

HELPS FOR STUDENTS OF HISTORY. No. 22

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THE REPORTS OF THE
HISTORICAL MSS.
COMMISSION

BY

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THE REPORTS OF THE HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS COMMISSION

THE Reports of the Royal Commissioners for Historical Manuscripts afford information — historical, biographical, social, and, withal, human and intimate— chiefly concerning the peoples of Great Britain and Ireland, such as, it may safely be affirmed, is not to be paralleled in any other published series of original sources. A statement of the results obtained, made by the Commissioners in their Report to the Sovereign in 1872, may be repeated with stronger emphasis in reference to their subsequent operations. What they said then is true as regards what has been done since. “ Many important and valuable materials for the history of this country which have for so long remained unexplored, if not altogether unknown, are now for the first time brought to light, and it is not too much to say that there is scarcely an important historical event, certainly no period of English history, which has not received some elucidation from the operations of your Commission. ”

Up to the present the series of Reports comprises about one hundred and fifty-six volumes issued during the period of forty-four years from 1870 to 1914.

A brief account of the way in which the Commission originated and of the tasks which it subsequently under-

took will serve to show the purpose for which it was appointed, and usefully preface a detailed statement of what has been accomplished.

In the year 1859 a memorial, numerous and influentially signed, was presented to Lord Palmerston, then Prime Minister, urging him to advise H.M. Queen Victoria to appoint a Royal Commission whose object should be "to rescue from oblivion and in many cases from decay valuable collections of papers, the contents of which were unknown even to their possessors, but which were . . . of the highest value on account of the information which they would afford on matters of history, law, legislation, biography, and several other important matters."

A decade elapsed before the suggestion of this memorial was carried into effect. Then in 1869 a body of extremely influential Royal Commissioners was appointed "to take the necessary steps for a precise, detailed examination of collections of manuscripts to be found in Great Britain and Ireland, having first obtained the consent of their owners, whether private persons or heads of institutions, and, if they thought proper, to publish the results." This action was intended at the time to be tentative only; according to one proposal it was to be merely a short five years' experiment; but the success of the work thus begun was so marked, and the fruits of it were seen to be of such value and importance, that the activities of the Commission were not only continued, but increased as time went on, until the outbreak of war in 1914 brought them practically to a stop. The Commission, however, remains in being; the stoppage is temporary only, and the hope may be entertained that its work

will be now resumed, in view of the extensive field of inquiry that seems ever enlarging before it.

In the course of years many changes in the *modus operandi*, determined by the experience gained in the process of investigation, naturally took place.

The First Report of the Commissioners appeared in 1870 as a Parliamentary Blue Book—a folio in double columns—a form and style which were repeated in succeeding Reports up to and including the Ninth, issued in three parts in 1883-1884. The collections examined during these fourteen years were very numerous: no less than one hundred and eighty were offered for consideration in the first year. The Appendix to the First Report contains notices of forty-five in England, twelve in Scotland, nine in Ireland, and, strange to say, one in a foreign country, the University library of Heidelberg. This, however, is merely the result of a passing visit by one of the Commissioners, who calls attention to a manuscript there—"The Offices of England"—containing a detailed and carefully arranged list of the various salaried State, legal, and other office-holders in the year 1608, and is a unique exception to the rule which limits the investigations of the Commissioners to Great Britain and Ireland.

The number of collections reviewed and reported upon in the Second and Third Reports was even greater than in the first. Between 1869 and 1876 more than four hundred and twenty had been examined. Consequently, during these early years, little more could be done in most cases than to take a preliminary general survey of the collections placed at the disposal of the Commissioners, who arranged a circuit of places to be visited by their Inspectors. Under such circumstances the results

obtained could not in general be other than perfunctory and incomplete. Later, however, the work done under the auspices of the Commission became less extensive and more intensive. The practice of removing collections of manuscripts to the Public Record Office, to be there examined and calendared with due deliberation, was more frequently adopted, until it became the almost invariable practice. The Reports consequently changed their character, being drawn up according to better methods and on a more uniform plan. The contents of the manuscripts were extracted in greater detail and the Reports thus became much more useful to the student and of greater general interest.

I.—THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

Attention has already been called indirectly to the distinction which should be drawn between the Reports of the Commissioners themselves and the Reports of the Inspectors employed by them. The former are addressed to the Sovereign, and were first made annually and then at longer and irregular intervals. They are eighteen in number. The Tenth to the Eighteenth were issued separately from the Reports of Inspectors. It is to the latter, of course, that the student will in the main turn for instruction. The question may reasonably be asked, therefore, Of what use to him, if any, will the Reports of the Commissioners be? To this question the following reply may be given: In the first place, in them he will find a detailed account of what the Commissioners have essayed to do and the names of the Inspectors who from time to time have acted under their authority.

Then there is presented to him, summarily, the results of the work of the Inspectors during successive periods of time, showing the nature of the manuscripts and papers examined, the periods to which they relate, and the chief personages concerned. So that, failing a "General Guide" to all the Inspectors' Reports—a work which has been projected and is in preparation, but Part I. of which, dealing with them from a topographical standpoint, has alone been published hitherto—a perusal of the brief or abbreviated accounts of collections examined, appended in each case to the Commissioners' Reports, will be found to be extremely helpful. A glance through them, taking comparatively little time, will enable him to note which of the Inspectors' Reports give a promise of yielding the information required, and which of them relate to the period of his study.

To the Eighteenth Report of the Commissioners, the last to date, pp. 308-348, the student can refer for a complete list of the names of the owners of manuscripts upon whose collections Reports had been made by their Inspectors, and presented to Parliament and published, up to July, 1916, showing also the places of deposit of the respective collections at the time when the Reports were drawn up, and indicating the more considerable groups of papers comprised in them.

This is followed by a topographical arrangement, according to counties, of the foregoing collections.

This Report has also an Appendix, drawn up by Miss F. G. Davenport, of "Materials for English Diplomatic History, 1509 to 1783," calendared in the Reports of Inspectors, with reference to similar materials in the British Museum.

II.—THE REPORTS OF INSPECTORS.

These Reports, as already intimated, are the main sources of information. Up to the year 1899, and in connection with the first fifteen of the Reports of the Commissioners, they were entitled Appendices. Up to the Ninth Report, issued in 1883-84, they are such in fact, and are bound up with the respective Reports. After this, Inspectors' Reports were issued as separate 8vo. volumes, but each volume still bore for a time the title of Appendix, and was somewhat arbitrarily attributed to a particular Report of the Commissioners. This plan gave rise to some unnecessary mystification, since sections of a Report on a single collection of manuscripts, if it ran into a series of volumes, as in many cases it did, were almost invariably attributed as Appendices to different Reports of the Commissioners. Thus, for example, in the case of the manuscripts belonging to the Earl of Dartmouth under this system, for Vol. I., recourse must be had to the Eleventh Report, Appendix V.; for Vol. II., to the Fourteenth Report, Appendix X.; and for Vol. III., to the Fifteenth Report, Appendix I.; while a supplement is also to be found in the Thirteenth Report, Appendix IV. In 1899, with a view to simplification, this system ceased, and from that time onward a plan was adopted for all Reports of Inspectors, which had been already applied to one great collection, the Cecil MSS., of giving to them for title the names of their respective owners in cases where they formed the entire contents of one or more separate volumes; and where several collections were grouped in one volume, this volume was made one

of a series entitled "Various Collections." In both cases titular connection with the successive Reports of the Commissioners ceased. The volume entitled "A Guide to the Reports," Part I., already referred to and presently to be more particularly described, contains suggestions and directions for bringing all the Reports, whether entitled Appendices or not, from first to last, into this simplified arrangement, and if these directions are followed, and the volumes arranged and numbered accordingly, the system of Reports and Appendices may be entirely ignored.

From the nature of the circumstances under which the operations of the Commission were carried out in the first rush, and for some years subsequently, the results obtained by some of the Inspectors engaged upon the examination of manuscripts are not, in fact, very informing as to the contents of the papers which came under their notice. It was almost necessarily so, because the Inspectors, in the course of a brief visit to the owner's house or other place of deposit, were unable to do more than note summarily the masses of correspondence, etc., which they handled. To turn to some of these early Reports for desired information will sometimes, therefore, be only a disappointment to the student, for he will be merely told that the Inspector found "A Bundle of Letters," or "Another Bundle of Letters," etc., and will be supplied with no more than a few dates and the names of some of the writers; or, to cite other examples, he will find such a statement as "Several by the Duchess of Marlborough," or "Queen Anne to Lord Treasurer Harley (between fifty and sixty letters)," and nothing more; or "Letters to His Grace [the Duke of Marlborough]

from persons surnamed from A to Z," with no indication of what the letters are about. But, as will be presently shown, all Reports, even in these early volumes, are not quite so meagre and unsatisfactory as those from which the examples given above are extracted; and in every case one result is at least attained: the knowledge where most valuable materials are possibly to be found if access to them can be had by permission of the owners.

From a certain point onward, the usefulness of the Inspectors' Reports increases. They often serve every purpose that an examination of the originals would fulfil, and even a better purpose, because the Report is much easier to study, and gives the important information, omitting all trivial and negligible matter.

As regards accessibility of original manuscripts at the present time, a word or two of explanation will not be out of place. Inasmuch as many years have elapsed since the examination of many of these collections took place, there is now no guarantee that there may not have been during the interval a change of ownership or some dealing with the manuscripts that renders them less accessible than at the time of inspection. It is also possible that disarrangement has taken place, and that, in some cases, the collection has been dispersed and even sold and sent abroad.

On the other hand, we may observe that the action and inquiries of the Commissioners at once drew attention to the value of papers that previously had been considered to be mere lumber, and were consequently exposed to every kind of neglect. When, to take a notable instance, the casual discovery of a key with a label, "Key of old writings over stable," led to

the opening, for the first time for many years, of a room curtained with cobwebs, the hunting-ground of rats and mice, piled up with a mass of documents, from which were ultimately selected the principal portions of the fine collection of documents of the Duke of Rutland, among them a deed of "Warwick, the King-maker," owners of historic houses began to perceive the mines of valuable material in their possession. This led to investigation, and in many cases to proper care and attention being given to manuscripts, which were subsequently arranged and occasionally bound in volumes. This is one of the ways in which the Commissioners have justified their existence, and from first to last it is true to experience that, as they remark in their Second Report, their efforts have been "the means of preventing those casualties to which valuable collections of manuscripts are liable . . . casualties arising not infrequently from changes in families, from removal of manuscripts, and ignorance of localities to which they have been transferred."

Another good result has been that private manuscripts, to which access would of necessity be difficult and intermittent, have in a few cases passed by gift or loan or purchase into the keeping of public institutions such as the British Museum, the Public Record Office, and the Bodleian Library. In the Public Record Office are, for instance, at the present time, open to public inspection (though not all through the direct action of the Commission), the "Golden Grove Book" belonging to Earl Cawdor; the "Cornwallis Papers" belonging to Lord Braybrooke; the "Chatham Papers," an immense series of correspondence of the first Earl of Chatham and his son William Pitt, first entrusted to the care

of the Commissioners and subsequently bequeathed to the nation by their owner, Admiral Pringle; the "Manchester Papers," the "Napier Papers," and the "Shaftesbury Papers."

This appears to be an appropriate place to direct particular attention to the work, already incidentally mentioned, issued in 1914 under the auspices of the Commissioners, and as one of their series, entitled

"A GUIDE TO THE REPORTS ON COLLECTIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS," ETC. PART I.: TOPOGRAPHICAL.

It is priced at one shilling; the reference to it, in order to obtain it, is "Cd. 7594," and it is to be purchased (as are the Reports themselves, if not out of print, at similar moderate prices) in London from Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Ltd., 29, Breems Buildings, Fetter Lane, E.C.; in Edinburgh, from H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 23, Forth Street; and in Dublin from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street; or, indeed, through any bookseller.

This work, as its title implies, is primarily a guide to the Reports from the topographical point of view.

