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THE FAMILY OF GORDON  
IN GRIAMACHARY, IN THE  
PARISH OF KILDONAN

BY JOHN  
MALCOLM  
BULLOCH

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## THE GRIAMACHARY GORDONS

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Adam Gordon, tacksman, Griamachary, Kildonan, who died in 1831, gave thirteen Soldiers—all commissioned officers, and two of them honoured Generals—to his Country.

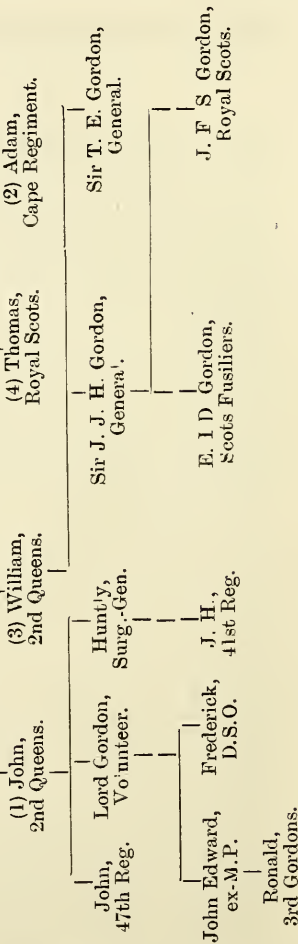
That is a remarkable record even for the Gordons, whose ruling passion has always been Soldiering, and stands unbeaten in the annals of the house, except perhaps by the Banffshire family, the Gordons of, or more correctly, in Croughly.

Curiously enough, though Adam Gordon the tacksman did so well in giving four sons, four grandsons, four great grandsons, and a great great grandson to the regular army, besides a grandson, who also became a peer of the realm, to the volunteers, his reward has largely been overlooked, although in the spring of 1902 a large bronze tablet was placed in the restored Church of St Donan, at Kildonan, bearing this legend :—

To the glory of God, in memory of Adam Gordon of Griamachary, Kildonan, B 1750, D 1831, and his sons, John, major in the 2nd Queen's Regiment ; William, captain in the 2nd Queen's Regiment ; Thomas captain in the 1st Royal Scots ; Adam lieutenant in the Cape Regiment, who served their country in the wars with France early in the last century. This tablet is erected in 1901 by General Sir Thomas Edward Gordon, K.C.B., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., youngest son of Captain W Gordon, and by the Hon. John Edward Gordon, M.P., eldest son of the Right Hon. Edward Strathearn, Lord Gordon of Drumearn, Lord Advocate in 1867 and 1874, a son of Major John Gordon.

With the aid of Mrs Skelton, who possessess a unique knowledge of the military achievements of the Gordons—from preparing a biographical dictionary for the New Spalding Club, of every officer who has ever borne the name of Gordon—I have pieced together a genealogy of Griamachary. Before doing so it may be well to state the case in tabular form :—

Adam Gordon, tacksman, Griamachary  
(1750-1831).



### Adam Gordon, Griamachary

The family begins, so far as we can trace it, with Adam Gordon, tacksman. It is an unfortunate thing that so far it has been impossible to find an origin for him in any of the old lines of the Gordons in Sutherland, though it has been suggested (by the Rev. Dr Joass of Dunrobin) that they may have come from the Gordons of Carroll. Whether this be so or no, it is interesting to remember that Lewis Dunbar Brodie Gordon, the son of the last laird of Carroll, was a fellow pupil at the High School, Edinburgh, with Adam Gordon of Griamachary's grandson, the eminent judge, Lord Gordon of Drumearn, Sir Theodore Martin being also a class fellow. It is more likely that a descent might be established from the Embo Gordons, as Lord Gordon looked to their arms when he took a coat for himself. One theory states that the Griamachary family had been planted in Kildonan as one of a chain of "block houses," as it were, to keep the Mackays in check. The actual building is now a complete ruin.

Very little is known about Adam Gordon. Born in 1750 he has been described (Donald Sage's "Memorabilia Domestica" p. 208) as a "shrewd, worldly wiseman." Life in Kildonan, bleak, bare, almost impossible as the place was, tended to make all those who survived shrewd. You have only to read Sage to understand the tremendous struggle for existence that the people had. Adam was luckier than most of his neighbours for he occupied the intermediary position of "tacksman," and he was not disturbed by the Sutherland clearings. Sage says that "Adam Gordon during my residence at Achness got a life rent of his farm. He and his wife lived in the exercise of the most unbounded hospitality, and at the same time economised so as to realise a good deal of money."

