

SOME CHESHIRE HERALDIC DOCUMENTS

Communicated by W. H. Rylands, F.S.A.

THE four patents, given below, have been communicated by Mr. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., who has also prepared and lent the blocks for the illustrations, which are facsimiles of the drawings in Ashmole's MS. 840, in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

A few remarks on the persons named in these grants and their arms may not be uninteresting. Three of them were knighted on Sunday the 11th May 1544, "at the burning of Edinburgh, Leith and others," by the King's Lieutenant-General of the North, Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford, afterwards Duke of Somerset, the brother of Queen Jane Seymour. On the same day seven other Cheshire men received the honour of knighthood, viz. Thomas Holcroft of Vale Royal, Urian Brereton of Handforth, Edward Warren of Poynton, Hugh Calveley of Lea, Philip Egerton of Egerton and Oulton, Laurence Smyth of Hough, and John Leigh of Boothes—a good proportion of the forty-one knights made on that day.

Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, of Cholmondeley, was born about the year 1513, and, dying on the 16th January, was buried on the 31st January 1596 at Malpas, where there is a fine monument to his memory. Some account of his active life will be

found in Ormerod's "History of Cheshire," vol. ii. p. 500.

Sir Thomas Venables, Baron of Kinderton, was born about the year 1513 and died in the twenty-second year of Queen Elizabeth, 1579-80. Ormerod, in his "History of Cheshire," vol. iii. p. 236, refers to this patent of arms at some length and to the absurd story contained in it.

The quarterings are: (1) Venables; (2) Golborne; (3) not an augmentation, but Moston; (4) Eccleston; (5) Cotton; and (6) Venables.

Sir Piers Legh, of Bradley, co. Lancaster, and Lyme, co. Chester, was born on the 23rd April 1514, and, dying on the 6th December 1589, was buried with his ancestors in the Legh Chapel in Winwick Church, where there may still be seen the curious brass of his grandfather, Sir Piers Legh, knight and priest, who is represented in a suit of armour, over which is the vestment of a priest, and the head is tonsured.

The great-great-grandson of the recipient of the augmentation, Richard Legh, of Lyme, Esquire, obtained from William Dugdale, Norroy King of Arms, on the 8th April 1665, another patent reciting and confirming the one here given. This later patent is printed in *The Genealogical Magazine*, vol. i. p. 17 (1897), and a photographic reproduction of the arms forms the frontispiece to that volume.

The quarterings are: (1) Corona, for Leigh; (2) Legh of Lyme; (3) Butler of Merton, incorrectly drawn; (4) Danyers of Bradley in Appleton, co. Chester; (5) Haydock, which should have a fleur-de-lys Sable in the dexter canton; (6) Boydell; (7) Boydell; (8) Waleton. A discussion of these quarterings will be found in the *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, vol. i. (1898), p. 224.

It will be observed that a note, below the copy of the patent, corrects the error in the recitals regarding the capture of the Comte de Tankerville and the rescue of the Black Prince's standard at the battle of Cressy, which has been frequently repeated. A seventeenth-century Legh portrait at Lyme used to be pointed out by the housekeeper, in days gone by, as that of the hero of Cressy.

Viscount Cholmondeley of Kells, co. Meath, was so created on the 29th March 1661; he died in May 1681. The present Marquess of Cholmondeley is his direct descendant.

The quarterings are: (1) Cholmondeley; (2) Cheney; (3) Capenhurst; (4) Dutton; (5) Thorton; (6) Kingsley; (7) Helsby; (8) Hatton; and (9) Minshull.

J. P. R.

GRANT OF CREST TO S^R HEW CHOLMELEY OF
CHOLMELEY IN CHESHER, CHEVALIER, BY
THOMAS HAWLAY CLARENTIEULX, ON THE 5TH
OF DECEMBER, 1ST OF EDW. VJ. [1547].

[*MS. Ashm.* 840, p. 381.]

[Here is a poorly drawn trick of the Cholmondeley armorial bearings, viz.: *Arms*—Gules, two esquires' helmets in chief and a garb in base or. *Crest*—A demi-griffin sable, holding in the claws an esquire's helmet argent.]

