

V.—*The Family of Killigrew.*—By R. N. WORTH, *Plymouth.*

IN the History of Cornwall by Hitchins and Drew, mention is made of a certain manuscript history of the Killigrews of Arwenack, who occupied so important a position in the county in the 16th and 17th centuries. A copy of that manuscript having fallen into my hands, I was led, finding that it contained much novel matter, written in a quaint and characteristic fashion, to prepare an abstract for publication, in the belief that it would be a valuable contribution to the historical collections of the county, and an interesting memorial of a family, now, in the direct line, extinct. The principal portions are accordingly here presented in what may be regarded as nearly their pristine form, nothing of consequence being omitted. The original is not known to exist, and the copy had been somewhat modernised.\*

The Author of this History was Mr. Martin Killigrew, son-in-law of the second and last Sir Peter Killigrew, sometime Recorder of Falmouth, and for several years Steward of the Arwenack Estate. He appears to have been born in 1666, at Liston, in Staffordshire, and to have first made his acquaintance with the Killigrews whilst a Captain or Lieutenant at Pendennis Castle, under John, Earl of Bath. His name originally was Lister, and he took that of Killigrew upon his marriage with Ann, Sir Peter's youngest daughter. He survived all the Arwenack family with the exception of his grand-nieces, through the younger of whom Earl Kimberley inherits the property. The history was written in 1737 or 1738, as appears by a Letter, dated August 25th, in the former year; in which he says, "I am upon Leaving behind me Something Historically of the Family, y<sup>e</sup> memory of w<sup>ch</sup> is so Dear to me." He was then in fair health of body for his age (71), and took regular exercise in "Kingsington Garden"; but appears to have been

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\* I have been favoured by the Rev. C. M. Edward Collins, of Trewar-dale, with an extract from a letter written by his Grandfather, Mr. George Browne, in 1791, in which the writer states, "I have the history of the Killigrew family, of Arwenack." Possibly this manuscript, which is now not to be found, was the original.

rather low-spirited, since he says, "at present y<sup>e</sup> thoughts of Leaving this world are farr from being disagreeable to me, relishing nothing in it, and yet affected with Disagreeable Incidents happening." At this time he built the Pyramid which now stands near the Railway, at Falmouth, as a kind of family memorial.

As Steward he used to make yearly journeys from London to Falmouth. He was evidently a shrewd capable man, with strong feelings, and a keen sense of humour. During his Stewardship there was continual warfare between the Killigrews and the Corporation of Falmouth, in which he bore a stout part, and of which he has left a very curious record behind him. The soldier indeed seems to have clung to him through life: for he says in one of his letters to Mr. Abraham Hall, his successor in the Stewardship, "I value not my head being loaded with curses"; calls an opponent "a right raskell," and advises Hall, "I am a great enemy to the showing of teeth; ever let yours be felt before they are seen." Yet he gave the old Town Hall to the Corporation, and likewise presented them with their maces. In his record of the Corporate proceedings, he tells an uncommonly good story of the manner in which he once overreached his opponents. He had half engaged a Curate for the parish, whose salary he had offered to pay, and who on his road down to Falmouth got drunk at Penryn, and whilst lying in the gutter there was robbed by the boys of a very necessary article of wearing apparel. Feeling it would never do to appoint such a person himself, yet having compassion on his miserable plight, he told the poor fellow to go to the "King's Arms," and there to abuse him for his "barbarous usage...without limitation." This was done; the bait took; the Parson got the appointment from the Rector; and Martin records with great glee how "the next Sunday he preached, and that at me, to my face without sparing."

As a specimen of his Letters, I may quote the following curious production:—

MR. ABM. HALL.

Yours of y<sup>e</sup> 28th past fully to my satisfaction came to hand in due time. But as yours in course by this post is not come to hand, and Snoxell \* being down in Essex, and having Litle to say of business, shall deferr making you answer till his returne.

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\* His Clerk.

It is but by guess I have to tell you that you are not to expect to see y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> \* till about y<sup>e</sup> end of y<sup>e</sup> first week in May, who bringing with him y<sup>e</sup> young gentleman in question, must add considerably to y<sup>e</sup> flurry you will be put in from his being a person of great consideration, as I hear, tho' I know not so much as his name, and as little any particular of his circumstances. But suppose you must be advised by the Col<sup>o</sup> as to your providing accomodation for their Retinue. Two Bed Chambers for y<sup>e</sup> gentlemen you will put in y<sup>e</sup> best order you can; a room for y<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>ts</sup> to Eat in; The best Cook your Town affords; some choise good Hambs and a provision of fatt chickens; Wine you must leave Mr. James to provide; and if any fine green Tea be to be had, you must secure some of it, as what y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> is most Nice in, and drinkes much off. Two of y<sup>e</sup> Largest Tea Potts you can borrow, He using them both at a time. Nice and knowing beyond y<sup>e</sup> comon in providing a Table, so that your mother will only have to receive his orders Every morning on that head. The Stable put in y<sup>e</sup> best order you can, provided with Hay & Corne. If I do not greatly mistake, this flurry cannot continue above three weeks, for that their impatience will be greater to get back to Bath than it is to see Falm<sup>o</sup>.

