



## HORNBY CASTLE.

*By William Oliver Roper.*

(Read 4th April, 1889.)

THE recent restoration of Hornby Church has drawn attention to the circumstances of its erection, and to the Castle by which it is overlooked.

Centuries ago the site of Hornby Castle had attracted the eye of the Roman soldier. The Roman road from Lancaster through Skerton to Halton, crossing the Lune at Halton and passing through Caton, probably joined the mountain road coming from the fells at or near Hornby. Coins and tessellated pavements discovered in various alterations at the Castle prove that the value of its site, as a strategic position, was fully recognised at an early date.

When the Domesday Survey was compiled, Hornebi was classed with Mellinge and Wenningetun as one manor, in which Ulf held nine carucates of land. Hornby traditionally belonged to a Saxon family, and when the Conqueror came was held by Alric. His grandson, Adam the son of Swain, had two daughters, Maud and Annabel. The former married Adam de Montbegon, and the lands of Hornby descended to their son (or grandson) Roger de Montbegon. On the death of Roger in 1225, Hornby passed to a collateral relative,

Henry de Montbegon, who in the following year conveyed the manor of Hornby with the Castle to Hubert de Burgh, Chief Justice of England, the "Chamberlain" of Shakspeare's *King John*. On the disgrace of Hubert in 1231, an inquisition was held, and it was then asserted that he held the manor of Hornby of Henry de Mundene, and he in chief of the King, but by what services it was not known. Two years later, on the restoration to favour of Hubert de Burgh, the Castle was restored to him, and he died in possession of it in 1242.

His widow, Margaret, Countess of Kent, continued in possession of Hornby until her death in 1259, but about that year another claimant arose to the fair lands of the Honour. The claimant was Elena de Longuevillers, who asserted that her late husband, John de Longuevillers, had been entitled to the estates, and she as his widow demanded one third part as her dower. The defence was, that John de Longuevillers' claim had been disposed of when Henry de Montbegon entered into possession, and that her rights had been put aside through the power of Hubert de Burgh. Probably her claim was successful, as towards the close of Henry the Third's reign, Hornby passed with Margaret, daughter of Sir John de Longuevillers, in marriage to Geoffrey Neville. Geoffrey obtained from Edward I. in 1280 a grant of free warren in Hornby, with a market on Wednesdays. He died five years later, and his widow, Margaret de Neville, was called upon in 1292 to prove before the Justices at Lancaster her right to a market in Arkholme, a fair at Hornby, and free warren in Hornby, Melling, and Wray, and many other privileges. She produced the charter granted to her husband, and in the end most of her rights were confirmed.

On her death in 1318 the Castle and Manor passed to her grandson, John de Neville. During his ownership, two "enemies of the King," by name Serlo and Maurice le Scot, were taken by Sir William Sporneston, and conveyed by him to the Castle at Hornby. They were shortly afterwards ransomed, according to the custom of the Marches. On the death of John de Neville, Hornby passed to his cousin, Robert Neville. The inquisition held on the death of his son, Sir Robert Neville, on the 4th April, 1413, stated that his son Thomas had predeceased him, leaving a daughter, Margaret, who conveyed Hornby on her marriage to Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter. Their son Henry died young, and on the death of the Duke of Exeter, who survived his wife, the estates passed to Sir William Harrington (who had married Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Neville) and to John Langton. In the partition between them, Hornby fell to Sir William Harrington. His son, Sir Thomas, and his grandson, Sir John, died fighting for the White Rose at the battle of Wakefield.

Sir Thomas left another son, James Harrington, and Sir John left two daughters, Anne and Elizabeth. Then arose disputes about the estates. The King granted his rights of wardship over Anne and Elizabeth Harrington to Lord Stanley; for James Harrington, according to the petition of the young heiresses to the King, "tooke y<sup>e</sup> said complaynants and them kepped as prisoners contrarie to their willes, in divers places, by long space, entending y<sup>e</sup> utter destruction and disinheritance of y<sup>e</sup> said complaynants until y<sup>e</sup> tyme they were by y<sup>r</sup> hygh comaundement delyvered oute of his kepyng intoe y<sup>e</sup> kepyng of y<sup>e</sup> Lord Stanley. Alsoe y<sup>e</sup> saide James hathe occupied y<sup>e</sup> said castle" of Hornby. (*Richmondshire*, vol. ii., p. 261.) James was eventually committed to prison, and

Lord Stanley proceeded to marry the elder of his wards to his third son, Edward Stanley, and Elizabeth, the younger, to his nephew, John Stanley of Melling. James Harrington was attainted in 1485, and Edward Stanley came to reside at the Castle.

There was still, however, one representative of the Harringtons who stood in the way of his obtaining undisputed possession of the lands of Hornby. James Harrington left a son, John Harrington, and popular tradition darkly hinted that the Lord of Hornby caused the death of the young John Harrington by poison.

Sir Edward Stanley's wife died in 1503, and a few years later he procured a fine to be levied at Lancaster, declaring him to be tenant by the curtesy of one moiety of the estates. Sir Edward next obtained a release from the Earl of Derby—to whom the custody of the Castle had been committed by Edward IV.—of the whole of the lands of Hornby, and entered into full possession of the estates.

