

By his wife, Elizabeth Mortimer (the daughter of Edmond fourth earl of March by Philippa Plantagenet), who survived him and experienced the revengeful persecution of the king,¹ Hotspur left an infant son, Henry Percy, and a daughter, Elizabeth, married first to John lord Clifford, and, secondly, to Ralph second earl of Westmorland. The young Henry was, by the earl of Northumberland his grandfather, carried into Scotland, and, in the sequel, generously restored by Henry V. to the family estates and honours.

SIR
HENRY
PERCY.

ARMS.

Quarterly, first and fourth, Louvaine, Or, a lion rampant Azure, second and third, Lucy, Gules, three luces hauriant Argent.

LXXIX.

JOHN SECOND LORD DEVEREUX.

THE family of this highly celebrated person derived its surname from the town of Evreux in Normandy, and acquired lands in Cornwall, and other western counties of England, soon after the conquest. Stephen Devereux, Deverose, or De Ebrois, served under kings John and Henry III; and was succeeded by his son, William Devereux, who, taking part with the barons, fell at Evesham in 1265,² leaving a son, of the same name, who, after gaining distinction in the wars of Gascony, had summons, as a peer of parliament, in 1299.³ It is stated that the last-mentioned William had issue sir Walter Devereux, who was the father of the gallant individual now under our notice.⁴

JOHN
LORD
DEVEREUX.

Sir John Devereux was ordered to join the army in Aquitaine in 1368,⁵ and, in the year following, commanded at

¹ Rymer, vol. viii. p. 334, 8th Oct. 1403.

² Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 175.

³ The summons was "Will'o de

Ebroicis, chivaler," and dated 6th Feb. 27 Ed. 1.

⁴ Vinc. No. 20, fo. 248, in Coll. Armor.

⁵ Rot. Vasc. 42 Ed. 3, m. 4.

JOHN
LORD
DEVEREUX.

Rochelle, when Knolles arrived at that port with a reinforcement for the Black Prince.¹ His chivalrous demeanour seems to have attracted the particular attention of Froissart, whose chronicle abounds with passages recording its display. Whilst resident at La Souteraine, in 1370, as seneschal and governor of Limousin, he received intelligence that the castle of Belle Perche was closely besieged by the duke of Bourbon. Devereux thereupon proceeded to Angoulême, where the earls of Cambridge and Pembroke and other great commanders were assembled around the prince; and, upon his representation, troops were despatched from thence for the relief of that garrison, which was enabled by this opportune succour to march out of the castle with all the honours of war, and within view of the French army, and to deliver the captive Isabel of Valois into the hands of sir Eustace d'Abricécourt and sir John Devereux.² In the same year he was with prince Edward at Limoges.³ In 1372, after the unfortunate affair at Rochelle, which ended in the capture of Pembroke and D'Angle,⁴ the Captal de Buch left Devereux, as seneschal, in command of that port:⁵ but, learning soon afterwards that Du Guesclin meditated an attack on Poitiers, he marched from Rochelle with fifty lances, and proceeded to that city, where he was joined by sir Thomas Percy the seneschal. The constable, finding that the garrison had thus been strengthened, abandoned his purpose, and determined to cooperate with the duke de Berri in his designs upon Sainte-Severe in Limousin, of which Devereux was governor, and where he had confided to sir William Percy the charge of the garrison. Our knight, therefore, left Poitiers, accompanied by sir Thomas Percy; and it was decided, at a conference with the Captal at St. Jean d'Angely, to assemble the Poitevins, and proceed, with the best force which they could muster, towards Sainte-Severe, in the hope of at once relieving the garrison and bringing the French and Bretons to a general action. In the mean time, sir William Percy, despairing of succour, and unable to retain possession of the

¹ Froiss. tom. v. p. 76.

² Ibid. p. 169; and see *antea*, p. 138.

³ Froiss. tom. v. p. 208.

⁴ See pp. 175. 185.

⁵ Froiss. tom. v. p. 292.

place whilst opposed by so formidable an enemy, offered to capitulate; and Du Guesclin, aware of the advance of the relieving force, accepted the offer. The Captal and Devereux appear to have been discouraged by the surrender of the town; and, hearing that the inhabitants of Poitiers had, during their absence, put the French in possession of the city, they dismissed the Poitevins; and Devereux concluded his chivauchée by assaulting and carrying the town of Niort.¹

JOHN
LORD
DEVEREUX.

The French army under Du Guesclin was triumphant in Poitou, where, at that disastrous period, few fortresses remained in the power of the English. Among these was Chisey, a strong burgh, on the river Boutonne, about four leagues distant from Niort. To this, in the ensuing spring, the constable resolved to lay siege. The garrison contrived to convey intelligence of their perilous situation to Devereux, who thereupon departed from Niort with about seven hundred well-armed men. The besieged, observing the approach of their expected deliverers, made a sortie with about sixty horse, all of whom were either slain or taken. On the arrival of the English, battle was joined; and the result proved fatal to our gallant band; Devereux remaining amongst the prisoners.²

After his exchange, we find him, in 1375, entrenched within two leagues of Quimperle, a town near l'Orient, in a small castle which he had repaired and fortified. It was called "the new fort;"³ and holding a fierce and active soldiery, which laid the surrounding country under frequent contribution, was regarded by the peasantry with terror and dis-

¹ Froissart, tom. vi. p. 4.

