹³ Nonetheless, Dr White readily acknowledges the importance of the Warton history. And Lucas has other enthusiastic fans, some of them very influential. The father of English landscape history, WG Hoskins was keen to look beyond Lucas's "enormous digressions" to the interesting local historical information the book contained. With the "universal history" removed by the editors, said Hoskins what remained was "a most valuable account of a remote north of England parish in the early part of the eighteenth century."¹⁴ And Profesor David Hey, editor of 'The Oxford Companion to Family and Local History' described Lucas as "useful" with "much contemporary observation which is now of historical interest". He worried, however, that the original editors had pruned Lucas's manuscript too drastically. I have restored a few brief passages from the original version.

LUCAS AS OBSERVER

In 1720, as Lucas was compiling his long history of Warton at home in Leeds, one of the greatest travel writers of the age was visiting the town to chronicle the dynamism of Leeds Cloth Market.

"At seven a clock in the morning, the clothiers being supposed to be all come by that time . . . the market bell rings", wrote Daniel Defoe.¹⁵

"Thus, you see, ten or twenty thousand pounds' value in cloth, and sometimes much more, bought and sold in little more than an hour".

Defoe is a celebrated early exponent of the descriptive reportage which became increasingly popular and influential as the industrial revolution took hold in eighteenth century England.

He is certainly a better writer than Lucas. But the schoolmaster has his moments and he is more than capable of offering us a detailed and vivid account of, for example, the operation of the Leighton Beck Iron Furnace.

"Behind the Furnace are placed two huge Pair of Bellows, each seven and a half yards long and one and a half Yard broad, whose noses meet at a little hole near the Bottom of the Furnace," says Lucas. He goes on to give us four and a half pages of well-observed explanation, showing how an early eighteenth century iron furnace actually worked.

This type of description is almost journalistic in style. And his writing exhibits other modern traits. He noted that some older folk in Warton still spoke of fairies which had been seen on Warton Crag, dancing around heaps of silver or gold. The claims provoke a testy response from Lucas: "If it be granted that these Fairies have been so frequently seen and heard as is talked of, I should be very glad to hear a satisfactory Reason why they are not so at this Day."

He is just as dismissive of the superstitions surrounding the so-called "Shrewtree". This was a willow tree that locals believed had the power to cure cattle of a sickness allegedly caused by shrew bites. The cure involved cutting branches from the "Shrewtree" and whipping the afflicted cows. "Now a days People begin to see the Vanity of these Charmlike Remedies," Lucas writes.

Other strange phenomena that earlier writers might have thought ominous, Lucas now treats to rational scientific observation.

"Going up the Wiend, with another Boy, in a Time of Thunder and Rain, we observed a fiery Meteor sloopingly descending towards us", he writes. "Its motion was not quick like Lightning, but seemed to be about equal in Swiftmess to the Flight of a Dove" .

Some of his observations which modern readers might find improbable – eels nibbling ducklings' feet, for example – turn out to be true. Others, such as his tale of the

heron and the eel, are just plain wrong. In fact, he gets quite a few things wrong. Arnside Tower was not built by the Saxons. Dolphins are not fish. Adders cannot fly.

But before we wax too critical, we should remind ourselves that we inhabit a know-it-all world of instant internet wisdom; Lucas had to rely on observation, on whatever he could find in his friend's library, or he had to fall back on his own assessment of local lore. All things considered, I'd say he does pretty well.

Some readers will be frustrated by the lack of a narrative in the book. It feels disjointed, truncated and bitty. But do not give up. There are gems within. Who would have guessed at the scandalous goings on in Warton churchyard? Without John Lucas we'd have no detailed, eye-witness accounts of peat-digging on the Moss, the rush-bearing ceremony or the funerary habits of Wartonians – offering a penny wheaten loaf and a “shive of cheese” to all mourners. Would we know that bracken had been used in making soap as well as for thatching the homes of the very poor? Or that large sailing vessels were built on the River Keer?

Such passages are among the delights of this history. Infuriatingly, the best peter out too quickly, and the author moves on without pause to his next topic. But like a landscape lit by lightning, they offer fleeting vignettes of life in the Parish of Warton three hundred years ago. And for these we owe sincere thanks to the schoolmaster-historian,

John Lucas, who took the trouble to pick up his pen and write them down.

Andy Denwood
Yealand Conyers

2017

NB: Lucas's spelling, grammar and punctuation have been retained throughout the manuscript. Use of the oblique symbol or "slash" / shows where a word or passage has been removed.

Dedication To

Mr. Ralph Thoresby F.R.S., and also Fellow of
the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

Hond. Sr.

As, by the common consent of all Men, Kindnesses which cannot be recompensed by the Receivers, ought freely by them to be owned and acknowledged upon all proper Occasions, that their Gratitude (which is all that is in their Power) may bear some Proportion to the Benefactor's Bounty; So I might worthily be accounted guilty of the highest Degree of Ingratitude if I should not with a ready Mind whenever an Opportunity offers itself, cheerfully acknowledge the great and Extraordinary Favours which you have conferred upon me since the Time (which I account one of the happiest Minutes of my Life) that I had the Honour to be of your Acquaintance: For that you, an ancient, learned and grave Gentleman, admired, courted and caressed by the most learned, greatest and best of the Clergy, Nobility and Gentry of these Kingdomes, should condescend so far as to take me a young, unlearned and unexperienced Person into your Favour, Familiarity, nay

and even Friendship too, was what I could never have expected. And to this, as to many other uncommon Civilities, a particular Recital I know would be offensive to your Modesty, you had no other Inducement, but your own innate Goodness and great Humanity. For all which the Prayers and Good Wishes and hopefull Offspring (in which I hope I shall never be awanting) be the best return I am able to make you since it is to your copious and well-chosen Library that I owe the greatest Part of what is here collected either from Manuscripts or printed Books, I take this opportunity of thankfully acknowledging your extraordinary Courtesy in the easiness of Access to, and unbounded Liberty you allowd me of making Use of them; and humbly to crave your Acceptance (*Strenae loco, et tanquam Tessaram meae rega te Observantiae*) of these unpolished Papers of

Sr. Your most obedient And much obliged Humble Servant

John Lucas

New Years Day, 1723

Natali Solo Sacrum,
A
Topographical Description
of the Parish of
WARTON,
and some Parts adjacent
in the
COUNTY PALATINE
of
LANCASTER;
and Dioces of **CHESTER.**
Interspersed with great variety of Observations from
History
Ecclesiastical, Civil and Natural;
extracted from
Original Records, Manuscripts, Pedigrees &c.
and
many rare ancient and modern
Printed Books:

By John Lucas School-master.

Began about MDCCX,
and
finished in MDCCXLIV.

The original, hand-written title page

A History of Warton Parish

CHAPTER ONE

Parish Origins



If the Origins of the more learned Nations, Greek and Romans be uncertain as my very Ingenious Friend Mr. Ralph Thoresby, F.R.S. hath observed¹ much more are those of these remote Western Parts: And if National Antiquities be Obscure, Parochial for sure are more uncertain.

All therefore that can be affirmed with Safety is that while the Government of the Britains continued this Tract was inhabited by the Brigantes a People that were not only brave, hardy and warlike, but also very numerous, possessing all the Land now contain'd in the Counties of York, Lancaster, Durham, Westmorland and Cumberland.

Under the Romans, this Tract being Part of that called Maxima Caesariensis, was under the Inspection of the Dux Britanniarum as the Southern Parts were under the Comes: . . . yet a kind Providence made us very early a Province of the Roman Empire by which means Civility,

Arts, and Good Manners were introduced, which made way for the greatest Blessing that Heaven could bestow upon us, even the Receiving (or rather Reviving) of Christianity. And that Blessing the Inhabitants of this Part of the Island had with the most early, being the first among the Nations that embraced it, and to their lasting Honour maintained it in the Purity thereof, when the greatest Part of the Island was again overrun with Pagan Idolatry. For the Church of Whalley which contained within its Precincts the whole County of Blackburnshire and Bowland, was in Being when Augustine the Monk came into England, in the Reign of King Ethelbert, and was dedicated to All Saints, and there was at the same time a famous Monastery, well furnish'd with pious and learned Men, at Banchor in the adjoyning County of Chester/

This Parish, the Circuit whereof, as near as I can compute it, is about 10 or 12 Miles, is, as was the land of Canaan, a land of Hills and Dales, and consequently both pleasant and fruitfull: for we observe that an orderly Vicissitude of Things doth much more gratifie the contemplative Property in Man: And a Land distinguished into Mountains, Vallies, and Plains, is not only far more beautifull and pleasant to behold, but also more convenient for the Entertainment of the various Sorts of Animals which God hath created: Some whereof delight in cold, some in hot, some in moist and watery, some in

dry and Upland Places; and some of these could neither feed nor even gather their proper Food in different Regions.

The Inhabitants of this Parish may truly, and with Comfort, say, that they have, within their own Limits, all those good things (Wine & Oil excepted) which Jesus the wise Son of Sirach reckons the chief and principal things for the whole Use of Man's life, viz. Water, Fire, Iron, and Salt, and Bread; Flour of Wheat, Honey, Milk, and the Blood of the Grape, and Oil and Clothing, and an House to cover Shame. In a Word they freely enjoy all the four Elements, Fire, Air, Water, and Earth, and have each of them very good.

But to be more particular as to the Enjoyment of the Four Elements/

Instead of Tinder I have often seen my Country-Men, with as good Success, make use of a Piece of a well dried Turf, which is the only Fuel they have in this Parish (except Wood, which they very rarely burn) and where-with they are plentifully furnished out of their own Mosses. As to the Nature of Moss, and the Manner of preparing their Turf, I shall forbear to give any Account thereof, till I come to Warton-Moss;² and shall only in this Place take Notice that the Salutory Influence of Turf-Fires may easily be gathered from the well grounded Observations of some learned and Curious Persons who have remarked, that in Pestilential Seasons, the Plague is more

rare; The Contagion is later e'er it gets in, and when admitted, not quite so fatal in Places where this Fuel is plentifully burnt, as in some others. The Revd. Mr. Morton in his Natural History of Northamptonshire tells us of a very Honourable Person in that County, who was of Opinion that Turf expires an agreeable and healthy Steam, and usually burnt it in his own Appartment. And the learned and ingenious Mr. William King says that Turf char'd (the same which the Dutch call Dove-Coal, and use in their Stoves) is the sweetest & whole-somest Fire that can be; and fitter for a Chamber, and Consumptive People, than either Wood, Stone-Coal or Char-Coal/

WATER

In all these Respects this Parish is exceeded by very few: As it yields great Plenty of Stone (Limestone especially) disposed into great Craggs or Rocks; so it abounds with those called Rock-Springs i.e. the lasting & perennial Ones, whose Channels are in the Fissures or Intervalls of these Rocks. The running Waters (those many usefull & pleasant Rills proceeding from the said Fountains excepted) which this Parish enjoys are Two Viz. Kere, which divides the large Township of Carnford from the rest of the Parish; and Leighton-Beck, which not only separates this Parish, but the County, from Westmorland/

CHAPTER TWO

Farming



The Soil of this Parish being in general a Mixture of Earth & Gravel, is tolerably fertile and very kindly answers the laborious Husbandman's Care & Skill. As it is not in all Places so exuberant as to make the People lazy and luxurious; so it is nowhere (some Places of the Cragg excepted) so barren as to damp their Industry.

The greatest Impediment they meet with in the Management of their Ground, is the great Quantity of Stones that are found therein, some whereof are very large. Some of these great Stones lay upon the Surface of the Ground, some of them are partly within and partly out of the Earth: but the most mischievous are those which are covered with Soil, but yet are not out of the Way of the Plow. Vast Numbers of these Stones have been of late Years remov'd out of the Way, yet not without great Hazzard to the diligent Husbandman. The Methods they make use of are these two. Either they dig a Pit (deep enough to bury

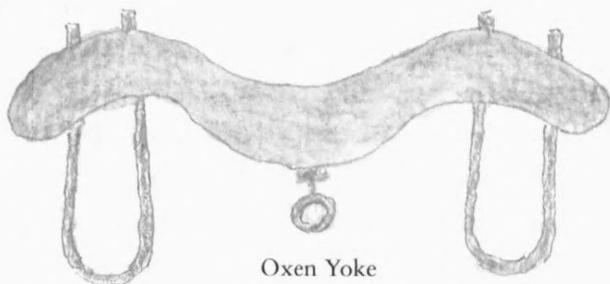
it out of the Plow's Way) just by the Stone, into which it falls, and so is served as the Kentish-men used to deal with their Trees; but this, tho' the most common, often proves fatal, the Stone falling upon the Miner before he is aware. Or else they bore Holes therein, to the Depth of nine or ten Inches, which being fill'd with Gun-Powder, plug'd up, and fired, will break the Stone into such pieces as may be remov'd upon Sledges &c. into their Fences, or Places where they are out of ye Way. The Instruments they make use of in boring and breaking ye Stones are the same with those mention'd by Dr. Leopold to be used by the Swedish Miners, or those described in the Philos: Transactions, only instead of the Gun there mentioned (which I take to be much safer) they have a small nitch in the Side of the Plug or Wedge. This Method of breaking hard Rocks, is said to have been invented by Monsieur Du Son, a German, one of the most excellent Mechanicks then in the World; though I believe it was practised in those Parts before he was born, only with the Difference, that they did not use the double Wedge there mentioned (which doubtless is much better) but a single One.

There are some Fields in this Parish that appear to be nothing else but a gathering of Pebbles, insomuch that Earth cannot well be discover'd among them; yet do they yield Abundance of good Com, especially Oates Barley and Pease, yea more than some contiguous lands that are not so stony. The Plows they use here are generally the

same with those of the neighbouring Parishes, which they draw both with Oxen and Horses in Pairs, their land being so dry that there is no danger of pocking it; to prevent which, in some low Countries, they are forced to plow with their Horses in a String, and in very wet Seasons, with their Oxen too, being furnished with half Yokes for that very Purpose.

In this Parish they do rather plow with Oxen (Six whereof I have often seen drawing a Plow, without a Horse before them) than Horses, not only because of their turning to a more certain Profit, and having less of Hazard in them; but for their steady Draught, their stony land requiring it.

Their Harrows here are like those of their Neighbours; but they have no such Instruments as either a Roller or



Oxen Yoke

cloding Mell. They weed their Corn about the latter End of May or beginning of June, with an Instrument like a Pair of Smith's Tongs, which they call a Pair of Gripes, jagged like a Rasp on the inner Sides, to take the firmer Hold; with which they pluck up the Weeds by the Roots, which being perennial Plants, springing annually anew, I look upon it as a much better Instrument than the Hooks and Diggers of other Countries, which only cut them off above Ground, so that if weeded early, they grow up again before the Corn is ripe, or at least the next Year, from the same Root. Yet here they cut the Fern or Bracken, either because it will not spring again next Year, or it's Root being so strong and large would eradicate too much of the Corn if plucked up. When the Corn is ripe, which is in August or September, they shear it all, except the Bands, which they pull up by the Roots, as the Egyptians are said to do all their Corn, and mow none.

The Soil of this Parish being of a sandy or light calcarious Substance, is found most proper for the producing of Barley, Oates, Rye and Grey-Wheat.

The Barley found to thrive best in this Parish, is the *Hordeum Distichum Gerardi*, the common long ear'd Barley. The *Hordeum Distichum spica levior et latior* I.R. (Johan Raii) Battledoor Barley, is sometimes found growing among the other Sort, but is, I think, never grown here alone. The Ears of the former have usually fewer weak and decay'd Grains in them; and that sort has also

a stronger Straw, but if it stands a little too long, the head of it is too apt to break off.

The Making of Malt, in which they were formerly deficient, is now brought to as great Perfection in his Country, as even at Derby itself, by the Skill (*absit Invidia*) of my Brother Richard Lucas/

Oates, here commonly called Haver from the German Habern, are the general Bread Corn of this Tract, as they were over all England at the Conquest/

Good Fences being, absolutely necessary for the securing of Inclosures, I shall conclude this Head with observing that Provident Nature has not only plentifully furnished them of this Parish with Stones for the Building of Walls and making of lime: but also with several Sorts of Trees & Shrubs, armed with Prickles and Thorns, not only to secure them from the browsing of Beasts, and to shelter Plants and Grass that grow under them, but also to render them very usefull to Man, as if it design'd by the Former of them, to make both quick and dead Hedges or Fences/

The General Account of this Parish proving longer than I expected I shall contract my Design and in this Place only add that it is bounded on the North West, North and North East by the Parishes of Betham & Burton both in Westmoreland. On the East by Whittington Parish, and on the South by the Parishes of Kellet & Bolton, and on the West by the Sea/



A Lime Kiln at Warton

CHAPTER THREE

Township of Warton



Our Saxon Ancestors in Time of War, to defend themselves from being spoiled, cast up a Ditch and made a strong Hedge about their Houses, which Fence was then called a Tun or Ton: and the Houses so surrounded, by a Metaphor got the name of Tons; and so all the Stedes, now Cities, Thorps, now Villages, and Burgs, now Burrows, being for their Defence encompassed with Tuns or Tons, got the name of Towns/

That a House or Houses built and environ'd with a Ton, by some of our Saxon Ancestors, near unto the (then no doubt large) Tarn called the Ware gave both Original and the Name of Warton to this Town, will I hope be allowed as no improbable Conjecture.

This Township, which touches on no other Parish, is bounded on the North by Leighton and Yealand Coniers, on the East by Hutton & Borwick, on the South by Carnford, and on the West by the Sea.

*

The Mannor of this Town anciently belonged to the Barons of Kendal, who derived their Descent from Old Ivo Tailboys a Noble Norman E. of Anjou³ as is evident from the Registers of Cockersand and Furness Abbeys, to which some of them were great Benefactors. This Ivo married Lucia Sister to Edwyn & Morca Earls of Mercia & Northumberland /and is said to be Father to one Ethred, he of Ketell, he of Gilbert and he of William who (probably as Governour of Lancaster Castle) did first assume the Name of Lancaster. He left Issue by Gundred widow of Roger Earl of Warwick (who died 18th Stephen) and Daughter to William the 2d Earl of Warren, William his Son and Heir called William de Lancaster 2d who married Helewise de Stutevill (whose Father was Lord of Knaresburg), and was Steward of the Household to King Henry the Second; and a Daughter married to Richard de Morevill. This William the 2nd left Issue only one Daughter called Helewise, who was his Heir and was married (I.R.I. by the King) to Gilbert Fitz-Reinfride, Dapifer, who obtained of King John Anno Regni sexto a Grant of the Custody of the Honour of Lancaster, and from the 7th to the 17th of that Reign executed the Office of Shiriff of this County.

Notwithstanding which Trust he adher'd to the rebellious Barons; but William his Son (who in Honour of his

Mother was called William de Lancaster 3rd) being taken Prisoner at Rochester Castle, it brought this Gilbert to Terms of Peace with the King for which he paid Twelve Thousand Marks, and was likewise obliged for the liberty of his Son, and Ralph D'aincourt, and Lambert de Bussy (Brus) his Knights (Esquires) taken with him, and for their, and his own future Fidelity, to find diverse Hostages, most of which being of this and the neighbouring Parishes, I think it not improper here to set down their Names; viz. Benedict the son & Heir to Henry de Reidenan (i.e. Redman) ; the Son & Heir of Roger de Kirkby (his Daughter's Son); the Son & Heir of William de Windleshore; the Daughter and Heir of Ralph D'eincourt the Daughter or Son and Heir of Roger de Burton; the Daughter and Heir of Adam de Yelond; the Son or Daughter: of Thomas de Bethum; the Son or Daughter and Heir of Walter de Strickland; the Daughter of Richard de Copland, and the Son of Gilbert de Lancaster. And if any of these should die, then he should deliver other Sons or Daughters of these Knights, or of some other Persons. He moreover delivered into the King's Hands his Castles of Merhull and Kirkby in Kendall: all which was effected at Berewick 22 January 170. Joh. This Gilbert dying 4th year of Henry 3rd, the said William his Son succeeded him in his Estate, who year 18 Henry III was Shiriff of Lancashire, and so continued till the 30th inclusive and 25 Henry III had the Custody of the Honour of Lancaster committed to his Charge; and

bequeathing his Body to be buried in the Quire of the Abbey of Furness (to which he had been a great Benefactor) near to the Tomb of William his Grandfather, he departed this life 31st year King Henry 3 without Issue, Agnes de Brus his Wife surviving him; who had for her Dowry an Assignation of the Mannors of Garstang, Eston, Scotford, Scotrarge and Kerneford (in this Parish) all in this County & Neighbourhood. Gressemer, Longedon, Crossthaite and Lyth in Com. Westmor. The Inheritance of his lands descended to Peter Son of Peter de Brus by Helewise de Lancaster his eldest Sister; and Walter Son of William de Lyndesey by Alice his second Sister; Serrota his 3d Sister who married Alan de Multon died without Issue.

Upon Partition of the lands of this Barony, the said Peter had, inter alia, the Mannor of Kirkby (i.e. Kirkby in Kendale, commonly called Kendal) allotted to him, for his principal Seat: And Walter de Lindsey this of Warton for his. This Walter had a Sister Christiana, which was married to Ingelram de Coucy (son of Ingelram de Coucy, a Noble Baron of France, whose Daughter Mary was in 1239, married to Alexander II King of Scotland) and had large Possessions given her in this Neighbourhood, by her Father, for which see my Addenda to Mag. Brit. Antiq. & Nova, on Page 1298 of the Second Vol.

The Mannor has long been Part of the Revenue of the Crown: but whether it was settled upon the Monks of

Furness by some of the ancient Lords who were great Benefactors to that Abbey, and so, with all the Possessions of that rich Monastery, was settled on the Dutchy of Lancaster, and so reunited to the Barony of Kendal; or it was in the Crown before I have not yet had an Opportunity rightly to informe myself.

What I have met with further relating to this Town is, That Marmaduke de Thweng, a great Baron of this Realm, who behaved himself with such extraordinary Valour in the Battle of Stirling in Scotland 25th year of Edward 1st so fatal to the English, gave to William his Son and Heir certain lands in Helsington, Kirkby in Kendal, Warton, Kerneford and Six other Towns; which I suppose he had with Isabel his Wife who was Daughter to William de Ros of Ingmanthorpe in Com. Ebor. For Robert de Ros had all Kendal &c. with Margaret one of the 4 Sisters & Coheir-esses of the beforementioned Peter de Brus, who died without Issue 55th year of Henry III according to Sir William Dugdale; or XIX Call. Octob. AD 1272, according to Walter Hemingford.

This William de Thweng died 25 Feb. 15th year of Edward III without Issue, and was succeeded by Robert his Brother, a Clerk, and he by Thomas his Brother a Clergyman also, who departed this Life upon Trinity Sunday 48th year of Edward III then siezed of Ellall and Thirnum (and of these lands I suppose) in Com. Lanc., of Kirkby Kendal and other large Possessions in

Westmorland & Yorkshire, they were divided amongst the Descendants of his 3 Sisters Viz. Lucy the Wife of Sr. Robert de Lumley Kt. Margaret of Sr. Robert de Hilton of Swine in Com. Ebor Kt. and Katherine Wife of Sr. Raufe D'Aubeny Kt. but to wch of them these Lands fell I know not. I find also that John Duke of Bedford the prudent valiant & renowned Regent of France during the minority of Hen. VIth. who died at Roan in France on the Festival of the Exaltation of the Cross 1435 (14 H. VIth) was then siezed of (among other large Possessions) the Moiety of the Mannor of Nether Wyresdale within the Town of Garstang; of the Mannor of Mawrholme in the Town of Warton, of the 4th Part of the Mannor of Stortford, and of the Mannor and Lordship of Whittington (in this Neighbourhood), and Swaftham, all in Com. Lancast.

CHAPTER FOUR

Warton Church



In the Topographical Survey of this Township I will begin at the Church, though it stands almost in the middle of the Town/

I have observed that the Inhabitants have a Tradition of Warton having formerly been a Market Town, but meeting with an Opportunity, since that was written, of perusing Mr. Madox's curious History of the Exchequer, I found a Certainty of it, for it is there recorded that Gilbert Fitz-Reinfride Lord of Warton, as abovesaid obtained a Charter for a Wednesday Market, a Court &c. there in the first Year of King John for which (and the peaceable holding of his lands in Kendale) he paid into the Exchequer One Hundred Pounds. The Words of the Charter are as follows:

JOHN, by the grace of God, etc, May you know that we have granted, and in this our present charter have confirmed, to Gilbert son of Roger son of Reinfred, and

his heirs after him, free court with gallows and pit', with sac and soc,² toll and team³ and infenthief,⁴ in the knight's fee which he holds in the honour of Lancaster, and a market in Warton each week on Wednesdays.

Wherefore we wish and firmly command that the aforesaid Gilbert, and his heirs after him, shall have and hold all the aforesaid liberties and market well and in peace, freely, and quietly, entirely, fully and honourably for ever, with all the liberties and free customs that pertain to a court and market of this type, as long as that market is not to the harm of neighbouring markets.

Witnesses; W. bishop of London. G. bishop of Winchester, Geoffrey FitzPeter and others.

Given by the hands of S. archdeacon of Wells and J. Gray, archdeacon of Gloucester, at Porchester, 26th April in the first year of our reign (26th April, 1200).

This Church was built and consecrated to the Honour and Memory of the pious King Oswald, and the Feast of Dedication being removed from the fifth Day of August . . . is now annually observed on the Sunday nearest to the first Day of August: and the vain Custom of Dancing, excessive Drinking &c. on that Day being, many Years since, laid aside, the Inhabitants and Strangers spend that Day in duely attending the Service of the Church and making good Cheer, within the Rules of Sobriety, in private Houses, and the next in several Kinds of Diver-

sions, the chieftest of which is usually a Rush-bearing, which is on this Manner. They cut hard Rushes from the Marsh, which they make up into long Bundles, and then dress them in fine Linen, Silk, Ribbands, Flowers, &c. Afterwards the Young Women of the Village which performs the Ceremony that Year, take up the Burdens erect upon their Heads and begin the Procession (Precedence being always given to the Churchwarden's Burden) which is attended not only with Multitudes of People, but with Musick, Drums, Ringing of Bells, and all other Demonstrations of Joy they are able to express.

When they arrive at the Church, they go in at the West End (the only publick use that ever I saw that door put to), and setting down their Burdens in the Church, strip them of their Ornaments, and strow the Rushes in the Seats leaving the Heads or Crowns of them deck'd with Flowers, cut Paper, &c. in some Part of the Church, generally over the Cancelli. Then the Company return to the Town from whence they came, and chearfully partake of a plentiful Collation provided for that Purpose; and spend the remaining Part of the Day and frequently a great Part of the Night also, in Dancing (if the Weather permits) about a May-Pole, adorned with Greens, Flowers &c. or else in some other convenient place.

By whom, or in what Age, this Church was first founded, I cannot positively assert/

I think it no improbable Supposition that a Church was

first built here by some Saxon Thane towards the Declension of the Heptarchy, and out of a Religious Gratitude to their late pious King/ & was dedicated to the precious Memory of St Oswald.

The Walls of this Church are strong and all over rough-cast with good Lime and very small blue Pebbles (rather than Sand) which are fetch'd from the Sea Shore. And this, for some years after a Renewal thereof, looks very white, so that the Church may be seen Eastward at the Distance of many Miles, though it stands at the Foot of a high Hill.

The Pillars and Arches on the Inside, and the Buttresses of the Church and Steeple on the Outside, are built of a very durable Free Stone: And the Roof, which is supported by two Rows of Pillars of the Gothick Order, is entirely covered with lead (even the Quire, that belongs to the Impropiators, not excepted;) which in most Churches, has no other Covering but that of Slate or Tiles and kernelled or embattled quite round/

Well might it then be a matter of great Wonder to many Persons, whence the Stones wherewith the Pillars, Buttresses and Battlements of this Church and Steeple are built, and it's Floor is paved should come; there being none of that Sort to be found (as we thought) within the Compass of a great many Miles. But in the Beginning of the present Century, when the River Kent diverted its Course so far Southward, that the Violence of the Tides did not only destroy not only all their common Marshes,

but much also of their inclosed Ground; a Quarry of Free Stone was discovered, not far from Cote-Stones, which was carefully viewed by my learned Master Mr. Robert Lucas, and Richard Lucas my honoured Father, who both told me they could easily perceive it had formerly been wrought; and upon comparing the Stone, that which had often been their Admiration, was now no more so, for it seemed plain to them, and they firmly believed, that the Stones of the Buttresses &c. of the Church had been dug out of that Quarry; But we proceed now to the Roof/

I have observed before that the Chancel is maintained by the Impropiators; and I shall here give the best Account I can how it came to be so/

THE WINDOWS

The Windows are very proportionate and agreeable to the exact Cimmetry of the whole Fabrick, and consequently admit a convenient Quantity of Light. But it would be much better, as well as handsomer, if the small Fragments of painted Glass which are in every one of them, but more especially in the large one at the East End, and yet not one Figure or Inscription entire or so much of them left that Conjecture can be made what they have been, were taken down and the whole new glazed/

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE

The Dementions of this Church are as follows. The Circumference 375 Feet. The length within the walls 124 Feet. The Breadth thereof within 60 Feet. The Breadth of the Chancel within 22 Feet and 2 Inches.

Now the Breadth of this Church exactly answering to that of the worthily celebrated Temple at Jerusalem built by the wise King Solomon/

THE QUIRE

In the time of our happy Reformation King Edw. VI appointed that one decent Table should be provided for every Parish to be set in the Body of the Church, where they remained until Archbishop Laud's time when it was removed to the East End of the Choir and enclosed with Rails, but the factious Party soon after prevailing they broke the Rails down and levelled the place with rest of the Church, at the Restoration 1660 the Altar Table was set in its place again, and the Rails set up within my remembrance.

The Communion Table in this Church stands upon an Eminence (ascended by three Steps) that takes up the entire Breadth of the Quire, and was secured according to ancient Custom from the rude Approach of Dogs &c. by

decent Rails and Banisters about the Year 1699. It is covered with green Cloth, and at the Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with fine linen/

When I consider the fine Paintings &c. that have formerly been in this Church, I cannot but think that the Altar also was furnished with suitable Ornaments, such as Chalices, Patins, Crosses, &c. of Silver in the Times of Popery; But at the Reformation those Utensils and other Ornaments of this, as well as of several other Churches, were spoiled, embezled and made away by Persons who (being of a quite different Opinion from St. Athenasius who accounted it a great Piece of Impiety to break a Chalice belonging to the Eucharist) thought they had a Right to whatever Church Goods they could lay their Hands on/

Adjoyning to the Patron's Seat in the Quire, is a long Pew reaching to the Vestry Door: and over against it another of the same Form, which seem to be ancienter than the rest of the Seats in the Church. I suppose these to have been for 7 Cantores, who, with the Minister, were called the Priest and his Clerks, and were the only Persons who were allow'd to Sing in the Church before the Reformation. These Seats are now made use of by the Masters of the Free School and their Scholars: and it is very likely they have sitten there ever since the Founding of the School/ For at that Time all School Masters, (after having been sworn to the Supremacy and signed the Articles of Religion) were

enjoyed in their licenses, to report to the Parish Church with their Children on Sundays or Holy Days/

Within the Rails are two Stones, each of which has a Cross engraven upon it, and under the Corner of the Cross the Figure of an arming Sword. The Plates whereon the Inscriptions have been are torn off. This violence 'tis probable was done to them at the Reformation/

These and the like Stones in this Church I believe to have been laid over the Bodies of the Lancasters, Lindeseys or some other of the illustrious Persons descended from Ivo Tailboys above mentioned who had their Seat near the East End of this Church; and am perswaded that the Plates, (long since torn off) were not placed upon them at the first, but long after, by the Executors of some Persons that had a Mind to be buried under them: because there are several other Stones in the Quire & Church that have Crosses &c. upon them, without any Signes of either Plates or Inscriptions.

In the Middle of the Quire is a handsome Gravestone wth the Arms of West (which Family bears Arg. a Fess Dancette Sab.) very well engraven upon it, and under the Arms this Epitaph *Hic jacet Dominus Nathaniel West praeillustri Domini Nathanielis West filius natu maximus et illustrissimi Domini Thome West Baronis De la Ware ex Fratre Nepos Obij. 17 Kalendis Februarii ab Incarnationis Dominicae Anno 1670.*

And on a Brass Plate on the adjoining Stone. Here lieth

the Body of Jane West the Wife of Nathaniel West who died the 25th Day of May in the Year of our Lord 1651, under which are six Verses, the two last whereof (which alone are legible) are these;

Too good for Earth, Now Reader if you keep Your Eyes
from Tears the Stone itself will weep/

On a Brass Plate within the Rails is this Inscription.

Here lyeth the Body of Agnes Relict of Francis Jackson late Vicar of Warton, buried 24 April 1674.

Though there be no Inscription for her Husband yet it appears by the Parish Register that he died four Years before her: for there we find this Note;

Thomas Atkinson Cler. in Vicariam de Warton in Com. Lanc, inductus est vigesimo die Julii An. Dom. 1670 and he succeeded Mr. Jackson. Near the Vestry Door, without the Rails, is this Inscription on a Brass Plate. *Thomas Lawson, A.M. hujus Ecclesiae Vicarius Obijt nono die Julii Aetatis suae sexagesimo 40 An. Dom. 1710.* He was inducted primo Decemb. 1681.

