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**GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT**  
OF  
**THE FAMILY**  
OF  
**JOHNSTON OF THAT ILK,**  
FORMERLY OF CASKIEBEN,  
IN THE  
SHIRE OF ABERDEEN,  
AND OF ITS PRINCIPAL BRANCHES.

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BY  
**ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, JUNIOR,**  
WRITER TO HIS MAJESTY'S SIGNET.

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*"Vide ut Postea Vidas."*

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TO

**SIR WILLIAM JOHNSTON**

OF THAT ILK, AND OF HILTON,

IN THE COUNTY OF ABERDEEN,

KNIGHT BARONET, &c. &c.

CHIEF OF THE NAME OF JOHNSTON,

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED.



## PREFACE.

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SOME explanation may be expected of my reasons for presenting in this form the following account.

A taste for genealogical matters having induced me to enter into a minute investigation of the pedigree of the family herein treated of, it was suggested that by putting the result of my inquiries within the reach of those connected with the family, an acceptable service would be performed. From the circumstance of having observed in all works which have been recently published, professing to give an account of Scottish families, very imperfect notices of this house, I am more willing to act upon this suggestion than I should otherwise have been.

It will be seen from the references on the margin of the text, that the principal sources of information had recourse to by me, for the more remote period, were, a manuscript history of the family, by an unknown author, evidently compiled between the years 1610 and 1614,

and which is in the possession of Mr. David Morice Johnston,—the Index of Retours, and the Acts of the Parliament of Scotland,—both published under the direction of the commission appointed in 1806, and the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland,—the references to which are taken from the manuscript index in the Signet Library. Much valuable information was obtained from the account of the family in Douglas' Baronage, and from the "Genealogy of the Family of Forbes," published at Inverness in 1819.

From about 1670 to the present time, my authorities (with the works already mentioned) chiefly were,—Playfair's Baronetage of Scotland, parish registers, family papers, inscriptions on tomb-stones, and the testimony of old persons connected with the family, and well versed in its history. My own knowledge of facts and dates was also of some little service.

I may observe, that although the branches afterwards treated of, are the only descendants of the Caskieben family known to me, there are existing, in all probability, persons not here taken notice of, whose ancestors may have come off the main stock at a remote period, especially as it is said that of Stephen, the founder of the Caskieben family, all the Johnstons in the north are descended. Such persons it was by no means my intention to exclude from this account; and had any such come under my notice, and been able to produce well authenticated pedigrees, I should have been happy to have given them a place.

EDINBURGH, 1ST OCTOBER 1832.

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**GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT**  
**OF**  
**THE FAMILY**  
**OF**  
**JOHNSTON OF THAT ILK,**  
**FORMERLY OF CASKIEBEN, &c.**

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“ Few there are who dare trust the memorials of their family to the public annals of their country.”

GIBBON.



GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
FAMILY OF JOHNSTON OF THAT ILK AND  
OF CASKIEBEN,  
IN THE SHIRE OF ABERDEEN.

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THE surname of Johnston is of great antiquity in Scotland, and must be familiar to every one conversant with the history of that kingdom. The lineage of this race was of old proverbially honourable;—in the ancient rhyme on the characters of Scottish families, to this day popular in some parts of the country, they are designed “The gentle Johnstons.”

In the manuscript history mentioned in the preface, the author thus introduces the subject of his compilation :

“The description of the line of the Lairds of Caskiben, and their alyances, from Stiven Johnstoun, sone to the Laird of Anandail, the first of that surname that possest Caskiben, to John Johnstoun, now heritable possessor thereof.

“Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, and delighteth greatly in his commandments; his seed shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the righteous shall be blessed.—Psl. 112.

“Albeit God has not so multiplied the neam of Johnstoun depending of Caskiben, as others that are not so ancient, yet of his great mercy, he has preserved ane continual and unbroken succession by lineal descent in that house, by the space well near of three hundred years.”

The two families of Johnston of that Ilk, and of Caskieben, and Johnston of that Ilk in Annandale, long disputed the title

to the chiefship of the name. The pretensions of the latter proceeded on the assumption that Stephen de Johnston, the founder of the family of Caskieben, was a cadet of the Annandale branch, while the Johnstons of Caskieben always maintained that he was the head or chief of the name. (A. Appendix.)

Douglas' Peerage  
voce Annandale.

On this point, Douglas in the Peerage of Scotland, merely says, "There were two families of this surname, who both designed themselves by the title of that Ilk, viz. those of Annandale in the south, and Caskieben in the north; but we cannot pretend to connect them with one another."

In the Baronage, however, in treating of the family of Caskieben, he says, "they have been long designed *de eodem* or of that Ilk, which appellation generally denotes head or chief of a clan."

We shall therefore, without dwelling longer on this question, (involving, most probably, a point destined never to be fixed), proceed with our account of the family of Caskieben, beginning with Stephen, its supposed founder, who, it is said, arrived in the north in the time of King David Bruce, who reigned from the year 1329 to 1371, but the date of this event has never been settled exactly.

MS. History.

I.—STEPHEN DE JOHNSTON\* was a man of great learning, which was so rare in those days that he was honoured with the title of "the Clerk,"—a designation to which, at that period, the clergy alone were considered to be entitled.

Ibid.

"For troubles wherein he fell in his owen countrie, he cam into the north pairt of Scotlande, and was pleasantlie received by the Earle of Marr, to whome hee became secretarie."

Ibid.

Stephen married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir Andrew Garioch of Caskieben in Aberdeenshire, Knight, by whom he got a large estate, consisting of the lands of Johnston (so named after him), and Kinbroun, during the lifetime of Sir Andrew, after whose death, he, in right of his wife, succeeded to

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\* This name anciently was spelt de Johnestonne or Johnestoune, afterwards Johnestoun or Johnstoun, and for the last hundred years, it is believed that it has uniformly been written as at present—Johnston.

the lands of Caskieben, Crimond, Cordyce, and others, situated in the parishes of Dyce, and Caskieben or Monkeggy, (now Keithhall,) &c.

“Caskieben became then the chief title of his family; and of him all the Johnstons in the north are said to have been descended.” Douglas' Baronage.

“The bearns gotten betwixt Stiven and Margret Garioch (except their successor John), wee know not, neither the bearns of their successors to the third generation, because of the great antiquitie and few monuments observed in these dayes.” (B. App.) MS. History.

The date of Stephen's death is unknown, but on that event he was succeeded by,

II.—JOHN DE JOHNSTON of Caskieben. This gentleman acquired the lands of Ballindauch or Bandauch, in Aberdeenshire. Douglas' Baronage.

He married Marjory, daughter of Leighton of Ulysseshaven or Usan, an ancient family in Angus, and in her right succeeded to the lands of Invertown. MS. History.

He lived to a very advanced age; and dying in the reign of King James the First of Scotland, was succeeded by his son, Douglas' Baronage.

III.—GILBERT DE JOHNSTON of Caskieben, who was in his father's lifetime designed of Ballindauch. Ibid.

He got, 10th November 1430, from his kinsman, Henry de Leighton, Bishop of Aberdeen, a lease, “Gilberto de Johncestoune, &c. totam villam de Bischope Clyntre,” &c. for all the days of his life, for payment of an yearly rent of one merk Scots. (C. App.) Douglas' Baronage. Chartulary of Aberdeen.

He married, first, Elizabeth Vans or Vaus, the daughter of the Laird of Menie, in Aberdeenshire, “ane man of great neme and estimation for the tyme,” (D. App.) by whom he had one son, Alexander, his successor, and three daughters, whose names are not now known, but of whom the eldest married the Laird of Birkenbog, in Banffshire; the second married the Laird of Blackhall, and the youngest married William Hay of Artrachie, (both in Aberdeenshire), and had issue. MS. History. Ibid.

Gilbert married, secondly, a daughter of Sir Alexander Douglas' Baronage, and MS. History.

Forbes, second baron of Pitsligo, in the shire of Aberdeen, by his wife, a daughter of the family of Errol; and by that lady he had a son, William, "who was provydit to the lands of Banchauch," (or Ballindauch, the superiority of which, however, Douglas says was retained in the family), "whilke afterwards was excambit with Crimond."—(*Vide* No. V. of this Genealogy).

Douglas' Baronage, and MS. History.

Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 7. No. 244.

This William got a crown charter, "Gulielmo Johnstoun de terris de Ballindauch," dated 31st August 1472; and of him were descended the Johnstons of Crimond, as will be shown afterwards.

Upon the death of Gilbert, (which took place previous to the year 1481), the succession opened to his eldest son,

Family Writs.

MS. History, and Family Writs.

IV.—ALEXANDER DE JOHNSTON of Caskieben, who, in the reign of James II., got his lands of Caskieben, which were formerly held of the Earls of Mar as superiors, erected into a free barony, to be called the Barony of Johnston in all time coming, by a decret of the Lords, which was afterwards ratified and confirmed by King James IV., on 20th February 1502; and from thenceforth the family were designed of that Ilk.

Ibid.

Ibid. and MS. History.

He married Agnes, daughter of Alexander Gloster of that Ilk, and of Glack, a powerful baron in the district of Garioch, in the shire of Aberdeen; and by this lady had a family of four sons;

Ibid.

1st. William, his successor.

2d. Also named William. He married a daughter of John Keith of Auquborsk, and of him the Johnstons of Cayesmill were descended.

Ibid.

Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 13. No. 369.

The other two sons died without succession. There is contained in the records of the Great Seal a charter, "Alexandro Johnnestoun de eodem et Agneti Gloster, sponsæ suæ, terrarum forrestæ de Cordiss," 22d January 1498.

MS. History.

He was succeeded by his eldest son,

Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 15. No. 154.

V.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON of that Ilk, who got a charter under the Great Seal of Scotland from James IV, "Gulielmo Johnstoun de eodem, terrarum de Ballindauch et molendini ca-

rundem," &c., in Aberdeenshire, dated 18th August 1509, and confirming a charter in his favour by Alexander Johnston of Ballindauch, of these lands, in excambion of half of the lands of Crimond.—(*Vide* No. III. of this Genealogy).

He married, first, Margaret, daughter of Meldrum of Fyvie, MS. History.  
 " the greatest barron for the tyme in the north pairt of Scotlande. This gentlewoman buire to William ane son, called Jeames, and ane daughter, callit Margret, who was maried to ane son of Blackhall of that Ilk," in the Garioch, in Aberdeenshire. (E. App.)

William married, secondly, Margaret, daughter of Lummys-dain of Condelain, in the shire of Fife, the progenitor of the Lumsdens of Cushnie, in the north. By this lady, (who, after William's death, became the wife of William Forbes of Corsindae, by whom she had issue), he had one son,

Gilbert, who " was provydit to nothing, because his father was slain on the field of Floudoun in his tender infancy, and so he possest nothing of Caskiben but the bear neme of Johnstoun alenarlie." And of him there is no farther account. MS. History.

William had also two daughters by his second wife, viz.

1st. Christian, married to John Forbes of Carnday or Carnay. Forbes' Genealogy, and MS. History.

2d. Margaret, married to William Forbes of Finnask, by whom she had issue. *Ibid.*, & *ibid.*

William Johnston of that Ilk having accompanied King James IV. on his expedition into England with a large body of retainers, fell by the side of his royal master on the field of Flodden, 9th September 1513, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Douglas' Baronsage, and MS. History

VI.—JAMES JOHNSTON of that Ilk, who married Clara, *Ibid.*  
 daughter of Barclay of Gartlie, in Aberdeenshire, (F. App.) and had, 6th September 1521, a charter under the Great Seal from King James V., " Jacobo Johnnestoun de eodem, et Claræ Barclay ejus sponsæ, &c., terrarum dominicalium de Johnnestoun, Inglistoun, etc., jacen. in baronia de Johnnestoun, in vicecomitatu de Aberdene," (G. App.)  
 Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 20, No. 74.

Douglas' Baronage, and MS. History.

By this lady, James had three sons and four daughters :—

1st. William Johnston, younger of that Ilk, predeceased his father, leaving issue, of whom hereafter.

Family Writs, and Forbes' Genealogy.

2d. Gilbert of Standingstones, married Margaret daughter of William Forbes of Corsindae, and had issue.

MS. History.

3d. George, bailie of Aberdeen, married Katharine, daughter of Thomas Menzies of Pitfoddels, provost of Aberdcen, and had issue. This George is understood to have been the progenitor of the Johnstons of Middle Disblair.

His daughters were ;—

Ibid.

1st. Agnes, married to the Laird of Colliston, in Aberdeenshire.

2d. Isabel, married to the Laird of Asloun, in Alford, Aberdeenshire.

