

and, in the same year, again in the wars of France, in the retinue of the earl of Huntingdon.¹

In 1353 he was steward of the king's household; and, in 1355, once more engaged in the king's service in France.² After which time there is no further mention of him until his death, which happened on the 1st September 1359.³

He married, first, Katherine, daughter and coheir of Bryan Fitzalan, of Bedale; and, secondly, Amicia, daughter of John and sister and coheir of Robert de Marmion. His grandson (descended from the first marriage), Robert lord Grey de Rotherfeld, died in 1387-8, leaving Joan, his sole daughter and heir, wife of John lord D'Eyncourt. She had two daughters, her heirs,—Alice, wife of William lord Lovel; and Margaret, who married Ralph lord Cromwell. The former only left issue: and the heirs general of this Knight of the Garter are Miles-Thomas Stapleton lord Beaumont, as representing Joan wife of sir Bryan Stapleton; and Montague Bertie earl of Abingdon, representative of Fridiswide, wife of sir Edward Norreys; which ladies Stapleton and Norreys were the grandchildren and coheirs general of the said Alice lady Lovel.

JOHN
LORD
GREY.

ARMS.

Barry of six Argent and Azure, differenced by a bend Gules.

XVI.

SIR RICHARD FITZ SIMON.

One of the Founders.

Of this knight, who was the original occupant of the eighth stall on the prince's side, the public records have preserved few memorials. He appears to have possessed the manor of

SIR
RICHARD
FITZ
SIMON.

¹ Rot. Franc. 21 Ed. 3, p. 1, m. 11.

² Rot. Franc. 29 Ed. 3, m. 4.

³ Esc. 33 Ed. 3, No. 38. His estates lying in different counties, there are as many returns to the writ. In one, the date of the death is found to have been on 25th

August, in another on 1st October; but the major part give it on 1st September; and, as he died at his seat of Rotherfield Greys, the return for Oxfordshire may be presumed to be, in this particular, correct.

SIR
RICHARD
FITZ
SIMON.

Symond's Hide, in Hertfordshire; and genealogists describe him as the son of sir Hugh, grandson of sir John Fitz Simon, and great-grandson of Simon Fitz Adam, proprietor of the same estate in 1239.¹ The only mention of him previously to the foundation of the Order occurs in 1338, when he was on the king's service under the command of sir Reginald Cobham;² but, in the year after his admission into the Order, he had letters of protection to pass beyond sea in the retinue of Henry earl of Derby.³ In 1346, he served under Robert earl of Suffolk in the king's expedition into France.⁴ In 1347, he was still employed on the continent;⁵ and lastly, in 1348, under the Black Prince.⁶ The only further notice of him, which we have discovered, is among the rolls of parliament for 1347-8, when Hugh de Roppes, having been indicted, by the assent and maintenance of one John Atte Fen, for having interred alive one Thomas de Folsham, and being confined in the Marshalsea upon that accusation, "to his great mischief and impoverishment," prayed bail of the king and council until inquest should be made at the king's suit, and that it would please the king to examine the bishop of Norwich, sir Reginald Cobham, and sir Richard Fitz Simon, as to what they conceive and have heard in excuse for the said Hugh in the matter in question.⁷

The time of the death of sir Richard Fitz Simon does not appear; but that he married Anne Conquest, and had issue Adam Fitz Simon, whose great-grandson, Nicholas Fitz Simon, left two daughters, his coheirs, viz. Elizabeth, who married William Ashe, esq.; and Christian, the wife of — Moseley. The line of Christian seems to have become extinct in her grandson Robert Moseley; but Elizabeth Ashe had a daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who married sir Thomas Brocket. Upon the death of her descendant and representative, sir John Brocket, of Brocket Hall, in Hertfordshire, in 1598, the representation fell amongst his daughters and coheirs:—1. Margaret, who married, first, sir John Cutts; secondly, Roger

¹ Chauncy's Herts, fo. 311; Vincent, No. 216. 43.

² Rot. Alemann. 12 Ed. 3, m. 4, p. 1.

³ Rymer, vol. iii. p. 1. 40.

⁴ Rot. Franc. 20 Ed. 3, p. 1, m. 11.

⁵ Ibid. 21 Ed. 3, p. 1, m. 14.

⁶ Ibid. 22 Ed. 3, m. 4.

⁷ Rot. Parl. vol. ii. p. 220.

Dale. 2. Anne, who married sir Alexander Cave. 3. Elizabeth, married to George Carleton. 4. Helen, married sir Richard Spencer: and 5. Mary, married sir Thomas Reade.

SIR
RICHARD
FITZ
SIMON.

ARMS.

Argent, three inescutcheons, two and one, Gules.

XVII.

SIR MILES STAPLETON,

One of the Founders.



Émte de Stapleton

DUGDALE and Ashmole are both in error respecting the filiation of this knight; the former describing him as the son of Nicholas lord Stapleton; and the latter of sir Miles Stapleton, of Bedale. He was, in truth, the eldest son and heir of sir Gilbert Stapleton, by Agnes, daughter and coheir of Bryan lord Fitz Alan, of Bedale.

His military career commenced, like those of many of his contemporaries, in the expedition of Edward III. into Brittany in 1342; he was employed in the campaign of 1346 at Cressy and before Calais; and, in 1349 and 1354, his name occurs again amongst those who were on service in the wars of France.

SIR
MILES
STAPLE-
TON.