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The Battle Abbey Roll with some Account of the Norman Lineage
Published in 3 volumes by the Duchess of Cleveland

The Duchess of Cleveland published in three volumes 'The Battle Abbey Roll with some Account of the Norman Lineage' published in 1889. An on-line copy of this document (volume 1) can be found at <http://www.archive.org/details/battleabbeyrollw01battuoft>

This book lists:

- The the names listed on three supposed copies of the Battle Abbey Roll. The four copies are known as the Holinshed Roll; The Duchesne's Roll; Leland's Roll and the Dives Roll (created in 1866).
- Followed by information about the Lineage of those families listed in the above four rolls.

This document has extracted from the above document:

- The list of names from each of the above four roll that are relevant to the early history of the Audley Family. It should be noted that no two copies of the above four Rolls are identical.
- The information from the lineage section of the Duchess of Cleveland's book.

List of names in the 4 copies of the Battle Abbey Roll.

Listed below are the names, relevant to the early history of the Audley Family that are listed in the 4 copies of the Battle Abbey Roll recorded in 'The Battle Abbey Roll with some Account of the Norman Lineage' by the Duchess of Cleveland. And published in 1889.

Holinshed Roll:

Contains the names

- Audeley.
- Tuchet
- Verdoune

In the Holinshed Roll there is no Sneyd or Stanley

Duchesne's Roll:

Contains the names

- Audeley
- Tuchet
- Verdon

In the Duchesne's Roll there is no Sneyd or Stanley

Leland's Roll

Contains the names: (the names are listed in pairs)

- Audel et Aungeloun
- Tuchet et Trussell
- Vallonis et Vernoun

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- Vernoun et Waterville

In the Leland's Roll there is no Sneyd, Stanley Verdon or Verdoune

Dives Roll

Contains the names:

- Richer d'Andeli
- Guillaume d'Audrieu
- De Touchet
- Bertran de Verdun

In the Dives Roll there is no Sneyd, or Stanley

The individual names on the roll relevant to Audley Family History

The section of this document has extracted those names from the Duchess of Cleveland's book that are relevant to the early history of the Audley Family.:

Audley: An undeniable interpolation. This name was assumed from the manor of Audley or Aldithley (Aldidelege, Domesday) in Staffordshire –See *Verdon*. (from Volume 1 page 9)

Toget: one of the many spellings of Touchet, Variously given as Toget, Tochet, Tuscet, Thochet &c. It is the next name but one on this roll as “Tuchet” Toket is probably another version,. A Sir Roger Toket joined the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion

Tuchet: from Notre Dame du Touchet, near Mortaine, in Normandy. The ruins of the old castle are still visible near the parish church: and the race of its ancient possessors is not extinct. M de Touchet Chevalier de St. Louis, was President of the Society of Antiquaries of Normandy in 1825, and his fa, till shortly before the first Revolution retained the Seigneurie of Beneauville, which they had held from the beginning of the thirteenth century. Their arms Azure, three hands Or, are different from those borne by the English Touchets.

Their ancestor Orme, who possessed considerable estates in Cheshire, was surnamed the Harper, and Sir Peter Leycester fancifully derives their name from “Citharista or Touch it.” The Cheshire pedigrees generally state that his son Matthew “was the father of Simon Touchet, Lord of Buglawton and Tattenhall in the time of Hugh Kevelioc, who is said to have succeeded thereto on the death of Henry, son of Henry, son of Josceline de Touchet; but all agree in his descent from Orme –(Ormerod's Cheshire). They were seated at Buglawton shortly after the Conquest, and the manor of Tattenhall, which in Domesday belonged to William Malbeding, was vested in them by grant of Randle Gernons Earl of Chester, in the time of King Stephen. Sir Robert Touchet, in 1319 “was one of the barons who, with the Earls of Lancaster and Hereford assembled at Sherborne in Elmedon, and swore to stand by each other they had amended the state of the realm; but notwithstanding this oath, Sir Robert Touchet, with many others, submitted to the King”- Ibid. His grandson, Sir John, made his mark in the French wars, chiefly at the relief of Aquillon and the siege of Rheims 33Ed III “ and was slain in a desperate engagement with the Spanish fleet before Rochelle 44 Ed III. His wife Joan was the daughter of one of the greatest soldiers of the age, James Lord Audley, the hero of Poitiers; and the eldest of the three co-heiresses between whom his

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barony fell in abeyance. Their brother Nicholas Lord Audley, only survived his father six years and died in 1392, leaving no posterity. Joan was then already dead; but the barony, after some protest, was adjudged to her son Sir John; and he assumed the title of Lord Audley in 1403 being then “actively employed in military arrangements in Wales.”