When I perused the Register it was not in my Mind to observe the Deaths of the Vicars, and therefore can go no higher than Mr. Francis Jackson who died Ano 1670. His Descendants yet live in a flourishing and plentiful Condition in this Town. He was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Atkinson, who died in 1681 and was succeeded by Mr. Thomas Lawson, A.M. a pious and diligent Vicar who died 9 July 1710, and had for Successor Mr. Sandby

Chaplain to the Duke of Marlborough who was obliged to resign in 1711. He was succeeded by Mr. John Davies who was buried 19th of Feb. 1713, whose Successor was the Revd. Dr. Aylmer, of whom I find this Note written by his own Hand in the Parish Register *Wilhelmus Aylmer in Ecclesia Romana olim S.T.P. inductus fuit in Vicariam de Warton Die 20mo Mensis Maii 1714.*

This Gentleman was born of a good Family in Hartfordshire, and being a Student in Oxford, was seduced by some Popish Emissaries, and went to Doway where he became Professor of Divinity.

But upon mature Deliberation he discovered, and repented of his Error, and returning to his true & indulgent Mother the Church of England, preached a Recantation Sermon from 2 Peter 11 Ch. 1 ver. which came abroad with this Title. A Recantation Sermon against the Errors of Popery particularly Transubstantiation. Preached at St. Martins in Oxford Sept. 20, 1713, before the Rt. Revd. Father in God William Lord Bishop of Oxford, and the Rt. Worship-full Mayor, Aldermen, Assistants and Bailiffs of that City. By William Aylmer late Professor of Divinity in the Roman Church. Published at the Request of his lordship and the said Gentlemen. The Form of Recantation drawn up and read by the Preacher was as follows.

I William Aylmer do here, in the Presence of God and

this Congregation, most heartily, seriously and sincerely condemn, reject, renounce and abjure all and singular Heresies, Errors, and superstitious Doctrines and Practices peculiar to the Roman Church: particularly the Doctrine which says that the Elements of Bread and Wine are substantially destroyed, and by Consecration changed into the real Body and Blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; with the Doctrine of the Supremacy of the Bishop of Rome, Purgatory, Invocation of Saints, Veneration of Images, and all other the Doctrines contained in the New Creed of Pope Pius IVth. which are contrary to the Holy Scriptures, and the Faith of the established Church of England. And this I do with-out any mental Restriction, Reservation or Evasion whatsoever: resolving to live and die in the Belief and Communion of the established Church of England. So help me God.

The Year following he was presented by the Dean and Chapter of Worcester to the Vicarage of Warton, where (having formerly studied Physick as well as Divinity), he was very serviceable to the Bodies as well as the Souls of his Parishioners to the Time of his Death, which happened October 24, 1733. He was succeeded by Mr. Oliver M.A. formerly of Merton Coll, in Oxford.

THE VESTRY

This Vestry . . . stands on the North Side of the Quire/

In this Vestry is a strong Chest, which, as the Law directed, has been hewn out of one entire Tree; the lid or Cover is also of one Piece.

SEXTON AND CHURCH WARDENS

The Sexton in this Parish goes from House to House the latter End of Harvest, and receives from each Master of a Family one, two, three or more Sheaves of Corn, which he claims as his Right by immemorial Custom, for cleaning the Church; but I rather think it to be a Remnant of the old Custom of paying, to the Parish Church, a quantity of Corn on the Feast of St. Martin, as the first fruits of Harvest called Cypic sceat i.e. Church-Scot; which was enjoined by the Laws of King Ina Cap. 4 and K. Canute Cap. X.

CANCELLI

The ancient Cancelli or Separation of the Bema or Choir from the Nave of the Church were of open Work of Wood, and sometimes of Brass gilded: and afterwards it was

made of Boards and Wainscot (as it is now in the Greek Church) instead of the Net-Work of the Ancients, and painted with Pictures of Our Saviour, the blessed Virgin, the Apostles &c., as the upper Part of that in this Church has been on both sides, absolutely against the Precepts and Practice of the Primitive Church.

In the Year 1560 an Order was made that the Tables of the Commandments should be set or hung up at the East End of the Chancel of all Parish Churches, which also continues in force to this Day. In this Church they stand over the Cancelli, and on [one] Side of them is the Lords Prayer and on the other the Apostles Creed/

THE KING'S ARMS

And to satisfie all those who tread the Courts of the Lord's House, and are diligent in the Performance of their Duty agreeably to the Contents of these grand Rules of the Christian Religion (Viz. the Ten Commandments, the Lords Prayer & the Creed) that they shall meet with Encouragement and Protection from the State, there is here placed over them the Royal Atchievement, or Sovereign Ensigns Armorial (of King Charles the Second) thus quarterly quartered. First, Jupiter: three Flowers de Lis. Sol, for the Royal Arms of France, quartered with the Imperial Ensigns of England, i.e. Mars, three Lions

passant gardant in Pale, Sol. Secondly, Sol, within a double Tressure counter Flowred, a Lion Rampant, Mars, for the Royal Arms of Scotland. Thirdly, Jupiter, an Irish Harp, Sol. stringed Luna, for the Ensign of his Majesty's Kingdom of Ireland. The fourth and last Quarter in all Points as the first. All within the Garter: the chief Ensign of that most Honourable & Noble Order, that was instituted by that victorious Prince, King Edward The 3rd.

Above the same is an Helmet answerable to his Majesty's Sovereign Jurisdiction, upon the same a rich Mantle of Cloth of Gold, doubled, Ermin, adorned with an Imperial Crown, and surmounted by a Lion passant gardant, crowned with the like: supported by a lion rampant gardant, crowned as the former: and an Unicorn, Luna, gorged with a Crown, there to a Chain affixed, passing between his fore-legs, and reflexed over his Back. Sol, Both standing upon a Compartment placed underneath, from whence arise a Rose on the one Side, and a Thistle on the other. And in the Table of the Compartment his Majesty's Royal Motto *Dieu. Et. Mon. Droit!*

THE ROOD LOFT

to which they ascend by Stone Stairs, is on the North Side of the Chancel, over the Vestry, and retains its Name to this Day. By some Fragments of very neat Cieling & Paint-

ing that are yet to be seen, it seems to have been a very beautiful Place/

The little Bell belonging to this Rood-loft was in being and not taken down within my Remembrance/

This Rood-loft is now furnished with Seats for the Conveniency of the Parishioners. On one of them is 1634/

ORGANS

Though there be no Organ in this Church at Present, yet since there is an undoubted Tradition that there formerly was one I thought myself obliged, upon that Account to say something thereof. As to it's Destruction, 'tis very probable it happened at the same time with that of the Rood, Images, Paintings, &c. Viz. Anno 1570. Because we read that in that same year, the Organ was broken down, even by some of the Prebendaries themselves, in the Church of Norwich; so hot was their too warm Zeal.

On the south Side of the Quire is a Place which I take to have been a Chantry Chapel founded by some of the Lancasters or their Successors who had their Seat near the East End of the Church, but I have not yet been so happy as to meet with any Account thereof.

The Partition Walls which made up the several Chapels were broken down in St. Paul's by Bishop Ridley in the Year 1550; but when the like was done in these Northern

Parts, as it escaped the Enquiry of my curious and learned Friend Mr. Ra Thoresby, I cannot expect it should occur to me: Perhaps it might be at the same Time when the Images were removed. The Acroters or protuberant Stones, upon which they placed these blind Maummets (or Mawmets as Dr. Parker calls them) that seyen not, nor yhern are yet to be seen in this and some other Parts of the Church.

A Nich in the Wall of a Church (of which there are four or five in this Part of this Church) or Convent, in which they placed an Image was in old English called a Corbel/

THE SEATS

Before the Age of our Reformation no Seats were allow'd, nor any different Appartment assigned to any distinct Person; (the Patron only excepted, who was admitted within the Bars or Partitions of the Chancel, and was allowed a Seat there, in the Time of Divine Service, and there the Farmer of the Improprate Tithes of this Parish has his Seat, to this Day), but the whole Body of the Church was Common, the whole Assembly in the more becoming Postures of Kneeling or Standing were promiscuous and intermixed. I suppose this Church was furnished with Seats soon after it had been divested of it's superstitious Ornaments: for on a Pew near the little South

Door the following Characters are very neatly cut in the Wood, I.B. 1571, which Pew when I was a Boy was possessed by James Backhouse of Borwick, and is still by the same Family.

The Seats for the Men (a few Pews excepted) have only a Board or Plank at the Back, but those for the Women are but one single Plank without any thing at Back, and are therefore certainly the properest Sort to prevent Lolling or other indecent Postures in the Church/

The first Seats on the left Hand in the Nave of the Church, are two large Pews which belonged to Sr. Robert Bindloss of Borwick on which are RMB 1612. And on the Right Hand is a large Pew belonging to Sr. George Midleton of Leighton-Hall, on which are 8 Escocheons very well cut in Bass Relieve/

To the West Part of the Pew is fixed a small Marble Monument in a Brasen Frame on which is this Inscription:

Here lies the Body of Sr. George Midleton of Leighton Kt. and Bart, who died the 27th of Feb. in the Year of our Lord God 1673 and in the 74th of his Age.

On the Cancelli or Partition between the Quire and the Body of the Church, about three Yards from the Ground, are fixed curve Pieces of Timber on each Side, which have formerly been cieled with Boards and curiously painted: making as it were two semi-Arches, the one respecting the Chancell, and the other the Nave of the Church, reaching the whole Breadth of that Part which is between the two

Rows of Pillars; most of the Pannels are now broken down, except those over the Pews just mentioned; in that Part over Sr. George Middleton's are these Armes, Quarterly, Middleton, Burton, Croft and Bethom and below it, Parte per Pale Middleton and Croft, the rest of the Painting is almost quite defaced. In the Pannel over St. Robert Bindloss's Pew may yet be discerned the Picture of the Virgin Mary and others: and below them four Persons: one of which is the Representation of a Bishop in his Robes, Mitre, &c. and the other seems to be in the Habits of Monks kneeling in a decent Posture and receiving the Bishops Blessing: but the Inscriptions belonging to each of them are so obliterated that nothing can be made of them. A great Part of, if not all, the South Isle has been cieled under the Roof, and painted like the Rood loft, but no Figures can now be discerned, except that of the Sun, which I found depicted in two several Places. And the Figures of the Sun and Moon are neatly inlaid in one of the Beams of this Isle.

THE POOR-MAN'S BOX

In this Church the Poor Box is fixed in the Wall near the North Door/

THE FONT

It was conveniently rebuilt by the Church Wardens in 1661, of hewn Stone conformable to the ancient Constitutions and Canons of the Church, and according to the same Law is handsomely covered, reverently kept, and not used for any other Purpose. But whether, as some of them require, there be a Lock and Key to it, I am not sure/

THE PULPIT

Narcissus Bishop of Farns and Leighton (in Ireland) in his Introductory Essay to the Doctrine of Sounds says 'tis much the best Way to place Pulpits near the Wall, the Preacher being thereby the better heard, especially by those who stand near the Wall and lay their Ears to it, though at a much greater Distance, than those in the middle of the Church. But here the Pulpit, which is a neat one new built in the Year 1712, is placed against one of the Pillars which separate the Nave of the Church from the North Isle/

THE PARISH CLERK'S DESK

Mr. Nicholson the Usher of the Free School is now [1739]
Clerk of this Parish/

THE SIXTON

in this Church, after he has conducted the Minister who
is to officiate, from the Vestry into the Reading Desk,
places himself on a Seat near the Clerk's Pew Door/

THE PARVIS

It may appear to Observation, says the curious Mr. Staveley that most Churches, especially the greater Ones, have a North Door, and a South Door, towards the nether End of the Church, and one of them just opposite to the other (as they are in this Church) whereby a Passage of Thorough-fare is made through that Part of the Church; And anciently in the Day Time, these Doors stood constantly open, and People were continually passing in and out, either to or from paying their Devotions at some Altar, or to some Saint, Image or Relick there celebrated; or for some other Occasions. Now the lowest Part of the Church,

near to these Doors (which in this Church are both of the larger Size, as is also that under the Steeple, after the manner of Cathedrals) was called the Parvis, or as the French call the Porch, a parvis Pueris ibi edoctis, as Mr. Staveley thinks, because this Part of the Church was used to teach Children in, even before the Time of King Henry III.

THE STEEPLE

At the West End of the Church is the Steeple or Tower, which is ascended by 69 Steps. The Square of it at the Top,



The Washington coat of arms, much eroded by the elements

is (within the Walls) Seven Yards one Way, and twenty two Feet the other. On the North Side of the Steeple Door, about six or seven Feet from the Ground, are the Arms of Washington (Arg. 2 Bars Gul. in Chief 3 Mulletts of the 2d.) well cut in the Stone, with Crescent for Difference, which is a plain Indication that this Family, ancient and yet credible in the Town, where the Revd. Mr. Laur. Washington has a good Estate, have been large Contributors towards the Building of this Fabrick.⁵

THE BELLS

The Number of this necessary Piece of Church Furniture, in this Steeple is but three. The first, whose Circumference, at the Bottom, is Nine Feet, five inches and an half, has an Inscription which is not (to me at least) legible. The second has on it R.B. Anno Dni. 1578. It's Compass at the Bottom is Ten Feet, and three Inches. The Third is thus inscribed, Soli Deo Gloria, Pax Hominibus. Fran. Jackson Vicar W.C.S.S. (with the Bell founders Arms between each letter) fecit 1662. In a lower Line are the Names of some of the principal Inhabitants of the Parish at that Time, viz. Robert Bindlos Baronit, Geo. Middleton Knight and Baronit Vice Com. Nat. West. Esq. A line of Eleven Feet and Six Inches will encompass it in the largest Part. N.B. I hear the biggest of these Bells has been new cast since I viewed them.^{6/}

On the Bell whose Inscription I could not read and is certainly much the oldest of the three, if my Memory fails me not, I observed something which I took to be a Human Figure, if so that is a sufficient Demonstration of its Antiquity, and must be the Image of St. Oswald; for it is observed by a curious and diligent Antiquary, that the Image of the Saint, to whom the Church was Dedicated, was of old, commonly engraven on it's Bells/

This Bell (as usual in most Churches) is rung every Sunday Morning, at Seven o'Clock, to give the Parishioners Notice of their Duty to prepare themselves, by private Prayers and Ejaculations, for the more solemn Performance of the Publick Offices of the Church/

The largest of the Bells is rung or tolled at the Death of any of the Parishioners, a Custom very laudable which seemes to be as old as the Having of Bells themselves/

THE CLOCK

When I was a Boy, I remember, Abundance of Pigeons used to haunt this Steeple, which the Vicar would not suffer to be destroyed. Whether or no he remembered the Misfortune which happened at Charing in Kent, where the Church was much damaged by fire in 1500/

occasioned saith Mr Weever , by firing a Gun at a Pigeon,
I cannot tell/

I will make but one Observation more, and then take my
leave of the Steeple, Viz that a young Ash (whose Seed
had been brought thither by a high Wind, or some other
Accident) spring out at the S.E. Corner of the Steeple,
about the middle Distance between Bottom and Top,
and grew so fast that in a few Years it reached the
Windows, and then was cut down for fear of damaging
the Wall/

THE PORCH

There is yet remaining the Place where stood the Bason
with Holy Water and Brush to sprinkle the Unclean, that
they might be purified before they entered the Church to
perform their Devotions/

CHAPTER FIVE

Funeral Rites



But if these Sheets shall be thought worthy to be preserved a Fimo & Fumo, I shall endeavour to prevent it in Case of Funerals, by interspersing the Customs that are used at present in this Parish, with those that have been anciently made Use of upon the same Occasion.

Among the many Ceremonies used by the Jews at their Funerals, that of the Neighbours sending in good Cheer was one/

Conformable to this very ancient Usage, is an immemorial Custome, in this and the Neighbouring Parishes, of making a great Entertainment for all who come to attend a Funeral, which is usually done on this Manner; The Heir of the Deceased plentifully furnishes One, two or more Tables, according to his Ability, of which the whole Company partake, every one according to his liking. And afterwards there is distributed to every one a Penny Wheaten loaf, and a large Shive of Cheese (which they take away with them) and also a Drink of Ale. If the Heir

be poor he has no Feast, and I think I have heard that of late Years, some have omitted the Cheese. Nor, whilst the Guests are thus feasted, are the Poor forgotten, but all that come (and great Numbers I have seen upon this Occasion, many whereof would rather go 7 or 8 Miles to a Penny-Dole, than earn Six Pence in the Time by a more laudable Industry) are put into some large Bam or Yard, and as they come out receive every one a Penny or more according to the Charity or Circumstances of the Giver/ This pious Custom [i.e. of friends and relations bearing the body to the Grave] is to this Day observed in Warton Parish, where the Relations and dear Friends help to carry the Dead, especially out of the Church to the Grave, into which the nearest of Kin, if they be able, let down the Body, that being the last Office they can do to it/

Most of the Householders of this Parish were furnished with a finely wrought Coverlet which was used to be thrown over the Bier, when the Corps of any of the Family was carried to the Church: but of late they, the richer Sort especially, have made use of a black Pall/

When the Company arrives in the Church with the Corps they place it in the Quire, where it remains whilst the Vicar reads the Funeral Office: and if the Deceased was the Master of a Family, and of moderate Circumstances, he usually preaches a Funeral Sermon/

When the Funeral Oration was over other Ceremonies were anciently performed in Honour of the Dead, viz.

Sacrifices, Feasts & Games. In Imitation of these Feasts perhaps is an old Custom yet prevailing in this Parish, Viz. That when the Corps is interr'd, and the funeral Dues discharg'd, The Clerk gives publick Notice to the whole Company, yet standing about the Grave, That the Friends and Relations are desired to go to the Alehouse in the Town (which he names) and the Neighbours and Acquaintance to another, where every one has a Penny Loaf & Ale allow'd, according to the Ability of the Deceased; and this they call an Arval. After the Relations, those who attend the Funeral commonly look into the Grave, and throw in the laurels, Rosemary &c. they have in their Hands. The carrying of Evergreens in our Hand when we follow our Friend to his Grave, was at first taken up as an Emblem of the Soul's Immortality, and the Resurrection of the Body/ This Custom of the Relations &c. looking into the Grave, and with a moumfull Sigh taking their last Farewell of their deceased Friend, agrees with the ancient Customs of the Romans/

THE YEW TREE

At the South East Comer of the Church, about the Middle between that and the Church-Yard Wall, is a Thorn Bush, where formerly stood a Yew Tree, and another was there planted when I was a Boy. Now the Gates being on the

North side of the Church they bring their Corpses about by the East End of the Church, and constantly carry them beyond this Tree, and thence through the Porch into the Church.

Before I leave the Church-Yard, I cannot but take Notice of two very undecent Customs: the One common in almost every Parish in this Kingdom, and the other in too many. First, One main cause of this Kingdom's Subversion by the Danes, was then, by good Men of that Age attributed to the slight Regard Men had to the House of God; and it hath even been, but more especially since the Reformation, says Mr. Weever a beastly Custom of unclean and irreverent Persons, to pollute and debaube the Walls (and sometimes the very Doors) of the Place where Almighty God is to be worshipped, with Piss or other more nasty Excrements; an Irreverence Travellers tell us not to be seen, or so much as heard of in any of the eastern Nations/

Secondly, It was here (as in too many other Places) a scandalous Practice or Custom, for those who despised or did not know or consider the great Benefits and Advantage of the publick Service of our Church, to loiter away their Time in the Fields, in the Church-Yard, or in an Ale House perhaps, till the greatest Part of it was over and then to come into the Church. And Sunday Afternoons were generally (by the younger sort especially) spent in idle Sports and Pastimes.

These Practices being offensive both to God and all good Men, the pious Vicar of this Parish, Mr. Thomas Lawson A.M. set himself seriously about a Reformation thereof; and when he found that his publick and private Admonitions, though very pathetick, would not prevail, considering that all Ages, and all Nations, have more or less applyed themselves to suppress Prophaneness and Immorality by the Power of the laws Ecclesiastical or Civil, he took Care to have such Church Wardens and other Officers made Choise of in the Parish, as he knew to be Men of Integrity, and who would not look upon their Oaths as a Thing of Course and Form, as too many do, but be sensible of the Obligation it laid upon them carefully to observe all the Particulars contained in their Book of Articles, Warrants, &c. delivered unto them at the Time when they are sworn, and take Care to bring all those to condign Punishment who were obstinate in the Practice of their irreligious Courses. Thus by the Blessing of God on the joynt and vigorous Endeavours of the Vicar & Church Wardens, the Parish was in a short Time brought to that decent order, that it was fit to be proposed as a Pattern to it's Neighbours, Though at first they did meet with some Opposition, and opprobrious language from the Patrons of vain Sports, yet they presently drave them out of the Church-Yard (their general Rendezvouze) and by finding out, and pursuing them to their more distant and private Haunts, did frequently break up their unlawfull

Assemblies, and brought them in a little Time, to be more frequent in their Attendance on the publick Worship of God: some of them, I hope, out of a due Sense of their former Neglect and Miscarriages, and others out of a Fear of being presented; So that whereas formerly, it would have been difficult to have found the Number of a Jewish Congregation,¹ in the Afternoon, you will now see them come from all Parts of the Parish to worship God in his holy Church. O Lord, increase the Number of them that worship thee in Spirit and in Truth.

At the same Time that Mr. Lawson thus set himself about the Reformation of his Parish, he also promoted the Singing of Psalms with Notes, himself paying a Master for teaching some that were willing and apt to learn but not able to defray the Charges thereof. This brought great Numbers to the Church; some out of Devotion, and others out of Curiosity, who being through the Mercy and Grace of God made sensible that there was much more solid Pleasure in the Performance of their Duty, than in the vain Exercises they had been used to, became for the future far more constant at their publick Devotions. This Singing, no doubt, was of great Service in furthering that laudable and pious Undertaking; And I make no Question but the good Man had an Eye thereto when he first encouraged it.

As the Church-Yard is more than large enough for the Parish so that they need not mix Lime with Earth to hasten the Consumption of the Corpses, to make Room

for more, as the Inhabitants of the Island of Medeira are obliged to do so, as the 85th Cannon directs, it is well fenced with a good Stone Wall. And as we find some ancient laws Ecclesiastical appointing and charging that no Swine or other unseemly Thing should come within the Verge of the Church, so far as Man could govern: so the Church Wardens, for that Purpose, have placed a large Iron Range at the Gates leading into the Church-Yard/

CHAPTER SIX

Warton and the Ware

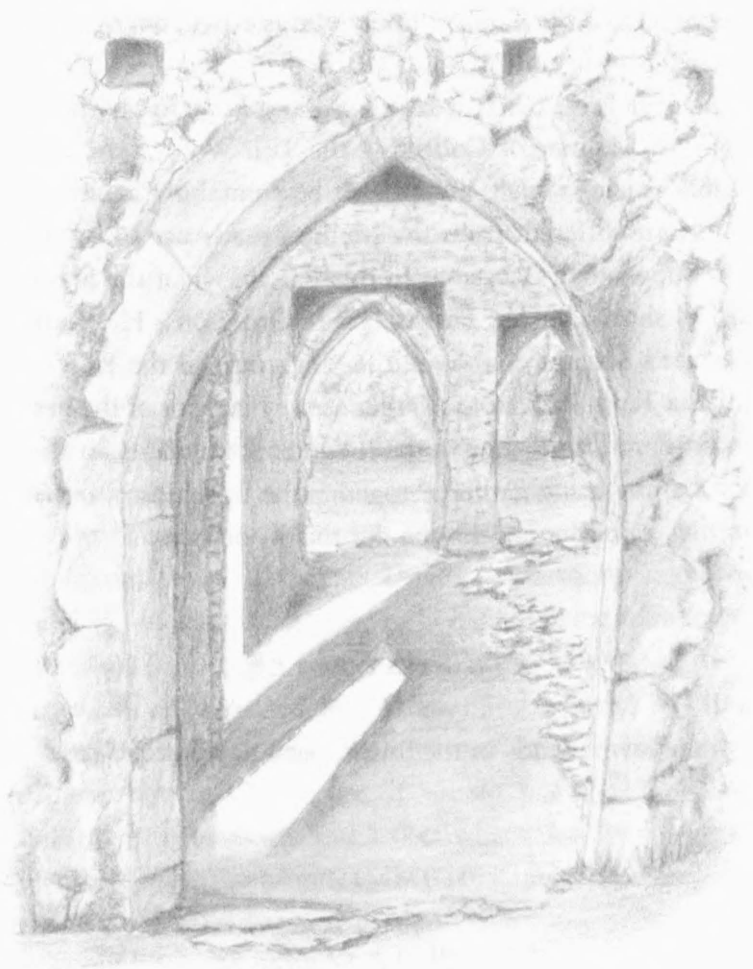


The Houses in this Town and Parish, are all of Stone, strongly lain in, and well roughcast with good lime, which makes a substantial, warm, and not unhandsome Building. The Street of this Town is rocky and uneven, and abounds with Wormwood/

THE VICARAGE

On the other Side of the Street, over against the East End of the Church, are the Ruinous Remains of a very large old Building which formerly was the Seat of William de Lancaster, Walter de Lindesey &c. anciently lords of Warton. This Old Seat now belongs to the Impropriators, and the Vicarage House is a Part thereof, another Part was lately inhabited by Mr. Lambert, Grandfather to Mr. Lambert of Kendal, the present Farmer of the Tithes

of this Parish. In the little Court before the Vicarage House
is a Row of fine Sycamores/



The old Rectory, formerly the seat of William de Lancaster

THE TITHE BARN

Adjoyning to the aforesaid Ruins is a large Tithe Bam, wherein the Tithe Com, not only of this Town, but of some other Places in the Parish, is yearly deposited/

Before I leave the Tith-Barn I will beg leave to say something of Manner of Collecting the Tith Wool and Lamb here, especially since it seems to be something arbitrary, and quite different from the Method made use of by the Jews upon that Occasion. In this Parish, when the Sheep are all shorn, and the Fleeces laid in Order on a Heap, the Farmer's Servant comes, and having counted the Fleeces, takes a Tenth Part, not in Order as they lay, but of the best in the Parcil, according to the Judgment of his Eye. So also the Lambs being gathered together, he takes his Number in the same Manner that he did the Wool/

THE MAY POLE

in this Town stands in the Street near the Church Gates/

MUMMING

which is a Changing of Clothes between Men and Women, who when dressed in each other's Habits, or otherwise

disguised, go from one Neighbour's House to another, and partake of their Christmas-Cheer, and make merry with them by Dancing, Singing, and such like Merriments/

THE STOCKS

Near the May-Pole are the Cippus or Stocks and Whipping Post ready for the Publishment of Malefactors/

THE WARE

This is a Tarn or Pond at the lower End of the Town, to which as I have observed before, it communicates its Name. Though it be now contracted into a narrow Compass, yet, I make no Doubt, it formerly comprehended not only the Mires, and Neighbouring Meadows, but also, in ancient Times, extended itself over all that large Flat of Meadows and Mosses now lying in Warton, Carnford, Borwick and Caponwray. And this will appear no improbable Conjecture, if we do but consider how natural it is for Pools and Lakes where there is no great Depth of Water, to be gradually turned into Terra firma by Attrition. And there will be no objection to be made here if it can be allow'd that there has anciently been no, or but a very small, Outlet, for the Waters between

Hazlehead and Millershead, of which I shall speak more hereafter. Another Thing which inclines me more to this Conjecture, is the Eavenness of this Flat: it being the Nature of Water flowing over, or standing upon the Earth, in Time to level and bring to a Plain all Places that are soft and yielding, and not rocky: as is seen not only in Meadows, but also in the Sands or Bottom of the Sea discovered at low Water. If it be objected that there are some rising Grounds or little Hills in the Launds and Bartherholm: that is no other than what is found in the land of Egypt (all anciently overflow'd with Water) and appointed for the same End, no Doubt, by the allwise Dispenser of all things: for we are told by a credible Author, that during the Inundation of the Nile, the Egyptians keep their Cattle on the Tops of such little Hills as either the Providence of Nature, or Industry of Man have prepared, where they abide waiting patiently for the Decrease of the Waters: In like Manner has much Cattle been often preserved upon the Tops of these little Hills, when a high Spring Tide, a Land-Flood, or a Conjunction of both have overflowed the whole Level/

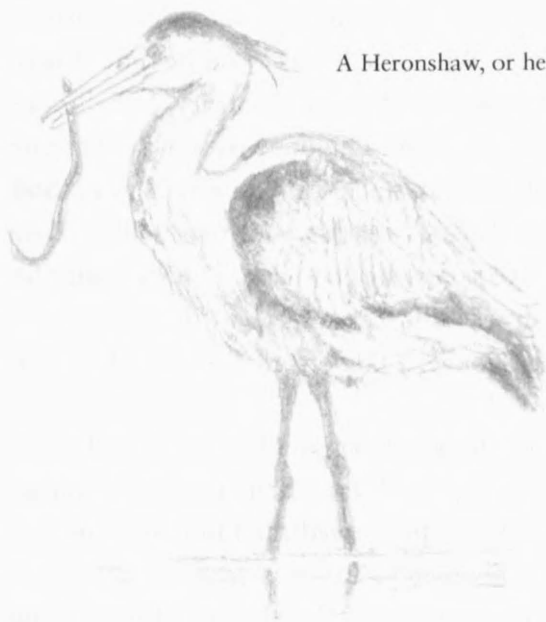
The Ware is remarkable for Abundance of Eeles that breed therein: though very few, I believe have been found there of equal Bigness with those two catch'd in Essex, one of which was five Foot eight Inches long, and twenty-two Inches in Circumference/

I have often with Pleasure observed how the young

Ducks whilst they were little, would squeak and frisk from one Place to another in a Fright, as they were swimming on the Ware, which was occasioned by the Eeles biting their Feet/

I was told by a very credible Person of this Parish, that he saw a Heronshaw take up an Eele in a Meadow belonging to Carnford; The Eele, to his great Surprise, ran several Times through the Bird, and was as nimbly catch'd by him again as it came out *Per anum*/

On the North Side of the Ware stands a neat House, the pleasant Habitation of Mr. Dawson Attorney at Law,



A Heronshaw, or heron, with cel.

whose Father Mr. William Dawson was a Captain of the trained Band, in the Regiment commanded by Sr. Henry Houghton of Houghton Tower Bart, in which Post of Honour he succeeded his Father Mr. John Dawson. This was formerly the Seat of the Kitsons, a Family which flourished here in great Repute for many Generations. Mr. Leland in his Itinerary, speaking of this Town, observeth that Mr. Kitson was born here, a Remark which had never fallen from his Pen, had he not been some very noted Person. Mr. Harrison in his Description of England calls him the rich Kitson. And Dr. Fuller offers to be very thankful to any one who would give him satisfaction in the following Queries, Viz. Who this Mr. Kitson, mentioned by Mr. Leland, was? Where he lived? What he did? Where he died? Till I be convinced to the contrary, I shall conclude him to be the same Mr. Thomas Kitson who was one of the Shiriffs of London and Middlesex AD 1533 And that Mr. Anthony Kitson was his Kinsman, whose Wife dying Nov. 21, 1567, was buried in St. Faith's under St. Paul's over whom was this Epitaph;

Hear lyeth the Bodie, taken from life Of Margaret,
Anthony Kytson's Wife.

In the Times of the Civil Wars, when the Loyal Party were forced to compound for their Estates, Thomas Kitson of Warton Gent, purchased the Enjoyment of that which before was his own at £390.

The Alms Houses founded by Archbishop Hutton stand

on the same Side of the Ware: of which more will be said hereafter.

The only Tokens of a Market to be met with in this Town (besides Tradition) are a large flat Stone laying upon others about two Foot high near the May Pole, called the Fish Stones, on which was the Fish Market; and a Place a little to the North, off it called the Cross Bank: which Name, I suppose, was given it when a Market was procured for this Town, from the Cross there erected, or to have been erected, for there is now no Remains of any such Thing.

LAMP LIGHT LAND

On the West Side of the Street, a little above the Cross-Bank, is a House and some Land called Lamp Light Land, as having formerly been given to the Maintenance of the Lamps in the Church here, or in some other Religious House/

OF SHELLS

In a Garden at the upper End of this Town several sorts of Sea Shells are frequently dug up, as Whelks, Per winkles &c/

THE PAROC

On the east Side of the Town is a Place called Pilkington's Paroc, which, 'tis very likely, received it's Name (as well as the Paddock near Canterbury) from a Courtlike Kind of Meeting (not much unlike the Forest Swainmote) called a Paroc, when the Lord or his Bailiff and Tenants met upon a Place sub dio to enquire into the Affairs of the Mannor. The learned and curious Mr. Somner tells us he had by him a Record of some of these Parocs being kept about the Time of King Edward the 1st. Unless this Place may rather be thought to have deduced it's Name from the Saxon Peappoc, i.e. a small Park or Enclosure for the Conveniency of securing Deer to be turned out & hunted, And how far it's Vicinity to the Capital Messuage of the great Families that formerly liv'd here may favour this Conjecture I cannot tell.

ST OSWALD'S WELL

About a Quarter of a Mile east of the Town is a large profluent perennial Spring, which the Inhabitants commonly call Senset, or by those that would seem to speak more properly, Sentussus Well: which is nothing else but a Contraction of St. Oswald's Well./



St. Oswald's Well

THE WIEND

This is a Northern Word signifying a narrow Street or passage, many of which they have called by this Name in the City of Edinburgh. This is a narrow Lane leading out of the Town, at the Cross Bank to the School, and onto the Cragg.

And here I cannot but take notice of what I too negligently observed in this Place when I was a School-Boy. For going up the Wiend, with another Boy, in a Time of Thunder and Rain, we observed a fiery Meteor sloopingly descending towards us. Its Motion was not quick

like Lightning, but seemed to be about equal in Swiftnes to the Flight of a Dove.