You are still in time to see that your Closett & Books be put in y<sup>e</sup> best Order you can, and nothing to be seen there belonging to other people's business, but only to y<sup>e</sup> Estate. You will finde y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> quick of comprehension, and as ready at figures as can be suposed. At y<sup>e</sup> same time you observe to them y<sup>e</sup> great sums I have raised from y<sup>e</sup> Estate you will do me y<sup>e</sup> Justice to note y<sup>e</sup> improve<sup>ts</sup> I have made upon it. And that tho' times are now dead as thro'out y<sup>e</sup> Kingdome, yet as they have been good it may reasonably be hoped they will be so again, & that in y<sup>e</sup> main you doubt not of giving a yearly demonstration (by y<sup>e</sup> Rentall) of y<sup>e</sup> increase of y<sup>e</sup> Estate; when Diner is over you git back to your Closet, and as you see it proper, you returne with your pen in your Ear, making y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> sensible he is wanted above, whereby he may git rid of impertinant Comp<sup>a</sup> if such be with him. Nor can I see in respect to time y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> can do more in business than from day to day, he giving you orders w<sup>ch</sup> you will take in writing, and at parting take his hand to them, you giving him a duplicate.

You will be able to borrow glasses, knives, forks, and spoons, with some handsome pieces of plate, in everything to make y<sup>e</sup> best figure you can; & if you can borrow a better Horse then your own, you ought to do it. Relying upon y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> generosity (His greatest fault), you will be nothing out of pocket upon this occasion. As from me pray your Mother to trouble y<sup>e</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> with as little of her conversation as her business will admit off. I thinke enough at a time to a man of your accute parts.

Yours,

St. James's, 16th Aprill, 1737.

MART. KILLIGREW.

\* Col. West, husband of the last Sir Peter's youngest granddaughter, of whom more anon. The "young gentleman" is apparently Mr. Merrill, subsequently the husband of the Colonel's eldest daughter.

Martin Killigrew, in the commencement of his History, observes that the Killigrews were "of the most ancient of our people"; and that Richard, Duke of Cornwall and King of the Romans, gave them "y<sup>e</sup> spread eagle with the border of Cornwall" as their arms.\* They held the manor of Killigrew until the time of Henry VIII, "tho' some time before they had marryed y<sup>e</sup> daughter and Heir of Arwenack, and had removed their Residence thither." When Pendennis Castle was built by King Henry, John Killigrew was made "Captain therof," and so continued until he died, in 1567, "having rebuilt Arwenack House, y<sup>e</sup> finest and most costly then in y<sup>e</sup> county," and being possessed of an estate of £6000 a year, "his lands in those parts extending from Arwenack to Helford Passage." Sir John Killigrew, his son, succeeded him both at Arwenack and at Pendennis, and died in the 26th of Elizabeth, having placed his two younger sons, Thomas and Simon, at Court, where they "made their Fortunes." The History then proceeds:—

"John, y<sup>e</sup> eldest Son of y<sup>e</sup> said Sir John Killigrew, marryed Dorothy, daughter of Tho<sup>s</sup> Monck, of Poderidge, in y<sup>e</sup> County of Devon, Esq., Ancestor to Gen<sup>l</sup> Monck, Duke of Albemarle, by whom he had 9 Sons and 5 Daughters; who, tho' a father of so many Children, was so negligent of his Affairs, a fine Gentleman, a Gamester, and so profuse in his Way of living, as to leave his eldest son, y<sup>e</sup> last Sir John Killigrew of y<sup>e</sup> name, a very shattered Estate. The said last Sir John Killigrew, a sober good man, to his utter undoing, marryed y<sup>e</sup> daughter of an ancient and honorable family, now in y<sup>e</sup> peerage, in respect to whom I forbear the name; making herself infamous, and first debauched by y<sup>e</sup> Governor of Pendennis Castle.†

"In y<sup>e</sup> said Sir John's younger days, S<sup>r</sup> Walter Raleigh,

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\* Hals took the arms to indicate the descent of the family from the Duke through his concubine, Joan de Valletorta. The arms of Falmouth, derived from those of the family, are—a two-headed eagle displayed, charged with a castle on each wing and a rock surmounted by a pole on the body.

