

a number of Somerset gentlemen was presented to the King bearing witness to his popularity and to the efforts which he had made to mitigate the hardships suffered by his Royalist neighbours and he received a royal pardon. Harrington was a commissioner to deal with recusants in 1675 and in 1683 prepared to arrest another John Harrington, described as of Marshfield, an agent and active supporter of Lord Shaftesbury. Lord Fitzharding assured the Council that Harrington of Kelston had nothing to do with his namesake, and that his loyalty could be relied on, though ill-health prevented him taking an active part in public affairs.

Arms: *sable, a fret humettée argent within a bordure chequy, argent and sable.*

References : Poynton, *Memoranda of the History of Kelston*, iv, 8; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi; xxxiv, p. xii; S. & D.N. & Q. x, 308; C.T.B.¹ iv, 790; C.S.P.D. 1658-9, 100; 1683, July-September, 111, 132, 238.

Thomas Hipplesley.

Thomas Hipplesley has not been identified with certainty as there was more than one contemporary of the same name. He was probably Thomas Hipplesley of East Court, Camely, son of Thomas Hipplesley (a first cousin of Sir John Horner, M.P.) died 1671, leaving by Joyce his wife three sons, Thomas, William and John. In 1643 a Thomas Hipplesley was 'receiver of subscriptions and assessor of malignants' in Somerset and in 1645 Thomas Hipplesley, J.P., signed a proclamation against alehouses.

References : S. & D.N. & Q. i, 49; Rushworth, iii, 123.

Richard Jones.

Richard Jones of Stowey in Chew Magna; born 1605, possibly a son of Thomas Jones of Stowey, died 1623;=*circ.* 1630, Joyce Woodward, by whom he had six sons, William, attorney-general 1675-79, John, Samuel, Thomas and two Richards, and five daughters, Elizabeth=(1) Henry Pinnell, (2) Sir Richard Hart, Sarah, Susan and two Joyces. He is probably the Richard Jones, 'ironmaster' of Bristol, who

¹ Calendar Treasury Books.

was a commissioner for the preservation of timber in the Forest of Dean, 1649. Jones was commissioner for sequestrations in Somerset, 1650, when his appointment, like that of Buckland, was opposed by Colonel Pyne; for the regulation of the excise, 1652, and a J.P. for Somerset 1646-60, and again in 1688. He is mentioned as a 'trusty friend' by John Buckland in the latter's will in 1676. Jones died 1692 and was buried at Chew Magna, where his monument describes him as a man 'of universal knowledge and good sense'. He left a legacy to endow a school at Newton St. Loe and £1000 to the Merchants' Hall at Bristol for the maintenance of seamen's widows.

Arms: *Party per pale gules and azure, three lions rampant argent.*

References: Collinson, ii, 98; iii, 345; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, ii, 52; v, 72; C.S.P.D. 1649, 50; C.C.C. i, 173, 226, 613; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxii; D.N.B.; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29.

Robert Long.

Robert Long of Stanton Drew, born 1606, second son of Henry Long of Whaddon, Wilts.; =Alice, daughter of Thomas Coward; died 1697. His son, Henry =Dionysia, daughter of John Harrington, M.P., and o.s.p.; his daughter Mary =George Stedman. Long was a major in the Parliamentary forces and a J.P. for Somerset, 1654-60.

References: Collinson, ii, 440; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, iii, 126; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxiv; Pink, Rylands Eng. MSS. 306.

Samuel Perry.

Probably the Samuel Perry who served under Blake in the Parliamentary army during the siege of Taunton, was deputy-governor of Taunton in 1647, and in 1657 received with the mayor of Taunton a legacy of £100 left by Blake to a Taunton charity, but no further information has been found concerning him.

References: C.S.P.D. 1645-7, 563; S.A.S. xxv (2), 38; lxiv, p. lxiv.

John Preston.

John Preston of Cricket St. Thomas, b. 1587, s. and h. of Christopher Preston, d. 1623, by Catherine, daughter of

Henry Uvedale ;=*circ.* 1610, Margaret, daughter of John Stocker and had one daughter Margaret=John Hippeley. He was sheriff of Somerset 1647-8, J.P. 1646-54, and patron of Cricket St. Thomas in 1662.

Arms : *azure, ten bezants four, three, two and one, and on a chief argent, two lions passant counter-passant sable.*

References : Visit. ii, 88 ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxii ; S. & D.N. & Q. xv, 173.

Charles Steynings.

There were two Charles Steynings at this time, father and son, either of whom might have been the M.P. Charles Steynings the elder of Holnicote in Selworthy was b. 1592, posthumous son of Charles Steynings, d. 1592, by his wife Margaret Pollard ; he=*circ.* 1616, Cicely, daughter of Ciprian Lucar of Blackford, by whom he had six sons and six daughters. A letter from him to John Willoughby in 1648, complaining of the billeting of troops, suggests that he had little enthusiasm for the Parliamentary cause and this is confirmed by a letter of 1654 in the State Papers reporting his election as a 'burgess' and asking if he was to take his seat as he was a 'malignant' and had shown disaffection and spoken against the King's execution. He was, however, acting as a J.P. from 1646, was a member of Cromwell's commission of the peace in 1654, and was removed from the Bench at the Restoration. Charles Steynings, his eldest son, was born in 1620 ;=Susanna, daughter of Sir Nicholas Martin and o.s.p. in 1700. In 1687 his name was on the list of dissenters who were to be appointed J.P.s to win support for the Declaration of Indulgence.

Arms : *argent, a bat displayed sable, on a chief gules, three pallets of the field.*

References : Hancock, *History of Selworthy*, 129 ; Visit. ii, 103 ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi, 7 ; S. & D.N. & Q. iii, 19, 117, 330 ; xix, 118 ; S.A.S. xliii (2), 10 ; C.S.P.D. 1654, 283 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 31.

John Barker.

John Barker of High Ham, J.P. 1653-60 ; member of the Somerset Assessment Committee, 1656 ; M.P. for Ilchester, 1658-9.

Reference : S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi.

PARLIAMENT OF 1656-8 ; 17 September 1656 to 26 June 1657 ;
20 January to 4 February 1658.

John Ashe ; John Buckland ; John Harrington ; Robert Long [see above] ; John Desborough ; John Gorges ; Lislebone Long ; Francis Luttrell ; Alexander Popham ; Francis Rolle ; William Wyndham.

John Desborough.

General John Desborough was born in 1608, the second son of James Desborough of Eltisley, Cambs., by his wife Elizabeth Hatley ;=1636, Jane, sixth daughter of Robert Cromwell. In 1642, joining the Parliamentary forces, Desborough became a captain in the regiment of horse raised by his brother-in-law, Oliver Cromwell, and distinguished himself by his bravery and effective handling of troops. As a Major under Fairfax, he took part in the defeat of the Royalists at Langport in July 1645, in the defeat of the Clubmen on Hambledon Hill on 4 August, and in the capture of Bristol on 10 September, being then in command of the horse. In April 1646, Desborough brought the news of the surrender of Oxford (for which he had been one of the negotiators) to London, when he received the thanks of the House and £100. In 1648 he was promoted to Colonel and given command of the forces at Yarmouth. He is said to have approved of the King's deposition, but took no part in the trial. In the summer of 1649 Colonel Desborough returned to the west of England to raise recruits for Ireland and prevent any Royalist rising. In 1651, as Major-General, he served in the campaign of Worcester and in 1653 became a member of the council of State, commissioner of the Treasury and the Admiralty, one of the four Generals of the Fleet, and a nominated member, without constituency, of the Barebones Parliament. In 1654 Desborough was elected for Cambridge and Somerset counties and for the boroughs of Yarmouth and Totnes, and sat for Cambridge ; in March 1655 he was appointed Major-General in charge of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire—his first act being the capture of the leaders of the Penruddocke rising—and in July a member of the Privy

Council. General Desborough strongly opposed the suggestion that Cromwell should take the title of King, but consented to enter the new House of Lords. After Cromwell's death he and Fleetwood led the opposition to Richard Cromwell and forced him to dissolve Parliament in April 1659. Desborough was a member of the Council of State from May till November, when he was cashiered by the restored Rump Parliament for presenting a petition from the Council of the army, but shortly afterwards Fleetwood declared the Rump dissolved and Desborough returned to the Council and was nominated Commissary-General of Horse. His conduct, however, seems to have made him unpopular, even with his own regiment, and in January 1660 the second restoration of the Rump obliged him to leave London. In the summer he was twice under arrest for short periods, the second time on a charge of having been concerned in a plot to murder Charles II, and finally retired to Holland where he lived for the next five years. In 1665, on account of his intrigues on behalf of the republican party he was ordered to return to England, but after being examined by the Council lived quietly in this country until his death in 1680. Four of his seven sons, Nathaniel, Valentine, Benjamin and Samuel, and a daughter, Jane=John Burton of Yarmouth, survived him.

