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THE  
HISTORY,  
GAZETTEER, AND DIRECTORY  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF DERBY:  
DRAWN UP FROM ACTUAL OBSERVATION,  
AND  
FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES;  
PART II.  
CONTAINING THE  
PAROCHIAL AND FAMILY HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY,  
AND STATISTICAL INFORMATION.  
ILLUSTRATED BY A MAP OF THE COUNTY, AND NUMEROUS  
COPPER-PLATE AND WOOD ENGRAVINGS BY THE  
FIRST ARTISTS.

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*The Materials and Directory collected by the Publisher,*

STEPHEN GLOVER;

EDITED BY

THOMAS NOBLE, Esq.

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DERBY:

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commences a pool of stygian waters, not unaptly named the Bottomless Pit ; whose prodigious range may in some measure be conceived, from the circumstance of its having swallowed up more than 40,000 tons of the rubbish made in blasting the rock, without any apparent diminution either in its depth or extent. The guide, indeed, informs you, that the former has not been ascertained ; yet we have reason to believe that this is incorrect, and that its actual depth in standing water is about 320 feet. There cannot, however, be a doubt, but that this abyss has communications with others, still more deeply situate in the bowels of the mountain, and into which the precipitated rubbish has found a passage. The superfluous water of the level falls through a water-grate into this profound caldron, with a noise like a rushing torrent.

This fissure is calculated at being nearly 280 yards below the surface of the mountain ; and so great is its reach upwards, that rockets of sufficient strength to ascend 450 feet, have been fired without rendering the roof visible. The effect of a Bengal light discharged in this stupendous cavity, is extremely magnificent and interesting. Beyond the fissure, the level has been driven to a similar length to that part which precedes it ; but in this division of its course little occurs to excite observation.

About half a mile from the entrance of the Cave-valley is a stratum of basalt, which appears at the surface, and, in one part, assumes somewhat of the form of an hexagonal column, and is similar, in texture and hardness, to those of Staffa, in the Hebrides, and of the Giant's Causeway, in Ireland. Incorporated in it is crystallized quartz, approaching in appearance to chalcedony. This column is part of a vast basaltic mass of great thickness and considerable dip, which ranges north and south for fifty or sixty yards, and is covered with a thin stratum of a substance resembling half baked clay. In its immediate neighbourhood is a stratum of toadstone ; some of which is decomposed, and appears like indurated clay, full of holes, and variegated with green spots, and calcareous spar : other specimens are extremely hard, with zeolite and jasper occasionally occurring in them.

The late Mr. Mawe, in the preface to his "Mineralogy of Derbyshire," observes, "that for the purpose of obtaining mineralogical information, Castleton seems to be the best situation, where such a variety of strata, mines, and minerals occur, as perhaps no situation in this kingdom can boast." "The various mines and veins of ore," he adds, "are of the first consequence, while the mountains around present a variety of strata worthy the attention of the geologist."

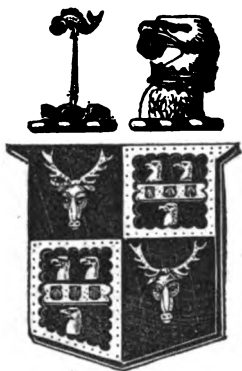
CATTON, a village, township, constabulary and chapelry, in the parish of Croxall <sup>Chetune</sup>, and hundred of Repton and Gresley, 1 m. E. of Croxall, on the south bank of the river Trent. This village, in 1821, contained 7 houses, 7 families and 89 inhabitants ; six of the families were employed in agriculture and one living independent.

The extent of the township is about 1200 acres of excellent land, chiefly a red marl, watered by the river Trent, at an average rental of £2. per acre. It is bounded by the Trent N. Walton E. Coton S. and Croxall W. S. W. The tithes belong to the vicar of Croxall, and are taken by composition. The estimated annual value of the land and buildings is £2406. 11s. 8d. Robert John Wilmot Horton, esq. M. P. is the sole proprietor and lord of the manor.

The chapel was destroyed by fire many years ago, and has not been rebuilt. It formerly belonged to Repton priory. The living is in the gift of the Crown.

