SKRINE OF WARLEIGH
IN THE
COUNTY OF SOMERSET
WITH PEDIGREES
BEING
SOME MATERIALS FOR A GENEALOGICAL HISTORY
OF THE
FAMILY OF SKRINE

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The Marriages of the Skrines of Warleigh

custody of her descendants). It ends with the marriage of her sister and coheir, Frances, to George Lewis of Carmarthen (his Arms, Azure, a fox erect Argent).

The Lewis of Llangattooc family traced its direct descent from Reece Goch, Lord of Istradyw, "Prince between Wye and Severne", and descended from Craddock Vraich Vras, (Carradoc). Their Arms were, Argent, a wyvern’s head erased Vert (langued Gules) holding in its jaws a dexter hand couped at the wrist Gules.

SPRY.


This family of Spry bore the Arms of SPRY of Place, co. Cornwall—Azure, two bars and a chevron in chief Or; Crest, a dove Argent, beak and legs Gules, standing on a serpent noded proper; Motto, Soyez sage et semple. But the connecting links have not been identified, as yet, and we begin with a certain Jeffrey Spry of Exeter, some account of whose descendants is given in Burke’s General Armory, edn. 1844.

Jeffrey Spry of Exeter had issue:

Rev. John Spry, d.d., Archdeacon of Berks. who m. Jane Hume, sister of the Right Rev. John Hume, d.d., Bishop of Salisbury. They had issue a numerous family of whom the following are known:


2. William Spry, L.L.D., 2nd son, appointed Governor of the Barba- does in 1768 and died there 1772.

He m. 1st. Amelia, dau. of Thomas Pitt, sister of the first Lord Camelford, and niece of Chatham. She d. without issue 1769.

2nd. Wilhelmina, widow of Hamlet Fairchild, Esqr., and da. of Dr. Cholmeley; and had issue:

Wilhelmina, born 1772 and d. 4 February 1847; m. 30 August 1792 to Sir William Earl Welby, M.P., 2nd baronet, and had issue (see Baronetage).

L 2
3. Rev. Benjamin Spry, d.d., 4th s., Rector of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, who was twice married.

By his first wife he had with other issue a s, Rev. John Hume Spry, Rector of St. Marylebone, and a da. who m. Rev. S. Smith.

He m. 2nd in 1786, Catherine, da. of the Rev. Richard Huntley, (by his wife Anne, da. of Nicholas Beaker, Esqr., of Nettleton, co. Wilts.), born 1759 and died 1 January 1837.

Issue:

i. Caroline Anne, b. 1794, m. 21 January 1812 at Westbury-on-Trym to Henry Skrine, Esqr., d. 18 July 1867, aged 73, and bur. at Stubbings Church 25 July 1867, M.I.

ii. Anne, d. 13 October 1824, aged 26, and bur. at Bathford, spinster.

4. Joseph Spry, of Bath, 6th s., had issue:

John Hume Spry, m.d., Mayor of Bath, m. Lydia, sister of Colonel Fortunatus Pierce, c.b., and had issue:

i. George Spry of Bath, m. Ellen Esther, da. of William Robins, Esqr., of Velindra House, co. Glamorgan, and had issue:

(1) George Frederick Spry.

(2) daughters.

5. Rev. James Hume Spry, l.l.d., 7th s., Vicar of Potterne and Rector of Brixton Peverell, co. Wilts., Prebendary of Salisbury, who had issue, with others:

i. James Hume Spry, eldest s., late of Charter House Square, m. Frances, da. of William Robinson, Esqr., of Charter House Square (1801), and had issue: Eight sons and six daughters.

ii. Dr. Joseph Hume Spry of Gay Street, Bath, who published in 1822 a "Practical Treatise on the Bath Waters" (Longman, Hurst, Reed, Orme, and Brown; Paternoster Row; 1 Dec. 1822), a copy of which is preserved in the library at Warleigh.

The Spry marriage brings in the families of Hume and Huntley, (the latter coming in again by Mills). These are dealt with in the next chapter.

MILLS.

Henry Duncan Skrine of Warleigh Manor m. 3rd August 1843, at Great Saxham, Suffolk, Susanna Caroline, third da. of William Mills, Esqr., of Saxham Hall, co. Suffolk, (see Ruvigny, Essex Volume, Clarence Supplement, pp. 547–550). She was b. 5th May 1822, and d.
Skrine of Warleigh

Elizabeth d’Avoye                Sir Viell Vivion                Bonvile
Giffard                           Thomas Beaumont              de Gorges
                                          .                   Otis Gilbert

HUME.

