

SIR WILLIAM BROWNE

and

SIR NATHANIEL RICH,

KNIGHTS

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SIR WILLIAM BROWNE KNIGHT.

1556-1610

and

SIR NATHANIEL RICH KNIGHT.

-1636-

A CHAPTER OF FAMILY HISTORY

By

G. D. SCULL

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- Oxford -

1882

New-England Historic, Genealogical Society,
Society's House,

(SEAL)

18 Somerset Street,

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Presented by G. D. Scull, Esq., of Oxford,
England, the Author, a corresponding member
of this family.

Descendants of the Browne Family, whose ancestry
is here given, settled in Connecticut.

Mr. Scull is visiting this (his native)
country, but returns this month to England.

He died Apr 22, 1889
see Oct. 1891 Register for a biographical
sketch. p. 324

For tabular pedigree of Browne see page 80
of this document.

- Oxford -

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It is hoped that the publication of this little volume of the Browne family history in England will be the means of stimulating some of the memories of this now somewhat numerous
in the United States, to recall the descendants of the sons of Nathaniel Browne, the original progenitor in New England.

Rugby Lodge, Norham Road
Oxford. August 28th, 1882.

/s/ G. D. Scull

SIR WILLIAM BROWNE, KNIGHT

Queen Elizabeth had been for some time secretly endeavoring by means of money to counteract the designs of the King of Spain in the Low Countries, but in 1585 she was forced to adopt a more open practice and sent over a royal army of 6,000 men, exacting as a condition that the States were to pay all her expenses and deliver to her as securities the towns of Brill and Flushing and the strong fort of Rammakins. These were called the cautionary towns. The Earl of Leicester, uncle to Sir Philip Sydney, was appointed to command the forces. Sir Philip was also with the troops, as well as his younger brother Robert, who arrived at Flushing two days after his uncle and in time to take part in an engagement before the town. For his valour on this occasion he was knighted by the Earl of Leicester 7th Oct. 1586 and on the 16th of July 1588 made Lord Governor of Flushing.

Sir Philip had up to his death at Zutphen held this appointment and had as an officer under him one Captain William Browne the only son of a country gentleman of Derbyshire. Arthur Collins, the editor of the "Sydney Papers" says of Captain Browne "He had served from the breaking out of the wars in the Low Countries and was much valued by Sir Philip Sydney who interested him with the Enterprize of the Surprize of Graveline, anno 1586, where by treachery he was taken prisoner. After signalizing himself in several other actions he was made Lt. Gov. of Flushing in which post he died, leaving the reputation of a brave and experienced commander." Collins adds the following note "For the leadership in the Surprise of Gravelines, Sir Philip Sydney not wishing to

hazard the lives of many gentlemen, made the inferior officers try their fortune by dice on a drumhead. The lot fell on Captain William Browne, his own Lt., who with a choice company presently departed receiving this provisional caution from Sir Philip, that if he found Practice and not faith he should throw down his arms and yield himself prisoner, protesting that if they took him he should be ransomed and if they broke quarter his death most severely revenged. The leader following his General's commandment discovers the Treachery, throws down his arms and is taken prisoner, and its agreed that Sir Philip's penetration and judgment saved the lives and honour of the English army by not hazarding so many of them in that treacherous expedition.

During the protracted absence of Sir Robert Sydney in Holland, <sup>younger brother of Sir Philip Sydney of
who was made Governor of
Flushing</sup> for the Queen would not give him long leaves of absence, and very few of them, he was regularly supplied with news, of a public and a private character, by Rowland Whyte, a very worthy man, and most reliable correspondent, who was employed by Sir Robert on a salary to act as his solicitor at court. Rowland Whyte was also a friend and correspondent of Captain Browne's, and when the Lt. Gov. of Flushing, Sir Edward Uvedale absented himself for some time in England, and was detained there by his private business, and also by illness, a timely word of advice by Whyte, in the proper quarter secured for his friend in Holland, the deputyship of this port as locumtenens, which eventually led to his appointment as Lieut. Governor. Rowland Whyte 19th Dec. 1595 writes to Sir Robert Sydney that "Mr. Lake sent unto me from Sir Robert Cecil to know who your Lordship would leave in your place, now that Sir Edward

Uvedale was here, I sent him this word, that the charge of the town you would be most careful of. That you had in the Town at this hour Captain Browne, a Gentleman your Lordship knew to be discreet, valiant, well affected in Religion, well languaged and one that was specially well acquainted with the Humours of the Burgesses and mariners and every way such a one as your Lordship would be answerable for." Captain Browne obtained the post of Lt. Gov. of Flushing in the latter end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth and held it with honour and dignity until his death in August 1610. The honour of Knighthood was conferred on him by the Queen in 1597. He was married some little time before 1599 as the following entry proves, and which is extracted from the State paper office "January 27th 1600--grant of free denization to Mary Savage born in Germany, now wife to Sir William Browne." By Germany is no doubt meant Belgium, as in "1623 April 6th letters of safe conduct for Lady Mary Browne of Ghent denizen of England to go abroad for three years." A letter from Flushing August 10, 1610 alludes to the illness of Sir Wm. Browne, which obliges John Throckmorton to write in his stead. *Think he might have been brother to Sir Walter Raleigh's wife -* He succeeded him as Lt. Gov. King James Ist recognized his services to the State in the following paper: "In consideration of the good and acceptable services done unto us and to our crowne of England by our late trusty and well-beloved Sir Wm. Browne, Knight, deceased Lt. Gov. of our cautionary Town of Flushing and for other causes and considerations moving us hereunto, we are pleased for the better maintenance and education of his children to bestow upon the Lady Browne late wife to the said Sir Wm. Browne, an annuity or pension of One hundred

Markes by the yeare, to be taken to her for the uses aforesaid out of such moneyes as from tyme to tyme doe accrew unto us by the checques rising out of the entertaynement and apparrelling of the soldiers of that our Garrison of Flushing." Payment to be half yearly and to begin at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangell next coming after date hereof (20 July 1611 for Lady Browne's natural life. To Richard Wright Esq. paymaster of the Forces in the Low Countries."

* On the 1st of June 1604 a bill was read for the first time in the House of Commons "for naturalizing the children of Sir Wm. Browne, Lt. Gov. of Flushing viz. William, Ann, and Barbara Browne." The bill was read a third time, and passed 22 June 1604. In the will of Sir Wm. Browne it is required of the Trustees that his children shall be naturalized in England, accordingly we find that on June 22, 1622 there was a "grant to Percy and Mary Browne, children of the late Sir Wm. Browne, Lt. of Flushing and borne there, of denization." These two children Percy and Mary alone survived, and had for their trustees six friends of their fathers, viz.--Sir Wm. Russell, Knight; Sir Robert Sydney, Knight; Peter Marwood, Esq., Thomas Edmonds, Esq; Rowland Whyte, and Philip Harison.

In the will of Sir Nathaniel Rich made in 1635, he mentions four of his nephews, sons of his deceased sister Browne, and one

*In 1616 King James 1st received 13,000 pounds extra dividend from the States General over and above of the stipulated sum of 200,000 pounds for the delivering up of the cautionary towns Flushing, Zealand, and the Brill to the Dutch. This 13,000 pounds was divided amongst the officers, office holders, and Lady Browne was paid 300 pounds at Brill as a recognition of her husband Sir Wm. Browne's services to the State as Lt. Gov. of Flushing.

of them "_____ Browne, one other of the sons of my sister Browne deceased, who hath been hitherto educated by my noble friend the Countess of Leicester, mother of Sir John Smith." This Sir John Smith married Lady Isabel Rich, daughter of Robt Rich, First Earl of Warwick and Penelope. This Countess of Leicester was Sarah daughter and heiress of Wm Blount, and became the 3rd wife of Sir Thomas Smyth, who died in 1625. Sir Thomas was closely identified with the schemes for the colonization of Virginia and the West India Islands, particularly the Summers and Providence group in which Sir Nathaniel Rich was also interested.

After the death of Sir Thomas, his widow married in 1626 to Sir Robert Sydney who however died a few months after in 1626. Sir Robert some little time before his death succeeded his uncle, and became ~~1st Earl~~ became 1st Earl of Leicester of the name of Sydney. In the will of Sir Nathaniel Rich he seems not to have known the christian name of the nephew who was educated by his "friend the Countess of Leicester" but it was in all probability William, for in a letter to Captain Nathaniel Butler, Governor, dated June 7, 1639, on business of the Company of Providence Island, it is mentioned that "Will Browne and Ed Turton who had been condemned to death; to have their liberty but not allowed to leave the Island." Nathaniel Browne "now in New England with Mr. Hooker the Two hundred pounds which by my sister Morgan's will was bequeathed unto him and 50 pounds more as my own gift." He also gives "one other share of the Somers Island Co. to my nephew Robert Browne now residing in the said Somers Island he having one other share there already upon the gift of my sister Wroth lately deceased. No

mention is made of the nephew having been sent out of England. He was probably too young and remained to complete his education. There was a Samuel Browne who eventually became one of the six clerks of the Chancery, and rose to be one of the King's Bench, and knighted.

Sir Nathaniel Rich left to his nephew Samuel Browne 100 pounds "the same to be employed during his minority for his benefit." Of the six trustees named in Sir Wm. Browne's will, Sir Robert Sydney and Rowland Whyte would naturally of them all become practically the guardian in England of young Percy Browne. He was naturalized in 1622 and we may assume that he was then of age, and married soon after. Nathaniel was probably his eldest son and Robert perhaps born in 1626, the year of Sir Robert Sydney's death and named after him. Both Percy Browne and his wife were deceased at the date of Sir Nathaniel Rich's will, 1635.

It would seem that Sir Nathaniel had taken charge of three of the four sons of his deceased "Sister Browne" and that the fourth was educated by the Countess of Leicester, the widow of Sir Robert Sydney. Robert Browne became a clergyman, in the Somers Islands, having been appointed a minister there in 1655, and died in 1661.

The property of the Browne family at Snelston, Derbyshire, seems to have been sold sometime between 1611 and 1662, as a pedigree appears of the family in the visitation of the County in 1611, and is absent when another was made by Dugdale in 1662/3. It would seem that Percy Browne did not reside on his estate at Snelston, at the time of his death, for neither his name or his

wife's occurs in the parish register of his church, nor can his will or his wife's be found in the probate's court at Lichfield.

Whilst Sir Robert Sydney was absent from England we have seen that he was kept well informed of passing events at home by his indefatigable correspondent Rowland Whyte, and when he was absent from his post, on leave in England, Capt. Wm. Browne was not a whit less industrious and attentive in supplying him, as he was found to do, as his deputy, with information concerning affairs in Holland. From first to last, Capt. Browne wrote to the Lord General of Flushing about 130 letters which have been preserved among the family papers of the Sydneys at Penshurst. Besides these, there are extant, 30 addressed to Sir Robert Cecil and 2 to the Earl of Essex, in the possession of the Marquis of Salisbury. Those to the Earl of Essex are dated respectively Jan 7th and 25th 1598. The letters addressed to Sir Robert Sydney are mostly filled with descriptions of skirmishes and battles, the movements of troops, the state of the garrison at Flushing and political affairs in the States General, but much can be gleaned here and there from them, to show what mutual confidence and affection existed between Sir Robert Sydney and the writer's selections will therefore be made from the correspondence, of whatever is of personal and historical interest.

The first letter from Capt. Browne to Sir Robert, who had returned to England on leave of absence is from Flushing 14th Aug 1596 and the last (that has been published in the collection of the Sydney papers in 2 volumes, edited by Arthur Collins in 1746) is dated 12 Mar 1610. It may be remembered that Sir Wm. died in the

month of Aug of that year, and was succeeded by Sir John Throckmorton. From the following letter addressed by Sir Thomas Bodley to Sir Robert Sydney, it would appear that Capt. Browne was desirous of going with his company to France, as there was some prospect of his seeing service abroad. Sir Thomas Bodley was actively employed by Queen Elizabeth for some years, as her political and business agent and envoy to the Low Countries. "From the Hage Sept 16th 1592 "I hope that Capt. Browne hath received my letter and is satisfied fully of my affection to his suite if it lay in my power. There are 4 of the companies of your garrison required by name to be shipped for France, of which his is one." Whilst Sir Robert was out of England Lady Sydney gave birth (on the 1st Dec 1595) to a son. She had caught the measles, and when the child was born, his body was quite covered with the eruptions. The child, however thrived, at Lady Rich's (the famous Penelope Rich) especial request, he was to be called Robert. She, Lord Mountjoy, and Lord Compton, were named the sponsors and Rowland Whyte writes the 22nd of February (1596) "This day is the christening and my lady desires Captain Browne to stay his Journey to the country till it be past, for she will use his service here that day. All the great Ladys, her neighbors, doe bid themselves unto it." The christening was fixed for the 29th of Feb and on the 28th Sir Robt was informed that "Sir Matthew Morgan, Captains Browne, Berry, Morison and Burnham will be tomorrow to attend the great Ladies at Savoye." On the day of Ceremony (Whyte informs Sir Robert) "the Captens of Flushing were their alone and they had all Things prepared and necessary

for their calling." It is also stated that the sponsors "gave three very fair standing Bowles, all of one Fashion, worth 20 pounds each." In July of the next year we find Capt Browne and a number of the officers from the garrison at Flushing, at Plymouth ready to accompany the Earl of Essex, on an expedition against the Spaniards. Philip the 2nd had resolved to make an effort against Ireland, of which the Queen had timely notice, and had planned this movement to counteract it. But contrary winds, storms and a quarrel which broke out between the Earl of Essex and Sir Walter Rawleigh prevented these measures from taking effect, and the fleet returned to Plymouth, as Capt William Browne mentions in his letters. In addition to the commanders of the 3 Squadrons, Lord ^{Charles Blount} Mountjoy was the general of the land forces, which consisted of 6000 men. A fleet of 3 score vessels was equipped for the Expedition. With the land forces Sir Francis Vere acted as Marshal de Camp.

My most honored good Lord.

I will briefly write our Adventures unto you since our putting to Sea from Plimouth, which was on Sunday the 10th of July. We sailed prosperously enough till the next Day at Even, when we felt a contrary Wind and Overblowing. The Order of our going out was in 3 Squadrons, my Lord Essex, my Lord Thomas Howard, Vice Admirall, and Sir Walter Rawley, Rereadmiral: amongst these three were all our Fleet dispersed: On the Monday Night, Sir Walter Rawley left us, and of his Squadron in his Company: we sailed all the rest of us in reasonable good Order, neare the Generall, although the Wether was extreme: but our Shipp, being

the Mary Rose, not the swiftest of Saile, nor the Best of Stearage and havinge darke stormy Wether, lost my Lord General on Friday after being the 15th of July: and we beatt about against Wind till Sunday after, butt cold not recover Sight of our Generall: And on the Same Sunday we were driven to goe back before the Wind, having spent our maine Mast, I meane, having so crased her with bearing Saile in both the Parlners that all her Fishes were broken round about and if she had broken there, we had endangered our ship, which besides had a great Leake: but we made such Shifts, as with Anker Stock, we fished her so well, as that she was able to bring us Home to Plimouth, where we arrived on Tuesday after, and found come in the Day before Sir Walter Rawley, and the Bonaventure. There came in with us the two Spanish Ships, the Foresyght, and the Drednaught. A Day after landed my Lord General at Farmouth, he cam from thence by Land, whose Daunger, how great it was, both through his Leake springing, his miscen Mast, and maine Bolts, and Beamer wrought out and shaken, you shall have generall Newes of Some Shippes, of Soldiours are likewise retourned hither, amonge the rest Jack Sidney with a rotten Flieboat, was in Daunger to be drowned, and was driven back to an _____, and came hither, and in this Day retourned to make Hast with his Men hither, where he shall have other Shipping if he Com in Time, becaus my Lord is determined to putt owt Tomorrow, if the Winde hold; for the most Part of our Forces they Keepe the Sea still, for any Thing we can learne. The Spanish Navy hath bene at Sea, and, as it is reported, sett out the same Day that my Lord General did, and the same foule Wether that hindered us, drove him into Harbour into Pharoe, being already the first Winde to putt out.

We have certen Newes of Sicknes, and Want of Vittails in his Army; there is a Prize or two come in hither, that hath taken Wine, it was for the Navy, better worth than 1500 pounds. We are leave 8 of the Queenes Shippes, the Mariner, where my ^{Excell} Lord went, and shall now be left behind us: the Lyon is sent for him, but he is determined to leave Order that she shall follow, and he will putt himself, with some small Traine, in the Bonaventure, which is likewise leave, as also the Warspyk; the Mary Rose, the Dreadnought, the Foresygt, the 2 Spanish Shippes, called the Andrew, and the Mathew. I can write little of our Purpose, as being a Thinge rather gesed att yett than Knowne, and yett, in Brief, those that Know somewhat, think we shall rather, as we are now, sustaine a Storme than do any good: I write to your Lordship plainly my Conceit of your Frend heare, I think he remembers you not so much as I cold wish, butt itt may be his owne Business presseth him too much; butt my Lord of Rutland often honoreth me, and in most effectionate Kind sort speakes of you, and hath that honorable Conceit of your worth as I wold thinke he scarce cold have thought upon in these Yeares. This Day being Sunday the 26th of July, we are to go out, as my Lord did Yesterday determine; he hath yett received no answer from the Court: ^{came to Va. 1609 with Newport's fleet to Jamestown} Sir Tho Gates went hither from my Lord, and itt is thought, if itt com not very speedily he will make Hast, least a Command shold com to stay him. We shall leave divers of our Land Soldiours behind behind us, and putt the rest, I thinke into such Ships as be nimble of Saile, able to Keep Company with the Queenes Ships, and, I think unless we see we can beat there Fleet, we shall land no Men. There

is for certan resolved, either to attend us, or to come to us, and if we find not the other 8 Ships, that be with my Lord Thomas, ^{Howard} in very good Case to fight, God Knowes whether we shall be able to do him any Harme: Butt of this enough, and I fear to much, if my letter should happen into strange Hands, although I write nothing, butt that, which if I were worthy to asked, I wold speake to our ^{Essex} Generall, and wold thinke I shold be thought both honest, and to honor him in saying so much; but itt may be. he hath som other sure Plott then we can conjecture, which God grant, that his too much forwardness pursue his Countreys Enemies do not endanger so worthy a stay of our Commonwealth. Myself am determined to follow him to the last. This in Hast. From Plimouth this 24 July 1597. Your Lordships most faithful Follower

William Browne.

P. S. There are Rumours, that the Boatts, where Capten Brett, Capten Bodley, and Austin Heath were, shold be all three drowned: Itt is certen that some Shippes with Soldiors have bene spoken with at Sea being in great Distress butt we hope the best; we heare that Sir Antony Shirley is landed at Cooner, and his Ship goeth to Bristow, and he goes to London, but we say heare very poore; Sir Rich' Ruddale was yesterday buried here, being dead of Sea Sicknes: this Storme hath killed the Hosts of many voluntary Gentlemen, who are retourned already from Plimouth: myselfe, if please God I retourne in Safety, will be a continuall Follower of yours, in the Charge which I have thereby your honorable Favour. Arthur Champernon goeth in a little Bark of his owne this Journey, as neatt as himself and the Shipp for Burden, as little as he for a man. My most honorable good Lord.

In my other Letter, whereof likewise this Bearer, Mr. Gilpin, is the Bringer, I writt unto you, that my Lord General on Sunday last shold putt to Sea, butt the uncertainties are so great, and the Wind so inconstant, that we can build uppon no Resolution taken over Night. You hear, I doubt not, by others, that divers of our Foote Companies are discharged, generally all the armed men sent back, butt most of there Army carried along: Sir Ferdinando Gorge goeth not, my Lord Generall hath laine there 2 last Nights on Board. Yesterday, being the 28th, came in my Lord of Cumberland Pines, who, with the Moone, was sent out on Sunday last to find the Fleet, butt were driven back by foule wether, and the Moone is putt into Farmouth: Jack Sydney is not yett comme to us from Waimouth. We have, since my last, herd nothing of our Fleet, but the Advyse, a Pinen, which was sent out on Saturday last, as itt is thought, hath gotten upp unto them. Sir Antony Shirley is heare, and goeth the voiage as it is said, he prom- iseth great Welth with few Shippes: butt for the Honor of my Lord of Essex, many are already weary of their Journey. I am resolved to stay to see the last Man home, att my Retorne to dispose wholly of my self as you shall appoint. Two nights past I supped with Sir Robt Mansfield, where was very good Company, my Lord Burgh, Fatt Ganett, Sir Tho Knowles, Mr. Grevill, Mr. Robt Knowles, and many other: where Mr. Robt. Knowles druncke to me your Health, which went the Round with most exceeding Remembrance.

