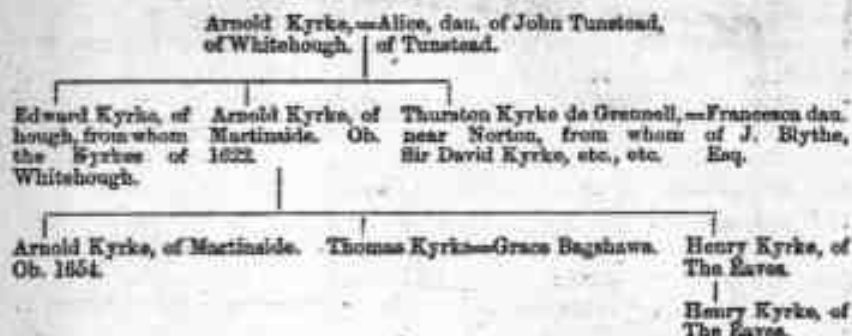


tage, Knight, and one son, who married in 1833 Jane, daughter of Joseph Howard, Esq., of Stockport, of the family of Howard, de Glossop. Mr. Kirke was unfortunately killed by the accidental discharge of his gun when out shooting, on November 23rd, 1841. The present owner of The Eaves is his son, Henry Kirke, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., of the Inner Temple, who was married on the 19th of May, 1864, to Agnes, daughter of Admiral Sir S. Lushington, K.C.B., Knight of St. Louis, and of the Redeemer of Greece, Commander of the Legion of Honour, Knight of the Medjidie, etc., by Henrietta, daughter of Admiral Sir H. Prescott, K.C.B.

The following short Pedigree will shew the connection between the Kyrkes of Whitehough, Martinside, and The Eaves.



(Signature and Seal of Arnold Kyrke.)

AR: KYRKE

The ARMS of Kirke, of Martinside and The Eaves, are *Argent*, a chevron *gules*, between three bears' heads erased *sable*, langued *gules*, CREST. A wild boar passant *sable*.

In conclusion, I may say that I shall be glad if any of the readers of the "RELIQUARY" will supply any information to make this account more complete and satisfactory.

Thornbridge.

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as a freeholder of considerable importance. The following are a few extracts from the Pleadings:—"26 Elizabeth.—The Attorney-General at the relation of John Lingard v. Arnold Kyrke and others, inhabitants within the soke, concerning soke and suit to Mill, on account of lands at High Peak, Maystonfield, Martinsyde, The Eves, Hollinknowle, Chappell Frith, Didlache, Whitehugh, and Buggesworth." "27 Eliz: The Attorney-Gen: by John Lingard v. Arnold Kyrke and Alice Newall in right of Henry Bagshawe, concerning soke and suit to Maystonfield Mill and Tunstode Mill, on account of land in High Peak, Glossop, and Chappell Frith." "41 Eliz: William Ward and John Brown v. Arnold Kyrke and others, Freeholders and tenants in Antient Demesne, concerning exemptions from serving on Juries at Assizes, and doing suit service at the Court Leet." This Arnold Kyrke died May 7th, 1622 (Chapel-en-le-Frith Register), and left three sons—Arnold, who succeeded him, Thomas, who married Grace Bagshawe, and Henry, who purchased The Eaves, and was the ancestor of that branch of the family.

Different members of the family seem to have taken part in the various wars in which the country was engaged, as old armour and swords used to hang in the hall at Martinside, and many tales were told about their owners in bygone days. Though not distinguished by any great deeds, the owners of Martinside lived honest and honoured lives till the death of Henry Kirke, in 1789, when the estate passed into the hands of his nephew, Richard Kirke, Esq., who left the neighbourhood to reside in Wales, taking with him everything of interest that remained in the old house, which he let with the land to Mr. Adam Fox. Mr. Kirke died in 1833, and his son sold Martinside to Mr. Fox, who after being connected with the family for seventy years as servant and tenant, saved money enough to buy the estate, and now enjoys it at the advanced age of ninety-eight years. The old house at Martinside was pulled down about twenty years ago. It was a large black and white house, mostly built of timber, and consisting of two wings and a centre. It contained twenty-six rooms, and was as "big as a church." There was always a curious custom connected with the house. A part of one of the wings was set aside, consisting of two sitting-rooms, kitchen, and two bed-rooms, which was called "The Widow's Corner." This was always left to the widow of the last owner if he left one, so that she might not be driven from the house by the heir. This privilege was exercised as late as 1789, by the widow of Henry Kirke, Esq.