References : D.N.B. ; S.A.S. xxviii (2), 66 ; xlii (2), 12.

John Gorges.

John Gorges, b. *circa*. 1620, younger son of Henry Gorges of Batcombe, of a younger branch of the Gorges of Wraxall, by his wife Barbara, daughter of Thomas Baynard of Colerne, Wilts. ;=(1) Edith, daughter of John Symes of Poundisford, and (2) Jane, daughter of Lord Blayney ; d. 1680.

Gorges was a colonel in the Parliamentary army in 1646, J.P. for Somerset 1649-60, M.P. for Taunton 1654-55, Mayor of Taunton, 1656, and a feoffee of the Taunton Town Lands in 1659 when his elder brother, Thomas, was recorder of Taunton. In 1650 he was one of the five new commissioners for sequestration appointed in place of the original

Somerset Committee. He visited London twice in 1651 to report on the Commissioners' work and was made Treasurer for the county. In February 1653, Colonel Pyne charged Gorges with taking bribes and other misdemeanours, but after prolonged enquiries in Somerset, by the Wiltshire commissioners and by the Council, he was acquitted. In 1654 Gorges is described as sole commissioner in Somerset, and the following year he received a letter of thanks from the Council on the successful suppression of the Penruddocke rising, though his 'feud' with Pyne still continued. Later he served in Ireland and in 1659 was governor of Londonderry. In 1671 Gorges was accused by John Hall and others of having retained money paid to him as sequestrator, but he pleaded the Act of Oblivion and was acquitted.

Arms : From a seal in the Quarter Sessions records : *lozengy (or and azure) a chevron (gules), charged with a crescent (or).*

References : S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi, xxii, 99 ; Visit. ii, 41 ; S. & D.N. & Q. xii, 260 ; xx, 162 ; C.C.C. i, 194, 345, 381, 561, 586, 629, 631, 642, 672 ; ii, 1430, 1653 ; C.S.P.D. 1655, 93, 99 ; 1673-5, 457 ; C.T.B. iii (2), 978.

Lislebone Long.

Sir Lislebone (or Loveban) Long of Stratton-on-the-Fosse, b. 1613, eldest son of William Long, by Mary, daughter of Thomas Lovibond of Shorwell, I. of Wight ; educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, and Lincoln's Inn. He was called to the Bar in 1640, 'attained distinction as a lawyer' and in 1645 was elected M.P. for Wells. Long was a J.P. for Somerset 1654-59, M.P. for Wells 1654-5, and in the restored Rump Parliament, January-March, 1659. In December 1655 he was knighted by Cromwell, and the following year became Recorder of London, a Master of Requests and Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn. On 9 March 1659, Long was appointed Speaker, but he died the following week. By his wife Frances, daughter of John Mynne, Sir Lislebone left George his heir and other issue. Whitelocke described him as 'a sober, good and discreet lawyer.'

Arms : *sable, a lion rampant between six crosses crosslet argent, within two flaunches ermine.*

References : D.N.B. ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi ; Visit. ii, 69 ; S.A.S. lxxvi, 41.

Francis Luttrell.

Francis Luttrell of Dunster, b. 1628, fourth son of Thomas Luttrell, d. 1644, by Jane, daughter of Sir Francis Popham of Littlecote, M.P.; admitted a member of Lincoln's Inn, 1646; succeeded his brother, George Luttrell, as owner of Dunster in 1655; =1655, Lucy, daughter of Thomas Symonds of Whittleham, Cambs., and grand-daughter of John Pym; M.P. for Minehead in the Convention Parliament, 1660, and in the Cavalier Parliament, 1661-6; J.P. for Somerset, 1661-6; commissioner for a benevolence in Somerset, 1662. He was included in a list of fifteen gentlemen of Somerset suitable for the Order of the Royal Oak which Charles II thought of founding for his loyal supporters. The project was dropped, but it suggests that Luttrell's views must have altered considerably between 1656 when he, like most of his near relations was known as a Parliamentarian, and 1660 when he appears to have welcomed the Restoration. He died in 1666, leaving three sons, Thomas, Francis and Alexander, and was buried at Dunster.

Arms: *or, a bend between six martlets sable.*

References: Dunster, i, 201; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xiv; S.A.S. xxxvii (2), 60.

Alexander Popham.

Alexander Popham of Littlecote, Wilts., and Wellington, b. *circ.* 1605, second son of Sir Francis Popham, M.P., by Ann, daughter of John Dudley; matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford, 1621. In 1630-1 he was travelling in Spain. In 1635 Popham = Dorothy, daughter of Richard Cole of Nailsea; she o.s.p. in 1643 and he = *c.* 1644 (2) Letitia, daughter of William Carre, groom of the Chamber to James I, by whom he had three sons, Francis, Alexander and George and three daughters, Essex = John, third Lord Paulet, Anne = William Ashe and Letitia = Sir Edward Seymour. In 1640, in the Short Parliament, Popham was elected for Bath and Minehead and sat for the former; he was re-elected in October and with his father, and his nephew Alexander Luttrell, was among the five out of sixteen Somerset M.P.s who were not 'disabled' as Royalists from taking their seats after the outbreak of war. Popham was appointed a D.L., presumably by the Parlia-

ment's Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Bedford, and with his father, and his uncle Sir John Horner, he was active in raising troops for the Parliament in Somerset and Wiltshire and signed the report of the Somerset Committee at Shepton Mallet on 1 August. He became a Colonel in the Parliamentary army, was present at the siege of Bristol in 1643, and served under Sir William Waller. In 1643 Popham took the Covenant and was appointed a Receiver of Subscriptions in Somerset and the following year was empowered to execute martial law in the county. In the summer of 1645 he returned to Somerset with reinforcements from Kent and Sussex, and in October 'while marching with some clubmen' captured the bearer of some Royalist correspondence. The previous year he had succeeded to his father's estates in Somerset and Wiltshire, his elder brother, John, having died in 1638.

Popham was a member of the Somerset Committee for sequestrations, 1645-50; J.P. for Somerset, 1649-60; a member of the Council of State, 1649, and of Cromwell's House of Peers, 1657. He was M.P. for Bath, 1654-5, when he was also elected for Wiltshire, in the Convention Parliament, 1660, when he is said to have voted for the Restoration, and in the Cavalier Parliament, 1661-9. In 1645 Popham was authorised to use the fines from the Portman estate towards the restoration of Taunton. His house at Wellington had been burnt down during the war, but he contributed to the payment of a minster there during the Commonwealth and presented to the living in 1662 and 1666. In 1650 Popham had instructions to embody his regiment in the county militia, and in 1651 had a commission to command a regiment of foot. He was a member of the committee for the affairs of the navy, 1650, for Ireland and Scotland, and for Prisoners, 1651. In 1655 he was a commissioner for the Penruddocke trial and in 1658 to enquire into losses by fire at Marlborough. After Cromwell's death his views like those of many of the moderate Parliamentarians, including, in Somerset, Francis Luttrell, William Wyndham and George Horner, changed, and in the summer of 1659 he was certainly suspected of working for the Restoration and was summoned

to appear before the Council of State, while his house at Bristol was searched for arms. After the Restoration he took an active part as a J.P. and D.L. for Wiltshire in suppressing a suspected Puritan rising, and entertained Charles II at Littlecote 'with a costly dinner' in 1663. In 1664 Popham bought Compton Dando from Sir Hugh Smyth. He died at Littlecote in 1669.

