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COLLECTIONS

RELATING TO THE

Family ♣ of ♣ Trotman.

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THE surname of Trotman is one which has been long characteristic of Gloucestershire. Its origin and significance are still unascertained, for though Smyth, of Nibley, in his Hundred of Berkeley traces the family back to Richard Trotman living in the time of Edward II., he gives no authority for the assertion, nor any clue as to the residence of the earlier generations of the family. We know, however, that Elias Trotman was a feoffee of the Church-house at Dursley in 1495, and it is said that Josceline, Bishop of Bath and Wells, 1206-42, was surnamed Trotman. The Trotmans apparently came into prominence in the first half of the sixteenth century, and owed their position, like many other Gloucestershire families, to the manufacture of cloth. Cam was the village with which they were chiefly connected, and the name is still to be found there. From the Trotmans, of Cam, it seems indeed probable that most existing families of the name have descended.

IN the "Description of the Hundred of Berkeley," by John Smyth, of Nibley, lately for the first time published under the auspices of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, are numerous references to the family. As they are scattered, it will be a convenience to collect them together, and they will form a suitable introduction to the abstracts of original documents which will follow.

Came. "Heere also is another ancient messuage and two yard land called Nasse Court, the inheritance of John Trotman, comonly called of the knapp, according to the situacon of the said messuage; which John Trotman is sonne of Nicholas