

to whom his father gave a virgate of land, and of whom little or no further evidence is forthcoming and John his heir and successor, together with a daughter Idonea, who had become the wife of his next neighbor Sir Hugh de Wrottesley Knight, who died about 1276, and by whom she was ancestress of the present Lord Wrottesley.

John de Perton, noticed in 1230, as heir to the estates of Perton and Trescote, did not, however have livery of his estates until September 26th 1241. By the king's writ of that date, in which he accepts the homage of John the son of Ralph de Perton, for a fine of five marks, the Sheriff is ordered to give him seizin of his lands, after taking security for the payment of the above fine. It is curious to notice what apparently small sums were unable to be paid down in those days, for we have already seen that the father Ralph had to pay the trifling amount of two marks in installments. Shortly after his succession to the Manor, we find this John de Perton involved in an important litigation with Ralph Bassett, Baron of Drayton Bassett, and lord of the neighboring Manors of Patteshull and Pattingham, respecting common of pasture for their respective tenants, and there is a highly interesting deed now preserved at Wrottesley, dated 32 of Henry the third (1248), by which John de Perton compromised this dispute with his neighbor. It had been, and was still usual at this period, before common lands were enclosed, for contiguous manors to have mutual interchange of common rights, and this had been the case between Perton and Pattingham, where at that time there was much uncultivated waste land. John de Perton had brought an 'Assize of novel disseizin' against Ralph lord Bassett, respecting common of pasture in Pattingham, appurtenant to his free tenement in Perton. This probably arose from Bassett having, in accordance with the growing custom of the time fenced in some portions of the common land, within his Manor of Pattingham, in response to the increasing demand on all sides for more cultivated land, wherewith to feed the rapidly increasing population. The dispute however was eventually settled, as was very usual in those days, in a manner probably highly satisfactory to both litigants, but very much to the prejudice of the unfortunate tenants of both Manors. It was agreed that Ralph Bassett should hold in peace all arable lands and meadows approved, (that is, enclosed) and reduced to cultivation, within the territory of Pattingham, up to the date of this convention, and John de Perton, in the same way, shall approve (enclose) as much lands within the territory of Perton, without hindrance from Sir Ralph Bassett, and Ralph shall have power to close his wood of Passetcliffe, between the feasts of saint Michael and saint Martin, which was the time of pannage, when the swine fattened for Yuletide killing, by feeding on the mast of trees, such as acorns, beechnuts, chestnuts, &c., so that the swine agisted in the wood of Harewood, in Perton, should not be able to enter it. And if the cattle and swine of John, or of his men, should enter through defect of the enclosure, they shall be delivered up without loss or damage. Ralph and his men to have common of pasture in all the land of John (to be newly approved,) after the corn and hay had been gathered, as they used to have before the approvment, excepting within the wood of Harewood, where they shall not have right of common, between the feasts of saint Michael and saint Martin; and for this convention Sir Ralph retracted his writ of right against Roger de Marefort, and Robert de Wodewell, and John withdrew his writ of *novel disseizin*. This convention was made at Lichfield, 12th February 1248, before Roger de Turkebi, and the other king's justices itinerant there. The witnesses being Sir Robert de Gredon; Sir Nicholas Meverel; Sir Nicholas