Arms : *argent, on a chief gules, two stags heads cabossed or.*

References : D.N.B. ; Collinson, ii, 422, 425 ; iii, 163 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, v, 110 ; vi, 55 ; Weaver, 312, 323, 362 ; S. & D.N. & Q. xii, 118 ; xiii, 157 ; C.S.P.D. 1631-3, 11 ; 1644-5, 476, 544, 597 ; 1644-7, 200, 455 ; 1650, 7, 13, 144, 533 ; 1651, 43, 65 ; 1655, 114 ; 1658-9, 141 ; 1659-60, 50 ; 1662-4, 264, 300 ; C.C.C. i, 150, 209 ; S.A.S. xiv, (2), 64 ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi, 76.

Francis Rolle.

Sir Francis Rolle of Shapwick, Somerset, and Titherleigh, Hants ; b. *circ.* 1620, only son of Sir Henry Rolle of Shapwick, Lord Chief Justice, 1649-55, d. 1656, by Margaret, daughter of Sir Henry Foote ; = Priscilla, daughter of Sir Thomas Foote, by whom he had one son, Henry, and six daughters, Frances = Sir Charles Adams, Bt., Mary = Sir Richard Sandys, Elizabeth = — Winchcombe, Sarah, Priscilla, and one, only mentioned in her father's will as the wife of Sigismund Stydolph ; d. *circ.* 1686.

Rolle was M.P. for Bridgwater in the Convention Parliament ; J.P. for Somerset, 1657-80 ; knighted, 1665 ; sheriff of Hampshire, 1664-5, and of Somerset, 1672-3. In 1669 he was returned for Bridgwater at a bye-election, but his election was declared void and in 1675 at another bye-election he was elected for Hampshire. In March 1679 he was returned for Bridgwater, but it seems doubtful if he took his seat as a second indenture declares Ralph Stawell to have been returned. In the Parliaments of 1679-81 and 1680-1 he sat for Hampshire. Rolle was commissioner for the New Forest in 1672, 1673 and 1679, and commissioner to deal with recusants in Hampshire, 1675. He seems to have belonged to the 'Exclusionist' party as in 1677 he had permission to visit Lord Shaftesbury in the Tower and in 1681 was described as 'one of the leaders of the disaffected'

in Somerset. In 1683 he was said to have been implicated in the Rye House Plot, and in 1685 was arrested under suspicion of having promised help to Monmouth.

Arms : *or, on a fess dancette between three billets azure each charged with a lion rampant of the field, as many bezants.*

References : Weaver, 8, 21, 101, 332 ; D.N.B. ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxii ; xxxiv, p. xviii ; C.S.P.D. 1678-9, 267 ; 1681, 352 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, i, 84 ; C.T.P.¹ iv, 124, 791 ; vi, 199 ; C.T.B. iii (2), 1080 ; Doyley, *James, Duke of Monmouth*, 269, 282.

William Wyndham.

Sir William Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham, b. 1632, s. and h. of John Wyndham, d. 1649, by Catherine, daughter of Robert Hopton, M.P., and co-heiress in 1654 of her brother, Lord Hopton of Witham ;=Frances, daughter of Anthony Hungerford, by whom he had five sons, of whom only two, Edward and Hugh, survived him, and six daughters of whom Rachel=(1) Sir George Speke of Hazelbury, Wilts., (2) Richard Musgrave, Frances=Nathaniel Palmer, M.P., of Fairfield, Elizabeth=Thomas Earle of Charborough, Dorset, and Joan=William Cary of Clovelly ; d. 1683 ; buried in St. Decuman's. Wyndham was M.P. for Taunton, 1659, 1660, 1661-79 ; J.P. for Somerset, 1657-83 ; D.L., 1670. He was created a baronet by Cromwell on 28 August 1657 and by Charles II on 9 December 1661. On his monument in St. Decuman's he is said to have 'devoted himself to the closing of the dreadful breach of the late monstrous divisions', so he presumably belonged to the party which after Cromwell's death worked for the Restoration. He was a commissioner to deal with recusants, 1675, and sheriff of Somerset, 1679-80. He was not in Parliament after 1679, but a hint as to his politics is contained in a letter of 1682 which expresses the hope that Wyndham and other justices would deal with 'the conventiclers of Taunton' who supported the Exclusionists.

Arms : *azure, a chevron between three lions heads erased or.*

References : D.N.B. ; Collinson, iii, 455, 490 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, vi, 106 ; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxii ; xxxiv, p. xxi ; C.S.P.D. 1670-2, 101 ; 1682, 97 ; C.T.P. iv, 791.

¹ Calendar Treasury Papers.

PARLIAMENT OF 1659; summoned by Richard Cromwell; 27 January to 22 April.

John Buckland, esquire [see above]; Robert Hunt, esquire.

Robert Hunt.

Robert Hunt of Speckington and Compton Pauncefote, b. *circ.* 1608, son of John Hunt, d. 1660, by Katherine, daughter of Alexander Popham of Huntworth; = Elizabeth, daughter of John Browne of Frampton, by whom he had three sons, John, George and Robert and five daughters, Grace and Joan, o.s.p. Susanna = William Lacy, and two, not referred to by name in his will, who married respectively Henry Bull and Richard Broadrepp; d. 1679; buried at Compton Pauncefote.

Hunt was M.P. for Ilchester in the Long Parliament but was disabled from sitting as a Royalist and was a member of the King's Parliament at Oxford in 1643-4; his property was sequestered, but appears to have been recovered by his father, who may have had a life interest in it. Later he must have accepted the Commonwealth government as he was sheriff of Somerset, 1654 and a J.P. 1654-79, being re-appointed at the Restoration. Hunt was M.P. for Ilchester in the Convention Parliament and was re-elected in 1679, but his election was then declared void. In 1664 he reported on the burglary of the Exchequer of Taunton Castle by members of the republican party, and was appointed a D.L. in 1670 and a commissioner for recusants in 1675.

Arms: *azure, two chevrons ermine between three martlets argent.*

References: Collinson, ii, 77; iii, 200; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, iii, 11; iv, 112; v, 109; S. & D.N. & Q. iii, 102; xviii, 115; S.A.S. xvi (2), 19; S.R.S. xxviii, p. xxi; xxxiv, p. xiii; C.S.P.D. 1662-4, 606; 1671-2, 101; C.T.P. iv, 790.

On 7 May 1659 the officers of the army led by Fleetwood and Desborough invited those members of the Long Parliament who had not been secluded in 1648 to return to the House. This, the restored Rump Parliament, was in session till 13 October, when it was prevented from meeting

by the Army Officers. On 26 December the members were able to return to Westminster and in February, through the influence of General Monk, the secluded members, many of whom belonged to the Royalist Presbyterian party, also took their seats in the House. George Horner, the surviving county member for Somerset, was probably among them. On 16 March the Parliament thus constituted passed a bill to dissolve the Parliament elected on 3 November 1640, and to summon a new Parliament on 25 April, 1660.

CONVENTION PARLIAMENT OF 1660 ; 25 April to 13 September ;
6 November to 29 December.

George Horner, esquire [see above] ; Hugh Smith, esquire.

Hugh Smith.

Sir Hugh Smith (or Smyth) of Long Ashton, b. 1632, s. and h. of Thomas Smyth, M.P., by Florence, daughter of John first Lord Poulet ; = Anne, daughter of the Hon. John Ashburnham ; created K.B. 1660 ; baronet, 1661 ; J.P., 1660–80 ; sheriff of Somerset, 1665–6 ; D.L. for Somerset and Bristol, 1661 ; commissioner to deal with recusants, 1675 ; M.P. for Somerset, 1679 ; d. 1680, leaving three sons, John, his heir, Hugh and Charles, o.s.p. and three daughters, Elizabeth, Florence and Anne.

Arms : gules, on a chevron between three cinquefoils argent as many leopards' faces sable.

References : Collinson, ii, 293 ; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xviii ; C.S.P.D. 1661–2, 101, 507 ; 1671–2, 101 ; C.T.P. iv, 697 ; S.A.S. xxxvii (2), 19.

PARLIAMENT OF 1661–78 ; the Cavalier, or Pensionary, Parliament.

This Parliament, if the Long Parliament which was dissolved *de facto* in 1653 be excepted, is the longest Parliament ever held. It met on 8 May 1661, and held fifteen sessions, the only years in which it did not meet being 1672 and 1676. Sir John Stowell, K.B. [see above] ; Edward Phelips, esquire.

