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THE WARDENS OF ROXBURGH CASTLE.¹

By C. H. HUNTER BLAIR, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.

INTRODUCTION.

THE scanty ruins of Roxburgh Castle—"Boosom'd high in tufted trees"—stand on a ridge of high land between Tweed and Teviot, a short distance above their meeting at Kelso (Plate VIII). The ridge rises steeply on the south above the turbulent waters of Teviot; on the north it falls as steeply to the banks of the broad and more placid Tweed; on the east a gradual ascent leads to the remains of the great gateway; on the west a deep ditch cuts off the castle hill from the neighbouring high ground. No record tells when a "castle" was first built upon this commanding site, but it would seem probable that it was in the early part of the twelfth century. In the year 1107 Eadgar King of Scots (1097-1107) gave the lordship of Cumbria and of the Lothians south of the Lammermoors to his younger brother, Earl David. It seems probable that shortly thereafter a "castle" would be built upon this natural fortress. It was a central and convenient place from which to watch the March towards England and to administer the lands of southern Lothian. The place-name is first mentioned in a charter of Earl David dating in the early part of the twelfth century,² before 1124. A dwelling-place of some importance must have been built before 1125 when King David I was visited there by the papal legate Cardinal John of Crema³ (*Cremensis*). The castle (*turris*) is first named in 1134 when Malcolm, son of Macheth, was there imprisoned.⁴ The nature of this early castle can only be conjectured; probably the summit of the height would be surrounded by a palisaded mound, whilst a deep and wide ditch, with a quick-set hedge,

¹ This name is used to include the various titles used in the records—keeper, constable, warden, guardian, governor, captain or sheriff.

² LK, I, 3.

³ CM, 68.

⁴ CM, 69, *capitur et in arcta ponitur in turre Rokesburgh custodia.*

like a *chevaux de frise*, on the counterscarp, would surround the base upon at least the west, north and east sides. The earliest buildings within these defences would be of wood, with a tower-house surrounded by a ditch forming an inner bailey, the quarters for garrison and servants being in an outer bailey, probably at the east end of the site. By the end of the twelfth century, or shortly thereafter, it may be assumed that stone walls, with stone gatehouse and tower, a hall, and the usual domestic buildings of a great castle, would have replaced the early earthworks.

Roxburgh became a favourite residence of the Kings of Scots from David I to Alexander III⁵ (1124-1286). The many

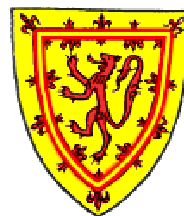


ST ANDREW.

royal charters, dated thence, witness that there much of the administrative work of the Kingdom was done. It was indeed a royal palace, intimately joined to the family life of these sovereigns. Royal marriage contracts⁶ were signed there, marriages celebrated,⁷ and royal children born and baptised⁸ in the chapel of St John the Evangelist, within its walls. There

Scottish kings, surrounded by their courts, received visits of state from other sovereigns,⁹ and foreign ambassadors¹⁰ were welcomed.

It was in the castle that King Alexander II, on 30th May 1223, knighted John le Scot, Earl of Huntingdon, son of Earl David, together with many others of his peers,¹¹ followed, doubtless, by the pomp and circumstance of the high ceremonial of the tournament.



SCOTLAND.

"Where throngs of Knights and Barons bold,
In weeds of Peace high triumphs hold,
With store of Ladies, whose bright eies,
Rain influence, and judge the prise."

The object of this paper, however, is not to follow in detail the history of the castle; it is rather an attempt to give the names,

⁵ From 1174 to 1189 it was in English hands.

⁶ *Foedera*, p. 595.

⁷ CM, 149.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 154.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 181.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, 68, 140.

¹¹ Alexander rex Scottorum Johannem Scotum comitem de Hunte-dune . . . filium, David comitis, et plures nobiles viros armis militaribus induit (CM, 141).

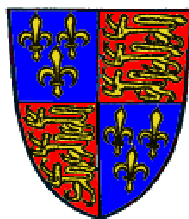
with short biographies, of the men who were its governors from 1291 to 1460, during which period it was with short intervals ¹² a possession of the English crown. Before 1291 there was also a period of fifteen years when Roxburgh belonged to the English. By the treaty of Falaise (8th December 1174) it and other important castles were ceded by William the Lion to Henry II of England as security for the execution of that treaty. Roxburgh and the others were restored to William by Richard Coeur de Lion on 5th December 1189. The earlier part of this list contains the names, so far as they have been found, of the sheriffs, whether English or Scottish, who presumably were in charge of Roxburgh Castle before 1291. These sheriffs are not definitely said to have had this charge, but it was customary for the royal castles of a sheriffdom to be an appanage of the shrievalty. In 1220 "constables" of the castle are first mentioned, officers ¹³ who would be responsible to the sheriff for its immediate control and defence. It was the Scottish sheriff Sir William Soules who, on 13th June 1291, was ordered by Edward I to give up "his charge" of Roxburgh Castle to Sir William Grandison.¹⁴ It was earlier in that year, at Norham, that Edward had asserted his paramountcy over Scotland and so ended the peace of a hundred years (1174-1291) and rang in the centuries of war between the two nations. Roxburgh then became an English fortress, the gathering place of England's armies arrayed for the conquest of Scotland. They mustered at Newcastle upon Tyne and marched north by the well-trodden highway that went direct between the two places,¹⁵ the high road which, nearly a century later, was to be the dividing line between the East and Middle Marches towards Scotland in



EDWARD I.



ST GEORGE.



ENGLAND.

¹² A.D. 1313 to 1334 and from 1342 to 1346.

¹³ *Post*, p. 29.

¹⁴ *Post*, p. 31.

¹⁵ *Altam viam que se extendit directe de villa Novi Castri super Tynam usque Rokesburgh* (RS, II, 41).

