

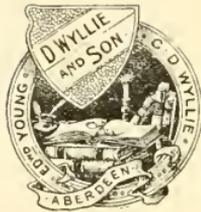
THE
THANAGE
OF
FERMARTYN

REV. WM TEMPLE

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THE THANAGE OF FERMARTYN





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yours truly
William Temple

THE THANAGE OF FERMARTYN

INCLUDING THE

DISTRICT COMMONLY CALLED FORMARTINE,
ITS PROPRIETORS, WITH GENEALOGICAL DEDUCTIONS;
ITS PARISHES, MINISTERS, CHURCHES,
CHURCHYARDS, ANTIQUITIES, &c.

BY

REV. WILLIAM TEMPLE, M.A., F.S.A. SCOT.

OF S. MARGARET'S, FORGUE.

ABERDEEN—D. WYLLIE & SON

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P R E F A C E.

ACCORDING to Ptolemy, the Roman geographer, North Britain was occupied by several tribes, which, in progress of time, came to be grouped into seven confederacies, ruled over by seven chiefs, having under them seven inferior chiefs, with a king over the whole confederacies. The country between the Dee and the Spey formed one confederacy.

In a description of Scotland, written in the twelfth century, mentioned by Dr. Stuart, this confederacy appears in two forms. In one case it is said, "Quartum regnum fuit ex Dee usque ad flumen Spe majorem et meliorem totius Scocie," and in the other case, it is spoken of as one of seven districts, into which Scotland was divided, and as composed of Mar and Buchan.

The territory now known as Aberdeenshire and Banffshire was in old times, according to Dr. Grub, the seat of the Taixali and other Celtic tribes, and at the end of the sixth century formed part of the northern Picts. In the "Book of Deer," at the time when St. Drostan landed in Buchan, and founded St. Drostan's monastery, the country was divided among tribes, over which there was probably an Ardrioh or under King, and the royal and tribal officials, a Mormaer or great Steward acting for the King, and the Toiseoh ruling over a tribe and under the Mormaer. The Mormaer represented the Crown in the district over which he presided, accounted to the Ardrioh or King for his rents and dues, and was over the whole tribes of the district, while the Toiseoh was over a tribe, and was their captain to lead them to battle.

The best account of the tribal communities is to be found in Dr. Skene's "Celtic Scotland," a learned and exhaustive work. According to Dr. Skene, the land was first possessed by the tribe or community before it came into possession of individuals. The word Tuath signified a family, and came to be applied to the district occupied by the tribe, and in some records it is equivalent to a barony. Tuath was the possession of the tribe, the technical name of which, in the Brehon laws, was Fine. By the common law of the tribes, the land which made up the Tuath consisted of fecht-fine or tribe land, and a

part was tribe demesne, which went to the support of the office-bearers of the tribe, the Mormaer and Toisech, Brehon or Judge. The fecht-fine was occupied by the tribes thus—The indfine or commonality of the tribe possessed the tribe land ; the arable land was distributed at stated intervals among the ceile or free members of the tribe, each having their share ; a fresh distribution took place as fresh claimants for a share appeared ; the pasture land was pastured in common, according to the number of cattle possessed by each, and the waste land separated one Tuath from another.

The Tuath was divided into homesteads, to each of which belonged as much land as was required for the subsistence of a family. These were called Rath, which enter largely into the place names of the district, as Rait, Raits-hill near Tolquhon, Rothic, Rothmaise, &c., &c. These Rath, according to the Brehon laws, to be legally constituted required a dwelling-house, an ox stall, a hog-sty, a sheep pen, and a calf house, and they were all surrounded by a ditch or rampart, with wooden pallisades for protection. There were various kinds of Rath. The Fine-Rath was the homestead occupied by the original kindred, Mar-Rath that occupied by the stranger tenants, and Jar-Raths occupied by the stranger serfs on the chiefs' demesnes lands and others.

A system such as this prevailed in the district between the Dee and the Deveron at the time when St. Drostan landed in Buchan. In the various grants, as recorded in the "Book of Deer," to the original monastery of St. Drostan, we have the names recorded of the various Mormaers and Toisechs, who were the officials of the tribe. The language was Celtic or Gaelic, and is found prevalent in many of the place names of the district.

But great changes were impending, and the office of Mormaer or royal official underwent considerable modification. A (vicecomes) sheriff was introduced, on whom many of the duties of the Mormaer devolved. The title of Mormaer fluctuated until finally it became Earl. Thus Gratnait, Mormaer of Buchan, whose grant to the clerics of Deer about 1192, as recorded in the "Book of Deer," appears in the foundation of the monastery of Scone, in 1220, as Earl Gratnait. There was also the office of Maor, upon whom certain duties devolved, and the Mair of Fee, anciently connected with the lands of Pitmuixon, may have derived its name at least from this office.

The tribal officer of Toisech also underwent a change. Thanages were introduced, and the Toisech became a Thane. When this change took place there is no record, but it probably was made about the time of Alexander I. The Thanages come in between the tribal organisation and the Norman feudal system. It arose out of the old Celtic system, and disappeared in the Norman, after the confusions created by the great war of independence. In the reign

of David and his immediate successors, we find in Aberdeenshire the names of the ancient Earldoms of Mar, Buchan, and the Garioch, which were then fully established.

The Thanage of Fermartyn extended from the Thanage of Conveth, which was co-extensive with the parish of Inverkeithney, to the eastern seaboard between the Ythan and the Don. The principal seat of the Thanage was Fyvie Castle, which, with the parish church, the lands of Gight and Monkshill, &c., being on the north bank of the Ythan, are now included in the district of Buchan. The Thanage of Fermartyn, like other Thanages, consisted of Thanage and Forest, and among the missing charters of Robert I. was one to Sir John Brown of the Thanage of Fermartyn, and another to Patrick de Monteith of the forestership of Kilanell and Fermartyn, showing that the Forest was a royal one. Afterwards in Sir Henry Preston's time, when the Norman system of tenure was pretty fully introduced, Fyvie or Fermartyn is found as a barony.

The district of Formartine was formed after the war of independence ; but there is no date of its formation, and no note of its boundaries. It includes the larger portion of the Thanage of Fermartyn, the smaller Thanage of Belhelvie co-extensive with the parish of that name, the northern portion, including Kinkell church of the great and important Thanage of Kintore. It includes also the ancient regality of Fren draught, commonly called "the Kingdom of Forgue," and the baronies of Lessendrum and Drumblade.

According to an old writer in the "View of the Diocese," the district of Formartine is about thirty miles round. Its parishes may be divided into such outer ones as lie on the border, and such inner ones as lie in the middle of the district. The outer parishes are part of Oldmachar, Newmachar, Fintray, part of Kinkell (this being part of the Thanage of Kintore) with its church, part of Monkeggie, part of Bourtie, part of Bethelnie, part of Fyvie, part of Auchterless, the parishes of Forgue and Drumblade. Here Formartine ends as it were in a point, so that in going round it, we must turn back through the four last-named parishes, till descending along the Ythan we find part of Methlick with its church, part of Ellon, part of Tarves with its church, Logie-Buchan with its present church ; also Foveran, which has between it and Oldmachar the parish of Belhelvie. There is only one inner parish, that of Udney.

Another writer, Sir Samuel Forbes of Foveran, thus describes Formartine : — "But whatever land lies between the rivers Ythan and the Don, one hears called by the name of Formartine among the inhabitants, 'who disdain to consider themselves as belonging to Buchan.' There is no town in Formartine, for Aberdeen being in the neighbourhood intercepts all traffic. But if the

nature of the soil, or the genius of the inhabitants be taken into account, it is worthy of consideration, and inferior to none of its neighbours. To most of them it is superior in the number of its inhabitants, the richness of its soil, the number of its castles and villas, its amenity, the refinement and culture of its manners."

In describing Formartine, we have given an account of all the parishes, whether whole or in part connected with it, from the earliest times, the ministers thereof, and the principal persons buried in the churchyards; also a history of each property, with the names of their various proprietors, and so far as practicable their genealogies. An account is given of Haddo and Methlick, of their ancient proprietors, and of the noble family of the Earl of Aberdeen and Viscount Formartine. The ancient history of Fyvie, the chief messuage of the Thanage of Fermartyn, will be found recorded, with all the Kings who visited and resided at it; the Thanes thereof with their firmas or rents paid to the Exchequer; the proprietors thereof with their genealogies down to Alexander John Forbes Leith, who, a few years ago, acquired the property. Meldrum has an interesting history from 1236, and it is remarkable that it has been in possession of the present family from that date down to the present time. Udney has also been in possession of the present family for a very long period, and has known no other proprietor, so far as appears, than an Udney of Udney. Lessendrum will be found in possession of the Bissets previous to the war of independence. Fren draught has had many proprietors from 1202, all more or less showing a connection with each other by consanguinity or by marriage. The various proprietors of Esslemont and Straloch are given; also the family of Irvine of Drum, who once had a connection with the district. Foveran, long owned by the ancient family of Turing, will be found detailed, as also all the other properties in the district.

These notes have been a labour of many years, so many that we have begun to feel the truth of the aphorism, "*Ars longa est, vita est brevis.*" They have many imperfections, and dealing with so many names and dates, can hardly be free from many errors.

I have had the valued assistance of many friends, some of whom have gone to their rest, and their places know them no more. I gratefully record the valued assistance of the late Mr. Charles Elphinstone Dalrymple, F.S.A. Scot., a very accomplished antiquary and genealogist, and a vice-president of the New Spalding Club; of the late Earl of Caithness, better known as James Augustus Sinclair, who kindly placed many of his stores of genealogical information at my disposal. The late Lord Lyon, George Burnett, gave me every assistance; as did also the late Lyon Clerk-Depute, Mr. Riddell Stodart,

whose early death was so much lamented. The late Mr. Patrick H. Chalmers of Avochie rendered me valuable assistance. I also received great assistance from Colonel J. Allardyce of Culquoich, from Lieut.-Colonel Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont, and Major John Ramsay of Barra; also from Andrew John Mitchell-Gill, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., of Savock and Auchinroath, author of "The Houses of Moir-Byres," a valuable repertory of genealogical information; from John A. Henderson, Esq., author of the "History of the Parish of Banchory-Devenick," &c.; from Alexander Milne Ogston, Esq. of Ardoe; and from Alexander Morison Gordon, convener of the County Council of Aberdeen. I am also indebted to William Alexander, Esq., LL.D., author of "Johnny Gibb of Gushetneuk," &c.; and to Edward Young, of Messrs. Wyllie & Son, the publishers of the volume. But there are three, whose services in revising and correcting for the press, deserve especial acknowledgment, namely, William Watt, Esq., of the "Free Press;" A. M. Munro, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Town-House, Aberdeen; and the Rev. George Sutherland, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., of the Episcopal Church, Portsoy, author of "The Outlines of Archæology," &c.

For the representatives of the ancient families here detailed, I quote a poet of the days of old.

"Giff thou desire thy house lang stand,
 And thy successors bruik thy land,
 Abive all things live God in fear,
 Intromit nought with wrongous gear;
 Nor conqess nothing wrongously,
 With thy neighbour keep charity.
 See that thou pass not thy estate,
 Obey duly thy magistrate;
 Oppress not but support the puire,
 To help the common weill take cuire.
 Use no deceit,—nell not with treason,
 And to all men do right and reason;
 Both unto word and deed be true;
 All kind of wickedness eschew.
 Slay no man, nor thereunto consent,
 Be nought cruel but patient.
 Ally ay in some guid place
 With noble, honest, godly race.
 Hate huirdome, and all vices flee,
 Be humble, haunt guide companie;
 Help thy friend, and do nae wrang,
 And God shall cause thy house stand lang.

—Barclay of Mathers' advice to his son, circa 1500.

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THE GORDONS
OF
HADDO AND METHLICK
NOW REPRESENTED BY
THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.

“FORTUNA SEQUATUR.” “NE NIMIUM.”

HADDO HOUSE is a spacious and elegant mansion in the Palladian style, built after designs by Baxter, of Edinburgh; enlarged in 1880, and a chapel by Mr. Street, of London, added. The policies are of great extent and of much beauty. The paintings in the house are very interesting. Besides specimens of many of the Continental schools, there are portraits of all the Earls, and of Sir John Gordon, who suffered for his loyalty to Charles I. According to Dr. Skene-Keith¹ of Keithhall, it had a deer park, in his time, one hundred and twenty years old.

The site of the old house of Kelly is not known, for both name and situation have been changed. It is believed to have been at some distance from the present mansion.

The first acquisition by the Gordon family was a portion of Haddo, after that the “Two Methlicks,” then a portion of Kelly, and gradually the whole merged and consolidated into one property of Haddo and Methlick.

The earliest notice of Methlick, or “Methlayk,” is about the beginning of the fourteenth century.

13—. There is a charter by John de Barclay, Lord of Pitnacaldore, to William de Camera, Lord of Auchnaways, of all the lands of Methlayk in the shire of Aberdeen, to be held of the King *in capite*, sealed with the seal of William de Fotheringay, knight.²

³ In 1378, there is a charter by Robert III., King of Scotland, to his esquire David Foulerton, for his faithful service, of the lands of the “Two Methlaykis,” which were

1. Keith's Survey, p. 101.

2. Historical MSS. Commission Report, Vol. I., p. 608.

3. Id.

unrighteously possessed by William de Melgedrum, and which came into the King's hands by the verdict of an assize, which sat at Kincardine in the Mearns on the 11th of December, 1375, to be held by the said David, rendering to the King and his heirs Kings of Scotland one shilling of silver, at the chief messuage of the lands, on the feast of Pentecost yearly. Among the witnesses are the King's eldest son, the Bishop of St. Andrews, the Earl of Carrick, Steward of Scotland, &c., &c.¹

In 1467, there is a charter by William de Foulerton de Aberawne to James Gordon of an annual rent of ten merks out of the lands of Haldauch, dated at Aberdeen, July, 1467.²

This is the first connection of the Gordons of Haddo with land in the county of Aberdeen, which is evidenced by existing records.

Two years afterwards they acquired the whole of Haddo and the shadow half of Meikle Methlyk.

In 1469, there is a charter by the said William Foulerton de Aberawne to the said James Gordon, of the lands of Haldauch, and the shadow half of Meikle Methlyk, excepting one croft of the said lands called "Le Chrystis croft," dated 22nd Jur.e, 1469.³

In 1471, there are letters of resignation into the King's hand by William de Foulerton of the lands of Haldauch of Methlick, with half of Meikle Methlyk. This was a preliminary to the Gordons getting a charter of the lands from the Crown.⁴

K E L L Y.

In 1261, Kelly belonged to Alexander Cummin, Earl of Buchan. In that year he founded an Hospital in the Newburgh. "Actum apud Kelly, in Buchan, Die Veneris proxima post Festum Sancti Matthæi, 1261."⁵

In 1272, there is a charter for an Hospital at Turriff, also given at Kelly, 3rd February, 1272-3, by Alexander Cummin, Earl of Buchan, in presence of Alexander III., King of Scots, Reginald Cheyne, father and son, William de Melgedrum, and Walter, rector of the church of Foveran.⁶

In 1433, Robert de Erskine is owner of Kelly. In that year he gives "to our beloved Lord William de Forbes, knight, our whole land of Lasgowny lying in our barony of Kelly."⁷ In 1436, he grants the same land of Lasgowny to Gilbert Menzies. The superiority had probably been retained.⁸

In 1482, there is a charter by David Annand of Ouchterellon to Patrick Gordon of

1. Historical MSS. Commission Report, Vol. V., p. 608.

2. Id.

3. Id.

4. Id.

5. Antiquities, Aberdeen and Banff, Vol. I., p. 372.

6. Id., Vol. I., p. 323.

7. Id., Vol. III., p. 143.

8. Id.

Methlick, of his lands of the Park of Kelly, with the lands of Owerhill (Ordhill¹), dated Aberdeen, 12th February, 1482-3.²

This is the first acquisition by the Gordon family of a portion of Kelly. There is afterwards a disposition of another portion, viz., Mains of Kelly. "The Master of Erskine, with consent of Lord Erskine his father, disposes the lands of Mains of Kelly and others to James Gordon of Haddoch, paying £6 os. 4d to the Abbot and Convent of Lindores, dated at Stirling, 19 October, 1553."³

The whole barony of Kelly, as well as Haddo and Methlick, gradually became the property of this branch of the Gordon family.

With regard to their descent, Dr. Joseph Robertson, our greatest chartulary authority, writing of the family of Gordon of Haddo thus remarks—⁴ "Some genealogists have sought to engraft this branch upon the parent stem before it was transplanted to the North towards the end of the fourteenth century. But no evidence has been produced in support of this claim, and modern research holds by the traditions that the house descends from one of the brothers of Sir Adam Gordon, who was slain at Homildon in 1402. His first possession seems to have been Methlick on the Banks of the Ythan."

There is reason to believe that these brothers were cousins-german of Sir Adam Gordon who fell at Homildon, as will be seen in the notes on the family of Gordon of Pitlurg and Straloch.

In the above quotation from Dr. Robertson, Methlick is mentioned as being their first possession; but the charters already quoted show that it was Haddo situated on the south bank of the Ythan opposite Gight.

According to Crawford's Peerage, "this family is descended from Sir William Gordon, who swore fealty to Edward I.;" but of this there is no chartulary or other evidence, and Sheriff Riddell, one of the best authorities on peerage law, pronounced this "deduction to be incorrect."⁵

I. **John Gordon of Essie** or Scurdargue (as to whose genealogical status see article on Pitlurg) married Elizabeth Maitland, daughter of Robert Maitland, laird of Gight, by whom he had three sons.

I. John Gordon of Auchleuchries.

II. William Gordon of Tillytarmont.

III. **James Gordon**, ancestor of the Gordons of Haddo and Methlick.⁶

II.—This **James Gordon of Haddo** and Methlick married Canea Harper, half-portioner of Methlick, of which her father, John Harper, called in the latin of the charters "Johannes de Citharista," was the owner.

1. Historical MSS. Commission Report, Vol. V., p. 608.

2. Id.

3. Id.

4. Notes by the late Mr. C. E. Dalrymple.

5. See Mr. Riddell's Notes on Pedigree of the Earl of Aberdeen in Wood's Douglas' Peerage, Advocates' Library, Edinburgh.

6. MS. 1580, C.E.D., Balbithan MS. History of Gordons in possession of late Mr. Chas. E. Dalrymple, also Gordon of Straloch's MSS.

In a MS. genealogy preserved at Parkhill, apparently drawn up by Robert Gordon of Straloch, Canea Harper is styled "heretrix of Methlic."¹ The late John Stuart, LL.D., so long the moving spirit of the Spalding Club, accepted the fact of the marriage of James Gordon to the heiress of John Harper. The MS. of 1580, in the possession of the representatives of C. E. Dalrymple, Esq., calls her "ane gentlewoman called Harper." She probably had the "sunny half of Methlick," and we see that her husband acquired the shady half in 1469. But no charter of "the sunny half" is now known to exist. This connection, however, is not without difficulty. In another MS. she is called Caney Harper. In connection with her name, we may refer to a note, p. 334 *Collections for the Shires of Aberdeen and Banff*, where a document is quoted, referring to some intrusions with the lands of Qwiltis of Shewass by William Dumbrek and "Conny Gordoune" his spouse. This was probably a daughter of Coney Harper or Gordon, married to a neighbour, Dumbrek of Dumbrek, the seat of the family of that name in the neighbourhood of Methlick.

In the British Museum Library there is a MS. with the arms of the Gordons of Haddo: "Azure three boars' heads coupè or differenced with a crescent for a younger brother." This points to his being a second son and not a third as given in the Balbithan MS.

In another MS. these are quartered with a harp in the second and third quarters, probably for Citharista, *i.e.*, Harper of Methlick.²

James Gordon and Canea Harper had issue:—

I. Patrick Gordon, of whom afterwards.

II. Robert Gordon of Fetterletter. He had issue a daughter, who was "ane heretrix" and married Sir George Gordon of Shives, Knt., "which Knt. has conquered a great living to the augmentation of his house, and built a great strength thereon, with great policies, and most agreeable to such a nobleman of his estate."³

III. Alexander Gordon, Bishop-elect of Aberdeen, formerly Chantor and Dean of Moray. In the Balbithan MS. it is recorded that "Alex. Gordon had many bastard children, viz., David Gordon of Savoeh, &c."⁴ Two of his sons are recorded in the following charter of lands. "Alexandro Gordon et Jacobo Gordon fratribus bastardis filiis naturalibus Magistri Alexandri Gordon precentoris Moraviensis. June, 1506." Another. "Alexandro Gordon filio carnali Alexandri Gordon precentoris Moraviensis, 1509."⁵

Through the influence of the Earl of Huntly he was appointed in 1515 Bishop of Aberdeen, and died 30th June, 1518. Dr. Grub is of opinion, that owing to bad health he was never consecrated.⁶

¹ Notes by the late Mr. Chas. E. Dalrymple.

² British Museum Lib. C.M. 63, as quoted by Sheriff Riddell in his notes on the Gordons, Earls Aberdeen, in Wood's Douglas' Peerage, Advocates Library, Edin.

³ Antiq. A. and B. II. p. 333, and MS. (C. E. D.), 1580.

⁴ Balbithan MS. of the Gordons.

⁵ Riddell's notes on Gordons of Haddo in Wood's Douglas' Peerage, Advocates Library, Edin.

⁶ Grub's Eccles. History I. p. 410.

IV. George Gordon of Auchinhiffe (Udny).

1. Isobel, married to Alexander Allardes of Allardes.
 2. Margaret, married to ——— Fraser of Durris.¹
 3. ———, married to Andrew Prott, burgess in Aberdeen.
- James Gordon died 14—, and was succeeded by his son,

III. Patrick Gordon of Haddo and Methlick.

Patrick Gordon had a charter dated 15 September, 1480, of the lands of Knockinblewis, Breckoh, and Glassach, from Alex. Leslie of Warderis. The charter is dated within the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Garioch. In 1482, there is a charter previously quoted of the lands of New Park of Kelly and Overhill (Ordhill?)²

In 1487, there is a confirmation of a charter of the lands of Auchadlie to Patrick Gordon de Methlic with William de S. Clare of Newburgh.³

He married Marion, daughter of Sir James Ogilvie of Findlater, and had issue three sons and three daughters.

I. George Gordon, apparent-heir.

II. Mr. James Gordon, Parson of Lonmay, a witness to a deed, 1556.⁴

III. Alexander Gordon, first goodman of Bracoe.⁵

1. ———, married to ——— Barclay of Towie.
2. ———, married to ——— Cumming of Altyre.
3. ———, married to ——— Rose of Kilravock.⁶

Patrick Gordon died 15—, and was succeeded by his grandson.

IV. James Gordon of Haddo and Methlick.

He was son of George Gordon, apparent-heir of Patrick Gordon, who died in France before his father, having married a daughter of Hay of Delgaty, and by her he left issue the said James Gordon.⁷

In 1537, James Gordon of Methlick is mentioned in a decret ament the marches betwixt Lethnot and Troup.⁸

In 1547, he is mentioned in a deed in the Register of the Diocese of Aberdeen.⁹

In 1553, James Gordon obtained a charter from John Master of Erskine, with consent of Lord Erskine his father, of the lands of Mains of Kellie and others.¹⁰

In 1578, there is a licence by James Gordon of Haddoch to his son Robert Gordon

1 MS. 1580, C. E. D., and Balbithan MS.

2 Hist. MSS. C. Rep., vol. V. p. 608.

3 Ant. A. and B., vol. III. p. 102.

4 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 540.

5 Balbithan MS.

6 Id.

7 MS. (1580) C. E. D.

8 Antiquities A. and B. II., p. 226.

9 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 432.

10 H. M. C. Rep., V. p. 607. V. Ante p. 3.

of Sauchoch to annalie and wadset the town and lands of Murdoishill, *alias* Hallymanis' seat, lying within the barony of Kelly.¹

In 1580, steps were taken by the Council to put an end to the deadly feuds between the Gordons and the Forbese. Among the Gordons are John Gordon of Pitlurg, and James Gordon of Haddo.²

On April 1, 1588, there is a discharge and receipt by James Gordon of Haddo to Alexander Chalmers of Cults for the title deeds of the lands of Little Methlick. The deeds are enumerated, and the first is a charter by umquhile William Chalmers of Findowne.³

He married Marjory (?) daughter of Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, Comptroller General of Scotland, according to Burke's and Douglas' Peerages; but according to the MS. of 1580, already quoted, she is styled "daughter of Gilbert Menzies, Provost of Aberdeen." It is also recorded of him in this MS. that "he has conquest certain lands in Buchan in augmentation of his living, and has bigged a House called Kelly."⁴

They had issue six sons.

I. **Patrick**, his apparent-heir, who predeceased his father. He is mentioned in a memorandum of his father. James Gordon explained "that he had ordered Alexander Gordon of Bracoe to give a proper charter of sale of the barony of Knockinblewis, 10 May, 1553, to Patrick Gordon, his son and apparent-heir."⁵

II. Robert Gordon of Savocho mentioned in Riddell's notes with his four younger brothers in 1559.

III. David, ancestor of the Gordons of Nethermuir, a family which still exists, though Nethermuir, their ancient inheritance, has passed from them.

IV. John Gordon of Tillichilt,

V. James Gordon.

VI. Alexander Gordon.

1. Daughter married to Cheyne of Esslemont.

James Gordon died 1582.⁶

His son Patrick married Agnes, daughter of Alexander Frazer of Muchil, and had one son **James**, who succeeded his grandfather.

V. James Gordon of Haddo and Methlick.

He obtained charters from King James VI. of the lands of Kirktown, Tarvis, Brakla, Tulielt, also the lands of Methlick, Haddo, &c., 1582.⁷

¹ H. M. C. Rep., V. p. 607.

² Priv. Counc. Rep. III. pp. 261, 279.

³ His. MSS. Rept. V. 608.

⁴ MSS. 1580, C. E. D. Balbithan's MS.

⁵ Riddell's Notes on Wood's Douglas' Peerage, Advocates Library, Edinburgh.

⁶ Burke's and Douglas' Baronages.

⁷ Id.

He married Jane, daughter of William Lord Keith, and sister of George Earl Marischal, and by her had issue :—

I. **George**, who died before his father, having married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Bannerman of Elsick, by whom he had a son **John**, of whom afterwards.

II. William Gordon.

He married second the daughter of his cousin, John Gordon of Tillyhilt.¹

He died in the beginning of 1624, and was succeeded by his grandson.

VI. Sir John Gordon of Haddo, Bart.

He was served heir to his grandfather, James Gordon, in 1624, and to his father, George Gordon, in 1627, in the lands of the two Methlicks.² (See above No. V.)

He was a man of great ability and loyalty. He was second in command to the Marquis of Huntly in conducting the forces that were raised for the King against the Covenanters in 1639. At the skirmish commonly called the "Trot of Turriff," he behaved with great courage, and for his good service was created a Baronet by King Charles I. in 1642.

Sir John in many other instances signalised himself in behalf of His Majesty.

In 1643, he defended the House of Kelly against the Covenanters until reduced to the last extremity. At length he capitulated on honourable terms ; but he was no sooner in his enemy's power (Argyle's) than he was sent to Edinburgh, and imprisoned in St. Giles' church, in a place which has since then got the name of "Haddo's hole."

Argyle put a garrison of thirty-six men into the house, destroyed and plundered everything in it, carried away out of the garner 160 chalders of victuals, killed or drove away all the horses and sheep that belonged to Sir John or his tenants, all of which is most graphically described by Spalding in his "Troubles of Scotland."

The Kirk also was not behind, for she drew the spiritual sword, and Sir John was excommunicated.

In January, 1645, he was indicted for high treason for what he acted at Turriff and elsewhere, in the King's name, and was condemned to death. On the 10th of July, 1645, he was executed along with Captain John Logie, son of a learned and loyal clergyman, Mr. Andrew Logie, minister of Rayne and Archdeacon of Aberdeen. Captain Logie was first beheaded.

Sir John's friends had petitioned to be suffered to wait upon him on the scaffold at his death, and six of them were so allowed. According to "Gordon's History of the Gordons"³—"When they mounted the scaffold, they were attended by some of the town's ministers. One of them, in addressing himself to Sir John, desired him to make open

¹ Balbithan MS.

² Ret. Spec. Abdn., No. 201, &c.

³ See Gordon's History of the Gordons, pp. 410, 414, and Spalding's "Troubles."

and full confession of his sins to God, upon which he acknowledged that he had been a great and grievous sinner, and hoped that God would graciously pardon him, in and through the merits of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. On which the minister catching hold went to the side of the scaffold, and with an audible voice told the people that this unfortunate gentleman had confessed himself guilty of rising in arms against the country, in opposition to the covenant, which Haddo overhearing, went to the same place, and with the like voice answered, 'Not so. I confess myself to be a great sinner to God, but never transgressed against the country or any in it, and what I did in that case, I thought good service, and bound to do as my duty by the laws of God and man.' After which he returned to his private devotions, using among others this short prayer—'I commend myself to God, and my six children to his Majesty's care, for whose sake I die this day.'

And so he passed boldly and calmly unto death. His body was buried in the Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh.

He married Mary, daughter of William Forbes of Tolquhon, by whom he had six children, of whom two sons and one daughter reached maturity.

I. **Sir John**, his successor.

II. **George**, the First Earl of Aberdeen.

1. ———, daughter married to Sir John Forbes of Waterton.

The children of Sir John Gordon were bereft of parents and estate, of which latter they received not one penny for their upbringing. The estates were returned to Sir John's eldest son—

VII. Sir John Gordon, 2nd Bart.

He married Mary, only daughter of Alexander, First Lord Pitsligo, by whom he had an only child Jane, who married Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir, Bart. He died 1667, and was succeeded by his brother George, who became

VIII. Sir George Gordon, 3rd Bart. of Haddo, and 1st Earl of Aberdeen.

According to Mr. Dunn,¹ he was educated at King's College, Old Aberdeen, of which he was a distinguished scholar and graduate. He studied under John Strachan, who enjoyed a great reputation for learning. Professor Strachan having resigned, the College appointed Mr. Gordon to the vacant Regency, and he became a professor the day after he ceased to be a student. This was in 1658, and he remained a professor four years. After his class proceeded to the Master's degree, he resigned his professorship at the close of the session 1662, and went abroad, resolving to devote himself to the study of law. The death of his elder brother without male issue in March, 1667, recalled him from the Continent, when he took possession of the estates. He became

¹ See "Letters to the Earl of Aberdeen" (Spal. Club) Preface.

a member of the Scottish bar in 1668. In the year 1669, he was elected one of the Commissioners to represent the county of Aberdeen in the following session of this Parliament, 1670, 1671, 1672, and 1673; also in the Convention of Estates assembled at Edinburgh, June, 1678.

On the 11th of November, 1678, he was nominated one of the King's Privy Council, and on the death of Sir William Wallace of Craigie, he was appointed in his room, an ordinary Lord of Session, under the title of Lord Haddo.

For many years the government of Scotland had been in the hands of the Duke of Lauderdale, and the unhappy state of the country showed the results of his administration. Sir George Gordon, from his high official position, was brought prominently into contact with the State transactions towards the close of Lauderdale's administration. The Duke of York arrived in Edinburgh, 4 December, 1679, and took up his residence for three months at Holyrood, and produced a favourable impression. He returned in the following year, 1680, with a sort of viceregal authority, and completely superseded Lauderdale's influence in Scottish affairs. He assembled Parliament in 1681, in which Sir George Gordon took an active part, for at its opening, he was nominated one of the Lords of the Articles, and acted as one of the leaders of Government in conducting the business of the House, and was very active in supporting the Duke's administration.

On the removal of Sir James Dalrymple from the presidency of the Court of Session, he was in 1681 promoted to the vacant office, but did not long retain it.

Amongst those who looked forward to bear a part in the pomp and state which distinguished the sitting down of Parliament in 1681 was John Leslie, Duke of Rothes; but not many hours before its meeting he suddenly expired, and the Parliament had to be opened without a Chancellor. Sir George Gordon was appointed Chancellor in his room, but his appointment created no little disappointment and rivalry, Sir George being only a Commoner, while it was considered by many that this high office of State should only be filled by a Peer. His appointment to the Chancellorship was, however, soon followed by his elevation to the Peerage under the title of Earl of Aberdeen. The patent which conferred upon him this rank recites the eminent services he had rendered to the King; but, perhaps, no part of the document could be more agreeable to Sir George Gordon than the part relating the manner in which his father's struggles and heroic sufferings are recorded.

Lord Aberdeen was called to power at a time when little but obloquy was to be expected by those holding official dignity, when even the wisest and ablest could only look forward to the exercise of but a loveless and a thankless sway.

During a period of two years and upwards, the administration of public affairs was presided over by him; but the intrigues of the party which favoured the unhappy designs of the Duke of York against the established religion led in the end to the Earl's resignation. In 1684 he left London, dismantled his house in Edinburgh, and retired to Haddo, his house in Aberdeenshire. He did not emerge from his retirement till after the accession of Queen Anne, when for the first time he took the oaths to the Govern-

ment. The only prominent transaction in which Lord Aberdeen took part after this was the treaty of Union between England and Scotland.

The remaining years of the Earl's life were spent in the tranquillity and seclusion of a country life, and in the improvement and extension of his family property.

"The boy," says Mr. Dunn, "who had seen his father's house invested by fierce and warlike men, who had been driven a terrified child across its threshold preparatory to the work of destruction, now, as an old man after an eventful life, reposed in peace and quietness there, the scene of these wild transactions."

The Earl of Aberdeen, while Sir George Gordon, married Ann, eldest daughter of Sir George Lockhart of Torbrecks, heiress of her brother William, who died in 1672. Her mother, Ann, was a daughter of Sir William Lockhart of Carnwath, President of the Court of Session. They had six children:—

I. George, Lord Haddo, died in the life-time of his father.

II. **William**, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen.

1. The Lady Anne, married to the ninth Earl of Eglinton.

2. The Lady Martha, born February 13, 1681, was married to John Udny of Udny.

3. The Lady Mary, born 29 March. 1682, was married to Alexander, 12th Lord Saltoun.

4. The Lady Margaret—died unmarried.

The first Earl died at Kelly, 20 April, 1720, and was succeeded by his son—

IX. **William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen.**

He was one of the representative Peers of Scotland, but did not take a very active part in public life. He married first Lady Mary Leslie, only daughter of the Earl of Leven, by whom he had an only daughter, the Lady Ann, who married William, Earl of Dumfries and Stair.

He married secondly, Susan, daughter of John, Duke of Athole, by whom he had an only son—

I. **George**, his successor.

2. The Lady Catharine, who married first, Cosmo, Duke of Gordon, secondly, General Staats Long Morris.

The Earl married thirdly, Anne, daughter of Alexander, Duke of Gordon, and by her had issue—

II. William Gordon of Fyvie, a general officer, who married Miss Isobel Black, and had issue a son William, who succeeded to Fyvie, and died there in 1847.

III. Cosmo, Colonel in the army.

IV. Alexander, born 1739. Appointed Lord of Session in 1788, under the title of Lord Rockville. (See Article Fyvie.)

William, the Second Earl of Aberdeen, increased the family property very much, having purchased Tolquhon, Fyvie, and other estates. He died in 1745, and was succeeded by his son—

X. George, 3rd Earl of Aberdeen.

He married Catharine, daughter of Oswald Hanson, Esq. of Wakefield, Yorkshire, and by her, who died March 15, 1817, had issue—

I. **George**, Lord Haddo. He was accidentally killed by a fall from his horse near the Castle of Gight, October 2, 1791 (in the life-time of his father). He married Charlotte, daughter of William Baird, Esq. of New Byth, by whom he had issue :—

I. **George**, 4th Earl of Aberdeen.

II. William, Vice-Admiral, long member of Parliament for Aberdeenshire, born 1785, died February 3, 1858.

III. Sir Alexander Gordon, K.C.B., Lieut.-Colonel in the army, Aide-de-Camp to his uncle, Sir David Baird, afterward to the Duke of Wellington, and was killed at the battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815.

IV. Sir Charles, Lieut.-Colonel, born 5 July, 1790, died 30 September, 1835.

V. Sir Robert, a distinguished diplomatist, born 1791, died 8 October, 1847.

VI. John, Vice-Admiral, R.N., born 1792.

1. Alicia, who obtained from the Prince Regent in 1813 the precedency of an Earl's daughter, and died April 24, 1847.

II. William, who succeeded to the Ellon estate, and died 1846.

1. Anne, married to Edward Place, Esq. of Skelton Grange, Yorkshire, and had issue.

2. Susan, died unmarried, 1795.

3. Mary, married 12 March, 1789, to Thomas Horton, Esq. of Honroyde Hall, Yorkshire, who died 22 December, 1829 ; she died August 7, 1853.

The Earl, who was one of the representative Peers of Scotland, died at Ellon Castle, August 13, 1801, and was succeeded by his grandson—

XI. George Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen. K.G., K.T., LL.D.,
F.R.S., F.A.S., F.S.A. Scot., &c., &c., &c.

He was born at Edinburgh, 28 January, 1784. When he was six years old his father died, and he succeeded his grandfather at the age of 17. He was educated at Harrow, and from that school he entered St. John's College, Cambridge.

At that time Pitt was First Lord of the Treasury, Melville ruled at the Admiralty, and the beautiful and accomplished Duchess of Gordon (Jane Maxwell) interested herself much in the Tory supporters. Lord Aberdeen was brought up under the especial notice of these, and was early introduced into the mysteries of official life.

He graduated in 1801, and in the same year was attached to the Embassy sent under Lord Cornwallis to negotiate with Napoleon the peace of Amiens, a peace which did not last long. About this time he visited Greece, and while his countryman, Lord Elgin, was despoiling that classic land of some of its finest marbles, he with all the

enthusiasm of a scholar went over ground where everything to him had the greatest interest. On his return to England, he established the Athenian Society, of which it was an essential condition that every member should have visited Greece, and from this was given him the name of "Athenian Aberdeen." He entered Parliament in 1806, a year which saw Nelson, Pitt, and Fox consigned to the tomb. At that time there was a coalition of parties, and Lord Aberdeen, as a Representative Peer of Scotland, came in contact with the Ministry "of all the Talents," an honour which he continued to enjoy till 1814.

In recognition of his diplomatic services, he was raised in 1814 to the dignity of the British Peerage. After the disastrous defeat of Napoleon at Moscow, a hope was entertained that Austria might be induced (though the Emperor's daughter was married to Napoleon) to enter into a coalition against France. To Lord Aberdeen the English Government committed this delicate task, which he effectually accomplished. He was then only 29 years of age. Dresden was the last of Napoleon's great victories, and Leipsic began the series of defeats. Lord Aberdeen was present at both these battles, and learned there the horrors of war.

In Jan., 1828, in the Tory Government, under the Duke of Wellington, Lord Aberdeen became Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and he held this office for nearly three years. On the overthrow of the Duke's government, he retired from office, and with the exception of a few months in 1834-5, when he filled the post of Colonial Secretary in Sir Robert Peel's short-lived Ministry, he remained in Opposition till 1841. In that year Peel became Prime Minister, and Lord Aberdeen was reinstalled in the Foreign Office. His administration of Foreign policy was cautious and pacific, yet firm and dignified, and in the dispute with the government of the United States on the Oregon question, he steadily upheld the honour of his country, while he contrived to avert the war that seemed imminent.

Lord Aberdeen took a deep interest in the Established Church of Scotland, and made an unsuccessful attempt to avert the Disruption by enacting certain restrictions on the right of patronage, an Act repealed in 1874, when another was passed entirely abolishing patronage.

In 1852, a coalition was formed between the Whigs and the Peelites, and the Earl of Aberdeen was placed at the head of the Administration. He had long penetrated the designs of Russia regarding Turkey, and had in his dispatches denounced the ambition and faithlessness of the Czar Nicholas. He had, however, an undisguised horror of war, and strove to maintain the public peace after the nation had unequivocally declared for an armed resistance to the designs of Russia. The country thus drifted into the Crimean war, for which no adequate preparation had been made, and disasters of no ordinary kind followed as the result. Lord John Russell seceded from the Government, which had become unpopular, and it was dissolved in 1855. From that period till his death Lord Aberdeen did not take any part in public affairs.

His Lordship married first, July 28, 1805, Catharine Elizabeth, eldest surviving

daughter of John James, First Marquis of Abercorn. By her, who died February 29, 1812, he had a son who died in infancy, and three daughters who died unmarried. The Earl married secondly, July 8, 1815, Harriet, daughter of Hon. John Douglas, relict of James Viscount Hamilton, and mother of the first Duke of Abercorn. By her, who died August 26, 1833, he had issue:—

- I. **George John James**, Lord Haddo, his successor,
- II. Alexander, born 11 December, 1817 (died 1890), General in the army, K.C.B., married December 9, 1852, Caroline, eldest daughter of Sir John Herschel, Bart., and has issue.
- III. Douglas, Chaplain to the Queen, Canon of Sarum, and Rector of Great Stanhope, born 13 March, 1824, married 15 July, 1851, Ellen, daughter of the Earl of Morton, and has issue.
- IV. Arthur, born 1829, C.M.G., 1859; K.C.M.G., 1871; G.C.M.G., 1878. In 1861, he was appointed Lieut.-Governor of New Brunswick; 1866, Governor of Trinidad; 1870, Governor of the Mauritius; 1874-80, Governor of Fiji; 1877, Consul-General for the Western Pacific Islands; 1880-82, Governor of New Zealand; 1883-89, Governor of Ceylon. He married 1865, Rachel Emily (died 1889), eldest daughter of the late Sir John Shaw Lefevre, K.C.B., and has issue.
 1. Frances, died, unmarried, 1834.

His Lordship died December 14, 1860, and was succeeded by his son—

XII. George John James, 5th Earl of Aberdeen, better known as Lord Haddo.

He was born 28 September, 1816, at the Priory, near Stanmore, Middlesex. He studied at Cambridge, and in 1827 took his degree of M.A. He was elected in 1854 M.P. for Aberdeenshire, and in the general election of 1857 was again returned. He was long in very delicate health. Symptoms of illness began to appear in 1853, from which he never wholly recovered. This illness proved to be a wasting atrophy, and he was told by the best medical advice that a fatal issue could not be averted, yet nothing could exceed the calm composure with which he was led to contemplate an early death as all but certain; and he set his house in order. He devoted himself to the good of those around him, watching over his children's education, and attending to religious, philanthropic, and various other objects up to the very week of his death. He was easily accessible to the humblest and poorest of the tenants, and took the liveliest interest in all their wants and difficulties. This good Earl continued in the good works which he had set himself to do, in the great work of preparation to meet his God, until the last day of his life. His spirit gently and quietly passed away a few minutes after midnight on the morning of the 23rd March, 1864.

He married in 1840, Mary, daughter of George Baillie of Jerviswoode, sister of the late Earl of Haddington, and had issue :—

I. George Hamilton, Lord Haddo, his successor.

II. James Hamilton, born at Ranger's House, Greenwich, 11 October, 1845. He was a promising young man, and was suddenly killed by the accidental discharge of his rifle, 12 February, 1867, to the great regret of all who knew him.

III. John Campbell, the present Peer.

1. Lady Mary, born 1844, married 1863, Walter Hugh, sixth Lord Polwarth, and has issue.

2. Lady Harriet, born 1849, married 1870, William Alexander Lindsay of the Crawford and Balcarres family, and has issue.

3. Lady Catharine Eliza, born 1852, married 1876, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and has issue.

His Lordship was succeeded by his eldest son—

XIII. George Hamilton, 6th Earl of Aberdeen.

His mournful history is quite a romance in the Peerage. He is commonly known as the "Sailor Earl of Aberdeen." He was educated under a private tutor, and at the University of St. Andrews, along with his sad-fated brother James. In the winter of 1863, Lord Haddo proceeded to New Brunswick, where his uncle, the Hon. Arthur Gordon, was Governor, and was there in April, 1864, when he received intelligence of his father's death, and returned to Scotland. The decision, judgment, and self reliance, which he exhibited on assuming the administration of his estates, were such as to excite surprise from many, who were unacquainted with his real character and capacity. After a year and a half spent at home, during which he rebuilt the church of Methlick, he returned to his uncle in New Brunswick; and in 1866 commenced his long and arduous expedition, which at last came to so disastrous a conclusion. Laying aside altogether for a time his name and rank, he engaged in the American merchant service, and was with some intervals employed as chief officer or captain until the time of his death. His last voyage or engagement was as chief mate, under the name of George Osborne, on the *Hera*, one of Messrs H. W. Peabody and Co.'s line of packets, sailing from Boston to Melbourne. On that voyage, which commenced January 31, 1870, he was about a week after in a severe storm washed overboard and drowned.

For what purpose he undertook this hard life, whether from the love of adventure, or that he might thoroughly know the status of the sailors of the mercantile marine, and be able to ameliorate their condition, was at the time of his death difficult to say. But his family, from information which they obtained, believe that the latter was his object. He wished to work in his place in Parliament for the amelioration of the conditions under which merchant seamen were obliged to toil and spend their lives. He left his native

land, his home and his kindred, and entirely supported himself by his own earnings, and at last perished sadly as above narrated. He was succeeded in the title and estates by his youngest and last surviving brother.

XIV. John Campbell Hamilton Gordon, 7th Earl of Aberdeen.

He was born 3 August, 1847. In 1880, he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire; in 1881-1885, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly; 1886, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. He married in 1877, Isabel Maria, youngest daughter of Sir Dudley Coutts Marjoribanks, now Lord Tweedmouth, and has issue:—

I. **George**, Lord Haddo, born 1879.

II. Hon. Dudley Gladstone, born 1883.

III. Hon. Ian Archibald, born 1884.

1. Lady Marjorie Adelina, born 1880.

2. Lady Dorothea Mary, born and died 1882.

MONUMENT TO LIEUT.-COL. SIR ALEXANDER GORDON, K.C.B.

An obelisk to the south-west of Haddo House within the grounds was erected in memory of the Hon. Lieut. General Sir Alexander Gordon, whose name is honourably mentioned in the Duke of Wellington's despatches, likewise in Sir Walter Scott's poem of Waterloo, thus:—

“ And generous Gordon 'mid the strife
Fell while he watched his leader's life.”

The obelisk is said to be of the same form as one which marks the spot where Sir Alexander fell. The latter bears an inscription both in French and English.

“ Sur le champ de Bataille.”

“ Sacred to the memory of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Alexander Gordon, Knight Commander of the most honourable Order of the Bath, Aide-de-Camp to Field Marshal the Duke of Wellington, and also brother to George Earl of Aberdeen, who in the 29th year of his age terminated a short but glorious career on the 18th June, 1815, whilst executing the orders of his great Commander in the battle of Waterloo. Distinguished for gallantry and good conduct in the field, he was honoured with repeated marks of approbation by the illustrious Hero, with whom he shared the dangers of every battle in Spain, Portugal, and France, and received the most flattering proofs of his confidence on many trying occasions. His zeal and activity in the service obtained the reward of ten medals, and the honourable distinction of the order of the Bath. He was justly lamented by the Duke of Wellington in his public despatch as an officer of high promise and a serious loss to the country; nor less worthy of record for his virtues in private life, his unaffected

respect for religion, his high sense of honour, his scrupulous integrity, and the most amiable qualities, which secured the attachment of his friends, and the love of his own family. In testimony of feelings which no language can express, a disconsolate sister and five surviving brothers have erected this simple memorial to the object of their tenderest affection.”¹

MONUMENT TO GEORGE, 4TH EARL OF ABERDEEN.

Soon after the Earl's death in 1861, there was erected on the Hill of Ythsie, one of the highest landmarks in the lowland portion of the Aberdeen estate, a Tower, rising to the height of nearly 100 feet. It was erected by his Lordship's tenantry.

On a vase in the deer park of Haddo House is this inscription :—

“Georgius Comes Aberdonensis,
MDCCLXVII.
Haud immemor.”

Mr. Kemble, the celebrated actor, brother of the famous Mrs. Siddons, used frequently to visit Haddo House. He had a favourite stone seat a little to the east of Haddo House, in a romantic part of the Knockothie wood.

“Scdes hæc saxea et inculta, Joanni Philippo Kemble per æstivos
anni MDCCLXVII menses multum Diuque secum meditati præter
omnes ridebat.”

[This rude stone seat was the favourite resort of John Philip Kemble, who during the summer of 1817 frequently retired to it for the purpose of meditation.]¹

BUST OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

In the entrance Hall of Haddo House is a presentation Bust of Her Majesty, over which is a marble tablet thus inscribed :—

“Effigie sua Benevolentiae
signo has ædes exornavit MDCCLV.
Victoria Regina.”

[In token of Her Royal favour Queen Victoria adorned this House with her bust.]

¹ Jervise' Ins. Vol. II. p. 26.

F Y V I E

“Fyvie, Fyvie, ye'se never thrive,
As lang as there's within ye stanes three.
There's ane in the heiches tour,
There's ane in the Leddy's bower,
The third's aneath the water yett,
And that's the stane ye'll never get.”

THIS grand and venerable castle stands on the north-east bank of the Ythan, within extensive and finely timbered grounds—the ancient Royal Park of Fyvie. The present castle has been built by the five last families who have possessed the property.

The south-east wing, called the Preston Tower, is the most ancient part of the building, and is remarkable chiefly from the figure on the top of it, said to represent Andrew Lammie, the trumpeter of Fyvie.

This tower may have been erected about 1390, the date of the accession of the Preston family to the property. The south-west tower is known as the Meldrum Tower. The Prestons and the Meldrums each raised their tower, and the two must have been connected by a building between. Lord Dunfermline built the Seton Tower, which appears to have been merely added on to the curtain or connecting buildings. The castle had originally a courtyard, of which only two sides now remain. On the west side was the chapel, and on the fourth side, probably “laigh buildings,” offices, servants' lodgings, &c.

The archway with the grated iron gate was the gateway, through which anyone entering rode into the courtyard. This grated iron gate still remains. “It is arched at the top, and measures nine feet in height by five feet four and a half inches in breadth. It consists of seven perpendicular and twelve horizontal bars besides the frame, and there are three hinges, which are sunk in recesses of the wall. The three bolts are squared in the middle, and are very massive. The iron door is situated six feet eight inches behind a wooden one in front, and in the centre of the arch above the doorway is a large aperture, evidently intended to give a warm reception to any undesired visitor.”

The entrance to the house, after Lord Dunfermline built the magnificent staircase, the finest in Scotland, would probably be at the foot of it. He remodelled the whole

top of the castle, closing in the open battlements, putting roofs on the corner turrets, which probably were open, and adding dormer windows along the eaves of the castle.

General Gordon built the Gordon Tower, after the style of the old building. In the Gordon Tower are the dining and breakfast rooms, and in the older part, between it and the Meldrum Tower, are the drawing-room and the grand staircase.

Mr. Forbes Leith, the present proprietor (a descendant of Sir Henry Preston's), has added in 1890, five hundred years after the building of the Preston Tower, a fifth tower, to be called the Forbes Leith Tower. It is built in continuation westward of the Gordon Tower, and its principal elevations face the west and south. It contains a picture gallery and a ball room, &c.

In the Meldrum Tower is said to be an inaccessible chamber without door or window. About sixty years ago, it was so far opened, that the operators were able to look in through a hole they made, and saw (as they believed) some bones. The room above it is used as a charter room, which is certainly safe from fire from the inaccessible chamber.

The castle owes much to the fine taste of the Earl of Dunfermline, who was a great builder of beautiful castles.

Fyvie Castle, or a predecessor in or near the same site, was the chief message of the Thanage of Fermartyn, and was frequently the residence of the Kings of Scotland.

The earliest notice of Fyvie Castle is in the year 1211 or 1214. The exact date is not given; but it is between these two dates. It is in a charter given by William the Lion to the monks of Dunfermline of the church of Abercromby in Fife. It is dated apud Fiuene (Fyvy). Among the witnesses are William de Boscho (Wood), the Chancellor; Philip de Valoniis (Vaus or Vaux), his Chamberlain; Robert de Lundoniis (meo filio); William Comyn, Justiciar of Scotland; Richard, the son of Hugo; Hubert de Camera (Chalmer), and Richard Reuel. Here at Fyvie we find William the Lion with all the great officials of the State granting a charter.

The next notice is in the reign of Alexander II. He is also in the Castle of Fyvie granting a charter, conferring on the monks of St. Thomas Aberbrothock the church of Buthelny, now merged in Meldrum. Among the witnesses present are Peter Bysset, John Bysset, and Walter Bysset,² a family long in great favour with the Alexanders, and who besides their numerous possessions in Ross, Banff and Aberdeenshires, had probably Lessendrum, still in possession of the Bissets.

In 1296, Fyvie Castle³ was one of the stages in the progress of King Edward I. through Scotland. On Friday, 20th July, he proceeded from Aberdeen to "Kintore manour," and next day went to Lumphanan, and thence to "Fyvy Castle"—a very remarkable and ill-arranged journey, for Lumphanan was far out of the way from Kintore to Fyvie. Some think it may have been Lumphart not Lumphanan.

In 1286, the Thanage of Fermartyn was held by Reginald Cheyne. He is described

¹ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 35.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 561, II. p. 226.

³ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 326.

as Firmarius de Fermartyn, *i.e.* he held the Thanage on lease. He was Sheriff of Kincardine in 1242, and was afterwards Chamberlain. There is an account in the Exchequer Rolls of his firma or rent—the exact sum is not given; but we learn from Skene's "Celtic Scotland" that it amounted to one hundred and twenty merks.¹

There is mention made in the Exchequer Rolls of the sums paid by the burghers of Fyvie for the lands of Kilmalcolm let to them, and in the said account there is a memorandum that Henry de Fyvin ought to render an account of the eels of Fyvin for the whole time that he held the waters and marshes of Fyvin.² These waters and marshes were probably on the level grounds of the Ythan, on the site of the present lake of Fyvie.

After Reginald Cheyne, we find that John Comyn, Earl of Buchan, possessed the lands of the Thanage of Fermartyn. John de Baliol, King of Scotland, gave by charter to the Earl all the lands of the Thanage of Fermartyn and Derleye, except the Burgh and Castle of Fyvie (Fyvyn).³ And in 1304-5, the Earl pays to the King's (Edward I.) exchequer per John Wrokwardyns the sum of £16 for these lands.⁴

After the battle of Inverurie, where the Comyns were defeated by Bruce, and there followed the terrible "harrying of the lands of Buchan," the Earl of Buchan's connection with the Thanage of Fermartyn ceases, and we find other possessors of it and the forest thereof.

The next Thane of Fermartyn was John Brown. In the missing charters of King Robert the Bruce, sometime between the years 1306 and 1329, there is a charter to John Brown of the Thanage of Fermartyn.⁵ There is another missing charter, of the same reign, to Patrick de Montealto of the ⁶ office of Forester of Kilanel and Fermartyn, showing that the forest was a royal one. This Patrick de Montealto was very probably one of the Mowats of Balquholly, now Hatton.

Sir John Brown was also Sheriff of Aberdeen, and there are extant his accounts of second tithes due to the Bishopric of Aberdeen from the Thanages of Kintore, Fermartyn, Belhelvie, and Aberdeen, in total, the sum of £7 11s., and in 1331-32 we find him accounting for the dues from the burgh of Fyvie.⁷

Sir John Brown was the son of Adam Brown, who fell at the battle of Falkirk in 1298. He possessed considerable lands in Ayrshire, which were forfeited, and which were granted to William Lindsay, Canon of Glasgow.⁷ Sir John, besides the Thanedom of Fermartyn, owned the lands of Glanderstone in the Garioch. He married and had issue. Among his descendants was the late David Browne of Greenknowe, Stirlingshire and Laurieston, Midlothian, one of whose grandchildren was the late amiable and accomplished Mr. Riddell Stodart, Lyon Clerk-Depute of the Herald's College, Edinburgh.⁸

The next Thane of Fermartyn was Ranald More, Chamberlain of Scotland.

1 Skene's "Celtic Scotland," III. p. 252.

2 Exchequer Rolls I. p. 21.

3 Bain's Calendar of State papers II. p. 401.

4 *Id.*, II. p. 440.

5 Rob. Index of Charters, p. 17.

6 Skene's Celtic Scotland III. p. 251.

7 Exchequer Rolls, Vol. I. p. 24.

8 MS., Penes. late Mr. Riddell Stodart, Lyon Clerk-Dep.

There is a missing charter by David II. to Ranald More, Chamberlain, of the lands of Fermartyn, Akintor, and Obeyne.¹ Other portions of the Thanage of Fermartyn were disposed in Robert II.'s time; thus there is a charter Alexandri Coci of the two Culmalows in the Thanage of Fermartyn.² A charter to Philip de Meldrum of the lands of Crichnalade, and Creichen Walter in "Thanagio de Fermartyn;" also a charter to Marie Cumming, spouse of Edmund Cumming of Gilltrachis and Sauchope in the Thanage of Fermartyn.³

After the Chamberlainship of Ranald More, two of the sisters of King David had the Thanage of Fermartyn.

King Robert the Bruce, by his second marriage, had, besides David II. his successor, two daughters, Matilda and Margaret. Both these daughters were older than David, though neither of them could have been born before 1316. Matilda "nupsit cuidam armigero Thomae Isaac;" in fact, she made a mesalliance.⁴

In the Chamberlain's rolls of accounts for 1342, a payment of £6 12s. 6d. occurs to Thomas, son of Isaac, until otherwise provided for.⁵ Mauld or Matilda Bruce, the spouse of Thomas Isaac, had a charter from her brother David of half of the Thanage of Fermartyn; and in the accounts of the Sheriff of Aberdeen rendered March 1358-9, after the Lady Matilda's death, half of the Thanage of Fermartyn and Kintore is said to be in the hands of the Earl of Sutherland, husband of her sister Margaret Bruce; and the other half in the hands of Thomas Ysak, "e gratia regis super quo," add the auditors, "rex consulatur"—the king to be consulted.⁶

In 1347, the revenue of the Crown lands in one of the parts of Scotland that suffered the least from the wars is given (the only account of the period extant), and it is noted that there is nothing from the Thanages of Kintore and Fermartyn, because in the hands of the Crown and the King's sisters.⁷

Margaret Bruce, the youngest daughter of King Robert the Bruce's second marriage, married William, Earl of Sutherland, and David II. granted a charter, November 10, 1345, to her and to her husband and the heirs to be procreated between them, of the Earldom of Sutherland erected into a regality; also he grants the Earl in 1365, "Totam medietatem" of the Thanage of Fermartyn, which he now possesses, and which we have granted to the same for his life-time.⁸

In 1370-80, five years after the date of the above-named grant, we find that Fermartyn was again in possession of the Crown, and conferred by Robert II. on his eldest son, the Steward of Scotland, who soon resigned it to his cousin,⁹ Sir James Lindsay who was the ninth in descent of the family of Crawford, and is designed, "Dominus de Crawford and Buchan." He was present at the coronation of his uncle at Scone in 1371, and was Commissioner to treat with the English in 1374.¹⁰

1 Rob. Index to Charters, p. 17.

2 Id., pp. 2, 16, 17.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 498.

4 Burnett's Exchequer Rolls, Vol. I. pref. Fordun's Annals, Vol. 1. p. 78.

5 Exchequer Rolls, I. p. 510.

6 Exchequer Rolls, I. p. 127.

7 Id., I. p. 511.

8 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 498.

9 Fyvie Papers Hist. Com. Rep. Vol. V. p. 644
10 Lives of the Lindsays, I. p. 96.

In 1381, he quarrelled with Sir John Lyon, Lord Glanmis, Chamberlain of Scotland, and son-in-law of the King, and slew him in a duel.¹ In 1385, he fought under the Earl of Douglas at Otterburne. His wife was Margaret Keith, daughter of William Keith, Marischal of Scotland. According to Winton, she was

“A gude ladye,
And led in all time gude life.”

She had been employing masons at the Castle of Fyvie, with whom the followers of her nephew, Robert Keith, quarrelled.

“This discourteous chief,” according to Lord Lindsay, “took up the quarrel so warmly, as to besiege his aunt in her own castle, but she held out, and gave notice to her husband, who was then at Court. He started immediately, with four hundred men to relieve his wife; but was intercepted by Keith, at the Kirk of Bourtie, in the Garioch, where Sir James utterly defeated him, with the loss of about fifty of his followers.”²

This Sir James Lindsay died in 1397, without male issue, leaving two daughters, who inherited certain rights in the Thanage of Fermartyn.

In 1390, there is a deed of gift by King Robert III. to Henry Preston for the redemption of Lord Ralph de Percy, brother of Hotspur, taken with him at Otterburne.³ It is, however, not at all certain that Ralph de Percy was taken prisoner by Sir Henry Preston. The name of his captor is given by Froissart as Mackynell, which some think means Maxwell. Lindsay was himself taken prisoner by the Bishop of Durham, at some distance from the field, after he had pursued and taken prisoner Sir Matthew Redham, the Governor of Berwick. There is thus a curious conflict of evidence as to who took Percy. There is no doubt he came into the power of Sir Henry Preston, and as ransom he got the lands of Fermartyn according to the deed.⁴ The rights of the daughters of Sir James Lindsay were satisfactorily settled. They evidently had still claims on Fermartyn notwithstanding the King's charter above-mentioned.

In 1403, there is an arrangement between Lady Margaret Lindsay, wife of Thomas Colville of Oxenham, and Henry Preston regarding the Castle of Fyvy.⁵ This charter engrosses one in his favour by Thomas Colville and the said Margaret Lindsay dated 1397. Sir Henry Preston purchased from Sir John Herry's of Terregles his wife Euphemia Lindsay's rights in Fermartyn.⁶

The Park of Fyvie is called the King's park in 1395, and the demesne lands Gourdnés (Gourdás), and others still remained in the Crown.⁷ In 1437, the Castle was in ward of the Crown, for in the account of the King's Chamberlain there is entered, “Pro custodia Castri de Fyvy post obitum regis,” £4 5s. 2d.⁸

Sir Henry Preston, Lord of Fermartyn, according to Douglas, was a man of great

¹ Doug. Peer. fol. p. 156.

² Lives of the Lindsays, I. p. 96.

³ Fyvie Charters, Ant. A. and B. I. p. 490.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 499.

⁵ Id., I. p. 501.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 502-3.

⁷ Reg. Vet. Aberbrothock p. 311.

⁸ Ant. A. and B. II. 327.

⁹ Doug. Peer. foli. 10.

parts, and highly esteemed by Robert III. He got a share of 40,000 francs that were sent by the King of France in 1385 to be divided among his faithful allies the Scots. He was joined in a commission with Sir Henry Swinton and Sir John Dalzell to treat for a peace with England in 1391, and was named one of the ambassadors extraordinary to the same Court in the year 1392.

He married Elizabeth Lindsay, and built the tower of Fyvie Castle which goes by his name. He died about 1433, leaving two daughters, co-heiresses, who shared between them the Thanage of Fermartyn. The one Mariote Preston was married to Sir John Forbes, son of Sir John Forbes, knight, and on July 6, 1420, she as daughter and one of the heiresses of Sir Henry Preston, Knight of Fermartyn, granted a charter to the said Sir John on marriage of one half of the Thanage of Fermartyn. This part is called Tolquhon, where Mariote's descendants were for many generations (and are now represented in the male line by Rev. Henry Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh), all of whom are detailed in the article "Tolquhon."

Fyvie, the other portion of Fermartyn, containing Fyvie Castle, came by the marriage of the other co-heiress to Alexander Meldrum, of the family of Meldrum of Meldrum, descended of Philip de Fedarg, who flourished in the neighbourhood of Meldrum in the 13th century—a family still represented in the female line by Urquhart of Meldrum.

I. Alexander Meldrum of Fyvie.

He appears in 1438 as "Dominus de Fyvie." He resigned in that year "his whole and entire lands of Banchory-Devenick into the hands of Walter, Abbot of Arbroath." He seems to have died before 1450 or 51, as he is mentioned in a charter of that date of Richard de Rutherford, burgess of Aberdeen, granting to his wife Mariota for her life-time that wadset made to him by the late Alexander Meldrum of Fyvie of a certain annual rent of £40 Scots to be uplifted from the lands of Waterton, Ellon, with the fishings on the Ythan.¹

The next to be found, a son probably of Alex. Meldrum and ——— Preston, is

II. William Meldrum of Fyvie.

He is mentioned in an assedation of the tithes of Fyvie about 1475. "David Abbot of Arbroath, let to an honourable man, William Meldrum of Fyvie and Elizabeth his spouse, and to the longer liver of them, all the tithes of the towns of Fivè, Meikle Gourdas, Little Gourdas, Haldauch, Sauchock, &c."²

In 1490, William Meldrum of Fyvie makes a grant of 40 shillings from the lands of Waterton, Ellon, to the Altar of St. Ninian's, within the church of St. Nicholas, Aber-

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 270-1.

² His. MSS. Com. Rep. IX. 188.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 498.

deen,¹ and in 1502, there is a resignation into the King's hands, by the said William, of all the lands of Fermartyn; one of the witnesses is Robert Gordon of Fetterletter.²

By his wife Elizabeth Barclay he had issue:—

I. **George**, his successor.

II. Thomas Meldrum, who gets the lands of Eden.³

William Meldrum died about 1508, and was succeeded by his son,

III. Sir George Meldrum of Fyvie.

In 1482, had a charter by King James III. under the great seal, in favour of George Meldrum (son and apparent heir of William Meldrum of Fivè) and Elizabeth Innes his spouse, of the lands of Petkary in the shire of Kincardine,⁴ and in 1502 there is a charter of James IV. to the said George of the lands and barony of Fermartyn on the resignation of his father William Meldrum.⁵ In a letter of bailyear of date 1508, Robert Innes is mentioned as brother-in-law of George Meldrum.⁶ This deed is signed by George Meldrum "manu propria," showing that he was an educated man, at a time when learning was not held in much esteem. George Meldrum received many charters of lands, and in 1505, he received the honour of knighthood. In a deed of warranty of that date he is styled "eques auratus."⁷ Sir George Meldrum was the only one of his family known in a public capacity, and was frequently employed in important business. In 1544, he was sent by the Governor of Scotland on an embassy to the King of England, then personally engaged in the siege of Boulogne.⁸ He married Elizabeth Innes mentioned in the letter quoted above. He had issue at least three sons:—

I. Alexander, of very infirm health, who for an annuity of 100 merks resigned his rights to Fyvie to his next brother.⁹

II. **William** Meldrum.

III. George Meldrum.

Sir George Meldrum was succeeded by his second son,

IV. William Meldrum of Fyvie.

He is mentioned in the deed above quoted, when his brother George resigned the rights of his birth.¹⁰ In the Fyvie charter chest there is a charter and deed of sasine in favour of William Meldrum, elder son of Sir George Meldrum (his elder brother was by this time dead), of the lands and barony of Fyvie, otherwise Fermartyn. Amongst the witnesses are Patrick Mowat of Balquholly; Walter Innes; Henry Robertson, Presbyter, Ouchterless. 21 February, 1544-45.¹¹

1 His. MSS. Com. Rep. I. p. 256.

2 Fyvie Charters.

3 Id.

4 Ant. A. and B. II. pp. 328-9.

5 Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. V. p. 306.

6 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 333.

7 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 567.

8 Leslie's History of Scotland, p. 187.

9 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 334.

10 Id.

11 Reg. Mag. Sig. 1544-46, No. 3073.

William Meldrum died before 1577, and was succeeded by his son,

V. George Meldrum of Fyvie.

He was served heir to his father William Meldrum of Fyvy, 1 October, 1577, in two parts of the barony of Ouchterless. Upon the inquest are James Gordon of Methlick, Patrick Mowat, Robert Lumsden of Clovath, Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck. There is also a general retour of him to his grandfather Sir George Meldrum of Fyvy, dated 17 January, 1577-78, of the lands and barony of Fyvy.¹ This George Meldrum is mentioned in a bond of caution by Patrick Barclay of Towie for William Barclay of Mylesleggat that George Meldrum of Fyvy shall be harmless of such persons under the pains and penalties contained in the King's letters of lawburrows raised thereanent by the said George Meldrum of Fyvy and others.

In this bond we find almost the whole fraternity of the Meldrums, viz. :—George Meldrum of Fyvy, William Meldrum of Montcoffer, Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck, George Meldrum younger thereof, Andrew Meldrum his brother, Alex. Meldrum of Bogheids, Robert Meldrum of Cowhill, George Meldrum of Logie Auldtown, and John Meldrum of Tulliecarne. Of all these there are no known descendants at the present day.²

The Meldrums of Fyvy were getting into pecuniary and other difficulties, and the estate of Fyvy is parted with by George Meldrum to his relative Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck, who may be called the last Meldrum of Fyvy.

VI. Andrew Meldrum of Fyvie and Dumbreck.

In 1592-93, January 31, there is a charter by George Meldrum of Fyvy to an honourable man Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck for the redemption and reversion of the lands of Tiftie, Muirfoundland, Camaloune, &c.,³ and on Feb. 26 of the same year, Andrew Meldrum is infest in the lands and barony of Fyvy.

In 1593-94, January 31, there is a reversion by Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck of the lands of Fyvy in favour of his sons Andrew and John Meldrum. There is evidently still much pecuniary difficulty, and the property of Fyvy or Fermartyn, after it had been for about one hundred and sixty years in the possession of the Meldrums, now passes away from them to the family of Seton. It was sold in 1596 to Lady Seton and her son Lord Urquhart, afterwards Lord Fyvie and Earl of Dunfermline—to the former in life-rent and the latter in fee. The deed of sasine is dated July 26, 1596.⁴

¹ Fyvie Charters.

² Privy Council Records.

³ Fyvie Charters.

⁴ Id.

THE LINE OF THE SETONS LORDS FYVIE AND EARLS
OF DUNFERMLINE.

I. The first Lord Urquhart, Lord Fyvie, and Earl of Dunfermline
was the third son of **George, Seventh Lord Seton.**

He was a man of good natural parts, and of considerable erudition. He travelled a great deal, and stayed for a considerable time in Italy, where he applied himself to the study of law, in which he was a great proficient, and on that account and his other accomplishments, became a great favourite of James VI., who in 1585 appointed him as an extraordinary Lord of Session, and in 1587 one of the Senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Prior of Pluscarden. The lands of that priory had been bestowed on his father, Lord Seton, by Queen Mary, in the year 1565. Some-time after he was made President of the Court of Session, on the death of William Baillie, the President.¹

According to the editor of the Privy Council Records, "Few things are more manly than the conduct of Lord Fyvie when Lord President, in the case of Mr. Bruce, a Presbyterian clergyman, who had incurred the resentment of the King, who stopped a life pension of twenty-four chalders of victual given to him under the seals out of the rents of the Abbey of Arbroath. Mr. Bruce went to law with the King, and the King openly in Court dared the judges to decide against him. Lord Fyvie, however, courtier though he was and Privy Councillor, and also a reputed Roman Catholic, rose as President of the Court, and informed the King that though His Majesty might remove him and the other judges from their offices, yet he had no power to compel their judgments while they sat there, and that they must and would do justice against His Majesty himself. With this opinion the other judges concurred, much to the chagrin and vexation of the King." He also incurred the anger of the King on another occasion. On 20 June, 1600, a convention was summoned by the King. He harangued for money for his honourable entering on the Crown of England, after the death of Elizabeth. Lord President Fyvie, according to Tytler, "led the opposition to the King's demands for a large taxation for military levies, maintaining that any attempt to secure the succession to England by military demonstrations or conquest was absurd in itself, beyond all the calculable resources of a country so poor as Scotland; and though Mr. Edward Bruce, Commendator of Kinloss, argued for the King's view, Lord Fyvie's opinion prevailed, supported as it was by the majority of those present, and especially by the lesser burghs and barons."²

In 1597, he was created Lord Fyvie, the peerage being to him and the heirs male of his body, whom failing to the heirs male of Sir John Seton of Barnes, his immediate elder brother.³

¹ Douglas' Peerage, also Register of Privy Seal.

² Tytler's History of Scotland

³ Douglas' Peerage, p. 220.

Upon the birth of Prince Henry in 1593, he was entrusted with his tuition till he went to England in 1603. In 1604 (13 December), he was created Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and in 1605, he was created Earl of Dunfermline. Both the patents of these are in the charter room of Fyvie, the seals being in fine preservation.

The Earl of Dunfermline acquired a vast estate, had many baronies besides Fyvie, as appears by his charters under the Great Seal. He also, it appears, was at one time Provost of Edinburgh for nine years. He was admitted a member of the English Privy Council in 1609, and in 1611 he was appointed Keeper of Holyrood Palace.

He married first, Lilius, second daughter of Patrick, third Lord Drummond, by whom he had, at least, four daughters.

1. Lady Anne, who was married to the 2nd Earl of Kelly.
2. Lady Isabel, married to John, Earl of Lauderdale, and was mother of John, Duke of Lauderdale.
3. Lady Margaret was married to Colin, Earl of Seaforth.
4. Lady Sophia was married to David, Lord Balcarras.¹

Lord Dunfermline married secondly, Grizel Leslie, fourth daughter of James, Master of Rothes, and by her had a son.

I. Charles, Lord Fyvie, who died young.

1. Lady Jean, married to the Earl of Tweeddale.

His Lordship married thirdly, Margaret Hay, sister of the first Earl of Tweeddale, by whom he had issue.

I. **Charles**, his successor.

1. Lady Grizel.

Spottiswoode says of this great man, "that he exercised his place with great moderation, and to the contentment of all honest men. He was ever inclining to the Roman faith, as being educated at Rome in his younger days; but he was very observant of good order, and studious above all things to observe peace and quietness."²

Calderwood, an authority of a somewhat different school, says,³ "that, however, he was popishly inclined in religion, yet he condemned many abuses and corruptions in the Kirk of Rome. He was a good justiciar, courteous, and humane, both to strangers and his own country people; but was no friend to Bishops." Lord Dunfermline died at his seat of Pinkie, near Musselburgh, on the 16th June, 1622, after an illness of fourteen days, and was succeeded by his son,

II. **Charles Seton**, 2nd Earl of Dunfermline.

He also did good service to the State. At first he was a very zealous Covenanter, in the beginning of Charles I.'s reign, and was one of the Committee of Parliament in 1640; also one of the Committee of estates in 1646; but he at last returned to his

¹ Douglas' Peerage, p. 220.

² Spottiswoode's History of the Church of Scotland.

³ Calderwood's History.

allegiance—became a faithful and loyal subject—was trusted by his Majesty, and continued steady in the interest of the Royal family ever after. When he was Commissioner to the General Assembly, he behaved with great prudence and moderation, and endeavoured all he could to bring the people to a true sense of their duty to the Crown. After the death of King Charles I., he retired to the country, and lived privately all the time of the usurpation. But upon the first appearance of a restoration, none was more zealous and forward in expressing their loyalty and contributing their utmost endeavours of which King Charles was so sensible that he appointed him one of the Lords of the Privy Council immediately after his restoration. On the death of William, Earl Marischal, he was appointed Lord Privy Seal in the year 1671.

He married Lady Mary Douglas, daughter of William, Earl of Morton, by Lady Agnes Keith, daughter of George, Earl Marischal, by whom he had three sons and one daughter.

I. Alexander, his heir.

II. Charles, who entered the navy, and was killed in an engagement against the Dutch, in 1672.

III. James, afterwards Earl of Dunfermline.

1. Lady Henrietta, who was married to William, Earl of Wigton, and was mother of John and Charles, Earls of Wigton. She was married secondly to William, Earl of Crawford, by whom she had a son and six daughters.

The Earl died in 1674, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

III. Alexander Seton, 3rd Earl of Dunfermline.

He did not enjoy the honours long, and has left little or any trace in history. He was succeeded by his younger brother.

IV. James Seton, 4th and last Earl of Dunfermline.

He was a man of great honour, loyalty, and probity. He was engaged in several memorable expeditions in the service of the States of Holland, where he always behaved with remarkable prudence and resolution. Upon his brother's death, he quitted the Dutch service, and returned home to Fyvie, where he lived in great splendour and magnificence till the revolution in 1688. Being sincerely attached to the interest of King James VII., he never forsook nor deserted him in his direst distress. When Lord Dundee declared for King James, and began to raise the Highlanders for his service, Lord Dunfermline joined him with a troop of horse, and fought at their head at the battle of Killiecrankie, where he behaved with the courage and conduct becoming so distinguished an officer. His consequence and military renown were such that after the death of Dundee, he would have had the command, but for the unwelcome Commission produced by Colonel Cannon. When he found that nothing could more effectually be

done for the restoration of King James, he followed him to the court of St. Germain in France, where he had the honour of the Order of the Thistle conferred upon him by that Prince, and died at St. Germain in 1694.¹ He married Lady Jean Gordon, daughter of the Marquis of Huntly, but had no issue. On his death the title of Lord Fyvie would have according to Douglas' Peerage devolved upon George Seton of Barnes, descended from John Seton the immediate elder brother of the first Lord Fyvie; but probably owing to the forfeiture it never was assumed. The Earl being under forfeiture at the time of his death, the whole estates were confiscated, and there was a Royal grant of them to Sir Thomas Livingston, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in Scotland, given at Kingston, 29th April, 1695.² This grant was rendered inoperative by an adjudication led by Jean Gordon, Countess of Dunfermline, for the jointure contained in her marriage contract, and by other adjudications led by the creditors of the Earl.³ In 1695, Aug. 29, there is a charter under the Great Seal in favour of Jean Gordon, Countess of Dunfermline, following on the procurement of resignation contained in the contract of marriage, and a precept of sasine for infeftment in her favour of the lands of Fyvie and of other lands in warrandice.⁴ In 1699, there is a disposition of the lands of Fyvie by the Countess of Dunfermline to George Seton of Barnes, of all and hail the lands and barony of Fyvie, tower and fortalice, &c., in terms of the adjudication above mentioned. And in 1701, September 2, there is a disposition of them to Alexander, Marquis of Huntly. In 1711, the said Marquis disposes them to George Suttie of Balgone. Again there is a disposition of the lands of Fyvie by George Suttie of Balgone to James Suttie.⁵ In 1721, the Marquis of Tweeddale appears as proprietor of two-third parts of the lands of Fyvie, and Alexander Duff of Hatton, tacksman of the remaining third. They grant a lease in that year to Alexander Dunbar, of the plough-lands of Roads of Fyvie with the teind scheaves of the town and lands of Tiftie, Milne of Gourdas, &c.⁶ Finally, Fyvie, after many dispositions, comes about 1726 into the possession of William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen. In the deed of entail it is narrated that the lands pertained to the Earls of Dunfermline, then to the deceased "Dominum Suttie de Balgone," and to William Fall, merchant in Dunbar, and by them disposed, with the consent of George Seton of Barnes, to William, Earl of Aberdeen, and his heirs and assignees.⁷

Thus after the proscription of the last Earl of Dunfermline, Fyvie finds a master worthy of the grand old place.

I. The Right Hon. William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen,

was thrice married (see Article Haddo). His third wife was Lady Anne Gordon, daughter of Alexander, Duke of Gordon, who stipulated before the marriage, that if his daughter should have a son, Fyvie should be settled upon him. They had issue :—

1 Douglas' Peerage Folio, p. 220.

2 Fyvie Charters.

3 Id.

4 Id.

5 Fyvie Charters.

6 Tack in the Charter Chest of Monkshill.

7 Deed of Entail in Fyvie Charter Room.

- I. **William**, a general officer, who on his father's death inherited Fyvie.
- II. **Cosmo**, a colonel in the army, who had a son William, whose issue is extinct.
- III. **Alexander**, whose descendants afterward succeeded to Fyvie. He was born in 1739, was appointed in 1788 a Lord of Session under the title of Lord Rockville. He married, July 26, 1769, Anne, daughter of William Duff of Crombie, and widow of William, Earl of Dumfries and Stair, and died 13 March, 1793, leaving issue :—

I. **Charles**, afterwards of Fyvie.

- II. **William**, born 8 April, 1772, who inherited a baronetcy on the death of his uncle, Sir James Duff, and assumed in consequence the additional name of Duff. This Sir James Duff filled for a series of years the office of British Consul at Cadiz, and was created a baronet, 12 November, 1813, with remainder to his nephew, the said William Gordon. Sir William Duff Gordon married, 1810, Caroline, daughter of Sir George Cornwall, Bart. of Moccas Court, Herefordshire, by whom he had issue :—

Alexander Cornwall, who succeeded his father in the baronetcy in 1823, and who married Lucy, only child of John Austin, Esq., and has issue :—

- I. **Maurice**, born February, 1849, now **Sir Maurice Duff Gordon**, and became of Fyvie, of whom afterwards.

i. Janet married Alexander Ross, Esq., Florence.

III. **Alexander**, Lieut-Col. 82nd Regt., killed at Talavera.

William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen, died 1745, and in compliance with his marriage contract with the Duke of Gordon's daughter left Fyvie to his eldest son by said marriage.

II. Hon. William Gordon, 2nd of Fyvie.

He was served heir of provision to his father William, Earl of Aberdeen, 20 April, 1777.¹

He was a General in the army and Equery to George III. He improved the ancient Castle of Fyvie, and added a tower, now known as the Gordon tower.

He married Miss Isobel Black, and had issue by her one son, by whom he was succeeded.

III. William Gordon, 3rd of Fyvie.

He was a good scholar and antiquary, and to him in a great measure is owing the

¹ Decen. Ret. 1777.

very learned and complete statistical account of the parish of Fyvie. He improved the castle, and added much to the valuable contents of the library. This very highly respected gentleman died in 1847, and was succeeded by his cousin.

IV. Charles Gordon, 4th of Fyvie.

He was, as above narrated, the eldest son of Alexander, Lord Rockville, third son of William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen. He married, in 1806, Elizabeth, widow of William Clutton, Esq., and had issue :—

I. **William** Cosmo Gordon, his successor.

II. **Alexander**, who succeeded his brother William.

III. Charles William, sometime M.P. for Berwick. He predeceased his brothers.

Mr. Charles Gordon died February 18, 1851, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

V. William Cosmo Gordon, 5th of Fyvie.

He was a Captain of the Artillery of the H. E. I. C. S. He was for sometime on the staff of his relative, Major-General Sir John Dalrymple, who commanded at Madras ; but retired from the service in 1847. He was afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel of the Aberdeen Artillery Volunteer Corps. He married Mary Grace, daughter of Sir Robert Abercromby, Bart. of Birkenbog. He built and endowed a Cottage Hospital, which has proved a great boon to the parish of Fyvie, and also built and endowed a Chapel of Ease at the Cross of Jackston in the south-western district of the parish. He died universally respected and beloved 8 December, 1879, and was succeeded by his brother.

VI. Alexander Henry Gordon, 6th of Fyvie.

He married Catherine Jane Bradby, third daughter of Vice-Admiral Peter John Douglas. Previous to his accession to Fyvie, he resided on his estate of Rockville in Hampshire. Mr. Gordon also made great improvements on the castle, the whole of which he re-roofed. He also provided the means for the erection of a hall in connection with the Parish Church, which magnificent hall was erected by his widow. He died very suddenly in Aberdeen, March 5, 1884, and was succeeded in the estate of Fyvie, by his cousin.

VII. Sir Maurice Duff Gordon, Bart., 7th of Fyvie.

He was the son, as above-mentioned, of Sir Alexander Cornwall Gordon, Bart., grandson of Sir William Duff Gordon, Bart., and great great-grandson of William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen.

Falling into pecuniary difficulties he sold the estate of Fyvie to Alexander John Forbes Leith, son of Rear-Admiral John James Leith, by Margaret Forbes, daughter and heiress

of Alexander Forbes of Blackford. Thus Fyvie, after being in possession of the Gordons for 163 years, passes away again to a new lord and master, a member of the ancient family of Leith, and it is to be hoped he will also prove a worthy proprietor of the grand old castle. The following is a deduction of the family of Leith.

The surname of Leith is of great antiquity in Scotland. According to Douglas, the Leiths had considerable possessions in lands in the county of Midlothian in early times. The barony of Restalrig and several others in the territory of Leith are said to have belonged to them. From this last place it is believed they assumed the surname. At what time they settled in the north cannot be precisely said. The immediate ancestor of his family was **William Leith of Barnes**. He was a very accomplished gentleman, and a Burgess of Aberdeen, which he represented in Parliament. He was for some time Deputy-Chamberlain and Steward of the Household of Queen Joan. He is first mentioned in a grant to the Altar of St. Lawrence and St. Ninian, in the church of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen. He is one of the witnesses, and is designated "William Leythe, burgess of Aberdeen." The date is 1342.¹

In 1351, in the chartulary of St. Nicholas (New Spalding Club), we find that an honourable man William Leythe presented to St. Nicholas Church two bells of great value. The name of the larger bell was Lawrence (which was destroyed in 1874 when the church was burned), the name of the smaller one Maria.² He is said to have killed Cattenach, a bailiff of the town, whose cairn was at the Barkmilne, and for atonement he gave the bells and Justice Mills to the town.³ He is also to be found in 1352, 1355, 1360, giving various gifts to and adding to the building of the church of St. Nicholas.⁴ In 1359, he received a charter from the Earl of Mar of the lands of Rothneyk, Hareboggis, Blakboggis, and the pertinents;⁵ also in 1363, he received by charter from John de Softelaw and Emma Browne his spouse, two crofts within the burgh of Aberdeen.⁶ Also in 1369, he obtained the lands of Drumrossy from the Earl of Mar, among the witnesses to the charter are Philip de Dumbreck, William de Meldrum, and Walter Byseth.⁷ He had also the lands of Ruthrieston near the Dee given him by David II., on the forfeiture of Duncan Chapman.⁸ According to Douglas' Baronage, he married a daughter of the 12th Earl of Mar. Her Christian name Christiane is given in the notice of their commemoration day—"Nonis Augusti obitus Willelmi de Lethe et Christiane suee sponse commemoracio qui obiit 1380."⁹

They had issue at least two sons.

I. **Laurence**, of whom afterwards.

II. John, said to be a son of William de Lethe. He had English safe conducts in 1362-3, was a Burgess of Aberdeen, and had a Crown charter of Ruthrieston

1 St. Nicholas Chartulary, p. 12.

2 Id., p. 15.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 208.

4 St. Nicholas Chartulary, p. 16, &c.

5 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 716.

6 Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 283.

7 Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 220-2.

8 Id., I. p. 232. Rob. Index, p. 52.

9 Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 203.

near Aberdeen. John de Lethe, armiger and scutifer, has repeatedly safe conducts in 1396-1423. In 1406, he was a Commissioner to renew the alliance with France. And in 1412, he was sent to the Court of England, along with Sir Walter Stewart of Ryalston, by the Duke of Albany as ambassador.¹

William de Lethe, as above mentioned, died 1380, and was succeeded by his son,

II. Laurence Leith of Barnes.

He is said by Douglas to have given the bell to St. Nicholas church, but, as seen above, this was not the case.² In 1388, Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen, with the unanimous consent of the Chapter, grants to Laurence Lethe, son and heir of the late William Lethe, for his life-time, the whole lands of Capronston, with their pertinents.³ In 1398, in a charter of James Lindsay regarding the lands of Mikill Gurdeness (Gourdas) and Parkhill, Laurence de Lethe is a witness.⁴ In 1398, Oct. 13—Laurence de Lethe elected a Councillor of the Burgh of Aberdeen.⁵ In 1407, in a quarrel between Walter de Lindsay and Alexander de Forbes, Laurence de Lethe is a security for Lord Walter.⁶ In 1410, he is a witness to a charter of Andrew Vaus, burgess, Aberdeen, to John Soule, and in 1424,⁷ he is also a witness to a charter of Alan de Futhes, Master of Arts, Canon of Moray, of a piece of land called the Newlands. The next, a son, is given by Douglas in his baronage⁸ on the authority of the Laurus Leslieana.

III. Norman Leith of Barnes.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Leslie, fourth Baron of Balquhain, by whom he had three sons⁹ :—

I. **Henry**, his heir.

II. Gilbert.

III. John, progenitor of the Leiths of Overhall.

He was succeeded by his eldest son :—

IV. Henry Leith of Barnes.

In 1430, Henry Leith (not then designated of Barnes) is on the jury at the inquisition of David de Bosville.¹⁰ Henry Leith of Barnes, May 4, 1440, grants for the safety of his own soul and that of his wife Mariotte Stewart, certain annual returns to the Altar of St. Lawrence and St. Ninian in the church of St. Nicholas.¹¹ In 1441, he gives two merks from the Galcroft, lying on the northern side of the Castlehill; also an annual return from certain burgage lands, in perpetual charity to God and the Blessed Virgin

1 Stod. Arms II. p. 350.

2 Douglas' Baronage, p. 275.

3 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 184.

4 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 500.

5 Burgh Rec. I. p. 374.

6 Id., I. p. 386.

7 Reg. Ep. Aler. II. p. 294.

8 Laurus Leslieana, p. 56.

9 Douglas' Baronage, fol. 224.

10 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 334.

11 St. Nicholas Chartulary, p. 186.

Mary, for ane chaplain to celebrate at the Altar of St. Lawrence for the safety of his soul, and that of William de Cadiou. He also in the same year makes other donations.¹ He married Mariotte Stewart, as mentioned above, and had issue a son **William**. He died before 1469, as in that year his son, probably, is found Laird of Barnes.

V. William Leith of Barnes.

He is mentioned in a charter in the Register of the Diocese of Aberdeen, of date 1469.² He is also mentioned by Stodart in the second volume of his Scottish Arms.³ In 1479, there is a precept to William Lethe of Barnes and Alexander Abercromby, Baillies of the Earl of Mar, to grant infefment on the lands of Johnstown.³ In 1478, there is a sasine on the lands of Auchinschogyl, of which William Leith of Barnes is a witness.⁴ The next to be found, probably a son, is

VI. Henry Leith of Barnes.

In 1490, there is a charter of confirmation of King James IV. by David Weyms of Auchlevin, &c., to Henry Leith of Barnes, of half of the lands of Auchlevin, &c.⁵

Henry Leith of Barnes is dead by 1493. In a charter of that date by Alexander Johnston of that ilk, there is this clause, "to his beloved William Lethe, second son of the late Henry Leith of Barnes, of the lands of Badycaiss, lying in the tenandry of Kinbruin, whom failing, to Patrick Leith his brother german, and his heirs, &c."⁶

Henry Leith of Barnes married Elizabeth Gordon. She is mentioned in a deed regarding the redemption of "the lands of Pettodry and the third part of the lands of Petskurry. A.D. 1505."⁷ They had the following issue :—

I. **George**, his successor.

II. **William**, tutor of his nephew John. He had a charter along with his brother Patrick, in 1493, as above narrated, of the half of Badycaiss.⁸

III. Patrick.

Henry Leith of Barnes was succeeded by his son.

VII. George Leith of Barnes.

In 1505, he is mentioned as being present at the inquest of John, Lord Glamis; also in a deed of Lord Erskine, &c., he is a witness. He married, and had issue :—

I. **John Leith**, his successor.

II. **William**, who succeeded his brother John.

1. Elizabeth, married (according to Douglas) to John Forbes of Towie, who had a crown charter of a part of Barnes in 1550.

1 St. Nicholas Chartulary, p. 186.

2 Reg. Ep. Aher. I. p. 289. Stod. Vol. II. p. 350.

3 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 737.

4 Id., II. p. 353.

5 Ant. A. and B. III., p. 390, also, Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. XII. No. 222.

6 Id., III. p. 552.

7 Id., IV. p. 737.

8 Id., III. p. 552.

2. Janet, married to Alexander Seton of Meldrum, and secondly, to Alexander Gordon of Abergeldie.

George Leith of Barnes died before 1506, and according to Douglas and the Earldom of the Garioch, he left no male issue; but this is not the case. He was succeeded by his eldest son.

VIII. John Leith of Barnes.

He is retoured as nearest heir to his father, George Leith of Barnes, in the lands of Ruthrieston, with the fishings on the Dee, and the lands of Newlands, *alias* Ecclesfield, with other pertinents, of date 1506. He did not live long, and was succeeded by his brother.¹

IX. William Leith of Barnes.

He was served heir to his brother John Leith on May 2, 1508, but did not survive him above a year.²

He was succeeded by his uncle.

X. William Leith of Edingarroch and Barnes.

He was found by a jury, October 2, 1509, to be heir to the foresaid William, his nephew.³ He acquired, in 1499, the lands of Edingarroch from George Leslie of that ilk, and got a charter, the words of which are quoted by Douglas, "novisitit me vendidisse dilecto meo Willielmo Leith filio secundo genito quondam Henrici Leith de Barnes, omnes et singulas terras meæ dimidietatis occidentalis villæ de Edingarroch, January 31, 1499."⁴ He married a daughter of John Gordon of Strathdon, by whom he had issue, at least, two sons:—

I. **Patrick**, his heir.

II. **William**, who succeeded his brother.

William Leith of Barnes, as he often resided at Lickliehead, being part of the estate of Edingarroch, was sometimes designated by both these titles. He died 15—

and was succeeded by his son. (A great grandson, John, is served heir to him in 1588 in Tennant's Croft. See *infra* No. XIII.)

XI. Patrick Leith of Edingarroch.

In March 10, 1515, he receives Royal confirmation of a charter of the eastern half of the lands of Edingarroch, sold to him by Alex. Leslie of that ilk.⁵ He died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother.

XII. William Leith of Lickliehead and Edingarroch.

He is mentioned in a retour, subsequently to be quoted, in No. XIII. He lived to

¹ Ant. A. and E. III. p. 192.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Douglas baronage, p. 225.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig. No. 1054 (1513-43.)

a great age. On May 22, 1588, there is Royal confirmation of a charter in which William Leith of Lickliehead "ad feudifirmam dimisit" to John Leith, the elder son of Alexander Leith of Montgerrie and his heirs, his lands of Ardoyne, &c.¹

He married, and had issue, at least, three sons.

I. **Patrick**, his heir.

II. William.

III. Adam Leith. These two, William and Adam, are mentioned as brothers of Patrick Leith of Lickliehead in a minute of the Privy Council, of date March, 1606.²

William Leith died circa 1598, and was succeeded by his son, who is served heir to him in the year 1598. See *infra* No. XIII.

XIII. Patrick Leith of Lickliehead.

He was so denominated in his father's lifetime, and acquired the lands of the Kirktown of Rayne from his brother-in-law, John Leslie of Balquhain, upon whose resignation he got a charter of them from the Archdeacon of Aberdeen in the following terms, as given by Douglas; but much abridged, evidently, as given by Mr. Cosmo Innes, in the Register of the Diocese of Aberdeen:—

"Patricio Leith de Lickliehead in vitali reddito et Johanni Leith ejus secundo filio, in feodo et hereditate, et heredibus masculis de corpore dicti Johannis legitime procreandis, quibus deficientibus Laurentio Leith filio dicti Patricii et hæredibus masculis, &c., quibus deficientibus Henrico Leith etiam filio dicti Patricii." It is dated 13 August, 1551.³

He is served heir to his father, William Leith of Lickliehead, in the fourth part of Auchlevin, with the milne, four ox-gang of the lands of Ardoyne and Buchanstone, an ox gang of the lands of Harlaw in the Lordship of the Garioch, October 3, 1598.⁴

He married Jean, second daughter of William Leslie, seventh Baron of Balquhain, by whom he had issue:—

Patrick, his heir.

II. John, designed of Edingarroch, served heir to his great grandfather (proavo), William Leith of Edingarroch, June 30, 1588 (see No. X), in crofto vocato, "Tennant's Croft," in Auld Leslie, *infra* regalitate de Garioch.⁵ He had a daughter Isabella, who was served heir to her father in 1613.⁶

III. **Laurence** Leith of Kirktown of Rayne, who carried on the line of the family.

IV. Henry Leith. In a Royal Charter of Confirmation,⁷ Laurence Leith of the Kirktown of Rayne, and Henry Leith of Ryehill, his brother-german, obtain the Church lands called the Kirktown of Rayne with the Alehouse Croft, &c.,

1 Reg. Mag. Sig. (1580-93) No. 1572.

2 Priv. Council Register, VIII. p. 125.

3 Doug. Baronage, folio p. 225, Reg. Ep. Aber. Vol I. p. 455.

4 Ret. Spec. Aber., No. 574.

5 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 151.

6 Id., No. 40.

7 Reg. Mag. Sig. (1580-93), No. 1265.

granted them by Mr. James Erskine, Archdeacon of Aberdeen. Date
² February, 1578.

Patrick Leith, like his father, died a very old man, and was succeeded in 1625 by his son.

XIV. Patrick Leith of Lickliehead.

He was served heir to his father, Patrick Leith of Licklyhead, &c., June 1, 1625, in the fourth part of the shady part of the lands of Auchlevin with the mill, and on June 9, 1620, he was served heir male of William Leith of Lickliehead, his grandfather (No. XII.) in the lands of Auchnagathill, the lands of Carnebog, Carnemoss, in the barony of Keig and regality of St. Andrews, six bovates of the lands of Auchlevin, and the pendicle called Lickliehead, the ecclesiastical lands of Premnay, &c.² He is said, according to Douglas, to have sold the lands of Lickliehead and Edingarroch to John Forbes of Leslie. He, dying soon afterwards, was succeeded by his next surviving brother.

XV. Laurence Leith of Kirktown of Rayne.

He resided at Buchanstone of Gartly, which was wadset to him by the Marquis of Huntly. He got a charter in 1551 (as above quoted in No. XIII.) of the Kirklands, called the "Kirktown of Rayne." He married first Agnes, daughter of Alexander Leslie of Wardes, but by her had no issue. He married secondly, Bessie, daughter of George Gordon of Cocklaraquy, by whom he had a son.

I. John, his heir.

Laurence Leith of Kirktown of Rayne and of the wadset of Bucharne, died, and was succeeded by his son.

XVI. John Leith of the Kirktown of Rayne, &c.

He sold the Kirktown of Rayne, and bought the lands of New Leslie, Peill, Syde, and Arnbog, &c., which were afterwards called Leith-hall. He married a daughter of Arthur Forbes, Esq., and granddaughter of Alexander Lord Forbes of Pitsligo, and had issue, two sons.

I. James, his heir.

II. Alexander Leith, progenitor of the Leiths of Bucharne, Leiths of Blair, Leiths of Whiteriggs in the Mearns, &c.

John Leith of Bucharne and New Leslie died 16 , and was succeeded by his son.

XVII. James Leith of Leith-hall.

He built the house of Leith-hall upon his lands of Peill, and his descendants were designated of Leith-hall. He married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Strachan of Glenkindy, by whom he had three sons and two daughters :—

¹ Ret. Spec. Aber., No. 19

² Ret. Spec. Aber., No. 167.

I. John, his heir.

II. Alexander, ancestor of the Leiths of Freefield and Glenkindy.

III. William.

1. Margaret married to Gordon of Baldornie.

2. Jean, married to John Grant of Tomavillion.

He was succeeded by his eldest son.

XVIII. John Leith of Leith-hall.

He acquired the whole estate of Leslie in the Garioch, and regained possession of the lands of Edingarroch, the ancient patrimonial inheritance of his family. He married Janet Ogilvie, daughter of George, second Lord Banff, by Agnes Falconer, his wife, daughter of Alexander, first Lord Halkerton, and had issue :—

I. John, his successor.

II. Patrick.

III. George of Blackhall.

IV. Lawrence.

V. Antony.

1. Elizabeth, married to Richard Gordon of Craigmile.

Mr John Leith died 1727, and was succeeded by his son.

XIX. John Leith of Leith-Hall.

He was served heir general to his father, February 1, 1728.¹ He married Mary, daughter of Charles Hay, Esq. of Rannes, by whom he had issue :—

I John, his successor.

1. Janet, married to James Gordon of Ardmeallie.

John Leith died 1736, and was succeeded by his son.

XX. John Leith of Leith-hall.

John Leith of Leith-hall acquired the lands of Lair and Ardlair. He married Harriet, daughter of Alexander Stewart of Auchlunkart, and had issue, three sons :—

I. John, his heir.

II. **Alexander**, who succeeded his brother, born 1758.

III. Sir James Leith, a Lieutenant-General in the army, G.C.B., K.T.S., Grand Cordon of the Order of Merit of France, Governor of Barbadoes, and Commander of the forces in the Windward and Leeward Islands. Sir James Leith died October 16, 1816.

John Leith died 1763, and was succeeded by his son.

¹ Decen. Rets., 1728.

XXI. John Leith of Leith-hall.

He was served heir to his father, John Leith, heir male of line and provision general, 30 November, 1764. He died in September or October, 1788, and was succeeded by his brother.¹

XXII. Alexander Leith of Leith-hall.

He was a General in the 73rd Regiment. He was served heir male of line and provision general to his brother in Leith-hall, Edingarroch, Old and New Flanders, 18 March, 1768; to his mother, Harriet Stewart of Auchlunkart, 13 April, 1782; to his granduncle Andrew Hay of Rannes, heir of Tailzie and provision general, 20 January, 1790; also to William Gordon of Sheilagreen, who died 5 May, 1773, heir of provision special in Seggieden and Edderlich, in the parishes of Premnay and Kinnethmont, 4 April, 1792; also to his grandmother, Elizabeth Stewart, Auchlunkart, 6 August, 1793.²

He married in 1784 Mary, daughter of Charles Forbes, Esq. The Forbeses of Ballogie were descended from William Forbes of Tolquhon, who married E. Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Lesmoir. From them was descended John Forbes of Pitnacaddel, who married Christina Johnstone, daughter to the laird of Caskieben, and had, amongst other issue, Alexander Forbes of Ballogie. A descendant of this Alexander sold Ballogie to the Grants, who called it Grantfield. The Grants sold it to the Mansfields, who sold it to Gordon of Cluny. Its name is now Midmar Castle. A descendant of Forbes of Ballogie, about 1760, purchased the estate of Tilliesnaught, in the parish of Birse, and "in memoriam" altered the name to Ballogie. He bequeathed it to his nieces, Christian, Mary, and Elizabeth Forbes, daughters of his brother Charles. Mary, as mentioned above, became the wife of Alexander Leith of Leith-hall. They had issue :—

I. Andrew, his heir.

II. John James, Rear Admiral R.N., of whom afterwards.

1. Harriet Christian, married to Sir Harry Niven Lumsden, Bart., died 1830.

2. Mary, married to Major Mitchell of Ashgrove.

3. Elizabeth, married to Alexander Forbes, Esq. of Blackford, d. s. p.

4. Margaret, died unmarried.

General Leith assumed the name of Hay on succeeding to Rannes on the death of his granduncle, Andrew Hay of Rannes, in 1790. He died in May, 1838, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

XXIII. Sir Andrew Leith-Hay of Rannes and Leith-hall.

Born 17 February, 1785. K.H., Knight Commander of Charles III. of Spain, and Member of the Legion of Honour, J.P., D.L., Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, M.P.

¹ Douglas Baronage, p. 225.

² Decen. Ret. 1768-1782, 1790, 1793.

for the Elgin District of Burghs, 1833-38 and 1841-47, Clerk of Ordnance 1834-38, Governor of Bermuda 1838-41, served through the Peninsular War, of which he wrote a history, was knighted 1834, married 1816 Mary Margaret, daughter of William Clark, Esq. of Buckland House, Devonshire, and by her, who died 1859, had, among others, issue :—

Alexander Sebastian, now of Leith-hall.

Sir Andrew Leith-Hay died 13 October, 1862.

We now come to

XXIV. John James Leith, Rear-Admiral, R.N.

Second son of Alexander Leith of Leith-hall (XXII). He married Margaret Forbes, daughter of Alexander Forbes, Esq. of Blackford, and died October, 1854, leaving issue :—

I. **Alexander John Forbes Leith** of Fyvie.

II. Albert Howe.

1. Margaret Mary married Patrick Stirling, Esq. of Kippendavie, and has issue.

2. Elizabeth Alexandrina married Major Duncan Gordon of 92nd Highlanders.

Issue—two sons and one daughter.

Their eldest son, Alexander John Forbes Leith, purchased in 1889 the estate and castle of Fyvie, owned anciently by his ancestor, Sir Henry Preston of Fermartyn. He married in 1871 Mary Louise January (of St. Louis, U.S.) Issue :—

I. **Percy Forbes.**

1. Ethel Louise married, 1890, Captain Charles Rosdew Burn, A.D.C. to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught.

THE CHURCH OF FYVIE AND ITS MINISTERS.

THE Church of Fyvie was dedicated to St. Peter, and prior to the Reformation belonged to the Abbey of St. Thomas, Arbroath.

In 1178, Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, gave to God and the Church of St. Thomas the Martyr, Arbroath, and to the monks serving God there, the Churches of Fyvy, Tarves, with the Chapel of Fuchul, &c.¹ This grant was confirmed by King William the Lion, 1189-96, and at subsequent periods by John, Bishop of Aberdeen; Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen; and by Gilbert; also by the Dean and Chapter.²

Of the ministers of Fyvie before the Reformation the following are to be found:— In 1178, 1199, and 1207, Walter, parson of Fyvy, is mentioned as a witness.³

The vicarage of Fyvy was taxed, in 1250, at 33 merks, and the vicar's provision was the altarage (offerings), with the lands of Ardingross⁴ (Ardincross?), the great tithes of the parish, with five merks from the lesser tithes of wool and lambs, yearly, were reserved to the Abbot and Convent of St. Thomas', Arbroath.

We find that Ferchard, vicar of Fyvy in 1285, resigned the cure of Fyvy, and of him this is all the record, and for a long time afterwards there is no public mention of any that held the vicarage of Fyvy.⁵

In 1427, fully a century and a half after the last date, Sir John Crabbe is vicar of Fyvy, and at his death a new arrangement is made with the vicarage of St. Peter. In that year, Henry of Lychton, Bishop of Aberdeen, at the instance of the monks of Arbroath, annexes the vicarage of the Church of St. Peter's, Fyvy (then vacant by the decease of John Crabbe), to the neighbouring Priory of Fyvy, under condition that the brethren should find the perpetual vicar, by whom the cure of souls was to be served, in ten merks yearly, and a sufficient manse.⁶ The presentation was vested in the Prior, the right of institution in the Bishop.

Sir John Thome was vicar of Fyvy in 1471, and the following interesting event is recorded of him. "August 18, 1471. Sir John Thom, vicar of Fyvy, proclaimed the banns of marriage between a noble Lord, George, Lord Huntly, and Elizabeth Hay, daughter of the late William, Earl of Erroll." That marriage was not consummated until after May, 1476; the delay arising, as Sheriff Riddell suggests, from doubts regarding the legality of the previous divorce, and from the survival of the Princess Annabella down to that time.⁷

1 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 120

2 Id., pp. 120, 121.

3 Id., p. 327.

4 Id., p. 327.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 194.

6 Id. II. p. 327.

7 Spal. C. Mis. IV. p. xxx.

Before 1489, Thomas Cranno held the cure of souls of Fyvy. He is buried in the churchyard of Fyvie, and has the inscription over him—"Pray for the soul of Thomas Cranno who lies here." He was succeeded by Sir Alexander Lychton.¹

On the 23rd May, 1489, Sir Alexander Lychton, a priest in the diocese of Aberdeen, is presented to the twelve-merk vicarage of Fyvy, vacated by the death of Thomas Cranno or Watson.²

In 1499, Thomas Strade was vicar of Fyvy; nothing more is known of him.³ He was succeeded by Sir Andrew Panter, who, on his death in 1527, was succeeded by³

Sir William Blantyr, who died in 1538, and was succeeded by Sir John Arnot, priest. He probably survived to the Reformation, which introduced an entirely new order of things at Fyvy, as well as at other parishes.³ The following are after the Reformation ministers of Fyvie.

In 1567, Alexander Ogilby was minister of Tarves, Methlic, Ellon, and Fyvie—stipend 620 merks.⁴

William Chalmers and Alex. Barroun were Reidars in 1570, or about that date.

Thomas Gordon was minister of Fyvie in 1574. He was translated from Rescobie, having Methlic and Tarves also in charge, with £8 6s. 8d. of stipend.

The next to be found is in 1578, Steven Mason, who was translated from Bethelnie, continued in 1588.

In 1593, William — was minister; but not even his surname is known. The next was

Hieromie Innes, the second son of John Innes of Edingight,⁵ was appointed about 1594. He had the following family—Margaret, Janet, Janes, and James Innes. In 1634, while still minister of Fyvie, he raised a process against the Titulars and Tacksmen of Fyvie for the valuation of the Teinds of Fyvie.⁶ He was succeeded in 1635 by George Scharpe, A.M., who graduated at the University of St. Andrews in 1615, and was appointed minister of Fyvie by Charles I. He was member of the Assemblies, 1638-1639, and of the Commission 1647. Scharpe petitioned Parliament for stipend due by George Gordon of Gight, and for the plundering of his goods by malignants, and was ordered, 21st June, 1644, "to be refundit of the goods plundered, and payed the stipends out of the rents of the malignants who shall be known to have plundered his goods, or to be lyable, and addebted in payment of the stipends unprejudgit be any decret, forefaulture, or other cause." He was recommended by the General Assembly, 27 August, 1647, to the Committee of Estates, for reparation of his losses amounting to eleven years' stipend, for which an Act of Parliament was immediately passed. He married, 7 February, 1636, Elizabeth Anderson.

Alexander Abercrombie was admitted before 15 July, 1649, and was translated to Kirk-Oswald before 5 June, 1667.

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 496.

2 Id. I. p. 496.

3 Id. III. p. 549.

4 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 223.

5 Edingight Papers.

6 Fyvie Papers in Charter Room.

In 166, William Jaffray, younger, was probably translated to Fyvie from King-Edward—admitted before 27 March, 1664.¹ He was succeeded by

George Setone, A.M., who was translated in 1672 from Broughton, continued to March 29, 1683. Mary Shaw, his widow, died in August, 1706.² He was succeeded by

George Dalgarno, who was admitted 8 March, 1685; subscribed twenty merks to the rebuilding of King's College, 16 June, 1688. He married Sarah Robertson, and had two sons and four daughters—James, Thomas, Jean, Mary, Elizabeth, and Sarah.³ He was succeeded by

Robert Hay, who was presented to Fyvie by Susan, Marchioness of Tweeddale, and John Hay of Hopes, 18 December, 1717; ordained 1st May; thereafter deposed July, 1719, for fornication. He was succeeded by³

Thomas Scott, who had a presentation to the Church of Fyvie by Susan, Marchioness of Tweeddale, and John Hay of Hopes, in September, 1719. He died 3 July, 1748, in the 28th year of his ministry. He had two sons and two daughters—John, Thomas, Anne, and Elizabeth. He was succeeded by⁴

William Moir, a son of George Moir, minister of Kintore, and presented by the tutors of Hon. William Gordon of Fyvie in November, 1748. He died 19 March, 1794, in his 68th year, and 45th of his ministry. He married 22 October, 1776, Helen Constable, who died in Aberdeen 26 February, 1817, aged 67, and had a son George. He was succeeded by

John Falconer, who received a presentation in 1794 from General Hon. William Gordon. He got a new church built in 1808, and died 19 December, 1828, in the 74th year of his age and 35th of his ministry. He married, 23 April, 1807, Margaret, youngest daughter of William Tough, Esq. She had an only child, Elizabeth Jane. She subsequently married Rev. James Cruickshank, minister of Turriff, afterwards of Fyvie.⁵ Mr. Falconer was succeeded by

John Manson, M.A., son of Alexander Manson, merchant, Oldmeldrum. (M.A. Marischal College, 1822.) Having joined the secession of the Free Church, he was declared no longer a minister of the Church of Scotland, 20 June, 1843. He published the "New Statistical Account" of the parish, and some lectures. He married September 3, 1842, and had issue several children.

Mr. Manson became pastor of the Free Church of Fyvie near Woodhead—a large body of parishioners adhering to him. He was succeeded by

James Cruickshank, D.D., who was translated from Turriff in 1843 on the presentation of William Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie. He was a much respected clergyman, and died September 1, 1858. He was succeeded by

John Marshall Lang, D.D., son of Rev. Mr. Lang, of Glassford, Lanarkshire. He

¹ New Stat. Acct.

² Poll. Book, New Stat. Acct., King's Coll. Fasti.

³ New Stat. Acct. and Monkshill Papers.

⁴ New Stat. Acct. and Monkshill Papers.

⁵ Scott's Fasti. VI. 658, Tombstone and New Stat. Acct.

was educated at the High School, Glasgow, and at the University of Glasgow, which conferred on him, in 1873, the Degree of D.D.

In 1872, he was translated to the Barony parish of Glasgow, and in 1893 was elected Moderator of the General Assembly. He was succeeded by his brother

Gavin Lang, who was presented to the Church of Fyvie by William Cosmo Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie, in 1865. He was educated at the University of Glasgow, of which he was a graduate. He was translated to Glassford, of which parish his father had been fifty years minister, on the presentation of the Earl of Eglinton, 4 February, 1870. He was succeeded in Fyvie by

Andrew Jamieson Milne, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot. Dr. Milne was educated at the University of Aberdeen; graduated M.A. 1850, LL.D. 1865; licenced 1855; went to Kingston, Jamaica; returned to his native parish in 1870; married Annie Lewis Hodson, and has issue:—J. Leslie H. Milne, M.A., M.D.; John A. R. Milne, Lower California; C. J. B. Milne, B.A., Cantab, H.M.I.S., died 6 May, 1892; Arthur D. Milne, M.B.; Alan H. Milne, B.A., Cantab.; Bessy Milne.

At the Cross of Jackston there is a Chapel of Ease, endowed by the late Lieut.-Col. Cosmo Gordon of Fyvie with an income of £130 per annum, or thereby. It has been served regularly by Rev. W. Little, M.A., Rev. H. Mair, M.A., and Rev. George Minty, M.A., assistants to the parish minister of Fyvie.

Millbren, a *quoad sacra* parish, is in the parish of Fyvie. It has had the following ministers—Rev. Mr. Chapman, Rev. John Stevenson, Rev. J. M'Gavin Smith B.D., and Rev. Charles Giles, 1892.

The Free Church of Fyvie is situated near the village of Woodhead; was built in 1843. Its pastors have been the Rev. John Manson, M.A., and Rev. William Ewan, M.A.

The Free Church of Rayne is also in the parish of Fyvie. It has had pastors—Rev. William Brown, M.A., and Rev. J. C. Robertson, ordained 1872.

THE CHURCHYARD OF FYVIE.

Into the silent land,
Ah ! who shall lead us thither ?
Clouds in the evening sky more darkly gather,
And shattered wrecks lie thicker on the strand.
Who leads us with a gentle hand,
Thither, O Thither,
Into the silent land ?
O, Land ! O, Land !
To all the broken-hearted,
The mildest Herald by our faith allotted
Beckons, and with inverted torch doth stand
To lead us with a gentle hand,
Into the land of the great departed,
Into the silent land.

—*Longfellow.*

I will be true and constant too
To thee my Andrew Lammie ;
But my bridal bed will ere then be made
In the green churchyard of Fyvie.

—*Old Ballad.*

ONE grave in the "green churchyard" has many visitors—the grave of Tifue's Annie, the heroine of the ballad of that name. Her gravestone has frequently been renewed, and in 1869, a cross was erected with this inscription—"Agnes Smith, Tifue's Annie, died 19 January, 1673. Erected by public subscription 1869."

Another stone also frequently visited is sacred to the memory of Robert Gordon, known as the Astronomer, who perished in the Ythan, near Reamshill, 21 January, 1867. His body was discovered on the third of March following, and is interred here.

"Cheerful, contented, humble, and honest, homeless, and unknown to relatives, he wandered this district for upwards of a quarter of a century. To mark his last resting place, the public have erected this memorial to his name."

Within the church are the following monuments in marble :—"Sacred to the memory of Rev. James Cruickshank, D.D., for fifteen years the faithful and beloved pastor of this parish. He died 18 September, 1858, in his 71st year."

"A faithful dispenser of the bread of life, a kind and generous benefactor to the poor, and to all the warm and sympathising friend. He possessed the esteem and affection of an attached people, who have erected this tribute to his memory, 1858."

"Let me die the death of the righteous,
And let my last end be like his."

Another monument on the north side of the church is

“To the memory of John Cowieson, master gardener, who died at Camaloun 3 November, 1852, aged 86. He bequeathed the earnings of his active and unblemished life, principally to pious and charitable purposes in Aberdegn, and in his native parish of Fyvie.”

At the back of the pulpit is a tablet with this inscription—

“In memory of Charles Gordon, Esq. of Fyvie, eldest son of the Hon. Charles Gordon of Rockville and Anna Cumberland, of Dumfries, who died at Southsea, in the county of Hants, on 17 September, 1851. Also of Eliza, his wife, who died at the same place on the 9th of September, 1853; also of their youngest son Captain Charles William Gordon, M.P., Berwick-on-Tweed, who died at London on the 15 June, 1863.”

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace
Whose mind is stayed on Thee.”

This tablet and the two east windows were placed in the parish Church of Fyvie by William Cosmo Gordon and Alexander Henry Gordon, as a tribute of love and respect to their beloved parents and brother.

The subject of the one stained glass window is St. Paul preaching at Athens. The other, the lifting up of the serpent in the wilderness.

Another monument is in memory of James Hay Chalmers of Monkshill and Mary Henderson of Stempster, born January 7, 1829; died at Torquay 24 April, 1867.

“Earnest in belief, serious in faith,
Zealous in good works; an affectionate son.”

This tablet is erected to his memory by those who loved him.

A tablet, with the arms of the Setons, and the motto “Semper,” has the date 1603.

Alexander Seton, Lord Fyvie.

Another is in memory of William Gordon Chalmers, Captain of H.M. Bengal Staff Corps. Third son of Charles Chalmers of Monkshill. Born in this parish 30 April, 1835. Died at Kinsowlee, 21 August, 1858. A true man; a gallant soldier; he did his duty. India. Takinfuls. Pekin. Umbeya.

A stone with the arms of Gordon of Fyvie is sacred to the memory of William Gordon of Fyvie, who died in the month of January, 1847, in his 72nd year.

On the south wall of the church outside, on two polished granite stones, we read—

“Here rest the remains of Charles Chalmers of Monkshill, in this parish, advocate, Aberdeen, and of his wife, Mary, daughter of Alexander Henderson of Stempster, Caithness. The former was born 6 July, 1790; died 28 November, 1877. The latter was born August, 1796; died 23 July, 1869.”

“Here also is interred James Hay, their eldest son, advocate and commissary clerk of Aberdeenshire, born 7 January, 1829; died at Torquay, 24 April, 1867; and Alexander Henderson, their second son, writer to Her Majesty’s Signet, Edinburgh, and commissary clerk of Aberdeenshire, who was born 20 September, 1833; died 3 November,

1871. William Gordon, their third son, Captain in H.M. Bengal Staff Corps, died at Kinsowlee, Upper India, 21 August, 1868, and rests in the graveyard there."

"I am the resurrection and the life."

"Tho' I walk through the valley and the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil."

"Here also rests Patrick Henderson Chalmers of Avochie, advocate, Aberdeen; born 12 July, 1839; died May 22, 1886."

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

"For so He giveth His beloved sleep."

He is also recorded on a stone inside the church.

A marble cross is in memory of James William Douglas, second son of Patrick Henderson and Jane Chalmers. Born April 30, 1884; died May 22, 1886.

"My beloved has gone down into his garden to gather lilies."—Song Sol. vi. 2.

"The Lord shall guide thee continually."—Is. lviii. 11.

On a stone of Peterhead granite, surmounted by a cross, is recorded the following:—

"In loving memory of William Cosmo Gordon of Fyvie and Maryculter, born 17 May, 1810; died 8 December, 1879. A devoted husband, and to all a true, loving and sympathising friend. 'He is not dead but sleepeth.' Erected by his sorrowing widow, Mary Grace, third daughter of Sir Robert Abercromby, 5th Baronet of Birkenbog and Forglen. She died 4th December, 1887."

"Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

"He asked life of Thee, and Thou hast given him a long life, even for ever, and ever."

On a beautiful monument of marble, with the figure of a Phoenix rising from the flames, is the following inscription:—

"O genus, attonitum gelidæ formidine mortis,
Si vitæ integri, sceleris purique fuistis;
Quid styga? quid tenebras, quid nomina vana timetis?
Corpora, sive rogos, flamma seu tabe vetustas abstulerit;
Mala posse pati nonnulla putetis. Morte carent animæ."

"Oh race, perturbed by dread of clammy death!
Why should ye fear the styx and darkness? Empty names.
If pure and free of guilt the record of your lives,
Decay or cleansing flame thy flesh may take,
But think no other ills will hap. Souls never die."

Below on a flat stone—"General Hon. William Gordon of Fyvie, died 25 May, 1816, aged 80; and Hon. Mrs. Gordon of Fyvie, died 3 June, 1824, aged 80; also William Gordon of Fyvie, their only son, who died 9 January, 1847, aged 74."

An Iona cross is in memory of—"Alexander Henry Gordon of Fyvie and Maryculter, born June 14, 1813; died March 5, 1884. 'For me to live is Christ, and to die

is gain.' Catharine Jane Bradby, daughter of Admiral Douglas, wife of said Alexander Henry Gordon, born November 13, 1819; died July 9, 1891."

"And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels."—Mal. iii. 17.

A stone of Aberdeen granite, within an enclosure, is in memory of the Rev. John Hodgson, born in Liverpool, 10 June, 1806, died in Kingston, Jamaica, 5 July, 1861. His beloved wife, Mary Lewis, born in Liverpool, died at the manse of Fyvie, 28 January, 1880. Their grandchild, Mary Lewis Milne, born at Kingston, 28 May, 1862, died there 16 July, 1883.

In an enclosure near the middle of the churchyard there are two tombstones. One of Aberdeen granite bears the inscriptions—

"In loving memory of Alexander Milne, farmer, Petty, born 5 May, 1787; died 26 March, 1862. His wife, Margaret Leslie Jamieson, born 17 March, 1806; died 15 February, 1880." On an old stone within the same enclosure—"Here lyes William Milne and Janet Panton his spouse. He died November 2, 1711, and she November, 1698." These are the parents and some of the ancestors of Rev. Dr. Milne, minister of the parish, whose children are the tenth generation that have been in Fyvie.

Within an enclosure are the tombstones of the Leslies of Rothie.

Above is the family crest, with the motto "Gripfast."

1. "To the memory of James Leslie of Rothie, who died 20 June, 1823, in the 60th year of his age."

2. "Sacred to the memory of Robert Leslie of Rothie, who died upon the 18th day of February, 1861, in the 87th year of his age. Much esteemed and respected. Erected by his sorrowing widow."

"Mrs. Barbara Niven or Leslie, his widow, died 22 May, 1873, in her 78th year, and is here interred."

3. "To the memory of George Leslie of Rothie, who died 12 January, 1842, in the 77th year of his age; and of Jonathan Leslie, his younger brother, who died at Baden-scoth, 4 October, 1851, in the 78th year of his age."

A plain stone records the death of Rev. Charles Grant, clergyman at Meiklefolla for upwards of 22 years, who died 21 June, 1853, aged 63, and of his children, Eliza, John, Jane, and Louisa.

Near this, a stone is erected by the congregation, Meiklefolla, as a mark of respect to the memory of Joseph Duguid, who led their choir for upwards of 21 years. As he lived respected, so on 23 August, 1814, he died at Mill of Meadaple, deeply regretted as a steady churchman, and obliging and truly honest man.

A faithful servant has the following tombstone:—

"By James Durno, as a token of respect, in memory of Alexander Milne, who died suddenly at Braeside of Jackston, 25 April, 1862, aged 58. He died much and justly regretted by all who knew him, and was for nearly thirty years the honest, faithful, trustworthy servant of James Durno, Jackstown."

A table stone is in memory of Rev. William Moir, who died at Manse of Fyvie, March 9, 1794, in the 68th year of his age, and the 46th of his ministry. Helen Constable, his spouse, died at Aberdeen, February 25, 1817, aged 67.

There are several tombstones to the memory of families of the name of Pratt, who had been long resident in the parish. On one stone is recorded James Pratt, farmer, Darnabo; his son James, also farmer, Darnabo; his son John, farmer, Macterrie. They were dutiful and affectionate sons.

On another stone there is John Pratt, died April 20, 1778, aged 89; while another is in memory of Alexander Pratt, born at Mill of Ardlogie, 1729, who lived there, and died 3 December, 1803. Jane Burnett, his spouse, died at Mill of Tiftie, 16 April, 1828, aged 69. Also of their son William, born at Mill of Ardlogie, June, 1779, 38 years tenant in Mill of Tiftie, who died 18 February, 1853.

On an old stone is the inscription—In hopes of a blessed resurrection rests James Pratt, at Mill of Ardlogie, who died June 12, 1775, aged 82; also his spouse, Jean Johnstone.

From one of these Pratts was descended Rev. John Burnett Pratt, LL.D., the amiable and genial minister for many years of St. James', Cruden; author of "The Old Paths," "Buchan," and other works.

Within an enclosure, on a marble tablet, it is recorded that James Hay of Monkshill, died 14 February, 1828, aged 53. In public life he was honourable, intelligent, and useful; in private life benevolent, hospitable, and friendly. His memory will long be cherished, and his loss lamented in his native parish, by a wide circle of acquaintances. On a flat stone, the place of interment of James Hay of Monkshill, &c.; also of Elizabeth Hay, his youngest sister, who died 20 April, 1863, in the 87th year of her age.

Another stone is to the memory of James Hay of Monkshill, who died 11 February, 1807, aged 75; and of Elizabeth Fraser, his spouse, who died at Bridgend, Fyvie, 24 January, 1813, aged 77. To the memory also of Jane Hay their eldest daughter, who died at Bridgend upon the 24 January, 1840, aged 67. These are the father and mother and sister of the above-named James Hay, who bequeathed the property of Monkshill to the late Mr. Chalmers, in whose family it still is.

A stone records the death of George Dunbar, late in Mill of Tiftie, who died 1794, aged 79; also of the sons of Alexander Dunbar of Monkshill, and Elizabeth Smith, his spouse, who lived and died at Mill of Tiftie, and are buried here.

The following stones record the deaths of several who reached fourscore and ten years and upwards.

George Walker, farmer in Cuttlecraigs, Daviot, died 4 March, 1777, aged 82; also Jane Rait, his spouse, died 30 April, 1805, aged 100 years—a great grandson of above is still in Cuttlecraigs.

There is a small stone in memory of James Brown, kirk officer and sexton for upwards of sixty years, who died 8 March, 1843, aged 90.

The following patriarch must have done the State some service :—

George Gray, sometime farmer in Andet, died 15 June, 1785, aged 74; also James Gray, late merchant in London, who died 15 August, 1785, aged 80; being both sons of Alexander Gray, sometime farmer in Mill of Burns, who died in the 96th year of his age, having had thirty-two legitimate children by his two wives.

Alexander Reid, Parkburn, died June 12, 1862, aged 99.

Jane Cruickshank, wife of James Carle, died 15 April, 1882, aged 93.

William Leith, Swanford, died 4 August, 1848, aged 91; and his spouse, Elizabeth Watt, died 8 April, 1865, aged 99.

Another stone bears the inscription, here lies the body of George Kennedy, sometime farmer in Raxton, died 26 March, 1792, aged 90, and Jane Smith, his spouse.

A Turin stone, surmounted by a cross and sacred monogram, is in memory of George Grant, who died at Woodhead, 5 November, 1881, aged 98. His wife, Elizabeth Grant, died 27 October, 1857, aged 78. "Resurgam."

There are several tombstones to a family of Williamsons, who were great cattle breeders and dealers, and who had for many years considerable influence in the district.

One is sacred to the memory of William Williamson, farmer in Wardmyer in Minnonie, died March 28, 1875, aged 34; also is interred his daughter Elizabeth Williamson, aged 2 years. This stone is erected by George Williamson, his brother.

Another is sacred to the memory of Catharine Williamson, spouse to George Williamson, in St. John's Wells, who lived respected and died regretted, on 19 March, 1826, aged 35. The above George Williamson died 16 February, 1843, aged 56. George Williamson, late in St. John's Wells of this parish, died 15 April, 1823, aged 75. To whose memory this monument was erected by the Aberdeenshire Agricultural Association as a mark of respect for his upright and honourable character, in private and public life; and in testimony of the great benefit derived by the county of Aberdeen for his meritorious exertions as an eminent "cattle dealer" for upwards of fifty years.

Below on a medallion is Elizabeth Forbes, relict of George Williamson, who departed this life, 26 January, 1825, in the 75th year of her age, having discharged under divine guidance the various duties of wife, parent, and friend, in a very exemplary manner.

Another stone is in memory of William Williamson, Easter Crichtie in this parish, who died 11 November, 1847, aged 72; and of his sons, James Williamson, surgeon, who died there 11 January, 1842, aged 27; and of William Williamson, who died at Calcutta, 6 February, 1850, aged 42, and is buried in the Scotch burial ground there. Also George Williamson, late of Colachat, Assam, a liberal benefactor to his native parish, who died at Norwood, 23 February, 1865, aged 52, and is buried here. And also of their mother, Elizabeth Mackie, who died at Inverurie, 20 June, 1876, aged 90.

Within an enclosure on a flat stone is the inscription—Here rest the remains of Margaret Touch, who was relict of Rev. John Falconer, and by second marriage the beloved wife of Rev. James Cruickshank, D.D., minister of Fyvie. She died at the Manse of Fyvie on 27 September, 1854, aged 69; also the remains of Rev. James

Cruikshank, D.D., minister of Fyvie, who died at the Manse of Fyvie, on the 1st of April, 1858, in the 71st year of his age, and the 42nd of his ministry at Turriff and Fyvie.

A flat stone is in memory of Rev. John Falconer, minister of Fyvie. He died 19 December, 1828, in the 73rd year of his age, and the 34th of his ministry; also of his only child, Elizabeth Jane, who died 20 December, 1825, aged 12. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Another bears to be erected by John Gordon, surgeon, Carlehill, Fyvie, in memory of his wife, Agnes Ireland Gordon, who died 11 March, 1855, aged 50. The above-named John Gordon died 26 January, 1865, aged 58.

Another stone is to the memory of Alexander Wilson, M.A. (son of George Wilson of Mill of Alathan, Monquhitter). He was parochial schoolmaster, Barthol-Chapel, Tarves. Died 17 July, 1855, aged 26.

A table stone has the following inscription—In memory of Gilbert Clark, farmer in Kirktown of Fyvie during the seven ill years: James Clark, who was farmer in Gourdas. Andrew Clark, farmer in Stonemanhill, and Isobel Cowieson his spouse. James Clark, their son, in Cottown of Gight, died December, 1843, aged 88. Jacobina Moir, his spouse, died December 22, 1877, aged 70. Also in memory of William Clark, sometime merchant in Stonehouse of Gight, thereafter feuar in Woodhill Cottage, Kinellar, who by sobriety and industry amassed a small fortune, with which he built and endowed a free school in the burgh of Inverurie, and left money for prizes in the school of Fyvie for ever. "Requiescat in pace."

A stone is thus inscribed, "Erected by Robert Stott in Camalines, in memory of his wife, Isobel Burr, who died February 7, 1836, aged 78. Their youngest son, Rev. Robert Stott, schoolmaster of this parish, died 8 December, 1867, aged 69, and is buried here. His eldest son, John, assistant surgeon, R.N., died at Ascension on board H.M.S. Active, November 1865, aged 23, and was buried at sea."

An obelisk of Aberdeen granite is in memory of Rev. John Manson, M.A., minister of the parish of Fyvie from 1829-1843, and of the Free Church from 1843 to 1872. He died 20 November, 1877, aged 66 years. A faithful pastor, a wise counsellor, a warm-hearted friend, a devoted servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. "He being dead yet speaketh." Erected by the congregation and friends. On the obverse side of the stone, Alexander James Manson, died, while student in Aberdeen University, at 7 Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, on February 4, 1864, aged 17, and is interred here.

Within an enclosure are the following tombstones:—

To the memory of James Wilson, farmer in Fetterletter, who departed this life February 6, 1810, aged 84; also his spouse, Elspet Duncan, who died January 26, 1805, aged 89; also the remains of their son, James Wilson, who also occupied the farm of Fetterletter for nearly fifty years, and died at Petts, 20 February, 1835, aged 81; also of his wife, Mary Wilson, who died August 19, 1828, aged 65. Here also in close proximity to the graves of her parents rests the body of Elizabeth Christie, wife of

Alexander Wilson, and daughter of the Very Reverend Alexander Christie and of Elizabeth Wilson, who departed this life 19 September, 1889, aged 90 years. The said Alexander Wilson was born at Fetterletter, 4 June, 1800, and occupied that farm for thirty-eight years. He removed in 1865 to Kirkhill, Oldmeldrum, where he died on 3rd of January, 1890, surviving his wife only fifteen weeks. "They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided."

On another stone a brother of the last-named Alexander Wilson is recorded:—In memory of James Wilson, M.D., staff surgeon, who died at Ellon, 17 February, 1853, aged 60 years. "Vidua posuit lugens"; and of Mary Hay Grieve, his wife, who died 2nd of May, 1891, aged 79 years. She was the daughter of the Rev. Nathaniel Grieve, of the Episcopal Church, Ellon.

A cross bears the inscription—Mary, infant child of Dean Wilson, born 4 February, died 20 March, 1841. Charles, born 5 January, 1845; died 10 March, 1849.

On a marble tablet there is the following inscription:—In memoriam Alexandri Christie, S. T. P., Ecclesie Episcopalis apud Woodhead pastoris, qui obiit xxix. die Decembris anno salutis MDCCCXXVII, etatis sue LXIX. In sacris concionibus gravis erat et cultus orator, nee sine eloquentia. Muneribus Ecclesie assiduum pro virili navavit operam, pastor spectabilis. Disciplinis Theologicis satis versatus erat Literisque varii generis non leviter imbutus, socius facetus, comis, taim ambitionis experts, quam divitiarum. Purus vixit secleris, gratus permultis, suis carissimus.

Noster Hic Dolor, nostrum vulnus, vidua et liberi superstites. P. C.

[In memory of Alexander Christie, S. T. P., pastor of the Episcopal Church at Woodhead, who died on 29 December, in the year of salvation 1827, aged 62. In the sacred assemblies he was grave, and a cultured orator, not without the gifts of eloquence. As a worthy pastor, he laboured assiduously to his utmost for the church. He was well skilled in theological science, and well informed in literature of various kinds. He was humorous, courteous, as free of ambition as he was devoid of riches. He lived free from crime, agreeable to very many, by his own most beloved. His widow and surviving children placed this to his memory.] His widow was a daughter of James Wilson and Elspet Duncan or Wilson, in Fetterletter, above-mentioned. They had two sons and one daughter.

A stone records the death of one son, James Christie, surgeon, West Crichtie, who died 13 June, 1837, aged 42; and of Margaret Smith, his spouse, who died at Kinmundy, 24 April, 1845, aged 43. Another son was Jonathan Christie, Esq., Barrister in London, a famous conveyancer. He was educated at Baliol College, Oxford, having been a Snell Exhibitioner there. He married and had a large family.

A stone of Peterhead granite has been erected by Robert Nicol, A.M., schoolmaster in Marnoch, in memory of his only son, Robert Forbes Nicol, aged 26, who was accidentally drowned in the Thames at London, 16 June, 1872, and is interred in Brompton Cemetery. The above Robert Nicol died 13 June, 1888, aged 77.

A very modest stone bears the simple record, M. M., 1792.

A very old stone, now carefully enclosed, has the inscription—Here lyes George Watsone, G.U.H.T., departed this life 1599 years.

Another old stone bears the following inscription—Here lyes Robert Smith of Smiddieburn, who departed this life 6th day of October, 1690. This was an uncle of Tiftie's Annie.

A stone has this inscription—Alexander M'Callum, officer of Excise, Fyvie, died 18 May, 1837, aged 52. Erected by his brother officers.

On a table stone may be read the following:—"Reader, if a diligent and faithful discharge of duty, if the strictest integrity, if sincere, and affectionate attachment in service, if one possessed of these excellent qualities and dispositions suddenly cut off, in the early progress of his useful though humble career, by an epidemical disease, can claim a share of thy sympathy, let a tear fall to the memory of James Henderson, who died at London, 15 August, 1833, aged 25 years, and whose ashes mingle with his native soil beneath this humble memorial. He was a dutiful son, an affectionate brother, and faithful servant."

Another stone is to the memory of William Walker, farmer in Wells of Rothie, who died 3 December, 1799, aged 75; Margaret Smith, his wife, died July 7, 1808, aged 71.

George, their son, died at Wells of Rothie, October 10, 1841, aged 76; Elspet Topp, his wife, died at the Parsonage, Banff, January 1, 1871, aged 82.

On the south-west corner of the church has been placed a granite tablet bearing the following inscription:—"In memoriam. As a mark of respect and esteem for the late Alexander Fiddes Greig, M.R.C.S.E., Sunnyside, Fyvie, who, for the long period of forty-two years, discharged the duties of his profession in this district, with eminent and disinterested ability. This tablet is erected here, and a Medical bursary has been founded in the University of Aberdeen, by his fellow-parishioners and friends. 1882."

There is a stone to the memory of Alexander Gordon of Gight, who was born 3 May, 1710, and died at Gight, 24 January, 1761; and of Mary Duff, his spouse, who was born on the 20 December, 1720, and died at Banff, 13 November, 1801. They had nine sons and three daughters, viz.:—George, Alexander, Patrick, John, William, James, Archibald, Robert, Adam; Elizabeth, Mary, and Margaret. This is erected by their only surviving child, Elizabeth, who died in Banff, 20 June, 1804.

On the reverse side is a pre-reformation inscription—"Hic Jacet Thomas de Cranno, orate pro anima." He was one of the ministers of Fyvie before the reformation.

On a stone we read—In memory of James Cheyne of Inchgreen, Monquhitter, who for forty-four years was farmer in Fadenhill, Fyvie. He died 17 October, 1859, aged 76; also of Mary, his spouse, who died 6 February, 1869, aged 85. This stone was erected by their son, James Cheyne of Inchgreen.

On another, "Erected by Sarah Strachan in memory of her attached husband, Alexander Strachan, who died at Smallburn Cottage, Auchterless, 3 June, 1862, aged 66; Sarah, his affectionate wife, died at Aberdeen, 1866, aged 72. Both had been servants to Mr. Gordon of Fyvie for many years."

An obelisk of granite is in memory of Alexander George, beloved son of Rev. Alexander and Louisa Bremner, died at Fyvie, 25 January, 1874, aged 6 years.

There are three table stones to the following:—

1. Erected by Adam Mackie, in Mains of Fyvie, in memory of his spouse, Margaret Findlay, who died 23 May, 1822, aged 72 years. The aforesaid Adam Mackie died 19 October, 1836, aged 77 years.

2. James, infant son of James Mackie, Lewes, and great grandson of the above-named Adam Mackie, died 26 May, 1859. Adam, his eldest son, died 23 August, 1877, aged 21.

3. In memory of Adam Mackie, Lewes, who died there on 13 May, 1850, aged 62 years; and of his spouse, Mary Jamieson, who died 18 February, 1835.

These three stones record the grandparents, parents, and children of James Mackie, Lewes.

On a small upright pavement slab there is the following record:—Alexander M'Kay, from the parish of Farr, Sutherlandshire, died at Lewes of Fyvie, 2 October, 1825, and is interred here.

This unfortunate man was murdered on 16 September, 1825, in a lone part of a footpath along the south side of the Den of Rothie by William Allan, a native of Monquhitter, aged 20. Mackay was able to crawl to the Lewes of Fyvie, where he was kindly treated by Mr. Mackie. He died in great agony on the 2nd of October.

Allan was apprehended, condemned to death, and sentenced to be hung on Friday, 10 February, 1826, and his body given for dissection, a sentence which was duly carried into effect. His skeleton may still be seen, it is said, in the Anatomical Museum of Marischal College.

The Churchyard of Fyvie is well kept. During the incumbency of Dr. Milne, it has been much improved and extended, at a cost to the heritors of nearly £500.

THE PRIORY OF FYVIE.

Fallen, fallen, a silent heap.—*Prior.*

THE remains of the Priory of Fyvie are situated on a rising ground on the north-east bank of the Ythan, near the parish church, and about a mile from Fyvie Castle. There are little more than the indications of the site of the chapel, on which was erected, in 1868, a cross bearing this inscription :—“ This cross is erected by William Cosmo and Mary Grace Gordon of Fyvie, A.D. 1868, to mark the site of the ancient Priory of St. Mary, founded 1179, and in memory of James Hay Chalmers, who died 1867.”

According to the author of the View of the Diocese, the Priory of Fyvie was founded by King William the Lion for the order of the Benedictines, after the model of Tours, like those of Aberbrothock, to which the House of Fyvie belonged. According to another account, it was founded in 1179 by Fergus, Earl of Buchan.

Dr. Grub, the learned author of the “ Ecclesiastical History of Scotland,” says that it was founded by neither the one nor the other.

“ The Priory of Fyvie, which was dedicated to St. Mary, was a cell of the Great Benedictine Abbey of Arbroath. By a charter granted at Aberdeen, on the feast of St. Luke, 1285, Reginald de Cheyne, head of the Norman family of that name, gave the lands of Ardlogie, and certain others to the church of St. Thomas the Martyr of Arbroath, and the monks of that monastery residing in the religious house built at Ardlogie, near the church of St. Peter of Fyvie. He was the founder of the Priory, although that honour has been assigned to William the Lion, the founder of the mother-house of Aberbrothock, and to the Earls of Buchan. The error has probably arisen from the circumstance that the King gave to the monks of Arbroath the church of Fyvie, and that Fergus, Earl of Buchan, and Marjory, Countess of Buchan, were among the early benefactors of Arbroath.”¹

Reginald Cheyne was one of the Barons of Scotland who made compact with Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, and his chiefs, that neither the Scots nor the Welsh should make peace with England without mutual consent.² Also he and “ Reginald Cheyne *le fils* ” are among the Barons of Scotland who, on the 17 March, 1289-90, gave their assent to the marriage of Queen Margaret of Scotland with Prince Edward of England.³

¹ Index to the Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff, p. 14.

² Foedera, Vol. I. p. 371.

³ Acts of Parliament of Scotland, Vol. I. p. 3.

Foedera I. p. 73.

In 1202, he is styled Sheriff of Inverarne. In 1266, Sheriff of Kincardine and Firmarius de Fermartyn. He was also Baron of Inverugie, Strathbrok, and had numerous possessions in the counties of Aberdeen and Caithness.

His descendants also possessed Esslemont, Straloch, Arnage, Rainieston, &c., and were for many years a powerful family; but they fell on evil times, and it is doubtful if any known male descendants now exist.

In 1285, as mentioned above, he founded St. Mary's Priory of Fyvie. In that year he granted a deed to the monks of Arbroath, in which, for the sake of his soul, and the souls of his predecessors and successors, he gave to God and to the church of St. Thomas de Aberbrothock, and to the monks of the monastery staying in the religious house on his lands of Ardlogy, near the church of St. Peter, all his lands of Leuchendy (Lethendy) with the pertinents, to be held by the said religious men and their successors. In the same year there is an ordinance to Henry Cheyne, Bishop of Aberdeen, granting to the religious house of Ardlogy, near the church of St. Peter, all the returns and proceeds of the vicarage of Fyvy, together with all the offerings pertaining to the said vicarage.¹ The monks of the Priory were bound to provide a perpetual chaplain, who by night and day should minister the rites of the church to the parishioners of Fyvy. The chaplain was to be instituted to his office by the Bishop of the Diocese, and he was to receive from the monks of the Priory an annual sum of 100 shillings as stipend with which "he shall be content."

The following are some of the Priors of St. Mary's:—In 1323, Albertinus was appointed Prior of the House of Fyvy. On his appointment, he received a very stringent order as to keeping discipline within the Priory from Brother Bernard, Abbot of Arbroath. He was enjoined, on three days of the week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to hold a chapter, and regularly correct the excesses of his associates, to hold divine worship on the Lord's day according to canonical institutions, unless infirmity intervene; also that if any of the brethren be found inebriate, clamorous, rebellious and disobedient, he was to try, if by good counsel he could amend them, otherwise he was to punish them by silence—by fasting; also in a secret place beyond secular access, he was to cause them to be flogged. If these measures had not the desired effect, they were to be sent forward to the monastery of Arbroath with a statement of their offences.²

In 1361, Patrick de Firmatorius is appointed Prior of St. Mary's in room of John Senir, who is relieved, probably from old age, of his duties.³

Seventy-seven years after the above date, viz., 1438, we find Sir John Anderston Prior of Fyvy. He is succeeded by John de St. Andrews, who retains the office for a very short time. In 1450, we find the guardianship of the priory under the common seal given to Malcolm Bridy on the resignation of the said John de St. Andrews. Malcolm Bridy receives a lease of certain payments belonging to the Abbey of Arbroath, which payments, after his death, were to revert to the said monastery.⁴

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 194.

2 Id. p. 197.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 198.

4 Id. p. 199.

In 1460, Robert Cuby is appointed Prior.¹

The next to be found is Alexander Mason. He resigns the office of Prior. Being old and worn out with service, he receives a pension out of the monks' land of Tarves, and in 1508 is succeeded by Mr. James Hering.²

In 1546, the Priory of St. Mary's pays of taxation for the sustentation of the New College of Justice the sum of £2 16s.³

And this is the last notice of St. Mary's Priory. The Reformation is at hand ; the Priory is deserted ; the walls gradually crumbled away, and the fallen materials became useful for building purposes in the neighbourhood.

Some of the carved work found a resting-place in the Parish Church and Manse walls ; while several stones, with the sacred monogram in bold relief, may be seen built into All Saints, Woodhead.

THE ROYAL BURGH OF FYVIE.

THERE was in ancient times, while Fyvy was a Royal residence, a Royal Burgh at Fyvy, and there are several notices in the Exchequer Rolls of the burgesses paying the accustomed firma or rent for their privileges.

Burghers, according to the late Mr. Burnett (Lord Lyon, and able editor of many of the Exchequer Rolls), were Crown vassals paying a fixed yearly firma or rent in virtue of their separate toft or tenement. Officers appointed by the Crown gathered the rents and accounted for them periodically. The officers during the first half of the 14th century were called *prepositi* or *ballivi*. The latter name probably survived the period when the collectors of firma or rent were Crown officers ; and then Baillies became the names of the principal Magistrates in burghs after the Provost. Burghs were generally leased, and leases granted on sufficiently easy terms, so as to afford to the town in its corporate capacity an adequate income for the management of the affairs.⁴

Out of the practice of leasing the burghs grew another arrangement, by which the burgesses got charters or feu-farms from the Crown, converting the tack into a perpetual right. Aberdeen, in 1319, had obtained a feu charter for an yearly payment of £213 6s. 8d. ; Banff in the same year for a payment of £22 3s. 4d. ; and the now lost Royal Burgh of Fyvy for a payment of £6 3s. 4d.⁵

In 1325, there is a brieve of King Robert the Bruce regarding the marches, and the rights of the burgesses of the Burgh of Fyvy in the peat moss of Ardlogy. The finding of the assize refers to the privileges of the burgesses in the time of Reginald Cheyne, from 1250 to 1296. It was ascertained that the burghers had no special rights of their own, but had to make a small payment to the Prior of Fyvy.⁵

¹ Theiner's Monumenta, p. 430.

² Ant. A. and B. III. 543.

³ Id. II. p. 200.

⁴ Exchequer Rolls, Vol. I. Preface.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 546.

In 1266, when Reginald Cheyne was Thane of Fermartyn, there is among the accounts rendered to the Exchequer, a payment of ten marks for the lands of Kilmalcolm, let to the burgesses of Fyvy. There is no name at the present day in the neighbourhood that bears any resemblance to this.¹

In 1319, in the Exchequer Rolls, there is a payment of 60s. de Burgo de Fyvy, mentioned as not appearing; also certain arrears from the Burgh of Banff.²

The Burgh of Fyvy makes payment, in 1331, of £23 13s. 4d. for firmas due from the said burgh for four years past. This is in the time of John Brown, Thane of Fermartyn. There was also a payment of £10 for the Ayre; a payment of £1 for the hostelage of William de Montealto, who was forester of Fermartyn.

In the account of Reginald More, Thane of Fermartyn and Chamberlain, in 1332, there is a payment of £10 from the prepositi of the Burgh of Fyvy.³

The next account of the Burgh of Fyvy is in 1340-41, and it is in conjunction with that of Kintore. Both Thanages were in the same hands by this time. The account of Gregory, prepositus of the Burghs of Kintore and Fyvy, gives for Kintore duties 63s. 4d., and a like sum for Fyvy, received for two terms.⁴

In 1343, there are again accounts of the prepositi of the Burghs of Kintore and Fyvy, amounting to £14 8s. 4d. for two terms.⁴

After this date, all accounts of money received from the Royal Burgh of Fyvy cease. With regard to Fyvy burgh, Mr. Burnett says — "Like Kintoir, the Royal Burgh of Fyvy sprang up under the protection of the King's Castle, and had its hostelage, &c., and the rents of the two burghs, as we see in the notices, are sometimes accounted together. While Kintoir has remained to the present day a Royal Burgh, and one of the smallest in Scotland, Fyvy ceased to be so at an early period."⁴

Soon after the above dates, Fyvie Castle ceased to be a Royal residence, and the Burgh of Fyvie depending for its prosperity on its proximity to the Court, its fortunes gradually ebbed away, and faded itself even from memory; for at the present day we are unable to point with certainty to its site.

In the time of the third Earl of Dunfermline an attempt was made to resuscitate the burgh. There exists a charter of a Burgh of Barony of Fyvie of date 1672 or 1673. It ratifies all previous gifts, and grants power to the said Earl and his heirs to nominate Baillies and Magistrates for the government of said burgh, to possess and use a mercat cross, and to admit masons, hewers, skimmers, &c., and for punishing transgressors of the law, to make a booth in the said town, and to execute justice on all committers of murder and theft, &c. According to Dr. Pratt, the author of "Buchan,"—"Woodhead, though now in the barony of Gight, had its mercat cross (restored in 1846), and about the beginning of this century had its Tolbooth. It is situated near the peat moss of Ardlogy, and though the peat has now ceased to be, and the soil brought under cultivation, yet sufficient indications still remain to mark the former character of the place,

1 Exchequer Rolls, Vol. I. Ant. A. and B. II. p. 3:6.

2 Id. p. 356.

3 Exchequer Rolls, I. p. 459.

4 Id., Vol. I. Pref. p. 88.

and perhaps to identify it with the locality in the Royal brieve of King Robert formerly quoted.”¹

Dr. Milne, the respected minister of Fyvie, is of opinion that the Burgh of Fyvie was near the Priory of St. Mary's and the Parish Church. Who shall decide when doctors disagree? The proper decision is to resuscitate the burgh near the site last mentioned. The cross is already erected; two halls, one of which would serve as a town-house; plenty of good men and true for a Provost and Baillies, so “*macte virtute*”—“Go on and prosper.”

¹ Pratt's Buchan.

ANTIQUITIES, &c., FYVIE.

MILL OF TIFTIE.—At a distance about half a mile north from the Castle and in view of its turrets, according to Dr. Pratt, is Mill of Tiftie, the home of the damsel who figured as the heroine of the ancient and ever popular ballad, "Mill of Tiftie's Annie." The spot might indicate the romance, even if it had not been founded on fact. It is a highly picturesque ravine, full of natural beauty, waterfalls, and tangled bushes, and abundant in wild flowers. The mill is a ruin in the bottom of the glen; but poor Annie's home was the farm-house which stands on higher ground, and which, like many others, takes its name from the vicinity of the mill. The Bridge of Skeugh, where Annie last met her lover, Andrew Lammie, was in the hollow between Tiftie and the Castle, at a point about a hundred yards above, and where the present bridge spans the brook. A circular clump of trees is said to surround the spot where the trysting tree stood, and marks the spot.

The course of true love is said not to run smooth, and so was it the case with Andrew Lammie and Mill of Tiftie's Annie. Thus says the ballad:—

Her father beat her cruellie,
Sae also did her mother ;
Her sisters sair did scoff at her,
But woe betide her brother,
Her brother beat her cruellie,
His strokes they were nae canny.

Fyvie's lands are braid and wide,
And O, but they be bonny ;
But I wadna gife my ain true love,
For a' the lands of Fyvie.

But mak my bed and lay me down,
And turn my face to Fyvie,
That I may see before I dee,
My bonnie Andrew Lammie.
They made her bed and laid her down,
And turned her face to Fyvie.
She gave a moan, and died ere morn ;
She never saw Andrew Lammie.

CHAPELS.—There was one at Folla-Rule, elsewhere described, and the vestiges of two others were at one time to be seen—one on the farm of Eastertown, and the other on that of Fetterletter, on the estate of Gight.

HOLY WELLS.—In a field on the estate of Minonie, which still retains the name of St. John's Wells, there are two sainted springs, one dedicated to St. John, the other to St. Catherine. A little northward from the Parish Church is St. Peter's Well, and on the Hill of Eastertown there is another dedicated to St. Paul. These wells were long resorted to by the people of the neighbourhood, and the favour of the Saint propitiated by dropping an offering into the well.

THE HUSBANDMEN OF FVIE incurred in 1382 the penalty of excommunication by Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen, for non-payment of second tithes, and were obliged to repair in a body to the Bishop's chapel at Rayne, where, having professed repentance, they were absolved by the Bishop, and solemnly swore obedience for the future.

PRE-HISTORIC REMAINS.—There was a cairn on the outskirts of the farm of St. John's Well. It has now all but disappeared, many of the neighbouring cottages having been built out of it. In digging around it, small earthenware urns have been frequently found.

A large-sized clay urn was found in 1885 in a field on the farm of Smiddieburn. A servant ploughing removed the bottom of the urn. The excavation in which the urn was, measured about four and a half feet in diameter. At the bottom of this hole there was a saucer-shaped cavity, twenty inches in diameter, and formed of clay, in which were embedded small flat stones, on which the urn rested. The urn is one of the largest yet found, measuring sixteen by fifteen inches. The circumference at the mouth was thirty-five inches, at four inches below the mouth it was forty-eight inches, at seven and a half, forty-two inches; and at the bottom eighteen inches. It was made of clay, well formed, without any ornamentation. One similar to this was found in 1888, in the parish of Udney, which has been removed to the National Museum, Edinburgh.

In a field on the farm of Burreldales there is a large upright stone about two tons weight. In trenching around it, an immense number of small stones have been turned up, which very probably formed an outer and inner circle. A neatly built grave was disclosed by the removal of a large flat stone, underneath was a similar stone fitting into the mouth of the grave, concealing an urn containing a quantity of bones, and then came another stone, on removing which another urn was found containing bones. All the urns were more or less broken.¹

A few yards distant from these another cist was found with some bones, and in this grave a piece of bronze was found. From the number of remains found, it seems to have been a burial place of note. The old highway to Aberdeen passed over the spot.

In the south-east corner of the Parish Church there is a stone built into the wall, bearing a portion of the double-disc symbol, and under it part of the figure of a bird, apparently an eagle. The stone measures twenty-eight inches by fourteen inches. Both figures are incised. Birds occur rarely; but Dr. Stuart, in his "Sculptured Stones,"

¹ Abdn. Journal of the period, 1863.

gives several examples ; though none so carefully executed as the Fyvie one.¹ There is also a Fleur de lis built into the manse walls. Both stones are said to be from the ruins of St. Mary's Priory.

A stone is preserved in the Castle, and it is shown as one of the weird stones. It is called the dripping stone, and it is asserted that this stone gives out such a quantity of damp as to half fill the bowl in which it is kept with water. It was, however, in one of its dry periods when the editor of these notes saw it ; not a drop was to be seen. It is not known how this stone came to occupy the place it now does.

SKIRMISH OF FYVIE.—In 1644, Montrose took possession of Fyvie Castle ; but not thinking it tenable against the superior force of Argyle, he retired to an eminence a little to the north-eastward, where the wood afforded a protection. This position he defended with great bravery for several days, and then marched by night to Strathbogie, having in the march been deserted by many of his followers. Their supply of powder ran short ; but having dislodged some of Argyle's followers from their position, they captured the powder which they left, and melted down for ball all the pewter dishes they could find in the castle. Montrose's entrenchments are still distinctly seen, and the ground goes by the name of Montrose's camp. One of Argyle's encampments on the lands of Ardlogy is still called the "Camp-fold." A full account of the skirmish of Fyvie may be seen in Gordon's "Britane's Distemper," and in Napier and Grant's Lives of Montrose.

COMMUNION PLATE.—A Communion cup of silver was presented to the church by Lord Fyvie. It bears his arms quarterly, and has the following inscription :—"Deo sacrisque in Ecclesia Fyvæana faciendis dicavit Alex. Setonius Fermelindini comes anno salutis 1618." The escutcheon is surmounted by a large coronet under a crescent, and the Dunfermline motto, "Semper."

There is also another presented by the parishioners—"Coft-be-Parochin-for-ye-Kirk-of-Fyvy-1618."

Also, two silver cups, very handsome, with inscription—"Dedicated to the service of God by the Parishioners of Fyvie, in testimony of their attachment to the church of their fathers. 1845."

Two silver cups, exactly the same in weight and pattern as the 1845 ones, with inscription—"Dedicated to the glory of God for the use of the church of Fyvie. 1884."

Two Pewter beakers, of which the following extract from the kirk-session records gives the history :—"November 22, 1787. After sermon, the session met, &c. The minister informed the session that he had got from Aberdeen the two Communion cups that he had commissioned for, according to the session's appointment, and likewise the account of the value of bad copper, which, together with the account of the cups, he laid before the session."

¹ Transactions Society of Antiquaries, 1888-9, pp. 146-7.

To received for 47 lb. 11 oz. Bad Copper less 6d. commission . . .	£1 7 10
By paid for two Communion Cups	£0 4 6
By paid Carrier for carrying the Bad Copper to Aberdeen	0 0 9
	0 5 3
Balance	£1 2 7

One large paten with inscription on flat edge. "Patina Eucharistica Fyviæna." M. G. D. 1693.

Another has the inscription on back—"Patina Eucharistica Fyviæna." 1777.

Both of these are of a kind of bell metal. There are also two large electro-plated flagons.

ACCUSATION AGAINST MR. WILLIAM SETON, CHAMBERLAIN OF FYVIE, AND HIS WIFE, BEFORE THE PRESBYTERY OF TURRIFF, FOR EMPLOYING A CHARMER TO HEAL THEIR CATTLE.

Gavin Sinclair, charmer, was summoned before the Presbytery of Turriff. He confessed that he brought a stone from Ireland, which had a secret virtue, as he alleged, to cure beasts of the quarter-ill. He confessed that being sent for by the chamberlane's wife of Fyvie, he had cured some cattle there, and for his trouble had got a filrot of meal. The Presbytery of Turriff finding this a real charmer, caused Mr. Seton and his wife to be summoned, also their servant, William Crawford. All appeared save Mrs. Seton. Mr. Seton declared to the Presbytery that William Crawford, his servant, had been sent by Mrs. Seton to bring Gavin Sinclair, she having heard that the said Gavin was skilled in curing beasts of the quarter-ill. The Presbytery finding that the said William Seton was by no means accessory to the sending for the charmer was acquitted. Mrs. Seton, however, not appearing, was summoned a second time, but did not appear, her husband asserting that his wife was not in the bounds of the Presbytery at present. Mrs. Seton, however, seems to have appeared after the third summons, and confessed that she did not know that Gavin Sinclair was a charmer. She was, however, found guilty, and was ordained to make her repentance before the pulpit of Fyvie, in the most humble way. Poor woman, she resisted for a long time, but at last was forced to submit,—the inexorable Presbytery of Turriff conquered her! ¹

¹ Presbytery Records, Turriff.

ALL SAINTS, WOODHEAD.

THE congregation now represented by All Saints has existed since the Revolution of 1688. The last Earl of Dunfermline was a strong partizan of King James VII., and had, we may believe, a large number of adherents in the parish, which comprehended a large portion of his estate, many of the tenants on which belonged to the Episcopal Church.

The early history of the congregation is rather obscure, as the accounts handed down are very meagre. The only early notice to be found of it is the solitary one of an ordination in 1726, by Bishop Gadderar, of Aberdeen, of a young man, William Badichel, to the diaconate in the Meeting House at Woodhead.

This Meeting House existed down to 1746, when the Laird of Gight, on whose lands it had been erected, ejected the congregation from it, lest he should be suspected of being a Jacobite.

The congregation removed to Macterry, a place about three miles distant from Woodhead, where they were allowed to erect another Meeting House. This one served the congregation until 1786, when a change of proprietors taking place at Gight, the congregation were again enabled to return to Woodhead. A new church was erected, one half of the expense of which was borne by the grandfather of the late Dean Wilson, and the other half by Mr. Hay of Monkshill.

During the forty years the congregation remained at Macterry, the names of three of its ministers have been recorded—John Milne in 1757, and John Cruickshank, translated to Ellon in 1783. Mr. Cruickshank was succeeded by Rev. Alexander Christie. He was a very genial and able minister, and laboured with much acceptance down to his death, which took place in 1827. He was succeeded by Very Rev. David Wilson, M.A. He was ordained for Stuartfield in 1826, and translated to Woodhead in 1827. He was appointed Dean of the Diocese in 1849, in which year a new church was erected on the site of the former one. He married Mary Garioch, only daughter of Bishop William Skinner. Dean Wilson was a most worthy man, and will be long remembered in the parish, of which he was a native, and where he so long ministered. He died November 14, 1880, in the 76th year of his age. Before his death, his youngest son, Rev. John Skinner Wilson, B.A., Cantab., was appointed assistant and successor. Some time after his father's death, he was translated to St. George's Church, Edinburgh, a church which long enjoyed the ministrations of the late Dr. Suther, Bishop of Aberdeen.

Mr. John Skinner Wilson was succeeded by the Rev. William Watson Hawdon, B.A., of Durham.

The present church of Woodhead was built and consecrated in 1849, and, according to Dr. Pratt, the late venerated author of "Buchan," is one of the best specimens of a village church. Its architectural details are very correct, and with its spire rising from out a cluster of trees, forms a striking and beautiful object in the landscape for many miles round. Not the least remarkable feature in the church is the masonry, the dressings being of sandstone from the quarry of Delgaty, while the rest of the walls are of a kind of blue slate found in the neighbourhood, which for beauty and strength is unrivalled.

In the church are the following stained glass windows :—

In the east window are three lights illustrating the chief events in our Lord's life. In the centre light of the east window there is this inscription—

"This window is dedicated to the memory of the Rev. John Cruickshank, his wife, and two sons, by Sarah Cruickshank, widow of John the younger, late Laird of Piltochie, who died in London, 16 September, 1866."

The two side lights were filled in 1874. "A thankoffering by (now Sir) Alexander Wilson and his wife, Isabella Adelaide Dunn."

The middle window on the south side has as subjects—Feeding the hungry; Clothing the naked; Moses collecting the gifts for the Tabernacle; and Solomon dedicating the Temple.

It is inscribed, "In memory of James Hay of Monkshill, ob. February, 1828; ætat. 54."

And on a brass plate underneath the window is the inscription—"Jane Hay, died 24 January, 1840, aged 67. Elizabeth Hay, the last of the family, by whom the above window was placed in 1861, died 29 April, 1863, aged 86 years." ["Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth."]

The first window on the north side bears—"In affectionate memory of M. G. W., departed 1864; and of her friend E. H., departed 1872."

The west window is inscribed—"In piam memoriam viri vere Reverendi David Wilson, M.A., hujusce ecclesie per l.ii. annos pastoris. Obiit xiv. Nov., MDCCCLXXX."

[To the pious memory of the Very Rev. David Wilson, M.A., for fifty-two years pastor of this church. Died 14 November, 1880.]

On one of the altar chairs is the inscription—"The gift of Mrs. Shearer, Ardlogie."

On one of the south buttresses is a sun-dial with the inscription—"Lex Dei Lux Diei." "The gift of one to whom the Dean was a dear and valued friend."

In the churchyard, a good number of the congregation have found a last resting-place.

Two granite polished stones record the following :—"The Very Rev. David Wilson, Dean of Aberdeen, and for fifty-two years incumbent of this church, entered into his rest, 14 November, 1880, aged 75 years."

"Mary G. Skinner, wife of Dean Wilson, entered into her rest, 14 October, 1864, aged 58 years." "Them also which sleep in Jesus shall God bring with Him."

Mrs. Wilson was the only child of the Right Rev. William Skinner, D.D., by his wife, Johanna Brand.

Dean Wilson had the following children :—

- I. James Wilson died in Sydney, New South Wales, 1891, aged 57 ; married in 1865, Edith Mary Reed, Hull, and had issue four sons and three daughters.
- II. Rev. William Skinner Wilson, B.A. of Oxon., of Merriwa and Cassillis, Australia, married 14 April, 1869, Jane White. He died March 31, 1883, aged 47.
- III. David Wilson, C. M. G., Commissioner of Crown lands, Trinidad, married first, Jane Milne ; second, Nora Kate Clyne, and has issue five sons and two daughters.
- IV. Sir Alexander Wilson, High Sheriff of Calcutta, 1887, married 1874, Isabella Adelaide Dunn, and had issue one son and four daughters.
- V. Charles Wilson, born 1845, died 1849.
- VI. Rev. John Skinner Wilson, B.A., Canon of Edinburgh Cathedral, married, 1883, Lizzie Mary Clyne, and has issue five sons.
 1. Johanna, married Rev. A. A. Jenkins, of St. Peter's Church, Galashiels, and has issue six sons and three daughters.
 2. Mary, born 1840, died same year.
 3. Mary Grace.
 4. Elizabeth Hargreave.
 5. Alice Gordon Wilson, married to George Grant, Esq, Trinidad, West Indies.
 Another granite stone is in memory of Isabella Riddell, wife of George Roberts, died 17 February, 1871, aged 46 years.

Another stone bears to be erected in memory of Isabella Caird, who died at Cottown of Ardlogie, 8 September, 1880, aged 90 years.

THE CHURCH OF FOLLA-RULE.

IN ancient times there was a church here dedicated to St. Regulus. The chaplaincy was endowed for the soul of Adam Pyngle and others. "At Kirkwall, Orkney, on the 20th of January, 1365, Barnard of Rowle, Lord of Fole-rule, resigned the lands of Fole-rule into the hands of Hugh Ross, Lord of Philorth. The said Hugh Ross afterwards granted them, with consent of William, Earl of Ross, and Lord of Sky, his brother, to Adam Pyngle, on the 20th of August, 1376."¹ Adam Pyngle gave these lands to the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen for the support of a chaplain to perform religious service for the souls of the founder, his wife, and Alexander, Bishop of Aberdeen.

There existed the indications of the site of the chapel down to the year 1847, when the whole foundation was dug out. It was situated in a field about three or four hundred yards to the west from the present church and churchyard of Folla-Rule.

The congregation now at Folla-Rule in Fyvie represents those of Daviot, Rayne, and others.

Mr. Alexander Lunan, minister of Daviot, succeeded his father at Daviot in 1672. He was deposed in 1716 for refusing to join in the thanksgiving for the accession of George I. to the throne. He married a daughter of Elphinston of Glack, by whom he had a large family. He was the author of two works, one on the "Holy Communion," and another on the "Festivals of the Church." He ministered to the church people in the parish of Daviot until his death about 1729.²

His son, Patrick Lunan, ministered at Meikle Wartle. In October 28, 1729, he was present at the confirmation and ordination of his relative, Mr. Alexander Lunan, by Bishop Gadderar, in Dr. Garden's meeting house, Old Aberdeen.³ Mr. Lunan, at Wartle, is mentioned as a subscriber for Dr. Rattray's "Ancient Liturgies," published in 1744.

His meeting house at Meikle Wartle was exceedingly well attended. A writer in "Stephen's Magazine," who must have heard by tradition of the state of matters says—"The gentles were admitted within, and as many of the poorer people as the place could hold."⁴ Those who were neither gentles nor very poor people seem to have had to remain outside, and sit on their stools or benches exposed to the rain and snow.

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 158. Id. Vol. III. pp. 542-3.

Reg. Ep. Aber. Vol. I, pp. 106-7.

² Jervise' Epitaphs and Inscriptions, II. p. 409.

³ Father Lunan's Diary, MS.

⁴ Stephen's Magazine, Vol. I p. 137.

Mr. Lunan was succeeded by the Rev. Arthur Petrie. It may be mentioned, however, that William Leslie, fifth Laird of Little-Folla, after having been for sometime a clergyman in Ireland, returned to Scotland in 1700. About the beginning of last century, he took charge of the meeting house at Ellon, and remained there till the rising of 1715, when he retired to his estate at Little-Folla, where he ministered till his death, 31 July, 1743, in his 64th year. A register of baptisms by him is still preserved at Folla-Rule.

The Rev. Arthur Petrie, the successor of Mr. Patrick Lunan, was the son of Colin Petrie, in Auchintender, Forgue, and his wife, Isabella Alexander, a sister of Bishop Alexander at Alloa. He was educated in Edinburgh, and was subsequently tutor in the family of Walkinshaw of that ilk, near Glasgow. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Gerard of Aberdeen, as his assistant in 1763, and in that year was appointed to Meikle-Folla, where he at once commenced to build a large commodious house capable of containing four hundred people, so that all the flock of whatever degree had sufficient accommodation for worship.¹

Mr. Petrie was nominated by Bishop Falconer, as his coadjutor and successor for Moray, and he was consecrated at Dundee by Bishops Rait, Falconer, Kilgour, and Rose. Bishop Gerard, who died in 1767, left him some legacies, and in time he succeeded to the valuable library of his uncle, Bishop Alexander at Alloa.

Mr. Petrie was never married, and his house at Meikle-Folla (now called Folla-Rule) became a school of the prophets—a seminary for young men who desired to serve at the altars of the Episcopal Church. One of the chief acts of his Episcopate, by which he will be for ever remembered, was his taking part in the consecration of Bishop Seabury, the first Bishop of the American church.

Bishop Petrie died April 19, 1787, in the 56th year of his age, and the eleventh of his consecration as Bishop of Moray. On his tombstone in Dunbennan churchyard there is this inscription, from the pen of John Skinner:—

“Quem tegit hic cippus fratrum pietate locatus Arthurum Petrie, lector amice, luge, Præsul apud Moravios doctus, pius, atque fidelis, Dilecti et merito nominis ille fuit. Post vitæ undena et sacri duo lustra laboris. Ah ! nimium propere, non rediturus abit. Parce tamen lachrymis ; melioris gaudia vitæ quamque unam coluit præmia pacis habet. Ob. April 19mo., 1787 ; æt. 56. Pontificatus Rossen et Moravien 11mo. R.I.P.”

[Kind reader, mourn for Arthur Petrie, whom this stone, erected by the piety of his brethren, covers. A learned, pious, and faithful Bishop of Moray, he was deservedly loved. After a life of fifty-five years, and ten years of sacred work in the Episcopate, he departed, alas, too soon, never to return. Yet, spare your tears ; he possesses the joys of a better life, and the rewards of the peace he ever studiously cultivated. He died April 19, 1787, in the 56th year of his age, and the 11th of his Episcopate of Ross and Moray. May he rest in peace.]

He was succeeded at Meikle-Folla by Rev. James Innes, M.A., who was a brother of

¹ Craven's Moray, p. 123.

Rev. John Innes, of Forgeue. He married Helen, daughter of George Leslie of Little-Folla. In his time the present church was erected about 1796, on a site given by Mr. Leslie of Rothie, and an aisle to accommodate the still increasing congregation was afterwards erected. A parsonage was also built by Mr. Innes. He died 4th November, 1826.

A tablet was placed in the church bearing this inscription—"In memory of Rev. James Innes, for forty years the faithful and respected pastor of the Episcopal congregation of Meikle-Folla, born 16 July, 1761, died 4 November, 1826. Also of Helen Leslie, his spouse, only daughter of George Leslie of Little-Folla, born 25 January, 1775, died 15 November, 1851; who, with their infant son, James, who died 7 March, 1820, aged five months, lie interred in the churchyard of Rayne."

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give unto thee a crown of life."

Mr. Innes was succeeded by Rev. Charles Grant, then incumbent of Portsoy. In his time a chancel was erected, and an organ placed in the church, the gift of William Leslie, Esq. of Warthill. Mr. Grant resigned in 1851, and was succeeded by Rev. Alexander Leslie, M.A.

The chancel window of three lights is filled with plain stained glass.

One of the windows in the nave on the south side is filled with very rich stained glass representing the Resurrection.

On the sill of the window are three brasses, placed in memory of the Leslies of Rothie, and bearing the following inscriptions:—

"In memory of Robert Leslie of Rothie, born 13 February, 1775, died 18 February, 1861. This window was placed in the Episcopal Church at Meikle-Folla, in October, 1864, by his sorrowing widow, Barbara Leslie."

"In memory of Barbara Leslie, born 14 June, 1796, died 22 May, 1873."

"In memory of James Leslie of Rothie, born 30 September, 1763, died 20 June, 1823."

"In memory of George Leslie of Rothie, born 17 July, 1765, died 12 January, 1842. Jonathan Leslie, born 30 January, 1774, died 4 October, 1852."

There is a tablet of white marble in memory of William Leslie of Warthill, the last M.P. for the whole county of Aberdeen, with this inscription—"To the beloved memory of William Leslie of Warthill, born 16 March, 1814, died 4th March, 1880. This tablet is placed by his sorrowing widow. 'Till He come.'—1 Cor. xi. 26."

In 1863, a beautifully laid out churchyard was presented to the church by the late Lieut.-Col. Jonathan Forbes Leslie of Rothienorman. The following are some of those who have been laid to rest in it.

A very handsome cross in the centre of the churchyard is to the memory of the donor of the "God's acre." It bears the inscription—"In memory of Jonathan Forbes Leslie, late Lieut.-Colonel of the 78th Highlanders, youngest son of John Forbes of Blackford, born February 22, 1798, died December 23, 1877. Margaret, widow of Jonathan Forbes Leslie, and eldest daughter of John Urquhart, Esq. of Craigston, born January 12, 1800, died October 15, 1882."

A stone of Peterhead granite is in memory of James Hall, teacher, Medaple, who died 22 November, 1875, aged 74. "A true Christian, whose labours were devoted for twenty-three years to the best interests of his pupils, by whom this stone is erected in affectionate remembrance."

He was the author of "The War of Life" in two volumes, and is worthy of a place among the bards of Aberdeenshire.

A massive cross records the death of Rev. George Walker, M.A., late vicar of Bedford, Northumberland, who fell asleep in Jesus, at St. Andrew's Parsonage, Banff, February 24, 1883, aged 64 years. "He giveth His beloved sleep."

Mr. Walker left a fund of £500 to the Scotch Episcopal Friendly Society, the interest of which is to be devoted annually to such of the clergy of the Diocese of Aberdeen, as may be incapacitated for work by sickness. Should it not be all required for this purpose, the balance, if any, is to go to the funds of the society.

A handsome granite cross is in memory of Margaret, wife of Rev. J. R. Leslie, M.A., All Saints, Buckie, who died May 9, 1882, aged 29. Thomas Turnbull, their son, died August 28, 1880, aged 8 years.

An inscription on a granite curbstone round the grave is in memory of Norman Robert Leslie, born February 7, died June 3, 1875. Helen Evelyn Leslie, born 1 March, died April 17, 1877. These are children of Rev. Alexander Leslie, rector of Folla-Rule.

A handsome granite cross is in memory of Alexander Leith of Freefield and Glenkindie, died 14 July, 1886, aged 68 years. "I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come."

A small granite headstone is to the memory of James Beattie, shoemaker, Gordons-town, who died 27 June, 1857, aged 84. Mr. Beattie, for more than forty years, taught, whilst engaged at his employment, a school, where most of the young people in the district received the rudiments of their education.

C R I C H I E.

C R I C H I E was for many years a separate property, and had a house upon it, mentioned by Sir Samuel Forbes in his notice of the district of Formartine.¹ The property has now, however, been merged into the estates of the Earl of Aberdeen and that of Fyvie.

Before 1500, we find a portion of it belonging to the Cheynes of Straloch. In 1499, there is the confirmation by King James IV. of a charter by John Cheyne of Straloch to his grandson, Alexander Cheyne, and his wife, Katharine Meldrum, of the half of Crichnalade—excepting, however, the lands of Easter and Myddil Crichie. Three years after, 1503, they get a sasine of the shady half of Easter Crichie, Crichnalade, and half of the mill.² And in 1548, we find the Laird of Straloch (Cheyne) taxed for his part of the lands of Chrichie, forty shillings.³

About this time it was disposed to **James Gordon** of Lesmoir, who gave it to his second son.

II. James Gordon of Crichie.

He married a daughter of Barclay of Gartly, and had issue—

I. **George**, his successor.

II. Mr. James, a Jesuit priest.

James Gordon died in 1553, and was succeeded by his son.

III. George Gordon of Crichie.

He was served heir to his father, James Gordon of Crichie, in a fourth part of the lands of Easter Crichie, a fourth part of the lands of Middil Crichie, and a fourth part of the lands of Crichnalade, in the barony of Crichie.⁴

George Gordon married Catherine M^lIntosh, by whom he had issue one son, Adam Gordon of Boghole.

He repudiated Catherine M^lIntosh, and married Jean, daughter of Gordon of Gight, by whom he had issue two sons and two daughters.

There is also the following retour:—John Gordon, son of umquhile George Gordon in Knocheith, is served heir of Alexander Gordon, burgess of Aberdeen, his uncle, in

¹ Ant. A. and B. Vol. I. p. 20.

² Id., III. p. 555.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 118.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 19.

eight ox-gang of the lands of Crichnalade, within the parish of Fyvie : lands of Rogerseat lying ad umbram ; the half of Crichnalade called the Overseitts of Crichnalade, within the foresaid parish of Fyvie. January 12, 1579.¹

What relation this George Gordon was to the former Gordon of Crichie it is impossible to say, but the Gordons soon parted with Crichie, and we find another as proprietor of a portion of the lands, viz. :—John Robertson,

² In 1595, there is a charter granted by John Robertson of Monquhiche, burgess of Aberdeen, of the half of the shady half of the town and lands of Crichie and mill thereof, in favour of Alexander Ewen.

Ewen does not seem to retain these long, for in 1597 he sells the shady half of the lands of Easter Crichie and Middil Crichie to John Urquhart, tutor of Cromarty ;³ and nearly a hundred years after this date, we find John Urquhart is served heir to his father, Adam Urquhart of Meldrum, in the lands and barony of Meldrum, the lands of Saphoch, Muirs of Fyvie, and the lands of Crichie, &c.⁴

The author of the view of the Diocese says that Crichie formerly belonged to the Grants.⁵

Its “disjecta membra” seem to have had more than one proprietor several times, and Crichie now belongs part to the Earl of Aberdeen, and part to Mr. Forbes Leith of Fyvie.

1 Ret. Spec. No. 527.

2 Ant. A. and B. III. 556.

3 Id.

4 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 481.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 494.

G I G H T.

And there they stand as stands a lofty mind,
Worn, but unstooping to the baser crowd ;
All tenantless save to the crannying wind,
Or holding dark communion with the cloud.
Banners on high, and battles passed below ;
But they who fought are in a bloody shroud,
And those which waved are shredless dust ere now,
And the bleak battlements shall bear no future blow.

—*Byron.*

THE ancient ruined tower and fortalice of Gight is situated on the north bank of the Ythan, in the parish of Fyvie and Thanage of Fermartyn. The two chief castles of Fermartyn were Fyvie and Tolquhon, both of them built long before Gight. Fyvie alone had a right to be called Fermartyn Castle, and regarding the assumption of the name to Gight, a writer remarks—"We regret to see this inappropriate appellation applied to it. Gight comes sanctioned by many interesting associations, from which it ought never to be divorced."¹

The Castle of Gight overlooks the braes of Gight, a wide and picturesque ravine, through which the Ythan flows. The estate became about the year 1497, the property of William Gordon, third son of George, second Earl of Huntly, by a sister of the third Earl of Errol. Sir Patrick Maitland, the then baron of Gight, died, leaving two daughters, and Earl George got the gift of the ward of their marriage. His second son William not being willing to marry either of the heiresses, Earl George provided them with other husbands, with whom he transacted for the lands of Gight and Schivas, which he gave to his son the said William.

With regard to this transaction, there is the following account in Fraser's "Bairds of Auchmedden":—"Upon the death of Sir Patrick Maitland of Gight, his estate fell under precognition, because of unwary securities given to creditors. George, second Earl of Huntly, got the gift of it from King James II. Sir Patrick left two daughters by his lady, daughter to Sir Robert Innes of that ilk. The Earl gave the eldest, Janet, in marriage to Thomas Baird, her cousin german, and with her the lands of Ordinhivas, Drumnakeith, &c. ; and he gave Sir Patrick Maitland's other daughter to Annand of Auchterellon."² As mentioned above, the Earl of Huntly gave Gight to his second son.

¹ Pratt's Buchan, p. 302

² Fraser's Bairds of Auchmedden, p. 12.

I. William Gordon of Gight.

He married Janet, daughter of — Ogilvie of Boyne, and had issue :

I. **George Gordon** of Schivas.

II. **James Gordon** of Cairnbannoch.

III. John Gordon of Ardmachar.

1. ———, married to John Grant of Ballinalloch.¹

The foresaid William Gordon was killed at Flodden, and was succeeded by his son.

II. George Gordon of Gight.

He married a daughter of Robert Gordon of Fetterletter, who was brother to Gordon of Haddo. George Gordon built the house of Gight, and died without issue. He was succeeded by his brother.

III. James Gordon of Cairnbannoch and of Gight.

He married a daughter of Cheyne of Straloch, and had issue :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. William, who perished in the water of Bogie, without succession.

The aforesaid James Gordon of Cairnbannoch and Gight was succeeded by his son.

IV. Alexander Gordon of Gight.

He married Agnes, daughter of Cardinal Beaton, and had issue one daughter, married to George Hume, Earl of Dunbar.

He was killed on the shore of Dundee by the Master of Forbes, and the goodman of Towie, Gordon of Gight, and the laird of Towie are said to have killed each other.

The succession then opened up to the eldest son of John Gordon of Ardmachar, who married the daughter of James Gordon, first laird of Lesmoir, by whom he had issue :

I. **William Gordon**, who succeeded to Gight.

II. Captain John Gordon, who was killed at Donibristle, in the celebrated attack made on that house by the Earl of Huntly, when the Earl of Moray was killed.

III. Alexander, killed in the wars of Holland.

IV. George, killed by the Master of Monteith.

1. Margaret, married to Alexander Chalmers of Strichen, and had issue by him one son (see Chalmers of Monkshill); secondly to — Fraser, a brother of Fraser of Philorth.
2. ———, married — Hay, and after his death she also married — Fraser, a brother of Fraser of Philorth.
3. ———, married Sinclair of Auchynachie.
4. ———, married Garden of Banchory.
5. ———, married Keith of Clachriach.
6. ———, married a brother of Gordon of Haddo.

V. William Gordon of Gight.

He married Isobel, a daughter of Ochterlony of Kelly, by whom he had a large family of seven sons and seven daughters.

I. **George**, his successor. In the life-time of his father, he was called of Gight.

In 1578, George Gordon of Gight is caution for himself that he will appear personally before the Privy Council at any time at a month's warning, and also that he and his kin, his tenants and servants, shall keep good rule in the countie, in the meantime, under the penalty of £5000.²

II. John, of Ardlownie.

III. William, killed in Turriff.

IV. Patrick.

V. Adam, killed by Francis Hay of Logierieve.³

VI. Alexander.

VII. Robert.

1. ———, married to Sir Adam Gordon of Park and Glenbucket.

2. ———, married Mowat of Balquholly.

3. ———, married Alexander Innes of Cults.

4. ———, married James Cheyne of Pennin.

5. ———, married Leith of Harthill.

6. ———, married first, Alexander Gordon of Tulloch; second, Thomas Gordon of Pittendreich, brother to Gordon of Cluny.

7. ———, married George Gordon of Hallhead.

William Gordon of Gight died 1605, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

VI. George Gordon of Gight.

From the above record from the Privy Council, he was called of Gight in 1578, the fee of the estate having probably been made over to him by his father.

¹ Balbithan MS.

² Priv. Council Rec. III. pp. 102-220.

³ See Art. Logierieve.

In 1606, he is served heir to his father, William Gordon, in the lands and town of Badichel, &c., in the barony of Fyvie.

He married a daughter of Wood of Bonniton in Angus, and had issue two sons and three daughters.

I. George Gordon.

II. ——— Gordon

1. ———, married to William Hay, brother of the Earl of Errol.
2. Barbara, married to Sir John Turing of Foveran.
3. ———, married to Innes of Coxton.¹

After the death of the daughter of Wood of Bonniton, he married Abernethy, daughter of Lord Saltoun, by whom he had issue, one son and one daughter.

George Gordon was a Roman Catholic, and the Privy Council was engaged in trying to bring him to justice for several Popish practices, of which he was alleged to have been guilty.² "It was charged against him that at the burial of his mother, Isobel Ochterlony, on a particular day, in the year 1605, he caused his tenant, David Wilson, to carry ane crucifix upon ane spear immediately before the corpse. In like manner, at the burial of William Gordon of Gight in 1605, he had caused George Crawford, his servant, to bear ane crucifix upon ane spear the hail way before the body, he being personallie present on both occasions, whereby as he had offendēd God, slanderit his Kirk and Holy ministry; sae he has committed a very great contempt against his Majesty, and has violated his Highness' laws and acts of parliament."

³ In 1614, the Lairds of Gight and Newton, both Gordons and both Roman Catholics, were sentenced by the Privy Council to perpetual banishment, never to set foot in Scotland, under pain of death, unless they submit themselves to the order of the Kirk.

George Gordon of Gight died in 1641, and was succeeded by his son.

VII. Sir George Gordon of Gight.

He married a daughter of Lord Ogilvy, and had issue, two sons and a daughter.

I. George Gordon.

II. ——— Gordon.

1. ——— Gordon.

He was succeeded by his son.

VIII. Sir George Gordon of Gight.

He married a daughter of Keith of Ludquharn. This marriage produced a schism in the family, and a variance with his mother. The young laird alleged that

¹ Balbithan MS.

² Chambers' Domestic Annals I. p. 404.

³ Priv. Council Rec. 1614.

his father had never been infeft in the lands, and that consequently he had a right to the fee of the estate. His mother refused to give up the papers, and in consequence of this resolution, young Gight, with the assistance of his father-in-law, Keith of Ludquharn, attacked his father's house with the intention of taking forcible possession. The Marquis of Huntly, at the request of the Earl of Airly, agreed to act as arbiter in this dispute, which ended in an amicable settlement.

From Spalding we read, "that the same nicht (Monday, May 6, 1644) that Kelly was rendered, the camp rode to Gight both horse and foot; but the same was also rendered upon the morn. The young laird escapes with two or three. The old laird is kept beside Haddoch, and his soldiers set at liberty. There is a captain with twenty-four soldiers put within the place of Gight, which were well provided with meat and drink and other necessaries; and wherein there was store of ammunition, powder and ball, with victual in girnels abundantlie."¹

Sir George Gordon was succeeded by his son, also

IX. Sir George Gordon of Gight.

He married Elizabeth Urquhart of Meldrum, by whom he had an only daughter, heiress of the estate. He died 169—, and was succeeded by

X. Mary Gordon of Gight.

She was married in 1701² to Alexander Davidson of Newton, son of Alexander Davidson of Newton by Isobel Leslie. They had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded, taking the name of Gordon.

1. Elizabeth, married 1767, to Alexander Innes of Breda and Cowie.

2. Jean, married to Andrew Robertson of Foveran.

Alexander Davidson of Newton and Tillymorgan, and Mary Gordon of Gight were succeeded by their eldest son.

XI. Alexander Davidson Gordon of Gight.

He was retoured in 1735 to his father, Alexander Davidson of Newton, who died 1712, heir male special in Newton and Wrangham, Glennieston and Melvinside.³

In 1740, he was retoured to his mother, Mary Gordon of Gight, as heir male and provision general,⁴ and in 1735, he was served heir to his uncle, James Davidson of Tillymorgan, who died September 17, 1720.⁵

¹ Spalding's Troubles II. p. 357.

² Fyvie Register of Marriages, Reg. Ho. Edinb.

³ Decen. Rets. 1735.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1740.

⁵ Id. 1720.

He married Margaret, daughter of P. Duff of Craigston, by whom he had the following issue :--

I. **George**, who succeeded.

II. Captain Alexander Davidson, who bore that surname only, his father settling on him the estate of Newton, to which, though under age at his father's death, he succeeded in 1760, in terms of the entail. He married Jean Dalrymple of Logie-Elphinstone, by whom he had two daughters, who died unmarried.

III. Patrick.

IV. John.

V. William.

VI. James.

VII. Archibald, Lieutenant 53rd (General Dalrymple Horne's) regiment. He infeoffed by precept of clare constat in 1787 his niece, Mrs. Catharine Gordon or Byron, in the lands of Melvinside, Glennieston, and others in the parish of Culsalmond, of which lands he was superior. He appears to have been unmarried.

VIII. Robert.

IX. Adam.

1. Elizabeth, who died at Banff, June 12, 1824.

2. Mary.

3. Margaret.¹

Alexander Davidson Gordon of Gight died January, 1760, and was succeeded by his son.

XII. George Gordon of Gight.

He was served heir to his father, April 18, 1760. He married his cousin, Catharine Duff of Craigston, and died in 1777, leaving an only daughter.²

XIII. Catharine Gordon of Gight.

She married 1786 (7 ?), Captain John Byron, by whom she had an only child.

XIV. Right Hon. George Gordon Byron, Lord Byron.

The poet succeeded his great grand-uncle as sixth Lord Byron in 1798. He married 2 January, 1815, Anne Isabella, only child of Sir Ralph Millbank Noel, Bart., and Baroness Wentworth in her own right (died 1860), by whom he had only one child.

¹ Tombstone, Fyvie Churchyard.

² Decen. Rets. 1760.

Lord Byron died at Missolonghi, Greece, 19 April, 1824. His daughter,

XV. Hon. Ada Augusta Noel Byron,

married, in 1835, William, Earl of Lovelace, and died in 1852, predeceasing her mother. Lady Lovelace left issue, besides a daughter, Lady Anne King Noel, married to Wilfred S. Blunt, Esq.—two sons :—

- I. Byron Noel, who succeeded his grandmother in 1860 as Baron Wentworth, and died 1860.
- II. Ralph Gordon Noel Millbank, who succeeded his brother as 12th Baron Wentworth. As heir-apparent of the Earl of Lovelace, he also bears the courtesy title of Viscount Ockham.

XVI. Viscount Ockham, Baron Wentworth,

is heir of line and representative of the families of Gight and Davidson of Newton.

The estate of Gight, soon after the marriage of Miss Gordon and Captain Byron, was sold, and merged into the estates of the Earl of Aberdeen.

MONKSHILL.

THE proprietor of these lands is Major General CHARLES DAVID CHALMERS, of the Royal Artillery.

These lands formed part of the possessions of the Priory of Fyvie, the superior of which was the Abbot of the Monastery of St. Thomas, Arbroath.

Monkshill, along with the Kirklands of Fyvie and Tarves, was leased by George, Abbot of Arbroath, in 1508, to Sir Alexander Mason, monk, for his life-time.¹ In 1563, on the representation by Queen Mary to the Commendator and Convent of Arbroath, Sir George Gordon of Schivas was appointed hereditary tenant of the lands of Monkshill, the Kirklands, the Mill and Brewlands held by George, formerly Lord Gordon. This was after Corrichie; but the Earl of Huntly afterwards received a pardon for himself and friends, and was restored to these lands.² In 1625, James, Marquis of Hamilton, is served heir to his father, James, Marquis of Hamilton, in the lands of Cairnbroggie, the Kirktown of Tarves, &c., within the barony of Tarves; and the lands of Monkshill, the Kirktown of Fyvie, the Mill of Fyvie, Ardlogie, Mundurno, with the tithes within the barony of Fyvie.³ George, Earl of Panmure, Lord of Brichen and Navar, is served heir, in 1662, to his father, Patrick, Earl of Panmure, in the lands of Cairnbroggie, Cairnfechil, Kirktown of Tarves, within the barony and parish of the same; the lands of Monkshill, the Kirktown of Fyvie, with the Mill, Ardlogie, &c., within the parish of Fyvie.⁴ His son George is served heir, in 1671, to the same lands in much the same terms.⁵ Probably the Hamilton and Panmure families had only the superiority. Before 1686, Monkshill was wadset to

Robert Dunbar, Mill of Balcairn.

He married Marion Leslie, daughter of umquhile James Leslie of Chapeltown. The marriage contract is dated at Craigie, Tarves, 1680.⁶ They had issue one son at least.

II. Alexander Dunbar of Monkshill.

He is served heir to his father, Robert Dunbar, who died in 1686, in the lands of Balcairn and Monkshill, under date May 10, 1700.⁷ In 1702, Alexander Dunbar received

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 59.

2 Id. p. 550.

3 Ret. Spec. Ahd. 189.

4 Id. 359.

5 Ret. Spec. 400.

6 Mar. Cont. in Monkshill Charter Chest.

7 Decen. Rets. 1700.

from Mary Gordon of Gight and George Gordon, her husband, a precept of "clare constat," whereby the town and lands of Monkshill are declared redeemable by them as superiors for the sum of three thousand merks. In this precept the lands are said to be in conform to a disposition by Adam Urquhart of Meldrum.¹ In 1705, Alexander Dunbar receives from Lady Jane, Countess of Dunfermline, a lease of the town and lands of Tiftie and Mill of Gourdas, on the same terms as they were possessed by William Smith.² He married Elizabeth Smith, a sister of said William, and of "Tiftie's Annie." Alexander Dunbar of Monkshill died about 1735, and left a son.

III. William Dunbar of Monkshill.

³ He was served heir in 1735 to his father, Alexander Dunbar. Soon after his accession, Alexander Gordon of Gight redeems from Elizabeth Smith and her son, William Dunbar, the wadset of Monkshill, paying up the three thousand merks due thereon.⁴ Before 1744, William Dunbar, who had leased the farm of Tiftie, had died. In that year the Earl of Aberdeen grants to George Dunbar, in Newseat of Ardoch, a lease of Tiftie and Mill of Gourdas. This George Dunbar was a brother of the said William. He is mentioned in another lease of the same lands of date 1776, given by Colonel Hon. William Gordon of Fyvie. He died 1794.⁵

The Dunbars have long since passed from Fyvie, though there are still descendants. The present incumbent of Fyvie, Rev. Dr. Milne, is descended from a Dunbar of Balcairn and Monkshill.

In 1744, Alexander Gordon of Gight sold these lands to

William Fordyce of Auquhorthies.

This William Fordyce was married first to Isobel Davidson, a sister of Mr. Alexander Gordon's; and second to Margaret Cochran. In the case of selling the lands, a condition was made that the first offer had to be made to Mr. Gordon. William Fordyce was succeeded by his son.

II. William Fordyce of Monkshill.

He was a captain in H.M. Marines. He married, and had issue at least two daughters. On behalf of his second daughter, he burdened the lands with a payment of four thousand merks Scots, to be paid on her majority, or on her marriage, whichever should first happen after the death of his stepmother, Margaret Cochran.⁶ In 1768, Captain Fordyce sold the lands to George Gordon of Gight, and the burden of four thousand merks was discharged by payment of the said sum to Isobel Fordyce.⁶

¹ Monkshill Charters.

² Id.

³ Decen. Rets. 1735.

⁴ Monkshill Charters.

⁵ Lease penes Monkshill.

⁶ Monkshill Charters.

George Gordon of Gight and Monkshill died 1787, and was succeeded by his only daughter,

Mrs. Catharine Gordon or Byron.

She married Captain John Byron. She is served heir to her father, George Gordon, in the lands of Gight and others, September 30, 1785.¹ On 10 March, 1787, Mrs. Byron, with consent of her husband, Captain John Byron, in consideration of £840, sold the lands of Monkshill, as also the superiority, or "dominium rectum," of two half-net's fishing in the river Don, as described in a charter of resignation, dated 12 February, 1742, in favour of William Fordyce,² to

James Hay, Bridgend, Fyvie.

He was factor to the Earl of Aberdeen and others. He died on 10 February, 1807, leaving issue :—

I. **James Hay**, his successor.

1. Jane, died 24 January, 1840, aged 67.
2. Elizabeth, died 20 April, 1863, aged 87.

Mr Hay was succeeded by his son,

II. James Hay of Monkshill.

He was served heir to his father, 17 May, 1809. In 1827, he disposed these lands, with the two half-net's fishing on the river Don above-mentioned, to Charles Chalmers, Esq., advocate, Aberdeen, the entry thereto to be at the first Whitsunday after Mr. Hay's death. The lands were burdened with an annuity to Mr. Hay's sisters, and after their deaths, with a payment of £20 annually to the Episcopal clergyman of Woodhead; also with the payment of £5 annually to a fund for keeping the church and parsonage at Woodhead in repair. In case of there being no church at Woodhead, these annuities were to be devoted to the poor of Fyvie.³

Mr. Hay died February 24, 1828, and was succeeded in Monkshill by the above-named.

Charles Chalmers.

The following is his descent :—King David II. granted a charter in 1329 to William de Camera of the lands of Thomastown, Fullertown, Kinkell, and Dyce. These lands were sold by his descendant, Alexander Chalmer of Balnacraig, to Henry Forbes.⁴ He married and had issue,

II. Robert Chalmer of Balnacraig.

¹ Decen. Ret. 1785.

² Monkshill Charter.

³ Monkshill Charters.

⁴ Charters Reg. Ho. Edinburgh.

He had the lands of Kintore, &c. He married Helen Garviehaugh. On August 8, 1357, Robert Chalmer of Kintore and Helen Garviehaugh, his spouse, obtain a charter from Isobel Ranulph, Countess of Moray, to the lands of Balnacraig and Telanchsyn.¹ James Garviehaugh, Knight, had a charter to the above lands from Thomas Ranulph, Earl of Moray, confirmed by Duncan, Earl of Fife. In 1361, July 20, there is a charter of confirmation of the above charter to Robert de Camera by Isobel Ranulph, Countess of Moray. They had issue :—

I. John, of Balnacraig. He was of Balnacraig long before 1425. He died in that year, as there is a retour to him of that date by his son, Andrew de Camera. Balnacraig remained in the possession of this branch of the family down to 1757, when it was sold by Ann Chalmers, the only child of Robert Chalmers, the 17th of Balnacraig, to Francis Farquharson of Finzean, who had obtained an adjudication against her for £3603 5s. 7d. sterling, and she was obliged to execute a disposition of these lands in his favour. She married John Leith, coppersmith, Aberdeen, to whom she had a large family.

II. William, clerk of Justiciary Rolls, 1368. He had a charter of Easter Ruthven, 1356; Murthill from Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen, in 1388; ² Fyndon in 1390. He married and had issue :—

I. Thomas, of whom afterwards.

II. William, Provost of Aberdeen.

III. Symon.

III. Thomas Chalmers of Murthill.

The eldest son of the above William Chalmer had, in 1402, a charter of Murthill from Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen, in which he is designated as son of William de Camera.³ In 1412, he was elected Provost of Aberdeen. He married Elizabeth Blinseill, and had issue :—

I. Alexander, of whom afterwards.

II. William Chalmer.

III. Robert Chalmer.

IV. Richard Chalmer.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

IV. Alexander Chalmer of Murthill.

Of him there is this record on a monument erected in St. Nicholas Church. "Hic jacet providus et honorabilis vir Alexander de Camera de Murthill, Prepositus hujus burgi de Aberdene qui obiit —, die mensis Octobris A.D. MCCCCLXIII."

¹ Nisbet's Heraldry, Vol. II.

² Reg. Ep. Aber. Vol. I. p. 163.

³ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 205,
and Burgh Register.

He was Provost from 1443-1446. He married Agnes Hay (according to Nisbet's Heraldry), a daughter of the Earl of Errol. They had issue :—

I. **Alexander**, of whom afterwards.

II. Gilbert.

III. John.

IV. Thomas, baillie of Aberdeen, died circa 1488.

Alexander Chalmer of Murthill died 1463, and was succeeded by his son,

V. Alexander Chalmer of Murthill.

He had also Cults. He was Provost of Aberdeen at various times, 1467-1495. He was witness to a charter, February 11, 1478, of the lands of Windmillhills, by William, Earl Marischall, to William de Camera of Balnacraig. He married first, Janet Leslie, a daughter of John Leslie of that ilk; second, Elizabeth Cullen. He died 1497, and left issue :—

¹ I. Alexander, of Murthill, Cults, and Little Methlic. He married Elizabeth Douglas of Glenbervie; secondly, Margaret Mathewson. He was admitted a burges of Aberdeen. According to Nisbet, he also possessed Strichen; but this was not the case, it was his brother Thomas who was laird of Strichen. Alexander had a son Thomas who succeeded him, 1505, in Cults and Little Methlic.

II. **Thomas**, of Strichen, of whom afterwards.

III. William.

1. Elizabeth.

We now come to

VI. Thomas Chalmer of Strichen,

the second son of Alexander Chalmer of Cults and Murthill, provost of Aberdeen. He is mentioned in a marriage contract of date February 22, 1497, between John Knox of Auchorthy, and a daughter of John Chalmer of Auchorry. In it he is called superior of the lands of Auchorthy.² Thomas Chalmer of Strichen died July 1, 1504, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. John Chalmer of Strichen.

He is served heir in 1504 to his father, Thomas Chalmer of Strichen, in the lands of Strichen with their pertinents; the fourth part of the lands of Rosthevot with their pertinents. Among the jury are John Dumbrek of that ilk, and John Gardin of Laithers, &c.³ He had issue at least two sons :—

¹ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. 319.

² Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 65.

³ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 383.

I. **Andrew**, his successor.

II. **Duncan**, Chancellor of Ross.

John Chalmer was succeeded by his son,

VIII. **Andrew Chalmer of Strichen.**

He married Christian Fraser. They are mentioned in a crown charter, of date 1538, of James V. to Andrew Chalmer, son and apparent heir of John Chalmer, and to Christine Fraser, his spouse, of the whole lands of Strichen with the mill; a fourth part of all the lands of Rosthevet with their pertinents lying in the regality of the Garioch, to be held by the said Andrew and Christine his spouse, and the longest liver.¹

In 1554, Andrew Chalmer reserves the life-rent to himself and his spouse, Christine Fraser, of the lands and barony and mill of Strichen in a charter given to his grandson (nepos) Alexander Chalmer.²

Andrew Chalmer and Christian Fraser had issue:—

I. **William**, heir-apparent, who died in the life-time of his father.

II. **David**, of Ormonde. According to an account preserved amongst the Hatfield MS., as reported in one of the Historical MSS. Commission Reports, he was educated with his uncle, the Chancellor of Ross, who defrayed the expenses of his education in Paris and Lorraine. David, on his return to Scotland, became servant to Earl Bothwell. By Bothwell he was promoted to the Provostry of Creightoune. He was also by his means made a Senator of the College of Justice. He was a great dealer between the Queen and Bothwell. This and other presumptions gave cause to Lord Lennox, in his letters to the Queen, to accuse David Chalmer as culpable and participate in the murder of the King, his own son. After Carberry Hill, when Bothwell fled, David Chalmer also withdrew himself and went abroad. He was along with others "forfault" in Parliament. He was, however, restored to his place as a Lord of Session. He married Elizabeth Chalmer and had issue a son, William Chalmer of Ormonde.

III. **George**, who received from his father sasine infesting him in the lands of Newton of Strichen; married Christian Innes; had issue Patrick of Newton, John, and Gilbert.

IV. **Gilbert**, of Auquhortie. He married Janet Pittendreich. In a certain deed he is called "filius naturalis" of Andrew Chalmer, an expression which, taken by itself, would not have proved him illegitimate.³ His son William had claims on Strichen.