He is buried in the old churchyard of Kildonan, where a stone commemorates him thus:—

To the memory of Adam Gordon, late tacksman of Griamachary, who departed this life on the 5th February, 1831, much and justly regretted by his family and all his friends and acquaintances, aged 81 years. Also his

much - beloved wife, Besey Sutherland, who departed this life upon 22nd January, 1837, aged 82 years

The Rev. Archibald Black Scott, writing to me from the manse at Helmsdale in September, 1898, said that a mutilation in the middle of the bottom part of the inscription shows where the miners sharpened their picks when in the "seventies" Kildonan Church was turned into a miners' bothy. The mark is about the only reminder of the men who washed the sands of the Kildonan river for gold. An "A" below "aged" is the effort of some "prentice" hand to imitate the sculptor—very likely one of the miners.

Adam Gordon, in the words of Sage was the father of a "throng family." He had four sons and two daughters.

1. John Gordon, 2nd Queens, who carried on the line.
2. Adam Gordon was the second, not the fourth son, as the memorial in St Donan Church implies, and must have been born in 1783. His career is sketched by himself in an extremely useful record of military services, which a War Office Circular of 1828 called forth (Record Office, No. 759, G. 1.) Adam 'listed as a lad of 18 in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, in the raising of which his father's influence had, it is said, been asked, as he was a man of mark in his district, but old Griamachary did not like his own son entering the ranks. Adam served eleven years in the 93rd, first as a private and then as a sergeant. Probably through the influence of his brother John, he obtained a commission in the Cape Regiment as ensign, June 1, 1812, and became lieutenant June 9, 1814. He was placed on half-pay January 1, 1817. He married on April 28, 1823, at Kildonan, where he resided during the next five years. When asked by the War Office circular letter of October 22, 1828, if he would rejoin, he replied that "he was desirous of service if his services were required." His name does not appear in the army lists after 1832. He returned afterwards to the Cape. He says he had one son,  
Adam Gordon, born January 4, 1824.



3. William Gordon, born July 1, 1788. He became a lieutenant in the Royal Perthshire Militia August 1, 1804, and became (without purchase) ensign in the 78th Regiment August 25, 1807. He was transferred to the 2nd Foot as lieutenant June 20, 1809, and became captain in the Portuguese army October 25, 1814. He was wounded at Sa'amanca, July 22, 1812, and at Nivelles, very severely in the shoulder, 1813. He was placed on half pay December 25, 1816, and was attached to the Spanish and Portuguese armies (he is said to have been in the 24th Spanish Cassadors) till 1821. He got the Honorary Distinction Medal for his services with the Portuguese army at the assault and capture of St Sebastian, and later received the Portuguese Peninsular Gold Cross and clasp from the King of Portugal for the same service. He seems to have been the "Captain Gordon" who brought on action in King's Bench Division, October 17, 1822, before the Lord Chief Justice and a common jury to recover £150 from an army agent named Campbell. In 1816, a man named Stewart formerly in the employ of Cox & Greenwood army agents, went into partnership with Campbell, as army agents, and a Gordon gave Stewart a power of attorney (registered at Somerset House March 12, 1817). He also gave Stewart £150 to take charge of the firm, acted as his agent till 1820. Gordon at last sent for his money commissioning his brother "Major Gordon" to get it, and at last raised the action. The court, however, held that Stewart, who had known Gordon personally, had got it as a private person, and found for the defendant Campbell (Times October 18, 1822). He went to reside in Aberdeen after his retirement in 1821, and farmed or lived at Upper Middlefield, Woodside. On August 25, 1827, he bought an adjutancy in the Aberdeenshire Militia from Captain James Bland and held it till his death at Aberdeen, May 24, 1834. He is buried at Old Machar Cathedral. He states that he married on November 18,

1817, at "Sentreim." This seems to be Santarem, in the province of Estramadura, on the Tagus, although there was another Santarem in Spain. He does not name the lady, but she is said to have been a Spaniard or Portuguese, and a Roman Catholic, and to have died at Dublin. In 1828 Gordon had three children alive. His more distinguished sons were born four years later :—

- (1) William Gordon, born August 18, 1818.
- (2) George Adam Gordon, born August 4, 1827.
- (5) Betay Marainna (Marianna ?) born August 8, 1825.
- (3) Sir John James Hood Gordon, born in Aberdeen January 12, 1832. He entered the 74th regiment as ensign, August 21, 1849, and transferred to the 29th regiment, October 5, 1849, becoming lieutenant January 9, 1854, and capt. in December 2, 1859. Attached to the 97th regiment with the Jounpore field force, he went through the mutiny, taking part in actions of Nasrutpore, handa, Amurpore, Sultanpore, the siege and capture of Lucknow, the storming of the Kaiser Bagh, and from September 1858 to April 1859 as field adjutant to Colonel Turner, commanding the troops on the Grand Trunk Road and the field force during the operations in Shahabad, the final attack on Jugdespore the action at Noandee and the subsequent pursuit. He transferred to the 46th regiment as captain, October 12 1860, and to the Royal Staff Corps, May 29, 1861, becoming major, August 21, 1868, (the year that he was served heir to his father); lieutenant colonel August 21, 1875, and brevet colonel February 23, 1877. He went through the Jowaki Expedition of 1877-8, being mentioned in dispatches, and the Afghan war 1878-80, as brigadier general of the Kuram Field Force and Kuram Brigade. He took part in the forcing of the Peiwar Kotal, the Zaismusht expedi-

