

Stradling Family Line

This ancient and knightly family is extracted from the eastern people called Easterlings or Oosterlings, who dwelt near the Baltic Sea.

Sir William de Esterling, the first that came into England, was one of the twelve knights who accompanied Robert Fitz-Hammon, Earl of Gloucester, to the aid of Justin ap Gorgant, King of Glamorgon, against Prince Rese, about the year 1090; and the said Robert Fitz-Hammon, on the death of Rese, turning his forces against Justin and conquering his whole dominion, divided it amongst his followers. For his share of the spoil, Esterling had the manor and castle of St. Donats, which afterwards continued the chief seat of his descendants. His son and heir,

Sir John Esterling married Matilda the daughter and heir of Sir Robert Corbet, knight and was the father of

Sir Morris Esterling married Cicely the daughter and heir of Picot de Say and was succeeded by his son (the first who abbreviated the name),

Sir Robert Stradling, knight, was married to Howise, who was heiress of St. Donats castle, and daughter of Sir Hugh Brin, Knight, and their great-great-grandson,

Sir Peter Stradling, knight, married Johan the daughter and sole heir of Thomas Hawey. He Acquired in the time of Edward I. the manors of Hawey and Alfreyands, in the county of Somerset, with Compton Hawey, in Dorsetshire. He was succeeded by his son,

Sir Edward Stradling, knight of St. Donats, who married Eleanor, daughter of Sir Gilbert Stradling, or by some accounts,

Strongbow, and heir of her mother, a daughter of Richard Garnon, of whose inheritance he possessed two manors in Oxfordshire. He was succeeded by his son,

Sir Edward Stradling, who was returned by the county of Somerset to the parliament held at Westminster in 17th Edward III. and had 13 pounds allowance for thirty-nine days' expenses, coming, stay, and returning. He married Gwenlian, the sister and heir of Sir Charles, and daughter of Sir Roger Berkrolls, and thereby acquired the lordship of East Orchard, in the county of Glamorgan. He died in 9 Henry IV. and was succeeded by his son,

Sir William Stradling, who performed a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and was there made a knight of the Holy Sepulchre. He married Isabel, the daughter and heir of Sir John St. Barke, Knight and was succeeded by his son.

Sir Edward Stradling, who accompanied his father to the Holy Sepulchre, and was also made, with him, knight of that order, about the beginning of the reign of King Henry VI. He married Jane, the daughter of Henry Beaufort, (son of John of Gaunt), afterwards made Cardinal of St. Eusebius, Bishop of Winchester, and Lord Chancellor of England. He left a son and heir,

Sir Henry Stradling, who, in his passage from St. Donats to his seat in Somersetshire, was made prisoner by Colin Dolphin, a pirate of Britany, and his ransom was rated so highly -2200 marks- that he was compelled to sell for its liquidation his two manors in Oxfordshire, the castle and manor of Rogerstown, called in Welch Tre-Gwilym, together with the lordship of Sutton, in Monmouthshire. He went afterwards, according to the devotion of those times, and

visited the Holy Sepulchre and other revered antiquities in Palestine, where he likewise received the Order of Knighthood of the Sepulchre. While he was returning home, he died in the Isle of Cyprus, being under twenty-six years of age, and was buried in the city of Famagusta, leaving a son and heir,

Thomas Stradling, esquire, was born about 1448. He married Elizabeth.

Thomas died on 8 September 1480, at Cardife in the monastery of Preaching - Fryers; whose bones were taken up and carried to St. Donats by his grandson and a memorial was erected in the chapel of St. Donats.

"Here lyeth Thomas Stradling, Esquire"

Jane was born about 1478, daughter of Sir Thomas Stradling. Jane married Sir William Griffith (a knight) son of Sir Edmund Griffith and Janet.

Jane and Sir William had twelve children, of Richley, Anglesey, Wales.