

BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

Attercliffe; the evidence is collected in Chap. IV. Attercliffe, a suburb of Sheffield, lies four or five miles to the north of Eckington.*

Turning back towards Buxton, the road should be taken to

DRONFIELD

(five miles) where in the fine fourteenth-century church in a small arch between the nave and the chancel on the south side will be found the alabaster effigy and tomb of Sir Richard Barley, in armour, with a dagger by his side, his feet resting on a dog couchant; see Plate 23. No name or arms now can be traced on the tomb; Bassano,† writing in 1710, relates that there was no inscription on it in his day, but adds:—

“Mr. Richard Hall did verifie to me that he had read a portion of ye inscription on it viz. Sir Richard Barley Knt. of Dronfield Woodhouse and was repaired by James Barley of Barley Esq. in the yeare 1593.”

Now that the Mower MS. has come to light, it is of great interest to find that James Barley was, in fact, a restorer of family monuments and did repair the Lady's Quire in Barlow Church and rescat it, directly he succeeded in 1588. It is therefore highly probable that, in spite of impoverished circumstances, he managed to take in hand five years later, in 1593, as Bassano says, the repair of Sir Richard's tomb in Dronfield Church, Sir Richard being doubtless a relative, as shown in the Pegge pedigree, No. 15. Dronfield Church, which was served by Beauchief Abbey, had fallen on evil times on the Dissolution of the Monasteries, and after an enquiry presided over by George Barley and Edmund Stephenson in 5 Eliz., 1563, the inhabitants agreed to take over and be responsible for the chancel and its repairs.‡

Two miles further bring us to Dronfield Woodhouse, and the old Hall standing at the cross-roads where the road from Dronfield joins the road from Sheffield via Holmesfield and Owlbar to Baslow. The old Hall is now a farm;§ the finely embossed ceiling in the principal room, now the kitchen, together with the outside front of the house facing east, are practically the only traces of the mansion's former distinction; see Plate 24.

The road follows the top of the ridge through Holmesfield, with

*Thomas Barlow, of the Yorkshire branch, who built Middlethorpe Hall, near York, early in the eighteenth century, at one time lived at Eckington, and his wife, Mary, who died 1694, is buried there, and her marble monument is in the chancel of Eckington Church; B.P.R., p. 175. Eckington itself is not a village of any special beauty or interest, and the fact that Thomas, the grandson of Henry of Attercliffe, when he had made money, should return to Eckington and buy property there, points to some traditional or family interest in Eckington, and supports the connection of Henry of Eckington with Henry of Attercliffe.

†Cox *Derb. Ch.*, Vol. I., p. 205.

‡Beauchief Abbey, by Addy, p. 124.

§Tilley, *Old Halls of Derbyshire*, Vol. III., p. 135. Tilley says Thomas Barlow of the Woodhouse, father of an heiress Elizabeth, is usually looked on as the last of this branch, but he refers to the Melbourne papers (I., p. 330) and a letter of Robert Barlow to Sir John Coke so late as November 14th, 1627; and see note on *Derbyshire Deeds* in *App.*

A BARLOW PILGRIMAGE

good views to the left over the wide sweep of the Barlow valley below, and to the right towards Sheffield. At Owl Bar the Barlow valley road cuts in on the left, and from there across the open moors the way lies down to Baslow (five miles) and to Buxton (nineteen miles).

Third day.

From Buxton the start should be made to Tideswell (ten miles) where the fine cruciform fourteenth-century church holds interesting monuments to Sir John Foljambe (d. 1358) and to Sir Sampson Meverell (d. 1462); then through the rocky Middleton Dale to

STONEY MIDDLETON.

