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SMAILHOLM TOWER (ROXBURGHSHIRE.)

A. 120-6

THE

THURBURNS.

By

LIEUT.-COLONEL F. A. V. THURBURN.

"When real nobleness accompanies that imaginary one of birth, the imaginary seems to mix with the real, and becomes real too."





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PREFACE.

The following notes on family matters, mainly acquired by a little research, and the assistance obtained from some of the author's relatives and friends—viz., Mrs. Thurburn, of Murtle; Mr. Robert Young, of Elgin; and Mr. George Paul, of Edinburgh—are now published for the general edification of those members of the Thurburn family who may happen to take an interest in the antecedents of their race.

In returning his warmest thanks to the above-named persons for their labours in his behalf, the writer also hopes that the inability to do sufficient justice to the materials with which he has been supplied may be visited with leniency by the several members of the particular community for which they have been produced; and that he may also be exonerated from any design to pander to, or engender, a family glorification—a glorification which is certainly not to be derived from any conspicuous conduct for good on the part of a Thurbrand.

Of all the ramifications of commendable curiosity, that of the desire to become acquainted with the deeds (be they ever so humble and commonplace) of our forefathers is not the least worthy one; particularly when it is allied with the humbleness and docility of the true Christian. These virtues the writer trusts many of his readers have already acquired, or are in a fair way of attaining.

Without further apology, it may be asked, why should we hesitate to pick out the good and eschew the evil in the life of an ancestor, for instruction or reproof to ourselves, just as much

as if the record was written in the more comprehensive pages of our country's history? If so, then the lesson has this additional interest attached to it, that it is derived from the same source which gave us our flesh and blood; and can, consequently, be trusted to speak more to the heart than one derived from generalities.

The justice of these remarks being conceded, it but remains for the author to state that he would have declined to face the criticism of kith and kin, had he not been assured, in the solicitude of some relatives to have a historical sketch of the family, that his labours on their behalf would be met con amore. In this trust he confides the following pages to their perusal and consideration.

Stanley Crescent, Kensington Park, London, 10th November, 1864.

THE THURBURNS.

CHAPTER I.

The ancient appellations of the present family of Thurburn, as will be hereafter more clearly displayed, were Thurbarne and Thurbrand. These names are of Scandinavian source; and, according to the etymology of the Danish language, the first would signify "child of Thor," from Thor (the god), pronounced "Tor" or "Tur," and "Barne," a child; whereas the second syllable, "Brand" (a sword), in Thurbrand, would define its meaning as the "sword of Thor." The antiquity of the name must, therefore, date far back to a remote period in the history of the Norsemen; most certainly before Christianity had had any influence over them; for it would be fallacious to admit that a Christian community would ever accept heathen denominations for the medium of their recognition by their fellow-brethren.

The first successful inroad of the Danes into England took place about the year A.D. 793, and the communications of the Vikings with this country extended over a period embracing several hundreds of years after that date. Though rapine was their *summum bonum*, peaceful colonies were, nevertheless, established by them chiefly in the south-eastern and northeastern portions of England. These communities, spite of Ethelred's massacre in A.D. 1002, seem to have prospered, more

especially in Northumbria or Yorkshire, and to have left their impress on the land to following ages.

After the Norman conquest we find that many of the Danish colonies in England immigrated northwards and to the lowlands of Scotland, leaving traces to the present day of their continuing places, distinguishable in the names of villages,—such as Smailholm, in Roxburghshire; Corby and Stonegarthside, in Cumberland; and several in Northumberland ending in the final syllable, "Haugh." Record is to be found of the name on the coins of Denmark. That country and Norway seem in the first half of the eleventh century to have obtained many of their mint-masters from the Danish descendants settled in North England, as well as from the more civilized Anglo-Saxons; for we find, about the time above stated, that the Scandinavian coins, in conjunction with those struck by the artistic Saxon, bore the impress of such names as Thorkel, Thornstein, Thurgod, and Thorbaern.

Again, it is also to be met with in early history, in an account of a battle which was fought in the twelfth century, in the valley of Calder, near Scrabster, between Earl Raguvald and one *Thorbaern*, in which the latter is stated to have routed his foe. In communication with the learned author of "The History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire," the writer of this brochure received some valuable information touching the family antecedents in that county—so long the seat of the race—and was favoured lately by him with a letter on the same subject, the interest of which will be sufficient apology for its quotation intact. He writes:—

[&]quot;I have not met with any new notices of your family name in the Clerlulerees of the religious houses of Teviotdale; but I have met with what I am satisfied is the original name of the family in the ninth and tenth centuries, in the kingdom of Northumbria. It is spelt 'Turebrand,' and the person who bore it is called 'the Hold.' (I suspect Hold is a misreading

"for Bold.) He seems also to have been connected with York-"shire. One of the name was slain by Uchtred, the Earl of "Northumberland, at the instigation of Styr, the son of Ulf, who "refused to give the Earl his daughter in marriage till he first "rid him of his hated enemy Turebrand. On Uchtred slaying "Turebrand, he married Styr's daughter Sigen, or rather she "was given to him by her father as his reward for the murder "of his enemy. He seems to have been a Dane, and in high "favour with Swergn and Canute, his son. When Canute "invaded Northumberland in 1016, Uchtred the earl submitted "to him from necessity, and having received a safe conduct to "visit Canute, to arrange terms of peace, he presented himself "on the appointed day to the presence of the king: he was "slain by Turebrand the Hold, with forty of his chief officers, "in the royal presence. The place where this happened was "called Wilrael. Aldred, the son of Uchtred by Eegfrida, the "daughter of Bishop Aldune, avenged his father's death by the " slaughter of Turebrand the Hold; and he again was slain by "the son of his victim. Waltheof, the grandson of Aldred, on "attaining the earldom, butchered the grandsons of Turebrand "the Hold, in revenge of the death of his grandfather. I "refer to these notices to show the rank of the family of "Turebrand. I have no doubt whatever that the name is the "origin of your name. It is probable that a member of the "family migrated to Scotland to escape from the Norman "William, and it is worthy of notice that Gospatric the earl, "when he fled from the Conqueror, took refuge in the district " of country in which Smailholm is situated.

"Believe me to be,

" Yours very faithfully,

(Signed) "ALEXANDER JEFFREY."

Continuing the inquiry further into the remote period above referred to, we find that a *Thor*, probably a descendant

of Turebrand, and who styled himself Thor Longus, or Thor the Long, obtained from the Scottish king Edgar, about the year A.D. 1100, a grant of land at Edenham (about six miles from Smailholm), in Roxburghshire. Another Thor settled himself at Tranent, in the adjoining county of Haddington. Surnames were about these days being assumed in Scotland, for we find that Walter, grandson of Thor Longus, took that of Ruthven, from lands in Perthshire obtained by his father. His descendants became Earls of Gowrie in 1581. The other sons or grandsons of Thor Longus very likely retained the old cognomen of Turebrand, Thorbrand, or Thurbrand. Curious to say, with respect to its reference to a sword, that the seal of Thor Longus, still extant, represents him seated with his good sword on his knees, and the legend "Thor me mittit amico" attached to it.

CHAPTER II.

