

OFFICIAL GUIDE

Dudley Castle



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OFFICIAL GUIDE

TO

DUDLEY CASTLE

Features—

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF CASTLE

By HAROLD BRAKSPEAR, F.S.A.
Of Corsham, Wilts.

HISTORY OF OWNERS OF THE CASTLE

By the late A. A. ROLLASON, of Dudley.

MAP OF DUDLEY CASTLE

Price - 1/-

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DUDLEY CASTLE

BY HAROLD BRAKSPEAR, F.S.A.

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DUDLEY castle is one of the few mentioned as existing at Domesday, and was thrown up by one of the followers of the Conqueror, William FitzAnsculph. Of this castle the earthworks, though since built upon, remain complete. The stockade defences surrounding the bailey seem quickly to have given place to stone walls, for those on either side the great gatehouse and one next the kitchen are of early twelfth-century date.

During the rebellion of Prince Henry against his father in 1175, Dudley was held for him by the owner, Gervase Paganel. For this offence the castle was dismantled, but a subsequent fine of 500 marks re-established Paganel, and he probably repaired part of the castle for a dwelling-house. On his death his daughter Hawise, married to John de Somery, became possessed of the manor.

About 1261 Roger de Somery began to fortify his house at Dudley, but was stopped for proceeding to do so without authority. Two years later, for aiding the king against the barons, he obtained a licence to crenellate the house of his manor (*mansum manerii sui*) at Dudley with a ditch and a Wall of stone and lime, and to fortify it. He was taken prisoner at Lewes the same year, and died in 1272; it is, therefore, questionable whether any building was actually begun by him at Dudley.

John de Somery, grandson of Roger, was knighted in 1305, and is reported to have been a turbulent neighbour by William de Bereford and others, "who assert that he has obtained such mastery in the county of Stafford that no one can obtain law or justice therein; that he has made himself more than a king there; that no one can dwell there unless he buys protection from him either by money or by assisting him in building his castles, and that he attacks people in their own houses with the intention of killing them unless they make fine for his protection." From this it would seem that the main defences of this place were being carried on by this Sir John.

On his death in 1321, Dudley passed to the family of Sutton through the marriage of Margaret his sister to John of Sutton-on-Trent. This John Sutton held the place for over thirty years, and is probably responsible for the erection of the chapel and hall. In 1432 the Sutton family was ennobled.

About 1533 the castle and barony were seized by John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, and by him the whole of the dwelling part of the castle was remodelled. This work was apparently done under the direction of Sir William Sharington, who converted Lacock abbey, in Wiltshire, into a dwelling house for himself, and directed sundry works for admiral lord Seymour at Sudeley and Bromham. On 25th June, 1553, Sharington wrote to Sir John Thynne, who was then building Longleat: "understanding how gladly you would that Chapman should work for you, as I am no less willing, so I must advise you of his going to Dudley, to be sent thither by my lord of Northumberland his Grace's commandment, to do things there of like effect and yet not herehence departed; he hath sent all his working tools before with such wains as be gone thither with the chimney that so long he hath been working of."

As Sharington himself died before 6th July and the duke of Northumberland was arrested on 25th July, it is questionable if Chapman ever reached Dudley; and whether the chimney was ever fixed will not now be known, as there is no fireplace existing worked in bath stone. If it was that of the great hall it has entirely perished with the wall in which it was set.

An interesting feature of Dudley's fondness of architectural ornament still remains in the Beauchamp tower in the Tower of London, where he must have been incarcerated during the twenty-seven days which passed between his arrest and execution. This consists of a panel 20½ inches square, having in the middle a shield, on which is a chain bear and rampant lion holding up a staff raguly, under which is IOHN DVDLI. This is surrounded by a floral pattern of roses, honeysuckle, tulips and acorns. Beneath is an inscription uncompleted and difficult to understand.

After the execution of Northumberland the castle remained in the hands of the crown until 1554, when queen Mary granted it with certain of the confiscated lands to lord Edward Dudley, the descendant of the Suttons. Queen Elizabeth visited Dudley in 1575, and in preparation for her visit the withdrawing room was apparently made.

The so-called warder's tower with the wall running south-east and the angle-turret were possibly erected about this time. They were never built for defence, and are entirely of limestone rubble and brick, without any architectural features.

In 1585 there was some talk of placing Mary queen of Scots here, and to examine its suitability Sir Amyas Powlet visited the castle. He reported to Sir Francis Walsingham: "the lodgings . . . are not so manye in number as I could wisse and are very little and straight saving the lodgings wch must serve for this Q, wch are so faire and commodious as she cannot desire to have them amended . . . also the howse ys utterlie destitute of table boordes, cupboordes, fourmes, stools and bedstedes saving that the hall and greate chambre are provided with table boordes. . . . A barn must be converted to a stable for the gouvernors horses. . . . This queens gentlemen servantes will not like wth thief straight lodgings because they have no inner chambers. The brewing vessels are somewhat decayed and some are wanting which may be supplied from Burton. The water for the kitchens and howshold must be set owt of the dikes without the gate and yet some will say that the pump wch standeth in the middest of the court yf yt were cleansed would furnishe sufficient and good water, but I find others that doubt thereof. The chamber windows of this

Q's lodgings are open upon the park as likewise the windows of her kitchen, which I trust may be supplied by a good watche and a deepe ditche but especially by this Q. infirmitie wch will not permitt her to run away on here owne feete. These defectes are recompenced yn parte with the strength of the howse in other respects and with manie other good commodities."

In 1643 died the last of the Sutton Dudleys, and his heiress Frances, being married to Humble Ward, the only son of William Ward, jeweller to the queen, the castle and estate passed to that family.

At the rebellion the castle was held for the king by one Thomas Leveson, and though the castle was provisioned for three years, he, before any siege, to avoid bloodshed, offered to surrender it to Sir William Brereton. In 1647 the place is said to have been sleighted by order of the parliament.

The earliest known picture of the castle is that made in 1684 for Dr. Plot, which shows the building from the east. The keep is ruined as well as the hall, the vice at the north-east angle, and the chapel block. This was unaltered in 1731 when the brothers Buck made their view, but this was taken from the opposite side.

Some time at the end of the seventeenth century the block of buildings between the gatehouse and the keep was erected.

In the Dudley parish registers is an entry under 1750 as follows: "be it ever remembered Dudley castle was on fire on St. James' fair day eve, July 24th and was burning on the 25th and 26th, the folks would not go anear it on account of the powder said to be in armoury, the eastern part of the roof being most lead it ran down the hill red-hot and set fire to the long gras, which for a time looked as though the whole hill was in flames and sadly feared the town foulds—J.P."

In 1779 it is said that William viscount Dudley and Ward cleared the keep, and built up the north-west tower as it now stands.

The late owner had for some years been carrying out needful and judicious repairs, and every praise is due to him for the careful manner in which they have been accomplished.

THE EARTHWORKS.

The earthwork of the Norman castle remains as perfect as on the day it was made, save on the south side where the ditches were filled in by the sleighting of the later building. The castle is of the usual mount and bailey type cut out of the south end of a limestone ridge. The bailey¹ is oval, some 200 feet from north to south. The mount is at the south-west end of the bailey and is circular. The entrance was probably always where it is now, under the direct protection of the mount. As the earthworks are made out of limestone ridge the usual silting of the ditches² by gradual wasting of the banks is absent, and they are still mostly in a wonderfully clean condition. Water lodged in that on the north-west, but beyond surface water the ditch was never intended for anything but a dry one, since on the south side by the mount the ditch works out out the scarp of the hill.³

There is a flat area of ground on the north side of the castle which continues in a narrow strip along the east side to below the mount, where it expands into a wider area. Though in quite late days a wall was built along the outer edge of part of this area, it does not seem ever to have been enclosed during the time the castle was used for serious defence.

THE CURTAIN.

The whole curtain wall, eight feet thick, is John de Somery's work, built doubtless on the line of the Norman stockades, but in straight sections. Whether any part was defended by bastions there is nothing to shew.

In the first place the gate house was within the line of the curtain, but at a later date, presumably at the sleighting, a length of the curtain on either side of the gate was pulled down and subsequently built up on a different line: that on the east side in line with the inner face of the gate, and that on the west to form the back of what is now called "the stables."

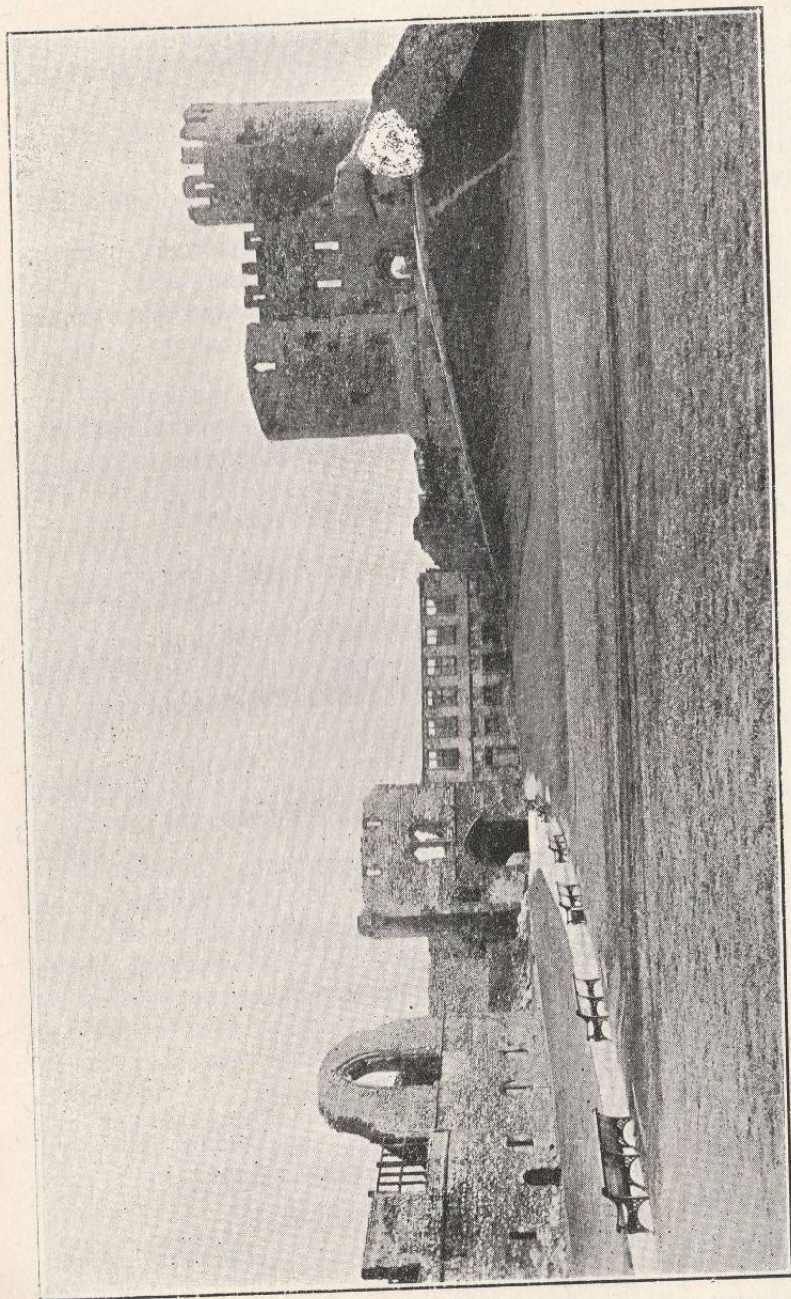
Another length of the curtain was destroyed by the extreme northern block of Sharrington's buildings, but for what reason it is difficult to understand.

1 The "mount" is the hill on which the keep stands. The "bailey" is the courtyard.

2 The ditches are generally but erroneously designated as the "moat."

3 Readers will appreciate that the ditch has been altered somewhat (with permission of the Ministry of Works) to meet the requirements of the Zoo.

4 Sharrington's buildings—the work executed by Sir Wm. Sharrington for the Duke of Northumberland in the Sixteenth Century.



Dudley Castle Courtyard.

More than half the west side of the curtain has been destroyed on its outer face, probably for material in the eighteenth century, but it is original internally and retains a row of Corbels to carry a pentise.¹ At some 30 feet from the north-west angle of the curtain is a round-headed doorway leading into a projecting turret, which in later days contained one or more garderobes. Exactly half-way between this door and the keep are the foundations of a small building to which the pentise led, and at the back of this the curtain is perfect to a considerable height. Externally it had a buttress opposite the north wall of the building, and another half down its west side. From this point, for some 50 feet, the curtain has been destroyed and of recent years built up with a thin wall.

THE GREAT GATE.

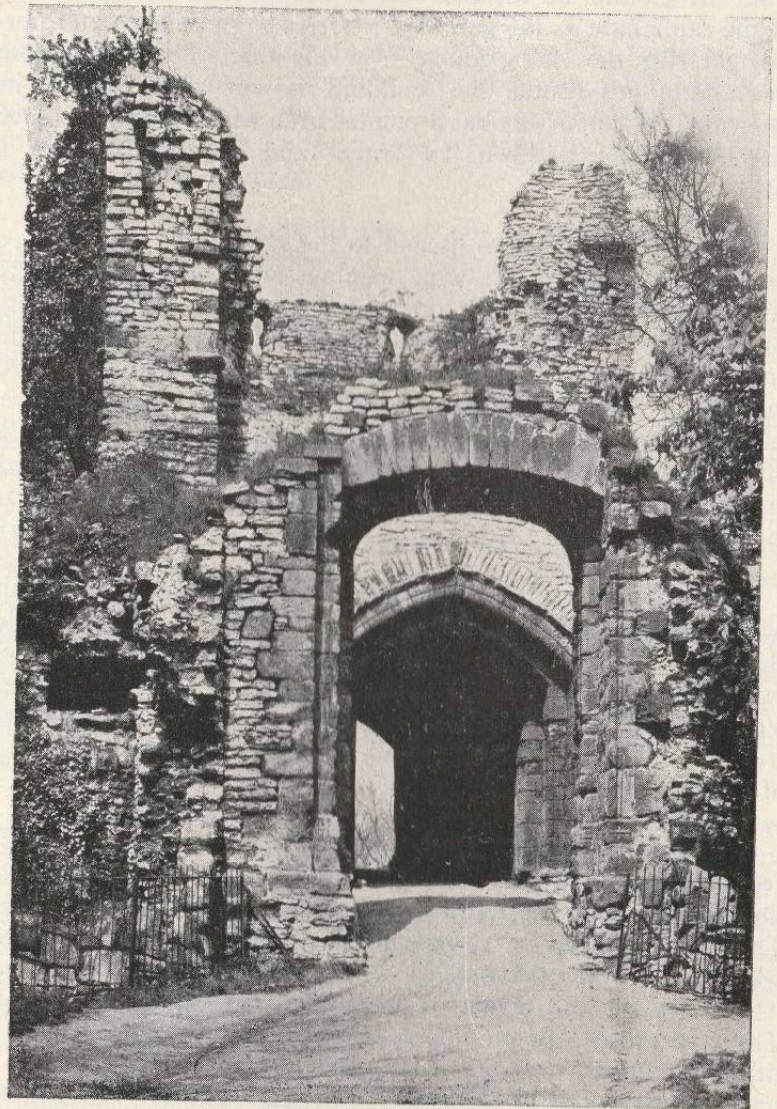
The great gate of entrance is on the north side of the bailey, and has an added barbican defended by two small drums and a drawbridge.

The gateway itself, 27 feet long by 17 feet wide, is of two storeys and remains tolerably perfect. The side walls are of the twelfth century, six feet thick, and still show the original quoins at all angles but the north-west. It is covered by a semi-circular barrel-vault, but of what date it is difficult to say.

The rest of the gatehouse is of John de Somery's building. The south wall is no less than nine feet thick, in which, considerably out of centre towards the east, is a fine pointed segmental arch-doorway of three members, formed of large three-quarter-round mouldings continuing down the jambs: and between the second and innermost member is a groove $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide for a portcullis. The doorway is flanked by wide buttresses. The inner (north) wall is $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick and has a second doorway similar to the outer with a portcullis groove, but is of only two members. The rere-arch is of two moulded members with a label² having carved terminals.

¹ Pentise—a lean-to now demolished.

² "Label"—a hood moulding.



Exterior of Great Gatehouse.

The first floor is gained through a small doorway, 10 feet from the ground, on the east side of the inner arch, and though of the same date as the gateway, it seems to have been an after-thought, for the string-course over the main doorway, which was continuous round the building, is cut through for its insertion. The doorway has a pointed arch with a single-moulded member continued down the jambs and is covered with a label.

From this door steps ascend to the room over the gateway, doubtless the guardroom, with openings on to the curtain walls. At the north end of the room are two lancet windows, with cusped heads of two members, covered by a label and the sills are of three courses, resting on the moulded string-course. At the top of the stairs from the entrance is a vice¹ in a turret leading to the roof. This was entirely hidden behind the walls of the gatehouse, and had a walking-space around it, with arrow slot-holes in the side walls, of which two yet remain to the north.

The defences of the gate were increased by John Sutton, who added a barbican having a drum turret at either angle. Between them was doubtless a drawbridge across the ditch protected by arrow slots in the drums close to the ground level. Very little remains of this barbican, but it would be approached from the guardroom through wall-passages like those to the bars of York.

In the fifteenth century, for further protection, a wall $5\frac{1}{4}$ feet thick was put between the drums, probably by the lord Dudley who took the Lancastrian side in the wars of the Roses. The wall is pierced by a segmental headed opening, only $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, covered on the outside by the drawbridge when closed. The holes for the pivots of the bridge remain in each jamb. There was also a pair of doors on the inside of the opening.

The great gate at this time had no less than six obstructions to defend it: (1) the drawbridge with (2) a pair of doors behind, (3) a portcullis with (4) a pair of doors, and (5) a second portcullis with (6) another pair of doors.

¹ "Vice"—a circular staircase.

THE KEEP.

In the fourteenth century a great keep was erected on the top of the mount, begun apparently by John de Somery. This is 50 feet from east to west by 27 feet wide, and had walls averaging 10 feet in thickness, and a great three-quarter drum tower at each angle 31 feet across. Externally, the lower parts of the walls are battered.

The north sides and its two drums remain to their original height, but the south side and its drums were destroyed at the sleighting, and the amount of material thus thrown down may be appreciated by the consequent complete extinction of the ditch below.

