

The Wallworth Chronicles



Genealogy and History of our Wallworth families in England, United States and Australia. Also some of other Wallworths in history.

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The Wallworth Chronicles

(In progress work)

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Researched and compiled

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Introduction:

This is a new book started to get all the family history of the Wallworth family research finished, compiled and typed up.

As I am getting older, I each day think of all the unfinished researches that I have going in the same time and I am seeing that there is no one in my brother's family interested in genealogy other than just hearing about it occasionally.

So I'm afraid that things will be lost, website accounts shut down due to no more payments for the space and that my papers get thrown out. And I also do a lot of research into witch families of the past. They would get thrown out too.

Ancestry.com is okay but you must have a paid account to be able to see the images of documents and I see most people just have an ancestry.com account for a couple months and then don't want to pay anymore. So even if they see my pedigrees there, any of the images attached from Ancestry.com sources, the people without a paid subscription won't see them.

Then you can save stuff on the computer but sooner or later it will conk out and flash drives can get lost or shoved in a box and then 2 decades past by and then is it old technology then like the floppy disk is now for us ?

I lately find making files/books in PDF format wonderful and more permanent. So my plan is to have my works from now on done in PDF files and then if I'm around long enough to have all the PDF books made into a real book(s). So that the work won't be lost.

But because all my researches is large and will take time to make them into PDF, I have started several "work along" PDF books. Don't want to wait until the entire book is done to make it into PDF (in the case I keel over on the keyboard, then there nothing if I waited until it was finish). So there will be several partial PDF books started, for several main sections of my ancestors and for several main researches in the witch families.

So this is one of the new 'work along' PDF book - "The Wallworth Chronicles".

In the first part, I'm typing up articles relating to a long line of Wallworths that were living in Thornton Wood and Raventoft, and other places in or near Ripon parish, Yorkshire, England.

They were living there in the 14th to 16th centuries. Some of them were the Forester to the Arch-Bishop of York.

There is no proof yet that we are connected to that family. But the feeling I have toward that Wallworth family is strong and knowingly. The mundane people wouldn't know the feeling. And also they had similar first names.

The first Wallworth of our documented family is Thomas Wallworth who in 1578 married Catherine Woodward in Frodsham, Cheshire. Thomas came from some other location as he was the first Wallworth to appear in that part of Cheshire.

Seeing that the Ripon area of Yorkshire Wallworth family disappeared from that area at the beginning of 1600s due to being branded recusants because of them still being loyal to the Roman Catholic cause.

The Wallworths of Frodsham, Cheshire were never really strong Church of England followers. In the 17th to 18th century they became Quakers. And in the 19th century when they went to Manchester, they were Wesleyan Methodists for two or three generations.

I also plan to add another part to include some articles of Wallworths of interest like Sir William Walworth Lord Mayor of London during the Peasant Revolt of 1381.

Image on the cover:

A woodcut image from the 17th century book
'A True and Faithful Relation of What Passed for Many Years Between Dr. John Dee and some Spirits'.

Image may be of Dr. John Dee. It reminds me of someone else. This is temporary, until I make my own image for the cover soon.

Part I: Early Wallworths in Yorkshire, England, 1300s to 1500s.

1440-1441 in Yorkshire, England

A revolt involving Ripon and Knaresborough parishes in Yorkshire, England in years 1440-1441.



Map showing location of Ripon and Knaresborough in West Riding, Yorkshire.

An interesting article concerning a medieval revolt in Ripon and Knaresborough parishes, Yorkshire in 1440 to 1441 between the King's tenants of the Forest of Knaresborough, and the Archbishop of York's toll-collectors.

The Wallworth family were for several generations the Foresters for the Archbishop of York and lived in Thornton-wood and of Raventoft near Ripon.

Mentioned in here was John Walworth the Cardinal's bailiff of Ripon Lordship, dwelling in Thornton-wood, within the Franchise of Ripon. It mentioned that the 'lads of the forest' caused some harm and destruction on John Walworth and his property.