If, therefore, the student's inquiries can be connected with any county, city, town, or place within the British Isles, with Scotland, Ireland, or Wales as a whole, with the American Colonies, with India, or with a foreign country, this part of the Guide, by means of the Index of which it chiefly consists, will lead him direct to his object, indicating the Reports that should be consulted. But in addition to this, pending the appearance of Part II., which will consist of an index to persons and matters, if he will use a little ingenuity, it will serve to some extent as an aid for this further purpose also.

The volume in question also gives directions as to

the order and numbering of Reports on the library shelves, so that the separate volumes, if more than one, of the Report on a particular collection of manuscripts, can be brought together, and reference to the series facilitated. It contains, moreover, a complete and correct list of the Reports issued up to the date of its own appearance and of their contents, and at the end another similar list, showing dates of publication, reference numbers as "Command papers," and price.

In consequence of the outbreak of war, one Report only has been since added, namely, a Report upon the Municipal Records of the City of Exeter.

The Reports of Inspectors have all separate indexes, though occasionally the index refers to more than one volume, as in the cases of "Rutland," Vols. I. and II., and the "Fortescue" or "Grenville Papers," Vols. I., II., and III.

From the following survey* or analysis of contents of collections of manuscripts upon which Reports have been drawn up and published, Ecclesiastical, Collegiate, and Municipal Collections have been omitted, for this reason among others, that with respect to them the Topographical Guide gives a certain amount of help, such as it does not give in the case of collections in private ownership. This survey follows the order of the Reports given on pp. 1-14 of the Guide, and the short titles are those found on p. 15 of the same work.

No. 1. FIRST AND SECOND REPORTS.

The Reports upon collections contained in the Appendices to the First and Second Reports of the Commissioners are for the most part either preliminary

* The attention of students is particularly called to the fact that this survey is not exhaustive.

in character or brief summaries of classes of correspondence or papers. There is, however (pp. 14-34), an inventory of the *Hatton Collection*, among which are fifteen very early deeds, between A.D. 624 and A.D. 1062 (see the list of these in the First Report of the Commissioners, pp. viii-ix). The correspondence in the collection is arranged alphabetically, and there is a short *précis* of the contents. On pp. 34-41 is a list of the correspondence of George Stepney, 1694-1707, in the *Earl of Macclesfield's Collection*, with a specimen of a proposed calendar. The collection of the *Earl of St. Germans*, at Port Eliot, Cornwall (pp. 41-44) contains the manuscripts by and belonging to Sir John Eliot, and includes also letters from Edward Gibbon, the historian. Other Reports in these two Appendices are mostly of a very brief and summary character, and must be consulted for particulars of their contents. A large number of them relate to the collections belonging to the colleges in the two Universities. The index to both Appendices is at the end of the Second, and the First and Second Reports may be regarded as one volume and be bound up together.

NO. 2. THIRD REPORT.

Appendix, pp. 45-125: Duke of Northumberland.—The manuscripts extend from A.D. 1139 to A.D. 1696. There is a brief calendar of a portion of them. Other notices give merely first and last dates of collections of correspondence.

Appendix, p. 125: Marquess of Lansdowne.—Collection made by William, Earl of Shelburne, afterwards first Marquess, from 1754: first section.

Appendix, p. 281: Phelips' MSS.—1585-1686, containing much information as to the Gunpowder Plot, etc.

No. 3. FOURTH REPORT.

Appendix, pp. 276-317: Earl de la Warr.—Manuscripts at Knole Park. Consisting of correspondence and papers of the first Earl of Middlesex, from the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth to his death in 1645, and other papers down to the eighteenth century.

No. 4. FIFTH REPORT.

Appendix, pp. 135-214: Duke of Sutherland.—Ten volumes of original letters, 1598-1601, and a folio volume of seventeenth-century copies of Royal and other letters, speeches, etc., of the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries.

Appendix, p. 215: Marquess of Lansdowne. Shelburne Manuscripts continued.—Papers relating to America.

Appendix, p. 308: Sir A. Malet.—Papers from the reign of Henry VIII. to 1688. Several relate to Mary, Queen of Scots. One volume is entirely on the subject of the birth of the Pretender.

No. 5. SIXTH REPORT.

Appendix, p. 235: Marquess of Lansdowne: Shelburne MSS., third section.—(1) Papers relating to the East Indies. (2) Papers relating to Ireland: eighteenth century. (3) Alphabetical list of correspondents, with respective dates of letters, 1760-1800. (4) Family correspondence, and miscellaneous.

Appendix, p. 243: Marquess of Ripon.—Fountains Abbey documents: volumes on peerage, heraldry, and genealogy; abstracts of early deeds, chiefly relating to Cheshire.

Appendix, p. 287: Lord Leconfield: Manuscripts at Petworth House.—Many of these were the property of Henry, ninth Earl of Northumberland, who was employed in foreign service by Queen Elizabeth. Under suspicion of having been privy to the Gunpowder Plot, he was kept prisoner in the Tower for many years, where he had for companions Sir Walter Raleigh and the astronomer and mathematician Harriot. Other manuscripts were accumulated during the official career of Algernon, tenth Earl, who was Lord High Admiral. Official papers of the eighteenth century were derived from the Earl of Egremont, who held the office of Secretary of Staté for the Southern Department from 1761 to 1763.

Appendix, p. 322: Sir R. Graham.—Chiefly seventeenth century. Much information about horses and stable matters; accounts of Royal progress of James I.; papers of Henry Slingsby, Master of the Mint, *temp.* Charles II.; correspondence 1603-1660, 1663-1683, 1665-1780, etc.

Appendix, p. 352: Sir Henry Ingilby.—Manuscript volumes, including portion of Register of Fountains Abbey; Register of Bridlington Priory; Beda's Ecclesiastical History; Nennius; Annals of Ralph de Diceto, etc. Paston Letters (Sir Robert Paston, first Earl of Yarmouth), 1660-1678; Letters to Ralph Palmer, of the Middle Temple and Chelsea, 1690-1736.

Appendix, p. 395: Sir E. Strachey.—(1) Manuscripts of John Strachey, F.R.S.; materials for history of Somersetshire, etc. (2) Manuscripts of Sir Henry Strachey, first Baronet, including correspondence with Lord Clive, as his private secretary in India, and papers relating to American War of Independence, 1774-1778,

and the Anglo-American Treaty of Paris, 1782. (3) Kirkpatrick Papers, chiefly official papers of General William Kirkpatrick and Colonel James Achilles Kirkpatrick, serving in the East Indies under the Marquess Wellesley.

Appendix, p. 418: P. B. D. Cooke, Esq.—Volumes, letters, etc., connected with the counties of Flint and Denbigh and Yorkshire; original manuscript of the *Liber Landavensis*, 1107-1134; *Liber Sanctæ Mariæ* of Holmcultram (or Coltram or Coltran) Abbey, Cumberland, etc.; Puleston Papers.

Appendix, p. 426: Miss ffarington.—Evesham Abbey deeds; papers connected with the Derby family, *temp.* Henry VIII. *et seq.*; Protectorate Papers; correspondence of Richard Bradshaw, Resident at Hamburg, 1650-1659 (extensively extracted), etc.

Appendix, p. 448: F. Bacon Frank, Esq.—Collections for the civil and ecclesiastical history of Yorkshire, etc., and transcripts of Talbot Papers at Sheffield Castle for the Lives of the Earls of Shrewsbury.

Appendix, p. 468: T. S. Raffles, Esq.—Collection of autograph letters and papers classified in more than one hundred volumes.

NO. 6. SEVENTH REPORT.

Appendix, p. 249: Lord Sackville: Manuscripts at Knole.—Further account of these manuscripts of the period of Lionel Cranfield, first Earl of Middlesex, and later. *See* No. 3, p. 15 *supra*.

Appendix, p. 261: Sir F. Graham.—Chiefly the official papers of Sir Richard Graham, Viscount Preston, appointed in 1682 Envoy-Extraordinary to the Court of

France. They belong to the period 1682-1689, and are noticed in detail and fairly fully abstracted.

Appendix, p. 433: Sir Harry Verney.—This collection consists of a great number of deeds, wills, charters, etc. (earliest A.D. 1256); records of the Abbey of Abingdon; and many thousands of private letters between 1630 and 1699, and a very large number of the eighteenth century.

Appendix, p. 509: Ayscough Fawkes, Esq.—Four large folio volumes of reports of cases in the King's Bench, 3-12 George II.

Appendix, p. 518: G. E. Frere, Esq.—Originals of the third and fourth volumes of the Paston Letters; letters of Philip Gawdy, *temp.* Elizabeth and James I.; and correspondence of Robert, Earl of Yarmouth, supplementing Sir Henry Ingilby's Collection (see Sixth Report, Appendix, p. 352).

Appendix, p. 537: George Allan Lowndes, Esq.—This collection includes charters of the Priory of Hatfield Regis, etc., beginning in the twelfth century; early Court Rolls of the Forest of Hatfield; correspondence relating to military and other affairs of the County of Essex of the reign of Elizabeth, and particularly at the beginning of the Great Rebellion.

Appendix, p. 590: Captain H. G. St. John Mildmay.—The earlier portion of this collection is connected with Sir George Harvey, Knt., Lieutenant of the Tower in 1603, the later after 1620; Jewel House and other seventeenth-century papers of Colonel F. Carew Harvey Mildmay, one of the officers of the Jewel House from 1625 to 1667 or a few years later, and also one of the Verderers of the Forest of Waltham.

Appendix, p. 596: W. More-Molyneux, Esq., Loseley

Manuscripts.—Papers chiefly belonging to Tudor times, most of them Elizabethan, but extending also to the reigns of James I., Charles I., Charles II., and containing also a few of the eighteenth century. They consist of the papers of Sir Thomas Cawarden, a member of Henry VIII.'s Privy Council, who was Keeper of the Tents, Master of the Revels, and Keeper of the Palace and Park of Nonesuch, to Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth. On his death, in the second year of Elizabeth's reign, his accumulated manuscripts became the property of his friend and executor, Mr. (afterwards Sir) Thomas More, of Loseley House, Surrey, who also acquired, on Lady Cawarden's death, the Blackfriars Estate, London, and was thus connected with Richard Burbadge's Blackfriars Theatre and the Shakespearean drama. Sir William More was twice Sheriff of Sussex and Surrey. His son, Sir George More, was the third contributor to the collection, which is extraordinarily rich in information regarding the County of Surrey. An inadequate account of the manuscripts is given by Mr. A. J. Kempe's volume entitled "Losely Manuscripts," published in 1835. M. Feuillerat's work, *Documents relating to the Revels in the time of Queen Elizabeth*, is derived from this collection.

Appendix, p. 681: The Rev. T. W. Webb.—These consist of Coningsby Papers, correspondence of the Coningsby family during the reigns of James I. and Charles I.; a volume of letters of the Duke of Somerset to Serjeant Thomas Pengelly, *temp.* George I.; letters and papers relating to Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough; papers regarding Richard Cromwell, the Protector; Civil War Papers; North Monmouthshire Papers;

letters of Thomas Otway, a minister imprisoned in Ilchester Gaol for complicity in the insurrection in the West, from the time of the usurpation to 1687; letters to Thomas Pengelly, merchant, from Aleppo, Smyrna, Virginia, and Barbados, 1650-1674; professional papers of Serjeant Pengelly; etc.

No. 7. THE EIGHTH REPORT.

This was originally issued in three parts, with separate index for each. All three parts in this folio edition are now out of print, but Parts I. and II. were, in 1907 and 1910 respectively, re-issued in 8vo. as "Stationery Office publications" at an enhanced price. Part I. is in three sections, each section making a stout volume. The re-issues should preferably be consulted.

Section I.

