

BURTON AGNES, YORKSHIRE.

BURTON AGNES, the ancient home of the Boyntons, is one of the most beautiful Tudor and Jacobean houses in Yorkshire, and, indeed, almost in England. It has features that are uncommon, and to the practised eye betrays the influence of locality in its architecture. It is more richly embellished by the craft of the carver in wood, stone, and marble than almost any other house that one is acquainted with. Lying in a pleasant country between Driffield and Bridlington, it is surrounded by woodland, and, standing upon a slight eminence, commands a view over the lower country of Holderness, while behind it are the level edges of the Wolds, where the chalk rises from below the drift to reach out its length to the white cliffs of Flamborough.

The place came to the Boyntons through the marriage of Sir Matthew Boynton of Barmston with the daughter of Sir Henry Griffith of Burton Agnes, the lady being eleventh in descent in the female line from King Edward I., and eventually sole heiress of the Burton Agnes property. Shortly after the Conquest the Boyntons took their name from a place near Bridlington, and they came into possession of Barmston in the fifteenth century. Sir Matthew Boynton, who was a man of note in his shire, was knighted at Whitehall on May 6th, 1618, and within a week was raised to the baronetage. He represented Heydon in Parliament, and afterwards Scarborough, and was Sheriff in 1628-29, and again from 1643 to 1645. Taking sides with the Parliament, he assisted in the capture of Sir John Hotham,



THE GATE-HOUSE.