In a late investigation made regarding the period of time for which the family of Thurbrand or Thurburn had been settled at Smailholm in Roxburghshire, the registers of sasines of landed property deposited in the Government offices at Edinburgh were searched, and some conclusive information bearing on the point was obtained. It is, however, necessary, previous to proceeding with this portion of the subject, to explain to the uninitiated in legal mysteries the nature of a sasine. When a property in Scotland is sold, the deed by which the property is conveyed from the seller to the purchaser is called a disposition. Until 1845 a commissioner, deputed by the seller, proceeded with a notary public, two witnesses, and the purchaser, to the lands about to change owners. Here he made over delivery of the property to the purchaser by handing him earth and stone off

the ground. The purchaser at the hands of the notary public then prepared a narrative of the proceedings, which was designated an instrument of sasine. This paper was deposited in the register of sasines, after which the title was considered perfect. Again, when a person possessed of landed property died, his heir became "feudal" proprietor in his place in the following way:-A jury was assembled, who, after sufficient proof had been given, found that the person who claimed to be the heir was the heir entitled to succeed. This finding was delivered by them to the Chancery office. A letter called a precept from Chancery was then issued, stating the finding of the jury, and requiring certain commissioners to give him sasine of the land. A sasine then followed in the way previously described. It has also to be observed, that if an heir did not make up his title, his heir could do so, irrespective of the intermediate possessor having failed to do so. In this manner James Thurburn of Keith, as noted in No. 7 extract of the following paragraphs taken from the sasine records, displayed his title.

CHAPTER III.

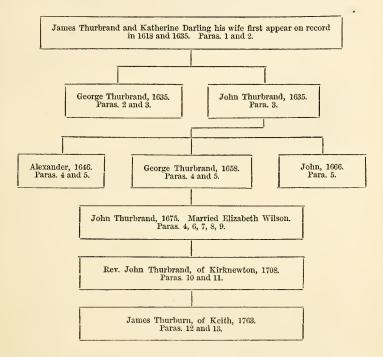
THE registers of sasines and services do not, unfortunately, go further back than the year A.D. 1617, otherwise the first connection of the Thurbands with the lands of Smailholm could have been easily traced. The first entry relating to the family appears on the—

Par. 1.—5th May, 1618: When James Thurbrand, with the consent of his wife, Katherine Darling, sold a half husbandland of his lands in "Over Third," of Smailholm, to Adam Wilson, residing in Smailholm.

Par. 2.—10th September, 1635: George Thurbrand was entered as lawful

- heir of his father, the above James Thurbrand, in two husbandlands of Smailholm.
- Par. 3.—12th September, 1635: John Thurbrand was infeft in 2 husbandlands of Smailholm, conform to instrument of sasine in his favour following a charter by Pringle of Galashields. (In this charter George and John Thurbrand are designated brothers.)
- Par. 4.—In 1658: Alexander, son of the above John Thurbrand, sold to his brother George and his son John the two husbandlands inherited from his father.
- Par. 5.—In 1666: The above-named Alexander, and George and John Thurbrand, his brothers, are witnesses to an act of giving sasine.
- Par. 6.—In 1675: John Thurbrand, son of George, acquired the "Flatt,' containing a half husbandland. The title was taken to John Thurbrand, portioner in Smailholm, and Elizabeth Wilson, his spouse.
- Par. 7.—On the 12th April, 1686: The above-named John Thurbrand, or Thorburne, portioner of Smailholm, was infeft in the kirklands of Smailholm, extending to $2\frac{1}{2}$ husbandlands, conform to instrument of sasine on disposition by Jean Home, daughter of Henry Home.
- PAR. 8.—Further, to the Stanieland Know (extent not stated).
- PAR. 9.—3rd May, 1693: John Thornburne was infeft in "that husbandland" of Smailholm formerly belonging to Alexander Thornburne, conform to instrument of sasine on charter of adjudication by Sir W. Scott, of Harden.
- Par. 10.—8th November, 1708: Mr. John Thorbrand, minister of Kirknewton, was infeft in the "kirklands" of Smailholm, conform to instrument of sasine in his favour, following on precept from Chancery dated 8th November, 1708.
- Par. 11.—8th November, 1708: Ditto, ditto, in two lands in the West and Over Third of Smailholm, on disposition by Sir P. Scott, of Ancrum, to the deceased John Thorbrand.
- Par. 12.—5th May, 1763: James Thurburn, merchant in Keith, infeft in one husbandland of Smailholm, called the "Flatt," lying in the town and territory of West Third of Smailholm, conform to instrument of sasine, on precept from Chancery in his favour following upon his special service as heir to the deceased John Thurburn, portioner of Smailholm, his grandfather.
- Par. 13.—5th May, 1763: The said James Thurburn was infeft in the kirklands of Smailholm, extending to 2½ husbandlands, on precept from Chancery in his favour as heir to the deceased John Thurburn, his father.

From the foregoing extracts we obtain a correct genealogical tree, as follows, without reference to any other sources of information:—



It is difficult to find from the sasine registers when a property is sold, if the name of the person to whom it is sold is not known; therefore the task of tracing the exact extent of the lands once in possession of the several ancestors of the family would be an exceedingly prolix one. With some degree of certainty we can, however, give the approximate amount of land held by John Thurbrand, the father of the minister of Kirknewton. Adopting the husbandland as an equivalent of twenty-six acres Scotch or thirty-five acres English of arable land, we find that John Thurbrand must have had during his life something like 300 English acres. Thus—

1. Par. 4.—Through his father, 2 husbandlands				70 acres.
2. Par. 6.—The Flatt, ½ husbandland				$17\frac{1}{2}$,,
3. Par. 7.—The Kirklands, $2\frac{1}{2}$ husbandlands				$87\frac{1}{2}$,,
4. Par. 11.—From Sir P. Scott, 2 husbandlands				70 ,,
5. Par. 9.—Formerly inherited by Alexander Thurbrand, 1 husband-				
land				35 ,,
6. Par. 8.—Stanieland, extent not known, rated at say				20 ,,
				300 acres.

From the inventory of the title-deeds of Lord Haddington's estate of Jerviswoode, it would seem that all the above lands, with the exception of No. 4, have been bought by his lordship's ancestors, and incorporated in his property.

With respect to the spelling of the family name, it need hardly be said that the variations are exceedingly numerous. Cosmo Innes states that the punctilio of orthography is of very moderate date; that in the sixteenth century, when writing had become a common accomplishment, a man spelt his own name six or seven different ways in a single letter. He further notices that the surname of the Stirlings (of Keir) is found in their family papers spelt in sixty-four different manners.

It would seem that *Thurbrand* and *Thorbrand* are the most accepted terms of designation for the family in the early Latin deeds, as well as the English registers.

In the tenth century it is Turebrand; in 1228 it is Thurbrand; in 1604, Thorbrand; 1618 and 1635, Thurbrand; 1686, Thornburne; 1693, Thornburne; 1708, Thorbrand; and in 1763, Thurburn. In the parish register of births we find it in 1649, Thurbran; 1654, Thurbrane and Thurnbarne; 1664, Thurburne; 1665, Thurbarn; 1666, Thurbarne. The Smailholm parish papers from 1673 to 1710 were destroyed by fire, but we find again in those of 1713 the name spelt Thurbrand. In 1715, Mr. Thurbrand, of Green, is the denomination of the minister of Kirknewton's father; and in 1700 and 1706, the following entries are found of the same individual in a session record:—

"1703 (17th October). John Thurbrand is appointed by the

"Session to wait upon the next Synod as ruling elder, with the "minister."

"1706 (14th July). John Thurbrand, late treasurer, being "removed by death, left fifteen pounds Scots to be distributed to "the poor of the parish."