Once more the name of the owner of Hornby stands out prominently in the History of England. While the English were engaged in a war with France, the Scots availed themselves of the opportunity to advance into England. Fifty thousand men spread fire and sword through North Northumberland, and in haste the beacons flamed forth the tidings that the Scots had come. Far and wide sped the message of war, and the owner of Hornby rallied his retainers to his banner.

“ Sir Edward Stanley, stiff in stour,  
 He is the man on whom I mean  
 With him did pass a mighty pow'r  
 Of Soldiers seemly to be seen,  
 Most lively lads on Lonsdale bred,  
 With weapons of unwieldy weight,

All such as Tatham Fells had fed  
Went under Stanley's streamer bright."\*

The command of the left wing of the English army was assigned to Sir Edward Stanley, and on the morning of the ninth of September, 1513, he found himself opposed to a fierce but disorderly mass of Highlanders. The right wing of the English, under the Howards, was driven back, and the centre was hard pressed. Lord Dacre with the reserve moved up, and

"Far on the left, unseen the while,  
Stanley broke Lennox and Argyle."

The Lancashire archers had done their work, and pushing onwards through the disorderly masses of the Highlanders the Lord of Hornby turned to attack the centre, which was under the command of the Scottish King himself. Till night fell the two armies fought, and the English commander knew not with which side the victory lay. But the Scottish King had been slain; nearly nine thousand men, including the flower of the Scottish chivalry, had fallen; and the remainder of the Northern army withdrew in the darkness. In the morning the messengers rode southwards, carrying the tidings of the fatal field of Flodden. For his share in this victory Sir Edward Stanley was created Lord Monteagle.

It is probable that many of the quieter days which followed were occupied by the owner of Hornby in the improvement of his residence. The great octagonal tower, built on earlier foundations, now rose to overlook the valley, and above its door was placed (and still remains) an eagle's claw, the crest of the Stanleys, and the motto,

GLAV ET GANT. E. STANLEY.

\* *Harleian MSS.* 3526. *Ballads and Songs of Lancashire*, p. 25.

It has been customary to associate with the first Lord Monteagle the adoption by him of views which were at that day uncommon—views of an atheistical tendency. (*Roby's Traditions of Lancashire.*) But whatever speculations of this nature may have occupied the mind of Lord Monteagle, nothing of the kind can be gathered from his will.

“ In the name of God Amen. Forasmuche as the lyfe of man is in this wretched world short, uncertain, unstable, and transitory, it is necessarie and requisite for every good true Christen man to provide, foresee, and to ordeyn for the lyfe everlasting in Hevyn.

“ I therfor, Edward Stanley, Knyght, Lord Mountegle, of the Order of the Garter, being hale and good deliberate and parfite mynde and memory,—laude, thanks, and praise being to Almighty God my Maker and Redemer—remembering the good and swete intellect of these centences ‘ Memento homo, qd cinis es et in cinerem reverteris’ and of this ‘ Domine tua quia morieris’—willing whils reason rulyth my mynde and quietnes in the members of my body, of my temporall goodes sumwhat for the helth of my soule to dispoase ordeyn make dispoase and enstabilishe this my present testament and last wille this Vth day of Aprill in the yere of our lord God a thousand fyve hundred and xxiiij<sup>ti</sup> and in the xiiii<sup>th</sup> yere of the Reigne of Kyng Henry the viij<sup>th</sup> in manner and forme as is hereafter is expressed and written.

“ First and principally I give and bequethe my soule to Almighty God, the glorious and holy Trinitie, to our Lady Saint Mary, Moder of Mercy, Saint Margaret, and to all the saintes in hevyn; my body to be buried in the newe Chauncell to be made at my costes and charges in and with all convenient hast, at the East ende of the Chapell of Saint Margaret at Horneby. And I woll that myn executours undernamed bestowe and expende in and aboute the wall, bylding, Irenwerk, glasse and coueryng of the same new chauncell the sum of an hundred m'ks, and more yf it shall be seen requisite to my saide executours, and moreover for the halowing of the same Chapell and chapell yarde as shal be requisite the same chapell to be dedycate in the honour of God and of the blessed virgyn Saint Margaret, and in case I departe this present lyfe before the halowing of the same chapell and chapell yard, then my body to be for the tyme humate within the priorye church of Horneby, and furthermore I will that on the next day after the dedycation of the same chapell, my body to be exhumate and transferred with the consent and assent of the pryour there, which hath granted me the same, the case happenyng in his daies, and of other having interest, and soe to be

brought and buried within y<sup>e</sup> newe chapell foresaid. Also I will that my said executours ordeyn and cause a convenient marbell stone to be laide upon me, with an image of copper and gilt graven in the same, and with six scochens of myn armys, with scripture thereunto necessarie : or ells to lay my body in a standing Tombe there, with an image in groos coop and gilt thereuppon, as shall be most agreable and semyng to the chauncell, and myn helmet and armes to be sett up ; or ells this otherwise to be devised and ordered by my said Executors and at their discrecion. And inasmoche as they maye avoide the pompe of this wretched worlde and for this same to bestowe the sume of an hundred markes, more or lesse, as shal be seen to my said Executors convenient."