The church, unfortunately, was rebuilt in the eighteenth century, and is not now a pleasing structure, but the church site is famous in Derbyshire annals as the trysting place of Joan, the beautiful heiress of the Padley family,* and Robert Eyre, the third son of Sir Nicholas Eyre, lord of Highlow. Sir Nicholas was under the ban of the Church for murder, and Joan's father had forbidden the union of the young people. They managed, however, to meet secretly at the spot where the church now stands. The church was built by Robert Eyre when he had gained his knighthood, which he won in the fierce conflict at Agincourt after capturing a Marshall of France. The marriage of Robert and Joan and the births of their numerous children are recorded on the altar tomb in the chancel of Hathersage Church.†

From the church the footpath to Stoke Hall climbs the hill to the north; this well-marked track which our forefathers trod passes the small chalybeate spring known in Roman times, breasts the hill, and emerges in ten minutes on the Eyam-Sheffield road;‡ then, crossing the fields to the right, the track drops down the hill direct to

STOKE HALL

a commanding position above the Derwent: "Stoka" appears coupled with Stoney Middleton in Domesday.

Possibly Stoke may have been the central home, in this part of England, of the great Norman family of Albini;§ it was probably of importance as controlling the Stokesforde over the Derwent. The present house dates mainly from the eighteenth century, but portions of the exterior, as shown by inscriptions, e.g., on the lead work, are

*Marriages of Barlows with Eyres and Padleys occur several times in the records: see Pedigree No. 15. The arms of Eyre quartering Padley were in the windows of Barlow Hall; see Herald's Visitation, 1611, and Plate 7.

†Tilley, *Old Halls of Derbyshire*, Vol. I., p. 184.

‡The car should follow the much longer road (two miles) round to Stoke Hall, skirting Calver. It was at the Inn at Calver that Rowland Eyre tried to swindle the unfortunate Peter Barley out of his patrimony; see Chap. III. Eyam, famous for the story of the plague outbreak and the heroism of the Vicar, Mompesson, and the inhabitants under his leadership, is also worth a visit.

§Pym Yeatman *Fued. Derb.*, Vol. IV., p. 390. Stoke was a Berewite of the ancient parish of Hope.

BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

at least a century earlier. The present owner, Captain M. J. Hunter, M.P., is authority for a tradition that the library was at one time used as a chapel, and beneath is a crypt with masonry probably not later than the fifteenth century; a sealed vault in the crypt probably holds the remains of Humphrey Barlow of Bunney (d. 1570; see Plate 18); Bassano confirms this.*

Here lived the Stoke branch from about 1473 (when Robert Barlow bought a 10s. soc. in Stoke from Henry, Lord Grey of Codnor) till 1580, when it was sold and passed out of the family.†

From Stoke the road follows the Derwent (with beautiful views across the river to Froggatt Edge) on to Grindleford Bridge; ‡ thence keeping to the left, still beside the river (about two-and-a-half miles) to

HATHERSAGE

one of the most famous spots in the whole valley. The fourteenth-century church holds many records of the Eyre family from the fifteenth to the seventeenth centuries, the most interesting being the memorial of Robert Eyre of Hope (1459) and his beautiful wife Joan, the Padley heiress mentioned above.

Close to the riverside lies Padley Chapel, now used as a barn, but well known in Elizabeth's days to the adherents of the "old religion."§ From Hathersage the road, still following the river, leads (four miles) to

HOPE

the historic centre of civilisation and Christianity in the valley. Here the Romans had a fortified camp named Anavio (now known as Brough) about a mile from Hope Church. From Brough, two Roman roads ran, one via the Doctor's Gate to Melandra (Glossop) and on to Manchester, and the other, the Betham Gate, to Buxton.||

*Bassano says Humphrey was buried "in his chappell in his own mansion house of Stoke in Hope Parish"; p. 95.

†See Lysons' *Magna Britannia*, Ed. 1817, Vol. V., p. 185; B.P.R., p. 34. For an account of Lord Grey of Codnor, see article by Revd. Chas. Kerry, *Derb. Arch.*, Vol. XIV., p. 25. In 1196, Henry De Graie was excused scutage as he was with the king in Normandy; Pipe Roll, 7 Rich. I. He married before 1208, Isolda, the heiress of Codnor. The last of the family was Henry, Lord Grey of Codnor, the great chemist, who died 1496.