John Kemp was the Cardinal and Archbishop of York.

This article reads almost like a story from Robin Hood's time. It involves the people of the forest.

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1441. WILLIAM SNOW.

A FINE OLD MEDIEVAL ROW.—In this Wakeman's year an affray took place between the King's tenants of the Forest of Knaresborough, and the Archbishop of York's toll-collectors, which is here inserted as furnishing some very curious, romantic, and graphic particulars as to the state of society at Ripon and the neighbourhood in the reign of our Sixth Henry.

Sir William Plompton was Master-Forester and Constable of the Castle of Knaresborough from 1439 to the close of the reign of King Henry VI. During his tenure of office, a dispute as to the right of the tenants of the Forest of Knaresborough to pay toll at fairs, was made the preliminary to a serious affray with the officers, tenants, and servants of John Kemp, Cardinal and Archbishop of York, on the 5th of May, 1441, in which lives were lost. Some time previous to this affray of the aforesaid 5th of May, the Archbishop had made complaint to the King, in writing, of the riotous behaviour of the Knaresborough Foresters; and had obtained letters under the royal signet, addressed to Sir William Plompton and his officers, straitly charging them, and the inhabitants of the Forest, to keep the

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peace towards the Archbishop and his officers and tenants - mainly of his lordship of Ripon. Afterwards the Archbishop exhibited a fresh bill of complaint, from which it appears that Thos. Beckwith, John Fawkes, Wm. Wakefield, John Beckwith of Killinghall, and others of Knaresborough Forest, in all about seven hundred persons, with the consent of Sir Wm. Plompton, and fully armed, assembled on the 22nd of July, 1440, went to Otley fair, and forcibly stopped the Cardinal's Steward and his bailiff from taking toll of any of the men of the said Forest. Many peaceable people attending the fair were, in consequence, obliged to get out of the town as they best could, without transacting business.

In the following month (August, 1440), divers outrages were also committed by the "Lads of the Forest," on the person and property of John Walworth, the Cardinal's bailiff of Ripon Lordship, dwelling in Thornton-wood, within the Franchise of Ripon. Of the

great affray of the 5th of May, 1441, the accounts of both sides are printed in the *Plompton Correspondence*, Preface, pp. liii. to lxii. The Foresters say that they had "sewed continually unto the King since Michaelmas term was three years," desiring that "the matter of the right of toll might take such end as the law would ;" but that the cause had been adjourned from term to term. In the meantime the Archbishop had kept his town of Ripon, at fair times, like a town of war, with hired soldiers, as if it had been a land of war; so that none of the King's Forest tenants durst approach the place to buy or sell, for dread of death.

During a late fair time (the April or May fair of A. D. 1441), the Archbishop's officers, by his commandment, "kept the said town of Ripon like a town of war, with souldiers waged thither out of Tindale and Hexhamshire and of other partes nigh unto Scotland, into the number of 200 men of armes, rideing and comeing fro the said parts unto Ripon like men of war, with brest plate, vambracs¹ and rerebracs², greves³, and quischers, gorgett and salett⁴, long spears and lancegayes⁵; and the simplest arrayed of all the said persons had either a gestiment, or a hawburgon, or a thick jack upon him, and either a pricknighate or a sallett upon their heads; and there came out of Beverley, Cawood, and Yorke unto the number of an 100 persons in likewise arraied, save only speares, lancegaies and breast-plate. And the said people, with many other persons of Ripon and Otley, kept the said towne of Ripon like a towne of warr, takeing some 6d. a day, and 12d. a day, and bouch⁶ of court, thus waged by Hugh Pakham. And they went robling⁷ up the said towne and downe.