A tous et advenir qui ses presentes l'es veront ou oyront, Thomas Hawlay alias Clarentieulx principal Herault et Roy d'Armes du South, East et West parties de ceste royaulme d'Angleterre par de ca la riviere du Trent envers le South, salut. Equite veult et raison ordonne, que les hommes verteulx, et de noble courage soyent par leurs merites et bonne renommee remunerez; non seullement leurs personnez en ceste vie mortelle tant brieve et transitoire; mais apres eulx ceulx qui de leurs corps seront procrees soyent en toutes places d'honneur perpetuellement avecq aultres renommez par certaines enseignes d'honneur et nobles. Come ainsy soit que Mess^r Hew Cholmeley chevalier est descendu de noble lignee portant Armes; neantmoins icelluy incertain en quelle maniere ses predecesseurs portoyent leur Tymbre: non volan prejudicier a nulluy a moy le dit Roy

d'Armes, a requis a luy, ordonnez, devisez et assigner ung Tymbre convenable: Et pour ce le Clarenceux Roy d'Armes; come avant dit, considerans sa requeste estre juste et raisonnable, par vertu de l'auctorite et pover annexe et attribue a moy et a mon dit office de Clarenceux Roy d'Armes, par le Roy nostre souveraine Seigneur, desoubs son grand Seau; ay devise, ordonne, et assigne au dit Mess^r Hew Cholmeley de Cholmeley en la coun[t]e de Chesher, pour luy et sa posterite, le Tymbre avecques deu difference, en maniere quy c'ensuyt; cestascavoir a son Heaulme sur une Torse d'Or et geules, sur ung demy Griffon sable, le beque oreille et barbe d'Or, tenant entre ses gripes ung Heaulme d'Argent, pourfle, et le bloquet d'Or, mantele geules, doble d'argent, sy comme en la picture plus plainement en la marge sy demonstre; a avoir et tenir pour luy et sa dicte posterite; et eulx en user pour leur honneur a tous jours mais. En tesmoigne de ce, le Clarenceux Roy d'Armes devant dit, ay signe ces presentes de ma main et seele du Seau de mes Armes, et du Seau de mon Office a Londres le cinquesme jour du moys de Decembre en le premier an du reigne du nostre souveraine seigneur Edwarde le sixiesme par le grace de Dieu Roy d'Angleterre, France, et d'Irlande, defenseur de la foy, et desoubz Dieu, de l'Eglise d'Angleterre et d'Irlande suprem chief.

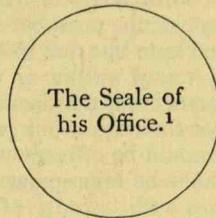
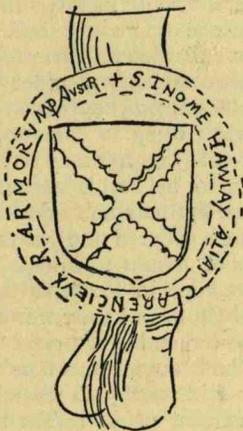
Par moy Clarenceux Roy d'Armes

This Patent was confirmed and registred in the time of the Visitation of Chesshyre in the yeare of our Lord God 1566

p moy Wythm Flower alias

Norroy Roy d'Armes.

Chester Herauld Marshall to Norroy



¹ These words are in Ashmole's handwriting.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF ARMS AND CREST, AND GRANT
OF AN AUGMENTATION TO SIR THOMAS VENABLES
KNIGHT, BARON OF KINDERTON, CO. CHESTER;
BY LAWRENCE DALTON, NORROY, DATED THE
30TH OCTOBER, THE 2. OF ELIZABETH 1560.

[*MS. Ashm.* 840, p. 388. There is no trick of the Arms.]