In the year 1654, Henry Kirke, of Martinside, purchased The Eaves estate. He left it to his son, Henry, whose son Henry was engaged in the rebellion of 1715. In the list of Roman Catholic Non-jurors who refused to take the oaths to George I., we find the name of "Henry Kirke, of The Eaves, Esq." Henry Kirke, of The Eaves, grandfather of the present owner, died in 1833, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. He married Mary, only child of Mr. Edward Vernon, of Small Dale, a lineal descendant of Sir Richard Vernon, of Hazelbache.

He left several daughters, one of whom married Sir Elkanah Armi-

Vere, Earl of Oxford. Percy, the eldest son of George Kirke, entered the army, and served under the Duke of Monmouth, in the army of the King of France, by special permission of Charles II., granted Feb. 23rd, 1673. He was afterwards made Captain-Lieutenant of the troop of Horse Guards raised by his brother-in-law, the Earl of Oxford, in 1675. He was appointed Lieutenant-General of the 2nd Tangier Regiment, and having distinguished himself in several engagements against the Moors, he was promoted to the Colonelcy of the 2nd Tangier Regiment. He left Tangiers for England in 1684, and on his arrival was made Colonel of the 3rd Foot. His career from that time is well known. His Regiment acquired the name of Kirke's Lamb, because they bore on their colours the Paschal Lamb, granted for having been a guard of honour to the Queen of Charles II. on her progress to London, and from having been commanded by Colonel Kirke from April, 1682, to October, 1691. The name was used afterwards ironically, in reference to the cruelties they perpetrated. There is an amusing anecdote related about Colonel Kirke, that when James II. asked him to turn Papist, "Why truly," he said, "I may consider myself pre-engaged; for when I was abroad I promised the Emperor of Morocco, that if I ever altered my religion I would turn Mohamadan, and I never did break my word in my life, and beg leave to say that I never will." He married Lady Mary, daughter of George Howard, Earl of Suffolk, and had a son Percy, who was also a general in the army. Both father and son are buried in Westminster Abbey, where there is a monument to their memory, with the following inscription:—"Near this place lies interred the body of the Hon^{ble} Percy Kirke, Esquire, lieutenant general of his Majesty's army, who died Jan. 1st., 1741, aged 57. He was son to the Hon^{ble} Percy Kirke, Esq., Lt. General in the reign of King James II, by the Lady Mary, daughter of George Howard, Earl of Suffolk. In the same grave lies the body of Diana Dormer, daughter of John Dormer, of Rousham, co. Oxon, Esq., by Diana, sister of the first mentioned Lt. Gen. Kirke, who being left sole heiress by her uncle, ordered this monument to be erected to his memory. She died February 22nd, A.D. 1743."

There were many other grandsons and great-grandsons of Gervase Kirke who distinguished themselves in the army and navy, but we have no space to follow this branch of the family any further. To return to Chapel-en-le-Frith, Arnold Kirke, of Whitehough, father of Thurston Kirke, of Grennell, was succeeded by his son Edward, and the property descended from father to son until the middle of the 18th century. In 1734, Samuel Kirke, Esq., of Whitehough, married Anne, daughter of William Tatton, Esq., of Withenshaw, co. Chester, and great-grandfather of the present Lord Egerton, of Tatton. He had an only daughter, Catherine, who married the Rev. William Plumbé, Rector of Aughton, son of John Plumbé, Esq., of Wavertree Hall, who died in 1780, leaving an only daughter, Anne, who married Colonel William Tomlinson, of the 18th Foot.

