

spected for their sterling characters, benevolent in disposition, promoters of good order and charitable benefices. Before the Reformation they were of course Catholics, friends of the bishops, and stewards of Cathedrals. But at the Reformation all three of the branches took a prominent part in the national movement. And both before and after that time it was common for the younger sons to enter the Church, becoming rectors or vicars.

As already intimated, they were great friends of learning, promoting the cause of education. One of the Sir Christophers of Norfolk furnished a part of the endowment of Caius (pronounced *Kays*) College, at Cambridge; and the Classical Grammar School, established by John Haydon of Cadhay, at Ottery Saint-Mary, in the reign of Henry VIII, is running on his foundation to-day. They were generally advocates of advanced views, liberal beyond their time, though conservatives of everything to them seeming good. They appear with marks of honorable distinction in the graduating lists of both the great universities, Oxford and Cambridge; and produced a number of authors, whose works cover a variety of subjects, but among which that of theology predominates.

Their next favorite occupation appears to have been the law. Like the Norfolk line, the Devonshire branch also was headed by a judge. And they figure largely as magistrates of different grades, sheriffs of counties, benchers, barristers, the administrators of wills, and the legal managers of estates.

Nor do they appear to have lost at any time their taste for the valiant exploits of knighthood. They almost always had conspicuous representatives in the army. We read of them as being engaged in various foreign expeditions, where they were sometimes knighted for distinguished gallantry in the field.

For most of their time they stood well with the sovereigns, being loyal and conservative in their dispositions. Consequently they were trusted by the monarchs, and were much in office. In the Wars of the Roses they became staunch adherents of the House of Lancaster; hence during the reigns of Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, James I, and Charles I, they were in favor at Court, and took sides with the latter monarch against the Parliament. In consequence of