tion, the assault of Zawa, the expedition to Karmana, and against Malik-Shai Wuziris 1880. He was mentioned in dispatches, got the medal with clasp and his C.B. In the Mahsud Wuziri Expedition of 1881 he was a brigadier general in command of the second column, was mentioned in dispatches and thanked by the government of India. He was brigade general in Bengal 1882-7. In the Burma expedition of 1886-7 he commanded the operations from the eastern frontier district, was mentioned in dispatches, and thanked by the government of India. He became major general December 20, 1886, lieutenant general January 3, 1891, and general April 1, 1894. He was assistant military secretary for India Affairs at the headquarters of the army 1890-1896, and a member of the Council of India January 1, 1897-1907. In 1906 he was made colonel of the 29th Punjabis. He was created K.C.B. (military) May 21, 1898. In 1904 he published through Blackwood a history of the Sikhs, illustrated by himself. Sir John once saw the Duke of Wellington. He married in 1871, Ella, daughter of his cousin, Lord Gordon of Drumearn. She died September 8, 1903, leaving

- i. Edward Ian Drumearn Gordon, born July 9, 1877. He entered the Royal Scots Fusiliers as 2nd lieutenant, February 20, 1897, became lieutenant, May 11, 1899, and captain, September 25, 1901. He went through the South African war, 1899-1902, taking part in the relief of Ladysmith, including the operations of January 17-24, 1900; February 5-7, 1900; the action at Vaal Krantz, the operations on the Tugela Heights February 14-27, 1900; the action at Pieters Hill and the relief of Mafeking. He took part in the operations in the Transvaal May-June 1900, in Natal, March-April 1900, in the Transvaal, May-June 1900, and west of Pretoria, July-November 29, 1900,

including (actions at Frederidestad October 17-25). He served in the mounted infantry operations in the Transvaal, November 30, 1900, to December, 1901; the operations in the Orange River Colony, January-March 1902; and in the Transvaal March-May 31, 1902. He holds the Queen's medal with five clasps and the King's medal with two clasps.

- ii. John Frederick Strathearn Gordon, born May 19, 1882. He entered the Royal Scots as 2nd lieutenant Aug. 11, 1900, and became lieutenant December 16, 1902. He served in the South African war 1900-2, taking part in the operations in the Transvaal March 1901 to May 31, 1902; Cape Colony December 1900 to March 1901, and in the Transvaal March 1901, May 31, 1902. He got the Queen's medal with five clasps. He was employed with the King's African Rifles in November 1904.
- (4) Sir Thomas Edward Gordon, born in Aberdeen, January 12, 1832, twin brother of General Sir John James Hood Gordon. He was educated at the Scottish Naval and Military Academy, Edinburgh. When he began his military life at the age of sixteen Sir Thomas was not burdened with a heavy income. For the want of £450 he almost lost his commission. A claim for a commission without purchase had been strongly urged on his behalf on account of the services of his father and uncles, all of whom had fought in the wars with France. The commission indeed was forthcoming, but £450 was asked for it. Thereupon, relinquishing with a sigh his aspirations, the boy became a Government clerk in a military departmental office in Edinburgh. Happily a "friend of the family" came along with the £450. He joined the 4th Foot as ensign, August 21, 1849, and the 61st Foot, October 12, 1849, becoming lieutenant December 2, 1853. He fought in the North West