The Kirkes of Martinside, a branch of the Whitehough family, were settled there early in the 16th century. In the Calendar of Pleas for the Duchy of Lancaster, Arnold Kirke, of Martinside, is often mentioned

the proportions from them required, see I must if there be a fault in any one & signifie the same to his Ma^{ty} for my own excuse.

I rest. Y^r. loving Friend to serve you,

LEWIS KIRKE.

In another place we find that Sir Lewis Kirke was made to pay a fine of £151 for his zeal in the Royal cause. At the Restoration he was made Standard-bearer and Paymaster of the Honourable Company of Gentlemen-at-Arms. He died in 1664.

John, the third son of Gervase Kirke, was a merchant in London. He was agent for several large firms abroad. In the Privy Council Reports we read—"1640, Jan 25th. A petition of James Marquis of Hamilton, Philip Earl of Pembroke & Montgomery, Henry E. of Holland to the King against John Kirke manager of their business in London for selling 6000 quintals of their fish under its value." Gervase Kirke had a daughter Joan, who married Richard Shuttleworth, Esq., of Gawthorp. George Kirke, fourth son, was made Groom of the Bedchamber to Charles I. He followed the fortunes of his master with exemplary loyalty. He was promoted to the office of Gentleman of the Robes, and attended his Royal master to the scaffold, if we may believe a petition presented to the Privy Council by Colonel Temple in 1650, in which he says, "One of the last commands the late King whispered to Kirke on the scaffold was to charge this King to have a care of honest Tom Temple."

At the Restoration George Kirke, Esq., was made Gentleman of the Robes to King Charles II., and in 1664 a pension of £500 a-year was granted to him "in consideration of the low condition & straitness of fortune to which he is reduced by his loyalty." He presents a petition to the King, in which he states that "He is a prisoner for £4000 spent on robes & wearing apparell for the late King to whom he was Gentleman of the robes, & who gave him on his marriage with Anne Killigrew the Manor of Sheriff Hutton, Yorkshire and other lands for life on rent of £24, the reversion of which was sold to the City of London at the ancient rent of £188 : 15 : 7½. Requests a grant for 31 years on the payment of £188 : 15 : 7½." Mrs. Anne Kirke, his wife, was Lady of the Bedchamber to Queen Henrietta Maria, and was a very celebrated woman in her time. There are several pictures of her still in existence. One by Vandyck, which has been engraved by Beckett. Another sitting in a chair by Hollar. There is at Wilton House a splendid picture by Vandyck of Mrs. Kirke seated with the Countess of Marton. This picture has been engraved by Grousvelt. On her husband's death in 1679, Mrs. Kirke obtained a pension of £250 a-year. George Kirke had two daughters and several sons. His eldest daughter, Mary, was Maid of Honour to the Duchess of York in 1674. This great beauty was first mistress and then wife of Sir Thomas Vernon, Bart., of Hodnet, co. Salop. She died miserably at Greenwich, deserted by her husband, and was buried in the parish churchyard, A.D. 1711. There is a portrait of Mary Kirke, Lady Vernon, by Sir Peter Lely. Diana, the other daughter, married the last De

