

CHAPTER 4 - THE TEVEREY FAMILY

Family roots.

This family had its roots in Long Eaton-or Eyton-by-Sallow as it was known in medieval times-where it has been resident for several generations. Like the early Stapelfords we find them cropping up in all sorts of outlandish places and in similar situations; perhaps the most notable member of the family in those far off days was Lawrence Teverey who became abbot of Dale in 1273.¹ also in the service of the church, but at the later date of 1357, was Adam Teverey who, having been vicar of Burnham in Lincolnshire was presented to the church of St. Peter. Berkhamstead in the same diocese.²

The marriage of John Teverey to Margaret de Stapleford

The reason for the coming of the Tevereys to Stapleford stems from the marriage of John Teverey to Margaret de Stapleford. It is recited by Thoroton that she was the heiress to the Stapleford estates and was the daughter of Nicholas de Stapelford. At what point in time this union took place is not known and history is silent about anything further connected with these two individuals. As has already been noted in the previous chapter, a Nicholas de Stapleford is mentioned as a land-holder in 1428. If Thoroton is correct in his assertion then Nicholas must have been a very old man at this date, and as he answers for his holding, and as no Teverey is mentioned it could well be that the was the father of Margaret. In 1432-just four years after this mention of Nicholas-we learn that a Hugh Teverey of Stapleford, gentleman, paid a subsidy of one mark for the defence of the realm in pursuance of an inquest of knight's fees held on Friday, 11th January that year at Derby. At that date Hugh would have been over 21 years of age and, apparently, in possession of his inheritance; one may, therefore, assume that both his grandfather, Nicholas de Stapleford, and father-who we can take to be John Teverey- were dead.

Hugh Teverey

It is a pity that yet again lack of documentation prevents us from learning something about Hugh and the only real information we have is contained in an I.P.M. which was held 20th April 1466 and shows that at that time his estate comprised 4 messuages, 1 cottage, 24 bovates of land and 16 acres of meadow in Stapleford and 3 messuages, 21 bovates of land and 20 acres of meadow in Thrumpton-by-Barton in his demesne as of fee and that they were held of the King as of the Honour of the Castle of Nottingham by fealty and suit of Court of the said castle held there twice a year, for all service. It will be noticed that in both localities the extent of arable and meadow had increased since the death of Geoffrey de Stapelford some 140 years earlier, and a very long time to be devoid of information which could have helped us to follow the acquisitive endeavours of the later Stapelfords and early Tevereys;

¹ DAC

² Pat. R. 31 Edw. III.

Mid and late 15th century:

increases which could have been due to marriage alliances, exchanges or, most probably, simple purchases as the family progressed from a position of one of substantial yeomanry to one of mild gentility. Note, also, that the property is now held directly of the King as of the Castle of Nottingham (The Honour of Peverel) and that such intermediaries as “the heirs of the Heriz’s” have vanished from the scene.

Robert Teverey ?1440-1505

On 26th June of the same year the Escheator was ordered to cause Hugh’s son, Robert Teverey I, to have full seisin of the premises as the King had taken his fealty. Robert was to see that Agnes, his mother, had a reasonable dower of the premises according to law Fine R 6 Edw. IV

I would say that, by computation, Hugh was aged about 56 when he died; Robert lived longer and would be about 65 when he departed from this world on 14th November 1505. Hugh’s wife was Agnes, and Robert’s was Joan and it was one of these two ladies who was a Paschall of Eastwood, a family to which the Tevereys allied themselves about this time.

Upon the death of Robert Teverey on 14th November 1505 the usual Inquisition Post Mortem was held and as well as one for the Nottinghamshire lands there is also one for his estates in Derbyshire, thus giving us the first details of the Teverey family’s holding in Long Eaton-although, presumably, they had been their possessions since the first Teverey came to Stapleford-and in Greenhill; the source from which these latter premises came is not revealed.

Teverey family holdings per IPM of 1505

In Stapleford there were 4 messuages, 1 cottage, 21 bovates of land (in all other I.P. M’s this amount of land is consistently shown as 24 bovates so one suspects an error) and 16 acres of meadow, worth £6 a year; and in Thrumpton 3 messuages, 21 bovates of land and 20 acres of meadow, worth £4 a year. These premises were held of the King as of the Honour of his castle of Nottingham by fealty and suit of court at the castle twice a year. IPM 22 Hen VII.

In Long Eaton (Long Eyton) within the Soke of Sallow (Sawley) there were 2 messuages, 1 cottage, 9 bovates of land and 10 acres of meadow worth 54s 4d and held of Geoffrey, Bishop of Chester, as of his manor of Sawley by fealty, a rent of 9 pence yearly and suit to the two great courts of Sawley. IPM 21 Hen VII.