We now come to **William Chalmer**, the eldest son and apparent heir of Andrew Chalmer of Strichen and his wife Christian Fraser. Of him no chartulary evidence has

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 582.

² Id. p. 583.

³ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 583.

been found. (See Section X.) He is mentioned in Anderson's "History of the Frasers," and he is there called William Chalmer of Strichen; but he was only son and apparent heir. He married Isobel Forbes, a daughter of Forbes of Corfurdie, and had issue by her at least one son, **Alexander Chalmer**, mentioned in the charter of 1554, formerly quoted.

Isobel Forbes, according to Anderson, after the death of William Chalmer, married Thomas Fraser of the family of Philorth, who soon assumed the title of Fraser of Strichen. There is no doubt, Isobel Forbes, the widow of William Chalmer, had a certain interest in the lands of Strichen. In 1554, as already mentioned, there is a charter to Alexander Chalmer (nepos), grandson and apparent heir of Andrew Chalmer of Strychine, with the milne and the multure, under reservation of a life-rent to the said Andrew Chalmer and Christiane Fraser, his spouse. There is also a Crown charter of these lands.¹ Four years after this date the lands are sold. There is a charter "consanguineo Thomæ Fraser," son of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, of the lands of Burrahill, Humbie's Carne, Farnybrae, Auchnary, Quhythill, and the corne mill of Strichen, 11 May, 1558. In that year there is a confirmation charter to the said Thomas Fraser of the Dominical lands of Strichen, and the mylne of Strichen.²

The estate of Strichen thus passed from the family of Chalmer to that of Fraser. What pressure, if any, had been brought to bear on Alexander Chalmer by his mother and stepfather, Thomas Fraser, towards the sale of the lands does not appear; but, at anyrate, the sale of the lands, according to Anderson, caused great disappointment to the Chalmer family. George Chalmer, the brother of William Chalmer, was abroad, and not likely to return. The Chalmer family in their necessity had recourse to Gordon of Gight, whose daughter or sister was the second wife of the said Alexander Chalmer. Gordon of Gight and Thomas Fraser met at the Bridge of Deer with the hope of effecting a settlement; but the overtures of either party were met with contempt. Gordon in a rage followed after Fraser, and coming up behind him at the Bridge of Deer, laid him dead with one blow of his two-edged sword.

To avenge her cause, Isobel Forbes, now for the second time a widow, detailed her woes to Thomas Fraser of Knockie. He listened to her complaint, used all his interest on her behalf, and, in spite of the position of the Earl of Huntly, had Gight, his kinsman, condemned; but he was ultimately released, on payment of five thousand merks as an assythement for the murder. Gight was afterwards killed at the battle of Glenlivet.

It was Thomas Fraser of Knockie's turn now to play the suitor, and Isobel Forbes, in gratitude for his services, again becomes a wife. Thomas Fraser, in order to prevent further disputes, endeavoured to get matters judicially settled.³ An agreement was come to with his wife's two daughters, who, in 1590-91, disposed to him their rights in the lands of Strichen, and on whom he settled handsome portions; also with Patrick

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1546-1580, No. 692, and No. 973.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. 1546-1580, No. 1295, and No. 1385.

³ Anderson's History of the Frasers, p. 187.

Chalmer of Newton of Strichen, who gave up all his rights on Strichen, except the infestment on Newton of Strichen, which he also agreed to dispose to the said Thomas Fraser, reserving the life-rent of his mother, Christian Innes. He also obliges himself to cause his mother ratify and affirm the agreement. Thomas Fraser agrees to pay the said Patrick Chalmer seventeen hundred merks; also binds himself to infest the said Patrick in the sonne half of the said Thomas' twa pairt of the lands of Faithlie redeemable on the payment of one thousand pounds Scots. Gilbert Chalmer, the brother of Patrick, also agrees and consents that the present contract of date 1595 be registered, &c.¹ There is an additional contract, of date 1605,² between William Chalmer, eldest son of David Chalmer of Ormonde, and Thomas Fraser, in which the said William, and his curators, John Chalmers in Drumbulge, and his brother, Alexander Chalmer of Culbertie, transfer and dispose for the sum of eight hundred merks, paid to them by the said Thomas Fraser, any rights they had or might have had in the lands of Strichen, with their blessing, kindness, and goodwill, &c., done at the Kirk of Tyrie, September 17, 1605.

Lord Saltoun, in his history of the Frasers, rejects Anderson's account of the disagreement of the Chalmer family; but there must have been some cause for it. Thomas Fraser of Knockie used every means to make his position as proprietor of Strichen sure, buying up as it were the rights of the various parties, and he was successful. The last parties to the deed gave him their blessing!³

The following are the issue of Isobel Forbes by her three husbands:—First, by William Chalmer, fiar of Strichen.

I. Alexander, fiar of Strichen.

Second, by Thomas Fraser, killed by Gordon of Gight.

1. Catharine Fraser.

2. Violet Fraser.

Third, by Thomas Fraser of Knockie.

II. Thomas Fraser, from whom the Lovat family is descended.

3. Jean Fraser.

4. Margaret Fraser.

We now return to

X. Alexander Chalmer of Strichen.

There is no chartulary evidence to show that he was the son of William Chalmer and Isobel Forbes, and we may mention that in Lumsden's history of the Forbeses, the name is not given as William but Thomas, and that he married Isobel Forbes, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon by Ellison Anderson, and that thereafter the said

¹ Contract in H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinb.

² Id. 1605.

³ Lord Saltoun's Frasers, p. 748, &c.

Isobel married the tutor of Lovat, and conveyed to him the estate of Strichen, which account is correct is not easy to say; but, as already quoted, there is undoubted evidence to show that he was the grandson of Andrew Chalmer of Strichen, and the representative of the Chalmer family. He married first, Elizabeth Johnstone; secondly, Margaret Gordon. He had issue at least two sons:—

I. James, at the Mill of Strichen.

II. John.

Both these sons are mentioned as sons of Alexander Chalmer in the contract of 1595. John, the second son, was by Margaret Gordon, sister of Gordon of Gight, as is evidenced by the following:—"Commission granted to Earl Marischal and others to search for George, Earl of Huntly, and John Chalmer, sister's son of the Laird of Gight, all accused of burning Donibristle, and of the murder of the Earl of Moray."²

XI. James Chalmer, at the Mill of Strichen.

He was the eldest son of Alexander Chalmer of Strichen. He was, prior to 1582, vested in the two part of the sunny third part of Easter Tyrie; and, prior to 1576, infeft in Terris Ecclesiasticis de Kynoch, in the County of Ross.³ He married Janet Chalmer, daughter probably of Duncan Chalmer, Chancellor of Ross. They had issue:

I. George, minister of Kinore.

II. John, minister of Keith, and formerly sub-Principal of King's College. He died by his own hand 11 June, 1611.

III. Patrick.

We now come to the eldest son of James Chalmer.

XII. Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Kinore and Dunbennan.

He is described in a sasine registered at Aberdeen, November 15, 1604, "as a venerable man, son of the late James Chalmer, Mylne of Strichen." This sasine gives him infeftment in the two parts of the sunny third part of Easter Tyrie, &c. He was born about 1572, graduated 1592. He was minister of Gartly from 1607 to 1614, when he was translated to Kinore and Dunbennan. He was also for sometime Regent of Marischal College. He married Marion Leslie, who is mentioned in a charter of the shadow half of Peterstown and other lands in the parish of Oldmachar.⁴ They had issue:—

I. John. He is mentioned in a "renunciation by Mr. John Chalmer, eldest lawful son of the deceased George Chalmer, minister of Kinore, of a contract between the late Sir Alexander Fraser and the said Mr. George Chalmer, of date 16 November, 1603, whereby the said Sir

¹ Lumsden's History of the Forbeses, pp. 48, 49.

² Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, Vol. I. p. 182.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1510-1590, No. 61.

⁴ Register of Sasines, Aberdeen, III. Fol. 395.

Alexander ratified an infestment and sasine made by him to the deceased James Chalmer, father of the said George."¹ He was educated as a bursar at Marischal College, was appointed minister of Inveravon in 1630; married Jean Duff, and had numerous descendants.

II. Alexander, in Ottingstone, executor to his deceased father. He is mentioned in the following deed, "Alexander Chalmer, lawful second son to umquhile Mr. George Chalmer, minister of Kinore, of all and hail the two part of ye sonne third part of ye town and lands of Easter Tyrie with the pertinents in favour of Thomas Fraser, 23 June, 1634."²

III. William.

IV. **George**, minister of Rhynie, of whom afterwards.

1. Anna. 2. Jean. 3. Isobel. 4. Elspet.

These are all mentioned in a record in the Sheriff Clerk's office, 29 April, 1653. The extract adds, "the other children of the deceased Mr. George Chalmer all appear in a contract dated 29 June, 1637."³

XIII. Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Rhynie,

was the fourth son of Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Kinore and Dunbennan, and grandson of James Chalmer, at Mill of Strichen.

George Chalmer is mentioned in a record above-mentioned, also in a list of annual renters. He and his brother Alexander in Ottingstone and William are both mentioned as brothers.⁴ He graduated at Marischal College in 1633. He was for sometime school-master of Inveravon, where his brother John was for sometime minister.

He was appointed minister of Rhynie by the Marquis of Huntly, was married, in 1646, to Jane Gordon of Thomastown, Drumblade. She died at Elgin, July 25, 1691. Rev. George Chalmer died about the year 1660 or 1661, in the eighteenth year of his ministry. They left issue:—

I. **Hugh**, minister of Marnoch.

II. George minister of Drumblade. He was educated at King's College, appointed to the parish of Drumblade previous to 1687; married first, Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of James Gordon, parson of Rothiemay, son of Sir Robert Gordon of Straloch. He married secondly, Rachel, daughter of Forbes of Waterton. He left issue.

XIV. Rev. Hugh Chalmer, minister of Marnoch,

was the eldest son of Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Rhynie, grandson of Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Kinore, and great grandson of James Chalmer at Mill of Strichen.

¹ Reg. of Sasines, Abdn.

² Sheriff Court Records.

³ Sheriff Court Records.

⁴ S. C. Misc. Vol. III. p. 26.

He was born about 1648, and is said to have been sometime schoolmaster at Keith, and was presented in 1680 to the church of Marnoch or Aberchirder. He married Elizabeth Innes, probably of the family of Innes of Turtory. On 25 April, 1690, there is a "sasine on a disposition by John Innes, merchant, burghess of Aberdeen, to Mr. Hugh Chalmer, minister of Marnoch, and Elizabeth Innes his spouse, of an annual rent, in security of five hundred merks, out of Greenfields of Turtory, Rothiemay."¹ They had issue:—

I. James, born 1679, died in infancy.

II. Alexander, his father's successor at Marnoch, appointed 1707. He married, August 3, 1711, Barbara, daughter of Rev. John Burnett, minister of Monymusk. They had issue—John, born 1712, who was appointed in his 29th year Regent and Professor of Theology in King's College, having succeeded his relative, Principal George Chalmer, in that office. He married Isobel, daughter of John Innes of Tilliefour. He left one daughter, Margaret, wife of Archibald Scott of Usan, son of Robert Scott of Duninald, Forfarshire, who had issue.

III. William, born 1684, died 1716.

IV. James, of whom afterwards.

1. Margaret.

XV. Rev. James Chalmer, minister of Dyke,

was the fourth son of Rev. Hugh Chalmer, minister of Marnoch. He studied at Marischal College, was appointed, 1705, minister of Dyke. He was afterwards translated to Greyfriars parish, Aberdeen, and on 31 July, 1728, was appointed Professor of Divinity, Marischal College. He married, August 29, 1710, his cousin Jane, daughter of Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Drumblade; had issue:—

I. George, born 1711; died in infancy.

II. James, of whom afterwards.

III. Hugh, born 1714.

IV. Alexander, died in infancy.

V. John.

VI. Lewis.

1. Anne.

XVI. James Chalmers,

the eldest surviving son of the above, was intended for the English church, and went to study at Oxford. While there, he developed a strong taste for the art of printing, and resolved to learn it practically in London, which he did in the office of Mr. Watts, where he had the celebrated Benjamin Franklin for his fellow-apprentice. In 1736, on

¹ Register of Sasines, Banff.

his return to Aberdeen, he was appointed Printer to the University and Town Council, of the city, in place of James Nicol, who resigned, and became one of the literary printers of the city. He was a man of learning and many accomplishments. On the outbreak of the Rebellion, he took up the Hanoverian cause, the principles of which he had imbibed in England, and was employed by the government to print proclamations and official papers for the north of Scotland. The part he took led to his being especially hated by the Jacobites. On their taking possession of the town, they at once determined to seize him, and making for his house in Castle Street broke into it, and barred the door; but before they got upstairs, he jumped from one of the windows and managed to make his escape. He was injured by the leap; but he succeeded in getting a horse, and was able to reach an outhouse at the Bridge of Dee. It was full of rebel soldiery, and he could go no further. They treated him with great kindness, but alarmed him by asking among the news, "What the rascal Chalmers, the printer, was doing?" He had the presence of mind enough to answer that he was still printing the Duke of Cumberland's manifestoes. On this, some of them went on their knees, and drawing their dirks swore that they would do for him if they could catch him. Shortly afterwards, he again got on horseback, and made his way to the Royal army, then in the south, where he was well received, and very kindly treated by the Duke of Cumberland. He was employed as an agent for the care of the prisoners, and also as one of the chief commissioners of the campaign. After the Rebellion was over, he was appointed commissioner over some of the forfeited estates; and the commission in his favour to take charge of the forfeited estates of Hallhead and Esslemont is strangely enough the only commission printed at full length in the Scots' Magazine.¹

Subsequently, in 1748, James Chalmers started the "Aberdeen Journal," which was for many years the only newspaper north of the Forth, and it is understood he received a small sum from government to induce him to undertake the risk.

On the 14th March, 1739, he married Susan, daughter of Rev. James Trail, minister of Montrose, by his wife Christian, daughter of Provost Allardyce, Aberdeen, and granddaughter of Rev. Robert Trail, by his wife Jane Annand, daughter of Alexander Annand of Auchterellon. They had issue:—

I. James, born 1742, of whom afterwards.

II. William.

III. Lawrence.

IV. George.

V. Alexander, M.A., F.S.A., 1759. He received a classical and medical education, and about 1777 left his native country and never returned to it. He had obtained the situation as surgeon in the West Indies, and had arrived at Portsmouth to join the ship, when he suddenly changed his mind, and proceeded to the Metropolis, where he soon became connected with the Press. His literary career commenced as editor of the "Public Ledger,"

¹ Bissett' Diary, Gentleman's Magazine, and Scots' Magazine, 1746; and Life of his son, Alexander Chalmer.

and "London Packet." He also contributed to the other public journals of the day. He was at one time editor of the "Manchester Herald." Being early connected in business with Mr. George Robinson, the celebrated publisher, Paternoster Row, he assisted him in judging of manuscripts offered for sale. In 1793, he published a continuation of the "History of England." Mr. Chalmers was a valuable contributor to the "Gentleman's Magazine." He died in London, December 10, 1834.

XVII. James Chalmers.

The oldest son of James Chalmers and Susan Trail succeeded his father as printer and publisher of the "Aberdeen Journal." He married Margaret Douglas, daughter of David Douglas, merchant, London, by Katharine Forbes his wife. David Douglas was of the Tilwhilly family. Miss Forbes was a daughter of the old family of Forbes of Echt. They had issue a large family, among others—

- I. David, of Westburn, who succeeded his father as printer and publisher of the "Aberdeen Journal." He married Ann, daughter of G. Campbell, H.M. Customs, and had issue, with others—I. James, of Westburn; II. John Gray, of Balnacraig House, Banchory-Ternan; 3. Margaret, wife of John Webster, LL.D., sometime M.P. for the city of Aberdeen; 4. Jane, who married Alexander Nicol, shipowner.
- II. William M.D., Penang, married, and had issue, among others, William Chalmers, D.D.

III. Charles, of whom afterwards.

1. Margaret, married Dr. Dyce, had issue, among others, William Dyce, R.A.
2. Catherine, married Provost Brown, had issue, besides others, Rev. Charles J. Brown, D.D., and Principal D. Brown, Aberdeen.
3. Jane, married James Littlejohn, and had issue, among others, William Littlejohn, banker, Aberdeen.
4. Elizabeth, married Rev. William H. Burns, Kilsyth, and had issue, with others, William C. Burns, Chinese missionary, and Professor Islay Burns, Glasgow.
5. Christina, married, 1802, to Rev. James Burns, Brechin (brother of Rev. W. H. Burns, Kilsyth), and had issue, Rev. James Chalmers Burns of the Free Church, Kirkliston, ex-moderator of Assembly.

XVIII. Charles Chalmers of Monkshill.

He was third son of the above James Chalmers and Margaret Douglas, was an advocate in Aberdeen, married Mary, daughter of Alexander Henderson of Stempster, Caithness, and had issue:—

- I. James Hay, advocate, Aberdeen, died unmarried 24 April, 1867.

II. Alexander Henderson, W.S., married Marjory Williamson Laing, daughter of Patrick Sinclair Laing, Esq. He died November 3, 1871.

III. William Gordon, Captain Bengal Staff Corps, died August 21, 1868.

VI. Charles David, of whom afterwards.

V. Patrick Henderson, of Avochie, advocate, married Emma Jane, daughter of Mr. Macdonell of Glengarry. He died February 17, 1889, leaving issue :—

I. Charles Hugh, born June, 1882.

II. J. W. D., born April 30, 1884, died May 6, 1886.

III. Ian P. H., born August 30, 1888.

i. Margaret Douglas.

Charles Chalmers of Monkshill died November 28, 1877, and was succeeded in Monkshill by his fourth son.

**XIX. Charles David Chalmers of Monkshill, Major-General
of Royal Artillery.**

ROTHIENORMAN, KINBRUIN, AND BADENSCOTH.

THESE lands are now in possession of Mrs. Crawford-Leslie. The mansion house was rebuilt by her father, the late Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Forbes Leslie.

The earliest notice of the property of Rothienorman to be found is about the year 1362. In that year, David, King of Scots, grants a confirmation charter of the lands of de Knoc and Gellestan, and of the lands of Badcasse in the tenement of Kinbeon (Kinbruin) in the barony of Rothienorman. The lands were given by William, Earl Marischal, to Ade Pyngle.¹ In 1380, Andrew de Lesly confirmed a charter by Andrew Garviach, Lord of Caskieben, to Stephen Cherie, his son-in-law, and Margaret, his wife, of the lands of Kinbruin and Bادهchashe in the barony of Rothienorman.²

Norman Leslie, in 1390, receives a charter under the great seal from Robert III., as son and heir of Andrew Leslie, of the lands of Cushney and Rothienorman in the shire of Aberdeen. This charter seems to be mentioned in Robertson's "Index of Lost Charters."³

In 1459, King James II. granted a charter under the Great Seal to Andrew Leslie, Knight, son and heir of George Leslie, Earl of Rothes, of the lands and barony of Rothienorman. ⁴ Again William Lethe, second son of the late Henry Leith of Barnes, had a charter confirmed to him in 1493 of a half of the lands of Badycais with their pertinents, in the tenandry of Kinbruin and barony of Rothienorman.⁵ And in 1509 the lands of Rothienorman are annexed to the barony of Ballinbreigh, on a precept of chancery of King James IV., done at the principal manor of the lands of Rothienorman, 19 May of that year.⁶ There is also an inquest in the same year on George, Earl of Rothes, seised in the lands of Rothienorman, annexed to the barony of Ballinbreigh. In 1517, there is a charter to George, Earl of Rothes, by King James IV., of the said lands of Rothienorman, with the mill, lying within the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen. The next notice is fully a century after this, but these lands are still in the possession of the noble family of Rothes. On 9 April, 1613, John, Earl of Rothes, was served heir to James, Master of Rothes, his brother, in the lands of Rothienorman, Guisey (Cushnic), and others; ⁷ and John, Earl of Rothes, was served heir in 1642 to John, Earl of Rothes, his father, in the

¹ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 72.

² His. MSS. IV. p. 496; Ant. A. and B. III. p. 552.

³ Id. p. 503; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 594; Robertson's Index, p. 127.

⁴ Id. p. 496.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 552.

⁶ His. MSS. IV. p. 503.

⁷ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 553.

lands of Rothienorman in Fermartyn. They were united with others to the barony of Ballinbreigh.¹ In 1682, May 16, Margaret, Countess of Haddington, was served heir of tailzie, and provision to John, Duke of Rothes, her father, in the lands of Rothienorman.²

About 1723, these lands, Upper Rothie or Rothienorman, Longman's Wells, and others, were purchased by George Leslie, and Rothienorman then came into another branch of the family of Leslie, descended from the Little-Folla, Warhill, and Wardes branches of the family of Leslie of Balquhain. The following is their descent, as we learn from Leslie of Balquhain's "History of the Leslies."

William Leslie, Laird of Little-Folla,

was the second son of William Leslie, third Laird of Warhill, by his wife, Margaret Gray. He got the lands of Little-Folla in 1611, his father, William Leslie, third Laird of Warhill, having purchased them from Gordon of Tilliehoude, his son-in-law. They were then tenanted by a family of Raits, who made great opposition to the purchase. William Leslie of Little-Folla married Marjory, daughter of William Crichton, brother of Viscount Frendraught. They had issue:—

I. James, his successor.

1. Margaret, married to James Thomson.
2. Elizabeth, married to Robert Burnett.
3. Marjory, married to Patrick Adam.

William Leslie married secondly a daughter of Leith of Harthill, but by her had no issue. He died in 1657, and was succeeded by his only son,

II. James Leslie, of Little-Folla.

He was born in 1630. He married Isabella, daughter of Alexander Milne of Monkshill, and had issue:—

I. William, born 1651, his successor.

II. George, born 1655, married Isabella Cheyne, daughter of William Cheyne of Kaithen. He succeeded his brother as fourth Laird of Little-Folla.

III. James, born 1661, married Janet Rait, daughter of John Rait, portioner of Meikle-Folla, and had issue, George, who got from his uncle, Rev. William Leslie, the third Laird of Little-Folla, money, with which he bought Kinbrun and Rothienorman, as seen afterwards.

i. Janet, married to Alexander Wood, secondly to George Milne, her cousin.

James Leslie married secondly Agnes, daughter of Mr. Innes, merchant, Aberdeen, and had issue by her—I. Alexander, who died unmarried; II. Walter, who went abroad; III. Stephen, who died unmarried; i. Marjory, died unmarried.

James Leslie, the second Laird of Little-Folla, died in 1693, aged 63, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

¹ Ret. Spec. No. 262;
Ant. A. and B. III. p. 553.

² Ret. Spec. Abd. No. 452;
Ant. A. and B. III. p. 553.

III. Rev. William Leslie of Little-Folla.

When he had finished his academical studies, he went to Ireland, and was appointed to the living of Aquareagh, in the county of Fermanagh. He remained there till he was upwards of sixty-three years of age, when finding himself declining in health, and wishing to be buried in the grave of his fathers, he returned and settled at Little-Folla, the place of his nativity, in 1714. Having amassed a considerable fortune, he made it all over to his nephew, George Leslie, above-mentioned, the son of his younger brother James. He acquired in 1715 in wadset Roger's Seat and Kinbruin. He died unmarried in 1722. All the entailed property of Little-Folla went to the heir of Tailzie, his brother George; but he left everything he could to his nephew, George Leslie, of whom afterwards.

IV. George Leslie of Little-Folla.

He was previously in possession of the shadow half of Little-Folla, and succeeded to the sun half of the same on the death of his brother, Rev. William Leslie. George Leslie married Isabella, daughter of William Cheyne of Kaithen, and had issue:—

I. **William** his successor.

II. **George**, who succeeded his brother as sixth Laird of Little-Folla.

1. Agnes, 2. Margaret, 3. Janet, married to Robert Farquhar, Mains of Law.

George Leslie, fourth Laird of Little-Folla, died 21 June, 1730, aged 75 years, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. Rev. William Leslie of Little-Folla.

There were a few riggs of temple land in the township of Little-Folla of a different holding, which were not included in the entail, and which had been disposed by Rev. William Leslie, third laird, to his youngest brother James and his heirs. Rev. William Leslie bought these riggs from his cousin, George Leslie of Rothie, son and heir of James Leslie. The said William Leslie was for some time schoolmaster of Auchterless, left and went to Ireland to assist his uncle, returned, and was afterwards ordained in the Scottish Episcopal Church, and became pastor of the Episcopal congregation of Ellon. After the rising of 1715, he retired to his house at Little-Folla, where he ministered to the adherents of the Episcopal Church down to his death, on 31 July, 1743, in the 64th year of his age. He was never married, and was succeeded by his brother,

VI. George Leslie of Little-Folla.

He married Mary Leslie, third daughter of Alexander Leslie, eighth Laird of Warthill, who, on the death of her brother, Alexander Leslie, became heir-female to Warthill. They had issue:—

I **William**, born 1770, who succeeded his father as eighth Laird of Little-Folla, and his uncle Alexander as tenth Laird of Warthill.

II. George, who died unmarried.

1. Helen, married Rev. James Innes, of the Episcopal Church, Folla-Rule.

We now return to George Leslie, son of James Leslie and Janet Rait above-mentioned, and nephew of Rev. William Leslie, III of Little Folla.

George Leslie of Rothienorman.

He obtained on his uncle's death the reversionary right to Rogerseat and Kinbruin, and with the money which his uncle left him, he purchased the lands of Upper Rothie or Rothienorman, Longman's Wells, and other lands, in 1723, and to these he added the lands of Crannie, Cranabog, and Mill of Barnes in 1725. He married Margaret, daughter of James Gordon of Chapeltown, and had issue:—

I. James, his successor.

1. Margaret, married to Hugh Gordon of Mugiemoos, and had a son, who died in early manhood.
2. Elizabeth.

Mrs. Leslie died in 1737. Her husband denuded himself of the estate of Rothienorman, in favour of his son James, on his marriage in 1760, and died in 1781.

II. James Leslie of Rothienorman.

He married, in 1760, Jane Gordon, second daughter of William Gordon of Badenscoth. The said Jane and her elder sister Catharine, wife of Alexander Forbes of Blackford, being co-heiresses of Badenscoth, on the death of their only brother, James Gordon, without issue, in 1788, succeeded to that property. James Leslie of Rothie bought the half that belonged to Mrs. Forbes of Blackford, and thus the estate was united to that of Rothienorman. James Leslie also purchased in 1761 the feu-duty and superiority of the lands of Rothienorman from the Earl of Rothes, to whose family, for many generations, as above narrated, the estate of Rothienorman belonged. James Leslie had issue:—

I. James, his successor.**II. George, who succeeded his brother as fourth laird.****III. John, who died at sea.****IV. William, who died in India without issue.****V. Jonathan, sometime merchant in Dublin. He died without issue at Badenscoth.****VI. Robert, who succeeded as fifth Laird of Rothie.**

1. Margaret, 2. Grace, 3. Catharine, who all died unmarried.

In the life of Bishop Jolly, by Rev. William Walker, LL.D., we read that "Mr. Alexander Jolly, afterwards Bishop of Moray, was for sometime tutor in the family of Mr. Leslie of Rothie. His pupils were veritable sons of Anak—the six brothers averaged six feet in height—and, as a family, were usually spoken of 'as the sax and thirty feet.' 'Here's the sax and thirty feet' was the usual exclamation, as they drew

near the church door on a Sunday morning. It was natural that such pupils, living in a country house, and surrounded with temptations to sport and amusement, would be little amenable to the mild rule of the gentle Jolly. Accordingly discipline got relaxed, progress slackened, and the conscientious Jolly, despairing of ever being able to restore order and diligence, made up his mind to leave. He was spared the necessity of this extreme step by the potent intervention of Bishop Petrie, the pastor of Meikle-Folla. One day when the Bishop dined at Rothie, the housekeeper gave him a hint of the critical state matters were in. The Bishop at once acted on the hint. He stepped into the schoolroom, and learning the state of matters, he asked Mr. Jolly if he had a strap. 'Yes,' was the reply, "but I never use it." The Bishop got the strap, locked the door, and whipped all round, and left, saying he would soon be back again; but he never required to come back; the rebellion was crushed. The boys having once tasted of the quality had no desire to wake up again 'the might that slumbered in a prelate's arm.'

James Leslie, second Laird of Rothie, died in 1794, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. James Leslie of Rothienorman.

He built the house of Rothie, the predecessor of the present one. He also built the house of Kinbruin. He was never married. Being of a capricious disposition, he executed a deed of entail in 1821, entailing his whole property on his next brother George, and his heirs male, with remainder to his brother Robert and his heirs, whom failing, to his cousin, Jonathan Forbes, youngest son of John Forbes of Blackford and so on. In this entail, James Leslie passed over his brother Jonathan Leslie. He died in 1823, and was succeeded by his brother,

IV. George Leslie of Rothienorman.

According to Mr. Leslie's history, "He had a great turn for agricultural pursuit, and farmed to a great extent, thereby greatly improving the estate. He paid great attention to the breeding of cattle, so that his cattle and sheep were of a superior description, and were very much admired. Indeed, from his large experience he turned his cattle better out than most people, and was most successful in gaining prizes at the agricultural shows. He was an upright and worthy gentleman, universally beloved and respected. He was of a very hospitable disposition. It was long the custom of the Rothie family to have a large party of neighbours to dinner at 'Old Yule,' January 5. During fifty-four years, with one exception, George Leslie and William Leslie, tenth Laird of Warthill, met at Rothie on that day, and cherished their friendship at the festive board."

After a lingering illness, George Leslie of Rothie died unmarried, 12 January, 1842, and was succeeded by his brother,

V. Robert Leslie of Rothienorman.

According to the deed of entail executed by his eldest brother James, in 1821, in

preference to his next elder brother Jonathan, Robert Leslie succeeded to the estate of Rothienorman. He married Barbara, daughter of Robert Niven in Bruckhills, but had no issue.

At his death in 1861, the estate of Rothie, according to the dispositions of the entail, as above mentioned, went to his cousin, Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Forbes of 78th Highlanders, youngest son of John Forbes of Blackford. He assumed the name, and also the arms of the Leslies.

It may be remarked that though James Leslie, second Laird of Rothienorman, left six sons and three daughters, and all of them, except two, attained the goodly age of threescore years and upwards, yet not one solitary descendant exists; and the property of Rothie, after having been held by three of his sons successively, has passed from the family of the Leslies.

We now come to the family of Jonathan Forbes Leslie, the first of the family of Forbes who held the estate of Rothienorman. The following is his descent from Forbes of Auquhorthies in the parish of Tarves.

Alexander de Forbes

was a son of John de Forbes, who was called John with the black lip. He was a peer of Scotland previous to 1442. He married Elizabeth Douglas, only daughter of George, Earl of Angus, and grand-daughter of Robert II. Alexander, Lord Forbes, died in 1488, and was succeeded by his son,

II. James, Lord Forbes.

His second son was Duncan Forbes by Egidia, daughter of William, Earl Marischal. He became

III. Duncan Forbes of Corsindae.

He married Christian, daughter of Mr. Mercer of Balleg in Perthshire, and had a son, William, his successor. The Forbeses of Corsindae carried the Forbes arms with a crescent for difference, and for a crest a boar's head, with the motto, "Spe exacto."

IV. William Forbes of Corsindae,

married Margaret, daughter of ——— Lumsden of Conlan, in Fifeshire, and relict of ——— Johnston of Caskieben (now called Keith-hall). The second son of this William Forbes of Corsindae was Duncan Forbes, who became of Monymusk.

V. Duncan Forbes of Monymusk,

married Agnes Gray. His brother Robert, prior of Monymusk, alienated the church

lands to this Duncan Forbes at the Reformation. The Forbeses afterwards sold Monymusk, and were called of Pitsligo. They are now represented by Sir William Forbes, Bart. Duncan Forbes died 1584, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. William Forbes of Monymusk.

He married Lady Margaret, daughter of William, Earl of Angus. Their second son was

VII. John Forbes of Forbes-Leslie.

He married Anna, daughter of Leslie of Lindores, and relict of George Leslie of Leslie. By means of her jointure and purchasing up the debts on the estate, Mr. Forbes obtained possession of the lands of Leslie. The Forbeses rebuilt the castle of Leslie, and obtained charters of that and other lands, as united in the barony of Forbes-Leslie. This place of Leslie in Aberdeenshire, in the parish of Leslie, was the original seat of the Leslies, and gave the name to the Flemish family from whom they are all descended.

This John Forbes of Leslie married secondly Margaret Skene, daughter of Skene of Skene. The second son of this marriage was

VIII. Alexander Forbes, afterwards of Auquhorthies.

The property is in the parish of Tarves. He married, and had issue a son, Alexander, by whom he was succeeded.

IX. Alexander Forbes of Auquhorthies.

He married Anna, daughter of William Seaton of Minnes, and had issue :—

- I. John of Auquhorthies and Lethenty, born 1653. He married Barbara Skene, who died 1709. He died 1726. Their daughter Margaret married Alexander Skene of Dyce, and carried the estate of Lethenty into that family.
- II. **Alexander**, of Blackford.
- III. ——— son, born 1666; married Margaret Skene; died 1730.
- IV. Samuel, born 1667, died 1724.
- V. Timothy, born 1670, married Patience, daughter of Robert Barclay of Urie, and died 1743.
- VI. James, born 1672, married Catharine, daughter of Robert Barclay of Urie, died 1735.
 1. Barbara, born 1674, died 1746.

Their second son Alexander became of Blackford, to whom we now come.

X. Alexander Forbes of Blackford.

He was born 1657, married 1702, Helen, only daughter of Alexander Gellie of Blackford. We may mention that Blackford was for long the property of a family of the name of Gardyn or Garden.

Baldycaiss in 1330 belonged to Thomas de Gardyn. In 1417, Thomas de Gardyn is mentioned—probably of the same family; while in 1504, Gardyn de Blackfurde is present at an inquest of Walter Dempster of Auchterless. Alexander Gardyn de Blackfurde is one of the subscribers of a band in 1589 in defence of the true religion, and twelve years previous to this date, he is on the inquest of George Meldrum of Fyvie, 1377.¹ In 1594, James Gardyn, fiar of Blackfurde, a son probably of the above Alexander, the last of the Gardyns of Blackfurde, is security, along with Patrick Copland of Udoch, for three hundred merks.

For want of heirs, Blackford fell to the Crown in the time of James VI., who granted it to Sir Malcolm of Balbertie. He sold it to Adam Urquhart of Meldrum, who soon after sold it to John Gellie, who was minister of Monymusk, and was infest in the lands of Blackford in 1635, and died in 1637. His son, Alexander Gellie of Blackford, married Margaret Gordon of Badycaiss (Baldyquash), and had issue a daughter, Helen, who married Alexander Forbes, and thus brought to him the estate of Blackford.²

Alexander Forbes, the first of Blackford, died in 1712, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Alexander Forbes of Blackford.

He married, on 16 August, 1727, Elizabeth, daughter of John Asken, an English gentleman. He died 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

XII. Alexander Forbes of Blackford.

He married, 16 April, 1714, Catharine, eldest daughter of William Gordon of Badenscoth, who, along with her sister Jane, as has already been mentioned, became co-heiresses of Badenscoth. They had issue:—

I. Alexander, his successor.

II. John, who succeeded his brother.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIII. Alexander Forbes of Blackford.

He was born 22 January, 1755, died 1784, and was succeeded by his brother,

XIII. John Forbes of Blackford.

He was born 19 September, 1758; married, 9 September, 1784, Anne Margareta, daughter of Dr. John Gregory and Hon. Elizabeth Forbes, daughter of Lord Forbes. They had issue:—

¹ Privy Council Records, IV., pp. 277-9; V. p. 644; and Fyvie Papers.
Dingwall Fordyce's History of Dingwall Fordyce, p. 54.

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. John, born 1787; in the H.E.I.C.S. Bengal Engineers; died 1803 from exhaustion, having been wrecked in the "Earl of Abergaverny," Indiaman.
- III. James Keith, born 1790; married, 1817, Marian, daughter of James Brown. This James Keith Forbes died 1842, leaving one surviving son, John Gregory Forbes, surgeon in London, who married, in 1844, Harriet Elizabeth, daughter of William Macyntyre, M.D., and had issue a large family.
- IV. Charles, born 1792, died unmarried in 1843. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the 61st Regiment.
- V. Andrew, born 1793, Captain R.N., died unmarried 1847.
- VI. William Nairne was a Major-General in the Bengal Engineers, and died at sea on his passage home. He was born 1796, and married, 1836, Sarah, daughter of Charles Bartlett Greenlaw, and had issue a son and daughter.
- VII. **Jonathan**, of whom afterwards.

1. Mary Elizabeth, born 1795, married William Moir of Park, who died 1843, leaving a numerous family.

John Forbes of Blackford died 1 May, 1840. His wife died 1825. Their eldest son succeeded.

XIV. Alexander Forbes, of Blackford.

He was born 1786, married first, Margaret, daughter of Charles Bannerman. She died 1825. Secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of General Alexander Leith Hay of Leith-hall. By her he had no family; by his first wife he had issue:—

- I. John, who died young, 1820.
- II. Alexander, Ensign in the 61st Regiment of Foot. He died February 1, 1844, aged 26.
1. Mary Elizabeth, died 30 June, 1830, aged 12.
2. **Margaret**, of whom afterward.
3. Ann, died 1830, aged eight years.

Alexander Forbes died October 28, 1851, and was succeeded by his surviving daughter,

XV. Margaret Forbes-Leith of Blackford.

She married Rear-Admiral John Leith, who was son of Alexander Leith of Leith-hall, and brother of Sir Alexander Leith Hay of Rannes and Leith-hall. He was almost constantly in active service, until his return home in 1841. He died October 25, 1854, leaving issue two sons and two daughters.

- I. Alexander John Forbes Leith of Fyvie.



II. Albert Howe Leith.

1. Margaret, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling of Kippendavie.
2. Elizabeth, married to Major Gordon, Chief Constable of Aberdeenshire.

The estate of Blackford was sold in 1857. Baldycaiss was purchased by William Leslie of Warhill, and Blackford, the larger portion, was purchased by

John Paton Watson, M.A.

He was fourth son of the late George Watson, merchant, Calcutta, who died in 1828, by his wife, Ann, daughter of Rev. William Cock. Mr. Watson was born in 1824, married, in 1855, Ann, daughter of Thomas Best, Aberdeen. He was educated at the Grammar School and University, Aberdeen, of which he is a graduate in 1843. He is a magistrate, and Deputy-Lieutenant for Aberdeenshire; was formerly a merchant in China; is a member of the Oriental and City of London Clubs. He has issue:—

- I. George Best.
- II. John Dunlop.
- III. Thomas Grahame.
- IV. Andrew Vaus.
- V. Sterrit Duff.
 1. Jane Anne.
 2. Catharine Anne.

We now return to

Colonel Jonathan Forbes-Leslie.

of Rothienorman, the first of the name of Forbes-Leslie. He was, as above narrated, the seventh and youngest son of John Forbes of Blackford, and, in virtue of his cousin, James Leslie's entail, succeeded to the estate of Rothienorman on the death of Robert Leslie, the last of the Leslies of Rothie.

He was born in 1798; was Colonel of the 78th Highlanders; and married, in 1825, Margaret, eldest daughter of John Urquhart of Craigston, by whom he left issue, two daughters.

1. **Isabella**, of whom afterwards.
2. Anna Margaret, married, 1849, to Alexander Forbes Irvine of Drum, by whom she had issue, Francis Hugh Irvine, married to Mary Ramsay, daughter of John Ramsay of Barra, and has issue, two sons.

Colonel Forbes-Leslie of Rothienorman died in 1877, and was succeeded by his eldest daughter,

Isabella Crawford-Forbes-Leslie of Rothienorman.

She married Lieutenant-Colonel James Henry Graham Crawford, of the Royal Engineers, who died 1860, and has issue:—

- I. Henry, Royal Inniskillen Fusiliers, married, in 1872, Susan Annabella Edith, daughter of W. F. Hunter,—issue four sons and three daughters.
- II. Reginald James, died, in 1867, at Rouen, France.
- III. William Francis, died in Cheltenham, 1855.
 1. Margaret Elizabeth, married Alexander Morison Gordon of Newton, 1870, and has issue.
 2. Isabella, married, in 1886, Richard G. Gordon, of the King's School, Canterbury, who died 1892.

BADENSCOTH, AUCHTERLESS.

The following is the descent of Mrs. Crawford Leslie and Mrs. Admiral Forbes-Leith from the old family of Gordon of Badenscoth.

William Gordon of Terpersie

was the fourth son of James Gordon, first Laird of Lesmoir. He married a daughter of — Ogilvie of Banff, and relict of Alexander Gordon, younger of Strathavon. They had issue, besides others, a son **George**.

The said William Gordon was at the battle of Corrichie with his chief, 28 October, 1563, and, ten years thereafter, was with Adam Gordon, Laird of Auchindown, at the battle of Tillyangus, where he killed Black Arthur Forbes, brother of Lord Forbes, and champion of that surname and family. He was with the said Adam Gordon at the battle of Craibstone, near Aberdeen, and was with him also at the board of Brechin, where the said Adam was still victorious. He built the House of Terpersie, and cast a ditch about it hard on the marches betwixt him and Lord Forbes. Mr. William Gordon was forfaulted along with his chief, the Earl of Huntly, and others of the name of Gordon, for the part they took at Corrichie. He died at the House of Rannes in the Enzie, and was honourably interred in the church of Rathven. He was succeeded by his son,

II. George Gordon of Terpersie.

He married a daughter of — Ogilvy of Inverquhority, and had issue, three sons and a daughter :—

- I. William, of Terpersie.
- II. John, of Law.
- III. **Patrick**, of Badenscoth.
———, daughter, married to Cumming of Culter.

George Gordon was a great acquirer of lands. In 1600, or thereabout, he acquired Bruckles from William Meldrum of Badenscoth. Three years later, he purchased Badenscoth from the Meldrums, and in 1614, he acquired Darley from Meldrum of Iden. In 1634, George Gordon died, and was succeeded in the estate of Badenscoth by his third son,

III. Patrick Gordon of Badenscoth.

He married first, — Gardyn, a daughter of — Gardyn of Blackford; and secondly, Hon. — Ogilvie, daughter of the first Lord Banff; by her he had issue, three sons and two daughters.

I. **George**, of Badenscoth.

II. **James**, of Barnes.

III. **John**, burghess of Aberdeen.

1. —, daughter, married to John Gordon, tutor of Glenbucket. The marriage contracts of these two are in the charter chest at Rothienorman. In 1669, Agnes Gordon and her husband, the tutor of Glenbucket, gave to her father, Patrick Gordon, a deed of renunciation of the lands of Darley, which they held in security for money which had been paid up, and acknowledged in the deed. Patrick Gordon died soon after 1681, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. George Gordon of Badenscoth.

He married Helen, only daughter of Patrick Keith of Kirkton-hill, Forfarshire, by Helen Allardyce, sister of Sir John Allardyce of that ilk. They had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, who predeceased his parents before 1711.

II. **William**, who succeeded.

III. **John**.

IV. **Thomas**.

In 1705, George Gordon of Badenscoth, with his eldest son Alexander (who, as stated, appears to have predeceased his father), made bond of provision for his three younger sons—William, John, and Thomas. He was succeeded by his second son,

V. William Gordon of Badenscoth.

He married Mary, daughter of William Baird of Auchmedden. After Mr. Gordon's death, she married secondly, — Gordon of Wardhouse; and thirdly, Jonathan Forbes of Brux. He had issue one son and two daughters:—

I. **James**, his successor.

1. **Katharine**, married to Alexander Forbes of Blackford in 1754.

2. **Jean**, married to James Leslie of Rothie.

In 1728, William Gordon of Badenscoth had a charter under the great seal of Badenscoth as a barony. He was succeeded by his son,

VI. James Gordon of Badenscoth.

James Gordon was served heir by his tutor to his father, William Gordon of Badenscoth. He married Grace Hay, daughter of — Hay of Mountblairy, and, dying without issue, was succeeded by his sisters as co-heiresses. (He was alive in 1752 and 1767.¹)

VII. Mrs. Katharine Forbes of Blackford and Mrs. Jean Leslie of Rothienorman.

Mrs. Forbes' half of Badenscoth was purchased, as already narrated, by her brother-in-law, James Leslie of Rothie, who thus united the estates of Rothie and Badenscoth.

Above the door of the House of Badenscoth are the arms, crest, and motto of the Gordons, as mentioned in "Nisbet's Heraldry," thus—Azure, a Pheon betwixt three boars' heads, erased or. Crest, a stag's head, proper attired or. Motto, "Dum vigilo tutus."

There are also the initials "P. G." and the date 1644.

¹ Colonel Forbes' Notes.

AUCHTERLESS.

THE parish is bounded on the north by Inverkeithney in Banffshire, and the parish of Turriff; on the east by Fyvie; on the south by Rayne and Culsalmond. It had for its patron saint, St. Donan, abbot, whose staff, according to Dempster, who was a native of Auchterless, was kept in the parish, and was used for curing fever, jaundice, &c., but was unfortunately broken by the Reformers.¹

The Church of Ochtilres with the pertinents was confirmed by Pope Adrian IV. in the year 1157 to Edward, Bishop of Aberdeen.¹

The Rector of Auchterless was chantor of the Cathedral of St. Machars, Old Aberdeen; but though he held a very high position, the names of very few have come down to us.

Malcolm, parson de Auchterless, is witness in 1211 to a charter of William Comyn, Earl of Buchan, regarding the church of Bethelnie. After him there is a silence of centuries.²

William Robertson, Presbyter at Auchterless, witnesses, in 1545, a sasine of William Meldrum, son and apparent heir of George Meldrum of Fyvie.³

Robert Allardes in 1547 is vicar of Auchterless, and in that year is witness to a deed of Elen Paterson's.⁴

After the Reformation we find a namesake of the above Robert Allardes as reader in 1567. He may have conformed.

John Rechie was reader of Auchterless from 1574-1580.

Gideon Murray, M.A., was a third son of Andrew Murray of Blackbarony, and was admitted prior to 1585. He unfortunately killed a person named Aitchison, was confined in Edinburgh Castle, after which he laid aside all thoughts of the clerical profession, and was appointed chamberlain to his kinsman, Sir Walter Scott of Buccleuch. He acquired the estate of Elibank, *alias* Eliburne, 15 March, 1594, as also the property of Longshaw in 1606, and received the honour of knighthood in 1605. He was a man of parts and learning, and was much taken notice of at Court, and being a great favourite of King James VI, he was appointed by him, in 1611, Treasurer. He repaired and enlarged several of the Royal palaces, particularly Holyrood House, Falkland, Linlithgow, Dunfermline, and the Castles of Edinburgh and Dumbarton; yet there was money enough in the treasury to defray the whole expense

¹ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 6.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 560.

³ Fyvie Charters.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 457.

of the Court in magnificence. He married Margaret Pentland, and had issue two sons and one daughter :—

I. Sir Patrick Maitland, created in 1643 Lord Elibank.

II. Walter Murray of Livingstone.

1. ———, daughter, married William Scott of Harden.

Sir Gideon Murray at last fell under the displeasure of the Court, and died in 1621.

Robert Maitland was appointed in 1695. He was a member of the General Assembly in June, 1610.

William Gray was a member of the Chapter of St. Machar's Cathedral, Old Aberdeen, that, on 24 March, 1618, elected Patrick Forbes, Bishop of Aberdeen.¹ He died in 1622, and his son, Patrick Gray, was served heir to him, 17 November, 1622. The next was

John Forbes, M.A. He was promoted from being Regent in the University and King's College,² and he was admitted prior to 17 July, 1640, when he was cited before a committee at Aberdeen for not supporting the Covenant, and suspended before 20 April, 1641, which sentence was approved of by the General Assembly in 1643. He was afterwards deposed. The Parliament recommended him to the Privy Council on account of his sufferings and loyalty, for the bygone vacant stipend of Tarves.

Walter Hempseid was appointed minister of Auchterless in place of the deposed minister, Mr. John Forbes.³

Andrew Massie was translated from Drumblade prior to December 9, 1647. Subsequent to his death, his daughters Margaret and Elizabeth were served heirs-portioners.⁴

William Gray was appointed one of the Commissioners for visiting King's College, and gave twenty-two pounds towards the erecting of the new buildings there. He was translated from Auchterless to Dunse after 1 May, 1666.⁵ The next is

William Meldrum was promoted from being Regent in Marischal College; and was admitted prior to 26 April, 1671; translated to Tranent in 1672.

Henry Scougal was appointed minister of Auchterless in 1673, but was translated to the Professorship of Divinity in University of King's College in 1674. He died June 13, 1678, in his twenty-eighth year, and fifth of his ministry. He was son of Patrick Scougal, Bishop of Aberdeen. In 1677, he published "The Life of God in the Soul of Man." He left his books to the library of King's College, and five thousand merks to the office of Professor of Divinity in the said college.

Alexander Barclay graduated at King's College, 9 July, 1668; was translated from Auchterless to Peterhead in 1682.⁶

Patrick Seton was appointed in 1682, having been translated from Dyce, but was deposed for drunkenness in 1694, and went to Ireland. He married, in October, 1676, Catharine, daughter of James Wood, sometime of Grange.

1 Ret. Gen. No. 1922.

2 Orem's Hist. p. 276.

3 Spalding's Troubles, II. p. 57.

4 Ret. Gen. 540-5.

5 Records of University, pp. 216-220.

6 Fasti. Aberd.

William Johnstone was translated from Kearn, 6 May, 1697: died 1703. He married Jane Forbes, but had no issue.¹

Alexander Barclay, M.A., above-mentioned, formerly of Peterhead, was intruded prior to 12 October, 1704; but was obliged to retire.

Alexander Ross was called to Auchterless by the Presbytery, *jure devoluto*, 20 March, 1705, and ordained 8 May, 1706; died in 1729, in the twenty-third year of his ministry. He married Christian Harvey, who died 1 October, 1710, aged twenty-two; secondly, Elizabeth Ogilvie, and had issue one son and two daughters—James, Isobel, and Katharine.²

Andrew Gauld was translated to Auchterless from Kinairnie, 11 June, 1730; died 6 March, 1767, aged about sixty-nine, in the fortieth year of his ministry. Janet Thomson, his widow, died 11 April, 1770.

William Stuart, M.A., graduated at King's College, Aberdeen, 25 April, 1759; was for sometime missionary at Glenlivet; was instituted to Auchterless, 24 September, 1767, and translated to Turriff 8 June, 1774.

Alexander Rose, M.A., was translated from Drumoak, November 2, 1774. He got a new church built in 1780, and died December 7, 1810, in the eighty-fourth year of his age, and the forty-seventh of his ministry. He married first, 14 October, 1765, Sarah Gee, who died 6 February, 1789; secondly, August 5, 1790, Jean Rose, daughter of Alexander Rose of Lethenty, who died at Broomhill, near Aberdeen, 22 September, 1780. He wrote the statistical account of the parish.

George Dingwall, M.A., was born at Smallburn in the parish, where his ancestors had been for several generations. He graduated at Marischal College, April 1, 1806; was ordained 11 September, 1811; died at Uppermill while engaged in pastoral duty, January 15, 1862, in the seventy-sixth year of his age, and the fifty-first of his ministry, in the very act of making some remarks on the uncertainty of life, and referring to the many sudden deaths which had recently taken place in the neighbourhood. His deep but unobtrusive piety, profound Christian humility, transparent integrity, and total absence of sinister aims in every action of life, marked him out as a character of real excellence. He founded two bursaries, one at the school of Auchterless of the annual value of £4 10s., another at the University of Aberdeen of about £15 yearly, of which the Presbytery of Turriff are patrons, preference being given to the names of Dingwall and Forsyth, and natives of the parish of Auchterless. He wrote the statistical account of the parish of 1840.³ He was succeeded by

Alexander Gray, M.A., D.D. He graduated M.A. 1851; D.D. 1889; was appointed schoolmaster of Methlick, 1851; ordained to Holburn Church, Aberdeen, 19 March, 1857; translated to Strichen, 1858; and inducted to parish of Auchterless, 1862. He married Isabella Mair, 25 August, 1851; issue—I. John Anderson, II. Alexander, III. Thomas, IV. Marshal Lang, V. Garden Duff, VI. George; 1. Catharine, 2. Isabella, 3. Isabella Garland, 4. Jean Garden, 5. Jessie.

¹ Poll. Book I.

² Tombstone, Churchyard of Auchterless.

³ Scott's *Fasti* VI. pp. 649-50-51.

THE CHURCHYARD OF AUCHTERLESS.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care ;
No children run to lisp their sires return,
Or climb his knee the envious kiss to share.
Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke ;
How jocund did they drive their team afield ;
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke.

—*Gray.*

THERE is in this churchyard no stone of an earlier date than the end of the seventeenth century.

An old stone with raised letters, but nearly illegible, bears the inscription—"In memory ane very honest man, George Ramsay, who departed this life to a glorious eternity, 1685." There is no representative of the family now in the parish.

An Aberdeen granite stone has this inscription—"Sacred to the memory of Robert Niven, farmer, Bruckhills, who died 20 November, 1867, aged 63." His sister, Isabella Niven, was the wife of Robert Leslie of Rothie. At her death, the small property of Medaple came to the son of the said Robert Niven.

In the north-east corner of the churchyard, within an enclosure, a granite stone is thus inscribed—"The family burying-ground of John Paton Watson of Blackford. Edith died 13 June, 1869, aged 13 months."

On a tombstone, placed by Peter Gray, Seggat, to the memory of his daughter, Jane, who died 19 April, 1863, aged 16, there is the following inscription :—

Weep not for me my parents dear,
I am not dead but sleeping here ;
My glass is run, my grave you see,
I in my bloom was snatched away,
Therefore prepare to follow me.

Within an enclosure there are two tombstones, one to a family of Thomsons, thus inscribed—"George Thomson, late in Littlemill, died 19 December, 1733, aged 40. His son, William Thomson, in Mill of Seggat, died 19 May, 1781, aged 60. George Thomson, in Littlemill, died 8 March, 1790, aged 66." Mill of Seggat was in its day one of the best farms in Auchterless. The other stone bears this inscription—"William Chalmers, in Kirktown of Auchterless, was born 22 June, 1726, died 1 April, 1804. His spouse, Marjory Thomson, died 15 September, 1808, aged 80. Their son, James

Chalmers, A.M., born 26 April, 1763, died 22 July, 1846. Their son Alexander, was born 2 May, 1765, died 13 September, 1848. Their son, George Chalmers, died at Turriff, 9 April, 1852, aged 96 years." These three brothers left money to endow a school in the town of Turriff, which has since been erected. They also left legacies for the poor in various parishes, and Auchterless has an annual return of £21 or thereby from this source.

Within a railing at the south-west corner of the old church is the burial place of a family of Keith, in Netherthird, who held at one time an important position in the parish. On a slab fast crumbling to decay may be read the following inscriptions—"To the memory of James Keith, in Netherthird, born 29 September, 1758, died November, 1809. Of his mother, Christian Bisset, ———; of his daughter, Mary, who died April, 1805; of his wife, Isobel Bruce, born 1740, died 20 December, 1829; of his sister, Susan; of his son, Alexander Keith, late in Netherthird, who died 17 February, 1852, aged 77; of his daughter, Susan, who died at Turriff, February 26, 1857; also of Mrs. Alexander Fergus Keith, widow of the late Alexander Keith, who died at Banff, March 31, 1873."

A granite stone with an incised cross bears to be, "In memory of Alexander Cruickshank, farmer in Logie-Newton, Auchterless, who died August 5, 1858, aged 56. Also of his wife, Margaret Niven, who died 21 June, 1856, aged 50."

A table stone is inscribed—"By James Cruickshank, in Toukshill, in memory of George Cruickshank, in Bankhead, his father, and of Margaret Topp, his mother." She died August 26, 1769, aged 64. Here lie also the remains of the said James Cruickshank. He endowed a bursary at King's College, and another at Marischal College, of £20 or so a year, and restricted to the names of Cruickshank, Topp, or Tapp, or otherwise to accumulate. He left also handsome legacies to his friends. He died 18 January, 1811, aged 71. Inscribed in testimony of respect to the said James Cruickshank, in Toukshill, by Alexander Cruickshank, in Middlehill, his nephew, 1818."

On a table stone may be read the following—"Here sleep in the peaceful bed of her father and mother the body of Catharine, youngest daughter of Alexander Watt, in Burreldales, and spouse of Adam Gray, Peterhead. She was born 10 April, 1793; married September 17, 1814; entered life immortal July 1, 1815, leaving a son nine days old. On this memorial, which time will destroy, it would be vain to record her piety and her virtues. They are embalmed in the heart of her husband and friends, and written, as they trust, in the Book, and shall be revealed to an assembly on the day when the glorious Redeemer of fallen man shall say, 'Come, ye Blessed, inherit the Kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world.'"

Amongst a number of tombstones to the name of Jamieson is the following inscription—"To the memory of a faithful and fond mother, Margaret, widow of the late Andrew Jamieson, Turriff. She departed this life 11 March, 1847, aged 71."

"Cara anima hos fines fugit exanimisque Cadaver liquit in hoc loculo carne refecta tamen cum fidis rediens; Christi donisque referta collaudans Domnum carmina læta canet."

[Her dear soul hath passed from these earthly realms and left her lifeless body in this little spot ; but when she will return in a renewed frame bearing the graces of Christ, she will join in singing the sweet praises of the Lord.] This is the mother of Rev. George Jamieson, D.D., of St. Machar's Cathedral, Old Aberdeen.

On the north side of the old church are monuments to members of the Hatton family. On a marble slab is this inscription—"To the memory of Alexander Duff, Esq. of Hatton, born March 26, 1718, died November 3, 1764, who, to a goodness of heart, sweetness of disposition and universal benevolence, joined the social virtues of the husband, father, and friend. This marble tablet is inscribed 1765, by the Lady Anne Duff, his widow."

Another is, "To the memory of Alexander Duff, Esq. of Hatton, born 1 January, 1688, died 27 December, 1753. Also of Katharine Duff, his spouse, who died 25 December, 1758, aged 75 ; also in memory of their son, John Duff, Esq. of Hatton, born 14 January, 1727, died 2 August, 1787 ; also of Helen Duff, his spouse, born 21 June, 1744, died 8 October, 1808. There are also interred of the family here—Alexander Duff, Esq. of Hatton, their eldest son ; two sons named John ; two daughters named Bathia ; two daughters named Ann, and a daughter named Katharine."

A broken column bears the inscription—"Sacred to the memory of John, eldest son of Garden Duff, Esq. of Hatton, died April, 1829, aged 21. On the obverse side, erected by his sister, Mrs. Morison of Mountblairy."

A granite headstone has the following inscription—"In 'memory of John Grant, Esq., late Captain in H.M.'s 72nd Regiment, who died at Manor Place, Hatton, on 3 August, 1861, aged 82 ; of Mrs. Jane Gordon, his spouse, who died 17 October, 1853, in the 54th year of her age ; and of their daughter, Mary, who died 18 May, 1836, aged 7."

A Peterhead granite stone is, "In memory of Mary Lumsden, wife of Robert Jopp, farmer in Seggat, who died 5 January, 1861, aged 50 years ; of Margaret A. Jopp and Mary R. Jopp, their daughters, who died February 1, 1860, aged 19 and 11 years ; and of three infant children."

The following records the death of John Anton, farmer in Thornybank, who departed this life, May, 1779, aged 79.

Hail, happy soul, whose race is safely run,
Thy warfare ended and thy joy begun,
Thy gelid corps in sweet repose shall sleep
Till heaven's last trump shall rouse oblivion's sleep ;
When fresh renewed thy sacred dust shall rise,
Resume its form and hail its native skies.
Of love and duty this last pledge receive,
It's all a spouse and all a son can give.

The following is in memory of a family of Barclays long in Knockleith, who are probably descended from the old family of Towie-Barclay. "Here lies Adam Barclay, sometime in Knockleith, and Christian Chalmers, his spouse. He died 13 August, 1695, and she, 18 April, 1696 ; also Isobel Barclay, a daughter, and George Ellice, her

husband. She died 28 December, 1727, and he, 2 June, 1736; also William Ellice, their son, who lived at Mill of Knockleith, and Margaret Simpson, his wife. He died 17 August, 1756, aged 37, and she, 15 February, 1786."

Regarding the death of William Ellice, the "Aberdeen Journal" of the period has this notice—"William Ellice, as he was deservedly esteemed for his skill in country affairs, and the fidelity with which he discharged the trust reposed in him by his employers, his death was justly regretted." From this family of Ellice was descended the Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M.P.

Another stone is "In memory of Charles Barclay, late of Templeland, who died at Mill of Knockleith, 4 February, 1838, aged 86; also of his wife, Bathia Smith, who died at Templeland, 22 September, 1822, aged 67; and of their eldest son, James Barclay, who died at Mill of Knockleith, 18 March, 1856, aged 74." This James Barclay was a very intelligent man, and was for many years a contributor to the "Aberdeen Journal" on agricultural and other subjects.

The following inscription is on a tablet near the east of the old church—"Near this stone are deposited the remains of George Barclay, M.D., physician to the Aberdeen Infirmary, who died 20 December, 1819, aged 27; and of his infant daughter, Mary, who died on the 27 June, 1820. Endowed with a cheerful, mild, affectionate disposition; respected for his talents and acquirements, and for zeal and benevolence in his profession, his early death was the occasion not only of sorrow to his friends but regret to the community in which he lived." In the church is a lozenge-shaped stone with the inscription—"In memory of Emma, wife of George Barclay, M.D., Aberdeen, who died 24 March, 1837." Around is the inscription—"Fortitudo et Decor in jumentum ejus."

On a table stone is inscribed—"Here are interred the bodies of John Wallace, late farmer in Chapel of Seggat, who died 29 October, 1792, aged 62 years. Margaret Mair, his spouse, died March 27, 1770, aged 38. Margaret Jamieson, spouse of their son, Harry Wallace, likewise tenant in Chapel of Seggat, died April, 1837, aged 72 years. The said Henry Wallace died 29 March, 1838, aged 71. Jane Wallace, second spouse of John Wallace, died 17 June, 1839, aged 92."

A granite stone within an enclosure records the following—"In memory of Ann Lumsden, wife of Andrew Wallace, Chapel of Seggat, who died 17 October, 1873, aged 78; and of the above Andrew Wallace, who died at Chapel of Seggat, 7 January, 1881, aged 84; also in memory of their sons, James Wallace, who died at Bourke, New South Wales, Australia, 24 November, 1876, aged 41 years. And of John Wallace, M.A., M.D., Surgeon-Major H.M.'s 12th Regiment of Foot, who died at Lundi Kotel, Afghanistan, 16 July, 1879, aged 39 years." Within the church a beautiful marble tablet has also been erected to the last named.

Within an enclosure a handsome granite monument "Is sacred to the memory of William Morrison, farmer, Tollo, Inverkeithney, born there 1 January, 1810, died 18 June, 1871; and his wife, Ann Lawson, who died 6 May, 1850, aged 32 years. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.'"

Within an enclosure on a granite stone is recorded the place of interment of the Rev. George Dingwall, the faithful minister of this parish for the long period of fifty years, born at Smallburn, Auchterless, 3 March, 1785, died 15 January, 1862. The Dingwalls were in Auchterless for several generations, as is recorded on an adjoining tombstone. There is also a marble tablet in the church to Mr. Dingwall's memory, erected by the parishioners.

Within the church there is another marble tablet thus inscribed—"In memory of Louisa Clementina Duff, youngest daughter of Garden Duff of Hatton and Louisa Dunbar, who died at Norwood, 16 March, 1883, in her 73rd year. 'Absent from the body, present with the Lord.'"

On the outside of the new church on a stone which was formerly in the old one is this inscription—"Christian Harvey, spouse of Mr. Alexander Ross, minister of Auchterless, who departed this life 5 October, 1710, in the 22nd year of her age; also of James, Isobel, and Katharine Ross, his children by Eliza Ogilvie, his second spouse. He died 17 January, 1729." Above the monument is a sun dial of quaint design.

The "Aberdeen Journal" of the day records the following death:—"Died on 12 January, 1755, near Chapel of Seggat, in the parish of Auchterless, Peter Garden, at the extraordinary age of 131. He retained his memory and senses till the last. He has lived under ten Sovereigns, namely, Charles I., Oliver Cromwell, Richard Cromwell, Charles II., James II., William and Mary, Anne, George I., George II., George III. He remembered when a boy to have been sent to the wood to cut down wood for spears in the civil wars."

THE BARONY OF AUCHTERLESS.

THE DEMPSTERS, MELDRUMS, AND DUFFS.

THE Barony of Auchterless is partly in Buchan district and partly in Formartine; but very probably was entirely in the great Thanage of Formartyn, which extended from the smaller Thanage of Conveth eastward to the sea.

It is found mentioned at an early date, for, in 1249-1286, in the time of Alexander III., it occurs in the rental of the Crown lands of Aberdeenshire. The reddendo of the barony of Auchterless is set down as a sparrow-hawk. "Esperuarium."¹

In the fourteenth century it was owned by a family named Dempster.

In 1379, **David Dempster** of Auchterless and Caroldstone, who lived in the reign of King David Bruce, takes part in a perambulation of Marches near to Arbroath. His son Andrew got the office of Dempster of Parliament conferred on him and his heirs. The next to be found is²

II. Walter Dempster de Auchterless.

His name occurs in a charter of date 1434.³ Again we find in 1478 a son, probably of the last named,

III. John Dempster of Auchterless.

In that year, "the King confirmed a charter of John Dempster de Auchterless, in which he grants to Walter, Lord of Invermeathe, a sixth part of the barony of the same in excambion for the lands of Fortrie, Ordmydill, Muresk, and Kinermith, in the Lordship of Lathers, held by the said Walter."⁴ And in 1481, John Dempster of Auchterless and Caroldstone got a charter under the great seal of the superiority of the Lordship of Lathers, five parts of the lands of Fortrie, Ordmydill, Muresk,⁵ and the same year there is a charter of the superiority of these lands.⁶ In 1499, Irvine of Drum's son got a part of the barony of Auchterless, and in that year there is a confirmation by James IV. of a charter of John Allardes of that ilk to Alexander Irwin, son and heir to Alexander Irwin of Drum and Janet Allardes, his wife, the daughter of the said John Allardes, of two parts of the barony of Auchterless.⁷ John Dempster of Auchterless died about 1504, and was succeeded by his son,

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 560, note.

² Chartulary of Arbroath, p. 180;

Douglas' Baronage, p. 531.

³ History of Carnegies, p. 573.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 510.

⁵ Id., p. 511.

⁶ Id., p. 561.

⁷ Id., p. 560.

IV. Walter Dempster of Auchterless.

He is served heir, in 1504, to his father, John Dempster, in the land, of a third part of the barony of Auchterless with the town of Polyglessy, called the barony of Auchterless-Dempster.¹ The next to be found is

V. William Dempster of Auchterless.

In 1529, William Dempster got a charter under the great seal from King James V., in which he is styled William Dempster of Carolstone, Auchterless, and Muresk.² The next is a son of the above.

VI. John Dempster of Auchterless,

was granted a charter under the great seal of the lands of Muresk, Fortrie, Ordmydill, dated 26 November, 1533, and in the same year there is a confirmation charter by James V. of six parts of Mains of Lathers, granted by John Dempster in exchange for six parts of the lands of Muresk. There is a charter in 1541 by King James V. to John Dempster and Margaret Stewart of the third part belonging to the said John of the lands of Meikle Quisnie and Little Quisnie, of the lands of Ordley, &c., in the barony of Auchterless-Dempster.³ In 1553 there is a charter by John Dempster of Auchterless, with consent of his son and heir, James Dempster, to his third son, Archibald Dempster, of his sunny lands of Lanchebray and Hassiewells, in the barony of Auchterless-Dempster. From the above two charters, we find that John Dempster was married to Margaret Stewart, and that he had at least three sons. He was succeeded by the eldest,⁴

VII. James Dempster of Auchterless.

In 1574, he received a feu charter from Walter, Abbot of Kinloss, of the lands of Killesmund and the Haughs, with the Brew House in the barony of Strathisla, and this charter was confirmed under the great seal, 8 July, 1574. James, a son of the above, had a son, John, who, on the 16 February, 1613, got a charter under the great seal of the lands of Knockleith. From this John the Dempsters of Dunnichen are descended. The next is ⁵

VIII. Thomas Dempster of Auchterless.

He received a charter under the great seal of the lands of Muresk, Ordmydill, and Auchterless, 12 February, 1588. In a charter of date 1589, he is styled Thomas Dempster, grandson and heir of the deceased John Dempster of Auchterless.⁶ In 1592

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 562.

2 Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 532.

3 Ant. A. and B. III. pp. 565-6.

4 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 566.

5 Douglas' Baronage, p. 532.

6 Id., p. 532; Ant. A. and B. III. p. 569.

there is a charter by James VI. to Thomas Dempster and Jean Leslie, his wife, in life-rent; and to Robert Dempster, their second son, of the lands and barony of Auchterless-Dempster, with the Tower, &c., and of the rights of patronage of the church of Auchterless and Inverkeithnie.¹ The following are of the same family:—

James Dempster of Knockleith.

In 1606, March 26, James Dempster is served heir to John Dempster of Knockleith, his brother, in the sunny third part of the town and lands of Knockleith, the lands of Hassiewells, &c., the sunny third part of Halltoun of Auchterless, with the sunny part of Thomastown in the barony of Auchterless-Dempster.² Also in the shady half of the whole town and lands of Logie-Auldton, and the Mill of Logie-Auldton, and in the pendicles of the same called Bus and Ladybog, within the barony of Auchterless-Meldrum. Again,

IX. Robert Dempster of Logiealton

on 26 May, 1622, is served heir of Thomas Dempster of Logiealton, advocate, his father, in the sunny part of the town and lands of Logiealton, in the barony of Auchterless.³ There is also another charter of the same year. John Dempster, third son of the above Thomas Dempster, was bred to the law, and married a daughter of Kirkcaldy of Grange. He got a charter under the great seal of a part of the lands of Logiealton, &c. This John Dempster afterwards acquired the lands of Pitliver, which became the chief title of his family. After this date the Dempsters soon parted with all their lands in Auchterless, and other parts of Aberdeenshire.

In the "Scottish Nation" by Anderson, we read—"Thoma Dempster of Muresk having squandered away the greater part of his estates, fell into vicious courses, and on April 20, 1620, he was tried and found guilty of forgery and falsehood, and was beheaded at Edinburgh in consequence."⁴

The Dempsters of Auchterless are now represented in the female line by the Dempsters of Dunnichen and Skibo.

Of the family of Dempster of Auchterless was Thomas Dempster, author of a great many works. An ecclesiastical history of the Scottish nation was published after his death; but many of the authors celebrated in this work are fabulous.

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 570.

² Ret. Spec. No. 143.

³ Id., No. 175.

⁴ Scottish Nation, II. p. 29.

Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, III. p. 457.

MELDRUM OF AUCHTERLESS.

In a retour above quoted, part of the barony of Auchterless is called Auchterless-Meldrum. It had been acquired by the Meldrum family. The chief of the name was Meldrum of Meldrum, and a descendant had Fyvie down to 1596. They were in Hatton before 1621, as appears from the following record of the Privy Council, which affords an example of the conduct of north country gentlemen under the ban of the law in those times. "November, 1621. **George Meldrum of Haltoun** had been put to the horn and denounced rebel for some failures of duty towards James Crichton of Fren draught, and other persons ; and it became necessary for the Marquis of Huntly, as sheriff of Aberdeenshire, to send a force to capture his person. James Gordon of Knockspock and George Gordon of Gowie went with a band for this purpose. At their approach, Meldrum was in the fields, but he no sooner saw them than surmising their design he fled to his house, closed the gates, and prepared to stand a siege. They, anxious to vindicate the royal authority, beleaguered the house, resolved not to leave it till they should have reduced the occupant to His Majesty's obedience. They had lain about the place for forty-eight hours, when John Innes of Crombie, hearing what was going on, came to them in the utmost possible haste, mounted on his best horse, declaring to them his desire to deal with George for the purpose of inducing him to submit. He entreated the deputies that with their allowance he might go and confer with the said George thereanent ; whereunto they very gladly yielded, seeing they sought nought but obedience. The Laird of Crombie in the meantime seemed very busy in going and coming to and frae the said George, feeding the deputies with false conceits and hopes, and sometimes with vain promises that he himself would be cautioner for the said George for the satisfaction of all his creditors, and so under this false pretence, having abused the confidence of the deputies—making them believe all that he spak—he then brought the said George Meldrum out of the house, set him upon his best horse, and put him away, to the great contempt and mocking of justice. For this contempt, the Laird of Crombie was denounced a rebel."¹

Meldrum of Reidhill, one of the same family, was hanged and quartered for burning the Tower of Fren draught.²

There are the following notices of the Meldrums of Auchterless.

George Meldrum appears to have been succeeded by

II. William Meldrum of Haltoun.

Little is known regarding him, except that he died in 1644, and was succeeded by his brother,

¹ Chambers' Domestic Annals, Vol. I., p. 527.

² Spalding's Troubles.

III. James Meldrum of Haltoun.

On 7 December, 1644, he was served heir to his elder brother, William.¹ He was succeeded by his son,

IV. William Meldrum of Auchterless-Meldrum,

who was served heir, January 10, 1682, to his father, James Meldrum of Haltoun;² and on November 27, 1691, there was a special service of William Meldrum as nearest heir of his father, James Meldrum of Haltoun, in the lands and barony of Auchterless, Meldrum, comprehending the dominical lands of Auchterless, the tower and fort, and Manor place. The retour enumerates the lands much as they are at the present day. There is also the market called St. Donan's Fair, held yearly on the said lands, with the customs, &c. And the said lands were held of the King and Queen in chief in free heritage and barony.³ He was succeeded by his brother,

V. Alexander Meldrum of Auchterless-Meldrum,

who was served heir, February 2, 1700, to his brother, William Meldrum of Haltoun, in the lands and barony of Auchterless-Meldrum. This appears to be the last of the Meldrums of Auchterless.

Soon after the above date, the above lands of Auchterless were purchased by Patrick Duff of Craigston, and they remain, as will afterwards be shown, in the possession of his descendants, the Duffs of Hatton.

The following is the descent of the Duffs of Hatton, a branch of the great family of Duff of which the Duke of Fife is chief. According to Douglas, Baird, and others, this family is descended from the old Earls of Fife, and more immediately from the Duffs of Muldavit and Craighead, of which they claim to be the representatives. The evidence on which these claims are founded requires to be reconsidered.

Adam Duff in Clunybegg,

according to Baird in his history of the Duffs, and Douglas in his Baronage, is said to be the son of John Duff of Muldavit by his second wife, Margaret Gordon. It so happens, however, that this John Duff was not twice married. Isobel Allan, his wife, long survived him. It is recorded in the Cullen books of sasine thus:—"1637. Isabell Allane, relict of John Duff of the Orchard, burgess of Cullen. Also, Isabell Allane, relict of umquhile John Duff, and Agnes Gordon, mother-in-law of Isabell

¹ Ret. Gen. No 8683.

² Id., No. 6344.

³ Ant. A. and l. III. p. 572.

Allane, and relict of John Duff, sometime of Muldavit." "There existed a Margaret Gordon, wife of a John Duff, but she was the grandmother of the husband of Isobell Allane, and relict of John Duff of Muldavit."¹ There is a precept of sasine, of date 10 April, 1573, in connection with a confirmation charter of James Ogilvie of Findlater, directed to Andrew Duff in Clunybegg. Among the witness are John Duff de Connes, Alexander Duff de Torresoul, James Gordon, son of John Gordon de Carnburro.² Another precept of sasine, of date 28 August, 1581, also of a charter to James Ogilvy, is directed to Adam (Andrew?) Duff in Clunybegg, and among the witnesses are Alexander Duff de Torresoul, and James Gordon, son of John Gordon of Carnburro. These very probably point to near relatives of Adam Duff in Clunybegg, and may be descended from the Duffs of Muldavit. **Adam Duff in Clunybegg**, according to Douglas and Baird, married Beatrix, a daughter of Gordon of Birkenburn. They had a numerous family, to whom he gave a good education, and their descendants have most of them flourished in stock and branches. Adam Duff was said to be a man of strong natural parts, and of indefatigable industry. He had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, of Keithmore.

II. John, ancestor of the Duffs of Corsindae.

III. William, Provost of Inverness, married twice; had issue, among others, a son, Alexander, who married Katharine Duff, heiress of Drummuir.

IV. George, in Edendiach.

There were other two sons. One went south and never returned again to the north, and the other was drowned in the Fiddich. Two daughters, Jane and Helen, were both married.

Adam Duff died April, 1676, and was succeeded by his son,

II. Alexander Duff of Keithmore.

He was born in 1623. He was an officer under Montrose in all his campaigns of 1644, 1645, and 1646. In the beginning of 1649 or 1650, he married Helen Grant of Alathy, sister of Archibald Grant of Ballintomb, who was ancestor of the Grants of Monymusk. Keithmore, according to Baird, was a little man, and in the decline of life became very corpulent. He was a very judicious, frugal man, and though abundantly active, a great part of his success in money making is ascribed to his wife, one of the most industrious, painstaking women of the age. She was a sturdy, big-boned woman, and at last became so stout and bulky, that she required, it is said, two ells of plaiden to make her a pair of hose, and that at one time, when she threw herself hastily on the chair, without taking notice that the house cat was lying upon the seat, she so effectually pressed it, that it never wagged a foot more!

Keithmore and his wife amassed a considerable fortune, and died possessed of a large land rent. Besides large purchases of land made by himself, his son Braco, added much to the family estates. They had issue:—

¹ Dr. Cramond in *Genealogist*, Aug. 1889.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. 1567-1573, No. 251, 1581, No. 125.

- I. **Alexander**, his heir, afterwards of Braco.
- II. **William**, of Dipple.
- III. **Patrick**, of Craigston, of whom afterwards as of Hatton.
 1. Margaret, married James Stuart of Lesmurdie.
 2. Jean, married to George Meldrum of Crombie and minister of Glass.
 3. Mary, married to Alexander Fraser, physician, to whom she had one daughter, Helen, married to Alexander Hay of Rannes, secondly, to Thomas Tulloch of Tannachie.

Mr. Alexander of Keithmore died in 1700, aged 76. His rental and that of his son exceeded 40,000 merks.

III. Alexander Duff of Braco.

He was born about 1650. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir, Bart., by whom he had issue :—

- I. **William**, of Braco, his successor.
 1. Margaret, married to Mr. Gordon of Glengarrick.
 2. Helen, married to William Gordon of Farskane.
 3. Mary, married to Alexander Abercrombie of Tilliebody, advocate.

After his education at school and college, Mr. Alexander Duff attended a writer to the Signet's office in Edinburgh, practised as a law agent himself, and retired to the country in 1675. He sat long in the Scotch Parliament as representative of the county of Banff. He exerted himself much in ridding the country of robbers and thieves, and was the means of bringing to justice the famous freebooter Macpherson, who was hanged at Banff. He made, as already mentioned, many great additions to the family estate in his father's lifetime, and aided his father in managing the noble estate of Balvenie. Mr. Baird adds—"He was very careful of the pence, believing that the pounds would take care of themselves." A sturdy beggar having heard that he had found a halfpenny on the streets of Banff, came up to him craving an alm and saying, "God bless you, Braco, gies a bawbee, and if ye winna gies a bawbee of yer ain, gies the bawbee that ye fand." "Fin' a bawbee to yersel'," quo' Braco, and moved on. He made many great additions to his estates in Banffshire, from the fact that there were then a very great number of small heritors in Banffshire deeply sunk in debt. Braco bought up these estates, some from the proprietors; but acquired many of them by buying up their debts, by adjudications, comprisings, and other slump imperfect rights on their land. His accession of territory was so rapid that he looked as if he would soon be alone in the face of the country. According to Mr. Baird, the Earl of Kintore of the time is said to have added a petition to his devotions, "O, Lord, keep the Hill of Foudland between me and Duff of Braco!" He died 1705, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. William Duff of Braco.

His wife was Helen Taylor, by whom he had an only surviving daughter, Margaret, married, 1721, in her 12th year, to Patrick Duff of Premnay; secondly, in 1768, she was married to Udney of Udney. William Duff of Braco, according to Mr. Baird, was a very benevolent gentleman, adored by his servants. He died in 1718 without male issue, when the representation devolved upon his uncle,

V. William Duff of Dipple and Braco.

He was the second son of Alexander Duff of Keithmore, and grandson of Adam Duff, Clunybegg, heir male of tailzie of his nephew, William Duff of Braco; succeeded accordingly, and married first, Jean Gordon, daughter of Sir George Gordon of Edin-glassie; by her he had one son:—

I. William, afterwards Lord Braco.

1. Helen, married to William Sutherland of Roscommon, brother to Kenneth, third Lord Duffus.
2. Katharine, married to her cousin, Alexander Duff of Hatton.
3. ———, married to Alexander M'Intosh of Blevie, and had twenty-two children.
4. Elizabeth, married to Thomas Donaldson of Kinnairdie.

He married secondly, in 1703, Jane, youngest daughter of Sir William Dunbar of Durn, and by her had one son and four daughters.

II. Alexander, died 1721, aged 5.

5. Anne, married to Willam Baird of Auchmedden, the author of a history of the Duffs, so frequently quoted in this deduction. It is a pleasant and admirable family history.
6. Janet, married to Sir James Kinloch of Kinloch, in Perthshire.
7. Mary, married to Lieutenant General James Abercromby of Glassaugh.
8. Henrietta, died unmarried. According to Mr. Baird, she refused many good marriages, and was one of the most accomplished women of her time, being endowed with every virtue that could adorn her sex.

William Duff of Dipple, afterwards of Braco, died in 1722, in the 69th year of his age. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. William Duff of Braco.

He was born in 1697, and married first, Janet Ogilvie, daughter of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield; but she died soon after in 1721, s.p. He married, in 1723, Jean, daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, by whom he had a numerous issue.

He was a member of the British Parliament for the county of Banff. He was created Lord Braco by George II. in 1735, and Earl of Fife and Viscount Macduff in the

Peerage of Ireland, 1759. He died in September, 1763, leaving by his second marriage :—

- I. William, born March, 1724, died in September, 1751.
- II. **James**, second Earl of Fife.
- III. **Alexander**, of Echt, third Earl of Fife.
- IV. Peter, died in infancy.
- V. George, married to Frances, a grandchild of General Dalzell, by whom he got a good fortune—issue a son George.
- VI. Lewis, a Captain of the Eighth Regiment of Foot, married Miss Davis of Harwich.
- VII. Arthur, an advocate.
 1. Lady Anne, married to Alexander Duff of Hatton.
 2. Janet, married to Sir William Gordon of Park, who is said to have eloped with her from Rothiemay House. She bore to him two sons, who were both in the army. She married secondly, George Hay of Mountblair (see Gordons of Park, under article Cobairdy).
 3. Jane, married to Keith Urquhart of Craigston, and had issue.
 4. Helen, married to Captain Robert Duff of Logie, ancestor of Duffs of Fetteresso.
 5. Sophia Henrietta, married 7 April, 1757, Thomas Wharton, Esq.
 6. Katharine, died at Edinburgh in 1761, much regretted.
 7. Margaret, married to James Brodie of that ilk, Lord Lieutenant of Nairn. She was accidentally burned to death, April 24, 1786.

His Lordship died September 30, 1763, at Rothiemay, and was succeeded by his surviving son,

VII. James, II. Earl of Fife.

He was created a peer of Great Britain, 19 February, 1790, by the title of Baron Fife.

His Lordship married Lady Dorothea Sinclair, only child of Alexander, ninth Earl of Caithness, but dying without male issue in 1809, the barony of Fife expired, while the other honours devolved on his brother,

VIII. Alexander, III. Earl of Fife.

He was born 1731; married 17 August, 1775, Mary, daughter of George Skene, Esq. of Skene, and had issue :—

- I. **James**, his successor.
- II. Sir Alexander, K.C.B., of Delgaty Castle, a General in the army, Lord-Lieutenant and Sheriff-Principal of Morayshire; married, March, 1818, Anne, youngest daughter of James Stein of Kilbagie, and died March,

1851, leaving issue by her, who died February 4, 1859 :—**James**, V. Earl, George Skene, M.P., Catharine, married, 11 August, 1841, John L. Ricardo, Esq., M.P.; Louisa, married, 12 December, 1848, Richard Brooke, Esq., eldest son of Sir Richard Brooke, Bart.

1. Jane, married to Major A. J. Tayler, Esq., R.F., and died 22 May, 1850—issue—I., W. J. Tayler, of Glenbarry, married to Georgina Lucy Duff, and had issue. II. Captain Tayler, and several other sons and daughters.
2. Ann, married 1809, Richard Wharton of Orton, and died 24 January, 1829.
3. Sarah, married 1807, to Daniel Collier, Esq., and died 1811.
4. Mary, died young.

His Lordship died 17 April, 1811, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. James, IV. Earl of Fife,

K.T., G.C.H., Knight of the Order of St. Ferdinand of Spain, and of the Sword of Sweden, born October 5, 1776. He obtained a barony of the United Kingdom as Baron Fife, April 27, 1829. His Lordship married, September 9, 1799, Mary Caroline, daughter of John Manners, Esq., by Louisa, Countess of Dysart, who died 20 December, 1805, by whom, he had no issue. The Earl distinguished himself during the Peninsular war, having volunteered his services and obtained the rank of Major-General in the patriotic army of Spain. He was wounded at the battle of Talavera, and again at the storming of the fort of Matagorda near Cadiz. Lord Fife was for some time attached to the Court of George IV., but after a time retired. Having seen life in all its phases, he withdrew to Duff House, and spent the remainder of his days in deeds of beneficence and kindness. Many good stories could be told of his Lordship. At the time of the Disruption in 1843, having more than thirty kirks in his gift, and many at that time at his disposal, the number of applicants was very great. Some came with an extraordinary number of certificates in their favour. Seeing the long list of one candidate, his Lordship is said to have remarked, "Ah, something wrong there; too many flannels!" A village doctor in the neighbourhood of his estates had a brother a probationer, an aspiring applicant for a vacant kirk, and the doctor wrote that he and his brother were coming to Duff House, on a certain day, to have an interview with his Lordship on the subject. Lord Fife received them very politely, and entertained them from noon to dusk fighting all his old battles in the Peninsula over again; but took care never to say nor let them say a word about a kirk!

The minister of ——— once wrote his Lordship for a subscription to the various schemes of the Church of Scotland, including the one for the Conversion of the Jews. Lord Fife sent five pounds to be divided amongst so many of the schemes in such proportions as should be deemed most proper. He, however, especially excluded the last-mentioned scheme, remarking that he had already given enough to the Jews!

Two sons of tenants applied for the school of Macduff, now the public school, and it

was resolved that they should be examined in order to know the merits of the candidates. An examination was held, when the one candidate was found to be superior in Greek while inferior to the other on general subjects. The result being communicated to his Lordship, he resolved that the superior general scholar should be appointed, remarking that "the folk of Macduff could do without Greek!" It happened, however, that the Banff Academy became vacant, when his Lordship recommended that the superior Grecian should now be appointed. Both his Lordship's protegès were worthy of his kind patronage, for the one became a professor of Greek in a colonial university; the other a highly respected parish minister, while both received the highest honours their university could confer on them.

Lord Fife had on his lands a great many small crofters. About seventy years ago, it was considered in the interest of proprietors to add small crofts to large farms, and thus save the expense of building houses, and the result was that many poor people were evicted from their holdings, and had no home left them. Lord Fife had compassion on these poor people; and having large tracts of unoccupied land on his property, he gave them crofts on these, built houses, and assisted them in reclaiming the land by trenching, draining, and liming, &c. So many applications had his Lordship, that he is said to have written a neighbouring peer not to send his people away faster than he could take them in.

His birthday, on the 5th of October, was celebrated with great enthusiasm throughout the length and breadth of the immense Fife territories. All loved and honoured him, and when the tomb closed over James, fourth Earl of Fife, perhaps the greatest of his name and race, many felt that a friend and benefactor was removed, on whose like they would never again look.

He died 9 March, 1857, and was succeeded by his nephew,

X. James, V. Earl of Fife,

who was born July 6, 1814. He married the Lady Georgiana Elizabeth Hay, daughter of William George, seventeenth Earl of Erroll, by the Lady Elizabeth Fitzclarence, daughter of William IV. He was for many years M.P. for Banffshire, and was created a peer of the United Kingdom by the title of Baron Skene of Skene; had issue:—

I. Alexander William George, now Duke of Fife, born 10 November, 1849.

1. Anne Elizabeth Clementina, born 1847; married, 1865, John Villiers Stuart, sixth Marquis of Townshend, and has issue.
2. Lady Ida Louisa Alice, born 1848, married first, 1867, Adrian Hope, Esq. This marriage was dissolved in 1873. She married secondly, 1880, William Wilson, Esq.
3. Lady Alexina, born 1851; married, 1871, H. A. Coventry, Esq.; she died s.p.

4. Lady Agnes Cecil Emmeline, born 1852; married first, 1871, George Robert, Viscount Dupplin, which marriage was dissolved in 1876. She married secondly, 1876, Herbert Flower, Esq., who died 1880. His Lordship died 1879, and was succeeded by his only son,

XI. Alexander William George, VI. Earl of Fife, II. Baron Skene.

He was created in 1885, Earl of Fife of the United Kingdom, and in 1889, Duke of Fife and Marquis of Macduff. He married, 1889, Princess Louise Victoria Dagmar, V.A., eldest daughter of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and has issue.

We now return to the

Duffs of Hatton.

Patrick Duff of Craigston, third son of Alexander Duff of Keithmore, and grandson of Adam Duff of Clunybegg, married first, ——— Innes, daughter of Innes of Edengight; by her he had thirteen children. He married secondly, Mary Urquhart, by whom he had twenty-three children. He thus, by his two wives, had thirty-six children. The following are the most of the thirty-six children who came to maturity.

- I. **Alexander**, of Hatton, of whom afterwards.
- II. John, Provost of Elgin. He married his cousin, Margaret Gordon, daughter to Gordon of Farskane, by whom he had three sons and one daughter.
- III. William, settled as merchant in Banff about 1716. He married Bathia Garden, daughter of Alexander Garden of Troup, by whom he had a numerous issue.
- IV. Patrick, of Premnay, so called from an estate in the Garioch, which he first purchased and afterwards sold, but always kept the title. He married Margaret Duff, his cousin Braco's daughter and only child, then only eleven years of age. She married after his death, Udny of Udny. She founded, in 1791, a bursary in King's College. Besides Premnay, Patrick Duff had the lands of Culter on Deeside, where he died in the year 1763.

These four sons were by the first marriage. Of his numerous children by his second marriage, few reached middle age.

- V. James, to whom his father left the lands of Craigston and Castletown in King-Edward. He married, in 1732, Helen Abercromby of Glassaugh, by whom he had an only daughter, Helen Duff, who married Dr. Clarke, an eminent physician in Edinburgh. James Duff died in June, 1734. On his death, Castletown went to his daughter Helen, by whose husband, Dr. Clarke, it was sold to Urquhart of Craigston, and Craigston went by entail to Archibald Duff, the next brother.

VI. Archibald, of Craigston, who was long in the service of the Swedish East India Company in Bengal. He sold Craigston to Captain John Urquhart of Cromarty, his uncle. Archibald Duff died 175—.

VII. Robert, of Logie, a good naval officer, from whom the Duffs of Fetteresso are descended.

VIII. Adam, merchant in Aberdeen, and one of the baillies of the city.

1. Margaret, married Alexander Gordon of Gight, born May 3, 1710, died at Gight, January 24, 1761. They had nine sons, and three daughters. George, their eldest son, had an only child, Catharine, who married Captain John Byron, the father of Lord Byron, the poet.

2. Jane, married to her cousin, John Innes of Edengight, 1720. The rest of the thirty-six died young.

Patrick Duff died 1731, and his eldest son succeeded to Hatton.

II. Alexander Duff of Hatton, Knockleith, and Balquholly.

He married his cousin, Katharine Duff, daughter of William Duff of Dipple, afterwards of Braco, and father of the first Earl of Fife. He bought, in 1719, the estates of Balquholly, in the parishes of Turriff and Mouquhitter, which for many generations belonged to the Mowats (de Monte Alto). He also purchased several estates in Forgue from Theodore Morison of Bognie, Balnoon from Ogilvie of Inchmartine, Downies, Auchinhamper, Rothmaise. Mr. Alexander Duff was a very judicious man, and did much to improve the property and the welfare of his tenantry. He had the following issue :—

I. **Alexander**, of Hatton.

II. **John**, who succeeded his brother Alexander.

III. **James**, of whom afterwards.

1. Jane, married, 1747, to James Abernethy of Mayen, died at Dunkirk, December 10, 1771, leaving three sons and six daughters.

2. Helen.

Mr Alexander Duff of Hatton died December, 1756, aged 65, and was succeeded in Hatton by his son,

III. Alexander Duff of Hatton.

He married, in 1745, his cousin, Lady Anne Duff, daughter of William, first Earl of Fife. He died from the effects of an accident in 1764, leaving a daughter, Jean Duff, who married Sir James Grant of Grant, by whom she had two sons, Ludovic, Alexander, and a daughter Ann. He was succeeded by his brother,

IV. John Duff of Hatton and Drumblair.

He married his second cousin, Helen Duff, daughter of Patrick Duff of Whitehills, by his wife, Clementina, daughter of Hay of Rannes. He died 1787, leaving issue :—

- I. **Alexander**, who succeeded him.
- II. **Patrick**, who succeeded Alexander.
- III. **Andrew**, who succeeded Patrick.
- IV. **Garden**, who succeeded Andrew.

John Duff of Hatton was succeeded by his son,

V. Alexander Duff of Hatton.

He married ——— Leslie, daughter of Leslie of Melross. He had issue two daughters :—

- 1. Mary.
- 2. Helen.

Mary Duff was a sweetheart of Lord Byron. In a journal written in 1813, he thus speaks of her. "I have been thinking a great deal about Mary Duff. How very odd that I should have been so utterly, devotedly fond of that girl, at an age, when I could neither feel passion nor know the meaning of the word. I remember, too, our walks, and the happiness of sitting by Mary in the children's apartment in their house, not far from the Plainstones of Aberdeen, while the lesser sister, Helen, sat playing with her doll, while we sat gravely making love in our way."¹

He alluded to her in the poem, "When I roved a young Highlander."

"No feeling save one to my bosom was dear,
Need I say, my sweet Mary, 'twas centered in you."

Alexander Duff having no sons, the entailed estate passed to his brother,

VI. Patrick Duff of Hatton.

He never married, and died in 1801, aged thirty-five years, and was succeeded by his next brother,

VII. Andrew Duff of Hatton.

He died unmarried in 1819, and was succeeded by his brother,

VIII. Garden Duff of Hatton.

He married, in 1805, Louisa, daughter of Sir Benjamin Dunbar of Hempriggs, who assumed the title of Lord Duffus. He rebuilt Hatton Castle, and made it his residence, instead of the old manor house in Auchterless, where his family had hitherto lived. Hatton Castle had previously been called Hatton Lodge, and was used as a dower house. Part of the old Castle of Balquholly was incorporated with the present building. Mr. Garden Duff of Hatton had the following issue :—

- I. John, born 1807, died unmarried 1828.
- II. Benjamin, born 1808, married, 1835, Helen Emma Haynes, and had issue a son and daughter.

¹ Anderson's Byron, Vol. I. p. 51.

III. **Garden William**, born 1814, who succeeded.

IV. Robert George, married, 1845, Mary Astley ; issue, three sons and one daughter.

V. James, born 1820 ; married, 1855, Jane Bracken Dunlop, and has issue, six sons and eight daughters.

1. Janet, born 1806 ; married, 1836, Alexander Morison of Bognie, died 1883.

2. Helen, born 1809 ; married, 1834, James Buchan of Auchmacoy ; issue, one son and a daughter.

3. Louisa Clementina, born 1811, died 1863.

Mr. Garden Duff died in 1858. His wife, Louisa, in 1865. He was succeeded by his son,

IX. **Garden William Duff of Hatton.**

He married first, Douglas Maria Urquhart, daughter of Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart of Meldrum, a family which represents the Meldrums, the Setons, and the Urquharts of Meldrum. By her he had issue :—

I. **Garden Alexander**, now of Hatton.

II. George, died 18—.

III. Beauchamp, born 1858 ; married, 1877, Grace Wood.

1. Annie Louisa, born 1851.

2. Louisa Henrietta, born 1852, married to Colonel Pollard Urquhart of Craigston.

3. Janet Douglas, born 1856 ; married, 1886, Alexander L. Duff, R.N.

4. Douglas Mary, born 1859.

He married secondly, Jean, daughter of John Cook, Esq. By her he had issue :—

IV. Walter Garden, born 1863.

5. Mary, born 1864.

6. Bertha Hope, born 1866, married to Alan Colquhoun Duff, Indian Civil Service.

Mr. Garden William Duff died 1866, and was succeeded by his son,

X. **Garden Alexander Duff of Hatton.**

He married, in 1878, his cousin, Anne Isabella Urquhart, only daughter of Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart of Meldrum and Byth, by Isabel, daughter of Mr. Fraser of Braelangwell ; issue :—

I. Garden Beauchamp, born December, 1879.

II. Patrick Beauchamp.

We now return to the descent of **James Duff**, third son of Alexander Duff of Hatton, by Katharine Duff, daughter of William Duff of Dipple (see No. II). He was sheriff-clerk of Banffshire ; married Helen Skene, daughter of George Skene of Rubislaw, by whom he had two sons and one daughter ; secondly, to Margaret Dunbar

of Kincorth, niece to Sir William Dunbar of Durn. The first Mrs. Duff died leaving a son only a few weeks old, viz.—

II. George Duff,

who was born in 1764, and from his earliest years had a strong predilection for the sea. When only a boy, in hours of play, he was always found either among the shipping in the harbour of Banff, or in boats on the Deveron. As a boy he was sprightly, active, and enterprising. Finding his father adverse to his going to sea, he endeavoured, when nine years old, to make his escape, by concealing himself on board a small merchant vessel. He was afterwards sent to join his grand-uncle Commodore (afterwards Admiral) Robert Duff, who commanded at Gibraltar, with his flag on board the "Panther," of sixty guns, in September, 1777. He had been in fourteen engagements during the American war before he was seventeen years of age; and in consequence of his services, he was at that early age made a lieutenant. He served in the "Montagu" of seventy-four guns, in the many encounters which our fleet had with the French, till the glorious 12th of April, 1782, when the Count de Grasse, then Commander-in-Chief in the "Ville de Paris," of a hundred and two guns, probably the largest ship in the world at that time, and four other ships were taken, and brought to Jamaica by our victorious fleet.

In 1790, Lieutenant Duff, through the interest of the Duke of Gordon, was appointed Captain of the "Martin," sloop upon the coast of Scotland. Soon after his promotion, Captain Duff married Sophia, daughter of Captain Dirom of Muireisk, to whom he had been from childhood attached, and fixed his residence in Edinburgh.

Upon the breaking out of the war in 1793, he was one of the very few who were appointed past Captains, and he went on an expedition to the West Indies as Captain of "The Duke," of ninety guns, bearing the flag of the Hon. Commodore Murray. This ship led the attack on the batteries of Martinique; but was unfortunately struck by lightning, and had to be sent home to be repaired. He was soon after appointed to the command of the "Ambuscade," frigate of thirty-two guns, and served on her in the North Seas, and on the coast of Ireland until 1801, when he was appointed to the "Vengeance," of seventy-four guns. In 1804, a general promotion in the navy took place, and Captain Duff was appointed to the command of the "Mars," of seventy-four guns, and immediately proceeded to join her off Ferrol. He was afterwards detached to Cadiz, under Vice-Admiral Collingwood.

Vice-Admiral Lord Nelson having in the end of September returned from England to resume the command upon that most important station, made a disposition of his increased force into two divisions, one of which was led by himself, and the other by Vice-Admiral Collingwood, Admiral Louis having been detached to the Mediterranean with seven sail of the line. Captain Duff had the honour upon his departure, though there were senior Captains in the fleet, to be appointed to command the advance or inshore squadron of four sail of the line. From the time the enemy began to come out of Cadiz on the 19 September, he was almost constantly employed in repeating signals from the frigates to the fleet. He followed and kept sight of the enemy, and continued

making signals till the memorable morning of the 21st, when it became certain that the enemy's fleet could not escape. The signal was made for the squadron to return, and take their place in the order of battle. The signal was made for the "Mars" to lead the lee division of our fleet, and to break the enemy's line. Captain Duff knowing that his ship sailed ill, ordered every stitch of canvas to be instantly set, and in the meantime, while bearing down on the enemy, he went through the ship to see that everything was in readiness for action, and spoke to the officers and men in every part of the ship, giving them directions. Notwithstanding every exertion, the "Mars" was passed by the "Royal Sovereign," bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Collingwood; then the "Belleisle" also shot ahead, and were in action a few minutes before the "Mars," each ship breaking through a different part of the enemy's line. The wind which had been light, then became uncertain, and prevented the ships from closing immediately with the enemy; so that the few who were first engaged were in a manner surrounded, and had for some time to sustain a most severe conflict. There was a French ship on each side of the "Mars," and a Spanish, a first-rate, on her bow, and a fourth ship also within range of shot. The ship on her starboard quarter, the "Fougeux," was soon disabled, and it was thought she had struck; but her colours had only been shot away, and she never ceased to fire. The Captain of Marines on the poop seeing that the "Fougeux" in dropping to leeward was getting into position, which would enable her to rake the "Mars," and that she was preparing to do so, came down to the quarter-deck to mention it to Captain Duff. The want of wind rendered it impossible for him to alter the position of the "Mars," nor could it with safety be attempted in regard to the enemy's ships. Captain Duff therefore said to the Captain of Marines, "Do you think our guns would bear on her?" He said, "I think not; but I cannot see for smoke." Then, said Captain Duff, we must point our guns where they can bear, and I shall go and look. Captain Duff went to the quarter-deck to look over the side, and then told his aide-de-camp, Mr. Arbutnot, to go below and order the guns to be pointed more aft against the "Fougeux," which raked the "Mars." A cannon ball killed Captain Duff, and the two seamen who were immediately behind him. The ball struck the Captain on the breast, and carried off his head. His body fell on the gangway, where it was covered with a spare flag, a Union Jack, till after the action. The battle now raged in its utmost fury, and both fleets were enveloped in smoke, while the carnage on both sides, particularly on that of the enemy, was immense. About the same time that gallant Duff fell, Captain Cooke, the companion of his youth, was killed in the Bellerophon, and their Commander-in-Chief, Lord Nelson, was mortally wounded in the "Victory." The "Mars" continued engaged during the whole action, frequently with fresh ships; but suffered from none so severely as the "Fougeux," which continued to drift, until she was engaged by others of our ships, and finally captured by the "Temeraire."

Captain Duff was a man of fine stature, strong, and well made, above six feet in height, and a man of open benevolent countenance. During thirty years service he had

not been four years unemployed. He was much beloved by the men in the service, and he acted the part of a father to the numerous young men under his command.

In acknowledgment of his heroism at Trafalgar, the gold medal, which he otherwise would have worn, was presented to his family; as also was an elegant urn from the Patriotic Society. An honourable augmentation was also granted to his son's arms. By his wife he had five children :—

I. Admiral Norwich, of whom afterwards.

1. Mary Ann Fotheringham, died 1794, in infancy.
2. Jemima, died 1799, in infancy.
3. Georgina Helen, born 1803, died 1831.
4. Ann Margaret, born 1804, died 1827.

III. Admiral Norwich Duff,

the son of the above, when only thirteen years of age, had joined his father a short time before his death. After the battle of Trafalgar, in which he took part, he successively joined the "Eurylaus," of thirty-six guns, and the "Ajax," of seventy-four guns, both commanded by Captain Hon. Henry Blackwood, and was on board the latter ship until the moment of her destruction by fire, near the Island of Tenedos, 14 February, 1817. Obtaining afterwards a midshipman's berth in the "Active," of forty-six guns, he was present at the ensuing passage of the Dardanelles, where he served in the boats at the destruction of a formidable Turkish battery on Point Presques. He subsequently witnessed the capture on 26 March, 1808, of the "Friedland," Venetian brig of war. He was present at the memorable action of Lissa, when a British squadron, carrying on the whole 156 guns and 879 men, utterly routed, after a conflict of six hours, with a loss to the "Active" of four killed and twenty-four men wounded, a Franco-Venetian armament, whose force amounted to 284 guns and 2655 men. Mr. Duff had been officially promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, 14 November, 1811, and appointed to the "Active," but was afterwards promoted to the rank of Captain, and as such took part in expeditions to Washington, Baltimore, New Orleans, &c. He returned on half-pay in 1822. He married, 10 June, 1833, Helen Maria Shoolbred, and had issue :—

I. Edward Alexander James.

II. Adam Gordon, born 1849.

1. Helen Sophia, married William Trevor Griffith Boscowter, Trevelyan Hall, Wrexham.
2. Georgina Lucy, married W. J. Tayler, Esq. of Glenbarry, Rothiemay House, and has issue.
3. Henrietta Anne, died 14 November, 1879. Of this gifted lady, the "Academy" says—'Miss Duff wrote both prose and verse with grace and finish. Her stories and essays combined tenderness and quiet humour. She may be said to have belonged to and taken high rank in the school of

which Miss Thackeray is chief. Her published work was not great in quantity; but it was always careful and excellent. She contributed to the "St. James's Magazine" in 1875, "My Imperialist Neighbour." She also contributed to "Temple Bar," to the "Whitehall Review," and to many other periodicals. In 1878, Miss Duff published "Virginia: a Story of Modern Rome," and a novel called "Levander"; also another called "Honor Carmichael." The notice thus concludes: Many will miss with regret the charming sketches in prose and verse, which made the signature "H. A. D.," welcome and familiar.'

4. Louisa Eliza.

THE CHAPEL OF SEGGAT.

NEAR the farm which bears this name stood the Chapel of Seggat, but beyond a small portion of a wall covered with ivy, there are no remains, and the site of the burying-ground is used as a vegetable garden.

Near the chapel is a famous well dedicated to St. Mary, to which pilgrims in days of old resorted, drank its waters, and made an offering. In the words of Dr. Pratt applied to another well, we may say :—

In simple times, when simple folks
Had faith in simple spell,
How many sought thy healing spring,
O, good St. Mary's Well !
St. Mary's waters still give back
The sparkling rays of noon ;
But who believes their mystic power,
Or craves the mystic boon.

This, however, was once not the case, for so revered was St. Mary's Well of Seggat, and so frequented by pilgrims in search of some boon, that the Presbytery of Turriff, aided by the Synod of Aberdeen, exerted themselves in vain to put an end to the custom of frequenting it. It is thus recorded :—“ From the referees from the provincial synod holden at Aberdeen, in the College Kirk of New Aberdeen, April 17, 1649, and four following days, Mr. Andrew Strachan being moderator, it was found that the chappel and the chappel well of Sigget were not demolished, nor the well filled up according to ane former ordinance. Therefore the Assembly ordains the Presbytery of Turriff to visit the Kirk of Auchterless, and demolish the said chappel, altar, and well.”

At the visitation of the Kirk of Auchterless, August 15, 1649, it is found “ that the chappel, altar, and well at Sigget are demolished.” The well remained untouched for a while ; but the old friendly feeling in favour of it on the part of the people soon revived, and we find that at a meeting of Presbytery held in November of the same year, that it is ordained “ that a carne of stones be put upon the well of Sigget.” This was done, but Mr. Massie at a subsequent meeting had to report that the well of Sigget once filled up was emptied in the night by some evil affected persons. “ He is ordained to fill it up again with a greater carne of stones, but it was again dug out, and the Presbytery at last resolved to let the well of Sigget alone. They forbore to take any more paines in the matter.”¹

¹ Mr. Brebner's Notes on the Presbytery of Turriff.

They have had their reward, for it is now deserted.

No more revered is Seggat's saint,
Nor sought sweet Seggat's vale ;
No trusting pilgrim comes to drink,
Nor whisper forth his tale.

On this farm there has been a family of the name of Wallace for the long period of one hundred and thirty years. The following is a deduction of the family :—

I. Alexander Wallace

came to Gordon Castle from the south of Scotland about 1715, along with two brothers, Hugh and William. These three brothers are believed to be of the family of Wallace of Camcedean of the house of Craigie. Alexander married Christian Ferguson and had issue :—

I. John.

II. Hugh, an officer in the royal navy, served on board the "Appollo."

II. John Wallace,

son of the above Alexander Wallace, married Margaret Mair. He came to Chapel of Seggat in 1760, on a lease granted by Lord Findlater, the proprietor at that time of the lands of Towie-Barclay. He was a merchant burges of the city of Aberdeen, and his diploma is dated 1761. Prior to this he had been amanuensis to Lord Deskford. He had issue :—

I. Harry.

II. John, emigrated, and died in South Carolina.

III. James, went to England ; married —— Loyd, daughter of Rev. Dr. Loyd, and had issue a son and two daughters.

John Wallace married secondly his cousin, Jean Wallace, daughter of William Wallace above-mentioned, and by her had issue :—

IV. George, who went to England ; married, and had issue.

1. Diana, died young (by first marriage).

2. Mary (by do.).

3. Margaret (by second marriage), married to Mr. —— Murray, Newmill, Auchterless.

4. Christian (by do.), married to Mr. Chisholm, Haughs of Lendrum.

III. Harry Wallace.

He succeeded his father in Chapel of Seggat, married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Jamieson in Cushnie, and has issue —

I. **Andrew**, his successor.

II. John, a planter in Jamaica, d. s. p.

He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Andrew Wallace.

He married Miss Ann Lumsden, and had issue :—

- I. **William**, his successor.
- II. Andrew, M.A., M.D., of University of Aberdeen, resident in Turriff; married Miss M. Leslie, and has issue.
- III. James, died in Australia.
- IV. John, M.A., M.D., of the University of Edinburgh; Surgeon-Major 12th Regiment of Foot; died in Afghanistan, 1879. He was highly esteemed by his commanding officer and his brother officers, who erected a cross over his grave, where he waits "until the day dawn."
1. Jane, married Rev. George Jamieson, D.D., senior minister of the collegiate charge of St. Machar's Cathedral. They have issue a large family, of whom Fife Jamieson, M.D., gave promise of distinction, but was prematurely cut off in the twenty-seventh year of his age. His fellow-students and other friends erected a monument to his memory.
2. Margaret, married James Grieve, of the North of Scotland Bank, Turriff.
3. Isabella.
4. Ann, married George Cruickshank, Comistry, factor on the Bognie and other estates. She died 1887. He died 1886, leaving a large family.
5. Mary, married to Francis Walker, Craignetherty, and had issue one son, John.

Mr. Andrew Wallace died in 1881, and was succeeded by his son,

V. William Wallace, now in Chapel of Seggat.

Attached to the church of Auchterless were four chaplancies—Towie, Seggat, Hatton, and Badenscoth. The feast of St. Donan, the Titular Saint of the parish, was held on the 17th and 18th April, when a fair was held near the church. The following is the collect used on St. Donan's day :—"Almighty and eternal God, when we lift our souls to Thee, we beseech Thee to forget the sins of our youth, that by the intercession of Blessed Donan, Thy Confessor and Abbot, if we have by negligence offended Thee, Thou mayest with mercy deign to pardon us through our Lord Jesus Christ Thy son, who, with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen."

The Glenmailen camp occupies a prominent position on the farms of Buss and Logie-Newton, on the right bank of the Ythan, within about a mile and a half south of The Wells or sources of the Ythan. The north enclosing walls of the camp follow the windings and top of the steep banks of the ravine or hollow, through which the stream flows. The western and southern sides are straight lines, and occupy pretty high

ground, and remain tolerably well defined. The lower or eastern wall, or line of entrenchment, has been somewhat obliterated by the plough, but it still appears as a ridge raised above the adjoining ground. The area is about one hundred and thirty acres, and its shape, supposing the river side to be a straight line, is that of a parallelogram, and the ratio of the sides are as two to three; but the sides are not rectangular, the south-west and north-east angles being acute, and the other two obtuse.

The character and style of this great work, the "*castra æstiva*," bears evident marks of Roman origin. An urn and some arrow-heads have been found in the neighbourhood of the camp.

STONE CIRCLES.—The remains of these were at one time numerous, for as the author of the "Statistical Account of Auchterless" remarked, "superstition spared them though stones were scarce." The remains of the most remarkable are situated on the Kirkhill, or the Berryhill of Logie on the north of the Roman camp, which it overlooks. Here there are three stone circles which can be distinctly traced, with several large stones of a quartz nature.

Near the church of Auchterless there is a small artificial mound called the Moat-head (this was probably the Moothill), the seat of the ancient baronial courts, where justice was administered. In the neighbourhood there is the Gallowhill, where criminals were executed.

TOWIE-BARCLAY.

——— of the glen, happy to the maids, but never to the men.

The old castle of Towie-Barclay was for many years the property and residence of the ancient family of Barclays of Towie. The venerable pile was tolerably entire till about 1792, when the roof turrets and embrasures were removed, and the height reduced two stories, and on this once proud building was placed its present low roof. Amongst those who settled in Scotland after the marriage of Malcolm Canmore with the Saxon Princess Margaret, sister to Edgar Atheling, was John Berkley, a descendant of the family of that name. He obtained from the King a grant of the lands of Towie in the parish of Auchterless. This John Berkley married the heiress of Gartly, by which alliance he became possessed of considerable estates in addition to the grant from the King. Two sons came of this marriage, one of whom succeeded to the barony of Gartly, the other to that of Towie. In the roll of missing charters in the reign of Robert the Bruce is a charter to Walter Berkley, burgess of Perth, over the lands of Tollie, and a similar charter was granted in the sixth year of his reign, dated August 1, 1312. About the year 1385, Andrew Berkley, laird of Garmellie (Gartly), gave the lands of Melrose, in the parish of Ganrie, with the mill, to Janet de Berkley, widow of Sir John

of Monymusk, knight, in quittance of certain lands of her father, John Berkley. This estate of Melrose, with Cullen in Buchan, remained in the family for upwards of three hundred years. They also possessed Drumwhindle and other lands in the parish of Ellon; and also at one time Fintry and Craig-Fintry (Craigston), in the parish of King-Edward. The following is a list of the successive proprietors of Towie-Barclay, according to Dr. Milne, of King-Edward, in Banff Field Club Report, 1887:—¹

1. Sir Alexander Barclay, founder, died 1138.
2. Walter, Chamberlain, appointed 1165.
3. Sir Walter, fundit 1210.
4. Patrick submitted to Edward I., 1296.
5. Sir Walter, charter 'twixt 1306-1329.
6. Hugh of Gask, charter 1323.
7. William, about 1388.
8. Walter, about 1457.
9. John, about 1480.
10. Patrick, married Janet Ogilvy, who died 1487.
11. Walter, mentioned 'twixt 1490-1512.
12. Walter, married Elizabeth Hay, killed 1589.
13. Patrick, married Anne Drummond, died 1624.
14. William, married Jane Elphinstone, died 1643.
15. Patrick; sisters—1 Eliza, 2 Ann; died 1688.
16. William, before 1694.
17. Elizabeth, married John Gordon, succeeded about 1649.
18. Patrick Gordon-Barclay.
19. ——— daughter, married Sir Alexander Innes.
20. Isabella Innes, married Hon. C. Maitland, died 1761.
21. Charles Maitland-Barclay.

He was the last of the Barclays, proprietor of Towie. The estate was sold in 1752 to the Earl of Findlater for his second son, but this young man died soon after coming of age; and the property was sold in 1792 to the Trustees of Robert Gordon's Hospital (now College).

Over what was once the chief entrance there is inscribed, "Sir Alexander Barclay of Tollie, founder, decessit anno domini, 1136."

"In time of valth all men seem friendly, an friend is not known but in adversity."

Notwithstanding the above ancient date, it is believed that the castle was not built before 1593, while there are dates 1604 and 1695 on the more modern portions of the building.

¹ Dr. Milne in Banff Field Club Report.

FRENDRAUGHT.

“Tristis et infelix et semper inhospita Turris.”

THE LINE OF THE KNIGHTLY HOUSE OF FERENDRACH DE FERENDRACH.

THE earliest notice of Frendraught is about 1202, when **Michael de Ferendrach** is a witness to a charter given by William the Lion. This Michael de Ferendrach also witnesses a charter of Alexander II., 1226.¹ In 1257, Pope Alexander IV. confirmed to the Abbot and Convent of Arbroath a grant made by William de Ferendrach of the fruits of the benefice of the Church de Ferendrach.² Besides the lands of Ferendrach, from which the family derived their surname, they had other lands in Perthshire. There is a charter of date 1282, confirming the lands of Cuparmacultin, Fordui, and others, by the Abbot of Dunfermline, to Malcolm de Ferendrach, in such wise as they were held by John de Ferendrach.³ In 1286, in a charter given by Simon, Thane of Aberchirder, **Malcolm de Ferendrach** and **John de Ferendrach** are mentioned as witnesses.⁴ The next to be found, and the greatest of the family, is

Duncan de Ferendrach.

He married about the end of the thirteenth century, Marjorie, daughter of Gilbert de Glencairn, and at the same time Gilbert granted to Duncan de Ferendrach, on the occasion of the marriage, the lands of Congarich in the holding of Abernethy.⁵ In Bain's calendar of historical documents there are the following notices of Sir Duncan:—“On 17 July, 1296, he swore fealty, and did homage to King Edward.” His seal is said to be of red wax, and is thus charged “On a shield within round tracery are three wolves' heads on a chief.⁶ On October 24, 1296, there is a writ to the Sheriff of Forfar to restore his lands to Duncan de Ferendrach, a tenant of Reginald Cheyne.⁷ Again we find, in October, 1305, Sir Duncan keeper of the forest of Boyne (Buthyn), when he is commanded to give to John Comyn, Earl of Buchan, six hinds and twenty-five oaks fit for timber.⁸

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 378; II. p. cxxi. Innes' Inneses, S.C. p. 63.

2 Theiner's Monumenta, p. 74; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 520.

3 Hist. MSS. Com. Rep. Vol. VI.

4 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 320.

5 Fraser's Grants, pref. p. lviii.

6 Bain's Hist. Documents, II. p. 196.

7 Id.

8 Id., II. p. 462.

Sir Duncan was in high favour with Edward ; was knighted by that monarch, and was appointed one of thirteen (an unlucky number), by which, along with a Viceroy, he proposed to govern Scotland. "Man proposes, but God disposes." After Bannockburn, he forfeited all his estates, and was obliged to withdraw to England, where he was received and thanked by Edward II. for his loyalty. He was slain in battle in that monarch's service sometime before May, 1310, and his widow, Marjorie, and her father, Gilbert de Glencairnie, were long pensioners on the English King's bounty. From Bain's ancient documents, we find the following notices regarding them :—"In 1310 there is a warrant to the Bishop of Chichester, Chancellor, to issue letters in favour of Marjorie, widow of Sir Duncan de Ferendrach, who was lately killed in the King's service, for payment of ten shillings per day, which the King has granted to support herself since she came to stay at York.¹ Also the King commands the Sheriff of York to pay Marjorie, widow of Sir Duncan de Ferendach, her annuity of forty-nine merks, in lieu of the Manor of Briggestoke in Northampton, then granted to Isabella, the mother of the Queen, for life." Lady Marjorie is regularly paid till Michaelmas, 1348, when it ceases at her death.² As to Gilbert Glencairnie, her father, there are the following gifts :—"York, October 20, 1319-20. Paid to Gilbert de Glencairnie fifty merks for the last Easter and Michaelmas terms." This grant was first made by King Edward II. for the said Gilbert's good service. Two hundred merks are also paid, on 30 April, 1320, to Gilbert de Glencairnie, a pensioner in Scotland, in aid of his ransom.³

Sir Duncan de Ferendrach, as already mentioned, was forfeited and deprived of all his possessions. In Robertson's index of lost charters, one of the earliest charters by King Robert the Bruce is one to **John de Seneschal (John Stewart)**, of the lands of Ferendrach, and from its place in the index, the date may be about 1309. Sir Duncan, according to Dr. Stuart, left an only daughter, Margaret de Ferendrach ;⁴ but Lord Saltoun, in his history of the Frasers of Philorth, is of opinion that she was the daughter of the above-named John Stewart. The arms of the seal of her son, James Fraser of Frendraught, of which an impression remains attached to the Act of Succession to the Throne, March, 1371, show that on a triangular shield he bore "a fess chequè between three roses in chief, and as many in base, the last two and one. Crest, on a helmet a wolf's head, issuing from a coronet." This crest, according to his Lordship, was evidently taken from the old insignia of Frendraught, for the seal of Sir Duncan de Ferendrach, as already mentioned, in 1296, shows that his armorial bearings were three wolves' heads ; but there is nothing in his coat armour to account for the "fess chequè," which probably points to a connection with a Stewart.

Sir John Stewart of Bonhill, second son of Alexander, High Steward of Scotland, is said to have been born in 1246, and was killed at the battle of Falkirk in 1298. He left a numerous issue, and his fifth son, whose birth may be reasonably placed about 1280, was named John. It is evident that he would have been of sufficient age to

¹ Bain's Hist. Documents, III, p. 28, No. 147.

² Id., p. 172, No. 952.

³ Bain's Hist. Documents, III, p. 116, No. 615.

⁴ Tran. Soc. Ant. Scot. 1874.

receive the grant of the lands of Fren draught in 1309, and to have been the father of Margaret de Ferendrach, who married, in 1322, by a dispensation from Pope John XXII., James Fraser. The less chequè in the arms of the son of that marriage points to the supposition that his mother was Margaret Stewart.¹ The matter, however, cannot be now properly settled.

James Fraser and Margaret de Ferendrach or Stewart of Fren draught.

This James Fraser is believed to have been the brother of Sir Alexander Fraser, Chamberlain of Scotland, and the youngest son of Sir Andrew Fraser, the Sheriff of Stirling in 1293. He assisted, with others of his clan, the young Earl of Moray, in the command of the Scottish army at Homildon Hill, where he perished. The next to be found is

II. Sir James Fraser of Fren draught.

He is believed to be the son of James Fraser and Margaret de Ferendrach. In 1369, he appears as James Fraser of Fren draught; and, in 1371, "Dominus Jacobus Fraser, miles, and Alexander Skrinechour" were procurators for the Abbot and monastery of Arbroath. He was one of the barons bearing the rank of knight that attended the coronation of Robert II., March 27, 1371. Under the designation of "Jacobus Fraser dominus de Fren draught, miles," he is found witness to numerous charters, down to the year 1395, when he received from Robert III. "the grant of the annual rent of Carnowne and Culmesty, in the barony of Fren draught."² He probably died soon after. The next to be found is

III. James Fraser of Fren draught.

In 1402, James Fraser, "dominus de Fren draught," granted to the Abbey of Melrose, the lands of Cambestown, in the barony of Lossidown and Sheriffdom of the county of Roxburgh, which had been in the possession of the old family of Ferendrach de Ferendrach. His seal is attached to the charter of these lands, and shows a bend sinister indented between three cinque foils, two and one. "No reason," says Lord Saltoun, "can be given for the change of the fess chequè into the bend sinister indented, or why he should have three cinque foils instead of six."³ James Fraser of Fren draught also granted the lands of Little Glensaugh in Kincardine to the Whitefriars of Aberdeen, and he was a vassal of the Abbot of Dunfermline for the lands of Cuparmaculty, Fordui, Dulmanack, and Lytillkethe, in the Sheriffdom of Perth; the last of which he granted to Henry de Ferendrach, probably of the old Fren draught family; and the charter was confirmed by the Abbot, John de Torry, in 1404.⁴ The next is

¹ Lord Saltoun's Frasers.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 524.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 524, and Lord Saltoun's Frasers.

⁴ Id., 523-524.

IV. Matilda Fraser of Frendraught.

It is impossible (according to Lord Saltoun) to say whether she was a daughter or a sister of the last-named James Fraser. Dr. Stuart says she was a daughter, but there is no evidence to show. She married Alexander Dunbar, second son of John Dunbar, Earl of Moray, and thus the line of the Frasers of Frendraught appears to have terminated in a female at the beginning of the fifteenth century, as there is no record of any junior branch of the family. Alexander Dunbar and Matilda Fraser had issue a son,¹

V. James Dunbar of Frendraught, and VIII. Earl of Moray.

He was, along with the Earl of Moray and others, one of the hostages for James I. to the English.² He succeeded his cousin Thomas, third Earl of Moray. His estate of Frendraught was valued at five hundred merks Scots. He was twice married; first to his cousin, Isobel, daughter of Walter Innes of that ilk, but as this union was within the degrees of consanguinity forbidden by the church, it was alleged the marriage was not valid without a dispensation from the Pope; but she died before that could be obtained, leaving issue, by the Earl, a son, Alexander, who, though he did not succeed to the Earldom of Moray, got the lands of Westfield in Morayshire, Conzie in Forgue, and many others. From him are descended Gavin, Bishop of Aberdeen, the Dunbars of Mochrum, the Dunbars of Northfield, the Dunbars of Akerhill and Hempriggs, &c. The Earl married secondly, Jane, daughter of the Earl of Huntly, by whom he had issue:—

1. **Janet**, of whom hereafter.

2. Elizabeth, who was married to Archibald, third son of James, eighth Earl of Douglas, who, according to "Douglas' Peerage," by the prevailing influence of the family, obtained the Earldom of Moray, in prejudice of the said Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, and her elder sister Janet. It seems, however, that both ladies called themselves Countesses of Moray, as will be seen afterwards.

James Dunbar, eighth Earl of Moray, son of Alexander Dunbar, and grandson of Earl John, is said to have been murdered in the neighbourhood of Frendraught; and tradition points to a cairn near Frendraught House as his grave.³

James Dunbar, Earl of Moray, was called "the late Earl of Moray," 26 April, 1442,⁴ and was succeeded in Frendraught by his eldest daughter,

VI. Janet Dunbar of Frendraught.

She was married to Sir James Crichton, Lord Chamberlain of Scotland, and heir of Lord Crichton, Lord Chancellor of Scotland, and brought into that family the lands of Frendraught. They had the following issue:—

¹ Lord Saltoun's Frasers; Dr. Stuart in *Antiquarian Transactions* regarding Forgue Communion Cups. 2 *Bain*, IV., No. 942.

³ *Ant. A. and B.* II. p. 324; *Transaction Soc. Antiq.* 1889-90. ⁴ *Exchequer Rolls*, Vol. III. pref.

- I. **William**, third Lord Crichton.
- II. Gavin
- III. George.

It is recorded in "Douglas' Peerage" that Archibald Douglas, the husband of her younger sister, Elizabeth, obtained, through the influence of his family, the Earldom of Moray; yet we find that Sir James Crichton, the husband of Janet, was "belted Earl of Moray in 1452, and in October 8, 1454, after his death, Janet styles herself Countess of Moray, and that during the life-time of her brother-in-law, Archibald Douglas." But in a resignation to the King in October, 1462, she styles herself simply Janeta de Dunbar, domina de Frendraught. Both the sisters, at the same time it appears, styled themselves "Countesses of Moray."²

VII. William, III. Lord Crichton,

eldest son of Janet Dunbar and Sir James Crichton, married, according to Douglas, the Princess Margaret, daughter of King James II, but according to Sheriff Riddell, he married a daughter of Lord Lauriestown.³ Probably he was twice married. He joined the Duke of Albany in his rebellion against his brother, James III., and garrisoned the castle of Crichton in his behalf, and he was in consequence attainted for treason by Parliament, February 24, 1483. His brothers, Gavin and George, were also forfeited for joining in the same rebellion. On his forfeiture he lost the castle of Crichton, a very ancient and magnificent structure, the ruins of which still remain. In the fourth canto of *Marmion*, Scott has very minutely described this relic of the feudal ages when he introduces *Marmion* as a guest.

At length up that wide dale they wind,
Where Crichton's castle crowns the bank,
For there the Lyon's care assigned
A lodging meet for Marmion's rank.

Lord Crichton had issue :—

I **James**, who succeeded.

1. ———, daughter, married to the Earl of Rothes.

Old Lady Janet prudently kept Frendraught in her own hand. She made it over to her grandson, James Crichton, November 2, 1493, and so saved the estate.

VIII. James Crichton of Frendraught

had a charter of Frendraught "to James Crichton, son and heir of the late William, Lord Crichton, and his heirs male; whom failing, to James Crichton, son and heir of Gavin Crichton and his heirs; whom failing, to William Crichton, son also of the said

¹ *Stodart Arms*, II. p. 12.

² *Asloan MS.* in *Excheq. Rolls Pref.* Vol. III.

³ *Sheriff Riddell's Notes on Douglas'*

Peerage in Advocates' Lib., Edinb.

Gavin Crichton, the lands and barony of Frendraught, &c."¹ He acquired the lands of Conzie, or the superiority thereof of which he had a charter, October 16, 1530. In his time, King James V. visited Frendraught, on which occasion, November 13, 1536, he granted a charter of the barony of Frendraught, and Inverkeithnie, and lands in Perthshire, "predicto familiari servitori, Jacobo Creichtoune," on his own resignation, and on his own heirs failing, to a series of heirs.² In 1535, the Abbot of Arbroath granted a nineteen years' lease of the teind scheaves of the church of Forgue to Sir James Creichtoune of Frendraught, knight, for the payment of the yearly rent of one hundred pounds Scots, and for supporting the roof of the choir of said church.³ He was succeeded by his son,

IX. William Crichton of Frendraught.

He married Agnes Abernethy, daughter, probably, of Lord Saltoun of Rothiemay. In 1539, August 15, there is a charter to him and his wife of the lands of Conveth or Inverkeithnie. In Riddell's notes on Wood's "Douglas' Peerage," in 1536, there is a letter to George Crichton of Conzie, appointing him curator to William Crichton of Frendraught, a "dacht and natural idiot."

Sometime before 15 March, 1543, considerable disturbances took place at Frendraught, ending in bloodshed and murder. In Pitcairn's "Criminal Trials" at that date, we find "that Alexander Leslie, younger of Warderis; George Crichton of Conzie, and sixty-eight others, found caution to underly the law at the next justiciaire for besieging the place of Frendraught, coming thereto in great numbers armed, beating the servants, mutilating Martin Abernethy and John Ross in their left hands.⁴ Also at the same date, William, Lord Abernethy of Saltoun, Alexander Abernethy of Netherdull, and forty-four others, found surety to underly the law at the next justiciaire at Banff for air and pairt convocation of the lieges armed in a warlike manner with a great force at the place of Frendraught, belonging to William Crichton, for the slaughter of George Crichton of Conzie, and James Crichton, and the slaughter of Robert Crichton with a gun."⁵ This was a terrible tragedy, and may have arisen from George Crichton having been appointed curator to William Crichton, and thus aroused the anger of Abernethy of Rothiemay, to whose daughter the said William Crichton was married. By the said Agnes Abernethy he had a son and successor,

X. Sir James Crichton of Frendraught.

He received the honour of knighthood; had a charter of the lands of Frendraught and Conveth. He had also a charter to himself and Joanna Keith of the lands of Bognie, April 14, 1557, and July 9, 1569. He married Joanna, daughter of William, fourth Earl Marischal, and had issue :—⁶

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 598.

² Jervise Ep. and Inscriptions;

Ant. A. and B. III. p. 598.

³ Reg. Rec. Abbace de Arbroath, p. 554.

⁴ Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, I. p. 329.

⁵ Id.

⁶ Douglas' Peerage.

I. James, his successor.

1. ———, a daughter, married to William Leslie of Tullieferry.

He was succeeded by his son,

XI. James Crichton of Frendraught.

He had charters of parts of the lands of Logiealton, 31 March, 1592, and of Darley. He married Janet, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir, by whom had issue :—

I. James, his successor.

II. ———

1. ———, daughter, married to Lord Oliphant.

He was succeeded by his son,

XII. Sir James Crichton of Frendraught.

He received from King James VI. the honour of knighthood, and had the family estates made over to him in his life-time, receiving charters of the lands and baronies of Frendraught, Conveth, Auchingoul, Bognie, &c., to him and his heirs male, 10 August, 1599, where he is styled eldest son of James Crichton of Frendraught. He had also a charter of Conzie and Penquhonone (Pitfancy). Succeeding his father, he got charters of Kinnairdie in Banffshire, and of Monkshill in Aberdeenshire,¹ and his name frequently appears in the Privy Council records. Thus, 1593, "George Johnstone of that ilk, cautioner for Sir James Creichtone of Frendraught, not to harm George Leslie of Warderis, conforme to deliverance of Secret Council";² and in 1588, Sir James Creichton of Frendraught is caution to the Magistrates of Aberdeen for the gude behaviour of John Leslie of Balquhain.³ This one may refer to his father; it is difficult to say which one is meant.

Sir James Crichton married Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of John, twelfth Earl of Sutherland, by whom he had issue :—

I. James, first Viscount Frendraught.

II. George, of Auchingoul. According to Crawford, "It was but a short time before his birth that his mother was tried for the burning of the House of Frendraught, and is now the heir male of Frendraught."⁴

III. William.

IV. Francis. These two younger brothers are specified in a charter of Frendraught, 1641. One of them was killed by Adam Gordon.

1. Elizabeth.

2. Isobel.

3. Margaret.

¹ Douglas' Peerage.

² Priv. Coun. Rec. Vol. V. 654.

³ Priv. Coun. Rec. Vol. IV. p. 268.

⁴ Crawford's MS. Baronage in Advocates' Lib. Edinb.

In 1630, Sir James and his lady were involved in a sad calamity, the burning of the castle of Frendraught. It caused a great excitement at the time, and even yet the interest in it has not passed away, for notices ever and again appear on Frendraught and its tragedy: but it still remains an impenetrable mystery.

At the time the burning of Frendraught took place, it may be said there was no King in Israel, as frequent quarrels arose between neighbours, often ending in bloodshed and death, without any intervention of the law. In the beginning of the year 1630, a quarrel arose between Frendraught and Gordon of Rothiemay, in which the latter was killed. This quarrel is thus described in an old M.S. history of the Gordons:—"The quarrel arose regarding some dispute about marches on the Deveron, and both parties met to decide it. William Gordon of Rothiemay finding Frendraught's party too strong for him, was reasonably adverse to go out to meet them; but his lady intimated, if he did not go, it would be a reflection on his honour; this, if it were true, was but bad counsel and inadvisedly offered. Rothiemay on this goes out with only ten of his menial servants mounted on horse, and engaged Frendraught and his party, and being overpowered with numbers, his horse was killed under him, and fell on the ground with his rider. In this fall, Rothiemay's helmet went off, and ere he recovered himself he received his death-wounds in the head. Notwithstanding which, he gets hold of a firelock, and with one shot he killed one Adam Gordon of Frendraught's party, and wounded some others, fighting courageously till he got another horse, which he mounted, and made an honourable retreat. He came home with his servants to the house of Rothiemay, and seeing his lady, told her he had faced Frendraught, and called for drink to his servants, who had behaved themselves as became them, and desired the piper to play, and with his servants he danced round about the hall, and having lost much blood, and finding himself faint, he desired his lady to make his bed, and told her he would never rise again." This was the case, for he died soon after.

For the slaughter of Rothiemay, Frendraught was adjudged by the Marquis of Huntly to pay to the heirs of Rothiemay, fifty thousand merks as blood money, which he paid. Sometime afterwards another quarrel arose between Frendraught and Leslie of Pitcaple, in which quarrel, the Marquis of Huntly decided in favour of Sir James Crichton; the quarrel having arisen from Robert Crichton, a kinsman of Frendraught's, shooting Leslie of Pitcaple's son through the arm. Leslie of Pitcaple was much disappointed with the Marquis of Huntly's arbitration, and hinted that he would be revenged on Frendraught. He left the Bog of Gight on the day of the decision, while Sir James remained behind; and in case Leslie should waylay Frendraught, the Marquis next day sent his son, Lord Melgum, the young laird of Rothiemay, and others, to protect Sir James. They accompanied him home to Frendraught without meeting anyone, and at the earnest request of Sir James and Lady Crichton they unfortunately remained all night. In the words of Spalding, a contemporary chronicler by no means friendly to Frendraught or his lady, "they were well entertained, supped merrily, and went to bed

joyfully." The Viscount Melgum was laid in a room in the old tower, which, according to Father Blackhall, was separated a little from the castle, and this room had a vault under it with a round hole (devised of old) under Aboyne's bed. The young laird of Rothiemay and some others were in a room above this, and in a room above this again were Captain Rollock, a guest of Frendraught's, and some others. "About midnight, this dolorous tower," says Spalding, "took fire in so sudden and furious a manner, and in ane clap, that the noble Viscount, the laird of Rothiemay, English Will, Colonel Ivat, and other servants, were cruelly burned and tormented to death." The Viscount Melgum, it is said, might have escaped, had he not gone upstairs to awaken Rothiemay. While doing so, the timber passage and stair-case connecting the tower with the rest of the building took fire, and prevented their return. They hurried to the window looking out into the close, piteously calling for help, but none was or could be rendered them. "Their remains," according to Johnston, "were cast into stables among vile and musty straw, mere mangled remains, trunks without extremities."¹ It must, however, be borne in mind that the tower having been burnt there was really no decent place where the remains might be deposited. The news of this sad event caused an excitement throughout the whole country, for while some blamed Frendraught, he in turn again blamed Pitcaple. The Marquis of Huntly, probably remembering the fine which he had recently imposed on Sir James as blood money for the death of Rothiemay, strongly suspected him and his lady. He applied to the Privy Council in Edinburgh, who caused an inquiry to be made into the matter; and a committee consisting of William, Earl Marischal; Patrick, Bishop of Aberdeen; John, Bishop of Moray; James, Lord Ogilvie; David, Lord Carnegie; and Colonel Henry Bruce, met at Frendraught on 13 April, 1631. They reported to the effect that the fire could not have happened accidentally, but designedly, which aroused still more the suspicion of the Marquis against Frendraught.² Sir James, however, exerted himself in his own defence, with the result that three persons, John Meldrum, brother-in-law of Leslie of Pitcaple; John Tosch, and a female servant, were examined. The latter, after having been tortured and having confessed nothing, was set at liberty; but poor Meldrum prevaricating, "tholed an assize," and on evidence, which would now be considered insufficient to convict the meanest criminal, was condemned to be hanged and quartered. Neither these proceedings of the Privy Council nor Sir James Crichton's exertions in his own behalf served in any way to allay the feeling against him and his family. According to Burton, quoted by Taylor in his history,³ a strange, mysterious punishment, which seemed to be a blight or judgment of a higher power, yet was in reality a simple and natural consequence of human conduct. The Crichtons were deserted; it was the natural result of this doom that they should become the victims of broken clans of Highland reivers. Against these freebooters the deadliest enemies amongst the lowlands would combine; but no one would take part with the unfortunate family of Frendraught. The marauders hovered like vultures

¹ *Missa Latina Aberdon*, Vol. I. Sir W. Geddes, 299.

² *Grant's Carnegies (Lord Southesk)*, pp. 95-94.

³ *Taylor's Genealogical History of Families*, p. 181.

round a wounded man. They came from all parts of the mountain district, and met at Fren draught as a common centre where the business of all lay. A field of prey so inviting tempted the Macgregors from the banks of Loch Katrine, and they appeared under their leader Gilderoy, a robber chief of European celebrity. Thither also came the Clan Cameron under its chief, Allan McIan Dhui; the McDonnells of Glengarry and Clan Ranald; the Clan Lachlan, and other plunderers, with the keen scent of the eagle flocking to the carcass.

There can be no doubt that the inroads of these marauders were instigated by the Marquis of Huntly and the chief men of the clan, and prominent among these was the Lady Rothiemay. Fren draught did not passively submit to their assaults and robberies, but repeatedly mustered his retainers and dispersed the marauders, and recovered the spoil, but he was ultimately obliged for his protection to go to Edinburgh with his two sons. "Such was his moyen," says Spalding, "with the Privy Council, that the Marquis of Huntly was forced to appear before the Lords of the Council in Edinburgh, and was bound under a penalty of one hundred thousand merks to abstain from injuring Fren draught." The Marquis was obliged to submit himself humbly, as we learn from the following petition:—"17 February, 1636. To King Charles I. Robbed of a dear son and near kinsman by the cruelle and matchless treacherie of the laird of Fren draught, and not content therewith, he striveth with the assistance of that traitor, Adam Gordon (the chief instrument and actor of all these rebellions, and he who is nearest in blood to Rothiemay, who was murdered by Fren draught), to robbe me of mine honour and your Majestie's favour. Though the way taken with him, his Majestie's old decrepit servant, seems hard without example, he is willing, if it please the King, that the exactest way of trial be taken. To inform his Majesty of his own part in the business, he acknowledges that since the death of my sonne, I never wissed the laird of Fren draught his guid, neither did I put myself to the trouble for staying his personal harm, or saving his estaitt and other guids from the insolencies of others. But now in all humility, he acknowledged his error in not using his best means for keeping his Majestie's peace in the neighbourhood of his residence. He begs pardon to his Majesty, and professes his willingness to undergoe any punishment inflicted. He only begs that his Majesty will consider his condition, and pronounce his doom with his own sacred mouth."¹

Lady Fren draught, after the burning of the tower, went to reside with her daughters at Kinnairdie on the Deveron. Public suspicion was particularly strong against her as having caused the fire, and the motto at the head of this notice embodies the popular suspicion regarding the burning. In two ballads (one written soon after the fire) she is bitterly accused, and if their accounts be true, the Medea of Euripides, and the Lady Macbeth of Shakespeare, both creations of the poet's fancy, would almost pale before Lady Fren draught!

In one called Frennethall there is the following:—

¹ Hist. Com. Rep. Vol. IX.

When Frénnēt's castle's ivied walls
 Through yellow leaves were seen,
 When birds forsook the sapless boughs,
 And bees the faded green ;
 Then Lady Frénnēt, vengeful dame,
 Did wander frae the ha'
 To the wild forest's dowie glen
 Among the leaves that fa'.

There to entice her victims to the castle, and to burn them.
 Again in another, Rothiemay is represented as saying—

When he stood at the wire window,
 Most doleful to be seen,
 He did espy the Lady Fren draught,
 Who stood upon the green.

And mercy, mercy, Lady Fren draught,
 Will ye not sink for sin ;
 For first yer husband did kill my father,
 And now ye burn his son.
 O, then, it spake, Lady Fren draught,
 And loudly did she say :
 It was great pity for good Lord John,
 But none for Rothiemay ;
 But the keys are sunk in the deep draw well,
 You cannot get away.

These are the ballads' account of the matter, but no evidence could be brought against Lady Fren draught, and the cause of the fire to this day remains an unsolved mystery.

Poor lady ! she had soon other troubles in store for her. She was for long a subject of prayerful consideration for the brethren of the Presbytery of Strathbogie, as she declined to conform to the established order of things ecclesiastical, and to attend the kirk, and when remonstrated with, she asked time for deliberation. Continuing, however, obstinate, wilfully refusing to hear the Word, she was summoned before the Presbytery, was admonished for the first time, the second time, the third time ; received the first prayer, the second prayer, the third prayer ; and excommunication was just about to be pronounced, when Master Reidford of Marnankirk, whose soul was sore beset with her ladyship, interposed, and reported to the brethren that Lady Fren draught had promised to hear the Word occasionally. This, however, was not deemed enough, as she was required to sign the Solemn League and Covenant, or else take the consequences. Her ladyship found it hard to submit to this, but what could she do to be free of her tormentors, and so she signed the Solemn League and Covenant for the sake of peace. Lady Crichton soon regretted her repentance, and the Brethren of Strathbogie are again in prayerful consideration of her case. To a deputation of the Presbytery she replied, "that she regretted nothing in her whole life so much as the signing of the Solemn League and Covenant." The sentence of excommunication was then carried out against her, and on the 5th of March, 1654, "the Lady Elizabeth Crichton of Fren draught, for apostasie and perjurie, was excommunicated !"

Lady Frendraught's trials and troubles were not few. In Father Blackhall's "Brief Narrative," we read, "shortly thereafter, my Layde of Frendret did send to me, praying me to come to her as ordinary, for the frere whom she had befor was departed this life. I refused absolutely to see her, becaus she was suspected to be guilty of the death of my Lord Aboyne, who was burned in the castle of Frendret."

Poor Lady Frendraught! suspected by the world as a merciless murderess, excommunicated by the kirk, passed by on the left hand by the priests of her own church, her fate was a hard one. Well might the motto from Virgil, placed by her husband in the Kirk of Forgue in his day of trouble, apply also to her ladyship.

"O, passi graviora his quoque Deus dabit finem."

O, ye who through more grievous ills have passed,
From these, too, God will give relief at last.

In Sir James' life-time, his son was at Nottingham, in 1642, created Viscount Frendraught and Lord Crichton. The latter title was previously borne by his family; but forfeited in the third lord's time. This honour was offered to Sir James, but he declined it, preferring, as Spalding says, to be simply called "the Laird of Frendraught." Lord Frendraught accompanied the Marquis of Montrose on his last fatal expedition in 1650, and was with him at the battle of Invercarron, in Ross-shire, where he was defeated by Colonel Strachan, on the 20th of April following. The Marquis' horse having been shot under him, he mounted the horse of Lord Frendraught, which that young nobleman gallantly placed at his disposal, and galloping off the field escaped.

Lord Frendraught, severely wounded, having received eight or nine dangerous wounds, was taken prisoner, and carried to Dunrobin Castle, the residence of his uncle, the Earl of Sutherland, and, according to "Douglas' Peerage," died there a Roman death. This, however, is not the case; as we learn from the following minute in the Presbytery of Turriff, before which body he was summoned to give an account of his grievous backsliding at Invercarron:—"At Turriff, 16 December, 1650. Compeired James, Viscount Frendraught, and produced ane reference from the Commissioners of the General Assembly of the date at Stirling, 1650, by which he was referred to the Presbytery of Sutherland, where he should happen to reside, to conferre and deal with him, and try his repentance for his manifold defections from the cause and Covenant, his carriage, &c., and report. He produced also ane very honest testimony of his unfeigned sorrow for his defections, and of his Christian carriage in the Presbytery of Sutherland." ¹ A committee of the Presbytery was appointed to conferre with his Lordship. . . They found him more nor ordinarie humbled, and sorrowful for his sinful courses he had taken against the cause and Covenant of God. They found him a reformed man, and that he had reformed all his family, and in a word had given them such contentment and satisfaction to the rejoicing of their hearts, as with a good conscience they might recommend him to the commission of the kirk. This recommendation was successful, and in the session records of Forgue there is the following

¹ Rev. J. Brebner's Notes on Presbytery of Turriff in Aberdeen Journal.

minute :—" 3 October, 1651. It is ordained by uniform consent of the ministers and elders, that my Lord Crichton being again received into the kirk, be again admitted an elder." So Douglas' account of his Lordship's Roman death must be exchanged for the less romantic one of dying in his bed a reformed man and an elder of the kirk.

In Gordon's "Britane's Distemper" there is the following account of Lord Fren draught :—"Amongst the noblemen that began to find furth the errors of the Covenant, the Lord Crichton was one, a nobleman of so many laudable pairts, as I am not able to give his character to the lyfe. He was modest in his carriage, and of a majestic yet winning behaviour, his word and his promise were always as sure as the strictest bond and obligation. To whom he showed himself a friend, those might build on him as a strong rock of defence ; to whom he was an enemy he was dangerous to be feared, for though his genial and mild disposition made him easy to be found at the first acquaintance, yet being once lost, he was hardly ever recovered again."

His Lordship married first the Lady Margaret Leslie, daughter of the Earl of Leven, by whom he had an only daughter, Janet. To this daughter Janet, on September, 1646, he gave a charter, "Totas villas de Comistie, Ashallach, Cranloch, Templelands, &c."¹ She married Sir James Mackgill of Rankeillour, whose descendant, Margaret (daughter of Rev. William Dick, by Isabella, heiress of Nether Rankeillour and Lindores), married the Hon. Frederick Lewis Maitland, sixth son of the sixth Earl of Lauderdale. Their grandson, David Maitland Mackgill, succeeded in 1827 to the estate of Rankeillor, and in June, 1839, he was served heir of line in general to the first Viscount of Fren draught, when he assumed the additional name of Crichton, and is the representative of the Crichtons and the earlier families of Fren draught.

His Lordship married secondly, Marion, daughter of Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, by whom he had two sons :—

I. James, II. Viscount.

II. Lewis, IV. Viscount.

At this time the Fren draught property was very large, containing a large portion of the parishes of Forgue, Conveth or Inverkeithnie, and Aberchirder. From an Act of Parliament, which passed in the Scotch Parliament,² we learn the various properties which they then possessed. This enactment took place, November 17, 1641, for the purpose of confirming the Fren draught family in their various possessions, as the writs that were in the "kist" were burned in the great fire of 1630, except two infeftments, which were in Edinburgh. The Act enumerated the following estates :—"All and hail the lands and barony of Fren draught, the burgh and barony of Forg, lyand in the Sherriffdom of Aberdeen ; the lands and town of Polquhonzie and Conzie, the Templelands of Fren draught, and the office of heritable baillie thereof. The lands and barony of Kinnairdie, with the haill particular towers thereof ; also the lands and barony of Nedderdail, with the haill particular town and lands of ye samen. All and hail the lands of Pittendreich ; all and hail the teind scheaves of the foresaid lands lyand within

¹ Fren draught Papers.

² Act of Parliament. Copy at Fren draught.

the parish of Aberchirder and Sheriffdom of Banff; also the hail lands of the barony of Fiddes, comprehenden ye particular town and lands lyand within the Sherriffdom of Aberdeen. All and hail the town and lands of Turtories, the lands of Ardfour with the mylne, mylne lands and sequells of the samen; also the lands of Auchinachie, &c., with the pertinents lyand within the Sherriffdom of Banff. Also they possessed the vicarages and advowsons of Forg and Inverkeithney."

After the fire at Frendraught (as has been already narrated), the Crichtons were subjected to continual persecution from the Gordons, who were continually making raids upon and spoiling the lands of Frendraught. The Viscount also engaged in the political troubles of the time, with the result that the fair domains of Frendraught gradually diminished, and in fifty years afterwards scarcely a remnant was left.

The disposition of Comistie, Ashalloch, and other portions to Janet Crichton has been already mentioned. In 1647, a very great disposition or wadset took place of almost all the lands previously mentioned, except Fiddes, Forgendenny, and Mellairs, which had been reserved or previously disposed. The greater portion of the lands were disposed or wadset to Rev. John Gregory, minister of Drumoak, the ancestor of the learned and accomplished family of that name. The wadset price was 59,560 merks "monete hujus regni"; and all were created into a free barony for ever to be held by the said John Gregory and his heirs, in as free a manner as they were held by the said James, Viscount Frendraught, and James Crichton of Frendraught.¹

Rev. John Gregory died in 1651, and was succeeded by his son, **Alexander**.² This Alexander was cruelly murdered in autumn, 1663, by Francis Crichton, brother of the Viscount Frendraught. Gregory and Crichton met at the alehouse of Forgue and had "ane drink," and they then adjourned in company to the Manse of Forgue, where they had "ane other drink." They left the Manse apparently good friends, and while on the way, Crichton pleaded with Gregory not to be so hard in exacting his bonds on the lands of Frendraught, to the prejudice of the young Viscount. Gregory, however, would give no satisfaction, and Crichton then challenged him to fight, and took Gregory's weapons from him. After he had done so, Gregory was brought to Bognie by Crichton and his serving man, John Duffus, covered with wounds. Alexander Morison, a brother of Bognie's, took charge of the wounded man, in the Viscount and George Morison's absence; but next morning, before daylight, Francis Crichton with a band of men surprised the house of Bognie, and threatening death to all who resisted, seized Gregory, and after binding him on horseback, carried him off to a solitary house at Cranloch in the wild upper part of the parish. Meanwhile Gregory's wife had been searching the country for him, and when she arrived at Bognie was horrified to hear that he had been carried off. Next day a message came from Crichton requesting Bognie to meet at a spot to which the man would conduct him, but he must come alone. Bognie went, and the man conducted him to Cranloch, where he found Crichton keeping guard over his prisoner, and was asked by him to see Gregory, and say whether he was

¹ Charters penes Bognie and Frendraught.

² Retour penes Bognie and Frendraught.

likely to recover or die, for if he died, he said he would bury him on the moss. Bognie assured him that he would recover, and pleaded with Crichton to let him remove him at once, which Crichton, with considerable hesitation, at last agreed to, and so Gregory was conveyed on horseback to his own house at Kinnairdie. After a few days he was carried into Aberdeen to obtain medical advice, where he died. Francis Crichton was apprehended and tried for murder, and condemned to death, but efforts were immediately made by powerful friends on his behalf, with the result that he obtained the King's pardon, on the condition of his leaving the country. He, however, returned, and died at Fren-draught.¹ Alexander Gregory was succeeded by his brother.

David Gregory was served heir to his brother, June 11, 1667, and on 21st of July, 1677, he disposed the wadset of a large portion of the estates, including all and hail the Mains of Fren-draught, the tower and fortalice of Fren-draught, &c., to George Morison of Bognie, who disposed them in life-rent, November 5, 1678, in favour of Christian Urquhart, widow of James, second Viscount Fren-draught, for her life-time.²

James, first Viscount Fren-draught, went to London in 1663, in hopes of getting some aid from King Charles II. to his ruined fortunes. It was, however, a vain errand; the merry monarch who could spend hundreds of thousands on mistresses and illegitimate offspring, could give nothing to the ruined Lord of Fren-draught, who had sacrificed so much for him and his father. His Lordship, wounded in spirit, returned home, and died in the autumn of that year.³

XIV. James, II. Viscount Fren-draught,

married Christian, second daughter of Alexander Urquhart of Dunlugat, afterwards of Cromarty, widow of Lord Rutherford, who, after the Viscount's death, married George Morison of Bognie, of whom afterwards. This Lord Fren-draught, like his grandmother, Lady Crichton, adhered to the Church of Rome, and his conversion was for a long time a prayerful subject of consideration for the kirk-session of Forgue and the Presbytery of Turriff; but with more success than the Presbytery of Strathbogie had with her ladyship.

In the Presbytery book of Turriff it is recorded—"The Presbytery ordain the minister, Mr. Alexander Garden, and others to conferre with Lord Fren-draught. By-and-by they report 'that they are very hopeful of gaining him,' and they are desired to continue. The minister of Forgue is soon able to state that my Lord Creightone has become a hearer of the Word, and afterwards the committee report that they had conferred with him, 'de Transubstatione, de missa, de Purgatorio,' &c., and have good hopes that he will be ours. Accordingly, at next meeting, Mr. Alexander Garden reports, 'Yt my Lord Creightone has conformed in omnibus, that he had it under his Lordship's hands.' So Viscount Fren-draught 'became ours.'"²

He died about 1676, and was succeeded by his son,

¹ Bognie Charters.

² Notes on the Presbytery of Turriff by Rev. Jas. Brebner.

XV. William, III. Viscount Frendraught.

Of him very little is known; and regarding the third marriage of his mother, the following improbable story is told. It occurs in the life of Dame Christian Forbes, written by her son, Sir William Forbes, a descendant of the marriage.

The Viscountess announced a Scotch marriage to her maidens one afternoon in the words, "make down the bed for Saunders and me." The said Saunders had before or after this event got possession of wadsets over the estate, and being on his deathbed, the lady addressing him said, sign over to the lad (meaning her son William), "ye ken it is a' his ain."

Saunders—"I'll sign when I waken."

Narrator—"He wakened in hell!"

The story cannot be true, for George was the name of the Viscountess' husband, not Alexander.

William, Lord Crichton, being a minor, the Hon. Lewis Crichton was appointed his tutor. He died unmarried, in 1686, and was succeeded by his uncle,

XVI. Lewis, IV. Viscount Frendraught.

He was served heir to his nephew in 1686, and married Marjory Seaton, daughter of Thomas Seaton, Cornet of Horse (equitum signifer), and sister of James Seaton of Menie. Lewis, IV. Viscount, joined James VII., for which he was attainted by Parliament.¹

In Chambers' "Domestic Annals" we read—"In Stirling Castle lay, in 1692, the Viscount Frendraught, and having only five hundred merks per annum Scots (about £34), it was of importance that his wife should be allowed to come and live with him, instead of requiring a separate maintenance, to so low an ebb had the once flourishing house of Frendraught reached." With Lewis, IV. Viscount, ended the connection of the Crichtons of Crichton and Frendraught with Fergie, a family that had been Lords paramount of that parish for more than three hundred years. But the woe of the old poet, "Tristis et infelix et semper inhospita turris," was heavy upon them. Their house was left unto them desolate, and at the present day the name of Crichton has all but ceased in Fergie. They all sleep, the whole generations of them, in nameless graves, for no one can point to the grave of a Crichton. As was said of the proud Comyns, Earls of Buchan, that there was no memorial left them in the land, save the orisons of the monks of Deer, so of the Crichtons of Frendraught there is no memorial left of them in their native parish, save the sacred vessels in use at the present day in the kirk of Fergie. Lewis was succeeded in the title by his kinsman,

XVII. George, V. Viscount Frendraught.

George Crichton of Auchingoul was descended from a brother of the first Viscount

¹ Dognie Charters; Douglas' Peerage.

Frendraught. He assumed the title, though his right to it seems very doubtful, as the patent of 1642 was to the first Lord's heirs and successors. He married, in 1699, Marjory, widow of Lewis, IV. Lord Frendraught. She survived till 1742. In that year, Mary Seton, daughter of Lachlan Seton, Sergeant of 3rd Scotch Guards, was served heir to her cousin, Marjory Seton, Viscountess Frendraught.¹ There is also to be found a general retour (May 19, 1693) of George Crichton of Auchingoul to James, II. Viscount Frendraught.²

His son did not assume the title. He took part in the rising of 1745, and soon after that parted with Auchingoul. The title was claimed in 1839 by Mr. McGill Crichton of Rankeillour, but unsuccessfully.

We now return to the Morisons of Bognie, afterwards of Frendraught.

I. Alexander Morison of Bognie.

He acquired the lands of Bognie from Sir James Crichton and his wife, Elizabeth Gordon, in 1635. The charter is "Jacobus Crichton de Frendraught consensu et assensu mee conjugis Elizabethæ Gordon, Alexandro Moresone in Bognie et Elizabethæ Gairden ejus spouse diutius viventi totas et integras villas E. and W. Bognie, cum domibus, &c."³ From the above charter, we find that his wife's name was Elizabeth Gairden, a sister of Rev. Alexander Gairden, minister of Forgue. He married secondly, Katharine Gordon, and mention of her is made in the session records of Forgue.

Alexander Morison signed the Solemn League and Covenant, and also signed the Duke of Hamilton's bond in defence of King Charles I. This latter act incurred the extreme displeasure of the Presbytery of Turriff, and he was summoned before them. "1650, January 31. Comperit Alexander Morison of Bognie, a man whose affection to the Covenant and cause of God was notour to all the brethren, yet through uncircumpection had subscribed the band for carrying out the unlawful engagement, and being accused of the same, answered that he conceived the band did impart nothing prejudicial to the Covenant. He submitted to the judgment of the Presbytery, and after a time was received according to the common order." He had the following family:—

I. George, his successor.

II. Alexander, of Pennyburn, mentioned in a charter in the possession of the laird of Bognie. Also in the proceedings regarding the murder of Alexander Gregory, above narrated.

1. Barbara.

2. ———, married to ——— Blair; issue, Elizabeth Blair.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. George Morison of Bognie and of Frendraught.

He married, as has been already mentioned, Christian, Viscountess Frendraught.

¹ Decen. Index of Retours, 1742.

² Gen. Ret. Riddell's Notes on Frendraught Peerage, Advocates' Library, Edinb.

³ Charter penes. Bognie.

He was a leading man in the district before 1646,¹ and he purchased, as has been already mentioned, in 1676, the wadset of the lands of Fiendraught, and made them over in life-rent to the Viscountess. In 1696, George Morison and the Viscountess lived at Bognie House.

The household of Bognie, besides the Laird and the Viscountess, consisted of their son and two daughters; Barbara Morison, a sister of the Laird's; Elizabeth Blair, his niece; and Christian Ramsay, a niece of the Lady's. There were also a chaplain, a steward, the Laird's page, a man-cook, a footman, and a groom; likewise a farm grievie, five male and three female servants, in all twenty-three persons, which bespeaks the importance and affluence of the family at the end of the seventeenth century.² They had issue:—

I. Theodore, of whom afterwards.

1. Elizabeth, married to one of the Grants of Grant.
2. Susannah. She married John Forbes, son of Sir William Forbes of Monymusk, by Barbara, daughter of Sir John Dalmahoj of that ilk. This John Forbes acquired, in 1711, the properties of Upper Boyndlie and Ladysford in Buchan. He espoused the cause of the Pretender in 1715, and was obliged to leave the country, embarking on board a vessel from Banff bound for Holland. He perished at sea, not without a suspicion of foul play, as he had a considerable sum of money in his possession. He was collector of the subsidy imposed on the Shire of Aberdeen, by order of the Earl of Mar. They had issue five sons and six daughters. Christian married her cousin, Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Monymusk, from whom are descended Sir William Forbes of Pitsligo, the late Bishop of Brechin, Forbes of Medwyn, and the Hon. C. J. R. Trefusis, &c.

John Forbes of Boyndlie was succeeded in his estates by his third son, Theodore, a doctor of medicine, who, dying in 1736, was succeeded by his next youngest brother, John. He died in 1750, also without issue. The estates passed into the hands of his brother George. He married first, Jane, daughter of William Keith of Bruxie, by whom he had one son, George (of whom afterwards), and two daughters; the one died in infancy, the other unmarried. He married, secondly, Christian, daughter of Rev. Andrew Ken, minister of Turriff, by whom he had three sons and four daughters. His three sons by his second marriage all died without issue. Of his daughters, the eldest, Christian, was married to Alexander Innes of Pitmedden, of whom Colonel John Ramsay of Barra is descended. Barbara, the second, to Sir John Innes of Edengight.

(In the family Bible of John Forbes of Upper Boyndlie there is the following entry:—"My wife, Susannah Morison, lawful daughter to George

¹ Session Records, Forgue.

² Jervise Inscriptions, Vol. II

Morison of Bognie and Dame Christian Urquhart, Viscountess of Fren-draught, was born at Fren-draught, on Wednesday, 22 December, 1680." After the death of her husband, Mrs. Susanna Forbes of Boyndlie got a house from her brother, Theodore Morison of Bognie, at Mill of Fergie, where she and two of her daughters lived and died.)

George Morison died in 1699, and was succeeded by his son,

III. Theodore Morison of Bognie and Fren-draught.

He received the early part of his education at the Grammar School of Aberdeen. In the latter end of the seventeenth century, the scholars of the highest class were in the practice of exercising archery, and in shooting for a silver arrow which belonged to the school. When the victor was declared, he provided at his own expense a silver medal of value according to his rank, bearing the arms and motto of his family, or some other device agreeable to his fancy. This medal was deposited in the school as a memorial of the victor's early expenditure in archery. Of these medals, fourteen, of different dates, are still preserved, according to Kennedy's "Annals," and among them is one gained by Theodore Morison of Bognie. On one side there is a coat of arms with motto, "Sunt tria hæc unum," on the other side, "Theodorus Morison de Bognie, vicit 1699, anno ætatis 19 mo." From the medal we see that Theodore Morison was a minor when he succeeded his father, and that the date of his birth must have been about 1676.

He married Catharine, eldest daughter of Sir Charles Maitland of Pitriclie, and had the following issue:—

- I. **Alexander**, who succeeded.
- II. George, of Haddo. He married Miss Abercromby, daughter of General James Abercromby of Glassaugh, of the Birkenbog family, by Mary, daughter of William Duff of Dipple.
- III. Sir William. He was born about 1740; was educated at King's College University, Aberdeen. He was obliged to choose a profession, and he became a barrister. He went to Quebec to practice his profession, and while there, he married Catharine de Bronyac, a lady of French extraction, and of good family. From Quebec he went to the Island of Granada, and from his perfect knowledge of the French language, he met with great success in his profession. Through the influence of Mr. Pitt he was appointed Chief Justice of the Bahama Islands, and on his appointment, he received from George III. the honour of knighthood. Within two years after he landed at Nassau he died, leaving two sons and three daughters:—
 - I. William, appointed by Mr. Pitt, Controller of the Customs. He was a man of considerable abilities, and married a Miss Baldwin, sister of Captain Baldwin, R.N.
 - II. John, educated at Aberdeen, died 1832.

1. Caroline, married Mr. Gamble, afterwards to Mr. William Armstrong; had issue a son and a daughter, Thomas and Susan.
2. Amelia, married (it is believed privately) Hon. George King, afterwards Earl of Kingston; had issue a son and two daughters. The son entered the Royal Navy, and was at one time aide-de-camp to the King. One daughter married an English baronet; the other an English barrister, afterwards a judge at Westminster.
3. Jane, married Mr. Armstrong.
1. Jane, married John Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh, the male representative of Tolquhon. Their marriage contract is dated December 24, 1743. The issue of this marriage was three sons:—
 - I. William, born 1748, died unmarried.
 - II. Theodore, M.D. He married, 174—, Mary Carboine, a French lady of ancient family, from whom the present family of Whitehaugh and Tolquhon is descended.
 - III. John, died, unmarried, of fever at an early age, February 13, 1763.

Theodore Morison of Bognie died 4 June, 1766. The "Aberdeen Journal" of the period has the following notice of his death:—"Died at Bognie, 4 June, 1766, in the eighty-first year of his age, Theodore Morison of Bognie, whose amiable character is known to all whom his name has reached. Others may with truth be told that his lengthened life of uniform virtue and universal benevolence met even in this world an uncommon reward. He lived without an enemy, and died without a groan." He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Alexander Morison of Bognie and Fren draught.

He married Catharine, daughter of John Duff of Cowbin, by Helen, daughter of Sir James Gordon of Park, Bart. They had the following family:—

- I. **Theodore**, who succeeded.
- II. **John**, of Auchintoul, Cobairdy, &c., who succeeded his brother.
- III. George, died unmarried.
- IV. James, of Strawberry Vale, Finchley, in the county of Middlesex. He married first, Ann Victoire, Baroness de la Marre, of Remiremont, Lorraine, France. She was the only child of Baron Nicholas Philippe de la Marre, Captain in the Regiment D. Armagnach, by Lady de la Garde, of a very distinguished house. He was lineally descended from Claude de la Marre, residing at Fresues, who was ennobled by letters patent of Ervie of Lorraine, Bishop and Count of Verdun, issued on the 26 December, 1602, and enrolled on the 11th January, 1603, in consideration of his virtue, deserts, and valour, and as a reward for military service rendered. The letters patent further declare—"That the foresaid Claude and his

issue, born in lawful wedlock, inherit all his honours, franchises, immunities, prerogatives, and precedencies, that have been issued and used by gentlemen of noble lineage. Also that he bare, Azure with fesse argent, gules between two mullets of the same, and accompanied in chief with two fleurs de lis, or, and in point, with a crescent upright of the same; and for crest a flower of the ancient shield of nobility.' They had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded to Bognie.

II. **John**, who succeeded his brother.

III. Delamare, who died in 1847.

1. Anna (Von Rosenberg), wife of Baron Von Rosenberg of Dresden, born 1805; died at Dresden, 25 January, 1880; issue—the Baron Von Rosenberg, Dresden, Saxony.

2. Catharine, who died 20 December, 1823, aged 17.

3. Caroline, who died 6 January, 1823, aged 13. To the two latter a monument has been erected in Drum's Aisle, St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen, by their brother, Alexander.

James Morison married secondly, Sharmer Jemima Clarinda Cotter, by whom he had issue:—

IV. James, of Lincoln College, Oxford, M.A. Author of "The Service of Man, and other works. He married Miss Virtue, daughter of James Virtue, by whom he had issue one son, Theodore, and two daughters, Helen and Margaret. Mr Cotter Morison died 1888.

V. Alexander, a physician, died in early life.

1. Helen, married to ——— Grant of Artamford, and had issue. A granddaughter, Miss Byrne, married (as second wife) Alexander Gordon of Newton. Another became Mrs. Scott Moneriff.

2. Katharine, married to John Forbes of Boyndlie. They had issue, eight sons and four daughters. Seven of these died young and unmarried. Of their daughters, Katharine, the eldest, was married to Alexander Scott of Craibstone. Jane, the fourth, was married to John Charles Ogilvie of Auchiries. On Mr. Forbes' death in 1824, he was succeeded by his son, Alexander, who married Anabella, daughter of James Reid of Ardoch. He died in 1863, and was succeeded by his sister, Mrs. Ogilvie, who was succeeded, in 1872, by her son, George Ogilvie Forbes, M.D. He married Miss Cordiner of Memsie; issue, one son, John Charles Matthias Ogilvie, now of Boyndlie, and one daughter.

3. Jane, married first to James Ogilvy of Escravia, by whom she had one daughter, James Catharine, who was married to Colonel Keith Young, and had issue—I. Major Baird, who married first, Mary, daughter of Colonel Hamlin, of Royal Artillery; issue, one daughter, Matilda Mary.

(He married secondly, Lilius, daughter of John Blackwell, Esq.; issue, Keith Ogilvy Baird, Lieutenant R.A.; Ethel Hay Baird.) II. James Keith Wellington Baird, Captain, Rifle Brigade, who died in 1852.

1. Jane Margaret, died aged 15.
2. Elizabeth Forbes, died aged 16.
3. Mary Catharine, married to Alexander Morison of Bognie and Larchan.
4. Grace Julia, married to Rev. Philip Carlyon, Vicar of Wisbech, St. Mary's (issue, six children—1. Philip. II. Alexander Keith. III. Harold Baird. 1. Catharine Ogilvy. 2. Jessie Morison. 3. Julia Wistonsley).

Mrs. Ogilvy married secondly, Alexander Gordon of Newton, sometime of Tobago; issue, I. John, who succeeded to Newton. II. George, Captain in the Scots Greys. III. Alexander, who succeeded his brother George in the estate of Newton. Three daughters; two of whom died young; and Mary, who was married to T. A. Duff of Haddo, by whom she had Robert W. Duff, Major in the army; and Alexander G. Duff, Colonel in the Indian army.

4. Mary, died unmarried at Glenbogie Cottage, 28 October, 1859, aged 84.
5. Magdalen, married to John Shackleton. She died at Banff, March 24, 1853, aged 81.

Alexander Morison died September 17, 1801, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. Theodore Morison of Bognie and Fren draught.

He acquired, in 1812, the property of Mountblairy in Banffshire, where he died unmarried, October 9, 1834, in the eightieth year of his age, and was succeeded by his brother,

VI. John Morison of Bognie, Fren draught, and Mountblairy.

He was for sometime M.P. for Banffshire. He had, besides the properties above mentioned, the estates of Auchintoul, Cobairdy, and others, but possessed the estates of Bognie, Fren draught, and Mountblairy for only a few months. He married, in 1799, James, daughter of Mr. Fraser of Strichen, and aunt of Lord Lovat (restored in 1832). He died at London, February 12, 1835, in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and was succeeded by his only son,

VII. Alexander Morison of Bognie, Fren draught, and Mountblairy.

He was Vice-Lieutenant of the county of Banff; was a member of the English bar. He married, in 1836, Jessie, daughter of Garden Duff of Hatton, by his wife, Louisa Dunbar, sister of Sir George Dunbar of Hempriggs. Mr. Morison died February 1, 1874, and was succeeded in his estates of Mountblairy by his widow, and in Bognie and Fren draught by his cousin,

VIII. Alexander Morison of Bognie and Fren draught.

He was, as above narrated, the son of James Morison, by Anne Victoire, Baroness de la Marre. He was born in the West Indies, and early in life he entered the army of the East India Company, and after four years' service, retired with the rank of Captain. In 1866, he purchased the estate of Larchan in Perthshire. He married, as already mentioned, Mary Catharine, daughter of Colonel Keith Young, by James Catharine, only child of James Ogilvy of Escreavie. Mr. Morison died at Larchan House, December 30, 1879, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Margaret's, Forgue, Mr. Morison was succeeded by his brother,

IX. John Morison of Bognie and Fren draught.

He was the second son of James Morison by Anne Victoire, Baroness de la Marre. He was born July 5, 1812, and was educated at the Grammar School, Aberdeen. He married, September 5, 1840, Mary Jane, daughter of Thomas Wetherell, of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Grand Sable estate in the Island of St. Vincent, West Indies. Issue :—

I. **Frederick de la Marre**, his successor.

II. Alexander Theodore, Lieutenant in the Queen's Regiment. This amiable young man, beloved by every one who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, died of fever, at Dublin, on 15 October, 1875, aged twenty-six. The following regimental order was issued by the commanding officer :—" Royal Barracks, Dublin, October 16, 1875. The commanding officer regrets exceedingly having to certify to the Battalion, the death of Lieutenant A. T. Morison, of the Depot, 1st Battalion, which took place on the 15th inst., at the Station, of enteric fever. Although Lieutenant Morison had only been but a short time with the 2nd Battalion, still he showed symptoms of being a very promising officer, and had by his affability and general good nature endeared himself to all. Out of respect to the deceased, the officers of the Battalion will wear mourning."

1. Fanny Isabel, married first to Captain Low, Royal Scots, 28th Regiment ; secondly, to Major F. J. Tidmarsh, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's) Regiment, and has issue a son, Robert Molyneux.
2. Ada Henrietta Maria, married December 15, 1869, at St. George's Square, to Arthur Haye Francis, eldest son of the late Charles Arthur St. Leger, by Jane Robina, eldest daughter of the late William Hawksley, of 36 Lowndes Square, London. Mr. St. Leger's grandfather was the Hon. and Rev. James St. Leger, third son of the Right Hon. Aldworth St. Leger, first Viscount Doneraile, by Mary, eldest daughter of Richard Barry, of Ballyclough (*Burke's Peerage*, p. 325). They had issue a son, Valentine Aldworth, born February 1, 1871, died March 20, 1873.
3. Constance Victoire.

John Morison of Bognie died November, 1886, and was succeeded by his son,

**X. Frederick de la Marre Morison of Bognie, Frendraught,
and Mountblairy.**

He is Lieutenant-Colonel of the first Royal Scots Regiment ; was educated at Sandhurst ; and entered the regiment in 1860. He married, in 1869, Janet Forbes, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Newton, by Sarah, daughter of Alexander Forbes, third son of Duncan Forbes Mitchell of Thainston, by Janet, daughter of Sir William Forbes of Craigievar. They have issue :—

I. **Alexander Edward Forbes**, born 1874.

II. **Duncan Maitland**, born 1884.

1. **Isabel Gordon**, born 1871.

He married secondly, 1892, Miss Mair.

ARMS OF THE MORISONS OF BOGNIE.

Sir Alexander Morison of Preston Grange registered arms 1672-78. "Argent, three moors' heads coupé proper."

Henry Morison, W.S., registered the coat with three heads on one neck.

In 1673, George Morison of Bognie, Co. Banff, founder of a family still existing, was granted arms almost identical with the above mentioned.¹

¹ Stodart's Arms, Vol. II. p. 155.

ANTIQUITIES, &c., OF FORGUE.

THERE is no record at what period the House of Frendraught was modernised. The old tower has entirely disappeared, and the only remains of the ancient erection are some buildings at the south-east wing, and the lower apartments of the house. Several trees in the policies are of great size and age, some of which had been planted by the Crichtons.

The deep draw-well of the ballad stood in the courtyard at the back of the castle, and, according to a writer in the "Banffshire Journal," this well was cleaned out in 1811 or 1813, and keys were found. Were these the keys with which the vengeful dame locked the doors of the burning tower on her ill-fated guests? A pump has now been placed in the well.

At the east end of the House of Frendraught stands a small tumulus, not unlike a barrow of prehistoric times, but when it was opened sometime in this century no remains nor anything of interest were found. It may have been the Moothill, the place of assembly of the vassals, where cases of importance were tried by the chief, and justice, such as it was, administered in those days of blood and rapine. A similar tumulus on the banks of the Ythan, near Ellon, at one time existed. On this tumulus, called "the Earl's hill," the Earls of Buchan were invested, and there they held head courts four times a year.

According to a chronicler of the last century, on the Raich Hill stood the gibbet, half-a-mile north of Frendraught, on which many suffered; and a little below the Bridge of Fergie are to be seen the graves of a gang of gipsies, who suffered death by drowning. According to tradition, another gibbet stood on the Hill of Comisty. The Lords of Frendraught were said to be severe justiciaries within their own regality, and thus there may have been need for two.

On the farm of Wardend there are the remains of a stone circle, and excavations were made here, under the auspices of the late Dr. John Stuart, but nothing of interest was found. One upright stone, and the altar stone so called, remain on the southern slope of the Foreman hill, on the farm of Westerton. Likely there had at one time been other stones to complete the circle, but they had been made use of for building purposes, and have long since disappeared. A rocking stone, "lowtand or bowand stone," also existed near the farm of Westerton; but its rocking and bowing have long ago ceased. It was smashed and done for! There is still a circle in fair preservation on the Raich farm.

According to Colonel Shand of Templeland, who was a zealous antiquary, there was a Roman road, probably the one still in existence on the west side of the Raich hill from Fren draught to the public school of Forgue, and which leads to the Mamoch ford on the Deveron.

In the view of the Diocese, a chapel near Bognie is mentioned, but there are no remains save "umbra nominis" in the name of the farm "Chapel Park."

On the farm of Woodside, a mile west from Fren draught House, on a rising ground, there is a fosse or ditch. It is semi-circular in form, and a similar one existed fifty years ago on the rising ground on the opposite side of the valley. They were both probably used in defending the raids on Fren draught, which were frequently made in the olden time from Bain's hole.

Pennyburn was at the beginning of the last century a small separate estate, occupied by James Spence. On it there are the remains of a mansion house of very substantial masonry, which seems never to have been finished. According to one tradition, it was built by George Morison of Bognie, and whilst being rebuilt, the fourth Viscount of Fren draught died, when George Morison got possession of the Castle of Fren draught and the lands, and the building of the house of Pennyburn ceased.

THE BURGH OF FORGUE.

In a charter of Novodamus, of date 1612, one of the two deeds of the Fren draught property preserved when the "great kist" was burned in 1630, there is mentioned the erection de novo of "the Burgh of Forgue."

It runs thus—"We have de novo erected, made and constituted 'burgum de Forg,' &c., with the entire houses, buildings, gardens, lofts, crofts, pendicles, &c., and all things belonging unto a free burgh of barony, in all time coming to be called the burgh of Forgue, to James Crichton, jun., his heirs and assignees. Also free burgesses (liberos burgenses), bakers, braziers, linen drapers, sellers of fish, and all other artificers required within a free burgh. Also baillies, and all officers for the government of the said burgh. Also for erecting a cross (crucem forelem), a town-house (curiam). Also for holding within the said burgh two annual markets, namely, on the week before Palm Sunday, and to last for the space of five days; a second one beginning on the penultimate day of the month of September, the festival of St. Michael the Archangel, and also to last for the space of other five days, for the buying and selling in the said burgh of all kinds of merchandise, as are in use in a free burgh of Barony in the kingdom of Scotland." The burgh of Barony was said to have been situated near the parish kirk of Forgue; but beyond a public-house, whither some of the parishioners used to resort during divine service, much to the annoyance of the kirk-session, it never emerged further into existence. The times became troublesome, and the burgh of Forgue, though mentioned in subsequent charters and infestments was strangled in its birth.

THE SCOTT HALL was built by the late Walter Scott, Glendronach Distillery. It bears above the principal entrance, on a polished slab of Peterhead granite, the following inscription :—" Gifted to the parishioners of Forgue by Walter Scott, Glendronach, 1885."

By a disposition and deed of gift by Mr. Scott, he conveys the hall and site to six trustees, namely, Mr. John Morison of Bognie, and his successors in the estate of Bognie ; Mr. Robert Simpson, and his successors in the estate of Cobairdy ; Rev. James Brebner, minister of the parish, and his successors in office ; the Rev. William Temple and his successors in office, ministers of the Episcopal Church ; Mr. Robert Wright, principal teacher of the parish, and his successor ; Dr. P. G. Hay, medical officer of the parish, and his successors in office.

The hall is to be used for any meetings, lectures, social gatherings, entertainments, or other purposes which tend to promote the interests, improvement, well-being, benefit or enjoyment of the inhabitants.

Mr. Scott also gifted two hundred pounds towards the maintenance of the hall. There is in one of the rooms the nucleus of a library, consisting of about two hundred and twenty volumes, presented to the parish by the late John Morison of Bognie. There is also a portrait in oil of Mr. Scott, by Mr. Cadenhead, a rising artist. It is a full-length, and represents Mr. Scott seated in an old-fashioned, round-backed arm-chair. His right hand rests on the arm of the chair, while the left grasps the top of a walking stick. This portrait was presented to Mr. Scott by the parishioners of Forgue and other friends.

PORTRAITS AT FRENDDRAUGHT.

In the House of Frenndraught there are several portraits of interest, among others those of George Morison of Bognie and his wife, the Viscountess Frenndraught ; their son, Theodore Morison of Bognie ; and his grandson, Alexander Morison of Bognie.

There are three, however, of special interest, two said to be by Jameson, the Scottish Vandyke. These are the portraits of Sir James Crichton of Frenndraught and his wife, the Lady Elizabeth Gordon, so cruelly suspected of burning Frenndraught. The other is a portrait of the Admirable Crichton, as he is generally called, who was a relation of the Frenndraught family, though in what degree cannot now be easily traced. " He was one (according to Dr. Stuart) not the least memorable of the band of literary knight-errants in the sixteenth century, who made Scotland celebrated throughout the world. His knowledge of languages was wonderful, so that he received the name of the ' Admirable Crichton.' " His father was Robert Crichton of Elliock, a property which was made over to him and his son James, out of the wreck of the Bishopric of Dunkeld, by Bishop Crichton, who in a controversy with one of his vicars said, " that he never knew anything of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments ; but, thank God, he

had got on very well without them." Robert Crichton of Ellicock was Lord Advocate for Scotland during part of the reigns of Queen Mary and her son, James VI., and his son James was born August 19, 1560. In 1570, he went to the University of St. Andrews, where, on the 20 March, 1574, he took the degree of M.A. He went, in 1577, to France, where he is said to have distinguished himself by his skill alike in literature and arms. Leaving France, in 1580, he went to Italy, arriving at Venice, before the end of that year. On July 3, he met his death at the hands of his own pupil, under circumstances of romantic interest, at Mantua. There are in existence several portraits of the Admirable Crichton, and at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, where several were exhibited, the conclusion come to by the meeting, after careful examination, was in favour of the Frendraught portrait. There is also a portrait of one of the Crichtons of Auchingoul, at least on the back it is so marked; but whether it is the one who called himself fifth Lord Frendraught, or which member of the family, it is impossible to say.

DUNBARS OF CONZIE.

A little to the west of Bognie stood Conzie Castle, the materials of which were probably utilised in the building of Bognie House and that of Pennyburn, but there are no remains. A family, however, of considerable importance, for nearly two hundred years, flourished here—the Dunbars of Conzie.

Sir Alexander Dunbar, only son of James Dunbar, fifth Earl of Moray of that name, though he was deprived of the Earldom through the influence of the Douglas family, yet that was in a great measure compensated to him by King James II. He got Westfield in Morayshire, in 1450; Conzie in Forgue, and many other lands.¹ He married Isobel, daughter of Alexander Sutherland of Duffus, who survived him. He had issue, six sons and one daughter. His fourth son, Gavin, was Bishop of Aberdeen, and his third son, Alexander, got the lands of Kilbuiaic.

II. Alexander Dunbar of Kilbuiaic.

He married Janet, daughter of John, Earl of Sutherland, and had issue—**James**, his heir. This Alexander Dunbar was killed by Alexander Sutherland of Dalred, at the end of March, 1498. He was succeeded by his son,

III. James Dunbar of Conzie.

He was served heir to his father in the lands of Altcash, 12 June, 1502, and heir to his grandfather, Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, on January 3, 1505-6, in the lands of Colmyste, in the Lordship of Frendracht; and on 20 April following 1506, in the lands of Conzie, held in chief of the King for service of ward and

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 588.

relief.¹ By his first wife he had issue a son, **Alexander**, who succeeded to Conzie. He and his second wife got a charter under the great seal—"Jacobus Dunbar de Conzie et Isobel Brodie sue sponse."² By the said Isobel Brodie he left issue a son, George. He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Alexander Dunbar of Conzie.

He got a charter under the great seal—"Alexandro Dunbar de Conzie terrarum de Colmakill, dated June 20, 1563."³ He was one of the witnesses at an ecclesiastical court, where it was proved that James, Earl of Bothwell, was within the degrees of consanguinity forbidden by the church with Lady Jane Gordon, both on father and mother's side. Anno. 1565.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of John, sixth Lord Forbes, and by her he had a son, Alexander, who married Grisel, heiress of John Dunbar of Mochrum. He had also another son, William, the first Dunbar of Hempriggs, in Caithness-shire, who got a charter under the great seal—"Willelmo Dunbar filio Alexandri Dunbar de Conzie tertie partis villæ et terrarum de Hempriggs, dated 13 April, 1576,"⁴ a family now represented by Garden Duff Dunbar, who married, in St. Margaret's Church, Forgue, September 26, 1876, Louisa, eldest daughter of Lieutenant Colonel James Duff, Knockleith, and has issue.

They had probably another son, who succeeded to Conzie.

V. Patrick Dunbar of Conzie,

signed, in 1600, a band of manrent to the Marquis of Huntly.⁵ He was succeeded by

VI. Alexander Dunbar of Conzie.

In 1604, there is a sasine given to Alexander Dunbar of Conzie on the lands of Conzie and Eister Bognie, 15 May, 1604, and on 16 May, 1604, on the lands Penquonsie, with the mill and mill lands of the samen.

Again, 1625, 17 January, there is a sasine to Alexander Dunbar, son of James Dunbar in Conzie, in the town and lands of Conzie,⁶ and the same day sasine is granted of the town and lands of Conzie made by Alexander Dunbar, son of umquhile James Dunbar in Conzie, to James Crichton of Frendraught.⁷ Thus Conzie merges into the Frendraught estates, and the Dunbars disappear from Forgue.

COMMUNION CUPS OF FORGUE.—There are three chalices and two patens of considerable interest belonging to Forgue. These were presented by the Crichton family. One of them, a smaller chalice than the other two, appears to be of a date considerably

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 588.

2 Reg. of the Great Seal.

3 Reg. Mag. Sig.

4 Id.

5 Spald. Club. Misc. IV., 251.

6 Reg. of Sasines, H.M. Reg. Ho., Edinb.

7 Id.

earlier than that of the others, and may have been in use before the Reformation. The letters "I. V. F." are stamped upon it, and on the paten belonging to it, with great rudeness. On the latter are the letters "I. H. S.," with a cross engraved in a later style,¹ and on both the larger chalices is the inscription—"Giftit to God and to his church, be James Crichton of Frenndracht to the Kirk of Forrig, 1633." The basin or paten, which measures thirteen inches in diameter, is of beaten silver, having the Crichton arms engraved on a boss in the centre with the following inscription :—" Gifted to God, and his church of Forgue, by James, Viscount of Frenndraught, Lord Creichtoune." The letters "J. K." on the chalices are the initials of an Edinburgh silversmith of the day, while the letter "G." is that of the tradesman by whom the plate was assayed.

It appears that the chalices presented by James Crichton are of a form not unlike a champagne glass, which was very usual about the date of the Forgue ones, but did not continue long in use. While the Forgue chalices are interesting as specimens of the ecclesiastical taste of the day, they are perhaps more interesting from their probable connection with a striking incident in the history of the donor. The Laird of Frenndraught and his lady were accused of burning the Castle of Frenndraught, and on this account were brought into great trouble. When the circumstances of the Laird's position are considered, and the period of his sufferings, it does not seem unreasonable to suppose that the tragedy of the fire may have prompted him to the giving of the cups, while his elevation to the peerage may have led the son to follow the example of his father when he presented the massive basin inscribed with his arms. They were both thank-offerings. Sir James at the same time made a like gift to the neighbouring churches of Inverkeithney and Aberchirder.²

The part of the House of Bognie now remaining is used as a farm-house, and is surrounded by some fine old trees, especially two or three old Scotch fir trees near the turnpike, which are of great beauty. Near it is a fine old garden, which, according to tradition, was laid out and stocked with fruit trees under the auspices of Linnæus, the famous naturalist. The garden at Haddo was also, it is said, laid out under similar auspices.

¹ Proceedings Soc. Ant. Scot. Vol. X. Sess. 1872-73.

² Dr. Stuart in Transactions of Soc. Antiquaries, Edinb.

THE CHURCH OF FORGUE AND ITS MINISTERS.

THE parish of Forgue was dedicated to St. Margaret, but whether to the virgin and martyr of that name, or to St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, is not known.

Forgue is believed to be derived from the Gaelic word *Forrig*, a fork. Two small streams, the *Frennet* and the *Forge*, unite near the north-eastern boundary of the parish, giving the appearance of a fork, which may thus have given designation to the parish.

Pope Alexander IV., in 1257, confirmed to the Abbot and Convent of Arbroath the grant that had been made by Sir William de Ferendrach, without the consent of the Bishop of Aberdeen, of the patronage of the church of Ferendrach, with right to apply the fruits of the benefice, estimated at thirty merks, to their own proper uses.¹ This confirmation in the year 1296 was among the records carried off to England.² In a retour of date, August 1, 1699, Theodore Morison was served heir to his father, George Morison of Bognie, in the town and lands of Bognie, all in the parish of Fren draught, and in the parish of Forgue.³ This retour points to two parishes; but in a deed of sasine of 1612 (fortunately saved from the burning of the charter chest in 1630), by James Crichton of Fren draught to James Crichton, jun., mention is made of the right of patronage of the parochial church of Fren draught, commonly called "*Eccles de Forg.*"⁴ Fren draught has undergone various spellings. Thus we find—"Ferin draut, Ferendrace, Ferndraghe, Fernyroghe, and from these might easily be evolved the short name *Forge*." It was called *Forge* at a very early period. In a bull regarding the Abbey of Arbroath, in the time of one of the Popes Alexander, mention is made of the "*vicarie called Forge*," evidently alluding to the ancient foundation by Sir Michael de Ferendrach.⁵ So Fren draught and the parish of Forgue are one and the same, and the parish has been called by the latter name for at least five hundred years.

Of the names of the ministers before the Reformation very few have come down to us.

Duncan was vicar in 1296.⁶ He died in that year, and the monks of Arbroath appointed a chaplain to serve in the cure of the parish, and assigned to him a stipend of all the alterage, with the church lands and manse, reserving to themselves the great tithes of the whole parish, and the lesser tithes of lambs and wool.

Dominus Christinus, in 1371, is vicar of Forgue. He is obliged to take part in the following lawless transaction:—"John Aberchirder, the esquire of Sir Walter Leslie, met

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 522; II. p. 321;
Theiner's Monumenta, p. 74.

² Rob. Index to Missing Charters.

³ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 516.

⁴ Bognie Charters.

⁵ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 23.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 321.

John de Gairdyn, and arrested him, and atrociously struck his man, because he would not bind his master to his horse's tail. He then robbed the said John de Gairdyn of all his letters, and led him to a wood, where he was kept till he paid a ransom, and swore on the Holy Gospels, in presence of Dominus Christinus, vicar of Forgue, that he would not deliver the letters to any except to Walter Lesly."¹

Patrick Ogilvy, in 1485, receives from the Abbot of Arbroath, with consent of the whole chapter, a lease of the whole and entire tithes of the church of Forgue with the pertinents; and, in 1493, he takes part in a commission regarding the church lands of Aberchirder.²

William Christieson is mentioned, in 1535, as perpetual chaplain at the Altar of the Virgin Mary in the chancel of Forgue.³

Mr. George Ogistoun is, in 1542, vicar of Forgue, as we learn from the following record, no better than it should be:—"September 2, 1542. The King grants letters of legitimation to Patrick Ogistoun, bastard natural son of Mr. George Ogistoun, vicar of Forgue."⁴ He was probably the last of the vicars of Forgue before the Reformation.

The following are ministers of Forgue after the Reformation:—

Andrew Spens, in 1574, formerly reader at Edzell, is appointed reader to Forgue, Drumblait, and Culsalmond. He had £62 Scots as stipend, and the kirklands, and occupied, it is said, a servile office in Lord Forbes' house at Drumminor before his appointment.⁵

John Philip, in 1590, is translated from Forgue to Keith, and soon after to Rothiemay.

John Harvie, in 1601, is his successor.

James Hay, in 1608, is minister. He is a member of the General Assembly in 1610, and was present in 1620 at a visitation of the Presbytery of Strathbogie at Rothiemay.⁶

William Douglas, A.M., graduated at King's College, 1619, and in 1628, he was a member of the General Assembly, and of the commission in 1643. Orem in his history says:—"Mr. William Douglas, minister of Forgue, is chosen by the Covenanters to be Professor of Divinity in the College, and was reckoned a great man amongst the Covenanters next to Henderson. He was appointed professor about 1644. At the Restoration, he joined the Episcopal party, and kept his place. Kennedy says:—He was one of the ministers appointed to reprove Charles II., who, when in Aberdeen in the year 1650, had been observed using familiarities with the female friend who attended him. As spokesman of the committee, Mr. Douglas, after rebuking His Majesty, concluded by exhorting him to be more careful in shutting his windows, a delicacy, says Hume, which was never forgotten by the King."⁷ Mr. Douglas published the following works:—"Vindiciæ Psalmodiæ Ecclesiasticæ," "Oratio Panegyrica," on the Restoration of Charles II., &c. He married a daughter of Alexander Scroggie,

1 Leslie's History of the Leslies, Vol. I. p. 71.

2 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 322; II. p. 209.

3 Reg. Mag. Sig. (1535—) No. 1474.

4 Id. 1542, No. 2777.

5 Dr. Scott's Fasti, VI. pp. 65-66.

6 Gordon's Scots' Affairs, I. pref. p. liv.

7 Fasti Aberdeen; Orem's History of Old

Abdn. p. 323; Kennedy's Annals, II. p. 404.

minister of Aberdeen.¹ He died anno 1666, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Machar, upon the south side of the cathedral.

Alexander Garden, A.M., was appointed, on a presentation by James, Viscount Frendraught, before 20 August, 1645. He was named by Parliament one of the visitors of the University of Aberdeen, and also had a ratification from Parliament, 1649, of an Act of Presbytery, 6 December, 1647, which runs thus: "sceing he had bought the same at a dear rate from his predecessor, and had his biggins and manse all destroyed by fire, done by Montrose and other rebels, and that oftener than anes; has been plundered in later rebellions and insurrections, ordains the intrant successor to give him his aires or relict, in case of his decease, satisfaction for the whole biggins, according to the worth and value of them at his successor's entry, as shall be comprised by the sight of men of judgement." Mr. Garden gave in 1658, £26 12s. 11d. towards the erection of new buildings in the King's College, and was one of the Commissioners appointed, 22 February, 1661, for visiting the University of Aberdeen. He married Isobel Middleton, had issue two sons, Dr. George and Dr. James. The latter became Professor of Divinity in the above-mentioned University, but, refusing to conform to the establishment of Presbytery, he was deprived at the revolution of 1688. A sister, Elizabeth, was the wife of Alexander Morison of Bognie, and is mentioned in the charter of the lands of Bognie, 1635. Mr. Alexander Garden died 1674.²

George Garden, A.M., D.D., son of the above, was promoted, in 1679, from being regent in the University and King's College, Aberdeen; translated to Oldmachar in 1679;³ and was deposed by the General Assembly for Bourginianism; was author of the "Life of Scougal."

Patrick Harvey was admitted, by institution of the Bishop of Aberdeen, by Alexander Barclay, parson of Auchterless, 23 May, 1680. He was an heritor of the parish of Newmachar; married, and had a daughter, Christian. He died 1704.⁴

John Maitland was translated from Insch to Fergie in 1707. "After prayer and rolls called, Messrs. Chalmers, Turing, Bower, and Ross being present, the edict being returned legally executed and endorsed, was found in order, and no objections made against Mr. Maitland's admission to Fergie. Mr. William Chalmers preached from John iv. 13. After sermon, the questions usual on such occasions being proposed to the said Mr. John Maitland, to all which he gave satisfying answers, he was admitted fixed pastor of this congregation, and cordially adopted by all concerned."⁵ 26 January, 1715, Messrs. John and James Maitland, as having failed to observe the thanksgiving for King George on his accession to the throne, were called to answer for this neglect at Turriff, 23 March, 1715; were suspended by the Synod, April, 1715, and the suspension was sustained, and brethren deposed by the Commission of General Assembly, 8 May, 1715. (See St. Margaret's, Fergie.)

¹ Pedigree Rose of Insch, penes Editor.

² Bognie Charters.

³ Orem's Hist. p. 275.

⁴ Poll Book. II. p. 400.

⁵ Presbytery Record, Turriff.

Alexander Forbes was called by the Presbytery *jure devoluto*.¹ There was great opposition to his appointment (see St. Margaret's, Forgue), but it was at last effected. Rev. Alexander Forbes was born 1690. He married, and had issue a son, Alexander of Kirkpottie, who died unmarried. A daughter, Amelia, married Rev. John Beatson, minister of Dunbarney, in Perthshire, and had issue several sons, who inherited in succession their uncle's property of Kirkpottie, and an only daughter, who married Rev. Andrew Bell of Crail, and had issue. Mr. Forbes died 17 May, 1758, and his death is thus recorded in the "Aberdeen Journal" of the period:—"A gentleman who, through the whole career of his life, did honour to his profession, and worthily adorned the doctrine he taught. In 1734, he succeeded to a considerable fortune by the death of an uncle in Dublin, which, though it increased his power of doing good, could not increase his benevolence."

George Abercromby, A.M., was appointed in 1759; was translated from Footdee on the presentation of Theodore Morison of Bognie, and in June, 1772, was translated to Aberdeen.

Alexander Wilson, graduated at Aberdeen A.M. in 1761; was ordained December 2, 1772; died August 5, 1779. According to Dr. Scott, he was a son of Rev. James Wilson, minister of Gamrie; but Mr. Wilson had no son minister of Forgue.²

William Dingwall succeeded Mr. Wilson. He studied at Marischal College; was born 1745, and died 1801. His widow, Sarah Latta, survived till 1829. Mr. Dingwall published a statistical account of the parish.

Alexander Allardyce, M.A., was a son of George Allardyce, surgeon, Banff; graduated at King's College in 1793; was ordained to Forgue, 27 September, 1802; got a new church built at Forgue in 1819. He died in the pulpit, June, 1833, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and thirty-first of his ministry. He married Ann Dundas Blair, who had considerable literary and poetic skill. Mr. Allardyce had seven of a family, two sons and five daughters. The sons went abroad in 1821, James as a cadet to India, William as a settler to Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania). The former returned home in 1866, having attained the rank of Major-General, but the latter never returned, having died in Hobart Town in 1848. Of all the seven only one, the second daughter, was married. She had eight of a family, and has numerous descendants. After the death of Mr. Allardyce, his widow and children went to reside at Cromarty, where two surviving daughters, Ann and Catharine, still reside.

Mrs. Allardyce in her life-time published the "Gudewife at Home" in the Scottish dialect, as also stanzas on the death of Jane Maxwell, Duchess of Gordon, and also on the Battle of Waterloo. The following piece of poetry entitled "The Scotch nurse's lament for a little boy returning to England," written in 1826, is a specimen of Mrs. Allardyce's poetry, which, though not possessing high poetical merit, is very touching and pleasing. Mr. Allardyce and his family were staying at Haddo, in Forgue,

¹ New Stat. Acct. p. 607.

² Scott's Fasti, VI. pp. 65-66.

when it was written. Charlie was a nephew of Mr. Allardyce, and coming from India, where he was born, was sent as a very little boy to the manse of Forgue. He left India when he was about seven years old. Having become a great favourite with all at the manse of Forgue, his departure to India was much regretted. After his return to India he married, and soon after died.

How lonely now's the dear ain brae,
The burnie's rush is heard mair clearly,
For o'er them a' the livelong day,
Nae mair we'll hear the voice of Charlie.
They brought him here like primrose pale,
Scorched by the sun, and drooping sairly ;
But health cam' o'er the Northern gale,
And blooming grew the cheek o' Charlie.

They've taen him back like hardy flower
That's nurs't in Caledonia's bosom,
Till late in fortune's cruel power
Tears from her breast the thriving blossom.
Nae mair I'll see his winsome face,
Nae mair I'll hear his blythe good morrow,
Nae mair his skirl of joy I'll trace,
Nor yer his short-lived sough of sorrow.

Farewell ! Farewell ! my bonnie boy,
Life's pleasures vanish late or early,
Clouds follow fast on gleams of joy,
An' sic a sunny blink was Charlie.

PART II. (1846).

And I have lived to see the day,
When twenty years have vanished o'er me,
Then to resume the mournful lay,
A broken dream that floats before me.
The den, the burn, the flowery brae,
Are in the distance disappearing ;
The sportive child gone far away,
The northern tongue no longer hearing.

Again removed from friends and home,
And scenes where memory long must hover,
Restrained in learning's frigid dome,
The schoolboy cons his lesson over.
Time rolls—a bark is on the sea,
Beneath the line her pennon drooping,
The idle sails flap heavily,
And o'er her side the youth is stooping.

On India's tented fields at length,
He shares the toils of manhood's duty ;
But suns that sapped the young bud's strength
Can blight the blossom's opened beauty.
What next ? Alas ! a couch of pain,
A wife and babe around it weeping ;
And there's a grave far o'er the main ;
The dream is told, and Charlie's sleeping.

Mr. Allardyce was succeeded by

James Cordiner, M.A. He graduated at King's College in 1808; was appointed schoolmaster of Gartly in 1825; assisted for ten years Rev. James Douglas of Premnay; was presented in 1834 by Theodore Morison of Bognie to the Church of Forgue. He died March, 1849, aged sixty-three years, and in the fifteenth of his ministry, having married Rachael Reid, who died at Aberdeen, 5 September, 1856, aged seventy-two. They had issue a son, James Douglas, and a daughter, Ann Campbell. He published, in 1840, a new statistical account of the parish.

John Abel, M.A., was a native of the parish of Cluny; graduated at King's College, 1842, and was shortly afterwards appointed Murray Lecturer in said college. He was presented to the parish of Forgue by Alexander Morison of Bognie and Mountblair in 1849. Mainly through his exertions a new parish church and manse was built at Ythan Wells, and the district formed into a separate parish. Mr. Abel married Elizabeth, daughter of Hercules Scott, LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy, and had issue a large family. He died 1870.

James Brebner, M.A.; born at Lonmay, 1839; graduated at the University of Aberdeen, 1859; appointed to Ythan Wells in 1869; translated to Forgue, 1871; married Elspet Elmslie; issue—James, Lily, Gavin, Elsie, Annie, Alexander Morison, Helen, Louisa, Robert Frederick, Jessie Morison, Walter Scott, Catharine, and May.

YTHAN WELLS.

The first minister of this parish was Rev. James Brebner, M.A.; was translated to Forgue, 1871. The next, Alexander McWilliam, M.A., was some time schoolmaster at Ythan Wells; afterwards a clergyman in Prince Edward Island; appointed to Ythan Wells, in 1871, on the presentation of Alexander Morison of Mountblair; died 1887.

Alexander Boe, M.A., was appointed in 1887, and resigned 1890.

Alexander Wilson, M.A., a native of the district of Enzie, ordained 1890.

The Free Church of Forgue was formed into a congregation in 1843.

John Mathieson, M.A., ordained 1843; resigned 1865.

