

# Lorton & Derwent Fells

## Local History Society

THE  
HISTORY  
AND  
ANTIQUITIES  
OF THE COUNTIES OF  
WESTMORLAND AND CUMBERLAND.

By JOSEPH NICOLSON, Esq; and RICHARD BURN, LL.D.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

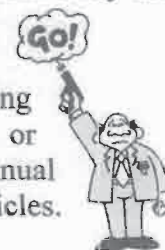
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LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR W. STRAHAN; AND T. CADELL, IN THE STRAND.  
MDCCLXXVII.

There's an extract from this inside

## Secretary's letter

For the first time, I have come up to Newsletter time without any major pieces from members. I have got a few "fillers" and am grateful for those and there is the Chairman's annual review. So I am embarking on a voyage somewhat into the unknown and we'll have to see what happens. I have a few ideas for this issue but what concerns me is the prospect for future Newsletters. They are virtually the only link with our country members and I hope that they provide local members with a few minutes of interesting reading too. But I can't fill most future Newsletters on my own so, please, get your thinking caps on and write about anything of local historical interest, be it about people, buildings, fields, fells, happenings, or whatever, that happened two hundred or two years ago! As Ron mentioned in his annual review (given below), letters, comments and questions will be welcome as well as articles. Really, the future of the Newsletters is in your hands!



I've had a note from Walter Head giving the results of his mining activity competition in the last Newsletter and they are as follows:

18 locations were genuine and 2 were fictitious

- |                   |                    |                       |
|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Sosgill        | 8. White Oak       | 15. Scale Force       |
| 2. Whiney Ridding | 9. Melbreak Trials | 16. Buttermere Copper |
| 3. Loweswater     | 10. Mosedale       | 17. Beckside          |
| 4. Kirkgate       | 11. Red Gill       | 18. Low Way Knott     |
| 5. Kirkgate South | 12. Fictitious     | 19. Honister          |
| 6. Lisa Beck      | 13. Rannergill     | 20. Black Beck Trial  |
| 7. Gasgale Gill   | 14. Fictitious     |                       |

Unfortunately, no entries were received and so there is no winner to announce.

## "Our" Roman road

Ever since Mike Davies-Shiel alerted us to the possibility that the Roman road that was thought to come over Whinlatter, could have come right through Lorton and up the old Mosser road, I have been thinking about our having a look for evidence to help to prove or disprove this idea. Just to remind you, the line of the road is given in "The Roman Route Across The Northern Lake District" by Martin Allan which was published in 1994. The book "suggests" the local bit of the route as coming down the Scales road from the gated road junction, leaving this road to pass in front of the old farm house at Scales and then following the right of way round the edge of the field back to the road. It then follows the road down and straight on over Whit Beck where the modern road turns sharp right to the bridge. It then follows a straight line behind the village shop and all the other houses down to Cross Gates and then passes under the new housing development (did we miss an opportunity there?) before joining the remaining bit of road to the main junction in Low Lorton. It keeps its straight line across the Cocker a little north of the modern bridge (relatively speaking!) before heading up to High Bank on the Mosser road. I had planned to do a bit of research, starting with the National Park archaeologist and the Senhouse Roman Museum in Maryport, to find out if any more research had been done since the book was published and also to get information on how to look for a Roman road. This latter point is very important because you have to know how to look for evidence and, if you do find signs of a road, you don't want to destroy any of the evidence. I had then thought that we could form a group of interested members to meet and discuss how to progress. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to get any of this done and so I am now putting out an invitation to anyone who would like to take up this project. If anyone feels that they could do what is needed – and I do hope that someone does – then please contact either Ron or me. Many thanks in anticipation.

**HELP!**



### How perfect were you at school?

Gill Griffin recently lent me a medallion that she had come across while sorting through some old bits and pieces. It was awarded to a member of Joe's family who, in 1902 as a schoolboy at Blencarn school, had obviously gone through a school year without once being late or absent. This is a good record, particularly as he lived on a farm with jobs to do. It was given by 'Cumberland Voluntary Schools' and we are wondering whether anyone in this area has heard of these awards and has seen one of these medallions before. This one, by the way, is 1¾" diameter.