The premises in Greenhill are described a little differently: a messuage, a dovecote, 100 acres of land, 60 acres of pasture and 10 acres of meadow. Such nice round figures as these are immediately suspect, although if reduced to bovates at the Stapleford equivalent then the 100 acres becomes 12 ½ and perhaps looks a little more in keeping with the amounts in the other three localities-where, however, it

must be borne in mind the figures given may only be approximate. These were also worth 53s 4d. a year and were held of Joan Ormand-daughter of Sir William Chaworth and wife of John Ormand-? lady of Alfreton, as of her manor of Alfreton by fealty, a rent of 12s.1d yearly, and suit to the two great courts there. (Note, that the extent of the Stapleford and Thrumpton premises has not differed from the time of the death of Hugh I ³

The use of the Stapleford arms by the Tevereys

Joan Tevereys survived her husband-as did their daughter, Margaret, at that time unmarried. An elder daughter, Joan, who had married John Armstrong of Thorpe in the Clouds, died in 1403 two years before her husband. Thoroton tells us that her tomb in Wysall church bore the arms of the Staplefords, Argent, on two bars Azure, three cinquefoils pierced, Or. (This use of the Stapleford arms by the Tevereys persisted right through the centuries until the time of Gervase Tevereys who decided to incorporate, what he thought to be, the Tevereys arms i.e., Azure, a lion rampant Argent within a bordure engrailed Or. I am sure that after the continuous use of the Stapleford's arms as their own throughout succeeding centuries the Tevereys were ignorant of any specific arms pertaining to their name – if, indeed, the family had any right to arms in their own name-so I would suggest that Gervase had come by some imperfect knowledge, most likely by word of mouth, and had felt sufficiently convinced that he had come by the arms of the Tevereys. In actual fact these very arms had been borne by Sir Roger Tyrrell, in the Earl of Gloucester's Company, in what has become known (erroneously) as the Dunstable Tournament held in the second year of Edward II-1308. Someone, somewhere, had become confused with Tyrell and Tevereys. Incidentally, the Tevereys family is not recorded in any of the printed Herald's Visitations for Nottinghamshire).

Marriage settlement 1495 by Robert on his son, Hugh, and Elizabeth, his wife.

Robert's son and heir was Hugh Tevereys II and was aged about 30 when he entered upon his inheritance, and at the time of his marriage in 1495 his father took the opportunity to make a settlement of various lands both for his own and for Hugh's sakes. By Robert Tevereys charter dated at Stapleford 2nd September 1495 he enfeoffed John Babington, knight, Thomas Armstrong, esquire, William Wentworth, esquire, and John Crewker of the Greenhill, Long Eaton, Eastwood, Stapleford and Thrumpton premises.⁴ By their charter dated a few days later-the 89th-the feoffees granted Greenhill, Thrumpton estates to Hugh and his wife Elizabeth and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten; but failing such heirs the lands were to revert to Robert or his heirs. Hugh was to hold the premises in fee tail and, if Elizabeth survived him, for the term of her life. A further charter granted by the same feoffee's and dated 12th September ensured that the Long Eaton and Stapleford possessions remained to the use of Robert Tevereys and Joan his wife during their lives and that

³ IBM 21 Hen.VII.

⁴ BM Woolley CH.I.22

of the longer liver in survivorship, and afterwards were to go to Hugh's heirs by Elizabeth⁵

Three of Robert Teverey's feoffees who are of particular interest are Babington, Armstrong and Crewker. Armstrong we have already come across: Babington will be mentioned later; and Robert's great-grandson, John Teverey, is to marry into the family of Crewker of Twyford, Derbyshire.

Robert Teverey's will

Early wills can, at times, be most interesting and very often enable us to gain an insight into the testator and his times. However, Robert Teverey's will was a very simple affair: son Hugh and wife Joan having already been provided for in the above-mentioned charters, the only member of his family to get a mention is his daughter, Margaret, as residual legatee. She and Robert Sheffield were appointed executors and Margaret was to be guided in marriage and other matters by him. Robert Teverey was buried "in the parish church of Stapleford in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary near to the tomb of Hugh Teverey" his father. Four pence was to be paid to each chaplain present at his burial and eleven shillings were to be paid to each of the orders of friars in both Nottingham ad Derby. He also left a green cloak to hang over the sepulchre on Easter Day in the church of Stapleford-an old custom-and 6 marks for the chaplain to celebrate in Stapleford church at the altar of St. Mary. (Presumably mass for the souls of the dead Tevereys; but how often, and when?) Thomas Armesbrend (Armstrong) his kinsman, John Shaw and Robert Toll were Supervisors of the will. The witnesses to this instrument were Richard Pawson, curate of Stapleford, Robert Toll, John Burton, Robert Burton; (the Burton family has been mentioned much earlier in this history), John Chambers, (comparative newcomers, but were to stay in the parish for more than a century), Thomas Bowers, and others.⁶

Hugh Teverey (1474-1517)

Hugh Teverey II (1474-1517) married Elizabeth, daughter of High Willoughby of Risley and a kinswoman of the Wentworths and their known children were Robert, William and Ann. Once again, the information which we have about these early Tevereys is disappointingly small; during his father's lifetime Hugh was one of the Collectors of the 15ths and 10ths appointed in 1492⁷. (his ancestor, another Hugh, had been an Assessor and Collector of the 15th for Derbyshire in 1302-3).