Curious to say, that though the parish registers once abounded with entries of the name, it was found, on a late visit made to Smailholm by the writer, that not a single person styled Thorburn, Thurburn, or Thurbrand was in existence in the place, and that even the residences of the progenitors of the present race had been passed over by the plough.

CHAPTER IV.

Continuing the inquiry into the antiquity of the family, we find, on reference to the *Inquisitores de Tutela* for Scotland, the entry, on the 11th September, 1604, of John Thorbrand to act as guardian to one Walter, the son of another Walter Thorbrand. This John Thorbrand (of Lassudden, a village four miles from Smailholm) was probably the father of the James Thorbrand who, in conjunction with his wife Katherine Darling, noted in extract No. 1 from the sasine register, sold some land in 1618 to one Adam Wilson, of Smailholm, as well as the uncle of the Walter, minor, of Lassudden. It is curious that the name Walter, after its adoption by the grandson of Thor Longus, about the year 1150, had until the year 1600 been retained as a family name.

Again, from the "Rotuli Scotice," under date April 9, 1606, the Walter Thorbrand above stated shows his title to one and a quarter husbandlands in Lassudden, which his great grand-father James obtained from the monks of Melrose Abbey.

As it is presumable that the James Thorbrand, or Thurbrand, of Smailholm, had the same James to his great grandfather as

the Walter Thorbrand of Lassudden, and giving thirty years for each generation, it would seem that the acquisition of the property at Lassudden was made about A.D. 1475.

Further, it is to be noted that in the "Liber de Driburgh," published by the Spalding Club, mention is made of another Thurbrand, in a paper styled, "A General Confirmation by Pope Gregory of the whole Lands belonging to the Monastery of Driburgh, in Roxburghshire." In this document, which is dated the 19th June, 1228, the Head of the Church confirms what "Petrus filius Thurbrand in Villa de Hadingtoun pia vobis liberalitate donavit."

CHAPTER V.

ADJOINING the village of Smailholm is a large Border tower or strength of great antiquity, and which, aided by its peculiar position amongst broken ground, must have formed a strong defence against English aggression, as well as a protection for the bovine spoil which the people of the hamlet made in their forays into England. No doubt, from this very keep many a Thurbrand has issued forth

- "Their southern rapine to renew
- "Far in the distant Cheviots blue,
- " And home returning, filled the hall
- "With revel, wassail, rant, and brawl."

So wrote the immortal Scott with reference to the spot and its inhabitants of a former day, when sheep-stealing and cattle-lifting were aristocratic employments, and the means of adding many a broad acre to the estates of families now ennobled, wealthy, and of great consideration in the land.*

• During the period we write of, there was a certain degree of chivalry attached to the robbing one's neighbour of his mutton, with which the present

In 1650 Cromwell besieged the tower, which was defended by a Pringle (very likely the gentleman to whom reference is made in the previous sasine extract No. 3), aided doubtless by the Thurbrands of the time. The defence was most obstinate, so much so that the English had to batter down the chapel pertaining to the keep, when the Philistines, the sturdy Borderers, inside, finding themselves unequal to cope against the saintly brimstone of the Protector's Ironsides, directed in the shape of artillery fire, reluctantly gave in their submission. Smailholm derives its name from either the Saxon or the Danish language. In the first it would signify the small hamlet, and in the latter its meaning would be the small hill surrounded by water. It is distant from Kelso about six miles, and though its immediate vicinity is barren enough, it is notwithstanding surrounded by the most lovely and rich scenery imaginable. The first historical mention of Smailholm takes place in the early portion of the 12th century, when the manor was given by David I. of Scotland to his godson, David de Olifard. This person's father was a Danish chieftain, who, more humane than the ordinary run of warrior leaders of his day, in preventing his soldiers amusing themselves by tossing children on their spears, obtained the nickname of "Barnakel,"

degenerate generation cannot sympathise or applaud. A ludicrous illustration of this want of modern discernment is given in an occurrence which took place at the table of Lord Dalhousie, late Governor-General of India. This high functionary had on his medical staff a Border man, who, in the height of an after-dinner temerity, remarked that he understood that his lordship came from an illustrious and great race. Lord Dalhousie replied that he was quite correct in his assumption. Upon this, our doctor continued, "But, my lord, however great "your ancestors may have been, I am sure that none of them could ever have "equalled the exalted and conspicuous position accorded to one of mine." Lord Dalhousie, rather a little piqued, asked for an explanation, which the doctor vouchsafed thus:—"Well, it so happened that my grandfather was hanged at "Newcastle for sheep-stealing, which like giddy and high destiny I think was "never attained by any of your progenitors." And so the laugh went round with the bottle, at the expense of the "little great" and the "great little" ruler of India.

or Preserver of Children. It is stated that the clan of Olivers take their descent from this good-natured fellow, who, so much in advance of his times, seemed to be thoroughly misunderstood by his friends.

Coming down to more recent times, we find that a farm-house near Smailholm tower was once the residence of the great Sir Walter Scott. In writing, in 1830, about the place to Mrs. Thurburn, of Murtle, he says:-"The western part of the "barony of Smallholm or Smaylome belongs to Scott, of "Harden, my chief and relative. It comprehends a large farm, "which John Scott, of Harden, gave to my great grandfather " at a very moderate rate, according to the principle of those "days, which held the chief obliged to maintain the younger "branches of the family. The western part of Smallholm " comprehends the old castle still standing in a wild patch of "crags and morass, is sometimes called 'Sandeknow,' from "which my ancestors often dated their letters. I am well "acquainted with all these particulars, having been sent for "health to Sandeknow in my childhood, and resided there "several years. In the beginning of a literary career, which "has now been a busy one, I pitched upon Smailhome tower "and the crags on which it stands for the scene of a ghost "ballad called 'The Eve of St. John,' and I make a point of "making a pilgrimage once a year to the place, in memory of " the good people who are gone. I have heard my father say "that the old tower was inhabited, when he was a child, by an " old dowager lady who wore deep mourning, and used to stuff "him and his brothers and sisters with sweetmeats." Writing further, Sir Walter says, "Thurburn is a well-known and "ancient name in our county. It is supposed to have been of "Danish origin, but was never numerous enough to form a clan, " in which those of the same surname were used in the Border "country to unite themselves for mutual defence."

CHAPTER VI.

Whilst chronicling the data obtainable concerning the Scotch Thurburns, it would be well to notice that a family styling themselves Thurbarne had their settlement for several centuries in that part of Kent which was for many generations in the possession of the Danes during the early period of the history of England. That the Thurbarnes of Kent were of Scandinavian origin, there is no cause to doubt. It would now be difficult, however, nay, almost impossible, to trace the connection which existed between the two branches of the clan; but that such did once obtain, there is reason to suppose. On several occasions mention is made in the ancient local manuscripts of Kent of the Thurbarnes, who, though seemingly now extinct, were numerous during the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries. In the famous "Dering" papers the following notices are given of them:—

A.D. 1509—10. The lands late John Thurbarn's, now John Edolph's, in Brensett, mentioned in an abstract.

Ditto, John Thurbarn's lands, 2nd notice.

Ditto. Ditto, lands, formerly Clement Thorbarn's, noticed.

Again, in an enrolment of the Taxation of Landowners in Romney Marsh, dated 1386, we have mentioned—

The Heirs of Clement Thurbarn for 25 acres in Brenset Ivy Church.

Ditto, ditto, ,, $1\frac{1}{4}$,, Brenset. John Thurbarn ,, $2\frac{1}{2}$,, Ditto. Philip Thurbarn ,, 9 ,, Ditto.