Northumberland.¹⁶ After the cession of the castle to Edward it was given in charge, as wardens, to some of the ablest knights of Edward and his successors who, with strong garrisons, held it with difficulty, twice without success, against many fierce Scottish attacks. It was a dangerous ward, as Sir William le Latimer found when, writing in 1302 to the Chancellor of England, he says, "we are in daily peril of our lives."¹⁷ The strength of the garrison varied at different times, but it was always a comparatively large one. It consisted normally of a body of heavily armed men-at-arms (including knights), of hobelars or light horsemen, ready at need to make forays, of horse and foot archers, crossbowmen, watchmen for the walls and porters for the gates. Besides these fighting men were masons, carpenters, smiths and other tradesmen for the upkeep of the fabric of the building upon which, as will be seen in the sequel, large sums of money were spent.¹⁸ In the late fourteenth and in the fifteenth centuries Roxburgh Castle became an appanage of the West March of England. Ralph Lord Grey-stoke was, in 1380, appointed one of the wardens of that March "with the keeping of Roxburgh Castle."¹⁹ In 1400, Richard Lord Grey of Codnor and Sir Stephen le Scrope, banneret, whilst wardens of that March, undertook as part of their duty to "keep ²⁰ the castle of Roxburgh." In the first days of August 1460 King James II laid siege to the castle with an army equipped with the new artillery; whilst he watched the fring of one of these large hooped cannon, it burst and a flying fragment killed him. The place was captured a few days later (8th August), but at this heavy price. The Scots completely destroyed the castle, and though it was partly restored once, and again in later years, it never regained its earlier importance, and now only some earthen mounds and ditches and fragments of masonry remain to tell of the palace of the Kings of Scots, and of the once great English fortress.

¹⁶ *Altam viam que se extendit directe de villa Novi Castri super Tynam usque Rokesburgh* (RS, II, 41).

¹⁷ CDS, III, No. 341.

¹⁸ In 1335-37 by Sir Wm. Felton (*post*, p. 35). In 1419-20 by Sir John Bertram (*post*, p. 43). In the years 1445-50 the very large sum of nearly £8000 was spent upon it (CDS, IV, 1185 and later).

¹⁹ CDS, IV, No. 315.

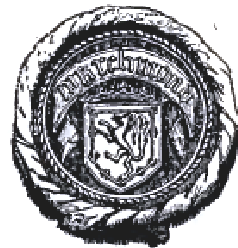
²⁰ *Ibid.*, Nos. 567-568.

MARCHMONT.

The Scottish chronicler John of Fordun (d. c. 1384), writing in the later half of the fourteenth century, calls Roxburgh Castle *Marchemond*. The relevant passages are: *Turstanus Eboracensis archiepiscopus ad castrum Marchemond videlicet Roxburgh veniens . . .* (*Chron. Gent. Scot.*, ed. Skene, Bk. iv, ch. xxxii).

Malcolm Macheth . . . tandem capitur, et ab eodem rege David in turre castri de Marchemond arcta custodia truciadatur (*Gesta Ann*, ch. i, p. 254, ed. Skene).

Donald, son of Malcolm Macheth . . . in eodem turre de Marchemond cum patre suo incarceratum (*ibid.*, p. 255).



It will be noticed that Fordun does not say that Marchemond was an *early* name for Roxburgh Castle; he simply calls it so without qualification. The quotations given above obviously derive from the accounts of the same incidents given in the *Chronicle of Melrose*, but there the castle is called *Rokesburgh* (*Chronica de Mailros*, Bannatyne ed., pp. 69, 70, 76). The later chroniclers, Hector Boece (c. 1465–1536) and John Bellenden (1533–87), following Fordun, call the place *Marchemond*. William Camden, in his *Britannia* (trs. Holland ed., 1637, *Scotia*, p. 10), calls it *Marchidun*. “Rosburg sheweth itselfe, called also Roxburg, and in old time Marchidun because it was a towne in the Marches.” *Origines Parochiales Scotie* says, more cautiously, “said to have been called of old by the name of Marchemond or Marchidun.” On pages 450–52 of this publication fifty-three variants of the name Roxburgh, taken from original sources from A.D. 1109 to 1696, are given, but the only references given for *Marchemond* are to Fordun, or to such as Boece and Bellenden who were probably dependent on him. Camden is the earliest authority to allege that that name was an ancient one. It is a fine romantic name and describes the site well, but it is not “old,” and seems to have been an invention of Fordun.

The name, though not used officially, was evidently familiar in the fifteenth century; in the year 1482 King James III

called one of his heralds *Marchmont*, probably as a memorial of his father's tragic death and the subsequent capture and destruction of the castle of Roxburgh. He also placed the name on a scroll above the royal shield of Scotland, ensigned by a coronet upon his Privy Seal, as shown on the previous page, from an engraving on p. iv of the Bannatyne edition of the *Liber S. Marie de Calchou*.

REFERENCES AND ABBREVIATIONS.

- CDS *Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland*, A.D. 1108–1509. Four volumes, ed. by Joseph Bain, 1881–88.
- CM *Chronica de Mailros*. Bannatyne Club, 1835.
- CP *The Complete Peerage*. New ed., vols. i–xi.
- CAL *Caledonia*, by George Chalmers. New ed., vol. iii, 1888.
- Ex.R *The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*, A.D. 1264–1379. Two volumes, ed. by George Burnett, 1878.
- HS *Publications of the Harleian Society*, vols. 80–84.
- LM *Liber Sanctae Marie de Melros*. Bannatyne Club.
- LK *Liber S. Marie de Calchou*. Bannatyne Club.
- LS *Catalogue of Ancient Scottish Seals*, by Henry Laing. Two vols. Edinburgh, 1850 and 1866.
- NCH *A History of Northumberland*. Fifteen volumes, 1890–1940.
- OPS *Origines Parochiales Scotiae*, vol. i. Bannatyne Club, 1850.
- PR *Calendars of the Patent Rolls*.
- RS *Rotuli Scocie*, two vols. fo., A.D. 1291–1516. London, 1814–19.
- Scottish Kings*, 1005–1625, by Sir Archibald H. Dunbar.
- The Mediæval Castle in Scotland*, by W. Mackay Mackenzie.
- The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire*, by Alex. Jeffrey. Four volumes, 1857.
- Early Sources of Scottish History*, by Alan Orr Anderson. Vol. ii. Edinburgh, 1922.

ARMORIAL REFERENCES.

- AG *Armorial de Gelre*, Scottish Arms, vol. i, by R. R. Stoddart. Edinburgh, 1881.
- C *The Siege of Caerlaverock*, by N. H. Nicholas, 1828, and an edition by Thos. Wright, 1864.
- F *The Falkirk Roll of Arms*, A.D. 1298. *Scotland in 1298*, by Henry Gough, 1888.
- J *Jenyn's Ordinary of Arms*, ed. by J. Greenstreet, in Welford's *Antiquarian*.
- J *Jenyn's Roll of Arms*, ed. by J. Greenstreet, in *Notes and Queries*, 1881.
- N *Nativity Roll*, ed. I. Reliquary, 1875.
- NOB *Nobility Rolls of Arms*. Notes and Queries, 1876-77.
- P *Parliamentary Roll*. The Genealogist, vols. xi and xii.
- POW *Powell Roll of Arms*, ed. by J. Greenstreet.
- S *Scottish Arms*, 1370-1678, by R. R. Stoddart. Vol. i, 1881.
- W *A Roll of Arms of Richard II*, ed. by T. Willement, 1834.