Soon after entering into his own, it was necessary to Hugh to petition the Chancellor for a writ of sub-poena against one of his father's feoffees, Thomas Armstrong, who would not release his interest in the manor of Stapleford (this is not the first time that the Tevereys are described as holding the "manor"), and lands in Thrumpton,

⁵ IPM's 21 & 22 Hen VII

⁶ YORK REG. Vol.16 Fol. 145

⁷ Fine R 7Hen VII

Ayton (Long Eaton) and Greenhill, although his co-feoffees had done so.⁸ The result of the petition is not on records but in the light of later events Thomas Armstrong must have acquiesced to authority.

Hugh Teverey IPM 1517

When Hugh died on 7th March 1517 the usual inquisition followed and, on this occasion, it was actually held in Stapleford on October 25th of that year. During the eleven intervening years since his father's death Hugh had not increased the size of his Stapleford and Thrumpton estates for the jurors returned the same details which has been given those years previously. There was, however, a small addition in the shape of 10 shillings rent in Eastwood, held of Sir Henry Willoughby, knight, as of the manor of Eastwood by fealty for all services. The net annual value of the Stapleford and Thrumpton lands etc. had not increased in value and was again given as £6 and £4 respectively.

In Greenhill there were still 1 messuage, 1 dovecote, 10 acres of meadow and 16 acres of pasture, but the jurors only accounted for 40 acres of land. These premises were worth yearly, besides reprises, £3 and were held of Thomas Denham and Johanna his wife, Anthony Babington, and Anne Meyring at a rent of 12 shillings 1 penny a year, and by what other services the jurors knew not. (Johanna Denham, Anne Meyring and Elizabeth Babington-the deceased wife of Anthony-were the daughters and joint heirs of Joan Ormond.)

The Long Eaton premises remained as in the time of Robert Teverey and were returned at a yearly value of £3, but were now held of the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield as of his manor of Sawley by fealty, rendering 9 pence a year and doing suit to the court there twice yearly. Sandiacre now comes into the orbit of the Tevereys with 6 acres of pasture held of Edmund Pilkington by fealty and 1 penny a year. Value of these acres, 6s.8d yearly, clear.⁹

Hugh Teverey's enfeoffment 1508

On 14th September 1508 Hugh enfeoffed Thomas Bapthorpe, son of Ralph Bapthorpe, Thomas Wentworth, Thomas Wyllughby and John Crewker with "the premises by the name of his manors of Stapleford and Eastwood", to the use of himself and Elizabeth, his wife, for the term of their lives and the longest liver, and after the death of Elizabeth to the use of himself and his heirs. On the same day, and to the same feoffees, Hugh granted the Long Eaton and Sandiacre premises to the use of himself, his wife and their heirs lawfully begotten.¹⁰

⁸ Early Chancery Proceedings No. XXIX, Bdl.366, No.34. C1/366/34

⁹ IPM C142/32/113

¹⁰ IPM C142/32/113.

As the Greenhill and Thrumpton estates already had been settled on them by Robert Teverey at the time of their marriages, these charters very neatly tied up any loose ends and ensured that the property would remain intact.¹¹

Elizabeth-wife of Hugh Teverey-dies 1550

Elizabeth survived her husband by many years and died in 1550. It may seem somewhat tedious, but an abridged recital of Elizabeth's will would not go amiss. It gives us some idea of the possessions of the widow of Stapleford's leading family and shows that even the "gentle" families practised thrift and eschewed extravagance.

The Will of Elizabeth Teverey

"To be buried in the chapel of St. Mary in the parish church of Stapleford, near to my late husband Hugh Teverey.

To my eldest son, Robert, the great counter in the hall; a great form; a great iron "robberts"; a brass mortar; an iron pestle; and 2 long boards-for heirlooms.

To my son-in-law Francis Collman, my best horse or gelding.

To Anthony Wennyssley, a feather bed; a bolster; a pair of sheets; a blanket; a coverlet; a pillow; and 2 cows.

Six shillings and 4 pence to the vicar of Stapleford, William Bartheley.

Three shillings and 4 pence to the poor's box.