.William Thurbarn ,, 20 ,, Brenset Ivy Church.

Godman Thurbarn ,, $1\frac{1}{4}$,, Ditto. Heirs of Thomas Thurbarn ,, 8 ,, Suave.

In a plea bill of Dover Castle Court, dated A.D. 1400, we find one Clement Thurbarn summoned as a juror. In 1358 a Richard Thurbarn was Bailiff of Hastings, an appointment of great consideration. In 1585-6 a Robert Thurbarne was member of

Parliament for New Romney; and in 1596-7 a James Thurbarn was member for Hythe. In Boy's "History of Sandwich" are to be found the following extracts respecting two eminent townsmen of that place, and whose tombs are still in existence, with the arms, "sable, a griffon passant, argent;" crest, "a griffon's head couped, argent," depicted on them:—

"1. James Thurbarne was Town Clerk from 1643 to 1662, and from 1667 to his death. He was one of the barons in Parliament for Sandwich in 1656, 1659, 1660, and 1661; a supporter of the canopy at the coronation of Charles II. in 1661; and served the office of mayor in 1660. He was the son of James Thurbarne, Esq., a justice of the peace for the county of Kent, in the reign of James, whose ancestors from 1331 had been very eminent in the Cinque Ports, especially in Hastings, Romney, and Romney Marsh. A Mr. Thurbarne was appointed one of the Town Council in 1625; he was therefore a barrister, and he was probably the father of the Town Clerk."

"2. John Thurbarne was bred to the bar, became an eminent counsel, and was made serjeant-at-law 11th April, 1689. He was one of the supporters of the canopy over King William and Queen Mary in 1689, and represented the town of Sandwich in the two parliaments of 1679, in 1681, 1689, and 1690; and on the 11th April, 1698, he was chosen member in the room of Edward Brant, Esq., and again the same year at the general election."

CHAPTER VII.

OF the personal histories of the progenitors of the present Thurburns little of importance has come down to us. Whatever the papers may be which touched on these subjects, they are not now forthcoming. The minister of Kirknewton, after leaving his parish in 1744, entered the bonds of matrimony a second time, and in his old age took to himself to wife an Edinburgh matron. This person (who was childless), on the death of her husband, would seem, by letters in the possession of the family, to have laid hands on all the disposable property within her reach, and therefore most probably acquired also the custody of all papers touching on the history of her husband's family.

From the parish records of Smailholm there is evidence to show that the minister's father, John Thurbrand, of Kirklands and Green, during the latter portion of his life took considerable interest in all Church matters, and was a person of consideration amongst his neighbours; for it is noticeable that he witnessed the baptisms of every second or third child in the parish! grave of this John Thurbrand is in the churchyard of Smailholm, but the inscription on the tombstone is so illegible and otherwise worn out that it is possible that in assigning it to him a mistake may have been committed. His son John, the clergyman, was born about the year 1674; for we find him in 1699 inducted as minister of Kirknewton in Mid-Lothian. Of this person report states that his strength was something prodigious; and even to this day some of his feats are recounted. One of these was the pushing out of a rut a cart which had stuck fast in the mud, defying all the previous efforts of man and beast to remove it from its position. On another occasion, at Kirknewton, it is stated that some masons, whilst repairing the old church, could not remove a door lintel into its proper place. The minister, apprized of the fact, permitted the workmen to proceed to their meals, and during their absence, by his main strength, adjusted the stone into position. The men returning to their work, and finding their difficulty surmounted, attributed its accomplishment to infernal power, and could not be prevailed upon to continue any longer their labours in such an "uncanny neighbourhood." In a letter dated 23rd March, 1779, written from Trochreg, the seat of the Boyds, by Anne Stevenson, aunt of James Thurburn,

of Keith, to her nephew, we find the following extract referring to the character of the minister and his first wife, the granddaughter of Boyd, of Trochreg: -- "May you strive to imitate "your mother's virtues, who was a most charitable, industrious "person, and from her early youth made it her pleasure to " relieve the distressed; and Providence so favoured her industry "that she had it in her power to do more kind offices and " charitable actions before she was married than even after. "was thought an instance of disinterestedness in her when the " widow's scheme was a planning. She was a young, strong, and "healthy woman, and her husband was the oldest minister in "the Presbytery of Edinburgh; she persuaded him to give in a " declinator, by which he gave nothing into the scheme and took " nothing from it. The only fault her neighbours ever found to " her was that she worked too much; and, as they told me-for I " was in Italy at the time -her over-care of others and neglect of "herself was the cause of death. May you guard against your " father's fault, the common fault of mankind—the acting incon-"siderately! How precipitately did he leave his parish, no one "in it giving him any disgust; and after my sister's death he " sold some of his land to the first bidder, when Mr. Scott told "me, if he had but consulted him, he could have got him two "thousand merks more for it; and when he was a man past "seventy-six, took a freak to marry, which I told him was a "manifest disadvantage to his son, but might prove worse to "himself. This wife never was easy till she brought him to "town among her relations and cronies. When he told me of "this intention I loudly exclaimed, and told him that by " leaving the occupations he had been used to from his infancy, "his relations and acquaintances, and even the recreation of "preaching, to immure himself in a town where he had nothing "to do, he must die of languor. I was sorry many a time to " see him moping alone in a confined room, where he could not "even have the free air without undertaking journeys. So, "strong as he was, it put an end to his days; but she feathered

"her nest; she broke down an old silver flagon into tea equip"age, and got a right to all his furniture, and gets her annuity
"half-yearly paid, though sometimes I get my interest but once
"in two years."

Coming to more recent days, we find that James Thurburn of Keith, the minister's son, was born at Kirknewton in 1733, his mother being Isabella Stevenson, daughter of Dr. Stevenson, of Ayr, and granddaughter of Boyd, of Trochreg. In early life, it is surmised that James's home was an unhappy one, in consequence of the depressing influence exerted against him by his stepmother. He therefore took an early opportunity of quitting the paternal roof, receiving at the time some encouragement from Lord Findlater to remove to Banffshire, and there introduce the cultivation of flax and manufacture of linen. Being unfortunate in the selection of his partner in this undertaking, one disaster was found to follow another; and had it not been for the good offices of Lord Findlater, who gave him a long lease of the lands of Drum, near Keith, on easy terms, his ruin would have been accomplished. was a man of kind heart and amiable manners, and thus acquired many friends in the county of his adoption. 1774 he married Barbara Anderson, of the family of Linkwood, by whom he had a numerous family, the immediate progenitors of the present and passing generations of Thurburns. In the year 1763 James Thurburn was mixed up in a curious occurrence, which was the topic of conversation for many years afterwards. It would seem that two persons of family-viz., Abernethy (Laird of Mayne) and John Leith, of Leith Hallhad met at dinner in Aberdeen, when Leith jocularly accused Abernethy of throwing a quantity of bad and adulterated meal for sale into the market. Upon this, Abernethy left the room, and meeting Leith afterwards in the Castle-street, some high words passed between them, which ended in Abernethy drawing a pistol and shooting Leith dead on the spot. Seeing the gravity of his position, Abernethy rushed to the stable of the

adjoining inn (the house called the New Inn) and took horse, flying northwards and seeking refuge amongst his friends. After a short period passed in concealment, James Thurburn managed to get him smuggled off in a bale of flax into a ship proceeding from Banff to Holland, and thus Abernethy escaped to the Continent and from an untoward and disgraceful end. This Abernethy left two daughters. One married a Mr. Duff, son of Duff of Hatton, by whom she had one son, who succeeded to the estate of Mayne, and only died lately; the other daughter was married to a Captain Graham, who lived at Cromarty, one of whose daughters died lately at Claremont, near London, at an advanced age. This lady, when the writer was a lad, acknowledged to him the debt of gratitude due to the Thurburns on the part of her family.