frontier campaign of 1851, in the expedition against the Momunds and was second in command of the 7th Punjab Infantry during the Indian Mutiny 1858-9 commanding the regiment at the attack and capture of Oude Forts, Dehagu and Turowl July 14 and 17, 1858. He was engaged in the operations in the Futteghur, Azimghur, and Gorukpore districts in 1858 and in the Terai Nepal, 1859 being four times mentioned in despatches. He became captain in the 25th regiment December 13, 1859, of the 95th regiment May 18th 1860, and of the Bengal Staff Corps, October 29 1861, becoming brevet-major, November 15, 1861. He was a brigade major in Bengal October 30, 1862-May 17, 1865; major in the B.S.C August 21, 1869; brevet-lieutenant colonel August 23, 1869. At the Ambala Durbar 1869 he made a daily call on Shere Ali, who masked a cruel nature and despotic will under a genial and hearty manner. Sixteen years later Gordon was deputed to meet another Ameer, Abdurrahman, in the Khybar and escort him to Rawalpindi. It was Gordon who read to him the telegram announcing the capture of Penjdeh with heavy loss to his Afghans. It chanced to be the evening of the day on which formal declaration had been made of the English and Afghan alliance. "The Ameer exclaimed bitterly. This is Russian friendship, is it? Is killing hundreds of my men and wounding my general a sign of their friendship?" He expected war, but, knowing the Afghan jealousy of foreign intervention, he prayed his English allies to hold back till his people should be fairly roused by the fighting. General Gordon was second in command of the Mission to the Ameer of Kashgar 1873-4. The envoy was Mr (afterwards Sir) David Forsyth and he was accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, Captain Chapman, and Dr Bellew, C.S.I., while Captain Trotter,

Captain Biddu'ph and Dr Stoliczka, formed an advance party. Besides these, two other native officers were attached to the Mission, namely Resaidor Muhammed Afzul Khan, 11th Bengal Cavalry, and Inspector Muhammed Ibrahim Khan, Punjab Police. They reached Leh, the capital of western Tibet on the outward journey, September 20, 1873, reached Khasgar June 29, 1874, and regained Leh on the way home, December 4, 1874. Sir Thomas has described this expedition in *The Roof of the World*, "being the narrative of a journey over the high plateau of Tibet to the Russian frontier and the Oxus sources in Pamir," (Edinburgh, Edmonston and Douglas, 1876, large 8vo : pp. xiv + 172; with 66 drawings done [all except four] on the spot by the author.) The preface is dated from 2 Royal Parade, ( he terham, May 1, 1876. Lieutenant Colonel Gordon got his C.I.E. in connection with this Mission January 4, 1874. He became lieutenant colonel B.S.C. August 21, 1875, and was A.A.G. in Lahore Division of Bengal 1872-4, and again March 20, 1878—November 24, 1879. He became brevet-colonel January 21, 1877, and was D.A.G. in Bengal, November 25, 1879—October 5, 1882. "Send me Tom Gordon" wrote Sir Donald Stewart, when in command of the Kandahar column. Gordon served in the Afghan war of 1879-82, commanding the 4th Infantry Brigade of the Cabul Field Force, and got his C.B. February 22, 1881, for the attack on the camp at Ali Khel. He commanded the brigade in Bengal 1883-7. He became major general October 21, 1886. Having no influence, he had set himself early in his career to master Persian, and was oriental and military secretary at the Teheran Legation 1889-1893. He travelled officially through a great part of the Empire, though Russian jealousies interfered with an expedition along the Turcoman frontier. Sincerely attended, he made friends with Kurds and roving

Beduins, and even on occasion came to terms with professional brigands. With equal fearlessness he spoke his mind to the Shah, telling his Majesty the defects of his military system. He became lieutenant general December 12, 1890, and general April 1, 1894. He was created K.C.I.E. January 3, 1893, and K.C.B. (military) May 23, 1900. In 1895 he revisited Persia and published *Persia Re-Visited* (1895); "with remarks on H.I.M. Mozaffer-ed-Din Shah, and the present situation in Persia": London, Edward Arnold, 1896: 8vo, pp ix + 208. In the summer of 1906 he published his autobiography *A Varied Life: A Record of Military and Civil Service, of Sport and of Travel, in India, Central Asia, and Persia, 1849-1902*, London. John Murray: 8vo: pp. xvi, 357: with a portrait of Sir Thomas. He is remarkably like his twin brother, Sir John, and tells a story in his autobiography in proof:—"A mutual friend, a lady, meeting me after my marriage, and mistaking me for my brother, said—"So Tom is married? And is his wife nice? I do hope he is happy.' It would have caused awkward confusion to explain the mistake, so I merely replied—"Oh, yes! She is very nice, and he is very happy,' and made an excuse to hurry away. Another mutual friend, a gentleman in this instance, happening to fall in with me about the same time, linked his arm in mine as we walked along, and said, in a confidential manner—"Tell me, like a good fellow, about your brother Tom's marriage—has it turned out well? I used to know the lady, and —.' He was on the point of pouring out fresh remarks when I interrupted him with—"I can assure you it is a great success. I know this well, for I am the other fellow, and not the one you think.' He was speechless with astonishment for a moment or two, and then we both had a good laugh at the mistake." Sir Thomas married (1) in 1862 Mary



Helen (died 1879), daughter of Alexander Sawers, Culnah, and sister of Lady Hobhouse; and (2) in 1894 Charlotte, daughter of the late Joseph Davison of Greecroft, Durham. Sir Thomas has three daughters.