To all and singular aswell nobles and gentles as Kinge heraulde and offycers of Armes as others w^{ch} these presentē shall see rede or heare Larance Dalton Esquyer alias Norry princypall herauld and Kyng of Armes of thest west and north ptyes of England from the Ryver of Trent Northward Sendeth due and humble cōmendacōns and gretyng forasmoche as auntyently fro the begynninge hyt hath ben devysed and ordered, that the noble and valiant actē of worthy psons have ben notoriously cōmended to the world w^t sundry monumentē & tokens of honor for the remembraunce of their good desertē As amonge the Greeke the Inscriptyon of Trophes amonge the Romayns the Erection [of] Statues and Image w^t Tytles and appellacōns of honor And of more latre dayes w^t the most parte of nacōns bering of Seignes and tokens and Shilde called Armes w^{ch} by the demonstracōns & Evidencē of noblenes proues vertue and valyantnes, that to every man accordinge to there desertes & worthynes be dyversly dystributed whereby suche signes & tokens of they worthy and Coragyous myght apere before the vnworthy Coward and Ignorant Even so ys yet observyd that suche w^{ch} have merytyd or done cōmendable Servyce to to (*sic*) their prince or Country shud not be forgotted and so put in Oblyvyon but rewarded w^t some token of honor for the same the rather to move and Styrr other to the Imytacōn of lyke worthynes and noblenes howbeyt consydering that hyt ys not possyble for any worldly thing to contynew long in one estate But that in contynuanee of tyme hyt may be altered Nor yet any worthy or valyant acte to be had contynually in remembrance but that in pcesse of tyme hyt may be forgotten Hyt was not theirfore w^tout greate pvydence ordered and yet ys That their should be offycers and heraulde of Armes to whosse offyce hyt shuld be appropryat not only to kepe in Regystre tharmes petegres and descentē of nobles and gentles w^t their worthy and valyant actē But also shuld have power and Auctorytye to set forth and allow vnto the worthy some augmentacōn token or remembraunce of noblenes for their said worthynes whereby the desertes of the said worthy and valyant psons myght not be forgotten and so drowned in the bottomlys pyt of Oblyvyon Wherefore consydering the worthy valyant and cōmendable

Servyce sometye done by Thomas Venables of Golborne in the county of Chestre gent who was lyneally dyscended from Sr gylbart Venables Knight Coosyn garmyn to Kyng Wittm Conqueror' and came w^t hym into England at the conquest thereof and was yonger son to Therle of Blevyle) To whome was geven Therldome or Barrony of Kyndreton and bare these armes, blew too barres syluer And for his Crest a demy dragon geuls yssuinge owt of a wylson or wyer to take fyshe in syluer w^{ch} said armes and crest the said thom Venables of golborne dyd lawfully bere In whose tyme yt chaunced a terryble dragon to remeane and make his abode in the Lordshyp of Moston in the said county of Chester Where he devoured all such psons as he layd hold on w^{ch} the [said] thom Venables hearyng tel of Consydering the pytyfull & daylie destruction of the people w^{owt} recovery, who (in folloing the example of the valyant Romayns and other worthy men Not regarding his owne lyef on cōparyson of the comōdytie and savegard of his Countreymen Dyd in his owne pson valyantly and Coragously set on the seid Dragon Where fyrst he shott hym throwe w^t a arrowe And afterward w^t other wepons manfully slew hym At w^{ch} Instant tyme the said dragon was devouring of a chyld. ffor the w^{ch} his worthy and valyant acte was yeven to hym the said lordship of Moston by the auncesters of therl of Oxford the lord of the fee theire and also ever syns the said thomas and his heyres in remembraunce theireof have vsed to bere aswell in theire Armes as in their Crest a dragon The w^{ch} although he had very well meryted to bere yet for that he toke & bare yt w^{owt} auctorytie he dyd offend theirin The w^{ch} abuse the right worshipfull Sr Thom Venables Knight called Baron of Kynderton now his right heyre lyneally dyscended Weing and consydering desyred me the said Norry to set forthe vnto hym tharmes of his said auncestres wth tharmes of soche maryage as they mached w^tall wherevnto he is right heyre and hath possessyons theireof together also w^t a awgmentacoñ aswell in his armes as crest of this worthy acte of his said predecessor w^{ch} request being so Juste and resonable I could not lawfully deny the same But by the power and auctorytie to my offyce annexed and atrybuted have here set fourth his owne Armes w^t other comyng to hym by discent and Ratysfed and confyrmed to hym and his posterytie an agmentacoñ aswell in his armes as crest as foloeth ffyrst the cote of his one name of Venables blew ij barres syluer the second for golborne sylver a crosse Sarceley betwene iiij mertlette geuls the thryd the awgmentacoñ vert a dragon sylver scaled and pced throwe y^e body w^t a arrow gold heded & fethered sylver the forth for Eccleston sable iiij pyles in chef wavy sylver the vth for Cotton, blew an egle dyspled sylver and the vjth for Venables afore declared w^{ch} is blew ij barres sylver brought in by Cotton by machyng w^t one of theires