It's Figure was long & wreathen, much like a Screw. It fell to the Ground at some Distance from us, on which it ran along (At for about Six or Seven Yards) its Colour being then like burning Sulphure) and then (if my Memory does not very much fail me) it ascended eastward in the same Manner that it had descended from the West/

I have often reflected on this phenomenon, and have consulted all the Authors I could procure, wherein it was likely to meet with things of this Nature, but could find none to correspond with it. That which comes nearest to it of any Thing that I have seen, is a fiery Meteor observed by Mr Gibbon of Peterborough (about two or three years after I had seen this), 1699 in a Storm of Lightning and Thunder. It appeared at a Distance in the Figure of a Dart about one and a half foot long, had a waved or vibrated Motion, and continued about a Minute.

CHAPTER SEVEN

The School



A Decree was made in a General Council at Rome that every Cathedral or great Abbey should have a School near it. Upon which Westminster School was founded about the Year 1070/

This Convenience of Learning, one of the chief Advantages the Country received from the Abbies during the Times of Popery was quite lost at their Dissolution/

And therefore King Henry VIIIth charitably founded many Grammar Schools in Cities and great Towns, allowing liberal Salaries to Masters and Ushers therein/

This Royal Example was afterwards imitated, not only by his pious and illustrious Progeny, but by several other religious and well-disposed Persons, especially the Clergy: among which that truly Primitive Prelate, the learned and pious Arch-Bishop Hutton, for the Encouragement of Learning in the Parish wherein he was born, founded here, and liberally endowed, a Free Grammar School.

The Building is strong and sufficiently large, and placed a little out of the Town at the Foot of the Cragg, which was done, no doubt, upon the Encouragement which was given by a then late Act of Parliament for the Erection of such charitable Foundations on the Wastes with the Consent of the Lord. This School standing on the Brow of a Hill, the Foundation on the East or lower Side is left entirely bare, whereas on the West or Backside the Ground is advanced considerably above it.¹

You ascend to the School up some broken Steps of Stone much in the like Manner as the English Merchants did into the Palace of the Arabian Prince Dor, mentioned in the Philosophical Transact. The following Inscription is well cut in Stone;

*Anno Dom. 1594. Deo et bonis literis Matt. Hutton Epis.
Dunelm.*

(Trans: "In the Year of Our Lord 1594 To God and Good learning. Matthew Hutton Bishop of Durham.")

The Floor is overlaid with oaken Boards; and over the Door at the Stairs Foot, was a Greek Inscription on Plaister, but so decay'd that, when I was a Scholar there, it was not legible. Part of the Usher's End of the School is open to the Roof, which is covered with Slate: but over the other Part (besides two Chambers, one of which was neatly plaistered and has a Chimney in it) there is a Library furnished with a good Set of Classick Authors (if not imbezled) for the Use of the Masters and Scholars/

In an Original Manuscript of the celebrated Antiquary Mr. Roger Dodsworth, in the curious Museum of the no less famous Antiquary, my dear Friend Mr Ralph Thoresby late of Leedes, I met with this memorable Passage; "Whilst he (Matt. Hutton D.D.) was yet Bishop of Durham, he founded a Free-School at Warton, gave Twenty Pounds to a Master, and Ten Pounds by Year to an Usher: at which School I Roger Dodsworth son of Matthew Dodsworth Chancellor to the said Arch Bishop Hutton, was a Schollar in the years 1599 & 1600, in the Time that Myles Dawson (now Vicar of Bolton) was School-Master there."

Thus far the MS. And since this School had the Honour of so usefull and great a Schollar, and the County does yet retain his Ashes: I hope it will not be thought beside my Purpose if I take the Pains to lay together what I find said of him by several Authors. First; It appears by Sr. William Dugdale's Visitation of Yorkshire that Matthew Dodsworth was son of Simon Dodsworth of Badsworth, and had a Son younger than our Roger, called Edward, who was Rector of Badsworth, and was seventy Years of Age 7 April, 1666. Secondly; Mr. Anthony a Wood says Mr. Roger Dodsworth's Mother was Elizabeth (others say Elenor) Daughter of Ralph Sandwich Esq. and that he was born 24 July, 1585 at Newton Grange in the Parish of St. Oswald in Ridale in Yorkshire, being the House

and Possessions of his Mother's Father. And being a Person who had a natural Propensity to History and Antiquities, he began early to make Collections of them, especially such as related to Yorkshire. He was afterwards much encouraged in his Labours by Sr. Thomas, afterwards Lord, Fairfax, who for several Years allow'd him a Pension.

Sr. Wm. Dugdale says The Lord Fairfax allow'd him Forty Pounds a Year, during his Life. After his coming acquainted with Mr. (afterwards Sr. William) Dugdale he extended his Collections, especially of Religious Foundations, all over England. And though the two large Volumes of *Monasticon Anglicanum* were published under the Names of Roger Dodsworth of Yorkshire, and William Dugdale of Warwickshire, yet they were both collected and totally written by Mr. Dodsworth, as several of the Officers of Armes, who had seen the Original, did testify to my Author, Dr. Barlow also told the same Person several Times, that much about the Time of Mr. Dodsworth and Mr. Dugdale joyned at the Publishing them, but before a tenth Part of the First Volume was come off the Press Mr. Dodsworth died in the Month of August 1654 and was buried in the Church of Rufford in Lancashire. After his Death the Ld. Fairfax took into his Possession, not only all the Old Manuscripts which he had obtained from several Hands, but also all his proper Collections

which he had written from Manuscripts, Leigher Books, Evidences, &c. in the Tower of St. Mary's at York (which he had but just finished before that Tower was blown up and [all] within it reduced to Ashes) and in the Custody of many Gentlemen not only in Yorkshire, but other Northern Counties: as also his Collections of Monumental and Funeral Inscriptions &c. and communicated them to Dr. Nathaniel Johnson of Pontefract, in Order to perfect his Book of Antiquities of the West Riding of Yorkshire but he never finished it. When the Lord Fairfax died he bequeathed the said Old Manuscripts, Inscriptions and Collections (which last amounted to 122 Volumes at least) to the publick Library at Oxford, but they were not conveyed thither till the Year 1673 in the Month of June, and it being then a wet Season most of them took wet, and had it not been for the Care of the said Mr. Wood who spent a whole Month in drying them, they had all been utterly spoiled.

A learned Author informs us that Mr. Dodsworth's Manuscript Collections, given to the University of Oxford by the lord Fairfax make 160 Volumes written with his own Hand, most of them in Folio and the rest in Quarto, and contain a vast Treasure of Antiquities of all Sorts, relating to our English History: and though he did not live to digest them, yet they have been and still are, earnestly enquired after, and diligently perused by those that culti-

vate the History of England.

ORDEAL AND JURIES

In this School his Majesty's Steward holds a Court twice every Year, where Differences arising among the Tenants are examined and Judgment is thereon given by the said Steward and a Jury of Twelve Men/

CUSTOMS OF WARTON SCHOOL

Before I leave the School I will set down some of the Customs in use among the School Boys when I was a Scholar there: for the very same reason that induced me to give an Account of the Funerals in this Parish/

It has been an immemorial Custom in this School for the first Boy of the highest Classis, soon after Christmas, to present a Paper to the Master, wherein are written the Names of Six or eight of the Scholars, that out of them he may make Choice of Two to be Captains for that Year. Afterwards the Captains having divided the Boys of the School between them by lot, a Day is appointed for the Captains Ally, when the Parties engage each other at Foot Ball (which is provided by the Master) with their utmost Strength and Courage. And as in [William]

Fitz-Stephen's Time, so now, the Parents of the Boys, and chief Inhabitants come together to see the Diversion, and by their Presence to encourage the Combatants. When the Engagement is over the Captains take each his Party to an Ale-House and give them a Refreshment. And the Victor (who esteems it no small Honour) presents a Favour of Ribbons to each of his Men, which they wear in their Hats with great Ostentation.

Fitz-Stephen observes that the Boys in his Time brought their Fighting Cocks to their Masters on Shrove Tuesday in the Morning, and spent the whole Forenoon in seeing them fight in the Schools/

But as several Things which formerly used to be paid in Kind, are now changed into Money, so here, instead of Cocks, the Boys now bring Money to the Master on Shrove Tuesday in the Morning, every one according to the Ability or Generosity of their Parents: and this is called giving of Cock-Pennies. The same Day the Master given them a Cock to Kail. The Captains throw first, and after the other Boys in their Courses: and he that fells him carries him away. The Captains do likewise each of them provide himself with a Cock of the Game, the best that can be procured in that Part of the Country, which are to fight for the Honour of their Masters on Shrove Tuesday in the Afternoon, and though there be usually noted Cockings at Warton on that Day, and a great Concourse of Gentlemen &c., yet do they show so much Respect to the

Schollars, that the Captains Battle is generally the first that is foughten.

Another Custom at this School is, that, when there is a Wedding, the School Boys make fast the Church Doors or else the Gates, and demand a Piece of Money of the Bridegroom before he goes out: and if he refuses to be conformable to Custom, they presently sieze one of the Bride's Shoes, which I have seen done/

In the Evening of the Marriage Night, the Boys and other young People of the Village gather together before the House of the new married Couple and Shout as they call it, or call out for Something to drink, and this is said by one of our greatest Antiquaries to be the Remainder of the ancient Custom of receiving Bedde-Ale or Bid-Ale (from the Saxon Biddan to pray and Ale Drink), which was an Assignment made for Neighbours or Poor People to meet and drink at the House of the New married Persons, and then for all the Guests to contribute to the House-Keepers.

The Boys which come to this School out of the circum-jacent Villages bring their Victuals along with them every Morning; and at Noon (either in the School, or on some Scar on the Crag in Summer, or by a good Fire in some of the Townsmen's Houses in Winter) do cheerfully feed thereon: always reserving Part thereof for their Drinking.

It is also a Custom here, for the Boys, as on Shrove Tuesday, so on the Day whereon they break up School for

Christmas wch is generally about St. Nicholas's Day, to bring Money to the Master, which they call giving of Nicholas Pennies, out of which he gives them a Potation/

And here I cannot but commend the Courage and Prudence of Mr. Armistead the first Master of the Free School at Ripley in Yorkshire, who being complained of (as I was informed by Mr. Remington his Successor) by the Towns Men for insisting upon these Customary Gratuities, was sent for by the Young Maiden Lady who had founded the School and was told that she designed the School to be free: and that neither he nor any of his Successors should demand any Thing for teaching the Children born within the Limits assigned thereto. He answer'd that he did not demand any Thing as Wages, but only such annual Presents as had been for many Ages, and still were, allowed to all the rest of his Brethren, at which he hoped her Ladyship would not be offended. Whereupon, that the Master might not be deprived of the Advantage of such Perquisites as were enjoy'd by the Masters of other Free Schools: And that the Inhabitants might be (according to her Design) freed from all Charges in the Education of their Children, she added Five Pounds a Year for ever to the Master's Salary, as an Equivalent for these presents.

CHAPTER EIGHT

The Crag



The noted Mr. Leland says that Warton is a *preati Streat* for a Village: and that in the *Rokkes thereabouts* he saw *Herdes of Gotes*¹

Great Vicissitudes however may be observed to attend the Works of Nature, as well as human Affairs: so that some entire Species of Animals, which have been formerly common, nay even numerous, in certain Countries or Places, have, in Process of Time, been so perfectly lost, as to become there utterly unknown: though at the same Time it cannot be denied but the Kind has been carefully preserved in some other Part of the World. Of this we have two Instances in this Parish. The one of Goats, which less than 200 Years since were numerous on these Rocks, and yet not one has been seen there, I believe, by any Man now living.

The other a Species also of gregarious Animals, Viz. the Buck, or Fallow Deer: which I remember to have seen in

Leighton Park, but at this Day there is not one to be found in the whole Parish.

HUNTING

/And 'tis hoped the English and Irish will, in a short Time, having the Advantage of so good Dogs, destroy the Routs of Wolves in that Kingdom [viz. Ireland] for the Benefit of their Posterity, as our Forefathers have done for us in England, and Wales.

THE HARE STONE

A little above the School is a Place which is by the Inhabitants called the Hare Stone, which must have received it's Name from the Encamping of an Army there (Hare or Here in the Saxon language signifying an Army): and this is most likely to have been when the Danes, invading this Part of the Country, landed at Cote Stones. Because from hence, it being an Eminency, they might see them land, and observe all their Motions; and if they thought themselves not strong enough to engage them, might easily and safely retire to the Mountains/

Near this Place are The Butts, which are two Banks of Earth raised at a convenient Distance, for the Exercise of

the Long Bow, which the Inhabitants of every Town are obliged by Act of Parliament to keep up and maintain, upon Pain of forfeiting twenty Shillings for every three Months that such Butts are lacking./

If we consideredly peruse the Histories of former Ages, we shall find more set Battles fought, and famous Victories achieved by the English with Bows and Arrows, than any other Nation (of Christendom at Least) hath been obtained by any one Instrument whatsoever. By them we gained the Battle of Cressy, Poitiers and Agincourt in France; of Navarre in Spain: and (though the last I think that was won with Bows and Arrows, yet not the least glorious) that of Flodden Field in Scotland, where I make no doubt, some of the Inhabitants of this Parish had their Share under their near Neighbour, Sir Edward Stanley of Hornby Castle/

And as England in General has heretofore excelled all other Countries in Archery and Shooting, even by the plain Testimony of Strangers, so of all its Counties, those of Lancashire and its Neighbour Cheshire, whose archers did excellent Service at Bosworth Field under the Command of Sir John Savage.

The pious Poet Mr Drayton, whose Conscience had always the Command of his Fancy, speaking of

Lancashire, thus expressed himself, much to the Honour of that Shire;

*Her Natives have been anciently esteem'd
For Bowmen near our best, and ever have been deem'd
So loyal, that the Guard of our preceeding Kings
Of them most did consist/*

As Lancashire for Archery, so other Counties are famed for their peculiar Qualities, as Yorkshire for Horsemanship, Devonshire and Cornwall for Wrastling &c. But to give a Reason for this Prerogative in them I think as difficult, as to shew why about the Straights of Magellan the Inhabitants are so white, about the Cape of Good Hope so black, yet both under the same Tropick: why the Abyssines are but tawny Moors, when in the East Indian Isles, Zeilan and Malabar they are very black, both in the same Parallel/

As the truly pious Prince, the good Josiah of our Nation, King Edward VIth is said to have been very much delighted with the manly and healthfull Exercise of Shooting at Butts with the long Bow and used it frequently; So the youths of this County do to this Day, constantly exercise themselves, in almost every Town, with that Pastime, especially on Holy Days as one of the many Acts of Parliament made for the Encouragement of this once England's Glory, enjoyns that they shall/

THE SLAPE STONES

The Slape Stones is a very large flat Rock near the Butts with many deep perpendicular Fissures in it, so called from it's being slippery to walk on, especially after Rain. If the curious Dr. Plot had once been thus far North before his going into Staffordshire, he would not have been struck with such wonderfull Admiration to have seen large Rocks without any Turf upon them, or Earth to produce one. That this Rock should have been made bare by cutting the Turf from it for Fuel (as he supposes some of those in that County to have been) is impossible, all the Earth about it being Corn Mould or Gravel, or by Deterration by Rains, is, I think, very improbable because of it's Flatness; but I rather think that it has either been thus uncovered by the general Deluge, or has continued so ever since the Creation of the World.

THE FAIRY HOLE

This is a Cave a little N.E. from the Slape Stones, where you enter the Rock at a small natural Arch, but when you have got a little in, the Roof rises to a considerable Height. How far this Under-Ground Passage may go I have not yet heard of any that have had Courage to try, and if any Body should I think he would stand in great need of

Aristomene's Guide,² especially if Report be true which says it goes quite under the Crag as far as Leighton Hall/

I have heard old People tell of their [i.e. the Fairies] having been seen, by other old People, dancing (sometimes about Heaps of Gold or Silver), and bleaching fine Linen, and frequently heard batting their Clothes at several noted Fountains in this Parish.

If it be granted that these Fairies have been so frequently seen and heard as is talked of, I should be very glad to hear a satisfactory Reason why they are not so at this Day.

Near the Fairy Hole is found the Spina Cervina or Buckthorn : the almost only purgative vegetable known in England as we are told by the learned. And among the Rocks grow some both Box and Eugh Trees.

THE BEACON

/On the Tops of Mountains they are usually, as here, large Pillars built of Stone, about three Yards Diameter, with an Hearth upon them. The usual Fuel burnt upon them especially in these Northern Parts, is to this Day, Wood and Turf, according to the Order made in the first Year of the Reign of King Edw. 1st. That Beacons should be well provided with Wood et Copia Turborum Plenty of Turf. They were to be built and repaired at the Charge of the

County, as appears by Sr. Richard Shirborne's Accounts in a curious Manuscript relating to this County, communicated by Nathaniel Booth of Gray's Inn Esq. to the Publisher of the British Librarian, containing about 280 pages.

A few Paces Southward from the Beacon is a large Scaut or Precipice. . . . Another Precipice at some distance N.W. from the Beacon is called Barrow Scaut, near which a voluntary Colony of Conies have fixed their Habitation, and are not kept in by the laws of a Warren/

THE BRIDE CHAIR

The Bride Chair is a Stone formed by Nature almost into the Shape of a Chair, and what is awanting is annually repair'd with Sods by the young Men that go that way to the Turff Moss, & stands a little South from Barrow Scaut, at a Place called the Crag-End. When any Bride goes from the Church to Silverdale, Lindeth, &c. she sits awhile in this Chair which is by the Rode side from whence Company have a delicate and far extended Prospect, not only to the Sea, but also to three several Points of the Compass.

CHAPTER NINE

Meadows and River



CARLEPOT

/In the East Part of this Township are some Meadows called yet by the Old Name of Launds, in one of which near the North Banks of the River Kere, is the largest profluent Spring that ever I saw or heard of except the Head of the River Hercyna at Livadia on the Gulph of Lepanto./ The Inhabitants have given this Spring the Name of Carlepot, either from its Roundness, or from it's strong Ebullition, much like to the Boiling of a Pot, and the Saxon Word Carle which signified a Man in general, or a Servant./

AQUAEDUCTS

When I was a Boy, a Design was set on Foot by the Milner (Tho. Ward) to carry the Waters of this Spring over the

River, to which it is very near, by Aquaeducts, thereby to encrease the slender Stream belonging to Carnford Mill, and though it miscarried, magnis tamen exidit Ausis/

THE GALES

Some flat Pastures seperated from the Launds by the Mill Dam, are so called from the Abundance of Gale or Dutch Myrtle which grows therein. It is a low Frutex about a Foot high, of a very gratefull Smell, like a Mixture of Bays and Mirtle, especially when burnt/

Adjoyning to the West End of the Launds is a large Meadow call'd Alder-holm from the Tree of that Name no doubt, though not one is to be found therein at this Day. And in the Meadows North of it are two or three of that Sort of Pits, which, when they are at their full gauge, send out but little Water, their own Weight balancing the Influx of the Springs: but if they be drawn below their usual gauge, they are observed to let in so very fast that they will presently be full again, and they are observed not to swell with Rain nor decline with Drought/

IGNIS FATUUS.

In these Meadows and Pastures *Ignes fatui*, in some Places called *Will with the Wisp*: in others *Jack with the Lantern*, &c. are not unfrequently seen. They usually start up as it were on the sudden, and as suddenly disappear. The Form of them is various and uncertain: at a Distance they very much resemble a lantern, appearing and disappearing as the light of that does by the Interposition of the Body of the Bearer, and they have often been taken the One for the other: sometimes they move very quickly to Places of a good Distance/

THE MILL DAM

At the Head of the Launds the Course of the River *Kere* is diverted by a Dam or *Were*, and brought down the Meadows to the Mill in a Chanel above half a Mile in length, in which there are several large Beds of aqueous Plants, which in Summer Time when Water is scarce, are very prejudicial to the Milner: to remedy which he is obliged to be at the Labour and Charge of cutting ym up as near the Bottom as he can with a Syth in some Places, and in others of pulling them up by the Roots with a large Drag.

On the Banks of these Waters grow several Sorts of

Vegetables: but I shall only take Notice of two; Viz. Reeds and the *Iris palustris lutea* (yellow Water Flower de luce)/

I cannot leave the Mill-Dam without a grateful Acknowledgement of my humble and hearty Thankfulness to that kind Providence which in a remarkable Manner preserved me, when I was a Child, from being drown'd in the Waters thereof. Oh that I may have Grace to spend that Life which God in his great Mercy was pleased to lengthen, when, to all human Apprehension, it seemed to be cut off, to his Honour & Glory, in using all Diligence to promote the Salvation, not only of my own Soul, but, as much as in me lies, of the Souls of others too, and in a pious Sincerity may always be ready to cry out



The Yellow Iris

with the devout Psalmist, Oh that Men would praise the Lord for his Goodness, and for his wonderfull Works to the Children of Men.

THE MILL

The Water Mill here did anciently belong to the Lord of the Mannor, till King James the first gave it (as I have heard) to one of his Courtiers, who sold it to the Washingtons, a Family of good Antiquity in this Town. The adjoining Lands are yet the Property of the Revd. Mr. Laurence Washington, but the Mill was long since sold to the Lords of Carnford, of one of which viz. John Warren Esq. my Cousin Mr. James Lucas lately purchased both this and Carnford Mill, with large Lands in both Townships. Near to the Mill is a By-Clowe where the Milner yearly about Michael-mass catches abundance of Eeles in wicker Piches wch he sets for that Purpose/

THRESHING FLOORS

From the Foot of the Crag to the River Kere runs out some high Land, which from the Time of our Saxon Ancestors no doubt, because of it's lofty Situation has retained the

Name of the Head, for with them that Word was the same with sub- limatus in Latin. That Part on the east Side of the Lane is called the Miln Head, into the Top of which, in calmer Weather, they bring their Oats (being the chief grain grinded here) after they have been cut or shill'd in the Mill wch stands in the same Field at the Foot of the Hill, to winnow the Seeds from them.

In the Lane leading from Warton to Carnford grows abundance of Plantain or Way-bred, the many vertues of which Plant may be read in Pliny/

HAZLE HEAD

That Part of the high Land which lies West of the said Lane is called by this Name because that it, being a dry and sandy Soil, was formerly over run with Hazles, they mightily delighting in such Ground.

Several humble Cottages are to this Day inclosed with Walls of Hazle Wattlings dawbed with a course Morter made of Loam and Straw: and the Partition Walls in many better sort of Houses are of the same Materials, the Morter being over-drawn with a thin Plaister of Lime. And there are a great many Barns and other Out Houses even in this Country where Stone is plentiful, the Walls whereof being built about half the Height wth Stone, the rest is

supplied with Studs and Hazle Raddlings as they call them, which will last long if they be cut at a proper Season.

COTE STONES

This Place which lies on the River at the Head of the Sands, is so called from Salt-Cotes formerly standing there and the Stones that lie on the Shore. Tradition does yet confidently affirm that the Danes landed here in order to rob & pillage this Part of the Country. This, I suppose, must have been in the Year 966 when Thoredus the son of Gunner laid waste this Part of Lancashire Westmorland &c. Or in 990, when our Historians tells us the Danes entered almost all the Havens of the Land in great Multitudes, so that a Man knew not where to resist them; or rather Seven Years after when having invaded the Coasts of Cornwall, Devonshire & South Wales, they retired to winter in the Northern Parts of England, and in the Isle of Man which they grievously wasted, and made it their retiring Place or Nest to lay their Spoils in. Whereby they so frightened the Coast Dwellers that a Law would have been more necessary now than afterwards in the Reign of King Edward III to oblige those who dwelt within Six Leagues of the Sea, not to leave their Habitations/

THE OXGANG

A little N.W. from the Cote Stones is a large Field called the Oxgang. The Land was anciently divided into Acres, Oxgangs Carucates &c. the largest of which was a Knight's Fee/

Near the Oxgang is a large Meadow called the Ings from the Saxon Inge a Field or Meadow; and adjoyning to it some Meadows which bear an herbacious sort of Hay, and in good Plenty too, which is very much valued by the Husbandmen for it's fatning and strengthening Quality, and is usually kept for the Use of their Oxen in Plow-Time/

CHAPTER TEN

Sands and Sea



And this brings me to Quick-Sand-Poo, which is a small Rivulet coming out of the Mosses, and is here the Boundary of the Township. There was about twenty Years since a Wood Bridge over it, for the more conveniently bringing their Turf from Warton Moss/

WARTON SANDS

Sometimes called Cartmel Sands, which though they be 7 or 8 Miles in Breadth, and in some Places more, yet are they every Spring Tide entirely covered with Water. They are also remarkable for the great Road leading over them into Cartmel, Furness, &c. which is much frequented every Day, but especially at Whitsontide, when there is a Fair at Cartmel, particularly noted for the hiring of Servants, who stand in the Market there for that purpose/

These Sands in calm Weather afford very pleasant Travelling, but in tempestuous Seasons, no less dismal than we can suppose the wild Desarts of Arabia/

The fluxes and refluxes of the Sea declare the Wisdom of the Great Creator/

And I am sure that it is a constant Observation among them [that is the Inhabitants of these Coasts], That no Creature Man or Beast, does ever (or but very rarely) die before the Flood be full Sea as they call it, or High Water.

SEA FISH

/Of this Kind we have here the Porpess or Dolphin of the Ancients, so called quasi Porcus Pissis, most Nations calling this Fish Porcus Marinus, or the Sea Swine, which Creature indeed it resembles in many particulars, as the Fat, the strength of the Snout &c. as we are informed by the learned and curious Mr. John Ray who dissected one at Chester, which had been taken on these Coasts/

We have also the Seal or Sea Calf (Phoca). This is an Amphibious Creature, and will lay to sleep on the Sands. The Fishermen &c. in the Isle of Wight are said to catch them when they are asleep, and to make them tame, and shew them for Money.

The Cartilagineous Kind (of fish) have Gristles instead of Bones as their Name implies, want Scales, and the

Swimming Bladder, (as most of the flat Fishes do)/

Many of the Round Fish of this Kind are very voracious, and of speedy Concotion, as the Shark &c. but few of these are found near these Coasts; but of the flat Sort of this Kind here is the Raia i.e. Thornback, and the Raia Laevis or Scate.

Here are found . . . the Cod-Fish, which they here call a Keeling . . . the Whiting . . . the Haddock is here in good Plenty . . . The Ling is not scarce. The other Seven Sorts are either not commonly found here, or else not known to me. Of this Kind here is also the Herring/ They are on these Sands in good Plenty in September, where the Manner of catching them is this. They pitch streight smooth Stakes of about 1 Inch Diameter, at about two yards Distance, in a line crossing the Course of the Tides, to the Tops of which they fasten a Net about twenty or Thirty Yards long, which floats even with the Tops of the Stakes as the Tides flow, but when they begin to Ebb (being kept light with Stretchers) the lower Edge falls to the Sand, and the whole Net leans against the Stakes, and the Maschs being made of a proper Size, the Herrings, in their Return with the Tide, strike into them, and there hang by the Gills. The Fishermen are obliged to watch the first Opportunity of getting to their Nets, so soon as ever the Tide ebbs from them, otherwise the Herring-Gull, and other Sea Fowls would quickly devour a great many of them; therefore in very Dark Nights, they meet on the

Shore, and one of the most experienced sets his Face, from some known Place, directly towards the Nets, and observing on what part of his Body the Wind beats, sets forward, keeping the Wind on exactly the same Point, and the rest follow in a Row with the deepest Silence. When they have fished their Nets which they can see to do by the shining of the Fish, they return in the same Manner/

Of the Scaly Kind of Round Spinose Fish that are generally found near the Shore, here is the Sparling, of which Dr. Charleton set down five Species; And of the flat Scaly Kind which keeps near the Shore the Sole (*Solea*) of which my Author mentions Six Kinds. The Passer Niger, the Flounder, or Flook, in good Plenty, and of the smooth flat Classis, the Passer Laevis, Plais/

Of those that live sometimes in Salt and Sometimes in Fresh Water: of the smooth Kind here is Plenty of delicate Eeles, and of the Scaly Kind, the Salmon/

Here are found Abundance of little Balls very nearly resembling that which is called commonly Star Slubber or Star Shot, which the People think to be the Spawn of some Sort of Fish, especially Flooks: but for this I think they have no very good Grounds. I suppose them to be either the same with the little round Lumps or *Festucæ* amassed together, which the learned and judicious Mr. Ray calls *Ballæ Marinae*, and takes them to be cast out of the Fishes Stomachs; Or else the *Urtica Marina* called Sea Geliy, or Blubber which is said by the curious Dr. Tancred Robinson

to be an Animal, having a true Heart and Vessels for the Circulation of Fluids/

Of Shell-Fish there are but few of the Crustaceous kind on these Sands. But the Testaceous are very plentiful, especially two Sorts. First the Muscle, which is so common that they frequently till their Land with them/

Secondly, the *Pedunculus vulgaris albidus rotundas*, as Dr. Lister calls it, or Common Cockle. These, like all other Bivalves, are constantly buried in the Sand, and have each of them one End of a Piece of fine green Moss within their Shell, the other End whereof lies upon the Surface of the Sand, by which it may be known where they are in greatest Plenty. The Use of this Moss, I suppose, must be either to feed or perspire by, or perhaps both. The Places where they are found are called Cockle Skears, and they are got by treading or often running over the Place, which Motion works them up to the Top of ye Sand. The Cockles on these Sands are so excellent in their kind, and so much preferable to those on the East Shore of England, that they are carried 60 or 70 Miles Eastwards/

Whoever walks upon these Sands a little before Rain will hear a hissing Noise, occasioned by the Breaking of innumerable little Bubbles, and will feel a noysom stinking Savour; the Reason of which I take to be, that the Pores of the Sand as well as of the Earth, are at such Times unlock'd, and so Steams of crude Sulphur with a Mixture of Salts do breath forth and occasion this ungrateful Smell.

This the neighbouring Inhabitants take for as sure a Prognostick of Rain, as the Gentleman mentioned by Dr. Plot ¹/

The large River Ken or Kent, which according to Dr Leigh signifies in the Armenian language a great River, coming out of Westmorland through Kendale, runs down these Sands with an incredible swiftness, and is always muddy, and, where fordable, of a great Breadth. What chiefly occasions the Danger of passing this River is the Uncertainty of it's Bottom. For where one Day is a fair Ford, is perhaps the next Day deep and impassible: and where it may, to all Appearance be safely rid, there frequently happen Deep Place[s] which are always dangerous and sometimes fatal to Passengers.

To remedy which as much as possible, a Person was appointed by some of the ancient Dukes of Lancaster, called the Carter, who is obliged to keep a good Horse, take Care to find a fair Ford, attend all Tide Time, and conduct all Passengers through the River, that will come to this Ford. When he has found a Ford he gives Notice thereof by Blowing a Horn, and does the same when he retires upon the flowing up of the Tide: and for this he enjoys an Estate worth, at this Day, about 25 or 30 Pounds per annum. But all this Danger in Crossing the Sands does not lie in the Depth, Rapidity, Uncertainty &c. of this great River: for there is another called Kere, which, though far less, is often more dangerous, because of the Quick-

sands wherewith it abounds, which have occasioned this common local Proverb

*Kent & Kere have parted many a good Man and his Mere
(i.e. Mare).*

There are also several little Poos as they call them, or Rivulets where Quicksands are much more frequent than near the greater Rivers, especially Quicksand Poo, where in my Remembrance, three Men (one of them a Relation of mine, who was supposed to understand the Sands very well) and their Horses were suffocated at once, and a fourth escaped very narrowly. Those Quicksands, if well observed, may be known by their Smoothness & bright shining Colour, so that few who are acquainted with the Sands fall into them, except through Inadvertency, or hard Riding (the Case of the three Persons above mentioned) which almost every One is tempted to by the Eavenness of the Road: insomuch that it is a common Saying;

He who rides over the Sands, and does not gallop forfeits his Horse to the King.

The Reason why there are so many of these Syrtes here is, because those, like Godwin Sands, are more soft, fluid, and porous, and yet tenaceous, and consequently more voracious than other Sands which are harder, solider, and rockyer. But to return to the River Kent; As soon as it enters these Sands it is by way of Eminency constantly

called the Ea; The Reason of which we may gather from the Observations of the ingenious Mr. Edw. Llloyd, who says that when a Country is new peopled, the New Comers often take the Apellatives of the old Inhabitants for proper Names, especially in Respect to Rivers and among several others, instances in the Word Avon, which though in British it signified only River in general, yet the English made it the Proper Name of several Rivers. So here because the Britans called the Water Eaii, it was, by an Emphasis, by their Saxon Successors, applyed for a proper Name to this River.

The Course of this River seldom continues long in One Place. Sometimes, by the Violence of a rough Tide, it's Chanel will be removed at once, a considerable Way from where it ran before: and the Water which remains in the Old Chanel, till it be sanded up, is called a Lyring, which is often more perillous to Travellers than the Ea itself. At other Times it removes gradually, when the Stream by inclining to one Side, drives a Bank of Sand, sometimes of a considerable Height, and continually undermining, the Sand falls down into the River, in great Flakes with a hideous Noise. And let it here be noted, that where ever one of these Banks is found, though it be but an Hand's Breadth high, it is an infallible sign that the River is there deep, and not fordable.