To Anne, my daughter and wife to Francis Collman, a velvet bonnet; a tablet of silver and gold; a silk girdle; a great washing basin.

To cousin Cassandra Pilkington, an old silk hat and half a stone of wool.

To Richard Roberd, an old silk frock furred with coney; to his wife a woollen kirtle; to Margaret, their daughter, 3 shillings and 4 pence; to Richard, the younger son of the said Richard, a coat.

To my servant, Amy Alleyn, a mattress and a coverlet.

To Elizabeth Wright of Bramcote, an old frock.

To Elizabeth Wright, my god-daughter, a ewe lamb.

To Alice Lewes, a servant, a cow and a brass pot.

To each man-servant, a ewe and a lamb, or a year old sheep.

To each child of my eldest son, Robert, a year-old calf.

To Christopher Thornebarrow, son to Anne my Daughter (? Was Anne married twice?). a cow calf a year old.

To Katherine Teverey, my daughter-in-law, a furred gown.

William Teverey, my son, to be the only executor.

Robert Teverey, my eldest son, and Francis Colman, my son-in-law, to be supervisors.

Black cloth to 4 poor men."

Witnesses: - William Bartheley, vicar; Robert Teverey, George Teverey, Francis Collman, Anne Collman-his wife; Robert Fawkener; William Wright; Richard Besselaw; William Lamb; Amy Allen; Elizabeth Wright.

¹¹ IPM Vol 32 No.3 Chancery Series II.

Will was made 6th May 1550 and proved 9th October of that year.¹²

Robert Teverey 1496-1553

Hugh's son and heir was Robert Teverey II (1496-1553) who married Katherine, daughter of George Chaworth, and by her had issue of three, known, children John Teverey II, George and Dorothy. Unfortunately, neither the will of Robert nor the findings of the I.P.M.-which would be held after his death-have come to light. After Robert's death, Katherine Teverey next married Roger Oker (or Okes) and bore him a son, Humphrey; when Roger died she married for a third time taking to husband John Martyn of Stapleford.(See chapter on "The Manor"). There were no children born of this third union and despite her second and third marriages, when she died in 1671, she was buried as a Teverey. KT's Adm. Bond at York. Robert and Katherine's tomb is marked by an alabaster floor stone set centrally in the nave floor immediately in front of the chancel steps in Stapleford church.

John Teverey 1537-1604

Next we come to John Teverey II (1537-1604), the eldest son and heir of Robert. He married Ann, daughter of John Crewker (Crevequer) of Twyford in Derbyshire, and was the father of several children, only three of whom are known to us:- Gervase, Ann, and Catherine who married John Hacker of Trowell by which union she became sister-in-law to Francis Hacker and, therefore, aunt to his son, Colonel Francis Hacker, Parliamentarian and Regicide.

Apart from increasing the family's possessions, both by a judicious marriage and by purchase, perhaps his most notable, and one which affected the parish closely, was the purchase in May 1582 of the tithes of corn, wool and lambs in Stapleford which had once belonged to the Prior of Newstead.¹³

John Teverey was one of many who contributed towards the cost of the defence of the realm at the time of the Spanish Armada (1588). His payment was made on the 7th April 1589 and amounted to a hefty sum of £25.

On 17th June 1595 he was summoned in the Archdeacon's Court "for burying of some dead bodies in the church and not paying of the duties".¹⁴

In his declining years John retired to his house in Sandiacre, handing over the management of the Stapleford and other estates to his son, Gervase, at some time during the period June 1595 to November 1598 although the actual settlement of the lands was not made until 6th July 1602 at the time of Gervase's marriage. According to the memorial tablet set in the wall of the south aisle of Stapleford church, he died on 14th March 1603/4-although the IPM which was held following his death gives

¹² YORKREG. Col 13. Fol 30.

¹³ INDENTURE No. M 5286 in Nottingham Library. AND DEED @ MATLOCK.

¹⁴ ARCHDEACON'S ACT BOOKS.

the date as 23rd. March-and (according to the Bishop's transcripts) was buried on the 15th March in Stapleford church by the side of his wife who had pre-deceased him in 1580. One should not speak ill of the dead and possibly with this in mind our forebears were apt, at times, to err in the other direction when it came to monumental inscriptions; by which means we learn that John Teverey was "beloved of his friends, a friend of the poor, gracious, affable, loving and generous; a learned man who enlarged his family property".

John Teverey's IPM 1606

All this would appear to be true; a glance at the IPM following is sufficient for us to note the difference in the extent of the property since his grandfather's time. In his will son, daughter, brother, sister, servants and tenants all received some recognition. Amongst the bequests are two bibles, a clock, (a very rare item), horses and swans, not to mention several articles of wearing apparel-an indication of the value set upon such items even by the more affluent members of society.