CHAPTER VIII.

HAVING accomplished the chief point of our investigations, viz., the descent of the Thurburns, it but remains for us to enumerate the principal families with whom those of that name have been connected in times past. The first that comes within our observation is that of the Stevensons of Ayr. It will be seen that an Isabella Stevenson married in 1732 John Thurburn, the minister of Kirknewton. We have in the former chapter already had reference made to her amiable character—one the memory of which seems to have been cherished by those she left behind her. Her family had been for a long period of time settled in Ayrshire, and had attained a certain status of respectability, which permitted them to ally themselves in marriage with the best families in the county. Isabella Thurburn's mother was a Miss Boyd, daughter of Boyd, of Trochreg (cousin to the chief of that name), and who came of one of the oldest families in Scotland,-

the Lords Boyds, and Earls of Arran, so noted in history, and who with their descendants, for their general fidelity and probity of conduct, had amongst the lower orders of the people the appellation given them of the "Trusty Boyds." The great grandfather of Isabella Thurburn was the Robert Boyd, of Trochreg, who, entering holy orders, became afterwards in a manner a martyr to his opinions, thus obtaining a niche in the temple of fame by being recognised as one of the "Scots "Worthies," in the work of that name by Wodrow. title to nobility, obtained in the shape of a passport to France, from James I. of England is appended as a translation in Appendix B. His cousin, Zachary Boyd, was also a man of learning and note; but of a curious idiosyncrasy, which caused him to clothe the most serious subjects on which he wrote in a garb more likely to engender the mirth than the devoutness of his readers. For instance, in depicting in verse the intensity of Jonah's feelings whilst in the deep, he makes the Prophet of Nineveh commence a soliloguy thus:-

"Here apprehended I, in prison lie;
What goods will ransom my captivity?
What house is this, where's neither coals nor candle,
Where I nothing but guts of fishes handle?"

With all these peculiarities of style, however, honest Zachary was nevertheless selected by his countrymen to be the chief spokesman in their address of welcome to Charles I., when he visited Edinburgh. The following story is recorded of him, and it is one which ratifies his title to "Trusty":—

When Oliver Cromwell was at Glasgow, he attended divine service in Mr. Boyd's church (the Cathedral), where the preacher with great calmness and sincerity prayed as usual for the King. One of Oliver's people began to handle a carbine, but was checked by his commander, who said, "Let him alone, "you are a fool as well as he." Next day Cromwell sent the parson an invitation to dinner. "This man," says Zachary to his wife, "desires me to dine with him; he intends no doubt

"to hang me; and as one ought to appear with decency on "those occasions, I beg you will let me have a clean cravat." Cromwell, who did not like a man the worse for having courage, gave him a very kind reception and a good dinner, and sent him away rejoicing.

The genealogical descents from the Boyds and Stevensons the reader will find in the Appendices C and D.

CHAPTER IX.

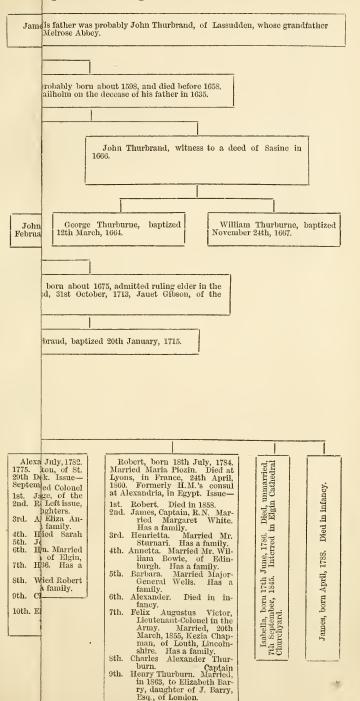
In a preceding chapter it was stated that James Thurburn, of Keith, in the year 1774, married Barbara Anderson, of the family of Linkwood. It would make this work one of a very voluminous description to enter fully into all the connections thus grafted into the family; so the reader must rest satisfied with the resumé given of them in the Appendices E, F, G, and The information therein embodied has been culled from family deeds and papers, and other authentic sources, through the ingenuity and perseverance of one of our great Morayshire antiquarians, viz., Mr. Robert Young, of Elgin. Had his labours not been brought into play, that portion of the present work having reference to North Country families would otherwise have been excessively meagre. It is stated that the Andersons of Linkwood were a family of long standing in Morayshire. The first on record of that name who became in any way conspicuous was Thomas Anderson, in Barmuckatie, who died in 1674. He seems to have been intimately connected with, and probably acted as agent to, Sir George Mackenzie, of Rosehaugh, an eminent lawyer and scholar, Lord Advocate of Scotland in 1674, and a person who, from his cruel oppression of the Covenanters, earned in the annals of the country the title of "the bloodthirsty advocate." There is in the writer's possession a very curious

assignation, dated 1669, made by Sir George Mackenzie to this Thomas Anderson of some moneys derivable from the lands attached to the Abbey of Pluscarden, near Elgin, and which had been in the possession of the Mackenzies of Kintail from the year 1595. Thomas Anderson's son Robert was a member of the legal profession, and married in 1675 Janet Hepburn, daughter of Major James Hepburn, of Tearie, and Janet Napier, his wife. Major Hepburn's father was Thomas Hepburn, of Tearie, who married Agnes Kennedy, daughter to the Earl of Cassilis. The Hepburns claimed descent from the Earls of Bothwell, as may be seen in Appendix H, to which the reader curious on these points, is referred for further information. Janet Hepburn's marriage settlement is in the possession of Miss Skene, of Aberdeen, one of her descendants. This instrument, if obtainable, would be too bulky to quote in this work; but, to satisfy the laudable curiosity of female relatives, the writer has been induced to give in Appendix No. I a copy of a portion of the inventory in 1692 of the clothes and chattels of this grandmother of the family. Coming down a branch lower in the genealogical tree of the Andersons, we find that another Robert allied himself to Margaret Craig. She was related to the Falconars of Halkerton, now Earls of Kintore, as may be seen in Appendix F. Her son Robert married his cousin, Marjory Anderson, whose mother, a King, brought in the connection with the family of the Cummings of Lochtervandich, one of the oldest families in Scotland, and whose ancestors contested the crown of that country with Robert Bruce.

Having epitomised as far as possible the most remarkable accounts obtainable of the family of Thurburn, with their various connections, it but remains now to close these pages with this reflection, that, though

"All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players, They have their exits and their entrances, And one man in his time plays many parts," it is, nevertheless, for the reader to act in such a manner that those who come after him, whilst placing their finger on the record of his name in the scroll of family history, may say—Our aim be it to follow him who "hath chosen that good part which "shall not be taken away."

[Appendix A.]





Appendix B.

Certificate of the Birth of Robert Boyd, of Trochrig, Great Grandfather of Mrs. John Thurburn, of Kirknewton.