P. 1: Duke of Marlborough. — This collection comprises early charters of the Monastery of St. Albans; Civil War and Protectorate papers, but (chiefly) papers of John, first Duke of Marlborough, and of Charles, Earl of Sunderland, including the letter-books of the latter, 1683-1710. Also letters from General Palmes, 1708, 1709, and 1710, while in attendance on the Duke of Savoy; letters of Richard Steele while in the army; and upwards of three hundred letters from Anne, as Princess and Queen, to Sarah Jennings as Lady Churchill and Countess and Duchess of Marlborough.

P. 60: Earl of Portsmouth. — (1) Miscellaneous papers, including journals of proceedings in Parliament, between 1721 and 1727. (2) Sir Isaac Newton's Mint Papers, three large folio volumes relating to the history

and affairs of the Mint, the majority in Sir Isaac's handwriting. (Sir Isaac Newton's scientific manuscripts have been presented to the University of Cambridge.)

P. 92: Earl of Jersey.—Household charges of King Edward III.; Exchequer customs accounts, 2 and 3 Philip and Mary to 35 Elizabeth; copy of Sir Symonds D'Ewes' "Parliamentarie Journal, A^o 35^o Reg. Eliz. A.D. 1592"; "Observations upon the Provinces United" and "Observations on the State of France," attributed to Sir Thomas Overbury; Exchequer accounts, 1656-1658; Diary of the proceedings of the Treaty of Peace between England and Spain and the Archduke Albert, 1604; etc.

P. 174: Lord Emly.—Correspondence, etc., of Edmund Sexten Pery, Speaker of the House of Commons in Ireland from 1771 to 1785.

P. 208: Ralph Bankes, Esq.—Papers of Sir J. Bankes, Chief Justice, *temp.* Charles I.; correspondence between him and the Parliamentary leaders, 1642; minutes of the Parliamentary Committee of the County of Dorset, 1646-1650; etc.

P. 213: G. W. Digby, Esq.—Correspondence between Right Hon. H. Fox, Lord Ilchester, Lord Digby, and H. Digby, 1753-1757, during the time of the political rivalry between Henry Fox and the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Pitt.

P. 277: Lord Braybrooke.—This collection comprised the official (American and East Indian) papers of Charles Cornwallis, second Earl and first Marquis Cornwallis, 1741-1819, since presented to the nation and deposited in the Public Record Office; Account Book of the Wardens of the Parish Church of Walden,

co. Essex (17 Hen. VI. to 5 Hen. VII.); two cartularies and register of deeds of Sir Thomas Cornwaleys, Knt. (1 Mary to 25 Eliz.); household books of the Duke of York, 1660-1673; papers of Sir Henry Neville, of Billingbere, Ambassador to France, 1599-1600 (partly published in Sawyer's "Memorials of Affairs of State in the Reigns of Queen Elizabeth and King James the First"); and papers of Richard Neville Aldworth Neville, M.P., Under-Secretary of State, Secretary to the British Embassy at Paris during the negotiations for the Definitive Treaty, 1763, and subsequently H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires and Minister-Plenipotentiary at the French Court.

Eighth Report, Appendix, Part II.

Duke of Manchester.—The calendar of this collection fills the whole of the volume. The papers of a public nature which it comprises are deposited in the Public Record Office, and are open to inspection. They consist of Montagu and Rich family papers; Augmentation Office documents of the reign of Henry VIII.; papers of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., including a section relating to Ireland; Colonial papers of the reign of James I. and Charles I., including voyages to Virginia, colonisation of the Bermudas, illustrations in the colonial papers of English manners and customs, etc.; domestic and miscellaneous papers of the reigns of Charles I. to George III., including papers connected with the embassy of the fourth Earl of Manchester to Venice in 1699 (the Partition Treaty) and to Paris 1699-1701: also as Secretary of State, 1701-02; the last letters from the Duchess of Marlborough; letters of George Montagu to Horace Walpole; etc.

Eighth Report, Appendix, Part III.

This Report on the manuscripts of the Earl of Ashburnham exists only in the original folio edition, and is out of print. Hitherto there has been no reissue of it, as the collection has been purchased by the British Museum. This collection is a collection of collections, each of which may be again subdivided into others, containing upwards of three thousand "manuscripts," so called, though many of them consist of several volumes. It contains the splendid series brought together at Stowe by George, Marquess of Buckingham, and those due to the antiquarian zeal of the late Earl of Ashburnham, of M. Barrois, and of Professor Libri. The Stowe MSS. include the library of manuscripts of Thomas Astle, Keeper of the Records in the Tower; among them are a volume of Anglo-Saxon charters; the psalter of King Alfred the Great; a Wardrobe Book of Edward II.; the Register of Hyde Abbey; inventories of Queen Elizabeth's wardrobe, plate and jewels; Hanoverian State Papers and other collections of original letters; original accounts in the handwriting of Cardinal Wolsey; the historical and antiquarian papers and correspondence of Mr. Anstis, Garter King of Arms; correspondence of Lord Chancellor Macclesfield and of Charles Lyttelton, Bishop of Carlisle; Mr. Secretary Coventry's State Papers of the reign of Charles II.; Mr. Secretary Stanhope's Despatches, etc., during his residence at The Hague in the reign of William III.; the correspondence of Mr. Richard Phelps, Under-Secretary of State in the early part of George III.'s reign; and many curious works and papers from the libraries of well-known antiquaries.

To these were subsequently added the ancient Irish and other manuscripts relating to the history and antiquities of Ireland, formerly belonging to Mr. O'Connor, of Belanagare, co. Roscommon, the historian of Ireland; and the correspondence, State Papers, etc., formerly belonging to Arthur Capel, Earl of Essex, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in the reign of Charles II.

The original letters are almost of every reign from Edward III. to George III. Many are from foreign Princes, beginning with the Doge of Venice, Andrea Contarini; and ending with Napoleon Bonaparte when First Consul. A remarkably interesting volume contains original letters and other historical documents of the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., several of which are from the Abbots of Religious Houses concerning calumnious reports that had been made against them and the contributions to be levied on their monasteries. In this volume is the original declaration of the eight bishops in favour of the King's power in ecclesiastical affairs, and maintaining that Christian Kings may make ecclesiastical laws.

No. 8. NINTH REPORT, APPENDIX, PART II.

P. 330: Lord Macartney.—This collection consists of five volumes of contemporary transcripts of public and private letters from Lord Macartney, when Governor of Madras, to the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Eyre Coote, Warren Hastings, Governor of Bengal, and John Macpherson; with letters from Warren Hastings and private communications between Macartney and Macpherson, 1780-1785.

P. 340: The Rinuccini MS.—This consists of eight large folio volumes in the collection of the Earl of

Leicester at Holkham, Norfolk, known as "The Nuncio's Memoirs," the work of Giovanni Batista Rinuccini, Archbishop of Fermo, who was sent by Pope Innocent X. as Nuncio to Ireland in 1645, at the request of the Irish Confederation. Its title is *De Hæresis Anglicanæ intrusione et progressu, et de Bello Catholico ad annum 1641 cæpto, exindeque per aliquot annos gesto, Commentarius*. It begins with the early history of Ireland, and ends in January 1645-46. It has been partly printed.

P. 357: Earl of Leicester.—A great variety of folio and quarto manuscript volumes from the thirteenth to the seventeenth centuries, belonging to or connected with Sir Edward Coke, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and of the King's Bench, 1606-1616, with proceedings in Parliament; a fifteenth-century copy of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and other literary works, legal documents, diplomatic and State Papers, etc.

P. 375: Earl Manvers.—Rentals, surveys, etc., of manors in the counties of Notts and Derby; charters, pleas of the Forest of Sherwood, etc.

P. 379: Earl of Pembroke.—Deeds, etc., relating to the Abbey of Wilton; rolls of accounts of the Manor of Alveston; correspondence, 1778-1791.

P. 384: H. C. Pole-Gell, Esq.—This collection includes Year Books of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; documents relating to Anthony Gell, who was Queen Elizabeth's feodary for Derbyshire, and also a member of the Inner Temple and principal of Clement's Inn; copies of treatises by and against Father Persons; précis of the Negotiation of Courcelles, the French Ambassador to Scotland, concerning the trial and execution of Mary, Queen of Scots; copies of

letters and tracts by Sir W. Raleigh and Sir C. Cornwallis; account of Sir Anthony Gell's military proceedings in 1642 and 1643; accounts of one of the Stewards of the Inner Temple for two of the Christmas weeks; copies of statements regarding the origin of the Fire of London in 1666; a paper showing the state of the Navy, *temp.* Charles II; letters, etc., of Philip Gell in 1675, who was taken prisoner by pirates, while in captivity; news-letters, 1702-1733; etc., with many early deeds.

P. 406: Alfred Morrison, Esq.—A most extensive and miscellaneous collection of autographed letters and other documents of exalted and distinguished personages from A.D. 1300 to A.D. 1862.

P. 493: Rev. W. Pyne and Rev. A. J. Woodforde.—Documents relating to Colonel J. Pyne, of Curry Mallet, Somersetshire, who was a member of the Long Parliament and took a prominent part against the King in the West; and Diary of Robert Woodforde, Steward of Northampton, 1637-1641.

No. 9. CECIL.

Marquess of Salisbury: the Cecil MSS.—Notices and lists of these manuscripts appear in the Appendices to the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Reports of the Commissioners, but these may be now considered to be almost entirely superseded by the detailed Calendar so far as it has proceeded. Of this Calendar thirteen volumes have been published, bringing it down to the end of the reign of Elizabeth as regards the main portion of the collection. A fourteenth volume, containing, as does the thirteenth, supplementary papers which escaped notice in the former volumes in their

proper chronological order, will complete the period. The series of these most important political and other documents commences in 1306, but papers of earlier date than the reign of Elizabeth are comparatively few. For the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., however, they constitute a body of State Papers illustrative of general events and political transactions, with which the State Papers preserved in the Public Record Office are alone comparable. It would be in vain to attempt to analyse or classify the contents of the published volumes, each of which, of course, has been carefully indexed.

No. 11. GAWDY.

Tenth Report, Appendix II.: The Gawdy MSS.—A collection of letters formed by Peter le Neve, Norroy King of Arms (b. 1661, d. 1729), relating chiefly to the Norfolk families of Gawdy, Knyvet, Hobart, Hare, and Le Neve, contained in seventeen volumes and numbering 3,276, extending over the reigns of Elizabeth, James I., Charles I., Charles II., and James II. The Gawdy letters are the earliest in date, and give an interesting description of the domestic and social life of the period.

The next largest portion of the collection consists of letters addressed to Oliver le Neve, brother of Peter, who married Anne, daughter and heiress of Sir John Gawdy and Anne de Grey.

All sections of the collection have the same general characteristics.

There are, besides, several news-letters or gazettes, treating mostly of political matters.

No. 17. HOUSE OF LORDS.

House of Lords.—This Report has been from the first a detailed calendar of the papers, and begins with two specimen sections—(a) relating to the first Parliament of Charles I., and (b) Archbishop Laud's Visitation—in the Appendix to the Second Report of the Commissioners. In the Appendix to the Third Report the systematic calendar makes a commencement with a charter of the year 1450. Continuations regularly appear in the appendices to following Reports up to the Ninth, ending with July 15, 1678. After this come separate volumes, the first four covering the period 1678-1693. From this point the calendar was continued independently of the Commissioners, but exactly on the same lines, by the authority of the House of Lords itself, in a so-called "New Series," which has now been brought down in six volumes to 1706.

For House of Lords documents, consult also Lord Braye's MSS.

No. 15. TENTH REPORT, APPENDIX VI.

Lord Braye's MSS.—John Browne, Clerk of the Long Parliament, having retained certain official documents, properly belonging to the archives of the House of Lords, these have remained in Lord Braye's collection.

No. 19. TOWNSHEND.

