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THE SAUNDERSON FAMILY

OF

LITTLE ADDINGTON

J. Sanderson-Edough-





Saunderson of Little Addington.



Saunderson Earl of Castleton.

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Saunderson **F**amily

OF LITTLE ADDINGTON.

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The Saunderson Family

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THIS ancient Northamptonshire family, seated for over three centuries at Little Addington Mansion and at Moulton Manor House, disappeared from the county at the death of Thomas Saunderson, vicar of Little Addington, in 1855. It seems within the special province of "N. N. & Q." to put on record some account of a family so long settled within the county. The Northamptonshire branch is one of several ancient lines descended from Robert de Bedic, of Bedic, co. Durham, living in the 11th century, whose descendant in the sixth generation, Alexander de Bedic, living in 1333, was the last to retain the territorial description, as his son was the first to use the patronymic, by which the family has since been known, of Sanderson, or Saunderson, *i. e.*, son of Alexander. It is a collateral branch of the Saundersons, viscounts Castleton, and of the family of the great bishop of Lincoln, Robert Saunderson: it has also, by later inter-marriages, been reconnected with both these lines.

The best known branches of the family are five in number:— (*a*) that of Hedleyhope, and Brancepeth, co. Durham; (*b*) that of Saxby, co. Lincoln; (*c*) that of Blyth and Serlby, co. Notts.; (*d*) that of Little Addington and Moulton, co. Northants; and (*e*) that of Coombe, co. Kent. The second of the Saxby branch (his father Robert having purchased the estate of Saxby), Nicholas Sanderson, M.P. for Gainsborough, and subsequently for Lincoln, was created baronet in 1612, and viscount Castleton, of Beaufree in Ireland, in 1628; and his descendant James, sixth viscount Castleton, was raised to the English peerage as baron Saunderson, of Saxby, co. Linc., in 1714, viscount Castleton of Sandbeck, co. York, in 1716, and earl of Castleton in 1720. All his honours became extinct at his death in 1723, and his estates passed to his cousin, Thomas Lumley, third earl of Scarborough, who assumed thereupon the additional surname of Saunderson by act of parliament, in conformity with the earl of Castleton's will.

Soon after 1600 the ancient spelling of the name was altered by several members of the different branches to Saunderson, and this has mostly been adopted since, though the last bearer of the name in Little Addington reverted to the ancient spelling: and in the 17th century, on tombstones and in registers, the name for some time is spelt indifferently in either way: and even in the MS. Harl. this is also the case. Robert Saunderson, bishop of Lincoln, was of the

Blyth branch. The Coombe branch, for several generations, distinguished itself by service in the navy, and one member, sir William Sanderson, was gentleman usher of the black rod, and was created a baronet, but his title expired with the death of his son in his 16th year, in 1760.

The original arms borne by the family are thus described:—Paly of six argent and azure, over all a bend sable; crest, a talbot dog passant proper. These arms continued to be used without change by the Blyth and Coombe branches. But the others adopted some slight modification. The viscounts Castleton charged the bend with three annulets or, and used for crest the talbot ermine, with a talbot and griffin for supporters. Henry Saunderson, of Hedleyhope, constable of the king's castle, Brancepeth, in 1603 obtained as an augmentation a sword upon the bend. And the Little Addington and Moulton branch charged the bend with three quatre-foils or, this augmentation being authorised by the following grant:—"Having received testimony from Mr. Samuel Saunderson, of the Bishopric of Durham, that John Saunderson, of Addington Parva in the county of Northampton, is a younger branch descended out of his family, I doe assign unto him the arms of that family, distinguished by quatrefoyles upon the Bend, as they be here depicted. In witness thereof I have herewith set my hand, the 7th April 1629. Richard St George Clarenceaux King of Arms." (Visitation of Northamptonshire, MS. Harl. Brit. Mus.)

Of Hedleyhope Co Durham.