- i. Helen Elizabeth Gordon, married in 1885 Charles Harrie Innes Hopkins, son of William Randolph Innes Hopkins, of Grey Towers, Yorkshire, late major in the Cameronians, and has four sons and two daughters.
  - ii. Jeannetta Gordon, married in April 1904 Claud Crompton, son of Colonel Rookes Evelyn Crompton, C.B., electrical expert, whose pedigree will be found in Burke's Landed Gentry. She has issue.
  - iii. Violet Mary Gordon. She was married on April 11, 1907, to Bruce, eldest son of the late Mr John Cooper of Delapré Abbey, Northampton.
- (4) Thomas Gordon (died 1844). He entered the 25th regiment as ensign March 12, 1811, became a lieutenant in the Bourbon regiment, July 7, 1812, and transferred to the 1st Royal Scots, February 18, 1813. He fought in the Peninsular War and at Waterloo, being present at the sortie from Bayonne. He had won the Waterloo medal. The Gentleman's Magazine says he was "three times in the West Indies and for some years in the East. He took part in the battle of Mahedpore, when Sir Thomas Hislop and Sir John Malcolm defeated the Mahrattas under Holkar, December 21, 1817. He is probably the lieutenant Gordon referred to in Orders, dated camp at Timbak (Poona), April 26, 1818, who was asked by lieutenant colonel McDowall to convey to the artillery men with the two six pounders, the officers and men of the Royal Scots, and the party of the 2nd battalion of the 13th regiment who were employed opposite the south gate of this fortress, his approbation of their "ardent and manly exertions" in getting the guns so soon into the battery upon the hills, April 25, 1818, (Wetherall's History of



the Royal Scots p. 145). He became a captain March 26, 1831, was placed on half pay March 7, 1834, and died at Edinburgh February 22, 1844. He lies in the old Calton burial ground, Edinburgh. He was unmarried.

5. Anne Gordon married according to sage, John Mackay from Strathalladale, who had come to reside with his father-in-law at Griamachary. John Mackay was one of Sage's elders.—a kind hearted excellent man." He also had a numerous family and one of his daughters afterwards married Charles Gordon, merchant at Thurso, resided with Sage's sister at Achness. John Mackay afterwards held the small farm of Clyne, Milton, parish of Clyne.
6. Mary Gordon ; according to Sage she married Joseph Mackay, second son of Angus Mackay, tenant at Dyke, Strathalladale. By his brother-in-law's interest with the Duke of Kent he got a commission in the army, went on foreign service and was present at the battle of Waterloo. He returned on half pay to reside at Griamachary with his family about the end of the year 1815. Possessed of considerable acuteness and a ready speaker in his native tongue, he joined the party of the separatists or Stewartites, and became one of their most violent members. He afterwards lived in the parish of Reay in Caithness.
7. Margaret Gordon, married lieutenant Alex. Grant, during the last year of the ministry of Sage's father at Achness.

#### Major John Gordon, 2nd Queens.

Major Gordon was the eldest of the four soldier sons of Adam Gordon, Griamachary. He entered the 2nd Queen's Royal Regiment as ensign Nov. 17, 1804; became lieutenant January 21, 1806; captain May 1, 1810; major March 22, 1821 (subsequently antedated December 23, 1820). He retired in 1823, and on December 30, 1826, was granted local rank of major on the Continent only. He is apt to be mixed up with another John who was in the 2nd Queen's at the same

time, namely, John Gordon, of the Balmuir family, whom Colonel Davis, the historian of the regiment, calls Captain John Gordon, "senior." The latter officer died at Barbadoes in 1816. The Griamachary John was an intimate friend of the Duke of Kent: hence his son, the judge's name, "Strathearn."

He was three times married; (1) to Margaret Ballingall, Perth. She died at Southampton April, 1811, aged 24 ("Gentleman's Magazine"); (2) at Inverness, May 18, 1813 ("Scots Magazine"), to Katherine Gordon Smith, daughter of Alexander Smith, of Kinmylies, Inverness, and widow of Lieut.-Colonel Ross, 57th Regiment. She died during an epidemic at St Kitts about 1818. He married (3) in 1829 Jessie Scales, daughter of a merchant in Leith, and widow of John Drysdale, of Viewfield, Lasswade, Edinburgh, who had died in 1817. Dingwall Fordyce, in the history of his family, says she was a fine-looking woman, and had two sons by her first husband. She died at Edinburgh November, 1852.

