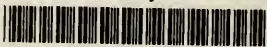
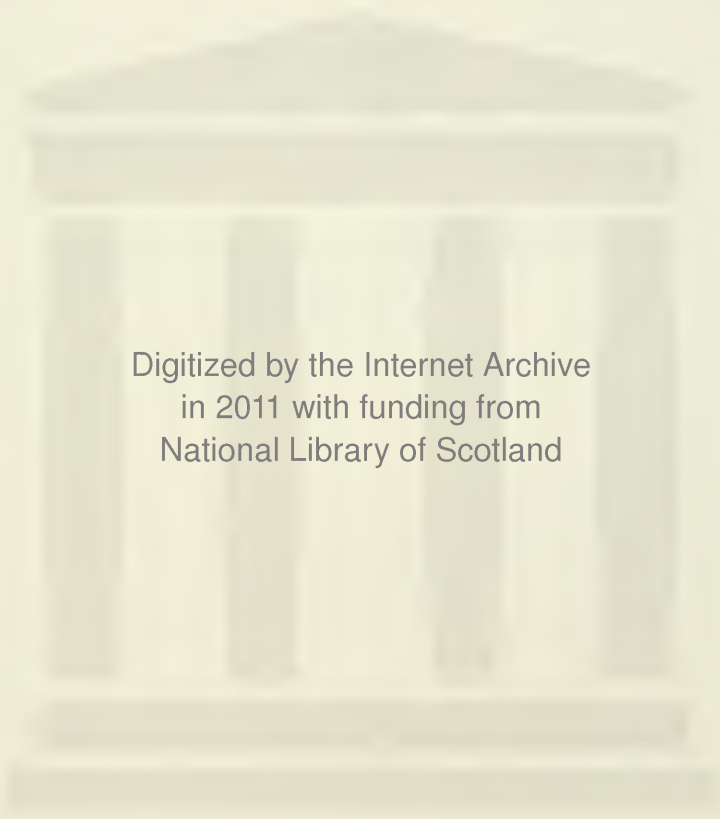


WIMBERLEY. The later  
Gordons of Beldorney.  
1904.

National Library of Scotland



\*B000025789\*



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2011 with funding from  
National Library of Scotland



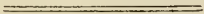
7872  
122

75 47  
12 106

1933.37.

A SHORT  
FAMILY HISTORY  
OF  
THE LATER  
GORDONS OF BELDORNEY,  
AND OF  
BELDORNIE, KILDRUMMIE, AND  
WARDHOUSE.

BY  
CAPTAIN DOUGLAS WIMBERLEY,  
SOMETIME OF THE 79TH REGIMENT OR  
CAMERON HIGHLANDERS.



BANFF: PRINTED AT THE BANFFSHIRE JOURNAL OFFICE.

1904.



THE LATER

GORDONS OF BELDORNEY AND OF BELDORNIE,  
KILDRUMMIE, AND WARDHOUSE.

---

THE early history of the old family of Gordons of Beldorney, cadets of the Earls of Huntly, has been undertaken as part of "The House of Gordon" for the New Spalding Club by my friend the Reverend Charles Bruce, minister of Glenrinnnes, and carried down by him to the time when the family estate, which had been heavily mortgaged many years before, was acquired by Alexander Gordon of Tillysoule, who, according to my information, was a near relative, and got sasine thereof 29 April 1700.

Mr Bruce has decided not to enter on what may be called the history of the later family. More than ten years ago, I commenced collecting notes about the Beldorney family, and through the kindness of their agents, Messrs Wilson and Duffus, got some particulars of their genealogy to add to my notes; I have since made jottings relative to charters of lands and anything of interest I came across.

I propose now to endeavour to give a genealogical account of the later lairds, and bring it down to the present time, as the laird of Wardhouse is a male representative, perhaps the nearest one of the old Beldorney family, as well as a descendant of John Gordon of Law and Wardhouse, a younger son of Gordon of Terpersie.

With this object in view I must refer shortly to the early history of the family for about 140 years before the first of the later Gordons became laird.

The first Gordon of Beldorney was George, son of Adam, Dean of Caithness, who was 3rd son of the 1st Earl of Huntly. The Dean died in 1528.

This George got a charter of the lands of Beldorney on the Deveron, from Sir John Gordon of Findlater in 1560; he married Janet, daughter of Hugh Ros of Kilraik (date of marriage contract 17 June 1537), and is said to have died in 1575.

He was succeeded by his elder son Alexander as second laird, who is said to have been served heir to his father in 1578; he married Margaret, daughter of Sir John Grant of Freuchie (marr. contr. 20 Feb. 1560).

Their eldest son, George, was served heir to his father, Alexander of Beldorney, in the lands of Beldorney and others in the barony of Keithmore or Auchindoune, 20th Feb. 1627 (Retours).

Their second son, according to the family pedigree, was Alexander Gordon of Killihuntly, commonly called Sandy Mor, ancestor of what may be called the later lairds of Beldorney, who came in many years afterwards.

Sir John Gordon of Findlater was the 3rd son of George, 4th Earl of Huntly; and Alexander Ogilvy of that ilk and Findlater had married Elizabeth, daughter of Adam Gordon, Dean of Caithness. Alexander Ogilvy, disinheriting his own son by his first wife, Lady Janet Abernethy, known as James Ogilvy of Cardell, settled his baronies of Ogilvy and Findlater on Sir John Gordon, reserving his own and his wife's liferent in 1546. In this way Beldorney came into the possession of Gordons descended from the Earl of Huntly.

Moreover Sir John Gordon married the widow of the above Alexander Ogilvy, another Elizabeth Gordon. Much trouble resulted from those proceedings, and also after litigation an arbitration was made in 1566, by which the lands and barony of Findlater were assigned to James Ogilvy, and those of Auchindown and Keithmore to Sir Adam Gordon, thereafter of Auchindown and Gartly, brother of Sir John; Beldorney remained in possession of the descendants of George, the son of Adam, Dean of Caithness.

Messrs Wilson and Duffus, advocates, Aberdeen, kindly sent me in 1893 copies of a very brief pedigree of the Beldorney and Wardhouse families, and of a memorandum of some details respecting them. This showed the relationship between the older and later Gordons of this family.

I shall put off referring to what is known as "the Birnie M.S.;" by a Cosmo Gordon, a relative, which gives an account of the Beldorney family, materially different to the above in certain points, for the present, and advert to it further on.

The Pedigree I got in 1893 showed "a John of Beldorney," 5th laird, "who married and had a son John, who also married and had 3 sons, viz., John, James, and George, who all went abroad, and not returning within 20 years of their father's death in 1678, Beldorney passed to their cousin, the grandson of Alexander Gordon of Tilliesoule, Alexander Gordon of Camdell. John, their father, had also 3 daughters, viz., Mary, Margaret, and Janet.

In partial confirmation of this statement I learned from Mr Bruce that the Gordons of Beldorney retained the superiority thereof, and that designation after the lands were wadsetted, and that he has the



record of a Bond granted by "John Gordon, Elder of Beldorney," in 1685, and another in 1686, and another by "John Gordon of Beldorney" in 1690, as well as one by "John Gordon, Younger of Beldorney," dated 11 Nov. 1680 (Elgin Commissary Records.) These dates are inconsistent with the statement that the sons went abroad and did not return within 20 years of their father's death in 1678, as the father appears to have been alive in 1686.

The cousinship of Alexander appears to have been in the 3rd degree. The said Pedigree showed the descent of Alexander of Camdell, otherwise designed of Tillisonle or Terrisoule.

Alexander Gordon, 2nd laird of Beldorney, had by his wife Margaret Grant (besides his son George, who succeeded him as 3rd laird), a son, Alexander of Killihuntly [in Badenoch], known as Sandy Merchant," who married a daughter of Duncan Grant of Rothiemurchus by his wife, Muriel Ross or Rose, the date of Killihuntly's marriage being 1626.

Alexander of Killiehuntly had by this marriage a son, James, designed "of Tillisonl," or "Terrisoul" and "Camdell," who married a Jean Anderson. James died in 1692, and his wife Jean in 1708. (Family Pedigree referred to.)

James had a son Alexander, the cousin to whom Beldorney passed. The latter married Giles or Geillis, daughter of Archibald Macdonell of Keppoch, and had a son James. (Ibid.)

James Gordon, who succeeded his father as laird of Beldorney, married Mary, daughter of John Gordon, a cadet of the Terpersie family, who was laird of Law, in Kennethmont, and had acquired Kildrummie and Wardhouse.

Most of the foregoing is based upon information received from Messrs Wilson and Duffus. I believe it to be fairly correct.

A digression may be here added about the estate of Beldornie and persons having an interest therein during the 17th century, and matters corroborative of some of the above statements.

The lands thereof, situate on and near the river Deveron, were wadsett and appraised from George, the 3rd laird of Beldorney in 1633 to one David Rickard, burgess of Aberdeen, and Issobell Gordoun, his spouse, and a few years later passed into the hands of Lyon of Muresk. The appraising is narrated in the following extract from the Register of the Great Seal, Vol. IX., No. 329.

"At Edinburgh, 27 Jany. 1635.

"The King, with consent, &c., granted to David Rickard, burgess of Aberdeen, and Issobell Gordoun, his spouse, the towns and lands of Baldornyes, Upper and Lower, the Mill of the same, the lands of Balchrie, with the manor place in the parish of Glas, the town and lands of Reidhythe, a tenement of land on the west side of the Burgh of Banff (occupied by George Hutcheon) . . . . roods of

land in the territory of the said burgh, salmon fishings on the water of Dovern, with the manor place in the parish of ———, Sheriffdom of Banff; which lands of Reidhythe and sequents were the property of Walter Ogilvy of Reidhyth, the rest belonged to George Gordoun, younger of Baldorny, and George G., elder of the same, and were appraised 15 April 1633, for 4750 merks and 237 merks for the Sheriff's fee of Robert Merser, Messenger. To be held by the said David and Issobel in conjunct fee, and the heirs procreated between them, whom failing the heirs and assigns whomsoever of the said David, under the legal reversion. Witnesses as in other Charters, R.R. IV. 40."

*Possibly* Isobell Gordoun may have been of the Beldorney family, as she was included in the grant.