Then follow the directions for the funeral, which was to be plain and "avoidyng pompe and vayn-glory." Twenty-four "honest men, clad in white gownes," were to bear torches. Every priest who said mass that day was to have eight pence, and every clerk four pence. Master Richard Beverley, the Prior of the Black Friars at Lancaster, or, in his absence, another Doctor of Divinity, was "to make a sermonde and to have for his payne and labour" twenty shillings. The Abbots of Croxton, Kirkstall, Jervaux, and Furness received legacies, and the Abbot of Salley received, in addition to a sum of money, "a velvet crimsyn gowne of my wife and ladies to make a vestment." The Abbot and Convent of Cockersand were to have five marks, and to the Prior and Convent of Lancaster forty shillings were bequeathed, "they all to pray for my soule." To the Prior of Hornby, chaplain within the castle chapel of Hornby, "for my cors present and mortuary and for my wyfe's mortuary," six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence.

After other legacies comes a bequest—"To the most excellent prince and my sovereigne good lord King Henry the VIII<sup>th</sup> a small gold Rynge with a table of a Diamount viii square sett in the same and an hundred pounds in gold, beseching his grace to pray for my soule and to be good

“and gracious good lord unto my sonne and heire.” Having bid for the goodwill of his sovereign Sir Edward Stanley endeavoured to enlist the good offices of the then all-powerful favourite, Cardinal Wolsey. Accordingly he bequeaths “Unto my lord Cardynall grace a gold Rynge with a poynt of a Diamont sett in the same, and twenty pounds in golde, beseching his grace to be good to myn executors and favourable for the confirmacion of my chantrye Bedehouse and free scole.” The testator left a large number of other legacies, and appointed Thomas Lord Darcy, Sir John Hussey, Sir Alexander Radcliffe, Laurence Starkey, and Richard Bank executors of his will.

Lord Monteagle died a few months after the date of his will, which was proved by Laurance Starkie on the 25th day of August, 1524, and by Richard Bank on the 11th November following.

The eagles at once flew upon the spoil. The young Lord Monteagle was then but fifteen years of age, and disputes arose at once over his grand inheritance. Letters preserved amongst the State Papers shew that the King had authorised “Master Chancellor to be steward of all my said Lords lands and inheritances during the minority of the said young Lord.” By the King’s desire the Chancellor appointed Master Thomas Boteler to have the leading of the tenants when they were called upon to serve the King in his wars.\* The steward then directed an inventory to be taken of the late Lord Monteagle’s personal possessions. There were in “My Ladye’s Chamber, Two Curtains for an Altar of green single sarcenet rasyd whyte and red with fringes for the same, and a large front for an Altar lined with green buckram.” There were also a stole, an alb, a vestment of white thread,

\* *State Papers.* Laurence Starkey to Richard Banke, Lancaster, 12 August, 1523.

two linen altar cloths, one embroidered with black crosses on the corners, the other with white crosses of silk, a linen front for an altar painted like damask work with red, green, and white fringes. In a spruce chest in the same room were, amongst many other things, a mass book written in parchment covered with crimson velvet, another bound with leather with two clasps of silver, and a small one covered with blue velvet with clasps of silver and of gilt. In my lady's chamber there was "a chain of gold that will go six times about my young Lord's neck." The inventory of the Plate includes a broken chalice with a paten, two chalices with patens gilt, two candlesticks for altars, a pair of basins for altars, "a crucifix with Mary and John gilt and four evangelists," a chalice with a paten daily used in the chapel. In that chapel were three altar cloths of arras and fine tapestry, and a folding table with drawers.

Throughout the two years following Lord Montague's death there were constant disputes, and the State papers comprise a large number of letters and petitions, first from the executors and then from their opponents, appeals to the Chancellor, and records of trials at the assizes. Lord Darcy writes to Sir John Hussey, urging him that, as "my Lord Treasurer hath sent to buy my Lord Montegill and to have his rooms and all," he should use all efforts for the defeat of the scheme.

Then Richard Curwen seized the Parsonage of Melling, and Richard Bank, one of Lord Montague's executors, was again compelled to petition the Chancellor.

Next the Provost of Beverley complained that Laurence Starkey, another of the executors, occupied but refused to pay the charges for the parsonages of Bolton and Clapham, appropriate to the Archdeaconry of Richmond, and leased to the late

Lord Monteagle, and Starkey "falls in decay," and the Provost fears that he will not be able to pay the rent. Starkey, on the other hand, writes that he has been sued at the instance of William Tunstall, the brother of the Bishop of Durham, for rent which he had long since paid, but for which he had omitted to obtain a proper receipt. And he prays the Chancellor to suspend the proceedings.

Next it appears that the Bailiff of Lord Monteagle's Heysham estates had gone to London without accounting for his receipts. "He is one of those who makes himself so busy in occupying the Park of Hornby."

