Chaterhouse
Memylees Road

"History & Antiquities of Leicestershire" vol IV part II *pub. c. I8II

"In I7I2 , William Mountney , descendant ofthe above named William, sold to Ralph Trotter , gent. part of the said land , which is a little farm , upon which he built a small house , called Chaterhouse , in the parish of Newbold Verdun , now in the possession of his family."

(Arms of Trotter - Argent , a lion rampant Azure; a canton Ermine)

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this is how I think it works.....

William Mountney (the above named, in the quote)
merchant , who appears to have been with the earl of Huntingdon , in Ireland

I608 purchased lands in Newbold Verdun , from earl of Huntingdon

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George Mountney
his son inherits

|

William Mountney of Newbold Verdun (d. I698)
his son inherits

|

William Mountney (b. I660 d. I7I6) in the quote.
his son inherits
& sells to

|

Ralph Trotter in I7I2
who then builds Chaterhouse (which is how it is spelt in this book)

"White's Leicestershire & Rutland" - pub. I876

Under Newbold Verdon , lists .....

Trotter Thomas , farmer
(doesn't say where he lives)
No actual mention of Charterhouse.

"Kelly's Directory of Leicestershire & Rutland - I936"

Under Newbold Verdun, lists .....

Bates Hy. , farmer , Charterhouse

Also from His. & Ant. of Leic.

Possible link between Ralph Trotter

(but is it the same Ralph Trotter , who bought the Chaterhouse land? Or possibly a relative?)

and The Crewe family

I625 - sir Thomas Crewe - purchased lands in Newbold Verdun & became lord of the manor. (but not the Chaterhouse land , which was already owned by William Mountney.)

John - (his son)
inherits
estates at Newbold Verdun
d. I68I - unmarried

Nathaniel - (another son).
Lord Crewe - Bishop of Durham
d. I8/9/I721
last of the male line.

his very , very detailed will , dated 24/6/I720

"..... (to).... Mr Ralph Trotter.. ... and everyone of his domestic servants , a years wages , over and above what was due to them ."

and Codicil - I7/9/I72I

".....to Mr Ralph Trotter the Picture of Dorothy , Lady Crewe...."

Notes also mention Mr Trotter , as being one of Bishop Crewe's domestics , and having a manuscript of the Bishops memoirs.

Ralph Trotter - domestic servant to the Bishop , could have been a clerk? or P.A. even?

BUT- is this the same man who eight years before buys Chaterhouse land? ---- and is described as Ralph Trotter , gent.?

CHATERHOUSE
MOUNTNEY FAMILY

[redacted]
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10th October 2006

Dear Mrs Bates,

I am most grateful to you for letting me have a copy of the history of Chaterhouse through the good offices of the library. In return may I please tell you something of the Mountney family if it will be of interest?

Various spellings of the name have been in evidence over the years, the most usual being Mountney and Mounteney. My mother's family adopted the latter, but we are assured that the different variations all derive from the same origins.

No doubt many present branches of the family can trace their descent from the Newbold Verdon connection in the seventeenth century. I have compiled a short history of my mother's family over the past two hundred years or so, and although many individuals have been clever and innovative, it is perhaps fair to say that we have failed to match the exploits of our distant ancestors! One exception is Ian Tomlinson, my cousin's son, who in 2005 was voted European Achiever of the Year for ground-breaking research in the cancer genes project.

The Mountneys were a Norman family thought to have arrived in England in the reign of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066). The original name was Montigni or Montigny based on a place name in Normandy. Certainly they supported William the Conqueror in 1066, and the name appears on the Roll of Battle Abbey. In consequence they were rewarded with large estates in Essex and Yorkshire. Members of the family also established themselves in Norfolk and Nottinghamshire as well as Leicestershire, but unfortunately the early Leicestershire connection is less well documented than elsewhere.

There were several points of contact with the illustrious Hastings family during the sixteenth century, so a short digression about them may be relevant. William Hastings was born in Kirby Muxloe c1430. A devoted supporter of his second cousin Edward IV, he fought valiantly for the Yorkist cause and was created Lord Hastings on Towton field following the battle of 1461. He was given the manor of Ashby-de-la-Zouch and took his seat in Ashby Castle which still boasts the Hastings Tower.

Rising to high office of state, Lord Hastings was appointed Lieutenant-General of Calais in 1471 with control of the wool staple. Wool was then of prime importance to the national economy, and the monopoly of exports to Europe was based in Calais which remained in English hands from 1347 until 1558. Leicestershire as well as Yorkshire was a leading supplier of wool. Later the third Lord Hastings was created 1st Earl of Huntingdon by Henry VIII in 1529.

The first known contact with the Hastings family occurred c1500 when William Mountney was witness to a deed assigning the manor of Oakthorpe to George Hastings, who may have been a younger brother of Edward, the second Lord Hastings. Then between 1536 and 1545 we hear of Henry Mountney, a king's servant, being employed in Calais. Next there is another William Mountney, a merchant of the staple, prominently engaged in the wool trade. And finally a William Mountney who accompanies the Earl of Huntingdon to Ireland and in 1608 buys land in Newbold Verdon from the fifth earl, to whose ancestor the lordship of the manor had been aliened in 1574 by the Earl of Essex. We presume that the relationship with the Hastings family resulted from shared commercial interests.

It is tempting to see a clear line of descent between the Mountneys just mentioned, but the relationships have still to be confirmed. Unfortunately the constant repetition of Christian names across the generations is a complicating factor. At present it is not certain whether it was William the merchant or his son of the same name who went to Ireland and/or bought the Chaterhouse land, but the involvement of one generation or another of the Mountney family is clear enough.

If you have followed the story so far, there is a further earlier connection with Newbold Verdon which may eventually be found to tie up with the events of the sixteenth century. When Theobald de Verdun, described as a great baron of Staffordshire, died c1316 the manor of Newbold Verdon passed to his four daughters. One of them named Joan married Thomas de Furnival, lord of Hallamshire. Their son, Thomas Lord Furnival nicknamed 'The Hasty', married Joan de Mounteney (1321-1396) who was the only daughter and heir of Sir Thomas de Mounteney, lord of Shiercliffe, Cowley etc in south Yorkshire. The latter Joan had a legitimate son Sir John Mounteney, presumed to be the offspring of a previous marriage to Sir John Bret, but for some reason he elected to take his mother's maiden name.

Thank you again for your kind assistance. You will see that this section of the Mountney pedigree is far from complete but enquiries are continuing! If anything of further interest arises, I will keep you informed.

Yours sincerely

David Stevenson
[redacted]

cc Hannah Boot, Newbold Verdon Library