

Brereton upon the recommendation of Thos. Cromwell, Earl of Essex, minister of Henry VIII. He was assigned by direction of Cromwell, to one of the best garrisons. In 1538, his uncle, Leonard Grey, wrote Cromwell, "I beseech your lordship to be good lord unto my poor nephew Dudley." He continued in Ireland till 1538.* It is stated by several writers that he was refused in his proposals of marriage to some widow. I presume such refusals were too common to deserve mention, as he is called very poor by himself and his uncle Grey, and property goes farther in making matches than any other consideration. In 1547 he joined the expedition into Scotland, and became Governor of Hume Castle, after its surrender to the English. He pretended to be a papist when Mary became Queen, and buried his father, in 1553, with the Romish rites, as before recounted at page 33. He also assumed the livery of Queen Mary's husband, and had to be notified by the Privy Council to desist therefrom. In 1554, he was summoned to Parlia., as Baron of Dudley, and had a grant from Mary of the manors of Horborne, the Priory of Dudley, and titles of Northfield and Sedgley, with lands and rights in Dudley, Tressel, Cradley, etc.†

He married Katharine Brydges, dau. of Sir John Brydges, Kt., Lord Chandos of Cornbury in Oxfordshire, who was one of Mary's favorites. The queen, by her letters patent, settled on Edward and his wife and their heirs and, for default of such, to the right heirs of Edward Sutton, the lordships of Sedgley, Himley and Swinford, the hays, forests and chases of Ashwood and Chaspell, and all the lands called Willingsworth, in Sedgley, with divers lands and tenements in Himley, Wombourne and Swindon.‡

By another Grant Mary gave them and their heirs male, the whole Castle of Dudley, the Conigre Park, the old park, with divers messuages of lands lying in Dudley, Rowley and Sedgley. This grant was confirmed by Queen Elz. in 1579. These estates were those of John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, confiscated to the crown at his death.

These possessions would enable Lord Edward Dudley to relieve the distress of his brothers Harry and George; but whether he ever did so, I do not know.

In 1554, he was appointed Lieutenant of the Castle of Ham in Picardy, for life, which he held till 1558, when he abandoned the

* State Papers of Hen. VIII.—*Twamley*.

† Dug. Baronage and Patents of Philip and Mary.

‡ Pat. 2 and 3 Philip and Mary, Dug. Baronage and Verney Papers