Alexander Wishart, appointed 1865.

THE CHURCHYARD OF FORGUE.

In the silent grave no conversation,
No joyful tread of friends, no voice of lovers ;
No careful father's counsel ; nothing's
Heard, nor nothing is, but all oblivion,
Dust, and an endless darkness.

—*Old Play.*

THE Crichtons of Fren draught were buried in the Crichton aisle of the old church, which now forms part of the churchyard, and is believed to be occupied by the family burying-ground of the Wilsons of Auchaber. Of the Crichtons there is no memorial of any kind in the churchyard.

On the north side of the old church was the Bognie aisle, now enclosed with a high wall, and within which are the following monuments:—I. "In memory of two sons and three daughters of the late John Forbes of Boyndlie, and Katharine Morison, his wife, who all died young, and are here interred. This stone was erected by their affectionate mother." II. "In memory of Magdalene Morison, widow of the late John Shackleton, Esq., and youngest daughter of the late Alexander Morison of Bognie, who died at Banff, 24 March, 1858, in the 82nd year of her age. Also of Mary, his fourth daughter, who died at Glenbogie Cottage, 26 October, 1859, in the 85th year of her age."

Another monument, at one time within the old kirk, now encased in a portion of the old belfry, presents a shield charged with the Garden arms—a boar's head in chief, and three crosslets in base, with the motto in Greek, "hear and forbear." Below is an inscription in Latin, carved in Portsoy marble, of which this is a translation—¹ "Sacred to the memory of Alexander Garden, sometime Professor of Philosophy in King's College, Aberdeen, afterwards the most exemplary minister of the church of Forgue. In his whole manner of life pious, strict and blameless, and faithful to God, the church, and himself. He was at last prostrated by scrofula, brought on by incessant labour and preaching, and in this church, where he had officiated as minister for thirty years, he piously deposited his mortal remains, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, 9 March, 1674, in the 63rd year of his age. His disconsolate spouse, Isa. Middleton, erected this monument to his memory."

There are other two tablets in memory of members of the Bognie family, which will be seen in the notice of St. Margaret's Church.

¹ Jervise' Inscriptions, Vol. II. p. 173.

A flat stone, said to be on the site of the pulpit of the old church, bears this inscription :—“Here lyes Thomas Forbes, son to Mr. Alexander Forbes, minister of Forgue, who died the last day of February, 1733, in the 4th year of his age. Also Katharine Garden, spouse to said Mr. Forbes, who died 7 September, 1746, aged 48 years; and the said Alexander Forbes, who was admitted minister of Forgue, 11 September, 1716, died 7 May, 1758, in the 69th year of his age, and 42nd of his ministry.” (See St. Margaret’s, Forgue.)

On a very handsome granite stone, in the north-east corner of the churchyard, may be read the following :—“The gift of God is eternal life.’ Here rest the mortal remains of Rev. George Allardyce, who was 30 years minister of this parish; who departed this life suddenly on the 2nd of June, 1833, aged 57. His widow, Ann Dundas Blair, died at Cromarty, 8 July, 1857, aged 80, and her mortal remains rest there ‘until the day dawn.’” (See ministers of Forgue.)

On a granite stone, within an enclosure, is the inscription :—“Rev. James Cordiner, for 14 years minister of Forgue, who died 4 March, 1849, aged 63; also of Rachael Reid, his spouse, who died at Aberdeen, 4 September, 1856, aged 72.”

A granite obelisk marks the grave of “Rev. John Abel, for 21 years minister of this parish; who died 31 January, 1871, aged 48 years; and of Elizabeth Scott, his wife, who died at Donbank Cottage, Woodside, 6 November, 1888, aged 57 years. ‘Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord.’” On the south side of the obelisk :—“His eldest daughter, Jane, died 7 January, 1872, aged 17. Jessie Duff died 7 January, 1872, aged 7 months. John died 7 January, 1872, aged 17. Elizabeth Scott died 10 September, 1872, aged 19. William Mearns died 6 March, 1881, aged 21. Rev. Alexander Morison, parish minister of Kinneff and Caterline, died 15 May, 1886, aged 30.” On the base :—“Erected by parishioners and others friends.”

A tombstone, with cross-bones, skull, and coffin, covers the remains of James Cruickshank, some time in Wardend; died 1752, aged 69; also his spouse, Isobel Davidson; also of William and Christian, their children.

A granite stone is inscribed—“George Cruickshank, farmer, Comisty, died 22 November, 1841, aged 76 years; also, Christian Alexander, his wife, who died at Comisty, 12 June, 1854, aged 71.”

Adjoining this one there is a headstone of granite “to the memory of Dr. James Cruickshank, Haughs of Corse, who died 12 August, 1849, aged 90. His wife, Helen Stuart, died 12 August, 1849, aged 80.” (This was a brother of the above George Cruickshank.)

Another stone is in memory of relatives of the same family bearing this inscription :—“William Cruickshank, sometime surgeon in the Naval Hospital, Bridgetown, Barbadoes, afterwards surgeon, Royal Artillery, Woolwich. Lecturer to the cadets and chymist to the Board of Ordinance. Died at Leys of Lessendrum, February 4, 1809, aged 50. His father, George Cruickshank, who practised physic and surgery for sixty

years in the neighbourhood, died at Leys, 7 January, 1812, aged 85. His usefulness will be long remembered in the district where he practised, by the poor with gratitude, and by all with respect."

A stone records the death of Christian Cruickshank who died at Huntly, 26 November, 1846, aged 84. "Esteemed for benevolence and amiable conduct." She left £100 to the poor of Forgue, under the charge of the parish minister and schoolmaster of Forgue.

A granite stone bears the inscription:—"James Crookshank, tenant in Conland and Mains of Bognie, died June 30, 1852, aged 60. Margaret, his wife, died 17 November, 1870, aged 68. Their eldest son, Alexander Shand, who was accidentally drowned in crossing the Marra Creek, New South Wales, 15 June, 1870, aged 32. Their younger son, James Robert, who died at Advale, Queensland, 17 February, 1882, aged 38 years. 'What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter.'"

On a table stone there is a Latin inscription, of which the following translation is given by Mr. Jervise:—"Here are laid the ashes of George Cruickshank, late farmer in Hassiewells, who died 15 September, 1795, in the 81st year of his age. This monument of their regret for his loss was erected by his surviving wife, Christian Largue, and her sons, John and William; the former a teacher in Banff Academy, and the latter schoolmaster in Huntly. The remains of Christian Largue, who died 17 March, 1797, are laid in the next grave to the north. 'For I know that the Author of our salvation liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth, when the last hour shall bring back primeval chaos; although the busy worm shall devour both my tender skin and flesh, I shall behold Him with mine own eyes, and not another.'"

On a headstone is the following:—"In memory of Susan Cruickshank, who resided many years at Haddo, and died at Boyndlie, 31 July, 1822, aged 80. Erected by Mr. Forbes' family." She was a nurse in that family.

Besides stones to the memory of the Cruickshank family, a name once very prevalent in Forgue, there are many memorials to a family of Shand, a name once no less prevalent. A table stone, with bevelled sides and ends, is erected by Mr. Robert Shand in Conland, "in memory of Agnes Littlejohn, his mother, who died 19 May, 1741, aged 46 years. As also in memory of George Shand, his father, sometime in Parkdargue, who died April 7, 1772, in the 84th year of his age; and of Elizabeth Alexander, wife to the said Robert Shand. She died 31 March, 1818, aged 85."

Another stone is "to the memory of Alexander Shand, second son of George Shand and Agnes Littlejohn, in Parkdargue, Colonel of the Royal Artillery, who died 7 April, 1803, aged 72, and was buried in this churchyard." There is an obelisk to his memory on the hill of Templeland, erected by his trustees, on which all his merits are detailed at full length. (See Templeland).

An upright stone is "sacred to the memory of Alexander Shand, late in Conland, who died there, on 9th April, 1837, in the 80th year of his age. (See Conland.)

On a table stone we may read the following :—“ In memory of Rev. Alexander Shand, pastor of the Episcopal Chapel, Arradoul, parish of Rathven, for upwards of forty-five years, who died 16 November, 1834, in the 70th year of his age, and the 49th of his ministry. Following the example of the true Shepherd, he was faithful in the discharge of his duty. He was respected and esteemed by all who knew him, and departed this life in the joyful hope of a blessed resurrection through Him ‘ who is the resurrection and the life.’ Helen Shand died at Boynsmill, 4 May, 1853, aged 85, relict of the late John Sharp in Templeland, and sister of the above Rev. Alexander Shand.” Mr. John Sharp was a nephew of Colonel Shand, and his son, who assumed the name of Shand, succeeded to Templeland. His death is recorded on the base of a granite cross :—“ At the foot of this cross rests in calm repose all that was mortal of Alexander Sharp Shand. He died 1875. ‘ Even so in Christ shall all be made alive.’” On another granite stone is inscribed :—“ Erected by Alexander Sharp Shand in memory of his two daughters, Mary, and her sister Helenore. ‘ Them that sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.’”

A granite stone is erected “ to the memory of George Shand of Ordens, Boyndie, who died 2 November, 1847, aged 77 ; also of his daughter, Jane, who died 2 April, 1871, aged 67.” A very old table stone records the death of an ancestor of this George Shand, and of the Shands of Templeland. (See Templeland.)

An upright stone bears the inscription :—“ Erected by James Shand, surgeon, Turriff, in memory of his father, William Shand, late tenant, Dykehead of Avochie, who died 22 October, 1833, aged 77 ; and of Janet Allan, his mother, who died 3 September, 1820, aged 56. Also in memory of the above named James Shand, surgeon, Turriff, died 29 May, 1853, aged 49.”

Another stone is “ to the memory of Rev. John Shand, for many years schoolmaster at Oyne ; died 17 July, 1858, aged 80. He was born at Auchinhamper, Inverkeithney.” Mr. Shand was for many years the active and intelligent secretary of the Garioch Farmer Club, and kept, it is said, the Garioch lairds in capital order. There are, besides the above recorded families, Shands in Yonder Bognie, Mill of Forgue, all more or less connected with each other.

A granite headstone is in memory of “ Alexander Rainy, farmer, Placemill, who died July, 1830, in the 86th year of his age ; also in memory of his wife, Jean Alexander, who died 8 April, 1843, in the 90th year of her age.” By talents and industry, blessed by Providence, they raised themselves from a humble station to great influence and respectability. By a donation which he secured on land, he provided an annuity of £20 sterling to the poor of Forgue, under the management of the kirk-session of Forgue and others.

The following two inscriptions are from a monument within an enclosure on the south side of the churchyard :—I. “ In memory of William Stuart, in Boynsmill, who died in 1742, aged 76, and of Janet Alexander, his wife ; also of William Stuart, their son, who held in lease the farms of Parkdargue, Kirktown, and Little Forgue, where he

died 12 January, 1784, aged 63. His wife, Helen Cruickshank, died 5 December, 1780, aged 76. Of their sons, Charles and James, the former died at Placemill, and the latter at Parkdargue, each in his 33rd year. William Stuart, farmer, Parkdargue (son of Robert Stuart), died at Drumblair Cottage, 19 April, 1854, aged 45. His daughter, Robina Eliza, died at Little Fergie, 9 April, 1853, aged 4 years. Elizabeth Thain, his spouse, died at Drumblair Cottage, 25 May, 1858, aged 32."

II. "William Stuart succeeded his father in the leases of Parkdargue, Kirktown, and Little Fergie, and died at Kirktown, 7 May, 1802, in his 61st year. Ann Gordon, his spouse, died likewise at Kirktown, 18 September, 1819, aged 73. Two of their sons, James and George, died in early life. Here also are interred the remains of Jane Glashan, wife of Robert Stuart of Aucharnie, who died at Little Fergie, 6 April, 1851, aged 80; and of their son, James Stuart, who died at Cocklarachie, 19 June, 1838, aged 28. Robert Stuart of Aucharnie died at Little Fergie, 3 September, 1855, aged 74." Of this family, so long in the parish, not one representative remains in Fergie. (See Aucharnie.)

"In memory of Rev. George Webster, who was born at Aucharnie in this parish, 28 July, 1790, and died 11 November, 1869. He was appointed schoolmaster of Fergie in 1809, and held that office for fifty-two years. This stone was erected by his widow." Mr. Webster was unfortunately drowned in the Deveron.

Upon a small marble stone within an enclosure is this inscription—"In memory of William Irvine of Cornyhaugh, who died at Towie 1 December, 1826; also of his wife, Martha Findlay, who died there, 26 March, 1823; and of two of their children, who died young. This stone is erected by their affectionate family. Also in memory of Mr. Irvine's ancestors, proprietors of Cornyhaugh for upwards of three hundred years, and interred in this spot. Agnes Irvine, fourth daughter of William Irvine and Martha Findlay, died June 1, 1844. Mary Irvine, third daughter of William and Martha Findlay, died November 16, 1880." (See Cornyhaugh.)

A table stone records the death of "George Phyn of Corse of Monellie, who died 1788 aged 76; and of Janet Simpson, his wife, who died 1780, aged 70. (See Corse of Monellie.)

On a stone of Peterhead granite there is this inscription:—"In memory of Rev. Andrew Ritchie, of the Episcopal Church, who died 15 December, 1846, aged 92 years. Also of Helen, his wife, who died 30 November, 1833, aged 72."

A table stone records the death of a predecessor of Mr. Ritchie's:—"Underneath is interred Rev. Alexander Smith, of the Episcopal Church, Parkdargue, who died 25 March, 1777, aged 63, and in the 36th year of his ministry; justly and universally regretted by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. This stone is erected by his only surviving son, Theodore Smith, merchant, Banff. This worthy man was a nonjuror, and never prayed for George II. or George III."

A stone of Peterhead granite records the following:—"In memory of William Thomson, mason, who was born at Cornyhaugh, and resided there for upwards of fifty years,

and died at Bogs of Raich, 17 August, 1834, aged 82; also of Helen Low, his spouse, who died at Bogs of Raich, 29 March, 1825, aged 52; also of their family, Alexander, who died there, 27 June, 1826, aged 32; James, who died at Muirton, 2 May, 1849, aged 46; John, who died at Bogs of Raich, 7 April, 1857, aged 64; George, who died at Cheltenham, 15 June, 1867, aged 63; Helen, who died at Forres, 7 October, 1870, aged 65; Peter, who died at Liverpool, 13 May, 1876, aged 61; William, who died at Aberdeen, 22 July, 1880, aged 81; Ann, who died at Boynsmill, 22 July, 1880, aged 69."

Within an enclosure are two table stones with the following inscriptions:—"Sacred to the memory of John Thain, who departed this life 21 December, 1816, aged 77. This stone is erected over his remains, in testimony of merited respect and filial regard, by his three sons, Thomas, Alexander, and John. Here also is interred Thomas Thain, late of Montreal, eldest son of the above named John Thain, who departed this life A.D. 1832, in the 53rd year of his age; so likewise was Barbara Thain, second daughter of John Thain, and his spouse, Anna Richardson. She, an humble follower of the blessed Jesus, resigned her soul to God, on 9 September, 1838. Mary Thain died at Drumblair Cottage, 28 October, 1853."

II. "Sacred to the memory of Anna Richardson, relict of the late John Thain, who departed this life on 16 January, 1824, aged 66 years. This stone is erected to commemorate departed worth, with every sentiment of filial regard, by her three surviving sons, Thomas, Alexander, and John. Here likewise is interred John Richardson Thain of Drumblair, youngest son of John Thain, and the above named Anna Richardson, who departed this life 4 September, 1846, in the 51st year of his age; also of Elizabeth Wilson, wife of the above named J. R. Thain, who died at Drumblair Cottage, 12 January, 1852, aged 54."

Three stones are to the memory of a family of Leslie, now represented by Alexander Leslie of Braco. I. "Here lies the body of John Leslie, late farmer in Corskelly, Rothiemay. He was born at Auchterless, February 16, 1722, and died July 8, 1794; a man respected by his friends and esteemed by all. This monument is erected by his widow, Margaret Duff Leslie. She died at Corskelly, 25 July, 1813, aged 67."

II. "In memory of Alexander Leslie, farmer, Corskelly, who died 16 February, 1859, aged 77; also his wife, Elizabeth Murray, who died 9 January, 1867, aged 83 years."

III. "Erected to the memory of John Leslie, farmer in Ittingstone, in the parish of Huntly, who died 4 May, 1818, aged 44. Also his children, Margaret and John, who died in infancy; also his wife, Isobel Stuart, who died 11 July, 1836, aged 50."

A massive granite stone, with an urn on the top, is inscribed "to the memory of Barbara Alexis Forbes, wife of Robert Simpson of Cobairdy, who died 9 March, 1837, aged 23. The said Robert Simpson of Cobairdy died 16 December, 1884, aged 80." On the north side "to the memory of Margaret Carny, widow of Robert Simpson of Cobairdy, who died 3 July, 1885, aged 61." On the south side, "In memory of John

Simpson, formerly in Crookmore, Tullynessle, who died at Cobairdy, 15 December, 1837, aged 88. Also of Agnes Browne, his wife, who died at Cobairdy, 13 January, 1849, aged 89." (See Cobairdy.)

A granite stone within an enclosure is "Sacred to the memory of John Henry of Corse, who died at Corse, June 19, 1850, aged 81; also of Charlotte Ross, his wife, who died at Corse, 24 May, 1850." (See Corse of Monellie.)

Also within an enclosure, a granite headstone records the following:—"James Wilson of Auchaber died August 27, 1838, aged 77; also of his wife, Isabella Petrie, who died 25 September, 1833, aged 73. Their son, James, who died in March, 1814; Jane, died 17 March, 1825; Isabella, died April, 1825; Lillias, died January 8, 1872; Ann, widow of Lawrence Davidson, M.D., died 22 November, 1886. 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.'"

A granite stone bears this inscription:—"Here are interred the remains of Alexander Harper, who died, much regretted, on 11 March, 1838, aged 84. He filled the office of Convener of the Incorporated Trades, and was afterwards, from 1836 till the time of his death, a magistrate of the city of Aberdeen; also Helen Stuart, his wife, who died 5 February, 1859, aged 67." He was the son of Alexander Harper, late of Conland Mill, who died July 8, 1824, aged 84. He held the office of elder in this parish for fifty years.

A stone records the death of James Dow, farmer, Cranloch, who died 25 August, 1859, aged 67.

O ye who run in life's career
As I have done before,
Employ well the days that pass
Which will return no more.
Here lies my body now unseen,
And mouldering in the dust;
So death will also visit thee,
And yield to it you must.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD.

“Sperat infestis.”

ON passing through Forgue, one of the most conspicuous objects in the glen that attracts the eye of the stranger is the handsome church of St. Margaret's. The congregation that assembles there is not without an interesting history, for it represents the one that was formed after the rising of 1715.

The first Presbyterian minister that we read of at Forgue after the Revolution was the Rev. John Maitland. He was the son of the Rev. John Maitland, minister of Inverkeithney, and grandson of Rev. Richard Maitland, sometime minister of Marnoch, afterwards of Inverkeithney. He succeeded the last Episcopal clergyman, Rev. Mr. Harvey; was translated from Inch by order of the Synod of Aberdeen, and settled at Forgue, on 23 May, 1707. This reverend gentleman and his brother, James, minister of Inverkeithney, were both deposed by the General Assembly, in a summary manner, on the 9 May, 1715, because they espoused the cause of the Pretender, refusing to observe the Thanksgiving for the accession of George I. on the 20 January, 1715.

In both parishes, the greater part of the parishioners took part with the ministers, and resented so deeply their deposition, that the clergymen appointed to announce it, were not only prevented entering the churches, but even the churchyards of the parishes.

The Viscountess Frendraught and her son, Theodore Morison of Bognie, also espoused the cause of the deposed ministers. The Viscountess possessing herself of the keys of both churches, locked the doors, and prevented the Presbytery of Turriff, who zealously exerted themselves, from supplying the vacancies,¹ and her ladyship only gave up the keys after a threatened civil action. After a time the Presbytery resolved to institute ministers to the vacant charges; and they began with Forgue first, selecting the Rev. Alexander Forbes as minister.

They took the usual steps towards his settlement; but the two ministers appointed to serve an edict, intimating the day fixed for Mr. Forbes' settlement, were prevented from doing so by an infuriated multitude, who roughly handled them. The Presbytery, from past experience dreading personal violence, applied to the proper quarters for a party of soldiers to protect them, and for the sheriff to render the kirk of Forgue patent. Both were promised, but neither was forthcoming. The Presbytery on the day of the settlement, 25 September, 1716, had to proceed to the kirk of Forgue without an escort,

¹ Presbytery Records of Turriff and New Statistical Account under Forgue.

and found "the Folk of Forgue" well prepared to give them a warm reception. They were met at the churchyard gate with stones and staves, were chased across the Burn of Forgue, and beyond the bounds of the parish. Then "the Folk" returned home, thinking how well they had baffled the Presbytery; but the latter trudged on all the way to the kirk of Auchterless, and there carried out the settlement of Mr. Forbes.

In the meantime the Messrs. Maitland, rejected by the Presbytery for no heinous sin against morality, but the venial one, so considered at least by many in those days, of espousing the cause of the House of Stuart, opened meeting-houses for their numerous friends and adherents both in Forgue and Inverkeithney. James retired to Boghead of Haddo, where he had a son born to him named John Maitland (in the days of his exile known as the Abbè Maitland), who, in 1746, was appointed chaplain to Lord Ogilvie's regiment, in the service of Prince Charles Stuart, and accompanied it to the fatal field of Culloden, where he is said to have administered in oatmeal and whisky (no other elements being at hand) the Holy Sacrament to the dying Lord Strathallan.¹ He was obliged to flee the country; and from whence he lived for many years in France; returned an old man to Edinburgh, and died there in 1800, in the ninetieth year of his age. A monument to his ancestors may be seen in the churchyard of Inverkeithney, but the venerable exile rests not there, but in the Greyfriars' churchyard, Edinburgh, afar from the grave of his fathers, by "the dark rolling stream of Duvranna."

Mr. John Maitland of Forgue remained, after his deposition, for some time in the manse of Forgue, and held service there, but on receiving a notice from the sheriff to remove, he agreed to do so at the term of Whitsunday, 1716. After this he opened a chapel at Pennyburn, near the House of Bognie. There seems to have been another at Cornyhaugh, served for some time by Mr. Irvine, brother of the proprietor of Cornyhaugh. The last appointment made to this charge was in 1773, when a Mr. M'Farlane was appointed, who, in subsequent years, became Bishop of Moray. Mr. John Maitland of Forgue died April 16, 1740, aged 69, and was succeeded by his brother, David Maitland, who became completely blind from cataract. The following obituary notice of him appeared in the "Aberdeen Journal" of the time. "November 15, 1757. Died last week, a bachelor at Pennyburn, in the 75th year of his age, Mr. David Maitland, a minister of the Episcopal persuasion. His father and grandfather exercised the pastoral function since the Restoration. What is most remarkable of this gentleman is, that for several years about 1734 he became quite blind, which did not interrupt the executing of his office; for he was incessantly employed in the duties of his calling, and when he went to Edinburgh, he was couched of a cataract by the celebrated Mr. George Lauder, surgeon, by which his sight was restored."²

In his time a heath-covered chapel was erected on a site given by Theodore Morison of Bognie, on the brow of the hill above the present farm of Parkdargue. This chapel, after the death of Mr. Maitland of Inverkeithney, seems to have served the Nonjurors, as they were called, of both parishes. The animosities in the parish of

¹ Jervise' Epitaphs, II. p. 273.

² Aberdeen Journal, 1757.

Forgue, after many of the ringleaders left the country, subsided under the peaceful pastorates of Messrs. David Maitland and Forbes.

A new storm, however, was soon to burst upon the Nonjurors. Prince Charles Edward Stuart landed at Moidart, in Argyleshire, and the Episcopalians of Scotland unwisely, we may now say, for themselves and the church espoused his cause.

They felt towards the Stuarts what a famous peer and novelist has so well expressed regarding Dutch William and his wife. "Hard task for us Britons to like a Dutchman, who dethrones his father-in-law, and drinks schnäpes; prejudice certainly, but so it is . . . like Queen Mary! I could as soon like Queen Goneril! Romance flies from these, flies to the poor dethroned fugitive Stuart, with all his sins upon his head." This feeling was similar under the first two Georges.

After the disastrous defeat of Culloden, vengeance speedily overtook the church. Most of the Episcopalian chapels were either pulled down or burned, and a detachment of the Duke of Cumberland's forces, under the Earl of Ancrum, is said to have made short work of the heath-clad chapel of Parkdargue. In 1746 and 1748 the persecuting statutes against the Episcopalians were enacted, which forbade an Episcopalian minister to officiate to more than four persons besides his own family, under pain of fine, imprisonment, or banishment. Any layman frequenting such assemblies subjected himself to a fine of five pounds for the first offence, and to two years' imprisonment for the second, so to avoid the statute, the clergyman generally preached from the door of his own house, the flock standing around.

In the life of Rev. John Skinner of Longside we find related an untoward accident that befel the famous poet and pastor while so engaged. "Mr. Skinner gave up in early life the use of a manuscript in preaching, having an unstitched sermon scattered by the hasty exit of a scared hen, while preaching at the door of his own house." At this time the Rev. Alexander Smith served at Parkdargue, and although no faithful chronicler has recorded whether Mr. Smith's sermons met with such mishaps, or the devotions of the congregation were so disturbed, we can easily imagine, in preaching from house to house (to be within the statute), to what sore straits clergymen were reduced.

All was gloom, but in the deepest darkness faith and hope supported them, and the dawn of a brighter day was at hand, for in 1760, good George III. came to the throne, and the persecuting statutes were kept in abeyance. Modest chapels were again rebuilt, and the simple heath-covered chapel at Parkdargue restored. Mr. Smith died in 1777, universally regretted by all who knew him, for as one of his successors has thus written of him—"His memory is still preserved as a painstaking instructor of the youth of his flock. He used to entice them, it is said, by various means to punctuality and attention, frequently rewarding the aptest scholar and encouraging the bashful with the smallest of our coins."

After Mr. Smith's death, the Rev. Alexander Jolly, better known in subsequent times as the saintly Bishop of Moray, had for eighteen months or so the charge of the

congregation along with that of Turriff. He was ordained deacon in 1776, and promoted to the priesthood, March 19, 1777, and was immediately appointed to the charge of these congregations.

From the excellent life of the Bishop by the Rev. William Walker, LL.D., Monymusk, we have some glimpses of Mr. Jolly's labours at Parkdargue. Considering the state of the roads in those days, little better than bridle paths, his frequent travels between the two charges must of itself have been a great labour. In his services at Parkdargue he received a crown for every time he officiated. He was passing rich, with something less than £40 a year. On his leaving Parkdargue, a present of £5 was collected for him. It appears that the congregation of Forgue had not been in the habit of communicating at Christmas; but Mr. Jolly set in order what was wanting. In a letter to Bishop Kilgour he says—"I gave them at Parkdargue an opportunity at Christmas, and had the comfort of a congregation almost as large as is usually there at Pentecost." Mr. Jolly, in 1787, removed from Turriff to Fraserburgh, and was consecrated Bishop of Moray in 1797. He died at Fraserburgh in 1838, and was buried at Turriff in his brother's grave, who, when a young man, had been accidentally drowned in the Deveron. Dr. Walker thus sums up his life:—"His life was the life of a saint, the life of one of the very few out of the many good, who are not simply pre-eminently good, but so good that one cannot conceive a better. . . . One such life, one such example is a precious boon and inheritance to any church. May the little church which he loved so well, and so greatly adorned, long continue to ponder and reverence the spotless memory of Alexander Jolly." May the descendants of his flock at Parkdargue so think of him.

Mr. Jolly was relieved of his labours at Parkdargue by the appointment of a young man, Rev. John Innes, M.A., some of whose relatives are still members of the congregation. Mr. Innes was much beloved at Forgue, and, to the great grief of the congregation, died, while quite a young man, of fever, November 16, 1792. About four years before his death, Prince Charles Edward Stuart died at Rome, January 31, 1788. Soon after the Bishops and clergy unanimously resolved to give an open public proof of their submission to the present government by praying in the express words of the English Liturgy for His Majesty King George III., and all the Royal family. On Sunday, May 25, 1788, the present Royal family were first publicly prayed for in all the Episcopal churches of Scotland; and on that day the congregation at Forgue ended their seventy-three years' testimony on behalf of the House of Stuart, and have ever since been good and loyal subjects.

Mr. Innes was buried in the churchyard of Forglen. The following inscription from the pen of the Rev. John Skinner is placed on his grave:—

“‘*Lege et Luge.*’ In memory of a faithful and beloved pastor, a studious preacher of Divine Truth, an agreeable member of society, a dutiful son, a worthy brother in both relations. This stone covers the early grave of Rev. John Innes, M.A., Presbyterian

at Parkdargue, whom, on the 16 November, 1792, a violent fever removed to a better life, in the thirty-sixth year of his age, and the fifteenth of his ministry."

"Fratrum, care choro grateque
Carissime plebi, ambobus
Tandem restituende, vale."

Mr. Innes was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Ritchie, formerly of Cuminestown, whose memory is still dear in Forgue. He was instituted to Parkdargue, January 1, 1793, by Right Rev. John Skinner, and resigned the charge, March 1, 1840. He died at Portsoy in 1846, in the ninety-third year of his age. The penal laws were repealed a few months before his appointment, and soon after, he and his congregation set about building a new church, which, it appears from the date on the old cross on the east end (taken, it is said, from Crichton's aisle in the old kirk of Forgue), was erected in 1795. The site was given by Alexander Morison of Bognie, the great grandfather of the present proprietor of the estate. A member of the congregation, John Forbes of Boyndlie, a son-in-law of the said Mr. Morison, took an active part in the building of the church. This excellent man, whose good advice on all occasions, the Bishop, on his appointment, recommended Mr. Ritchie to follow, lived then at Haddo. He not only laboured himself, but induced others to do likewise; and besides the household of his father-in-law, Mr. Morison of Bognie, found active co-operation and assistance among the following members, as appears in an old list:—The Misses Bisset of Lessendrum, Mr. Shand, Conland; Cruickshank, Comistry; Thains, Drumblair; Stuarts, Little Forgue; and many others. The church, though a plain building, was considered at the time of its erection a grand church; and compared with the heath-clad erection of many sad memories in its neighbourhood must have seemed so. After serving the congregation for sixty-one years, it showed symptoms of decay, and gave place to the present church, the foundation stone of which was laid on the 21st of August, 1856, by Mrs. Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy. Among the documents placed within the foundation stone was the following:—"In gloriam Dei et memoriam Sanctæ Margaretæ Reginae primum posuit Lapidem Janetta Uxor Alexandri Morison de Bognie, XXI. Die Augusti, Anno Domini, M.D.C.C.LVI. Gulielmo Episcopo, Aberdonensi; Jacobo Smith, Rectore; Gulielmo Ramage, Architecto; Johanne Thomson, murorum structore; Gulielmo et Jacobo Cooper, Fabris Tignariis."

Nearly two acres of land, at a nominal feu-duty (a shilling a year), were given, with consent of his successor, by Alexander Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy, as a site for a church, burial ground, parsonage, and garden. Towards the building of the church he contributed upwards of £1000, and in 1867 he erected a parsonage, and in 1868 a teacher's residence, all at his own expense.

In the summer of 1858, the church and churchyard were consecrated by the Right Rev. Thomas George Suther, D.C.L., Bishop of Aberdeen. The church is built in the early English style of architecture, and consists of porch, nave, and chancel, with tower and spire rising to the height of nearly a hundred and ten feet.

"The God's acre" around the church is well laid out, intersected with walks, adorned with shrubs, and may serve as a good model of a country churchyard. Many of them are so over-crowded, and repulsively kept, that the thought to be buried in them adds "a terror to the grave." In St. Margaret's burial ground a good many have found a last resting-place, including the late Alexander Morison of Bognie and Larghan.

In the tower are two bells, one a small one formerly in use at Fren draught, the gift of the then Alexander Morison of Bognie. It bears the date 1787. The other, a large one, is the gift of his grandson, and bears the inscription—"Ex dono Alexandri Morison de Bognie, Ecclesiæ Sanctæ Margaretæ, M.D.C.C.C.LXXII."

A clock, with two dials, by Benson, of London, was placed in the tower in the end of the year 1885, and was set agoing for the first time on January 6, 1886. Below the north dial on the tower has been placed this inscription:—"This clock the gift of John Morison of Bognie, 1885."

The Communion vessels are not ancient. Mr. Maitland, when thrust out of the parish kirk, did not think of spoiling the Egyptians, and carrying off the sacred vessels presented in Episcopal times to the kirk of Forgue, by Sir James Crichton of Fren draught, and his son, Viscount Fren draught. They were given the two cups in 1633, and the basin, small chalice, and paten at a later period. (See Antiquities of Forgue.)

The kirk of Forgue was also about the time the plate was given enlarged and repaired, and many of the inscriptions which were placed in it had reference to the persecution and odium which Sir James and his lady incurred on account of the burning of their castle of Fren draught.

According to an old chronicler of the last century, "It is a large parochial one, with two aisles; that on the north is the burial place of the Morisons of Bognie; that on the south, which is pewed and desked for the congregation, was the burial place of the Crichtons. The church had excellent painted seats, with carved work, with several inscriptions, such as the following—"God sends grace without fear," "Deus nobiscum quis contra," "O passi graviora his quoque Deus dabit finem."

This church had a roof of native Forgue oak. When the church was rebuilt in 1818 the roof and furnishings were sold to the managers of the Episcopal church, and were used by them in the erection of a parsonage for their minister. These, when the parsonage was rebuilt by Mr. Morison of Bognie in 1867, again came to the hammer, and were dispersed through the parish. The old oak planks may still, some of them, be seen devoted to various purposes. On looking at them, still almost as fresh as they were two hundred and seventy years ago, one cannot help reflecting on the vicissitude of all earthly things, and saying with Hamlet, "to what vile uses do we come, Horatio!"

In St. Margaret's church there is a large silver cup recently remodelled. It bears the inscription—"Bequeathed by Miss Anne Bisset to the Episcopal congregation of Parkdargue, 1806; remodelled by M. G. Bisset, 1866."

A large alms dish, the gift of Dr. Scott, is inscribed—"Presented to the Episcopal church of Forgue by Alexander Scott, Esq." Dr. Scott, a native of Huntly, was a medical officer in the East India Company's service, and married a daughter of John Forbes of Boyndlie. He founded two bursaries in the University of Aberdeen, one designed for the education of clergymen's sons and others for the ministry of the Episcopal Church; and another in the patronage of the Presbytery of Strathbogie, designed for a like purpose in the Established Church of Scotland. He left the rest of his means, including the estate of Craibstone, for the purpose of building and endowing a hospital in his native parish of Huntly, for the maintenance of old men and women of respectable characters, natives of Huntly. Dr. Scott died in 1836, and the hospital, having been built by his widow, was opened in May, 1856.

There is a chalice and paten of silver bearing the following inscription—"Gifted by Alexander and Anabella Forbes of Boyndlie to the Episcopal Church at Parkdargue for the use of the service of the altar, 1853."

In the church there is a fine organ by Mecklen, Schutze, & Co., Berlin, the gift of Mrs. Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy.

A massive font of freestone of elegant design, and an oak pulpit richly carved, are the gifts of the late George Thomson of Boynsmill.

In the chancel there is an altar of oak, and encaustic tiles of very rich design. These were procured by a legacy of £60, left on certain conditions for beautifying the chancel of the new church of St. Margaret's by the sister Katharine of the Sisterhood of Mercy, St. Pancras, London. She was the eldest daughter of the late John Charles Ogilvie, M.D., physician in Aberdeen, representative of the ancient family of Ogilvie of Auchiries. On All Saints' Day, in connection with this legacy, there is a celebration of the Holy Communion. The offertory is devoted to the formation of a Poors' Fund. The interest of this fund, after it reaches a capital sum of £25, is to be divided at the discretion of the incumbent amongst the poor of the congregation. It has some years ago reached this sum.

In the church on the north side there are four marble tablets to the memory of the Bognie family. The first two were removed from the mausoleum in the churchyard of Forgue by desire of Alexander Morison of Bognie, having been replaced there by fac-similes in granite.

On the first tablet there is the inscription:—"Within this sepulchre, erected by his desire, lies the body of George Morison of Bognie, who died in the year 1699. Here also are interred Theodore Morison of Bognie, only son to the said George Morison, who died in June, 1766, aged 81 years. Also Katharine Maitland, daughter of Sir Charles Maitland of Pitrichie, and spouse of the said Theodore Morison, who died in 1743, aged 48 years. Here also lie the remains of Alexander Morison of Bognie, son to the said Theodore Morison, who died 16 September, 1801, in the 78th year of his age. Also Katharine Duff, daughter of John Duff of Cowbin, and spouse of the said Alexander Morison, who died April 11, 1803, aged 71."

On the second tablet there is the following inscription :—"To the memory of Theodore Morison, Esq. of Bognie and Mountblairy, who died at Mountblairy, on the 9 October, 1834; and of his brother, John Morison, Esq. of Bognie and Auchintoul, who died at London on the 12th of February, 1835, in the 78th year of his age. His remains were removed to the mausoleum of Mountblairy, 1857. Alexander Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy, son of John Morison of Auchintoul and Bognie, died at Edinburgh, 1 February, 1874."

On the third tablet there is this inscription :—"To the memory of George Morison, third son of Alexander Morison of Bognie, who died in London, 1820. James Morison, fourth son of Alexander Morison of Bognie, born 1770, died in Paris, 1840. Anne Victoire De la Marre, daughter of Baron De la Marre of Remiremont, Lorraine, France, wife of James Morison, born 1786, died 1818. De la Marre Morison, third son of James Morison, born April 15, 1814; died in London, 1847. Alexander Morison, Esq. of Bognie and Larghan, eldest son of the above James Morison, died December 30, 1879, aged 70 years."

On the fourth tablet there is this inscription :—"Sacred to the memory of Alexander Theodore Morison, second son of John Morison of Bognie and Fren draught, a Lieutenant in Her Majesty's 2nd Foot, who died at the Royal Barracks, Dublin, on 15 October, 1875, aged 26 years. His dear, dear remains repose in the catacombs of the Brompton Cemetery. John Morison, Esq. of Bognie and Fren draught, son of James Morison, Esq., and Ann Victoire De la Marre, his wife, died at Tunbridge Wells, 9 March, 1886, aged 74 years."

The church contains the following stained glass windows—memorial and others :—

In the east window of the chancel there are three lancets. In the left and right are subjects illustrating the life of St. Margaret, Queen of Malcolm Canmore, to whose memory the church is dedicated. Underneath the one is the inscription—"This church was rebuilt chiefly by Alexander Morison of Bognie during the incumbency of James Smith, M.A., Presbyter, 1837." Under the right hand window is the inscription :—"In memory of Robert Stuart, who died 2 September, 1855, aged 74 years; of Jane Glashan, his wife, who died 6 September, 1851, aged 80 years. An offering by their son, John Stuart." This family was long connected with the congregation, having been members from 1716 to 1855; but now no longer is the name nor any of the race in Forgue. "The wind has gone over them, and their place knoweth them no more."

Their last surviving and distinguished son, John Stuart, LL.D., who gave this window, was born at Little Forgue in 1813. Educated at the University of Aberdeen, he became an advocate in Aberdeen, and as such practised his profession in Huntly. He was a great student of history, and especially of archæology, and in 1853, he was appointed one of the official searchers in the Register House, Edinburgh. Before that event, he had originated the Spalding Club, in company with Mr. Joseph Robertson. On coming to Edinburgh, he was chosen as the Secretary of the Scottish Society of Antiquaries. He edited for the Spalding Club, "The Book of Deer," "The Sculptured

Stones of Scotland" in two volumes; and many others of a like character, such as "The Records of the Monastery of Kinloss." He was an LL.D. of the University of Aberdeen, a member of the Archæological Society of Great Britain, and other learned societies. Dr. Stuart was twice married, first to the daughter of Alexander Burness of Mastrick, and secondly to Jane Ogilvie, of the Auchiries family. Two daughters by the first marriage survive, one of whom is married to Rev. John Woodward, LL.D., of St. Mary's, Montrose. He did not forget his native church, for in 1865, he gave a donation of £100 towards the endowment of St. Margaret's Church, upon the condition of the congregation raising £400 in addition. By the aid of Mr. and Mrs. Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy subscribing £200, Mr. George Cruickshank, Comistry, £30, and George Thomson of Boynsmill £100, and others, Mr. Stuart's donation was secured. He died at Ambleside on the 16 July, 1879, in the 64th year of his age.

In the middle lancet are subjects representing the Agony in the Garden, and our Lord bearing his cross. Below is the inscription—"An offering by Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie, in memory of John Forbes of Boyndlie, and Catharine Morison, his wife, long members of this congregation. The former died 6 December, 1824, the latter 5 January, 1832."

In the north side are two memorial windows, both double lancets. In the one which illustrates the parable of the talents, there is the inscription—"In memoriam, George Thomson of Boynsmill, obiit 15 June, 1867."

Mr. Thomson was of a family long resident in Forgue. In early life he went to England, where he was very successful in business, and, as has been already mentioned, he was very munificent to St. Margaret's Church. The window was placed in the church by his widow, Mrs. Thomson, of Ellingham House, Cheltenham. Another brother, Peter Thomson, also accompanied him to England, and he likewise was also very successful in business. He died in 1876, having that year been elected Mayor of Liverpool.

The other double lancet, represents our Lord's charge to St. Peter, and Christ blessing little children, and bears this inscription—"An offering by members of this congregation and other friends in memory of Very Rev. James Smith, M.A., some time Dean of Moray, and for twenty-six years incumbent of Forgue and Aberchirder. Born March 25, 1816; died December 27, 1867."

Mr. Smith was a native of Aberdeen, succeeded in 1840 to the incumbency of St. Margaret's, on the resignation of Rev. Andrew Ritchie; was incumbent of Aberchirder in the Diocese of Moray, and was for some time Dean of that Diocese, having been appointed to that office on the resignation of Very Rev. Hugh Willoughby Jermyn, now Bishop of Brechin, and "Primus Scotiæ Episcopus." He was a faithful pastor, serving his flock with a zeal rarely surpassed, and was mainly instrumental in securing the erection of the new church. He resigned the incumbency of this church in 1866, and removed to St. Margaret's, Lochee, where he died on St. Stephen's day, 1867, from fever caught in the assiduous ministrations to his flock. Both these windows, including the three lancets in the east end, are from the well-known firm of Messrs. Wailes, Newcastle.

On the south side there are four memorial windows—a double lancet in memory of John Morison of Bognie and Fren draught. The subject is Faith and Hope, while underneath on a brass plate is this inscription—"An offering to the gentle memory of their good father. The above window was erected by his daughters, Fanny Tidmarsh and Constance Victoire Morison. 'Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.'"

A single lancet by the Messrs. Ballantyne, Edinburgh, represents the Good Shepherd in the twenty-third Psalm, with this inscription—"To the glory of God.' In memory of Agnes Cruickshank, wife of James Cruickshank, surgeon, Wardend, born February 4, 1807; died March 20, 1875." Mrs. Cruickshank was eldest daughter of the late George Cruickshank, Comisty, a family long resident and respected in Fergue. James Cruickshank, her husband, was in early life a surgeon in the Royal Navy; and on his leaving the service, he retired to Wardend, where for upwards of fifty years he practised his profession. He died June 5, 1877, in the 86th year of his age.

There is also a window by Hardman, of Birmingham. It illustrates the parable of the Good Shepherd. It is in memory of David Collie, and bears this inscription—"To the glory of God, and in loving memory of David Collie, who fell asleep at Drumblair Lodge, on St. Philip and St. James Day, 1890; and of his son, David Collie, drowned at sea, 1886." This window was erected by his widow, Elizabeth Young Smith, who died January 11, 1892, aged 64.

There is another by Clayton and Bell illustrating the Resurrection through the Incarnation of our Saviour, while underneath the one medallion is the text, "The Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us;" and underneath the other, "This mortal must put on immortality." On a brass plate may be read the inscription—"Ethel Forrester Temple, 1872."

This was an offering of generous sympathy by the Venerable Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, Lessendrum. Mr. Bisset, of the ancient family of Lessendrum—(see Lessendrum)—was the son of William Fenwick of Lemmington House, and of Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Alexander Bisset, D.D., by Jane, daughter of General Boeland Knighton, Isle of Wight. He married, 1824, his cousin, Jane Harriot Bisset, daughter of Maurice George Bisset of Lessendrum, by his wife, Harriot, daughter of Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough. In 1859 they succeeded to the estate of Lessendrum, where for twenty years the good Archdeacon resided, wearing "the white flower of a blameless life," a blessing to the neighbourhood in which he lived. The generosity of this Christian gentleman was unbounded; no case of need but had his sympathy and aid, and he lived quietly at his beautiful residence at Lessendrum that he might have the more to give. By one who oftentimes experienced his benevolence has been added the following inscription—"An offering by the Venerable Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, M.A., Lessendrum, some time Rector of Drumholm, and Archdeacon of Raphoe, born November 19, 1797; died August 6, 1879. 'Dulcis anima vivas in Deo.'"

In the west window are two large lancets with trefoil above them, filled with stained glass by the Messrs. Ballantine, Edinburgh. In the one lancet there is the

figure of St. Luke, life-size, with the text on a scroll, "Be ye followers of them, who through faith and patience inherit the promises." In the other is the figure of St. John, with the text, "As in Adam all die, so even in Christ shall all be made alive." In the trefoil is the figure of a dove descending from the clouds, emblematic of the Holy Spirit. Underneath the two lancets is the inscription—"In memoriam, Alexander Morison de Bognie et Mountblairy. Born January 20, 1802; died February 1 1874." These windows were an offering by his widow, Mrs. Morison of Mountblairy, to whom St. Margaret's Church owed so much. Mr. Morison was the only son of John Morison of Auchintoul and Bognie, by his wife, James, daughter of Mr. Fraser of Strichen, and aunt of the Lord Lovat, restored to the title in 1832. He married, in 1836, Jessie, daughter of Garden Duff of Hatton, by Lousia Dunbar, daughter of Sir Benjamin Dunbar of Henpriggs, a family descended from the Dunbars of Conzie in Forgue.

There has also been erected by his widow, in obedience to his dying wishes, on a site purchased by her, on the estate of Templeland, a Cottage Hospital. This hospital, intended "to furnish good medical care and comforts to residents in the parishes of Forgue, Ythan Wells, Auchterless, and Inverkeithney," is under the management of the parish ministers of Forgue and Ythan Wells, the minister of St. Margaret's Church, the minister of the Free Church, and five others connected with the parishes interested. The hospital consists of two wings connected by a verandah, the one to be used as a fever ward, and the other for surgical cases and non-infectious complaints. It has been built and furnished with every requisite at the expense of Mrs. Morison, who handed over to the trustees £2000 towards its endowment, a sum since increased at her death by £500. On the front of one of the wings is the inscription—"This hospital was erected, at the desire of Alexander Morison of Bognie, by his sorrowing widow, 1874."

On the lawn in front of the hospital is a monument of polished Aberdeen granite surmounted by a cross, and on it may be read this inscription—"Erected by the tenantry on Bognie and Mountblairy, in affectionate and respectful remembrance of Alexander Morison of Bognie and Mountblairy, who was proprietor of these estates for thirty-nine years. Born January 20, 1802; died February 1, 1874."

A heating apparatus was placed in the church in 1877, the gift of Mrs. Morison of Mountblairy; and in the same year a donation of £100 was given by Alexander Cruickshank of Eynesbury, Australia, towards the endowment fund of St. Margaret's Church; also another donation of £100 by James Thomson of Leeds, in memory of his brother, William Thomson of Boynsmill Cottage, Forgue, and of Leeds, 1891.

A lectern—an oak eagle—was presented to the church by Miss Mary Cruickshank in memory of her father, James Cruickshank. It bears this inscription on a brass plate—"To the glory of God, and in loving memory of James Cruickshank, late of Ardfour, who died 28 September, 1888, aged 88."

Mrs. Morison of Mountblairy, so often mentioned in this notice, died July 27, 1883, aged 78.

Besides the friends and benefactors above mentioned, there were other three ladies who, in the early history of the congregation when at Boghead, Pennyburn, and Parkdargue, were good friends. These were Mrs. Susannah Forbes, widow of George Forbes of Boyndlie, and daughter of George Morison of Bognie, by Christian Urquhart, Viscountess Frendraught, and her two unmarried daughters, Barbara and Mary. George Forbes, who was a younger son by a second marriage of Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Monymusk, acquired Boyndlie in 1711, and was appointed collector of the land tax of the county of Aberdeen, and during the rising of 1715 exercised the office in behalf of the ill-fated son of King James II. After its failure, he had to flee the country, and having made his escape on a small vessel from Banff, was never heard of again. Foul play towards him was suspected, as he had some money in his possession, and some of the sailors were afterwards seen wearing his clothes, but his family dared not seek redress. Mrs. Forbes and her two unmarried daughters retired to Mill of Forgue, a place on her brother Theodore Morison of Bognie's property. He built a small house for her there, where she and her two daughters spent the remainder of their long lives. Another daughter, Christian, became the wife of her cousin, Sir William Forbes, fifth baronet, and after his death she resided for some time with her mother and sisters at Mill of Forgue, but afterwards went to Aberdeen for the education of her children, although she always spent a few weeks in summer with her mother and sisters. Sir William Forbes, Bart, the eminent banker and restorer of the fortunes of his house, in a life of his mother thus writes:—"The house (1789), though ruinous, still exists, and I never pass that way without emotion from the recollection of the scenes where I had spent so many of my boyish days. My two aunts, though they lived in a most frugal manner, were dignified and very hospitable, and widely respected for their cultivated minds and high principles. They had tall stately figures, wore quaint dresses with trains, and sleeves reaching to the elbows, with ruffles, long gloves, or mittens."¹ The two ladies died both nearly ninety years of age, and rest along with their mother in Bognie's Aisle, though no memorial marks their graves.

MRS. SHACKLETON'S BOUNTY.

Miss Jeanetta Morison died in 1892, and under her will she left £300, the interest of which is to be paid annually share and share alike to two of the most deserving females in the parish of Forgue not on the poors' roll, to be ascertained and named by the minister of the Episcopal Church. Females belonging to the Episcopal Church of Forgue shall be preferred, and the same shall be known by the name of "Mrs. Shackleton's bounty."

¹ Life of Dame Christian Forbes by her son Sir William Forbes, Bart.

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCHYARD.

In this churchyard a good many have found a last resting-place.

A small free-stone cross has the following inscriptions:—"In memory of James Denton Smith, son of Rev. James Smith, born 30 March, 1863; died March 1, 1864; also of Leonard Denton Smith, born 4 December, 1864, died 4 June, 1865. On the west side, Very Rev. James Smith, some time Dean of Moray, died at St. Margaret's, Lochee, December 21, 1867, aged 51. Elizabeth Denton, his wife, died September 9, 1870." Mr. Smith and his wife are buried at Dundee.

An upright stone with a cross is "In memory of Rev. John Innes, M.A., incumbent of the Episcopal Church of Parkdargue, who died November 16, 1792, in the 36th year of his age, and the 15th of his ministry; also of his brother, Alexander Innes, who died November, 1833, aged 80." On the reverse side, "In memory of Alexander Low, late farmer in Nether Comisty, who died 10 October, 1883, aged 73; his son, John, died 9 October, 1839, aged 14. Both rest at Inverkeithney. His daughter, Elizabeth, died 22 April, 1868, aged 47, who rests here. His son, James, died at New Orleans, 9 June 1873, aged 43. His widow, Elizabeth Innes, died at Kirkland Cottage, Forgue, December 24, 1888, in the 90th year of her age."

A cross marks the grave of Alexander Pyper, the faithful and attached servant for thirty-one years to Robert Simpson of Cobairdy, died December 5, 1868, aged 48.

Another cross marks the grave of Ethel Forrester Temple, who died August 13, 1872.

Vale cara ! sed non æternum cara vale !
Farewell, dear one; but not for ever hope replies.

A large granite cross, upwards of twenty feet in height, marks the grave of Alexander Morison of Bognie and Larghan, born 6 May, 1809, died 13 December, 1879.

On the lower limb of the cross are the Bognie arms—three moors' heads coupéd together. Crest, a dagger grasped by two hands. Motto, "Uno ictu."

A polished Aberdeen granite pillar, surmounted by an urn, is "In memory of George Bartlett, surgeon, Forgue, who died at Clifton Cottage, February 18, 1879." A granite cross adjoining records the death of his son, "Alexander, born March 17, 1865; died February 3, 1869." Dr. Bartlett was a very successful and much beloved practitioner for upwards of fifteen years in Forgue.

A granite stone bears the inscription, "In memory of Margaret Barron, beloved wife of Robert Wright, schoolmaster, Forgue, who died 15 July, 1882, aged 26 years."

Another granite stone of massive design is "To the memory of George Cruickshank, Comisty, who died 27 September, 1886, aged 68. Also of his wife, Ann Wallace, who died 10 July, 1887, aged 56." A cross at the foot is "To the memory of two daughters, Agnes Christina and Jessie Morison, who died in infancy." Mr. Cruickshank, a very intelligent man, was long factor on Bognie and other estates, and took much interest in the affairs of the parish.

A cross of Sicilian marble bears the inscription, "In loving memory of Garden Duff Dunbar of Hempriggs, Caithness, late of 75th Cameron Highlanders, and Deputy-Conservator of Forests, Bias, Punjab. Born 7 May, 1837, died June 1, 1889."

A granite stone is "In memory of Ferguson Simpson, late farmer Mains of Pitfour, who died at Woodland Cottage, January 8, 1875. Crawford, his son, died in Australia, November 13, 1859. Eliza N. S. Murray died at Portsoy, November 16, 1870. Ferguson, his son, died in New South Wales, December 30, 1877. Also his son, Alexander, of Demerara, who died at Aberdeen, October 3, 1879, and rests here." Mr. Ferguson Simpson was a famed agriculturist in Buchan. His first prize for the famous bull, "The Buchan Hero," at the Smithfield exhibition, London (being almost the first from Aberdeenshire), brought no little credit to the district.

A granite stone within an enclosure records the following—"In memory of James Cruickshank, surgeon, R.N., Wardend, who died June 5, 1877, aged 85; and of Agnes Cruickshank, his wife, who died March 20, 1875, aged 78. Also Agnes, their daughter, who died October 8, 1854, aged 29. Also Helen, who died February 18, 1852, aged 21."

Another granite stone within an enclosure is inscribed "To the memory of James Cruickshank, son of George Cruickshank, Comisty, by his wife, Janet Guthrie (of Tollo), born at Comisty; for fifty-five years farmer in Ardfour, who died at Woodland, 28 September, 1888, in the 89th year of his age."

A cross is "In memory of James Taylor, farmer, Corse of Monellie, who died at Corse House, 9th of August, 1890, aged 72. Also his wife, Isabella Cruickshank Low, who died at Corse House, 16 November, 1890, aged 67. 'Till the day dawn.'"

A polished Peterhead granite stone is "In memory of Ann Gordon, wife of William Thomson of this parish, who died 29 November, 1860, aged 32 years."

TEMPLELAND.

“Virtute Duce comite Fortuna.”

THIS property, as its name indicates, at one time formed a portion of the numerous possessions of the Order of the Knights' Templars. This Order was founded at the beginning of the twelfth century as a religious and a military Order for the protection of the Holy Sepulchre, and had become by the thirteenth century a very wealthy body with large possessions and settlements both on the continent and in Britain. In Aberdeenshire, besides Forgue, the Knights' Templars had possessions in Auchterless, Fyvie, Kennethmont, Rhynie, Kildrummy, &c. So wealthy were they, that many kings became jealous of their power, and at last, Philip, King of France, and Edward II. of England, with the assistance of Pope Clement V., carried out a wholesale confiscation of their property, and most unjustly and cruelly persecuted the Order. In 1312, the whole Order was suppressed through Europe, and their possessions nominally given to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John. A well on the property is dedicated to St. John, the patron Saint of the Hospitallers, and the belief in its curative virtues is yet scarcely defunct, but in order to get the full benefit from the water, it is necessary to drop a crooked pin into it. The Forgue Cottage Hospital, it will thus be seen, has found a proper site on the lands of Templeland, old possessions of the Hospitallers.

In 1641, we find Templeland included in the lands of Fren draught, in an act of ratification, in favour of the Laird of Fren draught, of the lands and barony of Fren draught, passed in the Scotch parliament. “All and hail the lands of Templeland, of Fren draught, and the office of heritable baillie thereof, &c., in favour of James Crichton.”¹ In 1696, Templeland still formed part of the dominical lands of Fren draught, and in 1719, Theodore Morison of Bognie and Fren draught sold to Alexander Duff of Hatton the lands of Templeland, along with several others in the parish of Forgue, including the lands of Bogfontain, Glenmailen, Balgaveny, Garriesford, Auchaber, Drumblair, &c.²

The lands of Templeland, after changing hands several times, were bought, in 1778, by Mr. Robert Shand in Conland, for his brother, Captain Alexander Shand, in the Royal Artillery, who was at that time in foreign service. Colonel Shand, as he afterwards became, was born at Parkdargue, Forgue, May 9, 1731, being the son of George Shand and Agnes Littlejohn residing there. The following is the descent :—

¹ Bognie Charters.

² Templeland Charters.

Robert Shand, tenant, 1696, in Kirktown, Forgue : married Elizabeth Wright, and had issue :—

I. George, born 1688, married, as above narrated, Agnes Littlejohn, and had issue :—

I. Robert Shand in Conland, married Elizabeth Alexander, and had issue—I. George, merchant, Grenada. II. Alexander, in Conland. (See Conland.)

II. Alexander, Lieutenant-Colonel, of whom afterwards.

1. Elizabeth, married ——— Sharp, and had issue :—I. John, in Cairnton of Cobairdy, of whom afterward. 1. Agnes, married to George Winton, in Largue, and had issue :— I. George, II. John. III. William, M.D., H.E.I.C.S. IV. James. 1. Margaret. 2. Agnes.

2. Christian, married George Sharp, in Turtorie, and had issue— John.

3. Margaret, married to Robert Crookshank, in Cottown of Hawk-hall ; had issue :—I. James, in Mains of Fren draught, afterwards succeeded his cousin, Alexander Shand in Conland ; married Margaret Cruickshank, and had issue—Alexander, Robert, Janet, Agnes, Eliza, and Margaret. II. John, an advocate in Edinburgh, afterwards in Madras. He was very highly respected, and at his death had a monument erected to his memory by public subscription. III. George, who was drowned on a voyage to Madras while performing an act of bravery, which saved the ship and the lives of all on board. 1. Isobel, married to John Middleton, H.M.I.R.

II. John Shand, in Muirtown, married Ann Forsyth, and had issue :—

I. James, died 1717.

II. Alexander, died 1745.

III. George, married to Christian Grant, issue—a son, Alexander, Ordens, Banffshire, who married Jane Alexander ; had issue—

I. George, Ordens, J.P., Banffshire, married to Jessie Watt. 1. Ann ; 2. Jane ; died 1871.

We now return to Colonel Shand. He received a very good education, and some time before the year 1760, he joined the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and saw much military service. For some time he was Lieutenant Fireworker, in which capacity he gallantly distinguished himself in several engagements in Germany, and was severely wounded in the foot at the Battle of Brandywine River in America, on 11 September, 1777. He was also present at the memorable siege of Gibraltar in the years 1780-81-82, and rendered distinguished service there under Lord Heathfield, whose confidence and

regard he enjoyed in a very high degree. He died on his estate of Templeland in April, 1803, and was interred in the churchyard of Forgue, where there is a monument to his memory. There is also a pyramid to his memory on the hill of Templeland erected by his trustees.

Colonel Shand, after his retirement from the army, in his leisure at Templeland devoted much of his time to the study of antiquities, and, according to Jervise, he was the first to discover the Roman camp at Glenmailen, near the source of the Ythan, of which he wrote an account to the Society of Antiquaries, Scotland, in 1788. Colonel Shand was inclined to believe that the track of the Roman road from Glenmailen passed through Forgue by the Raich hills, and the Deveron at Auchingoul, in the direction of the hill of Durn. Others are of opinion that this was but a branch, and that the main road passed by the redoubt over the seed-hill of Auchaber to Corse, Lessendrum, and Cobairdy, crossing the Deveron at the fords of Avochie to the camp of Floors. It is, however, very doubtful if a Roman road can be traced beyond Glenmailen.

Colonel Shand did much to improve his property of Templeland by planting and rearing timber, by a system somewhat similar to irrigation. He entailed his property on a series of heirs—amongst them were the children of his nephew, Mr. John Sharp, above narrated.

Mr. John Sharp married Helen Shand, a sister of the Very Rev. Alexander Shand of Arradoul, Dean of the Diocese of Aberdeen. He was related to the Banffshire family of that name, the most illustrious of whose members was the unfortunate Archbishop Sharp, son of William Sharp, Sheriff-Clerk of Banffshire. They had issue :—

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded his grand-uncle, Colonel Shand, in the estate of Templeland, and took the surname of Shand.

1. Helen, married to her cousin, George Winton, in Largue (son of George Winton, in Largue, and Agnes Sharp, niece of Colonel Shand); had issue (among others who died in infancy) a son, George Winton, Kirkton, Forgue; married Jane Robertson, and has issue.
2. Elizabeth, married to Mr. James Cruickshank, Ardfour, J.P., Banffshire; issue, George, Mary, and others.
3. Margaret, married to James Craigen, Auchingoul; issue—I. Alexander. II. George. III. James. IV. William, all of Demerara. 1. Margaret.
4. Agnes, married to her cousin, John Winton, Glendronach.

By the terms of Colonel Shand's will, his trustees were directed to invest from time to time any moveable property of which he might be possessed in the purchase of lands, to be subsequently entailed and added to the Templeland estate; and under this direction they bought part, in 1808, of the property of Aucharnie, and in 1816, Drimmies, in the parish of Inverurie. Colonel Shand, in virtue of this entail, was succeeded by his grand-nephew, above mentioned.

II. Alexander Sharp Shand of Templeland.

Mr. Sharp, in compliance with his grand-uncle's will, assumed the name of Shand.

He was a J.P. for the county of Aberdeen ; married, in 1835, Miss Mary Sangster, and had issue :—

1. Mary, died 1866.
2. Helenore, died in infancy.
3. **Barbara**, who succeeded.

Mr. Sharp Shand died in 1875, and was succeeded by his last surviving daughter,

III. Barbara Shand of Templeland.

She married, in 1869, J. W. F. Smith, M.D. ; had issue —

- I. James Gordon, died in infancy.

II. **Alexander Kenneth**, who succeeded his mother.

1. Mary Jane.
2. Isabella.
3. Barbara Beatrice.
4. Amy Patricia.
5. Ethel Fraser.

Dr. Smith, who on the death of his father-in-law assumed the name of Shand, was Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen, and the second son of the late James Smith, surgeon, Hon. East India Company's service, who married his first cousin, Isabella, youngest daughter of the late Right Rev. Patrick Torry, D.D., Bishop of St. Andrews, and sister of Very Rev. John Torry, M.A., Dean of St. Andrews. The Smiths and the Torrys belonged originally to Menquhitter and King-Edward respectively. An uncle of the Bishop's, James Torry, a zealous Jacobite, was out in the '45, and served, as a volunteer, in Lord Pitsligo's regiment of Horse, and after Culloden had to remain in concealment for a considerable time in a cave in King-Edward, which used to be known as 'Torry's cave.' Bishop Torry's wife was Jane, daughter of Dr. William Young of Fawside, Kincardineshire, by Ann, the eldest daughter of Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw, Aberdeenshire, descended from Thomas Gordon of Segyden, sixth son of James Gordon, II. of Lesmoir,¹ by Margaret, daughter of Alexander Ogilvie of Deskford, ancestor of the Earl of Findlater. Dr. Young was for some time a surgeon in the army, and was present at the capture of Quebec, where General Wolfe met his death on the heights of Abraham, September 13, 1759.

Mrs. Smith Shand died in 1880, and was succeeded by her eldest surviving son,

IV. Alexander Kenneth Smith-Shand of Templeland.

The surname of Shand seems originally to have been confined to the north-eastern counties of Scotland, particularly Aberdeenshire, and in that county more especially to the districts comprising the parishes of Turriff, Forgue, Drumblade, Auchterless, Culsalmond, Fyvie, King-Edward, and Gamrie. In old times it was variously spelled

¹ Neale's Life of Bishop Torry, p. 1.

² Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 31.

Schawand, Schaand, Schande, Schand, and Shand; while it has also been affixed to various places, for example, Shandwick, Shandstone, &c. We have also Shandscross given to certain lands on the estate of Delgaty. The Shands, like many others in Aberdeenshire and in the north-east of Scotland, were strong Jacobites, and there is no doubt it gave considerable satisfaction to Thomas Schand, Master of Kirk and Bridge works, on the 26 October, 1715, to require the three ministers of the town of Aberdeen, who continued to pray for King George, to give obedience to the order of the magistrates, "otherwise the magistrates will stop them thereafter from preaching within the burgh." The same Thomas Schand, on the 4th of November, 1715, was authorised to advance money to pay for three hundred Lochaber axes for the use of the army under the Earl of Mar.

The parish registers of Forgue contain many references to the name of Shand, and in the Register of Births for 1685, there are found under date 9 September, James Schand in Cobairdie, a daughter, Margaret; do. 30 November, William Shand in Muretone, a daughter, Ann; do. 4 December, Robert Schaand in Bognie, a son. In the Poll Book for Aberdeenshire, 1696, Vol. I. p. 391, the following entry appears:—"Kirkton of Forgue, Robert Schaand, tennent there, his proportion of the valued rent with the general poll is 11s; Elizabeth Wright, his wife, 6s." This Robert Shand was a direct progenitor of Colonel Shand, probably his grandfather. The following is the baptismal certificate of Colonel Shand—"9 November, 1731. George Shand in Parkdargue had a son baptised Alexander before witnesses, John Shand in Muirtown, and John Morison in Kirkland." This John Shand was the Colonel's uncle, and is the ancestor of Mr. George Shand, Ordens, J.P., Banffshire.

The armorial bearings of most of the families of the name of Shand, with a slight difference, resemble very closely the Shands of Craig (now Caskieben), in the parish of Dyce, who were a wealthy family in the sixteenth century, and whose arms were then matriculated in the books of the Lord Lyon. These arms were azure, a boar's head coupéd argent, on a chief of the second, three mullets gules. Crest a dove volant above the waters holding a branch of olive in the beak proper. Motto—"Virtute Duce Comite Fortuna." It is highly probable from these armorial bearings of "the shield azure, with the boar's head coupéd argent," that the Shands had at an early period intermarried with, or were feudal dependants of the Gordon clan. This seems much more likely than an idea, which Colonel Shand entertained, that the Shands were originally descended, or were a branch of the Shaws of Rothiemurcus, and that they changed their name to Shand, after having been driven out of their possessions by the Grants.

The armorial bearings of Smith-Shand of Templeland are—"Azure, a boar's head coupéd argent armed and tongued on a chief of the second, a mullet between two chess rooks sable. Crest, a dove volant above the waters holding a branch of olive in her beak proper." Motto—"Virtute Duce Comite Fortuna."

Professor Smith-Shand married secondly, 1881, Anna Stuart, daughter of William Stuart, in Inverugie, by a daughter of Rev. William Stronach, minister of Marnoch. Dr. Smith-Shand died suddenly in June, 1891.

DRUMLAIR,

Now the property of William Machardy of Campinas s̃o Paulo, Brazil.

It formerly formed part of the lands of Fren draught, and in 1696, it belonged to Alexander Leslie, from whom it passed to Theodore Morison of Bognie, who sold it in 1719 to Alexander Duff of Hatton.

The next proprietor was Alexander Duff, the son of the said Alexander. He disposed it in 1766 to his brother, John Duff. Among the witnesses to the disposition were James Abernethie of Mayen, and James Duff, Sheriff-Clerk of Banff, father of Captain Duff, who fell at Trafalgar. It then passed from the Duff family to John Morison about the end of last century. Mr. Morison was afterwards of Bognie, and was at that time a merchant in Russia, carrying on a successful business, which enabled him to buy many landed properties, Cobairdy, &c. Falling, however, into pecuniary difficulties, his numerous purchases had to be parted with, and for this purpose were given over to trustees. Amongst Mr. Morison's trustees were Henry Lumsden of Tilwhillie, James Blaikie, Alexander Jopp, Alexander Stronach, and Alexander Crombie of Phesdo. By these Drumblair was sold, December 21, 1833, for the sum of £5500, to John Richardson Thain, a son of John Thain and Anna Richardson, in Drumblair. He married Elizabeth, daughter of James Wilson of Auchaber, and had issue. (See Auchaber.)

Mr. Richardson Thain died in 1847, and was succeeded by his second surviving son, James Wilson Thain of Drumblair.

Soon after his succession Drumblair was sold to Robert Simpson of Cobairdy, for further particulars of whom see Cobairdy. He died December, 1855, and was succeeded by his son, Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Browne Simpson, who sold Drumblair, in 1887, to William Machardy.

He was son of James Machardy and Margaret MacRobb, his wife, Aberchirder. He emigrated to Brazil, where he was most successful in business. Mr. Machardy since his acquisition of the estate has greatly improved and made great additions to the house; the tower, and turrets, of which appearing above the trees have a fine effect.

ST. BALNOON AND DRAKEMYRE,

belonging to Drumblair, also formed part of the lands of Fren draught, and in 1688, they were the property of David and Margaret Cruickshank, having been disposed to them by David Gregory of Netherdale, who held a wadset over the Fren draught lands. After the Cruickshanks, the Ogilvies of Inchmartine were proprietors, and afterwards Morison of Auchintoul, &c.

AUCHARNIE.

AUCHARNIE formed at one time part of the lands of Fren draught, and came, in 1678, into possession of George Morison of Bognie and the Viscountess Fren draught, whose son, Theodore, sold it, in 1719, to Alexander Duff of Hatton.¹ John Duff, a successor of the said Alexander Duff, gave a feu charter, dated 5 June, 1766, to Thomas Riddoch; and in 1768, it was bought back again by the said John Duff,² who disposed it to John Ramsay of Barra and others, trustees. These trustees sold it, in 1796, to John Morison of Auchintoul. On 13 December, 1831, there is a trust disposition of these lands to Alexander Crombie of Phesdo, Henry Lumsden of Tilwhillie, and Alexander Stronach, advocate in Aberdeen,³ who sold it, in 1833, to Robert Stuart in Little Forgue. The following is the descent of the Stuarts as far as can be ascertained:—

I. William Stuart in Boynsmill.

He married Janet Alexander, a name very common in the parishes of Forgue and Inverkeithney. He was born, 1677, and died in 1742 aged 65. They had issue a son,

II. William Stuart.

He held in lease the farms of Parkdargue, Kirktown, and Little Forgue, and married Helen Cruickshank of the Comisty family of that name. They had issue:—

I. **William**, who succeeded his father, of whom afterwards.

II. Charles, died at Placemill, aged 33.

III. James, who died at Parkdargue, aged 33.

1. Katharine, married to William Allardes, in Boynsmill, and had issue, with others, James Allardes of Boynsmill, the founder of the Glendronach distillery.

Mr. William Stuart died 12 January, 1784, aged 63. His wife, Helen Cruickshank, died 5 December, 1780, aged 76. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. William Stuart.

He succeeded his father in the leases of Kirktown, Parkdargue, and Little Forgue, and married Ann Gordon, sister of General Gordon of Culdrain, and had issue:—

¹ Charter penes Bognie.

² Charter penes Aucharnie.

³ Charter penes Aucharnie.

I. **Robert**, of whom afterwards.

II. William, in Inverugie, Morayshire. He married ——— Stronach, daughter of Rev. William Stronach, minister of Marnoch, by Harriot, daughter of Sir James Reid of Barra, Bart., and had issue :— I. William Stuart. 1. Ellen. 2. Jane. 3. Anna. The last survivor married, in 1881, Dr. Smith-Shand, Professor of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen.

III. James, died young.

IV. George, d. s. p.

Mr. Stuart died at Kirktown, Fergie, May 7, 1802, aged 61. His wife, Ann Gordon, died 8 September, 1819, aged 73. He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Robert Stuart of Aucharnie.

He succeeded his father in the leases of Parkdargue and Little Fergie ; and subsequently, in 1833, acquired the estate of Aucharnie, in Fergie. He married Jane, eldest daughter of James Glashan, writer, Keith, by Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. James Anderson, minister of Keith, and had issue :—

I. **John**, LL.D., of whom afterwards.

II. James Glashan, died at Cocklarachie, June 19, 1832, aged 28.

III. William, in Parkdargue. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Thain of Drumblair, and had issue one daughter, Robina, who died in infancy.

Mr. Stuart died at Little Fergie, September 3, 1855, aged 74, and was succeeded in the estate of Aucharnie by his eldest son,

V. John Stuart, LL.D., of Aucharnie.

He was born, November 11, 1813. He married first, Elizabeth, only daughter of Alexander Burness, J.P., of Mastrick and Prospect Place (formerly a merchant in Aberdeen), by Mary, only daughter of James Smith, architect in Aberdeen, and his wife, Elizabeth Fullerton. Mrs. Stuart predeceased her parents in 1848, aged 24, leaving issue :—

1. Mary, born, 1843.

2. Jane Gordon, born 1847 ; both co-heiresses of their grand-parents, of whom Mr. Alexander Burness deceased in 1871, and Mrs. Burness in 1873.

Dr. John Stuart married secondly, October, 1856, Jane, daughter of Colonel Ogilvie of Auchiries. By this second marriage he had, besides two children who died in infancy :—

I. George Ogilvie, born 1863, died December 6, 1871.

1. Harriet, born 1862, died 1876.

Of the issue of the former marriage with Elizabeth Burness, the second daughter, Jane Gordon, married, 1867, Rev. John Woodward, LL.D., incumbent of St. Mary's Church, Montrose, and has issue :—

- I. John Stuart, born 1868, died 1875.
- II. Charles Alexander, born 1873, died 1875.
 1. Mary Rosina, born 1871.
 2. Jane Elizabeth Stuart, born 1875.
 3. Harriet Anna Stuart, born 1878.
 4. Ethel Vera Stuart, born 1880.

Dr. Stuart died at Ambleside, July 19, 1877, in the 64th year of his age. (See St. Margaret's.)

Dr. Stuart's arms do not appear in the Lyon Register, but in that respect they are not less worthy of regard than many other undoubted coats of old families. Dr. Stuart was asked to matriculate his arms, but no doubt he was always hoping that some evidence of descent, which would enable him to remove any little dubiety as to his property in the old coat, would appear. The following, had he matriculated, would have been his arms¹ :—

“Over all an escutcheon of pretence (for a co-heiress); or, a Fess chequy azure and argent, over all a lion rampant gu. ; the whole within a bordure engrailed of the second.”

Dr. Stuart, in 1863, sold the lands of Aucharnie to Alexander Anderson, and his brother, George Anderson.

Their descent is as follows :—

William Anderson, farmer in the Howe of Mearns, took part with Prince Charles in the rebellion of 1745. He lost all in consequence, and would have lost his head also, had he not been tried under a merciful judge, Lord Monboddo, whose father was his advocate, and into whose service he afterwards entered. He married ——, and had issue :—

- I. **Robert**, of whom afterwards.
- II. William, shipwrecked at one time on the coast of Scotland; lived afterwards at Crathes, where he died.
 1. Christian.

II. Robert Anderson.

He was about six years old at Culloden, and remembered seeing the Prince's army. He died in 1838, aged one hundred years. He was in the service of Lord Monboddo; married Isobel, widow of William Mayen, farmer, Tollobill, in the Mearns. Mrs. Anderson had issue several sons by her marriage with Mr. Mayen, some of whom rose to considerable eminence in London. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson had issue two sons and two daughters :—

- I. Robert, married Jane Anderson, and had issue.
- II. **George**, of whom afterwards.
 1. Isabella.
 2. Mary.

¹ Notes by Dr. Woodward, Montrose.

III. George Anderson.

He was second son of Robert Anderson and Isobel Mayen, and was farmer in Old Balbithan, parish of Kinkell; married Margaret Anderson, and had issue:—

- I. George, Bogs of Fintray, purchased, in 1863, Nether Aucharnie, which he left at his death, in 1872, to his nephew, George Anderson.
- II. William, farmer, Hattonburn; married Isabella Johnston, and had issue six sons and six daughters. Their second son, George, succeeded, in 1872, his uncle, George Anderson, in Nether Aucharnie. He married, 1885, Jane, daughter of James Morison of Culvie, and has issue:—
 - III. Robert.
 - IV. James, died unmarried, aged 25.
 - V. **Alexander**, of whom afterwards.
 1. Ann, married Richard Walker Donaldson.

IV. Alexander Anderson, J.P.

He and his brother, George Anderson, purchased from John Stuart, LL.D., as above narrated, the estate of Aucharnie. He married Mary Reid; issue:—

- I. George, in Comisty.
- II. William, in Placemill.
- III. Robert.
 1. Mary Anne.
 2. Margaret Isabella Mary.

AUCHABER.

“Semper Vigilans.”

AUCHABER, now owned by Captain A. S. Thain, formed, in 1696, part of the dominical lands of Fren draught, and also of the lands belonging to the heirs of Thomas Cushney.

In 1719, Theodore Morison of Bognie sold to Alexander Duff the lands of Auchaber and several others in the parish of Forgue. Some time after the middle of last century, it was acquired by **James Wilson**, who afterwards became proprietor of Cairnbanno and Auchmunziel, in the parishes of Monquhitter and New Deer. Mr. Wilson married Lilius Ogilvy, by whom he had issue a son and a daughter :—

I. James.

1. Ann.

James Wilson married Isabella Gordon of Merdrum, sister of Mr. Gordon of Manar. He died in early manhood, leaving a son, **James** who, on his grandfather's death, succeeded to Auchaber.

The daughter, Ann Wilson, married a Mr. Reid, of Portsoy, and had issue, James, of Ardoch, who married Miss Cuming, and had issue :—

I. James, who, on the death of his grandfather, James Wilson of Auchaber, succeeded to the estates of Cairnbanno and Auchmunziel above mentioned. He assumed the name of Wilson.

II. John, M.D., surgeon in the army ; married Mary Thain, daughter of Mr. John Thain, Drumblair, Forgue.

III. Peter, lieutenant in the army.

IV. John, died in Australia.

V. Alexander.

1. Annabella, married Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie.

Mr. James Reid Wilson of Cairnbanno died at Roseacre Cottage, Portsoy, October 27, 1833, aged 42. He was married to Jane Margaret Knight, who died October 3, 1863, aged 79. The estates of Cairnbanno and Auchmunziel had passed into other hands some time before Mr. Reid Wilson's death.

II. James Wilson of Auchaber

succeeded his grandfather in 18—. He married Isabella, daughter of Mr. Colin Petrie,

Chapelton, Drumblade, a brother of Right Rev. Arthur Petrie, Bishop of Moray. (See Folla-Rule.) They had the following issue :—

1. James, died young, March, 1814.
1. Jane, died March 17, 1825.
2. Isabella, died April 14, 1825.
3. Elizabeth, who married John Richardson Thain of Drumblair, second son of John Thain, Drumblair, and Anna Richardson, his spouse. They had issue :—
 - I. John, who died in Australia.
 - II. James Wilson, who died in the West Indies, some time of Drumblair.
 - III. **Alexander S.**, Captain 13th Native Infantry, H.E.I.C.S., of whom afterwards.
 - IV. George Garioch, Lieutenant 3rd Grenadier Native Infantry, Indian army. On his regiment mutinying, he was attached to 79th Highlanders, and was present at the capture of Lucknow. He died May, 1887.
 1. Isabella, married to Hall Alexander, Grenada, West Indies, and had issue :—
 1. Eliza Thain, married to William Lang, M.D., and has issue :—1. Margaret Thain. 2. Barbara Helen. 3. Ethel Mary Graham. 4. John. 5. William Graham. 6. Allan Thomson. 7. Ernest Thain.
 2. Mary.
 3. Lilies Thain, died young.
 2. Anna, died young.
 3. Eliza Stuart, married to William Stuart, eldest son of Robert Stuart of Aucharnie and Little Forgue ; issue—Robina Stuart, who died in infancy.
 4. Mary, died unmarried.
 5. Margaret Garioch.
 6. Lilies.
 4. Margaret, married to Rev. George Garioch, son of Dr. Garioch, Oldmeldrum, and minister of Meldrum, afterwards of the Free Church, Oldmeldrum.
 5. **Lilies**, who succeeded.
 6. **Ann**. She married Laurence Davidson, M.D., Dundee, son of James Davidson, Professor of Natural Philosophy, Marischal College, Aberdeen.

Mr. Wilson of Auchaber left £50 to the poor of Forgue, which is called the Auchaber legacy. He died August 27, 1838, aged 77, and was succeeded in the estate of Auchaber by his daughter, Lilies, and others.

III. Lilius Wilson of Auchaber.

She died January 8, 1872, when her sister, Ann, and her nephew, Captain Thain, succeeded to the estate.

IV. Mrs. Ann Davidson of Auchaber.

She died, 1886, and was succeeded in her share by her nephew,

V. Alexander Shand Thain of Auchaber.

He was Captain of Bengal Infantry, H.E.I.C.S.; was present at the siege of Lucknow. After it, he joined the Bengal Staff Corps.

BALGAVENY,

Now the property of William Thornburrow Kilgour of Tulloch. In ancient times it formed part of the dominical lands of Fren draught. Before 1770, it belonged to James Grant of Grant, who in that year sold it to Andrew Jamieson in Cushnie. He was succeeded, in 1789, by his eldest son, George Jamieson, who disposed these lands to his brother, Andrew Jamieson in Cushnie. Andrew dying in 1836, the lands again came into possession of his brother, George Jamieson. They were heavily burdened by Isaac Forsyth, bookseller, Elgin, having a bond over them for £3000; and in 1836, they were disposed in favour of Henry Lumsden, Charles Chalmers, Clements Lumsden, as trustees, by whom they were sold, in 1837, to Rev. George Thomson, and others, trustees of William Kilgour of Tulloch.¹ The following is the descent of the Kilgours of Tulloch and Balgavenny. The founder of the family was **Robert Kilgour**, one of two brothers, who are said to have come from Fifeshire about the beginning of the eighteenth century. He married, in 1707, Isobel Barron, an aunt of the first Patrick Barron, of Woodside, near Aberdeen, one of the firm of Gordon, Barron, & Co., who carried on the business of manufacturing cotton and linen cloths at Woodside. They had issue a large family:—

I. George, born 1712.

II. Robert, who became a clergyman of the Scotch Episcopal Church, and was located at Peterhead before 1738. After the battle of Culloden, his church was pulled down, as we learn from the following memorandum:—"The chappelle of Peterhead was destroyed 7, 8, 9 of May, 1746. The managers were obliged to employ workmen and pay them, in order to prevent its being set on fire, which would have endangered the burning of the town. It was done by the order of Lord Ancrum (Lieutenant-Colonel of Lord Mark Kerr's dragoons), and was seen fully executed by the following—Captain Sir Robert Adams, Lieutenant Guilford, Lieutenant G. Bilstone, and Cornet John Frogmorton."² Mr. Kilgour was consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen at Cupar-Fife, 21 September, 1768, by Primus Falconer, assisted by Bishops Alexander and Raitt. On the resignation by Bishop Falconer of the office of Primus, Bishop Kilgour was elected Primus, and in 1784, along with the Bishops Petrie and Skinner, he took part in the consecration of Dr. Samuel Seabury, as the first Bishop of Connecticut in the United States of America.

¹ Tulloch and Balgavenny Charters.

² Minute Book of St. Peter's Church, Peterhead.

Bishop Kilgour married Margaret Arbuthnott, and had issue, a daughter married to Patrick Torry, D.D., Bishop of St. Andrews; 2. another married to Alexander Shivas; 3. Margaret, married to Thomas Kilgour; 4. daughter married to Robert Kilgour; 5. daughter married to Mr. Forbes.

Bishop Kilgour, who was a man of uncommon benignity of mien, and manner, died 22 March, 1790.

III. William, born 1716.

IV. **Patrick**, of whom afterwards, born 1719.

V. Thomas, born 1726, lived at Fraserburgh.

1. Anne, born 1708.

2. Isobel, born 1709.

3. Jean, born 1710.

4. Margaret, born 1714.

5. Katharine, born 1721.

6. Margaret, born 172—

7. Elizabeth, born 172—

Robert Kilgour died 23 September, 1753, in the 72nd year of his age. His wife, Isobel Barron, died 2 December, 1762, also in the 72nd year of her age.¹

II. Patrick Kilgour in Kinmundy

was fourth son of Robert Kilgour and Isobel Barron, and married, November 12, 1746, Jean Sangster (aunt of the late Thomas Sangster, advocate, Aberdeen). They had issue, twenty-one children. The following are eighteen of them :—

I. Thomas, born 1752, purchased Bethelnie from Mrs. William Forbes or Urquhart, widow of William Forbes of Bethelnie; the disposition is dated October 8, 1808.² He married first, Margaret, daughter of Bishop Kilgour, by whom he had issue a daughter, Margaret; and secondly, 1791, Isabella Hall, and had issue :—

1. James, for many years managing partner of Woodside works, near Aberdeen; born 1792, died in the Isle of Man, 1855, aged 63.

2. Isabella, born 1794.

3. Jane, born 1796.

4. Anne, born 1797.

5. Elizabeth, born 1799.

VI. Patrick, born 1801, who got from his father, in 1828, the lands of Bethelnie. This estate was sold in 1849 to James Lumsden of Auchry.

7. Grace.

VIII. Thomas.

¹ Tombstone, Cruden Churchyard.

² Charter penes Lumsden of Bethelnie.

- II. Robert, Kinmundy, born 1755. He established at Kinmundy a cloth manufactory, and another at Auchlee. Regarding these, Dr. Skene Keith says, in his "View of Aberdeenshire," of date 1811—"In the division of Buchan there are two cloth manufactories. The first and older is at Kinmundy, belonging to the Messrs. Kilgour, who have done a great deal of business in the course of about thirty years. The other is at Auchlee."¹ In the year 1828 these establishments were broken up.
- III. Patrick, of Woodside, died 4 December, 1830, aged 73. Woodside was left to him by his relative, Patrick Barron, of Woodside, who died March 19, 1799.
- IV. William, died young.
- V. William, purchased the possession of Tulloch, near Oldmeldrum. He was unmarried, but left an illegitimate son, Robert Kilgour, on whom he entailed the property of Tulloch, under the condition that he could not come into possession until he was twenty-four years of age. During his minority, from the accumulation of funds, his trustees purchased the small property of Balgaveny in Fergue. Robert Kilgour married, but d. s. p., and, agreeably to the entail, the estate of Tulloch went to a nephew of the entailer, as will be shown hereafter.
- VI. **George**, of whom afterwards.
1. Isobel, }
 2. Barbara, } born 1748.
 3. Jean, born 1751.
 4. Margaret, born 1753.
 5. Helen, born 1755.
 6. Mary, born 1757.
 7. Catharine, born 1759 }
 8. Anne, } twins.
 9. Elizabeth, born 1762. She married Dr. Robert Jamieson; had issue—
I. James, M.D., Aberdeen, married, and had issue, among others, James Auldjo, W.S., George Auldjo, M.A., C.A., Edinburgh. II. Patrick, M.D., Peterhead, who married, and had issue, Patrick, M.D., Peterhead.
 10. Charlotte, born 1764.
 11. Catharine, born 1765.
 12. Jean, born 1770.

Patrick Kilgour, Kinmundy, died 8 February, 1772, and his wife, Jean Sangster, September, 1779.

III. **George Kilgour of Ardconnan and Balcairn**

He was sixth son of Patrick Kilgour and Jean Sangster. He acquired the estates of

¹ Keith's Survey of Aberdeenshire, p. 581.

Ardconnan and Balcairn. He married Sophia Macdonald Geddes Thornburrow, and had issue :—

- I. Patrick, who succeeded to Woodside on the death of his uncle in 1830. Patrick Kilgour of Woodside is mentioned, March 9, 1826, in a disposition of Woodside in conjunction with his nephew, Patrick, younger of Balcairn ; also with James, younger of Bethelnie.¹
- II. George Alexander.
- III. **William**, of whom afterwards.
 1. Sophia Agnes, married to Mr. Burchell.
 2. Jean, married to Mr. Inglelow, and had issue, among others, the celebrated authoress, Jane Inglelow.
 3. Barbara, married to Mr. Holloway.
 4. ———, died in infancy.
 5. Eliza.
 6. Mary.
 7. Isabella.

George Kilgour of Balcairn and Ardconnan died 18—

IV. **William Kilgour of Tulloch and Balgaveny,**

third son of George Kilgour of Balcairn and Ardconnan, by Sophia Macdonald Geddes Thornburrow, succeeded, on the death of his cousin, Robert Kilgour, to the estates of Tulloch and Balgaveny. He married Janet Lindsay Smith, and had issue :—

- I. **William Thornburrow**, his successor.
 1. Janet Lindsay, married Rev. Mr. Hall.
 2. Edith.
 3. Eliza Jean.
 4. Amy Eugenie.

Mr. William Kilgour died 1889, and was succeeded by his son,

V. **William Thornburrow Kilgour of Tulloch and Balgaveny.**

He married Miss Maud Ada Steele Innes, daughter of General James Charles Innes, British Army. Miss Innes was grand-daughter of General William Innes, C.B., H.E.I.C.S., and grand-daughter of General A. D'Auvergne. They have issue :—

- I. **James William Thornburrow.**
- II. D'Auvergne Howard.
 1. Winifred Maud Innes.
 2. Louise D'Auvergne.

¹ Morgan's Woodside, p. 29.

CORSE OF MONELLIE.

MONELLIE.

MONELLIE and Corse of Monellie are now conjoined under one proprietor, Mr. Gilzean Rose Innes of Netherdale; but they were for many years separate properties. The first proprietor we find is

I. Alexander Leslie of Monellie.

He was probably of the Drumdollo family of that name, and is mentioned in a band, as recorded in the Privy Council Records, of date 1593.¹ The next we find is

II. George Leslie of Monellie.

He may be a son of the above mentioned. He died before 1653, and was succeeded by his daughter,

III. Janet Leslie of Monellie.

She married John Paterson, burgess of Forres, and, February 4, 1653, was served heiress to her father, George Leslie, in the shadow half of the town and lands of Monellie, the Bagra milne, in the barony of Frendraught.² A few years after this date we find

James Gordon of Monellie.

In 1668, there is a process in the Synod of Aberdeen against Margaret Creighton, spouse to James Gordon of Monellie, apostate to Popery. He soon parts with Monellie, and the next to be found is

James Wishart of Monellie.

In 1696, as we learn from the Poll Book, he is owner of Monellie, and its valued rent is £133 6s. 8d. He married Elspet Massie.³ After this it was acquired by a family of the name of Cruickshank, James, John, and Mrs. Cruickshank, who, September 27, 1730, disposed it to

I. Thomas Innes of Monellie.

The same year Mr. Innes acquired from William Urquhart of Meldrum, the Muirs

¹ Privy Council Records, V. p. 604.

² Spec. Ret. Aberdeen, No. 317.

³ Poll Book II. p. 404.

of Fyvie. These two possessions, Monellie and Muirs of Fyvie, were the first acquisitions of land by the family of Netherdale.¹ Mr. Innes was the second son of Thomas Innes, third son of John Innes, V. of Edengight, by his wife, Christian Gordon, and his father was long factor for the Earl of Fife, and died 12 September, 1754. (See Straloch.) Thomas Innes of Monellie was a Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh, where he died, September 6, 1779, leaving by his wife ———, an only daughter, who succeeded him,

II. Elizabeth Mary Rose Innes of Netherdale.

She inherited also the property of her uncle, John Innes of Muiryfold, which was exchanged in excambion for Netherdale, in the parish of Marnoch. The house of Netherdale was built about 1795. Miss Innes married, about 1795, James Rose of Gask, descended from John Rose of Ballivat, second son of Hugh Rose of Kiltavock, who died 1517.

Mrs. Rose Innes was served heir to her father, Thomas Innes of Monellie, who died 7 September, 1779; heir special in Colp, Smiddy Seat, and Wodend, in the parish of Turriff, 17 November, 1784.² They had issue, besides two sons that died in infancy:—

- III. James, who married Georgina Gilzean. He died 10 January, 1845, leaving a son, **Thomas Gilzean**, of whom afterwards.
- IV. John, a merchant in London.
- V. Patrick, of Blachree, who died 1887.
- VI. George, a solicitor in London, married, and has issue.
 1. Elizabeth, died 1890. She left £5000 towards building and endowing a Cottage Hospital in the village of Aberchirder, to be called the "Rose Innes Hospital."

Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Innes of Netherdale and Monellie died in 1851, and was succeeded by her grandson,

III. Thomas Gilzean Rose Innes of Monellie and Netherdale.

He married Grace, daughter of Mr. Fraser of Park, a branch of the Philorth family. They have had issue three daughters:—

1. Mary Grace Edith, married Lieutenant-Colonel Althorpe of Lamhall, Derbyshire.
 2. Elizabeth Frances Eugenie.
 3. Georgina Everilda, married Captain Gordon.
- Mr. Rose Innes acquired Corse of Monellie in 1874.

¹ Netherdale Charters.

² Decen. Rets. 1784.

CORSE OF MONELLIE

belonged in 1696 to **Alexander Phyn**, who then lived in Banffshire. Its valuation at that time was £100 annual rent.¹ In 1704, he is returned as one of the Papists in Forgue.² He was succeeded by his son or grandson,

George Phyn of Corse of Monellie.

He married Janet Simpson, daughter of Simpson of Concraig, factor to the Earl of Kintore, by his wife, Elspet, daughter of Gilbert Keith of Auquhorsk, in Kinellar. Mrs. Phyn died 1780, aged 92; and Mr. Phyn in 1788, aged 96.³ The next owner was

John Henry of Corse of Monellie.

According to Mr. Jervise, Henry, while a herd boy, allowing a cow to break its leg, and fearing the wrath of his employer, absconded, and enlisted in the army, where he rose to the rank of Captain. He married first, Mary, daughter of Rev. Mr. Gordon, minister of Drumblade, who died in 1802. He married secondly, Charlotte Ross, daughter of Alexander Ross and Margaret Udney, daughter of Robert Udney of Auchterellon, and had issue one daughter, **Margaret Udney**. He died in 1851, and was succeeded by his daughter,

II. Margaret Udney Henry of Corse of Monellie.

She married Alexander Thom, and had issue one son, Captain James Thom. Mrs. Thom sold, in 1874, Corse to George Gilzean Rose Innes of Netherdale, and thus Corse of Monellie and Monellie became united under one proprietor.

Near Corse of Monellie had stood a cross, but of it there are no remains and no tradition.

A branch of a Roman Road from Glenmailen to Fords of Avochie is said to have passed through the property, but of it likewise there is no trace.

¹ Poll Book, II. p. 411.

² Blackhall's Brief Nar. p. xxxviii.

³ Jervise' Inscriptions, II. p. 179: l. p. 18.

DRUMDOLLO

Is now the property of Lieutenant-Colonel F. D. Morison of Bognie. It is situated in the south-west of the parish of Forgue. Of the house of Drumdollo there are little more remains than the indications of the site, while a solitary tree and a thorn hedge mark where a garden had been. It is still, notwithstanding the improvements on county roads, nearly as inaccessible as it was three hundred years ago.

It was for many years owned by a family of the name of Leslie, an illegitimate branch of the house of Balquhain. From the "History of the Leslies," we find that **Sir Andrew Leslie**, the third Baron of Balquhain, was a very turbulent man, and of very loose morals. He had a numerous progeny of illegitimate children, from whom many families of Leslie are descended—for instance the Leslies of Buchanstone, Andrew Leslie of Cortishy, James Leslie in Aberdeen, David Leslie in Meikle Durno, **George Leslie of Drumdollo**, and Andrew Leslie in Pitscurry.¹ This last mentioned was a very notorious character, for he carried off the daughter of Thomas Bisset of Balhagarty, commonly called the "fair maid" of Kemnay; she having been at the time betrothed to Sir John Forbes of Druminnor, ancestor of Lord Forbes. Forbes attacked the castle of Balquhain and burned it, and on this, Leslie retired to the top of Benachie to an old fortress, at a height of nearly two thousand feet, part of which still remains. Having repaired this old fortress, he remained till he had made peace with his enemies. At what time George Leslie acquired Drumdollo is not known; but we find in 1613,

II. Walter Leslie of Drumdollo.

There is no public record of him, save that we find him succeeded by his son,

III. James Leslie of Drumdollo.

He was served heir, in 1613, to Walter Leslie of Drumdollo, his father, in a third part of a davate of Comaleggie, in the parish of Drumblade.² He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Walter Leslie of Drumdollo,

who was succeeded by his son,

V. James Leslie of Drumdollo.

In 1673, James Leslie was served heir to Walter Leslie of Drumdollo. The next, probably a brother, is

¹ Leslie's History of the Leslies, III. p. 4.

² Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 586.

VI. Lachlan Leslie of Drumdollo.

In 1692, he was served heir to Walter Leslie of Tullich, his father—heir of provision of the second marriage of his father. In 1696, the same Lachlan Lesly is polled £9 6s., Elizabeth Lesly, his wife, and John Lesly, his son, 12s.¹ He was succeeded by his son or grandson,

VII. John Leslie of Drumdollo.

He married, in 1743, Margaret, daughter of James Chalmers in Cairnwhelp and of Balmellan, who was tutor dative and factor to the Duke of Gordon. Mrs. Leslie was sister of Rev. Alexander Chalmers, minister of Cairnie. John Leslie, in 1768, granted a trust deed in favour, among others, the said Mr. Chalmers, minister of Cairnie, and George Chalmers of Balmellan, merchant in Fraserburgh. John Leslie died 20 March, 1771, and was succeeded by his son,

VIII. James Leslie of Drumdollo.

He was served heir, in 1771, to his father, John Lesly, heir special in Drumdollo, with its crofts, Denend, and Condie. The Leslies were now in great pecuniary difficulties; and the estate of Drumdollo passed from them by purchase to Alexander Morison of Bognie, the great grandfather of its present possessor.

¹ Ret. Gen. Abdn. No. 7307. Poll Book, II. p.

CONLAND.

ROBERT CRICHTON, who was a relative of the Frendraught family, was owner of Conland before 1625. In that year, on the 16 May, with consent of Sir James Crichton of Frendraught, he wadset the sun plough of Conland to **Thomas Clark** in life-rent, and to James Clark in fee. This wadset, in 1634, passed from James Clark in Bognie to William Davidson and Margaret Johnston, his wife, in life-rent; and to William Davidson, their second lawful son, in fee, and was confirmed by Robert Crichton. There was also added, by way of eke, one hundred merks, in all two thousand merks. Some years after this transaction, the said William Davidson and Margaret Johnston received the lands of Geriesburn in lieu of the sun plough of Conland, which was reserved in special warrandice. They were redeemable by the said Robert Crichton for two thousand merks Scots. This new wadset was confirmed by David Gregorie, 30 July, 1666.¹

In 1659, after the above exchange of the sun plough of Conland for the lands of Geriesburn, Robert Crichton of Conland gave a charter of Conland to his son, Walter Crichton, and his spouse, Janet Innes; and in 1698, there was a disposition by Walter Crichton, with consent of Janet Innes, his spouse, to his son, Lewis Crichton, of the sun plough of the lands of Conland. And in 1709, the said Lewis Crichton, with consent of Mary Seton, his spouse, sold to George Leslie of North Leslie, for two thousand merks, under reversion, the wadset of the sun plough of the town and lands of Conland. After this transaction, George Ellice in Netherthird, in 1723, obtained a decree of adjudication, at his instance before the Lords of Council and Session, against George Leslie of North Leslie, whereby the said Lords adjudged the whole rights of the wadset of the sun plough of Conland, and several other subjects, to the said George Ellice and his heirs. There was a debt due to George Ellice by the said George Leslie, hence the adjudication.²

George Ellice sold the wadset of the said sun plough of Conland on May 27, 1726, to Sir James Gordon of Park, and afterwards in 1729, it became the property of his son, Sir William Gordon of Park; and finally it became the property of Theodore Morison of Bognie, he paying two thousand three hundred merks Scots, amount of wadset and rents from 1727.³

Some time after the above date, it was rented by Robert Shand, a son of George Shand and Agnes Littlejohn in Parkdargue, a brother of Colonel Shand of Templeland.

¹ Bognie Charters.

² Id.

³ Bognie Charters.

He was succeeded in his lease by his son, Alexander Shand, who rented another farm in the parish of Drumblait. He died in 1837, leaving considerable means to a cousin, James Crookshank, who succeeded him in Conland. Mr. Shand was a man of considerable influence in Forgue in his day, for at that time there were a great many small proprietors and life-renters in Forgue, which made the society in the parish special. "The folk of Forgue" thought a great deal of themselves, and tried, so far as they could, to make others feel their superiority. Their neighbours, "the bodies of Drumblait," as they called them, they looked down upon with special contempt. Forgue was called a "kingdom," a name probably derived from the old regality of Fren-draught, which never formed a part of the great Thanage of Fermartyn, but there has still another origin of the designation of "Kingdom of Forgue" been given. The last Duke of Gordon was a very genial, public-spirited gentleman, very popular with all ranks; and when Marquis of Huntly used often to invite his neighbours in Forgue to Huntly Lodge. Frequent guests were the proprietor of Boynsmill, and Mr. Shand, life-renter of Conland. In those days of hard drinking, the Marquis could stand a good deal, and often used to amuse himself by sending his guests, if he could, under the table, and he tried this with Shand of Conland, but failed. Mr. Shand was left victor at the table, and the Marquis himself was obliged to withdraw. Next morning his Lordship asked his valet when the old carle from Forgue left, and was informed that when his Lordship withdrew, Mr. Shand brewed another jorum of whisky toddy, then ordered his pony, rode off to Aberdeen to transact some business not a bit the worse. "Well," says the Marquis, "Shand is King of Forgue," and so Forgue became a kingdom.

Mr. Shand's hospitalities were unbounded, and at Yule-tide he used to entertain his neighbours quite royally. Each Christmas a "mairt" was killed, and on the three days of Yule, he had a succession of dinner parties. On the first day the lairds and life-renters of Forgue were entertained; on the second the smaller farmers; on the last day all his poorer neighbours, so that ere the festivities were finished, the mairt was eaten "hough and horn!"

In Forgue almost none of the old race now remain—"Tempora mutantur!"

At Conland there remains a loupin-on stane, much in the same condition as when Mr. Shand made use of it. Husband and wife used to ride to church and market on one horse, the wife sitting behind on a pad, and there was a loupin-on stane at almost every door to enable her to mount her seat. Loupin-on stanes were frequently of a single block or boulder, but many of them were built, such as the one at Conland.

Upon the 27 September, 1830, the Laird of Fren-draught having in his company Robert Crichton of Conland, and James Leslie, son to John Leslie of Pitcaple, with some other servitors, the said Robert Crichton, after some speeches, suddenly shoots the same James Leslie through the arm. This quarrel is said to have led to the burning of Fren-draught a few weeks after.¹

¹ Spalding Troubles, I. p. 15.

COBAIRDY

Is prettily situated on the southern slope of the Foreman hill, called by a writer in the "View of the Diocese," the Formartine hill. This property has often, during the last three centuries, changed hands, and it is now the property of **Robert Skirving**.

It belonged originally to a family of the name of Murray, of considerable influence and importance, who retained it till about the end of the first quarter of the seventeenth century. The first we find of the name is,

I. Patrick Murray of Culbardy.

He is a witness to a deed of Fraser of Ardendrach in 1414.¹ The next to be found is,

II. Andrew Murray of Culbardy.

He is found acting, 1472, as baillie for James Innes of that ilk, and his seal, exhibiting the three stars of Murray, with a mark of difference in the centre, is still attached to a deed.²

III. Alexander Murray of Culbardie.

He is mentioned, 1493, in a perambulation of the lands of Aberchirder.³ The next is,

IV. Patrick Murray of Culbardy.

He died in 1504, and his widow, Isabella Rait, is found entitled to her tierce the same year.⁴ He was succeeded by his son,

V. Alexander Murray of Cobairdie.

He was served heir to his father, Patrick Murray in Cuchbardy, in 1505. The next to be found is,

VI. James Murray of Cobairdie.

He witnesses a charter of James Grant of Freuchie as recorded in Fraser's "History of the Grants."⁵ In 1562, James Murray of Cobairdie and his brother Alexander took part in the battle of Corrichie against Queen Mary, and were included in "precepto remissionis," which the Earl of Huntly obtained for himself and friends in 1567.⁶ The next is,

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 387.

² Id., II. p. 221.

³ Id., p. 212.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 597.

⁵ Fraser's Grants, III. p. 107.

⁶ Spal. Club Misc., IV. p. 155.

VII. Alexander Murray of Cobairdie.

In 1581, he was elected a burghess of Aberdeen; and in 1608, along with Patrick Gordon, is mentioned as one of the curators of Alexander Murray; and in 1613, February 19, James and Francis Murray, sons of the laird of Cobairdie, are summoned before the Lords of the Privy Council to answer for the hurting and wounding of Gilbert Leslie, reidar.¹ Soon after this date a new owner is found.

Alexander Burnett of Cobairdie. On 8 July, 1633, there is a deed of sasine to Alexander Burnett of Colbairdie; also in 1641, there is a sasine to Alexander Burnett of Colbairdie of the Kirktown and lands of Aboyne.² About seventeen years after this date we find Sir John Baird of Cobairdie.

He was the eldest son of Baird of Auchmedden. In 1650, there is the following minute regarding him in the session records of Forgue:—"This day, June 1, 1650, Sir John Baird of Cowbairdie, one of our elders, was chosen anew to attend ye several Presbytery meetings, and ye next provincial assembly." He obtained the honour of knighthood from King Charles II., when he was in this country on his way to Worcester.³

Alexander Gregory of Cobairdie was served heir, in 1651, to his father, Rev. John Gregory of Drumoak, in all and haill the lands and Mains of Cobairdie, the town and lands of Eister Cobairdie, Boighead, and Cornyhaugh, mill and mill lands of Cobairdie.⁴ The Gregories also did not long retain possession, and they probably only held the superiority a few years. After the above date, it is to be found owned by John Wishart of Cobairdie.

He figures in the records of the kirk-session of Forgue. He was delatit in 1663 to the session for an immoral offence; was enjoined to enter his repentance the next Lord's day; but the said John alleged that he had got absolution from the late Bishop of Aberdeen, which the session could not believe. At last Wishart had to confess that he had not received any absolvitor, and craved the session humbly to pardon his unwarrantable assertion. He submitted very humbly and penitently.⁵ About 1677, we find a lease by Forbes of Newton of the house of Williamstone to John Wishart, some time of Cowbairdie.⁶ The next is John Hamilton of Cobairdy.

In the Poll Book of 1696, we find him laird of Cobairdy,⁷ and paying tax for three sons and three daughters, namely—John, Alexander, Robert, Helen, Elizabeth, and Ann. This John Hamilton, in 1704, was engaged in some very unpleasant proceedings with Davidson of Newton and old Lady Gordon of Gight, who married Major Buchan, commander of King James II.'s troops, after the death of Viscount Dundee, which were, however, at last satisfactorily settled.⁸

1 Misc. S. C., V. p. 53; Gordon's Scots' Affairs, I. p. xxxvii; Burgh Records, II. pp. 313-16.

2 Sasines Reg. House, Edinburgh.

3 Brebner's Notes on the Presb. of Turriff in Aberdeen Journal.

4 Bognie Charters.

5 Session Records of Forgue.

6 Newton Charters.

7 Poll Book, II. p. 400.

8 Chambers' Domestic Annals, III. p. 304.

From the Hamiltons, Cobairdy passed to James Gordon, son of Sir James Gordon, second Bart. of Park, by his second wife, Dame Margaret Elphinstone, who was married first to Lesly of Balquhain. (See below No. IX.)

The following is the descent of the Gordons of Cobairdy, now represented by Major Gordon Duff of Drummur, and who possesses the property of Dummuie in the neighbourhood. (See Dummuie.)

The family of Gordon of Park is descended from **John Gordon of Essie**— (regarding whom see Parkhill). John Gordon married Elizabeth, daughter of Maitland, laird of Gight. He had issue three sons:—

- I. John, of Botarie and Langar, and the first laird of Pitlurg, of whom Pitlurg and his cadets are descended. He exchanged the lands of Langar, with the barony of Tearochin. He married Forbes of Pitsligo's daughter, by whom he had two sons:—¹

- I. John, second laird of Pitlurg.

- II. **James**, who was the first laird of Cairnburrow. He married ——— Leith, daughter of Leith of Barnes, and by her had three sons:—

- I. **George**, of Cairnburrow, who succeeded.

- II. William, of Abachie (Avochie²).

- III. James, of Cromellat.

Their father, the said James Gordon of Cairnburrow, died, and was interred among his predecessors at Botarie. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. George Gordon of Cairnburrow.

He was killed at Pinkie, 1547. He married Katharine, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Dummoys, sister of Alexander Gordon of Prony, who was first wife to ——— Maitland of Auchincreeve; secondly, wife to ——— Baillie of Ardneidly; third wife to the foresaid George Gordon of Cairnburrow, by whom he had an only son and heir,

IV. John Gordon of Cairnburrow.

He married Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Buckie, by whom he had eight sons and three daughters. All these sons, with their father, were at the battle of Glenlivet, 1594, each having his jacksman and his footman well mounted. His eldest son,³

V. John Gordon of Edinglassie,

got Edinglassie, Cairnburrow having been sold by his father to his brother William. He married first, the daughter of Bannerman, laird of Waterton, afterwards of Elsieck, and had issue, three sons and two daughters.⁴ He married a second time the widow of Turin of Foveran, but had no issue.⁵ His eldest son, William, got Rothiemay and stock of Cairnburrow. His second son, Adam, became

¹ MS. penes Drummur.

² Balbithan MS., pp. 64-65.

³ *Id.*, p. 37; Park MS.

⁴ Park MS.

⁵ Balbithan MS. p. 33.

VI. Sir Adam Gordon of Glenbucket, Edinglassie, Auchenhadoch, and was the 1st of Park.

He was great great grandson of James, first laird of Cairnburrow and seventh in descent from John Gordon of Essie. He was twice married, first to Christian Gordon, daughter of Sir A. Gordon of Gight, and had issue :—

- I. **John**, who succeeded to Park.
- II. Adam, Captain, married a daughter of Gordon of Cairnwhelp.
 - 1. Isabel, married to John Innes of Coldcoats.

The said Adam Gordon married secondly, Helen Tyrie, daughter of Tyrie of Drumkilbo, and had issue by her :—

- III. Patrick, laird of Glenbucket.
- IV. Francis, who went to Polland.¹
- V. ———
- 2. daughter, married John Innes of Codrain.

Sir Adam Gordon died in Glenbucket, September, 1629, and was interred in the churchyard of Glenbucket.² He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VII. Sir John Gordon of Park.

He married Helen Sibbald, daughter to Sir James Sibbald of Rankeillor, in Fifeshire, and had issue :—³

- I. **John**, his successor.
- II. George, of Edinglassie.
- III. David, of Achoynanie.
 - 1. ———, married to ——— Lyon of Muiresk.
 - 2. ———, married to ——— Lesly of Eden.
 - 3. ———, married ——— Cuthbert of Tillery, near Culloden.

The said Sir John, second laird of Park, died, and was honourably interred in the aisle of the kirk of Ordiqhull. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VIII. Sir John Gordon, 1st Bart. of Park.

By the death of Gordon of Rothiemay, he became representative of Rothiemay, and was created a baronet 21 August, 1686. He married four times honourably. First, he married Miss Graham, aunt of Lord Dundee, by whom he had one daughter.⁴

- 1. Helen, married to ——— Innes of Auchlunkart.

He married, secondly, Sarah Forbes, sister to Sir Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon, by whom he had issue :—

- 2. Elizabeth, married to John Gordon of Drumquhindle.
- 3. Jean, married to Alexander Gordon of Cairnfield, W.S.

¹ Balbithan MS. p. 38.

² Id., p. 41.

³ Balbithan MS. p. 42.

⁴ Park MS.

Thirdly, he married Katharine Ogilvy, daughter of Ogilvy of Hempcairn; had issue by her two daughters :—

4. Anne, married to Anderson of Arradoul.
5. Margaret, married to ——— Innes of Knockorth.

Fourthly, he married Dame Helen Ogilvie, daughter of the Earl of Airlie, by whom he had a son,

I. James.

Sir John Gordon died ———, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. Sir James Gordon, 2nd Bart. of Park.

He entailed the estate of Park, 9 October, 1713, on a series of heirs. He was twice married, first to Dame Helen Fraser, daughter of Lord Saltoun (contract of marriage dated 3 March, 1709). He had issue by his first marriage :—¹

- I. William, his successor.
- II. John, who afterwards succeeded to the baronetcy.
1. Helen, married to John Duff of Cowbin, of whom afterwards.

Sir James married secondly, Dame Margaret Elphinstone, Lady Balquhain, sister of Lord Elphinstone. He had issue by her :—

- I. James, of Cobairdy, of whom afterwards.
1. Ann, married to Charles Cheyne, W.S., and had issue.
2. Elizabeth Mary, second wife of Lord Forbes, d. s. p.²
3. Mary.

He was succeeded by his son,

X. Sir William Gordon, 3rd Bart. of Park.

He was served heir to his father, Sir James Gordon of Park, 23 April, 1728.³ Having been engaged in the rebellion of 1745, he fled, and was attainted of estate and honours, and died at Douay, in Flanders, 5 June, 1751. By his wife, Janet Duff, daughter of the Earl of Fife, with whom, it is said, he eloped from Rothiemay House, he had two sons and one daughter :—

- I. John, the eldest, called Sir John, born abroad after his father's attainder, was an alien. He was an officer of the 3rd Regiment of Guards, and was killed in India. He married Miss Hannah Corner, and by her left an infant son and daughter, namely—⁴ John Berry, who, in 1821, took the title of Sir John Gordon. He married the Dean of Cloyne's daughter, from whom he was divorced, and by whom he had one daughter. He married secondly, Miss Campbell, by whom he had no issue.
- II. William, the second son, also an alien, and after his father's attainder died at Mountblairy in 1773. His mother, the Lady Janet, was married secondly to George Hay of Mountblairy.

¹ Park M.S.

² Balbithan MS. p. 46; Douglas' Peerage, 268.

³ Decen. Rets. 1725.

⁴ Park MS.

1. Jean, who was born at Rothiemay, and her right as an heir of entail was thus saved. She was married to Colonel Duncan Urquhart of Birdyards, and died in August, 1767, leaving a son, Robert, who married beneath his rank, but left no issue.

The next to be mentioned is

XI. Sir John Gordon, 4th Bart. of Park.

He was the second son of Sir James Gordon, Bart., the entailor, and a Captain of Marines. In consequence of his brother, Sir William Gordon's attainder, and Sir William's sons being aliens, he claimed the baronetcy, and succeeded to the estate of Park, and died unmarried in 1781. On his death the title and estate of Park devolved on his nephew, Ernest Gordon of Cobairdy. He was the eldest son of James Gordon of Cobairdy, the only son of Sir James Gordon, by his second wife, Dame Margaret Elphinstone, and consequently half-brother to Sir William Gordon who was attainted. James Gordon of Cobairdy also took part in the rising of 1745, and was included amongst those who were attainted, and specially exempted from the subsequent act of indemnity. It is believed, however, that by the influence of his brother-in-law, Lord Forbes, he managed to save his head, and the estate of Cobairdy. He married Malley Forbes, daughter of Lord Forbes, and had issue:—

- I. **Ernest**, his successor in Cobairdy, and Bart. of Park.
- II. James, baptised May 12, 1742, by Rev. Alexander Lunan, Episcopal minister of Blairdaff. James, Lord Forbes, and Sir William Gordon of Park being godfathers, and Lady Forbes godmother.¹
 1. Mary Elizabeth, married to Mr. Leith of Glenkindy.

XII. Sir Ernest Gordon, 5th Bart. of Park and Cobairdy.

He was served heir to his uncle, Captain John Gordon of Park, who died September, 1781, heir of tailzie and provision general in the lands, barony, manor place, and burgh of barony of Park, in the parish of Ordiquill, Banffshire, 29 September, 1782.² Sir Ernest Gordon of Cobairdy married Miss Horne of Logie, and had issue:—

- I. **John**, his successor.
 1. Mary Elizabeth, married, but d. s. p.

Sir Ernest Gordon died November 5, 1800, and was succeeded by his son,

XIII. Sir John Gordon, 6th Bart. of Park and Cobairdy.

He was served heir "to his father, Sir Ernest Gordon of Park, Bart., who died 5 November, 1800. Heir special in Johnsleys, with its mill, Middleton, Overboddom, &c., in the parish of Insch. Date 11 March, 1801."³

"Sir John Gordon of Park to his father, Sir Ernest Gordon, Bart. of Park, heir general, dated 21 May, 1802."⁴

¹ Father Lunan's Diary, copy penes Editor.
² Decen. Rets. 1782.

³ Decen. Rets. 1802.
⁴ Id., 1801.

Sir John Gordon died unmarried in 1804, and was succeeded in Park by the son of Helen Gordon, wife of John Duff of Cowbin. (See No. IX.) They had the following children :—

- I. James, born 1729, died unmarried.
- II. William, born 1731, died unmarried.
- III. John, born 1732, died unmarried.
- IV. **Lachlan**, on whom the estate of Park devolved, after the decease of Sir John Gordon, Bart. of Park and Cobairdy.

XIV. Lachlan Duff Gordon of Park and Cobairdy.

Regarding him there is the following retour :—“Lachlan Gordon, formerly Duff, W.S., to Sir John Gordon of Park, who died July, 1804. Heir male of tailzie and provision special in the barony of Park, in the parish of Ordiquill, dated 7 September, 1804.”¹

He married Rachel Hogg, daughter of Hogg of Newliston, and by her had four sons and four daughters. The present proprietor of Park is their great great grandson.

After the death of Sir John Gordon in 1804, Cobairdy was sold to John Morison of Auchintoul, son of Alexander Morison of Bognie, by the daughter of John Duff of Cowbin.

Mr. Morison let Cobairdy on an improving lease to James Allardes of Boynsmill, who was in his day a man of considerable influence in Fergue. The following is a sketch of him from the pen of the late Mr. M'Combie of Tillyfour, the first Member of Parliament for West Aberdeenshire :—

“James Allardes of Boynsmill, tenant of Cobairdy, was a great farmer. He was a friend of the late Duke of Gordon, who introduced him to Court. He always wore powder. Many were the stories he told of his journeys to London, and the great personages he was introduced to there. He was the best chairman of a public meeting I ever saw, and at a public sale it was a perfect treat to hear him. He was a master of the art of pleasing, and no man put a company into equal good humour. He had something to say in every one's praise, and no one else could say it so well. He spoke the dialect of his own country, ‘the Kingdom of Fergue,’ and never affected the English language.”²

Mr. Allardes made great improvements on Cobairdy in planting, reclaiming, and building. He built no less than 10,590 yards of stone and lime dykes, 17,791 of dry stone dykes, altogether twelve and three-quarter miles; and there was paid to him at Whitsunday, 1830, for ameliorations on the estate of Cobairdy, £7452 19s. 6d.

Many a good story is told regarding the sayings and doings of Mr. Allardes. He had a very high opinion of the durability of his stone and lime dykes, and when these were building, a friend remarked—“Eh, Mr. Allardes! these dykes ye are biggin' will last for ever.” “For ever man,” quo' Mr. Allardes, “a hantle langer!”

¹ Decen. Rets. 1804.

² Mr. M'Combie's Cattle Breeding Reminiscences, p. 40.

The following regarding a use of them is special:—Returning home late one evening from dining at a neighbour's, Mr. Allardes was much in the condition of the man, who complained not so much of the length of the road as the breadth of it. In coming up one of the avenues to Cobairdy, which had one of his stone and lime dykes on each side, he stumbled with considerable force against the one dyke then against the other, to the danger of an ordinary erection, on which he exclaimed, "Braw dykies that I hae biggit; it is weel I hae biggit ye o' stane and lime."

For other sayings and doings of Mr. Allardes see "Boynsmill."

From Mr. Morison, the estate of Cobairdy passed by purchase to Robert Simpson, who improved the property very much, and built a new mansion house. He acquired the estate of Drumblair in 1847. Mr. Simpson was a graduate of the university of Aberdeen, and studied for some time for the church; was deputy-Lieutenant for the counties of Aberdeen and Banff, and a J.P. also for both counties. Mr. Simpson married first, Barbara Alexis, daughter of Alexander Forbes, of Jamaica, representative of the Forbeses of Keithock, in Mortlach, and descended from a branch of the ancient house of Pitsligo. A brother of Mrs. Simpson's was the late Colonel John Alexander Forbes, formerly commanding the 92nd Highlanders, of St. Margaret's, Auckland Hill, Lower Norwood, who died October 31, 1880. By her Mr. Simpson had one son:—

I. Patrick Browne, Lieutenant-Colonel (late of 72nd Highlanders), is a deputy-Lieutenant of Banffshire, and a J.P. of both the counties of Aberdeen and Banff.

Mr. Simpson married secondly, Margaret, daughter of Alexander Carnie, Provost, Macduff, and sister of Mrs. William Grant of Beldorney. He had issue by her:—

II. Robert.

1. Agnes, married, 1887, to Major Gordon of Culdrain.

Mr. Simpson of Cobairdy died 1884, and Mrs Simpson 1886.

The estate of Cobairdy was sold in 1886 to Robert Skirving.

BOYNSMILL OR GLENDRONACH.

THIS has been for many years a small separate property. In 1696, Alexander Lesly was heritor of the said lands, his wife and daughter being then alive.¹ In 1702, Alexander Leslie of Boynsmill is served heir general to his father, Alexander Lesly, of over Tulloch, February 5, 1702. In 1775, or thereby, it was acquired by William Allardes in Placemill. He married Katharine, daughter of William Stuart, in Little Fergie, by whom he had several sons and daughters. He was succeeded by his son, James, who rented, besides other farms, Cobairdy, on a long improving lease. Mr. Allardes was a very enterprising and public-spirited gentleman, and was the means of effecting many great improvements in Fergie.

In 1825, along with Mr. J. R. Thain of Drumblair, Robert Stuart of Aucharnie; his nephew, Mr. William Davidson, merchant, Aberdeen, he founded the Glendronach Distillery. The name is derived from a small stream called the Dronac, to which Mr. Allardes prefixed Glen, and added an "h," and called it the Glendronach Distillery. A few years after it started, a fire occurred, but a more serious one occurred in 1837, when the whole establishment was all but burned to the ground. Owing to the oppressive excise laws then in force, distilling was rather a hazardous business, and the success of the company after the second fire had not been very great, and three of the partners retired. Mr. Allardes, however, assumed new partners, repaired the distillery, which was then one of the largest in the north of Scotland. Among the partners whom he assumed was Mr. Walter Scott, who took shares in it equal to those of Mr. Allardes, and was made managing partner of the company. Mr. Scott was then a young man, and having had a few years previous training in a distillery in the north, he engaged actively in the management. As the other partners were advanced in years, and by the constitution of the company, none of the shares of the partners could fall to heirs, these more aged partners all died out, and Mr. Scott became at last the sole partner in the distillery.

Mr. Scott, besides having the Glendronach distillery, for a good many years held in lease several farms on the Bognie estate, and was a very successful breeder of short-horns, and took numerous prizes both in England and in Scotland; but his whole breeding establishment was given up some years before his death. In everything connected with agricultural and other matters connected with the parish and county he took a deep interest. Of the Fergie Savings Bank, established in 1820, one of the oldest of

these institutions, he was for many years a trustee and a director, and it owed much to his fostering care. To the Parish Church of Forgue he presented a fine organ, amongst one of the first erected in a Presbyterian church in the north ; and, as elsewhere noticed, he presented a hall to the parish, in which there is an excellent portrait of Mr. Scott, who might well have been called the "Grand Old Man of Forgue." It was presented to Mr. Scott by the parishioners of Forgue soon after the hall was opened. Mr. Scott did not long survive the gift of a hall to the parish of Forgue, for he died in the following year, May, 1886.

Mr. Scott left a legacy of £500 to the chief public school of Forgue, and to that of Wells of Ythan, the interest to be applied for the education of two young men at Forgue, and one at Ythan Wells. He left also a similar sum for a like purpose to his native parish of Polmont, where, agreeably to his wish, he is buried in the grave of his father and mother.

Mr. James Allardes, who has been already mentioned as an improving tenant of Cobairdy, died in 1849. In his latter years, he became very much reduced in circumstances, having become bankrupt in the financial crisis of 1847.

Many a good story is told of Mr. Allardes, and few that had a recontre with him came off winners. Though some times overtaken, according to the custom of the times, he was in general a very temperate man.

In his latter days, when much troubled with the state of his worldly affairs, he is said to have had recourse for comfort to the Book of Job. On perusing the troubles of this very patient and long-suffering patriarch, he one day remarked, "Ay, ay, Job, man, ye had many troubles in your day, but I doubt ye never had the trouble of a bill protested at the bank !"

To a proprietor in a neighbouring parish, who managed his estate rather too much on commercial principles, which led to frequent changes of tenantry, Mr Allardes remarked, "Mr. ——— you must be a very large proprietor?" "O, no," was the reply. "Oh, I thought you were ; I see your farms so often in the newspapers to let."

Mr. Allardes often dined at Huntly Lodge, and at Gordon Castle when the Marquis succeeded to the dukedom. On one occasion, he had partaken rather too much of the Glenlivet, and on retiring to the drawing-room, he found the Duchess playing on the piano, and complimented her Grace on her fine playing, paying her other high compliments. Her Grace resented or seemed to resent this, for Mr. Allardes was rather a privileged guest. Next morning, however, the Duke told him that the Duchess was much displeased with him last evening. Mr. Allardes was very grieved at this, but he managed to get out of the difficulty. "Well, your Grace, it was just that trash of Glenlivet you gave me yesterday after dinner that did not agree wi' me. If it had been my 'ain gweed Glendronach, I would not have been one the waur." The result was that a cask of Glendronach was ordered by his Grace.

Mr. Allardes frequently visited London, and on his return on one occasion, he related his experiences to a neighbour. "When in London I called on his Grace the

Duke of Gordon, and left my ticketty (card) with him. And I soon had an invitation from his Grace to dine with him, and sic a fine company, none but Earls and Lords; and sic fine hearty chieles as they waur. When the tae guffaw of lauchin' was dune, the tither began; and as for the chieles (the footmen) abint our chairs, 'they just snickered and leuch.'

At another time a ball was given by his Grace, at which Mr. Allardes was present, and joined in the dancing. The Duke complimented him on his excellent dancing, and enquired who had been his dancing master. "I never had one," quo' Mr. Allardes. "I just imitate your Grace."

Mr. Allardes was an early riser, and one time, when at Gordon Castle, he had risen before his boots had reached his bedroom door. Seeing a bell-rope in the passage he rung it, and it being the fire-bell of the castle, he soon had plenty of servants, to whose enquiry as to what had happened, and where was the fire, he replied, "I was just wanting my beets!"

Mr. Allardes was not only often at Huntly Lodge, but was much asked out elsewhere, and especially at Haddo in Forgue. Some of his neighbours were rather disappointed that a frequent invitation was not extended to them; but consoled themselves with saying that Mr. Allardes was only asked down to be made fun of. Mr. Allardes on hearing this remarked, "Such and such an one says I am only asked down to Haddo to be made fun of, but none of them are ever there to see the fun."

One day dining with the factor of Bognie, after the half-yearly audit at Bogniebrae, there was champagne at dinner. The servant being careful of his master's interests poured out the champagne so high that it frothed to excess, and the result was but a meagre supply of Mr. Allardes' favourite beverage. The next time the servant came round, Mr. Allardes' held up his glass, and as the servant raised the bottle, he followed it, with still but meagre results. On this, Mr. Allardes remarked, "Eh, Mr. Blaikie, what a capital servant you have got; ye surely pay him good wages, for I never saw ane gar a bottle of champagne gang farer."

Mr. Allardes, like every one else, found in the day of his adversity, in the "winter of his need," that his many friends forsook him. An invitation to dinner became very exceptional, few and far between. His old friends at the Manse of Inverkeithney, however, occasionally asked him to dinner, probably when a fourteenth man was needed, and then even the invitation came late as it were on a Saturday night, and well did Mr. Allardes know that his invitation was an afterthought. He, however, trudges down to Inverkeithney in good time before any of the other guests had arrived, and greets his old friend and hostess with the exclamation, "Well, mem, I was last sought, but I am first here."

On Mr. Allardes' failure, Boynsmill was sold to Mr. William Thomson of Ellingham House, near Cheltenham, and is now, after the death of his eldest son, the property of Mrs. Thomson, his widow.

CORNIEHAUGH,

A SMALL property, situated on the northern slope of the Foreman hill, is in a very secluded position, and during winter does not enjoy much sunlight. It is now the property of John Porter, Huntly.

Before 1647, it belonged to Sir James Crichton of Fren draught. In that year, James, Viscount Fren draught, with consent of his father, disposed it to Robert Bisset in Drumdollo. The instrument of sasine following thereon is dated July 2, 1647.¹ The Crichtons retained the superiority, for in a charter of appreciation to Mr. John Gregory, minister of the gospel at Drumoak, of the lands of Fren draught, dated July, 1647, Corniehaugh is included, and the superiority appears subsequently as belonging to the laird of Fren draught.² The Bissets do not seem to have retained Corniehaugh many years. It came subsequently into the possession of a family of the name of Irvine, who claimed descent from Drum. The first notice of the Irvines of Corniehaugh is in the records of the kirk-session of Forgue. Thus it is recorded :—

William Irvine of Cornyhaugh,

“an elder of the Kirk of Forgue,” date 1663. In 1678, William Irvine obtained sasine of the lands of Corniehaugh.³ The next to be found is

II. Robert Irvine of Cornyhaugh,

a son of the above William Irvine, and is mentioned in the Poll Book of 1696. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of George Crichton of Auchingoul, by whom he had three sons and one daughter.⁴ She was a member of the Church of Rome, and her spiritual interests were tenderly taken into consideration by the Presbytery of Turriff. In 1699, Robert Irvine was summoned before the Privy Council in Edinburgh as a witness in the case of Dame Marjory Seton, relict of Lewis, IV. Viscount Fren draught, and owing to a very severe storm of snow arising, he was eight days on the road to Edinburgh, a journey usually accomplished in three days. He was in consequence denounced ; but on explanation, the denunciation was discharged.⁵ Robert Irvine died before 1737, and in that year his daughter, Susan Irvine, wife of James Findlater, was served heir of provision general. He was succeeded by his son,

1 Charters of Corniehaugh.

2 Bognie Charters.

3 Index of Sasines H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinb.,
and Session Records of Forgue.

4 Presbytery of Turriff Records.

Poll Book, II. p. 402.

5 Chambers' Domestic Annals, Vol. III.

III. William Irvine of Corniehaugh.

He died in 1779, and was succeeded by his grandson,¹

IV. William Irvine of Corniehaugh.

There is a precept of "clare constat" by Alexander Morison of Bognie, superior of the lands of Corniehaugh and others, in favour of William Irvine, grandson and nearest heir of the deceased William Irvine of Corniehaugh, dated November 1, 1779.² He married Martha, daughter of Alexander Findlay, chirurgion, Fraserburgh, by Katharine, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Glendaveny, descended from Sheelagreen and Rothney. They had issue :—

- I. Robert, merchant in London, married, and had issue :—I. George Duncan, Indian Civil Service. II. John Wilson, Melbourne. 1. Margaret.
2. ———, married to Rev. Alexander Cameron, minister of Edderton, Ross, and has issue.

1. Elizabeth, died unmarried.
2. Helen Martha, Walton Place, London.

Mr. William Irvine sold, in 1791, Corniehaugh to Major, afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel, Alexander Duff of Mayen. Mr. Irvine afterwards held in lease the castle of Towie-Barclay, in Auchterless, where he died in 1826.

Colonel Alexander Duff was commonly known as Tiger Duff, so called from a deep scar on his face, inflicted in an encounter in India with a tiger. He married Jane, daughter of James Abernethy of Mayen, who unfortunately killed John Leith of Leith-hall in a duel in the streets of Aberdeen, December, 1763,³ and fled to the continent, and was outlawed. He was succeeded by his son,

II. William Abercromby Duff of Mayen and Corniehaugh.

He was served heir to his father, December 1, 1828, and on the 10 October, 1829, he received a charter of confirmation from Theodore Morison of Bognie, the superior of these lands.⁴

Mr. Duff died in 1857, but before his death the lands of Corniehaugh were sold to the trustees of the Earl of Fife, and they were sold by Alexander, VI. Earl of Fife, in 1888, to John Porter of Corniehaugh. Mr. Porter purchased also Turtory, and some other portions of the Fife estates.

Mr. Porter married Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. George Sellar, Huntly, and has issue :—

- I. John Alexander.
II. William.
III. James, a twin with his brother William; both died in infancy.
IV. Charles Robert.

¹ Corniehaugh Charters.

² Id.

³ Gill's Moir-Eyres, p. 93.

⁴ Corniehaugh Charters.

- V. George Sellar.
- 1. Margaret, died in infancy.
- 2. Mary Elizabeth.
- 3. Olivia Margaret.
- 4. Barbara Florence.

Mr. William Irvine, the last of the Irvines of Corniehaugh, is buried in the churchyard of Fergue. A marble tablet records that he and his ancestors were proprietors of Corniehaugh for more than three hundred years. According to this deduction, the period, however, must be considerably reduced.

A Nonjuring chapel existed at Corniehaugh during the time that Episcopacy was proscribed in the last century. The site of it can still be pointed out. It was served for some time by one of the Irvines of Corniehaugh, and the last appointment of a minister to it was in 1773, when the Rev. Andrew Macfarlane, subsequently Bishop of Moray, was appointed.

H A D D O

FORMED part of the dominical lands of Fren draught. In a charter of resignation of these lands by David Gregorie to **George Morison** of Bognie, of date 1677, there is mentioned "the two ploughs of Haddo in Inverkeithney." In 1673, four years before the sale to George Morison, the two ploughs of Haddo, along with Parkdargue, were wadset by David Gregory in favour of James and Alexander Davidson; and there is a deed of clare constat in favour of the same parties by Theodore Morison of Bognie in 1700.¹ The wadset of the two ploughs passed afterwards to James Gordon of Daach, and from Patrick Duff, who acquired them, they passed, in 1721, to Theodore Morison of Bognie.² He gave the two "ploughs of Haddo" and others to his second son,

II. Captain John Morison.

Captain Morison built the mansion-house, and married Miss Abercromby, daughter of General James Abercromby of Glassaugh (of the Birkenbog family), by Mary, daughter of William Duff of Dipple. They had issue one daughter, **Mary**.

Captain Morison died April 1, 1777, and is interred at Haddo. His widow became the second wife of Robert Duff of Loggie, Vice-Admiral of the Red. He was succeeded by his daughter,

III. Mary Morison of Haddo.

She married Colonel Duff of Fetteresso, the son of Admiral Duff, thus forming a curious connection, the mother marrying the father, and the daughter the son. They had issue:—

I. Robert, of Fetteresso.

II. Arthur, of Glassaugh, who took the name of Abercromby.

III. Adam, of Woodcote, Sheriff of Wigton.

IV. **Thomas A.**, of Haddo.

Mrs. Duff of Haddo died 18—, and was succeeded by her son,

IV. Thomas Abercromby Duff of Haddo.

He married first, Mary, daughter of Alexander Gordon of Newton, by Jane Morison, his wife, widow of James Ogilvie of Ercreavie, and had issue:—

I. Robert William, Major in the army.

II. Alexander G., Colonel in the army.

¹ Bognie Charters.

² Bognie Charters.

Thomas Abercromby Duff married secondly, Laura Fraser, daughter of — Fraser. He had issue by her :—

III. George Gordon, born 1840.

1. Jemima Clark, died in infancy.

Mr. Duff falling into pecuniary difficulties, Haddo was sold by his trustees in December, 1849, to John Forbes, a native of the county of Ross. He made a considerable fortune by railway contracts, of which he had large ones on the North British, the Edinburgh and Glasgow, and the Aberdeen railways. Mr. Forbes, in 1859, purchased the lands of Crombie, Raemoir, and Cranna.

Upon all his estates he executed great improvements in building, reclaiming, draining, and fencing ; in fact, as he remarked to the writer of this notice, he had improved himself out of them. On the fall of the value of land, he came into difficulties, and after his death, the bond-holders, the chief of which was the North of Scotland Bank, became owners of Haddo and the other estates.

Mr. Forbes married Miss Mackenzie, the daughter of a clergyman in the county of Ross. By her he had a large family :—

I. Murdoch, who was trained to business as a merchant, and died in China.

II. George, Major 78th Highlanders, married a daughter of the late Mr. Kinloch of Park ; d. s. p. 188—

III. Charles, who occupied the extensive farm of Tochineal ; died 188—

IV. William John.

1. Wyneford, married to Mr. Webster, ribbon manufacturer in London.

2. Isabella.

3. Jessie, married to Mr. Gordon.

4. Annie.

There is a fine garden said to have been laid out by Linnæus, a friend of the Bognie family. Near the gardens is a dove-cot ; a carved slab, which exhibits a crown with a thistle over the top, and below a lion rampant, holding a sword with both paws, with the date 1694.

THE CHURCH OF DRUMBLADE AND ITS MINISTERS.

THE church of Drumblade was dedicated to St. Hilary, and prior to the Reformation belonged to the church of Kinkell. There were depended on Kinkell, the churches of Drumblade, Skene, Kintore, Dyce, Kemnay, Kinellar, and Monkeggie; all of which were severally provided with a priest, who officiated in these churches as vicar or chaplain; for the parson of Kinkell himself being a principal person in the cathedral chapter had to reside chiefly at Old Aberdeen. By an Act of the Scotch Parliament passed in 1649, these kirks, above enumerated, "being pendicles of the kirk of Kinkell of auld erected in ane benefice and parsonage, were dissolved, disunited, and separated, and declarit to be severall and distinct parochie kirks and parochins in all time coming."¹

Of the names of the vicars before the Reformation few, if any, have been preserved.

In 1567-1574 the parish was supplied by George Rothyne, reader.

Norman Spens, who remained till 1580, when he was deprived.

Andrew Spens served from 1585 to 1591.

Alexander Barclay, in 1598, was appointed to the vicarage by James VI. In a birth brieve, we find he had the following sons, William and James, by his wife, Bessie, daughter of John Duncan of Scardargue. The said Alexander Barclay was the son of Mr. George Barclay, advocate, Aberdeen, by his spouse, Marjory Chien.²

Andrew Massie. He is mentioned in a minute, of date 10 November, 1643, of the Presbytery of Strathbogie.³ He was translated to Auchterless. The following minute respecting him is in the records of the Presbytery of Turriff:—"Mr. Andrew Massie produced the Covenant subscribed by all except Lessendrum and the Papists excommunicated in the parish."⁴

Alexander Scroggie, A.M., was translated to Drumblade from Forglen, and from Drumblade to Oldmachar, 20 April, 1658, and contributed the same year £41 towards the new buildings of King's College. He was the son of Rev. Alexander Scroggie, D.D., minister of Aberdeen, brother of William Scroggie, Bishop of Argyll.⁵ There is in the Presbytery records of Turriff the following complaint by Mr. Scroggie:—"The minister of Drumblade did honestly regrave to his brethren, that notwithstanding his charge was grate in respect of ane numerous congregation, ane irregular,

¹ Skene's Skene Family, N.S.C. p. 11.

² Misc. S.C., V. p. 339.

³ Presb. Strathbogie, S.C. p. 39.

⁴ Fiebner's Notes on Presby., Turriff, in Aberdeen Journal.

⁵ Aberdeen Fasti MS. History of Roses of Insch, penes Editor.

malignant, and stiff-necked people, his stipend has been and still is very little, namely, ane hundred pounds money and twenty-four bolls victual, with one vicarage of little value. His manse was imperfect, and he is so straitened that he had not ane foot-broad over his gate, and was so surrounded with cottars and grassmen, that in the summer time when his beasts did set their heads over the gate, they were either killed or pitifullie beaten; that his glebe was but ane little piece of land lyand far from his manse and kirk, about ane mile and ane half, and consequently unprofitable; that by reason of this he was exposed to the reproach and contempt of his people, and the Gospel under-valued and slighted."¹

James Gordon was appointed in 1659. He preached at the consecration of the Scotch Bishops in Holyrood, 7 May, 1662,² and was afterwards translated to the mother church of Kinkell.

William Seton, A.M., was translated from Lumphanan, admitted prior to July, 1662.³

George Chalmer, son of George Chalmer, minister of Rhyrie, who was appointed to Drumblade before 4 February, 1687. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. James Gordon, parson of Rothiemay.⁴ She was executrix to her father, and died 16 January, 1692. By her he had two sons and two daughters—James, George, Anna, and Jean. He afterwards, when very old, married Rachel, said to be a daughter of Sir John Forbes of Waterton. She was alive in 1696. He presented to the parish two Communion cups, and died 1702. (See Monkshill.)

John Turing, A.M., was formerly minister of Insch, and was admitted to Drumblade, 16 March, 1703. He died January, 1733, aged about 84. From him is descended the present family of Turing. (See Foveran, Turing.)

John Stewart was admitted minister of Drumblade, 20 February, 1734; died January, 1743. He married Magdalene, daughter of Gordon of Birkenburn. She died 2 May, 1783. Their son, John Stewart, sold the estate of Birkenburn to James, Earl of Seafield. The Gordons possessed Birkenburn from 1547. Adam Gordon and Christina Gordon, his spouse, obtained a feu charter (cartam feodifirmam) in that year.⁵

George Gordon was served heir, in 1752, to his grandfather, Robert Gordon of Chapel-town,⁶ and was translated from Bourtie to Drumblade, where he died 8 December, 1763, leaving a son, Charles, who went to Glasgow; a daughter, Elizabeth, who was married to John Alleson, Port Glasgow. Dr. Scott says another daughter married Captain John Henry of Corse, but this is a mistake. It was a daughter of Robert Gordon, minister of Drumblade, whom Mr. Henry married.

William Bisset, A.M., was translated from Footdee Chapel of Ease, Aberdeen, having been presented by the Earl Marischal to Drumblade on 22 May, 1765.⁷ He was translated to Dundee.

¹ Brebner's Notes on the Presb. of Turriff in Aber Journ.

² Grub's Eccles. Hist. III. p. 199.

³ Eccles. Records, Aberdeen, p. 214.

⁴ New Stat. Acct. p. Poll Book, II. p. 271.

⁵ New Stat. Acct. Ant. A. and B. II. p. 250.

⁶ Decen. Rets. 1752.

⁷ New Stat. Acct.

George Abel, A.M., graduated at Marischal College in 1758; was appointed to Drumblade in 1776. He got a new church built in 1775, and died 14 September, 1794, aged 56, having married Mary, daughter of James Bisset of Lessendrum, who died at Aberdeen, 6 December, 1815, aged 86.

Robert Gordon, M.A., was appointed in 1794, on the presentation of William, Earl of Kintore. He married Jane Farquhar, who died 25 June, 1829, aged 80, and had issue—a son, George; a daughter, Margaret, married to Andrew Macpherson, Gibston; another daughter was the first wife of John Henry of Corse. Mr. Gordon died 27 November, 1820, aged 70, and in the 26th year of his ministry.

Robert James Brown, M.A., the third son of Principal Brown, Marischal College, was appointed in 1821. Having been appointed Professor of Greek in Marischal College, he resigned Drumblade, 17 December, 1827.

George Ramsay Davidson, M.A., was presented by Anthony Adrian, Earl of Kintore, 8 May, 1828, and was translated to Lady Glenorchy's Church, Edinburgh, 14 July, 1842. On joining in the Free Church secession in 1843, and signing the deed of demission, he was declared no longer a minister of the Church of Scotland, 28 June, 1843. He married, June 8, 1830, and had a son, a merchant in Liverpool, and a daughter, Mary, who married Rev. Alexander Cusin, A.M., Collegiate minister of Free Lady Glenorchy's Church, Edinburgh. He received the degree of D.D.; has published several pamphlets and sermons, and was the author of the *New Statistical Account of the parish of Drumblade*.¹

W. J. Blaikie was appointed in 1842; remained till the Disruption, 1843; now D.D., LL.D., Professor of Apologetics and Pastoral Theology, Free Church College, Edinburgh.

Alexander Rainy, M.A., was the second son of the Rev. William Rainy, schoolmaster for many years of Drumblade. After passing through school and college with distinction, he became his father's successor as schoolmaster of Drumblade, and taught with much acceptance for several years. In 1843, he was appointed to the church of Drumblade, and for the long period of forty-eight years, "remote from towns, he ran his godly race, nor e'er had changed nor wished to change his place." Mr. Rainy was a man of considerable culture and ability, and although not a popular preacher, few made greater preparation for their Sunday duties, for he wrote a new sermon for every time he preached. Of his immense collection of MSS., he remarked, if the manse were to take fire they would illuminate the parish more than they had ever done before. Mr. Rainy's readiness at repartee was very great. To a proposal made for heating the church, his reply was, "O, I suppose you want more fire in the pulpit." To a brother minister who complained of the smallness of the congregation to which he had officiated, his ready retort was, "Well, sir, I hope you will not suppose that I am accountable for your want of popularity." Mr. Rainy was a kindly man, and many were the acts of kindness done by him to his parishioners and others in their need. The weakness of age coming on

¹ Scott's *Fasts*, pp. 651-2-3.

him, and having been made rather keenly to feel "that superfluous lags the veteran on the stage," he resigned the charge of Drumblade, not without regret. He felt the parting keenly, and left Drumblade and the scenes of his youth, which he never again beheld. He withdrew to a cottage near the parish church of Inverkeithney, where, feeling that his life's work was done, he gradually drooped and faded, and paralysis supervening, he died, after a few months' illness, in the end of January, 1893. His body, agreeably to his wish, rests beside that of his sister, Mrs. Soutar, in the churchyard of Inverkeithney, by the Deveron's murmuring stream. "Pax sit manibus."

William Grant, M.A., was born at Tullynessle; educated at the parish school and the Grammar School, Old Aberdeen. He graduated in 1882 at the University of Aberdeen, and was appointed to Drumblade in 1891.

THE CHURCHYARD OF DRUMBLADE.

Beneath these rugged elms, that ash tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.
The breezy call of incense breathing morn,
The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

—Gray.

THE churchyard is finely situated on an eminence above a stream, the boundary between it and Fergie. With the exception of a flat slab, within an enclosure, to the memory of George Bisset, which will be found in the notice of Lessendrum, there are no stones of great antiquity. Within the same enclosure there is a stone with a cross bearing the inscription—"Here lie the remains of Jane Harriot Fenwick Bisset, who died May 2, 1866; also the remains of Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, who died 6 August, 1879. 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'" Another of polished granite is inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Charles Elrington Bisset of Lessendrum, who was called away from an earthly home, on 12 December, 1888, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that passeth not away, aged 38 years. Rev. xxii. 3, 4." A flat slab records the death of "Maurice George Bisset of Lessendrum, who died 16 December, 1821, in the 64th year of his age." On the east wall of the enclosure is the inscription—"This is the burial place of the family of Lessendrum done by Anne Bisset, 1775." Outside the Lessendrum enclosure there is a table shaped stone with this inscription—"Sub hoc saxo Magistri Georgii Abel, pastoris Evangelii apud Drumblade reliquiae inhumantur, 14 September, 1794; ætatis 56; officii 28, anno, diem obiit." [Under this stone are interred the remains of the Rev. George Abel, minister of the Gospel at Drumblade, died 10 September, 1794, in the 56th year of his age, and the 28th of his ministry.] He married Mary Bisset of Lessendrum.

Another table-shaped stone is "To the memory of Rev. William Rainy, who died at Monellie, 24 November, 1842, aged 77; and of his wife, Mary Taylor, who died February 16, 1831, aged 77." There is also the following inscription in Latin—"In memoriam fortis et infelicis viri ——— Whyte de Ardlahill in Aberdour, qui postremo multas post ærumnas confectus corpore opibusque e vitâ discessit, Londini anno P. C. N. 1789, et sine lapide sepultus fuit." [To the memory of a brave and unfortunate man, ——— Whyte of Ardlahill in Aberdour, who, at last, after many vicissitudes, worn out in

body, and destitute of means, departed this life at London in the year of our Lord 1789, and rests in a nameless grave.] This unfortunate gentleman was a relative of the above named Mr. Rainy, who, it is said, joining the rising of 1745 under Lord Pitligo, shared the sufferings of his chief and followers, and died as above recorded.

Near the church wall a fragment of a stone bears the inscription in Latin—"Hic jacent cineres mulieris omatissimæ." [Here lie the ashes of a most accomplished lady.] It very likely formed the upper portion of a now small square stone appropriated by another party, on which we read on one side—"Elizabethæ Gordon quæ nupserat Georgio Chalmers, P. de Drumblade, qui obiit, hæc Januariæ, 1692, ille ——— Linquenda tellus et domus et placens uxor." [Elizabeth Gordon, who had married George Chalmer, pastor of Drumblade, who died—she—January, 1692, and he ——— We must leave earth, home, and pleasing wife.] A space had been left for his own death, but no kind friend had added the date. Mr. Chalmer soon consoled himself for the loss of a pleasing wife by marrying Rachel Forbes, a daughter, it is said, of Forbes of Waterton. She was alive in 1696. On the other side of the stone is the inscription—"This stone belongs to the Gordons, and the family of Andrew Barclay, late feuar in Huntly, who was born in 1752, and died 1835, aged 83 years.

A flat stone, all but eligible, records the death of "Ann, daughter of Alexander Gordon, formerly schoolmaster, Drumblade, and spouse of David Weyms, merchant, Huntly, born 1760, died —"

Another adjoining records "that underneath lie interred the remains of Robert Gordon of Chapelton, who departed this life at Poolend, 19 June, 1777, aged 80."

Two church officers, father and son, are recorded on an upright stone—"John Ruddach, died 9 February, 1839, aged 84, having fulfilled the duties of church officer for forty-eight years. Also of his son, James, who succeeded him as church officer till 1843, and died February, 1868, aged 84."

Within an enclosure there are the following inscriptions—"In memory of the late Andrew Macpherson, Gibston, who died at Gibston, 12 May, 1836, aged 67 years and 9 months; and of his widow, Margaret Gordon, daughter of Rev. Robert Gordon, minister of Drumblade, who died 9 November, 1817, aged 82." II. On another tablet "Major General George Gordon, R.A., born 1 January, 1789, died 4 June, 1861. This tribute of grateful affection, in memory of a beloved husband and father, is placed here by his widow and family. The remains of a dear child are also laid here. Jane, his second daughter, who died 22 October, 1846, aged 10. Jane, widow of the above, and daughter of Andrew Macpherson, Gibston, born 21 November, 1810, died 20 February, 1886. 'It is I be not afraid.'" (General Gordon was a son of Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon of Coynachie.) III. "Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Captain Gordon, R.N., who died at Huntly, 23 April, 1843, aged 31 years. (She was a daughter also of the above named Andrew Macpherson.) This memorial is placed where her remains are deposited by her affectionate husband. In her grave are also laid the remains of her husband, Admiral Charles Gordon, who died at Huntly, 9 May,

1876, aged 78." (He was an illegitimate son of the Duke of Gordon.) IV. "Here lie the remains of the Rev. Robert Gordon, minister of Drumblade, who died on 27 November, 1820, aged 70. Also the remains of Jean Farquhar, his widow, are deposited here. She died 25 June, 1829, aged 79." V. On another tablet is the inscription—"Opposite this stone lies the body of Eliza Gordon, the wife of Captain Henry of Corse, who died 1 May, 1802, in her 21st year, and daughter of Rev. Robert Gordon." This was Captain Henry's first wife. He is interred at Forgue.

In an adjoining enclosure there is a marble monument of beautiful design erected to "George Macpherson, Gibston, factor on the Huntly estates for twenty-seven years. He died at Gibston, 3 September, 1864, in the 56th year of his age. By the tenantry of the Duke of Richmond and other friends of the deceased as a mark of respect to his memory." Mr. Macpherson married Jane, daughter of the late Very Rev. James Walker of the Episcopal Church, Huntly, and Dean of Moray. A cross with the sacred monogram records the death of two daughters of the above, "Caroline Macpherson, died 21 May, 1873, aged 27; Georgina, died 27 February, 1877, aged 31."

Within an enclosure are three granite headstones—I. "In memory of Robert Lawson, merchant in Corse of Monellie; also of his father, Alexander Lawson, who died, April 14, 1782, aged 68; also his son, Alexander Lawson, who died 22 December, 1786, aged 23." II. On another stone is the inscription—"In memory of George Lawson, banker, Huntly, who died 7 June, 1858, aged 77. His wife, Margaret Robertson, died 5 September, 1865, aged 84; and of their grandson, James, son of James Lawson, banker, Huntly, who died 26 April, 1858, aged 6." III. "In memory of George Lawson, farmer, Lessendrum, who died 28 April, 1852, aged 68, and of Jean Lawson, his wife, who died 22 March, 1850, aged 70."

Within an enclosure are two monuments, one of marble, the other of granite, surmounted by the sacred monogram, I.H.S. The marble monument is attached to the south wall of the churchyard, and is thus inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of Patrick Robertson, tanner, Huntly, who died 2 July, 1826; also of his sons, Alexander Robertson, advocate in Aberdeen, who died 10 June, 1823; George Robertson, bank agent, Elgin, who died 10 May, 1859." The granite stone bears the inscription—"Erected by Isabella Kirkwood Robertson in remembrance of her beloved husband, James Robertson, Huntly, who went home to Jesus on the morning of the 4 February, 1877, æt. 88 years." Mr. Robertson was a banker in Huntly, a good friend to many, and was held in great esteem by the whole community.

A granite stone placed against the south wall marks the burial ground of the family of Macdonald, who for more than a century have occupied the farm of Upper Pirriesmill, popularly known as "The Farm." According to tradition, the family was descended from one of the Macdonalds of Glencoe, who escaped the massacre of 1692. Two of his descendants fought at Culloden. Charles, the first of the family here interred, succeeded the Macveaghs in the occupancy of "The Farm." His eldest son, George, was the father of the novelist and poet, George Macdonald, LL.D., and died in

1858. His youngest son, James, was a much esteemed Bible class teacher in and around Huntly for the long period of sixty years. He died in 1877, and his son, James Macdonald, F.S.A. Scot., is the present representative of the family. He is author of "Place Names of Strathbogie."

A cross is inscribed "To the memory of Robert Lippe, who died at Westside, Gartly, 7 August, 1862, aged 66; also of his widow, Jane Robb, who died at Easthillhead, Keith-hall, 17 January, 1879, aged 89. Erected in grateful recognition of their modest worth by their only son, Robert." Their son, Rev. Robert Lippe, was for some time schoolmaster of Forgue, and is now chaplain to the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen. He was editor of Woodrow's Biographical Collections, N.S.C.

A headstone bears to be "Erected by James Cruickshank, farmer, Comisty, and Jean Andrew, his wife, in memory of their beloved son, Robert Cruickshank, who died 30 August, 1830, aged 34. As a son and brother, as a friend, he was alike distinguished, and his early death called forth the expression of a sorrow, which showed how much he had been esteemed, and how deeply he was lamented."

"Mourn not my friends nor weep in vain,
The silent tomb cures all my pain,
For death ere long will visit thee,
Therefore prepare to follow me."

A table stone has the inscription—"Here lies the body of James Cruickshank, some time farmer at Comisty, who died 6 October, 1782, aged 66; also Christian Cruickshank, his spouse, who died 17 April, 1797, aged 77. This stone is erected by Robert and James Cruickshank, their surviving sons. Here also are interred the remains of the above named James Cruickshank, who died 7 July, 1838, aged 80. His spouse, Jean Andrew, died 8 September, 18—, aged 77."

There are two or three tombstones to a family named Maitland. One, "James, farmer, Brownhill, died 1776, aged 67, also of his son, William, farmer there, who died 1794, aged 33." This name is all but extinct in the parish.

A granite headstone bears the inscription—"By the grace of God I am what I am." This stone is erected by Alexander Forbes, minister of the Free Church, Drumblade, in memory of his beloved wife, Mary Ogg, who died two hours after the birth of her ninth child, 12 December, 1862, aged 42."

A stone bears the inscription—"In memory of James Talbert," and another to "Mary Multurer," names not now commonly found in the district.

A headstone is "In memory of Patrick Gammie, late in Hawkhall, who died 2 October, 1822, aged 60; also of his daughter, Mary Anne Gammie, spouse of Rev. William Laurie (of St. John's Episcopal Church, New Pitsligo), who died at New Pitsligo, 2 October, 1838, aged 28; of Robert Gammie, who died at New Orleans, North America, 6 December, 1852, aged 35; and John Gammie, who died in Australia, 6 August, 1853, aged 32." Patrick was a surgeon in the army, and obtained the rank of Inspector General of Hospitals. He died in 1888, leaving £1000 to the poor of the

parish of Forge. George made a considerable fortune in Australia by sheep farming, and bought the estate of Shotover in the county of Oxford; was appointed High Sheriff of Oxford, 1859. He married, 1855, Ellen, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-General Yaldwin of Blackdown, Sussex, and has issue:—¹ I. George Cecil. II. Stuart Yaldwin. III. George Claude. IV. Reginald. ¹. Grace Ellen. ². Mary Maitland. ³. Emmeline Stuart.

A Turin headstone bears the inscription—"Erected by the Hon. William Allan, of Toronto, to his father, Alexander Allan, some time in Moss of Dummuie."

¹ Burke's Landed Gentry.

LESSENDRUM.

“Abscissa Viresco.”

THE Bissets of Lessendrum, one of the most ancient families in the county of Aberdeen, were in possession of that barony long before the war of Independence. During their long sojourn there, they have had many changes of neighbours at Fren draught, Strathbogie, Cobairdy, and Rothiemay : but there has always been a Bisset at Lessendrum.

The present representative of the family is Mrs. Janet Elrington Bisset, daughter of the late Venerable Maurice George Fenwick, some time Archdeacon of Raphoe, and Harriot Bisset, heiress of Lessendrum. Mrs. Elrington Bisset married J. Favière Elrington, LL.D., Q.C., eldest son of Rev. Charles R. Elrington, Regius Professor of Divinity, Trinity College, Dublin, and Rector of Armagh, by Letitia, his wife ; had issue, of whom afterwards.

The name of Bisset, Biset, Byset, or Bisaitte, as it was sometimes spelt, was of Norman extraction, and belonged to a family who came into Scotland in the reign of William the Lion. The “Scalacronica” states that “William the Lion, in 1174, on his return from captivity in Falaise and in England, brought back young Englishmen of family to seek their fortunes in the Scottish Court ; among these were named the “Biseys.”¹

One branch settled in the county of Berwick, and another in the north of Scotland, where they had possessions in the counties of Ross, Banff, and Aberdeen. In the latter county they had Aboyne and probably Lessendrum ; Beaufort near Beaully was one of their seats in the county of Ross, where, in 1230, John Byset founded a priory, the remains of which are still to be seen. In 1226, he also founded a leper's house in connection with the church of St. Peter's, Rathven, in the county of Banff.² On 19 June, 1226, John Biset granted to the church of St. Peter's, and the house of lepers at Rathven, and the brethren serving these, the church of Kiltarlity with its pertinents.³ In 1222, Alexander II., by a charter dated at Fyynn (Fyvie), 22 February, and witnessed by Robert, his chaplain, John Byset, Walter Byset, and confirmed by William Comyn, Earl of Buchan, grants to the monks of Arbroath, the church of Buthelny (now Meldrum).⁴ Between the years 1221-1236, Walter Byset (Aboyne)

¹ Gray's Scalacronica Maitland Club, p. 41.

² Beaully Priory G. C., p. 15 ; Ant. A. and B. II. p. 142.

³ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 144.

⁴ Id. I. p. 561 ; Book of Bon-Accord, p. 352.

founded the preceptory of the Knights' Templars at Culter on the Dee,¹ and in 1237, Alexander II. granted the Knights a charter of liberty to acquire lands. The building included a chapel, and Walter Byset also gave to the preceptory the church of Aboyne.² On 17 August, 1233, Walter and William Byset both witnessed at Strivelin a charter of King Alexander II. to the monks of May.³

In the year 1240, according to the author of the "Priory of Beauly," the Bysets possessed the following estates:—Walter Byset was lord of Aboyne, and resided at Aboyne Castle. His nephew, Sir John Byset, was lord of the Aird, and resided at either Lovat or Beaufort, in the county of Ross. Another nephew, William, was patron of the church, and probably owner of the estate of Abertarff in the same county; and Robert Byset, cousin of Walter's, was lord of Upsetlington, in the county of Berwick.⁴

In 1242, these Bysets, according to Robertson's "Historical Sketches," were involved in a very sad affair.⁵ Walter Byset of Aboyne, at a tournament held near Haddington, encountered Patrick of Galloway, Earl of Athol, a young nobleman of great promise, whose father, Thomas, the younger brother of Alan the Constable, had acquired the Earldom by his marriage with Isabella, the heiress of the fief. Byset was overthrown by his youthful competitor, and as a feud appears to have existed between the families, a fierce desire of vengeance was aroused in the hearts of Byset's kinsmen and followers, and on the night after the tournament, the unsuspecting Earl of Athol, who is said to have been vainly warned of his danger by the wife of his enemy, was burned to death, with two of his attendants, in the house where they were sleeping at Haddington. Some said the building was fired to conceal a previous murder; others declared the wood had been purposely heaped up on every side to prevent the escape of the inmates.

The Earl of Dunbar, and all the friends and partisans of the sufferer, united in denouncing the Bysets as the perpetrators of the crime, accusing Walter of Aboyne of instigating his nephew, William Byset, to the commission of the actual murder. Nor did they stop here, for they aimed at eradicating the very name of Byset from the land, openly charging the head of the family, Walter, lord of Aboyne, with abetting the bloody doings of his kinsmen.

It was in vain that William Byset protested his innocence, whilst the Queen offered to prove that he was in attendance upon her at Forfar on the actual night of the catastrophe; for the Royal party had been staying at Aboyne, and after the departure of Alexander the King, the Queen was returning southwards, under the escort of William Byset, on the very day of the tournament at Haddington. It was in vain also that Walter Byset caused his chaplains to excommunicate all who were implicated in the murder, entreating the Bishop of Aberdeen to publish a similar sentence throughout the Diocese. His cognisances had been recognised in the town of Haddington; his retainers had been seen during the night of the fire, and these were sufficient proofs of

¹ Reg de Kalchou, p. 191.

² Id., p. 182; Reg de Aber. II. pp. 169, 171.

³ Bain's Calendar, II. p. 550.

⁴ Priory of Beauly, G.C., p. 45.

⁵ Robertson, Vol. I. pp. 39, 40, 41.

guilt in the eyes of John and the Red Comyn, and his uncle, the Earl of Monteith, to justify their harrying the lands of the obnoxious baron, who sought shelter from their attacks within the walls of the castle of Aboyne.

Incensed at this lawless outrage, for he had already appointed a day for the trial of William Byset at Forfar, Alexander despatched a party of his immediate followers to the north, forbidding the Comyns to prosecute their private feud, and charging the authorities of Mar with the safe conduct of the accused to the place of trial. On the appointed day Byset arrived at Forfar, and offered to prove his innocence by the wager of battle, declining to submit to the judgment of his peers, probably on the plea that they were prejudiced against him, and preferred, for good reason, to throw himself on the mercy of the King. Alexander postponed his decision until the assemblage of the great "moot" at Edinburgh, in which it was determined that the Bysets should be banished from the country, forfeiting all their possessions, and only escaping death by "swearing" on the "sacred relics" to devote the remainder of their lives to warring against the infidel for the benefit of Earl Patrick's soul. The Bysets, however, do not appear, notwithstanding their oath, to have considered it at all incumbent upon them to peril their own lives in a foreign land for the good of their murdered victim's soul. They fled to Ireland and to England, and we find them under the protection of King Henry III. Walter is said to have represented himself to the King as the victim of a rebellious faction, which the Scottish King was unable to control, and denied the right of the Scottish King, Alexander, to deprive him of his lands, artfully asserting that as Henry was the superior Lord of Scotland, his consent ought to be obtained before any baron could be forfeited.

In Bain's "Calendar of Documents," we find the following references to the Bysets, and the assistance afforded them by the English Court. In 1242, the King has committed to Walter Byset (Aboyne?) the manor of Ludeham to sustain himself at the King's service during pleasure.¹ Again, in the same year the keepers of the Bishopric of Winchester are commanded out of its rents to let Walter Byset (Aboyne?) have thirty merks of the King's gift.² Also, in 1245, the King directs to his treasurer a writ for payment from the treasury without delay to Walter Byset (Aboyne?) of eighty merks by the King's gift.³ John Byset (Beauly?) has a similar writ for fifty merks. In 1255 there is the following entry:—"The King (Henry III.) directs the Mayor and the Bailiffs of Newcastle-on-Tyne to pay from their farm of ——— forty shillings to the King's valet, William Byset, for his pack horse lost in the King's service."⁴ We see from the above extracts that the Bysets received an asylum and assistance from the King of England, and during their sojourn at the English Court, they are said to have stirred up no good will between the English and Scottish Kings. Notwithstanding their forfeiture, and though they never again attained the influence they formerly had with the Scottish Kings, the Bysets still remained a family of considerable influence and importance.

¹ Bain's Calendar, I. p. 295, No. 1621.

² *Id.*, p. 314, No. 1700.

³ Bain's Calendar, Vol. I. p. 355, No. 1678.

⁴ *Id.*, p. 385, No. 2008.

John Byset, jun. of Beauly, as we learn from "Bain's Calendar," left three daughters co-heiresses :—Cecilia Byset was wife of William de Fenton, whose descendants held the superiority of Lessendrum down to the beginning of the sixteenth century. Elizabeth Byset married Andrew de Bosco, from whom the Roses of Kilravock and other branches of that family are descended. Muriella, the youngest daughter, became wife of David de Graham. Regarding the division of their property after their father's decease there are the following notices :—“In 1278, Cecilia, eldest daughter, appoints her husband, William de Fenton, to receive in the King's Court her share of her father's property in Ireland.” There is a similar appointment by the other two sisters, Elizabeth and Muriella, to their husbands, Andrew de Bosco and David de Graham.

THE BISSETS OF LESSENDRUM.

The following is their descent :—

I. Walter Byset of Aboyne and probably of Lessendrum.

His history has been above recorded. He died in 1251, and was succeeded by his nephew,¹

II. Thomas Byset of Aboyne, &c.

There is little record of him, but he was probably father of

III. Walter Byset of Aboyne and Lessendrum.

We find Walter de Byset of the county of Aberdeen swearing, in 1296, fealty to Edward I. for his possessions in that county.² We also find, in 1304, Walter Byset of Lessendrum. His name occurs in the following record :—“Gilbert de Buttergask of that ilk held the lands of Buttergask down to 1304, when Walter de Byset, dominus de Lossindrum, got a charter of all the lands of Buttergask with their pertinents, to be held by the said Walter and his heirs, ‘jure hæreditario in perpetuum,’ as freely as held by said Gilbert de Buttergask, &c., paying therefore annually at two terms, upon ground of said land, six shillings and eightpence sterling, good and legal money. The deed is given anno grê M° ccc° quarto (1304).”³ Also Walter de Byset received a charter in the time of Robert the Bruce, after 1306, of the lands of Aboyne.⁴ These three Walter Bysets may be one and the same, namely, Walter de Byset of Aboyne and Lessendrum. The next to be found is

IV. Thomas Byset of Aboyne, &c.

In Robertson's "Index of Missing Charters" in the time of David II., circa 1340, we find a charter to Thomas Byset of the lands of Aboyne.⁵ He may have been the father or near relative of

¹ Notes by D. Murray Rose.

² Ragman Rolls.

³ Notes by D. Murray Rose.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 35 ; Robertson's Index of Missing Charters, p. 2.

⁵ Robertson's Index of Missing Charters, p. 47 ; Ant. A. and B. II. p. 35.

V. Walter Bysset of Lessendrum.

Of him we find several notices. He seems to have been a very important gentleman, and is often found taking part in public business. In 1355, Walter Bysset of Lessendrum is witness to a charter of the lands of Balhagardy, in the Garioch, given by Thomas, Earl of Mar, and Lord Garioch, to Lord Robert Erskine, knight, and to Christian Keith, his spouse.¹ In 1357, Walter Bysset of Lessendrum is witness to a charter of Ade de Strachanen and Margaret, his spouse, of a portion of the lands of Glenkinety (Glenkindy), and one fourth part of Glenbowel.² In 1364, in a prosecution and sentence "super nativis," he is described as "Walterus Bysset, dominus de Lessendrum, locum tenens vicecomitis de Banff." In another of the same year we find "Walterus dictus Bysseth de Losthindrum."³ There is among the family papers at Lessendrum an old and curious deed of surrender, by which Walter Bysset makes over the whole lands of Lessendrum to William de Fenton, the Pope's legate, to be held by the Holy See—a method often followed in troublous times for the safe keeping of estates. There is no deed of restoration, but the fact of the deed of cession being in the possession of the proprietor of Lessendrum is proof of a restoration having taken place. The deed is drawn up by William Lenix, clerk of the Diocese of Brechin, and runs as follows:—"In ye name of the Lord. Amen. In ye year after the Incarnation, 1379, on the 14th day of July, in ye 2d of ye indiction, and in ye 1st year of ye Pontificate of the most Holy Father in Christ, Clement, by Divine Providence, Pope VII. of that name. In the presence of my notary, &c." The original is in Latin and written on vellum.⁴ At the date of this instrument there were two Popes, Urban and Clement. The former was acknowledged by England, and the latter by Scotland. The next, a son probably, was

VI. Patrick Bysset of Lessendrum.

He is mentioned as a witness to an agreement of date 1387. "Concordia inter dominum Episcopum Aberdonensem et Johannem de Forbes, &c., testibus Patricio Bysset de Lessendrum, Wilelmo de Camera, &c."⁵ This Patrick, or probably his son, led, in 1411, the immediate Crown vassals of Strathbogie to the battle of Harlaw. This is mentioned in one of the poetical accounts of the battle.⁶ The next to be found also bears the same name.

VII. Patrick Bysset of Lessendrum.

There is no doubt that others intervene between this Patrick and his predecessor, there being nearly eighty-two years between the two dates; but they have left no trace in history of their existence, not even "umbra nominis."

In "Douglas' Baronage," we find this Patrick as a witness to an arbitration in 1492 between Alexander, vicar of Aberchirder, and Alexander Innes of Innes.⁷ He also

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 329.

² Id., p. 618.

³ Id. p. 477.

⁴ Lessendrum Charters.

⁵ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 177.

⁶ Earldom of the Garioch (Davidson), p. 91.

⁷ Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 15.

takes part in "Perambulatione terarum ecclesie de Aberkerdour vocatarum le Vochry et Acrbrady" along with William Meldrum de Fyvy, Alexander Murray de Cuthbardy, Patricius Thane de Inverkeithney, 1493.¹ In 1498, Patrick Bysset de Lessendum takes part in the inquest of Alexander Bosuele.²

Patrick Bysset married Isobel Lindsay, and had issue by her a son and three daughters :—

I. Patrick, his successor.

1. A daughter, married to Alexander Gordon of Tillytarmont, who fell at Pinkie in 1547.³
2. Beatrice, married to Walter Leslie, second laird of New Leslie.⁴
3. A daughter, married to William Leslie, first laird of Crichtie.⁵

Patrick Bysset died in 1503.

⁶ In October, 1503, Isobel Lindsay, widow of Patrick Bysset of Lessendum, was found entitled to her tierce of the lands of Lessendum, Mayns of Lessendum, Cruche (Cruchie), Leys, &c. He was succeeded by his son,

VIII. Patrick Bysset of Lessendum.

In 1505, we find him taking a part in the inquisition of George Abercromby; amongst the jury is "Patrick Bysset de Lessendum."⁷ He married Catharine Gordon, daughter of William Gordon of Tillytarmont. This is evidenced by an MS. on the Gordons, in the possession of the representatives of the late Charles Dalrymple, of not later date, from internal evidence, than 1580. They had issue :—

I. Patrick, his successor.

- II. William, who married the daughter of Mr. Patrick Leslie of Craigtoun, and had issue by her, John.
1. Bessie, married Robert Forbes of Balinghame, and had by her, Patrick, John, Alexander, Margart, and Isobel.
2. Elizabeth married Alexander Thomson of Disblair, and had issue by her, Alexander, burgess of Aberdeen.

Patrick Bysset was succeeded by his son.

IX. Patrick Bysset of Lessendum.

He is found mentioned as a witness to a service of Archibald Campbell to the barony of Stratherne of date 1546.⁸ According to the MS. of 1580, above quoted, he married ——— Murray, daughter of ——— Murray of Cowbairdie, and had issue :—⁹

1 Ant. A. and B. II. pp. 210, 211, 214.

2 Id., III. p. 334.

3 Balbitban MS., p. 89.

4 Leslie's History of Leslies, III. p. 34.

5 Id.

6 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 519

7 Id., p. 446.

8 Thanes of Cawdor, p. 172.

9 MS. 1580, C. E. D.

I. Patrick, his successor, who was slain at Corrichie, of whom afterwards.

1. Janet, married to John Byset, burgess of Aberdeen, and had issue—James, George, and Patrick. The latter married the daughter of Gilbert Byset of Pitmuxton, Mair of Fee of Aberdeen.
2. Margaret, who married Thomas Baird, the son of a brother of Walter Baird in Banff.

Patrick Byset fell at Pinkie in 1547, as is evidenced by the following retour made May 5, 1607 (sixty years after date of battle)—“*Johannes Bissait hæres masculus Patricii Bissait qui obiit in conflictu de Pinkein patru.*”¹ He was succeeded by his son,

X. Patrick Byset of Lessendrum.

He took part with the Earl of Huntly in his rebellion against Queen Mary, and fell at Corrichie. He is included “in precepto remissionis,” which the Earl of Huntly obtained for his friends, and in it is styled, “Patrick Bisset quondam de Lessendrum.”² His sword (bearing the date October 22, 1562) is still to be seen at Lessendrum.

Patrick Byset married ———, and had issue a son, George, who was but of tender years when his father died.

XI. George Byset of Lessendrum.

He was born in 1551; was called in family tradition the restorer—as the estate of Lessendrum was forfeited for the part his father took at Corrichie. The charter of restoration is dated 16 March, 1611, and is to George Bisset and his son, Robert.³

Upon his tombstone, within what was the aisle of the old kirk of Drumblade, to which he gave a bell in 1604, is the following inscription:—“*Hic jacet honorabilis vir Georgius Bisset de Lessendrum, qui obiit 25 January, 1623, ætatis suæ anno 73. . . . Etatem ornavit primam mihi vivida virtus, sors rediviva domvs famam terra sol. . . . perennem indigetum requiem posthuma vita dedit.*” [Here lies an honourable man, George Bisset of Lessendrum who died 25 January, 1623, aged 73. Active virtue adorned his early youth, and the restitution of the honours of the decayed fortunes of his ancient house won for him an enduring reputation among his countrymen on earth. In the life beyond the grave he enjoys the eternal repose of the blessed.⁴]

George Bisset was succeeded by his son,

XII. Robert Bisset of Lessendrum.

He was a staunch adherent of the Church of Rome, and suffered great persecution at the hands of the Covenanting Presbytery of Turriff. In the books of the Presbytery of Turriff it is recorded that he was excommunicated for refusing to attend the kirk and to sign the Solemn League and Covenant.⁵ “On 18 June, 1629, the Privy Council

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn., No. 299.

² S. C. Mis., IV. p. 158.

³ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 518.

⁴ Jervise' Inscriptions, I. p. 257.

⁵ Brebner's Notes on Presby. of Turriff in Aberdeen Journal.

issued a charge against Robert Bisset of Lessendrum, and others representing, that notwithstanding all that had been recently done, they continue obstinate against the kirk and the law, going about as if nothing were amiss, and enjoying possession of their goods and gear, which properly belongs to His Majesty in escheat ; seeing by the latter circumstance that they are strengthened and fostered in their Popish courses, the Council ordained that officers at arms pass and pursue the rebels, enter their houses, and remove them furth thereof.”¹

He married the second daughter of George Gordon of Cocklarachie,² by the daughter of James Gordon of Merdrum, and had issue :—

I. Alexander, his successor.

1. Helen, who married Robert Crichton of Bainshole, called sometimes of Drumdollo. Before her marriage she also experienced the tender consideration and mercies of the Presbytery of Turriff, for they declined to allow the banns of marriage between her and the said Robert Crichton to be proclaimed until the said Robert should grant a bond of £500 that they would both attend the kirk.³ Robert Crichton granted the bond, but did not long survive the marriage. His widow, after his death, married Alexander Gordon of Birkenburn, and had issue three sons.⁴
2. Isobel, excommunicated along with her father for refusing to attend the kirk, and to sign the Solemn League and Covenant.

Robert Bisset died in or before 1646, and was succeeded by his son :—

XIII. Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum.

Regarding him there is the following retour :—“September 20, 1652. Alexander Bisset de Lessendrum, heir of Maister Robert Bisset of Lessendrum, his father, in the lands and davach of Lessendrum, containing the Mains of Lessendrum, Renthie or Cruthie, and Knight’s milne, with the milne in the barony of Drumblait, with the privileges of the peat moss within the bounds of the middle third part of the lands of Baigeshill, with the multures, &c. The two pairs of the lands of Stonefield, the third pair of the lands of Wedderburn, and the third pair of the lands of Thomastown within the barony of Drumblait.”⁵

This retour had evidently been made some years after his father’s death, as he is mentioned in the Presbytery records of Turriff as being of Lessendrum in 1646. Probably his father’s excommunication, and the fact of his having been denounced a rebel by the Privy Council, may have been the cause of the delay.

Alexander Bisset had also to submit to the tender dealings of the Presbytery of Turriff. “October 20, 1647. Compeired Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum, and being accused of going on in rebellion with the rebels, he confessed that being threatened with fire and sword, he had given them men and keepit some rendezvous with them ;

¹ Chamber’s Domestic Annals, II. p. 24.

² Balbithan M.S. C. E. D.

³ Brebner’s Notes of Presb. of Turriff in Aber. Jour.

⁴ Balbithan MS.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Aberd. No. 492.

but refused that he had ever been at feights. He is ordained to sign the Solemn League and Covenant, and to sware to adhere to the samen in all time coming, with certification, if he shall contravene the same, he shall be censured as an apostate."¹ He is soon censured as an apostate, and in 1650, he is again dealt with for asking the parishioners of Drumblade to sign the Duke of Hamilton's bond in defence of King Charles I. He was enjoined to confess his guilt on his knees, to crave God and the congregation forgiveness, especially those whom he had asked to subscribe the bond.² After this he was for some time in peace, till it was discovered that certain Papists living on his land were not to be brought into the kirk. He was ordered to remove them, and among them his own sister, Isobel Bisset, who, all honour to her, remained firm in the faith of her fathers. She did not, like her sister, Helen, sell her religion for the sake of a husband, but she died excommunicated by the Covenanted Presbytery of Turriff.

Mr. Alexander Bisset married, in 1650, Ann, daughter of Robert Gordon of Straloch. She died in 1714. They had the following issue:—

- I. **Robert**, his successor.
- II. William, a Major in the army, who had a son, **Dr. Alexander**, from whom the present family inherit, of whom afterwards.
- III. George. He was served heir to his brother, Charles, August 19, 1742.³
- IV. Charles, died 1742.
- V. Lewis.
- VI. Alexander, and others.

Mr. Alexander Bisset died in 1693, and was succeeded by his son,

XIV. Robert Bisset of Lessendrum.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"April 16, 1693. Robert Bisset of Lessendrum to his father, Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum, in the lands and davach of Lessendrum, comprehending the town and dominical lands of Lessendrum, &c.," much in the same terms as in the former one quoted.⁴

He was born in 1651; married, 1681, Agnes Abercromby, daughter of ——— Abercromby of Birkenbog, and had issue:—

- I. **James**, his successor.
- II. Alexander, accidentally drowned.
 1. Jane, married in 1730, to James Gordon of Cocklarachie.
 2. Margaret.
 3. Ann, married, 1706, Peter Gordon of Ardmeallie, from whom the Hay Gordons, late of Mayen, are descended.

He died 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

¹ Brebner's Notes on Presb. of Turriff in Aber. Journ.

² Id.

³ Decen. Retours, 1742.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 472.

XV. James Bisset of Lessendrum.

He married Anne, daughter of Dun of Tarty, commonly called "Bonnie Annie of Tarty." Her portrait may be seen at Lessendrum. She died in 1782. They had the following issue:—

- I. Robert, baptised October 14, 1723. Witnesses, James Gordon of Cocklarachie, and Alexander Dun of Tarty. Robert died young.
- II. **Alexander**, his successor, baptised January 27, 1734. Witnesses, Mr. David Maitland and Alexander Forsooth.
 1. Anne.
 2. Agnes, baptised November 22, 1726. Witnesses, Patrick Dun of Tarty and James Gordon of Cocklarachie.
 3. Mary, married Rev. Mr. Abel, minister of Drumblade.
 4. Jean, baptised April, 1728. Witnesses, Alexander Dun of Tarty and James Gordon of Cocklarachie.
 5. Margaret, baptised December 24, 1730. Witnesses, ——— Dun of Tarty and James Gordon of Cocklarachie.
 6. Elizabeth, baptised June 20, 1732. Witnesses, James Gordon of Cocklarachie and William Gordon of Lesmoir.
 7. Catharine, and others.

James Bisset died in 1748, and was succeeded by his son,

XVI. Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"1748, March 31. Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum to his father, James Bisset of Lessendrum, heir male of line and provision, &c."¹

He was unmarried, and entailed the estate of Lessendrum, after the death of his sisters, on Maurice George Bisset, the son of Dr. Alexander Bisset, and grandson of Major William Bisset, as above mentioned.

He died in 1795, and was succeeded by his sister,

XVII. Anne Bisset of Lessendrum.

Regarding her there is the following retour:—"Ann Bisset of Lessendrum to her brother, Alexander Bisset of Lessendrum, heir of tailzie and provision general. Dated 17 October, 1795."² Her name may be seen on a chalice bequeathed by her to the Episcopal Church of Parkdargue, Forgue, 1802, and remodelled in 1866 by the Venerable Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, Lessendrum. **Anne Bisset, Agnes Bisset, Margaret Bisset**, and the last surviving sister, **Mary Bisset** or **Abel**, were succeeded by their kinsman,

¹ Decen. Rets. 1745.

² Decen. Rets. 1795.

XVIII. Maurice George Bisset of Lessendrum.

Regarding him there is the following retour :—" Maurice Bisset or Morris George in Bath, to his cousin, Anne Bisset of Lessendrum, heir of tailzie and provision general. Dated 16 March, 1816."¹

Dr. Alexander Bisset, above mentioned, the son of Major William Bisset, the second son of Alexander Bisset (XIII.) of Lessendrum, married Jane, daughter of General Bockland of Knighton, Isle of Wight, and had issue :—

- I. **Maurice George**, who succeeded to Lessendrum.
- II. **William**, D.D., Lord Bishop of Raphoe, who succeeded to Lessendrum and to Knighton, Isle of Wight.
- III. Alexander, married to Catharine Bagenal, and had issue, **William**, who also succeeded to Lessendrum.
- IV. George, D.D., who married the Lady Catharine Howard, daughter of the Earl of Suffolk.
- V. Henry, killed at sea.
 1. Elizabeth, married to William Fenwick of Lemington, and had issue—
 - I. William. II. Robert. III. **The Venerable Maurice George**, who married his cousin, the heiress of Lessendrum ; and others, who died in infancy.
 2. Sophia, married to Sir Robert Brownrigg, Bart., d. s. p.

Maurice George Bisset of Lessendrum married Harriot, eldest daughter of John Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, and had issue :—

1. **Jane Harriot**, of whom afterwards.
2. Anne, who died in 1879.

A monument to the memory of Mr. Bisset has been placed in the church of Drumblade bearing the following inscription :—" Sacred to the memory of Maurice George Bisset, Esq. of Lessendrum, who died at Lessendrum, on the 16th December, 1821, in the 64th year of his age. This tablet is jointly inscribed by Harriot, his affectionate and mournful widow, and his brother and immediate successor, William, Lord Bishop of Raphoe, in honour of his name, and in grateful recollection of his many virtues that adorned his sacred character."

He was succeeded by his brother,

**XIX. Right Rev. William Bisset, D.D., of Lessendrum,
Lord Bishop of Raphoe.**

He married Jane, daughter of the Rev. Christopher Erle, but had no issue. The Bishop is buried at Drumblade, and the following inscription may be read on a marble tablet, with figures of mitre and crosier, the insignia of the Episcopal office, in the church of Drumblade :—" Sacred to the memory of William Bisset, D.D., Lord Bishop

of Raphoe, and proprietor of Lessendrum, who died on the 4th of September, 1834, aged 75 years." He was succeeded by his nephew,

XX. William Bisset of Lessendrum.

He was the son of Alexander Bisset by Catherine Bagenal above mentioned. He married the Lady Alicia Howard, daughter of the Earl of Wicklow, and had issue, a daughter, Jane Frances. The following is a certificate of her baptism :—" I certify that I have baptised Jane Frances, daughter of William Bisset, Esq., and the Lady Alicia, his wife, at Lessendrum, according to the forms of the Church of England, this fifth day of February, 1833. Signed, F. Howard, vicar of Swords, Co. Dublin."

Miss Bisset was married first to William Gilland; secondly, in 1881, to Rev. Robert Bisset Elrington, vicar of Lower Brixton, Devon.

Mr. William Bisset of Lessendrum died in 1858, and in virtue of Alexander Bisset's entail, the succession, instead of going to his daughter, reverted to **Jane Harriot**, eldest daughter of Maurice George Bisset of Lessendrum, who, on her father's death in 1821, had been left out in the cold, the males in the entail not being then exhausted.

XXI. Jane Harriot Bisset of Lessendrum.

She married her cousin, the Venerable Maurice George Fenwick, son of William Fenwick of Lemmington, by Elizabeth Bisset, his spouse. He was for some time Rector of Drumholm and Archdeacon of Raphoe. Archdeacon Fenwick, on his wife succeeding to the property of Lessendrum, assumed the name of Bisset. They had the following issue :—

I. Mordaunt, born 1826.

1. **Janet**, who succeeded her brother.
2. **Harriet**.

Mrs Fenwick Bisset died in 1866, and was succeeded by her son. (The Venerable Maurice George Fenwick Bisset, her husband, died August 6, 1879, aged 82.)

XXII. Mordaunt Fenwick Bisset of Lessendrum.

He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and on leaving it he joined the 1st Dragoon Guards, but left on inheriting the fine property of Daunsey, in Wiltshire, left him by his grand-uncle, the Earl of Peterborough. He married, in 1851, Susan, daughter and heiress of Francis Popham of Bagborough. He was M.P. for West Somersetshire. Mr. Bisset was a highly esteemed gentleman, beloved by his tenantry, to whom he was a just and considerate landlord. He died in 1884, and was buried in the churchyard of Bagborough. He was succeeded by his sister,

XXIII. Mrs. Janet Elrington Bisset of Lessendrum.

She was married to J. Favière Elrington, LL.D., Q.C., who died in 1883. Mrs. Elrington, on succeeding her brother, assumed the name of Bisset. They had issue :—

- I. Rev. Charles Elrington, some time vicar of Newbarnes, in Lancashire ; married, 1880, Edith E. H., eldest daughter of Rev. J. S. Moore, Rector of Crofton, in Yorkshire. This excellent young man, beloved by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, died s. p., December 12, 1888, aged 39 years.
- II. **Maurice**, Captain in the Royal Engineers, married, 1884, Ann Isabella Brinkley, second daughter of the late W. S. Brinkley, and has issue :—
 1. Walter Favière, born Feb. 21, 1889.
 1. Janet Kathleen, born June 14, 1886.
- III. Rev. Mordaunt Elrington.
 1. Isabella, married Robert W. A. Holmes, C.B., Treasury Remembrancer, Ireland, and has issue—1. Edith J. II. Arthur N. 3. Norah K. 4. Evelyn M. 5. Isabella R. 6. Evelyn Iris. VII. Robert C. E.

The Mansion House of Lessendrum is finely situated. Considerable alterations and improvements were made by William Bisset soon after his accession to the property. The entry door is a Norman arch, and the staircase leading to the apartments is very fine, while the ceiling of the dining-room is enriched with the arms and quarterings of various members and connections of the family.

There is a fine collection of paintings, many of them representations of the great English family of Mordaunt. The Admiral Lord Howard of Effingham, who commanded Queen Elizabeth's fleet against the Armada, may be seen, and many other historical characters inherited by the Bisset family through their descent from the Mordaunts, Earls of Peterborough.

ARMS OF THE BISSETS.

According to Nisbet's "Heraldry," the Bissets of Lessendrum are now chief of the name, and bear the ancient arms of the family—the plain coat azure, and the bend argent. Neither motto nor crest is given, but the crest assumed by the family is a gnarled oak sprouting, with the motto, "Abscissa viresco." These indicate pretty correctly the history of the family. The oak has often been cut down, but in summer times it has grown green again.

THE BARONY OF DRUMBLADE.

THIS barony now forms part of the Gordon and Richmond estates, but in ancient times it was very much divided, and at an early period it belonged to the Fentons, the descendants of Sir John Bisset of Lovat.

In 1403, there is an indenture between William of Fenton on the one part, and Margaret of the Ard, Lady of Ercles, and Thomas of Chisholme, her son and heir, on the other part. William of Fenton is to have the barony of Rethy in Angus, the land of Culace and Buttergask, in the Sheriffdom of Perth, the tenandry of Lessendrum in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.¹ Again there is the following:—1403, Margaret of the Ard, and her son Thomas of Chisholme, is to have the barony of Gask in Angus, the tenandry of Culmaley, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, while the barony of Drumblade, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen is to be divided, so that William of Fentown shall have the town of Sclewo (Sliach), and Margaret of Ard, and her son, Thomas, the towns of Drummuells. The 40 shilling land of Gerry, and the whole of the Kirktown of Drumblade being equally divided between them.²

In 1440, there is a charter by King James II. confirming a charter by Margaret de Fenton of Beaufort, daughter of the deceased Walter of Fentoun, to her intended husband, Walter Ogilvy, son of the deceased, Patrick de Ogilvy of Uchterhouse, of the fourth part of the lands and manor of Beaufort, and the fourth part of her lands in the Sheriffdom of Inverness, and also, the fourth part of the lands of Cocklaw, Balmire, and Drumblait, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.³ Again, in 1458, there is a grant by King James II. to Elizabeth Lindsay, daughter of David Lindsay of Lethnot, and of Margaret de Fentoun of Baky, and their heirs, whom failing, to her sisters and their heirs, of four parts of the lands of Cullace and Littil Buttergask, in the Sheriffdom of Forfar, and a fourth part of the lands of Drumblat.⁴ In 1459, we find the following charter by King James II. to Sir David Stewart, knight, and to Margaret, his wife, of the fourth part of the lands of Ard and Strathglass, in the Sheriffdom of Inverness, of the fourth part of the lands of Balmure, Cocklaw, Tortorstone, Buthlaw, Drumblat, and Tollie, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen, all in the king's hands by the forfeiture of Sir James Douglas, knight, and Janet of Fentown, his wife.⁵ In 1487, there is another transfer of the fourth part of Drumblait, "Confirmation by King James III. of a charter by John Langlands of Cullace, and Elizabeth Lindsay, his wife, to Patrick Barclay of

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 478.

² Id., p. 478.

³ Id., IV. p. 66.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 513.

⁵ Id., IV. p. 68.

Grantully, of the lands of Drumblait, formerly belonging to Margaret Fentown, Lady of Baky, and,¹ in 1491, there is a confirmation by King James IV., of a charter by Margaret Fenton of Baky, David Neirne of Sanfurde, and Henry Douglas to Patrick Barclay of Grantully, of a fourth of the lands of Drumblait, formerly belonging to the deceased Janet Fentown, wife of William Hakkat, also in 1493, a confirmation of a charter by same Margaret Fentown, to the same Patrick Barclay, of the barony of Drumblait, with the superiority of Loshindrum.²

About 60 years after this date we find the following confirmation charter:—"The king confirmed a charter of George Barclay of that ilk, in which, with the consent of Mr. James Barclay de Kynharroquy, and Mr Alexander Barclay, burgess of Aberdeen, he granted to Margaret Ogilvy, relict of John Stewart, Master of Buchan, for her lifetime the lands of Kirkhill, Millhill, the half of the lands of the Kirkton of Drumblade, the lands of the Newton of Gerrie, with the superiority of Lessendrum, 27 June, 1551."³ With regard to the superiority of Lessendrum, there is the following retour:—4 February, 1603, John Abernethy de Saltoun, was served heir of Alexander Abernethy de Saltoun, in the superiority of the lands and barony of Lessendrum.⁴

THE HALLYBURTONS OF DRUMBLADE.

In 1504, a new name appears in connection with portions of the barony of Drumblade. **John Hallyburton** is mentioned as being absent from a head court of the sheriff of Aberdeen.⁵ The next is

II. Andrew Hallyburton of Drumblade.

He fell at Pinkie, in 1547, and was succeeded by his son,

III. George Hallyburton of Drumblade.

As a minor he was served heir, 29 March, 1550, to his father Andrew Hallyburton of Pitcur, who fell at Pinkie, in the half of the lands of Drumblait, namely, half of the lands of the Kirkton (*villæ ecclesiasticæ*), third part of the lands of Gerry, and a sixth part of the lands of Culmaley. There is a confirmation charter of these lands by the King, March 16, 1552.⁶ The next is probably a son,

IV. Sir James Hallyburton of Drumblade.

Of him there is not much recorded, and we find him succeeded by his son,

V. James Hallyburton of Drumblade.

He was served heir, 6 October, 1619, to his father, Sir James Hallyburton of Pitcur,

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 514.

² *Id.*, p. 515.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1551, No. 627.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 89.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 112, 118.

⁶ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 11; Reg. Mag. Sig. 1552, No. 767.

in the half of the lands and barony of Drumblade, namely, two farms of Dumoys, a third part of Gerrie, and a third part of Comalegie. He was succeeded by his brother,¹

VI. William Halyburton.

In January, 1629, William Halyburton of Pitcur was served heir to his brother, James Halyburton of Pitcur, in the lands of a half of the barony of Drumblait, namely, two farms of Dummie, with the third part of the lands of Gerrie, and a third part of Comalegie.² The next proprietor is

VII. James Halyburton.

On January 11, 1653, was served heir to James Halyburton of Pitcur, his father's brother's son, in the lands of Kinrossie, Southtown of Kinrossie, called the Moat, &c., with the lands and barony of Drumblait, in the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.³ His successor was

VIII. James Halyburton.

On May, 1667, he was served heir male of James Halyburton of Pitcur, the son of the brother of his grandfather (second cousins), in the lands and barony of Drumblait, with certain other lands all united into the barony of Pitcur.⁴ The next is

IX. David Halyburton.

In October, 1672, he was served heir male of his brother german, James Halyburton of Pitcur, in the lands and barony of Drumblait, with certain other lands in Forfar and Perth, united into the barony of Pitcur; also there is another retour in much the same terms, of date 26 October, 1681.⁵ Soon after this date the portions of the barony of Drumblait owned by the Halyburtons, pass from them, and in 1696, the date of the Poll Book, their names do not appear.

The Gordons of Pitlurg at one time possessed portions of the barony of Drumblait. In 1548, John Gordon, son of John Gordon, who fell at Pinkie, was infest in the lands of Crewethin, in the parish of Drumblait, and lordship of Strathbogie. There is a charter of confirmation of these lands in 1541, in which it is said that John Gordon attained them from Sir Thomas Erskene de Brechin.⁶ In 1588, there is a charter from King James VI. to Sir John Gordon, knight, of the whole and entire three fourth part, and one-third part of a fourth part of a half of the lands and barony of Drumblait, namely, the lands of Sliach with "le park" of the same Adamestown, Silverhillock, Wistrone, Muthillock, Boigheid, Newton, the third part of the lands of Garrie, with the mills lying in the said barony of Drumblait; and also was given to the said John Gordon a two part of the lands of Chapelton, a third part of Wedderburn, a two-part of the lands of

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 164.

² *Id.*, No. 211.

³ *Id.*, 315.

⁴ Ret. Spec. No. 381.

⁵ Reg. Spec. Abdn. Nos. 381, 403.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 512; Reg. Mag. Sig. 1541, No. 2349.

Brownhill, with the mill, a third part of the lands of Thomastown, and a two-part of the lands of Cumalegy, lying in the said barony of Drumblait, which formerly belonged to Sir George Halyburton of Pitcur; and for the faithful service of the said John Gordon, these lands were with others incorporated into one barony to be called Kimmundy.¹

The Gordons of Pitlurg had parted with these lands before 1642, for in that year we find them in possession of the Gordons of Lesmoir, as will be afterwards shown. In 1696, Sir James Gordon, Bart. of Lesmoir, was in possession of a large portion of the *disjecta membra* of the barony of Drumblade, Gerry, Weston Slioch, Piriesmilne, Thorniebrae, Cravechin, Carnehill, Corsestone, Loanhead, Silverhillock, Boggyside. The rental of this portion in 1696 was £1200, more than a third of the whole rental of the parish.

THE GORDONS OF LESMOIR AND DRUMBLADE, AND SEVERAL FAMILIES DESCENDED FROM THEM.

II. William Gordon,

second son of **John Gordon** of Essie (as to whose status see Parkhill), was designed of Tillytarmont, part of the Gordon property in Strathbogie, and married, according to Douglas, a daughter of Sir John Rutherford, but according to an old MS., of about one hundred and sixty years old, commonly called the Balbithan MS., a sister, and had issue:—

I. **George**, of Tillytarmont.

II. Patrick, ancestor of the families of Caimburrow, Cocklarachie, Tylliangus, Ardmeallie, Auchintoul, and others.

He died about 1480, and was succeeded by his son,

III. George Gordon of Tillytarmont.

He married Isobel, daughter of Berowald Innes of Meillars, and had issue four sons. This is evidenced by an old MS. of at least three hundred and twenty years of age.

I. Alexander, who dwelt in Tylliminat, and was slain at Flodden. He married Bisset of Lessendrum's daughter, and was ancestor of the Gordons of Prony.

II. **James**, of Lesmoir.

III. William, of Brackley.

IV. Thomas, of Browniehillock.²

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 564 :
Reg. Mag. Sig. 1588, No. 1592.

² MS. 1580, C. E. D. ; Douglas' Baronage ;
Gordon of Harperfield's Gordons.

IV. James Gordon of Lesmoir.

According to the MS. of 1580 above quoted, "he became ane wealthy and worthy man, and made sundrie fair and great conquests of land." He was twice married, his first wife being Margaret, a daughter of Patrick Stuart of Laithers, who bore him six sons and five daughters.

I. George.

II. James. "His father conquest the lands of Crichtie and others in Fyvie, and gave them to the said James, who married Margaret Barclay, daughter of the laird of Gartly, who bore to him divers sons and daughters, brave gentlemen."

III. Alexander. "His father conquest the lands of Birkenburn, all lyand in the parish of Keith, which he gave to his foresaid son, Alexander, with divers other possessions in wadset. This Alexander married Isabel, daughter to George Gordon of Cairnburrow, who bore him manie sons. Secondly, he married Catharine, daughter of the laird of Abergeldie, who also bore him sundrie children; and thirdly, he married a daughter of Alexander Gordon of Strathdone, who likewise bore him sundrie children."

IV. William, of Terpersie. "This said James Gordon of Lesmoir conquest the lands of Terpersie,¹ which he gave to his fourth son, William Gordon." This William Gordon married Margaret Ogilvie, daughter of Sir Walter Ogilvy of Dunlugas.

V. Patrick. "The said James Gordon of Lesmoir left to Patrick Gordon, his fifth son, soummes of money but no land. By industry he made a gentleman's living, and dwelt in the Enzie in Oxhill. He married Isobel Gordoune, daughter to Alexander Gordoune of Strathdone,"²

VI. John. "The said James Gordon of Lesmoir left to his sixth son, John, some wadset lands and soummes of money, but no possessions. By industry he made a gentleman's living, and dwelt in the Enzie at Litchieston." He married Elizabeth Abernethy, daughter of Michael Abernethy, Master of Saltoun, and had issue.³

1. Janet, married to William Seaton of Meldrum. "She had sundrie children, whose heirs are now (1580) lairds of Meldrum."

2. Katharine, married to John Gordon, brother of the laird of Gight, and now heir to the lands of Gight, fallen to him by natural inheritance.

3. Elizabeth, married on William Keith of Ludquharne, who was heir of succession.

4. Marjory. "Ane other daughter married on the laird of Blackhall, thereafter married on James Gordon of Kynnartie."

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1556, No. 877;
Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 539.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. 1584, No. 754.
³ MS. 1580, C. E. D.

5. Margaret. "The fifth married on Alexander Knowis, merchant in Aberdeen, a man of good heritage."

The said James Gordon of Lesmoir, after the decease of Margaret Stuart, married Margaret Ogilvie, Lady Gartly, daughter of Sir Alexander Ogilvie of Findlater, knight,¹ who bore him sundrie sons, of whom two came to position.

- I. Thomas, the eldest. "His father gave to him the lands of Seggieden, and he married a gentlewoman called ———, who bare him sundrie sons and daughters. This Thomas was slain with his two sons, James and William, very brave gentlemen, under the Earl of Huntly's banner, on a field called Auchinachie, against George, Earl of Argyle." From him, according to Douglas, the Gordons of Buthlaw and Newtyle are descended.² They, however, claim descent from another branch, as will be shown afterwards.
- II. Henry, of Dilspro. He married a daughter of the laird of Muchalls called Fraser, who married first, Gordon of Haddoch. Thereafter he married one called Agnes Hepburne, who had children. This Henry Gordon made a fair conquest in Buchan.
 1. Catharine, married to ——— Blackhall of Barra.
 2. Elizabeth, married to ——— Knowis of Ashintilly.³

James Gordon of Lesmoir and Margaret Ogilvie, the wife of his son William, are mentioned in a charter of confirmation, of date 1556. James Gordon of Lesmoir died before 1559, and was succeeded by his son,⁴

V. George Gordon of Lesmoir.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"George Gordon of Colholstane, heir of James Gordon of Lesmoir, his father, in the lands of Balmaude, Gerachtie, and Craighead, June 23, 1559."⁵ Both Douglas and Gordon say he died in the life-time of his father, but the retour above quoted shows that he survived his father. He married Catharine Forbes, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Tollie in Mar, who bore to him sundrie sons and daughters. This George Gordone made ane great conquest, nothing inferior to his father, James. He had two sons that came to perfection, and three daughters. One son died in infancy.⁶

- I. **Alexander**, his heir.
- II. James, died in infancy.
- III. John, of Newton.
 1. Janet, married to William Forbes of Tolquhon.
 2. Jane, married to ——— Ogilvie of Carnousie.
 3. ———, married to ——— Innes of Auchintoul; secondly, ——— Grant of Ballindalloch; thirdly, to John Gordon of Birsemoir.

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1556, No. 877;

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 530.

² MS. 1580.

³ Id. C. E. D.; Balbithan MS.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 537.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 28.

⁶ MS. 1580 (C. E. D.)

