

897

THE FAMILY OF HAMILTON.

This very ancient and far-reaching family compares with, if not excels any other in Europe, both for antiquity and dignity. The name originated and was taken from the Manor of Hambleton, otherwise "Hamilton," in the Parish of Barkby in the County of Leicester, owned by the old Earls of Leicester. The coat of arms were taken from the Earls of Leicester and Earl of Mellent in Normandy, both of which arms were placed in St. Mary's Church, Leicester.

The descent is authentically traced from the Duke of Normandy (great grandfather of King William, the Conqueror) whose