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HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
FAMILY OF LONG, OF WILTSHIRE.

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HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
FAMILY OF LONG  
OF WILTSHIRE

BY  
WALTER CHITTY

*Printed for Private Circulation*

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HISTORICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
FAMILY OF LONG, OF WILTSHIRE.

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THE NAME.

WHAT'S in a name? says the sweet bard of Avon. In some names a great deal of history is wrapped up, but though there is a great deal of interesting history in the *family* of Long, there is not so much in the *name*, and so we must dismiss the subject somewhat briefly. The name, then, has been variously spelt *Longe*, *le Long*, and more recently *Long*. There are two great authorities on the subject of the name, viz. Leland and Camden. These certainly do not agree in some points, but this not only does not detract from the truthfulness of the account, but rather the opposite. This may fairly be believed when we state that Camden does not mention Leland, and therefore he must have read it in some other author. The words of both these travellers and antiquaries are so interesting, that we quote them word for word.

Leland says :—

“ Mr. *Long* hath a little Maner about a mile (the author has found it nearer two miles) from Munketon-Farley, at Wrexley. The Original setting up of the House of the *Longes* cam, as I lernid, of Mr. *Boneham*, by this means. One *Long Thomas*, a stoute (query, tall) felaw, was sette

up by one of the old Lordes *Hungrefordes*. And after by Cause this *Thomas* was caullid *Long Thomas*, *Long* after was usurpid for the *Name* of the Family. This *Long Thomas* Master had sum Lande by *Hungrefordes* procuration. Then succeeded hym *Robert* and *Henry*. Then cam one *Thomas Long*, descending of Younger Brother, and could skille of the Law, and had the Inheritances of the aforesaid *Longes*. Syr *Henry* and Sir *Richard Long* were Sunnes to this *Thomas*."

Camden's account is as follows:—

"In respect of stature, I could recite to you other examples, but I will onely adde this which I have *read*, (note that Camden *read*, while Leland *heard*) that a young gentleman of the house of *Preux*, being of tall stature, attending on the Lord *Hungerford*, Lord Treasurer of *England*, was among his fellows called *Long, H.*, who afterwards preferred to a good marriage by his lord, was called *H. Long*, that name continued to his posteritie, Knights and men of great worship."

Now on carefully comparing the above, we note that one *heard*, while the other (Camden) *read*. And yet there is a great deal of similarity in the two accounts. Leland says the man, whoever he was, was "stoute." Camden says he was "tall." Perhaps he was both. They both say he had a "good marriage," i.e. one *says* so, and the other says he was "sette up," which we take to mean the good marriage. And both say that one of the Lords Hungerford was the *cause* of this setting up. Now for the disagreement. Leland says that the name of the stoute felaw was *Thomas*, but Camden says *his* lanky fellow was named *Henry*. Here again, perhaps he rejoiced in two Christian names, as he had breadth and height as well; but *if* he only had one, it is probable that Camden was right, because he is very minute in his details, and because he *read* it somewhere in a document now probably lost, while Leland only says he heard it from a Mr. Boneham. As it is now too late to ask Mr. Boneham who told

him, we will incline towards Mr. Camden, and say that the name *Long* no doubt had its origin in a *long* person. Before dismissing the subject of the name, we would say that the name *le Long* or *Lelong* occurs on the roll at Battle Abbey, but it is now well known that many of those names are pure fictions, and no dependence can be placed in them. From our knowledge of the temperament, character, and appearance of various generations of the direct line of the Longs, and the collaterals, we are inclined to think they are of the Anglo-Saxon race, perhaps an important family of that race, who afterwards, by good marriages and good service to their country, became a famous county family.

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#### STATISTICS OF THE NAME.

It may be mentioned here in connection with this honoured name of *Long* as connected with Wiltshire, that it is not by any means an uncommon name, and it must not be supposed that even all the people of that name in the county of Wilts, had a common ancestor, much less those of other counties. Camden says *he* could recite other instances, and it is therefore probable that when surnames began to get common, many persons assumed, or had given them, the name of *Long*. Great mistakes have been made before now on this subject. For instance, it has been over and over again demonstrated that the writer of these pages is in a direct line from the old line of *Wraxall Longs*, on female line, of course. This could never be known to the outsider, or even guessed at, because of the difference of surname, and it is exceedingly probable that were an advertisement to be issued for the next of kin to the old *Wraxall Longs*, many of that name would probably come forward and fancy they were the parties wanted, and it would probably be difficult to persuade them they were

not. Great stress is laid on this, because no pedigree is of any value unless every part can be proved step by step, and nothing will be put down in the pedigrees following, except it is capable of such proof.

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#### HISTORY OF THE OLD FAMILY RESIDENCE.

AS the Manor at Wraxall was what is called church land, it is difficult, and in fact impossible, to tell at this distance of time by what means it first came into the possession of the Long family, whether by grant, purchase, or other means. The manor anciently formed part of the Manor of Bradford, "which was among the many temporalities attached to the Abbey of Shaftesbury previous to the dissolution of religious houses in Great Britain by Henry VIII.," and therefore "the records concerning it are very few, and those which do exist, throw but little light on the early history of what afterwards constituted the *reputed Manor* of South Wraxall." By *reputed* is meant that it was not one of the recognized and distinct manors mentioned in the statute called "The Third of Westminster," and passed in A.D. 1290.

From the famous Harleian manuscripts in the British Museum, it seems that the Manor of Bradford was granted to the Abbess and Convent of Shaftesbury by King Etheldred, which was confirmed to them by Richard I., and Edward I.; and mention is made of "Wraxhall" in the Chartulary of Shaftesbury Abbey, Harl. MSS. 61, in which a lady named "Agnes de la Ferei," who was abbess at any rate from 1252 to 1267 "with consent of the convent, granted and confirmed to God and the blessed Mary Magdalene, of Fernlegh (i.e. Monkton Farley, near Wraxall), and the monks serving God at that place, the gift which Martinus, Capellanus de Wrekeshalle made them, viz. a

message which the said Martinus held of them in Villa de Wrokeshale, with half a hide of land, pasture, and appurtenances." For this they were to pay a certain rent. It is supposed that this refers to a building called St. Edwyne's Chapel, which exists, or at any rate recently existed in a field adjoining the Manor House. It formed a rest for the weary pilgrim on his way to the shrine of Joseph of Arimathea, something like the Chapel Plaister near Box. This chapel of St. Edwyne's is evidently very ancient indeed. It was purchased by John Long, of Haugh, afterwards of Monkton, and left by him to his son John Long in the year 1652. This, as well as other properties previously divided amongst various branches of the Longs, have now all passed to the Longs of Rood Ashton.

Before actually describing this ancient mansion, we will describe its geographical position. According to the directories it stands three miles north of Bradford-on-Avon, seven miles south-east of Bath, three miles south of Box, and five miles west of Trowbridge. The writer has approached it from every point of the compass, and thinks these distances are too short, especially from Bath. After passing through Atworth towards Bath, there is a junction of Bath roads, and from this point of junction there is a very good road to Wraxall Manor House, distant from the point mentioned about a mile and a half. Although the family has always been connected with Wiltshire history, the house itself stands just over the Somersetshire border. The first recorded possessor of South Wraxall was Robert Long. This gentleman most likely projected the original part of this building, but the coats of arms have been added since his time. This Robert Long was in the commission of the peace in 1426, and was M.P. in 1433, and during those years no doubt lived in this house.

In the following description of the old family residence, the author has drawn largely on "The History and Antiquities of the Manor House at South Wraxall, by Thomas Larkins Walker." This book was published by

subscription, and is rare. The author obtained a copy by continually examining the secondhand bookstalls in London after a very long search. The plates in the work were accurately drawn by an experienced architect from personal observation on the spot. The frontispiece particularly is very good, and in it may be seen the last of the Longs who lived there (viz. Miss Katharine Long) walking in the *plaisance* with her dog. (The *Gentleman's Magazine* for March, 1838, contains a picture of some of the outlying buildings.)

On reaching the house, the visitor is first of all struck by the entrance gateway. This is very ancient. Over the gateway there is a curious little room, where many a man or boy has watched for the return of the master. On gaining entrance, the large *withdrawing-room* is seen, and then a long line of bedrooms and offices. This room and the hall both front the west. Opposite the hall is still to be seen an old doorway which formerly led into the *plaisance*. It is the *plaisance* (private garden) where the lady before mentioned is supposed to be walking. Though the house was originally projected by Robert Long, it was added to from time to time, especially about the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The parlour was entered from the passage end of the hall; it has been subdivided by modern partitions; a staircase leads out of this up to the host's chamber. At the upper end of the hall are two *bays*, that to the left leads to what was the *buttery*, now a beer-cellar, and that to the right by a staircase up to the ancient guest-chamber, which was enlarged and converted into a withdrawing-room. Aubrey thinks this was the dining-room, but this is open to doubt, because it was such a long way from the kitchen. At the foot of the staircase to the right is a dining-room. It is worthy of note that Aubrey says the latter was a parlour, but this is again open to doubt, *because in other buildings of the same kind the parlour is always on the right*. A long line of offices occupies the upper end of the court, which has been added to at various dates. There was originally a kind of conservatory here.

The principal alteration from the original design was made towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth or the commencement of James I. This was the removal of the ancient guest-chamber, and in its place a beautifully fitted up room, called the withdrawing-room, was built. But the old roof was retained, and for the support of the wall plate, a pier was left opposite the fireplace, thereby occasioning a curious angular projection inside the room, ornamented by niches, which seem to have served as seats. There are two immense windows at opposite corners of this room, one looking over the court into the plaisance, the other into the garden, which latter is approached by a door on the landing of the stairs from the hall.

The entrance gateway seems to have been built in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII., subsequent to the acquisition of the Manor of Draycot Cerne by Sir Thomas Long, as the badge borne by the possessors of that manor, the *Marshall's-Lock*, or *Fetter-Lock*, is still remaining on one of the terminations of the *label*, viz. that to the left; on the other was a *stig's head*, as we are told by Aubrey. On the corbelling of the oriel window is a *shield*, bearing the *arms of Long*. The *angle buttresses* are peculiar, and very pleasing in effect. On entering the archway, to the right is a staircase leading up to the room above; further on is a doorway, which formerly was a foot entrance into the court, corresponding with the one on the left, which entered from the roads. This gateway has been added to, as the original roof extends only to the length of fourteen feet, while it now measures upwards of thirty feet; on the apex of the gable has been a finial. The hall, in its masses, resembles that at Great Chalfield, and is entered under an open archway by a *porch*; on the other side is a *bay*, and the chimney shaft occupies precisely the same situation as at Chalfield; it has been rebuilt, so that the capping is not original. The drawing-room window is remarkable for its immense size; it was added about the time of James I. In this drawing-room there is perhaps one of the most remarkable fireplaces in England. A

male and a female figure with Ionic caps, on each side, support a rich cornice, which is surmounted by a stylobate, whereon are placed columns and entablature of the Corinthian order; between the columns, which are also enriched, are figures of *Prudence*, *Arithmetic*, *Geometry*, and *Justice*. On the pedestal supporting *Arithmetica*, is the following inscription:—

“ Par impar numeris vestigo rite subactis  
Me pete. Concinne, si numerare cupis ;

and, on that supporting *Geometria*,

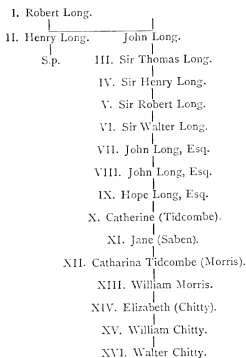
Mensuras rerum spatiis dimetiora equis  
Qui d calo distet Terra, locusque loco.