This David Rickard or Rickhart seems to have been a man of substance; we find, in the Book of Annual Rentaris, &c., date 1633, Robert Irvine of Fedderat a debtor to David Rickart, burgess of Aberdeen, in II.m. II.c. merks.

A few years later the wadset of Beldorney seems to have been transferred to John Lyon of Muresk, son of Alexander Lyon of Muresk. I have a note that George Gordon, younger of Beldorney, probably married a daughter of Lyon of Muresk, but I cannot find authority for this. Alexander Lyon was evidently a man of means; at his instance, and in his favour, the lands of Rothemay were appraised from William Gordon of Rothemay, who was killed in 1630; he thereupon assigned his rights in them to John Lyon, his eldest lawful son, who, however, assigned them to James Gordon, son of the deceased William, as appears in a Charter of Confirmation of the Barony of Rothemay in favour of James Gordon, dated Edinburgh, 19 April 1649. (R.M.S. IX., No. 2033.) The names of "Umquhill Wm. Gordon of Rothimay and his cautioners" appear in the Book of Annual Rentaris as "Debtors to Alex. Lyon of Muresk in VI.m. merks." The name of Mr James Gordoun of Lesmoir appears in same book as "Dr. to Alex. Lyon of Mursk [*sic*] VIII.m. merks."

John Lyon had evidently succeeded his father by 1643; and the following extract from the Presbytery Book of Strathbogie, of the date mentioned below, points to his having an interest in the parish of Glass. John Lyon of Mures [*sic*] was "present at a meeting of the Presbytery of Strathbogie at Botarie, 10 November 1643, and produced ane presentation from my Lord Spynie, nominating Mr George Meldrum to the Kirk of Glas, whereof my Lord Spynie claimed right of patronage and took instruments; at same time, Mr James Gordon, minister of Kinnoir, protested on behalf of the Marquis of Huntly, who claimed the right as his.

One of this family acquired Craigintray or Craigston, probably John Lyon, a few years later; for in the Retours of John Lyon, Junior, both in Aberdeenshire and Banffshire, he is styled John

Lyon of Muresk, heir of John Lyon of Ctaigstoun, his father; in the former case (Retour Spec., No. 382, June 4, 1667), in similar terms to those given in the Retour of John Urquhart of Craigfintray, dated 24 April 1654 (Retour Special No. 321), and in the latter case (Banffsh. Ret. Spec. No. 1123, June 4, 1667), "in Beldornie, Belcherrie, Lynbaines, Brightstoun, Goules, Little Leatoche, \*Auchnastanke, \*Auchlochry, \*Auchbrek or Auchbreiche, \*Lagan, \*Mill of Lagan, town and lands of Belmarium or Belmareon, Auchnahandock, Over and Nether Pitglassie, within the parishes of Mortloch, Glas, and Abirlour respectively, and Auchmore, within the parish of Mortlich, E. 28 merks of feu ferme, town and lands of Balmareott, Auchmore, Leilwries (or Leilwreid), Enoches, Thombellies, and Bellandies, within the parish of Mortlich. A.E. 9s., N.E. £1 15s. (Banffsh. Retours Spec. No. 1123, June 4, 1667.)

I believe I got this information from Mr Bruce.

The lands mentioned in this Retour include the lands in Glenrinnes (places in which are here marked with an asterisk), as well as those near Beldorney Castle, on Deveron side. It is evident that John Lyon, Junior, succeeded to both Craigfintray and Beldorney—probably wadset rights—in 1667. He, too, seems to have become embarrassed in money matters, as I have further learned from the Rev. C. Bruce that there was a decree of apprising at the instance of Capt. William Barclay of Achreddie agsinst John Lyon of Muresk, in respect of the lands of Beldorney and others in 1669-1670; and that, on the escheat of John Lyon of Craigston, the lands of Beldorney, &c., came into possession of George 3rd Lord Banff in 1679; how long the last named held them I have no information, but it may be presumed that he did so until Alexander Gordon of Tirriesoul bought up the bonds and burdens affecting them, and redeemed the estate in 1700. This Lord Banff lived till 1713, when he was burnt in the Castle of Inchdrewer.

In spite of these wadsets, Mr Bruce tells me that he has Records of a Bond by John Gordon, younger of Beldorney, in 1680, another by John G., Elder of B., in 1685, and another in 1686, and another by John G. of Beldorney, in 1690.

A little information may be gleaned from various sources relative to the immediate ancestors of the Alexander Gordon last mentioned.

There was a good deal of intermarrying for a time between the families of Gordon of Beldorney and of Grant. Alexander Gordon, son and apparent heir of George Gordon, laird of Beldorney, married Margaret Grant, third daughter of John Grant of Freuchie, M. C., 20 Feb. 1560; the receipt for her dowry is at Castle Grant (Chiefs of Grant, I. p. 154); and Alexander Gordon of Killiehuntly was their second son (Family Pedigree); he married a daughter of the family of Grant. Duncan Grant, younger of Rothiemurchus, married Muriel Ross, daughter of George Ross of Balnagown, and their eldest

daughter, Jean, married before May 1626 Alex. Gordon of Killihuntin (Chiefs of Grant, I. p. 509). This confirms the statement in the Beldorney family pedigree. Muriel Ross, after bearing four daughters to Duncan, yr. of Rothiemurchus, married secondly Duncan Grant of Clunie, a natural son of John Grant, 5th of Frenchie, but legitimated the same year that his marriage took place, 1615. (Chiefs of Grant, I. pp. 196 and 509.)

Killiehuntly was in 1603 a farm of four plauches in Glentromie. (Rental of Lordship of Badenoch).

Alexander Gordon of Killihuntly had by his wife, Jean Grant, a son James, usually designed of Tilliesoul, sometimes Torrisoul (now part of the town lands of Huntly), and of Camdell, a place a little below Tomintoul in Strathavon.

James Gordon, "in Tillysoule," is mentioned along with David Tyrie in Collithie, and Alexander Duff in Kethmore, as appearing in name of the Marquis of Huntly, desiring that the matter of the designation of glebe [evidently in the parish of Cabrach] might be delayed. This meeting was held at Cabrach 29 March 1677. (Records of the Diocese of Alford, p. 273, New Spald. Club.)

There was a Contract of Wadset relating to Camdell or Meikill Camdell, between George, Marquis of Huntly, and James Gordon in Tirriesoul, dated 9 April 1681. (Elgin Commissary Records.) Wadset redeemed 14 April 1721. (Information from Rev. C. Bruce.)

Alexander Gordon, son of James G. of Tillysoule, is designed "of Camdell" when he was retoured "heir of James G. of Tillysoule, his father." (Inquis. Gen. 18 August 1696. Retours.)

The following sasine shows that he got possession of Beldorney in 1700.

"Sasine.—Alexander Gordon of Tilliesoule, of the lands of Beldorney, Belcherrie, Goullis, Ardgaldies, Carnhead, Backside of Wrightstone, and Lynebains, with ye Miln and Miln lands yrof., was presented be Tho. Lesslye, procr. in Banff, &c., and registered in the 75, 76, and 77 leafs of ye said Book. 29 April 1700."

During the period from 1633, when the lands of Beldorney were appraised to David Rickard, up to about 1700, when Alexander Gordon of Tillysoul acquired them, the superiorities of the lands and the designation "of Beldorney" were, no doubt, retained by the successive titular lairds of the main line of the family, viz., George Gordon, 4th laird, who seems, as stated, to have married a daughter of Lyon of Muresk, and was served heir to his father, George, in Beldorney and other lands in 1638; John, his successor, 5th laird; and the latter's son, the 6th laird, who is said to have been the father of three sons who went abroad, and were not heard of for 20 years (Fam. Ped. of Gordons of Beldorney). (No retour of service of either the 5th or 6th laird is forthcoming.)

If the above is correct, and I understand that the Rev. C. Bruce has found sasines in proof thereof, Alexander Gordon of Tillysoule, on acquiring the property, became 7th laird of Beldorney.

In connection with this matter I cannot avoid referring here to what is known as "the Birnie M.S.," which I saw for a short time, and made some notes from it. The author appears to make a James Gordon the 5th laird, and speaks of James [his son] as the 6th laird, instead of "the John Elder" and "John Younger," who granted Bonds 1680-1690, as already mentioned.

"The former," [viz., James], he says, "was very thoughtless and careless, and allowed himself to be involved, under pretences of friendship, by Alexander Gordon of Tirriesoule, son to James Gordon of Camphill, and grandson to Alexander Gordon of Kyl-a-huntly, in Badenoch, commonly called 'the Red Fisher,' and of the family of Cluny in Marr. Tirriesoul bought up the debts upon the estate of Beldornie, and upon the laird's death took possession of the lands, and got them adjudicated to himself." This evidently implies that Alexander of Tilliesoul was not of the Beldorney family.

The only Alexander Gordons of the Cluny family that I know of are Alexander Gordon of Strathaven, afterwards of Cluny, the first designed "of Cluny," and Alexander G., "fiar of Strathaven and Cluny," afterwards 2nd laird "of Cluny," both living in the 16th century; neither of them, nor John, the 3rd laird, seem to have left a son, who had a lawful son named Alexander. Sir Thomas, the 4th of Cluny, was the father of Sir Alexander, 1st Bart.; and Sir Alexander, though twice married, had only one son, Sir Alexander, who married and left no male issue. The story of "The Red Fisher" of the family of Cluny, in Marr, seems to me devoid of foundation.

Again, as to a James, 5th laird, and a James, 6th laird, I think there is good evidence that two *Johns* were lairds, elder and younger, between 1680 and 1690, and of a James Gordon "in Tirriesoul," who got a wadset of Camdell in 1681; and his son Alexander, designed "of Camdell," was retoured heir of his father, "James of Tillysoule," in 1696. This is the man who got sasine of Beldorney, &c., in 1700. I see no reason to doubt his descent from Alexander Gordon of Killiehuntly, known as "Sandy Merchant," a younger son of Alexander Gordon, 2nd laird of Beldorney, by Margaret Grant, or that this Alexander married a daughter of Duncan Grant of Rothiemarehus and his wife Muriel Rose: this last marriage being recorded in the "Chiefs of Grant" with the date 1626; all as narrated some pages above.

The Birnie narrative continues to state that "James the Sixth of the family, being still more thoughtless than his father, having allowed the adjudication to take place without taking any measures to prevent it, and then fluding himself without the means of subsistence, went to America, and was never more heard of."