George Gordon of Lesmoir died in 1600 ; but before proceeding with Alexander, his heir, we shall give the deduction of John, his third son, from whom (the late) Sir Alexander Anderson, knight, advocate, Aberdeen, and the Hutchisons of Cairngall, &c., are descended.

John Gordon of Newton.

He got from his father, George Gordon of Lesmoir, the land of Glasgowforest, Newton of Culsalmond, Wranghame, with sundrie other lands in the Garioch, which were confirmed by Royal charters, 23 November, 1591.¹ He married Margaret Udny, daughter of the laird of Udny. They had issue two sons and six daughters :—

I. **James**, of Williamstone, commonly so called as he lived there.

II. **George**, of Sheelagreen, of whom afterwards.

1. A daughter, married to —— Leslie of Warthill.
2. Elizabeth, married to Sir James Leslie of Wardes.
3. Helen, to William Leslie of Ryehill.
4. Isobel, to Gordon of Beldornie.
5. ——, to the laird of Auchterford.
6. Barbara, to Arthur Johnston of Caskieben.²

In 1592, there is a caution by Sir George Ogilvie of Dunlugas for John Gordon of Newton and James Gordon, his son and apparent heir, in two thousand merks each, that they will not harm Alexander Gordon in Stenhouse.³ In the Privy Council records frequent mention is made of John Gordon of Newton. The whole family was frequently in trouble. Thus, in 1592, we find John Hay of Ury and John Gordon of Newton accused before the justices in the Tolbooth, Edinburgh, for hearing Mass against the Act of Parliament. They plainly confessit, and were ordained, John Hay to pay to the treasurer one thousand merks, and John Gordon also to pay one thousand merks.

II. James Gordon of Newton and Williamstone.

As he resided at Williamstone, he was generally known as of that property. He received from his father a charter of Newton, Wrangham, Williamstone, &c., which charter was confirmed to the said James Gordon by King James VI. in 1599.⁴ He married Isobel, daughter of Forbes of Monymusk, and by her had an only son, George. In 1644, he was taken prisoner at Harthill by the Covenanters, Leslie and Middleton, and was beheaded at Edinburgh.⁵

III. George Gordon of Newton.

He was served heir to his father, James Gordon, as we learn from the following retour :—“ George Gordon of Newton, heir male to James Gordon of Newton, his

¹ MS. 1580, C. E. D., Reg. Mag. Sig. 1591,
Nos. 165⁸ and 1964.

² MS. Pedigree, penes Editor.

³ Priv. Council. Reg. V. p. 764 ; do. VI. p. 54.

⁴ Newton Charters.

⁵ Pedigree MS. penes Editor.

father, in the lands and barony of Newton, Wranghame, lands of Pulquhyt, Kirktown of Culsalmond, Lithinghame, Williamstone, &c., 10 June, 1644."¹

He married Janet, daughter of John Leslie of Wardes, who was the widow of John Gordon of Avochie.² He had issue four sons and four daughters :—

- I. William, married Anna, daughter of Sir James Sibbald of Rankeillor. After his death she married Peter Dunbar of Dunphail.
- II. James, who succeeded, and married Janet Buchan of Auchmacoy.³
- III. Alexander, married a daughter of Leslie of Warthill.
- IV. George, mentioned in a deed of 1643.
 1. A daughter, married to Walter Cochrane.
 2. ———, married to Rickart of Auchnacant.
 3. ———, married Keith of Kinaldie.⁴

Mr. George Gordon was succeeded by his second son,

IV. James Gordon of Newton.

He married Janet, daughter of Buchan of Auchmacoy, and had issue :—

- I. James, who married the lady of Gight, but had no issue.
 1. A daughter, married ——— Cumming of Birness.
 2. A daughter, married Walter Gordon, merchant burgess, Aberdeen.

The family of Gordon of Newton having espoused the Royal cause suffered much. They were frequently fined, imprisoned, and so terribly overwhelmed with pecuniary difficulties, that they were deprived of the lands of Newton. Robert Forbes, called the "Tutor of Craigievar," pursued them with a relentless animosity. Purchasing all the debts and mortgages on the estate, which were by no means few, he got at last possession of the estates of Newton.⁵ Newton afterwards passed to a family of the name of Davidson, one of whom marrying the heiress of Gight assumed the name of Gordon. Newton eventually came into the possession of another family of the name of Gordon, and is presently owned by Alexander Morison Gordon, convener of the County Council of Aberdeen.

The representation of this family devolved on the Gordons of Sheelagreen, to whom we now return. (See above.)

I. George Gordon of Sheelagreen,

second son of John Gordon, I. of Newton, married Christian, daughter of Gordon of Cocklarachie, and had issue, five sons and one daughter :—⁶

- I. George, his successor.
- II. Alexander, married Newmachar's daughter.
- III. John, married Seton of Minnes' daughter.

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 275.

² Marriage Cont. penes Gordon of Newton.

³ Gordon of Newton Papers.

⁴ Gordon of Newton Papers and MS. penes Editor.

⁵ Newton Charters.

⁶ MS. Pedigree, penes Editor.

- IV. William, married Baillie Blair's daughter in Ord.
- V. Hugh, married Patrick Duncan's daughter in Scotstown.
- 1. A daughter, married to ——— Cruickshank of Tillymorgan.

George Gordon of Sheelagreen was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. George Gordon of Sheelagreen.

He married first, Helen Erskine, daughter and heiress of Erskine of Rothney. There is a charter of Little Wranghame to George Gordon and Helen Erskine of Rothney, of date May 2, 1665.¹ By her he had one son :—

I. George.

He married secondly, Marjory Moir, daughter of John Moir of Barnes, by whom he had a son :—²

- II. William. He left the estate of Rothney to him, though it came by his first wife, Helen Erskine, the mother of George Gordon. He married, and had a son, George, who, in 1772, is retoured heir of line to his father, William Gordon.³ The descent of the Gordons of Rothney, according to the author of the "Earldom of Garioch," is now extinct.

George Gordon of Sheelagreen, taking the title of Rothney, matriculated arms for himself thus :—

"The said George Gordon of Rothney, whose grandfather was a second son of the family of Lesmoir, for his achievement and ensigne armorial, bears azure, a fess chequy, argent, and of the first, betwixt three boars heads, erased or, all within a bordure indented as the second, on ane helmet befitting his degree, with a mantle gules doubled argent and a wreath of his colours is set for his crest, issuing out of the torse, 'a man presenting a gun all proper.' The motto is ane scroll, 'Vel pax vel bellium.' Granted 30 March, 1677. Signed Charles Erskine, Lyon." He was succeeded in Sheelagreen by his son,

III. George Gordon of Sheelagreen.

He married Elizabeth Udney, daughter of Robert Udney of Auchterclon. Their marriage contract is dated 27 February, 1701; had a charter of the lands of Sheelagreen, dated August, 1707. By Elizabeth Udney he had at least one son,⁴

IV. George Gordon of Sheelagreen.

He married Anne Donaldson, heiress of Cocklaw, as is evidenced by the following retour :—⁵ "1746. Ann Gordon or Donaldson, wife of George Gordon of Sheelagreen, to her father, James Donaldson of Cocklaw, Ap. 16." James Donaldson was of the Kinnairdie family on the Deveron. They had issue two sons and three daughters :—⁶

1 Index of Titles of Sheelagreen.
2 MS. Pedigree, penes Editor.
3 Decen. Rets. 1772.

4 MS. penes Editor; Mar. Con. penes Rept.
of late Sir Alex. Anderson, knight.
5 Decen. Rets. 1746.
6 Sheelagreen Title-Deeds.

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. James, of Little Cocklaw. His brother was served heir to him in Little Cocklaw,¹ 17 February, 1766.
1. A daughter.
 2. A daughter.
 3. ^c Catharine, married, in 1754, Alexander Findlay, chirurgion, Fraserburgh, and had issue—1. Martha, married William Irvine of Corniehaugh, in the parish of Forgue, and had issue. 2. Elizabeth, married James Gray, Fraserburgh, and had issue. 3. Ann, married George Watt, surgeon, Knock, Old Deer, d. s. p. 4. Helen, married Rev. William Anderson, 15 January, 1807, minister of Strichen, and left issue, among others, Sir Alexander Anderson, knight, Lord Provost of Aberdeen, J.P. and D.L., who married Rachel, daughter of William Johnstone of Viewfield, and has issue living—1. Andrew, called to the bar, Lincoln's Inn, January, 1863. 1. Katharine, married Rev. A. H. Charteris, D.D., Professor of Biblical Criticism in the University of Edinburgh, Dean of the Chapel Royal, one of Her Majesty's chaplains for Scotland, and Moderator of the General Assembly, 1892. 2. Helen Rachel.

Mr. George Gordon sold Sheelagreen in 1744 to William Gordon, and sometime thereafter purchased Invernettie in Buchan. He was succeeded by his son,

V. **Alexander Gordon of Invernettie and Glendaveny.**

He married, 1771, Jane, daughter of Thomas Arbuthnott, Montrose, brother of the sixth Viscount Arbuthnott.³ Regarding Mrs. Gordon, there is the following retour:—"Jean Gordon or Arbuthnott, wife of Alexander Gordon of Glendaveny, to her brother, Alexander George, son of Thomas Arbuthnott, coheirress, provision general, August 10, 1774."⁴ They had issue:—

- I. Robert, who sold Invernettie and bought Ashmore in Perthshire, married ——— Anderson, daughter of ——— Anderson of Techmuiry, d. s. p.
1. Catherine, married Major William Forrester, twenty-second laird of Culmore and Culbeg, Stirlingshire. Regarding her there is the following retour:—"Katharine Gordon or Forrester, in Edinburgh, to her father, Alexander Gordon of Invernettie who died, 8 April, 1827, heir special in parts of Invernettie, and in Wardes, Acquisitin, Wardhead, &c., Aberdeenshire."⁵ They had issue, 1. Mary Forrester, married to James Hutchison of Springfield, son of Colonel Hutchison of Cairngall—issue seventeen children, among whom were his eldest son, John Hutchison of Ashmore. The second son of James Hutchison, William, acquired the estate of Cairngall, formerly in possession of his grandfather Colonel Hutchison. He married

¹ Decen. Rets. 1766.

² Mar. Con. penes. Repres. of late Sir. Alex Anderson, knight.

³ Mar. Con. penes. Editor.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1774.

⁵ Id. 1827.

Helen, daughter of John Duncan, advocate, Aberdeen, issue—William Ernest, now of Cairngall, and a daughter, Helen. 2. Catharine Forrester, married George Crichton of Viewforth, Edinburgh, issue—George, William, John, Catharine (Mrs. Scott), Elizabeth Dick (Mrs. Adie, Tibbermore), Isabella (Mrs. Alexander Temple, Strathtay), Jemima Mary (Mrs. William Temple, St. Margaret's, Forgue). 3. Isabella married Captain Hunter, Edinburgh, issue—one daughter, Elizabeth Arbuthnott. 4. Elizabeth Arbuthnott died unmarried.

We now return to No. VI of the Lesmoir descent as above narrated.

VI. Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"Alexander Gordon, heir male of George Gordon of Lesmoir his father, in the lands of Grodie, in the barony of Kinnadie, October 3, 1600."¹

Alexander Gordon, heir of George Gordon of Lesmoir his father, in the lands and Glasgow Forest in the barony of Carnecrumlan, and by annexation, in the barony of Glencuthill,² December 12, 1600."

He married Anne, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo, and had issue—four sons and three daughters:—

I. James, his heir, afterwards Sir James Gordon, bart.

II. John, minister of Crimond.

III. George.

IV. Alexander.

1. Katharine, married Alexander Burnett of Leys.

2. Agnes, married ——— Bannerman of Waterton.

3. Janet, married Sir James Crichton of Fren draught.

Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir, died 1609, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir, Bart.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"James Gordon, heir of Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir his father, in the lands of Balmaud, Garauchtie, Craigheid, Morleis, and the mill of Balmaud, April 10, 1610."³

When a young man he was engaged with the Earl of Huntly in the slaughter of the Earl of Moray, at Donibristle, A.D. 1592, for which he obtained remission under the great seal, "Jacobus Gordon apparenti de Lesmoir pro arte et parte, &c., quondam Jacobi Moraviensis comitis, date, 18 March, 1593."

He being a man of great parts and merit was created by Charles I. a baronet. The patent is to "Jacobus Gordon, baronetto de Lesmoir, et hæredibus suis masculis quibus-

¹ Ret. Spec. No. 71.

² Id. Abdn No. 73.

³ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 126; Reg. Mag. Sig.

1591. No. 2259.

cumque terrarum baroniæ et regalitatis de Nova Scotia in America," dated, 1 September, 1625.

He married Rebecca, daughter of Keith of Ravenscraig and had issue :—

I. **James**, who died in France, September 5, 1633, leaving by a daughter of Sir Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty, one son, **James**. This James died in July, 1634, having married a daughter of Menzies of Pitfodels, by whom he left one son, **James**, who succeeded his great-grandfather in Lesmoir, and the baronetcy; one daughter married Gordon of Beldorny, another Abercrombie of Glassaugh.¹

II. **William** of Broadland, who succeeded his grand nephew, James, in the baronetcy.²

III. Alexander, of Gerry.

1. Jean, married to Gordon of Craig.

Sir James Gordon died 1641, and was succeeded by his great-grandson, as is evidenced by the retour about to be quoted.³

VIII. Sir James Gordon of Lesmoir, 2nd Bart.

Both Douglas and Gordon of Harperfield in their deduction, say that the first baronet was succeeded by his second son, William, but according to the following retour this is not the case.

"April 24, 1642, Dominus Jacobus Gordon de Lesmoir miles baronetus hæres masculus Domini Jacobi Gordon de Lesmoir militis baronetti proavi (great-grandfather) in Terris de Carvechin, Thornwrae, Corsiestane villæ et Terris de Sliache, Adamstone, cum parte villæ et terrarum de Chapeloune in Drumblait, &c."⁴

Sir James died soon after without issue, and was succeeded by his grand-uncle,

IX. Sir William Gordon, 3rd Bart.

He was second son of James, 1st Bart. He married, and had issue :—

I. **William**, his heir.

II. Alexander James, portioner of Broadland, who, according to information in the possession of Mr. Gordon of Buthlaw, married his cousin, Anna Gordon Buthlaw, of whom afterwards.

Sir William Gordon died 1672, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Sir William Gordon, 4th Bart. of Lesmoir.

Regarding him there is this retour :—"October 9, 1672, William Gordon of Lesmoir, heir of James Gordon of Lesmoir his grandfather, in the lands of Essie, with the croft called croft of Auchinleck infra baroniam de Huntlie."⁵

¹ Riddell's Notes on Lesmoir in Doug. Bar. in Ad. Lib. Edin.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 260.

⁵ Id. No. 409

He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Learmont of Balcombie in Fife, a Lord of Session in Scotland, and had issue :—

- I. **James**, his successor.
 - II. **William**, who got the estate of Balcombie in Fife. He was bred to the law, was King's solicitor in the reign of James VII.
 1. Margaret, married to Alexander Duff of Braco.
 2. Anne, married to James Ogilvie, a brother of the Earl of Findlater.
- Sir William died —, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XI. Sir James Gordon, 5th Bart. of Lesmoir.

He married Jane, only daughter of Sir John Gordon of Haddo, by whom he had five sons and three daughters :—

- I. **William**, his heir-apparent, who married Margaret, only daughter of Duff of Drummur. He died before his father, leaving issue an only son, **William**, who succeeded his grandfather, Sir James.
- II. George, who, being bred to the law, was an advocate before the Court of Session. He married the heiress of Sands, and d. s. p.
- III. **Alexander**, who carried on the line of the family. He was collector of Customs, Aberdeen; married Isobel, daughter of Alexander Gordon, merchant in Rotterdam, son of Francis Gordon of Craig, and had issue—five sons and eight daughters :—
 - I. James. }
 - II. George. } both died unmarried.
 - III. **Alexander**, succeeded to the baronetcy of Lesmoir.
 - IV. John, an officer, died unmarried.
 - V. Thomas, Dutch Consul at Leith.
 1. Jean, died in infancy.
 2. Isobel, married Robert Logie, Consul at Algiers.
 3. Margaret, died unmarried.
 4. Anne, married Archibald Christie, of Keith.
 5. Agnes.
 6. Mary.
 7. Catharine.
 8. Mary.
- IV. John, who purchased the lands of Kinellar in Aberdeenshire, and married Henrietta, daughter of Lord Saltoun.
- V. Robert, an officer in the army, d. s. p.
 1. Anne, married to Robert Farquharson of Finzean.
 2. Jean, married to Sandilands of Crabston.
 3. Margaret, died unmarried.

Sir James Gordon died —, and was succeeded by his grandson.

XII. Sir William Gordon, 6th Bart. of Lesmoir.

only son of William Gordon, heir-apparent of Sir James Gordon, by Margaret Duff, daughter of Cuff of Drummur. This Sir William Gordon married Lilius, daughter of Gordon of Carnousie. He sold, in 1739, Corvichen to Andrew Hay of Mountblairy.¹ He died without issue in 1750, and was succeeded by the nearest collateral male, a cousin,

XII. Sir Alexander Gordon, 7th Bart. of Lesmoir.

He was third son, as above narrated, of Alexander Gordon, third son of Sir James Gordon, Bart. Regarding him there is the following retour:—"Sir Alexander Gordon of Lesmoir to his cousin, Sir William Gordon, Bart., who died 15 September, 1750, heir special in parts of Chappeltown, Wedderburn, Brownhill, Carlogie, Sliach, in Aberdeenshire, 23 June, 1751. To his brother, Captain John Gordon, heir of conquest general, March 28, 1764. To his grandfather, Sir James Gordon, heir male general, 1765."² He married Margaret Scott, daughter of Robert Scott of Druminald, Forfarshire, and had issue:—

- I. Alexander, who went to China, and predeceased, unmarried, his father.
 - II. George, died unmarried in the West Indies. His brother, Francis, served heir to him, 10 December, 1790.³
- III. Francis, succeeded as eighth baronet.
- IV. John, died unmarried, predeceased his father.
 1. Anne, married William Lumsdaine, clerk to the Signet, and had issue.
 2. Diana, born 1766, married Charles Irvine, second son of Alexander Irvine of Drum; Captain 57th Regiment, afterwards Major-General unattached; died in 1819. His wife died in 1855. They had issue:—
 - I. Alexander, an officer H.E.I.C.S., died unmarried at Java, 1816.
 - II. Charles Francis, midshipman, R.N.: lost in command of a prize at sea, 1812.
 - III. George, an officer H.E.I.C.S. in the 4th Local Horse, died —, 1827.
 1. Margaret, died unmarried at Leamington, 1849.
 2. Mary, born 1796, married Rev. Charles Wimberley, Chaplain H.E.I.C.S., and afterwards Rector of Scole, Norfolk. She died in 1887 aged 91. They had issue:—
 - I. Charles Irvine, born 1826, died in infancy.
 - II. Douglas, born 1828, an officer 20th Regiment, afterwards 79th Highlanders; served in Crimea and in

¹ M'Donald's Place Names of Strathbogie.

² Decen. Rets. 1751, 1764, and 1765.

³ Decen. Rets. 1790.

Indian Mutiny ; married Helen Charlotte, daughter of Major Neil Campbell, H.E.I.C.S., son of Campbell of Kilmartin, and widow of Major Colin Campbell of Kilmartin and Blackhall. Captain Wimberley is a J.P. for the county of Inverness, and Hon. Sheriff-Substitute. He has issue two sons and two daughters.

III. Charles Irvine, born 1830, now Vicar of East Chinnock, Somersetshire ; married, and has issue three sons and five daughters.

IV. Edwin Balfour, born 1831, an officer H.E.I.C.S., some time on Bengal Staff Corps ; assistant Political Agent to Governor-General in Rajpootna ; married, and had a son and one daughter. He died in 1864.

V. Henry Daniell, born 1855, died in infancy.

VI. Reginald, born 1841, an officer Bengal Staff Corps, now Colonel on retired list, formerly Deputy-Superintendent, Port Blair, Andaman Islands ; married, and has three sons and one daughter.

1. Mary Florence Lumsdaine, born 1833 ; married Rev. Samuel Gray (deceased), some time Rector of Leconfield, in the county of York, and had issue two sons.

2. Julia Daniell, born 1839 ; married first, Crawford James Campell, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department under Government, by whom she had one son ; secondly, Brigade-Surgeon Albert B. Robertson, Medical Staff, formerly assistant Surgeon, 15th Hussars.

3. Margaret, married John Bowman of Gayfield, near Montrose, and had issue.

4. Isabella, died young.¹

Sir Alexander Gordon was in great pecuniary difficulties. Newton Gerrie, Drumblade, was bought in 1765 from his trustees and creditors by the Duke of Gordon. Essie and Lesmoir were purchased by the Duke in 1780 from the trustees of John Grant of Rothmaise, who, a few years previously, had purchased them from Sir William Gordon. Sir Alexander Gordon died in 1782, and was succeeded by his third son,²

XIV. Sir Francis Gordon, 8th Bart.

He went to India, in the H.E.I.C. Civil Service, as a writer in 1781. He returned home in 1800, having been appointed Resident at Calicut in 1791, and resigned the service in 1802, and died in 1837. With him the male line of this old family became extinct, and the large domains which they once possessed had long before his death passed away. " Sic transit gloria mundi."

¹ Notes by Captain Douglas Wimberley.

² M'Donald's Place Names of Strathbogie.

THE GORDONS OF BUTHLAW.

We now return to the Gordons of Buthlaw, a descendant of whom still retains the name.

According to Douglas and Gordon of Harperfield, the Gordons of Buthlaw are descended from **Thomas Gordon** of Seggyden, eighth son of James Gordon, first of Lesmoir. He is also descended (according to information in the possession of the present proprietor of Buthlaw), from Alexander James, portioner of Broadland, second son of William Gordon, third baronet of Lesmoir. James Gordon married, and had a son, James, who married his cousin, Anna Gordon of Buthlaw, and acquired by charter dated, 4 June, 1664, the barony of Buthlaw, the Outmoor of Lesmoir, and the lands of Thundertown. In the charter he is described as portioner of Broadland.¹ They had issue a son,

II. **Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw.**

His father, portioner of Broadland, and his wife, Anna of Buthlaw, executed a disposition of the lands of Buthlaw in his favour. He married ——— and had issue:—

I. **David.**II. **Thomas**, who succeeded his brother.

Thomas Gordon dying about 1694, was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. **David Gordon of Buthlaw.**

He dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother,

IV. **Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw.**

He was Professor of Humanity in King's College, Aberdeen, 1739. He conveyed in 1712, the lands of Buthlaw to his son, Charles, an advocate in Aberdeen.

Thomas Gordon died 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

V. **Charles Gordon of Buthlaw.**

He married in 1724, Jean, daughter of John Udny of Newtyle. The other daughter, Anna Udny, married John Sandilands of Countesswells, who had a son, John Sandilands, from whom Charles Gordon purchased his mother's moiety of Newtyle. He had by his wife, Jean Udny, six sons:—

I. **William**, died unmarried.II. **John**, advocate. He married, Anne, eldest daughter of Rev. James Barclay, the last established minister of Peterhead before the Revolution of 1688, and d. s. p.III. **Charles**, merchant in Aberdeen. He married, Jane, youngest daughter of Rev. James Barclay, minister of Peterhead. This Jane Gordon or Barclay

¹ Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw Charters.

was served heir to her brother, James Barclay of Cairness, who died, 4 January, 1765, in Arthur's Nook, Port of Cairness, Aberdeenshire.¹ They had issue :—

I. Charles, who succeeded his uncle John.

1. Ann, married to Dr. Young of Fawside, Kincardineshire, and had issue, (1. a son, Dr. Wm. Young, who succeeded to Fawside, and married his cousin, Mary, daughter of Francis Logie, and Jean Gordon, and had issue, a daughter, who predeceased her parents.)
 1. Jane, married Bishop Torry, and had issue.
 2. Daughter, married Mr. Ellis, d. s. p.
2. Jean, married Francis Logie of Middlefield, and had issue, 1. Mary, who married her cousin, Dr. Young, and had issue, 1. daughter, who predeceased her parents. 2. Jean, married to J. Putnam, who d. s. p. 3. Elizabeth, died unmarried. 4. Ann, married to Alexander Pirie of Stoneywood, and had issue, of whom afterwards.

IV. Charles, d. s. p.

V. Alexander, d. s. p.

VI. James, d. s. p.

Charles Gordon of Buthlaw was succeeded by his second son,

VI. John Gordon of Buthlaw and Newtyle.

He died in July, 1775, and was succeeded by his nephew, as above narrated.

VII. Charles Gordon of Buthlaw.

Regarding him there is the following retour :—“Charles Gordon of Buthlaw was served heir, 2 April, 1775, to his uncle, John Gordon of Buthlaw, advocate, who died, July, 1775.² Heir of provision special in the lands, Mains and Manor Place of Newtyle, Drums, Mains of Buthlaw, Cadger Hill, &c., Aberdeenshire. Heir portioner general.”³

Charles Gordon married Miss Forbes, daughter of Charles Forbes of Ballogie. We may add that the sons of Rev. James Barclay, above mentioned, having become possessed of a large estate in the West Indies, purchased the lands of Cairness and Cairnglass in the parish of Lonmay from Lord Saltoun, sometime after 1732. Having both died without issue, George in 1756, and James in 1764, they left their large possessions to their only surviving sister, Mrs. Gordon of Buthlaw. She, in 1776, conveyed these estates to her nephew, Charles Gordon, who afterwards purchased the estate of Lonmay from Mr. Urquhart of Craigston, having then in his possession the estates of Newtyle, Cairness, Cairnglass, besides Buthlaw and the West Indies property.⁴

1 Decen. Rets. 1765.

2 *Id.* 1775.

3 Decen. Rets. 1776.

4 Notes penes Representative of late Dean Torry.

In 1792, he built the House of Cairness, which was finished in 1797, and cost about £30,000. By his wife, Miss Forbes, he had two sons,

I. **Thomas**, who succeeded.

II. Charles, d. s. p.

Mr. Charles Gordon died in 1797, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VIII. **Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw.**

His succession is evidently by the following retour:—"Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw to his father, Charles Gordon of Buthlaw, who died, January, 1797. Heir special in Newtyle, Mains of Buthlaw, with Mill, &c. in the parishes of Foveran and Longside."¹ He was educated at Oxford, and having early imbibed a taste for Greek literature, he went to Greece, where he spent much of his time. Having a strong attachment to that country, he eagerly espoused the cause of liberty, when the great revolution broke out in 1830, and assisted the Greek leaders with large sums of money, and latterly obtained the rank of general in the Greek army. After the emancipation of Greece he returned to this country. He married a Greek lady, but died without lawful issue, leaving his estates to a natural son,

Mr. **Wilkinson Gordon of Cairness.**

On the death of General Gordon, the representatives of Dr. Young, and Mrs. Logie, namely, Dr. Young on the one hand, and on the other the three surviving daughters of Mrs. Logie, namely Mrs. Putnam, Miss E. Logie, and Mrs. Pirie, having disputed the validity of General Gordon's trust disposition and settlement in favour of his illegitimate son, Mr. Wilkinson Gordon, in so far as it had reference to the estates of Buthlaw and Newtyle, on the ground that seisin thereof had not been recorded within the statuted period of sixty day, and did after a tedious lawsuit in the Scotch Courts and the House of Lords establish their claim to the said estates by a decree of the latter, to the effect that a seisin unrecorded within the legal terms of sixty days is a nullity. The consequence was that one half of the estates came to Dr. Young of Fawside, in right of his mother, and the other half in three equal portions to the above-named ladies, as heirs-portioners in right of their mother.²

Dr. Young's only child, a daughter, having predeceased him, his share came at his death, by an agreement among his heirs, to the son of his elder sister, Jane Young, wife of Right Rev. Patrick Torry, D.D., namely, John Torry, Dean of St. Andrews, burdened with portions to his aunt, Mrs. Ellis, and to his brother, Rev. Thomas Torry Anderson, and his two surviving sisters, Mrs. Andrew Sims and Miss Torry. Dean Torry sold his half of Newtyle in 1856 to Mr. Lumsden of Balmedie, the other parties interested in it selling him the other half. The Dean sold his share of Buthlaw to Mr. Patrick Pirie, eldest son of Mrs. Alexander Pirie, who also acquired the shares of his aunts, Mrs.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1797

² Notes in possession of Representatives of late Dean Torry.

Putnam and Miss Logie. He then, on the death of his mother, became proprietor of Buthlaw, and assumed the name of Gordon.

Patrick Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw.

He married Anne, only daughter of John Michell of Forcethall, and Glassel, Aberdeenshire, and had issue :—

- I. Michell, who joined the 2nd Dragoon Guards, and died in India unmarried.
- II. Patrick, died unmarried.
- III. **Edward**, his successor.
 1. Anne Logie.
 2. Rachel Elizabeth.

Mr. Patrick Pirie-Gordon died in 1886, and was succeeded by his son,

II. Edward Pirie-Gordon of Buthlaw.

He married Louisa, daughter of Rev. William Handley, Rector of Windthorp, and has issue.

COCKLARAQUY.

(At the present time spelt Cocklarachie.)

THE earliest notice we have of these lands is in 1423. In that year, Sir William Lindsay, Sheriff of Aberdeen, resigns, and conveys one-half of the lands of Culclerochy in favour of Alexander Stewart, Earl of Mar.¹ He (Alexander Stewart) disposed them in 1425 in favour of Alexander Seton, who had married Elizabeth, heiress of the Gordon honours and estates.²

In 1540, William Forbes of Corsinday and Margaret Lumisden, his wife, assigned to James Forbes, their son, the marriage of Janet Gordon, portioner of Coclaroquhy, daughter of William Gordon, Aesindendonald, and also other lands.³ There is also the following notice :—“On 1 October, 1549, George Leslie was served heir to Margaret Winton, his mother, in the fourth part of the lands of Camlarachie and Drimduro.”⁴

There is again the following feu charter, of date 1557, to Mr. Thomas Keiro :—“Mr. David Carnegie, rector of Kinnoul, chaplain of the chaplaincy of St. Mary of Coclaroquhy, founded by the predecessors of George, Earl of Huntly, with consent of the said Earl to Mr. Thomas Keiro of the half of the lands of Coclaroquhy, the half of Newbigging, of the mill and multure, with the croft of Fuitte, and the sixth part of Garre.” These may have been the lands belonging to the chaplaincy, which are believed to have been in the neighbourhood.⁵

Soon after these dates, Cocklaraquy was acquired by a branch of the Gordon family, which retained it down to the end of the last or the beginning of the present century. This is their descent :—

I. William Gordon of Tillytarmont.

He was the second son of John of Scardargne (see Parkhill) by Elizabeth Maitland, daughter of Maitland of Gight. He married ——— Rutherford, sister of Sir John Rutherford, and had issue :—

I. George, of Fulzemont, of whom the Gordons of Blalach and Lesmoir are descended.

II. Patrick, of whom the Gordons of Craig and others are descended.

II. Patrick Gordon,⁶

the second son of William Gordon, married Catharine Barclay, and had issue :—

¹ Spal. Club. Mis. IV. p. 127.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 517.

³ Id.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Aber. 407.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 517.

⁶ Balbitban MS. and MS. 1580.

- I. William, of Auchindoir.
- II. Thomas.
- III. Patrick, of Auchmenzies, of whom was descended the family of Tullochowdie.
- IV. John, chaplain of Cocklaraquy.
- V. **George**, of Milton of Noth, from whom the Gordons of Cocklaraquy were descended.

III. George Gordon of Milton of Noth,

the fifth son of Patrick Gordon, as recorded above, married the daughter of ——— Oliphant of Berrydale,¹ and had issue:—

- I. **George**, of Cocklaraquy.
- II. James.
- i. Bessie.

Mr. George Gordon was succeeded by his son,

IV. George Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He married a daughter of a brother of the Earl of Sutherland, and had issue:—²

- I. **George**.
- i. Bessie.

George Gordon of Cocklaraquy was executed by Queen Mary after the battle of Corrichie, 1562. He was succeeded by his son,

V. George Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He married Bessie Duncan, second daughter of James Duncan of Merdrum. He made a³ great augmentation to his estate.³ They had issue:—

- I. **George**, who died in the life-time of his father. He married ——— Gordon, the daughter of Gordon of Lesmoir, who after his death married John Gordon, sixth laird of Craig. They had issue two sons—**George**, who succeeded his grandfather, and James.
- II. Alexander, of Merdum.
- III. Hugh.
- IV. William.
 1. A daughter, married ——— Seaton of Minnes.
 2. A daughter, married Mr. Robert Bisset of Lessendrum (see Lessendrum).
 3. Christian, married George Gordon of Sheelagreen.

In 1567, George Gordon, quondam de Cocklaraquy, was included in "precepto remissionis," which Lord Huntly obtained for himself and friends after Corrichie.⁴ In 1582, he was made a burgess of the city of Aberdeen, along with others "nocht to be

¹ Balbitban MS. and MS. 1580, C.E.D.

² Id.

³ MS. 1580, C.E.D.

⁴ Spal. Club Mis. V. p. 52.

occupieris nor handcairs with merchandes gratia consilii." In 1594, he was included in a charge to certain north countrymen to appear before the King and Council to answer for good rule and loyalty. He died before 1630.¹ Regarding his widow there is the following retour:—"1630. Bessie Duncan, relict to umquhile George Gordon of Cocklaraquy, declarit by Dr. William Gordon, her son, that she has her life-rent in the third part of Cocklaraquy, wadset of the Marquis of Huntly, for the sum of six thousand merks."² He was succeeded by his grandson, recorded above,

VI. George Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He married Grizzel Seaton, daughter of Seaton of Pitmedden, and had issue two sons:—

- I. Alexander, who got from his father the lands of Auchintoul. He studied law, and in 1687, in the reign of King James VII., was appointed one of the Senators of the College of Justice, by the title of Lord Auchintoul. He married Isabel Gray, daughter of Gray of Braich, brother to Lord Gray, and had issue, one son at least, Major-General Alexander Gordon, who commanded the Highland army under the Earl of Mar, in 1715. He served first in the Muscovite army.³ In 1713, he was served heir to his father.⁴ He married first a daughter of General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries, secondly Barbara Mackenzie, daughter of the laird of Ardloch, and had issue, three sons and a daughter. He was succeeded in Auchintoul by his eldest son, Alexander, and this Alexander was succeeded in 1768, by his sister, Catharine,⁵ who in that year was served heir of line and provision special in Auchintoul and Lathiers. She died in 1797, and was succeeded by her cousin, Frederica Gordon or Rosenwald.⁶ The estate of Auchintoul was sold soon after this date to John Morison, subsequently of Bognie.
- II. James, of Ardmeallie. He married Isabel Meldrum, who in 1708 was served heir to her sister, Mary Meldrum, widow of Dr. Stuart, Commissary of Moray. They had issue, I. Peter, laird of Ardmeallie, who married Ann, daughter of Robert Bisset of Lessendrum, and had issue, James, and Archibald, who died 1761. II. Alexander of Logie, in the parish of Crimond. III. James, a merchant in Aberdeen. 1. A daughter, married to Skene of Lethenty. Ardmeallie passed from the Gordons also to John Morison, who had previously purchased Auchintoul, and it afterwards belonged to Edward Ellice, M.P., from whom it and Mayen were purchased by John Gordon of Avochie, who died 1857, aged sixty years.

¹ Priv. Council Rep. V. 147.

² Spal. Club Mis. p. 123.

³ Aberdeen Magazine, Vol. III, p. 675, Balbithan MS.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1713.

⁵ Id., 1768.

⁶ Id., 1747.

George Gordon of Cocklaraquy married secondly ----- Fraser, daughter of ----- Fraser of the Philorth family, and had issue :—

I. **John**, his successor.

1. Janet.

He was succeeded in Cocklaraquy by his son,

VII. John Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He married, and had issue :—

I. George.

II. Alexander.

III. **James**.

1. Christian.

2. Anna.

3. Isobel.¹

John Gordon died 14 July, 1714, and was succeeded by his third son,

VIII. James Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He married Jane, daughter of Robert Bisset of Lessendrum.² “James Gordon was served heir male special 1714, to his father, John Gordon of Cocklaraquy, in one-fourth part of the Dauch lands of Cocklaraquy with mill, &c.”³ They had issue :—

I. **Adam**.

1. Charlotte.

2. Henrietta.

James Gordon died, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. Adam Gordon of Cocklaraquy.

He died in 1779, and there are the two following retours by his sisters :—“Charlotte Gordon to her brother, Adam Gordon, son of James Gordon of Cocklaraquy, heir portioner general, 4 August, 1779; also Harrict Gordon or Stewart, wife of Andrew Stewart, to her brother, Adam Gordon, son of James Gordon of Cocklaraquy, heir portioner general, 4 August, 1779.”⁴

The estate of Cocklaraquy afterwards merged into the Gordon estates, and is now the property of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

ST. MARY'S, COCKLARAQUY.

The Altar of St. Mary's, Cocklaraquy, was in St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen. “On the 16th day of March, the year of God, 1438, Elizabeth, heyre of Huntlie and Strath-

¹ Poll Book, II. p.

² Decen. Rets. 1714.

³ Decen. Rets. 1714.

⁴ Id., 1779.

bogy, died at Strathbogy, and was buried at Nicholas, his church, in New Aberdene, in the yle of Coclarachie, which yle herself had caused build." There is also another notice which, according to Mr. Macdonald, removes all doubts regarding it. In the inventory of charters, Gordon Castle, there is this notice of a charter:—"1537, Charter by the said Thomas Kerr, feuar of the half lands of Cocklarachquhy, belonging to the chaplaincy of the Altar of St. ———, within the Church of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen." Although the dedication is wanting, the date and the name and designation of the granter connect the chaplaincy with St. Nicholas Church.¹ Sir John Gordon, the son of the Earl of Huntly, after Corrichie, was condemned to be beheaded, and, in the presence of Queen Mary, was publicly butchered by an unskillful executioner. He was buried in the Cocklaraquy Aisle, which has now (1893), been identified with St. Mary's Chapel, or the lower church of St. Nicholas.

¹ Macdonald's *Place Names of Strathbogie*, p. 37.

DUMMUIE.

DUMMUIE HOUSE, according to the "View of the Diocese," was situated two miles south and east of the parish church, and two miles from Strathbogie. There is now no mansion house, and it belongs to Thomas Gordon Duff of Park and Drummuir.

The earliest notice to be found of Dummuiie is in a division in 1403 of the lands of Drumblat. The two towns of Dummullys, &c., were assigned to Margaret Fenton of Ard, and her son, Thomas of Chesholm.¹ In 1619, James Hallyburton of Pitcur is served heir to his father, Sir James Hallyburton of Pitcur, in the two towns of Dumoys.² In 1629, William Hallyburton is served heir to his brother, James Hallyburton of Pitcur, in the two towns of Dumoys.³ In 1696, in the "Poll Book" it is spoken of as in Westerton's valuation.⁴

The following is the descent of its present proprietor, Mr. Thomas Gordon Duff of Park, Drummuir, and Dummuiie :—

Adam Duff of Drummuir was the representative of a family who for many generations had been proprietors of Drummuir. He died in the year 1660, leaving as his heiress a daughter, Catharine Duff, who married Alexander Duff, son of William Duff, merchant, Inverness, and for many years Provost of that town. William Duff was the second son of Adam Duff in Clunybegg, the founder of the family now represented by the Duke of Fife. This Katharine Duff, commonly called Lady Drummuir, had by her foresaid husband, Alexander Duff, three sons and two daughters :—⁵

- I. Robert, to whom she left the estate of Drummuir. He married Isobel, daughter of Sir Archibald Campbell of Clunas, by whom he had two sons—
 - I. Archibald, who succeeded as laird of Drummuir.
 - II. William, a merchant.
 1. A daughter, Catharine, was married to Archibald Campbell of Rudgate, in the county of Moray. Archibald made the entail of Drummuir in 1776, which, after his death in 1777, went to the issue of John Duff of Culbin, his uncle.
- II. John, of Culbin, of whom afterwards.
- III. William, of Muirton, married, and had issue.
 1. Anne, married to Lachlan Mackintosh of Moy.
 2. Mary, married to Sir William Gordon, sixth Bart. of Lesmoir; secondly, to Gordon of Carnousie.

We now return to ⁶

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 4.

² Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 164.

³ Id., No. 211.

⁴ Poll Book, II. p. 274.

⁵ Pedigree penes Drummuir.

⁶ MS. Pedigree penes Drummuir.

II. John Duff of Culbin.

He got from his mother the estate of Culbin. He married first, Mary, daughter of Gordon of Ellon, whose brothers were so cruelly murdered by their tutor in Edinburgh. By her he had issue :—

- I. Alexander, born November 24, 1726. He married his cousin, Magdalene Duff of Muirton, and had issue by her—I. John, who died at Paris, 1836.
- II. Archibald, who as Admiral Duff succeeded to Drummuir. He married Frances Jones, daughter of Rev. Mr. Jones, of Battle-Hastings.
- III. William, who died in London unmarried.

John Duff of Culbin married secondly, Helen, daughter of Sir James Gordon of Park, and had by her :—

- II. James, born 1729, died unmarried.
- III. William, died unmarried.
- IV. John, born 1743, died unmarried at Macduff.
- V. **Lachlan**, W.S., Edinburgh, of whom afterwards.
1. Catharine, born 1733, married Alexander Morison of Bognie, and had issue. (See Bognie.)
2. Anne, born 1736.
3. Helen, born 1737.

John Duff of Culbin died 13 January, 1743, and was succeeded by his son,

III. Lachlan Duff of Culbin.

Lachlan Duff, W.S., Edinburgh, was born in 1741. He married Rachel, daughter of Mr. Hogg of Newliston. He succeeded in 1801 to the estate of Park in right of his mother, Helen Gordon, and assumed the name of Gordon. He had issue :—

- I. James, died unmarried.
- II. Roger, died unmarried at Riga.
- III. Alexander, killed at Trafalgar.
- IV. **Thomas Duff Gordon**, who succeeded.
1. Rachel, married to Patrick Stuart of Auchlunkart.
2. Helen, died young.

Lachlan Duff was succeeded by his son,

IV. Thomas Duff Gordon.

He was born 14 March, 1790; was convener of Banffshire. He succeeded to the barony of Park in 1808, through his grandmother, Helen Gordon of Park, and assumed the surname of Gordon in lieu of his patronymic Duff. He married, 14 November, 1814, Joanna Maria, eldest daughter of David Macdowal Grant of Arndilly, and had issue :—

- I. **Lachlan Duff**, of whom afterwards.
- II. David M'Dowal Grant, R.N., died at Singapore.
- III. Alexander Duff.
 1. Mary Stuart, died, 1821, in infancy.
 2. Rachel, married Dr. William Mackie, and has issue.
 3. Eliza Graham, married her cousin, Andrew Stuart of Auchlunkart, and had issue.
 4. Eleanor, married Rev. H. Walker; issue, four daughters.
 5. Wilhelmina, died 1842.
 6. Isabella Heien.
 7. Jemima.
 8. Johanna Maria, died young, 1837.
 9. Charlotte Emily, married Rev. John Russel, M.A., minister of Grange, and has issue.

Thomas Duff Gordon of Park died 6 December, 1855, and was succeeded in Park by his son,

V. **Lachlan Duff Gordon Duff of Park, Drummuir, and Dummuie.**

He succeeded to Drummuir on the death of his cousin, Admiral Duff, in 18—. He married Jane, daughter of Thomas Butterfield of Bermuda, and has issue:—

- I. **Thomas**, born 11 August, 1848.
- II. Archibald.
 1. Mary Louisa.
 2. Helen Elizabeth.

Mr. Gordon Duff was a J.P., D.L., and M.P. for the county of Banff from 1857 to 1861; died in 1886, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. **Thomas Gordon Duff of Park, Drummuir, and Dummuie.**

He married a daughter of Sir Charles Tennant, Bart., of the Glen, and has issue:—

- I. Lachlan.
 1. Joanna Lucy.

Mr. Gordon Duff of Park and Drummuir represents the Duffs of Drummuir, the Duffs of Culbin, and the Gordons of Park. His descent from the latter will be seen under Cobairdy.

CHAPELTOWN

Is now the property of Mrs. E. Lawson or Ross spouse of James Ross, M.D., and of Miss Isabella Lawson, Elgin.

In a retour of date 1642, we find Sir James Gordon, Bart., of Lesmoir, served heir to his father, James Gordon of Lesmoir, in a two part of Chapeltown.¹

In 1650, we find from the Presbytery records of Turriff, that it was owned by **Robert Gordon**, who was appointed for the Presbytery magistrate in the parish of Drumblade.² The next, probably a son, is

II. Rev. James Gordon of Chapeltown, minister of Rhyynie.

He had on his property the following list of pollable persons in 1696. Christian Hacket, live-rentrix indweller in Chapeltown, Anne, Elizabeth, and Elspet Gordons (her husband's valuation being one hundred and twenty Scots). Tenants—John Harper in Wedderburn, William Johnston in Thomastown, George Milne in Hillhead, John Lesly in Chapeltown, Alexander Cruickshank in Hillhead, Alexander Johnston in Comalegy, William Petrie in Newmilne.

III. Robert Gordon of Chapeltown.

We find of him the only record, that he was the grandfather of his successor,

IV. Rev. George Gordon of Chapeltown, minister of Drumblade.

He was served in 1752, heir of provision general to his grandfather, Robert Gordon of Chapeltown.³ He is mentioned by Dr. Scott in his "Fasti," but he makes no mention of his being proprietor of Chapeltown. According to the same authority he had a son Charles, and several daughters.

V. Robert Gordon of Chapeltown.

We find him recorded on a tombstone in the churchyard of Drumblade, and from the date he must have succeeded as a brother or other relative. "Underneath this stone lie interred the remains of Robert Gordon of Chapeltown, who departed this life at Poolend, 19 June, 1777, aged eighty."

At Chapeltown there was a chapel, of which there are now no remains, but there is still a small churchyard enclosed and planted with trees, where the Bissets of Lessen-

¹ Rets. Spec. Abdn. No. 260.

² Presbytery Records, Turriff.

³ Decen. Rets. 1752,

drum were in ancient times interred, before the time of George Bisset, commonly called "the restorer," who was buried in the Lessendrum Aisle in the church of Drumblade. At one period there was at least one grave-stone with the inscription, "Pray for the soul of ———." This stone was appropriated by a neighbouring farmer for a hearth-stone, and by the action of the fire was completely destroyed.

In the neighbourhood are two farms called Parsonspool, one on the the estate of Lessendrum and the other on that of Bognie. Between the two farms there is a moss, which in old times must have been a dismal swamp. One of the ministers of the chapel is said to have been drowned in it in a dark night, hence the name Parsonspool. Some arrow heads have been found on the farm.

COMALEGGIE

was owned in 1505 by John Troup, whom, in 1506-1509, we find frequently taking part in public business.¹ His name is still preserved in Troupsmill. The next owner is William Lyon of Comaleggie. In 1535, he acted as baillie for the Bishop of Aberdeen at an Episcopal Court held at Rane. In 1548, he is mentioned as one of the barons appointed for taxing and retouring all the lands within the Sheriffdom of Aberdeen.²

In 1598, we find amongst the temporal barons of Aberdeenshire, one Abernethy, as proprietor of Comaleggie.³ In 1613, John Leslie was served heir on the third part of a davach, and in the middle third part of the town and lands of Comaleggie, to his father, William Leslie of Drumdollo; and much about the same time there is a deed of sasine of a two part of Comaleggie, and a third part of Thomastown given to John Gordon of Pitlurg.⁴ Like the rest of the barony of Drumblade it was frequently divided and sub-divided, it is now part of the estate of Lessendrum, having been purchased about twenty years ago from Mr. Humphrey, by Mordaunt Fenwick Bisset of Lessendrum.

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 446, II. p. 38, I. p. 290.

² Id. IV. p. 634, I. p. 115.

³ Kennedy's Annals, II. p. 492.

⁴ Rets. Spec. Abdn. No. 586. Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 356.

THE ANTIQUITIES OF DRUMBLADE, &c.

STONEFIELD on the estate of Lessendrum derived its name from a stone circle, which is still in a fair state of preservation. A mansion house at one period existed here used as a dowager house. In 1696 it was occupied by the Lady Lessendrum, so designated in the Poll Book; George Bisset and Charles Bisset also resided there.¹

HOLY WELLS.—There are six wells of note, according to Mr. Macdonald, namely, Duke Well. There is a tradition that in old times the tenant was bound by lease to preserve this well and the stones around it, though the reason for this condition is forgotten. Garrie Well is on the hill of Garrie, and Bride's Well may have been dedicated to St. Bridget or St. Bride, though the name may refer to some old custom now forgotten. St. Hilary's Well near the parish church is the well of the patron saint of the parish. The Bishop's Well is on the farm of Cruchie, but who the bishop was is unknown. The Chapel Well is on the lands of Chapeltown.²

SLIACH.—King Robert the Bruce lay encamped here during a time of sickness, according to Barbour.

“Tharfor in litter tha him lay,
And till the Slivach held their way,
And thoct thar in that strinth to ly
Qubhill pasid war his malady.”

At the same time he kept Comyn, Earl of Buchan in check, and totally routed him afterwards at the battle of Barra, in 1307. The hill of Sliach on which he lay encamped is still called Robin's height. A well in the neighbourhood, according to the author of the “New Statistical Account” of the parish, is still pointed out, the water of which is represented as having been instrumental in the King's recovery. According to Jervise there had been possibly a chapel (Christ Jesus) at Sliach in early times, and in Aberdeen “New Prognosticator” for 1720, a market held on second Tuesday of June, is set down as Jesus fair at the park of Sliach in Drumblait parish.³

TUMULI.—On Robin's height, there were some years ago entrenchments to be seen connected probably with Bruce's encampment, or they may have existed before that time. There are three tumuli, the largest of which is at the base of Robin's height, and is called Meethillock, the place of the meeting of the vassals. This hillock was completely formed of sand, and has been carted away; one or two of the others have been opened, in one a circle of stones without any marks was formed in the centre, but nothing of interest was found. They seem barrows of prehistoric times marking the last resting-places of some great chiefs in the district.

¹ Poll Book, II. p. 267.

² Macdonald's Place Names of Strathbogie, p. 65.

³ Jervise' Ins. Vol. I. under Drumblade.

BATTLEHILL, near Huntly, is said to have been the scene of a battle; but beyond a very vague tradition there is no historic notice of this conflict. It is now the site of some very handsome villas feued from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

CORSIESTONE, in old times called Corstone, where there had been a stone with a cross, probably marking the boundaries of the Chaplands of Cocklarachie. On this farm there were discovered a few years ago two cup-marked stones, one of them having four cups and the other thirteen, arranged in a semi-circle. They are rough heathen stones, and were found at a considerable distance from each other, one partly and the other wholly buried in the fields.¹

A small bell, which used to be rung before funerals, bears the inscription, "George Bisset, 1604." It was gifted by him to the parish; but has now been removed to Lessendrum.

There are four Communion cups of silver. Two of them were gifted by Rev. George Chalmer, minister of Drumblade. One cup bears this inscription, "And He took the cup and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of this. Matthew xxvi. 27." "I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord." On bottom of the cup, "George Chalmer, minister of Drumblade, 1686." Another has, "Without shedding of blood there is no remission. Heb. ix. 22." "This cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you. Luke xxii. 20." On bottom there is also, "George Chalmer, minister of Drumblade, 1686." There are other two cups with inscriptions, "Drumblade Communion Cups, 1809."

FROM RECORDS OF KIRK-SESSION, DRUMBLADE.—"December 23, 1744. Collected for behoof of William Rudiman, parish of Inverkeithney, who had suffered loss by fire, and was recommended by the Presbytery of Turriff to a Sabbath collection in all congregations within the bounds, £1 5s. 4d. Scots was delivered to ye minister to be transmitted to him."

"9 April, 1746. The minister intimated that the Synod of Aberdeen had appointed Wednesday next to be observed throughout their bounds as a day of solemn thanksgiving to God on account of the suppression of the late wicked rebellion and disturbance raised in the land by the Highlanders, and exhorted the congregation to the religious observance of said fast-day. The minister preached on said day from Psalm cxlvii. 12-14."

"6 February, 1756. There was read from the pulpit a proclamation from the King appointing Thursday next to be observed as a day of solemn fasting and humiliation on account of the dreadful earthquake at Lisbon, and exhorted the congregation to observe said day in a becoming manner."

"16 February, 1757. The minister gave unto the session 850 merks as the principal sum mortified by the late Sir James Gordon of Lesmore to the poor of this parish, and interest thereof for fourteen years preceding Martinmas last, which sum had been paid by Mountblairy (Hay) about a fortnight before, who had become surety to the session for paying that money, at his purchasing from that family the lands of Corvichen.

¹ Macdonald's Place Names of Strathbogie, p. 59.

THE MINISTERS OF NEWMACHAR.

NEWMACHAR, or as it was first called Upper Machar, was formed out of Oldmachar or St. Machar, about 1621.

In the year 1639 a church was built, where the present one stands, and in 1641, the minister was removed to it from Monycaboc, where there was a church dedicated to St. Columba. Among the constitutions of Bishop Peter Ramsay, dated at Aberdeen, 14 Kal Mai, 1256, it is ordered, "That the Dean being parson at Kirkton, Old Aberdeen shall maintain also a chaplain at Monycaboc as well as at Kirkton."¹

The Dean having charge of Monycaboc appointed a substitute, and the name of one of these at least has come down to us.

Walter Ogilvy, in 1529, is mentioned as vicar of Monycaboc.² After the Reformation, it is recorded that in 1570, Alexander Garioch was reader at Monycaboc, Berowald Innes supplied duty in 1574, Alexander Forsyth in 1576, Robert Williamson in 1585.

James Hervie is found minister in 1630. He was promoted from being Regent in King's College, and was admitted before November, 1633. He attended the General Assembly in 1638, as a Commissioner from the doctors of Aberdeen, and other Anti-Covenanting ministers within the Presbytery of Aberdeen. Hervie was Moderator of the Presbytery of Aberdeen at the visitation of the kirk of Maryculter, 8 July, 1641, and was appointed by Parliament, 27 March, 1647, as one of the visitors of the University.³ He married Helen Neilson.

John Chalmers, A.M., was promoted in 164— from being Regent in King's College; admitted previous to 21 October, 1651.

George Melville, A.M., was translated from Bourtie, and admitted before 27 October, 1654. He gave £24 towards erecting the building at King's College,⁴ and was translated to Udhny in 1663.

Alexander Leask was admitted before July, 1668; translated to Cruden before 30 January, 1669.

James Garden, A.M., was son of Rev. Alexander Garden, minister of Forgue; graduated at King's College, Aberdeen, 17 July, 1662; appointed before 1672; translated to Bombie, in the county of Fife, before 31 December, 1675. "He was called," says Orem, "from thence to be Professor of Divinity in the King's College of Old Aberdeen, anno 1681. He performed the duty of Professor with great applause,

1 Orem's Hist. of Old Aberdeen, p. 114;

Ant. A. and B. i. p. 235.

2 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 314; Id., pp. 225-6-7.

3 S. C. Mis. III. p. 113; Spal. Troubles, I.

p. 115; II. p. 55.

4 Fasti Aber. p. 543.

and continued in the said office, until he was put from his post about the beginning of the late Revolution by the Presbyterians, anno 1697; though he was a learned, devout, and religious man."¹ He died in Old Aberdeen, April 8, 1726.

Adam Sutherland, A.M., was admitted from Oldmachar, 1662; and translated from Newmachar to Duffus, 1687.

George Seaton was appointed, 24 June, 1687, and died, December, 1704. He married Barbara Peddie, and had children, George, Alexander, John, and Anna Seaton.

William Mitchell, formerly of Kearn, was ordained, 9 January, 1706. He married, 16 May, 1716; was recommended, 13 May, 1717, for charitable supply.

John Bisset was ordained, 13 March, 1717; was translated to Aberdeen, 26 September, 1728.

Thomas Ray was licenced by the Presbytery of Aberdeen, 1729, but his licence was recalled because he accepted a presentation. It was restored by the Commission of Assembly, 13 August, 1729, after presentation by the Principals and Masters, and was ordained by a Commission of the General Assembly, 29 October, the same year. There was considerable opposition on the part of the parishioners to his appointment. He was accused by the Presbytery of powdering his periwig on the Sabbath day, but was found not guilty by the General Assembly. He was deposed, 8 September, 1736, for gross immorality and for deserting his charge.

Thomas Reid, A.M., son of Lewis Reid, minister of Strachan, was born, 26 April, 1710, was educated at the parish school of Kincardine O'Neil, and subsequently at Aberdeen; studied Philosophy under Dr. George Turnbull, at Marischal College; was appointed librarian of King's College, and presented to Newmachar by the Principal and Masters there. An aversion to the law of patronage, which then characterised many districts of Scotland, and Newmachar especially, excited hostile feelings against him, and he was admitted to the charge, after having been exposed to great personal danger. His unwearied attention to his duties, the mildness and forbearance of his manners, overcame all prejudice, and, on his departure, some one said, "We fought against Dr. Reid when he came, and we would have fought for him when he went away." In 1752, the Senatus of King's College elected him Professor of Moral Philosophy. In 1763, he was appointed Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, and he retired from the duties of his professorship in 1781, having published many works, and died October 7, 1796.²

John Maxwell was translated in 1752 from Auchindoir, on a presentation by the Principal and Masters of King's College. He married firstly, Jane Lumsden, by whom he had a daughter, Jane; and secondly, Agnes Lumsden, who died at Aberdeen, 30 December, 1803, and by her had three sons and six daughters, Francis, John, Henry, Anne, Barbara, Agnes, Mary, Henrietta, and Eliza, who married Alexander Dun, joint Rector of the Grammar School, Aberdeen.

¹ Orem's Hist. of Old Aber. p. 331.

² Chambers' Biographical Dictionary, Vol. III.

William Stronach, A.M., was the son of Alexander Stronach in Knock of Grange ; was presented to Newmachar by James, Earl of Fife, in October, 1781. He got a new church built in 1791, and was translated to Marnoch, 19 September, 1804. He married Harriot, daughter of Sir James Reid, Bart. of Barra, and had issue, Alexander Stronach of Drumallan, advocate, Aberdeen ; William Stronach, lieutenant, died at Ardmeallie, 1893, aged 98, and one daughter, married to William Stuart in Inverugie, Morayshire.

Alexander Simpson, A.M., was translated from the second charge of Oldmachar, on a presentation by James, third Earl of Fife, 28 November, 1804. He died February 10, 1840, in the 84th year of his age, and the 46th of his ministry.

George Moir was appointed, on a presentation by James, fourth Earl of Fife, in 1840. In 1843, he went out at the Disruption of the Church of Scotland, and became the first minister of the Free Church of Newmachar.

Alexander Allan, A.M., was appointed in 1843, and was for twenty-three years minister of the parish, having died, much mourned for and esteemed by his parishioners, on the 10 February, 1866, in the 50th year of his age.

William Robertson Bruce, A.M., is a native of Monquhitter ; was educated at the University of Aberdeen, and appointed in 1866, on a presentation by James, fifth Earl of Fife.

FREE CHURCH MINISTERS OF NEWMACHAR.

George Moir, after having been three years minister of the parish, became, in 1843, the first minister of the Free Church. He died 17 June, 1857, aged 47 years.

Alexander Thain appointed 1857.

James Elmslie Duguid, A.M., ordained 1864.

THE CHURCHYARDS OF MONYCABOC AND NEWMACHAR.

THE CHURCHYARD OF ST. COLUMBA'S, MONYCABOC.

The place is silent—rarely sound
Is heard those heavy mounds around,
Nor mirthful voice of friends that meet
Discoursing in the public street ;
Nor hum of business dull and loud,
Nor murmur of the passing crowd,
Nor soldier's drum nor trumpet's swell,
From neighbouring fort nor citadel.
Rare sound of human toil or strife
To death's lone dwelling speaks of life,
Nor breaks the silence still and deep.

—*Moultrie.*

In the centre of the lone churchyard of Monycaboc is the burial place of the Burnetts of Elrick, but there are no memorials.

On a small stone is the very brief inscription, "G. W., died 1796 ; A. C., 1797." Who they were, that these initials represent, few can tell ?

On a headstone there is the following inscription—"Here lies, in the hope of a blessed resurrection, Alexander Joss, late farmer in Chapel of Elrick, who died 12 March, 1785, aged 58 years. Also his spouse, Janet Stephen, who died 9 April, 1818, aged 76 years. And their son, John Joss, fifty-three years farmer in Meikle Dyce, who died 13 August, 1852, aged 83 years. Also his spouse, Ann Christie, who died August 30, 1855, aged 94. Also John Joss, thirty-five years farmer in Old Goval, who died 18 December, 1856, aged 61 years. Also his spouse, Jane Runciman, who died 15 November, 1856, aged 59 years."

Another is "To the memory of John Rae, parochial schoolmaster of Dyce for the period of twenty-eight years, who died 16 July, 1839, aged 45 years. Also his daughter, Eliza, who died 25 August, 1842, aged 16 years. Jane, who died April 14, 1853, aged 25 years. Also of his wife, Jane Joss, who died 22 July, 1865, aged 73 years.

THE CHURCHYARD OF NEWMACHAR.

The Ramsays of Barra and Straloch have their burial place here. Within an enclosure are the following inscriptions—"In memory of John Ramsay of Barra, who died 28 August, 1787, in the 87th year of his age. Mrs. Isabella Shepherd, his widow, who

died 18 January, 1805, in the 51st year of her age; and of Mary Ramsay, their only child, the wife of John Innes, advocate in Aberdeen, now John Ramsay of Barra, who died 18 December, 1811, in the 43rd year of her age. This tomb and monument has been erected as a small testimony of grateful remembrance and affectionate regard on the part of a son-in-law and husband."

II. "In this tomb are interred the remains of the last mentioned John Ramsay of Barra, who died 11 April, 1814, in the 59th year of his age. Of Isabella, eldest daughter of the said John and Mary Ramsay, who died 12 January, 1803, in the 16th year of her age. Also of Elizabeth, third daughter, who died 11 November, 1818, in the 25th year of her age. Also the remains of their eldest son, John Ramsay of Barra, who died 23 October, 1832, in the 46th year of his age. And of Helen, their youngest daughter, who died 19 August, 1850, aged 46 years. In this tomb are deposited the remains of Leonora Sophia, wife of John Ramsay of Barra, only son of the last-named John Ramsay."

III. There is also in the same enclosure an inscription—"In memory of William Lesly, lately residing at Straloch, who departed this life 30 August, 1779, aged 67 years. This stone was erected by his affectionate widow, Magdalene Duff."

A stone is erected by James Philip, farmer, Waulkmill, "in memory of his daughter Jane, who died October 2, 1855, aged 26. His wife, Jane Mutch, died 9 May, 1867, aged 62. Also the above James Philip, who died 27 April, 1876, aged 70." The inscription ends with the following:—

"Death cut her down, though young in years,
And smiling in her bloom."

Another stone is inscribed, "Here is deposited the dust of William Henderson, once schoolmaster at Newmachar, who died 28 February, 1772, aged 86. Mary Hutcheon, his wife, who died 5 September, 1789, aged 88."

On Jean, a daughter of James Singer, Blackhill of Goval, who died 20 March, 1852, aged 26, there is the following—

"This lovely plant so young and fair,
Called hence by early doom,
Just come to show how sweet a flower
In Paradise may bloom."

Within an enclosure on the following tombstones to a family long resident in the district. I. "In memory of William Harvey, fifty-seven years farmer in Monykebbock, who died 22 December, 1834, aged 82; and of Jean Lumsden, his spouse, who died 3 January, 1837, aged 76. Also of their children, John, who died in infancy; of Jean, who died 3 August, 1802, aged 11; and of James Harvey, farmer, Highlands, who died 16 August, 1837, aged 41 years; and of Alexander, advocate, Aberdeen, who died 18 November, 1866, aged 66."

II. "In memory of John Lumsden, many years in Boghead of Kintore, who died at Monykebbock, 5 November, 1802, aged 81." From this John Lumsden, the Lumsdens of Auchindoir, Pitcapple, Balmedie, Belhelvie, and Auchry are descended.

III. "In memory of James Abernethy, founder, Ferryhill, born at Auchtertool, Fifeshire, 13 November, 1774, died 5 June, 1844. Also of his wife, Jane Harvey, born at Monykebock in this parish, died at Ferryhill, October 2, 1866; and of William, their son, who died in infancy."

Within another enclosure there are the following memorials:—I. "In memory of Harriot Reid, wife of Rev. William Stronach, who died at Newmachar, on the 18 February, 1796, aged 28. Also in memory of James Stronach, his second son, who died June 17, 1817, aged 23. Also of Jane Stuart, his grand-daughter, and eldest daughter of William Stuart of Inverugie, Morayshire, who died at Aberdeen, 9 October, 1839, aged 26." The above mentioned Harriot Reid was a daughter of Sir James Reid of Barra, Bart. William Stuart was a son of Robert Stuart in Little Forge.

II. On a handsome cross of Peterhead granite there is the inscription, "In memory of Magdalene Milne, wife of Alexander Stronach, who died 13 January, 1871, aged 64. Also of Alexander Stronach, who died 13 January, 1880, aged 87."

A stone is erected "as a small tribute to the memory of Isobel Pirie, daughter of the late John Pirie at Crossmill, of King-Edward, who, with great fidelity as house-keeper to the family of Rev. William Stronach during forty years, died at Aberdeen, 18 December, 1838."

A stone is "to the memory of Elizabeth Irvine, daughter of James Irvine, farmer in Forresterhill, near Aberdeen, who died 3 December, 1846, aged 8 years."

"No sin could blight nor sorrow pale,
Death came with friendly care,
The opening bud to heaven conveyed,
And bids it blossom there."

A table stone bears the inscription, "in memory of John Black, a merchant and member of H.M. Council at Halifax, Nova Scotia. He died at Summerhill, near Aberdeen, September, 1823, aged 61. Also of Andrew Black, his brother, who died at Forresterhill, 30 November, 1861, aged 88, and whose remains are here interred in the adjoining grave, in which also are interred the remains of Helen Pirie, wife of Andrew Black, who died at Aberdeen, 3 February, 1869, aged 81."

A table stone with other inscriptions records "that here are interred the remains of Edward William Vohn Lair, born at Bielfield, Westphalia, Prussia, died at Aberdeen, 24 October, 1876."

Within an enclosure a monument is "erected by parishioners and members of the Free Church congregation, Newmachar, in memory of Rev. George Moir, minister of the parish in 1840. At the Disruption in 1843, he became minister of the Free Church. His ministrations were faithful, zealous, and acceptable. He died respected and beloved on 17 June, 1857, aged 47 years. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.' Emma Edith Moir, born October 31, 1856, died May 13, 1860."

A marble tablet, with other inscriptions, records that "James Smith, parochial schoolmaster at Kintore, died 5 March, 1836, aged 27 years." He was the son of Alexander Smith, farmer in Brownhill, of Kintore, and his spouse, Elizabeth Rae.

The following stone, with cross bones, skull, coffin, and sand-glass, records that, "here lies, in the hope of a blessed resurrection, George Smith, some time farmer in Selbie, who departed this life, November 20, 1742, aged 53. This stone was erected by Margaret Logen, his spouse, and his sons, George, William, and Alexander Smith. William Smith, late farmer in Broomhill, Kintore, died 17 August, 1778, aged 49, and his wife, Helen Garden, who died 1 May, 1799, aged 61. 'The memory of the just is blessed.' 'Mors janua vitæ.'"

In the west wall of the churchyard there is a tablet "to the memory of Isobel Cowie, spouse of Rev. Alexander Simpson, Newmachar, who died 8 January, 1837, in the 78th year of her age. Inscribed also to the memory of Rev. Alexander Simpson, who died 2 February, 1840, in the 84th year of his age, and the 45th of his ministry, having faithfully and uprightly discharged the duties of his office in Oldmachar for ten years, and in Newmachar for thirty-five years. And of their son, Rev. Alexander Simpson, who died at Aberdeen, 10 January, 1866, aged 63."

Within an enclosure is a monument of Aberdeen granite, surmounted by an urn, thus inscribed, "Consecrated to the memory of Rev. Alexander Allan, for twenty-three years minister of this parish, who died 10 February, 1866, in the 50th year of his age. The monument was erected to their pastor and friend by the parishioners of Newmachar."

"The race appointed I have run,
The combat's o'er, the prize is won."

Near the north-west corner of the Parish Church there is a stone erected by the family of Straloch, "in memory of Mary Robertson, for forty years a faithful servant. She died July 25, 1875, aged 72."

A granite headstone is "to the memory of George Scorgie, teacher, Balnakettle, Udney, who died 7 March, 1878, aged 74 years. Also his son, George Scorgie, who died at Torquay, 6 January, 1879, aged 20. Erected by a few friends."

A table stone has been erected to the following nonagenarian—"Thomas Webster, Nether Minnes, died February 20, 1846, aged 91."

ELRICK,

Now occupied by P. Burnett, was in early times owned by several proprietors.

From a decree of Council of date 1492, we find that John Flemyng, knight, aire to umquhile David Flemyng and Malcolm Flemyng, his faider, sall werrand and kepe to George, Eric of Huntly, their lands underwritten, that is to say all and hail the lands of Elrig, with the myln of the sammyn and their sequelis, Tillymaud, with a quarter of Little Goule, and x lib of usual money of Scotland yerely, to be payit to him of the lands of Monycaboc, &c.¹

In 1553, it is owned by the Inneses of Innermarkie. On May 8 of that year, Robert Innes was served heir to his father, Robert Innes of Innermarkie, in the lands and barony of Monicaboc, with the advowson of the church, &c.²

Before 1650 it was owned by James Hamilton. On September 4 of that year he was served heir to David Hamilton, burges of Edinburgh, lawful son of the late James Hamilton of the Westport, his father, in the barony of Elrick, comprehending the town and lands of Monycaboc, the lands of Elrick, &c., Aldgoul, Snailend, and Littlegoul.³ This probably was a wadset or the superiority. Before December 18, 1657, it was in possession as a wadset of Gilbert Hervie. At that date Thomas Hervie was served heir to the said Gilbert in the lands and barony of Elrick comprehending the Mains of Elrick and mylne, the lands of Monicaboc, West Plough and Chapel Croft, the lands of Snailend, all in the parish of Newmachar.⁴

The Inneses, however, had still certain rights in Elrick. For we find an assignation on November 16, 1662, by William Innes of Kinnermonie to John Burnett, burges of Aberdeen, merchant, of all right possessed by him of Elrick; it narrates that Sir Walter Innes, fiar of Balvenie, with consent of umquhile Sir Robert Innes, his father, had assigned, in 1634, to William Innes, his reversion to Elrick wadset to Gilbert Hervie, elder; that Robert Cruickshank, late baillie of Aberdeen, and Mr. John Burnett of Colpnay, to whom Hervie had, in 1650, disponded his wadset right to Elrick, had by letters of reversion, in 1650, became bound to hold the lands redeemed, and made over their whole right on payment to William Innes of twenty-one thousand merks. The letters of reversion by Cruickshank and Robert Burnett, and all right to Elrick, were here assigned to John Burnett.⁵

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 235.

2 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 16.

3 Id., No. 218.

4 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 330.

5 Letters of Reversion in H.M. Reg. Ho. Edin. and note by Mr. Burnett, late Lord Lyon.

The following is the descent of the Burnetts of Elrick. **William Burnett** of Wester Camphill, Craigour, Tilliehaidie, as is evidenced by charters of date 1537, 1546, and 1547 ;¹ married, and had issue :—

I. Alexander, of Craigour.

II. **Andrew**, of Easter Camphill, of whom afterwards.

III. William, of Wester Camphill. He married Jane Arbuthnott.

William Burnett of Wester Camphill was succeeded by his son,

He married the heiress of Craigmyle of that ilk, and had issue :—

I. Thomas, of Craigmyle, who married Jane Moncur, and died before 1620, leaving issue, Elizabeth, who married James Burnett, second son of Alexander Burnett of Leys, and had issue, two daughters.

II. Thomas, of Kemnay, still represented.

III. James, of Monboddoo.

IV. Robert, of Contrin, Criggie, Colpnay, and Muchalls. He was born 1620, and in 1650, as above narrated, obtained the lands of Elrick. He was known as tutor of Leys. By his second wife, Helen Arbuthnott, he had three daughters—1. Helen, married to Sir Alexander Burnett of Leys. 2. Agnes, married to Thomas Burnett of Glenbervie, and after his death to Sir William Nicholson of Glenbervie. 3. Jean, married to William, son of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys.

II. Andrew Burnett.

He married ————, and had issue :—

I. William, of Camphill, from whom are descended the Burnetts of Camphill.

II. Alexander, from whom are descended the Burnetts of Kirkhill and Lethenty.

III. Andrew, merchant, Aberdeen, 1597-1617 ; married Christian, eldest daughter of Alexander Jaffray of Kingswells, and had issue—Andrew, merchant, Aberdeen, who married Katharine, eldest daughter of John Lichtoun, and had issue, among others a son, **John**.

III. John Burnett of Elrick.

He is mentioned above as obtaining the lands of Elrick by assignation from William Innes of Kinnermonie, and had of these a crown charter in 1663. In 1662, he was appointed Dean of Guild, Aberdeen.² He married firstly, Marjorie Howieson, by whom he had issue :—

I. **John**, of whom afterwards, and five daughters.

He married secondly, Mary, daughter of George Jamesone, the famous artist, and by her had,

¹ Notes by Mr. Burnett, Lord Lyon.

² Notes by Lord Lyon, Burnett ; Walker's Deans of Guild.

II. George, who succeeded his brother John.

III. Robert, who succeeded his brother George.

John Burnett of Elrick was succeeded by his eldest son,

IV. John Burnett of Elrick.

He died in 1675 at the age of fifteen, having been nine years proprietor of Elrick, and was succeeded by his brother,

V. George Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir to his brother immediately senior, May 14, 1675, in the lands and barony of Elrick, the lands of Monicaboc, Chappeltack, &c.¹ He was succeeded by his brother,

VI. Robert Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir to his brother, George Burnett of Elrick, in the lands and barony of Elrick, the town and lands of Monicaboc, 14 May, 1684.² He married firstly, 1683, Bessie, daughter of Andrew Burnett of Durris, by whom he had issue :—

I. John, born 1684.

II. **Andrew**, his successor.

III. Robert, born 1687.

IV. Thomas, born 1688.

V. Patrick, born 1689.

He married secondly, Isobel Irvine, by whom he had issue :—

VI. James, born 1694.

1. Mary, born 1697.

He died in 1697, and was succeeded by his second surviving son,

VII. Andrew Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir, 16 August, 1706, to his father, Robert Burnett, who died 28 March, 1697, heir special in Elrick and Monicaboc.³ He married, 1707, Marjorie (who died 1723), eldest daughter of John Johnston of that ilk and has issue :—

I. **Robert**, his successor.

II. **John**, who succeeded Robert.

III. Andrew, died young.

IV. Andrew, merchant, Campvere, 1753, and afterwards baillie of Aberdeen.

1. Jane, born 1709.

2. Beatrix, born 1710.

3. Marjorie, born 1716; married George Mowat.

4. Helen, born 1719.

Andrew Burnett of Elrick died before 1721, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

¹ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 427.

² Id., No. 460.

³ Decen. Rets. 1706.

VIII. Robert Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir, February 11, 1721, to his father, Andrew Burnett of Elrick, heir general in the lands of Elrick, Monicaboc, &c.¹ He died in 1737, and was succeeded by his next youngest brother,

IX. John Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir general, 17 September, 1737, to his father, Andrew Burnett of Elrick.² He married Margaret, daughter of ——— Strachan of Balgall, afterwards wife of Sir Arthur Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar. In 1742, he was Dean of Guild, and in 1744, baillic of Aberdeen. He had issue:—

- I. **Andrew**, his successor.
- II. William, born 1743, died 1776.
- III. George, born 1744, Captain 33rd Foot; married Mary Rigail, d. s. p., 1746.
- IV. **John**, who succeeded his brother Andrew.
- V. Alexander, Quarterly Deputy Commissary General H.E.I.C.S.; married Barbara Maxwell, who died 1819.
 1. Mary, born 1740.
 2. Marjory, born 1740.
 3. Hope, married firstly, James Davidson of Midmar; secondly, 1779, Alexander Donaldson.

Mr. John Burnett died in 1748. The "Aberdeen Journal" of the period thus records his death:—"John Burnett of Elrick, late one of the baillies of the city, died November —, 1748, aged 37. As he was generally beloved, his death is justly lamented, and to whose memory the following lines were inscribed by a friend:—

"If all the social virtues which adorn
The generous mind or warm the friendly heart
Be ought regarded or the man esteemed
A public good, whose happy lot they are,
Well may thou, Aberdeen, mourn thy loss!
Such was thy son whom fate this day enwrapped
In death's dark shade! On thee, alas, no more
His counsel or his conduct brings regard.
No more with honest warmth his patriot heart
For thee shall glow, no more his influence
Thy sons shall bless. No more his liberal hand
Shall cheer the poor with offices benign.
Too soon, alas! For he's called to share
The unimagined bliss of virtuous souls."

Baillie Burnett was succeeded by his son,

XI. Andrew Burnett of Elrick.

He was born 1742, and died 1767, and was succeeded by his brother,

¹ Decen. Rets. 1711.

² Decen. Rets. 1737; Walker's Deans of Guild.

XII. John Burnett of Elrick.

He was born 1745. In 1781 was designed of Bencoolan, East Indies; married, 1785, Helen, daughter of Patrick Garden Campbell of Troup and Glenlyon, and had issue:—

- I. John, born 1790.
- II. **Peter**, his successor.
- III. Andrew, born 1794.
- IV. Francis, born 1796, a merchant in Aberdeen; married ——— Tower, and had issue, a son and a daughter, who died young.
- V. William, born 1801; married ——— Pitcairn, and had issue, a daughter.
- VI. David, born 1804; married ——— Forsyth.
 1. Catharine, born 1787, died unmarried, 1810.
 2. Hay, born 1799; married, 1821, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Lumsden of Belhelvie.

Mr. John Burnett of Elrick died in 1822, and was succeeded by his son,

XIII. Peter Burnett of Elrick.

He was served heir to his father, John Burnett, 22 March, 1824.¹ He married firstly ——— ———, and had issue, a son,

Peter, his successor.

He married secondly, ——— Demidoff.

Mr. Patrick Burnett died in 1870, and was succeeded by his son,

XIV. Peter Burnett of Elrick.

He married Guillemina, daughter of Sir William Cater, Bart.

It is remarkable of this family how frequently brothers succeeded brothers.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1824.

KINMUNDY AND KINGSEAT, &c.

N. KINMUNDY,

Now possessed by trustees for the children of William Stephen.

In ancient times it formed a part of the lands belonging to the Bishopric of Aberdeen. In a charter of David I., 1136 (supposed by the late Cosmo Innes and others to be spurious), mention is made of Goul (Govel), Kinmundy, Mameulach, &c., as forming part of the lands of the See of Aberdeen, and this charter was renewed by William and his successors.¹

William Gordon, who was appointed in 1545 Bishop of Aberdeen, in succession to Bishop Stewart, was of scandalous life, and one of those prelates who contributed much to the early downfall of the ancient Church of Scotland. At a meeting of the Chapter of the Cathedral of Old Aberdeen, 5 January, 1559, the Bishop requested the advice of the Chapter in regard to the reformation and the suppression of heresy. The Chapter desired their ordinary to cause the churchmen of the Diocese to reform their scandalous manner of living, and to put away their concubines, and in order that the advice might have better effects, the Bishop himself was entreated to show a good example by removing from his company the gentlewoman through whom he caused great scandal.²

The Bishop, to provide for his household, let and disposed as much as he could of the lands of the Bishopric, and on the 20 October, 1565, with consent of the Chapter, he granted a charter of the lands of North Spittal to Janet Knowles (perhaps the gentlewoman above alluded to) in life-rent, and to George, John, and William Gordons, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Martha Gordons. With regard to Bishop Gordon, Bishop Spottiswood thus writes, "some hopes he gave at first of a virtuous man, but afterwards turned a very epicure, spending all his time in drinking, &c. ; he dilapidated the whole rents by feuing the lands and converting the victual duties into money, a great part whereof he wasted on his base born children, and the w——s, their mothers, a man not worthy to be placed in the catalogue."³ He died in 1577.

The Bishop granted charters and assedations of the lands of the Bishopric for many years. In 1549, he gave an assedation to Thomas Downie and James Davidson of four oxen gangs each of the lands of Kinmundie at the following rents, payment for each half in money, 33s. 4d. ; half a quarter of a mairt, half a mutton, half a peck of bear, three firlots of oats with the straw, one capon and a half, one goose, tenpence for

¹ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. pp. 3-4-7.

² Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. lxiv.

³ Spottiswood's Hist. I. p. 210.

bondages, carriages, and for leading the Bishop's teind corn, lime, slate, and salt as required, and service in war, according to the use of the shire. In the same year, there was an assedation of the lands of Boighall to Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, a property in the neighbourhood of Kinmundie, which, along with Boighall, was disposed afterwards to the said Thomas Menzies.

In 1624, according to the burgh records of Aberdeen, Boighall was owned by the family of Menzies. On the 22 April of that year, Thomas Menzies is mentioned as the only lawful son of the late Robert Menzies of Boighall, and in 1633, we find Wedderburn inscribing his "*Institutiones Grammaticæ*" to Sir Paul Menzies of Kinmundy, the Provost and Town Council of Aberdeen,¹ and in 1654, Paul Menzies is mentioned as a witness in a charter of the lands of Arnage.²

In 1707, Barbara Menzies is served heir portioner to her brother, Thomas Menzies of Kinmundie; also at the same time Helen and Jane Menzies are served heir portioners. These were probably the son and daughters of the above named Paul Menzies. Kinmundy remained in the Menzies family down to the year 1732, when about that time it was sold to the Master of the Guild Hospital, Aberdeen. From the charters of North Kinmundie, we find that Maitland of Pitrichie, in 1750, feued these lands from the Master of the Guild Hospital; and that Major Arthur Maitland sold them, in 1761, to the Earl of Aberdeen, in whose family they remained, till purchased by Alexander and William Stephen in 1846. A feu-duty of £42 is payable annually from these lands to the town of Aberdeen.³

S. Kinmundy belongs to Rev. D. G. Mearns, B.D., of Disblair, and minister of Oyne. (See Disblair.)

KINGSEAT

is now owned by Rev. William Gordon, minister of Glenbervie, whose ancestors were for several generations tenants of the Duke of Gordon.

Kingsseat, according to tradition, derived its name from one of the Kings of Scotland having, in his peregrinations, rested there. It formed a portion of the Belhelvie estates, and on the sale of these by the York Buildings' Company, it came into the possession of Alexander Duthie, advocate in Aberdeen, who sold it, in 1792, to Alexander Thomson, of Banchory. From him it passed to Alexander Fraser, Aberdeen, some time in Edinburgh. In 1842, it was sold to Alexander Morrison in Balhaggardy, by whom, in 1859, it was disposed to Sir Thomas Blaikie, knight, whose widow, Dame Agnes Dingwall or Blaikie, sold it, in 1874, to Rev. William Gordon.⁴

THE BETTER ALE WELL.—King Malcolm Canmore, according to tradition, when marching with his army through Aberdeenshire is said to have rested at Kingsseat, and

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 63.

² Arnage Charters.

³ N. Kinmundy Charters.

⁴ Kingsseat Charters.

being overpowered with thirst had water brought to him from a well in the neighbourhood, with which he was so pleased that he pronounced it to be better than ale. Hence the well is called the "Better Ale Well" to this day.

ROSEHALL

in ancient times was called Boghole, and now belongs to Gordon of Parkhill. It was for some time, as already mentioned, occupied by the family of Menzies. Thomas Menzies owned it before 1624, and was in that year succeeded by his son, Robert Menzies. It was subsequently owned by John Cuthbert, writer in Edinburgh, who married Christian, daughter of David Gregorie of Kinnairdie. He was mainly instrumental in putting in the predecessor of Dr. Thomas Reid into the church of Newmachar contrary to the wishes of the people. At one time there was on it a mansion house, the ruins of which existed down to 1861.

PARK HILL

FORMED at one time part of the Belhelvie estate, which, on the forfeiture of the Earl of Panmure after the rising of 1715, came into the possession of the York Buildings' Company, and was in their possession till 1782, when, by the order of the Court of Session, the Belhelvie estate was sold. It was divided into sixteen lots, and one or more of these were purchased by Skene of Dyce, and added to that estate.

There is a commodious mansion house on the estate, which was thoroughly repaired in 1861. It is situated in extensive woodlands, and has a very fine view, across an artificial lake, of the hills in the distance, especially of Benachie.

The Gordons of Pitlurg succeeded to these estates through their descent from the Skenes of Dyce. In tracing the descent of this ancient house, the Gordons of Parkhill, who are the senior of those in the northern counties possessing any male descent from the founders of the family of Gordon, it may be well to give some account of the first rise of that great historical name. George Chalmers and Dr. Joseph Robertson, brushing aside the fables with which the ignorance and fancy of mediæval chroniclers had encrusted the early history of many of our Scottish families, have drawn from authentic records the following facts. Before the middle of the twelfth century, the progenitor of the Gordons came from England into north Britain, and obtained the lands of Gourdon in the county of Berwick, where he settled with his followers, and whence he assumed the name of Gordon or Gourdon, as it was then and for long after spelt. Richmond de Gourdon, 1140-60, was a benefactor to the Abbey of Kelso; he and his descendants held these lands from the Earls of March, the great Crown tenants of that portion of the Scottish borders, and must have been amongst their most powerful vassals. They were forced by their feudal obligations to follow their over-lords in their changes of allegiance, and thus they adhered to Wallace; but after that hero's death, they for a time submitted to Edward I. Sir Adam Gordoun, then the head of the family, and evidently a man of power and influence, was appointed by the English King in 1300 a Warden of the Marches, and in 1305 one of the Justiciaries of the Lothians. Sir Adam was sixth in descent from Richard de Gordoun above mentioned. Shortly before Bannockburn he broke away from his feudal superior, the Earl of March, and from the English interest, and attached himself to the national party under Robert Bruce. For this he was well rewarded, as he received from the King a grant of the lands of Gordoun and others in free barony, on the forfeiture of the Earls of March, and some years later a grant of the barony of Strathbolgie, part of the possessions of the

attainted Strathbolgies, Earls of Athole. That great family, however, having attached themselves to the Baliol faction, held their own for some generations, so that we do not find the Gordons as benefiting by their northern possessions (notwithstanding repeated charters and confirmations) until 1376, when Sir John Gordoun, great grandson to Sir Adam Gordoun of Bannockburn, the first grantèe, finally received from King Robert II. a charter of confirmation of the lands of barony of Strathbolgie¹ as originally granted to his great-grandfather by the King's grandfather. Sir John Gordon, who was a distinguished warrior and valiant defender of the marches, is said by all the genealogists to have fallen at Otterburne in 1388, though his name does not appear in any of the historical accounts of the battle. On the contrary, in 1391, "Johannes Gordon, miles, dominus ejuidem," is identified, in more than in one deed, as still living in the county of Aberdeen. Some years later, in 1395, he is mentioned as being dead.²

Sir John was succeeded in his extensive possessions in the counties of Berwick and Aberdeen by Sir Adam Gordon, as to whose relationship to him there is some doubt, as will be mentioned further on. Sir Adam fell at Homildon in 1402, leaving by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Keith, knight, Marischal of Scotland, a son, John Gordoun, whose existence has only been discovered by the evidence of a deed in the Kilsythe charter chart. It is an indenture between an honourable Lady Dame Elizabeth Gordoun, spouse of an honourable and worthy man, Sir Nicholas Erskine, Lord of Kinnoul (her second husband), and John Gordoun, the said Elizabeth's son, being a tack by her of one third of the lordship of Gordoune, Strathbolgie, Kinnoul, and Maler, dated 14 December, 1406.³ Sir Adam Gordoune and Elizabeth Keith had at least one daughter, Elizabeth Gordoune, who succeeded to her brother, John Gordoun, on his death, or shortly before 1408, in which year she and her affianced husband, Alexander Seton, had a charter to them and to their heirs, &c., on her resignation of the lands of Gordoune, Strathbolgie, &c., from Robert, Duke of Albany, then Regent. From Elizabeth Gordoune and Alexander Seton came the Earls of Huntly, their eldest son having been raised to that dignity, and he having, in 1449, assumed the surname of Gordon, his descendants in all their branches have been known distinctively in the North as the "Seton Gordons."

At this point of the family history, two brothers appear on the scene, an account of whom must be given, as the elder was the ancestor of the Pitlurg family. They are called John and Thomas Gordon, known in local tradition as "Jock and Tam." They were the progenitors of upwards of fifty landed and baronial families in the counties of Aberdeen and Banff, forming the great bulk of the clan Gordon of the north, their descendants being properly known as the "Jock and Tam Gordons."

Much controversy was carried on in former days between the Seton and the "Jock and Tam Gordons" respecting the paternity and status of the two brothers. The former alleged that they were illegitimate sons of Sir Adam Gordon, and consequently

¹ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 109.

² Id., I. p. 540; III. 471; IV. 162-378, Notes.

³ MS. Notes by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, 1885.

half-brothers of Elizabeth, the heiress, and that their status, or rather their want of it, was proved by their failing to inherit the Gordon estates. The latter maintained that the brothers were lawful sons of Sir John Gordon, and younger brothers, and therefore uncles of the heiress in full blood, and that feudally the daughter of the elder brother would succeed. The Seton party averred that the father and mother of the brothers were only hand-fasted, a tie which could not legitimise the offspring. The other party replied, notably through the great scholar and historian of their name, Gordon of Straloch, that they could not understand how their ancestors could have been illegitimate, seeing that the brothers, and all descended from them, had always borne on their seals, ensigns, &c., the ancient coat of arms of the family without any mark of bastardy, adding, reasonably enough, that it was in no ways probable that the head of the family would have allowed them to bear such a coat of arms had they not been lawful sons. Straloch adds, "we know that it is not very long" (he wrote 1650-1660, and this is curious and interesting) "since some great families in Scotland got allowance to take the mark of illegitimacy out of their coat of arms; but in those days it was not allowed to any to carry the paternal coat, who were not legitimate, without some cognisance marking the defect of their legitimacy, which was then narrowly enquired into, when the honour of chivalry was so much esteemed."¹

In this controversy the truth was divided between the two parties, while each was partly mistaken. John and Thomas Gordon were certainly sons of Sir John, not of Sir Adam Gordon. They are shown to have been so, and also proved to have been illegitimate by a contemporary charter to be quoted presently, having been no doubt the issue of a hand-fast connection between Sir John and their mother whoever she may have been. This charter which was found about seventy years ago among the title deeds of Gordon of Aberdour, is now in the muniment room of Gordon Castle. It is the confirmation dated 1423, of Douglas, Lord of Abercorn and of Aberdour, of a deed of sale in 1418, of the lands of Ardlaw and those in the barony of Aberdour.² "Willelmus Fraser, dominus de Philorth, dilecto et speciali meo Johanni de Gordon filio naturali quondam Johannis de Gordon militis domini ejusdem terras meas de Ardlach tenandas predicto Johanni et hæredibus suis masculis inter ipsum et Elizabetham nunc sponsam suam legitime procreatis seu procreandis quibus forte deficientibus, Alexandro filio naturali dicti Johannis, &c., quibus deficientibus Ade filio naturali dicti Johannis, &c., quibus forte deficientibus, Thome de Gordone fratri præfati Johannis et hæredibus suis masculis, &c., quibus forte deficientibus veris et legitimis hæredibus de Gordone cognomen de Gordon portantibus." This document being taken as proof that John and Thomas Gordon were not legitimate, in the ordinary sense of the term, we are led to inquire how that fact can be reconciled with the statements of Straloch, who was certainly an honest and candid writer. We can say, taken as proof, because it is stated on no mean authority, that the words "naturalis et carnalis," taken by themselves

¹ MS. Hist. of the Gordons, I. p. 46; Translation from Robert Gordon of Straloch's *Origo et Progressus Familiæ Illustrissimæ Gordonionum in Scotia, &c.*

² Ant. A. and B. II. 371.9.

without the adjunct "bastardus," do not necessarily mean bastardy. It is probable they were used to designate the issue of those hand-fast or left-handed marriages so common in the Highlands,¹ (our authority might have said in the Lowlands also,) and then he adds, "Both naturalis et carnalis are occasionally applied to individuals known to be legitimate in the strictest sense of the word." The probability is, however, that the Seton Gordons theory was correct in saying that John and Thomas Gordon were the issue of hand-fasting. This was an old Celtic custom, which being constantly practised in the Highlands was also widely prevalent in the low country. And it must be frankly stated, that only those who had access to the facts as drawn up from the mediæval records of Scotland, can fully realise how deeply and universally the domestic and social life of the country was permeated by this barbarous usage and its effects. In the Highlands the issue of a hand-fast marriage was considered legitimate, even though the connection was dissolved and a fresh union formed.² Although, however, this was repudiated by both the canon and feudal law as has been pointed out. Nevertheless, it probably accounts for the disputes which often arose on the death of a chief, between the rightful heir as recognised by the feudal law and a claimant, who though stigmatised as illegitimate, denied the imputation, and generally had the sympathies of the clan with him. A notable instance of this occurred on the death of the ninth Earl of Sutherland, whose sister, wife of Sir Adam Gordon, was about to assume the title and with it the estates, when they were claimed by Alexander Sutherland, as being the son of Earl John, who had been hand-fast to his mother. Alexander was freely stigmatised as illegitimate; but Sir Adam found it worth while to buy him off.³ In the Lowlands the custom survived the expulsion or the absorption of the Celtic population, and the proof is only too abundant of the hold it came to have on society down to the time of the Reformation.⁴ The subject is not a pleasant one to dwell on; but the regulations of the Church of Rome respecting marriage were so oppressive, the effects of the "prohibited degrees" extending so far into family connections, that it was almost impossible to find members of good families who could be united within the line, whence it resulted that many were married without any licence or dispensation at all.⁵ This was done by hand-fasting, or by being "quyetly married" as it was termed, and this evil example infected others, who though not requiring dispensation seem to have felt no shame in substituting for it a contract which did not bind for life, while being sanctioned by usage, it gave a quasi respectability, according to the ideas of the time, to their offspring, which seems to have been considered better than those born in ordinary concubinage. There is evidence to show that the children born of these unions seem to have occupied socially much the same position as younger children born in wedlock, being provided for in similar proportion; their names being constantly found in settlements

1 Gregory's Highlands and Isles of Scotland, p. 41, Note.

2 Skene's Highlanders of Scotland, Cap. viii.; Scotland under the Early Kings by H. W. Robertson, Vol. II, p. 98.

3 History of the Gordons of Sutherland by Robert Gordon of Gordonston.

4 Riddell's Peerage and Consistorial Law I. pp. 67-68; also his remarks on Scot. Peer. Law, pp. 185-7.

5 Mary Queen of Scots, Lady Jean Gordon, by John Stuart, LL.D., pp. 65-84; Roger's Social Life in Scotland.

of landed property, coming immediately after the younger lawful children, and taking precedence of the brothers or nephews of their father. Both parents being of patrician rank would of course also effect their position favourably in an aristocratic society. The whole system, reprehensible as it seems, was no doubt a sort of lawless protest against the oppressive and almost intolerable restrictions of the Church of Rome, not perhaps to be wondered at, when we consider the fierce and unruly character of those who suffered from them, and the poverty of the country, which made the expense of dispensations and such like burdens grievous to be borne.

What has been stated then, may explain the points which perplexed Straloch. The fact being, as shown, that the disability of the children who sprung from these unions was legal, scarcely, if at all, social. They seem to have married in the same class as their parents, of which the following pedigree affords ample evidence, a sure sign of their position in an age when a mesalliance was considered a thing impossible. The awkward facts here stated are ignored by many Peerage and Pedigree writers, who glibly pour out unbroken descents with rarely a hint of any flaw. Too often where no mention is made of a marriage, but where the writer states that "he left a son," it ought to be told that having no issue, or none surviving legally entitled to succeed, he had devised his estate to his "filius naturalis," and if this occurred before the Reformation, it might be added that nobody living at the time thought it anything but right that he should do so.

Dr. Joseph Robertson who, of the Charter Antiquaries of Scotland, was certainly "facile princeps," emphatically declared that the number of Scottish families which had not passed through one or more steps of illegitimacy was infinitesimally small, and that the presumption indeed was the other way.

To return to John and Thomas Gordon, the first to mention them in any account of the family was Ferarius, abbot of Kinloss, a Piedmontese by birth, who was induced by the Huntly family about 1540-50 to attempt a history of the Gordons. He no doubt meant honestly, but as a foreigner was at the mercy of his informants, and his work is consequently a transcript of the current legends and beliefs with which he was furnished by his associates. When these can be tested by authentic evidence, they are rarely found correct; many indeed are absurdly impossible. Having stated that Sir Adam Gordon was their father, he goes on to identify the mother of John and Thomas Gordon as the daughter of a gentleman of the neighbourhood, Cruickshank of Aswanly, on the Deveron, who is called "Tosh-diragh" (or Coroner) of the district; but when we find that Sir Adam Gordon was not their father, as we have shown, and seeing also that he mistakes the name of the mother of Elizabeth Gordon, the heiress, from whom the Huntly family, in whose interests he wrote, were descended, there is some ground for hesitation in accepting his statements in any part of his subject.

The elder of the two brothers received the lands of Essie, forming a parish in the extensive barony of Strathbogie. He was known in common parlance as John of Scurdargue, from his residence being at that place within his lands. This estate of Essie he

left to his eldest born, but, according to feudal and canon law, illegitimate son, Alexander Gordon, named in the charter of Ardlaw, &c., quoted some way back. The origin of this Alexander is an example of the barbarous practice we have so fully described. When very young John Gordon had been sent by his father to Skye to be fostered (and this shows how strongly Celtic customs held their ground in upper Aberdeenshire at that date) in the family of his friend, Macleod of Harris and Glenelg, one of the most powerful chiefs in the west. While domesticated in Dunvegan, John was hand-fasted to Henault Macleod, the chief's daughter, sister to the Lady Macintosh, by whom he had Alexander, and probably also Adam, who is mentioned in the same charter as his "filius naturalis." It is curious, and shows what "John of Scurdargue's" own idea was as to Alexander's position (and possibly as a sort of protest in favour of his own), that he treated him as an elder son, and settled the principal property of Essie upon him. Alexander married Christian, daughter of Leslie of Balquhain, and was ancestor of the Gordons of Buckie, Leicheston, Knockespoek, &c.

Thomas Gordon, the younger of the two brothers, called in tradition, "Tam of Rivane," appears in 1423 as esquire to Sir Walter Lindsay of Glenesk, and twenty-five years later is termed Dominus de Auchinreath.¹ He took his title from the lands of Ruthven (Rivane), forming, like Essie, a parish in the barony of Strathbogie, which conjoined with that of Botarie is now the parish of Cairney. His monument and effigy in armour lies in a niche in the wall of the kirk of Rivane, near Huntly. Thomas Gordon married three wives, all daughters of baronial houses, and left many sons, from whom a number of families traced their descent. With this introduction we now come to the descent of

John Gordon of Essie.

He was called John of Scurdarg from his residence being at that place within the lands of Essie, which were granted to him by his father, Sir John Gordon. He had also Ardlaw in Aberdour, "noveritis me dedisse et vendidisse dilecto et speciali meo Johanni de Gordon filio naturali quondam domini Johannis de Gordone militis omnes meas terras de Ardlach, &c." In the charter just quoted his wife's name is given as Elizabeth. The old MS. histories of the family call the wife of whom the children were born Margaret. She was certainly daughter to Robert Matulant of Natyrdul (Maitland of Netherdale), who was grandson of Sir Robert Maitland of Thirlstane. Her brother was Sir Patrick Maitland of Netherdale, Gight, and Shivas. They had three sons and two daughters:—

- I. **John**, ancestor of Pitlurg and other branches.
- II. William, of Tillytarmont, ancestor of Craig, Lesmoir, and many others.
- III. James, of Methlic, ancestor of the Gordons of Haddo, now Earls of Aberdeen.
 1. Elizabeth, married, 1436, to James Baird of Ordinhivas.
 2. Janet, married to Annand of Auchterellon.

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 228; IV. p. 183.

John Gordon, as has been already mentioned, left Essie to Alexander Gordon, his son by Henault Macleod, to whom he was hand-fasted. His eldest son, by his marriage with Elizabeth Maitland, became

II. John Gordon of Auchleuchry.

He got from his father the lands of Auchleuchry. He married Dame Elizabeth Abernethy, daughter of Lawrence, Lord Saltoun, of Rothiemay, and had issue two sons :

I. **John**, his successor.

II. James, of Cairnburrow, ancestor of Rothiemay, Glenbucket, Park, &c.

John Gordon was succeeded by his son,

III. John Gordon of Auchleuchry.

He obtained a portion of the Gordon territory by receiving the lands of Botarie from the Earl of Huntly : had seisin of the lands of Kindrocht in 1487¹ In 1493, he purchased the lands of Longweir (Lungair or Lungar) and Hilton in the county of Kincardine, forming the southern half of the barony of Dunnottar, and in the same year those of Cromy, Little Warthill, with the part of Harlaw and the Glack. In this deed he is designated John Gordon of Auchleuchry.² In 1506, he got a charter from Sir Alexander Seton of the lands of Kinmundy, Myllhill, Myllbrecks, and Petremarcus, and in the same year, he purchased the lands of Kyninmonde in Loninay.³ John Gordon married Barbara, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo, by his wife, Dame —— Hay, daughter of William, first Earl of Errol, by whom he had a son,

I. **John**, his successor.

II. Francis.

John Gordon died 1506, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. John Gordon of Auchleuchry, Lungar, Kinmundie, &c.

In 1506, there is a deed of sasine in favour of John Gordon, son and heir of the late John Gordon of Lungar, on charter of William Gordon of Schivas, of the lands of Petnagoak, in the county of Aberdeen and barony of Schivas, dated 24 November, 1506.⁴ In 1531, there is a charter by King James V. confirming a charter of sale by Francis Gordon, portioner, Kindrocht and Sathlee to his brother, John Gordon of Lungair,⁵ and eight years later, he got a feu charter from the Bishop of Moray, to him and the lawful heirs male of his body, of the lands of Pitlurge, Ovir Auchquhorties, Nether Auchquhorties, in the barony of Keith.⁶ These lands adjoined to Botarie. He made an excambion in 1541, with Sir Thomas Erskine of Brechin, receiving the lands of

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 63.

² Id., III. pp. 436-464.

³ Index Parkhill Charters.

⁴ Id.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 360.

⁶ Reg. Ep. Mor. pp. 414-415; Ant. A. and B.

II. p. 250.

Crevethin in Drumblade in exchange for Hilton, the harbour and fishings of the same;¹ and in the same year also received a charter from John Forsyth de Dykis of the lands of Gilkenston.²

He married Lady Jane Stuart, daughter of the first Earl of Athole of that family, by his second wife, Lady Eleanor St. Clair, daughter of William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness. The Earl of Athole was half-brother to King James II., being son of Queen Joan Beaufort, by her second husband, Sir James Stuart, the black knight of Lorne.³ Lady Jean predeceased her husband, having borne him two sons:—

I. **John**, his successor.

II. James, who received a grant of Auchleuchries from his brother in 1546.

1. A daughter, who married ——— Turing of Foveran.

John Gordon married secondly, Margaret Drummond, of the family of Stobhall, without issue (she married after her husband's death George Baird of Auchmedden).

He died in 1546, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. John Gordon of Petlurge, Botarie, Kinmundy, &c.

He married in 1542-3, Janet, daughter of James Ogilvie of Cullen. In 1543, they are both mentioned in the following deed—"Carta Johannis Gordone filii et hæredis apparentis Johannis Gordone de Petlurge et Janete Ogilvie sue sponse of the whole lands of Ovir Kynmonde, Kynknocke, and Millbrek, to be held by the said John Gordone, jun., and Janete Ogilvie, his spouse, and the survivor, 1546." He received sasine of the lands of Crevethin, Gilkemston, Kindrocht, &c.⁴ and he fell at the battle of Pinkie, leaving an infant son, eight months old, and two daughters.

I. **John**.

1. Janet, married to William Forbes of Newe.

2. Margaret, married to Menzies of Pitfoddels, Provost of Aberdeen.

John Gordon, was succeeded by his infant son,

VI. Sir John Gordon of Petlurge, Botarie, &c.

He was served heir to his father, slain at Pinkie, in 1548, when he was a year old. When he came to man's estate he showed himself probably the most remarkable man of his name at the time he lived, as he was much looked up to and relied on by his "kin and allies." The Earl of Huntly and the barons and gentlemen of the clan Gordon, in their negotiations with the Crown, which, in those troubled times, were both frequent and intricate, from the fact that the Earl of Huntly and several of his principal kinsmen adhered to the Roman Catholic faith, while the Laird of Pitlurg was curiously enough a "persona grata" with King James VI., as letters from the King still extant prove. After the battle of Glenlivet or Balrinnis, he was instrumental in inducing King James to condone the outbreak of the "Popish Lords," which the King not only did, but

1 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 561.

2 *Id.*, III. p. 196.

3 Douglas' Peerage folio, p. 49.

4 Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 562-563.

issued a commission to Sir John Gordon (still existing) to take possession of Huntly's castle of Strathbogie, and to undertake the administration of the Earl's great estates, until a settlement was come to. He was knighted by the King at the baptism of Henry, Prince of Wales.¹ In 1580, he had a charter from King James VI., who granted to him (John Gordon) and Isobel Forbes, his wife, in conjunct fee, and their heirs male, the lands and barony of Kinmondie, to be held of the King in free barony. In 1588, there is a charter of the same lands, the lands of Crevethin, lands of Gilcomston, one-third part of the fourth part or moiety of the lands of and barony of Drumblait videlicet, "Terras de Sleache cum le Park, &c."² Sir John Gordon, in 1567, married Dame Isobel Forbes (born 1548, died 1622), daughter of William, seventh Lord Forhes,³ and by her had issue, two sons and a daughter :—

I. **John**, his successor.

II. **Robert**, of Fechil, of whom afterwards.

1. Barbara, married, before 1622, the Hon. John Elphinstone of Wartle, third son of Alexander, fourth Lord Elphinstone, and had issue.

Sir John Gordon died in the year 1600, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. John Gordon of Pitlurg, Botarie, Kinmundy, and Straloch.

He was served heir to his father in 1600 in the lands of Kinmundie, Carvethin, Thorniewray, &c. ; as also, in 1603, to his father, in the lands of Meikle and Little Bannagoak in the barony of Kelly.⁴ In 1606, there is a charter to John Gordon of Pitlurg of the lands of Over Straloch, Overhill, Auchinstink, Nether Cornmill, Over Cornmill of Straloch, and mylne lands, lands of Kingordie, Brunthill, and Whiterashes, &c.⁵ There is an instrument of sasine in favour of John Gordon of Pitlurg and Nicolas Kinnaird, his spouse, and the longest liver, on a charter by Alexander, Bishop of Murray, of the lands of Pitlurg, &c., dated 1615.⁶ Two years later there is a charter by John Gordon of Pitlurg to Robert Gordon of Fechil, his brother german, of the lands of Pitlurg, Auquhorties, Lcterche, &c., dated at Aberdeen, June 19. In 1618, there is a precept of sasine of the lands of Over Kinmundie, Millbrek, Petermerkus, in favour of Robert Gordon. His brother german, John Gordon of Pitlurg, resigned these, 16 December, and there is a sasine of the same date.⁶ John Gordon married Nicola Kinnaird, mentioned in a deed above quoted. Being of very delicate health, he gradually denuded himself of his estates, and died in 1619, and was succeeded by his brother,

VIII. Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, Kinmundy, Straloch, and Fechil.

The last named estate he seems to have inherited from his father, as he is designated as of "Fechil" at the time he acquired from his brother the lands of Straloch. But coming into possession of the latter, and making it his principal residence, he came to

1 Parkhill Family Papers.

2 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 564.

3 Parkhill Family Papers.

4 Rets. Spec. Aberd. 72 and 92.

5 Index of Charters of Parkhill.

6 Id.

be called by it, and retained the title ever after his brother's death, notwithstanding that both Kinmundy and Pitlurg were more important properties, and Straloch not a barony. The name of Robert Gordon, or "Straloch," ranks high among Scottish men of letters of the seventeenth century. To many and varied accomplishments, he joined a profound classical knowledge, and an amount of scientific acquirement very rare in his class at the period. Thus, with abilities and culture so much beyond his compeers, he stands out almost alone among the northern gentlemen of the time. A well-known historical writer has said of him, "without the common desire of fame, or any more sordid motive, he devoted his life and talents to illustrate the history of his country." Speaking also of the assistance given by Straloch in completing the maps of Blæu's "Great Atlas of Scotland," a task undertaken by him at the earnest entreaty of Charles I., the same authority tells us that "the topographical descriptions that accompany them are the most valuable contributions ever made to the physical history of the country." During the civil war, although he had three sons fighting against the Parliamentary party, Straloch enjoyed the protection of government, that he might carry on his scientific work without interruption. He took no active part apparently in the warlike doings of the Gordon powers under the Marquis of Huntly; but from correspondence still preserved, he seems to have been largely consulted by his leader and kinsman in the tangled politics of that trying period.

Robert Gordon lived to see the Restoration, and died in 1661, aged 81. He married, in 1608, Katharine, daughter of Alexander Irvine of Lenturk, by whom he had a numerous family, of whom the following survived him:—

- I. **Robert**, his successor.
- II. John, to whom he gave the estate of Fechil. He seems to have served in the Thirty Years' War, and afterwards to have been active under Montrose. From him came the Gordons of Fechil. (See Fechil.)
- III. William, called by contemporary chroniclers "ane werie able and understanding gentleman," and "a pretty gentleman of great wit and humour." He also fought for the King, but escaped to France with his friend, Lord Aboyne. A family chronicler states that they died in Paris within a few days of each other.
- V. James, parson of Rothiemay, and laird of Zeochrie, author of a history of "Scots Affairs," and other works. He married, in 1643, Margaret Gordon of Rothiemay, without issue; and secondly, Katharine Gordon, by whom he had a son, James, who married Jane Fraser, heiress of Techmuiry, and left descendants, the Gordons of Techmuiry.
- VII. Arthur, also in arms for the King; but he became a successful advocate in Edinburgh. He married, and had a son, Robert, merchant in Dantzic, who founded Gordon's Hospital in Aberdeen (now Gordon's College), and a daughter, Catharine, married to Sir James Abercromby of Birkenbog, bart.

XI. Lewis, a physician, who practised in Aberdeen, "a learned, judicious, and good man," who died, unmarried, in 1704.

Straloch's daughters who survived childhood were :—

1. Isabel, married to Urquhart of Craighouse, in the county of Ross.
2. Mary, married to Sir Richard Maitland of Pitrichie, Bart., a Lord of Session. (See Pitrichie.)
3. Jane, married to Middleton of Johnston.
4. Barbara, married Alexander Menzies of Kinnmundy in Newmachar.
5. Anne, married to Robert Bisset of Lessendrum.

Robert Gordon died in 1661, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

IX. Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, Kinnmundy, and Straloch.

There is a precept of "clare constat" by Murdoch, Bishop of Murray, in favour of Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, of the lands of Pitlurg, Auquhorties, &c., crofts, Pitrifine, otherwise Leterche, in the barony of Keith, dated at Elgin, 1662; also instrument of sasine thereon, dated 10 December, 1662.¹ He married, in 1638, a daughter of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, by whom, besides nine other sons and daughters, who died unmarried, he left at his death, which took place in the castle of Huntly in 1681 :—

I. **Robert**, his successor.

II. **John**, of Collieston, of whom afterwards.

1. Catharine, who became the second wife of Robert, second Viscount Arbuthnott, and left issue a quo, the present Viscount Arbuthnott is descended.

Robert Gordon died in 1681, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, Straloch, &c.

He married his cousin, Jean, daughter of Sir Richard Maitland of Pitrichie, who, on his death, married secondly, John Gordon of Fechil, her husband's and her own cousin, and died in 1741, aged 96. Robert Gordon left issue by Jean Maitland :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

1. Mary, married, in 1698, to William Baird of Auchmedden.

Robert Gordon enjoyed the estates only about a year, and died in 1682, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Alexander Gordon of Pitlurg, Straloch, &c.

He was served heir male of Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, his father, in the lands of Pitlurg, Auquhorties, Cadlow, Tarmash.² Alexander Gordon had a long minority, during which his great-uncle, Alexander Gordon, the "Tutor of Pitlurg," managed so well, that his nephew, when of age, came into an unencumbered estate, and a large sum of ready money besides. He was a man of ability, sat in the first Union Parliament as

¹ Index Parkhill Charters.

² Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 168.

member for Aberdeenshire, and played a respectable part in public life. Unfortunately, however, a stay in France during the reign of his friend, John Law, the financier, the Mississippi scheme, and what family records call "high living in Paris," brought him so low, that he was obliged in 1724-6 to sell the estates of Kinnmudy, Pitlurg, leaving himself only that of Straloch. He married Jane, daughter of James Gordon of Ellon, and died in 1748, leaving no issue, his only son, Alexander, an Ensign in the army, having died unmarried in 1742, and his daughter, Jane, in 1743. Alexander Gordon was therefore succeeded by **James Gordon**, the grandson of his grand-uncle, John Gordon of Collieston, who was the second son of Robert Gordon of Pitlurg, and his wife, Christian Burnett of Leys. (No. IX.) John Gordon followed the practice of medicine, a favourite profession with the younger sons of Scottish gentry in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He resided at Collieston, a fine old mansion, built by Cardinal Beaton, which he purchased along with its lands. He married, in 1675, Katharine, daughter of John Fullarton of Kinaber, in the county of Fermanagh, chief of that name. and secondly, in 1691, Helen, daughter of Allardyce of that ilk, who died the same year; and thirdly, in 1694, Grizel, daughter of Sir Alexander Falconer of Glen Farquhar, sister of the fourth Lord Falconer of Halkerton. By his first marriage he had issue :—

I. John, his successor in Collieston.

1. Jean, married to Captain William Ochterlony.

By his third wife he had one surviving son,

II. Patrick, M.D., who died in 1740, leaving a daughter, Elizabeth, who married James Abercromby of Stank.

Dr. John Gordon died in 1718, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, John Gordon of Collieston.

He married Margaret Dowell, daughter of a rich merchant in Montrose, with whom he received a considerable fortune. He probably sold Collieston, as he purchased the lands of Hilton, near Aberdeen, where he settled. By his wife he had surviving issue, besides nine sons and daughters who died unmarried :—

I. **James** his successor, and the successor of his kinsman, Alexander Gordon of Straloch. (No. XI.)

II. Rev. John, D.D., Incumbent of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen. He married his cousin, Jane, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of James Gordon, last laird of Fechil, and had issue, who all died unmarried.

III. William, born 1720, LL.D., and of the Middle Temple. He purchased the estate of Harperfield, which, dying unmarried, he bequeathed to his great-nephew, Colonel Thomas Gordon. He wrote a history of the Gordons.

1. Catharine, married to James Davidson of Hilton.¹

2. Margaret, born 1714, married George Turner of Menie.

¹ Nisbet's Hist. Vol. I.

Dr. John Gordon died in 1735, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XII. James Gordon of Hilton and Straloch.

He followed the calling of his father and grandfather, in which he gained the rank of M.D., so that, with his two brothers, the three learned professions were represented in their family by a doctor's degree in each. Dr. James Gordon succeeded, as before narrated, his cousin, Alexander Gordon of Straloch, Kinmundy, and Pitlurg (No. XI.), in the first named estate, in 1748. He had married, in 1731, Barbara, daughter and heiress of Robert Cuming of Birness, by his wife, Mary Skene of Dyce (a connection which brought eventually the estates of Dyce and Parkhill to the Gordon family), by whom he had a surviving son, **John**.

Dr. James Gordon died in 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

XIII. John Gordon Cuming of Straloch and Birness.

On succeeding to his mother's estate of Birness he assumed her name. He was born in 1734, and married Mary, daughter of John Fullerton of Gallery, in the county of Kincardine, and died in 1768, greatly mourned as a man of much talent and amiability of disposition. He left two sons :—

I. **John**, his successor.

II. Thomas, an officer in the army, who married Jane Nisbet, heiress of Curfin, in the county of Lanark; niece of ——— Hyndford, from whom, as co-heiress, she inherited the estate of Mauldsie, also in the county of Lanark, by whom he had three children—I. Major-General Sir J. William Gordon, K.C.B., of Mauldsie and Carfin, which estates he sold. He was a highly distinguished Crimean officer, Inspector General of Fortifications. He died in 1860. II. Hamilton Douglas Gordon, Captain in the 78th Highlanders. 1. Amelia Jane, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Hutchison, late 74th Highlanders, son of Sir William Hutchison. Colonel Thomas Gordon commanded for many years the Lanarkshire Militia, and lived at Harperfield in that county, which had been settled on him by his great-uncle, William Gordon, of the Middle Temple, as above mentioned.

John Gordon was succeeded by his son,

XV. John Gordon Cumming of Straloch and Birness.

He succeeded his father when only seven years of age, having been born in 1761. During his minority his guardians sold the estate of Straloch, the last remnant of the Gordon property, leaving him only with the small estate of Birness in Buchan. He entered the army in 1779, and was soon after appointed Major in the Gordon Fencibles, a regiment raised by the Duke of Gordon on his extensive estates. But another army being required, he raised on the Duke of Gordon's estates in the Highlands one wing of

five hundred men of a regiment called the Loyal Inverness Fencibles for service in Great Britain, of which he became Colonel Commandant, and this corps he commanded throughout the Irish rebellion with so much credit, that it was made a Royal regiment, with the title of the Duke of York's Royal Inverness Highlanders, and received the special thanks of George III. It was reduced at the peace of Amiens, after which Colonel Gordon Cumming, promoted to Major-General, commanded a brigade on the coast of Sussex, while the country was threatened with invasion by France. He then served with the army with which we occupied Sicily, and held at different times commands in the British Islands and West Indies.

General Gordon, when he came to settle in the county of Aberdeen, gave the name of "Pitlurg" to the united estates of Birness and Leask in memory of the old Banffshire property of his forefathers. He succeeded in 1815 to the estates of Dyce and Parkhill, under a settlement of a distant relative, Skene of Dyce, who died in that year. He married at the age of twenty-one a young lady of great beauty, only fifteen years of age, daughter to Sir Hew Crawford Pollock of Jordanhill and Pollock. They had issue several sons and daughters :—

- I. **William**, his successor.
- II. Thomas, Captain 74th Highlanders ; married Harriet, daughter of General William Hutchinson, without issue.
- III. James, Captain 4th Foot ; married Jane Adelaide, daughter of Sir Thomas Kenny, bart.
 1. Crawford, married William Forlong of Errens, county of Argyle.
 2. Isabella, married Francis Gordon of Craig and Kincardine.

General Gordon Cumming assumed the name of Skene on succeeding to Dyce and Parkhill. He died in 1828, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XVI. William Gordon Cumming Skene of Pitlurg, Dyce, and Parkhill.

He was born in 1784, and at the age of fifteen carried the colours in his father's regiment. In 1801, he was transferred to the 92nd Gordon Highlanders, in which he remained seven years, being then promoted as Captain into the 6th Regiment. He served with the 6th Regiment in the Peninsular campaign of 1813, being present at the battles of Vittoria, Nivelle, the Bedopoa, &c. He was also in command for a time of the troops occupying Vittoria. His constitution being naturally delicate, he was invalided home from the south of France, and was only able to rejoin his regiment during the occupation of France in 1815. When exchanging into the 6th Regiment, his former commanding officer spoke of Captain Gordon as a great acquisition to the new corps, both as a gentleman and an officer.

He married, in 1825, Anne, daughter of Alexander Brebner of Learney, by whom he had two sons and two daughters :—

- I. **John**, his successor.

II. Alexander, Captain Royal Artillery; killed in the trenches before Sebastopol in 1855.

1. Christian, married to Charles Elphinstone Dalrymple.
2. Lucan, married Lieut.-Colonel William Ross King of Tertowie, late 74th Highlanders.

Captain Gordon Cumming Skene died in 1836, and was succeeded by his son,

XVII. John Gordon Cumming Skene of Pitlurg, Dyce, and Parkhill.

He married, in 1856, Maria, only daughter of Captain William Nares, R.N. (sister of Admiral Sir George Nares, R.N., K.C.B.), by whom he had one son, **Alexander**. Her death occurred in 1857, and he married secondly, in 1860, Maria, only daughter of Sir David Brewster, LL.D., &c., &c., without issue.

Mr. Gordon died in 1882, and was succeeded by his only son,

XVIII. Alexander Gordon Cumming Skene of Pitlurg, Dyce, and Parkhill.

He was born in 1857, entered the army in 1877, and served in the 90th Regiment, under Sir Evelyn Wood, through the Caffir and Zulu wars of 1878-9, receiving the medal and clasps for Kambula and Ulandi. He was afterwards transferred to the Blues or Royal Horse Guards, but retired from the army in 1885. He married, April 9, 1885, Miss Ada Wilson, by whom he has issue, a son,

John Gordon Cumming Skene.

LOCH GOUL, called also the Bishop's Loch, is situated near Parkhill. Upon a small island there was a lodging for the Bishops of Aberdeen, and one of them, Bishop Benham, died here. At one time the loch was surrounded with trees, but these have disappeared. There is also another loch called the Corbie or Lily Loch, remarkable for the wild, barren, mossy nature of its surroundings.

RAMSAY OF BARRA AND STRALOCH.

STRALOCH, now the property of John Ramsay of Barra, though rated in and politically attached to Aberdeenshire, was, until the readjustment of county boundaries after the passing of the recent Local Government Act, in the county of Banff, a circumstance which may be accounted for from its earliest possessors, the Cheynes of Inverugie, having been hereditary sheriffs of that county. The Cheynes of Straloch were a branch of the great family of Cheyne, of which Sir Reginald Cheyne, "le père," and Sir Reginald Cheyne, "le fils," were distinguished members.

In a manuscript history of the Cheynes (according to the author of the "View of the Diocese"), from the time of Alexander III., it is said "that Francis, Lord Cheyne of Inverugie, had by his wife, Isobel, daughter of John Cumine, Earl of Buchan, besides his heir, Francis, Sir Reynauld Cheyne of Straloch, and Henry, Bishop of Aberdeen."¹ This Sir Reynauld had by his second wife, Janet Maishall, heiress of Esslemont, **John Cheyne** of Esslemont, who probably also possessed Straloch.

II. Henry Cheyne of Straloch.

About 1348, King David II. granted to Henry Cheyne a yearly payment of forty shillings from the lands of Straloch and Achstukis. This grant was revoked in the Parliament of Scone, September, 1357.² The next to be found after a long interval is

III. Ranald Cheyne of Straloch.

He was in possession of a yearly payment of five pounds from lands in the Castle-gate of Aberdeen in the years 1461-64, and in 1469, he was present at a court held in Aberdeen by the sheriff of that county. On 12 October, 1466, he renounces the office of baillie of the barony of Monycaboc.³ He was succeeded by his son,

IV. John Cheyne of Straloch.

He is called the son of Ranald Cheyne in the following deed. On the 12 February, 1492, there is a plea moved regarding the lands of Meikle Arnage between John Cheyne of Straloch, son and heir of umquhile Ranald Cheyne, and Henry Cheyne of Esslemont; and he was evidently called of Straloch in his father's life-time,⁴ as appears from a bond of date 1441, by John Cheyne of Straloch, in warrandice of an infirmrent made by him of the lands of Esslemont and Meikle Arnage in favour of his son, Hary.⁵

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 304.

² Rob. Index of Charters, p. 33; Compota

Camerarium Scotie, pp. 289-291

³ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 614; I. p. 2:7.

⁴ Acta Dominorum Concilii, p. 281;

Ant. A. and B. I. p. 237.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 6.

In 1494, John Cheyne of Straloch was present on the inquest of Alexander Irvine of Drum. The next, probably his son,

V. James Cheyne of Straloch.

In 1504, he was present at the inquest of John Chalmer of Strichen, and in 1512, he was a witness to the confirmation of a charter to Alexander Gray, burgess of Aberdeen, of the lands of Newton of Scheves.¹ There is also the following charter of date 1508: King James IV. granted to Sir William Keith of Inverugie the lands of Straloch in the sheriffdom of Banff resumed in the King's hands, because the predecessors of the knight of Inverugie had given away the greater part of them to the predecessors of James Cheyne of Straloch, uniting them to the barony of Inverugie, and discharging the sheriff of Aberdeen for asking suit or service for them, and giving leave to the knight of Inverugie to grant them to James Cheyne of Straloch and his heirs. These lands were, if not before, at this date attached to the county of Banff.² He was succeeded, probably by his son,

VI. Alexander Cheyne of Straloch.

In 1499, in the life-time of his grandfather, John Cheyne of Straloch, there is a charter by the said John to his grandson, Alexander Cheyne, and Katharine Meldrum, his wife, of the lands of half of Creichnalade, Fyvie. (See Crichtie.) He was witness to an agreement regarding the marches of Fortrie and Esslemont A.D. 1537, and in the next year he takes part in an agreement regarding a division of the lands of Auldmill and Chapeltown of Esslemont.³ The next, also, probably, a son, is

VII. John Cheyne of Straloch.

He took part in the inquest of Alexander Irvine, son of Alexander Irvine of Drum, in the lands of Drum and the forest of the same, A.D. 1579-80.⁴ In the same year he disposed part of Straloch. There is a deed of sasine in favour of Alexander Litster, burgess of Aberdeen, and Andrew Litster, his son, on a charter of John Cheyne of Straloch, of the lands of Overhill in the barony of Straloch and county of Banff; also the shady half of the town and lands of Eister Crichtie in the parish of Fyvie, in special warrandice of the said lands of Overhill. In 1580, there is a letter of reversion in favour of John Cheyne of Straloch by Walter Cheyne, heir apparent of Arnage, and Marjorie Cheyne, his spouse, of the lands of Overstraloch, otherwise called the Meikletown of Straloch, and the lands of Creche and Eister Creche in the parish of Fyvie. He seems to have been dead by 1590. In that year we find⁵

VIII. James Cheyne of Straloch.

He seems to have been very impecunious and very troublesome, and he soon disposed of the whole lands of Straloch. In 1590, there are letters of reversion in favour

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 383; do. p. 71.

² Id., p. 303.

³ Id., pp. 17, 18, 554.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 303.

⁵ Index Charters of Parkhill.

of James Cheyne of Straloch and Barbara Keith, his spouse, by John Paton in Terrachie, of the lands of Brunthill and Whiterashes, and Ward of Brunthill, in the parish of St. Machar.¹ In 1600, James Cheyne of Straloch, with consent of John Urquhart, tutor of Cromarty, and others, gave a charter to George Gordon of Chapel-town of Schivas, his son, William, and his heirs, of the town and lands of Nether Chiny, Brunthill, Whiterashes, the town and lands of Overstraloch, Overhill, and others, and whole lands, &c., in the barony of Inverugie and shire of Banff. There is also an instrument of sasine in favour of said George Gordon, spouse, and son, dated January 23, 1601. The said George Gordon resigns these lands in favour of Sir Thomas Gordon of Cluny, knight; the precept of resignation is dated at Aberdeen, 11 June, 1603.² Sir Thomas Gordon of Cluny, by charter dated at Straloch, 24 June, 1606, gave to John Gordon of Pitlurg of the lands of Overstraloch, Overhill, Achinstinch, Nether Cornemill, and Over Cornemill, Brunthill, and Whiterashes, lands of Over and Nether Chinys, &c., &c., all in the parish of St. Machar and shire of Banff.³ This John Gordon was the brother of Sir Robert Gordon, who succeeded him in Pitlurg and Straloch. (For an account of him and his successors see Parkhill.) The last Gordon of Straloch was John Gordon Cumming (No. XV. Parkhill), whose guardians sold Straloch, the last remnant of the Gordon property, in 1766, to John Ramsay of Barra. The following is the descent of Mr. Ramsay:—

I. John Ramsay of Melross and Claystyles.

He was probably the son of James Ramsay, who, in 1617, was served heir to his father, Alexander Ramsay, in the church lands of Aberdour, and the plough lands of the sunny half of the town and lands of Ardly (Ardlaw?) within the barony of Philorth. He had sasine of the lands of Claystyles in 1655.⁴ He was succeeded by his son,

II. James Ramsay of Melross and Claystyles.

He had sasine of these lands, February 22, 1655.⁵ He married ——— Meldrum, daughter of Meldrum of Crombie, and had a son, John, his successor.

III. John Ramsay of Melross and Laithers,

was served heir, June 9, 1693, to Mr. George Meldrum of Crombie, brother of his uncle on the mother's side, in the lands of Laithers and the salmon fishings on the Deveron, the mill of Laithers, and lots of lands in the parishes of Turriß, Auchterless, and Inverkeithnie.⁶ He married Mary, daughter of Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, and had issue one son at least, **John**, who acquired Barra and Straloch. After her husband's death she married secondly, Major Buchan of Auchmacoy, and had issue to him a large family. (See Auchmacoy.)

¹ Index of Charters of Parkhill.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Spec. Rets. Abdn. No. 148; Sasine H.M. Reg. Ho. Edin.

⁵ Sasine H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinb.

⁶ Retours Banff, No. 145.

IV. John Ramsay of Melross, Barra, and Straloch,

married Isabella, daughter of Rev. Thomas Shepherd, minister of Bourtie, by Janet, daughter of John Leith of Blair. Thomas Shepherd was the son of John Shepherd, minister of Logie-Coldstone, and had, besides his daughter Isabella, born 1749, a son, Robert, minister of Daviot. Mr. Ramsay died in 1787, leaving an only daughter, **Mary**, by whom he was succeeded.

V. Mary Ramsay of Barra and Straloch.

She married June 19, 1785, John Innes, eldest son of James Innes of Maisley, of the Edengight family, the chief of which in the male line is James Henry Innes Kerr, seventh Duke of Roxburgh. John Innes assumed the name of Ramsay. They had issue :—

- I. **John**, of whom afterwards.
- II. James, born 1797, died 1867.
- III. William, died November, 1881.
 1. Isabella, died 1803.
 2. Mary, married Mr. Leslie of Dunlugas, died 1839.
 3. Elizabeth, died 1818.
 4. Jane.
 5. Margaret, married Sir George Turner of Menie.
 6. Helen, died 1850.

John Innes Ramsay died in 1814, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. John Ramsay of Barra and Straloch.

He married his cousin, Susan Innes, after-mentioned (No. VI. p. 329), and had issue :—

- I. **John**, his successor.
 1. Christina Susan Mary.

Mr. Ramsay died in 1832, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. John Ramsay of Barra and Straloch.

He was educated at the University of Cambridge, of which he is an M.A. Mr. Ramsay married Miss Leonora Sophia Bond, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Bond of Creech Grange, Dorset, and Rector of Steeple with Tyneham, Dorset. They had issue a daughter, Mary Agnes Ramsay. She was born in 1859; married Francis Hugh, only surviving son of Alexander Forbes Irvine of Drum, by Anne Margareta, daughter of the late Colonel Jonathan Forbes Leslie of Rothienorman : issue :—

- I. Alexander, born 17 August, 1881.
- II. Quentin Hugh Innes, born February 16, 1888.

The descent of John Innes from the ancient family of Innes is as follows :—

I. Berowald (Inees).

He appears to have been a man of considerable rank in the time of Malcolm IV., who succeeded to the Crown of Scotland, A.D. 1153. He got a charter from the said King in these words, "Malcolmus Rex, &c., dedit Berrowaldo Flandrensi in provincia de Elgin Inees et Eterurecard, &c., testibus Wilelmo Moraviensi Episcopo, Wilelmo filio Frisgin." ¹ The deed was signed at Perth "in natali domini proximo post Concordiam Regis et Somerled." The original charter does not exist, and it had disappeared before the lands were sold in 1768, for there is only an official transumpt certified per "Episcopum Gavinum Dunbar, clericum rotulorum registri, &c." He was succeeded by

II. John (Inees).

Of him there is but little notice. He lived in the reign of King William the Lion, and is only mentioned in a charter of King Alexander II. "Alexande D.G. Rex Scotorum, &c., Sciant nos concessisse et hæ charto confirmasse Waltero filio Johannis filii Berowaldi Flandrensis Inees, &c." ²

III. Walter (Inees).

He was the son of the above John (Inees), and was the first that assumed the name of Innes, and was undoubtedly the progenitor of all the Innees of Scotland. He is mentioned in the above quoted charter of Alexander II. The charter is dated 1226. He also witnessed an agreement between the Bishop of Moray and David de Strathbolgy, 7 August, 1235. ³ He was at Elgin on an occasion of a great assemblage of clergy and laity, 9 and 10 October, 1226. ⁴ He died in the reign of Alexander II., and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Sir Alexander de Innes.

Regarding this member of the family, Mr. Cosmo Innes says, "that Alexander, the son and successor of Walter, is quite unsupported by evidence, and must rest on tradition of the family as gathered and set forth by Duncan Forbes." It was handed down by tradition that King Alexander was at Innes when he gave the above charter (No. II.), and knighted the son, Alexander, the father, Walter, being at that time very old. To Alexander Innes succeeds ⁵

V. William de Innes.

He was the first of the family mentioned as "Dominus de Innes." The name of "William de Inees" is found in a roll of names of certain magnates, who did homage to Edward I. on 14 March, 1296, apparently to entitle him to have seisin of these lands. He also took the oath to Government on 17 July following along with Duncan de Frenndrach. His name was then written "William de Inays." ⁶ This

¹ Forbes' Innees, S.C., p. 49.

² Id., p. 53.

³ Reg. Ep. Morav, pp. 25-132.

⁴ Reg. Ep. Morav, pp. 25-132.

⁵ Forbes' Innees, S.C. p. 54.

⁶ Id., p. 56.

William, according to "Douglas' Baronage," died in the beginning of the reign of Robert the Bruce, who was crowned King of Scotland, 1306. According to Mr. Innes he must have lived to a very good age, or that there were two Williams in succession. It is generally believed that there were two, father and son.¹

VI. William de Innes.

He is witness to an agreement between the monks of Pluscarden and the burgesses of Elgin, dated 4 December, 1330, and is then designated William "baro de Ynes, &c."² He is said to have died in the reign of King David Bruce, and left a son his successor,

VII. Robert de Innes.

He was witness to a charter of Walter Leslie, "Dominus de Ross," dated 1367. In it he was designated "Robertus de Innes." He is mentioned also in another deed in the charter room of the burgh of Inverness, dated 1376.³ And according to Douglas, Robertus de Innes is one of the assize in a dispute between Alexander, Bishop of Moray, and Sir Archibald Douglas, knight, A.D. 1367. He died in the beginning of the reign of King Robert II., circa 1371, leaving two sons at least.⁴

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. **John**, Canon of Moray. He witnessed, according to Mr. Innes, along with his brother that "inutilis et damnosa provisio," as the scribe of the chartulary styles it, which threw the Bishopric into the power of the Earl John and Thomas, sheriff of Moray, on the feast of St. Peter, in the cathedral, A.D. 1389. This John, though it cannot be proved, according to Mr. Innes, is especially believed to be Bishop of Moray. All that we know is that John Innes was a Moray man, a Canon of Moray in 1389, Archdeacon of Caithness 1396. In 1406, John Innes was elected Bishop of Moray, and died 25 April, 1414,⁵ and there is little doubt that the Canon and the Bishop were one and the same. He assisted in rebuilding the cathedral church of Elgin, where he is buried.

The next is

VIII. Alexander de Innes,

mentioned as above in a deed along with his brother John in 1389.⁶ He was one of the inquest for the service of Robert Sibbald of Aldrochty in 1393,⁷ and is likewise mentioned in a charter of John, Earl of Moray, to the burgh of Elgin, of date 1390,⁸ "Alexandro de Innes, domino ejusdem"; also in an instrument "de possessione culture de Forres." He is said, according to Douglas, to have the following issue:—⁹

1 Doug. Baron. p. 14.

2 Forbes' Inneses, S.C. p. 57.

3 Id., pp. 63-64.

4 Doug. Bar. fol. p. 14.

5 Forbes' Inneses, p. 68.

6 Reg. Morav. p. 201.

7 Id., p. 205.

8 Innes' Inneses, S.C. pp. 67.

9 Doug. Bar. p. 14.

I. **Walter**, who succeeded for a short time, but of him there is no evidence, but family tradition.

II. **Robert**, who, according to Douglas, succeeded his brother.

1. Giles, married to Farquhar M'Intosh of that ilk.

Alexander de Innes was succeeded by

IX. Walter de Innes.

He, dying shortly afterwards, was succeeded by his brother,

X. Robert Innes of Innes.

According to Douglas and Mr. Forbes, this Róbert married Dame Janet de Aberchirder, daughter of the Thane of Aberchirder;¹ but Mr. Cosmo Innes inclines to the opinion that it was Mr. Alexander de Innes, the father of these two, that married the heiress of Aberchirder.² They had issue a son and successor. The Inneses after this marriage for long quartered the arms of Aberchirder with those of Innes, namely, "the boar's head erased, and the stars azure." Robert Innes was succeeded by his son,

XI. Walter Innes of Innes.

In 1440, Walter of Innes, lord of that ilk, was one of the notables assembled in the kirkyard of the Chanonry of Rosemarkie, who bore witness to the change of destination of Graham's lands at Kerdale.³ Walter Innes of that ilk was first on the inquest of northern gentry, who met at Inverness, on 11 February, 1431, for ascertaining the tenure of the lands of Kilravock.⁴ In 1438, Sir Walter had received the honour of knighthood.⁵

Sir Walter married Euphemia Fraser, daughter of Hugh Fraser, first Lord Lovat, and widow of the laird of M'Intosh, and, according to Douglas, had issue three sons and two daughters:—

I. **Sir Robert**, his successor.

II. Berowaldus (Rufus or the Red Tod), from whom some of the Inneses of Caithness are descended.

III. John, Bishop of Caithness, 1448.

1. Isobel, married to James Dunbar (according to "Forbes' Inneses" only betrothed to him); had a son, Alexander, ancestor of the Dunbars of Morayshire.

2. Margaret, married to Patrick Maitland of Netherdale.

By his second wife, ————, he had also a son named John, designed of Abernethy. He died about 1456. Sir Walter de Innes was succeeded by his son,

¹ Doug. Bar. p. 14.

² Innes' Inneses, S.C. p. 68.

³ Forbes' Inneses, S.C. p. 61; Original penes Brodie of Brodie.

⁴ Rose of Kilravock, S.C. p. 128.

⁵ Forbes' Inneses, S.C. p. 73.

XII. Sir Robert Innes of Innes.

In his father's life-time he got a charter from Alexander Seton, Lord de Gordon. "Roberto Innes, filio et hæredi Walteri Innes, domini ejusdem, &c.," of several lands of which he was superior, namely, the lands of Ordynnes, Rotmakyngyn, &c., 1441. There is a precept of sasine of date 1456, in favour of Robert Innes, son of Walter Innes, of the lands of the lordship of Aberchirder.¹ He was of great bravery, and was present at the battle of Brechin, 1452. He married a daughter of the Baron of Drumlanrig, and had issue:—

- I. James, his successor.
- II. **Walter**, ancestor of the Inneses of Innermarkie, afterwards of Balvenie, of whom the Inneses of Coxton, Innerbrackie, Orton, Auchintoul, were descended.
- III. Robert, progenitor of the Inneses of Drainie, the descendants of whom, according to Forbes, are extinct.
 1. A daughter, married to Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford, ancestor of the Earl of Findlater.
 2. A daughter, married to Barclay of Towie.

Sir Robert died before the year 1464, as in that year there is a precept of sasine in favour of James Innes of Innes, his son, whose descendant in the direct line, Sir Robert Innes of Innes, a man of great probity and worth was created, May 29, 1625, a baronet of Nova Scotia, by a Royal patent from King Charles I. The descendant of the first baronet, his grandson, Sir James Innes of Innes, married Margaret Kerr, daughter of the first Duke of Roxburgh, whose descendant Sir James Innes (Norcliffe) of Innes, succeeded by virtue of a decision of the House of Lords in 1812, as fifth Duke of Roxburgh,² and represents the elder branch of the Inneses of Innes. We now carry on the descent of Walter Innes the second son, who was the progenitor of the Inneses of Innermarkie, from whom Major Ramsay is descended.

XIII. Walter Innes of Innermarkie.

He got these lands in 1480, which became the chief title of the family. He left issue, three sons:—

- I. **Robert**, his heir.
- II. Walter, of Touchis (now Pitfour), of whom the Inneses of Coxton were descended.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIV. Robert Innes of Innermarkie.

In 1502 there is a precept of clare constat by Alexander, Earl of Huntly to Robert Innes, as heir of Umquhile, Walter Innes of Innermarkie, his father, in the lands of Innermarkie with the Mill of Cragnacorth, &c. This precept is in the charter room of

¹ Innes' Inneses, S.C. pp. 75-76.

² Douglas' Baronage, p. 15; Burke's Peerage.

Duff House. The precept of sasine is of date 1515, by Johannes Comes de Athole a Dominus de Balveny predilecto fratri meo Roberto Innes de Innermarkie in terris de Edinglassie in dominio de Balveny.

Robert Innes married Lady Elspet Stewart in 1503, daughter of the first Earl of Athole, and a grand-daughter of Sir James Stuart of Lorne, and his wife, Queen Joan Beaufort, who was a grand-daughter of John of Gaunt, and great grand-daughter of Edward III. Lady Joan was the heroine of the poem called the "King's Quhair." He had issue:—

- I. Robert, of Monycaboc, whose son, Robert, succeeded his grandfather in 1652, and whose son and successor, Robert, January 12, 1628, was created a baronet by the title of Balvenie. The title being "hæredibus masculis quibuscunque." This baronetcy has now devolved on the Inneses of Edengight. There is an instrument of resignation by Robert Innes of Innemarkie, in favour of Robert, his son and apparent heir, reserving his own life-rent and that of Elizabeth Stewart, his spouse, dated 14 November, 1536.¹
- II. Walter, of Auchintoul, who on 13 September, 1552, conveyed to the Earl of Athole certain lands held by him. He is described as son of the late Robert Innes of Innermarkie.²
- III. Alexander, first known from a charter in 1534, extinct 1579.³
- IV. **John** of Edengight, mentioned in charters 1537, 1544, 1552, 1558; also in one of date 1589, by William, Abbot of Kinloss, to John Innes of Edengight. John Innes of Edengight appears in a contract betwixt the laird of Innes and Innes of Innermarkie, of date 1587. He signs the contract thus:—"John Innes of Edengight, with my hand at the pen, led by Alexander Annand, notary public, at my command, because I can nocht writ."⁴

We now come to the Inneses of Edengight, from whom Mr. Ramsay is descended.

I. John Innes of Edengight.

John Innes married ———, and had issue:—

- I. Thomas, who succeeded.
- II. Hieronymus (Jerome) Innes, mentioned in a deed dated 1581, in which he is described as second son of the said John Innes. He was minister of Fyvie, and had a son, John, and a daughter, Janet, married to William Bannerman; also a daughter, Margaret, married to ——— Leith, who had a son, George Leith.⁵

John Innes succeeded by his eldest son,

¹ Index of Charters Edengight.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Index of Charters Edengight.

⁵ Id., Scott's Fasti, Fyvie Papers.

II. Thomas Innes of Edengight.

In 1569 there is a charter of the Abbot of Kinloss in favour of Thomas Innes, son of John Innes of Edengight, of the lands of Edengight and others, but reserving the life-rent of the said John Innes, dated 16 July. There is also another of some other lands in similar terms, of date 18 July, 1569. There is also another charter by the said Abbot, in favour of Thomas Innes and his spouse, Janet Seton, reserving the life-rent of John Innes, dated 9 May, 1581. In 1611, May 20, there is a charter by the said Thomas Innes of Edengight, in favour of Thomas Innes, his son and apparent heir, and Janet Innes, his spouse, of the lands of Edengight, reserving his own life-rent and that of his spouse, Janet Abercromby. From these charters we find that Thomas Innes was twice married, first to Janet Seton, and secondly to Janet Abercromby; by his first marriage he had issue at least one son, by whom he was succeeded.¹

III. Thomas Innes of Edengight.

He is mentioned in one of the above charters, and there is a confirmation of said charter by Andrew Bishop of Brechin, and others, commissioners of Thomas, Lord Bruce of Kinloss, in favour of said Thomas Innes, dated 8 March, 1618.² He married Janet Innes and had issue at least one son, his successor,

IV. John Innes of Edengight.

There is a precept of clare constat by the commissioners of Thomas, Lord Bruce of Kinloss, in favour of John Innes as nearest lawful heir of the deceased Thomas Innes, son and apparent heir of Thomas Innes, dated 11 March, 1618.³ John Innes of Edengight, in 1651, was one of the signers of the call for Alexander Kerr, student in divinity, to be minister of Grange.⁴ He married Christian Bruce, their marriage contract being dated 29 June, 1637.⁵ John Innes died April 7, 1674, and was succeeded by his son.

V. John Innes of Edengight.

He was born 1641; mentioned in a deed of revocation of date 28 November, 1662; also in a deposition by Janet Innes of date 16 October, 1662. John Innes married Christian Gordon, their marriage contract being dated 1663. They had issue:—

- I. John, who predeceased his father. He married Helen Strachan, daughter of Michael Strachan of Auchantyre. Their marriage contract is dated August 7, 1691. He is mentioned in a disposition of date 15 July, 1697, by Walter Mitchell; also in a bond to William Duff of date 1713.⁶ He left issue a son, **John**, of whom afterwards.

¹ Edengight Papers.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Pres. Book of Strathbogie, p. 206.

⁵ Marriage Contract penes Edengight.

⁶ Charters and Papers penes Edengight.

- II. James, mentioned in a disposition by his father of date 19 December, 1700, described as in Thornton.
- III. Thomas, mentioned in a bond of date May 14, 1743, as being in Muiryfold. Thomas died 12 September, 1754, aged 73. He was long factor for the Earl of Fife. He left two sons:—¹
- I. John, of Muiryfold; also factor for the Earl of Fife; born 11 March, 1729, died October 3, 1780. He married Helen, daughter of Peter Gordon of Ardmeallie; but had no issue.
 - II. Thomas, of Monellie, Forgue; a W.S. in Edinburgh, where he died 6 September, 1779, leaving an only daughter, Elizabeth Mary, who inherited her uncle's property of Muiryfold, which was exchanged in excambion for Netherdale in Marnoch. Miss Innes married James Rose of Gask, descended from Kilravock, and had issue a large family. (See Monellie.)
1. Helen, married William Scott, merchant, Banff. Their marriage contract is dated 27 May, 1698.
 2. Margaret, married George Geddes in Burnside. Their marriage contract is dated 16 and 17 July, 1707.

John Innes was succeeded by his grandson, John, above mentioned.

VI. John Innes of Edengight,

married Jane, eldest daughter of Patrick Duff of Craigston, a patriarch, who had thirty-six sons and daughters. Their marriage contract is dated April 30, 1720, with consent of John Innes, his grandfather.² He is mentioned in an extract of A. Sutherland's testament of date January, 1723,³ and was served heir to his grandfather, John Innes, in the lands of Edengight and others, June 13, 1751. Jane Duff, his wife, was sister of Admiral Duff of Fetteresso, and of Catharine Duff, who married George Gordon of Gight, whose only child was the mother of Lord Byron. They had issue:—

- I. John, born 22 February, 1721. He married, August 9, 1753, Elizabeth Grant of Carron, and had issue:—
 - I. John, born 1757; married Barbara, daughter of George Forbes of Boyndlie. He was served heir to his father, John Innes, in the lands of Edengight, 30 May, 1795,⁴ and succeeded to the baronetcy of Balvenie in 1818, in whose descendants it still exists, the present baronet being Sir John Innes of Edengight, who was born 1840, and succeeded 1870.
 - II. Thomas, born 1 January, 1759.
 - III. James, born 1760.

¹ Edengight Papers.

² Penes Edengight.

³ Decen. Retours, 1751.

⁴ Edengight Charters.

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- IV. Alexander, born 1763.
 - 1. Jean, born 1754.
 - 2. Elizabeth, born 1756.
 - 3. Ann, born 1762, died 1847,
 - 4. Margaret, born 1765, died 1857.
 - 5. Helen, born 1766.
 - II. Alexander, of Breda and Cowie, married Miss Davidson of Newton, in the Garioch, from whom are descended the Inneses of Cowie and Raemoir.
 - III. James, of Maisely, who married Isobel Abernethy of Mayen, and had issue :—
 - I. John, who married **Mary Ramsay of Barra.**
 - II. Alexander, of Pitmedden. He married Christian Forbes of Boyndlie, and had issue six daughters, one of whom, Susan, married her cousin, John Ramsay of Barra. (Ante No. VI. p. 321.)

IRVINE OF DRUM, SOME TIME OF KINMUCK.

KING ROBERT THE BRUCE when he fled from Edward Longshanks came to Bonshaw, it is said, and took thence the oldest son of the family, **William de Irwyne**, to wait on him, and made him his armourer bearer and secretary. In 1323, there is a charter of the Foreste of Drum outside the Park granted by King Robert I. to William de Irwyne. There was excepted part of the Foreste given to Alexander called Burnard.¹ There is also in the following year, 1324, the following charter—"The King grants the Foreste of Drum in free barony to William de Irwyne. Among the witnesses are Bernard, Abbot of Arbroath."² In 132—, there is an infefment to William de Irwyne of ten pounds sterling money furth from the Customs of Dundee,³ and in 1331, Alexander, Bishop of Aberdeen, gave the lands of Dalmaok and Petbrachere next to the Forest of Drum, with the right of pasture, to William de Irwyn, for payment of forty-six shillings sterling and eight pennies.⁴ The next a son, probably,

II. Sir Thomas de Irwyn.

In the first edition of "Burke's Barony," he is called Alexander de Irwyn, in later editions Sir Thomas de Irwyn.⁵ According to this authority, he married first a daughter of the Great Marischal of Scotland; secondly, the daughter of Sir ——— Montford of Lonmay. Of this Sir Thomas there is no chartulary evidence. The next is

III. Sir Alexander de Irwyn de Drum.

In 1388, there is an indenture anent the selling of the Park of Drum betwixt Alexander de Irwyne, lord of the Droum, on one part, and John Moigne, lord of the park, on the other part, in fee and heritage for evermair, with the annual of a chalder of meal, which the foresaid Alexander was wont to pay to the foresaid John, for upholding the foresaid Park for all the term of his life. He had, in 1381, to show his charter for the lands of Dalmayok to Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen,⁶ and in 1389, there is a charter by Robert II. of the lands of Drum which belonged to John Moigne to Alexander Irwyn.⁷ In 1410, he got a charter from Alexander Stuart, Earl of Mar and the Garioch, for his faithful service, of all the lands of Davachdore and of Fidilmouth,

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 292.

2 Id., pp. 292-3.

3 Robertson's Index of Lost Charters, p. 23.

4 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 52.

5 Burke's Bar. (Ed. 1831) II. p. 680; Edit. 1871, II. p.

6 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 294; Reg. Ep. Aber. pp. 135-142.

7 Id., p. 295.

with the pertinents, for a penny yearly, if sought, at the south door of the parish church of the foresaid lands on St. John Baptist's Day.¹ This Sir Alexander de Irwyne and his kinsman, the Earl of Mar, distinguished themselves at Liege in France. Sir Alexander was knighted on the morning of that battle. In 1411, he fell at Harlaw, having fought, it is said, with Maclean (the ancestor of Maclean of Coll), Lieutenant-General under Donald of the Isles. The following are mentioned in the book of the "Monastery of Saint Mary's, Cupar," as having fallen at Harlaw—"James Springeour, Constable of Dundee; Alexander de Irewyn, Robert de Maule, and Thomas Munroe, knights."²

IV. Sir Alexander de Irwyn de Drum.

The hero of Harlaw, according to the first edition of Burke, was succeeded in Drum by his brother John, who, upon inheriting Drum, changed his name to Alexander. According to subsequent editions, he was succeeded by his own son, Alexander, by a daughter of Montford of Lonmay. Which edition is correct we are unable to say. Sir Alexander Irwyn married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Robert Keith, Great Marischal of Scotland. This lady is said to have been first wedded to his deceased brother, the Hero of Harlaw, to adjust a feud, which had for some time subsisted between the families, such a proceeding being, it is said, enjoined by the States of the kingdom; but the ceremony only having taken place, Alexander, the elder brother, recommended her to his successor should he fall at Harlaw.³ There is a great measure of improbability about the story, and it is omitted in the later editions, for the marriage could hardly have legally been effected without a dispensation from the Pope, and of this there is no evidence. The lady is said to have brought to her husband the lands of Strachan in Kincardineshire. In 1414, there is a confirmation charter by Robert, Duke of Albany, of a charter to Alexander Irwyne of the lands Davachdore and Fidilmouth with their pertinents. Among the witnesses are Gilbert (Greenlaw), Bishop of Aberdeen and Chancellor of Scotland.⁴ In 1416, there is a charter of Alexander de Irwyne, lord of the forest of Drum, to John Bell, for his good service of the lands and barony of Inchture.⁵ In 1424, he witnesses, along with his brother Robert, a charter in favour of William de Forbes of Kinaldie of the lands of Glaslach, Tulinamolt, Auchmacludy, &c., lying in the barony of Aberdour.⁶ In 1455, in a brieve of perambulation between the lands of Mundurno and Balhelvy, John, Lord Forbes, and Alexander Irwyne de Drum, knight, are appointed to take part.⁷ He had issue:—

- I. Alexander, who died in the life-time of his father. He married Janet Keith, who is mentioned in the following deed of sasine. In 1452, there is a precept of sasine from King James II. to Sir Gilbert Keith of Inverugie, knight, and William Aberdour, sheriffs of Aberdeen, to give

1 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 452.

2 Reg. de Panmure, p. 189.

3 Burke's Baronage, Ed. 1831, p. 680.; Ed. 1871.

4 Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 451-2.

5 Lord Wharnccliffe's MSS.; His. Com. Rep. V. p. 622.

6 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 389.

7 Id., I. p. 234, note.

seisin to Alexander Irwyne, son and apparent heir of Alexander Irwyne of Drum, knight, and to Janet Keith, his wife, of the lands of Lonmay, Savocho, Corskellie, and Carness, in Buchan. These lands were resigned by Sir Alexander Irwyne,¹ and may have come to him from the Montfords of Lonmay.

Sir Alexander Irwyne died about 1457. On a monument in Drum's aisle there is an inscription—"Here lies an honourable and famous man, Alexander Irwyn of Drum, Dauchyndor, and Forglen, who died 14—; also his wife, the Lady Elizabeth Keith, daughter of Sir Robert de Keith, who died 14—." Mr. Jervise says "the Irvines did not possess Forglen until some time after the battle of Harlaw, nor Auchindoir until 1506. Various circumstances (not the least important is the style of the brass itself) lead us to believe that it was probably erected during the first quarter of the seventeenth century, perhaps by Sir William Irvine of Kelly."² As above narrated the Irvines had Davachdore (Auchindoir) in 1416.

Sir Alexander was succeeded by his grandson,

VI. Alexander Irwyn of Drum.

In 1457, he was served heir to his grandfather, as is shown in the following instrument of sasine—"Alexander de Irwyn, grandson of the late Alexander Irwyn of Drum, knight, of the lands of Drum, with the pertinents; also of the lands of Lonmay."³ He married Marion Forbes, daughter of Lord Forbes, who is mentioned in a deed of date 1494, subsequently to be quoted.⁴ They had issue three sons and one daughter:—

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. Richard, of Craigtoune, of whom the Irvines of Hilltown were descended.
- III. Henry, the ancestor of the Irvines of Kincausie, a family still represented.
 1. A daughter, married to ——— Leslie of Warderis.

This Alexander Irwyne was a very turbulent character, and frequently involved in quarrels. "In 1472 he was ordained to pass in ward for attacking Walter Lindsay, in silence of nicht, with sixty armed men. He was to remain in the Castle of Berwic at his ain expenses, until freed by his sovereign, and to be deprived of his office as sheriff-depute, and never in time coming to minister in the same."⁵ In 1481 there is an instrument of homage by Alexander Irwyn of Drum to the Abbot of Arbroath, for the lands of Forglen, "for the said lands of Forglen, with their pertinents, the said Alexander, did homage on his bended knees (*genibus flexis*) to the Abbot of Arbroath. Besides, the said Lord Abbot declared and determined that the tenants of the regality of the said monastery of Arbroath, wherever existing, shall march and ride with the said Alexander to the army of our Lord the King, under the Breccbennach, namely, the

1 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 81.

2 Jervise' Epit. and Inscrip. II. p. 369.

3 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 297.

4 Acta Dominorum, p. 20; Ant. A. and B.

I. p. 278.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 278.

banner of the said abbot and convent."¹ In 1487 there is a remission to Alexander Irwin de Drum, and others, for the slaughter, at the Brig of Balgownie, of Alexander Fraser and George Tailzeour, and for the dismembering and mutilating of them in the place."²

In 1493, August 17, Alexander Irwyn de Drum made provision for the bairnies begotten betwixt him and umquhile, Nannys Menzies. The said day comperit an honourable man, Alexander Irwyn de Drum, in presence of the Court for carnal affection and reasonable causes grantit and assigned be ane gluff "to David Irwyne, his son, begotten betwixt him and Nannys Menzies, whom God assoyle all and hailt the lands of Coule, and the stocking thereon, which included twenty tine of oxen and four chalders of malt yearly; also three hundred wedders on Fortrie, in Buchan. Alexander received the tack and stocking of Kinnharochy, which included thirty-four oxen and three hundred ewes. John had the tack and stocking of Craigton, which included all the oxen upon that place, and twenty-eight ewes; and Agnes had all and hailt his guides, corne, oxen, and eight score ewes being in Dalmayok, togidder with twenty-four ky and ane bull in Colangy, to opbring her, and to marry her. This provision was made for them at the scoles as well as during the rest of their lives."³

According to Jervise, Nannys Menzies was the wife of Alexander Irwyne of Drum. It is, however, not given in this deed, nor in any of the editions of Burke, that she was his wife. Marion Forbes, the mother of the heir of Drum, was at this time alive, and survived both her husband and Nannys Menzies, as shown subsequently.

Alexander Irwyne of Drum died before 1494, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Sir Alexander Irwyn of Drum, Knight.

He was served heir to his father, April 8, 1494, in the lands of Drum, Coule, and Largeny, &c.⁴ On December 13 of the same year, the Lords' Auditors decree and deliver that Alexander Irwyn and Marion Forbes, his moder, does wrang in the occupation and manuring of the lands of Wester, Tulboury, &c.⁵ Thus Marion Forbes survived Nannys Menzies.

In a deed quoted afterwards, he is called Alexander Irwyn, knight.⁶ He married first, Janet Keith, daughter of Keith of Ludquhain. He married secondly, a daughter of Alexander Gordon de Megmar—their marriage contract is dated 1487⁷—and had issue at least one son,

I. Alexander, of Forglen.

Sir Alexander Irwyn of Drum died before 1527, and was succeeded by his son,

VIII. Alexander Irwyn of Drum.

He is mentioned in a deed, of date 1527, in which King James grants to his lovite,

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 514.

² Id., III. p. 293.

³ Id., pp. 301-2.

⁴ Id., p. 302.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 273.

⁶ Id., III. p. 573.

⁷ Id., p. 299.

Alexander Irwin of Forglen, son and aire of umquhile Alexander Irwin of Drum, knight, for the guide and thankful service done in searching, taking, and bringing of our rebellis, theiffis, revaris, sornaris, and murtheris, being in the North Month; and, in part recompense, we grant to the said Alexander Irwyn of Forglen the nonentries, relief, &c., of said lands.¹ He is also mentioned in band of man-rent, 1527.² He married Janet Allardes, daughter of John Allardes of that ilk, the marriage contract is dated 13 June, 1493.³

They had issue:—

- I. Alexander of Forglen, who married Elizabeth Ogilvie, daughter of Ogilvie of Findlater. He fell at Pinkie, 1547, in the life-time of his father, and left the following issue:—

I. **Alexander**, successor to his grandfather.

II. William of Ardlogie, of whom there are no further records.

III. Robert of Toryleith, in Udn. In 1569 these lands were acquired from Robert Turying de Foverne by Robert Irvine, brother-german of Alexander Irvine of Drum.⁴ In 1627 they were conveyed by Alexander Irvine, heir of the above-named Robert Irvine, to his brother-german, John Irvine of Balbithan. In 1659 the lands of Tonyleith were conveyed by John Forbes of Waterton to John Irvine of Murtle, who, in 1672, with consent of his son, Alexander Irvine, conveyed both teinds and lands to Alexander Walker, writer in Edinburgh.⁵ They were for more than a century in the possession of the Walker family, and are now the property of Mr. Ramsay of Barra. From the Irvines of Toryleith are said to be descended the Irvines of Fortrie, in Ellon, but it is, however, to be observed that David Irwyn, the son of Alexander of Irwyn of Drum, by Nannys Menzies, got the lands of Fortrie to support him at the schules, and the Fortrie Irvines may be descended of him. In 1650-51, Alexander Irving was laird of Fortrie,⁶ and a son, William, a clergyman, an ardent Jacobite, was at the battle of Killiecrankie with Viscount Dundee. In 1715 he again took the field, and was imprisoned in the Fleet prison. He was afterwards consecrated a Bishop of the Scotch Episcopal Church. After many vicissitudes he died at Edinburgh, December 9, 1725.⁷

IV. Gilbert of Collairlie, of whom come the Irvines of Murthill and Cults. He obtained also the lands of Auldquhat, in the barony of Fedderat.⁸ His descendant afterwards succeeded to Drum.

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 573.

2 Id., p. 306.

3 His. Com. Rep. V. p. 630.

4 Reg. Mag. Sig. No. 2028, 1553-70.

5 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 85.

6 Marr's Records of Ellon, pp. 118-119.

7 Id., p. 147.

8 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 578.

V. James, a knight of Malta, ordained by the Grand Prior of the Order in Scotland.

VI. John, died young.

1. Janet, married Gordon of Abergeldie.

2. Elizabeth, married to Seton of Meldrum.

3. Margaret, married to ——— Cheyne of Arnage.

Besides his son, Alexander, who fell at Pinkie, as above narrated, Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, No. VIII. of the deduction, had—

1. A daughter, married to the laird of Balbegno.

2. A daughter, married to Fraser of Stonewood, evidenced by a charter under the great seal “to Andrew Fraser, son and heir of Alexander Fraser, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Alexander Irving of Drum, 1537.”¹

Alexander Irwyne of Drum died 15—, and was succeeded by his grandson, Alexander Irvine, son of Alexander Irvine, younger of Drum, who fell at Pinkie.

IX. Alexander Irwyn of Drum.

He got a charter under the great seal on the resignation of his grandfather in 1553 of the lands of Drum, Lairney, Auchindoir, Tarland, &c.² He married the Lady Elizabeth Keith, daughter of William, fourth Earl Marischal,³ and had issue five sons and four daughters :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. Robert, of Montcoffer. He is mentioned in a submission and decret arbitral betwixt the clan and name of Forbes and the house of Drum, and is spoken of as portioner of Montcoffer.⁴

III. James, of Brucklaw, predecessor of Irvine of Saphock, in the parish of Fyvie, and Knaperna, in the parish of Udney. Regarding the latter place, the author of the “View of the Diocese” says, “Being chief next to Irvine of Drum, they began to call it ‘Irvine.’”⁵

IV. William, of Artamford. He sold it to his brother, John.

V. John, of Artamford. He married Beatrix, daughter of Irvine of Pitmurchie and Lumphanan, by whom he had eight sons, who all d. s. p. except James, the second son, who, by a transaction with his eldest brother, succeeded to the estates, and became of Artamford. This James Irvine of Artamford married Ann, daughter of Keith of Ravenscraig, by whom he had, with another son, who died young, and two daughters, Anne, married to Elphinstone of Glack, and Beatrix, married to Dalgarno of Millhill, a son and successor, James, of Artamford, second substitute in the entail of Drum. This gentleman married, in 1673, Margaret, daughter of James Sutherland of Kinminity, by whom he had five sons and one daughter :—

¹ Crawford's Baronage MSS. in Advo. Lib. Edinb.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. 1553.

³ Doug. Peer. Fol. 454.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 55-59.

⁵ Id., I. p. 360.

- I. Alexander, who sold Artamford to his brother, William, and bought Crimond in 1703; of this gentleman hereafter as inheritor of Drum. II. William, who bought Artamford from his brother. III. Robert. IV. Thomas, of Auchmunziel. V. Charles, a merchant in the Swedish E.I.C. 1. Margaret, married to Hugh Rose of Clava.

Alexander Irwyn of Drum, besides the five sons above narrated, had—

1. A daughter, married to Hay of Ury.
2. ———, married to ——— Keith of Craig of Inverugie.
3. Elizabeth, married to James Ogilvie of Boyne.
4. Margaret, married to Gilbert Menzies of Pitfoddels.

With regard to this Alexander Irwyn of Drum there are the following notices:—“Among those present at the Scotch Parliament in 1560 was Alexander Irwyn of Drum.”¹ There is extant in the family charter chest a holograph bond by King James VI. to Drum for five hundred merks, dated at Dalkeith, 27 November, 1587, and payable at Whitsunday thereafter.² He is also mentioned in the following—“Caution for Alexander Irwyn of Drum as principal, and John Leslie of Boquhane as surety for two thousand merks, and for Hay Irwyn at the Mill of Drum, that Alexander Burnett of Leys and Thomas Thome and his servants shall be harmless of the said Alexander Irwyn.”³

Alexander Irwyn of Drum died about 1603, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Alexander Irving of Drum.

In 1603, he was served heir to his father, Alexander Irving of Drum, in the lands of Coulle, comprehending the croft of Coulle, Lochmaneis under the Wode, Bogfeiddil, Tullilodge, Tillilair, in the barony of O’Neile,⁴ and in 1583, he received a charter from his father of the lands and barony of Drum, Whiteriggs, Lonmay, and a charter of confirmation from James VI.⁵ In 1622, he received a licence from James VI. to eat and feed upon flesh in the time of Lent.⁶ He married the Lady Marion Douglas, daughter of Robert, Earl of Buchan. According to Douglas in his “Peerage,” she had no issue; but according to other accounts, they had the following issue:—⁷

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded his father.

II. Robert, of Fedderat. This property was acquired by his grandfather in 1573 from Crawford of Fedderat. In 1633, Robert Irving of Fedderat, as procurator for Dame Marion Douglas, his mother, declarit that there was restand owing to her by the said Robert, five hundred merks, and that there was restand owing to him by William, Earl Marischal, five hundred merks. This shows that Lady Marion had issue.⁸

¹ Reg. de Panmure, I. p. 310.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 319.

³ Priv. Coun. Rep. IV. p. 209.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 90.

⁵ Burke’s Baronage, 1836, Vol. II. p. 682.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 309.

⁷ Doug. Peer. Fol. p. 96; Burke’s Bar. II. p. 682.

⁸ S.C. Mis. III. p. 106.

1. Margaret, married to Sir George Ogilvie of Banff, afterwards Lord Banff.
2. Isabella, married to Urquhart of Laithers.
3. Janet, married to Sir William Douglas of Glenbervie,
4. Ann, married to Sir George Ogilvie of Inverquhar.
5. Mary, married, 1628, to Robert Graham of Morphie.

This laird of Drum founded four bursaries of Philosophy, and two of Divinity in the Marischal College of Aberdeen, and four bursaries in the Grammar School, Aberdeen, leaving £10,000 Scots for this purpose. His testament is dated at Kelly, in Angus, 26 December, 1629. At the same time he left six hundred merks Scots money, to the town of Aberdeen, to be employed by the provost and magistrates for maintaining and upholding of Drum's Aisle, he and his successors having one portion for their burials, as the Council shall determine. The Council declined the responsibility for the £10,000 Scots money for the bursaries, because it involved them in the responsibility of £1000 Scots annual rent. Whereupon the successor of the bequeather, Sir Alexander Irvine, knight, invested the £10,000 Scots in the lands of Kinnuck, Peithill, Milne of Kinnuck, in the parish of Kinkell; also in the town and lands of Rickarcarie, with the pertinents thereof called Torren, in the parish of Glengarden.¹ The investing of the money in these lands was the cause of a tedious and expensive litigation, which, two hundred and thirty years afterwards, reversing an unanimous judgment of the Scotch courts, was decided by the House of Lords against the proprietor of Drum. Alexander Irving of Drum also left for the love he carried to the town of Aberdeen (which had long been entertained by his family without change or break) four hundred merks to the new hospital. He died 1630, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Sir Alexander Irving of Drum, Knight.

He was Sheriff-Principal of Aberdeen for many years during the reign of Charles I. In 1621 he got a charter of the lands of Forglen from his father, with the consent of his brother, Robert Irving of Fedderat. "The charter is to the said Alexander Irving of Drum, his son, and to Lady Magdalene Scrimgeour, his spouse, and the longest liver." From this charter we find he married Magdalene Scrimgeour, daughter of Sir John Scrimgeour of Dudhope, knight, constable of Dundee.

He was served heir to his father in 1630, and, from the following retour, we see the immense possessions owned by the house of Drum at that period:—"In 1630, Alexander Irving of Drum, heir of Alexander Irving, his father, in the lands and barony of Drum, Park of Drum, with the fishings upon the water of Dee; the lands of Lonmay, Largneis, Fulzemont, and Tarlan, with the fishing and advowson of the church of Lonmay, with certain other lands in the sherriffdom of Kincardine, united into the barony of Drum; the lands and barony of Fedderat; the town and lands of Schevado, Artamford, Allathan, Brucklaw, Clochcan, Annachie, within the barony of Fedderat; the town and lands of Ruthven, Over and Nedder Balnabraid, &c., within the lordship

¹ Drum's Mortification for Bursaries, Com. Rep. of Mar. Coll.

² Ant. A. and E. III. 514.

of Cromar and parish of Logiemar, with the advowson of the Church of Drumoak ; the lands of Coule, Lochmanis, &c, in the barony of O'Neill ; the lands of Craigtoune of Peterculter, and of the croft, and town, and lands of the church of Banchory-Ternan ; the lands of Drumoak and Pettenbanzeone, within the barony of Murthill ; the lands of Kinmuck, Piethill, within the parish of Kinkell and regality of Lindores ; the lands and town called Eister and Wester Colairleys, the lands of Eister and Wester Beltiehill de Beltie, Sunday's Well, and 'Torphins, in the barony of Cluny and parish of Kincardine O'Neill." 1 Of these lands it may be remarked that several of them were in possession of other branches of the family, but the superiority had been retained by the chief of Drum.

Sir Alexander Irving had issue :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. Robert. He was imprisoned in the tolbooth of Edinburgh ; regarding him Spalding says:—"This brave young gentleman departit this life within the tollbuith of Edinburgh, upon Tuesday, the 4th February, 16—, and the same nicht being excommunicat, he was buried betwixt eleven and twelve o'clock, with candle licht in lanterns. The young laird being sore sick in the same chalmer when they were first wardit, they were all three put in separate houses that nane sid hae conference with another. This longsum, loathsum prison they endurit for the first half-year. Thereafter they gat liberty all three to bide in ane chalmer, but none sufferit to come and speak with them. But this young gallant, lying so long in prison, and of ane hie spirit, brak his heart and deit." 2

III. John.

IV. Charles.

V. Francis.

1. Marion, married James, first Viscount Fren draught, and had issue.

2. Jean, married George Crichton of Auchingoul, brother of Viscount Fren draught, and had issue.

3. Margaret, married to Charles, Earl of Aboyne.

In 1640, the castle of Drum was taken by the soldiers of General Munroe. Spalding gives the following account of it:—"April 20, 1640. On the news that General Munroe was coming to Aberdeen, sum barones began to fortify their houses. A month after there is a meeting at Strathbogie of the name of Gordon and others (Drum was present) to consult against the coming of Munroe. On June 2, Munroe marches to Drum—the laird was not at home. The lady was ordered to surrender the castle. She asks time to consider, and to advertise her husband. At last she renders up the castle on the conditions that her soldiers should go out with their arms : her children and under serving women should have liberty to remain within ane chalmer in the place. Munroe leaves a commander with forty men to keep the same, and to live

1 Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 216.

2 Spalding Troubles, II. p. 446.

on the provisions already provided, and on the laird's rents so long as they remained ; and the lady was required to send her husband to Munroe." This she did.¹ "On June 9, 1640, the laird of Drum with sum few hors cam in to Aberdeen, according to the lady's promise, at the rendering of the house. He met with Earl Marischal and Munroe. They drank blythlie and kindlie together, and kept him still beside them."² In a further notice we find "that the laird of Drum was sent south with Munroe ; also Haddauch, Fedderat, &c. They were wardit in the Tollbuith, Edinburgh. Drum fynit ten thousand merks, Fedderat four thousand, and Haddauch two thousand. On June 27, they plundered also the laird of Drum's ground, himself being wardit in Edinburgh. In 1644, Drum castle is again attacked, this time by the Marquis of Argyle. Argyle had cum to Aberdeen, ryds there fra the place of Drum, had four hundred hors, and cam into Aberdeen, with the rest of the army. Sir Alexander Irving of Drum was not at home when Argyle and the rest cam ; but his lady and Lady Marie Gordon, his gude dochter, and sister's dochter to Argyle, were. Argyle and his company were all made welcome according to the time. The Marquis shortly removed the twa ladies, and set them out of the yettis per force (albiet the young lady was his own sister's dochter) with two grey plaids on their heids. Their hail servants were also put to the yettis ; but the ladies cam in upon twa wark naigs in pitiful manner to the town of Aberdeen, and took up their lodging beside the gudewife of Auchlunkart then living in the town." Then continues Spalding, "the runagate Irish soldiers fell to and plunderit the place of Drum, quhair was stor of insicht plenishing, and rich furniture, and all other provision necessarie. They left nothing which could be carried away, and brak down the statlie beddis and timber wark ; killed and destroyed the bestial, nowt, and scheip, ky, for their meit. They fan yirdit in the yard of Drum ane trunkful of silver plait, gold plait and jewells, chaynes, rings, and other ornaments of great worth, about twenty thousand poundis, whereof pairt was seen in Aberdeen."³ Thus was the house of Drum oppressit and pitifully plunderit without any fault committed by the old lord himself, but only his two sons following the House of Huntly." Indeed, the old laird carried out as sheriff the behests of the Estates. In 1643, the laird of Drum, scherriff, as he had gotten order from the Estates, causit a messenger to charge the Earl Marischal, Lord Gordon, &c., to assist him as scherriff of Aberdeen, to search for, tak, and apprehend the laird of Haddo. "And in January, 1644," Spalding says, "the laird of Drum, Scherriff-Principal, is chargit with letters direct in the King's name (but God knows if they were with his Majesty's will) to charge the barones of the shire to convey, and the town of Aberdeen to raise fourscore horsemen for the most part, and twa commanders, to go search, seek, tak, and apprehend the laird of Haddo, to tak his house and mell with his rents."⁴

In 1651, a very lively controversy was carried on between Sir Alexander Irving and the Presbytery of Aberdeen as to the title the latter had assumed of controlling his

¹ Spalding Troubles I. pp. 281-283, &c.

² *Id.*

³ Spalding Troubles II. pp. 355-356.

⁴ *Id.* pp. 304-5.

spiritual interests. A great quarrel had taken place between the parties regarding the settlement of a minister in Sir Alexander's parish, and he had appealed from the power of the Presbytery to the English Commander, Colonel Overton, a proceeding which the Presbytery took very much amiss, and excommunicated Sir Alexander. Against this he protested in animated terms:—"Their excommunication," he said, "proceeded from men more full of fiery zeal to advance their own interests than that of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They had urged him by threats to subscribe the Covenant, as gif it had been a matter of salvation for me to establish by arms Presbyterian government in England, not only would they have me forsware myself, but they will urge with the like threatenings my wife and daughters, who, for their age and sex, are not capable of such politic theology."¹ They also accuse Sir Alexander of being a Papist. It would not have caused much surprise, though he had become inclined to the Church of Rome, under the treatment he had received. There is no doubt but that several of his sons were educated at the Roman College of Douay. In the register of that college there are the following entries:—"1647, Francis Irving, son of Alexander Irving of Drum; 1633, were entered Robert Irving, 19 years of age." He became a Presbyter of St. Bernard, and subsequently a Capuchin, and lived at Somerset House, London.²

Sir Alexander Irving had a patent from King Charles I., creating him Earl of Aberdeen, which the breaking out of the Rebellion prevented from passing the great seal. His losses by the civil war were considerable, for both he and his son zealously, as above narrated, espoused the royal cause. His second son died in prison, and his eldest son was condemned to death, and his execution was only stopped in consequence of Montrose's victory at Kilsyth. Sir Alexander Irving died about 1658, and was succeeded by his son,

XII. Alexander Irving of Drum.

In 1658, Alexander Irvine is served heir to his father in the lands of Drum, &c., very much in the same terms as the retour of his father above quoted.³ Alexander Irving of Drum married the Lady Mary Gordon, daughter of the Marquis of Huntly, December 7, 1640.

They had issue, three sons and four daughters:—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. Robert.

III. Charles.

1. Mary, married to Patrick, Count Leslie of Balquhain.

2. Margaret, married to Gilbert Menzies of Pitfoddels.

3. Jean, married to Alexander Irving of Murthill, eventually of Drum.

4. Henrietta, married to Alexander Leslie of Pitcaule.

The laird of Drum married secondly, Margaret Coutts, who was of a different rank

¹ Chamber's Domestic Annals of Scotland, II. pp. 210-212.

² His. Com. Report V. p. 654.

³ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 344

from the Marquis of Huntly's daughter. The following from Dean Christie's ballads has reference to her.

“ O, hold your tongue my brother John,
 For I have done nae wrong, O ;
 I have married aye to work and spin,
 And ye've married aye to spend, O.
 For the first wife that I did wed,
 She was far abeen my degree, O.
 She wad me hae walked to the yetts of Drum,
 But the pearls abeen her bree, O.
 There were four-and-twenty gentlemen,
 Stood at the yetts of Drum, O !
 There was nae aye among them a'¹
 That welcomed the lady in, O.
 He has taen her by the milk-white hand,
 And led her in himsel', O,
 And in through ha', and in through bower-,
 Ye're welcome, Lady Drum, O.”²

Alexander Irving by his second wife had issue :—

- I. Charles, who died in infancy.
 1. Katharine, who married John Gray.
 2. Anne, died unmarried.
 3. Elizabeth, died unmarried.

On the restoration of Charles II., the peerage was again offered, this time to the son, but declined on his part. The probable reason was his very much diminished fortune. Several of the estates were sold, amongst others, Kelly, in Forfarshire, to Lord Panmure.³

In 1613 was executed an entail by the then Alexander Irving of Drum, in form of a procuratory of resignation of his estate, including the baronies of Drum, Cromar, and some other lands, for new infeftments to himself and his heirs male of the body, whom failing, to heirs of tailzie, to be contained in any writing under his hand. In pursuance of this procuratory, King Charles II. granted a charter of novodamus of the whole estate holding of the crown. In this charter, after mentioning the services of the first of the family under Robert the Bruce, and those of his successor at Harlaw, and other occasions, there is the following clause :—“ But behold in more recent instances the faithful and ready services and sufferings both of his father, Alexander Irvine of Drum, and of the said Alexander, now of Drum, his son, who in the recent times of calamities and rebellion were worthy of the times of their faithful ancestors, and that especially by their most faithful and tenacious adherence in the greatest straits and differences to our father, Charles I. of dismal memory, and to ourselves. The fines, excommunications, imprisonments, and condemnation to death are all enumerated.”³ Alexander Irvine of Drum also petitioned King Charles that, in consequence of the severe fines levied, his house four times garrisoned, and at length totally plundered, his wife and family turned out of doors, that some compensation should be made to him ;

¹ Dean Christie's Ballads, l. p. 24.
² Reg. de Panmure.

³ Burke's Baronage, Ed. 1831, p. 661.

but all the compensation the heroic Irvines received was that in a deed of 1684, when the holding of the lands of Drum was changed from "simple ward to taxt ward." This is all the merry monarch, who, in the charter of novodamus used very pleasing words, could do for the House of Drum!¹

In 1687 he executed a nomination of heirs of entail, failing heirs of his own body, namely, the Irvines of Murthill, Artamford, and Cults, and their heirs male in their order. Irvine of Saphock was the nearest male heir, failing the entailers' own, but for some dislike was entirely omitted. The laird died the same year, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIII. Alexander Irvine of Drum.

On March 21, 1688, he was served heir to his father, Alexander Irvine of Drum, in the lands and barony of Drum, &c.² He married Margaret, daughter of Forbes of Auchreddie, and died in 1619 without issue. In him failed the male line of the family from father to son. By this circumstance the succession opened to the eldest son of Alexander Irvine of Murthill, the first nominee under the entail who had died four years before the last laird. These Irvines were descended from Gilbert Irving, fourth son of Alexander Irvine of Drum and Jane Allardes, as detailed above. (No. VIII.)

XIV. Alexander Irvine of Drum and Murthill.

Alexander Irvine de Murthill, eldest son of Mr. Alexander Irvine de Murthill, heir of tailzie of Alexander Irvine, younger of Drum, was served heir, May 1, 1696, to the lands and barony of Drum, and other lands.³ He married Jane Irving, daughter of Alexander Irving, by the Lady Mary Gordon, and had issue :—

I. Alexander, his successor.

1. Margaret.

2. Helen, married to ——— Garden of Dorlaithers.

This gentleman sold Murthill, and the lands of Strachan, which had not been included in the entail. He died in 1720, and was succeeded by his son,

XV. Alexander Irvine of Drum.

He joined the rising of 1715, and was severely wounded, but escaped to the continent; he was afterwards pardoned. He had the misfortune some time after his succession to become insane. He was cognosed in 1731, and died in 1735, when he was succeeded by his uncle and tutor,

XVI. John Irvine of Drum.

He was son of Alexander Irvine of Murthill, whose eldest son succeeded to Drum. Some time before the accession of this gentleman, means had been devised to defeat the entail, and to sell the greater portion of the estates of Drum, which last was effected

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. pp. 311-312.

² Rets. Spec. Abdn. No. 470.

³ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 498.

during his possession. He married Katharine, daughter of Robert Fullerton of Dudwick; but dying in 1737 without issue, the male line of Irvine of Murthill became extinct. The succession then opened to the descendants of John Irvine of Artamford, fifth son of Alexander Irwyn of Drum, who succeeded his grandfather in 1553, and the Lady Elizabeth Keith, as above narrated. (See No. IX.)

XVII. Alexander Irvine of Crimond and Drum.

He was great grandson of Alexander Irwyn by the Lady Elizabeth Keith, and in 1744 he became heir of line to the entailer by the death of Irvine of Saphock without male issue. He married, in 1698, Isabel, daughter of James Thomson of Faichfield, by whom he had issue:—

- I. James, who predeceased his father, unmarried.
- II. **Alexander**, eventually heir.
 1. Margaret, married to James Rose of Clava.
 2. Isobel.
 3. Janet.
 4. Anne.
 5. Elizabeth.
 6. Mary.

Alexander Irvine of Crimond and Drum died in 1744, and was succeeded by his only surviving son,

XVIII. Alexander Irvine of Drum and Crimond.

Alexander Irvine, son of Alexander Irvine of Crimond and Drum, was served heir to John Irvine of Drum, heir of tailzie and provision general, June 4, 1749; and in 1751, he is served heir to his father, Alexander Irvine of Artamford.¹ He married in 1751, Mary, second daughter of James Ogilvie of Auchiries, by whom he had issue, three sons and three daughters:—

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. Charles, a Major-General in the army. He married Diana, daughter of Sir Alexander Gordon, Bart. of Lesmoir and Drumblade, and had three sons, who all died s. p., and five daughters, of whom the second daughter, Mary, married Rev. Charles Wimberley. (See Barony of Drumblade.) General Irvine died in 1819.
- III. James, married a Roman lady, the widow of Mr. Mauley, the painter.
 1. Margaret.
 2. Isabella, married to Rev. Alexander Allan, and had issue, but all died s. p.
 3. Rebecca, married to George Ogilvie of Auchiries, and had issue:—
 - I. Alexander, Lieutenant-Colonel 46th Regiment, married Jane, daughter of J. A. Ogilvie, South Carolina, died s. p. in 1832.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1749-1751.

- II. John, M.D., married Jane, daughter of John Forbes of Boyndlic. She succeeded to that estate on the death of her brother, Alexander Forbes. And on her death she was succeeded by her eldest son, George Ogilvie Forbes, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine, University of Aberdeen, who, on his death in 1885, was succeeded by his eldest son, John Charles Matthias Ogilvie Forbes; married, and has issue.
- III. George, married Sarah, daughter of ——— Sinclair; had issue, two sons and a daughter. He died a Major in the Hon. E.I.C.S.
- IV. William, Captain in the Hon. E.I.C.S.; died unmarried.
 1. Mary.

Alexander Irvine of Drum joined Prince Charles Edward in his attempt to regain the crown of his fathers in 1745; was fortunate enough to escape from the rout of Culloden, and from forfeiture, by the grand jury twice throwing out the bills for treason sent to them. He died February 9, 1761, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIX. Alexander Irvine of Drum.

He was served heir to his father, Alexander Irvine of Drum, in the lands of Drum, heir special in the Mains and Manor place of Crimond, Kirktown of Crimond, Hillhead of Bilbo, August 26, 1761. In 1766, he was served heir to his grandfather, Alexander Irvine of Artamford, Crimond, and Drum, as heir of tailzie and provision general.¹

He married, in 1775, Jean, only daughter of Hugh Forbes of Schivas; and had issue, four sons and a daughter:—

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. Charles, resided in London.
- III. Hugh, died in 1829. This gentleman was a famous landscape painter.
- IV. James, Captain in the Hon. E.I.C.S.; married, in 1815, Frances Sophia, daughter of the late John Harrington, and had issue, a son and daughter.
 1. Christian.

Alexander Irvine of Drum died in 1844, having been proprietor of Drum for the long period of eighty-three years. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XX. Alexander Irvine of Drum and Schivas.

He was born 1777; was a member of the Scotch bar, and in 1810, he was served heir to his cousin, Francis Forbes of Schivas, who died March, 1807, heir of tailzie and provision general in the barony of Schivas.²

Alexander Irvine married, in 1816, Margaret, daughter of James Hamilton, and had issue, three sons and two daughters:—

- I. **Alexander Forbes**, his successor.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1761-1766.

² Decen. Rets. 1810.

- II. James.
- III. Charles.
 1. Beatrice.
 2. Jane.

Alexander Forbes Irvine died in 1861, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XXI. Alexander Forbes Irvine of Drum.

He was an advocate of the Scotch bar ; a Deputy-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire ; Convener of the county of Aberdeen ; and Sheriff of Argyll ; LL.D. of the University of Edinburgh.

He married, 1848, Anna Margareta, daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Forbes Leslie of Rothienorman, and had issue :—

- I. Alexander Forbes, died young.
- II. **Francis Hugh**, his successor.

Mr. Forbes Irvine of Drum died in 1892, and was succeeded by his surviving son,

XXII. Francis Hugh Forbes Irvine of Drum.

He is a barrister of the Inner Temple, London. He married, 1882, Mary, only child of Major John Ramsay of Barra and Straloch, and has issue :—

- I. Alexander.
- II. Quentin Hugh Innes.

ARMS OF IRVINE OF DRUM.

Argent, three bunches of holly leaves ; three in each one, two and one, vert, banded, gules. Crest, a bunch of holly leaves. Supporters—Two savages with clubs in their hands, and wreathed about the head and loins with holly. Motto—"Sub sole sub umbra."

The Brecbennach mentioned in the above deduction, No. VI., was given by King William to the Abbey of Arbroath, and the custody of the consecrated banner of Saint Columba was an ancient and valuable part of the Abbey privileges. The lands of Forglen had of old been granted for its maintenance, and under it no doubt the vassals of the Abbey marched to war. The church of Forglen was dedicated to St. Adamnan, the follower and historian of St. Columba ; but at what time the Saint's banner was associated with that territory cannot now be determined. The custody of the Brecbennach in the beginning of the fourteenth century was held of the Abbot by the knightly family of Monimusk of that ilk, from whom it passed by descent to the Urys and the Frasers, becoming vested afterwards in the Irvines of Drum.¹ The relic itself is said to be still in Monymusk House.

¹ Cosmo Innes *His. Sketches*, p. 152.

KINMUCK AND ITS CHURCHYARD.

KENDAL, AND THE ANTIQUITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

KINMUCK lies to the south-east of the parish church of Keith-hall, and, according to tradition, a battle was fought there between the Scots and Danes. It is further averred that in consequence of a wild boar having been captured upon the lands, the name of Kinmuck was conferred on the district. Kinmuck was acquired by Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, who, in 1629, mortified the rents of the lands for the support of bursars at the University of Aberdeen, the patronage being vested in his successors in Drum.¹

The hamlet of Kinmuck is nearly half-way between the kirks of Keith-hall and Fintray, and has long been a chief seat of the Quakers or Friends, of whose history in connection with the locality interesting notices will be found in the "Diary of Provost Jaffray of Aberdeen," and in "Jaffray's Apology for the Quakers." The meeting-house is a neat place of worship, and on the other side of the road from the meeting-house is a small but well-kept churchyard, with a few tombstones, on some of which are the following inscriptions :—²

1. "James Glenny, died 7 month 31st, 1804, aged 27 years. Elizabeth Glenny, died 8 month 4th, 1854, aged 76 years. Elizabeth Glenny, died 12 month 9th, 1823, aged 19 years."

2. "John Glenny, died 5 month 30th, 1844, aged 44 years ; and Eliza Glenny, died 12 month 26th, 1845, aged 10 years."

3. "Katharine Glenny, died 10 month 16th, 1863, aged 65 years."³

In a large barrow or tumulus on Kinmuck there was found an urn, which contained calcined bones, and at a subsequent period other two urns were found, in a reversed position to each other, and were taken out in fragments. The bones were put into a box and buried in the same spot. Near to the cairn in which the bones were found is a large standing stone, about seven feet high and two and a half feet square at the base, probably the remains of a circle.⁴

On Kinmuck there are the remains of a cairn, also on Balbithan there are the remains of Cairnmore or the big cairn ; while on the hill of Selbie there is a large cairn, from which a fine view can be got of a great part of the country, and of nearly the whole line of seashore from Aberdeen to Buchanness.

¹ Jervise' Inscrip. Vol. I. pp. 303-4.

² New Stat. Acct. p. 744.

The Law is situated near the mansion-house of Balbithan, where the barons of old sat to administer justice, such as it was. There were once in the parish several druidical circles, but the stones have been made use of for building purposes.

Part of an encampment remained until a few years ago on the moor of Kinnuck, where it is said a battle took place between the Danes and the Scotch. The place of combat bears the name of Blair Hussey, or the field of blood.

KENDALE.

The old mansion-house of Kendale (formerly named Ardiharral), surrounded by a few trees, conveys an idea of its former importance, though it has long been occupied as a farm-house. It was here in 1613 that Bishop Burnet was born, whose history of his own times, and the prominent part he took in contemporary events, have made so famous. The Bishop's father, who was one of the Senators of the College of Justice, under the title of Lord Crimond, was proprietor of Kendal and Crimond, in its neighbourhood, and was fourth son of Burnett of Leys. His mother was sister of Sir Archibald Johnston, the celebrated Lord Warristoun, who was executed at Edinburgh in 1663.¹

¹ Jervise' Inscrip. I. p. 303 ; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 570.

BALBITHAN.

CHALMER, HAY, GORDON, FORBES-GORDON.

BALBITHAN, now the property of the Earl of Kintore, is situated at the bottom of a hollow, where it is invisible even at a short distance, and is about a mile east from the old church of Kinkell. An earlier house stood at old Balbithan, on a rising ground above the den, opposite the burgh of Kintore, and its proximity may have given rise to quarrels between the burgher and baronial neighbours, so as to induce the selection of another site for the new house in the singularly secluded position it now occupies. The house was built by one of the Chalmers¹ of Balbithan, and improved by a late proprietor—one of the Forbeses of Skellater.

Balbithan at an early period formed a portion of the extensive estates of the Abbey of Lindores. In 1333 there is an inquest regarding the second tithes of all the annual returns of the escheats of the Scottish King, and from Balbithan, belonging to the Abbey of Lindores, there is a return of 26/8. The Abbey at an early period disposed or feued it, retaining the superiority. Thus in 1600, when the Abbey lands were formed into a temporal lordship, Balbithan, with Wranghame and others, are enumerated among the possessions of the Abbey. Before the above date it belonged to the family of Chalmer, the Abbot of Lindores being superior.

The Chalmers' family, in whose possession it remained for nearly two hundred years, was originally of Kintore, afterwards of Balnacraig.

I. John Chalmer of Balbithan,

in 1490, married Christian Leslie; a daughter of this couple probably became the fifth wife of the baron (Leslie) of Wardes, by whom she had a son, Robert, who fell at Pinkie.¹ The next to be found is,

II. David Chalmer of Balbithan.

In 1551 there is an agreement by David Chalmers of Balbithan and John Chalmer in Kintore, to affirm a decree arbitral, given between them by Sir Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont, knight, Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, and William, Earl Marischal, and, in 1565, there is a decret anent the miltures of the mill of Fintray, by William Wod in the mill, against David Chalmer of Balbithan, anent the claim of the knaveschip of Hedderwick and Balbithan.²

¹ Earldom of the Garioch, p. 95.

² Deeds in H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinburgh, and Mr. P. H. Chalmer's Notes.

David Chalmer of Balbithan died, September, 1582, leaving issue, I. **John**, his heir. II. William. III. James. IV. Charles. V. Henry,

His will is interesting, as giving a record of prices obtaining at the time. His inventory contained, 24 oxen and cash £8 Scots; 12 ky, four thereof with their kar at their feet, 8 merks each; 3 stirks, one year old, 30/ each; 8 queys, two years old, £8. 3 hors, £8 each; 3 mairs with their foals at their feet, £6 6s. 8d. each; 6 scores auld sheep, 20/ each; 50 lambs, 10/ each. 18 scores bollis aittis, and 26 score in the barns and barnyards, each boll with the fodder, 26/8; 60 bollis beir, 5 score 8 bollis in the barnyard, 40/ each with fodder; 12 bollis quheit, 19 bollis 2 pecks in barnyards, £3 with fodder. His executors were William, James, and Henry Chalmer his sons.¹ He was succeeded by his son,

III. John Chalmer of Balbithan.

In 1584, he killed Alexander Keith, the laird of Auquhorsk, and in 1578, there are letters of horning against John Chalmer of Balbithan, James Chalmer and others to the number of twelve, for the slaughter of the said Alexander Keith.² The next to be found, probably a son, is

IV. George Chalmer of Balbithan.

Before 1600, according to the author of the "Earldom of the Garioch," he married a daughter of William Leslie of Wardes, and his name is included, in 1603, in a remission by James VI. to the Marquis of Huntly for the part they took at Auldquhynachan. In 1633, Alexander Irvine in Kinkell declarit that he had restand owing to him by George Chalmer of Balbithan, 250 merks.³

In 1666, the Chalmer family still hold possession of Balbithan, and in the following year there is a sasine to Mr. William Chalmer of the New Place of Balbithan. He had at least three sons, Patrick, James, and George Chalmer; the last two, James and George, were infest in the New Place of Balbithan.⁴

In 1673, there is a sasine to Mr. Patrick Chalmer of Balbithan and other bondholders. In 1674, there is a sasine to Mr. Patrick Chalmer, son to the deceased Mr. William Chalmer, minister of Skene, and James and John, his brothers, in the lands of Balbithan.⁵ In 1696, in the "Poll Book," Balbithan is mentioned as belonging to James Balfour, merchant. In another entry, James Chalmer, late of Balbithan, has a labouring valued at £50. The following is the last that owned any portion of Balbithan. The "Aberdeen Journal" of the period records—"Died at Cairnwhelp, on 31 August, 1758, James Chalmer of Balbithan, one of H.M. Justices of the Peace for the county of Banff, and tutor to the late Duke of Gordon during his minority; a gentleman of strict honour and integrity." The next to be found is

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 425.

² Deed in H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinburgh, and Notes by late P. H. Chalmer of Avochie.

³ Earldom of the Garioch. S. C. Club. Mis. III. p. 51.

⁴ Sasines H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinburgh, and Notes by P. H. Chalmer of Avochie.

⁵ Sasines H.M. Reg. Ho. Edinb.

William Hay of Balbithan.

who, in 1699, paid cess for the town of Inverurie, and in 1707, Barbara Menzies appears as his relict and executrix. After this date it comes into a branch of the family of Gordon.¹ Sir John Gordon, second laird of Park, had a third son, David Gordon, laird of Achnoyane. He married Janet Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Terpersie, by whom he had a son, who, about 1730, became

James Gordon of Balbithan.

He was the author of a MS. history of the Gordons of date about 1730, called the "Balbithan MS." He had a sister, Mary Gordon. He married first, Elizabeth Burnett, sister of Sir Alexander Burnett of Craigmile, by whom he had issue several children. He married secondly, ——— Innes, daughter of Innes of Balvenie; by her he had a son, Benjamin, by whom he was succeeded.

II. Benjamin Gordon of Balbithan,

who became a general in the army, and entailed the property of Balbithan on a series of heirs. He died in 1803, and was succeeded by his nephew,

III. William Forbes-Gordon of Skellater and Balbithan.

He assumed the name of Gordon, and during his time considerable improvements and additions were made to the house of Balbithan. He married, and had issue a son, Benjamin, who succeeded on his father's death in 1815.

IV. Benjamin Forbes-Gordon of Balbithan.

Regarding him there are the following retours:—"Benjamin Gordon, once Forbes, was served heir to his father, William Forbes of Balbithan; heir general, 21 October, 1815."² Again "Benjamin Gordon, Major-General of Balbithan, to his grand-uncle, General Benjamin Gordon of Balbithan; heir general, 7 July, 1821." Also the following—"Benjamin Gordon, now named Benjamin Forbes, to his grand-uncle, General Benjamin Gordon of Balbithan, who died, November, 1803, heir of line special in Balbithan, with the manor place, &c., in Aberdeenshire, 19 October, 1822." He was succeeded by

V. Benjamin Abernethy Gordon of Balbithan.

Upon a tablet in the Balbithan aisle in the church of Kinkell, is the following inscription:—"Sacred to the memory of Benjamin Abernethy Gordon, Esq., the last heir of entail of Balbithan, born, May, 1782, died at Shand Villa, Ryde, Isle of Wight, 4 February, 1864." Mr. Gordon married Miss Macgregor, and had issue, a daughter.

After Mr. Gordon's death the property was sold, and now belongs to the Earl of Kintore.

¹ Earldom of the Garioch, p. 416.

² Decen. Rets. 1816, 1821, 1822.

NOTES ON THE FORBESES OF SKELLATER, &c.

George Forbes of Skellater married Isobel, daughter of William Forbes of Newe, a cadet of the family of Pitsligo, the eldest brother of Miss Isobel Forbes being William Forbes, the sixth laird of Newe. He married first, 12 September, 1679, Christian, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Boyndlie, by whom he had one daughter, who married Nathaniel Forbes of Ardgeith. He married secondly, Isobel, daughter of Thomas Stewart of Drumin, by whom he had John Forbes, his heir; II. William, who died in the twentieth year of his age, and III. Alexander, born 22 December, 1687; also two daughters—I. Isobel, who married John Shaw in Glencarne; 2. Ann, who married Alexander Michie in Buchaam. William Forbes of Newe died 22 July, 1699.

Alexander Forbes in New Balgonen, Keig, younger son of William Forbes, and brother of John Forbes, seventh laird of Newe, married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Gellan, in Bithnie-Forbes, by whom he had—I. Francis, a writer in Aberdeen, who married, and had issue one daughter, Mary, who married Robert Luckie, manufacturer in Aberdeen, and died s. p.; II. John Forbes of Forbesfield, near Aberdeen; III. Samuel; IV. Robert, who went to Tobago, and one daughter, Margaret, married to John Johnston.

Alexander Forbes died in 1740, aged 53, and was buried in the old churchyard of Forbes.

John Forbes of Forbesfield married, 1763, Ann, daughter of Alexander Ferguson, baillie in Inverurie, and of the family of Badifurrow, afterwards of Pitfour. He died in 1785, having had issue three sons, who attained manhood, namely:—

- I. John Forbes, born May 20, 1774, a lieutenant in Bengal Presidency, who died in 1804, unmarried.
- II. James, born July 4, 1777, a merchant in Aberdeen, of whom afterwards.
- III. Robert, born April 27, 1780, a lieutenant, Madras Presidency, who died 1804, unmarried.

He had also one daughter, Mary, married to John Machattie, merchant, Aberdeen.

James Forbes, above-mentioned son of John Forbes of Forbesfield, married Elizabeth Fraser, and had issue four sons and four daughters, who grew up, namely:—

- I. James Forbes, of whom afterwards.
- II. Robert Forbes, born 1803, married, and had issue.
- III. John Forbes, a merchant in Aberdeen, born 1807, died unmarried, 1834.
- IV. Alexander, merchant in Aberdeen, now of Morkeu, Cults, born April 19, 1814.
 1. Elizabeth, married Alexander Taylor, merchant, Aberdeen. She died in 1877.
 2. Jane le Grand, born 1805, died unmarried, 1879.

3. Anne, born 1809, married 1838, without issue, to Rev. Alexander Gardiner; after his death she married Rev. Alexander Sim—both Church of Scotland ministers in Canada.
4. Sophia, born 1812, died unmarried, 1876.

James Forbes died in 1834, and was buried in the family vault in St. Nicholas churchyard.

James Forbes, son of the above-mentioned James Forbes and Christian Fraser, was born 1800, a merchant in Aberdeen, and was for many years a magistrate in the city, and a Justice of the Peace for the county of Aberdeen; married, 15 April, 1828, Elsy Gordon (born 1805, and died 1856), daughter of James Gordon of Bonnymuir, near Aberdeen, by whom he had three sons:—

- I. James, born in 1830, merchant, Aberdeen.
 - II. Alexander, born 1835; also merchant, Aberdeen.
 - III. John, born 1838; Q.C. and a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn. He married, 1866, Maria Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Thomas, surgeon in Sheffield, with issue one daughter, Laura, born 1867.
1. Agnes, born 1831, married 1855, to Archibald Simpson, M.D., London; issue—a large family.
 2. Elsy, born 1833.

James Forbes died December 29, 1870.

THE MINISTERS, &c., OF KINKELL AND MONKEGGIE,
NOW KEITH-HALL.

And what hast thou seen in the old churchyard

To move thy spirit so,
Sure something sad, by that clouded brow,
Doth make thine anger glow ?

Sad, most sad !

Yes, it maketh me mad

So sore a sight to see :

An old, old church, the pride of the place,

The pride of the north countree—

So old it fadeth from memory.

And now it perisheth beggarly,

Sinking, sinking, day by day,

Inch by inch to hopeless decay :

Left to the care of the rotting rain,

The ruffian blast from the gusty plain,

And the rude, rude hands of the plundering swain,

Till crash it sink to a heap of stones

Amid mourning nature's moans.

O ! a mischievous malison cleave to their bones !