generall of Venables The Crest vpon thelme a dragon syluer scaled and perced throwe the body w^t an arrow golde hedyd and ffethered sylver devowryng a chyld Charnell hered golde set on a wyer or wylson sylver bandyd blew on a wreth sylver blew and rede manteled red lyned sylver botoned gold as more plenely apereth depycted in this margent. To have hold and enjoy the said armes Crest and Awgmentacoñ to the said S^r thoñ Venables Knight and his posterytie to vse bere and shew in Shyld cote armour or otherwysse and theirein to be revested at his or their Lyberty and plesure w^t their dew dyfference for ever more In wytnes &c 30 of October in the second yere of our Sovereigne Lady quene Elizabeth &c. 1560.

[Endorsed] This is the trew copy of the letters patente graunted vnto the right worshipfull S^r thoñ Venables Knight baron of Kynderton by Larance Dalton Esquyer alias Norry Kyng of Armes of thest West & north ptyes of England the 30 of October in the second yere of the Raigne of o^r Soulaigne Lady quene Elizabeth &c. 1560 throughly examyned by the recorde thereof remeanynge in o^r offyce of Armes

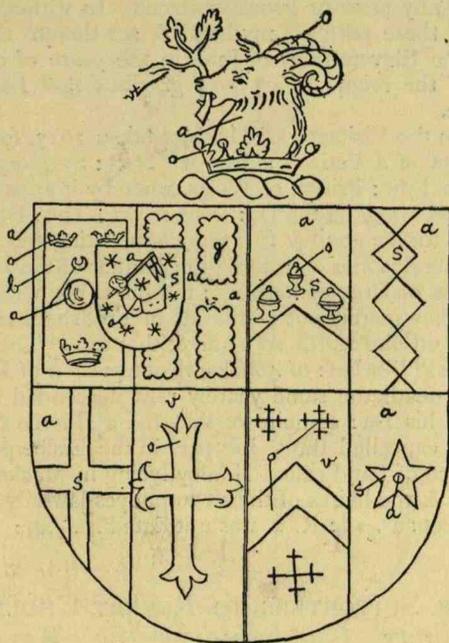
By me Rychemond herald.

GRANT OF AN AUGMENTATION TO S^r PIERS LEGH,
KNT. OF BRADLEY, CO: LANC: AND OF LYME
AND HANLEY CO. CHESTER, BY WILLIAM FLOWER
NORROY, DATED THE 11TH OF JUNE, 1575.

[MS. Ashm: 840, pp. 397-398.]

To all & singular aswell nobles & gentles as others to whome &c: Withm Flower Esq^r alias Norroy principall Herald & King of Armes of the East west & north pte of England from the Riñ Trent northward sendith greet^s in o^r lord God eūlast^s. Whereas heretofore it pleased the noble & puissant prince Richard the second of that name sometyme K^s of England, in consideracoñ of the good services that Piers Legh Esq^r the sonne of S^r Robt Legh of Adlington K^t: had done not only vnto himselfe but also to the noble prince Edward his father comonly called the black prince the flower of chivalry at sundry tymes to remunerate & reward the sd Piers wth the free guift of the m^ñ of Hawley [Hanley] to him & his heires for eū, aswell for y^t he the s^d Piers did valiantly rere and advance the sd princes Banner at the bataile of Cressy to the no litle encouragem^t of the English Army, as also for y^t he manfully tooke prisoner the Count de Tanguervill a Norman the K^s capitall enemy in the same battaile. The memory whereof as it is most worthy of conservacoñ to all posterity aswell for the singuler liberalitie of so bountifull a prince so rightly bestowed vpon the pson of one that so well deserved, as also for the

