

Ufford, K. G.¹ 4. John Ufford, rector of Hengham, in Suffolk, who died in 1375.² The daughters were Cecily, who married John lord Willoughby d'Eresby; Catharine, the wife of Robert lord Scales and Nucelles; Margaret, who married William lord Ferrers of Groby; and Maud Ufford, abbess of Barking.

ROBERT
FIRST
EARL
OF
SUFFOLK.

ARMS.

Sable, a cross engrailed Or.

CREST.

A man's head, affrontée, proper, ducally crowned Or.

XXIX.

WILLIAM BOHUN EARL OF NORTHAMPTON.

IF illustrious birth, eminent abilities, and undaunted prowess had alone given him title to a place amongst the original Knights of the Order, the choice of the royal Founder must have fallen on William Bohun, in whom those qualities were signally united. He was the fifth son of Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, constable of England, by the princess Elizabeth, seventh daughter of king Edward I. Having mainly assisted in the overthrow of Mortimer, and given other proofs of courage and loyalty, he was, on the occasion of conferring the dukedom of Cornwall upon the Black Prince, in 1337, created earl of Northampton, and endowed with extensive grants for the support of that dignity. In the same year he was appointed one of the commissioners to treat with Philip of Valois touching the right to the French crown, and also to negotiate a peace with David Bruce. He was one of the marshals in the third battalia of king Edward's army drawn up at Vironfosse in 1339; and, in the following year, bore a part in the naval victory

WILLIAM
EARL
OF
NORTH-
AMPTON.

¹ No. XXXV.

² Will dated 10th August 1375,

proved at Norwich 5th September following.

WILLIAM
EARL
OF
NORTH-
AMPTON.

off Sluys.¹ In 1342, he was constituted the king's lieutenant and captain-general in Brittany, with power to receive fealty and homage from the inhabitants on behalf of his master as king of France. Whilst upon that high service, he defeated the enemy at Morlaix, and took the town of Roch-Dirien by assault.² In 1343, he was in the expedition of the earl of Lancaster into Scotland, and appointed governor of Lochmaben castle; and, in the same year, was again in Brittany. In 1346, he had the chief command of the second division of the army at the battle of Cressy.³ In 1347, he is particularly mentioned by the king in his letter to the archbishop of York, detailing the events before Calais.⁴ He was again actively employed in 1348 beyond sea.⁵ He succeeded to the Garter stall of his nephew, sir Hugh Courtenay, after September 1349; and, according to the custom of the early Knights of the Order upon their admission, executed a deed of gift, dated London, 4th May following, of the advowson of Dadington to Windsor college.⁶

The public records attest the constant employment of this earl in military and diplomatic transactions of the highest importance down to the period of his death, which happened on the 16th September 1360. His remains were interred in the abbey of Walden, on the north side of the presbytery.

The earl of Northampton married Elizabeth, sister and coheir of Giles lord Badlesmere, by whom (who died in 1356) he left Humphrey, heir to his dignity, and, upon the decease of his uncle, also earl of Hereford and Essex, who had issue two daughters, his coheirs, both married to princes of the blood royal, viz. Eleanor, to Thomas of Woodstock duke of Gloucester; and Mary, to Henry earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry IV. The issue of the latter failed upon the death of Henry VI; but the lineal descendant and heir-general of Eleanor, and of the noble house of

¹ Froiss. tom. i. p. 339.

² Lel. Col. vol. i. p. 805.

³ Froiss. tom. ii. p. 351.

⁴ Ibid. p. 452, *note*.

⁵ Rot. Franc. 22 Ed. 3, m. 3.

⁶ Reg. in ærario Windsor.

Bohun, is now George-William Stafford-Jerningham lord Stafford.

ARMS.

Azure, on a bend Argent, cottised Or, between six lioncels rampant of the last, three mullets Gules.

WILLIAM
EARL
OF
NORTH-
AMPTON.

CREST.

On a chapeau d'etat Azure, turned-up Ermine, a lion statant guardant Or, ducally crowned Gules.

XXX.

REGINALD LORD COBHAM OF STERBURGH.

THIS justly celebrated commander in the armies of the royal Founder was the son of Reginald de Cobham, of Orkesden in Eynsford in Kent, by Joane, daughter and heir of William de Hever. Reginald, the elder, was son to sir John Cobham of Cobham¹ (by his second marriage with Joane, the daughter of Hugh de Neville), and the grandson of sir Henry de Cobham, who attended the third Crusade, assisted at the siege of Acre in 1191,² and was still living in 1210, in which year he is recorded to have purchased the favour of king John for a thousand marks.³

REGINALD
LORD
COBHAM.

Sir Reginald Cobham, who was born in 1300, is first noticed as having been in the splendid train of the young king Edward at the homage at Amiens in 1329;⁴ and, about the same time, was employed on a political mission into Brabant.⁵ His judgment and valour were, subsequently, so conspicuous that he shared in almost every martial expedition of that reign, and was engaged in its most important

¹ From Henry, the eldest son of sir John Cobham by his first wife, Maud, the daughter of Warin Fitz-Benedict, descended, through Braybrooke and Delapole, the lords Cobham of the house of Brooke.

² Manning's Surrey, vol. ii. p. 340.

³ Rot. Pip. 12 Joh. Kent.

⁴ Froiss. tom. i. p. 136.

⁵ Claus. 2 Ed. 3, m. 19.