The Warehouse family pedigree shows the younger of the two Johns (the 6th laird) having 3 sons, who all went abroad, and not returning within 20 years of their father's death, the Beldorney estates passing to their cousin, Alexander of Camdell.

It appears to me that these descendents in the direct line were without means to help themselves, and probably went abroad, and that Alexander of Tillysoule bought up all the apprisings, and acquired complete possession of the lands.

The Birnie M.S. continues further, that "Tirriesoul, who had thus become Laird of Beldornie, married Giles [or Geillis], a daughter of MacDonell of Keppoch, Lochaber, and had two sons, James, who succeeded, and Alexander Gordon of Collonach, who died without issue, and two daughters: the elder was married to Michie of Buchairn, and Barbara, the younger, died unmarried at Belcherry in 1770 at nearly 90 years of age." This is probably correct. Geillis, his wife, is said to have been a highly educated and clever woman, and to have translated the Psalms and other portions of the Bible into Gaelic for the benefit of their dependents.

This must be the lady of whom mention is found as "Sile na Ceapaich" in a contribution on Gaelic Bards in the "Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness," vol. xxiv., p. 266—1899-1901.

"The poetesses who flourished between 1645 and 1725 were especially remarkable for their talents. I do not know where to look among our Highland poetesses for better composers of songs than Mairi Nighean Alasdair Ruaidh, Dorothy Brown, Sile na Ceapaich, The Aigheanach and Mairearad Nighean Lachaiun.

"It is probable that Sile na Ceapaich was born about 1660, and that she died about 1739. She was married to Gordon of Beldornie. Her husband died in 1723."

I think she belonged to a somewhat later generation than the two lads, Alastair and Ronald, sons of Donald Glas, eleventh laird of Keppoch, who on their return from France after their father's death were murdered by their cousins—seven brothers. Their sister, dreading mischief, had gone to Ian Lom, the bard, who appealed to Sir Alexander Macdonald of Sleat to avenge their death. The murderers were all slain, and their heads are said to have been washed in the well known as Tober nan Ceauin, in Glengarry. Possibly, however, she was the mother of the Barbara Gordon who died in 1770, at nearly ninety years of age.

We may now proceed with some account of Alexander of Tillysoule, who became 7th laird of Beldorney. His descent from Alexander Gordon of Killiehuntly, known as "Sandy Merchant," and according to the family pedigree, second son of Alexander Gordon, 2nd laird of Beldorney by Margaret Grant, daughter of John Grant of Freuchie (Marr. Contr., 20 Feb., 1560) has been already indicated.

## ALEXANDER GORDON VII. OF BELDORNEY.

Alexander Gordon, 7th Laird, was the son of James G. of Tillysoule, and is designed as "of Camdell" in his retour as heir to the said James, dated 18th August 1696. His sasine in Beldorney, dated 29 April 1700, has been given above. He married Geillis, or Gilles, daughter of Archibald MacDonell of Keppoch before 1702, for there is a sasine which runs as follows viz.: "Alexander Gordon to Gilles McDonald, spouse to Alexander Gordon of Camdell &c., in an annual rent of Meikle Camdell &c.," in usual form dated 28 January 1702. (Sasine Register Gen. Reg. Ho. Extrt. sent me by Rev. C. Bruce.)

In a "list of Heritors of Strathavon, Glenlivat, Glenrinnes and Cabrach, who have given Bond for their peaceable behaviour and that of their men, tenants, as also of the men given up by them" occurs this entry viz:—

- " Alexander Gordon of Camdell, his men.
- " Alexander farquharson and his men in Creachley.
- " John and James and Peter fremings there.
- " William Gordon there.
- " John and William Camerons and John Stuart in Fetterletter.
- " William Campbell.
- " Duncan McLaury there.
- " Alex. Robertson there and his byreman, Paull Watson.
- " Donald McLean and Andrew McLean there."

Date of this 26 27 and 28 Oct. 1699. ("Hist. Papers Jacobite Period," Col. Allardyce's, vol. I. pp. 16-18.)

The William Gordon entered in the above list was evidently William Gordon of Dalmore who was in Croughly and died 1725, and was ancestor of many distinguished officers in the Army; his grandfather, William Gordon of Dalmore was in occupation of Croughly at the time of the battle of Corrichie 1562. (Family History "The Croughly Book" pp. 57-58.) His name is in "the Remission for Corrichie 1567" as "William Gordon in Crwichlie."

Camdell, or Camdell mhor, or Meikle Camdell is not far from Tomintoul. Old Glenbucket's house is said to "have stood at Kamdillvah near the pass of Carnagoval" (which is near the Conglas and Glen Brown). ("Hist. Papers Jac. Period," Col. Allardyce, vol. II p. 545). The same place is called "Camdell Moor" (evidently for Camdell more) at p. 547 same volume, where the ford of Garnagoul is also mentioned.

The Retour and sasine given above sufficiently identify Alexander Gordon of Tillisoul and of Camdell with Alexander Gordon of Beldorney by 1702. He had by his wife Geillis or Giles MacDonell at

any rate one son, James, probably named after his grandfather, James of Tillison; and according to the Birnie MS. another son, Alexander of Colonach, who died without issue: also two daughters, of whom the elder married Michie of Bucharn, the younger, Barbara, died unmarried at Belcharry in 1770, aged nearly 90.

#### JAMES GORDON VIII. OF BELDORNEY.

Unfortunately I fail to find any mention in the decennial index to the services of heirs of the service of a Gordon to the lands of Beldorney from 1700 until 1763; perhaps the lands passed by deeds from father to son on resignation, and the sasines following may be inaccessible or lost, but the family pedigree shows that the above-mentioned Alexander of Beldorney was succeeded by his son, James, who married Mary, daughter of John Gordon of Wardhouse, also of Law and Kildrummie, and perhaps the purchaser and owner for a short time of the Estate of Lesmoir.

It was owing to the marriage of this laird, James, that the Beldorney family became some years later lairds of Wardhouse and Kildrummie also, in conformity with an entail executed by the father of James of Beldorney's wife.

This lady was of the family known for three generations as "Gordon of Law," in Kennethmont. John Gordon 1st of Law was the second son of William, 3rd laird of Terpersie (a cadet of Lesmoir) by his wife, Isobel Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Leichiston (another cadet of the same family), (Balb, M.S., p. 48). This John Gordon of Law was about contemporary with Alexander Gordon of Killyhuntly. [See Appendix.]

James VIII. of Beldorney had by his wife, Mary Gordon, whose birth is said to have taken place in 1700 (Fam. M.S. pedigree), at least one son, John Gordon, who became IX. of Beldorney. I have been unable to find the date of his death. According to the Birnie M.S. he had four sons and two daughters, viz:—

- I. JOHN, who succeeded him [born 22nd April 1723, Fam. M.S.].
- II. COSMO, who settled in Jamaica, and left a son Robert.
- III. ARTHUR, a merchant in Cadiz, who died without issue.
- IV. CHARLES, an ecclesiastic of the Church of Rome.
  1. Anne died unmarried.
  2. Catherine died unmarried.

It will be convenient to add in an appendix a short account of the Law and Wardhouse family up to the time that Mary Gordon's descendant succeeded to Wardhouse.



*P.S.*—According to a Family Pedigree lent to me, this issue was:—

- I. JOHN [afterwards of Beldorney], born 22 April 1723.
- II. GEORGE, born 16 August 1725, lost in the Downs, and left no issue.
- III. ALEXANDER, born 3 September 1726, died on the coast of Africa.
- IV. ARTHUR, born 25 September 1729, settled at Cadiz, married but left no surviving children, died 1815. The first of the family to settle in Spain.
- V. COSMO JAMES, born 26 March 1735, settled in Jamaica, married and left issue.
- VI. CHARLES, born 21 February 1737, a Priest in Holland, died there 1816.

Daughters—

1. Elizabeth, born 29 June 1724, married William Forbes of Aberdeen and had children.
2. Katherine, born 4 March 1728, died 1796.
3. Anna, born 4 June 1731, died ?1814.
4. Helena Maria, born 18 March 1733, died 6 April 1734.

#### JOHN GORDON IX. OF BELDORNEY.

I find no entry of this laird's service as heir to his father, who may perhaps have resigned the lands in his favour. The date of his birth is given in the Gordon of Wardhouse Pedigree in Burke as 1723 and of his marriage to Margaret or Frances Margaret, 2nd daughter of Patrick Smythe, a younger son of Patrick Smythe of Braco and Methven as in 1745: so he was probably of nearly the same age as Catherine Gordon, his cousin, who married the Hon. Capt. Sempill. Margaret his wife was born 26 Nov. 1725.

This laird of Beldorney and his young wife, who appear to have taken up their residence at Beldorney, were enthusiastic Jacobites and heartily zealous in Prince Charlie's cause. Like many of his followers they were in Edinburgh at the time of its brief occupation by the Highland Army in 1745, and confident of the restoration of the exiled family to the throne.

Mrs Gordon of Beldorney undertook to embroider a crimson silk vest, intended to be worn by the Prince on the expected occasion of his coronation: and obtained from him two of his vests, which were worn by him at Holyrood, to serve as patterns for shape and size: by

the aid of these the lady embroidered two breast pieces of crimson silk, but before the work was completed the defeat at Culloden had taken place, and all the sanguine hopes of success were shattered. The embroidered silk and the two vests that had been worn by the Prince were long kept as treasured memorials of the incident for about 150 years. These and other precious heirlooms, including two gold rings given by the Old Chevalier in 1715 to Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, a connection of Mrs John Gordon; a letter from the Prince to Peter [or Patrick] Smith\* [or Smythe] dated 14 August 1745, and sealed with the Royal Arms; an antique gold ring with a miniature of Charles I.; and another with a miniature of King Charles II.;—an historic collection, met a fate too common of late years: they were brought to the hammer and disposed of in Aberdeen in or about 1898.

