

at this place longer than any one family of note at any other place in this county."\* But we cannot say with them that "there is no regular pedigree or succession of the Machell family."†

The index to the Machell muniments ranges from 1154, or say 1179, to the present time; and the late Rev. R. Machell, the late Mr. T. Machell, the late Mr. G. Poulson, and the Rev. Canon Machell, have helped the good work of transcription, collation, arrangement, and cataloguing begun two centuries ago by the "father of all Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquaries,"‡ the Rev. T. Machell, of Kirkby Thore. Although every link in the chain of descent previous to the year 1485 be not made perfect, to pass by minuter difficulties from which no important pedigree were ever free, yet to the genealogist who deems his pursuit as exciting as fox hunting, revels over a great aunt's will mentioning everybody, and who never enjoys fresh air better than while copying country churchyard inscriptions, the Machell family papers may safely be declared to be invaluable.§

\* N. & B. i. 344.

† *Ib.*

‡ R. S. Ferguson, (*Transactions*, part i. vol. iv. p. 1).

§ The Machells of London, spring from Kirkby Kendal. (See Appendix chart. 2.) and possibly from Crackenthorpe. The Machells of Lancashire have a traditional connection with Crackenthorpe, but we read in Domesday, "In Lonesdale et Cockerha hbr Vif and Machel, 11, & cars ad gland." orig. f. 332. The survey did not extend regularly into Westmorland. The Antiquary contends for a descent from the Roman Catuli. His argument is briefly:—Whelp Castle is hard by Crackenthorpe, Ulf and Whelp (Catulus) are synonymous, the Machell and Whelpdale arms are similar, Malus Catulus and Mauchael appear indiscriminately in the deeds, and Kirkby Thore was a Roman station. The evidence seems inconclusive.

N.B. Poulson in his printed sheet pedigree makes the descent of Machell run, Ulf, Halth, Umfridus, Willielmus, Willielmus, Galfridus and Alexander; and makes the vice-chancellor son of the first William; gives two Johns in succession after Alexander, which would seem incorrect, and Marjory, whom I put to Alexander, he assigns to the first John, the deeds, however, not lending support to this. He also makes the Sheriff of London (chart. 2), son of Hugh Machell and sister of Mrs. Elionora Machell, which is against the visitation books. No doubt the early descent above Alexander presents difficulties that may never be solved so as to give a connected pedigree like Poulson's, which for lack of positive evidence merely follows the family Antiquary's conjectures.