LIST OF WARDENS.¹

- c. 1124. JOHN, SON OF ORM, sheriff. (Cal. III, 90, n. ed.)
Owner of Crailing. Occurs as witness to charters of David I.
- c. 1127. GERVASE RIDELL. (*Ibid.*)
Styled *vicecomes de Rokesburgh* in a charter of David I (Dal. Coll., No. 348).
He was a witness with Henry, son of David, to a charter of King David's dated at Roxburgh; he was not then sheriff (LK, p. 297).
- c. 1160. HERBERT OF MACCUSWELL (MAXWELL), sheriff.
(LK, p. 136.)
He witnessed documents as sheriff, granted the church of M. to Kelso Abbey, in c. 1190 he made a recognisance in Yorks. and accounted for 100/-, d. c. 1200, his s. and h. was John (LK, CDS, I).

¹ Sheriffs and constables are also included.

THE CASTLE WAS GIVEN UP TO HENRY II BY KING
WILLIAM ON 8TH DECEMBER 1174 (CDS, I, 139).

1177. SIR WILLIAM STUTEVILLE.



Barry argent and gules (J) (as borne later).

S. and h. of Robert S. mar. Bertha, niece of Ranulf Glanville, keeper of Topcliffe Castle 1174, of Roxburgh 1177, sheriff of Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmorland 1200, of Yorks. 1201, d. 1203.

THE CASTLE RESTORED TO WILLIAM BY RICHARD I,
5TH DECEMBER 1189 (CDS, I, 196).

c. 1199. WALTER CORBET, sheriff. (Reg. Paisley, 254.)

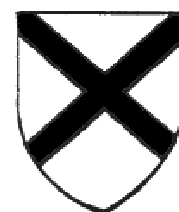


Three corbies (? or and sable).¹

In 1166 he witnessed a charter of King William, a hostage for the performance of a convention between William I and Henry II, 1174, pays 20 mks. not to be accused of complicity with the King's (Henry) enemies, gave the church of Makeston (Maxton) to Kelso Abbey, his dau. and h. mar.

second s. of Patrick I, Earl of Dunbar (CK, CDS, NGH).

c. 1207-26. SIR JOHN OF MACCUSWELL (MAXWELL), sheriff.²
(LK, p. 172.)



Argent a saltire sable. (S.)

He is called s. of Herbert M. (LK, p. 176) and in A.D. 1222 is styled *chamberlain* (LK, 309). In July 1215 he was one of the ambassadors sent by Alex. II to John, in 1220 is named amongst the barons of Scotland, in 1221 witness to a grant of dower by Alex. II to his wife Joan of England (LK, CDS).

¹ He probably did not bear an armorial shield. That here given is carved upon the tombstone of his descendant, Sir Walter Corbet of Makeston, and of Lanton and Newton in Northumberland (N/C, *Proceedings* iii, p. 95).

² John of Maccuswell is said in Cal. III, n. ed., p. 96, to have been sheriff c. 1189 ref. Charter 139 CK. He is not named in that charter, nor can I find any reference to him as sheriff at that date. Bernard of Haudene is also said to have been sheriff before 1249. He is not named in CK, 49 ref. given, nor can I find him called sheriff in any Kelso charter.

- c. 1220. Sir RALPH OF CHAMPAIN (DE CAMPANIA), constable. (LM, 250.)



Azure three bars vary gules (P) (as borne later). (One bar has been omitted in the block.)

Nothing found except that he occurs as a witness to a charter of Alan, constable of Scotland (LK). He also witnessed, as constable, a deed of Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford (1214-21) (LM, I, 229).

- c. 1237. ADAM OF BAGGAT, sheriff.

In a chapter of about this date he is called sheriff of Roxburgh. In a charter dated 1235 he appears amongst the witnesses as a burgess of Roxburgh (CK, pp. 285 and 321).

- c. 1241-49. Sir ALEXANDER STRIVELIN, constable. (LK, 194.)



(Argent) on a chief (gules) three buckles (or) (LS).

(Seal of Sir John S. of 1296.)

In 1244 he was a juror for Walter Earl of Buchan.

1246. Sir NICHOLAS SOULES, sheriff. (LK, 127.)



Barry or six argent and sable (AC).

In 1244 Henry III restored to him and his wife Annora their lands in Stamfordham, Northumberland, in 1246 as sheriff of Roxburgh he with others perambulated the March between England and Scotland in a dispute between Bernard of Haudene and the canons of Carham, 1248 his lands in Northumberland were taken by the sheriff and in the same year he complained of injury done to him against March law, c. 1244 made oath that he had not aided nor abetted trespass upon the King of England's land (CDS, I).

- c. 1250. Sir WILLIAM OF HAUDENE, constable. (LM, 306.)



. . . a saltire . . . between four molets (LS).

Haudene lies to the south-west of Carham. In 1246 Bernard of Haudene had a dispute with the canons of Carham as to their boundaries, and a commission was appointed to delimit the Border line there. In 1244 Sir William was juror for Walter Earl of Buchan (CDS, I).

- c. 1262. Sir WILLIAM FERINDRITH, constable. (LM, 294.)

Nothing more found.

- 1265-66. Sir HUGH ABERNETHY, sheriff.



(Argent) a lion rampant (gules) over all a baston (sable) (S).

The above charges appear on a seal of Laurence Abernethy of 1320 date. Sir Hugh A. was lord of Rule, forester of Selkirk and sheriff of Roxburgh (Ex.R.).

1285. Sir HUGH PERESBY, sheriff. (LK, 180.)

No arms found. Justice errant in Tyndale in 1279 (CDS, III).

1285. ALEXANDER OF MAXTON, constable. (LK, 180.)



Or a chevron gules between three crosses crosslet fitchy sable.

Did homage to Edward I in 1296, constable again in 1290.

- c. 1285. ROBERT OF COKEBURN, constable. (LM, 260.)



Argent three cocks gules.