Frances Margaret Smith (to retain the old spelling of the family name), wife of the laird of Beldorney, was the daughter of Patrick Smith, a younger son of the Methven family by Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel John Rodolph Strasbourg, Baron of Rochelle in Livonia, who served in the Russian Army. Col. Strasbourg married Katharine Elizabeth Gordon, a daughter of General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries. The lady last mentioned married as her second husband General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul of the Coclarachie family, who commanded the right wing of the Highland Army under the Earl of Mar's auspices at the battle of Dunblane in 1715, but she left no issue by this second marriage. Consequently Elizabeth Strasbourg the mother of Mrs John Gordon, was the step-daughter of General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, and the Granddaughter of Katharine Elizabeth Gordon. General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries was her great-grandfather. Thus Mrs Gordon inherited Jacobite blood and associations.

The following is taken from the family M.S., lent to me after this, my own, was completed:—

“After the fatal battle of Culloden, John Gordon escaped to his own home at Beldorney, where he was concealed by his young wife in a secret chamber. This hiding place had been cleverly contrived between the floor of her sitting room and the ceiling of the room of the lower storey.

“While Cumberland's soldiers were scouring the country to hunt up and secure the Prince and his adherents a detachment arrived at Beldorney and insisted on searching the house. Lady Beldorney (as she was called according to the custom of those days) was a girl of great spirit and strength of character. She gave orders that the men should be admitted and allowed to make their search, while she remained quietly seated at the spinet or harpsichord, which she had drawn over the trapdoor leading to the secret chamber.

“The soldiers searched everywhere without discovering any trace of the fugitive: he appears to have afterwards remained unmolested, probably owing to the interest of the Duke of Gordon.

“The laird’s place of concealment was in the old part of the house, and a person knowing of its existence may observe that the level of the window compared with the others leaves a space to be accounted for; such irregularities are not uncommon in old castles and houses built for strength.

“There is also near it a room formerly used as a chapel approached by a corkscrew staircase.”

John Gordon IXth of Beldorney had by his wife, Margaret Smith, the following issue, viz. :—

- I. ALEXANDER MARIA GORDON, born 11 August 1748, who certainly outlived his father but appears not to have been served heir to him in *Beldorney*: [see Services given below].
- II. CHARLES EDWARD b. 14 Feby. 1750 O.S. succeeded his brother Alexander in Wardhouse, and was served heir to his father in various lands including Kildrummie in 1770. [See below.]
- III. JAMES [or James Arthur] b. 2 April 1759, settled in Xeres de la Frontera and became a partner with his uncle Arthur. He married in 1786 a Spanish lady and had issue. (Birnie M.S.) His wife was Rosa Francisca, daughter of Emanuel Archienband (Fam. M.S.).
  1. A daughter, Elizabeth Patricia, b. 12 March, 1747, said to have married [John] Macdonald of Glenaladale, and to have died aged 18 in 1766. [Scots Magazine.]

The Birnie M.S. gives the name of this daughter as Elizabeth, and adds that she left issue. It also gives the names of 4 more children of John Gordon and Margaret Smith, viz. :—

2. Christina Maria [born 14 June 1751], married [George] Irvine of Boyndlie [*sic*] but had no issue. This marriage appears to be referred to in Transactions of Gael Society, Inverness, XV. p. 92. She died without issue 1833 at Wardhouse, and was the last of the family buried at Beldornie.
3. Frances Margaret, born 16 September 1754, died unmarried. [Family M.S.].
3. Anne Clementina, died unmarried, born 20 July 1757. [Family M.S.].
4. Katherine, born 10 April 1756, died unmarried in Aberdeen 1818. [Family M.S.].

The date of the death of John IXth laird is mentioned in the Retour of his second son Charles as 6 Oct. 1760.

ALEXANDER GORDON X. OF BELDORNIE AND IV. OF  
WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE.

This laird, whose full name was Alexander Maria Gordon, for some reason does not appear to have been retoured heir to his father in Beldorney, but we have the two following services which must refer to Wardhouse and Kildrummie, and shew that he succeeded on the death of his cousin, Catherine Gordon, the Hon. Mrs Sempill. (See Appendix I.).

1. "Alexander Gordon of Wardhouse, son of John G. of Beldorney. to his Granduncle Arthur of Wardhouse, who died October 1760, h. of taillie and provision special in Wardhouse and Glanderston, &c., S.H. (Aberdeenshire), 2 Sept. 1763."
2. Alexander Gordon of Wardhouse to his cousin Catherine of Wardhouse (wife of Capt. George Sempill) who died 5 Feb. 1762, h- of taillie and prov. spec. in Cookshill, Garryhill, Fichlachie, Kinlune, etc., S.H. (Aberdeenshire), 12 Aug. Regd. 2 Sept. 1763."

This young laird's tenure of the estate was short and his end tragic. We learn from the Birnie M.S. that he became a Protestant and served as an officer in the British army. When his regiment was quartered in Ireland a brawl took place in the town where it lay between some of the troops and the inhabitants, in which he and his brother officers took part, and one of the townspeople was unfortunately killed. As the story is told, the officers, fearing the consequences "fled some one way some another, Alexander [Gordon] went to France:" being at Brest, he betook himself to fishing for amusement in a small boat in the harbour there. The French authorities being suspicious forthwith arrested him on the pretence that he was engaged in taking soundings; they dealt with him as a spy and forthwith executed him. Application is said to have been made to the Earl of Hertford, the British Ambassador at the Court of France, but if he took any steps on the young officer's behalf, they were too late, it seems doubtful whether any effort was made to save him.

Such is the account I found in the Birnie M.S.

A much fuller and evidently more correct account of this young laird's unfortunate career is given in the Family M.S. which has been lent to me after I had finished my own compilation—the following is a brief summary of it.

His father died when he was but 12 years old, and no record seems to be forthcoming to show who acted as guardians of him and his brothers and sisters; but a Peter Gordon residing in Aberdeen

evidently acted as his man of business shortly before his death. Some account of his career was given in the "Daily Free Press," Aberdeen, of 26 August 1898, compiled from an article given in Bentley's Miscellany in 1868.

Alexander Maria Gordon was appointed an Ensign in the 49th Regiment while still a lad and seems to have been involved in some brawl in Edinburgh, and in another in Ireland, and dreading the consequences embarked at Cork for La Rochelle. He wrote from Isle de Re, opposite that port on 27th March 1768 to a friend, a merchant at Bordeaux, begging him to get a permit to forward his trunks to him; and a few weeks later he wrote to his uncle, Mr Charles Gordon, a Priest, who was then in London on private affairs and mentions that he had received a letter from another uncle who was in Cadiz suggesting his endeavouring to get into either the Austrian or Russian service; accordingly he asks him to make interest for him with the Ambassador of his Imperial Majesty; he also mentioned that he hoped soon to return to Scotland.

But shortly afterwards he made his way to Paris, having an introduction to the British Ambassador, Lord Harcourt. The latter appears to have suggested to him his taking a look at the French Dockyards, and to have given him a letter of credit for £200. He started along with a young surgeon Jean Antoine Durand, and went first to Ronen, thence to Havre; there they made acquaintance with the officers of a French frigate; they next went to Caen and St Malo, where they parted, young Gordon going to Brest, having letters of introduction from his naval friends at Havre. Here he dined with the Governor, and was even shown over part of the Dockyard.

He then met a soldier named Dauvais, who was selling by authority a printed statement of the naval strength of the European powers; this man had been secretary to an officer engaged on the fortifications, and an offer was made to give Gordon further information, but that the services of another man would be required to do what was wanted in writing. The man engaged for this purpose named Omnes told a Maritime Gens' d'Arme named Lemonier, who very properly reported the matter to Mons. de Chequy, Maitre Intendant, whom Gordon had met at dinner at the Governor's house. The last named then engaged Lemonier to personate his own clerk.

On 30 May Gordon invited the two men, Omnes and Lemonier to supper, when the terms on which the information was to be supplied might be arranged. He himself was to leave for Nantes on 2nd June, but that night he was arrested, his house searched and all papers seized; he was taken a prisoner to the Castle, and Dauvais who had bolted was taken and sent to the naval prison. On the 12th June M. de Roquefenil, the Governor of the prison was ordered to deliver his prisoner to M. de Chequy who confined him elsewhere, and Gordon's case was rendered desperate by the conduct of a man in

Rochelle, named Collins, said to be a notorious blackmailer, who surrendered himself voluntarily to give evidence.

Collins alleged that he had met Gordon at St Malo and had learned that his object was to burn the magazines and stores at Brest, Toulon, Rochefort and other arsenals. Gordon of course denied the accusation, and requested that application should be made to Lord Harcourt to refute the story: his Lordship denied having employed Gordon, who was left in prison. He is said to have written to his family and to Peter Gordon, his agent in Aberdeen, and is said to have acknowledged the receipt of a letter of credit from the latter, the terms of which are given, mostly referring to his lethargic condition of mind: the terms and diction of the letter renders its authenticity very doubtful. I understand there is no reference to his treatment in prison, nor to his getting any aid to rebut false accusations.

After more than five months captivity he was put on trial before Mons. de Chequy and seven Councillors: he had not the services of any counsel. He handed in a written defence referring to his youth his introduction to Lord Harcourt, and having accepted a proposal from him, little foreseeing that such evils could result from so doing, and to the fact that the interests of France could not suffer from anything he had done, and he had not intended getting up any correspondence there. He evidently felt that he was doomed to suffer death and concluded "Finally as a last honour allow me to die with my military sash and have it sent to my brother Charles." This address appears to have been preserved in the French archives: the wording of it seems suspicious.

M. de Roquefenil seems to have stood out for a time and urged what he could in his favour, and especially his youth and inexperience, but in vain. The Court convicted him of having attempted to corrupt and having corrupted the allegiance of the King's subjects by inducing them to supply him with information relative to the King's ships and dockyards, and points on the coast where a landing might be safely effected. He was condemned to be beheaded in the town where he was tried, his goods in that country to be confiscated, or a fine of 100 livres if the confiscation were not carried out.

He made his will the following day in the prison: He wrote a letter to his brother Charles, begging him to try to console his mother, and bids farewell to his sisters and his brother, and adds that within half an hour he would be no more.

At four o'clock in the afternoon of 24 Novr. 1769 he was led out to the scaffold in the Market Square, attended by Father Gardien a Capuchin Monk. He saluted the crowd three times "Gentlemen behold the death of a man only twenty-one years old."

He then removed his sash and coat and tied up his hair in a handkerchief: then replaced his sash as if on duty, turned down his collar, and kneeling, said to the headsman "don't miss me."

In a moment all was over: the knife which had been made for the occasion is preserved in the military depot at Brest.