Then comes a complaint against Bank, Lord Monteagle's executor, requesting that he may be compelled to furnish his accounts.

And the last of this series of grievances is that Bank "has made Robert Mottrem, a man whom no one knows, Porter of Hornby Castle."

The young Lord Monteagle is therefore summoned to London to appear before the Chancellor. The State Papers furnish some of the items of "Expenses of Sir John Hussey going from Sleaford and back for the late Lord Monteagle's causes." Some of the items are curious and significant.

Reward to the Cardinal .....	£100		
To the King for the late Lord's bequest. .	100		
To the Cardinal .....	20		
To learned men retained as Counsel.....		40s.	
Expenses of the young Lord Monteagle and Sir John Hussey riding from Sleaford to Hornby and Lancaster .....	36	14	4½
The young Lord's apparel .....	23	5	4½
Costs and finding of the young Lord three servants and a chaplain to teach him— 30 weeks .....	15	0	0
For his finding while in the Cardinals service for 2 weeks (besides the £30 allowed yearly for his finding).....	80	0	0
A Black Horse for him .....	9	0	0

The correspondence closes with a few more letters from Laurence Starkey, complaining of one Cawp-land who had got the ear of the Chancellor. He had ordered the Chaplain, in the Cardinal's name, not to meddle with anything, and yet he had sold a quantity of cattle, "and much of the corne of the demayne and part of that on the benefice of Mellynge. All the country, except a priest and four or five knaves whom he keeps with my Lords goods, are weary of him."

Thomas Stanley, the second Lord Monteagle, made his will on the twenty-eighth day of July, 1558. By it he directs his body to be buried within "my Parish Church of Mellinge, with all duties, laudable service and ceremony to be done for me ther on the day of my buriall." (*Surtees Society*, vol. xxvi. p. 116.) Lord Monteagle died in 1564, and his will was proved in the same year.

His son, William Stanley, the third and last Lord Monteagle in the male line of the Stanleys, held Hornby till his death in 1581.

A survey of Hornby, (*Richmondshire*, vol. ii. p. 260,) taken three years after his death, describes the Castle as

"Being verie faire built, standing statelie upon the topp of a great hill having som gates and wardes before ye shall enter into y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> castell; and at the lowest foot of the Hill standeth the first gate; and the towne of Hornby, being a markett towne, doth adjoin unto the first gate of y<sup>e</sup> saide Castell.

"There is besides on the southwest side of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> castell and towne of Horneby another Parke, called the new Parke, where is both redd deare and fallow deare.

"At this present time all the said parke remaineth in the lordes handes for the provision of his house.

"Also the river Loyne which is very great and large runneth along by the Priorie ground (which is in the lordes lands) towards Lancaster. And one other river, called Wenning, runneth through parte of Horneby towne towards Lancaster aforesaid into y<sup>e</sup> river of Loyne at the further end of the Priorie grounds. And in these two rivers the lord hath free libertie of fishing, and none but hee—to witt, from Kirkby Lonsdale Bridge unto Caton

Mill which is in length about seven miles, and in the said river is yearly taken great plentie of Salmonds, Pikes, Troutes, Morts, and divers other good fresh water fish which is thought to be well worth by yere xx<sup>l</sup>." (*Richmondshire*, vol. ii. p. 257. *Baines' Lancashire* (1870 edition), vol. ii. p. 617.)

Elizabeth, the only child of the third Lord Monteagle, married Edward Parker, Lord Morley, and the name of their son is well-known to readers of history.

On the evening of Saturday the 25th October, 1605, a man, closely veiled, left a letter at the town house of Lord Monteagle, in Hoxton, demanding that the missive should be handed immediately to Lord Monteagle. This letter was accordingly handed to Lord Monteagle as he sat at supper, and is said to have led to the discovery of the famous Gunpowder Plot; and at the trial of the conspirators Lord Monteagle received high praise, for the part he played in the detection of the plot.\*

In the year 1617, James I., on his royal progress, stopped the night of the 11th August at Hornby Castle. Though so far from London, matters of state were conducted at the Castle; and in the accounts of the period Lord Stanhope, the Master of the Posts, charges for the conveyance of "one "packet from Sir Ralph Winwood, from Chester "to Hornby Castle, to the Lord Marquis of Buckingham, being, to and fro, 132 miles." (*Palatine Note Book*, vol. i. p. 29.)

William Lord Morley and Monteagle was succeeded on his death, in 1622, by his son Henry, who suffered from the Penal Acts, then so severely enforced against the Roman Catholics throughout the country. The Government seem to have suspected the existence at the Castle of a store of arms likely to be used for seditious purposes. The

\* "William Parker was, by King James, in right of his mother created "L. Monteagle, for revealing a letter conteyning sparkles of ye Gunpowder "Treason" (*Harl. MSS.*, 1411, fo. 26).