*Prudentia* and *Justitia* have no motto. In the centre is a figure of *PAN*. Opposite the fire-place is an angular projection, ornamented with *niches*, which seem to have served as seats. The *ceiling* is covered up to the form of the old roof, and is richly ribbed in plaster.

Before finishing the description of this old house, we might add that the last *Long* who lived in it was Miss *Katharine Long*, who died in this house in the year 1814, at the very advanced age of 97. We shall have more to say about this lady further on. After her death, the house was let to a *Dr. Knight*, who kept a private school. Whatever good qualities that gentleman may have possessed, we cannot ascertain, but he appears to have been a relic of the lath and plaster age, when so many of our grand old churches were spoiled. At any rate, many parts of this old mansion were improved (query spoiled) by him and his pupils. But we believe many of those parts have again been restored by *Mr. Long*, of *Road Ashton*, and it is preserved as far as possible from further decay. Some years ago, when we were visiting this old mansion, we saw various marks suggestive of boys, such as “it wants three weeks to the breaking up, then ta ta old Knight.” We presume these marks are now obliterated, as we have not seen them in our more recent visits.



## KEY PEDIGREE NO. 1.

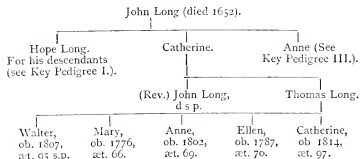


## EXPLANATION OF ABOVE.

IN the above we have commenced with Robert Long, the first *known* possessor of South Wraxall, so we have called him *Number One*. The numbers indicate the descent of the *Wraxall* property to No. IX., viz. Hope Long. The *Draycot* property and the title diverged at No. VI. (Sir Walter Long) in a way afterwards to be explained. Hope Long married twice, but left a daughter only, his only son having died in infancy. The death of his son appears to

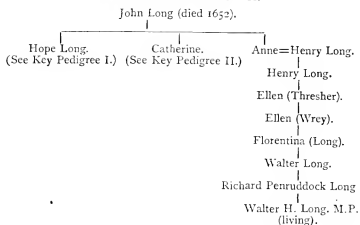
have vexed his righteous soul so much, that he became reckless even of the way his personalty was disposed. His daughter took out letters of administration. The Wraxall property passed to Hope Long's cousin, viz. Walter Long, of Bristol, but afterwards of Wraxall. But the *elder* branch of the Wraxall Longs is in the descendants of Catherine, daughter of Hope Long (see Burke's Commoners, vol. iii., page 216), and as the eldest son or daughter only are indicated in Key Pedigree No. I. (except in one case explained in the paragraph pedigree), it is easy to explain the author's position.

## KEY PEDIGREE NO. II.



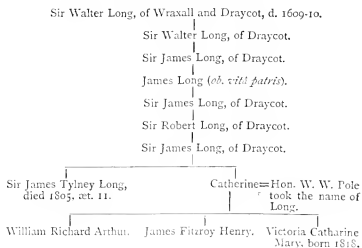
It was said in the previous paragraph that as Hope Long left no son, the Wraxall property passed to his cousin Walter, of Bristol. This Walter, of Bristol, was the son of Walter Long, who was the younger brother of John Long, who stands at the head of Key Pedigree No. II. Walter Long, of Bristol, died in 1731, at the age of 84, unmarried, and he found his heirs were the Rev. John Long, and his brother Thomas Long. This Thomas had one son, Walter Long, and four daughters. All these died unmarried.

## KEY PEDIGREE NO. III.



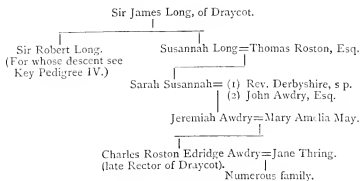
In this pedigree the maternal descent of Walter Hume Long, Esq., M.P., of Rood Ashton, is traced from John Long Esq., who died in 1652. There is a kind of double descent in this pedigree, because the father of Henry Long (the husband of Anne Long) was common ancestor to Florentina Wrey and her husband Richard Godolphin Long.

## KEY PEDIGREE NO. IV.



In the above pedigree, Sir Walter Long, who stands at the head, is the same as marked No. VI. in Key Pedigree No. I. This gentleman married twice. His son, Sir Walter Long, of Draycot, was the eldest son of his second wife. The Draycot estate passed down to Sir James Tylney Long, who died at the age of 11. He was the last direct male descendant of the Longs, of Draycot. The estate then passed to his sister Catherine, who married the Hon. W. Wellesley Pole. This gentleman took the name of Tylney Long. They had two sons, who are both dead, and one daughter, Lady Victoria Catherine Mary Long Wellesley, who, we rejoice to say, is still living. She is the last direct descendant of Catherine, the sister of Sir James Long, who died at the age of 11. *After* Lady Victoria Long Wellesley, the representation of the Draycot Longs is in the family of the Rev. Charles Roston Edridge Awdry, the late Rector of Draycot, for whose descent see Key Pedigree No. V. The Draycot estate has now passed by Will to Lord Cowley.

## KEY PEDIGREE NO. V.



The above pedigree shows the descent of the Rev. C. R. E. Awdry and his family from Sir James Long, of Draycot. The Susannah Long (who married Thomas Roston, Esq.) had other sisters and brothers besides Sir

Robert Long, but they died without issue, therefore, after Lady Victoria Long Wellesley (See Ped. IV.), the representation of the Draycot Longs is in the family of the late Rev. C. R. E. Awdry. There are, or were, several other branches of the Longs. For instance, the Longs of Preshaw and Farnham are descended from the same common ancestor as the Longs of Rood Ashton, but many branches have become extinct at various periods.

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#### PARAGRAPH PEDIGREE.

THE ancient family of Long has lived and flourished in the county of Wilts for many generations. The main line of Wraxall and Draycot continued unbroken till the year 1610, when Sir Walter Long, of Wraxall and Draycot, died. This gentleman married twice, and at his death Wraxall passed to John Long, Esq., the eldest son of his first wife, and Draycot to Sir Walter Long, eldest son of his second wife. These, then, became the heads of two great branches of the Long's, one of Wraxall, the other of Draycot. The direct male line of Wraxall failed in the year 1731, by the death of Walter Long, Esq., of Wraxall; but the representation of the old line of Wraxall is in the family of the author of this work, as will be seen from Burke's *Commoners*, vol. iii., page 216. The direct male line of Draycot failed on the death of Sir James Tylney Long in 1805, at the age of 11, and the direct line of Draycot is now represented by his great-niece, the Lady Victoria Long Wellesley. After this lady, the representation of the Draycot Longs is in the family of the Rev. C. R. E. Awdry, the late rector of Draycot; but the estate itself has passed by Will to Lord Cowley. The Wraxall estate has passed to Walter Hume Long, Esq., the popular M.P. for East Wilts. The author entertains no doubt

that this gentleman is descended in the male line from a younger son of the old Longs of Wraxall, but though the presumptive evidence seems very clear and conclusive, the connecting link is missing. The presumptive evidence consists mainly (1), of the *mutual* mention of persons of the same name in Wills; (2), the records on tombstones; and (3), traditions in the family, and here, be it said, that traditions, when properly used, are by no means to be ignored.

But to return. Persons of the name of Long have been connected with the county of Wilts since the year 1254, and we conclude these persons were the originators of the family, but as some of the connecting links are missing, we will commence with the first *known* possessor of South Wraxall, viz. *Robert Long, Esq.* This gentleman was a justice of the peace in 1426, and M.P. for Wilts in 1433. Surely this is respectable enough, and the "good old times" seem to have commenced long after. Robert Long is stated to have married *Alice*, daughter of *Reginald Popham*, of North Bradley, Wilts, by whom he had issue three sons, Henry, John, and Reginald. In the 25th year of the reign of Henry VI., viz. in the year 1447, *Henry* was found to be his heir, and to be upwards of thirty years of age, while Thomas Wayte was found to be the heir of *Margaret*, his wife, and to be upwards of twenty-four years of age. This, therefore, seems conclusively to prove that Robert Long must have married a second time, and that this wife was Margaret, relict of Edward Wayte, of Draycot Cerne, and daughter of *Philip Popham*, of Berton Sacy, in Hampshire. This may account for the two coats of arms, one without, and the other with a crescent. It is supposed that this Robert Long was the original projector of the old Manor House. But there is no existing record to decide at what date the house was built, and the coats of arms are of no assistance, as they were put up long afterwards. We do not know more than we have mentioned about Robert Long, except that he was living in the year 1459, when he was mentioned in the

Will of Robert Lord Hungerford, and that he left three sons, Henry, John, and Reginald.

Before depositing this old squire in his grave, let us see if we can find out anything about the life of a squire in those days. This we can do from the gossip Aubrey, who lived a long while after, and who was never tired of studying the history of the Longs, into which family he married. Aubrey says, "The architecture of a lord's house is thus, *viz.* a great open hall, a kitchen and buttery, a parlour, over which a chamber for my lord and lady; all the rest lye in common, *viz.* the men-servants in the hall, the women in a common room. Then it was that the lords of manours kept good houses in their countries, did eat in their great *Gothick* halls at the high table, or oriele,<sup>1</sup> the folk at the side tables; when the stalls of justices of the peace were dreadful to behold, the skreens, garnished with corslets and helmets, gaping with open mouth, with coats of mail, lances, pikes, halberts, brown bills, batterdashers, bucklers, and the modern colivers and petronels (in King Charles the First's time) turned into muskets and pistols. Upon any occasion of justing or tournaments in those days, one of these great lords sounded his trumpets (the lords kept trumpeters, even to King *James*), and summoned those that held under them. Those again sounded their trumpets, and so down to the copyholders or *villains*. No younger brothers then were, by the custom and constitution of the realm, to betake themselves to trades, but were churchmen, or retainers, and servants to great men, rid good horses (now and then took a purse), and their blood, that was bred at the good tables of their masters, was, upon every occasion, freely let out in their quarrels;

<sup>1</sup> "Oriole" he says, "is an ear, but here it means a little room, at the upper end of the hall, where stands a square or round table, perhaps in the old time was an oratory; in every old *Gothic* hall is one, *viz.* at *Dracot*, *Lekham*, *Alderton*, &c. The meat was served up by *Watch-Words*. Jacks are but an invention of the other age; the poor boys did turn the spits, and lick the dripping-pan and grew to be lusty knaves. Here in the hall were the mummings, cobloaf-stealing, and great number of *Christmas* plays performed."

it was then too common among their masters to have feuds with one another, and their servants, at market, or when they met (in that slashing age) did commonly bang one another's bucklers. Then an esquire, when he rode to town, was attended by eight or ten men in blue coats, with badges. The lords (then lords in deed as well as title) lived in their countries like petty kings, had *jura regalia* belonging to their seigniories, had their castles and boroughs, and sent burgesses to the lower house; had gallows within their liberties, where they could try, condemn, draw, and hang, never went to *London* but in Parliament time, or once a year to do their homage and duty to the king. Every baron and gentleman of estate kept great horses for a man at arms. Lords had their armouries to furnish some hundreds of men."