A lock of his hair and his sash ultimately reached his mother.

Mons de Roquefenil writing to the Minister of Marine declared that "all who witnessed his execution agree that he died with the most noble and heroic firmness: his gentle and affable manner during the time he was in prison, contributed to the interest taken by the public in his unfortunate end."

Even M. de Chequy was compelled to allow that he died with a firmness worthy of a better cause.

This M. de Chequy who had been presiding judge received £480, Lemonier £40 and Omnes £32.

The following is a copy of a letter written by Lord Harcourt nearly a month after the execution to Colonel Gordon of Fyvie, a copy of which was made and sent to the family:—

"Paris, Dec. 23, 1769.

"DEAR SIR,

"I send you a Draft which was intended for your unfortunate relation, but the cruel and rigorous treatment he met with at Brest made it too late for him to have benefited by it. I did everything in my power to save him, and had he been my own son I could not have acted with more zeal, and circumspection. I had the greatest reason in the world to believe that they would never have carried their inhumanity the length they did.

"They actually charged him with crimes that I am convinced he never was guilty of, merely for an excuse to put him to death for a crime which even in time of war would scarce admit of such an instance of severity. I beg you would acquaint the Duke of Gordon, and his unfortunate relatives that I did all I could to serve them without success.

"The people of worth and character in the country blame the measure and venture even in conversation to bestow the epithets upon it which it so truly deserves.

"The bill enclosed you will be so kind as to transmit to Mr Gordon of Aberdeen, who was, I suppose, guardian to the unfortunate youth. I am concerned to write to you on so melancholy a subject, every circumstance of which you shall be apprised of whenever we meet. Upon the whole nothing ever gave me so much concern.

. . . . .  
"I am, Dear Sir,

"Very Sincerely Yours,

(Signed) "HARCOURT."

CHARLES EDWARD GORDON, XI. OF BELDORNEY AND  
V. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE.

Charles Edward Gordon, the last of Beldorney and 5th of Wardhouse and Kildrummy was born 14 Feby. 1750, O.S.

His services as heir are as follows:—

“Charles of Wardhouse to his brother Alexander of Wardhouse, who died 24 Nov. 1769: heir of tail and of provision special in Cooks-hill, Garryhill, Drummalachies, Kinclune, Nether Kildrummie, Welhead, &c., Aberdeen S.H., 23 August: registered 5 Sept. 1770.”

Also “Charles Gordon of Wardhouse to his father John of Beldorney, who died 6 Oct. 1760: heir spec. in the lands of Succoch in the parish of Mertlach, Banff S.H., 9 June: registered 11 Aug. 1777.”

It must be presumed that these dates are correct, and that John Gordon of Beldorney and Arthur Gordon of Wardhouse died within a very short time of one another, both in October 1760 (Arthur's daughter was served heir to him 14 Feb. 1761). The former was succeeded by Alexander, his eldest son in Beldorney (although no service of this son in Beldorney is forthcoming) and the latter by his daughter Catherine, the Hon. Mrs George Sempill in Wardhouse, who lived only till 5 Feb. 1762. On the death of the last named, her cousin, Alexander Gordon was served heir both to her as heir of entail in Kildrummie and to his granduncle, Arthur of Wardhouse. Alexander himself dying young and unmarried on 24 Nov. 1769, his next brother Charles was “served heir to his *father* John of Beldorney in Succoch” (part of the Beldorney Estate, see retour given above) on 9 June 1777: and much earlier, viz., on 23 August 1770 had been served heir to his brother Alexander in lands part of the Kildrummie Estate. I find no service of him in the lands of Wardhouse.

Charles Edward Gordon, XI. laird of Beldorney, and 5th of Wardhouse and Kidrummie, educated at Marischal College, Aberdeen and while still a youth was in the sea service of the Honourable East India Company. (Birnie M.S.). He was twice married, *first* to Charlotte Boyd, a daughter of the Hon. Charles Boyd (who was a son of the 4th Earl of Kilmarnock, and brother of the 14th Earl of Errol, called by some the 13th Earl) by his first wife, a French lady (Douglas and Wood's Peerage), her name was Jeane Antoinette Wyandt. (Family M.S.). *Secondly* to Catherine Mercer, daughter of Major James Mercer, who succeeded his brother David Mercer, as laird of Auchnacant, in the parish of Foveran, Aberdeenshire in 1787.

By his first marriage, his family became closely allied to noble families that had been devoted adherents to the royal dynasty of Stuart, and had suffered accordingly.



This marriage, according to "Douglas and Wood's Peerage," took place at Slains Castle on 23 April 1783, but this is evidently a mistake for 1773 as will be seen from the dates of her children's births, for which I am indebted to a descendant now living.

His bride was niece of James Boyd, who became the 14th Earl of Errol. This Earl's mother, Lady Anne Livingstone, was the daughter of James, 5th Earl of Linlithgow, and was the widow of William 4th Earl of Kilmarnock, who was executed on Tower Hill in 1746: and the Earl of Linlithgow had been attainted and his estates forfeited and sold after the rising of 1715. (See "Douglas and Wood's Peerage" and Mackintosh's "Historic Earls and Eardoms of Scotland.>").

James Boyd on the other hand had served in the 21st Regiment of Foot, and is said to have been present with it at the battle of Culloden: in time he got the Kilmarnock estates restored to him, and succeeded to his grand aunt, the Countess of Errol, as 14th Earl. (See *Ibid.*)

By Charles Edward Gordon's marriage with Charlotte Boyd he had issue one son and two daughters, viz:—

I. John David Gordon of Wardhouse and Kildrummie b. 16 Feb. 1774.

Dau. 1 Jane Antoinette, b. 25 March 1775 married to Captain John MacDonell of the Keppoch family, tenant of Killichonate, Lochaber, who was a captain in the 2nd Veteran Battalion and had issue, two sons and one daughter, viz:—

(I.) George b. 20 June 1805 of the 27th Madras N.I. and Col. H.E.I.C.S. who married in 1839 Charlotte daughter of Joseph Batten, D.C.L., Princ. of Haileybury, and had one son and four daughters, viz:—

1. George b. 1844 died 1846.

(1) Katherine Jane b. 1840 md. Robt. Thorp, Lieut. 27th Mads. N.I.: she died 1862, he died 1873.

(2) Christina Eliza Francis b. 1847 died 1852.

(3) Isabella Mary b. 1849 marrd. 1871 John Henry Garstin, C.S.I.: she died 1896 leaving 5 sons and 1 dau. of whom Henry Edward, the eldest, b. 1872 was a Capt. Roy. Art., and John Aylmer b. 1878 a Lieut. Roy. Eng.

(4) Charlotte Louisa Caroline marrd. 1874 Walter Erskine Neale, B.C.S., with issue, two sons and one daughter.

II. Ranald John (son of Capt. MacDonell) b. 14 May 1813 Lieut in the 28th Foot. He left the army and settled at Sydney N.S. Wales: married 1839 Sibella Marian dau. of Donald Maclean: she died in 1841. Ronald left N.S.W. for America, and died at Vancouver 1 Aug. 1887.

- (1.) Eliza Catherine (dau. of Capt. MacDonnell) born 2 June 1818, a great favourite with the last Duchess of Gordon, who was her Godmother : she was an enthusiastic Highland lady, spoke Gaelic fluently, and was a great favourite among her own people, and wherever she went. I was well acquainted with her, and remember her generous disposition. She died unmarried in Aberdeen 19 April 1875.

Dau. 2 of Charles Edward Gordon, and sister of Jane Antoinette Francis Margaret born 4 Feb. 1778, died unmarried at Wardhouse 11 Dec. 1845, buried at Kennethmont. Charles Edward Gordon had by his *second* wife Katherine Mercer four sons and three daughters, viz :—

- I. James Alexander b. 6 Oct. 1782 afterwards Admiral Sir J. A. Gordon, G.C.B.
- II. Sylvester b. 3 Jany. 1785 : he went to Ceylon with the Hon. F. North and was killed in an attack by the natives in 1803 aged 18.
- III. Charles Edward b. 26 Jany. 1786 : Col. Roy. Art. he married Harriet Elizabeth dau. of Rev. Gilbert Parke, by whom he had five sons and one daughter. His eldest son Charles Edward Parke Gordon served for many years in the 75th Regt. : was made a C.B., rose to be a General Officer and honorary Colonel of his old regiment, which was linked with the 92nd as the Gordon Highlanders. He was twice married, by the first had one son, by the second five sons and seven daughters.
- IV. Robert b. 3rd April 1788, died at Gordon Hall, Wardhouse, 1794, buried at Kennethmont.

Daughters of Charles Edward Gordon by his second wife—

1. Maria Rosara born 3 November 1783, married Rev. Thomas Birch, Dean of Battle. Issue four sons and five daughters.
2. Katharine Anne Charlotte b. 26 Aug. 1791, married in Spain 9 April 1837 Peter Castelli : died at Jerez de la Frontera.
3. Margaret Eliza Jemima born 29 Oct. 1794 : died in Aberdeen 15 Oct. 1881 unmarried : buried at Kennethmont.

Some details about Catherine Mercer and her family may not be considered out of place here.

Catherine Mercer and her younger sister Margaret were daughters of Major James Mercer of Auchnacant by his wife Catherine Douglas; and Catherine Douglas was sister of Sylvester Douglas, Lord Glenbervie : the date of Sylvester's birth was 24 May 1743 and he married in 1789.

Major Mercer was the elder son of Thomas Mercer of Auchnacant a stannch Jacobite, who had been obliged after 1746 to betake himself

to France. His son James got his unwilling consent to his getting a commission in a Highland Regt. of the British Army. Thomas the father died in 1770, and left all his estate to his widow: she made her younger son David her heir, but he died in 1787, when Major James Mercer succeeded to Auchnacant. James had served as a Captain in the 49th Regt. and sold out as a Major: somewhat later he was a Major in the Gordon Fencibles, and on the reduction of that regiment lived at Sunnybank near Aberdeen, having meantime succeeded to Auchnacant under his brother's will.