He died at Southampton September 5, 1850. He had gone south to see his twin nephews, John James Hood Gordon and Thomas Edward Gordon, off from Portsmouth to India on board the *Agincourt* in July, and then went to Southampton to meet his son, Huntly, on his arrival there from Ceylon with the 95th Regiment. He had

1. John Gordon, by the first wife. He entered the 47th Regiment as ensign April 12, 1825; became lieutenant January 28, 1826; captain November 25, 1831. He became major March 24, 1838. On October 31, 1842, he was served heir to his mother, Margaret Ballingall; to his uncle, George Ballingall, Perth; and to his aunt, Elizabeth Ballingall, all kinsfolk of Sir George Ballingall (1780-1855), the distinguished army surgeon. He died 1843.
2. Ferguson Gordon, died as an infant at Southampton May 21, 1811—that is to say in the month following Margaret Ballingall, the wife of Captain Gordon, of the Royal Scots. But he may have been the son of the Balmuir officer of that name in the same regiment.

3. Edward Strathearn Gordon, by the second wife, carried on the line.
4. Huntly George Gordon. He became M.D. of Glasgow University in 1841. He was assistant surgeon in the army December 31, 1841; surgeon April 22, 1853; surgeon-major December 31, 1861; deputy-inspector-general of hospitals March 9, 1867; inspector-general April 28, 1876; surgeon-general, half-pay, and retired, August 2, 1880. He died in 1888. He was twice married, his second wife being a Miss Gregory, and had
  - (1) John Huntly Gordon, born June 22, 1850, at St Andrews. He entered Cheltenham College August, 1865. He entered the 41st Welsh Regiment as ensign October 9, 1869; became lieutenant May 31, 1871; adjutant, 1877; and captain July 4, 1879. He commanded B Company, which proceeded to Durban in February, 1882, and returned to headquarters September 28, 1882. He became major May 23, 1882. He died at St Andrews unmarried February 17, 1884.
  - (2) Charlotte Gordon; died at Meerut 1881.

#### **Edward Strathearn (Gordon) Lord Gordon of Drumearn.**

The main line of Griamachary was carried on by Edward Strathearn Gordon, the eldest surviving son of Major John Gordon, and the grandson of Adam Gordon, the tacksman of Griamachary, and it was carried on brilliantly. He was named after his father's friend, Edward, Duke of Kent and Strathearn, who is said to have offered him a commission in the Rifle Brigade.

He was born at Inverness on April 10, 1814, and was educated at the Academy there, at the High School, Edinburgh, and at the University of Edinburgh which he entered in 1828. His first idea seems to have been to become a doctor for he entered the medical faculty, 1831. A year of that, however, showed him that his path lay elsewhere, and he entered the law faculty in 1832. Although he took to law, he shared the remarkable military instincts of his family for he joined the Edinburgh City Volunteers, being captain of the ad-

vocates' company August 31, 1859. He became Major May 10, 1864, (London Gazette pt. 5, p. 2822); Lieutenant-Colonel November 29, 1867, (ibid Nov. p. 6765). He resigned his commission March 26, 1873, (ibid pt. 2, p. 1658). He became hon. colonel of the volunteers May 17, 1873, (ibid pt. 3, p. 2441). He was gazetted Deputy-Lieutenant Edinburgh City and County, September 17, 1872, (ibid pt. 5, pp. 5454, 5874).

Gordon was called to the Scots Bar in 1835 and rose rapidly. One of the first men to note his ability was Lord Cockburn—a most exigent critic. Writing from Glasgow in September 1852, Cockburn says (“Circuit Journeys” p. 386):—

He is agreeable, modest and able, one of the very best specimens of our bar Celts. His talent, industry and power of pleasing distinct speaking I predict will raise him high in his profession. He is one of the few counsel who can be calm without feebleness and argumentative without vehemence. Listening to Edward Gordon arguing law is like listening to a piece of what is meant to be mathematics. The demonstration may often fail, the demonstration tone never.

Cockburn's prediction came true. Gordon got his first lift in 1858 and rose rapidly, in this wise—Sheriff of Perth July 26, 1858—July 1, 1866; Solicitor-General for Scotland July 13, 1866—February 28, 1867; Lord Advocate March 1, 1867—December 1868; and February 26, 1874—October 18, 1876; Dean of Faculty, 1868-74; and Q.C. November 12, 1868. He was Conservative M.P. for Thetford, December 2, 1867—November 11, 1868, when the borough was disenfranchised. He lost the seat for Glasgow and Aberdeen Universities in 1868 to the Right Hon. James Moncreiff, but on the latter's being raised to the bench, was elected to fill the vacancy. He took a real interest in education, sitting in the Edinburgh University Court as Chancellor's Assessor, and he was also a member of the Committee on Education in Scotland. On March 17, 1874, he was gazetted a member of the Privy Council, and in this year his caricature appeared in “Vanity Fair.” On October 17, 1876, he was created a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary (under the Appellate Jurisdiction Act,

1876), being granted the dignity of a peer for life, by the style of Baron Gordon of Drumearn, Co., Stirling, with a salary of £6,000 a year, being thus one of our earliest life peers. Drumearn was the name of a farm on his wife's estate.