From this time forth the Touchets ranked high in power and influence in the kingdom, and played a stirring part in its annals. The next Lord Audley fell in battle with the Earl of Salisbury at Bloreheath in Shropshire, whilst commanding the Lancastrians of Chester and adjoining counties. His son changed sides, took part with the House of York, and was appointed Lord Treasurer of England by Richard III; and his grandson joining in the Cornish insurrection of 1497, was taken prisoner at Blackheath and “was drawn from Newgate to Tower Hill in his own Coat of Arms, painted on paper, but reversed and torn, and there Beheaded” Another Lord Audley was made a Knight Banneret in 1586 for his bravery at the battle of Zutphen; and his successor, who was for some time Governor of Utrecht, received the Irish Earldom of Castlehaven from James I in 1617. The second Earl was executed on Tower hill in 1631 “for certain high crimes and misdemeanours”; but both the titles were restored to his son by a fresh creation three years afterwards. This son served the King loyally in the Civil War, first under the Duke of Ormonde, and then as commander-in-chief in Ireland; and was recompensed at the Restoration by a grant of “the same place and precedence that his ancestors the Lord Audley enjoyed” and his father had forfeited, with remainder to his brother Mervyn, and Mervyn’s sons and daughters.

Verdonue: The other house always hitherto assigned to the stock of Verdon is one of the most famous of our baronage – that of Audley. “That the first” says Sir William Dugdale “who assumed this surname was a branch of that ancient and noble family of Verdon, whose chief seat was at Alton castle, in the northern part of Staffordshire, I am very inclined to believe; partly by reason that Henry had the inheritance of Aldithley given him by Nicholas de Verdon who died in the sixteenth of Henry III, or near that time; and partly for that he bore for his arms the same ordinary that Verdon did, viz frette; , but distinguished with a large canton in the dexter part of the shield and thereon a cross pate” This origin is now denied* notwithstanding the similarity of the coat of arms, thus left unexplained; and it is at least clear, that Aldithley was not the grant of Nicholas de Verdon. “Aldidelege (Audley) Baltredelez (half Balterby) and Talc (Talke in Audley) all held in 1086 by the Thane Gamel, seem to have come, early in the reign of Henry I., into the hands of the first Adam de Audley, who divided them between his sons, Lydolph and Adam. In 1130 ‘Liulf de Audley’ lay under a heavy penalty for the murder of Gamel – Eyton. Adam II was apparently the father of Henry de Audley “the great territorial acquisitionist of the district,” who built the castle of Heighley, and is represented by Dugdale as the first who assumed the name.

I do not therefore feel justified in including the Audleys in this notice, and must reluctantly forbear to give an account of one of my favourite heroes, the Sir James Audley who fought “as long as his breath served him, in the chief of the battle” at Poitiers. He had vowed that whenever the King or one of his sons should be present on the field, he “would be one of the first setters-on, or else die in the pain,” and so well did he keep his word, that he was praised and rewarded by the Black Prince as the “best doer in arms” that day. The names of his four squires, to whom he instantly transferred the Prince’s bounty, declaring “That honour I have, is by their valiantness,” though not given by Froissart, have been preserved in Cheshire tradition. They were Sir Robert Fouleshurst, Sir Thomas Dutton (Sheriff of the county), Sir John Delves and Sir John Hawkestone. All of them bore the Audley fret on some part of their coat of arms.

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* “There are very few noble families whose early history has suffered worse at the hands of genealogists than the family of Audley. Dugdale’s Baronage, a splendid work, but from its very nature occasionally inaccurate, has been followed with such servility that his error, by constant repetition, have almost acquired the sacredness of truth” – Castles of Herefordshire and their Lords by Reverend C. J. Robinson [Vicar of Norton Cannon] published in 1872.

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