The Inquisition, held 18th December 1606 at Retford-in-the Clay, reveals that John Teverey died seised in his demesne as of fee 4 messuages, 7 cottages, 1 dovecote, 1 windmill, 24 bovates of land, 16 acres of meadow in Stapleford (of ancient descent), together with all the tithes of corn, lambs and wool and of all waifs (goods stolen and then thrown away by the thief in his flight), estrays (such valuable animals as might be found wandering in any manor etc. and of which the owner was unknown); the goods and chattels of felons and fugitives, and in enforcing the charges of suicides and criminals or outlaws, fines, amercements, issues, and profits of court, and of all other advantages, commodities and profits whatsoever in the demesne of Stapleford, (the annual rent of 16 shillings called "the common fine" and all suits of court and fines for suits of court for any lands etc. held in Stapleford for the King excepted). The messuages, cottages and other premises in Stapleford, mentioned above, were held of the King as of the Honour of his castle of Nottingham for suit of court at the castle twice a year. Annual value £6, clear.

The tithes were held of the King's manor of East Greenwich by fealty only in free and common socage and not in chief nor for knight's service; rendering and paying to the King £4:6:8 a year, to the curate of Stapleford for his salary 53 shillings and 4 pence a year, and for the Archdeacon's procurations 6 shillings and 8 pence a year. Yearly value, 30 shillings, clear.

There were also in Stapleford 3 other messuages with 22 bovates of land which John Teverey had purchased from John Jackson, gentleman, of Trowell and which were also held of the King as of the Honour of his castle of Nottingham for suit of court at the castle twice a year. These were of the annual value of £5, clear. (These particular premises had at some time come into the hands of Sir John Babington who died at Chilwell in March 1561. With no children to inherit, but with a life interest

for his widow, they passed to his sister (named variously as Ethelnedea, or Elizabeth, Deefes or Elizabeth Eltonhead) after whose death in August 1504 they devolved upon her daughter, Elena, married to Sir Robert Sheffield ¹⁵. In turn they were enjoyed by their son-also named Robert-and when he died in November 1531 they came into the possession of his son, Edmund who, as Sir Edmund, Lord Sheffield of Normanby, Lincolnshire, sold them to John Hacker for £406:13:4 on 20th December 1590. They were then described as 1 messuage with 10 oxgangs of land, meadow and pasture in the occupation of Peter Chambers; 1 messuage 8 oxgangs of land etc., in the occupation of John and Richard Fawkener; and 1 messuage 4 oxgangs of land etc. in the occupation of Robert Tryce (Treece).¹⁶

In Eastwood an annual rent of 10 shillings held of Sir John Stanhope as of his manor of Eastwood by fealty for all services. Yearly value 10 shillings clear.

In Derbyshire John held the manor of Twyford, and 6 messuages, 6 cottages, 2 tofts, 1 windmill, 1 dovecote, 10 gardens, 10 orchards, 100 acres of land, 60 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 300 acres of heath land with 3 shillings and 5 pence rent in Twyford and Stenson. Again, the quantities given are such nice round figures that they are immediately suspect and must, perhaps, follow some stylized form used for such purposes. These premises were held of George Curzon of Croxhall, Derbyshire, knight, by fealty at an annual rent of a pair of white gloves, or one penny. Yearly value, £7, clear.

In Sandiacre, where John was dwelling at the time of his death, was a house and 40 acres of land etc., held of the King by fealty, an annual rent of 6 shillings and suit of court at the manor of Sandiacre twice a year. Yearly value, 30 shillings, clear.

There were 3 messuages, 2 cottages, 17 bovates of land and 10 acres of meadow in Long Eaton and Little Thrumpton, Derbyshire (not to be confused with Thrumpton by Barton, Nottinghamshire-and the premises which seem to have been disposed of) held of Gilbert, Earl of Shropshire as of his manor of Sawley, Derbyshire by fealty and with suit of court there twice a year. Yearly value, £3, clear.

Eight messuages, 8 cottages 240 acres of land etc. in Greenhill, Greenhill Lane, and Riddings, Derbyshire and a rent of 2 shillings in Swanwick were held of Sir John Zouch by fealty and an annual rent of 12 shillings and 1 penny. Yearly value, £3, clear.

It will instantly be seen that this is a much more complicated Inquisition than any previously taken on behalf of any member of the Teverey family.

¹⁵ IPM C Series Vol. 18 (69)

¹⁶ PRO. CP.43.32.(mem.13)

Enfeoffment of 1602 prior to marriage of John's son, Gervase.

On 6th July 1602 John Teverey and son, Gervase, enfeoffed George Ashby of Quenby, Leicestershire, with all the estates; this was a settlement made immediately prior to the marriage of Gervase with Ann, daughter of George Ashby. By this deed the house and lands in Sandiacre (except a close called "Westings Close") were for the use of John Teverey during his lifetime and for one year after his death; after that time, they were to go to Gervase and his male issue, or in default of such, then to the heirs of Gervase forever.