Sir John Stowell d. in February 1662, during the first session which lasted for a year from 8 May 1661 to 19 May 1662, and on 31 March 1662 John Poulet, esquire, was elected

in his place. Poulet succeeded his father as third Lord Poulet in 1665 and on 6 November 1665, Sir John Warre, knight, was elected in his place. A petition against his election was presented by Sir John Sydenham, who was probably his unsuccessful opponent, but the committee of the House appointed to consider it reported in Warre's favour, and he presumably took his seat during the sixth session, 18 September 1666 to 8 February 1667. Warre d. in 1669, and on 1 November 1669, during the eighth session, 19 October to 11 December 1669, as a result of the third bye-election in nine years, Sir John Sydenham, baronet, was elected. He and Phelips represented the county until the dissolution of Parliament on 30 December 1678.

Edward Phelips.

Edward Phelips of Montacute, b. *circ.* 1613, s. and h. of Sir Robert Phelips, M.P., d. 1639, by Bridget, daughter of Sir Thomas Gorges ;=*circ.* 1635, Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Pye ; d. 1679, leaving five sons, Edward, William, Thomas, John and George and a daughter, Bridget. Phelips was M.P. for Ilchester in the Short Parliament, 1640, and again in 1641, being returned in place of Sir Henry Berkeley, whose election had been disallowed. As a Royalist he was disabled from sitting in the House after the outbreak of war, but was a member of the royalist Parliament at Oxford in 1643-4. Phelips became a Colonel in the royal army and surrendered at Exeter in 1646. His house is said to have been plundered and his library destroyed by Parliamentary troops, but his fine was reduced in 1647 to £276, perhaps through the influence of his father-in-law, Sir Robert Pye, who was a supporter of Parliament. In 1650 Phelips was living at Wells on condition of appearing before the Council when required and giving security of £2,000, but in 1652 he helped his brother, Colonel Robert Phelips, to arrange for the escape of Charles II to France, and in 1654 is mentioned as having offered to join a plot to surprise Poole. At the Restoration Phelips was appointed a J.P. and D.L. for Somerset and represented the county throughout the Cavalier Parliament, while his eldest son, Edward, sat for Ilchester. Several

letters, now among the State Papers, signed by Phelips and other Somerset J.P.s between 1661-5 refer to disaffection and suspected plots by old Parliamentarians, which they were doing their best to suppress. He was a commissioner to deal with recusants in 1675.

Arms : *argent, a chevron between three roses, gules.*

References : D.N.B. ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, i, 78 ; iv, 84 ; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xvi ; S. & D.N. & Q. xxi, 63 ; C.C.C. ii, 1252 ; C.S.P.D. 1650, 566 ; 1661-2, 430 ; 1665-6, 273 ; S.A.S. xxviii (2), 1 ; C.T.P. iv, 790.

John Poulet.

John Poulet (Paulet), third Lord Poulet of Hinton St. George, b. *circ.* 1642, s. and h. of John, second Lord Poulet, d. 1665, by Catherine, daughter of Horatio, Lord Vere. In 1658 he was sent to France with a tutor, his father being abroad at the time. He married (1) 1663, Essex, daughter of Alexander Popham, M.P., by whom he had one son, d. young, and a daughter, Susan, and (2) Susan, daughter of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, by whom he had one son, John, his heir, and two daughters, Catherine=Lord Lempster and Letitia=Sir William Monson. Lord Poulet was a J.P. for Somerset, 1663-79, Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, 1674-9, trustee of Sir Francis Popham's estate, 1676, and d. 1679. In 1668 he received a lease of the manor of Chard from the Bishop of Bath and Wells which involved him in a lawsuit with the former tenant, Colonel Nathaniel Whetham, over the compensation to which the latter was entitled. In 1676 he was engaged in reorganising the Dorset militia.

Arms : *sable, three swords in pile, their points in base, argent, pommels and hilts or.*

References : S. & D.N. & Q. vi, 100 ; Collinson, ii, 163 ; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xvi ; C.S.P.D. 1658-9, 580 ; 1675-6, 340, 526.

Sir John Warre.

Sir John Warre of Hestercombe, son of Roger Warre, by Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Wyndham of Kentsford ; = *circ.* 1660, Unton, daughter of Sir Francis Hawley of Buckland Sororum, and widow of John Malet of Enmore ; d. 1669, leaving an only son, Francis ; his step daughter

Elizabeth Malet = John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester. Warre was knighted in 1660, sheriff of Somerset, 1662-3, and J.P. 1660-9. As a J.P. in 1663 he charged Mrs. George Speke with being 'the chief person at a conventicle' at Dillington, and in 1664 reported the escape of the old Parliamentarian, Colonel Bovett, from Bridgwater, where he had been arrested for sedition. The same year, with his uncle, Sir Edmund Wyndham, and Sir Francis Hawley he petitioned the Council for a grant of land at Bridgwater to be reclaimed from flooding. In 1665 Warre was reported to have shown, after initial lukewarmness, 'eminent interest, loyalty and devotion' in finding recruits for the Dutch War. He raised a troops of horse and received a Captain's commission in the Duke of Richmond's regiment in 1666.

Arms: *gules, semée of cross-crosslets fitchée argent a lion rampant of the last langued azure.*

References: S.A.S. xviii (2), 162; Collinson, iii, 262; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xx; C.S.P.D. 1662-4, 116; 1664-5, 19, 35, 74, 92, 475.

Sir John Sydenham.

Sir John Sydenham, second baronet, of Brympton d'Evercy, born *circ.* 1642, s. and h. of Sir John Sydenham, d. 1643, by Anne, daughter of Sir John Hare of Stowe Bardolf, Norfolk; = (1) *circ.* 1662, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of John, second Lord Poulet, by whom he had one son, John, d. young, and (2) *circ.* 1672, Mary, daughter of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, by whom he had two sons, John, o.s.p. 1692 and Philip; d. 1696; buried at Brympton. He probably completed the rebuilding of Brympton begun by his father.

Sydenham was a J.P. and D.L. for Somerset; in 1665 he petitioned unsuccessfully against the election of Sir John Warre as knight of the shire, but was elected to succeed him in 1669 and was re-elected in 1679. In 1669 he supported a petition for the incorporation of Taunton. Sydenham seems to have belonged to the party which endeavoured to exclude the Duke of York from the succession, and in 1680 is described as one of the leaders of the 'disaffected' in Somerset and entertained the Duke of Monmouth at a 'sumptuous dinner' at Brympton and again at the White Lodge at

Hinton St. George, possibly with the support of his sister-in-law, the widow of the third Lord Poulet, whose son was still a minor. He was a commissioner to deal with recusants in 1675 and in 1688.

Arms : *argent, a chevron between three rams trippant sable.*

References : Batten, 49 ; D.N.B. ; Fea, *King Monmouth*, 96 ; C.S.P.D. 1661-2, 432 ; 1664-5, 261 ; 1668-9, 420 ; 1670-2, 101 ; 1681, 352, 514 ; C.T.P. iv, 697 ; C.T.B. viii, 1982.

PARLIAMENT OF 1679 ; 6 to 13 March ; 15 March to 27 May ; dissolved 12 July.

Sir Hugh Smyth, baronet, K.B. ; Sir John Sydenham, baronet. [See above for both members.]

PARLIAMENT OF 1679-81 ; this Parliament, summoned for 17 October 1679, did not meet, owing to seven prorogations, till 21 October 1680 ; it sat till 10 January 1681 and was dissolved on 18 January.

Sir William Portman, baronet, K.B. ; George Speke, esquire.

Sir William Portman.

Sir William Portman, sixth baronet, of Orchard Portman, born *circa* 1644, only son of Sir William Portman, d. 1645, by Anne, d. and coh. of John Colles of Barton ;=(1) Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Cutler ; (2) Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Southcote ; (3) Mary, d. and h. of Sir John Holman ; o.s.p. 1690, when his great estates, said to have been worth £8,000 a year, and including his recent purchase of Bryanston in Dorset, were inherited by his first cousin, Henry Seymour, fifth son of Sir Edward Seymour of Berry Pomeroy and Anne, daughter of Sir John Portman.