Robert Long died *after* 1459, as he is mentioned as living in that year by Robert Lord Hungerford in his Will. He was probably buried at Wraxall, and was succeeded by his eldest son, *Henry Long, Esq.* This gentleman was Sheriff for Wilts in 1457, 1476, and 1483. He married three times. His first wife was Johanne, daughter of J. Ernleigh. She died in 1468. He married secondly Margaret, daughter of John Newburgh, of Lulworth, in Dorsetshire. He married thirdly, another Joan, who survived him, but her maiden name is not known. He had no children by either of his wives. He made his Will (see appendix) on the 1st day of May, 1490, and died October 20th, 1490. He lived and died a zealous Catholic. In his Will he "commends his soul to God the Father Almighty, the blessed Virgin Mary, and all Saints, and requests that his body be buried in the church of Wroxhall. Amongst other bequests are xxs. for vestments. There is a very ancient tomb still existing in Wraxall parish church, which is supposed to be the burying-place of the widow of Henry Long, Esq. The crimping cap shows that it is a widow, and the arms show that she was descended from a Berkeley and a Seymour. From existing records it is



evident that a daughter of Thomas Berkeley and Elizabeth Seymer married a Long, as this is the only marriage on record, the dates of which will warrant the marriage. The tomb itself is supposed to have been erected by *Sir Thomas Long*, Knight, who inherited the estates of his uncle. This Sir Thomas was the eldest son and heir of John Long (the second son of Robert Long). He married Margaret Wayte, the daughter of his stepmother by a previous husband. She was the eventual heiress of Draycot, and thus the manor of Draycot was acquired "in jure uxoris," and Aubrey says it was held by *petit serjeantie*, viz. by being marshall at the king's coronation, which was the reason the Cernes, who held it prior to the Waytes, gave the Marshall's lock for their cognizance. Sir Thomas Long was sheriff in 1501, and was executor to Richard Lord St. Amand in 1508. He married Margery, daughter of Sir George Darell, of Littlecote, Wilts. Sir Thomas Long was one of the "Greate compaigny of noble menne," who went with Edward, Duke of Buckingham, in 1496, to meet King Henry VII. at Taunton, who was then engaged in the pursuit of Perkin Warbeck. In Aubrey's time there was a painted glass window representing this fact, but no trace of it now remains. Aubrey says he saw it himself, and as he died in the year 1700, on his way to Draycot, the date of its destruction may be conjectured nearly. This was during the reign of Hope Long, Esq., at the Manor House, and curious things are said to have happened in his time, which we shall refer to more at length in our biographies of the Longs. Sir Thomas Long was at the marriage of Prince Arthur, and was knighted then. He "lyes buried by the north wall of the chancell, under a rich Gothique alter monument of free-stone without inscription, his heaume and crest do yet hang up." Sir Thomas made his Will in 1510, and died in that year. He was succeeded by his son,

*Sir Henry Longe, Knight.* This gentleman was sheriff for Wilts in 1512, 1526, 1537, and 1542; for Somerset in

1538, and for Dorset in 1539. He was M.P. for Wilts in 1552-53. He married first, Frideswide, daughter of Sir John Hungerford, of Down Ampney, great-grandson of the Lord Treasurer, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. The two sons died in infancy; his wife dying a few years after marriage. Sir Henry married secondly, Eleanor, daughter of Richard Wrottesley, of Wrottesley, in Staffordshire, relict of Edmund Leversedge, of Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, and by her, who died in 1543, he had six sons and three daughters. Sir Henry Longe was present at the siege of Boulogne, and also accompanied Henry VIII. to the Field of the Cloth of Gold. He was knighted for making a gallant charge at Therouenne, in Picardy, in the sight of Henry, when a new crest, consisting of a lion's head, with a man's hand in its mouth, was granted to him. His banner bears this motto, "Fortune soies heureux." It is supposed that Sir Henry did not improve or enlarge the Manor House, because there is no trace anywhere of these honours, and it is more than probable that if he had built anything at all, he would have caused his honours to be engraved thereon. The only trace of this gentleman's residence is some initials on a fireplace in one of the bedrooms, but which is thought to be the ancient *parleure*. On one side there is S. H. L. for Sir Henry Long, and on the other H. E., linked together by a Gordian knot. This is for *Henry* and *Eleanor*, his second wife. Sir Henry Longe died in 1556, and was buried at Draycot. He was succeeded by Sir Robert Longe, Knight, of Wraxall and Draycot. He was born in 1517, was sheriff for Wilts in 1575. He was also esquire of the body of King Henry VIII., and served at the siege of Boulogne. He married Barbara, daughter of Sir Edward Carne, of Wenny, Glamorganshire, and had four sons and one daughter. One of his sons (Henry) was murdered by Charles and Henry Danvers. Another son was named Jewell, after the famous Bishop of Sarum. He was buried at Box, and

Aubrey says there is or *was* this scriptural pun on his name, recorded on his tombstone, "And they shall be mine in the day when I shall gather my jewels." Sir Robert Longe was probably the first Protestant member of this family. He enclosed the Long's chapel, in South Wraxall Church, by building up a doorway to the left of the monument above mentioned, and a solid wall to the right, for the convenience, it is thought, of a family pew, by which the east and west ends were destroyed. On the east end is still to be seen one-half of an angel, with expanded wings. In subsequent times, matters were made worse, and the work of desecration was completed, for the south side was badly mutilated, even before Aubrey saw it, which he says "was as the north, but nowe almost defaced." This and many other things go clearly to show that the *Reformation* was not all beneficial, but that *Deformation*, *Mutilation*, and other evils followed in its train. In many cases churches are now being restored, but some of the evils then caused are now beyond remedy. Sir Robert Long died in 1581, and was succeeded by

*Sir Walter Long, Knight*, of Wraxall and Draycot. He was M.P. for Wilts in 1592, and sheriff in 1601-2. Sir Walter married twice. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Sir William Packington, of Westwood, in Worcestershire, Knight, by whom he had two sons and one daughter. He married secondly, Catherine, daughter of Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, and had, by her, six sons and six daughters. He made many improvements at the Manor House. First he put up the chimney-piece in the hall, which bears the date of 1598, and the arms of Long impaling Carne—his father's coat. Then he pulled down the left wing, which contained a guest-chamber, like Chaldfield, and built in its place a splendid withdrawing-room. This room is unique, and well worth a visit from the Antipodes to see it. It contains a richly carved chimney-piece, and a ribbed plaster ceiling. The floor is of polished oak. After the room was built, it was made

wider, and as it was found desirable to retain the original roof, a pier was left between the two end walls to support the wall plate. This makes a curious projection inside the room, but it is anything but unsightly, and is ornamented with niches and dwarf columns. In these niches many a Long has been seated, and the author of these lines has frequently had the same pleasure. The windows of this room are immense. There is a bedroom near this room, up a short flight of steps, containing a fireplace of the same style, with the following inscription in panels. One bears the inscription :—*Faber est quisq; fortune sue* ; and the other, *Aequa laus est a laudatis laudari, et ab improbo improbari*. In the centre, on a bracket sits a monkey with this important fact stated, *Mors rapit omnia*. At the death of Sir Walter Long, in 1610, the Wraxall estate passed to his son John, eldest son of the first wife, but the Draycot estate passed to Sir Walter Long, eldest son of the second wife. The story of the separation of these estates is given in the biography. We will proceed to trace down the Wraxall estate, and return to this point for the descent of the Draycot estate. Sir Walter Long died in 1610, and was succeeded at Wraxall by his eldest son, *John Long, Esq.* Not a great deal is known about this gentleman. He is said to have lacked "Promethean fire." He married Anne, daughter of Sir William Eyre, of Chaldfield, a place distant about three miles from Wraxall. He had four sons and one daughter. His eldest and third sons left no children, and his second son, John, eventually became heir. John Long, Esq., died in the year 1636, and was buried at Wraxall. He was succeeded by his eldest surviving son,

*John Long, Esq.* This gentleman married twice, but the name of his first wife is unknown. She, however, left a daughter Mary, who married John Aubrey. His second wife was Catherine, daughter of John Paynter, and by her he had one son, Hope, and three daughters, Catherine, Elizabeth, and Anne. Elizabeth died unmarried. John

Long, Esq., died in 1652, in the city of Westminster, but was buried at Wraxall. He was succeeded by his son,

*Hope Long, Esq.* This gentleman married first his cousin Mary Long, daughter of John Long, of Monkton, and by her had one son, John, and one daughter, Catherine. Hope Long married secondly, in 1697, Grace Blanchard, but by her had no children. Hope Long's son, John, was born in 1672, but died in infancy. His daughter Catherine married Michael Tidcombe, Esq., of Atworth, near Wraxall. Hope Long, Esq., died in the year 1715, intestate, and his daughter Catherine administered to his effects. The Wraxall estate passed away from Catherine, but we will continue her pedigree, returning again to this point for the descent of the Wraxall estate. *Catherine Tidcombe* had a numerous family many of whom died young. Only one son (John) and one daughter (Jane) married. John Tidcombe settled at Steppingley, in Bedfordshire. He married and had an only son, *John Parker Tidcombe*, who never married. This gentleman was remembered in the Will of Miss Catherine Long, of South Wraxall, to the tune of £500. He was a regular attendant at the parish church, Steppingley, during his life, and there are several persons now living there who remember him well. The following is the inscription on the third bell in the church tower.

|   |                                  |   |                |
|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------|
| { | I. PARKER TIDCOMBE my Benefactor | } | Churchwardens. |
|   | M. PHILLIPS, and                 |   |                |
|   | T. COOK                          |   |                |
|   | R. TAYLOR, St. Neots fecit,      |   |                |
|   | 1814.                            |   |                |

There is also an inscription on a tombstone in Steppingley churchyard, of which the following is an exact copy:—

“ In memory of John Tidcombe, Gent., late of this parish. He was the son of Michael Tidcombe, Gent., of Atworth, near Bradford, in the county of Wilts, by Catherine, ye daughter of Hope Long, Esq., of Wraxall, near Bradford, in the said county. He departed his life April 3rd, 1768, age 59 years.”

"This stone was put down by his only son John Parker Tidcombe."

John Parker Tidcombe died in 1818, unmarried. He left legacies to his cousins the Morrises, but the bulk of his estate, which has now passed into the hands of the Duke of Bedford, he left to his cousin, John Watkins Parker.

To return. Michael Tidcombe died previous to 1743, and Catherine Tidcombe died in 1743, at Combe Hay, in Somerset. Their daughter *Jane* married *William Savine* (this name seems to admit of more than one spelling, i.e., Saben), and had two daughters, Catherine Tidcombe Savine, and Mary Savine. Mary Savine married William Spencer, but had no children. *Catherine Tidcombe Savine* married John Morris at Combe Hay Church, on August 19th, 1758. They had a large family of daughters, and two sons, Samson and William. Samson was baptized at Combe Hay Church, March 27th, 1768, and was buried at Wellow, August 15th, 1832, aged 64. The cause of his death was curious. He was lifting some hay for amusement with a fork to the top of a haystack, when he strained his bowels, and died a few days after in great pain. He married, and had one daughter, Mary. His brother, *William Morris*, was born May 31st, 1770, and died in 1824. He married Annie King, and had two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, and one son, William. William Morris married Mary Ann Homan. He died in 1864, leaving one daughter, Emma, who married George Deeks. They have no children. The *eldest* daughter, *Elizabeth Morris*, was born on Christmas Day, 1794. She was married at the age of 19 to Jesse Chitty, at Tottenham Parish Church, in the year 1813, Elizabeth died in London in the year 1859, and Jesse Chitty died in London in 1872. They had a numerous family. Their eldest son, *William Chitty*, born in 1814, at Stamford Hill, London, married, in 1834, Harriet Yates, daughter of James Yates, yeoman of Winterslow, Wilts, and has sons and daughters. Harriet Chitty died in

London in the year 1885, but William still lives. Their eldest son, *Walter* (the author of this work), was born at Stamford Hill, March 15th, 1843, and married first, Martha Anne Johns, at Clifton, Bristol, December 29th, 1869. She died at Harrow, October 25th, 1878. Walter Chitty married secondly, September 29th, 1881, Charlotte Jordan (formerly Jourdain), of London.