† Hals also gives this lady—the daughter of Sir George Fermor—a very bad character as a widow, stating that she went on board two Hanse-town vessels, in Falmouth Harbour, with a numerous gang of ruffians, and murdering two Spanish merchants, took thence two barrels of pieces of eight. Retribution awaited all the criminals but the chief; the whole party being tried at Launceston, and executed, with the exception of "Lady Jane," who escaped by the influence of friends, one being the Governor of Pendennis. Davies Gilbert says, "this terrible story cannot possibly be true, in the manner or to the extent in which it is related."



homeward bound from y<sup>e</sup> Coast of Guinea,\* put into Falmouth, where he found only one poor Litle house upon y<sup>e</sup> ground where y<sup>e</sup> town now Stands; who, being refreshed at Arwenack, and his people in y<sup>e</sup> said Poor house, gave him a notion of y<sup>e</sup> usefulness of more houses for y<sup>e</sup> accomodation of seafaring Men putting in there; who, returning to Court before his late fatal disgrace, laid such his projection (by memorial) before King James y<sup>e</sup> 1st, where-upon Sir John founded a petition in y<sup>e</sup> case for a Royal license to build 4 houses at y<sup>e</sup> place for y<sup>e</sup> better accomodation of shipping, it being not otherwise lawful to put up such buildings; who met with much opposition therein from y<sup>e</sup> Penryn Interests—so early were they jealous of y<sup>e</sup> growing Smithick, nicknamed Penny-come-quick. But after several London Journeys and very great Expense, he obtained such license for buildings, w<sup>ch</sup> are now increased beyond y<sup>e</sup> license, and by y<sup>e</sup> troubles of Charles 1st coming on, connived at, or not minded, when y<sup>e</sup> prerogative of y<sup>e</sup> Crown was disregarded.

“But this worthy gentleman, y<sup>e</sup> last Sir John Killigrew, was hardly got over this difficulty, when he fell under a much greater Affliction, as aforementioned, the Prostitution of his Wife; who caused herself to be called, or unaccountably was known by y<sup>e</sup> name of, Lady Jane. Arrived to that shameful degree, Sir John, in point of honor and for quietness of mind, found himself under a necessity to prosecute a divorce from her in y<sup>e</sup> Archbishop’s Court, which lasted so many years and so very expensive, as quite Ruined his Estate, to y<sup>e</sup> degree of his being often put to very hard Shifts to get home from London upon y<sup>e</sup> frequent recesses of y<sup>e</sup> process, but at length obtained y<sup>e</sup> Divorce in all its formal Extent \* \* \* \*. This woman in such long contest was in no degree protected by her family, but supported and cherished by y<sup>e</sup> town of Penryn, from their jealousy and hatred of Arwenack, as specially appears to this day, by plate by her given to the Mayor and Corporation of Penryn, when she came into her Jointure, as an acknowledgment for such their protection.† Sir John did not

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\* Guiana.

† This cup is still in the possession of the Corporation of Penryn. It is of silver, will hold about three quarts, and is inscribed:—“From Mayor to Mayor of the town of Penryn, where they received me in great misery. Jane Killygrew, 1613.”

long outlive such his divorce, dying in 1632, whose Widow came into her Jointure \* \* \* who lived so possessed to and in y<sup>e</sup> year 1648, when dying, Sir Peter Killigrew, y<sup>e</sup> first of y<sup>e</sup> name and y<sup>e</sup> next eldest Brother of Sir John of y<sup>e</sup> said 9 Sons, succeeded as of Inheritance to y<sup>e</sup> said poor reduced Estate ; \* bred under y<sup>e</sup> then Earl of Bristol in Spain, and at home at Court, a fine Gentleman, a Gamester in his youth, when he had nothing to lose, and ever a merry and a desirable Companion, even in those times of distraction and cruel mad factions, still in essentials preserving his loyalty to his Prince, but at y<sup>e</sup> same Time well with all y<sup>e</sup> great Men of y<sup>e</sup> opposite faction. Whilst a younger Brother, and nothing but his wit and agreeable temper to live on, he fell in with one of y<sup>e</sup> Sisters of y<sup>e</sup> Lord Lucas of Colchester, when he was refused, on account of his not being able to make her a Jointure ; which impediment coming to y<sup>e</sup> knowledge of y<sup>e</sup> then Wm., Earl of Pembroke, † freely and voluntarily, of his own ever noble and generous disposition, jointly with his Brother Philip, by their deed bearing date y<sup>e</sup> 13th May, in y<sup>e</sup> 5th year of Chas. 1st, between them of y<sup>e</sup> 1st part, and y<sup>e</sup> said Sir Peter Killigrew and Dame Mary his wife of y<sup>e</sup> other part, did grant and demise. [Then comes a list of "lands, tenements, parcels of ground, meadow, and pasture" near Cardiff, "amounting to a good £300 a year," granted to Sir Peter and his wife by the said Earl of Pembroke]. "As aforehinted of y<sup>e</sup> said Sir Peter Killigrew, preserving entire and at heart his loyalty to his Prince, he had opportunity of giving a strong instance, of w<sup>ch</sup> he often discoursed with tears in his Eyes, in y<sup>e</sup> presence and hearing of his Son and Lady Killigrew, [his] Daughter-in-law, from whose mouths I had y<sup>e</sup> story as thus : King Charles being under force brought to Hampton Court, and in treaty with y<sup>e</sup> Parliament, and Sir Peter being apprized of y<sup>e</sup> bad intentions of Oliver to his Majesty, he got admittance to y<sup>e</sup> King, showed him y<sup>e</sup> imminent danger he was in, and that he had provided horses and a Ship upon y<sup>e</sup> coast of Sussex, and with his head would answer y<sup>e</sup> carrying him off, provided his Majesty w<sup>d</sup> keep y<sup>e</sup> secret especially from his two favorites, ‡ then by Sir Peter