3d. Bessy, married to the Laird of Strichen.\*

Ibid., & Douglas' Baronage, *voce* Leith.

4th. Janet, married to Patrick Leith of Engearache or Edin-garroch, in Aberdeenshire, (S. P.)

Douglas' Baronage.

James died in the beginning of the year 1548, partly, it is believed, of grief, occasioned by the death of his son, and was succeeded by his grandson George.

VII.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON, younger of that Ilk, the eldest son of the last-mentioned James, married Margaret, daughter of Alexander Hay of Dalgaty, (a cadet of the family of Errol), by whom he had one son, named George, of whom below, and three daughters :—

MS. History.

1st. Bessy, married to Gilbert Hay of Perkak.

2d. Margaret, married to James Johnston, a cadet of the family, and a member of the family of Crimond, it is supposed.

3d. Violet, married to Patrick Chalmers, merchant in Banff.

MS. History.

All these ladies had families by their husbands.

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\* The surname of this proprietor of Strichen is believed to have been Chalmers. The estate of Strichen did not pass into the possession of the Frasers until many years after this marriage is supposed to have taken place. The mode of its acquisition by Thomas Fraser of Knockie, second son of Alexander, sixth Lord Fraser of Lovat, about the year 1590, is particularly mentioned in the historical account of the family of Frisel or Fraser, by John Anderson, Esq. W. S., published in 1825.

This William, a loyal and gallant gentleman, fell, as his grandfather had done, in the cause of his country, on the field of Pinkie, 10th September 1547. MS. History.

VIII.—GEORGE JOHNSTON of that Ilk succeeded in the chiefship and estates on the death of his grandfather James, anno 1548. Ibid., & Douglas  
Baronage.

He had a charter from Queen Mary, 7th October 1548, “ Georgio Johnstoun nepoti Jacobi Johnstoun de eodem, terrarum de Johnstoun cum molendino, terrarum de Caskiben cum molendino, terrarum de Inglistoun, Isastoun, &c. In baronia de Johnstoun unit.,” in Aberdeenshire. Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 30, No. 188.

He was, 16th October 1567, served heir to James, his grandfather, in the lands of Kinbroun, in the barony of Rothienormond and in the lands of Muirtown, in the regality of Garioch, both in Aberdeenshire. Index of Retours

In George’s lifetime, the already extensive possessions of the family received considerable additions. He was, 21st May 1580, served heir-portioner to Alexander Hay of Dalgaty, his grandfather; and also, on the same day, heir-portioner to William Hay of Dalgaty, his uncle. Ibid.

He had farther, 7th January 1586, a charter from James VI. of the lands of Boyndis, in the shire of Aberdeen. Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 36, No. 202.

He married the Honourable Christian Forbes, fourth daughter of William, seventh Lord Forbes, “ who buir to him ane fair bearn tyme, whereof thirteen came to mature age, six thereof sons, and seven daughters,” viz :— MS. History, and  
Douglas’ Peerage  
and Forbes’ Genealogy  
MS. History.

1st. John, his successor.

2d. Gilbert, who married Marion or Marjory Leslie, second daughter of John Leslie of Wardes, in the shire of Aberdeen, and had, when the family history so often mentioned was written, “ living bearns of gude apearance.” Of Gilbert’s descendants nothing is now known. Ibid., & Douglas’  
Baronage, voce  
Leslie.

3d. George. He married Agnes, daughter of Lundie of Conland, in the shire of Fife, “ and has bearns also, and appear- MS. History.

ance to have more." The fate of George's issue is also unknown.

*4th.* Thomas, of whom no account has been obtained; but at the time the family history was compiled, he was "unmarried as yet."

MS. History.

*5th.* Arthur, Doctor of Medicine, "past into Germanie to the scools, and married there upon ane woman of honourable birth."

He was the well-known author of several Latin poems, and translator of the Psalms of David; a more full account of him will be given afterwards.

ibid.

*6th.* William, Doctor of Medicine. This gentleman being also the founder of a separate family, an account of him will be found in a subsequent page.

The daughters were:—

ibid.

"*1st.* Margaret, married to the Laird of Skcen, and buir to him Alexander, Andrew, and Margaret Skeens, and after decease of the Laird of Skeen, the said Margaret married ane honorable gentleman called Mr. Duncan Forbes, son to Mr. Duncan of Monimusk, ane good son of ane better father, who has presently with the said Margaret, two sons, John and Duncan Forbes, and ane daughter called Isabell." The second husband of Margaret, is designed in Lumsden's genealogy of the Forbes's, Duncan Forbes of Lethentie, and was the third son of the Laird of Monymusk, and the founder of the family of Forbes of Lethentie.

ibid.

*2d.* Isobel, who married the Right Reverend Peter (Blackburn) Bishop of Aberdeen, and had issue two sons and six daughters. (H. App.)

ibid.

*3d.* Agnes, married the Laird of Crimond, and had issue.

ibid.

*4th.* Janet, married to Robert Johnston of Cayesmill, by whom she had issue.

ibid.

*5th.* Barbara, married to Robert Elphinston of Kinbroun, "who has also diverse bearns also of good hope."

ibid.

*6th.* Helen, married to the Laird of Boddom, and had issue. (I. App.)

ibid.  
Douglas' Barons-  
age.

MS. History:  
Douglas' Barons-  
age.

*7th.* Jean, married to Thomas Johnston of Middle Disblair, and had issue.

George Johnston of that ilk, dying about the year 1590, was succeeded by his eldest son, Douglas' Baronsage.

IX.—JOHN JOHNSTON of that Ilk. This baron was, on the 19th day of February 1593, served heir to his father George, in the lands of Porterstoun, on the west side of the water of Ury, with the mill thereof, in the regality of the Garioch; in the lands of Kinbroun in the barony of Rothienormond; in the half of the town and lands of Muirtown; in the shady half thereof; in the town and lands of Monkeggy, and Wester Boyndis, in the barony of Fintray, regality of Lindores, and shire of Aberdeen. He was also on the same day served heir to his father in an annualrent of £40, payable from the town and lands of Sandlaw, in the parish of Strathavauch, and sheriffdom of Banff; and in an annualrent of 4 merks, from the town and lands of Hilton of Longair, in the barony of Dunottar, and county of Kincardine. Index of Retours.

John had, during the lifetime of his father, a charter of confirmation under the Great Seal, “ Joanni Johnstoun apparenti de eodem terrarum de Johnstoun in comitatu de Marr et Garrioch, et vicecomitatu de Aberdene,” dated 23d August 1587. Ibid.

The name of Johnston of Caskieben is in the roll of Spiritual and Great Temporal Barons and Freeholders, obliged to give suit and presence, at the three Head Courts held yearly by the sheriff of Aberdèen, who appeared on 3d October 1598. Reg. Mag. Sig. Lib. 36, No. 461.

He married, first, Janet, daughter of Turing of Foveran, an ancient and respectable family in the shire of Aberdeen, by whom he had two sons and two daughters: Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen.

1st. George, his successor. MS. History.

2d. “ John, of whom there is no succession.” Ibid.

His daughters were:

1st. Elizabeth, married to Bannerman of Elsick. Douglas' Barons.

2d. Jean, married to William Forbes of Knapernay, (descended of the family of Tolquhoun,) by whom she had a family. Ibid.

He married, secondly, Katharine, daughter of William Lunding of that ilk, in the shire of Fife; and it is by this alliance that all the existing branches of the family of Johnston of that Forbes' Genealogy.

MS. History.

Ilk trace their descent from the ancient kings of Scotland. (K.

Ibid., and Memorandum thereto annexed.

App.) John had by his second wife two sons and two daughters :

1st Son: Thomas of Craig, of whom are descended the Johnstons now of that Ilk and of Hilton, the Johnstons in Bog-injoss, &c., as will be shown hereafter.

2d. Gilbert, of whom we have obtained no account.

The daughters were :

Douglas' Baron. MS. History. Memorandum in MS. History, and Forbes' Genealogy.

1st. Margaret, married to Parson Cheyne.

2d. Christian, married to John Forbes of Pitnacadell, in the shire of Aberdeen, a cadet of the family of Forbes of Tolquhoun, and had issue.\*

Dying about the year 1614, he was succeeded by his elder son by his first wife, Janet Turing,

Douglas' Baron.

X.—GEORGE JOHNSTON of that Ilk.

Index of Retours.

On the succession of this gentleman, the family estates were large and valuable, as may be gathered from the following description of the lands in which he was served heir-male to his father John, on 3d May 1614:—" Terris et baronia de Johnestoun, comprehen. villam et terras de Johnestoun, cum molendino, villam et terras de Caskieben, cum molendino, villam et terras de Inglitoun, et Jackstoun, cum molendino lie Pedesmylne; villam et terras de Ledgeit Favellis; octavam partem terrarum de Ardryne; dimidietatem terrarum de Cremond, et molendini earundem; villam et terras de Baddindauche, Keigisley, cum molendinis granorum et fullonum; villam et terras de Craig, Corshill, Buchthills, Standingstanes, Sleipihillokrood, Landowertoun de Dyce, cum pendiculo vocato Beigintoft, et Pleybariche, in baronia de Johnestoun; villa et terris de Selbie et Lochtulloche; terris de Boyndis in baronia de Fintray," all in the shire of Aberdeen.

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\* The notices in the text of the daughters, by the two marriages, of John Johnston (No. IX.), differ considerably from those in Douglas' Baronage. The compiler, however, considers himself warranted, by the authorities quoted, in giving the above account of these ladies.

In the index of retours of special services, there is the following entry, "Feb. 10, 1632, Dominus Georgius Johnnestoune de eodem, miles baronettus, *hæres*, Alexandri Johnnestoune de eodem *tritavi*, in terris de Sauchok et Dennys, infra baron. de Audan, tanquam pro principalibus; terris de Auchat, infra baroniam de Stainiwod, in warrantum," also situated within the county of Aberdeen.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Forbes of Tolquhoun in the shire of Aberdeen, (M. App.) and got a charter under the Great Seal, (6th July 1615,) to himself and to Elizabeth Forbes, his spouse, "Terrarum et baroniæ de Caskieben, specialiter in se comprehend. terras de Johnston cum molendino," &c.

Douglas' Baron-  
and Forbes'  
Genealogy.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 47, No. 491.

The name of "George Johnnestoune of yat ilk," appears in the list of freeholders present at the election of two commissioners for the shire of Aberdeen, 1st October 1616.

Kennedy's An-  
nals of Aberdeen.

He got, 31st July 1618, a crown charter of the lands of Ardicharrald, with the teinds of Caskieben, &c. in Aberdeenshire. Of the same date we find in the records of the Great Seal a charter, "Georgio Johnstoun de Pettiesmylne, decimarum garbalium terrarum de Selbie, Pettiesmylne," &c., also situated within the county of Aberdeen.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 49, No. 67.

Ibid.  
Lib. 49, No. 66

George Johnston, on account of his individual merits and acquirements, and, as a reward for the services rendered by him and other members of this family, to the crown, was, by King Charles I., created a Knight Baronet of Nova Scotia, in virtue of the royal patent, and received a crown charter, "Domino Georgio Johnnestoun de Caskieben, Militi Baronetto, terrarum baroniæ et regalitatis de Johnnestoun, in Nova Scotia, in America, hæredibus suis masculis quibuscunque," &c. (N. App.)

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 51, No. 124,  
2d. Chas. I.,  
penult. Mar. 1626.

He also received, 26th June 1628, a crown charter, "Solaris dimidietatis terrarum de Altoun de Crimond, cum dimidiet. de Newmill de Crimond, et Auldmill ejusdem, East et West-hills," &c.

Ibid.  
Lib. 52, No. 49.

It thus appears that Sir George, who was a man of prudence, added largely to the landed estates of the family. Unfortunately, however, these, during the lives of his son and grandson, gradu-

ally went out of the family ; this perhaps in some degree was owing to the effects of the unhappy civil wars, which soon after this period ensued, and which bore hard upon the north of Scotland, particularly on the shire of Aberdeen, the gentry of which were, almost to a man, true to the cause of their king.

Spalding's History, and Douglas' Baronage.

Sir George was, by his Majesty's commission, appointed sheriff-principal of the county of Aberdeen at Michaelmas 1630, in room of George Marquis of Huntly, (in whose family this office had been long hereditary), and this appointment was to endure for one year.\*

Ibid.

He had by his lady, Elizabeth Forbes, three sons and two daughters ;

1st. George, his successor.

2d. John of Newplace, of whom hereafter.

Ibid. *voce* Leith.