Cary Renold is faln sick, and I think goes no more: my Lord

Rich

Ritch thogh once he was resolved to go, now, as itt seemes, is in a Dout what to do: I pray God send us a prosperous Wind, that we may see the Events of our Expectation: And thus having nothing else at this instant to write I humbly take my Leave of your Honor to whom, as likewise to my good Lady and your children, I wish all happiness. From Plimmouth this xxixth of July 1597.

Your honor ... William Browne.

My most honorable good Lord.

Since my other two (which likewise you shall receive by Mr. Gilpin) the rest of our Fleet is arrived hear at Plimmouth and have bene within sight of the Land and of the Grayne, where the Advyse came to them and gave them knowledge of my Lord putting back into Plimmouth; she came to them on Wednesday last, at Night, and on Thursday they came roomer for England, they arrived heare on This Sunday Morning, by 4 of the Clock being the Last of July: God be thanked they be all in better case than we expected, having beaten Itt out this foule wether against the Wind, & no Ship of Soldiors missing, & I think that they are the most of them in so good Estate, as that we shal be redy to take the first prosperous Wind. The King of Spaynes Fleet lies still in Starbow, our Fleet met with more of them, butt they had no Wind to come owt, we begin to have now very good fresh Hope of our Journey, which God graunts. If I had thought that my former Letters shold no sooner have come unto you, I wold rather have sent them by way of London. My Lord Generall goeth now in the Repulse, where he was the last year, & my Lord Thomas in the Bonaventure, as itt is said. Thus having no other Thing to write

at this Time, I must humbly take my Leave in hast. From Plimmouth the Last of July 1597.

Your Lordshipps most faithful Follower forever Wm Browne.
 My most honored good Lord - Since my office three, my Lord of Essex went on Monday, last up to the Court, to sollicite the thorough Dispatch that somewhat may yett be effected: my Lord of Southampton is likewise gone after him. Butt to retorne, my Lord Warden, Sir Walter Rawley is gone with my Lord Generall. ^{Wmth Skye} The Lord Monjoy, the Lord Tho Howard & my Lord marshall, are left to governe Matters: our Soldiours are most on Land, dispersed into divers villages, butt carry there meat with them Shipboard: all are known to be safe, unless it be Capt. Berry, of whom as yett we know nothing what should become of him, butt we dont know of his safty. Now desiring not to lett any Things pass, worthy of your Knowledge without advising your Honor I humbly take Lease. Plimmouth this 3. August 1597.

Wm Browne

Concerning this Expedition of the Earl of Essex, complaints were made that Sir Robt Sydney allowed so many officers to leave Flushing to accompany him. It must have been on the return of these officers, through London, on their way back to the Low Countries that Captain Browne was Knighted by Queen Elizabeth. On the 28th October 1597 she made 9 Knights, viz.: Egerton,, Arthur Gorge, vasavour, Fulke Greville, William Browne, Harry Dockney and others, all of whom were from the garrison of Flushing. Sir Robert Sydney procured a short leave of absence, and on his return he was made joint commander with Sir Francis

Vere, over the English Auxiliary forces in Holland. In 1599, we find him making great exertions to induce the Queen to recall him, who seemed determined that he should remain. Finding the Governor so anxious to rejoin his family, Sir Wm Browne went over to England and actively employed himself about the Court for some time in endeavoring to procure the much desired leave for his Chief, Rowland Whyte, had a special interview with the Earl of Essex, and secured his friendly promise of aid, and how industriously Sir Wm worked is told by Whyte - 20. October 1599 -

"Touching your leave to return I moved Sir Robert Cecil about yt at Court. xxx. Sir Wm Browne is here a good solicitor about yt and as sone as he hath kissed the Queen's hand and effected your license, he will away, for he will not goe into the country though many causes move hym to doe yt for his own private Business because he swore he wold not absent himself here hence to be any Hindrance to your Leave which truly he performs and findes hymself infinitely bound unto you for many Kynd Favors he receives here at your honorable Frennd's Hands. He doth you all the Honor he can devise in all places and companies that he is in - Believe me, he is unto you, an right honest and a faithful Frennd and Follower, which in these Dayes are hard to be found." A few days later 24 October "Sir William Browne doth honestly and willingly follow this your Leave to My Secretary ^{Cecil} who wold have hym attend my Lord Admiral (Essex) about yt and he wold second hym: my Lord Admiral protested to Sir William he would doe yt and that next to his own children, he most respected and loved you and your children. I see Sir William Browne makes

this one of his chiefest Busines at Court which I give way for hym to doe but I accompany hym and assist hym in yt." The efforts of Sir Wm Browne prove to be of no avail, and he is about to return. Whyte writes - 13 Nov (1599) " Secretary (Cecil) remembers his Promis and my Lord Admiral, unto you, and will answer nothing but that he will write himself unto you, by Sir William Browne."

Before returning Sir Wm leaves the matter in the hands of an able & willing ally the Countess of Warwick (Lady Rich) as Whyte informs us - 16 March 1599/1600 - "My Lady Warwick coming from the Queen told me, that her Majestie will beg her signifie her Pleasure unto you, and with all told her, that she might be assured it shuld be nothing to discontent you; and by Francke, her Ladyship meanes to send it unto you. My Secretary alsoe returning from the Queen to his chamber, called me unto him and said "By G_____ I moved the Queen for Sir Robt Sydney's Return: she was angry with me for it and will not lett him come over. I know not how others may prevail; her Majestie is angry also at him for seeking it." I know this will very much discontent my Lady who was in Hope to have seen you by Easter or very shortly after. She will surely come to court and kneele to the Queen herself about it" - 13th October 1600 -- "Your leave (of absence from Flushing) was moved by My Secretary, then by my Lord Admirall and then after by my Lady Warwicke. The answer her Majestie made unto them all was to one purpose: "well, well, he shall come over, but I will see further yet." My Lord Admirall besought her Majestie to let hym know, what cawse she had to put yt of? She answered "That he shuld not be partaker of yt." If yt be (said he) the advertisement your Majestie had of the Archdukes Preparacion to beseige Ostend I can

assure you he hath put all his Forces into Garrison - Ostend sayd the Queen, "why may yt not be Flushing? And then I know Sidney wold not be away." My Secretary (as my Lord Harbert can witness, who went this morning and spoke with his Honour, on this Matter) protested that he did not thincke her Majestie wold have denied yt unto hym: that he was soe farre ingaged by his Promise to you that he cold not tell what to doe to performe yt: that he wold not give yt over but desires others may move yt and he will further yt. I have gotten my Lord Treasurer (Buckhurst) to ashure me he will move yt, to whom I have delivered all the reasons why you desire to be here. My Lady Warwicke ys passionately troubled at yt and cannot tell what she shuld say or thincke at her Majesties answers. Her Ladyship tells me that she cannot learne the cawse, or any cawse, why you are staid, though she pressed to Know it from my Lord Admirall and My Secretary, who likewise protest they doe not Know yt." -- On the 18th October (1600) Rowland Whyte goes down to Penshurst in Kent, the seat of the Sydney family, to spend a Sunday, it being the birth day of Mistress Mary Sydney the eldest daughter of Sir Robert, to whom he writes upon the old topic "After I had beate my Brains to find out the Mistery of your Leave not being granted I came to the Knowledge that her Majestie shuld say That she was importuned for Sidney's leave, who had no busines here, but to seake a Title of Honor. Your Lordship can gather more by this than myself can conceave, for myne own Part, I see by My Sectaries Case, that he will use the best credit he hath who lately said he could not make the Queen grant it, but he hoped to persuade her Majestie unto it." At last Queen Elizabeth

grudgingly grants the Leave, and Whyte announces it to Sir Robert, 30th October 1600. Myne owne deere Lord -- Your Leave is now graunted, but such a doe, as I never knew the like.- it is minsed and sawsed, as by a Letter written unto you (which shall accompany it) from my Lord Admirall and My Secretary will appeare more at large. In few words, you had not come over at all, if My Secretary had not assured upon his Honor ^{Ceal} that you were very ill, and that there you cold have no Remedy to prevent the Danger of your Sick-ness. I was examined about it and protested, upon my Duty and allegiance to the Queen, that I understoode too well, both by your own Lettres and the report of all that came from Flushing, that you were very ill, and that it might cost you your Liffe, if this Wynter you did not speedily take great care of your Health, which cold not be done at Flushing. My Secretary desired the Queen to call my Lord of Rutland unto her, who lately had seen you. Her Majestie did soe and he assured her, upon his Faith and Honour, that he left you ill, and not well able to stur out of your Chamber. These reasons induced the Queen to grant it and within 2 or 3 dayes, it will be signed & sent over unto you. I wold have had only My Sectaries Lettre, signifieng the Queen's Pleasure, lest it might receve a further stay, but his Honor Bid me have no Feare, for now their was no cawse for it, and that her Majestie wold speedily dispatch it. Her Majestie told them, that nothing cold have moved her to have given you leave to come away from your charge but your Sickness: but if she cold find that it was but a Devise to amuse her, she would take it very ill at their Hands and you shuld suffer for it, but if you were ill indeed, she then wold

see that all Help shuld be ministred to prevent any further Danger, as to one she loved & cared for. My Lady Warwicke is not half well at London & when I spoke with her last seemed to have a desperate hope of your return. * My Lord Harbert is practicing at Greenwich. I sent him word of this: he leapes, he daunces, he makes his Horse runne with more Speede: he thanckes me and meanes to be exceeding merry with you this winter in Baynards Castell, where you must take Phisicke." Sir Wm Browne to Sir Robert Sydney-- "Your Lordship's letter dated at Canterbury the 17th Nov (1600) was delivered me yesterday. I have putt Dick Smith in my mynd of your wild Boar and Rhenish Wyne & this morning I send a Drum to who shall from myself have a Remembrance with him for Wyld Boar & when Hawkes pass by I will buy your Lordship a of Hagar Faulcons." About this time an incident occurred at Flushing which caused the ^{Wm Browne} Deputy Governor some uneasiness. He received an anonymous letter from London craftily conveying the idea that the writer (who professed to be his friend) knew he was implicated in a correspondence with the Earl of Essex & that his name was down in the bloody head roll of those who were doomed to punishment sooner or later. Sir Wm at once wrote to Sir Robt Cecil & the Privy Counsel and prepared to go over to England and demand an audience of the Queen.

* My Lord Harbert" (or Herbert) was the Son of the Earl of Pembroke who married as his 3rd wife Mary Sydney, the sister of Sir Robert. She has been immortalized by Ben Jonson "as Sydney's Sister Pembrokes mother." William, Earl of Pembroke was born in 1580 and died at Baynard's Castle the London residence of the Sydneys. He succeeded his father in 1601, and title passed to his brother Philip.

Sir William Browne to Sir Robert Cecil, Knight
 Ryght Honorable

I am bold to wryte in generall to yr ^{Lordes} LLs of her Maj^{ties}
 most hon: privy Counsell and to send herein enclosed a libelly
 letter such was yesterday delivered to my man by an ordinary
 Dutch post, he wold thereby make mee beleeve yt I were as very
 a villen as hee, or at least yt I were thoght so to bee: I
 shold take itt as a great plague from God, if there were any
 such concept of mee, if itt bee butt a slander of a seditious
 roge, I shall account itt as a great honour to bee numbered
 amonge so many most honorable and vertuous p'sonages as there
 traiterous mallice endeavorets by scandelous libells to defame,
 if itt shold bee so yt such opinions were held of mee, my lyfe
 and goods must answer both shame my base disloyalty: as in
 generall I desyre to bee knowne by all the counsell to be a
 p'fect honest subject in such respects, so do I p'ticularly
 beseech your honor above the rest (because I honor you most) yt
 to you I may bee knowne to be such a one as is worthy to be well
 accounted of: and even so with my hasty prayers to God for your
 honor I humbly take leave.

Flushing this 8th of July 1601. Your honors as much at
 Command as any servant you have.

addressed to

William Browne

"To the ryght honorable Syr Robert Cecill Knight--
 principall Secretary to her Majesty, and master of the
 wards at the Court.

- To the Lords of the Privy Council -

Ryght honorable and worthy Lords -

This letter enclosed comes from one yt termes himself my frend, butt being a scholler I learned this yt frendship cannot be held with dishonest men, of such number he appears to as by his letters, derogating in libelling sort from your honorable and mercifull government of our Country under so admirably myld and gracious a Queene. I fear I am not alone to whom he hath addressed desguysed and pleges of his Judas lyke meaning: His project may be to wound ye harts of poore men yt foolishly beeleeve in him jealousy, discontentment, and feare where no fear is drawing them on to desperate courses who are yett unknown and happily despayer of there owne justifications butt in Shooting at my conscience he hath lost his ayne, for I never blush when such matters are propounded and God hath given mee a trew hart yt bidde mee lose no courage. Hee seemes indeed to know mee in part, I wold bee ashamed he should know me otherwyse than to bee as himselfe in a clause of his letters confeses of mee zealous in religion, to have a loyall hart to her Maj^{ie} and a dutifull affection to my country: and as for my correspondency, I ever held with ye late Earle of Essex I call him nor none of his seditious faction to bee witnesses of my innocency, my actions shall answer for themselves whosoever dare accuse mee; and itt is ye least part of my thought to believe any man yt shall tell mee much less will I beleve such a traitour who wrytes this, yt I am suspected with your honors, or yt my name is in ye bloody head roll, as he falsely and wickedly termes itt (where so wonderfull

clemency hath bene used). In ye last part of his letter wherein he layes himself too open to discovery to make mee see his dissembling villany. Hee beewrayes also his simplicity by inserting this foolish supposition, yt your honors would hereafter under other pretence send for mee; as if he, myself or any other cold bee ignorant yt your LL^S least command myght bring mee over to tryall, whensoever and wheresoever itt pleased you -- nolens volens. Butt I desyre no longer to live then I will rune willingly uppon the least somans from your honours to p'forme any action commanded by yow or to justify any action I may bee accused to have done against your worthy proceedings. My conclusion is ryght honorable yt as itt is to mee most evydent, yt this libeller is a most lying rayler against those yt gouverne the steerage of our Commonwealth soe. I lykewyse assure myself yt he lyes in his p'suasive speeches tending to lead in my conjecture yt false measure were ment to myself w^{ch} I will not be so wicked as once to think. My most humble is to understand your LL^{PS} Conceypts of ye letters and of myself. In ye meantyme I will pray to ye allmighty to blesse all your most honorable councells for our soveraigne Queenes best service, as hitherto he hath blessed them. From Flushing this 8th of July -- 1601.

This letter was delivered my man when I was att ye water gate expecting newes from Ostend: at my retourne my man gave itt mee in ye presence of C. Baskervyle, Capten Williams and 3 or 4 other officers Opening itt and finding no name, reading 3 or 4 lynes in ye middle of ye letter I was astonyed and enquiryed for ye bringer, he was an ordinary messenger of Holland. I frequently sent to seeke him.

butt found him not. Beefore I redd further I called ye two above mentioned Captens and redd itt beefore them. I will doo my best whatsoever itt costeth to fynd out ye if possibly I may itt was delivered mee yesterday: I wold not Keep itt longer then I could conveniently send itt.

I am your LL^{ps} most humble servant till death endured -

William Browne

To the most honorable the Lord of her Maj^{ies} most honorable privy counsell give there at her Court...

- The anonymous Letter to Sir Wm Browne -

Syr: yt is not unknowen to yow that a true and trusty frend is tryed in doubtful and dangerous occasions. Whereupon having always harboured in my hart an unfeigned affection towardes you and yours, for yo^r manifold curtesyes extended to me and myne, I could not rest satisfyed in conscience to have performed the part of a kind and constant frend, unles I made you partaker of such occurrences as may tend, in processe of tyme to the danger of your parson, unlesse ye same be with prudence forseene, with discretion debated with judgment digested, and wth policye prevented, and in ye discovery of this yow may ye more safely enteteigne a sincere conceit of myne undoubted frendship considering I doe not thereby endeavor, to pike a thanck, or crave a curtesy, or clayme a requital, in as much as I conceale my name, w^{ch} of necessity I am driven to doe especially in these ficke tymes, in w^{ch} wheather we live in court, or converse in citty, or repose in country we find no one practice more rife and ready, then to love wyth brow and lyte wyth to shake wyth hand

and harme wyth hart. So as that the mayster dare not trust his servant, nay the husband ye wife, ye father his sonne, ye mother her daughter, wherefore having balanced ye damage of ye tyme wyth ye favor and firmness of myne affection, as by the later I am moved to discover for y^{OR} securitye what I know; so by ye formour I am warned to suppress my name in silence & muche the soner, in that I stand very wel assured, ye yow would not wish his harme, who loveth y^{OR} good, nor covet his ruin that seketh y^{OR} saftye. Wherefore not to hold you longer in suspence, thus standeth ye case, yow are not ignorant, what doleful chang the late Earle of Essex, his sudden fal hath already made and is lyke to make hereafter in sundrye personages, that in calling and qualitye are honorable and worshipful, which I confess cannot seeme strange to those that are better wyth ye mutations of wordley estates, w^{ch} undoubtedly doe leane upon such feeble brackettes that wyth ye sudden blast of an expected storme they are eftsoon turned upsye downe topsy turveye for lyke as when maine pillar falleth or snicketh, by w^{ch} a stately building is underpropt, ye draweth downe wyth yt a rablement of stoanes of sundrye shapes, eaven so yt hapneth in ye ordinary course of this wandring world that when great and lofty potentates fal from the top of fortune whether sundrye others are forced to tumble downe headlong wyth them to the utter overthrow of themselves and of there posterity. How be yt their fal were the less to be rued, yf only ye guiltye were punished, and the fault less spared. But alas good Syr, the matter standeth not alwayes so sure in joynet. To omit ye tragical discourse of former ages and to cal yow home to ye view

of ye present face of o^{ur} country, wee feind therein such spying, such prying, such , such shifting, such copying, such foysting that many although otherwise true and loyal subjectes Know not, whom to trust, or to what resolution to betake themselves, let a man commend ye dead, he is thereupon suspected to condemne ye quick, let hym be silent, he is helde for let him converse in companye his woordes are wrested to a wrong construction. The closets and eares of o^r rulers stand alwayes open to every promoter, his , whomsoever they empeache is forthwyth had in jealousye. Matters are measured not by ye bright sonnbeames of truth, but by ye hidden malice of lying reporters pretending in shew her Majestyes service wurcking underhand ye ruin of their neighbours. By w^{ch} unconscionable practises sundry innocent persons and sound subjects are lyke in tyme to be brought in question. In which bloody bed rol y^{or} name (my dear frend) hath bene seene and read by a man of great calling and of no less credit, as himself in confident secreseye told me. I pleades seriously for yow as reason and frendship required, by presenting before him y^{or} zeale in religion, y^{or} loyaltye to her majesty and y^{or} dutiful affection towards y^{or} country & wythal, like correspondency you have had with ye Earle of Essex, with sundry the lyke pregnant circumstances. I wish, man, quoth he, al those pointes I know to be as true as yow can tel me: but doe you not remember Esop, his fable of ye Lyon and ye fox, that in princes courtes, some tyme a bunch of fleash is accounted an horne, and wyth this short and sharp answer he left me alone.

Wherefor good Sir, having this secret inckling given me by so great a personage, I could not suffer yt to burne any longer in my brest, but helde yt for convenient to acquaint yow wth ye contentes of ye communication, that hereby yow may prevent ye malicious packing of y^{OR} secret foes, according to ye old sayd saw-- Once warned, haulf armed.

Then have I layed open this festering sore, wishing yt lay in my power to find owt som fit salve that might heale yt, but it I refer to y^{OR} good consideration. How beyt I am of opinion, that it will not be amisse to dissemble ye matter for none would confess yt albeyt he were charged therewyth, and wthal I suppose yt ye lords of ye Counsayl will not acquaint yow wth ye form or surmises, as long as yow live in ye place and charge you possesse, but rather they wyl devise how to trayne yow from thence, when ye hear of these present garboyles shall be somewhat aswaged, by pretending some colourable conference wth yow, concerning such poynetes, as appertaine to y^{OR} charge. The Lord so direct yow in al y^{OR} proceedinges, send yow of his grace in an ample wise as I wish to myne owne soule.

From my lodging in London the 15th of June 1601.

y^{OR} most

N. L.

Sir I kept this letter this moneth and more expecting to hit upon som trusty frend, and so having found a marchant bound for France, I requested him to endorse the letter in ye French

Thus endorsed in a french hand A monsieur Mons Guillaume Browne, Lieutenant gouverneur della ville de blesinge, a blessings.