hilted or mantled *gules*, doubled *argent*. Dated at London, Dec. 1st, 1631." His Majesty Charles I., to shew his appreciation of Captain Kirke's conduct, sent for him into Scotland, and Knighted him at Aulderwick, July 16, 1633. Sir David Kirke married Sara, daughter of Sir Joseph Andrews, and in 1637 obtained from the King a grant of the whole island of Newfoundland, whither he went to found a colony. How he succeeded we find from a letter written by him to Land, Archbishop of Canterbury, of which the following is an epitome:—"Acknowledges his good wishes for their prosperity in that country. Out of 100 persons they took over, only one died of sickness. The temperature and general state of the country are described at large in the relations transmitted to the C^s. The air of Newfoundland agrees with all God's creatures except Jesuits and Schismatics. 'A great mortality amongst the former tribe so affrighted my Lord Baltimore that he utterly deserted the country.' Of the other sect, many frenzies are heard from the next neighbouring plantation, 'the greatest His Ma^{ty} bath in America.' Their chiefest safety is in strict observance of the rites and services of the Church of England. Doubt not but that the country will be numerously peopled in a short time." Endorsed by Land, "Rec^d. Jan. 1640." Whilst in Newfoundland Sir David Kirke got into difficulties, and many complaints were made against him by the French on account of the fisheries. He was summoned to England during the Commonwealth, and examined before the Privy Council. "1652, Jan. 2. Order of Council of State appointing Mr. Nevile, the Earl of Pembroke, Col. Morley, Mr. Love, Col. Puresfoy, Mr. Scott, Sir Arthur Heslrig, Sir H. Vane, Lord Bradshawe, and others, to examine the business concerning Sir D. Kirke, and to report on the whole matter." After this investigation he returned to Newfoundland and died there. The second son of Gervase Kirke, of London, was Lewis Kirke, who commanded one of the ships in his brother's expedition. He returned to England in 1630, and joined the King when he declared war against the Parliament. He became a distinguished Cavalier and was Knighted by His Majesty at Oxford, April 23rd, 1643. He was made Governor of Bridgnorth Castle, co. Salop. There is an interesting letter of his extant, written to Sir Francis Ottley, of which the following is a copy:—

"Sir—His Ma^{ty} being advanced to Evesham bath by his L^{tes} from thence Dated 6th Instantij. Required me Speedilie to provide and send Ten Tunne of Cheese from these parts to be delivered to the Mayor of Worcester who shall give the owners satisfaction out of the Market Rates. I desire you therefore that you send in this night or so soon after as possible you can to Hayliffe Syngo's house at Bridge North one Tonne of a good sorte of Cheese whether culd or of this years making, and thence that there be an officer appointed to receive the same, & to attend itt to Worcester & to Demand & Receive the Moneys for itt there which shall upon his Retourne be speedilie paid & everie person who shall so send in Letting you further know that as I have sent into his Ma^{ty} an account how I have proceeded in his commandes by sending him a Catalogue of the names of the persons &

succeeding reigns. His eldest son, David Kirke, assisted his father in his mercantile pursuits; but in an age when no commerce on the seas could be conducted without hard fighting, he soon had an opportunity of distinguishing himself. An expedition was fitted out by his father, Gervase Kirke, and Sir William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling to sail for Newfoundland and Canada, to explore, fight and capture what they could. It was put under the command of David, and his brothers Lewis, James, and Thomas. In this glorious voyage the whole of Canada was taken from the French by Captain Kirke and his brothers. To quote from the *History of Canada*—"In 1628, a squadron of English vessels, under the command of Captain David Kirke, visited Tadoussac, and destroyed the houses and cattle about Cape Tourmente. Kirke and his little band next proceeded to Gaspé Bay, where he met M. de Roquemont, commanding a squadron of vessels freighted with emigrant families and all kinds of provisions; Roquemont was provoked to a battle, and lost the whole of his fleet, provisions, etc. Kirke, aided by some more English vessels commanded by his brothers, went up the St. Lawrence, where he easily captured Quebec on the 20th of July, 1629, and gave permission and free passage to any of the French who chose to return to France." In regard to this same expedition, the following notice is given in the printed Calendars of the Privy Council:—"May 27th, 1631, Captain David Kirke was examined before Sir Henry Marten. He was employed as chief commander in the voyages to Canada in 1628, at the charge of his late father Gervase Kirke, and in 1629, by Sir William Alexander, Gervase Kirke, and others. Took possession of all Canada except Quebec in the first voyage, and in the last of Quebec also, but knew not of the peace between England and France. Was attacked by a French pinnace, Emery de Cœn, commander, who killed 2 of his crew, and wounded 12 to 16 others."