3d. William married, and had a daughter—Marjory, married to Alexander Leith of Bucharne, by whom she had issue. Of this William, Douglas says, there is no male succession. This gentleman is understood to be the same who was, anno 1657, appointed one of the regents of King's College, and thereafter, anno 1669, Professor of Civil Law in the same university ; he died about the year 1673, at least in that year he was succeeded, in his professorship, by Sir George Nicolson of Kemnay.

Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen, and Orem's History of Old Aberdeen.

His daughters were,

Douglas' Baronage.

1st. Jean, married to Irvine of Brakely.

Ibid. and Bower's History of the University of Edinburgh.

2d. Christian, married to William Keith of Lenturk, who was Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, from the year 1664 to 1674.

Douglas' Baronage.

Sir George Johnston of that Ilk, and the subsequent chiefs of the family, were, after the year 1628, promiscuously styled of that Ilk, and of Caskieben.

On his death he was succeeded by his eldest son,

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\* Spalding commits a mistake in calling the person appointed to this situation—"John Johnstoun of Caskiebain," that baron having died many years before 1630.

XI.—Sir GEORGE JOHNSTON of Caskieben, second Knight Douglas' Baro-  
age, and Ibid,  
voce Leslie. Baronet of Johnston. He married the third daughter of Sir William Leslie of Wardes, in the shire of Aberdeen, Knight Baronet, by Dame Helen Gordon, daughter of the Laird of Newton, and had an only son, John, by whom he was succeeded. The date of Sir George's death is unknown.

XII.—Sir JOHN JOHNSTON of Caskieben, third Knight Baronet of Johnston, was a captain in the army, and did good service in Flanders, as also in Ireland, under King William.

This gentleman, having assisted his friend, the Honourable Douglas' Baro-  
age. Captain James Campbell, brother of the Earl of Argyll, in carrying off Miss Mary Wharton (a rich heiress, and a relative of Lord Wharton, the great favourite of King William), whom Captain Campbell married, was tried for the offence, and being convicted, was executed anno 1690. (O. App.)

Sir John having never been married, was succeeded in the chiefship and title by his cousin and heir-male John Johnston of New- Ibid. place, merchant in Aberdeen, son of his uncle, John of Newplace, before mentioned.

SEAT.—Caskieben (now Keithhall), in the shire of Aberdeen. (P. App.)

*Of the Family of JOHNSTON of NEWPLACE (afterwards) CASKIEBEN, and of THAT ILK, in the shire of Aberdeen.*

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Of this family (now extinct) the first was,

(XI).

I.—JOHN JOHNSTON, second son of Sir George, first Knight Baronet of Johnston, from whom John received in patrimony the lands of Newplace, by which he was afterwards designed.

He married his cousin, the eldest daughter of Thomas Johnston of Craig, by whom he had one son,—John, his heir; and a daughter,—Elizabeth, who died unmarried in August 1728.

He is supposed to have died about the year 1688, when he was succeeded by his son,

(XII).

II.—Sir JOHN JOHNSTON of Newplace (afterwards) Caskieben, fourth Knight Baronet of Johnston. He was a merchant in Aberdeen (Q. App.), and succeeded to the honours of the family on the death of his unfortunate kinsman, anno 1690. He does not appear, however, to have assumed the title for several years after it opened to him. In the Index to the Records of the Great Seal, anno 1700, there appears a charter of resignation in favour of John Johnston of Caskieben, of the lands and barony of Caskieben, in Aberdeenshire.\*

In 1705 this gentleman, (then designed “ Sir John Johnstoun

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\* The old estate of Caskieben (now Keith-hall), was at this date out of the Johnstons' possession (P. App.). It is believed that this baronet, upon taking up the title, anno 1700, and receiving the Crown-charter mentioned in the text, changed the name of his lands of Newplace to Caskieben. This property now belongs to Dr. Alexander Henderson of London, and is distant about eight miles from Aberdeen.

of Caskiebend,") obtained an act of parliament for holding fairs, three times yearly, on the hill of Tyrebagger. (R. App.)

Sir John appears as one of the commissioners of supply for the shire of Aberdeen, anno 1704.

He married, anno 1683, Janet Mitchell, sister of Thomas Mitchell of Thainston, afterwards provost of Aberdeen, and by this lady he had a large family, all of whom, however, died young and unmarried, except one son and two daughters, viz.

John, born 1690, died 13th November 1715, unmarried.

1st. Marjory, born 1685, married to Andrew Burnett of Elrick in Aberdeenshire, and had issue. She died anno 1723, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Nicholas.

2d. Janet, born 1694, married to Charles Forbes of Shiells, in the shire of Aberdeen. This lady died (S. P.) anno 1748, and is interred in the churchyard of St. Nicholas.

Sir John Johnston was a loyal subject to the family of Stuart, and was, like many of his countrymen, strenuously opposed to the union between Scotland and England.

On the effort being made, anno 1715, to place James, son of King James VII., on the throne, Sir John, and as many of his relations and retainers as he could draw together, joined the standard of the Prince, under the Earl of Mar.

He was present at the battle of Sheriffmuir; on which occasion was also present his son John Johnston, younger of that ilk, who was slain fighting by his father's side.

Sir John himself, a few years thereafter, sunk into the grave, broken-hearted—his hopes frustrated—and his family extinct. He died in the end of the year 1724, and lies in the burial-place of the Johnstons in the church-yard of St. Nicholas.

He was succeeded in the chiefship and title by his kinsman, William Johnston of Craig, advocate in Aberdeen.

Acts of the Parliament of Scotland.

St. Nicholas' Parish Record, and Douglas' Baronage.

St. Nicholas' Parish Record. Ibid.

Ibid. Douglas' Baronage. Extract Burgh Records of Aberdeen.

Douglas' Baronage, St. Nicholas' Parish Record, Burgh Record of Aberdeen, Tombstone in Aberdeen Churchyard. Playfair's Baronage.

Extract Burgh Records of Aberdeen.

Douglas' Baronage.

SEAT.—Newplace, now Caskieben, Aberdeenshire.

*Of the JOHNSTONS, formerly of CRAIG and BISHOPTOWN, now  
of THAT ILK and of HILTON, in the shire of Aberdeen.*

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Of this branch of the family the founder was,

(X.)

I.—THOMAS JOHNSTON of Craig, eldest son of John Johnston of Johnston, (No. IX.) by Katharine Lundie of Lundie, his second wife. This gentleman, on 29th November 1615, was served heir in general to his father John Johnston of that Ilk.

Supra, p. 10.  
Index of Retours.

There is contained in the records of the Great Seal, a charter of confirmation “Thomæ Johnstoun, fratri germano Domini Georgii Johnstoun de eodem et Caskiben, dimidietatis baroniæ seu forrestæ de Cordyce,” &c. in Aberdeenshire, dated 9th July 1631.

Playfair says that Thomas received, in virtue of his mother’s marriage-contract, the lands of Craig, part of the barony of Caskiben; and by this title he was afterwards designed.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 53, No. 145.

This is confirmed by a Charter under the Great Seal, “Thomæ Johnstoun de Craig, fratri Domini Georgii Johnstoun de eodem, terrarum dominicalium de Caskiben, &c.” in Aberdeenshire, dated 28th November 1635.

Acts of the Par-  
liament of Scot-  
land.

Thomas Johnston of Craig is mentioned as one of the committee of war for the shire of Aberdeen, anno 1646; and again in the same capacity, anno 1649.

Mem. on MS.  
History, and  
Douglas’ Baron.

He married Mary, daughter of Irvine of Kingcausie, in the Mearns, a cadet of the family of Drum, by whom he had four sons and three daughters:

1st, Thomas of Craig. He was, 8th January 1664, served heir in general, as follows, “Thomas Johnstoun de Craig, hæres Thomæ Johnstoun de Craig, patris.” He died unmarried. (S. App.)

Douglas’ Baron.

2d, William of Craig, an officer in the army: he married in

Holland, but died without issue. "William Johnstoune of Craig" is mentioned as one of a committee for the shire of Aberdeen for raising a supply ordered by their Majesties, anno 1690. He was served heir, on 24th November 1696, to his brother Thomas, in the town and lands of Little Clinterty, commonly called Bishop's Clinterty, in the parish of St. Machar, and shire of Aberdeen, and also in certain lands in the parish of Inverkeithney, and shire of Banff.

Acts of Parliament of Scotland.

Index of Retours.

3d, John, of Bishoptown, who carried on the line of the family, and of whom below.

Family Papers, and Douglas' Baronage.

4th, James, litster in Aberdeen, of whom afterwards.

Ibid.

The daughters were :

1st, ———, married to her cousin, John Johnston of New-place, by whom she had issue.

2d, ———, married to Charles Dun of Cordyce, merchant in Aberdeen. (T. App.)

3d. ———, married to John Johnston of Cults :—who is believed to have been a descendant of the family of Caskieben, but his pedigree cannot now be traced.

Thomas Johnston of Craig, died in August 1656 ;\* his wife, Mary Irvine, died in September 1659 (U. App.) On his death he was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, but the line of the family was carried on by his third son, of whom we are now to treat, viz.

Mem. on MS. History.

Index of Retours.

Douglas' Baron. and Family Papers.

### (XI.)

II.—JOHN JOHNSTON of Bishoptown, (W. App.) He married, anno 1672, † Margaret, daughter of Alexander Alexander of Auchmull, merchant in Aberdeen, (who was commissioner to parliament for the burgh of Aberdeen, anno 1667), and by this lady he had a family of three sons and two daughters ;

St. Nicholas' Parish Record. Acts of Parliament of Scotland.

Douglas' Baron. and Family Writs.

\* Douglas, in his Baronage of Scotland, is apparently in error in stating that it was Thomas, the son of Thomas Johnston and Mary Irvine, who died in 1656.—*Vide* the authorities quoted on the margin of the text.

† There is a singular mistake in the entry of this marriage in the parish record, which is in these terms :—"James Johnstoun, brother to the Laird of Craig, and Margret Alexander, was mareit the 23d of November 1672 years."

- Ibid. 1st. William, advocate in Aberdeen, afterwards Sir William Johnston, of whom below.
- Ibid. 2d. John, in Boginjoss, and the founder of that branch of the family, of whom afterwards.
- Ibid. 3d. Thomas died unmarried (X. App.)
- Ibid. He died in the year 1716; his eldest son was,

## (XII.)

Ibid. III.—Sir WILLIAM JOHNSTON of Craig and Bishoptown, fifth Knight Baronet of Johnston. This gentleman was bred to the law, and was an advocate in Aberdeen. In what year he succeeded to, or acquired, the lands of Craig, we have not been able to ascertain. In 1699 we find him designed “William Johnston of Craig, advocate.” In 1704 he is mentioned as one of the commissioners of supply for the shire of Aberdeen.

St. Nicholas' Parish Record.

Acts of Parliament of Scotland.

Newhills' Parish Record.

He married, anno 1704, Jean, eldest daughter of John Sandilands of Craibston, in the shire of Aberdeen, by whom he had a large family who all died in infancy or early youth, except,

- Douglas' Baron. 1st. William, his successor.
- 2d. Alexander, died abroad, young and unmarried.
- And three daughters, viz.

St. Nicholas' Parish Register.

- 1st. Elizabeth.
- 2d. Janet or Jean.
- 3d. Katharine.

—All of whom resided in Aberdeen, and died there, each at an advanced age unmarried.

Ibid, and Douglas' Baron.

Family Papers.

Upon the death of his kinsman, Sir John, anno 1724 (S. P. M.), William succeeded to the honours of the family, but, it is believed, to no property whatever, landed or otherwise. Soon after (about 1730), Sir William fell into difficulties, and lost all his property. After this, and it is understood down to the time of his death, he resided at the villa of Mountjoy, about six miles to the north of Aberdeen, and in the neighbourhood of his former possessions, and of Craibston, of the family of which his wife was a daughter. The existing branches of the family were for many years after Sir William's misfortunes in a very depressed con-

dition (Y. App.) He died in March 1750, and was interred in the family burial-place in the churchyard of St. Nicholas. Ext. Records of Burgh of Aberdeen.

In the chiefship and title he was succeeded by his only son, Family Writs.

## (XIII.)

IV.—Sir WILLIAM JOHNSTON, sixth Knight Baronet of that Ilk. William in early youth entered the British Navy, and had afterwards the command of a ship of war. Upon the death of his father he quitted the sea service, in which he had acquired a considerable fortune, and came home; and the estate of Hilton, in the vicinity of Aberdeen, not long thereafter coming into the market, Sir William became the purchaser. (Z. App.) Ibid. and Douglas' Baronage.  
Ibid.