The Marquess Townshend.—The papers noticed in this Report were formerly at Raynham, but were sold in 1911. They consisted of the following:

1. Some correspondence of Sir Nathaniel Bacon, half-brother of the famous Lord Chancellor, and other

papers—*e.g.*, a series of college bills at Cambridge from 1605 to 1610; warrants of commitment to the Tower, 1675-1677; and a large collection of songs, lampoons, etc., of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

2. Despatches addressed to or concerning the second Viscount Townshend, during his embassy at The Hague, 1709-1711.

3. Despatches from Admiral Sir John Norris, in command of the Expedition to the Baltic in 1715.

4. Jacobite Papers, 1703-1727, especially of 1715, and later, when Viscount Townshend was Secretary of State.

5. Letters and accounts of Spencer Compton, afterwards Earl of Wilmington, when Treasurer to Prince George of Denmark, and later to the Prince of Wales, afterwards King George II.

6. Papers relating to the Tower of London, chiefly 1712-1715.

7. Private correspondence of Elizabeth, Countess of Northampton, 1713-1737.

8. Papers relating to American Plantations, 1700-1740.

9. Letters relating to the Canadian expedition under General Wolfe, whom George Townshend, afterwards fourth Viscount and first Marquess, accompanied as Brigadier-General, and to whom, after Wolfe's death, he succeeded in command.

10. Miscellaneous letters and papers of the eighteenth century, including some of the statesman Charles Townshend, and correspondence in 1752 between the third Lord Townshend and the Rev. Josiah Tucker, afterwards Dean of Gloucester.

No. 20. DARTMOUTH.

The Earl of Dartmouth.—A short account of the manuscripts in this collection is in the Appendix to the Second Report. This was subsequently enlarged into a detailed Report in three volumes.

Volume I., 1660-1800, includes, among other material—

1. Papers of the Restoration period, among them letters from Prince Rupert to Colonel William Legge, in 1661, when on a mission to Vienna, and of the Duke of Ormonde to the same, bearing upon Irish Government; two or three ships' journals, at the time of the naval engagements with the Dutch fleet in 1673, and other naval papers; letters from Jamaica; some papers illustrating the English occupation of Nieuport in Flanders in 1678; and letters from the Duke of York between 1679 and 1682, when banished from Court.

2. Materials for the history of the English possession of Tangier, part of the dowry brought to Charles II. by Catherine of Braganza.

3. Correspondence of the last three months of the year 1688, when Lord Dartmouth was placed in command of the English fleet sent out to intercept the Dutch under the Prince of Orange, an important contribution to the history of the time.

4. Papers of the second Earl of Dartmouth, Secretary for the Colonial Department from 1772 to 1775, rich in material for the history of the struggle for American independence.

Volume II.: American papers, 1676-1839, but chiefly between 1772 and 1775 subdivided into—(a) those relating to the original thirteen colonies and the War of Inde-

pendence; (b) those relating to the West India Islands; (c) those referring to the Colonies north of the United States: Canada, Labrador, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and the Island of St. John.

Volume III. is made up of papers supplementary to the previous volumes, which, with the exception of lists of armour in the Tower and elsewhere, begin at the Restoration. Subjects include—Irish affairs after the Restoration. Naval affairs, 1671-1673. Journals of Admiral Sir Edward Spragg. Destruction and abandonment of Tangier. Correspondence of second Lord Dartmouth — “the good Lord Dartmouth” — 1772 *et seq.*, illustrating the Evangelical Movement of the eighteenth century, with correspondence of Rev. John Newton, of Olney, friend of the poet Cowper, John Wesley, and others; affairs of India; letters of Alexander Macaulay to Viscount Lewisham afterwards third Lord Dartmouth.

Theatrical and similar schemes at the beginning of the nineteenth century, etc.

No. 23. COWPER.

Earl Cowper: The Coke MSS. at Melbourne Hall, Derbyshire (three volumes).—This is a vast collection of documents, the earlier portion of which was brought together by Sir John Coke, Secretary of State in the reign of Charles I. It contains many sixteenth-century letters addressed to Lord Burghley as Lord-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire; numerous papers on the state of the Navy in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I.; correspondence with Sir Fulke Greville, afterwards Lord Brooke; progresses of Charles I. in Scotland in 1633

and 1639; correspondence describing events of the Civil War, etc.

The later portion of the collection consists mainly, but not entirely, of the correspondence of Thomas Coke, Vice-Chamberlain during a period of twenty years to Queen Anne and George I., bearing upon public and private affairs, the subjects ranging between the campaigns in Flanders as seen from the point of view of officers serving therein, sport during William III.'s visits to the Loo in Gelderland, the doings of Court and Parliament, horse-racing, and election intrigues in Derbyshire and elsewhere.

No. 24. RUTLAND.

The Duke of Rutland (four volumes).—This collection has a large number of mediæval deeds.

The main interest of the Calendar begins with the correspondence of Henry Vernon of Haddon, a prudent courtier who found favour with Lancastrians and Yorkists in turn. There is a great deal of material for the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The second volume ends with an allusion to the death of the Marquess of Granby in October, 1770. The third volume covers a short period only of the reign of George III., 1771-1787, dealing fully with important affairs of state.

The fourth volume consists of three sections — (i.) Ancient charters, cartularies, etc. (ii.) Letters and papers supplementary to those noticed in the three previous volumes. (iii.) Books of household and other accounts, including one belonging to Sir Thomas Lovel, a prominent minister in the reign of Henry VII. These books illustrate local and family history, social customs,

the manner of living, food, drink, the history of prices, trade, amusements, costume, etc.

No. 29. PORTLAND.

The Duke of Portland, Volumes I. to VIII. — This collection has been treated in sections. The first volume calendars twenty-two manuscript volumes, the "Collections" of Dr. John Nalson and Dr. Philip Williams, papers of the seventeenth century, with many relative to the Civil War. Some of these had already been printed in Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa* and elsewhere.

Volume II. also contains papers chiefly of the seventeenth century, but these are preceded by some early charters and Royal letters. They are connected with the Vere, Penn, Holles, Cavendish, and Harley families. The Royal letters include documents of this sort from Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth, Mary, Queen of Scots, Catherine de Medici, Henry IV. of France, and James VI. of Scotland (James I. of England). There is a series of letters from King Charles II. to various persons whose names are written in cipher, sent over for delivery, but apparently never used. Of the Penn letters, many are additional to those printed in the *Memorials of Sir William Penn*.

This volume further contains a correspondence between John, Duke of Newcastle, and Robert Harley in 1704 and following years.

Volumes III. to VIII. deal with the "Harley papers" proper, concerning the history of the Harley family in the seventeenth century, and consisting of the correspondence of Robert Harley, afterwards Lord Treasurer and Earl of Oxford, of his father, grandfather,

and great-grandfather before him, and of the son who succeeded him.

Volume IV. begins the Harley correspondence, the main portion ranging in date between 1701 and end of 1711, just after Robert Harley's elevation to the peerage as Earl of Oxford and his appointment to the supreme office of Lord Treasurer. This volume reveals the intimate relations for public purposes which existed for many years between Harley and De Foe. Among the numerous correspondents are Bishop Atterbury, Godolphin, John Drummond, a Scotch merchant and banker, settled at Amsterdam, and Captain John Ogilvie, of the Airlie branch of that family, for many years a spy in Harley's employ.

Volume V. continues the Harley correspondence from 1711 to 1724, including the correspondence of De Foe, Drummond, etc., with, of course, additions from new correspondents.

Volume VI. completes this correspondence, from 1725 to 1740, and contains the index to this and the three previous volumes.

Volume VII. consists of letters of Dr. William Stratford, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, to Edward Harley, afterwards Lord Harley and second Earl of Oxford, between 1710 and 1729, containing much concerning Dean (afterwards Bishop) Atterbury, and the antagonism between the two. The volume has many references to the Lord Treasurer and to other members or connections of the Harley family.

Volume VIII., the last, so far, of the series, making Volume VI. of the distinct Harley papers, belongs chiefly to the period 1700 to February, 1708, when Robert Harley held successively the posts of Speaker of

the House of Commons and Secretary of State. It contains three principal groups of documents—viz., (i.) petitions and memorials sent to Harley himself as Speaker or as Secretary, and a considerable number addressed to the Queen or to Parliament; (ii.) documents relating to the Navy; and (iii.) papers on Scottish affairs, with several papers, of an earlier date, on English ecclesiastical matters, and others of a miscellaneous character.

No. 30. FORTESCUE.

The Fortescue, or Grenville, or Dropmore, MSS.—This series extends to eight volumes, but does not quite complete the calendar of the papers, which has been brought to a temporary stay both by reason of the war and the death of the learned editor, Mr. Walter Fitzpatrick, who has written some illuminating and instructive Introductions to the successive volumes, which the student should carefully read.

The collection occupies about three hundred small portfolios, arranged by the founder of Dropmore, Lord Grenville, after his retirement from public life.

The first volume covers the greater part of the eighteenth century down to 1790. It commences with the correspondence of Thomas Pitt, Governor of Madras for the East India Company, and founder of that branch of the family which produced two of England's greatest statesmen. In addition, there is in this volume the correspondence of Anne Pitt, Maid of Honour to Queen Caroline, possessing both literary and social interest of a high order, from 1734 to 1768; and the correspondence of William Wyndham Grenville, beginning with his official Life in 1782 and continuing to his elevation to the peerage at the close of 1790.

The remaining seven volumes deal with Lord Grenville's correspondence from 1791 to 1806. It is unnecessary to emphasise the extreme value of this series of volumes for the political history of England during the period.

No. 35. KENYON.

Lord Kenyon.—This collection begins with the seventeenth century, and contains material for a history of Lancashire, ecclesiastical, social, and political, besides much useful matter for the compilation of the personal history of many Lancashire families, especially those which had their origin in or around Liverpool, Manchester, and Wigan.

No. 38. FOURTEENTH REPORT, APPENDIX IX.

Earl of Buckinghamshire.—Correspondence, etc., of Robert Trevor, afterwards Viscount Hampden, during his embassy to The Hague, 1763-1746, where he succeeded Horatio Walpole.

No. 39. HODGKIN.

I. Eliot Hodgkin, Esq., of Richmond, Surrey.—Here will be found—

- (1) Pepys' correspondence, 1661-1701.
- (2) Correspondence of the Earl of Danby and Ralph Montagu when the latter was Ambassador in France in 1678.
- (3) Correspondence of the Duke of Ormonde after he succeeded Marlborough as Commander-in-Chief in the Low Countries early in 1712.
- (4) Papers relating to the Old and Young Pretenders and their adherents, and the Chevalier D'Eon.

(5) Collections relating to Charles I., the Civil Wars, and Charles II.

(6) Miscellaneous.

No. 41. FOLJAMBE.

F. J. Savile Foljambe, Esq.—This collection contains—

(1) "Book of Musters, 1588," including information from 1557.

(2) A collection of letters from James, Duke of York, to William, Prince of Orange, in 1678 and 1679.

(3) A number of miscellaneous letters and papers between 1636 and 1789, the main portion being the correspondence of Sir George Savile, of Rufford, for many of the earlier years of George III.'s reign the popular representative of Yorkshire and an esteemed member of the Whig party.

No. 42. CARLISLE.

Earl of Carlisle.—This collection consists of—

Some seventeenth-century correspondence.

Abundant materials for the history of the eighteenth century.

Descriptions of Parliamentary debates and proceedings in both Houses during the reign of George II.

Correspondence of Frederick Howard, fifth Earl of Carlisle, with diary on his way to America and during his residence there in negotiation with the Americans, also as Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

An extensive collection of letters from George Selwyn to the same Earl and his Countess, between 1767 and 1790, with others from Selwyn's intimate friends, Anthony Storer and James Hare.

No. 45. BUCCLEUCH.

Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry: MSS. at Montagu House, Volumes I. and II.—These volumes deal with the following collections :

(i.) *The Winwood Papers, 1599-1617*—the earlier portion relating partly to Sir Ralph Winwood's private affairs, but chiefly to his negotiations as Agent and Ambassador in France and in Holland ; the latter, consisting of his correspondence while Secretary of State, are to be regarded as State Papers pure and simple. Much of the correspondence had been already available in Sawyer's "Memorials," which, however, close before Winwood's appointment to the Secretaryship, so that all the papers subsequent to that date and many of the earlier period were here printed for the first time.