Portman was made a K.B. at Charles II's coronation, was appointed a J.P. for Somerset in 1661, and became a fellow of the Royal Society in 1664 ; he was a D.L. for Somerset and Dorset, and colonel in the Dorset militia. He was M.P. for Taunton 1661-79, being elected, if the date of his birth given in his petition of 1661, asking for the pardon of £300 of his father's fine of 1645 still unpaid, is correct, at the age of eighteen, and was re-elected in 1679, 1685, 1689 and in 1690, a few weeks before his death. He was interested in

the affairs of Taunton and in 1669 and again in 1675 urged the granting of a charter 'for settling a regulated corporation' in the town. Although described in one account as 'one of the most influential Tories in the West', Portman seems to have been a moderate in politics. In 1679 his election was thought doubtful as he was not sufficiently 'fanatic' for Taunton, and he was said to be 'against popery and the Duke of York, but firm for Church and State'. In 1681 the report was 'that he would not join any party but was ready to drink the Duke of York's health', and thought that some measures would have to be taken to deal with discontent and unemployment in Taunton. Sir William appears to have received early warning of Monmouth's rising while in London in May 1685, and took an active part in investigating the cause of the rebellion and raising the militia. On 8 July, after forming a chain of patrols in north Dorset, he and Lord Lumley captured the Duke near Ringwood and brought him a prisoner to London. In 1687 Portman was removed from the commission of deputy Lieutenants, having refused to agree to the removal of the Test Acts, unless he should change his mind on hearing the matter debated in Parliament, or to support the election of M.P.s who would do so, and was in fact 'making interest' for his own re-election in Taunton. In 1688 he joined William III on his arrival at Exeter. It was expected that he would hold office under William III, but his death took place in March 1690.

Arms : *or, a fleur-de-lis azure.*

References : D.N.B. ; Collinson, ii, 90 ; S.R.S. xxxiv, p. xvi ; S. & D.N. & Q. x, 308 ; C.C.C. ii, 900 ; C.S.P.D. 1661-2, 63 ; 1668-9, 420 ; 1671-2, 101 ; 1673-5, 139 ; 1678-9, 61, 77, 207, 570 ; 1681, 514 ; 1682, 97 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29.

George Speke.

George Speke of Whitelackington, born *circ.* 1623, s. and h. of George Speke, d. 1637, by Joan, daughter of Sir John Portman ; educated at Wadham College ; =*circ.* 1642, Mary, daughter of Sir Robert Pye, by whom he had six sons, George, o.s.p. 1668, John, his heir, M.P. for Ilchester, 1679-81, Hugh, a barrister and politician, Thomas, Charles,

executed during the Monmouth rebellion, who all three o.s.p. and William of Shepton Beauchamp, and three daughters, Mary=Thomas Jennings, Philippa=Sir John Trenchard, M.P., and Elizabeth, o.s.p.; d. 1689.

Speke is said to have been among the royalists taken prisoner by Fairfax at Bridgwater in 1645, and in November he was in the Gatehouse prison at Westminster, when he petitioned to compound for his estates, on the ground that Lord Hertford had forced him to join the royal army while still under age. He was fined £3,000 and in 1650 was living at Wells on condition of appearing before the council when required, and had to obtain special permission to travel to Bristol and London. At the Restoration Speke was appointed a J.P. and was sheriff of Somerset, 1661-2. As M.P.s he and his son John belonged to the opposition party and he seems to have been an outspoken critic of Charles II and his court, while his wife was described by Bishop Mew as 'one of the most dangerous women in the West'. In 1680 Speke entertained Monmouth at Whitelackington on his progress in the west, and was reported in June to be 'making a stir' against his cousin and colleague in Parliament, Sir William Portman, while even his sons were alarmed by their father's violent attacks on the government. Although he described himself as a loyal subject, only anxious to defend the King from Papists, his house was searched for arms in 1682; nothing was found though Rafe Stawell suggested that the 'old rebel' had had time to hide them. However, he seems to have escaped further trouble and when Monmouth landed at Lyme Regis he excused himself from joining him on the grounds of old age, though he sent his son with forty 'ragged horse'. After the rising was over Speke was heavily fined, his fourth son Charles was executed, and his eldest surviving son, John, and his son-in-law Trenchard escaped abroad. In 1688 he joined William of Orange on his arrival in the west.

Arms: Barry of eight, azure and argent, over all an eagle displayed with two heads gules.

References: Collinson, i, 68; S. & D.N. & Q. i, 185; C.C.C. ii, 1040; Fea, King Monmouth, 96; C.S.P.D. 1650, 143, 546; 1680, 207, 420, 451; 1681, 352, 432; 1682, 158; 1683, January-June, 363; July-September, 212, 398, 402, 430.

PARLIAMENT OF 1681 ; 21 to 28 March ; at Oxford.

Sir William Portman, bart., K.B. ; George Speke, esquire.
[See above for both members.]

PARLIAMENT OF 1685-87 ; 19 May to 2 July and 9 to 20
November, 1685 ; dissolved 2 July 1687.

George Horner, esquire ; Sir John Smith, bart.

George Horner.

George Horner of Mells, born 1654, s. and h. of Sir George Horner, M.P., d. 1678, by Anne, daughter of Sir Neville Poole ; =*circ.* 1685, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Fortescue, by whom he had two sons, Thomas and John and four daughters, Elizabeth, Meriel, Anne and Susanna ; d. 1707.

Horner was sheriff of Somerset in 1680, and from about that date a J.P. and D.L. for Somerset, and Colonel of the militia, and Visitor of Sexey's School, Bruton, in 1690. In 1681 he was said to be one of the militia officers whom the leaders of the 'disaffected', *i.e.* the Exclusionist party, would have liked to have removed. His name was removed from the commission of deputy-lieutenants in 1687, on account of his refusal to agree to the removal of the penal laws, and he signed the declaration in favour of William III the following year.

In January 1689 Horner was elected to the Convention Parliament, in spite of the opposition of John Speke, and he was reappointed a D.L. in 1691.

Arms : *sable, three talbots passant, argent, two and one.*

References : Poynton, *Memoranda on the History of Kelston*, iv, 24 ; Collinson, ii, 463 ; Horner MSS. ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29 ; C.S.P.D. 1680, 61 ; 1681, 352 ; 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253 ; S. & D.N. & Q. x, 308 ; xiv, 152.

Sir John Smith.

Sir John Smith (Smyth) of Long Ashton, second baronet, b. 1659, s. and h. of Sir Hugh Smyth, M.P., d. 1680, by Anne, daughter of the Hon. John Ashburnham ; =*circ.* 1690, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Samuel Astry ; d. 1726, leaving three sons, John, Hugh and Thomas, all o.s.p. and five daughters of whom Florence = (1) John Pigott and (2) Jarret

Smyth, and Arabella=Edward Gore, were eventually co-heiresses of the Long Ashton estates, Elizabeth, Astrea=Samuel Coster, and Anne having o.s.p.

Sir John was sheriff of Somerset 1688-9, D.L. 1683, 1691, 1701, and M.P. again 1695-8. He was one of the D.L.s removed by James II for refusing to agree to the removal of the penal laws, is said to have been implicated in a plot against the King in 1688, and signed the declaration in favour of William III at the end of the year.

Arms : gules, on a chevron between three cinquefoils argent as many leopards' faces sable.

References : Collinson, ii, 293, 301 ; Green, William III in Somerset, 29 ; C.S.P.D. 1690-1, 358 ; 1701-02, 253.

CONVENTION PARLIAMENT OF 1689-90 ; 22 January to 20 August 1689 ; and 19 October 1689 to 27 January 1690.

Edward Gorges, esquire ; George Horner, esquire [see above].

Edward Gorges.

Edward Gorges of Wraxall, born 1631, s. and h. of Samuel Gorges, d. 1671, by his wife Jane, daughter of John Cottrell and widow of John Allen ; is described as of Grays Inn in 1648 ;=in 1653, Grace, daughter of William Winter of Clapton ; d. 1708 ; monument in Wraxall church. His two sons and a daughter, Dorothy, having died s.p. in his lifetime, Wraxall, together with property in Nailsea, Flax Bourton and Tickenham was inherited by his surviving daughter, Elizabeth, who=John Codrington. Gorges was a commissioner to deal with recusants in 1675 and a D.L. for Somerset 1670-85, when he was removed from office for having refused to agree unconditionally to the removal of the penal laws, and again from 1701-8.

Arms : lozengy, or and azure, a chevron gules.