To return to the descent of the Wraxall estate. Hope Long dying in 1715, without male issue to survive him, the estate passed to his cousin, *Walter Long*. This gentleman died in 1731, aged 84, unmarried, and was buried at Wraxall. In looking for his heirs, he found them in the sons of his cousin Catherine, the sister of Hope Long, Esq., of Wraxall. These sons were the *Rev. John Long*, and *Thomas Long*. The *Rev. John Long*, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxon, was rector of Meseyhampton, in Gloucestershire. He died in 1748, s.p., and was buried at Wraxall. The estate then passed to his brother, *Thomas Long, Esq.*, of Melksham, afterwards of Wraxall. He married Mary Abbot, of Chippenham. She died in 1733, aged 46, and was buried at Wraxall. Thomas Long died in 1759, aged 80, and was buried at Wraxall. He left one son, Walter, and four daughters, Mary, Anne, Ellen, and Catherine. Thomas Long, in his Will, dated 1759, leaves all "my property, real and personal, to my son Walter, his heirs, executors, and assignees, provided he will accept it. (*We would, this by way of parenthesis.*) Should he, however, refuse to accept it, the property is to go to, and be equally divided between, my four daughters, their heirs, administrators and assigns." Walter Long appears to have *accepted* the estate. He had a very long and eventful life, and his biography will be found at length in another part of this work. He was long known as Mr. Walter Long, of Bath. He died in 1807, aged 95, at Gay Street, Bath, leaving his property to his sister Catherine for the remainder of her life, afterwards to trustees, and in remainder to Walter Long, Esq., son of Richard Godolphin Long, of

Rood Ashton. The connection of Walter Long, Esq., with the family of Wraxall, has been previously alluded to, and will also be seen from Key Pedigree No. III.

*Walter Long, Esq.*, of Rood Ashton, Wraxall, and Whaddon, married 3rd August, 1819, Mary Anne, second daughter of the Right Hon. Arch. Colquhoun, of Killermont, Dumbarton, Lord High Registrar of Scotland, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. His eldest son, Walter, died shortly after his marriage at Rome, and so his second son, Richard Penruddocke Long, Esq., became his heir. Walter Long married secondly, in 1857, Mary Anne Bickerton, Lady Bishopp, relict of the Rev. Sir Cecil Augustus Bishopp, Bart., and had by her one son. Walter Long, Esq., died at Torquay, January 31st, 1867, aged 73, and was buried at Rood Ashton by the Right Rev. Walter Kerr, the *then* Bishop of Salisbury. He was succeeded by his eldest surviving son,

*Richard Penruddocke Long, Esq.* This gentleman was educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge (M.A., 1852). He married, in 1853, Charlotte Anna, only child of William Wentworth Fitzwilliam Dick, Esq., M.P. for the county of Wicklow, and had a numerous family. Mr. Long, never of a very robust constitution, died at the early age of 49, at Cannes, in the year 1875. His body was brought to Rood Ashton for interment. Beautiful wreaths of flowers were sent from Cannes by ladies resident there. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

*Walter Hume Long, Esq.*, the present popular member for East Wilts. This gentleman was born in 1854, was educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford. He was married, in 1878, to Lady Doreen Blanche, daughter of the Earl of Cork, and has a son, Walter, born 1879, and other children. He resides at Rood Ashton House, a splendid Gothic mansion standing in a beautiful park about three miles from Trowbridge, Wilts.

As before stated, we will return to Sir Walter Long, who died in 1610, for the descent of the Draycot estate



Sir Walter was succeeded at Draycot by the eldest son of his second wife. This was

*Sir Walter Long, Knight*, of Draycot. He married first, Anne, daughter of James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, Lord High Treasurer, by whom he had a son, James, who became his heir. He married secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of George Master, Esq., of Cirencester. She died in 1658, and was buried at Wootton-under-Edge. This Sir Walter Long was famous in the Parliament elected in 1628, when there was the dispute about "tonnage and poundage." At the sitting of the House on the 2nd of March, 1629, when Eliot presented his famous Declaration against taxes being levied without the consent of Parliament, the Speaker was forcibly held down in his chair, in order that the Declaration might be read and put to the vote, the members who actually held him down having been Denzil Holles, Benjamin Valentine, and *Walter Long*. These gentlemen afterwards had a holiday in the Tower of London. Sir Walter Long died in the year 1637, and was succeeded by his son,

*Sir James Long*. This gentleman was made baronet on the death of his uncle, Sir Robert Long. He married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward Leech, Knight, of Shipley, county of Derby. His eldest son, James, died before his father. This James married first, Susan, daughter of Col. Giles Strangways, of Melbury. By her he had several children, who all died, except James, who succeeded his grandfather. James Long married secondly, Mary Kightley, of Ireland. Sir James Long died in 1691-2, and was buried at Draycot, being succeeded by his *grandson*,

*Sir James Long, Bart.*, of Draycot. He was M.P. for Chippenham in 1705, 7, 8, and 10, and for Wootton Bassett, 1714. He was born in 1681. He married Henrietta, daughter of Fulke Lord Brookes. She died in 1765, and was buried at Draycot. Sir James Long died in 1728, and was buried at Draycot. He was succeeded by his eldest surviving son,

*Sir Robert Long, Bart.*, of Draycot, M.P. for Wootton

Basset. He was born 1705, and married in 1735, to Emma, daughter and heiress of Richard, Earl Tylney. She died in 1758, and was buried at Draycot. Sir Robert Long died in 1767, aged 62, and was buried at Draycot. He was succeeded by his son,

*Sir James Long, Bart.*, of Draycot. He took the name of Tylney. He married first, Harriet, 4th daughter of Jacob Bouverie, Viscount Folkestone, but by her had no children. She died in 1777, aged 41, and was buried at Draycot. Sir James Long married secondly, Catherine, daughter of Other, 4th Earl of Plymouth. She died in 1823, and was buried at Draycot. Sir James Long died in 1794, aged 58, and was buried at Draycot. He was succeeded by his son,

*Sir James Tylney Long, Bart.* The life of this gentleman was short. He was born the same year his father died, and died in the year 1805, at the early age of 11. He was buried at Draycot, and was succeeded by his eldest sister,

*Catherine.* This Lady was born in the year 1789, and was married to the Hon. W. Wellesley Pole, eldest son of William, Lord Maryborough. He took the name of Tylney Long. She died in 1826, and was buried at Draycot, leaving two sons and one daughter. The two sons both died, s.p., but the daughter, viz. Lady Victoria Catherine Mary Long Wellesley, born 1818, is still living. She is the representative of the Draycot Longs, and after her, the representation of the Draycot Longs is in the family of the late Rev. Charles Roston Edridge Awdry, Rector of Draycot, whose descent we now trace.

Susannah (daughter of Sir James Long and Henrietta, daughter of Fulke, Lord Brooke) married Thomas Roston, Esq., of Barton Court, Stafford, by whom she had one daughter, Sarah Susannah, who married first the Rev. — Derbyshire, Prebend of Chester, by whom she had no children. She married secondly, on the 5th of October, 1772, at Easton Gray, John Awdry, Esq., of Notton, and had issue Jeremiah Awdry, who married Maria Amelia,

daughter of Joseph May, Esq., of Hale House, Hants, on the 7th of June, 1799. They had besides other children, Charles Roston Edridge Awdry, the late Rector of Draycot Cerne.

It is only necessary to say in concluding these paragraph pedigrees, that the estate at Draycot has now passed by Will into the hands of Lord Cowley, the present possessor.

BIOGRAPHIES OF SEVERAL OF THE MOST  
PROMINENT OF THE LONGS.SIR WALTER LONG,<sup>1</sup> KNT., OF WRAXALL AND DRAYCOT,  
AND HIS TWO WIVES.

IT has been said in the paragraph pedigrees, that Sir Walter Long married twice, the first wife being Mary, daughter of Sir William Packington, of Westwood, Worcestershire. Not a great deal is known of this lady. Burke says "It was probably this Lady Long who made the usual exchange of new year's gifts with the Queen (Elizabeth) in 1588-9 and 1599—1600." On the first occasion she gave a "skrimskyer of cloth of silver, embroidered all over with beasts and flowers, and a woman in the midst, lyned with carnation flush." The queen gave her in return fifteen ounces of gilt plate. On the second occasion she gave her Majesty "One smocke of fine holland, the sleeves wrought with black silke," and got in exchange eighteen ounces of gilt plate." We have some doubts whether it was the first wife who made the second present, or perhaps either, because of the *dates*. It is known that Sir Walter had six sons and six daughters by his second wife, and that he died in 1610. Therefore, if the first wife made the second present, she must have died, and Sir Walter married again, and had twelve children all within the space of ten years. We conclude, therefore,

<sup>1</sup> It was this Sir Walter who is said to have introduced smoking in Wiltshire. He was very friendly with the unfortunate Sir Walter Raleigh, and the two Sir Walters frequently smoked together in Wraxall House, in a room still shown to the visitor.

that the second wife made the second present at any rate, and possibly the first. After the death of his first wife, and when John Long was growing up into manhood, Sir Walter being still in the prime of life, took to himself a second wife in the person of Catherine, daughter of Sir John Thynne, of Longleat. This lady had very considerable personal attractions, and was very young, but youth and beauty were her only possessions. It was whispered that she did not marry old Sir Walter for love, but for money. Be that as it may, Sir Walter loved *her*, and a grand wedding he had. Every man, woman, and child in Wraxall and Draycot had a holiday. All were dressed in gay attire, and all were provided with good cheer, to wit, beef and ale, and other good things in unlimited quantities. Besides this, all sorts of games were played, and those who were too old to join, sipped their ale and looked at the young ones. All were bent on enjoying themselves, for such treats as these were, like angels' visits, few and far between. Sir Walter was rather a hard master (squires were like kings then), and the folks had never known him to be so liberal before.

All were happy save one. Just outside the village, in a quiet spot, sat a young man looking the picture of misery. Every now and then he looked towards the quiet churchyard, and would say, "What *would* my poor mother say if she could see all this." While John Long (for this was he) was sitting there, a gipsy came along and requested him to let her tell his fortune. He agreed. She told John to beware of his stepmother, and take care to keep in his father's good books, for his new mother, if she had any children, would try and get the property for them.

Now John Long was rather addicted to stopping out till the small hours, drinking a little too much, and certain other practices which need not every one be named. These the gipsy warned him against, and forthwith took her leave, saying that by these his mother would seek his overthrow.

A little while after these things, Lady Long was walking in the garden, when she met John Long. She greeted him with smiles, told him how happy she was to have met with him, and then spoke to him much in the following way :—

“ Now, John, your face is as long as a fiddle, look a little more jolly, and try and be happy, but keep out of your father's way, for he is a surly old beggar, and has no sympathy with young men. You want to be sprack, and so you must pay no attention to him. When you want money, my boy, come to me, never be afraid of asking, but, of course, don't tell your father I give you any, or he might cut me short, and would not like it. You have been brought up too strictly, and now I am going to see that you are happy.”

Her manner quite deceived poor John, who, according to Aubrey, had not much “ Promethean fire.” He thanked her for her kindness, called her his mother, and took some of her proffered gold. He returned with more ardour to his old ways, and very often, when he was drunk, this deceitful woman took care his father should see him, and by these artful means endeavoured to wean Sir Walter's affection from his son.

Time rolled on, and Lady Long had a son, who was called Walter. It was noticed that Sir Walter got fonder and fonder of his wife and little son, while John was more and more neglected and forgotten.