He married, first, Sarah, daughter of Thomas Kirby, merchant in London, by whom he had an only son, William, born anno 1755, died in infancy. Lady Johnston herself died soon after. Ibid.

Sir William's second wife, (whom he married anno 1757), was Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Captain William Cleland of the Royal Navy, and by this lady he had a family of six sons and five daughters, viz.— Douglas' Baronage.  
St Nicholas' Parish Records.

1st. William, his successor.

2d. John. 3d. James.—Both died in infancy. Playfair's Baronetage.

4th. Alexander; died young, and unmarried. (A. A. App.)

5th. James. 6th. Robert.—Both died in infancy.

The daughters were:—

1st. Elizabeth, died young and unmarried.

2d. Mary Selby, married to Peter Gourlay, Esq. of the Island of St. Vincents in the West Indies, and had issue.\*

3d. Jean, or Jean Charlotte, died in infancy.

4th. Helen Sandilands, married to the Reverend William Cleland Uvedale, near Yarmouth, (S. P.)

5th. Amelia.

On the death of Sir William's second wife, he married Amy, Ibid.  
daughter of Newman French of Bellechamp, in the county of Essex, widow of John Pudsey, Esq., by whom he had no issue.

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\* A son of this lady, Captain Gourlay, was killed in a duel at North Queensferry about the year 1824, by an English gentleman, who made his escape.

Fergusson's Index of Register of Tailzies.

He entailed the lands of Hilton, &c. by a deed dated 21st February, and recorded in the register of tailzies 3d March 1784. Upon Sir William's death, which happened in London, anno 1794, at the age of eighty, his remains were interred there, and he was succeeded by his only surviving son,

## (XIV).

Playfair's Baronetage

V.—Sir WILLIAM JOHNSTON of Hilton, seventh Knight Baronet of Johnston. He entered the British Army at an early period of life, and served abroad in it with considerable reputation. He raised, anno 1798, a regiment of fencibles for general service, which was reduced in 1802. Sir William represented the burgh of New Windsor in the first Imperial Parliament.

Ibid.

He married first, anno 1784, Miss Mary Bacon of Welbeck Street, London, daughter of John Bacon of Shrubland Hall in the county of Suffolk; but this lady dying, anno 1802, left no issue.

Playfair's Baronetage, and information of W. B. Johnston, Esq.

He married, secondly, Maria, only daughter of John Bacon of Friern House, in the county of Middlesex, by whom he had issue, three sons and four daughters;

1st. William Bacon, Lieutenant in his Majesty's First Regiment of Foot, or Scots Royals.

2d. D'Arcy, Lieutenant in the service of the Hon. the East India Company; he died at Ally Ghur, in the East Indies, on 30th September 1830, aged twenty-three years, and unmarried.

3d. Arthur.

The daughters are,—

1st. Georgina Frances Amy.

2d. Anna Maria, married to Patrick Bannerman, advocate in Aberdeen, and has issue.

3d. Clara.

4th. Emily.

Sir William and his family have not, for many years, resided in this country

SEAT.—Hilton House, near Aberdeen.

## COAT ARMORIAL.

Quarterly, 1st and 4th, *ARGENT*, a saltire *sable*, and on a chief *gules*, three cushions *or*, (for Johnston),—2d. and 3d.—*AZURE*, on a bend, betwixt three harts' heads erased *argent*, attired *or*, as many cross crosslets fitched, of the second, (for Mar, and Garioch of Caskieben), composed together in one coat, with the badge of Nova Scotia in a surtout.

Nisbet's Heraldry.  
Douglas' Baron.

SUPPORTERS.—Two naked Indians proper, wreathed about the head and middle with laurel *vert*.

CREST.—A Phoenix in flames proper.

MOTTO.—*Vive ut postea vivas.*

*Of the JOHNSTONS, formerly in BOGINJOSS, afterwards of  
VIEWFIELD, in the Shire of Aberdeen.*

---

Of this family the founder was,

(XII.)

*Supra*, p. 18. I.—JOHN JOHNSTON, second son of John of Bishoptown, by Mrs. Margaret Alexander.

Family Papers. This gentleman for some time occupied as tenant the farms of Standingstones and Boginjoss, in the parish of Dyce, and resided at the former place (B B. App); but about the year 1730, (when his brother lost his property), he went to Bishoptown in Newhills, where he remained for several years.

*Ibid.* He afterwards returned to Dyce, and took up his residence at Boginjoss, and dying there, was interred in an ancient burial-place of the family within the church of that parish.

Family Writs, and Douglas' Baron. John married, in 1721, Miss Christian Marnoch, the Maiden of Balnagask, in the parish of Nigg, in the Mearns, by whom he had three sons and a daughter, viz.

Dyce Parish Register.	1st. John	}	of whom hereafter.
Newhills Parish Register.	2d. Charles		
<i>Ibid.</i>	3d. Hugh		

Dyce Parish Register. The daughter,—Isobel, married, and had issue.  
He was succeeded by his eldest son,

(XIII.)

*Ibid.* II.—JOHN JOHNSTON in Boginjoss. He married, anno 1758, Margaret, daughter of William Chalmers, in Meikletown of Dyce, by whom he had issue, four sons and one daughter :

<i>Ibid.</i>	1st. William, of whom below.
Kinellar Parish Register and Family Papers.	2d. James, died anno 1789, aged 25 years, unmarried.
<i>Ibid.</i>	3d. Alexander, died in 1784, aged 18 years, and unmarried.
<i>Ibid.</i>	4th. Andrew, of whom afterwards.

The daughter, Elizabeth, died in the year 1798, aged 39 years, and unmarried.

Having given up the farm of Boginjoss, John went to reside at Cairntradlin in Kinellar; from thence he removed with his family to Milbowie in Skene, where he died, anno 1774, at the age of 49. His remains were interred in the churchyard of Dyce, where also lie those of his widow and children.

Family Papers.

Skene Parish Register.  
Tombstone in Dyce Churchyard.

Mrs. Margaret Chalmers, or Johnston, died at Hilton, near Aberdeen, where she had resided for several years, in April 1812, aged 82 years.

Ibid.

The eldest son of John, the second in Boginjoss, was,

(XIII.)

III.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON of Viewfield. This gentleman was a Merchant in Aberdeen, of the magistracy of which city he was at various times a member. He married, anno 1801, Catharine, eldest daughter of David Morice of Tullos, in the county of Kincardine, sheriff-substitute of Aberdeenshire, and by this lady he had a family of five sons and two daughters.

Records of Burgh of Aberdeen.  
Nigg Parish Register.

1st. William, died in childhood, anno 1807.

St. Nicholas' Parish Register.

2d. David Morice, of whom below.

3d. James Farquhar, died in infancy, in the year 1810.

4th. Alexander, Writer to the Signet,—the compiler of the present account.

5th. Robert, Merchant in Aberdeen.

The daughters are,

1st. Rachel.

2d. Margaret.

William Johnston acquired, anno 1826, the property of Viewfield, near Aberdeen; where he resided until his death, which happened suddenly on 22d February 1832, he being then in the 71st year of his age.

Register of Abbreviations of Adjudications.  
Tombstone in Aberdeen Churchyard.

His remains were, on the 1st of March following, interred in the family burial-place, in the churchyard of Saint Nicholas.

His eldest surviving son is,

## (XV.)

IV.—DAVID MORICE JOHNSTON, who was bred to the profession of the law in England, and now practises as a Solicitor in the Inner Temple, London.

He is the head of this branch of the family, and is next in succession to the chiefship and title, failing heirs-male of the body of the present Sir William Johnston of that Ilk.

Engraving of  
the Arms of this  
family, *penes me.*

The COAT ARMORIAL, CREST, and MOTTO of this family are as those of the principal branch, (*supra* page 21):—The chief on quarters 1st and 4th of the shield being *wavy* for a difference.

*Of the Family of ANDREW JOHNSTON in BALQUHAIN, parish  
of Chapel of Garioch, in the shire of Aberdeen.*

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(XIV).

I.—ANDREW JOHNSTON is the fourth son of John, the second in Boginjoss, by Mrs. Margaret Chalmers.

In his youth he went to sea, and had afterwards the command of different merchant vessels, (the property of his brother William, &c.) trading to North America and elsewhere, belonging to the Port of Aberdeen.

He married in London, anno 1794, Miss Margaret Inglis, by whom he had a family of four sons and five daughters;

1st. William, merchant in Aberdeen, married, anno 1818, Miss Ann Craig, and has issue.

2d. Andrew, unmarried, and resides at Balquhain.

3d. John, studied medicine, and went to Jamaica, anno 1824.

4th. David, died at Aberdeen, anno 1827, young and unmarried.

The daughters are :—

1st. Agnes, married, and has issue.

2d. Margaret, married and had issue; died in July 1832.

The above two daughters were twins.

3d. Janet, married, and has issue.

4th. Catharine } both unmarried.  
5th. Elizabeth }

Captain Johnston has since the year 1810, when he left the sea, resided at the farm of Balquhain.

His wife, Mrs. Margaret Inglis, died there in June 1831.

*Of the Family of CHARLES JOHNSTON, in STRATHRY, in the  
Parish of Kinellar, and shire of Aberdeen.*

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## (XIII).

Newhills Parish  
Register.

I.—CHARLES JOHNSTON, second son of John, the first in Boginjoss, was born at Bishoptown, anno 1731.

MSS., *pene*  
*me.*

He resided first at Strathry in Kinellar, from thence he removed to Fornet in Skene, and at this place he died anno 1790. He was buried in the churchyard of Old Machar.

Kinellar Parish  
Register.

He married, anno 1763, Isobel, daughter of Peter Barron, manufacturer at Grandholm, near Aberdeen, by whom he had one son, viz. :

William, died young and unmarried ;

And three daughters :—

Ibid.

1*st.* Elspet, unmarried.

2*d.* Anne, died in infancy.

Skene Parish  
Registr.

3*d.* Elizabeth, unmarried.

*Of the Family of HUGH JOHNSTON in SKENE.*

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## (XIII).

I.—HUGH JOHNSTON, third and youngest son of John, the first in Boginjoss, was born anno 1734, at Bishoptown. Newhills Parish Register.

He resided in the parish of Skene, and married Miss Jean Craighead, by whom he had issue—two daughters; MSS., penes me.

1st. Anne } both married, and had issue.  
2d. Mary }

The date of Hugh's death is unknown.

*Of the JOHNSTONS of BALLINDAUCH, afterwards of CRIMOND,  
in the shire of ABERDEEN.*

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The first of this branch, and the oldest cadet of the family of Caskieben was,

## (IV).

Supra, page 4.

I.—WILLIAM DE JOHNSTON, son of the marriage between Gilbert de Johnston of Caskieben, and his second wife, the daughter of Sir Alexander Forbes of Pitsligo.

Ibid.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 7, No. 243.

He received in patrimony the lands of Ballindauch or Bandauch, in Aberdeenshire, and had from King James III. a crown charter of these lands, dated 31st August 1472.

To whom this gentleman was married does not appear, but he had a son,

## (V).

Ibid.

Lib. 15, No. 154  
Supra, pp. 4 & 5

II.—ALEXANDER DE JOHNSTON of Ballindauch; which estate, about the year 1509, he exchanged with his kinsman William Johnston of that Ilk, for the one half of the lands of Crimond.

No. 11 of Inven-  
tory of Writs in  
Appendix.

The bargain between these gentlemen seems to have been, that Alexander was to hold his half of Crimond of his Chief; and by an obligation dated 26th June 1509, he bound himself to give William and his heirs the first offer of the same when sold, "ilk merk's worth of land for twenty merks, as use is, of common selling."

Ibid. No. 9.

Alexander Johnston of Crimond was one of Caskieben's three arbitrators in the dispute (annis 1538 and 1539), between James Johnston of that Ilk and the Frasers, as to the marches between the lands of the Craig and of Clinterty.

We are, from want of proper documentary evidence, unable to trace with accuracy the descent of this family, but there is a strong probability that Alexander had a son,

## (VI.)

III.— JOHNSTON of Crimond, father of

## (VII.)

IV.—JAMES JOHNSTON of Crimond, who married Margaret Supra, page 6.  
second daughter of William Johnston younger of that Ilk (No.  
VII). and Margaret Hay of Dalgaty. James had a son,

## (VIII.)

V.— JOHNSTON of Crimond, who married Agnes, Supra, page 8.  
third daughter of George Johnston of that Ilk, by the Honour-  
able Christian Forbes, and had, when the manuscript history was  
compiled, “diverse bearns to him liveing and in good apearance  
also.”