Sir William Browne to Sir Robert Sydney. *

My most honorable good Lord

On Saturday last in the Morning, I delivered your Lordship's Letters to My Secretary; he was pleased to lett the Queenes Letters be delivered by myself; and very honorably on Sunday Morning after Prayers, the Queen walking into the Gardens at Sir William Clarks, after Mr. Bodley had first spoken 4 or 5 Words with her Majestie, My Secretary mentioned me; she presently called for mee, and was pleased to say I was welcomm, with many good Wordes. I must tell your Lordship, that before, having no Conference with My Secretary about any Busines, he had told me in the Morning, in passing from his Coach into the Court, that he had informed the Queen how much I was grieved according to that your Lordship had written unto him, and told me, that her Majestie wo ld speake with mee, and that then I knew well enough how to answer her; and so, indeed, I had no sooner Kyssed her sacred Hands, butt that she presently made me stand upp, and spoke somewhat lowd, and sayd, Com hither Browne; and pronounced that she held me for an old faithful Servant of hers, and said, I must give Content to Browne, or som such Speeches: and then the Trayne following her, she sayd, Stand, stand back, will you not let us speake, but you wilbe Hearers? And then walked a Turne or twoo protesting her most gracious Opinion of my self: And before God, Browne, sayd shee, they do me Wrong that will make so honest a Servant be jealous that I should mistrust him. I forgott

* The above letter, somewhat abbreviated, is given by Miss Strickland, in her life of Queen Elizabeth, but the anonymous letter seems to have escaped her notice.

to tell your Lordship, that when I first kneeled, I delivered your Lordships Letter, which she received, butt redd itt not till I was gone from her. I told her Majestie that your Honour did not tell itt me in any such Sort, butt that I being your Officer, to whom, in your Absence, you used to leave the Charg of her majesties cautionary Towne, you cold, for your owne Assurance, do no les but seeke Meanes to be most assured of me and mine; whereuppon she told me, in what Order she had spoken to your Lordship, much to that Purpose itt pleased you to tell me; and told me of that of my Lady Morgan; but added, that she had that assurance of me to. and thoghe her word alone had bene more than sufficient to content so mean a Servant as my self, yett itt pleased her to swear unto me, That she had as good Affiance in my Loialty, as in any Mans that Served her. My Answers your Lordship may gess at, and my Joy then hath made me joyful ever since: But I must not forget to tell your Lordship, that having walked a Turne or Twoo, she called for a Stoole, which was sett under a Tree, and I began to Kneele, butt she would not suffer mee: in so much as that after twoo or three Deryalls which I made to Kneele, still she was pleased to say, that shee wold not speake with mee unles I stood upp, whereupon I stood upp and after having reconfirmed her royall Favour, and gracious Opinion of me, she discoursed of many Things, and particularly of the Distast she had of the States Armyes re-tourning; and it seemes, to your Lordship be it spoken, that Sir Fr. Vere hath layn all the Fault uppon Conte Maurice; yett I answered thus much, that I hard that Counte Maurice did protest, that this Tourney was never of his plotting, nor much allowed of

by him: Tush, Browne, saith she, I know more than thou doest: When I hard said shee, that they were, at the first, with there Army as hygh as Nemegham, I knew then that no Good wold be done; butt Maurice to serve his owne Turne wold, in the Ende, twine to the Grave; I looked they shold have comm downe nearer Ostend, or have taken som Towne in the Hart of Brabant, or Flanders, that myght have startled the Enemy; and that they promysed mee, or els I wold not have lett them have so many Men; and with much Discontent to my Subjects as I know, butt for the Love which they bear mee they would not so well digest, and now, forsooth, Morrice is comme from his Weapon to the Spade, for all that he is one of the best in Christendom. Itt was not befitting for mee to answer any Thing for him, when I saw her Majestie so informed alreedy: the Truth must appear to her in Tyme, and from a better Hand than my self. Then she talked of the French King, what he had promysed them; I answered, that we receaved itt as Certen, that the French King rather marvelled att there foolish Boldnes in venturing there Army so farr, than that he ever gave them any Assurance to joyne with them. Tush, Browne, sayd she, do not I know that Bucanvall was written to, and written to again, to move the Army to go that Way, and that then he wold help them? If that were so, sayd I, then your Majestie may thinke itt was butt a French Promys. I can not think of all the Discourses we hadd, yett one Thing I must not forgett to tell your Lordship, that I told her, the Hope of those of Zeland, consisted alone in her Majestie, by whose commanding Motion to the States Generall there Army myght be brought to do somewhat of Moment in those Parts.

On Saturday I will wryte again, if any Thing fall out, in the mean Tyme, worthy your Knowledge. From London this 12th of August, 1601.

Your Honor etc. etc.

William Browne.

Postscript - "My Lord, I send you with this Letter all the Queen's Entertainment at Cheswicke and att my Lord Keepers, I have gotten them copped out for you. We dranke, yesternyght, a Health to your Lordship, at my Lord of Pembroke, where was Sir Henry Leonard; My lady Ann mends very well." Sir William was in England early in July 1602 and writes to Sir Robert that he "arrived at Margett and the next morning took horse towards London, stayed 2 Howers att Canterbury where in your Lordshipp's name, I saluted W Manwood and of him borrowed a Gelding whereon I sett Lieut Johnson and from Sittingbourne sent him the next day to London and about 6 of the clock, very weary, yett made a stepp to my lord of Pembroke, whom I found not within. My lady Anne kept her chamber. There I mett with Sir Henry Leonard whose good company stayed me there so long, till my Lord himselfe came in, to whom I delivered your Lordships letter and so toke Leave, because thoghe it was 8 of the clock yett I wold trye where to gett Horses to go in the morning to the Court, where I hope to bee before they be removed: for as, I hear, itt laye yesterdaye at Sir William Clarke, butt is this day to remove somewhat nearer Otelands where it is thought it will stay 8 or 10 dayes and although that her Majesty hath sent my Lord of Hertford word, that yet she meanes to see him notwithstanding itt is held the determined Progress is at the furthest. xxx. I am now putting Foot

in Sturrop this present Saturday morning at 4 of the clock the
7th of July, 1602.

I am and always wilbe your Lordships &c Wm Browne
My most honored good Lord Since my coming into Engl' I have
only received one Letter from your Lordship. I have bene in the
country and am retourned and now will, uppon your Lordships
summons retourne to Flushing, butt wold humbly desyre your Lord-
ship for my safe coming that your Lordship wilbe pleased that

that the next week a man of warr, may be procured to
com on this coast, to take mee in, least I miss of other convoy;
uppon knowledge that he is com either to Dover Sound, or Margett
I wilbe with him in 24 Houres, God willing. On Friday or Satur-
day I go to court, where I wilbe 4 or 5 dayes & then know if any
service wilbe comanded me of your Lordship and if I receive
any letters for your Lordship, will presently dispatch one with
the letters, though myself perhaps shall stay 4 or 5 Dayes
after, uppon private busines. The Serjant Major's man came
hither on Monday last and went the same day to the Court: it
seemes that he brought the newes of Master Gilpin's Death, for
whose Place I hear there are many Sutors, and if I thought I
myght prevayle, I wold speake for my selfe. The Serjant Major
wrytes unto mee that certain English Prisoners at Sence rayle
bitterly and speake vilanously of mee: butt what they say par-
ticularly, he wrytes not: itt is my Ponishment to be payd with
Ingratitude where I have well deserved, for I protest before God,
I have laboured all the wayes possible I cold, to doo them good.
London September the 15th 1602.

The George Gilpin, alluded to in the above letter, had been the Secretary to the Embassy to the States General at the Hague for several years.

Sir William returns to Flushing, and writes to Sir Robert 16 of October 1602, that he arrived there on the Tuesday morning after his departure, "and sooner he could not have returned."
 xxxxx "when I came to the Haghe the Griffin and divers others, and many of our nation, were of Opinion, that I came to be in Gilpin's place, butt I told your Lordship what Blocks were in my way neither indeed do I desyre itt (seeing Mr. Edmonds, my deare Frend and one that honours your Lordship is lyke to have itt, in case Mr. Bodely refuse itt) but this I humbly desyre your Lordship to do for me, that you will testify to My Secretary that I did not idly desire it without having some sufficiency, to do her Majesty service in the Place." -- Flushing 29th November, 1602. "His Excellency pretends to the Tenth part of the Carrack and I think shall have itt and the States of the Land the 5th. I have bought a Turkey Carpet for my Lord of Bergeneny, 7 Dutch Ells long, itt cost 27 Pounds Sterling butt it is estemed very fine & well worth the money. Whyte Quilts of Calico, sticht with Silk are 7 Pounds & 8 Pounds Sterling the peece: in fine there is nothing almost that is good, cheap, but Trash: at Flushing your Lordship's Government, all Things are well, God be thanked and the Plague diminiseth: ^{Daniel} Mr. Danyell began yesterday again to preach in our Church. All the English Captens have their Commissions directly from the States and are sworn to them. I hear that of late Sir Francis Vere, ryding abroad in his coach, mett

his Excellencys coach and passed by without saluting him: and that afterwards he sent his Excuse, saying that he was sorry and that he sawe not his Excellency's coach becaus itt passed upon his blynd syde: I hear that his Excellencys answer was, that it was a blynd Excuse."

Reports reach Holland that Queen Elizabeth is very ill and the Hollanders express much concern--a boat from Gravesend arrives and its passengers are questioned and assure them that "Her Majesty had been somewhat sick but not any way in Daunger of Death. I caused presently this newes to be sent them: it was so pleasing to this Towne, as on my Faith your Lordship might

Change in there Faces for Joye and myself Captain Fleming, Captain Ray, the Burgomaster and 6 or 7 more of the best Sort went and drunke good Carrowses in Renyshe wyne to her Majesties Health. (22nd March 1602).

Three days after the following letter was received, of the Queen's death, when King James 1st was proclaimed with great ceremony, by Sir William Brown at Flushing & Sir Francis Vere at Brill.

Sir William Browne to Sir Robert Sydney on the death of Queen Elizabeth.

My most honorable good Lord.

I received your Lordships, dated the 25th of March by Mr. _____, the 29th of the same; the contents of your Letter certifying the Death of our late dread Sovereign, and the proclayming of our ryghtfull Kinge, Kinge James, bredd in many Harts mingled Passion, Sorrow for the _____ of one, under whose

Gouuernment we had so longe lived happy: and Gladness, that God, in his mercifull Provydence, had so disposed of the Succesion to the Crowne, as that both the Ryght of Succeeding was held inviolate, and he, who by that Ryght is proclaimed reputed, and undoubtedly esteemed of all Men, that have been trewly informed of his vertues, a most worthy, and thryce excellent Prince from whom we can expect, by his good and godly Government rather an augmenting than diminishing of our forepassed Happines. Uppon the Receipt of your Lordship's Letter, I foreslowed no Tyme to proclaime him in this Garrison accordingly, as your Letter had instructed me; but first I sent for the Burgomasters and Secretary and Jacques Gelley (Ja. Fransen was sick) Luuesson, with the Secretary and Gelley came: I delivered them your Lordship's Desyre, and after gave them your Letter; they made Shew to be very willinge to doo what was befitting: I told them, that the same Day, by 12 of the Clock, I wold assemble the Souldiours and proclayme him, and wished them to be ready to accompany me at the same Tyme; it was uppon Tuesday, our Market Day: This I delivered them in the Morninge, and presently dispatched my Servant with letter to W Valck, desyring him to communicate to the States my Intention, following the Proceeding in England, to publish the Proclamation in Flushing, wishing them to depute som, if they thoght it fit, to accompany me in the Doing of it. Our Burgomaster, presently after our Conference, assembled in the Statehowse, and upon consultation and the Secretary went themselves to the States at Middlebourgh to conferre with them; in the meane Time, I commaunded all our Souldiours to be in Armes

at there Ensiner Lodgings, that at an Instant upon any Summons, they might come into the Market Place. It was longe before the Burgomaster returned from Middleborough, neither hard I any Thing from thence, till it was neare 12 of the Clock. At length my Man and they came almost together, and sent me Word, that the States themselves were lykewyse upon the Way; whereuppon myself, with the Serjeant Major, went, in the mean Tyme, to the Statehowse, where I spoke again to the Burgomaster, and some of the Counsell; but whyle I was on this Conference, about there joyning with me, Word was brought that the States were come; only that W Valek comming by Skute was not yet arryved: I broke of my Speech hereuppon, becaus they seemed willing that I shold communicate it with the States: Valek arryved not long after, and then the States sent unto me a Messenger to tell me, that they were come expressly to conferre with me & that if, in the After Noone, I wold be at Leysure, they wold come Home unto me. I sent one expressly unto them, to desyre them, that, for Matter of Importance, they wold come unto the Stathowse presently, which they did: There, after other Preface which I thought fit, I told them what I had moved, and what I found reasonable the Burghers of the Towne shold do in this Busines, and used such arguments as my poore Wit cold best frame; Vanderwerck, in the name of the rest (for it seemed they had before imagined what I wold demaunde) beganne his Answer, with a Protestation of the Grief generally conceived for the Losse of so worthy a Queen, to whose goodness there whole Country was so much, and so infinitely bound; but seeing that every ones Dayes were in the Hands of the Lord, they cold not but content themselves with his good Will and Pleasure;

and that in this affliction it was no small Comfort unto them, to hear how peaceably Things were determined of in England, for the Establishment of the Succession uppon the King of Skotland whom they had ever bene in good Favour and League withall, and from whom they expected, and hoped allwyse lovinge, and carefull Consideration of there Estates: and to that Ende to shew with what Gladnes they received the newes of his beinge proclaymed in England, they were all of them, as many as were at Home come to congratulate with me for it; but that I knew, that they being but a Member of the whole Body, cold not determine of any Thing, without with the other provinces; that they made no Question but that, uppon general Consultation, Contentment shold be given as was requisite: and that, in the meane Tyme, they did with all Gladnes give Applause to the Proclayminge. My Answer, as the gave me Leave to judge fit, was, that thoghe I cold wish they all joynd, yett that seinge itt cold not stand with there united Correspondence, that I wold not move them of Leland in generall unto itt, butt that I cold do no less for the assurance of our mutuall Affections in this Town; seing that we did take the Oath of Obedience to the Kinge, and mainteyninge of the Contracts, that the Burghers shold lykewyse doo the lyke, till further Agreement were concluded betweene the King's majesty and the States Generall, and that this was fitt for the Government; or else we shold dout with what authority to commaund, and they not be resolute in their Devotion to obey, as was meet for the Safe Keeping of this Towne; the Serjeant Major was present all this Tyme. Having thus ended, telling them how acceptable such forwardnes wold be, I ryse upp & went out, &

gave them leave to deliberate: the Burghomaster, after having had some conference with them, went asyde lykewyse into another Chamber by themselves. I was not longe after sent for in again, & then vanderwerck for the rest sayd, that they assured themselves, that I did understand well there Country Government, & that for them of Flushing to take a new Oath, without Consent of the rest, were to severe them from the other Townes; and that there was no occasion for me to dout of all good Correspondence; for that they did not understand that any Man was by the Death of the Queene discharged of their Oath for observing the Contract: and desyred that for a whyle I wold be contented with that Satisfaction. My Answer was, that they shold perceive by my Proceeding that I wold urge them no Way further than Reason requyred, and therefore wold frame my Request according to their own Discourse, that seing they cold not approve that as yett a new Oathe shold be offred to the Burghers in Flushing: yet that itt myght by Proclamation be made Knowne by the Burghomasters to all the Inhabitants, that there Oathe heretofore made for holdinge & mainteyning the Contract between the Queen's majesty, of famous memory and them, was still remayning in full Force, Strength and virtue, whereof they were all to take Knowledge, that itt might in all Respects be observed. This they cold not say much against, and so in the Ende itt was concluded, which was all I cold do for the present, which I hope, your Honour will hold Sufficient, seing our Command is after a sort (more precario): After this, being allmost 2 of the clock, I proceeded to the Proclamation, which by good Fortune, Mr. Constable had broght

over with him, myself redd itt in the Statehouse Bay window, being accompanied by the States of Zeland, as many as were att Home, and not Sick: Malrey was sick: there were present Valck, Huessens, Vanderwerck, Myrons, Olearatson, Zuybland and Bonifacius: these all leaned out att the Wyndowe by mee, as lykewyse did the Burghomasters, and Sons of the best Burghers, and the Preachers of the Towne in another Chamber, so that itt was done with great solemnity, and acclamation of all Sortes: when the printed Proclamation was redd out, I then followed the Contents of your Lordships Letter, that concurring with what was done in Englande, by Authority and Command: From the Lord Governor being absent, I Liefftenant Governor, Serjeant Major, Capten &c &c of this Garrison were to take our Oath of Allegiance for defending and mainteyninge of this Town, with hazard of Lyfe and Goodes, to the Behoof of our Kings Ryght, following the Contract &c, till further Order were to be established. This I red Word by Word out of your Lordship's Letter, only adding for the Burghers better contentment, till further Order were established. At the Ende of all, I commanded the Souldiours, in syne of there Loyalty and joyfull receiving the Oath, to hold up their Hand, and say, God save Kinge James: which they all did: and after to conclude, delivered two very excellent Vollys of Shott and were answered by the Ordinance rounds about the wall. When this was finished, having more Devotion to eat, having fasted all Day, than to hear a Sermon, we went presently to the Landryght, where my self, the Serjeant Majors, and the rest of the Captaines, had determynd on our owne Purses to have been merry with the Burghomasters; butt

the States coming also, the Burghomasters defrayed all; and we were drunke all in drinking the Health of our King: To end my Letter let me assure/^{your} Lordship, that never any Governour had more firmly affectionate Hartes to his Service than your Lordship hath in this Garrison: and for my own Particular I will never be otherwyse. At nyght we shott of our Ordinance doble again round about the Wall, and made Fires of Joy: God send our King James long Lyfe.

Flushing, this 4th of April -- 1603

Your Lordships &c

William Browne

Sir William Browne to Lord Sydney (created in 1603).

"I have received your Honours Letter, dated the 18th of February. I acknowledg your Honours especiall Love towards me, in that itt pleaseth you to make me know how matters stand between the Lord Cecill and yourself; my comfort is that he shall not find any Staff to beat a Sydney and good my Lord (thogh I be not worthy to counsell you) yet give me leave to deliver my advyse: that in no case (seing your Honour is innocent of any just Imputation of wronging him) you make semblant to care what he unjustly conceyves of you, for so undowtedly he will sooner be brought to fynd his own Errour thereby any Protestation that he were misinformed. Perhaps he is lyke som women, who seekes them that Sue not unto them, and flye from those that adore them. If my Hart were not fixed in trew Duty and Love I am bound to respect your Honour, or I wold never wryte thus boldly and plainly butt because I love zealously I cannot hold my Peace, yett cold I wish that all were at Peace with you, so itt maybe done without

Impeachment to your Honour. I will add hereunto a little secret
 Fear which I, by much adoe, did somewhat wringe out of Malrey: he
 spake of Sir Anthony Standen's Errors, & of his Commissions re-
 ceived and that he was especially directed to the Queen's Majesty
 as in asurance of her religion and that she should persuade the
 King to change his religion: and he added that if all were true
 which he had heard in secret that there were many great Ones in
 England that were not Friends to the Religion. I answered what I
 thought fitt and drew my argument from the Ladies that her Majesty
 pleased to use a Companion, assuring him, that they were all of
 the reformed religion, He seemed to tell it me in great secret
 as though he were loath I should speak of it to your Honour. I
 write it that you may let me have notice if it were so and
 what hopes I may boldly give to the contrary. Flushing 26th
 February -- 1603.

Sir Horatio Vere to Sir William Browne

Good Father I thanke you very much for the Letters you
 sent me: if yt falls within the compasse of my Power to doe you
 any acceptable service you shall fynde me ready: you have the
 maine of your honest Friends of Flushing amongst us, that I do
 forbear to acquaint you with our occurrences. In the last Busi-
 nesnes we had to do, with the Enemis, Capt William behaved him-
 self very worthelie with the Troope he commaunded. We mist a
 fayre occasion to have done a good Dayes Worke, which, I doubt not,
 but you have had yt at large. So with my Kindest Salutations and
 my Prayers for your Health, I recommend you to the Almighty Pro-
 tection and rest your lovinge Son and most assured Friend to be
 commaunded.

Campe the 21st of May - 1604.

-H. Vere-

Arthur Collins says in a note that "this Sir Horotio Vere was the youngest son of Geoffrey Vere of Kirby Hall in Eng., 3rd son and youngest son of John Earl of Oxford, who died at his manor of Colne Eng. on 21st March. 31. Henry VIII. Sir Horotio was Knighted for his valour at the taking of Cadiz 1596 and before that time had signalized himself in the wars of the Low Countries, both he and his brother Sir Francis in their Letters to Sir Wm Browne subscribe themselves, your loving Sons, whereby it may be presumed they were initiated by him in the Military Art, for I dont find they were any way allied. In the year 1600 he with his Brother Sir Francis gained great renown in the Battle of Newport and shewed, none were then equal to the English in courage or conduct. In 44, Elizth Sir Francis Vere was appointed General of all the Dutch Forces without and within Ostend with an absolute authority and Commission. Horotio was made Lord Vere of Tilbury by King James - 25 July in the year of his reign. The two brothers were buried near each other in Westminster Abbey.