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\* Its value had been reduced to £80 a year.

† This was the friend and patron of Inigo Jones and Ben Jonson, the Pembroke of the famous epitaph on "Sidney's sister."

‡ Evidently Berkeley and Ashburnham.

named to y<sup>e</sup> King, and now by me suppressed in respect to their families in being. The King agreed to y<sup>e</sup> proposal, saying he would go to bed as usual, and when all was quiet would rise again, and be ready to take horse at y<sup>e</sup> time and place appointed in y<sup>e</sup> night, at 2 o'clock. Sir Peter was punctual on his part, and waiting till daylight, got off, but not without some suspicion and after questioning. These two favorites the night following carried off y<sup>e</sup> King as my Lord Clarendon tells, &c.\*

"Lord Lucas, Sir Peter's Brother-in-law, being secured by order of Parliament, Sir Peter solicited his Lordship's being admitted to bail, with success, and became bound to y<sup>e</sup> Government for his Appearance in £6000, w<sup>ch</sup> Bond was forfeited, by his Lordship getting off beyond sea, leaving Sir Peter to struggle against y<sup>e</sup> penalty of y<sup>e</sup> said Bond, more than sufficient to have ruined almost any other man in these times; but his Interest was such among the reigning Men of y<sup>e</sup> Faction, as to get clear of it in y<sup>e</sup> end.

[Here follow some references to the relatives of Sir Peter's wife, who "was of a very ancient and honorable family in Essex," and who "lived not many years after her marriage to Sir Peter Killigrew, leaving him only one son, y<sup>e</sup> last Sir Peter, and one daughter, who died young; breeding his son at Oxford, and thence sent him to, and kept him in France, to y<sup>e</sup> time of y<sup>e</sup> Restoration."]

"In the year 1648, after holding y<sup>e</sup> whole of this reduced Estate in Jointure 16 years from Sir Peter, y<sup>e</sup> said infamous Lady Jane died; when of inheritance he entered upon it, bringing to it about £12000 of personal estate; which inheritance, however small, he was fond of and cherished, but came not time enough to prevent y<sup>e</sup> malicious and envious Governor of Pendennis from burning his fine house of Arwenack, upon Sir William Waller's (Oliver's General) coming to besiege y<sup>e</sup> Castle.† One of y<sup>e</sup> first

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\* This is a curious story; but there are circumstances in its favour. Charles, after escaping from Hampton, did go to the coast as if expecting to meet a Ship. Could Sir Peter have been misunderstood as to time and place? Hume seems to favour Clarendon's idea that the King's going to the Isle of Wight was not entirely voluntary; and considers Ashburnham, if not treacherous, imprudent.