The Laird of Crimond’s name is in the roll of Spiritual and  
Great Temporal Barons and Freeholders, who appeared on 3d  
October 1598, at Aberdeen, to give suit and presence for their  
lands held of the Crown.

Kennedy’s An-  
nals of Aberdeen.

The eldest son of this Laird is understood to have been,

## (IX.)

VI.—ROBERT JOHNSTON of Crimond. He was, anno 1635,  
elected Provost of the city of Aberdeen, but in January 1636  
was removed from that office by the Lords of the Privy Coun-  
cil, and Alexander Jaffray of Kingswells appointed in his room.  
Of Jaffray’s elevation, Spalding in his History of the Troubles,  
says, “Many thought little both of the man and the elec-  
tion, not being of the old blood of the town, but the oy of a  
baxter, and therefore was set down in the provost’s desk to ser-  
mon, with a baken pye before him. This was done several times,  
bnt he miskenned all, and never quarrelled the samen.”

Thom’s History  
of Aberdeen, and  
Succinct Survey  
of the famous city  
of Aberdeen.

Robert was again, anno 1637, elected Provost of Aberdeen, ibid.  
and remained in office for the usual period, without molestation.

We are unable to give any account of the family after this  
period.

From Dr. Thomas M'Crie's *Life of Andrew Melville* (second edition—1824), we select the following particulars regarding a member of this family.

John Johnston was of the family of Crimond in Aberdeenshire ; he studied at King's College, and afterwards, according to the custom of that age, went abroad, where he remained for eight years, and gained the friendship of many of the principal French and German literati ; he also spent some time in England, and then returned to his native country. He embraced the doctrines of the reformed religion, and was the friend of Andrew Melville, and his colleague as a Regent of the University of St. Andrews.

He was, says our authority, a poet and divine as well as a scholar.

He married Catherine Melville, of the family of Carnbee in Fifeshire, by whom he had issue. In his "*Consolatio Christiana*," is an epitaph on his wife and two of his children. His works (like those of other learned Scotsmen of that age,) were published in Holland, but in thirty years after, Arthur Johnston (his kinsman) published them at Aberdeen. In 1602, his "*Inscriptiones Historiæ et Icones regum Scotorum*" was published at Amsterdam ; and in 1603 there was published at Utrecht, "*Heroes ex omni Historia Scotica Lectissimi*," both in very small quarto. His Portraits of the Kings of Scotland are invaluable. These poems were inserted by Dr. Johnston in the *Delitiæ Poetarum Scotorum*, published in 1637.

He was also the author of a very beautiful poem, "*Mors Piorum*." His other works were, "*Sidera Veteris Ævi*," "*Iambi Sacri*," "*Cantica Sacra Novi Testamenti*," published in 1611. Five letters from him are printed in Cambden's *Epistles* ; and in Cambden's *Britannia* are many of his Latin poems.

He died 20th October 1611. Of his death Melville thus writes in a letter to his nephew James :—"Your account of the happy death of my colleague Jonston, filled me with both grief and joy. He was a man of real piety—attached to the purity of religion—and of a most courteous disposition. The university has lost a

teacher—the church a member—and I a friend, to whom there are few equal.”

In his last will, Johnston appoints Robert Johnston of Crimond one of his executors, and bequeaths a small legacy to the Laird of Caskieben. “ Item, I leave to Mr. Rob<sup>t</sup>. Merser, persoun of Banquhorie, my auld kynd maister, in taiken of my thankful dewtie, my quhyit cope w<sup>t</sup> the silver fit : Item, I leave, in taikin of my sincer love and affectioun, to Mr: Andro Melvill, ane fyne new Dueche cap of fyne blak velvet, lynit w<sup>t</sup> fyne martrik skinneres.”

This John Johnston was, we are inclined to think, the progenitor of the Johnstons in Fifeshire, now a numerous race.

*Of the JOHNSTONS of CAYESMILL.*

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The first of this family was,

(V.)

Supra, page 4.  
Douglas' Baron.

I.—WILLIAM DE JOHNSTON, second son of Alexander de Johnston of Caskieben, by Agnes, daughter of Gloster of that Ilk and of Glack.

MS. History.

He married the daughter of John Keith of Auquhorsk, and had issue.

The descent of this branch of the family we have been unable to trace ;—William was an ancestor of

Ibid.

ROBERT JOHNSTON of Cayesmill, who married Janet, fourth daughter of George Johnston of that Ilk, by the Honourable Christian Forbes, and had “ diverse bearns (then) liveing of good apearance.”

Cayesmill is situated in the parish of Dyce, but near the church of Kinellar, and marches with the property now called Caskieben. It is distant about eight miles from Aberdeen.

*Of the JOHNSTONS of STANDINGSTONES.*

The founder of this family was

## (VII.)

I.—GILBERT JOHNSTON, second son of James Johnston of that Ilk, by Clara, daughter of Barclay of Gartlie. Douglas' Baronsage, and MS. History.

He married Margaret, daughter of William Forbes of Corsindae, by Margaret Lumsden, relict of Johnston of Caskieben, by whom he had issue. Forbes' Genealogy.

Gilbert had, anno 1548, from his father James, a charter in favour of himself and of Margaret Forbes, his spouse, of the lands of Craig, Corsehill, Standingstones, Kinbrun, Waulkmill of Dyce, and Cornmill of Kinbrun, lying in the baronies of Dyce and Rothienormond, and shire of Aberdeen. Vide No. 13 of Inventory of Writs in Appendix.

This deed appears to have been granted in security of certain provisions; for a letter of reversion was granted by Gilbert to his father, dated August 1548, for resuming said lands after decease of Gilbert's heir on payment of 800 merks. On 5th June 1595, John Johnston in Corsehill, tutor to Thomas, heir-male of Gilbert of Standingstones, granted a discharge of said charter to John Johnston of that Ilk, in consideration of payment of 800 merks, and a nineteen years' lease of the lands. Thomas seems to have been the grandson and heir of Gilbert of Standingstones, and John in Corsehill was probably a younger son of Gilbert. Of the descendants of Gilbert Johnston of Standingstones we have no farther account. No. 14, *ibid.*

Standingstones is in the parish of Dyce, and distant about seven miles from Aberdeen. No. 13, *ibid.*

*Of the JOHNSTONS of MIDDLE DISBLAIR.*

## (VII.)

Supra, page 6.  
MS. History.  
Douglas' Baron-  
age.

I.—GEORGE JOHNSTON, bailie of Aberdeen, third son of the marriage between James Johnston of that Ilk and Clara Barclay of Gartlie, is supposed to have been the first of this family.

Ibid.

He married Katharine, daughter of Thomas Menzies of Pitfodds, provost of Aberdeen, by whom he had issue,

1. Thomas, his heir.

Kennedy's An-  
nals of Aberdeen.

2. Patrick, who was killed by Keith of Ludquharn, anno 1578.

## (VIII.)

MS. History.  
Douglas' Baron-  
age.

II.—THOMAS JOHNSTON of Middle Disblair, married Jean, seventh daughter of George Johnston of that Ilk and the Honourable Christian Forbes, and had issue, a son, viz.

## (IX.)

III.—GEORGE JOHNSTON of Middle Disblair, merchant in Aberdeen, married, and had a son—William, his heir.

Kennedy's An-  
nals of Aberdeen.

This gentleman was, at Michaelmas 1631, chosen a bailie of Aberdeen, to continue in office for a year.

He appears to have acquired a considerable fortune in trade, which was laid out by him in the purchase of land.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 60, No. 252.

On 15th January 1624, we find a charter of confirmation in his favour of the lands of Balmalidie, in the county of Kincardine.

Ibid., Lib. 52,  
No. 57.

On 31st July 1628, he received a crown charter of the lands of Wester Cairnie, in the same county.

In the Index of the Records of the Great Seal, there is the following entry: "Carta confirm. Georgio Johnnestoun, balivo de Aberdene, et suæ sponsæ, piscium salmonum in lie cruives super aqua de Done. Aberdenc, Lib. 54, No. 4. 8 Charles I., ult. Jun. 1632."

On 13th March 1637, there was passed under the Great Seal a charter in favour of George Johnston, formerly bailie of Aberdeen, of the lands of Middle Disblair, &c. in the county of Aberdeen. Ibid., Lib. 55, No. 312.

Lieutenant Crouner or Colonel Johnston, who, on account of his loyalty to King Charles the First, is made honourable mention of in Spalding's History of the Troubles in that monarch's reign, is believed to have been a cadet of this family.

On his death, George (C C. App.) was succeeded by his son,

## (X.)

IV.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON of Middle Disblair, merchant in Aberdeen. He was, 30th April 1651, served heir to George Johnston, burgess of Aberdeen, his father, in the town and lands of Middle Disblair, and others, in the barony of Fintray, regality of Lindores, and shire of Aberdeen, with the teinds included; and also in certain salmon fishings, in the river Don. Index of Retours.

He is believed to have been the immediate ancestor of

## (XI.)

V.—JOHN JOHNSTON, merchant in Aberdeen: who appears to have been a bailie of that city in the year 1696; and at Michaelmas 1697, was elected to the office of chief magistrate, but an exception having been taken to his election by several members of the council,—who raised an action of reduction before the Lords of the Privy Council, which was sustained,—John Johnston resigned, and Alexander Walker was chosen provost in his room. Certif. of baptism, penes me. Thom's History of Aberdeen.

We are unable to give any farther particulars respecting the family of Middle Disblair. A gentleman of the name of Johnston, however, was possessed of that estate within the last half century, who was known to Sir William, the sixth baronet of the family, and also to the late William Johnston of Viewfield. It is understood that he fell into pecuniary difficulties, and was obliged to part with his estate, which is now, we believe, the property of Ramsay of Straloch. What became of this person we know not.

Middle Disblair is in the parish of Fintray, and shire of Aberdeen.

*Of the Family of* DR. ARTHUR JOHNSTON.

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## (IX.)

MS. History, and  
Douglas' Baro-  
nage.

Wood's Edition  
of Peccage.

*Vide* Memoir of  
Dr. Johnston's  
Life in edition of  
his Psalms, 1741,  
&c.

Philip's Thea-  
trum Poetarum.

Kennedy's Annals  
of Aberdeen.

I.—ARTHUR JOHNSTON was the fifth son of George Johnston of that Ilk, by the Honourable Christian Forbes, and was born at Caskieben, anno 1587; he appears to have been named after his uncle, the Honourable Arthur Forbes of Towie, son of William, seventh Lord Forbes, who was killed at Paris, anno 1574.

In his childhood Arthur was put to school in Kintore, which is not far distant from the Castle of Caskieben; from Kintore he was removed to the then newly established University of Marischal College, Aberdeen, where he pursued his studies with great assiduity. After going through the usual curriculum at this University, he commenced his travels on the Continent, a custom pursued at that time by all the Scottish youth of rank. He studied physic, and took the degree of Doctor of Medicine at Padua, anno 1610. After this he went into France, and was laureated poet at Paris, before he had attained his twenty-third year. He settled in France, and remained there for twenty years. On his return to his native country in 1632, after an absence of twenty-four years, he was by King Charles the First appointed his Physician in Ordinary. In 1637 Dr. Johnston published his translation of the Psalms of David in Latin verse, a work undertaken at the request of his friend Archbishop Laud, and which he accomplished in four years. In the same year he edited the *Delitiæ Poetarum Scotorum*, to which he contributed his *Parerga*. He is also known as author of the *Musæ Aulicæ*, or Commendatory Verses upon Persons in Church and State in his own time. In the year 1637 he was elected Rector of King's College, Aberdeen, in the hall of which University there is a portrait of him.

He was twice married, and had by his wives (whose names,

however, are unknown) a family of thirteen children ; but of his descendants no particular account has been preserved.

He seems to have possessed some landed property in his native county. In the Records of the Great Seal there is a charter of confirmation in his favour of the lands of New Leslie, dated 12th June 1629. In the district of Alford, where this property is situated, there are to this day some families of the name of Johnston, chiefly in poor circumstances, who may be descended of this gentleman.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 52, No. 162.

He died at Oxford, anno 1641, while on a visit to one of his daughters, who was married to a divine of the Church of England there ; and in that city his remains were interred. This circumstance his learned friend Dr. Wedderburn, in his *Suspiria* on Arthur Johnston's death, thus regrets :—

“ Scotia mœsta, dole, tanti viduata sepulchro  
“ Vatis ; is Angligenis contigit altus honos.”

George Jameson, the Scottish painter, a native of Aberdeen, executed a likeness of his friend Dr. Johnston, which is to be seen in the hall of Marischal College.—(D D. App.)

