

ELLICE, ROBERT (ELLIS),(fl.1640), Royalist soldier

Name: Robert Ellice
Gender: Male
Occupation: Royalist soldier
Area of activity: Military; Royalty and Society
Author: Arthur Herbert Dodd

was the elder son of Gruffydd Elis ap Risiart of Frondeg, near Bersham, Denbighshire, the family coming originally from Hopedale and claiming descent on the male side (with a bend sinister) from Sandde Hardd, conqueror of Hopedale (c. 1100), and on the female side from the Stanley s of Ewloe. Robert Ellice acquired, possibly from his uncle PETER ELLICE (died 1637) of Wrexham (a learned lawyer and antiquary, whose genealogical collections were extensively used by [Robert Vaughan](#) of Hengwrt, the estate of Gwasnewydd (now Croes-newydd) in the township of Broughton and parish of Wrexham. His family lived there till towards the close of the 17th century, but in 1646 he is described as 'of Ruabon.' He served under Gustavus Adolphus in the Thirty Years War, and on his return in the Civil War at home on 15 January 1643 (on royal orders) he seized Chirk castle, the seat of the Roundhead [Sir Thomas Myddelton](#) and commanded 600 Welsh Royalist infantry at Middlewich, Ches. (March 1643), where they were defeated and Ellice captured. Released in September 1643, he was given command for the king over Denbighshire and Flintshire with 1,200 men, at the head of whom he took part in operations round Wem (March 1644) and helped to defend Montgomeryshire against the ensuing Roundhead invasion. In 1645-6 he took part in the defence of Conway and Chester. He was admitted to composition and fined £200 (at the rate of one-tenth), later reduced to £150 on the plea that he had only a life-interest in the estate. His younger brother THOMAS ELLICE (entered Gray's Inn 1651) became governor of Barbados.

Robert Ellice died before 1661, and was succeeded by his son PETER ELLICE (died 1719), who became a J.P. and deputy-steward of Bromfield and Yale. Extensive rebuilding forced him to mortgage the estate bit by bit, until by 1750 it had passed into the hands of the mortgagees.

Author

Emeritus Professor Arthur Herbert Dodd, (1891 - 1975)

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