One thing that caught my eye was the wording around the medallion which says "WITH ALL THY GETTING GET UNDERSTANDING". I seem to remember that if I had written that at school, I would have been given low marks for grammar!

It would be nice to report in the next Newsletter that one of these medallions did exist somewhere in this area – and where was the nearest Voluntary School?

### The Chairman's annual review, June 1997 (given at the AGM)

"Here we are approaching the end of our 4<sup>th</sup> year as a Society. There is not a great deal to highlight about the past 12 months, but I do hope you will agree with me that we have had a good and interesting year – meetings have been well attended and the subjects of these meetings have covered a wide field of interests. Of course, we can not expect to meet everyone's particular interests at every meeting, and some speakers have more charisma than others. In planning ahead for speakers, we rely a great deal on you for input – your interests and suggestions for subject and speaker: when arranging the meetings we have to rely on recommendations. So, please do help the Committee to help you in this respect.

Thanks are due to all those who have contributed to items in the Newsletters (there was even one issue last year so full that the report of your Chairman's annual review had to be postponed!). But most of you still seem backward at coming forward with letters, comments and questions to help broaden the appeal of the Newsletter. Please do put pen to paper.

So much for the last year – what about the next year? In my last annual review, I mentioned the lack of members from the "extremities" of our immediate area. We arranged for a notice to go into the Wythop and Embleton parish magazine, but this has not yet produced any new members. Can I ask you – if you have friends or family in the neighbourhood at large who might be interested themselves, or know of others who might be interested in local history – to come and see if they would like to join us. Our membership is good, we currently have 57 including country members,



but a larger membership would increase our geographical and historical range of interests and this could only be good for all of us.

Looking forward – we have the next two meetings arranged and we have suggested a field exercise to investigate the Roman road over the Whinlatter and through Lorton. Mike Grieve is very keen to do this but tells me that he needs a bit of an incentive to get going – is there anyone who would like to give him that incentive, perhaps even lead the event and force the pace?

The Lorton Churchyard project is underway – delayed by long absences of our intrepid “monumental decipherers” and hindered by the very occasional shower of rain!!

We have proposed a small Millennium project and, with John Tyson’s blessing, have been in contact with the Conservative Foundation regarding their nationwide project to propagate from ancient yews. As things stand, we are still awaiting them to advise when the time is right for propagation and to visit us with a view to propagating from the so-called “Wordsworth’s yew”.

I thank you and look forward to another good year for this Society.”

### ‘Celebrations’ by Walter Head

Nationally, numerous schemes are currently being proposed to celebrate the millennium, but how did Lorton celebrate the Festival of Britain in 1951?

Lorton’s first action followed the old English tradition of setting up a committee. The inaugural meeting was held on 29 January 1951 at 8.15pm. There were 14 members, 6 male and 8 female, consisting of 7 from the Yew Tree Hall Management Committee, 2 from the Parish Council, 2 from the Lorton Social Club and 1 each from the Women’s Institute, Tennis Club and Hunt Committee. Mr Highton occupied the chair and Mr Norman Brown was secretary.

Proceeds from the celebrations were to go towards improvements to the Yew Tree Hall, particularly the heating but also for structural alterations to allow the installation of a billiard table.

The celebrations started on 16 May 1951 with a dance organised by the Hunt Committee.

The main celebrations were held on 2 June and the opening ceremony was performed by Miss C Walker at 2.30pm in front of the tennis pavilion. Cumberland Motor Services laid on a special bus from Cockermouth to Lorton at 2pm with the return journey at 6pm. There was no admission charge and a free tea in bags was provided for the children. Events included:-

|                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Tennis tournament                | organised by the Tennis Club       |
| Local produce stall              | organised by the Parish Council    |
| Afternoon tea at 1/-             | organised by the Women’s Institute |
| Bring & buy stall, rummage stall | organised by the Social Club       |
| Display of dancing               | organised by the school            |
| Children’s sports                | organised by the school            |
| Whist drive and dance            | organised by the Tennis Club       |

The event was closed by a bonfire and fireworks display on Whin Fell at 10pm.

The Cockermouth Players staged a play “Outward Bound” in aid of the funds but this resulted in a financial loss of 5/6.

The event made a total profit of approximately £400.