Capt Williams to Sir William Browne

Extract- "Your letters come in Tyme, ells I would have bene so bould as to have chiden you for forgetting yout poor Frend: however the common oppinion is that Red bearded Men are unfaythfull yet I have never found any more honest and that yow shall always find in me and if I prove otherwise to yow, I will willingly be accounted a vilayin." &c From the Army 22 May 1604.

to
Sir William Browne/Lord Sydney (on the peace with Spain)

Ryght honorable my most honored good Lord.

Itt pleased my own Honour to give me Leave to wryte of the State of this Towne, becaus the necessity of providing for itt myght be urged as well by others as yourself: I have therefore written unto the Lords of the Counsell for my discharge and for your service and I hope your Honour will allow of itt: I send herein a cobby of what I have written both to them and to my Lord Cecill in private. Your Honour is still expected hear and question les your Presence myght confirme many affections that are already weak in there Partes through the Peace, whom I do what I can to comfort. As yett we live in all Love together, butt I feare this new cloth of Peace putt in our old clothing of Correspondence will in Tyme teare the Garment in Sunder. For my Part, I hope in your Honours absence to performe the part of an honest man and will wear myself out beefore I be weary to do your service and if your Honours private occasions keep you from coming over I humbly desyre that yow will continually send me your advyse how to carry myselfe & what secrett comfort I may give either the State in Generall or these Townsmen in particular. I can wryte no newes butt that the States Generall are still dayly expected: the Princess hath bene at Sluce and there is still and Seekes, as I understand, to plant her son in the command of these partes. Flushing 24, August 1604.

Sir William Browne to Robt Lord Sydney

"I can send you no newes by this Bearer, more than that the States General are owerly expected. Having understood by your Honours Letters that you are busy about the marriage of your eldest daughter, I with the rest of your Captens, have given order to

M Meredith to present 200 pounds in our Names to buy her a chayne of Perles, or otherwise to employ as she pleases. We humbly desyre that it may be accepted as a Remembrance of the Love of her poore Servants hear. We will all pray for her Happines in the choice and for your and my Ladyes Hartes content: and so with remembrance of my most humble services, I committ your Honour to the Allmighty. Flushing this 25, August - 1604.

Mary the eldest daughter of Lord Sydney was married 27 Sep^t 1604 to Sir Robert Wroth of Durants in Endfield Middlesex and of Loughton hall Essex. They were the ancestors of the Earl of Rochford. The News of the Gunpowder Plot arrives at Flushing and Sir William writes to Lord viscount Lisle (newly created) that "the States have on Wednesday next proclaymed a solemne Day of Fast and Prayer and that only for a Thanksgiving to God, for the Kings late miraculous deliver ince: the which they confess, did concerne nearly, not only themselves but also the Prosperity of all the reformed religion throghe all Christendom. Seing the Earle of Northumberland hath so vilainously and devishly forgot himself, I am sorry that ever I honored him and more sorry that I have a Chyld that carryes his name. Now that Sir Franceys Vere is comme to Brill (for by som who came from Gravesend I hear that he embarked 2 dayes agoe) we shall understand shortly how the States and he will agree. Malrey told me yesterday that ^{he} heares M Winwood will give over his Place and hath already written about it to my Lorde of Salisbury. Flushing 2nd November 1605.

Sir William Browne to Robert Lord viscount Lisle.
Sir Robert Sidney

"On Saturday last we heard by great Chaunce the newes how wonderfully God hath lately preserved his Majesty, the Queen Prince, and

all his Nobility and Commons. A gentleman coming from Gravesend gave me the Proclamation for the taking of Percy which confirmed the Newes to be assuredly true. I sent the sayd Proclamation on Sunday Morning to M. Malrey - the Straungnes of the Conspiracy, was wonderfully admyred, but the goodness of God's miraculous deliverance was more mervailed at. The same day publiq Thanks were given to God, both in Dutch and English Churches and by order from the States we triumphed for itt the same nyght, and the night following they did the like at Sluce and Isendick. I send your Honour enclosed a letter this day received from the Zeland admirall who is at this Instant in Holland. The passage is now going away so that I have but Leisure to say that I am Your Honours &c Wm Browne. Flushing this 13 of Nov^r 1605.

The allusion above, to the naming of his son Percy, after Henry, 9th Earl of Northumberland, refers to a friendship contracted with that nobleman, by Sir Wm Browne, when they served together in 1585, under Robt Dudley Earl of Leicester in Holland. Thomas Percy (a Catholic) who was one of the Conspirators of the Gunpowder Plot, was the cousin of the Earl of Northumberland and the agent on his Estates. It was for his capture that the Proclamation in Holland was issued. He was wounded at his capture in England & died of his injuries. On the barest suspicion that the Earl of Northumberland had some Knowledge of the Plot, he was thrown into the Tower, fined 30,000 pounds, and kept 15 years in confinement. This horribly unjust sentence was no doubt due to the jealousy and malice of Cecil who had worked upon the timid nature of James. Anthony Wood speaks in the highest terms of the

Earls character and Sir Wm Browne in honouring him with his confidence and esteem showed great judgment and discrimination, and it is much to be regretted that he did not live long enough to see the Earls character triumphantly cleared.

Sir Wm Browne to Robert Lord viscount Lisle

"My Lord of Cramburne (the son of Cecil) had been this passage in England if he had not received contrary advyse from my Lord his father. He stayed but one day at the Haghe and one night he stayed at Middleburgh and this day he came to Flushing, where he was enterteyned as well by our Garrison, as our Possibilities cold afford; and his Lordship was pleased to take a poore Dinner at my Howse. but thogh I offred it him, he wold in no case accept of Lodging in my Howse. He thinks to go this Nyght, or rather at 3 of the clock, in the morning, to embarque himself in his Excellencies yacht to go to Antwerp and to see the Arch-dukes Countreyes in his Retourne homewardes. This is all I will now say, but that the States have consented both to the King of Denmark and to the King of Sweden, to provide themselves of Mariners in these Partes. His Excellency will be in Zeland about the Middle of Aprill if he can recover his Health. God keep your Honour and all yours.

Flushing this 12th of March 1610. Your Honours &c William Browne

This letter terminates the Browne Correspondence, edited by Arthur Collins in 1746. Many more remain among the family papers at Penshurst Kent, now in the possession of Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, the lineal representative of Sir Robt Sydney. In the 3rd Report of the Royal Commissioners on Historical MSS in 1872 it is

stated there are at Penshurst " 26 volumes of letters of which 6 are lettered on the back as having been published by Collins, these 6 are not mentioned in the following brief lists. Vol 1. This folio, contains letters in French Latin & English. Some few from & to Sir Wm Browne, 2 letters by N de Bloeg to Sir William Browne. Vol 3. Thomas Ogle to Sir William Browne dated from the Camp near Beile - 10 July, Sir William Browne (at Flushing) to Sir Robert Sydney in London (many). Letter and draughts of letters by the same to the same. Vol VI (1601-4). 1604 - Letters by Sir Wm Browne at Flushing to Lord Sydney, ^{Robert} Lord Chamberlain to the Queen and Governor of Flushing, at the court or at Baynard's Castle. Vol VII. Labelled 1605-1606. a thick volume containing letters by Sir William Browne at Flushing, J. Throckmorton & others. Vol VIII. A thick volume containing letters by Sir Wm Browne and a few by John Throckmorton and others. Vol IX - Labelled 1610-1612. A Thick volume containing Letters by Sir Wm Browne to Lord Sydney, down to August - 1610."

Extract from a letter to the Earl of Shrewsbury (one of the Privy Council) from Sir William Browne

"I send your Lordship here inclosed some verses compounded by My Secretary who gott Hales to frame a ditty into itt. The occasion was as I hear, yt the young Lady of Darby wearing about her neck, in her bosom, a picture which was in a dainty tablet, the Queen espying itt, asked what fyne jewell that was: The Lady Darby was curious to excuse the shewing of itt, butt the Queen wold have itt and opening itt, and fynding itt to be My Secretaryes, snatcht itt away and tyed itt uppon her shoe and walked along with itt there; then she tooke itt thence and pinned itt on

her elbow and wore itt somtyme there also; which My Secretary being told of, made these verses and had Hales to sing them in her chamber. Itt was told her Majesty yt My Secretary had rare musick and songs: She would needes hear them and so this ditty was soung which you see first written. More verses theire be lykewyse, whereof som or all, were lykewyse soung - I do boldly send these things to your Lordship w^{ch} I wold not do to any els, for I heare they are very secrett. Some of the verses argew that he repynes not thoghe her Majesty please to grace others and contents himselfe with the favours he hath. I am now in hast butt will wryte again when I have bene at Court: in the meane tyme will pray for your Lordship and my most honorable lady and remayne ever &c

18 September 1602

William Browne

Note. Sir William also wrote other letters to the Earl of Shrewsbury - from Fulham 17 September 1602 - from London 21st September 1602 and from Sndston - his country seat the 9th October 1609.

Will of Sir William Brown Knight

In the name of God, Amen, I Sir William Brown of S [?]
in the Countie of Derbye, Knight, beyng whole of body and perfect of memorye considering with myselfe the mortalitye and uncerteyntie of humane life and purposing to dispose and set downe in what manner my Landes and Tenements hereafter mentioned shall be and remayne after my deathe to the pleasure of Almighty God, I do thereof make this my last will & testament in wryting in manner following that is to saye

Whereas I am seised in ffee simple of and in three messuages-
fortie acres of Land, twentie acres of meadows, one hundred acres
of pasture and twentie acres of wood with the appurt'inces in
Snelston, Rostow, Norbury, Clifton, Edlaston and Almaston
in every or any of them, set lying or beying in the Counties of
Staffordshire, and allso of and in six messuages - One hundred
acres of Land, fortie acres of meadow, three hundred acres of pas-
ture and forty acres of wood with the app'tinces in Snelston,
Rostow, Norbury, Cubley, Clifton, Edlaston and Almaston, or in
every or any of them in the Countie of Derby of and in which
premises I stand and am seized of an estate of Inheritance in
ffee simple as aforesayed and hould the same by Sucadge Tenure
by vertue of Tvoe severall Reconveyes thereof respectively suffred
by me with voucher over of the common vouchers upon tvoe severall
writts of Entrie brought against me by the name of William Browne,
gentleman, by William Gray of Shiralay, in the said Countie of
Derbye, Esquire and Philipp Harison of London, gentleman, (as by
the said severall Reconveyes and the Records thereof in the
Courte of Common pleas in the tearme of Sir Hillarye in the fower
and thirtieth yere of the Raigne of our souveraigne Ladye
Elizabeth, the Queenes most excellent majestie, that nowe in and
by one deed declaring the user thereof bearing date the Eighteenth
daye of March in the fower and thirtieth yere of the raigne of the
said soveraigne Lady the Queene amongst other thinges more at
large may appeare, all which Messuages, Landes, Tenements and her-
editaments above specified in every of the said severall Counties
of Staffordshire and Derby I do give and bequeath unto Mary my

Lovinge wife, To have and to hould all and single the premises with the app'tnces unto my said wife for and during her naturall life for her better mayntennance and for and towardses the vertuous education of my children and after her decease I do devise & bequeath all and singular the Remynder and Remynders, Reversion and reversion of all and singular the premises with the app'tnces unto my trustie and well-beloved friends, Sir Wm Russell, Knt, Sir Robt Sydney Knt, Peter Manwood in the Countie of Kent, Esquire, Thomas Edmond, Esquire, Clerke of the Councell, Rowland White and Philip Harison Gentlemen and to their heirs, nevertheless upon confidence and truste reposed by me in them and every of them and in the heires of the Survivor of them that within convenient tyme after my death at the costs and charges of my said wife (yf she shall be living) and yf she shall be dead then with the yssues and profitts of my said Mesuages, Landes, Tenements and Hereditaments above mentioned that the said Sir William Russell, Sir Robt Sidney Gent, Peter Manwood Esq. Thomas Edmond, Esq. Rowland White and Philip Harison, Gents and the Survivor of them or the heires of the Survivor of them shall cause and procure all such my children which have been borne out of the Realme and hereafter shall be borne out of the Realme and which shall then be living to be made free denizens and capable to purchase & enjoye Landes, Tenements and within this Realme by suche good wayes and meanes as shalbe avayleable and sufficient in the Lawe and after such denizations so had and procured I will and my Intent and mynde is that the sayd Sir Wm Russell Knt., Sir Robt Sydney, Peter Manwood, Thomas Edmond, Rowland White and Philipp

Harison and the survivor of them and the heires of the survivor of
 them according to my truste and confidence in them and every of
 them by me as is aforesaid shall within convenient tyme
 sufficientlie in the Lawe conveye and asure all and singular the
 said messuages, Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments with the
 app'tnces unto suche of my children as shall then be myne eldest
 sonne and then beyng a denizen, to have & to houlde the same unto
 hym and to the heires males of his bodye and for defaulte of suche
 yssue the Remynder of all and singular the premises with the
 appurtenances unto such as shall then be my second sonne and then
 beyng allso a denizen and to the heires males of his bodye lawfullie
 begotten - and for defaulte of such yssue the Remynder of all
 and singular the premises with the app'tnces unto such as shall
 then be my third sonne and then living allso a denizen and to the
 heires males of his bodye lawfullie begotten - and for defaulte
 of such yssue the Remynder of all and singular the premises with
 the app'tnces unto such as shall then be my fourth sonne beyng
 then allso a denizen and to the heires males of his bodye law-
 fullie to be begotten and for defaulte of such yssue or yf I
 shall have no sonne living nor any yssues male of their bodyes -
 Then my will and intent is that the said Sir William Russell, Sir
 Robt Sydney, Peter Manwood, Thos Edmond, Rowland White and
 Philipp Harison and the Survivor of them and the heires of the
 Survivors of them shall within convenient tyme after my death as
 aforesayd sufficiently asure and convey all and singular the said
 messuages, Landes, Tenements, hereditaments, and all and singular
 the premises with the app'tnces to all and every of my daughters,

which then shalbe living and denizens and to the heires of their
 several bodyes - and for defaulte of such yssue unto such person
 and persons and his and theire heires as shalbe their next-heire
 unto the said Sir Wm Browne and my further mynde and intente ys
 that for the better mayntenance of all and every suche my sonnes
 as shall not be my eldest sonne and shall not be otherwise ad-
 vanced by me before my decease and for the better advancement of
 my said daughters as shall not be likewise so advanced by me
 before my decease - That then the said Sir Wm Russell, Sir Robert
 Sydney, Peter Manwood, Thos Edmond, Rowland White and Philip
 Harison the survivors of them and the heires of the Survivors of
 them shall first of all before any suche guiftes in taylor be made
 unto my said sonnes and daughters in manner as aforesaid give and
 graunte by sufficient asurance in the Lawe unto every one of my
 said sonnes not beyng my eldest sonne and to every of my said
 daughters not otherwise beyng advanced one yerelie Rent of tenne
 poundes of English money yerelie joyng out of the premises pay-
 able quarterlie by equall porcons with sufficient clauses of
 distresse in every of the said grauntes to be conteyned for the
 better levying of every suche Rent charge as aforesaid to have
 and to hould every of the said Rents to every of my said sonnes
 and daughters respectivelie for _____ of his, her & their lives.
 And for the disposition of all my goodes and chattells I consti-
 tute and make my said wife my sole Executrix she paying and per-
 forming all suche legacies as I shall set downe in my Codicill
 unto this present testament to be annexed - In witness whereof
 unto these present I have set my hande and seale the two and

twentieth daye of September in the four and fortieth yere of the
 rayne of our Soveraigne Lady Elizabeth by the grace of God of
 England, France & Ireland and Queene defender of the faithe.

William Browne

Instead of a Schedule, I have annexed this wryting to my will
 above specified that is that I bequeath unto each of my children
 (except my eldest sonne living at the day of my death, one hundred
 and twenty pounds Sterling, where with the better to mayteyne them-
 selves, and yf my beloved wife can otherwise without re receyving
 the profitt of this mainteyne herselfe and them - Then my hope
 and desire ys that yt may be ymployed to make up a greater somme
 towards theire advancement in marriage or otherwise. And my
 desire & will is that when my eldest sonne shall come to be one
 and twenty yeares of age that then my wife shall allowe hym
 thirty pounds Sterling yearly but he not to have any one hundred
 and twenty poundes as the rest layed out for hym this is all
 written underneath the first draughte of my will and signed with
 my hande the Seaventhe of Julie 1604 in the second yere of our
 sacred Majestie King James

William Browne

These wordes tenne poundes of English money were enterlyned
 with my owne hand the Seventh of Julie 1604 for witnessse I have
 subscribed my hand and the daye above written.

William Browne

- Will proved by Mary Browne, relict, 23^d of January, 1611. -

Notes to the Will of Sir William Browne Knight.

_____ o _____

Sir William Russell Knt was the 4th and youngest son of Francis - 2nd Earl of Bedford. He was knighted for his valour in Ireland, and greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Zutphen in Holland. He was for several years Treasurer of the Navy and in 1603 created Baron of Thornhaugh by James 1st. His grandson Sir John Russell married Robert Lord Rich's widow, who was the youngest daughter of Oliver Cromwell. She died January 27th 1720, aged 83.

_____ o _____

Sir Robert Sidney, on the 28th January 1588 entered into possession of all his brother's estates, and on 16 July of the same year was made Lord Governor of Flushing. He was sent not long after to the King of Scotland to compliment him on his respect to Queen Elizth for his attitude towards the Spanish Armada. In 1593 he was sent as Ambassador to the King of France and in 1597 was joined in command with Sir Francis Vere, over the English Auxilliary forces. His post of Governor of Flushing was renewed & joined with the Government of the Castle of Ramekins by James 1st 22 April 1603. By letters patent 13th May, he was raised to the dignity of Baron, as Lord Sydney. On 25 July he was made Lord Chamberlain to the Queen, and on the 4th May (3^d of James 1st) was created viscount L'Isle. In 1613 he was appointed to conduct the Princess Elizabeth (married to Frederick Elector Palatine of Bohemia) to his dominions. The cautionary Townes, on the sollicitation of the States of Holland, by the payment of all

caution money & money charges, were delivered up by Lord viscount L'Isle in 1616 & all the subordinate officers & soldiers &c were discharged. On July 7 1616, he was installed as Knight of the Garter and 2 August 1618 succeeded to the title of Earl of Leicester. "July 14, 1626. On Saturday last the good Earl of Leicester having been at Court, going & returning by water to Baynard's Castle fell into an apoplexy and thereof yesterday between 11 & 12 noon, died, being in great debt. By his death one good pension of 1000 or 1200 Pounds falls into the Exchequer."

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Sir Thomas Edmondes, was a celebrated diplomatist of the two preceeding reigns (Elizth and James). He was born in Devonshire in 1563, resident at the Court of France in 1592, six years later was sent on a mission to the Archduke Albert, (Netherlands) and again as Ambassador in 1604. He was also ambassador to France on two other occasions, and held many other appointments at home. He died in 1639.

o

Rowland Whyte, was the son of Griffith Whyte of Wales. He lived in the Earl of Pembroke's house at Baynard's Castle on terms of intimacy with the family & his connection with the Sydney's probably originated in their alliance with that nobleman. Sir Robt employed him as his solicitor at Court and paid him a salary to do that and write him news letters.

a. Court and Times of Charles 1st...

Sir Peter Manwood Knt of St. Stephens, Kent, near Canterbury, was

the eldest son of Sir Roger Manwood, who was made Baron of the Exchequer in the early part of Queen Elizabeths reign. Sir Peter represented Sandwich in several Parliaments and was made a Knight of the Bath at the Coronation of James 1st. He was not only learned himself but a generous patron of learned men. He wrote the "Epistle dedicatory" to Sir Roger Williams' history of "the Action of the Low Countries" published in 1618. He died in 1625.

SIR NATHANIEL RICH KNT.