Here named constable and Sir Hugh P. sheriff.

c. 1289-91. Sir WILLIAM SOULES, sheriff. (CDS.)



Barry argent and sable (Seal and AG).

Envoy from Alex. to Ed. I Feb.-May 1278, justiciar of Lothian 1285, butler of Scot. 1285, sheriff of Roxburgh 1289-91, of Inverness 1292, Ed. I takes him and his men under protection 1304, held lands in Northumberland and in Jedburgh Forest. On 13th June 1291 ordered by Edward I

to give up his charge of Roxburgh Castle to Sir William Grandison (CDS, RS, HS).

THE CASTLE WAS SURRENDERED TO EDWARD I,
13TH JUNE 1291.

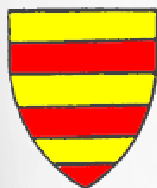
1291. Sir WILLIAM GRANDISON.



Paly argent and azure on a bend gules three eagles displayed or (F).

On 13th June William of Soules, then sheriff of Roxburgh, was ordered to give up the castle to him. He was son of the Seigneur de Granson, on the Lake of Neufchâtel, and brother of Otes of Grandison; both he and his brother were much employed in the service of Edward I, and though he was present at Falkirk in 1298 this is the only employment he held in Scotland. He was summd. to parliament 1298-1325, in which latter year he died (RS, I; CDS, II; CP, HS).

1291-92. Sir BRIAN FITZ ALAN.



Barry or and gules (F).

On 4th August 1291 appointed keeper of the castles of Jedburgh and Roxburgh, on 18th August 1292 ordered to surrender them to John Baliol. S. and h. of Alan fitz Brian of Bedale, in Wales 1277 and 1287, on pilgrimage 1285, employed much in Scotland and on the Marches in Northumberland,

keeper of Scotland 1297, fought at Falkirk 1298, summd. to parl. 1295-1305, d. 1306, bur. Bedale church, where his fine effigy yet remains (RS, I; CDS, II; CP, HS).

1292-96. In 1292 Sir Brian, by Edward's orders, gave up the castle to John of Baliol. In 1295 it was returned to Edward, who undertook to surrender it at end of the French war. In 1296 James the Steward swore fealty to Edward and gave up the castle to him (RS, I).

1296. WALTER TONKE.

Arms unknown. On 14th May the castle, town and sheriffdom of Roxburgh were committed to him. He accounted for £56, 15. 0 of its issues for the year 1295-96. He has not been traced; he was not a knight, but probably a clerk of the king's household (RS, I; CDS, II).

1296-1305. Sir ROBERT HASTANG.



Azure a chief gules and a lion rampant or (P).

His seal to *Barons' Letter* shows a double-tailed lion apparently debruised by a bar; it is possible that this is a rough way of showing the chief. Appointed keeper of the town and castle of R. and sheriff of the county 8th Sept. 1296, styled late constable Oct. 1305. 10th Nov. 1300 called captain, guardian and sheriff of the castle, town and county to serve until Pentecost next with 20 men-at-arms and 100 foot; Feb. 1302 with 10 men-at-arms and foot as before, garrison of town 180 foot. There was also a carpenter, smith, mason, bowser and watchman kept in the castle. In 1306 thanked for services as Marshal of Berwick, 1308 had grants of land in Scot. and grant for life of the town of Kingston upon Hull, 1311-16 on King's service in Scot., 1325 broken by age and infirmity gave up Hull, d. before April 1336. He was of La Desirée and Badenhall, Staffs, served in Ireland 1289, summd. parl. 1311 (RS, I; CDS, II; CP, HS).

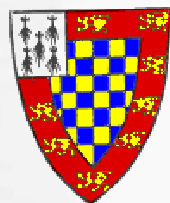
1302. Sir WILLIAM LE LATIMER.



Gules a cross patonce or (F).

He appears to have been at Roxburgh with Sir Robert Hastang in 1302-3, on 1st September 1302 he is ordered to ride with 20 men-at-arms when necessary "in divers parts of Scotland," he had then 38 men-at-arms in his force at Roxburgh, whilst Sir Robert Hastang for the castle and sheriffdom had 10 men-at-arms and 40 foot; Jan. 1303 he asks for protection for his vallet at Roxburgh in his company "where we are in daily peril of our lives." He was called "le père" or "the elder" to distinguish him from his son. In 1270-74, with Prince Edward in Holy Land, 1275 on Pilgrimage to Santiago, Scottish wars 1291-1303, in Gascony 1294-97. At Falkirk 1298, captain for King in Marches 1299, keeper of Berwick 1300, at Roxburgh 1302-3, summd. to parl. 1299-1304, d. 5th Dec. 1304 (RS, CDS, CP).

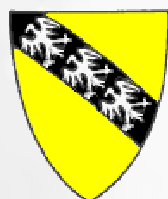
1305. JOHN OF BRITTANY.



Checky or and azure a canton ermine and a border of England (C).

Son of John II Earl of Richmond, b. 1266, cr. Earl of Richmond 15th Oct. 1306, constable of Roxburgh and Jedburgh Castles 26th Oct. 1305, Lieu. and guardian of Scotland 1305 and 1307, Lord Ordainer 1310, ambassador to France 1325-27, d. 7th Jan. 1334 (CP, HS, OPS).

1306-1310. SIR ROBERT MAULEY.



Or on a bend sable three eagles displayed argent (P).

Constable of castle 12th July 1306, sheriff Jan. 1307, when ordered to repair and victual the castle, thanked by the king for his good service, ordered to hand over the castle to Sir Henry Beaumont Feb. 1310, styled late constable March 1310. He was a younger bro. of Peter Lord Mauley; sergeant serving with Henry Earl of Lincoln in 1277, serving in Scot. 1291, granted Bolsover Castle and Horeston Castle the latter freely until he had been repaid the wages of himself and men and for horses of kts. and men-at-arms lost at Roxburgh 1312, constable of High Peak manor, castle and chase 1319, as commissr. of array to muster his men of Notts. and Staffs. at York against Scots 1323, d. 1331 (CDS, II and III; HS).

1310-11. SIR HENRY BEAUMONT.



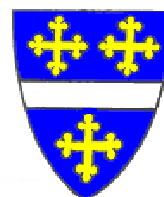
Azure fleuretty a lion rampant or (a baston gobony arg. and gu.) (N).