Major Mercer died in 1807. On his death his younger daughter, Margaret, who married a Major West, was served heir portioner of line and provision general to her father, Major James Mercer of Auchnacant, in 1807, and at same date James Alexander Gordon [son of Charles Gordon of Wardhouse] was served heir to his mother in part of the lands of Auchnacant. In this service he is designed "Eldest lawful son of Mrs Katharine Mercer or Gordon, deceased, spouse of the also deceased Charles Gordon of Wardhouse." For this last item of information I am indebted to Messrs Wilson and Duffus, advocates, Aberdeen: and also for telling me that two ladies understood to be sisters of Adm. Sir Jas. Alex. A. Gordon, Misses Katharine and Margaret E. J. Gordon were on their decease buried in the Churchyard of Kennethmont.

Katharine Douglas, wife of Major James Mercer, and her brother, Sylvester Douglas of Fechil, were the children of Katharine Gordon of Fechil, who succeeded her father, James Gordon of Fechil, M.D. 17 July 1741, who was a descendant of Robert Gordon of Straloch and Pitlurg. This Dr Gordon's wife was Margaret Baird, daughter of James Baird of Auchmeddan: and their 3 daughters married as follows:—

1. Jean married Rev. John Gordon D.D. of St Paul's, Aberdeen.
2. Katharine married John Douglas, son of Sylvester Douglas of Whiteriggs, Co. of Kincardine.
3. Mary married James Irvine of Kingcaussie. These 3 sisters were served heirs portioners special in the lands of Fechil on 17 July 1741 (see Temple's Than. of Fermartyn p.p. 505-6), from which several of the details about the Fechil family have been collected.

Katharine Gordon of Fechil died in 1754: her son Sylvester of Fechil, b. 1743 was created a Peer of Ireland, Lord Glenbervie in 1800.

I understand that Auchnacant until lately belonged to Miss Gordon, daughter of the Admiral, and to a relative Col. West, but it was sold in 1902.

I propose now to add some account of Sir James Alexander Gordon's own career: he lived to be a very distinguished Naval Officer and for many years Governor of Greenwich Hospital: what



follows is mainly abridged from the "Dictionary of National Biography."

He entered the Navy in November 1793 at an early age (about 11), joining the 'Arrogant' [an old 74]. He served under Lord Howe and Lord St Vincent, in many ships during the wars of the period, including the 'Revolutionaire' [a 40 gun ship], in which he was in action off the Levant; and the 'Goliath' [also a 74] in which he was at the battle of Cape St Vincent in 1797, and that of the Nile under Sir E. Foley in 1798.

In January 1800 he was promoted Lieutenant of the 'Bordelais' and assisted in the capture of the 'Curieuse' 21 January 1801.

In the following year he was appointed to the 'Racoon' sloop [of 18 guns] and was 1st Lieut. in her at the capture of the brig 'Lady' in shore near Santiago de Cuba 17 August 1803. He was promoted Commander in that year and appointed to command the same vessel 3 March 1804, and cruised against privateers in the West Indies: posted to the 'Diligentia' 16 May 1805: appointed to the 'Mercury' 28 guns in June 1807, and joined the squadron off Cadiz, and in 1808 shared in the capture and destruction of a Spanish convoy and gunboats.

In 1808 he was promoted to Captain and appointed to the command of the 'Active' [perhaps of 38 guns], and for 4 years was employed in the Adriatic: he took a prominent part in an action off Lissa 13 March 1811, and received a gold medal, also in the capture of the 'Pomona' [perhaps of 40 guns] at Pelagosa on 29 November, when he lost a leg in consequence of a wound.

Captain Maxwell of the 'Alceste' the senior officer on this occasion, acknowledging the principal share the 'Active' took in the above capture, sent the French Captain's sword to Gordon, as his by rights.

In 1812 he joined Sir Alexander Cochrane in the 'Chesapeake.'

In 1814 in command of the 'Seahorse' 38 guns, he was senior officer of the squadron, which forced its way up the Potomac: reduced Fort Washington and its supporting batteries, captured Alexandria, and brought down 21 of the enemy's ships with their cargoes on board. The loss sustained in this expedition was small, but the labour excessive: during the 23 days, the hammocks were down for only one night.

He also took part in the unsuccessful expedition against New Orleans.

On 2 January 1815 he was gazetted K.C.B.: in November of same year appointed to the command of the 'Madagascar,' and in December 1816 to that of the 'Meander.' In the last named vessel on 9 December he narrowly escaped shipwreck on a shoal off Orfordness, over which the ship was forced in a gale of wind; but it was saved by Gordon's coolness, energy and skill.

He was then appointed to his old ship the 'Active' which he commanded for 2 years on the North American and Mediterranean Stations.

His subsequent appointments were as follows :—

- In 1827 Superintendent of Plymouth Hospital and Victualling Yard.  
 1832 Captain Superintendent of Chatham Dockyard.  
 1837 10 January promoted to flag rank: then on half pay for 3 years.  
 1840 July appointed Lieut.-Governor of Greenwich Hospital.  
 1843 8 June promoted to Rear Admiral.  
 1848 promoted Vice Admiral.  
 1853 Oct. 28 succeeded Sir Charles Adam as Governor of Greenwich Hospital, and held the office for the remainder of his life.  
 1854 June 1 promoted Admiral.  
 1855 June 5 Gazetted G.C.B.  
 1868 promoted Admiral of the Fleet 30 January.  
 1869 June 8 died, and on 15 January buried in the Officers' Cemetery at the Hospital.

On 28 August 1812 he married Lydia daughter of Mr John Ward of Draycott and Marlborough and by her had a large family, one son, James Alexander, an officer in the Royal Navy, a Commander in 1842, who died in command of the ship 'Wolf' at Labuan in January 1847 and ten daughters, viz. :—

- (1) Hannah Francis b. 1813 marrd. 1842 John C. Templar, a Barrister and Master of the Court of Exchequer: issue four sons and one daughter.
- (2) Lydia Christina b. 1817 marrd. 1856 Rev. E. Huntingford, M.A., D.C.L.
- (3) Margaret Elizabeth Katharine b. 1818 died at Southsea 1823.
- (4) Maria Rosara b. 1820 marrd. 1843 Rev. William Burnett, M.A. She died 1897 at Chichester and was buried at Boxgrove: issue four sons and three daughters.
- (5) Sophia Harriet b. 1822 d. 1827.
- (6) Salvadora Maxwell b. 1823 died 1882. Buried at Paddington Cemetery.
- (7) Elizabeth Anne b. 1825, died 31 December 1900, and buried at Paddington Cemetery.
- (8) Adelaide Louisa b. 1827 died 1899. Buried at Paddington Cemetery.
- (9) Sopia Margaret b. 1830.
- (10) Clementine Jane b. 1832 died 1833. Buried at Chatham.

I had the pleasure of seeing the Admiral and some members of

his family, when he was staying at Glassa on Deeside probably in 1854.

By the latter part of the 18th century, the laird of Beldorney, Kildrummie and Wardhouse seems to have found it necessary to part with some of his landed property: he sold Beldorney and Belcherrie to Thomas Buchan of Auchmacoy, and his son Thomas, younger of Auchmacoy, in June 1776, and Succoth [or Socach] in October 1777: Thomas Buchan (the younger) shortly afterwards resold these estates to Mr William Grant, then a Counsellor at Law, and M.P. for Shaftesbury, who was afterwards Sir William Grant, Master of the Rolls, by Disposition dated 5 Dec. 1791: the present proprietor is his great-grandson.\*

The Gordons thne ceased to be Lairds of Beldorney, after a tenure of 216 years, but continued to be lairds of Wardhouse and Kildrummie for more than a century longer as will be seen below. They became largely interested in business in Spain, as exporters of sheries: some of them settled at or near Xeres de la Frontera, and intermarried with Spanish families.

Charles Edward XI. and last laird of Beldorney of this family died 23 June aged 83, leaving a large family as mentioned above.

His monument is in the family burial place at Kirk of Kennethmont.

#### JOHN DAVID GORDON VI. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE

And XIIth representative of Beldorney.

John David Gordon succeeded his father in the family estates of Wardhouse and Kildrummie in 1832.

He married Maria del Carmen Beigbeider of Xeres de la Frontera in 1805; he lived at that place and devoted his attention to the wine business: but with the rental of his Scottish estates he did much to develop and improve the estates of Kildrummie and Wardhouse by extensive planting as well as the laying out of convenient farms and building steadings.

He had issue by his wife Maria—

- I. Pedro Carlos, his successor, b. 23 Dec. 1806.
- II. James, died of cholera at Jerez 1834.
- III. Carlos Pedro, b. 6 Dec. 1814, who came into the property after his nephew John Joseph.
- IV. Juan Jose, b. 1816, died at Jerez 1842.
- V. Alejandro, b. 17 Aug. 1820, married his 2nd cousin, Maria Josefa, daughter of Don Fermin Doz, and has issue.

\* Read Great-grand nephew.

VI. Luis Gonzaga, b. August 1827, m. Petra Davila or Petronilla, eld. dau. of the Marquess de Villa Maria, and had numerous issue.

Daughters—(1) Josefa b. 1812, m. Don Francisco Ponce de Leon, Marquess de Costillo del Valle de Sigüena, and died 31 Aug. 1870, leaving issue.

(2) Maria del Rosario, b. 18—: died of cholera at Jerez in 1834 on the eve of her marriage.

John David, the 6th laird, died 4 August 1850.

### PEDRO CARLOS GORDON VII. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE

And XIIIth representative of Beldorney.

Pedro Carlos succeeded his brother John David as 7th laird: he was born 23 Dec. 1806, and married his 2nd cousin Rosa Elena, eldest daughter of Joseph Prendergast of Cadiz, by Christina, 4th daughter of James Arthur Gordon of Jerez, and had issue.

I. Juan Jose, b. 22 Dec. 1837 and married his 2nd cousin, Teresa, daughter of Count de Mirasol: succeeded his father in 1857, d. s.p. 26 May 1866.

1. Maria de las Mercedes, married 12 May 1862 Conde de Carlet, and had two daughters.

2. Maria de la Consolation, died of diphtheria at Madrid 1862.

3. Maria de la Purissima Concepcion, b. 1852 died 18— at Madrid.

Pedro Carlos lived generally at Wardhouse in the summer and autumn: he died of small pox at Jerez 8 Feb. 1857; and his widow married secondly Don Jose Garcis de Marcida, Conde de Argillo y Morata's son—she died at Madrid.