James, by the grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland and Defender of the Faith, to all and sundry Kings, Chiefs ecclesiastical and secular, Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Barons, Nobles and other Dignitaries by whatever name they be known throughout Europe; to Fathers, Brothers, Relatives, and Friends sincerely beloved by us, Health and lasting Happiness unto you, Most High, Most Dreaded, Most Illustrious, Dreaded, Illustrious, Distinguished, High-born, Famous, Fathers, Brothers, Relatives and Friends sincerely beloved by us: Inasmuch as our beloved subject Lord Robert Boyd of Trochrig now living in a foreign land not without distinction among the French, has humbly requested of us and of our beloved Peers in the Parliament of Scotland to youchsafe both to do him honour and to prove the trustworthiness of this matter of his by our influence with you by means of this trustworthy evidence furnished by us about his descent and about those families from whom he is legitimately descended: and that thereby he may be able among our friends and neighbours with whom by divine providence and our special permission he is still to transact legal and religious matters to enjoy that right and the same privileges as true nobility enjoys and is adorned with, especially in the French nation which is most friendly to us and united to us by a treaty of very long standing: it has seemed good to us by no means to refuse this so just petition of his, but rather earnestly to commend him to you also as a partner in true nobility (and what else is that but a partnership of distinguished merit along with dignity of birth?); inasmuch as we acknowledge that it is both your interest and that of your countrymen and also of all good men, and moreover that it

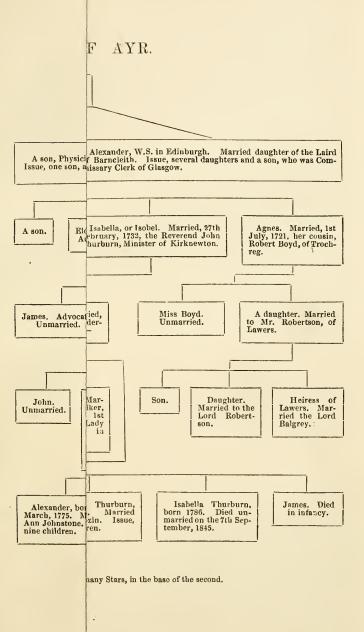
is our duty not only that abandoned men and those who are infamous by their vices be punished and disgraced but also that men who are as famous by birth as distinguished by their individual merit be honoured by the due rewards of both and especially if need be by public eulogies and marks of respect. Wherefore just as it has been proved and discovered to us from the evidence of many men worthy of confidence of every rank (to whom as to neighbours and intimates the family of the said Lord Robert Boyd has been well known and familiar) and from other written and authentic documents of State-papers, Marriage-contracts, Wills and that kind of documents distinctly entered in our public Archives, so also to your Highnesses, Excellencies, Majesties, Reverences and Civilians, we desire it attested by this present letter under our greater seal that our foresaid beloved subject is a legitimate son of a man most distinguished by his descent and his merit, Lord James Boyd of Trochrig born in lawful wedlock of the noble lady Margaret Chalmers and heir of the lands of Trochrig and Barneill held directly from us and lying in the Earldom and Baliffship of Ayrshire; which Lord James was the legitimate son of Adam Boyd of Penkill, brother of Robert Lord of Boyd head of his family and of the noble lady Helen Kennedy, wife of the same and legitimate daughter of David Earl of Cassilis and the well known head of the Kennedy family: This Adam again was the legitimate son of Alexander Boyd of Kilmarnock and this again of Robert Boyd Earl of Arran and Lord of Boyd both of whom were in their own day heads of their family: Whence it is agreed that the said Lord Robert on the father's side first, was of the most noble family of Boyd which has been famous among the Scotch even from the days of William Wallace until now, and of the most illustrious race of the Kennedys and thus descended in a direct line from the heads of both families; but again on the mother's side that Margaret Chalmers, the mother of the foresaid Lord Robert was the legitimate daughter of Lord James Chalmers Baron of Gaitgirth head of his family and that she was born of the noble lady Anabella Cunningham by that lady's husband and that she was eldest daughter of John Cunningham Baron of Caprintoun descended of the very ancient family of the Earls of Glencairn who

are chiefs of the name of Cunningham: Which James indeed was the legitimate son of Lord Robert Baron of Gaitgirth and of the illustrious lady Margaret Campbell his wife descended from the very noble stock of the Campbells Viscount of Argyll and Lords of Loudon. And these Chalmers' indeed, Barons of Gaitgirth have been famous as heads of that name now more that five hundred years as is clear from the authentic remains of that house. And as it is thus agreed that those things are so from the unimpeachable agreement of witnesses and proofs of all kinds, we have thought right that the aforesaid noble and our high born subject commended to us by many names (and as he also now for a long time approved among foreigners by no mean distinction in literature and by the purity of his morals has shed as it were a new flood of light on his ancient and illustrious family) be zealously recommended also to your Highnesses Excellencies Reverences Majesties and Civilians, eagerly praying and beseeching that you would treat him while traversing your Kingdoms Realms and Provinces or dwelling in the same that you would receive him and deem him worthy of the same honour and favour in which he is your peer and of the privileges of nobles that are usual among you and of your benevolence and services wherever it is required and that you be assured that it will be a very agreeable circumstance to us if he feels that this recommendation of ours has been to him a ground of favour and distinction among you; and that we in truth will repay to your citizens furnished with a similar recommendation the same services as is just. Meanwhile we suppliantly entreat God, the Best, the Greatest, to preserve safe and sound your Highnesses, Excellencies, Majesties and Civilians as long as possible to the Kingdoms and their affairs to be ruled with all prudence and happiness.

Given under our Greater Seal in our privy council at Edinburgh.

July 17th, 1609.







APPENDIX D.

The Family of Boyd, Barons of Trochreg and Barneil, in the County of Ayr.

The first of this surname of Boyd is said to be Robert, the son of Simon, 3rd son of Allen, Steward of Scotland; and a descendant from him was a Sir Robert Boyd, who, in 1263, signalized his valour at the Battle of Largs, in Cunningham, against the Norwegians, had thereupon a grant of several lands in that district; wherein he was succeeded by another, Sir Robert, the faithful friend and companion of Robert Bruce, King of Scotland. In the 2nd year of that king's reign, for his loyalty and merit, he was rewarded with the lands of Kilmarnock.

To him succeeded his son Thomas, who was taken prisoner at the Battle of Durham, 17th October, 1346. He was the father of another, Thomas, whose wife being one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir John Gifford, of Yester, in East Lothian, he thereby had part of those lands.

Thomas, their son, who was one of the hostages for the ransom of King James I., in 1423, marrying Jane, a daughter of the family of Montgomery, of her had a son, Thomas, who was father of Lord Robert Boyd, of Kilmarnock, and Sir Alexander Boyd, of Duncow.

The above Robert, 1st Lord Boyd, Chief of the Boyds, married Mary Maxwell, daughter of Sir Robert Maxwell, of Calderwood. In 1466 he was High Justiciar of Scotland, seized the person of King James III., and married his eldest son, Thomas, created Earl of Arran, to the King's sister, the Princess Mary. Lord Boyd's other son was—

Alexander Boyd, 4th Lord Boyd of Kilmarnock, Chief of the Boyds. He lived during the reign of King James IV., 1488–1513, and married Jane, daughter of the family of Colvil. His younger son was—

Adam Boyd, Laird of Penkill, in Ayrshire, brother of Robert, Lord Boyd, Grand Chamberlain of Scotland. Adam Boyd married Dame Helen Kennedy, daughter of David, Earl of Cassils, the Chief of the Kennedys, who was killed at the Battle of Flodden, in 1513. Adam Boyd's son was—

James Boyd, of Trochreg and Barneil, in Ayrshire. He was made Episcopal Archbishop of Glasgow, in 1573, by the influence of his cousin, the Lord Boyd. He died in 1581. He married Margaret Chalmers, daughter of James Chalmers, Baron of Gaithgrith. This James Chalmers had married Annabel Cunningham, eldest daughter of John Cunningham, Baron of Caprington, of the ancient family of the Earls of Glencairn. James Boyd's son was—

Robert Boyd, of Trochreg, Principal of the University of Glasgow, commemorated as one of the Scots Worthies. He was born 1578, and died 1627. Married at Saumure, in France, May, 1611, Anna de Malviverne, daughter of Peter de Malviverne, of Viniola. Robert Boyd was succeeded by his 2nd son—

John Boyd, of Trochreg, born 18th April, 1618.