Perhaps the reader may say “ serve him right,” but John was in many respects a noble young man, very generous and amiable, but too easily led, and here, be it said, his half-brother Walter was not a bit better.

And it came to pass after these things, that

Old Sir Walter was taken very ill, and was ordered by his physicians to go to Bath, and to Bath he accordingly went, to see if the famous waters there would make him well, or, at any rate, patch up his declining constitution. So he went and took his wife and young family with him, and nice scamps they all were. Sir Walter did not improve,

so Lady Long thought she must commence business. She began by saying that John Long was a very bad character, that he was a gambler, drunkard, and a rake withal. Old Sir Walter was very ready to believe these things, for he remembered that King Solomon, when he was very old and worn out, and as dry as a stick, said all the world was vanity, but he took care not to say it before. So Sir Walter thought that vanity was personified in the person of his son John. When the old gentleman had well digested these things, Lady Long ventured to remind Sir Walter that *she* had a son who bore his name and carried all his virtues. It was not difficult to work upon the old gentleman's vanity; he believed all his wife said, and told her that if she promised never to marry again, he would cut off poor John with the historical shilling, and leave the whole property to Walter Long. Lady Long made the required promise, summoned a lawyer, who drew up the writing, and a clerk was engaged to sit up all night and engross it. "Mind," said the lawyer, "you are not to *blab*, and when it is done, you will receive 50*l.* for the job." Visions of hot suppers, red herrings for breakfast, glasses of grog, and other delicacies rose up before the eyes of the poor clerk.

He commenced his work all alone in a garret, by the light of a candle. For some time his pen went on and on over the paper. Not a sound was to be heard. He had written "In the name of God, Amen. I, Walter Long, being of sound mind and body, do hereby give and bequeath to my son John one shilling, to be handed to him on the day of my death, free of duty. I make him no other bequest. The whole of my estate landed and funded, I bequeath to my son Wal—" "Deuce take the candle! it wants snuffing every minute." This from the clerk. But on looking up, he found the candle did not require attention, whereupon he took to his writing again, feeling somewhat nervous. He took up his pen and tried to finish the word, when a dark shadow fell on the paper. He looked up,

and something vanished ; he trembled violently, but commenced writing, when something came again. It was a lady's beautiful white hand between the candle and the Will. The clerk could write no more. He got up, rushed out of doors, went and called up all the Longs, told what he had seen, and then said he believed it was the hand of the first Lady Long come to do justice to her son.

However, another clerk was procured, and the Will engrossed. Soon after, Sir Walter died, without even seeing his son John. But the *first* clerk blabbed, and such was the stir and commotion made about the White Hand, that when Sir Walter was buried, the people would not allow the coffin to be let into the ground till Lady Long consented to divide the property. So John Long had Wraxall, and Walter Long had Draycot, and this division of the property remains to the present time.

We have always thought it very foolish to disbelieve legends, and we entertain very little doubt of the truth of the bulk of the above.

One more word about Lady Long. Soon after Sir Walter's death, she forgot her promise, and married a young gentleman named Sir Hugh Fox, and as that gentleman was leading her into the house, after coming from the church, the likeness of old Sir Walter fell on her head. Her ladyship was not hurt, but the likeness was cracked, and the crack remains to the present day. Aubrey says "she thought on her promise, and it brought tears to her eyes." We must dismiss our characters in the orthodox style. John Long afterwards wooed and married, and so also did his half-brother. Not much is known about the latter, except that he held down the speaker in the House of Commons, as mentioned before.



## THE MURDER OF HARRY LONG, ESQ., OCTOBER 4th, 1594.

. . . Of comfort no man speak :  
Let's talk of graves, of worms, and epitaphs.

Let's choose executors and talk of wills ;  
. . . Let's sit upon the ground  
And tell sad stories.

*Shakespeare.*

FOR a long time the murder of the above gentleman was shrouded in mystery. It was only known that he was murdered by Charles and Henry Danvers, and that they escaped punishment. The place of his murder, too, was unknown. It was reserved for a great Wiltshire antiquary (the Rev. C. E. Jackson, of Leigh, Delamere), now living, to unravel the mystery. He discovered a MS., which is without doubt genuine, in which the whole history of this murder is given in full. Harry Long, Esq., was a brother to the Sir Walter Long who was going to leave his son John a shilling. Having said this much, we will at once relate the account of the murder.

There is a village called Dautesey, close to Chippenham, which now possesses a station on the main line of the Great Western Railway. This village formerly belonged to a family of the same name. Joan Dautesey, who died in 1455, brought it as a marriage portion to Sir John Stradling. They had a very large family, but, strange to say, some men came to the house one night, when all the inmates were asleep, and murdered the whole family. There was, however, one daughter, Anne, staying in London at the time, and thus her life was saved. Sir John Danvers, of Culworth, married this daughter, and the property thus came into their line. They were both buried in Dautesey Church. Sir John Danvers had a grandson, who was a John, and afterwards became Sir John Danvers. He had ten children, three sons and seven daughters. The two eldest sons were Sir Charles and Sir Henry Danvers, who murdered Mr. Long.

At the time of which we are speaking, family feuds were very common amongst the aristocracy, and these feuds frequently took very violent ways of showing themselves, as in the present instance. Licences were frequently granted by Parliament allowing the gentry to keep retainers for the purpose of keeping up family quarrels. These retainers differed from servants, as they never did any work of a menial nature, but merely followed their masters about, and fought their battles. With their help, murders were often committed, while the perpetrators escaped justice. Warrants were, indeed, frequently issued for the apprehension of the murderers; but this was not done because the Government cared very much whether they were punished or not, but that the common people might thereby be kept quiet.

In this pleasant and agreeable state of affairs, perhaps the following facts will not much surprise the reader.

There had been bitter hatred between the Longs and the Danvers for a number of years. It had been whispered amongst the Wiltshire gentry that the first Danvers who obtained Dautesey by marrying Anne Stradling, knew something about the murder of the rest of the family. Whispering increased to loud talking, and, after a time, Danvers was openly charged with the murder, but it could never be brought home to him. The Longs appear to have cherished the idea that the crime of murdering the Stradling family lay at the door of Sir John Danvers, and that the deed was done by his retainers, at his command. This raised a bitter enmity between the two families, which only increased in rancour as time went on. Whether Anne Stradling (afterwards Anne Danvers) knew anything about the matter, will probably never be known; but it is probable she did not. Be that as it may, she died eventually, and also Sir John Danvers; and their secret, if they had one, died with them. They lie quietly in Dautesey Church, till the morning of the resurrection, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed; but the foul murder

was continually talked about, and people's tongues would wag. As time passed, the feud between the Longs and Danvers waxed hotter, and at the time of which we are speaking, the matter culminated to a point.

It was the year of grace 1594. Mr. Harry Long had been rather imprudent in some of his remarks, and the Danvers made up their mind, come what might, to have their revenge, and for the following we are indebted to the M.S. so fortunately discovered by Mr. Jackson.

On the 4th day of October, 1594, there was a meeting of gentlemen at a tavern in Corsham kept by one Chamberlayne. It is supposed they met for business, and afterwards dined together. The names of the persons assembled were Sir Walter Long, Mr. Harry Long, Mr. Thomas Snell (afterwards Sir) who married Ann Long, Mr. Anthony Mildmay, Henry Smyth, Esq., and other gents. Mr. Harry Long sat next to his brother, Sir Walter. During the repast one of the company saw a small boy peep into the room. It is thought that this was to discover the position of Harry Long. Immediately after the door burst open, and a number of men presented themselves. Without more ado Sir Henry and Sir Charles Danvers fired a small pistol at Harry Long. The charge from Sir Henry's pistol entered the heart of Mr. Long, and he was instantly a corpse. They then rushed out of the house, untied their horses, and posted across the country to Southampton, where they arrived the next afternoon (Saturday).

When they arrived at Southampton, they (with their retainers) crossed over Southampton Water to Cawshot Castle, which was inhabited by the Earl of Southampton. The Earl appeared to know something of the matter, for he took them in and hid them, and charged his servants not to tell any one who was in the house. The next day they thought it advisable to go and hide in one of the lodges, and they stayed there till the following Tuesday, during which time the old record says, "One John, the earl's cook,

dressed their meat," by which it would appear they had not lost their appetites. But all this time the "corpse brother" was stirring, and the hue and cry came into Salisbury that Sir Charles and Sir Henry Danvers had committed a murder. A warrant was accordingly issued for their apprehension, and it being suspected that they had fled to Southampton, a man was despatched to the earl's with the warrant. The earl then told the knights and their retainers that they had better take a boat and sail about in Southampton Water, which they did for two or three days, in one Read's boat, and during that time a man named Dredge used to go once or twice a day with a "basket of victuals" in one "Mossill's boat" to feed the said knights. The man with the warrant went in a boat after the Danvers, but when he got to them they said they would teach him to mind his own business, and threatened to throw him overboard if he did not at once depart with his warrant.

On Friday, the 11th of October, just a week after the murder, the knights with their retainers came into the kitchen of Cawshot Castle, and the knights partook of such cold meat as was then in the house, but the retainers appear to have had a lighter repast, "for they had for their supper a mess of milk boiled." They then stayed all that night and all the next day, but in the evening they thought it advisable to shift their quarters, and so they paid "one Johnson" the sum of two shillings and sixpence, to show them the way to Tichfield, and to Tichfield they came, from whence they afterwards escaped to London. By constantly changing their residence, they managed to evade the law, and it being known that it occurred through a *gentleman's* quarrel, the Government did not trouble much about the matter.

However, retribution was at hand. The eldest Sir Charles Danvers was very friendly with the Earl of Essex, and he joined him in a plot against Queen Elizabeth. For this they both lost their heads on Tower Hill. Sir Henry

wandered about till the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603 (nine years from the murder). When James I. came to the throne he managed to get into his favour, and so his sentence of outlawry was reversed. He then came into the estate as next heir to his brother. Neither he nor his brothers ever married. He lived unrespected and died unlamented, and the property then passed away from the family, and the name was struck off the list of Wiltshire gentry for ever. It is true that on his tombstone it is recorded that he died "full of honour, wounds and days," but this might be for the benefit of the stonemason; and the author has often had very grave doubts of the extreme piety of the dead (i.e. some of them) as recorded on their tablets.

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THE VERITABLE HISTORY AND EMOTIONS OF WALTER  
LONG, ESQ., COMMONLY KNOWN AS MR. WALTER  
LONG OF BATH.

WE have for many years gathered together the history of this gentleman from various sources, and can now give it in a form hitherto unknown.