Before I leave this Place I cannot but relate a pretty remarkable Instance which happened about the latter End

of the last Century. Some Persons being on the opposite Side of the River, observed in the Bank after the Fall of one of the Flakes of Sand, a Man on Horseback, with his Right Hand lifted up, and his Whip in it, as it were ready to strike his Horse. This reminds me of the Buck which was found in this Neighbourhood standing upon his Feet, and his Horns on his Head, five Yards deep in Moss, whose Skeleton is yet preserved at Ellel-Grange near Lancaster/

When this River draws near either Side of the Sands, it becomes a troublesome Neighbour, and generally destroys all or most of their Marshes: but then

“As on the Land while here the Ocean gains, In other Parts it leaves wide sandy Plains”²

and the Grass begins by little and little to spring up again spontaneously as the River retires from either Shore till the Marshes be recovered/

These Salt Marshes bear a short Grass which is very valuable for its Excellency in recovering, preserving, and feeding Sheep, and their being of a fat and unctious Soil, as is generally agreed by the Philosophers, may perhaps be the Reason that they abound so in the choicest Mushroom-rooms, which are very much valued by the neighbouring Gentry, who frequently cause a Piece of the Marsh to be swept in the Evening, and have Abundance, like Truffles, sprung up in the Morning.

LINDITH, FLEGARTH AND SLACK-WOOD

/Adjoyning to the N.W. of the Township of Warton is a small Hamlet called Lindith, of which I have only to observe that in their Method of proportioning the Publick Taxes, Warton & Lindith bear one third Part of what is laid on the whole Parish/

On the East Side of Lindith lies Flegarth, which, as appears by Inquisition taken in the Second Year of the Reign of King Edw. VIth was holden, by Fealty, of William Lord Parr of Kendal Marquess of Northampton, by Gervase Middleton of Leighton Esq; for which he rendered the annual Rent of One Penny. The Descendants of the said Gervase have lately sold it (as I am informed) to William Walling (Gent); whose Estate is contiguous thereto eastward, and bears the Name of Slackwood. This Gentleman has pull'd down the Old Habitation of his Ancestors, and built a neat House on the same Ground; and towards the Beginning of this Century served the Office of Chief Constable, a Post of good Credit, especially in this County where the Hundreds are so large/

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Silverdale



The Mannor of Silverdale has for many Generations gone along with that of Leighton.

In this Village which lies North off the three forementioned Hamlets, is a Chapel of Ease for the joynt Convenience of their Inhabitants, who do not only keep it in Repair, but, as the Law directs, so also with the rest of the Parishioners contribute to the Repairs of the Mother Church./

The chief Design of their first Erection [i.e. Chapels of Ease]/being for the Relief and Ease of such Inhabitants as by Reason of the Distance, the Badness of the Ways and Weather, were often hindered from attending at Divine Service. And this was the very Case here: for this Part of the Parish is not only at a great Distance from their Mother Church at Warton, but the Ways thereto are extreemly bad & difficult, especially in a wet Season, it being a Kind of Peninsula, almost environ'd by the Sea and Mosses.

We can recover no certain Account of the Time when a Chapel was first built in this Place. Tradition says it was erected soon after the Foundation of the Mother Church. The Old Building being fallen into great Decay, the present Fabrick was set up in its Place [in] 1679/

I was informed by the Reverend Mr. James Atkinson, the pious Curate here that he had been told by several ancient People in the Neighbourhood, that there did formerly Forty Pounds a Year belong to the Chapel, but that through the Iniquity and different Turns of the Times, and for want of looking after it, it was lost. And also that he had then (April 1720) officiated at this Chapel Thirty eight Years in all which Time he never received more than Five Pounds a Year, which was allowed him by the Vicars of Warton, who are obliged, when no Curate is at Silverdale, to performe Divine Service there once a Month/

My Revd. Friend moreover told me that the small Salary he had received was so precarious that for four Years after the Death of Mr. Lawson the late worthy Vicar, he receiv'd no more for the whole Time than Two Pounds and ten Shillings, notwithstanding which he was resolved, under God, not to leave the Place, knowing that if he did, the Chapel Door would be shut up, except once a Month, and that would give a Handle to the Quakers, with which that Part of the Parish abounds. About the beginning of this Century an Iron Mine was discovered in some Grounds here belonging to the above nam'd Mr. Atkinson:

but after he had been at great Expences in Digging &c. he found it not answerable to his Expectation/

THE ROCKING STONE

Upon the Rocks in this Township stands a large Stone which I myself have moved with a very small Force: and yet it would require the united Strength of a great many Men to remove it from it's Place/

CHERRIES

This Town is noted for the finest Cherries that are to be had in this Part of the Country./

HAVESWATER

[NB Lucas's spelling of this name supports the old local name 'Hayeswater' for the lake which is unusually called Haweswater in the present day: this name is apt to cause confusion with the more important Haweswater in the Shap District. JRF]

In this Township is a Pool of this Name which though it be the largest in the Parish, yet by Reason of the

Clearness of its Waters (for which it is remarkable) it sends up in a Manner as few noxious Exhalations as a running Water would do/

The Clearness of this Lake may perhaps proceed from it's not being fed with any muddy Becks or Rills, but with living Springs within itself: and it's being plentifully stock'd with Fish, which perpetually move the Waters, and so keep them clear and free from Stagnation; among those is found, though more rarely, that Noble Fish the Char, which was thought to be peculiar to Winander-Mere in this Neighbourhood; but they are also found, though not in such plenty, in Conington Mere (about 4 or 5 Miles off), and sometimes in this Water. This Fish is about nine Inches long, and was thought by Dr. Charleton to be a sort of Lake Trout: others take it to be a Sort of Golden Alpine Trout. The Male, which is called the milting Char, is the largest, has a red Belly, and Flesh somewhat white: the Female Char is not so red on the Belly, but in the Flesh very red, and when potted is most delicious Meat. Of these Pots, which. they commonly call Char Pyes great Quantities are yearly sent up to London from Kendal and Lancaster.

I should have observed before that the Inhabitants of Silverdale have not the Privilege of burying their Dead at the Chapel but carry them to be interr'd at the Mother Church. And since I have mention'd the Burial of these People: it may not be improper to insert the following

Inscription which is found on a Munument in the East Wall of the Chancel of St. Botolph's Aldgate, in London:

Here lieth buried the Corps of Robert Taylor of Silverdale, in the Parish of Warton, in the County of Lancaster, Gentleman; the Father of John Taylor Citizen and Draper of London, and of this Parish Beere-Brewer: He departed this life about the age of 80 years, the 15 Day of February An: Dom. 1577.¹

Robert Taylor who was one of the Shiriffs of London and Middlesex was Grandson to this Robert. If I be not misinform'd

CHAPTER TWELVE

Arnset and Brackenthwaite



ARNSET WELL

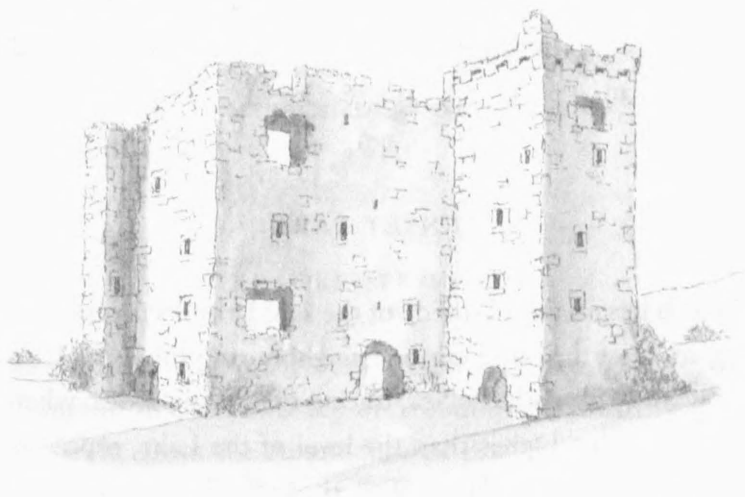
This large affluent Spring arises on the Edge of the Sands, and is a Boundary not only to this Township, but to the Parish, and also to the County. There arises a small Beck on the East Side of the Parish, called Herring Syke, which separates This from the Parish of Burton in Kendale, in Westmoreland; and afterwards when the same Rivulet (if I mistake not) points out the Limits of this Parish and that of Betham in the above named County, it bears the Name of Leighton Beck, and empties itself into Arnset Tam. Now though there be a Descent through the Mosses on the East Side of Arnset, from the Head of this Tarn into the River Ken; yet this little Rivulet, having had the Honour to prescribe Limits to two Counties from its very Rise, and scorning now to be robbed of it's Prerogative, makes it's

Way out of the said Tam, for about a Mile, under a craggy Promontory and arises again at the Well above said/

ARNSET TOWER

In this Place is a very antique quadrangular Building called Arnset Tower wch by the Thickness of its Walls, smallness of it's Doors & Windows and the ancient Fashion of all it's Parts seems to be very Old/

This Tower, which I take to have been built during the Saxon Government, was, no doubt at first designed, like



Arnset Tower

those observed by Mr. Maundrel¹ on the Coast about Tripoli in Syria, for the Defence of the Coasts against the Incursions of Foreign or Domestick Enemies; and for this Purpose it was placed as conveniently as possibly it could have been: for it stands upon the Ridge of a small Isthmus which joyns the two Peninsulas of Silverdale and Arnset, and has a fair Prospect to Warton Sands on the West, and to the Sands made by the River Ken on the East.

There are several of these Towers in this Part of the Country, some whereof are now in Ruins, and others converted into Dwelling Houses, which, rightly reflected on, will alone be sufficient to give us an Idea of the Difference between the Times wherein these Bulwarks were erected, and Ours: betwixt the then State of Things, and the Present/

ARNSET TARN

Which lies on the East Side of the said Isthmus is observed by some of the more curious neighbouring Inhabitants to flow and ebb with the Sea, during the Spring Tides, when the Sea rising higher than the level of the Lake, represses the Water from the Amset Well, through it's subterraneous Passages/

COLT PARK

All Men are naturally inclined either to active or contemplative Recreations: And Mr. Gervas Markham was of Opinion that there is none to be compared to that Gentlemanly and beneficial Delight of Breeding Horses, it being so very conducive both to a Man's own particular Pleasure and Advantage: and also to the Strength, Defence and Tillage of the Kingdom. Upon this Account the Midletons of Leighton, being Lords of the Manner, inclosed a large Piece of Ground in the East Part of this Township, which from the Original Use it was design'd for, and was constantly employ'd in, during the Continuance of that Family, received the Name of Colt Park: a Place which, if Mr. Markham himself or Crescentius had directed the Choice of it, could not in all Respects have more exactly answered the Description he gives of Ground proper to breed horses/

BRACKENTHWAITE

South East from Colt Park lies a large Crag, Fell, or Common in the Township of Yealand, &c. called Brackenthwaite from the Abundance of Brackens or common Ferns growing thereon. Bracken is the Plural Number of Bracke (Fern) which comes from the English Word Break,

because when dry it is very brittle, and that from the Saxon Breca, frangere. Bracke or rather it's Plural Bracken is the general Word almost all England over, especially among the Vulgar, who as Mr. Ray rightly observes do not understand the Word Fern.²

This Place was one of the Boundaries mentioned in the Grant of Lands made to the Abbey of Preston (about 3 Miles off), founded there first by Thomas Son of Gospatrick Earl of Northumberland, soon after the Conquest, but afterwards by him removed to Heppe or Shappe/

Notwithstanding that Brackens are reckoned by Husbandmen among the worst of Weeds and those unprofitable Vegetables which impoverish and eat out the Heart of the Soil, yet are they not wholly useless to Mankind either in a natural or physical Respect. They are by some accounted very proper for the burning of Lime, to which Use they are frequently put in Sussex: and Dr. Moreton calls them a very good sort of Firing for the Bakers. Being mown green and burnt, their Ashes yield double the Quantity of Salt that any other Vegetable will do and in several of these Northern Parts the Tallow Chandlers make up the Salts of these Ashes with a proper Mixture of Lime and Tallow into an excellent Ball Soap. The principal Use the People here make of them is to strow them in the Highways near their Houses for Litter which mixt with other Manure makes an excellent Compost for their arable Ground: and

the poorest Sort thatch their Houses with them; a Custom near as old as the Houses themselves/

In the Months of May or June this Part of the Country is yearly infested with vast Swarms of Flies of the Beetle kind (viz. having a hard Case under which their thin long Wings are contracted and therewith covered) exactly like the Lady Cow but bigger, which they call Bracken clocks. These Insects would in a little Time devour not only the Brackens (upon which they are most numerous, and from which they have their Name) but, as the Egyptian Locusts, every Herb of the Land, and all the Leaves and Fruit of the Trees, especially the Hazles, were they not, like the black Flies which, about the same time of the Year, infest their Gardens and Orchards in Holland driven into the Sea by the same Wind which brought the Locusts upon the Land of Egypt. For if the East Wind blows but a Day or Night, they are swept quite off the Land, and are seen wreck't up by the Tides (especially if the Wind changes from E to W) all along the Coast in vast Quantities/

The young Buds of Fern rubbed in the Fingers, smell something like a Kimel, or the Laurel. Chemically prepared they yield Oil and essential Salt. If a Decoction be made of the Roots, the Taste thereof will be very Styptic and bitterish, and of a Citeron Colour. The Mucilage and Stypticity thereof make Fern (according to the learned Physician Sr. John Floyer) an excellent Vulnerary and

stiptic in all Fluxes. The last Benefit of Brackens I shall mention is, that they are of good Use in shading and sheltering the Grass, which otherwise would be parched by the dry Winds or burnt up by the Sun, both here and on Warton and Yealand Craggs, where they also abound.

SHEEP

These Places yield a sweet and cleanly Herbage, which feeds a Breed of small Sheep, whose Flesh is much commended and esteemed. And their Wool may justly bear the same Comparison with the neighbouring Country that Apulia and Parma did in the Poet's Opinion bear to the rest of Italy: *Velleribus primis Apulia, Parma secundis Nobilis*/

STANK WELL BRACKENTHWAITE³

Stank Well upon Brackenthwaite, which is a perennial Spring/ though all the Cattle /daily drink, yet it never fails, but affords about or very near the same Quantity of Water in Summer and Winter. And though this Spring is not on the very Summit of the Rock, yet it breaks out, on a small Flat, so near it, that allowing a far greater Condensation of the Vapours, or Stopping of the Clouds than can rea-

sonably (even by Dr. Hoffman⁴ or any of the Maintainers of that Hypothesis) be supposed, yet the Ascent to the Top of the Hill being so small, and as Scaliger expresses it in the Situations of his Spring *super clivum*, and I may here add *petrosum & fissum*, they would not, by any impartial Eye, be judged able to afford any Thing like such Quantity as is constantly emitted: and if they could there would certainly be an Increase and Decrease of the One, as there should happen to be of the other, as there actually is in such temporary Springs as have undoubtedly their Source from Rain and Vapours, which never appears in this. Besides I think their Hypothesis would be more difficult to be accounted for upon a mature Consideration of the Case of this Spring than of most others because the Rain and Vapours that fall on the upper Part of the Hill supposing it to be much higher than it is, must be so diverted by the many very deep Clefts and Partings of the Rock where-with it is on all Sides surrounded, that it may easily be supposed impossible how they should be able to afford a supply for the Waters of the Spring itself run not many Paces above Ground before they sink among the Rocks, like those of the Spring at Hedington in Oxfordshire, and are no more seen, except (as is supposed) at a Spring which rises almost at the Foot of the Hill, about half a Mile below/

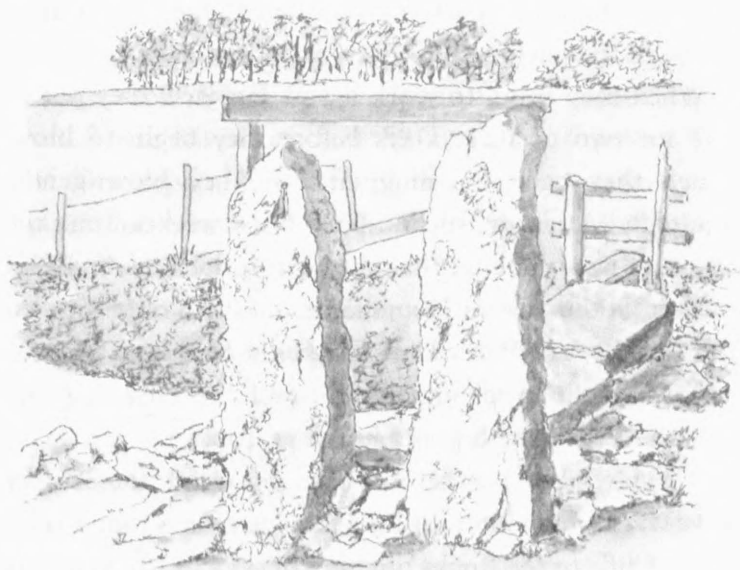
CHAPTER THIRTEEN

Leighton Furnace



Soon after the Beginning of this [18th] century, the Proprietors of the Iron Works in Forness, having purchased the Fall of Leighton-Park, and several other considerable Quantities in that Demesne and Places not far distant, erected a Furnace here upon a Goit drawn out of Leighton Beck, for the smelting of Iron: as a Forge had been a few years before built at Kere Holm very near the Borders of this Parish upon Account of the Fall of Dalton Park &c.

The mighty Destruction of Wood, occasioned by the great Quantity of Iron made in this Kingdom has long been complained of in all Parts of the Nation; and not without very good Reason: for in the County of Sussex alone there are, or lately were, no less than One Hundred and Thirty Furnaces and Hammers, which by an exact Computation are found to consume yearly Ninety four Thousand nine Hundred Loads of Charcoal to the extravagant Consumption of Timber/



Near Leighton Beck

But to come to a particular Description of this Furnace. It is built like most others, against the Side of an Hill, in a square Form, the Sides descending obliquely about Six Yards, and drawing nearer one another towards the Bottom like the Hopper of a Mill. These oblique Walls terminate at the Top of a perpendicular Square called the Hearth whose Side is about four and a half Feet which is lined with the best Fire Stone to take off the Force of the Fire from the Walls, and to hold the fluid Metal which drops into it as it melts. The Top of the Furnace is covered with a large thick Iron Plate, in the middle of which is a

Hole about three quarters of a Yard square where they throw in the Fuel and Ore.

When they begin to work a new Furnace, they put in Fire for two or three Days before they begin to blow, which they call Seasoning; at first they blow gently, gradually increasing till in about three weekes Time the Fire will be so intense that they can run a Sow and Pigs once in about twelve Hours: after they are once kindled they are kept at Work Day and Night for many Months or Years, still supplying the Wast of the Fuel & other Materials Wth. fresh poured in at ye Top.

The Ore they use here is brought across the Bay by Coasters from Stenton in Furness, where it is found lying in the Cliffs of the Rocks of gray Limestone. The Veins are sometimes an Inch, sometimes a Foot, and sometimes three or four Yards broad, which they have followed towards the Centre of the Earth for many Fathoms. The Ore which lies at the outside of the Vein or near the Rock on either Side is hard, and that which is in the Middle is commonly soft like Clay. They are both red or else bluish, and smooth as Velvet to the Touch when broken. As for the medicinal Uses of this Ore, they use the soft sort frequently and with great success, and for most Diseases in Swine they give a Handfull or two in Milk.

When the Ore which the Workmen here commonly call the Mine, is brought to the Furnace, their first Work is to bum it in a Kiln, much after the Fashion of our ordinary

limekilns; a Thing we find practised not only in the Iron Works in Sweeden, but also in all the Mines in Hungary, whether Gold, Silver, Copper, Iron Lead or Lapis Calaminaris. These Kilns they here fill up to the Top with Turf and Ore super Stratum, and then putting Fire to the Bottom let it burn till the Fuel be wasted, and the mere drossy Part of the Ore consumed, and the other Part rendered more soft and malleable; otherwise if it should be put into the Furnace as it comes out of the Earth, it would not melt but come away whole. Care also must be taken that it be not over much burned, for then it will lop, i.e. melt and run together in a Mass. After it is burnt they beat it into small pieces on the Rest-Hearth as the Germans call it with an Iron Sledge or large Hammer, and then cast it into the Furnace (which is before charged with a certain Quantity of Charcole and Turf) and with it a small Quantity of Limestone and old Cinders; these all run together into a hard Cake or Lump which is sustained by the Fashion of the Furnace, through the Bottom of which, the Metal as it melts by the Violence of the Blast, trickles down into the Hearth or Receiver, where there is a Passage open much like the Mouth of an Oven, by which they clear away the scum and Dross, which they always take off from the melted Iron before they let it run.

When they find the Fuel to have subsided something more than a Yard (which they prove by an Iron Gauge or

Instrument much like a Flail) which is in the Space of about an Hour, they fill the Furnace again. Their Charging here consists of a certain Quantity of very hard black Turf (the best in its Kind of any perhaps in England which is dug up in Arnset Moss about half Mile from them) and Charcoal, upon which they throw Four Hundred Weight of burnt Ore of different Sorts and Goodness, together with a 10th, or 12th Part as much Slaken as the Germans call them, or old Cinders wch they here call Forest Cinders, and the same Quantity of a Limestone beaten into small Pieces, to make it melt freely and cast the Cinders, We find that in Hungary they not only mix it's own Cinders in melting their several sorts of Ore, but also a certain Quantity of Stone, generally Pyrites; and a late Author informs us that the French in their Iron Furnaces make use of a Sort of Sand Stone wch they call Flux Stone, which they say not only helps the Fusion, and separates the metalick from the earthy Particles, but that the vitrified Sand, being a liquid Mass of Fire, keeps in a State of Agitation the finer Grains of Sand and the saline and earthy Particles, which after Ignition fix into a consistent Body. And this they think preferable to Lime Stone which in their Opinion serves only as a Crust or Covering to reverberate the Heat, and to make it act with more Force inwardly on the Ore which is mixed with the Coals: But if the longest and largest Experience may be allowed as Judge, we shall find Limestone pronounced the most

proper Assistant in melting Iron Ore: for the Swedes who (notwithstanding the great Quantities we make) do yet furnish us with near two thirds of the Iron wrought up and consumed in the Kingdome, besides the vast Quantity they export to other Parts of the World, have always used it, and find it so absolutely necessary that the Mine will not run to so good Advantage without it.

They found here by Experience that Turf which is here both very good and very cheap, doth not only spare Char Coal, but makes better Iron than Charcoal alone: upon which Account it is that the Iron made at the Furnace is much preferable to that which was made some years since at Milthorpe in this Neighbourhood, where Charcoal was the only Fuel they made Use of.

The Water here does not blow the Fire by a Pair of Philosophical Bellows, as at the Brass Works of Trivoli near Rome; but behind the Furnace are placed two huge Pair of Bellows, each seven and a half Yards long, and one and a half Yard broad, whose Noses meet at a little Hole near the Bottom of the Furnace. These Bellows are compressed together by certain Buttons placed in the Axis of a very large Wheel, which is turned about by Water in the Manner of an overshot Mill. As soon as these Buttons are slid off, the Bellows are raised again by the Counterpoise of Weights, whereby they are made to play alternately, the one giving their Blast all the Time the other is rising. The Axis of the Wheel is 12 Yards long, and its Diameter is ten

Yards within the Rim: so that allowing for the thickness of the Rim, and the Depth of the Brackets, it will, I think, be found to exceed those at the great Copper Mines in Sweden whose Circumference according to Naucleus is but about one Hundred Foot: and to be much about the Size of that observed by Dr. Brown a considerable Depth in one of the Hungarian Mines, which being turned about by the Fall of a subterraneous Torrent moved Engines which pumped out the Waters from the Bottom of the Mine into a Cavity wherein this Wheel (whose Diameter is 12 Yards) is placed, whence it runs out at the Foot of the Mountain; but it will be found to fall short of the Size of that mentioned by Dr. Leopold, the Diameter of which he says was forty eight Foot, and the Machine it moves draws up Buckets full 800 Foot.

When the Furnace is fit to run, as they term it, which is once in abt 12 Hours, they make a long Furrow through the Middle of a level Bed of Sand directly before the Mouth thereof, which they call the Sow, and out of it on each Side eleaven or twelve smaller for the Pigs, and all these they make greater or lesser according to the Quantity of their Metal which is then nothing but a Torrent of liquid Fire; made so very fluid by the Violence of the Heat, that when it is let out of the Receiver or Hearth, by breaking a lump of Clay out of a Hole at the Bottom thereof, with a long Iron Poker, it not only runs to the utmost Distance of the Furrow, but stands boiling in them for a

considerable Time. Upon the Extinction of the Fire, the Redness goes off, and the Metallick Particles coalesce and subside one upon another, and it begins to look blackish at the Top; then they break the Sow and Pigs off from one another, and the Sow into the same Lengths with the Piggs, which is now done with ease; whereas if let alone till they were quite cold, the doing of it would be much more difficult. This Running of the Iron calls to my Mind what is said by Mons. le Grand and others about the Invention of Metals by Tubal Cain for he, they say, observing Iron to run from a burning Mountain, and to grow hard in what Form it happened to meet with a Mould, took the Hint thereby to contrive the casting of Metals.

The Hearth grows wider by using, so that their Runnings are much larger at the latter End than at the Beginning: for the Master Founder here told me on the 12th of June, 1717 that they then ran about Sixteen or Seventeen Hundred Weight at a Time, and in the Year 1721, he told my Brother they then ran twenty-two Hundred Weight. When they cast Backs for Chimneys, Rollers for Gardens, Pots or Pans &c. they make Moulds of fine Sand, into which they pour the liquid Metal with great ladles, as they do who cast Brass or other softer Metals. But this sort of Iron having not undergone the Preparation of the Finery and Chafery in the Forge, are so very brittle that with one Blow of a Hammer, it will break all to Pieces, especially if it be hot.

We are told by Dr. Brown that the Silver Ore in the Mines of Hungary affords but about an Ounce, sometimes scarce half an Ounce in 100 Pounds Weight; but that the Ore of the Copper Mine of Herm Grundt is very rich, and in 100 Lb. yields ordinarily 20, and sometimes 30, 40, 50 and sometimes 60 Pounds. By the same Reason the Mine here may also be said to be very rich, for if we compare the Chargings and Runnings in 12 Hours as above we shall find that 100 Lb. of Ore yields 40 lb. of Iron, or upwards/

OF GLASS

I have observed above that they take off the Scum or Dross from the Fluid Iron at a Place even with the Top of the Hearth, and throw it down the Hill before the Door of the Furnace. Amongst this Slag I observed Abundance of Glass: for the Limestone, which of its own Nature would burn immediately into a Calx, is here by Reason of a metalick Mixture, melted into opack vitreous Substance.

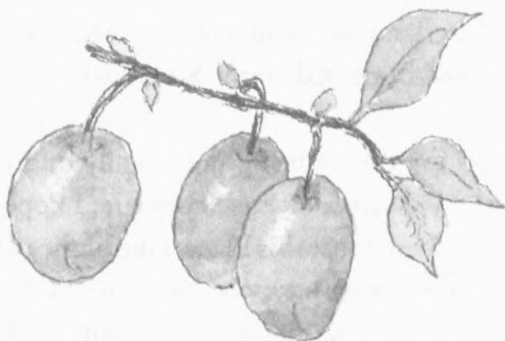
CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Yealand



South from Brackenthwaite, and at about the Distance of half a Mile from each other, lie Yealand Redmaine, and Yealand Conyers, distinguished by the Names of their ancient Lords, whose Estates were long since united with that of Leighton.

Adjoyning to Brackenthwaite is a small Hamlet belonging to Yealand Redmaine, called Yealand Storrs: of wch I



Excellent Plumbs in Yealand Storrs

have no more to say than that it is reckoned famous for Plenty of excellent Plumbs, if I may be allowed to give that Epethit to a Fruit which the great Mr. Lock in his Treatise on Education says has a very tempting Taste in a very unwholesome Juice; and therefore, if it were possible he would have his young Master never so much as to see them/

CRINGLE BARROW

is a round Hill or rather Rock so called lying a little S.W. from Storrs. Mr. Toland¹ will have the Word Barrow to be Gothick; but Sr. William Dugdale² says it is of Saxon Original. If this has ever been a sepulchral Monument, which I very much question, notwithstanding that the Name seems to intimate as if it has, it must have undergone the same Transmutation with those Four in Staffordshire, mentioned by Dr. Plot³ who supposes them to have been changed and cemented into Stone by subterraneous Vapours/

Common Limestone being not usually dug up in such large Blocks as Marble or Free Stone are; I hope I may the rather be excused if I, at this Place, take Notice of the great Flakes of two, three, or more Yards long, riven by the Inhabitants of the adjacent Villages, from off the Surface of the Rocks (that below being too soft) here, and on the

neighbouring Craggs, whereof they make Posts for their Gates, Lintels for their Bam Doors, Foot Bridges over Brooks, &c. which naturally brings to my Mind the prodigiously large Stones, Pillars, &c. the Ancients used in their Publick Buildings/

Before I leave this Town I must say something, out of the much that might be said, of the Worshipfull Family of the Redmaines, anciently Lords thereof, and Men of Renown in this Country. We find Henry Redmaine Steward of Kendale, subscribing among several other northern Gentlemen, as Witness of a Grant of Robert de Vipont, to the Abbey of Heppe (now call'd Shap) in Westmorland. Dated Die Sabati 8^o Cal. Maii. 130 Reg. Johannis Ann. Dom. 1212. And three Years after, when William de Lancaster III^d joyning with the Barons, was taken Prisoner by King John at Rochester, Benedict the Son and Heir of the Henry was the first of the Ten Hostages demanded by the King as Pledges of his future Fidelity. Adam de Redmaine de Yealand married Ellen Daughter of Adam de Aurunches of Leighton, and obtained Free Warren in all his Demesne Lands here in the first Year of King Edward III by this Charter;

The King to the Bishop &c. Greeting. Know us of our special Grace to have granted, and by our Charter confirmed unto our well beloved Adam of Redmaine, that he and his Heirs for ever may have a free Warren in all his

Demesne Lands in Yealand Redmaine in the County of Lancaster, whiles these Lands be not within the Meats of our Forest so that none many enter into those Lands to slay or take any Thing which to a Free Warren may belong without the License and Will of the said Adam or his Heirs, upon the Forfeiture of Ten Pounds. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our Heirs, that the said Adam and his Heirs for ever may have free Warren in all his Demesne Lands aforesaid. These being Witnesses, The Worshipfull Fathers John of Ely our Chancellor, R. of Cov. & Lich. Bishops. John of Crumbwell, Gilbert Talbot, John of Roos Steward of our Household and others. Dated by our Hand at Nottingham the 2d Day of May By Writ of the Privy Seal.

This Adam Redman had a Son called John, who dying without Issue, his two Sisters became his Heirs, the one of which was married to Adam Yealand of Leighton and the other to Roger Croft of Dalton, both his near Neighbours. And though the Name of Redman was thus here extinct, yet we find in the Collections of a diligent Antiquary that they were Owners of Levens (a pleasant Seat of the now Earl of Berkshire, lately belonging to the Worshipfull Family of Bellingham) in this Neighbourhood, and of Harwood Castle in Yorkshire in the Reign of K. Rich. Ild . . . We find Richard Redman High Shiriff of Cumber-

land 17th 20th & 22 Rich. II and 3d Hen. IVth, Sr. Richard Redman, wch I take to be the same Person, and also 12. H. IVth Edw. Redman 6 H. 7th. And among the Shiriffs of Yorkshire Richard Redman 4 & 5 Hen. IVth who was knighted and Shiriff again 5 Hen. Vth. Afterwards Richard Redman de Harwood, and Thomas Redman de Levens in Lonsdale Esqrs were return'd among the Gentry when King Hen. VIth in the 12th Year of his Reign, granted a Commission to four Persons in each County, viz. the Bishop, some Nobleman, or Knight at least, and to the two Knights of the Shiref with Power to summon before them all the Gentry thereof, and to administer an Oath to them for the better observing the Laws. This was pretended, but the true Cause was to detect the Favourers of the House of York, which then began to appear. The Arms of this Family are Gules, three Cushions Ermin buttoned and tasselled Or. Mr. Guillim in his Heraldry says, these Cushions are by some more truly reckoned to be Pillows, and given to one of this Family upon this Occasion. A Combat being challenged upon him by a Stranger, this Gentleman being more forward than the Challenger, came very early to the Place at the Day appointed, and by Chance fell asleep in his Tent. The People being assembled, and the Hour come the Trumpets sounded, whereupon he awaked, ran furiously upon his Adversary and slew him.

HEMP AND FLAX

It is a certain Observation that hath held in all Parts and indeed in all Ages of the World, that there are peculiar Soils that suit peculiar Plants. The most ancient Writers of Husbandry as Cato, Columella, &c. took Notice of it and are not wanting in their Rules for making Choice of Soils fitted to the Nature of each kind of Vegetable they thought valuable or worth propagating. In England, Cherries are observed to succeed best in Kent, Apples in Herefordshire, Saffron in Essex & Cambridgeshire, Woad in two or three of our Midland Counties, Teazles in Somersetshire, and Hemp and Flax in Dorsetshire; though Lancashire is said not to want a competent Increase in both; and in the last nam'd County these two Villages claim the Preference, their Soil being a red hazel dry Ground which according to all our Georgick Writers both ancient and modern, is most suitable for them, in which they thrive so well that the Seed growing here is much sought after, and bears the greatest Price in the Market/

How the ancient Romans managed their Hemp & Flax we learn from Columella & Palladius And as to the Present Method, there being scarce one Freeholder, Farmer or Cottager in this whole Parish, but who has a Hempland, as they call it, it is needless to mention it/

It was provided by an Act of Parliament that no Person should water any Manner of Flax or Hemp in any River,

Brook, or other common Pond where Beasts be used to be watered, but only on the Ground or in Pits; Upon pain of forfeiting twenty Shillings for every Offence. This Law they here still observe, and water them in their Moss Pits/

OF QUAKERS

Yealand Coniers is almost wholly inhabited by the People called Quakers, who towards the latter End of the last Century, built a very neat Meetinghouse there.

