

## CHAPTER VI.

# THE HERTFORDSHIRE AND ESSEX BRANCH

*Connections with Barlows of Slebatch and of Cos. Derby and Lancs.*

AS in the case of the Derbyshire branch, it is curious that the Barlows in Herts. and Essex have never attracted the interest of antiquaries, and no adequate pedigree has so far been recorded.

As the late Mr. J. Renton Dunlop, F.S.A., has pointed out:—

"The Barlees were one of the oldest and wealthiest families in the counties of Hertford and Essex, and in almost every succeeding generation one of its members was High Sheriff and knight of the shire from earliest times.

"By marriage they were allied with many of the most important families in the neighbourhood, including the Pateshulls, De la Lees, Newports, Perients, de Waldens, Darcys, Leventhorpes and others."\*

The Hundred of Edwinstree in Herts. comprises seventeen manors, including Barley, Albury, Aspenden, Much and Little Hadham, the Pelhams, Wyddial, etc., all of importance for our purpose† (see map, Plate 12). This district lies to the north-west of the county of Herts. Its northern boundary was the Ickneild Way, running from Dunstable through Hitchin and Royston to the Wash, while Ermine Street, from London and Ware through Royston to the north-east, traverses it from north to south, crossing the Ickneild Way at Royston and passing close to Albury.‡

Though there is in this area a village bearing the name of Barley,§ which is referred to in Domesday, curiously enough that does not seem to have been the local centre of the family, but rather Albury.

The principal references to members of the family in this area occur in connection with the following:—

ALBURY, Herts., which passed to John Barley about 1380 on his marriage with Joan de la Lee and remained in the Barlow family till the seventeenth century. See Albury Pedigree, No. 12. This pedigree also shows connections with Barlows at

\**The Family of Scroggs*, p. 48.

†*V. H. Herts.*, Vol. IV., p. 1; Visitations of the two counties, Harl. MSS., Brit. Mus., Nos. 1541 and 1504.

‡*Op. cit.*, Vol. IV., p. 119, map, and p. 145; also *Map of Roman Britain*, pubd. by the Ordnance Survey, 1928.

§Berlai, 11th cent.; Berleye, 12th to 13th cents. Berg-leg, the meadow on the hill, aptly describes the position of Barley on the chalk hills, above Royston. Eudo Dapifer held 2 acres and 20 hides in Barley at the Survey, and Hubert St. Clare, in 1137, apparently assigned this holding in Barley to the Abbey of St. John at Colchester, this probably being the origin of the sub-manor of Abbotsbury. *V. H. Herts.*, Vol. I., pp. 329, 333 and 339; *op. cit.*, Vol. IV., pp. 39-40; Cussans *Herts., Barley, sub. tit. Edwinstree*, Vol. I., p. 11, and *Aspenden*, pp. 92-93; Clutterbuck *Herts.*, Vol. III., p. 381. The manor house apparently was standing in 1601, but has now disappeared; the Fox & Hounds—formerly the Swan Inn—was reputed to be a haunt of Dick Turpin.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE AND ESSEX BRANCH

ELSENHAM,  
ASPENDEN,  
BIBBSWORTH, in Herts.,

LAYER BRETON,  
TURROCKS, and  
CLAVERING, in Essex.\*

Assuming, as seems clear, that the Albury Barlows did not derive from the local village of Barley, *where did they come from?* The answer is by no means clear, but it is necessary to bear in mind, *first* that the D'Abitots or their descendants, the Beauchamps, held lands in this district. The heiress of both Urso D'Abitot and his brother Robert was Urso's daughter Emmeline, who married Walter de Beauchamp of the Beauchamps of Bedfordshire. Emmeline's son, Stephen de Beauchamp, held the manor of, or lands in, Fairstead and Commerse (i.e., Lammarsh) in Essex, and according to Morant, Stephen held this property in virtue of his marriage with Isolda, daughter of Robert Ferrers, Earl of Nottingham and Derby, by his marriage with Margaret, daughter and heir of William Peveril, Lord of Nottingham.

This suggests a *second* consideration, namely, the close connection that existed from the earliest Norman times between Herts. and Derbyshire, as indicated in the holdings of the great families† of Peveril,‡ Ferrers and De Grey.