Earl of Derby was therefore directed to enquire into the matter, and he sent his son to Hornby to institute a search. The details of this investigation are given in the following letter from Lord Strange to his father :—

“ May y<sup>t</sup> please yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : to be certified that accordinge to yo<sup>r</sup> directions I repayred to the house of the Ld Morley called Hornby Castell within the countie of Lancaster, and for my better assistance dyd take with me S<sup>r</sup> Richard Hoghton, S<sup>r</sup> Ralph Ashton, and S<sup>r</sup> Gilbert Hoghton yo<sup>r</sup> L<sup>ps</sup> deputie Lieuten<sup>te</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> Charles Garrarde, M<sup>r</sup> Standishe of Duxbury Esq<sup>r</sup> and other Justices of Peace as the letters from the Lds of His Ma<sup>ties</sup> most honorable privie Councell to yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : of the 30th Octo<sup>ber</sup> laste required. At wch howse of the sayde Ld Morley uppon diligent and generall searche I received and founde such Armor furniture and other habiliments of warr as ys contayned in this liste or Kalendar, and have removed the same and delivered them unto the Custodie and keepinge of Thomas Covell of Lancaster Esq<sup>r</sup>, untill your Lo : give direction to the contrary ; yett notwithstanding the same armor and furniture, being soe rusted, insufficient and of soe lyle worthe (that as I conceive) the same cannot possible bee made serviceable for warr : And moreover may yt please yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : to conceive that at the p<sup>s</sup>ent tyme of my sayd searche within the howse of the sayd Lo : Morley, some of his servants and officers dyd confesse that there was of late the number of 80 musketts or thereabouts, but how, to whom, or when the same was conveyed they could not tell All w<sup>ch</sup> I thought good to certifie to yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : conceivinge them to to be answerable to the Lds direccions and yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : comaunde. And soe I reste from Walton the xii<sup>th</sup> day of December 1625

“ Yo<sup>r</sup> Lo : most dutifull none

“J. STRANGE.

“ To the right honorable my very good  
Lo : and ffather the Earle of Derby  
hast these

“ A note of Armor of the Right Ho<sup>ble</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Henry  
Parker knight Lord Morley and Mountegle taken  
from Hornby Castle bye the Right Honorable  
the Lord Strange the ninth day of December 1625

Imprim :	Musketts Sixteene	Item	halfe a Brest Plate
Item	One Brasse Peece	Item	Helmetts and Beavers with them three
Item	Jacks Twentyeffower	Item	Gorgetts with Vombraises three
Item	Corsletts Seaventye	Item	One whole Gauntlett
Item	Morians Twentyeffower	Item	ffive Peecces of Gauntletts
Item	Gorgetts Twentye seaven	Item	Eleven little odd Peeccs worth litle”
Item	Fasses Twenty eight		
Item	Vombrases Thirtiefive		

Then came the stirring times of the Civil Wars, and Hornby was garrisoned for the King. Lancaster had been occupied for the Parliament in February, 1643. The brave Earl of Derby had fought desperately at Bolton, and had been defeated near Whalley. Flying from thence to Lathom, he next retired through Lancaster to Hornby, on his way to York, and it was probably by his advice that a small force was thrown into Hornby Castle early in May, 1643. A supporter of the Parliament states that the Cavaliers considered the castle impregnable on account of its situation. But Col. Ralph Assheton brought three companies of foot from Lancaster and threw them against the castle walls. "Their onset was compared to that of David on the Amalekites." Probably, however, their recent victories had rendered the Roundheads too confident, and their progress was rudely interrupted by an ambuscade. In the skirmish which followed, the Roundheads were worsted. A retreat was ordered, and effected without loss, and, in the words of a contemporary, "This attempt was judged dangerous in the undertaking, and dishonourable in the issue, but encouraged by a weighty and seasonable word of a present Divine." The Roundheads became more cautious. Having taken prisoner one of the Royalist soldiers, they extracted from him the information that the most vulnerable point of the castle was the great window at the east end of the hall. Colonel Assheton selected a body of his men, and furnishing them with "scaling ladders, great hammers, ropes, mattocks," sent them round to the back of the castle. Meanwhile he directed a fierce attack on the gates, and his men rushed boldly forward. Stones and pieces of iron were hurled upon them by the defenders, and after fighting for nearly two hours, they were compelled to retreat. Only for a

few moments, however, for rushing on again they laid fuel before the gates, and drove the garrison from the battlements by fire. At this critical point the unfortunate besieged found themselves attacked in the rear. The other party of Roundheads had scaled the hill on the east side of the castle, and effected an entrance by the great windows. Attacked in front and rear, the Cavaliers cried for quarter, the gates were opened, and the siege of the castle was over. The Roundheads boasted of a loss of only two men, with a third dangerously wounded.

On the 8th July following, an order was sent from the Commons' House of Parliament that "the Castle of Hornby be forthwith so defaced or "demolished that the enemy may be prevented "from making any further use thereof to the "annoyance of the inhabitants," and the deputy lieutenants were to give an account of their services in carrying out the order. This was not done "forthwith," owing to the disturbed state of the northern part of Lancashire; and in the second siege of Thurland Castle, in the autumn following, Colonel Rigby held his headquarters at Hornby.

At the close of the Civil War, Lord Morley's estates were forfeited, and he himself died in 1655.

