

"Thomas Levit, Esq.," who is named as son-in-law and supervisor in John Lindley's will, dated 31 May 1613 and proved 30 June 1614. (York Wills, vol. 33, fo. 144.) If this were Thomas of Tixover, it was an early marriage, for he was but nineteen at the date of the will, and had taken his B.A. at Oxford only very recently, on 8 Feb. 1612/13. But this marriage of 1613 would permit the birth of our Thomas Levett in 1616. In connection with Rutlandshire it is significant that this will of John Lindley mentions his "cousin Sir Guy Palmes," who represented Rutlandshire seven times in Parliament from 1614 to 1640. Arthur Lindley, the oldest son of John Lindley, married a daughter of Sir John Garrard, Lord Mayor of London. Two of her sisters married Lincolnshire men, one Sir John Reade of Wrangle, and the other Francis Hamby of Tathwell. It is curious to note that the granddaughter of this Arthur Lindley married the son and heir of Robert Hitch, Dean of York, and thus a grandson of Capt. Christopher Levett, the explorer.

Hunter's Deanery of Doncaster states that Roger Dodsworth, the antiquary, "was intimate with Levett of Tixover, who gave him a Chartulary of the Cluniacs of Pontefract." This was the Chartulary of St. John of Pontefract, published by the Yorkshire Archaeological Society. On this volume, in Dodsworth's own hand, is the record that it came to him "ex dono Tomae Levett de High Melton, in anno 1626-7." Probably Thomas Levett died at Tixover before 1655, for in Dugdale's *Monasticon*, of which the first edition was printed in 1655, is an abstract of a deed concerning Roche Abbey with this caption, "ex autographo penes Thomam Levett nuper de Tikesover in com. Rutland." The parish registers of Tixover were included with those of Ketton up to 1740. These have been searched, but no reference to Thomas Levett has been found. The registers have suffered much from damp, and the ink is so faint that many pages could not be deciphered.

John Levett, third son of Thomas Levett of Melton, was born about 1605. He was admitted pensioner at Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1623. Peile's Register states that he had studied at Conisbrough and Haughton. He proceeded LL.D. in 1633 (*per lit. reg.*), and became a somewhat celebrated lawyer at York, but he seems always to have been financially embarrassed. In 1636 he married Mary, daughter and coheir of Emmanuel Mote, who owned the manor of Melton. Through this marriage John Levett acquired a considerable estate, including the manors of Melton and Bentley, charged with payments to the sisters of his wife. A collection of abstracts of deeds in *Topographer and Genealogist*, vol. 3, pp. 519-526, shows that by 1637 John Levett had sold Bentley manor to Sir Arthur Ingram, who in turn sold it to Bryan Cooke of Doncaster. The manor of Melton was offered to Sir John Melton in 1640, but as he failed to complete the purchase it went to Dr. Richard Berry, together with the Levett lands in Bentley and Cadeby, in satisfaction of large sums of money which Dr. Berry had lent to John and Thomas Levett. Hunter's Deanery of Doncaster quotes many letters from Dr. Berry. In one of them, dated 7 Dec. 1649, he says that a general release has been sealed between him and Levett; and in one dated 4 Mar. 1650 he says that Dr. Levett had promised to remove his wife and children out of Melton Hall and to yield possession, with all the demesne lands. Dr. Berry was the son of William Berrie of Walsby, co. Lincoln, and was B.A. of Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1606, M.A. 1609, and B.Med. 1614. He also obtained a diploma from Padua in 1620, and seems to have been a man of means, though John Levett says "he was beholden to Mr. Thomas Levett for the greater part