### The tale of two stones (continued) plus one



In the September 1996 Newsletter, I mentioned that Hugh Turner, in his July talk to us, had asked whether anyone knew anything about two stones near the top of Whinlatter Pass and which are near the road. I recently looked for these and I was quite surprised to find one of them (this is really a bad time of the year for searching so I'll probably look for the other when all the bracken etc has died down). This is a photograph of the stone that I took and it is on the left of the Whinlatter road about 150 yards past the Cottage in the Woods.

According to Hugh Turner, the other stone has 1847 on it and I don't know if it has the initials. Does it ring a bell with anyone or can anyone guess what the number and initials mean? How about Rural Water Supply?(!)

While I was looking for the stones, I found a milestone at the edge of the road which I had never noticed before; in fact, I walked right past it once while looking for the other stones! I'm interested in the way the two numbers were arranged.

Today, with fast traffic, the figure you read ought to be the distance to the place in the direction you are going. But this milestone is the other way round – if you are going towards Keswick, it says “8” which is the mileage to Cockermouth and if you are going towards Cockermouth, it says “4”. If that is what the numbers mean, then you have to think what it was like when one horse power was literally that! At that speed, you should have had time to look at the milestone square on in which case you would see “8” on the left and “4” on the right and it would all make sense.



As you can see on the right hand photo, there is a spot height mark and when I got home I looked on the 2½" OS map to see what the height is there. Having made this milestone “discovery”, I was quite taken aback to see that the milestone was marked on the map, along with four others on the Cockermouth to Keswick road! And there was no spot height given after all that!

Maybe the milestone was put there when the Whinlatter road was made into a turnpike. I know that one of the 1762 Turnpike Acts included the Cockermouth - Whinlatter - Keswick - Kendal route and I'm pretty sure that this route was a turnpike by 1767 so maybe the milestone is about 230 years old. Or maybe not! Any views on this?



## The Society's archive

A while ago, I collected an action to list all the books etc in the Society's archive. To start, here are the books – and may I thank Ron very much for doing the initial work of listing – and hopefully I'll give the remaining documents (booklets, papers etc) in the next Newsletter.

ALLAN, Martin "The Roman Route Across The Northern Lake District" Lancaster University 1994  
APPLEBY, Andrew B "Famine in Tudor & Stuart England" Stamford University 1978  
BADDELEY, M J B "The Lake District" Ward Lock 18<sup>th</sup> ed.  
BRIGGS, Asa "A Social History of England" Penguin 1985  
BRUNSKILL, R W "Vernacular Architecture of the Lake Counties" Faber 1978  
CHENEY, C R (ed) "Handbook of Dates" Royal Historical Society reprint 1981  
DENYER, Susan "Traditional Buildings & Life in the Lake District" N T/Gollancz  
DYMOND, David "Writing Local History" Phillimore reprint 1988  
FEILING, Keith "A History of England" McMillan 1950 reprint Book Club 1970  
GAMBLES, Robert "Lake District Place Names" Dalesman 1985  
GARLICK, Tom "Romans in the Lake Counties" Dalesman 1982  
GIBSON, J & MILLS, D; (ed) "Land Tax Assessments c1690-c1950" Federation of Family History Societies 1987  
GOUGH, Richard "Atlas of World History" Vol 1 Penguin reprint 1984  
GOUGH, Richard "The History of Myddle" Penguin Classics 1988  
HOSKINS, W G "Fieldwork in Local History" Faber/Faber 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1982  
HOSKINS, W G "The Making of English Landscape" Penguin reprint 1985  
HOSKINS, W G "The Midland Peasant" McMillan 1957  
HUNTINGTON, Douglas "The Solway Plainsmen" Helmwind Books 1995  
LASLETT, Peter "The World We Have Lost – Further Explored" 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. CUP 1983  
LAWTON, R & POOLEY, C "Britain 1740-1950, An Historical Geography" Arnold 1992  
McFARLANE, Alan "Reconstructing Historical Communities" CUP 1977  
McLAUGHLIN, Eve "Further Steps in Family History" Countryside Books 1990  
RICHARDSON, John (ed) "The Local History Encyclopedia" Historical Publications 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. reprint 1989  
ROBERTS, Brian K "Village Plans" Shire Publications 1982  
SHARPE, J A "Early Modern England, A Social History 1550-1760" Arnold 1987  
STEPHENS, W B "Sources for English Local History" CUP reprint 1986  
TATE, W E "The Parish Chest" CUP Phillimore reprint 1983  
Various "A True & Perfect Inventory" Heywood Society 1993  
WEST, John "Village Records" Phillimore reprint 1986  
WINCHESTER, A J L "Discovering Parish Boundaries" Shire Publications 1990  
WINCHESTER, A J L "Landscape and Society in Medieval Cumbria" John Donald 1987  
WINCHESTER, A J L "The Diary of Isacc Fletcher of Underwood Cumberland 1756-1781" CWAAS 1994  
WORDSWORTH, W "Guide to the Lakes" (5<sup>th</sup> ed) ed. E de Selincourt OUP  
YOUNGS, Joyce "Sixteenth Century England" Penguin Social History of Britain 1984

