



BRASS OF WILLIAM CROOK, 1506.

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Contributed by Frederic Crooks, F.S.A.

THE illustration which accompanies these notes is made from a rubbing of the monumental brass of William Crook and Alice Faryngton his wife. This brass is in the Chancel floor of Great Gaddesden Church, Hertfordshire. In the original, above the man's head there is a shield bearing the *arms* of Crook of Crook (Whittle-le-Woods), Co. Lancaster (*three roses on a bend*), and over the woman's head is a shield showing the *arms* of Crook impaling those of Faryngton (*a chevron between three leopards' faces*).¹ Below the inscription and on the woman's side of the brass is repeated the shield of Crook (*three roses on a bend*), and there are indents in the slab showing that portions of the brass are now missing. These consisted of a small brass of a son, another showing three daughters, and another a shield on which were the Arms of Crook impaling those of Faryngton. In the library of the Society of Antiquaries there is a rubbing of this brass which shows these details in their complete state.

The height of the figures of the man and his wife is 22½ inches.

The inscription reads :

Hic jacent Willm̄s Croke et Alicia filia Willm̄i ffaryngton militis
uxor dicti Willm̄i qui quidē prefatus Willm̄s Croke obiit xxix
die mēsis Octobris anno dñi m° qūingentesimo sexto.

This William Crook belonged to the Crooks of Crook, Whittle-le-Woods, Co. Lancaster, an account of which family will be found in vol. 78, N.S. 42, of this Society's

¹ Cf. *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancs. & Ches.*, vol. 83, p. 97.

Transactions. He married Alice, fifth daughter of Sir William Faryngton of Faryngton, knight, by his wife Alice, daughter of Sir William Ashton, of Croston, knight.¹ At the time of his marriage William Crook was described as of Whittle-le-Woods.²

¹ See *Trans. Hist. Soc. Lancs. & Ches.*, vol. 78, p. 60 notes.

² Faryngton pedigree, Burke's *Landed Gentry*, 1886 ed.