His daughter-

Miss Boyd, of Trochreg, married, in 1685, James Stevenson, physician in Ayr. Their daughter was--

Issabella or Isobel Stevenson, married, first Mr. MacCall, and secondly, 27th February, 1732, the Rev. John Thurburn, of Smailholm, in Roxburghshire, and minister of Kirknewton, in MidLothian. Their only son was—

James Thurburn, of Keith, born 1733, married, 1774, Barbara Anderson, daughter of Robert Anderson, Commissary Clerk of Morayshire, by his second wife, Marjory Anderson, daughter of James Anderson, of Linkwood, Provost of Elgin.

COPY OF INSCRIPTION ON THE LONG STONE IN ELGIN CATHEDRAL.

This is the burial place of Thomas Anderson in Barmuckity, who died the 4th day of May 1674, and of Robert Anderson, Commissary Clerk of Murray, his son who died the 17th October 1715-and of Janet Hepburn his spouse who died the 10 March 1692, and of James Anderson of Linkwood, Provost of Elgin, who died the 28th of August 1731, aged 51, & of Barbara King his spouse who died the 18th July 1744 aged 56, & of William Anderson of Linkwood, Provost of Elgin, their son, who died the 13th of June 1745, aged 38. Likeways of Margaret Gordon, daughter of Alex^r. Gordon of Cairnfield, spouse of Robert Anderson of Link wood, also their Son, who died the 6th April 1773 aged 51, and of the said Robert Anderson who died 4 March 1777 aged 61, & of Charles Anderson, Manufacturer in Huntly, youngest son of Robert Anderson of Linkwood, who died 1st Nov. 1790 aged 30.

Captain Alex^r. Anderson of the 69 Reg^t. Eldest son of Robert Anderson of Linkwood, who died at Limerick in Ireland the 30th May 1791, aged 38, & of James Anderson Esqr. second son of Robert Anderson of Linkwood who died at Edinburgh the 20 May 1808 aged 51, & of Clementina Gordon daughter of M^r. Gordon in New Seat, spouse of the said Charles Anderson who died 25th Oct^r. 1813 aged 52.

On a Stone at the foot of the Long Stone the deaths of the above Robert

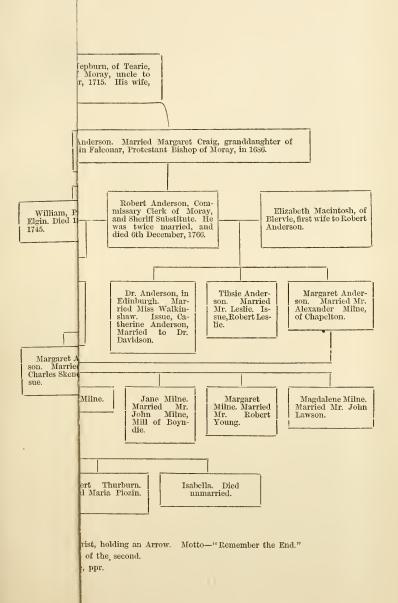
Anderson and his wife Janet Hepburn are stated.

ON ANOTHER TOMBSTONE THE FOLLOWING INSCRIPTION.

In Memory of Robert Anderson Sheriff substitute and Commissary Clerk of Moray who died the 6 Dec^r. 1766, and of Marjory Anderson, daughter of Ja^s. Anderson of Linkwood, his second wife, who died in 1761, & of Barbara Anderson, spouse of James Thurburn In Drum, their daughter, who died 26 February 1809.



LINKWOOD.





OF LINKWOOD. 86. William Falconar, Minister of Dyke, brother of Colin Falconar. Alexander Falconar, of Elgin. Married Jane King, daughter of William King, of Newmill, Provost of Elgin. ofWilliam Falconar, Bishop of Moray. Primate of Scotland (Scotch Episcopal Church). Was alive in 1784, and said to have died that year. Snpposed never to have married. Second Marriage. y Anderson, daughter of James Anderson, of Linkwood. William Ason. Died 1835. Barbara Anderson. Married James Thurburn. Archibald. Ann. Married John Wilson. Issue, six children. John. Died 30th Robert. Died 24th April, 1860. Issue, nine chil-Jan. 1861. Issue, 1812 dren. fed Hugh John-five children. Isabella. Died unmarried, 1845.

Arms of the apporters—Or, two Eagles or Falcons ppr. Crest—An Angel encircled with Laurel.



APPENDIX G.

TREE OF THE FAMILY OF CUMMING.

DAVID I., KING of SCOTLAND, ascended the throne A.D. 1124; married, before his ascension, MAUD or MATILDA, daughter of Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland and Huntingdon. MAUD was grandniece of WILLIAM the CONQUEROR, her father, Waltheof, having married JUDITH, niece to William the Conqueror. David died A.D. 1153.

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Henry, Prince of Scotland, son of David I. He died on the 12th June, 1152, and before his father. He married, in A.D. 1139, ADA, daughter of William, 2nd Earl of Warren and Surrey. This William was son of the 1st Earl, William de Warrenne, who came over with William the Conqueror. The 1st Earl, William, married the famous Gungrada, or Gundrada, the daughter of William the Conqueror. Gundrada died at Castle

Acre, in Norfolk, on the 27th May, 1085, and her remains buried at Lewes Priory of Sussex. Ada's mother was Isabel, 3rd daughter of Hugh the Great, who was Earl of Vermandoise.

DAVID, Earl of Huntington, 3rd son of Prince Henry, and brother to William the Lion. He was a crusader, and companion to Richard Cœur de Lion. David married Maud, daughter of Hugh (Kavelock), Earl of Chester.

MARGARET, eldest daughter of David, Earl of Huntington. She married Alan, Lord of Galloway.

MARGORY, their daughter, married John Comyn, Lord of Badenoch, who died A.D. 1274.

ROBERT COMYN, 2nd son of the above marriage, progenitor of the family of ALTYRE. He died about the end of the reign of Robert Bruce. Thomas Cömyn or Cummine, his son, married Helen Arbuthnot. Was alive in A.D. 1365.

SIR RICHARD CUMMING, their son, proprietor of various lands in Moray and Banff. Was alive in the latter end of the reign of Robert II. He married Agnes Grant, of Grant.

Duncan Cumming, of Lochtervandich, 2nd son of Sir Richard Cumming, married a daughter of William Mackintosh, of Mackintosh.

FERQUHARD CUMMING, of Lochtervandich, their son, married a daughter of the Earl of Mar. Died in A.D. 1406, and was buried at Mortlach.

ROBERT CUMMING, of Lochtervandich, their son, married a daughter of Gordon, of Invercurroch.

ALEXANDER CUMMING, of Lochtervandich, their son, married a daughter of the Laird of Benwell.

