

Other MSS. mentioned in the catalogue; among them—"The singular articles in MSS., most of which were found in the drawers at Portledge, and appear to have been untouched for many years," are the following:—

"1322. A chronicle of families from Wm. the Conq. to King James I., folio, £2 2s."

"1323. A chronicle of collections from chronicles and histories, from King Edward III. to 1640, £2 2s."

"20 MSS. of various kinds, £1 1s."

The six MSS. volumes next described are in the possession of the owner of Portledge.

"Visitation of Devon, by Glover, Somerset Herald, 1564. A folio vol., 144 leaves of paper, filled with the arms and pedigrees of Devonshire families." On the obverse of the fly leaf is written by Mr. Ric. Coffin (mentioned below)—"This Visitation, as Mr. Laphorne writt to me, who bought (it) at an auction in London, was writ by one Glover, a man of fame in his time. It cost 30s." This seems to be a valuable volume, and its sides are lined and strengthened with portions of a beautifully-written 14th century MSS., apparently a Latin translation of Josephus.

A folio volume in old calf, containing about 204 leaves of paper, being a Visitation of Cornwall, beginning with "The Village of Penzance." It is without title, and seems to be a most elaborate work.

A thick folio paper volume, in calf, containing about 480 leaves. It contains arms of Devonshire families and Devonshire corporations of various kinds. From the writing, its date would appear to be about 1680, and it is a beautifully-executed and voluminous work.

A large folio paper volume, containing 299 leaves, being an Heraldic Dictionary, compiled by Ric. Coffin, of Portledge, Sheriff of the county of Devon for several years. The volume is wholly in his handwriting, and is a most elaborate work. In a heraldic point of view, it is of considerable value, if we may judge from the vast amount of industry that has been displayed. In page 372 there is a notice that he was High Sheriff of Devon in 1685.

A small quarto paper volume, in limp parchment of about 135 leaves, intituled "A Miscellany of Historical Fragments." From the full details under the head of "Coffin," the book was probably compiled by a member of that family: apparently a Royalist of the time of Charles I.

A Dictionary of Heraldry, a small paper folio volume in old rough calf, containing about 150 leaves. The name of the compiler is not given, but it appears to be an elaborate work. Unlike most of the preceding vols., it contains no tracings or sketches of arms.

DEEDS.

The deeds and papers in the possession of Mr. Pine Coffin, belonging to various dates from the reign of Henry III. (1216) to that of Henry VIII. (1509), are probably from 400 to 500 in number. The great majority have been examined by me, and the following, principally among the more ancient, as throwing light upon the locality, or its social history in former times, have been selected for notice.

No. 1. 1254.

A small charter of Henry III., in Latin, with the great seal in green