The keep was never more than two storeys in height and the entrance is in the middle of the north wall. This is a doorway of three members similar to those of the great gate, protected by a portcullis between the second and third member. The ground floor of the keep seems to have had a loop in either end, and another on the south side. The northern drums were not divided from the main chamber and were each lighted by a narrow loop. In the north-west drum is a doorway, now blocked, which led to a garderobe in the thickness of the wall.¹ A similar doorway in the north-east drum leads to a staircase in the thickness of the wall, giving access to the floor above. The two southern drums were built solid at this first floor level.

Just inside the entrance to the keep is a doorway to a large vice by which the first floor of the keep is gained. This floor is arranged as hall with two chambers in the western drums: the eastern end was divided off by screens. In the north wall are a pair of lancets with window-seats. There was a similar lancet in the west end and doubtless others in the east and south.

The north-west drum has a wide window facing west, with an inserted fire-place just to the south. There is a shouldered doorway on the north-west side which leads to a garderobe in the thickness of the wall. The south-west drum was probably arranged similarly as a living room.

¹ This Wall externally is built on a wide construction arch.

The north-east drum has a deeply splayed loop to the east and a shouldered doorway on the north side to the staircase in the thickness of the wall from the blocked doorway on the ground floor.

The whole arrangement of this keep was of a small manor-house: the hall on the first floor with two chambers at the west end, the screens at the east end with the pantry and buttery in the eastern drums, and a serving stair to the ground floor which was probably used for kitchen and servants' quarters.

There would doubtless be a well in the keep, but though search has been made for it nothing of the sort has yet been found.

Surrounding the north-east drum is the lower part of a fourteenth century concentric defence which had a protecting wall pierced with arrow slots, one of which remains at the south end. In connection with this defence are the remains of the upper part of what seems to have been an ascending stair up the mount against the curtain-wall, similar to those to the round tower at Windsor. The lower part was probably destroyed at the sleighting and further by the erection of "the stables" on its site. It is just possible that this, the only approach to the keep, started from the guard-room over the gate, though more probably it began just within the gate, as at Windsor, Corfe, Nottingham and elsewhere.

Round the keep, outside the curtain, has been built a strong retaining wall, apparently for a platform for ordnance, but whether at the time of the rebellion or earlier is hard to say.

Between the keep and the great gate is a two-staired building of about 1690, which seems never to have been completed: it is usually called "the stables."

The whole of the first buildings, including the curtain, the great gatehouse and the keep, were built with limestone rubble with freestone dressings to the doors and windows. Each opening is covered by a carefully formed relieving arch in the rubble masonry. A very distinctive feature of all this early building is the mortar. This at first sight seems to be composed of pounded brick and lime in the most approved Roman manner, but on examination the red particles will be seen to be of iron,

the mortar being made from the ashes of the furnaces which, even at that period, must have been in full work in this district.

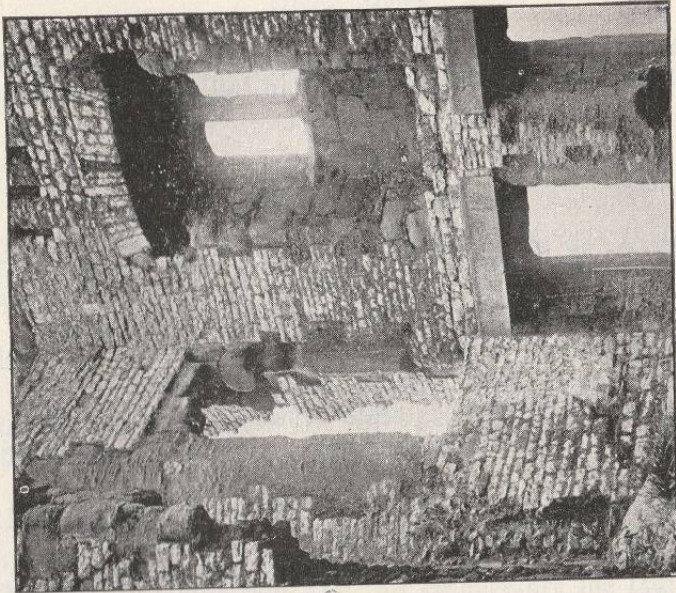
THE HALL.

Occupying the eastern half of the curtain are the dwelling rooms of the castle. These were first built in the twelfth century, altered by the erection of the curtain early in the fourteenth century, and rebuilt a few years later; then entirely remodelled as a manor house in the sixteenth century, and although burnt in the eighteenth century, the group still forms one of the most interesting buildings of its kind in the kingdom.

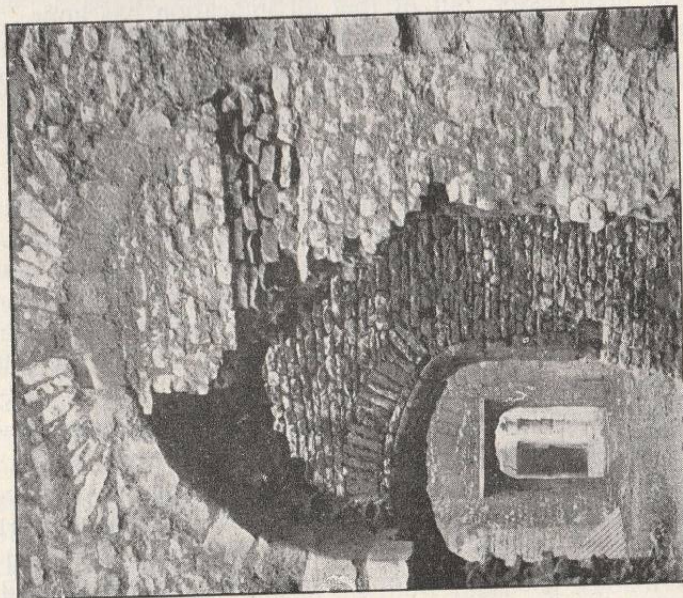
It is divided into three principal blocks, of which the middle is the hall, the southern block contains the great chamber and the chapel, and the northern block the kitchen with bedrooms over. There is a further block to the north containing a small gateway and servants' quarters.

The hall doubtless occupies the same position as its Norman predecessor, but of that all indication has gone. The fourteenth-century hall was of the same width as the present one, and parts of its west wall are incorporated in the later work.

The hall with its building northward of it, save for the curtain and a few odd bits of other walls, are entirely of the work undertaken by the duke of Northumberland under the direction of Sir William Sharrington. Nothing too high can be said of the beautiful simplicity of the design, or of the splendid manner of execution: the setting-out is wonderfully accurate, and the way in which every angle has its re-entering quoins recalls the best traditions of the thirteenth century. Again, when it is remembered that these buildings of Sharrington's were erected in the reign of Edward VI, many years before the palaces of Elizabeth's reign were thought of, the convenience of their arrangements and the advanced nature of their comforts is little short of wonderful. At Dudley scarcely anything of importance was altered from the time of its building until its destruction by fire in the eighteenth century.



Back of Spy-hole to Hall.



Norman Arch in Buttery, with Kitchen-Hatch beyond.

All the walls are built of limestone rubble laid in courses, with freestone dressings of an unfortunately soft sandstone which has weathered so badly that nearly every detail has vanished. Externally, as at Lacock, the walls were plastered or intended to be, and the quoins of the windows were cut down to square strips, and those of the angles into headers and stretchers of uniform length, which must have had a very unpleasant effect. The chimneys were in brick, and the roofs would be covered with red tiles, save of the hall and other flats, which were of lead.

The present hall, 78 feet long by $31\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, was on the first floor over a subvault, and was approached in an unusual manner. The west front has at each end a square projection, the northern being the porch and the southern a staircase. Between these, at the level of the hall, was an open loggia,¹ gained by a straight flight of steps in the middle. The front of the loggia was formed by a colonnade of five bays, of the Ionic order, the half columns of which remain at either end. These were fluted and reeded to a third of their height and supported on a parapet wall. The entablature was built in two courses, of which the lower, taking the architrave and frieze, was curiously joggled at the joints. The loggia was supported on four-centred arches having a small moulded impost at the springing, except the middle bay, which, owing to the abutment of the steps, was solid. The loggia was covered by a flat ceiling having a stone cornice against the hall, and above was a lead flat with a stone weathering over.

At the north end of the loggia was the entrance to the porch. This consists of a wide opening with a flat and joggled head covered by an entablature supported at either end on console brackets. Above the opening is a relieving arch which is characteristic of all the doorways of Sharington's work. This opening does not seem to have been fitted with a door in the first place: the jambs and soffit are entirely freestone and slightly hollowed, but without a rebate.

The porch is about 14 feet square, and had a wooden floor and ceiling. In the west wall are a pair of small three-light windows, and there is another of two lights in the south wall.

¹ "Loggia"—a covered platform with open front.

The north wall, at its west end, has been cut through for a door to the room beyond. The east wall is occupied by the entrance doorway to the hall itself, which is precisely similar to the opening from the loggia, save that it has rebates for a door. The internal jambs are formed of ashlar,¹ with a chamfered angle, and the present head is a wooden lintel.

Beneath the porch is a room forming the entrance to the hall subvault from the court. Externally it is faced with ashlar, and the front has two four-centred arches six inches deep, of which the northern forms the entrance doorway and the southern has a small two-light window within the arch. The small return of the south wall has a single arch, similar to those on the front but smaller, and contains a single light window. These blank arches have the same moulded imposts at the springing as those carrying the loggia.

The hall has the screens at the north end, but there was no gallery over. In the north wall are four square headed doorways with cornices above, while still higher, in the middle of the wall, is an interesting feature. In the hall of Great Chalfield Manor, in Wiltshire, in this position, is a monster with pierced eyes and mouth, through which the head of the house could see, without being seen, that good order was kept in the hall. At Ludlow castle, but at the upper end of the hall, is a fifteenth-century opening in the shape of a doorway, but with the lower part built solid, which was used for the same purpose. This spy-hole at Dudley is in the form of a two-light window with a wide mullion, and towards the hall is surrounded by a stone architrave surmounted by a pediment, while under the window is a stone pedestal with moulded cornice and base. On the inside of the window is, under the sill, a stone shelf supported by console brackets.

The hall was lighted by a row of large windows high up on either side. The west wall remains, and contains six windows, each with four lights, with transoms and deeply-splayed sills. Where the projecting blocks of the porch and staircase occur the windows show internally and are built as shams. Under the southernmost is a wide square-headed doorway with cornice and console brackets. The east wall appears to have had a similar

¹ "Ashlar"—worked stone as distinguished from rubble.

row of windows to the west, of which the southern jamb of the southernmost remains, but all the rest of the wall has gone. In the middle of the wall was presumably destined to stand the great fireplace upon which the carver Chapman was so long working in Wiltshire.

The south end of the hall is blank save that the string which passes under the side windows and jumps to the angles, crosses the wall at a higher level. There must have been a small doorway in the south-east angle which led by a wall-passage to the great chamber.

The hall floor was of wood, and the ceiling flat and covered with lead, and the hall was left at the sleighting much as it is at present.

The subvault under the hall is lighted by four two-light windows from the arched recesses beneath the loggia. In the north wall is a four-centred opening, and from the space under the porch is a four-centred doorway.

The northern end of the east wall is slightly thicker than the southern portion and is said to have contained a passage in its thickness. There is absolutely no indication of such, and as it would lead from the space northward of the hall with which there is another connection there is no reason for its existence.

The south end of the subvault is occupied by a cellar 16 feet wide, having a barrel-vault. There is at present a gap in the north wall, probably in the place of an original doorway.

At the east end of the cellar is one jamb of a deeply-splayed window, and in the south-east angle is a small doorway leading to a wall-passage. At the opposite end of the cellar is a four-centred doorway into the space under the staircase.

Externally for the first three stages this staircase block is like that of the porch, the lower stage is all of ashlar, having wall-arches, and windows beneath. The second stage has a pair of three-light windows to the front, both partly built solid. The third stage has a pair of two-light windows, of which the northern was built solid. Unlike the porch block there is yet a fourth passage having a single window to the west originally transomed and divided into three lights. There was also a

single-light window with a transom on the north side. Part of the cornice and one corner of the parapet remains at the top, and each stage is divided by a moulded string-course. The block contained a wooden staircase which was intended to gain the rooms over the great chamber and perhaps the roof over the hall. Solid window-lights occur where the stairs crossed the window spaces. There is a square-headed doorway, which had double doors, leading into the loggia, and a smaller one in the third stage on to the leads above. There was a square-headed doorway in the south wall, on the hall level, giving access to the original great chamber. In this block some of the windows still retain the indication of having the curious "Sharingtonian" feature of a pair of console brackets under the head of each light, which, as in his work at Lacock, doubtless occurred in all the principal windows.

In later days the stairs were removed, as their presence was rendered useless by the erection of those added between the site of the great chamber and the chapel. This was probably done in preparation for queen Elizabeth's visit, as the block was divided up by floors for bedrooms. The first floor, level with the hall, had a brick fireplace inserted in the original doorway to the great chamber, but the half-blocked windows were not altered, showing that the work was done in a hurry. The next floor above was gained by a short flight of steps apparently against the north wall, and in this case also the windows were unaltered. The third floor was gained from the second by a wall-stair inserted in the south-west angle of the block and had a brick fireplace added in the south-west angle.

THE CHAPEL AND GREAT CHAMBER.

At the south end of the wall is a block of buildings dating chiefly from the fourteenth century. It consisted originally of the great chamber and the chapel, both over cellarage, parallel to each other but with a space between. The great chamber was on the same level, and placed almost at right-angles with the hall. It has been so altered at various periods as to be almost unrecognisable. The whole of this part of the castle is considerably ruined, and was part of the buildings sleighted at the rebellion.

The original great chamber was on the level of the hall, 50 feet in length by 24 feet in width, but nothing remains to show any original features save part of the jamb and sill of a window at the east end. The subvault retains its original walls, and there is a square-headed loop in the west end and a second, blocked up further north. There is a doorway of a single member in the south wall leading to a space between the great chamber and the chapel, which had a small building at either end. That to the west has an original pointed doorway from the court with another square loop to the south of it. Eastward of this small room the space between the great chamber and the chapel narrows; the side walls run out into the ditch beyond the curtain and contained garderobes.

The chapel is 50 feet long by 23 feet wide. The west end remains nearly complete and has a pointed window. This was originally of three lights with flowery tracery, and has a label with carved terminals. The western part of the south side remains and contains a moulded doorway of two members having an ogee head. This was gained by a flight of steps from the court, which, however, have left no indication of their existence beyond some rough masonry just beneath the doorway. Inside the door, on the west, is a wide recess, and on the east a cupboard, beyond which are the remains of a window. The rest of the wall has gone. Of the north wall nothing remains except the jamb of a doorway close against the west wall. The east end of the chapel formed part of the curtain but has been ruined down to the floor, though partly rebuilt in recent years.

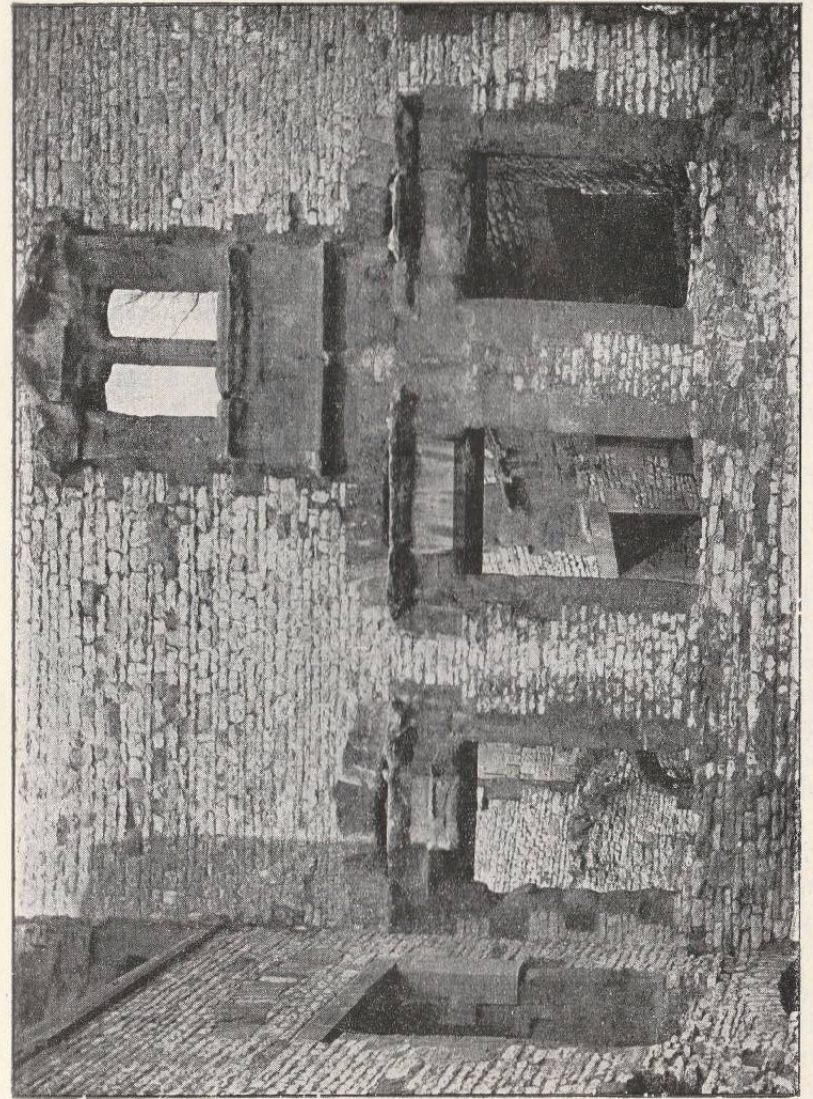
Under the chapel is a fine cellar covered by a waggon-vault and entered on the south side through a pointed doorway. In the west wall are two square loops, and there is a third in the middle of the south side. The chapel floor is made up off the waggon of the cellar by having half-arches from the vault to the side walls, some 18 inches wide and two feet apart: these were covered with rough slabs upon which the floor was laid. Such construction was doubtless to relieve the vault of any unnecessary weight.