Nathaniel Rich was the eldest son of Col Nathaniel Rich of Standon, Essex and Elizabeth the daughter of Sir Edmund Hampden of Buckinghamshire. His name is found in 1605, amongst the number of students at Emmanuel College Cambridge.* This college was founded in 1587 by Sir Walter Mildenay and was regarded in those days, as the nursery of Puritan scholars and preachers. Here the Rev^d Thomas Hooker received his education, and afterwards emigrated to New England in 1633. The subject of our notice, seems to have had ill health through life, as sundry prescriptions of Dr. W. Mayerne's, preserved among his papers fully attest. In 1615, for instance, his ailments were, "gout and melancholy" and he had "directions to make clisters to suppress melancholike fumes," & ordered "to dine at 10 o'clock, sup at 5 and eat but one dish at one meal." He probably carried his experiments in medicine too far, in reference to the "antimoniall cupp or the universal medicine" for we find in a letter** of one Mathew Cradock to John Winthrop (London 15 March 1636) that "if I bee not misinformed the usse thereof (I feare immoderat) was an occasion of shortening Sir Nathaniel Rich's dayes, who hath made an Exchange of this liffe for a better." About the year 1616 Nathaniel Rich associated himself with Sir Robt Rich in fitting out several commercial and exploring Expeditions. They were both interested in the colonization of Virginia and the Summer's Islands or Bermudas. In the Virginia Company, Sir Robert held stock to the amount of 75 pounds.

* For note concerning Emmanuel College, see pages and

** Massashusetts Historical Society's Collections.

Sir Robert Rich was the eldest son of the "rich" Lord Rich 1st Earl of Warwick, who married Penelope Deverup, sister of the unfortunate Earl of Essex, Sir Robert on the death of his father, 28 March 1618/19 became 2nd Earl of Warwick.* He married Frances daughter & heiress of Sir Wm Hatton by Elizabeth - granddaughter & heiress of Sir Francis Gawdy. On the 8th of November 1617 Lady Hatton "the wife of Sir Edward Coke quondam Lord Chief Justice entertained the King (James 1st) - Buckingham and the rest of the Peers, at a splendid dinner, not inviting her husband." ^A On this occasion "his Majesty Knighted at Hatton House, Sir Nathaniel Rich of London, Sir Francis Needham and Sir Peter Chapman. Lady Hatton was the daughter of the Earl of Exeter. Sir Nathaniel was a Kinsman of Sir Robert Rich." ^B In 1616 John Rolfe (the husband of Pocahontas) wrote to Sir Robert Rich "a true relation of the State of Virginia" in which the settlement and its prospects are minutely described. Robert Rich the younger brother of Sir Nathaniel went out to this settlement in 1609 and returned to London in 1610 where he published the ballad "Newes from Virginia" and tells the reader "I am for Virginia againe and so I will bid the hastily farewell with an honest verse,

"As I came hither to see my native land,
"To waft me backe lend me thy gentle hand.

The "Summers Islands Company" seems to have been established as an independent enterprise as early as 1615 and the records of its Existence extend, with some breaks, up to 1634. In the British

* He was Lord High Admiral under the Commonwealth. He was the patron & friend of Hugh Peters.

^A Camden Annals

^B John Chamberlain's letter to Sir Dudley Carlton.....

Museum is preserved the letter book of this Company, containing 8 letters 1633 to 1636 written in cypher by Sir Nathaniel Rich, and signed by him, to Hugh Wentworth one of their commissioners out there. Lewis Hughes was the Minister sent over to the Islands and he succeeded in establishing the Presbyterian form of worship there by 1617. Daniel Tucker was the first Governor, but was soon recalled, and Capt Nathaniel Butler sent over in his stead. The latter was entirely devoted to the interests of Sir Robert and Sir Nathaniel. In 1619 violent dissensions broke out amongst the directors of the Virginia Company and two hostile factions were soon arrayed against each other. On the one side were Sir Robt Rich (now Earl of Warwick) Sir Nathaniel Rich, Alderman Johnson and others, and the Earl of Southampton, Lord Cavendish and Sir Edward Sackville on the other. One party supported Sir Thomas Smith, who had been the Gov^r or Treasurer for the previous 12 years, and the other had for its candidate Sir Edwin Sandys who was elected. "May 8, 1619. The Virginia Company have displaced Sir Thomas Smith and made Sir Edwin Sandys their Govern^r. But the matter is little amended: when the next court or meeting they confirmed Sir Thomas Smith in his presidentship of the Bermudas or Summer Islands, for I could hardly tell how to resolve if it were put to my choice."^a Much bickering continued in the Company until 1623 when Alderman Johnson suggested the presentation of a petition to inquire into the Affairs of the Colony. A strong advocate of the settlers claims was found in Sir Nathaniel Rich who presented the matter to the House of

^a. Letter of John Chamberlaine to Sir Dudley Carlton.

Commons in 1624 in a speech, and finally obtained a Royal Commission of Enquiry. The effect was soon apparent for means were taken to relieve the pressing wants of the Colony as promptly as possible. Complaints had been made in 1623 and a list of the names of "adventurers that disliked the present proceedings of business in the Virginia and Summer Islands Companies." They were 83 in number, as the Earl of Warwick, Sir N^r Rich, Sir James Argall, Sir Thos Wroth, Alderman Johnson &c &c. The Earl of Warwick and Sir Nath^r Rich, becoming dissatisfied with the unproductive results of the Summer Islands enterprise, fitted out a ship, in 1629 and made a successful voyage of discovery, under Cspt. Elfred. The suggestion was Capt. Bells, who indicated the existence of certain islands Known as S Kathalina & Foncata. The islands were re-named Providence Islands and Capt. Elfred was placed there as the first Governor, but soon gave way to Capt. Bell. A trading company was organized, and existed for several years. In May 23^d 1639 the Earl of Warwick was elected the Governor of the Providence Comp. John Pym Deputy Governor, and Will Jessop Secretary at a Salary of 40 pounds a year. At this meeting the Governor proposed to sell the Island to the West India Company which was agreed to, and a declaration made that they were ready to treat for the sale. In this Company the Earl of Warwick had invested 2.430 pounds - Lord Mandeville (inheriting Sir Nathaniel Rich's shares) 2280 pounds and John Pym 3.185 pounds. Besides having an interest in the West India Companies, Sir Nathaniel was one of the grantees of the Plymouth Company (of New England) patent Nov^r 3^d - 1620. He promoted the

colonization of the new settlements by the Puritans & manifested his interest in their welfare in various ways. His name is alluded to with great respect, by the early letterwriters in New England, and his premature death in 1636 much lamented. The following letter was addressed by Sir Nathaniel Rich to his old tutor Dr. Wm Sancroft who eventually became the 3rd Master of Emmanuel College. He was uncle to Wm Sancroft, a fellow of Emmanuel and afterwards, its Master & made Archbishop of Canterbury in 1665.

Good Sir I hartely thanke you for your kind remembrance of me in yo^r letter and the paper therein enclosed wherein I tooke much contentment though I confes I am sorry that we should be now driven to search out Arguments against these things, which are too much honoured & countenanced, even by calling them into dispute. Our comfort is that Truth, will in the end prevayle against and become more glorious by opposition but yett nothing in comparison of that eternall triumph wch it will one day have in heaven and then will all her friends triumph with her and none so much as those yt have contended and endured most in her quarrell. In which respect your self (amongst many others who syde with God and his Truth in theise tymes) are in this particular happy above others that God hath given you not only eminent abilityes & prudent courage to serve him in this kind, but that many (too many) occasions are frequently presented to draw them forth into action & in my poore opinion are like to be daylie more & more. And this is one of those good things wch the only wise God extracts out of bold & imprudent evill and error even

the honour of his own graces in the hearts of his children thereby the more excited to conflict & repell them. You may remember wt I wished (when I was last with you) might be the Motto of Emmanuell College, wch I doe & allwayes shall pray may be verified of it: Tu ne cede malis sed contra au dention ito: Sir I have herewith sent you the Booke wch I promised you wch you should sooner have had, could I sooner have procured it desyringe you that wherein soever I may seeme to be of any use unto you would freely comand me as one that doe truly love & honour yr worth and would be most glad to find the meanes of expressing myselfe.

yr very assured freind to serve you

Na Rich

From Warwick House in Holborne this 20th Novem^r 1633.

I pray when you see the good Doctor Chaderton remember me Kindly unto him." The letter endorsed "to my very worthy freind Mr. Doctor Sancroft Master of Emmanuel College in Cambridge." (Note) "good Dr. Chaderton" was chosen by Sir Walter Mildmay to be the 1st Master of Emmanuel. He was a Fellow of Christ's College. He lived to be 103 years old, but resigned the Master-ship in 1622 having held the office 38 years but still continued to reside in the college where he died in 1640 & was buried in the college chapel.

In the 18th year of the reign of James 1st Parliament met on the 18th January (1620). Sir Nathaniel Rich had been elected a member for Harwich, and thus commenced his parliamentary career,

which extended over eight years. On the 15th February 48 members were chosen for the Privy Council, and Sir Nathaniel's name is found amongst the number. On looking over the proceedings of the House of Commons from 1620 to 1628, his name is constantly met with on Committees, in connection with John Pym's & Hampden's. He was one of the most constant in his attendance, of the members, spoke frequently and much to the point, and was particularly happy in quoting precedents, in the many collisions the House had with the King. He took a leading part in the impeachment of Buckingham and in the different moves that led up to it. So displeased was the King with this party of obstruction that Rushworth says "The King was highly displeased with some of the Common house, whom he called "Ill tempered Spirits." Sir Dudley Diggs, Sir Thos Crew, Sir Nathaniel Rich, Sir James Perrot, Sir Thos Blundell, Sir John Jephron, and Sir Thomas Penruddock, were sent over to Ireland, for punishment, joined in Commission under the Great Seal of England for the enquiry of sundry matters concerning his Majesty's service, as well in the Government, Ecclesiastical & civil, as in points of Revenue." - "Each commissioner was allowed 30 shillings a day to begin from the 20 Feb^y and every one hath 100 pounds delivered him and by way of impress." They proceeded to Ireland in March 9th 1621/22..... The King in 1620-1 endeavoured to induce the House, to sanction active measures for securing Bohemia to his daughter & her husband the young Palatine, who had been driven off his throne by a rising of his subjects. Sir James Perrot & Sir Thos. Wentworth supported such measures & asked the house to make a declaration to that

effect, but it would not do so, whereupon cried out Sir Edw^d Cecil & Sir Nathaniel Rich (as the minute was made in the Clerks book.) "Rather this declaration than 10,000 men on the march."

For the Parliament of 1624-5 Sir Nathaniel was elected both for Retford and Harwich, and on February 15th the Countess of Devonshire wrote to him asking him to transfer the Burghership of Retford to her son, who had sat for that place in a previous Parliament. This he did and remained the member for his former constituency.

June 25th 1625: Concerning the enlarginge of preachinge, Sir Nathaniel Rich moved "that silent ministers may be allowed to preach in all points agreeable to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England. The like petition hath bene (almost) in every Parliament. They refuse not to subscribe to the articles according to the Statute, but another Subscription is required by cannon; and noe cannon can compell a man under a penaltie to loose his freehold." The question was then debated at length.

John Pym had brought before the attention of the House Rich and Montagues "book of mediation to reconcile us to the Papists." The tendency of these books had been debated and on the 9th July (1625) "The question concerning Montague was quickly settled accordinge to the motion of Sir Nathaniel Rich that to give his Majestie satisfaction, Mr. Sollicitor might inform him that it was the opinion of the Commons that the booke is a seditious and seducinge booke & deserved a publicke censure but that we should not release him only enter an order for the Serjeant to let him out upon Bonds."

On August 6th 1625 the question of subsidy had been keenly

debated for several sittings, when Sir John Eliot rose with a proposition for an address to the King for permission to continue to sit. He was followed by Sir Nathaniel Rich who said "Some move to give and give presentlie and some would not give at all and some would give sub-modo and a fourth to which he inclineth was to propound fyve hedds, which he desyred might be referred to a committee to frame into a petition, wherein the Kinges answere would yeild a great satisfaction to the countrysye though they could not be all perfected now & that answere beinge obteyned we shalbe the fitter to resolve the question of supply.

1st. Concerninge religion: The Isrealites could not prosper so longe as the execrable thinge was amonge them: wee have as little hope of success as longe as idolotry is so common. But wee already expect the Kinges answere for this which hee desyred might be in Parliament & then it shall have the force of a lawe.

2nd. That wee may know the enemye.

3rd. That it would please his Majestie to use grave counsellors in the government of those grave affaires.

4th. That we might at our next meetinge have sufficient tyme to looke into the King's Estate, that so hee might be enabled to subsist of himselfe.

5th. The desyer of his Majesties answere concerninge the impositions..... If it be objected wee shall not have tyme enough, the course anciently was to present the hedds of their petitions and to expect an answere at the next meetinge; others may objecte that hereby wee shall capitulate with the Kinges
 22nd Edward 3^d the Commons gave three 15^s upon 2 conditions:

1st That if the warr did cease the guilte ought to be voyde.

2nd That his Majesties ansvere to their petitions might be involde."

This speech was assailed at once by Edward Clarke, a connection of Buckingham's who said that "Invectives with bitterness are unreasonable for this times" Sir Robert Philips commended the platform of Sir Nathaniel Rich and sayd that wee were beholding unto him for shewing us the way which hee desyred wee would think of againe and in the mean time drawe them with heades."

Afyer Mr. Clarke had spoken the above, he was stopt & commanded to explaine which he did, but without any submission or excuse and thereupon sent out of the House & ordered that he should stand Committed to the Serjeant till the further pleasure of the House might be knowen: and being called agayne to the barr, Kneeling Mr. Speaker told him the Order of the Houses."

The House received a message from the King, that the next sitting of the Commons would be held at Oxford two days after. 8th May - 1626. In the impeachment of Buckingham, Sir Nathaniel Rich, Sir William Armine and Nine others acted as Assistants in the House whilst Sir Dudley Diggs took the part of leaders. He opened the proceedings by a speech, and was in no way daunted by the presence of the Duke of Buckingham. The House met again after dinner, after having passed a vote for the imprisonment of the Duke - by 225 votes for and 105 against. Sir Nathaniel Rich was appointed the messenger to convey the information to the House of Lords. This was decided upon on a Wednesday, but it

was deemed best not to send the messenger into the Lords until Thursday. Sir John Eliot delivered a speech on the subject of the Imprisonment, of which one of the members (nameless) said "This was as bold and worthy a speech as ever I heard, onlie a little too tart." Forster calls it "a phillipic of the bitterest order." The King had as many as 4 or 5 note takers whilst Eliot was speaking. On Thursday morning when Sir Nathaniel Rich had returned from delivering his message Sir Dudley Diggs and Sir John Eliot were gone from the House. They had been called out "by one at the door" and carried to the Tower, whereupon the House broke off all business. When the House met on Friday the 12th, the Speaker offering to proceed to the business of the day, he was dilenced by cries of "Sit down, Sit down, no business till we are righted in our liberties." Sir Dudley Diggs was released the next day but Sir John Eliot was kept a prisoner until the 20th of May.

In the election for the Parliament of 1627, the opponents of the Court were generally successful. Sir Nathaniel Rich again represented Harwich - John Pym for Tavistock & John Hampden for Wendover. The Parliament of 1626 was dissolved on the 15th June, and the newly elected one met on the 17th March 1627. On the 20th of that month a committee of 86 members was appointed and called the "Committee of Privileges to consider and Examine all questions growing out of Elections, Returns and other priviledges of the House" and on this Committee Sir Nathaniel Rich served.

In 1628 the House had granted a subsidy the King asked for, but would name no time and Sir Edward Coke wished it being Good

Friday, it would be a good deed to fix the period for its coming into operation. But Sir John Eliot strenuously resisted. The matter was however referred to a Committee at which Sir Nathaniel Rich carried a proposal to limit the term of one year from that date, addition being afterwards made, by way of reply to the King's message that no further suggestion as to supply from any quarter would be entertained until the question relating to the liberty of the subject should be finally determined."

5th June 1628. King Charles, 1st. sent the House a message that he had set a day to terminate the Session and commanded the Speaker to let them know he would hold that day prefixed without alteration and enjoined them not to enter upon any new business. After Sir John Eliot had spoken and Sir Dudley Diggs had said "I am as much grieved as ever, must we not proceed? let us sit in silence, we are miserable, we know not what to do." Hereupon there was a sad silence (Rushforth says) in the House for a while which was broken by Sir Nathaniel Rich in these words ("We must now speak, or forever hold our peace; for us to be silent when King and Kingdom are in this calamity, is not fit. The question is whether we shall secure ourselves by silence yea or no? I know it is more for our own security but it is not for the security of those for whom we serve, let us think on them. Some instruments desire a change, we fear his Majesty's safety & the safety of the Kingdom. I do not say we now see it, and shall we now sit still and do nothing and so be scattered? Let us go together to the Lords and show our danger that we may then go to the King together.")

After the dissolution of the Parliament of 1629 there was no meeting of the Commons until 1640: As Lord Clarendon observes "That the unhappy assaults made upon the prerogative had produced the untimely Dissolution of the last & the King was resolved, now, to try if he could not give his people a taste of Happiness & let them see the Equity of his Govern^t in a single State."

Oxford 8th August 1625. "Sir Robert Pye" had informed the house that Mr. Clarke was readye at the dore, humbly desyringe to be admitted to make his submission. Thereupon he was called in and at the barr made a confession of his faulte, kneelinge & protestinge that hee had rather dye a thousand deathes then disturbe the peace of our proceedings and being sent out againe the House agreed that he should be discharged, which the Speaker signified unto him beinge againe brought to the Barr, but not Kneelinge. A messenger came from the Lordes that the King had commanded my Lord of Buckingham to deliver divers matters to both Houses and they were desyred to meet the Lordes in the afternoone in Christ Church Hall. This message bred some doubt for if this meetinge were of both Houses the Speaker ought to goe and all the members to be covered. Some propounded to send to the Lordes for an exposition of the message; but that was misliked because it came from the Kinge and it might be thought no discretion in us to desyre them to expound the Kings message, Sir Nathaniel Rich said - "The Speaker not to goe but when the Kinge is present in person or by commission Anciently the Lords were wont to come downe into this House to acquainte us with business till 2^d Richard 2^d when they excepted against that course, but

afterward it was restored agayne till Henry 6th, when the Lordes sent to the Commons to meete with them which they refused and the difference was referred to the Kinges pleasure who ordered that they should not come but with protestation that it was of favour, not of duty. In 3 & 6 Henry 8th divers great lordes came into this House accordinge to the auncient manner. But the Lordes havinge private notice of this difficulty sent another message declaringe that their former messenger had mistaken their instruction for their desyer was that the meetinge might be by the Committees of both Houses, so that debate was ended." The meeting was ordered and Sir Edward Coke, My Sollicitor, My Recorder, Sir Dudley Diggs, Sir Nathaniel Rich, and Mr. Pym appoynted to make the reports.

Robert Rich was the younger brother of Sir Nathaniel Rich, who embarked for Jamestown Virginia in 1609 in the Ship Sea Venture, in company with Sir Thomas Gates and Sir Geo. Somers. The vessel was wrecked on a reef of the Bermudas Islands, but he returned to London in 1610 as we find from his address "to the reader" prefixed to his Ballad "Newes from Virginia." He calls himself a "soldier, blunt and plaine," and says he must start againe for Virginia, in order than "I must not loose my patrymonie." His brother Nathan Rich was a shareholder in the Virginia Company, and he himself held 12 pounds 10 in the Venture. He went out againe in 1610 to the Summer Islands, or the Bermudas, and engaged in the cultivation of tobacco and other produce. Lewis Hughes the clergyman stationed in the Islands in writing to Sir N^r Rich praises the exertions of Robert Rich who was "distributing to every man his due" out of the provision "sent over by Sir Robert Rich." In one of his letters Robt calls Lewis Hughes his "especial friend and bedfellow." In 1617 Sir Nathaniel bought of John Hamor ten of his shares in the Summer Isl^d Comp^y for his brother. Thomas Durham writing in 1619 to Sir Nathaniel from the Islands considered Robert Rich "too good natured" and gave a warning against allowing the practice of his, of planting a "wife's crop of tobacco." An answer came in reply from the Earl of Warwick & Sir N^r Rich "that with woman's tobacco, they will women all." The above remark about the "wife's crop" would imply that Robt Rich had his wife with him on the Island. Then comes a letter from John Hamor (September 24, 1620) announcing the death of his brother to Sir Nathaniel, and on Oct^r 18 another from Thos Durham lamenting that Robert Rich had been treated by Edward

Athen after the manner of "a blind physician, or rather a quack-salver" and he seems very indignant at the conduct of Roberts Executor because he "had not the honesty or manners to invite Mr Kendall & Mr Semor who gave Mr Rich a volley of shot at his burial to so much as a cup of aqua-vita' or any thing else, according to the ancient and laudable custom" and desires his brother in London to have the Coat of Arms of the deceased drawn by the Herald's College, and sent out for the purpose of having a solemn funeral performed." He left two sons, Nathaniel, who inherited his uncle Nathaniels Estate in Stondon, Essex, and Robert of Rose hall, Beccles Suffolk, who married Mary, the second daughter of Sir Charles Rich Bart, the son of Sir Edmund Rich Bart of Norfolk. By her he had a fortune of 20,000 pounds. Sir Robert served in several parliaments for Dunwich. He succeeded, 16 May 1677 to the dignity of Baronet & in the estate of Sir Charles Rich. Sir Robt had Charles who died without issue & Robert besides 3 other sons and 8 daughters. He died 1. Oct. 1699, and was succeeded by Sir Robert his eldest surviving son. He was one of the grooms of the bed chamber to his late Majesty, served in several Parliaments & went through the Army with great honour, and finally became Senior Field Marshall. He died 1. Feb. 1768 and was succeeded by his eldest son Robert who married the daughter of the Hon^{ble} Mr Ludlow brother to the right Hon^{ble} Peter Earl of Ludlow and had issue an only daughter. She married Chas Bostock of C^o Meath Ireland, who in 1790 assumed the name & arms of Rich & was in 1791 created a Baronet. Issue 6 sons & 6 daughters.