Jane Hume, wife of the Ven. John Spry, was da. of the Rev. William Hume, vicar of Milton Abbot, co. Devon, from 1696 to 1713, his successor’s (Mr. Salmon’s) appointment being dated 1714. She was sister of the Right Rev. John Hume, D.D., who was Prebendary of Westminster, and afterwards successively Bishop of Bristol 1756, of Oxford 1758, and of Salisbury 1766 when he was also Chancellor of the Order of the Garter, and Dean of St. Paul’s.

It has not as yet been possible to trace the ancestry of the Rev. William Hume. But the Arms borne by Bishop Hume are given as: Quarterly, 1 and 4 Vert, a lion rampant Or; 2 and 3 Azure, on a chevron three mullets.

The principal arms are those of Cospatrick, Earl of Dunbar from whom the great families of Hume and Home all descend. It may, therefore, be supposed that the Bishop knew himself to belong to one of these families.

The quartered arms “Azure, on a chevron three mullets” present a difficulty, since no tinctures are given for the chevron and mullets. It has been suggested (by A.W.V–N.) that they may represent Robartes. But it is quite within the possibilities that heraldic roses have been misread as mullets. If the charge should prove, in fact, to read—on a chevron Argent three roses Gules—the coat would represent Hume of Blackadder, a junior branch of Hume of Wedderburn.

If this speculation can be confirmed, then Jane Hume will add the lustre of several distinguished Scottish families to the ancestry of Skrine.

Meanwhile, the following data are recorded for use in future inquiry.

Mr. William Hume was vicar of Milton Abbot from 1696 until his death. He was buried there 6th March 1713. There are no memorials for Hume either in the church or churchyard; but the following entries appear in the Register, in addition to the record of the vicar’s burial:

Baptisms.

1705 Jane da. of Mr. William Hume. 1709 William s. of Mr. William Hume.
1706 Mary da. " " "
1708 James s. " " "

Burials.

1712 May 27, Samuel s. of Mr. William Hume.
1712 May 25, Samuel s. of Mr. William Hume.
Kinships by Marriage

Jane, baptised 1705, we may take to be the Jane who became Mrs. Spry; and of James we shall have more to say immediately.

John, the future bishop does not appear in this extract from the Register; and there would seem to have been another William besides the William buried in 1709, since Foster’s *Alumni Oxonienses* records a William Hume of Milton Abbot, Devon, cleric (?) cler. fil.) matriculated at Pembroke College, Oxford, 1717, aged 14 years; B.A. 1721; M.A. 1724. (See also *Diary of a Gentleman Commoner up in* 1721–22, printed for the Oxford Hist. Soc., vol. 33, p. 328).

*John Hume* (afterwards bishop) went up to Merton. On his admission there, he was entered as son of William Hume cleric of Milton, Devon, aged 15, and matriculated 21st March 1721. He took B.A. in 1724, and M.A. from Corpus Christi in 1727. Subsequently he took the B.D. and D.D. degrees together in 1743.

His age of 15 at matriculation 21st March 1721 would place his birth after 21st March 1705. And his monument in Salisbury Cathedral states that he was buried 6th July 1782 in his 79th year. This places his birth before 6th July 1705. We may conclude that he was born between 21st March and 6th July 1705. This would make it possible for his sister Jane to have been born in 1705 Old Style—not in the first three months of what is now called 1706.

He m. 1st, Anne, who died in 1757 without issue, 2nd, Lady Mary, youngest da. of the Earl of Kinnoul. His monument at Salisbury records members of his family.

About *James Hume*, baptised 1708, a speculation may be allowed. In the University Church of St. Mary, at Oxford, is a mural tablet to a certain James Hume, “Apothecary”, who died 3rd December 1766, aged 56. And although the age is wrong by about a year, if he was the James Hume baptised 1708 (i.e. before 25th March 1709), there are some grounds for hazarding the suggestion that he was, in fact, the bishop’s younger brother.

He was granted the status of “pharmacopola privilegiatus” in the University 1st March 1734–5 (at the age of 27), and his three sons all entered the University, two at Christ Church and one at Hertford, matriculated in each case as son of James Hume of Oxford (City), gent. The second son was named John, and matriculated at Christ Church 21st May 1761, aged 18. He subsequently took Holy Orders; and it may be significant that he was appointed prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral in 1779, at the age of 36, when John Hume, senior, was bishop of that diocese.
Further, it may be recalled that John Hume, bishop, of Salisbury, had earlier been bishop of Bristol, and that he took his higher degrees from Corpus. And the Will of James Hume of Oxford, dated 1762, shows that he held leases from "the bishop of Bristol" of two improper rectories, Elberton and Almonsbury, as well as an estate at or near Langford, in Devon (sic), from Corpus Christi College, Oxford. The leases of the rectories might perhaps date from the period of John Hume’s bishopric of Bristol. It is of interest, too, that all these lands are not far from the Milton Abbot country, familiar to James, if he were in fact a son of the Rev. William Hume.

Much further investigation is needed to elucidate these speculative hypotheses.