FERQUHARD CUMMING, of Lochtervandich, their son, married a daughter of Walter Leslie, of Kininvie. Was alive in the reign of James V. of Scotland.

George Cumming, of Lochtervandich, their son, married Margaret Grant, niece of the Laird of Grant.

GEORGE CUMMING, of Lochtervandich, and Provost of Elgin, their son, married Marjory Leslie, of the family of Kininvie. He died the 20th September, 1689. See his tomb in front of St. Mary's aisle in Elgin Cathedral.

Margaret Cumming, daughter of George Cumming and Marjory Leslie, married William King, of Newmill, Provost of Elgin. She died 2nd January, 1714. Interred in the Grey Friars' Church, Elgin.

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BARBARA KING, daughter of William King and Margaret Cumming, married James Anderson, of Linkwood, Provost of Elgin. She died 18th July, 1744, aged 56. Interred in the Cathedral Church of Elgin, south side of St. Mary's aisle.

17

MARJORY ANDERSON, daughter of James Anderson and Barbara King, married Robert Anderson, Commissary Clerk of Moray. She died in 1761. Interred in the Cathedral Church, Elgin, south side of St. Mary's aisle.

18

Barbara Anderson, daughter of Robert and Marjory Anderson, married James Thurburn. She died 26th February, 1809. Interred in the Cathedral Church of Elgin, south side of St. Mary's aisle.

19

ALEXANDER, JOHN, and ROBERT THURBURN, and ANNE WILSON and MARGARET JOHNSTON, sons and daughters of the above Barbara Anderson and James Thurburn, all married, and have left issue.

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Arms of the Cummings of Lochtervandich—Azure, a buckle in fess between three Garls, Or. Crest—a Sword and Dagger, Saltierways proper. Motto—" Courage."

APPENDIX H.

Copy of Letter—Robert Anderson of Linkwood to Ebenezer Hepburn, Provost of Dumfries, showing their relationship, 1763.

Dr. Sr.

I was agreeably surprised on receipt of your kind favours of the sixth Current, as on first looking at the Subscription and place of your residence where I never had any correspondence I did not dream of discovering such a near and unheard of relation.

I hold the name and family of Hepburn in esteem and regard you the' unknown for your kind inquiries as well as on Acct. of our Connection and with pleasure send you my Acct. of your family. The Hepburns came from England to Scotland in the fourteenth century. They were afterwards Barrons of Hales and after that ennobled by King James 4th. being created Earls of Bothwell. The first Earl Bothwell called Adam was married to a Daughter of the Earl of Dalkeith's. He with the Archbishop of St. Andrews were sent ambassadors to England to demand the Princess Margaret Eldest daughter of Henry the seventh in marriage to James the 4th. His eldest son is so remarkable in our history that I need say nothing of him. His second son, your predecessor was Bishop of Moray and held the rrich Abbacy of Scoon in perpetuam commendam along with the Bishoprick both very great and high livings. He was Secretary of State and subscribes the Commission to the Scots nobility to treat with the ffrench about a marriage with Mary Queen of Scotts and the Dolphin of ffrance. the last Popish Bishop and died at his own seat, the Castle of Spynie, and was buried in the Cathedral Church of Murray in his own Diocese. His arms are still to be seen on the castle and on many of his old houses and churches and in the Chancell. The Bishop had a son called Thomas by a daughter of Cumming of Earnside then one of the richest ffamilys in this country and to his son Thomas the Bishop disponed the lands of Tearie in the shire of Nairn and the lands of Inverlochty, Glenlaterach and Blaironhall in this county. Thos. was married to Agnes Kenedy of the Earl of Cassilis ffamily of whom there were two sons vizt. James and another commonly called Doctor whom I remember to have seen at my fathers house the Dr. left two daughters one married to John Ranken met. in Fochabers and the other died unmarried. James the eldest son of Thomas was married to Janet Napier a daughter of Napier of Balcarron on Deeside in Aberdeenshire, and of this marriage there were four children John, Patrick, Janet, and Anna. John who was your father. his marriage and ffamily I cannot so well describe as I was acquainted with none of his children but your Brother. Mr. John in whose house I frequently have been when at Edinr. and if I rightly remember your brother told me he had a Sister married to a

Gentleman in Galloway. Your uncle Patrick was married to a daughter of Nisbet of Direlton's he was King's Surgeon at Edinr. and left two daughters one married to Mr. Mirry surgeon at Edinr. who succeeded your uncle in Business, and the other married to James Pollock Writer in Edinr. and afterwards to Capt. Lockhart of Kirktown in West Lothian. Anna your aunt was married to Captain Ross of Allanbuie in the County of Banff and afterwards to one Mr. Tod a minister. Janet your Aunt and my Grandmother was married to Robert Anderson Commry. Clerk of Murray and in their contract of marriage in my custody bearing date 2nd June 1675 she is designed Eldest Lawfull daughter to Major James Hepburn of Tearie. She died young and of that marriage left two sons James and Robert Andersons. James the Eldest my father was married to a daughter of Provost King of Newmills which has occasioned the mistake of your being related to Newmilns ffamily. My father left four sons and two daughters of whom there are only 3 remaining in life vizt. your humble Servt. my Brother Charles who is a Writer in Edinr, unmarried, and no doubt will be fond of your acquaintance tho' perhaps a stranger to the history I have given you, and a Sister unmarried. I was married about fourteen years ago and have three sons in life by a Daughter of Gordon of Cairnfields. The second son of Janet Hepburn your aunt vizt. Robert was married died young and left only one son called Robert my cousin german and who stood further connected with me as my brother in law having been married to my sister lately dead. Robert my cousin was twice married, first to a daughter of McKintosh of Blervie and next to my sister, he is a writer in this place—has a son and three daughters by his first marriage and two sons and a daughter by my sister. This son of the first marriage is a Surgeon and has lately gone to the East Indies, his two eldest daughters are married one to Baillie Lesslie here, and another to Mr. Milne of Chappleton and by them has Grand children the rest unmarried and young.

I shall be glad to hear from you in return as to your Brothers ffamily. I know your nephew is presently a Merct. in Edinr. and has a sister married to a Gentleman in Galloway, the name and designation of her husband unknown to me and also to hear of

your ffathers other Descendants to compleat my history, and as you'l perhaps think my Genealogicall Narration rather tedious, I shall draw to a conclusion and only add that such was my regard to your ffamily that I quartered the Rose in my Coat of Arms which stands matriculated in the books of heraldry. I have not as yet got a Seal made, but continue to use my Grandfather's seall.

If your curiosity to see the ancient Estates of your predecessors here and the residence of the Bishop (which is a grand and stately ruin at this day, only distant a mile from my house) would draw you to this corner your friends and relations in this place will be very happy in the company of a Relation who inquires so kindly about them, and if I go to Edinr. shall make you sure of a visit from me. My Brother Wm. who is dead was the fourth Provost in this place in our family from father to son. My cousin Mr. Anderson and I join in our compliments to Mrs. Hepburn you and ffamily and desire to be remembered to Mr. Merchant.

I hope you'l forgive my not answering your letter sooner as I was from home and that the ansr. required a little time to recollect and do it with any exactness. I have the honour to be

Dr. Sr.

Your affectionate Cousin & most obdt. humble servant,

(signed) ROBT. ANDERSON.

Elgin 24th June 1763.

P.S. I forgot to mention that your aunt Anna had no children by Allanbury, but had children by Mr. Tod and heard some of them were still at Edinr. and others in Jamaica.

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