The premises in Twyford, Stenson, Long Eaton, Greenhill, Greenhill Lane, Riddings and Eastwood, together with "Westings Close" in Sandiacre were for the use of Gervase and Ann during their lives and of the longer liver, and in allocation of dower to which Ann would be entitled. After their deaths the property was to go to their lawful male issue and if no male issue, then to the heirs of Gervase forever.

The remaining premises, including Stapleford, were to the use of Gervase and his male issue, and if no male issue then to the use of John Teverey during his lifetime and after his death to the heirs of Gervase forever. IPM 4Jas I

Gervase Teverey 1574-1639

As things turned out, Gervase Teverey was the last male member of the Tevereys to hold the Stapleford estates. By his marriage with Ann Ashby, he became father of a son, John III, who died in infancy, and three daughters of whom more later. He was High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire for the years 1628-29, was a magistrate from 1617 until his death in 1639, and one of those persons who contributed to the cost of rebuilding the Shire Hall in 1618.

A survey made in 1612 shows that he was the largest landowner in Stapleford to the extent of 40 oxgangs. Francis Hollingsworth came next with 14, then John Broadbent, 10; William Greasly 4; George Clarke 4; Peter Columbell, 4; and Thomas Mere, 2.¹⁷

Much that concerns Gervase Teverey is recorded elsewhere in this book. According to his tomb inscriptions he died on August 14th 1639, and if we can rely on the Bishop's Transcripts, he was buried on the 15th, while the Inquisition Post Mortem held after his death gives the date of his demise as the 16th of that month. He was 65 years old and an immensely wealthy man. He left a widow and two daughters, Ann and Mary, his third daughter Elizabeth, having died in February 1635.

¹⁷ Thoroton.

Gervase Tevereys IPM 1640

The Inquisition Post Mortem was held in Nottingham on March 23rd. 1640 when none of the jurors appears to have been a Stapleford man. Like his father before him Gervase also increased his possessions. Although the Stapleford property etc. was the same in extent as it was at the time of his father's death-as was that in Sandiacre, Long Eaton and Little Thrumpton and Swanwick-the Greenhill, Greenhill Lane and Riddings premises had increased by 6 messuages and 40 acres of land. Twyford and Stenson remained practically the same, but for the loss of the windmill, the 10 gardens and 10 orchards, although there were an additional 16 acres of land which Gervase had purchased from Ralph Kirkham. In Eastwood he had acquired 3 messuages, 1 cottage and 120 acres of land to go with the 10 messuages, 1 cottage, and 120 acres of land to go with the 10 shillings rent held by his father, and in Chilwell he had acquired 2 messuages, 2 cottages and 4 bovates of land.

The premises in Stapleford were still held of the King as of his Honour of his castle in Nottingham and the yearly value was the same. The premises in Eastwood were now held of Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, and despite their increased size the annual value was still given at 10 shillings. The newly acquired possessions in Chilwell were held of the King as of his manor of East Greenwich and were valued at 10 shillings a year. The jurors did not know of whom Gervase had held the land purchased from Ralph Kirkham, but the annual value was 5 shillings. The manor of Twyford and the other premises in Twyford and Stenson were held of the heirs of George Curzon at the same rent and yearly value as in his father's day. Sandiacre, too, had remained unchanged. Long Eaton and Little Thrumpton were now held of Philip, Earl of Chesterfield, who had become lord of the manor of Sawley; again, on the same terms and at the same annual value. The Greenhill, Greenhill Lane, Riddings and Swanwick premises also had undergone a change in overlordship and were held of Sir Paul Neale as of his manor of Codnor, but at the same rent and yearly profit.

Gervase still held the tithes of lambs, corn and wool with which went the obligatory payments to be made there from.

Enfeoffments made by Gervase 1639

Two days before he died, 12th August 1639, Gervase enfeoffed Luke Faulkener (a yeoman of some standing in the village and a tenant of the Tevereys) and Francis Deane (a trusted servant-perhaps steward-of Gervase) and the premises in Stapleford, Eastwood, Chilwell, Sandiacre, Long Eaton and Little Thrumpton to provide his daughter Mary, wife of Brian Palmes, with 100 marks a year for life; after Gervase's death, his grandson Tevereys Palmes with £60 per year from the time he became 16 years old and during the lifetime of Ann Tevereys, widow of Gervase; and his grandson, William Palmes, with £10 a year for life from when he became 18 years old. Gervase and Ann were to have the use of the premises during their lifetimes and after their respective deaths the premises were to go to Tevereys Palmes and his issue, and if no issue then to the right heirs of Gervase.