(ii.) *The Montagu Papers*—nine volumes of originals extending from 1483 to 1758, comprising the correspondence of the Montagu family of Broughton in the County of Northampton. There is little matter, however, before 1524. This section includes a long series of letters from William Montagu, son of Lord Montagu, from 1639 to 1682, mostly dated from the Temple, containing instructive comments on the stirring events of the period, and throwing much light on the inner life of a great family in those stirring times. He was Serjeant-at-Law and Chief Baron of the Exchequer from 1676 to 1686.

(iii.) *The Montagu-Arlington Letters*, an important contribution to the history of the negotiations between England and France during the decade 1668-1678.

(iv.) *The Holles MSS.* These include numerous commissions to this family in the seventeenth century.

Those of 1642 and 1644, if ever enrolled in the Patent Rolls of this year, are not now to be found, because those belonging to the period were all burnt before the surrender at Oxford, enhancing the value of these careful copies, while commissions and grants from Charles II. during the period of his exile were, of course, never enrolled.

Volume II. embraces the *Shrewsbury Papers*. Several of the more important series in this collection were edited by Archdeacon Coxe in 1821, and portions of one series, the Vernon Letters, by G. P. R. James in 1841; but these editors left entirely untouched many other interesting letters and papers. The correspondence of Charles Talbot, Earl and Duke of Shrewsbury, begins in 1673 when he was a boy of thirteen years of age, and continues up to and throughout his manhood, during the two periods when he was Secretary of State, and subsequently to 1706.

No. 49. SACKVILLE.

Mrs. Stopford-Sackville.—Part III. of the Appendix to the Ninth Report of the Commissioners is a Report upon manuscripts belonging to Mrs. Stopford-Sackville, chiefly composed of letters, reports, and other official documents from and to Lord George Sackville, the third son of Lionel, first Duke of Dorset. This Report, before ten years had elapsed, was "out of print." There has been a reissue of it, however, revised and enlarged, with new material, in two volumes, uniform with the 8vo. Reports. Appendix II. to the Ninth Report, where it is found, may therefore be regarded as negligible.

The first volume of the reissue contains those sections

of the papers which relate to the British Isles, the Continent of Europe, and India. They include papers relating to the Monmouth Insurrection, 1685-1686; letters of Mary, Princess of Orange, to Lady Mary Forester; family papers and letters, 1706-1799; home affairs, 1755-1784; letters from Lord George Sackville to General Irwin, 1761-1784; three important series for Ireland between 1731 and 1783; the War of the Austrian Succession, 1743-1748; Cherbourg and St. Malo, 1758; the Seven Years' War, letters of 1758 and 1759; Minden Papers, 1759-1760; letters from Richard Cumberland on Spanish affairs, 1778-1780; letters relating to Prince William Henry, Duke of Gloucester, 1777-1779; India, 1776-1784; Minorca, 1776-1782; and miscellaneous, 1683-1781.

Volume II. is devoted to Colonial affairs, and contains papers relating to the American War, 1775-1782; report by Lieutenant-Governor Henry Hamilton on his proceedings from November, 1776, to June, 1781; letters to and from Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin Thompson, afterwards Count Rumford, 1781-1785; papers relating to Canada and Nova Scotia, 1758-1780; and to the West Indies, 1777-1780.

No. 50. HEATHCOTE.

J. M. Heathcote, Esq.—This consists almost entirely of the correspondence of Sir Richard Fanshaw, Bart., Ambassador from Charles II. to the Courts of Portugal and Spain, mostly belonging to the years of his embassies, 1661-1666, and throws much light upon the relations of England with the Peninsula, and especially upon the history of the little English army there, sent

out under the Earl of Inchiquin, and afterwards commanded by Count Schonberg, as he spells his name. They are rendered additionally valuable by the fact that they form a complementary series to the Spanish, Portuguese, and Tangier correspondence at the Public Record Office and to Volume 7,010 of the Harley MSS. at the British Museum.

No. 51. POPHAM.

F. W. Leyborne-Popham, Esq.—The collection of manuscripts at Littlecote is in two distinct series, viz. :

(i.) Naval — Correspondence of Colonel Edward Popham, one of the three “Generals at Sea” for the Commonwealth.

(ii.) Clarke Papers—part of the great collection of Sir William Clarke and his son Dr. George Clarke, the bulk of which was bequeathed to Worcester College Library, Oxford, by the latter on his death in 1736. It consists of correspondence, 1648-1659, and two bulky documents—(1) a narrative of the Restoration, and (2) the autobiography of Dr. Clarke, containing an account of what happened after the landing of the Prince of Orange, also details of the Battle of the Boyne and the siege and surrender of Limerick. Clarke became secretary to Prince George of Denmark on Queen Anne’s accession.

No. 52. ASTLEY.

Mrs. Frankland Russell-Astley, of Chequers Court, Bucks.—This Report might almost be termed a new series of “Memorials of the House of Cromwell.” The contents fall into the following divisions :

1. Notebook of John, afterwards Sir John Croke,

M.P., Recorder of London, Speaker of the House of Commons, and finally Justice of the Common Pleas.

2. Papers of the closely allied families of Russell, Belasyse, and Frankland, 1657-1718. The interest of the early letters centres in the figure of Frances Cromwell, the Protector's youngest daughter, who married, first, Robert Rich; secondly, John (afterwards Sir John) Russell; and thirdly, in 1683, Thomas, eldest son of Sir William Frankland, of Thirkleby, co. York.

A letter of John Frankland, afterwards Dean of Gloucester, gives a description of the French Protestant refugees in Holland. There is also a long account of Italy and its religious houses, and under date 1718 are two letters from Lady Huntingdon.

3. The Cutts and Revett Papers, 1687-1708. The more important of Lord Cutts' papers begin in 1701, when he was sent as Brigadier-General with Marlborough into Flanders. During the following winter he acted as Commander-in-Chief. In June, 1703, begins a series of interesting news-letters from The Hague, by Guillaume de Lamberty, the compiler of the fourteen volumes of *Memoires pour servir à l'histoire du XVIII^{me} siècle*, and author of *Mémoires de la dernière révolution d'Angleterre*. Colonel Edmund Revett was ordered to Portugal in 1704. There is an account of the siege of Gibraltar. Among miscellaneous papers are two letters of Richard Steele.

4. Letters of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Russell, relative to the campaigns of 1742-1748, those of 1745—the year of Fontenoy—being, however, unfortunately missing.

No. 53. MONTAGU.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu.—The manuscripts in this collection originally formed part of the Buccleuch MSS. in Montagu House, and this Report may therefore be considered as an appendix to that on the Buccleuch Collection. They form, however, a small but complete collection in themselves—selections for (1) “Papers and Letters on Public Events”; (2) “Letters and Autographs”; and (3) “Papers on Scotch Affairs.” There is also a volume, not uniform with the rest, of “Orders, Passes, and Commissions,” mostly of the reign of Charles II. and James II., which also contains many miscellaneous documents, including a series of letters to the Earl of Leicester in Elizabeth’s reign. Such of the papers as are copies of speeches and other documents already in print or preserved among the State Papers have not been noticed in the Report. They include, however, a copy of the instructions to the Puritan clergy deputed to represent their party at the Hampton Court Conference, to which is added a list of those present, followed by a synopsis of the arguments; a list, made in 1607 or 1608, of the King’s officers and fees in the great Courts, the royal household, the castles and forts, and His Majesty’s houses, parks, and forests throughout the realm, together with a list of the nobility; a table of musters, the names of fugitives beyond the seas, and the number of churches in the shires of England and Wales. This document follows the lines of the great list of Queen Elizabeth’s reign, but differs from it and supplements it in various respects.

The main part of the collection consists of the corre-

spondence of the Montagu family during the latter half of the sixteenth and the first half of the seventeenth centuries.

In the Long Parliament three members of the house of Montagu had seats. All sent news to Lord Montagu, but his chief informants were his lawyer son William, afterwards Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and one John Dillingham, who combined the parts of family friend and family tailor. Most of William Montagu's letters are amongst the Buccleuch Papers, but Dillingham's lively accounts are here.

A number of foreign news-letters are included, and notably a long epistle from a gentleman attending Sir Henry Wotton in his embassy to the Emperor in 1620. The other news-letters were mostly written in 1638 and 1639, but two belong to 1643.

The post-Restoration papers are almost entirely military, and were probably part of the Albemarle Collection. They contain many royal notes and orders signed by Charles II. and James II., and give information concerning the newly formed army.

No. 55. VARIOUS COLLECTIONS, VOLUME II.

1. *Sir George Wombwell, Newburgh Priory, Yorkshire.*—This collection contains—

Papers of the family of Belasyse, Viscounts Fauconberg, with many of the allied family of Fairfax, and others. (*See also* p. 42.) A considerable number of early charters. Household Account books, 1571-1582. Letters and papers of Lord Fauconberg, husband of Mary Cromwell. Letters from Lawrence Sterne, author of *Tristram Shandy*. Account of England in the time of Cromwell's Protectorate, written by Henry Bellasis.

2. *Miss Buxton, of Shadwell Court.*—Letters con-

cerning Philip, Earl of Arundel, 1583-1585. Correspondence, 1640-1660. Correspondence and diary in France of John Buxton, 1680-1682.

3. *Lord Edmund Talbot*.—Early charters. Papers of Sir Gilbert Talbot, K.G., Deputy for the Government of Calais in the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII. Household books, 1544-1577. Papers of the French Secretary to the Council of Calais, Jean de Houplines, at the close of the fifteenth and beginning of the sixteenth centuries.

4. *Duke of Norfolk*.—Revenue Account Rolls of the College at Arundel, 1383-1541. Settlement in Maryland, 1633-1637. Early deeds—Westmoreland and Norfolk, etc.

5. *Mrs. Harford*.—Correspondence of the chief advisers of the young Charles II. during his exile with Sir Marmaduke, afterwards Lord Langdale.

6. *Mrs. Wentworth, of Woolley*.—Family papers, 1599-1789.

No. 55. VARIOUS COLLECTIONS, VOLUME III.

1. *T. B. Clarke-Thornhill, Esq.*—Correspondence and other papers of Sir Thomas Tresham, owner of Rushton in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, 1576-1605, discovered in 1828, when, in pulling down a very thick partition wall in the passage leading from the great hall, a large recess or closet in it was discovered, in which was deposited an enormous bundle containing the manuscripts and some theological books wrapped in a large sheet. Since the papers suddenly stop in November, 1605, it is supposed that they were walled up in the alarm following the Gunpowder Plot, and the arrest of Francis Tresham, eldest son of Sir Thomas.

The manuscripts contain a great deal of information concerning the families intimately connected with the conspiracy, and throw much light upon the views of the loyal Roman Catholic party in the reign of Elizabeth and at the accession of James I.

2. *Additional Papers of Sir T. Lennard-Barrett*.—Documents relating to the great Loftus cause, begun shortly after Sir Thomas Wentworth's appointment as Lord-Deputy of Ireland, and lasting thereafter for nearly half a century.

3. *Pelham R. Papillon, Esq.*—Holograph letters written to Sir Henry and Sir Walter Vane and Edmund Dunch, of Wittenham, by Charles I., the Queen of Bohemia, Oliver Cromwell, and William of Orange, afterwards William III. of England.

4. *W. Cleverley Alexander, Esq.*—Description of the ceremonies and festivities attending the creation of Prince Henry, eldest son of James I., as Prince of Wales.

No 55. VARIOUS COLLECTIONS, VOLUME IV.

iv. *Major Money-Kyrle*.—Collection comprises—

Early documents relating to parishes in Wiltshire. A few papers from Sir John Ernle, Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1679-1688, including several letters of Lord Lauderdale. A small parcel of familiar letters written by F. Grahme to John Kyrle Ernle, 1717-1724, chiefly from Liége and Bois-le-duc, ending with London and Kendal. A small parcel of letters from one William Roseingrave, Second Secretary to the Lords Justices of Ireland, 1761-1766, with one of 1772.

v. *F. H. T. Jervoise, Esq.*—Early charters concerning the priories of Wintney, Newstead, Mottesfont, Chicksand, and Selborne.