He fought at Falkirk 1298, where his horse, a brown bay worth 60 mks., was killed, serving in Scot. 1301, granted barony of Craill 1306, jt. warden of Scotland between Forth and Berwick Feb. 1310, 24th March 1310 granted castle and county of Roxburgh for life, Ed. II was at Roxburgh 23rd-28th Sept. 1310, in garrison at Perth with 60 men-at-arms 1310, constable of Scot. In right of his wife Alice Countess of Buchan, receives her lands 12th Dec. 1312, received manor of Sprouston, Roxburghs. 1311, granted lordship of Isle of Man 1310. He was a ygr. s. of Louis de Brienne and grands. of John de Brienne King of Jerusalem and Emperor of Constantinople, and a cousin of Ed. II from whom he recd. grants of many manors and castles. He fought at Boroughbridge on the king's side 1322, constable of England, 1322, constable of the army 1338, justiciar of Scotland 1338, d. 10th March 1340 (CDS, II and III; CP, HS).

1310-13. SIR WILLIAM FILINGE.

Arms are unknown. His origin and family are also unknown, he was a kt. Aug. 1311, and constable of the castle in March 1310 (probably under Sir Henry Beaumont) when £315 was ordered to be paid to him and his garrison of 139 men, his horse valued at Berwick, 1312, was a destrier (*dextrarius*), as sheriff he accounts for the issues of the county 1311-12, received 200 mks. as payment for self and garrison the numbers and names many of them are given in CDS, III, p. 406. Sept. 1313, the mayor and bailiffs of Newcastle upon Tyne and the customers of Hartlepool were ordered to pay him £100 and £315 respectively for arrears of his pay as constable of Rox. (CDS, III).

1312. SIR IVES ALDEBURGH.



Azure a fess argent between three crosses crosslet or (Nob.).

As blasoned for his son William whose brass at Aldburgh shows the fess *danced*. His name is from Aldburgh in Richmondshire, when in 1298 Sir Robert Hastang was making sallies from Roxburgh, Ives of Ald. was a "vallet" of his garrison and lost two horses, a dark bay and a grey. Later in that year he is called kt., sheriff of the three Lothians 1305, in garrison at Roxburgh under Sir Ralph Monthermer king's lieu. in Scot. 1309-11, warden of town of Roxburgh 1312, justice in eyre 1314, for the munition of the castle was paid £376-6-8d, for himself and garrison 1316, appointed, with the abbot of Rievaulx, to treat for peace with Sir Robert Bruce 1326, suc. by his son William who had exemplification of a charter of his father from Edward Baliol of lands at Broxmouth in 1347 (RS, I; CDS, III; HS).

The castle was captured by the Scots under Sir James Douglas, 27th February 1313, and remained in Scottish hands until 12th June 1334, when Edward Baliol King of Scots granted it to Edward III (CDS, III, 894 and 1127).

1313. NICOLL FOULLER appointed constable of castle after its capture by Sir James Douglas—nothing more has been found about him. Bernard of Haudene was his lieutenant (OPS).

1323. ADAM RUFF appears as constable in this year—nothing further found about him (OPS).

1329. SIR ROBERT PEEBLES, chamberlain. Accounts for £20 "for the ward of the castle of Roxburgh" (OPS, 481).

Roxburgh Castle granted to Edward III by a charter of Edward Baliol King of Scots dated at Newcastle upon Tyne 12th June 1334.

1334. Sir GEOFFREY MOUBRAY.



Gules a lion rampant argent and a label of five points argent (LS seal of 1292).

He was appointed warden during pleasure when the castle was delivered to Ed. III by Edward Baliol. He was probably a son of that Sir Geoffrey M. who sealed as above in 1292. In Oct. 1334 he had protection as a kt. of Scot. going to Ed. III in England with his retinue, Oct. 1335 pardoned for all offences,

1336 called late husband of Isabel Countess of Mar, divorced by her before Easter 1336 (RS, CDS).

In 1334 David II appointed Sir WILLIAM SETON sheriff of Roxburgh.

1335-42. Sir WILLIAM FELTON.



Gules two lions passant silver within the Scottish tressure silver (DS).

He was sheriff of the county and constable of the castle, where his garrison in 1335 was 60 men-at-arms (3 of them knights), 80 hobelars and mounted archers, a keeper of the king's pavilions and 8 watchmen together with masons, smiths and carpenters. In 1340-42 the strength was 5 knights,

70-80 men-at-arms and about 50 hobelars and archers, but it seems to have varied from time to time. He was appointed justice in the parts of Scotland in English occupation. He was distrained for knighthood 1329, held many manors in Northumberland, Durham and Northants. Edlingham was his chief castle in Northd., styled king's yeoman 1319 and kt. before 1334, keeper of castles in Yorks., of Newcastle upon Tyne 1341-43 when he was sheriff of the county of Northumberland, going beyond seas 1342, served in campaign of Crécy 1346, d. 1358, buried in Edlingham Church where his tomb recess and shield of arms are yet seen (RS, I; CDS, III; HS, PR).

In 1342 Sir Alexander Ramsay of Dalwolsy (Dalhousie) captured the castle by a surprise attack and destroyed the garrison (OPS).

1342. Sir ALEXANDER RAMSAY OF DALHOUSIE.



Argent an eagle displayed sable (AG).

After he had captured the castle he was made warden and sheriff of Teviotdale, he was granted £26.13.4d. for its munition (Ex.R). In 1338 he and his company captured the castle of Dunbar by a similar surprise attack.

1342. Sir WILLIAM DOUGLAS OF LIDDISDALE.



Argent a man's heart gules on a chief azure three molets argent (with difference).

He attacked Ramsay and kept him prisoner in Hermitage Castle, where he died it is said of starvation. Sir William was made warden in Ramsay's place. He was slain in 1353 in Ettrick Forest by William Earl Douglas in revenge for Ramsay's murder.

1346. The castle was restored to Edward III after the battle of Neville's Cross (Durham) 17th October 1346.

1346-55; 1361-64. Sir JOHN COUPLAND.



Argent on a cross sable a molet argent (W).