They

[Footnotes on the page]

- 1 Armour for the front of the arm.
- 2 Armour for the back of the arm.
- 3 Armour for the legs.
- 4 Gorgett and Salett - armour to protect over the front and back of head and neck.
- 5 A sort of lance; Blount mentions it as prohibited by statute.
- 6 An allowance of meat and drink to an attendant in the court.
- 7 Creating a stir.

said openly (it was the most continuall language that they had during the said faire). *'Would God there knaves and lads of the Forest would come hider that we might have a faire day upon them;'* and other words of great scorne, rebuke and provokeing."

These 'Roblers' also remained in Ripon a day after the fair, purposely to keep the town clear of the Foresters, and to consult what they should do before they went out of the country ; for the 'Marchmen' were ashamed to come so far without striking a blow. So

they agreed that they would ride to York—full thirty miles and more out of their way—with their brethren in arms from that city, Cawood, and Beverley; and, on the chance of having a brush with the Foresters, they would go through Boroughbridge, a town of the Lordship of Knaresborough.

But some inhabitants of Ripon, friendly to the Knaresborough tenants, informed the Boroughbridge men of the design, who at once sent word to Sir William Plompton. He promptly ordered the bailiff and tenants of the town to see the peace kept for the night, and promised to be with them early in the morning—a promise he duly kept, arriving in Boroughbridge with officers, and twenty-four men, before the sun rose.

Sir William found that forty persons—rough 'Boroughbridgers' no doubt—had stolen out of the town in the night-time, and had gone over the river Ure to Thornton bridge, to lay in wait for and arrest certain villains who had spoiled and 'fairenfoule' with one of the Forester's wives at Ripon, on a recent market day. He, therefore, sent a man on horseback, with a message charging them to return with all haste to Boroughbridge.

But the messenger was too late. About half a mile out of the town he saw the soldiers and marchmen riding towards Thornton-bridge, so he sped back to Sir William, who, fearing his forty men would be overcome by numbers, rode with his officers and a force to the place, 'and peaced all that he might, so that wer ne had bene there, had mickle mischief fallen: and the said Sir William, with other officers, saved and kept all that were overcomen like to have bene mischieved, and brought them into such ward as they desired.'

In the foregoing account the Foresters, evidently, draw the picture as mild as possible on their side. Now let us note what the men of Ripon say. Between the two it is not difficult to pick out the truth. One of the articles (the seventh) gives the following version of the affray:—"Item. The said Raphe Pulleyn, with other of the said misdoers and rioters, in great and notable numbers, by permission, ordinance, and assent of the said Sir William Plompton, Tho. Beckwith, John Fawks, and of the remnant of the said misdoers, arrayed in manner of war and in riotouswise, the Thursday the iijth day of May last past, att Skitbrigg, lay in wait to beat and to sley the officers, servants, and tenants of the said Cardinall, that had bene att his fair of Ripon, entending upon the good rule and governance thereof, if they had come that way.

And semblably the same day was laid att Burghbrig another great and notable fellowship, by thassent as before, to the intent to have beaten and slaine the said officers, servants, and

tenants next before rehearsed, if they had come that way. And to thintent that they would not be letted of their said malicious purpose, by any warnings that might have bene given of their said lying there in wait to the said officers, servants, and tenants, wher so was that one William, servant of the said Cardinall of his Citty of York, was past the said towne of Burghbrig toward Ripon nere hand the space of halfe a myle, they doubting least that any warning should have bene given to the said officers, servants, and tenants by the said William, sent fower of their company after him to take him; and so took him, and magre him, brought him againe to their said fellowship att Burghbrig, and there held him in prison att the house of one John Fery unto the morne about ix of the bell.

And when so was that the said misdoers were learned by their especialls, or such as were favorable of their said malicious purpose, that the said officers, servants, and tenants of the said Cardinall, had knowledge of their said lying in waite for them, and were disposed therefore to eschew that way, and to take the way to York-ward by Thornton brig, they dressed them to the said Thornton brig, part of them the said night, and parte on Friday on the morne, by the spring of the day, of the which, parte went into the towne of Helperby, a letle fro the said Thornton brig, on the way toward York, by the which Helperby the said officers, servants, and tenants must passe, and their festned a lidyate⁸ in the highway at the towne end of Helperby toward Yorke, with stoks, thorns, and otherwise, to thintent that when the said officers, tenants, and servants came thither, they should be stopped there and incumbred.

