

repaire to our cities of London and Westminster, and there to reside for the space of six weeks from the date hereof and then to return into Westmorland aforesaid, any of our proclamations to the contrary notwithstanding." Lancelot Machell was first mayor of Appleby after the restoration. "Oliver Cromwell," writes the antiquary, "to make himself more absolute, granted a charter to this antient corporation, which was rather imposed than accepted of, yet they preserved the old one to the last. When the first gentleman, whose name even now I am unwilling to mention (*viz*: his father Lancelot),* after his many refusals in Oliver's time accepted office on the king's return, he would not handle the staff of authority nor suffer the oath to be administered unto him till he had sent for Oliver's charter, and in the face of the open court cutt it all into pieces with his own proper hands and then looking about him he espied some taylors and cast it to them, saying it should never be a measure unto him."† The corporation books show that the Machells have figured as mayors of Appleby‡ from 22 Rich. II. On 2 Feb. 1656, Lancelot became one of the trustees of the estate at Temple Sowerby purchased by the Dowager Countess of Pembroke, Dorset, and Montgomery, for keeping her family's monuments in repair.§ Lancelot was much in favour with the countess who had a particular respect for the Machell family, "who for upwards of 500 years as she herself affirmed, had served in the retinue of her family," "howbeit," we are further told, "she was wont to say that she had reluctance to employ a Machell in her service, they were over high blood".¶ Lancelot's brother Henry was her steward and gentleman of the horse, and

* Not his brother Hugh, as stated by N. & B. I. 316, note.

† *Ib.*

‡ See Appendix for list of Mayors.

§ And see N. & B. I. 327.

¶ Common Place Book.