His name is from Coupland, Northumberland. He is styled king's yeoman in 1344 and as an esquire he captured David of Scotland at Neville's Cross 1346 for which he was made a banneret, 1343-47 employed in Scotland as justice and commissioner, in 1346 was summoned to Westminster with other northern magnates. In 1347 called "gardein" of Rox. with a garrison of 20 men-at-arms and 20 horse-archers. On 2nd April 1347 ordered as constable and sheriff to give up his charges to William of Careswell and his wife Isabel Countess of Mar hereditary keeper and sheriff, but Coupland appears with short intervals to have held these offices until 1359 by indentures of 23rd Feb. 1352 and 20th May 1355. On 10th Feb. 1350 he undertook to keep the castle for a year for 1000 marks with a garrison of 24 men-at-arms, 30 archers, 10 watchmen on the walls and two porters at the gates. On 25th Oct. 1355 he delivered the castle and sheriffdom to Sir Henry Percy. Sir John C. was again sheriff in 1361. He was murdered on Bolton Moor, Northumberland, Dec. 1363, whilst on the king's business. On 23rd Jan. 1364 Sir Alan del Strother was constable and sheriff vice Sir John Coupland dead (RS, I; CDS, III and IV; HS, PR, CR).

1347. SIR WILLIAM CARESWELL.



*Argent fretty gules and a fess azure
(Duns. Tourn.).*

His name is from Caverswell, Staffs. His father William was licensed to make a castle of his house there. He was keeper of Berwick 1341-42, keeper of truce 1342, mar. as her second husband Isabel widow of Donald 12th Earl of Mar, had restitution of her lands 1341, keeper and sheriff of Roxburgh by indenture of 5th Aug. 1347, he undertook to keep the castle with 40 men-at-arms and 50 archers in time of war (RS, I; CDS, III; HS).

1355-57. SIR HENRY PERCY.



Or a lion rampant azure (W).

On 25th Oct. 1355 Sir John Coupland was ordered to deliver the castle and sheriffdom of Roxburgh to Sir Henry P., his term of office to be two years, on 29th Sept. 1357 Percy delivered both to Sir Richard Tempest. Henry P. suc. his f. March 1352, fought at Crécy and in Gascony 1346, 1349, keeper of Berwick, joint warden of the Marches 1352, d. 1368.

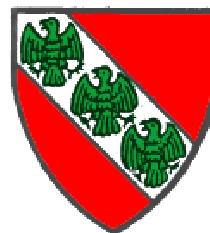
1357-61. SIR RICHARD TEMPEST.



*Argent a bend between six storm-finches
sable (JO).*

S. and h. of Sir John T. of Hartforth and Studley. Sheriff of Berwick 1350, keeper of that town 1350-53, again 1362-63, and 1377-81 with the powers of a warden of the March. On 29th Sept. 1357 he received the castle and sheriffdom of Rox. Jan. 1362 a commission was appointed to enquire into his conduct whilst keeper and sheriff, accused of oppressing the people under colour of his office, and retaining Scottish grooms and other unfit persons instead of a proper garrison of men-at-arms and archers and to have taken prisoners by force and without payment. June 1362 to keep Berwick (CDS, III and IV; RS).

1364-76. SIR ALAN DEL STROTHER.



*Gules on a bend silver three spread eagles
vert (W).*

Lord of Lyham in Glendale, Northumberland and other manors in that county, commissioner of array 1357 and later, sheriff of Northumberland 1356-58, keeper of Tyndale 1363 and later, keeper of Roxburgh Castle and sheriff of the county in place of Sir J. Coupland, killed 26th Jan. 1364, he was sheriff until Dec. 1376 when Sir Thomas Percy was appointed, d. 1381 (NCH, CDS).

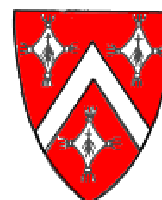
1376-81. SIR THOMAS PERCY.



Or a lion rampant azure (W).

Appointed keeper of castle and sheriff of the county 1st Dec. 1376. Second s. of Henry Lord Percy (suc. 1352) and heir of the 1st Earl of Northd., b. c. 1343, in France 1369-72, K.G. 1375, adm. of North 1378-80, constable of Jedburgh 1397, cr. Earl of Worcester 1397, joined rebellion of the Earl of Northumberland and Hotspur, taken prisoner at Shrewsbury 1403 and beheaded (RS, CDS, CP).

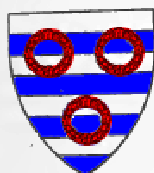
1381-82. SIR MATTHEW REDMAN.



*Gules a chevron argent between three cushions
ermine tasselled or (W).*

Appointed keeper of castle and sheriff of the county for one year from 1st May 1381, his garrison was 30 men-at-arms, 50 horse archers and 57 sergeants of his own retinue, ordered to see that castles on the Marches were fortified and that their owners lived in them 1380, joint warden of West March 1380, commiss. with others to inspect retinue of Henry Percy at Berwick 1385, ordered with others to see that food and coals and lime are provided for Roxburgh 1386, keeper of truce on Marches 1386, jt.-ambassador for peace with Scotland 1387, commiss. of array in Northd. 1388, fought with Hotspur at Otterburn and taken prisoner, there is an interesting account of this episode in Froissart. He was of Levens, Westmorland, mar. Joan, widow of Will. Lord Greystoke and of Sir Anthony Lucy, before 1378. He died c. 1390 (RS, CDS, CP).

1380. RALPH LORD GREYSTOKE.



Barry argent and azure three chaplets gules (W).

He was appointed one of the wardens of the West March 10th Nov. 1380, with the keeping of Roxburgh Castle. Whilst on his way to take over his command he was attacked, 25th June 1380, by George, Earl of March on the English side of the Border in Glendale, taken prisoner with all his baggage and held to heavy ransom in Dunbar Castle until 1382 or later. He was warden of the West Marches in 1386 and d. 1418 (CDS, III; CP).

1382-83. Sir THOMAS BLENKINSOP.



Argent a fess between three garbs sable (J.O.).

Sir Matthew Redman delivered the castle to him on 2nd Feb. 1382, he held it for a further period in 1383. He was of Blenkinsop Castle held of the manor of Langley in South Tyndale, he was employed in Scotland and upon commissions of array in the northern counties from 1369-83, in the famous Scrope v. Grosvenor armorial trial 1386-89 he gave evidence in favour of Sir Richard Scrope, he said he was then 50 years of age and had borne arms for 30 years, his wife was Margaret widow of Alan del Strother, he was d. before 1389 (RS, CDS, JH, *Scrope v. Grosvenor Trial*).

1384-85. Sir RICHARD TEMPEST and Sir THOMAS SWINBURNE, joint wardens for one year from Easter 1385. (CDS.)

Sir RICHARD TEMPEST (see under 1357-61, p. 37).

1385-88. Sir THOMAS SWINBURNE.



