

stroke, which were in the tenure of John Banister, and were purchased of Francis Levet, gent., of North Willingham, Lincs. This seemed a distinct clue, but the registers of North Willingham contain no Levet entries. Francis Levet, undoubtedly the son of Ralph of Grainsby, was rector of Little Carlton, Lincs, from 1662 to 1711. This was a Hutchinson and Thorndike parish. (REGISTER, vol. 51, pp. 120 *et seq.*) The transcripts of Great and Little Carlton have been searched, and from 1662 to 1710 those for Little Carlton are signed "Fran: Levet, rector." They show that "Francis Levett, Clerke, and Elizabeth Marris" were married 10 Dec. 1662. Their children were:

- i. ELIZABETH, bapt. at Great Carlton 15 Dec. 1668.
- ii. ANNE, bapt. at Little Carlton 11 Aug. 1667.
- iii. RALPH, bapt. at Little Carlton 18 Feb. 1669; bur. 10 May 1674.
- iv. MARY, bapt. at Little Carlton 9 Mar. 1670/1; m. at Great Carlton 22 Feb. 1698/4 RICHARD OGLE.
- v. THOMAS, bapt. at Little Carlton 1 May 1673; bur. 5 May 1678.
- vi. RICHARD, bapt. at Little Carlton 14 Feb. 1673/4; bur. 16 Feb. 1678/4

On 18 Feb. 1673/4 Elizabeth, wife of Francis Levet, was buried; and 3 July 1711 "Mr. Francis Levett, Rectr," was buried. The will of Francis Levet is filed at Lincoln (vol. for 1711, fo. 60), and in it he leaves bequests to his three sons-in-law, Michael Johnson, William Eldinor, and John Harrison, and to his Johnson and Eldinor grandchildren. The will is sealed with the arms of the Melton Levetts.

A few scattered notes exist of other Lincolnshire Levets. The will of Robert Levitt of Lincoln in 1565 gives nothing of value, unless the bequest to Isabella Symkinson connects this Levitt with the Doncaster Simpkinsons. James Levit was ordained deacon by Thomas Cooper, Bishop of Lincoln, in 1588. At Foston and Allington in southern Lincolnshire was a family of Lovetts, which can be traced for a generation or two, but this gives no apparent clue.

William Wentworth of Exeter came from Lincolnshire, but was descended from the Yorkshire line. Near their ancestral home lived a Yorkshire family of Levetts, belonging to the lesser landed gentry, seated at Normanton for some generations, and acquiring in the fifteenth century a fair estate, though not the manor, at High Melton. These Normanton and Melton Levetts intermarried with the Wentworths. Their pedigree* appeared in the Visitation of Yorkshire of 1612, and is printed in Hunter's Deanery of Doncaster. It has been amplified by a descendant, Mr. Milner-Gibson-Cullum, in 3 *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, vol. 1,† and is in part as follows:

* It would seem possible to construct a pedigree of the Normanton and Melton Levetts extending two centuries farther back than the pedigree printed herein. Thus we find in 1249 a Hamond de Lyvet. In 1272-1307 lived a Nicholas de Lyvet, who held from John de Vesci the manor of Hooton, later Hooton-Levet, as well as fees in Wickersley and Fickburn; he is mentioned in Kirkby's Quest. In 1327 we find a William Levet of Hooton-Levet, who married Constantia, daughter of Roger de Wickersley and granddaughter of Richard fitz Turgis, who with John de Busli founded the Cistercian Abbey of Roche. In 1377 John Levet, son and heir of William Levet, sold to Richard Barry of London all his ancestral rights in Roche Abbey. In 1392 lived William Levet of Tylse, who was a feoffee of Thomas de Barley. In 1420 William Levet and Elizabeth his wife lived in Hooton-Levet. These Levets sold Hooton-Levet to the Cliffords, and perhaps removed to Normanton, where we find a William Levet, who was admitted in 1447 to be a tenant of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem. He it is who heads the pedigree of the Normanton and Melton Levetts.

† Many records also of this family, including (in a somewhat different form) some, but not all, of the abstracts given below on pp. 8-9, have been communicated to the same volume by Mr. Milner-Gibson-Cullum.