† Tonkin says he burnt it himself, setting fire to it with his own hands, that the enemy might not find shelter in it. Hitchins and Drew erroneously credit "the manuscript history" with this story.

things Sir Peter set about was to show y<sup>e</sup> then Government their Interest for y<sup>e</sup> good of y<sup>e</sup> Revenue, that y<sup>e</sup> Custom House ought to be removed from Penryn to his town of Smithick, in w<sup>ch</sup> he y<sup>e</sup> more readily succeeded in granting a Lease of a 1000 years to Jennings, y<sup>e</sup> Collector of y<sup>e</sup> Customs, whereon was built y<sup>e</sup> late Corker's house.\* From y<sup>e</sup> said Commonwealth, or rather Government, he obtained a patent for a weekly market and two fairs, as also a patent for y<sup>e</sup> passage of ferry from Smithick to Flushing—both perpetuities—having before purchased y<sup>e</sup> Barton of Trevethan. And it must be owned, very unthinkingly, to equal in figure y<sup>e</sup> Rival Town of Penryn, he obtained y<sup>e</sup> Charter incorporating y<sup>e</sup> village of Smithick by y<sup>e</sup> name of Falmouth, and not only built y<sup>e</sup> Church there, but at a greater labor and expense, obtained an act of Parliament for y<sup>e</sup> taking y<sup>e</sup> present parish of Falmouth out of and from y<sup>e</sup> then parish of Budock, and in compensation to y<sup>e</sup> Parson of Budock, charged y<sup>e</sup> Corporation of Falmouth with a perpetual annuity of £3, payable to y<sup>e</sup> said Parson of Budock; to y<sup>e</sup> payment of w<sup>ch</sup> annuity y<sup>e</sup> body and personal members of y<sup>e</sup> Corporation expressly by the act are liable to, and none other, altho' they fraudulently take y<sup>e</sup> money out of what is yearly raised for y<sup>e</sup> Poor.

“The second Sir Peter also had a younger brother, William by name, bred a Soldier from his youth, in y<sup>e</sup> Service and long wars of y<sup>e</sup> States of Holland against y<sup>e</sup> Spaniards, was their General and y<sup>e</sup> Commander-in-Chief of y<sup>e</sup> Troops they sent in aid of y<sup>e</sup> Dane against y<sup>e</sup> Swede, gained a complete victory over them, took all their baggage and many hundreds of good horse; w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> King of Denmark, much wanting, bought them of y<sup>e</sup> said Gen<sup>l</sup> Killigrew, to y<sup>e</sup> amount of upwards of £3000, and took y<sup>e</sup> King of Denmark's Broad Seal for y<sup>e</sup> money, paying his Officers and Soldiers out of his own pocket for their Shares of y<sup>e</sup> said Horses, but could never obtain any y<sup>e</sup> least satisfaction from y<sup>e</sup> King of Denmark, upon or from such his Broad Seal. The Service over, he returned to his Masters, y<sup>e</sup> States of Holland, continued in their service many years, was of service and support to many of his Countrymen during the Exile of King Charles y<sup>e</sup> 2nd, as by letters of thanks I have seen under y<sup>e</sup> said King's hand. At w<sup>ch</sup> time, so being in

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\* Mulberry Court.



Esteem with y<sup>e</sup> Princess of Orange, y<sup>e</sup> General Killigrew introduced his Sister Elizabeth into her service, from whence Count de Kinski, of y<sup>e</sup> Empire, married her. Upon a prospect of War with y<sup>e</sup> Dutch a few years after y<sup>e</sup> Restoration of Charles 2nd, y<sup>e</sup> said King, with y<sup>e</sup> rest of his subjects in y<sup>e</sup> service of y<sup>e</sup> Dutch, called over y<sup>e</sup> said General Killigrew, gave him a Regiment of foot—Sir Charles Littleton his Lieutenant Col'—and by patent created him a Baronet, and for failure of Heirs Male, y<sup>e</sup> honor descending to Sir Peter Killigrew, his nephew, son of y<sup>e</sup> first Sir Peter; and who, dying a Bachelor in 1678, left his said Nephew what he had composed, more of honor than of real substance.

“In 1667 Sir Peter Killigrew died on y<sup>e</sup> Road at Exeter, leaving his son, Sir Peter Killigrew, with his Estate, about £7000 in money. Having in 1662 happily married Frances, daughter of Sir Roger Twysden, of East Peckham, in Kent, one of y<sup>e</sup> finest women of her time, mistress of good sense, and endowed with virtue and beauty, and was y<sup>e</sup> greatest worldly happiness of Sir Peter's life to y<sup>e</sup> time of his death. Who no sooner found himself in his said Estate, but Ambrose Jennings, y<sup>e</sup> said Collector of y<sup>e</sup> Customs, dec<sup>d</sup>, and Bryan Rogers, his son-in-law, possessed of his house in Falmouth, also by cunning sinister means took possession of y<sup>e</sup> Corporation, bringing his own Litle Creatures into it as Aldermen and Burgesses, and for more than twenty years, to y<sup>e</sup> time of his death, nosed and sat hard on all occasions upon Sir Peter's interest in y<sup>e</sup> heart of his Estate, and greatly to y<sup>e</sup> detriment thereof; Sir Peter residing much at Court, and leaving all his domestic affairs to Draper, his Steward, who sacrificed and betrayed his Master's Interest to y<sup>e</sup> said Rogers in all things relating to y<sup>e</sup> Corporation, and y<sup>e</sup> Estate to y<sup>e</sup> Tenants, for Bribes, of w<sup>ch</sup> there are scores remaining to this day, at y<sup>e</sup> end of 50 years. Soon after Sir Peter's coming into y<sup>e</sup> Estate afs<sup>d</sup>, y<sup>e</sup> said Rogers, by y<sup>e</sup> help of Dennis Russell, an Attorney, and one of his Aldermen, drew in and influenced Sir Nicholas Slaning, an easy unthinking Gentleman, to attack Sir Peter in his Inheritance, in claiming a certain field in Pristloe, of about 20s. a year value; W<sup>ch</sup> at y<sup>e</sup> end of about 10 years contest at Law and in Equity, y<sup>e</sup> field remained with Sir Peter, to y<sup>e</sup> damage of about £3000 to y<sup>e</sup> said Sir Nicholas, and £1000 to Sir Peter; who, tho' his bent was to speculative learning, he was indefatigable in defending and