References : Collinson, iii, 158 ; Masters, Collections for a History of Wraxall, 27 ; Green, William III in Somerset, 29 ; C.S.P.D. 1671-2, 101 ; 1700-02, 253 ; C.T.P. iv, 790.

PARLIAMENT OF 1690-5 ; 20 March to 23 May 1690 ; 2 October 1690 to 5 January 1691 ; 22 October 1691 to 24 February 1692 ; 4 November 1692 to 14 March 1693 ; 7 November

1693 to 25 April 1694 ; 12 November 1694 to 3 May 1695 ; dissolved, 11 October 1695.

Nathaniel Palmer, esquire ; Sir Edward Phelips, knight.

Nathaniel Palmer.

Nathaniel Palmer of Fairfield in Stogursey, born *circ.* 1656, s. and h. of Colonel Peregrine Palmer, d. 1684, by Anne, daughter of Nathaniel Stephens ;=*circ.* 1682, Frances, daughter of Sir William Wyndham, M.P. ; d. 1717. His two sons and four daughters, Thomas, Peregrine, Elizabeth, Frances, Catherine and Anne, all o.s.p. and his estates ultimately descended to his great-niece, Cicely, daughter of Sir Thomas Wroth, M.P.

Palmer was M.P. for Minehead, 1685-7, for Bridgwater, 1688-9, 1695-8, 1710-13, 1713-14, and for the county again in 1699-1700, 1701-02, 1702-05 and 1705-08. He was one of the D.L.s removed from office by James II, for refusing to agree to the repeal of the penal laws, signed the declaration in favour of William III in 1689, and was reappointed D.L. in 1691 and 1701.

Arms : two bars gules, on each three trefoils argent, in chief a greyhound courant sable.

References : Collinson, iii, 42 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, ii, 85 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29 ; C.S.P.D. 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253.

Sir Edward Phelips.

Sir Edward Phelips of Montacute, born 1638, s. and h. of Colonel Edward Phelips, M.P., d. 1679, by Anne, daughter of Sir Robert Pye ; knighted *circ.* 1665 ;=(1) Dorothy, daughter of Henry Cheek of West Newton, who o.s.p. and (2) *circ.* 1683, Edith, daughter of John Blake of Langport, by whom he had three daughters, Anne=her cousin Edward Phelips, Elizabeth, and Edith=Carew Mildmay of Hazelgrove ; d. 1699 ; monument in Montacute church.

Phelips was M.P. for Ilchester, 1661-79 ; his re-election in 1679 was disallowed, as William Strode and John Speke, his opponents were declared elected, but he sat for Ilchester again, 1685-7, and for the county, 1698-9. Several letters in the State Papers between 1662-4 contain reports from

Phelips on Somerset affairs, particularly on troubles with old Parliamentarians. He was a commissioner to deal with recusants in 1675 and as a J.P. had a reputation for great severity in carrying out the laws against dissenters. One of them complained that 'no one who opposed Sir Edward at the late elections (in 1679) has had any peace since'. At Bridgwater and Dorchester Quarter Sessions in 1681 Sir Edward encouraged the Bench to send addresses of loyalty to the King, and in April he received a letter from the King at once commending his loyalty and restraining his energy, an offer to raise a troop of horse having already been refused. In 1682 Phelips was reported to be 'very successful in bringing dissenters to church', government supporters hoping he would be authorised to deal with the 'conventiclers' in Taunton, who were leniently treated by the under-sheriff, and in 1683 he and Lord Stawell searched the houses of the 'fanatics' in Bridgwater and had the furniture of their chapel burnt in the Cornhill.

In June 1685, Phelips was colonel in command of a regiment of Somerset militia stationed at Taunton, and between 12 to 15 June he received news of Monmouth's landing and orders to proceed, together with another regiment under Colonel Luttrell, to Shute Hill near Axminster, to join the Duke of Albemarle's forces. Between Chard and Axminster, the militia, whose sympathies were with the Duke, refused to advance further and deserted in large numbers to Monmouth. Phelips, ashamed and indignant, retired to Wells, where another body of militia were stationed, but on their also preparing to retreat, he returned to Montacute and joined the royal forces which had now arrived in Somerset.

In 1687 Phelips refused to agree to the removal of the penal laws, tried to prevent the delivery of a new charter to Ilchester, possibly because it would have prevented him 'making interest' there for his own election, and in 1688 led the opposition at Bruton Quarter Sessions, to the sheriff Edward Strode, who was unpopular as an old supporter of Monmouth and found it hard to enforce his new authority. The following year it was Sir Edward's own position in the county which was under discussion, when Lord Shrewsbury

only re-appointed him to a command in the militia after some hesitation on account of 'his severities, different to all others'. However, in 1691, he was made a D.L. and in 1692 vice-admiral of Somerset.

Arms : *argent, a chevron between three roses gules.*

References : Collinson, iii, 205, 314 ; S. & D.N. & Q. ii, 91 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29, 34, 49 ; C.S.P.D. 1661-2, 539 ; 1662-4, 296, 331, 471, 552 ; 1666-7, 65 ; 1679-80, 86, 428 ; 1680-81, 689 ; 1681, 257, 352, 360 ; 1682, 97, 145 ; 1683, 60, 398 ; 1690-1, 358 ; C.T.B. x, 46.

PARLIAMENT OF 1695-8 ; 22 November 1695 to 27 April 1696 ;
20 October 1696 to 16 April 1697 ; 3 December 1697 to 5
July 1698 ; dissolved 7 July.

Sir John Smyth, bart. [see above] ; Sir John Trevillian, bart.

Sir John Trevillian.

Sir John Trevillian (Trevelyan) of Nettlecombe, second baronet, born 1670, s. and h. of Sir George Trevelyan, first baronet, d. 1671, by Mary, daughter of John Willoughby of Leahill, Devon ; matriculated at Wadham College, 1687 ; = (1) 1693, Urith, daughter of Sir John Pole of Shute ; (2) in 1700, Susanna, daughter of William Warren of Stallens-thorne, Devon, by whom he had two sons, George and John, and several daughters, one of whom, Margaret=Alexander Luttrell of Dunster ; d. 1755.

Sir John was a D.L. for Somerset, 1691, 1701 ; sheriff, 1704-05 ; M.P. for the county again in 1701, and for Minehead, 1708-10, 1710-13, 1713-14, 1717-22. Actually he was elected for Minehead on this occasion at the general election of 1714, but this election was declared void, and it was not until 1717 that he was re-elected at a bye-election and was able to take his seat.

Arms : *gules, a demi-horse argent, hooped and maned or, issuing out of water in base proper.*

References : Collinson, iii, 539 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, ii, 44 ; C.S.P.D. 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253.

PARLIAMENT OF 1698-1700 ; summoned for 24 August but owing to prorogations did not meet till December. 6

December 1698 to 4 May 1699 ; 6 December 1699 to 11 April 1700 ; dissolved 19 December.

John Hunt, esquire ; Sir Edward Phelips, knight [see above].

Sir Edward Phelips died early in 1699, and on 10 May, Nathaniel Palmer, esquire [see above], was elected.

John Hunt.

John Hunt of Compton Pauncefote, born 1639, s. and h. of Robert Hunt, M.P., d. 1679, by Elizabeth, daughter of John Browne of Frampton, Dorset ; = Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Roscarrock of Roscarrock, Cornwall ; d. 1721, leaving John, his heir.

Hunt was M.P. for Milborne Port, 1677-79 (having been elected at a bye-election caused by the death of Sir Francis Wyndham), 1679, 1679-81, 1681, 1685-7, 1689-90, 1702, and 1702-05 ; for Ilchester, 1690-5 and 1695-8, and for the county again in 1702. He was a J.P. 1683, D.L. 1691, 1701, Visitor of Sexey's School, 1687, and a trustee of Rafe, Lord Stawell in 1689. Having refused to agree to the unconditional removal of the penal laws by James II, government agents reported on the one hand that he was only elected for Milborne Port as the nearest J.P. and on the other that *Quo warranto* proceedings against the borough would be necessary to prevent his re-election. He was further described as 'a violent man' on the Bench and was one of the leaders of the opposition to sheriff Strode at the Bruton sessions of 1687.

