

submission), he, by misrepresenting the royal overtures, incited his nephew Hotspur to put all in hazard. Worcester, taken prisoner in the conflict, was beheaded at Shrewsbury, on Monday the 23rd July 1403, and his head, by a special command of the sovereign, was set up on London-bridge.<sup>1</sup>

The earl of Worcester died without surviving issue.<sup>2</sup>

THOMAS  
EARL  
OF  
WORCES-  
TER.

## ARMS.

Or, a lion rampant Azure.

## LXI.

SIR WILLIAM BEAUCHAMP LORD OF  
BERGAVENNY.

THE ancient house of Beauchamp, yielding to none of the Norman baronial families in historical splendour, derived an accession of honour from this gallant knight, who was the fourth son of Thomas earl of Warwick, one of the Founders of this Order.

SIR  
WILLIAM  
BEAU-  
CHAMP.

Sir William Beauchamp appears to have gathered his first laurels in Spain, where he served with distinction under the banners of the duke of Lancaster and the heroic Chandos at the battle of Najara.<sup>3</sup> Three years subsequently, in 1370, he proceeded in the retinue of John of Gant to Bordeaux;<sup>4</sup> was at the taking of Limoges;<sup>5</sup> and, in 1371, at the siege of Montpaon.<sup>6</sup> In 1373 he and his nephew, the earl of Warwick, attended the dukes of Lancaster and Brittany to France;<sup>7</sup> and bore a conspicuous part in the various operations of that campaign; in the course of which we find, by a record,<sup>8</sup> that

<sup>1</sup> Rymer, vol. vii. p. 320; Holinshed, p. 523.

<sup>2</sup> Vincent, No. 20, fo. 223, in Coll. Armor.—where the earl is stated to have been married, and to have had an only child, Thomas Percy, who died before him without issue. All inquiries to ascer-

tain whom the earl married have hitherto proved ineffectual.

<sup>3</sup> Froiss. tom. iv. pp. 361, 403.

<sup>4</sup> Rot. Vasc. 44 Ed. 3, m. 3; Froiss. tom. v. p. 185.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. p. 208. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. p. 239.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. tom. vi. p. 57.

<sup>8</sup> Rot. Vasc. 47 Ed. 3, m. 8.

SIR  
WILLIAM  
BEAU-  
CHAMP.

sir William Beauchamp sent Bernard del Bret, his prisoner, to England, in order to treat for his ransom.

Upon the death of sir Frank van Hale (in 1375, or early in the following year), our knight was elected to the twelfth stall<sup>1</sup> on the Sovereign's side; and robes of the Order were prepared for him under a warrant of the 4th of April 1376.<sup>2</sup>

At the opening of the reign of Richard II, he was appointed governor of the castle and county of Pembroke;<sup>3</sup> and he was in the naval armament raised to defend the coasts upon the meditated invasion from France.<sup>4</sup> In 1380 he joined the expedition ordered to Brittany in aid of John of Montfort.<sup>5</sup> As chamberlain of the king's household in 1381, he had, in reward of his services, a grant of an annuity of 200*l.*;<sup>6</sup> and, in the same year was retained to serve as marshal of the host under the earl of Cambridge in Portugal and Spain; having in his personal retinue 200 men-at-arms and as many archers.<sup>7</sup> The fleet having at length, after encountering violent storms, reached Lisbon,<sup>8</sup> Beauchamp entered with ardour upon his military duties. He commanded, in 1382, at the assault and capture of Figueras;<sup>9</sup> and he is mentioned as presiding at the celebrated tilting-match between sir Miles Windsor and Tristan de Roye, in the camp before Badajoz.<sup>10</sup> In 1383 he accepted a proposal to serve in Flanders with the warlike Henry Spenser bishop of Norwich,<sup>11</sup> during the contest for the papacy between Urban VI. and Clement VII; but he afterwards declined the engagement on the non-fulfilment of its conditions by the soldier-prelate.<sup>12</sup> On the 17th September in that year he was constituted captain of Calais, and directed, in particular, superintend to the munition and victualling

<sup>1</sup> Windsor tables.