When the remodelling took place in the sixteenth century no alteration was made in the form of the great chamber. The north wall was much reduced by the staircase block, the exterior

of the north-east angle was rebuilt, and the north wall was refaced above the subvault. At the extreme east end is a doorway which connected through a wall-passage with the dais of the hall. Further west are the springs of what seems to be an arched recess, eight feet two inches wide. How this was arranged is hard to understand, as within it started a vice to the rooms above. In the middle of the wall was a fireplace which has lost its jambs, but the herring-bone brick back and racing of the brick flue remain. Further west was the chief entrance through a flat-headed doorway off the staircase. In the east wall was left the fourteenth century window, and there was probably a large inserted window in the west end.

Over the great chamber another storey was added by the duke of Northumberland, entered by the vice starting from the floor below, and divided apparently into two bedrooms. The western room was done away with later, but its fireplace remains in the north wall. The eastern room was not interfered with by later alterations, and retains in the middle of its north wall a square-headed fireplace with moulded cornice supported on console brackets with a plain stone overmantel slightly sunk to form a panel. To the right of this fireplace is a small square-headed doorway to a narrow wall-passage. Off this to the east is a small room 10 feet from east to west by 8 feet, contained in the thickness of the wall, with a four-centred ribbed vault resting on moulded corbels in the angles. Opposite the door into this room is a second door at the head of the vice from the great chamber.

The inconvenience of such contracted access to two important rooms was apparently soon felt: the vice was done away with and a new staircase formed in the middle of the space between the chapel and great chamber, and at the same time the chamber itself was divided by a cross-partition. In the western half the floor was lowered two feet, a new fireplace inserted in the north-east angle, the entrance off the old staircase blocked up, a new entrance made, doubtless off the new staircase, and a small two-light window inserted in the west wall. Over this room a floor was constructed to form a similar room above. The eastern half of the great chamber was left much as it was, save that the fireplace was moved further east.



Doorways at North End of Hall.

A still further alteration was made in this portion of the castle apparently in preparation for the visit of Queen Elizabeth in 1575.

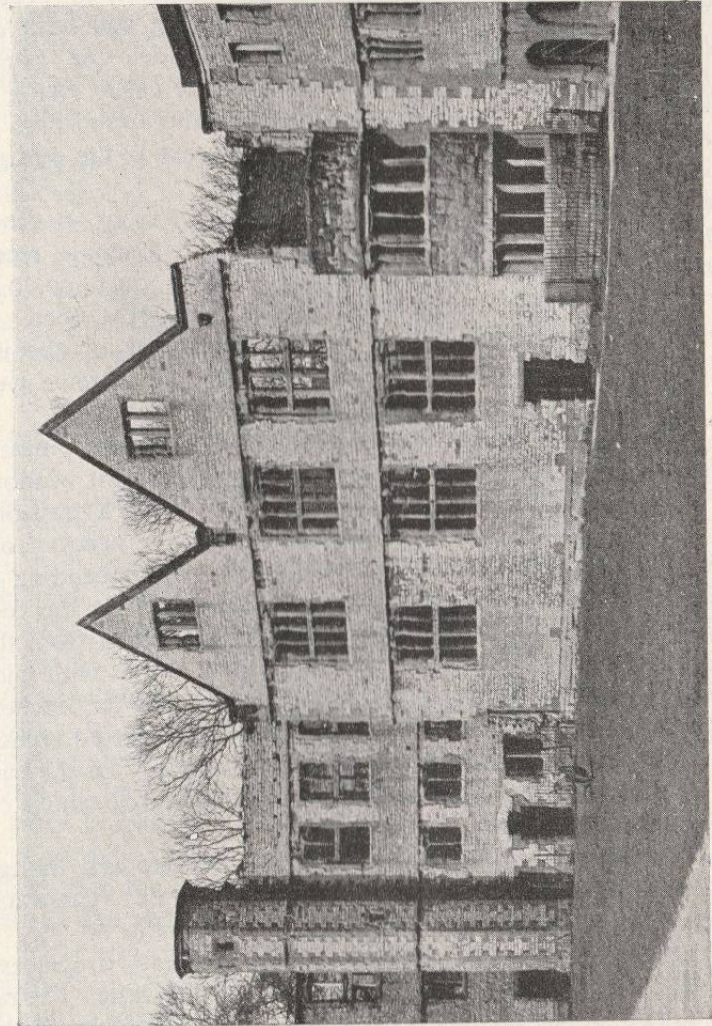
The dividing partition of the great chamber was removed and, 20 feet from the east wall, a cross-wall was built in its stead, and continued up to the chapel. The space on the west, at the same level as the chapel and inserted floor in the great chamber, was made into the withdrawing room with an entrance off the later staircase.

This room, 40 feet from north to south by 22 feet wide, has in the west wall two great six-light windows with two transoms, but the upper parts are now destroyed, and there may have been as many as three. Between the two existing windows is a fireplace with a brick back, but the jambs and head have been removed.

THE KITCHEN WING.

At the north end of the hall, but set at a considerable angle to it owing to the curve of the curtain, is a block of building, which for convenience of description will be called the kitchen wing. It is separated from the hall by a triangular lobby. As before stated, in the north end of the hall are four square-headed doorways; the easternmost led to a large vice, $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter, by which the upper floors of the kitchen wing were gained; the two middle doors were for service, the triangular lobby being the serving place; and the westernmost door led by a short passage direct to the southernmost room of the kitchen wing. The serving lobby was lighted by a two-light window on the north-east side and had an inserted vice in the west angle leading down to the cellars.

The room to the north, 41 feet by 21 feet, has at this south-west end, overlooking the court, a semi-circular bow window divided into eight lights, but there is no sign of any fireplace, and from this reason and its position adjoining the hall it was probably the pantry. The north-east end of the room was cut off by a partition, to form a serving passage leading from the kitchen to the hall, and is lighted by two windows of two lights. It had at either end a four-centred arch, with wide chamfered edges, of which the northern half remains.



Side of Kitchen Wing towards Court.

Under the pantry just described is another chamber precisely similar, but only 31 feet in length, that appears to have been the buttery. At its north-east end are two four-centred-arched recesses under the serving passage. There is an arched doorway in the south-east wall and an opening has been cut through the south angle into the space under the porch. The north-west wall is one of the oldest in the castle, being of the twelfth century, and in it are the jambs and round arch of an original opening $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. Further east is the straight joint of a similar opening of the same date.

The space under the serving lobby is lighted by a small single-light window to the north-east. There is a square recess under the window, and southward is a narrow opening to a square chamber with arched vault under the great vice. A doorway leads from the buttery on the north and an opening opposite it into the cellar under the hall. In the extreme west angle is the start of the inserted vice to the floor above.

Next the pantry and buttery northward is a lobby, nearly 11 feet wide, lighted at its north-east end by a two-light window, and at its south-west by a four-light window with a transom, under which a later doorway has been cut to give access from the court. The north-east end was filled by steps ascending to the passage behind the pantry and so to the hall. At the foot of the steps in the north-west wall is the serving hatch from the kitchen, a four-centred arched opening six feet across with wide chamfered angles, and next it is a small doorway to the kitchen. The opposite wall has been thinned and two four-centred arches, each 10 feet wide, inserted to rake the wall above. To the east is a fragment of the outer face of the Norman arch which on this side was moulded.

The kitchen, 35 feet by 29, occupies two storeys, though there are only two windows in its south-west wall. These are of four lights with transoms and deeply-splayed sills.

In the north-west and north-east walls are vast fireplaces; the former 13 feet wide by 4 feet deep, and the latter 15 feet wide by $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, with an oven 4 feet in diameter at the northern end. Each fireplace has a brick back and was formed with a segmental freestone arch with a relieving arch over. The inner arches in each case have gone, but to the northern fireplace the relieving arch remains. The outlets are gathered into two and three flues respectively, all in brick.

At the western end of the north-west wall is a large four-centred arched doorway with a deeply-splayed reveal.

The second floor of the kitchen wing was occupied by the best bedrooms, gained by the vice at the north-east angle of the hall before the sleighting, and afterwards by a wooden staircase at the east end of the serving lobby; the notches for the treads and risers still show in the east wall.

The space over the servery was the landing, and has at its north-east end a two-light transomed window. On the south side is the window already described through which it could be seen if good order was kept in the hall. In the south-west angle is a later passage cut through the wall to the room over the porch. The north-west wall is mostly destroyed, but at the eastern end was an archway of which one jamb remains.

Through this archway was a gallery, some 12 feet wide and 72 feet in length, occupying the whole of the north-east side of the wing. It was lighted on the north-east by three four-light windows with wide transoms and sill-shelves supported on consoles. Between the northern pair of windows is a large fireplace with moulded entablature carried on console brackets at either end. From this gallery were gained the three bedrooms occupying the south-west side of the wing. The first bedroom, over the pantry, was lighted by the fine bow window towards the court, double the height of those below, and divided by a transom. In the north-west wall, next the west angle, is a small arched doorway, and further to the east a fine stone fireplace like that on the gallery. In the extreme south angle of the room is a small arched doorway leading to the room over the porch. This room has a pair of two-light windows in the west wall and a fireplace in the north wall with moulded cornice and brackets similar to the rest of this date, but still retaining a stone panel with an ornamental pediment above. In the east wall is the opening of the inserted passage from the landing, and in the south wall a small square-headed doorway on to the leads over the loggia, corresponding to that from the staircase opposite.

Next to this room over the pantry was a bedroom, about 27 feet square, lighted from the court by two large four-light transomed windows. The fireplace is at the south-east end of the room and is similar to that in the first bedroom.

The third bedroom, measuring about 27 feet by 18 feet, was lighted from the court by one window like those in the second bedroom. There is a fireplace in the north-west wall, and adjoining it eastwards is a small arched doorway.

There seems to have been a pitched roof over the three bedrooms, with a wide gutter over the gallery. Towards the court were three gables, of which the two northern ones remain, and in each is a three-light window. The space in the roof may have been used for smaller bedrooms, or more probably for a long gallery, similar to that over the best bedrooms at Lacock. Such galleries in later years became indispensable to every large house.

At the west angle of the kitchen remains the tothing of a wall about eight feet high and two feet thick, which cut off the northern end of the court to form a kitchen yard.

THE LARDER BLOCK.

Beyond this kitchen are two separate blocks of building following the curve of the curtain so that they are placed almost east and west. The eastern block, adjoining the kitchen, is 37 feet long by 20 feet wide, and was divided into two parts by a partition to form the pastry and the larder. The pastry next the kitchen is entered from the yard by a doorway at its east end, and has a two-light window further west. In the east angle of the room are two small ovens within a recess, which originally had an arch over from which the flue took off the smoke to the chimney. The larder is also entered from the yard by a square-headed doorway, and has a two-light window in its west wall.

At the west angle of this block is an octagonal vice rising to the full height of the building, projecting into the yard, and entered from it by a square-headed doorway on its east side.

The first floor, gained by the vice, is one large room lighted on the south by three two-light windows, and has a fireplace in the west wall. In the north wall, towards the east, is an arched doorway leading to a small garderobe in the thickness of the curtain and lighted by a loop. This room was apparently the sleeping place for the female servants.

The second floor was also gained from the vice as well as being connected by the arched doorway to the gallery over the kitchen wing. The north wall is pierced with five two-

light windows, the second from the east being from a garderobe similar to that below. The first and third light the passage which went round the garderobe, and the western pair have sill-shelves carried by console brackets and lighted a narrow passage. In the south wall are three two-light windows with transoms, the first from the east lights a small dressing-room connected with a third bedroom of the kitchen wing, and the other two serve a bedroom, with a fireplace in the west wall and a doorway off the vice. Each door off the vice opens outwards, and there is a recess provided for it to shut into against the adjoining wall. According to Buck's view the south wall was finished by two gables, and the turret was surmounted by a cupola.

THE GATEHOUSE BLOCK.

The western block was apparently intended to extend up to the west curtain, but it is questionable if it was ever completed beyond its present length. On the ground floor it consists of two parts, namely, an irregularly-shaped room averaging 23 feet by 13 and a low gateway $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. The former is entered from the yard by a square-headed doorway, and is lighted by a two-light window further west. It has a segmental headed fireplace in the north wall and was probably the servants' hall. The gateway has a four-centred arch, of a single chamfered member with relieving arch above, in its north and south ends. On the west side is a doorway leading to the missing part of the building, the tothing for the south wall of which remains all up the south-west angle.

The first floor of this block contained two rooms, the eastern of which has a two-light window in both north and south walls. There is a small square-headed fireplace in the former towards its east end, and indication of a late inserted staircase from the ground floor at the south-east angle of the room. The western room has a pair of two-light windows in the south wall and one, over the gateway arch, in the north wall. There is a large fireplace in the west hall and a doorway to the north of it leading to the missing portion. Both rooms were bedrooms, probably for superior servants.

The second floor was also divided into two rooms. The eastern has a doorway from the end of the passage in the

larder block, and is lighted by a pair of two-light windows in the north wall and a single two-light window with a transom in the south wall, under which is a small flat-headed fireplace. The western room has two two-light windows with transoms towards the court and one two-light window on the north with a large fireplace. One of the oak beams of the floor remains in position.

This gatehouse block had two gables towards the court which are now destroyed.

The ground from the north gate to the west curtain has recently been excavated, but the result was not as satisfactory as could be wished. The curtain wall west of the gate as far as the north-west angle of the castle was destroyed by the dukes of Northumberland, and rebuilt with two parallel walls having a space of three feet between, which suggests a long range of garderobes. At Lacock, Sharington destroyed the old monastic reredorter for bedroom accommodation, but rebuilt it in a precisely similar fashion, that is to say, with a range of garderobes, doubtless divided by partitions, having a walled pit over an open drain no less than 48 feet in length. As he adopted the monastic arrangement at Lacock he probably intended to do the same at Dudley, though it is difficult to see how access could be had to the garderobes from the main part of the house. At the same distance from the curtain as the inner wall of the gatehouse a wide foundation, but of no great strength, was found running up to within fifteen feet of the west curtain, where it turned and ran southward parallel to the curtain. No foundation was found immediately adjoining the gatehouse, and the character of the masonry of that which was found gave the impression that it was of later work than Sharington's intended garderobes.

The outside of the castle, at any rate from the great vice to the larder, though the curtain has been retained, has been faced with the regular coursed limestone rubble of Sharington's work, and bold buttresses have been added to the angles.

In the middle of the courtyard is the well which is lined with stone. Instead of the usual circular shape it is rectangular, and measures six feet nine inches by five feet six inches. It is always full of water and is said to be over 100 feet deep.

History of Dudley Castle

AND ITS OWNERS.

THE Town of Dudley is an island of Worcestershire being entirely surrounded by Staffordshire; Sedgley and Rowley, lying on either side of it, being in the latter County; whilst next to Rowley is Oldbury, lying formerly in Shropshire; next which is Smethwick in Staffordshire, which is followed by Birmingham in Warwickshire.

The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that there were two miles of woodland at Dudley, and that one of the Norman followers of William had a castle here, and obtained upwards of forty-four of the neighbouring manors. There are two traditions attributing an earlier date than the Survey of 1086. One is mentioned by Camden, who gives no authority, that Doddo or Dodo, a Mercian Duke, erected a castle here about the year 700. The other makes the original foundation of the castle about 300 years later. It states that the place was named after a noble Saxon, whose name is variously spelt "Dud, Duds, Dudde, and Dodo," earl of Coventry, Somerie, and Arden, who married Effrie, daughter of Edmund Ironside, king of England, by whom he had a son, Athelstan; who built the Castle of Dudley. The Habingdon MSS quoted by Dr. Nash says:—"Dodo, the famous Saxon, raised a strong fortification here, which remained till the conquest;"—still no authority is given, nor any date.

Mr. Duignan in his "Worcestershire Place Names" (1905) says that the first record of Dudley is in Domesday (1086), though it must have been an important manor long before the conquest. It is given as Dudelei. Dudda was a common Anglo-Saxon personal name, and historians, as usual, do not hesitate to say that the man who gave his name to Dudley was an "Earl," "Duke," etc., but that is not the case. There were princes and dukes of the name, and also monks, abbots, and boors. None will ever know who Dudda was, but he certainly once lived, and Dudley was his lea land.

The Domesday Survey states that earl Edwin held this lordship in Edward the Confessor's reign. This, no doubt, was the celebrated Earl of Mercia. He was allowed to retain his estates and dignities after the Battle of Hastings, as he submitted to the Conqueror, who promised his daughter in marriage to him. This promise was not fulfilled, and Edwin joined in a rebellion against the Conqueror, in consequence of which his estates became forfeited (about 1071) and were distributed amongst the Norman followers of William, and Dudley lordship was bestowed on William Fitz Ausculf, or Ansculf, who possessed it when the Domesday Survey was made. It is therein stated that "the said William holds Dudley and there is his castle."

From the extent of his possessions, Ansculf was a great man in those days. Besides 25 manors in Staffordshire, 14 in Worcestershire, and 5 in Warwickshire, all lying within a distance of 10 miles of the castle, he had 47 in other counties. This, however, is all the evidence of his greatness which remains. Whether he had issue or not, or what became of him, is not known. It is thought probable that he left a daughter, who married one of the Paganels, whereby his vast estates went into that family. Whatever truth there may be in this surmise, it is certain that Fulke Paganel possessed a great portion of his lands, and with part of them founded a monastery, near Newport-Pagnel in Bucks.

Fulke was succeeded by Ralph, his son, who, during the civil war between empress Maud and king Stephen, was a partizan of the former. In 1138 (3rd Steph.) he held the castle of Dudley for her; and in July or August in that year, Stephen marched to it, burned and plundered the neighbourhood, and then marched off to attack Shrewsbury. Later, he piously intended, for the good of his soul, to found a monastery at Dudley.

Gervase, the only surviving son of Ralph Paganel, succeeded to his father's piety and property, and in 1161 founded the Priory at Dudley. Twenty years later, the Priory was affiliated to Wenlock Abbey, and Gervase Paganel deposited on the altar there the Deed confirming the affiliation, and a Confirmatory Charter was also placed on the altar of St. James, of Dudley.

In the unnatural rebellion of prince Henry against his father, Henry II, in 1175, Gervase Paganel supported the young prince, for which offence his castle was demolished, as were those of others who had done the like, and all his lands and goods were forfeited to the crown; but the next year (22 H. II) the king received 500 marks as a peace offering for that transgression.