## Future meetings

The next two meetings should be excellent which will make up in some degree for the last two which were disappointing in different ways.

On **Thursday, 11 September**, our President, Angus Winchester, will talk to us on "Manor Courts and the Manors' use of the fells". Personally, I have no idea what this means but Angus is always authoritative and interesting and it should be a good evening.

On **Thursday, 13 November**, Ian Tyler and his wife are coming and Ian will talk about "The mines and quarries of Lorton and Butternere". They will be bringing artefacts and plans of the mines for us to have a look at. I have been on one of Ian's guided walks, which I can really recommend, and his talk will be thorough and entertaining.

Some 1998 dates are:

**8 January**

**12 March**

**14 May**

**and the AGM on 11 June**

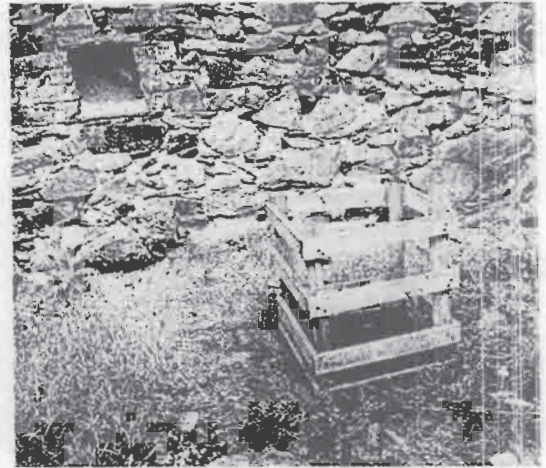




### Stanger Spa/Holy Well (GR 141272)

I'm sure that most members will have seen Stanger Well (as I call it) or at least know about it and know where it is. Apparently, it used to be very popular and the water was claimed to cure many ailments.

I'm not sure how many know that about three or four years ago, the well and the building surrounding it had got into a very poor state with the well full of rubbish – and not smelling too sweet! – and the building nearly in ruins. One of the local National Park Rangers formed a working party and I was one of the group helping to clean it all up and stabilise the building. That was, I think, in 1993 and I was along there a few days ago and saw that it was just the same as when we had left it, so I took some photos intending to mention it in the Newsletter. In this way, it will bring members up to date with the well and it will record in our archive that the well was repaired.

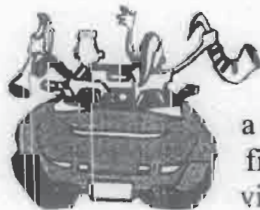


Several guide books mention the spa but I don't remember seeing a proper account of its history. It could be an interesting story and if anyone has information about it, please let me know about it or, better still, write a note about it for the Newsletter!

### Cumbria Local History Federation

I have just got information about the CLHF AGM and Study Day ("Some aspects of Water in Cumbrian History"). The talks are "Water-power at the Low Wood and Black Beck Gunpowder Works", "Mill Restoration in Cumbria" and "The Whitehaven Harbour Project". It will be held at Newton Rigg College, Penrith on Saturday, 1 November from 10.30am to 4.00pm and costs £10 (although it's free if you only go to the AGM). You can pay on the day although they would prefer pre-booking to know numbers – please contact me for more information or pick up a copy of the CLHF Bulletin and Diary at Angus Winchester's talk on 11 September.