There is much of poetical interest connected with the voyage

of the "Sea Venture," in 1609, and her shipwreck on the Bermudas.
 The favourable circumstances of the wreck, the semi-tropical character of the Island, with its beautiful vegetation, the sturdy nature of old Sir George Somers, the birth of Bermuda Rolfe & the boy Bermudas - the idyllic life of their enforced residence of nearly a year - and the building of the two pinnaces of cedar "with little or no yron at all," which Robert Rich brings into his verse

And there two gallant pynaces
 Did build of seader-tree
 The brave Deliverence, one was called
 Of Seaventy tonne was shee
 The other, Patience had to name
 Her burthen thirty tonne
 Two only of their men which there
 Pale death did overcome.

It is moreover, most interesting to have the testimony of an eyewitness of the sailing of the "Sea Venture" and her consorts. Sir Stephen Powle (or Powell) Knight, was a gentleman of the long robe, and Clerk of the Crown, who had invested 100 pounds in the fortunes of the Virginia Company. So he was induced to come down to the water side, to see the Fleet set sail, and then made the following entries in a commonplace book, which he had commenced the 9^o October 1597.

Memorandum 9^o March 1608

Betweene the houers of 10 and 11 in the forenoone the day and yeare above written I delivered to Sir Thomas Smith Treasurer of the viage to Virginia the summe of fifty poundes in mony ?

* "Among the many charms which Bermuda has for a poetic eye, we cannot for an instant forget that it is the scene of Shakspeare's Tempest; and that here he conjured up the "delicate Ariel" who alone is worth the whole heaven of ancient mythology." From Moores Epistles, Odes and other Poems London 1806 page 42 Epistle III.

for which I received a noate with the Armes of England certifyinge the receipt thereof and am to be one of the Counsell of this expedition, my name allso was inserted into the rowles and booke kept by Mr ----- . The successe of which undertakinge I referre to God Allmighty.

15 Maii - 1609. On Monday in the morningeoure 6 shippes lyinge at Blackwall wayed anker and fell down to beginne the viage toward Virginea. Sir Thomas Gater beinge the deputy Governour untill the Lord Delaware doth comme the after which is supposed shalbe about two months hence. Captayne H. Neport, Captayne Sir George Sommers and 800 people of all sortes went in these 6 shippes besydes two moare that attend the fleete at Plymouth and ther be inhabitants already at Virginea, about 160. God bless them, and guide them to his glory and our goode - Amen.

13th February 1609 being Tuesday Sir Thos Roe oure commander for the discovery of Guiana and Sir George Brooke (as I hearde since) departed for Dartmouth wheare oure 2 Shippes and provision for 2 pinnesses more bestowed in them lay at roade for his comminge partenerrs. The Earle of Sowthampton 900 pounds, Sir Walter Rawley 600 pounds, Sir Thos Roe himselfe with his partener 1100 pounds, and mysealf 20 pounds, which viage god bless. The two shippes departed from Dartmouth the 24 of February 1609.

Ye March - 1609 - The Lord Delaware tooke his leave of all the Company on Monday at Sir Thomas Smith's in Fillpott Lane Treasurer of the Virginea Company; and on Saturday followinge - 10th he departed towards his howse in Hampshire from whence he went to meete his shippes at Sowthampton readdy furnished

with stores, and plantes, seedes, and all other provision of graynes as well to sowe as to vittaille one thousand men for one year. He has three shippes, one whear himsealfe was, of 200 tunne called the _____ a Flyboate of 400 tunnes, and a pinace of 120 tunnes. His style was Lord Governour and Captayne of Virginea. He tooke shipping for that viage the _____ of _____. God bless his worthy endeavour.

_____ o _____

Names of the Adventurers, with the several sums adventured, paid to Sir Thomas Smith, Knight, late Treasurer of the Company for Virginia, and persons who are mentioned in this volume.

_____ o _____

William Browne - - - - -	£	12.	10.	0
Robert Sydney Lord Lisle) - - -		90.	0.	0
now Earl of Leicester)				
Sir Peter Manwood - - - - -		50.	0.	0
William - Earl of Pembroke - - -		400.	0.	0
Sir Stephen Powell (or Powle) - -		100.	0.	0
Sir Robert Rich now)				
Earl of Warwicke) . - - -		75.	0.	0
Sir William Russell - - - - -		50.	0.	0
Robert Rich - - - - -		12.	0.	0
Sir Thomas Smith - - - - -		145.	0.	0
Sir Horatio Vere - - - - -		121.	0.	0
Sir Robert Wroth - - - - -		50.	0.	0

_____ o _____

1609 Venture

COL NATHANIEL RICH

Col Nathaniel Rich was the Only son of Robert Rich and was born in the Summer Islands. After the death of his father in 1620, his education was taken charge of by his uncle Sir Nath' Rich who placed him under the tuition of the Rev^d Mr. Wharton of Felsted, Essex. Here he remained until he went up to Cambridge, probably to Emmanuel College. He no doubt went through a course of law in Lincoln's Inn, as his uncle in his will instructs his Executor "to allow him ffowerscore pounds per annum for his education for some time at the University of Cambridge, & then at Lincoln's Inn it being my desire that he should study & profess the Law." He became Admiralty Commissioner in 1643 & the House of Commons "approved him as Colonel in Sir Thos Fairfax's army in 1644."

The following letter was addressed to Sir Thos Barrington who had married into the Rich family. Oct. 24, 1643 "Flyford. We are now this morning advancing towards Newark, conceiving it the most considerable garrison the enemy hath of the two viz- it and Gainsborough. The winter is already come and our lying in the field hath lost us more men than have been taken away either by sword or bullet: notwithstanding which (and many of our men lying scattered up and down the country) we are ready to persist and unwilling to wait any opportunity of doing God honour and our country service: yet if God pleases, to bring us safe to our winter quarters you must think of speedy recruiting our troops which are not a little battered and lessened with what service service we have done." He says the soldiers complain of want of pay and that he and his troops are 9 weeks behind hand.

"All the money that I had but 30 odd pounds I gave them while I had it (which I saved for my own necessities in case of being wounded or sick, or the like distress) and that was stolen off from my horse when we lay in the field before Lincoln and at that time I had but two shillings left me and my troop without money and have rested so ever since and long before and if speedy relief is not sent with which our sick soldiers lying here and there without Subsistence and those that are well, being continued upon actual service without encouragement, I am afraid ere long you will be as willing to raise new troops as recruit the old: if we had free quarters wherever we come yet a soldier being without any money, his horse cannot be shod, or his arms or saddle kept fit. What I speak is in behalf of the common soldiers, not officers. xxxxx therefore I beseech you let the common soldiers be constantly paid tho the officers go without any at all.

Nathaniel Rich.

A letter from Walmer Castle 9 July 1648 addressed by Col Rich to the House of Commons was read by the Speaker, and another on the 10th July to the Committee of Kent, when it was "ordered that it be referred to a Committee of the Army, to consider how Powder & other Provisions may be speedily sent to Col Rich." Another from him of the 18th August (1648) was read in the House of Commons and ordered to be forthwith printed. It was also "Ordered that a Letter of Thanks to be signed by Mr. Speaker be sent to Col Rich acknowledging his very good service against the Enemy that intended to raise the Seige at Deale Castle." A sum of money was also voted to be paid Col Rich

"out of the new sequestration in Kent." The House also gave orders to hand him his of pay.

Under date of August 25th 1648 Col Rich writes to William Lenthall Esq. Speaker of the House of Commons, from Deale that since the surrender of Walmer Castle, "no time has been lost to use all means possible to reduce Deale Castle." He reports the capture of this castle, with much store of ammunition &c and sends Lt Col Aptall, as bearer of dispatches & commends him as having been "Extraordinary active and diligent." He will next invest Sandown Castle of which he hopes to give "allso a good account in a few dayes." The Council of State, May 21st, 1653, appoint Col Nathaniel Rich and others to consider the present condition of the Summer Islands. Sir David Kirke in 1638 surreptitiously obtained a patent of Newfoundland and in 1655, (after dispossessing Cecil Lord Baltimore of all his rights there) made over part of his patent to John Claypole (son in law to Cromwell) Col Rich and others." 1657, September 30. Oliver Cromwell to the Hon^{ble} Col Rich at Liverpool - I do well assure you that before this I sent you an order to be assistinge in the Expedition against the Isle of Man; but hearinge nothing from you I doubt whether my order came to you. But now I thought fitt to send this desire that (Col Lisburne beinge employed another way) you would be assisting to Col Duckinfeild in this service whoe is the Commander in Chief. I rest your very loving friend.

- O. Cromwell.

About a year before (12 September 1656) Col Rich was denounced as one of "the new malignants" or fifth monarchy men, with

Harrison and others, and had been Kept a prisoner at Windsor for several weeks, John Evelyn in his Diary mentioned that 22nd of April (1656) "afterwards I went to see his Majesty's house at Eltham, both Palace and Chapell in miserable ruines, noble woods and park destroy'd by Rich the Rebell." In 1659 Col Rich was returned a member of the House of Commons and on the 9th of July of that year, they approved of his appointment as a Colonel of a regiment of Horse. His commission was delivered to him in the House of Commons 15 July. On the 29th December (1659) the House "Resolved that the Thanks of this House be given to Colonel Rich for his good service done for the Parliament and Commonwealth, and Mr Speaker did give Colonel Rich the Thanks of this House for his good service accordingly." Complaints and informations were again March 1659/60 lodged against Col Rich and Sir Arthur Hartlerigge, The House of Commons 7th March 1659/60 "Resolved that Colonel Rich be called in,

"Mr Annesley reports from the Council of State, a letter from Col Ingoldsby from Bury, dated the 5th March 1659 and an Information given in by Count Robert Thornback against Colonel Rich which were read

"Col Rich standing up in his place, denied the charge laid against him and said he is a Stranger to all represented.

"Resolved that the Parliament doth approve of what the Council of State have done, concerning the Commitment of Colonel Rich and bringing him to the Parliament being a member of the House.

Ordered that it be referred to the Council of State further

to examine the whole matter charged against Colonel Rich and what else concerneth the Business, and forthwith to state matter of Fact and report it to the Parliament.

Resolved that Colonel Rich be, and is hereby enjoined to attend the Council of State from time to time, upon the Examination of this Business."

James Holbrooke presents a petition to Secretary Nicholas "for directions for further securing Col Nathaniel Rich committed to his custody January 10, 1661, last also for relief as to his charges; he will not pay any fees in conveying away his estate, refuses the oath of allegiance and all sorts of people coming to him." Humphrey Lee informs Katharine Herlestone that he is led by allegiance to inform against those in the Fleet (at Portsmouth) to whose custody Col Nathaniel Rich was committed that he has liberty to go abroad when he likes and has stayed away nine days at a time though of most dangerous principles" -- November 17: 1663. Portsmouth. "Philip Honeywood Commander of the garrison readily grants Sir John Lawson's request. Found Col Rich and his lady in great hopes of more freedom by his meanes, the sad air and unwholesome water prejudice his health and Prevent his enjoying his children and managing his estate. He says he has not disturbed Government since the Act of Indemnity and that were he at liberty he would live quietly and give bond for his appearance. He will not say whether he would take the oath of Allegiance." A warrant was issued June 6, 1665 to Sir John Robinson, to receive Col N' Rich in the Tower of London from Portsmouth, and on July 18th, he was released, having given the necessary bonds to the Earl of Falmouth, in London.

The last public mention of Col Rich is in September 22, 1667. He doubtless retired to Stondon, which he had inherited from his uncle Sir Nathaniel, and led a quiet life for the rest of his days. He made his will October 21st 1700, which was signed March 1701, and proved sometime during 1702. In his will he says "he had been married to his wife (2nd) Lady Elizabeth, for 35 years, alludes to a promise respecting her, made to the Earl of Lothian - names his son Nathaniel, and grandchild Nathaniel, son of his son Sir Robert and in default of heirs male, leaves property to the daughters of his son Nathaniel." Stondon remained in the Rich family until the time of Nathaniel Rich who married Mary daughter of Mathew Rudd of Little Badow in 1806. Nath' Rich who was for many years Receiver General of the Land Tax of the County sold this estate.

PP
Registro Curiae praevig at Cant Extract,

Breife containing my Resolution for the disposing of my Estate according to the Substance whereof I intend if God give me life and leisure to draw up my last Will and Testament which if I should be disappointed in, I appoint that this shall be in the nature of a Will and that all my Lands Goods and Chattells shall be disposed according to the tenor of the particulars hereunder mentioned This being made the Second day of December 1635. -

FIRST I will that all former Wills heretofore by me made shall be utterly void for that the same are not according to my mind and meaning - My soul I bequeath and comend to God my ffather in Jesus Christ - my body to be privately buryed in the

night without any ffuneralls pomp or Mourning - The place I leave to the discretion of my Executors the R. Hoble the Lord Mandevill whom I nominate and appoint sole Executor of my last Will and Testament but if convenient yt maybe I would be buried at Standon in Essex in the parish church there Only I would have my Executor erect some Monument for me where ever I be buried, the same not exceeding the sums of ffifty pounds or a hundred marks - I would only have my Sisters and Brothers in Law and their children and all my Servants, to have mourning Suits of Black cloath - My Manor of Standon and all my Lands in Essex I give to my Nephew Nathaniel Riche when he comes to the age of one and Twenty years - In the meanetime my Executor to receive the Rent and to allow him ffowerscore pounds per Annum for his education for some time at the University of Cambridge and then at Lincoln's Inn - It being my desire that he should study and profess the Law - I give the profit of Seven of my Shares in the Barmudaes now called the Somer Islands to my sister Grimsdiche and her husband during their lives if they will goe and inhabite upon them - and one hundred and ffifty pounds in money for the transporting of themselves and such of their children as they shall think fitt to carry with them.

I give one other share to my Nephew Robert Browne now residing in the said Somer Islands, he having one other share there already upon the guift of my sister Wroth, lately deceased - I give one other Share thereof to _____ Browne one other of the sons of my sister Browne deceased, who hath been hitherto educated by my noble ffriend the Countess of Leicester, Mother to

Sir John Smith. The residue of my Shares there being five I give for the maintenance of a ffree School in those Islands which my desire is should first be erected out of the profits of the said five Shares by the direction of my Executor and then laid forever to the said school - The Schoole Master to be nominated and chosen by my Executor and his noble Lady and after their decease by such religious and discreet ^{R.} as they shall appoint. My desire is that some of the Indian Children to be brought either from Virginia or New England or some other Continent of America such as my Executor shall think fittest may be brought over there to be instructed in the Knowledge of true Religion, And to the end that my Executor may better perform the Trust comitted to him in the disposing of all the said shares I doe give the Inheritance and ffreehold of them all to his Lo^{pp}, praying the Honorable Court of Adventurers for those Islands That immediately after my decease he may be admitted to them To have and to hold to him and his heires forever Never theless upon the Trusts formerly mentioned and not anyways to his own ^{R.} But in case my said Brother in Law Mr. Grimsdich and his wife will not within one yeare after my decease go thither in their owne persons, to live there, Then I will not that neither of them have any benefit by this Guift unless by the hand of God they shall be hindred. But that in that case my Executor take the yearly profit of those Shares and imploy the money raised thereby for three yeares towards the erection of the said ffree school And then pas over the Inheritance of the said seven shares to such child or children of my said Brother and Sister Grimsditch as he shall conceive to

be most worthy. And also I comit the Guift of the Inheritance of the Inheritance of the said shares to be disposed of for the benefit of such child or children by my Executor in case they shall goe and live there after their decease, My meaning being that said Brother in Law and his wife should have the use of those seven shares during their lives in case they live there, else not But in noe case to dispose of the Inheritance. The care whereof I leave wholly to my Executor for the good and benefit of their children, especially such as by their vertue, diligence, and good course of life shall deserve best. I give to Nathaniel Browne now in New England with Mr. Hooker the Two hundred pounds which by my sister Morgan's Will was bequeathed unto him -- and ffifty pounds more as my own Guift - which Two hundred and ffifty pounds I would have Mr. Hooker imploy during the minority of the said Nathaniel Browne for and towards his education paying himselfe for his charges. This I would have done within one yeare after my decease. - ITEM. I give unto Samuel Browne one other son of my said sister Browne, One hundred pounds in money. The same to be imployed during his minority for his benefit as my Executor shall think most fitt. The Rectory of Neverne in Pembrokeshire In Wales I give to my said Executor and his heirs forever upon this Trust and Confidence that he shall make sale thereof as soon as conveniently he can and dispose the money arising by sale thereof and of the Rents till it be sold for the performance of this my last Will and Testament. I give unto Thomas Grimsditch the eldest son of my brother Grimsditch who is now in the Isle of Providence, the fforty pounds per annum Annuity which my Lord of Warwick is to pay during the life of

the said Thomas. I give to Thomas Allaby my servant, one hundred pounds - To Jonas Anger Ten pounds per annum during his life - The said Ten Pounds per annum to be issueing out of my Mannor of Stondon with power to distrain & a nomine pence of six pence diem every day that it shall be unpaid within thirty dayes after Michaelmas and our Lady day, my meaning being that it shall be paid him halfe yearly at the said ffeasts - And I give him Ten pounds in money - I give unto John my ffootman Ten Pounds in money and fferty shillings a year during his life Issueing out of the said Mannor To be paid halfe yearly as the other and with like power to distres and nomine pence not of ^vI^d a day but of twelve pence a week for every week that it shall be behind unpaid. All my Goods, Chattells, Leases of what kind or naturesoever not formerly disposed of other than such Legacies as hereafter I shall express either by word before two credible witnesses or by handwriting I give to my said Executor and his most noble Lady in testimony of my thankfulness unto them for all their favours and of the humble and hearty affection I justly bear unto them. I give unto William Jesopp more than formerly in my life I have given him ffifty pounds. All my wearing Lynnen and apparell I desire my Executor to distribute amongst my Brother Grimsditch and my servants according to his own discretion wherein I would have Thomas Allabie that waits on me especially respected, only one suit such as my Executor shall think fitt I give to William Jesopp And whereas there is in Mr. Goffes hand (that was some time Steward to my Lord of Warwick) a statute taken in his name for a Thousand pounds debt due to my said Lord and my Selfe,

ffive hundred pounds whereof being the one halfe belongs to me I doe hereby give unto that my deare and noble Lord the said ffive Hundred pounds as a testimony of my humble affection to him and thankfulness for his love and favoures towards me, ITEM I give unto the Rt Hono^{ble} my very Noble Lord the Earle of Holland One hundred pounds - and another hundred pounds to his noble Lady part of the money which his Lordship oweth me - and ffifty pounds parcell of the said Debt to my Noble Lady the Lady Essex Cheek - The Dyamond Ring which I usually weare it being my Sister Wroth's Legacie to me I give to my Brother Wroth - My Emerod Ring which I usually weare I give to my dear and most vertuous friend Mrs. Mary Moore widow - Item I do particularly give to my dear most noble and Religious Lady the Lady Mandevill All that Annuity of One hundred and ffourscore pounds per annum which I purchased of my Lord of Warwick issueing out of certain Lands in Norfolk during the minority of Mr. Hatton Rich for all the terme of years which are yet to come. My Library, Bookes and papers I give to my said Noble Lord the Lord Mandevill the sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, praying him that at least with part of them he would furnish a Library to be sett up in the ffree School at the Somer Islands as formerly I have appointed. The late Lady Warwick's picture I give unto my Lord Riche her son - Item I give unto my worthy friend Mr. Wharton Minister at ffelsted in Essex Thirty pounds, as a testimony of my speciall love unto him and thankfulness for his care bestowed in the education of my nephew Nathaniel Riche - Item I give unto my deare friend Mr. John Pym my best Gelding and a Ring of Twenty pounds which I desire him

to weare for my sake - I Give unto my loveing Cosen Mrs. Martha Willford Twenty pounds to bestow in a Ring or what she please as a remembrance of my love unto her. And to the end that my Noble Lord whom I make sole Executor of this my Last Will and Testament may be subject to the less trouble in the performance of this my Will I doe hereby declare my will and meaning to be That none unto whom I have given anything by this my Will shall take any benefit thereby or have any thing thereby bequeathed unless at the same time that my Executor doe offer payment unto any such person of any such Legacie according to the express word of this my Will he or she to whom the said Legacie is tendered doe upon demand of my said Executor tender likewise a generall acquittance and discharge to my said Executor of all further claimes and demands whatsoever for or concerninge myselfe or anything pretended to be further claimed by from or under me or my said Executor as Executor of this my last Will and Testament . In Witness whereof and that this is my last Will and Testament though written in much haste I have subscribed to every page my name, and all the premises are written with my own hand Sec^d Decembris 1635.