Thom's History  
of Aberdeen.

*Of the Family of DR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON.*

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## (IX.)

I.—WILLIAM JOHNSTON was the sixth and youngest son of George Johnston of that Ilk, by the Honourable Christian Forbes. He, as well as his immediate elder brother, Arthur, studied at Marischal College. William afterwards taught philosophy at the University of Sedan, in Germany, and from thence returning to his native country was, anno 1626, appointed the first Professor of Mathematics in the University of Marischal College, Aberdeen, which chair he occupied until his death.

Supra, p. 8.

Kennedy's Annals  
of Aberdeen.Genealogy of  
Forbes Family.

Index of Retours.

Ibid.

Ibid.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 55, No. 77.

He married the fifth and youngest daughter of Abraham Forbes of Blacktoun, in Aberdeenshire, a cadet of the noble family of Forbes, and by this lady had one son and two daughters.

1. Thomas, died without issue.

The daughters were,

1. Anna, married to Alexander Skene, younger of Dyce, by whom, it is believed, she had issue.

2. Elizabeth, married to Alexander Whyt, one of the Regents of Marischal College, Aberdeen, to which office Kennedy, in his Annals, says he was admitted in 1655.

Dr. William was proprietor of the lands of Beidleston in Dyce ; there appears in the Record of the Great Seal of Scotland a charter of confirmation, “ Magistro Gulielmo Johnstoun, Doctori Medicinæ in Aberdene, suae sponsae, ac filio, terrarum de Bendistoun, &c. Aberdene.” Dated 2d June 1635.

“ Dr. Johnston, physician,” is mentioned by Spalding in his Memorable Transactions, as having been sent in March 1639, along with George Morison, burgess in Aberdeen, as commissioner for that town to a meeting of the Covenanters held at Old Montrose.

Of his death the same author writes, “ The 14th of June, (1640) Mr. William Johnston, doctor of physick, departed this life in

New Aberdeen. Mr. William Gordon, another doctor of physick, departed this life a little before in Old Aberdeen, as ye have heard. Dr. Barron, professor of divinity, and Dr. Ross, one of the ministers of Aberdeen, four matchless men, yea and almost matchless in any burrow of Scotland, departed this life, to the grief of Aberdeen, and the country also ; and, ” adds the indignant and desponding royalist, “ all this happened since the beginning of this covenant.”

He gave, anno 1632, to the Magistrates of Aberdeen, 1000 merks Scots, as a fund for the benefit of the poor. He also made presents of books to the library of Marischal College.

Kennedy's Annals  
of Aberdeen.

Portraits of him and of his lady, by George Jameson, were in the possession of the late Andrew Skene of Dyce.

Thom's History  
of Aberdeen.

In the Index of Retours of Special Services, there are two services of the daughters of Dr. William Johnston, as heirs-portioners of their brother Thomas ; the one in favour of Anna, on 16th August 1654 (on which a crown charter followed 9th February 1655) ; the other in favour of Elizabeth, on 10th September 1658, each in the lands of Beidleston, and salmon fishing upon the water of Don, within the parish of Dyce, and shire of Aberdeen.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 59. No. 173.

*Of the Family of JAMES JOHNSTON, Litster in Aberdeen.*

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## (XI.)

Supra, page 17.

I.—JAMES JOHNSTON, litster in Aberdeen (E. E. App.), was the fourth and youngest son of Thomas of Craig, by Mrs. Mary Irvine.

St. Nicholas' Parish Record.

He married Miss Jean Ogilvie, by whom he had three sons, viz.

1st. Alexander.

2d. William.

3d. John.

And two daughters,

1st. Mary.

2d. Jean.

The after history of these children is unknown.

Extract Burgh Records of Aberdeen.

The date of James' death is also unknown; he was alive anno 1704.

Ibid.

Mrs. Jean Ogilvie or Johnston died in March 1716.

**APPENDIX.**



## APPENDIX.

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THE following is a copy of an “Inventory of Papers formerly belonging to the family of Johnston of Caskieben, but now in the possession of Lord Saltoun,” given to William Johnston of Viewfield by the late Professor John Stuart of Marischal College, Aberdeen.

The writs in this inventory might have been mentioned in the body of the account; it was however thought better to give them a place here, and thereby prevent the attention of the reader being taken off from the descent of the family.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>“1. <i>Indenture</i> between Matthew of Gloster of Lumgair and Gilbert of Johnston of Balnedache, dated 1428.</p>  | <p>1428.<br/>No. 111. of the<br/>foregoing Genealogy.<br/>1432.</p> |
| <p>“2. <i>Precept of Seisin</i> by Thomas of Lumgair, dated 14th September 1432.</p>  |   |
| <p>“3. <i>Letter of Reversion</i> by Alexander Johnston of that Ilk, and Agnes Gloster, his spouse, to Alexander Gloster of that Ilk, to renounce their infetment, &amp;c. 1481, of the lands of Hillon, the Glacks, half of Little Warkyle, twa oxgang of the town and lands of Harlaw, in the earldom of Garriauch, &amp;c.</p>             | <p>1481.—No. IV.</p>  |
| <p>“4. <i>Instrument of Protestation</i> by Alexander Johnston of that Ilk, in a head court of the Garriauch, holden at Kildrimy, 18th March 1485, concerning his lands of Johnston, the eighth part of the lands of Old Town, Caskiebain, Leggal, Isaacstoun, Pettysmill,* and half of Crethmonds, &amp;c.</p>                               | <p>1485.—No. IV.</p>  |
| <p>“5. <i>Instrument of Compromitt</i> of the brief of perambulation of the marches between the lands of the barony of Stonywode, belonging to Andrew Frissal, and the lands of the forest of Cordyce, belonging to Alexander Johnston of that Ilk, to William, Earl Marischal, and Alexander Gordon of Midmar, dated 13th November 1499.</p> | <p>1499.—No. IV.</p>  |
| <p>“6. <i>Instrument</i> of the brief of perambulation of the said marches, 9th July 1498. Jo. Herdman, <i>N. P.</i></p>  | <p>1498.</p>  |
| <p>“7. <i>Another copy</i> of the same.</p>   | <p>1499.</p>  |
| <p>“8. <i>Another Instrument</i> of the same reference, by the said parties, of their debates to three arbitrators, dated 9th October 1538.</p>   | <p>1538.</p>  |

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\* Pettysmill or Patiesmill, the lass of which is celebrated in Scottish song.

- 1539.—No. VI. “ 9. *Decreet-Arbitral* pronounced by Caskieben’s three arbitrators, viz. Mr. Alexander Gallaway, parson of Kinkell, Hary Forbes of Thainston, and Alexander Johnston of Crimond, anent the marches betwixt the lands of the Craig and of Clinterty, with Lord Forbes as oversman, his confirmation thereof, dated February 1538, and 3d April 1539.
- 1502.—No. IV. “ 10. *King James’ Ratification* of a decret of the Lords, 20th February 1502, finding the lands of Johnston to be holden of the King, and not of the Earl of Mar.
- 1509.—No. V. “ 11. *Obligation* of Alexander Johnston of Ballindauch to William Johnston of that Ilk, to give him the first offer of the half town of Crethmond, when sold, which he holds of him, ilk merk’s worth of land for twenty merks, as use is, of common selling, dated 26th June 1509.
- 1512.—No. V. “ 12. *Retour and Service* in favour of William Johnston, son and heir of Alexander Johnston of that Ilk, upon the lands therein mentioned, 1512.
- 1548.—No. VI. “ 13. *Sasine* of the lands of Craig, Corsehill, Standingstones, Kinbrun, Waulkmill of Dyce, and Cornmill of Kinbrun, lying in the baronies of Dyce and Rothienormond, in favour of Gilbert Johnston, and Margaret Forbes his spouse, on a charter granted by James Johnston of that Ilk his father, dated 1548, with a discharge on the back thereof, 5th June 1595.—Signed by John Johnston in Corsehill, tutor to Thomas Johnston, and heir-male to the said Gilbert Johnston of Standingstones, for 800 merks, with a nineteen years tack of the lands.
1595. “ 14. *Reversion* by said Gilbert, for resuming said lands after decease of his heir, on payment of 800 merks, August 1548.
1548. “ 15. *Declarator*, that the lands of Portarstown, with the mill thereof, together with the castle, yards, and hill of the town of Inverourie, lyand in the regality of Garriauch, belonging to Stuart of Portarstown, was not contained in Sir Robert Murray’s gift of non-entry of the common lands of the said town ; dated 29th May 1555.
1555. “ 16. *Service* of George Johnston of that Ilk, as air to James Johnston, his grandfather, before the Sheriff of Kincardine, 8th January 1581, on a rent of four merks.
- 1581.—No. VI11.  
No. VI. “ 17. *Tack of Teinds* of certain lands by the parson of Kinkell, with consent of the bishop, &c. in favour of John Johnston of that Ilk, during life, and nineteen years more ; dated 1595.
- 1595.—No. IX. “ 18. *Assedation of the Teind Sheaves* of the lands and barony of Johnston, by the Commendator of Lindores, undoubted patron of the parish of Monkeggy, to John Johnston of that Ilk, for two nineteen years ; dated 26th September 1599.
- 1599.—No. IX. “ 19. *The King’s Commission* to certain persons to cognosce George Johnston of that Ilk, as heir of George Johnston his grandfather, of the four merk lands of Lumgair, holden of the Earl Marischal, Sheriff of Kincardine, seeing he was *judex*, &c. *pars contradicens*, &c. ; 2d March 1614.”

## NOTES.

## A.—Page 2.

THE only circumstance that seems, in after ages, to have formed any link between the Caskieben family and Annandale, is the fact of Johnston of Beirholm in Annandale, having been descended of one of the north country Johnstons, who according to the Crawford MSS. (in the Advocates' Library, Edinburgh) settled as a merchant in Edinburgh. Of which family, of the name, in Aberdeenshire, this Archibald Johnston was descended, we know not. He is called the King's Merchant in a charter in 1608, and was the founder of the family of Johnston of Warriston.

## B.—Page 3.

Some account of Thomas Mar, Earl of Mar, the patron and friend of Stephen de Johnston the Clerk, is contained in Nisbet's *Heraldry of Scotland*. Another and more apocryphal notice of the same nobleman is to be found in Hogg's *Mountain Bard*.

The family of Garviehaugh or Garuiach, now Garioch, into which Stephen married, was of high antiquity in the north. Andrew de Garuiach was Sheriff of the County of Aberdeen, anno 1264.—*Vide* Accounts of the Chamberlain of Scotland for that year.

## C.—Page 3.

The lands let in lease, by the Bishop of Aberdeen, to Gilbert de Johnston, were those now known as Bishop's or Little Clinterty, in the parish of Saint Machar (now Newhills); which lands, after having belonged to the Frasers, were possessed in property by one branch of the family of Johnston.

## D.—Page 3.

Richard Waus or Vaus of Menie, burgess of Aberdeen, granted to the Franciscan or Grey Friars of that city, anno 1469, the lands and property belonging to him, situated on the east side of the Broadgate, for their Monastery.—*Kennedy's Annals, and Wilson's Delineation of Aberdeen*. This is the ground now occupied by the Greyfriars' or College Church, &c.

## E.—Page 5.

William Meldrum, laird of Fyvie, who was afterwards lay patron of the Chantry of Saint Ninian the Confessor, by his charter, dated 17th August 1490, granted and confirmed to the altar, and to Robert Leis, the Chaplain, for masses and prayers, a perpetual annuity of £2,

to be levied from his lands of Watertown, near Ellon, upon the water of Ythan ; an annuity of two merks from his lands of Ordefork ; and various other annuities amounting to £2, arising from certain tenements in Aberdeen.—*Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen.*

## F.—Page 5.

Pitscottie mentions in his *Chronicles*, that Alexander Barclay of Gartlie, and several other Barons, friends of the Earl of Huntly, were slain at Arbroath, anno 1445, in a conflict between the Lindsays and Ogilvies, as to the right to the Bailiary of Arbroath.

## G.—Page 5.

Douglas, in his *Baronage of Scotland*, in treating of this Baron says, —“ This James having had some disputes with the Frasers of Muchil, in Aberdeenshire (afterwards Lords Fraser), concerning the marches of the lands and forest of Cordyce, &c., they entered into a submission, wherein several of the first gentlemen in the neighbourhood were chosen arbiters ; and the said James having produced a bounding charter, granted by King Robert Bruce to his predecessors, anno 1306, the arbiters gave sentence in favours of James. The original submission, and decret-arbitral, with the seals entire, are still preserved in the family, and dated 17th February 1538 ; and the sentence which is ratified by John Lord Forbes, the oversman mutually chosen, is dated 3d April 1539.”