pursuing his interest in obvious things; who with y<sup>e</sup> money his Father left him (fortunately) purchased y<sup>e</sup> Barton of Tregenver, y<sup>e</sup> Barton of Trescobeas, and Howard's part of Treganeggy \* \* \* \*.

"In or about y<sup>e</sup> year 1670 Sir Peter left London, and settled with his family at Arwenack, in order to y<sup>e</sup> more closely looking into the Interest of his Estate there; and in particular for y<sup>e</sup> better accomodation of y<sup>e</sup> Revenue of y<sup>e</sup> Customs, he set about building a Public Quay there, in w<sup>ch</sup> projection and carrying it on to success, he met with very great opposition from y<sup>e</sup> towns of Penryn and Truro, in w<sup>ch</sup> y<sup>e</sup> said Mr. Rogers played his Aldermen and y<sup>e</sup> whole Corporation of Falmouth upon Sir Peter \* \* \* \*. Besides y<sup>e</sup> building of y<sup>e</sup> said Quay, w<sup>ch</sup> was very costly, he was obliged to pursue a Commission out of y<sup>e</sup> Exchequer for establishing y<sup>e</sup> Limits of y<sup>e</sup> Port, with y<sup>e</sup> approbation of y<sup>e</sup> then Lord Treasurer Danby, and that at a very great Expense, Labor, and many London journeys; when also was judged necessary, y<sup>e</sup> obtaining an Act of Parliament for fixing y<sup>e</sup> pitiful Duties to be paid him by y<sup>e</sup> Merchants on their imports and exports of their goods from such his Quay \* \* \*. Y<sup>e</sup> said public Quay, projected and established with y<sup>e</sup> Custom House upon it, was y<sup>e</sup> putting a full stop to y<sup>e</sup> Clandestine trade y<sup>e</sup> said Rogers had till then carried on; and had not y<sup>e</sup> Revenue of y<sup>e</sup> Customs (upon y<sup>e</sup> coming in of King William) been in a shameful manner prostituted to Parliament interest, as it more and more continued to be, y<sup>e</sup> benefit of y<sup>e</sup> said Public Quay would have answered all his labor and cost \* \* \* \*.

"About y<sup>e</sup> latter end of y<sup>e</sup> year 1683, having some few years before buried an infant son called Peter, he found all his ready money gone, and got into debt more or less; and in family charged with an only son, just come of age, a fine and hopeful young Gent, and two daughters, Frances and Ann, remarkably good and dutiful children, and his Estate yielding him not more than a reasonable subsistence, common prudence put him upon y<sup>e</sup> thoughts of marrying his son, in order that from such Wife's portion in money to make provision for his two daughters, on settling his whole Estate upon his son. And soon had an opportunity of effecting y<sup>e</sup> same, by marrying him to y<sup>e</sup> daughter of a most worthy and honorable Gent<sup>n</sup>, his neighbour,\* and in all

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\* This was Sir John St. Aubyn. Martin Killigrew's character of the lady

human prudence, a promising and suitable match, with a portion of £5000, four of w<sup>ch</sup> Sir Peter took, and allowed y<sup>e</sup> son to take y<sup>e</sup> other £1000 to himself with a rent charge of £300 a year, and a jointure of £350 a year to y<sup>e</sup> Young Lady, free of all taxes. Consumated in May, 1684, but proved a very unhappy Match, from y<sup>e</sup> young Lady's taking more after her mother than her father, bringing much Sorow at Arwenack House, and whose ill temper occasioned her husband's seeking and keeping Company abroad more than otherwise he would have done. With y<sup>e</sup> like good prospect, y<sup>e</sup> next year, 1685, Sir Peter married his daughter Frances \* to y<sup>e</sup> full as unfortunately as he had married his son, who, on y<sup>e</sup> 20th March, 1687, was most basely murdered by a stab in his back, in a Tavern at Penryn.†