\*See Cussans *Herts.*, Vol. I., *Edwinstree*, p. 148, and Vol. II., *Broadwater*, p. 240, etc.; Morant's *Essex*, Vol. II., pp. 497 and 612; B.P.R., p. 73. Much of these lands came by Catherine de Walden, who married John Barlee in 1422. Other Barlow traces in these counties are to be found at *Lyot St. Lawrence* (Cussans *Herts.*, Vol. II., *Broadwater*, p. 240); *Essendon* (*op. cit.*, Vol. II., *Hertford*, p. 158); *Stondon* (*op. cit.*, Vol. I., *Braughing*, p. 164); *Hundred of Dacorum* (*op. cit.*, Vol. III., *Dacorum*, p. 332); see also Clutterbuck, Vol. III., p. 204, and for *Stapleford Abbots*, Harl. MSS., 1504. The manor of *Tednambury* shows a curious connection with the Lancashire Barlows; see Chauncey *Antiq. Herts.*, pp. 179-180; B.P.R., p. 80; and with Edward Parker, Lord Morley, lord of Hornby Castle, Lancs. *Scroggs pedigree*, p. 117, shows marriage of Henry Parker, Lord Morley, with Grace Newport of Furneaux Pelham, *circa* 1550. See also references to John Barley (1376) and Roger Barley (1394) as of Wyckes in Essex; *Cal. Close Rolls*, 1272-1399.

†Morant's *Essex*, Vol. II., pp. 119 and 268. Stephen de Beauchamp was High Sheriff of Essex and Herts. 15 Hen. II., and d. 1185; he left a son, Stephen, who died s.p., and four daughters; see also connection of Stephen with Albinis of Seile, Chap. V. At the time of the Domesday Survey, the great Norman warrior Turoid (famous from the Bayeux Tapestry, *V. H. Essex*, Vol. I., p. 342) held Fairstead; and Lammarsh belonged to Ranulph Peveril, but Turoid held under him: a Turoid also held Barley in Derbyshire soon after the Conquest; *V. H. Essex*, Vol. I., pp. 378, 388, 527 and 529. Another branch of the Beauchamp family held land at Beauchamps, near Wyddial, close to Albury; Cussans *Herts.*, Vol. I., *Edwinstree*, p. 122.

‡The traditional story is that Ranulph Peveril married a beautiful Saxon, Ingelrica, formerly mistress of William the Conqueror, and had by her a son, William Peveril: she founded a College of Secular Canons at Hatfield Peveril dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, and died there in 1100; Morant, Vol. II., p. 131. This story appears to lack foundation: see an interesting paper by Planché, *Journal Brit. Arch. Assocn.*, Vol. VIII., old series, pp. 194 and 202. Planché suggests the name Peveril probably was a corruption of Puerulus. The name is clearly not taken from a place: in Domesday the spelling is often Piperellus. See also same series, Vol. VII., p. 220, *Arms of Peveril and Ferrers*, by Planché; also *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* and Dugdale's *Baronage*, Vol. I., p. 437.

## BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

As a matter of historic fact, we know that at Domesday, in the neighbouring county of Essex, Henry de Ferreriis\* (25) held five manors in various hundreds: Ranulph Peveril (34) held a far larger number, namely, 36 manors, including Hatfield Peveril, Fairsted, Layer (Breton) and Lamers (Lammarsh): while William Peveril (48) also held two manors, namely, East Thorndon and Turruc (Greys): this latter certainly passed from William Peveril to Ferrers, for the charter by which Henry de Grai obtained confirmation of Turroc in 1195 expressly recites that it is "of the fee of Earl de Ferrers."†

As to Fairstead and Lammarsh, they seem to have passed to Roger de Ferrers the second, or to his son William de Ferrers from Ranulph, and not from William Peveril: Morant probably confuses the honours of William Peveril of Nottingham and of Ranulph Peveril of London; in any case the two manors came to Isolda, daughter apparently of a third Roger de Ferrers, and through her to her husband, Stephen de Beauchamp.