The Original of this Set of People is generally said to be



‘A very neat Meetinghouse’

one George Fox a Journeyman Shoemaker, born at Drayton in Leicestershire Ao 1624 of devout and pious Parents, whose Names were Christopher & Mary, very zealous for the Presbyterian Party, out of which Sect, and it's Subdivisions Viz. Independants, Brownists, Baptists &c. most of them Soldiers in the Parliament's and Oliver's Armies, their Son George made his first Converts.

They were first called Quakers at Derby in the year 1650, three Years after George's first Promulgation of his new Doctrine, by Gervas (or Jeremy) Bennet a Justice of the Peace there, from his observing them to tremble and quake exceedingly in their Discourses. These strange Motions, with which, for about ten Years after their first Appearance, many of them were seized in their Meetings, have been long disused. They never took to themselves the Name of Quakers, but have assumed the Title of The People of God: and when they speak one of another they use the Word Friend. But to return to George Fox the great Apostle of this Sect. From Derby he removed Northwards into Yorkshire, wherein his first Disciple, and afterwards his Colleague, was William Dewsbury a Trumpeter in Oliver's Army, but once an Inhabitant of Holbeck near Leedes. Thence he came into this Part of Lancashire, where he made many Converts, the first of which, of any Note, was Richard Hubberthorn a Captain in the Parliament's Army, bom in this Neighbourhood, of good Parentage and liberal Education. Then Thomas & Chris-

topher Taylor Brothers and both publick Ministers, and Richard Tarnsworth, afterwards a Writer in Defence of the Particle Thou. But the most noted of his Converts hereabouts was George Whitehead Minister of the Church of Lancaster, a Person remarkable for his great Learning, Piety, Modesty, and Dexterity in managing Controversies both with Tongue and Pen. George Fox came to Swart Moor near Ulverston in this County in the Year of our Lord 1652, where he was entertained by Judge Fell⁴ who though he did not publicly own himself a Quaker, yet he much favoured them, and gave them his Hall for a Meeting House. And his Wife had soon imbibed such a plentiful Portion of inward Light that though Elizabeth Hooton who was the first woman Speaker we read of was before her in Point of Time, Viz. in 1650, yet she was not so in Zeal & Application: For Mrs. Fell instructed the People not only Viva Voce but by several Books written & published by her. All her Children followed the Example of their Mother, of which Leonard and Henry and also William Caton, a young Man of great Modesty and Learning, whom the Judge had taken into the Family for a Companion to his eldest Son Leonard, became great and famous Teachers. But yet they were excelled by their Sister Sarah Fell, who is said to have been not only beautifull and lovely to a high Degree, but wonderfully happy in her Genius and Memory so stupendiously eloquent in Discourse and Preaching, and so effectual and fervent

in her Addresses and Supplications to God, that she ravished all her Beholders, and filled all her Hearers with Admiration and Wonder. She applied herself to the Study of the Hebrew Tongue, that she might be more prompt and ready in defending and proving their Doctrine and Principles from the Holy Scriptures; and made so great Progress therein, that she wrote Books of Religion in that Language. About eleven Years after the Death of Judge Fell, his Widow married the great Apostle of Quakerism George Fox, they having been Fellow Prisoners for three Years. I find George Fox holding Meetings on Snyder-Hill Green contiguous to this Parish in the Years 1654 & 1666 where, it is said he had gathered some Thousands of People about him; Since which Time those have grown to that Degree that about thirty Years since their Number in Great Britain was reckoned to be above Fifty Thousand, and I am afraid it is rather more than less now/

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

Leighton Hall



A little West from Yealand Coniers is Leighton Hall, the most ancient Possessor of which that we meet with upon Record is Adam de Aurunches, whose only Child Ellen being married to Adam de Redman de Yealand, it became the Seat of that Family for two Descents. This Adam obtained Free Warren in all his Demesne Lands here Ist Edw. III^d and left a Son called John who died without Issue whereupon his two Sisters became his Heirs, of which Elizabeth married Roger Croft, but had no Child, and her Sister was married to Adam Yealand who in Right of his Wife became Lord of Leighton. Alice Daughter and Heir of this Adam was married to Robert Coigniers^t which Family distinguished the One Yealand, as that of Redman does the other, to this Day.

This Robert Coigniers had Issue by Alice his Wife Adam Coigniers, and three Daughters viz. Katherine who was twice married, first to Sr. Alan Singleton and after his

Death to Thomas Clifton; but had Issue by neither of them. Alice married to William Singleton and Isolda who was married to William, Son of Henry, Son of Roger, Son of Henry de Croft. This William Croft was Heir not only to his Father, but also to his Uncles Roger & Gilbert Croft; and Adam Corners his Wife's Brother dying without Children, he became moreover Lord of Yealand Coniers and Leighton Coniers, in right of Isolda his Wife, by whom he had Issue Roger Croft who married Elizabeth Sister and one of the Heirs of John Son of Adam Redman de Yealand, by which he joined the other Yealand to his Estate, but dying without Issue, his Brother John was his Heir. This John Croft had a Son called Adam who died in his Father's Life Time, but left a Child called John, to whom his Grandfather, at his Death, which happened 21 Edw. III^d left his Estate. This John, Son of Adam, who was five Years old at the Death of his Grandfather, was afterwards A Knight and had his Seat at Dalton in this Neighbourhood, which with the rest of his Estate, he left to his Son John, who married Mabell Daughter of Roger Bradshaw, by whom he had Nicholas Croft of Dalton Esq. who was living 7 Hen. VIth. He left Issue by Ellen his Wife James Croft of Dalton Esq. who married the Daughter and Heir of Butler of Freckleton Esq. and had Issue by her two daughters Coheresses viz. Mabell married to Sr Piers Leigh of Leigh near Lime in Cheshire, and Alison married to Geoffrey Middleton Esq. a younger Son of John, Son of

Thomas Midleton of Midleton Hall in the Parish of Kirkby Lonsdale in Westmoreland.² This Geoffrey Midleton lived at Leighton, and was a Gentleman of that Account and Credit in his Country that when a Peace was concluded between Edw. 4th of England and James King of Scotland Ao 1464 he was the only Esquire that had the Honour to be appointed Conservator of the Peace together with nine Lords and eleven Knights. Sr Robert Midleton Son and Heir of Geoffrey Midleton was a Knight 1 Rich IIIrd and married Anne only Child and Heir of Roger Betham of Betham by which he made a large Addition to his Estate.

On the 27th August 4 Hen. VIIth this Sr Robert Midleton and Sr Peter Leigh made a Partition of the Lands belonging to his Grandfather James Croft; when it was agreed that Leighton, Yealand Coniers, and Yealand Redmain was the Part of Sr Robert Midleton Knight. This Sr Robert, Son and heir of Geoffrey, had Issue by Daughter and Heir of Roger Betham of B. Esq. Thomas Midleton of Leighton Esq. to whom King Henry the Seventh gave Thanks by his Letters for his Service done in Scotland: This Thomas married in the eighteenth Year of King Edw. IVth Joane Daughter of Sr Tho: Strickland and had Issue Geoffrey who died Childless in the fifteenth Year of his Age, and Gervase who was seven Years old at his Brother's Death.

In an Inquisition taken 9 Hen. VIIIth wee read; Thomas Midleton Esqr holds ten Messuages &c. in Kellet of the

King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster in Soccage, Rent two Shillings and seven Pence: And one Messuage &c. in Yealand Coniers, & Yealand Redmaine of the King as is aforesaid by the Service of the tenth Part of One Knight's Fee; and the Manner of Leighton, and a Pasture called the New Close Parcell of the aforesaid Manner of Leighton in Yealand of the Heirs of Sr Thomas Parker Knight the Service unknown. And one Messuage &c. in Dalton of the King, as of the Dutchy of Lancaster, by the Service of the ninth Part of a Knight's Fee.

And by another Inquisition made in the eleventh Year of King Hen. VIIIth it appears that Thomas Midleton Esqr died in the ninth Year of King Hen. VII. And he held Lands in Yealand Coniers and Yealand Redmaine of the King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster by the Service of the tenth Part of a Knight's Fee, and Ten Messuages &c. in Kellet of the King in Soccage Rent Two Shillings and seven Pence. And the Manor of Leighton, and three Messuages &c. there; and one Close called the New Close in Yealand: and one Moss called Warton Moss in Yealand Corners aforesaid, of Willm Parr Son and Heir of Sr Thomas Parr Knt* the Service unknown. And one Messuage &c. and Lands called Derslets, and Lands in Dalton of the King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster by the 9th Part of a Knight's Fee. It also further appears by an Inquisition taken in the nineteenth Year of King Hen. VIII th That Joane Midleton Widow held thirty eight Messuages, Five Hundred Acres

of Land &c. in Yealand Coniers and Yealand Redmane of the King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster by the tenth Part of a Knight's Fee. She died the sixth of April last: Gervase was Son and Heir of the Body of Thomas Middleton and of her the said Joane and then of the Age of twenty three Years.

This Gervase S. & H. of Thomas Middleton and Joane his Wife married two Wives, first Daughter of Kirkby of Rawcliff in this County by whom he had no Children. And afterwards [] Daughter of Kirkham of Northamptonshire, by whom he had Issue George Middleton Esqr and it appears by an Inquisition taken in the second Year of King Edward the Sixth that Gervase Middleton Esqr held ten Messuages forty Acres of Land &c. in Kellet, and fourteen Messuages three Hundred Acres of Land &c. in Yealand Coniers, and thirty Messuages two Hundred Acres of Land &c. in Yealand Redman and the Manor of Warton, 28 Messuages One Hundred Acres of Land &c. And Twenty Pounds Rent in Warton, of the King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster, Service of one Knight's Fee: And four Messuages, One Hundred Acres of Land &c. and Rent twenty Shillings in Leighton de Marchion: Northamp. ut de Manerio suo de Parre. And two Messuages &c. in Derslet and two Messuages &c. in Dalton of the King as aforesaid by the ninth Part of a Knight's Fee. And four Messuages &c. in Whittington and Newton, and four Messuages in Docker of Thomas Lord Morley, by the

Fealty, Rent Six Shillings. And Lands in Warton, Kellemer, Brinning & Wray of the King by Fealty, Rent two Shillings for all Services. And Lands in Kirkby of the King as of the Dutchy of Lancaster, by Fealty, Rent twenty Pence. And Lands in Bootill as before, by Fealty, Rent eight Shillings. And one Messuage &c. in Tirwhitfield as before, by the eighth Part of a Knight's Fee. And Lands in Flegarth of the Lord Marquis, by Fealty, and Rent one Penny. He the said Gervase Midleton died the 20th of February last. George his son is of the Age of 26 Years.

George Midleton of Leighton Esqr Son and Heir of Gervase married to his first Wife Daughter of Sr Marmaduke Tunstall K and by her had two Daughters married to Beesley & Phillipps. His Second Wife was Margaret Daughter of Sr Christopher Metcalf by whom he had three Sons and three Daughters, Mary married to William Bradley of Arnsett Esqr Bridget to John Metcalf Esqr and Jane or Eliza: to Sr William Hungate of Saxton in Com. Ebor. Kh Then youngest Son Robert Midleton Esqr married a Daughter of Montaigne in Yorkshire by whom he had Issue Francis, who died unmarried, Eliza: married to Tho: Dalton of Thornam Esqr and Joane married to Colonel Francis Hungate Son and Heir apparent to Sr Philip Hungate of Saxton Kt & Bart to whom she bare Sr Francis Hungate Bart William & Mary Hungate, but Colonel Hungate being slain at Chester in the Service of King Ch. 1st. during his Father's Life Time, Joane his

Widow was afterwds married to William Hamond of Scarthingwell Esqr by whom she had Issue Gervase Hamond Esqr and died 7 January 1698 aged 79. George second Son of the said George Middleton and Margaret was slain at Macklin in the Low Counties. But Thomas Middleton of Leighton Esqr their eldest Son married Katherine Sister to Sr Richd Houghton of Houghton Tower³ in Com. Lanc. by whom he had Issue three Sons and eight Daughters.

In the fifth Year of the Reign of King Charles the first, when the Papists were called upon to pay their Thirds due to the Crown; This Thomas Middleton of Leighton in the County of Lancaster Esqr on the Sixth of October 1629 compounded with the Commissioners at York for all his Lands in the County of Lancaster, and for all his Lands in Westmorland and for his Tithes also of the Rectory of Warton in the said County of Lancaster, for ye annual Rent of One Hundred Pounds to be paid at Martynmass and Whitsontide by equal Portions: and gave Bond for the first Half Year's Rent accordingly. He likewise compounded for all his Arrearage for the Sum of three [hundred] Pounds to be paid at Whitsontide next. But if his Estate should appear before Pentecost next to be Four Hundred and Sixty Pounds p. Ann. then he was to pay Twenty Pounds more than his former Composition of One Hundred Pounds.

This Thomas Middleton Esqr had Issue by Katherine his

Wife three Sons and eight Daughters, of which Anne the eldest was married to Edward Wright of Brougham in Westmorland Esqr Johan the 2d to Edward Midleton of Midleton Hall in Com., Westm. Esqr Mary the 3d to Thomas Cams of Holton near Lancaster Esqr Margaret the 4th to John Hudleston Esqr, a younger Son of Milium. Katherine the 5th to Peter Moss of Kirkby Steven Esqr Eliza the 6th to Thomas Hemsworth of Great Hurston near Kipax in Yorksh. Esqr Grace the 7th to Richard Farrington of Ribbleton Esqr and Bridget the 8th to Carter Esqr.

Thomas 2d Son of the sd Thomas and Katherine was 26 Years of Age in September 1664, but never married that I can find: but Robert their 3d Son aged 16 Years in Sept. 1664 married Jane Daughter and Coheress of Thomas Kitson of Warton and Kellington Gent, where his Posterity do, or lately did, remain, tho. in low Circumstances. Sr George Midleton Kt and Bart eldest Son of the said Thomas & Katherine married two Wives: First Frances Daughter and Heir of Richard Rigg of little Strickland in Com. Westmd Esqr and had Issue by her Geoffrey who died without Issue, Mary & Katherine. To his second Wife he married Anne Daugh. of George Preston of Holker in this County & Neighbourhood Esqr by whom he had a Son, called Thomas who died an Infant.

This Sr George Midleton liberally and bravely assisted his Majesty King Charles the first both with his Person

and Estate being a Colonel in his Army; for which, upon the declining of the King's Affairs he was forced to pay the rebellious Parliament Sixty Pounds (per) Ann. settled, and Eight Hundred and fifty five Pounds in Money, as in the Catalogue of Compounders it appears; which Mr Lloyd computes Two Thousand Six Hundred and forty Six Pounds in Land and Money. This Gentleman was, for his good Service, knighted by King Charles 1st at Durham, June 26, 1642, and created a Baronet by Patent bearing Date the Day after. Soon after the happy Restoration he was High Shiriff of this County which Office he executed with great Honour & Generosity for two Years together viz. 14th & 15th Ch. 11d. He was buried in the Church at Warton, where a small Marble Monument was put up shewing the Time of his Death (27 Feb.). His Burial is thus enter'd in the Parish Register: Dom Geor. Middleton de Leighton sepultus est Martii sexto Die 1672/3. Anne his Lady & Relict was there buried 12 April 1705.

Mary, Daughter and Coheress, and at last sole Heir to Sr George Middleton Kt & Bart was married to Somerford Oldfield Esqr Son and Heir of Sr Philip Oldfield of Somerford in Cheshire by whom she had Issue George Middleton Oldfield Esqr who married the Widow of Sr [] Clark, who, both during his Life, and after his Death, retained the Name of her former Husband: a Custom which Women have long used; and not yet left, as Sr William Dugdale observes, speaking of Elizabeth Lady Ferrers, who in her

Will dated 6^o Jan. 1410 stiles herself Elizabetha Ferrers Baronissa de Wemme retaining the Name of that Husband who was of the chiefest Dignity, though she had had two after him, viz. John de Say, and Thomas Molinton.

Immediately after the Death of the Lady Anne Midleton George Midleton Oldfield Esqr came to live at Leighton; and before the Year's End, Viz. on the 8th of Feb. 1706, buried his only Son Mr Henry George Somerford Oldfield, at Warton, where his Daughter Elizabeth had been buried 24 March 1703. He himself died not long afterward [and] left two Daughters Co-heresses the elder of which was married to Albert Hodgson Esqr who had Leighton &c. & the younger to Fletcher of Hutton Hall in Cumb. Esqr w^o dd sans Issue, but being upon Principles of Religion, unfortunately engaged in a Rebellion against his Majesty King George the first, and taken at Preston Ao 1715, he was long detain'd in Prison, and his Estate confiscated to the Government; where it remained (Mr. Robt Peel of Lancaster Steward) till Thursday the 7th of March 1722 when it was sold by Cant or Auction; and being put up at the yearly Value of Three Hundred and Twenty seven Pounds it was purchased by a Friend, who upon certain Conditions, restor'd it to Mr Hodgson who now 9 Feb. 1739 is living there and has two Daughters Coheresses, Anne the elder of them was not marry'd Novemb. 20, 1740. Mary the younger was married about the Beginning of December 1737, but had no Child in Novr 1740 when

their Father & Mother were both living. The said Mary Hodgson was married to Ralph Standish of Standish & Borwick Esq. whose first Wife was the Lady Philippa Howard Da: to the most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk.

What is here said of Leighton, as far as Sr George Middleton, I extracted chiefly from a fine Pedegree of that Family. And if Pedegrees had been carefully preserved in all the great Families in England, as it seems anciently to have been the Intention that they should, by Pope Gregory's Decree to Bishop Foelix; That every one should Preserve his own Pedegree to the seventh Generation, they might probably (as a great Author well observes) have afforded us better old Stories of History than are any where else to be met with; since the most notable Circumstances of the Life of any eminent Person in the Progeny are usually recorded there with great Accuracy and Niceness: but they are so scarce that when Sr Henry Spelman had discovered One of the ancient Family of the Sharnburns in his native County of Norfolk, he looked upon it as such a Rarity that he has given us this Motto upon it:

Non vulgare vides Monumentum; forte videbis Haud duo preterita talia, si qua vides.

The Soldiers in their Return from Preston plundering the House here One of them was just going to commit the curious Pedegree hereabove inserted to the Flames, swearing that as the Persons therein mentioned were now frying in Hell, so should their Names bum in that Fire, when

John Burrow of Warton a Taylor being in the Kitching, earnestly begged of him not to bum a thing so prettily painted as it was, but rather give it to him for his Children to play with, which, as he told me, was all the Notion he then had of it: so by his great Importunity he saved it from imminent Destruction, and had it in his Possession the 9th of June 1720, when I took a Transcript of it; and he promised to restore it safe to Mr. Hodgson upon his Return to Leighton, which was then expected to be shortly.

This curious Pedegree is drawn upon a Parchment Roll eight Feet long, and two Feet and five Inches broad, with Charters &c. in the Vacant Places, and the Arms curiously blazoned to every Match, both in the principal & collateral Branches: and at the Bottom, in one Escutcheon adorned with a neat Copartment, the Arms of Midleton, Arg. a Saltire engrailed Sable. 2. Croft, lozengee Arg. and Sable. 3. Confers Azu. a Maunch Or. 4. Yealand, Arg. three Ravens Heads erased proper. 6. Aurenches Arg. a Cross Gu. 6. Betham, Or. three Flowers de Liz Arg. 7. Burton, Or. a Chief indented Azure. 8. Fitz-Roger, Arg. a Lion rampant guardant Or, armed and langued Gules. And 9. Dunstan Banaster, Arg. three Cheverons Gules/

The first Instrument we meet with in the above written Pedegree is the Charter of Free Warren before inserted; which though it be short, but comprehensive enough to recommend the honest Simplicity of former Times, when Titles were safely transferred in fewer Words, I might

almost say Letters, than now a Days are long Lines; Yet it is not so short as that mentioned by Mr. Selden and Bishop Nicholson and said to have been found amongst the Spoils of War taken in Westmoreland by the Scots in the Time of their King Robert IId. and to have been often repeated (upon sight of long Deeds) by his second Son Robert Duke of Albany and Regent of Scotland, as a Pattern of the Sincerity of those Ages: which because it anciently belonged to this Neighbourhood, I shall here insert as the Words were

I King Athelstan

Give to Paulan,

Oddan and Roddan

Als guyde and als faire

Als ever thai mine wair:

And tharto Witnesse Maulde my Wife.

/The Charter abovementioned to be made to Adam de Redmaine begins, in the Original, with these Words Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Proceribus, Comitibus, Baronibus, &c. as all other Letters Patent, Royal Charters, Grants &c. were directed down to the End of that long Reign in the first Year of which it was granted; and end with Hiis Testibus with a Recital of the Names of such as were present, as they did/

OF ESCHEATORS

The next Thing we meet with in the said Pedegree is an Inquisition taken at Warton in the 23d of K. Edw. III^d by Richd Denton Escheator in Cumberland, Westmoreland, & Lancashire when William de Hedon, Roger de Sline, Thomas de Walton, John de Huddleston, Edmund de Hornby, John de Claughton, all of this Neighbourhood, were Six of the Jury/

The other Remarkables in the said Pedegree are four Inquisitions, in which it appears by what Tenure the several Parts of the Estate were holden, as by Soccage, or Knight's Service, by which two most of the lands in England were formerly holden/

OF THE MILITIA

When the County Militia is called to a Muster this House sends out a Horseman well mounted and armed/

Though by the Statute of 12 Charles IInd (Cap. 24) all Tenures in Capite, and by Knights Service, whether of the King or of a Subject, with the Fruits & Appendages thereof Viz. Wardship, Marriage, Relief, Escuage, and other Feudal Profits or Services incident either to Tenure by Barony, or by Serjeanty, except Grand Serjeanty, with Purveyance &c. were abolished and turned into the

common Soccage⁴ yet the Tenants paid their accustomed Bedrepe⁵ which here they call Booning in Harvest, so long as the Estate was in the Lords Hands.

OF COPYHOLDS

This Estate contains a great many Copyholders, a Tenure for which the Tenant has nothing to shew by the Copy of the Court Roll, made by the Steward of the Lords Court, and so long as he breaks not the Customs of the Mannor, cannot be displased af the Pleasure of the Lord/

LEIGHTON HALL

The Situation of the House here is according to the Tast of the Times it was built in: for till within an Age or two. People seem to have had very little Regard to Prospects: they built in the middle of Woods, (as they did this) or low under the Covert of the Hills; and enclosed their Gardens with high Walls, securing themselves thereby against Wind and Weather, and enjoyed a Privacy in which they were much delighted. The House, which is an old one, fronts to the South, and is much like the Houses in Paris, which Dr. Lister⁶ tells us are all of Stone, Walls, Staircases, Floors and all: so that Malice itself can hardly set them on Fire,

whereas, at London me thinks, adds he, every Man that goes to Bed, when asleep, lies like a dead Roman upon a funeral Pile, dreading some unexpected Apotheosis: for all is combustible about him, and the Rosin and Paint of the Deal Boards may serve for Incense, the quicker to bum him to Ashes.

In the Windows of the Gallery, and also of the Hall & Parlor, are those Arms curiously painted on Glas, Viz. 1. Quarterly, Midleton, Beetham Burton & Croft. 2. Partee per Pale. Midleton and Houghton. 3. Midleton & Metcalf. 4. Midleton & Strickland. 5. Midleton and Tunstal. 6. Midleton & Preston. Crest an Eagle's Head erased.

As to the traditional Story of a Cuckow being heard to Sing in the hollow Part of a Youle or Juhl Clog in the Kitching here, I shall not pretend to assert the Truth thereof, that Bird being by most agreed to be a Kind of Hawk.

But that Swallows have been found in hollow Trees in Winter is plain from Experience and good Authority/

OF CLOCKS

At the N. End of the W. Wing of the House has for a long Time hung a Bell the Sound of which was designed to give Notice to the Servants to begin and end their Work, to repair to their Devotions, Victuals, &c. It seems to be

about the Size of that in the Monastery of St. Anthony, Viz. about 1 Foot in Diameter, which serves the Monks there to the same Purposes, & is the only one which is in all the Land of Egypt. The Bell here was made further serviceable to the Family and Neighbourhood (where Clocks till of late were very scarce) by acquainting them with the Hours of the Day and Night exactly measured by means of a large Clock annexed to it⁷

OF THE LAUREL AND BAY TREE

The Court before the House is set almost round with Laurel and Bay Trees.

OF NEW YEAR'S GIFTS

/And now that I have mentioned this innocent & ancient Custom it may not be amiss (though I have just touch'd on it before) to add another as common and perhaps as little understood, Viz. that of the Yule Clog, for the extraordinary Largeness of which this House has always been very famous. Our Fore Fathers, when the common Devotions of Christmas Eve were over, and Night came on, were wont to light up Candles of an uncommon Size, which were called Christmas Candles; and to lay a Log of

Wood upon the Fire which they termed a Yule Clog. These were (as Emblems of Joy) to turn Night into Day, by illuminating the House with their united Powers: which Custom (that of the Yule Clog especially) is still kept up in this Parish, as that of the Candles is in our Cathedrals, and several Parish Churches/

OF SERPENTS

But the House here standing among Rocks & Woods, the Gardens, Courts, &c. were formerly much annoyed by several Sorts of Serpents and other Vermine; but yet not to that Degree, as that like the Neuri⁸ the Family were in any Danger of being thereby expell'd their Habitation; neither were they of so very venemous a Nature as those of Africa, and other hot Countries, nor of so large a Size as those in the Indies, which are so voracious and greedy that they will swallow not only an Infant, a Pig, a Lamb, &c. but even a Man, a Sheep, a Calf, a Stag, &c.

Mr. Bossman⁹ who resided thirteen Years in Guinea where he was Chief Merchant and Deputy Governour, saw a Serpent taken there which was twenty Foot long, and says that further up in the Country there were much bigger, in the Bellies of which were often found a Stag or other Beast, and sometimes a Man. And Mr. Walter Scouten says he and his Company took one of them at

Banda which was near twenty six Foot long, which they opened and found in its Belly a Woman that had been a Slave. He says that this kind of Serpent is not venemous, so that sometimes the Dutch Soldiers (being in want) when they find them just dead by swallowing great Morsels as a Calf, a Sheep, &c. (for they frequently choak themselves) open them, take out the Beast they have devoured, dress it and eat it without any Damage by it. The Missionaries also tell us of Serpents of a prodigious Bigness in the Philippine Islands, one sort of which they say will hang themselves by the Tail on the Arm of a Tree, and draw in a Deer, Wild Boar, or a Man, as they pass by, and swallow them whole; and the Father who relates this Story, acquaints us, that the only Defence against them, after one is got within their Sphere, is to break and disperse the Air betwixt the Man and the Serpent. Upon which Mr. Salmon makes this Remark; That whoseover can digest Stories of this kind, had need have the Faith, or rather Credulity of a Missionary/

When I was a Boy a Cart Wheel accidentally running over a small Snake in Warton Moss, the Pressure thereof burst his Belly and squeezed out a whole Mouse, and to the best of my Remembrance a Frog too.

During my being a School Boy at Warton one George Mason, my Class Fellow and Relation told me, and others, very seriously, that going to see a Thristle's Nest under Barrow Scout, on Warton Crag, he found a Snake or

Adder devouring the Young Birds, at which being moved, like the Lion in Aelian¹⁰, with great Indignation, he struck the Bush with a Stick, and the Serpent immediately flew to an Old Tree at several Yards Distance, and he saw it creep through a Hole into the hollow Part thereof. He presently return'd Home, and told his Father's Servants what he had seen; who going with him to the Tree, peg'd up the Holes, and setting Fire thereto, burnt it down to the Ground. This I should not have mentioned but that I find something like it in Herodotus.

As for the winged Tribe of Animals, they seem to be in an unanimous Combination against all Manner of venomous Creatures/

Out of these general Enemies to the whole Brood of Serpents, I shall take Notice but of two or three/ First, the Ibis/ Second, the white or common Stork/

But the Stork, being a Bird of Passage, delighting in low and fenny Countries, and very rarely, if ever seen in England, we must look out for a tame Fowl endowed with the same Antipathy to Serpents, which may be kept the whole Year, in a dry as well a moist Situation; and that will be found to be the Peacock which Mr. Topsell¹¹ says is at perpetual Fewd with all venomous Beasts, and is such a Terrour to Serpents, that they will not abide within the hearing of his Voice. Upon this Account it is that the Midletons of Leighton, being not like the ancient Inhabitants of Amycloe so tinctur'd with the Doctrine of Pithagoras as

to suffer themselves to be devour'd with Serpents rather than kill them, have for many Years much encourag'd this Fowl, which has recompensed their Care by fully answering their Expectation/

THE ORCHARD

here being planted in a light, rich, reddish Soil, the very best for that Purpose in the Opinion of both ancient and modern Writers, and yielding the greatest Plenty of the best Apples of any in this Part of the Country, I shall attempt, in as few Words as possible, to draw together what I have met with in the narrow Compass of my Reading relating to that most excellent Fruit/

Which brings me to speak something of Palladius' Vinum ex pomis or Cyder which I have seen, in a plentiful Year, made at this House (and I think Tis the only Place where any has been made in these Parts) tho' but in small Quantities/

THE PARK

The Park, surrounded for the most Part with a good Stone Wall, is West from ye House/

OF WOOD

The whole Park, and several other Parts of the Lordship here were till of late covered with Wood of several Kinds; so that the House was surrounded therewith: as in former Times both Princely Palaces, and the Mansions of the Gentry generally were all over England. For it was believed those long liv'd Vegetables had some Affinity, Congruity, Congeniality or Propension to sustain, cherish and lengthen the Lives of Mortals; and to have somewhat of the Nature of Perennial Fountains; to retain (round about them) a Degree of Warmth in Winter Frosts, and of Coolness (besides their Shades) in Summer-Heats. And moreover this Vegetable Furniture was not only a Credit, Health and Shelter in all their Villas, which are said to be more in England, than on so much Ground of any other Part of Europe; but also was held a sure Mark to distinguish at great Distance, Good Husbands & Hospital Householders from wastfull Consumers of their Patrimony. Of which the late Sr George Middleton was so sensible, that though he had great Plenty, when he had Occasion for Timber, less or more, he choose rather to buy of his Neighbours, than make Use of his own, and often gave this as a Reason Viz. That a Time might come when the Wood would perhaps save the Land: as it happened not many Years after; for as soon as his Lady Relict was dead the Wood was sold a Corylo ad Quercum. And this

brings me to observe that the Avarice of some, and the real Wants or Extravagancies (as here) of others, have of late Years strangely impoverished the Forests, and I doubt it is yet a growing Evil/

In this Part of the Country they generally let their Oaks stand a Year after they are pill'd, which Custom Dr Plot observed in Staffordshire, and recommended it to his Majesty. For the Winter Air closes the Pores of pilled Wood, and so consequently consolidates all Trees, but especially the Oak does thereby, according to the Opinion of the Ancients, acquire a Sort of Eternity in its Duration/

Their Top & Underwood they here make into Charcoal, the Method of which is this. They cut or rive the Wood into Pieces, which they make up into Cords or Stacks (a Cord by Statute is to be 8 Foot long, 4 Foot broad, and 4 high, and every Stick at least 3 Inches about). They place their Pieces all upright in 3 several Stories, in a Conic, or rather in a Cupalo Form, having first struck a Stake into the Ground in the middle of the lowest Floor for the rest to lean upon. Such a Pile they call their Hearth, and in some Places though very improperly, a Pit. They cover the Wood with a thin Covering of Straw or Stubble, and over that they place a layer of Sand or Earth. They leave a Hole at the Top of the Pile, where they put in the Fire, and then cover it up. They make here and there small Vent-Holes for the Smoak as they see Occasion, and take particular Care never to let it Flame, for that would consume the

Wood. A whole Hearth will be cool'd in six or seven Days. Six Loads of Wood will make but one of Charcoal. The greener the Wood the weightier and more lasting is the Coal made of it. 'Tis computed that about Five Hundred Thousand Pounds' worth of Timber is fell'd, and about as much spent in Fireing, in England every Year, besides what is imported from our Colonies in America; from whence we have, according to Mr Dummer the finest and largest Masts in the World, besides Plank, Knees for Ships, and other Species of Timber for various Uses.

Though I believe there were no Trees in this Lordship (of late Years especially) comparable either for Bulk or Longevity to those mentioned by Mr. Evelin¹² yet their Fame was sufficient in my Time to bring down Mr Bainbridge one of the King's chief Ship-Carpenters, from London, to see if any of them might be proper to be employ'd in his Majesty's Navy/

OF THE ASH

What the Ash Trees planted by Sr Geo. Middleton might be worth at his Death I cannot tell, only I remember there were a great many of them very fine and large, all sold a few Years after the Decease of their Planter by his extravagant Grandson/

OF THE BEECH

/Great Numbers of these Trees grew in the rocky Parts of this Park (in which Places the whitest, and therefore the most valuable of the three Sorts much delights).