These mottoes have been in use: Sans Dieu rien; Je suis veillant a plaire; and, Opera mundi. Engravings of two of these coats of arms accompany this article.

The earlier portion of the pedigree has been printed in more than one work, and is easily accessible. (See Wotton's *English Baronets*, 1727; Nicholls' *British Compendium, or Descents of the Nobility and Peerage*, 1721; Burke's *Extinct Baronetage*, his *Extinct Peerage*, and his *General Armoury*, 1840; Raine's *Parish of Blyth*, 1860; Thoroton's *Nottinghamshire*, 1797; Surtees' *Durham*, &c. There is also much information in the MS. Harl. Brit. Mus.) The family has been allied by marriage with many ancient and noble names. Thus we find members of the families of Lumley (earl of Scarborough) in two instances, Lambton (earl of Durham), Loudoun (earl of Loudoun), Gage (viscount Gage), Hilton (baron de Hilton), Seton (earl of Winton and Eglinton), Manners (duke of Rutland), Bellasis (viscount Fauconberg), Wray (baronet), Spring (baronet), Staveley of Stanhope, Chaytor (baronet), Montagu (duke of Manchester), Liddell (baron of Ravensworth), Sandys (baron of Ombersley), Blakiston (baronet), Dutton-Colt (baronet of Colt-hall), and many others. The direct ancestor of the Northamptonshire line was Lawrence Saunderson, lord of the manor of Tempsford, co. Beds., 10th in descent from Alexander de Bedic above-named. He purchased the estate of Little Addington, as well as the advowson of the living, in the middle of the 16th

century. The Moulton estate was acquired a little later. His elder son John, of Little Addington, married Cicely Gage, of Raunds, by whom he had, with other issue, John, who succeeded him (an elaborate monument to whom, dated 1672, remains in the church), and Lawrence, probably the vicar who resigned in 1646. This John was followed by his son Theophilus, who died 1683, æt. 52, and his widow, Mary, died in 1712, aged 74. Their two sons, John and Theophilus, both died without issue, the former in 1687, aged 23, the latter in 1676. Their sister Elizabeth married in 1692, her kinsman (a scion of the family of the viscounts Castleton), Anthony Saunderson of Thorpe Achurch, and died in her 27th year in 1694. A large monument to this lady ("morum suavitate et pietate non fictâ consummata") also remains in Little Addington church. Anthony died in 1737, having had a second family. By his first wife he had one son, John, born 1693, who married Mary Little. She died a widow in 1778, aged 67. Besides five daughters they had three sons:—John, born 1730, died unmarried 1805; Anthony his twin brother, who married Sarah Moore of Barnwell (she died 1766) and was buried in 1780, leaving an only daughter, Martha; and William, born 1738, who died in 1813. Thomas, only son of this youngest son, ultimately inherited the property; he was also vicar, and was the last of his name in the county, dying unmarried in 1855. His cousin Martha, daughter of Anthony, married Henry Etough, rector of Lowick and Islip, co. Northants.

Son of
 Saunderson
 of Little Addington
 died in
 the church
 1737
 buried in
 the Little
 Addington
 church

(son of Richard Etough, a younger son, who held the same preferments), and had, besides five daughters who died without issue, two sons, Richard Saunderson Etough, D.D., born 1783, died 1853; and Henry Saunderson Etough, commander royal navy, who died without issue in 1854. * Rev. Dr. Etough married Anna Awdry Olivier (she died 1860) and had two sons and seven daughters. The sons, Henry Saunderson Etough and Daniel Olivier Etough, have no male issue: the latter died leaving two daughters, Gertrude Hall (married to Robert Attye, her cousin), and Eleanor Sophia (married to Henry Eyre Jeston). Of the Rev. Dr. Etough's seven daughters four are deceased, one of whom, Georgiana Awdry, was married to Henry Lloyd, vicar of Cholsey and Moulsoford, co. Berks. She left three sons Henry Olivier Lloyd, late major royal Welsh fusiliers, the Rev. Arthur Thomas Lloyd, canon and vicar of Newcastle, and the Rev. Frederick Charles Lloyd. *Rector of Bredford. Devon*

*
*now Bishop
 of Hereford
 1874
 Bishop of
 Newcastle
 1903*

The Rev. Dr. Etough, his mother Martha Saunderson being an heiress, quartered the Etough and Saunderson arms; and his children, in compliance with the wish of their grandmother, have assumed her maiden name of Saunderson in addition to and before Etough; they are also the last of the old family and name of Etough.