The de Graie, or de Grey, family were a third great house to forge strong territorial links binding Essex and Herts. to Derbyshire and Notts.‡ In 1212, Sir Henry de Grey of Turroc,§ who received confirmation of Turroc Greys in 1185, held "six knights' fees in the honour of Peverel which came to the King by escheat in the counties of Derby and Notts.," including "... in Codenoure one." Sir Henry married Isolda, niece and heiress of Robert Bardolf of Codnor|| (ten miles north-east of Derby). Sir Henry's eldest son Richard settled at Codnor and became the ancestor of the Greys of Codnor, the last of whom died without issue 1496.¶

Shortly after the fourteenth century the de Grey connection supplies a direct link with branches of the Barlow family, for in 1432 Henry, Lord Grey of Codnor, had 10s. soc. in Stoke which he sold

\**V. H. Essex*, Vol. I., p. 503.

†*Op. cit.*, Vol. I., p. 388. Two centuries later Turroc was associated with the Barlows of Albury, see below. At Woodham Ferrers, five or six miles south-east of Chelmsford, Robert de Ferrers, Earl of Derby, built the church in the twelfth century; *Cox Guide to Essex*, p. 297.

‡See *Cussans Herts.*, Vol. I., *Edwinstree*, p. 135. In 1254, Nicholas de Grey had a licence of free warren in Brent Pelham; the manor passed to Sir Simon de Furneaux, whose only daughter married John de la Lee of Albury; see Albury pedigree, No. 12.

§*Cox Derby Ch.*, Vol. I., p. 333, *sub. tit. Shirland*. For the settlement of the Norman family of de Graie, both in Derbyshire and in Herts. and Essex, see *Tilley Derby Manors, Codnor*, Vol. IV., p. 133; and *Marshall Genealogists' Guide*, p. 358, *sub. tit. Grey*. In Brent Pelham, also called Grays, in Herts., in 1210, Richard le Grey was holder of part of a knight's fee, and de Greys held the manor till 1563, when it passed to Henry Parker, Lord Morley; *V. H. Herts.*, Vol. IV., p. 94; *Red Book of Exchequer* (Rolls Ser.), 541.

||*Burke Peerage, sub. tit. Grey de Ruthin*.

¶*Cox Derby Ch.*, Vol. IV., p. 211; and pedigree, p. 233; and Vol. I., pp. 333-5. See for account of Greys of Codnor, *Glover Derby*, Vol. II., pp. 308-12; and *Derby Arch.*, Vol. XIV., p. 25; and of the last Lord Grey of Codnor, the alchemist, *Tilley Derby Halls*, Vol. IV., p. 134.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE AND ESSEX BRANCH

in 1473 to Robert Barley, and the Barley family held Stoke till 1580. Similarly, in 1529-30, Henry Barlee died, having married as his second wife, Ann, relict of Edward Lord Grey, and had William, his heir, and other children by her. The wills both of Henry Barley and of his brother William, a parson of Blysworth, Northants, have been examined, and show that Henry had a sister Anne, who had also married a Grey, for Henry's will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, February 8th, 1530, refers to his "sister Anne Gray," as well as to "Lady Anne my wife": the will of the parson brother, William, proved November 22nd, 1542, contains a similar reference to "my sister Lady Anne Gray." But it is the fourteenth century that is the crucial period for our purpose.

There are other famous names in early times, such as De Clare, Roger Bigod, Mountfichet, De Gernon, Cockayne, Darcy, etc., which are associated with land holding in Herts. or Essex, and appear also in Derbyshire pedigrees, as well as the more renowned ones of Peveril, Ferrers and de Grey.\*

Thus, the fact that Beauchamp (i.e., D'Abitot) connections were occupying lands hard by in Essex and Herts., and that numerous noble families were possessed of large territorial interests in both Derbyshire and Herts., would make it easy in the fourteenth century for a cadet of the Derbyshire Barlows, who had intermarried with some of these families, to make his way south into these eastern counties to seek his fortunes.†

We know from the monuments that probably about 1340 a Barlow, and one of status to bear arms, did appear in Herts. and married a daughter of the wealthy house of Pateshull; two interesting brass roundels, which must from their design and workmanship be dated about 1340-1380, still extant on the south wall of Albury Church, prove that, for one of them‡ gives the Barley arms, Ermine 3 bars wavy sable, impaling Pateshull (see Plate 16); these Barlow arms, though not identical with the Derbyshire arms, are strongly reminiscent of them. Twenty or thirty years later, about 1380, John Barley marries Joan, the De la Lee heiress, and Albury manor and other lands pass into Barley hands for some ten generations.

