

If Thomas, the Draper, was the son of Edward, the Baron, he would at some time or some where, probably have held lands. He would have married a wife who had an estate, like his brother Geoffrey, or been a soldier, or clergyman, or a lawyer, like Edmund Dudley. A man to be a draper would have to learn the trade, but a Baron's son would not learn a trade.

Edward Dudley, who in 1542 named for his executor, Roger, (perhaps his nephew), was apparently a military gentleman. He might have been a grandson of the Baron, but he could not have been a grandson of that draper, Thomas, although he might have been Thomas' son. There is one very good reason for supposing Katharine a grand-daughter of the Baron, or at least descended from one of the Dudley barons, and that is, that she stamped the cross on her will. That was a good, honest ensign of the Barons of Malpas. They gained the Malpas estate by Isabel, daughter of Wm. Patrick, about 1270, and held it till 1528, when Edward, Lord Dudley, Baron of Dudley, sold most of it to George Robinson, Esq., and Quondam, his son, sold the rest to Sir Rowland Hill in 1537.

The cross, which Katharine Dudley used, might possibly have been a mere Catholic mark, and not the cross of Malpas. But it was used by some of the Dudleys about that time, one being Wm. Dudley, Bishop of Durham, on his tomb in Westminster Abbey. He used it as a quartering to show his descent from the Barons of Malpas.

my seall. Dated the day and yere above saide, these psonnes beinge pte and wytnes specially reqyred to the same:—Robert Hardy, Thomas Gall."

(Signed,)

Wm. Fox,
Registrar.

This Thomas was a zealous Protestant, evidently. Let it be remembered that John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, was now in his greatest power. He fell in 1553. That Duke's brother, Andrew of Tothill street, London, made his will in 1556. He was a private gentleman then. He begins it, "I, Sir Andrew Dudley, Knight, *** bequeath my body to be buried at Westminster, where it shall please the Dean to bestow."

If Thomas, the draper, was a son of one baron and brother of another, I wonder he did not style himself "gentleman," or "Esq." I wonder the church has not some record, or sign, of his high origin, that is, an origin then called high, and generally made great account of in churches?

If this was Thomas, the third son of Edward, Baron of Dudley, as Mr. Adlard presumes, why were not his arms set up in the church with the star or mullet for difference? But Gov. Thomas' seal has the crescent for difference, indicating descent from the second son of Baron Dudley. I think Gov. Thomas claimed he belonged either to the Earl of Leicester's branch, or the Yanwath branch, each of which should have used the crescent. But Duke John, after he bought up Dudley Castle and went there to live, assumed to be the head of his family and Baron of Dudley and of Malpas.