



ROBERT DUDLEY EARL OF LEICESTER'S HOSPITAL.

THIS interesting building, partly of wood and partly of stone, is at the west end of High Street, Warwick, Eng. The original structure was erected in time of Richard II. The burgesses of Warwick conveyed it to Lord Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, in 1571. He obtained an act of incorporation that year and constituted it a collegiate body, with a common seal, by the style and title of "The Hospital of Robert, Earl of Leicester, in Warwick"; the visitors being the Bishop of Worcester, the Archdeacon of Worcester, and the Dean of Worcester. Lord Leicester called it his *Maison Dieu*, and had the gate-posts entwined with texts of scripture.

Thomas Cartwright, the celebrated Puritan reformer, was named by Dudley in the act of incorporation, as the master. He resided in the master's lodge of the hospital, except when he was imprisoned by Archbishop Whitgift, for non-conformity. He died in the hospital Dec. 27, 1663, and was buried in the church (St. Mary's) at Warwick.

The tenants, or brethren, there provided for, were to be: first, such of Dudley's soldiers as had been wounded; secondly, the Queen's soldiers of Warwick, Kenilworth, Stratford-on-Avon, Wotton-under-Edge and Erlingham.

The property of the hospital, which he provided for it, consists of farms in the counties of Warwick, Gloucester and Lancaster. The allowance to the brethren is £80 per annum. Each brother has separate apartments, and each one has a vote in the borough of Warwick and each division of the county.

This hospital is in good condition yet, and flourishing after three hundred years to perpetuate the name and fame of Robert Dudley.