<sup>2</sup> Antea, p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> Rot. Fin. 1 Ric. 2, p. 2, m. 9.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. m. 12.

<sup>5</sup> Rot. Franc. 3 Ric. 2, m. 6; Wals. p. 247, No. 30.

<sup>6</sup> Pat. 4 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 5.

<sup>7</sup> Indenture cited by Dugdale as in the Pells' office; Wals. p. 257, No. 40; Froiss. tom. viii. p. 10.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid. p. 76.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. p. 110.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. p. 161.

<sup>11</sup> Rot. Franc. 6 Ric. 2, m. 30.

<sup>12</sup> Wals. p. 325, No. 10. Froiss. tom. viii. p. 401, alluding to this circumstance, quotes a speech of the king to the bishop, in which, commending Beauchamp for his eminently useful qualities, he says that he has sent for him from the marches of Scotland, where he was employed in guarding the border; but we have seen no other evidence of his having been so occupied.

of the garrison, then formidably menaced by the French.<sup>1</sup> His personal staff seems to have been augmented, to meet the emergency.<sup>2</sup> In November following he was united in a commission with the duke of Lancaster and others to negotiate a truce with France and Flanders.<sup>3</sup> Froissart names sir William Beauchamp among the chiefs who accompanied that prince to Spain in 1386;<sup>4</sup> but there is reason to doubt the assertion, as he continued in the government of Calais, under several renewals of his patent,<sup>5</sup> until 1389. Whilst so employed, he was, on two occasions, in 1385-6<sup>6</sup> and 1389,<sup>7</sup> nominated a commissioner to treat with the ambassadors of France; but the negotiations were always carried on at Calais.

SIR  
WILLIAM  
BEAU-  
CHAMP.

The adherence of Beauchamp to the party opposed to the royal favourites appears to have placed him, in 1387, in a situation of difficulty, from which the exercise of great firmness could alone extricate him. The dominant faction having, as it is said, contemplated the surrender of Calais and Cherbourg to the French monarch, as the price of his support in their schemes of domestic administration, letters under the signet were despatched to sir William Beauchamp requiring him to give up the town of Calais to sir John de la Pole (brother to the chancellor Suffolk); and by the same messenger, sir John Golafre, other letters were sent directed to the king of France: but Beauchamp declared in answer, that he would only resign his commission to his Sovereign in person, from whom he had publicly received it; and the despatches, which had been addressed to the French court, he seized and conveyed to the duke of Gloucester, who was at that moment occupied in England with plans to defeat the conspiracy formed against himself and his adherents, and to drive the unworthy minions from his nephew's councils.<sup>8</sup>

This object having been accomplished, our knight was confirmed in his appointment at Calais,<sup>9</sup> and empowered on 5th November 1389 to treat with the court of Flanders.<sup>10</sup> His

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Franc. 7 Ric. 2, m. 19, 20.

<sup>2</sup> Dugd. bar. vol. i. p. 239.

<sup>3</sup> Rymer's Fœd. vol. vii. p. 412-414.

<sup>4</sup> Froiss. tom. x. p. 124.

<sup>5</sup> Rot. Franc. 11 Ric. 2, m. 16;  
12 Ric. 2, m. 13.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid. 9 Ric. 2, m. 24.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid. 12 Ric. 2, m. 3.

<sup>8</sup> Knyghton, 2698. 2702.

<sup>9</sup> Rot. Franc. 13 Ric. 2, m. 18.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. m. 11.