Penes Domin.  
Gul. Johnston.  
Ibid.

## H.—Page 8.

Peter Blackburn, rector of Saint Nicholas, was advanced to the see of Aberdeen, anno 1603, on the death of Bishop Cunningham, and was the second Bishop of the reformed religion. He was a native of Glasgow, and in the University of that City he had taught philosophy, for several years, previous to being appointed to his charge in Aberdeen. Mr. Kennedy, in his *Annals*, states that Bishop Blackburn was admitted one of the Regents of Marischal College anno 1593, and was the first regent in that University. The same historian also says, that neither this Bishop nor his predecessor ever enjoyed any part of the episcopal revenue of the see of Aberdeen, being contented with the small stipend which they received from the magistrates of Aberdeen, as parochial clergymen of Saint Nicholas.

Keith's catalogue  
of Scottish Bish-  
ops.

This Bishop, who was a man of good parts, endeavoured to conciliate the good opinion of the contending religious parties ; but while he studied to please the presbyterians, he became obnoxious to both parties, and thus lost his influence and authority. He was for some years Chancellor of King's College and University of Aberdeen, and died at Aberdeen anno 1615. Peter, son to Bishop Blackburn, was served heir to his father, 17th July 1616, in certain lands in the parishes of Dyce and Alford, Aberdeenshire.

Ibid.

Index of Retours.

The Bishop's other son, William, Burgess of Aberdeen, married a daughter of John Forbes, minister at Delph, a cadet of the family of Corse; and on 30th November 1619, was served heir to his brother, Mr. Peter Blackburn of Endowie, in certain parts of the lands of Meikle Endowie, in the parish of Alford, and County of Aberdeen.

Forbes' Genealogy.  
Index of Retours.

## I.—Page 8.

It is believed that Spence was this gentleman's surname.

There was, however, a family of Sangsters of Boddom, in the parish of New Machar. Sangster of Boddom attempted to carry off the Lass of Patie's Mill, but was interrupted by a dog, and roughly handled by her father, who was called Black John Anderson.

Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen.

## K.—Page 10.

The family of Lundie of that Ilk, one of the most ancient in Scotland, was descended of the royal family of that kingdom, through Robert, the son of William the Lion, and brother of King Alexander the Second; who having married the daughter and heiress of Lundie of Lundie, in the shire of Fife, on that account designed himself Robert de Lundie; in consequence of this descent the family of Lundie were, by a special permission of King Charles the Second, anno 1679, authorized to carry the royal arms of Scotland on their shield, with a difference, as to which see Nisbet's heraldry.

Crawford's MSS. in the Advocates' Library.

The office of *hostiarius* or door-ward of the King's palaces in Scotland, was conferred by William the Lion on the head of the Lundie family, in which it remained hereditary for many ages.

Kennedy, in his Annals of Aberdeen (vol. I.), says, that in 1565 William Lunday, son and heir of Lunday of that Ilk, surrendered himself, along with some other barons and gentlemen, in the lodgings of David Marr, bailie in Aberdeen, as prisoners, in terms of the King's and Queen's letters.

The following entry occurs in the Index of Retours. It is the service of the Lady of Johnston's (Katharine Lundie's) brother, as heir to their father:—

“ Maii 6, 1600.—Joannes Lundy *hæres*, Magistri Gulielmi Lundy de Eodem, *patris*,” in the lands and barony of Lundy, &c. in the county of Fife.

## M.—Page 11.

Of William Forbes of Tolquhoun, who seems to have been, like other gentlemen of his name, a Covenanter, there is a portrait by Jameson, which is, or at least formerly was, in the possession of the Saltoun family.

Among the Epigrams of Dr. Arthur Johnston, there is one “ De Gulielmo Forbesio, Tolchono.”

## N.—Page 11.

Douglas enters into a long argument as to the date of Sir George Johnston's patent of knight baronetcy. The date which he gives it is 31st March 1626; but he says, "We must here observe, that though we have given the date of this patent from the Records of the Great Seal, which is our ordinary rule, yet, as there appears to be some dubiety, we shall here state the case as it really is, videlicet, The signature for Sir George Johnston of Caskieben, baronet's patent, is signed by the king at Whitehall, ultimo die Martii, anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo vigesimo sexto, anno regni secundo. In the Records of the Great Seal, the date of the patent is precisely the same with the signature, viz. ultimo die Martii, anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo vigesimo sexto, anno regni secundo. The sasine is dated 25th May 1626. In the original patent Sir William Johnston's possession, the date stands thus, viz. ——— primo die mensis Martii, anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo vigesimo quinto, anno regni primo.—N. B. The word defaced or wanting before primo die, must be either vigesimo or trigesimo: If the first, then the date is 21st March 1625; if the latter, then the date is 31st March 1625. In the book of the Privy Seal, the date is plainly 31st March 1625, anno regni primo. By the above 'tis certain there is a mistake, and where it lies is submitted to the judgment of our readers.

"But if the patent and Privy Seal are right, viz. 31st March 1625, then Sir William Johnston has the precedency of all the baronets now existing in Scotland. If the signature and Great Seal are right, then he stands in the order herein placed."

Sir William Johnston still stands on the list of Scottish baronets, as if his patent were dated 31st March 1626, notwithstanding the apparently good claim he possesses to be considered premier baronet of Scotland.

## O.—Page 13.

Sir John Johnston, third Knight Baronet of that Ilk, entered the army at an early age. He served under King William in Flanders, and was afterwards a captain in the army of that monarch at the battle of the Boyne. Playfair, in his Baronetage of Scotland, says, "His defence and whole deportment upon the occasion (of his trial) were very affecting. He was a brave man, and certainly fell a sacrifice to the times." Captain Campbell, who was his coadjutor and instigator in the offence for which he so unjustly suffered, escaped into Scotland, and there sometime after married. He was designed "of Mamore," and became the father of General Campbell, afterwards Duke of Argyll.

In the continuation of Rapin's History of England, the following

Books of Signatures in the Records.

Register of Sasines.  
Penes Dominum Gul. Johnston de Eodem.

In the lower Parliament House.

notice is taken of this event. " During this session of parliament (3 William and Mary) happened an incident which made a great noise ; Captain James Campbell, brother to the Earl of Argyll, assisted by Mr. Archibald Montgomery and Sir John Johnston, on the 14th November, forcibly seized on Miss Mary Wharton, daughter and heiress of Sir George Wharton, a fortune, it was said, of £50,000, and about thirteen years of age. She was carried away from her relations in Great Queen Street, and married against her will.

" The next day, his majesty issued his royal proclamation, for apprehending Mr. Campbell and the abettors of this unwarrantable action, and Sir John Johnston being apprehended, was tried, condemned, and executed at Tyburn, notwithstanding great application was made to the King and the relations of the bride to save his life ; which was thought the harder, as it appeared upon his trial, Miss Wharton had given evident proofs that the violence Captain Campbell used was not so much against her will as her lawyers endeavoured to make it. Not long before this there was a bill brought into the House of Commons to prevent clandestine marriages, which it was thought this incident would have accelerated, but it was dropt. However, another bill was brought into the House of Commons on the 4th day of December, to render void the marriage between Miss Wharton and Mr. Campbell, which, notwithstanding the Earl of Argyll petitioned against it, passed both houses the 13th of December."

The trial of Sir John Johnston is to be found in different collections of criminal trials in England.

The following ballad, entitled, " Captain Johnstoun's Last Farewell," was composed, it is believed, the year after Sir John's death. It would appear that the hero of the piece had been betrayed by a treacherous landlord.

Good people all, where'er you be,  
That hear my dismal doom,  
Have some regard to pity me,  
Who now, alas ! am come  
To die an ignominious death,  
As it doth well appear,  
For I declare, with my last breath,  
Your laws are most severe.

In Scotland I was bred, and born  
Of noble parents there,  
Good education did adorn  
My life, I do declare.  
No crime did e'er my conscience stain,  
Till I had ventured here,  
Thus have I reason to complain,  
Your laws are most severe.

In Flanders I have faced the French,  
 And likewise in Ireland,  
 Still eagerly pursued the chase,  
 With valiant heart and hand :  
 Why was I not in battle slain,  
 Rather than suffer here  
 A death which mortals do disdain ?  
 Your laws are most severe.

I did not hurt or wrong intend  
 I solemnly protest,  
 But merely to assist a friend  
 I granted his request  
 To free his lady out of thrall,  
 His joy and only dear,  
 And now my life must pay for all—  
 Your laws are most severe.

In coming to my native land  
 At this unhappy time,  
 Alas ! I did not understand  
 The nature of the crime ;  
 I therefore soon did condescend,  
 As it doth well appear,  
 Wherein I find I do offend—  
 Your laws are most severe:

In the same lodgings where I lay,  
 And lived at bed and board,  
 My landlord did my life betray  
 For fifty pounds reward ;  
 And being into prison cast,  
 Altho' with conscience clear,  
 I was arraigned at the last—  
 Your laws are most severe.

This ladye would not hear my moan,  
 While dying words I sent ;  
 Her cruel heart, more hard than stone,  
 Would not the least relent ;  
 But triumphing in my wretched state,  
 As I do often hear,  
 I fall here by the hand of fate—  
 Your laws are most severe.

Will not my good and gracious king  
 Be merciful to me ?  
 Is there not in his breast a spring  
 Of princely clemencie ?  
 No ! not for me, alas ! I die—  
 My hour is drawing near—  
 To the last minute I will cry,  
 Your laws are most severe.

Farewell, dear countrymen (said he),  
 And this tumultuous noise,  
 My soul shall now transported be  
 To more celestial joys :

Tho' in the blossom of my youth,  
Pale death I do not fear,  
Unto the last I speak the truth—  
Your laws are most severe.

Alas ! I have not long to live,  
And therefore now, (said he,)  
All those that wronged me I forgive,  
As God will pardon me ;  
My landlord and his subtle wife  
I do forgive them here ;  
Farewell this transitory life . -  
Your laws are most severe.

P.—Page 13.

Before the death of Sir John Johnston, anno 1690, the wealth and influence of the family were on the wane. So early as 15th April 1645, we find that Alexander Jaffray, (of Kingswells, afterwards Provost of Aberdeen), was served heir to his father, Alexander Jaffray, formerly Provost of Aberdeen, in several of the towns and lands belonging in former times to the family, and which were their property in 1614, when the first Baronet was served heir to his father.

Index of Returns

The estate of Caskieben, and other lands belonging to the family, had passed out of the hands of the Johnstons, either during Sir John's time, or that of his father Sir George.

In confirmation of this statement, the following entries in the Index of the Records of the Great Seal of Scotland, may be quoted :—  
“ Carta Domino Joanni Keith, Militi Mareschallarii, Baronie de Caskieben, etc. unit., Aberdeen, B. 58, No. 262. Charles II., 14th year, 16th August 1663.”

The name of Keith Hall, under which it is now known, does not appear to have been given to the estate until the year 1669 ; for we find in the Index already referred to, “ Carta Domino Joanni Keith de Caskieben, baronie de Caskieben, etc., in baroniam de Keith Hall, unit., Aberdeen, Book 59, No. 224. ; Charles II., 21st year, 12th November 1669.”

(This Dominus Joannes Keith was brother of the Earl Marischal and was himself the first Earl of Kiintore, to which dignity he was raised by King Charles II., anno 1677).

The Castle of Caskieben was situated on a rising ground, a few hundred yards to the east of the present house of Keith Hall. Its ruins are still to be seen.

Tradition says, that the feeling of indignant regret in the country, at the manner in which the estate passed out of the possession of its ancient proprietors, was so strong, that a then current saying was, that none but a Johnston would ever be happy or prosperous in the possession of it ; and that not even a tree would grow on the land that was not planted in that name.

## Q.—Page 14.

There still exists a lane in Aberdeen which formerly went under the name of Sir John's Wynd, and in which it is said Sir John Johnston resided, or had his place of business. It is that lane leading from the end of the Guestrow to the Nether Kirkgate.

## R.—Page 15.

COPY ACT in favours of Sir JOHN JOHNSTOUN of Caskiebend, for three Yearly Fairs at the Hill of Tyrebagger.

(No. 23.—*Granted in Parliament 1705*).