### National Park Management Plan



A draft of this Plan has recently been produced and the National Park Authority has now produced a leaflet which allows you to give your views on a number of key issues. These will be taken into account in the production of the final version of the Plan. Copies of the leaflet are available from the Lorton village shop.

Ron is planning to mention this at our next meeting (11 September) to see if there is interest in our Society's returning a copy of the questionnaire. The closing date is 14 November 1997.



These are extracts relating to our area from "The History and Antiquities of the Counties of Westmorland and Cumberland" by Nicolson and Burn, published in 1777. Volume I covers the Borders and Westmorland and Volume II covers Cumberland and also contains an overall Appendix, Glossary and Index.

**LORTON**, or the lower town, lies in a valley, which though it hath the denomination and all the semblances of a parish, yet is only a parochial chapel under Brigham. The river Cocker runs through the middle of this village, which is parcel of the manor of Derwent fells, lying on the west side thereof, and holds of the honour of Cocker-mouth. This is the most beautiful and pleasant, as well as the most fertile vale in the whole country, consisting of fine fields laid out in regular order, variegated with quick wood hedges, wherein also is a considerable quantity of timber wood. The mountains also sustain large flocks of sheep, to the no small profit of the inhabitants.

This manor was early broken into severalities. In the 35 Hen. 8. *Richard Winder* held one third part of the vill of Lorton of the king as of his honour of Cocker-mouth, by homage and fealty, 3s 4d free rent, witefman in Derwent fells, and suit of court; *William Sandes* held another third part; and *William Huddleston* the other third: Probably by marriage of, or descent from, coheireffes.

The dean and chapter of Carlisle have also a manor here. And in the reign of king Richard the first, one *Radulphus de Lindsey* gave to the church of Carlisle lands in Lorton, with a mill there and all its rights and appendages, and namely, the miller, his wife, and children.

Here the dean and chapter sometimes hold courts, to which their tenants in other places in that neighbourhood are amenable, and do their suit and service accordingly. The customary tenants pay a four-penny fine upon change of tenant by death or alienation; but the lord never dies. And the tenants are intitled to all the wood upon their respective customary estates.

The chapel is dedicated to St. Cuthbert; and was certified at 7l a year, paid by the impropricator. There are four townships within the chapelry, viz. 1. Lorton. 2. Brackenthwaite, two miles from the chapel. 3. Wythop, about three miles from the chapel. And, 4. Buttermere, 5 miles from the chapel. For which there are four chapelwardens respectively. Two of these divisions have chapels of their own, namely, Wythop and Buttermere; and hence it is, that Lorton hath been esteemed a parish, and these two chapels of ease within that parish. But that matter amounts to no more than this; that within the chapelry at large, two other chapels have been erected for convenience, the boundary of the original chapelry continuing still the same: and this appears from the chapelwardens being appointed regularly as aforesaid from every of the four quarters.—The impropricators and patrons were for a long time the *Fletchers of Hurton*; who sold their right about the year 1762 to Sir James Lowther baronet.

There is a small school at Lorton, endowed with the interest of 100l given by several persons. The master to be nominated by four freeholders.

**BRACKENTHWAITE** is situate on the north side of Lorton fell, having its name from the large quantity of brackens or fern that grows there. It was part of the possessions of the *Moresbys* as was before mentioned, until *Thomas Multon*, who took the name *de Lucy*, purchased the same; in whose family it continued till given by the heirs of that family to the *Peritts*, who gave the same to king Henry the eighth.

From the crown it came to the lord *Grey* and *John Bannister* esquire; for in the 3 Ed. 6. there is a licence to *William Graye* knight lord *Graye* of *Wilton* and *John Bannister* esquire to alienate to *Richard Robinson* clerk, all the several possessions late in the tenure of *Peter Mirebosse*, *Thomas Wilkinson*, *Christopher Stanger*, *John Robinson*, *John Newton*, and *John Stubb*, and all those lands called *Dulehowes* and *Thwaite*, in *Brackenthwaite*; late parcel of the possessions of Henry late earl of Northumberland: and all lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services and hereditaments whatsoever in *Brackenthwaite* aforesaid, and in the office or collection of the steward of *Brackenthwaite* aforesaid.