SIR  
WILLIAM  
BEAU-  
CHAMP.

private affairs seem to have required, about this time, his presence in England. His cousin-german,<sup>1</sup> John Hastings earl of Pembroke, K. G., being without issue, in 1369, had entailed<sup>2</sup> the castle and lordship of Bergavenny, in the event of failure of heirs of his body, upon our knight, in fee, upon certain conditions. The earl had, some time afterwards, a son, John, who succeeded, in his infancy, to the earldom; but was slain in a tournament in 1389, at the age of seventeen. Sir William Beauchamp thereupon claimed the barony under the entail; but not without opposition from Edward Hastings, the heir male, upon the ground probably of some prior settlement.<sup>3</sup> It is related<sup>4</sup> that, on this occasion Beauchamp invited his counsel, learned in the law, to his house in Pater-noster-row, London; and, after dinner, coming out of his chapel in an angry mood, threw to each of them a piece of gold, and said, "Sirs, I desire you forthwith to tell me whether I have any right and title to the lordships and lands of Hastings?" Whereupon William Pinchebek is reported to have stood up and replied, "No man here, nor in England, dare say that you have any right in them, except Hastings do quit his claim therein; and should he do it, being now under age, it would be of no validity."

The truth of the foregoing anecdote may be questioned, as the barony of Bergavenny passed to our knight, and he was in consequence summoned to parliament by that description on 23rd November 1392.

From that period until the close of Richard's reign, when his political friends had again lost their power, and the acts of 1388 were annulled, the lord of Bergavenny remained unemployed; but, on the accession of Henry IV, he was appointed justiciary of South Wales, governor of the castle and county of Pembroke and lordship of Tenby, and of the castle and lordship of Kilgaran and county of Osterlowe for life.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Thomas earl of Warwick married Katherine Mortimer; and Laurence earl of Pembroke, her sister Agnes Mortimer. Sir William Beauchamp was son of Katherine; and John earl of Pembroke, son of Agnes.

<sup>2</sup> Esc. 49 Ed. 3, No. 10; Pat. 51 Ed. 3, m. 29, *per inspec.*; Claus. 49 Ed. 3, *in dorso*.

<sup>3</sup> Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 579.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.* with citation of a MS. among the Le Strange evidences.

<sup>5</sup> Pat. 1 Hen. 4, p. 4, m. 11.

He died on the 8th of May 1411,<sup>1</sup> having by his will, dated 25th April 1408, directed his remains to be deposited next and beneath the tomb of John earl of Pembroke, in the church of the Black Friars at Hereford.<sup>2</sup> By Joan, his wife, sister and coheir of Thomas Fitzalan earl of Arundel, he left an only son, Richard Beauchamp, afterwards earl of Worcester; and two daughters,—Joan who married James Butler earl of Ormond, and Elizabeth.

The heir-general and representative of William lord of Bergavenny is Mary-Frances-Elizabeth Stapleton, now baroness Le Despenser.

## ARMS.

Gules, a fess between six cross-crosslets Or, the fess charged with a mullet for difference.

SIR  
WILLIAM  
BEAU-  
CHAMP.

## LXII.

## RICHARD PLANTAGENET PRINCE OF WALES,

## AFTERWARDS

## KING RICHARD II.

As it would be foreign to our plan, and impracticable within its necessary limits, to enter into the personal history of this weak and misguided prince after his accession to the throne, and as a summary of the transactions of the Order during his sovereignty will be given in subsequent pages, we propose to offer here a few notices only, relating to the commencement and termination of his unhappy life.

Richard of Bordeaux, the second and youngest son of Edward prince of Wales by Joan of Kent, was born in the abbey of St. Andrew, in that city, on the 6th of January 1366-7,<sup>3</sup> a few days before the departure of his heroic father

RICHARD  
PRINCE  
OF  
WALES.

<sup>1</sup> Esc. 12 Hen. 4, No. 34.

<sup>2</sup> Reg<sup>r</sup> Arundel, vol. ii. fo. 155.

<sup>3</sup> Leland (*Collect. vol. i. pt. 2, ed.* 1770, p. 448) cites an anonymous catalogue of the kings of England,

of the age of Hen. VII, for the singular fact that Richard was born "sine pelle et nutritus in pellibus caprorum."