*In Chetun, Siward had three carucates of land to be taxed. Land to three ploughs. There are now three ploughs in the demesne : and fourteen villanes and two bordars have four ploughs and twenty-four acres of meadow. Coppice-wood one quarenten long and one broad. Value in king Edward's time 60s. Nigel holds it, D. B. 300.*

The manor of Catton was part of the lands of Henry de Ferrers. The paramount manor passed in marriage with Amicia, daughter of Henry de Ferrers, to Nigel de Albini. In 4 Henry IV. Aylmer, Baron St. Amand held Catton under the Duke of Lancaster, and dying, left it to Ida, his daughter, and Gerrard Baybroke, the son of Eleanor, sister to Ida. Mr. Wolley supposed that this Ida married the father of Roger Horton, esq. by which marriage he obtained the manor. In 1421, Roger Horton, esq. died seised of it, and ever since it has remained with his descendants.



ARMS. Quarterly, 1st and 4th, Horton, *Sable*, a Buck's head, caboshed, *Argent*, attired, *Or*. 2nd and 3rd, Wilmot, *Sable*, on a fesse, *Or*, between three Eagles' heads, couped, *Argent*, as many escallops, *Gules*, a border engrailed, *Or*.

CREST of Horton. On the waves of the sea, *Proper*, a spear, erect, *Or*, headed, *Argent*, enfiled with a Dolphin, of the first.

CREST of Wilmot. An Eagle's head, couped, *Argent*, gorged, with a collar, engrailed, *Azure*, in its beak an escallop, *Gules*.

The family of Horton has for many centuries been resident at Catton, in this county, and was in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries connected, by intermarriages, with the Curzons of Croxall. Roger Horton, of Catton, knt. held Brislingcote, temp. Henry VI.; he married Alice, the daughter of John Curzon, of Croxall, knt. and died in 1421, leaving issue, a son, William, then eighteen years old; this William Horton, of Catton, knt. held Brislingcote and other lands, temp. Henry VI.; his grandson Roger, of Catton, knt. held the same in the reign of Henry VIII. and died in 1527; his son John, of Catton, knt. married Ann, daughter of John Curzon, of Croxall, knt. and died before his father, in the month of October, 1521, leaving a son John, aged fourteen at the death of his grandfather, who left him his estate. Christopher, of Catton, esq. son of the said John, died 25 Elizabeth, 1583, and left the lordship of Catton to his son Walter, then twenty-one years of age, who had a son Walter, whose sole issue, Christopher, of Catton, esq. was High Sheriff for Derbyshire in 1640, and died 18th November, 1659, aged 77; he married Parnell, daughter of Thomas Tyringham, esq.; she died 17th March, 1651, aged 61, leaving issue, five sons; Christopher died in the 19th year of his age, Walter, Thomas, Henry, Francis, and four daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Parnell and Anne. Walter Horton, of Catton, esq. was High Sheriff for Derbyshire in 1657, and died 19th Nov. 1701, aged 76; he married Dorothy, daughter of — Ferrers, who was buried at Croxall, 16th April, 1680, aged 52; they had issue, twelve children: Walter, a famous preacher, Canon of Lichfield and minister of All Saints' church, Derby; Christopher, of Catton, esq. the eldest son, died 9th October, 1707, aged 54; he married Eliza — who died in 1681, aged 33. They had issue, four children; the eldest son, Walter, of Catton, esq. who died in 1716, aged 38, married Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Thomas Kynnersley, co. Stafford, esq. and had issue, four sons, Christopher, Walter, Thomas, John, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Mary; Christopher, of Catton, esq. born in 1701, died 2nd January, 1764, aged 63, married Frances, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Eusebius Buswell, of Cadeby, co. Leicester, bart. and had issue, ten children, of whom eight were living in 1764. Christopher, the eldest, died unmarried. Eusebius, of Catton, esq. was High Sheriff for the county of Derby in 1800, died 18th April, 1823; he married Phœbe, daughter of — Davenport, esq. and had issue, two daughters, his co-heiresses, Anne Beatrix, the eldest, married Robert John Wilmot, esq. eldest son of Sir Robert Wilmot, of Osmaston, bart. and on the death of his father-in-law, that gentleman (who long filled the office of Secretary of State for the colonies) assumed, in compliance with the testamentary injunction of Mr. Horton, the additional surname and arms of Horton, and came into possession of the manors of Catton and Coton in the Elms, in this county, and a considerable estate in the county of Stafford. He has issue, seven children, the eldest son is named Eusebius. Frances Louisa, the other daughter, married the Hon. — Carleton. This family is celebrated for its attention to agricultural improvements and the welfare of its tenantry.

Catton hall, the seat of Robert John Wilmot Horton, esq. M. P. is a large and capital square brick mansion, built on a flat site, on the south bank of the river Trent. The high grounds, on the south of the mansion, are clothed with plantations that are shooting into beauty. The rich meadows that surround the house to the north-east