‡The road across the bridge to the right leads to Fox House Inn, and then, bearing left handed, runs to Hathersage on the other side of the Derwent; the views by this road up the Derwent Valley are superb.

§See *Padley Chapel*, by F. M. Hayward, referred to in *Forgotten Shrines*, p. 45.

||The explanation of these four Roman camps at Little Chester (Derby), Anavio (Hope), Melandra (Glossop) and Mancunium (Manchester) must probably be found in the valuable lead mines at Wirksworth (through which the Roman road from Derby to Buxton ran), and nearby in the Derwent Valley. The name Anavio is said to survive in the name of the stream Noe; *Derb. Arch.*, Vol. XXIX., p. 44. See Ordnance Survey Map of Roman Britain, 2nd Ed., 1928. It is possible that in Anglo-Saxon and Norman times the lead may have been carried down to the Mersey and thence exported south by sea, as in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries we know it was exported via the Humber. Such a lead traffic via the Mersey might account for the settlement of Derbyshire families on Merseyside in the thirteenth century.



(i.)



(ii.)

PLATE 21.

(i.) The Barlow Hounds ; reproduced by permission from *The Field*, August 30th, 1930.

(ii.) Stoke Hall on the Derwent : in occupation of the Barlow family *circa* 1450-1580. Humphrey Barlow, D. 1570, is probably buried in the crypt below the library (by tradition known as the chapel) shown in the centre.

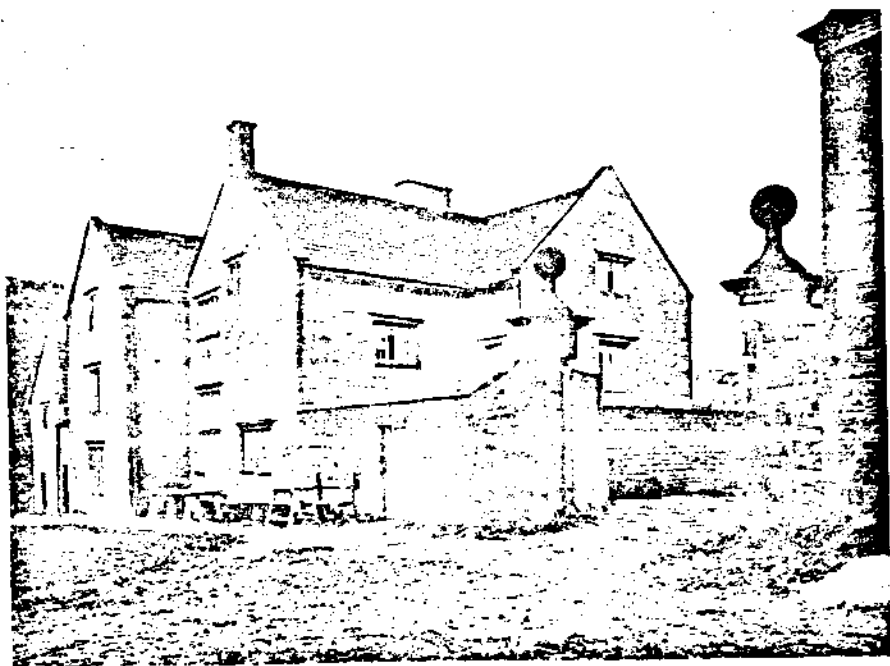
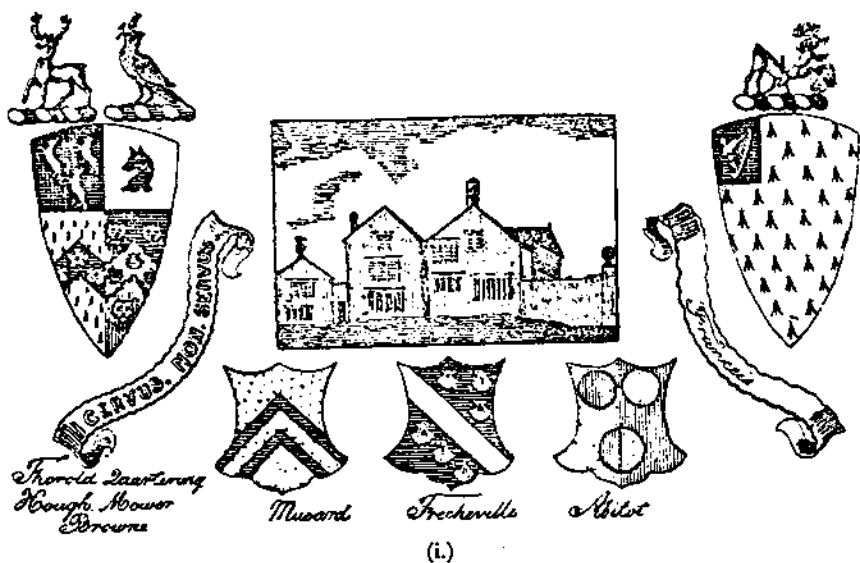