—*Sir William Duguid Geddes (applied to another church).*

THE author of the "View of the Diocese" in 1730 thus writes of the church of Kinkell:—"This church is now so lamentably polluted and profaned that one is ashamed to write of it." The following is an account of it in 1862, as it appeared to the Rev. F. G. Lee, D.C.L., some time incumbent of St. John's church, and the first incumbent of St. Mary's church, Aberdeen:—"This church consisted simply of a nave and chancel of third pointed work, with a south porch, the foundations of which are still to be traced. Now the north wall only remains. Towards the west end a mean building like an out-house has been erected, which serves as a burial place for the Gordons of Balbithan. The east wall up to the window still remains, and there are fragments lying about of the tracery and mullions of the east window. In the north wall adjoining the ancient sanctuary is a most remarkable tabernacle, almost unique of its kind. It was not simply an Easter sepulchre, but a permanent receptacle for the Blessed Sacrament. It consists of a sort of ambrye, or deep rectangular recess in the wall, on either side of which, as well as above and below, are a series of sculptured ornaments. The bas-relief above is altogether gone, and only a flat stone remains. No traces of it or its subject exist; but the two crocketed finials on either side, very Italian-Gothic in their character, of a close-grained freestone, are almost perfect. Below are the remains of what was

the sculptured representation of an ostensorium or monstrance for the Holy Sacrament, with adoring angels on either side; and underneath is some boldly sculptured foliage, with a shield in its centre, charged with a lion rampant crowned. A label on either side of the recess contains the following legend—"HIC EST SUTUM CORPUS DE VIRGINE NATUM"—"Hic est servatum corpus de virgine natum." The letters "A. G." occur twice, once disjoined, and again united by a knot into a monogram. So, too, the device of a rose. The date 1528 also remains, as well as the inscription "memorare" below.

Secondly, there is a curiously incised slab, two-thirds of which only remain, representing a knight in armour. The figure is very similar to that of Sir Thomas Massingbred, represented in "Boutell's Monumental Brasses." Upon the surcoat and on a shield above are represented the following arms—"A cheveron between two water budgets in chief, and a hunter's horn in base." No colours are indicated in the sculpture. That portion of the inscription which remains runs as follows—"Hic jacet nobilis Armiger Gilbertus de Grei—Anno Domini MCCCXI." [Here lies a noble Esquire, Gilbert de Grei—A.D. MCCCXI.] On the reverse side is this inscription—"Hic jacet honore illustris, et sancta morum pietate ornat Joannes Forbes de Ardmurdo ej cõgnois hæres 4, qui anno ætatis suæ, 66, 8 Julii, A.D. 1592 obiit." [Here lies, bright with honour, and adorned with saintly piety of character, John Forbes of Ardmurdo, fourth successor of his name (?), who died 8 July, 1592, in the 66th year of his age.]¹ With regard to the inscription upon the slab above mentioned, Mr. Jervise, in his notice upon Kinkell, believes the arms inscribed to be those of the Greenlaw family, who flourished in Berwickshire. "Bishop Greenlaw of Aberdeen was of this family, and the person commemorated was one of those noble preservers of the liberties of Scotland who fell at Harlaw."²

Kinkell had six chapels depending upon it. (See Drumblade.)

In 1420, Bishop Henry Lychton erected the church of Kinkell (*alias* dicta prebeniana), belonging, with its six chapels, to the Knights of Jerusalem, into one of the prebends of the Cathedral Church of St. Machar.³ The church lands of Kinkell were held in chief of James, Archbishop of St. Andrews, and his successors, for yearly payment, £7 7s. 3d., usual Scots money.⁴

A few of the ancient vicars and prebendaries have been recorded.

In 1298, July 4, Edward I. gave a letter of presentation to the then vacant church of Kinkell to John Bourche, of London.⁵ After this there is a long interval of no record.

Henry Lychton, in 1440, was parson of Kinkell. He witnesses a charter of Robert, Earl of Mar, along with Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum.⁶ He became afterwards Bishop of Aberdeen, and built the west front of the Cathedral of Oldmachar, and its two fine

¹ Jervise' Inscrp. I, p. 305.

² *Id.*

³ Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 253.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 428.

⁵ Jervise' Inscrp. I. p. 307.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 453.

towers. He had two brothers in the church, Alexander, Prior of Torphichen in 1422, and Duncan, Chancellor of Aberdeen, from 1436 to 1464.

William Auchinleck was prebend in 1473, and takes part in an action of that date against the wrangeis with-holding of certain sommes of money for the teinds of the prebendary of Kinkell.¹

Adam Gordon was of the Hallhead family. In 1475, he witnesses a charter of the foundation of the chappelanry de Morphy, and is also mentioned in a deed of date 1481, and in 1504 there is a charter of Adam Gordon, rector of Kinkell. He died in 1508, and his anniversary was held 25 Kal. Mar. One of the monuments, with initials "A. G.," in the old church may be to his memory.²

William Mowat in 1521 was prebendary of Kinkell.³

Alexander Galloway, a very distinguished man, is next found. In 1542, he grants Cryne's lands in Futtie to the chaplains of the Cathedral, and to this deed Alexander Anderson, sub-principal of King's College, is a witness.⁴ Mr. Galloway was the son of William Galloway and Marjorie Mortimer, whose anniversary was in February. He was for some time chaplain at Collichill, Bourtie, which chaplaincy he endowed. He died in 1552.

Mr. James Ogilvy, a very learned man, was in 1533 rector of Kinkell. He was of the Boyne family; was dead before 1543.⁵

Henry Lumsden in 1545 was rector of Kinkell, as he witnessed in that year a feu charter made by the Bishop of Moray to George Ogilvy of Milltown.⁶ He is also mentioned in the Register of the Privy Seal, in a letter of date 1613, as having let to Alexander Skene of that ilk the teind scheaves of the lands of Wester Skene.⁷ Besides these, Alexander Anderson, sub-principal of King's College, was for some time vicar of Kinkell.

Thomas Lumsden, prebend of Kinkell, is a witness to a feu charter of William Blenschell, 1575. He survived the Reformation.

After the Reformation Kinkell was supplied in 1564 by James Currie, reader, 1574-1579.⁸

Andrew Spens was reader in 1580.

William Johaston in 1586 had charge of Kinkell and Kintore.

John Walcar in 1599 had charge. He also served two years at Kemnay, but received nothing, because it is ane of the kirks of the benefice of Kinkell. He was latterly presented to the parsonage and vicarage comprehending the kirks of Kinkell, Skene, Drumblait, Kemnay, Dyce, Kintore, and Kinellar.

John Cheyne was admitted prior to 1st of November, 1633, and remained till 1643.

1 Acta Dominorum Auditorum, p. 24.
Ant. A. and B. I. p. 573.

2 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 331; Reg. Ep. Aber. II. 8.

3 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 387.

4 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 410.

5 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 424.

6 Reg. Ep. Morav. p. 394; Ant. A. and B. II. p. 250.

7 Skene's Family of Skene, N.S.C. p. 11.

8 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 255; Id. I. p. 228.

"William Gray in Armurdo declarit that he had restand owing to him, two hundred merks," by Mr. John Cheyne, parson of Kinkell.

William Leith was made a prisoner with other ministers and outstanders against the Covenant in June, 1640, when he was probably assistant to his predecessor. He was appointed by the Presbytery to Kinkell, in 1647, with full charge, and was deposed 7 December, 1649.

John Gellie was appointed in 1650, and remained till 1661.

James Gordon was translated from Drumblade in 1662. He died prior to 16 May, 1669, when his son, Mr. Adam Gordon, afterwards minister of Glasgow, was admitted bursar to the Presbytery of Alford.

John Gellie, formerly mentioned, was reappointed before 16 February, 1676, and died 1683. He married Maria Jaffray, and is buried in the churchyard of Kinkell.

Thomas Weymss graduated at St. Andrew's University, 25 July, 1676; was admitted, probably as helper, before 30 April, 1683; was deprived, 1695, for non-jurancy. He married, 30 April, 1683, Janet Weymss, and had two sons and three daughters—David, Thomas, Margaret, Janet, and Elizabeth.²

George Skene was ordained 22 April, 1697. He married Maria Gordon, who died 1 August, 1712, aged 32, and had a son, Dr. Francis Skene, Professor of Philosophy in the University and King's College, Aberdeen, who was served heir to him 27 June, 1724.³

James Strachan was son of James Strachan, apothecary, Aberdeen; was ordained 1725, and died 29 November, 1761, in the 37th year of his ministry.⁴

The parish of Kinkell was united, part to Kintore and part to Monkeggie, and they were appointed in all time coming to be called the united parishes of Keith hall and Kinkell.

MONKEGGIE,

according to the author of the "View of the Diocese," was a chapel built first by the Johnstons of Caskieben. It may have been restored by them; but the chapel of Monkeggie is mentioned at a very early date. In 1172-1199, between these years, William the Lion confirmed to his brother, David, Earl of Huntingdon, the acquittance made to him by Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen (in exchange for two carucates of land in Kelalendum), of all the teinds which the Bishops were wont to have of the churches of Durnach, Monkeggie, &c.⁵ In 1199 there is a bull of Pope Innocent III. confirming the privileges of the Abbey of Lindores. Among those confirmed as belonging to the Abbey are Ecclesiade Inverurin cum capella de Munkegin.⁶ It was confirmed again in 1297 by Pope Nicholas IV.⁷ In 1481 a mortgage of an annual rent

1 S. C. Mis. III. pp. 73-92.

2 Scott's Fasti, p. 586.

3 Decen. Rets. 1742.

4 Dr. Scott's Fasti, p. 586.

5 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 9.

6 Ant. A. and B. p. 246.

7 Id.

from the lands of Hilton in the barony of Dunnottar in the Mearns is redeemable at the sacred altar in the parochie kirke de Montkege.¹ Again, in a charter of Patrick Leslie, Commendator of Lindores, in 1600, the church of Monkeggie is mentioned as a pendicle only of the parish of Inverurie.²

In 1570, Monkeggie was supplied by Andrew Spens, reader, and was afterwards for a time united to Inverurie. It was revived, and on the annexation to Kinkell in 1754, the parish was appointed in all times coming to be called the united parishes of Keith-hall and Kinkell.

Samuel Walker was appointed minister of Monkeggie prior to 27 January, 1635. He was made prisoner, notwithstanding his signing the Covenant, in June, 1640, and was deposed in 1649, for malignancy. "They gat no liberty to ryd upon horse, but were compelled to go on foot with their soldiours, who all togiddir returned bak to Aberdeen upon Wednesday, 1 July."³

William Keith was translated in 1650 from Kinellar, and appointed to Udney in 1653.

William Maitland was excommunicated at Aberdeen while a preacher prior to 1647, but the sentence was taken off, and he was admitted to Monkeggie, 27 July, 1654. In 1663 Parliament ordered, as he had been a suffering minister, £100 to be paid to Rachel Kinnear, his widow and children, out of the first and readiest of the vacant stipends.⁴

Samuel Walker, above mentioned, was restored, and had a warrant from Parliament, 22 May, 1661, for £151 Scots as a suffering minister. He remained till about 1673.

George Keith was son of Mr. John Keith, minister of Garvock, became schoolmaster of Methlic; was appointed to Monkeggie, and was translated to Old Deer in 1683.

William Keith, grand-nephew of the preceding, was ordained in 1683, and died before 5 May, 1709, in the twenty-sixth year of his ministry. He married, and had a son and four daughters—John, Margaret (married to Patrick Anderson, in Moss-side of Kingswells), Elizabeth, Janet, and Jane.

Francis Dauncey was appointed 1710, and translated to Kemnay in 1719.

John Lumsden, son of Alexander Lumsden of Auchinlett, was schoolmaster of Chapel of Garioch. He was ordained 12 July, 1721, and was translated to Banchory-Devenick, 10 January, 1728.

James Honeyman, son of Andrew Honeyman, minister of Kineff, was ordained 26 September, 1728, and was translated to Kineff, 1 August, 1733.

James Darling, son of Mr. Robert Darling, minister of Ewes, was ordained 1734, and translated to Kintore, 25 January, 1738.

James Cock was appointed in 1738. (In his time the two parishes were conjoined under the names of Keith-hall and Kinkell.) He got a new church built in 1771. He died 1776, in the 78th year of his age, and the 38th of his ministry, having married

1 Ant. A. & B. I. p. 560.

2 Id. p.

3 Spalding's Hist. of the Troubles, I. p. 205.

4 Scott's Fasti, pp. 584-5.

Barbara Reid, who died April, 1800, and had two sons in the ministry, Alexander of Cruden, and William of Rathen.

George Skene Keith, M.A., D.D., was the representative of the family of Auquborsk. He graduated at Marischal College; was presented by the Commissioners for George, Earl Marischal, in May 9, 1776. The Earl having presented Mr. Thomas Tait, minister of the second charge of Oldmachar the following day, a question arose who should be preferred. The Court of Session unanimously decided in favour of Mr. Keith, 22 January, 1788, on the ground that a patron may delegate his powers, a judgment that was affirmed in the House of Lords in April following. He was author of a "General View of the Agriculture of Aberdeenshire." He was translated to Tulialan in 1822.

John Keith, M.A., son of the above, was appointed in 1821. He graduated at Marischal College in 1814. He died 18 February, 1867, in his 71st year, and the 46th of his ministry. Few ministers lived in the hearts and affections of their people so uninterruptedly, and so universally lamented. He went about among them continually doing good. In every-day life he was a preacher of righteousness. He married, 7 November, 1837, Agnes Mudie, and had a son, Thomas, and others. He published the statistical account of the parish.¹

James Donald, M.A., son of Rev. Mr. Donald, minister of Peterhead, was appointed 1867.

THE CHURCHYARDS OF KINKELL AND MONKEGGIE.

THE CHURCHYARD OF KINKELL.

Tell me not in mournful numbers
 Life is but an empty dream,
 For the soul is dead that slumbers,
 And things are not what they seem.
 Life is real, Life is earnest,
 And the grave is not its goal;
 Dust thou art to dust returnest
 Was not spoken of the soul.
 Art is long, and time is fleeting,
 And our hearts tho' stout and brave,
 Still like muffled drums are beating
 Funeral marches to the grave.

—*Longfellow.*

In this churchyard it is believed many of the heroes of Harlaw were buried, though all save one, Gilbertus de Greenlaw, already mentioned as a relative of the Bishop of Aberdeen, rest in nameless graves.

¹ Scott's Fasti, VI. Art. Keith-hall.

At the east end of the church there is the following inscription:—"Jacet hic sepulta Domina Maria Gordon Magistri Georgii Skene pastoris uxor, quæ obiit August, 1772, ætatis 32. [Here lies buried Mrs. Mary Gordon, wife of Mr. George Skene, pastor, who died, August, 1772, aged 32.]

"Hic jacent Magistri Johannis Gellie de Kinkell, pastoris corpora qui obiit, August 4, 1683; et Margareta Jaffray ejus uxor quæ obiit, February 4, 1705." [Here lies the body of Mr. John Gellie, pastor of Kinkell, who died, August 4, 1683; and that of Margaret Jaffray his spouse, who died February 4, 1705.]

Within an enclosure in the old church, on a marble slab, is inscribed:—"Erected by Elizabeth Gourlay in memory of her father, Robert Williamson of Armurdo, and his mother, Janet Dixon; also her brother, John Williamson, who died 12 August, 1849, aged 48; and her husband, Robert Gourlay, Kintore, who died 8 February, 1855, aged 66; also the above-named Elizabeth Gourlay, who died 28 December, 1874, aged 76."

On a flat slab, south of the ruins of the church, there is the inscription:—"Here lies, under the hope of a blessed resurrection, A. R. King, sometime in Kinkell, who departed this life 22 February, 1658; and Margaret Sim, his spouse, who departed 28 July, 16—."

Within a granite enclosure there is a stone "to the memory of Thomas Thomson, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., Inverurie; born March, 1793; died July 4, 1870. 'Forasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these, ye have done it unto Me.' Also of Christian Jamieson, his spouse, died 20 September, 1871, aged 70. Their sons—Andrew Jamieson, lieutenant, 25th Regiment, Bombay, died at Bombay, 30th November, 1843, aged 22; Antony F. Keith, died at Australia, 1850, aged 23."

"Robert Leslie of the Mauritius Cavalry Service, died at St. Helier, Jersey, 31 December, 1871, aged 31. George Leslie, colonel, 26th Regiment, Bombay, died 25 December, 1874, aged 38. Also their daughter, Ann Elizabeth, died 29 January, 1876, aged 51."

A granite headstone is "sacred to the memory of Martha Rutherford, relict of Charles Robson, late of Sannieston, in the county of Roxburgh. She died at Armurdo, Aberdeenshire, 9 October, 1846, in the 77th year of her age."

A headstone is "in memory of William Smith, farmer in Armurdo, who died June 17th, 1772, aged 89; also his spouse, Margaret Smith, and his son, John."

"They were called by death, who spareth not,
And lie full low under this stone,
Rotting in darkness and silent dust—
Prepare for death, for die thou must.
Life is uncertain: death is sure;
Sin is the wound: Christ the cure."

Another headstone is erected by James Moir, mail guard, "to the memory of his father, who died at Aberdeen, 1 February, 1829, aged 72."

“ Stop, stranger, stop, and walk along ;
 Stop once more and read my stone ;
 And as you read the end of me,
 Beware ! for death prepared be,
 Death did to me short warning give,
 Be mindful therefore how to live.”

A headstone has the following :—“ In memory of his wife, Jane Martin, who died 1 January, 1863, aged 36; and of his son, James Ebenezer, who died January 28, 1863, aged 3 years.”

“ Here rest a saint's remains set free from pain,
 From death, from sin, and all its mournful train ;
 Lamented deeply by friends left behind,
 But claimed by Him who broken hearts doth bind.
 Here mingle with his mother's precious dust
 To wait the resurrection of the just.
 Her youngest son's remains, who followed soon
 His kind and lovely parent to the tomb.”

Within an enclosure, on a granite stone on the west wall of the churchyard is this inscription :—“ The family burying-ground of Thomas Tait, 1870.” Another is, “ In memory of Jane Leslie, wife of John Tait, Esq., Crichtie, who died, 29 June, 1879, aged 32.”

A granite slab is, “ In memory of Thomas Tait, Inverurie Mills, who died at Crichtie, 4 September, 1870, aged 68.”

A table stone is inscribed, “ Sacred to the memory of John Tait, Esq., late cooper, Savannah la Mar, Jamaica, who died at Aberdeen, 30 July, 1818, in the 60th year of his age ; also of his father, Thomas Tait, in Mill of Thainstone, who died 1872, aged 60 ; and of his mother, Margaret Cruickshank, who died, July, 1818, aged 96 years.”

THE CHURCHYARD OF MONKEGGIE.

A convent, even a hermit's call
 Would break the silence of this dell.
 It is not quiet ; is not ease ;
 But something deeper far than these ;
 The separation that is here is of the grave,
 And of austere, yet happy feelings of the dead.

—Wordsworth.

It is in a singularly retired situation, on a knoll within the Keith-hall grounds. A churchyard is now around the parish church, and near to it is the private burial ground of the Kintore family, recently laid out.

Within an enclosure in the north-west corner lie some of the Kintore family, and within it are two small stones, one bears their arms. The initials “ E. I. K.” and the date 1696, the other is dated 1710.

A plain granite slab is thus inscribed :—“ In memory of Antony Adrian, eighth Earl of Kintore, who was born 20 April, 1794, died at Keith-hall, 11 July, 1844, in the 51st year of his age ; and also of his son, William Adrian (Lord Inverurie), who was born 2 September, 1822, and died December 17, 1843, aged 21 years.”

The above Earl had no family by his first wife, a daughter of R. Renny, Esq., of Borrowfield, near Montrose. By his second wife, a daughter of J. Hawkins, Esq., he had two sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Lord Inverurie, was accidentally killed in England while fox-hunting.

The second son succeeded to the title, and married his own cousin, a daughter of Captain Hawkins, by whom he had issue.

On another stone is inscribed :—“ Erected by Kintore to the memory of his beloved aunt, the Lady Mary Keith, daughter of William, seventh Earl of Kintore, who died at Bath, July 5, 1864, aged 69 years.”

Within an enclosure, on a marble tablet near this wall, are interred the mortal remains of Dr. George Skene Keith, minister of the parish of Keith-hall for forty-four years, and of Tulialan, in Perth, for eight months. He was born at Auquhorsk, on 16 November, 1752 ; died at Tulialan House, 7 March, 1823 ; distinguished and beloved as the clergyman of a parish ; remarkable in a wider sphere for his learning and his science. Of great mental and bodily activity, he preserved in age the same love of knowledge, warmth of feeling and untiring Christian benevolence, which characterised his youth and manhood. Some gentlemen in this county, who had intended to present him with a memorial of their high respect for his character, but were prevented by his death, have erected this monument to his memory.

On a slab there is this inscription :—“ In memory of Rev. John Keith, M.A., minister of Keith-hall and Kinkell ; ordained to Keith-hall 2 May, 1823 ; born 7 May, 1797 ; died 18 February, 1867.” This is a son of Rev. Dr. Skene Keith.

Within an enclosure there is a granite pyramid bearing the inscription :—“ Erected by Rev. Hugh Macintosh, minister of the Free Church, Gartly, to the sacred memory of his loving and beloved wife, Margaret Macintosh, who died at the Manse, full of faith, joy and love, on Saturday, 20 September, 1874, aged 34.”

A table stone is “ in memory of Rev. James Cock, who was minister of the Gospel at Keith-hall. He died 17 February, 1776, in the 78th year of his age, and the 38th of his ministry ; also of Mrs. Barbara Reid, his spouse, who died 27 April, 1800, in the 80th year of his age ; and of their children—James, Barbara, John, Elspet, Mary, and Patrick ; also are interred the remains of their daughter, who died at Rathen, 8 April, 1820.”

On a granite monument, within an enclosure, is this inscription :—“ Quis Separabit.” “ Isabella Christina Mackichan, wife of James Donald, minister of Keith-hall, who died 7 December, 1875, in the 33rd year of her age.”

On a table stone is inscribed :—“ David Crab, died November 27, 1834, aged 75 ; was for forty years in the service of the Earls of Kintore—the last of whom he served,

raised this stone.' 'Here lies departed worth, God's noblest work, an honest man.' Likewise his wife, Jane Stewart, died 13 November, 1858, aged 92. Christian, their daughter, died 6 January, 1879. Their son, David, died 8 February, 1842, aged 48. Their son, Anthony Crab, died 13 December, 1879, aged 85 years."

A stone is "in memory of John H. Bucklitsch, who died 1 January, 1831. He was brought from Saxewimar by Right Hon. Anthony, Earl of Kintore, in whose family he acted as jager for forty-five years."

Another is erected "to the memory of Provost William Mollison of the burgh of Inverurie, who was born 8 September, 1746; died 7 December, 1824, aged 78. A tribute of respect for an upright and honest man. H. M. P., 1826."

Another "in memory of George Reid, sometime one of the baillies of Inverurie, who departed this life 22 June, 1806, aged 81. This stone is erected by his son, Lieutenant Anthony Reid, 81st Regiment. He died 1813, aged 29."

MINISTERS OF BOURTIE, &c.

B O U R T I E.

THE Church of Bourtie belonged to the Priory of St. Andrews, and mention is made of it as early as 1199. In that year there is a charter of William de Lamberton regarding the church de Bowirdin, in which "He gave to God and to the church of St. Andrew the Apostle, and to the canons serving God there and about to serve, the church de Bowirdin, with lands and tithes and common pasture, &c."¹ This charter was confirmed by the Bishop of Aberdeen the same year; also in 1207-1228 by Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen. In 1228-1239 by Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen; also in 1240 by Randolph, Bishop of Aberdeen.²

In the year 1206, the church of Bourdin, with all its pertinents, was confirmed to the prior and brethren of the church of St. Andrews by Pope Innocent III. The church was also confirmed to the same by Pope Innocent IV. in the year 1246; and again in 1248 by Pope Martin V.³ The charter of William de Lamberton, above mentioned, was confirmed by Alexander, King of Scots. In 1268 there is an agreement between the prior and convent of St. Andrews, and Thomas de Ludan, the vicar of Bowirdin, regarding the various payments to be made to each.⁴

After the above date little mention is made regarding the vicars of Bowirdin. In 1505, Alexander Galloway (afterwards rector of Kinkell), being chaplain of Collyhill, gave a charter dated at Aberdeen, November 21, 1505, and confirmed by King James IV. at Edinburgh, and in the confirmation charter he is styled, "Alexander Galloway, our beloved chaplain." Two acres of land were granted for building a manse for the chaplains of Collyhill, who in return were to pray for the souls of Bishop William Elphinstone, Sir Walter Ogilvie of the Boyne, Andrew Elphinstone of Selmys, Duncan Sherar, formerly chaplain, but now parson of Clatt; William Lesly of Balquhain and Elizabeth Ogilvie, his spouse; and for the soul of the said Alexander Galloway.⁵ This is evidently a separate endowment from the church of Bourtie. The names of the following vicars have come down to us.

In 1240, we find Hugo, vicar de Bowirdin.⁶ In 1268, there is Thomas de Ludan, vicar de Bowirdin, mentioned in the above-quoted agreement between him and the

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 564.

² Liber Cartarum Prioratus Sancti Andree pp. 266-67.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 566.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 568.

⁵ Id. p. 563.

⁶ Id. p. 565.

prior of St. Andrews.¹ And Alexander Galloway seems for some time to have served at Bourtie.

The next to be found is a reader under the new order of ecclesiastical affairs after the Reformation.

In 1567, Andrew Drumblee is reader.²

In 1578, James Johnston, who also had Monymusk under his charge.

William Barclay in 1595 was reader. He was translated to Inch the year after.

Gilbert Keith was translated from Skene, 16—, and was admitted prior to November 1, 1633. "Alexander Skene in Dumbreck declarit that he haid restand owing to him be Mr. Gilbert Keith, minister at Bourtie, two hundred merks."³ He remained till 1659.

George Melville graduated at King's College, 1646. He was translated to Newmachar, 1654. While there he contributed £24 Scots to the rebuilding of King's College. He and his predecessor are mentioned as at Bourtie in the Presbytery of the Garioch in 1652.⁴

William Gordon was for some time schoolmaster at Monymusk, and was named by the minister of the parish as his helper, 21 April, 1658; but a heritor protested that the parishioners should be at liberty to call another on the death of the incumbent. He was translated to St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.

Robert Browne, A.M., was translated from Forglen. He was appointed in 1666. Mary, his daughter, married Mr. George Keith, minister of Old Deer. He wrote "Rudimentorum Rhetoricum Libri V." A wooden ladle for collecting the offerings, with the initials "R. B.," belongs to his time.⁵

Alexander Sharp was appointed in 1678; died between 9 February and March, 1709. He married, and had two sons and five daughters—John, William, Mary, Martha, Margaret, Katharine, and Anna.⁶

James Gordon, A.M., was translated from Premnay; elected Synod Clerk, 6 April, 1714; called to St. Fergus, but his translation was refused by the Synod, 3 April, 1717. He was translated to Alford May 1 following.

John Duncan, from the Presbytery of St. Andrews, was ordained 31 July, 1718; died May, 1719, in the first year of his ministry.

Archibald Napier, A.M., graduated at the University of Glasgow, 27 June, 1707; ordained 17 August, 1720, and was translated to Maryculter in 1720.

George Gordon studied at Marischal College; was appointed to Bourtie, 1723; translated to Drumblade in 1743, of which parish he was a native.

Thomas Shepherd was the son of Mr. John Shepherd, minister of Logie-Coldstone, and was ordained 4 July, 1744. He married, 1747, Janet, daughter of John Leith of Blair, who died at Leithfield, July 6, 1810, aged 85. His son, Mr. Robert Shepherd

¹ Ant. A. and B. p. 563.

² Id. p. 230.

³ Spal. Club Misc. III. p. 37.

⁴ Eccles. Rec. Abdn. p. 212.

⁵ Jervise' Ins. II. p. 72.

⁶ Poll Book II. p. 331.

was minister of Daviot, and his daughter, Mary, married John Ramsay of Barra, and had issue. He was author of the statistical account of the parish (Sinclair's).¹

William Smith, A.M., was son of James Smith, Kintore; graduated at Marischal College; was schoolmaster of Inverurie for some time, and was ordained May 4, 1796; was elected conjunct Synod Clerk, October 14, 1806, and got a new church built the same year. He died 28 May, 1825, in his 59th year. He married, 15 August, 1797, Isabella, daughter of Gavin Mitchell, minister of Kinellar. She died 15 October, 1847, aged 75, having had two sons, James and Gavin Smith, LL.D., of Rottingdean.

James Bisset, A.M., D.D., was son of George Bisset, A.M., schoolmaster of Udney, and rector of the Udney Academy, to which office he succeeded in 1812. He was appointed minister of Bourtie in 1826. During the non-intrusion controversy, he distinguished himself by the most unflinching opposition to the unconstitutional measures proposed by a majority in the Church, especially to the claims of those ministers holding "quoad sacra" charges, to a seat and a vote in the Church courts. He had the degree of D.D. from Marischal College, 23 February, 1850, and was elected Moderator of the General Assembly, 22 May, 1862. He married first, 24 December, 1829, a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Lessel, minister of Inverurie; secondly, 8 June, 1840, a daughter of Rev. Mr. Smith of Bower (see Udney Academy). He published various pamphlets; also the new statistical account of the parish, which is one of the ablest and best of the accounts. He died 8 September, 1872, in the 78th year of his

William Leslie Davidson, M.A., LL.D., is the son of Samuel Davidson, M.D., Wartle; studied at the University of Aberdeen, of which he was a distinguished graduate. He received in 1890 the degree of LL.D. from the University of Aberdeen.

THE CHURCHYARD OF BOURTIE.

A day will come in time's long reign,
Such hopes hath heaven revealed;
When graves shall render up again,
Those whom they once concealed.
Then shall creation's Mighty Lord
Bid every slumberer rise,
And angels' tongues this truth record,
The virtuous were the wise.

—Keats.

Two mutilated effigies lie in the churchyard, the one of a man clad in armour, with helmet and shield; the other is that of a woman dressed in a long plain garment. These effigies, according to Mr. Jervise, had doubtless occupied a recess tomb in the aisle of the old kirk of Bourtie, from which they had been thrust out by vandals. Both had probably represented members of some of the more powerful heritors in the

¹ Scott's Fasti, pp. 577-78.

neighbourhood, the chief of whom were the Kings and the Meldrums. Although traces of arms are upon the shield which covers the warrior's breast, these are too faint to admit of the surname being known. Probably a broken lettered slab which lies near at hand had formed part of the tomb. The letters, continues Mr. Jervise, are cut in bold relief, and it may probably refer to the laird of Collichill and his wife. The letters are, however, so mutilated that few entire words remain, but "Ia. King" and the year "1581" are quite distinct. Ia. King was probably a descendant of James King of Bourtie, who had a grant of the lands of Westerhouse in the Garioch, in 1490. Sir James King of Barrach (Barra), Dudwick, and Birness, was a Lieutenant-General in the service of Gustavus Adolphus, and afterwards of Charles I. of England, by the latter of whom he was raised to the peerage with the now extinct title of Lord Eythin.

The surname of King appears first in Scotland about the reign of Alexander II. The name is still to be met with in many parts of the country. In Kinellar the late Colonel William Ross King possessed the property of Tertowie, a very worthy gentleman who died in 1890. His father was a clergyman of the church of England. Lieutenant-Colonel King married a daughter of Mr. Gordon of Pitlurg.¹

Collichill belonged to Margaret, Countess of Douglas, daughter of Donald, third Earl of Mar. In 1696, it belonged to Forbes of Anquhories, and afterwards to Mr. Simpson, merchant in Aberdeen, founder of the Collichill Trust.²

A table shaped stone, within an enclosure at the east end of the church, bears this inscription:—"Here lye the remains of John Leith of Kingoodie, Esq., who died in 1764; and of his spouse, Helen Simpson, who died in 1753; and of John Grant of Rothmaise, Esq., who died in January, 1800, aged 86; and of Anne Leith, his spouse, life-rentrix of Kingoodie, who died in April, 1807, aged 84; and of Lieutenant P. Grant, their son, who died in September, 1810; and also of Miss Jane Grant their daughter, who died in April, 1815, aged 57."

Alexander Leith, second son of John Leith of New Leslie (Edengarroch), is the reputed ancestor of the Leiths of Kingoodie, now Blair (see Fyvie).

Kingoodie is now part of the estate of Blair, and on its coming into the possession of Mr. Leith (a nephew of Mr. Leith Lumsden of Clova) he changed the name of the house to Leithfield.

A granite monument at the west end of the kirk is thus inscribed—"In memory of John Manson of Kilblean, who died 4 October, 1838, in the 77th year of his age; and of Margaret Diana Knight, his wife, who died 30 December, 1818, aged 72." Mr. Manson, who was a merchant in Oldmeldrum, acquired by purchase the estate of Kilblean. John, his younger son, acquired the estate of Fingask. His wife (Miss Knight) was a daughter of Mr. Knight in Mill of Coullie, Udny, who was out in the '45, and had to leave the country. A sister of Mrs. Manson was the wife of Rev. William Robertson of the Episcopal church, Meldrum.

¹ Jervise' Inscrp. II. p. 73.

² Jervise' Inscrp. II. p. 73.

Within an enclosure there is the inscription—"Rev. William Smith, minister of the parish of Bourtie, died 28 May, 1825, in the 59th year of his age, and the 30th year of his ministry. His widow, Isabel Mitchell, daughter of Rev. Gavin Mitchell, minister of Kinellar, died at Inverurie, 14 October, 1847, in her 75th year. Their eldest son, James, died 11 July, 1836, aged 30."

Another stone records that "Rev. Gavin Smith, LL.D., second son of Rev. William Smith, died at Rotting Dean, on 13 November, 1861, in the 56th year of his age. His beloved widow, Caroline Saxby, died at Brighton, August, 1862, in the 57th year of her age. 'Lovely and pleasant in their lives, in their deaths they were not divided.'"

A headstone is "In memory of Theodore Allan, M.A., preacher of the gospel and schoolmaster of Coull, died at Bagsley, Dyce, 28 October, 1847, aged 41; and of his mother, Mary Martin, died March, 1852, aged 80 years."

On a headstone is this inscription—"Alexander Lumsden, farmer, Pitbee, Chapel of Garioch, died 5 March, 1842, aged 64. Alexander died in infancy. James, second son, merchant, Aberdeen, most deeply regretted, died 10 September, 1845, aged 28; and his wife, Mary Dalgarno Lumsden, died June 2, 1860, aged 42."

A headstone is "In memory of the following children of the late William Donald, Couliehare, Udry, and Elizabeth Knox, his spouse. Their eldest son, Alexander Donald, W.S., Edinburgh, died 11 April, 1846, aged 51. He rests in Warriston cemetery. Their second son, William Donald, farmer, Viewfield, near Elgin, died 26 April, 1858, aged 59. Their youngest son, James, farmer, Couliehare, died 2 June, 1860, aged 47. Their mortal remains rest here. Their youngest daughter, Mary, wife of James Scott, Wolverhampton, died 8 November, 1860, aged 52. Her mortal remains rest at Wolverhampton."

A table stone bears the inscription—"To the memory of Alexander Donald, who once farmed part of Ythsie, who died 15 August, 1806, aged 84; also of Margaret Scroggie, his spouse, who died 5 June, 1802, aged 54; and of their children, Mary, who died 12 April, 1781; also two sons and two daughters, who died young. Also of William Donald, farmer, Couliehare, who died 20 August, 1824, aged 67; also of his spouse, Elizabeth Knox, died 5 October, 1842, aged 72. Their daughter, Jane Donald, died 29 June, 1847, aged 42."

In the churchyard there is a sun-dial thus inscribed—"Gavinus Smith, LL.D., A.D. October, 1853. Parochiæ Bourtiensis quæ ipsum genuit in honorem posuit. Ut vita sic fugit hora." [Erected in October, 1853, by Gavin Smith, LL.D., in honour of the parish of Bourtie, where he was born and brought up. "As life flies so does the hour."]

There is a stone "Sacred to the memory of James Bisset, late farmer in Mill of Inveramsay, who, having passed his day there in the practice of those duties, which became an honest man and a Christian, rendered up his soul to God on the 23rd day of March, 1789, in the 65th year of his age."

An adjoining granite obelisk is to the memory of a nonagenarian, "James Bisset, farmer, Drumdurno, who died in 1864, in his 93rd year."

A stone has the record, "Patrick Milne, merchant, Oldmeldrum, died 1796, aged 75. Janet Mann, his spouse, died 1790, aged 80."

"Let further honour claim who can,
He lived and died an honest man."

Another is thus inscribed, "Gavin Renny, farmer, Old Balgove, died 1799, aged 35."

"Here in my silent grave I lie,
Freed from my pains and grief;
Although troubles did me sore distress,
God sent at last relief.
His loving-kindness while here below,
With pleasure often did fill my soul;
My Saviour dear soon called me home,
Where endless life and pleasures roll."

Another has this inscription, "Helen Simpson, wife of Alexander Burnett, weaver, Old Aberdeen, died 1816, aged 59. 'Be ye also ready.'"

"Harmless and pious she was,
Virtue and truth she possessed,
A lover of Jesus' cause,
Now in him eternally blessed."

On the following it is recorded that "George Alexander, farmer, Barra, died 1839, aged 72. His widow and family have placed this stone over his remains in grateful acknowledgment of the inheritance which they have derived from his example of upright conduct and well-directed industry. Helen Keith, his widow, died 1847, aged 79."

Another is "Sacred to the memory of James Alexander, late farmer in Westerhouses, who died June 30, 1794, aged 38. Also of his brother, William, late blacksmith in Rescivet, who died 4 November, 1806, in the 58th year of his age. Also John Slorach, who died at Airyhillock, 4 August, 1823, aged 64 years. And his widow, Elizabeth Alexander, died 6 June, 1838, aged 85." William Alexander, blacksmith in Rescivet (Chapel of Garioch), was the grandfather of William Alexander, LL.D., editor of the "Aberdeen Free Press": author of "Johnny Gibb of Gushetneuk," "Life among my ain Folk," "Sketches of Northern Rural Life in the Eighteenth Century." All these works, says Mr. Jervise, contain singularly graphic and truthful delineations of peasant life in Aberdeenshire and the north, which, besides being of general interest, must soon become valuable to the historian and the antiquary.

A table stone is "Erected by Peter Burnett, late farmer in Blackbrunthings of Thornton, who died 2 November, 1767, aged 52. Also Jane Simpson, spouse of Robert Burnett, and daughter of Peter Simpson in Kendale, died 10 March, 1796, aged 76. Also Thomas Burnett, son of Robert Burnett, schoolmaster of the parish for about thirty-six years, died March, 1806, aged 69. Also of Robert Bruce, son-in-law of Robert Burnett, who was clerk in the Episcopal chapel, Oldmeldrum, who died 23 June, 1824 aged 79. Also his spouse, Mary Burnett, sister of the said Peter Burnett, who died

4 January, 1847, aged 81. Also his son, James Bruce, Bogola, South America, who died 12 September, 1856, aged 57."

Within an enclosure a polished granite stone is thus inscribed—"Here rests James Bisset, D.D., who died 3 September, 1872, in the 78th year of his age, and the 47th of labours as minister of Bourtie. To his memory this stone has been erected by parishioners and friends as a mark of their esteem and love."

A monument near the churchyard gate was "Erected to the memory of his family by William Bonar, farmer, Smiddy Croft, Bourtie. He wrote a poem of one hundred and ninety-eight pages, entitled 'The World in Ten Parts.' He died 6 April, 1860, aged 76."

A headstone is "Erected by Alexander Duguid, Collyhill, Bourtie, in affectionate remembrance of his eldest daughter, Margaret W. Fraser, who died 7 March, 1859, aged 15½ years; also of his five infant children."

ANTIQUITIES.

STANDING STONES OF THORNTON.—On the Temple croft on the estate of Thornton (now the property of Mr. M'Kenzie of Glack) there are standing stones in very fair preservation; they number eight.

THE STANNIN' STANES OF BOURTIE are near the manse to the south of Barrahill. Four large stones still remain, three of the boulders stand upright, and the other lies upon its side.

STONE COFFINS.—Several stone coffins containing urns and human bones were discovered in a cluster of boulders at Hawklaw, upon the farm of Lochend of Barra.

SCULPTURED STONE.—A fragment of a sculptured stone which lies at the church of Bourtie, embellished with the sceptre, comb and mirror ornaments, is engraved in the "Sculptured Stones of Scotland," issued by the Spalding Club.

THE PIPERS' STANE.—Another large boulder, called "The Pipers' Stane," lies to the east of the kirk. It is said to have been the spot where bagpipers waited for marriage parties on their return from the church, when their services were required to convey them home, and to play at penny bridals.

HILL OF BARRA.—There are interesting remains of an old fort on the Hill of Barra. The chief entrance to the stronghold is from the east. The west side is nearly perpendicular, and composed of the natural rock, the other sides being guarded by two considerable trenches, with walls of stone and earth mixed.

KINGOODIE.—Here there are the marks of the remains of a chapel.

CAIRNS.—Two cairns were opened about seventy years ago, and in each there was found a stone coffin, enclosing two urns of hard-baked, carved pottery, both of which were full of rich loam mixed with charcoal. The largest of these cairns, raised on an eminence called the Hawklaw, originally covered nearly half-an-acre, and was surrounded by a circle of small stones.²

¹ Jervise's Inscriptions, II. p. 73.

² New Stat. Acct.

THE CHURCH AND MINISTERS, &c., OF TARVES.

TARVES.

THIS parish had for its tutelary saint, St. Engat, whose name is still to be found in Tanglanford, on the Ythan.

The church of Tarves belonged to the Abbey of Arbroath, and early mention is made of it, as the Abbey had considerable lands in Tarves.

In 1178-1199, there is a confirmation charter by Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, of the church of Tarves, with the chapel of Fuchill with the tithes, given to God, and the church of St. Thomas the Martyr, of Arbroath, and the monks there.¹

In the years 1192-1207, the same is confirmed by John, Bishop of Aberdeen; and from 1207-1228 by Adam, Bishop of Aberdeen; and renewed by their successors down to 1247.² In 1357, Pope Alexander VI. ratified the provision made for the vicarage of the church by the Abbot of Arbroath, and the convent there. There was to be an yearly stipend of fifteen merks, the whole altarage, and six merks in teind scheaves, and a yearly rent of £50 Scots.³

The old church was a structure of some elegance, and it is described about 1730 as having a choir with two aisles, one for the Gordons of Haddo, now ruinous, and another for the Forbese of Tolquhon, also ruinous.

The earliest vicar or chaplain of the church of Tarves that we find is Maurice, parson of Tarves, who is among the witnesses to the foundation of St. Peter's Hospital in the Spittal by Bishop Matthew de Kyninmund, in the reign of Malcolm IV.⁴

Galfridus de Wellys is vicar of Tarves in 1322, and is mentioned in a deed about a certain pension of eight merks due to the monastery from the vicarage tiends of Tarves.⁵

John Munro is mentioned in 1342 in another deed regarding the same eight merks.

Sir Alexander Abercrommy, vicar of Tarves, died 1493, and was succeeded by Mr. John Lumsden, a priest of the Diocese of St. Andrews.

Mr. Edward Cunyngham, rector of Cluny, in 1496, is presented. The deed of presentation is dated at the Abbey of Arbroath before witnesses—John Ogilvy of Fingask, Andrew Rossy, Patrick Uldny, and Adam Patonson.

Sir Thomas Myreton soon after 1497 demits the vicarage of Tarves, and is succeeded by Sir Archibald Balconny, who is presented to the vicarage in 1501.

1 Ant. (A. and B.) II. p. 112.

2 Id., pp. 120, 122, 123.

3 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. pp. 18, 23.

4 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 153.

5 Id., p. 335.

William Sympill was vicar down to 1534.

Henry Lumsden was appointed 10 June, 1534.¹

Alexander Ogilvy was appointed in 1540. In that year there is a precept from Pope Paul III. for inducting Alexander Ogilvy into the perpetual vicarage of Tarves on the free resignation of Henry Lumsden. He was the last of the vicars of the church of Rome.²

Of the ministers after the Reformation,

Thomas Germok was minister of three parishes, Tarves, Fyvie, and Methlick. At that time Donald Reoch was reader at Tarves.³

Thomas Gardyne was translated from Fintray, being presented to the vicarage of Tarves by James VI., and according to Dr. Scott in his "Fasti," he became unable by age to discharge the duties of his office, and died in 1633.⁴ He had two daughters, one, Elizabeth, married to George Merser in Old Aberdeen. Another to John Mowat in Auquhorties, whose son, with his aunt, were served heir-portioners.⁵

James Moir was appointed by Charles I. He remained till 1659.

John Strachan, D.D., graduated at King's College in 1655, and is mentioned as minister of Tarves in the records of the Synod of Aberdeen in 1668. According to Dr. Scott he was translated to the Tron church, Edinburgh, and became Professor of Divinity in 1683 in the University of Edinburgh.⁶

George Anderson, A.M., D.D., in 1683 was translated from Methlic. He was received into communion by a committee of the General Assembly, July 2, 1694; was translated to the Professorship of Divinity in King's College, Old Aberdeen, 1703, and died about 1710, aged 75, and in the 47th year of his ministry. He was married and had children—James, Robert, William, Gilbert, Margaret, Anne, and Elspet Andersons, all alive in 1696.⁷

William Forbes, A.M., M.D., was third son of Sir John Forbes of Waterton; studied medicine, and took the degree of M.D. at the University of Pisa, and after returning to this country he took the degree of M.A. at King's College, Aberdeen, on 21 June, 1694. He studied for the church, and was appointed to Tarves in 1706, having been translated from Leslie. He was seized with illness while attending the Synod, and died April 21, 1738, having married Janet, third daughter of Mr. James Gregory, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh. She died April 13, 1736, aged 60, and had issue five sons and five daughters—I. James, physician, Aberdeen. II. John. III. Thomas. IV. George. V. William. 1. Julia. 2. Katharine, married to Mr. William Dyce, schoolmaster of Selkirk. 3. Helen, married to Mr. John MacInnes, minister of Logie-Coldstone. 4. Jane, married to Mr. Andrew Moir, minister of Towie. 5. Susan, married to Mr. James Johnstone, minister of Crimond.

1 Jervise' Inscrip. II, p. 350. The Black Book of the Abbey of Arbroath.

2 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 335.

3 Id., p. 229.

4 Tombstone.

5 Ret. Spec. Abdn.

6 Eccles. Rec. Ab. p. 284. Ant A. and B.

III. p. 468.

7 Poll Book II. p. 202.

Alexander Howe was formerly minister of Methlic, and was translated to Tarves in 1738. He died at Newhills, where he had gone to assist at the Communion, 3 September, 1765. He married Margaret Nichol, who died 21 September, 1788, and had issue two daughters.

Thomas Mitchell was translated from Tarland, and instituted to Tarves on the presentation of George, third Earl of Aberdeen, in 1766. He died May 10, 1793, in the 76th year of his age, having married, October 9, 1766, Mary, daughter of Donald Mackenzie of Dalmore;¹ had issue a son, George. He published an account of the parish in Sinclair's report.

Duncan Mearns, D.D., was son of Alexander Mearns, minister of Cluny; born 23 August, 1779; graduated at King's College, 1795, and was appointed minister of Tarves, 1799; became Professor of Divinity in King's College, 1816, from which he received the degree of D.D. He died March 2, 1852, in his 73rd year.

Alexander Black, D.D., was son of Alexander Black, Aberdeen; was educated at Marischal College; received from it, in 1824, the degree of D.D.; was appointed to Tarves in 1818; was appointed Professor of Divinity in Marischal College in 1832. He died January 27, 1864, in his 73rd year.

Francis Knox, A.M., son of Mr. Knox, farmer, Ythsie, graduated at King's College; was assistant schoolmaster of Tarves, and was appointed minister of Tarves in 1830 by George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen. He died December 7, 1870. He was a very amiable man, respected and beloved by the whole of his parishioners, amongst whom he was born, lived, and died. He published an exceedingly interesting account of the parish in the "New Statistical Account."

John Pringle, M.A., was appointed in 1871.

It may be remarked that four ministers of Tarves became Professors of Divinity.

THE QUOAD SACRA PARISH OF BARTHOL-CHAPEL.—It may be said to represent the chapel of Futchul, and according to Jervise, Barthol or Bartle is a corruption of Futchul, the name of a district whose chapel is mentioned with the parish church in charters of 1200-29.² It was probably dedicated to St. Bartholomew; hence the name.

None of the names of any of the old chaplains of Futchul have been preserved. The foundation of the old church was visible about seventy years ago.

The district was erected into a quoad sacra parish in 1876, and a church called "The Gordon Memorial Church" was erected by the Dowager-Countess of Aberdeen in memory of her eldest son, George, sixth Earl of Aberdeen, lost at sea in 1870.

The first minister was the Rev. Mr. Forrest, who was translated to Lonmay in 1878. He was succeeded by Rev. A. R. Sutter, ordained 1879.

¹ Tombstone.

² Jervise' Inscip. II. p. 355.

THE CHURCHYARD OF TARVES.

Friend after friend departs,
Who hath not lost a friend?
There is no union here of hearts
That finds not here an end.
Were this frail world our final rest,
Living or dying none were blest.
Beyond the flight of time,
Beyond the vale of death,
There surely is some blessed clime
Where life is not a breath,
Nor life's affections transient fire,
Whose sparks fly upwards and expire.
There is a world above
Where parting is unknown,
A long eternity of love,
Formed for the good alone.
And Faith beholds the dying here
Translated to that glorious sphere.

—*Montgomery.*

In the centre of the churchyard are the remains of the Tolquhon aisle. On the tomb are two shields charged with the Gordon and Forbes arms, with the initials "W. F.," "E. G.," and the date "1589." The Tolquhon motto "Salus per Christum" is upon the scroll above the Forbes arms. And above the Gordon arms are the words "dochter to Lesmoir." The letters represent William Forbes and Elizabeth or Elspet Gordon, not Janet Gordon, as in Douglas' and William Gordon of Harperfield's accounts of the family of Lesmoir.¹

An old stone with cross bones and skull is to the memory of Margaret ——. The rest is illegible, save the words—

"Some worthy friend will drop a tear
On these dry bones that lieth here."

A headstone is "Erected by Eliza Wood in memory of Adam Pope, V.S., who died 23 July, 1849, aged 48."

A table stone is "In memory of Adam Lind, merchant, Tarves, who died 1766, aged 68; and of his son, Adam Lind, who died 20 May, 1810, aged 70. Also of Adam Lind (son of the last named), farmer, Tillycairn, who died 28 December, 1872, aged 81."

Of the same family is the following record, "Sacred to the memory of Rev. Adam Lind, minister of the U.P. church, Whitehill, New Deer, born at Tarves, August, 1784; ordained to Whitehill, August, 1826. He died May, 1862. This stone was erected by his bereaved congregation, who lost in him a father beloved, a minister faithful, and a revered friend, sincere and a Christian. He was a most acceptable and successful minister of the Gospel for forty years. Also in memory of his beloved spouse, Margaret William, who died at Whitehill, January, 1861, aged 66. Also his brother-in-law and

¹ Jervise' Inscip. II. p. 350.

worthy esteemed friend, George Divorty, who died December, 1860, aged 86. 'They were lovely in their lives, and in death they were not divided.' 'These being dead yet speaketh.'

A stone of Aberdeen granite records the name of "William Jamieson, farmer, Haughs of Oshogel, Turriff, who died March, 1877, aged 78; also of his sister, Margaret Jamieson, who died June, 1861, aged 76."

On a headstone is this inscription:—"William Hay, farmer in Shethin, who died September, 1783, aged 79; also the body of Mary White, his spouse, who died May 2, 1792, aged 80; also their son, George, who died March 11, 1820, aged 84; also, Isabella Hay, lawful daughter of Alexander Hay in East Shethin, who died November 6, 1823, aged 21. Also, Margaret Daniel, his spouse, who died August 24, 1836, aged 78; also the above named Alexander Hay, who died March, 1840, aged 83."

A tablestone has the following inscription:—"James Hay, late farmer in Shethin, who died September 5, 1812, aged 62. Jean Sim, spouse to said James Hay, died December 12, 1808, aged 49; also Jean Marr, who died April 6, 1826, spouse to John Hay, farmer in Ythsie, and of the said John Hay, who died February 28, 1830, aged 51."

Another stone is "To the memory of Ann Legertwood, spouse to William Hay, farmer in Craigie, and daughter to Alexander Legertwood of Logierieve, who died June 2, 1817, aged 23; also of the said William Hay, latterly in Shethin, who died April, 1854, aged 67; also of their grand-daughter, Ann Legertwood Shepherd, who died June 22, 1846, aged 12; also of Elsie Shepherd, who died July 7, 18—, aged 12; also of Sophia Shepherd, who died 11 February, 1852, aged 15; also of their daughter, Sophia Hay, who died, February 9, 1874, aged 59. Also of her husband, George Shepherd, Esq., of Lundie, Forfarshire, who died June 18, 1881, at Ecclesfechan, Linlithgowshire, aged 72."

Another stone has, "Erected by George Hay, in memory of his father, George Hay, farmer, East Shethin, who died January 15, 1879, aged 85; also of his mother, Mary Taylor, who died October, 1879, aged 70."

A headstone of Aberdeen granite bears to be "Erected by James Hay and Jessie Morison, in memory of Eliza Hay, died July 10, 1863, aged 11; John, died November 1, 1866, aged 8; Jane, died November 14, 1866, aged 11; George, died November 27, 1866, aged 6; also Jessie Morrison, wife of James Hay, who died May 24, 1874, aged 57; also the above named James Hay, farmer, Nethermill, Tarves, who died March 9, 1879, aged 67."

Upon a table stone "Here are interred the bodies of Alexander Knolls, and of Mary Petrie his wife. Mrs. Knolls died 28 November, 1800, in the 79th year of her age. M. A. Knolls died 1 June, 1801, in the 56th year of his ministry, and the 86th year of his age."

There are several tombstones to a family of the name of Knox:—"John Knox, died July 13, 1827, aged 72; a daughter, Christian; sons, William, George, and John; also of Margaret, daughter of John Knox, farmer, North Ythsie, who died, April 6, 1873, aged 67."

Another stone is "In memory of Alexander Knox, farmer, Little Ythsie, died August 11, 1806, aged 40; also of his son, James Knox, who died June 3, 1826, aged 20; also his spouse Margaret Duncan, who died October 5, 1863, aged 86."

A pyramid of granite is to the memory of a son of the above, who was minister of the parish of Tarves. "Erected by the parishioners and friends in memory of Rev. Francis Knox, A.M., who died December 7, 1870, in the 67th year of his age, and the 38th of his ministry in his native parish."

A granite headstone is "In memory of Alexander Duncan, Esq., late in Newseat of Tolquhon, who died February 4, 1842, aged 69 years; also of his son, John Duncan, Esq., of Asleed, and farmer, Newseat of Tolquhon, died November 20, 1871, aged 62. Francis Duncan, sometime farmer Newseat of Tolquhon, died April, 1814, aged 82; also his spouse, Helen Murdoch, who died 1797, aged 52. Likewise Thomas Duncan their son."

A stone is "In memory of Robert Breichen in Kinharrachy, who died April 1, 1797, aged 57; also, Dr. George Breichen, who died October 9, 1821, aged 77.

On George Buyers, merchant, Ordhill, Tarves, who died March 15, 1850, aged 40, there is the following :—

" Weep not for me, my wife dear,
I am not dead but sleepeth here.
The debt is paid, my grave you see,
Prepare yourself to follow me."

A handsome Peterhead granite stone is thus inscribed :—"Lewis Davie, who died May 16, 1879, aged 64. A man of sincere piety, his consistent conduct, and many estimable qualities were known and respected through the district. He was a faithful and a trusted servant to the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Earls of Aberdeen, and by the last named of these this stone is erected as a token of affectionate respect."

" Thine eyes shall see the King in his beauty,
They shall behold the land that is afar off."

The following stone is in memory of a Nonagenarian, "William Milne, and his wife, Margaret Allan, sometime in Blair of Bourtie, whence in 1809, they removed to Chapel-hall in the parish of Ellon, where the former died in 1830, aged 93. The latter died November 20, 1840, aged 76."

A tablestone is inscribed :—"To the memory of Rev. Thomas Mitchell, minister of this parish, who died May 10, 1793, in the 75th year of his age, and the 52nd of his ministry; also of Margaret Mackenzie, his spouse, and daughter of Donald Mackenzie, Esq., of Dalmore, who died June 3, 1805."

"Here resteth the remains of George Moir, late blacksmith in Annat, died March 12, 1784, aged 82, and of Jean Fife, his spouse, who died February 14, 1785, aged 72. This stone is erected by their sons in testimony of their regard for their deceased parents. Also, Ann Jack, spouse of their son, George Moir in Annat, who died 4 October, 1786, aged 36; and Ann Moir, spouse of George Findlater in Coultie's-cairn, who died December 24, 1793, aged 56."

The above (from the oldest of several tombstones), relates to a family, who, according to Jervise, have been blacksmiths in this district from before 1696.

A tablestone is "To the memory of Alexander Forbes, Esq., of Schivas, who died May, 1803, aged 43.

Schivas at one time belonged to the Maitlands of Pitrichie, descended from the Maitlands of Thirlstane, afterwards to the Grays (Lord Gray), then to the Forbeses, afterwards to Irvine of Drum, and now to the Earl of Aberdeen.

There are several tombstones to a family of Argo, who have been long resident in the parish. "George Argo, farmer, Braeside of Tolquhon, died March 25, 1834, aged 73." Another to "George Argo, farmer, Cairdseat, who died March 29, 1876, aged 71."

A stone is "To the memory of Alexander Garden, farmer, Mains of Tolquhon, who died February 17, 1855, aged 55 years." Another is inscribed:—"James Garden, Esq., of Watridgemuir, and farmer, North Ythsie, died at North Ythsie, March 12, 1864, aged 61."

A massive granite headstone bears the inscription:—"In memory of James Chalmers, overseer at Haddo House, and farmer in South Ythsie, who died October 27, 1834, aged 68. Also of his wife, Mary Mair."

A Headstone is "To the memory of William Giles, merchant, Mosshead, Udny, who died January 28, 1864, aged 84; also to Catharine Greig, his wife, who died May 20, 1856, aged 76."

A granite massive square stone is inscribed:—"In memory of George Philip, who died at Yondertown, Cruden, February 17, 1837, aged 86. His wife, Elizabeth Imlach, died January 16, 1863, aged 81." On the reverse side, "In memory of Alexander Philip of Yondertown, Cruden, sometime farmer in Hatton, where he died April 13, 1835, aged 82. His brother, James Philip, died at Tarves, March 10, 1839, aged 81."

Near the west wall of the churchyard is a stone "Erected by George Manson of Triumph Plantation, Demerara, to commemorate for a few years the mouldering relics of his parents, who were most affectionately beloved and tenderly regretted by him. George Manson, born 26 October, 1732, died January 2, 1807. Margaret Thom, born October 2, 1732, died November 2, 1782."

The following inscription is round the side of a flat stone, upon which, says Mr. Jervise, near the top there is a shield charged with the Chalmers' arms, and at the foot a skull and cross bones. "Here lies Agnes Chalmers, and Isobel Chalmers, spouse to M. T. G." These were probably the sister-in-law and wife of the minister, who is upon the next quoted tombstone.

"Here lyes Maister Thomas Gardyne, minister at Tarves, qua departit the day of 163—." "Upon this stone," says Mr. Jervise, "there are two shields bearing the Gardyne arms, and the other those of Keith and Young quarterly."

Two silver cups belonging to Mr. Gardyne's time, are each inscribed thus:—"This cup is ordinit for the sacrament of Tarves, 1618."

Within an enclosure on the south side of the burial ground, there is the following inscription:—"Here lies interred Rev. Mr. William Forbes, minister of the gospel at Tarves, who departed this life January 21, 1738, aged 70 years. Also his spouse, Janet Gregory, who died April 13, 1736, aged 60. Also their son, William Forbes, who died April 22, 1731, aged 18; also their daughter, Mary Forbes, who died November 21, 1734, aged 40."

"A grandson of this clergyman," says Mr. Jervise, "became a wealthy merchant in Aberdeen, and bought the estate of Echt, now the property of the Earl of Crawford." The last laird of Echt of this branch of the Forbes (for it was owned by another branch of the same family), when getting into difficulties is related to have said, that he expected the estate of Echt (Eight) would soon become four.

There are also two interesting tombstones to the memory of a family of the name of Craig. Both are lettered round the side, and upon the face of one flanked with the initials "J. C., M. R.," is a shield with the Craig arms and a skull below. "Here lyes Thomas Craig, pursuivant, qua departit ye 19 of Maii, —84, and Marjorie Ridel, his spous, qua departit ye xv. Aprill, 1583."

Mr. Jervise says, "this and the following inscription are of more than common interest, inasmuch as they appear to add two hitherto unknown names to the list of Scotch Heralds."

The next probably refers to his son, who was "Ross Herald," "Ultima dom. Gul. Craig Rossæi Herældi et Mariorie Reith ei sponse quã sibi et suis in die Resurrectionis requieturis providevt, 1617."

"The last abode of William Craig Ross Herald, and his spouse, Marjory Reith, which they provided for themselves and their family to rest in until the day of the resurrection, 1617."

The above also is carved in raised Roman capitals round the side of a flat slab. In the centre flanked by the initials "W. C., M. R.," is a shield charged with the Craig arms, ermine, on a fess, a dog's head between two crescents.¹

A stone marked "M. R." in monogram, and the date "1613," is built (brought it is said from Tellyelt), into the wall of the kirk, and may have reference, Mr. Jervise thinks, to some relation to one or other of the wives of the Craigs.

AUQUHORTHIES.

This property long owned by the Forbeses of Blackford, is now the property of the Earl of Aberdeen.

There is a small burial ground on the property, which had chiefly been used for the burial of Quakers, who once had a meeting house here, but it was burned down when popular feeling was much excited against that quiet body of Christians.

¹ Jervise Inscip. II. p. 352.

The Forbes family were for many years interred here. An inscription in Latin, of which the following is a translation, refers to Mrs. Forbes, a daughter of Professor John Gregory of Edinburgh.¹

"To the memory of his excellent and dearly beloved wife, Ann Margaret Gregory, and of himself destined soon to follow her, John Forbes of Blackford, erected this monument, A.D. 1826."

Beside and within this wall, which he rebuilt at his own expense, "Lie the remains of the Forbeses of Lethentie and Auquhorthies, the ancestors of the family of Blackford, to whom the burial place belongs, and whose remains have for many years rested here."

On another, "In the graveyard called St. John's, the property and burial place of his ancestors, are deposited the mortal remains of Alexander Forbes of Blackford, who was born 1st November, 1786, and died 28th of October, 1851. This memorial marks the place of his sepulture, and that of his wife, Margaret, daughter of Charles Bannerman, Esq., who died 24 March, 1825, aged 36 years."

Immediately contiguous is the grave of their son, "Alexander Forbes, ensign in the 61st Regiment of Foot, who died February 1, 1841 aged 26. Also, Mary Elizabeth, who died June 30th, aged 12; also, Anne, who died July 31, 1830, aged 8, and John, who died in March, 1820, aged 4 months. Margaret, widow of Rear-Admiral John Leith, and the only surviving child of the above-mentioned Alexander and Margaret Forbes, has placed this record of her lamented parents and beloved brothers and sisters."

A Peterhead granite stone is "Sacred to the memory of Rear-Admiral John Leith, born at Leith-hall, October 22, 1788, and died at Blackford, October 25, 1854. Also, Harriet Anne, youngest daughter of John and Margaret Leith, who died October 25, 1858. This stone is erected to the memory of her lamented husband by his widow, Margaret, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Blackford."

¹ Jervise' Inscip. II. p. 356.

TOLQUHON.

“ Time-hallowed pile !
No more bold chiefs thy drawbridge pace,
No more the violent man thy towers,
No more the lovely grace thy bowers.
The falling meteor o'er thee shoots ;
And there, where once in rich array,
Met lords and knights and ladies gay,
The hat is clinging to these walls,
And the fox may nestle in these halls.”
—*Anon.*

TOLQUHON, now the property of the Earl of Aberdeen, formed part of Fermartyn. The Thanage was divided between the two daughters of Sir Henry Preston.¹ The one daughter married Alexander Meldrum, who got the Fyvie portion of Fermartyn ; the other, Marjorie, married Sir John Forbes. She got Tolquhon, the castle of which was the chief message of the eastern portion of the Thanage.

The ruin of the ancient stronghold still remains, surrounded by fine old trees, and consists of an ancient tower, very ruinous, called the “ Preston tower,” from its first possessor, and of several other buildings added at different periods. It was much added to, and some of it entirely rebuilt by William Forbes. On the front there is the inscription—“ All this warke, save the auld tower, was begun by William Forbes, A.D. 1584, and ended by him 1589.”

The whole building was some time ago in a very ruinous condition, though what remained showed its former magnificence, is now, however, well cared for by its present noble proprietor, who is a descendant of Sir Henry Preston.

Sir John Forbes,

who married Marjorie, the daughter of Sir Henry Preston of Fermartyn, was the fifth in descent from John de Forbes, who flourished in the reign of William the Lion, and who possessed, according to Douglas, the lands and barony of Forbes. Marjorie Preston, failing heirs of her own body, made over the property to her husband, “ nobili viro Johanni de Forbes.” She is designated “ filia et una de hæredibus quondam Henrici de Preston, domini de Fermartyne.” The charter is dated 16 July, 1420.² They had issue three sons :—

I. Sir John, his successor.

¹ See Article Fyvie.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 352.

II. Duncan, of Ardgethin,¹ who had a natural son, Henry, vicar of Alford.

III. David.

Sir John Forbes of Tolquhon was accused, along with James Forbes, son and heir of Sir Alexander Forbes, Lord Forbes, of abetting, in 1448, Sir Andrew Morison, chaplain, in his suit at the Market Cross of Aberdeen, against Nicholas Blair, chaplain to William, Lord Errol, Constable of Scotland.² Sir John Forbes died between August 6, 1453, and July, 1454, and was succeeded by his son,³

II. Sir John Forbes of Tolquhon.

He married Ann Straton, daughter of the laird of Laurieston, and had issue :—⁴

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded.

II. David, of Essie.

III. Henry, of Logie.

John Forbes of Tolquhon is mentioned in a decret of 1457,⁵ in favour of ——— Skene, for the lands of Ledach of Skene. He died 14—, and was succeeded by his son,

III. Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon.

He is mentioned in an indenture of man-rent betwixt William, Lord Forbes, Sir Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo, "on the one part, and the lairds of Macintosh and Kilravock on the tother part," date 1467. He is also mentioned in an instrument "de perambulatione super terris debatabilibus inter terras Terwas et Meldrum, date 1469,⁶ and also in 1474 as giving a charter to Patrick, son and heir of Patrick Leith of Harthill.⁷ He married Jane Hay, daughter of Hay of Delgaty, the sole issue of which marriage was a son, **Malcolm**. Alexander Forbes died before 1487, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Malcolm Forbes of Tolquhon.

In April, 1487, Pope Innocent VIII. granted a dispensation to Malcolm Forbes of Tolquhon and Margaret Forbes, daughter of Lord Forbes, to marry, being within the prohibited degrees.⁸

He succeeded his father, Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon, before 1487, as we learn from a contract of that year between Margaret Forbes, in name and behalf of Malcolm Forbes, son of the deceased Alexander Forbes of Tochcone, and Alexander Tulliche, in regard to the ward and relief of the lands of Tochcone, &c.⁹ Malcolm Forbes is frequently employed in public business, especially on inquests, in the years 1492, 1495, 1501, &c. In 1501 there is a contract between William Hay, Earl of Errol, and Thomas Kinnaird, for the redemption of a reversion from Malcolm Forbes of Tolquhon

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 587.

2 Reg. Burgh Aber. I. pp. 16, 17.

3 Rot. Sac. Reg. Scot. No. 217;

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 385.

4 Whitehaugh Pedigree.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 282.

6 Id., p. 348; IV. p. 402.

7 Charter penes Whitehaugh.

8 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 332.

9 Id., III. pp. 12, 63.

for the lands of Sithan (Shethin), Rawak, and Craigie, for the sum of four hundred merks.¹ They had issue :—

I. **William**, his successor.

II. Thomas.

III. James.

1. A daughter, ——— ———, married to Alexander Cheyne of Arnage.

Malcolm Forbes died about 1503, and was succeeded by his son,

V. William Forbes of Tolquhon.

In 1503, Margaret Forbes, the widow of the deceased Malcolm Forbes of Tolquhon, was found, by an inquest, to have right to the terce of the Mains of Tolquhon, the lands of Meikle Eithsy, &c.² William Forbes is not served heir till two years after this date. In 1505, there is an inquest on William Forbes, in which he is served heir to his father, Malcolm Forbes, being of legitimate age.³ In 1523, Alexander Hay, rector of Turriff, and William Myles, in Ardlethin, have to pay William Forbes two hundred pounds, under pain of excommunication.⁴ In 1527, he grants a charter to his son, John Forbes and Janete Cheyne, his spouse, of the lands of Minoney, &c.⁵ He married ——— Leith, daughter of ——— Leith of Barnes, and had issue :—

I. John, d. s. p. before his father.

II. **Alexander**, who succeeded.

1. ———, married the laird of Glack.

2. ———, married John Lamb, burgess of Aberdeen.

3. ———, married Andrew Dortis, burgess of Aberdeen.

He married secondly, in 1522, Isabel, daughter of William, fifth Earl of Errol, and had issue by her :—

III. Arthur.

4. Isabel.

In 1536, his son, John, having died without succession, the estate was made over to his second son, Alexander, who had married Alison Anderson, daughter of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

There is a charter of confirmation to Alexander, heir-apparent of William Forbes of Tolquhon, of the lands and barony of Tolquhon, date 2 December, 1536; also to the said Alexander and his wife, Alison Anderson, of the lands of Park and Tiftie, &c.⁶ William Forbes died 15—, and was succeeded by his second son,

VI. Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon.

By his wife, Alison Anderson, he had issue :—

I. **William**, his successor.

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. pp. 12, 63.

² Id., p. 63.

³ Id., pp. 551, 60.

⁴ Consist. Reg. Aber. S.C. Misc. V. p. 294.

⁵ Ant. A. and. B. III. p. 66.

⁶ Id., I. p. 333.

II. John, ancestor of the Culloden family.

1. Janet, married to William Forbes of Corsindae, and on his death to William Forbes of Fodderbirse.

2. Isobel.

Alexander Forbes fell at Pinkie in 1547, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. William Forbes of Tolquhon.

He married E. Gordon, daughter of George Gordon of Lesmoir,¹ and had issue :—

I. **William**, of Tolquhon.

II. James, of Knapernay, who married Janet Cheyne (see Knapernay).

III. Walter, of Auchreddie.

IV. Patrick, burgess of Aberdeen.

1. A daughter, ———, married to William Forbes of Corsindae.

In 1550, William Forbes of Tolquhon was bound over in two thousand pounds, for his soune and his friends, not to trouble the Provost and Baillies of Aberdeen,² and in 1573, in an action of Lord Forbes contra the Earl of Huntly, William Forbes of Tolquhon is examined. In 1578, William Forbes of Tolquhon was admitted a burgess of Aberdeen.³ He received permission under the Privy Seal, in 1581, on account of a disease in his eyes, to eat flesh in Lent, and to remain at home from all King's raids, &c., sending a friend with his men.⁴ In 1585, he acquired Woodland, Knapernay, and half of Tullimade; also a saine of William Forbes of Tolquhon and James, his second son, from Henry Gordon.⁵

He built, in 1589, an aisle in the parish church of Tarves, part of which still remains in the churchyard of Tarves. It bears the inscription, "W. F. E. G., 1589." He also endowed an hospital, which stood on a knoll in a hollow near the parish church. According to the author of the "View of the Diocese," it was for four poor men, who were to live in it, and to have a peck of meal, and three shillings, a penny, and two-sixths of a penny Scots; also some malt, peats, &c., and it has, however, long ago disappeared. He also, save the auld tower, built the greater part of the castle. He also mortified, in 1589, the guidis and gear within the place of Tolquhon, to remain constantly with the heir.⁶ On him, Arthur Johnston of Caskieben wrote the following :

"Avxisset cum prole domum Tolchonus et arvis,
 Confectus senio sponte reliquit humum.
 Condidit hunc tumulum, quo conditur ipse, supremum
 Expectans animo nil metuente diem.
 Hunc prope pauperibus devotos aspicias agros,
 Tecta que mortali non violanda manu.
 Nec procul his domini surgunt palatia, regis
 Non semel hospitio nobilitata sui.

¹ Tomhstone, Tarves Churchyard.

² Reg. Counc. Aber. I. p. 138.

³ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 762; Whitehaugh Pedigree, p. 14.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 353.

⁵ Charters at Whitehaugh.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 330, 354.

Hæc terris monumenta dedit Tochonus, et inter
 Has operum moles crescere vidit opes.
 Quantulus, exuvias si spectas corporis, alti
 Si pensas animi munera, quantus homo est !”

[His house's numbers and its lands increased, Tolquhon,
 With ills of eld worn out, the earth did gladly leave.
 He reared this tomb, wherein he lies himself,
 With fearless soul awaiting the last day.
 Near it you see lands gifted to the poor,
 And houses to be marred by no man's hand ;
 Nor far from these the owner's princely pile,
 Which more than once received a royal guest.
 These monuments, Tolquhon gave to the world,
 Vet, 'mid these mighty works, he saw his wealth increase.
 Look at his ashes, and you'll say, how small a man !
 His lofty mind's gifts ponder, you'll exclaim How Great !]

William Forbes died in 1595, and was succeeded by his son,

VIII. William Forbes of Tolquhon.

He was served heir to his father, March 22, 1595.² He married Janet Ogilvie, daughter to Sir George Ogilvie of Dunlugas, grandfather of George, first Lord Banff. By her he had issue :—

I. Alexander, who died s. p. in early manhood ; to him, probably, the following ballad refers :—

“ Word has come to young Tolquhon,
 In his chamber where he lay,
 That Sophia Hay, his first fause fair love,
 Was wedded and away.
 Sophia Hay ! Sophia Hay !
 My love, Sophia Hay !
 I wish her ance as sair a heart,
 As she's gi'en me to-day.
 She thinks she has done me great wrang,
 I do not think it so ;
 I hope to be in quietness,
 When she shall live in woe.
 She'll live a discontented life
 Since she has gaen frae me ;
 O'er soon, o'er soon, a weed of green
 Will shortly cover me !”

—*Old Ballad.*

Sophia Hay married Lord Melgum, who was burned in the tower of Frendraught, October 18, 1630 ; and she is alluded to in the ballad of the burning of Frendraught. Her former lover's prophecy was too truly fulfilled.

“ Sophia Hay ! Sophia Hay !
 Bonnie Sophia was her name,
 Her waiting maid put on her clothes,
 But I wat she tore them off again.
 And oft she cried, alas ! alas !
 A sair heart is ill to win.
 I wan a sair heart when I married him,
 And the day is well returned again.”

¹ Jervise' Inscip. II. p. 351.

² Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 65.

- II. **Walter**, of Tolquhon and Thainston.
- III. George, of Craigie.
- IV. Thomas, of Waterton, now represented by John Forbes of Merryoaks.
- V. William, of Finzean.
 1. Christina.
 2. Elizabeth, Lady Caskieben.
 3. Isabel, Lady Philorth.
 4. Mary, married to Sir John Gordon, Bart.

In December, 1631, he granted a charter, afterwards confirmed under the great seal, of the lands of Tolquhon to his second son, Walter Forbes of Thainston, and his heirs male, failing them the sons of his third son, George Forbes of Craigie, &c., failing whom to his youngest son, William, and his heirs male; failing all whom to William Forbes of Knapernay, son of the late James Forbes, his brother, and his heirs male.¹ In 1633, John Udny of Belhelvie, as procurator of Robert Udny, his brother, declairit that there was restand owing ten thousand and ten merks to the said Robert by William Forbes of Tolquhon.²

In this laird's time there is an account of a Baron's Court of Tolquhon held in the chamer at Lytill Eithsie, which is not devoid of interest.

"October 6, 1608. Richt Hon. William Forbes of Tolquhon, laird of the ground; William Wood in Balgove, baillie in that part of the barony; William Craig, notary public, clerk of Court; Alexander Mair, officiar; Arthur Carle, dompster. The said court lauch fullie and orderlie fencit, the suttis callit.³

"The said day it was requirit be the officiar at command of the Laird and Bailzie, gif there were any outlandis man to pursew ony actions in the said court, for the said baillie was readye to show justice, and thereon tuk act of court and instruments, and that nane comperit to that effect.

"The said day the haill tennentes of the insuken of the milne of Tolquhon complit upon Alexander Arthour, milner of the said milne, for not holden in of the watter to the samen on the watter-gait thereof, and not putting of ane lock on the mill door, qlk was tried to be of trowth for the quilk, he was convict and decernit to amend ye samen in tyme cuming, and pay fourtie shillings for his bye-gane wrang and unlawe.

"The said day, James Walkar, be sufficient trial, was convict of shoeing an horse in a wrang manner, quareby the said horse was made crippell, and decernit to amend in time cuming, and to pay fourtie shillings for his bygane wrang to the pairty. (This decision might not be amiss at the present day.)

"The said day, William Beg is ordenit be his own consent to set w^t in the corneyard of Ythsie, be the advyse of George Mar, at ye milne of Ythsie, Duncan Mar in Newseitt, John Mowat in Caldhome, and John Smythe in Boghouse, as much cornes, beir, and aittis, as they think will satisfy the laird for his ferme, meill, and malt of this

¹ Charter penes Whitehaugh, &c. Reg. Mag. Sig. 1631.

² Id. S. C. Misc. III. p. 104.

³ Archaeological Notes in Aberdeen Journal, 1862.

instant crap and yeir of God, ane thousand six hundred and ane yeirs, and as will satisfie George Mar, at ye milne of Ythsie, for his insuken multures of his beir and aittes the said yeir, and crop, qlk suld be peyit to ye said miller.

“The said day, James and Duncan Brechins are decernit of thair ain confession to red and haud red ye marche watter gange betwixt ye lands of Ysie and Drumbeck fornent their occupationnis of the saidis landis of Ysie.”

The above extracts from a long document show the zeal with which a baron of old time exercised his jurisdiction, and in how summary a manner the complaints of parties were tried and disposed of. Their jurisdiction within their respective baronies was very extensive.¹

This William Forbes seems to have been a person of considerable skill in conducting courts and trials. He was one of the two persons appointed for Aberdeen, under King James VI. Act (1608), anent the dearth of buits and “shoone.”

William Forbes was succeeded by his son,

IX. Walter Forbes of Tolquhon.

He married before 1626, Jean Forbes, sister to Alexander, first Lord Pitsligo. In that year he infetted her, with his father's consent, in the lands of Thainston. By her he had issue :—

I. **Sir Alexander** of Tolquhon.

II. **Thomas** of Auchry, whose son, William, succeeded his uncle.

III. John.

IV. William.

i. Jean.

In 1641, there is a charter to Walter Forbes of Tolquhon, in certain lands with sasine.² In a letter, said to be in the hand-writing of Charles II., the king forbids Huntly to make any levy on Tolquhon, or to make the laird turn out because he is past sixty, and his son, Alexander, is already out, and as colonel commands a regiment of foot. In 1661, he made a disposition of various parts of Tolquhon in favour of his sons, Thomas, John, and William, and of his only daughter, Jean, for provision.

He died the same year, for on the 19th of October, his widow, Jean Forbes, took possession of Thainstone, of which she was life-rentrix; at a court held at Thaynstone, her son, Thomas, acted as agent under a commission, dated 18 October.³ He was succeeded by his eldest son,

X. Sir Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon,

He married in 1649, Dame Bathia Murray, daughter of the laird of Blackbarony, and relict of William Forbes of Craigievar. They had no issue.

He was one of three colonels for Aberdeenshire in the Scotch army of Charles II.

¹ Antiquarian Notes in Aberdeen Journal.

² Whitehaugh Charters.

³ Charters penes Whitehaugh.

He is said to have rendered particular service to that monarch at the battle of Worcester, and to have been an extraordinary agent of his subsequent escape from England.

The following singular story regarding Sir Alexander we find in "Chambers' Domestic Annals." "Sir Alexander Forbes having entertained in his house at Tolquhon, Mr. Ogilvie of Forglen, Sir J. Falconer, and Lord Pitmedden, missed immediately after they left two mazer cups on which he set great value. He wrote to Ogilvie mentioning the facts of the cups being lost, and asking if he could tell anything of them. Ogilvie though feeling that this was scarcely civil returned a friendly answer, assuring Sir Alexander that he had never seen the cups, and knew nothing directly or indirectly regarding them. Hereupon Sir Alexander replied apologetically, and for some time conducted himself in a friendly way towards Ogilvie, as if to make up for his former incivility.

"Afterwards on Ogilvie refusing to take part with him in quarrels with a third party, Sir Alexander Forbes appeared to have conceived a malicious feeling towards him. To wreak this out, he raised an action against him in the Court of Session, on the allegation that he had fraudulently abstracted the fore-mentioned cups. And when the case was called, Tolquhon had the confidence to appear personally at the bar, and own and countenance the same, and crave Ogilvie's oath of calumny anent the defamatory libel. After Ogilvie had thus acquitted himself, Tolquhon craved permission to enter on a proof of the libel by witnesses, which the Lords granted.

"While the matter was pending, Tolquhon frequently upbraided Ogilvie with the terms cup-stealer and cup-cheater; nor did he hesitate to resort to legal quirks for keeping the charge as long as possible on the head of the accused. At length the case came on, and being found solely without evidence, was pronounced to be altogether founded in malice."¹

A subsequent process by Forglen against Tolquhon was undefended by the latter, who was amerced in twenty thousand merks, whereof one half was adjudged to the aggrieved party.

The mazer cup was found in the hands of a goldsmith in Aberdeen, with whom its careless owner had left it for repair some years before, and forgot all about it.²

On Sir Alexander Forbes' death without issue, the estate, heavily burdened, passed to the family of Thomas Forbes of Auchry, second son of Walter Forbes of Tolquhon. Thomas Forbes was educated for the bar, and spent some years about 1650 in Holland and France. He married Henrietta Erskine, daughter of James Erskine, Lord Auchterhouse, second Earl of Buchan, of the Erskine family. The issue of this marriage was

I. William, of Tolquhon.

II. Thomas, born 1689.

XI. William Forbes of Tolquhon

succeeded his uncle, Sir Alexander. He was served heir to his father, Thomas Forbes, and his uncle, Sir Alexander Forbes, in 1704.³

¹ Chambers' Domestic Annals, II. p. 477.

² Wilson's Prehistoric Annals of Sect. II. p. 492.

³ Decen. Rets. 1704.

In 1706, he married Anne Leith, daughter and heiress of John Leith of Whitehaugh, and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of William, eleventh Lord Forbes. He had by her issue :—

I. William, vicar of Thornbury. He died 1761 at Bognie, and is buried at Forgue.¹

II. John Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh.

1. Henrietta.

William Forbes did not enjoy the estate long. In the last years of Sir Alexander's life it was heavily burdened, it is said, by designing persons, the laird being then in his dotage. The same individuals now procured its sale by order of the Court of Session. Mr. William Forbes, thinking himself aggrieved by the manner in which the decision was obtained, refused to quit the castle until, on the 25 September, 1718, it was attacked by a body of military, and himself wounded and taken prisoner. He afterwards left the country, but returned in January, 1728, and lived with his family in London. He died on the 5th of April of that year. The dust of the last Forbes of Tolquhon reposes with that of his wife in Westminster Abbey, and there is placed over them a black marble tomb with his name and arms, and those of his wife.²

The Forbeses of Tolquhon are still represented in the male line by Forbes-Leith of Whitehaugh.

The lands of Tolquhon were sold in November, 1716, to Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Farquhar, from whom they passed to and were occupied in 1730 by Sir John Paterson, son to Sir William Paterson, clerk to the Council under King Charles II., and grandson to Bishop Paterson of Ross.³ From Sir John Paterson they passed to William, Earl of Aberdeen, and still form a part of the Aberdeen estates.

The Patersons called Tolquhon, Granton, and regarding it there was the following prophecy :—

“ Granton ! Granton ! or Tolquhon !
When one ill's off another's on ;
And rest to ye will never be,
Till the hands of the Gordons get ye.”

—*Old Ballad.*

The prophecy has been fulfilled. Tolquhon is at rest, sombre and solitary in its decaying grandeur.

BRONZE WEAPONS.—In 1858, on the farm of Sunside of Ythsie, on the march between the lands of Robert Gordon's Hospital and those of the Earl of Aberdeen, there were found three bronze swords, two plaid pins, and a scabbard point in a good state of preservation. Two of the swords and the plaid pins were placed in the British Museum⁴ by the Earl of Aberdeen.

¹ Aberdeen Journal, 1761.

² Whitehaugh Papers.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 330.

⁴ Aberdeen Journal, 1858.

SHETHIN, AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

SHETHIN, though now merged into the Aberdeen estates, was for many years an independent property.

Among the lost charters in the time of Robert III. there is a charter of the lands of Schethin, on the resignation of John Maxwell of Pollok, to **John Ogiston** (see No. VIII. below).

The following is the descent of the Ogstons. They were in ancient times of that ilk, and are now represented by Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe.

I. Simon de Hogeston (1224-1240).

He died before 1240. From this family seated in the lands of Hogeston in Morayshire sprang all that bare the name of Ogston. Simon appears in a deed settling a controversy between himself and Andrew de Moravia, Bishop of Moray, concerning some portions of the lands of Hogeston,¹ ceded for the sake of peace and in pure and perpetual alms on behalf of his father and mother, and all his ancestors, showing that the family existed anterior to this date.

II. John de Ogiston,

seneschal to Walter de Moravia, 1240-1262, is the next mentioned in a deed, "pro Capellano Sancti Petri de Duffus." Secondly, in an inquisition made upon the lands of Meffth, A.D. 1261.²

III. Alexander de Ogiston

appears next in chronological order. He is found in 1296 among the magnates of Scotland, who performed homage to King Edward I., name in full, Alexander de Ogiston.³

IV. Reginald de Ogiston

comes next in succession. He appears in some way to have been connected with the church. In 1345, he is mentioned as Chancellor of Glasgow, and appears in the visitation, "Domus de Pluscarden, 20 October, 1345." Besides his successor, he had a daughter married to Sir Henry Cheyne of Esslemont, and a son, Reginald, who entered the church.⁴

¹ Reg. Morav. pp. 110, 111.

² *Id.* p. 275; S. Acts of Parliament, I. p. 91.

³ Bain's Scot. Documents, I. p. 96.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 304; Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 57.

V. Andrew de Ogiston

is the next of the family who appears, and, from the date 1381, had, probably enough, been son of Reginald, and brother of Reginald, rector of Forres. He is found promising to show a charter by which he held the lands of Tilliegreig in the parish of Udney.¹

VI. John de Ogiston.

He appears to have been the next of the family, which, during his life-time, was in the most flourishing condition; and, according to the custom now coming in, designed themselves as Ogyston of that ilk. They had extensive possessions in Morayshire, also in Aberdeenshire, and he acquired, as mentioned above, the lands of Schethin from John Maxwell of Pollok, and probably resided there. In a perambulation made between the lands of Udney and Tarves in 1417, Johannes de Ogiston is mentioned.²

VII. Alexander Ogiston of that ilk and Shethin,

son and heir of the preceding, is found at various dates between 1430 and 1473.³ He was connected with the Hays and Forbeses of Aberdeenshire, gave a bond of man-rent to Sir Alexander Forbes in 1430, and is mentioned in it as son and heir of John Ogiston. He is witness to a charter of Slains 1457. He sold to James Innes of Innes, under redemption, the lands of Ogiston in Morayshire, reserving the orchards and chief chymnis, with the consent of John Ogiston, his son and apparent heir.⁴

VIII. John Ogiston

of the Crag, probably Craigie near Schethin, was the son and heir of the above-mentioned Alexander Ogiston, and is mentioned in an inquisition, "facta de domo elemosianaria, anno 1464." Also Thomas Ogiston is mentioned, supposed to be of Fettercairn. John Ogiston of Crag, mentioned in letters procuratory by William Foulerton of Methlic.⁵

John of the Crag purchased the lands of Raxton or Rawyston, in the parish of Tarves, from Gilbert Hay of Urry; had a son and heir:—

I. Walter.

II. David (it is supposed) of whom afterwards. (No. X.)

IX. Walter Ogiston.

He was the last of the Ogistons of Ogiston and Schethin. He married Jane Scrimgeour, a relation; probably a sister of the Constable of Dundee; had issue two daughters:—

¹ Reg. Ep. Ab. I. p. 135.

² Robertson's Index of Charters, p. 138; Ant. A. and B.

III. p. 334; Exchequer Rolls, III. p. 330.

³ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 391.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 356; Cosmo

Innes' Inneses, p. 80.

⁵ Reg. Arbroath p. 141, 2, 3, also 159; Rep. Hist. Com. V. p. 608.

1. **Elizabeth**, married, 1493 or 1494, Sir Adam Hepburne, knight, died about 1505; had issue three daughters—1. Elizabeth, married to Sir —— Livingston of Dunipace. 2. Helen, married to Sir Patrick Hepburne of Waughton. 3. Janet, married to James Auchinleck of Kenne.¹
2. **Janet**, married to George Haliburton of Gask. Adam Hepburne was tutor to the two daughters, so appointed by the King.²

There were long lawsuits about the estates, but Elizabeth had them at last legally confirmed to her, and the King granted that they should be formed into the barony called Polgowny. Adam Hepburn and his wife founded a Theological Bursary in King's College.³

With them ended the elder branch of the Ogistons of that ilk, and we now return to David, supposed to be a brother of the above Walter Ogiston.

X. David Ogiston.

There is a probability that this David Ogiston was a son of John Ogiston of the Crag (Craigie near Schethin), and a brother, as above narrated, of Walter Ogiston. The date at which he is found mentioned, his connection with the Hays, Crawfords, Frasers, and Forbeses families with which John Ogiston of the Crag was closely associated, and the exceeding rarity of the name at that particular epoch, render it almost a matter of certainty that he was a near connection, in all likelihood a son of John and brother of Walter Ogiston. He is mentioned in a deed of sasine of William Hay in 1478.⁴ From him descend in all probability the whole of the Ogistons, who are subsequently found in Buchan.

XI. George Ogiston,

a son of the above, was probably George Ogiston in Auchmacludy. He acquired these lands in the barony of Pitsligo by marriage with Elizabeth Murray, heiress of these lands. The documentary evidence regarding him is not very full; but that he was the son of David Ogiston in Buchan is very likely, as there was no other Ogiston in Buchan whose son he could have been. George Ogiston, who before his marriage was styled in Auchmacludin about 1520, died before 1596. He is mentioned with his son, Mavius Ogiston, at a sheriff court held at Aberdeen, 7 October, 1574. Besides Mavius, he had an elder son,⁵ **George**.

XII. George Ogiston of Auchmacludy,

the son and heir of George Ogiston and Elizabeth Murray, was served heir to Auchmacludy in 1596. He got sasine of the lands of Auchmacludy, 9 July, 1606. He had issue:—

1 Douglas' Peerage, p. 84.

2 Acta Auditorium, p. 170.

3 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 17. Records Univ.
Abdn. S. C. p. 45.

4 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 352.

5 Aberdeen Rec. Office Diet
Book, 1573, p. 76.

I. **William**, his heir.

II. **George**. He is mentioned in the Sheriff Court Register of Deeds as witness to a deed, in which he is designated as son to the said George Ogiston of Auchmacludy.¹

1. Janet, married, 26 November, 1614, to Alexander Keith in Atherb.

George Ogiston was succeeded by his son,

XIII. William Ogiston of Auchmacludy.

He was a notary public ; born about 1585 ; succeeded to the lands of Auchmacludy between 1633 and 1646. The following deed from the Aberdeen Sheriff Court Register of Deeds shows his relationship to George Ogiston—"Obligation registered 16 July, 1625. Thomas Findlay in Badichel to George Ogiston of Auchmacludie, written by me, Mr. William Ogiston, sone to George Ogiston of Auchmacludie."² He and his wife, Christian Wilson, got, in 1660, the lands of Ardlaw. He died in 1661, and his widow married Mr. Alexander White of Castletown. He had by his wife three sons and three daughters :—

I. **George**, of whom afterwards.

II. **William**, of Auchmacludie. He was born about the year 1635, and after his father's death succeeded to the family estate, and was the last Ogiston of Auchmacludy. He married Magdalene, daughter of Alexander Forbes of Pitblee, and heires portioner of William Forbes of Tombeg, and got two hundred merks as a dowry.³

III. **John**, schoolmaster in Turriff, mentioned in an obligation dated at Turriff, 3 August, 1669.

1. Barbara, married, before 1673, Walter Simpson of Balquihmachie.

2. Christian, married, before 1658, George Adamson in Glasgow.

3. Janet, married Allan Bridge, sailing master, Fraserburgh.⁴

The above-mentioned William Ogiston died in 1661. His eldest son is the next in succession.

XIV. George Ogiston.

It does not appear why his next brother succeeded in place of him to the estate of Auchmacludy. He is the only member of the family who has left any descendants. This George Ogiston is expressly designated as the oldest lawful son of William Ogiston in Auchmacludy, and his wife, Christian Wilson. In "Aberdeen Sheriff Court Register of Deeds," Vol. 1662-1663, there is obligation registered betwixt George Ogistown, eldest lawful son to the deceased Mr. William Ogiston, some time in Auchmacludie, and Christian Wilson, my spouse, &c.

He had for some time the lands of Ardlaw, and was in Coburty. He died between

¹ Sheriff Court Records, Vols. 1624, 1627.

² Sheriff Court Register.

³ Abdn. Rec. Office, Marr. Cont., Reg. of Deeds, Vol. 1703, p. 4.

⁴ Abdn. Sasine Reg. January 15, 1686.

1685-96. The name of his wife is unknown, but he is found succeeded in the farm of Ironhill of Coburty by John Ogiston, in all probability his son.

XV. John Ogston

is the next found as farmer in Coburty. The estate of Coburty has since these days passed through so many hands that any evidence from documents is difficult to obtain.

In the "Poll Book" II. p. 63, is found the valuation of the lands of Coburty, &c.¹

John Ogistone in Urinell taxed 5s. 4d., and again, Ogistone, tenant there, and his wife, 12s.²

In Aberdeen kirk-session records an entry is made of a certificate of church membership given to John Ogston, some time in Urinell.

XVI. James Ogston

is found in the farm of Urinell of Coburty four years after his predecessor (his father?), John Ogston, had left the farm. The kirk-session records of Aberdour show that in 1702 it was reported to the kirk-session that on the 13th of June, 1702, James Ogston and Margaret Forbes, both in Urinell, were contracted in marriage, and their proclamations going on. July 26, 1702, it is found that James Ogston and Margaret Forbes are orderly married. They seem to have had three sons:—

I. James, found in Aberdour registers. James Ogston in Coburty had a son by his wife, Margaret Forbes, named James. He died in infancy.

II. **William**, who succeeded to the farm.

III. James, born 1716; married Jane Milne, and died 24 August, 1789. His tombstone is in Aberdour churchyard; had issue, Elizabeth, died aged 30. James, in Fisherbriggs, who married, and had issue.

The next in order is

XVII. William Ogston,

farmer, Ironhill, Coburty. He was baptised 17 January, 1706. He married, when about 18 years of age, Elizabeth Ritchie, and had issue:—

I. William, farmer, Aberdour, married, and had issue; went to New York, where he died, having survived all his children.

II. **Alexander**, schoolmaster, Tarves, of whom afterwards.

III. George, St. Fergus, married Jane Beaton; died after 1800, without issue.

IV. James, died young.

1. Mary.

2. Jane, married William Urquhart, and had issue.

The next is

XVIII. Alexander Ogston.

He was schoolmaster of Tarves; son of William Ogston and Elizabeth Ritchie, in

¹ Poll Book II. p. 63.

² Abdn. Kirk-Sess. Rec. Vol. from 29 Aug. 1697 to 21 Mar. 1703.

Ironhill of Coburtie. He was born about 1725, and graduated M.A. at Marischal College. He became parish schoolmaster of Tarves; married, about 1760, a widow, ——— Lind or Paterson, who, at the time of her marriage, had four children by her first marriage. In his later years, Alexander Ogston retired to Aberdeen, where he died in 1774, and was buried along with his wife and children in Footdee churchyard. His children's names were:—

I. George, flax-dresser, Aberdeen, born at Tarves, died aged 22.

II. James, born at Tarves, died aged 15.

III. **Alexander**, of whom afterwards.

1. Catharine, died aged 16.

The next in succession is

XIX. Alexander Ogston.

He was third son of the above-mentioned Alexander Ogston, schoolmaster, Tarves. He was born 1766. He was a manufacturer in Aberdeen; married Helen, daughter of Alexander Milne, Mill of Petty, Fyvie, and had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, of Ardoe, of him afterwards.

II. George, born 9 August, 1801. He was twice married, but died without issue in Australia.

III. Francis, M.D., Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Aberdeen; born 28 July, 1803; married, 17 June, 1841, Amelia, daughter of Mr. Cadenhead, advocate, Aberdeen. She died 10 May, 1854, aged 54; issue two sons and two daughters:—

I. Alexander, M.D. in Aberdeen; married, 25 September, 1867, Mary Jane, daughter of James Hargreave, Hudson's Bay Company's service. She died 28 December, 1873, aged 25; issue, two sons and two daughters.

II. Francis, M.D., Aberdeen; born 23 June, 1846.

1. Jane, born 17 July, 1842; married, 22 July, 1872, Rev. Henry Cowan.

2. Helen Milne, born 25 April, 1848; married, 11 June, 1872, Archibald Edward Malloch, M.D., Hamilton, Canada, d. s. p. 5 January, 1873.

1. Sarah, born 30 October, 1797; married, 28 July, 1825, David Gill, painter, Aberdeen; issue, four sons and four daughters.

2. Helen, born 5 June, 1813; married, 30 November, 1854, William Reid, insurance agent, Aberdeen; died 28 November, 1874; issue, one daughter.

Alexander Ogston died 27 July, 1838. The next is his son,

XX. Alexander Ogston of Ardoe.

He was born May 9, 1799. He married, 18 December, 1834, Eliot Lawrence, daughter of James Lawrence, manufacturer, Aberdeen; had issue:—

I. **Alexander Milne**, of whom afterwards.

II. James, of Norwood, manufacturer, Aberdeen; born 29 May, 1845. He married, 27 October, 1875, Anne Leslie Jamieson, daughter of George Jamieson of Drumgarth, Aberdeen.

1. Eliot, born 22 May, 1837; married, July 2, 1862, John Miller, manufacturer, Aberdeen; issue, two sons and two daughters.
2. Helen, born March 5, 1839; died 1849.
3. Sarah, born 14 January, 1841; married, 3 April, 1856, Peter Clarke, Fellow Trinity College, Cambridge, who died 5 October, 1870; issue, two sons and two daughters.
4. Amelia, born 12 August, 1848; married, 1 February, 1872, Edward Carless, M.D.; issue three sons.

Alexander Ogston died 11 December, 1849. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XXI. Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe,

manufacturer, Aberdeen, the representative of Ogston of that ilk, Shethin, &c., born February 21, 1836; married, 16 April, 1872, Katharine Anne Mitchell Rennie, daughter of Charles Hill Moray Rennie, Aberdeen, and has issue:—

I. Alexander Gordon, born 8 June, 1875.

1. Katharine Emily, born 3 February, 1873.

2. Elliot Mabel, born 26 April, 1874.

In the year 1872 it was represented to the Herald Office that the family of Ogston, then represented by Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe, had, by the extinction of all others of the name, whose descent could be traced, become the sole representatives of the Ogstons of that ilk.

An application was made in 1876 to the Herald Office to grant the arms of that ilk to the family represented by Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe, as being their representative and lineal descendant.

On the 14 March, 1876, the evidence concerning the claim was submitted to the Lord Lyon King of Arms, and after considering the same, and hearing explanations concerning various points requiring elucidation, he was pleased to admit the same, and to grant the arms of the Ogstons of that ilk to the family represented by Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe.

Arms of Alexander Milne Ogston of Ardoe—Argent, three mascles sable, on a chief of the second, two lions passant of the first armed and langued gules. Above the shield is placed a helmet befitting his degree with a mantling gules, doubled argent, and on a wreath of his liveries is set up for a crest a lion as in the arms, and on an escroll over the same the motto “*vi et animo.*”

We now return to **Elizabeth**, daughter of Walter Ogston of Shethin. (No. IX.) She married in 1493 or 1494, Sir Adam Hepburn, knight, and they had, as above narrated three daughters —

1. Elizabeth, married to Sir ——— Livingston of Dunipace.
2. Helen, married to Sir Patrick Hepburne of Waughton.
3. Janet, married to James Auchinleck of Kenny, and had issue, William.¹

Elizabeth Hepburne of Schethin had sasine of the lands of Schethin in 1525, and was probably succeeded by her grandson, son of her daughter Janet.

I. William Auchinleck of Schethin.

Regarding him we find the following, "William Auchinleck of Schethin and Isobel Cheyne his wife, had a charter confirmed by Queen Mary to them and their heirs, 1550, in conjunct fee of the lands of Fingassie, with the half of the boat in the port of Pittendrum, in the barony of Polgony and sheriffdom of Aberdeen."² In 1559, William Auchinleck of Schethin is appointed one of the judges for determining the marches betwixt Gask and Innernytie (Invernettie). The next to be found, probably a son, is

II. George Auchinleck of Schethin.

He is mentioned in a deed of date 1598. He received sasine of the lands of Polgonie, a third part of the lands of Schethin, the third part of the fishing of one boat in the harbour of Pittendrum, a third part of the two part of the lands of Dunlopy, &c., all to be erected into one barony, called the barony of Schethin. He also had the lands of Balmanno.³ Soon after this date there is a new owner of the lands of Schethin, namely, a descendant of the family of Pitmedden in the neighbourhood.

I. George Seaton of Schethin.

In 1613, there is a royal charter of confirmation by King James VI. of the lands of Orchardtown as principal, and of Esslemont in warrandice granted to Arthur Seaton in life-rent, and George Seaton of Schethin in fee dated 16 January. George Seaton dies about 1625, and is succeeded by his son,⁴

II. William Seaton of Schethin.

He was served heir male of his father, George Seaton de Schethin, in two parts of the manor of Schethin, the town and lands of Orchardtown, with the smiddie and smiddie croft in principal lying in the parish of Udney. In 1644, Spalding mentions William Seaton of Schethin as having forty-four soldiers, &c.⁵ The next to be found, is

III. Rev. John Seaton, minister of Foveran.

He probably succeeded the above William Seaton of Schethin, we find him succeeded by

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 668.

² Id., p. 667.

³ Id., p. 668.

⁴ Gordon's College Charter.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Aberd. No. 193. Spalding Troubles.

IV. Rev. William Seaton, minister of Logiebuchan.

He was served heir to Rev. John Seaton, minister of Foveran, his father, in the town and dominical lands of Schethin in the parish of Tarves, June 26, 1668. The next is

V. James Seaton of Schethin.

He was served nearest heir, November 1, 1672, to his father, William Seaton, minister of Logiebuchan, in the dominical lands of Schethin, with the manor place and pertinents within the parish of Tarves, held in chief of the king and his successors for service of ward and relief.¹

Shethin eventually, as already mentioned, merged into the estates of the Earl of Aberdeen. For the last two hundred years the chief farm on this estate has been rented by a family of the name of Hay, a descendant of which family still occupies the farm.

I. James Hay in Shethin.

In 1696, he paid for himself and his wife 12s. of poll tax. He was the son of ——— Hay in Knockiemill, near Turriff. He had issue a son, his successor.

II. William Hay in Shethin.

He married Mary White, and had issue at least one son, **James**, his successor, and a daughter, Jessie, married to Alexander Davidson, Auchedly, who was grandmother of Dr. Samuel Davidson, the much respected medical practitioner at Wartle.

III. James Hay in Shethin.

He married Jean, daughter of John Sim in Auchedly, by Jean Annand, a descendant of the Annands of Auchterellon, and had issue six sons and six daughters:—

- I. John, in Little Ythsie; married Jane, daughter of Mr. Mair, in Mill of Birness, and had issue two sons—I. James, in Little Ythsie, married, and had issue, among others, James, now in Little Ythsie, vice-convener of the County Council of Aberdeen; he is married and has issue. II. John, now Sir John Hay, K.C.M.G., President of the Legislative Council, N.S.W. He married Miss Chalmers.
- II. George, in Nethermill, married, and had issue one son and one daughter.
- III. **William**, in Craigies, afterwards in Shethin.
- IV. **Alexander**, merchant burghess, Aberdeen, afterwards in Shethin.
- V. Patrick, M.D., entered the army as a surgeon, but left the profession, and became a captain in the army. He took part in the battle of Waterloo, where he was wounded. He afterwards went to India as aide-de-camp to the Governor of Madras, where he died in 1827. A monument was erected to his memory by his brother officers with the following inscription

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 76.

“Underneath this monument lie the remains of Captain Patrick Hay, M.D., 73rd Regiment; aide-de-camp to the Right Hon. Mr. Lushington, Governor of Madras, who departed this life, 18 November, 1827.

VI. James, died in Jamaica.

1. Isabella, married to James Milne, in Mains of Esslemont, and had issue a large family (see Mains of Esslemont).
2. Mary, married to ——— Baird, Aberdeen.
3. Margaret, married to George Williamson, Aberdeen.
4. ———, married to Mair, Aberdeen, who afterwards went to North America.
5. and 6. Daughters, unmarried.

James Hay died September 12, 1812, and was succeeded by his fourth son,

IV. Alexander Hay in Shethin.

According to the late Mr. M'Combie, M.P., of Tillyfour, he was the first who introduced “shorthorns” into Aberdeenshire.¹ He died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother,

V. William Hay in Shethin.

According to the same authority,² he was also a famous breeder of shorthorns, and one of the greatest feeders in the north. He was the first man in the county of Aberdeen who gained a prize at the Smithfield Club Show, the animal being a Hereford ox; and he was also the first that sent cattle by railway to London. He married Ann, daughter of Alexander Ligertwood of Logierieve, and had issue one daughter, Sophia, who married George Shepherd in Craigies, afterwards in Shethin. Mr. Hay was succeeded by his son-in-law,

VI. George Shepherd in Shethin.

He was the son of George Shepherd of Blair and in Balcairn; grandson of Rev. John Shepherd, minister of Bourtie. He acquired the property of Lundie in Forfarshire. He died January 18, 1881, leaving the following family:—

I. **George**, of whom afterwards.

II. Rev. Alexander, minister of Ecclesmachan, married Miss Dawson, daughter of the Provost of Linlithgow.

III. John, now of Lundie, Forfarshire.

George Shepherd was succeeded in Shethin by his son,

VII. George Shepherd of Braco and Chapelton, Forfarshire.

He married Ellen, daughter of James Hay in Ythsie, and has issue:—

I. **George**.

¹ M'Combie's Cattle Breeders, p. 86.

² M'Combie's Cattle Breeders, p. 86.

- II. James Hay.
- III. John Alexander.
- IV. William.
- V. Arthur.
- 1. Ellen.
- 2. Sophia Jane.
- 3. Emily.
- 4. Mary Anne.

ANTIQUITIES.

CHAPEL OF ST. JOHN AT SHETHIN.—In the "View of the Diocese," a chapel is mentioned at Shethin. It was near the site of the mansion house. Some remains were found on the site, and the font was removed to Ellon Castle.

CAMP AT SHETHIN.—There was at one time distinct traces of a camp, but its date is unknown, and its origin, whether Roman or modern, is uncertain.

STANDING STONES.—In a field to the west of the farm house there is a stone circle in good preservation. It consists of ten stones, of which one to the south-west is of considerable size.

CASTLE OF SHETHIN, of which there are no remains, was one of those that the Estates of Parliament, during the wars of the Covenant, ordered to be razed, if the proprietors failed to take the oaths required by Act of Parliament.

C R A I G D A M.

THE congregation of United Presbyterians who assemble here is not without an interesting history. It is one of the earliest of the congregations of the Secession in the county of Aberdeen, and was established about the year 1752, mainly by the exertions of William Ferguson of Kinmundy, and his wife, Elizabeth Deans, parishioners of Old Deer. In that year (1752), William Brown was ordained by the Secession Presbytery of Dunfermline. There was no church built at the time of his settlement, but a site was given by William, third Earl of Aberdeen. Mr. Brown's call was signed by about twenty-four members, and these worthy men when they signed the call did not think of offering any stipend, and when the Presbytery prudently inquired into this very necessary matter, one of the Commissioners gave as his reply, "The silver and the gold is mine saith the Lord of Hosts." The congregation as it was the only one in the county was a flourishing one.

Many hands would come on a Sunday morning all the way from Rosehearty, Peterhead, and Old Deer. Indeed for many years after Mr. Brown's appointment, it was the only Secession Meeting House between the Dee and the Spey. Mr. Brown was born in the parish of Forgandenny, Perthshire. He was a man of small stature, but of great activity, bodily and mentally, an earnest and fervid preacher. As a specimen of his earnestness, Mr. Brown once ventured to print a sermon, and sent it to David Chalmers, who, in reply to his inquiries, said his sermon contained so many "O's," that his fount of them was exhausted, and the printing of the sermon had to be delayed until a new supply of "O's" came from Edinburgh.¹

He was highly respected by his congregation and the people generally. He lived to a good old age, dying in the year 1801, in the seventy-third year of his age, and the forty-ninth of his ministry. He married Miss Christian Hay from Elgin, and had issue three sons and two daughters :—

- I. John, of the medical profession, emigrated, and died in early life.
- II. William, proprietor and publisher of the "Edinburgh Weekly Journal," married Miss Janet Wilson, and had issue four sons and two daughters. Christian, the eldest daughter became the wife of William Millar, S.S.C., Elizabeth died unmarried in 1853.
- III. Alexander, was a bookseller and publisher in Aberdeen. He served his apprenticeship with Mr. Knight, bookseller in the Gallowgate, the father

¹ Baillie Walker's Notes to the Editor, since published.

of Professor Knight of Marischal College. He started as bookseller in the Upperkirkgate in 1785; founded with his son William and the late Forbes Frost, the firm of A. Brown & Co., booksellers, in 1814. He was Provost of Aberdeen in 1826-28, and died in 1848. He had issue:—

- I. Charles, D.D., Edinburgh, Moderator of the Free Church in 1873.
- II. Rev. Principal Brown of the Free Church College, Aberdeen.
- III. William, succeeded his father in the Stamp Office, and had issue, among others, Rev. William Brown Borthwick.
- IV. James, died unmarried.
 1. Margaret, wife of Rev. John Murray, D.D., Free North Church.
 2. Catharine, wife of Rev. Joseph Thorburn, Forglen and Inverness.
 3. Isabella, wife of Rev. Mr. Barclay, Auldearn.
1. Isabella, the eldest daughter of Rev. Mr. Brown of Craigmadam, married James Ferguson of Kinmundy, and had issue five sons and two daughters, of whom the eldest son, James, succeeded his father in Kinmundy. He married Emily Chalmers, and had issue two sons, of whom, the eldest son, William, is now of Kinmundy.
2. Catharine, the second daughter of Rev. Mr. Brown of Craigmadam, married her cousin, Alexander Brown in Rainiestown, and had issue five sons and two daughters—
 - I. William, some time farmer in Craig of Udney.
 - II. James, chemist, Old Deer.
 - III. Archibald in Craig of Udney.
 - IV. Alexander, minister of the Original Secession, Cupar-Fife.
 - V. John, merchant, Aberdeen, unmarried.
 1. Isabella, unmarried.
 2. Catharine, married to James Keith, Chappelton, Ellon, and had issue.

Mr. Brown was succeeded by the Rev. Patrick Robertson.

He was ordained in 1804, and remained till the year 1841, when he was translated to Charlotte Street chapel, Aberdeen. Mr. Robertson was a very popular preacher, the Spurgeon of his day and district. Professor Masson, in "Macmillan's Magazine," gives the following account of him as he appeared in Charlotte Street chapel. "He was a gray-haired veteran, whose natural genius was mainly that of a humorist, and who carried something of the comic into the pulpit, where he spoke a dialect not far from the vernacular Scotch; but where he was very shrewd, very fervid, and very evangelical. Passionate searchers as some of us then were," continues the Professor, "we were willing to try what even Patrick Robertson could do for us in that commodity, and occasionally dropped in on his Sunday evening lecture. It was really very racy matter. Not only did he give us what we were willing to call ideas; but I once heard from him what I call an idea respecting ideas. It came in this wise. 'And O, my freens,' he said, beginning a new section of his discourse, and speaking in his usual semi-Scotch, which spelling will hardly indicate. 'And now, my freens, I am going to give you an

idea (pronounced eidaia). This idea that I am going to give you is not of so much use in itself, as it will be of making way in your minds for another idea that I mean to give you afterwards, but which you wadna be sae likely to understand if I didna give you this idea first. There are lots of pairs of ideas, my brethren, they are connected in this, you may ca' them needle-and-thread ideas.'"

Another writer thus speaks of him—"He preached in the broadest vernacular, with a vigour in his last days almost equal to anything in the 'Noctes Ambrosianæ.'" The said writer once walked a distance of six miles to a place called Whitehills, in Banffshire, to hear Mr. Robertson preach. The subject of his discourse led him to describe the sisters of Lazarus. Mary, he characterised in the following terms:—"Mary was a quait cratur, and sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to his sweet discourse, and thoct he never heard anything like it. But Martha was a thrifty, futherin' wife, that futherit but the house and ben the house, and had a' her pots and a' her pans ga'en, and heard a word now and a word then, and like ither thrifty wimen had a gey sharp tongue of her ain, for she cudna keep her ill tongue aff o' our Lord himsel'." At a subsequent part of his discourse, he threw the old bodies into a state of perceptible emotion by a singularly direct reference to a subject on which all women are supposed to be very sensitive. "Here ye are sitten wi' yer auld withered faces that's bonnier to me than a lass in her teens; for I ken ye hae seen sixty or seventy summers, ilk ane o' you, and yer auld withered faces just say to me, we hae served our Maister threescore years, and we are nae tired serving Him yet."

On a sacramental occasion, he would say, "My brethren, the muckle broth pot is on to-day; ye sanna get speenifas and speenifas, but ladlefuls and ladlefuls." And on preaching on the call of Moses, he would say, "Far d'ye think, my freens, did Moses fin' God's chosen people; far d'ye think he fan' them, and fat were they daein'? He jist fan' them in the land of Goschen, with their sark sleeves rowed up to their oxters, kirning amongst clay making bricks."

In lecturing on the Shorter Catechism (according to Baillie Walker, who has exhausted the subject), he was on the question, "Is any man in this life able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?" Few would likely forget how impossible this was, when Mr. Robertson gravely informed them, "Ye can nae mair dae it, ma freens, than a cow can clim' up a tree."

Again, lecturing on Jacob's ladder, and of the angels ascending and descending on it so easily, he contrasted this with the futile attempts of the self-righteous man to enter heaven by his own merit or good works, and forcibly pictured this in the awkward sprawlings of the sinners on the rungs of the laider. "Ma freens," said he, "he may get up sae far, but jist the farrer he thinks himsel' abeen his fellowmen, and the nearer he thinks himsel' to the yetts of heaven, just the saier will the clype be he will get when he dis fa', for fa' he will."

Like all seceders, Mr. Robertson magnified and upheld the Church. Preaching a sermon on the woman "who, having lost a piece of money, lighted a candle, and with a

besom swept the house till she found it." According to Mr. Robertson, the woman represented the Church, the candle God's Word, and the besom was the discipline of the Church. Applying them to the various churches, he said that in the Roman Catholic and the Episcopal churches, there was neither candle nor besom—neither truth nor discipline; and as for the Established kirk, they had for truth, but the glimmer of a canle, and a' that they had for a besom was but the hanle of one; and in the Independent, they had a licht that he would not deny, but they had far ower mony besoms. Ilka member had a besom, and he swipet, and she swipet, and a'budy swipet, and atween them a' they raised sic a stour, that nae ane o' them cud see the canle for the clouds of dust they had raised.

Meeting a farm servant coming home from Margaret's Fair at Tarves, who was needing all the road to hold him, Mr. Robertson, seeing his condition, would fain have passed him without recognition. But this could not be. "Eh, Mr. Robertson," quo the servant, "dae ye no ken me, and me ane o' yir ane converts." "So yir ane o' my ain converts," said Mr. Robertson, "Weel, weel man, yir like a hantle o' my haniwark, nae muckle worth."

Mr. Robertson had many controversial sermons, and even though preaching in an independent congregation, any considerations of his being indebted to them did not prevent him from giving an exposition of what he considered their faults.

On one occasion he visited Huntly, where he was very popular and preached in the Independent chapel, his sermon was on the "Dead flies which caused the apothecary's ointment to stink." The healing ointment was the Church, and the dead flies the errors and abuses and corruptions of the Church which had crept into it, and he proceeded to detail with great unction all these, first in the Roman church, second in the Episcopal church, who he described as not much better than the Roman, thirdly in the Kirk of Scotland, fourthly in the Independent, and lastly in the Secession. He detailed the errors of the first four with great vigour. The Independents, many of whom were in their own place of worship, were treated to such an exhibition of the faults of that system as they had seldom heard before; but consoled themselves with the reflection that a man who was so faithful in confessing and commenting on the errors of the church, would not spare the dead flies in the Secession church. But what was their mortification when Mr. Robertson came to the fifth and last head, he took out his watch, and with well feigned astonishment said, "Ma freens, it is too late to begin this important head." It is needless to say that this was simply an illustration of his sly and pawky humour. That opportunity was never known to have come, until he joined the Free Church, when he found a great number of dead flies in his old church.

One time a near relative of Mr. Robertson's called to his recollection a reproof he gave in the church of Craigdam to some of his parishioners, who allowed their dogs to accompany them to the place of worship to the annoyance of the minister and the congregation. Mr. Robertson remarked, that he would "Be muckle obliged if the relations of these dogs would keep them at hame." Mr. Robertson said, "He didna

min upon't"; but remarked, "Ma lass de ye min far my text was that Sabbath." On a reply in the negative, Mr. Robertson said, "Weel, weel, ye min weel on the 'enemy's' bits in my sermons, but nane upon the word of God."

Mr. Robertson, according to Baillie Walker, had a great variety in his discourses, many popular ministers are quite exhausted of their ideas and scriptural knowledge; but such a judgment could never be pronounced on Mr. Robertson, even by his constant hearers, our minister, they said, comes out with something new every day. Mr. Robertson removed from Craigdam in 1841, and was appointed minister of Charlotte Street Secession Chapel, Aberdeen.

For a time after his appointment, the old man was a success, at least as far as attendance at his evening lecture went; but he never succeeded in raising an influential congregation. Mr. Robertson sympathised with the Disruption, and in his prayers frequently prayed for the success of the Free Church, adding, "For Thou, O Lord, knowest that we are a' Free Church men." Mr. Robertson went over to the Free Church, but failed to carry his congregation with him, and was appointed to the Free Church of Culsalmond, which then assembled in a miserable hovel in the Glens of Foudland. There he spent about ten years, when the infirmities of age beginning to tell upon him, he retired. He lived first at Lonmay with some relatives, and at last removed to Aberdeen. He really never had been happy since he left his first charge, he was too old to transplant, and he often recalled the memories and associations of Craigdam. He wished much to see once more his old beloved flock, and obtained permission to preach to them once more, where with much of the fire and enthusiasm of his early days he preached a moving and affecting sermon. Whilst he lived at Aberdeen during his latter days, he was lovingly cared for by dear relatives. Some traits of the quaint old man would occasionally appear. One afternoon while having tea with the family the host was called out of the room, and before he returned, Mr. Robertson had risen and left the table. On his host returning Mr. Robertson drew his chair again to the table, and was preparing to resume his meal, when he was reminded that he had just finished his tea. To enable him to retire early family worship was held immediately, which Mr. Robertson conducted. To the amusement of his relatives, after thanking the Giver of all good for the meal they had just partaken of, he continued, "But O Lord thou knowest very well that it has been but a very poor affair."

Mr. Robertson died July 26, 1867, aged ninety, and was buried in Nellfield Cemetery.

Among Mr. Robertson's successors at Craigdam were the Rev. Mr. Turner, and Rev. Mr. Auchterlonie, now minister of Craigdam.

CAIRNBROGGIE, TARVES.

CAIRNBROGGIE derives its name from several cairns which at one time existed upon it. They have, however, long ago disappeared, having been dug out from the foundation many years ago by the tenant, the late Captain Marr. No remains were got, but in the neighbourhood some gold coins of the reign of James IV. were found.

Cairnbroggie, at an early period, formed part of the numerous estates belonging to the Abbey of Arbroath, and was a portion of the estate of Tarves belonging to the Abbey. In 1498, the villa de Carnebroggie et Coullie is mentioned in an assedation of certain portions of these made to Thomas Pratt, burghess of Aberdeen, by David, Abbot of Arbroath.¹ In 1666, it is owned by Alexander Davidson of Carnebroggie. A flat slab in the south-west of the nave of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, has the following inscription:—
“Hic requiescit Magister Alexander Davidson de Carnebroggie, juris consultus qui obiit, 26 Aprilis, MDCLXVI., et Magister Alexander Davidson, filius ejus moriens 2 Aprilis, MDCLXXXV.”² [Here rest Mr. Alexander Davidson of Carnebroggie, lawyer, who died 26th of April, 1666, and of Mr. Alexander Davidson, his son, who died 2 April, 1685.]

The son mentioned in this inscription was also laird of Carnebroggie. They possessed also Newton of Culsalmond, now possessed by a family of the name of Gordon. They were designed of Cairnbroggie down to about 1732.

Regarding some members of the family there are the following retours. In 1722, George Davidson of Cairnbroggie is served heir to his brother, James Davidson of Tillymorgan, heir of provision general.³ In 1730, Margaret Davidson or Thain, wife of William Thain of Blackhall, is served heir to her brother, George Davidson of Cairnbroggie, who died 29 March, 1722, in the lands and Mill of Cairnbroggie. Again there is the following—Alexander Davidson or Gordon of Gight to his grand-uncle, George Davidson of Cairnbroggie, date 28 July, 1739.⁴

Cairnbroggie soon after this merged into the Aberdeen estates.

The farm has long been rented by a family of the name of Marr. **John Marr** (captain, in 1804,⁵ of the Udny volunteers, with Robert Temple, lieutenant, and Thomas Davidson as ensign) came, about the end of the last century, into possession.

The farm was then in a very different condition from what it is now. There was much waste land upon it, which Mr. Marr brought into a high state of cultivation. Mr.

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 261.

² Tombstone, St. Nicholas.

³ Decen. Rets. 1722.

⁴ Decen. Spec. Rets. 1739.

⁵ Aberdeen Almanac, 1804.

Marr was highly respected in the district, and the poor always found in him a generous friend. He married Barbara Smith, by whom he had five sons and three daughters :—

- I. William Smith, presently in Uppermill, Tarves, married first, Helen Bean, issue, three sons and three daughters ; secondly, Elizabeth Munroe ; issue, four sons. He is a great shorthorn breeder.
- II. **George**, of whom afterwards.
- III. Alexander, died aged 20.
- IV. James, died in boyhood.
- V. John, married, issue a large family. He took the large farm of Llan-Llan in Carmarthenshire, Wales. He died aged about 60, and his family are still settled there.
 1. Anne, married William Walker in Tilliemaud ; issue six sons and four daughters.
 2. Helen, married Mr. Hay, Shevado ; issue two daughters.
 3. Barbara, married Alexander Walker in Anguston, Peterculter ; issue five sons and five daughters.

Captain Marr died in 1849, and was succeeded in Cairnbroggie by his second son,

II. George Marr, M.A., of Hatton.

He was educated at the University of Aberdeen, of which he was a graduate. He was one of those tenants who had a degree at a University, of whom George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen, was so proud. He was author of an essay on the agricultural labourer, and the best means of improving their condition, besides other literary work. He still further improved the farm by draining and enclosing. He had a fine herd of shorthorned cattle, and was a fine specimen of an intelligent and successful farmer. He married Isabella, daughter of Rev. Mr. Alison of the U.P. church in Stewartfield, in Buchan, by whom he had a large family of fourteen, of whom no less than eight were carried off by diphtheria in one month, January, 1862. Mr. Marr died in 1880 aged fifty-nine, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. John Marr in Cairnbroggie, and II. of Hatton.

He was born in 1849 ; was educated at the Gymnasium, Old Aberdeen, and the University of Aberdeen. Mr. Marr has held a commission as lieutenant in the Tarves Volunteer Corps since 1874. He is a breeder of Clydesdale horses. He married Jemima Jane Stuart, daughter of the late James Strachan in Findon, Gamrie, and has issue four sons and four daughters.

THE CHURCH AND MINISTERS OF METHLIC.

THE church of Methlic was dedicated to St. Devenick. His feast was on the 13th of November.¹

In 1365, Walter de Menteith, Lord of Petmacalder, with consent of John, his son and heir, gave to the vicar of the parish church of St. Devenick, Methlic, a certain piece of ground lying near the Ythan which is called "Le Hauch," stretching on the one part from the ford of the water of Methlic, to the ford which is called "Clochy" on the other part.²

The number of canons and prebendaries of the cathedral of St. Machar was at first twelve, but afterwards more were added, Methlic was made a prebend in 1362, by Bishop Alexander Kininmond II. Its value was fifty merks. The division of the Diocese before the Reformation was into five Deaneries, Mar, Buchan, Boyne, Garioch, Aberdeen. Methlic was in Buchan Deanery, and is now in the Presbytery of Ellon and Synod of Aberdeen.³

Of the ministers and prebendaries before the Reformation, the names of a few have been preserved.

John de Edname was prebend in 1376. In that year a manse was founded for him in connection with the cathedral of St. Machar.⁴

Ingelram de Lindsay, prebendary of Methlic, was, 11 February, 1440, elected Bishop of Aberdeen. He was one of the Acolytes of Pope Eugenius IV., and witnessed as Bishop of Aberdeen, a charter dated 22 April, 1444. On December 1, 1448, Bishop Ingelram was present at a meeting of chapter, in which was enacted many statutes for the regulation of the affairs of the cathedral. On 26 March, 1451, the clergy and people of Aberdeen obtained a bull from Pope Nicholas V., granting a licence to prosecute the salmon fishings on Sundays and festivals during the five months in which those fish chiefly frequented the coast, on the condition that the first salmon caught on each Sunday and festival should be paid to the fabric of the parish church. He was a liberal benefactor to the church, having put a stone roof on the cathedral, and laid its pavement. He died soon after 1458.⁵

David Strathauchin in 1462, was prebendary of Methlic, and one of the two subdeacons of the cathedral.⁶

1 Ant. A. and E. I. p. 141.

2 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 112.

3 Ant. A. and E. I. p. 138.

4 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 114.

5 Id. Pref. p. xl.

6 Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 98.

Duncan Burnett, prebendary of Methlick, signed in 1549, an assedation of certain lands of the Bishopric of Aberdeen, to Martin Howieson. He gave to the Convent of St. Francisens, Aberdeen, ten merks with divers other alms; also a vestment of fur to the great altar, and ane vestment for the other altars of the same. He died March, 1552.¹

Thomas Burnett, prebend and rector. He is mentioned as witness to charters of date 1556, and in 1569, he is witness to a lease of the vicarage teinds of the Mains of Leslie and Edingarroch.²

Alexander Anderson, principal of King's College, was the last rector and prebend before the Reformation. He, together with certain of his colleagues, in the Church and University of Aberdeen, held a public disputation at Edinburgh, in January, 1561, against Mr. John Knox and other teachers of the reformed doctrines. He was ejected from his place in the University, and died 23 January, 1577.³

After the Reformation, Nicol Smith was reader from 1567-1580.⁴

Walter Stewart, sub-principal of King's College, was appointed to the church of Methlick in 1583. The same year he was appointed Principal of King's College; but still continued in the parochial charge of Methlic. Orem says of him, "A very hopeful person taken away in the thirty-sixth year of his age."⁵

John Mercer, was second son of James Mercer of Newton. He was accused of absence from the Provincial Assembly, 23 April, 1601, for which he was made to pay five merks under pain of suspension. He signed the protestation in favour of the liberties of the kirk, June, 1617, and was translated to Slains after 17 March, 1619.⁶

Adam Reid, was regent in Marischal College. He was appointed prior to 4 November, 1619, and died in November, 1632, leaving a son, Patrick, and a daughter, Isobel, to whom Mr. Robert Reid, minister of Banchory-Ternan, was appointed guardian, as their nearest agnate, 11 June, 1633.⁷

William Seaton, M.A., graduated 1611, was appointed to Methlic, 1633, translated to Logiebuchan in 1635.⁸

William Strachan, was regent in King's College, was appointed to Methlic in 1655, a member of the Assembly in 1630, and was translated, 1649, to Oldmachar.⁹

Robert Ogilvie, A.M., sub-principal of King's College, was appointed by the Masters of said College, and ordained 14th April, 1641. He died March, 1663, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and twenty-third of his ministry.

George Anderson, graduated at King's College in 1655, was ordained to Methlic, 22 November, 1663. He scrupled to take the test appointed by Government in 1681,

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 443; S. C. Mis. I. p. 64.

2 Id. pp. 354, 381, 400.

3 Id. I. p. 310.

4 Id. p. 329.

5 Orem's Old Abdn. p. 247; New Stat. Acct.

(Methlick); Scott's Fasti, p. 611.

6 New Stat. Acct. VI. p. 972.

7 Fasti Abdn. p. 504; S. C. Mis. II. p. 110;

Ret. de Tutor, No. 498; New Stat. Acct. p. 972.

8 Fasti, p. 504; New Stat. Acct. p. 972.

9 Spal. His. I. pp. 151, 157, &c.; New Stat. Acct.

XII. p. 972.

and thus forfeited his benefice; but getting his doubt removed he returned to the parish in 1682,¹ and was in 1683 translated to Tarves.

Alexander Clerk, A.M., was translated from Oldmachar, second charge, to Methlic, 16 September, 1683,² died in January or February, 1703, aged about forty-eight, and in the twentieth of his ministry. He married, and had five children.

John Mullegine was translated from Meldrum to Methlic, 27 June, 1704. He died 24 April, 1733, having bequeathed a sum for widows to be administered by the Principals of King's and Marischal Colleges. He married, first a lady, who died 169—, secondly Isobel Udny, who died 8 April, 1704.³

Alexander Howe, brother of Mr. James Howe, minister of Newhills, was presented by the Principal and Masters of King's College in 1733, and was translated to Tarves, 20 September, 1738.⁴

Andrew Moir, grandson of Andrew Moir, burghess of Aberdeen, and nephew of George Moir, minister of Towie, was appointed to Towie, "jure devoluto." He was translated to Methlic, May 31, 1739, and afterwards to Ellon, April 24, 1745.⁵

Alexander Knolls studied at Marischal College, was presented to Methlick by the Principal and Masters of King's College, 26 March, 1746. He got the parish church rebuilt in 1780, and was translated to Tarves in 1793.⁶

Robert Adam, M.A., graduated at King's College in 1758, became schoolmaster of the parish of Methlic, was presented by George, third Earl of Aberdeen, in July, 1794. He died unmarried, 6 June, 1798, aged about sixty, and in the fourth year of his ministry.⁷

Ludovic Grant, M.A., was a native of the county of Moray, graduated at King's College in 1776, and was ordained by the Presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, 3 November, 1784, as missionary for Glenmuick, Glengarden, and Tullich. He was presented by George, third Earl of Aberdeen, to the parish of Methlic, to which he was instituted 3 April, 1799. He died 11 June, 1839, in his eighty-fifth year, and the fifty-fifth of his ministry. He married, 1804, Barbara Allan, who died 20 May, 1854.⁸

James Whyte, D.D., was appointed in 1838, received from the University of Aberdeen in 1870 the degree of D.D., and died 1878.

Andrew Ritchie, M.A., was appointed in 1878.

¹ *Fasti Aber.*; *New Stat. Acct.* p. 972.

² *S. C. Mis.* II.; *Aldn. Poll Book*, II.; *New Stat. Acct.* XII. p. 972.

³ *New Stat. Acct.* p. 972.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *New Stat. Acct.* p. 972.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Scott's Fasti*, pp. 611, 612.

THE CHURCHYARD OF METHLIC.

How mournful seems in broken dreams
The memory of the day,
When icy death hath sealed the breath
Of some dear form of clay ;
When pale unmoved the face we loved,
The face we thought so fair,
And the hand lies cold whose fervent hold
Once charmed away despair.
Oh, what could heal the grief we feel
For hopes that come no more,
Had we never heard the Scripture word,
"Not lost but gone before."
Oh, sadly yet with vain regret
The widowed heart must yearn,
And mothers weep their babes asleep
In the sunlight's vain return.
O, there at last, life's trials past,
We'll meet our loved once more,
Whose feet have trod the path to God,
"Not lost but gone before."

—*Mrs. Norton.*

ON a mural tablet built into the brick wall of the Aberdeen family burial aisle is this inscription :—" Here lies Patrick Maitland, late in Little Ardoch, and Jean Robertson, his spouse, with several of their children. Also Mr. Charles Maitland, chirurgion, their son, who gave this stone in memory of his parents, and left a small charity to the poor of this parish for ever. He died the 27th day of January, 1748, aged 80 years."

Dr. Maitland, who died at Aberdeen, is considered the first promoter of inoculation in Scotland. Dr. Maitland's small charity to the poor amounted to £333 6s. 8d.

The burial aisle of the Earls of Aberdeen contains no monuments, but George, the fifth Earl of Aberdeen, who died at Haddo House in 1864, was buried here, as were the first and third Earls ; as well as many other members of the family, including Lord Haddo, the father of the fourth Earl of Aberdeen, who was killed by a fall from his horse at Gight in 1791.

The following inscription is in raised letters round the margin of a flat slab—" Here lyes ane honest man called Peter Logie, who lived some tym in Haddo, and then departed this lyf, October, 1689. P. L., E. E." Peter, according to Mr. Jervise, was probably a son of John Logie, who, along with Sir John Gordon of Haddo, was beheaded in 1644. Andrew Logie, probably a son of Peter's, was married, and occupied Haddo in 1696.

On another flat stone there is this inscription—" Here lies Mr. Robert Leslie, servant to the Earl of Aberdeen, who lived and died an honest man. He died September 27th day, 1737." Patrick (Robert?) Leslie, steward to the Earl of Aberdeen, is recorded ("Poll Book," 1696) to have a fee of £32 per annum (Scots money).

A stone, on which is carved the mortuary emblems of a bell, a coffin, two spades, a sand-glass, a candle-stick with a flaming candle, a skull and cross bones, has the follow-

ing—"Here lies the body of Isobel Beaton, spouse to Alexander Brichen in Meikle Ardoch, who departed this life the 7th day of August, 1738.—A. B.—1742, I. B."

Another stone is thus inscribed—"Here lies George Walker, late Sergeant-Paymaster in the King's Foot Guards, son to Mr. James Walker and Jean Dun, some time in Lady Steps, who died May 17, 1773, aged 42 years."

A confused tradition, according to Mr. Jervise, gives the name Lady Steps from a lady of the name of Lindsay having crossed the linn at that spot when pursued by enemies. It is added that she ran through the Lindsay hills, which also had their name from her, but being overtaken at Douglashead, in the parish of Ellon, she was there killed, and buried upon the spot, where her grave is said to have been preserved until a new lease of the farm of Douglashead was obtained in 1860.

On a table-shaped stone there is the following—"This stone is erected by Alexander Taylor, in Miln of Kelly, in memory of Jean Falconer, his spouse, who departed this life, 28 December, 1728; and Susan Taylor, his daughter, who departed this life, 28 July, 1741; also Anna Taylor, above-said; she died 29 March, 1763, aged 72 years. Here also was interred the body of the foresaid Alexander Taylor. He died May 4, 1774, aged 94 years. He for many years, with great prudence, acted as factor for the noble family of Aberdeen, to the full satisfaction of that noble family and their tenants. Also of George, his son, who long served the family of Aberdeen in the same capacity, and died 21 September, 1809, aged 87. And of Elizabeth Petrie, his spouse, who died 20 January, 1781, aged 56. Also of six of their children." It was under George Taylor, who died in 1809, that Mr. Crombie of Thorton and Phesdo, long factor to the Earl of Aberdeen, was trained.

On a table stone is recorded—"Here lies the body of John Lind, who died at Boat of Tanglanford, 1742, aged 60 years. Also Christian Gibb, his spouse, who died December, 1787, aged 90 years; and six of their children, three sons and three daughters. Likewise Barbara Garden, spouse of John Lind, their fourth son, merchant in Skelmafilly, who died July, 1788, aged 67 years. The said John Lind, whose body rests here, and who died 28 May, 1798, aged 81. One sister more, and three elsewhere—eleven in all." He bequeathed to the poor of the parish £200.

Another stone bears the inscription—"Robert Moir, merchant, Aberdeen, died 1798, aged 66. By sobriety and industry he acquired a small fortune, which he left to his nearest relatives, except £700 for publick charities, £300 of which to the kirk-session of Methlick." The interest of £200 was left to educate ten poor scholars.

A stone is thus inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of Rev. Ludovick Grant, who, for upwards of forty years, discharged the pastoral duty of the parish. He departed this life on the 11 June, 1839, aged 85 years."

A servant to the Earl of Aberdeen is thus commemorated—"Sacred to the memory of George Wornum, who was for many years servant to George, Earl of Aberdeen, and died at Haddo House, November 22, 1856, in the 43rd year of his age. The above tombstone was erected by the fourth Earl of Aberdeen."

A stone is inscribed—"Rev. Alexander T. Fyvie, missionary at Stuart, East Indies, died there 10 June, 1840, aged 45. His sons, Alexander, architect, London, died in 1858, and John, Post Office clerk, died in 1859."

On another is the inscription—"Thomas Mennie, slater, Brackly, died by a fall from his horse 18 September, 1860. Erected by a few friends of temperance, for the promotion of which he laboured for nearly twenty years with Christian devotion and zeal."

Another records the death of "Rev. William Beaton, minister of St. Andrew's Scotch Church, Grenada, West Indies, died at Aberdeen, 25 February, 1857, aged 35." He was at one time assistant substitute for Udney Bisset, in the parish school of Udney. The editor records his deep respect for his memory, and his grateful acknowledgment of all his kindness and attention while under his care. "Vale care ! sed non æternum, care vale !"

ANDATE, TILLIGONIE, OR KEITHFIELD.

ANDATE

WAS for many years the seat of a family of the name of Winton, an ancient family and notable in many ways. Time has swept from us most things concerning them, and we have only a few scattered facts relating to their possessions. Andate is found variously spelled Annit, Andot, Handot, &c.

Ingeram de Winton,

Is amongst the jury on an inquest regarding second tithes in 1341. In 1361, David II. besieged and took Thomas, Earl of Mar's Castle of Kildrummy, and put it in charge of Sir Walter Moigne, knight, and his esquire, Ingeram de Winton. He is believed to be of Andate.¹

II. Sir David de Winton de Andoch.

He is found as a witness to a charter of a piece of ground called "Le Haulch," in the ecclesiastical lands of Methlic, dated 1365. In it he is called of Andoch. In 1415, David Wynton Dominus de Andoch takes part in a perambulation between the lands of Tarves and Udny.² He is said to have received the honour of knighthood. Sir David de Wynton married, and had issue, three sons:—

I. **Ingeram**, his successor.

II. John, of Drumdornoe, who attained from James, King of Scots, a charter of these lands in 1457,³ and dying without issue, these lands, in 1512, reverted to Alexander de Wynton his nearest male heir.

III. James, who appears as a witness in a charter of the lands of Forglen, 1457.⁴

The next is

III. Ingeram de Winton de Andoch.

Before October 1, 1457, he appears as arbiter in the disputed succession to the Earldom of Mar, offering to support his testimony by wager of battle.⁵ The next to be found is,

¹ Reg. Ep. Aber. I p. 69; Earldom of the Garioch, p. 75.

² Id., p. 113; Ant. A. and B. III. p. 57.

³ Ant. A. and B. p. 541.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. pp. 513-14.

⁵ Original Writ in H. M. Reg. Ho. Edin.

Ant. A. and B. I. p. 320.

IV. Ranald de Winton of Andate.

He is found as a witness to a confirmation charter to Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, upon the lands of Balmure.¹ The next, probably a brother,

V. John Winton of Andate.

In a transumpt of a charter of Rylands, granted on the 10th of February, 1457-8, by John Winton, Lord of Edinduoy, to his kinsman, William de Winton, of the lands of the half of Rylands, it is said to be sealed with the seal of the late John Winton of Andate, in the presence of Alexander Winton of Andate, 1490. John, as mentioned above, had a charter in 1457 of the lands of Drumdurnoe.²

VI. Alexander Winton of Andate.

He is found frequently taking part in public business down to 1509. Thus on an inquest of James Dunbar in 1505, Alexander Winton de Andate is present. In 1509 there is a sale of part of the lands of Andate, to James Redheugh, and it appears to be a forced sale under redemption.³ Again, in 1511, James Redheugh gives this part of Andate to the College of the Blessed Virgin Mary (now King's College, Old Aberdeen); and in the same year there is a royal charter to Malcolm Drummond of "quinque mercatæ" of the shadow half of the lands of Andate, which belonged to Alexander Winton. These were also sold under redemption,⁴ but it seems the Wintons were never able to redeem them, and at last the whole passed from them.

In 1647 we find these lands in possession of the Gordons of Haddo. In that year there is a retour of Sir John Gordon, Bart., in the lands of Andate, &c., and they have continued ever since in the possession of the noble family of Aberdeen.

There were for some time Wintons of Coclarachie, descended from James, third son of Sir David de Winton. In 1520, Margaret Winton, daughter of Winton of Coclarachie, married Sir William Leslie, second baron of Aikenway, and grandson of George, first Earl of Rothes.⁵

The name of Winton, though it has ceased to be of baronial rank in the county of Aberdeen, yet is frequently met with.

There was a chapel on the estate dedicated to St. Ninian, but of it there are no remains. Winton, the Prior of Loch Leven, the author of "The Chronykill," is believed to be of the family of Winton of Andate.

TILLIGONIE OR KEITHFIELD.

The following are notes regarding it :—

Elizabeth Gareache, Lady of Tulligonys, with consent of her son and heir, Duncan Forbes, granted in perpetual charity to brother John Penny, Prior of the house, "fratrum

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 70.

² Id., III. p. 586; I. p. 541.

³ Id., p. 448.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 55-56.

⁵ History of the Family of Aikenway.

prædicatorum" of the burgh of Aberdeen, and of the convent of the same, an annual payment of £20 Scots, to be levied from her lands of Tulligonys, given in the month of May, 1490.¹

II. John Forbes of Tilligonie

was admitted a burges of Aberdeen in 1530;² and, in 1535, John Forbes of Tilligonie is present at an assize on a suit between William Strachan of Glenkindy and Lord Elphinstone;³ and, in 1538, the said John Forbes is mentioned in a decret of the Lords of Council and Session against the Sheriff of Aberdeen. In 1548, he is in the list of the Lords and Barons of Aberdeenshire. The next to be found is⁴

III. William Forbes of Tilligonie.

He is a son, probably, of the above mentioned, and was among Lord Forbes' kinsmen in an action "against the Earl of Huntly, of date 1573."⁵ The next (a son probably) is

IV. James Forbes of Tilligonie.

He is mentioned in the list of wadsetters, &c., as restand owing to George Barclay, of the Milne of Seggat, five hundred merks; also Jane Strachan, relict of umquhile William Forbes of Pitgersie, declarit that there was rest, and owing to her eleven hundred merks (which she had upliftit) by James Forbes of Tulligonie, and that she had given the same to the bairns.⁶ He is succeeded by

V. John Forbes of Tilligonie.

He is served heir of James Forbes of Tulligonie, his grandfather, in the lands of Tulligonie, with the mill and the wood of Ordindaff, in Buchan, November, 9, 1649.⁷

Tilligonie afterwards passed into the possession of a family of the name of Keith, who called it Keithfield.

James Keith of Tilligonie.

His valuation, 1696, in the parish of Tarves is £300; his poll is £9; his lady's, 6/-. His seven children in family, namely, James, William, Anna, Isobel, Margaret, Jean, and Janet Keiths, their general poll is £2 2s.⁸ The list of the pollable persons within the parish of Tarves was given up by James Keith of Tilligonie, and James Keith, younger, thereof.⁹ In 1727, the author of the "View of the Diocese," speaks of Tilligonie, as the seat of Keith of Keithfield.¹⁰

It has now merged into the estates of the Earl of Aberdeen.

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 333.

2 Counc. Reg. I. p. 138.

3 Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 468, 232.

4 Id., I. p. 115.

5 Id., IV. p. 762.

6 S. C. Mis. III. pp. 75, 94.

7 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 301.

8 Poll Book II. p. 204.

9 Id. p. 187.

10 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 334.

THE CHURCH AND MINISTERS OF UDNY.

UDNY OR CHRISTCHURCH.

THIS parish was an erection from the neighbouring parishes of Logiebuchan, Ellon, Tarves, and Foveran, about the end of the sixteenth century. One estate still pays stipend to the minister of Logiebuchan, and five estates to the minister of Ellon, showing that the estates were taken from these parishes. The Act of Parliament for erecting Udney into a parish is entitled, "Ratification of ane act anent Christ's Kirk, Udney."¹

The old church, which was situated in the churchyard, was erected in 1605, and was dedicated to Jesus Christ; but there was, however, at Udney, long before the date of its erection into a parish, another church.

On November 11, 1406, Ranald de Uldeney, lord of that ilk, granted to a chaplain serving in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, for the soul of Patrick de Uldeney, his father, the land on which the old chapel de Uldeney stood; his lands between the streams of the Brony and the Coullie, the lands which the hermit possessed by leave of his father, the brewhouse of Uldeney with the pasture on the common of Uldeney for a mare, a pig, twelve cattle and forty sheep, and of an annual rent of thirty-three shillings and fourpence from the lands of Auchinlown (Auchlown).² The monks of Kinloss in 1574 claimed teind to the amount of £16 from the croft, Udney then being in the parish of Ellon, which claim the laird of Udney refused to pay.³

Of the chaplains of this church of the Holy Trinity, the names of two have been recorded. In 1456, Sir John Jeffrason was collated by the Bishop of Aberdeen to this chaplaincy, which was in the presentation of William Uldeney of that ilk, and was vacant by the death of Thomas Brewster.⁴ Besides Trinity chapel there were two others in the district, which now form the parish, one at Tilliegreig, dedicated to St. Michael's; another at Dumbreck. Of the former there are no remains, but of the latter a portion of the churchyard still exists planted with trees.

This chapel is mentioned in a cognition of the marches between Nether Ardlethen and the Auld Mill of Essilmonth, anno 1551. It is called the Chapel of Dumbreck.⁵

The first minister of Udney after it was formed into a parish was Thomas Mitchell.

The Presbytery of Ellon convened at the Kirk of Udney, 18th of April, 1604. The

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 357.

² Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 209.

³ Fenerius Hist. of Abbey of Kinloss, p. 91.

⁴ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 282; Ant. A. and B. III. p. 77.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 22.

said day, Mr. Thomas Mitchell, by the appointment of the brethren, teachit upon Colossians i. 18-19. Efter prayer the doctrine was censurit and allowit, and ane edict, quhilk was lawfully served at the said kirk of Udney, on the 8th and 15th of April, sunnioned the parochinairs of the said kirk to compeir, which they did, the said 18th April, and reported their judgements concerning the literature and lyf of the said Thomas Mitchell. They reported well of the said Thomas, and consenteit to his admission.¹

This was a precedent for the Veto Act passed by the General Assembly in recent times, which, being found illegal, led to the Disruption of the Church of Scotland.

Mr. Mitchell afterwards received a presentation to the church of Logiebuchan, but was not instituted. He was afterwards appointed to Turriff. Spalding, in narrating the reconte between the barons and the Covenanters at Turriff in May, 1639, describes Mr. Mitchell's alarm in these words—"There were some hurt, some slain; the barons sound the retreat, and come immediately back to Turriff, take meat and drink at their pleasure, and fear Mr. Thomas Mitchell very evil." Some years after this Mr. Mitchell, having fallen under suspicion of aggravated scandal, was summoned before the ecclesiastical judicatories.²

The committee of ministers and elders before whom he was tried "took him deiplic sworn upon his innocence, quhair upone he was absolvit frae this scandal and found a gude bairne." He was often in trouble. He was a relation of Bishop P. Forbes of Aberdeen, and wrote rather a poor elegy on the death of the Bishop.³

Thomas Thoirs was appointed in 1623; he was a member of the General Assembly of 1638, and left it, with several other ministers and a ruling elder, on the 27th of November, the sixth day of their sitting, when the Lord High Commissioner, James, Marquis of Hamilton, arose and declined attendance on the proceedings. He continued a great anti-Covenanter, and fled to England, but returned to Aberdeen, June 2, 1639; and finding (as Spalding says) "he could do no better, calmly submitted himself, March 16, 1541, and gladly swears and subscribes the Covenant, beginning his penitential sermons so that he may be at peace."

Mr. Thoirs had the estate of Auquhorthies, and other small properties. He seems to have been for the times a man of considerable means.

William Keith was translated from Monkeggie. He was one of the Commissioners appointed by Parliament, 22 February, 1661, for visiting the College and University of Aberdeen. He was appointed to the Professorship of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh in 1664, getting the second charge of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, shortly after.

George Melville was translated from Newmachar, 17 December, 1663; in the month of December, 1668, was translated to Alford, where he died before 1679. His memory is perpetuated by a bridge which he built over the Leochel, towards the repair

¹ Presby. of Ellon Records.

² Records Presby. of Turriff.

³ Funeral Orations of Bishop Forbes, p. 203.

of which he left one hundred merks in charge of the kirk-session. He also founded six bursaries in King's and Marischal Colleges, which were to be settled by public competition.

William Irving was admitted between 7 October and 3 November, 1669. He died November, 1675, in the seventh year of his ministry. His brother, Mr. Alexander Irving, lately minister of West Kilbride, was served heir to him, December 23, 1677.¹

John Cockburn, a nephew of Patrick Forbes, Bishop of Aberdeen; was translated to Old Deer between August 10 and September 7, 1681.²

Alexander Milne, A.M., graduated at King's College, Aberdeen, 1678, became governor to William, Lord Keith, afterwards Earl Marischal. He was admitted to Udney, 1 January, 1682, died between August 30 and September 27, 1721. Mr. Milne remained an Episcopalian to the end of his ministry. After his death a large congregation of Episcopalsians assembled in a building at the top of the green near the present parish church.³

Robert Innes was presented in 1722, by James Udney, advocate, and died 20 July, 1755. He married, and had a son, James, merchant in Aberdeen, who was served heir to his father, 10 January, 1759.⁴

John Forbes studied at Marischal College, became schoolmaster of Foveran, was presented to Udney by Alexander Udney of Udney, and ordained April 17, 1756. Died April 22, 1763, in the thirty-second year of his age, having married 17 November, 1757, Mary Seaton, who died February 18, 1809.⁵

George Adam studied at Marischal College; was presented by Alexander Udney of Udney in September, 1763, and was ordained March 28 succeeding. He was translated to Kintore May 13, 1767.

John Rose, A.M., was the son of George Rose, burghess of Aberdeen, grandson of Alexander Rose of Lethenty, formerly of Inch, and great-grandson of Dr. John Rose, minister of Foveran, and proprietor of Inch. His sister, Christian, was wife of John Dyce of Tilliegraig, and his uncle, John Rose, was minister of Logiebuchan. On his presentation to the parish of Udney, by Alexander Udney of Udney, he was ordained March 30, 1768. He married first, Grace, daughter of Mr. James Reid, minister of Strichen, she died 29 June, 1793, having had a son Lewis Rose, secondly, on February 3, 1795, Anne Mair, who died October 19, 1817. They had four sons—the eldest was a surgeon to the Coldstream Guards, 1st Battalion, and died of wounds in Egypt, received while landing at Aboukir in 1801. John went to the Civil Service in Ceylon. Thomas and James both settled in London. He published an account of the parish in the old statistical account.

John Leslie, A.M., was tutor at Esslemont House, and was presented by John Fullerton Udney of Udney, and ordained September 15, 1813. He got the present church at Udney built in 1821, and died unmarried November 1, 1849, in the 74th year

1 Inqu. Gen. No. 7919.

2 Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 617.

3 See Art. St. Mary's on the Rock.

4 Spec. Rets. Abdn.

5 Scott's Fasti Tombstone, Udney.

of his age, and the 37th of his ministry. He published an account of the parish for the statistical account of 1840.

John Leslie, A.M., was nephew of the preceding, and was presented in 1850 by Robert Fullarton Udny of Udny, but his appointment was objected to by a large body of parishioners. The objections, brought under Lord Aberdeen's Act, were not sustained by the Presbytery, and the judgment of the Presbytery, on the motion of Dr. Robertson, Professor of Church History in University, Edinburgh, was sustained by the General Assembly. There was for some time a considerable division in the parish; but by the kindness, tact, and urbanity of Mr. Leslie, this in course of time passed away. He married Miss Ann Hector, by whom he had a large family. He died July 15, 1875.

Alexander Spence, A.M., studied at the University of St. Andrews—both in literature and divinity. His was the first settlement in the Presbytery of Ellon under the Patronage Abolition Act, his election taking place on the 21st of December, 1875, and his ordination on the 25th of February, 1876. He was married on the 15th of June following to Agnes, third daughter of John Barclay, Esq., Randerstone, near St. Andrews, and has a family of three daughters and a son—Agnes Morton Barclay, Eliza Barclay, Joanna, and David. Mr. Spence is Presbytery clerk.

There are the following records in the session books of Udny:—"April 15, 1750. This day the minister intimated that, from the consideration of his own health and the unbounding wickedness and uncleanness of the congregation, he was under the necessity to delay the celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper for some time."

"November 26, 1778, the minister intimated that whereas, upon the 15th curt., a female child was exposed within the bounds of the parish, if any person could discover the mother of said child, he would receive a suitable reward, and the session desire all the unmarried women to attend at the school-house, on Tuesday next, when a qualified midwife would attend, and endeavour to discover the mother of the child. On Tuesday, 24th curt., all proper search was made, but the mother of the child was not discovered. To Ann Anderson, midwife, from Old Meldrum, for her trouble and attendance on that day, five shillings."

THREE SILVER COMMUNION CUPS MADE INTO FOUR! "May 11, 1777, the minister proposed the melting down of three old cups, and re-fashioning them into four, which was agreed to be done. Under date (June 22) of the same year, is the account for the execution of the above proposal, which was carried out at a cost of £8 4s. 1d. to the session;" the record adds, "more by the way than the value of the three old cups," and as there was marked upon one of the smallest of the old cups that it was given to the session by Patrick Maitland of Cairnfehil, anno 1632, the session caused engrave his name upon one of the smallest of the cups." These four cups are still in use. One cannot help regretting this act of vandalism on the part of the session in melting down the old cups; nor recording with satisfaction that the session had to pay for their so doing.

A SERMON THREE TIMES PREACHED IN SUCCESSION IN THE KIRK OF UDNY.—
In 1813, during the vacancy previous to the appointment of a successor to the Rev. Mr. Rose, the pulpit was supplied by members of the Presbytery of Ellon. On one of the Sundays the minister of Logiebuchan preached an excellent sermon from Genesis xxv. 27, "Jacob was a plain man dwelling in tents." The next Sunday the church was supplied by the minister of Ellon, who sometimes got the loan of a few MS. from his good and obliging brother at Logiebuchan; as ill luck would have it, the sermon preached on the previous Sunday at Udney was among them, and it was selected. The minister of Ellon preached with great vigour and animation, but somehow the sermon had not the desired effect; a smile was observed on the faces of several, and when the service was over he ascertained the state of matters. On the third Sunday the schoolmaster at Ellon was to preach, and it was adroitly managed that he should use the same sermon. When the text was delivered for the third time, "Jacob was a plain man dwelling in tents," the village blacksmith, John Smith, in a voice loud enough to be heard over the whole kirk, exclaimed "The d——I dwell him, he has dwalt lang enough here already."

John Udney of that ilk in March, 1655, mortified the sum of £20 Scots yearly to the poor of the parish. New style was first observed in the parish of Udney, September 12, 1742, eleven days being taken from this month to make the year agree with the new style.

THE CHURCHYARD OF UDNY.

"Thou art quiet in thy resting place, no care disturbs thy brow,
And the trials of this weary world can raise no sorrow now;
The thoughts of love and hatred are effaced from off thy mind,
And the coldness of remembrance is for those who are left behind.
Sleep on! Sleep on! in thy narrow bed, from care and sorrow free,
This world as a trial state hath for ever closed on thee;
So let us then ourselves prepare, while life to us doth be,
Remembering the day approacheth soon when we must follow thee.
Farewell! Farewell! beloved one, from worldly care set free,
No voice, no sound, doth you disturb; but darkness reigns with thee."
—Anon.

WITHIN an enclosure are interred the Setons of Pitmedden, a family who for three centuries have been connected with the parish. On a tablet is inscribed:—"Here lies interred Sir William Seton, Bart. He died February 25, 1818, aged 71. Margaret, Lady Seton, died April 12, 1843, aged 89. Anna Maria Seton, died April 12, 1863, aged 75. Eliza Harnet, Lady Seton, died 23 April, 1873, aged 69."

Within an enclosure is the Pitriche burial-ground, but there are no monuments to the Maitlands nor the Mackenzies, the former of whom were long proprietors. From the fragments of a gravestone within the grounds of Straloch, near the site of the chapel, it would appear that some of the Maitlands had been buried there.

There are four granite slabs erected in the west wall of the mausoleum, on three of which are inscriptions. The first bears "To be erected by Alexander Milne of Pitrichie, in memory of his mother, Ann Duncan, who died at Pitrichie House, November 24, 1861, aged 94. The above Alexander Milne of Pitrichie, sometime merchant and dean of guild of the city of Aberdeen, died there November, 1869, aged 74 years." No. 2. "Ann Milne, his sister, who died at Pitrichie House, March, 1843, aged 38 years. John Milne, his brother, who died in infancy. Barbara Milne, his sister, and spouse of Convener John Robb, died at Aberdeen, 26 December, 1872, aged 71 years."

No. 3. "George Robb of Pitrichie, sometime merchant and treasurer of the city of Aberdeen, born 7 February, 1827, died 4 June, 1876. An affectionate and dutiful son, a loving and beloved brother."

A granite headstone has been "Erected by Rev. John Leslie in memory of his wife, Ann Hector, who died on the 28 February, 1862, in the 31st year of her age." (She was a niece of Mr. Milne of Pitrichie.) "The said Rev. John Leslie died on the 31st of July, 1875, in the 58th year of his age, and the 25th of his ministry in this parish. John, elder son of Rev. John Leslie, died at Aberdeen, 9 June, 1876, aged 19 years."

Another headstone is "In memory of Rev. John Leslie, who died 18 November, 1849, in the 77th year of his age, and the 37th of his ministry in this parish." He was the uncle of the preceding Mr. Leslie.

A handsome monumental structure of granite is "To the memory of Rev. John Rose, the faithful and pious minister of this parish during forty-five years, who died on the 17th of November, 1812, aged 63 years and 2 months. His conduct was upright, and he was justly loved and respected by all around him. He was charitable to the poor, a kind and tender-hearted husband, and a most affectionate parent. His remains are interred in this tomb, along with Mrs. Grace Reid, his first spouse, who died 29th of June, 1793, aged 51; and of four of their children—Lewis, James, Alexander, and Jessie, who died in their early youth; also of the children of his second wife, Mrs. Anne Mair, who died in infancy. His widow, three surviving sons, and a daughter, placed a stone sacred to his memory and that of his family gone before. Also of his widow, Mrs. Ann Mair, who died on the 19th of October, 1817, aged 56, deeply lamented by her family, and all who knew her." The above stone having fallen into decay was replaced in 1875 by the trustees of James Torrie, M.D.

Mr. Rose was son of George Rose, burgess, Aberdeen, and Christian Forbes, his spouse, daughter of John Forbes of Leslie. He represented the ancient family of Rose of Inch, descended from Hugh Rose of Kilravock, sixth of that name, a clerical family, which numbered amongst its members, Arthur, Lord Archbishop of St. Andrews, and Alexander, Lord Bishop of Edinburgh.

Another stone is "To the memory of Mary Ann Rose, wife of James Torrie, M.D., who died June, 1825, aged 28 years; also to James Torrie, M.D., who died October 26, 1873, aged 83." Mrs. Torrie was a daughter of Rev. Mr. Rose, and Dr. Torrie was a physician in Aberdeen. He founded a bursary of the annual value of £30 or thereby,

tenable for four years, open for competition to students in arts for proficiency in Latin.

On an old flat stone is the inscription—"Here is interred the corpse of the reverend, faithful, diligent minister of God's word, Mr. John Forbes, who died 22 April, 1763, in the 32nd year of his age, and the 8th of his ministry. Under this side lies interred the corpse of his daughter, Jean Forbes, who died in the 4th year of her age, on the 16th of April, 1764."

A table stone is "In memory of George Bisset, M.A., schoolmaster and rector of the Udney Academy, who died 10 July, 1812, aged 51 years; also of his son, George, who died December, 1812, aged 9 years; and of Robert, his son, who died 21st June, 1813, aged 4."

Mr. Bisset was a very successful teacher, and had a flourishing academy at Udney, at which the sons of many county gentlemen were educated. (See Udney Academy.)

There is a table stone "In memory of Margaret Pirie, spouse of William Seaton, Bonnyton, who died 16 December, 1806, aged 71 years; of their son, James, who died August 1, 1791, aged 31 years; also of the said William Seaton, who died 7 April, 1819, aged 91 years; also of their son, Patrick, farmer in Bonnyton, who died 23 June, 1851, aged 78 years; also of his wife, Margaret Thomson, who died 18 July, 1856, aged 75; also of their family, Helen, who died 13 September, 1841, aged 24; James, who died 22 May, 1844, aged 24." "Their bodies lie here in dust; may they rise in glory."

Another is "In memory of William Sutherland, merchant, Cloisterseat, who died May 1, 1797, aged 79; also of Mary Murdoch, his spouse, who died January 16, 1823, aged —; also of Ann Milne, spouse of James Sutherland in Cloisterseat."

The following is "In memory of Robert Temple in Cloisterseat, died 1777, aged 63; also of his spouse, Margaret Simpson, who died 1788, aged 47; and also of their sons, Robert, George, James, and William. Elizabeth Temple died 13 March, 1825, aged 48. Robert Temple in Cloisterseat died 17 December, 1861, aged 89. Christian, his wife, daughter of Captain Robert Allan, R.N., by his wife Christian Dyce of Tilliegreig, died 19 February, 1866, aged 79. Of their seven sons—William died in infancy, 1825; James died at Port Dover, Upper Canada, 26 December, 1845, aged 23; John died at Dayton, Ohio, U.S. America, 8 February, 1879, aged 58; Robert, died 31 May, 1882, aged 63. Also, are interred here, Robert Temple, before 1696 in Cloisterseat, his wife, Jean Forbes, and their son, Robert Temple, also in Cloisterseat; and his wife, Isobel Milne, the parents and grand-parents of the first named Robert Temple. Also, Charles S. Temple, in Cloisterseat, Corr., Mem., S. A. Scot., eldest son of Robert Temple and Christian Allan, died 16 June, 1888, aged 70. Also of their seventh son, Rev. Alexander Temple, M.A., of St. Paul's, Armdale, who died 10 September, 1890, aged 61 years. Inscribed by their sixth and last surviving son, Rev. William Temple, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., of St. Margaret's, Forgue." "Cari valete sed non æternum Cari valete!"

A table stone is also "In memory of Margaret Sangster, spouse of Alexander Milne, farmer, Mill of Allathan, who died 3 September, 1809, aged 72; also of the said, Alexander Milne, who died December, 1830, aged 96 years; also of his son, George Milne,

in Craig of Udny, who died May, 1825; also, Ann Thomson, spouse of the said George Milne, who died July, 1841, aged 62; also of their children, Margaret, Ann, John, and Jane who died in infancy."

A granite headstone is "In memory of Alexander Milne, late farmer, Waterton, who died 13 October, 1867, aged 59 years. Also of William Milne, farmer, Tillycairn Cluny, who died 6 February, 1880, aged 70 years. Also, Margaret, their sister, who died at Aberdeen, 12 May, 1885, aged 66 years; also, Isabella Polson, wife of the above William Milne, who died at Aberdeen, 20 October, 1887, aged 66 years."

On the reverse side it is inscribed "In memory of Alexander Milne, sometime farmer in Mill of Allathan, who died at West Crichtie, April 5, 1871, aged 95; also of his spouse, Ann Jamieson, who died October 6, 1874, aged 82; also of three children who died in infancy."

Another is "In memory of William Milne, farmer in Coullie, who died January 9, 1803, aged 76; also of Jane Maitland, his spouse, who died 16 October, 1769, aged 33; also of Sebastian Davidson, merchant, Udny, who died, 25 February, 1817, aged 58. Jane Milne, spouse to the said Sebastian Davidson, died December —, 1848, aged 86, and their son, John Davidson, farmer, N. Coullie, died 12 June, 1854, aged 59 years; also, William, farmer, N. Coullie, died 11 July, 1845, aged 52."

Another table stone is "Sacred to the memory, Charles Simpson, merchant, Green of Udny, who died 1745 aged 75; also his spouse, Agnes Milne, who died in 1801, aged 81; of their son, Charles Simpson, who died 1822, aged 78; also of Charles Temple, who died 1813, aged 42."

Another stone records that "William Pirie, farmer, Orchardtown, died 23 April, 1781, aged 81 years; and Elizabeth Laing, his spouse, died 17 June, 1790, aged 85 years; James Pirie, farmer, Mill of Torry, died 30 May, 1803, aged 67; also Helen Martin, his spouse, died 18 November, 1820, aged 81; also Helen Diana Pirie, daughter to Patrick Pirie, in Orchardtown, who died 12 April, 1824, aged 14; also of his son, William, who died 15 August, 1831, aged 27; and their affectionate mother, Elspet Seton, spouse to said Patrick Pirie, who died November 4, 1832, aged 63 years. The said Patrick Pirie died 3 January, 1848, aged 80 years." "Their bodies lie here in dust; may they rise in glory." Of the first-named William Pirie the Piries of Stoneywood are descended.

A stone is "Erected to the memory of Katharine Rae, spouse of James Hosie, in Cloisterseat, who died 11 May, 1812, aged 56; also of their sons—John, who died 12 December, 1806, aged 21; and of William, who died 18 November, 1809, aged 13. Likewise of Janet, who died 21 April, 1817, aged 25; also the said James Hosie, who died 27 February, 1821, aged 61; also of his wife, Margaret Temple, who died 10 November, 1840, aged 63."

An old flat stone is "To the memory of George Milne, farmer, Mains of Esslemont, who departed this life 16 August 1794, aged 71 years." A granite headstone is "To the memory of James Milne (son of the preceeding George Milne), also in Mains of

Esslemont. He died December 11, 1836, aged 74. His wife, Jane Hay, died April 1, 1820, aged 34. Their children, Helen, born 1799, died August 20, 1800; Isabella, born November 8, 1805, died May 4, 1811, William, born November 13, 1809, died August 17, 1816; Alicia Anne, born February 5, 1815, died September 17, 1843; Jane, born February 19, 1801, died September 23, 1876; George (whose name is recorded on a granite cross), farmer, Haddo, Methlic, born November 4, 1807, died December 4, 1867; Alexander, farmer in Mains of Esslemont (also recorded on another stone) died 9 January, 1865, aged 53. His son, Alexander, died 28 August, 1861, aged 16 (accidentally drowned)."

This family has been in Mains of Esslemont since 1720, or thereby. (See Mains of Esslemont.)

A table stone is in memory of a family of Pirie, who had been for many generations in Iriewells. Some representatives are still in Australia and the United States.

William Pirie, in Iriewells, died 13 February, 1814, aged 69. His spouse, Helen Mair, died 25 December, 1817, aged 73. Likewise of his daughter, Ann, wife of Rev. Nathaniel Grieve, Episcopal clergyman, Ellon, Kinbarrachy, died 10 June, 1814.

A separate stone is "To the memory of Andrew Pirie, in Iriewells (a son of the above), who died 8 April, 1863, aged 75; also of Charlotte Wilson, his spouse, who died 24 August, 1869, aged 76. Placed to their memory by their children."

A table stone is "In memory of Samuel Ritchie, son of Samuel Ritchie and Elizabeth Sherriffs, in Gilmorton, died 17 June, 1805, aged 18." This Samuel Ritchie died 10 September, 1833, aged 78. (This is the grandfather and grandmother of the late Dr. Trail, Professor of Divinity in King's College.)

A table stone is "In memory of Archibald Brown, in Quarry, who died March 1, 1819; also Katharine Drummond, his spouse, who died 16 June, 1812, aged 63. His son, William Brown, died April, 1812; also Richard Brown, in Atholehill, last surviving son of the family, died 7 September, 1863, aged 75."

Another table stone is placed "To the memory of George Brown, in Hill of Udney, died February 25, 1854, aged 52; also his sons—George, James, and Thomas; also Susan and Isabella."

Another stone is "Erected by Archibald Brown, in Craig of Udney, in memory of his brother, William, farmer in Craig, who died August 18, 1832, aged 30. John, merchant in Aberdeen, who died June 21, 1852, aged 36. Also Rev. Alexander, of the Original Secession Church, Cupar-Angus, who died April 24, 1854, aged 43. James, chemist in Old Deer, died March 23, 1883, aged 75; and of his sister, Isabella Ferguson, who died 21 March, 1884, aged 80; also the said Archibald Brown, died at Craig, 3 May, 1887, aged 78."

Within an enclosure there are the following inscriptions:—"In memory of John Marr, some time in Cairnbroggie, who died at Millbank, March 12, 1849, aged 70. Barbara Smith, his wife, who died June 27, 1873, aged 82." "Them that sleep in Jesus, will God bring with Him."

Another "In memory of eight children of George Marr, Cairnbroggie, who all died of diphtheria in the month of January, 1862. Barbara Smith, aged 10. Isabella, aged 9. David Alison, aged 7. Ellen Ann, aged 16. George, aged 5. Agnes Mary, aged 4. William Smith, aged 21 months. Alexander, aged 7 months; also of James, who died October 8, 1866, aged 17 months; also Evangeline Rose, who died 26 May, 1867, aged 4 months."

A table stone is "To the memory of John Walker, Esq., of Allan Park, Stirlingshire, died 9 August, 1855, aged 57."

A stone is "Erected by William Copland, in Cairnfechil, in memory of his son, William, who died 19 June, 1826, aged 16. The said William Copland of Cromlet, formerly in Cairnfechil, died 14 December, 1843, aged 78; also of his wife, Susan Riddle, died 29 December, 1870, aged 95."

Another "Erected by Robert Copland in memory of his wife, Eliza Davidson, who died 22 May, 1868, aged 34; also of the said Robert Copland."

A stone is "In memory of Alexander Bean, farmer in Mains of Drumbreck, who died 15 July, 1816, aged 57; also of his son, George, who died 29 May, 1873, aged 78; also of Helen Maule, wife of their son, Alexander, who died 30 December, 1880, aged 73."

Another stone is "Erected by Rev. George Archibald in memory of Jane Thomson, his wife, who died at Free Church Manse, 13 January, 1872, in the 34th year of her age."

Another bears the inscription, "In memory of James Thomson, in Newseat of Drumbreck, who died 23 May, 1843, aged 68; also of his wife, Margaret Donald, who died 8 March, 1868, aged 70. Also in memory of Peter Thomson, in Alehouse of Drumbreck, who died April 1, 1799, aged 65; also his spouse, Barbara Walker, who died 15 October, 1757, aged 42; also of their son, Peter, who died in London, May 4, 1806."

A table stone is "In memory of John Pittendreich, in Mosshead, who died 17 October, 1830, aged 87. Anne Pratt, his wife, who died 28 October, 1835, aged 86; also their son, William, in Mosshead, who died 28 October, 1849, aged 72.

Another is "In memory of Ann Sangster, spouse to John Pittendreich, in West Craig; also Helen, William, and Alexander, who died within a few days of each other. Ann and Elizabeth also died in infancy. Also the above John Pittendreich, who died 17 July, 1881, aged 91."

A handsome granite monument, erected by George Pittendreich, is inscribed "In affectionate remembrance of his brother, James, merchant in Aberdeen, who died July 15, 1864, aged 40 years."

UDNY OF UDNY.

UDNY.

THE barony of Udney, in the parish of the same name, has been in the possession of the present family for at least five centuries.

Udney castle was originally a square tower, a very good specimen of the quadrangular tower so common in many parts of Scotland. It was renovated about the beginning of this century, but, with the exception of the dining-room, was left in an unfinished state for many years, till the accession of the present proprietor. The whole tower was then put into a habitable condition, and a few years afterward the whole was remodelled, extensive additions built; but still the old tower remains, and stands conspicuous above the other buildings. Udney castle is now one of the finest buildings in the county.

Regarding the old tower, Sir Alexander Leith-Hay, in his "Castellated Architecture of Aberdeenshire," thus writes—"Udney castle is of great antiquity, had been constructed more for strength than convenience. The walls are of a most unusual solidity. It is said to have been commenced in the fourteenth century, and its completion to have been the work of three successive lairds, who possessed the barony. The height of the tower is about one hundred feet to the chimney tops. The sleeping apartments consist of closets, contained in the thickness of the walls. The two lower stories are vaulted. The ancient hall is the second of these, and extends to the whole length and breadth of the tower."¹

UDNY OF UDNY.

The Udnys of Udney are believed to have possessed the barony from nearly the beginning of the thirteenth century, but the names of the earliest possessors have not been recorded. The first to be found is

I. Patrick de Uldeny.

He died before 1406. In a deed recorded in the "Register of the Diocese of Aberdeen," certain lands are given by his son Ranald for the support of a chaplain in

¹ Hay's Castellated Architecture, Art. Udney.

the chapel of the Holy Trinity, viz. : all the lands lying between the streams, the Brony and the Coullie ; all the lands which the hermit possessed, and all the lands where the old chapel of Uldeny was situated ; also certain payments from the lands of Auchinlown (Auchloun) to pray for the soul of his father, Patrick de Uldeny.¹ Patrick was succeeded by his son,

II. Ranald de Uldeny.

He is mentioned in the above quoted deed of date 1406. In the year 1449, John Fyffe, receiver of the King's rents in the shires of Aberdeen and Banff, accounts in Exchequer, "for tithes due for relieving the lands de Uldeny by sasine given to Ranald Uldeny."² The next is

III. Patrick de Uldeny.

He is mentioned in an instrument regarding the perambulation between the lands of Tarves and Uldeny, of date 1457. The proprietor of Uldeny at this date, was William de Uldeny. The deed refers to a perambulation that had taken place at a former period, in the time of his predecessor Patrick de Uldeny.³ Patrick was succeeded by

IV. William de Uldeny.

He is mentioned in the above quoted deed. He is also mentioned, 1456, in a deed of presentation of Sir John Jeffrason to the chaplaincy of the church of the Holy Trinity, vacant by the death of Thomas Browstare.⁴

In 1469, there is a charter to William de Uldeny, lord of that ilk, of lands in the barony of Tarves, given by Malcolm Abbot of the monastery of St. Thomas, Arbroath.⁵ William de Uldeny, married Christian Kintore. She was dead before 1498, as in that year her son, William, is infest in some property belonging to her in the burgh of Kintore, she is also mentioned as the relict of William Oudny, so he had died prior to 1498,⁶ and was succeeded by his son,

V. William de Uldeny.

In 1482, he is mentioned in an inquest on Alexander Fraser de Philorth, along with his father, William Oudny.⁷ In 1495, he is mentioned as son and heir of William Oudny in an inquest at his death.⁸

In 1503, there is a charter by William Oudny of that ilk, of an annual rent of two merkis from his lands of Oudny, to Mr. David Scherar, rector at Clatt.⁹ This seems in the same year to have been given to the chapel of the King's College, lately founded.

1 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. pp. 207, 208.

2 Ant. A. and B. 1357 ; Pinkerton's Hist. of Scotland, I. p. 485.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 346.

4 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 282.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 349.

6 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 237.

7 Id., IV. p. 90.

8 Id., p. 78.

9 Id., p. 77.

William Oudney married Janet Seyton, probably of the Meldrum family. He had issue three sons :—

- I. **Ranald**, his successor.
- II. Duncan, Dean of the Garioch.
- III. Thomas, who appears in documents, of date 1522.¹

William Oudny died in 1509 or 1510, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. Ranald Uldeny of Uldeny.

He is mentioned as son and heir of William Oudny in an inquest on Agnes Leslie in 1509.² He was also one of the jury on inquests in 1503, 1505, 1506, &c.

In 1510 he was served heir to his father, William, in the lands of Oudny, Minnes, Tulyaiff, &c.³

In 1511 there is a charter of Reginald Oudny of that ilk, and his spouse, Isabella Panton, and the longest liver of the whole and entire lands of Oudny,⁴ Auchloun, &c.

In 1511 he signs a bond of man-rent to the Earl of Errol, and in the same year he gives a charter to David Gardin and Janet Tulloch, his spouse, and the longest liver of them, of a half of his lands of Tilliecorthie, in the territory of Auchloun. He had issue :—⁵

- I. **William**, his successor.
- II. Andrew of Tillery, who married Janet Lyall, and had issue a son, William, a daughter, Jane, married to Michael, third son of George Leslie of New Leslie.⁶

Ranald Udny died some time before the year 1549, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. William Uldeny of Uldeny.

In 1548 his name occurs in an assize of the Lords and Barons of Aberdeenshire for making an assessment. The laird of Oudny's proportion of the tax is £10.⁵

In 1565 he granted a charter of the lands of the Mains of Oudny with the tower and fortalice thereof, mill, and mill lands to his brother, Andrew Udny of Tillery. In 1575 the said Andrew signed a bond of reversion to his nephew, William Udny.⁶

William Udny, married a daughter of Duncan Forbes of Monymusk, and had issue, three sons :—

- I. **William**, his successor.
- II. Robert, of Crabadona.
- III. Hercules. On 24 April, 1865, William Udny signed a precept of sasine in favour of his son, Hercules, of the feu lands of Balnakettle.⁷

¹ History of Udny Family, p. 9.

² Ant. A. and B. III. pp. 450, 78, 79.

³ Spal. Club Mis. II. p. 266; Ant. A. and B.

III. p. 84.

⁴ Stodart's Hist. of Udny in the Genealogist of Sep. 1877.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 118, 119.

⁶ Charters penes Udny.

⁷ Stodart's Hist. in Genealogist, Sep. 1777.

Doug. Baronage fol. p. 39. Hist. of Udny Family, p. 10.

This William Udney died in 1573 or 1574, and was succeeded by his son, the fourth of the name,

VIII. William Udney of Udney.

He was served heir to his father on the 14th of July, 1574, by virtue of a precept under the great seal in his favour, as son and heir of his deceased father, William, in the lands of Udney, with the mill thereof, the lands of Auchloun, Crabadonacht, Mynnes with the mill and multures thereof, and pertinents lying within the lordship of Udney.¹ In 1575, Andrew Udney of Tillery, previously quoted as having obtained a charter of the Mains Udney and fortalice from his brother, William, on the 25th of February, signed a bond of reversion of all these in favour of his nephew, William. These transactions can only be accounted for, by supposing that William had been in pecuniary difficulties, and had been obliged to make over his estates to his brother, Andrew of Tillery.² In 1589, William Udney signs a bond in defence of the true religion.³ The Commendator of the Abbey Kinloss, Edward Bruce, granted in 1592, to William Udney of that ilk and his heir, the teind scheaves of the Mains of Udney, and other lands on payment of certain dues.⁴ In 1599, the lands of Minnes had been mortgaged to George Seton of Auchinbuiffe for five thousand merks, and on 11 November, 1599, the said George Seton, granted a bond of reversion of the said lands to William Udney.⁵

William Udney married Matilda Gordon, a daughter (it is said), of William Gordon, Bishop of Aberdeen, she died in 1577, by her he had issue :—

I. William.

II. Robert, of Tilliecorthie, burghess or Aberdeen. He acquired some right to the Udney estate by contract of sale of date 20th November, 1634, and died s. p. 1636. He was a merchant in Amsterdam.

III. Alexander of Auchterellon and Hillbrae, was minister of Hawkins, Kent, and was fined 1000 merks by the Covenanters. It is noted in the parish records of Ellon, that he gave £20 yearly to the poor, and in 1632, he made a gift of "croft Modlie" for charitable purposes. In 1615, he got a conveyance in security of Udney from his brother, William; but in 1622, reconveyed it to William, by whom, with consent of the other brothers, Udney was disposed to William Seton (by whom, with consent of the other brothers, it was disposed in 1634, to Robert Udney),⁶ Alexander Udney was served heir general to his brother, Robert, 22 March, 1637, and d. s. p., when his niece inherited Hillbrae.

IV. John, of Belhelvie, of whom afterwards.

1. Helen.

2. Elizabeth, married Peter, second son of John Leith of Harthill.

¹ Charters penes Udney and Hist. of Family, p. 10.

² Bond penes Udney, Fam. Hist. p. 11.

³ P. C. R. IV. pp. 377, 378.

⁴ Charter penes Udney in Fam. His. p. 12.

⁵ Deed of Reversion penes Udney.

⁶ Deeds penes Udney, Fam. Hist. p. 17.

It was in the lifetime of this William Udny, that Udny was erected into a separate parish.

William Udny died about 1618, and was succeeded, in what remained of the Udny estates, by his eldest son,

IX. William Udny of Udny.

He succeeded to the estate, or what remained, for long before his father's death various portions of it had been sold to different individuals. On the 27 May, 1604, William Udny, on the marriage of his eldest son, William, granted a charter, by which he effected a settlement of the lands and barony of Udny, and the sunny half of Auchloun, &c., upon his son, the said William, and his spouse, Helen Cheyne, eldest daughter of Cheyne of Arnage. A charter of the great seal followed, of date 21 January, 1613. In that year, William Udny, sen., with the consent of his son, William, agreed to sell lands of Auchloun to John Seton of Auquhorties.

In 1615, William, the fiar of Udny of that ilk, with consent of his father, William, and his brother, Robert of Tilliecorthie, entered into a contract for the sale of the manor of Udny, for the sum of ten thousand merks, to his brother, the Rev. Alexander Udny of Hawkins, Kent, who had already acquired the lands of Auchterellon, and Hillbrae. The charter is dated 10 May, 1615, and includes, besides the manor place, Gilmorton, Ardmore, Mill of Udny, &c. In 1618 there follows the charter of confirmation. In the same year, on March 13, William Udny, fiar of Udny, with consent of his father, William, and his brothers, Robert of Tilliecorthie, and of Alexander of Hillbrae, granted a feu charter in favour of Mr. Gardin, minister of Tarves, and his spouse, of the Mill of Udny.¹

In 1623, sasine was given of the above lands to William Seton, but power of redemption was reserved, in the event of a younger brother being able to repurchase the family estates; but for some years they were in possession of William Seton.

William, the fiar of Udny, survived these transactions many years, for in a book of annual rents and wadsetts in Aberdeenshire, he is described as William Udny in Auchloun, and declares that there was in the year 1633 still owing to him, by Alexander Udny of Auchterellon, one thousand merks.

William Seton of Udny, in 1634, reconveys the lands of Udny to John Udny of Belhelvie for the sum of twenty-nine thousand merks Scots, for himself the said John Udny. The contract was completed in the following year, when Margaret Graham, wife of William Seton, then styled of Udny, effected a deed of renunciation on the 28 May, 1635, of the lands of Mains of Udny and others.

The same year Thomas, Earl of Elgin, resigns his claims to the teinds, rectorial and vicarage, in favour of Robert Udny, designated as brother-german of John Udny of Newburgh. The two brothers, Robert and John, thus redeemed, in 1635, the lands of Udny, which, in 1622, had been sold by William their elder brother, to William Seton.

¹ Udny Family History.

Robert did not live long to enjoy the family estates. He, along with his brother John, were merchants in Amsterdam, where they were most successful in business. He died without issue in 1636, when the Udney estates devolved on his youngest brother,

XI. John Udney of Udney, Belhelvie, and Newburgh.

He did much towards raising the fortunes of the family, and, as already mentioned, he engaged in commercial pursuits in Amsterdam, and realised a considerable fortune. By means of this fortune, he purchased from the Earl of Kinghorne the lands and barony of Belhelvie, in which he was infeft 20 May, 1628. In 1634, he purchased from Lord Sinclair the lands and barony of Newburgh, of which Knockhall was the residence. The following year he purchased from Sir James Crichton of Frendraught the lands and barony of Fiddes, and in 1636 was served heir to his brother Robert in the family estates of Udney.¹ John of Udney and his brother Alexander of Auchterellon became involved, together with the rest of the Aberdeenshire lairds and nobles, in the religious disputes that arose in 1636 between Charles I. and the Covenanters. It was about this time that Alexander went to England, and was presented with the living of Hawkins in Kent.²

The chief of the anti-Covenanters were the Gordons of Huntly, and amongst their followers were John Gordon of Haddo, Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, and the two brothers, John of Udney, and Alexander of Auchterellon. On the 27th May, 1639, the place of Knockhall was taken by the Covenanters. The next year Udney appears to have taken part with the laird of Drum, both anti-Covenanters, in an affair in which they must have embarked very reluctantly, though they were ordered to do so in the King's name. This was what was called the Raid of Kelly against Sir George Gordon of Haddo. It was a ridiculous failure, owing to the half-heartedness probably of some of those engaged in it. He was also compelled to subscribe the Covenant. In 1664, he was one of the visitors of the University of Aberdeen, and a subscriber of £60 towards the new buildings. He died in 1665, leaving by his wife, Isobel Fraser, four sons and a daughter :—³

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. **Robert**, of Auchterellon, of whom afterwards.
- III. **John**, of Newtyle and Culter-Cullen, He married ——— ———, and had issue.
- IV. **Arthur**. He was a graduate of the University of Aberdeen. He had a life appointment along with Mr. John Vaus, as keeper of the Tolbooth of Edinburgh; but they were deprived of their office by the Privy Council, 1st November, 1686, being held blameable for the escape of Mr. Alexander Shiell, a Presbyterian minister and preacher at Conventicles, disguised in

¹ History of Udney Family.

² *Id.*

³ History of Udney Family.

women's clothes. Arthur married Isabella, daughter of John Douglas, merchant, burghess of Aberdeen.

1. Isobel, married Dr. Rose, minister of Foveran, and had issue.

He was succeeded by his son,

XII. Alexander Udny of Udny and Newburgh.

He was served heir to his father, 20 August, 1665, in various lands in Aberdeenshire.¹ In 1685 "our Sovereign Lord, with the advice of the estates of Parliament presently assembled, gives to Alexander Udny of that ilk, his heirs and successors, two fairs to be held on the third Tuesday of October, at the town of the Newburgh—each fair to continue for the space of three days—and siclike at the Kirktown of Udny, upon the third Tuesday of September, and to continue for three days."²

He married Anna Renton of the Rentons, probably of Berwickshire, and had issue:—

- I. **John**, his successor.
- II. Alexander.
 1. Magdalene, married Robert Graham of Craigie.
 2. Elizabeth, married George Gordon of Sheelagreen, and had issue. (See Drumblade.)
 3. Anne.
 4. Christina.

Alexander was succeeded by his eldest son, John.

XIII. John Udny of Udny and the Newburgh.

He represented the county of Aberdeen in Parliament, 1703-1706; married, March, 1701, the Lady Martha Gordon, daughter of George, first Earl of Aberdeen, and Lord High Chancellor of Scotland, and had issue:—

- I. **Alexander**, his successor.
- II. George, merchant in London, d. s. p.
 1. Anne, married Charles Fraser of Inverallochy, and died 24 August, 1753, leaving issue: **William Fraser**, afterwards of Udny;³ 1. Martha Fraser, wife of Colin M'Kenzie of Kilcoy, county Ross; 2. Eliza Fraser, who died unmarried. These ladies were served co-heiresses of their brother, William, in the lands of Muchalls and Inverallochy. Mrs. M'Kenzie is represented by Sir Colin M'Kenzie of Kilcoy, Bart., heir of line of Udny, and from her second son is descended Colonel Fraser of Castle Fraser.

John Udny was succeeded by his son,

XIV. Alexander Udny of Udny.

He passed as an advocate in 1728; was appointed a Commissioner of Excise for

¹ Stodart's Hist. of Udny Family in Genealogist, Sep. 1877.

³ Stodart in Genealogist, 1877.

² Ant. A. and B. III. 112.

Scotland in 1742. He executed an entail of the various estates in 1784, which was recorded in the register of entails, 13 November, 1789. He married, 25 December, 1768, Margaret, only child of William Duff of Braco, widow of Patrick Duff of Culter and Premnay. This lady possessed the estate of Eden, and was known as Mrs. Udney Duff. She claimed the great estates of her father, William Duff of Braco, on the plea that the entail was invalid, but the suit was compromised in 1724, she receiving £10,000 in addition to £3000 given by her father, William Duff.¹ Mrs. Udney Duff left a bursary to the University of Aberdeen, and the bulk of her remaining means to her cousin, James, Earl of Fife.

This Alexander Udney effected great improvements on the estate of Udney. The avenues, commonly called the "walks of Udney," were laid out by him, which still remain, though the inner rows of trees have long ago been cut down. He had a plan for irrigating the meadows, the remains of the works for which may still be seen in the mill-dam of the mill of Udney. Alexander Udney, commonly called "Commissioner Udney," d. s. p. in 1789, and was succeeded by his nephew,

XV. William Fraser Udney of Udney and Inverallochy.

He was served heir-general to his uncle, 15 January, 1790, and heir of entail and provision general of his uncle, 2 December, 1789.²

He died 13 December, 1792, when the succession opened to the Auchterellon branch. We now return to Robert Udney of Auchterellon (No. X. above), the second son of John Udney of Udney, Belhelvie, and the Newburgh.

He had a crown charter of Auchterellon, 22 July, 1661. He matriculated his arms as second son of Udney with a crescent for difference. He married Elizabeth, only daughter of Colonel John Fullerton of Dudwick, and died in January, 1708, having had three sons:—

- I. Alexander, d. s. p., 1712.
- II. John, who, on March 1, 1689, was served heir of entail and provision to his grandfather, Colonel Fullerton, in the barony of Dudwick, Birness, &c. In 1712, he was served heir general of his father in Auchterellon, which he sold. He executed a deed of entail of Dudwick in 1729; married Mary, daughter of Sir David Falconer of Newton, Lord President of the Court of Session, sister of David, fifth Lord Falconer of Halkerton,³ and had issue:—
 - I. John Fullerton of Dudwick, out in 1745; was especially exempted from the general amnesty, and it is said travelled the country disguised as a packman. He married Mary, daughter of Sir John Guthrie of King-Edward, Bart., d. s. p., 1 April, 1768.

¹ Baird's Duff Pedigree.

² Decen. Retours, 1790, 1789.

³ Stodart in Genealogist, 1877.

- II. Robert Fullerton, who succeeded his brother in Dudwick, was in the service of the Empress of Russia, and Knight of St. Catharine; died unmarried March 7, 1786.
- III. James, advocate in Aberdeen. He married Jane, daughter of Alexander Walker, Lord Provost of Aberdeen, by Helen, daughter of Alexander Irvine of Drum. He died 1761, leaving issue:—
- I. Alexander, died young.
 - II. **Robert Udny**, who succeeded to Udny, of him afterwards.
 - III. John, born 1727, resided in Italy. He was British Consul at Venice and Leghorn; married, August, 1777, Selina Shore, daughter of John Cleveland, M.P. for Saltash, and Secretary to the Admiralty, by Sarah, his wife, sister of Sir Charles Stuckburgh, Bart., and died in 1800, leaving, with a daughter, Julia, who married, 3 September, 1804, William Richard Hamilton of the Belhaven family, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Minister at Naples, a son, **John Robert Udny**, afterwards of Udny.
 - IV. George, born 1729, d. s. p.
 - V. Ernest, born 1732, died at Grenada, leaving, with other issue, George, a member of the Supreme Council at Calcutta, who married Temperance Fleming, having had four sons:—
 - I. Ernest Augustus, died young.
 - II. George, born 1802, who claimed unsuccessfully the Udny estates, on the accession of the present proprietor.
 - III. Robert, born 1804.
 - IV. Charles died 1844, leaving issue.
1. Helen, born 1718, married Walter Cochrane of Dumbreck, Depute Town-Clerk of Aberdeen.
 2. Elizabeth, born 1719, died young.
 3. Jane, born 1725, died unmarried.
 4. Elizabeth, born 1726, died unmarried.
 5. Margaret, married Alexander Ross, from whom Major Ross, Chief Constable of Aberdeenshire, was descended. (See Tillie-corthie).

William Fraser Udny of Udny and Inverallochy on his death in 1792, was succeeded by

XVI. Robert Fullerton Udny of Udny, Dudwick, and Newburgh.

He was, as above narrated, the son of James Udny, advocate, Aberdeen, born 1722. He was F.R.S. and F.S.A., succeeded to Dudwick on the death of his cousin, General

Fullerton, in 1786; became heir male of the Udney family in 1789, though he could not inherit the estate till the death of William Fraser of Udney. Mr. Fullerton Udney married Miss Hougham. With regard to this marriage, the "Aberdeen Journal" of the period (1748) remarks—"Robert Udney, merchant, London, son to James Udney, advocate, Aberdeen, was married to Miss Hougham, an agreeable young lady, with a fortune of £6000." Her sister was the wife of Spencer, eighth Earl of Northampton. He married secondly, Margaret Jourdan, who was appointed sub-governess to the Princess Charlotte. Mr. Robert Udney died January 3, 1802, leaving an only daughter, Mary, who, in 1785, married Sir William Augustus Cunningham of Livingstone and Milncraig, Bart., and had issue. Mr. Fullerton Udney was succeeded by his nephew,

XVII. John Robert Fullerton Udney of Udney, Newburgh, and Dudwick.

He was the son, as above mentioned, of John Udney, British Consul at Venice, and his wife, Selina Shore, daughter of John Cleveland, M.P. for Saltash, and Secretary to the Admiralty. He was born at Leghorn, 14 November, 1799, and was educated in Scotland, entered the army, served in the Guards, and attained the rank of colonel.

He married, 1812, Emily, daughter of Thomas Fitzhugh of Plus Power, Co. Denbigh, and by her had one son:—

John Augustus, Colonel in the Foot Guards, born 17 July, 1817; died unmarried 6 May, 1859.

He married secondly, Ann, daughter of David Allat, and had issue by her one son, **John Henry.**

Colonel Udney died 29 November, 1861, and was succeeded by his son,

XVIII. John Henry Udney of Udney, Newburgh, and Dudwick.

He married, July 8, 1874, Amy Camilla, daughter of Sir George John Tollemache Sinclair, Bart. of Ulbster, some time M.P. for Caithness-shire.

The arms of Udney, like the spelling of the name, have undergone various changes, and, according to Mr. Stodart, have always presented more of the pictorial character than is usual in Scottish coats.

In an old MS. they are given as—"Gules, two hounds climbing to a hart mounted on a tree proper; next, gules, a fesse argent between two garbs or, and a greyhound courant of the second; afterwards gules, three fleur-de-lis, or, and two greyhounds leaping at a hart's head, argent."

Again, gules, a fleur-de-lis, held up by greyhounds sejant, argent.

Another form is argent, a tree proper growing out of the base between two greyhounds, counter salient, and seem to suggest a belief in a common origin of the Udnys or Woodneys (as the name is sometimes spelt) with the Woods.

On the 21 June, 1665, Alexander Udney of that ilk obtained a warrant from Sir

Alexander Erskine, Lord Lyon, to bear the arms as follows, with supporters as chief of his name, representer of a family of free barons holding directly from the crown.

“Gules, a stag’s head coupé and cabossed, or, in honour point two greyhounds, argent, counter salient, collared of the first and second, with three fleur-de-lis, gules; supporters, two naked savages, wreathed about the head and middle with green branches, resting their anterior hands on the shield, and supporting in the other hand a gigantic baton proper.” This rather confused blazon was modified when the new register was formed under authority of Act of Parliament 1672, when Alexander Udny and his three brothers all matriculated, “gules, two greyhounds, counter salient, argent, collared of the field, in the honour point a stag’s head coupé, attyred with the tynes, all betwixt three fleurs-de-lis, or.” The motto is “All my trust is in God.”

Robert Fullerton Udny, on the death of his cousin, General Fullerton, in 1786, became heir-male of the Udny family, and in 1789, he established his right to the chief arms and supporters of the family, which were matriculated in his name in the Lyon Register, on 22 December, the blazon being again altered. “Gules, a stag’s head cabossed, or, between two greyhounds, saliente affronté, argent, collared of the field, in chief and base, three fleurs-de-lis of the second. The savages are wreathed with oak leaves, and the batons are described as resting on their shoulders.”

UDNY ACADEMY AND PARISH SCHOOL.

“ Ah, happy hills ! a pleasing shade,
 Ah, fields beloved in vain !
 Where first my careless childhood strayed
 A stranger yet to pain.
 I feel the gales that from ye blow
 A momentary bliss bestow,
 As waving fresh their gladsome wing,
 My weary soul they seem to soothe,
 And redolent of joy and youth,
 To breathe a second spring,”

—*Gray.*

MR. GEORGE BISSET, born in the parish of Keith-hall, was appointed, in the year 1784, schoolmaster of the parish of Udny, and soon after, in 1786, he added to the school a boarding establishment, which he called the “Udny Academy.” This academy, under him and his son James, became a very important preliminary school, and attracted to it a great many of the sons of the county gentlemen in the north of Scotland. It afforded to them, and to many others in the neighbouring parishes of Tarves and Ellon, a good education, fitting them for the university. The Premier Earl of Aberdeen used to speak with proud satisfaction, that a great many of his tenants were graduates of an university, and it was in the Udny Academy that they received their preliminary training, fitting them for the universities of King’s and Marischal colleges.

George Bisset, the first rector, married Mary Anderson of Strichen, and had by her sixteen children.

- I. John, M.D., Newburgh, Sussex, d. s. p.
- II. James, of whom afterwards.
- III. Thomas, LL.D., vicar of Pontefract, d. s. p.
- IV. Charles, late vicar of Upholland, Wigan, Lancashire.
- V. William, colonel Indian Army, married, and has issue one son and three daughters.
- VI. Udney, who succeeded his brother James as rector of the Udney Academy, d. s. p.
 1. Mary, wife of Mr. ——— Rose, Auchterless (father of Sir John Rose). He survived her in Canada, whither they emigrated; issue, James, a merchant in Montreal, and others.
 2. Margaret, married Arthur, afterwards Sir Arthur Nicholson, Bart.; issue, Sir Arthur, their son, and a daughter, Catharine. Sir Arthur is married; was born in Australia, where he grew up.
 3. Isobel, first wife of Adam Thom, LL.D., Recorder of Rupert's Land, to whom, for much in this notice, I am indebted. Of Dr. Thom, who died in 1890, the late Dr. Mountain, Bishop of Quebec, thus writes in his diary—"An exceedingly able man, possessing a varied range of information, and deeply engaged in Biblical studies." The Bishop also expresses himself deeply indebted for his kind assistance with reference to the origin of languages and various Indian tribes."¹

The remainder of the sixteen d. s. p.

George Bisset died in 1812, and was succeeded in the parish school and academy by his son, James Bisset. He was well trained by his father, and entering Marischal College, Aberdeen, took his degree at the early age then common for graduates. He was not quite seventeen when, at his father's death, he took the responsibility of so large an establishment; but he was greatly aided by his widowed mother and oldest sister. He must have appeared, however, a little older than this. There is a good anecdote told of Mr. Bisset. When the mother of (her afterwards famous son) James Outram came to place him under his care, she was struck with his youthful appearance, and said he was a very young man to have the charge of so large an establishment, he could not be above twenty-five years of age. "I did not tell her," said Mr. Bisset, "that I was not quite out seventeen!" But though young, he was a thoughtful youth, and had the energy of more advanced years. He was the stay of his widowed mother, and proved himself more than a father to all his brothers and sisters, whom he carefully brought up and educated, and placed them in positions of life, which, under Providence, they entirely owed to him. Under Mr. Bisset's care the Academy flourished, and its fame attracted, as has been already mentioned, a large number

¹ Bishop Mountain's Diary, penes his son, Rev. Mr. Mountain.

of boarders and scholars. He kept always a very efficient staff of teachers, amongst whom, besides Dr. Thom, already mentioned, were James Melvin, afterwards LL.D. and Rector of the Grammar School, Aberdeen, and his brother George, headmaster of Gordon's Hospital, and afterwards schoolmaster at Tarves, who began their early labours at Udny. Like all schoolmasters of that period, Mr. Bisset studied for the ministry of the Church of Scotland, studying partly in Edinburgh, and in 1826 he became minister of the small parish of Bourtie in Aberdeenshire. The small amount of duty needed by the parish gave him leisure to continue his studies, which, however, he only utilised for the education of his children. He took great interest in public affairs, became an ardent politician, civil and ecclesiastical, on the constitutional side. He was very zealous in every cause he espoused, indeed, the force of character which enabled him, at so early an age at his father's death, to undertake so serious responsibilities, never forsook him. He was instant in season and out of season. He was a prominent figure in the Church courts during the prolonged struggle, that ended in the secession of those who formed themselves into the Free Church of Scotland. In 1850, his University of Marischal College conferred on him the degree of D.D., and in 1862, he was chosen Moderator of the General Assembly, the highest ecclesiastical position in Scotland.

Dr. Bisset was twice married, first, in 1829, to Mary Bannerman, elder daughter of Rev. Mr. Lessel, minister of Inverurie; and secondly to Elizabeth Sinclair, daughter of Rev. William Smith, minister of Bower, in Caithness, and was survived by children of both marriages. Dr. Bisset died on the morning of Sunday, September 8, 1862. Dr. Bisset's family were—

1. James, married Isabel Smith of Ratting Dean, Sussex; has issue.
1. Mary, married to Rev. John Davidson, minister of Inverurie, author of the "Earldom of the Garioch."
2. Susan, married to H. C. Raikes, Indian Civil Service; he died s. p.
3. Robina, married to H. C. Raikes.
4. Elizabeth, married to Dr. Henry Muscroft, Pontefract, and has issue.

On Mr. Bisset's appointment to Bourtie, his youngest brother, Udny Bisset, was appointed his successor, and for some time carried on the Academy with success; but his health failing, the Academy was given up in 1834 or 35, after it had flourished most successfully for fifty years.

Among those educated at Udny Academy were the following :—

Rev. Robert Adam, who was the son of poor parents in the neighbourhood, received a portion of his education at Udny. He was born about 1770, and took his degree at the University of Aberdeen. He was afterwards sent by some persons interested in his welfare to St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, where he took the degree of B.A. He was subsequently ordained deacon and priest by Dr. Porteous, Bishop of London; and in 1801 was appointed assistant to Dr. Abernethy-Drummond of Hawthornden, Bishop of Edinburgh. He was also chaplain to the Earl of Kellie. In 1809, he published an elaborate

and comprehensive work in two volumes, entitled "The Religious World Displayed." He was subsequently appointed to a church in the Danish island of St. Croix, where he was annoyed by the Danish authorities, and had at last to leave the island. He afterwards accompanied the first Bishop of Barbadoes to the West Indies in 1825, and died at Tobago, 2 July, 1826.