Our Sovereign Lady and Estates of Parliament considering that fairs and mercats in convenient places tend much to the good and advantage of the inhabitants thereof, and of her Majestie's other leidges dwelling near thereto, and also to increase trade and commerce in the nation, and that it is very fit for these ends to authorize three yearly fairs, upon the days following, at and upon the west end of the foot of the Hill of Tyrebagger, which is part of the lands and barony of Caskiebend, lying in the shire of Aberdeen, and belonging to Sir John Johnstoun of Caskiebend, do, therefore, by thir presents, appoint three fairs to be kept yearly, in all time coming, at and upon the said west end of the foresaid foot of the Hill of Tyrebagger; one thereof upon the Tuesday immediately preceding Esther, to be called Pasch Fair; another upon the first Tuesday of July, to be called Martin Bulzeon Fair; and another upon the third Thursday of August, to be called Tyrebagger Fair: And have given and granted, and hereby give and grant to the said Sir John Johnstoun, his heirs and successors, the right and priviledge of keeping the said yearly fairs for all kinds of merchandice, with all the tolls, customes, and casualties thereof; and all other liberties, priviledges, and advantadges used and wont to belong to any haveing the priviledge of keeping fairs and mercats within this kingdom.—(*Acts of the Parliament of Scotland*).

## S.—Page 16.

The following entry in the record of baptisms of the burgh of Aberdeen, seems to imply that Thomas, although unmarried, did not die *sine prole*:—"Thomas Johnstoun of Craig had ane dochter, begotin in fornycation wi Jean Keith, baptisit by Mr. Thomas Craig, callit Marie; Robert More, &c. godfathers, ye 10th daye of Novem<sup>r</sup>. 1673."

## T.—Page 17.

Acts of Parliament of Scotland.

Charles Dnn, litster in Aberdeen, was, by an act of Parliament, anno 1662, fined the sum of £2400 Scots, and to that extent excepted from the act of indemnity passed on the restoration of Charles II.

In the Index of Retours of Special Services occurs the following entry: "4th June 1673.—Carolus Dune, mercator burgensis de Abirdein, hæres, Caroli Dune, tinctoris, burgensis de Abirdein, patris,"

in certain subjects within the barony of Johnstoun, parish of Dyce, and county of Aberdeen.

There is a crown charter of confirmation, dated 15th April 1646, in favour of Charles Dun, burghess of Aberdeen, of the forest and barony of Cordyce, in the shire of Aberdeen.

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 57, No. 466.

And under date 10th October 1667, is the following entry: "Carta recog. Carolo Dun, mercatori burgensi de Aberdene, dimidietatis baroniae de Cordyce, Aberdene."

Reg. Mag. Sig.  
Lib. 59, No. 57.

#### U.—Page 17.

For a very minute account of the treacherous murder of Alexander Irvine of Kingcausie, by William Forbes, natural son of John Forbes of Lesly, as Kingcausie was on his way to the town of Aberdeen, on the 17th day of August 1644, reference is made to Spalding's History of the Troubles.

In the Index of Retours occurs the following: 14th August 1630.—Alexander Irvine of Kingcausie, *heir* of John Irvine of Kingcausie, *his father*, in the lands of Kingcausie, and fishings on the river Dee.

#### W.—Page 17.

The Estate of Bishoptown is at present the property of the late Forbes of Seaton's heir. It is situated in the parish of Newhills, at the distance of seven miles from Aberdeen. There is not now, we believe, any mansion house on the property.

#### X.—Page 18.

There is a tradition in the family that this Thomas Johnston was obliged to quit the country to avoid punishment, on account of his attempting to carry off from her friends, with the intention of marrying her, a young Aberdeenshire heiress, whose name is now unknown.

#### Y.—Page 19.

Sir William, the fifth Baronet, lost his estates, by reason of his having fallen into difficulties from having been cautioner for a person of the name of Forbes (who became bankrupt), a member, it is said, of the old Echt family.

#### Z.—Page 19.

Sir William Johnston, sixth Baronet, accompanied Lord Anson on his celebrated voyage. While in the navy, Sir William acquired considerable sums as prize-money, and for some gallant exploit performed by him in the course of one of his voyages, he was wont to relate that on his return he was presented to his Majesty George the Second, who was so much pleased with his conduct, that he was desirous of conferring the honour of knighthood upon him. This mark of distinction, however, he declined to receive, with a remark that knighthood would be of little use to him, as he had been heir to a

baronetcy from the time he was a boy. A sum of money was accordingly presented to Sir William.

A A.—Page 19.

The manner of this young gentleman's death was very melancholy. The following is the substance of the account thereof given in Playfair's Baronetage, which is we believe correct.

Alexander Johnston was a midshipman on board his Majesty's ship Assistance, Commodore Sir Charles Douglas, and perished along with the first Lieutenant, the Honourable Douglas Haliburton, and all the barge's crew, off Sandy Hook, in America, 31st December 1783, aged eighteen years. The circumstances of the case were the following: Some of the ship's company had seized one of the boats, and made for the shore, with the intention of deserting, when several of the young men, and, among the rest, Alexander Johnston volunteered to recover the boat and bring back the deserters. The Commodore permitted them to go under the command of the first lieutenant, but the day soon closing in, and the night being stormy and severely cold, they did not return. The next morning when the Commodore sent to learn the cause, they were all found on the shore frozen to death.

B B.—Page 22.

There is a tradition in the family of Boginjoss, that when John, the first in that place, possessed the farms mentioned in the text, he was in the beginning of his career very prosperous, and that the hospitality about the house of Standingstones, which was then his residence, was famous in that country; and it is stated that these happy circumstances remained unaltered, until a deformed herd, who was in his service, happening to commit some fault, was punished by his master. This being reported to the boy's mother, who had the character of being *uncanny*, she came to Standingstones to enter a remonstrance in the matter, upon which occasion she got so little satisfaction, that she prayed that "John Johnston and his might never thrive." From this time it is said that every thing went against the Boginjoss family; and, no doubt, from about this period may be dated the temporary decline of that branch; but it is presumed that a more easy explanation of these reverses of fortune, than that now mentioned, is to be found in the losses which soon after this period befel John, from his being involved with his brother Sir William; and in the attachment which the family had all along displayed to the house of Stuart.

It is believed that John "was out" in 1715; and not many years ago, the walls of the house at Bishoptown, where he resided, were to be seen, and which, as being the residence of a member of a family disaffected to Government, was burned, by orders of the Duke of Cumberland, on his march to the north in the beginning of the year 1746.

## C. C.—Page 35.

George Johnston, burgess and townsman of Aberdeen, is mentioned in Spalding's History of the Troubles, as being of the Royalist party, and, from his opposition to the Covenant, was carried, along with some other gentlemen of note belonging to Aberdeenshire, to Edinburgh, in June 1640. After an imprisonment there for six months, and an examination before the Tables, the Estates fined him £1000. The same minute historian however says, that Johnston, and another unlucky Aberdonian named George Morison, (who had suffered a like imprisonment), had influence enough with their opponents to get their liberty in a short time, and to have their fines remitted.

## D D.—Page 37.

The following lines occur in the edition of Dr. Johnston's Epigrammata, published at Aberdeen, anno 1632, and are also introduced in the short Memoir of his Life, prefixed to his version of the Psalms, published by Auditor Benson, at London, anno 1741, as follows:—

“ Arturus Jonstonus ab antiqua et equestri familia apud Scotos oriundus est. Majorum sedes, solumque ejus natale, fuit Caskieben, prope Aberdoniam, quod pulcherrimis hisce versibus ipse nobis indicavit.

Æmula Thessalicis en hic Jonstonia Tempe,  
 Hospes ! hyperboreo fusa sub axe vides.  
 Mille per ambages nitidis argenteus undis,  
 Hic trepidat laetos Urius inter agros.  
 Explicat hic seras ingens Bennachus umbras,  
 Nox ubi libratur lance diesque pari.  
 Gemmifer est annis, radiat mons ipse lapillis,  
 Queis nihil Eous purius orbis habet.  
 Hic pandit Natura sinum, nativaque surgens,  
 Purpura felicem sub pede ditat humum.  
 Aera per liquidum volucres, in flumine pisces,  
 Adspicis in pratis luxuriare pecus.  
 Hic seges est, hic poma rubent, onerantur aristis,  
 Arva, suas ægre sustinet arbor opes.  
 Propter aquas arx est, ipsi contermina coelo,  
 Auctoris menti non tamen aequa sui.  
 Imperat haec arvis et vectigalibus undis,  
 Et famula stadiis distat ab urbe tribus.  
 Haec mihi terra parens; gens has Jonstonia lymphas,  
 Arvaque per centum missa tuetur avos.  
 Clara Maronæis evasit Mantua cunis;  
 Me mea natalis nobilitabit humus.

We have seen the following spirited translation of the above lines:—

Here, traveller ! a vale behold,  
 As fair as Tempe's, famed of old,  
     Beneath the northern sky ;  
 Here Ury, with her silver waves,  
 Her banks in smiling verdure laves,  
     And winding wimples by.

Here, towering high, Bennachie spreads  
 Around on all his evening shades,  
     When twilight grey comes on ;  
 With sparkling gems the river glows,  
 As precious stones the mountain shows,  
     As in the East are known.

Here nature spreads a bosom sweet,  
 And native dyes beneath the feet,  
     Bedeck the joyous ground ;  
 Sport in the liquid air the birds,  
 And fishes in the stream, the herds  
     In meadows wanton round.

Here ample barn-yards still are stored  
 With relics of last autumn's hoard,  
     And firstlings of this year ;  
 There waving fields of yellow corn,  
 And ruddy apples that adorn  
     The bending boughs, appear.

Beside the stream, a castle proud  
 Rises amid the passing cloud,  
     And rules a wide domain,  
 (Unequal to its Lord's descent) :  
 A village near, with lowlier art,  
     Is built upon the plain

Here was I born ; o'er all the land  
 Around, the Johnstons bear command,  
     Of high and ancient line.  
 Mantua acquired a noted name,  
 As Virgil's birth-place ; I my fame  
     Inherit shall from mine.

Subjoined to a small work, entitled, " A Succinct Survey of the Famous City of Aberdeen, by a Zealous Lover of Bonaccord," printed at Aberdeen, by John Forbes, anno 1685, are translations of the Epigrams, written by Dr. Johnston upon the different Royal Burghs of Scotland. These translations are said to have been made by a Mr. John Barclay, parson of Cruden.

The translation of the Epigram on Kintore thus concludes :—

Here first I suck't the Muse's breasts, when young,  
 It was here first I learn'd the Latin tongue ;  
 Let Athens by Maeonian songs be rais'd,  
 It's fit Kintore be by my verses prais'd.

That upon the Royal Burgh of Inverury is in the following strain :—

Thou art the town I love, which Urie's stream  
 Doth water, and thou'rt called by its name.  
 Don's christal waters also flow to thee,  
 Which, joyn'd to Urie, much increased be.  
 ¶ What is the cause (my dearest town) that thou  
 Can no Migdonian pillars in thee shew?  
 Why doth there not in buildings which are thine  
 Some pyramide with splendid titles shine ?  
 Why doth heath shrubs thy lovely houses stain,  
 To which the lawrell rather doth pertain ?  
 Here formerly the Bruce his foe defeat,  
 And still thereafter prosperous was his state,  
 Nere thee did Stewart beat the rebels down,  
 And with their blood Harlaw almost did drown.  
 Of thee if I do boast it is no shame,  
 In thee some special interest I claime,—  
 The land which fewell furnisheth to thee,  
 It was the land of my nativitie.  
 Nere thee it was I first drew vital breath,  
 I wish nere thee (when old) to meet with death.

E E.—Page 40.

It was, about this period, not at all unusual to bring up the younger sons of Scottish gentlemen to mechanical employments, with a view to the encouragement of trade and manufactures.

Of the body of which James Johnston was a member, Mr. Kennedy, in his Annals of Aberdeen, thus writes :—

“ OF THE LITSTER OF DYER SOCIETY.

“ This society may be regarded as among the oldest of the town. Before the introduction of manufactures into this country, the listers were a pretty numerous body in Aberdeen. In the year 1501, they were recognised as a corporation ; and having chosen their deacon, the election was sanctioned by the town-council. In the course of the sixteenth century, many questions arose between them and the corporations of artificers, upon the point of precedence. The dyers contended that they were entitled to the privileges of burgesses of guild, and often refused to join the artificers in their religious plays and pageants in the time of popery ; but these privileges which they claimed were denied to them by the magistrates ; nor does it appear that they had ever any interest in the political affairs of the borough. The society, which is now composed of only a few members, is very opulent, by means of a considerable property having been left to it by Archibald Bean, dyer, about the middle of the seventeenth century, for the purpose of affording relief to decayed indigent members.”