Na: Riche This and noe other was acknowledged by the said Sir Nathaniel Rich Knight being in full and perfect memory to be his Last Will and Testament about the twenty eighth of October 1636 before us viz

Thomas Wolrych

Carey Wolrych.

M^d. that on Thursday the Tenth day of November Anno Dⁿⁱ 1636 after the sealing and publishing of the Will and Testament of Sir Nathaniel Riche Knight dated the second day of November 1635 The said Nathaniel Riche did in the presence of the Right Hon^{ble} the Lord viscount Mandevill, Executor of the last Will and Testament of the said Sir Nathaniel Riche as also in the presence of William Jesopp and Thomas Allaby Servants of the said S^r Nathaniel Riche Give and bequeath unto the said William Jesopp all the adventure that he the said Sir Nathaniel Riche then had in the stock of the Company of Merchants of the City of London trading into the East-Indies- and he the said Sir Nathaniel Riche did also grant unto him the said William Jesopp the Tenancy of all that fferme lying in Stondon in the aaid Will menconed called Brooks Tenement which had been purchased by the said Sir Nathaniel Riche since his purchase of the Manor of Stondon The said William Jesopp paying for the same fforty shillings per annum and the Quitt Rent due from thence to the Mannor of Stondon aforesaid desiring the said Lord viscount Mandevill to make a Lease thereof unto the said William Jessopp at at the Rents aforesaid And did further express his intention to grant him interest in the said fferme upon the said Rents during the naturall life of the said Wm Jessopp by saying that he would fayne have him the said William Jessopp to live there, and the said Sir Nathaniel Riche did also signify his Will to be that all the wearing apparell of him the said Sir Nathaniel Riche shall be distributed unto Mr. Thomas Grimsditch in the said Will menconed and unto the said Thomas Allabey and William Jessopp indifferently.

Will proved 1st December 1636, by Edward Lord viscount
Mandevill before Thomas Eden and Henry Marten.

Thomas Welham

Deputy Register

NOTES ON THE WILL OF SIR NATH^L RICH

JANE, the sister of Sir Nathl Rich married Thomas Grimsditch or Grymesditch. Their son Thomas was sent over to the Summer Islands and their daughter Frances had been adopted by Sir Thomas & Dame Margaret Wroth, and lived in their household. In reference to the bequest of Sir Nath^L to his sister Grymesditch, and its limitations, an appeal was made to the King for relief in the matter. "March 1638. Contents of the will of Sir Nathaniel Rich concerning his bequest to Thomas Grymesditch of seven shares in the Summer Islands Company, on condition of residing there with his Family within one year, also the King's letter excusing Grymesditch from doing so by reason of his continual attendance on his Majesty and the infirmity of his wife." John Grymesditch a relation, was brother in law of Sir Francis Windebout. Foreign Secretary.

Edward Montague (1602-1671)
Viscount Mandeville was the eldest son of the 1st Earl of ^{Sir Henry Montagu} (1583-1642)

Manchester. He was impeached by the King before the Earl died in 1642, but it was dropped. He and John Pym were among the 6 members of the Houses impeached. He is known in the history of the Montagu family, as the "fighting Earl" who married 5 wives. One of them, was Lady Ann Rich daughter of the 2nd Earl of Warwick. He was a firm adherent of the Parliament, not so much as an opposer of the King, as an advocate of public rights. From Edgehill to Marston Moor and Newberry he appeared in every field, as vic^t. Mandeville or Earl of Manchester. He was universally beloved, his enemies rendering him every respect. He died in 1670.*

*Court from Queen Elizabeth to Queen Anne, by the Duke of Manchester.

Member Parliament for Huntingdonshire 1624-26 when Henry Percy was Earl of Essex.
 was in army of Earl of Essex.

Son of Robt Rich and Penelope Devereaux, dau 1st Earl Essex.
94

The Earl of Warwick (The Admiral) "He was a Man of a pleasant and companionable wit and conversation, of an universal jollity and great Licence in his words and actions nevertheless he had great authority and credit with his party and by opening his Doors and making his House the rendezvous of all silenced Ministers, in the time of their Misfortune and spending a good part of his Estate upon them, he got the stile of a godly man." Edmund Calamy, in his funeral sermon applies to him what was said/Socrates "all who knew him, loved him, and if any man did not love him, it was because he did not know him." 'Tis supposed his death was hastened by that of his Grandson, for when the Funeral was delayed longer than he expected, he was heard to say "if they staid a little longer, they should carry "him down to be buried with him." And indeed he followed him in about 9 weeks time. Mr. Knightly, a gentleman of Northamptonshire, coming to Leigh, ^A his country seat and beholding the fine park and gardens, said pleasantly to him "my Lord you had need to make sure of Heaven or else when you die you will be a great Loser." The Grandson died of the Kings evil soon after his marriage (11 Nov^r 1657) to Frances the Protector's youngest daughter. He died 16 Feb. 1657/8 & was buried March 5 at Folsted. He was a person of great hopes and when a youth of 13 or 14 years he carried himself with so much civility, modesty, Ingenuity and Manliness as made him fit company for men. He had a strong persuasion in the height and vigour of his youth that he should not live beyond his Mother's age who died under 27 and he under 24.*

* Tindall's Essex

A. or Leeze.

The Earl of Warwick was the friend and patron of Hugh Peters and like Sir Nathaniel Rich was greatly interested in the welfare of the New England Settlements. In 1620, Nov. 3^d a grant was issued "to Robert Earl of Warwick to be of the Council for the Plantation of New England."

Henry Rich, created Lord Kensington and Earl of Holland was brother to the Earl of Warwick. He married Isabel daughter of Sir Walter Cope who was a great promoter of the Virginia Company and a member of its governing Council. Isabel Cope brought into the Rich family the property in London, where Kensington Park now lies.

In 1654 it was valued in the Assessors books at 640 pounds per annum, there being in all 408 acres with the Countesses house and gardens. In 1628 Henry Rich, 1st Earl of Holland was granted a pension of 2000 pounds per annum. He enjoyed it 21 years, at the end of which time he was beheaded. In the first year of pension, he was pressed for money and had his wife to write the following letter to Sir Nath^l Rich "Sweet friend -- You may justly accuse me for I condemn myself for incivility, that now may be thought to write rather out of necessity than affection. At this time indeed, my occasions are such that I must needs entreat you to be bound with Sir Robert Rich and Mr. Tompkins for 300 pounds or 400 pounds until my Lord's money come in wherein I would not trouble you but that I am confident you all know how to repay yourselves. I pray give me your answer with speed because the man from whom I should have it goeth out of town. I pray excuse this boldness and let this assure you that there is none that wishes you more hearty love and affection than your faithful loving friend.^A I. Holland.

^{A.} Court and Society from Queen Elizth to Anne by the Duke of Manchester.

Essex Rich, the daughter of Robert Rich, 1st Earl of Warwick and Penelope daughter of Walter Devereux Earl of Essex. She married Sir Thomas Cheek Knt of Pigo, and their daughter Essex, the widow of Sir Robert Bevill re-married viscount Mandeville, after the death of his wife, her cousin, Lady Ann Rich. Robert Rich, 3d Earl of Warwick (the Admiral) married as his second wife the sister of the above Essex Cheek - Ann Cheek the widow of _____ Rogers. They were married Oct 3d 1645 at Whitehurst.

William Jessop mentioned in the will, was interested in the Summers Island and Providence Companies, and made the Treasurer. Under the Commonwealth he was one of the Clerks of the Privy Council.

Nathaniel Browne is supposed to have been the eldest son of the four children of Percy Browne, and after the premature deaths of both his parents, was adopted by his uncle, who placed him under the charge of the Rev^d Thomas Hooker. Whether he emigrated to New England with him in 1633, or was sent over the next year is not known, but the following letter of John Winthrop was no doubt in answer to one from Sir N'Rich, making some enquiries, in reference to sending his nephew over to the Colony.

John Winthrop to Sir Nathaniel Riche

abstract

Boston Massachusetts. May 22^d - 1634.

The people of the Colony had not been formally numbered, by reason of "David's example" but were believed to be more than 4,000, "in good health and for the most part well provided."

There had been very little sickness or mortality "through the Lord's special providence." Provisions were for various reasons sufficient and plentiful. The winters were "sharp" but the Summers more "fervent in heat than in England." -- "Our civil government is mixed. The freeman choose the magistrates every year (and for the present they have chosen Thomas Didly, Esq Governor) and at four courts in the year, three out of each town (there being eight in all) do assist the magistrates in making of laws, imposing taxes, and disposing of lands. Our juries are chosen by the freemen of each town. Our churches are governed by pastors, teachers, and ruling elders and deacons, yet the power lies in the whole community and not in the presbytery, further than for order and precedency. For the natives, they are near all dead of the smallpox, so as the Lord hath cleared our title to what we profess."

The letter concludes with an account of some violence offered to Lord Saye's men, who wished to trade, and some of whom lost their lives in the brawl. In a postscript it is added that six ships had arrived with passengers and cattle after six weeks' sail and that a plantation had been settled two hundred miles to the northward near Merrimac, of which Mr. Parker was to be the minister.

-- Edmund Calamy preached the funeral sermon at the interment of Robt 2^d Earl of Warwick at Felsted Essex, which was published, and dedicated to his son Robert, 3^d Earl.

DAME MARGARET WROTH

Margaret Rich the sister of Sir Nathaniel Rich married Sir Thomas Wroth Knight. He was Knighted by King James 1st at Theobolds, 11th November 1613. The Wroths were neighbours of the King, at Wroths place, Enfield, Middlesex. They also had a place at Petherton Park, Somersetshire, and here Dame Margaret died in 1635 when Sir Thomas wrote a paper, entitled "his declaration of the life, sickness and death of his dearest and most beloved wife" and commences it thus "At Petherton Park in the County of Somerset, Monday being the 6th of October 1635 about midnight of the same day Dame Margaret Wrothe my most sweet, most dear, most loving, most virtuous, most religious, most gracious, most discreet, merciful, patient humble and tender hearted wife of whom neither I nor the world was worthy, was taken with a sudden vomiting and Sickness upon which followed a very hot fever with a great pain, which so tormented her that she often cried out, "the arrows of the Almighty are upon me, they stick fast in me." Sir Thomas adds "She wanted no attendance or comfort that could be procured for love or money; and I her husband take God, mine owne conscience, and all these good people who were there continually about her, that I omitted no duty of charge bodily pains, frequent prayers, sighs, groans and tears, to show my faithful and certain affection to her. Such was my high estimation of her worth and desire of her life, that if mine might have redeemed hers, I would have laid it down with ten thousand times more willingness than I was, or now am to survive her" She died on Wednesday the 14th of the month aged 55. "Divers years before

her death she was daily and constantly conversant with God and frequent and constant in religious duties both private and public, making it her daily delight, slighting the things of this world much desiring and preparing hourly for her dissolution: much time she spent in prayer, reading the Bible or other good books and conference and discourse with good men & women, very discreet, prudent and active she was in the conduct of her family, setting forward with her own hands divers work and businesses in her house, always doing some good, protesting that she could not endure idleness and that she knew there was no warrant in the Word of God to be idle, for then Satan would be very busy with his detestable allurements and temptations and this divers can testify who were of her familiar acquaintance. Little speech she used in time of her sickness for in her health it was her wisdom to spare her tongue, but when she spake her words were gracious and discreet and to give her but her due she was a woman adorned with as many singular parts and abilities pertaining to her sex and of as sweet a temper of spirit & constitution of body, as any man may expect in a woman." Before the illness of Dame Margaret was considered hopeless says Sir Thomas "being then in reasonable strength of mind, she called to me her husband and said "Let me kiss thee, sweetheart before I die" and so she did. The next day, after I her husband standing at her bedside both of us looking steadfastly one upon the other, I stooped down and kissed her wherefore she said "Do not make too much of me, lest it make me unwilling to die." At the beginning of her sickness she acquainted, her husband, how she had disposed of her land, jewels,

money and other goods, which she and I her husband had agreed before she came out of London the last part summer committing her trust to me for the faithful Execution of her desires, contained in a will or declaration she had made in writing under hand and seal and left with a worthy friend in London." She desired to be buried in the Church of St Stephen's Coleman St -- that church afterwards so famous for its undersexton John Haywood, who from the numerous alleys in that parish, in the great plague year, fetched the numerous dead from their houses in hand barrows carried them to his cart in waiting in the broader street and never had the distemper at all. Dame Margaret, Sir Thomas continues "further told me that she had entrusted her brother Sir Nathaniel Rich and myself with the education of her neice Frances a pretty and forward young child then waiting on her) desiring me for her sake to be very careful of her and said she had given her 100 pounds and some other things, if she took good courses to our liking." She asked those about her to "lift her up" and when they asked her "whither they should lift her"? She answered "to Christ." After recounting the last pious ejaculations and the final falling asleep the widower says "and I, most disconsolate man, a man of Sorrows for the loss of the wife of my bosom, the delight of my heart & chiefest comfort and content of my life, do most earnestly desire if it stand with the pleasure of my good God, so soon as I have seen the body of my dearest wife interred to be speedily dissolved and be with her in Paradise." He then composed the following, no doubt suggested by Sir Thomas Overbury's poem "a wife."

"Sir Thomas Wrothe, his sad encomium upon his dearest consort Dame Margaret Wrothe who died of a fever at Petherton Park in the County of Somerset, about midnight of the 14th day of October - 1635. -

Can any sorrow be like mine, whose loss
Is more than tongue may tell or heart conceive?
Am I picked out to bear this heavy cross
And in obedience, what is dearest leave?
With bleeding heart I must avow, that no man
Did ever love more virtuous, worthy woman.

An Angel's tongue were fitter than my pen
To blaze abroad her worth and virtues rare
She daily walked with God, more than with men
Yet men and women often had a share
Of her - - - from mouth and hand
And blest the house was where she did command.

A cheerful spirit and a patient, both
Her sweet composed body did possess
Neatness She highly prized and hated sloth,
As did her words and actions all Express
She had no warrant - often would she say
To spend a minute idle, of a day.

Gracious her words but few; small wrongs she had them
The greatest injuries that e'er were done her
She did remit and nourished those who did them
So merciful she was, good words soon won her
There's not a heart that is not foul and rotten
Which loved not her, when that shall be forgotten.

Fit for His cabinet who now hath ta'en her
The world nor I was worthy for to share
So Rich a gem - but Heaven is now the gainer.
To sum up all, this woman, this my wife
She was the honour, comfort of my life.

If prayers incessant, from a bleeding heart
If sighs, heart rending groans and floods of tears
If gold and silver, or physicians art
If merciful and helpful women's cares
Had been of force (with loss of my dear life)
They had redeemed from death, my dearer wife.

But who can ransom or redeem his brother
 From Death's impartial stroke? If any
 My part in this has been beyond all other
 For by her death, my loss is more than many
 But since it is decreed that all must die
 All must submit to that - and so must I.

Yet this, Great God of Heaven, is my request
 (Because I must without this comfort live)
 Teach me to live as She did who is blest -
 That I may die as She did - lastly - give
 Thy servant leave to see her with my eyes
 After this life - then happy when he dies.

Then follows a reference to her desire to be buried where her
 parents & child were entombed and where Says Sir Thomas quaintly.

I will lie by thee, who lay by me
 For twenty years and one

and then concludes thus

Rest there sweet woman, in that silent cell
 Untill the resurrection bring thee forth,
 Meanwhile, thy life these lines and tongues shall
 tell

Thou wert a woman of a matchless worth
 a pattern to all ladies who outlive thee.
 More would I say, if more praise I could give
 thee.

- Abstract of Dame Margaret Wroths will -

Will made August 15th - 1635. - Desires to be buried in the
 parish Church of St Stephen, Coleman Street London where her
 daughter Ann Bowdler is buried, and leaves 100 marks to be ex-
 pended upon a monument for herself and her daughter. Mourning
 suits to be given to all these persons who attend her funeral -
Sir Thomas Wroth and all the servants which shall serve him in
 the country, and in London, her deare brother Sir Nathaniel
Rich the right honorable the Earl of Warwick and his countess,
 her loving brother in law and Sir Peter Wroth and his wife, her
 sister Grimsditch and her husband, her worthy friend Mrs. Moore,

her "loving ffrende Mr Pheasant" Mr Sotherton and their wives, Mr. Slaughter, Mr John Pim and Mr Simons the pastor of Ironmonger Lane and his wife and her very good friend Mr Bower & his wife, Mr Goodwin the Minister of Coleman Street, and his wife, together with the clerke of the said parish, her godson Mr Richard S^tPitty and his mother, Mrs Bassett and her daughter Mary, "who is lately marryed." She gives to Lady Mandeville a coronet of Goldsmith's work, her mother was her most deare and loving friend - the coronet was set with diamonds rubies and pearls" which sometime was Lady Mandevilles mother." For her to "accept and weare with said coronet for my sake." To Frances daughter of her sister Frances Grimsditch three score and ten pounds to make up the 30 pounds which her daughter Ann Bowdler gave her by her last will, which 100 pounds she desires may be paid her on her marriage. To her good friend Mr Peter Pheasant, one diamond ring of the full value and worth of 10 pounds and to Mrs Mary Pheasant his wife she gives her gold ring set with seven diamonds, "to weare for her sake." To the daughter of the said Mrs Mary Pheasant, who is her god daughter, her bracelet of gold with the amethyst stones and her bodkin together with the diamond button at the end of it and also her bracelet of pearls, and to her sister the wife of Mr John Sotherton she gives her great Sheet wrought all over with black silk and one pair of pillow "bearer" soe wrought belonging to the said sheet" and also her waistcoat wrought with gold and silver which of them she pleases at her own choice and to the said Mr Sotherton her husband, she gives one ring of diamonds of the full worth & value of 10 pounds. To her sister

Grimsditch all her ordinary gowns & linnen. To Sir Peter Wroth a table diamond ring to weare for her sake, to Elizabeth Wroth, Sir Peter's eldest daughter 200 pounds To her nephew Thomas Grimsditch 5 pounds when he comes of age. She gives the above 200 pounds to Elizabeth Wroth as she had the education of her, and had taken a great fancy to her. To her nephew Robt Browne one Share of the Somers Islands Company, she bought of one-- _____ Woodcocke, said share to be placed in trust of Mr John Sotherton, during her nephew's minority. A legacy is left to her worthy friend Mrs Moore -- and 50 pounds to 50 poor women who are to attend her body to the grave, in mourning gowns provided at her expense. Her brother Sir Nathaniel Rich and Mr Peter Pheasant to be her Executors.

Elizabeth Rich, sister of the above Dame Wroth was the fourth wife of Sir John Morgan Knight of Chilworth, near Albury, Surrey. Sir John was knighted for his services in the Expedition against Cadiz in 1596. He died 3^d April 1624 -- She remarried John Sotherton Esq^r Baron of the Exchequer, and died at Chilworth 30 November 1632. He remarried (see the will of Dame Margaret Wroth) a daughter of Mr Peter and Mary Pheasant.

S Stephen's Church, Coleman Street London, was burnt in the great fire. Dame Margaret Wroth left to this church the sum of Two pounds yearly to preach a sermon on the recurrence of her funeral day, being November 11th, and after each sermon Two pounds to be paid to the poor. She also gave 1. 0. 0 Pound to

be paid yearly for a sermon to be preached on the Funeral day of her daughter Mrs Anna Bewdley, and after each sermon, to the poor 1. 0. 0. pound.

At the time of Dame Margaret Wroth's death, the Rev^d John Goodwin was the clergyman of the Coleman Street Church to which living he had been presented in 1633. He became a zealous supporter of _____, and should not be confounded with the Rev^d Thomas Goodwin, who was also a friend of the Rich family, particularly of Sir Nathaniel, who is alluded to in some of Dr Goodwin's works.