His son Thomas obtained possession of the castle, but harassed by repeated sequestrations of his property, owing to his loyalty to the King and the Catholic religion, he conveyed the Hornby estate, by deed dated 26th January, 1663, to Robert, second Earl of Cardigan, whose successor George, the third Earl, in 1713 sold the Honour and Castle of Hornby to Francis Charteris.

Francis Chartres, or Charteris, was born about 1668, and served under the famous Duke of Marlborough in the reign of Queen Anne. His spare time, when with his regiment, seems to have been devoted to cheating his fellow officers at cards. At

last his unfair dealing became too apparent, and the Duke of Marlborough ordered him under arrest, in order to clear his character before a court-martial. This he was utterly unable to do, and being found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, his sword was broken and he was dismissed with every circumstance of ignominy and disgrace. He was obliged to leave Brussels, and a strange story of one method used by him to obtain money is related. On the way between Brussels and Mechlin he threw away a portion of his clothing, and then buttoning his long cloak about him, went to an inn for the night. Being treated with the respect then shown to an officer of a conquering army, he was shown to his room, and early in the morning he roused the household by summoning the landlord and declaring his clothes had been stolen. Further, he averred that with them had been taken a watch, a ring, and notes and gold of great value. It was useless for the unfortunate landlord to protest that he had no share in the matter. Charteris threatened to bring the affair before the British General, and in the end the landlord borrowed a sum of money from a neighbouring convent which he handed to Charteris, who accepted it and agreed to say no more about the matter.

Returning to Scotland before his disgrace was publicly known, he again obtained a commission, and became colonel of a regiment of horse. In Edinburgh he resorted to his card playing, and at a party given at the house of the Duchess of Queensberry, "he contrived to place the Duchess "in front of a large glass in which he could see "reflected all the cards she held. By this knavery "he won three thousand pounds at a sitting." (*Stories from the State Papers.*)

Soon after this, the story of his dismissal from the army of the Low Counties began to circulate, and the Colonel found it desirable to remove to

London. By money-lending he amassed a large fortune, and in 1713 he bought the Hornby Castle estates for the sum of £14,500.

But in the height of his prosperity he is recorded to have expressed himself ready to pay £10,000 in exchange for "a good character." So universally was he detested by his Scottish fellow-countrymen, that when the Scots marched south, in 1715, their leaders did not deem it prudent to allow any of the Highlanders to visit Hornby. A small party of English soldiers, under the command of the brave Colonel Oxburgh, visited the Castle, to obtain provisions. On their arrival they found the Lord of the Castle had thought discretion the better part of valour, and conveyed himself to Lancaster, where he endeavoured to persuade the inhabitants of the town to demolish the bridge over the Lune, and to put their powder into the town well. Having taken some wine and beer, with some provender for their horses, Colonel Oxburgh and his party returned from Hornby to the main body at Lancaster. Yet Colonel Charteris had the assurance to send Colonel Oxburgh a bill for £3 6s. 8d., for the entertainment afforded at Hornby Castle "for man and horse." (*Chetham Society*, vol. iv, p. 87.) Colonel Oxburgh proved equal to the emergency. He replied by giving Colonel Charteris his note of hand for the amount, "payable when his master's concerns should be settled."

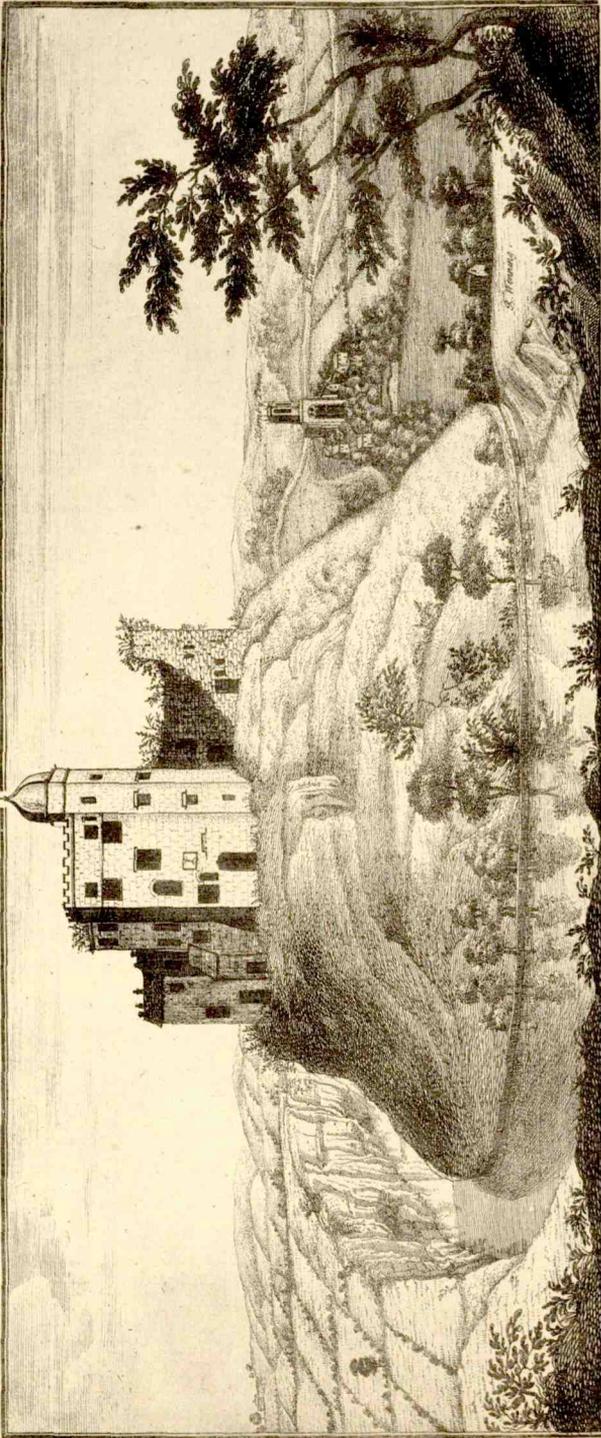
In 1729 Colonel Charteris was tried and found guilty of a criminal assault, and sentenced to be drawn, hanged, and quartered. But Lord Wemyss, who had married his only daughter, brought powerful influence to bear, and in the end the sentence was annulled by the King, and the usurer allowed to walk out of prison.

