

STRAY NOTES

ST. MARY MAGDALENE'S HOSPITAL, PRESTON.—A fragment of a chartulary of this house, twelve leaves only, is preserved among the documents of the Duchy of Lancaster, at the Public Record Office, *Cartæ Misc.*, iii. 28 on.

CROSS HALL, LIVERPOOL.—On 1 May 1648 Richard Crosse and Elizabeth his wife granted the "Ould Hall" in Liverpool, with dovecote and 5 acres of land, to John Winstanley for 99 years if Elizabeth, wife of John, and John and Richard Winstanley, his sons, should so long live; a rent of 13s. 4d. was to be paid. The lease was confirmed by fine in 1650; Pal. of Lanc. Feet of Fines, bde. 147, m. 174.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CHURCH, &c.—The following case, which came before the judges at the Lancaster Spring Assizes of 1512, no doubt refers to alterations in the fabric for which money had been advanced without any visible result in bells or images: Edward Cokker, John Sele, John Bale, and Robert Sele, churchwardens of the church of St. Helen, Ashton-under-Lyne, sued Robert Melleurs of Nottingham, bell-founder, and *v.* Edward Hylton of Nottingham, "alabaster man," for a debt of £40. The defendants did not appear, and an order was made for their arrest. The reference is Pal. of Lancaster Plea Roll 112, m. 15d. As the matter does not occur in later rolls, a settlement was no doubt made out of court. In another case in 1524, Andrew Barton, esq., of Smithills, made a claim against Robert Shoughsmyth of Manchester, "glasier," who had undertaken to make a glass window in the eastern part of Bolton church before the high altar. The plaintiff appears to have paid in advance, but defendant had fraudulently neglected to carry out his contract within the time limited by the contract; Plea Roll 135, m. 11. A later case (August 1533) related to an ancient footpath extending from the manor of Longworth to the chapel built in honour of St. Helen in Turton; *ibid.* 155, m. 16d. Shortly afterwards the altar of St. Nicholas in Ormskirk church is named; *ibid.* 154, m. 11.

MÉMOIRAL BRASS AT CLITHEROE.—The following inscription has been sent by Mr. W. Self Weeks of Clitheroe from a tomb in the church there :

Sepulchrali hoc Dormitorio reconduntur
Reliquiæ Egregij maximeq, Pij Juvenis
JOHANNIS HARRISSON
Filiij natu secundi Johannis Harrisson de
Mearley Ar. Qui postquam Valetudinis
adversæ summa Patientia diu laborasset
ærumnis è vita demum Fide vere
Christiana excessit

Decimo sexto Ætatis anno,
Anno Domini MDCCXVIII.
Omnes eodem cogimur.

John Harrisson the elder purchased Great Mearley in 1701, and was buried at Clitheroe 12th October 1733. His will, dated 27 October 1731, was proved at Chester 18 June 1734. His wife was Anne, daughter and coheir of Alan Prickett, esq.; her sister Elizabeth, the other coheir, married Valentine Farington of Preston, M.D.—H. I. A.

WHALLEY ABBEY BOOKS.—Among the MSS. in the Archbishop of Canterbury's library at Lambeth is a treatise of Duns Scotus (No. 73) which formerly belonged to Whalley Abbey. In the British Museum, Add. MS. 10374, is another Whalley book, containing various charters, &c. On f. 23*d* is the following classification of the various qualities of soil, with the crops they suited :

Terra. *Alba*—argillosa : Frumentum, fabae, avena.
marlosa : Frumentum.
Nigra—petrosa : Frumentum, fabae, avena.
silicosa : Uniuscujusque seminis grano apta, maxime
vesciis; et ista terra nutrit cuniculos.
temperata : Apti uniuscujusque seminis grano.
sabulosa : siligo.
Rubea—argillosa : Frumentum, fabae, avena.
marlosa : Frumentum, avena.
sabulosa : Siligo, ordeum.
temperata }
mixta } Apti uniuscujusque seminis grano.
petrosa }
silicosa }

RUSHTON PARK, CHESHIRE.—In Ormerod's *Cheshire* (ii. 238) is recorded the grant of the manor of Rushton by John Scot, Earl of Chester, to Hugh Fitton. In Lansdowne MS. 229 (f. 57*d*), in the British Museum, is the supplementary grant of a

park there, made to Hugh by the same earl; a prohibition against molestation is added, under threat of a forfeiture of £10. The witnesses are Warine de Vernon, Hamo de Mascy, William de Venables, Walkelin de Arderne, Geoffrey de Appelby, Anketil de Folevill, William de Lacy, Peter and Hugh, the clerks. To the charter was appended the armorial seal of John, Earl of Chester, bearing three piles.

RANULF I, EARL OF CHESTÉR.—In a roll of pleadings and charters in the British Museum (Rot. Sloan xxxi. 4) there is cited (m. 5) a notification by Henry I at Woodstock addressed to the Bishop of Lincoln, Earl David, the Earl of Leicester, and Earl Ranulf of Chester; it states that the King has given to Richard Basset the daughter of Geoffrey Ridell to wife, and the custody of Geoffrey's lands *donec possit esse miles*. This was done at the request of Ranulf, Earl of Chester; William, his brother; Nigel de Aubigny, and others, his kinsmen; Geva, the mother; and Geoffrey, chancellor of Earl Ranulf; Simon, dean of Lincoln; William son of Ranulf; Thomas de Sancto Johanne, G. de Glington, Payn son of John; William de Aubigny, William de Bowhun, Robert Musard, Robert Basset, Osmund Basset, and Turstin Basset, William, constable of Earl Ranulf of Chester; Ralph son of Norman; and Hugh Maubanc. Geva, mother of the heiress, was a daughter of Hugh Lupus, illegitimate according to Sir Peter Leycester. Ralph son of Norman was of the Montalt family, attesting a charter about 1119.