There is a like licence in the 4 and 5 Ph. and Mary, to *John Robinson* to alienate the same to *Thomas Stanley* esquire. And the *Stanleys* conveyed to the *Fibbers*, in whose family it remains dispersed into several branches.

**WYTHOP**, *Wyth-thorp*, so called from the *wyths* or willows growing there, is one of the chapeltries under Lorton. It was a waste parcel of Allerdale above Derwent, adjoining to Embleton, only at the east end thereof it falls down with a steep woody bank to the lake or meer of Bassenthwaite, and stands between Embleton and Thornthwaite.

*Alice Lucy* second daughter and coheir of *Richard Lucy* and wife to *Alan Multon* second son of *Thomas Multon* who married the widow of *Richard Lucy*, gave Wythop and Whinfell near Lorton, the eighth part of Lorton, and certain corn out of *Asparic* mill, and 3 messuages and 30 acres of land in *Caldbeck*, unto *John Lucy* her second son whom she had to the said *Alan Multon*; whom she named *Lucy*, not *Multon*, because *Lucy* was the greater family; and for that her elder sister *Amabil* who was married to *Lambert Multon* did continue the name and arms of *Thomas Multon* their father in the family of *Egremont*, she caused her children to be called *Lucys*, and gave the *Lucy's* coat to her posterity. She did reserve out of Wythop a penny rent service, or a pair of gloves; and after it was inhabited, it was deemed worth 10l a year, and the residue about 8l 11s 2d, out of which she also reserved a rent service of 4d a year. This *John Lucy* lived in the time of Henry the third and Edward the first, and died in the 8 Ed. 2. or before. For *Hugh Lowther* son of *Hugh Lowther*, after the death of the said *John Lucy*, enjoyed Wythop; and in the 8 Ed. 2. Christian the widow of the said *John Lucy* impeached him for her dower there.

It did descend in the *Lowthers* issue male for a long time. By the inquisition of knights fees aforesaid in the 35 Hen. 8. it is found, that *John Lowther* knight then held the manor of Wythoppe of the king by the third part of one knight's fee as of the honour of Cocker-mouth, by homage, fealty, and suit of court at Cocker-mouth from three weeks to three weeks, and the free rent of one penny or one red shilling.

Afterwards it was sold by Sir *Richard Lowther* knight to *Thomas Fletcher* father of Sir *Richard Fletcher* baronet, in whose posterity it still continues under the services before mentioned.

Here is a small demesne and ancient house called *Wythop hall*, and divers customary tenants who pay arbitrary fines and heriots.

From this place southwards, there is a continued tract of prodigious high mountains as far as the *Black-comb* fell at *Millum*, and which runs south east as far as the barony of *Kendal* and *Furnes*.

The chapel of Wythop was certified at 2l 7s; part paid by the inhabitants out of their estates by voluntary agreement, and part of it being interest of money given by the will of several persons.

**BUTTERMERE** is the other chapelry under Lorton, which was certified at 1l, paid by the inhabitants by voluntary assessment upon their lands. It was also certified that both this and Wythop were served by Readers, except that the curate of Lorton officiated at each of them three or four times a year.

This village lies about a mile south from *Lowefwater*, in a low crooked deep valley, uncompacted with stupendous mountains. Here are also two great lakes or meers, and in them the char is found, and excellent trout little inferior to char. In the hills above these lakes springs the river *Cocker*.

This district, with the lakes, is holden of the earl of *Egremont* as parcel of the manor of *Derwent Fells*; and was granted, as several others abovementioned, first to the lord *Gray* and *Banister*, then to *Robinson*, and then to *Stanley*. In the several licences of alienation, the lands are thus described: All the lands called *Birknesfield* or *Gatescath*, with the appurtenances in *Gatescath* and *Buttermere* Dubbs, late in the tenure of *Robert Hudfon*, lying and being in *Buttermere* in the parish of *Brigham*, late parcel of the possessions of Henry late earl of Northumberland.

**WHINFELL**, another district in the parish of Brigham, lies on the west side of Lorton fell, and is parcel of the honour of Cocker-mouth. In the 35 Hen. 8. it was in the hands of coparceners, namely, *Christopher Curwen*, *John Eglesfield*, and *Ambrose Middleton*, who held the same (together with divers tenements in *Semorthow*) of the king as of the honour of Cocker-mouth, by knights service, 6s 8d cornage, homage and fealty, leawake, and pature of the ferjants.