Gules crusilly three swine's heads argent (and a label or) (W).

He held the manors of Gunnerton and Knaresdale, Northumberland, and East Mersey, Essex. In Aug. 1385 he and Rich. T. were ordered to join King Richard with 40 men-at-arms and 80 archers above their garrison at Roxburgh, after Feb. 1385 Sir Thos. appears as sole warden, an office he held until 1388 (RS, CDS, JH, NCH).

1389-91. THOMAS (MOWBRAY) EARL MARSHAL and EARL OF NOTTINGHAM (1366-99).



Gules a lion rampant argent (W).

Created Duke of Norfolk 29th Sept. 1397. Warden of E. March and of Berwick 1389, appointed for 5 years from 1st June 1390, keeper of Roxburgh Castle for one year from 1st June 1389 at a fee of £500, by indenture of 19th Oct. 1389 till 1st June 1391 when he gave up its custody with his own assent (CDS, CP).

1391-96(?). HENRY EARL OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

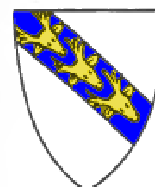


Quarterly I and IV or a lion rampant azure II and III gules three lucas argent (W).

Henry fourth Lord Percy of Alnwick, cr. Earl of Northumberland 16th July 1377, held in addition to many other high offices in the Kingdom that of warden of the Marches and of Berwick for long periods, he was slain at Bramham Moor 19th Feb.

1408 (CP, CDS, &c.).

1396. Sir JOHN STANLEY.

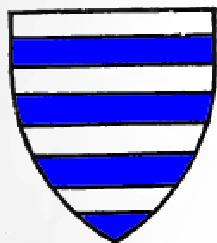


Argent on a bend azure three stags' heads cabossed or (J).

On 12th May 1396 he had protection about to set out for Scotland as warden of Roxburgh Castle, on 20th Oct. 1397 he was licensed to appoint a deputy as he was engaged elsewhere on the king's service, 1st Dec. 1399 received £166.13.4d. in French gold crowns as his fee as warden. He was made K.G. 1404, and cr. King of Man, 1406 (CDS, PR, RS).

1400-2. RICHARD LORD GREY OF CODNOR and Sir STEPHEN LE SCROPE.

By indenture agree to keep the castle for three years from Sept. 1400 for a fee of 400 mks. a year in wartime and until new works there are finished and afterwards 3000 mks., the garrison during truces to be 40 men-at-arms and 80 archers, in case of a "royal seige" the king is bound to rescue them within three months (CDS, IV).



Barry of argent and azure (W).

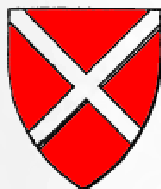
He was b. c. 1371, K.G. 1404, in Wales 1405-6, jt-warden E. & W. Marches 1415-16, summd. to parl. 1393-1416, d. 1418 (CDS, CP).



Azure a bend or in chief a molet ermine (U).

He was a younger s. of Richard Lord Scrope of Bolton, he was of Bentley co. York and is named in Shakespeare's *Richard II*, m. Millicent dau. and coh. of Robert Lord Tiptoft. His account for keeping the castle from Dec. 1400 to May 1402 amounted to £3064.5.3½ (CDS, CP).

1402-8. RALPH NEVILLE EARL OF WESTMORLAND.

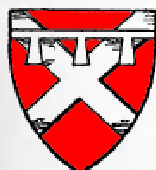


Gules a saltire argent (W).

S. and h. of John Lord Neville of Raby, b. c. 1354, suc. 1388, cr. Earl of Westmorland 1397, joined Henry IV on his first landing July 1399, K.G. 1402, Warden of Roxburgh 1402-8, employed continuously on the Marches and in Scots affairs until his death in 1425; his splendid tomb remains in Staindrop

church (RS, CDS, CP).

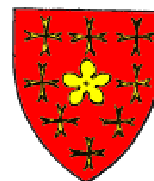
1408-11. Sir JOHN NEVILLE.



Gules a saltire argent and a label argent (Pow).

S. and h. of above Ralph, warden of Roxburgh 1408-11, of West Marches 1414, in France 1417, d. 1423 (RS, CDS, CP).

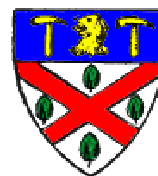
1411-15. Sir ROBERT UMFRVILLE.



Gules crusilly and a cinquefoil or (shield at Elsdon). In J. his shield is differenced by a baston azure.

On 11th July 1411 Sir John Neville was ordered to deliver the castle and all its artillery &c. to Sir Robert, appointed warden for six years. He was warden of Jedburgh 1404, commr. 1411, to repair bridge at Roxburgh 1412, conservator of truce 1436. He suc. Sir Thomas Umfraville as lord of Redesdale and Otterburn. K.G. 1409, vice-admiral of England, called "Robin Mendmarket" because of his success in Border raids, d. 1436. He was ordered on 5th Aug. 1415 to deliver the castle to Ralph Earl of Westmorland (RS, CDS, NCH, XV).

Sept. 1415. JOHN BORELL Esq.



Argent a saltire gules between four leaves vert on a chief azure a lion's head rased between two battle-axes or.

In 1385 John "Borail" had grant from Rich. II of the lands of John Ker in "Altonbourne and Neysebet" in Teviotdale. He was of the family of Burrell of Howtell, Northumberland. In 1385 he gave half of West Newton in Kirknewton to Thomas del Strother. He was warden for three months only and his expenses amounted to £333-6-8. A John B. was mayor of Berwick in 1449 (RS, II; CDS, NCH, VII).

1416-18. Sir JOHN ETTON and Sir JOHN BERTRAM, Kts., to be jt. wardens of the castle from 19th Jan. 1416 for ten years. (CDS, IV.)

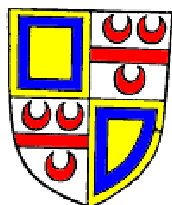
Sir JOHN ETTON.



Barry gules and argent on a quarter sable a cross patee or (J).

His family has not been traced. On 20th June 1391 he with other English knights was licensed to perform feats of arms (tilt) with certain Scots knights, John Lord Ros to hold the field and act as judge. In 1416-17-18 the Scots were in insurrection and besieging Roxburgh Castle and the wardens received large sums for its munition, bet. June and Dec. 1416, £700; June-Dec. 1417, £1535 besides £26.13.4d. for the carriage of artillery and other stores from the Tower of London to R. as well as £8 for sheaves of arrows (CDS, IV).