Mr. Walter Long was born in the year 1712, at Melksham, and died at Gay Street, Bath, in the year 1807, aged 95. Had Mr. Long been an ordinary character, his life would have been worth while investigating owing to its length, and the great events which happened during his long career. But Mr. Long was not an ordinary character. He received from his father an excellent education, and was a very elegant Latin scholar. His favourite author was Horace, whose odes he could not only accurately remember, but could recite them well. His memory and other faculties continued with him to the last, and even to the last week of his life he said some of these odes. In early life he mixed in society at Bath, and never tired of that

place. Bath then was a most fashionable resort. Mr. Long was contemporary with Beau Nash, as indeed he was with nearly everybody else. As he was born three years before the death of Hope Long, Esq., he probably saw that gentleman in his infancy, and as there are many people still living who knew old Walter Long (our hero) what a link he was with the present and the past. We have not been able to discover what Mr. Long's "emotions" were in his early manhood; but when he attained riper years he fell violently and madly in love with the great Bath beauty and singer, Miss Eliza Linley. She had youth, beauty, and talent on her side, and Mr. Long had immense riches. But, alas! he was forty years her senior. Notwithstanding this disparity of years, Miss Linley's father was only too glad to contract his daughter to Mr. Long while she was a mere girl. Things went on fairly till the year 1770, when an event happened which resulted in Mr. Long being an old bachelor. This event was the arrival of the Sheridan family in Bath. One of the members of this family was the renowned Richard Brinsley Butler Sheridan. When this bright spark arrived in Bath he was eighteen, "Reader, he was eighteen" (see Bulwer Lytton in "Ernest Maltravers"), while Miss Linley was nearly seventeen. Mr. Sheridan had not long been let loose from Harrow, where he had cut many capers, but had not earned many honours. Mr. Sheridan *came, and saw, and loved, and eventually conquered.* We mean he at once fell in love with Eliza Linley. Mr. Long was at this time fifty-seven years of age; but as people in Wiltshire consider themselves boys till they are seventy, he thought himself a mere youth! The other youth, however, stole the heart of Miss Linley, and she sought an interview with Mr. Long, told him she loved Sheridan, and that he must not only break off all friendship with her, but must tell her father, as she did not intend doing so herself. We never heard that Mr. Long fainted, or even swooned, but we believe he was very much upset, and he proceeded to the

house of Mr. Linley, who was still more upset, and Mr. Linley finally threatened Mr. Long with an action at law. He (Mr. Long) thought the best way out of the bother was to settle 3000*l.* on Miss Linley, to come to her when she was twenty-one. Thus ended Mr. Long's courtship. As our business here is with the Longs and not the Sheridans, we will only say that Sheridan eventually married Miss Linley. He was continually in money troubles, and in those cases money often poured in from a mysterious source. The mysterious source was Walter Long.

The following is taken from the *Bath Herald* for January 24th, 1807, and is quite unknown to the general reader:—

“On Sunday died at his house in Gay Street, at the very advanced age of ninety-five, Walter Long, Esq., of a very ancient and respectable Wiltshire family. The wealth of this gentleman, landed, funded and otherwise, may be justly termed immense. Notwithstanding his habits were generally supposed to be parsimonious, yet on numerous occasions he was generous and extremely liberal. To many public and local subscriptions he contributed with exemplary readiness and spirit; and we remember that towards the building of St. James's Church in this city he gave the sum of 500*l.* About thirty-five years ago, on account of his prudently relinquishing an inconsiderate promise of marriage which he had made to the accomplished Miss Linley (the late Mrs. Sheridan) he was brought on to the state of an unsparring Satyrist, the English Aristophanes. In the year 1765 he served the office of High Sheriff for the county of Wilts. He was the following year a candidate to represent the city of Bath in Parliament, in opposition to the late John Smith, Esq., of Combe Hay. He lost his election by one vote only, which was afterwards the subject of contention in the House of Commons, where its validity was ultimately established.

“To this account a friend who was intimate with Mr.

Long many years enables us to add that he possessed through life a clear and comprehensive mind and sound judgment, which continued to the last perfect and unimpaired. To the verge of life he felt anxiously warm to the situation of Europe, its politics, interests, and embarrassments; and possessed a perfect knowledge of every prominent character now acting on that great and gloomy theatre; but he never once despaired of the whole continent surmounting its present difficulties; of the safety of England he could not entertain a thought of fear.

“As a scholar Mr. Long might be placed in a very superior class; he was generally well read, and was allowed by persons of acknowledged taste and learning to repeat the odes of his favourite Horace in the true spirit of that inspired poet, and that with the clearest recollection to the last month of his very long life. His private charities were extensive and unostentatious, so that his death will be proportionately regretted. Not many years ago he renewed the leases of most of his tenants at their old rents, though the estates had by a fair estimation risen in value one hundred thousand pounds.

“In early life Mr. Long entered largely into the fashionable world, and partook of its various pleasures; but never so far as to injure his own constitution, and though possessing a large fund of wit, it was so tempered with good humour, that it never was known to hurt the feelings of a friend, or wound the reputation of any individual. Such a character, though it may have possessed some errors that imperfect human nature is ever subject to, yet before so many acknowledged excellencies they will fade away and be forgotten; but his steady patriotism, his private charities, and public munificence will be long held in grateful and affectionate remembrance.”

Such is the account from the *Bath Herald*. Before we follow this gentleman to his final resting-place at Whaddon, from whence he will be called some day to give an account, let us see how he disposed of his vast property. He led a



life of celibacy, and neither of his four sisters married. At his death there was one remaining sister, Katharine During Mr. Long's life there was born a son to Mr. Richard Godolphin Long of Rood Ashton, and this son was named *Walter*. Mr. R. G. Long wrote to Walter Long of Bath, requesting him to be godfather to his namesake. To this Mr. Long at length consented, though without hinting, as far as we know, that any ultimate benefit would accrue. Much surprise was felt by many when his will was read, and the "elder branch of the Longs" left entirely out, and the property left in remainder to his *godson Walter*. His will is of great length, but the following parts need only be noted here. The property was left in trust of Charles Coxwell, — Biddulph, and Charles Philpott, for the use of his only remaining sister, Katharine Long, for the term of ninety-nine years, to be computed from the day of testator's decease. After the death of said Katharine Long, however, the property is left to the use of Richard Godolphin Long of Rood Ashton, John Long of Melksham, Banker, and Daniel Jones, for the term of ninety-nine years. Supposing these to die before expiration of term, property then goes to the use of Walter Long, son of Richard Godolphin Long and his heirs, or in event of latter having no issue, to the second son of Richard Godolphin Long, and to his heirs male, if any, each for ninety-nine years."

Mr. Walter Long was buried at Whaddon, in a vault under the church, with three of his sisters. The author has been into this vault. The following is his epitaph in the church:—

"Sacred to the memory of Walter Long of this place, of South Wraxall and of the city of Bath, Esquire, only son of Thomas Long of South Wraxall, by Mary his wife. Nature and education combined to qualify him for gaining that esteem which the suavity of his manners, and an excellent understanding confirmed; while early habits of application and a memory rendered powerful by judicious employment, gave accuracy to his judgment, and energy

to his language; he was an elegant scholar, a cheerful companion, and a worthy man. To his numerous tenantry he was conspicuously munificent, and when the dangers of the country called for extraordinary aid, he nobly devoted the produce of their labours to the defence of their liberty. He departed this life on the 18th day of January, 1807, in the 95th year of his age; when his remains were deposited in this mausoleum with those of his sisters, Ellen Long, who died 26th February, 1787, aged 70; and Ann Long, who died 29th December, 1802, aged 89. His sister, Mary Long died 20th August, 1776, aged 66, and was buried at Wraxall. With these, and the surviving sister, Katharine Long, he shared the blessings of reciprocal and deserved affection."

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#### MISS KATHARINE LONG.

THIS lady was born in the year 1717, at Melksham, and died in the year 1814 at South Wraxall, and was buried at Whaddon. She maintained a spotless and unsullied reputation throughout a very long life, was very generous to the poor and all who needed help. She lived a very retired life at Wraxall Manor House, and did not mix much in gay society. Miss Long's will is of immense length. Her bequests were very numerous indeed. Amongst other legacies, she left 500*l.* to her kinsman, John Parker Tidcombe of Steppingley. After all the legatees are mentioned, she leaves "all the rest, residue and remainder of my real and personal estate, &c., goods and chattels whatsoever, to Charles Coxwell and Thomas Bruges, their heirs and assigns for ever."

Lands, tenements, &c., in Haugh, and Holt in Bradford, Wilts, are left to John Long; after his death to his son John Long; and failing issue after son's death to Charles Coxwell and Thomas Bruges, the executors and their heirs.

In a codicil to the will, Katharine Long leaves to Thomas Bruges "my silver tea-kettle, hand-lamp, and waiter attached thereto."

The following obituary notice is taken from the *Bath Herald* for January 22nd, 1814:—

"On the 15th inst., in her 97th year, Mrs. Katharine Long, the last surviving sister of the late Walter Long, Esq., of Gay Street and of South Wraxall, in the county of Wilts, the greater part of whose vast property she inherited, and employed it in such acts of benevolence as will render her demise an irreparable loss to the unfortunate.

"Cheerful, pious, and charitable, her life appeared providentially extended to a very advanced age to be a blessing to her fellow-creatures."

In the issue of the same paper for February 5th, 1814, there also appeared the following:—

"Mrs. Katharine Long's will was proved at Doctors' Commons on the 18th ult., and her personal effects sworn under 175,000*l.*; the legacies exceed in number over one hundred, and amount in value to little short of 50,000*l.* The remainder of this lady's personal estate, exceeding 100,000*l.*, falls to the Rev. Charles Coxwell of Ablington, in the county of Gloucestershire, and Thomas Bruges of Melksham, in the said county of Wilts, Esq., her late steward, the two executors and residuary legatees, exclusive of freehold property to a considerable amount devised to those gentlemen by the said will.

"Mrs. Long's splendid interment took place on Tuesday last."

It seems from the above that this splendid funeral took place more than a fortnight after the death. This may have been owing to the weather, which was very severe at the time, and the roads may have been bad. It was about this time that the Thames was frozen over and a fair held on it.

There is a beautiful monument to this lady in Whaddon

Church, representing a reaper cutting down the wheat, with the following epitaph :—

“Thy will be done. Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in his season. (Job, Chapter 5, verse 26).

“Sacred to the memory of Katharine Long, spinster (the youngest daughter of Thomas Long, of South Wraxall, in the County of Wilts, Esquire), whose earthly remains are deposited in the mausoleum underneath. She died on the 15th day of January, 1814, in the 97th year of her age. Endowed with a sound understanding and active disposition, this worthy person exercised through a length of days, those useful duties and Christian virtues, which adorn both human nature and religion ; for she was pious and devout towards God, abounding in works of charity to her fellow-creatures under poverty or distress, and generous to her friends, acquaintances, and domestics ; unaccustomed to scenes of public life, she sought for, and enjoyed in rural retirement, those comforts, which not riches, but a good conscience only could administer when joined to a steadfast faith in the promises of the Gospel. This monument is erected in testimony of the very grateful and especial regard which was justly borne to Mrs. Katharine Long by the Reverend Charles Coxwell, clerk, and Thomas Bruges, Esquire, whom she was pleased to constitute her executors and residuary legatees.”

One of Miss Long's former servants lived till the year 1883. Her name was Mary Anna Fry, and she nearly equalled her mistress in age at the time of her death. She was never tired of talking of the virtues of Miss Katharine Long, her old mistress at South Wraxall. The inscription below is taken from her tombstone in Winscombe churchyard, in the county of Somerset :—

“In memory of Mary Anna Fry, who died April 20th, 1883, aged 92.”

“Also of Louisa Fry, sister of the above, who died 30th of March, 1883, aged 91.”

Mary Anna Fry inherited under several wills (that of Thomas Bruges, Esq., being one) during her life, and at her death left a goodly sum of money to her nephews, both of London.

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WALTER HUME LONG, Esq., of Rood Ashton, Wraxhall, and Whaddon, Esq., M.P. for East Wilts, J.P. and D.L. for Wilts, and a J. P. for Somerset.