² The author of the life of Louis III. duke of Bourbon, states that the battle of Chisey took place before Christmas 1372; but Froissart's precise date, 21st March 1372-3, is probably correct.

³ The MS. N^o 926, alias 9661, of the royal library of Paris, supplies many particulars, omitted in other copies of Froissart. It contains, amongst other new and in-

teresting matter, a *chanson*, in the Breton dialect, which the chronicler says was commonly sung by the young peasants of the district. It is printed in Buchon's edition, tom. vi. p. 280, and we shall only quote the burthen:

"Gardes vous dou nouviau fort
Vous qui alles ces allues;
Car laiens prent son deport
Messire Jehan Devrues."

JOHN
LORD
DEVEREUX.

may. The Breton chiefs,¹ assembled at Lamballe, thereupon attacked the fort, which gallantly withstood their assault during three successive nights, and was at length relieved by the duke of Brittany and the earl of Cambridge. The war being terminated by the treaty of Bruges, our knight returned to England.

After the death of the Black Prince, preparations were made for an expedition into Spain and Gascony, in which prince Richard was nominated to bear a part; and sir John Devereux was retained to serve under him.² Upon Richard's accession to the throne, he was appointed of his privy council,³ and appears from thenceforward to have been an efficient member of the government. In 1380 he was appointed governor of Calais,⁴ with authority to treat with the French ambassadors for a truce.⁵ These powers were confirmed by subsequent commissions; and he was still in command at Calais when the bishop of Norwich landed there in 1382, preparatorily to his "crusade" in favour of the pretensions of Urban VI. to the papacy.⁶ In the same year and the following Devereux was empowered to treat with the count and towns of Flanders;⁷ the rank of banneret being ascribed to him in the relative commissions. In 1386 he held the office of steward of the household,⁸ and in the next year that of constable of Dover castle, and warden of the cinque ports.⁹

According to the Windsor tables, sir John Devereux was admitted into the Order of the Garter after the attainder of sir Simon Burley in 1388, and occupied the thirteenth stall on the Sovereign's side, where his plate remains at this day.

In 1389 he was one of the plenipotentiaries who conducted the negotiations with France, which terminated in the treaty of Leulinghen.¹⁰ He appears to have retained,

¹ Clisson, Rohan, Rochefort, Beaumanoir, and Laval, who are all celebrated in the *chanson*.

² Pat. 1 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 7, *per inspe*x.

³ Rot. Parl. vol. iii. p. 386^a; Pat. 1 Ric. 2, p. 1, m. 16, June 20; Rymer, vol. vii. p. 161.

⁴ Rot. Franc. 3 Ric. 2, m. 1, June 20.

⁵ Rymer, vol. vii. p. 248.

⁶ Ibid. p. 395.

⁷ Ibid. and p. 396.

⁸ Ibid. p. 495.

⁹ Claus. 11 Ric. 2, Jan. 4; Rym. vol. vii. p. 566.

¹⁰ Ibid. p. 610.

with his other appointments, the post of governor of Calais; for he presided in that character at the combat near Boulogne in that year between sir Peter Courtenay and the sire de Clary.¹

JOHN
LORD
DEVEREUX.

Sir John Devereux was summoned to parliament among the barons from 1385 to 1392. He died on the 22nd February 1392-3.² According to Dugdale, he married Margaret the daughter of sir John Barre. This lady may have been his first consort; but his relict was Margaret, the daughter of John de Vere earl of Oxford, (by Maud Badlesmere,) who had been first the wife of sir Nicholas Lovayne, and secondly of Henry lord Beaumont. He left an only son, sir John Devereux, aged sixteen at the death of his father, who died within age, on the 13th November 1396,³ leaving his only sister Joan, or Janet, his heir, then of the age of seventeen.

The descendants of this lady, who married Walter lord Fitzwalter, were the earls of Sussex, of the noble house of Ratclyffe. The present heir-general of the body of John lord Devereux, and of the baronies of Fitzwalter and Devereux, is sir Brook-William Bridges, of Goodnestone, in the county of Kent, baronet, either solely, or conjointly with the heir of the body (if any) of Jemima Duke, some time wife of Robert Duke, of Colchester.

ARMS.

Argent, on a fess Gules an estoile Or; in chief three torteaux.

CREST.

Within a ducal coronet Or, a talbot's head Argent, eared Gules.

¹ Froiss. tom. xii. p. 60.

proved 24th Feb. 1392-3. 18
Rous.

² Esc. 17 Ric. 2, No. 18; Wals.
p. 387. Will dated in June 1385,

³ Esc. 20 Ric. 2, No. 24, and
21 Ric. 2, No. 20.