For these gallant services honourable additions to their arms were granted to Captain Kirke and his brothers. "Grant of arms to Captain David Kirke, Lewis Kirke, Governor of Canada, Captain Thomas Kirke, and James Kirke, for valour in vanquishing the French fleet under the command of M. de Roquemont, Admiral, and bringing him prisoner to England; and in the following year taking Canada and bringing Mons. Champlain prisoner to England. The coat armour of M. Roquemont is granted to Captain David Kirke and to his brothers and their issue for ever." (Extract from the Privy Council Reports, Dec. 1, 1631).

In the Herald's Visitation for the City of London (Add. MS., 5533), there is a pedigree of Captain Kirke, showing his descent from Arnold Kirke, of Whitehough, and the following grant of arms:—"A grant of Richard St. George Clarenceux, reciting that Captain David Kirke, descended as abovementioned, as his ancestors have borne for their array per fesse or and gules a lozenge counterchanged, the said King-at-Arms doth confirm the same; and again addition doth further grant, viz.—*Argent*, a lion rampant *or*, supporting a cutlass *argent*, all within a canton. As for the crest, on a helmet and wreath of his colour, an arm armed *proper*, and purfled *or*, holding a cutlass

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SOME ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILY OF KIRKE, OF CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH, DERBYSHIRE.

BY JOHN SLIGH, ESQ.

EVERYBODY who has been at all engaged in genealogical pursuits is aware of the great difficulties which beset the attempt to trace out any pedigree during the period of time antecedent to the Reformation. Those two great quarries of genealogical building-stones, viz.—Parish Registers and Title Deeds both fail as we approach the time of the Middle Ages, and except in the case of a few favoured families, we find ourselves stranded in a land of mist and conjecture. The Herald's Visitations have done much to fill up this want, but their invaluable records are almost entirely filled with pedigrees of what I might call the knightly families of the kingdom, and except by scattered allusions scarcely recognise the great middle class, the socage tenants of the early kings, the yeomen of the Middle Ages, who, according to Hallam, have been through all ages the great bulwarks of English freedom, both in the field and the council. It was to this great class that the family belonged whose account I am writing, which is a sufficient cause for the obscurity of their early history. From a very remote period the family of Kirke has been settled in Chapel-en-le-Frith. From scattered notices derived from different sources, we may gather that they lived there as early as the 13th century, and during the 14th and 15th centuries were considerable landowners. Their earliest known residence was at Whitehough Hall, about a mile west of Chapel-en-le-Frith Church; but a younger branch was soon separated from the old stock, and built a house at Martinsble, situated about two miles from Whitehough, at the opposite side of the parish. Not many notices of the family of any importance occur before the 16th century. In the year 1450 A.D., Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Edward Kyrke, of Whitehough, in the parish of Chapel-en-le-Frith, married Richard Salisbury, Knight, of Newton Burford, co. Leicester (Harl. MSS. 1431).

In the reign of Henry VIII., William Bradshawe, of Bradshawe Hall, married Elizabeth, daughter of — Kirke, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, (Fg. MSS. 996, Harl. MSS. 1093, etc.)

At the commencement of the 16th century, Arnold Kyrke lived at Whitehough. He had three sons—Edward, who succeeded his father, Arnold, and Thurston, who took up his abode at Greunell, near Norton, in Yorkshire, married Francesca, daughter of Jerome Blythe, Esq., and became the ancestor of a distinguished posterity. He had several sons, the eldest of whom, Gervase, was born in 1568. Soon after the defeat of the great Armada, when so great a move was given to English commerce, Gervase Kirke went to London to try his fortune as a merchant. He succeeded, and became one of the most distinguished citizens of London. He married Elizabeth, daughter of M. Goulson, of Deupe, in Normandy, and was father to a large family, who all distinguished themselves in

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