A series of documents relative to the right to examine and admit chaplains to the chapelry of Combe, 1365-1395.

Court Rolls of the Manor of Herriard, *temp.* Edward II. and III.

Papal Bulls, 1231-1267.

Miscellaneous papers, 1522-1650.

vi. *Manuscripts preserved at Glemham Hall, Suffolk.*—Deeds relating to property in the Manor of St. Briavel, in the Forest of Dean.

Warrants for decapitation of Lord William Russell.

Bristol rent-roll of the Carthusian monastery at Wytham, Somerset; etc.

x. *Charters, Early Conveyances, Court Rolls, etc., of the Earl of Leicester.*—Holkham Parish deeds, Henry III. to 1688; Harpley, Flitcham (fourteen of the time of King John), Sparham, Tittleshall, etc.

Information with regard to the Jewish bankers or money-lenders in East Anglia.

More than a hundred maps of parishes and manors, the earliest of date 1581.

xi. *Sir William Clayton, Bart.*—Deeds relating to places in Leicestershire, Surrey, Devon, Berks, Bucks, City of London, etc.

No. 55. VARIOUS COLLECTIONS, VOLUME VI.

1. *Miss M. Eyre-Matcham.*—This collection consists of a part of the correspondence, etc., of George Bubb Dodington, and includes interesting letters from Henry Fox, Lord Bute, Horace Mann, Lord Talbot, the Irish Chief Baron Wainwright, Lord Chancellor Bowes, James Thomson the poet, and others. The corre-

spondence begins before Bubb had taken the name of Dodington, while he was Minister at Madrid. In 1732 and 1733 there are several letters from Frederick, Prince of Wales, whose party Dodington joined, though there was a rupture in their relations for some years. This chapter in Dodington's history is brought to a close shortly before the death of the Prince in 1751. In November, 1756, he lost his place as Treasurer of the Navy. After George III.'s accession there is much correspondence between Lord Bute and Dodington.

The second section of this collection consists of letters on Irish affairs (1725-1762).

2. *Captain H. V. Knox*.—This collection consists for the most part of the official papers and correspondence of William Knox, born in Ireland in 1732, best known as Under-Secretary for the Colonial Department from 1770 to 1782, when the office was abolished. When twenty-four years of age he was appointed Provost-Marshal of Georgia, going out with the new Governor, Henry Ellis, in December, 1756. His narrative of his journey to, and proceedings in, Georgia is among the papers. In February, 1762, the Legislature of Georgia appointed him their agent in England, and he received the King's permission to return. From 1770 to 1782 there is official correspondence, etc., connected with Colonial affairs. In 1784, after the erection of the province of New Brunswick, Knox was appointed Agent, and in 1801 he was also appointed Agent for Prince Edward Island. Among his foremost friends and correspondents were William Henry Lyttelton, Governor successively of South Carolina and Jamaica (afterwards created Lord Westcote and Lord Lyttelton), and Henry Ellis, ex-Governor of Georgia, who after leaving America led

a wandering life, and from 1774 spent most of his time at Spa.

The second section of these papers relates to Ireland, the earliest writers being Sir Lucius O'Brien and Sir John Blaquiere, who in 1776-78 discussed matters of trade, etc.

Following the Irish papers are *Reminiscences*, *Political Anecdotes*, etc. A quarto copybook contains a number of personal sketches entitled "Curious Political Anecdotes."

Some miscellaneous papers, chiefly in relation to American affairs, are followed by letters, etc., on the subject of presents to the North American Indians.

3. *Cornwallis Wykeham-Martin, Esq.*—This is a selection of letters addressed to Admiral the Hon. Sir William Cornwallis, G.C.B., and the correspondence opens in April, 1761, when he was Lieutenant of *The Thunderer* under Capt. Proby, and continues till the first years of the nineteenth century. The Admiral, a favourite with the British sailors, was known among them as "Blue Billy" and "Billy-go-Light."

No. 55. VARIOUS COLLECTIONS, VOLUME VII.

Sir Hervey Bruce.—1. Private deeds, etc.

2. Miscellaneous letters and papers, 1558-1650, including some correspondence of Sir Gervase Clifton.

3. Correspondence of Sir Gervase Clifton, 1600-1642, and a few later papers.

x. *The Earl of Essex.*—1. Manorial documents and early deeds and papers chiefly relating to the various estates of the Capells in Hertfordshire, Essex, Norfolk, etc.

2. Miscellaneous documents, arranged chronologic-

ally, including an inventory of armour, etc., in the Castle of Pleshey, June, 1322; the Valor of Peterborough Monastery, 31 Henry VIII.; news-letter of Sir Richard Morrison, Ambassador to the Emperor Charles V. of Germany; papers relating to sequestration of Lord Capell's estates; and a list of Danish nobility, with territorial qualifications and employments, *circa* 1669.

H. C. Staunton, Esq.—1, Deeds, etc., relating to the Manor of Staunton, etc.

2. Civil War papers for Nottinghamshire.

3. Court Rolls of Manors of Husthwaite with Carlton, co. York; Staunton, Staunton Haverholme, and Kilvington, co. Nottingham; survey of meadows of Alverton in 1575.

xiii. *F. Merttens, Esq.*—Documents relating to the Manor and soke of Rothley in the County of Leicester.

No. 56. STUART.

The Stuart MSS. at Windsor Castle.—These consist of two sections acquired by King George IV. before his accession. The first was procured from the Abbé James Waters, the Procureur-Général of the English Benedictines at Rome, through Sir John Coxe Hippisley. Charles Edward had bequeathed most of his property and all his papers to his daughter by Miss Walkingshaw, whom he had legitimated and created Duchess of Albany. She directed the Abbé, as her executor, to deliver all the papers of the House of Stuart to her uncle, the Cardinal-Duke. Waters disregarded her wishes, retained the papers, and finally sold them to Hippisley.

The second section, consisting of the Cardinal-Duke's

own papers and remainder of the Stuart Papers, was discovered in a garret at the Palazzo Montserratato at Rome. After some adventures, these papers were presented to the Prince Regent, through the intervention of Cardinal Gonsalvi, the Papal Secretary of State, the discoverer being rewarded by the British Government.

The collection in its entirety is a very large one, consisting probably of over one hundred thousand letters and papers. They commence in 1579, but the bulk of the collection dates from 1685.

The published Calendar has been carried out in great detail, and in Volume V., the last volume published, it has been brought down to February, 1718.

See also *Pepys MSS. in Magdalene College, Cambridge*, p. 62 *infra*.

No. 58. BATH.

Marquess of Bath: MSS. at Longleat.—Volume I. consists of a fragment of the Portland Collection, transferred to Longleat, in consequence of intermarriage. The more important papers are described in the Third Report Appendix, pp. 193-194. It also contains:—Papers of Queen Anne's reign of capital importance for the inner political history of the time.

Correspondence relating to the expedition to Valencia, under the command of Lord Rivers.

Correspondence between Lord Oxford and the Duke of Marlborough, 1711.

Letters from the Duke of Shrewsbury, including those from Dublin, October, 1713, to March, 1714.

Letters of Arbuthnot on the publication of *Gulliver*, etc.

Volume II.—This deals with papers now ranking as

Volumes I. and II. of the Harley Papers at Longleat under the title of "Select Autograph Letters, etc., 1516, to the Middle of the Eighteenth Century." In the catalogue of the Longleat MSS. in the Fourth Report of the Commissioners they are those placed under the heading "Letters found in the Library," etc. They include miscellaneous letters, etc., connected with the chief personages of the realm from the reign of Henry VIII., and also a series of the correspondence and other papers of Colonel Gervase Holles, and also, running parallel with it, another series of holograph letters from Sir Edward Hyde, afterwards Earl of Clarendon, to his wife, written immediately before and during his embassy to Spain in 1649-1651. The Holles Papers consist chiefly of letters written to Colonel Gervase Holles during the exile. One of his correspondents was Sir George Radcliffe, who wrote from Paris, giving news from the French Court, and narrating the doings, hopes and fears of the exiled Cavaliers. The most noteworthy contribution to Restoration Literature is a series of letters from Henry Saville to his friend and boon companion, John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester, written in a very lively style and containing much entertaining matter.

Volume III. (1685-1721).—This contains the papers of Matthew Prior, not as man of letters, but as public servant and diplomatist, successively as Secretary to the Embassy and Minister *ad interim* at The Hague, 1693-1697; Secretary to the Embassy at the Congress of Ryswick, 1697; and, finally, Secretary to the Embassy and Minister *ad interim* at Paris, 1698-99. It contains also a "Journal of the Proceedings at Ryswick, 1697," drawn up under his personal super-

vision, which, with the subjoined memoirs and the relevant correspondence, furnishes material for a clear and consecutive narrative of the entire negotiation from the first overtures of the French to the ratification of the treaty.

No. 59. ROYAL INSTITUTION.

American MSS. in the Royal Institution (four volumes). — These are sometimes spoken of as the Carleton or Dorchester Papers, and are, briefly, the Headquarters Papers of the successive British Commanders-in-Chief in the American War of Independence, the larger portion concerning the later period of the war, more than one-half being dated in the years 1782 and 1783.

While the official correspondence of the Commander-in-Chief for the time being with the Secretary of State is also found in the Public Record Office, his instructions to his subordinate officers and their letters to him are not generally found elsewhere than in this collection, and afford many valuable and interesting details of the war. As the Southern Colonies remained longest in the British interest, the correspondence is largest with the commanding officers of the different posts there.

Several papers relate to the Island of St. John, afterwards Prince Edward Island. The colliery on Cape Breton Island is frequently mentioned in connection with the military stores at Halifax and New York.

A few papers relate to Bermuda and the Bahamas.

Amongst the papers are the Orderly Book of Sir William Howe at Boston and Halifax, 1775-1776; an Army List of the British, foreign, and provincial troops

serving under Clinton, printed at New York in 1779; a set of Coroner's Inquests in that city from April to November, 1783; daily reports of vessels entered and cleared from November, 1782, to November, 1793; lists of American prisoners; a book of negroes embarked at New York from April to November, 1783; and correspondence, accounts, and pay-warrants of the German troops.

Where it has been ascertained that any particular paper is also in the Public Record Office or in the Haldimand Collection in the British Museum, a precise reference to it is given.

No. 61. DU CANE.

Lady Du Cane.—Papers preserved in the family of Grimston of Grimston Garth, and afterwards of Kilnwick in the East Riding of Yorkshire, chiefly those of Vice-Admiral Medley (1703-1756), who entered the Navy in 1703.

Among them is a bundle of French correspondence of M. de Caylus, a Knight of Malta and a Captain in the French Navy, Governor of Martinique in 1745, found in the *Vainqueur*, captured in 1746.

No. 62. LOTHIAN.

The Marquess of Lothian: MSS. at Blickling Hall.—These consist of—

1. Ancient deeds and documents.
2. Hobart Papers, documents beginning with the first connection of the Hobart family with the property. Among them a volume of Lieutenantcy Journals, 1675-1689.
3. Buckinghamshire Papers belonging to the time of

John Hobart, second Earl of Buckinghamshire (1723-1793), relating, first, to the period of his embassy to St. Petersburg (1762-1765); second, to the American Colonies; third, to his Viceroyalty of Ireland, 1777-1781. They also include letters from Lord Buckinghamshire to Henrietta, Countess of Suffolk (the Lady Suffolk of Pope), Swift, and Walpole, and Sir Henry Clinton's letters to Lord Buckinghamshire.

No. 63. EGMONT.

