

Henry was Blanche (aged 14 at the death of her father,) who became the consort of John of Gant, afterwards duke of Lancaster.

HENRY  
DUKE  
OF  
LAN-  
CASTER.

The duke made his will in his castle at Leicester on the 15th March 1360-1;<sup>1</sup> and, dying of the pestilence on the 24th of the same month, was interred in the collegiate church of the Newarke in that town, on the north side of the high altar, in pursuance of the directions of his will.<sup>2</sup>

He occupied, in St. George's chapel, the second stall on the Sovereign's side, next to that of the royal founder.

ARMS.

The arms of England, differenced by "a label of three points azure, each charged with three fleurs de lis, or."

IV.

THOMAS BEAUCHAMP, THIRD EARL OF  
WARWICK,

*One of the Founders.*

THIS eminent person, the son of Guy earl of Warwick, by Alice, sister and heir of Robert lord Tony baron of Flamsted, passed an active life in the service of his country; having been, from an early period of it, constantly intrusted with high and confidential employments. His father dying in 1315,<sup>3</sup> when the subject of this memoir was in his infancy, the custody and tuition of his person were first committed to the king's favourite, Hugh le Despenser; but, upon the accession of Edward III, Warwick castle and his other extensive possessions were granted to Roger lord Mortimer, afterwards earl of March, until he should attain his majority.<sup>4</sup> Before that event, however, he was armed by the king; and, as a

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<sup>1</sup> Islip, 122; Lambeth lib. The will was proved at Leicester, 3 kal. April 1361, and, in London, 7 ides of May following.

<sup>2</sup> See an interesting account of the Newarke, &c. with memoirs of

the house of Lancaster, by John Stockdale Hardy, Esq. registrar of the archdeaonry of Leicester, 1836.

<sup>3</sup> Esc. 9 Ed. 2, No. 71.

<sup>4</sup> Rot. Fin. 1 Ed. 3, m. 23.

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special favour, admitted to the livery of his lands.<sup>1</sup> The earl of March having, in 1337, received a grant of the benefit of his marriage,<sup>2</sup> bestowed on him his eldest daughter, the lady Katherine Mortimer, having first obtained a papal dispensation on account of the consanguinity of the parties in the third and fourth degrees.<sup>3</sup> In 1342 he was in the retinue of Henry earl of Lancaster on the march of the army into Scotland for the establishment of Balliol;<sup>4</sup> and, in the following year, was constituted marshal of England;<sup>5</sup> having, about the same time, the distinguished honour of being numbered, together with his younger brother sir John de Beauchamp, amongst the founders of this most noble Order. In 1346 he attended the king on his expedition into France; and it is recorded of him that, upon landing at La Hogue, he gave immediate proof of his valour by attacking, with only one esquire and six archers, a body of one hundred Normans; and, after slaying sixty of them, made way for the disembarkation of the English host.<sup>6</sup> Earl Thomas was one of the chief commanders who, under Edward prince of Wales, led the van at Cressy.<sup>7</sup> In 1347 he was at the siege of Calais with a considerable retinue.<sup>8</sup> At the battle of Poitiers, in 1356, he added greatly to his fame, and acquired other advantages; for he obtained 8,000*l.* as the ransom for William de Melleun, archbishop of Seinz, whom he had made prisoner in that memorable conflict.<sup>9</sup> His heroic spirit induced him, during the truce with France in 1362, to seek renown in the crusade against the Lithuanians, to which he devoted three years; and, at his return, brought with him the son of their sovereign, whom he caused to be baptized in London, and, as his sponsor, gave him the name of Thomas.<sup>10</sup> In 1366 he was despatched by the king into Flanders upon special service;<sup>11</sup> and, in the same year, had a renewal of the grant of the office of marshal.<sup>12</sup> King Edward having, in consequence of an infraction of the treaty

<sup>1</sup> Claus. 3 Ed. 3, m. 35.—Jan. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Pat. 12 Ed. 3, p. 2, dorso, m. 11.

<sup>3</sup> Rot. Romæ, 12 Ed. 3, m. 8.

<sup>4</sup> Wals. p. 150.

<sup>5</sup> Pat. 18 Ed. 3, p. 1, m. 18.

<sup>6</sup> Ypod. Neustr. p. 118, No. 30.

<sup>7</sup> Knyghton, MS. fo. 145<sup>a</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> Bibl. Cotton. Tib. E 9, fo. 233.

<sup>9</sup> Pat. 37 Ed. 3, p. 1.

<sup>10</sup> Rous. MS. Hist. p. 253.

<sup>11</sup> Claus. 40 Ed. 3, n. 4.

<sup>12</sup> Pat. 40 Ed. 3, p. 2, m. 16.

with France, sent, in 1368, into that kingdom John duke of Lancaster and Humphrey Bohun earl of Hereford, with an army, which lay encamped near Calais until, from a scarcity of provisions, many had died by famine and pestilence, the earl of Warwick, hearing that the French army had manifested a disposition to give battle, hastened at the head of a chosen band to the coast of the enemy, who, thus surprised, fled with precipitation. Upon disembarking, he expressed himself indignant at the delay which had occurred in the attack, saying, "*I will go on and fight before the English bread we have eaten be digested*;"<sup>1</sup> and thereupon entered and wasted the isle of Caux. But, on his return towards Calais, he fell sick of the pestilence, and died on the 13th November 1369, "leaving not behind him his equal in warlike qualities and fidelity to the king and kingdom."<sup>2</sup> His body was conveyed to England, and interred in the collegiate church at Warwick, where a splendid tomb, with the effigies of himself and countess, is still extant to their memory. Previously to his departure upon his last and fatal expedition, he made his will, dated at Chelsea, 6th Sept. 1369.<sup>3</sup> By Katherine, his countess, he had seven sons and nine daughters. The sons were—1. Guy, who died before him, leaving three daughters;<sup>4</sup> 2. Thomas, who succeeded him as earl of Warwick, and became also a Knight of the Garter;<sup>5</sup> 3. Reynburn, who died without issue male;<sup>6</sup> 4. William, baron of Bergavenny, and K.G.;<sup>7</sup> 5. Roger, who died without issue 29 Edward III; 6. John; and 7. Jerome. The two last died probably young, as they are not mentioned in any of the entails.

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## ARMS.

Gules, a fess between six cross crosslets or.

<sup>1</sup> Wals. p. 178, Nos. 30 and 40.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> See a full recital of it in Dugdale's *Antiq. of Warwick*, 1st ed. p. 317, and also an engraving of the tomb.

<sup>4</sup> By Philippa daughter of Henry lord Ferrers of Groby, viz. Elizabeth, Katherine, and Margaret. The two latter were nuns at Shouldham. Of the eldest, though living

ten years after her father's death, nothing further is known.

<sup>5</sup> See No. LIV, where the representation will be stated.

<sup>6</sup> He left an only daughter, Eleanor, who married John Knight of Hanslap, com. Bucks, represented by the family of Foster of that place.

<sup>7</sup> See No. LXI.