Joseph Robertson, LL.D., the only son of Joseph Robertson and Christian Leslie, was born at Aberdeen, 17 May, 1810. His father died in the year 1816, leaving him and a sister entirely dependent on the exertions of his widowed mother, who, through her industry and economy, was enabled to bring them up respectably. Joseph was sent to the school of Udney, then enjoying a high reputation under the teaching of Dr. Bisset. His character when at school was not so much that of a scholar as a lively, courageous, good-humoured boy, foremost in all feats of strength. The Udney boys had for many years two traditional heroes, whose after lives were far cast asunder. The one was James Outram, and the other Joseph Robertson. From Udney he went to the Grammar School, Aberdeen, and from thence to Marischal College. Mr. Bisset spoke of him with the greatest warmth of regard, and Robertson never referred to his early teacher without expressions of gratitude and esteem. When about sixteen years of age, Robertson entered the office of Mr. James Simpson, advocate, Aberdeen, but afterwards removed to Edinburgh, and received an appointment in the Register House there. He edited many of the volumes of the Spalding Club collection, and many other antiquarian works. He died on the 13th of December, 1866, and is interred in the Dean Cemetery, where there is a monument to his memory by public subscription.

William Leslie, Esq., M.P., was the eleventh laird of Warthill. He was born on the 16 March, 1814, and was educated at Udney Academy, and at King's College, Aberdeen, where he graduated M.A. in 1834. He afterwards went to China, and engaged in the tea trade under the famous firm of Dent & Co. Mr. Leslie returned to this country about 1847, and purchased the estate of Drumrossie, ten years later he succeeded to Warthill. On the succession of Lord Haddo to the earldom of Aberdeen, he contested the county of Aberdeen with the Hon. Arthur Gordon, and was returned by a large majority. He was re-elected in 1865, but in the following year he resigned the representation. He died 4 March, 1880. He married, on 16 November, 1848, Matilda Rose, second daughter of William Rose Robinson of Clermiston, and Sheriff of Lanarkshire, and had issue by her five daughters and an only son, William, who predeceased him about ten years.

James Outram, afterwards Sir James Outram, Bart., was the second son of Benjamin Outram, an eminent engineer in Derbyshire. His uncle was the well-known and accomplished Dean Outram. His mother was the daughter of James Anderson, LL.D., the editor of the "Bee," and other works bearing on agriculture. On the death of her husband, Mrs. Outram, who was a woman who never failed to fascinate by her brilliant conversational powers and wit, returned to Aberdeen, and sent her second son, James, at the age of ten, to the Academy at Udney, where at that time were congregated cadets

of the principal families of the north of Scotland. Here he soon won the hearts of his playmates in all the classes. He mastered without difficulty his various tasks, but the ardour with which he studied mathematics, and the application of them to measuring and surveying, showed that the bent of his mind was towards the exact sciences. It was, however, on the Green of Udny in his play hours that the boy was most distinctly seen to be the father of the man—whether at football, shinty, bowls, or cricket, he was alike ardent, and speedily rose to the first rank of a player, and was recognised as leader of the school. He had his troops of soldiers whom he would drill, and march, and counter-march. A distinguished clergyman of the English Church, who was his contemporary at this school, said our admiration of Outram amounted to idolatry. When he left Udny he went to Marischal College, and from that he went as a cadet to India in 1819; and after being Lieutenant and Adjutant of 23rd Bombay Native Infantry, he commanded and organised the Bheel corps. After the capture of Cabool, he attracted the admiration of India by his daring pursuit of Dost Mahomed; and his chivalrous bearing in the field procured for him throughout India the title of “the Bayard of the East.” He was at the siege of Lucknow; was a G. C. B. in 1857; and was created in 1858 a baronet, in which year he was raised to the rank of Lieutenant-General. In 1835, he married his cousin, the daughter of James Anderson Seton of Mounie. He died 11 March, 1863, and was buried among the illustrious dead in Westminster Abbey.

An equestrian statue in Calcutta was erected to his memory. An engraving of it has been placed in the school of Udny by Mr. Udny of Udny. It bears the following inscription—“His life was given to India. In early manhood he reclaimed wild races by winning their hearts. Ghanzin, Kelat, the Indian Caucasus witnessed the daring deeds of his prime. Persia brought to sue for peace, Lucknow relieved, defended, and recovered, were fields of his later glories. Faithful servant of England, large-minded and kindly ruler. A true knight, the Bayard of the East. Educated at Udny School under Bisset, 1814-1818.”

Captain James Mutch was a native of Udny, son of James Mutch, the Udny carrier. He was a good scholar. One of his teachers, Adam Thom, LL.D., thus speaks of him:—“Though inferior to his class-fellows in the vernacular tongue, yet in Latin, pure and simple, he was superior to most if not all his class-fellows.” He took a high bursary at King’s College, Aberdeen. In 1839 he joined the Royal Sappers and Miners at Woolwich, and was appointed to the office of assistant clerk in the office of the Brigade-Major of the corps. He was rapidly promoted. In 1856 he obtained the office of quarter-master of the Royal Engineers, and held it till the removal to Pimlico in 1860. After he had been for the long period of thirty years in the Royal Engineers, he retired with the rank of Captain. Captain Mutch was a true soldier, and a good citizen having, by strictly upright conduct, risen in his profession to the highest rank he could obtain.

Rev John Grieve, M.A., was son of the Rev. Nathaniel Grieve of Ellon, and received a portion of his education at Udny Academy previous to his entering the

University of Aberdeen. He graduated there, and afterwards went to the University of Durham. After finishing his theological curriculum, he received English orders. He died at Inverurie in 1888.

John Milne, LL.D., was educated at the Udney Academy. He was the son of Thomas Milne in New Craig, Udney. He was for many years principal of the Dollar Institution in Clackmananshire, which, for many years, he conducted with considerable success.

Rev. Samuel Trail, D.D., LL.D., was son of John Trail in Gilmorton, near Udney. He was educated at Udney, as also were his brothers—John Trail, M.D., Monynusk, and James Trail. Dr. Trail was first appointed minister of Arbuthnott. Afterwards, he was translated to Harray and Birsay. On the death of Dr. Macpherson, Professor of Divinity, King's College, in 18—, he was appointed his successor. He was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1874. He was twice married, and left issue. One of his sons is W. H. Trail, M.A., M.D., F.L.S., Professor of Botany in the University of Aberdeen.

The following were also educated, and very few of them now (1893) survive. They were between the years 1820 and 1827, viz., late John Ramsay of Barra, Sir John Forbes of Craigievar, Huntly Gordon of Pitlurg, George Silver of Netherley, James Silver, do., John Farquharson of Haughton, Patrick Leslie and Walter Stevenson Leslie, James Gordon of Manar, Hugh Gordon, Robert Kilgour of Tullo, John Leith Ross of Arnage, Alexander Ross and William Ross, do., Alexander Black, M.D., a well-known London physician; John Hogarth, Joseph Hogarth, William Jopp, David Jopp, James Craigie Robertson, the well-known historian; Mr. Hunter of Tillery, John Gordon of Aberdour, Basil Fisher and William Fisher, William Legertwood, of Logierieve, James Pirie, Mill of Torry; Alexander Milne, Mill of Alathan; and William Seton, Bonnyton. These two (1893) are still alive; also Edward Fasken, M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals. After the greatness of the school had passed away, and it had become the shadow of a shade, the following received their early education:—Rev. W. Temple, M.A., Rev. Alex. Temple, M.A., Rev. George Sutherland, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., Rev. John Rae, M.A., Rev. George Milne Rae, M.A.

We subjoin the following account of Udney Academy from a boy there sixty-five years ago, now verging on the fourscore and ten:—

“Of the many advantages which, in the case of Udney Academy, superintended by such a man as Dr. Bisset, resulting from the mixture of boys belonging to the upper classes, with every rank under them in the same class room, I entertain a very high opinion. I believe it to be a gain to all. Our sympathies were enlarged, and we were better able to deal with the problems of life. To see the efforts and struggles made to elevate themselves was a training to lookers-on as well as to the workers. In the parishes of Udney, Ellon, and Tarves there was a superior class of farmers. Dr. Black, minister of Tarves, was a host in himself, and poor John Leslie, the Udney parson, was a rare hand for a churchman. Adam Thom, LL.D., James Melvin, LL.D., and his brother, George, were noticeable in their day of lesser men.

"Sandy Divorty, so fine at clipping heads; James Mutch, carrier (rascal used to give up letters); Peter Paterson, the cadger, with mussels and dulce; Witches Meg Duncan and Sister Macgregor; and the suter Mair call for a word; not to forget Jane Kerr, the caird and giantess; and poor Gordon Reid, the sexton, with annual babies—true proof of pressure of population on the means of production.

"By the invigorating games on the green, an annual tar barrel dedicated to the King on his birthday, politics by Davie Chalmers on Wednesday ("Aberdeen Journal"), by hill and stream, we imbibed sound morals, and by roaming quite freely, decision came thus early. I must not omit our efforts at co-operation in honey and birds' eggs, and the blaeberrys in the Athole hill, in conveying some notion of Dr. Bisset's modes.

"In school a good deal of austerity was the fashion long ago, and, like others whose sins have been blotted out, Mr. Bisset was fond of using the tawse, and could be awfully imposing-looking in peeping from his sanctum. It was hard lines for little urchins locked in between class with much of the powers of comprehension neutralised by fear."

Thus writes the octogenarian. He has forgotten to add the mill dam of John Logan, the kind-hearted miller of Udny. It was situated in the stream at the end of the beech lanes, and had been formed by Commissioner Udny as a reservoir for a system of irrigation. Here the Udny boarders used to bathe and swim every fine summer day. John had always a kind word for the boys, but he, along with most of the youths above mentioned, have gone "to the region of shades, and their place knoweth them no more."

The following is another (octogenarian's) account of the school. He was a boarder there in 1828-29 under Udny Bisset, and the school, under his headmastership, soon deteriorated. The commissariat of the school, so far as the boys were concerned, was not considered by them at least what it should be, and in order to supplement their rather short commons, the writer says "the boys would occasionally nationalise a cheese while in course of manufacture, which they would take to some outhouse, and discuss while it lasted from day to day." The following led almost to a catastrophe. Several of the boys in one of the dormitories resolved on a feast of "fat things." A good fat hen was seized, which at first they intended to boil, but as the fire-place would not admit a pot being put on, it was resolved to suspend a rope with swivel down the chimney and roast it. Everything seemed to be progressing satisfactorily, when suddenly the school bell rings. They unfortunately had set fire to the chimney, and their prospect of a feast was at an end. They were discovered and severely punished. But perhaps the crowning and most daring "lark" of the days we speak of was when certain of the boys discovered that Mutch, the carrier, had brought from Aberdeen some ten kegs of powder to be used in the lime-stone quarry in the vicinity. These they found stored under a shelving rock. They determined to blow it up, and fearful lest in the attempt they should do themselves mortal injury, they broke up several of the casks, made a long train with the powder, and surmounted it by an immense "powder monkey." When all was completed, there was none, however, who would venture to

apply the match. The courage of all failed. At last a youth Nicholson, the most daring lad among the school boarders, volunteered to do so. In one moment the train was on fire, the next the rock was cleft in a thousand pieces, and the reverberation was heard for miles around. As those engaged in this terrible work were true to one another, the real perpetrators could not be brought to punishment. A fine of 7s. 6d. each on the whole school was imposed to recoup Davidson, the merchant, for the loss caused by the destruction of his powder.

In course of years matters did not improve, and the Rector's health giving way, he had to be secluded. In the early stages of his illness, he made the boys carry him up and down the school on their backs. Two youths, farmers' sons in the neighbourhood (one of whom is still alive), got tired of carrying the Rector on their backs like "the old man of the sea," and shirked the school. On their parents finding this out, the youths told them that "they were no longer able to carry the maister on their backs."

Soon after this Udney Academy ceased to be.

PITMEDDEN—ITS PROPRIETORS.

PITMEDDEN is now owned by Sir William Samuel Lumsden Seton, Bart., of Pitmedden and Cushnie, a Colonel of the Bombay Staff Corps. Pitmedden was rebuilt about fifty years ago, and occupies the site of two old mansion houses, one of which had unfortunately been burned.

Pitmedden was anciently owned by a family of the name of Panton. This name appears in Aberdeenshire about the end of the fourteenth century. In 1396, 1398, 1402, the name Oliver and David Panton are found, and in 1436 the name of William de Pantone.¹

I. James Panton of Pitmethan

is found in 1445,² and is succeeded by

II. James Panton of Pitmethan.

He is dead by 1451. The next to be found is

III. William Panton de Pitmethan.

In 1454 there is a confirmation of half of the lands of Tillymade, in the barony of Monicaboc, made by William Panton of Pitmethan, in favour of his son, William Panton. In 1489, William Panton of Pitmethan is a witness to the laird of Philorth's bond of man-rent to the Earl of Errol. He was probably succeeded by

IV. John Panton of Pitmethan.

In 1493, he is a witness to a precept of sasine regarding the lands of Pitfour,³ and in 1510, he is one of the jury on the inquest of William Forbes. In 1512, the lands of Wester Corse and Norham are mentioned as belonging to John Panton of Pitmethan. He was probably succeeded by his son,

V. Alexander Panton of Pitmethan.

He is mentioned, 1511, as son and apparent heir of John Panton in a confirmation charter of certain lands to Mr. David Gardin.⁴

¹ Stodart's Scottish Arms I. p. 114.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 203; Spal. Club Misc. IV. p. 258.

³ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 406; III. pp. 65, 84, 88;
I. p. 607.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 84.

VI. John Panton of Pitmethan.

In 1543, in a list of lords and barons in the county of Aberdeen, appears the name of John Panton of Pitmethan.¹ He is taxed at £6. This John Panton was probably the son of Alexander Panton mentioned above, as younger of Pitmethan. In 1585, William Panton, elder brother of the laird of Pitmethan, died.

With regard to the Pantons, Mr. Stodart says—"Cadets held Tillymade, Blackhouse, Craig, Hilton, and held Haddo on wadset at the close of the fifteenth and early in the sixteenth century. In the eighteenth century the name had disappeared. The Pantons probably bore an eagle, and added to it the rose and mullets."²

After the Pantons the present family of Seton came into possession.

William Seton of Meldrum, about 1548, married Janet, daughter of James Gordon of Lesmoir, by whom he had :—³

I. Alexander, of Meldrum.

II. John, of Lumphard and Brownhill. These two lands were confirmed to him by charter under the great seal in 1575, and those of Mounie in 1597. He married Marjory, daughter of Panton of Pitmedden.

III. William, of Slattie.

He married secondly, Margaret, daughter of Innes of Leuchars, by whom he had :—

I. George, Chancellor of the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen, d. s. p.

II. James, of Bourtie, who was the progenitor of the Setons of Pitmedden.

James Seton of Bourtie acquired the lands of Pitmedden in 1619, and married a daughter of William Rolland, Master of the Mint in Aberdeen, by whom he had an only son.

II. Alexander Seton of Pitmedden

was served heir to his father, James Seton of Pitmedden, in the town and lands of Auld Bourtie, lands of Hillbrae, June 5, 1628.⁴ He got a charter under the great seal from King Charles I.—it is "to Alexander Seton, apparent of Pitmedden, of the town and lands of Over Ardmore."⁵ In 1626, he got a charter of the lands and barony of Dumbreck, Milltown, &c.⁶ He married first, Beatrix, daughter of Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugas, ancestor of Lord Banff, by whom he had one son, his heir, and eight daughters :—

I. **John**, his successor.

1. Grizel, married to George Gordon of Cocklarachie.

2. ———, married to Gordon of Milntown.

3. ———, married to Cumine of Birness.

4. ———, married to James Buchan of Auchmacoy.

5. ———, married to Gordon of Auchintoul.

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 115.

² Stodart l. p. 114.

³ Burke's Baronetcy p. 953, see Barony of Drumblade.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 207.

⁵ Douglas' Baronage, p. 183.

⁶ Reg. of Sasines H. M. Reg. Ho. Edin.

6. Marjory, married to David Dunbar of Grangehill.
7. Elizabeth, married to Patrick Irvine of Beltie.
8. Jean, married to Alexander Menzies of Kinmundy.

According to Burke there were but seven daughters.¹ Alexander Seton had a charter of Barrach (Barra?) disposed to him, July 10, 1630, by his cousin-german, William Seton of Meldrum.² He was succeeded by his son.

III. John Seton of Pitmedden

was served heir to his father, Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, in the lands of Barrach, Westerhous, Mill of Bourtie, March 30, 1637.³ He was a man of good natural parts, which were much improved by a liberal education and travelling. He accompanied the Earl of Errol as High Constable of Scotland at the coronation of Charles I. This John Seton was a steady Royalist, and did much to promote the King's interest. Under the Earl of Aboyne, who had the command of the King's forces in the north, he served, and commanded a detachment of Loyalists at the Bridge of Dee, where he was unfortunately shot through the heart in June, 1639, aged twenty-eight.

He was a handsome youth, and his early death is recorded in the ballad of "Bonnie John Seton of Pitmedden."

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Samuel Johnston of Elphinstone, and had issue :—⁴

I. **James**, his heir.

II. **Alexander**, afterwards Sir Alexander.

He was succeeded by his eldest son.

IV. James Seton of Pitmedden

was served heir to John Seton of Pitmedden, his father, in the lands of Old Bourtie, the lands of Allathan, Ardmuir, south part of Logieruiffe, &c., October 3, 1655.⁵ He along with his other brother, both infants, were reduced to incredible hardships on account of their father's loyalty. Pitmedden was plundered by the Covenanters, and the rents of the estate seized. They were both educated at the University of Aberdeen. James visited most of the courts of Europe, and was of a bold and intrepid disposition. He went aboard the English fleet under the command of the Duke of York, and was present at the desperate engagement near Harwich, when the English obtained a signal victory over the Dutch in June 3, 1665. He afterwards died of the wounds he received from the Dutch in their attack on the English fleet at Chatham, anno 1667, and having no issue was succeeded by his brother,

V. Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden and 1st Bart., Lord Pitmedden.

He was admitted an advocate, December 10, 1661, and received in 1664 the honour

¹ Doug. Bar. p. 183, Burke's do.

² Ant. A. and E. I. p. 359.

³ Spec. Ret. Aber. No. 235.

⁴ Ant. A. and E. I. p. 359.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 329.

of knighthood from King Charles II., and was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, 1 January, 1684. He was nominated a Lord of Session, October 31, 1677, on the demise of Sir Richard Maitland of Pitrichie, and took his seat on the bench as Lord Pitmedden in November following. He was admitted a Justiciary Lord, July, 5, 1682. His lordship represented the county of Aberdeen in Parliament in 1681, 1685, and 1686, and gave deep offence by the boldness with which he then opposed the measures of Government. King James VII. was then anxiously seeking a repeal of the test and penal laws; and of nine judges who held seats in Parliament he was one of those who resisted.¹

His independence of conduct was soon visited with the loss of office as a Senator of the College of Justice,¹ and he then retired into private life, and devoted his attention towards the improvement of his estate of Pitmedden. He rebuilt the mansion house, and laid out a beautiful garden, which remains to the present day. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Mr. William Lauder, one of the clerks of Session, by whom he had a numerous issue:—

I. **Sir William**, his heir.

II. Mr. George, of Mounie, advocate. He married first a daughter of Sir Alexander Gibson, Bart. of Pentland, by whom he had a daughter, Ellen, wife of Alexander Leslie of Warhill. He married secondly, Anne, daughter of John Leslie of Tochar, by whom he had, with other issue—I. William, who succeeded his father in 1763, but died unmarried. 1. Margaret, who succeeded her brother. 2. Isabella, married to Rev. Skene Ogilvy, lineal descendant and representative of the Hon. Francis Ogilvy of Newgrange, Forfar, sixth son of James, fifth Lord Ogilvie of Airlie, by his wife, Jane, daughter of Lord Forbes.

The elder daughter, Margaret, of Mounie, married James Anderson, LL.D., of Cobenshaw, county of Edinburgh, who assumed the surname of Seton, and had, with other issue, a son, Alexander Seton of Mounie, J.P., D.L., who married his cousin, Janet Skene, daughter of the above-named Skene Ogilvy, D.D., and, dying in 1850, was succeeded by his son, Alexander Seton of Mounie, Lieut.-Col. 74th Highlanders, who, being in command of the troops on board H.M.S. "Birkenhead" when that vessel was lost, perished in the wreck; but not until, by his self-devoted firmness and promptitude, he had secured the safe removal of all the women and children in the boats. Colonel Seton died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother, David Seton.

III. Alexander, M.D., physician to the forces under the Duke of Marlborough.

IV. James, d. s. p.

V. Thomas, M.D.

1. Elizabeth, married to Sir Alexander Wedderburn, Bart.

2. Margaret, married to Sir John Lauder, Bart. of Fountainhall.

¹ Haig and Brunton's *Senators of the College of Justice*, pp. 406-7.

3. Anne, married to William Dick of Grange.
4. Isabel.
5. Jean.

Sir Alexander, dying in 1719, was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. Sir William Seton, 2nd Bart. of Pitmedden.

In his father's life-time he was chosen to represent the county of Aberdeen in the Scots Parliament from 1702 till 1706, at which time the Queen was pleased to name him one of the Commissioners to treat about the union between England and Scotland. This gentleman married Catharine, daughter of Sir Thomas Burnett of Leys, by whom he had five sons and four daughters :—

- I. **Alexander**, his heir.
- II. **William**, who succeeded his brother as fourth baronet.
- III. Thomas, M.D., who married a daughter of Sir John Paterson, d. s. p.
- IV. **Archibald**, the fifth baronet.
- V. Charles, whose son, **William**, succeeded as sixth baronet.
 1. Margaret, married to Sir John Paterson, Bart.
 2. Katharine, married to Rev. Mr. Forbes.
 3. Rachel,
 4. Mary.

Sir William sold the estates of Dumbreck and Orchardtown in 1732. He died in 1749, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Sir Alexander Seton, 3rd Bart. of Pitmedden.

He was served heir to his father, Sir William Seton, 21 February, 1750;¹ was an officer in the Guards; at whose decease, without issue, in 1751, the title and estates devolved upon his next brother,

VIII. Sir William Seton, 4th Bart. of Pitmedden.

On 7 February, 1751,² he was served heir to his brother, Alexander Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden, but having died without issue, the estates and baronety descended to his brother, Archibald, who became

IX. Sir Archibald Seton, 5th Bart. of Pitmedden.

He was abroad, and was for some time lost sight of, but latterly turned up, and succeeded to the estates and baronety. He d. s. p., and was succeeded by his nephew (No. VI.), who became

X. Sir William Seton, 6th Bart. of Pitmedden.

He was the son of Charles Seton, youngest brother of the three preceding baronets.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1750; Sheriff Riddell's Notes; Douglas' Baronage, Advo. Lib. Edinb.

² Decen. Rets. 1751.

He married Margaret, daughter of James Legertwood of Tillery, by whom he had been much benefitted before his succession. They had issue :—

- I. Charles, died young.
- II. James, Major 92nd Highlanders; killed in the Peninsular war 1814, leaving by Frances, daughter of Captain George Coote, nephew of Sir Eyre Coote, one son and two daughters—I. **William Coote**, who succeeded. 1. Frances Margaret. 2. Jane.
- III. William, who died in India.
 1. Jane, married Alexander Leslie, merchant, Glasgow.
 2. Anna Maria.

Sir William died in 1819, and was succeeded by his grandson,

XI. Sir William Coote Seton, 7th Bart. of Pitmedden.

He was the son of Major James Seton, who fell in the Peninsular war. He married, 26 November, 1834, Elizabeth, second daughter of Henry Lumsden of Cushnie, relict of Captain John Wilson, H.E.I.C.S., and had issue :—

- I. **James Lumsden**, Captain 1st Madras Fusiliers, born 1835, his successor.
- II. **William Samuel**, H.E.I.C.S., born 1837, succeeded his brother James.
- III. Henry, born, 1839.
- IV. Matthew.
- V. Charles.
 1. Eliza.
 2. Magdalene Frances.
 3. Frances.

Sir William, who rebuilt the house of Pitmedden, died 1880, and was succeeded by his son,

XII. Sir James Lumsden Seton, 8th Bart. of Pitmedden.

He was a Captain in the Madras Fusiliers, died in 1884, and was succeeded by his next brother,

XIII. Sir William Samuel Lumsden Seton, 9th Bart. of Pitmedden.

He succeeded also to the estate of Cushnie on the death of the widow of Rev. Mr. Lumsden of Cushnie in 1887.

PITRICHIE.

THE MAITLANDS, MACKENZIES, MILNES, ROBBS, AND LESLIES.

PITRICHIE is now occupied by the Rev. John Robb, minister of Longside for twenty-seven and a-half years, but resigned on his succession to the property. He married in 1876, Jane Isabella, daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Lawrence, Longside.

The Maitlands long occupied Pitrichie. The following is their descent:—
I. Thomas de Matulant witnesses a charter of William the Lyon, and died 1228, leaving a son who succeeded.¹

II. William de Matulant.

He is a witness to several royal charters in the time of Alexander II., 1220-40. He died circa, 1240, leaving a son,²

III. Sir Richard de Matulant.

He held the lands of Thirlstane and others in the county of Berwick, in the reign of Alexander III. He made large donations to the Abbey of Dryburgh, and by his wife, Avicia ———, he had a son,³

IV. William de Matulant.

He was an adherent of King Robert the Bruce, and died about 1315 leaving a son,⁴

V. Sir Robert de Matulant.

He had possession of the lands of Thirlstane in his father's life-time, as appears from a resignation to him dated 1293, and had crown charters of various lands including Lethington. He fell at the battle of Durham in 1346. Sir Robert married the only daughter of Sir John Keith. Her brother was Sir John Keith, Marischal of Scotland. He had issue by her:—⁵

- I. **John**, who succeeded him. He married Lady Agnes Dunbar, daughter of the Earl of March, from whom descends the Earl of Lauderdale, chief of the name of Maitland.

¹ Douglas' Peerage, p. 64.

² Id.

³ Id.

⁴ Douglas' Peerage, p. 64.

⁵ Id.

- II. William, who bought the lands of Auchincreive and others from his brother, James, in 1383, and was ancestor of the Maitlands of Pitrichie, of whom afterwards,¹ see below No. I. of Pitrichie.
- III. James, possessed Natyrdul (Netherdale) in 1369,² and the next to be found of Natyrdul is Robert Matulant. He is styled Dominus de Schevas, and, in 1417, is mentioned as a "noblman." Robert Matulant of Natyrdul witnessed a charter of James Dunbar of Frendraught, afterwards fourth Earl of Moray, 1435.³ He married the heiress of Gight and Schivas, by whom he had besides a daughter, Elizabeth, married to John Gordon of Essie or Scurdargue, a son, Patrick, by whom he was succeeded. Sir Patrick Matulant is mentioned of Netherdale, Gight, Schivas, &c., from 1446-60-67. He married Margaret, daughter of Walter Innes of that ilk, by his wife, Euphemia Fraser of Lovat; he had issue two daughters,⁴ co-heiresses to his extensive estates. 1. Janet, married to George Baird of Ordinhivas, ancestor of the Bairds of Auchmedden, Newbyth, &c., &c., she died 1539. 2. Elizabeth, married to Annand of Auchterellon. She seems to have been the elder by the following charter:—"On the 18th June, 1467, King James III. grants to George Lord Gordon the lands of Natyrdul and Gight, on the resignation of Elizabeth and Janet Maitlands, daughters and heiresses of the deceased Sir Patrick Maitland, knight."⁵ With regard to Sir Patrick Maitland and his daughters, Janet and Elizabeth, there is the following notice in Fraser's "History of the Bairds."⁶ Upon the death of Sir Patrick Maitland of Gight, his estate fell under precognition, because of many unwary securities, and George, second Earl of Huntly, got the gift of it from King James II. Sir Patrick left two daughters by his lady, daughter to Sir Walter Innes of that ilk. The Earl gave the eldest daughter in marriage to Thomas Baird, her cousin-german, and with her the lands of Ordinhivas, Drumnakeith, and Pittinbrinzián in the Boyne. This marriage was in 1490. The Earl of Huntly gave the other daughter in marriage to Annand of Auchterellon (whose lineal descendant was Alexander Annand, some time of Belmont, merchant, Aberdeen). The Earl of Huntly gave Gight to his third son, William Gordon, and the lands of Pitrichie, Udny, to Sir Patrick's heir-male. It is also mentioned that Sir Patrick Maitland was killed by Robert Innes, his brother-in-law, at the smiddy of Auchindoir, as they were travelling together to Edinburgh. We now return to William Maitland, mentioned above as second son of Sir Robert Maitland of Thirlstane, 1414, ancestor of the Maitlands of Pitrichie.

¹ *Pedi. of Maitland penes late C. S. Dalrymple.*

² *Ant. A. and B. II. p. 217.*

³ *Id., I. pp. 344, 5, 525.*

⁴ *Mr. Dalrymple's MS.*

⁵ *Doug. Peer. I. p. 644, quoting Charter Mag. Sig.*

⁶ *Fraser's Bairds, pp. 11-12.*

I. William Maitland of Pitrichie.

He purchased from his brother James, the first laird of Natyrdul or Netherdale, in 1383, the lands of Auchincruive, Newton, and Chapeltown. He married a daughter of Ogistoun of that ilk, and had issue. The next on record, probably a grandson, is

II. Patrick Maitland of Pitrichie.

He succeeded in 1454. This is probably the heir-male of Sir Patrick Maitland previously mentioned, who obtained from George, second Earl of Huntly, the lands of Pitrichie, of which lands the Earls of Huntly retained the superiority so late as 1712. Patrick survived till 1514, so that the time would agree. He married a daughter of Vaus of Menie, and had at least two sons:—¹

I. James, slain at Randersfield, s. p.

II. Robert, who succeeded.

III. Robert Maitland of Pitrichie.

He succeeded in 1514. He married a daughter of Garden of Burrowfield, and had issue two sons:—

I. Patrick.

II. ———, married, and had a son, Robert, who succeeded his uncle, Patrick. He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Patrick Maitland of Pitrichie.

He succeeded in 1563, and married a daughter of Chalmers of Strichen, but had no surviving issue. Regarding her there is the following notice:—"November 9, 1587. Letters of horning at the instance of Mr. Walter Maitland, son to Robert Maitland of Auchincreeff, and executor dative, confirmed to him against Christian Chalmers, relict of the deceased Patrick Maitland of Auchincreeff, for part of the said estate of the said Robert Maitland, intromitted by her, which belonged to the said Mr. Walter."² He was succeeded by his nephew.

V. Robert Maitland of Pitrichie.

He married a daughter of Keith of Drumtochty, and had issue a son, by whom he was succeeded.³

VI. Patrick Maitland of Pitrichie.

He had also Cairnfechil and Auchincruive. He was served heir to his father in 1615. This Patrick Maitland wrote a short poem in memory of Dr. Patrick Forbes, Bishop of Aberdeen.⁴ He also, in 1632, presented to the kirk of Udny a communion

¹ Notes by C. E. Dalrymple.

² Reg. of Hornings, Vol. III.

³ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 138.

⁴ Forbes' Funeral Orations, p. 408; Session Records of Udny.

cup of silver, and another to the church of Methlick, bearing the inscription—"Calix Eucharisticus Methlicensis ex dono Pa. Metelani Auchinrevii, ministranti Mr. Adamo Reado, 1630."¹ Patrick Maitland married a daughter of Alexander Burnett of Leys, and had issue one son at least, by whom he was succeeded.

VII. Richard Maitland of Pitrichie.

He was served heir to his father, July 12, 1643,² and was created a baronet, December, 1672, with remainder to the heir-males of his body. He was appointed a Senator of the College of Justice under the title of Lord Pitrichie. Regarding his promotion to the bench, Sir George Mackenzie says "that Lauderdale, by promoting four ignorant persons, who had not been lawyers, without interruption, for four years' time to be judges, namely, Hatton, Sir Andrew Ramsay, Mr. Robert Preston, and Pitrichie, rendered the Court of Session the object of all men's contempt."³ He married Margaret, daughter of Robert Gordon of Straloch, by whom he had issue two sons and three daughters:—

- I. **Sir Richard**, his successor.
- II. **Sir Charles**, who succeeded his brother.
 1. Sophia.
 2. ———, married Ross of Auchlossin.
 3. Jean, married ——— Gordon of Pitlurg.

Sir Richard Maitland, Lord Pitrichie, died in 1678, and was succeeded by his son,

VIII. Sir Richard Maitland, 2nd Bart. of Pitrichie.

He was served heir to his father 31 May, 1678.⁴ There is a crown charter to him of the barony of Gight as a free barony 1672; d. s. p. 1679, between June and October. He was succeeded by his brother,

IX. Sir Charles Maitland, 3rd Bart. of Pitrichie.

He was served heir to his brother, 15 October, 1679;⁵ 28 January, 1681, to barony of Gight (superiority), and to Auchinreive, 17 December, 1683. Executed an entail of his lands in 1700, and died that year. He married first, Jane, daughter of Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Monymusk; secondly, Nichola, widow of Sir Alexander Burnett of Craigmyle, daughter of P. Young of Auldbar; sat in Parliament for the county of Aberdeen, 1685; had issue by his first marriage:—

- I. **Sir Charles**, fourth and last baronet.
 1. **Jean**, succeeded her brother.
 2. **Mary**, married, July 24, 1707, to Thomas Forbes of Echt. (Her son, **Arthur**, succeeded to Pitrichie).

¹ Jervise' Inscrip. II. p. 23.

² Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 268.

³ Spottiswood Soc., Funeral Orations on Bishop Forbes p. 438.

⁴ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 438.

⁵ Id., 441, 446.

3. Katharine, married, 1718, Theodore Morison of Bognie, died 1748 leaving issue.
4. Margaret, married, 1714, Patrick Bannerman, merchant, third son of Sir Alexander Bannerman, Bart.
5. Elizabeth, married ——— Douglas of Fechil.

Sir Charles Maitland died in 1700, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Sir Charles Maitland, 4th and last Bart. of Pitrichie.

He was served heir to his father, 23 March, 1700,¹ and d. s. p. 1703-4, and was succeeded, according to his father's entail, by his sister,

XI. Hon. Jean Arbuthnott Maitland of Pitrichie.

She was served, 10 May, 1704, heir-general and heir of entail to her brother,² and she married Hon. Alexander Arbuthnott, Baron of the Exchequer, 1707, third son of the second Viscount Arbuthnott. He took the name and arms of Maitland, and died in 1721. They had issue:—

I. Charles Arbuthnott.

1. Catharine, who claimed, after her brother's death, the estate of Pitrichie. She died unmarried in 1786.
2. Ann, died unmarried in 1770.

Mrs. Maitland died in 1746, and was succeeded by her son,

XII. Charles Arbuthnott Maitland of Pitrichie, M.P.

He was served heir to his mother (Domina) Jean Maitland of Pitrichie, 22 October, 1746.³ He was an advocate in Edinburgh; commissary of Glasgow, 19 March, 1724. He was served heir-general to his father, March 23, 1747⁴; had a special service to his mother in the same year. He was imprisoned by the Jacobite forces in 1747; was made Sheriff of Edinburgh in 1747, and elected member of Parliament for Aberdeen burghs, 1748-51. On his election, the "Aberdeen Journal" of the period remarks—"Last night letters came from him franked as an M.P.," and at the same time remarks that "the house of Mr. Charles Maitland of Pitrichie being set on fire by an attempt to dislodge a crow's nest was burned to the ground, the furniture saved."⁵ Mr. Maitland died at Edinburgh in 1751, and was succeeded by his cousin,

XIII. Arthur Forbes Maitland of Pitrichie.

He was the son of Mary Maitland and Thomas Forbes of Echt, as above narrated. They were married July 24, 1707. Mr. Forbes of Echt died 10 May, 1761; she died 14 February, 1716. Arthur Forbes assumed the name of Maitland on his accession.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1700.

² Id., 1704.

³ Id., 1746.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1747.

⁵ Aberdeen Journal, 1748.

He was born May 6, 1708. He was a Major in the Dutch service. On 31 August, 1753, he was served heir-special to his cousin Charles.¹ He married Judith, daughter of Richard Micumecks, advocate, Utrecht; had issue three children:—

I. Thomas, was admitted September 5, 1758, a burges of Aberdeen. He married ———, and had issue:—

I. **Arthur Richard Forbes**, who succeeded to his grandfather.

1. Catharine, married first, Major Taylor; secondly, Benjamin Roebuck, s. p. By her first marriage she had a daughter, Catharine, married to Robert Sherson of Fetcham, Surrey; had issue (*inter alios*)—Robert, Alexander, Nowell, Catharine Aurora, who married Mortimer George Thoys of Sulkam Stead, Berks; issue—the Rev. Ernest Thoys, born 1852, some time of Tain.

II. ———

III. ———

Arthur Forbes Maitland of Pitrichie was succeeded by his grandson,

Arthur Richard Forbes Maitland.

He succeeded as nearest heir of tailzie to his grandfather, Major Arthur Forbes Maitland, in the lands of Coulic, Cairnfechil, Auchinleck, Pitrichie, and others, 21 April, 1772.² He sold various portions of the estate, and on April 10, 1807, he disposed in trust, for the payment of his debts, the whole of the remainder to William Macdonald, W.S., and Charles Bannerman, advocate, Aberdeen.

They were eventually sold by them, by public roup, April 6, 1813, to

Rev. James Mackenzie

in life-rent, and to his son, James William Mackenzie, in fee, whom failing, to certain other persons, also in fee. A portion of the estate called Grougal-Dykes was sold to Alexander Crombie of Phesdo, advocate, Aberdeen, which was again sold by Mr. Crombie in 1816 to Mr. Mackenzie. Rev. James Mackenzie died in 1816, and was succeeded by his son,

II. James William Mackenzie of Pitrichie.

He retained the estates till 1834, when they had to be disposed of. He very much improved them, and erected in 1819 the present mansion house. He married the eldest daughter of John Turner of Turnerhall, by whom he had issue two sons and two daughters.

Mr. Mackenzie was very lavish of hospitality, and indulged in a sort of epicurism, so that it may be said he almost ate and drank the estate, with which he was obliged to part. On the proceeds he erected a house in Banff, where he applied himself to the

¹ Decen. Rets. Sup. 1753.

² Decen. Rets. Abdn. 1772.

law, for which in early life he had qualified himself, and for a time obtained business as a solicitor. But the same habits and generous open disposition that injured him at Pitrichie injured him also at Banff. His house had to be sold, and after a period his resources became very much reduced, and by-and-bye, to a considerable extent, he became dependent on his friends. His wife died soon after he came to Banff, and his family left it a few years before his death, one daughter going to Australia, another to America, where she married a clergyman of the Church of England, and his two sons went to Canada. Through all his vicissitudes of fortune, Mr. Mackenzie preserved the character and manners of a gentleman. He never forgot that he had been once laird of Pitrichie, and sought to conduct himself as one that had once filled an important station. He was for long a Justice of the Peace in the counties of Banff and Aberdeen, and seldom missed taking a part in a Justice of Peace trial.¹ Poor Mr. Mackenzie died while on his way for the last time to visit Pitrichie, for Mr. Milne, his successor, had always shown him great kindness, and there was a friendly intimacy between them. While half-way between Banff and Turriff (for he intended to walk the whole way) he suddenly dropped down dead on the turnpike. He was buried beside his father and his wife in the churchyard of Udney. From Mr. Mackenzie the estate passed to

Alexander Milne of Pitrichie.

He was some time merchant and Dean of Guild of the city of Aberdeen; was the son of John Milne, for forty-seven years a farmer in Mill of Grandhome, by Ann Duncan, his wife. He died at Pitrichie house in 1869, leaving the estate of Pitrichie to his nephew,

George Robb of Pitrichie.

the son of James Robb, convener of the Incorporated Trades of Aberdeen, by Barbara Milne, eldest sister of the above-named Alexander Milne of Pitrichie. He was some time a merchant and treasurer of the city of Aberdeen. He was born February 7, 1827, and died at Aberdeen, 6 June, 1876, aged 49. He was succeeded in parts of the lands of Pitrichie and Auchinhuive, including the manor house of Pitrichie, by his brother,

Rev. John Robb of Pitrichie, M.A.

He was the eldest son of James Robb, and nephew of Alexander Milne of Pitrichie. Mr. Milne also bequeathed parts of the lands of Pitrichie and Auchinhuive to the children of his niece, Ann Hector, who was the only child of his youngest sister, Susan Milne, wife of John Hector, farmer in Scotstown, in the parish of Oldmachar, and latterly of Mains of Pitrichie in Udney. Ann Hector was married to Rev. John Leslie, M.A., minister of Udney. Her eldest daughter was married to Rev. George Greig, minister of Slains. Mrs. Leslie died February 28, 1862, aged 31. Rev. John Leslie died on 13 July, 1875, in the 58th year of his age, and the 15th of his ministry; and their children have succeeded to a portion of the Pitrichie estates left to them.

¹ Banffshire Journal.

THE ARMS OF THE MAITLANDS OF PITRICHIE.

Lord Pitrichie, Sir Richard Maitland, Bart., some time one of the Senators of the College of Justice, caused matriculate his arms in the Lyon Register thus—"Or, a lion rampant, gules, coupé at all points, of the field within a bordure, chequè argent and azure. Crest, a lion's head, erased gules. Motto, 'Paix et treve.'"

ANTIQUITIES ON PITRICHIE.

EIRDE HOUSE AT BOGFECHIL.—This house was discovered while digging on a small rising ground, and is of a pear shape, common to such structures, and formed of rude walls of stone converging to the top. At its extremity, which is curved, it measures five feet in width, the same in height from the floor to the surface of the ground. Among the rubbish found within it, were ashes of wood, bones, apparently of cattle, pieces of pottery, flakes of flint, something like a pearl button and a portion of a quern.¹

CAIRNFECHIL.—This is so called from a large cairn which at one time existed upon it, but demolished about 1819, when the mansion house of Pitrichie was rebuilt by Mr. Mackenzie. In the centre, within a stone coffin, was found an urn of considerable size, full of calcined bones.

¹ Transactions of Soc. Antiquaries.

TILLIEGREIG—ITS PROPRIETORS.

TILLIEGREIG now belongs to the University of Aberdeen. It formed anciently part of the endowment of the Bishopric of Aberdeen, and is first mentioned in a charter of Pope Adrian, of the year 1057, to Edward, Bishop of Aberdeen. This charter, however, is believed by the late Cosmo Innes and others to be spurious, as the style and language of the deed belongs to a later period.¹ In 1255 there is an agreement between the Bishop of Aberdeen and the Abbot of Arbroath (who possessed the lands of Tarves in the neighbourhood) regarding the lands of Tulachgreig and Achleck, &c. (Affleck),² and in 1381, more than one hundred and twenty years after the last date, Andreas de Ogyston is found promising to show a charter, by which he held the church lands of Tillygreig at a court held on October 24, by Bishop Adam de Tynningham, on the mount of the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, besides the cathedral church of Aberdeen.³

There are few more notices of Tilliegreig until we come to 1549, when there is a lease of a portion of the lands given by William Gordon, Bishop of Aberdeen. It is interesting as shewing the rental of land at that period:—"Assedation made by the Bishop of Aberdeen to Andrew Bayne of four oxen gang of the town and lands of Tilliegreig for eighteen years, paying herefor yearly the sum of seventeen shillings and ninepence halfpenny money; the saxt pair of a chalder; five bollis bear with a peck to the boll; the saxt pair of a chalder of meal; the saxt pair of twa mairts; sax pair of twa muttuns; the saxt pair of four bollis aits with the stray; twa capponis; four pultre; ten pennies for bondage, carriage, and various other due service."⁴

In 1594 we find William Gordon, wadsetter of Tullachgreg. William Gordon, first of Rothiemay, was the eldest of eight sons, whom John Gordon of Cairnburrow, their father, led to the victorious battle of Glenlivet, in the year 1594. The laird purchased estates to most of his sons. Besides Rothiemay, Park, Invermarkie, he had wadsets on Gollachie, and Tilliegreig in Udney.⁵

With regard to a son of this William Gordon, there is the following notice:—"December 4, 1612. The quhilk day Alexander Gordon, son to Maister William Gordon of Tulliegreig, Alexander Gordon, son to James Gordon of Lesmoir, and others, for having, on the 1 December, inst., taken the song school and keeping the same with hagbuttis, pistolis, and swordis, and lang waypannis until yesterday afternoon.

¹ Reg. Ep. Abdn. I. p. 7.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 338.

³ Reg. Ep. Abdn. I. p. 135; Ogston's Ogstons, pp. 21, 22.

⁴ Reg. Ep. Abdn. I. p. 400.

⁵ Spalding Troubles, I. p. 47, note.

They sal be presently excluded, and put forth out of all the schulis in the burgh, and never one of them admitted nor rescavit in any school or college of this burgh."¹

In 1632, Alexander Harvey, in Waterton, and Janet Leslie, his spouse, got a bond for four thousand merks from Alexander Gordon of Cairnburrow, as principal secured on Tilliegreig in Newmachar.² This bond they made over to Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum, on 21 October, 1634, and sasine was given to the said Alexander Irvine of Drum on the same date.

Before 1653, Tilliegreig had come into the possession of William Forbes, as is evidenced by the following retour:—In 1653, John Forbes is served heir to William Forbes of Tilliegreig, his father,³ and, in 1664, John Forbes, with consent of Margaret Hervie, his spouse, Mr. James Hervie of Mamenlah, and Mr. Robert Hervie, his son, sold Tilliegreig to Andrew Mitchell, burgess of Aberdeen, his wife, and his son.⁴

In 1688, Thomas Mitchell, Provost of Aberdeen, was proprietor. He was succeeded by his son, afterwards of Thainstone. (See Article Kincaig.)

Their arms are "sable, a fesse wavy between three masles or."

The Mitchells of Tilliegreig were succeeded probably by John Dyce. He was the son of Alexander Dyce, merchant, burgess, Aberdeen. Alexander married ———, and had issue:—

- I. John, of Tilliegreig.
- II. Alexander, merchant burgess, Aberdeen.
 1. Isabella, was married to, as his first wife, Sir James Reid, Bart. of Barra.
 2. ———, married to Legertwood of Skelmuir.

Alexander Dyce died 1779. His eldest son, **John Dyce**, acquired Tilliegreig in 1759. There is a charter of resignation by ———, in favour of John Dyce, burgess of Aberdeen. He was served heir to his father, Alexander, March 17, 1779.⁵

John Dyce married first, Katharine Durward, daughter of Mr. Durward, burgess, Aberdeen; she died 8th December 1758,⁶ and had issue one son:—

I. Alexander, his successor.

He married, secondly, Christian Rose, daughter of John Rose, burgess goldsmith, Aberdeen, by his wife Christian, daughter of Archibald Forbes of Putachie, and sister of Rev. John Rose, minister of Udny, descended from the Roses of Insch and Larachmore (see ministers of Foveran), and had issue by her a large family.

- II. John, midshipman, in a ship of war under the command of his relative Lord Forbes. He was accidentally killed.
- III. James, burgess, Aberdeen, married Helen, daughter of ——— Paterson, sheriff-substitute of Banff, by Helen, daughter of Dr. Ogilvie, minister of Midmar. They had issue, I. Thomas, M.D., staff-surgeon major in the army. 1. Isabella, married Rev. Mr. Soutar, and had issue. 2. Christian Rose, died 1880. 3. Margaret, died 1891.

¹ Burgh Records, II. pp. 310, 311.

² Reg. of Sasines, Edinb.

³ Ret. Gen. Abdn. No. 3823.

⁴ Ding. Fordyce's Family of Dingwall Fordyce, p. 4.

⁵ Charter Penes, Univ. of Abdn.; Decen. Ret. 1779.

⁶ Tombstone, St. Nicholas.

1. Christian Rose, married Captain Robert Allan, Master R.N., who served under Lords Admiral Howe and Rodney—issue a large family. I. John, died at St. John's, N.B., 1824. II. James, midshipman, Skelton Castle, drowned 1799. III. Robert, who shared a similar fate in 1823. 1. Christian, wife of Robert Temple—issue, seven sons, of whom the younger two were Rev. W. Temple, of St. Margaret's, Forgue, and Rev. Alexander Temple of Strathay, who died 1890.
2. Jane, married Marianus Massie—issue, I. Marianus, advocate, Aberdeen. II. Charles died in London. 1. Barbara, married John Bogie, and had issue. 2. Christina, died 1882.
3. Mary, married Mr. Matthewson.
4. ———, married Mr. Birnie.
5. Anne, married Ninian Kynoch, and had issue.
6. Marjory died 1845.

John Dyce died December 13, 1797, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

Alexander Dyce II. of Tilliegreig.

He married ——— Black, and had issue by her a large family.

- I. Robert, advocate, Aberdeen.
 - II. Alexander, emigrated to Australia, married, and had issue one son at least, Sir Alexander.
 1. Isabella, married William Catto, and had issue.
 2. ———, married Orlando Wilson, R.N., and had issue.
 3. ———, married to Dr. Kilgour, Aberdeen.
- And several other daughters.

Mr. Alexander Dyce, in 1801, disposed Tilliegreig to trustees in behoof of his children, and it was sold by said trustees, 1 June, 1808, to John Harvey of Kinettles.

John Harvey of Kinettles and Tilliegreig.

The following is his descent:—John Harvey, schoolmaster at Midmar for fifty-seven years, was born at Kintore in 1690, being the youngest son of Alexander Harvey of that burgh. He married Elizabeth Mackay, and had issue several sons and daughters.¹ Three of the sons, Alexander, John, and Robert, emigrated, and acquired large fortunes in Antigua and Grenada. Alexander returned to Aberdeen, married, and left a son, Alexander Harvey, who purchased the estate of Broadland. The other two brothers, John and Robert, were unmarried. Robert died in Exeter, 1791; John in London, 1770. Their sisters benefited more or less by their brothers' remarkable success.²

¹ Dingwall's History of Dingwall Fordyce.

1. Elizabeth, one of the sisters, married John Rae, and had issue a son, John, who, in addition to Rae, took the name of Harvey, and besides property in Grenada, owned the estate of Castle Semple in Renfrewshire. John Rae Harvey died in 1820, leaving two daughters, one of whom married Colonel James Lee of the 92nd Foot, afterwards Colonel Lee Harvey of Castle Semple; the younger, Elizabeth, became Countess of Buchan. A daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Lee Harvey married Sir Charles Shand, chief justice of the Mauritius, and their eldest son, James Widdrington Shand Harvey, succeeded to Castle Semple in 1883.
2. Jean, daughter of John Harvey and Elizabeth Mackay, married David Urquhart in Kincraigie, and was mother of Rev. Alexander Urquhart, minister of Tough.
3. Barbara, daughter of John Harvey and Elizabeth Mackay, married Robert Donald in Burnside, and was mother of William Donald of Brownhill, and of Dr. Robert Harvey of Braco, whose son, Dr. Alexander Harvey, was Professor of Materia Medica in Marischal College, Aberdeen.
4. Grizel or Grace, married Thomas Aberdein in Hillside of Echt, and had issue :—I. John Aberdein, who assumed the name of Harvey, and purchased the estates of Kinnettles in Forfarshire, and Tilliegreig in Aberdeenshire.

John Aberdein Harvey of Kinnettles and Tilliegreig.

He was for sometime in business in London. His uncle, Dr. Harvey, who died at Exeter, July 29, 1791, is said to have left him estates in the West Indies amounting to £8000 a year. He married, 12 March, 1800, Angelica Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh. They had issue, seven sons and ten daughters, several of whom died young :—

- I. John Inglis, of Kinnettles, born November, 1804. He entered the service of the Hon. E.I.C., in which he held successively the offices of Postmaster-General, Commissioner of Customs, Treasurer and Accountant-General. He was twice married, and had issue. He died in 1869, and soon after his death Kinnettles passed from his family.
- II. **Arthur**, of Tilliegreig, of whom afterwards.
- III. Thomas, died 1810.
- IV. William.
- V. Robert, both died in infancy.

The ten daughters all died in childhood or early youth.

John Harvey of Kinnettles and Tilliegreig, died December 26, 1830. He left his property under trustees for behoof of his children. He was eventually succeeded in Tilliegreig by his second son,

II. Arthur Harvey of Tilliegreig.

He received a mercantile training, and was for some time in Grenada, West Indies.

Returning to Scotland he served an apprenticeship to a writer to the signet, but did not enter on the profession. He purchased from his father's trustees the lands of Tilliegreig, which he for some time farmed energetically. He married, August 25, 1835, his cousin, Elizabeth Young, daughter of James Young, merchant, Rotterdam, and Patience Dingwall Fordyce, his wife, and had issue, five sons and four daughters :—

- I. John, died at Tilliegreig, June 9, 1847.
- II. James, went to Australia in 1855, was director of a bank in Adelaide. He married, September 4, 1884, Maud Roe, grand-daughter of Rev. Mr. Haming, the first Presbyterian minister of Adelaide.
- III. James, born at Tilliegreig, chiefly engaged in banking establishments, resides in Adelaide, Australia.
- IV. Arthur Young, born at Tilliegreig, resides in Adelaide, Australia, and is auditor of the Savings Bank, married, 1871, Sarah Jane Boucaut, daughter of Captain Boucaut, and Winifred Penn, his wife, have issue.
- V. Robert Young, born at Tilliegreig, bank manager at Palmerston, Adelaide, married, April 8, 1879, to Ruth Allen, and has issue.
 1. Patience, Parkside, Adelaide, Australia.
 2. Angelica, Adelaide, Australia.
 3. Elizabeth Jessy Sarah, married, 1865, at Durban, James Alexander, bank manager there.
 4. Jane Morison, married, 1873, John James Duncan, M.P., Australia, died 1874.

Arthur Harvey sold Tilliegreig in 1846 to the University of Aberdeen, and in 1861, removed with his wife and family to South Africa, dying at Durban, Natal, June 19, 1872.

ANTIQUITIES.

HILL OF TILLIEGREIG.—Spalding states, "Upon Thursday, April 14, 1644, there was a singular combat between the lairds of Haddoch and Elsick, both cousins-german, where they fought for first blood, which Haddoch lost, and Elsick was victor, and so they parted."

ST. MICHAEL'S CHAPEL, Tilliegreig, is mentioned in the "View of the Diocese"; but there are no remains.¹

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 357.

TILLIECORTHIE.

TILLIECORTHIE has had for more than three centuries a separate existence. It has no mansion house, but on an old plan of the estate is marked the site of an old castle. There are, however, no remains nor traces of the site. There are some large stones, not in position, which had some day formed a stone circle, from which the name of the estate is very probably derived.

The earliest owners of the property were the Udnys of Udney, of whose possessions it had formed a part. In 1511, there is a confirmation of a charter by King James IV. given by Ranald Udney of that ilk to Master David Gardyn of Kynansith and Janet Tulloch, his wife, of half of the lands of Tilliecorthis, in his land of Auchloun and barony of Kynedward.¹ Four years before this last date, 1507, Ninian Blinsele was served heir to Robert Blinsele, his father, of an annual rent of twenty shillings Scots from the lands of Tilliecorthis, held of the laird of Tilliquorthy in free blench.² About a hundred and fifty years after this date, 1664, Tilliecorthis is in possession of James Clerk. In 1664, there is a charter by Master Alexander Udney, minister of Hawkinnes, Kent, son of William Udney of that ilk, to **Robert Clerk**, son of James Clerk of Tilliecorthis, of twelve oxingates of Bonakettill called Hillbrae.³ This Robert Clerk of Tilliecorthis married Jane Udney, daughter of the said Rev. Alexander Udney, and had issue,

II. William Clerk of Tilliecorthis.

He was one of those appointed to collect the poll tax in the parish of Udney in 1696. He married Jane Strachan, and had issue at least one son, James.⁴

Subsequently to the above date the property was sold to a family of the name of Burnett, a burghess family of Aberdeen, who had also the lands of Kirkhill. From Alexander Burnett of Kirkhill, Tilliecorthis passed to James Clerk, one of the baillies of Old Aberdeen, a relation very probably of the Clerks formerly possessors of the property. He entailed it on a series of heirs. He died in 1810, when, in virtue of the entail, Tilliecorthis passed to a relative of the entailer,

I. John Angus of Tilliecorthis.

He married Jane Begg, who died April, 1834. He died without issue, when the property passed to his brother,

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 84.
² Id., Note.

³ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 83.
⁴ Poll Tax, Vol. II. p. 186.

II. George Angus of Tilliecorthie.

He died unmarried in 1861, when the property, in virtue of the entail, devolved on

Major John Ross of Tilliecorthie.

His descent is as follows:—John Ross, his ancestor, married Helen Thomson, daughter of Baillie Thomson, aunt of the above-named James Clerk of Tilliecorthie, the entailer of the estate. They had issue:—

Alexander, who married Margaret Udny, daughter of James Udny, advocate, Aberdeen, son of Robert Udny of Auchterellon and ——— Fullerton, the heiress of Dudwick. They had issue eight children:—

I. Alexander, died young.

II. **John**, who succeeded to Tilliecorthie.

1. Helen Jane, d. s. p.

2. Georgiana, d. s. p.

3. Jane Augusta, d. s. p.

4. Hannah.

5. Mary, married Mr. Gravener Kirby; issue—Rossie Kirby.

6. ———

Major John Ross of Tilliecorthie was Major of Madras Staff Corps; appointed Chief Constable of Aberdeenshire. He married Flora Anne, daughter of Kenneth Mackinnon, M.D., of the Mackinnons of Skye, and had issue ten children. Major Ross died 28 November, 1892.

I. **John Kenneth.**

II. Murray.

III. Alexander Carnegie.

IV. Charles Gravener.

V. Robert William.

VI. George.

1. Helen Flora.

2. Jane Emily.

3. Mary Louisa.

4. ———

EPISCOPAL CONGREGATION AT TILLIECORTHIE.—In the time of the penal laws, when the Episcopalians of Udny met for worship in various places, the kiln-barn of Tilliecorthie was a frequent meeting-house. The kiln was separated from the rest of the building by a low dwarf wall, and here the minister took his stand in order to keep up the fiction of being in a different apartment from the congregation, as five, besides the minister's household, was illegal.¹

¹ Dr. Walker's Life of John Skinner, p. 66.

K N A P E R N A.

KNAPERNA for many years belonged to a family of Forbes descended from Tolquhon.

William Forbes of Tolquhon (p. 382), married E. Gordon, daughter of George Gordon of Lesmoir, and had issue :—

- I. William, of Tolquhon.
- II. James, of Knaperna.
- III. Walter, of Auchreddy.
- IV. Patrick, burghess of Aberdeen.

James Forbes of Knaperna married Janet Cheyne,¹ and had issue at least one son,

II. William Forbes of Knaperna.

In 1631, he is mentioned in a charter confirmed under the great seal, by which William Forbes of Tolquhon conveys to his five sons in succession the lands of Tolquhon, and should their male issue fail, the succession opened to William Forbes of Knapernay, son of his brother James of Knapernay, and his heirs male.

William Forbes died before 1654, and the next in succession, a son probably, or one of the Waterton family, was

III. John Forbes of Knaperna.

John Forbes in 1654, received sasine of the lands of Woodland and others, from Sir William Johnston of that ilk, with the consent of Sir Walter Forbes of Tolquhon, and the curators of John Forbes of Waterton.²

The Forbeses of Waterton had by this time acquired the property, for in 1677, there is a special service of Thomas Forbes as nearest heir of his father, Mr. John Forbes of Waterton, in the lands of Ardgrain and Brownfold, the lands of Knapernay, with the dominical lands and manor house, mill, and mill lands of Knapernay.³ In 1680, there is a note of the rental of the lands of Knapernay to be accounted for by Sir Alexander Forbes of Tolquhon, who had held them for six years, amounting to 2572 merks, and quairwith Tolquhon is to be charged in his accounts with Waterton.⁴

In 1669, the valuation of Thomas Forbes of Waterton, in the parish of Udny, is

¹ Tolquhon Pedigree, p. 14.

² Waterton Papers, p. 6.

³ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 37

⁴ Waterton Papers, p. 39.

£900, including Mains of Knapernay, Upper Tilliemauld, Nether Tilliemauld, Denend.¹ The rental of Mains of Knapernay let to Thomas Gordon, amounted in 1670, to thirty-one bolls meal, eight bolls of bear, two wedderis, one dozen capons, one dozen poultry, four geese, one leit of peats, and £105 of money.² After this date Knaperna became the property of John Forbes, second son of Alexander Forbes of Foveran, by Margaret, daughter of Samuel Hunter, apothecary in Edinburgh. He married, and had issue at least one son,

IV. Samuel Forbes of Knaperna.

He was served heir to his father, John Forbes of Knapernay, May 24, 1719,³ from him it passed to Irvine of Saphock. In 1765, his son John, who had succeeded to the baronetcy of Foveran under the title of Sir John Forbes, was served heir to his father, Samuel Forbes of Knapernay.⁴ This was to make up his titles on succession. The following, not a very flattering account of Samuel Forbes of Knapernay, is contained in a letter of date, September, 1727, addressed by George Lockhart of Carnwath to Sir John Græme then at Avignon, the secretary of the then exiled Prince of Wales, commonly called by Hanoverians, the "old Pretender." Mr. Lockhart appears to have written under the apprehension of Forbes making some attempt on the life of the Prince:—

"There has been here for some months a countryman and near kinsman of mine, Samuel Forbes of Knapernay, one of the most execrable villains nature ever formed. He committed some seven or eight years ago a most barbarous murder at Algiers, on the person of Mr. ——— a very worthy young English gentleman, and about two years ago a barbarous robbery of a Dutch gentleman, who had invited and was entertaining him at his house. In short there is no kind of wickedness he is not capable of. And though he is excluded the Hanoverian allegiance by being sure to be hanged, if he is caught within the territories of the three chief branches of it, that is France, Holland, and Brittany, yet his zeal is great for the present English Government, in hopes, I suppose, to get the remission which he has hitherto been refused; and I lately discovered that he is actually in pay, whether to inform or perform, or both, God knows; but he is a very resolute fellow, and well qualified for all manner of villainous undertakings. I was mightily uneasy on his sudden setting out from hence a few weeks ago, and not going to Spa as he pretended. However, he has again cast up here. If he happen to come where you are at any time, for God's sake, cause secure him. It is probable some of his company may know him, if not, all the description I can give of him is that he is well set, a middle-sized gentleman of a ruddy complexion, broad-faced, and about thirty years old, and speaks French correctly, and wears good clothes. I have talked with some persons of distinction here of him, and they are of opinion, that, if either the States General or the French King would demand him, he would be given up as a

¹ Poll Book, II, p. 181.

² Waterton Papers, p. 6.

³ Decen. Rets. 1715.

⁴ Id., 1763.

publick enemy to mankind by any Prince in whose dominion he happened to be, and I have writ to one in Holland to put the gentleman he robbed upon making the tryall with the States, and have also written to Captain Fraser, who is now at Algiers, to acquaint Mr. Cotton, cousin of the gentleman that was murdered, who is also there, that in concurrence with the Master of the Academie, he may apply to the French court, and if any of these traps catch, it will be a service to mankind. In short, I dread him more than anybody, as I am sure he will stand at nothing, be it ever so heinous that the Government of England requires of him." Sir John Græme replied that he would use all diligence to catch him; but for all this, the last Forbes of Knaperna escaped the gallows, and died in his bed.

The property of Knaperna was purchased by George, third Earl of Aberdeen, and is still the property of that noble family.

DUMBRECK AND ORCHARDTOWN.

DUMBRECK.

DUMBRECK was owned at one time by a family of the name of Dumbreck. The first of this name was Philip de Dumbreck, who in 1348 was deputy to the sheriff of Aberdeen.¹ Philip de Dumbreck is found in the "Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banffshires" as a witness to several charters in the years 1360, 1364, and 1380. Besides Philip, we find William de Dumbreck, a brother probably, absolved in 1380 from a sentence of excommunication by the Bishop of Aberdeen, incurred for refusing to pay second tithes.²

John de Dumbreck, Chancellor of the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen, is found in the "Register of the Diocese" subscribing deeds in 1360, 1373, 1386, 1390, and in 1407.³ About ten years after the last date we find the Dumbrecks called of that ilk. The first so called is

I. Philip de Dumbreck of that ilk.

He takes part in 1417 in a perambulation, mentioned in the first volume of the "Antiquities of Aberdeen and Banff," between the lands of Tarves belonging to the Abbey of Arbroath, and the lands of Uldeny of that ilk, a family still remaining. In it he is styled "dominus de eodem."⁴ The next to be found, a son probably of the last named, is

II. Alexander Dumbreck of Dumbreck,

of whom there is the solitary record, that in 1457, when he witnesses a charter from the Earl of Errol to Alan de Kynard.⁵ In the Exchequer Rolls under date 1460,⁶ we find John de Dumbreck. He is not styled de eodem. His lands were in ward of the crown, paying therefore £4 4s. 5d. The widow's terce is mentioned as paying 27s. There also flourished at the same time, and of the same race doubtless, a Philip de Dumbreck, who, in the "Register of the Diocese," and in the "Chartulary of St. Nicholas," is frequently found as a witness to deeds in 1468, 1471, and 1490.⁷ In 1473, this Philip de Dumbreck takes part in the foundation of St. Andrew in the church of St. Nicholas. The next to be found is

1 Stodart's Arms, Vol. II. p. 239.

2 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 107.

3 Id., pp. 89, 117, &c.

4 Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 344, 345.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 356.

6 Exchequer Rolls, VI. p. 65.

7 Chartulary of St. Nicholas Church.

III. John de Dumbreck of Dumbreck.

He is frequently to be found taking part in public business, especially on inquests, in the years 1501, 1505, 1507, and 1509. And in 1503 there is a charter to the said John Dumbreck of that ilk of the lands of Dumbreck and the mill thereof.¹

There is also a royal charter of confirmation made to William, the son of the said John, in the year 1509; also to his wife, Margaret Johnston, and the longest liver, and to their heirs lawfully begotten, whom failing to the nearest heirs of the said William of the lands of Milltown of Dumbreck.² This William is also mentioned in 1519 as a witness to a precept of sasine of Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont.

IV. William Dumbreck of Dumbreck

is mentioned in 1532, with this designation on an assize regarding certain lands granted by the King to Alexander Guthrie (*signifero*), namely, *LII. solidates terrarum de Bachers in baronia de Kinedward*.³ The next, a son of the above, is

V. Thomas Dumbreck of Dumbreck.

He is mentioned in a confirmation charter of date 14 February, 1564. He was then dead, and had left two daughters, his co-heiresses. The King confirmed a charter made by Margaret Dumbreck, one of the daughters and heirs of the late Thomas Dumbreck of the same, in which, after she had reached twenty-one years, and for a sum of money paid to herself, she sold to John Reid of Akinfield, her brother-in-law, and Katharine Dumbreck, his spouse, the half of the lands of Dumbreck with annexes. The date is February 14, 1568.⁴

According to Sir James Balfour and Porteous, the Dumbrecks bore arms—Argent, a dagger azure, hilted gules, thrust downward through a wolf passant, sable.⁵

From the Reids, Dumbreck passes away out of the family, and comes into a branch of the family of Meldrum of Fyvie.

In the Fyvie charter chest, Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck is found witness to a deed of sasine of date 1577, to George Meldrum of Fyvie, of the lands of Fermartyn *alias* Fyvie.⁶ And in 1580, in the third volume of the "Privy Council Records," we find him among the number of those appointed by King James VI. to aid in putting an end to the deadly feuds between the Gordons and the Forbeses.⁷ In 1592 there is a charter by the said George Meldrum of Fyvie to Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck, in which his sons, Andrew, John, and George, are mentioned as his apparent heirs.⁸ This George, younger of Dumbreck, was an atrocious brigand and freebooter. In "Pitcairn's

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 80.

² Id. p. 80.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1247, 1532.

⁴ Id., Nos. 1480, 1546.

⁵ Stodart's Arms, Vol. II. p. 239.

⁶ Fyvie Charters.

⁷ Privy Council Records, III. p. 261.

⁸ Fyvie Charters.

Criminal Trials,"¹ and in the preface to the "Burgh Records of Aberdeen,"² some of his atrocious deeds are recorded. He seems to have conceived a deadly feud against his brother, Andrew Meldrum; attacked and grievously wounded him at the Milltown of Dumbreck, made him prisoner, and kept him for eight weeks in straight captivity in the castle of Dumbreck. He afterwards removed him to Erneside, from which, after three weeks captivity, he managed to escape. He also took prisoner Andrew Meldrum of Auquhorthis, in his own dwelling-house, and carried him to the Boroughmuir of Edinburgh. In addition to these acts of violence to his own kindred, he struck higher game, and took Mr. Alexander Gibson, one of the clerks of Session, prisoner, also a friend and servant, who were residing with Mr. Gibson, into England, and detained him in captivity for eight days. He then took possession of the castle of Dumbreck, and kept the same against the King's guard, who had commission to charge him to render it up. This he refused to do, and the burgh of Aberdeen, as recorded in the "Burgh Records," had to furnish sixteen soldiers to assist the royal guard in besieging this atrocious freebooter in his retreat. For these crimes, George Meldrum, younger of Dumbreck, had sentence pronounced against him to have his head struck from his body, and his estate heritable and moveable to be forfeited to His Majesty. Andrew Meldrum, brother of George, succeeded to the estate of Dumbreck, some time before 1612. He is to be found mentioned in a deed of sasine of the lands of Fren draught of date 1612, directed to Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck, "ane honourable man, deputy-sheriff of Aberdeen, in hac parte." This deed is remarkable, as it and another, being in Edinburgh, alone escaped when the castle of Fren draught, in 1630, was burned, and all its contents, including the "great kist" with the charters. In the Register House, Edinburgh, there are two deeds of sasine of the lands of Muirs of Fyvie and Ordley to Andrew Meldrum of Dumbreck, of dates 1619-1620.³ Soon after the last-mentioned date, the Meldrums disappear from Dumbreck. They had already parted with Fyvie, of which Andrew Meldrum was for some time proprietor. Hatton, in Auchterless, seems to have been the last of their possessions, which was retained by a branch of the family down till the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The family became very impecunious and troublesome, and at the present day there is no known male representative. Urquhart of Meldrum, in the female line, still represents the original family of Meldrum of Meldrum, from whom the other branches sprung.

Sometime before the departure of the Meldrums there seems to have been a disposal of the barony of Dumbreck in portions, as several proprietors are found, and as there was another Dumbreck in the parish of Echt, some confusion between the two has arisen. The following, however, refers to Dumbreck in Udny. In 1622, we find a sasine to James Clerk in Pennyburn, Forgue, of the sun half of the lands of Dumbreck; and in 1623 there is a sasine by William King, son to umquhile William King, of the

¹ Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, II. p. 428.

² Burgh Records of Aberdeen, II. pref.

³ H. M. Reg. House, Edinb.

Ale-house of Dumbreck to James Ord of Dumbreck.¹ This William King was a branch of the family of King of Barra, of which Sir James King, in 1642, was raised to the peerage by the title of Lord Eithan.

This James Ord of Dumbreck appears in the volume of the New Spalding Club, "The Records of Marischal College," as a witness to the ratification of the charter of foundation of said college by William, Earl Marischal.² From the Ords, Dumbreck passed in 1624 to Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, as is proved by a sasine of that year's date.³ It does not seem at this time to have remained long in possession of the Setons, though they afterwards re-acquired it.

It was in possession of Walter Cochrane, who, according to Jervise, graduated at King's College in 1651. He was the son of Walter Cochrane, who was Dean of Guild of Aberdeen in 1643.

In 1677 there is a charter in favour of Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, in vitali redditu, and his eldest son, in fee. The charter narrates "the whole lands of Dumbreck comprehending the dominical lands, manor house, milltown, &c.," which formerly belonged to Walter Cochrane.⁴ The Setons parted with the lands in 1731. They were sold to the Trades Hospital in Aberdeen. In 1733 they were again sold to John Robertson of Pitmillan, afterwards of Foveran, on behalf of the Governors of Robert Gordon's Hospital (now College).

ANTIQUITIES.

DUMBRECK CASTLE, it may be believed, was one of the old Scotch towers of several stories with laigh buildings near it. An arch of "rude and antique masonry" existed till near the end of the eighteenth century, but it and any other remains have long ago disappeared. "Seges ubi Troja fuit."

THE GALLOWHILL OF DUMBRECK was an eminence not far from the castle. According to tradition some stone coffins and urns were found, but these point not to the remains of criminals, with whose interment there would have been scant ceremony, but to some prehistoric chiefs of the district.

THE CHAPEL AND GRAVEYARD stood not far from the castle. The chapel is mentioned in a cognition of marches between Nether Ardlethen and the mill of Esslemont in 1551; also a stone called the Clottinpanis stane, which has long ago disappeared. A portion of the graveyard still remains, planted with trees; the other portion adjoins a farm some time rented by Baillie Fordyce of Auquhorthies, of kidnapping notoriety, and was used by him in top-dressing his field, thus showing in his lifetime neither respect for the dead nor the living.⁵

1 Sasine H.M. Reg. House, Edinb.

2 Records of Marischal College, N:S.C., p. 193.

3 Sasine H.M. Reg. House, Edin.

4 Charter penes Gordon's College.

5 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 352, III. p. 20.

AN EIRDE HOUSE existed on the farm of Mill of Torry, formerly a part of the Dumbreck estate. It was found in 1813, and for the sake of the stones of which it was made was dug out to the foundation in 1846. It was semi-circular in form, about sixty feet in length, round at the end, cut out of a hard rocky soil, built rudely on each side with stones without mortar, and covered over with long stones of rough unhewn granite. On clearing it out some pieces of pottery were found, some pieces of flint, and a bead of jet, probably a portion of a necklace.¹

ORCHARDTOWN.

On this property there is no mansion house nor any remains. It formed part of the ancient barony of Tulliedaff, owned by a family of the same name, which has long since ceased to exist, and has no known male representative.

Before 1398, John de Tulliedaff is mentioned. He died about that time, and his son, William de Tulliedaff, was served heir to him in the lands Ledyntuche and Rothmaise, in the shire of Rane in the Garioch.² William de Tulliedaff was slain at Harlaw in 1411, and in terms of a statute of General Council, in favour of those who fell at Harlaw, Andrew de Tulliedaff, son of the said William, though still under age, was in 1413, served heir to his father in the said lands.³ These are the earliest notices of the Tulliedaffs, who were doubtless progenitors of the Tulliedaffs of that ilk.

The first to be found so called is also Andrew de Tulliedaff. He is to be found in a charter of the year 1450, given by Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk to Elizabeth Tulloch, spouse of Thomas Kennedy, Constable of Aberdeen.⁴ The next, probably his son, is

II. Alexander Tulliedaff of that ilk.

He is witness to a charter of the year 1457 given to Alan de Kynard.⁵ The other witness in this charter was Alexander Dumbreck of that ilk. He is also mentioned in various deeds of dates 1470, 1476, 1494, 1495, as recorded in the volumes of the "Antiquities of the Counties of Aberdeen and Banff" published by the Spalding Club. At the date 1490 his name occurs in a precept of sasine of Andrew Wod of Overblairton. He, and Andrew, his son and apparent heir, are both mentioned.⁶ By the latter he was succeeded before 1498.

III. Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk

appears as a witness in 1498 to a sasine of Lord Glamys.⁷ In 1506 he is a witness to a charter of Walter Hay, and is employed frequently on inquests down to 1511.⁸ In

¹ Trans. Soc. of Anti. Edin. 1862.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 429.

³ Id.

⁴ Book of Bon-Accord, p. 374.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 356.

⁶ Id., III. p. 47.

⁷ Id., I. p. 356.

⁸ Id., p. 29.

"Pitcairn's Criminal Trials" we find that on October 31, 1505, there is a remission to Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk for oppression of him by William Turing of Foveran, destroying his ploughs and certain houses.¹ He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Alexander Tulliedaff of that ilk.

He appears in 1509 as one of the jury on the inquest of Alexander Cruickshank.² The next, a son or grandson, is

V. Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk.

There is a royal charter of confirmation in the "Register of the Great Seal" to Andrew Tulliedaff, de eodem et Mariote Masoun, his spouse, of the lands of Orchardtown de Tulliedaff in the barony of Tulliedaff; also much about the same time of the lands of Logieruiff and the mill of Orchardtown de Tulliedaff. He died about 1558.³ In that year Christina Tulliedaff is served heir to her father, Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk, in the lands of Orchardtown in the barony of Tulliedaff.⁴ According to the late Mr. Stodart, Lyon Clerk-Depute, Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk died in 1588 leaving three co-heiresses.

1. One married to Seton of Disblair, and in 1623, William Seton of Disblair was served heir-portioner of Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk, his grandfather on the mother's side.⁵
2. Another married Knowis of Logierieve, and died in 1626, when her daughter, Margaret, heir-portioner of Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk (her grandfather on the mother's side), was served heir.⁶
3. A third, Elizabeth, heiress of Mosstown, in the barony of Tulliedaff, married John Bannerman. Their son, John, was served heir to his mother in the lands of Mosstown, April 16, 1665.⁷

The arms of this family were never registered, though blazons of them are to be seen.

A descendant of the Tulliedaffs, according to Mr. Stodart, was William Tulliedelph, Principal of St. Leonard's College, St. Andrews, 1691-95; and his grandson, Thomas Tulliedelph, was Principal of the United College, and chaplain to King George III. in 1777. Walter Tulliedelph in Antigua purchased the estate of Bank, in Forfarshire, and called it in memoriam, Tulliedelph Hall. His eldest daughter and heiress married Sir John Ogilvie of Inverquharly.

After the Tulliedaffs, Orchardtown was owned by a series of proprietors, and as some of them appear almost contemporaneous, one or other must have held the superiority. In a list of freeholders of the county of Aberdeen, given by Kennedy in his Annals, the name of Annand of Orchardtown occurs. In 1600, October 25, there is

1 Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, I. p. 105.

2 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 437.

3 Reg. Mag. Sig. 1558.

4 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 27.

5 Ret. Gen. Aber. No. 1074.

6 Stodart's Arms, Vol. II. Ret. Gen. Aber.

No. 1264.

7 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 376.

a sasine by Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont of the lands of Orchardtown to George Annand; also a couple of months previous, Orchardtown, in the barony of Tulliedaff, is sold to Mr. John Cheyne of Pitfichie and his heirs. The one must have had the superiority and the other the "dominium utile."¹

Afterwards from the Annands, Orchardtown came into possession of the Seatons of Schethin. In 1613 there is a royal charter of confirmation by King James VI. of the lands of Orchardtown as principal, and of Esslemont in warrandice, granted to Arthur Seaton in life-rent, and George Seaton of Schethin in fee, dated 16 January.² George Seaton dies about 1625, and is succeeded by his son, William Seaton, who sells the lands, according to a sasine in H.M. Register House, to William Johnston of Middil Disblair.³ He seems to have soon parted with them, for on January 26, 1637, there is renunciation of the town and lands of Orchardtown by William Walker in favour of Patrick Walker, Burgess of Aberdeen, who receives sasine of them in 1637; and from Patrick they passed to his son, John Walker, who, in a discharge of horning of Mr. Alexander Davidson of Newton, in 1679, is described as late of Orchardtown.⁴ Before the last-mentioned date, he had sold Orchardtown to Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, for in 1677 there is a charter in favour of Sir Alexander Seton in vitali redditu, and William Seton, his eldest son, in fee, of these lands which formerly belonged to John Walker of Orchardtown.⁵

In 1663, before the above sale, there is a curious birth brief. "John Orchardtown, the son of John Orchardtown, comarchus de Orchardtown," in the county of Aberdeen, and his wife, Elizabeth Robertson. It goes over several names of those who seemed to possess the property; but except the birth brief there is no further account of them to be found. The said John Orchardtown is mentioned as being Captain of the Guard of the King of Sweden.

Regarding this family, the late Lyon-Depute, Mr. Stodart, says no such family existed. The "Litera prosapie," issued under the great seal in 1663, in favour of John Orchardtown, Major in the Scotch Guards, is one of the best examples of a genealogical fable sanctioned by the highest authority, of which there are many examples in the seventeenth century.⁶

In 1732 the lands of Orchardtown were sold to the Governors of Robert Gordon's Hospital, now College. The price paid to Sir William Seton was £36,494 16s. 4d. Scots, and £411 Scots for a gown to Lady Seton.⁷

On the Mains of Orchardtown there are no remains of a mansion house. In 1696 it was occupied by Mr. John Legertwood, described as a gentleman,⁸ paying of tax £3 6s. He left, for the time, a very large fortune to his nephews and nieces—a grand-nephew was James Legertwood of Tillery (see Tillery). About 1745 it was occupied by

1 Ant. A. and B. Vol. III.

2 Charter penes Gordon's College.

3 H. M. Reg. Ho. Edinb.

4 Newton Charters.

5 Charter penes Gordon's College.

6 Stodart's Arms, II. p. 360.

7 Gordon's College Charters.

8 Poll Book II. p. 175.

a family of the name of Pirie, from whom are descended the Piries of Stoneywood and others. The following is a deduction of this family :—

I. James Pirie,

direct ancestor of the Piries, settled at Iriewells, parish of Udney. He entered that farm on what is called steelbow. By his first wife, widow of a former tenant of Iriewells, he is said to have had no family. His second wife, whom he married about 1698, was Helen, daughter of William Mair in Mill of Dumbreck, by whom he had two sons.

I. **William**, born 1700, of whom afterwards.

II. Alexander, settled at Pitmedden.

James Pirie married thirdly, Jean Black, aunt of John Chambers, afterwards Chambers Hunter, first of Tillery. He had issue by her :—

III. George, in Iriewells, who married Margaret Moir, issue two sons and two daughters—I. William, who succeeded to Iriewells, born 1745; married 1773, Helen, daughter of Andrew Mair in Littlemill of Esslemont, and had issue a son, Andrew, who succeeded to Iriewells, and died in 1855. II. George, merchant burgher, Aberdeen, married Catharine, daughter of Thomas Mitchell, minister of Tarves, by his wife, a daughter of Donald M'Kenzie of Dalmore, and had issue—1. Christian. 2. Jane.

II. William Pirie in Orchardtown,

eldest son of James Pirie, married Elizabeth Laing. He was a nonjuror, and when the Episcopalians were deprived of their meeting house at Green of Udney, service was frequently held at Orchardtown. He entered the farm of Orchardtown some time before 1745. He had issue :—

I. **Patrick**, of whom afterwards.

II. George, merchant in Aberdeen.

III. James, who succeeded his father in Orchardtown, and was farmer there in 1770.¹ He was born 1726, married Elspet, daughter of Patrick Martin in Mill of Torry, and died in 1803, leaving issue :—

I. Patrick, who succeeded to Orchardtown, married Elspet Seton, daughter of William Seton in Bonnyton, and had issue, among others, James, who succeeded to Orchardtown; married, and had issue, James, who also succeeded to Orchardtown; died 1893. 1. Margaret. 2. Jane Catharine, married to Mr. Leith Ross of Arnage.

II. William, in Mill of Torry, married Margaret Davidson, issue—James. 1. Jane, married William Legertwood of Logierieve. 2. Helen, married George Auld.

¹ Rental list penes Gordon's College.

We now return to

III. Patrick Pirie,

eldest son of William Pirie in Orchardtown and Elizabeth Laing. He started the paper-works on Donside, near Aberdeen, so ably and successfully carried on by his descendants. He married Margaret, daughter, and eventually heiress, of Alexander Smith, and had issue :—

- I. **Alexander**, of whom afterwards.
- II. William, died 1837; married, 1809, Clementina, daughter of ——— Anderson; issue— I. Patrick, born 1810, died 1827. II. Charles Robert, died 1813. III. William, died 1830. IV. Alexander Gibbon, died 1865. V. Francis Davidson, died 1857. VI. Duncan, died 1851.
 1. Clementina, died 1851.
 2. Margaret, died 1878.
 3. Harriet, died 1854.
 4. Mary, authoress of "Flowers and Grasses."
- III. Patrick, died 1858; married Eliza, daughter of ——— Forsyth of Hart-hill, Lieutenant, Royal Navy; issue— I. Rev. Henry George of Episcopal Church, Dunoon. II. Alexander. III. Duncan. IV. William. V. Patrick.
 1. Margaret.
 2. Fanny.
 3. Eliza.
1. Francis Mary, died 1859; married, 1804, Duncan Davidson, advocate, Aberdeen, of Inchmarlo; issue, amongst others, Patrick Davidson, LL.D., Professor of Law, University of Aberdeen, who married Miss Leslie of Wartle, and had issue.
 2. Elizabeth, died 1780.
 3. Margaret, died 1782.

We now come to

IV. Alexander Pirie,

eldest son of Patrick Pirie and Margaret Smith, was born 1788, died 1860; married, 1805, Anne, daughter of Francis Logie of Middlefield, merchant, Aberdeen, by his wife, Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Gordon of Buthlaw, died 1856. Mr. Alexander Pirie was a J.P. for the county of Aberdeen. He had issue :—

- I. **Patrick**, of whom afterwards.
- II. Francis, died 1870; married first, Euphemia, daughter of George Hogarth of Woodhill, merchant, Aberdeen, by Jane, his wife, daughter of William Forbes of Echt; issue— Alexander George, of Leckmelm, county Ross. Francis Pirie married secondly a daughter of ——— Willman; issue— a daughter, Mary, married, 1870, her cousin, Joseph Hogarth, and had issue, a son, Francis Logie, married, 1866, Ina, daughter of Thomas Banner-man.

- III. Alexander, died 1875; married, 1844, Charlotte Anne, daughter of Colonel Martin Lindsay, C.B., representative of the family of Dowhill, Kinross, and had issue.
- IV. William, died 1854.
- V. Duncan, drowned in 1839 in the Danube on his way home from India.
- VI. James, died 1865.
- VII. Gordon, now of Chateaux, Varennes.
1. Jane Gordon, married William Hogarth, merchant, Aberdeen; issue—seven sons and four daughters.
 2. Margaret, died 1844.

V. Patrick Pirie Gordon of Buthlaw,

eldest son of Alexander Pirie and Ann Logie, daughter of Francis Logie and Jane Gordon, was born 1806, assumed the name of Gordon on succeeding to Buthlaw; married, 1836, Anne, daughter of John Michell of Glassel and Forcethall; issue:—

- I. John, died in infancy.
- II. Michell, died.
- III. Henry Patrick, died 1876.
- IV. **Edward**, of whom afterwards.
- V. ———, son, died.
- VI. ———, son, died.
 1. Katharine.
 2. Anne Logie, married Clinton Cotland Anderson, and has issue.
 3. Rachel Elizabeth.

Mr. Patrick Pirie Gordon died in 1886, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. Edward Pirie Gordon of Buthlaw.

He married, 1870, Louisa, daughter of Rev. ——— Handby, and has issue.

CLOISTERSEAT is a farm on Orchardtown not far from Monkshill. Both these names point to a religious establishment that had at one period existed here, probably in connection with the original establishment of St. Drostan's Abbey, Deer; but there is no mention made of it in the "Book of Deer"; there are no remains, no tradition, but simply "*umbra nominis*," the seat of the cloister. Here for many years was a family of the name of Temple. In the neighbourhood is Nedder Ardlethen, where, on 26 April, 1685, Robert Temple, and his wife, Helen Mair, presented a silver cup for use in the Holy Communion to the church of Ellon, weighing twelve ounces sixteen drops.¹ A son, probably, or near relative, Robert Temple, circa 1680, was in Cloisterseat. He and his wife, Jean Forbes, and son, Robert, paid poll tax in 1696. This Robert

¹ Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 139.

Temple in 1700 witnessed a court act of Sir Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, whose tenant he was.¹ II. Robert Temple, son of the preceding, married to Isobel Milne, witnessed in 1732, along with Alexander Mitchell, the deed of sasine of the lands of Orchardtown sold in that year.² III. Robert Temple, son of the preceding, married to Margaret Simpson, was next tenant. The total acreage of the farm in 1770 was 364 Scotch acres, 17 poles.³ IV. Robert Temple married to Christian Allan, died 1861. V. Charles S. Temple, their son, died 16 June, 1888, when the tenancy ended. In the process of agriculture there was collected on this farm and the adjoining lands of Dumbreck a considerable number of articles of the stone period and other curios. A large moiety of these was placed in 1862 in the National Museum, Edinburgh; but a considerable number still remains, now at St. Margaret's, Forgue. Some time after 1770, Wester Cloisterseat was leased by William Sutherland, a very intelligent man, who, after Culloden, was frequently employed by the Jacobites in difficult and delicate transactions. He was a strong nonjuror, and in the days when Scotch Episcopacy was proscribed, was an adherent of that persecuted religious body of Christians. He was succeeded by his son, James, a no less intelligent man, who died in 1855, aged 89. His son, Rev. George Sutherland, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., of the Episcopal Church, Portsoy, is author of the "Outlines of Archæology," &c.

¹ Poll Book, II. p. 175. Pitmedden Papers.

² Gordon's College Charters.

³ Gordon's College Charters.

LOGIERIEVE.

LOGIERIEVE is situated on a rising ground overlooking what in days of old was called "The great Moss of Logierieve." The prospect used to be very sombre, but now with the railway trains continually passing and repassing, its solitariness has been much relieved.

A good house suited to the property was built about fifty years ago, and has been added to and improved by the present proprietor.

Logierieve at one time formed part of the barony of Tulliedaff, owned by the Tulliedaffs. The year 1411, is the earliest time we find it noticed, in a charter of the Duke of Albany, who confirmed to John Sinclair, brother-german of Henry Sinclair, Earl of Orkney, an annual rent of forty shillings due from the lands of Logyruffe. A hundred years afterwards, the King granted to Henry, Lord Sinclair, and his heirs, the same annual return of forty shillings from the lands of Logieruiffe, which were in the King's hands by reason of non-entry for forty years. In 1528, July 12, Christina Tulliedaff is served heir to Andrew Tulliedaff of that ilk, in the lands of Orchardtown, Tulliedaff, and the lands of Logieruiffe. In 1602, there is a charter of confirmation by King James VI., to Alexander Keith of Balmure and his heirs, lawfully begotten between him and Margaret Knowis, some time his wife, of the north part of the lands of Logieruiffe in the barony of Tulliedaff, on the resignation of William Knowis of North Logieruiffe, the father of said Margaret Knowis.¹ In 1615, Logieruiffe was the property of William Hay of the Errol family. The following tragedy is connected with it.

Francis Hay, son of the late George Hay of Ardlethen, cousin-german to the Earl of Errol, was on terms of the most friendly intimacy with Adam Gordon of Gight. One day when living familiarly together, a quarrel took place between them followed by single combat, in which Adam Gordon had the advantage of taking Hay's sword from him, but instantly returned it. Hay not being able to bear this affront challenged Gordon some time thereafter to renew the fight. Francis Hay came to Gordon's dwelling-place with a pair of pistols at his girdle, and finds Adam walking about in the fields with his sword about him. Francis Hay flies from his horse, and desires Adam Gordon to do him justice. They fought for a second time, Hay was overcome, but Gordon gave him his life. Francis Hay, disdaining to be thus twice overthrown, shoots Adam Gordon behind his back and kills him.

Gordon of Gight, being resolved to avenge his brother's death, came to the house of

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 595. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. xliii. No. 249.

William Hay of Logieruiff, and there without any warrant seizes Francis Hay, whom he brought immediately to Aberdeen, and imprisoned him in his own lodging, called the "Bonnie Wife's Inn," in the Gallowgate, where he kept him for forty-eight hours without allowing him to see any of his friends. The Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen was also a Gordon, and felt as a clansman regarding the transaction. He presided at an irregular trial to which Francis Hay was forthwith subjected, no one being allowed to appear for him. An advocate who offered to act as council was told that if he did so, he should scarcely be downstairs ere twenty whingers were put into him. Francis Hay was condemned to lose his head, and next morning was actually led out to a solitary spot, and there butchered by the swords of his enemies.¹

The next notice is to be found in the following retour of a part of Logieruiff. "In October 3, 1655, James Seaton in the south part of Logieruiff."² In 1669, Charles II. grants a charter to Sir John Forbes, knight, his heirs and assignees, all and hail the lands of Ardgrane, including the southern part belonging to the laird of Pitmedden, of the lands of Logieruiff and Orchardtown, &c., to be called the barony of Ardgrane, with the rights of courts, pit, and gallows.³ The whole, however, became the property of the Setons of Pitmedden, and were disposed by them about 1734 to the Governors of Robert Gordon's Hospital, who feued Logierieve for 999 years to Alexander Legertwood.

THE LEGERTWOODS OF LOGIERIEVE.

The name of Legerwood or Legertwood is derived from the lands of Legerwood in Berwickshire; but the Legerwoods of Legerwood have long since ceased to exist. In Aberdeenshire there have been substantial farmers of that name for at least three centuries. In the eighteenth and during the present century there were several landed proprietors of this name—for instance, the Legertwoods of Skelmuir and the Legertwoods of Tillery. The former became so reduced in circumstances that for a time the last representative was a shoeblick in Ludgate Hill, London. All these Legertwoods were connected, but the connection cannot now be distinctly traced. In 1597 there was a **Legertwood** in Cross-stane, parish of Ellon, who appears as a witness against Marjorie Mutch, who was tried for witchcraft.⁴ **John Legertwood**, son probably of the above, was also in Cross-stane. He married, September, 1638, Margaret Temple, a sister or daughter of Robert Temple and Helen Mair, in Nedder Ardlethen.

The next to be found is **Thomas Legertwood**, a son probably of the preceding. He married, 16 April, 1680, his relative, Helen Legertwood. This couple appear in the "Poll Book" of 1696. They were succeeded by a son,

IV. James Legertwood.

He succeeded to Cairnhill, and according to the tombstone in Ellon churchyard was born at Cairnhill, June 1, 1681; married, 10 November, 1710, his relative, Marjorie Legertwood, and died there, January 5, 1755. They had issue:—

¹ Chambers' Domestic Annals, I. p. 468.

² Ret. Spec. No. 329.

³ Wateron Papers, p. 8.

⁴ S. C. Mis. I. pp. 132-3.

- I. James.
- II. **Thomas**, of him afterwards.
- III. John, born 1727.
- IV. James, born 1729.

James Legertwood was succeeded in Cairnhill by his oldest surviving son,

V. **Thomas Legertwood.**

He was born in 1718, and married, in 1752, Margaret Gordon of the Hallhead family, and had issue :—

- I. James, born 1753.
- II. John, born 1756. He had the farms of Overhill and Pitscaff, Foveran ; married, 1783, Jean, daughter of Andrew Mitchell, life-renter of Savocho, and had issue :—
 - I. Andrew, born 1784, Surgeon Bombay Medical Staff ; purchased from the Blacks the estate of Watridgemuir. He left no legal issue.
 - II. Alexander, born 1788, died unmarried 1834, was an advocate in Aberdeen.
 - III. Thomas, born 1789, succeeded to Overhill and Pitscaff ; married, 1816, Mary, daughter of George Muir, Nether Leask, Slains, and sister of the late Alexander Muir of Loirston, advocate, Aberdeen ; had issue—I. John, born 1817, advocate and sheriff-clerk of Aberdeenshire ; married Jessie, daughter of Robert Kemp, and had issue a large family. II. George, born 1819 ; married Jane, daughter of Peter Robinson of Glenburnie, and has issue. III. Andrew, in Middletack, married, Anne, daughter of Alexander Catto, Middle Third of Rattray, and has issue.
 - IV. Alexander, merchant, West Indies, married Christina, daughter of Baillie Sinclair, of Aberdeen, and has issue. V. Thomas, M.D., in the army, now of Chelsea Hospital ; married twice, no issue. VI. Robert, advocate in Aberdeen, married Anne, eldest daughter of Henry Adamson, shipowner, Aberdeen, and has issue.
 1. Mary, married George Moir, Knockhall.
 2. Jane, died unmarried.
- III. **Alexander**, of Logierieve.
 1. Jean, born 1755 ; married John Milne, Pitmillan, Foveran.
 2. Margaret, married, 1791, George Lumsden in Newtyle.
 3. Henrietta, died unmarried.
 4. Anne, born 1763 ; married her cousin, John Legertwood, and had issue a son and a daughter—I. James, merchant, Aberdeen, married Margaret, daughter of James Hosie and Margaret Temple in Cloisterseat. 1. Margaret, married Rev. Mr. Gray, died 1888.

We now return to Alexander Legertwood, third son of Thomas Legertwood and Margaret Gordon. He acquired about the end of last century the estate of Logierieve from the Governors of Robert Gordon's Hospital. He married Sophia, daughter of Andrew Mair and Jane Gray, in Mill of Dumbreck, and had issue :—

I. **William.**

II. John, died young.

1. Ann, married William Hay in Shethin, and had issue. (See Shethin.)

Alexander Legertwood died in 1834, and was succeeded by his son,

II. **William Legertwood of Logierieve.**

He was educated at Udney Academy under Dr. Bisset afterwards of Bourtie. He married, Jane, daughter of William Pirie in Mill of Torry. Mr. Legertwood was a man of much good sense, and died in 1851, much regretted by his family and a large circle of friends; he left issue :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. William, M.D., Staff-Surgeon in the army, died 1858.

1. Sophia, died 1851.

2. Margaret, died 1854.

3. Helen.

4. Ann.

5. Mary, married Alexander Edmond, advocate, Aberdeen.

6. Sophia.

7. Frances.

Mr. Legertwood was succeeded by his son,

III. **Alexander Legertwood of Logierieve,**

who sold Logierieve in 1880, to **Andrew Mitchell** in Fiddesbegg. He was the son of Alexander Mitchell in Fiddesbegg, by Isobel Mutch. He died 188—, leaving a son,

II. **Robert Mitchell of Logierieve.**

He married, 187—, Barbara, eldest daughter of James Hunter Harvey in Pitgersie, Foveran, and has issue :—

I. **Robert.**

II. Andrew James Hunter Harvey.

1. Isabella Marion.

2. Jean Gertrude.

A DAME'S SCHOOL, now occupied as a servants' house, was near the present railway station. Jane Montgomery, for more than forty years teacher, died in 1846, aged eighty-two. Jane was a worthy woman, a very successful teacher, and, according to the times, a strict disciplinarian. Few that received the rudiments of their education under her will forget her tall figure, her sand-glass, and her terrible tawse! "Pax sit manibus."

THE CHURCH AND MINISTERS OF ELLON.

THE earliest notice of the church of Ellon occurs about the middle of the twelfth century. It was an important charge, and it appears, according to Dr. Joseph Robertson, to have had an endowment for the maintenance of four scolocs or scholars. These are first mentioned in 1265, when Gameline, Archbishop of St. Andrews, let his land in Buchan, which the scolocs of Ellon held in lease to Alexander Comyn, Earl of Buchan, for an yearly rent of two merks silver. The Earl bound himself to perform the military service due from the lands, to be leal and faithful to the Bishop of St. Andrews, and at the expiry of the lease which was for three lives, to restore the land to the See with its right marches, and all its apurtenances as the scolocs now hold it.¹ Fully a century afterwards, in the year 1387, the land which had been thus leased, became the subject of an inquest, and it was declared by the good men and true of the country that took part in the inquest, that the church lands of Ellon which are called the scoloc lands, are of the yearly value of fifteen pounds, thirteen shillings and fourpence sterling, and were worth of old twenty pounds sterling; that from these lands aforesaid, there are to be found for the parish church of Ellon four clerks (clerici), with copes and surplices able to read and sing sufficiently, that a quarter or fourth part of Easter Ellon is bound to find a house for the scolocs; that the quarter or fourth part of Candellan is bound twice in every year to find twenty-four wax candles for the perk before the high altar; and that a quarter or fourth part of Ferley is bound to find a smithy (fabricam) at Ellon.²

The endowment of the scolocs or scholars would seem from the above to have been diverted in a considerable part from its original purpose; but in devoting it to the support of the church of Ellon, it added, according to Dr. Robertson, very much to its dignity and importance as a church.

From a roll of lost charters by King Robert the Bruce, it appears that a charter was granted about 1310, of the advocacy and donation of the church of Ellon to the Abbot of Kinloss,³ and before 1526 in the time of John of Innes, Abbot of Deer, the monastery of Deer had a strife with the Abbot of Kinloss regarding the tithes of the lands of Fechil, which were claimed by the Abbot of Kinloss as due to their church of Ellon. The Bishop of Aberdeen to whom the matter was referred decided in favour of Kinloss, which thus gained an increase of revenue of forty shillings yearly.⁴

¹ Spal. Club Mis. V. p. 39; Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 310, 311; Reg. Ep. Abdn. pp. 177, 178.

² Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 310, 311; Mis. S. C. V. p. 59.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 301.

⁴ Id. II. p. 401.

Of the names of the priests and prebendaries of Ellon before the Reformation, the following have come down. In 1172-1199, Adam, the clerk of Ellon appears as a witness to the charter of Matthew, Bishop of Aberdeen, between the years above mentioned.¹

The next to be found is in a charter by Alexander Cumyn, Earl of Buchan, of the year 1277; one of the witnesses is David de Aberdein, vicar of Ellon.²

In 1328, the vicar of Ellon was appointed a prebendary of the Cathedral Church, Aberdeen. In that year an agreement was made between the Abbot of Kinloss and Henry, Bishop of Aberdeen, in terms of which the abbot became bound to pay from the fruits of the benefice of Ellon, twenty merks yearly for the endowment of a prebend in the Cathedral Church of St. Machar at Aberdeen. Four merks yearly to a stallar or vicar being in deacon's orders serving in the same cathedral, and a hundred shillings yearly with a manse and garden to a chaplain serving the cure of souls, and making his residence in the parish. The prebendary was to be collated by the bishop with consent of the abbot and convent of Kinloss. His stallar was to be admitted by the dean and chapter, and the right of presenting the chaplain or vicar serving the cure, was vested with the abbot and convent.³

Robert de Pebles, in 1328, was vicar of Ellon. He resigned it that year.⁴

William de Calabre, in 1392, was prebendary of Ellon. In that year he bequeathed to the stallar, stipulating that he should be a priest, a sum of six merks yearly, with a house and a piece of land beside the cathedral. The stallar's pension payable by the abbey was increased before the year 1437, to five pounds yearly. In the years 1506 and 1519, it was £8 yearly.⁵ In 1378, William of Keith, Marischal of Scotland, by charter at the manor of the Forest of Kintor, gave six merks yearly from certain lands to endow a chaplaincy for the soul's health of his well beloved clerk, Sir William de Calabre, prebendary of Ellon and canon of Aberdeen.⁶

William of Lask, the elder lord of that ilk, in 1380, bequeathed a pound of wax yearly to the Altar of the Holy Rood in the church of St. Mary of Ellon, and a stone of wax, with twelve silver pennies yearly, from his land of Logy near Ellon, for lights to be burned at the tomb of himself and his wives, situated as it would seem in the same church.⁷

Thomas Leis, in 1484, was vicar of Ellon. He witnesses a precept of sasine regarding the lands of Carmuck and Ardgeight.⁸

James Wawane was in 1521, prebendary of Ellon.⁹

Thomas Sudderland probably succeeded him about 1526. He is found in 1544, as a witness to a feu charter of the lands of the chaplaincy of Westhall to William Abercrombie.

1 Ant. A. and B. II. pp. 17-20.

2 Id. I. p. 455.

3 Reg. Ep. Abdn. Vol. I. p. 49.

4 Id.

5 Reg. Ep. Abdn. I. pp. 178, 182, 134.

6 Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 10.

7 Reg. Ep. Abdn. Vol. I. p. 134.

8 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 28.

9 Id. II. p. 365.

Patrick Cheyne was the next, and in 1547, Francis Cheyne, his brother, was appointed his successor.¹

John Leslie, prebendary of Ellon in 1557, witnessed a feu charter of George, Earl of Huntly.²

In 1563, Andrew Leslie, prebendary of Ellon, was a witness to a charter of William, Bishop of Aberdeen, to Robert Turing of Foveran, and his spouse. This is the last prebendary of Ellon of the Church of Rome witnessing a charter of his Bishop, William Gordon.³

We now come to the period after the Reformation.

John George was reader from 1567—1586.

The first minister was Mr. John Herriot—mentioned in session records of Ellon in 1602 and 1604.⁴ John Herriot, M.A., took his degree at the University of St. Andrews in 1582-3. In 1598, a band was subscribed in his presence by William Keith of Ludquharne and Alexander Keith, his son.⁵ Mr. Herriot died sometime between the 8th of June, 1604, and 20 March, 1605.

Robert Mercer was the fourth son of James Mercer of Newton. He died 6 January, 1638, in the thirty-third year of his ministry. "To him whom I have always found kind and faithful," Mr. John Johnston bequeathed in 1611, "his little ring with the diamond quihlk he himself brought to me from the noble Prince. Providing that if he die without heirs male of his awin, that the foresaid ring be left to the best scholar native of Aberdeen, especially the best poet, because I receiv it as ane reward of my poesie."⁶

David Leech was in 1638, promoted from being sub-principal of King's College and University. He was presented to Ellon by Charles I., and fled to His Majesty with some others on account of the Covenant, but returned to Aberdeen, 2 June, 1639. He preached a penitential sermon and gave obedience to the kirk.⁷ The following is recorded regarding him:—"Mr. David Leitch, minister of Ellon, happening to step out of the manse between twelve and one o'clock, did see the sun to shine as if it had been mid-day, and much astonished at so fearful a prodigy, he called to his bedral to see it also; and lest the truth thereof should not win belief, he caused the bedral to raise a number of neighbours from their beds, all which did testify the same."⁸ He wrote a funeral oration on the death of Bishop Forbes. He paraphrased the songs of the Old and New Testament. This, however, was never printed, but he published a volume of Latin poetry, which was printed at London. Sir Thomas Urquhart thus speaks of him—"I forbear to spend encomiums upon that worthy gentleman, Master David Leech, who is a most fluent poet in the Latin tongue, an exquisite philosopher and a profound theologe."⁹

John Paterson was translated from Foveran, and appointed to Ellon, 9 September,

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 443.

2 *Id.* p. 435.

3 *Id.* p. 86.

4 Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 50.

5 P. C. R. V. p. 62; Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 51.

6 Transactions Society of Antiquaries.

7 Orem's His. of Old Abdn. p. 273; Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 50; Spal. Troubles, I. p. 199.

8 Chambers' Domestic Annals, II. p. 147.

9 Bishop Forbes' Funeral Orations, p. 236.

1649. Mr. David Lindsay of Belhelvie preached, and by virtue of ane commission from the Presbytery of Ellon, being assisted by Mr. Gilbert Anderson, minister of Cruden, did instal Mr. Paterson as actual minister, and that upon ane unanimous supplication of ye parochine given unto the Presbyterie to transplant him from the church of Foveran,¹ and the whole parochie did receive him as their pastor. Mr. Paterson remained until 1659, when he was translated to Aberdeen, where his translation was bitterly opposed by Andrew Cant. He was afterwards Bishop of Ross, father and son were at the same time Bishops.

Mr. John Paterson, regent in St. Andrews University, was son of the preceding. On October 30, 1659, he preached at Ellon, and on the following Sunday the congregation have sermon from Robert Ogilvie of Methlick, who afterwards retires to the session-house with the elders, fifteen being present and four absent. The business was to appoint a minister, when Mr. Paterson was elected by a large majority. Four, however, dissented and protested, namely, Donaldson of Hilton, John Gordon of Fechil, John More of Kinmucks, and George Cassie. The bodie of the people did very cheerfully assent.² He remained only two years. He rose rapidly in the church; was translated to Edinburgh, and in 1687 he was appointed Archbishop of Glasgow. He was said to be a great promoter of the test, and always studied too much to please the court.³

James Fraser was next minister. In the session records of Ellon there are these entries regarding him. "July 5, 1663. Mr. James Fraser did preach, being about to be minister." "October 10. The first session held by James Fraser, minister." He was afterward deposed. The minister, who had been south in the spring of 1672, is again there for some months in the spring of 1674. Soon after his return the visitation of the church was held, and thereafter, on the 31 May, Mr. Irvine of Udny preached and intimated that the kirk of Ellon having been visited on the 19 inst., and Mr. James Fraser, present incumbent, having obstinately refused to submit himself to the Presbytery, he was suspended until the sub-synod, to be held at Aberdeen in August. From August, the suspension was continued until October, and on 13 December, his deposition by my Lord Bishop and Synod, for his contumacy and disobedience was announced, and the Church declared vacant.⁴

Walter Stewart was the next minister. Before his appointment in 1678, it is recorded that one, Mr. George Mill, was now called to the church of Ellon. He is mentioned in the records as "a residenter in Logiebuchan, and a young man who had preached there occasionally." His settlement was strongly opposed by the heritors, led by Colonel Fullerton of Dudwick, and, according to their statement, the body of the people and the majority of the Presbytery were opposed to him. The Bishop, at a meeting of the Presbytery in Aberdeen, called on them to state their opinions. With the exception of the minister of Logy, they thought him unfit for the charge, or gave but a very qualified approval, and from their statement it would seem that Mr. George

1 Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 100.

2 Id. p. 124.

3 Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 124.

4 Id. p. 134.

Mill was dry and commonplace as a preacher.¹ The Bishop was anxious to carry out the appointment, but seems eventually to have deferred to the feeling against Mr. Mill.

Mr. Walter Stewart, preacher in Old Aberdeen, having a presentation from the King's Majesty, by virtue of an order issued from the Lord Bishop of Aberdeen, got his institution, in 1678, to the ministry at Ellon. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Forbes of Waterton. She was alive in 1734, and had five sons and eight daughters:—John, Thomas, John, William, and Andrew; Jean, Christian, Elizabeth, Margaret (who married Charles Gordon of Fetterangus), Christian, Anna, Katharine (who married Arthur Robertson, surgeon, Old Meldrum).² Mr. Stewart adhered to the Episcopal form of worship, and this with the general feeling of the parish to support him. He died about 1709 or 1711. Mr. Stewart, during his ministry, had acquired the lands of Fortrie, in Ellon.

James Burnett was ordained minister of Ellon in 1713, by Mr. Mulligan and other members of the Presbytery. He married, first, Katharine Anderson³; secondly, Jean, daughter of Mr. Rose of Lethenty. She died at Logiebuchan, 22 February, 1744, in her 78th year. Mr. Burnett left to the poor of Ellon a legacy of £300, at his death in July, 1744, in the thirty-second year of his ministry.⁴

Andrew Moir, minister of Methlick, was presented to the church of Ellon by the Earl of Aberdeen, and admitted 6 June, 1745. He married, 1737, Jean, daughter of William Forbes, minister of Tarves. She died 10 October, 1789, aged 74, and had two sons, Dr. George, minister of Peterhead, William, and three daughters, of whom Elizabeth married George Garden, baron baillie of Peterhead. Mr. Moir died 19 March, 1774, in his seventieth year, and forty-sixth of his ministry.⁵

James Milne was translated, in 1775, from Forglen, and got a new church built in 1777. He married, 16 June, 1774, Elizabeth Ker, who died 1807. Mr. Milne wrote the old statistical account of the parish.⁶

Thomas Tait was translated from Meldrum, and appointed to Ellon, on the presentation of George, third Earl of Aberdeen, on July 4, 1798. He died in the pulpit, on 5 August, 1810, aged 67. He married, July 30, 1789, Elizabeth Gordon, daughter of Rev. James Gordon, Cabrach. She died 8 January, 1804. He published the statistical account of Meldrum.⁷

Robert Douglas, M.A. was the son of Mr. James Douglas, minister of Premnay. Having graduated at Marischal College, he was ordained by the Presbytery of Strathbogie, 7 December, 1808, as assistant to Rev. James Gordon of Bellie. He was inducted to Ellon, April 3, 1811, on the presentation of George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen, and died 21 December, 1831, in his forty-eighth year, and the twenty-fourth of his ministry. He married 2 April 1822, Ann Forbes, and had three sons, James, Alexander, and Robert. Mrs. Douglas married his successor, Mr. Robertson.⁸

1 Mair's Records of Ellon, pp. 135, 136.

2 *Id.* p. 136; Scott's Fasti, pp. 603, 604.

3 Scott's Fasti, and Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 141.

4 Mair's Records of Ellon, p. 164, 603, 604.

5 Mair's Records of Ellon, pp. 164, 168.

6 *Id.* p. 169.

7 Scott's Fasti, pp. 603, 604.

8 *Id.*

James Robertson M.A., D.D., was educated at Marischal College, where he graduated, after having been declared by the Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic, the best scholar that had been in that class for thirty years, and by the Professor of Mathematics, that with only one exception, he was the best scholar that had attended for forty years. He became schoolmaster of Pitsligo, his native parish, in 1821, attended the Divinity College from that year until 1824. He was appointed to teach some young relatives of the Duke of Gordon, and to arrange the library at Gordon Castle. In 1829, he was appointed Master of Robert Gordon's Hospital, an appointment which he held for some years. He was ordained 30 August, 1832 for Ellon, on the presentation of George, Earl of Aberdeen, but was suspended with others by the General Assembly, on 30 May, 1842, from his judicial functions as a member of the Presbytery, and other superior judicatories until after the first Wednesday of March next, for holding communion with the deposed ministers of Strathbogie. He was appointed member of the Poor Law Commission in 1843. Had D.D. from Marischal College, 12 October of that year, was named secretary of the Bible Board for Scotland by Her Majesty, and having been appointed Professor of Divinity, and Church History in the University of Edinburgh, he demitted in 1844 his parochial charge of Ellon. He was appointed convener of the Committee, for Endowment of Chapels of Ease, by the Assembly, 26 May, 1847, elected Moderator of the General Assembly, 22 May, 1856, and died 22 December, 1860 in his fifty-eighth year, and the twenty-ninth of his ministry. His memory will ever be cherished for the immense exertions which he made, and the great success which attended his scheme of Endowment, and Establishment of new parishes, in localities requiring the superintendence of the Christian ministry, having been the chief means of raising nearly half-a-million of money, and endowing upwards of 65 parishes.

He was thoroughly unselfish in nature, and single in aim, an eloquent orator of exhaustless resources, ambitious, only to do good to his fellow-men, and consecrated every talent committed to him, to the service of his Lord and Master.

Rev. William Brewster was instituted 1844, on the presentation of George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen, died 1859.

Donald Dewar, M.A., son of Daniel Dewar, D.D., LL.D., Principal of Marischal College, Aberdeen, was appointed 1859, on the presentation of George, fourth Earl of Aberdeen, and died 1861.

James Smith, M.A., was appointed 1862, on the presentation of George, fifth Earl of Aberdeen, and died 1871.

Thomas Young, M.A., B.D., of the University of Edinburgh, was inducted to Ellon, July 12, 1872. He married Isabella Morice, daughter of the late Rev. Charles M'Combie of Tillyfour, minister of Lumphanan. Issue:—1. Thomas M'Combie; 2. Ellen Marian Lamond; 3. Eileen Marjory M'Combie; 4. Dorothy Mary Moffat; 5. William Moffat.

COMMUNION CUPS.

1. One bears the inscription:—"This cup is dedicat to the service of God and

communion tabell in the church of Ellean, by John Kennedie, in Keairmock, and Janet Forbes, his spouse, 1634. This cup bears the Amsterdam hall mark.

2. Another given to the kirk of Ellen be John Middletown, burgess and baxter in Aberdeen, 1642.

3. The third was gifted by Sir John Forbes of Waterton, in 1666.

4. The fourth was given by Robert Temple and his spouse, Helen Mair, in Nedder Ardlethen, 26 April, 1685.

5. A fifth cup was given by Dr. James Robertson, on his leaving the parish in 1843.¹

The patterns of all the cups are very much alike, being of the beaker form.

THE CHURCHYARD OF ELLON:
WITH A GENEALOGICAL DEDUCTION OF THE FAMILY OF
ROSS OF ARNAGE.

There never breathed a man who, when his life was
Closing, might not of that life relate
Toils long and hard. The warrior will report
Of wounds and bright swords flashing in the field,
And blast of trumpets.
We sail the sea of life—a calm one finds,
And one a tempest—and the voyage over,
Death is the quiet haven of us all.

—*Wordsworth.*

ONE of the oldest tombstones is an erection to the memory of the Annands of Auchterellon, which formerly had been within the old church. The Annands of Auchterellon were an ancient family. Auchterellon was the property of John de Annand in 1424; David Annand was of Auchterellon in 1457; Henry in 1491, married Marjorie Cullen; he died 1505. Alexander was of Auchterellon from 1505-1527; Thomas owned it from 1537-1548. Alexander possessed it in 1574, and in 1602 married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Fraser of Philorth. Alexander, his son, sold the estate before 1619, having married Margaret, daughter of Cheyne of Esslemont, and was grandfather of Robert, who, in 1659, was designed as of Artrochie. This is perhaps the Robert, whose son, Alexander, merchant, Aberdeen, left issue—Alexander of Haddo, who d. s. p. 1802, and John, father of Alexander Annand, county Sussex, who, in 1812, was recognised as head of the family, and left issue. Henry of Orchardtown in 1603 was brother of the last laird of Auchterellon.²

¹ Mairs Records of Ellon, p. 171.

² Stodart's Arms, II. pp. 194-5.

The following is the inscription on the monument—"Alexander Annand, C.M.A., marmoreum monumentum Honorabilis Alexandri Annand baronis quondam de Ochterellon qui obiit ix. Jul. 1601. Ejusque conjugis Margaretæ Fraser, filiæ quondam de Philorth, quæ obiit, Aug. A.D. 1602. 'Salus per Christum.'" [The marble monument of Alexander Annand, the late honourable baron of Auchterellon, who died 9 July, 1601, and of his spouse, Margaret Fraser, daughter of the laird of Philorth, who died August, 1602. "Salvation through Christ."]

Over another panel are carved the Annand and Cheyne arms with the initials "A. A., M. C.," and the motto, "Mors Christi nostra vita." The panel bears the inscription—"Sub hoc tumulo resurrectionem expectant corpora Alexandri Annand de Ochterellon, filii dicti Alexandri, qui obiit ——— et caræ suæ conjugis Margaretæ Cheyne filiæ dō de Esslemont." [In this tomb await the resurrection the bodies of Alexander Annand de Ochterellon, son of the said Alexander, who died ———, and of his beloved wife, Margaret Cheyne, daughter of the laird of Esslemont.]

These two inscriptions had probably been all made at the same time, leaving the dates to be inserted afterwards, which was never done.'

On the grave of James Sangster there is the following—

"Hark, from the tomb a doleful sound,
My ears attend the cry,
Ye living men come view the ground
Where you must shortly lie.
Great ones this clay must be your bed
In spite of all your powers ;
The tall, the wise, the revered head,
Must lie as low as ours."

A granite headstone is "In grateful remembrance of Isabella Leask, Hillhead of Fechil. She died 31 December, 1850, aged 61. Alexander Leask, her third son, chief officer of the ship 'Australia,' of Liverpool, was lost with all hands on her homeward passage from Melbourne, Spring 1851, aged 31."

There are the following stones to the memory of a family of Garden, whose representatives still possess the property of Millfield in Monquhitter.

"In memory of Alexander Garden, late farmer in Mill of Ardlethen. He died August, 1817, aged 65 ; also his children, Barbara, Mary, and James, who died in infancy ; also his relict, Isabella Johnston, who died February 9, 1841, aged 91."

Another stone, erected by a son of the above Alexander Garden, is "In memory of his brother, John Garden of Millfield, who died at Mill of Ardlethen, September 8, 1839, aged 50." He left some funds for endowing a school near Ardlethen.

Another stone, erected by the said Alexander Garden, farmer, Mains of Tarty, is "In memory of his daughter, Isabella, who died 16 July, 1831, aged 22 ; also of a daughter, Margaret, and a son, James. Here also is interred Alexander Garden of Millfield, late in Mains of Tarty, who died 15 July, 1850, aged 67. Also his spouse,

Margaret Wilson, who died 28 October, 1851, aged 64." She was a daughter of Mr. Wilson, Fetterletter, and sister of the late Dean Wilson.

Another stone records the death of a son of the above Alexander Garden and Margaret Wilson. "John Garden of Millfield, died at Mill of Ardlethen, 7 June, 1860, in the 38th year of his age. Erected to the memory of a beloved husband by his widow." The property of Millfield devolved on his sisters, Mrs. Milne, Mains of Esslemont, and Mrs. Black, Linhead.

A granite stone is "In memory of George Chalmers, LL.D., died at Hornhill, of this parish, aged 77. Erected by George Chalmers, Rose Street, Aberdeen."

A granite stone is erected by Thomas Milne, merchant, Ellon, "In memory of his spouse, Ann Adiel, who died 14 September, 1839, aged 74. The said Thomas Milne died 25 August, 1851, aged 84."

A Turin stone has this inscription—"Erected by David Wood, shipmaster, Aberdeen, to the memory of his beloved wife, Margaret Chalmers, who died 1813."

"All you that stop to read this stone
Consider how soon she was gone,
Swift was the flight and short the road,
She closed her eyes, and saw her God.
A loving wife, a tender mother dear,
A true and faithful friend lies here ;
Ready to forgive, fearful to offend,
Beloved in life, lamented in her end."
"Grieve not for me."

A Peterhead polished stone bears the inscription, "In memory of the Turnerhall family, whose remains rest in this burying-ground. This stone was erected by Mary Grant Turner, 1877."

Another "To the memory of Keith Turner of Turnerhall. This stone was erected by his sorrowing widow. He was born 20 January, 1768, departed this life, December 20, 1808, and was by his own desire laid in the grave of his beloved mother, Elizabeth Urquhart of Meldrum, born July 10, 1735, died February 28, 1786. Also to the memory of his widow, Mrs. Anne Margaret Turner of Turnerhall, who died October, 1823, aged 50 years."

Within a railed enclosure a stone is "In memory of Peter Falconer, born at Arthrochie, 1 February, 1808, died at Aberdeen, 16 May, 1878."

Another is inscribed "To the memory of Alexander Falconer, who died at Arthrochie, Logie-buchan, 13 June, 1846, aged 80. His son, Silvester, died 1820, aged 15 ; his daughter, Isabella, 11 June, 1821, aged 20 ; Mary, 1826, aged 28 ; his spouse, Isabella Smith, died at Arthrochie, 29 August, 1819, aged 80. Their daughter, Harriet, died 8 December, 1868, aged 60. Their eldest daughter, Margaret, died at Belvidere, near Aberdeen, 1 February, 1872, aged 76."

Another stone is "To the memory of Mr. Silvester Falconer, some time at Fechil, and afterwards at Cross-stone, where he ended his life 11 July, 1791, in the 84th year of his age ; and of Margaret Moir, his wife, who died 26 June, 1787, aged 52 ; also their

sons, George Falconer, died at Kinloch, St. Fergus, 11 April, 1836, aged 74; Silvester Falconer, died at Oldyards, Auchmacoy, 11 October, 1838, aged 79."

A cross of Turin stone is "Sacred to the memory of Rev. Nathaniel Grieve, M.A., clergyman of the Church in Scotland, and incumbent of the Episcopal Church, Ellon, died at Aberdeen on 18 February, 1862, in the 84th year of his age, and the 61st of his ministry. 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'"

An adjoining stone records the death of Mrs. Grieve. "Here are deposited, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, the mortal remains of Sophia Grieve, who died 17 December, 1838, aged 15; also of Jane, who died in infancy, being both daughters of Rev. Nathaniel Grieve, Episcopal clergyman in Ellon, and of his wife, Sophia Robertson. Also of the said Sophia Robertson or Grieve, wife of the said Nathaniel Grieve, who died 12 February, 1860, aged 72."

A series of stones are in memory of a family of the name of Legertwood, who had been long resident in the parish, but none now remain.

On one is the inscription, "Here lies, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, James Legertwood, born in Cairnhill, June 11, 1711, and died there January 5, 1745; as also two of his children, James and Marjorie Legertwood. Likewise Marjory Legertwood, his spouse, who died 15 June, 1772, aged 80 years; also Margaret Gordon, spouse to Thomas Legertwood, who died 19 June, 1782; and Thomas Legertwood, late farmer in Cairnhill, who died October, 1782, aged 61." The above Margaret Gordon was of the Hallhead family.

Another stone is "In memory of Sophia Mair, spouse to Alexander Legertwood of Logierieve, who died 11 June, 1834, aged 78; and of John, their son, who died in infancy. The above Alexander Legertwood died 26 November, 1834, aged 77; also of their son, William Legertwood of Logierieve, who died 14 October, 1851, aged 56; and of his wife, Jane Pirie, who died 10 April, 1870, aged 63; also of their daughter, Sophia, who died 4 October, 1847, aged 17; Margaret, died 4 September, 1842, aged 16; Jane, died in infancy; also of their youngest son, William Legertwood, M.D., army surgeon, died at Parkhurst, Isle of Wight, on 10 October, 1863, aged 28."

On another is the inscription, "Here is interred the remains of John Legertwood, for many years in Overhill and Pitscaff, Foveran, who died 21 March, 1827, aged 71. Jean Mitchell, his spouse, died 8 March, 1835, aged 69. Also John Legertwood, their son, an army surgeon, died 2 April, 1824, aged 31; Alexander Legertwood, advocate, Aberdeen, who died January 1, 1834, aged 45; Robert Legertwood, merchant, died 30 March, 1834, aged 36."

Another stone is "To the memory of Alexander Legertwood, mason, Aberdeen, who died 26 December, 1836, aged 74; also James Legertwood, wright, Aberdeen, who died 19 March, 1845, aged 75; and his wife, Isabella Legertwood, who died 14 September, 1848, aged 76."

A stone adjoining is "To the memory of James Legertwood, merchant, Aberdeen, who died 6 October, 1854, aged 48."

A cross has on one side the inscription, "In memory of Andrew Legertwood of Watridgemuir, and Felix, his son." On the other side, "In memory of Thomas Legertwood, farmer, Overhill, Foveran, and Middletack, Rathen, and his wife, Mary Muir."

A stone is "In memory of John Mair, Mill of Birness, born 24 August, 1795, died 14 April, 1850."

A stone within a railing is to the memory of a family of Perrys, thus inscribed—"Sacred to the memory of James Perry, surgeon, Bilbo Park, Logie-buchan, who died 23 July, 1824, aged 63. He was only child of Alexander Perry, merchant in Ellon, and Elizabeth Chalmers, his wife; also in memory of his son, Alexander Perry, who died at sea, 18 October, 1840, aged 28; and of his daughter, Ann; also in memory of Margaret Perry, relict of the late Thomas Black, Newburgh, who died 20 February, 1848, daughter of the late James Perry, who died at Jerseyville, Illinois, U.S., May, 1859, aged 62 years; also of Margaret Duff (daughter of Rev. Mr. Duff, minister of Foveran), spouse of James Perry, surgeon, Bilbo Park, who died at Stonehaven, 25 June, 1861, aged 83; also of Ann Perry, second surviving daughter of the late James Perry, surgeon, Bilbo Park, who died at Stonehaven, 23 May, 1866, aged 62; and Eliza Perry, who died at Stonehaven, 31 March, 1876, aged 78."

A stone records that the "Rev. Andrew Moir, minister of Ellon for thirty-two years, died February, 1774, aged 73. His wife, Jean, died October, 1779, aged 74. Their daughter, Jane Moir, erector of the tablet, died 16 September, 1816, aged 70." Mr. Moir married Miss Byres of Tonley—through this marriage the present family succeeded to the estate.

Another records that "Mr. James Milne, minister of Ellon, died 31 May, 1797, aged 79; Mrs. Elizabeth Ker, his spouse, died 28 May, 1807, aged 73."

On another is the inscription, "Elizabeth Gordon, spouse to the Rev. Thomas Tait, minister of Ellon, died 8 May, 1804, aged 50. His nephew, James Gordon, son to Rev. John Gordon, minister of Cabrach, died at Ellon, 7 July, 1808, aged 13 years; Rev. Thomas Tait, died August, 1810, aged 67."

Another is inscribed, "Rev. Robert Douglas, minister of Ellon, died 21 December, 1831, aged 48, and in the 21st year of his ministry."

Another bears the inscription, "Rev. Wm. Brewster, died 27 August, 1859, aged 67, and in the 26th of his ministry in this parish.

Another stone is erected by the U.P. congregation of Savocho of Deer, "In memory of their pastor, Rev. John Hunter, who died 3 June, 1865, in the 32nd year of his ministry and the 61st year of his age."

A stone is "Sacred to the memory of Forbes Frost, bookseller in Aberdeen, who died 28 June, 1845, aged 57. He was the son of William Frost, gardener, Dudwick; and Mary Leask, his spouse, who, along with her two daughters, Helen and Mary Frost, are interred here."

To a sailor is the following inscription, "George Robertson, sailor, died 1816, aged 27.

' Nine years I sailed the raging main,
Till death, the terror of all men,
Hath taken me on my native shore,
To meet with Christ to part no more.
No more he'll plow the briny deep
In search of gold or earthly store ;
But underneath the turf he'll sleep
Till time shall end and be no more.'

Mrs. Janet Forrest, some time residing in Peterhead, died 1 March, 1812, aged 48."

A stone bears the inscription, " In memory of John Rae, late merchant in Ellon, who died on 19 August, 1869, aged 80 years ; also of his wife, Eliza Bruce, who died 23 February, 1882, aged 82 years. William Rae died 16 June, 1855, aged 31 years. His sister, Janet, died 29 May, 1831, aged 2 years. Elsie Rae died 22 September, 1885, aged 64 years."

Another is inscribed, " In memory of John Rae, bank agent and merchant, Ellon ; born 24 August, 1818 ; died 30 August, 1888." Mr. John Rae was proprietor of Anchterellon, in which he was succeeded by his son, John Rae, married, and has issue.

Within the church there is a monument in marble thus inscribed :—" John Leith Ross of Arnage, died 15 May, 1839, aged 63. His spouse, Elizabeth Young co-heiress of Bourtie, died June, 1852, aged 70. Their third son, William Ross, M.D., died 28 September, 1834, aged 22. George, their fourth son, and Frederick, their grandson, died in childhood."

ROSS OF ARNAGE.

The following is the descent of the Rosses of Arnage, who represent the ancient family of Auchlossin, a branch of the Roses of Kilravock.

I. Andrew Rose or Ross,

second son of William Rose, third of Kilravock. He flourished about the end of the fourteenth century.¹

II. John Ross of Auchlossin,

is to be found in the following deed of sasine :—There is a precept for infefting Robert, Lord Erskine, as heir to Isobel, Countess of Mar, in one half of the Earldom of Mar, to which he was served heir, 1438, and an instrument of sasine of half the Earldom following thereon, dated November 21, 1438, before John Ross of Auchlossin and other witnesses.²

III. Thomas Ross of Auchlossin.

On 26 July, 1488, there is an action persewit be Alexander Irvine of Drum against

¹ Douglas' Baronage.

² Ant. A. and E. IV. p. 188, note.

Thomas Ross of Auchlossin, for relieving the said Alexander Irvine of Drum of the payment of £50.¹ The next is

IV. John Ross of Auchlossin.

In 1495, he is found taking part in the inquisition of William Keith, and he is found frequently employed in a similar way, in 1503, 1505, 1506, 1507, &c.² The next to be found is

V. Charles Ross of Auchlossin.

He is mentioned in charters of date 1530, 1532, 1533.³ The next is

VI. Nicol Ross of Auchlossin.

In 1535, he took part "de causa inter Gulielmum Strachan de Glenkindie et dominum Elphinstone."⁴ There follows

VII. John Ross of Auchlossin.

In 1579, there is a charter by John Ross of Auchlossin in favour of his son, Nicol, of the barony of Auchlossin,⁵ namely,

VIII. Nicol Ross of Auchlossin.

He is mentioned besides in the above charter, in a letter of reversion by Alexander Chalmers of Balnacraig to Nicol Ross of Auchlossin of the lands of Bogloch, 10 June, 1601.⁶ He married Elizabeth Coumts: she is mentioned in a charter by John Ross of Auchlossin of date 1579, in favour of Nicol Ross, his son, of the barony of Auchlossin, and of sundry lands to Elizabeth Coumts, his wife, daughter of the laird of Auchtercoull, in life-rent, 20 May, 1579.⁷ They had at least three sons, and one daughter:—

- I. ———, younger of Auchlossin, married and had a son, Francis, who was served heir to his grandfather, Nicol Ross of Auchlossin (see afterwards).
- II. **John**, baillie of Turriff, progenitor of Ross of Arnage, of him afterwards.
- III. Findlay of Kinnermit, parish of Turriff, married, and had an only daughter and heiress, Jane Ross, who married John Wallace of Littlecolp, whose son was John Wallace of Bridgend.⁸
 1. A daughter, married James Hay of Muiryfold and Kinnermit, afterwards of Delgaty.

Nicol Ross was succeeded by his grandson as above narrated.

IX. Francis Ross of Auchlossin.

Regarding him there is the following retour—"Francis Ross of Auchlossin was

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 275.

2 Id., IV. p. 78.

3 Invent. of Titles, Arnage.

4 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 469.

5 Charter penes Arnage. Invent. of Titles.

6 Invent. of Titles, Arnage.

7 Id.

8 Decree of Appraisalment of the lands of Kinnermit penes Arnage.

served heir to Nicholas Ross of Auchlossin, his grandfather, in the barony of Auchlossin, the lands of Bogloch, Deray croft, the croft called Alderane, with the office of baillie of the same."¹ He was succeeded by his son,

X. Robert Ross of Auchlossin.

He married Elizabeth Maitland, daughter of Maitland of Pittrichie, 12 May, 1669.² He built the house of Auchlossin, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Francis Ross of Auchlossin.

His father, Robert Ross, disposed to him the barony of Auchlossin, 22 July, 1702; and there was a charter under the great seal of the said barony to Francis, 22 November, 1702.³ Captain Francis Ross was under the necessity of selling the lands of Auchlossin at the instance of his creditors, the chief of whom was Robert Gordon of Bordeaux. It was sold to Mr. James Ferguson of Pitfour, advocate, 17 July, 1715.⁴

We now return to John Ross, baillie of Turriff, second son of Nicol Ross, VIII. of Auchlossin.

John Ross of Clochcan,

in the parish of Deer, and of Little Colp, parish of Turriff, married Christian, daughter of Andrew Howie, senr., merchant burgess, Aberdeen. Their marriage contract is dated 18 October, 1650, and their will, 1688.⁵ They had issue two sons and four daughters.

- I. George, who succeeded to Clochcan and Colp. He made his will, 1684, and left an only daughter and heiress, Jean, who married David Oglivie, third Baronet of Barnes, and had, with other issue, Elizabeth, who married Patrick Anderson of Bourtie; and their daughter, Mary, married, 1771, William Young of Sheddocksley, whose eldest daughter, in 1807, married her relative, John Leith Ross of Arnage, and had issue.

II. John, of Arnage, of whom afterwards.

1. Elspet, married, 1672, Alexander Aberdein of Cairnbulg.
2. Barbara, married, 1675, George Willox, merchant burgess, Aberdeen.
3. Isobel, married, 1676, Walter Robertson, merchant burgess, Aberdeen.
4. Christian—heir, nephew, John Ross of Arnage, was served heir to her, 7 November, 1733.⁶

II. John Ross of Arnage,

second son of the above John Ross of Clochcan. Besides succeeding to the paternal lands of Clochcan and Colp, he acquired, by purchase, in 1702, from David Rickart of Achnacant, the lands of Arnage. He also acquired the lands of Forresterhill, and on the death, in 1709, at the battle of Malplaquet, of Captain Francis Ross, the last Ross

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 272, also penes Arnage.

² Marr. Cont. penes Arnage.

³ Charter penes Arnage.

⁴ Decree of Sale penes Arnage.

⁵ Marr. Cont. and Testament penes Arnage.

⁶ Decen. Rets. 1733.

of Auchlossin, he became the representative of that ancient family. He was a merchant, and for some time Lord Provost of Aberdeen. He married, in 1704, Jane, only daughter of Forbes of Echt, by Elizabeth, his wife, fifth daughter of Sir Robert Innes, Bart., of that ilk, and had issue :—

I. **John**, who succeeded.

II. Arthur, born 25 August, 1711. By a post-nuptial settlement of Mr. and Mrs. Ross, he was appointed heir instead of his elder brother, John, who was deaf and dumb; but Arthur died in infancy.

1. Elizabeth.

2. Christian, married Sir Arthur Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, and had issue. She was served co-heir of provision general to her brother, Arthur Ross of Arnage, 25 June, 1728.¹

3. Catharine.

4. Jean, served co-heir of provision general to her brother, Arthur Ross of Arnage, 25 June, 1728.² She married her kinsman, Alexander Aberdeen, younger of Cairnbulg, and some time Provost of Aberdeen, and had an only daughter, Jane, wife of David Dalrymple, afterwards Lord Westhall.

John Ross of Arnage died 14 September, 1714, and was succeeded by his son,

III. John Ross of Arnage.

He was served heir to his father, John Ross of Arnage, who died 14 September, 1714, heir male, and of provision special in the barony of Arnage, including Adams-hill, Towie, Ardquhadlies, Lammermuir, &c., 1 October, 1728; and to his brother, Arthur Ross, heir of line general, 19 November, 1729.³ John Ross was known as the "deaf and dumb laird." He married, June, 1723, Elizabeth, second daughter of Robert Turner of Turnerhall, by Margaret, daughter of John Rose of Rosehill (now Turnerhall), and had issue a large family, who all died young, except Christina and Martha, the latter of whom became the wife of Alexander Leith of Freefield and Glenkindy, and had issue a son, **John Leith**. John Ross of Arnage died 4 May, 1789, and was succeeded by his grandson,

IV. John Leith Ross of Arnage.

He was served heir to his grandfather, who died in 1789; co-heir of provision special cum beneficio inventarii in the barony of Arnage, and in Towie, and Cairntysie, 19 August, 1789.⁴ His aunt, Christina, was served co-heir at the same date. He was a D.L. and a J.P. for Aberdeenshire; married, 1807, his cousin, Elizabeth, eldest daughter and co-heiress of William Young of Sheddocksley.

I. **John Leith**, his successor.

II. Alexander Leith, wine merchant, London, died unmarried.

III. William, born 1812, died, unmarried, 1834.

IV. George, died young.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1728.

² Id.

³ Decen. Rets. 1728, 1729.

⁴ Id., 1789.

- V. James, settled in Canada ; married, 1846, Margaret Milne, and had issue.
 VI. Rev. Robert, appointed, 1843, minister of Cruden.
 VII. Arthur, of Reeveshill, Pilkington, Canada, West.
1. Mary, married William Allardyce, wine merchant, Aberdeen, and had issue.
 2. Christina, married Alexander Johnstone, W.S.
 3. Elizabeth, married, 1847, David Robertson Souter of Lawhead, county Lanark, J.P. and D.L., and has issue.
 4. Jane.
 5. Margaret, married, 1853, Geo. Augustus Thomson, Edinburgh, and has issue.

John Leith Ross of Arnage died 15 May, 1839, and was succeeded by his son,

V. John Leith Ross of Arnage.

He was born in 1809 ; married first, 1844, Nicola, youngest daughter of William Arbuthnott of Dens, and had issue :—

- I. John Leith, Major 25th Foot ; born 1846 ; married, 1878, his cousin, Janet Forbes, eldest daughter of William Lamond of Stranduff and Pitmurchie, and has issue.
 - II. Frederick William Arbuthnott, banker, Mauritius.
 - III. ———, Lieutenant R.N.
 - IV. Willoughby Louis Thulier.
 - V. William Henry Hay.
- Three sons died young.
1. Nicola Rosa, married Alfred M'Kenzie.

Mr. Leith Ross married secondly, 1878, Jane Catharine, second daughter of James Pirie, Waterton, and has issue :—

2. Jane Catharine.

The arms of Arnage are duly registered—First and fourth three water bougets within a bordure, sable, for Ross of Arnage. Secondly, a cross crosslet fitched, sable, between three cross crosslets in chief, and as many fusils in base, gules, barways, for Leith. Thirdly, azure, a harp attired, and unguled gules for Strachan of Glenkindy. Crest for Ross, a cap of Dignity, a water bouget as in the arms. Motto—"Agnoscas evcntu." Crest for Leith, a cross crosslet fitched. Motto—"Trustie to the end."

ST. MARY'S ON THE ROCK, ELLON.

“Sperat infestis.”

THUS wrote the last Episcopal minister of Udny on the books of his library—not his own family motto, for he was descended of the ancient houses of Kilravock and Auchlossin, but one suited to the unhappy times in which he lived. The church was in ruins, but he still had hope that a brighter day would dawn, and were he from his rest in Paradise, to see the handsome church erected at Ellon in place of the low-roofed thatched building at Udny Green, he would feel that his hopes had not been vain.

The congregation that assembles at St. Mary's on the Rock represents the two congregations of Udny and Ellon, which were served separately until 1816. These two parishes were for a long time strongholds of Episcopacy.

The incumbent of Ellon at the time of the revolution was Walter Stewart. He was appointed to Ellon in 1677. He married a daughter of Sir John Forbes of Waterton, and had issue five sons and eight daughters. He died in 1710, or at least retired from the church of Ellon about that time.

In 1710 the Rev. William Leslie, fifth laird of Little-Folla, was appointed to Ellon, and he, probably, officiated in the parish church till 1713, when Rev. I. Burnett was appointed to Ellon. In the summer of that year the Episcopalians erected a meeting-house near to the churchyard, and they brought from the parish church their seats, which were movable, and the property of the individuals, Mr. Leslie officiated till 1715, when he retired to his property of Little-Folla, and officiated in his own house until his death, which took place 31 July, 1743, in the 64th year of his age.

He was succeeded in the meeting-house at Ellon by Rev. Mr. Keith, Glasgoego. After the proclamation of the Chevalier de St. George at Aberdeen, and his brief-lived reign, the Episcopalians at Ellon waxed courageous. The following minute in the session records of Ellon narrates “that on the 10th of October, 1715, when the minister, Mr. Burnett, was going to preach in the kirk, there met him in the kirkyard, Patrick Cattanach, James Gordon in Mains of Esslemont, and William Forbes in Ellon, with some others, and kept him from access to the kirk, and put in his stead John Keith of Glasgoego, who preached in the meeting-house, whereupon the minister, Mr. Burnett, went and preached beside his own house, and he was obliged to leave off preaching until the 12 February, 1716, because of the troubles of the country.”

The rising of 1715 was a failure, and the Episcopalians, with the best grace they could, had to go back to their “meeting-house,” and, according to the notice of Mr Leslie, in “Leslie's History of the Leslies,” the meeting-house was burned. If this was its fate, it was soon rebuilt, for in 1720 it is found in the charge of the Rev. Mr. Law. There is no record how long Mr. Law remained; but he may have done so until Culloden, when then the meeting-house was effectually burned and destroyed. The congregation was about this time in a flourishing condition. A complaint is found in

the session records that many delinquents were going over to the meeting-house. It had amongst its supporters the lairds of Esslemont (Gordon), Turnerhall (Turner), Dudwick (Fullerton); but after Culloden these three were proscribed, and soon thereafter the meeting-house was doomed to destruction. The late Mr. Grieve of Ellon had interesting traditions of its fate handed down to him by those who were contemporaneous with the events. The Presbyterians all along had no very friendly regard for the meeting-house. It might have escaped, however, had it not been that a formal complaint was lodged by Alexander Lendrum with the superior officer of the military at Aberdeen, who had no other alternative but act upon it. Accordingly a party of soldiers was sent to Ellon for the purpose of demolishing the meeting-house, a work in which they were assisted by none of the inhabitants of Ellon, except the said Alexander Lendrum, who alone volunteered his services. In doing so, he frequently shouted, "Down with the house of Baal." One of the soldiers, who did not find the same relish for the work as did Alexander Lendrum, meeting him in a private corner, after the work was through, thus accosted him—"If I had no greater force compelling me than you, I would not have been here to-day," and holding a stick from the demolished chapel in his hand, he gave Lendrum such a blow with it, as kept him in bed for weeks to come. Thus ended the fate of the meeting-house at Ellon.

The minister of the congregation at Udney, at the time of the revolution, was the Rev. Alexander Milne, a graduate of King's College and University in 1678. He became Governor to William, Lord Keith, afterwards Earl Marischal. He was appointed to Udney, 1 January, 1682, and died in the month of September, 1721, aged about 64, and in the 40th year of his ministry. Mr. Milne remained an Episcopalian to the end of his ministry, and on his death the greater part of the congregation erected, by the permission of Udney of Udney, a meeting-house at the top of Udney Green, near by where the present parish church is situated, and here the Rev. James Rose, a brother (supposed to be) of the first laird of Arnage of that name, ministered to a large body of people, down to his death in 1746. He rented from Mr. Udney the farm of Atholehill. He possessed a library rich in nonjuring theology, part of which still exists in the possession of a descendant of a member of his congregation. Amongst the books are "Holloway's Originals," "Brett's Liturgies," "Hicke's on the Priesthood," "Bilson on Church Government," and one, a volume of St. Chrysostom's works, has the inscription, "E. dono Jacobi Gadderar, Episc. Aberdonensis, Jacobo Rose, 1732."

After the fatal field of Culloden, the meeting-house at Udney shared much the same fate as the one at Ellon. According to Mr. Grieve's tradition, it was destroyed at the instigation of the parish minister. He is said to have hired William Dickie, a worthless fellow in the parish, to do the deed. One half-peck of meal was his reward, and he is said to have exclaimed to the bystanders, while the work of demolition was going on, "that for one half-peck of meal more, he would hang the parish minister himself."

The work at Ellon and Udney was done. The chief members of the congregation of Ellon were excepted from the act of indemnity. Esslemont, Turnerhall, and Dudwick

were obliged to leave the country. The penal laws were passed, prohibiting more than four, besides the clergyman and his household, to assemble for worship. The laity also frequenting such assemblies were under heavy penalties. The services of the church were then for fourteen years, until the accession of George III., carried on under extreme difficulties. The clergyman who succeeded Mr. Rose at Udney was Rev. John Morison; probably he had become assistant to Mr. Rose, for in a list of subscribers to "Ratray's Liturgy of St. James" in 1742, Mr. Morison's name occurs as being at Udney.

Two nonagenarians, one who died in 1855 and another in 1861, were probably baptised by him; they had distinct recollections of the manner of conducting the service. The former first attended service in the kilbarne of Tilliecorthie. Services besides those at Tilliecorthie were held at Orchardtown and Cloisterseat, the tenants of which, for allowing this, were said to have been fined £10 Scots each. Mr. Morison likely officiated at the same time to the members of the church in the parish of Ellon.

In 1764, four years after the accession of George III. to the throne, "the day began to break and the shadows to flee away." The Rev. John Skinner, son of the poet, Rev. John Skinner of Longside, a young man newly ordained, and who afterwards became Bishop of Aberdeen, was appointed to the two charges of Udney and Ellon. He had the farm of Overton of Dudwick, in the neighbourhood of Bernie, where there was a meeting-house on the lands of Mr. Fullerton of Dudwick. During the summer-time he officiated twice, and travelled sixteen miles to and from the various places of meeting. The emoluments from the two charges amounted to from £25 to £30 a year. Under Mr. Skinner's auspices a chapel was erected in 1768 at Chapelhall, on the lands of Esslemont, for the accommodation of the church people in the lands of Udney, Foveran, and Tarves. Mr. Skinner remained until 1775, when he was appointed to a charge in Aberdeen, now represented by St. Andrew's church, and as Bishop of Aberdeen and Primus was mainly instrumental in the repeal of the penal laws in 1792.

Mr. Skinner was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Deans. He is mentioned in the session records of Ellon. In his time the meeting-house at Bernie was removed to Tillydesk, on the lands of Turnerhall. He removed in 1783 to England, having, it is said, submitted to reordination by an English bishop. After Mr. Dean's retirement, Rev. John Cruickshank was appointed. He was translated from Mactery, Fyvie, now represented by the congregation of Woodhead. For the first three or four years of his ministry, he lived at Tilliedesk, but afterwards removed to Kinharrachy, where he died March 1, 1804. He had a son, Dr. Cruickshank, afterwards proprietor of the small estate of Piltochie.

Rev. Nathaniel Grieve, M.A., was the son of John Grieve in Lescaigie, parish of Turriff. He studied at Marischal College, Aberdeen, of which, in 1803, he was a graduate. After his appointment he had, in addition to Tilliedesk and Chapelhall, the charge for some time of Meldrum. Being young and vigorous, and a capital pedestrian, he managed for some time to supply duty for all three. He carried out in 1816 a plan which Bishop Skinner ever since his incumbency had much at heart, the uniting of the

two charges of Tilliedesk and Chapelhall at Craighall, on the southern bank of the Ythan at Ellon. A new church, built in 1816, was to have been opened by Bishop Skinner, but he died a few weeks before, and the sermon which he prepared for the occasion was read by Mr. Grieve on the day of opening. This church was a commodious building, and at the time of its erection was considered one of the best in the Diocese.

Mr. Grieve ministered here for the long period of nearly sixty years, and ere his death had baptised the greater part of the congregation. He was a worthy good man, and it may be said of him, as was said of Nathaniel in the Gospel, "he was an Israelite indeed in whom was no guile." He was a good student, well read in the Scriptures and the Fathers in their original tongues. He was fond of books, and at his death left a valuable library.

Mr. Grieve was twice married, first to Miss Annie Pirie, by whom he left issue :—

I. Rev. John, a clergyman in the Church of England, who died 1886.

1. Mary, wife of James Wilson, M.D., staff surgeon ; she died 1891.

Mr. Grieve married secondly, Miss Sophia Robertson, by whom he had issue :—

I. Alexander, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., Fraserburgh ; died 1891.

II. Nathaniel, M.A.

III. Samuel, M.A.

1. Jane, married to the Very Rev. Alexander Harper, M.A., of St. Mary's, Inverurie, and Dean of Aberdeen.

2. Sophia, died 1840.

3. Margaret.

4. Elizabeth, died 1885.

Mr. Grieve, zealous to the last in all the duties of his office, instant in season and out of season, never shunning to declare the whole counsel of God, died in 1863, and is buried in the churchyard of Ellon by the banks of the Ythan, which for ever murmurs his requiem.

A cross marks his grave in the churchyard, but it is to be hoped that a suitable memorial will some day find a place in the church of St. Mary's, which took the place of the one he struggled so hard to build.

Mr. Grieve was succeeded by the Rev. Nicholas Kenneth Macleod, M.A., under whose auspices the present beautiful church of St. Mary's on the Rock has been erected, on a site a little to the south-east of the former building. It was built in 1870-71, after designs by the late Edmund G. Street, R.A. It consists of nave and chancel, with north aisle, organ chamber, vestry, and campanile. The chancel is aspidal, with an antechamber, as in the Spanish churches, separated from the nave by a stone screen, at the south-east corner of which there is a handsome stone pulpit. The chancel was built in memory of the late Mrs. Gordon of Ellon, who died in 1848. She was daughter of Richard Cumberland by Albinia, eldest daughter of the third Earl of Buckinghamshire.

The reredos in alabaster, and different coloured marbles with the jewelled cross, is

the gift of the Hon. E. V. C. Boyle, in memory of her father, the late Mr. Gordon of Ellon, who died at Ellon in 1873, in his 90th year, and was buried beside his wife in the churchyard of Maryculter. He was a highly respected landlord, a fine example of the county gentleman, and took a great interest in the church.

Besides this memorial, a brass on the north side of the altar is thus inscribed—"In loving and reverent memory of Alexander Gordon, whose fatherly care and beneficence are here recorded by his youngest son in humble gratitude to Almighty God."

The pulpit and screen were erected in memory of the late Colonel Bertie Gordon by his brothers and a few friends. Colonel Gordon is interred in the churchyard near the east end of the church. In addition to this tribute in the church, his widow erected in the churchyard a cross of polished grey granite raised upon two steps. The cross bears this inscription—" 'Until the day breaks.' Bertie E. M. Gordon, born December 17, 1813, died July 27, 1870."

" In the grave with bitter weeping,
Loving hands have laid him down ;
There he rests, calmly sleeping,
Till the angel raise the stone."

Colonel Gordon was second son of Alexander Gordon of Ellon and Colonel of 91st Highlanders. He was a man of great courage and presence of mind, and it was owing mainly to his judicious and gallant conduct that the lives of the men were saved when on board the Abercromby-Robinson, at the time she was wrecked in Table Bay.

The offertory plate of St. Mary's, which has the sacred monogram, "I. H. S.," in its centre, surrounded by symbolical representations of the four Evangelists, bears this inscription—"Deo et Ecclesiæ de Ellon in mem. Albinæ Elizabethæ Gordon. Ejus animæ Deus propitiatur." The handsome silver communion plate was also an offering in her memory.

The west window of the nave on the north side represents the Nativity. It was filled by Mrs. Catharine Dalrymple in memory of her parents, brothers, and sisters. James Milne, her father, died in 1836, and was of a family long in the Mains of Esslemont, and long connected with the congregation in its various fortunes.

Another in the north side represents the marriage of Cana in Galilee, and was placed by his widow in memory of her husband, William Thomson, in Mains of Pitmedden ; and by Miss Margaret Milne in memory of her brother, Alexander Milne, in Waterton. Both these families were long connected with the Udney congregation.

A third also in the north side represents the woman of Samaria. It is placed by Mr. Udney of Udney in memory of his father, mother, and brother. (See Udney of Udney.)

In the apse there is a window illustrating the Agony in the Garden, in memory of Mrs. Charles E. Dalrymple, a daughter of the late Mr. Gordon of Ellon. Mr. Charles Elphinstone Dalrymple died in 1891.

Another window, illustrating the Crucifixion, is in memory of Miss Eleanor Boyle ; she died, aged 25. Placed by her father, Hon. and Rev. R. C. Boyle.

Another, representing the Resurrection, is in memory of Colonel Bertie Gordon, placed by William, Charles, and Ewereta Gordon.

A window, showing the appearance of Christ to Mary Magdalene, is placed by Admiral W. E. Gordon, C.B., and Mrs. Bertie Gordon, in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Gordon of Ellon. The quartrefoil connecting these two lights is filled with stained glass representing a quiet sea, on which the shadow of the cross is thrown, and is in memory of midshipman Richard Louis Hobart Gordon, drowned at sea.

These windows are all by Messrs. Clayton and Bell.

Behind the pulpit in the east wall of the nave there is a large and beautiful window, an adaptation of the Light of the World (the Good Shepherd). It is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Wolrige Gordon, in memory of the late Charles Napier Gordon of Esslemont.

The subject of the first window towards the east on the south wall of the nave is "Christ blessing little children," by Mr. and Mrs. Wolrige Gordon, in memory of three children, who died in infancy.

The next window, illustrating the "Sermon on the Mount," is the gift of Lieutenant-Colonel Turner of Turnerhall, and the late Rev. George Kemp, in memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Turner of Turnerhall, and their daughter Mrs. Anna Kemp.

The handsome granite font was a gift to the old church by Mr. Gordon of Ellon.

There is also a memorial near the vestry door in memory of the late Alexander Chivas, for many years a member of the vestry and treasurer of the congregation, and Margaret Pirie, his wife. The former was of a family long connected with the Tillydesk congregation, the latter of a family long connected with the Udney congregation.

The oak lectern is the gift of Mrs. Copland, Mill of Ardlethen, in memory of her brother, George Milne in Haddo, long a member of vestry of the Woodhead congregation.

The church has been beautifully decorated after designs by A. Street, and is similar to work in England about the year 1230. The decorations, perhaps unique in Scotland, were done at the expense of John Henry Udney of Udney, whose ancestors, both at Udney and Dudwick, afforded an asylum to the two congregations in the troublous times.

FECHIL, ELLON.

FECHIL belonged in ancient times to the Abbey of Deer. In 1219-1233 there is a charter of William, Earl of Buchan, by which he granted, and by charter confirmed to God and the Blessed Mary, and to the monks serving and to serve at Deer, the land of Fechil on the Ythan. The boundaries are given, "Beginning at the water of Ythan on the eastern part at Craigtarsay, up to a small hill called Balgyl, and thus descending

from the western part to the Ythan."¹ In 1390, the Abbey of Deer burdened the lands of Fechil with the yearly payment of a merk sterling to Laurence Foty, a burgess of Aberdeen, in exchange for a tenement in Aberdeen. This was for a lodging to the Abbot when he had occasion to visit the city.² It was a spacious house, built in the form of a court, on the south side of the Castlegate. This house of the Abbot of Deer became, after the Reformation, the property of the Earl Marischal. In 1499-1526, in the time of Abbot John Innes, the monastery of Deer had a strife with the brethren at Kinloss regarding the tithes of Fechil, which were claimed as due to the Church of Ellon. The monks of Deer contended that they belonged to their abbey. The dispute grew to such consequence, that it came before a provincial chapter of the order at Edinburgh, where all the Cistercian abbots of Scotland were present. They failed to decide the dispute. It was afterwards referred to the Bishop of Aberdeen, who decided in favour of Kinloss, a decision which gave to Kinloss an additional revenue of forty shillings.³

In 1544 there is an assedation of various lands of the Abbey of Deer; amongst these, Fechil is let on lease for four chalders of victuals, £13 6s. 8d., four wederis, twelve caponis, twelve pultres, tithes uncertain.⁴

In 1549 there is a contract between the Earl Marischal and Lord Forbes. The said Earl shall pay to the said William, Lord Forbes, six hundred merks usual money of Scotland; also the said Earl Marischal shall obtain on his own expenses to the said William, Lord Forbes, and Dame Elizabeth Forbes, his spouse, ane heritable feu of the lands of Fechil. Lord Forbes had at this time the lands of Fiddes in Foveran.⁵

In 1560 the lands of Fechil, in the parish of Ellon, are let on lease to James Forbes for fifty bollis beir, four bollis wheat, twenty-four caponis, twenty three pulties, four wedderis, four shillings of augmentation.⁶ In 1587 there is a charter of Robert, late commendator of Deer, and George, Earl Marischal, at Holyruid House, 29 July, 1587. The King grants to the said Earl Marischal all the lands of the Abbey of Deer, among which are Fechil, &c.⁷ In 1589 we find James Forbes of Fechil and Robert Forbes of Monymusk witnesses to a feu charter of certain lands by Lord Forbes to Abraham Forbes, &c.⁸

The next owner of Fechil to be found is John Gordon. In 1639, we find one of Montrose's cavaliers taken prisoner by John Gordon of Fechil, second son of Robert Gordon of Straloch and Pitlurg, the well-known man of letters.⁹ He was born 1611, and died 1698. He was famous for writing tales. He married first a daughter of Forbes of Echt, by whom he had a son, **John**, who succeeded him. He married secondly, ————, by whom he had a daughter, Anna Gordon, who married the laird of Faichfield, and a son, James, minister of Banchory, who, by his wife, a daughter

1 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 428.

2 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. pp. 189-190.

3 Ant. A. and B. II. p. 421.

4 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 29.

5 Id. IV. pp. 623-4.

6 Ant. A. and B. II. 424

7 Id., III. p. 535.

8 Id.

9 Gordon's Scots Affairs, III. 275.

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 507.

of Cunning of Birness, had one daughter, Anna, married to John Gordon, eleventh laird of Craig, and was mother of James Gordon, twelfth laird of Craig, and of Francis Gordon, thirteenth and last laird of Craig.¹ He was succeeded by his son,

II. John Gordon of Fechil.

He was enrolled as a student of King's College, 1659.² He married first, Rachel Sandilands of Cotton, by whom he had issue :—

I. James, his successor.

1. Marjory or Marion, married John Rickart of Rickartown and Auchnacant, died 1749 without issue.
2. Elizabeth, married in 1704 James Brebner, younger of Corskie.
3. Anne.
4. Barbara.
5. Katharine, married Baillie John Burnett of Daladies, called "Bonnie John," descended of Leys, and had issue.

John Gordon married secondly Jane Maitland of Pitrichie, widow of his cousin, — Gordon of Pitlurg, without issue ; died 17 —, and was succeeded by his son,

III. James Gordon, M.D. of Fechil.

He married, 1716, Margaret Baird, daughter of James Baird of Auchmedden, and his wife, Lady Katharine Hay, daughter of the Earl of Kinnoul, by whom he had three daughters :—³

1. Jean, married to Rev. John Gordon, D.D., minister of St. Paul's, Aberdeen ; had no surviving issue.
2. **Katharine**, born 1716, married to John Douglas, son of Sylvester Douglas of Whiteriggs, county of Kincardine, and succeeded to Fechil, 17 July, 1741.
3. Mary, married to James Irvine of Kingcausie.

James Gordon died 1741, and was succeeded by his second daughter,

IV. Katharine Gordon of Fechil.

Her husband, John Douglas, was grandson of the Bishop of Dunblane, who was fourth in descent from Sir William Douglas, first of Glenbervie, second son of Archibald, fifth Earl of Angus. Mrs. Douglas was served heir-portioner special in the lands of Fechil, 17 July, 1741 ; also her sister, Jane Gordon, at the same time in the same lands, also her sister, Mary Gordon.⁴ Katharine Gordon died in 1754, leaving a son,

I. Sylvester, who succeeded to Fechil.

1. Katharine, who married Major James Mercer of Auchnacant, and had issue.

Katharine Gordon's husband, John Douglas, seems to have married first, Elizabeth,

¹ Notes by C. E. Dalrymple.

² Fasti, p. 476.

³ Notes by C. E. Dalrymple.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1741.

daughter of Sir Charles Maitland of Pitrichie. He certainly, after Katharine Gordon's death, was married to Margaret Forbes, daughter of Thomas Forbes of Echt ; without issue. He died in 1798.

V. Sylvester Douglas of Fechil,

Born 1743 ; studied English law, and was called to the bar in London, where he rose to distinction. He entered Parliament in 1743 ; held office at various times in different departments of the Government with much credit ; was a Privy Councillor, and was in 1800 an Irish peer by the title of Lord Glenbervie. He married, in 1789, Lady Catharine North, eldest daughter of the Earl of Guildford, K.G., by whom he had one son, Hon. Sylvester Douglas, who entered Parliament, and displayed considerable abilities, but died in 1819, three months after his marriage to Harriet, eldest daughter of William Naughton of Carnworth, Yorkshire ; she had no child.

Lord Glenbervie died in 1823. The lands of Fechil were sold, in the end of the eighteenth century, to Urquhart of Craigston, by whom they were sold, about 1798, to George, third Earl of Aberdeen, from whom the family of Gordon of Ellon inherited them.

GORDON OF ESSELMONT.

ESSELMONT is situated on an eminence above the south bank of the Ythan. The house, which is large and commodious, was recently rebuilt by the present proprietor, Henry Wolrige Gordon. The estate was in ancient times held of the crown in fee blench, for yearly payment of one penny Scots, and one rose, at the feast of John the Baptist.¹

Esslemont before 1306 was possessed by a family of the name of Marshall.

I. Malcolm Marshall.

In a roll of lost charters by King Robert the Bruce is one "Malcolmo Mariscallo de Meikle Averniche (Arnage), circa 1307."² Next we find

II. William Marshall.

There is a charter of Robert II. in 1377 to William Marescalle, son of Malcolm Marescalle, of all the lands of Esslemont and Meikle Arnage.³

III. Janet Marescalle (Marshall),

a daughter, probably, of William Marshall, was heiress of Esslemont. She became second wife of Sir Reynauld Cheyne of Straloch, by which marriage, Esslemont came to the Cheynes, a great family at that time in the county of Aberdeen.⁴ They had issue a son,

IV. John Cheyne of Esslemont.

He married Katharine Panton. This John Cheyne, Lord of Straloch, resigns the lands of Esslemont into the King's hands for the infetment thereon of Henry, his son. His seal was put to this deed at Esslemont, 20 April, 1441.⁵

V. Henry Cheyne of Esslemont.

On 31 July, 1475, this Henry Cheyne of Esslemont produced a remission from the King, sealed with the great seal, graciously granted to him for the cruel slaughter of Henry Panton, probably of the Pitmedden family of that name. In 1479, the Lords of Council assign to Henry Cheyne of Esslemont to prufe that the lands of Mylne of Esslemont, Craghede, and the half of Fortree, contenit in the charters made by him to his

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 160.

² Rob. Index of Charters, p. 39.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 316.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 304.

⁵ Id., III. p. 6.

son, John, and his wife, Elizabeth Annand, are worth twenty pundis.¹ A great feud arose in 1490 between the Cheynes of Esslemont and the Hays of Ardendracht, a place near Slains Castle, lying inwards from Cruden Bay; the distance between it and Esslemont was a ride of about ten Scotch miles. It is difficult to know the cause of this quarrel, but it was very likely some family dispute, as it reached to considerable dimensions, for Esslemont harried the lands of Hay of Ardendracht, and burned the house; also pillaged the lands of Hay's relative, the Earl of Errol.² In retaliation, an excursion from Slains Castle burned "the cornes of Esslemont." It would be difficult, according to Mr. Mair, to account for the Cheynes being able to contend against such formidable adversaries, were it not for the mention of a number of independent parties as being implicated with them, such as Seton of Meldrum; Arthur, Lord Forbes, and others from Monymusk, Keig, and Inveramsay.

From the character of the families at the time, the Cheynes would have had ready allies for such a work as they had in hand. On the other hand, on the part of the Hays, besides William de Hay of Ardendracht, only Patrick Rede of Collieston, and John Hay of Ardgrain are mentioned by name. While the Hays in their forays are mentioned as sweeping off only horses, oxen and scheip, wholesale, destroying the place of Esslemont, and laying waste the lands, the Cheynes, while not neglecting such important booty, seem to have been cunning in the searching and uplifting of small matters useful in a household, such as a girdell, a cauldron, pans, a stane of cheese or butter. All the goods are mentioned as taken away. It is difficult, according to Mr. Mair, to see how some of them could have been transported to Esslemont, such as half a chalder in "ail and wort" at Ardendracht. The ale, if in good order, would no doubt have been welcomed by the thirsty troopers, but it would have been otherwise with that portion which had been in "wort," or in the process of brewing. The quantity of half a chalder must have been a large one for a simple household, and shows how largely it was consumed at the time. They also carried away books, among others "The buik continand fôur buikis of the sentences," which seems to have been the work compiled by Peter Lombard, extracted from the writings of the Fathers, more especially from St. Augustine, and which acquired an extensive reputation in Europe in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The only buik mentioned besides is a "Bible buik," and three English bukis, and as the place was thoroughly ransacked, these likely formed the whole library of the knight of Ardendracht.³

Men's gowns are mentioned more than once, and were likely furred gowns, which were worn by elderly men in cold weather, or sitting in hall. The industrious rapacity of Sir Henry Cheyne and his son, and the faithful manner in which their spoils have been recorded, gives some insight to the plenishing of houses in 1490. The reckless old baron did not long survive the conclusion of the raids on Ardendracht. He married Katharine Fenton, daughter to the Lord Fenton, and had issue. He was succeeded by his son,

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 301.

² MS. History by Mr. Mair penes Esslemont, and Mair's Records of Eilon Parish.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 302, 4, 5.

Mair's Notes penes Esslemont.

VI. John Cheyne of Esslemont.

A strong friendship (probably a compulsory reconciliation) sprung up betwixt him and the Hays of Ardendracht. Former enmities were forgotten in a proposal of marriage between John Cheyne's son and Margaret Hay, the daughter of William Hay of Ardendracht. In 1494, the indenture betwixt the fathers of the couples is dated at Edinburgh, June 9, 1494, and in due time the marriage is solemnised; but the bridegroom died an early death, for Marjory Hay appears soon as a widow.¹ In 1500, a licence was obtained for building a tower or fortalice by John Cheyne of Esslemont, "for the favours we have to our lovite, John Cheyne of Esslemont, and for his gude service done to us at divers times, ———— have given to the said ———— our special licence to big upon Esslemont a tower and fortalice quhair he thinks maist expedient."²

The remains of this tower, a hoary ruin, stands close by the public road to Ellon, near the farm of Mains of Esslemont. In 1499, John Cheyne signs a bond of man-rent to the Earl of Errol. It is dated 11 September, 1499, at the chapel of Leask; witnesses—William Hay of Ardendracht, Alexander Cappel, parson of Banchory, and Gilbert Hay.³ John Cheyne seems to have been married twice. In 1475, his wife's name was Elizabeth Annand, and in 1501, his wife's name was Isobel Wawan.⁴ John Cheyne of Esslemont died in 1505-6, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Henry Cheyne of Esslemont.

On June 2, 1506, he signed a bond of man-rent at Slains to the Earl of Errol,⁵ and on February 27, 1507, an inquest was held on the estate of deceased Henry Cheyne of Esslemont.⁶ He did not enjoy the succession long, and after his death, his brothers, Alexander and Patrick Cheyne, contended at law as to the heirship of the property. Patrick made a protestation against the legitimacy of his brother Alexander.⁷ The contest was not settled till nine years afterwards. In 1516, there was a royal charter apportioning the lands between them, and this may have been the time when Arnage became a separate estate. The branch of the Cheynes held it to nearly the end of the seventeenth century, fifty years after they had disappeared from Esslemont.⁸

In 1544 and 1547, the Earl of Errol and

VII. Sir Patrick Cheyne

are again exchanging bands, and the Earl confirms to him the possession of Tarty, in gifts made at Musselburgh, 1547. This was on the eve of Pinkie, in the disastrous route of which battle Sir Patrick was taken prisoner, and was ransomed through the agency of Sir Walter Scott of Branxholm.⁹ Sir Patrick Cheyne survived Pinkie a good many years.

¹ Ant. A. and B. II. p. 353.

² Id., I. p. 317.

³ Spalding Club Misc. II. p. 261.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 13.

⁵ S. C. Misc. II. p. 262.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 14.

⁷ Id.

⁸ Id. p. 16.

⁹ Id., I. p. 305.

In 1559, there is an adjustment of the marches between Auldmill of Esslemont and Nether Ardlethen, in which parties in the name of the Earl appear on one side, and Thomas Chien, friar of Esslemont, on the other. The chapel of Dumbreck and Clotipanis stane are mentioned as being in the line of the marches.

In 1559, Sir Patrick and Thomas Chien, his apparent heir, was appointed by Walter, abbot of Kinloss, baillies of all and haill of the lands of our regality of Lethnocht and Ellon, with their pertinents, and they were empowered to proclaim baillie courts within said lands, &c. This was on the eve of the Reformation in Scotland, when churchmen were taking means to secure their lands or property, by making them over for a time to influential laymen.¹

Sir Patrick died before 1560, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. Thomas Cheyne of Esslemont.

At the above date 1560, August 7, there is a fresh ratification of the marches by Andrew, Master of Errol, between Ardlethen, Chapelton, and Oldmill, belonging to Thomas Cheyne of Esslemont. He seems to have been proprietor only for a few years. He was succeeded by his son,²

X. Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont.

Patrick Cheyne was served heir to his father, Thomas Cheyne, in the barony of Esslemont, May 20, 1564, also in October, 1580. He was served heir to his grandfather, Sir Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont.³ In 1567, December 6, William Leask of that ilk, procurator for Andrew, Master of Errol, charges Patrick Cheyne, oy, grandson and heir of the late Patrick, in terms of his grandsire's bond of man-rent, to ride with the Master of Errol to Edinburgh, because he had to serve in Parliament, on 15 December, and to attend the trial of his brother, John Hay of Muchells. Patrick protested and refused to ride, but this disagreement with regard to the band of man-rent was satisfactorily settled.⁴ In 1568, Patrick Cheyne joins a band to espouse the cause of Queen Mary, the list being headed by the Marquis of Huntly. In 1574, Patrick Cheyne is in a list of a band of north country gentlemen, who sign fealty to King James VI.⁵

Patrick Cheyne died before 1589, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont.

He was served heir to his father, Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont, in fishings in the Ythan.⁶ In 1589, Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont. granted the sunny plough of the shady half of the lands of Taurtie, and in warrandice the shady half of the lands of Bourishill (all in the Ellon parish), to William Mar, burgess of Aberdeen.⁷ In the following year the same Patrick Cheyne granted to Alexander Tulliedaff, the shady half of the lands of Taurtie.⁸

¹ Mair's MS. Notes.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 20.

³ Ret. Spec. No. 35. Ret. Genl. No. 8326.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 24.

⁵ Waterton Papers, p. 25.

⁶ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 554.

⁷ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 89.

⁸ Id.

In 1593, April 17, James Cheyne of Straloch becomes cautioner for Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont, that he himself, and all that he is obleist to answer for, by the laws of the realm, sall behave themselves as dutiful and obedient subjects, and that they sall not take pairt with George, Earl of Huntlie, nor with other Jesuits under the pain of three thousand merks.¹ In 1596-7, there was a great persecution of witches by James VI., which moved the zeal and superstition of the country. Patrick Cheyne had a brother, who was victimised by the "cantrips" of a wandering witch, and had the misfortune to have more than one on the property, that sent fear and quaking, and ane could sweat on them that sat by the fireside of Corstane. He took an active part in bringing them to justice, one witch he caused to be conveyed to Portsoy, in order that she might be examined by ane wizard there. Patrick Cheyne pointed out the devil's mark, under her lug in her crag, into the which mark the laird of Esslemont "thrust a prein, and established the damnatry fact that she could nocht feel the same."²

XII. John Cheyne of Esslemont.

In 1608, at the General Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland, it is overtured, to prevent the increase of papistrie, "That His Majesty give order for the downcasting of Gight's chappel, the house of John Chien in Esslemont, quo receipts all Jesuits and seminaries."³

This John Chien was the last Cheyne of Esslemont. The family had been getting into great difficulties. Regarding him or his son there is the following retour:—"John Cheyne was served heir of Patrick Cheyne, his grandfather (avi), 8 October, 1634."⁴

Before this last mentioned date the Cheynes had parted with Esslemont to William Keith of Ludquharne.

He and his son, William Keith, are mentioned in the following retour:—"1607, December 4, William Keith, was served heir to William Keith, his grandfather, in the dominical lands of Esslemont, &c., in the barony of Esslemont." Twenty years afterwards the Forbheses of Pitsligo are the owners, as we find from the following retour:—"October 1, 1628, Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo, is served heir male of John Forbes, his father, in the lands and barony of Pitsligo, and in the lands and barony of Esslemont, Bourhills, Ulaw, Claymires, Craighen, Corstane, Cairnhill, &c."⁵ We also find George Jamesone, the famous portrait painter, proprietor of Esslemont, and in 1653, his daughters are served heir to him. "Affirmit that the deceased George Jamesone, painter, burgher of Aberdeen, and father of Majorie Jamesone, spous to Mr. John Alexander, advocat, and to Marie Jamesone, bearers hereof, died last, &c., vested in all and hail the Mains of Esslemont, the manor place, tour and fortalice, yarges and pertinents of the same." From this retour it appears that Jamesone had the fee of Esslemont.⁶ The Errol family had, however, prior to this time an interest at least in portions of the lands of Esslemont, as is

¹ Pitcairn's Crim. Trials, I. 286.

² Mair's MS. Notes. Spald. Club Misc. I. p. 132, 133.

³ Mair's MS. Notes.

⁴ Ret. Gen. No. 8626.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Aberdeen.

⁶ Sheriff Court Records; Gill's Moir-Byres, p. 65.

evidenced by the following retour:—"In 1640, May 28, Gilbert, Earl of Errol, Lord Hay, constable of Scotland, heir male of William, Earl of Errol, his father, in the town and lands of Corstane, Cairnhill, Chapeltown of Esslemont, town and lands of Bourhill, Woolaw, Gray's Fortree, and the mill of the same; and in 1705 there is the special service of Charles, Earl of Errol, as nearest heir of his father, John, Earl of Errol, Lord Hay and Slaines, great Constable of Scotland, &c.; also in the lands and barony of Esslemont, comprehending the lands of Corstane, Cairnhill, Chapeltown of Esslemont, dominical lands of Esslemont, with the tour and manor place thereof; the lands of Bourhills, Woolaw, Fortrie, Gray's Fortrie, *alias* Fairley, &c.²

The Errol family had long before this time acquired the whole barony of Esslemont, and it remained in their possession until 17—, when it passed, by purchase, to James Gordon of Ellon and Esslemont. He was, according to the author of the "View of the Diocese," son to a farmer in Bourtie, and a merchant in Edinburgh, and at one time a baillie there, and a rich man.³ A terrible tragedy took place in his family, when two of his children were cruelly murdered by their tutor in Edinburgh. Robert Irvine, the assassin, after the deed, attempted suicide, but was prevented, and being taken "red hand," was summarily executed between Leith and Edinburgh.⁴ James Gordon sold Esslemont in 1727 to Robert Gordon of the Hallhead family.

The **Gordons of Hallhead and Esslemont** are descended from Thomas Gordon of Ruthven. (For his descent and status see Gordons of Parkhill.)

Thomas Gordon of Ruthven was the brother of John Gordon of Essie or Scardargue, and the two were commonly called "Jock and Tam Gordons." Thomas Gordon is said to have married three wives, by whom, according to one account, he had sixteen sons; according to Gordon of Rothiemay, eighteen sons.⁵ His first wife was the daughter of Thomas Hay of Enzie, by whom he had issue, with others.

I. Patrick, of Auchinreath, Corriedown, &c., and Cotonhill, which he ex-cambed for Sauchen.

By his second wife, a daughter of Walter Innes of that ilk, he had issue, at least four sons:—

II. William, of Balvenie.

III. Adam, Chantor of Murray, and parson of Kinkell.

IV. Thomas, of Kenchie or Braikleys.

V. George, of Cushney and Hallhead.

II. George Gordon of Hallhead.

He acquired the lands of Cushney and Hallhead. He married first a daughter of the laird of Craigellie, without issue; secondly, a daughter of ——— Mortimer of Craigievar, by whom he had, besides a daughter, Margaret, married to Alexander

1 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 249.

2 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 158.

3 *Id.*, I. p. 301.

4 Pratt's Buchan, p. 286. Cham. Dom. Annals III. p. 422

5 Balbithan MS. p. 79. Gordon of Rothiemay's

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Leslie,¹ second laird of Kincaigie, two sons, Alexander, who died, *vitâ patris*, s. p., and **John**, his successor. His widow, ——— Mortimer, married ——— Lumsden of Maidler, by whom she had a son, Robert. He was succeeded by his son,

III. John Gordon of Hallhead.

He married ——— ———, and had issue a son, John, who died in the life-time of his father.

The above-mentioned Robert Lumsden appears to have had certain rights or claims over the lands of Hallhead and Conquhonderland, relinquished by him in 1511, when these lands were granted by the Earl of Rothes to Robert Lumsden's assignee, namely, John Gordon, son of George Gordon of Cushnie.² John Gordon, younger of Hallhead, was born 1507, and died at Pinkie 1547. He had married a daughter of Duguid of Auchinhove, by whom he left a son, **Robert**.³ John Gordon died in 1553, and was succeeded by his grandson,

IV. Robert Gordon of Hallhead.

Robert Gordon was served heir to his grandfather (in 1563), John Gordon, in the lands of Hallhead and Conquhonderland, in the barony of Cushnie.⁴ He married Janet, daughter of James Innes of Touchis (Toux, now Pitfour), by whom he had a son, **Patrick**.

This Robert Gordon had sasine, June 16, 1554, and February 10, 1557.⁵ and witnessed a charter of Robert Innes of Innermarkie, on 12 January, 1579.⁶ He was succeeded by his son,

V. Patrick Gordon of Hallhead.

He married ——— ———, and had issue four sons:—

I. **Patrick**, who succeeded.

II. **Robert**, who succeeded Patrick.

III. **George**, who succeeded, and carried on the line of the family.

IV. Walter, who d. s. p. He was, along with Forbes of Cairnhill, convicted of troubling the town of Aberdeen in pursuing others with swordis, ilk ane of them outlaws, June 3, 1612.

Patrick Gordon died 1617, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. Patrick Gordon of Hallhead.

He was served heir to his father, Patrick Gordon of Hallhead, in the town and lands

¹ Leslie's Hist. of the Leslies, III. p. 320.

² Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 385.

³ Id., p. 754.

⁴ Spec. Ret. Aber. No. 18.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 754; III. p. 35.

⁶ Index of Edengight Charters.

of Hallhead, the lands of Conquhonderland within the parish of Cushney, January 17, 1617.¹

He married ———, and died 1620, leaving an only child, Elizabeth, who d. s. p. after 1641. He was succeeded by his brother,

VII. Robert Gordon of Hallhead.

He succeeded in 1620, and was, along with many others, called upon in 1620 to produce his titles to his lands, at the instance of his over-lord, the Earl of Rothes.² He d. s. p. 1622, and was succeeded by his brother,

VIII. George Gordon of Hallhead,

who was served heir to his brother, Patrick Gordon of Hallhead, in the town and lands of Hallhead, and the lands of Conquhonderland within the parish of Cushney, dated 1622. From this retour it would appear his brother, Robert, from ill-health or some other cause, had not been retoured to his brother, Patrick.³

George Gordon married, and had issue, a son, **Patrick**. He died ———, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. Patrick Gordon of Hallhead.

He had a charter of Hallhead and Conquhonderland in 1669, from John, Duke of Rothes. He married Margaret ———,⁴ and had issue :—

I. **John**, of Hallhead.

II. **Robert**, of whom afterwards.

III. Rev. Patrick, whose only child, Jane, married John Calder (issue extinct).

IV. Charles, d. s. p. He mortified one thousand merks Scots for the poor of Cushnie, 1740.

1. Margaret.

2. Maria, married in 1705, Rev. Adam Ferguson of Dunfallandy, minister of Logierait ; issue, Adam Ferguson, LL.D., born June 20, 1723, and others.

Patrick Gordon died 1683, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

X. John Gordon of Hallhead.

He was served heir to his father by special service, September 28, 1683,⁵ and his name is included in the lists of commissioners named in the Acts of Supply passed by Parliament in the reigns of King James VII., 1685, King William, May, 1698, and Queen Anne, 1704. This John Gordon built the house of Hallhead in 1686.

He married Mary, daughter of ——— Ross of Auchlossin, and had issue, three sons, Patrick, Robert, and William.

He died, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

¹ Spec. Ret. Abdn. No. 172.

² Leslie's Family of Leslie, II. p. 93.

³ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 172.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 337.

⁵ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 458.

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 337.

XI. Patrick Gordon of Hallhead.

He, becoming embarrassed in circumstances, was obliged to sell Hallhead to his uncle,

XII. Robert Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

Robert Gordon purchased in 1728, from James Gordon of Ellon, the lands of Esslemont. He was a wine merchant in Bordeaux, where he acquired sufficient fortune not only to purchase the paternal estate of Hallhead, but also the additional one of Esslemont.

He married Isabel, daughter of James Byres of Tonley, by his wife, Janet Middleton, baptised 12 May 1670.¹ By her he had issue :—

I. **George**, his successor.

II. James.

III. Alexander, married, 1735, Jane Grierson, daughter of Sir William Grierson of Lagg, Dumfries-shire, and had issue by her, Elizabeth and Isabella, twins, one of whom by an unhappy mischance, while dancing her on his knee at Hallhead, her father struck her head against the ceiling and killed her on the spot.

1. Janet. She was married to John Black, wine merchant, Bordeaux, had issue, Joseph Black, M.D., a great chemist, called by Lavosier, "the illustrious Nestor of the Chemical Revolution;" a daughter, Isobel Black, married James Burnett, merchant, Aberdeen.

2. Margaret, married Thomas Legertwood in Cairnhill, from whom were descended the Legertwoods of Logierieve.¹

3. Isobel, was married to Dr. Russel, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh.

4. Jean.

Robert Gordon died about 1728, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIII. George Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

He married, January 23, 1728-9, Amy, daughter of Thomas Bowdler (the Expergiscator of Shakespeare). George Gordon was out in the "'45," and his name appears in the list of those who were specially excepted from the general amnesty, which was granted by the Act of Parliament some years after the rebellion. His estates appear to have been granted by the Duke of Cumberland, by a factory dated 1746, to James Chalmers, printer, Aberdeen, probably a friend of the family, as the lands appear in possession of George Gordon's son, Robert, in due course. The plunder of Mrs. Gordon's house in Aberdeen by the Duke of Cumberland and General Hawley in 1746, is fully detailed in Jacobite memoirs, where the lady's statement is printed at length. (Mrs. Gordon, née Ann Bowdler, was an Englishwoman.) They had issue one son, who succeeded.

¹ Gill's Family of Moir-Byres of Tonley, p. 117.

XIV. Robert Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

He married first a French lady, Madeline, daughter of Comte de Babktin ; had issue one daughter,

Mary Anne Madeline Rabutina Clementina. She married John Stevenson, and had issue.

He married secondly, the Lady Henrietta Gordon, daughter of William, second Earl of Aberdeen, by whom he had issue :—

I. **George**, who succeeded ; born May 19, 1761.

II. William, born at Fechil, 1764 ; married Miss Elrington, by whom he had issue.

III. Robert, born at Fechil, 1764.

IV. Thomas Rowley, 3rd Foot Guards, married Catharine Freer, by whom he had Robert (d. s. p.), Harriet, and Caroline.

1. Anne, born at Ellon House, 1763.

2. Catharine, born at Fechil, 1766 ; married to James Baillie of Grenada.

3. Jane, born at Esslemont, 1740.

This Robert Gordon built Esslemont House during the life-time of his second wife. The older portion is incorporated into the present new mansion-house. He is mentioned as voting for Ferguson of Pitfour in the contested election of Aberdeenshire in 1756.¹ He gave a site for an Episcopal church at Chapelhall during the period of the penal laws. Mr. and the Lady Henrietta Gordon appear to have lived sometime at Fechil, which had been purchased by the Earl of Aberdeen, her brother. The Gordons seem never to have lived in the old tower built by the Cheynes in 1500. Robert Gordon died November 2, 1792, and was succeeded by his son,

XV. George Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

He was born 1761 : was Colonel of Aberdeenshire Local Militia ; married, 1790, Anne Baird, daughter of William Baird of New Byth, county of Haddington (sister of Lady Haddo), who died in 1805, and by whom he had issue :—

I. **Robert**, who succeeded.

II. William, born at Hallhead, 26 November, 1791, Lieut. 42nd Highlanders ; fell at Toulouse, 1814 ; unmarried.

III. George, born at Esslemont, 1795 ; died 1816, unmarried.

1. Alicia Anne, born at Esslemont, April 17, 1797 ; was married, 1816, to L. P. Hope Johnstone of Annandale, M.P., and died in 1868, leaving issue.

Colonel George Gordon married secondly, at Edinburgh, February 22, 1807, Henrietta Hope, eldest daughter of Hon. Charles Napier of Merchiston Hall, Captain R.N., by whom he had issue :—

¹ Fraser's Philorth I. p. 214.

- IV. **Charles Napier**, born at Esslemont, November 28, 1811, of whom afterwards.
2. Harriet, born at Esslemont, December 16, 1807, died 1856, unmarried.
 3. Francis, born 22 April, 1809, died unmarried.
 4. Georgina, born June 15, 1810, died unmarried.

Colonel Gordon sold certain outlying parts of Hallhead, including the lands of Westrone, the last named property having been the marriage portion of his great-grandmother, Isabella Byres of Tonley.

Colonel George Gordon died 27 September, 1823, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XVI. Robert Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

He was born at Esslemont, November 4, 1790; Major 21st North British Fusiliers; married Jane, daughter of Walter Little Gilmour of Liberton and Craigmillar, by whom he had two daughters, Jane, who died in infancy, and Anne, of whom presently. Major Gordon died in 1828, and his widow re-married in 1839, George Ferguson, younger son of Sir James Ferguson of Kilkerran, and died in 1844, without issue by him. He was succeeded in the estate of Hallhead by his daughter, on the death of her grandmother, in whom it had been vested by a family arrangement, while the lands of Esslemont went to his brother,

XVII. Charles Napier Gordon of Esslemont,

At whose death, unmarried, June 16, 1864, the estate came to his sister, Anne, who became

XVIII. Ann Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

She was born December 27, 1827, married, May 27, 1856, Henry Wolrige, fifth son of Colonel Wolrige, and died April 18, 1874, having had issue:—

- I. **Robert**, born February 27, 1857. Lieutenant Grenadier Guards, succeeded, 1887, to the estates of Liberton and Craigmillar, on the death of his grand-uncle, Mr. Little Gilmour of Craigmillar (No. XVI.)
- II. John, born December 20, 1859. Lieut. Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders.
- III. Walter, born January 20, 1861, Lieut. Royal Highlanders (Black Watch)
- IV. Henry, born January 1, 1863, Lieut. Queen's Cameron, 79th Highlanders.
 1. Mary, born October 9, 1858.
 2. Anne, born January 2, 1864, died July 20, 1864.
 3. Ethel, born May, 1865, died October, 20, 1866.
 4. Edith, born February 3, 1867.
 5. Margaret, born 1868, died December 25, 1869.

Mrs. Wolrige and her husband after succeeding to the estates, assumed the name of Gordon in addition, the family designation being now Wolrige Gordon of Hallhead and Esslemont.

M A I N S O F E S S L E M O N T.

THE Mains of Esslemont is situated near the old castle of Esslemont built by the Cheynes. A family of the name of Milne has occupied the farm in uninterrupted succession for the long period of one hundred and sixty-five years, six years before the present family of Gordon became proprietors of Esslemont.

George Milne, son of George Milne, before 1696, in Mill of Ardlethen, was tenant first of Mains of Dumbreck, and about 1720 removed to Mains of Esslemont. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Temple, before 1696, in Cloisterseat. This George Milne had a sister, Isobel, married to Robert Temple in Cloisterseat, and another married to Andrew Mair in Claymires. They had issue :—

I. **George**, who succeeded in Mains of Esslemont.

II. **William**, in Coulie, Udny, who married Margaret Maitland, and had issue.

III. **Alexander**, in Mill of Alathan, born 1734, died 1830; married Margaret Sangster, and had issue. He lived until the age of 96, as also did his son and successor, Alexander. He was a Jacobite, and a deeply-attached nonjuring Episcopalian, and when that long persecuted body resolved on praying for the present dynasty, Mr. Milne declined to comply. There are many good stories told of him. One time the minister of the nonjuring chapel called on him; Mr. Milne showed him his corn fields, especially one much eaten with the grub-worm; on this he remarked to the minister that there would "be nae crap here ava." "Perhaps there may," quo' the minister. "Providence is kind." "I sair doubt it, sir, for there are nae reets."

IV. **James**, merchant in London, married, and had issue.

1. **Agnes**, married to Charles Simpson, merchant, and factor to Udny of Udny, descended from the Simpsons of Thornton; had issue, Margaret, married to her cousin, Robert Temple, and had issue also a son, Charles, who died at Lairshell, 1822.

2. **Catharine**, married to Alexander Henderson.

3. **Helen**.

George Milne died 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

II. **George Milne in Mains of Esslemont.**

He married first his cousin, Helen Mair; secondly, Margaret Walker; thirdly, ——— Arbutnott of the Peterhead Arbutnotts. He had issue by his first wife :—

I. **Andrew**.

II. **William**.

III. **Robert**.

IV. George, in Hill of Fiddes and Haddo, Methlick, and proprietor of Coldwells, in the parish of Ellon.

V. **James**, who succeeded.

1. Margaret, married to James Imlach in Haddo, Methlick.

George Milne died 18—, and was succeeded by his youngest son,

III. James Milne in Mains of Esslemont.

He was served heir to his brother, George, in Haddo, July 6, 1821.¹ He married Jane, daughter of William Hay in Shethin, and had issue. (See Shethin.)

I. James, died young.

II. George, in Haddo, Methlic. J.P. for the county of Aberdeen; a very intelligent, excellent man, who died suddenly in November, 1867. In the minute book of the vestry of the Episcopal Church, Woodhead, the following minute in testimony of his worth is "recorded by his friend and pastor, Dean Wilson." The Dean had to mourn a kind and valued friend. The loss to him and his congregation could not be compared to the loss to his family, to whom he might say he had not only been a brother, but also, he might say, a husband and a father. Exceedingly well versed in everything connected with agriculture, he was most able to give the best advice, and many a grateful remembrance of Mr. Milne's kind offices in this respect had come to his knowledge. The Dean concludes by saying that Mr. Milne was one in whom they had every reason to be proud of.

III. **Alexander**, who succeeded.

IV. James, advocate in Aberdeen; held a government appointment in Tasmania, where he died.

1. Helen, died young.

2. Jane died young.

3. Eliza, married to William Donald in Viewfield, Morayshire; issue two daughters.

4. Jane, died 1876.

5. Isabella Maria, married Robert Copland, in Mill of Ardlethen.

6. Margaret, died 1882.

7. Catharine, married to James Dalrymple of Langlee.

8. Alicia, died 1846.

Mr. James Milne died in 1836, his wife in 1821, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Alexander Milne in Mains of Esslemont.

He married Mary, daughter of Alexander Garden of Millfield, Monquhitter, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of James Wilson, in Fetterletter; had issue:—

¹ Decen. Rets. 1821.

- I. Alexander, a promising student of the University of Aberdeen, who, with two other companions, was accidentally drowned while bathing in the sea at Aberdeen in 1864.
- II. James, in Calcutta.
- III. **Charles Napier Gordon**, who succeeded.
 1. Margaret, married to Alexander Keith in Chapeltown, and has issue.
 2. Jane, married to David Wilson, Trinidad, son of the late Dean Wilson ; died 1875, leaving issue.
 3. Mary Elizabeth Garden, married to James Keith in Kinmundy, and has issue.
 4. Anne.
 5. Georgiana.

Mr. Alexander Milne, who was a very warm-hearted man and intelligent farmer, universally respected, died January 9, 1865, aged 54 years. He was succeeded by his youngest son,

V. **Charles Napier Gordon Milne in Mains of Esslemont.**

He married Eliza, only daughter of Robert Copland, Ardlethen, and has issue :—

- I. Alexander Garden.
- II. Charles Napier Gordon.

On the house of Mains of Esslemont there is an old sun-dial with two heads, declining forty-five degrees to the east and west. It is probably about the age of the first George Milne in Mains of Esslemont. One nearly identical is now at St. Margaret's, Forgue. Both are believed to have been made before 1719 by a sculptor employed by Lord Pitmedden in beautifying his Italian gardens at Pitmedden.

THE CHURCH AND MINISTERS OF LOGIE-BUCHAN.

This church belonged to the Cathedral of Aberdeen. It was granted to it by David II. in 1361, in the following charter:—"David, by the grace of God, King of Scots, for the sake of his soul, and the souls of his predecessors and successors, has given, and by this charter has confirmed, to God and the Blessed Virgin Mary; also to the chapter of Canons of the Cathedral Church of Aberdeen, the right of patronage of the church of Logy in Buchan, within the Bishopric of Aberdeen."¹ In 1362, Alexander, Bishop of Aberdeen, following up the grant of the patronage of the church of Logie-Buchan by King David II., to the chapter of the Cathedral Church of St. Machar, conveyed to that body the church itself, with all its revenue and tiends. Out of the revenues were assigned five pounds sterling to a chaplain in the Cathedral, who was to perform the usual religious services for the souls of the King and the bishop, and their predecessors and successors, and ten merks were laid aside for the vicar serving the cure.²

In 1449, Pope Paul confirms these grants,³ and in 1520, the chapter of Aberdeen's common churches of Logy-Buchan and Rathyn were let for £220.⁴

Logy-Buchan was included in the Deanery of Buchan. Of the pre-Reformation vicars the names of a few have been recorded.

In 1362, Oliver was rector of Logy-Buchan.⁵

John of Imlach, rector of Logy in Buchan, signs a deed regarding the scoloc lands of Ellon in 1415.⁶

In 1567, the parish was held in conjunction with Forvie and Slains, and with Foveran, Slains, and Ellon, from 1574 to 1582.⁷

Alexander Arbuthnott was appointed in 1562. He was second son of Andrew Arbuthnott of Pitcarles, descended from the family of Arbuthnott of that ilk. Born in 1538, he studied languages and philosophy at the University of Aberdeen, and civil law at Bourges under Cujacius, where he took orders in the church. But embracing the principles of the Reformation, he became on his return home a zealous champion of the Protestant cause, and declared apt and able to teach by the first General Assembly, 20 December, 1560. He removed to Forvie, holding Logy-Buchan in conjunction, and in 1569, he became Principal of King's College and University, Old Aberdeen. In 1572, he was a member of the General Assembly held at St. Andrews,

1 Ant. A. and B. 1. p. 163.

2 Id. III. p. 89.

3 Id. I. p. 148.

4 Id. III. p. 89.

5 Reg. Ep. Aber. 1. p. 96.

6 Charter penes Earl of Aberdeen.

7 Scott's Fasti, p. 609.

and in 1573, and again in 1577, Mr. Arbuthnot was Moderator of the General Assemblies held at Edinburgh. He died in 1583, in the forty-sixth year of his age, and the sixteenth of his ministry.¹

John Read was appointed constant Moderator of the Presbytery of Ellon by the General Assembly in 1606, and they were charged by the Privy Council on 17 January, 1607, to receive him as such within twenty hours after notice on pain of rebellion. He was a member of the Assemblies of 1608, 1610, 1616, in the latter of which he was one of those selected for establishing an uniformity of discipline.²

At a visitation of the parish, 1 September, 1620, he was challenged for non-residence, but answered that the want of peats, and want of an sufficient glebe was the cause thereof. The parishioners agreed to allow him sax leit of peats of twenty-four feet in length ilk leit, and twelve feet in breadth, with height effering, and which would be sufficient for him yearlie.³ He died in February, 1621; a daughter, Isabella, is mentioned as alive in 1633.⁴

Thomas Mitchell, minister of Udny, was appointed to Logie-Buchan in 1622; but having got the presentation of the church of Turriff, he was never inducted into Logie-Buchan.⁵

Patrick Guthrie was appointed in 1626, being translated from Kinbattock. He died between 11 July, 1634, and April, 1635. A son, Patrick, was served heir 24 May, 1636, according to Orem, was one of the Regents of King's College, and afterwards sub-Principal.⁶

William Seaton, A.M., was translated from Methlick, died 1671, aged seventy-nine, in the thirty-eighth year of his ministry. He left a widow, Margaret Kemp, and a son, James, who was served heir, 1 November, 1672.⁷

George Buchan, A.M., graduated at King's College, 1666. He was deprived in 1695 for nonjurancy.⁸

Alexander Gordon was the next. Dr. Scott says regarding him, "Probably he was an intruder, and nothing is known regarding him further than that he and his predecessor, George Buchan, are both residing within the parish in 1696." Both are taxed, each three pounds, six shillings.⁹

Robert Udney was appointed schoolmaster and session clerk of Foveran, 21 June, 1683. Ordained by the United Presbytery of Ellon, Deer, and Garioch, 27 April, 1698, died January, 1725, in the twenty-seventh year of his ministry.¹⁰

John Rose, was son of Alexander Rose of Inch and Lethentie, and grandson of Dr. John Rose, minister of Foveran. He had two brothers—I. George, goldsmith, Aberdeen, who married Christian Forbes, daughter of Archibald Forbes of Putachie.¹¹

1 New Stat. Acct. p. 809, Cham. Biog. Dict. I. p. 67.

2 Scott's Fasti, p. 609.

3 New Stat. Acct. p. 810.

4 S. C. Misc. III. p. 118.

5 New Stat. Acct. p. 808.

6 Orem's History of Old Aberdeen.

7 New Stat. Acct. p. 808; Spec. Ret. Aber. Nos. 385, 410; Scott's Fasti, p. 609.

8 Scott's Fasti, VI. 610; New Stat. Acct. p. 808.

9 Poll Book II. p. 228.

10 Scott's Fasti, p. 610.

11 MS. Pedigree penes Editor.

II. Alexander in Ellon, who married Margaret, daughter of Rev. Mr. Moir of Ellon, and had issue. Mr. John Rose was appointed, 29 December, 1725, died 4 April, 1773, in his seventy-fourth year, and in the forty-seventh of his ministry.

William Paterson, M.A., graduated at Marischal College in 1770, was presented to Logie-Buchan in 1774, by Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy. He got a new church built in 1787, and died 4 July, 1816, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, and forty-second of his ministry. He married first, 1799, Ann, daughter of James Ogilvie, Culquhany—she died 17 March, 1792, aged thirty-six—and had a son, John James, M.D., Surgeon in H.E.I.C.S. on the Bengal establishment, died 2 June, 1798. He married secondly, June 17, 1798, Jane Mair, relict of Rev. Alexander Fullerton, Footdee. She died 4 April, 1833, in her seventy-fifth year. She and Mr. Paterson left legacies to purchase coals for the poor. He was the author of the “Old Statistical Account.”

George Cruden, A.M., was the son of James Cruden, Old Deer, and graduated at Marischal College Aberdeen, in 1771. He became schoolmaster of the parish of Old Deer, was also a teacher of mathematics in Aberdeen. He was presented to the parish of Logie-Buchan by Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy in 1817; died 4 September, 1850, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and in the thirty-fourth of his ministry. He married a daughter of Rev. William Fraser, minister of Tyrie, and had three sons and three daughters. One of his sons, Rev. James Cruden, was minister of Gamrie; David was agent of the North of Scotland Bank at Old Deer. Mr. Cruden of Logie published a work entitled, “An Illustration of the Historical Evidence of the Fulfilment of our Saviour’s Promise to be with His Church to the End of the World.”

Andrew Gordon, M.A., was presented by Mr. Buchan of Auchmacoy in 1851. He died 1889.

William Frank Scott was ordained 1876, appointed to Robertson’s Mission Church, Edinburgh, and translated in 1889 to Logie-Buchan.

THE CHURCHYARD OF LOGIE-BUCHAN AND THE BUCHANS OF AUCHMACOY.

Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er,
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking;
Dream of battle-fields no more,
Days of danger, nights of waking.
No rude sound shall reach thine ear,
Armour's clank, or war steed champing;
Trump nor pibroch summons here,
Mustering clan or squadron tramping.
Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er,
Dream of fighting fields no more;
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking,
Morn of toil, nor night of waking.

—*Scott.*

IN the church of Logie-Buchan rests Major-General Thomas Buchan, who fought at Killiecrankie, and the Haughs of Cromdale, but there is no memorial to his name.

A stone is "Erected in memory of Rev. William Paterson, for the period of forty-two years minister of this parish, who died July 4, 1816, in the 65th year of his age; and in remembrance of his wife, Anna Ogilvie, daughter of James Ogilvie, Esq. of Culquhins and Baldavie, who died March 7, 1792, aged 36; and also of five of their children, who died in infancy." Mr. Paterson re-married Jane Mair, daughter of Rev. John Mair, minister of Rayne, and widow of Rev. Alexander Fullerton, minister of Footdee. She died, and was buried at Aberdeen, April 4, 1830, aged 75. "John James Paterson, M.D., surgeon in the Bengal medical establishment of the Hon. E.I.C.S., son of the Rev. William Paterson and Ann Ogilvie, died in England, March 21, 1837, aged 49, and was interred here in the burial place of his family. Here also are deposited the remains of Marjory, daughter of Rev. William Paterson and Ann Ogilvie, his wife, who died at Aberdeen, 23 August, 1841, in the 51st year of her age." The death of Rev. William Paterson is also recorded on a marble tablet within the church.

Within an enclosure there is a stone "Erected to the memory of Rev. George Cruden, minister of the parish of Logie-Buchan, who, after an incumbency of thirty-three years, departed this life on 11 September, 1850, in the 77th year of his age; also in memory of his wife, Sophia Fraser, daughter of Mr. William Fraser, minister of Tyrie, who died on the 18 December, 1839, aged 58 years; and in memory of their children, William Fraser, who died 22 June, 1823, aged 6 years; Thomas Buchan, who died 6 March, 1825, aged 7 years."

On another stone there is this inscription, "In affectionate remembrance of David Cruden, for many years bank agent at Old Deer, and son of Rev. George Cruden. He died at Brae of Biffie, November 6, 1867, in the 49th year of his age; also in memory of Euphemia B. Cruden, wife of C. S. Ross, Esq., died at Toronto, Canada, 19 February, 1876; and of Ann Cruden, who died at Knock, Old Deer, 18 October, 1885, aged 75 years."