Upon the assessment of the aid for marrying the king's daughter in 12 H. II (1166) Gervase returned 56 knights' fees and a third part. The lord of Birmingham manor was the first of his vassals, and held nine of these fees by military service, and though a man of great property, waited at his table as server. By his wife Isabell, daughter of the earl of Leicester, and widow of the earl of Northampton, he had an only child, Robert, who died in his lifetime, without issue. Hawyse Paganel (Gervase's only sister) became his heir. She first married John de Somery (who predeceased his brother-in-law Gervase), by which means Dudley, with other lands of great extent, went to Ralph de Somery, her son and heir.

On the death of Gervase Paganel (1194), Ralph de Somery, the son and heir of Hawyse (his sister), went to Germany, where king Richard was detained, and made a fine with him to be invested with his uncle's barony—Ralph was in full possession of it in 1194, although his mother was then living. In the same year, 6 Rich. I, he accounted CCC marks for livery of the barony of Gervase Paganel his uncle, until the king's return out of Almaine. In 1199 Ralph was in the king's service beyond the seas, and in 6 John (1204-5) he gave to the king his manor of Wolverhampton in exchange for a grant in fee farm of the royal manors of Mere, Clent, and Swinford, and in consideration of 100 marks paid into the exchequer had livery of those manors. He died in 12 John (1210), whereupon Margaret, his widow, gave to the king a fine of CC marks for her dower.

He was succeeded by William, his son and heir, who being in his minority, was in ward for his barony, which was then reduced, by what means does not appear, to 10 knights' fees and three parts. He was called William Percival de Somery, and died in 6 H. III (1222) when the wardship of Nicholas de Somery, his heir, was committed to Ranulph, earl of Chester; and this

Nicholas dying without issue in 13 H. III (1229) his inheritance went to his uncle, Roger de Somery.

This Roger, in 14 H. III (1230) was abroad in the king's service, and in 17 H. III (1233) was summoned to receive the honour of knighthood, but wishing to avoid the extortion practised upon such occasions he neglected or refused to appear : whereupon his barony and lands were seized by the king. The writ is preserved in Madox's History of the Exchequer, and in English runs thus :—

“ Because Roger de Somery, at the feast of Pentecost last past, has not appeared before the king to be girded with the military girdle, the Sheriff of Worcestershire is hereby commanded to seize on the house of Dudley and all other lands of the said Roger within his jurisdiction, for the king's use ; and to keep them with all the cattle found upon them ; so that nothing may be moved off without the king's permission.

Witness, the King at Wenlock,” &c.

In the 29 H. III (1244) he paid £51 for 51 knights' fees which he then had, upon the aid for marrying the king's daughter.

In 34 H. III (1249) a dispute arose between Roger de Somery and William de Birmingham, touching the service due for the Manor of Birmingham, for which the latter was required to perform the service of eight knights' fees, a half and a fourth part, and also to do suit at the court at Dudley once every three weeks. This dispute lasted until 1261, when an agreement was made that Will. de Birmingham should do service for so many knights' fees as aforesaid and appear at the Court of Dudley only twice every year ; and also on some special occasions therein mentioned. Upon which agreement Roger de Somery released to him his suit of court from three weeks to three weeks.

About the year 1261, Roger de Somery began to make a castle of his manor house at Dudley, but was then prohibited by the king to proceed thereon without his special licence. Two years afterwards, however, upon his adhering to the king during a rebellion of the barons, he obtained a licence to make a castle of his manor house there with a ditch and a wall of stone and

lime, and to fortify it. He was taken prisoner at Lewes the same year ; died in 1273, and was buried at the Priory of Dudley.

He was succeeded by Roger, his son and heir by Amabel, his second wife, being then 18 years of age. By writ, dated 25th March, 1282, he was directed (with others) to take the field against the Welsh.

From a presentment made at the Forest Court in 1286, it appears that on the Monday in the Feast of Pentecost in the same year, while hunting in his chase of Baggeridge, he put up a stag with his dogs, which fled towards the forest of Kinver, and Thomas, son of Walter, of Wombourne, came up with bows and arrows and shot the stag in front of the dogs, and it fell dead within the forest ; and the said Thomas, and one Hugh de Sapy, of the household of the said Roger, followed the stag and drew it out of the forest into the aforesaid chase, and carried the venison to Roger's house at Swinford, Roger being then at Sedgley, and the said Hugh (who had since died) knowingly received the venison there. Roger appeared, and in consequence of the said unlawful reception of the venison, was attorned to appear personally before the king at the next Parliament. It appears that he did not give any satisfactory explanation of what in those days was a serious offence, and was therefore fined 200 marks, “ if it should so please the king.”

Roger de Somery died in 1291. He left issue, John, Roger, Margaret, and Joan. Dugdale, and other writers, assert that Roger de Somery, who died in 1291, was succeeded by Roger, who was then twelve years of age, and that his wardship was committed to John de St. John. He died in the year 1300, and was buried in the Priory Church, and was succeeded by his brother John, who was not of age in 28 E. I (1300).

The Inquisitions taken on the death of Roger de Somery (1291) distinctly state that his heir was his son John, then aged twelve years. It was the wardship of this John de Somery which was committed by concession of the king to John de St. John.

John de Somery was knighted in 1306, and is reported to have been a turbulent neighbour by William de Bereford and others, “ who assert that he has obtained such mastery in the county of Stafford that no one can obtain law or justice therein ;

that he has made himself more than a king there ; that no one can dwell there unless he buys protection from him either by money or by assisting him in building his castles, and that he attacks people in their own houses with the intention of killing them unless they make fine for his protection."

John de Somery was summoned to Parliament from the first to the fifteenth years of the reign of Edward II. He died 29th December, 1321, without issue, leaving a widow Lucy, and Margaret, then the wife of John de Sutton, 32 years of age, and Joan, the widow of Thomas de Botetort 29 years of age, his sisters and co-heiresses. Upon the partition of his inheritance, Margaret had for her share the castle of Dudley, with the manor of Sedgley, chase of Pensnett, and manor of Swinford Regis in Staffordshire, and the town of Dudley in Worcestershire.

THE SUTTON LINE.

John de Sutton, the husband of Margaret de Somery, of Nottinghamshire, was from the tenth to the thirteenth years of the reign of Edward II constantly engaged in the Scottish wars. In 1318 and 1319 he was in the retinue of John de Somery, his brother-in-law, who, as before stated, died in 1321.

John de Sutton and his wife were destined to enjoy these estates for a short time only. Hugh le Despenser, son of the earl of Winchester, and the rapacious and insolent minion of Edward II, casting a wistful eye upon this fair domain, accused John de Sutton of aiding the earl of Lancaster in his rebellion. John de Sutton was put into prison, and threatened with death. To extricate himself from the snares of this wily favourite, he, by deed dated at Westminster, 12th of October, 1325, passed away to him all his right and title to the castle, manor, and township of Dudley, as also to the manors of Sedgley, and Swinford, and his other manors, lands, and tenements.

In 20 Edward II (1326-7) John de Sutton, as appears from the Close Rolls, acknowledged that he owed John de Charlton £3,000, to be levied on his lands in Staffordshire on failure of payment.

It is clear that in 3 E. III (1329-30) the affairs of Dudley Castle were in a most precarious condition. Despenser had been taken prisoner and summarily executed, and the custody of the castle had been committed to William de Birmingham, and he had made defalcations in his accounts ; there were large sums of money owing to John de Charlton, which he had lent to John de Sutton (the first), and probably the latter had recently died. In 1329-30 John de Charlton was in possession of Dudley Castle, and for some cause it was besieged by many local important personages. The attempt to take the castle, however, failed, and the records show that in a suit against the defendants the jury finally found them not guilty.

John de Charlton was a most important personage in his day. He was the first lord Charlton of Powys, and held considerable lands in Shropshire. In Edward II reign he was fully occupied in the affairs of the state. He died in 1353, and was buried in the church of Grey Friars, Shrewsbury.

John de Sutton II, the son of John de Sutton, by Margaret de Somery, married Isabella, daughter of John de Charlton, lord of Powys. He was engaged in the Scotch wars in 1333, being then in the retinue of Ralph Basset of Drayton. John de Sutton II was summoned to Parliament by writ dated 25th February, 1342, addressed to him as "Johanni de Sutton de Duddeley."

In 21 E. III (1347) John de Sutton was abroad in the king's service. In 1352 he was one of the Commissioners to array archers in Staffordshire. He died in November, 1359, and several inquisitions were taken on his death, and it was found that he held nothing of the King *in capite* on the day he died, but that jointly with Isabella his wife he held the vill of Dudley and the manors of Sedgley, Kingswinford, Penn, &c. His next heir was John, his son, who was then of full age.

Isabella, the wife of John de Sutton II, continued to hold the castle in her own right until her death, at a very advanced age, in 1397, when the estates devolved on her great-grandson John de Sutton V. This Isabella re-married Richard Fisher of Dudley, who became generally known as Sir Richard Dudley, and in some instances as lord Dudley.

The question has been asked more than once whether Dudley Castle was the private residence of its owners or merely a stronghold or fortress. The register of the bishop of Coventry and Lichfield throws some light on the question. In September, 1361, and on other dates, licences were granted to Sir Richard Dudley and Isabella his wife, who had their private residence at Himley apart from the castle of Dudley. Sir Richard was dead in 1383.

John de Sutton II was of full age on the death of his father in 1359. Isabella, his mother, held the castle for her life. In Ormerod's "History of Cheshire" is cited a document of 1361 by which it appears that the wife of John de Sutton, the third, was then Catherine, but it is clear that the wife that survived him was Joan, daughter of John de Clinton, of Coleshill, and widow of Sir John Mountfort.

John de Sutton IV was the son of the before-named John. He was born and baptised at Coleshill, in Warwickshire, in December, 1361, and therefore was a minor at the time of his father's death. In 1387-8 John de Sutton was at sea in the retinue of Richard, earl of Arundel and Surrey, Admiral of England. This John, the fourth, died 10th March, 1396, in the lifetime of his grandmother Isabella. His son and heir was John, then aged seventeen years. The fourth John's widow's name was also Joan.

John de Sutton V, son and heir of John the fourth, and found to be aged seventeen at the inquest taken in 20 Richard II on the death of his father, and aged twenty-one at that taken in 1401, after the death of his great-grandmother, Isabella, was born about 1380. His great-grandmother died in 1379. In 2 H. IV (1401) being then of age he did homage for the lands, including Dudley castle, which descended to him on the death of Isabella, his great-grandmother, and had livery of them in the same year. He married Constance, daughter of Sir William Blount, of Barton. He died in 1406, his twenty-sixth year. His mother died in 1498.

It was the son of this John de Sutton who became Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in 1428, and is erroneously called the fifth of the Sutton line by Dugdale, Twamley, and other genealogical writers.

JOHN DE SUTTON, SIXTH BARON OF DUDLEY,
LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

John de Sutton, the sixth baron of Dudley of the Sutton line, afterwards Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, was born either in 1400 or 1401. He was the eldest son of John de Sutton, the fifth baron, by Constance, daughter of Sir Walter Blount, of Barton. This Sir Walter Blount was slain at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1493; and is immortalised by Shakespeare. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Berkeley of Beverstone, Gloucestershire, knight, and widow and second wife of Edward Charlton, lord Powys, who died in 1421. John de Sutton was a knight in 1423-4, and bore the title of baron of Dudley. We are told that he became a prominent person in the reigns of Henry VI and Edward IV, and having considerable energy of character and pliancy of principle, he greatly increased the possessions of his family.

Before he was twenty-eight years of age he was, in 6 Henry VI (1428), constituted Lord Lieutenant of Ireland from the last day of April for the space of two years. Among the Welsh records is a commission dated 28th April, 1428, to Robert Pasmer, Esq., and Richard Bedford, clerk, to provide vessels for the passage of John de Sutton knight, to Ireland, he having been appointed Lieutenant of that country, and on 21st May of the same year power was given to Nicholas Wetton, clerk, and John Sheldon, to act as his attorneys during his absence in Ireland.

John de Sutton was summoned to Parliament from 15th February 18 Henry VI ((1440) to 1st September, 1487. His first summons was to the parliament held at Reading in 1440.

The differences between the supporters of the Lancastrian king, Henry VI, and the Yorkists, ultimately culminated in the battle of St. Albans in May, 1445, at which lord Dudley was present and was wounded in the face, and shared the fate of his royal master by being taken prisoner and lodged in the Tower. Soon after there was apparently a reconciliation between the king's party and the duke of York which lasted a few years.

Lord Dudley was elected a knight of the garter before 23rd April, 1459.

On November 26th, 1460, John Duddeley, knight, alias John Sutton, lord de Duddeley, knight, in the retinue of the Earl of Warwick then about to set out for France, obtained letters of protection during his absence.

In the first year of the reign of Richard III (1483-4), lord Dudley obtained a grant to himself and the heirs male of his body, of the manors of Darlaston, Bentley, Tittensor, Hartwell, Packington, Newton-in-the-Willows, Bridgnorth, and Rugby. About the same time, too, he had a grant of the stewardship of the forest of Kinver, and the manors of Stourton and Kinver, with other offices; and also an annuity of £100 and a further annuity of £60 during the life of Thomas lord Stanley.

Lord Dudley by this time had attained to a very advanced age. He had lived through most troublous times; in fact, throughout the whole of the battles of the Roses. He served both sides as circumstances occurred, and not only retained his family estates, but his head on his shoulders. He died in 1487, aged about 86.

By his will dated 17th August, 1487, he appointed Sir Reginald Bray, knight, one of his executors. There was issue of the marriage four sons, (1) Edmund (who married and had issue but predeceased his father), (2) John (the ancestor of the duke of Northumberland), (3) William (who became bishop of Durham), (4) Oliver, and three daughters, Margaret, Jane, and Eleanor. Lord Dudley was succeeded by his grandson Edward Sutton, eldest son of Edmund Sutton, deceased.

* * * * *

The eldest son, Edmund, married for his first wife, Joice, daughter of John, lord Tiptoft, and sister, and eventually co-heiress, of John, earl of Worcester, beheaded in 1470; and for his second wife, Maud, or Matilda, widow of Sir John Harrington, and daughter of Sir Thomas Clifford, by Joice, his wife, daughter of Thomas, lord Dacre. In 7 Edward IV (1467), being then a knight, Edmund accompanied his wife's brother, John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester, then deputy to George, duke of Clarence, Lieutenant of Ireland, to that country. The earl of Worcester was himself made Lieutenant of Ireland in 1470, when Edmund became his deputy. In 1473 Edmund obtained, in recompense for his services in Ireland and elsewhere, the

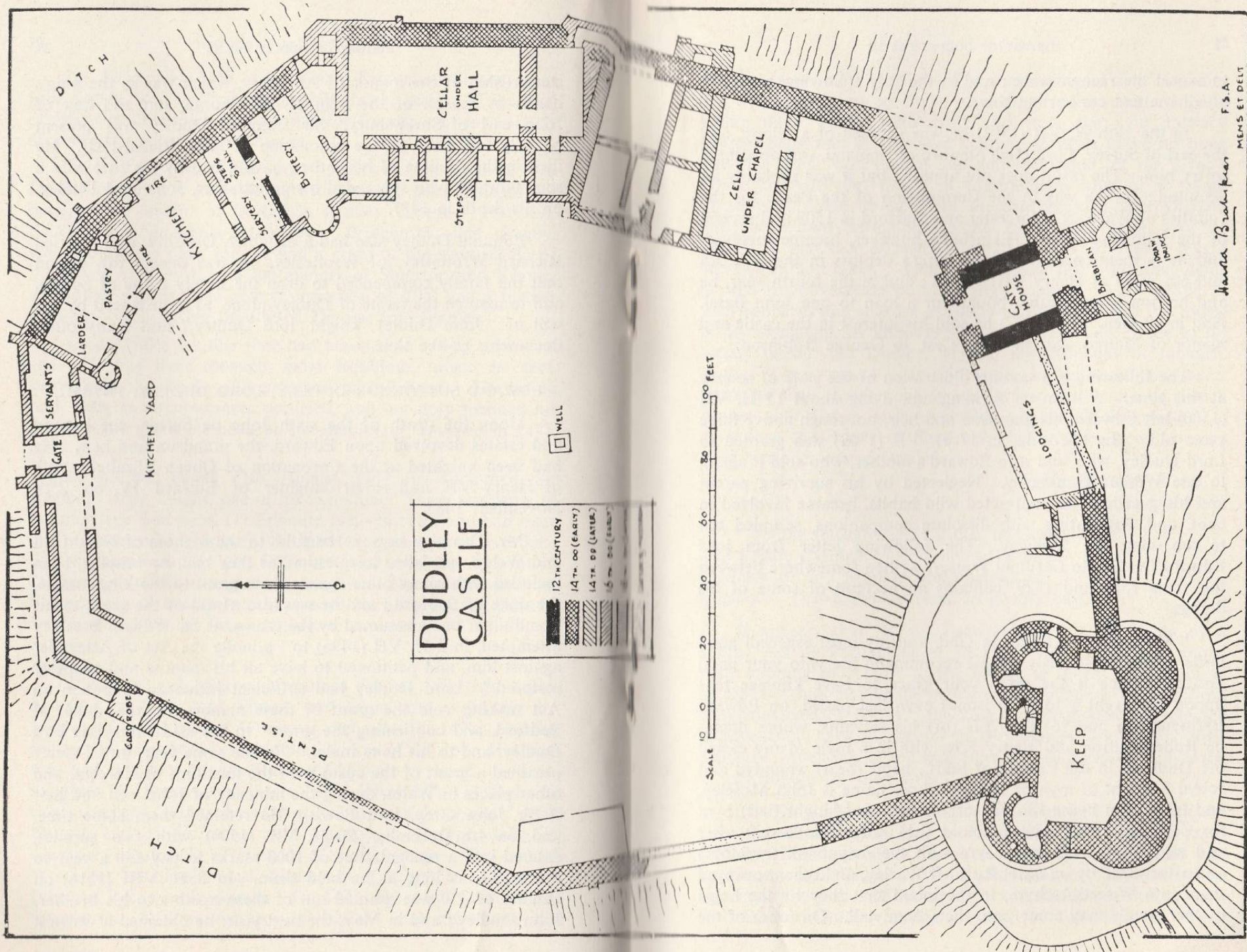
stewardship of the manor of Aberbury, which was in the king's hands by reason of the minority of George, son and heir of John, earl of Shrewsbury. Sir Edmund Dudley was present on July 6th, 1483, at the coronation of King Richard III. He died in the lifetime of his father, having had by his first wife a son, Edward, who succeeded his grandfather, John lord Dudley, on his death in 1487.