He was one of the junior counsel for Major Yelverton in the famous Yelverton marriage case in 1862. His act of 1874 "made sweeping charges in the direction of supplying and cheapening the transference of land." (Crabb Watt's 'John Inglis' p. 224). The Dictionary of National Biography describes him as "a careful and accurate if not brilliant lawyer. His health did not permit him to give full scope to his power in the House of Lords, but the judgments which he did give there were invariably sound and carefully considered." Almost his only appearances in the layman press was a letter he wrote to the "Times" on October 21, 1868 on the Scotch Law Commission.

He sat in his place in the House of Lords until the end of July 1879, when he went to Homburg in search of health. He never got further, however, than Brussels, where he died, August 21, 1879. He left personal estate amounting to upwards of £11,000. His executors were his widow, Alexander Drisdale, James Badenoch Nicolson, Edmund Baxter, and his two sons John Edward Gordon, and Rev. Arthur Gordon. The will was confirmed under the seal of the Edinburgh Commissariat October 14, 1879.

His armorial bearings were—Azure, an eagle's head erased between three boars' heads erased or; mantling gules, doubled argent. Crest—Upon a wreath of his liveries, a boar's head

He married in 1845, Agnes Joanna, only child of John MacInnes of Auchinreoch Stirlingshire (who died September 4, 1804). She was served her father's heir special in the lands of Auchinfroe. Her sons, Frederic and Huntly, now own her estate. She died October 11, 1895, having had:—

- 1 Hon John Edward Gordon.
- 2 Edward Strathearn Gordon (1853-61).
- 3 Rev. the Hon. Arthur Gordon; born December 20, 1854. He was ordained minister of St Andrews Parish, Edinburgh in 1882 remaining till May 1895, when he became minister of Monzievaird and Strowan,

Perthshire, which he resigned in 1902. He married February 8, 1893, Emily Olga Marion, daughter of the late F. F. S. Constant, and has :—

- (1) Edward Francis Strathearn Gordon ; born December 23, 1893.
  - (2) Huntly Strathearn Gordon, born February 23, 1898.
  - (3) Helena Constance Strathearn Gordon, born February 15, 1902.
4. Hon. Frederic Gordon, (he was christened Fredrick) was born October 9, 1861. He was educated at the Edinburgh Academy and the Royal Military College. He wanted to join the Gordon Highlanders — animated thereto largely by James Grant's "Romance of War" ; but as there were no vacancies in the Regiment at the time he was appointed to the 91st Regiment as second lieutenant January 22, 1881, and got transferred to the 49th, February 12, 1881, in order to remain in England till the 92nd returned. He became lieutenant July 1, 1881. Then came the territorial system and he was offered a transfer to the 75th which had become on July 1, 1881, the 1st battalion of the Gordons. He joined the Gordons on September 14, 1881, and his subsequent regimental service has been with that regiment. He was Adjutant 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders from January 31 1883 to January 30 1888 and in the Egyptian campaign 1882-1885. He was temporarily employed with the Egyptian Army July 7 1887-August 7 1889. He became captain November 1890 ; passed the final examination at the Staff College 1893 ; appointed Brigadier Major Infantry Battalion Malta, August 12 1896-October 8 1899 Major October 22 1899. He served on the staff in South Africa as D.A.A.G., Head Quarter Staff, Natal Army October 9 1899-October 17 1900 ; D.A.A.G. Army Head Quarter South October 18 1900-September 11, 1902, and was awarded the D.S.O. November 29 1900. Brevet lieutenant colonel August 22 1902. He has the Egyptian Medal with four clasps, and

Khedive's Star, the Queen's South African medal six clasps, and the King's South African medal with two clasps. He was specially employed at Army Head Quarters October 15 1902-January 31 1903, and served as D A Q M G 1st Division, 1st Army Corps, February 5 1903-February 5, 1904. Within the last few years he has gone over a good deal of the ground in Spain and the Pyrenees over which the 92nd marched to victory under Hill and Wellington. He married November, 1897: Mabel Rose, daughter of the late James Douglas Robinson, Madras Civil Service, and has issue:—