IN writing an account of this popular gentleman, who is the present owner of the estates, we are indebted to the *County Gentleman* for 1883, in which also appeared a striking likeness. We shall, with the permission of the editor, quote his words :—

“Walter Hume Long of Wraxhall, Somerset, and Rood Ashton, Wilts, is the eldest son of the late Richard Penruddock Long, Esq., M.P., by Charlotte Anna, only daughter of William Wentworth Fitzwilliam Hume Dick, Esq., M.P. for Wicklow from 1852 to 1880. The subject of our sketch, who is the head of a Wiltshire family of great antiquity, was born in 1854, educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford, and married in 1878 Lady Doreen Blanche, daughter of the Earl of Cork, is a J.P. and D.L. for Wilts, and a J.P. for Somerset. Wraxhall, a charming old manor, has belonged to the family for over 400 years. A century ago, however, they migrated to Rood Ashton, which has also been long in their possession.

“In 1880 Mr. Long was elected to represent North Wilts in the Conservative interest. And it is worthy of note that members of this family have held seats in Parliament since the fourteenth century. His grandfather sat thirty-five years, and his father for three years, until he retired in consequence of ill-health. In Forster's biography of Sir John Eliot much information is given relative to the part

played by one Wolter Long<sup>1</sup> in the famous Parliament which was elected in 1628. At the time of his re-election for Bath, Long was High Sheriff of Wilts. Forster speaks of him as one of those whose return to the House of Commons the Court could not have observed without alarm. It was during the brief existence of this Parliament that the ever-memorable struggle took place between the king and the House of Commons on the subject of 'Tonnage and Poundage;' Sir John Eliot leading the opposition to the Court, and resisting the contemplated invasion of Constitutional rights. At the sitting of the House, on the 2nd of March, 1629, when Eliot presented his famous Declaration against taxes being levied without the consent of Parliament, the Speaker was forcibly held down in his chair, in order that the Declaration might be read and put to the vote, the members who actually held him down having been Denzil Holles, Benjamin Valentine, and Walter Long, who were afterwards sent with their leader to the Tower for a holiday.

"A good sportsman all round, Mr. Long was in his University days master of a pack of harriers at Rood Ashton, and at the same time master of the Christchurch Drag. A staunch supporter of fox-hunting, he is an extensive covert owner in the Duke of Beaufort's country. Last year the Marquis of Worcester took seventy-three and a half couple of hounds and staff to Rood Ashton for a week's cubbing. It was usual in former days for the Badminton Pack to have a week's cub-hunting from Rood Ashton, and the good old custom revived last year to be continued. Mr. Long, who hunts regularly during the season, has a splendid stud of hunters, and his teams are well known at the meets of both the driving clubs.

"It is safe to say that the master of Rood Ashton is one of the most popular landlords in the country. It is to this rather than to the exertions of a staff of keepers that his

<sup>1</sup> The Walter Long referred to here was not the ancestor of Mr. Walter Hume Long, but was the ancestor of the Longs of Draycot.

property is well stocked with game. When the Ground Game Act became law Mr. Long extended to his tenants the privilege of shooting without giving notice to the landlord. The occupants of his farms are not limited to the number of friends they may invite to participate in the sport, at the same time he told his tenants that he would dispense with keepers and depend upon them for a supply of game. With such inducements before them the tenants have proved the best of keepers. Since then he has had partridge and ground game in plenty; of course there was no pretence to preserve pheasants. Being always willing to have his farms revalued, the member for North Wilts has never found the question of rental a difficult one, and he is advocate of landlord and tenant being left to settle their own contracts. Whilst on the adjoining estates farm after farm is empty and in a deserted state, he has never had a vacant field, and when it does happen that a farm is to let, there are always many applications for it. Being fond of agricultural pursuits, Mr. Long has a large home farm, and moreover occupies the position of President to two agricultural societies. His tenants are all good fox-preservers; and when a few years ago he was asked if he could furnish some men for the yeomanry, within one week he got together seventy-two recruits; these were all occupiers of his own land, and the troop is one of the best mounted in the regiment, of which he is captain.

“Mr. Long’s father having been practically the founder of the famous I Zingari Club, and being keenly fond of the game himself, it is not surprising that he should take an active interest in the pastime. He played for Harrow in his school days, and at one time made good scores frequently for the I Zingari; and now a cricket week is one of the features of the autumn season at Rood Ashton. He is, too, a prominent performer in the Parliamentary cricket match played each session.”

The author would like to add a little to the above excellent account of Mr. Long. Since the above was written

the county is divided up differently as to representation in Parliament. Mr. Long is now member for East Wilts, and we have no doubt he will long remain so. Opponents have appeared on the field, but to no purpose. He *shaved* Mr. Barber well, and he has more recently conquered Mr. Phillips. He is getting a remarkably good speaker, and bids fair to become an orator of no mean power. The author has frequently heard him at public meetings. We have no doubt honours are in store for Mr. Long, and it would be a gracious act on the part of the sovereign to revive the ancient title to this representative of the ancient family of Long. Let us conclude this notice in the words of Gilpin slightly altered :—

Now let us sing, long live the king [queen]  
And W. H. L. long live he.  
And when he a baronet becomes,  
May we be there to see.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Since the above was written, a great Act of Parliament has passed into law, called the "Local Government Act." Mr. Long has had a great deal to do with this Act, and it is worthy of note that this is the most liberal law that has ever passed any Parliament whatever, whether Liberal or Conservative. Strong Conservatives as we ourselves are, we cannot help flinging this remarkable Act at the G.O.M. (?) and asking if he ever passed such a beneficent Act himself.



WILL OF HENRY LONG, ESQUIRE, OF WRAXALL; EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTRY OF THE PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY.

IN Dei nomiē amen Primo die mensis Maij Anno dni Millesimo cccc. nonagesimō Ego Henricus Long Armiger compos mentis et sane memorie condo testamentii in hunc modum Inprimis lego animā meam deo Patri omnipotenti beate Marie Virgini et oīibus Sanctis Corpus qz meum sepeliendum in Ecclīa de Wroxhall coram alta cruce. Item lego ecclīa Cañ Sar vjs viijd Itm lego ecclīe pochiali De Wroxhall xxs pro vestimentis Itm lego Rectori de Edyngdon ijs iiijd et cuilit Presbytero ejusdm Domus viijd et cuilit Novicio ejusdm Domūs iiijd pēpiend die obitus mei ad dicend missam et exequias predicto die et ibi orare pro me et animabus Roberti patris mei et Margarete matris mei Johanne et Margarete nup̄ uxorum mearum Reginaldi et Johannis fratrum et pro aiābus oīū parentum meorum et animabus oīū fidelīū defunctorum Itm lego Abbati de Stanley ijs iiijd Itm cuilit presbitero ejusdm Domus viijd et cuilit Novicio eiusdm Domus quatuor Denar ibm orare ut sup̄ Itm lego Priori de Ffarley ijs iiijd et cuilit psbitero eiusdm Domus viijd et cuilit Novicio iiijd Itm lego ecclīe pōch De North Bradley xxs pro Vestments Itm lego paupibus Domus Sancte Margarete De Bradford vjs viijd Itm lego Priori de Bradnestock ijs iiijd et cuilit Presbitero ejusdm Domus viijd et cuilit Novicio iiijd Itm lego Capelle Patris mei in Monasterio de Bathe construct. vnu par Vestmentorum ꝑcy c. s vel alia necessaria ad valorem ejusdm summe Itm lego fribus predicatoribus de Marlebuñgh xijs iiijd pro vestments Itm lego fribz minoribz Sar

xiijs iiijd pro vestments Itm lego fribus predicatoribus Sar vjs viijd pro vestments Itm lego ecclie De Bradford xxs pro vestments Itm lego Dom De Henton xls pro Vestments Itm lego ecclie De Broughton xiijs iiijd pro vestments Itm lego Capelle Sancti Georgij de Semelton (Semington) xxs pro vestments Itm lego ecclie de Milkeshm xxs pro vestments Itm lego ecclie de Hilpton xiijs iiijd pro vestments Itm lego Abbatisse de Lacoche xxs pro vestments Itm lego ecclie de Chippenhã xxs pro vestments Itm lego ecclie de Boxe xxs pro vestments Itm lego Johanne Uxori mee omia terras et tenementa mea que habeo in Civitate nove Sar. Ac omia bona mea infra ciuitatem pdcam et in Domo mea ibm existens habend et tenend omia pdict terras et tenementa prefate Johanne Uxori mee at terminu vite sue Residuũ vero omi bonoru meorum non legatorum Do et lego executoribus meis videlicet Johanne uxori mee Dño Ricardo Key Vicario De Boxe Johanni Goldney ut ipiea disponant pro salute anime mee et aĩabus omi amicoru meorum prout illis melius videbiũ expediri Eciam facio et constituo magistrum Radulphum Hethcott supuisor meum tam Voluntatis terrarum et tenementoru meoru quã testamenti qui pcipiet pro labore suo xls In testimonii omi premissorum sigillum quod vtor apposui Daũ apud Wroxall Die et Anno supradict Itm lego ecclie De Trubrigg xxs p vestments Itm lego ecclie . . . xxs pro vestments Itm lego ecclie de Asshton xxs pro vestments.

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TRANSLATION OF THE WILL OF HENRY LONG, ESQ.

IN the name of God Amen. First day of the month of May in the year of our Lord 1490. I Henry Long Esquire being of sound mind and memory, make my will in this fashion. First, I bequeath my soul to God the Father Almighty, the blessed Virgin Mary and all saints. My body (I desire) to be buried at the church at Wroxall,

under the altar Cross. Also I give to the Cathedral Church at Sarum 6*s.* 8*d.* I give to the Parish Church at Wraxall twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the Rector of Edington 3*s.* 4*d.* and through him to the Priest of the same house 8*d.* and through him to the Novice of the same house 4*d.* to be received on the day of my death for saying masses and obsequies on aforesaid day, and at the same time to pray for me, and for the souls of my father Robert, and my mother Margaret and also Joan and Margaret my wedded wives, and for the souls of my brothers Reginald and John, and for the souls of all my relatives, and for the souls of all the faithful dead. Also I bequeath 3*s.* 4*d.* to the Abbot of Stanley. Also through him to the Priest of the same house 8*d.* and through him to the Novice of the same house 4*d.* at the same time to pray as above. Also I give to the Prior of Farley (Monkton Farleigh) 3*s.* 4*d.* and through him to the Priest of the same house 8*d.* and through him to the Novice 4*d.* Also I bequeath to the Parish Church of North Bradley 6*s.* 8*d.* Also I bequeath to the Prior of Bradnestock 3*s.* 4*d.* and through him to the Priest of the same house 8*d.* and through him to the Novice 4*d.* Also I bequeath to my father's chapel constructed in the Monastery at Bath five coins for vestments or other necessaries to the value of the same sum. Also I give to the preaching brothers of Marlborough 13*s.* 4*d.* for vestments. Also I bequeath to the Minor brothers of Sarum 13*s.* 4*d.* for vestments. Also I give to the Church of Bradford twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the House of Henton 40*s.* for vestments. Also I give to the Chapel of St. George at Semelton (Scamington) twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the Church a Melksham twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the church at Hilpton (Hilperton) 13*s.* 4*d.* for vestments. Also I give to the Abbess of Lacock twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the church at Chippenham twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the church at Box twenty shillings for vestments. Also I bequeath to my wedded

wife Joan all my lands and tenements which I have in the city of New Sarum. And all my goods in the aforesaid city and in my house at that time existing, and all the aforesaid lands and tenements aforementioned to be had and holden by my wedded wife Joan to the end of her life. Moreover the residue of my goods not bequeathed, I give and bequeath to my executors, namely my wedded wife Joan, Lord Richard Key, Vicar of Box, and John Goldney, that they may dispose of them for the safety of my soul, and for the souls of all my friends, as may seem to them best to be done. Moreover I make and constitute Master Rudolph Hethcott my supervisor as to my wishes in distributing my lands and tenements and for his labour he shall receive forty shillings. In witness of all these premises I have placed the seal which I use.<sup>1</sup> Given at Wraxall on the day and year above written.