Edmund Dudley also had a daughter, Dorothy, who married Richard Wrottesley, of Wrottesley. It was during this period that the family commenced to drop the family name of Sutton, and to assume the name of Dudley alone, as is instanced by the will of "John Dudley, knight, lord Dudley," and many other documents of the time.

EDWARD SUTTON (OR DUDLEY) LORD DUDLEY, 1487-1532.

Upon the death of the sixth John de Sutton, the barony and estates devolved upon Edward, the grandson and heir. He had been knighted at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, wife of Henry VII, and eldest daughter of Edward IV, on 25th November, 1485.

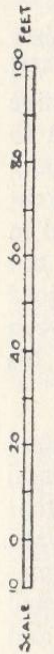
Mr. Twamley says:—His titles to the manors of Northfield and Weley was called in question, as they had, by mistake, been included with many other manors in a grant to the king's uncle, the duke of Bedford; and he was also afraid of the grant to his grandfather being resumed by the crown, as Sir William Breekeley attempted, in 2 H. VII (1496) to "adnullé the Act of Atteynder against him, and petitioned to have all his manors and property restored." Lord Dudley had sufficient influence to obtain an Act making void the grant of these manors to the duke of Bedford, and confirming the grant "to the said John, late lord Dudley, and to his heirs males." In the same year, lord Dudley obtained a grant of the custody of the lordships of Kereign, and other places in Wales, during the minority of John, son and heir if Sir John Grey, lord Powis. He retained them some time, and, on 4th December, 20 H. VII (1504) with two sureties, entered into a recognizance of 1000 marks to pay £50 a year to the crown as long as he held them. In 8 H. VIII (1516) an annuity of £20 was granted out of these manors to his brother, John Dudley; and in May, the next year, he obtained a warrant



DITCH

DUDLEY CASTLE

- 12TH CENTURY
- 14TH DO (EARLY)
- 14TH DO (LATER)
- 15TH DO (EARLY)



DITCH

PENTISIC

CELLAR UNDER HALL

CELLAR UNDER CHAPEL

KEEP

LOOKINGS

GATE HOUSE

BARRIKAIN

DOORWAY

KITCHEN YARD

KITCHEN

PASTRY

LARDER

SERVANTS

GATE

FIRE

STEPS

STAIRS

STAIRS

STAIRS

STAIRS

BUTTERY

BUTTERY

Harold Brakenbury F.S.A.
MENS ET DELT

to cancel the recognizance ; and in the July following, a pardon of all matters concerning them.

In the 18th H. VII (1503) he was accused of a felony, and the earl of Surrey, Lord High Steward of England, was appointed to try him. The result does not appear ; but it was probably an acquittal ; for he was in the Commission of the Peace for the counties of Warwick, Worcester and Stafford in 1509 and several of the following years. His affairs, however, became involved, and he is mentioned among the king's debtors in the 3rd, 5th and 6th years of Henry VIII's reign ; and in the fourth year, he and his son John became bound for a loan to one John Barel. And in 19 Hen. VIII (1527) he sold his interest in the castle and manor of Malpas, &c., in Com. Cest. to George Robinson.

The following is a curious illustration of the state of society at this time. William de Birmingham, dying about 15 H. VII (1500) left Edward, his grandson and heir, not much above three years old. His wardship, in 17 H. VII (1502) was granted to Lord Dudley, who sold it to Edward's mother, who sold it again, to one William Coningsby. Neglected by his surviving parent and his guardian, he contracted wild habits, became involved in debt, and, associating with dissolute companions, scrupled not to rob upon the highway. The following letter from lord Edward Dudley, to Cardinal Wolsey, written somewhere between the years 1525 and 1529, contains an account of some of his doings.

" Most reverent ffader in God, and my most especiall good lorde, in my most lowly wyse I recommand me vnto your good Grace. Pleace it the same your grace to have knolege that upon the nyght a fore Christmas evyn last passid, on Edward Byrmyngham and to (two) off (of) his servants, whoes names be Robert Sutton and Henry Fox, with in a myle of my castell off Dudleye, in the Counte of Staff., beytt (beat) woundyd and robyd a tenent of myn of Dudley whoes name is John Moseley, and toke from hymn iiij. viij. off money, and laught (left) hym for dede and whot swit fouoloid (hot pursuit followed) after and toke them in Schropsheyre with the maynonok (mainour) and afterwarde by on (one) Ruff off Warley, and other conveyed them into Wiscettorschyre, to the intent that they by the helpe of ther frends may come unto their Asquytall. On (one) of the

thevys whoes name is Henry Fox confessid and seid that ther was a hundred persons thvys of their affynite and company within three scheysr adioynng, and now the said Edward Byrmyngham and off his seid to (two) servants make no dowt butt the (they) woll obteyn and gett ther pdon. of the Kyng's Grace and off your Grace in consideracon wher of it myght pleise your Grace to send for the said Edward Byrmyngham and his to (two) seruaunnts to the intent that they may be examyned that ther affynyte of this nounbor off thevys myght be knowen and taken. Youre Grace shall doe a gracious deide as well for quyatacion of the Kyng's subgetts, as a vodyng of such robberyes and murder as hathe be done a bowte the towne of Byrmyngham, as knoweth God who have said Grace in his blessid tuicon. At Dudley, wrytton the xxiiij day of Januarii. And if it may please your said Grace to her (hear) this berer speke he shall showe your Grace forther of my mynde, which I trust your Grace wolbe content withall. More worthe to youe then the Priory of Sondewell that I yeve (gave) youe to your Newe Colege of Oxforde.

Your jumbyell orator,
EDWARD DUDLEY."

" To the most reverent father in God, the lord Legate Cardinal Archbishop of Yorke, Chauncellor and Primate Metropolitan of England. This to be delivered in goodly hast."

It appears that he was convicted of this felony, as by a special Act of Parliament of 28 Hen. VIII (1536) it is stated that, standing indebted " to the Kynge in divers grete summes of money " and also at the mercy of his highness " having been then convicted of felony," the king " ys contented and pleased to accept and take the manor of Birmingham and all his other property ; reserving to the said Edward and Elizabeth, his wife, xl. per annum for their lives."

In 1590 Edward, lord Dudley, was elected a Knight of the Garter, and was summoned to Parliament, says Dugdale, from 1492 to 1529, both years inclusive. Yet his name does not appear upon the lords' journals after the year 1514, when he appointed the Abbot of Westminster and lord Dacres his proxies. In 1522 lord Dudley rented a house in Tothill Street, West-

minster, of the Fraternity of St. Mary and he and his family chiefly lived in London at this time. In 1527 Edward Sutton, knight, lord Dudley and Cecilia his wife remitted all their right in lands and rents in Sandwell, West Bromwich, etc., etc., to the Dean and Canons of the College of Thomas Wolsey, founded by him in Oxford in 1525, for which the said Edward and Cecilia were to receive thenceforth the prayers made in the College. In 23 H. VIII (1531) he sold the manor of Northfield. Edward, lord Dudley, died on 31st January, 1531-2, and left a numerous family, six sons and seven daughters. He married Cicely, daughter of Sir William Willoughby, knight, and was succeeded by John, his eldest son and heir, who was no sooner in possession than he commenced to sell his patrimony, and in a few years stripped himself of all his vast possessions. The story told by Dugdale is as follows:—"It is reported by credible tradition of this John, lord Dudley, that being a weak man of understanding, whereby he had exposed to some wants, and so became entangled in the usurer's bonds, John Dudley, then viscount Lisle, and earl of Warwick (afterwards duke of Northumberland) thirsting after Dudley Castle (the chief seat of the family), made those money merchants his instruments to work him out of it; which, by some mortgage being at length affected, this poor lord became exposed to the charity of his friends for a subsistence and spending the remainder of his life in visits amongst them, was commonly called 'Lord Quondam.'" This John Sutton married Cicely Grey, daughter of Thomas, marquis of Dorset, son of John, lord Grey or Groby, by Elizabeth Widville, afterwards the queen of Edward IV, and had issue four sons, Edward, Henry, Thomas and George.

It would seem that most of the younger members of the baronial house of Sutton of Dudley Castle assumed the surname of Dudley, and the head of the house sometimes retained the old family name of Sutton.

ANCESTRY OF JOHN DUDLEY, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

Edmund Dudley, the eldest son of John Dudley and Elizabeth Bramshot, was born about 1462. This John Dudley was the second son of John Sutton, the sixth Baron of Dudley. He was educated at Oxford and afterwards studied law at Gray's

Inn. He devoted himself with such diligence to his studies that he came to be considered an able person in his profession, insomuch that Henry VII took him very early into his service. It is said that he was sworn of the king's privy council in his twenty-third year. This would be in the lifetime of his grandfather, John, lord Dudley, who had well served the king, and as before stated, died in 1487. It is conjectured that this relationship must have been well known, hence Edmund Dudley was in high favour with King Henry VII, whom he served with his colleague Empsom in helping to fill his coffers under the colour of law, though with very little regard to equity and justice. Historians of Henry VII tell us that he fleeced his subjects unmercifully, giving all his affections and thoughts to the gathering in and heaping up treasure. His ministers, his lawyers, and his priests did their best to gratify this ruling passion, and to prove to the people that all was done legally, and that the duty of all subjects was passive obedience and a ready paying of money. "And as kings," observes Bacon, "do more easily find instruments for their will and humour than for their service and honour," he had gotten for this purpose, or beyond his purpose, two instruments, Empsom and Dudley, whom the people esteemed as his horse-leeches, shearers, bold men, and careless of fame, and that took toll of their master's grist. Dudley was of a good family, eloquent, and one that could put hateful business into good language. But Empsom, that was the son of a seive-maker, triumphed always upon the deed done, putting off all other respects whatsoever. These men, who were both lawyers, turned law and justice into wormwood and rapine.

In 1504 Edmund Dudley, being returned as a member of Parliament for Staffordshire, was chosen speaker of the House of Commons. Dudley and Empsom continued their profitable labours, but towards the end of the reign of Henry VII they became unpopular. The king died on 21st April, 1509, having amassed about £4,500,000 in coin and bullion, while Dudley directed his finances. On Henry VIII ascending the throne there was an outcry against Empsom and Dudley, and they were sent to the Tower. Henry VIII was no exception to the general rule that the son of a miser must be a spendthrift, and having dipped deeply into his father's coffers probably fancied that the heads of Empsom and Dudley ought to serve as a receipt in full.

They were both indicted and condemned to death and forfeiture. Both Dudley and Empsom were publicly beheaded on Tower Hill on 18th August, 1510, to the great satisfaction of the people. Edmund Dudley was buried in the Church of Blackfriars. He left a will by which his great landed estates in Sussex, Dorsetshire and Lincolnshire were given to his wife, with remainder to his children, and he expressed a wish to be buried in Westminster Abbey.

Edmund Dudley left three sons (1) John (afterwards duke of Northumberland), (2) Andrew (who was knighted in 1547, and was admiral of the northern seas, was implicated with his brother in the attempt to place Lady Jane Grey on the throne, was tried and convicted, but set at liberty—he died in 1559, without issue), (3) Jerome (mentioned in his father's will).

John Dudley, son of Edmund Dudley, by Elizabeth Grey, daughter and co-heiress of Edward Grey, viscount Lisle, was born in 1502, and was about eight years old at the time of his father's execution. In 1511 John Dudley, son and heir of Edmund Dudley, by petition of his guardian, Edward Guildford, obtained an Act of Parliament for the repeal of his father's attainder and restoration of his lands. Young John Dudley became a favourite at court, and in 1523 attended Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in his expedition to France, and was knighted. He married Jane, daughter and heiress of Sir Edward Guildford, his guardian.

SIR JOHN DUDLEY, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

As before stated, Edward Sutton, lord Dudley, K.G., died 31st January, 1531-2, and was succeeded by his eldest son John, known as "Lord Quondam."

On the octaves of St. John the Baptist, 24 Henry VIII (1532), a final concord was recorded whereby John Sutton, knight, lord Dudley, acknowledged the right of George, earl of Salop; Thomas West, knight, lord la Ware; Thomas Fitzalyn, lord Matravers; William Horwood; Thomas Arundell, armiger; George Carewe, armiger; Thomas Wyatt, armiger; and Andrew Dudley, armiger; to the castle of Dudley and to the manor of Sedgley, 50 messuages, 3,000 acres of land, 1,000 acres of

meadow, 5,000 acres of pasture, 1,000 acres of furze and heath, and £25 of rent in Dudley, Sedgley, Ettingshall, Brierley, Coseley, Woodsetton, Upper Gornal, Nether Gornal, Darlaston, Cotwall End, and Gospel End, and to the manor of Dudley, and to the manor of Deoder, &c., in Salop, for which John lord Dudley received £4,200. This record shows that "Lord Quondam's" interest in Dudley Castle, &c., passed to persons in high favour at court; George, the fourth earl of Shrewsbury, held several offices of state; Sir Thomas West, the eighth baron West and ninth baron De la Warr, was a soldier and a courtier, and in the reign of Edward VI, supported John Dudley, then earl of Warwick, against the duke of Somerset; Thomas Fitzalan was lord Maltravers; William Horwood was William Whorwood, attorney general to Henry VIII; Thomas Arundell was a gentleman of the privy chamber to Wolsey, and was afterwards knighted and a commissioner for the suppression of religious houses; George Carewe was a courtier. Thomas Wyatt was an esquire of the body of Henry VIII, and he became one of his privy councillors; and Andrew Dudley was a brother of Sir John Dudley (afterwards duke of Northumberland).

This record is referred to in some chancery proceedings. Sir Thomas Audley was made Lord Chancellor on 6th January, 1533-4, and was created Lord Audley in 1538. Sir John Dudley, knight, exhibited a bill in chancery which is undated, but is addressed to Sir Thomas Audley, chancellor, against Arthur Dudley, a priest, brother of "Lord Quondam." Sir John Dudley complained as follows:—

That whereas George earl of Shrewsbury, Thomas West, lord la Warre, Sir Thomas Fitzalan, lord Matravers, and others, were and yet stand and be jointly seised in the lands and castle of Dudley, and the manors of Sedgley, Himley, &c., to the use of the said John Dudley and his heirs, so it is, my good lord, that one Arthur Dudley, clerk, minding utterly to disherit, and wrongfully to put your said orator from the premises for ever, of late wrongfully entered into the castle of Dudley, and thereupon brake up certain chests and coffers, then being in the said castle, wherein remained divers evidences, charters, writings, court rolls, rentals, terriers, &c., of the said Sir John Dudley, and took them away with him.

and keepeth them in his possession and custody and that at all times denied and utterly refused to return them. Therefore pray the king's writ, &c.

In Easter Term 30 Henry VIII (1538), William Taylor, abbot, with the monks, surrendered the monastery of Halesowen with all its appurtenances into the king's hand and levied a fine to the king's use, all of which the king granted to Sir John Dudley, knight, together with the site of the late dissolved monastery and all other manors and advowsons lately belonging to the same, to be held by the service of the twentieth part of a knight's fee and a yearly rent of £28 1s. 9d., and on the 15th February following (30 Henry VIII, 1538-9), Sir John Dudley conveyed the manor of Halesowen with the appurtenances to Edward Blunt and George Willoughby esquires to the use of himself and Joan his wife for life, with remainder to her heirs and assigns for ever.

Sir John Dudley had many other lands granted to him by the king, amongst which he had his full share of what had formerly belonged to the religious houses.

In 1540 Sir John Dudley had granted to him by the king lands at Woodford, near Wombourne, which formerly belonged to the priory of Dudley, and also the site of the dissolved priory of Dudley, the latter being of the annual value of £36 3s. In the same year Sir John Dudley and Joan, his wife, disposed of his right in the manor of Perton and 300 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 200 acres of pasture, 40 acres of wood and 40s. of rent in Perton and Trescote, to James Leveson for £400.

A survey of the manor of Sedgley was taken on 13th April, 33 Henry VIII (1542) before Walter Wrottesley and George Willoughby, esquires, and Thomas Rotesey, gent. This was done at the request of Sir John Dudley, contained in the following letter :—

To my cosen, Walter Wrotisley, esquier, this be given :
Cozen Wrotisley,—

I artilly recomende me unto you, and whereas I do perceyve by my servant, Henerye Cresset, that you can be content to take some paynes for me in the surveying of my landes, I wyll deserve the same your paynes that ye shall therein take if it lye in me.

Mr. Willoughby, that ys of my consaill, is appointed to mete with you at Dudeley the fiyrst Sundaye of Lente, where I praye you not to faile to mete hym, and ye shall nowe receyve a patent of £4 a yere, growing out of my lordship of Seggisley, in recompence of your olde patent of v. marks a yere, and this I commytt you to God, att the Courte this xviiiith daye of Februarye.

Your loving kinsman assuredly,

JOHN DUDDLEY.

This letter substantiates the claim of Sir John Dudley as a descendant of the Suttons of Dudley Castle. Sir John was second cousin of Walter Wrottesley, son of Richard Wrottesley by Dorothy Sutton, daughter of Edmund Sutton, the eldest son of John Sutton lord Dudley, who died in 1487.

Sir John Dudley was made warden of the Scottish marches and raised to the peerage as viscount Lisle on March 12th, 1541-2.

Viscount Lisle was made a privy councillor on 23rd April, 1543, and elected a knight of the garter.

On 21st December, 1545, the King granted the manor of Birmingham to John Dudley, viscount Lisle. In 1527, Edward Sutton, lord Dudley, had complained to Cardinal Wolsey that Edward Birmingham and two of his servant, Robert Sutton and Henry Fox, within a mile of his castle at Dudley, had beaten, wounded and robbed a tenant of his named John Moseley, and had taken from him £4 8s. in money, and left him for dead. Edward Sutton, lord Dudley, be it remembered, was Edward Birmingham's feudal lord, and had formerly been his guardian, and then held the stewardship of the manor of Birmingham. Edward Birmingham was not arrested until 1532 and no report of a trial has ever come to light; he was however detained in the Tower until 1536, when a remarkable Act of Parliament was passed, which Act, according to a memorandum thereon, was not in the Statute Book but remained in the king's majesty's treasure. This Act recited that Edward Birmingham, esquire, stood indebted to the king in divers great sums of money, and also stood at the mercy of his highness for that the said Edward

was convicted of felony, wherefore the king was contented and pleased to accept and take the manor and lordship of Birmingham and all other his land in Warwickshire in satisfaction, and then followed a general pardon and a grant of an annuity of £20 to Edward Birmingham and his wife for life. Edward died shortly after the date of his pardon, and his widow, whose annuity was doubled by patent, 1st January, 1539, died about 1559.