By another enfeoffment made the same day Luke Faukener and Francis Deane were granted the premises in Twyford, Styenson, Greenhill, Greenhill Lane, Riddings and Swanwick to provide Ann, daughter of Gervase, with 100 marks a year for life from the time of Gervase's death; grandson Guy Palmes to have £10 a year for life from the time he became 18 years old. Here again Gervase and wife Ann were to have the use of the premises during their lifetimes and afterwards to daughter Ann and her issue, and if she should have no issue, then to the heirs of Gervase.¹⁸

Gervase Tevery's will

Gervase Tevery's will is a most interesting document and reveals his thoughtfulness for both his close and more distant relations, his servants-present and past-and others against whose names no relationship is mentioned. Certain items are of particular interest and are worthy of note: -

"To Mary Palmes, my daughter, all the monies her husband Brian Palmes owes me. (£150)".

"To the curate of Stapleford 26 shillings and 8 pence yearly for the augmentation of his maintenance, to be paid to him and his successors forever, out of the tithe corn, wool and lambs. To be paid at the feasts of St. John the Baptist and Christmas by even and equal portions." (This was in addition to the 53 shillings and 4 pence already set aside for this purpose, and was still being paid long after the Palmes family had left Stapleford and sold the tithes, for in the Parish Register, amongst the entries of the Baptisms etc. is a much faded note reading:-

"February 23rd. 1696"

"Memorandum that I William Wightwick, curate of Stapleford, have received of Mr Francis Mason of Ashwell by the order of William Palmes Esq., the sum of one pound six shillings and eight pence yearly, being a legacie left to the Minister of Stapleford and to be paid at Christmas and Midsummer viz; 13s 4d at Christmas and 13s 4d at Midsummer which sums I have received for several years.

ita Testator

W.Wightwick

Minister ibid"

" To Gervase Faulkner of Trinity College, Cambridge, 20 shillings on gold as a memoir of my love." This Gervase was obviously named after Gervase Tevery and, although not stated, was probably his god-son. Gervase Faulkner was son of Luke Faulkner.

"To Mistress Lettice Starkey, if she dwell in my house at the time of my death, £10; or if she be gone, £5." (Lettice Starkey later married Gervase Faulkner).

"To the poor of Stapleford, 40 shillings".

"To the poor of Sandiacre, Stranton, Troweell, Wollaton, Bramcote and Long Eaton 20 shillings to each town."

¹⁸ IPM 15 Chas I

And now an entry in his will which, to date, has defied interpretation: -

“My desire and will is that there may be a certain standing house kept at and in my capital house at Stapleford so that the poor of the said town may in a convenient manner be relieved, and other neighbours by their company comforted. And that when they shall live away, something may be distributed by way of alms to the poor of the town by the inheritors of my lands.”

The Supervisors of the will were “The Right Honourable Robert, Earl of Kingston, my ancient and singular good friend, and George, Lord Chaworth, Viscount of Armagh, my honourable kinsman.”¹⁹

A perplexing point about this will (which is an official copy, not the original) is that although it is dated 1st May 636, it must have somehow been amended just prior to the testator’s death for William Palmes, a grandson and one of the beneficiaries, was not born until 1639, being baptised at Stapleford on the 21st May of that year. Further corroboration of his birth is given in the Herald’s Visitation for Nottinghamshire, 1662-1664, in which William certified his birth in 1639.

One thing which Gervase Teverey did, albeit unwittingly, was to set the fashion within many Stapleford families of naming a son after him. It is remarkable how this Christian name—an unusual one it cannot be denied—became so popular and continued to be used in almost every generation by certain families right into the 19th century, finally succumbing to the fashionable Victorian, but less stable appellations. Incidentally, it is highly probable that Gervase Teverey was named after Gervase Clifton of Clifton a not-so-distant neighbour of the Tevereys and someone who must have been of their acquaintance.

Ann Teverey-widow of Gervase

Ann Teverey, widow of Gervase, survived him by 18 years and was buried at Stapleford on August 20th 1657. It is on record that at some time an indictment was issued against her and George Jackson and Gervase Hillingsworth for the non-repair of Moor Bridge, the upkeep of which seems to have been their responsibility. Notts. County Records 17th cent.

Ann Teverey-daughter of Gervase

Ann Teverey, daughter of Gervase, married Ralph Husband of Ipsley in the county of Warwick who died in 1651. Their son, John, was created a Baronet in 1661 at the age of 12 years and later became one of the first Directors of the Bank of England.²⁰

Mary Teverey marries Brian Palmes 1628

Gervase’s other surviving daughter, Mary, married Brian Palmes at Stapleford on November 1st 1628 when a settlement was made on them of the Ashwell estates,

¹⁹ PCC 180. Harvey. [PROB 11/181/457]

²⁰ VCH Warwicks. Vol.3 p125.