Another stone is inscribed "To the memory of Thomas Ruxton, farmer, Kirkton of Logie-Buchan, who died 10 January, 1881, aged 61 years; also of his son, James, who died 25 November, 1881, aged 9 years."

Another has this inscription, "Here lies the body of John Ruxton, son of Alexander Ruxton in Crawhead of Waterton, who died 9 January, 1805, aged 23; also the body of Alexander Ruxton, who died July 16, 1809, aged 17; likewise of the above-named Alexander Ruxton, late farmer Crawhead, who died 2 May, 1824, aged 76; also of Isobel Craig, his spouse, who died February, 1824, aged 68 years."

Another stone is "To the memory of Alexander Ruxton, farmer in North Chapel-town of Auchmacoy, who died 8 October, 1810, aged 18; also Janet Stirling, spouse of the said James Ruxton, who died 25 November, 1820, aged 68; likewise of James Ruxton, her husband, who died 31 October, 1822, aged 76 years; and also of Elspet Allan, spouse of James Ruxton, farmer in Leys of Auchmacoy, who died 2 August, 1865, aged 77 years; and likewise of James Ruxton, husband of the above Elspet Allan, who died 24 August, 1868, aged 81 years."

An old stone with bell, coffin, cross bones, two angels, &c., bears the inscription, "Here lies interred the dust of William Christie, some time in Mains of Tartie, who died 15 June, 1769, aged 54; likewise Jean Christie, who died 14 October, 17—, aged 46 years; also Margaret Christie, who died 8 March, 1734, aged 21; also George Christie, who died 9 November, 1762, aged 17 years. 'Trust not in princes nor man's son, in whom there is no stay. His breath departs, he turns to his earth; in that day his thoughts perish.'"

On the following is this inscription, "Sacred to the memory of John Murray, late in Mill of Auchmacoy, who died 22 November, 1842, aged 64. Erected by a few of his admiring friends as a tribute of respect to the memory of an obliging neighbour, a highly respected member of society, and a worthy honest man."

On another old stone there is this inscription, "Here lies, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, the dust of James Gray, some time farmer in Crookwells, who departed this life, January 22, 1758, aged 67 years; also Elizabeth Cumine, his spouse, who died 18 December, 1784, aged 80 years; likewise Robert Gray, their son, some time merchant in Ellon, who died 14 March, 1794, aged 49." It has also the sand-glass, coffin, &c., with the motto, "memento mori."

"Remember, man, as thou goest by,
As thou art now, so once was I;
As I am now, so must thou be,
Remember, man, that thou must die."

Within the church is the burial vault for the Buchans of Auchmacoy, and on the south wall of the church there are two marble tablets, with the following inscriptions—"Sacred to the memory of Thomas Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy, who died on the 19 August, 1819, and was interred in the family burying-ground within this church; also in remembrance of his eldest son, Thomas, who died at Marseilles, France, 3 December, 1818, aged 21 years, and is interred in the Protestant burying-ground of that city."

On another marble tablet is this inscription, "As a mark of affection and regard for the memory of Thomas Buchan, third son of Thomas Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy, assistant-surgeon H.E.I.C.S., who died at Cawnpore, 4 September, 1826, in the 24th year of his age. His brother, John, died in London, 4 February, 1829, and is interred in the burying-ground belonging to the church of St. John, Waterloo Road, London; also in memory of Euphemia Fraser, widow of Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy, who died at Edinburgh, 22 December, 1832, and whose remains are interred here."

The following is the descent of

THE BUCHANS OF AUCHMACOY.

Tradition connects the Buchans of Auchmacoy with the powerful family of Comyn, Earls of Buchan, and this has been supported by the author of the "View of the Diocese." The first of this family is said to have been a son of Comyn, Earl of Buchan,

whence says this authority—"Auchmacoy bears the coat of Cummin, Earl of Buchan, with a mollet for difference, and he got the small estate from his father, and did, notwithstanding the almost general rebellion of his whole clan against King Robert I., adhere so faithfully to that Prince, that he was allowed to retain his estate, when the other Cummins were forfeited, upon condition of his taking a new surname, whereupon he chose that of Buchan."¹

This statement, unfortunately, does not, when carefully examined, appear to be founded on any sufficient evidence. In no very old collection of arms can it be found that any of the name of Buchan ever bore the garb or sheaf of Cummin of the old Earls of Buchan. Mr. Wood, in the "Peerage," mentions a William Cummin, third son of the Earl of Buchan, but there is no evidence to connect him with the Auchmacoy family. The probability is that the family received their name from the district in which they were residents, and as they acquired lands and influence, it became attached to them as their surname.²

The shield marked "Bauchquhane" in Mr. Stodart's collection is the oldest authority for the arms of the family. It forms one of the collection known as "Workman's MS.," compiled about 1565-6, and now in the Lyon Office at Edinburgh.³ The arms of Buchan there represented are—Argent, three lions' heads erased, sable. Sir James Balfour has argent, a lion's head erased, azure; and in an addition to Pont's MS., more probably after the restoration, there is given for Buchan of Auchmacoy—Or, three lions' heads erased, sable, langued gules. The first appearance of the garb is in the Lyon Register, 1694, for Colonel John, a younger son of Auchmacoy, namely—Argent, a garb, azure, banded or, between three lions' heads erased, sable, langued gules, a bordure embattled of the second.⁴

The name of Buchan occurs in various documents as far back as the early part of the thirteenth century. In 1207-28, Richard de Buchan, clerk of the Bishopric of Aberdeen, is mentioned.

In 1291, Mr. Thomas de Boughan, burgess of St. Johnstown, Perth, swore fealty to Edward I., and in 1296, Thomas de Boghan, of the county of Edinburgh, also took the oath. The seal of this Thomas de Boghan has a flower like an ornament, not on a shield. In 1358, a John de Buchan is mentioned in the accounts of Henry de Fodrynghame, deputy of the sheriff of Perth.⁴

A Reginaldus de Buchan is mentioned in the "Burgh Register of the City of Aberdeen" in 1317; a Johannes de Buchania on 19 July, 1400; and a Laurentius de Buchania on 29 May, 1402.⁵

Prior to 1303, a John Buchan appears to have possessed the lands of Ruthrieston and fishings on the Dee, near Aberdeen, for there is a charter of David II. to Duncan Chapman, burgess of Aberdeen, of those lands, &c., "whilk were John Buchan's, and

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 362.

² Stodart's Arms.

³ Id.

⁴ Exchequer Rolls, I. 558.

⁵ S. C. Misc. V. pp. 3, 4, 6, 15, 18.

by forfeiture of the said Duncan, to pertain to William Leith, burgess of Aberdeen." ¹ It also appears that a William de Strathbrocis had in 1309 a charter of the lands of Foveran and Ardache, &c., and three pairs of Auchmacoy (Auchmacoy).²

Walter de Bochane, Archdeacon of Shetland, is one of the witnesses to a charter by Henry, Earl of Orkney, of the lands of Newburgh and others, in Aberdeenshire, in favour of his brother, Sir David Sinclair, in 1391. These lands of Newburgh are adjacent to Auchmacoy.

An Andrew Buchan, "Scutifer," was witness to a charter of Sir Alexander Forbes of that ilk in 1436, and he was one of the inquest at which Robert, Lord Erskine, was served heir to Lady Isabel Douglas, Countess of Mar, in one-half of the earldom of Mar and lordship of Garioch, 22 April, 1438.³ Some years after this, he and several others were called to account for their evidence given at the inquest at a Justice Ayre, held in the Tolbooth of Aberdeen, by John, Lord Lindsay, of the Byres, the King's Justice beyond Forth, and Walter Lindsay of Kinnethmont, Sheriff of Aberdeen, 5 November, 1457.⁴ This Andrew is probably the same as Andrew Buchan of Auchmacoy, who was, in 1446, one of the assize called by Sir Alexander Forbes of that ilk, Sheriff-Depute of Aberdeen, in the debate between the chaplain of St. Peter's Hospital of Old Aberdeen, as to the marches between the lands of said hospital, and the lands of Cotton of Old Aberdeen belonging to the Bishop.⁵

Payments are made in the "Exchequer Rolls" to an Andrew de Buchan in 1428 and 1429, therein described as keeper of the King's horses.⁶

There can be no doubt of the fact that the lands of Auchmacoy formed part of the barony of Kinedward and earldom of Buchan from an early period, and for two centuries after the forfeiture of the Comyns.

It was not until the year 1503 that they came to be held directly of the crown.⁷ In that year, **Andrew Buchan** of Auchmacoy, son, or probably grandson, of the Andrew Buchan, above-mentioned, received from James IV. a charter of the lands of Auchmacoy and Oykhorn, and of an annual rent of two merks, payable out of the lands of Saythlie, all which lands are therein stated to have lain within the barony of Kinedward, recently adjudged by the Lords of the Council to belong to the King as heir of the deceased John, Earl of Buchan, the renowned Constable of France. This Andrew Buchan died in 1505. He left a widow, Marjorie Crawford, who obtained a decree for terce on the above lands.⁸ But his brother, **Alexander Buchan**, in the same year was served heir to the lands of Auchmacoy, Oikhorn, annual rent from Faichlie or Saythlie, and Meikle Creche, in the lordship of Fedderay.⁹

There is mention about this time of another Andrew Buchan, who was served heir to his father, the second William Buchan, in half of the lands of Wykhorn (Oikhorn) in the barony of Kinedward, held in "blench ferme" of the lands of Auchmacoy. This

1 Robertson's Index, p. 52.

2 Id. p. I.

3 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 183.

4 Id. p. 205.

5 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. pp. 244-5.

6 Exchequer Rolls, IV. pp. 441, 470.

7 28 June, 1503, Family Charter.

8 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 59.

9 Id. IV. pp. 60, 61.

William Buchan must have been a younger brother of Andrew and Alexander of Auchmacoy.¹ The latter died about the same time, 1506-7, and was succeeded by his son.

III. William Buchan of Auchmacoy

was served heir to his father in the lands of Auchmacoy, Oikhorn, annual rent of two merks from Saithlie, three parts of the lands of Meikle Creche in the lordship of Fedderay, and in the lands of Invererny in the lordship of Ochterless-Allardes.² He appears also to have been infest in certain portions of land in and about the town of Banff. His mother, Marjorie Burnett, was adjudged her terce out of the lands of Auchmacoy and others, as widow of the deceased Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy, on 29 July, 1507.³

William Buchan of Auchmacoy died in 1513-4, leaving two sons:—

I. **Alexander**, his heir.

II. John, who is said to have purchased the lands of Portlethen in Kincardineshire. They were afterwards in the possession of his grand-nephew, Robert Buchan.

IV. Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy

was served heir to his father, William, in the lands of Auchmacoy and Oikhorn, and in the annual rent from Saithlie, on 9 March, 1513-4.⁴ He signed a bond of man-rent to the Earl of Errol in 1545. His wife was Janet or Catherine Dumbreck, daughter of Dumbreck of that ilk, by whom he had two sons:—

I. **Alexander**, in whose favour his father executed a crown charter of the lands of Meikle Auchmacoy, Oikhorn, &c., dated 21 November, 1554.

II. Gilbert, of Dorbshill, burghess of Aberdeen, who married Marjorie Leslie of the Balquhain family, and left a son—

- I. Robert, who acquired or purchased the lands of Portlethen in Kincardineshire. He is also mentioned in the destination of the lands of Auchmacoy contained in the crown charter granted to Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy in 1617.⁵ It is recorded by Spalding that he had his house and grounds in Aberdeen plundered by the Covenanters, shortly before the approach of the Earl Marischal to that city on 27 April, 1640. He and his second son were obliged to take to the sea, and, with many others, to shift for themselves.⁶ He married Marjory, daughter of Henry Patrick, burghess of Aberdeen, by whom he had two sons, namely—I. Robert, of Portlethen, who died before 1677.
II. George, who left Aberdeen in 1647, and settled at Lublin in

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 50, 51.

² Id. pp. 40, 41.

³ Charter penes Auchmacoy;

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 89.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 570; Misc. S.C. II. 275.

⁵ Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

⁶ Spalding Troubles, I. p. 267.

Poland, at which place he obtained a birth brieve from the register of Aberdeen in 1677.¹ Nothing further is known of this branch.

Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy died after 1554, and was succeeded by his son,

V. Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He was served heir to his father, Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy, in the lands of Meikle Auchmacoy, Oikorne, &c., October 31, 1556,² and had sasine of these lands and of the annual rent from Saithlie on 4 November, 1556.³

His mother, Janet Dumbreck, had her life-rent of the lands of Oikhorne. He had also a crown charter of the same lands on 15 November, 1569.⁴ By his wife, Elizabeth Seton, he left issue three sons :—

I. Alexander, his heir.

II. William, of Oikhorn, merchant and burges of Aberdeen, purchased the lands of Dyce, near Aberdeen, and left an only daughter, Marjory, who was married to Gilbert Skene, second son of the laird of Skene. The lands of Dyce came thus into the Skene family, and are now the property of her descendant, Alexander Gordon Cumming Skene of Pitlurg and Dyce. On 15 May, 1599, there was a complaint at the instance of the Provost, Baillies, and Council of the burgh of Aberdeen, against William Buchan, because he refused to ride with them to the Wapenschaw, but along with the lairds of Auchmacoy and Ochterellon, and certain others, contemptuously brak their ranks. He was brought before the magistrates, but his punishment is not recorded.⁵

III. Thomas, the third son of Alexander of Auchmacoy, was also a burges of Aberdeen. He and his brother William are frequently mentioned in the charters of the family.

Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy died in the year 1581-2, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He was served heir, A.D. 1581, to his father, Alexander Buchan, in the lands of Meikle Auchmacoy and Oikhorne;⁶ also at the same date, 1581-2, to the lands of Inverthermie within the barony of Auchterless.⁷ He had sasine of these lands, 3 February, 1581, with the reservation of the life-rent of his mother, Elizabeth Seton.⁸ He had a charter in 1585 from the parson and vicar of Logy-Buchan, with the consent of the Bishop, Dean, and Chapter of the Diocese of Aberdeen, of the parsonage and vicarage of the lands of Auchmacoy, &c.⁹

¹ S.C. Misc. V. p. 359.

² Spec. Ret. Abdn. No. 23.

³ Ant. A and B. IV. p. 471.

⁴ Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

⁵ Extracts from the Burgh Rec. of Abdn. Vol. II. p. 187.

⁶ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 537.

⁷ Id. No. 538.

⁸ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 470.

⁹ Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

His first wife was Beatrix, daughter of Thomas Annand of Auchterellon, an influential family in the neighbourhood of Auchmacoy, by whom he had only one son, who seems to have died young. He married secondly, 1598, Agnes, daughter of Thomas Fraser of Durris, who had infestment of the lands of Meikle Auchmacoy for the purpose of her provision on 20 July, 1598.¹ The estate of Durris in Kincardineshire about one hundred years later fell to an heiress, who was the first wife of the celebrated Earl of Peterborough, whose wonderful exploits and eccentricities were the astonishment of Europe in his day, and afterwards descended again through an heiress to the Duke of Gordon, who sold it in the present century to Mr. Martin.

Alexander Buchan had sasine of the lands of Auchmacoy in 1593, and in 1598, on his own resignation, he obtained a crown charter of the whole lands of Little Auchmacoy, with the salmon fishings in the Ythan adjacent thereto, erecting the same into a barony holding of the crown in favour of himself and of Agnes Fraser, his spouse. And again, on 11 March, 1603, when he acquired the lands of Little Artrochie and Dorbs-hill from the Earl of Errol, he had another charter including these with the other lands on a single barony under the crown.² He had another crown charter, 20 August, 1617, of the whole lands proceeding on his own resignation of the same in favour of himself and his heirs male, with a further destination to his brothers, William and Henry, and failing them and their heirs male, to Robert, burgess in Aberdeen, son of Gilbert Buchan, also burgess there, and his heirs male.³ Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy died about the year 1625, leaving by his wife, Agnes Fraser, three sons and four daughters :

I. James, his heir.

II. George, of whom the Buchans of Letham and Smeaton are descended, now represented by Sir Thomas Buchan of Letham ; also the Buchans of Keilo, &c.

III. John, of whom nothing is known.

The eldest daughter, Marjory, was married to John Gordon of Nethermuir. The other three died unmarried.

Alexander Buchan was succeeded by his son,

VII. James Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He had sasine of the whole lands as early as 1624, and again in 1625 upon his father's resignation, in favour of himself and of Margaret Seton, his spouse, and failing them and their heirs, with a destination to his brothers, George and John.⁴

Margaret Seton, his wife, was a daughter of Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, by Beatrix Ogilvie, sister of the first Lord Banff. Her brother, known in ballad literature as "Bonny John Seton" of Pitmedden, was shot through the heart at the Bridge of Dee, in the early days of Covenanting opposition, much to the regret of his party. The laird of Auchmacoy appears to have continued loyal to the cause of the crown, and incurred

¹ Sasine penes Auchmacoy.

² Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

³ Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

⁴ Id.

much injury to his estate in consequence. He and his eldest son, Alexander, had to grant wadsets over the whole or greater part of the property ; but most of these came eventually into the hands of James Buchan of Oikhorn, the second son.

In 1655 there was a charter by James Buchan of Auchmacoy in favour of his son and heir-apparent, Alexander Buchan, and his heirs male, &c.¹ He died about the year 1659, leaving by his wife, Margaret Seton, four sons and four daughters :—

I. **Alexander**, his heir.

II. **James**, of Oikhorn, afterwards of Auchmacoy.

III. **Thomas**, afterwards Major-General Buchan. He played an important part in the troublesome events which preceded and followed the Revolution of 1688-9. He has been described as a “man eminent for courage and antient honesty.” In 1671, he had a commission from Louis XIV. to raise a company of one hundred men for the famous Scots Guards in the King’s service. In 1682 he received from King James a commission as Lieutenant-Colonel in the Earl of Mar’s regiment in Scotland. He served with Claverhouse in most of his expeditions, and showed great zeal and ability, and it may be said to his credit that he has escaped the odium attached to so many engaged with him in the same sort of work. On 19 April, 1689, he obtained a commission from King James appointing him Major-General of all his forces already raised or hereafter to be raised “in that our ancient kingdome of Scotland.” He took part in the siege of Londonderry. After the death of Claverhouse at Killiecrankie, the King’s cause suffered much, and at the Haughs of Cromdale, Major-General Buchan, having but a small force of twelve hundred Highlanders, was unfortunately surprised by King William’s forces, and his small army utterly defeated. General Buchan fought, it is said, in his shirt and night cap. He married, 17—, Elizabeth, daughter of Patrick Urquhart of Meldrum, widow of Sir George Gordon of Gight, but by her had no issue. He died in 1721 at Ardlogie in Fyvie, and was buried at Logie-Buchan.

IV. **John**, of Cairnbulg. He was for some time like his brother in foreign service. He adopted the opposite side in politics, and became attached to the cause of the Prince of Orange, whom he accompanied to England in command of one of the Scotch regiments in the Dutch service. These were sent north with General Mackay in 1689, and Colonel Buchan seems to have been in command of King William’s forces in the city and county of Aberdeen. He also served abroad in Flanders, and on his return home, Colonel Buchan purchased the house in Chanonry, Old Aberdeen, known as the chancellor’s house, which remained in the possession of the family of Auchmacoy for about two hundred years. It was sold in 1887. He was also a benefactor to King’s College. In 1703 the Colonel purchased

the estate and castle of Cairnbulg from the last Lord Fraser of Muchals. He married a Dutch lady, by whom he had three sons:—

I. **Thomas**, his heir.

II. John, merchant at the Hague, who died unmarried.

III. Charles, who obtained a commission in the Regiment of Foot commanded by his father, and he was doubtless with it in the Flanders campaign. Captain Buchan had sasine of the Old Town house, and died in 1747, unmarried.

Colonel Buchan of Cairnbulg died before November, 1724, and was succeeded by his son, **Thomas Buchan of Cairnbulg**. He was a member of the Society of Advocates in Edinburgh, and married, on the 17th of February, the Hon. Grizel (or Grace), only daughter of William, third Lord Bargeny, and sister of James, fourth and last Lord Bargeny, by whom he had three daughters:—

1. Mary. } both died unmarried.
2. Ann. }

3. Nicola, who was married to her cousin, Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy. The marriage was a runaway match, and the ceremony took place in her relative Lady Stair's house, in Edinburgh. Nicola Buchan and her sisters laid claim on the death of their uncle, Lord Bargeny, in 1736, to the estates of Bargeny in Ayrshire; but were unsuccessful in their competition with the children of Johanna, Lady Dalrymple, of North Berwick. Mrs. Nicola Buchan died in the year 1812 at the advanced age of 93 years.

[The Lords Bargeny were descended from Sir John Hamilton of Lethick, a son of John, first Marquis of Hamilton, whose son was raised to the peerage by King Charles I. in 1639, with a limitation to the heirs male of his body.

His son, by a daughter of the Marquis of Douglas, the second Lord Bargeny, married a daughter of the Earl of Glencairn, and left two sons and a daughter:—

I. John, Master of Bargeny, who died before his father, having by his wife, a daughter of Sir Robert Sinclair, an only child, Johanna, married, 23 February, 1707, to Sir Robert Dalrymple of North Berwick, President of the Court of Session. Her great-great-grand-daughter, Henrietta Hamilton Dalrymple of Bargeny, conveyed the estates by marriage to the Duc de Coigny, and their daughter in the same way to the Earl of Stair.

II. William, who, failing male issue of his elder brother, became third Lord Bargeny. He married first, Mary, daughter of Sir William Primrose of Carrington, and sister of the first Viscount Primrose, by whom he had one daughter, Grizzel, married to Thomas Buchan of Cairnbulg. Lord Bargeny married secondly, Margaret, daughter of Robert Dundas of

Armiston, by whom he had one son—James, fourth Lord Bargeny, who died unmarried at Edinburgh, on 28 March, 1736, in the 26th year of his age. His portrait, as also that of his half-sister Grizzel, is at Auchmacoy House.

1. Nicola, daughter of the second Lord Bargeny, was married to Sir Alexander Hope of Kerse.

On the death of the fourth Lord Bargeny in 1736, the male line became extinct, and since then there has been no claimant of the title. The Lords of Session observe in their return to the House of Peers in 1740, "that the Patent has not been met with in the records. By the proceedings in a cause which lately depended before the Court of Session, and which was brought by appeal before your lordships, touching the succession to the estate of Bargeny, it appears that there is no heir male existing of John, Lord Bargeny, who, in 1686, made a settlement of the estate on which the question depended, and no person has at any election since the death of the last Lord claimed a vote in right of that peerage; but as they cannot discover from the records the limitation of that dignity, they cannot take upon them to say whether it is extinct or not."

A competition arose for the Bargeny estates between first the children of Johanna, Lady Dalrymple, only daughter of John, Master of Bargeny, elder son of the second Lord; and secondly, the children of Mrs. Buchan of Cairnbulg, daughter of the third Lord Bargeny, and heiress of her half-brother, the fourth Lord; and thirdly, Sir Alexander Hope of Kerse, son of the only daughter of the second Lord. The whole case lay between the two former, whether the estate should descend to the heir of entail (of 1688) or to the heir of line of the last Lord. It was ultimately decided in the House of Lords in favour of Lady Dalrymple's family, and her second son, John, obtained the estate, and changed his name to Hamilton.]

Thomas Buchan of Cairnbulg married secondly the Hon. Mary Elphinstone, daughter of John, eighth Lord Elphinstone. She is said to have been the youngest of thirty-six children, which his lordship had by one wife, Lady Isabel Maitland, daughter of the Earl of Lauderdale, eight of whom only survived to maturity. There was no issue by this marriage. Mr. Buchan of Cairnbulg died at Edinburgh, on 9 September, 1761, aged 81 years. His widow survived to a great age. Some years before his death, Mr. Buchan had sold the estate of Cairnbulg to Mr. Aberdeen, from whose family it afterwards passed by purchase into the possession of the Earl of Aberdeen.

Before returning to the main line of the family, it may be noticed that in 1720 there was a John Buchan, advocate, descended from Auchmacoy, who is allowed to increase the armorial evidence for descent from the Earls of Buchan by a grant of arms as follows—Azure, a lion's head erased between three garbs all within a bordure, or.¹ This John appears to have had a son, George, who became clerk of teinds, and a brother, Alexander, a merchant in Edinburgh.

¹ Stodart's Arms.

We now return to the main stem of the family.

Besides Alexander, his heir, James of Oikhorn, Thomas (Major-General), John (Colonel), as above narrated, James Buchan of Auchmacoy (No. VII.) had by his wife, Margaret Seton—1. A daughter, Janet, married to John Gordon of Newton.¹ 2. ———, married to ——— Cumine of Birness. 3. ———, married ——— Gordon. 4. ———, died unmarried. James Buchan died about 1659, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VIII. Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He married Mary Ramsay, relict of ——— Strachan of Thornton, by whom he had an only daughter, married to ——— Grant of Carron. The estate of Auchmacoy at his death went to his brother, James, of Oikhorn.

IX. James Buchan of Auchmacoy and Oikhorn.

He had a gift of recognition under the great seal of the whole lands and barony of Auchmacoy, A.D. 4 August, 1669.² He married Jane, daughter of ——— Fraser of Tyrie, by whom he had two sons and two daughters:—

I. Alexander, who became a Roman Catholic, and was bred for the Church.

At an early age he gave up the succession to the estate in favour of his younger brother. He entered the Society of Jesus at Madrid in 1678, and was employed in the Scottish mission. He bore a high character as a fervent missionary. He died at Aberdeen in 1716, and was buried in the church of Logie-Buchan.

II. James, afterward Major James Buchan of Auchmacoy.

* The two daughters died unmarried.

James Buchan was succeeded by his second son,

X. Major James Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He obtained a charter under the great seal of the lands and barony of Auchmacoy, proceeding upon the resignation of his father and of Alexander, his elder brother, who became a Roman Catholic priest.³ He followed a military career, and rose to the rank of Major in the service of James II.

Major Buchan was a staunch Jacobite, and went to France with his uncle, General Thomas Buchan, after the final suppression of the Jacobite insurrection in Scotland in 1691. He entered one of the Scots companies raised by King James VII. to assist Louis XIV. in his Spanish wars, which did much valiant service under the Duke of Berwick and other commanders. It is not known whether he was out in the rising of 1715,⁴ but like his uncle, the General, he appears to have been in communication with the exiled family at St. Germain's.

1 Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

2 Id.

3 Id.

4 Note prefixed to Gen. Alex. Gordon of Auchleuchries' Life of Peter the Great.

Major Buchan's wife was Mary Forbes, second daughter of Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, and relict of John Ramsay of Laithers, ancestor of John Ramsay of Barra. (See Straloch.)

General Thomas Buchan became bound by the contract of marriage between his nephew and Mary Forbes to pay to them and to their heirs male of the marriage twelve thousand merks Scots, and there is among the family papers an obligation by the Major to pay to his uncle the interest of the twelve thousand merks during his life-time. This sum was held in bonds by Mr. George Seton, advocate, Mr. George Buchan, clerk to the commission of teinds, the Magistrates of Edinburgh, and Colonel John Buchan of Cairnbulg. Of this marriage there were seven sons and five daughters :—

- I. **Thomas**, the heir, born 9 April, 1708.
- II. William, died January, 1711.
- III. Alexander, died young.
- IV. John, died young.
- V. James, died young.
- VI. Robert, died young.
- VII. Charles, in the Royal Navy, died unmarried.
 1. Margaret, died young.
 2. Mary, was married (contract dated 13 April, 1739) to James Gordon of Banchory. She was mother to the late Mr. Gordon of Premnay and to Lady Bannerman of Elsick. Lady Bannerman's sons were the late Sir Alexander and Sir Charles Bannerman, and her daughter the Countess of Kintore.
 3. Anne, died young.
 4. Jean, was married to William Brebner of Learney (contract dated June 1, 1743). She was the mother of the late Mr. Brebner of Learney, whose three daughters were the late Mrs. Innes of Raemoir, Mrs. Gordon of Parkhill, and Miss Mary Brebner of Learney.
 5. Margaret, was married to Peter Ochterlony of Tilliefrisky, and had issue.

Major Buchan of Auchmacoy died in the year 1726. His widow was confirmed as executrix dative on 13 December, 1726.¹ He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XI. Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He had sasine of the whole lands in April, 1728.² He acquired the lands of Meikle Artrochie, Middlemuir, and Tassetshill in 1755, from Mary, Countess of Errol, and had sasine of these lands the same year. He married, as already mentioned, his cousin, Nicola, daughter of Thomas Buchan of Cairnbulg, by whom he had four sons and four daughters :—

- I. **Thomas**, his heir.
- II. Charles, who died young.

¹ Index of Charters Auchmacoy.

² Deeds penes Auchmacoy.

- III. James, who purchased the lands of Knock in the parish of Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, in 1787. He married his cousin, Elizabeth Brebner of Learney, but left no issue. The estate of Knock went to his eldest brother, Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy. He must have died before December, 1796, for there is a charter of adjudication at that time of these lands with others, in favour of Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy.
- IV. John, who became a writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. He died unmarried in Jamaica in 1796.
1. Mary, married to Robert Fullerton of Jamaica; died without issue.
 2. Grace, married to ——— Arbuthnott, Peterhead, s. p.
 3. Jane, married to Thomas Arbuthnott of Nether Kimmundy, near Peterhead. Their two sons died unmarried. A daughter married Robert Arbuthnott of Mount Pleasant, to whom she had two sons and two daughters.
 4. Nicola, married to James Watson, W.S., Edinburgh, and had one daughter, Nicola, married to Dr. Wright of Jamaica.

Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy died in the year 17—, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XII. Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy.

He was born in 1746, was a member of the faculty of advocates in Edinburgh, and a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire. He purchased the lands of Beldornie, in Banffshire, from Charles Gordon of Wardhouse, in 1807, but he subsequently resold them. He also purchased the lands of Meikle and Little Mains of Auchleuchries, in the parish of Cruden, from the Earl of Errol, in 1810.¹

In 1796, he married Euphemia, daughter of Robert Turner of Menie, and sister of General Sir George Turner, K.C.B., by whom he had six sons and three daughters:—

- I. Thomas, his heir, born 4 June, 1797, and died at Marseilles, in France, on 3 December, 1818, in the 21st year of his age. He was buried in the cemetery of that city.
- II. **James**, born 1800, who succeeded his father.
- III. Robert, born 23 February, 1802; took his degree as M.D. at the University of King's College, Aberdeen. He received an appointment as regimental surgeon in India, but died soon after his arrival in that country of fever at Cawnpore, on 4 September, 1825, in the twenty-fourth year of his age.
- IV. John, born 1 January, 1807, died in London, on 4 February, 1829, aged 22 years.
- V. Charles, born 4 August, 1802; died at Fenchal, Madeira, on 3 October, 1839, in his 32nd year.
- VI. George, born 19 February, 1811; died at Jersey on 29 September, 1833, aged 22 years.

¹ Deeds penes Auchmacoy.

1. Euphemia, born 27 December, 1798; was married on the 13 October, 1824, to Lieutenant-Colonel John Sutherland Sinclair, R.A. She died at Durran Lodge, East Shan, Surrey, on 19 December, 1872, aged 74 years, leaving two sons, James Augustus, sixteenth Earl of Caithness, and Charles Horne.
2. Nicola, born 4 August, 1803, died at Old Aberdeen, 15 May, 1887.
3. Margaret Catharine, born 22 May, 1805; died at Cheltenham on 27 April, 1847.

Mr. Buchan of Auchmacoy died in his house in Old Aberdeen on 12 August, 1819, aged 73 years, and was succeeded by his oldest surviving son, James. Mrs. Buchan died at Edinburgh on 22 December, 1832, aged 57 years.

XIII. James Buchan of Auchmacoy

was served heir to his father in the whole lands on 29 June, 1820. He purchased the lands of Yokieshill, adjoining his estate of Knock, from Admiral George Ferguson of Pitfour in 1824. He was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Aberdeen.

In 1833, he married Helen, second daughter of Garden Duff of Hatton, and of the Hon. Louisa Dunbar, his wife, daughter of Benjamin, Lord Duffus, by whom he had a son and a daughter:—

I. Thomas, younger of Auchmacoy, born in August, 1836, died 22 April, 1866, aged 29 years.

i. **Louisa**, his successor.

Mr. Buchan died at Auchmacoy House on 28 November, 1874, in the 75th year of his age, and was succeeded in his estates by his only daughter,

XIV. Louisa Buchan of Auchmacoy.

TARTY, LOGIE-BUCHAN.

TARTY now belongs to Mr. Robert Moir. The old mansion-house was situated about a mile south of the parish church of Logie-Buchan, but of it there are no remains.

Before 1516, Tarty belonged to the Earl of Errol; it was wadset that year to Sir Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont,¹ and in 1544, there is the following deed—"To all and sundrie quhom it effeirs, we, George, Earl of Errol, Lord Hay, and Constable of Scotland, &c., for as meikle as umquhile William, Earl of Errol, fader's brother's son to us, George ———, sauld to Sir Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont, knight, our tender cousin and servand, the town and lands of Tawartie, within our bounds of Slains, in the year

¹ Ant. A. and E. III. p. 19.

1516, and that the said Patrick gave for infetment a reversion to the said umquhile Earl, &c., we sal maintain the said Patrick in the peaceable possession of the lands of Tawartie, &c."¹ In 1571, these lands were ratified to Patrick Cheyne, oy and air, after the decease of said Sir Patrick Cheyne. In 1589, Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont granted the sunny plough of the shady half of the lands of Taartie, in the parish of Logie-Buchan, and in warrandice the shady half of the lands of Bourishill, in the parish of Ellon, to William Mar, burgess of Aberdeen.² In the following year the said Patrick Cheyne granted the shady half of the lands of Taartie to Alexander Tulliedaff;³ and in 1605, William Mar, above-mentioned, sold the eighth of his part (the sunny plough) of the lands of Taartie to John Urquhart of Craigfintray.⁴ In 1609, the said John Urquhart conveyed his part to John Forbes of Pitsligo. In 1608, there is a charter to Andrew Fraser, son of John Fraser of Quarrels, by Andrew Fraser, younger of Philorth; and in 1624, Andrew Fraser granted two ploughs of the lands of Taartie to John Fraser, son of the deceasit John Fraser.⁵

The lands of Tarty at the above dates were in different hands; but in a few years they were acquired by Dr. Patrick Dun. The following is his descent:—

I. Charles Dun, Aberdeen.

He married Christian Mitchell, who was burned as a witch at the Castlegate, Aberdeen, in 1597. They had issue a son,

II. Andrew Dun.

He married Mary Johnston at Dyce, 1575. She died August 28, 1589. They had issue:—⁶

I. **Patrick**, of Tarty, of whom afterwards.

II. Charles, litster, baptised June 17, 1576. He married Isobel Irvine, and had issue:—

I. **Dr. Robert**, who succeeded to Tarty.

II. Charles, who married first, Christian Johnston, and had issue by her—

I. Charles, who died 1680.

He married secondly, Catharine Burnett, and had issue:—

II. Andrew, born 21 October, 1639.

III. Sir Patrick, born January 13, 1642. He married Mary Jephson, who died 1713; had issue, Boyle, who died in infancy.

IV. Hew, born November 9, 1645.

1. Katharine, born October 31, 1640; married, 1665,

¹ Ant. A. and E. III. p. 23.

² Id., p. 89.

³ Id.

⁴ Ant. A. and E. III. p. 89.

⁵ Id. IV. pp. 617, 121.

⁶ Notes by Lieutenant-Colonel Allardyce.

Baillie Mitchell, who died 1687. She was his third wife. They had issue a large family, among whom were Dr. Patrick Mitchell, executor to Sir Patrick Dun, 1704; and Katharine, married, 1700, to Rev. D. Anderson, minister of Foveran, Professor of Divinity, 1711-33, in King's College; a daughter, Katharine, married Rev. William Dyce, of Belhelvie, and had issue.

2. Jean, born 1649.
3. Rachel, married James Moir of Ferryhill.
4. Bessy, married, in 1677, Alexander Anderson of Bourtie, Dean of Guild, and had issue.

We now return to

III. Patrick Dun, D.D., of Tarty.

He was born 1580; Principal of Marischal College, 1631; acquired the lands of Tarty, and gave considerable endowments to the Grammar School of Aberdeen by deed, 1631. He married, and had a daughter, Jean, married, 1632, to Alexander Jaffray, son of Provost Jaffray. She died 1644. Regarding Dr. Dun, Spalding in his "Troubles" has the following—"In 1644, the young laird of Gight, the laird of Tippetie, Ardlogie, and Nathaniel Gordon came to the lands of Tartie, belonging to Dr. Dun, Aberdeen, which they were also plundering, but were shamefully dung back, their arms taken from them, and routed pitifully."¹ Dr. Dun was succeeded in Tarty by his nephew,

IV. Dr. Robert Dun of Tarty,

son of Charles Dun by Isobel Irvine; married, and had issue:—

I. Patrick, of Tarty.

1. ———, daughter, married to John Leslie of Warthill. They had a son, Alexander, born 1711.

Dr. Robert Dun died circa 1658, and was succeeded by his son,

V. Patrick Dun of Tarty.

He was served heir to his father, Dr. Robert Dun, 15 June, 1658, in the town and lands of Taartie, and pendicle thereon called Deephedder, within the parochin of Logie-Buchan and barony of Slains; the town and lands of Logie within the said parish.² In 1694, he is a witness to the baptism of a child of John Udny of Newtyle.³ In 1696, according to the "Poll Book," he is one of the collectors of the poll tax for the parish of Logie-Buchan. His valuation of Taartie was £1100 Scots. He married, and had issue:—

¹ Spalding's Troubles, II. p. 322.

² Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 345.

³ Foveran Registers.

I. Robert.

II. Alexander.

1. Margaret.

2. Ann, married to James Bisset of Lessendrum. It is said to have been a runaway marriage. She had issue, but her descendants are extinct.

In 1732, or so, the date of the "View of the Diocese," the Duns were still owners of Tarty. Some time after 1746 it was acquired by George, third Earl of Aberdeen. After his death in 1801, it was owned by his son, Hon. William Gordon; and after his death in 1846, it came by entail to Alexander Gordon of Ellon, and it was sold by his trustees, in 1890, to its present owner, Mr. Robert Moir of Tarty.

WATRIDGEMUIR, LOGIE-BUCHAN.

WATRIDGEMUIR is now the property of Henry Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont, but it has frequently changed hands, and had probably formed part of the ancient barony of Tilliedaff, but no record seems to exist.

In 1696, it belonged to William Panton, W.S., Edinburgh. It afterwards came into possession of the Turners of Menie; and Robert Turner of Menie, of the Turner-hall family, disposed it in 1776, to **Thomas Black**, merchant, in Linhead, along with the multure, sequells, and teind sheaves thereof.

The following are notes regarding the Blacks. Few, if any of them, have now connection with the Newburgh, or the parish of Foveran, where they were for many years a family of considerable importance and usefulness.

In 1565, January 23, William Blak in Newburgh was accusit be David Cargille, Dean of Guild, as a forestallir, in buying of beir, meill, and aittis in smallis, athort the countrie, keiping thereof to a dearth. "Comperit the said William, and granted the topping of victual, quhairof he was convict and put in amerciation of Court to forbeir, &c." Gilbert Blak became caution for his unlaw, &c.² In 1584, Gilbert Blak, burges of Aberdeen, and William, his tenant in the Newburgh, are mentioned in the "Sheriff Court Records."

A century, fully, later we have, in 1696, in the "Poll Book," Baillie Blak, feuar in Newburgh, residing at Aberdeen, and Gilbert Black, late baillie, his wife, and children, John, Margaret, and Janet Blak, are mentioned.

Gilbert Blak, Dean of Guild, Aberdeen, according to "Nisbet's Heraldry," bears, "Argent, a saltire sable, between a mullet in chief, and a crescent in base; gules, a chief of the second." Motto—"Crux sed lux."

¹ Index of Titles penes Esslemont.

² Burgh Records, I. pp. 537-557.

In 1696, in Auchnacant, then owned by the Rickarts, Alexander Black was tenant, a descendant probably of the above-mentioned Blacks in the Newburgh.¹ He married Agnes Stephen, who died 1769, and they had, with other children, a son,

II. Thomas Black of Watridgemuir.

He acquired, as above narrated, in 1776, the property of Watridgemuir. In 1755, he married Mary, daughter of Thomas Sangster, in Mill of Leask, Slains. They had issue :—

- I. **Thomas**, of whom afterwards.
- II. William, born 1760, some time a stocking merchant in Aberdeen ; married ——— Stephen, a daughter of a West India merchant, had issue—
I. Alexander, wine merchant, Aberdeen. II. William. III. Thomas, merchant, Batavia. IV. George, in Sydney (all unmarried). One daughter, Jane, married her cousin, Patrick Kilgour, J.P., of Woodside, near Aberdeen, and had issue.
- III. John, born 1772 ; shipowner and merchant in Newburgh ; married Margaret, daughter of Dr. Perry, Bilbo Park, Logie-Buchan ; issue, one daughter, Jemima Mary, who died at Sydney.
- IV. Alexander, born 1767, merchant and shipowner in Newburgh, latterly at Linhead, Foveran ; married, 1803, Anne, daughter of John Clark of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, by his wife, a daughter of James Millbourne of Bagstock, Surrey ; had issue—
I. John, born 1807, succeeded to Linhead ; married, 1837, Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Garden of Millfield, by Margaret, daughter of James Wilson, in Fetterletter ; had issue :—
1. Anne.
2. Isobel, authoress of "Six Months in Ascension Isle ;" married, 1870, David Gill, LL.D., of Blairythan, and Astronomer Royal, Cape of Good Hope.
- V. George, born 1770 ; married ——— Glennie, daughter of a London merchant ; issue two daughters ; one died unmarried, the other married ——— Glass.
1. Elspet, born 1758 ; married Robert Fiddes in Pitgersie ; issue a large family.
2. Barbara, died unmarried.

III. Thomas Black of Watridgemuir,

His father in his own life-time disposed to his said son, Thomas, the lands of Watridgemuir. He married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Innes of Clerkseat, commissary of Aberdeen ; issue :—

¹ Poll Book II. p. 171 ; Tombstone, Foveran.

- I. Thomas. He had the Garlogie mills ; married ———, county of York, and had issue.—
 - I. Thomas, died young.
 - II. William, Captain, Merchant Service ; married daughter of ——— Goss ; issue—I. William Augustus. II. Halford. 1. Charlotte. 2. Laura, who married her cousin, Henry Schrassie.
 - III. George Alexander, Colonel, in the 69th Regiment ; issue—1. Sarah, died unmarried in India. 2. Margaret.
- II. George Watson, went to America.
- III. Alexander, of Hyde Park Gardens, London, merchant. He married, in 1851, Harriet, daughter of John Stevenson Salt of Weeping Cross, county of Stafford ; issue—I. William, died in infancy. 1. Mary, married Henry Downey Umfraville Pickering, son of Rev. Henry Pickering, rector of West Chillington ; issue—Mary Ursula, born 1878. II. Frank Alexander, born August 2, 1881.
- IV. John, died unmarried.
 1. Mary, married William Strachan.
 2. Margaret, married James Brebner, advocate, Aberdeen.
 3. Helen, married William Stevensen Salt, son of John Salt of Weeping Cross ; no issue.
 4. Charlotte, died unmarried.

Mr. Thomas Black fell into pecuniary difficulties, and Watridgemuir was sold in 1832, for £4000, to **Andrew Legertwood**, surgeon, residing at Pitscaff. Dr. Legertwood died on May 12, 1851, and left Watridgemuir to his son,

II. Felix Legertwood of Watridgemuir.

He died soon after he came into possession, and his trustees sold the estate to **Robert Ledingham**, advocate, Aberdeen, April 5, 1851. He retained the property till 1856, when he sold it to **James Garden**. He was farmer in North Ythsie in the parish of Tarves. He died about 1864, and bequeathed the estate of Watridgemuir to his nephew,

II. Robert Garden of Watridgemuir.

Robert Garden sold the estate in 1872 to **Henry Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont**.

RAINIESTON AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

RAINIESTON is now owned by Henry Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont. In ancient times it formed a portion of the barony of Tulliedaff, and was for many years owned by a branch of the family of Tulliedaff, now extinct.

John Rede of Rainieston is found in 1474, and Rainieston was probably occupied by his family for a good few years.¹ The next owner is

I. Master Andrew Tulliedaff of Rainieston.

He was a graduate of the University of Aberdeen, and is mentioned in a decret anent the marches of Troup, of date 1532.² In the same year, in the King's letter of protection of the possessions of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, Maister Andrew Tulliedaff of Rainieston is mentioned.³ Also in 1538, in a decret of the Lords of Council against the sheriff of Aberdeen, he again appears. The next, a son probably, was

II. Alexander Tulliedaff of Rainieston.

In 1548, he is in the list of the assize of Lords and Barons of Aberdeenshire.⁴ In 1573, in an action of Lord Forbes against the Earl of Huntly, Alexander Tulliedaff of Rainieston is mentioned.⁵ The next to be found is

III. Andrew Tulliedaff of Rainieston.

He is mentioned in a deed of 1591 without the prefix of Maister, and is probably the son of the above-named Alexander.⁶ In the trial for witchcraft of Helen Fraser in the parish of Foveran, 1595, one of the accusations against the said Helen was that she had abstracted and withdrawn the love and affection of umquhile Andrew Tulliedaff of Rainieston from his sponse, Isobel Cheyne, to a harlot, Margaret Neilson, and so mightily bewitched him, that he never could be reconciled to his wife. Poor Nellie Fraser! Many sins were laid to her charge; but the "harlot" herself, in this case, had no doubt bewitched the laird of Rainieston.

The next to be found is

IV. Alexander Tulliedaff of Rainieston.

Regarding him there is the following retour:—"1595, January 13. Alexander

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 150.

2 Id., II. p. 366.

3 Id., IV. p. 991.

4 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 115.

5 Id., IV. p. 762.

6 Id., p. 498.

Tulliedaff of Rainieston was served heir of Alexander Tulliedaff, his grandfather, in the lands of Rainieston, in the barony of Tulliedaff.¹ This retour shows that Rainieston was in the barony of Tulliedaff. This Alexander was the last of Rainieston, according to Mr. Stodart. The Tulliedaffs possessed this estate for four generations.

Rainieston was afterwards possessed by the Cheynes, probably of Esslemont, of which family the above-mentioned Isobel Cheyne was a relation. The first found of the name is

I. Patrick Cheyne of Rainieston.

He married Catharine Fraser, and had issue a son, who succeeded.²

II. Thomas Cheyne of Rainieston.

He was served heir, July 22, 1604, to his father, Mr. Patrick Cheyne, burgess of Aberdeen, in the lands of Rainieston, Ferryhill, Ailhous, and Smiddy Croft, &c.³ Spalding describes him as "Thomas Cheyne, a Papist." The next, a son probably, was

III. Alexander Cheyne of Rainieston.

He had a brother, Arthur, who is retoured to him, September 8, 1649, as his heir, and in this retour, Alexander is described as some time of Rainieston.

After the Cheynes, a family of the name of Seton possessed Rainieston. In February, 1644, Forbes of Camphill had orders to go with forty musketeers upon the laird of Tippertie's lands, Mr. William Seton of Rainieston's lands, &c.⁴ How long the Setons possessed it we are unable to say, but before the end of the seventeenth century, Rainieston is found in the possession of the Earl of Errol,⁵ and was sold by him to **Mr. Alexander Hay**, a cadet, probably, of that family. The disposition is dated April 1, 1706, and the property was to be held in feu of the Earl of Errol.⁶ He married Margaret Brodie, and had issue. He died in 1721, and was succeeded by his son,

II. Alexander Hay of Rainieston.

He was served heir to his father, Alexander Hay of Rainieston, October 6, 1721,⁷ and married Katharine Murray, daughter of Rev. William Murray, minister of Foveran.⁸ He sold Rainieston, February 20, 1756, for 30,000 merks Scots (£1667 sterling) to John Dingwall.⁹ He died before 1757; in that year, his son, Alexander Hay, was served heir-general to him.¹⁰

I. John Dingwall of Rainieston.

He was a stocking manufacturer in Aberdeen. He was the fourth son of Arthur Dingwall of Brownhill, afterwards of Lesraigie, in Monquhitter, and his wife, Sarah

1 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 564.

2 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 195.

3 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 94.

4 Spalding's Troubles II. p. 322.

5 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 158.

6 Charter penes Esslemont.

7 Decen. Rets. 1721.

8 Mar. Con. penes Esslemont.

9 Minute of Sale penes Esslemont.

10 Decen. Rets. 1757.

Murray, from whom the Dingwall Fordyces of Brucklaw are also descended. Mr. Dingwall amassed a considerable fortune, and had his arms registered with the appropriate sign and significant distinction of the "Golden Fleece," with the motto, "Deo favente." He was Dean of Guild of the city of Aberdeen in 1750, and a baillie afterwards from 1755. He was twice married; first, to Mary, daughter of Rev. James Lumsden of Corrachree, minister of Towie.¹ They had ten sons and six daughters:—

- I. **Arthur**, born February 25, 1752; was a merchant in New York, afterwards in St. John's, New Brunswick, of him afterwards.
- II. James, died young.
- III. William, born 1757.
- IV. **John**, succeeded his elder brother in Rainieston, of whom afterwards.
- V. Robert, born 1763, died 1785.
- VI. **Alexander**, succeeded his brother, John, of whom afterwards.
- VII. William, born 1769, died 1773.
- VIII. Patrick, born 1770; a merchant in London; married, July, 1801, Harriet Yates, daughter of John Yates of St Sepulchre's, London, and Mary Curtis, his wife.
- IX. David, died unmarried.
- X. James, born 1776, married Sophia Bergiest, of Hamburg, d. s. p. 1848.
 1. Mary, born 1756.
 2. Sarah, born 1758; married, September, 1780, to John Orrok of Orrok.
 3. Magdalene, born 1760, died unmarried.
 4. Agnes, born 1764; married, 1794, to George Thomson of Fairley and Ythan Lodge, formerly a captain in the merchant service.
 5. Margaret, born 1770.
 6. Elizabeth, born 1771, died 1843.

John Dingwall married secondly, Mary Syme, daughter of Rev. Walter Syme, minister of Tullynessle, but by her had no issue.

He obtained, in 1777, from the Earl of Errol, the superiority of the lands of Wester Auquharnie and Earlsat in Cruden, and of Rainieston in Logie-Buchan. In 1780, he obtained a ratification and confirmation by Richard Hay, son of Alexander Hay, jun., and grandson of Alexander Hay, the vendor.² The yearly value of Rainieston at this date was £50 sterling. In 1778, he entailed the property on his family. He died on May 13, 1793. Of him the "Aberdeen Journal" of the period says—"He was a gentleman of the strictest integrity and punctuality in business, of a clear understanding, and a sincere friend, a worthy and a useful citizen, and in every respect a valuable member of society." He was succeeded by his son,

II. Arthur Dingwall of Rainieston.

As above narrated, he was a merchant some time in New York and St. John's, New

¹ Dingwall-Fordyce Fam. His. p. 57.

² Writs penes Esslemofft.

Brunswick. He was served heir to his father in the lands of Rainieston, and of some portions in the parish of Belhelvie, February 6, 1795.¹ Arthur Dingwall died in 1824, and was succeeded by his brother,

III. John Dingwall of Rainieston.

He was the fourth son, as above narrated, of Baillie John Dingwall and Mary Lumsden, and was Provost of Aberdeen from 1799 to 1801. He had a general service as heir of entail to his brother, Arthur, July 2, 1824, and February 17, 1825.² He sold Wester Auquharney and Earlseat in Cruden to George Yeats, advocate, Aberdeen, and bought instead Middlemuir and Ardo, in the parish of Belhelvie. His first wife was widow of Baillie George Willox, of Old Aberdeen. His second wife was Catharine Jane Moir, daughter of Rev. William Moir, minister of Fyvie. His third wife was Ann Taylor, who survived him. He died in 1836, and was succeeded by his brother,

IV. Alexander Dingwall of Rainieston.

He was a merchant and postmaster of the city of Aberdeen. On April 28, 1836, he was specially retoured as heir of entail of his brother, John.³ He married Janet, daughter of John Abercromby, Provost of Aberdeen, by Katharine Forbes, his spouse. He had issue a large family :—

- I. John, born 1794, died 1800.
- II. Alexander, born 1795, postmaster of Aberdeen, but died before his father, leaving two children by his wife, Isabella Mathewson, to whom he had been married, 22 March, 1817. She was a daughter of Lieut. William Mathewson of the 44th Regiment. They had issue :—
 - I. **Alexander**, afterwards of Rainieston.
 1. **Janet**, afterwards of Rainieston, of whom afterwards.
- III. William, also postmaster of Aberdeen, died January 7, 1825.
- IV. Arthur, born 1798; married Charlotte Roach. He was admitted to the Edinburgh bar in 1827; died at London, 1879, having had issue four sons and one daughter.
 1. Katharine, died unmarried 1826.
 2. Mary, died 1851.
 3. Jessie, died in infancy.
 4. Janet, married, 1822, William Allardyce, wine merchant, Aberdeen, and had issue.
 5. Margaret, married to Colonel R. Carruthers, and had issue.
 6. Agnes, married to Sir Thomas Blaikie, knight, some time Lord Provost of Aberdeen; had issue; died 1883.
 7. Elizabeth, married, 1837, to John Anderson of the Bengal Engineers.

¹ Decen. Ret. 1795, and Writs penes Esslemont.

³ Writs penes Esslemont.

² Writs penes Esslemont.

8. Anna, married, 1830, to her cousin, Captain George Thomson of Fairley, H.E.I.C.S., afterwards C.B. and Colonel, residing in Cork, Ireland.
9. Jean, married, August, 1834, to Andrew John Stuart of Inchbreck, and had no issue. She married secondly Charles Thomson, merchant in Liverpool, and had issue.
10. Sarah, married, 1832, Henry Curling, Lieutenant 5^{2nd} Regiment of Foot, and had issue.

Alexander Dingwall of Rainieston died 18 March, 1840, and was succeeded by his grandson,

V. Alexander Dingwall of Rainieston.

He adopted a seafaring life ; was served nearest and lawful heir of tailzie, in 1845, to his grandfather, Alexander Dingwall of Rainieston.¹ He died in 1874, and was succeeded by his sister,

VI. Janet Birkby Dingwall of Rainieston.

She married ——— Birkby ; died 17 October, 1880, and was succeeded by her son,

VII. Arthur Birkby Dingwall of Rainieston.

He was served special heir of tailzie to his mother in 1881, and in the same year the estate was disentailed, and sold to Henry Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont, Hallhead, and Watridgemuir.

¹ Writs penes Esslemont.

ROSEBANK AND MOSSTOWN.

ROSEBANK AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

ROSEBANK, formerly called Redheugh, formed at one time part of the lands of Orchardtown and Logierieve, in the ancient barony of Tulliedaff, of which a family of that name was for many years proprietors. (See Orchardtown.)

It was sold by the President and Governors of Robert Gordon's Hospital, on October 13, 1786, to David Morice, advocate, Aberdeen. On February 3, 1792, it was sold by the said David Morice to Rev. William Shand, minister of Lumphanan, and on March 25, 1794, it was again sold by him, with consent of David Morice, to Rev. Roger Aitken, Incumbent of St. John's church, Aberdeen. Mr. Aitken married Isabella Cheyne, daughter of Mr. Charles Cheyne, merchant, Edinburgh, by Anne Gordon, daughter of Mr. James Gordon of Cobairdy. Mr. Aitken falling into pecuniary difficulties, Rosebank was sold by the trustees for his creditors, on June 30, 1800, to Robert Wright, merchant in Portsoy, who sold it, December 7, 1810, to Robert Donaldson. This charter was confirmed by Mary Gibb, spouse of Rev. R. Shirra at Yetholm, and Isobel Gibb, spouse of Rev. W. Primrose, Aberdeen, superiors.¹

The next owner appears as William Donaldson, farmer, Smithyseat, near Turriff, nephew of the above Robert Donaldson. He, however, made it over, September 13, 1831, to J. M'Hardy, advocate, Aberdeen, and others, his uncle's trustees, under a settlement of his property.² Mr. Donaldson left the greater portion of his means and estate for educational purposes, but his settlement was disputed by his nephew and others, and it ended in a compromise, the relatives receiving a sum of money. This trust is now devoted to the purpose of supplying prizes for pupil teachers, a purpose very different from what the testator intended.

The trustees of Robert Donaldson sold the property, on April 27, 1832, to John Booth, merchant, Aberdeen; and his trustees again, on 21 December, 1849,³ sold it to George Jamieson, and spouse, who, on May 15, 1891, sold it to Lieut.-Col. H. Wolrige Gordon of Esslemont.⁴

¹ Inventory of Titles penes Esslemont.

² Id.

³ Inventory of Titles penes Esslemont.

⁴ Inventory of Titles of Rosebank.

MOSSTOWN AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

MOSSTOWN is a small property in the parish of Logie-Buchan, which stretches up to a point called Background, and has for its boundaries the parishes of Udney and Ellon.

In 1602, Mosstown was owned by Patrick Johnston, who resided in the parish of Belhelvie, and was killed by Lord Glamis and others. In "Pitcairn's Criminal Trials," we find Lord Glamis, John Lyone in Rouchathill, John Lyone, son to ——— Lyone, burgess of Dundee; John Scrymgcour, John Edmonstone, and Fergus Murray, servandis to the said Lord Glamis, William Lyone, son to the said John Lyone in Rouchathill, accused of the murder. They were dilaitit for airt and pairt of the slaughter of umquhile Patrick Johnston of Mosstoune, and for bearing and wearing of pistolletis contra to the tenor of the Acts of Parliament.¹ The wife and children of the said Patrick are mentioned. His wife was Margaret Arbuthnott, daughter of John Arbuthnott of Cairndaw, and they had issue—John, Robert, Gilbert, and Alexander Johnston. A conviction was not obtained, and the case was for a long time a subject for consideration by the Synod and Presbytery of Aberdeen.

In 1634, Mosstown was owned by Alexander Tulliedaff. There is a sasine of certain lands in that year to him by John Turin of Foveran.² In 1641, Elizabeth Tulliedaff was served heir to her father, Alexander Tulliedaff of Mosstown, within the parish of Logie-Buchan.³ From the Tulliedaffs, it passed to the Bannermans, and in 1669, Charles II. grants to Sir John Forbes of Waterton, his heirs, and assignees, all the lands of Ardgrain, the lands of Knaperna, and of Mosstown, in the parish of Logie-Buchan, which formerly belonged to John Bannerman of Mosstown.⁴

In 1696, we find from the "Poll Book" that George Mill was heritor of Mosstown. It is then valued at £100 Scots, and a tax of £4 6s. is paid.

The next owner we find is **John Duncan**, who was a merchant in Aberdeen, and Lord Provost of the city from 1758 to 1760, from 1762-1764, and from 1766-1768, and acquired Mosstown about 1758. He died in 1798, aged 80, and was buried in St. Nicholas churchyard. His only son, William, died in London in 1772. His brother, William Duncan, was also a merchant in Aberdeen, and held several offices at various times in the Town Council. William Duncan married, April 15, 1755, Mary Hutcheon, by whom he had eleven of a family, amongst whom are the following:—

- I. John, born 16 May, 1761; practised as a doctor at Madras, where he considerably distinguished himself as a member of the Medical Board of that Presidency, and as a philanthropist. He died April 10, 1819.
- II. Nicholas, born May 25, 1764; ran away from home, and died in the West Indies, leaving an immense fortune, which went into Chancery, and was never recovered by his family.

1 Pitcairn's Criminal Trials.

2 Sasines Reg. Ho. Edin.

3 Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 252.

4 Waterton Papers, p. 37.

- III. Adam, born 20 December, 1767; served in the Royal Navy. He was captured in war, and detained seven years in a French prison. He died May 1, 1847.
1. Agnes, born May 27, 1769; married James Morgan of Bonnymuir, Aberdeen; for many years a planter in Jamaica. (His brother, Rev. William Morgan, was rector of Kingston, Jamaica, and thereafter Professor of Philosophy in the Marischal College of Aberdeen, and died September 2, 1788, aged 36 years.) They had issue—Elsy Gordon, Maria, and George Thomson. The latter was surgeon to the forces at the Grand River Hospital, Mauritius, where he died. Maria married, without issue, Rev. ——— Divine, a clergyman of the Church of England. Elsy Gordon, born 1805, married James Forbes, merchant in Aberdeen, for many years a magistrate in the city, and a J.P. for the county. He was born 15 July, 1800, and died 29 December, 1870. He is represented by James and Alexander Forbes, merchants in Aberdeen; John Forbes, Queen's Counsel, and a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn; Elsie, born 1833; and Agnes, relict of Archibald Simpson, M.D., London, who has a numerous family

About 1788, Provost Duncan sold Mosstown to Peter Gordon, who was a great cattle dealer, and often went across the Cairn o' Mount, meeting John Gun and other such-like worthies. He died, as recorded in the "Aberdeen Journal," on May 2, 1793, in the 79th year of his age. The next, his son probably, was

II. John Stewart Gordon.

He created a strict entail of the property. After his death it went to a nephew,

III. Peter Ettershank Gordon,

who had to assume the name of Gordon. He was succeeded by his son,

IV. Gordon Ettershank Gordon.

He died in Aberdeen, January 4, 1892, aged 76 years, and is succeeded by a son by his second wife,

V. Peter Ettershank Gordon,

who resides in Canada.

TIPPERTIE AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

TIPPERTIE is now the property of Colonel Turner of Turnerhall, in whose family it has been for nearly two centuries.

In 1499, it belonged to John Turin of Foveran, who is mentioned in a perambulation between Fechil and these lands. In that year his son, William Turin, is also mentioned.¹

In a deed of Lord Glamis of date 1498, William Turin de Tibbertaw is a witness:

In 1548, William Strathachin is recorded as owner of Tippertie; and in 1575, Janet Auchinleck, Lady of Tippertie, probably wife of said William Strachan, is recorded as departing this life. In 1591, William Strachan de Tippertie is witness to a charter.²

In 1579, the Abbot of Kinloss lets to John Strauchin of Little Tibbertaw, probably a son of the above, for all the days of his life, and to his heir for nineteen years thereafter, the lands of Over Ardlethen and Cauldwells.³

The next owner of Tippertie we find is William Innes, who is mentioned in a testimony of the parishioners and neighbours, relating to the family of Kennedy of Carmuck of date 1652.⁴

John Innes of Tippertie and William Innes of Tippertie were students at King's College in 1646.⁵

After the Inneses, it came into possession of David Aedie, sometime Dean of Guild, and one of the baillies of Aberdeen. He lived for some years abroad, and becoming a Papist, on his return, he avowed boldly his apostacy, and was brought before the magistrates, to whom he behaved most contemptuously.⁶ On the 9th of November, 1689, the ex-baillie was brought before the Privy Council at Edinburgh, whence he was remitted to the Tolbooth of Edinburgh to remain there a prisoner during the pleasure of the Council. He remained there for five days, and was finally sentenced to be banished the kingdom.

In 1694, the trustees of John Turner, merchant, Dantzic, purchased Tippertie and New-wark from Mr. David Aedie, which, along with Rosehill, now Turnerhall, they settled in strict entail upon Robert Turner and other substitutes mentioned in the destination contained in the last will, testament, and trust deed of settlement of the foresaid John Turner of Dantzic.

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 395.

2 Id., p. 115.

3 Reg. Mag. Sig. 1579, No. 570.

4 Waterton Papers, p. 53.

5 King's Coll. Fasti, p. 468.

6 Cham. Dom. Annals, III. pp. 274-5.

The Turners of Turnerhall and Tippertie are descended from the Turners of Kinminity, in the parish of Birse, where they held land for many generations. The following is a retour of John Turner—"April 27, 1698. Johannes Turner de Kinminitie hæres Johannis Turner, mercatoris in Gedano seu Dantzico filii ——— Turner in ——— qui fuit Frater ——— Turner in ——— qui fuit pater Andreæ Turner, patris dicti Johannis Turner de Kinminitie filii fratris avi in binis 4 partibus villæ et terrarum de Kinminitie cum pastura in forrestis de Birse Glencatt et Glenaven infra parochiam de Birse."¹

From this rather confusing retour, we learn that John Turner, merchant in Dantzic, owned the property of Kinminity; that at his death it descended to his heir-at-law, John Turner, the eldest son of Andrew Turner, cousin-german of the said John Turner, merchant, Dantzic. This John Turner, who in 1698 was served heir to his second cousin, was commonly called the "Sergeant of Birse," and from the character given by the tradition of the family, he was the exact prototype of Sergeant Bothwell in "Old Mortality." While the elder brother succeeded to the family property of Kinminity, the youngest brother, Robert Turner, the fourth son of Andrew Turner in Kinminity, succeeded to the other property destined by the will of his relative, John Turner, of Dantzic.

John Turner of Dantzic was never married, but having acquired by his knowledge of business and enterprise an ample fortune for that period, he resolved to raise and aggrandise a family, which might represent him, and carry down his name and memory to posterity. He accordingly devised as much of his fortune as would purchase in Scotland an estate of the annual value of fifty chalders victual, which in the first place he destined to his second cousin, Robert Turner, the fourth son of Andrew Turner, as already mentioned. John Turner of Dantzic and Kinminity left legacies of considerable amount to the oldest brother, John, who got the lands of Kinminity. There were two other brothers and several sisters, who also received legacies, but their names are not mentioned in the settlement. The trustees, in virtue of the powers conferred on them in the settlement, purchased the lands and barony of Rosehill, now Turnerhall, in the parish of Ellon, from John Rose of Rosehill, in September, 1693; and as the rental did not amount to fifty chalders of victual, the said trustees, and executors next year, 1694, acquired the lands of Tippertie and Newark, in the parish of Logie-buchan, from David Aedie, merchant and baillie in Aberdeen, and entailed the said lands on Robert Turner. Mr. Turner of Dantzic also left legacies for educational and charitable purposes, for the estate of Tippertie was burdened with the payment of two bursaries to Marischal College, one to be in the gift of the proprietor of Turnerhall, and the other in that of the Town Council of Aberdeen. These are now conjoined into one bursary, of which the proprietor of Turnerhall is patron.

Robert Turner, the institute in the entail of Turnerhall and Tippertie, upon the

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 508.

18 January, 1693, married Margaret Rose, the eldest daughter of John Rose of Rosehill, who sold that property, by Margaret Udny, his wife, daughter of Alexander Udny of that ilk. He is said to have had by his wife sixteen children, but the names of thirteen have only come down.

- I. **John**, born 11 November, 1694.
- II. Alexander, born 1697.
- III. Robert, born August, 1699.
- IV. Andrew, born July, 1701.
- V. William, born October, 1704.
- VI. George, born October, 1705. He was sheriff-clerk of Aberdeenshire, and acquired the estate of Menie in the parish of Belhelvie. His father gave him a lease of Tippertie for 999 years, which lease was reduced after a long lawsuit. This was the first case that decided that leases on entailed properties can only be granted for a short period of years. He married and had issue. (See Turner of Menie.)
- VII. Patrick, born February, 1707.
- VIII. James, born January, 1710.
- IX. Charles, born May, 1711.
 1. Margaret.
 2. Anne.
 3. Martha, married John Ross of Arnage.
 4. May. The last two are mentioned in the Tippertie process.

Robert Turner of Turnerhall died 21 January, 1741; his wife, April, 1743. He was succeeded by his son,

II. John Turner of Turnerhall and Tippertie.

He was out in the '45, and did not judge it safe to appear for some years, but continued to possess the entailed estates, although he never made up titles to them. He married Helen, daughter of ——— Farquharson, W.S., of West-town, in Cromar, by whom he had the following family:—

- I. **John**, afterwards of Turnerhall, born 1725.
- II. Andrew, said to have gone to Jamaica, where he died unmarried.
 1. Helen, married to ——— Gordon of Logie.
 2. Mary, married to Rev. William Forsyth of Greens, minister of Aboyne.
 3. Janet, married to William Mitchell of H.M. Customs, Aberdeen, afterwards at Cambelltown, Argyll, the mother of Alexander Mitchell of Bath, and of Mrs. Ellis, Edinburgh.
 4. Martha, married her cousin, Robert Turner, advocate in Aberdeen, and sheriff-substitute of that county, by whom he had two sons, the elder going abroad was never heard of again; and the second went to the West Indies, and died soon after his arrival.

5. Mary, married Rev. ——— Champness, rector of ———, parish in London. The said John Turner died in 1759, and was succeeded by his eldest and only surviving son,

III. John Turner of Turnerhall and Tippertie.

In 1760, he made up titles to his grandfather, Robert Turner, the institute in the entail. On November 1, 1757, John Turner married Elizabeth Urquhart, second daughter of William Urquhart of Meldrum, by his first wife, Mary Forbes, daughter of Sir William Forbes, fourth Bart. of Monymusk. Mrs. Turner was born at Meldrum House, 10 July, 1735, and died at Turnerhall, February 28, 1786. They had issue :—

I. John, died in infancy.

II. William, died 1766.

III. **Keith**, who succeeded his father.

IV. John, died at Grenada, 2 June, 1792, unmarried.

V. Robert, died at Teignmouth, county of Devon, 20 January, 1839.

1. Mary, married first, Mr. Rennie; secondly, Mr. Arthur; she died May, 1826, s. p.

2. Margaret, died 28 March, 1760.

3. Jane, married Charles Gordon of Blelack; had issue a large family, all of whom, save Robert, died unmarried. Mrs. Gordon died 13 December, 1823.

4. Elizabeth Helen, married James Lauder, d. s. p. 8 February, 1825.

5. Isabella, died 1774.

6. Margaret, married Walter Thom, printer in Dublin; had issue, Alexander, bookseller, Dublin, who married, and had issue.

John Turner of Turnerhall died 8 February, 1802, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son,

IV. Keith Turner of Turnerhall and Tippertie.

He married 8 May, 1804, Anna Margaret, only child of George Riddoch, of the Civil Service of Hon. E.I.C., had issue :—

I. **John**, who succeeded.

II. Keith, died unmarried at London, July, 1824.

III. James, died in infancy.

1. Georgina, married, 24 October, 1816, James William Mackenzie of Pitrichie, and had issue. She died 5 July, 1834.

2. Anne Margaret, married Alexander Mainell, advocate, and had issue three children.

3. Jane, died 1890, from whom much information in this deduction was derived.

4. Catharine Arthur, married George Mactavish of the Hudson's Bay Company, and died at Montreal, 8 October, 1841, leaving issue two daughters.

5. Jessie Gordon, died in infancy.

6. Christina Farquharson, died 18—
Keith Turner died 8 February, 1808, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. John Turner of Turnerhall and Tippertie.

He married, September, 1820, Elizabeth Urquhart, youngest sister of William Urquhart of Byth, and had issue:—

- I. Keith James Urquhart, died in infancy.
- II. **John**, his successor.
 1. Mary Anne, married at Edinburgh, 1846, John Brown Douglas.
 2. Elizabeth Helen, died 2 June, 1843.
 3. Anne Margaret, married Rev. George Kemp, rector of St. Alphege; died 1861, leaving issue.

John Turner died 1834, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. John Turner of Turnerhall and Tippertie.

He married, 11 April, 1854, Mary Anne, elder daughter of Walter Alexander Donaldson, and Mary Phillimore, his wife, and has issue three sons and six daughters:

- I. John, Captain 3rd Battalion Gordon Highlanders; married, 1883, Lucy Ethel Janet, daughter of Henry Maynard of Tulliemaine, Tipperary, and has issue.
- II. George Kemp.
- III. Walter Keith.
 1. Mary Elizabeth.
 2. Frances Anne Urquhart.
 3. Anne Ellen.
 4. Anne Maria Kemp.
 5. Mary Alice Maud Gordon.
 6. Constance Marion.

Mr. John Turner is a Colonel in the army, and is now the representative of the Turners of Kinminity.

According to Mr. Stodart, early in the sixteenth century, Kinminity, in the parish of Birse, was in the possession of the Turners, from whom it descended to John Turner, a merchant in Dantzic. The most conspicuous of the name in Scotland was Sir James Turner, employed by Charles II. and James II. in military commands in Scotland. His younger brother, Archibald Turner, D.D., was one of the ministers in Edinburgh, almoner of the King.¹

Both brothers registered arms, 1672-78, the coat of the younger being differenced by a crescent. Quarterly first and fourth sable, a Katharine wheel argent; second and third argent, three guttes de sang proper. Crest, a heart flaming. Motto, "Tu ne cede malis."

¹ Stodart, II. p. 273.

FOVERAN—ITS MINISTERS.

THE church of Foveran, before the Reformation, belonged to the Abbey of Deer, but the notices of it are very few. In a roll of missing charters there is one given by King Robert I. to the Abbey of Deer, of the advowson and donation of the kirk of Foveran, in the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.¹ Again in 1419, the Abbot of Deer gives a return of the fruits of the benefice as £6 13s. 4d, and in 1537, Robert Keith, a brother of the fourth Earl Marischal, was appointed Abbot and Commendator of Deer, and granted a tack of the teind scheaves of Foveran to his father, the Earl Marischal.²

In 1243, Walter, rector of the church of Foveran, was one of the witnesses to the charter of the foundation of the Hospital at Turriff by Alexander Cumine, Earl of Buchan.³

After the Reformation, we find, from 1567 to 1569, Alexander Trail as reader at Foveran, and from 1569 to 1574, David Leith performed the duty.⁴

The first minister after the Reformation was Thomas Tulliedaff, who was probably one of the family of Tulliedaff of Tulliedaff. He was reader in 1575, and was admitted minister in 1582, but resigned in August, 1629. He lived to a great age. On the 26th August, 1639, he had a petition to the General Assembly, in which he mentions that he had demitted his place in favour of Mr. John Paterson, for the sum of four hundred merks a year, and having no better security but John's simple bond, who may be transported or suspendit, therefore did suppliant for an act of Assembly in his favour, whereby he may have the said promise during his life, to which the Assembly willingly condescendit.⁵

John Paterson, A.M., was son of Mr. Alexander Paterson of Logie-Buchan; was admitted minister of Foveran, November 29, 1632; was appointed in 1638, along with John, Earl of Sutherland, Lord Fraser, Mr. William Douglas, and others, to visit the University of Old Aberdeen.⁶

In 1639, he fled to His Majesty with four others who were unfriendly to the Covenant, but returned, and having been censured, was reponed, on his public confession and repentance, by the General Assembly. He was translated in 1649 to Ellon, and afterwards became Bishop of Ross.

John Seaton in 1649 was translated from Kemnay, and admitted minister of

1 Rob. Index of Charters p. 1.

2 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 596. Book of Deer p. xii.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 468.

4 Scott's Fasti pp. 607-8.

5 Gordons' Scots' Affairs III. p. 49.

6 Id., note.

Foveran. He joined the protestors in 1651; gave £20 towards erecting the new buildings of King's College in 1658.¹ He died April, 1666, having mortified two hundred merks to the poor of the parish. His brother, Mr. William Seaton of Logie-Buchan, was served heir to him, 26 June, 1668.²

John Rose, who succeeded in 1666, was the son of Mr. Alexander Rose, minister of Monymusk, descended from the Roses of Kiltravock.

[This is his descent:—Hugh Rose of Kiltravock, the sixth of that name, and the eighth person succeeding in the family, was infeft in the barony of Kiltravock, 1496; married Margaret Gordon, sister to George, Earl of Huntly; had issue:—

- I. Hugh, his successor.
- II. John, the first of the family of Ballivat.
- III. Alexander, ancestor of the Roses of Inch.

This Alexander Rose, the third son, acquired the lands of Larachmoir, in the parish of Strachan, and was married to Janet Irvine, daughter of Alexander Irvine of Craigtown. They had issue—

II. Henry Rose of Larachmoir,

who married Beatrice Skene, daughter of the laird of Skene. They had issue three sons:

- I. James, his successor.
- II. Henry, minister of Rainnie (Rhyne?).
- III. John, minister of Clunie.

He was succeeded by his son,

III. Rev. James Rose of Larachmoir,

who disposed of the lands of Larachmoir, and purchased the lands of Inch, in the Garioch, and of Easter Clunie, in the parish of Birse. He was minister of Aberdeen, where he was much respected. He married Margaret Irvine, daughter of Irvine of Glassel. They had issue:—

- I. John, of whom afterwards.
- II. Dr. Alexander, who was one of the famous doctors of Aberdeen.
 1. ———, married Rev. Alexander Scroggie, D.D., minister at Aberdeen; mother of Alexander Scroggie, minister of Old Aberdeen, and Dr. William Scroggie, Bishop of Argyll.

Rev. James Rose of Inch was succeeded by his son,

IV. Rev. John Rose of Inch,

who was minister of Birse.³ He married first, Jean Troup, daughter of Balnacraig; had issue:—

¹ Eccles. Records, Abdn. p. 216.

² Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 607.

³ M.S. Pedigree penes Editor.

I. Rev. Alexander.

II. Captain James.

III. Arthur, Lord Archbishop of St. Andrews. He was first minister of Kinernie, afterwards of Old Deer; translated to Glasgow, afterwards consecrated Bishop of Argyll; afterwards appointed Archbishop of Glasgow; and then translated to St. Andrews; died 16—

Rev. John Rose had several daughters by his first wife. He married secondly, Elizabeth Wood, and by her had two sons and two daughters, to whom he gave off the lands of Easter Clunie. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. Rev. Alexander Rose of Insch,

who was minister of Monymusk; married Ann, daughter of John Forbes of Corsindae. They had issue:—

I. John, D.D., minister of Foveran.

II. Alexander, D.D., consecrated Bishop of Moray, afterwards translated to Edinburgh, where he died March 20, 1720.

III. Charles, of Cryland, in Teviotdale.

IV. James, minister of Monymail in Fife.

V. William.

He also had five daughters.]

John Rose, D.D., of Insch, minister of Foveran, was admitted by Patrick, Bishop of Aberdeen. He married Isobel Udny, daughter of John Udny of that ilk, and by her had two sons, Alexander, of Insch, afterwards of Lethenty, and John.

James Gordon was the younger son of Mr. James Gordon, minister of Banchory-Devenick, commonly called "the reformed Bishop." In December, 1691 (according to Scott's "Fasti"), Mr. Thomas Crevy, minister of Newhills, by order of the nonjuring Diocese of Aberdeen, produced a call from George, Earl Marischal, and other heritors, of date 28 November. When he was admitted there was considerable opposition, the church was crowded, and the fishers of the Newburgh cried out that they would not have Mr. James Gordon as their minister. He demitted 10 April, for having been charged before the Privy Council, he promised to retire before Whitsunday of that year. He published a "True Account of the Procedure of the New Established Presbytery of the Diocese of Aberdeen."¹

David Anderson was appointed in 1699; was translated to the Professorship of Divinity in the University of King's College, Old Aberdeen, 4 October, 1710. His theological thesis on admission was "de Peccato originali."

Alexander Gordon was ordained to Foveran, January 24, 1712; died 11 September, 1726, leaving a widow, Rachel Gellie, with two children.

¹ Scott's Fasti, pp. 607-8.

James Gilchrist was translated from Essil, admitted 11 October, 1727, died 26 September, 1773, in the 72nd year of his age, and 49th of his ministry. Ann Fraser, his widow, died 28 May, 1782.

William Duff, A.M., was translated from Peterculter, and admitted minister of Foveran, 23 February, 1775. He got a new church built in 1794; died father of the Synod, 23 February, 1815, in the 83rd year of his age, and the 60th of his ministry. He married, 4 September, 1788, Ann Mitchell, and had two sons and four daughters. Alexander, merchant, Amhertsburg, U.C.; Robert, went to Batavia; Helen; Isabella; Jean, married John Booth, merchant, Aberdeen; and Mary, married Alexander Forbes, sometime of Jamaica. He published an essay on "Original Genius in Philosophy and the Fine Arts," Sermons on various occasions in two volumes; also the statistical account of the parish.

Maxwell Gordon, M.A., was son of Rev. Alexander Gordon, Aberdeen; graduated M.A. at King's College, 31 March, 1809; ordained to Foveran, 29 November, 1815; died January 31, 1840, in the 48th year of his age, and 25th of his ministry. He published the second statistical account of the parish.

W. S. Watt, M.A., was presented by the Crown; ordained by the Presbytery on the 17 September, 1840; married on the 24 August, 1841, to Bathia Peter, from the parish of St. Cyrus, and died on 26 March, 1872. He had a large family, two of whom are ministers in the Church of Scotland. John, minister of Bellie, and Charles, minister of Polwarth.

William Murray Keay, M.A., was appointed minister of Foveran, 19 September, 1872. He was a graduate of King's College, Aberdeen; studied divinity partly at St. Andrews and at Aberdeen. Before his settlement in Foveran, Mr. Keay had been minister of Woodside for fourteen years. He married, August 8, 1861, Miss Morice, daughter of Captain Morice, shipowner, Aberdeen; died February 17, 1880, leaving four children.

J. S. Loutitt was elected minister of Foveran, 7 June, 1880, and inducted by the Presbytery of Ellon, August 5, 1880. At the date of his election, he was minister of the quoad sacra church of New Pitsligo, to which he was appointed in 1875. He was a student at the University of Glasgow. He married Miss Susan Abernethy Harvey, daughter of the late Mr. Harvey of Ardo, on 23 June, 1883, by whom he has issue a son, John, and others.

THE CHURCHYARD OF FOVERAN.

Oh, call my brother back to me,
 O, must I call in vain,
 And through the long, long summer's day
 Will he not come again.
 He will not hear thy voice, dear child,
 He may not come to thee ;
 The face that once like spring-time smiled
 On earth no more thou'lt see.
 A rose's brief bright life of joy,
 Such unto him was given ;
 Go—thou must play alone my boy,
 Thy brother is in heaven.

—*Hemans.*

IN this churchyard there is a very old tombstone, which may have been in the Turin's aisle in the old church. It has the simple inscription, "Hic jacet"—"Here lies." There is a coat of arms with the Turing bend, but without the boars' heads, and there are two men in armour engraved upon it. Probably it was intended for some members of the Turing family, who have no monument in the churchyard. A bust, said to represent some one of the Turings, stood at one time in the neighbourhood, but it was removed to London some years ago.

On a table stone is inscribed, "Underneath this stone are interred the remains of Andrew Robertson, Esq. of Foveran, who died January 2, 1817, in the 86th year of his age. Likewise of Jean Davidson, his wife, who was born 20 June, 1739; was married 11 February, 1763; and died February 7, 1827."

On another is the inscription, "In this spot lie the remains of John Robertson, Esq. of Foveran, born 27 March, 1770; died May 6, 1824." There is a monument to him and his wife in the church thus inscribed, "Sacred to the memory of John Robertson, and his wife, Mary Robertson, daughter of David Stewart, Esq., merchant, Edinburgh. 'The days of man are but as grass; he flourisheth like a flower of the field, &c.'" The arms of the family are painted on the monument in church. "Argent, a laurel wreath pp. on a chief, gules, three wolves' heads of the first, all within a bordure, azure. Crest, a dexter hand grasping a dagger, on its point a crown. Motto—'Virtutis gloria merces.'"

A polished granite stone bears the following inscription:—"Lapidem hunc sepulchralem, Mr. Forbes Anderson, Reg. Col. Chirurg., Lond., soc. olimque soc. Hon. E. I., in memoriam posuit suæ filicæ carissimæ et dilectissimæ, Margaretæ Skene Gordon, quæ xi. die Decem., A.D. 1876, ix. fere annos nata obiit." [This sepulchral stone, Mr. Forbes Anderson, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and of the Hon. E.I.C., has placed in memory of his most dear and most beloved daughter, Margaret Skene Gordon, who died 11 December, 1876, aged nearly nine years.]

On another:—"Sacred to the memory of Mary Duff, spouse to Alexander Forbes, Esq., late of Jamaica, and youngest daughter of Rev. William Duff, minister of Foveran; and of Ann Mitchell, daughter of Baillie Mitchell of Colpnay. She died 13 February, 1808, in the 23rd year of her age, and is interred in the same grave with her mother, her brothers, and sisters." In the same grave are deposited "the remains of Alexander Forbes of Salpond House, Jamaica, who died at Aberdeen, 14 February, 1814, aged 55."

On another, near to the last-mentioned, is inscribed:—"Sacred to the memory of Rev. William Duff, minister of Foveran. Ordained as minister of Glenbucket, 1754—afterwards translated to Peterculter; thence, in 1755, to Foveran. Died 23 February, 1815, aged 83, and in the 61st of his ministry. As a man he was much esteemed; as a husband and parent greatly beloved; and, as a minister, deeply revered. In the same burial ground his two unmarried daughters, Isabella and Helen, are interred. One died November 16, 1847, aged 72; the other, 24 September, 1848, aged 75. They lived together in sisterly affection; enjoyed the cordial esteem of a wide circle of friends; endeared themselves to their relations by unwearied kindness—the remembrance of which is never to be effaced."

An obelisk of polished granite has been erected, by his surviving parents, "To the memory of Patrick Andrew Mitchell, only son of Alexander Mitchell, Kincaig; died January 8, 1857, aged 27." This promising young man was accidentally drowned in the Ythan.

A table stone bears the inscription:—"Andrew Mitchell, in Saak, Foveran, who died 15 May, 1799, aged 62."

Another is inscribed:—"Gilbert Mitchell, farmer, Haddo, in this parish, who died 19 July, 1844, aged 71; and five of his children; also his spouse, Margaret Bruce, who died 17 April, 1846, aged 64; also of his son, Gilbert Mitchell, farmer, Haddo, who died January 14, 1874, aged 57." The above Margaret Bruce was a sister of the late Mr. Bruce of Inverquomerie, who left handsome legacies to the poor of the Presbytery of Deer.

There is also a stone "To the memory of Alexander Mitchell, in Fiddesbeg, who died June, 1853, aged 82; Isabella Mutch, his wife, died 18 March, 1842, aged 77; Jane Fiddes, wife of Andrew Mitchell of Logierieve, Udny, who died 13 November, 1879, aged 67." These Mitchells are all members of the same family.

There are several tombstones to the memory of a family of Fiddes, who have been long resident in this and in the neighbouring parish of Belhelvie, and are very probably descended from the old family of Fiddes of Fiddes. On one is inscribed:—"Here are interred the remains of Robert Fiddes, late farmer in Pitgerso, who died 30 May, 1832, aged 75; also Elspet Black, his spouse, who died 9 March, 1837, aged 38. William Fiddes, farmer, Dubystyle, son of Robert Fiddes, who died 23 July, 1878, aged 80, also Mary Mitchell, his spouse, who died 11 September, 1880, aged 78."

On another stone is inscribed :--“Thomas Fiddes, farmer, Pitmillan, who died 27 April, 1864, aged 74.”

On a third :--“By George Fiddes, farmer, Auchloun, in memory of his children, Elspet, Margaret, and of Janet Fiddes, his spouse, who died 1 February, 1882, aged 82.”

There were for many years a highly-respected family of the name of Black resident in this parish. The name is frequently mentioned in the Register of the Town Council of Aberdeen.

I. A table stone records that “Here are interred the body of Alexander Black, some time blacksmith in Newburgh, who died 23 January, 1769, aged 76; also Agnes Stephen, his wife.”

II. “Here are interred the remains of Thomas Black of Watridgemuir, many years merchant in Foveran, who died 7 May, 1801, aged 76; also Mary Sangster, his wife. Here also is interred George, son of Thomas Black of Watridgemuir, who died 15 March, 1847, aged 77. Here also is interred Alexander Black, M.D., surgeon 84th Foot, who died at Torquay, Devon, 21 January, 1837, aged 28; also Alexander, son of John Black, Linhead, born 11 April, 1841; died September 4, 1848.”

III. An obelisk of Peterhead granite is inscribed, “To the memory of Thomas Black, merchant, Newburgh, who died 1 October, 1840, aged 39. Also of Margaret Perry, his spouse, who died 20 February, 184—, aged 40. Also of Thomina Mary, their only child, who died at Adelaide, South Africa, where she had gone for the recovery of her health.” On the other side, “In memory of Thomas Black, merchant and shipmaster, Newburgh, who died June 16, 1843, aged 81; also his spouse, Jane Kilgour, who died 15 December, 1847, aged 77.”

An old stone near to this records, that “Here lyes the dust of Elizabeth Findlay, spouse to John Black, in Auchnacant.”

There are also several tombstones to the memory of a family of Stoddart. One is “To the memory of James Stoddart, farmer, Aryburn, Oldmachar, who died June 3, 1867, aged 76. His son, James Stoddart, surgeon, R.N., died at Plymouth, 9 November, 1859, aged 33 years.”

Another is “To the memory of James Stoddart in Darrahill, who died 13 February, 1819, aged 89.”

Another is inscribed “To the memory of George Stoddart, in Cultercullen, who died 23 June, 1880, aged 97.” He was a Captain in the Aberdeenshire Volunteers in the beginning of this century, and was an enterprising cattle breeder and dealer. “Elizabeth Gray, his wife, died 7 May, 1878, aged 82. (Then follow children and wives of James Stoddart in Muiryfold Grange.) Catharine Garden, the first wife of James Stoddart, died 20 September, 1852, aged 32. His second wife, Jane Lukeson, died 25 March, 1872; also of the said James Stoddart, in Muiryfold, died 14 November, 1885, aged 63.”

There are several tombstones to the memory of a family of the name of Chrystal.

I. "Erected by William Chrystal, grain merchant, Aberdeen, in memory of his spouse, Helen Burgess, who died 13 October, 1837, aged 29."

II. "Erected by William Chrystal, farmer, Dykeside, in memory of his spouse, Jane Stewart, who died 5 April, 1841, aged 76; also the said William Chrystal, died 28 May, 1854, aged 87."

III. "To the memory of John Chrystal, in Hill of Ardo, who died 12 May, 1848, aged 50."

IV. "Erected by William Chrystal, in Mill of Kingoodie, Bourtie, to the memory of his two sons, John and William."

V. Is "in memory of the said William Chrystal of Gateside, who died at Aberdeen, 13 January, 1878, aged 72." This is the father of George Chrystal, LL.D, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh.

Within an enclosure are two stones, one "To the memory of Andrew Mitchell of Woodland Park, Tasmania, born at Savocho, in this parish, the 3rd of August, 1802; died at Foveran House, 23 April, 1878."

Another is inscribed, "To the memory of David Gill of Blairythan."

A stone, with the crest and arms of David Gill of Blairythan, impaled with those of Mitchell, namely, sable, a fesse between three mascles or, the fesse charged with a moor's head of the first. Initials, "D. G., M.M." "To the memory of David Gill of Blairythan, a magistrate for Aberdeenshire; born 26 May, 1789, died 6 April, 1878. Margaret Mitchell, his wife, born at Savocho, in this parish, 5 March, 1809, died at Aberdeen, 18 December, 1870. Two of their children, who died in infancy, Patrick in 1840, and David in 1841, and are interred in St. Peter's churchyard, Aberdeen, beside their grandparents, namely Peter Gill, born 1757, died 1850; Margaret, his wife, daughter of David Anderson, planter, Kingston, Island of Jamaica, born 1757, died 1828. Also of Patrick Gilbert Gill of Monomeith, Victoria; a magistrate for that colony and for Queensland, second son of David Gill of Blairythan and Margaret Mitchell, born 15 October, 1845, died at Melbourne, 21 June, 1886, and is interred in the cemetery there."

There are several tombstones to a family of the name of Harvey. One "in memory of Alexander Harvey, farmer, Drums, born 22 August, 1780, died 8 September, 1837. Barbara Fiddes, his wife, born 9 May, 1798, died 9 February, 1873. Robert Harvey, farmer, Drums, their son, born 28 August, 1822, died 7 January, 1877."

Another is "In memory of Isabella Middleton, the beloved wife of James Harvey in Pigersie, born 19 October, 1825, died 25 April, 1856; also their son, James."

A third bears the inscription, "In memory of Elspet Harvey, wife of George Moir, in Knockhall, died 1842, aged 21; also Mary Legertwood, his wife, died 18 September, 1860, aged 44. Likewise of David Moir, son of George Moir and Elspet Harvey, died 10 March, 1864, aged 2 years."

A polished cross of granite bears the inscription, "'Until the day breaks.' James Tait, born 17 June, 1819, died 31 January, 1877." Mr. Tait was a merchant in New-

burgh of the firm of Mitchell & Rac. He was a very well informed man, a warm-hearted friend, a true Christian, for whom the editor of these notes had a deep respect.

An obelisk, with an incised cross, is to a daughter. "It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power." Jeannie Tait, born 23 February, 1859, died 11 June, 1861. 'Of such is the kingdom of heaven.'

On the south wall of the church there is a tablet marking the burial place of the family of Newtyle, and on a tombstone opposite is the inscription, "Here are interred the remains of Charles Gordon of Buthlaw, and of Jean Udney, his spouse; also of Jean, Susan, and Elizabeth, his daughters." The Gordons of Buthlaw are descended from the Gordons of Lesmoir—a representative, Mr. Pirie Gordon, descended through a female, is still in Buthlaw.

An old stone is thus inscribed:—"A. M., J. D.' Here lies the corpse of Rev. Mr. Alexander Mowat, sometime minister of the Gospel at Leslie, who departed this life 23 October, 1735, aged 91; as also the corpse of Jean Dalgarno, his spouse, who departed this life 21 July, 1736, aged 85. 'The body here, the soul above.'"

An obelisk of granite is "In memory of Rev. William Watt, minister of this parish, who died 26 March, 1872, in the 63rd year of his age, and the 32nd of his ministry. Erected by the parishioners."

A granite stone is "In memory of Rev. William Murray Keay, M.A., minister of Foveran; born 26 November, 1828; died 17 February, 1880. Erected by proprietors and parishioners of Foveran as a token of their esteem."

Besides two memorials with inscriptions, the same as in the Udney tomb to Colonel Udney of Udney and his son, Colonel John Augustus, younger thereof, the father and brother of the present proprietor, John Henry Udney of Udney, there is on the west gable inside the church a marble tablet with two medallions, sculptured by Bacon:—"To the memory of Alexander Udney of Udney; born 28 September, 1707; died 26 August, 1788; and of George Udney of London, merchant; born 14 February, 1710; died 12 September, 1770. They were interred in the family vault in the chapel near the church. This monument was erected by Robert Udney, Esq. of Udney, as a testimony of their worth, and a tribute of his grateful remembrance of their friendship, 1791."

FOVERAN.

THE TURINGS, THE FORBESES, THE ROBERTSONS, AND THE MACKENZIES.

FOVERAN originally belonged to the Earl of Buchan, but on the forfeiture of that noble family, King Robert the Bruce gave it to William de Strabrok, of a burgess family of Aberdeen. This William de Strabrok got a charter from the King, of Foveran, Ardache, and three parts of Auchmacoy, on the Festival of the Annunciation, 1340.¹

William de Strabrok, burgess of Aberdeen, with the consent of his son and heir, William de Strabrok, gave to the church of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, six merks sterling annually; also forty shillings from certain lands for the salvation of the souls of his father, his mother, and himself.²

From the Strabroks, Foveran passed to the knightly house of Turing. This name has been variously spelled, Turyne, Thuring, Thurin, Turin, Turing. The family was originally of Norman extraction, and is said to have first settled in Angus, in a barony of the same name, from which they removed to Aberdeenshire, about the beginning of the fourteenth century. The first to be found is

I. Adam Turin.

He is mentioned in a deed regarding the park of Fyvin, of date 1323,³ and in 1325, he is found among the jurymen in a determination of the marches between Ardlogie and Fyvy.⁴ His son or near relative was

II. William de Turin.

He attached himself to the fortunes of King David II., and shared his sovereign's exile. In requittal for his services, he received a charter of Foverne, by "recognition fra Henry de Strabrok," and hence may be considered the first Turing of Foveran.⁵ The next, probably a son, is

III. Andrew Turin de Foveran.

He is mentioned in deeds of date 1388, 1390, also 1400. He is also mentioned in a letter of sale, of date 1424, to Sym Bannerman of Alesyk, as having two sons.⁶

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 364.

2 Chartulary S. Nicholas, N.S.C. I. pp. 54, 55.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 198.

4 Id., III. p. 549.

5 Robertson's Index of Missing Charters, p. 45.

6 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 380; II. pp. 93, 290,
304; III. p. 96.

I. John.**II. Andrew.**

He was succeeded by his son,

IV. John Turin of Foveran.

He is mentioned in the letter of sale above mentioned, of date 1424, and also, along with his son, William, in a charter of the lands and barony of Foveran, in 1441. The said John reserved the life-rent to himself and his wife, Janet Hay, of these lands. His wife was probably of the Errol family.¹ He was succeeded by his son,

V. William Turin of Foveran.

Of him we find no further accounts; and the next, probably a son, is

VI. John Turin of Foveran.

He is mentioned in an inquest of date 1482. He also takes part in an inquest "de administratione bonorum Alexandri Fraser de Philorth, A.D. 1491,"² and is also mentioned in an inquest of Alexander Irving de Drum, 1494. He was dead by 1503, when his widow, Catharine Vaus, a daughter probably of Vaus of Many, in the neighbourhood, is mentioned in an inquest as entitled to her tierce of the lands of Foveran.³ He was succeeded by his son,

VII. William Turin of Foveran.

He was served heir to his father, John Turin, October 3, 1503,⁴ and is mentioned, along with his father, John Turin, in a perambulation between the lands of Tibberty and Fechil, A.D. 1499 and 1501. William is styled the son and apparent heir of John Turin of Foveran. He is also mentioned in an inquest, of date 1508, "regarding the relict of Alexander Skene of that ilk,"⁵ and his name also occurs in many other deeds. He was succeeded by his son,

VIII. Gilbert Turin of Foveran.

He is mentioned in a charter given by his father, and confirmed by King James IV., in 1505, in it as Gilbert Turin, son and apparent heir of William Turin of Foveran. The charter is to the said Gilbert and Helen Cheyne, his spouse, and the longest liver of three-fourth part of the lands of Tibbertaw, in the barony of Foveran.⁶ On February 7, 1527-8, "there is a remission to Gilbert Turin of Foverne and eleven others, James Crichton of Frendraught and twenty others, Patrick Cheyne of Esslemont and fifteen others, George Gordon of Gight and five others, from abiding

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 93.

² Id., IV. pp. 90, 92; III. p. 303.

³ Id. II. p. 94.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. II. pp. 94, 429.

⁵ Id. III. p. 315.

⁶ Id. III. p. 94.

from the armies of Solway and Werk."¹ He married, first, the said Helen Cheyne; secondly, Catharine Arbuthnott, widow of Auchinleck of that ilk.² He was succeeded by his son,

IX. William Turin of Foveran.

He received from his father, Gilbert Turin, a charter of the dominical lands of Foveran, confirmed by the King, March 29, 1527. There is mentioned, in the charter of confirmation, the lands of Balgersho, Drummis, Ardoch, Sauchoch, Aitkynshill, Pitmilane, &c.³ This William Turin is witness to a charter of confirmation of the lands of Middil Disblair, given to Henry Philippe and Christian Orne, his spouse, by the Abbot of Lindores; date 25 August, 1541.⁴ He takes part in an inquest at Arnage, 1548,⁵ and in 1544 he is appointed one of the valutors of the county of Aberdeen, when Queen Mary appointed the tax rolls, whereby the barony of Foverne is retoured to be of £20 auld extent. He married Janet Leslie, who is mentioned in the following deed:—"The King confirmed a charter, of date 1550, of the late William Turing of Foveran, in which, for a sum of money delivered to him, and for other benefits, he granted to Janet Leslie, in her widowhood, for her life-time, the lands of Pitmelian, the Miltown of Foveran in the sheriffdom of Aberdeen; date of confirmation—February 9, 1555-6.⁶ William Turin died before this last date, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Robert Turin de Foveran.

In 1556, May 31, the King confirmed a charter of Robert Turin to Helen Carnegie, for her life-time, of the lands of Meikle Tibbertaw, Watrachemuir, Balgreschaw, Aitkynshill, and Drummis, in the barony of Foverne.⁷ In 1563 there is a charter by the Bishop of Aberdeen to Robert Turin of Foverne and Helen Carnegie, his spouse, of the lands of Toryleith.⁸ and in 1579-80 he is witness to a retour of Innes of Ardrain. He is also mentioned in a band of King James VI., of date 1569, recognising him as King, and he also, in 1574, signs a band of the barons in the north.⁹ As seen above, he married Helen Carnegie, daughter of Sir Robert Carnegie of Kinnaird, ancestor of the Earl of Southesk; date of marriage, circa 1547. He died before 1580, and was succeeded by his son,

XI. Sir William Turin, Knight, of Foveran.

He is to be found as a witness to an agreement, of date 1588, anent the marches of Slains;¹⁰ also 1589, he is mentioned in a minute of Privy Council anent carrying out

¹ Pitcairn's Criminal Trials, Vol. I. p. 242.

² Doug. Peer. Fol. p. 31.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1527, No. 437.

⁴ Charters of Wester Disblair.

⁵ Charters of Arnage.

⁶ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1555, No. 1038.

⁷ Id. 1556, No. 1077.

⁸ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 85.

⁹ Id. p. 35; Reg. Priv. Coun. I. 653, II. p. 344.

¹⁰ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 156.

the acts of the General Assembly; also in the same year he is caution for William Leslie of Warderis, that he shall not harm William Leslie of Crichtie.¹ He received from James VI. the honour of knighthood, as is evidenced by retours about to be quoted. He had issue:—

I. **William**, his successor.

II. **John**, who succeeded to William.

III. Henry, of Savoch. He married Janet Seyton, probably of the Pitmedden family, widow of Harvey of Kimmundie, and had issue:—

I. **Rev. John**, minister of Drumblade, of whom afterwards.

II. Henry, Cupar-Fife, married Margaret Lawson, and had issue.

III. Rev. Walter, minister of Rayne; born 1671; married, 1709, Anne Ogilvie, daughter of Ogilvie of Badentoul, by Catharine Dunbar, daughter of Dunbar of Grangehill. They had issue a son, James, born 1714; factor at Campvere. He married Margaret de Colnet, and had, John, also factor at Campvere, who married Margaret Tennant, and had issue a son, **James**, who succeeded to the baronetcy of Foveran.

IV. Thomas, in Aikenshill and of Mosstown, Logie-Buchan. He married, and had a son, Alexander, who died in 1664.

Thomas and his two brothers, John and Henry, are mentioned in the following record—"John Mitchell in Auld Aberdeen, along with others, grants having received two hundred merks owing by John Turing of Foveran, Thomas Turing of Aikenshill, and Henry Turing of Saak, his other brother-german."²

Sir William Turing, knight, died in 1613, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XII. William Turing of Foveran.

Regarding him there is the following retour—"William Turing, heir of William Turing, knight (militis), in the lands and barony of Foveran, with the mill, salmon fishings, the lands of Tilliefour, Tippertie, and Watrichemuir, &c., May 18, 1613.³ William Turing of Foveran, hæres Domini Gulielmi Turing, militis (knight) patris."⁴

William Turing died very young in 1616, eight days after his marriage. This epitaph is to his memory—"Gulielmi Turing, Foverangii, die 8 post nuptias celebratas mortui memoriæ."

"Ecce jacet, proavos atavos inter parentes

Turingus, gentis spesque decusque suæ.

Cui dum intentat amor jaculum mors sæva pepercit

Scilicet ut telis perderet ipsa suis."⁵

¹ Reg. Priv. Coun. IV. pp. 464, 665.

² Leslie's Sheriff Court Records, Abdn.

³ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 585.

⁴ Ret. Gen. 8504.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. p. 366, Note.

[To the memory of William Turing of Foveran, who died on the eighth day after the celebration of his marriage.

The hope, the honour of a noble race,
Here midst his kindred Turing finds a place ;
Death paused so long as love's soft dalliance pleased ;
When love abated, Death the victim ceased.]¹

He was succeeded by his brother,

XIII. Sir John Turing, Bart. of Foveran.

There is a retour to his brother, William, "in the lands and barony of Foveran, and in the right of patronage of St. James' situated within the parish church of Aberdeen, the lands of Tilliefour, the lands of Tippertie and Watrichemuir, parts of the above-mentioned barony of Foveran."² Also in May 30, 1617, "to his father, William Turing of Foveran, knight, in the lands called Mains of Inverugie, in the barony of Inverugie."³ On April 9, 1631, there is a sasine of the lands of Meikle Tibbertaw, granted by John Hay, in favour of John Turing of Foveran ;⁴ and on November 16, 1635, there is a nomination by Andrew Turing in Kinknockie of ye town and lands of Achtingall to John Turing of Foveran.⁵

John Turing of Foveran married Barbara Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Gight. She is mentioned in the following sasine:—"To Barbara Gordon, spouse to John Turing of Foveran, of the Milne of Foveran, &c."⁶ John Turing of Foveran was created by Charles I., in 1639, a baronet—the patent, according to the custom of the period, was "hæredibus masulis quibuscunque." Sir John Turing suffered much for his loyalty both to Charles I. and Charles II. He was at the battle of Worcester. One of the results of his loyalty was that he was obliged to part with the patrimonial inheritance—the lands of Foveran—which had been in his family for more than three hundred years.

[Of Turing's tower there are no remains. With regard to it Thomas the Rhymer has a prophecy, the meaning of which is by no means clear.

"When Turing's tower falls to the land,
Gladsmoor is near at hand ;
When Turing's tower falls to the sea,
Gladsmoor next year shall be."

It has fallen both to sea and to land, and the remains used in building the present house of Foveran. A spring of fine water which, in days of old, supplied the tower, still supplies the present mansion with it copious and refreshing waters.]

Sir John Turing had issue by Barbara Gordon, his wife, a son, George Gordon, who predeceased him. He married Margaret Leslie, daughter of John Leslie (marriage contract dated 1652), and left an only son, John Turing, rightly, Sir John Turing, Bart.

1 Lay of the Turings, p. 49.
2 Spec. Rets. Abdn. No. 147.
3 Ret. Gen. Banff, No. 37.

4 Sas. Reg. Ho. Edinb.
5 Id.
6 Sas. Reg. Ho. Edinb.

In consequence, however, of the troublous times, and the loss of the family estates, it is not recorded that he ever publicly assumed the title. He died unmarried in 1682, upon which the representation of the family devolved on his second cousin,

XIV. Rev. John Turing,

minister of Drumblade. He was the son of Henry Turing of Savoch by his wife, Janet Seyton, born at Savoch, 1569. Henry Turing, as has already been said, was the third son of Sir William Turing. Rev. John Turing, rightly the third Baronet of Foveran, married Jean, daughter of Rev. John Dunbar of Forglen, by whom he had four sons and three daughters:—

- I. **Alexander**, born 1702, of whom afterwards.
- II. John, born 1704, died 1738.
- III. James, born 1709.
- IV. Robert, born 1711; married, 1755, Mary Taylor, a widow, and died 1764. They had issue one son, Robert, born 1760; died a Major in the army in 1801; a daughter, Mary, who married her cousin, John Turing, son of John Turing, and grandson of John Turing, Cupar-Fife, above mentioned. (See No. XI.)

Rev. John Turing of Drumblade died in 1734, and was succeeded in the representation of the family by his son,

XV. Rev. Alexander Turing,

minister of Oyne, and representative of the Turings of Foveran. He was born 1702; married, 1740, Anna Brown, who died in 1807, and had issue:—

- I. Inglis, born 1743, died in Jamaica 1791.
- II. **Robert**, born 1745; was served heir, after the death of his elder brother, to Sir John Turing, the first Bart., in 1792.
- III. ———
1. ———, daughter, married Rev. John Duff, D.D., minister of King-Edward, and had several children. One daughter married Rev. Charles Gibbon, minister of Lonmay, and had issue.
2. ———, married Rev. Mr. Bruce of Shotts.
3. ———, married Baillie Cruickshank, Banff.

Rev. Alexander Turing, minister of Oyne, died 1782, and was succeeded in the representation of the family by his second surviving son,

XVI. Sir Robert Turing, Bart.

He was born in 1744; was served heir to his great grand-uncle, Sir John Turing, the first Bart., in 1792.¹ He was educated as a physician, and went to the East Indies,

¹ Decen. Rets. Banff, 1792.

where he amassed a considerable fortune. While there, he married, and had two daughters, one of whom married General Askell, and died some years after her father. Shortly after Sir Robert's return home, he married, as his second wife, Ann, daughter of Colonel Campbell of Glensaddel, county of Argyle, who died a few years after her marriage. Upon this he came north, and resided in Banff, where he made himself extremely useful and popular in the district. His remains rest in Banff churchyard, and a tablet has been placed to his memory in the parish church of Banff.

"Sacred to the memory of Sir Robert Turing, Bart. of Foveran, who departed this life the 21st of October, 1831, aged 85 years."

"This earth has claimed his own, the mortal clay
Must share the general destiny, decay ;
Life has gone forth, and we must yield the grave
What human love in vain essayed to save.
It's but a little dust that moulders here,
The Christian's soul has sought the Christian's sphere.
The good have many friends, and he who sleeps
Beneath this stone was one the mourner weeps.
Regretting, not repining, at the doom
Which gave the aged rest, though in the tomb.
And now with the deep love of many years,
With earnest prayers and meek, though bitter tears,
To mark the memory of a father's claim,
His children raise this tablet to his name."

The title and representation of the family passed on Sir Robert's death to his cousin, the British Consul at Rotterdam,

XVII. Sir James Henry Turing, 3rd Bart.

He was, as above mentioned (No. XI.), the eldest son of John Turing, factor, Campvere, by Margaret Tennant, his wife, and grandson of James Turing, also factor, Campvere, by Margaret de Colnet, his wife, which James was the only son of Rev. Walter Turing, minister of Rayne, by Anna, his wife, daughter of James Ogilvie of Badintoul, younger brother of Rev. John Turing of Drumblade, above mentioned. Sir James Henry Turing was born 10 December, 1791. He married Antoinette, daughter of the late Sir Alexander Ferrier, Conservator of Scotch Privileges at Rotterdam, and had issue :—

- I. John Alexander, died in infancy.
- II. James Henry, born 1824, died 1836.
- III. **Robert Fraser**, who succeeded to the baronetcy.
- IV. Alexander, born 1835, died 1882.
- V. Henry, born 1843 ; married Jemina Mary Catharine, daughter of Morris S. A. Chabot of Rotterdam, and has issue a son and a daughter.
- VI. Edward (twin with his brother, Henry) died 1882.
 1. Antoinette Mary Campbell ; married, 1842, Right Rev. Henry Mackenzie, D.D., late Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham.
 2. Salvadora Mary, married, 1847, John Peter of Kirkland, N.B.

3. Eliza, married, 1853, W. C. Hoyack.
4. Amelia Radley.
5. Grace, married Adrian Moens of Rotterdam.
6. Ellen, married, 1861, Pierre Charles John, second son of P. T. M. Fauchay of Rotterdam.
7. Isabella.
8. Catharine.
9. Agnes, married Benjamin Laning of Rotterdam.

[John Turing, factor at Campvere, had, besides James Henry, who became third baronet, another son, John Robert, who married Jane Stewart Fraser, and had issue :—

- I. Rev. John, M.A., rector of Edwinstone, who married Fanny Montagu Boyd, and had issue four sons and four daughters—I. Arthur Henry. II. Julius Matthewson. III. Harvey. IV. Alexander. 1. Dora. 2. Agnes. 3. Margaret.]

Sir James Henry Turing died at Rotterdam, February 13, 1860, and was succeeded by his eldest surviving son,

XVIII. Sir Robert Fraser Turing, 4th Bart.

He was born August 29, 1827 ; married Catharine Georgina, daughter of Walter S. Davidson of Lowndes Square, London, and of Saxonbury, Kent, and has issue :—

- I. James Walter, born January 3, 1862.
 1. Catharine Antoinette, born 1854.
 2. Ann Eliza, born and died 1855.
 3. Blanche Amelia.
 4. Florence Ellen.
 5. Julia.

ARMS OF THE TURINGS OF FOVERAN.—Or, on a bend gules ; three boars' heads of the first ; crest, a hand holding a helmet ; supporters, two stags. Motto—"Audentes fortuna juvat."

From the Turing's, Foveran probably passed by purchase to a family of the name of Forbes.

Robert Forbes of Foveran.

On November 7, 1673, John Forbes, writer, is served heir of his father, Robert Forbes, formerly at the church of Foveran, in the dominical lands and manor place of Foveran, &c. ; also in the town and lands of Pitgerso and Drums. The lands were held of the King and his successors for service and relief.¹ The next owner is Alexander Forbes of Foveran.

We are unable to say if he was of the same family as the above-mentioned John

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 93.

Forbes, but he was descended of the family of Tolquhon. Sometime between 1673 and 1681, he got possession of Foveran. In 1681, he obtained an Act of Parliament ratifying and confirming a charter, passed under the great seal, of the barony of Foveran, in favour of Alexander Forbes himself, in life-rent, and Samuel Forbes, his eldest son, in fee. This Alexander, as above mentioned, was descended from Tolquhon, as the following deduction shows.

John Forbes of Bandley,

the second son of Alexander Forbes, sixth Laird of Tolquhon, married, 156—, Elizabeth, daughter of William Keith of Tulloch, and by her had three sons :—

- I. Duncan, of Culloden.
- II. John, an officer in the French Guards.
- III. Patrick, called Black Patrick, Baillie of Inverurie. The said Patrick married Barbara, daughter of Walter Barclay of Drums, by whom he had issue one son,

I. Alexander Forbes of Foveran,

who obtained, as above narrated, a ratification by Parliament of a charter, under the great seal, of the lands of Foveran. He was married three times, first to Margaret, daughter of Samuel Hunter, apothecary in Edinburgh, and by her had issue :—

- I. Samuel, his successor.
- II. John, of Knaperna, in the parish of Udney.
1. Rachel, married, in 1681, to Patrick Chalmers, an eminent physician in Aberdeen; issue, thirteen children.

He married secondly a daughter of Jaffray of Kingswells, and widow of Baillie Skene of Aberdeen. Thirdly, he married Katharine Gordon, by whom he had no issue. He was succeeded by his son,

II. Sir Samuel Forbes, 1st Bart. of Foveran.

He was born in Edinburgh 1653; served heir to his father, 26 August, 1697; created in 1700 a baronet. He was author of a history of Aberdeenshire, published in the first volume of "Antiquities of the Spalding Club."¹ He built the house of Tillery. He was one of the four commissioners of Aberdeenshire to the Scottish Parliament from 1693-1698, and from 1700-1701. He married a daughter of Udney of that ilk, and by her had three sons and one daughter :—

- I. Alexander, his successor.
- II. John.
- III. Patrick.
1. Anne, who died 1762.

Sir Samuel Forbes died July 16, 1717, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

¹ Ant. A. and B. pref. pp. x., xi.

III. Sir Alexander Forbes, 2nd Bart. of Foveran.

He was served heir to his father, March 13, 1718, and heir special, 21 October, 1718;¹ also, on the same date, heir-general to his grandfather, Alexander Forbes of Foveran. He married Jane, daughter of Major George Skene of Caraldstone,² by whom he had issue:—

- I. George, an officer in the Dutch service, who, along with Professor David Fordyce of Marischal College, Aberdeen, and eight other persons, was drowned near the island of Uishe in East Friesland, while on their passage from Rotterdam to Leith, September, 1751.³
- II. Alexander, who died December 27, 1752.⁴
 1. Bell, married, 28 September, 1749, to Robert Sitton.
 2. Jean, married, 13 August, 1754, to Lieutenant James Macfarlane of that ilk.
 3. Betty, married, 17 October, 1755, to Dr. Archibald Hamilton, physician, Edinburgh; died at Edinburgh, 5 March, 1761.⁵
 4. Katharine, died at Aberdeen, 25 May, 1756.

Sir Alexander Forbes of Foveran, Bart., died before 1755, and being predeceased by both his sons, he was succeeded in the title by his second cousin, John Forbes, son of Samuel Forbes of Knaperna. About the same time Foveran came into the possession of a burghess family of Aberdeen, the Robertsons.

I. John Robertson of Foveran.

He was a stocking merchant and sometime Provost of Aberdeen. He acquired Pitmillan first, and afterwards Foveran, sometime about 1757. He married Janet Mitchell, and had issue, at least three sons and a daughter:—

- I. **John**, who succeeded his father.
- II. **Andrew**, who succeeded his brother.
- III. Thomas, advocate, Aberdeen.
 1. Marjory, married to James Legertwood of Tillery.

John Robertson of Foveran died 17—, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. John Robertson of Foveran.

He enjoyed the estate but a short time, and dying was succeeded by his brother,

III. Andrew Robertson of Foveran.

He acquired the whole estate of Foveran in 1795. With regard to him there are the following retours:—Andrew Robertson of Foveran to his brother, John Robertson, son

¹ Decen. Rets. 1718.

² Skene's History of Skenes, N.S.C., pp. 38, 42.

³ Scots' Mag. 1751.

⁴ Id. 1763.

⁵ Aberdeen Journal and Scots' Mag.

of John Robertson of Pitmillan, Provost of Aberdeen, heir of provision general, April 12, 1794; to his father, John Robertson, &c., heir general, April 12, 1794;¹ to his brother, Thomas Robertson, advocate, Aberdeen, who died September 17, 1795, heir of provision general and special in Greigs, Ardo, Grayshillock, &c., being parts of the barony of Foveran.²

Mr. Robertson continued the business of a stocking merchant, which at that time was a flourishing one. He built the present house of Foveran near to the ruins of Turing's tower. He married Jane, daughter of Mr. Davidson of Newton, and had issue :

I. John.

1. Julia, married to David Sandieman of Kirkwood, and had issue.
Andrew Robertson died 18—, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. John Robertson of Foveran.

He married Mary, daughter of David Stewart of Dalguise, Provost of Edinburgh, by Anne, daughter of Robert Fordyce of Broadford, Aberdeen. A tablet has been placed to his memory in the church of Foveran. He had issue :—

I. Andrew, his successor.

II. Stewart.

III. John.

John Robertson of Foveran died 1826, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. Andrew Robertson, the last of Foveran.

He was a J.P. and a D.L. for Aberdeenshire. He sold in 1857 portions of the estate of Foveran to Mr. David Gill of Aberdeen, who called his portion Blairythan, and another portion was sold to Mr. Alexander Mitchell, Ythan Lodge, who called it Kinraig. The largest portion, including the mansion-house, was sold to Miss Christina Mackenzie, youngest daughter of Roderick Mackenzie of Glack, by Christina, second daughter of John Niven of Peebles, county of Forfar, who bequeathed it to her first cousin,

Major-General Roderick Mackenzie of Foveran.

He was the son of Major Forbes Mackenzie, a brother of Roderick Mackenzie of Glack, and married, in 1878, Caroline Sophia, daughter of J. A. Beaumont of Wimbledon Park, and has issue a daughter :—

Florence Mary.

The Mackenzies of Glack are descended from the Mackenzies of Hilton, county of Ross, the oldest collateral branch of the Kintail or Seaforth Mackenzies, and appear so in that family tree.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1794.

² Decen. Rets. 1795.

TILLERY.

TILLERY belongs to Colonel Alexander Chambers Hunter, but at one time it formed part of the possessions of the Turings of Foveran.

From 1510-1540, Andrew Udny, second son of Ranald Udny of that ilk, is designed of it. He married Isabella Panton, daughter of Panton of Pitmedden. In 1538, Henry Udny of Minnes, now in Tillery, is mentioned,¹ and in 1650, Robert Udny of Crabadona, now in Tillery, is also to be found. The Setons of Minnes possessed Tillery about the same time, and built a house upon it.² It afterwards came into the possession of Forbes of Foveran.

Sir Samuel Forbes, Bart., rebuilt the house that had been built by the Setons of Minnes. Tillery House stands on a flat ground, and, according to a chronicler in the "View of the Diocese," owes a good deal more to industry than to nature. "There was no coat of armour," says the same writer, "but instead a variety of figures well cut and amusing to the beholder." The avenues beginning at some distance from the house are numerous. When one comes near the house, he finds a little quaint parterre, walled about with four fair gates, opposite one another, for the healthy and refreshing benefit of the four circling winds. Upon each side of the gates were various inscriptions. On one was the date 1715, beneath which was the following line—"Scotia moesta dole, propria tunc prole perditâ." "Grieve, O sad Scotland, whilst thine own progeny then has perished."³

The house was rebuilt by the Chambers-Hunter family, but not a trace is left of the quaint inscriptions and figures. In 1745-46, William Forbes of Tillery was served heir to his father, William Forbes of Tillery, who died September 2, 1745; heir special in East and West Tillieue, and in Tillieue, with its pendicles, Howland and Shellyford.⁴ From the Forbeses, shortly after the above date, Tillery was purchased by James Legertwood of Tillery. He was the grandson of William Legertwood in Fornetty, parish of Foveran. John, a brother of said William was, in 1696, in Orchardtown, and in the "Poll Book" is described as a gentleman. He left to his brother's family the sum of £26,777 17s Scots, a large sum considered at that time. They were:—

I. William, who resided in Dublin, and who was served heir to his uncle, March 5, 1717.

II. Robert, in Mains of Tillieue. He married, and had a son, James.

1 Stodart's Sketch of Udny Family in the Genealogist.

2 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 386.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 370.

4 Decen. Rets. 1746.

III. James, of Warminster, county Wilts.

IV. **Alexander**, sometime student of divinity, and sometime in Orchardtown, of whom afterwards.

1. Elspet.
2. Margaret, wife of George Lyon in Nether Minnes.
3. Anna, married George Christie, burghess of Aberdeen.
4. Isobel, married Patrick Shand.

II. Alexander Legertwood, sometime in Orchardtown.

He married Margaret, daughter of William Ferrier, burghess, Aberdeen; marriage contract dated 1718.¹ They had issue at least one son, the above-mentioned.

III. James Legertwood of Tillery.

He was sometime convener of the county of Aberdeen, and largely interested himself in the improvement of the roads in the district, which at that time were little better than bridle paths. He married Marjory, daughter of John Robertson of Pitmillan, burghess of Aberdeen, afterwards of Foveran.² They had issue:—

1. John, who died in early manhood.
1. **Margaret**, married to Sir William Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden, of whom afterwards.
2. Jean.
3. Barbara.

IV. Margaret Legertwood.

She married Sir William Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden (see Article Pitmedden), and her eldest child, Jane, married, January 1, 1805, Alexander Leslie of Birkwood. He was the fourth son of Rev. Alexander Leslie, D.D., minister of Fordoun, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Rev. Lewis Reid, minister of Strachan, and half-sister of the distinguished metaphysician, Dr. Thomas Reid. He was for sometime merchant in Glasgow. They had issue one son, Alexander. Mr. Leslie died January 22, 1811, and was succeeded by his son,³

II. Alexander Leslie of Birkwood.

He married, February 6, 184c, Johanna, youngest daughter of George Hogarth of Woodhill, county of Aberdeen, by his wife, Jane Forbes of Echt. Alexander Leslie claimed the representation of the families of Forbes of Lndquharn, Reid of Pitfoddels, Gardyn of Blackford, Leslie of Cults, and through his great grandmother, Jean Galloway, claimed also to be the nearest male heir of the attainted title of Dunkeld, and to be the nearest male heir representative of that family. He left by his wife the following issue:—

¹ Papers penes William Forbes Leslie, Birkwood.

² Id.

³ Papers penes William Forbes Leslie, Birkwood.

- I. Alexander James, of Birkwood, who married Huie Ann Livingston, and has issue, Alexander Forbes.
- II. William Forbes, born 18 July, 1845, settled in New Zealand; married, 1865, Annie Waters, and has issue—I. William, born 1845. II. Alexander, born 1872. III. Arthur Norman, born 1875. IV. Richard Sheridan, born 1880. 1. Susannah, died 1869. 2. Johanna, died 1884. 3. Susannah, died 1884. 4. Harriet, died 1878. 5. Johanna, born 1882.
- III. Norman Launcelot, born 1849.
 1. Jane, died 1842.
 2. Grace Anna, born 1844; married Alastair Ross Paterson, M.D., and has issue—I. William Paterson Forbes-Leslie, who has assumed the name and arms of Forbes-Leslie, born August 5, 1867. II. Arthur Francis, born 11 November, 1870. 1. Ada Elina Alberta, born 1868. 4. Hilda Maud, born 1875.

From the Legertwoods, Tillery passed by purchase, in 1788, to

I. John Chambers of Tillery.

His mother's name was Black, probably a connection of the Blacks of the Newburgh and Watridgemuir. Mr. Chambers in early life emigrated to South Carolina, where he amassed a considerable fortune; and on his return to his native country, he purchased, in 1788, Tillery from Mr. James Legertwood, at the cost of £9500. He married Agnes Cooper, niece and eventually heiress of James Hunter, merchant burgess, Aberdeen, who had, in 1752, bought from the York Buildings' Company, the farms of Gateside, Darrahill, and Middle Ardo, in Belhelvie. These he left to his niece, Mrs. Chambers. Mr. John Chambers also acquired Auchiries in Buchan from the Ogilvie family, and Coldwells (since sold) in Ellon parish. He assumed the additional surname of Hunter. He had issue two sons:—

- I. **William Chambers-Hunter**, his successor.
- II. John, died unmarried.

He died 18—, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. William Chambers-Hunter of Tillery and Auchiries.

He was born 1800; was a J.P. for Aberdeenshire. He married Rachel, daughter of James Thom, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and had issue:—

- I. **John**, his successor.
- II. James, died young.
- III. **William**, advocate, Aberdeen, who succeeded his brother, John.
- IV. **Alexander**, who succeeded his brother, William.
 1. Rachel, who married first, William Harvey of Kinnettles, and had issue a daughter, Rachel, who married Charles Gray Spittal, sometime Sheriff of Wick, afterwards of Roxburgh and Selkirk, and has issue, Charles, born

1853. She married secondly, Keith Jopp, M.D., seventh son of Andrew Jopp of Elmhill, advocate, Aberdeen, and has issue—I. William Chambers-Hunter. 1. Margaret, married William Copland Beattie. 2. Minnie Abercromby.

2. Agnes, married Thomas Blay, and has issue.
3. Anne, married Andrew B. Smith, and has issue.
4. Margaret.

Mr. Chambers-Hunter died 1866, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. John Chambers-Hunter of Tillery and Auchiries.

He died in 1867, and was succeeded by his brother,

IV. William Chambers-Hunter of Tillery and Auchiries.

He was an advocate in Aberdeen. He died in 1871, and was succeeded by his brother,

V. Alexander Chambers-Hunter of Tillery and Auchiries.

He was late Captain in the Indian army. He is a J.P. for Aberdeenshire. He was born 1838; married, 1871, Amy Clarke, daughter of the late Joseph Paice Mason, London.

Crest used by the family, "a hunting horn." Motto, "Spero."

KINCRAIG, AND THE FAMILY OF MITCHELL.

ALEXANDER MITCHELL acquired, in 1857, the property of Kincaig, formerly called Latch or Lotch, from Andrew Robertson of Foveran, part of whose estate of Foveran it had formed. Mr. Mitchell, who was formerly a merchant and shipowner at Newburgh, was J.P. and Commissioner of Supply for the county of Aberdeen. He married Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Patrick Robertson, Montrose, and had issue one son and two daughters :—

- I. Patrick Andrew, born January 4, 1840; accidentally drowned in the river Ythan by the upsetting of a pleasure boat, on January 7, 1867.
1. Isabella Margaret, married, 21 May, 1868, Charles B. Glover, shipowner, Aberdeen, and has issue, a son and two daughters.
2. Anne, married Rev. James Elmslie Duguid, F.C. minister, Newmachar.

Mr. Mitchell died 18—, and was succeeded by his two daughters.

The family of Mitchell has been for almost three centuries settled in the county of Aberdeen, and owned at different times considerable landed property there. The estate of Colpny, now Orrok, was at one time owned by a branch of this family.

The first of the family from whom the Mitchells of Stow, Mitchell-Innes of Ayton, Kincaig, Thainstone, &c., are descended, was

I. Thomas Mitchell.

He was son of Alexander Mitchell, burgess, Aberdeen, and his wife, Janet Beidie; was also a merchant burgess of Aberdeen, and latterly, circa 1650, one of the baillies of that city. He married Marjorie Moir, who died in September, 1664,¹ and had issue at least five sons and two daughters :—

- I. Alexander, baptised 1656.
- II. Thomas, baptised January, 1659.² He was a merchant in Aberdeen, and Provost of that city from 1698 to 1700, also from 1702 to 1704. He bought, in 1702, the lands of Easter Beltie and Arnsley from Forbes or Learnie, and in 1717 those of Thainstone from Forbes of Tolquhon.³ He married first, in 1692, Janet, daughter of Patrick Leslie of Eden, Provost of Aberdeen; secondly, Isabella, a daughter of Alexander Paton; and thirdly, Jane, daughter of Mr. Thomas Mercer.

¹ Tombstone St. Nicholas Churchyard; Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 89.

² Reg. of St. Nicholas.

³ Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 89.

- III. John, baptised 15 July, 1662.
- IV. Andrew, baptised 20 September, 1663; merchant in Aberdeen, 1687, whose arms are registered about 1680, and are the simple bearings of Mitchell, with the fesse waved as his difference. He married Elizabeth Hunter, and acquired the lands of Tilliegreig in Udney parish, and his grandson, Andrew Mitchell, married, in 1721, his relative, Barbara Mitchell.¹
- V. **William**, of him afterwards.
1. Marjorie, baptised 12 July, 1655.
 2. Janet, baptised 24 December, 1657; married, April, 1683, Sir John Johnston, fourth Bart. of that ilk and Caskieben, and had issue.

II. William Mitchell in the Newburgh,

fifth son of Thomas Mitchell and Majorie Moir, as above related, was baptised 13 September, 1664; was a merchant in Newburgh; died June 30, 1752. He married ———, and had a numerous family, but only an account of three sons is handed down, whose descendants are the following:—

- I. **William**, of him afterwards.
- II. Alexander, born in or about 1709. He settled at Tilliecorthie in the parish of Udney; married, 1737, Isobel, daughter of Robert Temple in Cloisterseat, in that parish, by Isobel Milne, his wife. They had issue:—²
 - I. Robert, succeeded his father in the lease of Tilliecorthie; died unmarried.
 - II. George, of Balsira, East Indies; died unmarried.
- III. William, in Haddo, parish of Foveran, married his cousin-german, Elizabeth, eldest daughter of William Mitchell, merchant, and Mrs. Jane Moir; issue four sons and three daughters:—
 - I. William, born 29 August, 1757; an officer in the navy, killed in Lord Howe's victory, June 1, 1794.
 - II. Alexander, baptised 22 November, 1765; succeeded to the lease of Haddo; married, 18 March, 1798, his cousin, Margaret, second daughter of Andrew Mitchell in Savocho, and Mrs. Margaret Cattanach, and had issue two daughters.
- III. Robert. } both died young.
- IV. John. }
 1. Isabella, born 1759; married first, William Park; secondly, John Legertwood.
 2. Margaret. } both died young.
 3. Elizabeth. }

¹ Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 89.

² Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 20.

IV. **Alexander**, in Tilliecorthie, afterwards in Darrahill, Belhelvie, progenitor of the Mitchells of Stow-Mitchell Innes of Ayton, of whom afterwards.

1. Isobel, married John Donald in Lofthillock, Bourtie.
2. Ann, died unmarried.

III. George, of whom little is known.

We now return to **William Mitchell**, merchant, Newburgh, the eldest son of William Mitchell, Newburgh. He was born 1701; married Jane, relative of Andrew Moir, in Culter-Cullen, Foveran; had issue three sons and two daughters:—

I. William, baptised 16 September, 1736; merchant burgess, Aberdeen, who acquired the lands of South Stocket near that town; married first, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of John Middletown, of Aberdeen; secondly, 1761, Mary, who died 1824, daughter of William Fordyce of Auquhorthies, by Margaret, daughter of William Cochrane of Dumbreck; issue two sons and five daughters:—¹

- I. William, a Lieutenant R.N., died unmarried.
- II. Walter, purser in an East India man-of-war, also died unmarried.
 1. Mary, married William Paterson, advocate, Aberdeen; no issue.
 2. Elizabeth, born 1766; married David Morrison, merchant and burgess, Montrose, and had, with other issue, James Martin, president of the Manhattan Banking Company, New York, who married Jane Ann Macgowan, and has issue.
 3. Margaret, married James Simpson, merchant, Aberdeen, s. p.
 4. Helen, died young.
 5. Elliot, born 1782; married James Lawrence, manufacturer, Aberdeen, and had, with other issue—Walter, Staff-Surgeon R.N.; Elliot, who married the late Alexander Ogston, J.P. of Ardoe, Kincardineshire, representative of the ancient family of Ogston of that ilk.²

II. Andrew, life-renter of Savock, born 1737, died 1799; married 5 June, 1759, Margaret Cattanach, grand-daughter of Lumsden, laird of Corrachree, Logie-Coldstone, cadet of Lumsden of Cushnie; issue, five sons and two daughters:—

- I. William, sometime in Pitgersie, killed by a fall from his horse in 1787.
- II. Andrew, in Whiteness, Slains; married, 23 July, 1797, Isobel (died 1811), daughter of Alexander Gray in Knapsleask, Slains, by Christian Johnston; issue:—
 - I. Andrew, in Nether Leask, Slains, born June 7, 1789, died 1865; married, 13 January, 1825, Catharine,

¹ Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 20.

² Gill's Houses of Moir and Byres, p. 21.

sister of the late James Bruce, J.P., of Inverquhomery and Longside—issue—Henry, born 1806, sometime in Nether Leask; accidentally killed 1864; married Mary, daughter of James Taylor, in Mains of Auquharney, Cruden, and had issue.

II. Alexander, of Kincraig.

1. Margaret, married Thomas Bates, now in America, and had issue.

III. Alexander, in Fiddesbegg, baptised May 1, 1769, died 1853; married, 1798, Isobel (died 1852), daughter of Patrick Mutch, in Mains of Newtyle, Foveran, and had issue a son and two daughters. (See Logierieve.)

IV. John, died young.

V. Gilbert, baptised April 1, 1774; died 1844. He succeeded his father in Savock, and got in 1814 the additional farm of Haddo; married, November, 1800, Margaret, eldest sister of the late James Bruce of Inverquhomery and Longside (founder of the Bruce Bequest); she died 1846. They had issue seven sons and six daughters, of whom James, Alexander, Gilbert, Robert, and Mary, died young.¹

I. Andrew, baptised 21 August, 1802; settled in Tasmania; bought the fine property of Woodland Park there; returned home in 1863, and resided at Foveran House, until his death in 1878. He married, 1858, Margaret, daughter of the late William Fasken, life-renter of Fortrie, Banffshire; issue:—

I. Andrew William, born January 6, 1866, Lieut. 3rd Battalion Gordon Highlanders.

1. Margaret Beatrice, married Archibald Storie, S.S.C., son of Rev. Archibald Storie, minister of Inch.

2. Bertha Mary Bruce.

II. Gilbert, baptised 16 February, 1817, succeeded his father in Haddo; married, 1847, his cousin, Mary, sister of the present James Bruce of Inverquhomery and Longside. Both deceased s. p.

III. John, born 1820, late of Queensland.

1. Jane, baptised 10 December, 1805; married, July 2, 1840, James Pirie in Orchardtown and Watertown; died 1889.

¹ Gill's *Houses of Moir and Byres*, pp. 21, 22, 23.

2. Margaret, born at Savock, 8 March, 1809; married, November 20, 1838, the late David Gill of Blairythan, and had issue.
 3. Anne, born 1810; married, in January, 1848, William Ledingham in Hayhillock.
 4. Catharine, died unmarried.
 5. Barbara, married 1848, John Ruxton, M.D., in Hill of Fiddes, and has issue.
1. Jean, eldest daughter of Andrew Mitchell and Margaret Cattanach, born 1770; married, 1783, John Legertwood in Overhill and Pitscaff, Foveran.
 2. Margaret, born 1767; married, 1798, her cousin, William Mitchell in Haddo, as above narrated.
- III. Alexander, third son of William Mitchell and Jean Moir, baptised 1740; died young.
1. Elizabeth, eldest daughter of William Mitchell and Jean Moir, married her cousin-german, William Mitchell in Haddo, eldest son of Alexander Mitchell, Tilliecorthie, and Isobel Temple, and had, with other issue, Alexander, second in Haddo.
 2. Jean, married ——— Shepherd; no issue.

We now come to the descendants of **Alexander Mitchell** in Darrahill, fourth son of **Alexander Mitchell** in Tilliecorthie and Isobel Temple. Alexander Mitchell married Elspet, daughter of Thomas Simpson in Darrahill, by Isobel, his wife, sister of George Innes of Stow, Midlothian; had issue three sons and two daughters:—

- I. Thomas, in Hill of Udny, baptised 31 December, 1765; married his cousin, Euphemia Simpson, daughter of John Simpson in Horsecrook, now Meadowbank; had issue:—
 - I. William, born 1797; died 1808.
 - II. Alexander, born 12 December, 1798, of the Town and County Bank, Aberdeen; married, December 14, 1829, Jane, only daughter of John Gardiner in Smithston, Rhynie; issue two sons:—
 - I. Alexander, born 1831, who, on the death of his kinswoman, Miss Jane Innes of Stow and Carolside, succeeded to these properties. He was for sometime a Captain in the Grenadier Guards; J.P., D.L., and sometime M.P., for Berwick-on-Tweed. He married, 1856, Fanny Georgina Jane, only daughter of Richard Hasler of Aldingbounne and Baikfold, Sussex. On Captain Mitchell's death without issue, she married

Donald Mackay, Lord Reay and Mackay, and brought her former husband's estates to that nobleman.

II. John Thomas, an officer in the army.

II. George, of Parson's Green, a small estate, to which he succeeded on the death of his uncle, Mr. Simpson, in 1808, who was of the Royal Bank, Edinburgh. He married Isabella, daughter of Rev. Archibald Alison, Edinburgh.

III. **William**, who, in 1840, assumed the additional name and arms of Innes of Stow, of whom afterwards.

- | | | |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Anne. | } | both died unmarried. |
| 2. Marion. | | |

We now come to

William Mitchell Innes of Parson's Green, Ayton, and Whitehall,

He was, as above narrated, the third son of Alexander Mitchell and Elspet Simpson in Darrahill; baptised at Belhelvie, 16 December, 1778; was sometime one of the cashiers of the Royal Bank, Edinburgh; succeeded on his brother's death to Parson's Green, and, on the death of Miss Innes of Stow in 1839, to the bulk of the large personality of that lady. He bought the fine properties of Ayton and Whitehall in the county of Berwick, and assumed the additional name of Innes. He married, 1810, Christian, daughter of Thomas Shairp of Houston, near Linlithgow, by Mary, daughter of Norman Macleod of Macleod. Mr. Mitchell Innes, who was a J.P. and D.L. for the counties of Berwick and Edinburgh, died 12 February, 1860, and left issue six sons and one daughter:—

I. **Alexander**, his heir.

II. Thomas Shairp, of Phantassie, in the county of Haddington; J.P. and D.L.; married, January 20, 1841, Julia Jane, fifth daughter of Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Bart. of Fountainhall, and has issue.

III. William Simpson, lately of Parson's Green, near Edinburgh; J.P.; married Delia Sedley, daughter of James Ramsbottom.

IV. George, of Bangour, county of Linlithgow; J.P.; married Mary Lilius, eldest daughter of Rev. Edward Sandys Lumsdaine.

V. Norman, late of 17th Lancers.

VI. Gilbert, of Inverleith Row, married Antoinette Amelia Barclay, daughter of James Macpherson; issue, seven sons and two daughters.

1. Mary Riche Macleod, married, 10 June, 1845, John Ramsay L'Amy, J.P., of Dunkenny, Forfar, and has issue.

Mr. William Mitchell Innes was succeeded by his eldest son,

II. Alexander Mitchell Innes of Ayton and Whitehall.

He was sometime Captain of the 17th Regiment; J.P. and D.L. for the county of Berwick; married, 23 September, 1840, Charlotte Gordon, third daughter of Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Bart., and by her, who died 17 July, 1848, had issue:—

I. William, born 25 September, 1841, Captain 13th Hussars; married, 2 August, 1866, Agnes, fourth daughter of Henry Young Hulbert of East Farleigh, Kent. He died 1879, leaving issue:—

1. **Alexander Harold**, born 1870, who succeeded his grandfather.

1. Inez.

2. Charlotte.

3. Ethel.

II. Charles Lauder, born 20 November, 1842.

III. Norman Walter, born 5 April, 1844, died 6 April, 1847.

IV. Alexander Ferdinand Henry, born 13 February, 1847, a captain in the 60th Rifles.

V. Rev. Reginald John Simpson, born 19 June, 1848, Rector of Old St. Paul's, Edinburgh.

1. Mary Blanche.

He married secondly, 3 December, 1852, Fanny Augusta, younger daughter of James Vine of Puckaster, Isle of Wight; issue:—

VI. Arthur Vine.

VII. James Edward.

VIII. Thomas Alexander.

IX. George Augustus, born February, 1859.

X. Gilbert Plantagenet, born 7 June, 1863.

XI. Alfred.

2. Christina.

3. Frances Isobel.

4. Mabel.

Mr. Alexander Mitchell Innes died in 1886, and was succeeded by his grandson,

III. Alexander Harold Mitchell Innes of Ayton.

ARMS OF MITCHELL-INNES.—Quarterly, first and fourth argent, three estoiles of six points; a bordure charged with eight roses, second and third sa., on a fesse, or, between three lozenges pierced of the last, as many cinquefoils. Crests—First the moon in crescent ppr.; second, a dexter arm couped at the wrist ppr., the hand grasping a wreath ppr. Mottoes—"Je recois pour donner," and "Deo favente."

BLAIRYTHAN AND SAVOCK.

BLAIRYTHAN.

“Sursum prorsusque.”

DAVID GILL, now of Blairythan, county of Aberdeen, LL.D., F.R.S., F.R.A.S., J.P. : born 12 June, 1843 ; married, 7 July, 1870, Isobel Sarah (authoress of “Six Months in Ascension”), second daughter of the late John Black. Dr. Gill, who was educated at Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, has been Astronomer Royal at the Cape of Good Hope from February, 1879, is a Knight Commander of the Order of the Medjidie, and author of a determination of the Solar Parallax, &c.

According to tradition, the ancestors of the Aberdeenshire family of Gill came originally from Cumberland (where, at a very early period, they owned lands, amongst others the barony of Gillsland) into Scotland. The surname is of great antiquity in both countries.

In 1296, Patrick del Gyle is amongst the gentlemen of Peebleshire who sign the Ragman Roll.¹ The prefix del was not uncommon at that period.

It has been the constant family tradition that this family is directly descended from a John Gill, who was Provost of Perth early in the fifteenth century. This family owned the lands of Haltoun and Torsopy in the county of Perth. John Gill, Lord of Torsopy, appears as a witness to a charter signed at Edinburgh, 11 February, 1366. John Gill of Haltoun was burghess, baillie, and afterwards, 1403, Provost of Perth. Another John Gill, burghess of Perth (probably the father of the former), is frequently mentioned in the town records from 1328 downwards. John Gill, burghess of Perth, was M.P. for that town in the years 1364, 1367, 1369, and 1373.²

The Aberdeenshire branch are believed to have left Perthshire, and to have settled in the county of Aberdeen, in the early half of the sixteenth century. Most probably they had done so to escape some of the constant feuds, which were too common at that period.

I. Alexander Gill,

born about 1550, settled at Auchlyne, in the parish of Aberdour, Aberdeenshire ; married Barbara Findlay, and was dead before 18 March, 1618. Their son,

II. Robert Gill, Auchlyne.

He appears living there in 1618, and in 1655, married, and had two sons :—

¹ Chambers' Peebleshire, p. 65.

² Burke's Landed Gentry.

I. George.

- II. Patrick, Alehouseburne, county of Banff, married, and had a daughter, Isobel, baptised 1653.

III. George Gill in Wairielip.

He removed to Wairielip in the adjoining parish of Boyndie, where, according to a curious, old-raised, lettered tombstone, he departed this lyf, 3 April, 1689; married "M.C." (initials on tombstone). Cumming may have been the maiden name of Mrs. Gill, as a family of that surname are interred in an adjoining grave. They had issue :—

I. Alexander, of whom afterwards.

- II. Patrick or Peter, born about 1680; resident for many years at Fingask, Fraserburgh; married first, Barbara Spence, and had a large family, who all died young, with the exception of one daughter, Barbara, who married first, Captain Alexander Catto, and secondly, Alexander Walker, shipmaster at Fraserburgh. Patrick Gill married secondly Barbara Sim, but by her had no issue. He died, it is said, at the age of a hundred and one years. The elder son,

IV. Alexander Gill, Mains of Pitfour,

had a farm first in the Pitsligo district; was a great agriculturist, and removed to one of the finest farms in Buchan, Mains of Pitfour, in the parish of Old Deer. He married Barbara (born 1676, died 1742), daughter of James Urquhart, merchant in and baron baillie of Fraserburgh. He left issue two sons :—

- I. Alexander, Captain of a merchantman, married Isobel Catto, and had issue three daughters—Barbara, Isobel, and Christian, who all died young.
II. **George**, of whom afterwards.

Alexander Gill died 18 June, 1731, and was interred at Pitsligo.

V. George Gill, Fraserburgh,

born 1704, was a shipmaster in Fraserburgh, and was a strong Jacobite and Episcopalian. He married Christian Catto, and had issue three sons :—

I. Patrick, of him afterwards.

- II. Alexander, baptised 21 April, 1736; married twice; issue of his first wife extinct. His second wife was Helen, daughter of Charles Shand in Gellyhill, parish of Gamrie, and nephew of James Shand, Provost of Banff, progenitor of the Shands of Craigellie. Their eldest son, James, a Captain in the merchant service, married Catharine, daughter of John Simpson of Meikle Hilton, Turriff, and was wrecked off Rattray Head, near Peterhead, where he perished with all his crew, 12 April, 1811. Their son, the late Charles Bowman Gill, M.D., married Charlotte Gellie, and had issue.

III. George, born 1740.

1. Christian, died unmarried, 24 June, 1808.

The eldest son,

VI. Patrick Gill,

a captain in the merchant service, trading mostly between Banff and Holland, was a keen Jacobite, and helped several of his friends, who were adherents of the Stuarts, to go and come from Holland. He perished at sea, with all his crew, between the years 1760-1770. Captain Gill married Anne, sister of James Clark of Linksfield, county of Banff, and had issue one son and three daughters :—

I. Patrick.

1. Margaret, baptised 14 October, 1753, died unmarried.
2. Anne, died unmarried.
3. Sophia, married, 1783, Alexander Duff, London, and had two sons—
I. Alexander, died young. II. John, settled in America.

Their only son,

VII. Patrick Gill, Aberdeen,

married, 23 June, 1782, Margaret (who died 11 December, 1828), daughter, and eventually sole heiress, of David Anderson, planter, Kingston, Jamaica, of the same family as David Anderson of Finshaugh, an eminent mathematician, who died in 1629, and had issue four sons and four daughters :—

- I. Patrick, died in infancy.
- II. Patrick, died in infancy.
- III. David, of whom afterwards.
- IV. John, died in infancy.
 1. Mary, died unmarried, 1864.
 2. Margaret, died unmarried.
 3. Sophia, died unmarried, 26 September, 1828.
 4. Marjory, died 2 August, 1858.

Mr. Gill died 26 January, 1850, aged 93. His only surviving son and heir,

VIII. David Gill of Blairythan,

was born 26 May, 1789. He bought the properties of Blairythan and Savock, in the parish of Foveran ; was a commissioner of supply, and for nearly sixty years a magistrate for the county ; also for sometime an officer in the Aberdeenshire Militia. He married, 20 November, 1838, Margaret, daughter of Gilbert Mitchell, Savock, and Margaret Bruce, sister of James Bruce of Inverquhomery and Longside. They had issue :—

I. David, now of Blairythan.

- II. Patrick Gilbert, of Niall, Wandoo Vale, and Christmas Creek stations, Queensland, and of Monomeith, near Cranbourne, Victoria ; a J.P. for the colonies of Victoria and Queensland ; born 15 October, 1845 ; educated at the University of Aberdeen ; died unmarried at Melbourne, 21 June, 1886, and is interred in the Melbourne cemetery.

- III. Andrew John Mitchell, of Savock and Auchinroath.
- IV. James Bruce, of Runnymede and Greenvale, born 15 March, 1849, at Aberdeen; went to Queensland in 1867; married, 15 July, 1885, Victoria Ruth, eldest daughter of Lieut.-General James Farrell Pennycuick, B.A., C.B., of 22 Linden Road, Bedford, England, reputed head of the ancient family of Pennycuick of that ilk.
1. Margaret, married, 17 January, 1882, the Rev. Henry Clare Powell (M.A., Clare, Cambridge), rector and patron of Stanningfield, Bury St. Edmunds, county of Suffolk; has issue three sons—I. Henry Mitchell, born 21 May, 1883. II. Frederick Gill, born 19 August, 1884. III. Gilbert David Bruce, born 15 August, 1887.

ARMS.—David Gill of Blairythan, in the county of Aberdeen, only surviving son and heir of the late Patrick Gill, residing in Aberdeen, and Margaret, his wife, daughter and heiress of David Anderson, planter, &c., in the Island of Jamaica, bears lozengy, argent and vert on a chief, gu., three martlets of the first, above the shield is placed a helmet befitting his degree, with a mantling gules, doubled argent; and issuing from a wreath of his liveries is set for a crest a demi-eagle rising ppr.; and on an escroll over the same this motto—"Sursum prorsusque." Below shield—"In te Domino spes nostra."¹

S A V O C K.

THE present owner of this property is Andrew John Mitchell Gill of Auchinroath, in the county of Elgin; born 1 August, 1847; is a J.P. and commissioner of supply for counties of Aberdeen and Elgin; F.S.A. Scot.; author of "The Houses of Moir and Byres."

Savock, sometimes spelt Savoch, Sauck, Saak, means in Gaelic, field enclosed for sacred purposes. At one time it formed part of the Foveran property belonging to the Turings, and in the sixteenth century it was a separate property owned by a cadet of that family. In 1574, Arthur Turing is in Sauchock, and in 1626, Henry Turing is in Saak, and two years later he is of Saak in the following record—"1628, June 27. John Mitchell in Auld Aberdeen, along with others, grants having received two hundred merks owing by John Turing of Foveran, Thomas Turing of Aikenshill, his brother, Henry Turing of Saak, his other brother-german."² The Turings seem to have held Savock to beyond the middle of the seventeenth century, as the Rev. John Turing, minister of Drumblade, was born there circa 1659. He was the great-great-grandfather of Sir Robert Fraser Turing, Bart. The next owner to be found is Alexander Forbes of Savock (descended of Tolquhon), whose arms are given by Nisbet. He married Agnes

¹ Extract Patent of Arms Lyon Office.

² Sheriff Court Records.

Skene. This laird was alive and resident at Savock as late as 1681, when in that year he was a witness to a baptism.¹ In 1696, John Elphinstone of Glack, and laird of Craig, in the parish of Daviot, is tenant of Savock, and paid poll tax with his wife and servants.²

About 1750, Andrew Mitchell, son of William Mitchell of Newburgh, merchant, by Jean, daughter of Andrew Moir in Culter-Cullen, progenitor of Moir-Byres of Tonley, settled here as life-renter. He married, in 1759, Margaret Cattanach. Their son, Gilbert Mitchell, born at Savock, 1774, succeeded his father in Savock, and was also tacksman of Haddo in Foveran; married, 1800, Margaret Bruce, a sister of the late James Bruce, J.P., of Inverquhomery and Longside. Their daughter, Margaret, married, 1838, the late David Gill of Blairythan and Savock, whose third son is present owner of Savock. Mr. Mitchell Gill, as his maternal ancestors were in Savock for nearly one hundred and fifty years, has assumed the name and arms of Mitchell, quartering them with those of Gill thus—Sable, a fesse between three masles or, the fesse charged with a mort's head of the first. Crests of Gill and Mitchell—"Three blades of wheat combined on one stalk." Motto—"Sapiens qui assiduus."

1 Foveran Registers.

2 Poll Book II. p. 160.

KNOCKHALL AND NEWBURGH.

KNOCKHALL.

KNOCKHALL, or the barony of the Newburgh, is now the property of John Henry Udny of Udny, but in ancient times it formed part of the possessions of the Earl Orkney and the Lords Sinclair.

I. Sir William St. Clair of Rosslyn

owned these lands in 1398.¹ He married Isabel, a daughter and co-heiress of the Earl of Stratherne, by Matilda, only daughter and heiress of Magnus, Earl of Orkney and Zetland. He had issue by her two sons and one daughter :—

I. Sir Henry Sinclair, afterwards Earl of Orkney.

II. **David**, of the Newburgh.

1. Margaret, married first to the Earl of Angus; secondly, to ——— Sinclair of Hermandston.

Sir William Sinclair married secondly ——— ———, and had issue a son,

III. **John**.

II. David St. Clair of the Newburgh.

He got from his brother, Henry, Earl of Orkney and Lord of Roslin, a charter of the lands of the Newburgh and Achadle, in the county of Aberdeen. The charter was to him and the heirs of his body, whom failing, the lands were to return to the granter, and that in full of all claim or title the said David might have had to any part of Orkney or Zetland in right of his mother, Isabel. The charter is dated in April, 1391, and the confirmation in June, 1391.² David Sinclair died without issue, and the lands of the Newburgh were given to his half-brother,

III. John de St. Clair of the Newburgh.

In 1411, Robert, Duke of Albany, Earl of Fife, confirms a charter to John Sinclair, brother-german of Henry de St. Clare, Earl of Orkney, of the whole and entire lands of the Newburgh, Achadle, Knockhall, Cruickitfurde, with their pertinents, together with an annual return of forty shillings from the lands of Logieruiffe, which belonged to the

¹ Charter penes Udny as in Family History.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 373; Doug. Peer. fol. p. 53^a.

said Henry St. Clare, Earl of Orkney.¹ These lands reverted to William, third Earl of Orkney.

IV. William, third Earl of Orkney, of Newburgh.

He did not retain them long, for in 1460, William, third Earl of Orkney, granted the lands of the Newburgh to his eldest son and heir, William, who, in the deed of sasine, is designed William de St. Clare, son and heir of William, Earl of Orkney and Caithness. The sasine was done at Knockhall, within the barony of Newburgh, 6 November, 1459; among the witnesses were Alexander Mowat, son and heir of John Mowat of Loscragy.²

The Earl of Orkney and Caithness married first, Lady Margaret, daughter of Archibald, Earl of Douglas, by whom he had a son:—³

I. **William**, who, though he did not succeed his father in his titles of honour, there is undoubted proof in the above deed of his being the Earl's oldest son. He got the barony of the Newburgh and other lands, and was ancestor of the Lords Sinclair. He was disinherited by his father.

1. Catharine, married to Alexander, Duke of Albany.

He married secondly, Marjory, daughter of Alexander Sutherland of Dunbeath, by whom he had four sons:—

II. William, in whose favour he resigned the Earldom of Caithness. (There were two Williams at the same time in the family.)

III. Sir Oliver, ancestor of the Sinclairs of Roslin.

IV. Sir David.

V. John, Bishop of Caithness.⁴

He died before 1480.

V. William Sinclair of the Newburgh.

He married Lady Elizabeth Lesly, daughter of George, Earl of Rothes.⁵ She is mentioned in the above-quoted deed of 1459. In 1474, there is a confirmation by William de St. Clare, Lord of the barony of the Newburgh, of certain grants of annual rents, lands, and fishings to the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr in the Newburgh. In this confirmation he signs himself "Master of Cattness and of the Newburgh."⁶ There is a reversion in 1476 by William, Earl of Errol, to William de St. Clare, Master of Caithness and Baron of the Newburgh, of the half-fishing of the Crukyt Furde in Ythan, in the barony of the Newburgh, mortgaged to the Earl for an hundred merks.⁷ In 1487, there is a letter of assignation of the Lord Sinclair for the redemption of the two Haddochs, Little and Meikle, the one mortgaged for one hundred and twenty merks, the other for one hundred and eighty merks. His designation in this letter is William,

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 95.

2 Id. p. 97.

3 Id. pp. 97, 98.

4 Douglas Peerage fol. p. 112.

5 Doug. Peer. fol. p. 112.

6 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 99.

7 Id. p. 100.

Lord Sinclair. Among the witnesses is Magnus Sinclair, his son.¹ He died in 1505, and in the inquest of his son, he is styled quondam Willelmus dominus Sinclair. He was succeeded by his son,

VI. Henry, Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

He was served heir to his father, William, in 1505.² He was recognised as a Peer of Parliament by the King and Parliament as Lord Sinclair. As he was the first of the family who held that title alone, he is generally styled the first Lord Sinclair, although he was in reality the fourth holder of the title. He married Margaret, daughter of Adam Hepburn, Lord Hailes, and sister of the first Earl of Bothwell. He had issue a son, **William**, and several daughters. Henry, Lord Sinclair, fell at Flodden in 1513, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. William, 2nd Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

He married Lady Elizabeth Keith, daughter of William, third Earl Marischal. On 17 April, 1524, he had a charter under the great seal of the lands of the Newburgh.³ In 1533, there is a Royal precept for giving sasine of a third part of the barony of the Newburgh, lying in the barony of Kelly, to William Sinclair and Elizabeth Keith, his spouse, daughter of William, Earl Marischal.⁴ In the same year there is a charter of other lands in Aberdeenshire consolidated into one barony of the Newburgh, 15 May, 1533.⁵ William, Lord Sinclair, had issue one son, **Henry**, by whom he was succeeded.

VIII. Henry, 3rd Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

He had also the lands of the Newburgh. He succeeded in 1545, and it was during his life-time, in 1565, that the house of Knockhall, now a venerable ruin, was built. It was destroyed by fire in 1734, when Jamie Fleeman, the laird of Udny's fool, is said to have saved the charter chest. The name and arms were at one time above the gate, but they have disappeared. Henry, the builder of this house, was a great supporter of the Reformation, as well as a steady friend of Queen Mary's. He married first, Janet, daughter of Patrick, sixth Lord Lindsay, of the Byres, by whom he had, with other issue—I. **James**, Master of Sinclair. II. Patrick, ancestor of the family of Sinclair of Balgreggie. He married secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of William, seventh Lord Forbes, by whom he had issue. **James**, Master of Sinclair, had a charter in the life-time of his father, on 14 July, 1577, of the lands of the Newburgh and the fishings on the Ythan.⁶ He married Lady Isabella Leslie, daughter of Andrew, fourth Earl of Rothes, by whom he had a daughter, Margaret, wife of William, Lord Berriedale, and three sons, **Henry**, **James**, and **Patrick**, successively Lords Sinclair. Henry, Lord Sinclair, died in 1601, and was succeeded by his grandson,

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 102.

² Id. p. 113.

³ Doug. Peer. fol. p. 621; Ant. A. and B. III. p. 110.

⁴ Doug. Peer. fol. p. 621, Ant. A. and B. III. p. 111.

⁵ Id.

⁶ Doug. Peer. fol. p. 622. Fam. Hist. of Udny p. 24.

IX. Henry, 4th Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

He succeeded his grandfather, Henry, but did not long survive him. He was succeeded by his next brother,

X. James, 5th Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

At this time the family became reduced in circumstances, and parted with many of their estates. Sir George Hamilton of Blackburn had lent money to the Sinclairs on a wadset or mortgage of the estates of Ravenscraig and the Newburgh. On 16 November, 1614, he obtained a charter under the great seal infesting him (the said George Hamilton) in the lands of Knockhall, manor place thereof, burgh of Newburgh, fishings in the Ythan, formerly belonging to Henry, Lord Sinclair. The sasine is dated March 8, 1615.¹ James, fifth Lord Sinclair, died in 1607, and was succeeded in the title by his brother, Patrick, who became

XI. Patrick, 6th Lord Sinclair.

He married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Cockburn of Ormiston, Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland; had issue an only son, **John**. Patrick, Lord Sinclair, died in 1617, and was succeeded by his son,

XII. John, 7th Lord Sinclair, of the Newburgh.

For several years, Sir George Hamilton, above mentioned, exercised in all respects the rights of proprietorship over the estates of Knockhall, granting charters, &c., for lands in Newburgh, particularly in 1621. In 1631, John, Lord Sinclair, redeemed the barony of the Newburgh, and in December, 1632, he exercised the rights of proprietorship in the Newburgh estates. The re-acquirement of the Newburgh estates seems only a preliminary measure towards a permanent sale of them, on February, 1633-34, to John Udney of Belhelvie, fourth and youngest son of William Udney of Udney,² in the possession of whose descendants they have ever since remained. John, Lord Sinclair, married Lady Mary Weymss, daughter of John, first Earl of Weymss, by whom he had an only daughter, **Catharine**, Mistress of Sinclair, from whom the present family is descended.

THE YTHAN.—The estate of Knockhall is bounded on the north by the Ythan, which, at high tide, assumes the proportions of an estuary of the sea. The Ythan abounds in pearls, mussels, salmon and trout, and in the spring and summer seasons is a great resort for anglers. One of them has sung the following lay on the Ythan and its beauties:—

“ O, that I were where Ythan flows,
Where Ythan flows, where Ythan flows,
O, that I were where Ythan flows,
Awa' to the deep blue sea.

¹ Udney Family History, p. 24.

² Hist. of Udney Family, p. 25.

Wi' rod and reel, and fishing creel,
 The balmy spring ance mair to feel,
 Whaur Ythan's tides sae swiftly steal,
 Awa' to the deep blue sea.
 Whaur golden furze and yellow broom,
 The wild thyme and the heather bloom,
 Load a' the air with rich perfume
 By the Ythan near the sea.
 Wi' ebbing tides and cloudy skies
 We tak' a cast wi' Lyall's flies,
 And lead to land the glittering prize
 From the Ythan near the sea.
 By sandy hills and benty knowe,
 O'er mussel scaups the waters row,
 And choicest sport is there, I know,
 By the Ythan near the sea.
 And O, how sweet, when sunbeams broil,
 At Tonley's well to rest from toil,
 And eat our lunch, and count our spoil,
 By the Ythan near the sea.
 But ah ! alas, since auld langsyne,
 How many friends of yours and mine
 Have ceased to throw a fishing line
 By the Ythan on the sea.
 Oh, only whaur the Ythan flows,
 The parting day in glory glows,
 And there I wish my een to close,
 On the Ythan by the sea."¹

NEWBURGH,

ON the estate of Knockhall, is the small seaport of the Newburgh, the only one in the district of Formartine. In an old charter of date 1509, given by James IV. to Henry, Lord Sinclair, the village of Newburgh was formed into a free burgh of barony, with power of appointing annually in said burgh, baillies, and all other officers necessary for the due government of the same ; also for erecting free burgesses, with power of buying and selling therein, &c.² The rights of the burghers, if there are any, have fallen into disuetude ; but a considerable business is done in coals and manure. A small stone pier was erected about 1840, which enabled small vessels to land, and which has added much to the convenience and prosperity of the burgh. In the Newburgh there was a church dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr. In 1474, there was a charter by William St. Clair, Master of Caithness, of certain grants of annual rents, lands, and fishings.³ Amongst its benefactors were William Alexander, John Watson of Achortie, John Burgess, and Alexander Gourlay, its chaplain. There was also a manse connected with it, and various altars are also mentioned, which were probably connected with this church.

¹ Jervise' MSS. in Library of Soc. of Anti. Edinb.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 374.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 365.

There was also in the Newburgh an Hospital, founded by Alexander Comyn, Earl of Buchan, in the year 1261, for the sake of his own soul and that of his Countess Ysabelle, and the souls of his predecessors and successors. There were to be six poor prebendaries, who were to celebrate divine service in the chapel of the Newburgh. The Hospital was endowed with half-an-acre of land, four chalders, and thirteen bollis of oats, out of the rents of Furvy; also eighteen pounds sterling from the rents of the Newburgh, &c.¹ The charter was granted at Kelly in Buchan. This foundation has, however, long since passed away.

In the Newburgh there was a cross, and mention is made of the lands of the Holy Cross.² Also the church of the "Holy Rood," which had the lands of the Holy Cross. There was also Monkshome, a small residence of the monks of Deer, and the church may have been in connection with it. The site of the church may still be seen in a small churchyard on the southern bank of the Ythan. This churchyard has been recently enclosed. Within it is the mausoleum of the Udney family, and there are several monuments within it to members of that family.

I. "Sacred to the memory of John Augustus Udney of Udney, Colonel in the army, and aide-de-camp to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, born 17 July, 1817, died May, 1852."

II. "Sacred to the memory of John Robert Fullerton Udney of Udney, Colonel in the army, and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Aberdeen, born 14 November, 1779, died 29 October, 1861."

III. "Sacred to the memory of Ann, widow of John Robert Fullerton Udney of Udney, born 11 July, 1820, died April 16, 1870."

IV. Another is "In memory of Mrs. Mary Udney, widow of George Udney, Esq., died 16 December, 1807, aged 91. 'Esteemed and respected during life.'"

V. "George Udney, Esq., died 12 December, 1780. 'Who never injured any man, and did all the good in his power.'"

VI. "William Udney Fraser of Udney and Inverallochy, died December, 1792. 'He lived esteemed and died regretted.'"

There is one monument of elaborate design containing in a recess the effigy of a member of the Udney family; no name, however, is given. The date upon it is 1688, and there is a motto, "Manet post funera virtus." ["After death virtue remains."]

There are quarterings of various families, the Udnys, the Grants, the Frasers, the Gordons, the Abernethies, Forbeses of Tolquhon, families with whom the Udney family had intermarried.

In the little churchyard around the Udney mausoleum there are several tombstones of interest.

An old and weather-beaten stone records that, "In the hope of a blessed resurrection rests the corps of William Mitchell, late merchant in Newburgh, who departed this

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. pp. 371-2.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 365, Libri Actorum Vice Comitatus de Aberdene, Vol. III. MS.

life, June 30, 1752, aged 87." From him are descended the Mitchells of Foveran, Logierieve, the Mitchell Inneses of Parsons Green, Stow, and Ayton, &c.

A headstone is "In memory of Captain John Innes, aged 42, who was wrecked in the ship "Oscar," near Aberdeen, April 1, 1813. This stone is erected by his disconsolate widow, Ann Mitchell, in grateful regard for departed worth." On the stone is the following epitaph, to be found in many churchyards near the sea :—

" Tho' Boreas' blast and Neptune's waves
Have tossed us to and fro,
In spite of which, by God's decree,
I anchor here below.
Here at an anchor I do lie
With many of our fleet,
Until at last we must set sail
Our Admiral, Christ, to meet."

There is another stone to one of the ill-fated mariners. "Erected by Rev. Thomas Henderson, Demerara, in memory of his father, John Henderson, who was lost off the "Oscar," on 1 April, 1813, aged 21 years; also of his grandmothers, Christian Henderson and Christian King."

The "Oscar," as above recorded, was wrecked on the 1st of April, 1813. The early morning was calm, and five whaling ships, the "Hercules," "Latona," "Middleton," "St. Andrew," and the "Oscar," set sail from Aberdeen. They were riding at anchor, dreading no misfortune, when the weather became unsettled, and a terrible storm arose. The other four ships escaped to sea, but the "Oscar" was driven on the rocks, and wrecked, with the loss of all on board, save the mate and one of the crew. The bodies of Captain Innes and thirty-seven of the crew were some days afterwards cast on shore, and decently interred by their lamenting relatives.

John Mather, Surveyor of Madras, was the son of Robert Mather, at the Mill of Newburgh. He left, in 1807, considerable property, amounting at the time of his death to an annual return of £200. Of this, he left an annuity of £100 a year to his father, and £60 to his stepmother should she survive him. He left £55 a year for the education and clothing of twenty poor fishermen's sons of the Newburgh, in the parish of Foveran, on condition that they, when instructed and come to a proper age, should be indentured as apprentices for the sea. Their education was to include navigation. To the parson or schoolmaster of Foveran, for lecturing and reading prayers once a week to the poor people of the Newburgh, he left £25. He also left to the Infirmary of Aberdeen £20 annually on condition of six lame or otherwise diseased persons be admitted for relief. Also for the education of eight poor people's sons in the parishes of Foveran and Fyvie, four in each parish, he left £20 annually, to furnish books, and to prepare them for college. They are expressly to be sent there, for which purpose the further sum of £50 sterling, or at the rate of £6 5s. sterling each for their support. He also left for six presentation bursaries the sum of £30 sterling, or £5 each. These

presentation bursaries were to be at the disposal of the Principal and Professors of Marischal College, Aberdeen, where the young men were to be educated. The Lord Provost and Magistrates of the city of Aberdeen were appointed trustees for the due execution of his last will and testament.

The University commissioners, and more recently the education commissioners, have made considerable changes on the educational bequests of Mr. Mathers. The presentation bursaries have been reduced to four, of the annual value of £15 each, tenable for four years. They are open for public competition; but it is provided that if any candidate shall have attended any public or state-aided schools in the parishes of Foveran or Fyvie for a period of at least two years, and shall have satisfied the examiners that he is of sufficient ability and attainments to profit by attendance at the curriculum of the Faculty of Arts, the Town Council of Aberdeen shall, upon the report of the examiners to that effect, and that notwithstanding such candidate might not otherwise be found entitled to a bursary, present such candidate to the Mather Bursary.¹

The parish bursaries for Foveran and Fyvie have been fixed, four for the former parish at £5 each, and two for Fyvie at the same sum. They are to be competed for at both schools by pupils who have passed the Fifth Standard.

HOSPITAL AT FOVERAN.—There is one monument of piety, according to an authority, quoted in the "View of the Diocese," within the parish of Foveran, that is an almhouse at the kirk, with this inscription on a marble stone in the corner of the house—"D. Alexander Forbes, Foveranensis, qui terræ hujus bona non in avaritiæ prædamed instrumenta bonitatis, acquisivit, ædem hanc pauperibus alendis extruxit et dotavit." ["Alexander Forbes of Foveran who acquired the good things of the world, not as a prey of avarice, but as a means of doing good, built and gifted this house for the support of the poor."] ² The hospital has long ago ceased to be.

FOUNTAIN NEAR TURING'S TOWER.—This fountain, according to the same chronicler, doth not want the ornament of a long arch or vault of cut stone covering it, and the vault covered with the green herbs.³ The surprising quantity of a healthful water which the fountain affords, deserved to have an arch of marble, but it seems the builder hath remembered what a poet said—

"Quanto præstantius esset
Numen aquæ, viridi si margine clauderet undas
Herba, nec ingenuum violarent marmora tophum."

["How much better would be the Divinity of the stream,
If grass were to enclose its water with a green border,
And no marble were to spoil the native stone."]

The spring near Foveran House still exists, well enclosed, and giving forth its refreshing waters. The parish is said to derive its name from this spring, in Gaelic called "Foucheran."

¹ Education Commissioners Report.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 370.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 367.

NEWTYLE.

NEWTYLE now belongs to William Harry Lumsden of Balmedie. It formed in ancient times part of the estates of the Turings of Foveran. On the sale of that property some time about the middle of the seventeenth century, it came into the possession of a branch of the family of Forbes. Alexander Forbes, called by Dr. William Forbes Skene, Sir Alexander¹ (but the baronetcy of the Forbes of Foveran was not created till the year 1700), sold Newtyle in 1657 to Alexander Skene, eldest son of Alexander Skene, burghess of Aberdeen. This Alexander became a Quaker, and published in 1677, a pamphlet with the title "The Way Cast Up;" he also published some years afterwards an address entitled "A Plain and Peaccable Advice to those called Presbyterians in Scotland." He married Lilius Gillespie, and by her, who died 1697, he had the following issue:—

- I. Robert, died young.
- II. John.
- III. Alexander.
- IV. Patrick.
 1. Lilius.
 2. Christian.
 3. Rachel.
 4. Anna.
 5. Jean.
 6. Elizabeth.

In 1680 he sold Newtyle, reserving certain life-rents, and in 1681 there is a ratification to William Gordon, under the reservations in favour of Mr. Alexander Skene, late of Newtyle, and Lilius Gillespie, his spouse, and after their decease to Alexander Udney of that ilk, and his heirs of the town and lands of Newtyle; also of a croft lately occupied by John Skene, son of the said Mr. Alexander Skene; all conform to the rights and dispositions made to the said Alexander Forbes and Alexander Skene, by the deceased Sir Alexander Turing of Foveran, reserving to Alexander Skene and his wife, life-rent of a part of the lands, and of the manor house of Newtyle, conform to contract of alienation dated 1680, between the said Mr. Alexander Skene and Lilius Gillespie, and the said John Skene and Helen Fullerton, his spouse, on the one part, and William Gordon, and Agnes Blackburn, his wife, on the other.²

¹ Skene's History of the Skenes, N. S. C., p. 77.

² Skene's Skenes, N. S. C., pp. 77-78.

The successor of Alexander Udny in Newtyle, was his third son, **John**, who became,

II. John Udny of Newtyle and Culter-Cullen.

He married, and had issue, two daughters :—

1. Anna, who married John Sandilands of Countesswells, and had issue, one son, John.
2. Jean, married Charles Gordon of Buthlaw, who purchased from his wife's nephew, John Sandilands, his portion of Newtyle, and thus became sole proprietor of Newtyle.

Newtyle remained in the possession of the Gordons of Buthlaw for many years. At last it came, after a long and tedious law suit, into the possession of the representatives of two daughters of Thomas Gordon and Jane Barclay, his wife. They had issue, one son, Charles, who succeeded his uncle, John Gordon of Buthlaw, in the estates of Buthlaw and Newtyle, and two daughters, Anna, who married Dr. William Young of Fawsyde, in the county of Kincardine; and Jean, who married Francis Logie of Middlefield, near Aberdeen. On the death of General Gordon of Cairness, the representatives of these two ladies, Mrs. Young and Mrs. Logie, namely, Dr. Young on the one hand, and on the other the three surviving daughters of Mrs. Logie, namely, Mrs. Putnam, Miss E. Logie, and Mrs. Pirie, got possession of Buthlaw and Newtyle. By a family agreement the Very Rev. John Torry, Dean of St. Andrews, one of the representatives of Dr. Young of Fawsyde, got the half of Newtyle, while the representatives of Mrs. Logie got the other half. Dean Torry sold his share of Newtyle, in 1856, to Mr. Lumsden of Balmedie, and the parties interested in the other moiety, sold it also soon afterwards to Mr. Lumsden. (See Barony of Drumblade, p. 274.)

Of the mansion house of Newtyle there are no remains, the stones many years ago having been made use of for building purposes in the neighbourhood.

The arms of Alexander Skene of Newtyle are thus recorded in the Lyon Register :—
 “Parted per chief azure and gules three skenes hefted and pomelled or, surmounted of as many woolf-heads coupéd of the third.” Crest, “a dexter hand holding a corona triumphalis.” Motto, “Sors mihi grata cadet.”

AUCHNACANT.

THIS property though small has long been a separate estate. It belongs to three Miss Gordons, and their nephew, Colonel West. These Gordons are of the Wardhouse family of Gordons, and are daughters of the late Admiral Sir James Gordon, G.C.B., sometime Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

There is a charter in 1539, from King James to William, Master of Forbes, and Elizabeth Keith, his spouse, of the lands of Fiddes, including Auchnacant.¹ In a list of rental of the Fiddes estate, it is represented as consisting of one plough rented at £20; grassum £20.² In 1593 and 1595, there is a charter to Lord Forbes, and a deed of sasine of Fiddes, including Auchnacant.³

A few years before this date, 1587, it belonged to Alexander Cullen, to whom it may have been wadset by Lord Forbes. In his time the following tragedy took place, as we learn from the following record. "John Leslie, apparent of Balquain, came to Auchnacant in Buchan, then pertaining to Alexander Cullen, with Andrew Leslie, Gilbert Leslie, his fader's breder, and oderis to the number of twenty persons, and there most cruelly invaded the said Alexander Cullen his bigging, in striking up his yetts, duir's, kists, and awa taking of claise, and burning of writings, and slew and murdered under night, David Carill, servand to said Alexander Cullen, the last day of March, 1587, yeris, God to Revenge."⁴

William Sinclair, younger of Auchnacant, is mentioned 14 January, 1607. This had been a cadet of the Lords Sinclair of Knockhall.⁵ After this date we find on February 20, 1639, George Rickart of Auchnacant mentioned,⁶ and on June 30, 1668, there is a disposition by John Sibbald of Arnage to George Rickart of Auchnacant, and George Rickart, his son, of the lands of Arnage for 36,000 merks (£1800). There is also a charter under the great seal to George Rickart of Auchnacant, in life-rent, and to George Rickart, his eldest son, whom failing to his son, David Rickart, sasine is given 31 March, 1669.⁷ George Rickart of Auchnacant and Arnage, was succeeded by his son,

II. George Rickart of Auchnacant and Arnage.

He died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother, David.

1 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 415.

2 Id. III. p. 117.

3 Id. pp. 422, 770.

4 Spal. Club. Mis. 11. p. 58.

5 Index to Wills, Reg. House, Edin.

6 Leslie's Sheriff Court Records.

7 Charters penes Arnage.

III. David Rickart of Auchnacant and Arnage.

There is a special service in 1692, of David Rickart as nearest male heir of tailzie, to his immediate elder brother, George Rickart of Auchnacant, eldest son of the deceased Mr. George Rickart of Auchnacant. David Rickart sells Arnage in 1702, to John Ross, baillie of Aberdeen, for £2222 sterling.¹ The next to be found is, probably a son,

IV. John Rickart of Auchnacant.

He married Marjory, daughter of John Gordon of Fechil. He died in 1749, and by his will bequeathed a house for the residence of the clergyman of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Aberdeen, and £500, the interest thereof to be devoted for the purpose of paying part of the stipend of the minister of said church; also £3000 to the Workhouse and Infirmary, Aberdeen.²

The following is a monument in St. Nicholas Churchyard to William Rickart. "In perpetuam inclyte Rickatorum ab Auchnacant et Arnage familiæ memoriam, hoc monumentum ex pio in parentes affectû extruendum curavit, vir vere honestus, D. Gulielmus Rickartus ejusdem familiæ filius legitimo toro natus, qui fatis concessit xxi. Feb. anno æræ Christianæ MDCXCIX. ætatis suæ lxxviii."

"Viator qui sapis, unde sis, quid sis, quid futurus hinc nosce."

"Circulus hæc vita est, ante ortum condimur alvo matris; in hunc referunt fata suprema Larem."

[Unto the perpetual memory of the famous family of the Rickarts of Auchnacant and Arnage, William Rickart, a truly honest man, son of the same family of a lawful marriage, from his pious affection towards his parents, caused this monument to be erected. He died 21 February, 1699. His age sixty-eight.]

["Passenger who art wise, learn hence whence thou art,
What thou art—and what thou shall be.
This life's a circle; and we see the light;
We are hidden in our mother's womb as night,
And at the end the same is our fate. For we
Unto our mother's womb returned be."]³

After the Rickarts, we find Auchnacant owned by a family of the name of Mercer.

The first we find of this name was James Mercer, burgess, Aberdeen. He was succeeded by his son,

II. Thomas Mercer, burgess, Aberdeen.

He was served heir general to his father, James Mercer, merchant, Aberdeen, A.D., 1720.⁴ He married, and had issue:—

I. **David**, of Auchnacant.

II. **James**, who succeeded his brother.

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 20. Arnage Charters.

² Aberdeen Journal, 1749.

³ Monteith's Theatre of Immortality, p. 101.

⁴ Decen. Rets. 1720.

Thomas Mercer died 1770, and was succeeded by his son,

III. David Mercer of Auchnacant.

He died 1787, and was succeeded by his brother,

III. Major James Mercer of Auchnacant.

Was served heir to his father, Thomas Mercer, merchant, Aberdeen, A.D., 1770,¹ and in 1787, to his brother, David Mercer of Auchnacant, heir of line. Major Mercer died in 1807. He married, and had issue, at least two daughters, Margaret, and another married to Charles Gordon of Wardhouse.

IV. Mrs. Margaret Mercer or West of Auchnacant.

She married Major West, and was served heir portioner of line and provision general to her father, Major James Mercer of Auchnacant. At the same date, 1807, Alexander James Gordon, son of Charles Gordon of Wardhouse, was served heir to his grandfather, Major James Mercer of Auchnacant, heir of line and provision general.²

Auchnacant as already mentioned is now the property of the descendants of Mrs. West and Admiral Gordon.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1770, 1787.

² Decen. Rets, 1807.

FIDDES AND HILL OF FIDDES.

F I D D E S

Now belongs to Udney of Udney, but the earliest owners of it were the Cumines, Earls of Buchan; from them it passed to a family of the name of Fothés or Fiddes.

Fergus de Fothés, the son of John de Fothés, received in 1289 a charter from Alexander Cumyn, Earl of Buchan, "integrum tenementum de Fothés." Among the witnesses are Philip de Fedarg, the founder of the Meldrum family, still represented by Urquhart of Meldrum.¹

John de Fothés

is found in 1392. Henry Brogane, Lord of Auchloun, grants to his father, John de Fothés, the half of the lands of Auchloun, Moness (Minness). This charter was confirmed 20 August, 1492.² The next to be found is

Andrew de Fothés,

Lord of the same, who gives a charter to Alexander, Lord Forbes, of a portion of the lands of Little Werthyll, and all the lands of Harlaw, with their pertinents, lying in the regality of the Garioch, A.D. 1423. Among the witnesses appears Gilbert Menzies, Provost of Aberdeen. These lands were given by the said Alexander, Lord Forbes, to Alan de Futhés, Canon of the churches of Moray and Ross, in perpetual feu, from the Prior of Torphikyn, A.D. 1424.³ In 1437, there is an indenture in English made betwixt a noble Lord, Sir Alexander Forbes of that ilk, on that one part, and John Futhés on the other, dated 1423; also a letter written in English to Andrew of Futhés to a noble Lord, Sir Alexander Forbes, knight, Lord of that ilk, whereby the said Andrew up-gave freely to the said noble Lord the frank tenement of the lands of Futhois, 12 December, 1436, the last year of the reign of James I.⁴ According to the author of the "View of the Diocese," the lands passed to the Keiths; but from the above indenture they passed, after being in possession of the family of Fothés or Fiddes for two hundred years, to Lord Forbes. Though there are now no Fiddeses of Fiddes, the name is still very prevalent in the district around. In 1840, we find from the "New Statistical Account," that there existed the following families, no doubt all deriving their descent from the

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 112.

² Id. p. 93.

³ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 219.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 394; Maitland Club Misc. Vol. I. p. 379.

old possessors of the land. There were Fiddeses in Auchloun, in Dubiestyle, in Minnes, in Pitmillan, in Watridgemuir, and in Auchnacant. Two farms bore names of Fiddesbeg and Fiddesmore. We now come to Lord Forbes of Fiddes. We find in 1510 that

John, Lord Forbes,

received a crown charter from King James IV. to himself and Christian Lundin, his wife, of the barony of Fiddes. In 1515, John, Lord Forbes, and Elizabeth Barclay, his wife, had a charter under the great seal of the lands and barony of Fiddes, with the mill, &c.¹

William, Master of Forbes,

obtained in 1539 a charter from James V. of the lands and barony of Fiddes, namely—Fiddesmoir, Fiddesbegg, Culter-Cullen, Auchnacant, with the Mill and Alehouse, Pettymuck, Blairhele, with the advowson of St Mary's chapel. His wife, Elizabeth Keith, is mentioned in the deed.² The following is an excerpt from the "Rental Book" of the lordship, which shows, in 1552, the rental of the lands of Fiddes:—

FIDDESMOHR—4 ploughs, 6 tenants, rent, £21 6s. 8d. Scots; 18 bolls of victual, 48 capons, 1 custom cow, 8 wedderis, 8 leit of peats.

FIDDESBEGG—3½ ploughs, 4 tenants, rental, £28 Scots, 13½ bolls of victual, 6 wedderis, 6 leit of peats at 2s. each, grassum £28.

CULTER-CULLEN—4 ploughs, 8 tenants, rent £21 6s. 8d. Scots. 18 bolls of victual, 1 custom cow, 8 wedderis, 8 leit of peats valued at 2s. each, grassum £21 6s. 8d.

MILL AND MILL LANDS—1 plough, 1 tenant, rent £5 6s. 8d., 4½ bolls of victual, 2 wedderis, 24 capons, one swine worth 20s., 2 leit of peats at 2s. each, grassum £5 6s. 8d.

THE ALEHOUSE—1 plough, 1 tenant, rent £5 6s. 8d., 4½ bolls of victual, 2 wedderis, 24 capons, 2 leit of peats, grassum £5 6s. 8d.

PATTEMUICK—1 plough, 1 tenant, rent £5 6s. 8d., 4½ bolls of victual, 2 wedderis, 12 capons, 2 leits of peats, grassum £5 6s. 8d. The four last named pay each a custom cow.

AUCHNACANT—2 ploughs, 1 tenant, rent £20, grassum £20.

MONKSHILL—3 ploughs, 3 tenants, money rent paid to the monastery of Deer, to my lord 27 bolls of victual, 3 leits of peats, grassum 20 merks.³

In 1595, there is a charter by King James VI. to John, Lord Forbes, of the above lands and others; also the right of patronage of the church St. Mary's, Fiddes.⁴

Soon after the above date the lands of Fiddes passed by purchase to Sir James Crichton of Frendraught. In an Act of Parliament, which Sir James obtained after the burning of his charter chest in the fire at Frendraught, A.D. 1630, the barony of Fiddes is mentioned, comprehending towns, lands, &c. Before 1642 these lands were sold to

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 115; IV. pp. 413, 414.

2 Id. IV. p. 418.

3 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 422.

4 Id.

Udny of Udny, and are still in possession of his descendant, John Henry Udny of Udny.

There are no remains of St. Mary's, Fiddes, but the piscina or stroup for holy water, now at St. Margaret's, Forgeue.

There was also a stone circle, now all but demolished, save two stones in a stone dyke, which may be in their original position. It is described by Dr. Anderson, the famous agriculturist at Monkshill, in his publication of the "Bee." It was forty-six feet in diameter, consisted of nine long stones placed on end in a circular form. The area within the circle was smooth and somewhat lower than the ground around it. Between the two stones that are nearest to the meridian line on the south side of the area is laid on its side a large stone, at each end of which, but within the circle, are two smaller stones than the rest. And at a somewhat greater distance from the outer circle are placed other two stones. There is not the smallest mark of any tool on any of them. This is the account given of the circle in 1777, but in 1792 this fine circle was completely demolished.

There was a castle of Fiddes, built probably by the family of Fiddes. There are now no remains, for the foundation was dug out about seventy years ago. It had been a square tower of the usual Scottish type, surrounded by a moat. Clay pipes were dug up, which had conveyed water to the building.

HILL OF FIDDDES.

In this farm there has been a family of the name of Ruxton for several generations. The following is their descent :—

Robert Ruxton,

farmer in Gilchorn, married Margaret Brown, third daughter of Andrew Brown in Bolshan, by his wife, Elizabeth Fairweather. They had issue :—

- I. David, in Farnell, county of Forfar, married Isabella Lyall, and had issue.
- II. **Robert**, in Cairnhill of Esslemont, of whom afterwards.
- III. Andrew, in Bonhead, married ——— Greig, and had issue.
- IV. William, in Rhind.
 1. Elizabeth, married James Scott.
 2. Mary, married Alexander Greig in Balthangie.
 3. Isabella, died unmarried.

II. Robert Ruxton in Cairnhill.

He married Margaret, second daughter of Andrew Brown, farmer, Cononsyth, by his wife, Elizabeth Scott, and had issue :—

- I. **Charles**, in Hill of Fiddes.
- II. Robert, emigrated to Canada.
- III. James, in Ulaw, Ellon.
- IV. William, in Buffalo, U.S.

1. Elizabeth, married George Hutcheon in Cross-stone.
2. Margaret, married Alexander Leys.
3. Isabella, died unmarried.

III. Charles Ruxton, in Hill of Fiddes,

was born 1786; married Ann, second daughter of John Legertwood, in Overhill of Pitscaff, and his wife, Jean Mitchell; had issue:—

- I. **John**, M.D.
 - II. Robert, died young.
 - III. Robert, died young.
 - IV. Andrew, in Arbrochie, married Jane Brown.
 - V. James, in Inchbroom, county of Elgin, married Eliza Fasken, daughter of William Fasken in Fortrie, Inverkeithney, and has issue.
 - VI. Charles, died in Australia.
 - VII. Thomas, advocate, Aberdeen, married Jemima, daughter of James Ferguson (advocate, Aberdeen) of Altens, county of Kincardine; has issue—
 - I. Charles, advocate, Aberdeen, Lecturer on Conveyancing, University of Aberdeen.
 - II. Thomas.
 - III. James Ferguson, M.D.
 - IV. William.
 - V. John.
 - VI. Edward.
1. Jane, died in infancy.
 2. Anne, died young.
 3. Margaret, died young.
 4. Isabella, died young.

IV. John Ruxton, M.D., in Hill of Fiddes.

He married Barbara, youngest daughter of Gilbert Mitchell in Haddo, Foveran, by his wife, Margaret Bruce; issue a large family:—

- I. Charles, died in infancy.
- II. John.
- III. Andrew.
- IV. James.
- V. Thomas.
- VI. Gilbert.
- VII. William Ledingham.
- VIII. Charles James.
 1. Margaret Bruce, married H. Hawkins.
 2. Annie Legertwood.
 3. Barbara, married J. Stoddart, and has issue—James, Barbara, and Catharine.
 4. Jane Catharine.
 5. Catharine Mitchell, died in infancy.

Dr. Ruxton died March, 1878, aged 63.

THE MINISTERS OF BELHELVIE.

THE Church of Belhelvie was dedicated to St. Columba, and the earliest mention of it is in a confirmation by Pope Adrian IV. to Edward, Bishop of Aberdeen, of all the lands belonging to the See. The bull is signed by the Pope and eight cardinals, dated 10 August, 1157.¹ The College of Canons of the Cathedral of Old Aberdeen, whereof the Bishop was himself the head, was erected by Bishop Edward in 1155, and confirmed by Pope Adrian. The college was instituted anew by Bishop Ramsay in 1256, the former records having been lost, and amongst the canons and prebendaries, Belhelvie is one.²

The Bishop of Aberdeen, 1305, shows the King (Edward I.), that one of his prebendal churches, Balhelvi, possessed in King Alexander's time a piece of land called St. Ternan's land, lying between it and St. Ternan's Chapel on the north; which was leased to the Thane of Balhelvi by the parson of Lony, after whose decease the land was wrongfully attached to the said thainage by the King's servants, and taken by force from the church. Inquiries were directed to be made into the matter.³

The earliest prebendary to be found is Walter Sury. He subscribed a deed in 1321.⁴

Alexander Lindsay, rector of Belhelvie, died January, 1493.⁵

Gilbert Strachan is prebendary in 1526.⁶

James Allasone is to be found in 1547.⁷

James Strachan, prebendary of Belhelvie, is mentioned in a deed of date 1550; also mentioned in a charter by the Bishop of Aberdeen to Robert Turing of Foveran, and his spouse. He was the last prebendary of the Church of Rome.⁸

After the Reformation we find Gilbert Kello reader at Belhelvie in 1567.

George Paterson was appointed to Belhelvie, May 1, 1570. He held in addition Kintore and Kinellar, and was translated in 1573, to Daviot.⁹

Patrick Gardyne was appointed 29 May 1576, holding Foveran also in charge. His stipend in 1602 and 1606, was four hundred merks. In 1602 "he is well reported by his congregation and elders." He took part in the case before the Presbytery of Aberdeen, regarding the slaughter of Patrick Johnstone, at the Kirk of Belhelvie, by Lord Glamis, &c. He continued minister of Belhelvie till 1613.¹⁰

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 145.

2 Id.

3 Bain's Scottish Documents, II. p. 469, No. 1720.

4 Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 47.

5 Id.

6 Reg. Ep. Aber. II. p. 254

7 Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 431.

8 Id. III. p. 86; IV. p. 206.

9 Orem's Old Aber. p. 275; Scott's Fasti, V. p. 494.

10 Scott's Fasti, p. 494; Ecc. Rec. of Aber. pp. 176, 198.

David Lindsay, M.A., graduated at King's College. Admitted prior to 3 August, 16— He signed the Covenant, and was a member of the Assembly in 1639, and of the Commissions of 1642-44-46-47, and was appointed by Parliament one of the visitors of the University, 24 March, 1647. He was rector of King's College from 1645 to 1650.¹ He was a zealous preacher. He married ——— ———, and had a son, John, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Helen. He published at Aberdeen, 1642, Scotland's "Hallelujah." He presented to the parish several Communion cups of silver still in use.²

George Innes, A.M., D.D., was translated from Kinairnie, and appointed to Belhelvie, March 8, 1668, and had the degree of D.D. conferred on him. He died in 1697, aged about sixty-four.³ He purchased the estate of Blairton, in the parish of which the minister is superior, and from which he derived a feu-duty. He had a son, George, who died in 1710.

Alexander Mitchell, governor to Charles Maitland of Pitrichie, was ordained to Belhelvie in 1699, translated in 1714 to Oldmuchar.

William Dyce graduated at King's College, 1713, called by the Presbytery, "jure devoluto," 12 October, 1715, and ordained 14 March, 1716. He married Katharine, daughter of Rev. George Anderson, Professor of Divinity in King's College. She died 2 May, 1772, aged seventy-three. They had issue, a son, Andrew, and two daughters, Katharine, and Janet, who married William Forbes, coppersmith, Aberdeen, progenitor of the Forbeses of Callander.⁴ He died July, 1724, aged about thirty-one.

David Brown was the son of Rev. David Brown, minister of Neilston, afterwards of Blackfriar's Church, Glasgow.⁵ He was translated from Peterhead, instituted to Belhelvie, 22 July, 1725. Deposed for adultery, 18 October, 1744.⁶ Having declared his resolution to go to foreign parts, the sentence was taken off by the Assembly, 16 May, 1747. He married the Hon. Isabel Fraser, fourth and youngest daughter of William, Lord Saltoun. She died 27 April, 1762. He died 10 March, 1751.⁷

Thomas Ragg, A.M., was translated from Dyce, and instituted to Belhelvie, 5 June, 1745, died 14 January, 1766, aged sixty-nine. He married June 2, 1740, Ann Black, who died 10 August, 1766, and had issue, two sons, and a daughter, John, Andrew, and Isobel.

James Forsyth, A.M., was a native of Clatt, graduated A.M. at King's College, 1752, and was ordained 24 September, 1766. He died December 1, 1790. On that day he dined with the Presbytery in his usual health, but was taken ill immediately after, and expired in the evening.⁸ He married 30 April, 1767, Isabella, youngest daughter of Rev. Walter Syme, minister of Tullynessle.⁹ She died 5 November, 1786, and had issue, a son, Alexander John, who succeeded him, and two daughters, Elizabeth, and Barbara, who married Rev. Robert Scott, minister of Glenbucket.

1 Spalding's Troubles, I. p. 93, 114, &c.

2 Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 494.

3 Poll Book, Vol. II. p. 339.

4 Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 445; Burke's Landed

Gentry, I. p. 411.

5 Dingwall's Fordyces, p. 32.

6 Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 445.

7 Wood's Doug. Peer. II. and Lord Saltoun's

Hist. of the Frasers.

8 Aber. Mag. III. p. 817.

9 Scott's Fasti, VI. p. 495.

Alexander John Forsyth, A.M., LL.D., was the son of the last named. He obtained his degree of M.A. from King's College in 1786, and the degree of LL.D. from the University of Glasgow. As mentioned above, his mother was a daughter of Rev. Mr. Syme, minister of Tullynessle, by a daughter of Gordon of Chapelton, Drumblade. A brother of his mother's was the Rev. James Syme, minister of Alloa. The wife of this Mr. Syme was Mary, eldest daughter of Principal Robertson, and they had issue one daughter, Eleanor, who married, in 1787, Henry Brougham of Brougham Hall, Cumberland, whose son, Henry, was Lord Brougham, Lord Chancellor of England.

On the death of his father, Mr. Forsyth was, at the request of the parishioners, appointed his successor by George III., and was minister of the parish for the long period of fifty-two years. He was beloved by his flock, whose interests he never neglected, and in his leisure devoted himself to scientific inquiry, specially chemistry and mechanics. He made important discoveries in the making of gunpowder, which were of great service to Government during the long protracted war in which the British Empire was engaged. He was also the inventor, about 1805, of the percussion lock, which was afterwards universally adopted, both in the army and by sportsmen. In 1807, he laid his discovery before Government. Lord Moira, then Master General of Ordinance, was much interested in his discoveries, and wished him to make some experiments in the Tower of London, which he did; and during the time that he remained in London, he had to employ a qualified assistant, and was put to considerable expense. Lord Moira wished to be liberal, and proposed that Dr. Forsyth should receive an amount of money for a number of years, equal to the saving of gunpowder made through the medium of his discovery. A change of ministry, however, took place. Lord Moira left the Ordinance office, and Dr. Forsyth shortly afterwards got a message from Lord Chatham, the new Master of Ordinance, intimating that his services were no longer required, and ordering him to give in his account of the expenses he had incurred while employed by the late Master General of Ordinance. He was also ordered to deliver up all possessions of that department in his use, and to remove from the Tower and elsewhere the rubbish that he had left—"a brutal order, which was at once complied with."¹ After a stay in London prolonged beyond a twelvemonth, Dr. Forsyth returned home. The ill-usage he had met with ruffled not the severity of his temper, and he lived on quietly, cheerfully, and uncomplainingly. After many years, his friends, especially his cousin, Lord Brougham, when the nations of the continent were actually introducing the percussion lock, persuaded him to draw up a statement of his case, and the Government at last consented to make some acknowledgement of the advantages of his discovery. This tardy recompense, though received by the relatives of Dr. Forsyth, arrived too late for him. Ere the first instalment reached Aberdeen, the active and immortal soul had passed from among men.

For more than fifty years did Dr. Forsyth minister in his native parish, respected by the whole community. He died suddenly on the 11th of June, 1843. His remains lie in the north side of the Belhelvie churchyard.

¹ Free Press, Aberdeen.

William Thomson, M.A., was appointed 1843. He was a very highly-respected gentleman, and like his two predecessors died suddenly; his death occurring at a meeting of the Presbytery of Aberdeen in 1888.

Malcolm T. Sorley, B.D., was appointed in 1888.

Dr. Forsyth's smiddie, which stood at the end of the manse, was reluctantly taken down. His anvil is still in existence in the parish; as also is his card table, on which a few genial friends, including James Adam, the greatest editor Aberdeen ever saw, played a rubber scientifically.

There are four Communion cups of silver—I. Has the inscription, "For ye use of ye Lord's Supper, be Mr. David Lindsaye, 1637." II. "For ye Kirk of Belhelvie, A.D. 1636, M.D.L." III. "For ye Kirk of Belhelvie." IV. "Be Mr. David Lindsaye for the use of the Lord's Supper." There are also two pewter plates marked "Belhelvie."

The inside of the old kirk (now with bare walls) is in the picture by Mr. Philip, the artist, called "The Collection."

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SHIEL.—This congregation originated in a system of itinerancies pursued by Rev. Mr. Brown of Craigdam. His first visit to it was in 1755, and it was disjoined from Craigdam and formed into a separate charge in 1782. The present church seated for 330, is the second place of worship built by the congregation.

James Andrew the first minister was appointed in 1786, left 1800, turned a farmer near Perth, and died in 1823.

David Waddel, previously of Cabrach, was appointed 1800, and died 1826.

James Macintosh was appointed 1828, resigned 1850, and in 1855 emigrated to America.

William Gillespie was his successor in 1852, resigned 1855, afterwards minister of an Edinburgh congregation.

Edward Rankine was appointed in 1857.

There is also in Belhelvie a FREE CHURCH CONGREGATION. The following have been ministers:—Rev. Lewis Jack, Rev. Patrick Calder, and Rev. James Johnstone.

SESSION RECORDS OF BELHELVIE.—"26 January, 1623. Ordenit that ane catalogue of the names of the parishioners be read by the reader on the Sabbath days, that absentees be discovered and censurit. 25 May—Three parishioners convict of absence, and ordered to make repentance and pay a fine."

"30 December, 1628. Quhilk day Gilbert Keith, in presence of the congregation, askit God and Gilbert Jamieson's forgiveness for calling the latter witch and thief, and satisfied his penalty."

"3 July, 1636. Fast intimated on account of the plague raging in Holland and some parts of England."

"6 November, 1636. Ordained that William Gray should be put out of the parish."

"5 August, 1638. Margaret Burnett ordained to stand in the Joggis next Sabbath."

"5 May, 1644, which day George, Marquis of Huntlie, Sir John Gordon of Haddo, Alexander Irving, younger of Drum, Robert Irving, his brother, William Innes of Tippetie, and Thomas Hay, servitor to the laird of Haddo, all enemies to the cause of God and Covenant and happy Reformation, their excommunication was intimated."

"9 March, 1645. The enemies of the cause of God, under the conduct of these perfidious rebels, James Graham and the Gordons, cruellie persecuting the Covenanters, the minister, Mr. David Lindsay, was forced to flee, and did not return till the fourth day of April, and so no session during the time of his absence."

"22 June, 1645. Act of the General Assembly discharging Lykewakes, read and intimat to the people; as also the Act against the observation of Yule-day and other superstitious days, and the people exhorted and required not to transgress the same."

"7 July, 1649. Said day William Seaton of Many, Walter Stewart, having satisfied the Presbytery for subscribing the unlawful engagement made their repentance."

"3 February, 1650. William Harvie and Alexander Milne comperit having thrashed a stalk of corn before service and thereafter cam to the kirk; both ordained to make repentance in the public place."

"15 July, 1660. Solemn thanksgiving made to-day for the return of our King."

"8 September, 1661. The minister did intimate from the pulpit that now in the time of harvest, when people most frequentlie had meetings in the field, that they would hold holie communication, one with another, and refrain from scolding, railing, cursing, and fearful imprecations showing them the danger thereof."

"12 May, 1689. Proclamation read for solemn thanksgiving for our deliverance from Popery, and arbitrary power, also forbidding to pray for King James the VII., but to pray for King William and Mary, as King and Queen of this realm."

"22 May, 1726. Act read anent penny bridals with a view to their suppression on account of unruly scenes and fightings taking place."

"15 November, 1745. Minister exhorted the people to a steady loyalty to His Majesty King George, our only lawful Sovereign, and in no way to favour the popish pretender."

"22 June, 1746. Fast intimated because it pleased the Lord to bless His Majesty's arms in defeating and quashing the wicked and unnatural rebellion in this country."

THE CHURCHYARD OF BELHELVIE.

Thou are gone to the grave, but we will not deplore thee !
 Though sorrow and darkness encompass the tomb,
 The Saviour has passed through its portals before thee,
 And the lamp of His love is thy guide through the gloom.
 Thou art gone to the grave, we no longer behold thee,
 Nor tread the rough paths of this world by thy side,
 But the wide arms of mercy are spread to enfold thee,
 And sinners may hope since the Sinless hath died.
 Thou art gone to the grave, but it were vain to deplore thee !
 When God was thy ransom, thy guardian, thy guide ;
 He gave thee, He took thee, and He shall restore thee,
 And death hath no sting since the Saviour hath died.

—Heber.

In this churchyard there is an old vault, supposed to belong to the Panmure family, but the tradition regarding it is by no means clear.

A part of the churchyard is called the " Sailors' Knowe," from the fact that the sailors who are found cast dead on the shore are buried there. A professor of Marischal College has found a last resting-place in it. Being on a visit to the manse of Belhelvie, he was drowned one morning while bathing in the sea.