Earl of Egmont. — The Appendix to the Seventh Report, p. 232 *et seq.*, contains a list of the volumes, etc., in this extensive collection of manuscripts, which includes a mass of materials collected for the history of the Percival family (used in *A Genealogical History of the House of Yvery*, published in 1742); the original entry-book of the Court of Castle Chamber in Ireland, 1573-1620; a series, in about fifty folio volumes, of original letters and papers from the beginning of the reign of Charles I. to the closing decade of that of George II.; nine volumes of news-letters, 1720-1733; and twelve volumes of an original diary of the first Earl of Egmont.

Two volumes of a detailed Report upon the original papers have since been published, Volume I. carrying the family correspondence down to the Restoration of Charles II., and Volume II. to the end of the reign of Anne. The diary is in course of publication (held up during the war), and the first volume, for the period 1730-1733, containing a full account of proceedings and debates in the House of Commons, will appear in the near future, to be followed by other volumes completing the diary in due course.

No. 64. VERULAM.

The Earl of Verulam: MSS. at Gorhambury.—This collection chiefly consists of correspondence belonging to the latter half of the seventeenth century and to the eighteenth century.

Also of some early documents connected with an embassy to the King of France and the Duchess of Burgundy on which Edward Grimston was sent in 1449; and an account of the incidents of the confinement of Sir Edward Grimston, Controllor of Calais, at the time of its loss, who was taken prisoner and finally incarcerated in the Bastille at Paris.

Papers of the Bacon family connected with the St. Albans election, trade with Italy, the Company of Merchants Adventurers, Baronets, the Spanish Match, proceedings against the Five Members, etc.

Papers of Sir Harbottle Grimston, Master of the Rolls, concerning the public archives, etc.

Letters from Lord Clarendon, 1666.

Other Grimston papers.

Travels in the Low Countries, North of England, and Wales.

No. 66. ANCASTER.

Earl of Ancaster.—This collection includes—

Correspondence of Peregrine, “the stout” Lord Willoughby of the Low Countries, son of Richard Bertie and the Duchess of Suffolk, of the reign of Elizabeth down to 1601, and of his son Robert, first Earl of Lindsey.

Some eighteenth-century letters from the elder William Pitt, Princess Elizabeth, daughter of George III., George, Prince of Wales, etc.

Ancient books and deeds of the Abbeys of Kirkstead, Vaudey, and Newhouse.

Inventories of various sorts, household effects, church plate, tapestry, etc.

Mediæval treatises, a *numerales* and *speculum penitentis* of William of Leicester, called de Montibus, Chancellor of Lincoln; a fragment of the obituary of the Premonstratensian Abbey of Newhouse, etc.

Musters, *temp.* Henry VIII.

No. 67. POLWARTH.

Lord Polwarth. Volume I. (1711-1718).—This volume contains a portion preserved at Mertoun House, in Berwickshire, of the Marchmont MSS., from Marchmont House, noticed in a previous Report (*Fourteenth Report, Appendix III., pp. 56-173*). Some of the papers at Mertoun House were published in 1831 by the Rt. Hon. Sir George H. Rose, in a work entitled *The Marchmont Papers*. The remainder form the subject of the first volume under consideration, to be continued in future volumes. Volume I., with the exception of a few pages at the beginning, deals only with the diplomatic correspondence of Alexander, Lord Polwarth, as Plenipotentiary at the Court of the King of Denmark between the years 1716 and 1725. It is very extensive, consisting of a large collection of original letters and papers, as well as of thirteen volumes of entry-books of letters emanating from Lord Polwarth. In addition to the main subject of proceedings and events connected with his mission, the letters are full of references to events taking place during their period both at home and in other European countries.

No. 68. EARL OF DENBIGH: MSS. AT NEWNHAM PADDOX.

This collection comprises—

Credentials of the first Earl when on his travels in the East; a portion of his accounts as Master of the Royal Wardrobe, etc.

Four volumes of letters, chiefly addressed to Basil, second Earl, when he was Ambassador in Italy, from 1634 to 1638, and afterwards during the Civil War; three other volumes containing despatches to and from Lord Feilding during his embassy in Italy; and an equal number of unbound letters, principally consisting of drafts of Lord Feilding's despatches from Italy, and of letters from agents who kept him *au courant* with what was passing at the different Italian Courts.

A series of letters, many in Dutch, relating to the Revolution of 1688, with a narrative of the Prince of Orange's voyage to Torbay and his progress thence to St. James's.

A quarto volume of letters, 1744-1775.

Letters addressed to the Countess of Denbigh by Lord Bolingbroke, the second Lady Bolingbroke, and others.

A large folio of transcripts of correspondence from 1776 to 1800 between the Earl of Denbigh and statesmen of the time.

Miscellaneous papers.

The collection is in the first instance the subject of four short notices in the Appendices to the Fourth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Reports of the Commissioners.

That to the *Fourth Report* (p. 254) deals with the

two volumes of family letters and two volumes of Civil War letters of the second Earl.

That to the *Sixth Report* (p. 277) with despatches to Lord Feilding at Venice, 1635-1638, and to him in England from Venice, 1639-1655.

The *Seventh Report, Appendix, pp. 196-232*, gives lengthy extracts from so-called news-letters of 1686 and 1691-1693, and from miscellaneous papers between 1624 and 1748.

The *Eighth Report, Appendix (Reissue, Part I., Section III., pp. 552-572)* has letters from 1631 to 1693, and news-letters, 1686-1693, with some letters to Isabella, Countess of Denbigh, 1737-1751.

DENBIGH, V.

Subsequent to the preparation of the foregoing Reports, many more papers were brought to light, and these, with a more detailed Report upon the correspondence of Isabella, Countess of Denbigh, wife of William, the fifth Earl, are comprised in a separate volume, known as *Denbigh, Volume V.*

The main bulk of the earlier section of this part consists of the correspondence of Basil, Lord Feilding (afterwards second Earl of Denbigh), during his embassies to Venice and Turin, 1634-1639.

Among letters written to Lord Feilding are about a dozen from Dr. William Harvey, the physician, who in 1636 accompanied Lord Arundel on his mission to the Imperial Court.

There are a few letters connected with the Civil War additional to those in the earlier Reports.

Certain so-called "news-letters" noticed in the Appendix to the Seventh Report, on further examina-

tion, turn out to be private and confidential letters with a certain amount of cipher, from Sieur John Blancard, Provost-Marshal-General in Jamaica from October, 1690.

The correspondence of Isabella de Yonge, wife of the fifth Earl, extends from 1735 to 1753. She and Lord Denbigh lived for a considerable time in France and moved in diplomatic and literary circles.

The long series of letters from Marie, Marquise de Villette, second wife of Lord Bolingbroke, begins in the autumn of 1735 and continues till her death in 1750.

A series of letters from "Billy" Bristow, half-brother of the Duchess of Buckingham, gives an interesting picture of Italy in 1736.

Other contents are letters of Hester Grenville, afterwards Lady Chatham; Lady Townshend; Lady Denbigh's correspondents in France; Basil, sixth Earl of Denbigh; and Lord Temple.

No. 69. MIDDLETON.

Lord Middleton.—The principal part of the collection consists of an enormous number of mediæval and later deeds, charters, Court Rolls, manorial accounts, etc., relating to thirty counties.

The founder of the family was Ralph Bugge, a Nottingham merchant of the reign of John, whose descendants took up the territorial names of Bingham and Willoughby from their Nottinghamshire possessions. Marriages with the De Greys, Frevilles of Tamworth, De Morteins, and others, brought into the family muniments portions of the records of the great feudal houses of the De Greys of Codnor and elsewhere, De Montfort of Beldesert, Zouch, Marmion, Filiol,

Leburn, Harley, Malreward, Bracebridge, and others. The head of the family at the end of the fifteenth century, Sir Henry Willoughby, made a Knight Banneret on the field of Stoke in 1487, and filling the post of Knight of the Body to Henry VIII., was in close contact with the Court at an interesting period of English history, and was engaged in many military expeditions.

An almost unique document to be found in the collection is a written agreement in English, *circa* 1425, by villagers for the regulation of the cultivation of the common fields, to which the consent of the lords of the manors is added in Latin.

The great traffic in indulgences on the eve of the Reformation has left its mark on this collection in the number of letters of fraternity with religious houses, some of which confer sweeping indulgences.

Numerous papers throw considerable light on the early coal-mining industry, and of the sister-industry of the working and forging of ironstone.

Among contributions to palæography is an eighth-century uncial copy of the Latin Vulgate, possibly representing one of the three oldest manuscript books that are known to have been written in England. Another interesting manuscript is represented by the fragments of the Worcester Chartulary, drawn up about the year 1000, the oldest English Chartulary of which we have any trace.

Of more strictly historical interest is the Register of Thomas Field, Abbot of Burton-on-Trent from 1472 to 1493.

Of volumes of exclusively literary interest, the most noteworthy is an early thirteenth-century manuscript

of French romances and *fabliaux*, several unpublished, written in the Picard dialect, introducing a new figure, that of Master Heldris de Cornevalle, into the gallery of the poets of the Arthurian cycle.

The household accounts include one of Henry, Lord Grey of Codnor, in 1304-05; the remainder relate to the sixteenth century. They have yielded a rich crop of obsolete terms.

There are only a few specimens of private letters.

No. 70. PEPYS.

Pepys MSS. at Magdalene College, Cambridge (1485-1649).—These originally belonged to John Evelyn, and came into his possession through his wife Mary, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Richard Brown, Clerk of the Council to Charles I., sent as Ambassador to Paris in 1641, where he remained till the Restoration.

The collection contains papers connected with Lord Robert Dudley, the death of Amy Robsart, the Earl of Leicester, Mary, Queen of Scots; letters from France of Elizabeth's reign; letters relating to Ireland beginning in February, 1563-64; advices from Italy; trade with Flanders and Holland; sanitation of London; etc.

The Stuart Papers include a schedule of four hundred and one letters taken at Worcester abstracted by a clerk, and a "Breviat" of seventy-nine letters brought from Jersey and reported to the Council of State in April, 1651.

Papers referring to Virginia, the Carribo Islands, and the First Plantation of New England.

A letter of Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I., one of two known to exist.

Keys to ciphers of the reign of Charles I.

No. 71. FINCH.

Allen George Finch, Esq., Volume I. (1537-1669).—This is one of the Reports published after the compilation of the *Guide, Part I.*, and therefore not referred to in the topographical index. The collection, as a whole, consists of—

1. Miscellaneous letters of the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries.

2. The correspondence of Heneage, Earl of Winchilsea, during his embassy to the Porte, 1660-1668.

3. Letters and papers of Sir John Finch, who followed his cousin as Ambassador to Turkey.

4. Letters and papers of Sir Heneage Finch, afterwards Earl of Nottingham, and his family.

5. The correspondence, etc., of Daniel Finch, second Earl of Nottingham, during his tenure of the office of Secretary of State, 1688-1693.

6. Eighteenth-century letters and papers.

Volume I., the only part hitherto published, comprises the first and second sections of the above.

MEDIÆVAL DEEDS, ETC.

Mediæval deeds and other documents prior to the sixteenth century are noticed in many Reports, and are abundant in ecclesiastical, municipal, and collegiate collections. Of private collections, the following is a partial list of those which furnish historical and topographical material of the kind :

Fifth Report, Appendix:

Duke of Sutherland, p. 141 et seq.

Sir Edmund Lechmere, p. 299 et seq.—Taxation Roll for the County of Worcester,

temp. Edward I., and deeds of twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries relating to the Priory of Worcester.

R. Cholmondeley, Esq., p. 335 et seq.—The Abbey of Kingswood, co. Wilts.

J. R. Pine Coffin, Esq., p. 370.

Miss Griffith, p. 413 et seq.

Seventh Report, Appendix:

Verney Papers, p. 433.

G. A. Lowndes, p. 537.

Rev. T. W. Webb, p. 681.

Eighth Report:

Part I.: Duke of Marlborough.

Part II.: Duke of Manchester.

Ninth Report, Appendix, Part II.—H. C. Pole-Gell, Esq.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.:

Captain I. F. Bagot.—Earliest records of Westmorland.