Arms : *azure, two chevronels ermine, between three martlets argent.*

References : Collinson, ii, 77 ; iii, 200 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, ii, 114 ; vi, 74 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29, 34 ; S. & D.N. & Q. x, 308 ; xiv, 151 ; C.S.P.D. 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253.

PARLIAMENT OF 1701 ; 6 February to 24 June ; dissolved 11 November.

Sir John Trevelyan, baronet ; John Hunt, esquire. [See above for both members.]

PARLIAMENT OF 1701-02 ; 30 December 1701 to 23 May 1702 ; dissolved 2 July.

Nathaniel Palmer, esquire [see above] ; Sir Philip Sydenham, baronet.

Sir Philip Sydenham.

Sir Philip Sydenham of Brympton d'Evercy, third baronet, second but eldest surviving son of Sir John Sydenham, M.P., died 1696, by his second wife, Mary, daughter of Philip, Earl of Pembroke; born *circ.* 1676; educated at Catherine Hall, Cambridge; M.P. for Ilchester, 1701, and for the county again, 1702-05; o.s.p. 1739. An F.R.S. and a great book collector, Sydenham is said by a contemporary to have 'wasted his estate by expensive living and freakish generosity' and to have died in poverty. In 1707 he sold Sutton Bingham manor to Thomas Compton and in 1722 the whole of his estate at Brympton to Thomas Penny, most of the purchase money of over £15,000 being required to pay off mortgages on his estate.

Arms: *argent, a chevron between three rams trippant sable.*

References: Batten, *Notes on South Somerset*, 46.

PARLIAMENT OF 1702-05; summoned for 20 August; sessions: 20 October 1702 to 27 February 1703; 9 November 1703 to 3 April 1704; 24 October 1704 to 14 March 1705; dissolved 5 April.

Nathaniel Palmer, esquire; Sir Philip Sydenham, baronet.

[See above for both members.]

PARLIAMENT OF 1705-08; summoned for 4 June; sessions: 25 October 1705 to 21 May 1706; 3 December 1706 to 24 April 1707; 23 October 1707 to 1 April 1708; dissolved 3 April.

Nathaniel Palmer, esquire [see above]; John Pigott, esquire.

John Pigott.

John Pigott of Brockley, born *circ.* 1654, second son of Thomas Pigott of Brockley, died 1673, by Florence, daughter of John, first Lord Poulett, and widow of Thomas Smyth, M.P. of Long Ashton. He inherited Brockley on the death of his elder brother Poulett, but spent much of his time in Ireland, where his father had left him a large estate in Queen's County. Pigott was sheriff of Somerset 1682-3, when he was appointed a D.L. and colonel of militia and had to deal with disaffection in Taunton and search the houses of sus-

pected persons for arms. He was one of the D.L.s removed from office by James II, for refusing to agree to the suspension of the penal laws, signed the declaration in favour of William III and was reappointed D.L. in 1691 and 1701. Colonel Pigott died in 1727 and was buried at Brockley, leaving one son, John, and one daughter, Florence, who inherited Brockley on the death of her brother s.p. in 1730. She = John Biggs, who assumed the name of Pigott.

Arms : *ermine, three lozenges conjoined in fesse sable.*

References : Collinson, ii, 121 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, iv, 106 ; C.S.P.D. 1683, January-June, 45, 359 ; July-September, 19, 266 ; 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253 ; Green, *William III in Somerset*, 29, 34.

PARLIAMENT OF 1708-10 ; summoned for 8 July ; sessions : 16 November 1708 to 21 April 1709 and 15 November 1709 to 5 April 1710 ; dissolved 21 September.

Henry Portman, esquire ; John Prowse, esquire. Prowse died on 4 April 1710, and on 26 April Sir William Wyndham, baronet, was elected in his place, but did not take his seat, as there was no further session of Parliament before the dissolution in September.

Henry Portman.

Henry Seymour Portman of Orchard Portman, fifth son of Sir Edward Seymour of Berry Pomeroy, Devon, by Anne, daughter of Sir John Portman, first baronet, of Orchard Portman ; succeeded to the Portman estates in 1690 on the death of his first cousin Sir William Portman, sixth baronet, s.p., and assumed the name and arms of Portman ; = (1) Penelope, daughter of Sir William Haselwood ; (2) Meliora, daughter of William Fitch of High Hall, Dorset ; o.s.p. 1728, when he was succeeded by his nephew William Berkeley.

Portman was M.P. for Taunton 1698-1700, 1710-13 and 1713-14, and for Wells in 1701 (when he was also elected for Taunton), 1701-02, 1702-05, and 1705-08, and a D.L. for Somerset and Dorset. His brother, Sir Edward Seymour, M.P., was Speaker of the House of Commons, 1672-9, and one of the leaders of the Tory party in the west of England. Arms : *or, a fleur de lis azure.*

References : Collinson, ii, 90 ; C.S.P.D. 1690-1, 358 ; 1700-02, 253.

John Prowse.

John Prowse of Axbridge, born 1676, son of John Prowse, died 1688, by Anne, d. and coh. of Roger Newborough of Berkeley; = (1) *circ.* 1701, Margaret, daughter of William Bragge of Sadborough, Dorset; (2) *circ.* 1706, Abigail, daughter of George Hooper, Bishop of Bath and Wells; died 1710, leaving one son, Thomas; buried at Axbridge. He was a J.P. and colonel of the Bath regiment and his monument records that he was 'unanimously elected M.P.' and that he died of smallpox at Westminster 'in diligent and faithful attendance in Parliament'.

Arms: *sable, three lions rampant argent, within a bordure or.*

References: Collinson, ii, 203; iii, 562, 583; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, v, 95.

Sir William Wyndham.

Sir William Wyndham of Orchard Wyndham, third baronet, b. 1687, only son of Sir Edward Wyndham, d. 1694, second baronet, by Catherine, daughter of Sir William Leveson-Gower; = (1) in 1708, Catherine, daughter of Charles, Duke of Somerset, and (2) Maria, daughter of Peter d'Jong of Utrecht, and widow of the Marquis of Blandford; died 1740, leaving, by his first wife, two sons, Charles, Earl of Egremont, and Percy, Earl of Thomond, and two daughters, Elizabeth = George Grenville, and Catherine. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, Wyndham travelled abroad for a time and in 1710 was elected M.P. for Somerset, at the bye-election caused by the death of John Prowse. Re-elected at the general election in the autumn, a friend of Henry St. John, and a member of the victorious Tory party, Wyndham became Master of the Buckhounds, and in June 1712 Secretary at War, each appointment involving a bye-election in Somerset, when he was on each occasion re-elected. In November 1713, he became Chancellor of the Exchequer and throughout the following year supported Bolingbroke against Oxford. He spoke in favour of the expulsion of Steele from the House of Commons in March, introduced the Schism Act in the House in May, and on 28 July, after Oxford's dismissal, he was appointed chief of the five commissioners of the Treasury, but his official career ended with

the accession of George I. In the first session of the Parliament of 1715, when he again represented Somerset, Wyndham was censured by the House for his protest against the King's proclamation when calling Parliament. At the same time he was planning a rising in the west in favour of the Stuarts. This was discovered and Sir William, though he escaped the soldiers sent to arrest him at Orchard Wyndham, later surrendered on the advice of his father-in-law, the Duke of Somerset. After being imprisoned in the Tower for nine months he was liberated on bail and was never brought to trial. Wyndham continued to represent Somerset in Parliament until his death in 1740, and lead the Tory opposition in the House of Commons under the inspiration of Bolingbroke who corresponded regularly with him from France. When the latter was in England Wyndham was known to act as his mouthpiece in opposing Walpole's policy at home and abroad, and in a debate on the Septennial Act in 1734, Walpole replied to one of Sir William's bitterest speeches with a direct attack on Bolingbroke. In the Parliament of 1734, when Bolingbroke was again living abroad, Wyndham lead the opposition 'with diminished heat'. He supported the Prince of Wales against the King and opposed the convention with Spain. Wyndham was a member 'of the gay political and literary circles which mixed together in the reigns of Anne and George I', and belonged to the October and Brothers' Clubs; he was an eloquent speaker and was described by a contemporary in the House as 'the most made for a great man that I ever knew', but as the leader of an unsuccessful opposition 'he had no further opportunity of using his talents in office'.

Arms : *azure, a chevron between three lions heads erased or.*

References : D.N.B.