dutifull endeavour of so dutifull a subject to his Prince & Sou: So hath it moved S^r Pierç Legh K^t: lord of Bradley in the County of Lanc: & of Lyme & Hanley in the County of Chester who is linealy descended of the body of the s^d Pierç Legh Esq^r. (as being the son & heire of Pierç Legh Esq^r the son & heire of S^r Piers Legh Kn^t: banneret, the son & heire of Pierç Legh Esq^r: the son & heire of Pierç Legh Kn^t: the son & heire of S^r Pierç Legh Banneret the son & heire of the afores^d Pierç Legh Esq^r. that tooke the s^d Counte de Tanquervill prisoner) hath moved.



him I say to require me the s^d Norroy K^s of Armes for the better p^rservacoñ of the memory thereof, to allow vnto him & his posterity som meete significacoñ by Armoury accord^s to the auncient & laudable custome of the law of Armes heretofore vsed in like cases. In consideracoñ whereof & at his instant request the s^d Norroy K^s of Armes by power & authority to me comitted by lr^{es} patent^s vnder the greate Seale of Engl^d haue assigned given & granted & by these p^rnt^e do assigne giue & gr^t vnto the s^d S^r Pierç Legh Kn^t: an Escucheon or sheeld of Augmentacoñ sable replenished wth Mollet^e sil^u therein a mans arme bowed hold^s in the hand a standard sil^u to be by the s^d

Piers & his posterity for eũ hereafter borne & vsed as a testimony of his auncestors good desertę to his & their great worship in such place as I haue caused the same among his oth^r Cotes of Armes to be in the ffigent hereof depicted. W^{ch} significative sheeld or augmentacoũ of Armes I the s^d Norroy K^s of Armes do by these pñtę ratifie confirme giue & gr^t: vnto the s^d S^r Piere Legh Kn^t: & to his posterity & offspring for eũ, to be by him & them at all tymes & for eũ hereafter borne & vsed in manner afores^d at his & their libty & pleasure wthout the contradiccoũ gainsaying inquietacoũ let trouble mollestacoũ vexacoũ or disturbance of any pson or psons whatsoever. In witness whereof I haue signed these pñtę wth my hand & set thereto the Seale of my Office the Eleventh day of June in the yeare of o^r lord God 1575. & of the reigne of o^r most gracious Sou^l Lady Queene Eliz 17 yere.

M^d that in the Visitacoũ of Cheshire taken 1613, fol 55b there is a transcript of a Peticoũ entred wth S^r R: St georges hand & Exhibited to Edw: Prince of Wales, whereby it appes that Pierce Leigh married Margaret the Da: & heire vnto Tho: Daniers Esq^r. w^{ch} Thomas for his good & free service in taking the Chambleyn of Tankerville prisoner & restoręg the Banner of the black Prince at the bataile of Cressey had gr^{td}: to him & his heires by the s^d Prince 40 mks yearely out of the M^o of Frodsham vntill he had landę settled on him worth 20^p anũ & that the s^d Tho: dyed soe seised of the s^d lręs Pat: of 40 mks wthout pvision of Landę made after whose death the same yearely rent descended vnto the s^d Margaret as his Da: & heire & that the s^d Pierce & Margaret a^o. 21. R. 2. cancelled the s^d lręs pat: in the Excheq^r of Chester & had a place of Land called Hanley lyeing in Maclesfield forest gr^{td} to them & the heires of their two bodyes lawfully begotten.

