

## STRAY NOTES

ST. MARY DEL KEY.—All that relates to this little sanctuary is of interest, so that it is desirable to note that William Brand, rector of Settrington in Yorkshire, by his will of 5 May 1475 (proved 27 May) left his gilt chalice and his vestment "blodii coloris" to the chapel of B. Mary de Key at Leverpole. He also left £4 to the building fund (*fabrica*) of the house at the east end of the chapel of Liverpool, *i.e.* St. Nicholas's. *Blodius* is variously interpreted as "deep red" or "blue." William Brande in 1462 exchanged his half-selson in the Whitacres in Liverpool fields for another half-selson belonging to John More (*Moore MSS.*, No. 190). He was therefore a Liverpool landowner; possibly a son of the Thomas Brand who was witness to a local deed in 1444 (*ibid.*, No. 178). William Brand's will is printed in the *Testamenta Eboracensia* (iii. 216) issued by the Surtees Society, and in the notes he is described as "a Lancashire man, kinsman, domestic chaplain and registrar of Archbishop William Booth," and an outline of his career is given. In the same volume (p. 331), among the marriage licences, is another Liverpool entry, being the archbishop's dispensation, dated 26 July 1449, for the marriage of John, son of Richard Cross of Liverpool, to Joan, daughter of Richard Calcott [for Caldecote] of Chester; they were twice related in the fourth degree. A dispensation by Pope Nicholas V. is cited.—P. N.

THE PASLEW OAK.—The *Clitheroe Advertiser* of 23 June 1916 states: "The famous oak on which tradition says that John Paslew, the last abbot of Whalley, was hanged, was cut down on Wednesday [21 June] by workmen on the Moreton Hall Estate. This tree stood prominently on a mound in a field known as the Holehouses. . . . Some idea of the oak's great age may be gathered from the fact that it measured 13 ft. 6 in. in circumference and only one green branch remained. Its death may very

properly be attributed to decay." The "tradition" that Abbot Paslew was hanged at Whalley is interesting and not intrinsically objectionable, but there is no evidence to show that he was not executed at Lancaster as was the rule.—R. T. B.

THE BROTHERS BEATTIE.—In the account of these artists and their drawings of Old Liverpool in vol. lxvi. it was stated (pp. 123, 124) that their father first resided in Russell Street and then at 31A Bold Street and that E. R. Beattie was born at the latter house. It has since been discovered that he was born at 92 Bold Street in 1845, his parents removing to 31A soon afterwards. While this volume was passing through the press, Edwin Robert Beattie died suddenly at Preston, on 13th February 1917, in his seventy-second year.—C. R. H.

PARDON FOR GOOD SERVICE.—The following translation of an entry on the patent roll of 24 Edward I. (m. 10), is of some interest locally, both Livesey and Knoll being surnames occurring frequently in Blackburn Hundred: "The King to all his faithful bailiffs to whom, etc. Greeting. Whereas we have learned on trustworthy evidence that William de Lyveseye hath served well and faithfully in our Scottish war, we have pardoned unto him the said William the suit of our peace which pertaineth unto us for the death of Thomas Knol, wherewith he is charged, and we do therefore grant unto him our firm peace, so that nevertheless, etc. In witness whereof, etc. Witness the King, at Berwick-on-Tweed, the 30th day of August [1296]."—J. L.

HOSPITALLERS' LANDS AT TARPORLEY.—This estate does not seem to be noticed by Ormerod, but in 1502 an accused man pleaded that he fled to a house belonging to the order of St. John of Jerusalem in Tarporley, of which one Thomas Ridley was tenant, and he was therefore privileged. (Chester Plea Roll 203, m. 4.)

WINPENNY.—This odd name occurs in a Chester Plea Roll of 1477, when Richard Wynpenny of Eaton, near Tarporley, appeared as a juror. In 1481 a John Winpeny of Acton in Delamere is named. Later the surname is said to have become Wimperley.

ABBOTS OF COMBERMERE.—Robert Cristelton, abbot of Combermere, occurs in a Chester Plea Roll of 1474 (Roll 178, m. 2), and is probably the same abbot Robert who is mentioned from time to time down to September 1496 (*ibid.* 196, m. 4). A later abbot was John Hilton, named in December 1516, probably the same John who occurs in the Chester Rolls from 1512; Helsby's *Ormerod* gives an earlier year for him (1509). See Rolls 214, m. 48*d.*, 218, m. 55.

A CANON OF BURSCOUGH.—In White's *History of Selborne* there is an account of the Austin Priory established there about 1232. Its revenues in course of time decayed and the house became deserted, its site and lands being eventually given (1485) by Bishop Waynflete to his College of St. Mary Magdalen at Oxford. The bishop had made various efforts to arrest the decay of the house, and among others, when on one occasion the election of a new prior was left to him, he chose Thomas Fairwise, vicar of Somborne, a canon regular of the priory of Burscough, no doubt in the hope that a stranger would correct abuses better than one of the members of the house. Fairwise was appointed in September 1471, but died in the following August, so that the bishop's hopes were not realised.

DEAN NUTTER.—At the court of the manor of Ightenhill held at Higham in Pendle on 14 Jan. 1602-3 it was reported that John Nutter, clerk, rector of Sefton and dean of Chester, had died holding messuages and land in Goldshaw Booth and Higham Booth or Higham Dene, the king's rent being 25*s.* 2½*d.* He was son of the late Richard Nutter of Goldshaw and his next heir was his nephew, William Nutter, son of the late William Nutter of Goldshaw Booth (elder brother of the said John Nutter). The heir was of full age and was admitted tenant. A year later William Nutter made a feoffment of lands for the benefit of his daughters, Janet and Mary Nutter, and Isabel, wife of Edmund Vareley. At a court held on 20 Feb. 1605-6 it was recorded that William Nutter of Goldshaw Booth had died in 10 Elizabeth (1567-68), leaving a widow, Agnes, and a son and heir, William. The wife of the younger William was named Alice. (Clitheroe Court Rolls 85, 86, 88.)