" Sub hoc tumulo conditur corpus Mr. Gulielmi Duncan in Academi a Marischalania P.P. quem literis ornatum, moribus inculpatum, amicis plorantibus, omnibus deflentibus. Mors sæva in tempestate inopinata, mensis Maii abstulit die 1, MDCCLX, ætatis anno 45." [Under this mound is buried the body of Mr. William Duncan, Professor of Philosophy in Marischal College, whom, accomplished in literature, of blameless morals, his friends mourning for him, all regretting him, cruel death, in a sudden tempest, carried off on the first day of May, 1760, in the 45th year of his age.]

On a moss-grown stone there is another Latin inscription—" Vir probus Franciscus Thomson diem obiit 15 Kal Maii 1712. Non justior alter hoc. Mærens posuit vidua pie." [An upright man, Francis Thomson, died May, 1719. There was not another juster than he was. His sorrowful widow dutifully placed this stone to his memory.]

A granite headstone records the death of Alexander Rainnie, builder, Aberdeen, who died 4 April, 1845, aged 45. Mr. Rainnie was the builder of Marischal College.

There are several tombstones in this churchyard, as there are in Foveran, to a family of the name of Fiddes, all descended, doubtless, from the old family of Fiddes of Fiddes.

One is " In memory of William Fiddes, sometime farmer in Darrahill, who died 31 December, 1801, aged 35. This stone is erected by William Fiddes, farmer in Darrahill, in memory of his spouse, Marjory Thomson ; also his son, James."

" When youth and beauty to the dust return,
 Let not surviving friends too deeply mourn,
 All soon must land upon the heavenly shore,
 And freed from life's rough storms
 Shall meet to part no more."

Another has this record—"This stone was erected in memory of William Fiddes, sometime in Dubiestyle, died March 26, 1785, aged 83."

"Some lovely friend will drop a tear
On these dry bones and say,
These once were strong, but now lie here,
And mine must lie as they."

Another is "In memory of William Fiddes, farmer in Mill of Minnes, Foveran, who died 25 February, 1799, aged 66."

"A husband good, a parent dear,
A faithful friend lies buried here."

A headstone is "Erected by Margaret Nisbet in memory of her husband, Rev. David Waddel, who died November, 1826. He was minister of the United Secession Church, Shiels, an affectionate and kind father, a man meek and unassuming, a faithful minister of the Gospel, who exemplified in his life the blessed influence of those truths in which he instructed others. He lived respected, and died lamented."

On a stone which has been renewed, and which is again much broken and defaced, there is this inscription:—"Gilbert Innes, sometime in Rora, who died May, 1755, aged 83. 'A man of true virtue and piety.' Also the body of Isobel Innes, his eldest daughter, spouse to Thomas Simpson in Darrahill, who died 10 July, 1748, aged 32, and the body of Jane Fraser, his wife and affectionate widow of the said Gilbert Innes, she died 26 January, 1789, aged 93; also the body of the said Thomas Simpson, who died 17 November, 1794, aged 88."

Elspet Simpson, daughter of the said Thomas Simpson, married Alexander Mitchell, son of Alexander Mitchell in Tilliecorthie, and his wife, Isobel Temple. Alexander Mitchell, Jun., succeeded his father-in-law, Thomas Simpson, in Durrhill. He had a son, William Mitchell of Parsons Green, and of the Royal Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh, who succeeded to the moveable estate of his relative, Miss Innes of Stow, worth upwards of one million sterling. He had an elder son, Thomas Mitchell, Hill of Udney, whose grandson, Alexander Mitchell, son of Alexander Mitchell of the Aberdeen Bank, succeeded to the estate of Stow. This succession gave rise to many law-suits, which were unsuccessfully contested against William and Alexander Mitchell. Their inheritance proved in their life-time, a heritage of care and trouble from which they only found rest in the grave.

To Alexander Mitchell of the Aberdeen Bank above mentioned, a marble monument has been placed in the west wall of the old church; but since the church was dismantled from its exposure to the weather and sea air, it is fast crumbling into ruin. It bears the following inscription:—"In the adjoining churchyard are interred the remains of Alexander Mitchell of the Aberdeen and County Bank. He was the son of Thomas Mitchell, sometime in the parish of Udney, was born 12 December, 1798, married 14 September, 1829, to Jane, only daughter of J. Gardiner, of the parish of Rhyndie, and died 3 October, 1834, leaving two infant sons and a widow, who records this testimony

to the memory of a husband, estimable in every relation of life." His son, Alexander, as above mentioned succeeded to the estate of Stow, which on his death, he left to his widow, who subsequently married Lord Reay.

Another marble tablet on the same wall is "Sacred to the memory of John Orrok of Orrok, captain in the Hon. E.I.C.S. 17th Regiment, second son of John Orrok, Esq. of Orrok, and Sarah Dingwall of Rainieston, his wife. He had retired on half-pay; was married to Mary, daughter of the late James Cockburn, Esq. of Lune St. Square, London, and died suddenly on 16 October, 1823, in the 40th year of his age. His mortal remains are interred here. This memorial is erected by his widow as a testimony of her affection."

Upon the stone are the arms, motto, and crest of Orrok of Orrok.

On the side of the old church directly below what was of old the Colpnay Aisle, there are the remains of an old black lettered tombstone. There is a coat of arms, an eradicated tree on the sinister side, and a winged figure on the dexter. This is probably a stone to the memory of some of the Woods of Colpnay who long possessed the estate, now called Orrok.

There is a monument of freestone on the south part of the east end of the church, and there is engraved on it in relief a coat of arms. The inscription is very illegible, and only part can be deciphered. "Crest—a primrose, on an esquire helmet with mantling. Three stars for Innes, with a fesse for difference." The arms of Innes of Blairton are recorded by Nisbet.

"D. O. M. Alexander Innes de Blairton ex antiqua familia Innessorum de Benwell Oriundus. MDCLXXIX." The rest quite defaced. Benwell was in the parish of Deer.

On an old stone, also much defaced, there is the following :—

"Remember, as you go by,
As you are now so once was I,
As I am now so must you be."

"Under this stone is the dust of Alexander Cooper, sometime in Chapelhall, Ellon, who departed this life, 15 February, 1744, in the 52nd year of his age."

A stone is erected "In memory of Ann Simpson, spouse of Thomas Milne in New Craig, Udny, died 22nd of July, 1817, aged 32. Also the said Thomas Milne, died December 30, 1854, aged 76. Also Elspet Milne, spouse to Alexander Forrest in New Craig, died March 3, 1873, aged 69." A son of Thomas Milne and Elspet Simpson, was the late John Milne, LL.D., long Principal of Dollar Institution.

Within an enclosure is a memorial "To the memory of Hay, daughter of Peter Burnett of Elrick, and wife of Colonel Thomas Lumsden, C.B. of Belhelvie, who died at Belhelvie Lodge, October 11, 1873, aged 74." On the reverse side, "Sacred to the memory of Colonel Thomas Lumsden, C.B. of Belhelvie, who died at Belhelvie Lodge, December 8, 1874, aged 85."

A table stone of polished Peterhead granite within an enclosure is "In memory of James Lumsden, Esq. of Auchry and Belhelvie, who died 17 October, 1869, aged 85."

An obelisk is "In memory of General Sir George Turner of Menie, Lieut.-Colonel commandant 12th Brigade, Royal Artillery, born March 22, 1780, died December 9, 1864; also to the memory of Robert, infant son of the above, who died May, 1827."

On the other side is the inscription, "To the memory of Rachel, third daughter of the late Robert Turner, Esq. of Menie, who died at Aberdeen, 7 January, 1847."

Within an enclosure a stone bears the inscription, "Alexander John Forsyth, born 28 December, 1768, died 11 June, 1843, fifty-two years minister of Belhelvie."

A table stone records, "Under this stone rest the mortal remains of John Lumsden, he rented for many years the farm of Eggie in this parish, and died 8 November, 1830, aged 52. Jean Whyte, his relict, died 28 January, 1868, in the 85th year of his age. Barbara Lumsden, eldest daughter of John Lumsden, farmer, Overhill, died 17 December, 1794, aged 18. Isobel Simpson, wife of John Lumsden, farmer, Eggie, died 17 May, 1807, aged 56. (These are the father and mother of James Lumsden of Auchry.) John Lumsden, late farmer in Overhill, died 7 August, 1823, aged 67. Bathia Smith, wife of George Lumsden, farmer, Keir, died April 5, 1825, aged 24. John Lumsden, son of George Lumsden, farmer, Keir, died ———, 18—. " All these Lumsdens are descended from the Titaboutie branch of the Lumsdens of Cushnie.

A granite headstone is "In memory of Robert Mennie, M.D. He died at Shiels, October 4, 1878, aged 42, and of his son, Charles Gordon, who died in infancy."

Another is "To the memory of Andrew Connon, A.M., M.D., son of Andrew Connon, Newburgh, assistant resident physician in Durham Co. Asylum. He died 17 July, 1861, in the 27th year of his age. 'A young man of great promise in his profession, whose early death was deeply mourned by all who knew him.'"

Another stone records that "John Gordon, schoolmaster, Belhelvie, died 5 September, 1805, aged 87. His spouse, Elspet Ritchie, died 23 April, 1784, aged 53."

There were three chapels in the parish, one at Milden; the churchyard was obliterated about eighty years ago. A field is still called the Chapelpark.

The second was at Ardo, where a field is also called the Chapelpark, but there are no remains.

The third chapel was at Muirton, now Meadowbank; but all traces of it and its churchyard have been removed.

THE THANAGE OF BELHELVIE.

THE Thanage of Balhelvie lay along the sea coast adjacent to that of Fermartyn, and corresponded in size very much with the present parish of Bethelvy. Of its early history as a Thanage little is known.¹

Sir Patrick de Berkelay is farmer of the Thanage of Bethelvy in 1292. On 11 April of that year, he pays to John de Gilforde, Castellan of Aberdeen, £12 12s.²

Eric of Norway had a claim of seven thousand scots on Scotland, the balance of the dowry of the Princess Margaret. At a Parliament held at Berwick-on-Tweed, 1292, upon the petition of Eric, King of Norway, it was decided that he recover seisin of the lands of Rothiemay, Balhelvie, Bathgate, and Ratho for his life, and be paid his arrears of rent.³

Walter Berkelay,

probably a son of the above named Patrick de Berkeley, had, in 1307, a charter from King Robert the Bruce of the Thanage of Belhelvie in the county Aberdeen.⁴ In 1323, the King confirms to

Hugo de Berkelay,

and Elene, his spouse, for his homage and service, the Thanage of Balhelvy with the office of serjand; also the can of the church lands of Balhelvy, extending to forty pound land and rent, as a free barony, rendering the Scottish service pertaining to a forty pound land, and the land to return to the King in case of failure of heirs of his body.⁵

Sir William de Fodringay

is the next owner. He has a charter from David II. of the lands of Belhelvie in the sheriffdom of Aberdeen. The date of this charter would be about 1340.⁶ From Sir William Fodringay, it passed to

Alexander Steward, Lord of Badenoch.

In 1379, Robert, King of Scots, grants to his beloved son, Alexander Stewart, Lord

1 Skene's Celtic Scotland, III. pp. 253-4.

2 Bain's Scot. Docu. II. p. 140, No. 587; Kennedy's Annals of Aber. I. p. 6.

3 Bain, Vol. II. p. 143, No. 601.

4 Robertson's Index of Charters, pp. 2, 17.

5 Skene's Celtic Scot. III. pp. 253-4; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 287.

6 Rob. In. Char. p. 52; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 287.

of Badenoch, the lands of Belhelvie with their pertinents within the sheriffdom of Aberdeen, to be held in feu and heritage by paying to John de Abernethy, the return due to him from the said lands, and by rendering to the King the accustomed service.¹

John Fraser of Forglen

has in 1400, a confirmation charter of the lands of Belhelvie-Boneville, to be held by the said John Fraser of Forglen, from the laird of Balhelvy, Barclay, superior of said lands, with the usual service to our Lord the King. Among the signatures is that of James Fraser of Frendraught, who was of the Forglen family of that name.²

Lord Glamys.

In 1498, we find Belhelvie belonging to Lord Glamys. The lands of Colistown in Slains, were held along with the lands of Belhelvie at this time, and there is a precept of sasine from John, Lord Glamys, baron of the barony of Belhelvie, and lord superior of all the lands of Colistown, sold to Robert Reid, lying within the barony of Belhelvie, and the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.³ In 1596, we still find the Belhelvie lands in the Glamys family. In that year there is a retour of

Patrick, Lord Glamis,

heir of Patrick, Earl of Kinghorne, Lord Lyon and Glamys, in the lands and barony of Belhelvie with the tenandries of Ardendracht and Colistown,⁴ again,

John, Earl of Kinghorne,

Lord Lyon and Glamys, was served heir, 30 April, 1647, of Patrick, Earl of Kinghorne, &c., in the lands and barony of Belhelvie, and the tenandries of Ardendracht and Colistown.⁵

Patrick Lyon, Earl of Kinghorne,

in the following year, 15 June, 1648, was retoured heir male of John, Earl of Kinghorne, Lord Lyon and Glamis, in the barony of Belhelvie, and the tenandries of Ardendracht and Colistown.⁶ We may mention that in 1641, Elizabeth, second daughter of Henry Maule of Balmacellie, the second son of the Earl of Panmure, married John, Earl of Kinghorne, and in 1653, there is a contract betwixt Patrick, Earl of Kinghorne, with consent of his curators, and George, Earl of Panmure, his uncle, whereby the latter disposes to the said Patrick, Earl of Kinghorne, his nephew, his estates of Kinghorne and Belhelvie, contained in a charter dated June 28, 1653; and the said Earl of Kinghorne ratifies the said charter in favour of the said Earl of Panmure, in so far as it concerns the lands of Belhelvie, Mindurno, Kingseat, and Balmedie; and in warrandice

1 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 288.

2 Id. p. 289; Skene's *Celtic Scotland* III. p. 253.

3 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 396.

4 Ret. Gen. Aber. No. 569.

5 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 510.

6 Id. No. 293.

thereof infests the said George, Earl of Panmure, in Newton of Glamis, dated 27 June, 1663.¹ The Earl of Panmure held bonds over the estates, and by mutual contract became, in 1663, proprietor of the Belhelvie estates. George, Earl of Panmure, of Belhelvie, died about 1671, and was succeeded by his son,

George, Earl of Panmure.

He was served heir to his father in the lands and barony of Belhelvie, &c., the advowson of the church of Belhelvie, with the rectorial and vicarage tithes thereof, the lands of Mindurno, &c., dated March 16, 1671. He died about 1686, and was succeeded by his brother,²

James, Earl of Panmure.

He was served heir to his brother, George, Earl of Panmure, in the lands and barony of Belhelvie, the tenandries of Collieston, the lands of Mindurno, &c.³ This Earl of Panmure having taken part in the rising of 1715 was proscribed, and all the estates forfeited.

From documents in the collection of the forfeited estates, in the General Register House, Edinburgh, it appears that the rental of the Panmure estates, which included the barony of Belhelvie, amounted to £3,168 9s. 6d. They were sold to the agent of the York Buildings' Company for the sum of £60,400. And when that company came into difficulties, the Belhelvie lands, in 1782, were sold to various parties in sixteen different portions, and thus have been divided in a number of different properties—Parkhill, Balmedie, Muirton, Belhelvie Lodge, Ardo, Potterton, &c.⁴

The Forfarshire estates of the Panmure property were bought by a descendant of the family at forty years' purchase, and again belong to the Panmure family, now represented by the Earl of Dalhousie.⁵

¹ Reg. de Panmure, Pref. p. xlv.

² Fet. Spec. Aber. No. 401.

³ Id. No. 2464.

⁴ Register de Panmure.

⁵ Id.

BALMEDIE.

WILLIAM HENRY LUMSDEN, M.A., is now proprietor of Balmedie. He married, in 1877, Elizabeth Lauderdale, daughter of Colonel Rainie Taylour of Borrowfield, county of Forfar, and has issue. The surname Lumsden is derived from the manor of that name in the parish of Coldingham, in the county of Berwick, still belonging to the ancient family, the Lumisdens of Lumisden.

The first of the family whose names have come down to us as early as the reign of David I. was Gillam or William and Cren de Lumisden. They attested a charter granted to the priory of Coldingham by Waldeve, Earl of Dunbar, between the years 1166 and 1182.¹

Adam de Lumisden took the oath of fealty to Edward I. at Berwick on three successive occasions, namely in 1292, 1296, and 1297.²

Gilbert de Lumisden about 1320 married the heiress of Blanerne of that ilk, also in the Merse ;³ and on the 15th of June of that year, he received from John Stewart, Earl of Angus, a charter investing him in the lands of Blanerne in the parish of Bunkle. On acquiring these lands, the family erected on the banks of the Whitadder a picturesque tower, whither they removed their residence. In 1607, David Lumisden of Blanerne sold part of Lumisden to Archibald Douglas of Tofts. Blanerne is still in the family, belonging to Mr. Sandys Lumisdaine.

From these Lumisdens the family of Lumsden in Aberdeenshire is descended.

I. Thomas de Lumisden

was the founder of this family. He obtained a charter somewhere between 1329 and 1371, from the Earl of Fife, of the lands of Drum and Conland in Fife, and Eister and Wester Maler or Maidlar in Aberdeenshire.⁴ This charter was confirmed by David II.

The next possessor of Conland and Maidlar is

II. Thomas Lumisden,

a grandson, probably, of the first Thomas. From the "Register of the Great Seal," we find his wife's name was Egidia Ogilvy.⁵ He died, circa 1470, having had three sons—David, called heir-apparent in the "Reg. Mag. Sig.," who must have died before his father ; **James**, who succeeded to Conland, and **Robert**, the first of the Cushnie line.

¹ Nisbet's Heraldry.

² Bain's Scot. Documents Vol. II. p. 236, &c.

³ Nisbet's Heraldry and Scot. Nation II. p. 702.

⁴ Robertson's Index of Lost Charters.

⁵ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1460-70.

James of Conland married Jane Arnott, and had a son, **Thomas**, with whom the Conland family ended in the male line. Thomas left a daughter, Margaret, who, according to "Nisbet's Heraldry" in the appendix, married Laudin of that ilk.

III. Robert Lumisden,

the third son of Thomas Lumisden of Conland and Medlar. He is mentioned in the following charter—"George, Earl of Rothes, know ye that we have sold to Robert Lumisden, son of Thomas Lumisden of Conland, our lands of Balmakelly with the pertinents, lying in our barony of Cusny; dated March 4, 1471."¹ The confirmatory charter, dated 1546, with a fragment of the great seal, is said to be still in the charter chest at Cushnie.² Between charters and their confirmations long periods frequently elapsed. He is said to have married the widow of George Gordon of Hallhead, a daughter of Mortimer of Craigievar. He died before 1480, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Thomas Lumisden.

Thomas Lumisden and his father are mentioned in the following deed of sasine—"George, Erle of Rothes, Lord Lesly, and Baron of Qusny, to Thomas Lumisden of Condolan. For as mekle as the lands of Balnakelle and their pertinents ar in our hands be the decess of Robert of Lumisden, the quhilk lands lying in the barony of Quisny, our will is that ye give heritable stait, &c., to Thomas Lumisden, son and heir of Robert Lumisden; dated 7 April, 1480."³ He died without issue in 1495. He was succeeded by his brother,

V. Robert Lumisden.

There is an instrument of sasine from the Earl of Rothes to Robert Lumisden, as nearest and lawful heir of his brother-german, of the lands of Medlar, dated 7 April, 1495. He married first, Isobel Forbes, daughter of John Forbes of Terpersie; secondly, Jean Calder of Asloun, and he is said to have had nineteen children. King James IV. granted, in 1509, a charter of Cushnie to Robert Lumisden.⁴ In 1538 there is an action raised before the Lords of Council and Session aganis George, Erle of Rothes, to warrand the said Robert Lumisden for all and hail the lands of Balmakelly, &c., lyand within the barony of Quisny. Robert Lumisden is said to have had a good deal of trouble in his old age with his nineteen children, who to him were by no means an unmixed blessing. They are said to have plundered him, especially his sons, Robert and Matthew. The following are some of the nineteen hopefuls:—

- I. Thomas, was killed at Flodden. He married Marjory Gordon; had seven sons and five daughters—**James**, William, **John** (afterwards of Cushnie), Robert, &c. His two brothers, Matthew and Robert, being tutors, applied the rents of Cushnie, Fowlis, Clova, and Medlar, to their own use,

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 323.

² Lumisden's Family of Lumisden.

³ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 323.

⁴ Lumisden's Family of Lumisden;

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 322.

and did give their brother's bairns neither up-bringing at schools nor any help otherwise. They matched the lasses on poor husbandmen, and sent the boys to seek their father's sword.¹

II. Matthew, of Tillycairn, married Anassle, natural daughter of Lord Forbes, and had issue. He wrote a history of the Forbes family.

III. Robert, a baillie of Aberdeen, an influential man in his day. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Keith, brother of Earl Marischal; secondly, Janeta Menzies. He had Clova, which came into the possession of his nephew, John, eighth laird of Cushnie, the said Robert having died without legitimate heirs.

1. Marjory, married to Forbes of Corse.

2. Euphemia, married to Forbes of Newe.

3. Janet, married to James Skene of Bendodde, and was the mother of Sir James Skene of Curriehill.

4. Katharine, married Patrick Gordon of Auchmenzies.

Of the other twelve children no real account can be given.

Robert Lumsden died in 1548, and was succeeded by his grandson,

VI. James Lumisden.

He was the eldest son of Thomas Lumisden, killed at Flodden (the eldest son² of Robert Lumisden). The date of his retour to his grandfather is 26 February, 1549; a sasine follows thereon, all in the Cushnie charter chest. He married Christian Leith, and died 1550, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Patrick Lumisden of Cushnie.

He was retoured heir to his great-grandfather, Robert Lumsden. On the jury were Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, William Seyton of Meldrum, William Udny of that ilk, &c. Patrick must have been a child when he succeeded, and his grand-uncles, Matthew and Robert, were his tutors and guardians. Patrick died without issue in 1562, when he was succeeded by his uncle,³

VIII. John Lumisden of Cushnie.

He was the third son of Thomas Lumisden who fell at Flodden. Patrick Lumsden had an older brother, William, a priest, who died at Mansefield. It was necessary to prove his death before John could be retoured to his nephew, Patrick. The proof is in the charter chest of Cushnie.⁴

John was retoured to his nephew in 1563. He was twice married; first wife supposed to be a daughter of Calder of Asloun; he had issue by her:—

I. **John**, his successor.

¹ Cushnie MS. as quoted in the Hist. of the Lumsdens.

² Lumsden's History of the Lumsdens.

³ Lumsden's History of the Lumsdens.

⁴ Id.

II. Arthur, mentioned in a charter of confirmation, of date 1579-80, of the lands of Fowlis Mowat.¹

1. Beatrix, married, 3 October, 1587, to William King, portioner of Barra.
2. Elizabeth, married John Burnett of Leys.
3. Janet, married James Duncan of Merdrum.

He married secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Menzies of Pitfoddels, in 1565, and had issue by her a son, Alexander. According to the Cushnie MS., "he did brake the house, and gave out of his auld heritage the lands of Clova and Medlar, being the third of his estate, to this Alexander, an unwarrantable generosity."² John Lumisden died in 1588, and was succeeded in Cushnie by his eldest son,

IX. John Lumisden of Cushnie.

In 1589, amongst those who subscribed the Act of Caution for the loyalty of a number of northern gentlemen, is John Lumisden of Cushnie.³ In 1591 there is a bond of caution in £1000, by George Gordon of Cocklaraquie, for John Lumisden of Cushnie, that he will not harm James Robertson in Wester Leochel.⁴ In 1600 there is a confirmation charter to John Lumisden of Cushnie, and his heirs male and assignees whatsoever, of all the lands of Foulis, Mowat, &c.⁵ In 1603 there is a precept of "clare constat," dated 18 January, 1603, by John Lumisden of Cushnie, in favour of his brother, Alexander Lumisden of Clova.

John married Janet Mortimer of Craigievar, and had issue four sons and two daughters, the oldest son was **Robert**, the second John; a daughter, Janet, married to William Fraser of Craigton. He is said to have wasted the estate, and contracted many debts upon it. He died circa 1628, and was succeeded by his son,

X. Robert Lumisden of Cushnie.

He married, in 1615, Elizabeth Rait, daughter of Rait of Hallgreen. She brought him a tocher of four thousand merks. They had no issue, and John, the other brother, also died without issue; so, at Robert's death, the estate passed to his cousin, the son of Alexander Lumisden of Clova.

Alexander Lumisden of Clova married Christian Irvine, daughter of Irvine of Kingcausie, and had two sons, **Robert** and Alexander, and a daughter, Agnes. Alexander died before 1626, and certainly prior to that of his nephew, Robert Lumisden of Cushnie, who was succeeded by Alexander Lumisden of Clova's oldest son, **Robert**, to whom we now come.

XI. Robert Lumisden of Cushnie,

son of Alexander Lumisden of Clova. He married Agnes Leith, daughter of Alexander Leith of Bucharn, and had issue a large family:—

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 317.

² Lumisden's History of Lumisdens.

³ Priv. Counc. Rep. IV. p. 380.

⁴ Priv. Counc. Rep. IV. p. 48.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 327.

- I. **Alexander**, the heir of Cushnie, of whom afterwards.
- II. John, of Auchindor and Corrachree, born 1647. He afterwards sold Corachree to his brother, James. He married Agnes Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Auchline, by whom he had two sons, **Harry** and Charles, and one daughter, Marjorie, who married Arthur Anderson of Candacraig in 1703. **Harry**, the eldest son, succeeded to Cushnie in 1718, of whom afterwards.
- III. Robert, married Isobel Forbes of Tulloch. He was killed, about 1690, in the Glen of Cushnie, by soldiers of King William. He had a son, John, in Cromar, who married and had issue.
- IV. James, was tenant of Strathmore, parish of Coull. He acquired Corachree, as mentioned above, from his brother, John. He married a daughter of Chalmers of Balnacraig, and had two sons, Robert and John, and several daughters.
- V. William, in Titaboutie, from whom are descended the Lumsdens of Pitcaple, Belhelvie, Balmedie, Auchindoir, Auchry, and others, of whom afterwards. There were five daughters—1. Jean. 2. Agnes. 3. Christian. 4. Margaret. 5. Ann.

Robert Lumsden of Cushnie died before 1696, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

XII. Alexander Lumsden of Cushnie.

He was born 1645; married Jane, second daughter of Francis Duguid of Auchinhove, 21 November, 1669.¹ She had a tocher of four thousand merks; had issue:—

- I. Robert, born 1672, died 1675.
1. Margaret, born 1670.
2. Elizabeth, born 1673.
3. Henrietta, born 1675, died same year.

He married secondly, Elizabeth Leith, daughter of Leith of Whitehaugh, and by her had three sons and a daughter:—

- I. John, born 1679.
- II. Ludovic, born 1680.
- III. **David**, born 1683.
1. Ann, born 1687.

The tenants of Cushnie were plundered during July and August, 1689, by their Majesties' troops, under the command of General M'Kay. John and Ludovic died before their father.

Alexander Lumsden built the old house of Cushnie, and also entailed the property on David, his son, and his heirs male; on his brother, John, of Auchindoir, and his heirs male; and thirdly on David's heirs general. He and his second wife, and his sons, John and Ludovic, are buried in the old church of Cushnie, where there is a tablet to their memory.² He died 1714, and was succeeded by his youngest son,

¹ Mar. Con. Cushnie, quoted in Lumsden's Hist. of Lumsden.

² Tombstone Churchyard of Cushnie.

XIII. David Lumsden of Cushnie.

He married, in 1703, Margaret, daughter of Sir John Forbes, second Baronet of Craigievar, and succeeded his father in 1714; and in the next year, being obliged to go abroad "on my necessary affairs," he signs a document, giving over the management of his estates to his wife. The date is Cushnie, 26 September, 1715, and the reason seems to point that he was out in 1715 on Marr's rebellion. They had issue, Margaret. He died 23 December, 1718, aged 35.

We now return to John, the second son of Robert Lumsden of Cushnie (No. X.). He was born in 1646, and married Agnes Gordon of Auchlyne, niece of Gordon of Knockspock. He purchased Corrachree as well as Auchindoir. He died 8 January, 1716, leaving two sons and two daughters:—

I. Henry.

II. Charles, married Jane Gordon of Harlaw.

1. Marjory, who married Arthur Anderson of Candacraig.

2. Mary, married to Rev. William Brown of the Scotch Episcopal church.

XIV. Henry Lumsden of Cushnie,

the eldest son of John Lumsden above mentioned, succeeded, at his death, to his father's property of Auchindoir, and to Cushnie and Clova on the death of his cousin, David, in 1718. In 1723, he was appointed executor dative to his uncle, Alexander, and to his cousin, David,¹ and married, in 1720, Katharine, daughter of George Gordon of Buckie, by whom he had issue:—

I. **John**, his successor.

II. Matthew, in Whiteley, married Helen Forbes.

1. Jane, married, 1742, John Burnett of Camphill.

2. Margaret, married Hugh M'Veagh, linen manufacturer, Huntly; had issue five sons, who d. s. p., and three daughters—1. Catharine, married, 1780, Henry Lumsden of Belhelvie, of whom afterwards. 2. Letitia, married Thomas Gordon, W.S., Edinburgh. 3. Margaret, married Lewis Farquharson of Ballogie.

Henry Lumsden of Cushnie married secondly, 1736, Margaret Foulis, widow of Gordon of Abergeldie, and died 8 June, 1754,² and was succeeded by his son,

XV. John Lumsden of Cushnie.

He did more than all his predecessors to waste the property, for he was personally extravagant. He married, 8 September, 1757, Anne, daughter of Captain John Forbes of Newe, and had issue eleven children, all of whom died without issue, except his second son, John.

I. Henry, d. s. p. in 1775.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1723.

² Tombstone Kildrummy, Scot. Mag.

- II. **John**, who succeeded.
- III. James, born 1764, Colonel H.E.I.C.S.
- IV. David, born 1768, Colonel H.E.I.C.S. He presented to the library of King's College, a very remarkable roll, nearly twenty feet long, written in Sanscrit, and containing an account of the Hindoo mythology, with grotesque paintings of their gods.¹
- V. William, born 1767.
- VI. Alexander, born 1771.
- VII. Robert, born 1776.
- VIII. Matthew, LL.D. He was born 1777. He was educated at King's College, and sought, like his brothers, his fortune in India. He turned his attention to the Oriental languages, and he became assistant Professor of Persian and Arabic in the college of Fortwilliam. In 1805, the fruit of his studies appeared in a Persian Grammar, and in 1808, he succeeded Captain Baillie as Persian and Arabic Professor. In 1812, he was appointed superintendent of the translation of various English works into Persian, and in the following year, he published an Arabic Grammar in two volumes folio. In 1814, he obtained the charge of the E.I.C. press at Calcutta, which he retained for three years. His health failed under these manifold labours, and a journey to his native country was deemed essential to his recovery. He came to England, and died at Footing Common, Surrey, on 31 March, 1835, in his 58th year. His own and many other Oriental works, in the publication of which he was concerned, were presented by himself to the library of King's College, where he and his family were all educated, and from which, as a testimony of his high acquirements, he received the degree of LL.D.²
1. Ann.
 2. Catharine, both of whom died unmarried.

John Lumsden died 12 June, 1795, aged 68,³ and was succeeded by his second son,

XVI. John Lumsden of Cushnie.

He highly distinguished himself in H.E.I.C.S. After filling various subordinate situations with great credit and ability, he was called, in 1805, to be a member of the Supreme Council, an office which he held for seven years with eminent advantage to the public service. After having served the Company for thirty-six years, he obtained from the Governor-General, in a letter to the Directors, an honourable testimony to the unsullied purity of his character both in public and in private life. In 1817, he was chosen a Director. He married in India a lady of the name of Fresle, and by her had issue a son and six daughters:—

¹ New Stat. Acct. p. 1171.

² *Id.* p. 1122.

³ Tombstone Kildrummy.

I. Henry Thomas.

1. Madeline, married ——— Grant.
2. Alicia, married ——— Hawkins.
3. Eliza, married first, Captain Wilson ; secondly, Sir William Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden, and had issue.
4. Harriet, married George Clarke Cheape of Millfield, Fifeshire, and had issue.
5. Sophia.
6. Letitia, married Rev. ——— Battiscombe.

John Lumsden of Cushnie died in 1818, and was succeeded by his son,

XVII. Rev. Henry Thomas Lumsden of Cushnie.

He was vicar of St. Peter's Ipswich. He married, in 1832, Susannah, third daughter of Neil B. Edmondstone, Bart. Rev. Henry died in 1867, leaving his widow life-rentrix of Cushnie. On her death in 1887, the succession devolved on W. S. Seton, his nephew, who is now

XVIII. Sir William Samuel Lumsden Seton, Bart. of Pitmedden and Cushnie.

We now return to **William Lumsden** in Titaboutie, fifth son of Robert Lumsden of Clova and Cushnie, as above mentioned.

William Lumsden was tenant in Titaboutie, parish of Coull. He married, in 1687, Jean Gordon, daughter of Robert Gordon in Lowlands of Auchindoir,¹ had issue four sons :—

- I. James, died without issue in 1730, aged 40.
- II. **Alexander**, settled first at Birkenbreal, secondly at Boghead of Kintore, of whom afterwards.
- III. William, settled at Midclova, Kildrummy. He is also called of Harlaw. He married Rachel, daughter of his cousin Charles Lumsden, litster, Aberdeen, and died February, 1788. He had two sons and three daughters. Both of the sons, Henry and John, went to the West Indies. John died there without issue. Henry was bound apprentice to Adam Baxter, cooper, Aberdeen,² and went to Jamaica, 1760 ; made a fortune, returned to Aberdeen, purchased the lands of Auchindoir and Clova from John Lumsden of Cushnie in 1782 ; executed an entail thereof, and died without issue in April, 1796. The first heir of entail was Henry Niven of Peebles, near Arbroath, son of his youngest sister, who became Henry Niven Lumsden, and was created a knight in 1816, and a knight baronet in 1821. He died without surviving issue, 15 December, 1821, aged 36.³ His wife was a daughter of General Leith Hay of Rannes. They had

¹ Kildrummy Register.

² Reg. of Indentures.

³ Tombstone Kildrummy.

three children, who died in infancy. The second heir of entail was Harry Leith, son of the second sister, Catharine, who had married John Leith, tenant in Warthill, who became Henry Leith Lumsden. He had been a house carpenter in Aberdeen. He married Jane Young, daughter of James Young, R.N., and widow of Dr. Duncan. He died 27 March, 1844, aged 68. His wife died 7 January, 1861, aged 73. They had no issue. The third heir of entail was Henry Lumsden, third son of Henry Lumsden of Belhelvie, who died 26 June, 1856, aged 72 (see afterwards). A son, Hugh Gordon, succeeded his grandfather in 1856.

We now return to **Alexander Lumsden**, second son of William Lumsden in Titaboutie. He settled, as above narrated, at Birkenbreal, secondly at Boghead of Kintore. He married Isobel Seaton, daughter of Rev. Mr. Seaton, minister of Coull, and had issue at least three sons :—

I. Henry, d. s. p.

II. George, d. s. p.

III. **John**, in Boghead of Kintore. He married Christian, daughter of Alexander Stephen in Goval, Fintray, and had issue six sons and four daughters :—

I. **Harry**, his heir.

II. John, in Overhill of Belhelvie, married Isabella Simpson, issue at least four sons and one daughter :—

I. John, born 1781, in Eggie of Belhelvie; married a daughter of William Smith, in Banff.

II. Alexander, sometime in Overhill.

III. James, of Auchry and Bethelnie, who married Mary, daughter of William Mortimer, Aberdeen. She was one of the heirs of the wealthy John Farquhar of Font-hill Abbey. Mr. Lumsden bought, about 1830, the lands of Auchry in Montquhitter from the Cumines, and subsequently Bethelnie from the Kilgours, in the parish of Meldrum. Mr. Lumsden was a famous agriculturist, and improved his property of Auchry by draining and reclaiming, so that at his death the rental was more than doubled. Mrs. Lumsden died in 1858, Mr. Lumsden in 1868, leaving four sons :—

I. John Farquhar, of Auchry, who has done much to improve the gardens, and his collection of herbaceous plants has few equals in the county.

II. Richard, of Cuminestown, married ———, resides at Bridge of Allan.

- III. Edward, of Bethelnie, died 1883.
- IV. Frederick, of Garmond and Bethelnie, died 1891.
- IV. George, sometime in Keir, Belhelvie, afterwards in Auquhorthies; married, and had issue one son at least, and three daughters.
 - 1. ———, married to Mr. William Walker, Aberdeen.
- III. George, in Middle Ardo, had issue a son, William, merchant, Aberdeen.
- V. James, Grove, Aberdeen; died in Jamaica; no issue.
- VI. Benjamin, of Kingsford, Alford; no issue.
 - 1. Jane, married William Harvey, in Monycaboc, and had issue.
 - 2. Anne, married Peter Reid of Muirtown, now Meadowbank, and had issue.
 - 3. Barbara, married George Jamieson, in Brae of Kintore, and had issue.

We now return to **Harry Lumsden**, advocate, Aberdeen, the eldest son of John Lumsden, Boghead of Kintore, grandson of William Lumsden in Titaboutie, who was fifth son of Alexander Lumsden of Clova and Cushnie. He married, as above narrated, his cousin, Catharine, a daughter of Hugh MacVeagh, Huntly. He bought about 1780, from the York Buildings' Company, part of the estate of Belhelvie, now called Belhelvie Lodge. It formerly belonged to the forfeited estates of the Earls of Panmure. About the same time he purchased the estate of Pitcaple, or rather the reversion, from the Misses Lumsden, daughters of Professor Lumsden, who married Miss Leslie of Pitcaple, a family long proprietors thereof. He had issue five sons:—

- I. Hugh, of Pitcaple, Sheriff of Sutherland and Caithness, J.P. and D.L.; chief of the Titaboutie branch of the Lumsdens of Cushnie. He married first, Frances, second daughter of Alexander Brebner of Learney, by whom he had issue one daughter, married to Rev. George Bain, minister of the Free Church, Chapel of Garioch; secondly, 1824, he married Isabella, fourth daughter of Walter Fergus, county of Fife. He died 1859, and left issue:—
 - I. Henry, J.P. and D.L., who succeeded him in Pitcaple. He married, 1866, Edith Jane, daughter of Rev. Robert S. Battiscombe, M.A., and has issue—I. Hugh, born 1864.
 - II. Walter, H.E.I.C.S. There were besides these four daughters.
- II. Henry, of Tilwhilly and Auchindoir, D.L. He succeeded, as above narrated, on the death of H. L. Lumsden, the last successor of the original entailor, to the estate of Auchindoir and Clova. He died 1856, aged 72. He had issue three sons:—

- I. Henry, who married Ann Gordon, daughter of Hugh Gordon of Manar; had issue a son, Hugh Gordon, now proprietor of Auchindoir. He married Maria Gordon of Wardhouse, and has issue.
- II. John, died in infancy.
- III. Hugh, died 1848, aged 16.
- III. Thomas, Colonel, C.B., of Belhelvie Lodge: married Hay, daughter of John Burnett of Elrick, and had issue six sons and five daughters:—
 - I. Sir Henry Burnett, K.C.B., now of Belhelvie Lodge; married, 1866, Fanny, daughter of Rev. George Myers of Dunningwell, Cumberland.
 - II. John.
 - III. Thomas.
 - IV. Sir Peter, one of the commissioners appointed in 188— to settle the boundaries between Afghanistan and Russia.
 - V. William.
 - VI. Hugh David.
- IV. **William James**, of Balmedie, of him afterwards.
- V. Clements, advocate, Aberdeen, married Jane, daughter of James Forbes of Echt; issue two sons and five daughters:—
 - I. Henry William, Lieut.-Col.; married his cousin, a daughter of Hugh Lumsden of Pitcaple; author of a history of the family of Lumsden.
 - II. James Forbes, advocate, Aberdeen; married Anne, daughter of William Fisher of Ferryhill House, Aberdeen.

We now come to the fourth son of Henry Lumsden, advocate, Aberdeen.

I. **William James Lumsden of Balmedie, Balthain, &c., &c.**

He acquired a fortune in the Bombay Civil Service, and purchased estates in Aberdeenshire, particularly those of Balmedie (a portion of the Panmure property), Newtyle, Balthain in Monquhitter, and Johnston in Leslie. He married first, Margaret, daughter of Viscount Arbuthnot; she died 1845. He married secondly, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Thomson of Manningham Lodge, county of York, and had issue:

- I. **William Henry**, now of Balmedie.
- II. George Gordon, died young.
 - 1. Agnes Peile, married Captain Boyle, R.N., and has issue.
 - 2. Catharine Elizabeth.
 - 3. Mary, married William Campbell Colquhoun of Clathick, Perthshire.

Mr. Lumsden married thirdly, ——— Forbes, daughter of ——— Forbes Leith of Whitehaugh.

Mr. Lumsden bequeathed £500 to the Scottish Episcopal Church, called the

Lumsden Fund, the interest of which is to be divided annually amongst one or more poor clergymen in the county of Aberdeen. He died in 18—, and was succeeded by his son,

II. William Henry Lumsden of Balmedie.

He is M.A. of the University of Cambridge; J.P. and D.L. for Aberdeenshire; married, 1877, Elizabeth Lauderdale, daughter of Colonel Rainie Taylour of Borrowfield, county of Forfar, and has issue:—

- I. Harry Taylour, born 1879.
- II. Charles Ramsay, born 1880.
- III. Ernest Francis, born 1882.
- IV. Bertie Noel, born 1885.
- V. William Vernon, born 1887.

The arms of Lumsden of Cushnie, according to Nisbet, are—Azure, a buckle, or, between two wolves' heads in chief, and an escallop in base, argent. Crest, a naked sword. Motto—"Dono Dei sum quod sum."

A coat of mail in King's College said to have been worn by one of the Lumsdens at Harlaw in 1411. No Lumsden is especially named in the book of the monastery, "Beate Mane de Cupar"; but he may be included "inter fere omnes generosos de Buchan et alios valentes armigeros." He must have been the son of Thomas Lumsden who flourished 1329-71, of whom there is little record.

BLAIRTON—ITS PROPRIETORS.

BLAIRTON is now owned by James Douglas Walker, and has been for many years a separate property.

The first owner of it to be found is **John de Boneville**, who is mentioned in a roll of missing charters about 1326.¹ The charter is to John de Boneville of the lands of Blairton, &c., in the Thanedom of Balhelvie and shire of Aberdeen. The next, his son,

II. John de Boneville,

is mentioned in the confirmation of a charter by Robert II., made by John de Boneville, son and heir of the late John de Boneville, to **John Fraser** of Forglen, of the lands of Balhelvi-Boneville, together with the lands of Blairton.² After the Frasers we find

¹ Robertson's Index of Missing Charters, pp. 16, 17, 21.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 184.

Andrew Wod of Blairton.

He was a witness in 1487 to the deed of institution of Master William Creighton into the parish church of Durris. In 1548, it belonged to the minister of Balhelvie.¹

Amongst the lands that could nocht be retourit in value, because the lordis and barons fewirs of the same comperit nocht, nor yet their chamberlainis nor officers, was Blairton.² It afterwards belonged to a family of the name of Gardyn.

Thomas Gardyn of Blairton.

Sir Walter Ogilvie of Findlater became surety, in 1592, for William Leslie, with his servants, that they should not harm Thomas Gardyn of Blairton. Thomas Gardyn of Blairton was a witness in the case of Lord Glamys, accusit of the murder of Patrick Johnston of Mosstown, near the kirk of Belhelvie.³ He was succeeded by his son,

II. Robert Gardyn of Blairton.

He was served heir, April 10, 1610, to his father, Thomas Gardyn, in the ecclesiastical lands of Belhelvie called Blairton, and the mill of the same, within the parish of Belhelvie.⁴ He was succeeded by his son,

III. Robert Gardyn of Blairton.

Robert Gardyn in Balgirsche was served heir, January 21, 1615, heir-male of his father in the church lands of Blairton.⁵ To the Gardyns a family of the name of Innes succeeded.

Alexander Innes of Blairton.

On the south-east corner of the old church of Belhelvie there is an inscription very much defaced—"Alexander Innes de Blairton ex antiquâ familia Innesorum familiâ de Benwell Oriundus, MDCLXXIX."

II. Robert Innes of Blairton,

a son probably of the above, was a writer to the Signet and Lyon Clerk. He traced his descent from the Inneses of Glenmark in Glass, and Artannes, originally of Benwell.⁶ Seventeen years after the above date, in 1696, we find in the "Poll Book,"⁷ as proprietor,

James Milne of Blairton.

After him we find a charter by James, Earl of Panmure, to Mr. Alexander Mitchell, minister of Belhelvie, of the lands of North Colpnay or Blairton, to be held of the granter and his successors in free blench ferm, given 17 September, 1708.⁸ Eventually

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 213.

2 Id. I. p. 187.

3 Priv. Counc. Reg.; Dingwall's Fordyce Family, p. xxviii. Eccle. Reg. Abdn. p. 124.

4 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 125.

5 Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 136.

6 Family of Innes, S.C. pp. 257, 258.

7 Poll Book II. p. 538.

8 Reg. de Panmure, II. 347.

it came into the possession of a family of the name of Walker. Before 1812, Blairton was owned by **John Walker**. On 15 August, 1812, Jane Walker was served heir-portioner general to her father, John Walker of Blairton. At the same date, Une Cameron or Walker was also served heir-portioner general.¹ And it is owned at the present time by a descendant of the same family, **James Douglas Walker** of Blairton.

POTTERTON, WESTER HATTON, MILDEN—THEIR PROPRIETORS.

POTTERTON was also a portion of the Belhelvie estates. It was sold by the York Buildings' Company, when they came into pecuniary difficulties, to **James Harvey**. He bequeathed it to a grandchild, **James Harvey**, burdened with a life-rent to his mother, the daughter of the said James Harvey. She married the Rev. Mr. Allan. When her son grew up and married, he obtained a lease of the home farm at a moderate rent. The said **James Harvey** married Elizabeth Clerk, daughter of Leslie Clerk, baillie, Aberdeen. He died before his mother, Mrs. Allan, leaving to his wife the feeright of the estate. She, after the death of the mother of James Harvey, sold the estate to **Mr. Thomas Clapperton**, Fochabers. Mr. Clapperton married Miss Martin, daughter of James Martin in Cornyhaugh, and has issue.

WESTER HATTON is owned by the Society of Advocates, Aberdeen, who have for more than three hundred years been distinguished by the name of advocates. On what grounds the procurators before the courts in Aberdeen have received this title does not clearly appear. The first admission of procurators before the court occurred in 1633, when Sir Thomas Crombie of Kemnay was sheriff-depute of Aberdeen. At that time there were persons practising before the court, who, perhaps, were not regarded as duly qualified, and therefore the sheriff, on the 2nd of October, passed an Act of court, by which he designated those who were entitled to conduct judicial proceedings, and discharged every other person from officiating in that capacity before that judicatory. The number of procurators at that time recognised by the sheriff was sixteen, and their qualifications and integrity being perfectly known to him, he admitted all and each of them to the place and privilege of members, ordinary advocates, and procurators of the court.²

MILDEN came into the possession, about 1788, of George Still, merchant, Aberdeen. His son, John Still of Milden, was served heir to him, June, 1800.³ This property is still owned by their descendant, Robert Still of Milden, who resides in London.

ARROW-HEADS have been frequently found in a bed of yellow flints near the sea; and on a moor some gold ornaments of considerable value were found.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1812.

² Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen, II. p. 168.

³ Ret. Decen. 1830.

THE SEA COAST OF BELHELVIE is a beach of fine sand, bounded with sand hills covered with bent. Next to that is a narrow stripe of sand covered with short grass, kept always for pasture. This stripe is so level, that the engineers appointed by government to measure Scotland selected it as the levellest place they could find for measuring a base line of five miles and a hundred feet. The south end of the line begins on a small hill called Tarbathy, on the south boundary of the parish, and terminates in a rising ground at Leyton, on the estate of Menie.

There is a quantity of peat-moss in the parish, and it is probable that this moss extends for a considerable way under the sea, "for on Christmas day, 1799," according to Dr. Forsyth, in his interesting statistical account of the parish, "when there was perhaps the most dreadful tempest that any one remembered to have seen on this part of the coast, several cubical blocks of peat-moss were cast up by the sea upon the sandy beach, some of them containing upwards of seventeen hundred cubic feet. In general, when anything like a tempest occurs at sea, a considerable quantity of peat-moss of the same kind is cast upon the sandy beach."¹

Sir James Lawson of Humbie, riding on Belhelvie sands, where many other gentlemen were passing their time, sank down in a part of the sands and perished. He was found again next morning, but his horse was never seen. The death of Sir James Lawson of Humbie is said to have suggested to Sir Walter Scott the manner of death of the Master of Ravenswood in the Kelpie's flow.²

A great number of barrows at one time existed, commencing near the small hill of Tarbathy, and keeping nearly a mile in breadth. They extended about twelve miles inland. In some places they were very numerous, especially where there were circular enclosures of stones, with a ditch outside, containing about a quarter of an acre of ground. In the larger mounds coarse clay urns were found, containing within them what appeared to be ashes and pieces of burnt bones.³

OVERBLAIRTON

(CALLED ALSO COLPNAY AND ORROK).

IN 1490, there is a charter to Andrew Wod of Overblairton of an annual payment of four pounds usual money of the kingdom from the lands of Waterton, Eister Ellon, and Creheid, by Dorothy Tulloch, superior of these lands, with the consent of her husband, Walter Wod.⁴ In 1493, at Glenarthany, the King, for his faithful service, granted to Andrew Wod of Overblairton, and his heirs, all the lands commonly called the Castle-hill of Aberden, and the Stoket wood, near the burgh, and within the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.⁵ In 1539, fully a hundred and fifty years afterwards, the above-mentioned

¹ New Stat. Acct. p. 242.

² Cham. Dom. Annals. I. p. 439.

³ New Stat. Acct. p. 242.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 47.

⁵ Id. p. 213.

feu-duty was conveyed by Andrew Wod de Bawbegno to the Principal and Masters and prebendaries of King's College; and by the same deed assigned to them in warrandice a similar feu-duty from the lands of Overblairton or Colpna, now called Orrok, in the barony of Belhelvie.¹ In 1548, we find Andrew Wod of Colpny present at a court held at Aberdeen by John Leslie of Balquhain;² and in 1593, Alexander Wod of Colpny acts as cautioner for Alexander Buchan of Auchmacoy.³ In 1601, Alexander Wod of Colpny is mentioned in proceedings regarding Gordon of Gight; also in proceedings against Lord Glamis for the slaughter of Patrick Johnston of Mosstown.⁴

The Woods were in occupation of Colpny in 1631. Margaret Wood, daughter of the laird of Colpny, according to Spalding, was one of the suspected persons to be either "airt or pairt" in the counsel of the fire at Fren draught; was apprehended and warded in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh; in torture, and after torture she confessed "that Ogilvie of Banff seduced her," with the result that Ogilvie's deposition in this business was "nocht to be respectit."⁵

In 1696, we find Colpny divided into North and South Colpny.⁶ North Colpny was occupied by Alexander Stewart, proprietor thereof. He succeeded his father, James Stewart, of North Colpny. He was one of the commissioners for the parish of Belhelvie for collecting the poll tax.⁷ North Colpny was then valued at £214 13s. He had children pollable, James, Isobel, and Jane Stewarts. In 1705, we find the following birth brief—"That James Stewart, merchant in Poland, is lawful son to Alexander Stewart of North Colpny, procreat betwixt him and Margaret Bruce, his spouse; and that the deceased Alexander Stewart was lawful son to the deceased James Stewart of North Colpny, procreat betwixt him and umquihile Margaret Anderson."⁸ From the Stewarts, it passed to a family of the name of Mitchell.

In 1708, there is a precept of clare constat by James, Earl of Panmure, to Mr. Alexander Mitchell, minister of Belhelvie, of the lands of North Colpny.⁹

In 1732, Alexander Mitchell (a son of above) of Colpny married Ann Osborne, daughter of Rev. William Osborne, minister of Fintray.

South Colpny was valued, in 1696, at £300 Scots. John Leslie was then proprietor. He had children of pollable age, Thomas and Ann.¹⁰ In 1701, there is a precept of clare constat by James, Earl of Panmure, to Thomas Lesly of South Colpny, as heir of John Leslie, his father, in the lands of Little Colpny, Shiels, Greenden. He died, and was succeeded by his brother, Walter Leslie.¹¹ In 1713, there is a precept of clare constat by James, Earl of Panmure, to Walter Leslie, brother-german of the late Thomas Leslie, in the lands of Little Colpny, Greenden, and Shiels.¹²

Eventually Colpny, North and South, was purchased by a family of the name of

1 Fasti Aberdonensis p. 112.

2 Ant. A. and B. I. p. 115.

3 S.C. Mis. I. 139.

4 Eccle. Rec. Pres. Aber. pp. 133, 134.

5 Spal. Troubles, I. pp. 19, 20, 420.

6 Poll Book, Vol. I.

7 Poll Book.

8 Spal. Club Misc. V. p. 368.

9 Reg. de Panmure, p. 345.

10 Poll Book Vol. II. p. 535.

11 Reg. de Panmure, p. 343.

12 Id.

Orrok, descended from and probably the representative of the Orroks of Orrok in Fifeshire. They named it Orrok "in memoriam." Of the Orroks we find the following:—

John Orrok of Orrok (formerly called Colpnaw), in the parish of Belhelvie, and at one time a captain, it is believed, in the merchant service, married Sarah Dingwall, second daughter of John Dingwall of Rainieston, bailie of Aberdeen, and Mary Lumsden, his wife. He died 16 October, 1796, and had issue:—

I. **Walter.**

II. **John.**

III. Robert.

IV. **Weyms.**

II. Walter Orrok of Orrok

was served heir to his father, John Orrok of Orrok, who died 16 October, 1796, heir of line special in the Mains of North Colpnaw and of Greenden and Shiels, in the parish of Belhelvie.¹ The next in succession was his brother.

III. John Orrok of Orrok

was served heir to his brother, Walter Orrok of Orrok, who died March 1, 1809; heir special in North Colpnaw or Overblairton, &c., dated 11 March, 1812.² He is succeeded by his brother,

IV. Weyms Orrok of Orrok.

He was served heir in 1824 to his brother, John Orrok of Orrok, who died 1823; heir of line special in the lands of North Colpnaw, Anchorum Moss, Little Colpnaw, Greenden, Shiels, Howlands, dated 26 April, 1824.³

The Orroks possessed Orrok down to 1880, when it was sold to Robert Stewart Walker, who died 1884, and is now possessed by his trustees.

All is vain and transitory; Orrok of Orrok has again passed away, and Orrok, in Aberdeenshire, awaits a new name.

THE ARMS OF THE ORROKS OF ORROK.—They were registered, 1672, by Alexander Orrok of that ilk, county of Fife.—"Sable, chevron, or, between three mullets, argent, as many chess rooks of the field." Simon de Orrok witnesses a charter, 1248. In 1296, Symon and Robert de Orrok swore fealty to Edward I. The original estate in Fife, which was erected into a barony in the seventeenth century, was sold, and lands in Aberdeenshire bought, to which the name of Orrok was given.⁴

There were two or three of what are called druidical circles on the moor lands of the parish of Belhelvie about eighty years ago. One of them was large and very entire, but the moor was improved and cultivated, and not a vestige now remains.

¹ Rets. Decen. 1796.

² Id. 1812.

³ Decen. Rets. 1824.

⁴ Stodart's Arms II. p. 186.

MENIE—ITS PROPRIETORS.

MENIE, now the property of Miss Turner of Menie, has been for many years a separate, independent feudal lordship.

In 1317, there is a charter of King Robert the Bruce to John de Boneville, knight, of the Dauch lands of Blairton and Menie, dated at Arbroath ;¹ and in 1379, there is a charter of John de Boneville to William Chalmer, burges of Aberdeen, and Elizabeth, his spouse, of the lands of Many, containing certain muthes and marches, dated at Aberdeen, 12th of July ; also a charter of confirmation following thereon, of date September 26, 1380, and in the ninth year of King Robert II.²

A few years after this date we find it in possession of Richard Vaus. In 1406, he, described of Many, is a witness to a charter of Ranald de Uldeney regarding the founding of a chapel at Udny. Richard Vaus is also mentioned in charters of date 1435, and in 1456.³

II. Gilbert Vaus of Many

was retoured heir of Richard Vaus, and there was a sasine proceeding on this retour of the lands and mill of Many. He seems to have been succeeded, as we learn from the following sasine, by his grandson,⁴

III. Gilbert Vaus of Many.

In 1510, there is a sasine of Gilbert Vaus, grandson and heir of the deceased Gilbert Vaus, in the lands of Many. He was succeeded by his son,⁵

IV. John Vaus of Many.

There is a sasine in his favour—John Vaus of Many, son and heir of Gilbert Vaus, of the said lands of Many. It is dated 23rd of May, 1514. He had been served heir to his father, 10 January, 1513.

And we find, in 1539, January 3, a charter under the great seal to John Vaus of Many, of the lands of Many, Findone, and Portlethen, on his own resignation, to be called the barony of Many.

We now come to a change in the ownership. Margaret Vaus, daughter of John Vaus of Many, married John Carnegie, third son of Robert Carnegie of Kinnaird. The said John Vaus granted, on 25 January, 1556, to the said John Carnegie and his spouse, Margaret Vaus, the lands and barony of Many, and the lands of Easter and Wester

¹ Robertson's Missing Charters, pp. 16, 17.

² Invent. of Writs, 1629, in posses. of Carnegie Fam.

³ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 360 ; Ant. A. and B.

I. pp. 425, 514.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 293.

⁵ Invent. of Titles of Many in possession of the Carnegie Family.

Ruthvens, in the county of Aberdeen. The life-rent of the granter was reserved. On the 25 January, 1556, Queen Mary grants a confirmation of this charter.¹

John Carnegie of Many resigned these lands to his brother-german, **Sir John Carnegie**, who singularly bore the same name, and from him the lands descended to **David**, Lord Carnegie. He sold them to **William Forbes**, who obtains a charter under the great seal of the lands of Many, with the manor place and mill; also the lands of Altersett and Cowhill.² **William Forbes** bought, in 1617, the lands of Logie, Fintray, still in possession of his descendant, **Sir William Forbes, Bart.** (now Lord Sempill). **Arthur Forbes** possessed Many for sometime, and after him, it was for a short time in the possession of **James Lindsay** of Williamstone, and of **William Seton** of Udney, from whom it passed to **Robert Graham** of Morphie. He was Seton of Udney's creditor. After him the next owner was ³**Robert Kerr**, burgess of Aberdeen. He was succeeded by his son,

II. Alexander Kerr.

In 1678, there is a service of **Alexander Kerr**, eldest lawful son of **Robert Kerr** of Menie, in the barony of Menie, with the manor place, held of **Robert Graham** of Morphie, knight baronet, in free blench ferme, for payment of one penny.⁴ He was succeeded, probably, by his son,⁵

III. Alexander Kerr of Menie.

In 1711, at a presbytery meeting at Aberdeen, in virtue of a written procuration from **Mr. Andrew Burnett**, Episcopal minister of Aberdeen, who preached at Trinity Chapel in that city, he appeared in his defence. Notwithstanding **Mr. Kerr's** advocacy, **Mr. Burnett** was deposed.⁶

A family of the name of Seton seems to have again owned Menie. The Dowager-Viscountess of Frendraught, widow of **Lewis**, last Viscount, was served heir, in 1719, to her father, **Thomas Seton**, Cornet of Horse (signifer equitum); also heir of provision general in the same year to her brother,⁷ **Thomas Seaton** of Menie.

The next to be found is **George Turner** of Menie. He was the son of **Robert Turner** of Turnerhall and his wife **Margaret Rose**. (See Turnerhall and Tippertie.) He was sheriff-clerk of Aberdeenshire. He married **Margaret**, daughter of **John Gordon**, M.D., of Pitlurg, and had issue:—

- I. **Robert**, his successor.
- II. **John**, died in infancy.
 1. **Margaret**.
 2. **Catharine**.

¹ Inventory of the Writs of Many.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. xlv. p. 360.

Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 360.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 285.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 335.

⁵ Poll Book II. p. 532.

⁶ S.C. Misc. I. p. 62.

⁷ Decen. Rets. 1719.

Mr. Turner married secondly, Margaret Cattanach, by whom he had no issue. He was succeeded by his son,

II. Robert Turner of Menie.

He married, 1772, Euphemia, daughter of David Simpson of Hazelhead, and had issue :—

- I. George, died in infancy.
- II. John, entered Hon. E.I.C.S., and died in India.
- III. **George**, of whom afterwards.
- IV. Robert, Hon. E.I.C.S., died in India.
- V. William, Hon. E.I.C.S., fell in battle.
- VI. Alexander, Hon. E.I.C.S., died of wounds received in battle. He married, and had issue four sons and four daughters, all dead (1884), with the exception of one son, Robert.
 1. Euphemia.
 2. Margaret.
 3. Rachel, died 1847.

Robert Turner was succeeded by his third son,

III. General Sir George Turner of Menie, R.A., K.C.B.

He was Colonel-Commandant of the Royal Artillery. He served at the capture of the Cape of Good Hope in 1806, and during a portion of the Peninsular war, being present, besides other actions, at those of Orthes and Toulouse. In 1831, he was made a C.B., and in 1862 a K.C.B. He married Margaret, daughter of John Ramsay of Barra, and had issue :—

- I. George Robert, died in infancy.
 1. Mary Euphemia.
 2. Margaret, died unmarried.
 3. **Helen Catharine**.
 4. **Robina Rachel**.

General Sir George Turner died 1864, and was succeeded by his last surviving daughters,

IV. The Misses Helen Catharine and Robina Rachel Turner of Menie.

Miss Helen Catharine Turner died 3 March, 1891, and

V. Miss Robina Rachel

is now sole proprietrix of Menie.

MUIRTON, OR MEADOWBANK.

MUIRTON, OR MEADOWBANK, now belongs to Alexander Sim. Like a great portion of Belhelvie it formed a part of the Panmure estates, and on the forfeiture of the Earl of Panmure, after the rising of 1715, it became the property of the York Buildings' Company. From the Trustees of that body it passed by purchase, in 1769 or 1770, to Francis Logie, merchant, Aberdeen, by whom it was re-sold, in August, 1782, to James Reid, merchant in Ravensden and Gardenston, in the county of Banff. This gentleman was the son of John Reid, Protstown, Gamrie (whose family had been settled in Troup since 1620), and was born in November, 1717, dying unmarried in February, 1793. He was a burghess of Aberdeen, and, besides a number of other charitable legacies, he left £1000 to the Aberdeen Infirmary, as is duly recorded on the wall of the old board-room of that institution.

From him the lands of Muirton passed by settlement to his nephew, Peter Reid, the son of his brother, John Reid, Fortrie, Longside. Peter Reid was born in December, 1767, and married Miss Ann Lumsden of the Belhelvie family (see Balmedie), dying in May, 1795, in his 28th year.

He was succeeded by his only son, James Reid, born in May, 1792, who, being only three years old when his father died, passed a long minority under trustees before coming into full control of the estate. He married Miss Jessie Gray, Fintray, and died in August, 1862, leaving a large family. In terms of his will, the property was sold in 1877 to Alexander Sim, the present proprietor.

Of the sons of the last Reid of Muirton, the eldest, Peter, died unmarried in 1874. The second son was James Reid, M.D., Ellon, who married Miss Beatrice Peter, Canterbury, in the county of Kincardine, and died in March, 1883, leaving two sons, of whom the elder, James Reid, M.D., C.B., Physician to the Queen, is now the direct representative of this family, and, failing him, his brother, John Peter Reid, long resident in Japan.

WHITECAIRNS

is owned by Sir Charles Stewart Forbes of Newe and Edinglassie. He was born 1867, succeeded 1884. The first baronet of this family was Sir Charles Forbes, son of the Rev. George Forbes of Lochell. He was at one time a merchant in Bombay; was created a baronet in 1823. In 1833, he was served nearest heir-male in general to Alexander, third Lord Pitsligo, by a jury at Aberdeen, and the same year the Pitsligo arms and supporters were granted to him by the Lyon Office in Edinburgh.

ARDO AND MIDDLEMUIR—THEIR PROPRIETORS.

ARDO, now the property of the Misses Harvey, formed part of the Belhelvie estates. In a roll of charters of Robert I., 1326 or thereby, there is a charter of William de Strathbrock of the lands of Foveran and Ardache.¹ There is also a charter of Mary Meldrum, spouse to Philip Meldrum, of the lands of Logy Ardoche, and Craigie, in the county of Aberdeen;² and in 1366, we find a charter of David II., King of Scots, to John de Inverpefrie and Christian de St. Michael, his spouse, of the land of Conveth in Banffshire, and Logy Ardoch in Aberdeenshire.³ A few years after, in 1380, there is a charter of these lands to Alexander Stewart, Lord of Badenoch. They were resigned in his favour by William de Fodringay.⁴ Afterwards it formed part of the Panmure estates. In a description of the parish of Foveran, of date 1720 or so, the burn of Foveran is described as separating the lands of Forbes Ardache from those of Glamis Ardache in Belhelvie.⁵

They were purchased, about 1756, by Mr. Dingwall of Rainieston, and were sold by one of his successors, in 1849, to Mr. Peter Harvey.

The Harveys are descended from Harveys in Newmachar, who held several properties there, though the connection cannot now be distinctly traced. On December 2, 1613, Andrew Hervie of Elrick is served heir of James Hervie, his father, in the lands of Tillimad, Snailend, &c.⁶ Again, in 1657, Thomas Hervie is served heir of Gilbert Hervie, elder, merchant burghess of Aberdeen, in the lands of Elrick and Monycaboc.⁷

In 1696, John Harvey was in the highlands of Monycaboc, and in the same year, William Harvey had the south tack of Monycaboc.⁸ Again, in 1696, Patrick Harvey was heritor of Upper Rhenieshill, valued at £84. He was minister of Forgue, and his poll was £4 12s. In the same year Strypes of Newmachar was owned by Mr. Alexander Hervie. His valued rent was £50, and his poll tax £4 6s. His wife's name was Marjorie Collyson. They had issue:—

- I. John.
- II. James.
1. Katharine.

James Harvey, descended from some of the above-named, had the farm of Seaton, Bridge of Don. He married Miss Fiddes, Belhelvie, and had issue:—

- I. Alexander, Mains of Grandhome. He married Miss Stephen, Goval; issue:—
 - I. James, of Potterton.
 - II. William, in Beedlieston.

¹ Rob. Index of Charters p. 1.

² Id. p. 52.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 287; II. p. 318.

⁴ Id. II. p. 319.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 367.

⁶ Spec. Ret. Aber. No. 591.

⁷ Id. No. 338.

⁸ Poll Book II.

- III. **Peter**, in Daneston, of whom afterwards.
1. Jane, who married John Cumming, Bridge of Don, and had issue, a daughter, Jane, who married John Duguid Milne, advocate, Aberdeen ; had issue :—
 - I. John Duguid, advocate, Aberdeen, of Melgum and Ardmiddle, married, and has issue.
 - II. Robert, died 1891.
- II. James, farmer, Bridgefield, Bridge of Don ; married Miss Hunter, and had issue :—
 - I. James, Grandhome ; married Miss Milne, sister of John Duguid Milne.
 - II. Alexander, Drums ; married Miss Fiddes, Pitgersie ; issue—
 - I. James, Pitgersie. II. Robert, Drums.
- III. William, Monycaboc ; married Jane Lumsden, Boghead of Kintore, sister to Henry Lumsden, advocate, Aberdeen, and had issue :—
 - I. James, Highlands, unmarried.
 - II. Alexander, advocate, Aberdeen.
 - III. John, died young.
 - IV. William, M.A., Monycaboc ; married Margaret Cruickshank, daughter of James Cruickshank, surgeon R.N., Forgue ; issue four sons—William, James, George, and Robert, besides some who died in infancy.
 1. Christian, married Alexander Adams, Cairnton ; issue, with others, John, Bruckley ; secondly, married Peter Singer, Bourtie ; issue, with others, Peter (of Wyllie & Son, booksellers).
 2. Anne, married James Abernethy, Ferryhill ; issue, besides daughters—I. James, married Miss Isabella Bathia Wyllie. II. Robert, married Miss Sophia Cameron. III. John, married Miss Lyall Grant ; and daughters.
 3. Catharine, married John Crombie of Grandhome and Cothal mills ; issue—I. James, married Miss K. S. Forbes. II. John, married Miss Laing. III. William, died young. 1. A daughter, married Mr. Adamson, Kinnermit. 2. Jane, married Rev. Mr. Leslie, Turriff. 3. Eliza, married Rev. Mr. Thain, Newmachar. 4. Susan, married Rev. Dr. Cock, Rathen.
 4. Susan, married her cousin, Peter Harvey, of whom afterwards.
 5. Barbara, married James Bisset, Aberdeen ; issue, among others—William, Liverpool and London, who married Miss Milne.
 6. Isabella, married George Strachan, factor, Fintray.
 7. Jane, died young.

We now return to Peter Harvey of Ardo and in Daneston. He purchased, as already mentioned, the property of Ardo in 1849 from Mr. Dingwall of Rainieston. He and his brother, William, in Beedlieston, are mentioned by Mr. McCombie, M.P., in his book entitled "Cattle Breeders," as enterprising farmers and breeders of cattle in their day. He married his cousin, Susan Harvey, as mentioned above, and had issue :—

I. **Alexander**, his successor.

II. William, Middlemuir.

III. James.

1. Susan.

Mr. Harvey died 18—, and was succeeded by his son,

II. Alexander Harvey of Ardo.

He married Agnes Abernethy, and had issue, with others :—

1. Susan, married Rev. J. S. Loutit, minister of Foveran.

2. Agnes.

3. Catharine.

Mr. Alexander Harvey died 18—, and the estate is at present held by his trustees for behoof of his family.

SCOTSTOWN—ITS PROPRIETORS.

SCOTSTOWN is now owned by William Moir. During the irruption of the Danes in former ages this place is said to have been a station of the Scots, from which it had its name, and the Danes are believed to have taken theirs at a farm about a mile to the northward, which is to this day called Danestown.¹ The following is the descent of the Moir family :—

I. John Moir,

who flourished between 1470-1516, was elected in the first year of the reign of James IV. a burges of the city of Aberdeen. A son, probably, was

II. John Moir.

Of him there are no authentic accounts. The next

III. John Moir,

was served heir to his grandfather in the year 1560. He was succeeded by

IV. William Moir, M.A.

He was a burges and treasurer of Aberdeen ; was served heir in 1602 to his father, and married Janet Rae.² They had issue :—

¹ Douglas' North-East of Scotland, p. 183.

² Gill's Moir-Byres, p. 71.

- I. Henry, baptised 28 May, 1605.
- II. John, born 1610. He was ancestor of the Moirs of Stoneywood.
- III. **William**, progenitor of Moir of Scotstown. He was the second of Scotstown, his father having owned it.
- IV. Patrick, born 13 July, 1615. He was elected baillie, and afterwards, in 1648, Dean of Guild of Aberdeen; in 1675, Collector of Excise, Aberdeen; married, 4 January, 1637, Isobel Gray, and had issue.²

V. William Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

He was, as stated above, third son of William Moir and Janet Rae of Scotstown. He was Principal and Professor of Mathematics in Marischal College,² and married Jean Gordon, daughter of Gilbert Gordon of Gordon's Mills, and had issue, a son, **William**, who succeeded.

VI. Dr. William Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

He married, June 5, 1656, Margaret, daughter of Gilbert Skene of Dyce,³ and had issue:—

- I. **William**, baptised 9 September, 1658.
- II. Gilbert, went to Poland.⁴
- III. Patrick, baptised 10 August, 1666.
- IV. Alexander, baptised 8 May, 1668.
 1. Jean, died in infancy.
 2. Margaret.
 3. Marjorie.
 4. Jean.
 5. Isobel.
 6. Mary.
 7. Elizabeth (James Moir and Robert Patrie, Portlethen, godfathers).⁵

Professor Dr. Moir died 1670, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Dr. William Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

He was born 1658; married Jean, daughter of Alexander Abernethy of Mayen. She re-married, James Moir of Stoneywood, as his second wife. They had issue a son,

VIII. Alexander Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

He was served heir to his father, 26 January, 1695. He married Mary Chalmers, and had issue:—⁶

1 Birth Brieve S.C. Mis. V. p. 362.

Gill's Moir-Byres, p. 71.

2 S.C. Mis. V. p. 362.

3 Skene's Fam. of Skene p. 84; Gill's Moir-Byres p. 75.

4 S.C. Mis. V. p. 362.

5 Gill's Moir-Byres Fam. p. 75.

6 Id.

- I. William, baptised May 16, 1724.
- II. **George**, who succeeded.
 1. Janet, baptised August 19, 1721.
 2. Jean, baptised March 4, 1723.

He died in 1752, and was succeeded by his son,

IX. George Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

Regarding him there is the following retour—"George Moir of Scotstown to his father, Alexander Moir of Scotstown, Thankerhill, Dubford, and in the Kirklands of Kirktown of Spital, dated 29 July, 1752."¹ He married twice, and by his first wife he had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, his heir.

George Moir married secondly, Margaret, daughter of George Cumine of Pitulie, by his wife, Christian Guthrie of King-Edward, and had issue by her—

- II. George, born 10 October, 1771; sometime a merchant in Bathia, afterwards of Denmore, near Aberdeen. He married Mary Agnew, only daughter of Sir William Bruce, ninth Bart. of Stenhouse,² and had issue:—
 1. Mary Anne, who married the late Lieut.-Col. Knight Erskine of Pittodrie; issue, ——— Knight Erskine of Pittodrie, and a daughter married to Rev. H. Flower.
 2. Margaret Isabella, married to Joseph Dundas of Carronhill and Fingask, Stirlingshire, and has issue.

- III. William, of Park, on Deeside, born 1789; married Mary Elizabeth (who died 1868), daughter of John Forbes of Blackford, by Margaret Gregory, and died 1843, leaving five sons and five daughters, of whom the following survived infancy:—

I. **George**, who succeeded to Scotstown.

1. Mary Christina, married, 1795, Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield, now Balgownie, and had issue (see Balgownie).
2. Isabella, married John Urquhart of Craigston, and had issue.

George Moir died 29 April, 1789, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

X. Alexander Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

He was born 1764; was for many years sheriff-substitute of Aberdeen. He married Margaret, daughter of James Gordon of Leicheston in Morayshire, and had issue by her an only daughter, **Isabella**. Alexander Moir died 29 June, 1824, and was succeeded by his only daughter,

XI. Isabella Moir of Scotstown and Spital.

She married Sir Michael Bruce, eighth Bart. of Stenhouse. Regarding her there is

¹ Decen. Rets. 1752.

² Gill's Moir-Byres, p. 76.

the following retour—"Isabella Moir or Bruce, wife of Michael Bruce, younger of Stenhouse, to her father, Alexander Moir of Scotstown, who died 29 June, 1824; heir-special in the lands of Scotstown, Thankerderhill, Dubford, and others, in Aberdeenshire."¹ She died 19 November, 1867, without issue, and was succeeded by her kinsman (see No. IX),

XII. George Moir, C.B., of Scotstown.

He was the eldest son of William Moir of Park and Mary Elizabeth Forbes; born 1820; Colonel of Bengal Horse Artillery; succeeded under the will of his cousin, the above-mentioned Lady Bruce. He married Miss Bean, daughter of Colonel Bean, and died in India, 5 February, 1870, and was succeeded by his son,

XIII. William Moir of Scotstown.

He is a Captain in the 18th Hussars.

ARMS OF DR. WILLIAM MOIR OF SCOTSTOWN.—He bore argent three negroes' heads, coupè, proper, with a ribbon or scarf about the brow knit behind, of the first; above ye shield, ane helmet befitting his degree, mantled gules, doubled, argent. Next is placed on ane torse, for his crest a mort head upon two leg bones saltire ways, proper. The motto on the escroll—"Non sibi sed cunctis."

DANESTON is now the property of John Crombie, son of James Crombie of Cothal Mills.

BALGOWNIE LODGE, the property of John Crombie, who married, and has issue, with others, John William Crombie, M.P. for Kincardineshire.

DENMORE, owned at one time by George Moir, second son of George Moir of Scotstown, afterwards by Mr. Hardy Robinson, now by the trustees of said Mr. Robinson.

GRANDHOME—ITS PROPRIETORS.

GRANDHOME is now the property of William Roger Paton. In ancient times it was called Granden; in the times of the Jaffrays it was called Dilspro; but it has now resumed nearly the old name.

In 1326, there is a charter from King Robert the Bruce to John Crabb of the lands of Prescolly, Granden, Auchmollen, and Auchterorny, in the county of Aberdeen.² In 1340, King David II. granted a charter to Ingeram Cullan of the lands of Graindun, Prostoli, &c., which belonged to John Crabbe. From John Crabb the lands of Craibstone had probably derived their name.³ In 1391, King Robert II. confirms a charter to Alexander de Keith of Grandown of the lands of Glendowachy, Auchmolin, Proslly, Craibstone, and Balmady.⁴ Again in 1413, October 7, Alexander de Keith, knight,

¹ Deecn. Rets. 1824.

² Robertson's Index of Charters, p. 17.

³ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 231.

⁴ Id. III. p. 165.

gives to his son-in-law, Patrick Ogilvie, son and heir of Patrick Ogilvie (Vicecomitis de Angus), and to Christian, his wife, his lands and barony of Doune (where Macduff now is), in the sheriffdom of Banff; also the whole and entire lordship of Grandoune, lying within the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.¹

In 1425, there is a confirmation charter in favour of Patrick Ogilvie, knight of Grandone, of a donation and concession made with the consent of the late Alexander Ogilvie, sheriff of Forfar, his father, to one chaplain to celebrate divine offices in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the sake of the soul of the late (of blessed memory) Andrew de Lesly, knight.² In 1466, under a bricve of the King's chancery, Alexander Ogilvie is served heir to his mother, Christian Keith, in the lands of the lordship of Grandown and Fotherletter. Robert Stewart of Laithers appears as his attorney.³ And in 1475, James, Earl of Buchan, Lord of Ochterhouse, and Baron of Grandone, with the consent of his spouse, Margaret Ogilvie, confirmed by charter to his cousin, James Innes, all the lands of Balmaddy lying within the barony of Grandone, in the sheriffdom of Aberdeen.

In 1536, the Abbot of Arbroath granted a nineteen years' lease of the lands of Mondornach lying in the barony of Fiwen, with power to construct a mill, with "le vrak and vair," to Alexander Guthrie of Granden, and Alexander Guthrie, his eldest son, for yearly payment of £6 13s. 8d. Scots.⁴ In the same year the lands of Crabistown, lying within the barony of Granden, were sold, upon reversion, by James Gordon of Aberzeldy, to James Cheyne, burgess of Aberdeen. They were redeemable upon the payment of seventeen score merkis of gold of angell nobillis crowns of weicht unycorns and Leith crowns, &c.⁵

A century afterwards, in 1643, June 2, Robert Inglis, heir of John Inglis, merchant burgess of Edinburgh, his father, was served heir in the lands of Grandhome, Over and Nether Perslies, with the salmon fishing upon the water of Don, and within the parish of St. Machar.⁶

After the Inglises the Jaffrays possessed it, who in their time called it Dilspro; and from the Jaffrays, sometime before the end of the seventeenth century, it came into the possession of the present family, the first of whom we find is

I. George Paton of Grandhome.

Before 1690, according to Kennedy's "Annals," he was one of the great temporal barons of Aberdeenshire.⁷ He married Isabella Christie, and had issue, **John**, who succeeded. George Paton of Grandhome died February, 1711, and was succeeded by his son,

II. John Paton of Grandhome.

He was served heir-general to his father in Grandhome, Perslie, and fishings on the

1 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 166.

2 Id. p. 370.

3 Id. p. 178.

4 Id. 178. Reg. Recent Abbace de Aberbrothok.

5 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 222.

6 Ret. Spec. Aberd. 267.

7 Kennedy's Annals of Aber. II. p. 491.

Don, dated 18 February, 1712.¹ He married Christian, daughter of John Forbes of Leslie. We find her in 1740 served heir to her sister. "1740, Christian Forbes or Paton, widow of John Paton of Granhome, to her sister, Barbara, daughter of John Forbes of Leslie, heir-portioner general." Again, "Christian Forbes or Paton, widow of John Paton of Grandhome, to her sister, Lilius, daughter of John Forbes of Leslie, heir-portioner general, 18 February, 1744."²

According to another authority, he married Margaret, daughter of Garden of Troup, who must have been his first wife. He had issue a son, **George**. John Paton of Grandhome died 5 August, 1739, and was succeeded by his son,

III. George Paton of Grandhome.

He was served heir-general to his father, John Paton, who died 5 August, 1739, in the lands of Grandhome and Perslie, with the salmon fishings and ferry boat on the Don, Aberdeenshire, dated 26 May, 1744.³ He married Barbara Mackenzie, daughter of Mr. Mackenzie of Ardross. They had issue, at least one son, **John**. George Paton of Grandhome died August 8, 1748, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. John Paton of Grandhome.

He had the property also of Farrauchtie. He is mentioned in the following retour—"John Paton of Grandhome to his father, George Paton of Grandhome, who died August, 1748, heir-special in Grandhome and Perslie, and salmon fishings in the Don, dated 24 August, 1753." There is also the following one—"George Paton of Grandhome and Perslie to his grandfather, John Paton of Grandhome, heir-general, dated 24 August, 1753."⁴ He married Mary, daughter of William Lance, and had issue, at least one son, **William**. John Paton of Grandhome and Farrauchtie died 17—, and was succeeded by his son,

V. William Paton of Grandhome.

He was of the Hon. E.I.C.S.; married, in 1809, Louisa, daughter of Spearman Bird, of H.E.I.C.S. They had issue:—

- I. **John**, who succeeded.
- II. William, born 1820, died 1824.
 1. Louisa, married, 1835, John Henry Lance.
 2. Mary, died 1818.

William Paton of Grandhome died 18—, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. John Paton of Grandhome.

He was an officer in the 91st Regiment; born 1818; married Eliza Deborah Burnett, daughter of Thomas Burnett and Mary Garden of Troup.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1712.

² Id. 1744.

³ Decen. Rets. 1744.

⁴ Id. 1753.

Thomas Burnett was the son of James Burnett of Monboddo and his wife, Elizabeth Forbes of Craigeivar.

Mary Garden of Troup was daughter of Peter Garden of Troup and Dalgaty, by Miss Balneaves of Edradour, heiress through her mother, Miss Campbell, of the estate of Glenlyon.

They had issue :—

I. **William Roger**, his successor.

1. Mary Louisa, married, 1863, Charles Home Sinclair.

2. Ida Margaret.

3. Sarah Matilda.

4. Elizabeth Bertha, died 1861.

John Paton of Grandhome married secondly, Katharine, daughter of Colonel Lumsden of Belhelvie, C.B., by a daughter of Burnet of Elrick.

Mr. John Paton was a D.L. and a J.P. for Aberdeenshire. He died 1879, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. William Roger Paton of Grandhome,

who married Irene Olympiti, daughter of Emmanuel Olympiti of Calymnos. They had issue :—

I. George, born 13 August, 1886.

II. John, born 1890.

1. Thetis, born 21 November, 1887.

BALGOWNIE--ITS PROPRIETORS.

BALGOWNIE is written sometimes Polgowny ; called also Cairnfield, Fraserfield, according to its various owners, and now it has resumed its ancient name, Balgownie.

The earliest notice, by no means very clear, is the following in 1317—"De lunâ proximâ ante Festum Sancti Laurentii Martyris, anno gratiæ 1317, in plena curia burgi de Aberdene, Ade filia Rogeri de Harewood de Polgowney et hæres Malcolmi de Polgowny, &c." This deed has reference to a piece of ground within the burgh, which belonged to Malcolm de Polgowney.¹ In 1498, there is a ratification of a royal grant to the Bishop of Aberdeen and to the city of Old Aberdeen of certain lands, in which Robert Lundie de Balgonie is a witness.² In 1511, there is an instrument of resignation of the lands of Leask-Brogane, and a witness there is William Lyon de Balgownie.³

In 1581, George Auchinleck of Balmanno, at that time President of the Supreme Court, had obtained a grant of the lands of Polgowny on the north bank of the river

¹ Burgh Rec. of Abdn. I. p.
S.C. Misc. V. pp. 3, 6.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 165.

³ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 163.

Don, and in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen. The Earl of Morton was at this time all powerful, and conceiving that without challenge he might dispose of the ancient property of the burgh, granted to his nephew a charter "de novodamus," in which was comprehended a right to the fishings of the river Don contiguous to these lands, although these fishings had belonged to the town of Aberdeen since the days of Robert the Bruce. Auchinleck accordingly took possession of these fishings, which gave rise to long lawsuits. King James at last, after the downfall of Morton with his council, passed a revocation of the charter, under which Auchinleck held these fishings.¹ In 1598, Auchinleck of Balgownie is mentioned as one of the barons of Aberdeenshire.²

The next proprietors of Balgownie were a family of the name of Menzies, a branch of Menzies of Weymss.

From the following genealogy we learn that Gilbert Menzies, fifth in descent from Sir Robert Menzies of Weymss (called Banison Gibb), had two sons, Thomas and Gilbert. Gilbert married Janet Maitland, lawful daughter of Achmordiw, and had issue by her, Thomas, of Balgonie, who married Janet Gordon, lawful daughter of the laird of Abergeldie.³ In 1616, Mr. Thomas Menzies de Balgonie is served heir-male of his uncle, Walter Menzies, burgess of Aberdeen.⁴ From the Records of the Presbytery of Aberdeen, we find that this Thomas Menzies of Balgownie did not communicate at the Communion in Aberdeen held April 16, 1616.⁵ In 1622, he is ordained to subscribe the Confession of Faith; and in 1630, having refused, he is obliged to leave the country. In that year he is found living at Dieppe, as, being a Roman Catholic, he was obliged to retire there. He had nine children.⁶ In 1656, Francis Menzies, younger of Balgownie, is excommunicated; and in 1658, Francis Menzies, now of Balgownie, was served heir to his father, Thomas Menzies of Balgownie, in the town and lands of Balgownie, the town and lands of Westfield, the town and lands of Murcar, the corne milne of Balgownie, otherwise called Keithock Milne, the walke milne of Balgownie, the advowson and right of patronage of the chaplain's altar of St. Devenick, within the cathedral of Old Aberdeen, all formed into the barony of Balgownie.⁷ The next in succession is William Menzies of Balgownie. He was served heir to his father, Francis Menzies of Balgownie, in the town and lands of Balgownie, much the same as in the preceding retour. Besides this retour there are retours of Alexander Menzies, second lawful son of Mr. Thomas Menzies of Balgownie, heir of provision and tailzie of his father, Thomas Menzies, in a half-net's fishing on the river Don, 1662-3, and in February 28, 1672.⁸ On December 9, 1694, Thomas Menzies was served heir of William Menzies, the son of Mr. Thomas Menzies de Balgonie.⁹ Sometime before this date, 1694, the Balgownie property passed from the Menzies family to a family of the name of Gray, a branch of the Lord Gray family. This family called it Cairnfield. In 1690, Gray is mentioned by Kennedy in his "Annals" as a temporal baron of Aberdeenshire.¹⁰

1 Kennedy's Annals of Abdn. I. p. 125.

2 Id. II. pp. 491, 2, 3, 4.

3 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 287.

4 Ret. Gen. No. 8536.

5 Eccle. Presb. Rec. Abdn. p. 83.

6 Brief Narrat. pref. p. xxiii.

7 Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 347.

8 Ant. A. and B. III. p. 175.

Ret. Spec. Aber. Nos. 462, 406.

9 Ret. Gen. No. 4852.

10 Kennedy's Annals II. p. 491.

In 1700, Lord Gray (once Geòrge Gray of Creichie), was served heir to his brother, Alexander Gray of Balgownie, heir of tailzie and provision general.¹

From the Grays it passed to the Frasers, who changed its name to Fraserfield. The first of this family was **Hon. William Fraser**, second son of William Fraser, eleventh Lord Saltoun, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Dr. Sharpe, Archbishop of St. Andrews. He chose the legal profession, and became in 1713 a member of the Faculty of Advocates. His father seems to have had every confidence in his ability and integrity, for he constituted him trustee for the £4000 which he left by his will to his eldest grandchild, the son of the Master of Saltoun, and his wife, Lady Mary Gordon, which trust William Fraser rigidly executed, and enforced payment from the twelfth lord, after he succeeded his father. The eleventh Lord Saltoun also left William Fraser, at his death in 1715, a considerable sum of money, which enabled him, in 1721, to purchase the estate of Balgownie, near Aberdeen, from Lord Gray, and he then changed its name to Fraserfield. At the general election in 1722, he stood for Kintore and its associate burghs; but though successful at the poll, he was not duly elected. On the 24th of October, 1724, he married Lady Katharine Anne Erskine, eldest daughter of David, Earl of Buchan, and within three years he died, on the 23 March, 1727, in the 36th year of his age. He left an only son,

II. William Fraser of Fraserfield.

Regarding him there is the following retour—"William Fraser of Fraserfield to his father, William Fraser of Fraserfield, advocate, who died March, 1727; heir special in the lands of Fraserfield, Balgownie, with its milne, Westfield, Murcar, &c., Aberdeenshire, dated 11 October, 1729."² William Fraser was born September 28, 1725. He served for some years in the army. He married Rachel, daughter of Rev. Hugh Kennedy of Rotterdam. She died June, 1800, while he predeceased her on 31 October, 1788. They had issue a large family:—

I. **William**, his successor.

II. Hugh, died in infancy.

III. **Alexander**, who succeeded his brother, William.

IV. Henry David, born 27 April, 1762; was an officer in the British army, and a Brigadier-General in the Portuguese service. He married, 26 October, 1800, Mary Christina, daughter of John Forbes of Skellater. He was senior General in the Portuguese service, Governor of Rio Janeiro, and K.G.C. of the Order of Avis in Portugal, and Charles II. of Spain, and died in 18—, leaving issue:—

I. William John, born 11 June, 1801, died unmarried.

II. John Henry David, born 27 December, 1803, died unmarried.

1. Sophia Mary, born 8 December, 1802; married Count Henry Francis Bombelles, and had issue.

¹ Decen. Rets. 1700.

² Decen. Rets. 1729.

2. Margaret Alexis, born 18 June, 1805; married the Marquis de Gazella.

3. Mary Ann, born February 1, 1807, died unmarried.

V. Kennedy, born 1763, died 17 May, 1819, unmarried.

VI. Hugh, born 26 September, 1764, and became Rector of Woolwich. He married Miss Loyd, and died in 1837, having had issue, Erskine William, born 23 June, 1766; served in the 71st Regiment; became Colonel in the 109th Regiment; acquired the property of Woodhill in Aberdeenshire; and died 21 January, 1804. He married, 1794, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Forbes of Ballogie, and had issue:—

I. William, born 1796. He succeeded to Woodhill; served in the 24th Light Infantry; became a Colonel in the army; and married, in 1833, Mary Elizabeth Shuttleworth, and died in 1872, leaving issue a daughter, Elizabeth.

1. Rachel, born 1795, died 1797.

1. Margaret, married, 1771, David Stewart, Earl of Buchan; died 1819.

2. Katharine Anne, married, 1771, Duncan Forbes Mitchell of Thainstone, and had a numerous family.

3. Ann Alicia. 4. Rachel—both died in infancy.

He died in 1788, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

III. William Fraser of Fraserfield.

He was born 4 December, 1752. He did not enjoy the estate for a whole year, but died on the 21 October, 1789. He was unmarried, and the succession devolved on his next brother,

IV. Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield.

He was born 8 January, 1761; was in the H.E.I.C.S.; and on the 20 April, 1795, he married Christina, eldest daughter of George Moir of Scotstown. Regarding him there is the following retour—"Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield to his father, William Fraser of Fraserfield, who died 31 Octobe., 1788; heir special in the barony of Fraserfield, including Balgownie, Westfield, in the parish of St. Machar, dated 11 November, 1790."¹ By his wife, who died September, 1813, he left issue:—

1. **Margaret**, of whom afterwards.

2. Rachel, born 2 March, 1798; married William Maxwell, and died in 1867, leaving issue.

3. Katharine Isabella, born 2 November, 1799; died unmarried in 1867.

4. Mary, born 2 January, 1802; married, in 1825, William Urquhart of Craigmston, and died in 1873, leaving issue.

Mr. Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield died July, 1807, and was succeeded by his daughter,

¹ Decen. Rets. 1790.

V. Margaret Fraser of Fraserfield.

She was born 6 July, 1796, and married, on 27 May, 1816, her first cousin, Henry David Forbes, sixth son of Duncan Forbes Mitchell of Thainston, by whom she had issue. Regarding her there is the following retour—"Margaret Fraser of Fraserfield to her father, Alexander Fraser of Fraserfield, who died 9 July, 1807, heir-portioner special in the barony of Fraserfield, in the parish of St. Machar, dated 29 September, 1808." Her children were:—

- I. **Duncan**, who succeeded.
- II. Henry Erskine, Lieut.-Colonel and late Major 21st Hussars; married, April, 1855, Letitia Angelina, daughter of Lieut.-General G. O. Laurence, C.B., and by her, who died October, 1857, he had issue one daughter.
 1. Margaret Moir, who married Alexander Kinloch Forbes, Bombay Civil Service, leaving issue.
 2. Rachel Louisa, who married Major-General F. G. Urquhart, late 1st Regiment of Foot; issue, two daughters.
 3. Emeline, married Rev. John Gabriel Ryde, M.A. (first class classics Oxford), at one time incumbent of St. Andrew's Church, Aberdeen, latterly of Melrose, where he died in 1868. She died 1881, leaving a numerous family.
 4. Georgina Mary Agnew, married, December, 1857, Robert Farquhar Spottiswoode of Muireisk, and has issue. His eldest son, Henry, married in 1882, ———, daughter of the late Sir George Abercromby of Forglen and Birkenbog.

Mrs. Fraser Forbes died in 1839. Fraserfield in her time resumed the ancient name of Balgownie. She was succeeded by her eldest son,

VI. Duncan Forbes of Balgownie.

He married Janet Dyce, only daughter of the late Robert Forbes of Castletown, Kincardineshire. He died in 1893.

The arms of this family are—"Azure, a cross patée fitchée, or, between three boars' heads coupéd arg. muzzled gu. Crest—a cock pp. Motto—"Watch."¹

Near Balgownie were two cairns, which gave to it the name at one time of Cairnfield. Near these cairns a battle between the Scots and Danes is said to have taken place, from which has originated the names Scotstown and Danestown.

On the boundary of the property of Balgownie is the Old Bridge of Don, called sometimes the "Brig of Balgownie." It was built, according to some, by Bishop Cheyne, according to others by King Robert the Bruce—probably the Bishop projected and founded the bridge, while the King finished it at the exiled Bishop's expense, using the revenues of the See for this purpose. In order to keep it in repair, Sir Alexander Hay, one of the clerks of session, by charter, date 1 February, 1605, granted to the

¹ Lord Saltoun's Frasers, pp. 163, 164, 165.

Town Council of Aberdeen certain annuities of £27 8s. 6d. Scottish money arising from various crofts in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen. This small fund of £2 5s. 8d. sterling was the original means of raising the present opulent fund belonging to the bridge.

FINTRAY AND ITS MINISTERS.

FINTRAY, according to the author of the "View of the Diocese," had for its titular St. Giles. There was a church in Hatton dedicated to this saint, and it was probably situated in the churchyard still remaining at the south-west end of the village.

The parish church was situated at Cothal, but becoming ruinous a new one was built in 1703, by Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, in the present churchyard, where a gable still remains. A new one was built in 1821 a little to the north of the churchyard. The site of the northern branch of the Abbey of Lindores, or Abbot's country house, is doubtful; but it is believed to have been on the site or near the present churchyard, as foundations of buildings are said to have been sometimes found in digging graves, and one stone with the date 1386 was probably a stone of the Abbey buildings. In the year 1505, King James IV. was on a pilgrimage to St. Duthac's shrine, Tain, and lodged in his way at the Abbot of Lindores' country house at Fintray.¹ The Abbey of Lindores was founded in 1202-6, by Earl David, brother of King William I. He granted to it besides many other churches, the church de Fintrith, the church de Inverurin, with the chapel de Munkegin, and all their pertinents.² In 1257, Pope Alexander VI. ratified the provision made by the Abbot and Convent of Lindores to the vicar of the parish church of Fintray of a yearly stipend of eighteen merks, the altarage of the church, an acre of land next the mother church for a manse, and the half of the teind sheaves of the lands of Logie-Fintray then cultivated: all the rest to remain with the Convent and Abbey of Lindores.³

Of the vicars before the Reformation, the names of a few have been recorded.

John Scott, in 1484, is mentioned as vicar of Fintray.⁴

Alexander Forbes, vicar of Fintray, is mentioned, 1541, in a deed of Wester Disblair by the Abbot of Lindores, in favour of Henry Philippe and Christian Orem.⁵

Stephen Maneris is mentioned in 1571 as vicar of Fintray, probably the last vicar of the Church of Rome, and as a reader at Fintray is found four years before this date, he had probably been removed from the charge.⁶

Alexander Hervie was reader in 1567, and the same year Mr. Thomas Flemyn was appointed vicar and reader.⁷

John Quheit having Dyce, Skene, Kinellar, also in charge along with Fintray, had a stipend of £5 13s. 4d. He was translated to the sole charge of Skene.⁸

¹ Lindores Abbey, p. 189.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 246.

³ Reg. Ep. Aber. I. p. 23.

⁴ Id. pp. 317, 319.

⁵ Charters Middil Disblair.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. III. pp. 86, 198, 207.

⁷ Id. I. p. 229.

⁸ Scott's Fasti VI. 501. Ant. A. and B. I. p. 229.

Walter Richardson having the same charge was translated to Clatt.¹

John Currie was reader in 1580.²

Thomas Gardyn was reader in 1585, and in 1593 was translated to Tarves.³

William Neilson was admitted in 1594. Dyce and Kinellar were also under his care, the former till 1600. He was presented to the vicarage by James VI., and John, Lord Forbes, was cautioner that he should leave the same unhurt. The Presbytery, on 13 August after, "found by the reports of the elderis and remanent parishioners that he was of guid lyff and faithful in his calling baith in doctrine and in discipline." He continued till June, 1610.⁴

Andrew Abercromby was admitted prior to August 12, 1639. In that year he was elected a member of Assembly.⁵ Being a violent Covenanter, he had his home and corn burnt and goods plundered by a party under the Marquis of Montrose, 17 March, 1645. The parliament in July, 1649, appointed him one of the commissioners for visiting the college of Aberdeen, and the same year he was of the commission of the General Assembly.⁶

George Meldrum was appointed 27 October, 1663. He mortified two thousand merks towards building a bridge across the Don. A son, Mr. Alexander, became minister of Dunscore.⁷

Alexander Forbes was the son of John Forbes, bookseller, Aberdeen, and was translated from Kearn to Fintray after 23 March, 1681. He died there 14 March, 1693, in the 16th year of his ministry, having married in January, 1678, Jean, daughter of Captain James Forbes, Greenlands.⁸ He was said to be a great mathematician, and published a book, "De Rota Mathematica."

Alexander Thomson was appointed after the revolution of 1688, but his appointment was objected to, and he was deprived by parliament, 1 July, 1695, for intruding into said church, on a call from the heritors and parishioners, and on allowance of Episcopal ministers, but without admission from the legal Presbytery, and was imprisoned till he find caution not to go north of the Forth. On petitioning, however, he was liberated four days after. In the session records of Fintray there are the following entries:—"23 June, 1695. Our minister being charged to Edinburgh to the parliament, we had no preaching;" and on 14 July following, "Our minister being deposed by voice of parliament, and only returned home upon cautionie to settle his business, and then to return to Edinburgh to answer as law will. He distributed money to the poor, put the silver tasse in the box with six pounds, and gave the key to James Anderson, an elder." On 18 August, 1695, the kirk was declared vacant by the Presbytery.¹⁰ After Mr. Thomson's deposition, there was no appointment made till 5 January, 1699, when

1 Scott's Fasti VI. p. 501; Ant. A. and B. I. p. 229.

2 Scott's Fasti VI. p. 501.

3 Id. p. 501.

4 Id. p. 502.

5 Spald. Troubles I. p. 217.

2 S

6 Scott's Fasti VI. p. 502; Presby. of Strath-bogie p. 76; Fasti Aber. pp. 312, 316.

7 Scott's Fasti VI. p. 502.

8 Id. p. 502.

9 Id. p. 502.

10 Session Records of Fintray.

Robert Burnett, late minister, Banchory-Ternan, was admitted minister. He died 1701, aged about 53.¹ He married Jane, daughter of Mr. Robert Reid, minister of Banchory-Ternan, and had several sons, of whom the third, John, was minister of Cluny.

James Hutcheon, M.A., was translated from Newhills to Fintray, 2 July, 1702. It was during his incumbency that the site of the church was changed from Cothal to Hatton in 1703. He married Margaret, daughter of William Keir, ship captain, in right of whom he entered burgess and guild brother of Edinburgh, 27 March, 1678. He died 26 February, 1712, leaving two daughters, Catharine and Elizabeth.²

William Osborne was inducted in December, 1712 (the first appointment under the Patronage Act). During his time the manse and glebe were removed to Hatton in proximity to the new church. He had two sons and a daughter, Ann, who married Alexander Mitchell of Colpny.

Patrick Gordon succeeded. He was translated from Lumphanan to Fintray, 25 October, 1732. He died 4 July, 1744, survived by his widow, Margaret Gordon, who died 7 February, 1784.

Samuel Copland, A.M., D.D., graduated M.A. at King's College, 29 March, 1733; had D.D. conferred on him in 1795, in his 81st year. He married in 1747, and left issue. He published an essay on Christian character in 1785, and was author of the old statistical account. He died 18 February, 1795.³

John Leslie, schoolmaster of Fintray, was ordained and inducted into the parish on 30 March, 1796. He got a new church built in 1821, and officiated for many years as clerk to the Presbytery of Aberdeen. He married, in 1796, a daughter of Mr. James Davidson, in Mains of Fintray. In July, 1838, William Leslie, his son, was appointed his assistant and successor; but on William's appointment to the church of Turriff, in March, 1844, the father resumed the whole duties, and continued to discharge them till his death, 30 May, 1850, in his 85th year. He and his son, William, wrote the new statistical account of the parish.

James Gerrard Young was ordained and inducted minister of Fintray on 16 January, 1851. He was translated to Monifieth, near Dundee.

William Ogilvie, schoolmaster of New Spynie, was ordained and inducted to the East Church, Aberdeen, 21 July, 1853, from which he was translated to Fintray. He died 1885.

John Catto was ordained and inducted to New Pitsligo, 29 December, 1880, and was translated in October, 1885, to Fintray. He is clerk for the Presbytery of Aberdeen.

COMMUNION CUPS.—There is one silver Communion cup bearing the inscription—"For the Holy Communion at Fintray. Mr. Adam Barclay, minister." Regarding it there is the following record in the proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, 14 June, 1886—⁴ "It may be doubted whether there be more than one cup the material of which is capable of being traced back to pre-Reformation times. That cup is known as St.

¹ Session Records of Fintray.

² *Id.*; Scott's *Fasti* VI. p. 602.

³ Session Records; Scott's *Fasti* VI. p. 602.

⁴ *Trans. Soc. Antiquaries*, 1886.

Medan's cup in the parish of Fintray, Aberdeenshire, &c." The writer of the statistical account says, "This cup was made, according to tradition, from a silver head of St. Medan, which used to be carried through the parish in procession, for the purpose of bringing down rain or clearing the weather as required."

There are other two silver cups with the inscription, "For the church of Fintrie, 1697," regarding which the session records has a minute of March, 1697—"Sir John Forbes of Craigievar gave in two Communion cups to our session, which he had bought out of the vacant stipend of the parish, which cups Mr. Robert Burnett, our minister, received, and promised to be accountable for."¹

There is a silver-plated flagon with the inscription, "Presented by Mrs. Smith, late of Middleton, for the church of Fintray, 1876." Mrs. Smith's husband had been an elder in the church.

THE CHURCHYARD OF FINTRAY.

Shall we build to affection and love?
 Ah, no! they have withered and died,
 Or fled with the spirit above.
 Friends, brothers, and sisters are laid side by side,
 Yet none have saluted and none have replied,
 Unto sorrow? The dead cannot grieve;
 Not a sob, not a sigh meets mine ear
 Which compassion itself could relieve;
 And sweetly they slumber, nor hope, love, nor fear.
 Peace! Peace! is the watchword, the only one here.

Beneath the cold dead and around the dark stone,
 Are the signs of a sceptre that none may disown.

—*Knowles.*

THERE are three churchyards in the parish, one a little to the south-west of the village of Hatton, which probably was in connection with St. Giles', Hatton. It is surrounded with trees, and is still used as a burying-ground; but there are no old monuments nor any stones of much interest in it. The second is near the parish church, and the third is at Cothal (St. Meddan's), where the parish church stood before its removal, in 1703, to near its present site.

A headstone has been erected to the following nonagenarian—"Alexander Sinclair, wright, Fintray House, died 23 May, 1791, aged 93. His wife, Elizabeth Gordon, died December, 1791, aged 87."

A headstone with an incised cross bears the inscription—"Erected by John Davidson, weaver in Aberdeen, in memory of his son, Joseph, who died in 1835. Of his father, John Davidson, and his mother, Ann Mackay."

The other churchyard is around the old parish church, built in 1703, of which the western gable alone remains. In this churchyard there are also no old stones.

¹ Session Records of Fintray.

The following records the death of a nonagenarian—"James Pratt, farmer, Cowstones, died 8 February, 1789, aged 61; his spouse, Margaret George, died 9 November, 1817, aged 90; George Pratt, their son, late farmer in Cowstones, died 16 November, 1833, aged 74; his spouse, Margaret Moir, died 16 December, 1822, aged 64."

A small granite headstone has the simple initials, "'W. T.," who died March 7, 1822, aged 19." There are also several others with simple initials.

Within an enclosure is a stone with this inscription—" 'All flesh is grass, and all the goodly things thereof as a flower of the field.' Erected to the memory of the Rev. John Walker, who died 12 July, 1828, in the 29th year of his age, as a last tribute of affection by his sorrowful parents; also of his sisters, Elizabeth and Isabella; and of their father, David Walker, farmer, Blair of Fintray, who died at Mountbleton, 28 September, 1838, aged 84. Elspet Rennie, his spouse, died 3 November, 1826, aged 68."

Within the same enclosure an Aberdeen granite headstone bears this inscription—"Erected by Robert Walker, Esq., Mountbleton, in memory of his beloved spouse, Jane Pratt, who died at Mountbleton, 7 December, 1876, aged 71. The above-named Robert Walker, for forty-nine years farmer at Mountbleton, died there 10 February, 1880, aged 76."

The following two stones are to the memory of nonagenarians—I. A table stone is "Erected to the memory of James Ellis, sometime blacksmith, afterwards farmer in Cowstones, who died 11 November, 1827, in the 93rd year of his age; also his wife, Jane Harvey, who died May 8, 1833, aged 92; also their daughter, Jane, who died 15 February, 1847, aged 81."

II. Another stone, within an enclosure, is "To the memory of James Ellis, who died in Cowstones of Fintray, November 8, 1838, in the 97th year of his age. Ann Johnstone, his spouse, died there, November 15, 1809, aged 69. Jane Davidson, their daughter, spouse of Rev. John Leslie, minister of Fintray, died October 2, 1846, in the 69th year of her age. Rev. John Leslie, who was for twenty-seven years minister of this parish, died May 31, 1850, in the 85th year of his age."

Within an enclosure a stone is "In memory of Mitchell Duncan, who died at Torryleith, February 1, 1836, aged 62, the affectionate and amiable spouse of James Mackenzie, farmer, who died at Torryleith, March 18, 1859, aged 77."

"The spring will come, but not for me
The leaves will clothe the forest tree;
The spring will come, the flowers will bloom,
But it will be o'er the grassy tomb."

A granite cross is "Erected by the late James Crombie, Goval, in memory of Barbara Laird, for many years a faithful servant. 'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"

A stone is "In memory of William Anderson, late farmer in Hatton, who died December 27, 1829, aged 86; also Ann George, his spouse, who died August, 1838,

aged 95 ; likewise James Anderson, their grandson." This William Anderson is mentioned by the writer of the new statistical account as the first who introduced into the parish the use of the scythe for the reaping hook.

On a headstone of Peterhead granite is this inscription—"In memory of Rev. James Watt, a master of the Grammar School, Aberdeen, who died July 16, 1843, aged 70 ; and of his son, Lieut. James Watt, Madras army, who died at sea, January 3, 1841, aged 25 ; and of his wife, Mary Ann Mearns, who died April 16, 1849, aged 72."

On a stone, with cross bones and skull, it is recorded, "Here lyes John Watt, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, who was farmer in Woodhead of Fintray, died December 17, 1760, aged 77."

There are stones to a numerous family of the name of Singer. Among them there is one to the following nonagenarian—"Alexander Singer, who died at Old Bridge of Don, January 13, 1877, in his 97th year ; also of Elizabeth Beattie, his spouse."

A small granite pyramid bears to be "In memory of George Anderson of Aucharnie, Forgue, born at Old Balbithan, August, 1817 ; died at Aucharnie, February 6, 1872."

Another headstone of Aberdeen granite is—"In memory of Margaret Anderson, wife of George Anderson, farmer, Old Balbithan, who died September 21, 1877, aged 83 ; also said George Anderson, who died April 1, 1864, aged 69."

Another is "To the memory of Margaret Anderson, daughter of John Anderson, farmer, Heugh-head, who died November 24, 1833, aged 88 ; also his wife, Jane Crockart, who died March 29, 1853, aged 94."

" Though now we mingle with our kindred clay,
I once like you admired the face of day,
And died in hope to view with Heaven's eye
A happier world and a fairer sky.
Then learn a lesson from the lowly dead,
To some green turf be oft thy footsteps led,
And musing on the eternal King of kings,
Think on the state of sublunary things."³

A stone records that "John Gray, gardener, Fintray House, for forty years, died at Cowstones, March 4, 1828, in his 70th year ; his wife, Agnes Crockart, died May 30, 1845, aged 83."

On George and Arthur Skene, sons of John Skene, there is the following :—

" All you whose lives are spared,
O, earnestly give heed
In time of health to be prepared,
Before you meet your God."

A headstone is "Erected by Arthur Walker in memory of Margaret Craig, his beloved wife, who died at Stirling, March 12, 1883, when on her way to England."

" Farewell, husband, and parents dear,
Death did to me short warning give,
Therefore be careful how you live ;
Prepare in time, do not delay,
For I was quickly called away."

On a granite headstone is this inscription—"James Jaffray, farmer, Woodhead, died July 28, 1852, aged 52 ; also his son, James, died June 26, 1852, aged 24."

" This lovely plant, so young in health,
Called here by early dawn,
Has gone to show how sweet the flowers
In Paradise may bloom."

A headstone within an enclosure is "To the memory of Andrew Michie, many years in Sittytown, died August 21, 1845, aged 98 ; his spouse, Jane Johnston, died June, 1783, aged 24 ; their grandson, James Gibbon, died at sea, in June, 1835, aged 16 ; William Gibbon was drowned in America, June 16, 1848, aged 32 ; and Charles Gibbon died at sea."

Within an enclosure are two stones of Peterhead granite "In memory of James Walker, farmer, Wester Fintray, died December, 1848, aged 56 ; and his widow, Janet Leslie, died August 26, 1872, aged 70."

On another, "The last resting-place of Robert Walker, farmer, Wester Fintray, who died 1845, aged 94 ; and of Catharine Stephen, his spouse, who died 1847, aged 96."

Within another enclosure a stone is "In memory of Alexander Ross Walker, born May, 25, 1828, died January 2, 1866 ; and of his daughters, Mary and Margaret ; and of his wife, Jessie Ann Boyd, born 25 December, 1831, died 11 January, 1874."

Within an enclosure, on the site of the old church, is a granite stone "In memory of John Crombie, manufacturer, Cothal Mills, who died at Old Manse, May 6, 1858, aged 86 ; also of his wife, Catharine Harvey, who died July 30, 1864, aged 71 ; and of their children, Catharine Crombie, who died December 11, 1832, aged 19 ; and of Margaret, who died May 24, 1827, aged 42."

A headstone of Aberdeen granite is "Sacred to the memory of Mr. George Strachan, for nearly half a century in the service of and factor to the family of Craigievar and Corse, born at Corse in 1788, died at Newmill of Fintray, July 10, 1853. This stone was erected by Sir William Forbes, Bart., and his brother, James Ochoncar Forbes of Corse, as a mark of their esteem, and in testimony of his long and faithful service. Isabella, widow of Mr. George Strachan, died October 20, 1853."

A headstone is "In memory of James Simpson, Waterside of Fintray, who met his death by the accidental upsetting of the boat at Kintore, February 3, 1857, aged 68. His wife, Jean Bothwell, died June 22, 1851, aged 38."

Within an enclosure a marble tablet bears to be "Erected by Alexander Collie in memory of his son, Florence Collie, who died February 24, 1836, aged 4. William, died April 14, aged 18 ; also Elizabeth Pirie, his spouse, who died May 5, 1871, aged 74 ; also their son, Rev. James Collie, M.A., who died at Leghorn, Italy, November 10, 1874, aged 36 ; also the above Alexander Collie, who died February 17, 1879, aged 87."

A headstone of Aberdeen granite within an enclosure is "In memory of James Rennie, farmer, Wester Fintray, who died February 20, 1878, aged 67."

The church and churchyard of St. Meddan is situated at Cothal. It was used, as

already mentioned, as the parish church down to 1703, when it was removed to near its present site. The old church was levelled to the height of the side walls, and is now overgrown with ivy. Within it is an enclosure for the Fintray family burying-ground. The first of the family buried here is John Forbes, son of Sir Arthur Forbes, who died 9 April, 1770. Sir Arthur, who died 1 January, 1773. And most of the proprietors of Fintray have been buried here since that time. There are some interesting old stones in the churchyard. The following two have inscriptions—I. A granite stone, with a cross and armorial bearings, "HENRI. CHALMER. DECESIT 1504, HIS. VIF. M. LESLI. DEIT. 1520. A. CHALMER. 1541," also the initials, "I. C."

II. Another has the inscription, "JON. SITOUN OF DISELEIR DEIT. THE — — 1563." There are the initials, "V. S.," "M. P.," "I. S.," also a cross and armorial bearings.

On the north side wall near the east end of the old church there is a stone on which the Crucifixion is sculptured in bold relief. This stone has been noticed in "Scottish Notes and Queries." There is also below this sculptured stone a recess of about a foot square, which was probably the aumbrie or locker for holding the sacred vessels.

FINTRAY AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

FINTRAY is now owned by the Right Hon. William Forbes, sixteenth Baron Sempill.

Fintray House is beautifully situated on the northern bank of the Don, and according to Dr. Skene Keith, in his "View of the Agriculture of Aberdeenshire," "it is a spacious and elegant house. with excellent public rooms, and ample accommodation to the family and their guests. It is also ornamented with paintings of various kinds. Its situation is upon the north bank of the Don, above which it is elevated about fifty feet, with a prospect of that river, of the navigable canal from Aberdeen to Inverurie, and of different plantations of wood on both sides of the river, which flows through a spacious and fertile meadow." The house has been added to and otherwise improved since Dr. Skene Keith's time, and the navigable canal has given place to the railway.

The lands of Fintray belonged in ancient times to the Abbey of Lindores. In 1251, Alexander, King of Scots, grants to the Abbey and Convent of Lindores "totum boscum suum in feodo de Fyntreth in liberam forestam."¹

In 1552, John, Archbishop of St. Andrews, grants all the lands of Logie-Fintra, Frostarseittis, with their pertinents, lying within the barony of Fintra, in perpetual feu farm to William Forbes and his wife for an annual payment to the Abbey of £8.²

In 1600, there is a charter to Patrick Leslie, the son of Patrick, commendator of Lindores, &c. "James, by the grace of God, King of Scots, grants the lands and barony of Fintra, Haltoune de Fintra, with the manor place, gardens, orchards, the wood called Garvok, &c., the lands of Logie Fintra, Langcruiik, Milltoun of Fintray,

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 249.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 229.

&c., rendering yearly for Haltoune of Fintra, Wester Fintra, Langeruik, £120; for the lands of Logie-Fintra, £8; the Milltoun of Fintra, £7 6s. 9d."¹

Soon after the above date it came by purchase into the possession of the present family (see afterwards), who a few years before had acquired Craigievar, which has been the chief designation of the family.

The immediate ancestor of this family was James, second Lord Forbes, who flourished in the reign of James II. He married the Lady Egidia Keith, daughter of William, third Earl Marischal, by whom he had issue three sons:—

- I. William, third Lord Forbes, who succeeded and carried on the line of the family.
- II. Duncan, of whom the Forbeses of Corsindae and Monymusk are descended.
- III. Patrick, the progenitor of the Forbeses of Corse.

Patrick Forbes of Corse

obtained in 1476 the barony of O'Neil, namely, the lands of Coule, Kincairgy, and Corse, confirmed by charter under the great seal on 10 October, 1482.² In 1511, he obtained from James II. a charter of the lands of O'Neil, Corse, &c., in the following terms—"Jacobus Dei gratia rex Scotorum, sciatis in considerationem quam habemus dilecti nostri Patricii Forbes propter solutionem certarum summarum pecuniæ per ipsum factam nostro thesaurio nomine pro infeodatione Davidis Forbes filii naturalis dicti Patricii in terras de Onele, Corse, Kincairgy de Minetone cum molendino, dicto David et Elizabeth Panther ejus sponse et eorum dintius viventi, creavimus et incorporavimus omnes terras in unam liberam baroniam de Onele, &c."³ He was succeeded by his son,

II. David Forbes of Corse.

In the above charter he is called "*filius naturalis Patricii dicti*," and from the word "*naturalis*," some have concluded that he was illegitimate, and that the noble house of Forbes of Craigievar had in their descent the bend sinister, but the word "*naturalis*" taken by itself does not mean illegitimate. *Naturalis* is opposed to adopted son—it is not *bastardus*. Deeds legitimising priests' children generally use *bastardus* or *filius carnalis*. (The meaning of *naturalis* will be found in "*Skene's History of the Skenes*," p. 22.) *Naturalis*, however, in course of time came to have the baser meaning, but not at the above date.⁴

David Forbes married, according to the above deed, Elizabeth Panther, and was commonly called "*Trail the axe*." He had also a charter under the great seal from King James IV.—"*Davido Forbes, filio Patricii Forbes, of the lands of Kincairgy and Corse, with the mill of the same, dated April 30, 1506.*" He was succeeded by his son,

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 512.

² Burke's Peerage.

³ Hist. Com. V. p. 627. Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 358.

⁴ Gardyne's Garden of Godlie Flowers, p. 5, notes.
Skene's Family of Skene, p. 22.

III. Patrick Forbes of Corse.

He was infest in the lands of Oncill and Corse in 1554. He married Marjory, daughter of Robert Lumsden of Cushnie, by whom he had four sons and five daughters:—¹

I. **William**, his successor.

II. Patrick, of Bithnie, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Duncan Forbes of Cults, and had issue.

III. John.

IV. Arthur.

1. ———, married to the laird of Kilstair.

2. ———, married to ——— Irvine of Beltie.

3. ———, married to Walter Barclay of Drumdelgie.

4. ———, married to Walter Carron of Inchdure.

5. ———, married to William Leith of Whitehaugh.

He was succeeded by his son,

IV. William Forbes of Corse.

He was served heir to his father in the lands and barony of Oncill, Corse, Kincaigie, January, 1567.² He married Elizabeth Strachan, daughter of ——— Strachan of Thornthorn, chief of that name, by whom he had seven sons and five daughters:—

I. **Patrick**, Bishop of Aberdeen.

II. **William**, first of Menie, Craigievar, and Fintray, of whom afterwards.

III. John, minister of Alford, a man of great piety and learning, who adhered to Presbytery. He presided at the General Assembly held at Aberdeen in 1605, declared illegal by the civil power. Mr. Forbes was obliged to retire to Holland, where he became pastor of a congregation at Middleburg, and subsequently at Delft. His son, Patrick, did not inherit his principles, and was promoted in 1662 to the Bishopric of Caithness, which he held till his death in 1682.

IV. Arthur. He followed the profession of arms, was created a Baronet, and was ancestor of the Earls of Granard.

V. Alexander, a captain in the army.

VI. James, of Knockandach, married Mary Balfour, and had six sons.

VII. Robert.

1. Margaret, married to ——— Forbes, laird of Thainstone.

2. Agnes, married to Hon. Robert Forbes, son of Lord Forbes, and Com-mendator of Monymusk. They had issue, John and James, both colonels in the army.

3. Jane, married to John Farquharson of Norham.

¹ Burke's Peer. p. 429. Doug. Bar. p. 76.

² Ret. Spec. No. 42.

4. Elizabeth, married to ——— Forbes of Campfield.

5. Mary, married Alexander Ogilvie of Milldavie.

Mr. William Forbes died in July, 1598, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

V. Right Rev. Patrick Forbes, Lord Bishop of Aberdeen, and Laird of Corse.

He was served heir to his father, William Forbes of Corse, August 28, 1598, in the lands of Corse, Kincaigie, Muirtoune, with the mill, united into one barony of Oneill; also in the church lands of Kinkell, within the regality of St. Andrews.¹ In 1622, February 7, Patrick Forbes of Corse, Bishop of Aberdeen, had a charter under the great seal erecting the lands of Oneill, Corse, Eister and Wester Kincaigie into a free barony called the barony of Oneill.² Bishop Forbes was a man of remarkable piety. He was ordained in 1612, in the 47th year of his age, and appointed minister of Keith. He was, on the 17 May, 1618, consecrated Bishop of Aberdeen by Archbishop Spottiswoode and the Bishops of Dunkeld and Brechin. He continued Bishop of Aberdeen for seventeen years. He married Lucretia, daughter of ——— Spens of Wolmerston, in Fife, by whom he had two sons:—

I. William, died without issue.

II. John, his successor.

Bishop Forbes, to the great regret of all, died in 1635, and was succeeded by his son, John Forbes, D.D. He was born 23 May, 1593; was Professor of Theology in King's College, Aberdeen; and was the author of many valuable works. Refusing to subscribe the Covenant, he was forced into exile. He married Soete Rossboom, a native of Holland, by whom he had nine children, but was survived by only one son, **George**. Dr. John Forbes died at Corse in 1648, and was buried in the churchyard of Leochel, but no memorial marks his grave. He was succeeded by his son, **George Forbes**, who married a daughter of Kennedy of Kermucks, and had issue, who all died young. On his death, the representation of the family of Forbes and the estates of Corse came to the representatives of William Forbes of Craigievar, the next brother of Bishop Patrick Forbes, to whom we now come.

VI. William Forbes of Menie, Craigievar, and Fintray.

He was first styled of Menie, afterwards of Craigievar, and this continued to be the chief designation of the family. He was educated at Edinburgh, and acquired for the times a large fortune by commerce. He had a charter of the lands of Menie, Cowhill, and Alterseat, in Aberdeenshire, June 14, 1606. This charter was confirmed under the great seal. It narrates that David Carnegie of Kinnaird, knight, sold to the said William Forbes and his heirs, whom failing to Patrick Forbes of Corse, and his heirs, the lands of Many, with the manor place, and the lands of Cowhill and Alterseat.³ On

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 572.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 1. No. 95. Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 360.

³ Reg. Mag. Sig. xlv. No. 411.

4 December, 1617, William Forbes of Menie and William Forbes, his eldest son, had a charter under the great seal, erecting the lands of Logie-Fintray and Forstersait, with the advowsons of the churches of Fintray, Culsalmond, Kincardine O'Neill, Glentanner, Lumphanan, Cluny, Midmar, and Auchtertuill into a free barony, to be called the barony of Logie-Fintra. In 1621, an Act was passed, in the reign of James VI., in favour of William Forbes of Craigievar, erecting the lands within the parochines of Christskirk, Premnay, and others into a burgh of barony, under the name of the barony of Logy-Fintray. The same Act declares the barony to be separated from the barony of Lindores, and enacted that the courts of the barony be held by the said William Forbes at the Haltoun of Fintray. It was further enacted that all dwelling within the barony are "na ways to be halden to compeir at the courts of the said regality at Lindores holden at the Newburgh in time cumyng, and that nae executions or proclamations be usit against them at the said market cross at Newburgh, but the same to be done at Hatton of Ffyntay, as the same was or might have been done in time bygane at the said mercat cross of Newburgh." All these privileges of regality were swept away on the abolition of heritable jurisdictions in the time of George II.¹

In 1625, William Forbes of Craigievar had a charter under the great seal of the lands and barony of Saltoun in East Lothian, the lands and barony of Glencorse in Midlothian, the lands of Glasgow, Cairntradrane, and Beidlestone, in the parishes of Kinnellar and Dyce; the lands of Ardmurdoch and fishing of the Pot of Buckie, in the water of Don, and parish of Kinkell, &c.² There is also a charter, on February 16, 1617, to William Forbes and Margaret Udward, his spouse, and William Forbes, their son, of the lands and barony of Auchtertule, in the county of Fife.³ Also a charter to William Forbes, sometime of Many, now of Craigievar, of the lands and barony of Finhaven and Carriestown, with the advowson of Finhaven in the barony of Carriestown in Forfarshire, dated 13 July, 1619.

He completed the unfinished castle of Craigievar after the most sumptuous style of the period. By the said Margaret Udward, daughter of the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, he had issue four sons and five daughters:—

- I. **William**, afterwards Sir William.
- II. Robert, designed of Newton and Disblair, called the tutor of Craigievar, married Margaret Lindsay, daughter of Lindsay of Menie and Williamstone (see Barony of Drumblade).
- III. John, parson of Kincardine, married Agnes, daughter of ——— Dugnid of Auchinhove, and had issue three daughters.
- IV. James, Captain, married a daughter of Burnett of ———, and had issue.
 1. ———, married ——— Kennedy of Kermuck.
 2. ———, married Sir Andrew Skene of Hallyards.
 3. ———, married Sir John Strachan of Thorntown.

¹ Abbey of Lindores, pp. 117, 118.

² Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. xii. No. 3.

³ Burke's Baronage.

Mr. William Forbes died December, 1627.

Dr. Arthur Johnston of Caskieben commemorated him in the following lines :—

“ In obitum Gulielmi Forbes Craigievarii.
Nobilis hic tumulus Forbesii conspicis, audi
Quí fuerunt mores, ingeniumque viri,
Quod labor est aliis vitæ dum caperet auras
Divitias illi quærere ludus erat,
Cumque juberetur terris excedere ridens,
Terra vale ! coelo nunc potiemur, ait,
Quas possidet opes, et terræ jugera, nemo
Miretur, dominum plus fuit esse sui.”

[“ On the death of William Forbes of Craigievar.
Here you behold the tomb of the noble Forbes,
Hear what was the character and genius of this man.
What is labour to others, it was sport
To him while he lived, to seek riches !
And when he was ordered to leave his
Lands, he, smiling, says, Farewell earth,
Now we shall possess heaven !
What wealth he possesses, and what acres of land,
Let no one wonder at—it was more, that
He was master of himself.”]

He died 1627, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Sir William Forbes, 1st Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.

He was served heir to his father, 24 November, 1629.¹ He got two charters under the great seal, to him and his son, of the barony of Saltoun, Glencorse, and of the mill and lands of Logie-Fintray, &c., in the counties of Haddington, Edinbnrgh, and Aberdeen, Banff, and Fife. In 1630, he obtained a charter “pro Willielmo Forbes milite baronetto super terra de novo Craigievar infra Novam Scotiam.”² In the charter the boundaries of New Craigievar are given.

He was created a baronet of Nova Scotia, 20 April, 1630, by letters patent to him “et heredibus masculis a corpore suo,” with a grant of sixteen thousand acres of land in New Brunswick, created into a free barony and regality, to be called New Craigievar. Sir William commanded a troop of horse, and was actively engaged on the side of parliament during the civil commotions. In 1641, he was appointed one of the commissioners for planting kirks and valuing teinds ; and in 1644, one of the commissioners for conserving the Ripon treaty. In 1645, he was appointed one of the commissioners of estates ; and two years later, sheriff of Aberdeen. In 1646, he was appointed one of the committee for loan monies and taxations. He married Bathia, daughter of Sir Archibald Murray, Bart. of Blackbarony, by his wife, Margaret Maule, of the Panmure family, by whom he had issue, two sons and three daughters :—

¹ Ret. Spec. Aber. No. 213.

² Ant. A. and B. IV. pp. 361, 362.

- I. **John**, his successor.
- II. William, d. s. p.
 1. ———, married to Mr. John Menzies, Professor of Divinity, Aberdeen.
 2. ———, married to Robert Petrie of Portlethen, Provost of Aberdeen.
 3. ———, married ———.

He was succeeded by his son,

VIII. **Sir John Forbes, 2nd Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.**

He married Margaret Young, daughter of ——— Young of Auldbar, by whom he had eight sons and three daughters :—

- I. **Sir William**, his heir.
- II. Patrick, of Balfour and Tilliefour. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Colonel James Forbes of Foulis, grandson of William, eighth Lord Forbes, and had issue.
- III. Sir Robert, of Learnie, born in 1667; married a daughter of Sir James Elphinstone of Logie, and had issue.
- IV. Arthur, of Schivas, born 1669, married, and had issue.
- V. Francis, Captain, born 1673, married, and had issue.
- VI. John, of Kincardine, born 1675; married ——— Farquharson, daughter of ——— Farquharson of Invereye, by his wife, Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Nairne of Dunsinnane.
- VII. Alexander, born 1679.
- VIII. Charles, born 1683.
 1. Bathia, married to Alexander Garden of Troup.
 2. Mary, married John Ramsay of Laithers, ancestor of Ramsay of Barra and Straloch; secondly, James Buchan of Auchmacoy, and had issue to both.
 3. Margaret, married first to ——— Lumsden of Cushnie; and secondly, to Forbes of Echt.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

IX. **Sir William Forbes, 3rd Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.**

He married, October 16, 1684, Margaret, daughter of Hugh Rose, fourteenth baron of Kilravock, by his wife, Margaret Innes, daughter of Sir Robert Innes of Innes, and his wife, Hon. Jean Ross, daughter of James, Lord Ross, by whom he had seven sons and two daughters :—

- I. John, died young.
- II. Hugh, married Lady Janet Ogilvie, daughter of James, fourth Earl of Findlater. He died without issue. She married secondly, Lord Braco, afterwards Earl of Fife.

- III. Robert, }
 IV. Peter, } all three died s.p.
 V. William, }

VI. **Arthur**, who succeeded to the title and estates.

VII. Alexander, Major, died unmarried in service abroad.

1. Margaret, died young.

2. Elizabeth, married to Burnett of Monboddo; according to Douglas she was the mother of James, Lord Monboddo, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.

Sir William was succeeded by his son,

X. Sir Arthur Forbes, 4th Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.

Regarding him there are various retours. In 1725, he is served heir to his brother, John Forbes, fiar, heir-male of line and conquest, and of tailzie; also to his grandfather, Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, heir-male of line and conquest general, 22 July, 1725. Again, to his father, Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, heir-male of line and conquest general. And in 1772, he was served heir to Sir Andrew Mitchell of Thainston, K.C.B., ambassador of Berlin, heir of provision general in the lands of Thainston, 19 June, 1772.¹

A prominent feature of the collections at Fintray House is the correspondence of Andrew Mitchell of Thainston. He was for a time the representative of the county of Aberdeen, and afterwards was ambassador at the Court of Frederick the Great, where he acquired distinction, on account of his diplomatic ability. At his death, without issue, he left his property, including his papers, to Sir Arthur Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar.²

Sir Arthur Forbes represented for many years the county of Aberdeen in parliament. He married first, Christian, eldest daughter of John Ross of Arnage, at that time Provost of Aberdeen, and had issue by her two daughters:—

1. Jean, born 1730; married to ——— Forbes of Culloden.

2. Elizabeth, born 1731; married to ——— Leith of Overhall, and had issue.

He married secondly, Margaret, daughter of ——— Strachan of Balgall, and relict of John Burnett of Elrick, by whom he had five sons and two daughters:—

I. George, died young.

II. **William**, succeeded to title and estates.

III. Duncan Forbes Mitchell of Thainston, born in 1756; married Catharine Anne, daughter of ——— Fraser of Fraserfield, and had issue—I. Arthur.

II. William. III. Duncan (these three d. s. p.). IV. John Forbes Mitchell of Thainston, born 1785; married Anne, eldest daughter of George Powell, Lieut.-Col. of Artillery, E.I.C.S., and had issue.

IV. John, died young.

V. Arthur, born 1760; Lieut.-Col. 22nd Regiment; married, in 1806,

¹ Decen. Rets. 1725, 1772.

² H. Com. Rep. Vol. V. p. 628.

Isabella, daughter of Principal M^cLeod, of King's College, Aberdeen, son of Donald M^cLeod of Talisker, by whom he had — I. Arthur Forbes Gordon of Rayne, and others.

1. Margaret, born in 1752; married Peter Scott of Rossie, and had issue.
2. Mitchell, born in 1762; married ——— Shaw.

Sir Arthur Forbes died in 1773, and was succeeded by his second son,

XI. Sir William Forbes, 5th Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.

He was born in 1753. Regarding him there is the following retour—Sir William Forbes of Craigievar, Bart., to his father, Sir Arthur Forbes, Bart., heir of line general, dated 18 August, 1773.¹ Also Sir William Forbes, Bart., to his great-grandfather, Sir John Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, who died 1702, heir special in Middle Disblair, town of Disblair and Swillietown, dated 25 November, 1770. He married Hon. Sarah Sempill, eldest daughter of John, twelfth Lord Sempill, by whom he had issue :—

- I. **Arthur**, his successor.
- II. **John**, of O'Neil, Corse, succeeded his brother as seventh baronet.
- III. William, an officer R.N. d. s. p.
- IV. Hugh, married a daughter of ——— Morgan, and had issue.
 1. Janet, married her cousin, Alexander Forbes, and had issue.
 2. Margaret, married to Robert Wallace of Kelly, M.P.
 3. Sarah, married to Rev. S. Roberts, D.D., and had issue.
 4. Elizabeth, married to Rev. Christopher Capel of Prestbury House, who died 8 October, 1846, leaving two sons.
 5. Catharine, married, June 8, 1812, John Gordon of Cairnbulg, and had issue.
 6. Maria, married to ——— Ward, and had issue.
 7. Jane, married to Rev. Dr. Carpenter, and had issue.

Sir William Forbes died February, 1816, and was succeeded by his son,

XII. Sir Arthur Forbes, 6th Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.

He was sometime an officer in the 7th Hussars. He died in 1823, and was succeeded by his brother,

XII. Sir John Forbes, 7th Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray.

He was born in 1785; was a Judge in the Hon. E.I.C.S.; a magistrate and D.L. in the county of Aberdeen. He married, 24 May, 1824, Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of General Lord Forbes, 18th Baron Forbes, and had issue :—

- I. **William**, his successor.
- II. James Ochoncar, of Corse.

1. Elizabeth, married, 25 July, 1854, to Robert Grant of Druminnor, and has issue.
2. Sarah, married to Duncan Forbes of Balgownie, and has issue.
3. Charlotte Frances.
4. Janet Marjorie, died December 8, 1847.
5. Caroline Ann, married, 11 June, 1862, Rev. Frederick Walter Robberds, one of H.M. chaplains, Bengal.
6. Margaret, died young.

Sir John died February 16, 1846, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

**XIV. Sir William Forbes, 8th Bart. of Craigievar and Fintray,
and 16th Lord Sempill.**

He succeeded in 1884 to his cousin, Maria Janet, Baroness Sempill, in the Peerage of Scotland; married first, 1858, Caroline Louisa, daughter of Sir Charles Forbes, Bart. of Newe, from whom he obtained a divorce in 1861; secondly, Frances Emily (died 1887), daughter of Sir George Abercromby, Bart. of Birkenbog, and has issue by his first marriage:—

1. Hon. Catharine Charlotte Elizabeth Stewart.

By his second marriage:—

- I. Hon. John, Master of Sempill, Captain Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, born 1863; married.
- II. Hon. Douglas, born 1865.
- III. Hon. William, born 1866, died 1867.
- IV. Hon. Robert Abercromby, born 1870.
- V. Hon. Arthur Lionel Ochoncar, born 1877.
2. Hon. Evelyn Courtenay.
3. Hon. Gertrude Emily.

LORD SEMPILL.

Robert de Sempill flourished in the reign of Alexander II., who ascended the throne in 1214, and died in 1249. He is a witness to the donation of Walter, Lord High Steward of Scotland, of the church of Largs to the monastery of Paisley about the year 1246. His descendant, Sir John Sempill, was elevated to the Peerage of Scotland, by the title of Lord Sempill, by James IV., in 1489. His lordship married Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Colville of Ochiltree, by whom he had two sons:—

I. **William**, his successor.

II. Gabriel, ancestor of the Sempills of Cathcart.

Lord Sempill fell at Flodden in 1513. He was succeeded by his son,

William, 2nd Lord Sempill.

He died in 1548, and was succeeded by his son,

Robert, 3rd Lord Sempill.

He was known in history as the "great Lord Sempill." We find him taking a very prominent part in the business of the Privy Council in the early part of the reign of James VI. This nobleman married Isabel, daughter of William Hamilton of Sanquhar, by whom he had two sons and four daughters. He married secondly, Elizabeth Carlyle, a daughter of the House of Torthorwald, and had another son and three daughters. Of his descendants was John, twelfth Lord Sempill, who married Janet, only daughter and heiress of Hugh Dunlop of Bishopston, county of Renfrew, by whom he left issue :—

I. **Hugh**, his successor.

1. Sarah, married, in 1780, to Sir William Forbes, Bart. of Craigievar, and died 1799, leaving issue.
2. Janet, died 6 June, 1858, aged 90.
3. Joanna.

His lordship died in 1782, and was succeeded by his only son,

Hugh, 13th Lord Sempill.

He was born July 11, 1758; married, in 1787, Maria (died September, 1806), daughter of Charles Mellish of Ragnal, county of Nottingham, by whom he had issue:—

I. **Selkirk**, his successor.

II. Francis, died in India, 1823.

1. **Maria Janet**, who succeeded her brother,
2. Sarah.

His lordship died 25 January, 1830, and was succeeded by his son,

Selkirk, 14th Lord Sempill.

He was born 12 February, 1788. He died unmarried in 1835, and was succeeded by his sister,

Maria Janet, 15th Baroness Sempill.

She married, in 1836, Edward Candler of Dunedin, county of Edinburgh, and Morton Pinkey, county of Northampton, fourth son of the late Henry Candler. She died in 1884, and was succeeded by her kinsman,

Sir William Forbes, 8th Bart. of Craigievar, as 16th Lord Sempill.

DISBLAIR AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

DISBLAIR is presently owned by Rev. Duncan George Mearns, B.D., minister of Oyne, and formed in ancient times a portion of the estates of the Abbey of Lindores, the Abbot for a long time retaining the superiority.

It belonged in 1545 to John Seton, who in that year is witness to a feu charter. He died in 1563.¹ In 1581, we find letters of horning, at the instance of Charles Chalmers of Tillikierie, against William Seton of Disblair for £100, for the discharge of an ejection by Agnes Chalmers from the town and lands of Lairshill, in the barony of Fintray, dated at Edinburgh, 16 November, 1581.² In 1584 there is a caution by John Leith of Disblair, son and apparent heir of Patrick Leith of Harthill, for Robert Auchinleck, servant to George Auchinleck of Balmanno, that he shall appear before the council on fifteen days' warning, and that in the meantime he shall remain beyond the Forth.

Easter and Wester Disblair seem to have frequently changed ownership. The Harveys, the Thomsons, and Chalmers are all found in possession. In 1666, John Jamesone is owner of the sonne and shadow two pleuchis lands. Soon after the last-mentioned date it comes into the possession of a family of the name of Rolland.

Catharine Rolland, wife of Dr. Guild, by a deed of mortification, disposes the hail lands of Disblair to the Magistrates and Town Council of Aberdeen, for the benefit of poor divinity students and scholars. James Rolland, merchant, Dantzic, had by this deed a nineteen years' possession of Disblair from his aunt, Catharine Rolland. Documents, according to Mr. Walker, are in existence to show that he raised money on Disblair, and he seems to have been nominally in possession for much more than nineteen years.³ In 1695, in satisfaction of bonds amounting to 13,596 merks, Disblair becomes the property of Thomas Burnett, and in the following year it is sold by Mr. Burnett to Baillie William Forbes of Rubislaw, one of whose daughters had married James Rolland. Two years after Baillie William Forbes had purchased Disblair, namely in 1698, he gave sasine to his oldest son, John Forbes, but he predeceased his father, and the three daughters became co-heiresses. Their names were Ann, Elizabeth, and Lilius Forbes. They were called for many years "The Ladies of Disblair." Anne married Mr. Joseph Farquharson of Allanquoich, a small property in Braemar. Elizabeth Forbes married George Gordon, Professor of Humanity of King's College. Lilius Forbes married

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 410; Tomb. St. Meddan's Churchyard, Fintray.

² P. H. Chalmers's Notes.

³ Walker's Disblair, pp. 6, 16.

Thomas Gordon, Professor of Oriental Languages, King's College. In 1744, these three ladies sold it to Mr. James Dyce, merchant in Aberdeen, son of Mr. Andrew Dyce, merchant in Old Aberdeen. James Dyce of Disblair died in 1750, when the estate passed to his youngest daughter, Agnes. He had the following issue:—

1. Isabella, married James Morison of Elsick, Provost of Aberdeen. He was the fifth son of James Morison, also Provost of Aberdeen, by his wife, Anna Lowe, in Old Aberdeen. They had five sons and eleven daughters:

I. James, born 1741.

II. William Augustus, born 1746, died in early manhood.

III. **Thomas**, of Elsick and Disblair, of whom afterwards.

IV. Alexander, born 1758.

V. **George**, of Elsick, who succeeded his brother.

1. Agnes, born 1734; married Robert Farquhar of Newhall, Kincardineshire, stationer, Aberdeen; had a large family, amongst others, the late Major-General William Farquhar, Admiral Sir Arthur Farquhar, &c.
2. Anne, born 1738; married first, Rev. John Farquhar, minister of Nigg, brother of Sir Walter Farquhar, M.D., Bart., but to him she had no issue; secondly, she married, December, 1777, Rev. Alexander Mearns, minister of Towie, afterwards of Cluny, and had issue, **Duncan Mearns, D.D.**, of whom afterwards.
3. Isabel, born 1739; married, 1787, James Abercrombie of Bellfield, Kincardineshire, d. s. p.
4. Mary, born 1742; married Rev. John Hutcheon, minister of Fetteresso, died 1775, leaving issue, the late David Hutcheon, advocate in Aberdeen, and a daughter married to Professor Paul.
5. Jean, born 1744; married Robert Hamilton, LL.D., Marischal College, Aberdeen, d. s. p.
6. Janet, born 1747; married, 1770, Arthur Dingwall Fordyce of Culsh, LL.D., commissary of Aberdeen, and had a large family. She died 15 July, 1831.
7. Katharine, married Rev. D. Forbes, minister of Laurencekirk, died 1820.
8. Rachel, died unmarried.
9. Helen, died unmarried.
10. Amelia, born 1756; married, 28 October, 1790, Rev. James Sherriffs, D.D., one of the ministers of Aberdeen, son of David Sherriffs, Aberdeen. She died 21 May, 1818, leaving three sons and two daughters:—

I. David.

II. James.

III. Alexander, all of whom left for Madeira, and d. s. p.

1. Amelia.

2. Jean, who married Alexander Cadenhead, advocate, Aberdeen, who had a son, Alexander, advocate, Aberdeen, and Procurator-Fiscal.

11. Sophia, born 1760, died unmarried.

2. Janet, married Mr. Burnett of Kemnay.

3. **Agnes**, who, on the death of her father, succeeded to Disblair.

On the death of Miss Agnes Dyce, Disblair passed to her nephew, **Thomas**, third son of Isabella Dyce and Provost Morison.

III. **Thomas Morison of Elsick and Disblair.**

He was a surgeon in the army; M.D. of Marischal College, Aberdeen, 1781; served in the American war, and practised in London. He was the first that brought the Strathpeffer Spa into notice. Afflicted with certain ailments of a supposed incurable character, his case was given up as hopeless, but hearing casually of the Strathpeffer Spa, he resolved to give it a trial, believing that if it did not effect a cure, it could not do much harm, as a near death was imminent. Such were the effects of the water upon him, that his complaint rapidly left him. He built a house called Elsick Cottage, also he built the Spa Hotel near the Spa, and advertised his wonderful cure. Through Dr. Morison's exertions a pump-room was erected, and in gratitude for his services, an excellent life-sized portrait was presented at a public meeting, which is now hung in the hall of the pump-room. Dr. Thomas Morison died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother,

IV. **Rev. George Morison, D.D., of Elsick and Disblair.**

He was at one time minister of Oyne; was translated in 1785 to Banchory-Devenick, and had the degree of D.D. from the University of Aberdeen. He conferred a lasting benefit on his parishioners by erecting an iron suspension bridge across the Dee, thus giving access at all times to both sides of the river, at an expense of £1400. He also established a school at Cairnhill. He married, 1786, Margaret Jaffray, who died 1837, without issue. Dr. Morison was highly respected, and died father of the Church of Scotland, July 3, 1845, in his 88th year, and 63rd of his ministry. He was succeeded in Elsick by the descendant of his sister, Agnes, married, as above narrated, to Mr. Robert Farquhar of Newhall, Kincardineshire; and in Disblair by his nephew, **Duncan**, the son of his sister, Anne, married to Rev. Alexander Mearns.

V. **Rev. Duncan Mearns, D.D., of Disblair,**

was born August 2, 1779; had D.D. from King's College, Aberdeen; and was appointed Professor of Divinity in King's College in 1816, and Moderator of the General Assembly in 1821. He married Elizabeth Forsyth, daughter of William Forsyth, Huntly, and step-daughter of Rev. John Rose, minister of Udny. She died September 16, 1830, aged 47; had issue:—

- I. Alexander, born 1812, died unmarried 1837.
- II. **William**, of Disblair, of whom afterwards.
- III. ———, died in infancy.
 1. Anne, born April 29, 1809; married to Robert Macpherson, D.D. Professor of Divinity, University of Aberdeen, and had issue.
 2. Jane, married to Hercules Scott, LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy, University of Aberdeen, and had issue.
 3. Isabel, died in infancy.
 4. ———, married the late William Ross, minister of Kintore.
 5. Mariane, died in infancy.
 6. Margaret, died 1846, aged 26.
 7. Eliza, born 1822; married to Rev. M. M. Ross, late chaplain, Church of Scotland, Bombay.
 8. Jemima.
 9. Marianne, married to the late John Yeats, advocate, Aberdeen.

Dr. Mearns died 18—, and was succeeded by his son,

VI. Rev. William Mearns, D.D., of Disblair, and South Kinmundy.

He began his ministry at Glenrines, from which he was translated to Kineff after 1843. He married, in 1842, Margaret Moir, daughter of Dr. James Smith of Aldie. She died 4 February, 1880, aged 71. They had issue:—

I. Duncan George, his successor.

1. Jemima, born April 26, 1843, died 1844.

Rev. William Mearns died 1891, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Rev. Duncan George Mearns, Minister of Oyne and Proprietor of Disblair, and South Kinmundy.

He was born January 11, 1846; graduated M.A. of the University of Aberdeen, and B.D. of the University of Edinburgh; ordained minister of Oyne, 9 April, 1874; married, 7 October, 1875, Mary Margaret Agnes Madeline, daughter of the late Hector Grant, Royal Indian Navy; issue:—

- I. William, born 8 July, 1876.
- II. Hector Grant, born 20 October, 1877.
- III. Duncan George Morison, born 13 April, 1884.
 1. Margaret Georgina Mary Stuart, born 31 October, 1878.
 2. Mary, born July, 1881.

The following is the descent of James Dyce of Disblair, the founder of the family of Disblair. The surname of the family is manifestly territorial, having been taken, it is believed, from the lands of Dyce in Aberdeenshire. The name has been variously spelt, Dys, Dyss, Dyes, and Diss; but since the commencement of the sixteenth century it has been written in the present form.

John de Diss is the first member of this family, who is mentioned in the Aberdeen "Council Register," as burgess of guild and trade, 1457-8. Ranald de Diss is a witness to a charter of the lands of Kynellour (Kinellar) to Henry Forbes in 1464, and is again mentioned in 1478 as having paid twelve merks for the stipend of the parson of Kinkell.¹ John Dyss is entered in the council register of burgesses of guild in 1487-8 as son of the above Ranald de Diss. George Dyss is on the roll of burgesses in 1482-3, and John Dyss in 1499-1500. Sir Alexander Dyss is one of the chaplains of St. Nicholas church in 1491, and Sir Brian Dyce, chaplain, is a witness to a charter by John Vaus unto the curates and chaplains of the choir of St. Nicholas, 2 August, 1522. From one or other of these the families of Dyce of Disblair and of Tilliegreig are descended.

William Dyce in Belhelvie,

born circa 1560; married, and, besides a daughter, Margaret, who married, 1 January, 1632, Gilbert Jamieson, Balmedie, had issue:—

- I. **William**, in Belhelvie, born circa 1590, of whom afterwards.
- II. **Andrew**, in Belhelvie, died 10 December, 1662; married, and had issue—
 - I. **James**, in Belhelvie, who married, 4 December, 1658, Marion Mason, and had issue—**Alexander**, born 1 January, 1662; married, 9 June, 1692, Elizabeth Irvine, died 7 March, 1716. They had issue:—

I. **Alexander**, of Raeden, of whom afterwards.

II. **James**, born October, 1700; married, 15 December, 1735, Mary Kennedy; issue, a large family, of whom one daughter, Elizabeth, married, 19 September, 1785, Alexander Smith of Waterton.

III, **William**, born 7 May, 1706.

There were also three daughters—1. Margaret. 2. Anna. 3. Anne.

Alexander Dyce of Raeden

was born 22 January, 1695; married, 18 April, 1721, May, daughter of John Deuchar of Fornott; died 10 April, 1773; had issue:—

- I. **John**, of Tilliegreig, advocate, born 13 November, 1722; married, 8 June, 1752, Katharine, daughter of John Durward; issue:—

I. **Alexander**, who succeeded him in Tilliegreig, born 16 October, 1753; married, 4 August, 1787, Elizabeth Cruickshank; died December, 1802, leaving issue:—

I. **Robert**, advocate, born 1 June, 1788, died 7 June, 1857.

II. **John**, born 1 April, 1792.

III. **Alexander**, born 29 May, 1796.

¹ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 402, I. p. 573.

- IV. Henry, born 18 September, 1797, died in childhood.
- V. Patrick, born 4 August, 1802; married at New South Wales.
 - 1. Isabel, born 1 July, 1789; married James Catto.
 - 2. Katharine, born 4 October, 1790, died in infancy.
 - 3. Agnes, born 26 July, 1793; married David Reid, surgeon, R.N., and had issue, a daughter, Agnes, who married Sir Francis Murray, knight, 1860, late Speaker of the House of Assembly, Victoria.
 - 4. Elizabeth, born 5 February, 1795; married, 14 April, 1817, Lieutenant Orlando Wart Wilson, R.N.
 - 5. Marjory, born 21 November, 1799; married, 14 April, 1836, Alexander Kilgour, M.D., Aberdeen.

John Dyce of Tilliegraig married secondly, Christian, daughter of George Rose, of the family of Rose of Insch and Lethenty, and had issue:—

- II. John, born 1 October, 1760.
- III. George, born August, 1768.
- IV. John, born 14 January, 1773.
- V. Archibald, born 4 April, 1774.
- VI. James, born 4 January, 1776; married Helen Ogilvie Paterson, and had issue, three sons and five daughters:—I. John, born 10 August, 1804, died 14 June, 1806. II. Thomas Rose, Deputy Inspector-General, Army, Medical Depot, late 15th Foot; born 29 June, 1816, died 1876. III. John James, born 25 March, 1820, died 10 June, 1830.
 - 1. Helen Ogilvie, born 9 February, 1806; married Rev. James Soutar, and had issue. She died 1892.
 - 2. Christian, born 17 July, 1807, died 24 October, 1881.
 - 3. Barbara Ann, born 1 September, 1809, died 24 October, 1813.
 - 4. Margaret, born 19 August, 1811, died 1891.
 - 5. Janet Stewart, born 12 March, 1823, died 17 December, 1839.
- 1. Christian, eldest daughter of John Dyce of Tilliegraig and Christian Rose, born 2 February, 1757; married, 26 April, 1784, Captain Robert Allan, R.N.; issue, a large family (see Tilliegraig).
- 2. Mary, born September, 1763, died 5 May, 1845.
- 3. Mary, born 31 October, 1764; married, 24 August, 1813, Robert Mathieson.
- 4. Anne, born 28 December, 1765; married, 28 August, 1798, Ninian Kynoch, died 2 October, 1819.
- 5. Elizabeth, born 13 February, 1770; married, 16 June, 1791, Robert Birnie, died 2 August, 1826, had issue.

6. Jean, married, 30 August, 1798, Marianus Massie, died 1850, leaving issue.
- II. Alexander, of Rosebank, second son of Alexander Dyce of Raeden and May Deuchar, married, 1757, Mary, daughter of David Ochterlony of Tillyfrisky, brother of the laird of Pitforth, county of Angus, of whom was General Sir David Ochterlony, Bart., G.C.B., who was brought up in Mrs. Dyce's house at Aberdeen, treated as one of her own children, and equipped for his cadetship in India. Alexander Dyce died March, 1773, leaving issue :—
- I. Alexander, Lieutenant-General, Madras Establishment, born 10 March, 1758; married, 1797, Frederica Maria Meredith, daughter of Neil Campbell of Duntroon and Oib, Argyllshire, died 24 December, 1835. General Dyce was a distinguished soldier. He entered the army as cornet, 18 November, 1776, and commanded the southern division of the army in 1818.¹ He left issue :—
- I. Rev. Alexander, B.A., Exeter College, Oxford, born 30 June, 1798; was a distinguished dramatic critic and commentator of Shakespeare. He published a fine edition of Shakespeare in nine volumes, in 1857. He died in 1869, and left the whole of his library, collection of pictures and miniatures to the South Kensington Museum, where it is known as the "Dyce Bequest."
- II. Lieutenant-General Archibald Brown, born 1799; Colonel of the 105th Regiment, Madras Light Infantry; entered the army 16 June, 1817, as cornet, and commanded the northern division of the army. He married and had issue; died in 1866.
- III. Andrew, born 1804, became Lieutenant, Madras Presidency, 5 September, 1824, and died at Jaulnah, 31 July, 1833.
- IV. John Neil, of the Madras Cavalry, was pensioned on Lord Clive's fund, 23 April, 1832. He subsequently graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was called to the Scottish bar as advocate in 1840, and soon after was appointed sheriff-substitute of Lanarkshire. He married, 27 April, 1842, Elizabeth Hamilton Bowie, and had issue, six daughters and one son, Rev. Alexander Frederick, M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, born 30 August, 1844; married, 24 June, 1876,

¹ East India Military Calendar, 1824.

Mary Isabella, daughter of Canon King, vicar of Norham-on-Tweed.

- II. John, second son of Alexander Dyce of Rosebank by Mary Ochterlony, born 1 June, 1759, died young.
- III. Andrew, born 7 July, 1762, died in infancy.
- IV. David, Lieutenant H.E.I.C.S. Bengal Presidency, born 16 November, 1766, died at Fortwilliam, India, 26 February, 1789.
- V. Andrew, baptised 15 July, 1771.
- VI. Francis Peter, M.D., King's College, born 5 January, 1773.
 - 1. Mary, of Rosebank, born 15 December, 1760, died 22 June, 1840.
 - 2. May, born 27 June, 1764, died 22 May, 1829.
 - 3. Anne, born 23 September, 1765; married, 14 August, 1802, Charles Davidson of Maryland.
 - 4. Elizabeth, born 31 March, 1770.
- III. James, third son of Alexander Dyce of Raeden and May Deuchar, born 25 August, 1728, died 14 October, 1741.
- IV. Andrew, born 22 June, 1735.
 - 1. Elizabeth, born 29 January, 1772, died 11 November, 1728.
 - 2. Agnes, born 10 August, 1724; married, 2 July, 1753, James Legertwood of Skelmuir.
 - 3. Mary, born 30 August, 1730; married Sir James Reid, third Bart. of Barra.
 - 4. May, born 10 May, 1732; married, 24 August, 1761, her cousin, Robert Dyce of Cuttlehill.

To find the lineage of the said Robert Dyce of Cuttlehill, we return to William Dyce in Belhelvie, born circa 1590, son of William Dyce in Belhelvie, born circa 1560, as mentioned above. He married, and had issue:—

- I. Andrew, in Belhelvie, born 14 March, 1625, of whom afterwards as the progenitor of the Dyces of Disblair.
- II. Alexander, born 16 October, 1631; married, and had issue, a son, **James**, in Belhelvie, born 1660, died 1708, and is buried at Belhelvie. This James married, and had issue, besides a daughter, Margaret, four sons—I. **James**, of whom afterwards. II. Robert. III. Alexander. IV. William, born 24 November, 1706; married, 28 September, 1730, Katharine, daughter of Rev. William Forbes, minister of Tarves, of the family of Waterton, a branch of Tolquhon, and ancestor of the Forbeses of Echt. They had issue two sons and two daughters. The second son, Rev. Thomas Dyce, married Isabella, daughter of Alexander Gordon, Fochabers. The eldest son of James Dyce, who died in 1708, was

James Dyce in Belhelvie.

He was born 1696; married, 25 February, 1724, Christian Chessour, and had issue,

three sons and four daughters—I. **Robert**, of Cuttlehill, of whom afterwards. II. James, of Badentoy, county of Kincardine; married, 2 August, 1770, Jean, daughter of William Fordyce of Auquhorties; died 24 December, 1791; had among other children a daughter, Margaret, who married 25 November, 1794, William Nicol, M.D., who was ancestor of James Dyce Nicol of Badentoy and Ballogie, J.P., D.L.; sometime member of parliament for Kincardineshire. III. Alexander, died 25 April, 1790. 1. Katharine. 2. Anne, died young. 3. Katharine. 4. Margaret.

Robert Dyce of Cuttlehill,

the eldest son of James Dyce in Belhelvie and Christian Chessour, acquired Cuttlehill, 16 December, 1777. He was born in Belhelvie, 4 June, 1729; married, 24 August, 1761, May, daughter of Alexander Dyce of Raeden and May Deuchar, as above mentioned. They had issue six sons and three daughters:—

- I. James.
- II. Alexander, surgeon in the army.
- III. John.
- IV. Andrew, Captain R.N.
- V. **Willian**, of Cuttlehill, of whom afterwards.
- VI. Robert.
 1. May.
 2. Mary, married James Gordon.
 3. Christian.

William Dyce of Cuttlehill, M.D., F.R.S., Edin.,

was born 31 August, 1770; married, 8 February, 1798, Margaret, daughter of James Chalmers of Westburn (descended of Balnacraig), by his marriage with Margaret, daughter and heiress of David Douglas, of the family of Tilwhilly, and Katharine Forbes, his wife, of the family of Echt. A fine portrait of him is to be seen in the Medical Hall, Aberdeen, painted by his son, William Dyce, R.A. Dr. Dyce was an eminent physician and a man of considerable scientific attainments. He died 10 March, 1835, leaving issue:—

1. Robert, born 30 November, 1798, M.A., M.D., F.R.S., Edin., F.S.A. Scot.; of the army medical staff; served on the staff of General the Hon. Sir. Galbraith Lowry Cole, G.C.B.; for five years at the Mauritius, and five years at the Cape, being on the staff till 1834; appointed lecturer in midwifery in Marischal College, 1841, and Professor, on the union of King's and Marischal Colleges, in 1860; physician to Gordon's Hospital and Royal Infirmary; married, 1831, Antoinette Louisa, daughter of the Hon. Frederick Stoll, treasurer-general of the Cape. He had issue a large family, of whom was John Robert, Major in the Royal Artillery; and Frederick Louis Stoll, Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade.

- II. James, born 26 May, 1801 ; was in the Royal Navy ; died 8 April, 1818.
- III. William, born 19 September, 1806, M.A., F.R.S. Edinb., Royal Academician, a distinguished painter, musician, and scholar ; born 19 September, 1806 ; married, 17 January, 1850, Jane Bickerton, eldest daughter of James Brand of Milnathort, Kinross-shire, by his marriage with Jean, daughter of Adam Wilson of Glasgowe, great-grand-daughter of David Tyrie of Dunnideer, and Isabel, his wife, daughter of John Sinclair of Dunbeath and Latheron ; died 4 February, 1864, leaving issue :—
- I. William Gladstone, born 9 February, 1852 ; died at sea off Ceylon, 24 March, 1877.
 - II. James Stirling, F.S.A. Lond., born 29 July, 1853.
 1. Joanna Margaret, died at the Cape of Good Hope, 24 May, 1875.
 2. Isabella Catharine.
- IV. Alexander, born 6 September, 1809 ; married, 17 October, 1844, Margaret Elgar, died 31 August, 1848.
- V. David, born 29 September, 1812, surgeon 3rd Buffs and 48th Regiment ; died 13 September, 1848.
- VI. Charles Andrew, born 24 March, 1816 ; married Eliza Hyde ; died 1863, leaving issue.
1. Margaret, born 14 March, 1800 ; married, 19 July, 1824, James Ross, advocate, Edinburgh.
 2. May Agnes, born 17 September, 1802 ; married, 4 January, 1821, George Wilson of Glasgowe, advocate ; died 1880.
 3. Catharine, born 26 April, 1804 ; married, 25 February, 1836, Rev. Principal Brown, D.D., Moderator (1885) of the Free Church of Scotland.
 4. Mary, born 31 March, 1808, died 26 July, 1825.
 5. Isabella, born 20 April, 1811 ; married, 29 October, 1835, Robert Dundas Cay, W.S.
 6. Charlotte, born 20 January, 1814 ; married, 7 July, Colonel Richard Gard'ner, H.E.I.C.S. ; died September, 1884.
 7. Frederica Maria Meredith, born 17 March, 1818 ; married George Woolley, M.D.
 8. Jemima Gordon, born 7 November, 1819 ; married, 30 April, 1850, Rev. Alexander Campbell Fraser, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S. Edin., D.C.L. Oxon., Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh.

We now return to **William Dyce** in Belhelvie, born in 1590, son of William Dyce in Belhelvie, born circa 1560. He married, and had issue, **Andrew**, born in Belhelvie, 14 March, 1625, who married, and had issue, **Andrew**, born in Belhelvie, 1657, died 25 April, 1731, leaving issue :—

- I. **James**, of Disblair, of whom afterwards.

- II. Rev. William, minister of Belhelvie (see ministers of Belhelvie), born 26 December, 1689, died 23 July, 1724; had issue:—
- I. Andrew, born 1 August, 1720, died 24 April, 1742.
 1. Katharine, born 7 September, 1721, died 31 October, 1731.
 2. Janet, born 18 March, 1723; married William Forbes, ancestor of the Forbeses of Callander.
- III. Robert, born 13 September, 1692, died 27 January, 1718.
- IV. Andrew, born 9 February, 1696, died 27 May, 1745.
- V. Alexander, born 1 January, 1699, died 23 November, 1721.

James Dyce of Disblair,

eldest son of the above-mentioned Andrew Dyce, was born 17 October, 1687, died 10 January, 1751; married, 25 November, 1716, Agnes, daughter of William Baxter, baillie, Aberdeen. He acquired by purchase, as above mentioned, the property of Disblair in 1744. He had issue:—

1. Isobel, born 10 November, 1716; married James Morison of Elsick, Lord Provost of Aberdeen, and had issue.
2. Janet, born 30 October, 1720; married, in 1752, George Burnett of Kemnay.
3. **Agnes**, born 1727, succeeded to Disblair, as above mentioned.

Mr. Morison, Provost of Aberdeen, at the time of the rebellion in 1745, was ordered to drink the Prince's health at the point of the sword, but he would not, and had the wine poured down his breast. He was particularly known as "Provost Positive;" and it is said, that having some plantations about his property of Elsick, he put up a board with the inscription, "Trespassers will be prosecuted ayont a' law."

Crest of the Morisons—"Three heads coupéd."

Motto—"Pretio prudentia præstat."

Arms of Dyce—Argent, a chevron embattled between three leopards' faces, sable.

Crest—A lion rampant gardant sable; murally gorged argent sustaining a flag-staff proper, thereon hoisted a banner, parted per bend embattled, or, and gules; charged with a leopard's face counter changed. And in escroll over the same this motto—"Decide and Dare."

MELDRUM AND ITS PROPRIETORS.

MELDRUM is now the property of Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart, born 5 May, 1830; married, 5 August, 1856, Isabella Forbes, daughter of the late General Sir Hugh Fraser, K.C.B., of Braelangwell, county of Ross, and had issue, of whom afterwards.

This property has been in the uninterrupted possession of the present family since at least 1236. Twice has this family terminated in an heiress, and a new name acquired; first when the heiress married a Seton and brought the property to that family, and secondly when the heiress terminating in a Seton brought it to the family of Urquhart, a name no less renowned in the history of the country. The first owner that we find of Meldrum is

Philip de Phendarg or Fedarg.

He is mentioned in a perambulation upon the lands of Tarways (Tarves), between the Abbot of Arbroath and the Countess of Buchan, A.D. 1236.¹ He was a man of considerable rank and influence, and made a considerable figure in the beginning of the reign of Alexander II., and is a frequent witness to charters of William Cumin, Earl of Buchan, who flourished at that time. Philip de Fedarg received a charter from Walter, Abbot of Arbroath, "terram in territorio de Tarways quæ vocatur Achathaneve." For this land he had to pay the Abbot one-half merk at Pentecost.² Philip de Fedarg is said to have been knighted by Alexander II. Whether this Philip or his son relinquished the name "de Fedarg" cannot be determined, but the change certainly took place in the reign of Alexander III., who succeeded to the Crown A.D. 1249. The next, a son, is

II. Sir Philip de Fedarg or Melgdrum.

He married Dame Agnes Cumin, daughter of William, and sister of Alexander, Earl of Buchan. This Sir Philip and Dame Agnes Cumin had a dispute with the Abbot of Arbroath concerning the right of patronage to the church of Bethelnie. It was settled that the patronage should belong to the Abbey, but that Sir Philip and Dame Agnes should have "jus præsentandi ad altaragium præfatæ ecclesiæ de Buthelny."³ In the charter of the hospital at Turriff, founded by Alexander Cumin, Earl of Buchan, in 1272, Philip de Melgdrum and his son, William de Melgdrum, are witnesses. The deed is signed at Kelly. Sir Philip is said to have had three sons:—

I. William, his successor.

¹ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 337.

² Reg. Vetus de Aberbrothok, p. 195. Ant. A. and B. I. p. 338.

³ Vetus Reg. de Arbroath, pp. 192, 193.

Ant. A. and B. I. p. 470.

II. Thomas, who had, according to Douglas in his baronage, the estate of Cleish, in the county of Fife.¹

III. Alexander, who had the estate of Seggy; the issue of both these brothers is extinct.

Sir Philip de Melgdrum was succeeded by his son,

III. Sir William de Melgdrum.

He is mentioned, as above narrated, along with his father, Sir Philip, as a witness to the foundation charter of St. Congan's, Turriff. He is called knight (miles) in a deed of date, 1300, regarding the liberty of the regality of the monastery of Arbroath.² He was one of the magnates of Scotland, who, in the competition for the Crown of Scotland, appeared on the side of John Baliol, being no doubt influenced by his cousin, John Cumin, Earl of Buchan. He probably for a time lost his lands, for there is a writ to the sheriff of Aberdeen to restore the lands to Sir William de Melgdrum, A.D. 1296.³ He is also witness to a charter "de libertate regalitatis monasterii de Aberbrothock in 1299."⁴ He married, and had issue:—

I. **Thomas**, his heir. He is not mentioned by either Douglas or Burke in their notices of the family. In 1306-7, there is a petition by Thomas, son and heir of William de Melkedrum, a minor, to the King, praying that he may have an order on the sheriff of Aberdeen for reasonable sustenance till he is of legal age, as the King granted the ward of his father's lands to Sir Thomas de Chaucumbe, who had sold it and his marriage to Sir Robert de Keth. His prayer was granted.⁵

II. **John**. In "Douglas' Baronage" he is given as the oldest son.

III. Philip, who was present at the execution of a brief regarding the marches of Ardlogy, A.D. 1325.⁶

Sir William de Melgdrum died before 1306, and was succeeded by his son,

IV. Thomas de Melgdrum.

Regarding him there is no further notice than that above recorded, and he was probably succeeded by his brother,

V. John de Melgdrum.

He is, according to Douglas, often mentioned in the chartulary of Arbroath as "dominus ejusdem," but he has left no other record. He married, and had issue:—

I. **Sir Philip**, his heir.

¹ Doug. Bar. folio. p. 158.

² Ant. A. and B. I. p. 340.

³ Bain's Scot. Doc. II. p. 218, No. 832.

⁴ Vet. Reg. de Arbroath, p. 164. Ant. A. and B. I. p. 340.

⁵ Bain's Scot. Doc. II. p. 527, No. 1983.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 195.

- II. William, who feued from Galfridus, Abbot of Arbroath (pro homagio et servitio), the lands of Banchory, which the said Galfrid confirmed by another charter, dated 7 October, 1346, in both which charters, he is expressly designed Willelmus de Melgdrum, filius quondam Johannis de Melgdrum.¹ He had also a charter of the lands of Achneif and Petkarry, and granted in 1342 a donation of eight merks yearly from the lands of Waterton and Ardfork to the altar of St. Laurence and St. Ninian in St. Nicholas Church, Aberdeen.² This William was a man of great parts, and was one of the ambassadors extraordinary appointed by the nation to negotiate King David's liberty. He was ancestor of the Meldrums of Fyvie.

John de Melgdrum died in the beginning of King David Bruce's reign, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI. Sir Philip de Melgdrum.

In his father's life-time, he was one summoned by Alexander Fraser, Chamberlain of Scotland, to take part in a perambulation regarding the marches of the lands belonging to the Abbey of Arbroath, and the park of Fyvie, which belonged to the King. He was also present at the battle of Homildon Hill, where he is said to have behaved gallantly. He appears, according to Douglas in his "Baronage," to have been much about the King's person, being witness to many charters in that King's reign.³ He was for some-time sheriff (vicecomes) of Banff, and when he gave in the accounts of his administration he is described as "Dominus Philippus de Melgdrum."⁴ This brave man was at last killed fighting valiantly in defence of his King and country at Durham, 1346. He left issue, four sons and one daughter:—

I. **Sir Thomas**, his successor.

II. **Sir William**, who carried on the line of the family.

III. Philip, who got from his brother the lands of Kilblean.

IV. Andrew. He is not given by either Douglas, Burke, or Nisbet in their deductions of the family; but he is mentioned in a deed, along with his father and sister, Christian, of date 1365.⁵

i. Christian, married John de Innerpeffer.⁶

Sir Philip died before 1365, and was succeeded by his son,

VII. Thomas de Melgdrum.

There is little known regarding him; but he is said to have resigned the estate to his brother, and dying without lawful issue was succeeded by him.⁷

VIII. Sir William de Melgdrum.

He got a charter under the great seal from King David Bruce confirming to him and

¹ Doug. Bar. folio, p. 158.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 43. Cast. Eccles. St.

Nicholas, N.S.C. I. p. 10, II. p. 19.

³ Doug. Bar. folio, p. 158.

⁴ Doug. Bar. folio, p. 158.

⁵ Ant. A. and B. I. p. 378.

⁶ Id.

⁷ Burke's Bar. I. p. 298, Ed. 1830.

his heirs the lands and lordship of Meldrum "ex donatione Thomæ de Meldrum domini ejusdem."¹ The confirmation is dated at Dunbarton, 10 October, 1353, and in it he is designated William de Melgdrum, vicecomes de Aberdeen. He is also witness to a charter of the lands of Drumrossy in 1369.² He left issue, a son, **William**, by whom he was succeeded.

IX. William de Melgdrum.

He was, according to Douglas, in his father's life-time designated "dominus de Auchineve," particularly in a charter dated 31 July, 1382. He was six years before this date, A.D. 1376, witness to a charter of Henry Strathechyn, Lord of Ballbley, in which he is styled "Dominus de Achneff."³ He was succeeded by his son,

X. William de Melgdrum.

He took part in a perambulation of the marches between the lands of Tarves, belonging to the Abbey of Arbroath, and the lands of Uldeny.⁴ He was one of the hostages for the ransom of King James I. in 1431.⁵ He was the last male descendant of the Meldrums, and left two daughters, his co-heiresses, by whom he was succeeded:

1. Mariote, designed "domina ejusdem," who died unmarried.
2. **Elizabeth**, who became at last sole heiress.

XI. Elizabeth de Melgdrum.

She married William, a younger son of Sir Alexander Seton, Lord Gordon, and brother of Alexander, first Earl of Huntly, to whom she brought the barony of Meldrum; but he and his successors retained the name of Seton. William de Seton is found, along with Alexander de Seton, Lord of Gordon, witness to a charter of confirmation by the Earl of Mar to Alexander Fraser, &c., 1431.⁶ He was slain at the battle of Brechin, 18 May, 1452, and by the said heiress of Meldrum left an only son, **Alexander**, by whom he was succeeded.

XII. Alexander Seton of Meldrum.

He married Muriella, daughter of Alexander Sutherland, progenitor of the family of Duffus. There is a confirmation charter by the King to Alexander Seton de Meldrum and Murielle Sutherland, his spouse, of the lands of Gonyr, Auld Meldrum, in 1499-1500.⁷ There is also a charter of confirmation of a charter by Alexander Seton of Meldrum, "noveritis me dedisse Gulielmo Seton filio et hæredi apparenti et Elizabethæ Leslie ejus sponse et diutius viventi omnes mea terras de Balcairn in baronia de

1 Doug. Bar. fol. p. 158.

2 Ant. A. and E. IV, p. 732.

3 Doug. Bar. fol. p. 158. Ant. A. and E. IV, p. 443.

4 Ant. A. and E. I, p. 343.

5 Rymer's Foedera, N. p. 509.

6 Doug. Fol. p. 158. Ant. A. and E. IV, p. 577.

7 Reg. Mag. Sig. 1500, No. 2507. Ant. A. and E.

III, p. 414.

Meldrum. This charter was confirmed by the King, 11 March, 1490-91.¹ Alexander Seton is mentioned in a confirmation charter "de terris debatabilibus" lying between the lands of Meldrum and Tarves.² He had issue:—

- I. William, his heir-apparent, who married, as seen from the above charter, Elizabeth Leslie. She was the daughter of Alexander Leslie of Wardes. They had issue a son, **Alexander**, who succeeded his grandfather.³

1. Katharine, married William Forbes of Keldrum, and had issue.

Alexander Seton of Meldrum died circa 1512, and was succeeded by his grandson,

XIII. Alexander Seton of Meldrum.

He was served heir to his grandfather "in dominio de Meldrum," 15 July, 1512.⁴ He married first, Agnes, daughter of Patrick Gordon of Haddo (ancestor of the Earls of Aberdeen), and by her had two sons:—

- I. **William**, his heir.

- II. Alexander, who was Chancellor of Aberdeen and vicar of Bethelnic.

He married secondly, Janet, daughter, and one of the co-heiresses, of George Leith of Barnes, with whom he got the lands of Blair in the parish of Bourtie, and by her had a son, John, who got a charter under the great seal of the lands of Auchlevin and Drumrossy.⁵ Alexander Seton of Meldrum resigned the lands of Ardler, along with Andrew Elphinstone of Selmys, to the Bishop of Aberdeen, which lands were given by Bishop Dunbar to the Provost and Baillies of Aberdeen for the upkeep of the bridge of Dee.⁶ This Alexander seems to have been murdered, for in 1527 there is the King's remission to John Leslie and John Keith for the slaughter of unquhile Alexander Forbes, *alias* Spranger, one of the murderers of Alexander Seton of Meldrum. The Master of Forbes also took part in the murder.⁷ He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XIV. William Seton of Meldrum.

He was served heir to his father in the lands of Meldrum, 13 January, 1533, being then of full age. In 1548, he appears in the list of an assize of barons in the county of Aberdeen.⁸ He married Janet, daughter of James Gordon of Lesmoir, and got a charter under the great seal. "Wilelmo Seton de Meldrum et Janete de Gordon ejus sponse terrarum dominicalium de Meldrum, 8 February, 1535."⁹ He had issue three sons:—

- I. **Alexander**, his heir.

- II. John, of Lumphard.

- III. William, of Slattie.

He married secondly, Margaret, daughter of ——— Innes of Leuchars, by whom he had two sons:—

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig. 1490, No. 2020.
Ant. A. and E. III. p. 413.

² Ant. A. and E. I. p. 348.

³ Id.

⁴ Douglas' Baronage fol. p. 159.

⁵ Douglas' Baronage, p. 159.

⁶ Ant. A. and E. IV. p. 486.

⁷ Id. p. 416; III. p. 377.

⁸ Id. I. p. 115.

⁹ Reg. Mag. Sig., Doug. Bar. fol. p. 159.

IV. George, of Barra, Chancellor of Aberdeen, who got three charters under the great seal of the lands of Barrach, Westerhouse, &c., all dated 1598.¹

V. James, of Bourtie, progenitor of the Setons of Pitmedden.

William Seton in January, 1556, granted a charter to Alexander Seton, his eldest son, his heirs and assignees whatsoever, of the said lands, to be holden of the King, upon which a charter of confirmation and infestment followed. Hitherto it is to be observed that the succession continued to heirs general.² He was succeeded by his eldest son,

XV. Alexander Seton of Meldrum.

In his father's life-time, he got a charter under the great seal, "Alexandro Seton, heredi apparenti de Meldrum, terrarum dominicalium, lie Mains de Meldrum," dated 14 August, 1578.³ In 1579, there is a sasine to Alexander Seton as heir to his father, William Seton, in the lands of Achnieif, with the mill.⁴ He married first, Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Irvine of Drum, by whom he had a son,

I. **Alexander**, his apparent heir.

He married secondly, Jean, daughter of Alexander, sixth Lord Abernethy, by whom he had two sons and two daughters:—

II. **John**, who became his father's heir in the estate of Meldrum.

III. **William**, who succeeded his brother, John.

1. Margaret, married to ——— Chalmers of Balbithan.

2. Isobel, married to ——— Erskine of Pittodrie.

This Alexander Seton granted, in 1584, a charter of the lands of Meldrum to his eldest son, Alexander, and to the heirs male of his body, whom failing, to his own heirs male and assignees whatsoever, upon which a charter of confirmation under the great seal was expedite, an infestment taken thereon, whereby the ordinary course of succession was altered.⁵ Alexander Seton, son and apparent heir of Alexander Seton of Meldrum, married, in 1584, Christian, daughter of Michael Fraser of Stonywood, ancestor of Lord Fraser, by whom he had an only daughter, **Elizabeth**, his heiress, who carried on the line of the family, and from whom the present family of Meldrum is descended, as will be seen afterwards. Alexander, the younger, died in the life-time of his father, and Alexander, the father, died circa 1606, and was succeeded, in virtue of the last settlement, by his second and eldest surviving son,

XVI. John Seton of Meldrum.

He was served heir-male, 29 April, 1606, of Alexander ("feoditarii de Meldrum"), his brother, in the dominical lands of Meldrum, commonly called the Mains of Meldrum, lands of Auld Meldrum, with the mill of Cromblet, lands of Balcairn, Bethelnie, Kilblean, &c.; also at the same time in the lands of Bogfechil, in the barony of Tarves.⁶

¹ Reg. Mag. Sig. Doug. Bar. p. 158.

² Id. p. 159.

³ Douglas' Bar. fol. p. 159.

⁴ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 73.

⁵ Doug. Bar. p. 159. Burke's Bar. I. p. 299.

⁶ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 100.

He got a charter under the great seal, "Johanni Seton de Meldrum, terrarum baronie de Meldrum, 6 July, 1615."¹ He is mentioned in 1615 as a witness to an instrument of George Johnstounis upon the lands of Sathlee and Loch Tulloch.² He married Grizel Stewart, said to be a daughter of the Earl of Athole; but dying in 1619 without issue, he was succeeded by his brother,

XVII. William Seton of Meldrum.

He was served heir-male on 5 October, 1619, to his brother, John Seton of Meldrum, in the lands and barony of Meldrum, the town and lands of Auld Meldrum, lands of Balcairn, &c.³ On April 3, 1637, he was served heir-male of George Seton of Barrach, Chancellor of Aberdeen, his uncle, in the lands of Barrach, Westerhouse.⁴ He got a charter under the great seal, "Willelmo Seton de Meldrum, terrarum de Babithan," dated 10 July, 1623.⁵ He is mentioned in a minute of contract betwixt the Earl of Mar and Sir George Johnston of that ilk, as superior of the lands of Muirton.⁶ He married Anne, daughter of James Crichton of Frendraught, but had no issue.

The estate of Meldrum having come to the Setons by an heir female, and the course of succession having been long settled on heirs female, this William Seton thought it just and reasonable that it should go in the same channel, he, therefore, in 1635, made a new entail of the whole estate (failing heirs of his own body) in favour of the issue of his niece, Elizabeth, only child of his brother afore-mentioned, who was the nearest and real heir of line; and he dying soon thereafter without male issue, the entail took place accordingly. To her then we now return. Elizabeth Seton or Urquhart, who, as above narrated, was the only child of Alexander Seton, younger of Meldrum, son and apparent heir of Alexander Seton of Meldrum (No. XV.). She married, as his third wife, in 1610, John Urquhart of Craigston, commonly called the Tutor of Cromarty, and had issue, of whom afterwards.

The antiquity of the surname of Urquhart is very great. The Urquharts of Cromarty have always been acknowledged as the chief of the name, and are now represented by the Urquharts of Meldrum. The Urquharts of Cromarty were proprietors of almost the whole county of Cromarty, either as superiors or possessors of the "dominium utile" of the whole county, and were heritable sheriffs thereof. The first to be found is **Gareloch de Urquhart**, who lived in the reign of Alexander II., and is mentioned in a composition between Andrew, Bishop of Moray, "et dominum Alanum Ostiarium, anno 1233." This is three years earlier than the date of Philip de Phendarg above narrated. The first of Cromarty is

I. William de Urchard.

He was heritable sheriff of Cromarty. He married first, Lilius, daughter of Hugh, Earl of Ross, and had a son and successor.⁷

¹ Douglas' Bar. fol. p. 159.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 425.

³ Ret. Spec. No. 163.

⁴ Id. No. 3.

⁵ Douglas' Bar. fol. p. 159.

⁶ Ant. A. and B. IV. p. 309.

⁷ Burke's Baronage, I. p. 295.

II. Adam Urchard of Cromarty.

He had a charter from William, Earl of Ross, of the lands of Inchroary, in the county of Ross. There is also a charter from David Bruce of the sheriffdom of Cromarty, dated 1 November, 1357.¹ He married Brigidia, daughter of Sir Patrick Fleming of Biggar, ancestor of the Earls of Wigton, and had a son and successor,

III. John Urchard of Cromarty.

He married Agnes, daughter of Sir Alexander Ramsay, ancestor of the Earls of Dalhousie, and had two sons, **William**, his heir, and Thomas, appointed keeper and governor of Tarnaway; charter dated 1402.²

IV. Sir William Urchard of Cromarty.

He was knighted by Robert III., and married Susanna, daughter of Alexander, Lord Forbes; had issue, **William** and **Alexander**. He was succeeded by his elder son,

V. William Urchard of Cromarty.

He married a daughter of Sir Alexander Forbes, ancestor of Sir Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo, but dying without male issue, he was succeeded by his brother,

VI. Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty,

who had a charter under the great seal from James IV. "terrarum de Fetheray, &c." He married Katharine, daughter of Sir James Ogilvie of Deskford, by whom he had **Thomas**, his heir. He was succeeded by his son,

VII. Thomas Urquhart of Cromarty,

who married Helen, daughter of Alexander, Lord Abernethy of Saltoun, and had issue, it is said, twenty-five sons and eleven daughters! Seven of the sons are said to have fallen at Pinkie in 1547. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

VIII. Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty.

He had a charter under the great seal from James V. of the lands of Inchroary, and of several others, in the counties of Ross and Inverness, dated 7 March, 1532. He married Beatrix, daughter of ——— Innes of Auchintoul, and had issue two sons:—

- I. Walter, served heir to his father, 11 April, 1564; married Elizabeth, daughter of Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail, by whom, besides a daughter married to Walter Ogilvie of Dunlugas, he had two sons—I. Thomas, who married Elspet, daughter of Abernethy, Lord Saltoun, but died in *vita patris* s. p. II. Henry, of Cromarty, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Ogilvie of Dunlugas, and had issue a son, Sir Thomas

¹ Burke's Bar. I. (1830) p. 295. Doug. Ear. p. 160.

² Burke's Bar. I. (1830) p. 295. Doug. Ear. p. 160.

Urquhart of Cromarty, who was served heir to his father in 1603, and to his grandfather in 1607.

- II. **John**, the second son of Alexander Urquhart of Cromarty and Beatrix Innes, of whose line we have to treat. He was born in 1547; was variously designed as of Craighinray, now Craigston, and of Culbo. He became, after the death of his brother and nephew, tutor to his grand-nephew, Sir Thomas Urquhart, and was well known afterwards by the designation of Tutor of Cromarty. He got charters under the great seal in 1595, 1597, and 1600. He married first a daughter of John Gordon of Cairnburrow, relict of ——— Meldrum of Eden, by whom he had John, his heir, and two daughters—1. Beatrix, married to George Gordon of Buckie. 2. Violet, married to Sir Alexander Gordon of Cluny. He married secondly, Jean, daughter of Alexander Abernethy, Lord Saltoun, relict of Alexander Seton of Meldrum, by whom he had no issue. He married thirdly, in 1610, as before mentioned, Elizabeth, only daughter of Alexander Seton, younger of Meldrum, and grandchild of Alexander Seton of Meldrum, whose relict he had formerly married. By her he had four sons and one daughter :—

I. **Patrick**, of Lethenty, afterwards of Meldrum.

II. Adam, of Auchintoul.

III. Walter, of Crombie.

IV. James, of Old Craig.

1. A daughter, married ——— Fraser of Easter Tyrie.

This John Urquhart, tutor of Cromarty, died at his house of Craigston, which he had himself built, 8 November, 1631, aged 84 years, and was succeeded in Craighinray and Laithers by the only son of his first marriage, John Urquhart.

Patrick, the eldest son by his third wife, Elizabeth, daughter and sole heiress of Alexander Seton, younger of Meldrum (see No. XV.), got the property of Lethenty, and on the death of his grand-uncle, William Seton of Meldrum, without issue, became

XVIII. Patrick Urquhart of Meldrum and Lethenty.

He was born 1611; got a charter under the great seal, "Patricio Urquhart de Cromarty, terrarum baroniæ de Forglen," dated 26 July, 1634; and another "terrarum de Muires de Fyvie," 1625; and on succeeding to Meldrum, he got a charter of the lands of Meldrum, dated 1636.¹ He was a great loyalist, and had his house of Lethenty plundered. He married Lady Margaret Ogilvie, daughter of James, first Earl of Airlie. She assisted her brother, the Lord Ogilvie, to escape, in her own clothes, from the prison of St. Andrews, the night before he was to have been executed. By the said Lady Margaret, he had five sons and one daughter :—

I. John, who died before his father, unmarried.

II. **Adam**, who became his father's heir.

¹ Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 165.

- III. James, of Knockleith, ancestor of the Urquharts of Craigston. He married Margaret, daughter of ——— Fraser of Tyrie, by whom he had a son, John, a captain in the army, his heir, who first purchased the lands of Craigston, and thereafter the estate of Cromarty.¹ He married his cousin, Jean, daughter of William Urquhart of Meldrum, by whom he had a numerous issue, of whom only three sons and four daughters survived.
- IV. Patrick, M.D., Professor of Medicine in King's College, Aberdeen; married Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. Andrew Muir, his predecessor in office, and had issue.
- V. Alexander, Captain, who was killed in service in 1685.
1. Elizabeth, married first, Sir George Gordon of Gight, and had issue a daughter, the heiress of that family. She married secondly, Major General Thomas Buchan, a son of the family of Auchmacoy.

Patrick Urquhart of Meldrum died 1664, and was succeeded by his son,

XIX. Adam Urquhart of Meldrum.

In his younger years, when his elder brother was alive, he served in the army abroad.² After his return home, he had the honour to serve his Majesty Charles II. as Lieutenant of a troop of Horse Guards, commanded by his uncle, the Earl of Airlie, and thereafter, upon the representation of the said Earl, he was made Captain of the same troop, and enjoyed it as long as he lived. He was for many years the representative in parliament of the county of Aberdeen. He married, in 1667, Lady Mary Gordon, daughter of Lewis, Marquis of Huntly, and sister of George, first Duke of Gordon, by whom he had four sons and three daughters:—

- I. **John**, his heir.
- II. James, of Byth. He married Jean, daughter of Patrick Porterfield of Comiston, by Anne Douglas, his wife, daughter of William, Lord Mordington, by whom he had a numerous issue, but only two sons and two daughters survived—I. James, his heir. II. Captain Adam. 1. Mary. 2. Elizabeth.
- III. Adam.
- IV. Lewis, both churchmen in France.
1. Mary, became a nun at Dieppe.
2. Elizabeth, married David Ogilvie of Clova.
3. Anne, married Sir Florence Odonachie, and had issue.

Adam Urquhart of Meldrum died at Edinburgh, 10 November, 1684; and Lady Mary, his relict, was married to James, Earl of Perth, Lord High Chancellor of Scotland. After the Revolution she went to France, and died at St. Germain, in March, 1726. He was succeeded by his son,

¹ Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 164.

² Douglas' Baronage, fol. p. 164.

XX. John Urquhart of Meldrum.

He was born 1668 ; was served heir, June 17, 1691, to his father, Adam Urquhart, in the lands and barony of Meldrum, the town and lands of Ardfork, Kilblean, Auld Meldrum, Forresterhill, Catic, &c.¹ He was served heir to his aunt, Lady Jean Gordon, Countess of Dunfermline, protestant heir general cum benef. invent. 5 December, 1711.² He held, conjointly with the Hon. John Campbell of Mamore, M.P., father of John, fourth Duke of Argyll, the office of Master of Works in Scotland in the time of Queen Anne. He married Jean, daughter of Sir Hugh Campbell of Calder, by Lady Henrietta Stewart, his wife, daughter of James, fifth Earl of Moray, and had issue :—

I. Adam, who died unmarried in his father's life-time.

II. **William**, his heir.

1. Mary, married to William Menzies of Pitfoddels.

2. Jean, married to Alexander Stewart of Auchluncart.

3. Elizabeth, married to William Forbes of Tillery.

4. Anne, married to Charles Gordon of Blelack.

John Urquhart died at Aberdeen in 1726, and was succeeded by his son,

XXI. William Urquhart of Meldrum.

He was served heir general to his father, John Urquhart of Meldrum, 11 August, 1749.³ On the death of Colonel James Urquhart of Cromarty, he became the representative of that ancient family. He married first, Mary, daughter of Sir William Forbes of Monymusk, Bart., by whom he had issue two sons and two daughters :—

I. William, who died in the life-time of his father, aged 20.

II. **Keith**, his successor.

1. Jane, married John Urquhart of Craigston.

2. Elizabeth, married John Turner of Turnerhall.

He married secondly, Anne, daughter of William Scott, merchant in Aberdeen, by whom he had a son—

III. William.

He married thirdly, Isabella, daughter of George Douglas of Whiterigs, of the family of Glenberrie, by whom he had issue two sons :—

IV. James, who died young.

V. George, who married Bridget, only daughter of Beauchamp Colclough of Bohermore, county of Galway, and died a Lieutenant-Colonel in command of the 66th Regiment, leaving an only surviving son, **Beauchamp Colclough**, who became eventually of Meldrum and Byth.

Mr. William Urquhart was succeeded at his decease by his son,

¹ Ret. Spec. Abdn. No. 481.

² Decen. Rets. 1711.

³ Decen. Rets. 1749.

XXII. Keith Urquhart of Meldrum.

He married the Hon. (afterwards Lady) Jane Duff, third daughter of William, first Earl of Fife, and had, with two other sons who died in infancy,

- I. **James**, his heir.
- II. Lewis, a Captain in the army.
1. Jane, 2. May—both died unmarried.

Keith Urquhart died in 1793, and was succeeded by his son,

XXIII. James Urquhart of Meldrum and Byth.

He was served heir to his father, Keith Urquhart of Meldrum, heir of provision general, dated 2 December, 1793. He was served heir general also to his cousin, James Urquhart of Byth, 25 September, 1819. He was an advocate in Edinburgh, and sheriff of Banff; married, 1788, H. Forbes, daughter of William Forbes of Skellater and Balbithan, but d. s. p. 17 June, 1835, and was succeeded by his cousin,

XXIV. Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart of Meldrum and Byth.

He was J.P. and D.L. for the county of Aberdeen; married, 1819, Anne Jane, eldest daughter of Patrick Fitzsimmons of Streamston, county of Westmeath, and by her, who died 10 February, 1862, he had issue:—

- I. George, born 7 September, 1821, died 27 June, 1852.
- II. **Beauchamp Colclough**, his successor.
- III. William Henry, born 1839.
- IV Thomas Bedford, born 1842.
 1. Sarah Jane Elizabeth Bridget.
 2. Henrietta Susan, married, 1855, James Hyde Champion, Bengal Army.
 3. Douglas Isabella Maria, married, 1850, Garden William Duff, second son of Garden Duff of Hatton.
 4. Jemima Louisa Herries, died 1846.
 5. Elizabeth, married, 1 July, 1856, John Mackenzie Fraser of Braelangwell, eldest son of General Sir H. Fraser, K.C.B.
 6. Mary.
 7. Anne Jane, died 11 March, 1838.
 8. Charlotte Millar.
 9. Catharine Georgina, died 1841.

Mr. Urquhart died 4 October, 1861, and was succeeded by his second surviving son,

XXV. Beauchamp Colclough Urquhart of Meldrum and Byth.

He was born 5 May, 1830; married, 5 August, 1856, Isabella Forbes, daughter of the late General Hugh Fraser, K.C.B., of Braelangwell, county of Ross; has issue:—

- I. Beauchamp Colclough, born 20 July, 1860 ; Captain Cameron Highlanders, and A.D.C. to the Earl of Aberdeen, Governor-General of Canada.
1. Isabel Annie, born 19 April, 1857 ; married, 1878, to her cousin, Garden Alexander Duff of Hatton ; issue :—
 - I. Garden Beauchamp, born December, 1879.
 - II. Beauchamp Patrick, born May, 1891.

ARMS.—Quarterly, first and fourth, or, three bears' heads, erased, gu. langued, azure, for Urquhart of Cromarty ; second, argent, a demi-otter issuing out of a bar, waved sa., the otter crowned, or ; third, or, three crescents within a double tressure, counter-flowered, gu.

Crests—First, a dagger and a branch of palm, slipped, disposed saltier-wise ppr. ; secondly, a demi-otter, sa., crowned with an antique crown, and in its paw a crescent, or.

Mottoes.—“ Mean, speak, and do well.” Above the first crest, “ Weigh well ; ” above the second, “ per Mare per terras.”

One cannot help feeling some regret that the very ancient names of Meldrum and Seton should be wholly submerged. Mr. Urquhart's proper designation should be Beauchamp Colclough Meldrum Seton Urquhart of Meldrum and Byth.

BETHELNIE is the ancient name of the parish of Meldrum. The parish church was removed to the neighbourhood of the village of Oldmeldrum in 1684, and the stones of the old church were made use of in building it. On the site of the old church in the churchyard of Bethelnie is probably situated the mausoleum of the family of Meldrum, but though the churchyard is still used, there are no old stones in the churchyard, and no memorials on the Meldrum mausoleum.

The old church was dedicated to St. Nathalan, and the Saint is said to have founded the church here in 452, also about the same time the churches of Tullicht and Coul. His festival was the 9th of January, and, as he is said to have averted a pestilence by praying round the parish on his knees, St. Nathalan's day, according to the author of the statistical account, was held, down to a recent period, in great respect, many abstaining from work on that day.

The church of Bethelnie was given by William Comyn, Earl of Buchan, and his spouse, to the monastery of Arbroath, for the safety of the soul of William, the King, his own soul, and that of his wife. This charter was confirmed by King Alexander in 1222.¹ In 1257, Pope Alexander IV. ratified the provision made for the vicarage of this church by the abbot and convent of Arbroath of an annual stipend of fifteen merks, the whole altarage, and six merks in teind scheaves from the lands in the parish then cultivated.² In 1527, the Abbot of Arbroath granted a nineteen years' lease of the teinds of the church of Bethelnie to Gilbert Menzies, Provost of Aberdeen, for a grassum

¹ Ant. A. and B. pp. 560, 561.

² Ant. A. and B. III. p. 411.

of £120, and a yearly rent of £50 Scots money. In 1534, the Abbot granted an eleven years' lease of the teinds of this church and parish to George Meldrum of Fyvie for a similar payment as in the former case.¹

Alexander Seton, the second son of Alexander Seton, XIII. of Meldrum, was vicar of Bethelny, and Chancellor of Aberdeen down to 1566. He was also rector for some time of King's College. He was the last priest of the Church of Rome at Bethelnie.

ST. MATTHEWS, MELDRUM.—There has been an Episcopal church at Meldrum since the Revolution of 1688, but the names of none of its early ministers have been recorded. The first we find mentioned is Rev. George Walker, who was the grandfather of the Misses Walker, the founders of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. He was ordained in 1730, and continued at Meldrum till about 1786. The next to be found is Rev. Arthur Walker, who was promoted to priest's orders at Linshart in 1788. His name appears at a meeting of presbyters at Aberdeen in 1790, and at the Synods of 1801 and 1802. In 1804, Rev. Nathaniel Grieve was appointed to the charges of Chapelhall, Ellon, and Meldrum, and continued to do duty till 1808. The next in charge was Rev. Alexander Walker, who had also the charge of Monymusk. He resigned Meldrum about 1811, when the Rev. William Robertson was appointed. The latter died in 1849, and was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Wildman, who remained till 1856, when he was appointed chaplain to the Earl of Galloway. He was succeeded by Rev. James Davidson, who was translated in 1862 to St. Andrew's, Banff. His successor at Meldrum was Rev. William Young Moir, son of Right Rev. David Moir, D.D., Bishop of Brechin. During his incumbency the present beautiful church of St. Matthew's was built, and consecrated on St. Matthew's day, 1863, by the Right Rev. Thomas George Suther, D.C.L., Bishop of Aberdeen. Mr. Moir also serves as minister at All Saints, Whiterashes, a beautiful little church built by Major John Ramsay of Barra and Straloch.

A chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary stood on the farm of Chapelhouse, and a well known as St. Mary's well is still pointed out.

THE PROPHET OF BETHELNIE.—Adam Donald, commonly called the prophet of Bethelnie, now almost forgotten, is noticed by Dr. Anderson in his publication of the 'Bee.' He was born in 1703 at a small place called Bethelnie, and died 1780. After the removal of the church to Oldmeldrum, the churchyard was a very lonely place; the words of the poet especially then applied to it, and perhaps still do—

“ More doleful place did ever eye survey,
It seemed as if the spring-time came not here,
Or nature here was willing to decay.”
—Wordsworth.

This sequestered spot the prophet made a practice of frequenting, to converse, it was

¹ Ant. A. and B. III. p. 411.

supposed, with departed spirits, who informed him of many things which mortal knowledge could not reach. When articles of dress or furniture were amissing, the prophet was consulted, and his answers were so general, so cautiously worded, that at the time they could scarcely be understood; yet if the things were found, the people were easily able to perceive that his mysterious answer plainly indicated where the goods were if they had the ingenuity to expound it. But he not only acted as a necromancer, he was consulted in cases of lingering diseases that were supposed to have their origin in witchcraft or some supernatural agency. In these cases, he invariably prescribed the application of certain simple unguents of his own manufacture to certain parts of the body with certain ceremonies. If there was no cure, it was attributed to their not having complied with all the instructions; if it was a success the prophet got the credit of it. His fees were very moderate, not exceeding a sixpence when no medicines were given, and never exceeding a shilling. His fame was great, and correspondingly great were the crowds that frequented the shrine of the prophet of Bethelnie, but at last he was gone. In his own words—

“ Time doth all things devour,
And time doth all things waste,
And we waste time, and so we are at last.”

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ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

- Page 13, line 25, for 1827 read 1837.
- 31, — 32, for *suee* read *sue*.
 - 34, — 18, for *novisis* read *noveritis*.
 - 72, — 19, for third son read *second son*.
 - 92, — 4, for VI. Charles David read *IV. Charles David*.
 - 103, — 28, for *Inverquhority* read *Inverquharity*.
 - 109, — 13, for *In memory ane* read *In memory of*.
 - 128, — 31, for Anne Isabella Urquhart read *Isabel Anne Urquhart*.
 - 128, — 35, for Patrick Beauchamp read *Beauchamp Patrick*.
 - 152, — 22, for *Danlugat* read *Duulugas*.
 - 155, — 33, for Andrew Ken read *Andrew Ker*.
 - 157, — 36, for *Fresues* read *Fresnes*.
 - 160, — 13, for *Weatherell* read *Weatherall*.
 - 163, — 23, for *lofts* read *lofts*.
 - 200, — 29, for St. Balnoon read *South Balnoon*.
 - 240, — 6, for *cinces* read *cineras*.
 - 257, — 6, for the land of Culace and Buttergask read *lands*.
 - 274, — 7, for *evidently* read *evidenced*.
 - 279, — delete at bottom of page, *2 Decen. Rets. 1714*.
 - 311, — 22, for *Kingordie* read *Kingoodie*.
 - 315, — 20, for *Mauldsie* read *Mauldside*.
 - 322, — 13, for *hæ charto* read *hæ charta*.
 - 334, — 19, for *Tonyleith* read *Toryleith*.
 - 342, — 13, for 1619 read 1719.
 - 407, — 3, for *Fransiscens* read *Franciascans*.
 - 413, — at bottom of page for *Fenerius* read *Feverius*.
 - 425, — 22, for thirteenth century read *fourteenth*.
 - 458, — 21, for Isabella read *Mary married Sir James Reid*.
 - 458, — 38, for Isabella married Rev. Mr. Soutar read *Helen Ogilvie*.
 - 459, — 17, for He married ——— Black read *Elizabeth Cruickshank*.
 - 459, — 19, for Alexander read *Patrick*, and delete *son Sir Alexander*. For a more detailed and complete account of the Dyce family, see Disblair, p. 677.
 - 495, — 33, for *heir* read *her*.
 - 541, — 25, for “Six months in Ascension Isle” read “*In Ascension*.”
 - 602, — 1, for three Miss Gordons read *three Misses Gordon*.
 - 611, — 31, for *severity* read *serenity*.
 - 632, — 18, for “*Beate Mane*” read “*Beate Marie*.”
- Legertwood of Logierieve, p. 478. The more ancient spelling of this name has in every case, where it occurs, been used; but it is more commonly spelt Lägertwood.