Grave doubts have been raised by several writers as to the guilt of Edward Birmingham; regard being had to the means "by which he was strangely wrested of his inheritance," and the character of those who profited, or hoped to profit, by his forfeiture.

King Henry VIII died on 28th January, 1546-7, and was succeeded by his son, Edward VI, then in his tenth year of age. Henry appointed as one of his sixteen executors John Dudley, viscount Lisle, Lord Admiral, and left him a legacy of £500. The earl of Hertford, with the consent of all the late king's executors, became protector of the realm and governor of the young king during his nonage, and was created duke of Somerset. Viscount Lisle resigned the office of Great Admiral in favour of Thomas Seymour, became earl of Warwick, and was created Great Chamberlain for life on February 17th, 1546-7, by letters patent, in which he was styled earl of Warwick, viscount Lisle, baron of Somery and Tyas, lord Dudley.

Henry, on his death-bed, is said to have enjoined the lords of his council that they should leave nothing undone to bring about the marriage between his son and the infant queen of Scots, on which he had so strongly set his heart, and therefore Somerset sent a letter to the Scottish nobility strongly urging upon them the policy and obligation of the marriage.

In April, 1551, John Dudley, earl of Warwick, became Earl Marshal of England, and reports became current that Somerset was engaged in new intrigues. The king records under 24th of April, that "the lords sat at London and banquetted one another this day, and three days after, for to show agreement amongst them, whereas discord was bruited, and somewhat to look to the punishment of tale-bearers, and apprehending evil persons."

In the beginning of the year 1553, the king was seized with a violent cough, which no medicines would relieve, and in March and May he was very ill. The duke of Northumberland throughout the king's illness sedulously laboured to win his affection and confidence by a constant attendance and every manifestation of solicitude. The duke had a fourth son, lord Guildford Dudley, unmarried, and a marriage between him and Lady Jane Grey was proposed. Lady Jane was the eldest surviving daughter of Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk by Frances, daughter of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk and Mary, younger daughter of Henry VII.

On Whit-Sunday, 21st May, 1553, there was celebrated, with great magnificence, at the duke of Northumberland's new residence, Durham House, in the Strand, the marriages of lord Guildford Dudley and lady Jane Grey; of lady Catherine Dudley, daughter of the duke of Northumberland, to lord Hastings, eldest son of the earl of Huntingdon; and of Lady Catherine Grey, the second daughter of the duke of Suffolk, to lord Herbert, the son of the earl of Pembroke. These alliances having been made, the duke of Northumberland, without difficulty, induced the duchess of Suffolk to transfer her right to her eldest daughter, and the duke proceeded to unfold his plan to the king. Before the conscientious and anxious mind of the dying boy, over whom the duke had acquired an extraordinary influence, he placed an alarming representation of the dangers and calamities that there were likely to arise from the succession of either of his sisters. Mary, the elder, was a bigoted papist, and would certainly the moment she ascended the throne proceed to undo all that had been done during her brother's reign, in the settlement of the true religion; yet she could not be set aside without urging a plea—that of her illegitimacy—which would at the same time equally exclude Elizabeth. Both Mary and Elizabeth had been bastardized by Acts of Parliament, then unrepealed, but they had been recognised by the will of their father as successors to the Crown. As regards the infant, Mary, Queen of Scots, Henry VIII had not recognised the claim of a descendant of his elder sister Margaret, and it was considered she would have little chance of successfully asserting any rights she might be supposed to have to the English throne. The only safe course, therefore,

was to pass by Mary and Elizabeth, and in that case Edward's cousin, the amiable, accomplished, and thoroughly Protestant Lady Jane Grey, was obviously the person fittest to be named as his successor. Edward acquiesced in the force of these arguments, and assuming himself to be entitled to exercise the same powers which had been exercised by his father, Henry VIII, he determined upon having a new entail of the Crown executed to the effect the duke had proposed. He sketched with his own pen the draft of the instrument, and signed a fair copy of it with his name, above and below on each margin.

King Edward VI died in the evening of 6th July, 1553, aged fifteen years eight months and twenty-two days, and having reigned six years five months and nine days.

The King's death was not made public for four days. The event seems to have taken Northumberland by surprise, at least he was not prepared for it. On the 8th July Northumberland commanded the attendance of the lord Mayor of London, with alderman and certain chief citizens of Greenwich, where the king's body was lying. Northumberland and some of the council secretly declared to them the death of the king, as also how, by his last will, and by his letters patent, he had appointed and ordained that Lady Jane should be his successor in the throne and sovereignty, and they were shown the royal will, and they swore allegiance to Lady Jane. It was not until the 10th of July that the death of the king was publicly divulged, and Jane was proclaimed as queen in the city of London. The people of London received the proclamation with coldness and silence, many of them whispering the name of Queen Mary. In the meanwhile Mary's friends had exerted themselves in Suffolk, in Norfolk, and in Cambridgeshire, where the people detested Northumberland. There was a very strong party among them that inclined to the Reformation; but when Mary solemnly pledged herself to make no change in the religion or laws of Edward, even these men embraced her cause—the cause of legitimacy—with zeal and affection. The council and a great number of nobility had gone to the Tower of London with Lady Jane where Northumberland, in a manner, kept them prisoners; but other men of high rank who were in the provinces had hastened to join Mary as soon as they learned where she was. Forces raised to serve Lady Jane or Northumberland went

over in a mass, and even a small fleet which was sent down the coast to intercept Mary in case she should attempt to quit England, declared against the usurpation, and hoisted her flag. On 13th July, Mary was proclaimed queen at Norwich. Mary, at Kinning-hall, in Norfolk, had been joined by many gentlemen of rank and influence. Northumberland found himself in a dilemma; he dreaded the cabals of the councillors and courtiers if he left them behind, and he knew not whom he could trust with the command of the army if he did not go himself with it. The Council persuaded the duke to go himself, and he undertook the expedition. When all was ready, Northumberland made a tender appeal to the feelings of the council, who were to be left behind, telling them that he and the noble personages about to march with him would freely adventure their bodies and lives in the good cause, and reminding them that they left their children and families at home committed to their truth and fidelity. He also reminded them of their recent oaths of allegiance to the queen's highness, the virtuous Lady Jane, "who," said he, "by your and our enticement, is rather of force placed on the throne than by her own seeking and request," and in the end he bade them consider that the cause of God, the promotion of the Gospel, and the fear of the Papists, the original grounds upon which they had given their goodwill and consent in the proclaiming of Queen Jane, bound them to the cause for which he was preparing to fight. Though nearly every man present had made up his mind to declare for Queen Mary, as soon as his back should be turned, they all promised and vowed to support the good cause, and Northumberland departed from London on the 14th of July with an army of six thousand men. On the 19th of July the council left in London declared with one voice for Queen Mary, and instantly despatched the earl of Arundel, Sir William Paget and Sir William Cecil to notify their submission and exceeding great loyalty. The same day Mary was formally proclaimed queen in London. The duke of Northumberland marched as far as Bury, but not receiving the succours promised him fell back upon Cambridge and reached there on 18th of July, where he heard of the discomfort from some of the Council, the defection of the fleet, and of the land troops which had been raised in the counties. On the 20th July, the day after the proclamation of Mary in

London, of which it appears he was well informed, he, with such of the nobility as were in his company, went to the market cross of the town of Cambridge and calling for a herald, proclaimed Queen Mary, and was himself the first man there to throw up his cap and say "God save her." He had scarcely played this part, in the hope of saving his neck, when he received, at the hands of Richard Rose, herald, a sharp letter from the council in London, commanding him to disband his army and return to his allegiance to the blessed Queen Mary, under penalty of being accused and treated as a traitor. This letter was signed, among others, by Lady Jane's father, the duke of Suffolk, by Cranmer and by Cecil. The order, as to the army, was scarcely needed, for most of the men had disbanded of their own accord, and almost all the lords and officers who had hitherto followed him had passed over to Mary, and made their peace by accusing Northumberland as being the sole author and cause of their taking up arms against their lawful queen. On the following day, while the duke was still loitering at Cambridge, not knowing whether to flee for his life or to trust in Mary's mercy, and the encouraging circumstance that some of the council, in reality, and all in appearance, had shared in his treason, he was arrested by the earl of Arundel, who hated him to death, though a little before he had professed a wish to spend his heart's blood in his service. The duke, who was utterly devoid of greatness of mind, fell on his knees before the earl, and abjectly begged for life; but Arundel, who rejoiced in his ruin and abasement, carried him off to London and lodged him in the Tower, even as Queen Mary had commanded. John, earl of Warwick, lord Ambrose and lord Henry Dudley, three of the duke's sons, and Sir Andrew Dudley, the duke's brother, were very soon lodged in the same fortress.

On the 18th August, John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, his eldest son, John, earl of Warwick, and William Parr, marquis of Northampton, were arraigned at Westminster Hall, where Thomas, duke of Norfolk, high steward of England, presided at the trial. The duke of Northumberland pleaded that he had done nothing but by the authority of the council and by warrant of the same under the great seal of England; and he asked whether any such persons as were equally culpable with him, and those by whose letters and commandments he had

been directed in all his doings, might be his jurors, or sit upon his trial as jurors? The latter query did him no good; the members of the council averred that they had acted under peril—that they had been coerced by the duke—and Suffolk (father of Lady Jane), Cranmer, Cecil and the rest continued to sit in judgment, and with very little loss of time, proceeded to pass sentence. The duke hesitated at no meanness to avert his doom; but self prostration was of no avail. When sentence was passed he craved the favour of such a death as was usually allowed to noblemen; he besought the court to be merciful to his sons, on account of their youth and inexperience; and then, as a last hope of gaining the queen's pardon by apostacy, he requested that he might be permitted to confer with some learned divine for the settling of his conscience, and that her majesty would be graciously pleased to send under him four of her council, to whom he might discover certain things that nearly concerned the safety of her realm. His son, the earl of Warwick, showed a higher spirit, hearing his sentence with great firmness, and craving no other favour than that his debt might be paid out of his property confiscated to the crown. Sentence was also passed on the marquis of Northampton. On the next day, Sir Andrew Dudley and others were condemned as traitors in the same court.

On Tuesday, the 22nd day of August, 1553, Sir John Gage, lieutenant of the Tower, delivered to the sheriffs of London, the duke of Northumberland, Sir John Gates and Sir Thomas Palmer, who were brought to Tower Hill for execution. When the duke met Sir John Gates he told him that he forgave him with all his heart, although he and the council were the great cause of his present condition. Gates replied that he forgave the duke, as he would be forgiven, although he and his high authority were the original causes of the whole calamity. From the scaffold, Northumberland addressed the people in a long and contrite speech, in which he told them that they should all most heartily pray that it might please God to grant her majesty Queen Mary a long reign. After he had spoken to the people, he knelt down, saying to those that were about him, "I beseech you all to bear me witness that I die in the true Catholic faith"; and then he repeated the psalms of *Misere* and *De Profundis*, his *Pater Noster*, and six of the first verses of the psalm *In te*,

Domine, speravi, ending with "Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit." Then bowing his head towards the block, he said that he had deserved a thousand deaths, and laying his head over it his neck was instantly severed. They took up his body, with his head, and buried it in the tower by the body of his victim, the late duke of Somerset, so that there lay before the high altar in St. Peter's Chapel two headless dukes between two headless queens—the duke of Somerset and the duke of Northumberland between Queen Anne Boleyn and Queen Catherine Howard, all four beheaded and interred in the Tower. All the duke's five sons were condemned to death, but with the exception of lord Guildford Dudley, were ultimately released and pardoned. Lord Guildford Dudley and his wife, Lady Jane, were after the Wyatt rebellion in Mary's reign beheaded. The duke's brother, Sir Andrew Dudley, was also released and pardoned by Queen Mary. The vast estates acquired by the duke of Northumberland on his conviction became forfeited to the crown. No time was lost in taking possession of them and causing enquiries to be made. The manor of Birmingham belonged to the duke, and on the 20th day of August, 1553, a survey was made of the borough of Birmingham, and the manor or lordship of Birmingham, etc., part of the possessions of John, the late duke of Northumberland, attained of high treason, by Clement Throckmorton, esq., "general surveyor of our lady the queen of all the possessions of our said lady the queen in the said county of Warwick, under the government of the Court of Augmentation and Revenues of the Crown of our said lady the queen, &c.," and Edward Lyttelton was appointed steward. Sir John Lyttelton was granted by Queen Mary the office of constable of Dudley Castle, with the rangership of the old and new parks there.

John Sutton, "Lord Quondam," did not survive the duke of Northumberland. He died at Westminster, and was buried at St. Margaret's, September, 1553, in a manner befitting his rank and with heraldic honours notwithstanding his poverty.

His widow, Cicely, was also buried at St. Margaret's, on 28th April, 1554, being styled in the parish register in her maiden name, "the Lady Cyslye Gray."

EDWARD SUTTON, LORD DUDLEY.

Sir John Dudley or Sutton, "Lord Quondam," nominally baron of Dudley (as before mentioned, married Cicely, one of the daughters of Thomas Grey, the first marquis of Dorset, about the year 1501, by whom he had three sons, Edward, who succeeded to the barony, Henry and George.

Whilst George, the youngest son, plotted with the Catholics against Henry VIII; and Henry, the second son, plotted with the Protestants against Mary; Edward most impartially supported either party, according as his interests for the time prompted. They all inherited their father's poverty, and experienced great privation and distress. George, who in 1534 was involved in some plot with Cardinal Pole, in Italy, against Henry VIII, was, we are informed by Sir William Paget, "previously driven to work at Calais, with a mattock and shovel," where he earned "six pens a day."

Henry, in carrying out a plot in 1556, against Queen Mary, for transporting men from England into France, landing with them again on the coast near Portsmouth, driving out the Spaniards, &c., and robbing the Exchequer, fled into France. In making his escape, he urged the fear of his creditors as the motive for his leaving England; and lady Dudley, wife of Edward, in reply to a question by the Queen, "Where her brother Henry was?" replied, "In France, as I her saye, for I kneu not of his going," and she added, "she thought he went over for debt; and that he was so afeared of his creditors, that he dared not stay here any longer." In November, however, of that year, the select council wrote to the Queen giving "information from Dr. Wotton, that the profligate traitor, Dudley, had been tampering with the soldiers at Guisnes and Ham"; of which latter place, his brother, Edward lord Dudley, was at that time governor.

Edward Sutton, the eldest son, under the patronage of his maternal uncle, lord Leonard Gray, who was the deputy Ireland in 1536, obtained promotion there, and assisted in suppressing the Catholics in that unhappy country. When Sir William Brereton levied 250 archers to serve there, he was

appointed captain of 100 men under him, upon the recommendation of lord Cromwell. Another having been also promised, Edward Dudley wrote to lord Cromwell on the 10th October in that year, from Nantwich, to which place he had hurried upon his appointment :—

“ That wher by your goodnes and be youre prefurment, ther was a letter dyrected from the kinge’s highness, unto Sir William a Brutton, in my behalfe, for to be a captayne with hyme ; whereupon with all haste that might be, I repared unto hyme accordynge to your dysparchementt, and surely I made as harde shyfte to convey me to hyme, as ever gentylman dydde : nottwithstandynge Master Wyndham, youre Loredshyp’s servante, brought unto hyme, sens that fyste apoyntement, another letter from youre lordshypp, dyrected in the prefarment of hyme for the same matter ;—so that Master Brerton standes in a stay, tyll youre lordshyp’s plesure be farther knowen. Surely he ys very glade of me, ande yff yt may stande with your plesure. Wurely, oonles youe be goode lorde unto me, I ame butt sutterly undone, ande yf I be dyseapoynted, for I made harde shyfte amongste my freendes agaynste thys jorney. Wherefore, goode, my lorde, consyder my poverty, and whatt case I stande in. Most humbly requyrynge youe, that I may stande to my fyrste appoyntement, trustynge that I shall as well consyder my duety ande servys to the Kinge’s Highness, as eny poore gentlyman may doo.”

He seems not only to have succeeded in this object, but, in the king’s instructions to the commissioners who were sent to Ireland in the July following, they were directed to “ committ unto younge Dudley, one of the best garisons.” Lord Leonard Gray, in a letter to lord Cromwell, dated March, 1538, concludes,—“ Beseeching ‘youer lordship to be goode lorde, unto my poure neveu Dudley, thys berer, in his furtherance to the Kinge’s majestie, for his good service here done.” It appears, from a letter from lord Ormond to Cromwell, that he continued in Ireland until December, 1539.

About this time he was refused in a suit he had made to the widow lady Berkeley, a ward of the king, in consequence of his poverty ; though his suit was backed by the king, and by

Cromwell, the privy seal. It must have occurred before July, 1540, when the latter was beheaded.

In 1547 (1 E. VI), being in the expedition then made into Scotland, he was made governor of Hume castle, upon the surrender thereof to the English.

When Mary succeeded to the throne, Edward was not slow in adapting himself to her religious views, as appears from his celebrating the obsequies of his father with the old popish ceremonies, and she requited his devotion by including him in a batch of fourscore and ten knights, made by her the day after her coronation (1st October, 1553).

In November of the year 1554 he was summoned by writ to the house of lords, as baron of Dudley, and at the same time obtained a grant from the crown of part of the church plunder, originally bestowed on the duke of Northumberland, consisting of the manors of Horborne, as also the whole priory of Dudley, and the tithes of Northfield and Sedgley, with divers messuages and lands in Dudley, Tresel, and Cradley, parcel of the possessions belonging to the same priory.

In 1554 also he was made lieutenant of the castle of Hampnes (or Ham), in Picardy, for life, which he held until it was ingloriously abandoned to the French in 1558. When the duke of Guise, in January of that year, surprised, and in eight days took Calais, the castle of Guisnes, after a gallant defence, capitulated. Nothing then remained unconquered within the English pale, except the little castle of Ham, which was so completely surrounded with marshes that the French would have found great difficulty in bringing up their heavy ordnance ; but Edward lord Dudley, who commanded there, abandoned the place, without regard to the honour of arms, the night after the surrender of Guisnes, and fled with his small garrison into Flanders.