OF THE ROOK HERON AND KITE

In this Park were both a Rookery & Heronry. Rooks are said to do great Prejudice to Trees by cropping off their Tops, and breaking their tender Boughs by lighting on them. The Rook has no Claw, but instead thereof the Gullet below the Bill is dilated into a Kind of Bag, wherein it brings Meat to feed it's Young. In breeding Times the Cock and Hen sit by Turns; and when they build, one of the Pair, 'tis said, always sits to watch the Nest till it is finished, whilst the other goes about to fetch Materials else if both go and leave it unfinished, as somethimes they venture to do, their fellow Rooks will, before their Return, carry off all their Sticks &c. Hence perhaps the Word Rooking is used for Cheating or abusing/

This Park also gave Harbour to several Birds of Prey, and among the rest to the Kite, which I the rather mention, because by a light turning of his Train in his Flight, this Bird can move his Body which way he pleases,

and thereby seems to have taught Men the Art of Steering
a Ship/

OF STRAWBERRIES

I have said before that all the Wood in this Park was cut down soon after the Beginning of the present Century: and shall only here observe, that in a Year or two after (according to the Proverb, Cut down an Oak, and set up a Strawberry) the whole Surface of the ground was, at the Season, almost covered with Strawberries/

The common English Wood Strawberry will sometimes bear twice a Year in June and September or October, in which later Season I have gather'd them fresh and fragrant on the north Side of a Hill in Warton Lane, which I should scarce have mentioned but that I find Dr Plott in his Natural History of Staffordshire acquainting us with the like, three Days before Christmas, at Acton Trussel in that County, and in Merton College Garden in Oxford/

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

Warton Moss



Warton Moss is adjacent to the North Part of this Park, so called from its furnishing Warton with Fuel, and not that it is in that Township, tho' joyning to it, as some were in Hopes to have made the Commissioners believe, when it, with the rest of this Estate, was seiz'd by the Government upon Mr Hodgson's being taken at Preston, in open Rebellion against his Majesty K. Geo. Ist for we read in an Inquisition taken in the 11th of Hen. VIIIth that it is in the Manor of Yealand Coniers, and was Part of the Estate of Thomas Midleton of Leighton Esqr who died 9th of Hen. VIIIth by whose Successors it has been ever since enjoy'd.

The pleasant and wholesom Fuel these Mosses afford, some of which bum as well, or better than Pit Coal, is called Turf, or rather Torff, as the Inhabitants here pronounce it, and Sr H. Spelman writes it/

The Manner of digging Torff here is this: There are some Springs at the upper End of the Moss whose Course

is called the Main Dike on each Side of which the Ground is divided into long Dales of about an Acre each. Beginning at one Side of the Dale, at the End further from the Main Dike they drive a Bank, as they call it, about four Foot broad, and Six Foot deep, which will spread the whole Acre with Torves. The Stratum about half a Yard thick which lies above the Turf, and is of a blackish brown Colour, they fey off and cast into the last Year's Pit which lies all along about a Yard below it. By treading this level with the Feying of the preceding Year, they force out the Water before them into the Main Dike. The Quadrells of Turf are made into that Fashion by the Spade that cuts them, which is made of a thin Plate of Iron, bent into a right Angle with equilateral Sides, which at two cuts brings out the first Torff, and at One all the rest of that Course. The lowest Course is the softest and fullest of Fibres or spongy Roots. The digger lays them upon the Bank above him with his Spade, then Women or Children carry them in small Wheel-barrows and spread them like Bricks, to be dried by the Wind and Sun. When they are so dry as to bear setting on one End, they rear three or four of them together which they call Footing: afterwards they lay them in Wind-Raws till perfectly dry. There is scarce any Substance of its Softness, more impenetrable by Water than Torf-Earth, for I have seen a Partition of the softest sort of it not above 4 or 5 Inches thick keep out a considerable Weight of Water for several Days. When they

carry them Home, some lay them under Hovels standing on Pillars and cover'd with Thatch; but most People stack them in the open Air, which if well perform'd they receive no Damage by the wettest Weather.

It is here universally allowed, and Dr Plot, Van Helmont [relying] upon the experimental Information of aged Persons who had digged Torves twice in the same Place, and all the Authors that I have seen upon the Subject (Dr. Morton excepted) agree that Turf Earth will grow again upon the Foundation of one or more Spade's Depths of Moss (that they take Care to leave, or else they kill the Moss as they express it) by Virtue of the stringy Roots that are always found plentifull in it, though not so fast as Sr Geo: Makenzie's moist Earth used for Improvement of Barly Land in Scotland, wch, though dug a Foot deep, will grow up again, and fill the excavated Place in two Years Time; yet so as that in thirty or forty Years good Torves, and in the same Quantity, may be dug again in the same Place, so that the Turf Dikes in Northampton Shire which had been filled in the same Manner that our's are, and laid undisturbed about 20 Years, and then try'd for Turf without Success, must have had the Moss cut out of them to the Clay or Sand on which it lay, and have had no Roots left for it to grow up again from/

In this Moss and the Meadows adjoining are frequently found large subterraneous Oaks, generally firm and sound & as black as Ebony, to which their Wood has been

found little inferior when finely polished/ They generally find these Trees in this County and in Wales, by searching the Mosses with Spits &c. like the Tryers at Youle in Yorkshire: though tis probable they might discover them, as Dr. Beale says the Somersetshire men do, by the Herbage withering sooner over them than on the rest of the Ground, or by the Dew never standing in Summer Time on the Ground under which they lye: by which Token Mr. Childrey says the Cumberland Men find them out/

Almost the whole Surface of this Moss is covered with Heather Ling, which in some Parts of England is yet used to preserve their Beer, and is said by Dr. Plot to give it no ill Taste. In the Places not covered with Ling, the *Tormentilla quadrifolia* grows in great Plenty, an Hearb which our Botanists allow is found more plentifully in this County than any other, though I fancy not in such Abundance as in the Mosses of the northern Islands: for Mr. Martin in his Description of the Scotch Islands, and Mr. Lucas Jacobson Debes in his Description of the Island & Inhabitants of Ferde, both say that they there tan & dress their Leather with the Roots of Tormental instead of Bark. I remember my dear Father used to get a Quantity of Tormental Roots in this Moss yearly in May or June, when the Herb was in Flower, of which (to the great Advantage of the Neighbourhood) he with a small Mixture of other Ingredients, compounded and gave gratis, a very successfull Remedy for the Blend Water in Cattle, till

then generally thought incurable. I shall take my leave of the Moss with the following Remark. In sultry hot calm Weather I have here frequently observed ascending in the Atmosphere, an extremely fine Matter, agitated and in a continual Undulation, much after the Manner of a very thin aetherial lambent Flame.

This doubtless, says the learned Dr. Woodward in his letter to Sr. Robert Southwell, is no other than Heat, or Subterranean Fire, detach'd forth in small Parcels, bearing up along with Fumes and Steams, which are made the more visible by their Agitations, and their variously reflecting the Light of the Sun./

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

Priest Hutton and Borwick



About one and a half Mile East from Leighton lies Priest Hutton/

We meet with Abundance of Huttons or Hotons in the Villares of England, and also in the Grants of Lands recorded in the Monasticon Anglic, where I find in this Neighbourhood, the Villages of Hoton-rofft and Haverbeck with the Churches of Kirkby Kendale, Betham and Burton, given to the Abbey of St Mary at York; and the Church at Kirkby Lonsdale to Belland Abbey by the great Ivo Talleboys Lord of all this Part of the Country; but whether or no this Town once belonged to the Church, as its Praenomen seems to intimate, I have not yet been able to discover. However it had the Honour to give Birth to that learned Prelate, and great Ornament of the Church Dr. Matthew Hutton Archbishop of York in the Reigns of Q. Eliza, and K. James Ist accounted the most profound Divine, and ablest Preacher of the Age he lived in/

Had I Abilities & Opportunity answerable to my Inclination, Gratitude would prompt me to pay much larger Respects to the Memory of this renowned Metropolitan than are in my Power, on account of the great Benefit he conferr'd on his, and my, native Parish, by founding and endowing therein the Free School where I had my Education. But having met with few unpublish'd Materials since those I communicated to my late honoured Friend Mr Thoresby, I must content myself with collecting a few scattered Fragments, wherewith to enlarge upon Dr Fuller's short Annary of this most worthy Prelate's Life.

1529. The most Revd Father Dr Matthew (Son of Matthew) Hutton, was not a Foundling Child, as some have falsely published; but was born hoc Anno, of honest poor Parents in this Town: and being blessed with pregnant Parts, and the Advantage of a good Master who gave him his Learning at a private School at Warton, he became an excellent Schollar.

1546. In the 17th Year of his Age, a Yorkshire Gentleman with whom he then lived, taking Notice of his fine Genius, sent him as Sizer with his Son to the University of Cambridge.

1551. This Year he commenced Batchelor of Arts. And in the Year

1555. Master of Arts, and became so eminent for Learning, that in

1561 Being Fellow of Trinity College, and having

commenced Bat. of Divinity, he was on the 15th of Decemb. chosen Lady Margaret's Professor.

1561 May 12th this Year he was chosen the 19th Master of Pembroke Hall to which he (as was Dr Whitgift, his Successor therein, who also became an ArchBp) was recommended by Arch Bishop Grindal who had resigned it on his Advancement to the See of London. And in 1562 Viz. 5th of Sept, following he was promoted to the Regius Professorship.

1564. He kept a publick Divinity Act at Cambridge before Queen Elizabeth and her Court; wherein He justified the Reformation of the Religion to the Admiration of all that heard him, from these two Propositions, *Major est Scripturae quam Ecclesiae Auctoritas* (The Authority of Scripture is greater than that of the Church) And: *Civilis Magistratus habet Auctoritatem in Rebus Ecclesiasticis* (The Civil Magistrate has Authority in Ecclesiastical Matters).

BORWICK

About a Mile South of Hutton is a pretty Village called Borwick/

If this Town be written Berewick, as I find it in an old

Perambulation it may perhaps have been a Hamlet, dependant upon some Place of better Note as Warton, Carnford, &c Or the Derivation given us by Mr. Fr. Tate in his Manuscript Exposition of the hard Words in Domesday Book, may be thought perhaps as suitable to my present Purpose, where he tells us that Barwica is a Corn-Farm; which Etymology agrees very well with the Plenty of Grain growing about this Town.

Or if it be written Borewick, as it was about the Reign of King Rich. Ist it might perhaps have had its Name from it's being a Refuge or safe Retreat from the Wild Boares which heretofore may have been in the Neighbouring Woods, as well as York, which was anciently called Boric upon that very Account.

Having never had the Opportunity of seeing any ancient Pedegrees or Writings relating to this Estate, I cannot (as at Leighton) give any particular or regular Account through what Families it passed till it came to the Bindlosses: only I find in Mr Casley's Catal. &c.¹ the following Grant made above five Hundred Years ago; Johannes Dei Gratia Rex. Sciatis Nos dedisse Alano Basset Maneriam de Berewyc (which I suppose may have been this Town) quod devenit in manum nostram tanquam Escaeta nostra de terra quae fuit Adae de Portu qui appellatus de morte &c. And that William Percy of Kildale held Borwick in Cornage, and gave it with his Daughter Alice to Adam de Staveley whose only Daughter and Heir

Alice carried it by Marriage to Randall Fitz Henry 1 H. 3 as it is in the Printed Copies of Mr Thoresby's Ducat. Leod. but in the Margin of my Book corrected by my late dear Friend the Author's own Hand.

In the ninth Year of K. Hen. III^d Patrick de Berewick with eleven of his Countrymen made a Perambulation of the Forests in this County. After which I have not been able to discover any Thing relating to this Town till the Reign of King Henry VIIIth when/ Brearley of Borwick Com. Lanc. Esqr married Ellen Daughter of Edward Withes of Copgrave Com. Ebor. Esqr. From the Brearleys it came (I suppose) to the Bindlosses, but whether by Purchase or Inheritance I cannot tell.

Mr. Wharton says² The Bindlosses of Borwick descended from Christopher Bindloss Esq. Dealer in Kendall Cottons, and Chief Alderman (before they had a Mayor) of that Corporation in 1579, 21 Eliza, who was afterwards knighted. But the indefatigable Mr Hopkinson³ says that Sr Robert Bindloss Knt the first of that Family who settled at Borwick was Son & Heir of Robert Bindloss of Eshton in Yorkshire Esqr who died about 37 Eliz.

Sr Robert Bindloss of Borwick-hall Knt Son & Heir of Robert marri'd/ the Daughter of Edmund Eltofts of Farnhill in Yorkshire Esq. by whom he had Issue a Daughter called Dorothy, baptiz'd 19 December, 1604 who was md to Charles Middleton of Belsay in Com. Northum. Esq., Mary to Robt. Holt of Castleton Stubley in Com. Lanc.

Esq. Jane to Sr Wm Carnaby of Bothall in Com. Northum. And Sr Francis Bindloss Knt baptized 9 April 1603. This Sr Francis died in his Father's Life Time (though in the same Year with his Father) and was buried at Warton July 20, 1629, having married two Wives. First . . . Daughter of Tho: Charnok of Charnoke Esqr by whom he had Issue Mary married to Mr Dene of Mansfield Com. Nott.

To his second Wife he married Cecily Daughter of Thomas West Lord D'law are by whom he had Issue Sr Robert (baptized May 8, 1624) Francis who died sans Issue, Delaware who died young, and Dorothy married to Colonel Charles Wheelock. Sr Robert Bindloss Knt and Bart Son and Heir of Sr Francis was baptized May 8, 1624, married Rebecca Daughter and one of the Coheirs of Sr Hugh Perry Knt Alderman and one of the Shiriffs of the City of London and County of Middlesex in the Year 1632 by whom he had Issue Cecily his Daughter & Sole Heir married to William Standish of Standish in this County Esqr.

Sr Robert Bindloss Knt and Bart was buried, as appears by ye Parish Register, in Warton Church Novr 15th 1688. And Rebecca his Lady-Relict June 17, 1708.

Mr Hopkinson says that William Standish of Standish Esqr was aged 26 Years 22 Sept. 1664, and had then had Issue by Cecily Daughter of Sr Robert Bindloss Ralph, Edward & William both dead Infants. He had several Children afterwards, of which I have seen a Daughter or

two at Borwick. His son and Heir was Ralph St. of Standish Esq. who married the Lady Philippa Howard Daughter of the most Noble Henry Duke of Norfolk, by his second Wife Jane Daughter of Robert Bickerton Esq. by whom he had Issue Ralph Standish of Standish & Borwick Esq. and George Howard Standish who died unmd abt twenty Years old and several Daughters, He who marri'd the Lady Philippa was taken in actual Rebellion at Preston Ao 1715, and his Estate seized but his Mother being then alive, and proving Borwick, not to be his, but her proper Estate, it was restored and his said elder Son Ralph Standish Esq. was settled upon it, and made great Improvements in the House, Gardens, &c.

Upon the death of his younger Brother George Howard Standish this Ralph, then only Son and Heir apparent of Ralph Standish Esq. by the Lady Philippa took upon him the name of Howard and on the 4th of June 1730 married /the eldest Daughter of George Butler of Bagshot in Surry & Ballyragget in the County of Kilkenny in Ireland Esq. a near Relation of the Duke of Ormond by whom he had two Sons which both died young. And He himself died of the small pox at Kilkenny in the latter End of April or Beginning of May 1735. He was a Gentleman of singular Worth, upon which Account he was universally beloved in his Lifetime, and lamented when dead, by all who had the Favour of his Acquaintance.

After the Death of the Lady Philippa, and of both his Sons, the said Ralph Standish of S. and Borwick Esq. (abt the Beginning of December in 1737) married Mary the younger of the two Daughters & Coheresses of Albert Hodgson of Leighton Hall in this Parish Esq. but had no Issue by her in Novr 1740.

One of the Daughters of Mr Standish by the Lady Philippa, and the only one, I think, that is now alive (1742) was married to /Townley of Townley Esq. to whom she has born several Children.

OF SHERIFFS

Looking over the Catalogue of Shiriffs of this County I find Robertus Bindloss . . . executing that High Office 11th (year of) James. I , and Robertus Bindlosse Miles & Baronettus 11th, 25th & 26th (years of the reign of) of Charles II/

OF THE PARLIAMENT

Sr Robert Bindlosse Bart was returned Representative in Parliament for the Borough of Lancaster 19th or 20 (year of) of King Charles 1/



The Gatehouse at Borwick Hall

BARONET

Sr Robert Bindloss of this Town Knight, was by Patent Dat. 16th of Aug 1641 created the 350th Baronet of England/

Before I leave Sr Robert Bindlosse I would observe that he was the last Gentleman, in this Part of the Country, that took Pleasure in and frequently practised Falconry.

THE HOUSE AND GARDENS

The House here is a large handsome Stone Building and in August 1651 afforded a hospitable Entertainment to his Majesty King Charles IId when he march'd his Army out of Scotland to Worcester. The Front is to the South a Situation the ancient Greeks and Romans almost religiously observed, though the modern Italians vary from it.

It is an Observation with which the Great Sr William Temple concludes his Essay on Gardning; That whoever will be sure to eat good Fruit must do it out of a Garden of his own; for a poor Man that has a Garden, will eat better Fruits, Sallads &c. than a Rich Man that has none.

For this Purpose adjoining to the North and East Parts of the House is a sufficiently large and well laid out Garden under the Middle of which (as through two of the

finest Gardens in the World) runs a small never failing Brook over which are proper Vents, for taking up Water.

The Soil of this Garden has a good Mixture of Sand or Gravel, which Gardeners say is the most proper. It is exposed to the South, and fenced from injurious Winds, on the North Side by a very high Wall, and at the E. & W. Ends by a Grove and the House; whereby a due Provision is made for Flowers, Fruit, Shade and Water, all which are said to be generally necessary in laying out a Garden; but the last according to Mr Miller, is, above all indispensibly necessary/

The Dovecote⁴ stands on an Eminence at a little Distance from the S. East Corner of the Garden/

OF COACHES

Before the House is a neat Court, and without that a large Court or Fold, along the West Side of which are Barns, Stables &c. sutable to the House/

THE BARN S

These here are as spacious as any I have seen, and are not (as Mr Laurence says those costly Erections are in most Places) left as stately and empty Spectacles of the

Indolence and Ignorance of former Ages, but are yearly filled with Corn and Hay/

The East Side of the Fold is planted with Wallnut Trees. The Name properly pronounced is Gaul-nut, which implies that we heard it first from France/

THE CHAPPEL

The Entrance into this Chappel, which stands on a Green near the Hall, is at the West End, as it was anciently into all our great Churches that Men might (as Mr Selden says) see the Altar and all the Church before them: but having been built only for a private Oratory for the Family here, it is neither endowed, nor has it a Bell/

Since the Standishes who are Papists, came to the Estate, divine Service had not been celebrated in this Chappel. In the latter End of the Lady Bindlosse's Days the Vicar of Warton usually read Divine Service & preached here once or twice a Year her Ladyship chusing rather to attend at the Parish Church, at which she was very constant: but in the Beginning of her Husband Sr Robert's Time, it had the Honour to be constantly and zealously supply'd by that truly eminent and most exemplarily pious Divine Dr. Richard Sherlock whose Memory is yet precious in this Parish; upon which Account I think myself obliged here to insert some Memoirs relating to

that excellent and primitive Person, collected chiefly out of a short Account of his Life, published before a new Edition of his Works in 1713, by the worthy Bishop of Sodor and Man ; from Mr Anth. a Wood's *Athenae Oxonienses*; and from the Information of a good Old Gentlewoman who had been his Parishioner & Acquaintance.

He was born of very honest and religious Parents Nov. 11th 1612, at Oxton in Werral in the County of Chester, which Village very sensibly feels the Blessings of having been his Birth-Place, by his settling an uncommon but very usefull Charity there. His Mother being become a Widow, sent him first to Oxford, & afterwards to Trinity College near Dublin, where he proceeded M.A. 1633 (as he did in 1660 D.D.) His first Preferment, about Eighty Pounds a Year, was in Ireland, whence he was forced by the Rebellion in 1641, and went Chaplain to one of the Regiments sent out of Ireland by the Marquis of Ormond to the Kings Assistance. These Forces being soon after routed at Namptwich, Mr Sherlock return'd to Oxford, where he was soon elected one of the Chaplains of New-College, and continued there till he was turn'd out in 1648 by the Parliamentary Visitors. Not willing to be unemploy'd he became Curate to Dr Jasper Mayne at Cassington near Woodstock, for Sixteen Pounds a Year (the whole Vicarage being but about worth fifty Pounds) a good Part of which he gave to the poor, till both the Dr and his Curate were

ejected. About this Time Sr. Robert Bindlosse of this Town, returning from his Travels, Mr Sherlock was well recommended to him, and as kindly received for his Chaplain, to whom he was in the Words of Micah, a Father and a Priest; and happy had it been for the whole Family if he had continu'd there. Sr Robert was a Person who had a just Esteem for the Church and her Ministers, both then under a Cloud; and being every Way what they call an accomplished Gentleman, it was no wonder that very many were fond of the Honour of conversing with him: which had this unhappy Effect, that it made him in Love with (some of it wicked) Company, and many of the Evils that attended it (which proved the Ruine of his vast Estate), and too many of the Family follow'd his Example. To make some Amends, as they thought, for these Liberties, they expressed an uncommon Concern for the Interest of the suffering Church; not considering that if we shall be shut out of Heaven for our Sins, it will be no great Comfort to us what Church we were Members of on Earth.

☞ The good Chaplain saw this with Grief, and therefore after general Discourses and Intimations had had little or no Effect, he applyed to his Patron more closely, and in a Letter he wrote to him, laid down this and the Vices of the Family, in Terms so home and serious, and yet so manly, that one could not imagine a Mind so void of Goodness, as to be offended with his Holy Freedom. He desired him to consider what Injury he did to the

distressed Church, for which he always expressed so commendable a Zeal. He intimated to him that this was both the Cause of her Sufferings, and That which made her the Scorn of her Enemies. He assured him that for his own Part he durst not seem to Countenance such criminal Liberties, lest the Enemy should say, that the Ordinances of the Gospel were profaned with the Consent of her Ministers. And then forgetting or rather despising his own Interest, the Uncertainty of the Times, and all the Expectations he might have from a Person of so prodigiously large an Estate,⁵ and great Interest in the World, he earnestly pressed either to be hearkened to in this Matter, or to be immediately discharged from his Office. His Patron was so far from being offended with this just Liberty of his faithfull Chaplain, that he heard him with all Submission, knowing well whose Ambassador he was, and ever after honour'd him as his Friend; and would by no means part with him, untill he thought his own Entertainment too mean for so worthy a Person: and then he most effectually recommended him to a true Son & Lover of the Church, the Right Honble. Charles Earl of Derby, who made him his Domestick Chaplain, and reposed so much Confidence in him that upon the Restoration, he prevailed upon and intrusted him with a Commission to settle the Affairs of the Church of Man, which, during the great Rebellion, had suffered in her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship. This difficult Work he went through (while

his Fellow Commissioners settled the Civil and Military Affairs) to the entire Satisfaction of the Lord and People of that Island; which by the Blessing of God, continues to this Day, as his Nephew the learned and pious Bishop thereof informs us, as uniform in her Worship, as Orthodox in her Doctrine, and as strict and regular in her Discipline as any Christian Church in the World.

Upon the Dr's Return from the Isle of Man, by the Favour of his Noble Patron, he obtained a Presentation to the Parsonage of Winwick in this County, from King Charles IId (the Patronage being at that Time in Dispute), and immediately after, upon the Expiration of a Lease for Ninety Nine Years, his Living became one of the best in England where he was so strict a Resident, that for near thirty Years, he was scarce so many Weeks, all put together, absent from his Flock. And though he was a constant Preacher, yet he always entertained in his House at least three Curates, for the Service of his Church and Chappels. He was so affectionate a Lover of Monarchy, and of that Church which suffered with it, that with the Zeal of Mephibosheth, he would never be prevailed upon to shave his Beard after the King was murdered: of so strict Temperance, that one of his Curate's Allowance would have defrayed all his personal expences: and so charitably inclined, that out of One of the Best Livings in England, he left behind him at his Death, not above one Year's Profits, and even These, in a great Measure to pious Uses.

While Mr Sherlock was Chaplain to Sr Robert Bindlosse, George Fox began to broach and vent his new Doctrines in this Neighbourhood, and being of Reputation for Learning and Piety, G. Fox had the Vanity to attempt to make him his Proselyte, or which is more likely, to make himself more famous by so remarkable an Adversary: to this End he sent him a Set of Queries, and demanded an Answer in Terms exceeding confident of Victory. Mr. Sherlock was a Man by no means fond of Controversy; Practical Christianity was his Talent and Delight: and but that this proud Boaster gave him an unsufferable Disturbance, deluding many poor People into an Opinion that his Queries were unanswerable, perhaps he had never engaged in anything of that Nature. At last to prevent the spreading Mischief he published *The Quakers wild Questions objected against the Ministers of the Gospel &c.* briefly answered. Lond. 1654/ and 1656. This was animadverted upon by a noted Quaker called Richard Hubberthorn in a Book intituled *A Reply to a Book set forth by the Priest of Borwick-Hall in Lancashire, and by a more noted than he, viz. G. Fox in his Great Mystery of the Great Whore unfolded*, Lond. 1659/

To his Quaker's wild Questions &c. Mr Sherlock annexed a Discourse of the H. Spirit, his Workings and Impressions on the Souls of Men. As also a Discourse of Divine Revelation Mediate and Immediate. And another of Error, Heresie & Schism. All which by the Blessing of

God had their Effects. Soon after his Removal to Winwick, he published a Short & Plain Paraphrase upon the Church Catechism, exceedingly well suted, says the good Bishop of Man, to the Capacities of his People. This Book was written before the Author left Sr Robert Bindlosse, as appears by the Title (in Mr Wood's *Athenae*) Viz. The Principals [sic] of Holy Christian Religion: Or, the Catechism of the Church of England paraphrased &c. Written for the Use of Borwick Hall, Lond. 1656. So that that published after the Doctor remov'd to Winwick must have been a subsequent Edition. This Book took so well that the 13th Edition thereof came out at London 1677. And the 19th Impression of it in 1705. He afterwards published a Sermon preached at a Visitation held at Warrington in May, 1669 from Acts XX, 2. Afterwards he published (having dedicated it to the Parishioners of Winwick) The Practical Christian, or, the Devout Penitent. A Book of Devotion, containing the whole Duty of a Christian in all Occasions and Necessities; fitted to the main Uses of a Holy Life. In 4 Parts. 1. Of Self Examination, Confession of Sins, The Lord's Prayer and Penitential Psalms paraphras'd &c. 2. Of the Communion of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ, with the Meditations & Prayers in order to the worthy receiving thereof. 3. Of the Hours of Prayer, and Occasional Meditations. 4. Of the four last Things, i, Death, ii. Judgment, iii. Hell. iv. Heaven. This came out at three Times. The two first 1673, /the third

1675. Then all four together in 1676 & 1677. His Nephew the Bishop of Man published a Sixth Edition in 1713 to which he prefixed a short Account of the Author's Life. Mr a Wood mentions a Sermon preached at the Archbishop of York's Visitation Provincial at Warrington.

Some Years before his Death when he had well considered all that had been said upon that Subject, he published Several Short but seasonable Discourses, Of the Irregularity of a private Prayer in a publick Congregation. Though the Dr was so great a Lover of the Common Prayer, and strict Observer of it's Rubricks, yet while he lived with Sr Robt Bindlosse he was obliged through the Iniquity of the Times, and that his Ministry might not be stop'd, to compose a Prayer out of the Church Service, and the Reader may be assured that few of the gifted Preachers of those Days were more admired than He for his very plain and affecting Prayer before his Sermon, even by them that would have despised him, had they known whence he borrowed it.

He had his stated Hours of privat Prayer not only in the Day but also in the Night, when so long as his Strength would allow him, he got out of his Bed, and went into his Chappel to pray. He also ordered the following Epitaph to be engraved in Brass and fixed upon his Gravestone, which he caused, some years before his Death to be laid in the Chancel (just at the Entrance thereof out of the Body of the Church) where his Body was afterwards

buried. This Stone from the Time of laying it down, became to him a Place of more particular Devotion whenever he could secure himself from being seen of Men, which of all Things he abhorr'd. At length this most holy, zealous, mortified, and truly devout Christian, having spent all his Life in holy and chaste Celibacy, surrendered up his most pious Soul to God and was buried on the 25th of June, under the Stone on which [is] this Inscription:

Exuviae Richardi Sherlock D.D. indignissimi hujus Ecclesiae Rectoris. Obiit 20 Die Junii, An. Aetis 76 Ao Dom. 1689. Sal infatuatum conculcate.

(Trans. The Remains of Richard Sherlock, DD., The very unworthy Rector of this Church. He died 20th June, aged 76, Anno Domini 1689. Tread under foot the worthless salt.)

The Revd Mr Henry Prescott of Chester who very well knew the Doctor's Life & Merits, and who had a very venerable Regard for his Memory, subjoined this further Inscription:

En Viri sanctissimi Modestia. Qui Epitaphium se indignum Inscribi volebat, cum Vita & Merita ejus Laudes Omnes longe Superarent.

(Trans. Behold the modesty of this holy man! Who wished this unworthy epitaph Inscribed on his grave, while his Life and merits exceed all praise!)

*

One of the many charitable Acts which adorned the whole Life of this truly pious Divine, was Ten Pounds by him given to the poor of this Parish. His munificent Example was some Time after follow'd by Mr Thomas Manserge of this Town; who, dying about the Beginning of this Century, bequeathed by his last Will an Estate here of Thirty Six Pounds a Year, to his Sisters and the Descendants of their Bodies lawfully begotten, for the Space of Ninety Nine Years if any of them continued so long; and Then, or so soon as such Issue should fail, to the Poor of this Parish. His Sisters Daughter, the last of the said Heirs died without Issue in the Year 1719. Since which Time the Rents of the said Estate have been applyed, according to the Will of the Testator, to the putting out Poor Children Apprentices, and other Necessities of the Poor.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

Carnford



We are now come to the little River Kere or Kerne which separates the large Township of Carnford from the rest of the Parish, I should have thought this Town one of the numberless Places wh Mr Toland says¹ have in Britain and Ireland received their Names from Cam signifying in all the Celtick & British Dialects, a round Heap of Stones; did not the Saxon Termination ford denominate it a Town built at a Passage over or rather through the River Kerne or Kere.

The Mannor and all the Land of this Town anciently belonged to the Lancasters Barons of Kendale, and 31. H. 3 (when it was written Kerneford) was Part of the Dowry of Agnes Widow of William de Lancaster: from which Family it passed, with Warton, through several Hands to the Crown. From the King it pass'd, I suppose, as above ; And thence to Hugh Cooper of Chorley Esq. who was Shiriff of this County A^o 1657, and with Anne his Daughter and sole Heir gave this Town, and other large

Possessions in Marriage to John Son and Heir of Edward Warren of Pointon in the County of Chester Esq. This John's Son and Heir Hugh Warren Esq. was a Welsh Judge, and left Issue Edward, whose Son John lately sold the Mannor to William Greenbank of Hatton Gent. The Lands of this Town were formerly leased out by the Lords, to Tenants *pro diebus trium hominum* as the Ancients expressed it, i.e. for three Lives, a Custom as ancient as the Time of the Saxons; but the Warrens sold most of them into Free Land, retaining very little besides the Royalty.

This old Village consisting of about forty Families is built (as Mr Addison tells us most of the Towns of Italy are) upon high Ground, and after the ancient German Fashion; each House, with its Outhousing standing at a considerable Distance from another/

The Houses in this Town (two or three excepted) are, as in all the Villages of Poland, even Gentlemen's Houses not excepted, covered with straw Thatch: with which primitive sort of Covering, not only the Polish Gentry, but the Great and Learned Cormac King & Bishop of Munster in Ireland was very well contented. Some of ym are unlofted open to the Roof, and One, as are all the Houses in the eastern Parts of the World, and in America, is yet without a Chimney, the Smoak being left, like as in the Great Kitchen at Stanton Harcourt in Oxfordshire, to find its Way out at a little slooping Hole on each Side of the Roof. The Fire, in this House, is made against the Wall at

one End of the Room, and not, according to the most ancient Custom, on a Hearth: against a little Wall about one Yard high and one and a half long, in the middle of the Room, as I have seen it in the next Village²; and is still practised in the Kitchens of the Grand Seignior's Seraglio (which have no Chimneys, but little Holes in the Cupalos) and the Halls of our Universities and Inns of Court.

Though it cannot be said, for so long a Time of this Town, as Sr William Temple observes of the large Empire of Peru, that not so much as one Beggar was ever known there during the long Race of the Ynca Kings, which lasted 800 Years; yet (during the Time of my Minority at least) it might truly be said of it, as Giraldus Cambrensis says of his Country Wales, *Nemo in hac Gente Mendicus* (tr: Noone in this country is a beggar), a Beggar, belonging to the Town, being as rare here as in Amsterdam, or a Horse in the Streets of Venice. And at that Time it might be said to agree with the Characters given by two learned Gentlemen of Kinnardsley in Shropshire, and Brightwell in Oxfordshire, except in the Case of Sectaries (and of them they had very few) viz. That there had been no such Thing, as a Beggar, an Ale House, a Sectary, or a Law-Sute in the Memory of Man. But since my being a Youth they have got an Ale House; and no Wonder since it lies on the High Post & Carrier Road between London & Glasgow, and the western Parts of the north of England, and Scotland,

and has not a Town North of it, in the Road, nearer than four Miles off/

I have heard some good Oeconomists say that this large Township has too much inclosed Land, and that if one half of it was lied common it would be better for the Inhabitants, except they had more Compost to improve it with, or more Hands to work it/

I shall conclude the general Account of this Town with observing that Christopher Bush and his Wife lived there in a married State above Sixty Years/

But to return to the River Kere, which Mr Leland passing over to Warton calls Keri. Dr Leigh says it has the same Signification with Kent, and supposes them the small Relicts of the Asiatick Colonies. It arises out of the Moores in the Edge of Westmoreland, from whence it runs to Kereholm, thence to Docker³ and afterwards turns a Mill at Borwick, and another at Caponwray about half a Mile below which, having till then been a Boundary to the south East Part of this Parish, it begins to divide it, separating from the north Part of it the large Township of Carnford, and having supplied Warton Mill, it soon after arrives at the Sands, where it meets the River Kent, just before they enter the Irish Sea.