### JUAN JOSE GORDON VIII. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE

And XIVth representative of Beldorney.

JUAN JOSE or John Joseph Gordon, b. 22 Dec. 1837, succeeded his father in 1857. He married his second cousin Teresa, daughter of Count de Mirasol, 27 Jany. 1860, without issue.

He died, while still a young man, 26 May 1866, at Madrid.

CARLOS PEDRO GORDON IX. OF WARDHOUSE AND  
KILDRUMMIE

And XVth representative of Beldorney.

CARLOS PEDRO (or CHARLES PETER) GORDON, 9th of Wardhouse and Kildrummie, born 6 December 1814, was the second son of John David the 6th laird, and brother of Peter Charles the 7th laird, having succeeded his nephew John Joseph, the 8th laird, in 1866.

He was a J.P. and Dep. Lieut. for Aberdeenshire, a K.M., a Knight of St John of Jerusalem, and was formerly British Consul at Xeres de la Frontera.

He married 28 Nov. 1838 Elena Maria Prendergast, younger daughter of Joseph Prendergast of Cadiz by Christina, his wife, daughter of James Arthur Gordon, Esq. of Jerez de la Frontera, by Rosa Francisca Archiband, his spouse.

He had issue—

I. Carlos Pedro, b. 27 July 1844; he was for some time an officer in the Roy. Aberdeensh. Highrs. Militia, and married 18 Sept. 1871 his cousin, Rosa Aristeggi, daughter of General Conde de Mirasol and of Maria Doz; he died 31 March 1876, having had issue.

(1) Carlos, b. 12 June 1872, died 2 Feb. 1874.

(2) Rafael, b. 28 May 1873, succd. to Wardhouse, &c. 1897.

(3) Pedro, b. 30 Aug. 1875. Married in 1897.

(4) Arturo Maria, b. 11 Aug. 1848, d. 28 Aug. 1849.

II. Arturo Leon, b. 28 June 1850: married 1881, and had 4 sons.

III. Pedro Carlos, b. 17 Feb. 1852, Priest S.J. 1885, Professor at the College, Stonyhurst.

IV. Jose Maria, b. 18 March 1856: late offr. R.A., married at Adelaide, Australia, has two children.

1. Maria del Carmen, marrd. Capt. Rivero, Spanish Navy, issue 2 sons and 5 daughters.

2. Cristine Maria, marrd. Juan Oronez of Jerez de la Frontera, died 1894.

3. Rosa Maria Eduarda, became a sister of the Community of St Katherine in Edinburgh, in 1885, and died there in 1888, buried at Dalkeith.

4. Elena Maria, married 1866 Mignel la Fuente of Jerez de la Frontera: has one son and two daughters.

5. Maria Magdalena, married 15 January 1874, Hugh Gordon Lumsden of Auchindoir and Clova, and has issue.



(1) Hugh Patrick, b. 17 March 1876.

(2) Carlos Barron, b. 19 July 1878.

6. Ursula Maria, married 1894 Francis Archibald Fairlie, and has one son and two daughters.

Carlos Pedro IX. of Wardhouse and Kildrummie resided generally at Wardhouse: he died at Jerez at the age of 83 in 1897, predeceased by his eldest son.

#### RAFAEL GORDON X. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE,

And XVI. representative of Beldorney, b. 1873 succeeded his grandfather Carlos Pedro in 1897, being the eldest surviving son of his father, Carlos Pedro. He took the name of his maternal uncle, the Conde Mirasol.

With the consent of his brother Pedro he broke the family entail, and Kildrummie, like too many old hereditary estates, has passed into other hands, having been sold in 1898 to James Ogston, Esq.

Rafael married in 1899 Senora Doña Maria Casanova San Mignel, daughter of the Marquis de Anteiro, and has a son born in 1900: Alfonso Maria Cristina.

The arms of Gordon of Beldorney, as given in the "Ordinary of Arms," by Sir James Balfour Paul, are

"Azure a lion rampant *argent* between three boars' heads erased *or* (1st and 4th) and *azure* three boars' heads erased *or* within a bordure engrailed *argent* (2nd and 3rd)." "Registered 1790."

In Burke's General Armoury (ed. 1842) they are nearly the same, except that the tinctures slightly differ. The arms in 1st and 4th quarters appear to be nearly the same as those of Gordon of Terpersey.

The crest and motto are given in Burke's Landed Gentry. "Crest—A cross crosslet fitchee *gules*:" Motto—"In hoc spes mea."

I have seen an old bookplate with the arms of "Charles Gordon, Esq. of Beldorney and Wardhouse:" they agree with those given above "Registered 1790" and the crest and motto are the same as given in Burke.

I have no doubt that this Charles Gordon was Charles Edward Gordon, who was laird from 1769 to 1832.

The arms of Arthur Gordon, Cadiz, are given in Balfour Paul's

"Ordinary of Scottish Arms" thus "*Az.* a lion rampant *arg.* between three boars' heads couped *or*, in the middle chief point a mullet of the *second.*" "Registered 1790."

Those of James Gordon, Cadiz, the same except the latter part which runs "in the middle chief point a covered cup of *the last*, all within a bordure of the *second.*" "Regd. 1793:" and those of James Peter Gordon, Xeres, the same as those of James Gordon, Cadiz, but registered 1835.

Burke's "Armoury" gives as Arms of Gordon of Cadiz *Az* a lion rampant betw. three boars' heads couped *or*; in chief a mullet *argent*. Crest—A cross Calvary *gu.* Motto—"Spero." The above Arthur was evidently a brother of John Gordon IX. of Beldorney, and James, nephew of Arthur.

## APPENDIX I.

## SOME ACCOUNT OF THE GORDONS OF LAW.

It may not be out of place to give here a short account of the above family.

JOHN GORDON, 1st of Law, was the second son of William, 3rd laird of Terpersie (a cadet of Lesmoir), by his wife, Isobel Gordon, daughter of Gordon of Leichiston (another cadet of the same family; see Balb. MS. p. 48, under Gordon of Law).

He was succeeded by his eldest son, John, as 2nd of Law, who married Ann, daughter of Cumming of Culter, and died in the flower of his age before 1696 (Balb. MS.)-

## JOHN GORDON I. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE.

The 3rd laird of Law, also named John, son of the above, became by purchase laird of Kildrummie and also of Wardhouse, having been retoured heir to Law in 1696.

He acquired the former in 1731, some time after the forfeiture of the Earl of Mar, and soon afterwards the estate of Wardhouse, and executed an entail of the latter (perhaps of both) in 1740.

Kildrummie had been purchased soon after the Earl's forfeiture in 1716, by Mr James Erskine of Grange, advocate, and Mr David Erskine of Dun, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, jointly, but was re-sold by them to Mr John Gordon.

Wardhouse was purchased, I believe, from Mr Alexander Farquharson of Invercauld and Wardhouse, whose father, Robert Farquharson, had acquired it on the downfall of the Leslies, the old proprietors. This Alexander, styled as above, gave a Bond to the Privy Council of Scotland for himself and his clans to keep the peace in 1672. (Hist. Papers, Jacobite Period, New Spald. Club, Introd. p. X.)

The 3rd laird of Law, also laird of Wardhouse and Kildrummie, was twice married. John Gordon, by his first wife, a daughter of Mr Robert Irvine, minister of Towie, who was evidently a man of considerable means, had a son Arthur, and a daughter Mary, who married James Gordon, VIIIth laird of Beldorney, probably about

1722. Mr Robert Irvine, minister at the Kirk of Towie, and Agnes Murray, his spouse, got sasine on old Morlich 15 March 1688. John Gordon married secondly Mary Baird, probably a daughter of Baird of Auchmedden; at any rate one of the witnesses to the Deed of Entail of Wardhouse was William Baird of Auchmedden. (Information from Messrs Wilson and Duffus, Aberdeen).

In the Badinscoth genealogy given in Temple's "Thanage of Fermartyn, p. 104, this Mary Baird is said to have married 3rdly Jonathan Forbes of Brux [the laird who was at Culloden, and long in hiding].

The following extract is from the Register of Marriages, Parish of Auchterless, for which I am indebted to the Rev. Stephen Ree, minister of Boharm.

"John Gordon of Wardhouse, Esq., in the Parish of Inch, and Mary Baird, Lady Badenscoth, were married 10 August 1738."

The Balbithan MS. gives Mary Gordon, dau. to Achlyne, as his second wife, and Hay, Lady Crimond, as his third, and no succession by either: evidently some mistakes here.

John Gordon of Wardhouse executed his Entail in 1740, with consent of his eldest son, Arthur Gordon of Law. The destination was to be to the said Arthur and his male heirs, whom failing, to William Gordon, son of the Entailer by Mary Baird, his present spouse, and his male heirs, and failing heirs male of all the descendants of John Gordon, the Entailer, to Mary Gordon, spouse to James Gordon of Beldorney, and his male heirs. (Information from Messrs Wilson and Duffus). It is evident that Mary Gordon was a daughter of the entailer by his first wife—Irvine; for Mary, his daughter, is said to have been born in 1700, and Mary Baird, his second wife, became the widow of her first husband, William Gordon of Badinscoth, only in August 1733, as is shown by the Retour of Service of his son James (evidently a minor), 9 August 1737, viz.—"James Gordon of Badinscoth to his father, William of Badinscoth, who died Aug. 1733-4, heir spec. in Badinscoth" and other lands, S.H. 9 Aug. 1737: and Mary Baird's second marriage took place 10 August 1738, and her son, William Gordon, was born when the entail was executed in 1740. Further, according to the Beldorney family pedigree, Mary Gordon, Wardhouse's daughter, was old enough to be married and have a son born, viz., John of Beldorney, by 1723.

I have some notes relative to Mr Robert Irvine of Towie, minister of Towie, collected by Col. Forbes-Leslie of Rothienorman, extending from 1682, when he petitioned to take the Test, and was allowed; and 1684, when he and his spouse got sasine on Galltoun and other lands down to 1701, when he was witness along with Adam Irvine of Brucklaw to a baptism in parish of New Deer (parish register). Mr Robert Irvine's spouse in 1688 was Agnes Murray, when they both got sasine on old Morlich: at same time Alex.