In 1555 he married his first wife, Katherine Bridges, one of the gentlewomen in ordinary of the queen, and daughter of Sir John Brydges, knight, lord Chandos, one of her favourites (with whom the queen had the conversation respecting Henry Dudley, previously mentioned), and by letters patent, dated the

31st December, the queen settled upon them and their heirs, and, for default of such, to the righ heirs of Edward Sutton, the lordships of Sedgley, Himley and Swinford; the hays, forests and chases, of Ashwood and Chaspell; and all the land called Willingsworth, in Sedgley, with divers lands and tenements in Hymley, Wombourne and Swindon. By another grant, Mary gave to them and their heirs male, the whole castle of Dudley, the Conigre park, the Old park, with divers messuages and lands lying in Dudley, Rowley, and Sedgley. This grant was confirmed by letters patent, per Inspeximus, in 21 Eliz. (1578-9). The object of this confirmation, probably, was to secure these estates to the children of his second marriage, as his first wife died without leaving male issue.

She was buried at St. Edmund's Church, Dudley, 28th April, 1566.

Edward, lord Dudley, married secondly, the lady Jane Stanley, daughter of Edward, third earl of Derby, and had by her, who was likewise buried at St. Edmund's, Dudley, the 3rd December, 1569, two sons, Edward, baptised at St. Edmund's, 17th September, 1567, who succeeded, and John, baptised there 30th November, 1569.

Edward, lord Dudley, thirdly married Mary, daughter of William, lord Howard, of Effingham, in his time Lord High Admiral of England, Lord Chamberlain, and Lord Privy Seal. She was a grandchild of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, the second of that name, and sister to Charles Howard, earl of Nottingham, also Lord High Admiral of England.

Queen Elizabeth came to the throne of England on the 17th November, 1558, on the death of Queen Mary. During the first year of her reign several Acts were passed in respect to Religion, one entitled "An Act restoring to the Crown the ancient jurisdiction of the State Ecclesiastical and Spiritual," &c.

The above Act of Parliament was put into force in this district from Dudley Castle.

In May, 1568, Mary, queen of Scots, having escaped the vengeance of her own subjects, took refuge in England, and queen Elizabeth gave orders for her detention as a prisoner.

Many gentlemen in England held that the captivity of the queen of Scots was unjust, and devised plans for her escape. In 1571 she was at Chatsworth, in Derbyshire, and Edward, lord Dudley, seems to have been suspected of participation in the plot formed by the two sons (his brothers-in-law) of lord Derby, Francis Rolleston, of Lea, in Ashover, Derbyshire, and others, to release the queen from her confinement at Chatsworth.

In the year 1575 the queen made her famous progress through the midland counties. She stayed at Kenilworth from the 12th to the 28th July; Lichfield to the 3rd August; Stafford Castle on the 7th and 8th August; and from Stafford Castle she passed on to Dudley Castle, which she reached on the 12th August, staying on the way at Chillington (the residence of the Giffards) one night. It would seem from the following letters that the queen was not expected to reach Dudley until the 20th August.

On August 7th lord Burghley, then at Buxton, wrote to secretary Walsingham:—

"I see the Queen's Majestie is to be at Dudley on the 20th wher I am very sorry, I can not be, specially for the satisfaction of my lord and lady Dudley, who I know would gladly have me there, the rather to further their suite, which otherwise I shall be most willing to do, and thynk it a very good deed."

It is believed that this suit of lord and lady Dudley related to the confirmation of the grant made by Queen Mary of Dudley Castle, which Elizabeth, as we have seen, confirmed about three years afterwards.

Secretary Walsingham wrote to lord Burghley from Stafford a letter dated 7th August:—

"Your lordship may perceive howe her majesty's determination to go to Worcester is altered, uppon advertisement from thence, that the towne should be vysyted by small-pockes. This alteration as I suppose, dothe hasten her majesties repaire to Dudley Castell sooner than was determyned. Whereupon your lordship may make just cause to excuse you not coming thither."

In the year 1585, when, for some reason or other, Elizabeth wished to remove Mary, queen of Scots, from Tutbury, Sir Amyas Powlett, in whose custody she was, secretly visited the castle to ascertain if it would be a proper place for her to be sent to. By letter dated Rushall, the 11th November, to Sir Francis Walsingham, he says:—

“ Sir,—I would not faile, according to your former directions, to use all diligence for the removing of this queen to Chartley, and to that purpose have carried greate store of woodd to be felled, sea-cole, and charke-coale to be burned, tymber to be sawed, bere to be brewed, brick to be carried, and manie other like necessaries to be provided; but your letters of the iiiith of this present coming to my hands the vith of the same at ten of the clock at night, I retired my servants from Chartley, I discharged my carpenters and masons for one week, I disappointed as manie carriages as I could upon so short warning, and stayed all my other proceedings there untill my returne from Dudley Castle, where finding my L. Dudley absent, I was forced to take my lodging in one of the poorest townes that I have sene in my life; and the next day took a full view of the Castle, with the assent of my saide L. who then being at Warwick, sent the keys with all expedition. The lodgings of this Castle are not so manye in number as I would wishe, and are also verie little and straight, saving the lodgings which must serve for this Q. wch are so faire and commodious as she cannot desire to have them amended. Touchinge the rest of the house, these defects and inconveniences cannot be denied. There is great plenty of sea-coale, charke-coale, and fire woodd at hand, which cannot be had but for readie monie and therefore will prove chargeable when it shall be compared with the charge in other place, where fire woodd and coale came out of the Queene’s owne woodd, and cost nothing but the makinge. Also the howse is utterly destitute of table boord, cup boords, fourmes, stoolés, and bedstedes, saving that the hall and greate chambre are provided of table boord; the furnishing of which said wants will prove to be a matter of some charge, which is not to be greatlie accounted of, if it be intended that this household shall remain there any tyme. A barn must be converted to a stable for the Governor’s horses, a matter of no greate charge. This Queene’s gentlemen

servants will not like with their straight lodging, because they have no inner chambers. The brewing vessels are somewhat decayed; and same are wanting, which may be supplied from Burton. The water for the kitchens and household must be fett out of the dikes without the gate, and yet some will say that the pump wch standeth in the myddest of the court yf yt were cleansed would furnishe sufficient and good water, but I find others that doubt thereof. The chamber windowes of this Q. lodgings are open upon the park as likewise the windowes of her kitchen, which I trust may be supplied by a good watch and a deep ditche, but specialie by this Q. infirmite which will not permit her to run away on her feet. These defects are recompensed yn parte with the strength of the house in other respects, and with manie other good commodities. The counties of Worcester and Warwick adjoining yelding good plentie of all kinds of victuals and at reasonable prices, saving that corne groweth to be deere in all these parts. Thus I have delivered unto you my simple opinion herein without partiality, referring the same to your better consideration, and so do forebear to trouble you with anything ellse untill I shall hear from you what will be resolved herein, &c., &c.

Your most assured poor friend,

A. POWLETT.”

The plan to bring Mary, Queen of Scots, to Dudley Castle was abandoned. She was taken to Chartley.

“ Edward Sutton, knighte Lorde Dudley,” by his will dated 8th July, 1586, directed his body to be buried where his father and mother were buried, at the discretion of Mary, lady Dudley, his wife, and he gave to her all his goods, chattels, etc. He bequeathed his whole ironworks and all his ore pit for to maintain the same, and also all his woods and underwoods for the thorough maintaining of the same unto Mary, lady Dudley, his wife, and to the lord Charles Howard, High Admiral of England, and to the lord Henry Cary of Hunsdon, Lord Chamberlain to the Queen’s Majesty, and to Sir John Lyttelton, for twenty-one years for the payment of his debts. At the time his debts were paid, he gave his wife £1,000, and to his second son John Dudley, alias Sutton, £300, and to his daughter Anne

Throckmorton £200, all to be paid out of the said lease after his debts were paid, and then the said lease was to return to his heir. He died soon after the date of his will, and was buried at St. Margaret's, Westminster, 12th August, 1586, and his will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by Lady Mary, his relict.

His two sons were of Lincoln's College, Oxford. Both matriculated on the 24th July, 1580, the elder one as Edward Duddeley, and the younger one as John Sutton. The latter took his B.A. degree from Queen's College, 3rd July, 1592, as John Dudley, and settled at Sedgley Park. He died in February and was buried at Sedgley 3rd March, 1645, as Mr. John Dudley.

EDWARD SUTTON, LORD DUDLEY.

Edward, the eldest son of Edward lord Dudley, succeeded his father, and was summoned to Parliament from 19th February, 1593, to 3rd November, 1639. He died on the 23rd June, 1643, and was buried at St. Edmund's, in Dudley, on the following day. His wife was Theodosia, daughter of Sir James Harington, knight, of Exton, co-Rutland, by Lucy his wife, daughter of Sir William Sydney of Penshurst, and sister of Sir Henry Sydney, K.G.

Of this the last baron of Dudley of the Sutton line, Dugdale states that he "betook himself wholly to a concubine, and so far wasted his estates that he left not much of that fair inheritance which descended to him, and it so clogged with debts that for the disengaging himself he married Frances, his grand-daughter and heiress, to Humble Ward, the only son of William Ward, a wealthy goldsmith in London, jeweller to the Queen.

I do not here propose to enter into further details of his misdemeanours, but the curious reader will find much concerning his acts and deeds among the State papers of the period. His "concubine" was Elizabeth Tomlinson, the daughter of one William Tomlinson, of Dudley, and by her he was the father of the famous Dud Dudley, and of three other sons and

seven daughters. "Mrs. Elizabeth Tumlinsone," the mother of these children, was buried at St. Edmund's, Dudley, on the 4th July, 1629.

Mr. Twamley notes that in 1626 lord Dudley's neglected wife was obliged to sell her jewels, and he cites an entry of 25th May, 1626, in the Pell records, of a payment of £500 to Theodosia lady Dudley, in part payment of £1,700 "due unto her for a rich diamond sold and delivered for his majesty's use."

Edward lord Dudley and the lady Theodosia had issue one son, Ferdinando (no doubt so named after his father's first cousin Ferdinando earl of Derby).

Ferdinando Dudley, otherwise Sutton, the only son of Edward, was born 4th September, 1588, and was made a knight of the bath 4th June, 1610, on the occasion of the creation of Henry Prince of Wales. He married in July, 1610, Honora Seymour, only daughter of Edward Seymour lord Beauchamp, son and heir of Edward earl of Hertford, by the lady Katherine (sister of lady Jane) Grey, daughter of Henry duke of Suffolk, and grand-daughter of the Princess Mary, wife of Charles Brandon duke of Suffolk, and daughter of King Henry VII.

The burial of lady Dudley is thus recorded in the registers of St. Edmund's Church, in Dudley:—"Honor ladie Duddeley, wife to the Honorable Sir Ferdinando Dudley, knight, was buried in the P'ish Church of St. Edmonde in Duddeley, w'thin the Chancell upon Friday night the 23rd of March, 1620, about eleven of the clocke, in the p'sence of diverse gentlemne and other inhabitinge neighbours w'thin the towne shippe of Duddeley."

The baptism of her only child is thus recorded in the registers of St. Thomas in the same town:—"Frances dau. of the Honble. Ferdinando Dudley and Honora his wyfe was born at Dudley Castell 23rd July 1611." She was married, as already stated, to Humble Ward, but where I have not discovered, but their marriage settlement is dated 17th February, 1628.

Sir Ferdinando Dudley died in the parish of St. Katherine Creechurch, London, on 22nd November, 1621, aged

33, and was buried next day at St. Margaret's, Westminster. The entry being "November 2rd, 1621, Sir Ferdinando Sutton, Knight, Baron Dudley, buried." On the day preceding his decease, being then "dangerously sicke," he declared his will, and bequeathed all he had to his sister, Margaret Dudley, but desired his sister to assist Mr. Grosvenor with £100 a year for eleven years out of the profits of the old park; his sister to pay his debts with his jewels, plate, &c., which jewels were in the hands of Mr. Byng, to whom he owed £90. He commended his daughter to the duchess of Lenox, to Lord Hertford and to his own father. Will was proved by Margaret Dudley on 13th November, 1621.

Besides Sir Ferdinando Dudley, Edward lord Dudley and the lady Theodosia had the following issue:—

1. Mary, born 2nd October, 1586, married to Alexander 6th Lord Home, afterwards created earl of Home, by whom she was mother of James, 2nd earl of Home, who died without issue, and of two daughters, co-heirs to their brothers, viz., Margaret, wife of James Earl of Moray, and Anne, wife of John, duke Lauderdale.
2. Anne, married in 1615 to John Minhardt, Comte de Schomberg, and died in December of the same year in child-bed of the famous General Frederic Armand, duke of Schomberg, K.G.
3. Margaret, born 1597, wife of Sir Miles Hobart, K.B. In 1644 he was one of the Parliamentary Captains in the rout by Prince Rupert before Newark.

The concubine of Edward lord Dudley was Elizabeth Tomlinson, and there was the following issue:—

1. Robert Dudley, who was of Netherton Hall.
2. John Dudley, who died young.
3. Edward Dudley, who died issueless before 1638.
4. Dud Dudley.

1. Elizabeth Dudley, married in 1611 to Jeffrey Dudley, of Russell's Hall.
2. Jane Dudley, married 1609 to Richard Parkes, Parkehouse, or Persehouse, of Sedgley.
3. Catherine Dudley, married to Thomas Dudley, of Tipton.
4. Alice Dudley, married to George Gest, or Guest, of the Hole, co. Worcester.
5. Dorothy Dudley, married to Thomas Brookes, of Sedgley.
6. Susan, died young.
7. Martha Dudley, married to Thomas Wilmer, of Dudley, who had issue three surviving daughters and co-heiresses, viz.:—
 1. Elizabeth, married to Gilbert Gellians, of Dudley.
 2. Anne, married to Thomas Brettell.
 3. Martha, married to Rev. John Taylor, Vicar of Dudley.

"Mrs. Elizabeth Tumlinsone" was buried at St. Edmund's, Dudley, on 4th July, 1629.

In 1639 (at the age of 73) Edward Lord Dudley, having been invited with other peers to join the king in his expedition to the North against the Scotch Covenanters, he wrote to Secretary Windibank acknowledging the receipt of his majesty's letter, and desired his correspondent to represent to the king that he would attend his most royal person at the time and place assigned, and goes on to say: "Though I have passed over my estate to Mr. Warde, who married my grandchild, for the payment of debts and their present maintenance, yet if I can either horse or foot it I will attend, though unable to serve his majesty according to my desires and in such sort as is required."

On the death in 1643 of Edward lord Dudley, the barony was inherited by Frances, only child of Sir Ferdinando, and wife

of Mr. Humble Ward, and so ended the senior male line of the Sutton-Dudleys.

THE CIVIL WAR.

On the commencement of the Civil War (1642) Dudley Castle became a Royalist garrison, under the command of colonel Leveson, of Wolverhampton, a man of considerable wealth. These garrisons during the war served a two-fold purpose, viz., that of protecting their supporters in the locality and collecting men and arms for the armies in the field, and we find the garrison in Dudley Castle from time to time carrying out this work, but the only military event of importance that occurred in Dudley during the whole period was the attempt by the Parliament to lay siege to and take the Castle. The Parliamentary force that attempted this duty was under the command of lord Denbigh, the commandant of the whole Parliamentary forces of the Midlands. The first information we have upon the subject is a despatch from lord Denbigh, then at Wednesbury, dated June 2nd, 1644, to the Parliamentary Committee in London, informing them his forces were lying about Dudley Castle, which, with "the assistance of the country, he hoped to reduce," and at the same time to recruit from the people and increase his horse and foot. Upon receipt of the despatch, the Parliamentary Committee appear to have directed the siege to be undertaken. King Charles at this time was at Worcester with the main body of the Royal army, advancing into Cheshire, and he appears to have at once given directions to lord Wilmot, one of his principal generals, to take some 2,000 of the Royal army to Dudley and attack lord Denbigh and raise the siege. The battle, which subsequently took place on June 11th, upon lord Wilmot thus raising the siege, is described in a despatch written by lord Denbigh to the Parliament, and this account is derived from this Parliamentary source, no Royalist version of the battle being in existence. In this despatch lord Denbigh informs the Parliament that in pursuance of their orders he commenced the siege, but ascertaining a Royalist advance from Worcester was intended, and that he could expect no assistance either from the main body of the Parliamentary forces, which, under the command of Sir

William Waller, were then at Evesham, or from any of the Parliamentary garrisons in Warwickshire, he had decided to withdraw, and that on the evening of June 10th he gave orders for his guns to be placed in position on the side of the hill facing the Castle, and there his forces were entrenched. Next morning, June 11th, 1644, the Parliamentary forces withdrew towards Tipton, but here they halted and put themselves in array with the intention of giving battle to the Royalists, who, however, were seen to be in great force. The disparity between the numbers of the two forces became so obvious that lord Denbigh intended to withdraw. But the Royalists attacked them and the battle raged for about three hours, with considerable losses on both sides. But whatever the issue of the battle, the substantial results rested with the Royalists, their only object having been to compel lord Denbigh to raise the siege and retire from before Dudley Castle, in which they succeeded.

From this time no event of importance occurred until the surrender, two years subsequently, of the Castle to the Parliament on May 10th, 1646, the surrender taking place without any attack on the part of the Parliament, although their forces were then around Dudley, under the command of their great general, Sir William Brereton. The Articles of Surrender contained a clause that "the walls, works, and tower of the said Castle shall be sleighted, and made incapable of a garrison," and on 2nd March, 1647, the House of Commons resolved that the Castle should forthwith be made untenable.

* * * * *

THE WARD FAMILY, LORDS OF DUDLEY.

Humble Ward received the honour of knighthood on 24th June, 1643, and was created by patent dated 23rd March, 1643-4, baron Ward of Birmingham, with limitation "to the heirs male of his body by the lady Frances Dudley his wife." He died on the 14th and was buried at Himley on the 17th October, 1670. Lady Dudley survived him nearly twenty-seven years, being buried at Himley 11th August, 1697, aged 86. She

was raised to the rank of a baron's daughter during the lifetime of her grandfather in 1635. Their issue was:—

1. Edward Ward, born in 1631.
2. John Ward, died in his infancy.
3. William Ward, who married at Himley, 30th December, 1672, Anna (aged 17 in 1663), daughter of Thomas Parkes, of Willingsworth Hall, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and sister and sole heiress of John Parkes, of the same place. He was ancestor of the present Earl of Dudley.

