

Lands—ordered by William the Conqueror, the Coffins are mentioned in Dooms-day Book, as being possessed of several hides of land. The above, and the following extracts, are from Sir William Pole's M.S. of "Devon, and its Knights, in the Reigns of the earlier Kings of England." As a further evidence of the antiquity of this Gentle Family, there is a boundary deed, (a copy whereof is in my custody), made near the Conquest, written in the Saxon tongue, which giveth good confirmation thereof; which said deed expresseth the bounds between the lands of Richard Coffin, Lord of the Manor of Alwington, and Cokeweston, and the Abbot of Tavistock, in relation to the lands belonging to that Abbey in the near adjoining Parish of Abbotsham. Some of the terms and articles of which agreement between them are these:—that the Abbot and Convent of Tavistock should give to the said Richard Coffin, and his next heir, full fraternity in his Church of Tavistock, to receive there the habit of religion wheresoever (God so inspiring) they would, and that in the mean time he should have the privilege of one monk there. The family very early spread itself into several