Cartulary of Abbey of Haughmond, etc.

J. Lechmere Parkinson.—Salop, Hereford, and Montgomery.

E. Lloyd Gatacre.—Shropshire.

G. F. Luttrell.—Dunster Castle.

Rev. T. S. Hill.—Cartulary of Blythburgh.

Lord Stafford.

Rev. C. R. Manning.—Sibton Abbey, co. Suffolk; College and Chantry of St. Mary of Mossingham; etc.

Eleventh Report, Appendix VII.:

Marchioness of Waterford.—Cistercian Convent of Stixwold in Lincolnshire, etc.

Mr. Augustus W. Savile.—Cartulary of Rufford Abbey.

Bridgewater Trust.—Buildwas Abbey in Shropshire, etc.

Inner Temple.—Hoveden's Chronicle; Higden's *Polychronicon*; French Chronicle of Brut; etc.

Twelfth Report, Appendix IX.:

Mr. J. H. Gurney.—Twelfth-century manuscript of English Laws; earliest known copy of treaty of 1153 between King Stephen and Duke Henry.

Thirteenth Report, Appendix IV.:

E. R. Woodhouse.—From temp. Henry III. for Norfolk and Suffolk.

Earl of Carlisle.—Cartulary of Newminster Abbey.

Fifteenth Report, Appendix X.:

Earl of Radnor.—“*Registrum Hungerfordanum*,” containing copies of deeds from reign of John to that of Edward IV., etc.

Sir W. O. Corbet, Bart.—Early charters of Haughmond Abbey, etc.

Portland, Volume II.

Various Collections, Volume II.:

Sir George Wombwell.

Lord Edmund Talbot.

Duke of Norfolk.

Rutland, Volume IV.—Twelfth century and later, relating to Benedictine Priory at Belvoir, Derbyshire, estates and miscellaneous.

Lothian.—Including those relating to the religious houses of Langley and Horsham St. Faith.

Ancaster.—Books and deeds of the Abbeys of Kirkstead, Vaudey, and Newhouse.

Various Collections, Volume IV.:

iv. *Major Money-Kyle*.—Relating to parishes in Wiltshire.

v. *F. H. T. Jervoise, Esq.*

vi. *Manuscripts at Glemham Hall, Suffolk.*

x. *Earl of Leicester.*

xi. *Sir William Clayton.*

Middleton.—Fragments of the Worcester Chartulary, A.D. 1000, and of an early eighth-century uncial copy of the Latin Vulgate, etc.

Various Collections, Volume VII.:

viii. *The Duke of Norfolk.*

ix. *Sir Hervey Bruce.*

x. *The Earl of Essex.*

xi. *Colonel Frewen.*

xii. *H. C. Staunton, Esq.*

xiii. *F. Merttens, Esq.*

THE CIVIL WAR.

Papers bearing upon the history of the Civil War are to be found in the following Reports, among others:

Rutland, Volumes I. and II.

Portland, Volume I.

Volume III. : Correspondence of Brilliana, Lady Harley, including those during defence of Brampton Castle against the King's forces in 1643.

Buckleuch, Volume I. (section of the Montagu papers).

Popham.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.:

1. *Earl of Westmorland.*
2. *Captain Stewart's MSS. at Alltyrodin.*

Tenth Report, Appendix VI.:

Lord Bray's MSS. — Secret correspondence between Queen Henrietta Maria and Charles I.; Battle of Worcester; etc.

P. Pleydell Bouverie, Esq.

Cowper MSS.

Eleventh Report, Appendix VII.:

Mr. Francis Darwin, of Creskeld.

Mr. H. Styleman Le Strange.

Thirteenth Report, Appendix IV. — *Captain Loder Symonds.*

Fourteenth Report, Appendix IX. — *James Round.*

Fifteenth Report, Appendix VII.:

Duke of Somerset.

Sir F. G. Puleston, Bart.

Fifteenth Report, Appendix X. — *Earl of Radnor. Hodgkin.*

Bath. — Defence of Brampton Castle by Lady Brilliana Harley, etc.

Various Collections, Volume II. — *Miss Buxton, of Shadwell Court.*

Pepys MSS.

Denbigh V.

Various Collections, Volume VII. — *H. C. Staunton, Esq., Nottinghamshire.*

THE NAVY.

Contributions to British naval history, some of them of great interest and importance, appear in the following Reports—namely :

Third Report, p. 146: *Marquis of Lansdowne*.—For 1753-1780.

Fourth Report, p. 282: *Earl de La Warr*.—1591-1623.

Fifth Report, p. 136: *Duke of Sutherland*.—Correspondence of Vice-Admiral Sir Richard Leveson, 1598-1605.

Ninth Report, Appendix, Part II., p. 397: *H. C. Pole-Gell*.—Charge and state of the Navy, 1664-1666, and 1675.

Tenth Report of Commissioners, p. 14.—Manuscript volume of Mr. J. W. C. Vidler, of Rye (Dec., 1684).

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Cowper.—Containing numerous papers illustrating this subject for the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., by Thomas Coke, Vice-Chamberlain, when he was appointed a Commissioner to inquire into the abuses of the state of the Navy in 1619.

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Portland, Volume VIII.—1694-1706, with an account of Earl Torrington's court-martial, 1690.

Foljambe.—*Temp.* Elizabeth, 1587, the Spanish Armada.

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Fifteenth Report, Appendix VII.: *Duke of Somerset.*—Expedition under Sir George Rooke.

Various Collections, Volume VI.:

I. *Miss Eyre Matcham.*

III. *Cornwallis-Wykeham-Martin.* — Correspondence of Admiral Sir William Cornwallis, 1761, *et seq.*

Du Cane.—Papers of Vice-Admiral Medley, 1703-1756.

Polwarth, Volume I.—Operations of Admiral Sir George Byng against the Spanish fleet in 1717.

CONSPIRACIES AND PLOTS.

Papers bearing upon this subject are to be found in Reports as below :

Babington Conspiracy, 1586 :

Fifteenth Report, Appendix VII.: Duke of Somerset.

Gunpowder Plot, 1605 :

Third Report, Appendix, p. 281: Phelips MSS.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.: Earl of Westmorland.

Various Collections, Volume III.: J. B. Clarke-Mornhill, Esq.

The Popish Plot : Titus Oates, 1678 :

Third Report, Appendix, p. 281: Phelips MSS.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.: Sir N. W. Throckmorton.

Twelfth Report, Appendix IX.: R. W. Ketton, Esq.

Thirteenth Report, Appendix VI.: Sir W. Fitzherbert.

Various Collections, Volume II.: Sir George Wombwell.

Monmouth Rebellion, 1685:

Fifth Report, Appendix, p. 327: Rev. H. T. Ellacombe.

Seventh Report, Appendix, p. 533: G. E. Frere, Esq.

Sackville,

JACOBITE PAPERS.

For these the following Reports should be consulted:

Eighth Report, Appendix I., p. 313, b (Second Section): A. C. Stuart, Esq.—1745-46.

Tenth Report, Appendix I.: Manuscripts of C. F. Weston-Underwood, Esq.—Scottish invasion of 1745.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.:

C. F. Weston-Underwood.—Revolt of 1745-46.

Capt. J. F. Bagot's Manuscripts.

George Browne, Esq., of Troutbeck.—1715 Rebellion.

Lord Muncaster, 1745.—Duke of Perth's Army; march through Lancaster and Kendal.

Tenth Report, Appendix VI.: B. R. T. Balfour, Esq.—James II.

Townshend.—1703-1727, especially 1715 and later.

Eleventh Report, Appendix VII.: Mr. Augustus W. Savile.—1715.

Le Fleming.—1715 and 1745.

Thirteenth Report, Appendix VI.: Sir W. Fitzherbert.—1745.

Fourteenth Report, Appendix IX.:

Earl of Buckinghamshire.—1744-1746.

J. J. Hare.

Kenyon (Fourteenth Report, Appendix IV.).—1715 and 1745.

Hodgkin.

Various Collections, Volume VIII.: *Hon. F. L. Wood.*—1745. An almost continuous narrative of events from the eve of Prestonpans to the morrow of Culloden.

Stuart.

Polwarth, Volume I.—1715.

TRAVELS.

For diaries and journals of travel, see the following Reports—viz.:

Sixth Report, Appendix, p. 396.—Journal of an expedition from London to Northumberland and Scotland, 1727, by John Strachey.

Eighth Report, Part I.: *Earl of Jersey.*—Diary of a Tour from England to Germany via Holland, June, 1697.

Portland, Volume II.—Journey of Thomas Baskerville in the Eastern and Midland Counties, *temp.* Charles II.

Portland, Volume VI. (Volume IV. of "Harley Papers").—The second Lord Oxford's travels about England and Scotland in company with his Chaplain Thomas and other friends.

Buccleuch, Volume II.—On November 1, 1700, the Duke of Shrewsbury set out on his travels, and was absent from England for more than five years. In his

journal he gives accounts of all the numerous people he met with and of all the places he visited, with many curious anecdotes, with observations on all sorts of topics. His route, with lengthened stays at intervals, led him first to France, where he "saluted" Louis XIV. at Versailles, then to Switzerland, and then to Italy. He arrived at Rome on November 20, 1701, and here abode for nearly three years and a half. Affairs and events at Rome are recorded at great length. In April, 1705, he went to Venice, and in July of the same year to Augsburg, where Countess Adelaide joined him; and was there married to him. His return to England now took place, by way of Frankfort, the Hague, and the Brill, reaching English soil at Deptford in January, 1706.

Tenth Report, Appendix IV.:

Earl of Westmorland.—1. William Mildmay in Italy, 1720.

2. Journals of Maria, wife of John, third Earl of Clarendon, travelling with him in France, Italy, Switzerland, and Austria, in 1791 and in 1802-03.

Lord Muncaster.—Jerusalem pilgrims, fifteenth century.

Twelfth Report, Appendix IX.: Mr. R. W. Ketton.—Abroad, 1741; Ireland, 1772; Norway and Denmark, 1773.

Thirteenth Report, Appendix IV.: E. R. Woodhouse.—Warwickshire, etc., 1745-46; France, 1750.

Lonsdale.—Lowlands of Scotland to Edinburgh.

Fifteenth Report, Appendix X.: P. E. Tillard.—India, 1699-1705.

Various Collections, Volume II.: Miss Buxton, of Shadwell Court.—Correspondence and Diary, France, 1680-1682.

Verulam.—1. Three weeks' observations of the Low Countries, especially Holland, by Sir Harbottle Grimston.

2. A Northern tour—in 1768, containing details of great houses and their contents, Chatsworth, etc.

3. Description of Wales.

Ancaster.—Lord Willoughby and his companion in France, 1647-1649.

Denbigh, V.—Italy in 1736; Pézénas in Languedoc, Bordeaux, and Paris, 1751-52.

SCOTLAND, IRELAND, AND WALES.

Reports on collections preserved within and connected with these divisions of the United Kingdom have been omitted from the preceding survey because the index in the topographical part of the *Guide*, described on p. 12 *supra*, identifies and classifies them in a manner sufficiently helpful for historical students, to which, therefore, they may be referred. Among the Reports on Welsh Manuscripts attention must, however, be called to the "Catalogues of Manuscripts in the Welsh Language," Volume I. (in three parts), and Volume II. (in four parts), which are of a purely literary character, and refer to manuscripts of the kind formerly at Mostyn Hall and Peniarth*; at Jesus College, Oxford, the Free Library at Cardiff, the British Museum, and elsewhere. These Reports differ essentially in regard to the matters

* These manuscripts are now preserved at the National Library at Aberystwyth.

dealt with from the other Reports of Inspectors employed by the Commissioners.

As regards Scotland, the "Laing MSS.," Volume I., and as regards Ireland, "Ormonde," Volume VII., could not be included in the index references in the *Guide*, having been published subsequently to its compilation. Brief surveys of their contents, however, are given on pp. ix and viii of that work respectively.

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