There are many monuments and brasses to members of the family in Little Addington and Moulton churches, some of them with coats of arms. Three arches in Moulton church had formerly shields of arms impaling the Saunderson coat, but these are now

Belong to the Little Addington estate, but dying in 1853, his eldest son Henry inherited the heavily mortgaged estate at Thomas Saunderson's death in 1855. One unnamed sister Miss Saunderson - Etough survived - 1900 June

covered with stucco. Most of the dates above given are authenticated by these memorials, or by the registers of the parishes. In Bridges' and Baker's histories of Northants. most of the inscriptions are given at length. The old Mansion House at Little Addington was pulled down by the last Saunderson owner, having fallen into great dis-repair. The flooring was purchased by the late duke of Buccleuch and removed to Boughton.

The particulars of the above account have been supplied by Miss Elizabeth Saunderson Etough, granddaughter of the above-named Martha Saunderson, to whom our readers are indebted for the plate of arms which illustrates this notice.

There is another point of connection between this family and Northamptonshire. Samuel Saunderson (quoted p. 5 as testifying to his relationship to the Little Addington branch) was son of Henry, of Hedleyhope, co. Durham, (to whom had been granted the augmentation of a sword upon the bend in the coat of arms in 1603,* and who quartered his arms with those of Eleanor Chaytor, his mother,) by Mary, daughter of Thomas Lawrence. This Samuel married Barbara Liddell, of Ravensworth castle, (daughter of Thomas Liddell, ancestor of the present earl of Ravensworth,) and was buried at Lanchester, co. Durham, in 1650. One of his sons, Henry, married

* See *Dugdale's Visitations of Durham*, 1686, in Herald's College.

Anne, daughter and co-heiress of John Wyrley, of Dodford manor, co. Northants. Their only daughter, Dorothy, married William Dutton Colt, of Colt hall, co. Suff. On the monumental stone in Lanchester church (near Hedleyhope) to the memory of Samuel Saunderson is an elaborately carved shield with the Saunderson coat (with the sword) impaling Liddell: and one of the shields on the Wyrley monument in Dodford church has three coats in pale: (1) Saunderson (with the sword), (2) Wyrley, (3) Benson. This was the coat of Anne Wyrley above-named, who, after the death of Henry Saunderson her first husband, married Richard Benson of Charwelton, co. Northants.



It is to be noted that by the marriage of Anthony Saunderson, of Hope Church, Northants, and of Serlby Hall Norths, with Elizabeth Saunderson, his kinswoman, possessor of Little Caddington manor & estate, the Dickhill, Blyth & Serlby branch of the Saunderson stock, merged into the Little Caddington branch of Saunderson, their son John succeeding to the Little Caddington estate.

at the restoration of Moulton church 1885, when many monumental slabs with much effaced Saunderson Arms and Epitaphs were removed, one in perfect preservation with Saunderson Arms & Epitaph, was removed from the floor in North aisle, & placed on North wall, with a brass tablet under it, with the following inscription.

During the restoration of this church A.D. 1885 this "monumental slab," for its better preservation, was removed from the floor, where it covered a vault near this spot, & was placed here, & this tablet erected, in memory of the ancient family of Saunderson, by their Descendant
Elizabeth Saunderson Stough.

Also to record the existence in other parts of this church, of other monumental slabs and memorials, with much effaced Saunderson Arms & Epitaphs.

see Baker's History of Northamptonshire -