The Eager sometimes appears in this River, though not so frequently nor so furiously as in some others. It makes a terrible roaring Noise which may be heard at a great

Distance. I have seen it, when a good Way within Land, and almost spent, run turbulently up the River, with a Head or Breast of Water about a Yard high. This River is tolerably stock'd with Fish/

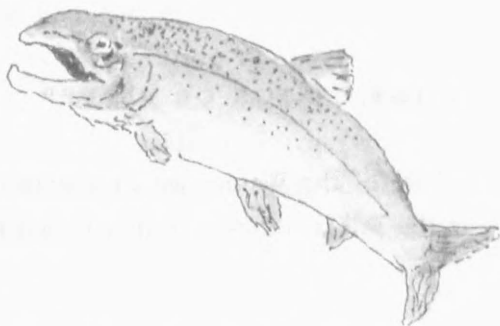
The Salmon being a Fish proper to the Ocean delight in clear sandy Rivers, and are moderately
plentifull in this/

They are in Season here, as in most other Places, in Summer only, and not in Winter too, which is said to be a Peculiar of the River Wye/

OF THE TROUT

In this River we also meet with the best and whole-somest of all fresh Water Fish the Trout/

The Trouts in this River are like those mentioned by



‘Salmon are moderately plentifull in the River Kere’

Sr George Wheeler but small in Comparison of those that are found in some large Rivers and Lakes. Trouts of two Foot long are frequently taken in Malham Tarn in Craven, not many Miles hence/

I have known some Persons take Fish in this little River by Groping and tickling them under the Bellies till they got their Fingers into the Gills; which is recorded in the Phil. Trans, as a very pleasant Way of Fishing.

OF PEARLS

In this River is found the *Concha longa Rondeletii*, the Horse Muscle; but whether Pearls have been found in any of them as in those of the neighbouring River Wyre and others in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland I cannot say/

OF THE CASTOR OR BEAVER

The Otter or Dog of the Waters which differs from the Beaver only in the Tail is common in this as in most other Rivers/

OF BRIDGES

As soon as the River Kere enters this Parish it is crossed by a Stone Bridge, called Kere Brigg/

About a Furlong W. from Kerebrigg is a Hill which yet retains the Name of Moothaw/

OF HIGH WAYS

At a Turn of the Road near Moothaw stands, in Trivio, a Stone-Guid-Post about 4 Foot high/

BARTHERHOLM

A little N.W. from Moothaw is a large Meadow, having a Hill in the Middle thereof which contains about 12 or 14 Acres, called Bartherholm. The Situation whereof truly answers the Signification of the Name. For Bar in the Armorick, which is the ancient British, signifies, says Bishop Nicholson a Head or Top (which Name it might have before the Level was quite drained as the Anglo-Saxon Word Berg is a Hill: and Holm is by all agreed to signifie a River Island, or a Place frequently overflown with Water, as a great Part of this and the neighbouring Meadows often are. The Difference between the higher

and lower Parts of this great Meadow is, that the upper often need feeding or amending by Tillage, which the other never do: but then the Hay of the former is much finer, and more valuable than that of the Low Lands: they being of a different Nature from those Meadows near Amesbury in Wilts/

This Meadow was formerly Part of the Possessions of Furness Abbey in this County, to which, I suppose, it was given, with other large Lands by William de Lancaster, Lord of Carnford, and a great Benefactor to that House/

He (i.e. Henry VIII) bestowed all the Possessions of the rich Abbey of Furness on the Dutchy of Lancaster, to the Receiver of the Revenues whereof a yearly Rent is now paid out of this Meadow/

The Reason I mention this March (i.e. of Chas. II from Scotland to Worcester, 1651) is because the whole Army (i.e. 14,000 Men) encamped on the higher Grounds of this Meadow, where it halted One Day, the King being heartily entertained by Sr Robert Bindlosse of Borwick-Hall, not half a Mile off/

STANK WELL⁴

Old Bartholome tells us that Water which floweth eastward out of the Spring is the most wholesome, And near the Gate of the Great Meadow which I have just been

speaking of is a profluent Spring called Stank-Well, whose Current is directly towards the Rising of the Sun; and whose Water is by some opinionated Persons frequently made Use of upon account of it's being thought better for that very Reason. *Stank* a Springing Well, or Place abounding with Standing Waters as this doth, is said to be derived from the Latin *Stagnum*, or the French g being often confounded with c or k, by them as well as the English Saxons. But the learned Abbot Pezron⁶ says it comes from the Celtik or British *Stanca*, to overflow.

In this Well not only the Water but also the fine Sand through wch it issues, boils up to the Height of two or three Inches. The Reason of this (it being not a perennial, but temporary Spring I take to be, that it must receive its Waters from some Basin or Tarn of a little higher Situation (and such a One there is (only in Wet Seasons) not far from it) the Pressure whereof must occasion the boiling in the Spring/

KERE MEADOWS

lie West from Bartherholm, and are so called from their lying on the Banks of that River. They have the Mill Dam running at the Head of them, out of which they may be watered at proper Seasons, to the great Advantage of their Owners/

South off these Meadows lie some Lands called the Hallgowins, and near them a large Field called the Hall Croft, in the Field adjoining to which, and which joyns upon the Houses, is a hollow Place of several Yards Diameter, called the Oven. Whether or no there may have been formerly a Hall at this End of the Town, as at the other, which may have had its Oven here; or there may have been an Oven here at a small Distance from the Houses, like those in Staffordshire mentioned by Dr Plot, Tradition has not yet discovered/

In an Orchard on the South Side of the High Road, opposite to the Hall-Croft, I have seen Pears growing (not tied) on the Tree at Christmas. The Pear Tree is reckoned by Veranius among the *Arbores foelices* but considering the Meanness of it's Fruit I can scarce think This worthy of that Appellation; for it is not one of that Kind of Peartrees mentioned by Dr Plot, which bears two Crops in one Year, the latter of wch is ripe about Michaelmass, but a Tree that bears only one Crop in a Year, and that not ripe till Christmass or after; and even then the Fruit is so hard as not to be eatable till it has laid some Time after it has been pluck'd from the Tree.

If this blossoms at the same Time with other Peartrees, as I believe it does, it has a much slower Vegetation than the Grass, Herbs, Trees &c. in the northerly Part of Lapland/

THE SHREWTREE

A little South off the above mentioned Orchard stood, and I suppose does yet stand, a noted Shrewtree, which, till within these few Years was almost superstitiously resorted to; but now a days People begin to see the Vanity of these Charmlike Remedies; however I shall here give an Account how it was made. They took One, two, or three Shrews or Dormice (which they fancy bite their Cattle, and make them swell) and having bored a hole to the Centre of the Body of a large Willow (which is the Tree they (I think) always made Choice of in this Country, though in other Places they do it in the Oak, Ash, or Elm indifferently) they put the Mice in alive, and then drive in a Plug after them of the same Wood, where they, starving at last, communicate forsooth such a Virtue to the Tree, that Cattle thus swollen being whip'd with the Boughs of it presently recover. Though the Shrewtree be so easily made, yet I have known Persons come from Places at a considerable Distance to procure this Remedy from This famous Tree: and their Superstition goes farther here than in most other Places, for to make the Remedy more effectual, the Proprietor of the Tree must himself pluck off the Wands/

WHITELANDS

Some Fields so called, which lay near the Shrewtree,
remind me of the old Redditus Albi, and Redditus Nigri,
White Rents and Blackmail/

PARTRIDGE HILLS

Are not far from Whitelands, and had their name from
that Fowl/

HELLBANK

is a Place about the middle of the Town, near the Meeting
of four Ways/

Though the Name of this Bank denominates it to be a
sepulchral Monument, yet not remembring to have met
with any but round Tumuli, I was long in Suspence what
People it should belong to; but at last the learned Danish
Antiquary⁶ remov'd my Doubts by telling us that the
Danes sometimes made their sepulchral Monuments, not
in a round but in a long Form: so that it must have been
the burying Place of some eminent Dane slain here in some
of their Pyratrical Incursions or Invasions of these Parts

when they landed about a Quarter of a Mile from this Place.

OF HARVEST FEASTS, MUSIC AND DANCING

/This ancient general Custom is differently observed in different Parts of the World. In this Part of the Country each Village commonly hires a Fiddler which, during the Time of Harvest, goes from one Field to another, and plays to the Reapers: at which Times I have seen the young People whose Backs had been bowed down with hard Labour, in the hot Sun for several Hours, dance as briskly in the Stubble as if they had been on a Theatre; and then their Strength being renew'd by the Muscles of their Bodies having been put into different Motions, and their Spirits revived by the Harmony of the Musick, fall to their Labour again with redoubled Vigour and Activity.

When Harvest is over they have a merry Night as they call it, against which each Family of the better sort contributes, some time before, its Quota of Malt, which is brewed into Ale, of which, and of a plentiful Entertainment provided at the joint Expenses of the Masters of Families, the whole Village are Partakers. The old People after Supper smoak their Pipes, and with great Pleasure and Delight behold the younger spending the Evening in

Singing, Dancing and co, in a Manner much like that elegantly described by Wm Somerville Esq.⁷ in an ingenious Poem by him published about the Beginning of this present Year. This is here mentioned because the Youth of this Town, upon this Occasion, usually dance sub dio (if the Weather permits) on the lower Part of a little Hill near Hellbank/

THROSTLEGILL WELL

This profluent Spring arises at the Foot of some Fields called the Banks/

The Gallinago minor, or Snipe, which together with Woodcocks comes out of colder Countries into England in Autumn, abides with us all Winter, and retires in the Spring, is so common here during the whole Year, that I must confess I never thought of it being a Bird of Passage before I read the before mentioned laborious Piece. I cannot indeed with Dr Merton give an Instance of a Nest of young Woodcocks (though if I am not mistaken I have heard of one somewhere not far distant); yet young Snipes are so frequently found in the Bank-End-Moss (into which the Waters of Throstlegill Well run out not many Paces from their Spring) and in other neighbouring Mosses, that they are not looked upon as any Rarity at all.



The Snipe is no Rarity at all

In these Mosses the Bittour, or Bittern, *Ardea Stellaris*, supposed to be the *Taurus* of Pliny, is very common/

When I was a Boy I found a Robin-red-breast's Nest in the Thatch, in the inside of my Father's Bam, which I should not have mentioned but that the curious and inquisitive Mr. Kay declares he had never seen one, and says he would have been thankfull to any Body that would have shewed him One. The Excrements of this little bird are always liquid, yea even as the learned Dr. Lister observes⁸ if he be fed with the Yolks of Eggs hard boiled: which may perhaps proceed from a habit of Body occasioned by the frequent devouring of Spiders which are his common Food.

Cicindela Volans or flying Glow-Worm, though no Bird, may yet be mentioned in this Place: because I observed it

here in my youth about the same Time that it was discovered in Hartfordshire and exactly described by Richard Waller Esq. F.R.S./

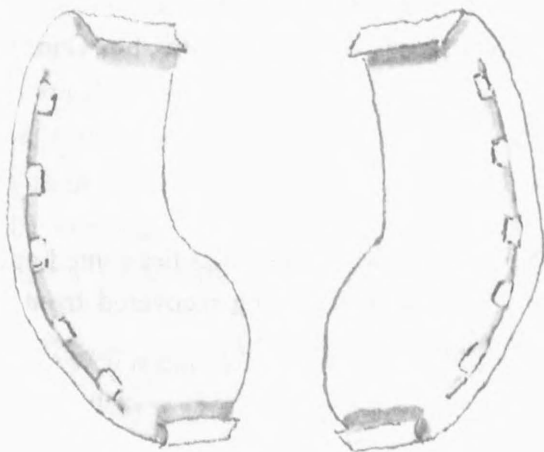
THE COW CLOSE

The next Place I shall observe is a large Close belonging to Mr Jonathan Peel called the Cow-Close/

Now the County whereof this Parish is a Part being the most famous for any in the Kingdom for its fine Breed of Black Cattle, which are so well known that I need not say any Thing of them in particular/

The usual Time of putting Oxen to work (which in this Parish is only at the Plow, for they have no Wains) is at three Years Old and if they are unruly (as sometimes they will be) they keep them hungry, and use them to eat Hay out of their Hand. Gentle Usage with these slow and dull Creatures being found a readier way to bring them to the Yoke, than ever repeated severity/

The Ground of this Parish being stony (as I have observed before) they shoe their Oxen against Plowtime, which they do after this Manner: they cast them with a Rope fastned to two of their Legs, and so soon as they are down, they tye their four Feet together, which they put upon an Engine made of two Pieces of Wood placed Saltirewise and lined with Leather, and then they apply two



Iron Shoes for Oxen

little thin Plates of Iron to each Foot, which they fasten with Nails, which are clenched upon the Side of the Hoofs, as they do those which fasten Horses Shoes/

OF DRAINING

On the West Side of the Cow Close was a Moss or Fen, which till of late Years was inaccessible to any Beast, by Reason of the Mill Dam, running level with it, and so keeping it full of Water. But Mr Jonathan Peel the Owner (after the Example of Mr Fleetwood of Bank in this County who drained Merton Meer) has so effectually

drain'd it by laying a Tunnel under the Mill Dam, that it is become very good, not only Pasture, but Com Land/

OF WHINS

On the N.E. Side of Mr Peel's Moss lies some Land called Whinney Closes from it's being recovered from the Tyranny of that noxious Vegetable/

THE ELLERS

Is a Place lying at the N. End of the Whinny Close between the Mill Dam and the River Kere so called from the Plenty of Alders growing therein/

I have often gathered the *Ribes Vulgaris*; Currants or Corinths both red and white, which are found also in the Woods, not only in the neighbouring Counties, but also in foreign Parts, especially the former but the white is but rarely met with in Woods/

BUTTER-WELL

It is the Observation of a late curious Writer⁹ that Water passing through a spongy porous Earth, and is warm in

Winter, and cold in Summer, is the best for Man's Use; which Character is exactly answer'd by a small perennial Fountain which rises in the mossy Part of a Pasture W. of the Ellers; called the Butterwell from the good Women's Washing their Butter with its Water in Summer, and is noted like Seething Well in Surry, and Hancock's Well in Wiltshire, for its Coldness in Summer & Warmness in Winter/

This little Well is not like some Lakes in Scotland. which never freeze all over (even in the most vehement Frosts) before February, when two Nights' Frost will not only cover them quite over with Ice, but that of a very considerable Thickness: but, like the small Stream observed by the curious Dr Beale glides merrily & smoaking into the adjoining Ditch, in the sharpest Frosts at what Time of the Year soever/

The Mill which stands not above 2 or 300 Paces from Butterwell, is supplied with Water from three Springs, Viz. Pollicat Well, Throstlegill-Well & a Spring at the Head of Bartherholm. In the Course of the last named Spring grow (as on the Edges of Warton Mill Dam) a kind of hard and very smooth Reeds, about the Compass of a Goose or Swan's Quill, which exactly answer the Description given us of the *Arundo Scriptoria* or Writing Reed, by Bellonius/

When Tho. Ward the Milner of Camford Mill failed in his attempt mentioned above he projected the Drawing of

a Goit out of the River Kere a little above the Mill, but in that also he miscarried/

THE MILL

/These Hand Mills, notwithstanding the much more commodious and excellent Invention of Water Mills, and after them of Wind Mills, were not laid aside till of late Years, for our very Fathers had all their Malt grinded with them, for which Purpose one was standing in this Mill within my Remembrance/

In the Year 1285 it was ordained in the City of London, that Millers should have but one Half-Penny for grinding a Quarter of Wheat; but now they have a sixteenth Part throughout all England. I cannot in this Place forbear observing that one Hebblethwaite of this Town was as remarkable for his Strength in his Teeth, and has plaid as great Feats therewith in this Mill as any of those mentioned by Dr Plot in the viiith Chapter of his Natural Hist, of Staffordshire/

OF HOPS

About a Hundred Yards West from the Mill is a House called The Brig End, *in qua vitales auras primum hausi*

(trans. In which I drew my first breath), so denominated from its Situation near another Bridge built over the River Kere, which gave Passage to the great Antiquary Mr Leland, in his Journey from Lancaster to Warton, Betham &c/

[He has not given any account of the house at all, but goes on JRF]

I shall close this short Acct of the House which receiv'd me into the World, with a Distich which I desire may be inscribed on the House wherein my Body shall be lodged at its going out of the World.

*Me genuit Carnford; docuit Warton: aluitque Leeds
Celebris pannis; Hie lapis ossa tegit.*

(Trans: Carnforth begat me, Warton Instructed Me, Elevated in Leeds, Famous for its Cloth, This Stone Covers His Remains)

OF POTTERY

As Jerusalem had its Potter's Field, and Rome its Mons' Testacius and Campus Figulinus so, *si magnis componere Parva licebit* (trans: if it be permitted to compare great things with small) hath Carnford its Potter's Parks, some closes so called lying on the South Side of my Father's, (since my) Orchard: and a little North of the House, by the River Side is found a fine Sort of blue Clay, like that

of the Pottery of Bullingbrook in Lincolnshire, which the Inhabitants here call Potter-Clay.

But whether these two Names (for I have no other Circumstances) be sufficient to fix an ancient Pottery at this Place, as well as at Potter Newton in Yorkshire, Merston Potter's in Leicestershire and other Places where there are no more Marks of any modern Works of that Kind than here, I will not pretend to say/

MILLER'S HEAD AND INUNDATIONS

The Ridge or Head (Part of which is yet call'd Miller's Head) running out from the High Land, betwixt the large Level above mentioned, and the Sands, does, a little below the Bridge, draw so near it's Opposite Hazle Head, that they do but just leave a Passage for the Stream of the little River Kere, and the Resiprocation of the Tides/

THE HAG

On the S. Bank of the River Kere, about half a Furlong below my Father's is a House called the Hag, which was the Seat of my Ancestors above 200 Years since, from whom it is now by lineal Descent become the pleasant Habitation of my Cousin Mr. James Lucas¹⁰ who has

made great Improvements in the Buildings. He was buried at Warton June 21, 1744.

The Latin *Haga* signifies an House built of Hurdles or Radlings, as also a fortified Camp. The Saxons called a Mansion House *Haga*, and sometimes used the Word Hag for a Hedge; but Mr. Lawson, an Old Writer, quoted with great Respect by the learned Mr Evelin, calls a Place where the Trees have been fell'd, and young Cyons sprout out of the Roots an Hag. This being the most common Acceptation of the Word, as it appears by many such Places so called in these northern Parts, and the House here standing at the End of such a Place (Part of which is now an Orchard) it may probably have receiv'd it's Name therefrom: but if the Place has been so called from the Saxon *Haga*, it will imply that a Mansion House has stood there above Nine Hundred Years, for so long it is since the Coalition of the Saxon Heptarchy. And this latter Conjecture will appear more likely if we observe that the House stands very near Gallihaw, which was certainly a Port of considerable Note in those early Times, though it is now almost quite forsaken by Seafaring Men.

OF SNAKE WORSHIP

Serpents, especially the Snake, delighting in the Shade of Hags and Hedges, our Saxon Ancestors, who called all

Reptiles Worms, gave the Name of Hag-Worm to the Snake, by which Name it is yet constantly called by the Inhabitants of these Parts/

HOLY WELL

As God Almighty created all Things for the Service of Man, whose Body, by Reason of it's compounded Nature was to be subject to various Distempers; so his Wisdom and Goodness have so ordered, that there is nothing in the whole Creation which is not endued with some nutritive or medicinal Quality or other, in order to preserve, if well understood and duely apply'd, a good State of Health not only to the whole Body, but to every Particular Part thereof, if he is not awanting in his own Conduct. An Instance of which kind Providence we have at the N.W. End of the Hag, where there arises a Spring which on Account of the medicinal Virtue of its Waters in Scurbutick Cases, has obtained the Name of Holy-Well/

Those Acidulae¹¹ here, like the Thermae at Bristol arise on the Sand, so near the River (and sometimes, by its changing its Course a little, even in it) that they are overflow'd almost every Tide. A thing though rare in Old, yet I suppose very common in New England. The Waters of this Well by their constant bubbling, cast off the Scum

which they might contract by the Salt Water, and presently become very pure and clear/

The Waters of this Well seem to be impregnated with the very same Mineral with those at Rougham on the other Side of the Sands, only in a lower Degree, and are frequented by the Country People for the Cure of sore Eyes, but chiefly of Scabs and putrid Sores/

OF ST. JOHN'S FIRES AND CARN FIRES

A little W. from Hellbank lies some high Ground, call'd in this Country Dialect The Haas or Haws, a word anciently, and yet us'd in the North for Hills. The Ground on these Hills being a sandy Gravel with very thin (indeed scarcely any) Coat of Soil upon it/

[After remarks on feasts and Holidays he goes on]

It shall therefore be my present Business to spend a few Lines in endeavouring to make known the End and Design of One of them, the very Skeleton of which is scarce now in Being; Viz. why the Children of this Village assemble yearly on a level Place upon the Haws near the Meeting of two High-Ways, on Midsummer Day, and there make a Bonfire (to prepare for which I have helped to fetch the Skeleton of a Horse above half a Mile) and divert themselves by running about it, leaping over it, &c/

On this level Place of the Haws (before Part of it was

made an Intake, and another Part was taken up by building a Tithe Barn thereon) the Young People of this Town used to meet and play at Hand Ball, in Easter Holy-Days.

/The Rectory of this Parish descended with the Lordship of Warton, till King Edward VIth Bestowed it, with the Advowson of the Vicarage, on the Dean & Chapter of Worcester, by Letters Patents dated Feb: 6, 1547. In Compensation for the Mannors and Advowsons of Grimley Sc Hallow, Com. Worcest. Icomb. Com. Glouc. and the Rectories Sc Advowsons of Kimsey, South Leach Sc Norton. The Tithes of this Parish have been farmed for many Years by the Lamberts of Kendale, who, in the Beginning of this Century, with the Leave of the Lord of the Mannor, built a Bam here for the Tithe of this Township/

THE TOAD PLUD¹²

This is a small Pond at the Foot of the Haas, so called from the Creatures which abound therein/

THE KRAE PITS¹³

Is a little Moss between the Toad Plud and the Hall Yate or Gate, which is still called by its ancient Saxon Name.

Tradition says that when Carnford-Hall was standing on a Rising Ground near this Place, the Huntsman used to keep Horse Flesh &c. in these Pits for the Use of his Dogs, a Method practised at Leighton in my Remembrance, as it is now in several Places. The Carrion thus kept here made the Place to be much haunted with Crows, whose Name it bears to this Day/

OF THE CEDAR TREE

/And that the greatest Part of this Township in particular has anciently been Wood-Land is not only affirmed by Tradition, but the Names of almost all the Lands in the Western Part thereof Viz. Haggs, Thwaits, Grubbens, Woods, Copices, &c. do fully confirm it: And yet at this Day whether through the Neglect of the Inhabitants, or their too great Zeal for Husbandry, they seem to be in some Danger of falling into the second Part of the Italian Proverb; ¹⁴ for I believe there is scarce a Tree to be found in the whole Circuit thereof more than in the western Isles of Scotland, which once abounded also with Oaks worth Twenty Shillings: whereas if either Publick or private Benefit had been rightly consider'd, they might very well (since they have too much Land in Tillage as I have said before) have spared one Third of the Ground to have nourished Wood/

POLE-CAT WELL

This Spring ariseth near the Hall-Gate; and though the Waters thereof are not apparently (at least to Sense) of any Mineral Virtue, yet are they, like the Waters of Siloam, by many experimentally found to be a Sovereign Remedy for sore and weak Eyes/

HUWTHWAITS

In the western Part of this Township, which, as I have said before, was all anciently Wood-land, are five large common Fields; one of which goes by the single Name of Thwaite: the other four which are contiguous to each other are called Huthwaits. Now if Mr Erdswick could conclude that Chilcote in Staffordshire, was so called because it was formerly, as he imagined, the Land and Seat of one Child; why may not I suppose that these Lands may have belonged to some noted Person called Hugh, before the Addition of Surnames, who might have had his Seat here, and held those Lands in Demesne which to this Day retain the Title of the Demain Lands of Carnford. But who this Hugh was, what Issue he had, or when his House was demolished, I will not pretend to discover at the Distance of so many Ages; their Memories being lost with innumerable others both Persons and Places famous in their Times/

That there was a Hall in the End of one of these Fields which is nearest the Town Tradition affirms, and the Foundation of the Walls have been discovered near a Place yet called the Kitching-hill. The Gate also leading into this Field is still called the Hall-Gate. And a large Bam, said formerly to have belonged to the Hall; looked upon as the best in the Country for keeping Com, answering exactly to those Qualifications required by the great Palladius, was, in the Beginning of this Century, standing and in good Repair, and usually (when not made Use of by the Owners) lett to the Farmers of the Tithe, before they built a new Bam on the Haws. Since which I hear it is fallen to decay through the Neglect of the Proprietors whose Shares therein are according to the eighth Parts they possess of the adjoyning Ground yet called the Orchard.

The Soil of this (formerly no doubt) Orchard, whose Fence may yet easily be traced, is endued with this peculiar Quality, that the Pease sown therein will not only yield a good Crop, but be the best Makers (as they call them) in the whole Country; whereas if the same sort of Pease be sown on the other Side of the Hedge, they will have a quite different Property, for they will not be soft though boiled three or four Times as long as those whose Seed had been sown out of the same Sack on the other Side. For the reason of this so great Difference in so small a Compass viderint Philosophi; I am sure of the Truth of what I write, my Father having more than once made the Experiment.

The Soil of some Part of this Field, like the Campi Lapidai mentioned by Camden, or that of Coston Fields in Somersetsshire is so very stony, that when it is newly plowed one would rather take the Ridges for so many Causways to walk on, than for plowed Land, and yet yields as good a Crop of Com as Land of a deeper Earth/

If according to Mr Salmon's Opinion, Mr Mordant, a Branch of the Peterborough Family, for perswading some of his Neighbours to exchange Lands with each other in the common Fields, and by that Means lay them so conveniently together, that, by Consent, they might be inclosed, deserved to have his Statue erected in Brass or Marble, and to be looked upon with the same Veneration as Bacchus and Ceres were by the Ancients, for teaching them to make the best of the Produce of the Earth: certainly some Degree of Respect must be due to the Memories of Mr Thornton of the Birks and my Dear and honoured Father, who were the first that, in this Part of the Country, put that Method in Practice, whose Example has been followed by some others, so that now several Inclosures are made in this Field/

On the N. Side of this Field is a Place called the Woods Tarn, which, like the Turloughs in Ireland, is a Lake or Tarn in Winter, and a Green Field in Summer: but its Waters neither increase nor retire so hastily as those of the Zirknitzer-Sea in the Province of Carniola in Germany/

In the Huthwaite I have been speaking of, every Man

plows or mows his Part as he judges most proper; and so this Field is never pastured; but the other three are what the Romans called *Agri compascui* or *scriptuarii*, in which they observe this Method. The Proprietors plow one of them for three Years, then laying it, they plow the next for three Years, and afterwards the next; so that they are alternately three Years Com, and Six Years Pasture. He that has a Part in one of these Fields, has generally an equal Share in the other two, so that they giste them according to the Quantity of Land each Person has therein, and the Age of the Cattle viz. two Twinters¹⁵ to a full aged Beast &c/

In this Parish they shear all their Corn, and neither mow it, as in many Places in England, nor pluck it up by the Roots, which is the general Practice in the East/

OF WHEAT

This valuable Vegetable/ was about forty or fifty Years since, a great a Stranger in this Parish, as it is now in either Denmark or Barbary; but it has since been cultivated here with good Success, and I wonder it was not so long since, since the Soil seems to agree with that recommended for it by the most ancient Writers on Husbandry/

In the Highway adjoining to Huthwaite is dug a fine

Sand which if ordered with the same Care and Labour with that mention'd by Dr Plott to be found in the Parish of Kingham in Oxfordshire, would, I doubt not, be as serviceable for the Scouring of Pewter &c. as that, but yet it cannot be expected that it should, like that, be sold for a Penny a Pound (which amounts to above Twenty Shillings a Bushel) by Reason of the Nearness of Heysham Sand, which has the Whiteness (which this in some Measure wants) as well as the Fineness of Calais Sand. By the Roadside near this Sand Hill is a hollow Place called the Foul Flush, which is generally dry, especially in Summer, but sometimes overflows so with Water, that the Road is scarce passable: And then it is thought by the Country People, like the Vipseys near Flamborough in Yorkshire the Bourn at Croydon, the Hunger-moor-Slade, and the Drudemeer in Staffordshire, the Mure in Hertfordshire, &c. to pourtend a Famine/

OF THE RIVER NILE

Adjoyning to one of these Huthwaits is a little shallow Tarn, of which I should have taken no Notice, but that in my Fancy it as exactly as possible resembles the Description of the Place whence this famous River has its Source/

GAIT COTES

This is a large triangular Piece of stoney bushy Ground laying between the middle and nether Huthwaites. As Gutham, now Gotham in Nottinghamshire was so called quasi Goat's-home So this Place, no Doubt, had it's Name from the Goats with which it formerly abounded which Creatures chuse and love Bushes, Briers and Thorns, amongst the Rocks, rather than richer Pasture.

LANG-HAAS MOSS

This Moss which lies at the Bottom of the Gait-Cotes and nether Huthwaite, has it's Name from some long, narrow Haws or Hills which run out into it; and is of good Service in furnishing the Owners with pretty good Turf, when they take care to have their Flood-gates in Order, and so keep out the Salt Water. To what I have said of Turf at Warton Moss I will only add That the small Dust of Turves is here always called Mul; by wch Name Sr H. Spelman in his *Icenia* says the Swedes & Germans do call all Dust.

OF PERAMBULATIONS

Now though this ancient and laudable Custom, which was always observed in the Old Church of England, and has also in some Measure obtained since the Reformation too, be at present laid aside in this Parish; yet since it is practised at Lancaster, and in several other Places, I will here give as brief an Account of it as I well can. In Rogation Week, the Minister with his Churchwardens and Parishioners go round the Bounds and Limits of the Parish, in Order to preserve the Rights and Properties of it: and instead of Heathenish Rites .& Sacrifices to an imaginary God, offer Praises and Prayers to the true God, the God of the whole Earth, imploring his Mercy, that he may give them the Fruits of the Earth in due Season/

CHAPTER NINETEEN

Ships and Saltmarsh



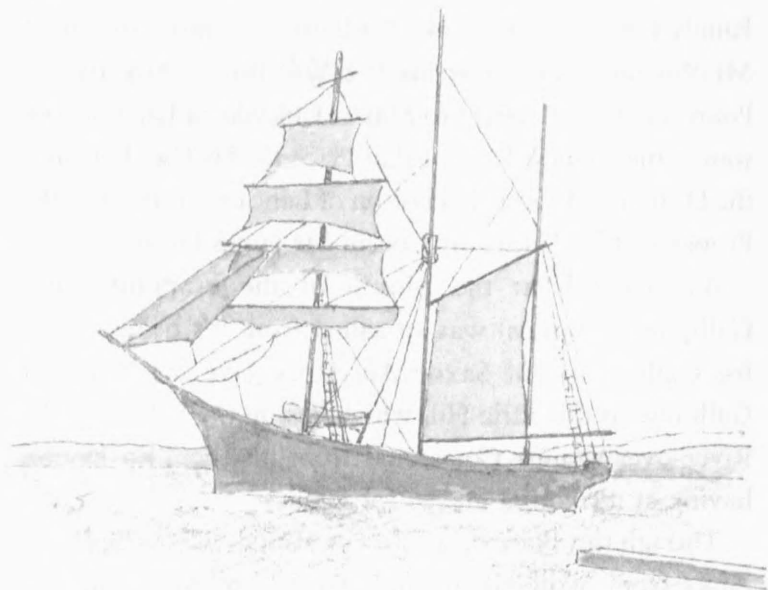
Gallihaw is a Hill a little N.E. from Langhaws-Moss on which is a House long the Seat of the Nicholsons of which Family I presume, was Giles Nicholson to whom the Great Mr William Camden in his last Will bequeathed Twenty Pounds to be committed to Master Colevile, of Lancaster, or some other honest Man of that Place for his Use; but since the Death of Mr Isaac Nicholson of Lancaster is become the Property of his Uncle, my Cousin Mr James Lucas.

As Gallipoli at the Mouth of the Propontis (and Galliport in Samos) was so called from it's being a Port for Gallies: So our Saxon Ancestors gave the Name of Gallihaw to this little Hill which lies on the S. Side of the River over against Cotestones from it's then, no Doubt, having at it's Foot a Haven for Gallies/

Though this Place be at present visited only by Barks or Pinks from Scotland, Ireland, the Isle of Man, and the Western Coasts of England, yet that is no Argument that

it was of no greater Note in former Days: For that a great many Places anciently very remarkable for the Multitude of their Ships, and consequently magnificence, are now in a Manner quite destitute thereof, Tyre, Carthage, Corinth, Syracuse/

Soon after the Beginning of the present Century when the River Kent, called the Ea after it enters the Sands, bent it's Course pretty near the South Side of the Bay, it discovered, by washing away the Sand (and several Hundred Acres of Land too) some Things, of which even Tradition itself had not retained so much as the Memory: and



A visiting Bark

among the rest a good Quantity of Ship Timber was found near Gallihaw, Part whereof appeared to have been wrought, and Part had not been wrought. There were also laid bare at the same Time & Place Parts of Ships and Boats, which, by Persons well skill'd in the Art of Ship-building, were thought to have been built several Hundred Years since. As these and other Circumstances shew this Place has anciently been noted for the building of Merchant Ships there down to this Time to which I shall mention but one called *The Content* belonging to Lancaster, built when I was a School Boy; which has been so fortunate that she may be said not only to equal, but exceed the Ship wherein Mr Thevenot¹ sailed from Malta, which he says was about 28 years Old, a good sailer, and very lucky at Sea.

