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OBITUARY.

THE EARL OF DEVON.

May 26. At his residence in the Place Vendome, Paris, in his 67th year, the Right Hon. William Courtenay, Earl of Devon (1553.) third Viscount Courtenay, of Powderham castle, co. Devon (1762,) and a Baronet (1644).

His lordship was born July 30, 1768, the only son (with thirteen sisters) of William the second Viscount Courtenay, (*de jure* Earl of Devon,) by Frances, daughter of Mr. Thomas Clark, of Wallingford in Berkshire. He succeeded his father in the title of Viscount, shortly before he became of age, on the 14th of Dec. 1788.

His claim to the Earldom of Devon was founded upon the limitation in the patent of the 3d Sept. 1 Mary, 1553, by which that dignity (originally derived by the Courtenays by inheritance from the house of Redvers in the earliest feudal times) was granted to Sir Edward Courtenay, to hold to him "*et heredibus suis masculis imperpetuum*," with the precedence in Parliaments, and in all other places, which any of his ancestors, Earls of Devon, had ever held or enjoyed. The said Earl was the son and heir of Henry Marquess of Exeter, whose honours were forfeited by attainder; and grandson of William Earl of Devon by the Princess Elizabeth his wife, daughter of King Edward the Fourth. Edward Earl of Devon died in September 1556, without issue; and the title remained unclaimed until the year 1830, when Viscount Courtenay urged his right to the honour as collateral heir male of the last Earl, he being heir male of the body of Sir Philip Courtenay of Powderham, a younger brother of Sir Edward Courtenay, which Sir Edward was the eldest son of Hugh second Earl of Devon, (but died in *vita patris*) and ancestor of the subsequent Earls. Upon establishing his pedigree, and proving that all the elder male branches of the Courtenay family were extinct, the House of Lords, on the 14th March 1831. admitted Lord Courtenay's right to the Earldom of Devon under the patent of 1553, by the following resolution: "Resolved and adjudged that William Viscount Courtenay hath made out his claim to the title, honour, and dignity of Earl of Devon."

His Lordship, however, never took his seat as Peer, having remained out of the country from that period until his death. He was unmarried; and is succeeded in the Earldom by William Courtenay, esq. assistant Clerk of the Parliament, elder son of

the late Rt. Rev. Henry Reginald Courtenay, D.D. Lord Bishop of Exeter, and grandson of Henry Reginald Courtenay, esq. younger brother to the first Viscount. The Viscounty has become extinct.

The present Earl was born in 1777, and married in 1804, Lady Henrietta Leslie, daughter of the late Sir Lucas Papsys, Bart. by Jane-Elizabeth Countess of Rothes, by whom he has issue the Hon. William-Reginald Courtenay, who married in 1830 Lady Elizabeth Fortescue, seventh daughter of Earl Fortescue, and has issue, and two other sons.

The remains of the late Earl of Devon lay in state at Powderham Castle on the 11th of June. A large number of persons from Exeter and the surrounding neighbourhood visited the mournful pageant. The funeral, which it was intended should be as private as circumstances would permit, took place the following day, the body being interred in the family vault in Powderham Church. The procession from the Castle consisted of the relatives of the deceased Nobleman, and some of the immediate friends of the family, together with several hundreds of the tenantry of Powderham and the adjoining parishes.

ADM. HON. SIR A. K. LEGGE, K. C. B.

May 12. At his residence on Blackheath, in his 69th year, the Hon. Sir Arthur Kaye Legge, K. C. B. Admiral of the Blue; uncle to the Earl of Dartmouth, elder brother to the late Bishop of Oxford, and to Lady Feversham.

He was born Oct. 25, 1766, the sixth son of William second Earl of Dartmouth, by Frances-Catherine, only daughter and heiress of Sir Charles Gunter Nicholls, K. B. He entered the Navy at an early age, and had the honour of being a shipmate with his present Majesty on board the Prince George, bearing the flag of Rear-Adm. Digby, on the American station. In 1791 he commanded the Shark sloop, stationed in the Channel; and in 1793 was made post in the Niger 32, which was one of the repeaters in the glorious victory of the 1st June 1794.

In the spring of 1795, the *Latona* frigate, to which he had been removed from the Niger, formed one of the squadron which escorted the Princess Caroline of Brunswick to this country. About May 1797 he was appointed to the *Cambrian* 40, in which he captured several privateers off the French coast, and was in occasional attendance on their Majesties at Weymouth, until the close of the war.