Gairden of Troup got sasine on an annual rent of £28 1s. 8d., and Alex. Strachane of Glenkindie got sasine on an annual rent of £20, both also out of old Morlich at same time, 15 March 1688. Again in 1690 Mr Robert Irvine, Rector of Towie, got sasine on an annual rent of £120 out of Heughhead of Coul. (Notes by Col. Forbes-Leslie).

John Gordon I. of Wardhouse and Kildrummie by his two marriages left issue

- I. Arthur, his successor.
- II. William, certainly by his 2nd wife, Mary Baird.
  - 1. Mary, by his first wife, married James Gordon of Beldorney.

I have no information as to the date of John's decease, but it was probably soon after his entail was executed.

#### ARTHUR GORDON II. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE.

ARTHUR GORDON succeeded his father as 2nd laird: he had during his father's life (and perhaps jointly with him) purchased the estate of Lesmoir from Sir William Gordon in 1737, but sold it again to Alexander Garioch of Kinstair: the disposition is dated 19 December 1747. I find no service of Arthur as heir to his father.

This laird of Wardhouse married, but the name of his wife is not given in the Balbillion M.S. He left a daughter, named Catherine, apparently an only child. He died probably in 1760, and his brother William must have predeceased him, or he would have succeeded Arthur, in preference to the latter's female heir.

#### CATHERINE GORDON III. OF WARDHOUSE AND KILDRUMMIE.

CATHERINE GORDON succeeded her father under the provisions of the entail executed in 1740.

She had married Captain the Hon. George Sempill, 2nd son of Hugh, 11th Lord Sempill, and uncle of the Hon. Sarah Sempill who married Sir William Forbes of Craigievar. (Douglas and Wood's Peerage.)

Her services run as follows:—"Catherine Gordon of Wardhouse, wife of the Hon. Capt. G. Sempill, to her father Arthur G. of Wardhouse, h. of taillie and prov. Gen., S.H., 14 Feb. 1761," and Catherine Gordon of Wardhouse, wife of Capt. G. (Gordon) Sempill to her

father, Arthur of Wardhouse; heirs general 28 Sept., Regd. 30 Sept. 1761." She had either no family, or at anyrate, left no surviving male issue, and it will be seen from the services of her successor that she lived but a short time after her succession, as she died on 5 February 1762; when, under the entail, the estate of Wardhouse went to the male descendant of Mary Gordon, only daughter of the entailer, viz., Catherine's cousin, Alexander Gordon IX. of Beldornie, who became IV. of Wardhouse also.

(See his Retour under ALEXANDER X. OF BELDORNEY.)

## APPENDIX II.

THE GORDONS OF FODERLETTER, DESCENDED FROM  
ALEXANDER GORDON OF KILLIHUNTLY.

The Gordons of Foderletter are an important cadet branch of the Beldorney family, descended from Alexander Gordon of Killihuntly: their history can be traced down through six generations in the male line.

Alexander of Killihuntly, who was generally known, as already mentioned, as "Sandy Merchant," being settled in Badenoch, married before May 1626, Jean Grant, daughter of Duncan Grant of Rothiemurchas, by his spouse Muriel Ros.

The issue of this marriage was—

- I. James Gordon of Tillison and Camdell, ancestors of the later Gordons of Beldorney, and of the lairds of Wardhouse and Kildrummie. This James Gordon died 1692.
- II. William Gordon, ancestor of the Gordons of Foderletter.

What follows is partly copied and partly summarised from a short sketch of the Pedigree or Genealogy of the Gordons of Foderletter, written by William Gordon of Leith, a member of that family, probable date about the end of the 18th century, but I have added items of information from other sources.

William Gordon, the second son of Alexander of Killihuntly, was ancestor of a branch known as Gordons of Foderletter in Strathaven, by his wife, Janet Petry, daughter of James Petry, merchant in Aberdeen; he had two sons, viz.—

- I. George Gordon of Foderletter.
  - II. John Gordon, merchant in Aberdeen.
- (A.) Taking first the Foderletter family—

Besides their descent from Adam Gordon, Dean of Caithness, 3rd son of the 1st Earl of Huntly, they claimed further relationship with the Huntly family through Alexander Gordon, 2nd laird of Beldorney, having married Margaret Grant, daughter of John Grant 4th of Freuchie, whose marriage contract was dated 20 Feb. 1560, and the receipt from her dower is extant at Castle Grant. (See "Chiefs of Grant," I., p. 154); and through Lewis, Marquis of Huntly marrying Mary, daughter of Sir John Grant of Freuchie in 1644.

I. George Gordon of, or more probably *in* Foderletter, elder son of William, and grandson of Alexander of Killihuntly, married Christian Macpherson, daughter of Macpherson of Invertromy, in Badenoch, a cadet of Pitmean, and thus of Cluny: by this marriage he had issue—

1. Thomas Gordon of Foderletter.
2. George Gordon, Sheriff of William and Mary Co., in Maryland, America.
3. James.

Also 1. Ann, married to Macpherson of Ardbrylach, extinct.  
 2. Grace, married to Grant of Glenloch, who left no issue.  
 3. Margaret, married to Cummin of Tombreakachie: she left sons and daughters.

II. Thomas, the eldest son of George, succeeded his father in Foderletter. He married Isabella, daughter of John Macpherson of Invereshy, in Badenoch, and left by her a large family. viz.—

1. John.
  2. George.
  3. Cuthbert.
  4. James.
  5. William.
1. Christina.
  2. Isobel.
  3. Grace.
  4. Magdalen.

In a "List of Prince Charlie's Friends," made by a Mr John Campbell, Supervisor of Excise, Elgin, under directions from the Board of Inland Revenue, shortly after the battle of Culloden, the following entries occur.

"Thomas Gordon of Foderleter: Foderleter was a Captain in the rebel army under the influence of Glenbucket, said to be in Badenoch."

"John Gordon, son to Foderleter, was an officer in the rebel army."

"George Gordon, son to Foderleter, do., carried arms in the rebel army, submitted to the King's mercy."

Of the sons of Thomas, John died in May 1746, and left no children.

George was the inventor of and founder of the Cudbear Dye Manufactory at Leith: he died in Sept. 1764, and left no children.

Cuthbert and James had children.



William, their youngest brother, was brought up by his brother George to the Cndbear business at Leith: he married Sarah, the daughter of Edward Chandler, Senior, Esq. of Walcot Place, Lambeth, Surrey: she left by her husband a family of three sons, viz.,

- I. James Macpherson, of whom hereafter.
- II. George Thomas, of whom hereafter.
- III. William Chandler: he died six months after the death of his mother, who died in childbed, 12 July 1786.

Of the daughters of the said Thomas Gordon of Foderletter by his spouse Isobel Macpherson, the eldest, Christian, married Kenneth Macpherson, Esq., an officer of the Custom House in London, and had no children [when the memo. from which this is transcribed was written: probable date 1796, or soon afterwards.]

Isobel, the second, was not married.

Grace, the third, married Charles Farquharson, Esq., Physician and Captain in the "Inverness Fencibles," and had three sons and two daughters living. [*Note*.—I find that Charles Farquharson was a Lieut. and Surgeon in the "Fraser Fencibles," 1796-1802. The Surgeon of the "Inverness Fencibles" at same time was J. J. Gibson. My Grandfather, Major-General Charles Irvine, commanded the "Inverness Fencibles" as Lieut.-Col., 1797-98, during the rebellion in Ireland, where the regiment was then employed.]

Magdalen [the youngest daughter] married Cosmo D. W. Gordon, Esq., surveyor of the "King's Tobacco Warehouses, Custom House, London," and left an only son, Thomas, deceased. [*Note*.—About the time Memo. was written, Cosmo Gordon's name is given as "Surveyor of the Warehouses among officers of the Custom House employed in the Tobacco business," in the "Royal Kalendar" or "Annual Register" for 1805. D.W.]

James Macpherson Gordon, above mentioned, son of William, and grandson of Thomas of Foderletter, went to Buenos Ayres and entered into a partnership in business with a Mr Patrick M'Murray in 1814. Things went on well for a time, but they became embarrassed: he got ill between exposure to climate and the worries arising from the difficulties of the firm, and died of a pulmonary complaint by 1822. [This paragraph is abridged from contents of a letter, written from Buenos Ayres in 1822 by Robert Billingham, with details as to James M. Gordon's illness and death. D.W.]

George Thomas, next younger brother of James Macpherson Gordon, went to India as a cadet in Hon. East India Co.'s Service in 1801: he served many years in the Bombay Cavalry, became Lieut.-Col. in 1832, and after his retirement, lived at Deebank, Banchory, Kincardineshire, till his death. He married Margaret, 4th and youngest daughter of Roderick MacLeod, Principal of King's College, Old Aberdeen, and had issue—

1. Isabella Anne, married C. G. Lumsden, Ass. Surg., 8th Hussars, and had issue, 3 daughters.
2. Margaret.
3. Matilda Christina, married Horace Powell Cotton of Quex Park, Kent, and has issue,
  - (1) Percy H. G., now of Quex, Major 5th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers, a well-known hunter of big game, naturalist, and traveller.
  - (2) Ida.
  - (3) Gerald.
4. Georgina, married Capt. James N. M'Adam, some time in the 78th Highlanders.

(B.) Taking next the descendants of John Gordon, brother to the foresaid George Gordon of Foderletter, and son of William Gordon and Janet Petery, who was the daughter of James Petery, merchant in Aberdeen,

John Gordon, married J. Macqueen of Aberdeen; their descendants are John Gordon of Carolina, South America: he left one son, Adam Gordon, Esq., of the Secretary of State's Office, War Department, Downing St., Westminster, and several daughters in South Carolina.

The sister of the said John Gordon of Carolina married James Forbes, Esq., of the Custom House, Air, and has two sons, Thomas and John, and two daughters, Sophia and Margaret. The said Thomas and John are merchants in Bahama, America. Sophia is married to Mr Glenny, merchant in London. Margaret is not married.

A daughter of John Macpherson, Esq. of Inveresh[ie], named Jean, was my aunt: she was married to Lewis Grant, Esq. of Knockandhu, and James Augustus Grant, now in the East Indies, is her grandson.

*Note.*—Most of the above is copied from a copy of Mr William Gordon of Leith's memorandum, made by Mrs Powell Cotton, daughter of Lt.-Col. George Thomas Gordon, Bengal Cavalry, on 16 Feb. 1886. D.W.





27-1-95