It appears to have been afterwards in the *Wharton* family; and was sold by the trustees of the late duke of *Wharton* to the late duke of *Somerset*, and is now the inheritance of the earl of *Egremont*.

**MOSERGH** lies a little higher west, and is another township in the parish of Brigham. In the 35 Hen. 8. *Thomas Salkeld* of *Corkby* held the manor of *Mosergh* of the king as of his castle of *Egremont*, by homage and fealty,

**LOWES-WATER**, lacus in valle vel profundo, comes next in our course of investigation, although it is not in the parish of Brigham; but a chapelry (as is abovementioned) under the mother church of *St. Bees*. The lake which gives name to the place is three miles south from *Eglesfield*, in a deep vale environed with high mountains; it is two miles broad, and abounds with divers sorts of fish, particularly pikes, perches, and (as some say) charrs.

This manor was the estate of *Randolph Lindsey*, and in *Richard* the first's time *William Lindsey* sued out a writ of right against *Henry Clarke* of *Appleby*, the countess of *Albemarle*, and *Nicholas Estotevil* for *Lowefwater* and other lands.

It was an ancient demesne of *Egremont*, and by partition between the daughters and coheirs of *Richard Lucy* it fell to the share of *Alan Multon* and *Alice* his wife, as the 20th part of the barony of *Egremont*. *Thomas Multon*, calling himself *Lucy* after his mother's name, seated himself there. He purchased *Brackenthwaite* of the *Moresbys* in exchange for a moiety of *Distington*, and also *Thackthwaite* of one *Agnes Drumbrough* wife of *Roger Lindsey*, which he gave to his sister *Agnes* wife of *Thomas Standley*, but the same after some time reverted to the heirs of *Lucy*; and the whole descended to *Maud Lucy*, who gave the same together with the rest of her patrimony to her second husband *Henry Percy* the first earl of Northumberland of that name, in whose blood and name it continued until Henry the sixth earl gave the same to king Henry the eighth, who sold the premises to *Richard Robinson* clerk, and *John Robinson* of London goldsmith sold the same to *Thomas Standley* esquire; and the daughter and heir of *Standley*, together with her husband *Sir Edward Herbert*, sold the same to *Anthony Patrickson* esquire, who sold to *Gilfred Lawson* esquire, uncle of the present owner *Sir Gilfred Lawson* baronet.

Here is no demesne, and the tenants pay only a two penny fine; for on some disputes arising about the uncertainty of fines in the reign of king James the first, who fomented those disputes throughout both counties, but chiefly with an eye to his own particular manors, the lord and tenants agreed, by indenture bearing date Oct. 16, 1619, that in consideration of 27 years ancient rent then paid to the lord, they should afterwards only pay two years rent for a fine.

*Lowefwater* is commonly reputed a parish; sometimes it is called a chapelry within the parish of Brigham; but it is in reality a chapelry within the parish of *St. Bees*, though distant eleven miles from the parish church; and pays yearly by way of acknowledgment 3s 8d to *St. Bees*. And it appears that the priory of *St. Bees* had possessions here, and perhaps they built the chapel. After the dissolution of the monasteries, certain of these possessions were granted to *William Graye* lord *Graye* of *Wilton* and *John Bannister* esquire; and in the 3 Ed. 6. there is a licence to them to alienate unto *Richard Robinson* clerk a cottage called *Kirkfall* and two little closes called *Kirkcroft* and *Milnehew* in *Lowefwater*, and pasture for 300 sheep on *Lowefwater* moor, late parcel of the possessions of the cell of *St. Bees*, belonging to the abbey of *St. Mary's* York. In like manner, *John Robinson* in the 3 and 4 Ph. and M. conveyed the same by fine to *Thomas Stanley* esquire.

This chapel was certified at 4l 11s; part of it being interest of money given by will of several persons, and the rest made up by the inhabitants: which stock was lodged in the hands of twelve inhabitants, who paid the curate by turns. It was augmented by lot with 200l in 1723.

There was given to the poor of *Lowefwater* by *William Woodvill* of *Carlisle* the sum of 50l, the interest to be distributed yearly on *St. Thomas's*