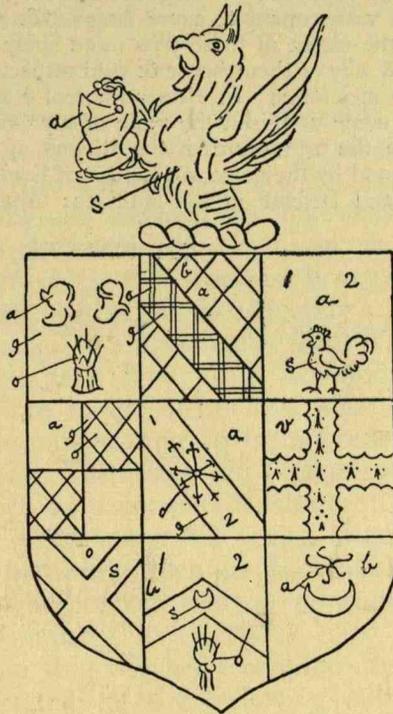
q^o if the Pat: a^o. 21: R. 2. was not dated 4^o. Jan:

GRANT OF SUPPORTERS TO ROBERT CHOLMONDLEY,
VISCOUNT CHOLMONDLEY OF KELLES, CO:
MEATH, IRELAND, BY SIR EDWARD WALKER,
KNIGHT, GARTER, DATED THE 10TH OF JUNE,
1661.

[MS. Ashm. 840, pp. 421-422. This is in Ashmole's Hand-writing.]

To all & singular vnto whome these pñtę shall come S^r Edward Walker K^t: Garter Principall King of Armes of Englishmen sendeth greeting. Whereas our Sou^laigne Lord K^s Charles the 2^d: considering the greate merritę & noble descent of Robt Cholmondley Esq^r: Nephew & heire of S^r Robt Cholmondley Baronet

(who was by his late Ma^{tie}: King Charles the first of eñ blessed memory Created Viscount Cholmondley of Kelles in the County of Meath in the K^dome of Ireland and afterwarde by lrēs patent dated the fift of March in the one and twentyth yeare of his Reigne Created Earle of Leinster in the s^d Kingdome of Ireland & dyed wthout yssue) did by his lrēs patentes bearing date at Westm̄ the 29th day of M^och last past, Create him the s^d Rob^t Cholmondley Viscount Cholmondley of Kelles in the County



of Meath in the K^dome of Ireland. To haue & to holde the name state degree title & honor of Viscount Cholmondley of Kelles, to him & to the heires males of his body wth all rightes priuiledges & immunities to a Viscount of the K^dome of Ireland belong^s: as by the s^d lrēs Pat^s: it doth & may more fully appe And whereas it is an especiall & peculiar right & p^rheminance belong^s to the Peeres of y^b K^dome as well as of England to haue certaine supporters added to their Armes for their greater honor & to distinguish them from p^ons of Inferiour ranke. Know yee therefore that I the s^d S^r Edward Walker

K^t: Garter principall King of Armes by the power & authority annexed to my Office of Garter & confirmed vnto me by l^rs Patent^r vnder the greate Seale of England Haue given gr^{td} & confirmed & doe by these p^{nt}es giue gr^t & confirme vnto the right ho^{ble} Rost Viscount Cholmondeley of Kelles in the Kingdome of Ireland, & to the heires males of his body Viscount^r Cholmondly of Kelles, & to e^{uy} of them successiely for e^u the Supporter^r hereafter mencōned viz^t: A Gryphun sable, beaked & membred or langued Gules. And a Wolfe Gold, Collered varry argent & azure langued & armed as the other. As in the m^gent of these p^{nts} more liuely are depicted. To be by him & e^{uy} of them borne & vsed respectiely accord^s to the law of Armes for e^u In wittnes whereof I haue herevnto subscribed my name & affixed the seale of my Office this tenth day of June in the 13th yeare of the Reigne of o^r Sou^u Lord Charles the second by the grace of God K^s of England Scotland France & Ireland Defend^r of the faith &c: Annoque domini 1661.

Ed: WALKER GARTER.