

tenuit hñius ⁊ quietius p̄ illud seruitiū inñ faciendo Monachis Dunhelmie q̄d ipse Vdard^s eis inñ faciebat. p̄sentibus testib^s. Willo nepo^s reg. ⁊ Mad^o Comit. ⁊ Dunc^o Coñi. ⁊ Hugone de Morviff. ⁊ Wal^o fit alañ. Ap. Traucoir.

Collating these two, Mr. Round showed us that Udard, the son of Liulf and grandson of Edulf, was also Udard the Sheriff, and went on to point out that Udard was the same person as Odard, Sheriff of the Northumbrians, and that from Odard descended a family which, from their long hereditary connection with the Shrievalty, adopted as a surname the title le Visconte or Viscount.

Hodgson has called Odard "the first Sheriff under the Crown on record," but in this he is surely wrong, for we find Liulf, his father, addressed as "Vicecomes" in two charters (Raine DCCXXIX and DCCXXXV, 2nd), and the date of this last cannot be later than 1118, in which year Queen Matilda, who grants the charter, died. We can date him earlier than this also, for, to refer now to Raine's Charter IV, King Edgar's charter of Swinton, he appears in this, first as a former owner of the lands "Swintun sic Liulf habuit," secondly as a witness to its transfer as Ligulf de Bebbanburch. Now Bebbanburch or Bamborough was the official seat of government in Northumbria, the old Earls were of Northumbria or Bamborough, the Vicecomes the same, and Liulf must then have been Sheriff; while the date of the charter cannot be later than 1107, in which year Edgar died, and was most probably 1098, the year in which he refounded the Priory of Coldingham.

One thing we must remember throughout, that in the times of which we treat the Tweed was no certain boundary line. The Scottish Kings claimed Northumberland, and David, before he came to the throne, and his son Henry, in later years, held sway south of the present Border. In 1139, Henry was definitely appointed Earl of Northumberland, and its Barons did him homage. He held Bamborough, and all the land was held under him (*vide* Hodgson, part i., page 248). For some time during the first half of the twelfth century the Sheriff of Northumberland was at least as closely connected with the Scottish as with the English Court, and not only does Liulf appear with King Edgar, but Odard with King David, and Adam, Odard's second son, with Earl Henry.

In the new *History of Northumberland* (vol. ii., page 10 and onward), Mr. Bateson has followed Mr. Round in exploring the le Visconte pedigree as carried on by John, Odard's third son, but, though the Swinton charters are made use of, we find no mention of the family primarily interested in them, who take their name from the Swinton lands, some small portion of which they have continued to hold from that day to this. The reason is obvious, for though a descent has always been claimed by them from Edulf through Hernulf, there was nothing but tradition and old pedigrees to go upon, and up to the other day no contemporary evidence beyond Charters XII and XIII had been discovered to show any certain relationship between Hernulf and Odard.

In the *Athenæum* of June 9th, 1894, one anonymous critic went so far as definitely to deny that such relationship ever existed, for in an