Colonel Charteris died on the 25th February, 1732, and the mob were with difficulty prevented from tearing his coffin in pieces when he was laid

in his grave, in the Grey Friars Churchyard at Edinburgh.

Janet, the only daughter of Colonel Charteris, married James fourth Earl of Wemyss, who died in 1756. Their son, Francis, the fifth Earl, sold Hornby, in 1789, to John Marsden of Wennington Hall, for the sum of £50,000. John Marsden died in 1826, and his will was contested by Admiral Sandford Tatham, his first cousin, on the ground that the testator was not competent to make a will; and then ensued the mass of litigation which formed the famous Hornby Castle trial—the cause of Doe on the demise of Tatham *v.* Wright. The first trial, at York, in March, 1830, lasted six days, and resulted in establishing the validity of the will. Application for a new trial was made, but refused by Sir John Leech, the Master of the Rolls. A bill was then preferred in the Court of Chancery, to be argued before the Lord Chancellor (Lord Brougham), but he having been engaged as counsel for Admiral Tatham at York, the matter was argued before Lord Lyndhurst and Chief Justice Tyndal, who decided that there were no grounds to set aside the verdict. Then Admiral Tatham proceeded by ejectment, and the first trial, in March, 1833, which lasted four days, resulted in a verdict rejecting the will. A bill of exceptions was filed, and a new trial was ordered. This trial came on at Lancaster, at three o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday, the 23rd of August, 1834. The court was crowded, and both sides had engaged the most eminent counsel they could obtain. Sir James Scarlett, Mr. Starkie, Mr. Armstrong, and Mr. Cresswell were retained on behalf of Admiral Tatham; and Mr. Wright was represented by Sir Frederick Pollock, Sergeant Atcherley, Mr. Wightman, Mr. Tomlinson, and Mr. Martin. Amongst the witnesses were Baron Bolland, Mr. John Gladstone, once member for Lancaster, the Earl of Derby,

THE EAST VIEW OF HORNBY CASTLE, NEAR LANCASTER.



THIS Castle is beautifully situated on a Hill, round the foot of which runs the river Wharfe. It was founded by Nicholas de Mont-Beorn and after belonged to the Noble Families of the Scarringtons & Sturges Barons de Mont-Aquila or Mont-Aigle descended from Thomas Stanley Earl of Derby; William Stanley the third & last Baron of Montegyle of that Name, left only a Daughter named Elizabeth, who married Edm<sup>d</sup> Parker Lord Morley, and had a Son William, who was restored by K. James 1<sup>st</sup> to the Barony of Montegyle.

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then Lord Stanley, and Dr. Lingard, with a cloud of local evidence. For ten days the trial lasted, and the verdict of the jury in favour of the will was given in midst of a scene of painful excitement. But this was not the last trial. Two years later, in August, 1836, the great cause was heard again, before Mr. Justice Coleridge and a special jury. The hearing occupied eleven days, and resulted in a verdict against the will. Further proceedings ensued, and finally, in June, 1838, the case came before the House of Lords on a writ of error, when the issue again was decided in favour of Admiral Tatham and against John Marsden's will. On the 3rd of August following, Admiral Tatham took possession of the Hornby estates. He only lived a short time to enjoy the property, as he died in January, 1840, aged 85. Hornby then passed to his relative, Pudsey Dawson, who died in 1859. His nephew, Richard Pudsey Dawson, sold the Castle and estates to John Foster of Queensberry, near Leeds, from whom it passed to his son William Foster. On his death, in 1883, the Castle and estates devolved upon his son William Henry Foster, the present owner.

Of the ancient castle little now remains. Massive foundations of round towers, and an ancient keep, have from time to time been discovered; but the oldest existing building is the massive keep erected by the first Lord Monteaule, and which bears on its eastern wall his crest—the eagle's claw. The old buildings suffered much from the execrable taste of Colonel Charteris, who disfigured the Castle with rows of sash windows.