We further know that this John Barley, who was buried at Albury 1420, was expressly described as "armiger" and that his

\*See Tilley *Derb. Halls*, Vol. I., p. 67, where most of these names appear on the Peveril arms; the Mountfichets were associated with Stanstead Mountfichet in Herts., as the name itself indicates. The Darcys of Essex were descended from Roger, son of John, Lord Darcy of Eckington, d. 1348; Cox *Derb. Ch.*, Vol. I., p. 225; and William Barley, who was attainted for his support of Perkin Warbeck, bur. at Elsenham 1521, married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Darcy of Danbury, Essex; see *Scroggs*, p. 117.

†A younger branch of the Leventhorpes of Yorkshire, who about 1580 intermarried with the Barlows of Albury, had in fact come south in just this way about the time of Rich. II.; see Morant *Essex*, Vol. II., p. 617 note.

‡The other roundel has the Barley arms alone; see *Scroggs*, p. 99, and Chap. IX., *Arms*.

## BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

arms were as just mentioned. Chauncey, on his visit to Albury Church about 1700, and Salmon again in 1728, clearly state that they "saw on a stone in the north isle" this inscription :—

HIC JACENT JOHANNES BARLEY ARMIGER ET UXOR EJUS QUI  
 QUIDEM JOHANNES OBIIT DIE MENSIS AUGUSTI ANNO DOM. 1420 ET  
 PREDICTA JOHANNA OBIIT 15 DIE MENSIS FEBR. ANNO DOM. 1419.

This inscription is no longer extant, but the evidence of Chauncey and Salmon is sufficiently clear and reliable.

In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries a claim to bear arms was a matter of moment, and would have been rejected by contemporary opinion unless justified in fact. John was a man of position, or he could not have carried off the De la Lee heiress ; his claims to arms, like those of the first Barlee who married Pateshull, must have been accepted by his contemporaries, and the comparison with the Derbyshire arms seems to supply the necessary clue.

The Albury and Bibbsworth intermarriages are set out in full in Pedigree No. 12 : this establishes clearly the important position held in the county by the Barley family for some ten generations, many of them being Sheriffs and Members of Parliament.\*

But a further puzzle now faces us : where does the John Barlow spring from who married Christian, sister of Henry Barley of Albury, and who had such distinguished offspring as William the Protestant Bishop, Roger the South American explorer, and Elizabeth, afterwards the first Lady Elphinstone ? Did this John Barley come from Lancashire or from Hertfordshire stock ? A lengthy pedigree (No. 14) for John Barley, dated 1739, tracing back to the Lancashire branch, is given in the Wotton MSS. in the British Museum : † it shows certain connections by marriage with Worsley, Antwist (Entwistle), the Earl of Derby, and others, which corroborate the Lancs. pedigree (No. 7), but it lacks confirmation and is clearly inaccurate in many details.

However, as shown in connection with the D'Abitot pedigree, it is always dangerous to ignore a well-established family tradition, and the Wotton pedigree embodies clearly a tradition of a Lancashire descent for John Barlow. It will probably not be possible to establish John Barlow's pedigree satisfactorily until the manorial and other records and charters of Essex and Lancashire have been as carefully transcribed and edited as were the Derbyshire Charters by Jeayes.

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\*For instance, John Barley, Esquire, was M.P. 1420, 1423 and 1429 ; Escheator for Essex, 1435, etc. ; Henry Barley, Esquire, his son, was J.P., etc., for Herts. for many years : *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, Hen. VI. and Ed. IV.

†Add. MSS. 24120, Brit. Mus., p. 37, quoted in Fenton's *Pembrokeshire*, 1811, p. 294 ; see also Burke *Extinct Baronetcies*, 1844, p. 38 ; Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodiensis*, 1816, p. 252.



PLATE 13.

Albury Church, Co. Heris., and Chantry Priest's House.

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