“This loss of his only son, and hopes of his family (in a way of speaking) broke Sir Peter Killigrew's heart, so as never after to take delight in anything but his Lady and two daughters, all three remarkably good and tender of him to his dying day. But Mr. Rogers, Lord of the Corporation, took all advantages of such Sir Peter's deplorable case, and raised perpetual Vexations to him amongst his tenants \* \* \* \*.

“About y<sup>e</sup> latter end of y<sup>e</sup> year 1688 Sir Peter's daughter Frances, being cast off in a very unaccountable manner by her husband, Sir Peter took her home, with her only child Mary, and seeing no hopes of issue Male from that Marriage, nor any comfortable hopes from his other Granddaughter by his late Son, Ann by name, from her education under her wretched Mother, Sir Peter then first entertained y<sup>e</sup> thoughts of marrying his youngest daughter, Ann, to a young Gentleman, a Soldier of Fortune, induced thereto from y<sup>e</sup> great intimacy which had subsisted

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must evidently be taken *cum grano*. He was a man of strong prejudices, a bosom friend of George Killigrew, and since his account of the manner in which the latter was killed is hardly borne out by other evidence, it is quite possible that the bad temper (if it were so) of the wife arose from the conduct of the husband, instead of, as he puts it, the reverse being the case.

\* To Mr. Richard Erisey.

† He was killed in a duel with one Vincent, a barrister, who was tried for the offence at Launceston, and acquitted, but died not long after, according to Hals, of an atrophy, caused by the sad event preying on his mind. Hals further states, that the death of young Killigrew was considered by the people of the district as a judgment upon the family for the murder of the Spanish merchants by Jane Killigrew, already noted.

between his late son George, and y<sup>e</sup> said young Gent, w<sup>ch</sup> match was consummated upon y<sup>e</sup> 23rd of February, 1689, and w<sup>ch</sup> was but in one respect unfortunate, in a very essential circumstance, w<sup>ch</sup> was of there being no issue of y<sup>e</sup> said marriage; for that in all other respects it was a remarkably happy match, and to y<sup>e</sup> apparent comfort of Sir Peter, his Lady, and his daughter Frances, and y<sup>e</sup> said Ann, y<sup>e</sup> said Gent proving a dutiful and painstaking son to Sir Peter and his Lady, a good and kind brother-in-law to y<sup>e</sup> said unhappy Frances, and as good a husband to y<sup>e</sup> said Ann, to y<sup>e</sup> day of all their deaths, he having y<sup>e</sup> mortification to survive them.\* Then soon after Sir Peter had so married his said daughter Ann, he with all his family retired from his said troublesome Estate, and y<sup>e</sup> daily vexations created him therein (by y<sup>e</sup> said Rogers) to reside at London, leaving his Estate and Concerns in Cornwall under y<sup>e</sup> care and management of Mr. Quarme, Parson of y<sup>e</sup> Parish, a good living w<sup>ch</sup> Sir Peter had given him, a man of acute parts and firm in Sir Peter's Interest in opposition to y<sup>e</sup> encroachments of y<sup>e</sup> said Rogers."

[Martin Killigrew goes on to narrate somewhat tediously, how Sir Peter, after some years soliciting at the Treasury for justice to be done him as to Pendennis Castle—till then held on a long lease, at £2000 fine and £12 10s. yearly rent—got the Government to take a lease for 21 years, at £200 a year, without a fine, and retired to Ludlow in 1697. Whilst there he discovered that Mr. Quarme "had become a busy and ungrateful person." The obnoxious Rogers had died a "mere begger," about 1693, and had been succeeded by one Robert Corker, who, after being originally "a poor boy kept in charity," had been taken apprentice by Rogers, and "proving an acute insinuating young man," had made use of his opportunities to assist in his master's ruin. After Rogers's death Corker became master of the Corporation, having, to effect his end, "insinuated himself into a good understanding with Mr. Quarme,—a vain glorious empty busy man,† to the degree of entirely sacrificing Sir Peter's interest and estate to y<sup>e</sup> said Corker's ambitious views." Quarme was therefore dismissed in

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\* This was Martin Killigrew himself.

† Elsewhere Martin says that Mr. Quarme was the first who levied the Rector's rate outside the borough.



1700, and one "more trustworthy," *i.e.* Martin himself, put in his place. Sir Peter died in 1704, and was buried at Falmouth].