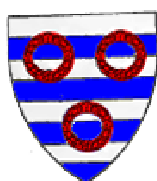
1416-21. SIR JOHN BERTRAM.



Quarterly I and IV *or an orle azure* II and III *argent a fess between three crescents gules*.

Sole warden of Roxburgh castle 1418-20, despatches messengers to summon knights and esquires to resist the Scots besieging the castle April 1417. After this siege he bought 300 lbs. of gunpowder and 500 stones of iron to make new gates. In the years 1419-20 the very large sum of £3862 was spent upon repairs. He was styled late warden Oct. 1421, ambassador to Scotland, 1433-34, conservator of truces 1438, to settle bounds of Berwick and Roxburgh 1438, given power to grant safe conducts 1434-36, on many commissions 1434-38. He was s. and h. of Sir Robert Ogle and took the name of his grandmother Helen Bertram on suc. to her estates of Bothal &c, he was sheriff of Northd. for some years bet. 1410 and 1434, d. 1449, possessed of the lordship of Bothal and other lands in Northumberland (RS, CDS, JH).

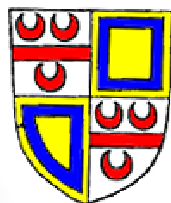
1421-25. JOHN LORD GREYSTOKE.



Barry argent and azure three chaplets gules.

Appointed warden for four years on 22nd Mar. 1421, salary £1000 a year in time of peace, £2000 in wartime, commissr. to treat for peace with Scots 1420-21, suc. his father and on 9th May 1418 did homage and fealty for his lands, summd. to Parl. 1419-35, d. 8th Aug. 1436 (RS, CDS, CP).

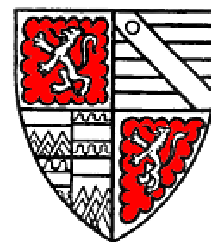
1425-35. SIR ROBERT OGLE.



Quarterly I and IV *argent a fess between three crescents gules* II and III *or an orle azure (W)*.

Appointed warden of castle 17th July 1425 and held the office until 1435, between the years 1425-36 received the large sum of over £10,500, for his expenses at Roxburgh, suc. father in his lands in Northumberland 1410, was styled esquire and a prisoner of the Scots 1400, ktd. before 1408, constable and sheriff of Norham 1410, captain of Berwick 1423, ambassador to Scot. 1424, sheriff of Northumberland 1417, d. 1436 (CP, CDS, IV; RS, II).

1434-43. SIR RALPH GREY.



Gules a lion rampant and a border engrailed silver (quartering Grey and Fitzhugh).

Appointed warden for one year Midsummer 1434, continued until April 1443, fee £1000 a year in peace, £2000 in war, he also received large sums in the years 1440-43, for the repair and defence of the castle. He bought in 1437 8 "calivers" (cannon) and 2 barrels of gunpowder, 20 crossbows, a barrel of string for them and in 1440 100 bows with 200 sheaves of arrows. He was joint warden of E. March and conservator of truce 1438-39, granted the offices of customer and chamberlain of Berwick 1437 and for life Dec. 1442. He was s. and h. of Sir Thomas Grey of Heton and Wark, ktd. 1426 by the Duke of Bedford, had livery of his lands 1427, mar. Elizabeth dau. of Henry Lord Fitzhugh, d. 1443, bur. in a splendid tomb beside his wife in Chillingham Church (RS, CDS, RND).

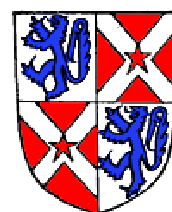
1428-39. SIR ROBERT OGLE.



Quarterly I and IV *Ogle* II and III *Bertram*.

He suc. his father as joint warden of East Marches with Sir Ralph Grey in 1438 and apparently of Roxburgh Castle also, Nov. 1438 as jt. wardens of Roxburgh Castle they received £543.12.9d. for expenses there, in May 1439 they received £56.13.4d. and £357.13.11d. for the same purpose. Sir Robert Ogle was employed most of his life on the Northumberland Marches. He was keeper of Berwick Castle 1434, of Norham, with other offices in the shires 1436, M.P. Northd. 1436 and 1441, J.P. Northd. 1437 onwards, sheriff of Northd. 1437-38, captain of Berwick 1438, fought on Yorkist side in the Wars of the Roses, summd. to Parl. as Lord Ogle 1461-69, d. 1st Nov. 1469 (CP, CDS, IV; RS, &c.).

1443-60. WILLIAM NEVILLE LORD FAUCONBERGE.



Quarterly I and IV *argent a lion rampant azure* Bruce of Skelton II and III *gules a saltire argent charged with a molet gules* Neville. Badge a *fyshoke* (CP and *Her. & Gen. VIII*).

Appointed warden for 5 years, at usual fees, from 27th Mar. 1443, and remained warden until 1459-60 (in May 1459 he is called "captain" of Roxburgh Castle), in March 1452 Ralph Grey esq. was appointed joint warden with him. He was the eighth s. of Ralph first Earl of Westmorland by his 2nd wife

Joan Beaufort, ktd. at Leicester 19th May 1426, K.G. 1440, appointed warden of Roxburgh for 16 years 14th September 1444 and joint keeper with Sir Ralph Grey 1452, cr. Earl of Kent 1461, Admiral of England 1462, d. probably whilst besieging Alnwick Castle Jan. 1463 (RS, CDS, CP).

1452-60. RALPH GREY Esq.



Gules a lion rampant and a border engrailed argent (J).

He is called joint warden in July 1452 but was probably appointed earlier, he was a kt. in 1453, he continued as jt. warden until Feb. 1460, though he is called late warden in July 1459. He was s. and h. of Sir Ralph Grey, warden 1434-43, had livery of his lands Dec. 1448, sheriff of Northumberland 1455 and 1459, was a Yorkist but later left Edward IV and gave up Alnwick Castle to the Lancastrians, wounded and made prisoner at Bamburgh Castle during its siege in 1464, executed at Pontefract in the same year (RS, CDS, NCH, RND, AA, &c.)

James II, whilst besieging the castle, was killed there by the bursting of a cannon, 3rd August 1460. The castle was captured on 8th August and destroyed by the Scots.

Note.—Acknowledgment is made to the University of Cambridge for permission to reproduce Dr St Joseph's air photograph of the site of the Castle, the copyright of which belongs to that University.