PARLIAMENT OF 1710-13; 25 November 1710 to 12 June 1711;
7 December 1711 to 8 July 1712; 9 April to 16 July 1712;
dissolved 8 August.

Sir Thomas Wroth, knight; Sir William Wyndham, baronet
[see above].

Sir Thomas Wroth.

Sir Thomas Wroth of North Newton, born 1675, only son of Sir John Wroth, died 1677, by Elizabeth, daughter of Peregrine Palmer of Fairfield, and sister of Nathaniel Palmer, M.P.; =Mary, d. and h. of Francis Osbaldiston of Aldenbrook, Essex; died 1721, buried at North Newton, but has a monument in Stogursey Church; his only daughter, Cicely =Sir Hugh Acland of Columb John, Devon. Sir Thomas was M.P. for Bridgwater 1705-08, for Wells 1713-14, and sheriff of Somerset, 1708-09.

PARLIAMENT OF 1713-4; Summoned for 12 November 1713; two sessions: 16 February to 9 July and 1 to 25 August 1714; dissolved 5 January 1715.

Thomas Horner, esquire; Sir William Wyndham, baronet [see above].

Thomas Horner.

Thomas Horner of Mells, born 1688, s. and h. of George Horner, M.P., died 1707, by Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Fortescue; =Susanna, d. and h. of Thomas Strangways of Melbury, Dorset, and assumed the name of Strangways; died 1741. His two sons, Thomas and Strangways, died young and his only surviving child was his daughter Elizabeth who =Stephen Fox, first Lord Ilchester; Mells was inherited by his nephew Thomas Horner. He was probably the builder of Mells Park House.

Horner was sheriff of Somerset in 1712, and appears to have been a Tory in politics as he was appointed a D.L. and colonel of militia by the Duke of Ormonde when Lord-Lieutenant of the county in 1710, and was threatened with arrest as a Jacobite after the discovery of Wyndham's plans for a western rising in favour of the Stuarts in 1715. He was sheriff again in 1727 and M.P. 1727-41.

Arms: *sable, three talbots passant argent two and one.*

References: Collinson, ii, 463; Records of the Horner Family (MSS.), 24.

Note.—After the passing of the Septennial Act, and until the end of the century Parliaments lasted, with two exceptions, from six to seven years with regular sessions.

PARLIAMENT OF 1715-22 ; met on 17 March 1715 ; dissolved 10 March 1722 ; eight sessions.

William Helyar, esquire ; Sir William Wyndham, baronet [see above].

William Helyar.

William Helyar of Coker Court, born 1662, s. and h. of William Helyar, M.P., died 1697, by Rachel, daughter of Sir Hugh Wyndham of Pillesdon ; =(1) Joanna, d. and coh. of Robert Hole of South Tawton ; (2) in 1719, Anne, eldest daughter of William Harbin of Newton Surmaville, Yeovil ; died 1742 ; by his first wife he had two sons, William, died 1723, leaving a son, William, who succeeded his grandfather, and Robert and three daughters, Rachel=Sir Robert Coryton, Mary and Joanna. He was sheriff of Somerset, 1701-02, and D.L. in 1703.

Arms : *azure, a cross flosy argent between four mullets pierced or.*

References : Brown, *Somerset Wills*, iii, 22 ; Harbin MSS. ; C.S.P.D. 1700-02, 253.

PARLIAMENTS OF 1722-27 ; summoned for 10 May, met 9 October 1722 ; dissolved 5 August 1727 ; six sessions.

Edward Phelips, esquire ; Sir William Wyndham, baronet [see above].

Edward Phelips.

Edward Phelips of Montacute, born *circ.* 1670, son of John Phelips, by his wife Alice Molyneux ; succeeded to Montacute in 1699, on the death of his uncle, Sir Edward Phelips, M.P., whose eldest daughter Anne, he married *circ.* 1702. They had one son Edward, died young, and two daughters, Bridget=Sir Gerald Napier, baronet, and Anne=John Horner. After his first wife's death, Phelips=(2) *circ.* 1720, her sister Elizabeth, by whom he had two sons, Edward and John and a daughter Elizabeth ; died 1734.

Phelips was M.P. for Ilchester, 1708-10, 1710-13 and 1713-4.

Arms : *argent, a chevron, between three roses gules.*

Reference : Collinson, iii, 205.

PARLIAMENT OF 1727-34 ; summoned for 28 November 1727, but prorogued till 11 January 1728 ; seven sessions ; dissolved 17 April 1734.

Thomas Horner, esquire ; Sir William Wyndham, baronet.
[See above for both members.]

PARLIAMENT OF 1734-41 ; summoned for 13 June 1734, but prorogued till 14 January 1735 ; seven sessions ; dissolved 27 April 1741.

Thomas Horner, esquire ; Sir William Wyndham, baronet.
[See above for both members.]

Wyndham died in 1740 and on 26 November Thomas Prowse, esquire, was elected to succeed him and took his seat during the last session, which had opened on 18 November.

Thomas Prowse.

Thomas Prowse of Axbridge and Berkeley, born 1708, only son of John Prowse, M.P. d. 1710, by Abigail, daughter of George Hooper, Bishop of Bath and Wells ;=*circ.* 1735, Elizabeth, daughter of John Sharpe of Graston Park, Northamptonshire, by whom he had three sons, Charles, John and George, all o.s.p., and five daughters, of whom three o.s.p., one=Rev. John Rogers, and Elizabeth=Sir John Mordaunt, seventh Bart. ; died 1767. On his monument in Axbridge church a long epitaph records that he was five times (in 1740, 1741, 1747, 1754 and 1761) 'unanimously chosen M.P.', that he 'discharged his duty in Parliament with ability, integrity and honour' and that 'though frequently solicited, he would never . . . accept any employment in the state'.

Arms : *sable, three lions rampant within a bordure or.*

References : Collinson, ii, 203 ; iii, 562, 583 ; Brown, *Somerset Wills*, v. 95.

PARLIAMENT OF 1741-47 ; summoned for 25 June 1741, but prorogued to 1 December ; six sessions ; dissolved 18 June 1747.

Henry Berkeley Portman, esquire ; Thomas Prowse, esquire
[see above].

Henry Portman.

Henry William Berkeley Portman of Orchard Portman and Bryanston, Dorset, born *circ.* 1709, s. and h. of William Berkeley of Pylle, by Anne, daughter of Sir Edward Seymour of Berry Pomeroy, Devon, and neice of Henry Seymour Portman, M.P., to whose estates Edward Berkeley succeeded, as great-great-grandson of Sir John Portman, in 1728. He died in 1737, having assumed the name of Portman, and his son, Henry Berkely Portman quartered the Portman and Berkeley arms. He=*circ.* 1737, Anne, daughter of William Fitch of High Hall, Dorset, and died 1761, leaving a s. and h. Henry William Portman.

He was M.P. for Taunton, 1734-41, and sheriff of Somerset, 1750.

Arms : quarterly, first and fourth, or, a fleur-de-lis, azure, for Portman, second and third, gules, a chevron ermine between ten crosses pattée, argent, six in chief and four in base, for Berkeley.

References : Burke's *Peerage* ; Collinson, iii, 282.

PARLIAMENT OF 1747-54 ; summoned for 13 August 1747 ; prorogued to 10 November ; seven sessions ; dissolved 8 April 1754.

Thomas Prowse, esquire [see above] ; Sir Charles Kemys Tynte, baronet.

Sir Charles Kemys Tynte.

Sir Charles Kemys Tynte, fifth baronet, of Halswell, born 1710, third son of Sir John Tynte, second baronet, by Jane, daughter of Sir Charles Kemys, baronet, M.P., of Cefn Mably, Glamorgan, and heiress of her brother Sir Charles Kemys, who o.s.p. in 1735. His elder brothers Halswell and John having died s.p. Sir Charles in 1735 succeeded to the baronetcy and to estates in Wales and Somerset, the latter including Halswell House in Goathurst and Chelvey. He=*in* 1738, Anne, d. and coh. of the Rev. Thomas Busby, of Addington, Bucks., and o.s.p. 1785, when his estates passed to his niece, Jane, daughter of his sister Jane, who had=*Major* Ruisshe Hassall ; she=*Colonel* John Johnson and assumed the name of Kemys Tynte.