The History proceeds :—"Frances, Lady Killigrew, his widow, returned to and lived at London with her children, becoming her character as a wise and good woman ; who, tho' absolute mistress of y<sup>e</sup> whole Estate, assumed nothing to herself from thence, but shared only the necessaries of life with them, and died in April, 1711, and was buried at Falmouth, with Sir Peter, aged about 70. From whose death Frances and Ann, with y<sup>e</sup> husband of y<sup>e</sup> latter, continued to live together. In June, 1711, Mary, daughter of y<sup>e</sup> said Frances, married herself,\* and died at York, of the small-pox, in January, 1715, leaving issue two daughters, Mary and Frances. Ann, Sir Peter's youngest daughter, died, after a seven years' lingering sickness, in Charles street house (where she was born), in 1727, without issue, and was buried at Falmouth, with the foregoing family. Frances, Sir Peter's eldest daughter, lived in tolerable good health till y<sup>e</sup> beginning of March, 1736, and then died, when by virtue of Sir Peter Killigrew's settlement of 1699, y<sup>e</sup> forementioned two granddaughters of y<sup>e</sup> said Frances entered upon y<sup>e</sup> Estate without contest and not impaired. Thus you see an end of a Family in y<sup>e</sup> elder house, ancient and honorable and as unfortunate."

Concerning the younger branch of the family, the writer says that Thomas and Symon, sons of Sir John Killigrew, 2nd Governor of Pendennis Castle, were in great esteem with Queen Elizabeth, and acquired a great Estate. Sir Robt. Killigrew was at y<sup>e</sup> head of the 2nd branch, "Vice Chamberlain to King Charles y<sup>e</sup> first's Queen," and left his great possessions to his eldest son, Sir Wm. Killigrew :—"several younger sons making great figures in y<sup>e</sup> world, and four fine daughters, famed for their Wit and Beauty, and from thence preferred in marriage, one to y<sup>e</sup> Earl of Yarmouth, another to Lord Shannon, a third to Berkeley, Lord Fitz-Harding, and y<sup>e</sup> other to Godolphin of Cornwall. Y<sup>e</sup> said younger sons of y<sup>e</sup> said Sir Robert making their way at Court by their Wit, w<sup>ch</sup> for want of prudence, was y<sup>e</sup> ruin of y<sup>e</sup> second branch of this family, still excepting, with just regard to his memory, Henry, one of y<sup>e</sup> youngest Sons of y<sup>e</sup> said Sir Robert, bred to y<sup>e</sup> Church and of great

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\* To Colonel John West.

Esteem therein, Governor to y<sup>e</sup> Earl of Devonshire's son, since by King Wm. created Duke of Devonshire, also Preceptor to y<sup>e</sup> late Duke of York, King James y<sup>e</sup> 2nd, by style Dr. Killigrew, Master of y<sup>e</sup> Savoy and Prebend of Westminster, who had two sons, Henry and James, both bred to y<sup>e</sup> Sea. His Son Henry, a man of strict honor, by long service arrived to command y<sup>e</sup> Fleet of England under King Wm., in y<sup>e</sup> late War with France, well known by y<sup>e</sup> name of Admiral Killigrew, whose younger brother James, at 21 years of age, was honored with y<sup>e</sup> command of 5 men of war in y<sup>e</sup> Straights; where about y<sup>e</sup> height of Leghorn he met with and engaged 2 capital French men of war, bigger than any of his, and yet, tho' two of his Captains proved Cowards and would not come to his assistance, he took one of y<sup>e</sup> Frenchmen and sunk y<sup>e</sup> other, but at y<sup>e</sup> expense of his own life, and that of most of his ship's crew, so glorious an end did y<sup>e</sup> same James Killigrew make; w<sup>ch</sup> two coward captains for y<sup>e</sup> present from y<sup>e</sup> death of their said commander escaped Punishment; but some years after, upon a second like misbehaviour, were condemned and shot at Plymouth. Kirby was y<sup>e</sup> name of one of them."\*

The writer concludes by merely mentioning some of the other junior members of the younger house, among them Thomas (second son of Sir Robert), the celebrated wit of Charles the Second's Court, two grandsons and a great grandson of whom were the "last of the Killigrews" at the time the history was written. With them Martin frankly avows he wished to have nothing to do—"to whom I am a stranger or desire to be so thought,"—wickedly adding, that they had not "one penny of estate from amongst them all," except about £500 a year, which had come through a marriage.

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\* Wade was the name of the other. They were shot in Plymouth Sound, in 1702, for cowardice in Benbow's action with Du Casse, in the West Indies, and were buried in Charles Church, Plymouth.