Also I give to the Church of Trowbridge twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the church—— twenty shillings for vestments. Also I give to the church of Ashton (probably Steeple Ashton) twenty shillings for vestments.

<sup>1</sup> It was usual in those days to affix a seal to wills, instead of, or in addition to, signature. Very often the parties could not write.

## HOW I TRACED MY PEDIGREE.

(*Cardinal to Preciosa*).

Dost thou remember  
Thy earlier days?

*Spanish Student.*

I HAD proposed to write a chapter on tracing pedigrees in general, but I afterwards thought that the best way to do that would be to show how I traced mine, and then to add a few general remarks for the instruction of others. I shall therefore proceed at once.

A dismal cold day, such as we are having now (February, 1888), the wind howling and making the casements rattle, and snow, sleet, and rain falling alternately. Such was the scene one day in the winter of 18—, out of doors. In a comfortable house which bore the name of a cottage, within a short distance of the metropolis, sat three pigeon pairs, viz. three boys and three girls, or shall we say three girls and three boys, for the girls were all older than the boys. Death has snatched one of the girls away since that time, as well as their mother. But to return. They, with their mother—the latter hailed from respectable Wiltshire—formed a semicircle round the fire. The father of these said pigeon pairs was out busy with his calling. He was like Hugh Miller, he worked hard that he might eat, and we expected him home shortly to eat, that he might work. No disgrace in that. But he came not, and was evidently detained that day. So the mother entertained the children with stories and legends. Dear reader, I was the oldest of those boys, and the tales had a great and lasting effect upon me. Well do I recollect that these

tales had to do mostly with the county of Wilts (where I am writing these words), and with the history of my father's ancestors. Burning were her words as it seemed to me. At any rate, they burnt themselves into me, and whatever betides cannot leave me till I leave the world. So much for early impressions. She told us how we belonged to a very long line of ancestors in her own county of Wilts, and that these ancestors once owned a very valuable estate. But it was now with regard to us like Ichabod, the glory was departed. I asked a great many questions, many of which my mother could not *then* answer, but which afterwards were as clear as the noonday, and that mostly—must I be an egotist?—through me.

On the arrival of my father, the legends and tales came to an end that day, for I noticed he looked more than usually serious. The cause soon came out. He said that morning he was in a greenhouse (my father was a true gentleman; he held up Adam's profession) and that an immense flowerpot—the largest made—had fallen down quite close to him, in fact, almost touched him in its fall. If he had been a very little nearer, and the pot had fallen on his head, the result must have been fatal. Although he escaped, and lives, I rejoice to say, while I pen these words, yet the seriousness with which he told us of his escape so impressed me, that, what with the previous tales and the episode of the pot, I have never forgotten it. But what has the pot got to do with the pedigree? Much every way, but chiefly because the tales made me think of the pot, and the pot of the tales, and so I very often asked questions about the history of our family. But I was not to be satisfied at present, that was to be done in after days. The only thing I could get at, at present, was that the family name was *Long*, that the coat-of-arms had something to do with a *rampant lion*; that I had been called *Walter* because there had been a great many Walter Longs; and that the pedigree and other family papers had been lent to somebody or other who was more than kin

and less than kind. So I again was baulked, but my spirits and determination rose with the occasion. Like Warren Hastings of Indian memory, I had made up my mind, and determined, if possible, to trace my pedigree as far as Adam. I grew from a boy into a youth, and I then met with a gentleman who told me that he had a ticket for the British Museum Library. He told me there were miles upon miles of books there upon every subject under the sun, and above it as well, and that he had studied pedigree books there, and had traced his ancestors as far back as the Prophet Isaiah. (It is a *fact* he said it.) He said he could have traced it farther back, but Isaiah being such a good man, he would like the gospel prophet at the head of his pedigree. Of course a great deal of this was moonshine, though a portion was true. Well, I got me a ticket, and I went and studied the prescribed books. I got down every book that had the name of *Long* in it, and read and read the pedigrees through and through, till I could say them. Finally, I copied down as much as the authorities would allow me to. I had not yet discovered much, but I found a great many Walters, and so I supposed I was on the right track. Some names, being uncommon, impressed themselves more on my memory. For instance, I noticed there was a *Hope* Long, and as I was always *hoping*, I suppose I remembered that name.

About this time I got a sight of the papers referred to before, and the written pedigree. This pedigree, be it said, was compiled chiefly by one John Hawksey Acherley, formerly a solicitor at Bath, and a wonderful pedigree-hunter. On reading the pedigree down, I experienced curious sensations, for I saw names and dates that I had seen in the books at the British Museum; but I discovered one thing, viz. that whereas the pedigrees in the British Museum went farther back than this, the latter came nearer to me, in fact down to my grandmother. Above all, *towards* the top of the pedigree I saw the name of *Hope* Long. I made a copy of this written pedigree, put

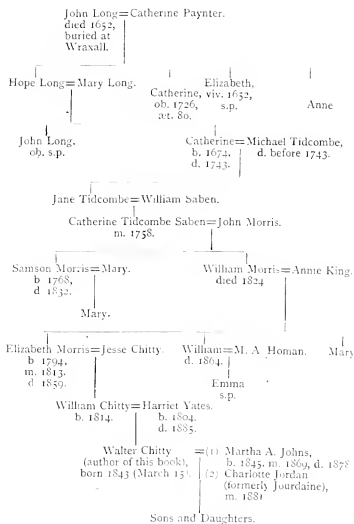
it in my pocket, went to the British Museum, and to 't again, as the clown said in "Hamlet." I rushed frantically to the old shelves, lugged down the books I wanted, and in my hurry brought down about six heavy books on the toes of a young lady who was searching for something. Apologies were useless as she was very much hurt, and whenever I have made any fresh discoveries it has always been connected with something or other tumbling, the flower-pot, for instance. At last I got safely to my seat, opened the books, and got out my written pedigree and studied hard. I found, as I stated before, that the books went further back, and the written pedigree further forward, but there was a part in each—which consisted of several generations—*which was common, and that this part was similar in every respect.* This gave me great satisfaction, and I went from time to time to the Museum, copied a piece from one book, and a piece from another, and so on, till I had enough names to cover a brick wall. I wrote all these names and dates down on large sheets of drawing paper, and stuck them on some canvas, and this looked rather formidable. From time to time, as I got little pieces of information about different members of the family, I wrote them down against their names. And here I must say a word for the clergy. I corresponded with a great number of them, and, though perfect strangers to me, they took a great deal of pains to answer my questions very fully. In many cases they copied me inscriptions from tombstones and made inquiries without any fee or reward. I am aware that many of these did not desire any thanks, therefore they shall be nameless, but here I publicly thank them. There had been great difficulty in *proving* the extinction of a certain branch, although it was known the branch *was* extinct. This had baffled several solicitors who were great pedigree-hunters. I tried several plans of finding this out, but without success. At last I thought that if the party with whom this branch ended had any money to leave (and I shrewdly suspected

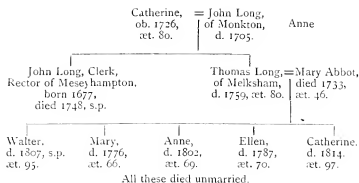


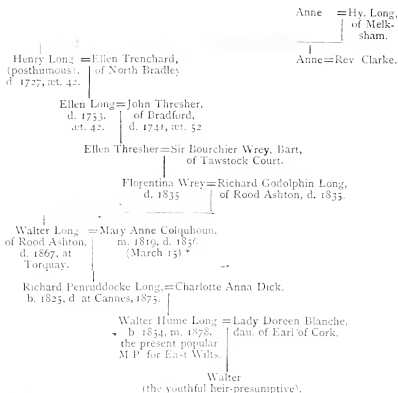
he had), his will would probably be at Somerset House, and would say *where* he died. See me, therefore, marching up the Strand to find this out. I found, as I expected, his will there, read it, got a certificate of his burial, several records from tombstones, with an inscription from a bell, which he had given to the church, and *proved* the extinction of that branch. In fact I discovered living persons who knew this last member. All these things were put on my chart, and now it will cover a good-sized wall when it is spread out. All this was done with infinite labour.

In these days "many go to and fro, and knowledge is increased." Among other things now studied genealogy is occupying great attention. After my varied experiences I might make a few suggestions to those who wish to trace their pedigree. And here a word of warning from Walford's "Antiquarian," p. 239:—"Identity of *name* proves nothing whatever." "A person may bear an historical but very general name." Suppose, for instance, there was 200 years ago a landed proprietor named John Smith, of Smithtown. You may be living at Smithtown, and your name may be John Smith, and yet there may not be the slightest connection. While at the same time some person with a different name, and living some distance off, may be the heir-at-law. I have met with several such instances. But if the name is very *uncommon*, and there has been no break in the male line, the matter will be pretty easy. A sexton was found some time ago who was clearly descended in a direct line from John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. If a person is descended on female line through several generations, the matter is a little more difficult. In that case get the family name, and while landed property remained in that line it would be easy to get all that part of the pedigree from such books as Burke's "History of the Commoners" and others. Then, if your pocket is a consideration, it is cheap to read wills, and make local inquiries. I have said before that I have invariably found the clergy ever ready to assist in *bona-fide* cases, though of

course you could not expect them to do so to the disadvantage of local residents. Perseverance will often succeed with simple and inexpensive means. Then again, there is the Record Office, from which much information may be obtained, and cheaply too. In writing out a pedigree "keep all the lines clear," and keep the *eldest* branch of a family to the *left*, the nearest relations next, and so on, and keep the most distant relations to the right. For other information of this kind I should like to refer the reader to "How to Write the History of a Family," by Mr. Phillimore, a most remarkable book, and published by Elliot Stock.







\* See coincidence of dates with birth of author, one of many others.



### PERFORATED PEDIGREES.

THIS plan of showing the descent of various branches from a common ancestor by perforations I believe to be my own, although I freely confess that the father to the thought was "Ancestral Tablets," an American work on genealogy. As every man has two parents, and each of those parents two parents, it follows that eight generations backwards include one hundred and twenty-eight ancestors for each person, and in this American work these ancestors are shown by perforations in the leaves. This is perhaps more curious than useful, but the following method the author hopes may be found curious *and* useful, and shows the descendants *downwards* from a common ancestor, and not *upwards* as in the American book mentioned.

COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT FROM THE "TIMES" FOR  
SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1827.

HEIR at Law of Catherine Long deceased.—In pursuance of a decree of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer bearing date the 20th day of March, 1824, made in a cause in which Sir John Frederick, Bart., and others are plaintiffs, and Charles Coxwell and Thomas Bruges are defendants, whereby it is deferred to Jeffries Sponger, Esq., one of the Masters of the said court, to inquire and report to the said court whether there is any heir at law of Katherine Long in the pleading of the said cause, and if so, who is such heir at law.—The Heir at Law of the said Katherine Long, spinster, deceased, is requested to come before the said Master at his office, in Mitre Court Buildings, in the Inner Temple, London, and prove himself to be such Heir at Law, on or before the 6th day of November, 1827. The said Katherine Long resided in South Wraxhall, in the parish of Bradford, in the county of Wilts, and died unmarried at a very advanced age, on or about the 15th day of January, 1814, possessed of considerable estates, and any person who can furnish information relative to the family of the said Katharine Long are requested to communicate with Messrs. King and Lukin, Solicitors, Gray's Inn Square, or with Messrs. Thomas and Robert Liss, Solicitors, 14, Tooke Court, Chancery Lane, London.







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