The poet Gray, in recording his visit to the Castle in 1765, mentions the watch tower at the corner of the keep, fitted up as a modern summer house, "with sash windows in gilt frames, a stucco cupola, and on the top a vast gilt eagle."

The noble avenue of elms was planted by Lord

Wemyss, more than a century and a half ago, and later restorations in the building have built up a castle which now adorns a landscape scarcely rivalled for beauty in the length and breadth of England.

Close to the gates of Hornby Castle stands Hornby Church.

The edifice, as planned by Sir Edward Stanley, consisted of a nave, chancel, and western tower. Of these the tower was erected in Lord Monteagle's lifetime, but from the terms of his will it would seem that he had not then completed the Church. As his death occurred shortly after the date of the will, he was probably buried at the Priory. The disputes which arose over his estate, and the dissolution of the Priory, probably prevented Lord Monteagle's executors from carrying out his directions as to the transfer of the body to the "new chancell."

The tower is octagonal, the upper part being set diagonally to the base. Above the doorway on the western side is a window with perpendicular tracery, and above again is a small niche for a statue. On the north-west side is the inscription—

E. STANLEY : MILES : DNS :  
: MOUNTEGLE . ME . FIERI . FEC .

On the south-west side a sculptured panel bears the Monteagle arms:—

*Quarterly.*

*First and fourth grand quarters—quarterly ; first and fourth, Argent, on a bend Azure three stags' heads, cabossed, Or ; second, Or, on a chief indented Azure three bezants ; third, chequy Or and Azure.*

*Second and third, Gules, three legs conjoined in the fesse point in armour proper, garnished and spanned Or ;*

*On an Escutcheon of pretence—Azure, a lion rampant Argent.*

The tower contains six bells, which bear the following inscriptions\* :—

1. Armigero optimae spei adolescenti Francisco Charteris Iuni<sup>i</sup> a Castro Hornby. An. Dom. 1761.

2. M<sup>o</sup> Christophero Skirrow & M<sup>o</sup> Richardo Howson Sacrorum Curatoribus spectata Fidei & probitatis Laude Insignibus. An. Dom. 1761.

3. Honour & Honesty. Love & Loyalty. Peace & Good Neighbourhood.

4. Laudo Deum verum : Plebem voco : congreo Clerum : Defunctos ploro : Pestem fugo : Festa decoro :

5. Honorabili viro Francisco Charteris a Castro de Hornby, Patrono, moribus candidis, artibus Puer ingenius vere nobili. An. Dom : 1761.

6. Honoratissimae Feminae Dominae Catherinae Charteris, pietate, benignitate ac morum suavitate ornatissimae. An. Dom. 1761.

The nave, rebuilt in 1817, was an instance of modern vandalism. The old nave was demolished, the bases only of its octagonal piers being left standing, and an oblong building with a flat ceiling took its place. Till recently, the obtusely pointed arch into the tower was almost entirely blocked by the gallery.

The windows of the chancel have perpendicular tracery and transoms. The label outside the east window terminates on the north side with the eagle's claw (the Stanley crest), on the south with the three legs of Man. The similar label over the inside of the east window terminates in shields bearing on the north side the letters I H C, on the south side the Stanley claw. The labels of the window on the north side of the chancel terminate in male and female heads, while those of the other chancel windows terminate in grotesque representations of animals. There are also two clerestory windows on each side. On the south side of the chancel stood the mortuary chapel of Hornby

\* I am indebted to the Rev. W. B. Grenside, of Melling, for the copies of these inscriptions.

Castle, erected by George Wright, for a time the possessor of the castle. Above its entrance was a brass to the memory of Dr. Lingard, the learned author of the *History of England* and of the *Antiquities of the Anglo-Saxon Church*, who was forty years minister at the Roman Catholic Chapel of Hornby, and who died at Hornby July 18th, 1851, aged 82.

The restoration, recently completed, consisted mainly of the clearing out the flat roof of the nave, the addition of a clerestory to the nave, and the division of the nave from the aisles by five lofty arches on each side. The western gallery has been demolished, and the archway into the tower opened out.

In the churchyard stands a massive stone variously attributed to Roman and to Saxon times. But about three-quarters of a mile away, on the old road leading to Slaidburn, stands a beautifully simple roadside cross formed of one block of stone, now wreathed with hazel and the foxglove's bells, and before which many a wayfarer has sought Divine protection on his lonely journey across the Botton Fell.

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NOTE.—The Priory of Hornby was a cell of the Premonstratensian order attached to the Abbey of Croxton Keyrial in Leicestershire. The cell was dedicated to St. Wilfrid. Its inmates were a prior and three canons. The founder is unknown, but Roger de Montbegon gave to it one hundred acres of land. The priory was resigned by William Holyday, the last prior, and two monks, on the 23rd February, 1536, when its revenue amounted to £30 9s. 3d. The priory buildings stood on a slight eminence just above the junction of the Lune with the Wenning. Dr. Whitaker stated the church to be about 120 feet in length, with a small projection for the north transept. A few gravestones are the only existing relics of Hornby Priory.