Gervase Teverey being one of the parties to the deed. Brian was son of Sir Guy Palmes of Ashwell, Rutland; both these gentlemen were Royalists and at the outbreak of the Civil War raised a regiment for the King. Brian was knighted on April 21st, 1642 and in 1636 both he and his father were heavily fined and had to compound their estates VCH Rutland.

Six sons and two daughters were born to Brian and Mary and as we have already observed it was clearly Gervase Teverey's intention that his grandson Teverey Palmes, their second son, should inherit the Stapleford estates and thus keep alive the name of Teverey a little longer. However, this was not to be, for Teverey Palmes died early in 1654 (his father died in August of the same year) and when his eldest brother, Francis (who had married Mary, daughter of the Earl of Westmorland) died in the same year as his grandfather Teverey (1657) both the Ashwell and Stapleford estates devolved upon the youngest brother, William, married to Mary, daughter and co-heir to William Eure, second son of William, Lord Eure of Wilton in Yorkshire.

The Palmes sell the Stapleford Estate to John Borrows and the Warrens

The Stapleford and Ashwell estates had been settled on William's wife, but in 1667 an Act of Parliament gave him permission to make an exchange of those settled lands as some of his estates had to be sold for the payment of debts and he did not wish to sell his Yorkshire lands which were his most ancient paternal inheritance.²¹ Here we have a definite move by the Palmes family to sever its connexion with Stapleford. Having decided upon this course of action William Palmes appointed trustees to carry out the work; these were Sir Francis Leeke of Newark and Arthur Warren the elder of Toton. As well as Stapleford, their appointment covered the disposal of the Chilwell, Eastwood, Long Eaton, Little Thrumpton and Sandiacre properties. The Stapleford estate-and this is the one which directly concerns this history-does not appear to have been sold at one particular time, but piecemeal, nor did one specific person purchase the whole. Both the wealthy and the not so well-to-do had their pickings; perhaps some of the buyers of lesser standing were sitting tenants, such as Thomas and Ann Bore (1673: land only); William Glew (1670): 1 house with an oxgang of land, William Teabould (1670, a cottage, grazing rights and, in 1673, land only), and most likely there were others who have not come to light. John Borrows, a soap-boiler of Derby, was one of the two principal purchasers to the amount of 5 farms, 2 cottages, several closes-including some at Bramcote-1 piece of meadow and 4 selions of land. But the transaction which has the most noticeable effect on the history of the parish was the purchase by Arthur Warren the younger of Toton of the Hall and much of the remaining Palmes estate. The date was 24th June 1675 and was handled by the Trustees. The extent of the property purchased by Arthur Warren comprised the Hall with its outhouses etc., a cottage with a barn, in the occupation of a Widow Lacy; two closes called the Leas Closes lying near the Hall together with a parcel of land known as Shoemaker's Nook, approximately 8 acres in all and in the

²¹ VCH Rutland.

occupation of John Scattergood (of Nottingham). Also a meadow called the Heather-Cony-Gree together with a parcel of land known as the Hagge and approximately 61 acres in extent, in the tenure of William Wilesford; also another meadow, known as the Farr-Cony-Gree, 6acres in extent and in the occupation of Jhn Scattergood. (Hether and Farr-Cony-Gree later became known as the “Conyry” and today we know this as the “Cunnery”. Hether, Hither or near (n ear to the Hall); Farr-far, farther away from the Hall. Cony-rabbit: Gree-land usually so called could be a gift, a reward from the King for military service and in this wise probably arises from a gift of free Warren-dating back to Sir Geoffrey de Stapelford ?) There was also the Holine Close of 3 acres 1 rood (on the west bank of the Erewash), in the tenure of William Wilsford; the Brook Close of 3 acres-near The Roach (Matthew Gray); the New Rayle Close adjoining a hedge called Toton Hedge, of 9 acres 1 rood (Arthur Warren the younger), together with 6 horse pastures in the horse pastures of Stapleford known as Hemlock Hills, and 6 cow pastures in the cow pastures of Stapleford. With all the tithes of corn, wool, lambs and hay arising from these lands. The sum paid was £910; ²²NCL in acreage the extent here listed was a meagre 36 acres or so compared with 200 or more in the Borrows purchase.

The Palmes family retained no territorial links with the parish and so ended more than 400 years of ownership by the Staplefords and their descendants of a very large part of Stapleford soil.

These are some of the changes which stemmed from a young man’s untimely death; I wonder how different things would have been had Tevereys Palmes not died so young?

Note by RPT

Due to the fact that this book has had to be re-written in a metric measured book, book III commences on page number 94 with the chapter entitled “The Tithes of Stapleford”.

²² Fine R 7Hen VII