NOTE BOOK, OF SIR JOHN NORTHCOTE, SOMETIME M. P. FOR ASHBURTON, AND AFTERWARDS FOR THE COUNTY OF DEVON, CONTAINING MEMORANDA OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE LONG PARLIAMENT, 1640

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A. H. A. HAMILTON

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Trieste

NOTE BOOK

OF

SIR JOHN NORTHCOTE.

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SIR JOHN NORTHCOTE

SOMETIME M.P. FOR ASHBURTON, AND AFTERWARDS FOR THE COUNTY OF DEVON.

CONTAINING

MEMORANDA OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS DURING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE LONG PARLIAMENT, 1640.

from the M.S. Original in the Possession of the Right Pon. Sir Stafford Portheote, Bart., M.P.

TRANSCRIBED AND EDITED, WITH A MEMOIR,

By A. H. A. HAMILTON.

LONDON : JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET. 1877.

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LONDON: BRADBURY, AGNEW, \tilde{X} CO., FRINTERS, WHITEFRIARS.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR STAFFORD HENRY NORTHCOTE, BART., C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S.,

TO

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER,

KNIGHT OF THE SHIRE FOR THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF DEVON,

AND LEADER OF THAT HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT WHOSE MOST FAMOUS SESSION IN FORMER TIMES IS HERE RECORDED BY HIS ANCESTOR,

This Volume is Dedicated.

Fairfield Lodge, Exeter, 1877.

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MEMOIR

OF

SIR JOHN NORTHCOTE.

SIR JOHN NORTHCOTE of Hayne, in the parish of Newton St. Cyres, in the county of Devon, first Baronet of his family, and a lineal ancestor of Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, was one of those country gentlemen who, though their names do not appear in biographical dictionaries among those of the Vanes and Hampdens, played a not inconsiderable part in the great events of the seventeenth century. Had it been otherwise,had he been one of those who trust in the length of their ancestry rather than in their own personal exertions, the race to which he belonged was by no means wanting in distinction of the former kind. A pedigree preserved at Pynes, which was examined and verified at the Heralds' Visitation of Devonshire in the reign of James the First, contains a complete and minute account of the family from the days of Galfridus de Northcote, knight, who held the lands of Northcote in the parish of East Down, near Barnstaple, in the year 1103, the third of the reign of Henry the First.

x Memoir of Sir John Northcote. ∼

James Northcote, the eminent painter, who descended from Samuel Northcot, Mayor of Plymouth in 1658, and who delighted to trace his origin to an offshoot which branched away from the parent stem in the 15th century, collected various records of the family in two large manuscript volumes, which, illustrated by many sketches of his own, by several rare engravings, and much curious heraldry, are also preserved in the library at Pynes.

From these sources we learn that the Northcotes, as generations went by, allied themselves with many distinguished houses, such as those of Courtenay and Luttrell, which are still flourishing ; of Hillion, whose ancestor came over with the Conqueror; of Meoles, whose name appears in Domesday Book ; and others well known to the antiquaries of the West of England. Through the Courtenays and Luttrells they acquired a strain of the blood of the Plantagenets. We also find that, by the marriage of heiresses, they absorbed into their own several of the ancient families of Devonshire. Many deeds and wills preserved in the Heralds' College attest their importance, and John de Northcote served the office of Sheriff in the 27th year of Edward III. (1354). As they acquired new estates, either by marriage or purchase, they repeatedly changed their residence. In the middle of the sixteenth century, Walter Northcote, great-grandfather of the first Baronet, was living at Uton, in the parish of Crediton.