Think this Thomas was brother of Sir Wm Browne,
 Lord Mayor of London 1507 and 1513. (d 1513)

CREST

Browne of Snelston - Derbyshire

Son Sir John Browne
 Lord Mayor of London 21 Edward IV (?)
 Thomas Browne
 of Snelston.
 Co Derby. d 1536

Margaret daughter to
 Chetham - of
 the family of Chetham
 of Chetham near Man-
 chester & related to
 Humphrey Chetham
 Founder of the Cheatham
 Free Library & Blue
 Coat School at
 Manchester

4th son
 Ralph Brown
 Dorothy Pate?
 co-heir of John Mont-
 gomery
 1562

Radulphur
 Browne
 also a son
 Ralphe who was
 buried April 18th
 1577.

Nicholas Browne
 of Suchton -
 Buried Jan^y 18th-
 1587. His wife died
 April 28th. 1595.

(Co-heir of John Montgomery)
 Vernon (her husband) might have been co-heir
 Elianor d^r & Thomas
 heiress to Browne died
 Ralph Shir- without
 ley Esq of issue
 Shirley, Derbyshire,
 of Staunton - d. April 1595
 Harold of Braylesford Co.
 Leicester. Her first husband
 was Thomas Vernon, 2nd son of
 Humphrey Vernon of Clifton
 & Harleston Derbyshire, as
 by the marriage settlement
 made 1545 May 5. The Shir-
 leys of Shirley & of
 Staunton Harold were repre-
 sented in 1611 by a Baronet
 in 1677 by Baron Ferrar & in
 1711 by Earl Ferrar of
 Staunton Harold
 Eleanora had son Walter & Jay Barbara
 in Dec. 1611

Will + inventory of Nicholas
 show he was a person of
 high degree -

Sir William Browne
 born in 1558 at Suchton
 Served for several years
 in the Low Countries and
 died there in 1610.
 August. Was Lieut Gov-
 ernor of Flushing.
 in 1569 in Low Country

Mary Savage
 Born in Germany.
 Naturalized in
 1600

Gertrude
 Browne

Arms; 3 lions passant between 2 bends argent
 in the sinister chief a trefoil slipped
 erm.

yeatman says this
 son was knighted
 so young
 die had 2 sons
 William & one
 a son was living
 when he made will 1611

d. May 1595
 William Browne
 died young, but
 naturalized by
 Act of Parlia-
 ment 1604..
 Baptised Nov.
 10th 1594...
 d May 1595

Ann
 Browne
 died young
 natural-
 ized by
 Act of
 Parlia-
 ment 1604

Barbara Percy
 Browne
 died an nat^d 1622.
 infant born
 but nat^d about 1602:
 z^d 1604.
 Rich
 daughter
 of Col
 Nath^l
 Rich of
 Stondon
 Essex
 died before
 1635.

Mary Browne
 born in Hol-
 land. Nat^d
 1622

Only two sons William & Percy listed but will 1/23/1611
 stated 4 sons (pg 96 yeatman) & unnumbered daughters -
 In 1613

Percy _____ Rich
Browne _____

:
:
:

Nathaniel Browne Robert Browne Samuel Browne
Sent to New England went to the Providence
under the charge of the Rev Thomas Islands, West
Hooker about 1633-4. Indies. named
M'd in New after Robert
England & had 10 Sydney. Earl
sons - of Leicester.
was ordained
a minister
and appointed
to a church
in Somers
Islands in
1655 and died
there in 1660.

Browne
Educated by the
Countess of
Leicester, widow of
Robert Sydney. 1st
Earl of Leicester
of the Sydney
family. his name
appeared to be
William as a Wm
Browne was out in
the Providence
Islands.

CREST

Browne - MSS. Coll-Arms-Vincent Surrey No 129

suivez Sir Anthony Browne K. B.
raison at the coronation of Richard II
1377

:
:
:

:
Sir Robert Browne _____

:
:

Sir Stephen
Browne
Lord Mayor of
London in 1439
and 1448.

:
Sir Thomas _____
Browne

Elinor dr and
heiress of Sir
Thomas Fitz-
Alan of Betchworth
Castle, Surrey.

Sir George Browne m'd Eliz-
abeth dr of Sir William
Paston and widow of Richard
Lord Poynings, ancestor of
the Brownes Baronet of
Betchworth Castle, who
became extinct in

Sir Anthony Browne
m'd Lucy dr of John
Marquis Montac
of the
Brownes viscount
Montague's of Cowdery
Castle in Co. Surrey.

Sir Robert Browne
m'd Mary dr of Sir
Wm Mallett and
had daughter
Elinor m'd
Wm Kempe of
Kent.

Stowe, in his "Survey of London" says of the above Sir Stephen Browne that he was Lord Mayor of London in 1439 and again in 1448, having been Sheriff in 1431. He further says that he was the son of John Browne of New Castle upon Tyne, Amongst the "Honourable acts of Citizens" Stowe records that "Stephen Browne, Grocer Mayor in 1439 sent into Prussia, causing corn to be brought from thence to London in great quantity whereby he brought down the price of wheat from three shillings the bushel to less than half that money for corn was then so scarce in England that poor people were enforced to make them Bread of Fern roots." For this praiseworthy act, he no doubt received the order of Knighthood, with perhaps some augmentation of the family arms granted in 1377, which so closely resemble those borne by the Brownes of Snelston at Gilbert Dethick's (Garter King at Arms) visitation of Derbyshire in 1569, that it would seem the latter were derived from them. The principal difference is in the crest, that of the Brownes of Eastboarne (vis^t Montague) and the Bechworth family being an eagle displayed, vert, "whilst the Brownes of Snelston bore a crest "an eagle's head sable & gorged." Sir Anthony Browne (1377) was in all probability, not the father, as Vincent states but the grandfather of Sir Stephen Browne, Lord Mayor.

Concerning Sir Stephen Browne Fuller adds a few other particulars "that during a great dearth in his Mayoralty, he charitably relieved the wants of the poor citizens by sending ships at his own expence to Dantzic which returned laden with rye and which seasonable supply soon sunk grain to reasonable rates. He is beheld as one of the first merchants, who during a want of corn, shewed the Londoners the way to the barn door, I mean Spurned and, prompted by Charity (not covetousnes) to this adventure." The above pedigree is taken from Dallaway's Sussex - and differs from Heath's History of the Grocer's Company of London. Heath gives Sir Stephen Browne a different coat of arms from the above. Stow's Survey of London gives Sir Stephen - John as his father and says he was from New Castle. It will be observed there is a period of 70 years between Sir Stephen & his reputed father in Vincent's pedigree.

Stowe, gives a list of Lord Mayors of London who were Grocers and the names of those Ex-Lord Mayors who died and were buried in some of the London churches. The name of Sir Stephen Browne does not occur among those named as having died in London, and we may conclude that after 1448 he withdrew from the city with his family and settled in Derbyshire at or near Snelston. This would tally with the tradition handed down from the original progenitor of the Browne family in New England "that they were descendants of a Sir Stephen Browne in England." Descendants of the Brownes of the Eastbourne branch can be traced in New England by the arms they bore. In the "Heraldic Journal of American families" vol 3 page 14 is found the copy of an inscription on the tombstone of the Rev^d Marmaduke Brown, at Newport R. I. with an engraved coat of arms, similar to those borne by Visc^t Montagu & the Brownes of Betchworth Castle. The family of this Marmaduke Brown it is stated, came originally from Ireland. In England it is mentioned that "a branch of the Brownes of Kiddington & Caversham of Oxfordshire (offshoots of the Eastbourne family at Cowdery Castle) according to an uncertain tradition was settled in Ireland in 1565, the ancestor having accompanied Sir Henry Sydney (father of Sir Philip & Sir Robert) Lord Deputy, from whom the present Marquis of Sligo, is descended." Again we find some inscription copied from a graveyard in Salem, New England, (vol. 2 page 23 of the Heraldic Journal) to William Brown Esq & his wife Sarah with the Brown arms and crest. The crest is that of the Brownes of Eastbourne & Betchworth, whilst on a bend between 2 cottines,

argent, are 3 Eagles displayed, which is probably a mistake, and should be 3 Lions passant - for it is mentioned that the gravestone inscriptions "are very imperfect" and it may be also inferred that the eagles would be but imperfectly and incorrectly deciphered in the worn state of the stone.

THE FAMILY OF RICH.

"Randell Surnamed ye Rich, a Norman borne had issue 1st Simon, Count Lize and Earl of Huntingdon by marrying of Maud daughter of Waltheof Earl of Northumberland and Earl of Huntingdon. 2nd Warner le Rich his brother, both marched and came into England to ye aide of William the Conqueror and brought with them 40 Knights. Simon had Simon Rich Vic^t, Earl of Huntingdon anno 1184. 31. Henry 2^d Sir Edmund Rich and Mable his wife had issue Sir Emund Rich, dead in 1240. 2^d - Sir Robt Rich borne in Abingdon Berkshire, as his brother Sir Edmund, he dyed 1250. 3^d Margaret Rich and 4th, Alice Rich both at Abingdon and successively prioresses of Catesby Northamptonshire- the first dyed in 1257 the second Alice dyed in 1270. S^r Edmunds Hall, Oxford had its name from S^r Edmunds Rich, who was first Canon of Salisbury, and then Archbishop of Canterbury. He dyed at Soissons France in 1240, his brother Robert wrote his life. A branch of this family settled in Hampshire, where John le Rich flourished at Rich's place about the time of Edward the 2^d. His great grandson Richard Rich Esquire was of London and died in the year 1414.

APPENDIX

resolves upon it, I take this occasion to
transmit to you a pamphlet containing a
circumstantial, and attested account of
the whole transaction, it is so strong a
testimony of the perfidy of the

The metrical narrative of Robert Rich was the first printed account of the wreck of the "Sea Venture." The play of the "Tempest" is supposed to have been the latest composition of Shakspeare, and to have had much of its local colouring, suggested by the circumstances of the wreck on the "vexed Bermoothes," which would be much talked of at the time. The Earl of Southampton, the friend of Shakspeare, was at that time on friendly terms with Sir Nathaniel Rich the brother of Robert. The Earl who was one of the foremost men in the management of the Virginia Comp^y in which Sir Nathaniel was also much interested, would be disposed to talk much about the wreck & it is not unlikely that Robert Rich would be much questioned, and frequently asked for the narrative of his experience, and it may be in Shakspeares presence. The copy of Rich's tract "Newes from Virginia," was found in the library of the Earl of Charlemont in Dublin in 1865 by John O. Halliwell-Phillips, Esq, who printed an edition privately of 25 copies, of which 15 were destroyed, leaving only 10 for distribution. In 1613 was also published in London "A plaine description of the Barmudas now called Sommer Islands, with the manner of their discoverie Anno 1609 by the shipwrack & admirable deliverance of Sir Thos Gates & Sir George Sommers, wherein are truly set forth the Commodities & profits of that Rich, Pleasant & Healthfull Countrie with an Addition, or more ample relation of divers other remarkable matters concerning those Islands since then experienced, lately sent there by one of the Colonies now resident there. "Ecclesiastes 3. 11 "God hath made everything beautifull in his time." Dedicated to Sir Thos Smith & with an "Epistle Dedicatoris" by W. C (William Crashaw, D. C.)

NEWES FROM VIRGINIA

THE LOST FLOCKE TRIUMPHANT:

With the happy Arrival of that famous
and worthy Knight Sr Thomas Gates:
and the well reputed and valient
Captaine W Christopher Newporte,
and others, into England.

with the manner of their distress in the Island
of Devils (otherwise called Bermoothawes)
where they remayned 42 weeks, and
builded two Pynaces, in which
they returned into Virginia

By R. Rich, Gent, one of the voyage

London

Printed by Edw. Allde and are to be
solde by John Wright, at Christ-
Church dore. 1610.

To the Reader.

Reader, -- How to stile thee I knowe not, perhaps learned, perhaps unlearned; happily captious, happily envious; indeed, what or how to tearme thee I know not, only as I began I will proceede.

Reader: Thou dost peradventure imagine that I am mercenarie in this business and write for money (as your moderne Poets are) hyred by some of those ever to be admired adventurers to flatter the world. No; I disclaime it. I have knowne the voyage, past the danger, seene that honorable work of Virginia and I thanke God am arrived here to tell thee what I have seene, don, and past. If thou wilt believe me, so; if not, so to: for I cannot force thee but to thy owne liking. I am a soldier, blunt and plaine, and so is the phrase of my newes, and I protest it is true. If thou aske why I put it in verse, I prethee knowe it was only to feede mine owne humour. I must confesse, that, had I not debarde myselfe of that large scope which to the writing of prose is allowed, I should have much eard myselfe and given thee better content. But I intreat thee to take this as it is, and before many daies expire, I will promise thee the same work more at large.

I did feare prevention by some of your writers, if they should have gotten but some part of the newes by the taylor, and therefore though it be rude, let it passe with thy liking, and in so doing I shall like well of thee: but, however, I have not long to stay. If thou wilt be unnaturall to thy country man, thou maist -- I must not loose my patrymonie. I am for Virginia againe, and so I will bid the hastily farewell with an honest verse:

As I came hether to see my native land,
To waft me backe lend me thy gentle hand.
Thy loving country-man

Newes from Virginia
of the happy arrival of that famous
and worthy Knight Sir
Thomas Gates
and well reputed and valiante Captaine
Newport, into England.

"It is no idle fabulous tale
Nor is it fayned newes
For Truth herself is heere arriv'd
Because you should not muse.
With her both Gates and Newport come,
To tell Report doth lye,
Which did divulge into the world,
That they at sea did dye.

Tis true that eleaven monthes and more
These gallant worthy nights
Was in the shippe Sea-Venture nam'd,
Deprived Virginia's sight:
And bravely did they glyde the maine
Till Neptune 'gan to frowne
As if a courser proudly backt
Would throwe his ryder downe.

The seas did rage, the windes did blowe
Distressed were they then;
Their shippe did leake, her tacklings breake,
In daunger were her men,
But heaven was pylotte in this storme
And to an island nere
Bermoothawes called, conducted them
Which did abate their feare.

But yet these worthies forced were
Opprest with weather againe
To runne their ship between two rockes
Where she doth still remaine;
And then on shoare the island came
Inhabited by hogges
Some foule, and tortoysses there were
They onley had one dogge.

To kill these Swyne to yield them foode
That little had to eate
Their store was spent, and all things scant
Alas! they wanted meate.

A thousand hogges that dogge did kill
 Their hunger to sustaine
 And with such foode, did in that isle
 Two and forty weekes remaine,

And there two gallant pynaces
 Did build of seader-tree
 The brave Deliverance one was call'd
 Of Seaventy tonne was shee
 The other, Patience had to name
 Her brother thirty tonne
 Two only of their men which there
 Pale death did overcome.

And for the losse of these two soules
 Which were accounted deere
 A son and daughter then was borne
 And were baptized there
 The two and forty weekes being past
 They hoyst sayle and away;
 Their ships with hogs well freighted were
 Their harts with mickle joy.

And so to Virginia came
 Where these brave soldiers finde
 The English-men opprest with grief
 And discontent in minde;
 They seem'd distracted and forlorne
 For those two worthies' losse,
 Yet at their home returne, they joye'd
 Amongst them some were crosse.

And in the midst of discontent,
 Came noble Delaware;
 And heard the griefes on either part
 And sett them free from care;
 He comforts them, and cheeres their hearts
 That they abound with joy;
 He feedes them full, and feedes their soules
 With God's word every day.

A discreet counsell he creates
 Of men of worthy fame
 That noble Gates, Leiftenant was
 The admiral had to name
 The worthy Sir George Somers Knight
 And others of command
 Maister George Pearcy, which is brother
 Unto Northumberland.

Sir Fardinando Wayneman, Knight
 And others of good fame
 That noble lord his company
 Which to Virginia came

And landed there, his number was
 One hundred seaventy; then
 Ad to the rest, and they make full
 Foure hundred able men.

Where they unto their labour fall
 As men that mean to thrive
 Let's pray that heaven may blesse them all
 And keep them long alive
 Those men that vagrants liv'd with us
 Have there deserved well,
 Their governour writes in their praise
 As divers letters tel.

And to the adventurers then he writes
 Be not dismayed at all
 For scandall cannot doe us wrong
 God will not let us fall.
 Let England knowe our willingnesse
 For that our worke is good
 Wee hope to plant a nation
 Where none before hath stood.

To glorifie the Lord 'tis done
 And to no other end
 He that would crosse so good a worke
 To God can be no friend;
 There is no feare of hunger here
 For corne much store here growes
 Much fish the gallant rivers yield
 'Tis truth without suppose.

Great store of fowle, of venison
 Of grapes, and mulberries
 Of chestnuts, walnuts and such like
 Of fruits and strawberries,
 There is indeed no want at all
 But some, condicion'd ill
 That wish the worke should not goe on
 With words doe seeme to kill.

And for an instance of their store
 The Noble Delaware
 Hath for a present hither sent
 To testifie his care
 In managing so good a worke
 Two gallant ships, by name
 The Blessing and the Hercules
 Well fraught, and in the same

Two ships, are these commodities
 Furres, sturgeon, caviare
 Black walnut-tree, and some deale boards
 With such they laden are;

Some pearl, some wainscot and clapboards,
 With some sassafras wood
 And iron promis't for 'tis true
 Their mynes are very good.

Then maugre, scandall, false report
 Or any opposition
 Th' adventurers doe thus divulge
 To men of good condition,
 That he that wants shall have reliefe
 Be he of honest minde,
 Apparel, coyne, or anything
 To such they will be kinde.

To such as to Virginia
 Do purpose to repaire;
 And when that they shall hither come
 Each man shall have his share,
 Day wages for the laborer
 And for his more content,
 A house and garden plot shall have
 Besides 'tis further ment

That every man shall have a part,
 And not thereof denied
 Of generall profit, as if that he
 Twelve pounds, ten shillings paid;
 And he that in Virginia
 Shall copper coyne receive
 For hyer, or commodities,
 And will the country leave

Upon delivery of such coyne
 Unto the Governour
 Shall by exchange, at his returne
 Be by their treasurer
 Paid him in London, at first sight
 No man shall cause to grieve
 For 'tis their general will and wish
 That every man shall live.

The number of adventurers
 That are for this plantation
 Are full eight hundred worthy men
 Some noble, all of fashion;
 Good, discreete, their work is good
 May heaven assist them in their worke
 And then our newes is done"

Grant of Arms to the Summer Islands Company

John Burrough Knight of the Garter, grants the following Arms to the "Governor & Company of the City of London for the Plantacon of the Summer Islands," at the instance of the Earl of Dorset Gov^r, Richard Carswell, Deputy & Anthony Peniston Treas^r - to wit "Argent, a Shipp in a wrought sea, wrecked between two Rockes, all proper, & for their crest, upon a Helme & a torce of Argent & gules, a Bore on a Mount between two Palmetts, proper and alsoe two Tritons for their supporters" - 4th day August - 1635.

- Emmanuel College - Cambridge -

In 1634 the number of fellowships in this college had been increased to 14 and the number of Scholarships from 4 to 50. Fuller states that in 1634 the fellow scholars and students amounted to 310. John Evelyn who visited it in 1654 says of it "Emmanuel College, the zealous house, where to the hall, they have a parler for ye fellows." Queen Elizabeth meeting Sir Walter Mildmay one Day said to him "So Sir Walter, I hear you have erected a puritanical foundation." No Madame, was his reply "far be it from me to countenance anything contrary to your established laws, but I have set an acorn which when it becomes an oak, God alone Knows what will be the fruit thereof." The acorn grew fast and Fuller who write in 1634 says "Sure I am at this day it hath overshadowed all the University, more than a moiety of the present masters of colleges being bred therein." In this same year that Fuller wrote Wm Sancroft the Master of the college incurred the displeasure of his Archbishop, and was summoned before him.

"Whereas we have received credible information that John Bastwick practioner of Phisicks in ye Town of Colchester, did lately send unto you by ye hands of Samuel Seymor of Immanuel Colledg a certaine printed booke or pamphlet entituled Elenchus Religionis Papisticoe with the addicon of another tract stiled Flagellum Pontificis at Episcoporum Latialium together with a MS Epistle or letter to you directed. We having by lawfull authority caused as many of the said books as can be yet found to be seized have thought fitt to signifie unto you, our will &

Ans^d
July 25/94

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN
50 South Main Street
Providence, R. I.

July 18th, 1894

My dear Mr. Dean;-

On page 269 of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for April 1894 is a note by you, giving an ancestral chart of a family named Browne. You say that two members of this family went to the Providence Islands in West Indies. Do you mean by this perhaps the Island of New Providence, the principal one of the Bahama Group on which is located Nassau, the capitol ? My mother's father Patrick Brown was a resident and I think a native of New Providence. We have some silver with his coat of arms. Have you the coat of arms of the family you speak of in the article referred to? Your kind reply at your convenience will much oblige

Very truly yours,

JOHN NICHOLAS BROWN

John Ward Dean Esq.,

18 Somerset St.,

Boston, Mass.