

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 Cobham<sup>1</sup> (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,<sup>2</sup> and was still living in 1210, in which year he is recorded to have purchased the favour of king John for a thousand marks.<sup>3</sup>

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;<sup>4</sup> and, about the same time, was employed on a political mission into Brabant.<sup>5</sup> 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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Manning's Surrey, vol. ii. p. 340.

<sup>3</sup> Rot. Pip. 12 Joh. Kent.

<sup>4</sup> Froiss. tom. i. p. 136.

<sup>5</sup> Claus. 2 Ed. 3, m. 19.

REGINALD  
LORD  
COBHAM.

diplomatic transactions until the conclusion of the treaty of Bretigny, in May 1360.

He is, in particular, remarkable as having been one of those who, fighting at Cressy near the person of the prince, and observing his perilous situation, despatched sir Thomas Norwich to the king for succour:<sup>1</sup> and, after the victory, he was ordered, with sir Richard Stafford, to ascertain the number and quality of the slain.<sup>2</sup>

Lord Cobham is honourably mentioned in the king's letter to the archbishop of Canterbury, narrating the proceedings before Calais.<sup>3</sup> He was among the principal commanders named in the indenture with the king 10th July 1355,<sup>4</sup> who were to accompany prince Edward into Gascony. At Poitiers he made Charles d'Artois, count de Longueville, prisoner;<sup>5</sup> and, with the earl of Warwick, conducted king John to the tent of the Black Prince.<sup>6</sup>

He had been elected, upon the death of sir Thomas Wale, in 1352, a Knight of the Garter, and filled the ninth stall on the prince's side, where his plate remains.<sup>7</sup>

Reginald lord Cobham was summoned to parliament in 1342, and, by several successive writs, until 1361; in which year he died of the plague, on the 5th October, and was buried in the church of Lingfield in Surrey, (in which parish the castle of Sterburgh, now Sterborough,<sup>8</sup> is situated,) where a splendid tomb to his memory is extant.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Froiss. tom. ii. p. 367.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. 379. The two knights were attended by three heralds, to take cognizance of the armorial bearings, and two priests to write down the names of the fallen.

<sup>3</sup> Robert of Avesbury.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix, No. III.

<sup>5</sup> By pat. 33 Ed. 3, p. 1, the king gave bond to sir Reginald de Cobham for 6,500 old florins de scuto (each being of the value of 3s. 9½d.), part of the ransom of the count de Longueville, one of the king's prisoners belonging to the said Reginald. Froissart relates (tom. iii. p. 232,) that Cobham made the count de Dammartin prisoner at Poitiers; but in this he was mistaken, Charles de Trie,

count de Dampmartin, having been taken and conducted to England by the earl of Salisbury. *Hist. des Marechaux de France, par le Pere Anselme, tom. vi. p. 671.*

<sup>6</sup> Froiss. tom. iii. p. 238.

<sup>7</sup> Robes were provided for him against the feast of St. George, in 1360. Comp. Joh. Neubury, 34 Ed. 3.

<sup>8</sup> In 1342, the year in which Reginald de Cobham was summoned to parliament, he had licence to embattle and fortify his house at Prinkham; which parish was thenceforward called "Sterburgh," and the mansion "Sterburgh castle."

<sup>9</sup> The tomb adjoins the screen which separates the east end of the nave from the north aisle.

He was succeeded in his title and estates by Reginald de Cobham, his son and heir by his first marriage with Joane, the daughter of Thomas lord Berkeley. By his second wife, Elizabeth (who survived him), the daughter of Hugh earl of Stafford and relict of John lord Ferrers de Chartley, he had no issue. Upon the death of sir Thomas Cobham, the great-grandson of our knight, in 1471, the representation of this line of Cobham devolved to Anne, his daughter and sole heir, wife of sir Edward Burgh, eldest son and heir-apparent of Thomas lord Burgh of Gainsborough, Knight of the Order: it is now vested in the several coheirs of Elizabeth, the wife of George Brooke; Frances, wife of Francis Coppinger, esq.; Anne, wife of sir Drew Drury, and Catharine, wife of Thomas Knyvett, esq. the four daughters and coheirs of Thomas the last lord Burgh. Elizabeth Brooke is represented by Robert Thorp, M.D. Disney Alexander, M.D. Lucy, wife of Henry Cockerell Leatham, esq. and Harriet Lund, spinster. The heirs of Francis Coppinger and of dame Anne Drury have not been ascertained. The heirs of Catharine Knyvett are Henry Wilson lord Berners, Louisa widow of Richard Strangwayes of Well, co. York, esq. and the heirs of the body of Catharine, wife of Isaac Peter Boullie.

REGINALD  
LORD  
COBHAM.

## ARMS.

Gules, on a cheveron Or three estoiles Sable.

## CREST.

A Saracen's head, proper, wreathed about the temples Or and Gules.

The figure of Cobham is in armour, with the Garter on the left leg; the head, in an open helmet, resting on the bust of a Saracen, horizontally placed, habited in hood and mantling, the head, in profile and wreathed, lying towards the dexter. Under the knight's feet is a whole-length figure of a Saracen, in the eastern costume, re-

cumbent, the head supported by the right arm embowed. There is no inscription: but Vincent has preserved (No. 40, fo. 51, in Coll. Arm.) sketches of the arms on eight shields which adorn the tomb, viz.: 1. Cobham; 2. Cobham, impaling Stafford; 3. Badlesmere; 4. Berkeley; 5. Valenges; 6. Cowsington; 7. Paveley; 8. Roos.