And when so was that the said officers, servants, and tenants of the said Cardinall, the Friday in the morning, the fift day of May, full early in the morning, were neighing the said Thornton brig, comeing fro Ripon, the said Sir Wm. Plompton with a great and notable fellowship of the said forest and other of their said affinity, the which assembled and gadered the same Friday in the morning att the said Burgh brigg, came pricking in a route togader with all the diligence that they could, makeing a great and horrible shoute upon the said officers, servants, and tenants, to thintent to take the said Thornton brig before them, as they so did: the which the said officers, servants, and tenants of the said Cardinall seeing, they, in eschewing of blood shedding and bruses of the King's peace, left their passage by the said brigg and took them to a forth, half a mile thence, called Brafcrtton forth, to thintent to pass over their, as they so did, the which the said Sir William Plompton seeing, sewed with his said fellowship upon them and followed them unto the said towne of Helperby where the said Tho. Beckwith, Rauf, and others of their affinity, in great and notable number, assembled, also with the said Sir William and his fellowship following, upon the said officers, servants, and tenants of the said Cardinall.

[Footnote on the page]

8 Lidgitt is a gate set up at the end of a village or elsewhere to prevent cattle from straying upon arable lands.

And when so was that the said officers, servants, and tenants came to the said yate, finding their passage stopped there, they were compelled by the pursuite and the shote of the said misdoers upon them to seek other waies to passe, as they so did, and passed, some by a long strait lane, and some by breaking of an hedge into a feild, upon whom the said misdoers followed, and drove them into a mire more, neerehand the space of half a mile fro the said Helperby, noising and crying, '*Sley the Archbishop's Carles,*' and '*Would God that we had the Archbishop here.*'

It was also asserted that the Foresters discharged one thousand arrows or more, by which many of the Cardinal Archbishop's officers', servants', and tenants' horses were slain and wounded. Thos. Hunter, gentleman, and Thos. Rooper, yeoman, were killed after they had yielded themselves prisoners; whilst Christopher Bee had his cheek-bone broken and his teeth knocked down his throat, so that he could never eat or speak properly afterward; Wm. Humberstone had the calf of his leg nearly hacked off; and John Creven, tailor, had his right leg 'neerhand hewn in two,' in so much so that, for the rest of his life, he was perpetually hindered from following his trade, because he could not endure to lay his injured limb under him as his craft required. 'The poor tailor, good Lord' was, indeed, left on the ground for dead; but some good Samaritans from Helperby found him in time, carried him into the town, and refreshed and relieved him.

Sixteen other persons were wounded and hurt; and Peres Cawood, Thos. Mayne, and Henry Fox were taken prisoners, and treated as if they had been the King's enemies. To the several charges alledged against him and his Forest Lads, 'Sir William Plompton made answer in denial or explanation.'

As no further proceedings appear to have been taken in the matter, it may be presumed that a compromise was effected, and that the right of the Archbishop to the 'denier of toll' was sealed with the blood of his tenants and servants."

Sources:

1. 1440 John Walworth of Thornton-Wood mentioned. Title: Ripon millenary, a record of the festival: Also a history of the city, arranged under its wakemen and mayors from the year 1400. Author: William Grainge; Editor: William Harrison; Publisher: W. Harrison, 1892. Original from: the University of Michigan, Digitized: Apr 27, 2011, Length: 640 pages. From Google Books, searched on June 13, 2015 Saturday 4:28 PM.
2. Map of Ripon and Knaresborough area of Yorkshire. From the map of West Riding section of Yorkshire. The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers, edited by Cecil Humphery-Smith, 1984. Book in my possession since the 1980's.