- (1) Ian Douglas Strathearn Gordon, born, July 9, 1900.
  - (2) Daughter, born October 19 and died October 20, 1898.
  - (3) Joan Douglas Ella Gordon, born November 4, 1903.
5. Hon. Huntly Douglas Gordon, born 1866. He was educated at Wellington College 1881-84, and was admitted to the Scots Bar 1893. He married October 24, 1899, Violet, daughter of John Gaspard Fanshawe (1824-1903), of Parsloes, Essex, who had a descent from the Plantagenets (Ruvigny's "Plantagenet Roll: Anne of Exeter Volume," p. 403)
- (1) Douglas John Gordon, born September 14, 1900.
  - (2) Strathearn Gordon, born September 3, 1903.
6. Hon. Ella Gordson, married 1871 her kinsman General Sir John Hood Gordon, and died 1903.
7. Hon. Katherine Janet Gordon, died unmarried 1895.
8. Hon. Agnes Strathearn Gordon.

#### The Hon. John Edward Gordon.

The senior line of the Griamachary family is represented by Mr John Edward Gordon, the eldest son of Lord Gordon of Drumearn. He was born at Edinburgh in February 5, 1850, and was educated at the Academy and the University of Edinburgh. He was returned Unionist member





for Elginshire and Nairnshire in 1895, defeating Mr Seymour Keay by 2147 to 2019. He was returned in 1900, defeating Mr Williamson by 2334 to 2159, and held the seat till 1906, when he retired. He proposed the address to the Throne in 1900. At the recent general election he stood for Brighton (he has a house in Queen's Gardens, Hove), but was defeated by 8919 to 8176. He was a member of the Stock Exchange for 20 years, being head of Gordon, Lawford, & Co. He is interested in the Social movement.

He married, October 18, 1879, Elizabeth Anna, elder daughter of the late John Snowdon Henry, of Eastdene, Bonchurch, who died in 1896, leaving personal estate of close upon £100,000. He was the head of the great Manchester house of A. and S. Henry. His brother was Mr Mitchell Henry, whose picturesque Irish estate of Kylemore was bought by the Duke of Manchester after his marriage with Miss Zimmerman, of Cincinnati. The Henrys' great-uncle, Alexander Henry, was born, of humble Ulster parents, in the year 1766. He emigrated to the United States in 1783, and became clerk to a dry-goods firm in Philadelphia. He developed into a draper on his own account, prospered, sent for his brothers and sisters, and and retired with a fortune at the age of 41, leaving the business to his nephews. Alexander the second, the father of Mr Snowdon Henry, made his headquarters in Manchester, and by the year 1836 A. and S. Henry and Co. was the biggest American house in Europe. Alexander Henry was a believer in Free Trade before Cobden, and a Chartist before Peterloo. He was elected M.P. for South Lancashire, and left to his two sons a great business and a huge fortune.

Mrs Gordon has written several books as follows—

“Gathered Grain,” edited by E. A. H.; London, Partridge, 1871; 8vo, pp. 332

“Things Touching the King,” a key to the Tabernacle and its lessons, by E. A. H.; London, Yapp and Hawkins, 1873, 8vo, 96 pp.

“The Banner Unfurled,” choice selections from Christian writers, edited by E. A. H.; London, Partridge, 1874; 8vo: pp. 335.

“Clear Round,” a story of world travel by E. A. Gordon, member of the Japan Society 1893



This is a record of a voyage undertaken in 1891 round the world in 63 days. A third edition revised and enlarged with illustrations, maps, and introductory letter from Max Müller, was published by Sampson Low in 1903; 8vo: pp. xvi, 341. The author's portrait appears on p. 334.

“Treasures of Darkness and Songs of Ascent for Weariful Hearts;” London, Simpkin, 1902.

“The Temples of the Orient and their Message,” London, Kegan Paul, 1902.

Mrs Gordon is honorary secretary of the Dulce Cor Library, which sent out many books to Japan during the war.

A very curious action was heard in the King's Bench Division, February 4, 1907, in which Mrs Gordon sought to recover from her husband certain articles of furniture. On February 5, the Lord Chief Justice referred the case to the Official Referee. Mr and Mrs Gordon have two sons and three daughters:—

- (1) Ronald Henry Gordon, born in 1885; lieutenant 3rd battalion Gordon Highlanders, April 30, 1904.
- (2) Eric George Strathearn Gordon, born 1886.
- (3) Katherine Marjorie Strathearn Gordon, married March 28, 1903, at Brompton Parish Church, William Haggerston Askew, second son of Watson Askew-Robertson of Pallinsburn and Ladykirk, by Sarah, daughter of the 1st Baron Marjoribanks. Her mother dedicated Clear Round “to Marjorie and her brothers.”
- (4) Alma Victoria Strathearn Gordon, born 1887.
- (5) Violet Constance Cyrille Strathearn Gordon, born 1891.





