

THE HATCHMENTS IN SEFTON CHURCH

MOLYNEUX HATCHMENT. This is in the Lady Chapel. The background is black on the dexter side only, which indicates that it was a married man who was deceased, his wife surviving him. This is

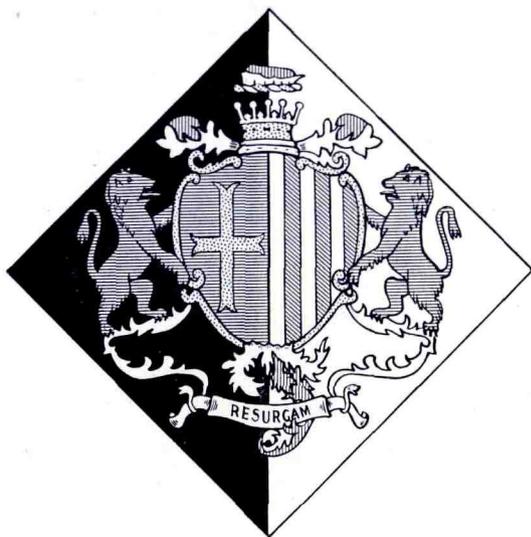


PLATE 11a

CHARLES WILLIAM
3rd Earl of Sefton
b. 1796 : d. 1855

the hatchment of Charles William, the third earl of Sefton, lord lieutenant and custos rotulorum of the county of Lancaster. He was born on 10 July 1796, and died in 1855.

On 19 June 1834, he married Mary Augusta, the only daughter of Robert Gregge Hopwood, of Hopwood Hall in Lancashire and a niece of the sixth Viscount Torrington.

The hatchment shows the arms of Molyneux of Sefton (*azure, a cross moline or*) impaling those of Hopwood of Hopwood (*paly of six argent and vert*). The Molyneux motto, *Vivere sat Vincere* (To live is conquest enough), is replaced in the hatchment by the single word *Resurgam*, (I shall rise again).

BLUNDELL OF INCE. Near the Blundell pew in the Church there is a hatchment of the Blundell of Ince Family. This is an impaled arms on a completely black background, which shows it is the hatchment of a widower. It is the hatchment of Henry Blundell of Ince, who was born in 1724 and died in 1810. He married Elizabeth, the daughter of Sir George Mostyn, fourth baronet of Talacre in the county of Flint. She died in 1767.



PLATE 11b

HENRY BLUNDELL OF INCE
b. 1724 : d. 1810

The hatchment shows the arms of the Blundell of Ince (*azure, ten billets, 4, 3, 2 and 1, or, a cornish chough or raven or, on a canton in the dexter chief*) impaling those of the Mostyns (*azure, per bend sinister, ermine and ermines, a lion rampant or*). The motto of the Blundell of Ince family is replaced by a phrase of religious sentiment—"The safest hope is in heaven".

The skull beneath the arms signifies that this person was the last of that branch of the family. This Henry Blundell was a philanthropist and a connoisseur, who gathered together the famous collection of antiquities to be seen at Ince Blundell Hall. He quarrelled bitterly with his son Charles Robert because the latter refused to marry. Henry, therefore, gave a large portion of the estates to his daughters. The son, Charles Robert, resending this bequeathed the manors of Ince, Lydiate, Birkdale,

and Ainsdale to a relative of his grandmother, and thus they passed to Thomas Weld of Lulworth. Thomas Weld assumed the additional name of Blundell and on his death in 1887 he was succeeded by his son, Charles Joseph Weld-Blundell. Thus Henry Blundell of Ince was the last of the Blundells of Ince to hold the estate, the main part going to the Welds of Lulworth, the first of which assumed the name of "Weld-Blundell".

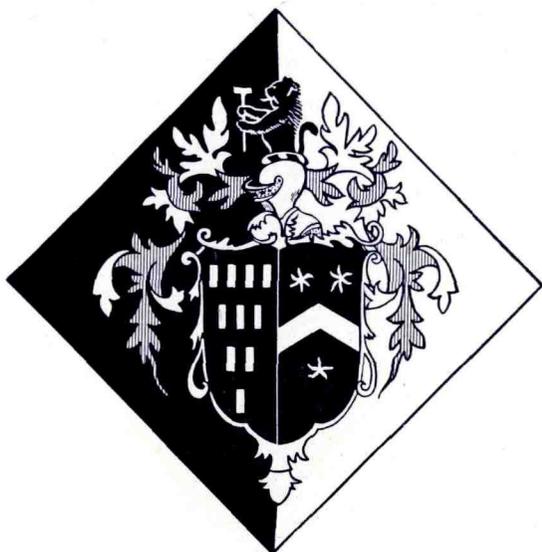


PLATE 11c

NICHOLAS BLUNDELL OF CROSBY
'The Diarist'

BLUNDELL OF CROSBY. This is also near the Blundell pew. It is the earliest and most interesting of the Sefton hatchments. It is that of Nicholas Blundell of Crosby, "the Diarist".

The shield bears the arms of the Blundell of Crosby family (*sable, ten billets, 4, 3, 2, and 1 argent*) impaling that of Lord Langdale, whose daughter, Frances, the Diarist married. Nicholas Blundell died on 21 April 1737.

In the Langdale arms the chevron and the three stars or estoiles are given as *or*, but in the hatchment they appear to be *argent*. This may be a mistake or perhaps the colours have faded.

There is no hatchment motto. This may be because the earlier arms of the Blundell of Crosby family bore no motto. The motto of the family *In omnibus requiem quaesivi* (I sought peace in all things) is only a recent addition to the coat-of-arms, though

Nicholas Blundell did write it often on the first page of his manuscripts.

ROTHWELLS. In the chancel, high up on the walls, are the hatchments of the Rothwells, who served as rectors in the church—Richard Rothwell from 1763 to 1801, and his son Richard Rainshaw



PLATE 11d

RICHARD RAINSHAW ROTHWELL

Rector of Sefton Church from 1801 till his death in 1863

Rothwell from 1801 to 1863. One of the hatchments has a skull on it indicating the end of that line of the family. The arms are not impaled, which suggests that the father of the wife of Richard Rothwell, did not bear arms, so that Richard Rothwell could only display his own arms on the hatchment.

FRANK TYRER.