Also the following daughters:—

1. Anne Ward, born at Dudley Castle on 12th February, and baptised at St. Edmund's, Dudley, on 2nd March, 1629-30; died unmarried.
2. Honor Ward, born 1636, the second wife of William Dilke, of Maxstoke Castle, co. Warwick, esq., by whom she had (with other issue) a daughter Frances, aged 18 in 1682, married to her cousin the Hon. William Ward.

At Shustoke, Warwickshire, there is the following inscription:—

“Here lyeth the body of the Hon. Honour Dilke, relict of William Dilke, late of Maxstock Castle, in the county of Warwick, Esq., and daughter of the Rt. Hon. Humble Lord Ward, by Frances daughter of Ferdinando Sutton, Esq., and grand-daughter and heir of Edward Lord Dudley, and niece to the illustrious William Seymour Duke of Somerset, and cozen german to the most noble Frederick late Duke of Schomberg. This hon. lady had issue by her said husband five sons and two daughters, viz., Ward, Frances, William, Elizabeth, Thomas, Seymour, and William. William the second son dyed young, and Seymour in the late Wars in Ireland. William Dilke, her husband, died 31st August, 1669.”

3. Frances Ward, married at Himley 9th July, 1672, to Sir William Noel, Bart., of Kirby Mallory, in the county

of Leicester, by whom (who died 23rd April, 1675, aged 33) she left issue at her decease on 13th March, 1698, an only surviving child, Frances, baptised at Himley, 14th April, 1673.

The following entry occurs in the parish register of Pedmore, in the county of Worcester: “Sir William Noel, Baronet, of Kirby, in the county of Leicester, and Madam Frances Ward, daughter of ye Right Honorable Baroness of Dudley, were married by mee at Himley Church on the ninth day of July, 1672.—Geo. Southall.” Mr. Southall was the then rector of Pedmore.

“The second wife of Sir William Noel, Bart., was Frances, third daughter of Humble Lord Ward, Baron of Birmingham; her mother Frances Baronesse Dudley, and only niece to the Duke of Somerset. He was married to her almost three years, and had by her three children, Frances, Elizabeth, and William, William being born after his father's death, and now only Frances survives.”—Nichols's *Leicestershire*, vol. IV, p. 772.

4. Theodosia Ward, born (say the registers of St. Edmund's, Dudley) at the Wren's Nest House, Dudley, and baptised 15th May, 1642; married first to Sir Thomas Brereton, of Honford, in the county of Chester, Bart., by whom she had no issue, and secondly to the Hon. Charles Brereton, by whom she had issue Charles Brereton, baptised at Brereton 23rd February, 1677-8. She was buried at Cheadle, in the county of Chester, 18th January, 1677-8.

The eldest son, Edward Ward, succeeded his father in the barony of Ward in 1670, and his mother in that of Dudley in 1697. He took his seat in the House of Lords as “baron Ward of Birmingham” on the 5th December, 1670, and as baron Dudley of Dudley Castle on 28th January, 1697-8. He married Frances daughter of Sir William Brereton, bart., of Honford, co. Chester, the celebrated Parliamentary General, and sister and sole heiress of Sir Thomas Brereton (the husband of his sister Theodosia); and dying on 3rd August, 1701, was buried on the

8th August, at Himley. His wife predeceased him, having been buried at Himley 21st November, 1676. They had issue:—

1. John Ward, born at the Wren's Nest House, Dudley, 16th October, 1656, and baptised "10th November next after, at ye same house" (Dudley Registers); died unmarried, and was buried at Himley, 5th July, 1675.
2. Humble Ward, who also died young and unmarried.
3. William, twin with Elizabeth, born 5th January, 1659-60.
4. Ferdinando Dudley Ward, who died unmarried, and was buried at Himley 2nd November, 1717. Also the following daughters:—

1. Elizabeth Ward, twin of William, born 5th January, 1659-60.
2. Catherine Ward, married at Dudley, 5th November, 1683, being then aged about 20, to the Hon. John Grey, by whom she was mother of Harry, third Earl of Stamford.
3. Humbletta Ward, married to Thomas Porter (a mean person).
4. Lettice Ward, died unmarried.

The Hon. William Ward, the eldest surviving son, died in the lifetime of his father, on the 16th May, 1692. He married his cousin Frances, daughter of William Dilke, of Maxstoke Castle, Warwickshire, and by her, who survived him and was buried at Himley 19th January, 1724, had the following issue:—

1. Edward Ward, baptised at Himley, 20th December, 1683, who succeeded his grandfather as lord Dudley and Ward.
2. John Ward, who died young and was buried at Himley 29th July, 1696.
3. William Ward, baptised at Himley, 16th October, 168-, of whom hereafter as successor to his nephew.

And Frances Ward, baptised at Himley 5th December 1687, only daughter, and (in her issue) sole heiress of the barony of Dudley; married at Himley, 9th November, 1709, to William Lea, of Halesowen Grange, and was mother of an only son, Ferdinando Dudley Lea, who succeeded as lord Dudley.

Edward Ward, the eldest son, succeeded his grandfather as lord Dudley and Ward. He married in 1703, being then aged 20, Diana, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Howard of Ashstead, Surrey, Teller of the Exchequer, by the Lady Diana his wife, daughter of Francis earl of Bradford. He died 28th March, 1704, and was buried at Himley on 5th April, 1704, leaving by his said wife (died 17th March, 1709 an only and posthumous son Edward, born 16th June, 1704, who succeeded his father as lord Dudley and Ward, but died unmarried 6th September, 1731, and was buried at Ashstead. He was succeeded in the two baronies by his uncle William who took his seat in Parliament as lord Dudley and Ward on 2nd May, 1736, but he also dying unmarried on 20th May, 1740, the two baronies were separated; that of Ward going to John Ward of Willingsworth Hall, Sedgley, the heir male of the body of Humble, the first lord Ward, whilst that of Dudley devolved upon the heir general, viz., Ferdinando Dudley Lea, of Halesowen Grange, co. Worcester, the eldest son of Frances, the only sister of the late lord Dudley and Ward.

The Leas were an old yeoman family possessed of considerable landed property at Kingsnorton, Northfield, Halesowen, and Solihull, in the counties of Worcester, Salop and Warwick. The immediate ancestor of Ferdinando, lord Dudley, was William Lea, of Lea Grange, in the parish of Kingsnorton, who acquired the Grange, in the parish of Halesowen, and its surrounding lands, in marriage with Joice, daughter and heiress of John Ive, of Kingsnorton, who had purchased the lease (for 1,000 years) of Thomas Blount and George Tuckey Esquires, assignes of John Dudley, duke of Northumberland, grantee of the lands belonging to the dissolved abbey of Halesowen.

The barony of Ward devolved on John Ward, Esq., grandson of William Ward, of Willingsworth, third son of Humble, first lord Ward, before mentioned. This William died in January, 1713-14, leaving issue by Anne his wife, daughter and

sole heir of Thomas Parkes, of Willingsworth, three sons and three daughters. Of the sons, Humble died in his infancy, and Dudley died unmarried; William, the second son, served for Staffordshire in the last parliament but one of queen Anne, and in that in the 1 Geo. I (1714), and died in October 25th, 1720, leaving by Mary, daughter of the Hon. John Grey, of Enfield Hall, three sons, Humble, John, and William, and four daughters. Humble died in his infancy; William, the third son, was rector of Kingswinford and Himley, in Staffordshire, from whom the present earl of Dudley is descended.

John, the second son, born March 6th, 1704, was one of the members for the borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire, in the first parliament of George II (1727).

In May, 1740, this John succeeded to the title of baron Ward, being the sixth who enjoyed that honour; and in 1763 (3 George III) the dignity of viscount Dudley and Ward, of Dudley, in the county of Worcester, was granted to him and his heirs male, by letters patent, dated 23rd April in that year; and he died on the 6th May, 1774 (15 Geo. III). He twice married, first, on 26th December, 1723, to Anna Maria, daughter of Charles Bouchier, Esq., of Dublin, by whom he had one son, John; and secondly, on 4th January, 1744-5, Mary, daughter and heiress of John Carver, Esq., of London, by whom he had two sons, Humble, who died an infant, and William.

John, son by the first wife, succeeded him and was the second viscount. In 1754 he was elected a member of parliament for the borough of Marlborough (since disfranchised), and 1716 and again in 1768 for Worcestershire, and succeeded to the title in 1774. He married Mrs. Baker in July, 1788, and died in the October following, without issue, whereupon William, his half-brother, enjoyed the title and estates.

On the 1st August, 1780, William, the third viscount, married Julia, second daughter of Godfrey Bosville, Esq., and died on 25th April, 1823, leaving issue, one son, John William.

John William Ward, fourth viscount Dudley and Ward, was born August 9th, 1781. On 7th July, 1802, he was returned member of parliament for Downton in Wiltshire. He acted in general with the Tory party. He was a follower of Pitt, and

Canning was his intimate friend. On 1st August, 1803, he accepted the Chiltern Hundreds in order to stand for Worcestershire at a bye-election, and was returned without opposition. In 1806 he was returned for Petersfield in Hampshire; on 7th May, 1807, for Wareham, in Dorset; on 6th October, 1812, for Ilchester, in Somerset; and on 8th April, 1819, after being out of parliament for half a year, for Bossiney, in Cornwall. This seat he retained until 25th April, 1823, when his father died. He succeeded to the title of viscount Dudley and Ward, being the fourth viscount.

As early as 1814 he was offered office, but declined it. He was in Paris and Italy from May, 1814, to the end of 1815, in Vienna for some three months in 1817, and nearly nine months on the Continent between September, 1821, and June, 1822. In that year Canning pressed him to accept the under-secretaryship of foreign affairs. This after considerable hesitation he declined. In 1827 he was appointed foreign minister in Canning's administration, and was created earl of Dudley of Dudley Castle on 2nd September, 1827. He continued in office under the duke of Wellington at the beginning of 1828, but resigned in May. His only further public activity was a very vehement resistance to the first Reform Bill of 1831.

He died unmarried on 6th March, 1833, and all his newly acquired honours became extinct.

A volume of lord Dudley letters to the bishop of Llandaff (edited by the Bishop) were published in 1840.

By his will, dated the 26th July, 1831, he gave Himley Hall, and £6,000 a year, to his cousin and successor, the Rev. William Humble Ward, for his life; and, having made provision for the maintenance of his family in the meantime, he directed that, during a term of twelve years from his decease, the residue of the income arising from his estates should be laid out in purchasing real property, to be entailed in the manner directed by his will, as to the property therein devised. If the Rev. William Humble Ward died within the twelve years, he directed that £3,000 a year should be raised for his eldest son William, until he attained the age of 21 years, and afterwards £8,000 a year during the said term of 12 years. For the maintenance of the

younger children he gave a yearly sum of £500 apiece until they were of age ; when he gave £20,000 to Humble Dudley, the son, and £10,000 to Susannah Julia, the daughter. After the expiration of the 12 years, all the estates, both those originally possessed by the testator, and those purchased under his will, were limited to William (eldest son of the Rev. William Humble Ward, and a former earl of Dudley) and his assigns for life, and afterwards strictly entailed on his sons. If he died without a son, they were limited to Humble Dudley Ward (the second son) and his assigns for life, with a strict entail upon his sons. On failure of male issue from him, the estates are entailed : in the first place, on the daughters of William Ward (the late earl) and secondly, in default of such female issue, to the daughters of the said Humble Dudley Ward. In default of such male and female issue of the two sons, the estates are limited to Susannah Julia Ward, daughter of the said Rev. William Humble Ward, and her assigns for life ; and after her death are strictly entailed, first, on her sons ; and afterwards on her daughters. In the event of all dying without leaving any issue, the estates are given to Ferdinando Smith, of the Grange, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Salop, his heirs and assigns for ever.

Upon the death of the earl, the honour of viscount Dudley and Ward also became extinct, and the barony of Ward went to his second cousin, the Rev. William Humble Ward, grandson of the Rev. William Ward, the Rector of Kingswinford and Himley, the brother to the first viscount. The Rev. William Ward married Elizabeth, the daughter of John Hawkes, Esq.; and, dying on the 21st July, 1758, was buried at Himley, leaving issue a son, Humble, and a daughter, Frances. The latter married Washington Shirley, earl Ferrers, and died 4th March, 1812. Humble Ward, who was a barrister, married Susannah Beecroft in 1779, and died January 9th, 1785, leaving the Rev. William Humble Ward, his only child.

The Rev. William Ward was born on the 9th January, 1781, and on the death of the viscount Dudley and Ward on the 6th March, 1833, he became tenth lord Ward. He did not, however, long enjoy his honours, as he died on the 6th December, 1835. On the 22nd May, 1816, he married Amelia, daughter of William Cooch Pillans, Esq., by whom he left issue two sons, William

and Humble Dudley, and a daughter, Susannah Julia, all mentioned in the former earl's will. He also had two other daughters, Amelia and Anna Maria, who died under age in his lifetime.

William, the elder son, born March 27th, 1817, upon the death of his father (6 Will. IV) became the eleventh lord Ward but did not enter into possession of the family estates until the year 1845 (8 Vic.) when the twelve years expired, during which, by the terms of the former Earl's will, the larger part of the income was to be invested by the Trustees in the purchase of real property. It is said they had upwards of £80,000 a year so to invest, and with it they purchased of Lord Foley, estates at Hurcot, near Kidderminster, and afterwards all his property at Witley, including Witley Court.

On the 24th April, 1851, William, lord Ward, married first, Selina Constance de Burgh, eldest daughter of Hubert de Burgh, Esq., of West Drayton, born 11th November, 1829. Her married career, however, was very short, as after a painful illness she died on the 14th of November following, and was buried in the family vault at Himley, without issue.

In the years 1853-4 the Earl took a warm interest in the Crimean war, and chartered a vessel in which he took with him to the Black Sea a large quantity of provisions, clothing, game, etc., for gratuitous distribution amongst the English and Turkish soldiers, who were in sore need of such things.

In 1855 lord Ward was attached to earl Granville's special mission to Russia, and ever after spoke in friendly terms of that country.

In 1860 the titles of viscount Ednam and earl of Dudley were revived and it was duly gazetted that "on the 13th February, the dignities of viscount and earl of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, were granted unto William baron Ward, and to the heirs male of his body, lawfully begotten, by the titles of viscount Ednam, of Ednam, in the County of Roxburgh, the earl of Dudley, of Dudley Castle, in the County of Stafford."

In the year 1865 the Earl married secondly Georgina Elizabeth, third daughter of Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, Bart., of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge.

For about twelve years lord Ward was chairman of the Worcester Quarter Sessions and he took a lively interest in the work. He was, indeed, a very useful public man in the county. Always a liberal patron of art and artists, the Earl was president of the Royal Academy up to the time of his death.

The Earl was patron of 15 livings. His purse and influence were always ready to promote any useful scheme of Church work.

His lordship took his seat in the House of Lords, and occasionally spoke, being a fluent and sometimes eloquent speaker, but to the regret of his friends he never took office.

He was for many years colonel of the Worcestershire Yeomanry Cavalry.

William, earl of Dudley, died on the 7th May, 1885, at his London residence, Park Lane, and his remains were interred at Witley. He was 68 years of age. Issue :—

William Humble Ward, born May 25th, 1867, died 1932.

The Hon. John Hubert Ward, born in 1870, married in 1908 Miss Joan Reid (daughter of the American Ambassador).

The Hon. Robert Arthur Ward, born in 1871, married in 1906 Lady Mary Acheson (daughter of the earl of Gosford).

The Hon. Lady Edith Amelia, born in 1872, married in 1895 to Lord Wolverton.

The Hon. Reginald Ward, born in 1874, died in 1904.

The Hon. Cyril Augustus Ward, born in 1876, married Baroness Irene de Brien.

The Hon. Gerald Ernest Francis, born in 1877, married lady Evelyn Selina Louisa (daughter of the earl of Erne).

William Humble Ward, eldest son of the first earl of Dudley, succeeded to the titles of his father on his death in 1885. Various honours were conferred upon him, as the following list will shew :—P.C. (Great Britain, 1902), G.C.B. (Civ., 1911), G.C.M.G. (1908), G.C.V.O. (1903), T.D., a knight of grace of Jerusalem, formerly L.C.C., D.L. and county alderman for Worcestershire, Mayor of Dudley (1895-1897), Lord High Steward of Kidderminster, president of the Royal Zoological Society of Ireland, lieutenant commanding Worcestershire Yeomanry. He served in the South African war as D.A.A.G. in Imperial Yeomanry. He was Parliamentary secretary to the Board of Trade (1895-1902), Lord Lieutenant of Ireland (1902-5), and Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia (1908-11).

The late earl of Dudley was born on May 25th, 1867. Married in 1891, Rachel, daughter of the late Charles Gurney, Esq., a lady of grace of St. John of Jerusalem. She died in 1920 and in 1924 the Earl married Mrs. Lionel Monckton (Miss Gertie Millard).

He died on June 29th, 1932.

Issue :—

The present Earl, William Humble Eric Ward, educated at Oxford, born January 30th, 1894.

Lady Gladys Honor Bridgeman, born 1892.

Lady Morvyth Lilian Benson, born 1896.

Hon. Roderick John Ward, second heir, born 1902.

Lady Alexandria Patricia Ward, born 1904.

Hons. Edward Frederick and George Reginald Ward (twins), born 1907.

William Humble Eric Ward succeeded to the title in 1932. Born January 30th, 1894, eldest son of second Earl and Rachel youngest daughter of Charles Gurney. Married in 1919 to Rosemary Millicent, only daughter of the fourth duke of Sutherland, who died July 21st, 1930. There are two sons, Viscount Ednam heir to Earldom (William Humble David) and

Peter Alistair. Another son John Jeremy was born May 7th, 1922, and died December 9th, 1929. He served in the Great War, 1914-18, was wounded and received Military Cross. M.P. for Hornsey Borough 1921-24, and for Wednesbury 1931-32. Parliamentary Private Secretary to Under Secretary of State for India (Earl Winterton) 1921-23. High Sheriff for Worcestershire 1930, Lord High Steward for Kidderminster, Governing Director and Chairman Himley Estates Ltd., Chairman of the Round Oak Steel Works Ltd., the Earl of Dudley's Baggeridge Colliery Ltd., and Edghill Ltd. T.D.; D.C.; J.P. for Staffordshire. Major of the Q.O.R.R. Staffordshire Yeomanry; formerly Lieut. Worcestershire Yeomanry and Capt. 10th Royal Hussars.