PLATE 22.

- (i.) Engraving of Barlow Woodseats Hall, now a farm, with arms of Francis, Thorold, Mower, Musard, Freschville, Abitot, etc.: reproduced by permission from *Old Halls of Derbyshire*, by J. Tilley, Vol. III., p. 37.
- (ii.) Barlow Woodseats Hall, Co. Derby, from the south.

A BARLOW PILGRIMAGE

The church, dating from the fourteenth century, contains heraldic records of the Eyre and Reresby families; with both the Barlows were connected.*

Abney (three miles), probably an early centre of the Albini family, and also Castleton (two miles), and Peveril Castle, which overhangs the village on the south, should be visited. William Peveril, the illegitimate son of the Conqueror, who received grants of numerous manors at the Conquest in Derbyshire, built a castle at Castleton in 1068.

The last stage brings us from Castleton to Chorlton, and Barlow Hall on the Mersey. This can be reached either by following the road from Hope† to Chapel-en-le-Frith (the "Chapel in the wood" built by the Foresters in the twelfth century) and so via New Mills and Stockport (close to the home of Sir John Barlow at Torkington Lodge) to Chorlton-cum-Hardy: or turning back via Hope and Thornhill up the Ashop valley along the line of the old Roman road to Melandra and Glossop; thence via Hyde we pass close to Reddish, the residence of the family allied with the Barlows of Chorlton, and reach

BARLOW HALL

in Chorlton-cum-Hardy, now the Club House of the Chorlton-cum-Hardy Golf Club.

A Hall at Barlow‡ was occupied temp. Ed. I. by Sir Robert de Barlow, but it is doubtful if any portion of this building still survives. The Hall was rebuilt about the year 1574 by Alexander Barlow, Esquire, the then Lord of Barlow; the date is inscribed on the old sundial in the quadrangle, together with the significant motto "Lumen me regit vos umbra," see Plate 10. This has probably a religious significance; the Lancashire Barlows were staunch followers of the light of the old faith, even if others preferred the shadows of modernity.

Alexander Barlow (see Pedigree No. 7) was son and heir of Ellis Barlow of Barlow. His sister Margaret Barlow had married (as his second wife) Edward, head of the House of Stanley, and third Earl of Derby. She died in February, 1559, leaving a son and two daughters. This brilliant match probably marked the climax of the fortunes of this branch of the family.

The fine oriel window in the half-timbered quadrangle (on the wall of which the dial already mentioned hangs) contains in six panels an equal number of roundels or arms in colours, the first to the left being modern.§

*See, e.g., Eyre pedigree, B.P.R., p. 21. Hope was the centre of St. Chad's work in this district in Anglo-Saxon times.

†The distance from Hope to Chorlton-cum-Hardy, via Chapel-en-le-Frith, is about thirty miles—via Glossop it is somewhat further.

‡Booker, *Didsbury*, p. 291; *Forgotten Shrines*, p. 210. Grateful acknowledgment is made to the learned author, Dom Bede Camm, and to the publishers of *Forgotten Shrines* for much material and several illustrations appearing in these pages.

§See Plate 11 for the five original roundels, together with the date, 1574.