OF NAMES

On the East Side of the Gallihaw is a Field wch goes by the Name of Dick o'Wills Close. One Dick o'Wills, who was Constable of the Town in my Father's Remembrance, and left his Name to this Close, was the last of a Family in this Place which had retained the ancient British Way of using only their Christian Names, and the Place of Abode of either Fathers or Grandfathers, and sometimes of their Masters, instead of the *Nomina Gentilia*/

SALT COTES

Is a Place on the Edge of the Sands, upon the West Side of Gallihaw, so called from the little Houses formerly standing there for the making of Salt/

Mr Camden, Mr Speed, Dr Lister, Dr Dale, Mr Ray^z and others have given short Accounts of the Manner of Making Salt on these Sands. But since it is a Method nowhere else made use of (at least that I have either heard or read of) I will here set down what I have observed thereof in my Youth. In hot Weather during the neep Tides, they harrow with a Thom, or such like Thing, the Flats that are always overflowed by the Spring Tides, and then with a proper Instrument, skim or scrape together into Ridges, the Surface of them, which they lead away in Caups and preserve it under Cover. This Sand so provided they put into Troughs or Pits lined with fine blue Clay, with Holes at the Bottom, and pour fresh Water thereon, which draining through the Sand carries the Salt therein contained, down with it into the Vessels placed under to receive it. So long as this Liquor is strong enough to bear an Egg, they pour on more Water, and so soon as the Egg begins to sink, they cast the Sand out of the long Pits or Troughs (which may be seen in vast Heaps near the Salt Cotes) and replenish them again. This Water thus impregnated with Salt they boil with Turf (of which they have great Plenty and very good) till the Water evaporating, the

Salt remains behind. They here, as do the Salt Boilers at Droytwych in Worcestershire, make Use of leaden Pans, wherein none of the small white Sand, or Stone Powder is to be found, which is so troublesome to the Salt-Works at Shields and other Places where they use iron Boilers. The Salt made here is indeed not so white as that made at the Places above mentioned; but in Recompence for that, we must observe what is said by the learned & curious Dr Lister, who recommending the gray Salt made by the Heat of the Sun, and of general Use through all France says, If Our People are nice to a great Fault about the Whitness of their Salt; a Thing not to be procured without vehement Boiling, which makes it so very hot, that it causes Thirst, and reeses & spoils every Thing it should preserve: And then adds, that he never saw Salt right made at any Place in England, but at the Salt Cotes on these and the neighbouring Sands; and yet the Method here used, he is of Opinion, might still be amended; for as their Boiling is but moderate he thinks their full and overweight Brine might Possibly by some slight Artifice be brought to give it's Salt without Stress or Fire/

THE SAND SIDE

Besides the Red Currans and Lockergowlons mentioned above; other two of the Plants said to grow wild and

plentifully in the County of York, but rarely or not at all in most others are here to be met with in as great Plenty as there; viz. the *Primula veris flore rubro*, Birds-Eyn, in the Pastures and Meadows near the River Kere. And the *Caryophyllus minimus*, Thrift, Sea Gilliflower or Marsh Pink, on the Banks of Kere, when it comes near the Sea/

The Brow hanging to the River, between my Father's (since my) House and the Hagg, is noted for it's early and plentiful Show of various Sorts of Daizies/

By the Sands Side, at the End of Langhaws Moss, lived one Richard Wales, by Trade a Smith, who, being a Soldier in the Great Rebellion, found a Horse Shoe as he was marching to an Engagement which he put under his Belt, and shortly after received a Shot upon it, by which, had not the Horse Shoe been there, in all Probability he had lost his Life/

Between the inner and outward Marshes is a Ridge or Bank call'd the Strand, raised from two Points of higher Ground, on purpose to preserve their Mosses from being spoiled by the Spring Tides. And to prevent the Salt Waters, which utterly spoil Turf Grounds, flowing up two Creeks called the Black Dikes, from the Colour of their Waters, coming out of the Mosses, they have made upon each of them, in a Line with the Strand, a strong Dam-Head called Brecks through which are laid square Troughs composed each of four large Planks of the same Length with the Thickness of the Breck, having Ebb-Doors fixed

at their Ends next the Sea, which open when the fresh Waters bear against them and shut when the Salt Water rises/

These Marshes are of great Service to this Town, affording not only rich Food but also Physick to their Cattel, especially Horses and Sheep. On the inner Marsh the poor People dig some ordinary Turves, also a thick Sort of Sods to lye on their Garden, and other Walls, and a thinner Sort, like those mentioned by Dr. Plot in his Oxfordshire, which they lie on the Tops of their thatchd Houses, in the Manner of Ridge Tiles.

On these Marshes grows a Kind of small hard Rush with which some thatch their Houses, and with which, not only from Erasmus's Time, but from far greater Antiquity, till my Remembrance, they covered the earthen Floor of their Parlours/

Mr Scheffer tells us³ that the Laplanders, in the Spring, find great Quantities of Eggs on the Marshes, which they gather and eat: some thing like which may be said here also, for though they have not so many wild Ducks by far as about Crowland in Lincolnshire, where 'tis said, they can sometimes drive three Thousand at once into a single Net; yet are their Eggs frequently found among the Pits on the inner Marsh, and in the neighbouring Mosses: but those of the Lapwing or Tewet, the Sea-Pye, and other Sea Fowls are most common/

Hunting the young Wild Ducks with Spaniels, just

before they are able to fly, is here a common Recreation, when it is very diverting to see how close they will sit among the Weeds with their whole Bodies, except their Bills, under Water, like so many Indians up to their Ears in the River during an Eclipse.

OF WRECK

The Alga or Sea Oak, the only Sea Plant that has a Root & grows in muddy Places (all the rest growing upon hard Bodies, as Rocks, Wood, Iron &c. cleaving to them by a Foot which has no Fibres to draw Nourishment) is here almost every Spring-Tide wreck'd upon the Shore. This Weed, which is here called Sea-Tangle, is divided into several large Branches, on which are various Capsulaey sometimes as big as a large Nutmeg, but longer, implected with a pellucid Geliy in which the Seed is kept. Here is also found another kind of Alga called the Mermaid's Purse/

MEERSBECK

is a little Syke which runs by the South West End of Lang-Haws-Moss, and is a Boundary between this Township and that of Bolton in Sabulum i.e. on the Sands; and also between the Parishes of Warton and Bolton/

CHAPTER TWENTY

Over Kellet and Caponwray



In collecting Material for my Description of Warton Parish, meeting with some Remarks relating to these two Villages, whose Lands lay contiguous to those of Carnford I judged it *Olei Pretium*, to put them together in this Place.

Ralph de Kellet, Robert de Lancaster, Roger de Kirkby Irleth, Paulinus de Gairstang, Benedict de Tatham, Magister Honorius Arch-Deacon of Richmond, and Gilbert Fitz Roger Fitz Reinfrid Lord of Warton & Carnford, with other neighbouring Gentlemen were Witnesses to a Charter of Robert Fitz Bernard of Caterall, granting the Mansion and Chappel of S John Baptist super Howath, near S Hellens upon Wyre with Six Acres of Land and his Mill in Caterall &c. in this County, to the Knights Hospetallers of Jerusalem, pro Salute Animarum more especially of Hen. Ild and Eleanor late King and Queen, & of their Sons Rich. Ist late King, and John & Isabell the then King & Queen of England: as also of Williams Ist &

Ild de Lancaster and their Wives; of the said Gilbert Fitz Roger Fitz Reinfride, Hugh de Moreville & Hugh de Multon, and of all their Wives and Children. Adam de Kellet, Ralph de Betham, and Roger his Brother, Benedict Garnet Lord of Halton, William de Hest, all in this Neighbourhood, were (inter alios) Witnesses to Theobald Walter's Foundation Charter of Cockersand Abbey, both which Instruments were made before the common Use of inserting Dates, Adam de Caupmanneswra and Gilbert de Kellet were two of the Perambulators mentioned above.

The De Lucis were anciently Lords of Over Kellet till Ranulph de Dacre Lord of Dacre in Cumberland had (inter alia) that Mannor and Hesham in Frank-Marriage with Joane Daughter of Alice de Luci, and dying 14 Edw. I left William his Son and Heir. This William married Joane Daughter and Heir of Roger Son of Benedict Garnet Lord of Halton(contiguous to Kellet), and chief Forester of Lancashire. He served Kings Edw. Ist & IId in their Wars in Scotland, & 32 Edw. I, obtained a Charter for Free Warren in all his Demesn Lands at Dacre in Com. Cumb. and Halton in Com. Lanc, and having been summoned to Parliament from 28 Edw. Ist to 12 Edw. IId inclusive departed this Life that Year. Joane his Wife surviving him had, for her Dowry, an Assignment of the Mannors of Halton, Fishwyke & Eccleston in Laylondshire in Com. Lanc.

Ranulph de Dacre Son of William left Issue by Margaret his Wife (who had Eccleston in Dowry) William de

Dacre who died without Issue seized of these Mannors 6^o Id. Julii, 1359. The said Ranulph, and Margaret who was Daughter and Heir of Tho. de Mutton whose Grandfather Thomas married Matildis Daughter and Heir of Hubert de Vallibus Baron of Gillsland, had a younger Son called Ranulph Dacre who at the Death of his Brother William was Rector of the Church of Prestecotes, and upon the decease of his Mother who died 35 Edw. III, all the Estate of the said Families became vested in him. He was, tho' a Clergyman, with the King in the Wars with Scotland, 39 Edw. IID being obliged thereto, it may be supposed, by the Tenure of some of his Lands; and in the 45th of the same King was constituted a Commissioner for the Guarding the West-Marches. He died 49 Edwd. III and left his Estates to his Brother Hugh de Dacre, who dyed 7 R. 2 as his Son and Heir William de Dacre did 23 R. 2 and left his Estate to Thomas Lord Dacre (who died 37 H. 6) whose Son Ranulph Lord Dacre was slain at Towton Field fighting for King Hen. VIth and had burial in Saxton Church-Yard, with a mean Tomb over his Grave, and being attainted in Parliament 1 Edw. IV these Mannors, with others his large Possessions came to the Crown. Humphrey Dacre his Brother succeeded him in his Honour, and was in great Favour with King Edw. IV but whether he obtained these Lands or not I have not seen.

Sr William Dugdale in another Place says that Sr Richard Fenys or Fienes K^t having married Joane the Daughter

and sole Heir of Thomas Son and Heir of Thomas Lord Dacre, by Reason thereof, in 37 Hen. VI was by Letters Patents, bearing Date 7 Novembr accepted and declared Lord Dacre, and to be a Baron of this Realm. And in 1 Edwd, IV he obtained a grant from that King, whose Chamberlain he was, to himself and the said Joane his Wife, and to the Heirs of the Body of the said Joane, of the Mannor of Dacre and eleven other Mannors (there mentioned) with other Lands in Cumberland, of Barton, & Hoff in Com. Westm. Holbeck in Com. Linc.r Halton, Fishwick, Kelette Sc Eccleston in Lancashire, as also of all other the Lands of the said Sr Thomas Dacre which came to the Crown by Act of Parliament begun at Westminster 4 Nov. in the same first Year of that King's Reign. This Rich, died 2 Ric. III^d as I gather from his Will which bears Date 3^d December that Year. Joane his Wife died 1 Hen. VIIth. Gregory Fienes the last Lord Dacre of that Surname dying without Issue 36th of Queen Elizabeth Margaret his Sister and sole Heir (who ws married to Samson Leonard Esq.) was by King James Ist declared Lady Dacre, which Honour was to descend to the Heirs of her Body: but whether or no she possessed this Estate I cannot tell, though I suppose not. For I find that Thomas Blackborne of Caponwray Gent, compounded* with his Majesty's Commissioners (8 Oct. 1629, 5 Ch. Ist) for the Mannor of Caponwray in the Parish of Over Kellet, and XXX Acres of Land, for the Annual Rent of Ten Pounds, and was

discharged of Arrearage, having formerly paid forty Shillings to my Lord Savile as appeared by his Acquittance.

The next Lord of the Mannor of these Villages that I meet with was Sr John Otway of Ingmire Knt who had so great a Hand in the Restoration of King Charles Ild. He left his large Estate of which these Villages were Part, to Dr Charles Otway a great Civilian and Brathwaite Otway Esqr one of which sold the Estate here, since the Beginning of this Century, to Oliver Martin Esq. the present Owner.

A little before the End of the last Century the old Hall at Caponwray was pull'd down, and a new one erected. When the old Building was to be demolished, the Workmen found the Walls (like those at Clarenza in Greece (the ancient Cylene) mentioned by Sr George Wheeler) so firmly cemented, that they were obliged to blow them up wth Gunpowder/

Mr Verstegan⁴ speaking of the spacious Fields in the East Parts of Germany say the Husbandman's whole Day's Work in some of them is but two plowed Furrows, one in his going forward, the other in his Returning: which brings to my Mind a Close lying between those Villages called the Long Field, in which two Returns with the Plow is accounted a sufficient Day's Work.

These Villages stand on the Edge of a large Moor covered with Heath, Ling &c. whence they have all their Fuel, a Kind of Sods, by them called Flaws, pared off the Surface of the Ground, which though they make but an ordinary

smoaky Fire, yet that Inconvenience is sufficiently recompenced by the Excellency of their Ashes for Tillage, for which Purpose they are preferable to either Dung or Lime. The best Management is to keep them dry, it having been observed that one Load of dry Ashes, or those that have been moistened only with Urine or Soap-Suds, will go as far as two or three that have been exposed to Rain &c/

But at Over Kellet is a Quarry where they hew out entire Miln-stones equal in Goodness to those got upon Rumblesmoor in Yorkshire, or to those of Derbyshire, wch Mr Laurence says are sold for eight, nine or ten Pounds the Pair. This Quarry does not only supply the Country about it, and several Mills on the western Coasts of England, but a great many are thence exported to Ireland, the Isle of Man, &c.

Besides the Milnstone Quarry, here is a Delf of common grit Slate, which is made Use of by some in the neighbouring Villages, because nearer than the fine, thin, light, yet much more durable blue Slate got near Over Burrough about eight or ten Miles off, as also at [Blank in MS.] in Fornesse. I have heard my Father say that Part of his House was covered with some of the first Slate that was got at Kellet/

About the Middle of the Town of Over Kellet, within my Remembrance stood a House without a Chimney (though now rebuilt after the modern Fashion), where the Fire was made, according to ancient Custom, in the

Middle of the Room against a little Wall about five or Six Foot long, and three Foot high; as the Manner still is in the Halls of our Universities and Inns of Court, and in some Country Halls, as appears by the odd Custom observed at Hilton Hall in Staffordshire/

Now that I have finished the Perambulation of my native Parish and some Parts adjacent, I cannot conceive an Appology for any Slips and Failures I may have been guilty of, more properly applicable in this Place than that with which the learned Fitz-Herbert closes his Description of the University of Oxford/ For as he left Oxford in his Youth, and afterwards liv'd at a great Distance from it; so did I likewise leave Warton Parish, and have been about fifty Miles distant from it, not only fifteen Years, which Tacitus justly enough calls *grande mortalis aevi Spatium*, (trans: a great Part of a human Life) but almost three Times fifteen: and have had very few Opportunities and those but casual ones, of informing myself of the Names and Natures of several Places in the out Parts of the Parish, which I could not have the Advantage of doing when I was a Boy. And though I have faithfully done my best, yet, remembering what that great Master of Litterature Erasmus says of his own works: *Nullus Liber tarn est elaboratus quin reddi possit absolutior*, (trans: No book is so complete that it cannot be improved upon) I am far from thinking that what I have said upon these Places which I could remember, is free from Faults, and very

willingly come in (as every thinking Person must) to the immortal Pope's Assertion, viz.

*Whoever thinks a faultless Piece to see Thinks what ne'er was, nor is, nor e'er shall be.*⁵

Notes



INTRODUCTION

- ¹ "Silverdale 1687-1692: The Case for a Chapel of Ease" in Mourholme History Magazine Vol 1 (Spring [3]1983)
- ² p 6 Jonathan Oates' Introduction to *The Memoranda Book of John Lucas, 1712-1750*, The Thoresby Society, 2006
- ³ *Warton Parish Registers, 1568-1812*. Lancashire Parish Register Society, ed. By W. Chippindall (Preston, 1935).
- ⁴ Lancashire Archives ref QSP/181/8
- ⁵ *The Memoranda Book of John Lucas*, Jonathan Oates ed. p5
- ⁶ Beggars passing through the town were not unknown. See *How it Was: A North Lancashire Parish in the Seventeenth Century*, Mourholme Society, 1998, p.123. Warton parish registers mention three paupers buried in Warton in the seventeenth century, all apparently from outside the parish.
- ⁷ West Yorkshire Archive Service in Leeds (WYASL), B 97/5,

- 196/1a, quoted in *'The Memoranda Book of John Lucas'*, Jonathan Oates ed. p8
- ⁸ WYASL, DB196/1 quoted in *'The Memoranda Book of John Lucas'*, Jonathan Oates ed. p9
- ⁹ Parochial Antiquities of Ambrosden, the Rev White Kennett, quoted in *'Local History in England'*, p 21 and p22 WG Hoskins, Longmans 1959
- ¹⁰ *'Ralph Thoresby the Topographer: His Town and Times'*
- ¹¹ *'Ralph Thoresby the Topographer'*, by DH Atkinson , p353
- ¹² RT Whitaker, *'Richmondshire'*, vol ii, p286
- ¹³ *'Early Shipbuilding in Warton Parish'*, by Andrew White, Contrebis, XVII, 1991-2, pp 76-82
- ¹⁴ *'Local History in England'*, p 22 WG Hoskins, Longmans 1959
- ¹⁵ *'A Tour through the Whole Island of Great Britain'*, p501-2, ed. by P Rogers, quoted in *'The Memoranda Book of John Lucas'*, Jonathan Oates ed. p 16

Chapter Notes



NB Notes in italics are by Lucas. Others are by the original editor J. Rawlinson Ford or they are mine. AD.

CHAPTER ONE – PARISH ORIGINS

- ¹ *In Ralph Thoresby, Ducat Leodensis*
- ² Lucas's 'Warton Moss' is today's Leighton Moss, now a nature reserve owned by the RSPB. See the paper by Phil Henderson, MA: 'A Landscape History of Leighton Moss Nature Reserve', p64 http://www.mourholme.co.uk/?Publications:Research_Papers (AD)

CHAPTER FOUR – WARTON CHURCH

- ¹ "Gallows and pit" (*furca* and *fossa* in the Latin original) expressed a Lord's right to carry out capital punishment in the area under his control. "Furca" was the gallows, "Fossa" a water-filled ditch used for the execution of women offenders. [AD]
- ² "Sac and soc" is a medieval phrase, possibly of Danish origin, often deployed in medieval legal documents. It refers to the

system of manorial jurisdiction . The cleric and constitutional historian William Stubbs suggested the phrase may originally have had more specific meaning but it had become “a mere alliterative jingle”. [AD]

- 3 “Toll and team” expressed a Lord’s right to tax the sale and movement of goods and cattle.
- 4 “Infengthief” the Lord’s right to execute thieves caught in his jurisdiction. (AD)
- 5 *At the foot of this page I would have added, John Washington of this Town married Margaret Daughter of Robert Kitson Esq. (a Native of this Town) Alderman of London. This John had Issue Laurence Washington Esq. who at the Dissolution of the Monasteries , purchased of the King (30 Hen VIIIth) the Mannor and divers Lands in Sulgrave and Woodford in Northamptonshire Part of the Possesions of the lately suppressed Monasteries of St Andrew in Northam,pton, Canons Ashby and Nunnery of Catsby. And in the 26 of Eliza. He purchased, of Henry Duke of Suffolk, Lands in Blakesley in the same County, which had belonged to the said Monks of Ashby. This Laurence had Seat at Sulgrave where he dies 26 Eliz. and left his estate there to Robert Washington Esq. His eldest Son by Anne daughter of Robert Pargiter of Gretworth, Esq. by whose Posteritry it was long enjoyed, and from whom it has had the name of Washington’s Manner. This Robert Washington purchased certain Lands and Tenements in Woodford of Robt. Spencer Esq. in 42 Eliz. Upon an old Marble at the upper End of the North Aisle in Sulgrave*

Church are the Arms of Washingtyon (Viz. 2 Bars in Chief 3 Mullets) and under them the Figure of a Man in Brass, and at his feet the following Inscription on a brass Tablet: Here lyeth the Body of Laurence Washington and of Anne his Wife, by whom he had Issue of iiii sonce and vii daughters . . . died the . . . Day of MDc and Anne deceased the vii day of . . . An, Dom, 1564. See Bridges Hist. and Antiq, of Northam., p 138, 139, 140, 154.

- ⁶ The largest of the bells, the third according to Lucas, must have been recast at some date during the composition of his History, for it bears the words "Memento W Aylmer, Vic" and Aylmer became vicar of Warton in 1714. The other two bells, the "First" and "Second", are still as described in the text, and no human figure is now (1931) to be traced on any of the three. (JRF, 1931)

CHAPTER FIVE — FUNERAL RITES

- ¹ *It was a Rule among the Jews, that no less than ten Persons of full Age and free Condition could make a Congregation.*

CHAPTER SEVEN — THE SCHOOL

- ¹ The Old School house is still standing . After the new school was built, the old building was sold, and it was converted into two dwellinghouses, so that there is little or nothing left by which it could be identified with the building described by Lucas, unless it be the great thickness iof the outer walls, which are more than three feet wide. The inscribed stone

mentioned by Lucas above has been moved to the New School. The old building can be found by going up the old road around Warton Crag, which leaves the main street at the Black Bull Inn, and then turning to the right along a cart track just below the old quarry. (JRF, 1931)

CHAPTER EIGHT – THE CRAG

¹ *Leland's Itin. Vol. V.*

² The second century Greek writer Pausanias tells of, Aristomenes who escaped imprisonment in a labyrinthine cave by following a scavenging fox. (AD)

CHAPTER TEN – SANDS AND SEA

¹ *Dr Plot's Nat. Hist. of Staffordshire, Chap. 11.*

² *Mr Pope's Essay on Criticism. Works, vol. 1, p. 107.*

CHAPTER ELEVEN – SILVERDALE

¹ *Stow's Survey of London, p. 119*

CHAPTER TWELVE – ARNSET AND BRACKENTHWAITE

¹ *Mr Maundrel's Journey from Aleppo to Jerusalem*

² *Mr Ray's Catalogue of North Country Words*

³ This well or spring is mentioned in the Award of the Commissioners (dated 18 Dec., 1778) made on the enclosure of the Commons under the Yealand Act of 1777. They award that the Spring of water commonly called Stankeld Well shall be remain and continue forever hereafter a Common Water-

ing Place for the use and benefit of the inhabitants and occupiers of lands within the Division of Yealand Redman. That this Stankeld Well is the same spring as that mentioned by Lucas is clear from the maps attached to the Award. There is little doubt that the name was originally Stankeld. Keld is an old Norseword meaning a Spring or well, whereas Stang, meaning a pool, has no great application in this case for there is no pool of any size. Dr. Hoffman's New Experiments and Observ. (JRF, 1931)

CHAPTER FOURTEEN — YEALAND

- ¹ *Toland's History of the Druids*
- ² *Dugdale's Antiq. Of Warwickshire.*
- ³ *Dr. Plot's Nat. Histy. Of Staffordshire*
- ⁴ *This Thomas Fell having been bred a Lawyer, became a Justice of the Peace and having afterwards been a Member in sevral Parliaments, was made Vice Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and a Judge in Wales. He was accounted a Man of great Justice, Wisdom, Moderation and Mercy. He married Margaret Daughter of Mr. John Askew of Marsh Grange in the Parish of Dalton before he was 18 Years of Age, of whom he begot 9 Children. And after he had been married 26 Years he died, in 1658. His Relict died in 1702 aged about 87.*

CHAPTER FIFTEEN — LEIGHTON HALL

- ¹ *Of a good and ancient Family which came into England with Wm. The Conqr. And settled in the Northern Parts of*

- England, of which Wm Coigniers was Shiriff of Northumberland for three Years as early as 9 Hen. III^d.
- ² *The Family of Midletons of Midleton long flourished in a Worshipfull Degree equal to most of the ancient Families in the North. They were in Being in 1736, but I was very sorry then to see the Hall and Estate advertised to be sold.*
 - ³ *This Sr Richard Houghton, Son of Thomas Houghton and the first Baronet of (the) Family was Cup-Berarer to King James 1st in which Office he was succeeded by his Son Sr Gilbert Houghton who was afterwards Carver to K. Chas. 1st and Father to Sr Richard Houghton, who married the Lady Sarah Da: to the Earl of Chesterfield, and to Roger H. who was slain in the King's Service at York; also to Katherine married to Thomas Preston of Holkar Esqr, Mary to Sr Hugh Calverley, and Eliza. To Sr Nicholas Father to Sr John Gerlington of Thirland Castle.*
 - ⁴ "Soccage" is a form of Feudal rent paid by farmers to their landlord. (AD)
 - ⁵ "Bedrepe", a Saxon term meaning harvest workdays owed by a tenants to their Lord. (AD)
 - ⁶ *Dr. Lister's Journey to Paris*
 - ⁷ *"The Neuri". A People of Scythia forced out of their country by Serpents. Bossman's Voyage to Guinea Ch. 15*
 - ⁸ Roman Author and natural historian Claudius Aelianus (Aelian) told a story of an indignant lion who wreaked revenge on a bear which had attacked his cubs. AD

- ⁹ *Topsell's History of Serpents*
¹⁰ *John Evelyn's "Sylva or A Discourse of Forest Trees".*

CHAPTER SIXTEEN — PRIEST HUTTON AND BORWICK

- ¹ *Dav. Casley's Catalogus Librumin MS. Bibliothecae Regiae.*
² *Rob. Wharton's Catalogue of the Mayrs of Kendal published 1724 with Historical Remarks.*
³ *Hopkinson's Pedeg. of the Lancashire Gentry.*
⁴ There are on the south end of a high ridge of land on the east side of the grounds a few scanty remains of a building which was probably, as Lucas says, the Dove Cote. These consist of a few bricks. But below these are the foundations of a stone building of earlier date. In my paper on Borwick Hall (C and W A and A Transactions, Vol. XXXV, N.S.) I suggested that the wooden mansion or mote of the first Norman lords of Borwick might have been erected on this ridge of land, with a strong wooden palisade round the whole, including the south end on which are the ruins mentioned above, though the stone building under the Dove Cote must have been of later date. (JRF, 1931)
⁵ *I have heard it said that he was possessed of 24 Tith Barns, as many Milns, and so great an Estate that in the South they spoke proverbially, As Rich as (this) Sr Robert in the North.*

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN — CARNFORD

- ¹ *Toland's 'Hist. of the Druids'.*
² *Over Kellet. The House is since rebuilt after the modern Way.*

- ³ *Docker. From the British Word Dour Water, and Kere.*
- ⁴ This well lies beside the old high road from Carnforth to the north. It is surrounded by a stone kerb on which can be read the following inscription: GARSTANG. HERRINGSYKE.

The tarn from which Lucas supposed it must be supplied is no doubt the pool known as Hare Tarn lying a short distance to the east; usually dry in summer. As to the name, it may be a corruption of Stankeld, but as this well is not a spring on stony ground like that on Brackenthwaite, but is really more like a pool, I suggest that the name is derived from an old English word "Stang" meaning a pond or pool. (JRF 1931)

- ⁵ *Pezron's 'Antiq. Of Nations'.*
- ⁶ *Olaus Wormius in his 'Monumenta Danica' Lib. 1.*
- ⁷ *Hobbinol or the Rural Games.*
- ⁸ *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society No 175.*
- ⁹ *Dr Hoffman's 'New Experiments and Observations on Mineral Waters' trans. By Dr P Shaw*
- ¹⁰ *Baptized as appears by the Parish Register, Aug. 4, 1667. He and Thomas Lucas of a Collateral Branch, are both Batchelors, at whose Decease the name of Lucas will cease in Carnford.*
- ¹¹ *Any medicinal Waters that are not hot are called Acidulae, the hot Thermae.*
- ¹² *Plud is a local word for a little Pond or Pool of standing Water.*

- ¹³ *Krae is yet the High Dutch Word for a Crow.*
- ¹⁴ *The Italian Proverb says of the Genoese that they have a Sea without Fish; Land without Trees; and Men without Faith. Addison's Trav.*
- ¹⁵ *A Twinter is a Cow or Sheep of Two Years old, a term yet here continued from our Saxon Ancestors, who always counted their Terms of Years and Ages by winters.*

CHAPTER NINETEEN — SHIPS AND SALTMARSH

- ¹ *In Jean de Thevenot's 'Voyage to the Levant'.*
- ² References to salt making in Camden's 'Britannia', Dr Lister's 'De Fontibus Medicatis Angliae' p.5; Dr Dale's 'Manuductio ad Materiam Medicam', and Mr Ray's 'Northern Words and Proverbs'. (AD)
- ³ *Scheffer's 'Hist. of Lapland', p224*
- ⁴ *Verstegan's 'Restitution of Decay'd Intelligence', p.56*
- ⁵ *Alexander Pope's 'Essay on Criticism'.*

Further Reading



Readers who would like to inspect the original two volume, hand-written manuscript of *'The History of Warton'* will find it at the Lancashire County Records Office in Bow Lane, Preston

www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/archives-and-record-office.aspx

People interested in learning more about the history of Warton around the time of John Lucas should read *'How it Was: a North Lancashire Parish in the Seventeenth Century'* (Mourholme Local History Society, 1998). It is currently out of print but it can be downloaded from the Society's website, www.mourholme.co.uk where you can also read about other local history titles and download articles from the *Mourholme Magazine*.

'The Memoranda Book of John Lucas, 1712-1750' edited by Dr Jonathan Oates (Thoresby Society, 2006) contains an eclectic collection of jottings made by Lucas during his

adult life in Leeds and has a useful introduction by the editor.

'In and Around Silverdale' (1994) by David Peter is a short but lively general historical guide to the area illustrated with line drawings. Also out of print but usually available secondhand.

'Leighton Moss: Ice Age to Present Day' by Andy Denwood (Carnegie, 2014) has history and photos of that part of the parish covered by the modern RSPB nature reserve.

'The Landscape History of Leighton Moss' (2012, Phil Henderson, MA) is an academic paper looking at the way changes in land form and use over time have impacted wildlife on Leighton Moss -- which was known as Warton Moss in Lucas's day. Available at www.mourholme.co.uk

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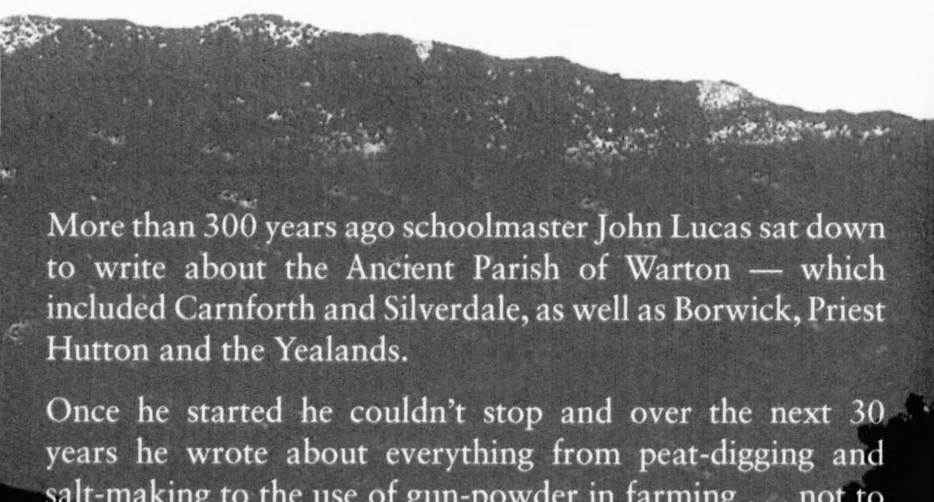
Schoolmaster John Lucas was born in Carnforth in 1684, the son of a farmer. He went to Warton Grammar School but left the parish as a young man to live in Leeds where he married Elizabeth and had seven children. He taught in a charity school and was churchwarden at St John's Church in Leeds. 'A History of Warton' was written between 1710 and 1740 but remained unpublished until 1931.

This new edition is edited by journalist and former BBC Radio 4 producer Andy Denwood. He has two grown-up daughters and lives in Lancaster with his wife Judith and dog Midge. He is currently planning "an epic new history book"!

Daphne Lester was Head of Music at Kendal Girls' High School and Kirkbie Kendal School and is a former conductor of Kendal Choral Society. An established local artist, 'A History of Warton' is her first foray into book illustration.

Cover illustration by
Ellie Denwood

“This Parish is a land of Hills and Dales,
both pleasant and fruitfull”.



More than 300 years ago schoolmaster John Lucas sat down to write about the Ancient Parish of Warton — which included Carnforth and Silverdale, as well as Borwick, Priest Hutton and the Yealands.

Once he started he couldn't stop and over the next 30 years he wrote about everything from peat-digging and salt-making to the use of gun-powder in farming . . . not to mention funerals and harvests, fishing and fairies, meteors, school-days and football.

What emerges is a series of fascinating insights into the life of a remote North Lancashire parish in the first half of the eighteenth century.

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