MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT OF LADY JANE HOWARD.

[Read Dec. 20, 1849.]

The persons concerned in the accompanying deed, with their family connections and general history, are so well known to most readers, that a very brief notice of each, on the present occasion, will be sufficient.

It is a deed of covenant for the payment of an annuity of 200l. in performance of the settlement executed on the marriage of Jane, eldest daughter of that distinguished statesman, poet, and warrior, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, one of the brightest ornaments of the house of Howard* (by Frances his wife, daughter of John, 15th Earl of Oxford), with Charles Neville, 6th and last Earl of Westmerland.

The Earl of Surrey fell under the displeasure of his sovereign King Henry VIII., was attainted by him in Parliament, found guilty of high treason, and beheaded Jan. 21, 1547, when only thirty years of age. His bereaved widow was left with five children, two sons and three daughters; Thomas, the eldest son, being not above 11 years of age†.

His remains were deposited in the church of All Hallows Barking, Tower Street, London, but afterwards, it has been supposed, removed, in the reign of King James I., to Framlingham, in Suffolk, probably his native parish, by his son Henry, Earl of Northampton, who there erected a monument to his memory, and that of the Countess his mother.

This Lady survived the Earl about thirty years, and re-married Francis Steyning, Esq., of Woodbridge, in Suffolk. It is supposed that the Countess and her second husband resided at Earl Soham Lodge, in Suffolk. Her death is thus recorded in the register of that parish:—

* Who has not heard of Surrey's fame?
  His was the hero's soul of fire,
  And his the bard's immortal name;
  And his was love exalted high
  By all the glow of chivalry.

Scott's Lay of the Last Minstrel.

† Afterwards 4th Duke of Norfolk, beheaded 1572.
"Anno Dom'i 1577. Item, the Ladye Ffrancis Countys of Surrye died the last of June, in the year aforesaid, and was buryed at Fframly'gham."

After Surrey's execution, his only sister the lady Mary, Duchess Dowager of Richmond, took charge of the education of the three eldest of his children, and engaged Fox the martyrlogist to be their tutor, under whose instruction the lady Jane, the eldest daughter, profited so much in the Greek and Latin languages, that she excelled many of the learned men of that age.

The annexed deed was executed upon her marriage with Charles Lord Neville, eldest son of Henry, fifth Earl of Westmerland, K.G., by Lady Jane Manners, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Rutland. On the death of his father in 1549 he succeeded to the Earldom. This nobleman joined the rebellion of the north, with Thomas Percy, Earl of Northumberland, for which offence they were arraigned and found guilty of high-treason. The latter was beheaded at York in 1572; Westmerland fled, and dragged out a miserable life in exile for thirty years after the discomfiture of his rebellion in 1569.

He several times endeavoured to procure James VI. of Scotland to interest himself with Queen Elizabeth on his behalf, but it was no part of her character to overlook such offences as his. The queen returns a million of thanks to king James for his answer sent to Westmerland, in the following letter* written by her Majesty, in May, 1593:—

"No sample bettar triar of truthe, my deare beloved brother, than whan dides dothe give a right sequel to wordes precedent, the report of wiche profe sins your actions make me, iven in the last just handeling of that wicked traitor Westmerland, whom many benetits of life and lande, besides all other kind and louinge traignments, could neuer lest but he wold nides make his name the first traitor that ever my raigne had; to whom nether cause, nor injury, nor povertie, nor il vage, gaue euer shadow of mene to moue such a thoght, but wer hit not that he liueth by my meanes (whom many wold, for the horror of his fact, or now haue dispached), secures propser contemptum, els hit had not bine possible for him to haue liued to this howre; but I doust not but your answer to his treasonable lettar wyl make him, and such like, knowe that you not only hate the treason, but do ows as muche to the traitor; and, I assure you, I wyl neuer suffer that this fact of yours sha1 retourne void, but wil euer recompence you with the like, with my million of thanks for suche kinglike part."

The Countess of Westmerland, had issue four daughters,

* Letters of Elizabeth and James VI., printed for the Camden Society, p. 81.
and after suffering many trials, and painful family bereavements, ended her days in 1593, aged about 53 years. Her remains were deposited in Kenninghall church, Norfolk, June the 30th, in that year.

AUGUSTINE PAGE.

[ Copy. ]

Omnibus christi fidelibus ad quos hoc p'sens scriptù indenatat' p'ven'it
Henricus Comes Westm'land ac p'clare ordinis garterij miles sal't'm in
d'no sempiternà. Sciatis me p'fat' comit' in complement' et pformatio' em
certor' conventionù concesstionù et agrementor' contentor' specifi-
cator' et declarator' in qui'busd'm Indenturis gerent' dat' octauo die
Junij, anno regni d'ne n're Elisabeth' dei gr'a Anglie Francie et Hib'n nie
Regine, fidei defensor,' &c. tertio fact' inter p'nobilem p'ncipem
Thomam ducem Norff. comit' mariscall' Anglie ac p'dict' p'clar' ordinis
garterij militem, ex vna p'te, et me p'fat' Henrici comit' Westm'land ex
altera p'te, pro et concernent' maritagio ante hac fact' habit' et
solemnizat' inter Charolì d'n'm Nevell filiu et heredem apparent'
mei p'fat' comit' Westm'land et d'nam Johanna nunc vxor' p'dict' d'ni
Charoli Nevell, acà vn sororù p'dict' ducis, dedisse, concessisse, et hoc
p sent' scripto meo indentat' confirmasse p'fato Charolo d'no Nevell et
d'ne Johanne vxor' sue, vn' annuitat' siue annualem reddit' ducentar'
librar' bone et legalis monetie Anglie exeunt' de castro, man'io, et p'cs
meis de Brancepethe, in com' Dunelmie, Ac de et in oibus messuagijs,
terris, et tenementis meis cù p'tin' in Brancepethe p'dict', ac in Est
Brandon, Pedgebank, Stockley, Willington, Hallywell, Hunwyck,
Helme, Helmedenrawe, West Brandon, Bynchester, Tudo, Thorneley,
Elwycke, Eldon, Dalton P'cey, Newton Hansard, Swaynton, Fyshe
burne, West Burdon, Byrtley, Pelton, Rowley, Hulton iuxta, Sheroton,
West Murton, Gresenlawe, Childon, Close, Hedley, co'nesay, Ivesley,
Dyckonfelde, Cocksyde Howne, Heddlehoope, Stanlay, Wat'howswe, Croke,
Byllerawe, Byars, et Armethughe in d'cto com' Dunelm', H'end'
gaudend' et p'cipiendi dict' annuatit' sing' annualem reddit' ducentar'
librar' p'fato D'no Charolo Nevell et D'ne Johanne vxorí sue et
assignat' suis pro termino vite naturalis mei p'fat' comit' Westm'land.
Si p'fat' Charolus D'ns Nevelle ac D'na Johanna nunc vxor' sue tam
diu vixerint siue aliquis eor' tam diu vixerit. Solvend' annuatim ad
festa S'cti Martini in yeme et penticost' equis po'cionibusp'mo die
solutiò is incipient' ad fest' S'cti Martini in yeme prox' futur' post dat'
p'entiù. Et si contingat dict' annuatit' siue annualem reddit' ducentar
librar' a retro fore et non solut' in p'te vel in toto ad aliquod festi festor'
p'dict' ad q'd solvi debat quod tunc b'ne licebit p'fato Charolo D'no
Nevell et D'ne Johanne nunc vxor' sue et assignat' suis durant' vit'
naturali mei p'fat' comit' Westm'land, si p'fatus Charolus D'ns Nevell
et D'na Johanna nunc vxor' sue tam diu vixerint siue alte eor'
tam diu vixerit, in p'dict' castro, man'io, et p'cs meis de Brancepeth
p'dict', ac de et in oibus p'dict' messuajijs, terris et tent' meis cù p'tin'
in Brancepethe p'dict' ac in Est Brandon, Pedgebanke, Stockley,
Willington, Hallywell, Hunwyck, Helme, Helmedenrawe, West
Brandon, Bynchester, Tudo, Thorneley, Elwyck, Eldon, Dalton P'cey,
Newton Hansarde, Swaynton, Fysheburne, West Burdon, Byrtyle,
Having revisited Clare since the publication of the last number of the "Proceedings," allow me to correct an error in the note at p. 73, where I have mentioned a carving in front of the Bear Inn as intended for a falcon with a maiden's head. A closer examination of it has convinced me that it was the bust and wings of an angel. I learned at the same time, in regard to the carving in front of the Swan Inn, that an aged man still living remembers it in its former situation as the corbel of a window in the old front of that house; and that the house was new fronted in 1809, when this carving was taken down almost obliterated, and was thrown aside till it was examined and appreciated as a relic of medieval art by the late Mr. Armstead, on whose recommendation it was cleaned and recoloured, and placed where it is now; and I saw two letters, which had been found among his papers, addressed to him in the summer of that year by Thomas Walford, Esq., F.S.A., suggesting how the several parts should be coloured. Permit me, also, in justice to myself, to correct a misprint in p. 67, line 18, where "studied" has been substituted for the word "known," which was in my MS.